

# The Chapman Report



Published by the Golden Gate Lotus Club [www.gglotus.org](http://www.gglotus.org) February 2005

## Let The Fun Begin *by jim mcclure, editor*

Two new Lotuses, two new owners who are new to Lotus and GGLC membership (soon), and both at their first track event. This was the Performance Driving School at Thunderhill, run by the SCCA and Thunderhill management.

I was a passenger in both cars and was impressed with the performance, especially considering they are new and stock, while many of the cars at the school have been 'tweaked abit'. As this was the first time I've been in the passenger seat and not the driver's seat, I realized that there is no 'panic' handle to hold on to through the turns. I also noted that the cars initiated enough lateral G force to have my rearend sliding a bit.

A driving school, such as this one, is a good place to start with track experience, and this school is one of the most safe. That's why I volunteer to instruct with them.

Start with a school first, if you can,

as many trackday groups do not offer advise or instruction help.

I expect that we will see these two cars, and more like them, at one of our track events soon.

*end*



*Brian McSweeney from Foster City, with his red Elise, sport package and hard top.*



*"Dan" from San Mateo, with one of the two new red Elises at the event. He didn't want his real name used for concern that his insurance company would find out.*

### **February Meeting**

**Friday, February 18th**

**Host:** James McClure (no one else would volunteer)

## Calendar

February 18	Club Meeting	Host: James McClure
February 19	Club 111 Run	See info inside
March 22	GGLC Track Day	Thunderhill
April 23	GGLC Track Day	Buttonwillow
June 3 - 5	Lotus Convention	Lake Tahoe
June 3	GGLC Track Day	Reno - Fernley

run. Late in the day, we will gather at the Granlibakken and caravan to the National Auto Museum located in downtown Reno. The National Auto Museum houses the Harrah Auto Collection and reconstructs the look and feel of the history of the automobile. The WCLM will have private use of the Museum for an evening that includes cocktails and gala dinner buffet.

The final day of the WCLM, Sunday, June 5th, will feature the WCLM Concours. Set in the scenic Sierras, this special display of Lotus cars will top off a wonderful 3 days of the Lotusing. The WCLM Concours will conclude with a catered luncheon and awards ceremony.

Registration for the WCLM opens this weekin a few days. Visit the WCLM website at <http://www.gglotus.org/wclm05> to register on-line or print an entry form and mail it in. Early-bird entries get a discount!

West Coast Lotus Meet History  
The WCLM has been an annual event for 20 years. What began as an event between Lotus West in Southern California and the Golden Gate Lotus Club (GGLC) in Northern California has grown to encompass six Lotus clubs in the Western U.S. The average attendance in recent times has been 300-500 participants and 100-150 Lotus cars. Attendance peaked in 1995 when the WCLM was held in conjunction with the Monterey Historics (Lotus was the featured marque). Nearly 800 Lotus enthusiasts and nearly 500 Lotus cars gathered at this memorable event. Visit <http://www.gglotus.org/ggpast/2004wclm/index.htm> for a view of the very successful 2004 WCLM. 180 Lotus enthusiasts were on hand with nearly 100 Lotus cars.

*end*

## West Coast Lotus Meet by GGLC

Burlingame, California - The Golden Gate Lotus Club in conjunction with Evergreen Lotus Car Club, Lotus Owners of Phoenix, Club Elite, Club111 and other western US Lotus clubs is pleased to announce the 2005 West Coast Lotus Meet (WCLM) to be held at Lake Tahoe June 2-5, 2005.

As many as 300 Lotus enthusiasts from across the western United States will assemble to celebrate and enjoy the Lake Tahoe scene and their cars.

The 2005 WCLM is supported by the generosity of: Platinum sponsor Lotus Cars USA Gold sponsors Dave Bean Engineering Lotus of San Francisco (BMC) Silver sponsors JAE Parts Silicon Valley Auto Group Sector111 Viking Motorsports.

West Coast Lotus Meet Facts  
Dates: June 2-5, 2005 (Thurs-Sun)  
Location: Lake Tahoe, CA  
Track: Reno-Fernley Raceway (Fernley, NV)  
Hotel: Granlibakken Resort, Tahoe City, CA  
Chairmen: Joel Lipkin - [joelwclm@gglotus.org](mailto:joelwclm@gglotus.org)  
Mel Boss - [melwclm@gglotus.org](mailto:melwclm@gglotus.org)  
WCLM Website: [www.gglotus.org/wclm05](http://www.gglotus.org/wclm05)

Too Much Lotusing to Do!  
The 2005 WCLM will begin Thursday evening with event registration followed by a cocktail hour and an opening dinner at the historic Granlibakken Resort. The Granlibakken is nestled in the Tahoe

pine forests on 74 private acres. With plentiful parking, hiking trails, swimming pools, saunas and tennis courts the Granlibakken will be relaxing and a perfect headquarters for the 2005 WCLM.

Friday will start off bright and early for those participating in the optional WCLM Lotus Track Day at the Reno-Fernley Raceway. The Reno-Fernley Raceway offers sweeping turns, tight technical sections and long straights, challenging for both driver and machine. It's a great way to enjoy your Lotus and put a smile on your face.

If decide to sleep in on Friday, you can join the WCLM Tahoe Tour. This informal driving tour will take advantage of some of the local twisty, scenic roads and will give you a chance to really enjoy the beauty of the Tahoe region and the Sierras. The Tour will have a lunch stop where you'll be able to relax and enjoy the scenery. Of course no Tour of Tahoe would be complete without many opportunities to see the lake. Friday ends with a wonderful casual cocktail hour and dinner at the Granlibakken. This will also be the final time for participants to check-in for the WCLM.

Saturday, June 4th opens with a fun drive to the WCLM Autocross site at the Lake Tahoe Airport. By popular demand we are expanding the Autocross event and running it well into the afternoon to give everyone ample opportunities to get in that fast

# GGLC Website Report

by Kiyoshi

GGLC website continues nice steady growth and has become a REAL resource to Lotus enthusiasts around the globe.

In 2004 the GGLC website had nearly 250,000 visitors!!! On average over 20,000 visitors came to the GGLC website each month. And when they visited they viewed pages upon pages of content. Especially popular are the GGLC's collection of technical articles. Many of those articles have been collected over the history of the GGLC and come from you, the membership. Almost 500,000 webpages were served to our visitors!

Besides the technical articles our web visitors like the Parts Interchange listings, the Hot News area, and Chapman Reports.

The GGLC website has also become extremely functional and is a big part of the club's operations. Our use of PayPals has become more and more popular. Over 60% of the WCLM entrants used the GGLC website and PayPal to register. Nearly 70% of the entrants to the GGLC's popular Lotus Track Days use the website's on-line registration.

As expected most visitors are from the US and have either a .com or .net email address, they account for 55% of our traffic. Not surprising is that outside the US most visitors come from the UK, followed by Australia.

European visitors are well represented by Germany, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and the Netherlands. Brazilian visitors lead Latin America.

From Asia are visitors from China, Japan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Thailand and Singapore.

And we have gotten a handful of visitors from places like Namibia, Belarus, Fiji, Zimbabwe, Aruba, Qatar and even Nepal!



*A Noble addition to a Lotus club member, Joel Lipkin. Or is this the replacement for the Esprit? Wouldn't be a bad option. I'm interested to see this on the track. The car mags say that it will blast past most of us. I wonder if I can slipstream behind it?*

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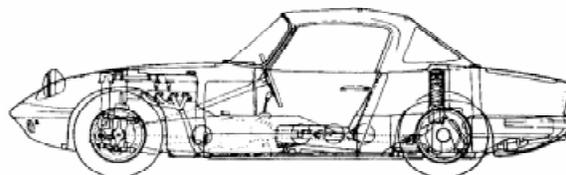
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## Caterham Cars Sold *Press Release*

Sports car maker Caterham Cars has been sold by the founding Nearn family to a management buy-in team, backed by Corven Ventures, for about £5m.

A management buy-in (MBI) team led by ex-Lotus General Manager, Ansar Ali, and backed by Corven Ventures, the private equity arm of the consulting and corporate finance firm Corven Group, has bought Badgerum Cars.

Caterham is the pre-eminent sports car manufacturer in its sector producing lightweight, affordable road and racecars with supercar performance. The company's heritage stems from the legendary Lotus Seven sports car acquired from Lotus Cars in 1973. Over the last 30 years Caterham, headed by its founder Graham Nearn and subsequently by his son, Simon, have successfully developed the Caterham Seven. Today, employing 70 people, the company makes four variants of the Caterham 7, selling more than 500 cars a year in over 15 countries, generating a turnover in excess of 15M pounds

In October 2004 Caterham launched its exciting new Caterham Seven CSR model, which draws its

power from two bespoke high performance engine variants from Cosworth Racing. The CSR not only establishes a new benchmark in handling and performance, but also renews an alliance with racing legend Cosworth, who return to the road car market after a ten-year absence.

The MBI team will bring sector experience to compliment the existing Caterham management. Ansar Ali as Managing Director is joined by Gideon Wigger, another ex Lotus manager, as Operations Director, and by David Obertelli as Finance Director. James Basden (founding Director of Corven) and Mark Edwards (Director of Corven Ventures), both of whom have extensive automotive experience, will join the board as Non-Executive Chairman and Non-Executive Director respectively. Outgoing Caterham Cars Managing Director, Simon Nearn, will continue to assist the new management team on a consultancy basis. The combined management will seek to underpin the fundamentals of the business and drive the Badgerum brand forward to meet customer demands whilst enhancing profitability.

## Club 111 Run

Date: Saturday, February 19th

Time: Meet at 9:30AM, depart parking lot at 10:30 SHARP

Location: Meet in the El Paseo Shopping center, in front of REI. Peet's Coffee & Mimi's are nearby for anyone looking for breakfast beforehand. The shopping center is at the intersection of Saratoga Rd and Prospect.

### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. Take Hwy 280 to San Jose
2. Exit onto Saratoga Rd toward Saratoga
3. Stay on Saratoga until you get to Prospect/Campbell. The shopping center is on your left.

Lunch at Cameron's Pub in Half Moon Bay 1410 South Cabrillo Highway (hwy 1) Half Moon Bay, CA (650) 726-5705

All Lotus cars are invited, as are people that are currently on a waiting list to purchase an Elise.

RSVP not required. Before departing on the drive, a headcount will be taken and Cameron's notified we're heading that way. If you intend to skip the drive and meet us at Cameron's, please let me know so we can include you in that count. Contact for more information: matt (at) eliseinfo (dot) com (or just post here).

The drive route will be announced at the actual event, but you all probably have a pretty good idea of the roads we'll be taking. If the weather is poor, we'll still have this drive, but will take a leisurely route over via major highways instead. Fish & Chips taste even better when it's raining outside!

This will be a relaxing drive, and speed limits will be mostly obeyed. Unsafe driving will not be tolerated and will be grounds for exclusion from future events. If you've got the Need for Speed, you can satisfy that after our lunch stop in Half Moon Bay by taking your own route back over the hills.

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The Chapman Report is published monthly by the Golden Gate Lotus Club, PO Box 117303, Burlingame, CA 94011. The GGLC is a non-profit incorporated car club and is not affiliated with Group Lotus, Team Lotus or Lotus Cars USA. The GGLC's annual membership dues are \$25.00.

Opinions expressed in the Chapman Report are those of the authors and do not represent those of the GGLC or its officers.

Submissions to the Chapman Report are accepted and encouraged. Please email them to [chapmanreport@gglotus.org](mailto:chapmanreport@gglotus.org) in MS Word, rtf or ASCII text. Submissions may also be mailed to Jim McClure, 11238 Bubb Road, Cupertino, CA 95014.

2003 GGLC Officers are: President: Faisal Khan, Vice President: Pete Richen, Treasurer: Laura Hamai, Event Coordinator: John Zender, Membership Chairman: David Anderson, Secretary: Jon Rosner

Chapman Report Staff: Editor: Jim McClure, Circulation Manager: Tom Carney, Advertising Manager: Mel Boss.

**Ultralite For Sale, only asking near \$40K** "No waiting! Ready to go, all the best racing equipment. Winner of Run and Gun 2004. Cover of Kit Car Builder Magazine. Completely sorted and race ready. Stock Honda 240HP DOHC w/close ratio 6 speed. Independent rear suspension and limited slip. Fuel cell and fire system."

**Another Lotus 7 Clone:** "I am selling this lotus as a race car I lost all the paper work on it, the miles are not correct km reading and I could not find the vin # on the car. I am sure your local dmV should find it." Sure, just show up at the DMV. They'll get you sorted out. This guy must be on Lithium.

## More Classifieds

**For Sale:** Cobra (1) sport seat. Adaptor bracket fits M100. Medium grey cloth. Like new. \$200 OBO. Mel 925-831-8834 or [darmel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:darmel@sbcglobal.net).

**For Sale:** 1974 Lotus Elite. Complete operating car and a small mountain of spare and maintenance parts. 80k, needs paint. Best offer. Allen (408)354-7645 or [dubberley1@verizon.net](mailto:dubberley1@verizon.net)

**For Sale:** 1969 Lotus Europa 54/1636 for sale. Original except for Hermes manifold, Weber 45, oil cooler, Cosmics with Yoko A008's. Good runner and very decent looking. Robin Jackson, 707 526 5535, [apexbrit@msn.com](mailto:apexbrit@msn.com)

**For Sale:** 1967 Europa Series 1a  
Perhaps the finest original example left in existence. This two owner car was used by Lotus for the 1967 Auto Show circuit and was sold off the floor at the LA Auto Show that year. It has won several awards and is in excellent condition. At less than 1400lbs the Series 1a is even more pure and light in the Chapman tradition than the later, more common and heavier S2. The car is garaged in the Seattle area. For more information go to: <http://www.galos.net/mike/CarsForSale>. (01/05)

# Classifieds

(non-commercial ads are free to GGLC members and will run for three issues before requiring renewal)

**For Sale:** 1979 Esprit S2. Commemorative Edition #100 (last one). Black with gold stripes (like all of that series Esprit). Very good condition. Well cared for. Reliable. Previously owned by David Anderson (GGLC). Chuck is 3rd owner. \$10000 Call Chuck: 707-875-3728 (2/05)

**For sale:** I am interested in selling my 1987 commemorative Lotus Esprit Turbo HC. I had a back injury and it is very difficult for me to drive it. I have not had very good luck on my own and was wondering if you had any suggestions. I am asking \$23,000 OBO. More info if you know of anyone. Please contact me at 650-270-7417. Bill Locke (10/04)

**For Sale:**

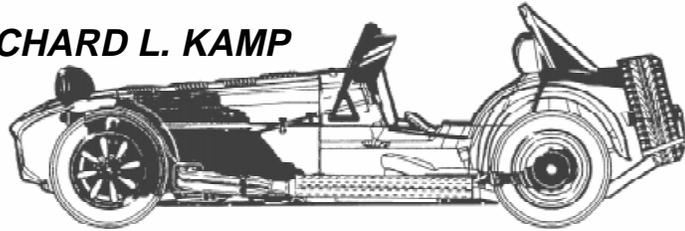
1991 Elan (M100) This car has been an amazingly reliable daily driver from the time I bought it until my Elise replaced it. It has less than 39,000 miles and is in very good shape. The car is in the Seattle area and can be seen at: <http://www.galos.net/mike/CarsForSale> (01/05)

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**For Sale:** S1 Europa linkage \$50  
S2 Europa drive shafts \$100  
TC Europa Ford 125E con rods(4) with ARP bolts, exlt cond \$200 TC Europa radiator, fan, screen \$100 TC Europa steel gas tank (pass side) \$50 all Europa: Corvair hubs, excellent cond \$100 + shipping. all located in Sunny San Jose, Ca Contact Joel via email [farberjf@us.ibm.com](mailto:farberjf@us.ibm.com) (9/04)

**For Sale:** 1976 Eclat (Federal), custom Excel fenders by Barry spencer. Triple Black with Gold pinstripes, black/gold wheels. Custom black with gold leather interior. Euro cams, dual two barrel Dell'Ortos. Front/rear adjustable shocks, more. Ex-Barry spencer car. Must sell, best reasonable offer. Bob (650) 962-0451 (09/04)

## First Class Mail

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