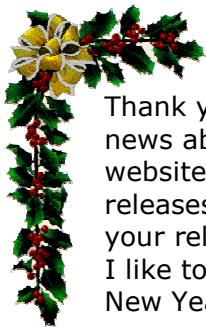




## The first words



Yes, its that time of the year again...

Thank you all for your response, comments and ideas, very helpful indeed! This month some news about the new Lotus Formula One car, and of course I did create a new page on the website about the new Formula One adventure. I will also make the Lotus F1 Team press releases available on the website. Also a lot of model car news in this issue, right in time for your relatives to select their Christmas presents for you.....

I like to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year!



I hope you will find the following news items useful, please enjoy this 25<sup>th</sup> issue!

Ronald Ringma

## In this issue:

- News from Group Lotus
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All 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>

Recently we did see:

- Lotus Evora Wins BBC Top Gear Magazine Sports Car of the Year 2009 Award
- Lotus HQ and Test Track is now on Google Street View

- Lotus Scoops EVO Car of the Year Double

### New on the website

Of course new items have been added to several sections of the website. A complete overview of what is new can be found at the 'news' page on the website: <http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/new.php>.

### Lotus Evora Wins BBC Top Gear Magazine Sports Car of the Year 2009 Award

The Lotus Evora was selected by Top Gear magazine and online teams as the best Sports Car of the last 12 months. This accolade adds to the awards haul for the Evora, which includes:

- Autocar magazine – Britain's Best Driver's Car 2009
- Car magazine – Performance Car of the Year 2009
- European Aluminium Awards 2008 - Overall Jury Prize - Lotus Evora Aluminium Structure
- EVO magazine – Car of the Year 2009
- iMotor - Overall Winner - Most Rated Car of 2008

### Exige S Type 72

The Exige S Type 72 celebrates the classic Type 72 Formula 1 car, various iterations of which achieved 20 Grand Prix victories between 1970 and 1974 while driven by such Lotus greats as Jochen Rindt, Emerson Fittipaldi, Ronnie Peterson and Mario Andretti. Based on the Exige S this special edition features Sport Pack, bespoke interior trim, gold detail exterior paintwork and unique forged wheels for an MRSP of £35,995.

To commemorate this illustrious list of Grand Prix wins, Lotus will be producing 20 of this special edition vehicle for the UK, with orders to be accepted on a first come first served basis.

Basic specification details for this vehicle are as follows:

- Exige S
- Sport Pack
- Unique Machined Forged Wheels in Black and Gold
- Build plate, uniquely featuring the date of a GP win and venue
- Trim Upgrade (featuring full-leather interior with contrast stitching)
- Phantom Black base colour with gold details on the exterior paintwork, including:
  - Piping around front splitter, side pods, spoiler end plates and front access panels
  - Gold painted Exige S logo on rear of vehicle
  - Gold painted Type 72 logo on rear three-quarter panel behind passenger window

Additional cost options include the following, all at standard pricing:

- Air Conditioning
- Performance Pack
- Limited Slip Diff



Exige S Type 72 (2009)

## Lotus Sport Exige S

Based around the original Sport Elise, the vehicle which effectively formed the prototype for the Exige, this special edition celebrates 10 years of Lotus Sport. With Performance Pack as standard this Exige S makes use of carbon fibre exterior components, including front splitter, side pods and rear wing. To tie in with this milestone a production run of 10 cars, one for each year, is planned with a MRSP of £39,995.

Basic specification details for this vehicle are as follows:

- Exige S
- Performance Pack
- Sport Pack
- Touring Pack
- Trim Upgrade (featuring red and black microfibre)
- Metallic Green Lotus Sport Paint
- Dealer-Fit Decal Kit (sponsor side decals and Lotus Sport windscreen decal)
- Unique Machined Forged Wheels in Gold and Silver
- Carbon spoiler
- Carbon front splitter
- Carbon side pods

Additional cost options include the following, all at standard pricing:

- Air Conditioning
- Limited Slip Diff



Sport Exige S (2009)

## Trackpass miniatures

Browsing the UK eBay pages I did recently find "The Figure Shop" where 1/43 miniature figures can be bought. Nice to put next to your 1/43 model cars!



TP3 is a Lotus mechanic standing, TP4 is a Lotus mechanic kneeling.

Both can be used for the classic Clark era green overalls or the later Gold Leaf red.

The figures are made from white metal and are unpainted.

Here is a link to the shop:

[http://stores.shop.ebay.co.uk/THE-FIGURE-SHOP\\_W0QQ\\_armrsZ1](http://stores.shop.ebay.co.uk/THE-FIGURE-SHOP_W0QQ_armrsZ1)

## Model Cars



Lotus Type 18 by Henri Baigent, 1/12

Last month I did show you an image of Henri Baigent's scratch built Cooper instead of the **Lotus 18** that I was writing about. To make it up to you, here is the correct image:

New from **Altaya** in their Rally Monte Carlo range, made by **Ixo** as far as I know, is this **Lotus Elite** model:



Ixo Altaya Lotus Elite Rally Monte Carlo

New from **Minichamps** is their new 1/43 edition of the **Type 99T** to remember Ayrton Senna passed away 15 years ago, 1994-2009.

The original 99T model from Minichamps is harder to find now, and if one is available it will usually have a high price. Here is a possibility for the collector who is missing this model.



Minichamps 99T limited edition

New from **Corgi** is their James Bond 007 - Roger Moore Era Set. I did write about this set before, now it is available for sale at the specialists shops. Between 1973 and 1985, Roger Moore appeared as Bond seven times. This two piece box set contains two die-cast replicas of the cars Moore made famous in his role as

Bond, the **Lotus Esprit** Underwater vehicle from *The Spy Who Loved Me* (1977) and the Lotus Esprit Turbo from *For Your Eyes Only* (1981).

Packed in bespoke, individually numbered Collector's box complete with miniature reproductions of 4 James Bond film posters from the Roger Moore Era.



Corgi James Bond Era Set 1/36



Type 25 BRM 1/43 by Spark

Just in time for Christmas are these two new models made from resin by **Spark**; Lotus **Type 25 BRM**, #34 French GP 1964, driver C. Amon

And the Lotus **Type 33**, winner of the German GP and World Champion 1965, driver Jim Clark.



Type 33 by Spark, 1/43

Other **new Spark models** to look out for are the Elan 26R Le Mans 1964, the 1972 JPS transporter (see image below)



Spark 1/43 1972 JPS Transporter (Dec 2009)



and the Gold Leaf Team Lotus set Mini Moke & Lotus 47 on trailer.

Also the Lotus 33 #18 Belgium GP 1965 as driven by Mike Spence. All of these are expected very soon now, probably before Christmas!

**Matchbox** is celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with some special issues, here is one that may be interesting for you, the **Evora** model in a limited run.



Matchbox Lotus Evora, 1/64



Elise 1/52 by Top-Racing

If you are into remote control models, you will like this little **Elise** in scale 1/52 made by **Top-Racing**. Imagine this small car racing through your living.... It has bright headlights and the functions include forward, backward, left and right.

### Jacques Villeneuve visits Lotus

During a recent trip to catch-up with old friends Villeneuve spent a day at Group Lotus' UK head quarters

where the 1997 Formula 1 World Champion was presented with a chronicle of Lotus' rich history, from its founding years with a tour of Colin Chapman's first workshops, to a session in the firm's latest offering, the award winning Evora, on Lotus' own test track.

It was a rare chance for Clive Chapman (son of Lotus' founder Colin Chapman) to share with Villeneuve some of his father's much loved projects and the two exchanged stories of the days they respectively shared with their fathers when they were competing in Formula 1.

### **Dutch Lotus specialist has moved**

Yes, we do have some real good Lotus specialists over here in The Netherlands. One is moving; Van Sten Engineering will move on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December to their new premises at Vrij Harnasch 22  
2635 BZ Den Hoorn  
Tel. 015-2853313  
Mail [info@vansten.nl](mailto:info@vansten.nl)

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month Lotus enthusiasts are welcome during the "Lotus Club pub meeting" where they will meet other Lotus owners, enjoy a cup of coffee or visit the frequent seminars.



### **First images of the Lotus F1 car 2010**

Just one month after confirmation of its entry into the 2010 FIA Formula 1 World Championship, Lotus F1 Racing is already heading into the wind tunnel with a scale model of its first Formula 1 car. The as yet undesignated model is the product of the recent collaboration between Lotus F1 Racing Chief Technical Officer Mike Gascoyne and the team's technical partners, and represents an important step in the team's preparations for next season.



F1 2010 wind tunnel model



F1 2010

## Lotus Scoops EVO Car of the Year Double

The Lotus Evora takes the title of 'EVO Car of the Year 2009', with the Lotus 2-Eleven winning the prestigious 'EVO Track Car of the Year 2009' competition. For the 'EVO Car of the Year 2009' test EVO Magazine took a fleet of the world's most desirable driving machines to the sensational roads of the Isle of Skye in Scotland, to evaluate the cars over a three day and 1000 mile test route.

The Lotus Evora, along with cars from manufacturers including Lamborghini, Ferrari, Porsche and Aston Martin were put through their paces on the challenging and technical roads by the EVO team.

In the Car of the Year test, the group of 13 cars were whittled down to the top 5 and then scored out of 100, with the Lotus Evora beating all other entrants with an impressive score of 96.0.

The 'EVO Track Car of the Year 2009' event swapped the dramatic scenery and challenging gradients for the more familiar, but fast and demanding West Circuit at the Bedford Autodrome.

The Lotus 2-Eleven along with eleven other cars competed for the title of 'EVO Track Car of the Year 2009'. The test group contained some of the most exciting track cars on sale today, including hot hatches, track focused supercars and exotic track machines. On the way to winning the competition the 2-Eleven posted the second fastest time and closely matched the criteria set by the judges of providing entertainment, being rewarding and a challenge to drive.

Read more in the press releases section of the website, please follow this link:

<http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/Press/index.php>

## Evora in the USA

On 13 November Lotus launched an "open-house" tour in Boston, that will visit 44 dealers across the country in order to introduce the Evora and to generate sales. Two Evora's will be present so that possible future customers can have a close look at the new Lotus.

Delivery in the USA will start in the first part of next year, prices will start from \$ 74.675. Options include the technology package (\$2.995), a sports-ratio six-speed gearbox (\$1.500), forged-alloy wheels (\$2.125) and limited-edition paint (\$3.300).

## Essen Motor Show

This years show was special for Lotus owners, as there was a huge display of Lotus cars at the classic section of the show. At the centre of the hall visitors where able to see 21 Lotus cars, some of these I recognized as cars coming for a collector in The Netherlands, others are owned by Classic Team lotus.

On display where cars like the Gold Leaf-liveried Type 49B that Jochen Rindt used during the 1970 Tasman Series, the Type 72 raced by Ronnie Peterson, The Type 79 used by Mario Andretti winning the 1978 World Championship and the Type 70 as raced by George Follmer in the 1970 US Formula 5000 Championship.



More single-seaters on display like the 1964 Jim Clark 32B, a Type 20 that was raced by Jo Siffert in 1961, a Type 27, a Type 61 and also a Type 18

Next to the single-seaters there were also sports cars like a Mk6, a S1 Mk 7, a MK8, an Eleven, a Type 23 and a Type 47. Also road cars like an Elite, an Elan Plus 2 and a Lotus Cortina. Nice to see a 1961 Ford Thames 400E van, an original works van from the Cheshunt days.

Lots of people were attracted by the nice display in yellow and green colours, set up with enough space for the cars to be seen properly. It will be long before one will find such a nice display of Lotus history again!

I do not have any images, sorry for that...

## Tony Fernandes on Twitter

Lotus F1 Team manager Tony Fernandes is sharing parts of his life on Twitter. It is interesting to follow what his experiences are every once in a while, here are some examples:

Announcing three additions to our team. Critical ones on our quest to become world champion. Driver development. Nino alex and mia.  
about 3 hours ago from UberTwitter

At langkawi air show. Signing with Ctrm who build part of our Airbus wings. Now they will build the chassis of our lotus formula one cars  
about 11 hours ago from UberTwitter

Arrived in london. New york to london on virgin. One day. AirAsia from kl to london to new york. Have to decide on 4 drivers for 2 seats  
2:09 PM Nov 25th from UberTwitter

A couple of formula one meetings coming up in monte carlo. How would u make formula one more exciting  
9:34 PM Nov 24th from Twittelator

On my way to new york. Great week in kl. Really enjoyed the yes conference. Our kids in asean are awesome  
Almost confirmed all sponsors for F1  
about 14 hours ago from TwitterBerry

One Malaysia formula one team aka lotus has signed it's first driver. Public announcement soon. The dream continues.  
8:03 AM Nov 14th from Twittelator

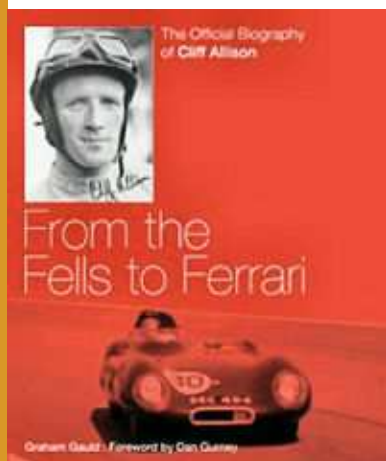
More can be found here: <http://twitter.com/tonyfernandes>

© Tony Fernandes

## Books and videos

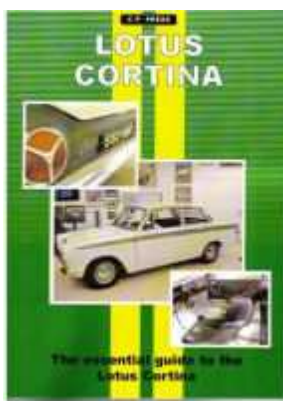
Here is a book that has been on my 'things to do list' for too long. Published in 2008, "**Cliff Allison - From the fells to Ferrari**" is the biography of Cliff Allison who started motor racing over fifty years ago with a little Cooper 500. Very much a countryman at heart Allison was not one of the party-going racing drivers but a driver with a huge ambition to race in Formula 1. He and Graham Hill competed in the first grand prix race for Colin Chapman's Lotus team in 1958 and scored the first world championship points for Lotus. He later joined Ferrari and won the Argentine 1000kms sports car race with American co-driver Phil Hill as well as being a member of the Ferrari grand prix team in 1959 and 1960.

Cliff Allison can also claim victories in many sports car events including winning

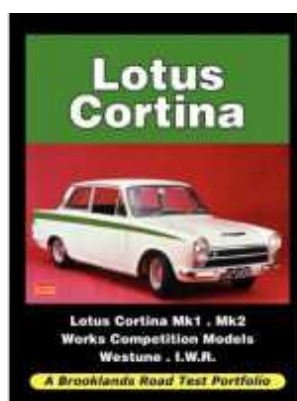


the Index of Performance at Le Mans in 1957 with a 750cc Lotus Eleven-Climax. His retired from racing following an accident whilst driving a Lotus-Climax in practice for the Belgian GP at Spa in 1961.

In 2009 there have been two new **Lotus Cortina** publications that I am aware of, one published by Colin Pitt and an other one in the Brooklands series. Both contain copies of road tests.



By Colin Pitt



Brooklands

## 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>.

## 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.