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**OWNER** • Dale Webb (D6ale)

**CAR** • RB5 283



## SIGNED-ON RB5

*DALE BOUGHT THIS second Impreza, an RB5, from Grade A Subaru in October 2005 as a vandalism-damaged Category-C write-off, it looked like a daunting task to rebuild it, but he got stuck in and has not looked back...too often.*

Every panel was 'keyed' and scratched and covered in dents. Most of the windows were smashed and white emulsion paint had been thrown all over the interior & exterior. The engine had also dropped a cylinder. Most observers would say that I was mad to take on this project, but I saw a reward and a labour of love. Having been a fan of Richard Burns during his days at Subaru, the prospect of owning and restoring an RB5 was fantastic. I just knew I had to take it on.

The car came supplied with an interior from another RB5, which turned out to be the only easy bit of this ambitious project to fix. From start to finish, it took roughly six months to carry out the repair work, including the removal of the nearside head & replacement of Piston No.2, while the engine was in the car. New windows and trims were sourced and, wherever possible, new panels were used. All the work, except the painting, was carried out personally, with help from my father. The painting was carried out by local garage, Harpers Autocare. Due to the length of time the car was inactive, the opportunity was presented to overhaul other items such as the brakes, before it was returned to the road.

In fact, after expending a huge effort, the car was completed just in time to join 50 additional RB5 owners and members of the RB5OC in the parade around Castle Combe at Rallyday 2006 to celebrate the life of Richard Burns. It was a truly amazing event and one that I shall never forget.

Since the rebuild of the car, I have carried

out the following modifications: WR sport Prodrive rear wing, STi rear lights, Subaru splashguards, Godspeed front and rear brake conversion including Goodrich hoses, wrapped Scoobyworld Ninja sports cat down-pipe coupled with an H&S centre section and Ninja backbox to release the best part of any Subaru, its burble. Other modifications include tilted larger top-mount intercooler with Prodrive y-pipe and Whiteline rear ARB, PSI3 S.E.C.S Data monitor, red RCM lightweight pulleys, RCM catch tank, RB5 colour-coded inlet manifold with red Samco coolant hoses, inlet hose and relocated power steering pump.

More recently, the car developed a dreaded bottom-end knock that signalling the engine would need work. I had planned to take this on personally but both work and social commitments meant it was better to hand the car to a Subaru specialist. I enquired at a few places but felt most comfortable using my local specialist, Prosport in Stockport. The car was away for three weeks and is just returned, fitted with a 2007 STi short-engine that re-uses the original heads, which had been refurbished. An Exedy racing clutch and flywheel have been fitted along with a new H&S up-pipe, new VF34 turbo and RCM modified oil pump.

Currently, the new engine is being run-in before I return to Prosport to complete the revised set-up with new injectors, Walbro fuel pump and a Ecutek remap. Later this year, I intend to install Defi gauges in an A-pillar pod, an intercooler water-spray kit, oil cooler, Prodrive suspension, anti-lift kit, refurbished wheels and, in the longer term, maybe a six-speed gearbox and front mount. Thanks to my family, girlfriend and the RB5OC for their support, without which RB5 283 probably would not be around today.

### Specification Of Rb5 283:

#### Engine

- S207 STi Short block
- K&N Panel Filter
- Samco Turbo inlet hose & coolant hoses
- VF34 Turbo
- Prodrive Y Pipe
- Tilted STi Intercooler
- Spec R relocated Power steering pump
- RCM Oil catch tank
- RCM Lightweight pulleys
- RCM Modified oil pump
- Prodrive oil cap & battery strap
- RB5 Colour coded Belt cover / Intercooler mounts & Inlet manifold

#### Transmission

- Exedy Clutch & lightweight flywheel

#### Brakes

- Goodrich hoses
- Godspeed 335mm Front brake conversion with Ferodo DS2500 pads
- Godspeed rear brake discs with Ferodo DS2500 pads

#### Exterior

- P1 Front splitter
- Splash guards
- WR Sport Prodrive rear spoiler
- STi Rear lights
- Crystal front and side indicators

#### Interior

- Standard RB5 blue alcantara seats
- Limited edition plaque
- STi Pedals
- PSI3 S.E.C.S Data unit
- Ashtray signed by David Richards
- Tailgate signed by Alex Burns, Richard's father.