

North Kent Lotus Group

Dear Enthusiast

Last months mystery car had a Lotus angle but this months doesn't have such high connections - unless you know differently. I assume they're usually spotted whilst John H does his rounds, I always forget to ask, and this months must be one of those. The last one, in April, looked like an Elan, but wasn't, it's an Elan-a-like kit car called (rather cleverly, as John say's) the Élysée produced by a company called Caburn Engineering. It's got to be one for Howard to add to his collection!

So this months looks like it has gangster connections - and it's parked on double yellow lines so it must have. Have a guess at what is it.



Now on to the annual Chris Parker Goodwood track-day. Did anybody notice that we'd virtually had no rain since Lord Lucan went missing and then on that morning the skies opened.

I hadn't done Goodwood for a couple of years so my first session on a very damp track was a rather tip-toey affair. I was a bit surprised that the S1 Elise in front of me (even with the ten second delay) was nowhere to be seen, was I really going that slowly? St Mary's provided the answer, with a rather sick Elise perched on the grass. First session; cold tyres; wet track and high speed or any combination of the four do not really go together at Goodwood. So

that was very bad news for the start of the day. Not a huge amount of damage but a big shame.

Anyway, the rain-clouds moved away (probably being sucked in by an extremely induction-noisy VX220) and the circuit dried very quickly I had a great time, although the car developed a horrible groaning creak during the final sessions. I can't put my finger on it at the moment so a trip to Norman or a session on ramps looks on the cards.

As for Goodwood stories, other NKLG participants were John U, Terry and Chris. John's been suffering a little lately with some muscular problems, so Magnus and Duncan gave the M100 some exercise but it was playing up with what appeared to be an engine management problem. John hopes he's now fixed it with a new MAP sensor from Paul Matty.

Terry suffered a minor tank-slapper coming out of the chicane, but with that grunt in wet conditions.....any way well caught! but far worse was to come, by the end of the morning he'd been black-flagged for upsetting the neighbours, so that was the end of his day.....you know how strict the noise rules are at Goodwood.

Incidentally, Duncan had his newly built Caterham with him but I left it late in the afternoon and didn't get a picture.

It was interesting to note a lack of any Esprit's on track, maybe a sign of the times but there was several Plus 2's and this one was particularly pretty.



Indeed, a tidy Plus 2 is a beauty to behold.

Tim paid a visit to Goodwood and had a run out with me, he mentioned the upcoming Lotus Festival at Snetterton on the weekend 25/26th June. It sounds good and I might try to make it on the Saturday. I forgot to mention it to Ian to include it in the events list but if anybody is interested please give me a ring. As a stop-press Terry has just passed on details of another record attempt on the Sunday at Snetterton (remember the one at Brands Hatch a few years back) I'll be giving that a miss, it was pretty tedious the last time!

Chris was also having a good time at Goodwood although he suffered a complete lack of starting electrics in the pit lane - you know that key-turning moment when you have a poor battery connection - nothing happens, so some investigation is needed. Anyway we were chatting about some paint-work repairs he's recently had done and how pleased he is with it. He suggested we have a register of Lotus related repairers/suppliers that we can add to over time if we're happy with service we've received. Perhaps it's something Terry could set up on the web-site - we could even try to get some club discount from those listed. Something for discussion I think. The painter, by the way, is just across the road from where Magnus has his dental laboratory - just down the road from Brands. I didn't get the name - perhaps it should be the first entry (or should that be reserved for Norman!?).

Chris also reports that there's still a single space left on the club display at the sprint meeting on bank holiday Monday 30th. So please get in touch with him asap.

I've had my first NKLG Facebook friend request this week (I thought it would happen sooner or later) John H is the culprit (is that the right description?) Perhaps he'll set up a NKLG group which is perfectly

ok as long as we don't get any "just washed the car" or "had bacon and eggs for breakfast" type stuff. I find Facebook pretty monotonous and boring but then I am over 25 - although it could have it's uses for us as a group.

As far as coming events goes, I've already mentioned Crystal Palace this weekend; 19th June is the club display at Bodiam which Ian & Heather are looking after and Snetterton on 25th

June. See the events update for full details. Costs and details of the Barbecue will be in next months letter so keep Sunday 31st July clear also.

We'll be well on the way to Le Mans so won't be at next months meeting which is on 8th June. So I'll see you at Crystal Palace or Bodium.

John