



FOCUS MK1 PRESERVATION CLUB

A welcoming community dedicated to preserving Ford's design classic.

The Focus MK1 Preservation Club strangely first started on YouTube, on a channel called "Usually Fixing and Tinkering" where I started recording myself on various subjects relating to my current main car (also my first car) - my ever-dependable 3-Door Focus MK1. I had no idea that these early videos shot in pretty average quality would snowball into the culmination of not just a club, but a small but thriving welcoming community for this wonderful car!

I discovered quickly that there was so much enthusiasm for the car that starting a group was

on the cards, several short and long-term MK1 owners/enthusiasts had already contacted me to show admiration for the videos I was making and gave me the suggestion to try and start our own community. I exchanged many messages with 4 very enthusiastic owners regarding how we would pitch the group and our aims. This didn't take long considering our shared views on keeping our cars very original.

We identified the main issue within the general MK1 scene as having a lack of groups to join (mainly Facebook groups) and the lack of representation of anything near standard in those

groups. The emphasis being modifications and max-power inspired changes. Something we had no interest in.

So, the aim was clear. Bring together all these wonderful original examples, give them and their owners a group to be proud of and call home. A community based on a solid foundation of friendliness and enthusiasm in order to prolong and preserve as many examples remaining with us as possible.

After 6 months of contact, the five of us finally met up with our MK1's on a very hot and memorable day at The Motorist, a popular car themed cafe





near Leeds. The weekend after on the 23rd of April 2023 the group officially started, with us budding enthusiasts now working as admins to run a simple Facebook group to kick-start the community. The group boomed, with current and prospective owners finding our group quickly, the only requirement we insist on is that members own a standard/near standard (OEM+) example or aspire to own one in this condition. Modifications being kept strictly subtle and to a minimum.

Within a year in early 2024 with around 300 members we began operating on Instagram and Twitter to accompany the Facebook page to spread the great things the group was up to, most notably the organisation of three events in which every member was invited to attend. These were incredibly successful considering the small size of the membership with around an average of 20 examples in all conditions showing at each event. At the same time the name change from "Group" to "Club" was made to reflect the wider operations and ambitions beyond the standard Facebook group activities.

There have been a few failures based on trial and error; the main one was the addition in 2024 of a group Forum set-up by a member skilled in I.T.

This once-popular format proved to be anything other than popular, social media having taken over the key aspects the traditional forum previously offered, but in a more user-friendly way. So, this was shelved.

However, looking deep into 2025 we currently have over 600+ members and continue to grow and find amazing owners and their cherished examples. We have 4 big meets planned called "National Meets" which take place in different locations in the UK which feature a trophy presentation voted by admins for the MK1 that catches the eye most on the day. Members are also invited to host their own "Local" meets which are smaller and more intimate which makes everyone feel more connected in our shared interest.

The facebook page currently is the only way people enter the club to become a member providing they meet the main requirement regardless of model whether a poverty-spec 'CL' or full-blown 'RS'. Everyone who can meet that one requirement is very welcome. At the present we are free to enter community.

Here's to the oncoming years of growth for the Club, not just numerically but passion wise! ■



CLUB ADMIN TEAM



Andrew Darby
Founder,
Technical &
Event Organiser

Alex Loveday
Facebook
Admin



Dave Booth
Facebook
Moderator

Michael Searby
Facebook
Moderator



Adam Wilson
Technical Expert
(Diesels)



Matthew Cain
Facebook
Sales Admin



Tony Dean
Facebook Sales
Moderator



Craig Shovlin
Technical
Expert



Jack Brierley
I.T Support

