



North Kent Lotus Group

Dear Enthusiast

Short on news again this month but I think it's the calm before the "events storm" - always plenty of stuff on stream for the year to come and Ian and Heather have supplied the events list (overleaf). Some things are provisional, some others will be added and some are in need of volunteers to organise, but anyway have a good study and see what you think.

The club night was a little slim on numbers again and no cars in the car park (I don't think there was and apologies if there was!)

I was chatting with Richard re his exploits at the Nurburgring. As you might or might not know, he's an old hand and has spent many a happy hour there. He makes an annual pilgrimage, camping for the weekend and having a good time on the circuit. Well, back in the summer, during the barbecue, he and Bill were reminiscing over performance Vauxhalls, Bill an HS Chevette and Richard a droop-snoop Firenza. It also jogged my memory re a Brabham Viva, which I, as an eager sixteen year old, almost convinced my Dad (definitely not a petrolhead) to buy - he could see the merit of a bit more oomph (or that's what I almost convinced him!). Well anyway back to the story, Richard never forgot the Firenza and seeing one for sale at a good price last year, he snapped it up. It's had a winter overhaul

and tidy-up - and it's not the Exige that's on the way to the Nordschleife but the Vauxhall! He's going in May - so, care to join him?

Talking of second cars etc, I still think we should set aside one Sunday a year to have a non-Lotus Sunday-lunch gathering - bring anything interesting and if you haven't got anything yourself, bring a friend along with something.

Chatting with Howard he's asked me to put in a request for suggestions as to what to do with the cup that Simon and Pat kindly donated last year. I can't, for the life of me, find the photo that I took of it, so I can't include a picture but could you please put your thinking caps on. He also asked me to include details of the "Flydrive" event, organised by the MG Car Club and the Kent Gliding Club in June. It looks interesting and there's a chance to have a flight in a glider! Howard will have full details at the club night and the AGM.

Something else I kept meaning to look back at, was the results of the Bonhams auction at the Festival of Speed last year. It included the sale of 24 Lotuses from the collection of Olav Glasius and I was interested in what

the Etna concept and fully operational M200 achieved, having seen them at the Silverstone sale a few years ago. Alas I couldn't find any details of either of them, so they must have been withdrawn, but the M250 clay concept which we saw at Brands Hatch, went for £4,600 (estimate £20,000-40,000, oops!).

There was some interesting stuff amongst the 24 on offer, including a 1956 Climax Eleven which raced at Le Mans. It's worth having a look at the Bonhams website as there's a short video with some historic Lotus footage. Have a look at www.bonhams.com/video/10765/

Next Tuesday we have the second annual meeting which is being held at the Harrow at Knockholt. If you would like to come along please let Howard know asap as some nibbles will be supplied.

The next club night is on the 13th March. So if I don't see you next Tuesday I'll see you on the 13th.

John

FLY DRIVE
AT
KENT GLIDING CLUB
(Near Ashford)
30th JUNE 2013

Classic Cars
Glider experiences - Air Display
Bar - Cafe - Side Stalls
and much more.
Weather permitting

A Fantastic Classic Car Event
For all marques, microcars to limousines
and everything in between!

- Look at aeroplanes & gliders on the ground and in the air
- Enjoy the Air Displays
- Explore the Side Stalls
- Take a flight in a glider (Flying vouchers available to purchase)
- Wander round the classic cars
- Visit the Bar & Cafe

*This Event is a joint venture between The Maritime MG Owners Club and The Kent Gliding Club
The Event will make a donation to the Kent Air Ambulance*

**All air shows and experiences are dependant on the British summer weather.
THE BRINGING OF ALL EXHIBITORS ARE ON DISPLAY AT THEIR OWN RISK AND MUST BE INSURED**