



**2006 CLUB LOTUS CAMBRIDGESHIRE AREA**  
**NEWSLETTER**

*We are afraid to say that we start this Newsletter with very heavy hearts as for those of you who don't already know, our dear Lotus friend Paul Clements sadly passed away in October.*

*On a happier note, we hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year and are ready for whatever 2006 brings. Please come along to as many club nights and events you can get to, as we have another full calendar for the year, which we hope has something for everyone.*

**Club Nights 2006**

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month @ The Crown Inn, Elton, off Junction 17 of the A1 (A605) nr Peterborough and start at 8.00/8.30 p.m.**

4<sup>th</sup> January – **NO MEETING**

1<sup>st</sup> February – First meeting of the year, those members present discussed speakers and the draft Newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> March – **Trivial Pursuit**

5<sup>th</sup> April – **Guest Speaker for the evening will be Michael Caine** -- who is one of the Directors at the Castle Lotus Dealership based in Stansted Mountfichet and a TVR works driver. Michael started racing in a VW Scirocco in Road Saloon racing before graduating to Caterhams and was a winner straight away. He won the 1997 750 MC Caterham Championship and the 1998 Caterham K Series Championship. He progressed to TVR Tuscan and kept winning, finishing runner-up in 1999 before taking the title in 2000. He drove for TVR in the British GT Championship in 2001 taking two wins. He gained 169 points in 2002 with his highest place being 2 seconds at Oulton Park, Silverstone & Donington. In amongst working for Castle Lotus and his racing, Michael stills finds the time to own and run a Lotus Cortina. For more detailed information on Michael's racing career check out his website [www.michaelcainemotorsport.co.uk](http://www.michaelcainemotorsport.co.uk)

3rd May – **Guest Speakers for the evening will be a double act of Steve Allen from Classic Team Lotus** – who joined the Accounts Department of Lotus Cars in February 1975 for the start of the Esprit and the James Bond Film "The Spy Who Loved Me". He transferred to Team Lotus in 1979 dealing with the accounts and Colin's aircraft landing fees etc, he got to know Andretti, Mansell, Senna well during this time. As well as still doing accounts I now deal with memorabilia, merchandising, the website & works tours. After the Team stopped racing in 1994 he is the only person to be continuously employed. All the others have left Lotus and now have come back. "It seems they can't get rid of me!" & **Richard Parramint** who was the first school leaver to join Lotus in late 68, working on the production line, and other areas in the factory. He left Lotus in the early 70's to a life in sales, starting his own Office Equipment Company in 1987, and then onto coaching in presentation and communication skills. 2000 saw him back at Lotus helping out with the driver training events and renewing friendships with Alastair McQueen and going on to organise driver training at Hethel and more recently in the U.S.A He says that he has always been a pain to Team Lotus, just hanging around in case they needed someone to push/clean a car. After organising 50+ American Lotus fanatics to Norfolk in 2002 for a 5 day event Clive Chapman asked him if he would get involved with Team's commercial activities...and as they say the rest is history if you want to know more about Classic Team Lotus and Richard, please go their websites:- [www.classicteamlotus.co.uk](http://www.classicteamlotus.co.uk) & [www.positivespeech.co.uk](http://www.positivespeech.co.uk).

8<sup>th</sup> June – **Guest Speaker for the evening will be Jim Endruweit** – who was Jim Clark's Chief Mechanic during the 1960's Lotus F1 teams and Indy winning efforts.

5<sup>th</sup> July – Weather permitting a chance to sit, have a drink and admire the cars on the green

2<sup>nd</sup> August – **BBQ @ The Crown Inn, Elton**

6<sup>th</sup> September – No specific activity organised

4<sup>th</sup> October – **Scalextric Night**

1st November – **Guest Speaker for the evening will be Mike Costin** – who joined Lotus in 1953 as one of the band of Lotus part-timers who worked so willingly on the early models, the Mk VI and VIII. In 1953 Mike was also a design draftsman at de Havilland during the day and worked with Lotus Engineering during the night. He became Technical Director at Lotus in 1956 and founded Cosworth Engineering with Keith Duckworth in 1958. Originally running Ford engines for racing, Cosworth became a major constructor of racing engines. During this time he worked for Lotus Engineering during the day and Cosworth Engineering during the night and he finally left Lotus in 1962.

6<sup>th</sup> December – **NO MEETING, because the Christmas Dinner is the same week**

## Events for 2006

*If you would like tickets or more details for any of the local events for 2006, please contact us as soon as possible to ensure ticket/space availability.*

### **March 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> (Saturday & Sunday) – Annual Lotus Show @ Donington**

- (see main Club Lotus News or web site [www.clublotus.co.uk](http://www.clublotus.co.uk) for further details)

### **April 22<sup>nd</sup> (Saturday) – Visit to The Stratton Motor Company, Ipswich Road, Long Stratton, Norfolk, NR15 2X**

- When Guy Munday was our Guest Speaker last November Club Night he very kindly invited the Area to visit the Stratton Motor Company.
- We will all meet up at Stratton for about 12.30 p.m. which will give people time to have a look around Norwich first if they wish to. They are located south of Norwich by about 12 miles (but only 30 minutes from the shopping centres). Take the Norwich to Ipswich Road (A140) and you will come to Long Stratton, they are on the main road in the middle of Long Stratton.
- For more information about The Stratton Motor Company visit their web site at [www.strattonmotorcompany.com](http://www.strattonmotorcompany.com)

### **April 30<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup> – (Sunday & Monday) the 9<sup>th</sup> Carole Nash Bedfordshire Classic Motor Show @ Shuttleworth, Old Warden, Biggleswade, Beds**

- *Our Area will be attending this event on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April*
- This event is organised by Greenwood Exhibitions please go to their web site at [www.greenwoodsexhibitions.com](http://www.greenwoodsexhibitions.com) for further details of events in 2006.
- Set in front of the Shuttleworth Mansion, part of the 6,000 acre estate inherited in 1932 by Richard Ormonde Shuttleworth. He was a creditable motor rally and racing driver who won the 1935 International Grand Prix at Donington driving an Alfa Romeo. Old Warden Park was opened to the public in 1963 and is famous for its flying and motor collection of veteran and vintage cars which can be visited by separate admission. This event is extremely popular on the early May Bank Holiday. The event is situated in beautiful open parkland, in front of the mansion.

### **May 27<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – Castle Combe Track Day**

- (see main Club Lotus News or web site [www.clublotus.co.uk](http://www.clublotus.co.uk) for further details)

### **June 18<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) –Supercar Sunday, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon**

We will be attending this event for the first time as an Area this year and Rob Turner has kindly agreed to organise this so if you're interested and want to know more contact Rob [rob@cambsclublotus.org.uk](mailto:rob@cambsclublotus.org.uk) or go to [www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk/eventsclubs/default.html](http://www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk/eventsclubs/default.html) to see what events they are holding in 2006.

### **July 16<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) – The Charity Classic Car Show and Country Fayre @ Kimbolton Castle**

- This event is organised by the Sporting Bears Motor Club [www.sportingbears.org.uk](http://www.sportingbears.org.uk) It is held in the grounds of Kimbolton Castle (now a private school) and includes many stalls selling everything from home made fudge to wooden garden furniture. All money raised goes to Cancer Research UK. They raised £16,000 in 2005 just from the one day - **in view of this fantastic amount – we will be asking that every car on our stand donates £5 (this will be collected on the day and presented to the Sporting Bears at the end of the show) – please bear in mind that we are given the entry tickets at no charge - so this is a great chance to do our bit for Charity**
- Kimbolton is a large village with an attractive High Street, but most people visit to see Kimbolton Castle. The site was settled at least as far back as the Roman era, and at the time of the Norman invasion the manor was held by King Harold himself. After the Conquest a castle was built at Kimbolton, under the control of the powerful de

Bohun family. The De Bohuns were also responsible for funding the rebuilding of the parish church in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Kimbolton is most famous for its associations with Katherine of Aragon. The unhappy former queen died here in Kimbolton Castle 1536 after 4 years of imprisonment. The room where Katherine died is fittingly called "the Queen's Room". The castle was greatly remodelled during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when it was in the possession of the Dukes of Manchester. A series of the most prominent architects of the day had a hand in remaking Kimbolton into a luxurious residence; Vanbrugh, Hawksmoor, and Robert Adam all had a hand in redesigning Kimbolton.

**August 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> (Sunday & Monday) – The 16th Carole Nash Classic Motor Show @ Knebworth House, Stevenage, Herts**

- *Our Area will be attending this event on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August*
- This event is organised by Greenwood Exhibitions, please go to their web site to [www.greenwoodsexhibitions.com](http://www.greenwoodsexhibitions.com) for further details of events in 2006.
- The 500 year old Knebworth House was transformed 150 years ago by the romantic Victorian novelist, Edward Bullwer-Lytton into a spectacular high Gothic fantasy. The House, dominating the 250 acres of parkland creates the ideal backdrop for this renowned event. Visit the large adventure playground and formal gardens at no extra charge, reduced admission to the house. The venue has a long standing history of classic motor events. Knebworth Classic Motor Show has been running for over 10 years; in 2000 it attracted 2,500 classic vehicles, and in 2001 (the event's 11<sup>th</sup> year) it attracted over 2,000 vehicles. It is without doubt a favourite for classic enthusiasts from all over the country on the August Bank Holiday weekend.

**September 3<sup>rd</sup> (Sunday) – Drive to and Picnic @ Burghley House, Nr Stamford**

- This year we have decided to change venue for what has become our annual picnic event
- If you get time before the picnic please take the opportunity to visit Stamford itself which is very beautiful and has a few very nice shops
- We'll meet up outside the House @ 12.00 noon
- The charge for this will be £12.00 per car which includes entry to the House and Sculpture Garden for 2 adults
- We will be parked in the area reserved for car rallies which is situated just beyond the visitor car park which will be exclusively ours for the day
- For further information about Burghley House, please visit their website at <http://www.burghley.co.uk>.

**December 8th (Friday) – Christmas Dinner @ The Crown Inn, Elton**

- Please let Mel & Gary know if you would like to come along to the Annual Christmas Dinner being held at The Crown, Inn, Elton, near Peterborough.

## *A Round-up of 2005*

### *Club Nights 2005*

**January** – NO MEETING

**February** - Organising/Confirming Speakers etc

**March** – “I’ll Show you mine if you show me yours” was another chance for members to bring along their Loti memorabilia of all descriptions.

**April** – Guest Speaker was supposed to have been Michael Caine, but due to ill health (and a brief stay in hospital) Michael was unable to make it.

**May** – Guest Speaker was Chris Dinnage – who is the current Team Manager of Classic Team Lotus. He was also Ayrton Senna’s mechanic during his time driving for Lotus. Chris was entertaining and talked very fondly of his days working with Ayrton and Lotus.

**June** – “Drive it like you’ve stolen it” wasn’t as popular as we had hoped but members still gave it a go.

**July** – BBQ at Crown Inn Elton – The weather was typical BBQ weather – it rained. So Tony very kindly prepared the food outside and we ate in the warm and dry conservatory. We had 25 people come along to this. The food was provided by the Pub and was great as usual.

**August** – Although nothing was planned – the weather was fantastic as was the turn out of people and cars – we counted 18 Loti, which was a great sight all parked on the green outside the pub.

**September** – The F1 Quiz was, not surprisingly was won by Paul Clements Team.

**October** – Following Paul’s sudden death, Club Night was cancelled out of respect to Paul.

**November** – Guest Speaker was Guy Munday who is the Lotus Director at The Stratton Motor Company in Norfolk. Guy has been involved with Lotus for many years and was very entertaining when telling his stories spanning his years involved in the Lotus marque.

**December** – NO MEETING – as this fell on the same week as the Christmas Dinner

## Events Attended in 2005

### Saturday 2nd April, Visit to Classic Team Lotus, Hethel, Norfolk



There were 11 cars and 17 of us who went along and what a fantastic day we had. Both Steve Allen and Richard Parramint were great and looked after us really well. We got to have a look around the outside of Ketteringham Hall, saw Hazel Chapman's magnificent house (where I managed to trigger the gates at the tradesman entrance), visited Colin Chapman's grave where we all paid our respects (see below), and then onto Classic where we were allowed to rummage through their store cupboard for all sorts of treasures, we had a Lotus Quiz, which the Clements Team (Paul & James) won, Gary and I came second and Rob Turner & his team mate came third. We then finished off the day by having lunch at the Bird in Hand Pub, which again was very good.

We asked if it might be possible for the attendees to have pictures of their car taken alongside one of the Lotus F1 Cars – and it was – we were all lucky enough to have these with a Type 72 (which Ronnie Petersen had driven) see below.



## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May, The Bedfordshire Classic Car Show @ Shuttleworth

*(Write-up and photo kindly provided by Chris Wright)*



We peeped out of the curtains to see early morning sun and a clear blue sky. Definitely picnic weather, which was very lucky for a Bank Holiday weekend! With the elements on our side, we packed the picnic things and a few books and toys to entertain the girls and we were off. Across the B654 (being chased by motorcycles!) and down the A1, soon we could see signs for the Classic Car Show - and an Air Show too!

We presented our pass and were directed to the Club Lotus display, which was luxuriously bordered with Lotus green-and-yellow bunting and a landmark in the shape of a Lotus flag on a huge portable flagpole! Gary came to direct us before we could drive to the wrong end of the field and we parked up with seven or eight other Lotuses, including a beautiful Europa (above).

Other Lotuses joined us as enthusiasts started to visit the club stands. Many loitered for a long time at the Lotus display, reading the notes and specifications displayed in the cars and chatting with the owners. I was very pleased that visitors – including other Excel owners - even asked about our Excel but the girls seemed to find this quite humorous. Rachael (my seven-year-old daughter) took a notable interest in the Esprits on display. Gary might be made an offer he can't refuse when Rachael finds her bank book! **(Gary's comment – this will have to be an awfully large cheque!!!)**

We also took the opportunity to wander and look at all the other vehicles, including a gorgeous BSA motorcycle engined three-wheel van and an intriguing Ferret armoured car – MOT and road tax exempt, but expensive on fuel. Ses found a Morris traveller very similar to one that she and her sister used to own.

After much walking, talking and bouncing on bouncy castles it was time to go home. Rachael and Zoë were almost asleep on their feet. We had a lovely ride home (in company with a beautiful Elan +2) and we all agreed that we must do it again soon.

Chris Wright + family

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Supercar Sunday, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon**  
*(Write-up and photos kindly provided by Rob Turner).*



This year a warm sunny day greeted us for our visit to Supercar Sunday at the Heritage Motor Museum near Gaydon. Our group joined the general Lotus section of the display with us providing 3 V8 Esprit's, another 3 Esprit's of the four cylinder variety, and an Elan M100. Obviously there was an impressive display of other Lotus too from Europa, to Elise, a 340R, and many more Esprit's.

This show provides the opportunity to see cars which seem to make very rare appearances on the road, this year being no exception with two examples of Bugatti EB110s (see photo above) and a Jaguar XJ220. Many more marques were also represented including Ferrari, Lamborghini, Aston Martin, Porsche, Marcos and others.

Away from the general displays the museum was open to view the collection of classic, vintage and veteran cars from the British car industry. The Sporting Bears were also present with their members offering Dream Rides for a donation to the Sporting Bears' charity. Highlight of the day must surely have been the arrival of most of the Lamborghini's together in convoy, with doors raised! (see photo above)

## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July, Sporting Bears Charity Classic @ Kimbolton Castle

*(Write-up and photo kindly provided by Rob Turner).*



Unfortunately due to a family bereavement Gary and I were unable to attend this event, but the rest of the gang went along as normal.

Our attendance at this event was back up to full strength in 2005 having coincided with celebrations at Hethel the previous year. This time our display comprised over 30 Lotus from Elans and Europas up to V8 Esprits, Elises and an Exige with everything else in between. This event is always well supported by many other car clubs too, so there is often something unusual to see. This years 'unusual' unusual element included an Ultima GTR and an Ultima Spyder! The car show is organised by the Sporting Bears to help raise funds for children's charities so there was again the opportunity to take a Dream Ride in a range of classic and sports cars.

Obviously the excellent weather was a factor in helping us achieve such a wide ranging display but the event itself also encourages much support. This is very much a family day with many other attractions to see from craft stalls, trade stands, archery, clay pigeon shooting, fairground, birds of prey, and steam engine displays. All this plus arena events with dog displays and horse displays makes it a great occasion. The finale for the day was a fly past by the Red Arrows.

## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August, Classic Car Show @ Knebworth House



There were 12 cars turned up for this event, and for once the weather was nice, in fact if memory serves right we got sun burnt.

It was a good day and there was plenty to see and do, including walking around the lovely grounds of Knebworth House.

We were parked on the top of the hill as you came in which meant that the flag was blowing well in the breeze (see above photo) and as usual the display of cars brought many people up the hill to have a closer look – there were many complimentary comments about the cars which is always nice.

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September, Picnic @Woburn**  
*(Write-up and photos kindly provided by John Crow)*



Sunday 4th September saw, what has become the annual Woburn Picnic event, take place. I had taken great care to organise the event with almost military precision, however due to bad management on the part of the staff at Woburn, and total lack of co-ordination, the day began as a bit of a fiasco. Unfortunately the staff we spoke to were extremely unhelpful and I don't know how I resisted the temptation to 'Plant' someone. However, despite this initial setback, we eventually passed through the park in an impressive convey, to enjoy our day together. Good weather; good company, what else could we have asked for and then the Deer came to have a swim in the lake because of the heat!!! It was also Fred Dooris' 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday on the day and it was nice to think that both him and his wife Janet were happy to spend the day with the "Lotus Family", so Mel presented him with a Racing Car Birthday Cake complete with musical candles.

I have no plans to organise this event again, at least not at Woburn, however I have approached Burghley Park in Stamford, who would be willing to host us, the cost being £12, which includes two entry tickets for Burghley House, which I think is extremely good value. Could you let Mel & Gary know whether you would be interested in pursuing this option? I will do my best to organise the event pending recovery from my impending treatment procedures.

Best wishes to everyone for 2006, John

## Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Dinner @ The Crown Inn, Elton

There were 34 of us and this year we kept things lower key than normal as our mark of respect for Paul. We did have the usual doodle bug balloons which were a great hit but there wasn't the usual "presents" which we give to selected club members as in previous years. Gary Tall offered to say a dedication to Paul which we have to admit brought a tear to the eyes and what he said was really lovely. The food was great, which was a huge relief as we had only found out by accident in October that The Crown Inn had in fact now got new owners. However, Marcus and Rosalind have welcomed us with open arms and it appears that whilst driving through the village in August they had spotted all our cars parked on the green for Club Night – which Marcus was thrilled about as he's always wanted an Esprit. Thanks go to John Bailey for kindly making and supplying Area Calendars for all the dinner attendees again (there are a few spare copies if anyone would like one, please just ask) and also to Gordon & Joy Round for the lovely Christmas Bear which they presented Mel with.

A true and cautionary story, to make you smile – by John Crow

The AA arrived to pick up my Lotus.  
Driver says "Sorry my lorry has broken down".  
I ask "What are you going to do".  
"Call the AA" says the driver.  
Man from AA arrives, but can't fix problem.  
AA have to hire a local private company to take my car to Newmarket.

***So to ensure this doesn't happen to you make sure you visit Gerald Turner for the best in Lotus Maintenance (see below).***



***Mel & Gary Parkin***