

The first words

Hello again, I hope you did have a great holiday! We did and have recharged batteries now! Personally my wife and I are looking forward to another small vacation (...) i.e. a long weekend in England with the Elan. We will visit the 60th Anniversary event and hope to meet some of you there.

I hope you will find the following news items useful, please enjoy!

Ronald Ringma

In this issue:

- News from Group Lotus
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News from Group Lotus

Recently we did see:

- The new distinctive, mid-engined, 2+2 sports car from Lotus
- Live the Lotus life competition
- Lotus Eco Elise
- Lotus launches Evora replica at the British International Motor Show
- Drive the Lotus Evora at the British International Motorshow in association with Gran Turismo™ – the real driving simulator on PLAYSTATION®3
- Lotus introduces 'Safe & Sound' Hybrid

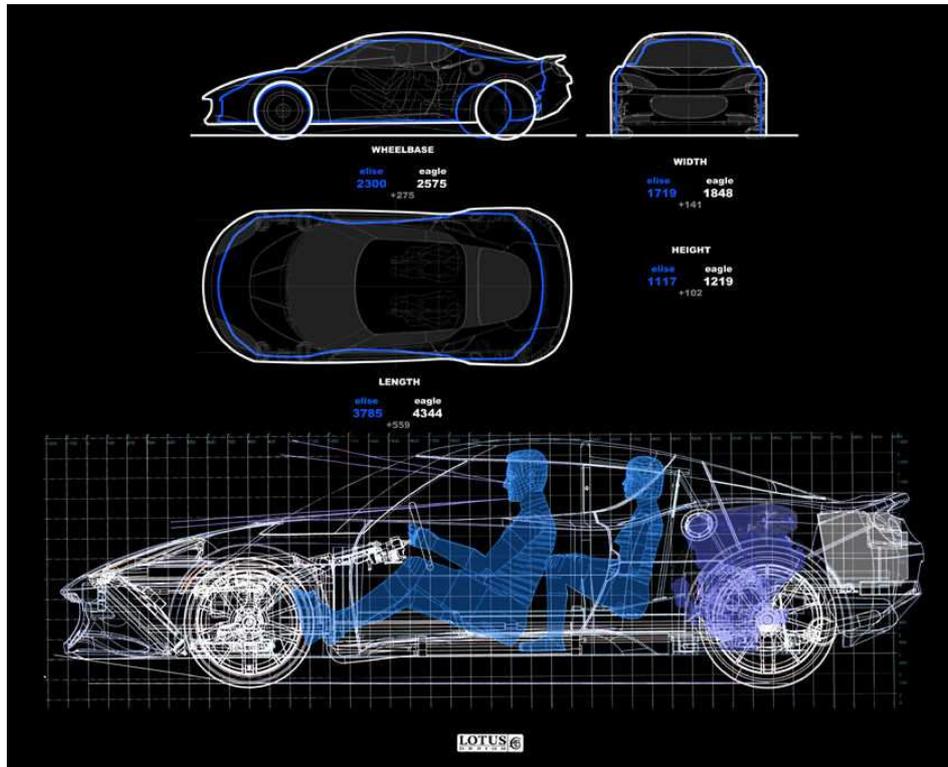
Read all about the news items in the press releases section of the website, please follow this link: <http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/Press/index.php>

British Motor Show

Evora

The British Motor Show did bring us the Lotus Evora and I strongly believe this is a step upmarket for Lotus. There will be 6 variations on the Evora theme, number one being the 2+2 as we know it now, there will also be a 2-seater and a convertible. The other 3 variations are not yet known, Lotus are keeping quiet. What I did learn is that there will be versions with a (Toyota) automatic transmission and a so called performance version.

Here is an image that shows the differences between the Elise and the (Eagle) Evora and how 4 people inside the Evora share the space:



Elise vs Evora



Evora cockpit

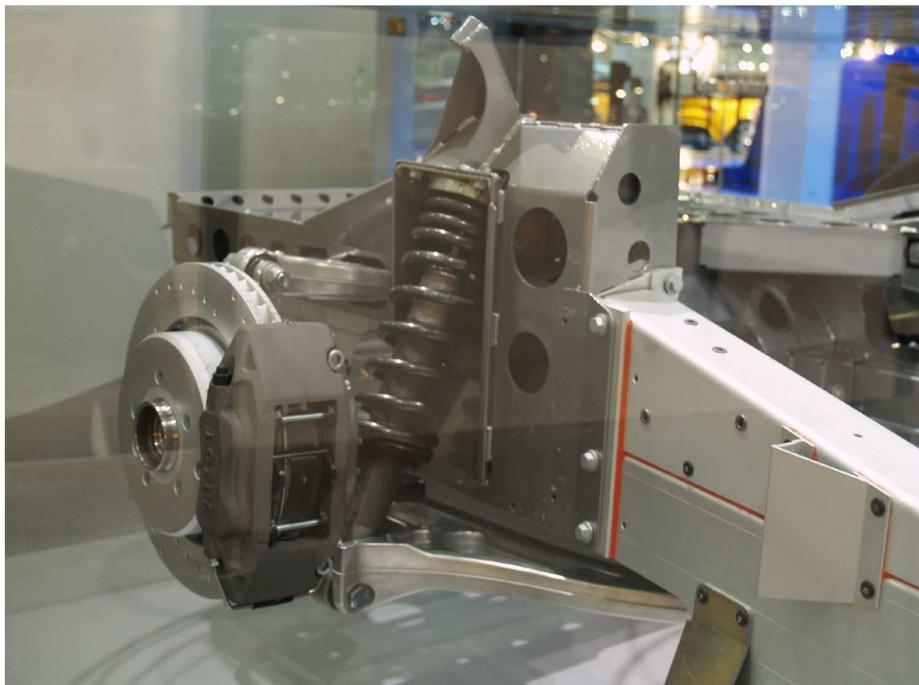
At the show in London there was a Playstation 3 system with a digital version of the Evora, see the Press Releases section of the website, so that Guests to the Lotus stand at London's Excel exhibition centre will be able to navigate an Evora on the new London city circuit which was recently introduced to the GT series with the release of Gran Turismo 5 Prologue.



Playstation3 set-up

Esprit follow-up

The chassis of the Evora will also be used for the "new Esprit" (as I call it for now), but it will be longer and wider so that a bigger engine can be fitted. This car is now announced for 2011, as CEO Mike Kimberley ordered the design to be redone as he was not happy with the results by the end of the year 2006. The car will be a real supercar in every sense. At this moment several engines are considered, one being from Toyota and there is also talk about an electrical engine...



Parts that Evora and "new Esprit" will share...

New Elise

At the British Motor Show I understood that a new Elise/Exige range can be expected in the year 2010 and before this, we can look out to faster S3 variants of these models. There will probably be a cooperation with Abarth, that wants to create a new sports car under its own name, sharing the chassis with the new Elise. The Abarth is expected in the year 2011.

New on the website

Of course the new pages on the Evora in the Genealogy and Modelcar sections. And more news, a complete overview of what is new can be found at the 'news' page on the website: <http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/new.php>.

Model cars

The new 1/18th scale Europa S model from AutoArt should be available any moment now. Here are some images:



AutoArt Lotus Europa S, 1/18



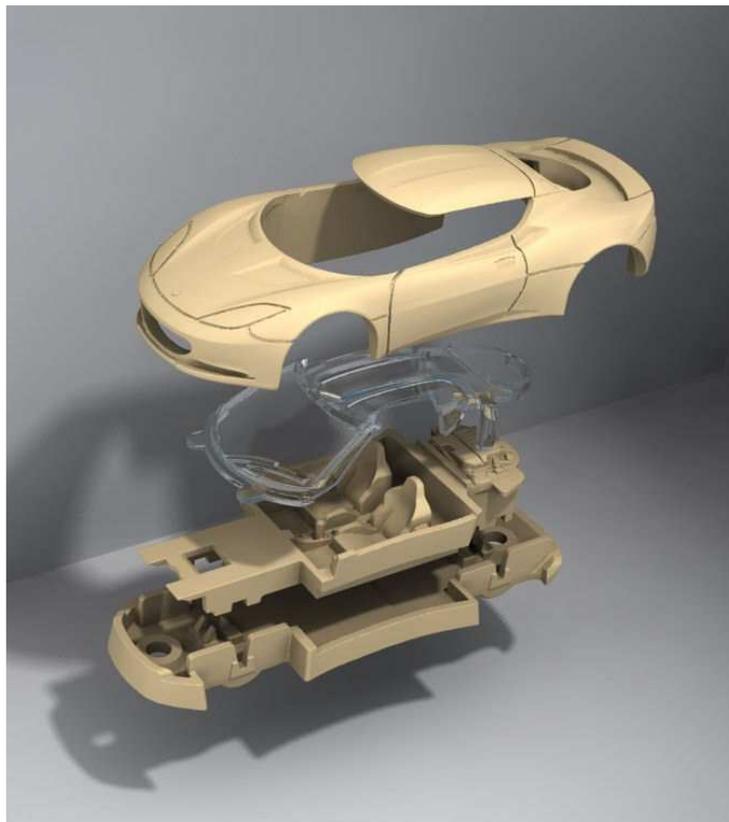
AutoArt Lotus Europa S, 1/18

In issue 6 of this newsletter I did write about the Tesla Roadster, here is the first miniature model that I have seen, made by Hotwheels:



Tesla Roadster by Hotwheels, 1/64

In the Evora issue of this newsletter I did show you the new Matchbox model, here is another image, released by Lotus:



Matchbox Evora, 1/64th scale

Events

If you like to have your (Club)event listed on our calendar, please let me know! You can find it here: <http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/Events/index.php>.



The **BIG EVENT** this year will be Lotus 60th Anniversary.

You will be able to find all information here: <http://www.lotus60thanniversary.com/>

For **2009** the local **BIG EVENT** will be the International Meeting that will be organised by the Lotus Club Holland from May 21-25, 2009. All members from International Lotus Clubs will be welcome during this event. The event will have a fantastic program in/around Amsterdam and the province of Noord Holland. It will also contain a roundtrip by canal boat through the Amsterdam canals and a visit to the circuit of Zandvoort. More information will be available soon on the website, <http://www.lotusclubholland.nl>

And if you need information or assistance I will be happy to help you.



Downloads

If you have anything that you like to share with other Lotus enthusiasts and that will not get me into copyright problems, please let me know. I am happy to make it available from the website.