



# North Kent Lotus Group



October 2008

Dear Enthusiast



Nice shiny Exiges lined up at the Hethel open day - snapped by Roger (looks like a perfect photo competition entry to me). For a full report please see over the page.

Well, the two main events this month managed to pick the best of the weather - the Goodwood Revival and the Komosa Cup treasure hunt. The treasure hunt was slightly down on the 2006 run with five entrants this year, we were scheduled to have the same number as last time but Ian & Heather and Neil & Valerie couldn't make it which was a shame. The outright winner of the event was John H's friend David Newton and his wife who toted up 40 points in their Renault Traffic van!! with John and Joan coming second in a Lotus! scoring 39. John and Andrea did an excellent job putting it all together although it was a tad ambitious trying to complete the last couple of stops in time for lunch at the White Rock. The clues and route were about right and we all had a good time in the sunshine!. Thanks also go to Andrew and Debbie for patiently waiting to make the presentation after a very late lunch.

John and Joan go through to organise the 2010 event as although David has turned up to a few meetings he's not a paid up member. I tried to talk him into joining, as he does have an interesting S4 Seven in the ga-

rage which hasn't turned a wheel for many a year. Who knows he may get it running and become a fully paid-up member one day. As for Sue and I, we did extremely well coming fifth - two whole places better than last time!!

So, here's the final results;

Team	Points	Pos.
Newton	40	1
Underhay	39	2
Potts	38	3
Davies	34	4
Frisby	32	5

And as for the Goodwood Revival, you've probably read the reports elsewhere but it was fabulous. Great racing, great weather and plenty of nostalgia.

We welcome some new members this month, Jon and Michelle Langridge from Walderslade. They did come along a couple of months ago and since the Kent offshoot of Seloc has been less active of late, they liked our regular pub meeting and have decided to come along regularly from now on. Owners of a V8 Esprit (sorry, I didn't get full details) and Michelle also has an MR2 (don't tell John H). The Esprit came about following a trip to Lipscomb. They'd seen a convertible Volvo and fancied one, went to have a look, spotted the Esprit and the rest, as they say, is history.

You'll find the Christmas menu with this letter and the good news is that the price hasn't changed from last year. John and Joan are looking after it, so can you please send your cheque, made out to J Underhay with the enclosed booking form as soon as you can. It's on a Friday again this year - 5th December. We always have a

good one at the Bottle House so get booking!

You might have seen the classified ads for a couple of Lotus for sale recently; a Lotus 4 - offers "close to six figures" and a 26R chassis no 28 for \$245,000 - nice cash if you can get it! You could easily buy a bank for that sort of money.

The factory has announced another Exige, a Cup 260 which includes lightweight bits and some carbon-fibre body materials; 260 BHP 0-60 in under 4 seconds and it'll be eligible for the new Lotus on Track European race series that has been announced for next year. If the first round is at Brands Hatch, as is the tradition, I hope we don't get the snow again! Talking of the factory, a bit of bad news, the American Tesla company who are launching the electric car being built by Lotus, has just laid off half of their staff. A sign of the times no doubt.

John W has got his self a new MX5 and it sounds great. He's sent me a quick email which I've printed over the page.

We have an ongoing mystery at the moment - where is Norman (NTC)? There's all sorts of rumours, does anybody know where he is?

The club night was well attended with plenty of cars in the car park and it was good to see Mick and Lesley, they've missed a few meetings this year as Mick has been extra busy but they hope to be back on track now. Robin was also in and I've asked if he can do a write up re his racing exploits this year. Even with all the top level events he's entered this year, he said he fancied a bit of good old back to the roots

karting. Andy and myself are trying to get something going again soon so keep a look out. And talking of racing and karting, did anybody read the excellent "Interview with" Johnny Herbert in Motor Sport this month, great stuff.

Richard was also at the meeting and he recently had to have his Elan transported. After a bit of investigation he came across a company that does fully enclosed, single vehicle transportation. He was pretty impressed with the service and passed on the details; Sterling Motor Transport 01708 471600, 07770 347313, www.sterlingmotortransport.co.uk so keep a note for future reference.

The photographic competition is shaping up quite nicely. We've now decided to announce the winner at the Christmas meal and extend the entry deadline to the November club night - so there's still time to get your snaps in. Don't forget, it doesn't have to be a picture of your own car but a Lotus must be somewhere in the shot!

Nothing else on the horizon at the moment, apart from the Christmas meal. So just a quick reminder to let us have your email details (please send to the above email address) so we'll be able to keep you up to date with up and coming events etc. The next club night is on 12th November, so see you at the White Rock.

John