



North Kent Lotus Group



April 2010

Dear Enthusiast



A happy bunch of Spring-runners. Considering the Grand Prix was live at our meet-up time, we had a good turn out for the first run of the year. The weather probably had a lot to do with it and from initial worries that numbers could be small, we finished up with eight cars. Tim and Howard had put in some ground work, but Howard had some serious matters to attend to, so wasn't able to make the day.

It was a back to basics run, a little like the old days - the journey plan arranged on the morning.

Good to see Tim's new (am I allowed to say it?) Porsche for the first time - I've got to say it's very pretty and very nicely appointed - I could quite fancy one myself! (go and wash the keyboard with soap and water) Tim was sans Lorraine and we were all wondering where she was.....back at home suffering from a pulled muscle - hope she feels ok now.



We motored on to Lipscomb for a free cup of coffee and a good look at the face lifted Elise, which I thought looked ok, especially the rearend - very subtle changes. Not so sure about the big chunk of space that's missing from the boot though! Have a look

No Evora on display, which was a pity (or Europa come to that) anyway, nobody bought a Lotus so we headed off toward the lunch time venue - the Compass Inn at Crundale in deepest Kent. Jon and Michelle took up the gauntlet and led the procession to the pub, which turned out to be a very nice (and quick!) blast through some almost totally empty country roads - a rarity these days.

The lunch took up the rest of the afternoon so we all headed home after a most enjoyable day. So a big thanks to Tim and all involved.



The lack of an Evora (probably with the sales manager on a Sunday) at Lipscomb seems to be reflected on the road - I've yet to see one, but I did see a Tesler a couple of weeks ago, and at around 90k I admit I didn't expect to see one in this country.

Barry has sent a message asking for help tracing a Mr C B Edwards who lives in the Petts Wood area.

In 1962 Barry's Elite was purchased by a C B Edwards and registered CBE 1. The registration number was transferred to another car which was subsequently stolen. The number then becomes extinct.

Barry met Mr Edwards some 20 years ago, who then had another car with a CBE prefix - but Barry can't remember the numbers. Can anybody help Barry track him down or has anybody any suggestions - perhaps a bit of time on Google??

With all this lovely weather we're having, thoughts are turning to Summer and the up and coming events. You may have seen details of the Classic Team Lotus Festival at Snetterton on June 20th. Paul Golding from Lotus-on-Track has sent us an email

inviting a club display, including some free tickets. With the Lotus Cup Europe series, the Elise Trophy series, Classic Lotus displays and demonstrations, trade stands and plenty more, it looks like it's a "mustn't miss" event. Watch this space but also have a look at www.lotus-festival.com from which I quote;

"If you can tear yourselves away from trackside, there's plenty to see elsewhere with static displays from Classic Team Lotus and various Lotus owner clubs. There'll be a full array of trade stands too, with everything from memorabilia, clothing and models to tuning components"

Immediate events include the Goodwood trackday this coming Saturday, 1st May, which I've unfortunately had to pull out of. I missed the Club Elite one last year being on holiday and this years one has been cancelled so I'll have to wait for next year.

It's the usual format so go and have a look - you can always get a free ride with somebody and Chris and John U are booked in for the circuit.

The other big event in May is "Motorsport at the Palace" organised by Sevenoaks and District Motor Club, where we'll have a small display. It's on the Bank Holiday weekend 30/31st and we're there on the 30th. Full details can be found if you Google it.

John H was on the run (Spring run, that is) and he was full of his success of getting a local council to do a big u-turn. New regulations they've introduced would have excluded parking access for his delivery van whilst he visits his elderly mum, with NO exceptions - so popping in to see her whilst doing his rounds around the big city would have been a big problem. But with his perseverance and a few emails flying back and forth, he managed to get the permit he wanted. It goes to show that sometimes authority listens to the individual. I wonder if he'd mentioned "Human Rights" - it's always a winner.

And whilst I'm in the John H vein, we were talking about a feature in the latest factory Lotus Club magazine at Lipscomb on Sunday. There was a full report on the bronze "James Bond" Evora (complete with Ski's)

that Lotus has produced, and low and behold John spotted the very car in Regent Street on Wednesday evening (without the ski's though). You know John, he had to be nosey - the driver confirmed that it's all part of Lotus wooing Eon Productions to get a Lotus back into a Bond film. Although I bet the movie makers want a bit more than a couple or three cars to wreck, there's bound to be a little "placement cash" involved.

I suppose I ought to stick in a free advert for keeping me topped-up with some interesting info -

"Mr John H is always available to do any shifting you might need . Man with van and all that"

I didn't get up to the Lotus Festival this month but the feedback is that it's a nicer venue than Donnington and there was a fair bit to see. Does anybody have any pictures or a write-up, if so please let me know.

We had a steering group meeting and discussed the events in full. We have a great schedule now and a few other things have appeared so it's all looking very busy. We've decided to drop the weekend away as there's a lot happening in September. Perhaps we could make it a bi-annual thing?

If you have any info re events etc please contact Ian and Heather - email over the page.

Coming up is our other two-yearly event, the Komosa Cup treasure hunt which John & Joan are hosting. The Moat at Wrotham is the starting point, so please make a note of the time in your diary; 9.30 for a 10.00 start. The next newsletter may be too late to remind you but see John for full details at the May meeting.

And May is late-ish in the month again being on the 12th, so let's hope the weather stays like this for a car-park evening for a change.

See you there.

John