

North Kent Lotus Group

Dear Enthusiast

Well, our first "AGM" has come and gone and what a great disappointment it was.

The whole evening was bogged down with so much negativity - not only a great shame but also a genuine surprise to the majority of you that turned up to air your views etc. A real pity. I was hoping we could draw a line under what has gone on in recent months but alas, no.

Sue and I are standing down from the steering group, Joan already had and John and Pauline have done the same - so the steering group is more of a "chassis" at the moment.

I'll continue to supply this monthly sketch of what's going on in NKLK as long as you want to receive it. But please, please keep sending me any articles or write-ups etc.

So, all in all the evening is something I wouldn't want to dwell on for too long.

Time didn't allow us to talk about future and past events which could have added some positivity but it would be unfair not to mention the positives that did emerge. Apart from the good food that the Harrow provided, on the plus side we start the year with £600 in the kitty (see accounts over the page) The website was given a vote of thanks and confidence and interesting to note was that three of our more recent members found us via the website - a sign of the times! Those present also conveyed their thanks for the newsletter which is much appreciated. Also,

thanks to the majority present that thought that things were running about right and felt there was little need for change.

The overwhelming verdict from the night was that an urgent change of venue for the monthly meeting was needed. By a sheer



fluke John U and Simon had invited John Haige to go for a bite to eat and the Plough at Hildenborough was suggested. And what a gem. And whilst I don't like the expression, it "ticks all the boxes" it certainly does - well situated; a huge car-park (well-lit), a separate dining area; traditional pub feel; a private function room; possibility for the barbeque and most importantly NO pool! AND the big news is that a decision has been made to move to there as from NEXT MONTH. Take a look at the [website theploughatleigh.com](http://theploughatleigh.com). The address is The Plough at Leigh, Leigh Road, Hildenborough, Kent. TN11 9AJ It's about ten minutes away from the White Rock and has better access.

After the new venue had been talked about during club night, out of curiosity, Howard paid a quick visit and was smitten.

As a completely spontaneous and generous gesture, and following a chat with the landlord, Howard

has arranged a small buffet, at his cost I hastily add, for our inaugural meeting next month - so it's very nice of him and also an incentive to get as many to turn up as possible - especially if we haven't seen you for a while.

And talking of which, it was good to see Peter Ruffoni at the special meeting - haven't seen him for a long time, he hasn't changed much! He was chatting about an event that is planned for August Bank Holiday at Jody Scheckter's organic farm. Chris Evans is trying to organise a classic car & foodie event to raise money for Children in Need. Could be interesting - not much info available at the moment though.

We've had some bad news since the last newsletter, sadly David Luery has passed away. He'd been a member since early 2008 and had that very nice S1 Elise in early show-car metallic green. He was a very pleasant guy and John U has passed on our condolences to his widow. It kind of knocks the above into perspective.

On a brighter note we have our first event of the year - Jon and Michelle are organising the Spring Run it's on the 22nd and we'll be meeting up at the Moat at Wrotham as per tradition.

Please try to make the first meeting at the Plough, if only to make sure all of Howard's nibbles are devoured - we'll keep our fingers crossed that this warm spring weather joins us for the evening (and the 22nd!)

John