



The first words

This month some Lotus Formula One news (!), new model cars, news from Group Lotus, a new book, so lots of interesting subjects to tell you something about.

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

Ronald Ringma

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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 Invests and Recruits for Growth
- Lotus Evora Type 124 Endurance Racecar

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 Type 124 Endurance Race car

The Type 124 (pronounced One Twenty Four) Endurance Race car is the next step in the evolution of the

Evora. The car will make its 24 hour racing debut at the ADAC Nürburgring 24 Hours which provides a great test for the Evora's performance, efficiency and durability under tough and demanding endurance race conditions.

At the heart of the Lotus Evora are fundamental racecar elements: mid-engine layout, high-tech and super-stiff extruded and bonded aluminium chassis and very strong lightweight forged aluminium wishbones. All these elements mean that it is a natural evolution from the road going Lotus Evora to a competitive endurance race car.

From the outset the design team had intentions to take the Evora racing and the chassis was designed with this in mind. Endurance races are the perfect events to showcase the efficiency, handling and durability characteristics that have been fundamental to the concept of the Evora.



The Lotus Evora Type 124 Endurance Race car has a race-tuned version of the mid-mounted Toyota V6 engine, with power increased to over 400 ps (depending on race regulations). Vehicle mass is expected to be reduced by up to 200 kg, bringing the weight of the race car to less than 1200 kg (depending on race regulations).

Further changes for the Lotus Evora Type 124 Endurance Race car include a six speed sequential paddle shift racing gearbox, full FIA specification roll cage, FIA-compliant 120 litre ATL fuel system, FIA fire extinguisher system, competition carbon fibre rear wing, diffuser and front splitter.

You can read more on this subject in the press releases section of the website.

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

Stolen Lotus 41C, information wanted

A rare Lotus 41C in Gold Leaf colours was stolen 30 September 2009 from Northhamptonshire in the UK. There will be no paperwork or history with this car as this is still in the possession of the owner. The car is fitted with a Lotus (BRM) twin cam engine, Taylor race engineering (Hewland Mk8/9 replica) gearbox and rare original Lotus 6 bolt 6 spoke magnesium wheels.



A substantial award is offered for information leading to it's safe return.

If you have any information, please e-mail lesleyelloway@yahoo.co.uk

Automatic Evora

Next to the Evora variations that I did already mention in earlier editions of this newsletter, the model year 2011 will bring us the Evora with automatic gearbox. As soon as I get more information about this model I will share it with you!

Lotus invests and recruits for growth

Lotus defies economic gloom with a 30% increase in its manufacturing workforce and over £20m earmarked for product investment in 2009/10 to fuel continued growth. This is in addition to the £28m already invested in 2008/09.

First customer deliveries of the new multi-award winning Lotus Evora have already started and there is already a substantial order bank of five months' production. To cope with this demand, Lotus has recruited 150 additional manufacturing staff (a 30% increase) over the last six months. Planned sales volumes of the Lotus Evora for FY 2009/10 are in excess of 1200 with the production rate reaching 10 cars per day by the end of November 2009. The current production rate of Lotus' small platform products (Elise, Exige, 2-Eleven and those for third parties) remains stable.

You can read more on this subject in the press releases section of the website.

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

2010 Formula One Calendar

FIA 's 2010 F1 calendar has 19 races on the schedule. We see the Canadian Grand Prix returning on the list on June 13, but the contract negotiations with Formula One Management are not yet finished. If these are not completed, the Turkish Grand Prix will move from May 30 to June 6.

A new location is South Korea.

March 13: Bahrain
March 28: Australia
April 4: Malaysia
April 18: China
May 9: Spain
May 23: Monaco
May 30: Turkey
June 13: Canada
June 27: Europe (Valencia, Spain)
July 11: Great Britain
July 25: Germany
Aug. 1: Hungary
Aug. 29: Belgium
Sept. 12: Italy
Sept. 26: Singapore
Oct. 3: Japan
Oct. 17: Korea
Oct. 31: Abu Dhabi
Nov. 14: Brazil

New Formula One entry for 2010: The Lotus F1 Team!!

The FIA announced on Tuesday 15 September that the Lotus F1 Team has been granted the 13th entry in the 2010 Formula One Championship. As a replacement for the BMW team. Here is the full press release:

Press Release

2010 FIA Formula One World Championship - New Entries

15/09/2009

Following an intensive selection and due diligence process, the FIA has awarded the 13th entry in the 2010 FIA Formula One World Championship to the Lotus F1 Team.

The FIA also received an impressive application from the BMW Sauber Team. However, given that BMW has announced it will withdraw its support in 2010, there are still uncertainties regarding the future ownership of the team.

Nevertheless, the FIA considers that BMW Sauber's application is of high quality and would constitute a competitive participant in the Championship. As such, it has awarded BMW Sauber the '14th place' in the Championship meaning that it will be entitled to fill any vacancy that arises on the 2010 grid.

In addition, the FIA believes that a good case can be made for expanding the grid to 14 teams. The FIA will be consulting urgently with the existing teams regarding the introduction of an appropriate rule change to expand the grid to 28 cars in time for the first Grand Prix in 2010.

Detailed below is information about the new team that has been confirmed to compete in the Championship from next year.

Company Name: 1Malaysia F1 Team Sdn Bhd
Team Name: Lotus F1 Team
Country: Malaysia
Team Principal: Tony Fernandes

A partnership between the Malaysian Government and a consortium of Malaysian entrepreneurs, 1Malaysia F1 Team returns the Lotus name as a constructor to Formula One for the first time since 1994. The team will initially be based at the RTN facility in Norfolk, UK, some 10 miles from the Lotus Cars factory. A 50,000 square foot fully equipped facility, RTN was built by Toyota for its initial Formula One programme and then used by Bentley for its successful Le Mans programme.

The team's future design, R&D, manufacturing and technical centre will be purpose built at Malaysia's Sepang International Circuit.

Team Principal Tony Fernandes is the founder and CEO of the Malaysian-based Tune Group, owner of the Air Asia airline. The team's Technical Director Mike Gascoyne has over 20 years of experience in Formula One having previously performed the same role for the Force India, Toyota, Renault and Jordan Formula One teams.

As part of its application to compete in the 2010 FIA Formula One World Championship, the team has agreed an engine supply deal with Cosworth and a wide variety of technical partnerships including Xtrac and FondTech.

Now I'm wondering what Group Lotus will have to do with the fresh Team Lotus, if anything at all (engineering ???). Until now there was no press release from Lotus but I guess the fact that the team's operational base will be in Norfolk at a 10 miles distance from the factory can be pointing in a certain direction.... However the car design and testing operations will get under way at the Sepang circuit near Kuala Lumpur. Time will tell if there is a connection apart from the name.

Some history of the old team Lotus (1952-1994):

Founded: 1952

Team owner: Colin Chapman

Debut: Grand Prix of Monaco 1958

Number of GP starts: 491

World Champions: 6

Constructor Titles: 7

Wins: 79

Pole Positions: 107

Fastest Laps: 71

Points: 1332



Exige S MY 2010 introduced in the USA

The new Lotus Exige S was introduced in the USA earlier this week, on the US market the car will be known as Exige S 240. The 2010 Lotus Exige S240 is scheduled to launch in the United States this fall with pricing to remain consistent with the 2009 model, starting at \$65,690.



More information in both the Press Releases and Genealogy sections of the website.

Model Cars

Once again the collectors amongst us will have to reach deep into their wallet this month....

Spark has released several new models: S0262 1/43 **Type 47** #44 24h Le Mans 1967 Wagstaff-Preston (white-green), S1612 1/43 **Type 25** BRM #36 French GP 1964 Hailwood (blue met.), 87S045 1/87 **Seven S2** 1968 (silver-yellow) and 87S047 1/87 **Exige S2** 2004 (orange met.)



Type 47 by Spark, 1/43



Type 25 BRM by Spark, 1/43



Exige S2 by Spark, 1/87



Seven S2 by Spark, 1/87

New from **Scalextric** is this Graham Hill version of their 1/32 Lotus **Type 49**:



Another recent model by **Spark** is this 1/43 **2 Eleven** New Entry Level 2009 Yellow hornet



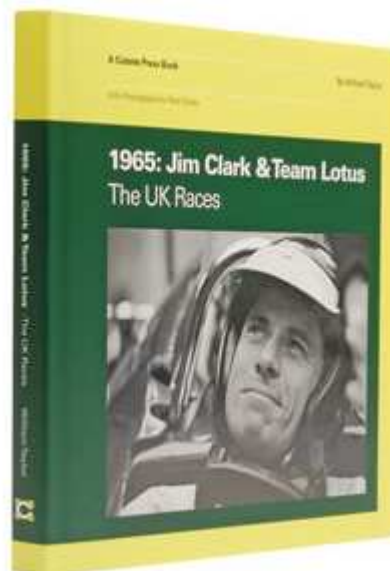
Books and videos

An other Jim Clark book has emerged: **1965: Jim Clark & Team Lotus. The UK Races**

This new publication concentrates on just one season of Jim Clark's career, 1965. This was a very special year in the career of Jim Clark. In this season Clark showed his versatility by driving everything from Formula One to saloon cars and Indy 500 to sports-prototypes. He won more often than not, the high point being his victory at the Brickyard. This new book looks at the events surrounding each outing and of course the races themselves.

This book has close to 200 never before published images from the Peter Darley Archive, and these images help to capture the unique atmosphere of the time. In the book you will also find the race results for every class in which competed.

By W. Taylor With new contributions from Jack Sears, Sally Swart (Stokes), Bob Dance and David Hobbs, 208pp. hardback, 25 x 25cm. ISBN 9781902351360



As usual for books that are published by Coterie press, there is also a so called 'Publishers Edition' of 1965: Jim Clark & Team Lotus (100 copies). Bound in the highest quality black leather, each copy of the Publishers Edition is presented in a deluxe cloth covered 'clam-shell' case. Each book has the JC emblem embossed into the leather cover, the pages are gilt edged, and each copy has a silver silk ribbon marker. Each one of the 100 copies has been personally signed and numbered by the author William Taylor.

ISBN 9781902351377

Do you remember that I did write about **The Red Leather Driving Gloves** by Dennis Ortenburger last August? I did read the book and enjoyed it a lot! So if you are interested, get an autographed copy for your collection.

ISBN: 1-4363-6969-X (Paperback), ISBN13: 978-1-4363-6969-5 (Paperback), ISBN: 1-4363-6970-3 (Hardback), ISBN13: 978-1-4363-6970-1 (Hardback), 190 pp, size 228 x 152 mm

Special offer: order an autographed hardback copy of The Red Leather Driving Gloves for USD 29.99 plus USD 12,50 shipping (total USD 42.99) direct form the author. If you use PayPal and pay this amount to lotuselitejournal@charter.net, please mention *Lotusdriversguide offer*.



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>.

The Lotus Forums' Factory Frolic 17 and 18 October 2009

On Sunday 18th October 2009 there will be a unique opportunity to capture the essence of the Lotus Evora in true form at the Hethel manufacturing facility.

This exclusive event will include:

- A styling presentation given by a member of the Evora design team
- A technical talk given by a member of the Evora project team
- Parade-laps on the famous Lotus test-track in your own car
- A detailed tour of the state of the art Evora production line
- A 15-minute road driving session in the Lotus Evora
- Static display of current Lotus product models
- An auto-jumble and merchandise sale
- The Lotus Evora development story
- A visit to Classic Team Lotus

A limited number of tickets are available at an incredible price of just £35 inc VAT per person. To purchase a ticket, please visit the events section of the Lotus Forums Shop at <http://www.thelotusforums.com/shop/>

The plan is:

Saturday 17th October - Visit the hotel which is about 4 miles from the factory, check in and freshen up ready for a huge fund raising visit to Cromer on the north Norfolk coast where the participants will rattle tins and be met by local radio/papers/TV etc. After this everybody returns to the hotel for evening grub in an exclusive 250 person marquee for the charity auction, raffle, fun and games. Bar's open 'til late! Donations towards the raffle/auction are welcome.

Sunday 18th October - En masse 150+ Lotus convoy to the Lotus Factory where everybody will enjoy a great day.

Events will include; Track 'parade' laps in your car, road drive in an Evora (every person can have a go!), Factory Tours, shop visit, ASO auto jumble, styling talks from Russell Carr/Steve Crijns, technical talks from Rob Savin/Roger Becker, Evora track demonstration laps, Classic Team Lotus cars, Evora development story, Lotus product displays, Lotus Sport and more. Lunch will be included and there will be beauticians on site to offer treatments to those not quite so interested in the cars, a family event! Goodie bags for all attendees and more!

31 October 2009, Lotus Club Holland parts and memorabilia meeting

On Saturday 31 October the Lotus Club Holland organises the yearly Lotus parts and memorabilia meeting, from 10.00 to 14.00 hours at Weerenweg 10, Zwanenburg, The Netherlands. This location is close to Amsterdam.

Free entry, free tables, free coffee!

More information : ruilbeurs@lotusclub.nl or at the website www.lotusclub.nl

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.