

The first words

In this issue you will find news from Lotus Engineering about their sound technology, modelcar news, information about the Lotus vs Lotus battle and more.

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 vs Lotus

The 21st of March 2011 is the day that the battle between Group Lotus and Team Lotus finally went to the British High Court to be settled once and for all.

The big surprise that may change things at the last moment is the argument between David Hunt and Tony Fernandes. About money, of course. Hunt claims that Fernandes has not yet paid him for the name. Hunt said: "He's apparently changed his mind at the eleventh hour ... and he's trying to renegotiate by offering new terms which are, frankly, ludicrous."

David Hunt's comments in The Daily Telegraph: "What angers me is that I have, in good faith, worked extremely hard on the build-up to the hearing because I believed Tony would honour our January agreement," he continues. "He's apparently 'changed his mind' at the 11th hour, by his own admission, now that I've done so much work on his company's behalf, and he's trying to renegotiate by offering new terms which are, frankly, ludicrous.

"All I'm looking for is for Tony to stick to his word and honour our agreement. If he doesn't, then regrettably I don't see why I should continue to provide assistance and this trial won't be the last battle he's facing, even if he wins."

This may be very important, as Hunt (who sold the rights to use the Team Lotus name) would be one of the most important people to back up Team Lotus.

I will keep you informed on the website and/or with the newsletter.

Geneva press conference

Did you notice that there is a link to the video clip covering the Geneva press conference on the video page of the website? You can see the Lotus press conference, Dany Bahar's speech and comments from celebrities. Also interviews with Lotus Renault GP drivers Heidfeld, Petrov and Senna. And more, much more!

Very interesting!



More legal problems for Team Lotus

It looks like a lot of the Team Lotus money will go to lawyers these days... Not only will there be the court case with regards to using the Team Lotus name, there is an other party with a claim!

Force India will meet Team Lotus in the court room in January 2012. Force India claims that their intellectual property was used on the T127 Formula One car. Force India worked together with Aerolab in order to develop components for their 2008 and 2009 cars. But the cooperation was ended in August 2009, as Force India feared that their developments and ideas had been shared with 1Malaysia Racing Team.

And next to this case, there is a criminal case prepared in Italy, as Tony Fernandes, Mike Gascoyne and aerodynamics specialist Jean-Claude Migeot are accused of wrongful disclosure of confidential information.

And of course we have David Hunt, who stated he will take action if Team Lotus does not honour the earlier made agreement.

Formula One testing days in Barcelona

During the second series of test in Barcelona, the Lotus Renault GP team was able to test the aerodynamics, learn more about what the driving forces do with the tyres, made adjustments to the rear suspension, tested the braking components and tested the car with a heavy fuel load. Very useful days

indeed!

Team Lotus at one point had some gearbox issues, but was able to run their full test program during these days in Barcelona.

Read the comments of both teams in the F1 press releases section of the website.

Evora Enduro GT concept



At the Geneva Autoshow I did see this new concept car for the first time. The Evora Enduro - GT concept car is an evolved version of the Evora GT4 Endurance. The Enduro has been developed by Lotus Motorsport under the expert eye of Lead Designer Nicola Scimeca and will be the base point from which the GT2/GTE homologated cars for FIA (Federation Internationale de l'Automobile) and ACO (l'Automobile Club de l'Ouest) endurance racing will be built.

Lotus Motorsport intend to contend the following endurance events this year:

23 – 26 June 2011 Nürburgring ADAC 24 Hour Race (GER)

28 – 31 July 2011 Spa 24 Hour Race (BEL)

8 & 9 October 2011 Silverstone 24 Hour Race (GB)

The 24 hour races in Dubai and Daytona are on the list for 2012.

The Evora Enduro can be bought by private individuals and adapted for racing.

Engine

Cosworth 4-litre DOHC V6 VVT-i 2GR-FE, normally aspirated with dry sump. Maximum power 440 bhp @ 7000 rpm, max torque 460 Nm @ 5500 rpm.

More information can be seen in the press releases section of the website.

Piper-Heidsieck sponsor of the Elise Trophy

Piper-Heidsieck recently announced it will be the exclusive champagne sponsor of the Elise Trophy during the 2011 racing season. The champagne brand has agreed a twelve month sponsorship deal including support of the winner's podium offering first, second and third placed drivers bottles of their multi-award winning champagne.

The Elise Trophy is widely regarded as the UK's premier club racing series. Featuring a single class system placing the emphasis on driver ability, a fantastic calendar of events including prestigious support slots and unrivalled support from the Lotus community, the starting grid is guaranteed a big line-up. Renowned as a

safe and social environment for those wishing to move from track days into racing, the Elise Trophy has seen over 80 drivers make the transition since its inception in 2007.



Piper-Heidsieck is a champagne that likes to be at the heart of prestigious and exciting occasions. Whether it's Henley Regatta, Cowes Week, the Brit Awards After Parties or the Elise Trophy, Piper Heidsieck is certain to add extra excitement to any event. The brand is set to benefit from coverage of the series on Motors TV.

Victor Lanson, Marketing Controller for Piper-Heidsieck said, 'We aim to be involved with events that offer prestige and excitement, we were delighted to be given this opportunity as the Elise Trophy certainly offers both of these.'

Paul Golding, Elise Trophy Series Coordinator added, 'Piper-Heidsieck is our perfect podium partner, it is at the centre of the best celebrations and will give our drivers even more incentive to be on the winner's podium.'

Halosonic: Sound technology with vision

Lotus and Harman create next generation intelligent pedestrian warning system, integrating the advanced Halosonic sound synthesis system with video technology.

This cutting-edge enhanced version of the Halosonic safety system incorporates input from imaging sensors to enhance the quality of the sound synthesis system. Halosonic has been developed specifically for electric vehicles and hybrid electric vehicles, and had its first public demonstration on the Lotus Engineering cutaway hybrid Evora 414Evolution exhibit at the 81st International Motor Show in Geneva.



The system on this latest version of Halosonic, a collaboration between Harman and Lotus uses a single camera to determine the distance, trajectory and speed of pedestrians and other road users, calculating the risk of collision by comparing this information with the car's path. The new Halosonic system uses this data to actively control the volume of the External Sound Synthesis to warn pedestrians of the vehicle's location, thereby improving pedestrian safety and reducing noise pollution. Under certain conditions the system will generate an audible and visual warning for the driver using the Internal Sound Synthesis and instrument panel.

The new active system is optimised to operate in urban environments where there is the greatest risk of a collision with a pedestrian. It is calibrated to actively control the volume and pitch of the sound synthesised while the vehicle is travelling from 0 - 75 km/h, continually evaluating the risk of a pedestrian collision and operating in an area up to 60 metres ahead of the vehicle. All of the Halosonic systems are designed to use low levels of power and with the new active version there will be less power consumed as the system will only increase the volume when there is a risk of an impact.

This innovative new active safety system is integrated into the Halosonic range of products, which includes: External Sound Synthesis, Internal Sound Synthesis, Road Noise Cancellation and Engine Order Cancellation. The Halosonic range has been designed by Lotus Engineering and Harman Automotive and offers a production ready technology as a stand-alone or integrated ICE system solution.

Governments around the world have acknowledged the increased risk posed by almost silent vehicles and are in the process of drawing up legislation to compel car manufacturers to equip vehicles with pedestrian warning systems like the Halosonic system.



Colin Peachey, Chief Engineer, Control and Electrical, Lotus Engineering said, "The integration of video technology into the Halosonic system illustrates the flexibility of the technology to evolve new features and functionality; offering a system that is more intelligent and produces less unwanted noise while using less power! This is just one of the several enhanced functions we are currently developing for Halosonic that is now the global benchmark pedestrian safety system of this type, and which is receiving a lot of attention from large vehicle manufactures keen to meet the upcoming legislation in the US and Japan. The Halosonic system offers the ability to tune the sound synthesis to a manufacturer's requirements, giving the capability to synthesise anything from a conventional engine sound to a very futuristic Sci- Fi designer sound."

"The latest active Halosonic system is the most advanced system on the market and meets all the proposed legislation, providing the benchmark for this type of system" said HARMAN's Rick Kreifeldt, Vice President of Global Automotive Research.

Lotus Engineering cutaway hybrid Evora 414Evolution exhibit

The cutaway hybrid Evora 414Evolution exhibit will be displayed at the 81st International Motor Show in Geneva and demonstrates Lotus Engineering's technical expertise in: Lightweight Architectures, Efficient Performance, Driving Dynamics and Electrical and Electronic Integration. The new intelligent Halosonic system is displayed in the cutaway hybrid Evora 414Evolution exhibit along with the supercharged production Lotus Range Extender.

Dr Robert Hentschel, Director of Lotus Engineering, said "Lotus Engineering is one of the world's most dynamic automotive engineering consultancies. We are rapidly expanding into new regions and investing heavily in facilities, personnel and our world leading technologies. One example of this investment in technology is the cutaway hybrid Evora 414Evolution exhibit, which showcases the advanced series hybrid drivetrain, with the production Lotus Range Extender and intelligent Halosonic technology. It is anticipated

that these technologies will, in conjunction with our technical partners, be in production vehicles in the near future".

Vallejo Racing Team will participate in the Spanish Rally Championship with a Lotus!

The Spanish Vallejo Racing Team has a new car for the 2011 Spanish Rally Championship: A Lotus Exige!! I am used to seeing Lotus cars participating in races, but an Exige as a rally car is new for me.



Driver Sergio Vallejo and co-driver Diego Vallejo became Spanish Rally Champion in 2009 with their Porsche GT3. For the 2011 season the team was able to find a new sponsor, the hotel chain Paradores of Spain. There will be technical support from Group Lotus, according to the text on the Spanish website of the team. Good luck for the team!

Model Cars



It looks like **Ixo** has plans to produce this 2004 **Esprit V8** in yellow, as shown on the Nuremberg Toy Fair in 2007. Diecast, scale 1:43.

Looking at this **Opel Lotus Omega** I have not got a clue if I am looking at something old or something new from **Ixo**... Who can help me here? Diecast, scale 1:43.

By the way, as this is a RHD car it should be called a Vauxhall Lotus Carlton, I guess.





This is the new **Spark Elan 26R Shapecraft** as driven by Walker in 1964. This model looks like it is ready to hit the shelves, so keep looking in your specialist store as it may be three any moment now.

Resin, scale 1:43.

And the 1963 Lightwork version of the **Shapecraft Elan 26R**, also by Spark. This will take more time before you will see it for sale. Resin, scale 1:43



This is the **Type 76** as driven by Jacky Ickx on Kyalami, 1974. By **Spark**, resin, 1:43. Should be available in the shops in the first week of April.

Lotus **Type 56**, E. Fittipaldi 1971. **Spark**, resin, scale 1:43. Releasedat to be announced.

The 6th Race of Champions was a non-Championship motor race, run to Formula One rules, held on 21 March 1971 at Brands Hatch circuit in Kent, UK. The race was run over 50 laps of the circuit, and was won by Clay Regazzoni in a Ferrari 312B2. Emmerson Fittipaldi competed in a Lotus Type 56 (with Pratt & Whitney turbine engine) but had to give up in round 34, having problems with the rear suspension.



This is the new **Seven S4** by **MEA**. This model is available hand-built or as a kit with a wealth of very small photo-etched parts. Ideal for the modeller with very good eyesight and steady, small fingers! The hand-built models are well detailed and finished. Made in France, resin, scale 1:43.

I did recently see this Rainer Schwedt version of the Lotus **Cortina** 1:32 slotcar by **Revell**.



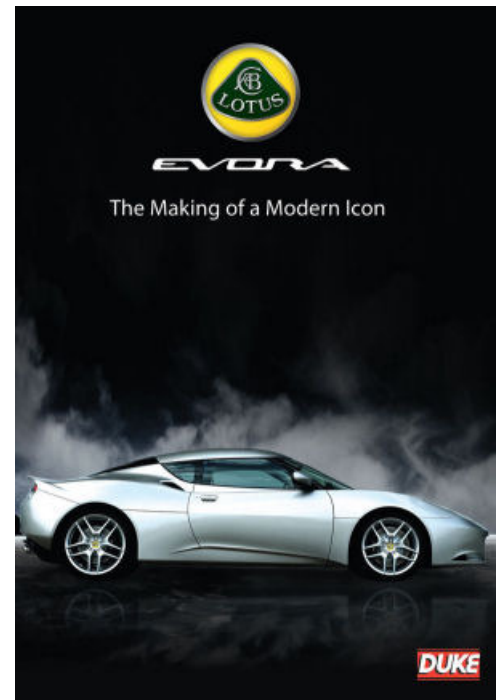
Books and videos

This official Lotus DVD tells the remarkable story of the development of the new Lotus Evora sports car from a clean sheet idea to the final product.

Lotus Evora - The Making of a Modern Icon lets you join the Lotus team as they test in the freezing Arctic, at the world famous Nürburgring, and as they face the challenges of manufacturing this award-winning sports car – and it was all done in an unprecedented 27 months! This is not just the story of the Lotus Evora; it is the story of the people behind it, set against the backdrop of huge changes in the motor industry and within Lotus itself.

With exclusive behind-the-scenes filming, this dvd is a pioneering documentary showing the complete development of a car as it happened.

It is a must-see for anyone who wants to see how this latest model from the legendary Lotus was developed.



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 sent 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 off the list.