

# Lotus Enthusiasts Organization

NY-NJ Area

**Dateline: May 22, 2002**



The Lotus season is getting off to a fine start. But let's review some old business first.



A fine day was spent at the DeLorean Spring Social in Flemington on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Three Loti were in pictures of two! The the company was

None of the Loti enough to pick up that's the way it It was a first-class DeLorean organizer us to the pah-tee! Abato for the



attendance, and we have weather was sunny and pleasant.

stayed around long the class awards, but goes...maybe next time. event. Thanks to Dan Deutsch for inviting And thanks to Kevin pictures.

**Dr. Mike Orenstein's Elise is always the center of attention.**



Jim Cumming's Esprit...a Rose  
among the Thorns?



DeLorean Group Picture



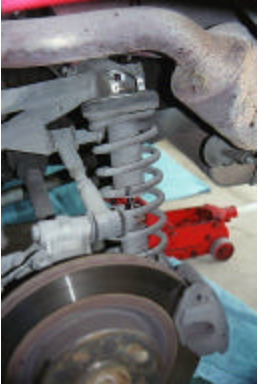



LEO members, please join the **SVRA**, the **Jaguar Club**, and the **Brits of the Hudson** for an exciting day of Vintage Racing at Lime Rock Park on **Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**. The gates open at 8 AM. The name of the event is **DARE TO BE BRITISH!**





The day offers auto-x, parade laps, and paddock parking as well as viewing the races. This event fields some of the best cars of the season (Ferraris, Bugattis, Jaguars, Porsches) and of course many of our favorite Lotuses. All of this costs only \$30 per car, for the day.




If you want to get close to the action you can volunteer to do corner work on Friday and earn a ride around the track in the race car of your choice. For further information call Bob Prescott at (845) 744-3769 or e-mail at [jobob@warwick.net](mailto:jobob@warwick.net). Bob is President of BoTH and has a '66 Lotus Elan.



Anton has provided us with his writeup on the Esprit Spring Swap. I have printed it below...maybe some of you relate better to the tabular format than the paragraphs.

 <p><b>Pic 1 (r.l.)</b></p>	<p><b>We began at the rear. With the main support by jack and 2 auxiliary supports by stands, we removed the rear wheels.</b></p> <p>You can see the rear brake assembly, the upper arm, the spring assembly and the catalytic converter.</p> <p>Since the heat shield (not shown) that separates the converter from the wheel was dirty, I cleaned it back to its shiny state.</p>
 <p><b>Pic 2</b></p>	<p><b>The 4 nuts at the top of the assembly had to be loosened, then 3 of them removed, the last one left loose until the last moment when taking the spring out. Then the 2 nuts on the main rod (sitting one on the top of the other) had to be loosened and removed. Since the access gap is quite narrow, it's done best with a gear wrench (thanks to Atwell). Little by little we unscrewed both.</b></p>
 <p><b>Pic 3</b></p>	
 <p><b>Pic 4 (r.r.)</b></p>	<p><b>Same story on the right side.</b></p>

 <p><b>Pic 5</b></p>	<p>On the rears, we had to use spring compressors. Atwell had a pair handy. Each spring had to be done separately (it would have been easier if we had 2 pairs of compressors).</p>
 <p><b>Pic 6</b> (r.s.)</p>	<p>Atwell was careful with choosing the attachment points for the compressors, so he marked them when installing compressors first on a spring in place. Thus the compressors would not get in the way of other suspension parts when the spring is installed back in place (of course after the springs were swapped). It was done with a pair of wrenches, making sure that the compressors do not slip to a side as the spring gets compressed.</p>
 <p><b>Pic 7 (f.l.)</b></p>	<p>The fronts were somewhat easier since the spring assemblies are swapped as a whole, i.e. the springs do not need to be taken out of their assemblies, and hence there is no need to use spring compressors at all.</p> <p>Atwell used a support device he made himself from a wire coat hanger. It supported the rotor/brake/caliper assembly so that the latter would not fall too far out of its place.</p>
 <p><b>Pic 8</b> (f.r.)</p>	<p>Similar to the rears, the 4 nuts at the top of the spring assembly had to be loosened (and then removed in the above 3+1 fashion).</p>

 <p><b>Pic 9</b></p>	<p>With a bit of time I had, I tried to clean the brake and suspension parts at the front.</p>
 <p><b>Pic 10</b> (f.s.)</p>	<p>Here is a front spring assembly taken out.</p>
 <p><b>Pic 11</b></p>	<p>Here is Atwell, the Hero of the Day, enjoying a quick break under the rear of my car (which he became intimately familiar with after a long but fruitful day spent working on it, or, should I say, under it).</p>



## Memorial Day Drive

I know you all like our country drives, so I'm throwing together a quick-and-dirty get together on Monday morning, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Meet me at the site of our very first LEO get-together, the strip mall in Panther Valley NJ, which is about a mile south of Exit 19 (CR 517) of Interstate 80, at 9:30 AM. We'll drive for an hour or two and get everyone back to their Memorial Day Picnics by noon! Email me if you plan to attend. Day of event, call on my Cell 201-852-9742, or if that one doesn't work try 973-615-6918...



While the NJ boys were at the DeLorean Social, Massachusetts-native Robert Grener was displaying his Esprit at a car show in Westfield,

MA. Since he acquired it last fall, Robert has redone the interior (check out the instrument bin, created by Prestige Autowood) and fixed a few mechanical oddities. Nice job Robert!



A Work of Art



Lastly, I'll once again encourage one and all to attend a car show that I am co-chairman of, the **TOUCH OF ENGLAND**, at the Hermitage House and Museum in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ. The date is **Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>**, about 9 AM, and details are in the previous LEO news or you can go to the web at [http://www.njtriumphs.org/pdfs/TOE2002\\_1.PDF](http://www.njtriumphs.org/pdfs/TOE2002_1.PDF)

If you don't want to show your Lotus, at least come and visit. The Hermitage House and Museum offers tours of the site, but at five bucks each, it's almost cheaper to register for the Show (12 dollars day of show including admittance for two). Please join us!

Atwell Haines  
'88 Esprit  
Succasunna, NJ  
973-927-3765



Which would you pick? Ask Robert.