



CLUB NEWS

All in all, 2008 was a good year for Club Lotus South Wales. Yes, we had plenty, plenty and plenty of rain during the year but our spirits refused to be dampened.

To kick off the club communication for 2009 we thought we have a little competition. We would like to know what and where the Castle is in the picture on the right.

Send your answers to mail@clsw.co.uk along with your name etc, we will place all correct entries into a hat, the winner will be drawn out at random and will get the chance to organize a drive run to visit the Castle during the next few months.



Below is some of the stuff we got up to in 2008.

Ogmore By Sea Drive Run

One of our first little outings, very, very cold but worth it all the same.

Club Night, Guest Speaker. Andy S from QMECH on the 'K' Series Engine.

Andy S From QMECH Lotus South Wales gave us an in-depth talk on the design development and workings of the original Lotus Elise power plant.

Elise Trophy race at Brands Hatch.

A long drive up and boyo boy what a cold day, but a really entertaining and enjoy full event, makes you itch to get your Lotus out on track.

Castle Combe Performance Action Day

Good turn out from our club members despite the weather being awful. Good on Young Rob and Kev Nitrous boy for making their track debut in their Elise & Exige.

Pencoed Classic Show

An unexpected, but very welcome turn out to say the least. It was nice to see so many Lotus cars New & old from our club. Roll on 2009.

Llandow Karting Challenge Events

We attended two of these events throughout the year, both were kindly organized by Mark from our local Porsche club. Fantastic fun great bunch of guys even after we beat them (both times).

Castle Combe Club Lotus Day

A truly wonderful day. The weather was perfect and despite a slow start, a well attended event. Andy S and his Caterham were busy all day giving Hot Lap rides along side the Lotus on Track boys to raise money for Teenage Cancer Charity. Thanks to everyone, well over a £1000 was raised.

Classic & Sports Car Day, Castle Combe.

Another day of good fun, some truly wonderful cars on show and so good to see them hammering around the track.

Lotus Show Donington Park

Cracking show Alan, well done. Some very nice cars on show along with lots of new and old stuff to spend your pocket money on.



Drive Run to the 100 (mph) House Inn at Bleddfa.

Many thanks to Martin and Jane who own this fantastic Pub, a must visit for any Petrol head. A Ferrari themed pub.

Stratstone & CLSW Track Day at Llandow.

Absolutely appalling weather set the theme, that said we got to enjoy a fantastic day on Saturday with the Guys from Stratstone Lotus Cardiff and Group Lotus along with their demo cars and the fun continued again on Sunday where our Club joined in the Fun with our own cars out on track.

Summer BBQ at Glynogwr

Yes, the rain that's good for the grass, finally stopped for one day and the BBQ went ahead on the 27th September, complete with a real cowboy! Many thanks to Harry Hayes for bringing Jasper along, the kids enjoyed riding this wonder Horse. BBQ Cas was left holding the baby this year but Tom, Katie and Sam did a tremendous job feeding the five thousand. And many thanks to our hosts Eileen and Len

If the truth were known. the event was planned around Mel being away on holiday, thus giving others a chance to win the 'Pit Stop Challenge'. well done to Terry and young Rob, the winners for 2008.

Club Night, with visit from Lotus Club International.

The press team from the Factory, kindly dropped in to our club for a visit and brought along a new Limited Edition Elise.

Fish & Chip Run to West Wales

Again the weather turned out to be awful, even though most of us had started out with the tops off. We had lunch in a lovely fish and chip restaurant then took up a very gracious invitation to visit the legendary Terry Sanger at his home. Many thanks to Terry and his Wife Diane and Rob C.

Club Visit to Club Lotus Avon Area.

Talk by Gordon Murray.

A fairly long trip for an evening out, but what a fabulous and informative talk by Gordon the Maclaren Man Murray. Such a vast area of knowledge and life experience, a true pity the talk only lasted a few hours we want to know more! Thanks to Rob Ford for organizing this one.

Drive Run by Kev Nitrous Boy

Thanks to Kev for organizing this lovely, tame, slow, bumble up and around Brecon. I think it was Brecon, The signs must have been dirty or blurred out some how. Zoom Zoom!

Chilly Willy Run

Our last event of the year slid into 2009 with our first drive run. Nice on the ice, well not so for some, a minor incident at the start of the run saw our enthusiasm cooled as poor Mark put a dent in his car and his pride when unfortunately he went off-roading with his beautiful Porsche.

No Injuries though, so we continued on to the 100 (mph) House Inn for the second time this year for a welcomed lunch. Thanks Mel for another first class drive run.



What for 2009?

Events

12th Feb Club Night at the Ty-Nant
Short committee meeting and AGM.

12th March Club Night at the Ty-Nant.
Talk by Andy Bradshaw

10th May Pencoed Classic Car Show

23rd May Club Lotus Track day at Castle Combe

17th to 19th July Welsh weekend.

T.B.C CLSW Track Day at Llandow

T.B.C Lotus Chassis Factory Visit with Stratstone Lotus Cardiff.

T.B.C Lotus Summer BBQ

T.B.C Terry Sanger talk

T.B.C West Wales Fish & Chip Run (Long Route)

T.B.C Lotus Elise Track set up talk and Demo, by QMECH Lotus & Caterham. Rob Francis.

T.B.C Building and Racing a Caterham talk by Andy Stanford.

T.B.C Brake upgrade talk by EBC.

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Club News Letter
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We couldn't mention all the things we did in 2008, but many thanks to all of you who contributed to our events by actually coming along to them.

In 2008 we had a total of 29 events, this averaged a little over two Events per month. One being the regular club night the second being an active event such as a drive run or track day etc.

Our club has tended to lean towards the more active side, so to compensate for those members who would rather see and hear about Lotus we are going to pad our event timetable with a more informative side as well. We are starting this year with a **Club talk by Andy Bradshaw**, who many of you in the club will already know. Andy has to be the most knowledgeable person in our club regarding past Lotus cars and has a vast life experience with them.

We have had a very good relationship with the main Lotus Dealer in South Wales, **Stratstone Lotus Cardiff**.

We hope to strengthen this bond by working together to form an alliance which will benefit both the Lotus Dealer and the Lotus owners. Martyn Carney the new dealer principle and Gareth Dando the main Lotus sales person are very keen but also enthusiastic about the Lotus brand.

We hope to take Martyn and Gareth up on their offers of holding some club nights or events at Stratstone, a fitting location I'm sure you will agree. In addition we have been invited to tour the **Lotus Chassis Factory** in Worcester. Keep an eye on our web site for the details of this event.

Hands on, We along with **QMECH** Lotus and Caterham are going to attempt to give Lotus Owners a better understanding of their cars by trying out some technical forums. One of the forums will aim to show the pro's and con's of setting up an Elise for the track and the affect it can have on road usage. Further forums will discuss power for pounds, engine modification ideas and the cost for more **BHP!**

Good Contacts

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