



## *Newsletter*

Year 04, issue 51

October 2011

### **The first words**

Thank you all for the reactions and support I received after publishing the 50<sup>th</sup> issue of this newsletter! Once again, I will do my very best in order to give you Lotus related information.

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

Ronald Ringma



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

### **Facebook**

Next to the website, there is also a page on Facebook now. Just search for Lotus Drivers Guide when you are logged in to your Facebook account.

### **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>

In this section of the website you will find the latest news by Lotus, normally unedited. But you will also find my own reports here, like recently the images from the IAA in Frankfurt.

## 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.

If you like to know if there is an update on this page, I suggest you become a friend on Facebook, as all the updates will be mentioned there. Or you can also get Google+, where I am also giving notice of updates on the website.

Finally, if you get an RSS reader, you will be able to receive updates by RSS. So there are lots of possibilities to stay up-to-date!

## What happened with the Freddie Mercury Evora?

It was sold!

Broadcaster and car enthusiast Chris Evans visited Lotus to agree the final spec of the Evora S he bought at auction to raise money for Freddie Mercury's charity Mercury Phoenix Trust.

At a glamorous, star-studded event at the Savoy last month, the great and beautiful gathered to mark the late Freddie Mercury's 65th Birthday and boy, was it a party! A guilt-free party at that, for at the heart of the celebrations was a very deserving cause, the Mercury Phoenix Trust who work relentlessly to improve education and awareness of HIV and AIDS in the developing world.



During the evening a bespoke 'Freddie inspired' Evora S was sold at auction to self-confessed "car geek" Chris Evans. Chris' well documented purchase was followed by a visit to Lotus Headquarters to agree the final design and specification of the new addition to his established and considerable car collection.

Chris' visit was a 'behind-the-scenes' view of Lotus, a real treat for any car-enthusiast and their son, little Noah also came along for the day! First stop was the Design Studio, a secure and highly confidential area where all of Lotus' future projects are safely

guarded. This was clearly an exciting opportunity for Chris and his enthusiasm extended into a session with the Lotus design team to put the final flourishes to his own Evora, to say Chris was "like a kid in a candy store" is no exaggeration!

The visit also included a tour of the Lotus production line where Chris chatted to staff, signed autographs and posed for photos which was a real treat for his fans here at Lotus HQ. To thank Chris for supporting the Mercury Phoenix Trust and to make a memorable day even more special a track session was arranged. We all had a great day and last night Chris sent us the following email, we thought you'd like to see what he thought of his day with us!

"Great day down with the guys at Hethel/Lotus HQ. I am officially especially excited over what I took a sneak peak at concerning certain future production cars. Time machine required - get them in the showrooms asap so the world can look on in wonder. And as for Gavan the test driver, he should be available on prescription. Woohoo!! I'd also like to thank Gino for his hospitality and muchos gracias to Russ and his design team for helping me spec the Freddie Mercury Tribute Evora S in the spirit with which it deserves. The initial purpose of my visit. There has been talk about a future go in an F1 drive-a-like. Count me in!

## Robert Kubica update

According to his manager Daniele Morelli, Robert Kubica is going to make a decision about returning to Formula One racing within 6 weeks from now. Of course Lotus Renault GP team boss Eric Boullier has to make a decision about their 2012 driver line-up, so there is some pressure for the Polish Formula One racer.

In an interview with the Italian Gazzetta dello Sport, Morelli stated: "Robert is exercising the right elbow by flexing and tensing it; soon he will start twisting it. The hand is progressing, the movements are there and that's the most important thing. Strength is lacking but it's just a matter of time. I often talk to Boullier. He'll have an answer, whether positive or negative, by early November, when we'll all have a clearer idea. I'm optimistic."

## Lotus Evora S GP Edition

Taking inspiration from the new Lotus Renault Formula 1 Grand Prix team, Lotus Cars are now offering a limited edition of only 3 Lotus Evora's in the black, gold and red colours of the race team.



In addition to the standard Evora S specification these cars feature:

- Premium Pack with SuedeTex and custom Red Sticking
- Suedetex Base Pack
- Tech Pack
- Reversing Camera
- Forged Diamond Cut Design Wheels 19 inch front and 20 inch rear

Priced at £69,950 plus delivery.

## Group Lotus entry into the World Karting Championship 2012

With an official entry into the CIK-FIA World Karting Championship 2012, Group Lotus is determined to discover new talent.

With the move into karting Group Lotus becomes the first car manufacturer to have a presence at the entry level of motorsport and provides a very special opportunity for early talent spotting. Some of today's most famous and successful motorsport personalities cut their teeth in karting – the newly crowned FIA F1 World Champion Sebastian Vettel is the perfect example of the benefits of early driver development as are his peers, fellow former World Champions Jenson Button and Lewis Hamilton.

But Lotus isn't just interested in spotting the driving talent of the future, the potential to work with young

people showing an aptitude for design and engineering is recognised as a very special opportunity for Lotus.



Competing under the 'Lotus Racing Karts' banner and forming part of the Lotus Motorsport division, Lotus Racing Karts will field a factory backed team, operated by Jefra Racing out of its headquarters near Treviso, Italy. With a formidable racing pedigree spanning over 40 years, Jefra Racing has competed in many classes of motorsport. Lotus hopes that this invaluable experience teamed with leadership from Team Manager Franc Jeranic will form the basis of a truly competitive team.

And Franc Jeranic is the man to impress – talent spotted and recruited by him will have all the latest homologated material at their disposal, including two new chassis models 'Colin C30' and 'Jimmy C32' giving the Lotus Racing Karts team the edge as they take on the CIK-FIA international karting events for KF and KZ categories and the World Karting Championship for KF1 category.

The production of karts and components is licensed by Group Lotus to Wildkart, specialists in aeronautics precision engineering since 1996 and manufacturer of karts since 2002. Today, Wildkart is regarded as an authority in kart chassis and components, providing services and solutions to many karting suppliers and brands. The fit with Group Lotus is enhanced by the mutual commitment to innovation, technology and development.

"Our entry into karting is exciting on many levels" comments Miodrag Kotur, Director of Operations for Lotus Motorsport. "Not only are we nurturing new talent and widening our motorsport programme, but we also have an opportunity to join forces with two world-class specialists. It is exciting to see Lotus Motorsport grow in such an authentic, fresh and exhilarating way"

Lotus Racing Karts will unveil their 2012 karts at the annual AUTOSPORT International event on the 14th January 2012 at NEC - Birmingham, UK.

### Rare cars for sale

Every now and then a rare piece of Lotus history will appear. Here is one that I did see being offered for sale recently.



#### Lotus Elan S3 FHC (1965)

LNK 120C is the original prototype Elan S3 Coupe endorsed by Colin Chapman and was shown at the Earls Court Motor show in September 1965. This was also the press demonstrator and was used by Lotus Sales Director Graham Arnold to visit numerous dealers throughout the UK and overseas. This car has a unique place in Lotus history. For sale at Nutley Sports & Prestige Centre Limited, [info@nutleysports.co.uk](mailto:info@nutleysports.co.uk)

## Travelling in style....

From one of the readers of this newsletter I did receive these images of Essex Team Lotus' means of transport.



Brands Hatch 1980



On the move....



Monaco 1980. Notice the Elite in Essex colours, this car was later owned by a Dutch collector for a while and is now owned by an English enthusiast. And how about the huge motorhome, does anybody have information about this vehicle?

## Model Cars

Knowing that Spark is into Lotus F1 related airplanes and helicopters and some of you are collecting these, the following model may also be interesting:

Manufacturer **Phoenix** creates this small model of the **Airbus A320-200**. Scale 1:400, length 9,39 cm and width 8,52 cm. In Team Lotus colours!





New from **SCX Techni-Toys** (made in Spain): **Lotus Renault GP R31** F1 Nick Heidfeld 2011 Formula One #9, 1:32 scale slot car.

.. here is a version with slightly different details, as seen on Ebay



New from **Tameo** kits: **Lotus 49 B**, Gold Leaf Team Lotus #9 as driven by Graham Hill, winner of the 1968 Monaco Formula One Grand Prix

New in **Jim Bamber's Heroes collection**: Ayrton Senna 1985 Lotus sculpture and Ayrton Senna 1987 Lotus sculpture. Measures approximately 15cm in length, 9cm in width and 6cm in height. As with all Jim Bamber F1 pieces, a royalty from each sale will go towards 'The Grand Prix Mechanics Charitable Trust', a charity for the welfare of F1 mechanics both currently active and retired. Worldwide there will be 2000 pieces of each model available.



1985 – Type 97T



1987 – Type 99T

**Amalgam** makes the largest diecast models money can buy, with its 1:8 replicas covering Formula One, supercar and endurance racing subjects. It is also unique in offering 1:4 steering wheels and 1:12 nose cone models of the leading F1 teams. Here are some of the latest nose cones:



Team Lotus T128 Nosecone - 2011 H. Kovalainen 1:12



Team Lotus T128 Nosecone - 2011 J. Trulli 1:12

## Books and videos



Frederic P. Miller, Agnes F. Vandome, John McBrewster (Ed.)  
**Lotus Seven**  
Lotus Cars, Lotus MVA VI, Caterham 7, Sports car, Ford  
Tetralux engine, Lotus Eleven, Colin  
Chapman, Chapman, Caterham Cars, Formula Two



Frederic P. Miller, Agnes F. Vandome, John McBrewster (Ed.)  
**Lotus Mark VI**  
Lotus Cars, Lotus Seven, Sports car, Roadster, Ford Prefect,  
Colin Chapman, Road racing, Space  
frame, Ford 16, Ford Consul, Coventry Climax



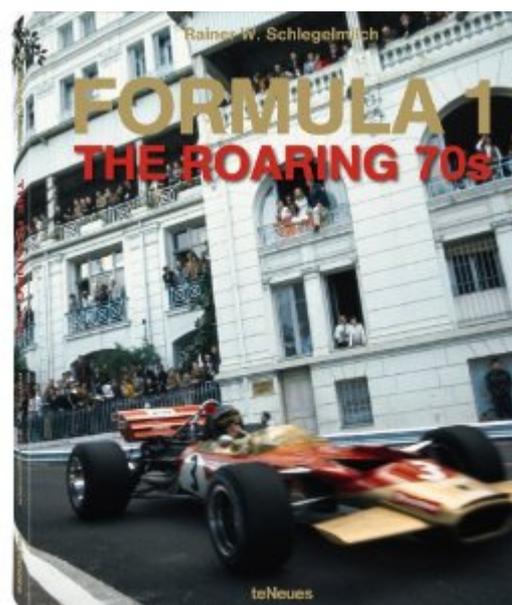
I did recently 'discover' these two paperback books, based on Wikipedia articles. More information in the books section of the website.

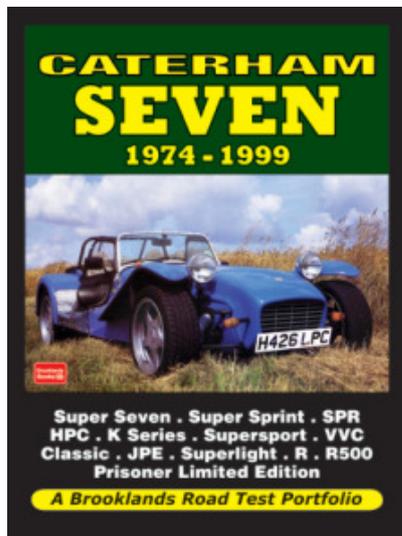
## Formula 1: The Roaring '70s

With "The Golden Age of Formula 1", legendary photographer Rainer W. Schlegelmilch created a homage to a special time in racing. That successful title not only showcased great sports images, it defined the essence of an era and also set a very high standard for Schlegelmilch's new book, "Formula 1: The Roaring 70s".

The colour photography has an intriguing and exciting feel, leading the readers back to an ambiance far removed from today's glossy standards. Those halcyon days really did have a special charm all their own. This volume presents all the stars of the decade: Jackie Stewart, Emerson Fittipaldi, Niki Lauda, and Mario Andretti.

Hardcover, 216 pages. Language English, German, French, Italian, Spanish. ISBN-10: 3832795375, ISBN-13: 978-3832795375





### Caterham Seven 1974-1999

This Brooklands book is a compilation of road & comparison tests, technical & performance data plus an invaluable buyers guide. Models covered: Super 7, Super Sprint, JPE, SPR, HPC, K Series, Supersport, VVC, Classic, Superlight, R, R500 & the Prisoner.

Softcover, 160 pages, size 21 x 28 cm

ISBN-10: 1855209020

ISBN-13: 9781855209022

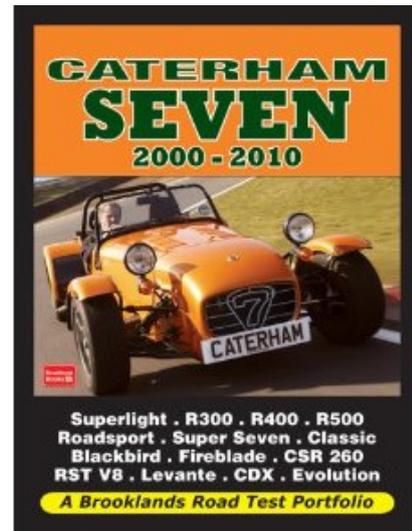
### Caterham Seven 2000-2010.

This Brooklands book covers the story of an exciting new generation of Caterham Seven models over a decade which saw the cars achieve speeds and levels of sophistication that Colin Chapman could surely never have dreamed of. Featured are road and comparison tests, new model introductions & performance data. Included is a buying guide advising on acquiring a good pre-owned Seven. Models covered: Superlight, R300, R400, R500, R600, Roadsport, Super Seven, Classic, Blackbird, Fireblade, CSR 260, RST V8, Levante & CDX.

Softcover, 160 pages, size 21 x 28 cm

ISBN 10: 1855209039

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### 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.

Some of the images that are used are copyrighted by Group Lotus PLC and/or one of their companies. 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.