



The first words

While writing these words it seems the last newsletter was only last week.....time flies when you are having fun I guess. During the last weeks we have had some days with reasonable weather in The Netherlands and I covered many enjoyable km's with the Elan.

Once again I have found enough news to fill more than the 1 or 2 pages I had in mind. Please keep sending me your comments and hot news!

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

Ronald Ringma



In my Elan with Johnny Tipler (right)

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

Evora on the road!

The new Lotus Evora will be put through its paces by over 70 of the most discerning international journalists over the next two weeks.

The first official press drives of the Lotus Evora will take place from 4th-15th May on the wonderful roads of the Scottish mountains and lochs. With the delivery of the first of these hand-built British cars only weeks away in early June, Lotus dealers will soon have Evora demonstrators available.

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:

- New Format for Lotus Cup Europe Gives new Dimension to Club Racing
- Lotus and Harman International Announce Collaboration
- 2010 Model year Elise and Exige now cleaner than ever

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>.

Donnington impressions

I was not able to be there, but here are some images of this years Donnington Show. Images courtesy of John Tornhill



Evora entering Progressive Insurance Automotive X PRIZE competition

The goal of the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE, a project of the X PRIZE Foundation, is to inspire a new generation of viable, super fuel-efficient vehicles that offer more consumer choices. The teams that are entering this competition will have to win a rigorous long distance stage competition for clean, production-capable and super fuel efficient vehicles that exceed 100 MPG equivalent fuel economy.



Ten million dollars in prizes will be awarded to the teams that win a stage race for clean, production-capable vehicles that exceed 100 MPGe. The Progressive Automotive X PRIZE will place a major focus on affordability, safety, and the environment. It is about developing real, production-capable cars that consumers want to buy, not science projects or concept cars.

Team ULV-3 has elected to use the new 2010 Lotus Evora platform as their X PRIZE competition vehicle, to showcase their unique Multi-Fuel, High Speed Diesel Electric (HSDe) engine concepts and automotive designs. Team ULV-3 and Lotus share a strong, common philosophical DNA and history of working

with industry leaders to improve the performance of existing technologies for the automotive, aeronautical, and motorsports industries, which makes this relationship a natural fit.

Lotus is regarded as a world leader in light weight chassis systems and automotive manufacturing techniques and the Lotus Evora provides Team ULV-3 with one of the most advanced light weight chassis design options available. Team ULV-3 believes this new Lotus Evora platform provides the most practical management approach to competing in a time constrained environment and the Progressive Automotive X PRIZE competitions goal.

Team ULV-3 is a hand selected, highly qualified and dedicated group of automotive, engineering, business, and project management professionals. They are combining their talents to passionately pursue the common goal of competing in the 2010 Progressive Automotive X PRIZE.

The lessons learned during the competition will significantly advance Multi-Fuel HSDe, electric propulsion, and Kinetic Energy Recovery System (KERS) concepts.

More information can be found here: <http://www.progressiveautoxprize.org/> and here: <http://www.ulv-3.com/index.htm>

New proactive issue

The official magazine of Lotus Engineering is called proActive. From the website I am offering you links to these magazines, all in pdf format. All these pdf documents are copyrighted by Group Lotus plc and Aroq Ltd. In the latest issue you will find the following subjects:

- Lotus and Harman International announce collaboration
- Reforming racing to drive technology for cleaner motoring
- Lotus Omnivore research engine unveiled
- Q&A with Dr. Pawan Goenka – president of Mahindra Group's automotive unit

Lotus and Harman International Announce Collaboration

Lotus Engineering and Harman Becker Automotive Systems have reached an agreement to jointly develop noise management solutions using Lotus' patented Active Noise Control technologies. Exclusive rights are granted to Harman Becker to manufacture the latest technology solutions for the worldwide vehicle OEM market. The agreement includes all of Lotus' Active Noise Control technologies comprising Road Noise Cancellation, Engine Order Cancellation, and Electronic Sound Synthesis.

The Road Noise Cancellation and Engine Order Cancellation systems will provide vehicle manufacturers with the ability to greatly improve in-cabin refinement, with additional design opportunities for optimising vehicle weight reduction and fuel economy.

Road Noise Cancellation and Engine Order Cancellation reduce both overall noise levels and specific audible frequencies which may be unpleasant in the cabin space. Electronic systems determine the signal needed to provide cancellation which is then seamlessly generated through the in-car entertainment system. The result is a quiet, controlled environment free of intrusive noises.

More information can be found in the Press Releases section of the website.

Model Cars

Spark has recently released some new 1/43rd models. One of these is the **Lotus-Porsche** that was raced by George Follmer. This racing car driver was successful in Southern California sports car racing with Porsches in the early 1960s. At one point he was looking for a competitive sports-racer in the under-2 liter class and ordered a new Lotus 23 without engine or radiators. Follmer and mechanic Bruce Burness upgraded the Lotus to full 23B specifications and beyond to accommodate a Porsche 904 engine.



Original Type 23 Lotus-Porsche



Spark 1/43rd Type 23 Lotus-Porsche

Follmer then decided to compete in the top-level 1965 USRRC. Follmer was leading the championship. In early 1966, Follmer sold the Lotus 23-Porsche. In the late 1980s, it reappeared in an as-raced and much-modified condition. Eventually purchased by a collector in Germany, it was restored with advice from its original mechanic Bruce Burness.

MG Model Plus (Italy) will soon have their new 1/12 **Type 25** for sale. Some specialist shops are already accepting pre-orders. The following liveries are expected: Dutch GP 1963 #6 Jim Clark – winner / British GP 1963 #4 Jim Clark - winner / Italian GP 1963 #8 Jim Clark - winner / Mexican GP 1963 #8 Jim Clark - winner / South African GP 1963 #1 Jim Clark – winner.

These models have polyurethane resin, white metal, brass, silicon and steel parts. Higher price range, probably also available as a high detail kit.

An other new **Spark** model is this 1/43rd **Type 19** (1960) 'street version':



Spark 1/43rd Type 19

Future 1/43rd releases that are expected in 2009 from **Spark**: 1967 Lotus 47 LeMans , 1969 Lotus 62 Groupe 6 prototype , Lotus 25 #8 Win. Italy GP '63 and 1/87th releases expected are 1960 Lotus Seven S2 , 1964 Lotus Elan S2



Alezan Pininfarina Chronos

Alezan is a French company that creates basic resin kits.

Here is a model that is sold as a built model, with a production run that is limited to 200 pieces: the **Pininfarina Chronos**, a concept car from 1991 that was based on the Lotus Carlton/Omega.

Resin, scale 1/43rd

Ixo have recently presented their new **Exige S** 2006 model, diecast, 1/43rd.

These models should be available in the specialist shops by now.



Exige S 2006 by Ixo, 1/43rd



Another recent **Ixo** release is this new version of their Lotus **Elite**, No 39 Winner Class Le Mans 1963, J. Wagstaff – P. Fergusson

2010 Model year Elise and Exige now cleaner than ever

For 2010 Model Year, the Elise and Exige have substantially reduced CO2 emissions and improved fuel consumption. The latest Elise and Exige models are the product of continuous improvement to give up to a 9% reduction in CO2 emissions and similar increases in fuel economy.

Here are some numbers that are published by Lotus:

Model	Combined (mpg)	Combined (l/100km)	CO2 (g/km)	0-60 mph seconds	0-100 km/h seconds
Elise S	37.2	7.6	179	5.7	6.1
Elise R	34.4	8.2	196	5.1	5.4
Elise SC	33.2	8.5	199	4.3	4.6
Exige S	33.2	8.5	199	4.5	4.7

And some more numbers from the same source:

	l/100km - mpg	CO2 g/km	0-100 km/h (0-62 mph)
Lotus Elise SC	8.5 - 33.2	199	4.6
Porsche Boxter S	9.5 - 29.7	223	5.3
Mercedes Benz SLK 55 AMG	12.0 - 23.5	288	4.9
Ferrari F430 Spider	15.2 - 18.6	345	4.1

More information can be found in the Press Releases section of the website.

New format for Lotus Cup Europe

The Lotus Cup Europe starts its 2009 season with a new promoter and new format to give a new dimension to club racing. The first round is at Brands Hatch over the weekend of 1st to 3rd of May as a supporting race to the "World Cup of Motorsport" Formula A1GP International program.

The series will be organised and run by Lotus On Track Racing Drivers Club (LoTRDC) who, with MotorSport Vision Racing, also run the highly successful "Elise Trophy" race series in the UK.

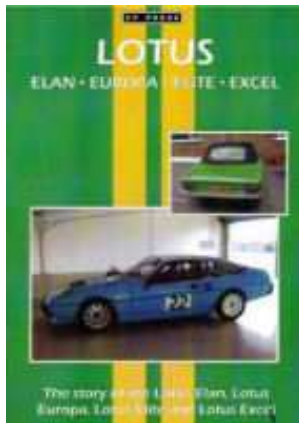
The Lotus Cup Europe Series, now in its sixth year, started in 2004 as a direct response to customer and Lotus Dealer interest in a 'fun' but professionally run motorsport series in Europe. During that time it has attracted many competitors from all over Europe, a large number of whom have been new to Lotus cars and racing.

Anyone holding a current driving licence and is living in Europe can compete in Lotus Cup Europe. All that is needed is a National Race Licence from the respective European Countries Motorsports authority and a Lotus, of course!

The Lotus Cup Europe aims to provide a friendly, safe and financially viable series for those wishing to race a Lotus Exige, Elise or 2-Eleven in Europe.

More information can be found in the Press Releases section of the website.

Books and videos

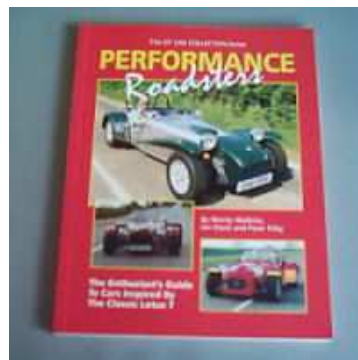


Colin Pitt has published a new book, another roadtest reprint book this time covering the **Lotus Elan, Europa, Elite and Excel**. Softback, 203 x 290 mm, 114 pp, ISBN 978 1841557182

Sometimes I find an older book, but still new for me as I did not yet see it before. Here is one that I found last month:

Performance Roadsters: The enthusiast's guide to cars inspired by the classic Lotus 7.

There have been both hard and soft cover versions. Published in 1995, written by Monty Watkins, Ian Stent and Peter Filby. It has lots of illustrations in both color and black & white. Chapters on the Caterham 7, Tiger Super 6, Sylva Striker, Westfield, Robin Hood, Dax Rush, Vindicator Sprint and others. 152 pp, ISBN 0952573601



DVD: The Jim Clark Film Festival 2008

In association with Yesterday's Racers, the organisers of the Jim Clark Film Festival have launched a DVD about the event, which features highlights from the weekend's activities.

The main focus of the DVD is the 'talk session' which took place, featuring friends and colleagues of Jim sharing their recollections of him. Participants in this session included Ian Scott-Watson, Sir John Whitmore, Jack Sears, Len Terry, Bob Dance, Jim Endruweit, Bob Sparshott and Peter Darley.

Also featured are readings of the moving tributes from Dan Gurney and Sir Jackie Stewart, the set-up of the two racing car exhibits and a photo call of the guests.

For those unable to attend the event, the DVD provides an excellent record of many of the key moments of the weekend, with countless interesting anecdotes, while for those who were present, it will serve as a treasured reminder of a unique, fun event. In total the DVD runs to 1 hour 50 minutes

More information: <http://www.jimclarkfilmfestival.com/>



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>.

July 12, The Jim Clark Film Festival

At the Volunteer Hall in Duns (Langtongate, Duns TD11 3AF, Tel: 01361 884 935) on Sunday July 12th 2009.

The event will start at 2pm and conclude at 5.30pm, with Film Session 1 running from 2pm to 3.30pm, followed by a half hour break for tea/coffee and cakes, with Film Session 2 running from 4pm to 5.30pm.

More information: <http://www.jimclarkfilmfestival.com/>

September 18 – 20, The Lotus Club Luxembourg will host an International Meeting for its members and members of other Lotus Clubs in Europe. The meeting will take place in and around Bourscheid Plage in northern Luxembourg and a simple "non-competitive" road book will be used to drive from place to place. More information: email: jean-pierre.schock@internet.lu

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.

Last month I did put some recent brochures in the downloads section, including Evora brochures! And a checklist made by Lotus Sport to use before a track day.

92 AUTOSPORT, JANUARY 21, 1966

THIS CAR....



'Sorts out the men from the boys'

THIS CAR....

(As the late Lotus owner will tell you)



Makes boys out of men....

The old performance cars of 50 years ago were associated with the titans of the road, exhibiting great strength and courage more suitable for all-in wrestling. NOW the Lotus Elan provides the ultimate in sports car handling with the minimum expenditure of energy - enabling the driver to preserve his strength for better things!

Write to: LOTUS CARS LIMITED · DELAMARE ROAD · CHESHUNT · HERTS