



### The first words

This month I was able to add some information about RD Marmande models to the website, these are scratch build from wood and very rare now.

Lots of news from Lotus, like the new CEO, the first Evora delivered to a customer and the new Exige Cup 260.

How about a 2009 Lotus Elan Plus 2? Read the article for more information!

Also I noticed the Lotus Drivers Guide website and myself are featured in Issue 20 of the Lotus Club International magazine.

This is the magazine of the official Lotus Club. Quite an honour!

I hope you will find the following news items useful, please enjoy!

Ronald Ringma



Exige Cup 260 interior

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All previous issues of this newsletter are available as free downloads from my website.

### News from Group Lotus

Read all about the news items in the press releases section of the website, please follow this link:

<http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/Press/index.php>

Recently we did see:

- The 2010 Model Year Lotus Exige Cup 260
- First Evora delivered to a customer
- Autocar crown Evora "Britain's Best Driver's Car 2009"
- Lotus Appoints New CEO
- Lotus Elise Club Racer – the perfect combination of performance, efficiency and style

### New on the website

Of course new items have been added to several sections of the website. A complete overview of what is new can be found at the 'news' page on the website: <http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/new.php>.

### Lotus Appoints new CEO

Dany Bahar joins Lotus as Chief Executive Officer

Dany T. Bahar has been appointed as the new CEO of Group Lotus effective 1st October 2009, replacing Michael J. Kimberley, who retired in July.



Prior to this appointment, Dany Bahar was Senior Vice President, Commercial & Brand for Ferrari SpA where he was responsible for worldwide road car sales and after sales business, overall road car and F1 marketing activities, licensing, and merchandising business.

Before joining Ferrari SpA, Dany Bahar was the Head of Corporate Projects Business in Red Bull GmbH. He was responsible for the overall corporate project business development, with emphasis on diversifying the business such as setting up their F1 strategy with Red Bull Racing and Scuderia Toro Rosso and the US based Nascar Team operations, acquiring football clubs in Salzburg, New York and Ghana for commercial purposes.

On his appointment, Dany Bahar said, "I am looking forward to taking on the challenges as CEO of this legendary and iconic company with a peerless motorsport history. Lotus has a worldwide reputation for innovative engineering and superb sportscars that lead the world in efficiency, design and dynamics. With the recent launch of the award-winning Evora, there is proof that Lotus is better placed than many to capitalise on the rapidly changing automotive market. I can't wait to get my plans underway in October."

In welcoming Dany Bahar, Dato' Mohd Nadzmi Mohd Salleh, the Chairman of Lotus Group, stated "With Dany's track record in motorsports and Ferrari, we strongly believe that we have found the right CEO to enhance the Lotus image, brand and reputation as a world class sportscar and engineering company. With a strong management team already in place, we are confident this objective can be attained."

Dany Bahar, a Swiss National, holds an MBA and is married with two children.

### Autocar crown Evora "Britain's Best Driver's Car 2009"

The Lotus Evora shows its pedigree fending off tough competition from the world's best driver's cars to become Autocar favourite.

The competition included rigorous road and track assessment, using the stunning roads around the South Downs and the fantastic high speed corners at the Goodwood race circuit. The feature included driver's cars from Aston Martin, Nissan, Porsche, Audi, Lamborghini and Jaguar.

Chas Hallet, Autocar Editor said about the Evora, "The best here. Brilliant on the track. Nimble, delicate and forgiving. Even better on the road."

Autocar magazine in summing up the competition added, "Decisions don't come much more clear cut than this, with nine out of 10 judges placing the Evora first. This contest is about finding a car that is not only

technically capable, but also thrilling and engaging wherever you drive it, and the Lotus nails those criteria".

The mid-engined 2+2 Lotus Evora combines a super stiff extruded and bonded Aluminium chassis with decades of vehicle dynamics knowledge employed to tune its race car derived double wishbone suspension. The result is a great driver's car that offers exceptionally high levels of ultimate grip, with performance and braking to match.

Roger Becker, Vehicle Engineering Director said, "The dynamic ability and driving experience of the Evora were the foundation of the engineering process and we are delighted that Autocar has recognised this by giving the Evora this accolade. The Evora offers the great Lotus driving experience in a very comfortable, practical, refined and efficient package, and with only 205 g/km of CO2 it shows that the Evora is a supercar for the 21st century."

Luke Bennett, Director of Lotus Cars commented, "We are really pleased to win this title as it not only demonstrates the engineering expertise and brilliant manufacturing at Lotus, but also asserts our position in this very exclusive and competitive sector. There is huge global demand for the Evora and to cope with this high demand we are taking on over 150 manufacturing staff, which is roughly a 30% increase."

### **New: 2009 Elan Plus 2**



In the Netherlands I did see what may be the revival of the famous Lotus Elan Plus 2. I did visit a company called Perfeq B.V. in the city of Valkenswaard, where I had a chat with owner Martin Bax. He has an automotive career behind him and used to be national sales manager for Jaguar in The Netherlands. Unfortunately this company ceased to exist in March 2009.

Martin did buy a large building many years ago, where he and some friends used to work on their classic cars in their spare time. As always, one on one makes two and now that he is out of a job and owns a workshop he decided to pick up a longer existing idea about recreating the Elan Plus Two. His aim was to produce a new car, with a full year's guarantee.

In order to create a 'new' Elan Plus Two, Martin's company starts with a donor car in good to excellent condition. This car will be stripped completely and the body will be restored to a high level. While the body is at the paintshop, the mechanics will be working on a new chassis with new Ford Zetec 2.0 16v engine and basically all new parts, except from some reconditioned parts that can also be considered new. All the brake lines, petrol lines and electric cables are also new.



In order to maintain a constant quality, all the experiences during the work on the first car have been collected in a manual. I was told that even I would be able to build the car, using this manual...

Also inside the Elan the new owner will be looking at a brand new car. New dash, headlining, carpets, etc. Even a full leather interior is possible.

When the reconstruction is finished, the proud new owner will get a full years guarantee on his new car. There is also the possibility to get it on an operational lease. To be preferred instead of the BMW or Audi your colleagues are driving, I guess.

The car has no problems in today's traffic, with a fast acceleration from 0 to 100 km/h in 6.5 seconds and a top speed of 220 km/h. And if this is not enough for you, the motormangement can be adjusted so that the engine will provide no less than 200 bhp compared to the standard 159 bhp.

Specifications:

Engine	4 cylinder 2.0 16V Ford Zetec, 159 bhp
Gearbox	Ford 5 speed, reconditioned
Wheels	Minilite pattern, new alloy wheels
Tyres	185/60/14
Weight	863 kg
Length	429 cm
Width	168 cm
Top speed	220km/h
Acceleration	0-100 km/h in 6.5 seconds



The Perfeq Elan Plus Two can now be ordered, the car that you see here has been sold already.

Perfeq B.V.  
Halfeindschestraat 23  
5595 AB Leende  
040-2063041  
06-24651044  
www.perfeq.nl

### The 2010 Model Year Lotus Exige Cup 260

The Lotus Exige Cup has developed a cult following and a dedicated fan base since the first Lotus Exige Cup 240 was unveiled in 2006. Over the last 4 model years several hundred Exige Cup Cars have been sold, either specifically for race and track use or for a pure road going driving experience. The latest Exige Cup 260, with 260 PS, takes the 38 kg weight savings introduced in the last years model, combines them with the extensive body and aerodynamic improvements and revisions introduced on the 2010 Exige in March 2009 and tops them off with new components and technologies to produce the most focused and pure Exige yet.

Read everything you want to know about this car in the press releases section of the website!



Exige Cup 260 MY 2010

### First Evora is delivered to customer

Matthew Melling of Twickenham, UK received the keys of a Storm Titanium Lotus Evora from Luke Bennett, Director of Lotus Cars Limited at the Lotus Headquarters where the new mid-engined 2+2 sports car is hand built.



Many Lotus dealers around the world have already received their demonstrators and Lotus has, so far, received orders for the next 5 months of production. Demand for Lotus' award winning Evora has meant that 150 extra new manufacturing staff have been recruited to support assembly operations in Norfolk, UK, a very positive sign at a time when the global motor industry faces huge challenges. Full production is expected to reach the maximum rate by the end of November 2009.

Luke Bennett, Director of Lotus Cars Limited said, "It is quite an emotional time to deliver the first Lotus Evora to Mr. Melling. The whole team has worked incredibly hard to design, engineer and produce such a stunning and high

performing sports car and it is a great feeling to hand over the keys to the first customer today. The Evora has won many awards around the world already so we are not surprised that there is high demand for the car and I am sure that each customer who receives their car will be delighted with their purchase."

Matthew Melling, a customer of Stratton Motor Company, in Norfolk said, "I was determined to be the first in the world to get my hands on an Evora so with Stratton Motor Company's help, I laid down my deposit within seconds of the order books being opened last year. I have read all the press reviews of the Evora and am so excited about getting behind the wheel - what a great start to September!"

### Lotus Elise Club Racer - the perfect combination of performance, efficiency and style



Making its debut at the I.A.A. in Frankfurt 2009, the Special Edition Lotus Elise Club Racer introduces new and exclusive colour schemes, bespoke interior and lightweight components all in a world class, high performance and low emission sports car.

Some specifications:

179 g/km CO2

0-60 mph in 5.7 seconds

0-100 km/h in 6.1 seconds

Combined cycle fuel consumption: 37.2 mpg or 7.6l/100km

Lotus has taken four of the classic colour schemes used by Lotus in the 1960s (Elite Yellow, Carbon Grey, Sky Blue and Old English White) and combined them with exclusive Club Racer interior design features to give a stunning sports car that beautifully morphs function and form.

The firm and supportive Elise seats are clad with lightweight microfibre comfort pads perfectly positioned to give the right amount of support with the minimal amount of weight, but still keeping the body coloured seat shell partly exposed.

The exterior body colour theme is carried over to the transmission tunnel and combined with silver and black paint highlights, bisecting the cockpit and tying together the whole sporty theme unique to the Club Racer.

Other exclusive interior design features of the Club Racer are the anthracite anodised gear knob and handbrake sleeve, the Club Racer (CR) logo hand embroidered on the seat headrest and the unique anodized aluminium flooring in the driver's and passenger's footwell. The small 320 mm diameter leather rimmed steering wheel has an on-center marker, enabling the more spirited driver to quickly and safely identify the straight ahead position of the front wheels.

The lightweight six spoke alloy wheels, shod in bespoke Yokohama AD07 LTS tyres are also anthracite anodised, complementing the key interior components.

Luke Bennett, Director of Lotus Cars said, "Special Editions of the award winning Elise have always proved popular with our customers around the world, and I expect the Elise Club Racer to be no different. We have taken colour schemes from our past, used on the Elite and Elan in the 1960s and cleverly brought them up to date with a modern feel to the interior. The whole design package is modern with a classic twist, which of course matches the peerless ride and handling of a Lotus and the convertible experience of the Elise perfectly."

The Lotus Elise Club Racer is based upon the 134 hp Elise S and goes on sale on 15th September 2009.

## Model Cars

**Ixo** has announced a new version of the Talbot **Sunbeam Lotus** MkII 1982, Metallic Blue and Silver, so the Essex colours

No image yet



**Spark** has announced a 1:43 replica of the 2009 Lotus **2 Eleven** Yellow Hornet.

Again, the Corgi James Bond Esprits. News for the collector that wants limited editions in his collection: Sir Roger Moore has agreed to sign just 100 examples of Corgi's 1:36 presentation set of the Lotus Esprits from the James Bond films *The Spy Who Loved Me* and *For Your Eyes Only*. Completed with a commemorative booklet, this set is a limited edition of 1,500 pieces, of which only 100 will be signed by Roger Moore himself. Available at Grand Prix Legends for an exclusive price... GBP 149,99



Thanks to some readers of this newsletter and to John Thornhill (Kit Lotus), I am able to show you some images of the wooden models created under the name **RD Marmande**. There are only a few collectors who have these models in their collection and you will hardly find one available for sale or exchange. In my opinion it is not the quality that makes these models collectable, it is basically the fact that Raymond Daffour in the city of Marmande (France) scratch build these models from wood. A real artist indeed!

You may compare **Mike's Miniatures** from South Africa, these are scratch build from resin.

Raymond Daffour is believed to have made between 18.000 and 20.000 models, mostly 1/43 scale but there are supposed to be some models in 1/24 and 1/14 scale as well.



Lotus Elite by RD Marmande, 1/43

These models are made between 1957 and 1977. Next to the Sapin Wood he used materials like plastic and aluminium foils and also existing components like wheels from Norev and Solido.

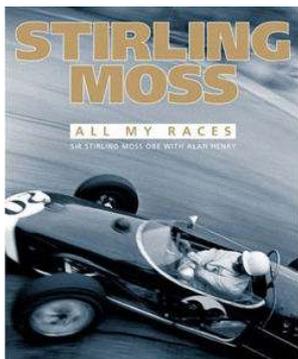


A pair of Elites, RD Marmande, 1/43



Two 49s, a 25, a 33 and a 24 by RD Marmande, 1/43

## Books and videos



### **Stirling Moss – all my races, by Sir Stirling Moss with Alan Henry.**

This new book tells the story of each of the 529 races in which Stirling Moss took part, from the start of his racing life in 1947 to his career-ending crash at Goodwood in 1962. Told in Sir Stirling's own words, this book is packed with detail and anecdote, supported with a wealth of photographs, that show all the greatest moments and the extraordinary variety of cars he drove.

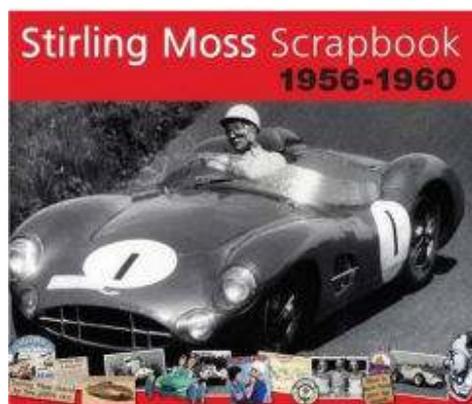
Published to mark the 80th birthday of Sir Stirling Moss OBE

Hardcover, 352 pages, ISBN 1844257002 or 978-1844257003

### **Stirling Moss Scrapbook 1956-1960, by Sir Stirling Moss with Philip Porter**

Follow Sir Stirling Moss through his most turbulent, demanding and, ultimately, successful racing years. This was a period in which he secured landmark first GP wins for Vanwall, Cooper and Lotus; was all-conquering in Formula 2 driving Rob Walker's Cooper-Borgward and helped Aston Martin to victory in the World Sports Car Championship. The book is packed with personal insights from Moss, on and off-track images and jet-setting glamour. It also features a rare interview with Stirling's first wife, Kate who shares her memories of the dangers and pressures of the sport.

Hardcover, 179 pages, ISBN 1907085009 or 978-1907085000



## Events

If you like to have your (Club)event listed on our calendar, please let me know! There is no charge. You can find the calendar here: <http://www.lotusdriversguide.com/Events/index.php>.

**September 18 – 20, The Lotus Club Luxembourg** will host an International Meeting for its members and members of other Lotus Clubs in Europe. The meeting will take place in and around Bourscheid Plage in northern Luxembourg and a simple "non-competitive" road book will be used to drive from place to place. More information: email: [jean-pierre.schock@internet.lu](mailto:jean-pierre.schock@internet.lu)

### **September 25 – 27, Spa Six Hours 2009**

- 600 Historic racing cars including Formula 1, sport-prototype, touring and GT from 1920 to 1970
- 15 Sprint & endurance races on one of the most exciting race circuits
- More than 1000 drivers from Europe and the USA
- Auto jumble
- Automobilia, old books & spare parts
- Classic Car Market, buy or sell your classic car

More information: [www.roadbook.be/spasixhours/en/index.html](http://www.roadbook.be/spasixhours/en/index.html)

## **The Lotus Forums' Factory Frolic 17 and 18 October 2009**

On Sunday 18th October 2009 there will be a unique opportunity to capture the essence of the Lotus Evora in true form at the Hethel manufacturing facility.

This exclusive event will include:

- A styling presentation given by a member of the Evora design team
- A technical talk given by a member of the Evora project team
- Parade-laps on the famous Lotus test-track in your own car
- A detailed tour of the state of the art Evora production line
- A 15-minute road driving session in the Lotus Evora
- Static display of current Lotus product models
- An auto-jumble and merchandise sale
- The Lotus Evora development story
- A visit to Classic Team Lotus

A limited number of tickets are available at an incredible price of just £35 inc VAT per person. To purchase a ticket, please visit the events section of the Lotus Forums Shop at <http://www.thelotusforums.com/shop/>

The plan is:

Saturday 17th October - Visit the hotel which is about 4 miles from the factory, check in and freshen up ready for a huge fund raising visit to Cromer on the north Norfolk coast where the participants will rattle tins and be met by local radio/papers/TV etc. After this everybody returns to the hotel for evening grub in an exclusive 250 person marquee for the charity auction, raffle, fun and games. Bar's open 'til late! Donations towards the raffle/auction are welcome.

Sunday 18th October - En masse 150+ Lotus convoy to the Lotus Factory where everybody will enjoy a great day.

Events will include; Track 'parade' laps in your car, road drive in an Evora (every person can have a go!), Factory Tours, shop visit, ASO auto jumble, styling talks from Russell Carr/Steve Crijns, technical talks from Rob Savin/Roger Becker, Evora track demonstration laps, Classic Team Lotus cars, Evora development story, Lotus product displays, Lotus Sport and more. Lunch will be included and there will be beauticians on site to offer treatments to those not quite so interested in the cars, a family event! Goodie bags for all attendees and more!

## **31 October 2009, Lotus Club Holland parts and memorabilia meeting**

On Saturday 31 October the Lotus Club Holland organises the yearly Lotus parts and memorabilia meeting, from 10.00 to 14.00 hours at Weerenweg 10, Zwanenburg, The Netherlands. This location is close to Amsterdam.

Free entry, free tables, free coffee!

More information : [ruilbeurs@lotusclub.nl](mailto:ruilbeurs@lotusclub.nl) or at the website [www.lotusclub.nl](http://www.lotusclub.nl)

## **Downloads**

If you have anything that you like to share with other Lotus enthusiasts and that will not get me into copyright problems, please let me know. I am happy to make it available from the website.

In the downloads section I did add the 2009 flyer from Perfeq B.V., showing their 2009 Lotus Elan Plus Two.

This newsletter is send to you because I understood that you like to receive it. If you no longer like to receive this newsletter, please send me an [email](#) and I will take you of the list.