

North Kent Lotus Group



Editorial

Our illustrious “Acting Newsletter Editor” is currently having a well-earned month-long holiday in the Southern Hemisphere. As we know Roger feels the newsletter is very important for the wellbeing of the group and as there was the possibility of the April issue being somewhat delayed, one NKLG committee member asked me to “step in” or was it “step-up” and keep the ball rolling. Having reluctantly agreed, I started to think just what the various members would find interesting which is much more difficult than you can imagine. What interests one member is totally the opposite to another but I decided it must be worth trying, at least once.

Hopefully, Roger will return sometime in May fully refreshed and normal service can be resumed.

Watch Out For

I was recently told that the popular program Car SoS, Series 7 was to feature the restoration of a Lotus Elise S1. Now I am aware that some people may not be keen on the human and tragic stories involved and the “play acting” of Tim Shaw in the programs but the topic is technically still interesting unlike some other similar programmes where so-called restorations are more cosmetic than technical.

Unfortunately, the program was to be transmitted on the National Geographic network and as I do not subscribe to Sky or any other fee-paying network, I would be unable to view it myself. However, my son-in-law who as a subscriber to the dreaded Sky recorded it and after viewing the recording, I thought the program was one of the better programs – well it was a Lotus after all.



As you can see from the “screen shot” above the restoration was fairly comprehensive with both body clamshells off and included the body/paint repairs, suspension/brake updates and cam belt replacement, plus a demonstration of cutting out and repairing gel coat cracks. I felt all the technical descriptions given were correct and valid.

Interestingly the presenters were allowed to film within the Lotus factory and use the Lotus test track to drive an Elise S1 and the latest Elise Cup 250 both of which were a bonus.

So what, the program has been and gone you may say!

It seems that these programs are eventually repeated on the normal TV channels eg. More 4, so my recommendation is to keep your eyes peeled and be patient and then record and view the program yourself.

Additionally, the Car SoS team also restored a Lotus Sunbeam hatchback in series 7 which has the Lotus Type 911 engine (2.2 Litre) which is similar to the 912-engine fitted to the Elite, Excell and Esprit.

Absolute Lotus Magazine

The May/June issue is now on the news stands at £4.95 and should contain something of interest for all NKLG members.

The topics in this issue included eleven pages describing the original baby Elans, including photographs, driving impressions and technical details starting with the S1 through to the S4/Sprint models.

Esprit owners have several pages covering the series 1 (Type 79) through to the Final Edition (Type 82) of which only 82 of the latter were apparently built. Additionally, an article on a “barn find” Esprit restoration is also covered although rather short.

Elise owners are not left out with two articles, one about suspension restoration and the second a comparison between the Europa SE (the mid 2000 Hatchback version) and a Vauxhall VX220.

For keen cyclists, how about reading all about the Type 108 and 110?

All worth reading.

Vaughn

Contacts

**Meetings: 2nd Wednesday, The Moody Mare. Seven Mile Lane. ME18 5QY
www.northkentlotusgroup.org**

2019 NKLG Events		
	Date	Event
April	Sun 21 st	Festival of Steam & Transport – Chatham Historic Dockyard
May	Sun 12 th	Motors by the Moat at Leeds Castle
	Sun 19 th	Faversham Transport Weekend
	<i>Sun 19th</i>	<i>Valance Hill Climb, Westerham.</i>
	<i>Sat/Sun 25/26th</i>	<i>Brands Hatch Masters</i>
June	Sat/Sun 15/16 th	Le Mans
July	Sun 14 th	British GP
	<i>Thurs – Sun 4th to 7th</i>	<i>Goodwood Festival of Speed</i>
	Fri – Sun 26-28 th	Silverstone Classic
	TBA	NKLG BBQ
August	Sun 11 th	Herne Bay Classic Motor Show
	Sat 17 th – Sun 18 th	Biggin Hill Festival of Flight
	Mon 26 th	Bexhill Car Show
September	Sat 7 th TBC	Brands Hatch
	<i>7th TBC</i>	<i>25th Anniversary Meal</i>
	Sun 8 th	Kent Classic Car Show, Aylesbury
	Sun 8 th	Edenbridge Car Show
	<i>13th-15th</i>	<i>Goodwood Revival</i>
November	TBA	Quiz Night
	Sat 30 th	Christmas meal Hadlow Manor Hotel. Room Rate £87.

TBA:

25th Anniversary celebrations.

Ypres weekend away.

Fish & Chip Run – Short notice, nice weather.

Recharge Run, Dungeness Power Station and Pilot Inn

Dover Castle Run

Howard & Jenny's with BBQ

