

Ron's Car

By Mark Tissington



Ron and his car



Artist on board

Call it kismet, call it Karma but what are the chances of the Coast Rider printing a picture of an Austin Metro sprayed in Burberry colours and then the artist calls up and he lives in Torrevieja. The phone conversation went like this:

"Is that Mark? The one who wrote the article about Chavs?"
 "Yes..."

"That picture of the metro. That's my sister's car. I painted that."

Overwhelmed with relief that I wasn't about to be verbally abused by an irate Chav, I agreed to meet up with Ron or Ronen Zlotogoura to give him his full name.

The metro in question was given to Ron's Dad after the owner passed away. It then became a little run around for Ron and when his younger sister passed her test it became her first car. Ron's parents have a place in Torrevieja and whilst over visiting a Burberry hand bag was purchased from a market and the seeds of an idea were sown.

On returning to England, Ron had spent three years at college learning how to knock dents out of cars and respray them, he masked the metro up and began to transform it. A few months later and Ron drove the now "chavved up" metro over to his sister's house. Ron said, "That first trip was a real eye opener.

People just stopped and pointed. Jaws fell open as I drove by."

On delivering the car Ron's sister burst into tears and immediately fell in love with it.

The metro trundled around London and the home counties for about 18 months before it finally expired and had to be scrapped but that was not the end of the metro's fame. Unbeknownst to Ron a photographer from Fast Car Magazine had snapped it and it



Custom designed helmets



was used in an article for various alloy wheels. The image of the car was scanned into a computer and digitally had the wheels replaced various times. Ron didn't seek any money from the magazine and as he says, "I didn't want to push it because I didn't know how Burberry would feel about me painting a metro in their design." Ron had moved on anyway. After a year spent travelling the world Ron kept a pictorial diary, painting all the places he visited. When he got back to Blighty he started to paint his designs on cars, motorcycles and helmets. He got so much notoriety that when he moved out to

Torrevieja and saw no one else was doing the designs he was air brushing he brought his equipment over and set to work.

You can see some of Ron's handiwork in Torrevieja. Stop by Bogart's Bar in Benijofar or the mural in the Lakeside Bar in San Luis. Ron has also painted a door for a neighbour and has done bikes, cars and helmets in all manner of designs and all free hand. If you want a paintable surface customized then give Ron a call on 966 700 027 or 653 401 856. Basically he is at the top of a list of one in Torrevieja for this sort of thing.