

Tony Rae's stag week, as told by Michael Pratt

Team Euro Ncrap at the Czech Wrecks Banger Rally

Edinburgh >> Calais >> Interlaken >> Bormio >> Salzburg >> Prague by banger, return by banger plane...

Starring:

BMW 520 "No careful owners"

Toyota Carina "Only 269,000 miles"

Saab 9000 "Only eight owners from new"

Volvo 740 "Steering wheel included"

BMW325 "full tank of fuel provided..."

...with an average price of around £400

In 2008, with Tony Rae's nuptials on the horizon, an alternative to the usual long weekend in Benidorm was sought, and the team of 18 didn't pick an easy alternative. They bought, restored and painted five bangers, and drove to Calais to join many other similar wrecks on the **Czech Wrecks Banger Rally**, whose end point was Prague. Several fathers joined their sons in the group, including ESC's Les Pratt, and Tony's dad Tom (who still occupies the house behind the Padel courts). The accompanying must-watch video and still photos give a flavour of the event, which involved scary driving, loads of eating and drinking, high-jinks and WGOTSOT*. In Prague, they sold all five vehicles, then flew home. Simple.

Czech Wrecks Banger Rally youtube URL here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3T9QqYCOqc&t=10s>

Notes from Aldo (one of the 18 participants, he was in the BMW 520)

Take 5 cars, 18 men, 5 days, and 7 countries. Welcome to Tony's Stag Do.

We did this on a budget, so it was B&Q clearance gloss. We ended up using rollers to get it on to the cars. The decals was a roll of vinyl we got from eBay, and had it printed up. I was amazed at how much effort others put into the cars - and then the abuse the cars then got! It was a superb few days. ESC participants were Rae + Pratt father&son.

Ewan - your Saab. Your car was the most reliable car we had - It didn't miss a beat. It wasn't the easiest one to sell at the other end though. In a drunken stupor we sold it to a bar tender in the Czech Republic - it should still be there! I can't remember if it was 'liquid money' he gave us! I hope your Volvo is going well, and you're not too upset at the send-off we gave your Saab.

Don't underestimate the number of eggs and flour you need to sabotage other cars! Also, an adapter for the cigarette lighter socket so you can run a few things like the sat-nav, ipod charger and phone charger all at the same time!

Press article at www.racecar.com/News/14488/motorsport/czech-wrecks-banger-rally



* What goes on tour stays on tour