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## Lotus values set to blossom in 2014

09 January 2014

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Prices of several Lotus models look set to rise in 2014 with a continuing surge of interest in the cars.

Some Lotuses have been relatively static value-wise but now values are steadily creeping up, according to Club Lotus chairman Alan Morgan.

"The cars are still excellent value for money, with prices for some being a lot lower than people tend to think. Elan +2s are the most obvious example. Despite a 15 to 20% price rise over the past couple of years a useable car can still be bought for £12,000-15,000, compared with £40,000 to 45,000 for the S1/2 Elan. "We can see no reason why

prices of these cars won't increase in 2014," Alan adds. M100 Elans can still be picked up for £5000-£6000, with project cars from £3500.

Club Lotus, which has 6000 UK members, also seeing a surge in interest in the S1 Elise, introduced in 1996.

"With the first S1s now 17-years-old the cars are definitely now seen as classics." Around £7,000 will get you into a good example, with top quality cars nudging £10,000.

"Lotus Excels can still be found for £5000-£6000 – again amazing value."

Increasing interest is also being shown in early Renault-engined Lotus Europas, which can be bought for £8000 to £9000, whereas a twin-cam version would part you from £15,000 upwards or £25,000 to £30,000 would be needed for an immaculate JPS Special.

Lotus specialist Paul Clugston, of Kent-based sports cars, also highlighted the turbocharged Esprits, both generations of the Elite and the Elise S1 as potential investment tips for 2014.

He told CCW: "A number of factors, notably the revival of the company's F1 connection in recent years, have

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"While the Esprit Turbos are increasingly popular, the one I'd really recommend people buy now is the S1 Elise. It's a bit more iconic than the S2, and it's got an increasingly dedicated following among people who recognize it as a classic."

Club Lotus offers free buying advice to members, from experts at club HQ rather than through forums.

BY NICK LARKIN

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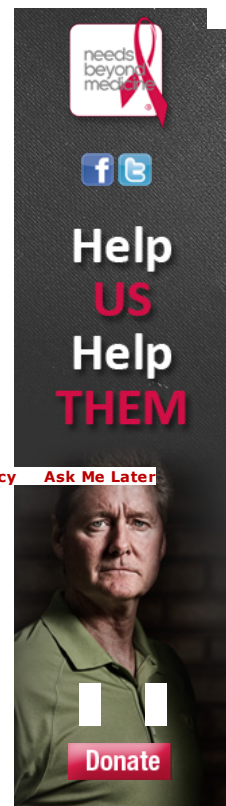
I've often wondered what happens to beautiful classic cars when they eventually disappear from local forecourts, and this week I got a sneak peek behind the scenes. I'd have my eye on a tasty

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