



- > COLAS UK
- > DJ CARL COX
- > 2015 & 2017

# Lotus Cortina & Ford Escort Renovations

Colas Mechanical Services (CMS) based in Ringmer, East Sussex were approached by a world-famous DJ, producer and a classic car enthusiast Carl Cox in the quest to renovating a vintage 1966 Lotus Cortina and later a Mark II Ford Escort RS2000.

Whilst Coxy entertained revelers on the Ibiza party scene, CMS worked on both mammoth projects. Both cars required replacement of broken parts and major tune-ups in the body shop.



## Lotus Cortina Project

A vintage Lotus Cortina project took significant strides with the arrival of a long-awaited cylinder head which had to be painstakingly created from an original Lotus casting for maximum authenticity and completed the major engine overhaul. The remaining elements of the project, with the paintwork pieced together by CMS and carried out by the on-site Body Shop team proved to be the icing on the cake.

The Project was managed by Workshop Manager James Cooper who oversaw the whole operation with technical advice from classic Ford specialist Burton Power. Senior Supervisor Mark Slaughter provided a significant amount of the labour with our paint shop making the finishing touches proved CMS really are a one-stop-shop.

Carl Cox was all smiles on completion of the epic rebuild project on his Lotus Cortina. The ceremonial handover took place in April 2016 following a monumental effort from the Team.

### Work undertaken:

- *Removal and fitting of engine*
- *Engine rebuild*
- *Engine balance work*
- *Dyno Tuning*



- > Renovation of a vintage 1966 Lotus Cortina
- > Renovation of a Mark II Ford Escort RS2000
- > The cars received a personal tune-ups from Colas Mechanical Services team
- > Both cars featured in the Silverstone Classic festival in July 2017

### Ford Escort Project

Carl had another task lined up for the Ringmer team in the form of an RS2000 Mark 2 Escort in vibrant orange which promised to provide an even greater challenge in 2017.

Former Radio One DJ Carl Cox dropped off his flamboyant orange Mark II Ford Escort RS2000 in early 2017 to kick off the second project for the technicians at Ringmer.

The classic flat-fronted vehicle is one of only 500 ever produced and provided the Mechanical Services team with some unique technical issues to resolve over many months.

The stunning orange Ford Escort received personal tune-ups from CMS experts. As the protracted project neared completion, the man himself took the opportunity to road test his eye-catching acquisition and was delighted with the results claiming it to be “like a new car”!



### Work undertaken:

- Mechanical restoration
- New front suspension and new subframe fitted
- Modified engine/gearbox mounted
- Modified steering column
- Modified exhaust system
- Rear suspension stripped down and axle work out new angle and re-weld
- Inside of vehicle stripped, gearbox tunnel cut out and modified
- Weld back/make good
- Paint work
- New carpets modified and fitted

Both classic beauties, the Escort and the Lotus Cortina featured at the at the Midlands circuit, host of the world’s biggest classic motor racing festival Silverstone Classic in July 2017, drawing admiring glances from the 100,000 spectators on a glamorous parade lap.

Carl personally thanked Workshop Manager James Cooper for the trouble-free motoring he enjoyed across two days of entertainment and competition.

