

North Kent Lotus Group

Dear Enthusiast

Christmas upon us again - and we've had it before for the Christmas meal, but this time the flurry of snow that paralyzed the Southeast meant a rescheduling of our annual dinner. After a combination of Neil's email and John U's phoning we managed to move from the Friday to the Club night on the Wednesday. Luckily, the majority were able to attend on the Wednesday but Terry and Jean and Richard and Jackie couldn't.

New member, Andy Palmer, who I mentioned last month, also couldn't make the meal, so hopefully next year! Andy comes from Sevenoaks and has a Blue 111s Elise. So a big welcome.



We'll be waiting for full feedback on the meal but I didn't hear any complaints on our table - the service seemed pretty good and no complaints re the food. The room couldn't have taken any more of us - and would overflowing into the adjacent bar have worked? I wouldn't like to say. Thanks must go to John and Joan and also to Ian and Heather.

We did a special prize at the meal for John H's mystery photo (as it was the very first one) and Mike P submitted the correct answer, namely a Fraser Nash (spotted at the Goodwood Revival) He received a bottle of wine.

And by the way, last month's picture was a Reliant Rebel 700!! John is a little cheesed off at the moment and suggested a "car mystery" as opposed to a mystery car this month. How can

a low mileage mint condition Toyota MR2 be a potentially scrap vehicle with a tiny fault, namely a glowing ABS warning light!! He's lost all faith in the garage that's dealing with it (he took it for an MOT in July!) and their final hope is that the ABS ECU they have on order from Japan will cure the problem.

So I'm printing a plea (as it's the season of goodwill and all that); if anybody has any suggestions/knowledge, please give John a ring on 07711 626822. I don't want to end the paragraph with "should have bought a Lotus" but I have. This month's picture.....



Going back to the meal, please let us have any comments, good, bad or ugly - perhaps we'll do a quick straw poll over the next couple of club nights. If you want to see any further photos from the meal please have a look at the website, and if you have any, please pass them on to Terry.

I caught up with two reports at the meal, namely Richard P's sprint championship results and an update on Neil's Cortina. Well firstly, as you already know, Richard has been having a great time this year in the Tunbridge Wells Motor Club All Circuit Sprint Championship. Well, he was the outright winner - so congratulations on a fine win. It's a shame he's now sold the Caterham, but he was pleased with the quick sale (via Pistonheads). Have a look at the TWMC website for more info on the championship.

And as for Neil's news; he now has the Cortina back from the paint shop after a very long wait (down to some staffing problems etc etc at said paint shop) So he'll be able to start the long process of putting it all back together now. I've asked for a full report and pictures in due course, so watch this space.

A company contacted Terry, via our website, about flags that they produce. Perhaps you'd like one to adorn your garage wall. Details from the email are as follows;

"They measure 3' x 5' (0.91m x 1.52m). These licensed flags are made of polyester for endurance and brilliance. They have two brass grommets for flagpole attachment. They are produced with the highest standards with brilliant crisp graphics.

The price is \$12.50USD each, minimum buy is 1 dozen.

If you or your members are just interested in buying some for yourselves, they are available at our site www.toccomagicausa.com

We currently have a Free Shipping Offer. Use the Coupon Code FREESHIP for free worldwide shipping. This offer is good until December 31, 2010. Please share this with your membership".

I'll leave you with an email over the page from Vaughn including a predicament that he's currently sharing with Julie!!

Have a great Christmas and New Year and I'll see you at the White Rock on 12th January.

John

Letter to the editor

A recent NKLK news letter mentioned the Underhay family seeing "Kermit" at the Lotus weekend meeting in Wales with its owner Paul Izzard. Apparently Paul was seen wearing some rather different shoes.

I thought it would be nice to send him a copy of the news letter, together with a short note in which I mentioned the shoes. He subsequently sent me an E Mail with the attached photograph which may bring a smile to NKLK members.



Now another topic completely, due to having some extensive building work on my home, including the building of a proper garage, the builder made it a condition that the Lotus was not kept on-site so I had to "hide" it in my sons garage in Royal Tonbridge Wells. The building work started in late August and was planned to last twelve weeks, but typically it's still not finished and the new garage is still full of building materials etc. Hence

I have started to develop Lotus withdrawal symptoms.

Last week, just when I decided to drive the Lotus, I slipped and ruptured my Achilles tendon - ouch! I have been told that I will be in plaster for at least the next six weeks and may have to have an operation if the healing process is not successful.

I cannot currently move around without crutches, so driving a Lotus is currently just a fading memory.

Will "hop-a-long" and see you all at the Christmas meal - assuming my "chauffeur" is still willing!

Regards - Vaughn

