

The first words

Due to other activities and some time off, this newsletter may be a bit later as expected, my apologies for that!

I would appreciate your opinion about this newsletter, as most of the news is already presented on the website as soon as I learn about it. Please let me know what you think!

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

Ronald Ringma



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Previous issues of this newsletter are available as free downloads from my website.

News from Group Lotus

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>

New on the website

You will find all recent changes and news headlines on the 'news' page of the website. On the opening page of the website you will also see the most recent items.

Lotus Exos

A few weeks ago Lotus presented what may be the ultimate track day car for the enthusiast. Evidence for the fact that they do have guts in Hethel, I guess. The new Lotus Exos, or Type 125, is the closest most people can get to the experience of driving a Formula One car. According to Lotus.

This is what you get if you are investing USD 1.000.000 :

A racing car that is based on a Formula One car and uses F1 technology, with a Cosworth V8 engine. The car looks like one of the 2009/2010 F1 cars. With a weight of 560 kg and with the Cosworth GPV8 engine producing 650 BHP this car gives the driver the feeling of driving a Formula One car. Unlike a Formula One car however, an army of technicians and mechanics is not required to start the engine and keep the car running. The start button is all the driver needs to press to get going.



The engine should be good for 4.500 km before a rebuild is needed. So you should be able to have a lot of fun before it gets to the next major investment.

The chassis is a carbon fibre monocoque, carbon ceramic brakes and a carbon fibre pushrod suspension. In the cockpit we see more F1 technology, looking at the steering wheel with a screen and various buttons to adjust things while driving.



Purchasers of the Lotus 125 will be able to choose from a stylization of a classic Lotus livery, the Exos (explained below) concept design, or as an option, request their own, bespoke livery.

25 of these cars will be made in 2011, so if you are buying one you will automatically belong to an exclusive group of people.

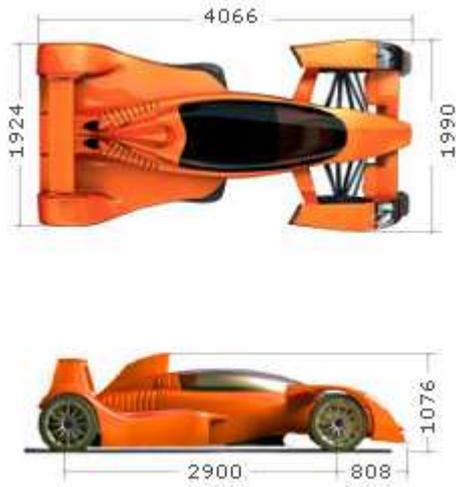


And then there is also the 'Exos Experience by Lotus', a new concept for these most exclusive owners and members to improve their race craft and engineering prowess, learn how to set-up a car working with a race engineer, focus on mental and physical fitness and enjoy a driving experience quite literally out-of-this-world. A team of engineers, aerodynamicists, tyre specialists and experts from every field have the specific aim of delivering the optimum performance vehicle.

But it is not just the performance of the vehicle which will be optimised, the driver will be brought up to a high level through an F1 level fitness programme including nutrition, strength and fitness training and through driver training from former Lotus F1 drivers to raise the customers' skill levels to F1 standard.



Is this really a unique car? I was not sure about that, as I had a vague memory of something similar to the Exos. And I found it, it is the Caparo T1, developed by engineers that helped deliver the famous McLaren F1. Like the Lotus, this car is made in England. Also a track day car. But next to that is a road going 2 seater sports car! With a V8 engine producing 575 BHP and a weight of 470 kg it may be the car to beat.



Caparo T1

I have not got a clue whether the Caparo is in production or not, but if it is, there is already a serious competitor for the new Exos!

2010 Paris Motor Show

There are already lots of discussions going on about what to expect from Lotus during this show from October 2 – 17 in Paris. What is for sure is that we can see the new Evora S, with the 3.5 litre V6 engine now delivering 350 BHP. The new Evora S comes with a sportpack as standard featuring a 'sport' button which allows the driver to control throttle response and activate the exhaust by-pass valve.

Also we will be able to learn about the new 6 speed automatic gearbox that Lotus is introducing. This IPS (Intelligent Precision Shift) option is good for a superior automatic driving experience, according to Lotus. This new gearbox will be available with the 280 BHP version of the engine.



Evora S, 2010

Now for the part of my story that is based on things that I hear. What more can we expect in Paris this year? This is what I have heard, we will soon see what is correct....

Lotus will take four all-new models to Paris, including two (!) hybrids. But it will take 1 to 2 years before these cars will actually be for sale.

Expect from Lotus today's version of the Seven, but it will be more comfortable (air conditioning) and heavier than the original Seven. This car is based on a Spanish concept and may even be built in Spain. The price will be around the \times 100.000 mark.

Next will be what many have been looking out for, the new Esprit. Expect a turbocharged, mid-engine V8 sports car that will be heavier than we are used to see from Lotus.

The most important introduction in Paris will be two front engine hybrid cars, a four-door hatchback (like the Porsche Panamera) and a two-door coupe. This coupe could be developed into a convertible later on. Of course these cars will use the modular-hybrid concept chassis that Lotus showed during the Geneva motor show earlier this year.

Team Lotus name back in Formula One?

In 1994 Team Lotus was bought by former F3000 driver David Hunt. He did never really do something with it, except for a short period in 1995 when the name was allied to Pacific GP. Hunt and two partners have the name Team Lotus ever since.

Tony Fernandes has recently had contact about acquiring the rights for the Team Lotus name, so if it comes to a deal we will probably see a name change for the 2011 season! The Lotus Racing name will be history after one season and we will see the Team Lotus name return.

Lotus Racing Prints

Maybe you have already noticed it, Lotus Racing has recently started an extra website where the fans can obtain prints from the races and also signed merchandise like caps and shirts. The prints come in different sizes, from 8"x 6" to the largest size of 30"x 20". One can also buy framed prints, photo mugs, photo jigsaws and I have no doubt there will be more in the future. Lotus Racing is working with a company called Media Storehouse, that also produced items like fridge magnets, keyrings and mousemats. The website can be found at this URL: <http://www.lotusracingprints.com>



Formula One results

Please have a look at the "F1 press" section of the website. I will collect all the Lotus Racing news there, and you can also find the results of recent Grand Prix weekends as well as the team and drivers standings. Please see http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/Press/Press_F1_Team.php

Will Lotus Cars be designing aero packages for Indy cars?

I did not give the Indy Series the attention that it deserves lately, as I know many of you are interested in these races. I will do my best to give more information on the website and/or in the newsletter. Recently there was the announcement that the race series will allow teams to design their own aero packages onto a standard Dallara chassis from 2012.

Lotus and Cosworth are partnered with IndyCar team KV Racing Technology. The series uses stock V8 engines from Honda and chassis from Dallara. This creates a cheaper form racing and a level playing field for all teams.

Rumour is that Lotus Cars (Group Lotus) may be playing a bigger role in the IndyCar series, i.e. as a designer of the aerodynamic packages for the cars.

Tony Fernandes had this to say about the matter, "Lotus Racing congratulates the IZOD IndyCar Series on this exciting news and supports the ICONIC Advisory Committee's recommendation on the revolutionary concept of a standard safety cell with various manufacturers producing aero kits. We look forward to seeing more details on this future car strategy, and hopefully, allow our involvement in the IZOD IndyCar Series."

Model Cars

One of the readers has a model that he likes to know more about, a crystal **Type 33**. This model came with a Ferrari model and was a gift from his late father. He would like to get any information that you may have on this model, so if you know something, please sent an e-mail to webmaster@lotusdriversguide.com and I will pass the information on.

Here is an image of the model, at the bottom it reads "Series 2", "LOTUS XXXIII" and "1965/66". The length of the model is 147 mm and the width at the back wheels is 74 mm.



Slot car models in HO scale. A company called **Totalbodies** creates clear plastic bodies to fit on a HO scale chassis. I recently found some that may be of interest to Lotus collectors:



Elite



Exige
Slot car bodies



M250

Vanguards (made by Corgi) has presented the new Moonstone blue version of the **Sunbeam Lotus** model, should be available from your modelcar specialist.



AutoArt announced that they will produce a replica of the **Lotus Cortina Mk I** that Jim Clark drove to victory at Crystal Palace in 1964, scale 1-18.

AutoArt recently presented a new version of their 1/18 **Lotus Cortina Mk I**; a replica of the car used by Jim McKeaown.

This is a 'limited edition' with certificate, 750 pieces will be produced.



This is the new **Type 76** model made by **Spark**, scale 1/43, made from resin

Matchbox must have found the path of re-editions being very lucrative, as they just presented another version of their **Lotus Europa**, diecast, scale 1/64



Books and videos

No news right now.

Events

If you like to have your (Club)event listed on our calendar, please let me know! There is no charge. You can find the calendar here: <http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/Events/index.php>.

September 29-30, 2010 – Lotus track day at the Nürburgring, Germany

Lotus at the 'Ring 2010 is a Lotus-only trackday held over two consecutive days in September. Entry is strictly restricted to Lotus-badged sportscars. You can participate in your own car, or take part in one of our special school programs in our 2010 Exiges. Speak to Tom for more information about any of the options.

A Lotus only day at the famous Ring, including:

- 5 hours on the Nürburgring F1 circuit
- 5 hours on the Nürburgring Nordschleife
- Instructive Nordschleife Trackwalk
- Meal and evening drinks
- Accommodation

Options include:

- Four star accommodation
- Guests (driving and non-driving)
- Lotus 2-Eleven hot laps

More information can be found here:

http://www.rsnurburg.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=33&Itemid=75

October 9, 2010 – Club Lotus Parts Fair

Location: Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcs, WR13 6NW, England

Information: (GB) 01362-691144 or 694459 , e-mail events@clublotus.co.uk

The Club Lotus Autumn Parts Fair is a great opportunity for Club Members, Lotus owners and the trade to sell new and used Lotus Cars, Lotus spares and parts, Lotus accessories, Lotus publications and memorabilia.

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.

This newsletter is send to you because I understood that you like to receive it. If you no longer like to receive this newsletter, please send me an [email](#) and I will take you of the list.