



PRESS INFORMATION
FEBRUARY 2002

IGC CATERHAM SUPERLIGHT CHALLENGE *in association with Autosport*

The IGC Caterham Superlight Challenge is the pinnacle of the Surrey-based sports car manufacturer's varied and exciting motor sport activities in the UK.

Backed by IGC Limited, the Cambridge-based recruitment consultants, the championship provides spectators – both trackside and watching on satellite TV around the world – with thrilling entertainment unrivalled on the domestic racing scene.

At the heart of the series is the fearsomely powerful Caterham Superlight which, though outwardly recognisable as having as its basis Colin Chapman's timeless Lotus 7 design, has over 45 years of refinement and evolution become a very different and much more sophisticated sports car.

Under the bonnet is a naturally aspirated MG-Rover 1.8-litre, 16-valve engine which develops 200bhp at 7900rpm, delivered to the rear wheels via a six-speed manual gearbox. With a minimum weight set at just 505kg – less than half that of a new Mini – it's easy to see why the Superlight flies.

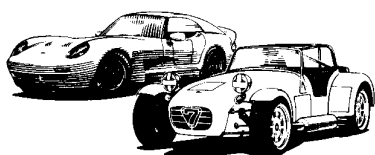
The road-going Superlight – yes, you can drive one of these racers legally in the street, from £18,950 – boasts a 140mph top speed, and it can sprint from rest to 60mph in 4.0 seconds. The different gearing and slick Avon control tyres of the racing version make it comfortably a quicker proposition...

Aside from the remarkable speed of the cars, what makes the IGC Caterham Superlight Challenge such a crowd-pleasing spectacle is that none of the competitors is allowed to gain too much of an advantage. All the power units of the competing cars are tested and sealed by the experts at Minister Power, and policing of the championship technical regulations during the season is strict indeed.

The racing is fast and furious, and as close as it can be... While some championships struggle to provide overtaking drama, it's quite common to see six or seven changes of lead in a Superlight Challenge race, and sometimes even six or seven changes of lead in a single lap!

In any form of motor sport, safety is a key consideration. Among the Superlight's safety features are a roll-over cage, cockpit impact protection bars, aluminium honeycombe chassis side protection, a six-point full harness safety belt system and a plumbed-in fire extinguisher system. To be eligible to contest the championship, the drivers must hold a National A racing licence issued by Britain's motor sport governing body, the MSA.

more



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For 2002 the championship's crowd-pleasing status has been recognised with its adoption on to one of the UK's premier racing presentations, the British F3/British GT tour. The Superlight Challenge will be a supporting act at Donington Park, Silverstone, Croft, Castle Combe, Rockingham, Oulton Park, Snetterton and Thruxton, and will close its season at Brands Hatch in October with the fantastic Caterham Festival, where more than 250 Caterhams and Lotus 7s are expected to compete in a three-day celebration of the marque.

BMP, the promoter of the British F3/GT tour, expect raceday crowds in excess of 25,000 at its meetings. The championship gains further valuable exposure in the UK on the three Sky Sport channels, with edited highlights of selected rounds packaged for the ever-growing satellite TV audience.

The gathering momentum of the series, and the kudos of association with it, is recognised by a growing number of backers. Joining title sponsor IGC on the roster this season is the UK's leading race publication, Autosport, as well as Cooper-Avon Tyres, Cheesman Products, Titan Motorsport, Arch Motors, Comma, Minister Power, Stack, Bilstein, Brian James Trailers and Mitchell Cotts Transmissions.

The IGC Caterham Superlight Challenge will be decided over 12 races at 10 meetings, and the chances are strong that, like in 2001, the title fight will go down to the wire. At stake this year is a superb champion's prize – £10,000 in cash.

The 2001 Champion, Chris Cooper, is returning to defend his title from attack from the men he beat into second and third places, the similarly named but unrelated John Gladman and Philip Gladman, and there's a host of fresh talent set to take part also, including three-time classic car champion Simon Crompton.

There is a major influx of talent from the '01 Roadsport Challenge, too. Reigning Roadsport Champion Martin Gregory is stepping up to join John Gladman in the Taylor's Foundry Motor Sport team, accompanied by the driver he narrowly defeated last year, Keith Robinson.

Other Roadsport men taking the next rung in Caterham's motorsport ladder of excellence are ex-Formula Fordster Barry Horne, French ace Luc Paillard, former Caterham Academy Champion Jason Sutherland, dog-sled racing exponent JM Littman, plus Marcello Romano and Steve Frost.

Bintcliffe Sport Racing, run by former Audi BTCC works driver John Bintcliffe, is planning a two-car assault with drivers Jay Palmer and Steve Rigby.

The Superlight Challenge is one of the top rungs in Caterham's motor sport 'ladder of excellence', which can take novice drivers through their first steps, via the Caterham Academy, through to club-level racing with the Motorsport News Roadsport Challenge. After success in the Superlight Challenge, drivers can compete internationally also, in the newly introduced Autosport Caterham Eurocup.

Ends

Further information: Nick Carter, 01530 563 200

Photography available from www.imagevaults.co.uk/caterham



IGC Caterham Superlight Challenge
in association with Autosport
Provisional calendar 2002

	Circuit	Meeting	Organising club
13/14 Apr	Donington Park	British F3/British GT	BRSCC
3-5 May	Silverstone GP	International GT Spectacular	FIA/BRSCC
25/26 May	Croft (double header)	British F3/British GT	BRSCC
22/23 Jun	Castle Combe	British F3/British GT	BRSCC
20/21 Jul	Rockingham	British F3/British GT	BRSCC
17/18 Aug	Oulton Park Int	British F3/British GT	BRSCC
31 Aug/1 Sep	Snetterton	British F3/British GT	BRSCC
14/15 Sep	Thruxton	British F3/British GT	BARC
4-6 Oct	Brands Hatch Indy	Caterham Festival	BRSCC

+ 1 double-header meeting tba

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IGC CATERHAM SUPERLIGHT CHALLENGE

Championship awards

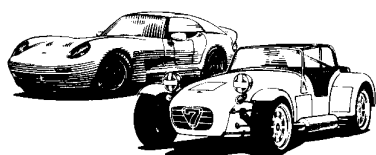
Overall champion	£10,000
Runner-up	Free registration and entry fees for 2003 Caterham Eurocup (or Caterham parts voucher to the value of £2,000)
Third in championship	£1,000 Caterham parts voucher
Winner each round	4 Avon slick racing tyres
2nd place each round	3 Avon slick racing tyres
3rd place each round	2 Avon slick racing tyres

CHAMPIONSHIP SPONSORS

IGC Limited
Autosport
Cooper-Avon Tyres
Minister Racing Engines
Comma Oil & Chemicals
Bilstein UK
Mitchell Cotts Transmissions
Arch Motors
Cheesman Products
Titan Motorsport
Stack Limited
Brian James Trailers

CHAMPIONSHIP ORGANISATION

The 2002 IGC Caterham Superlight Challenge is organised under the auspices of the British Racing and Sports Car Club Ltd, 35 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 4RR



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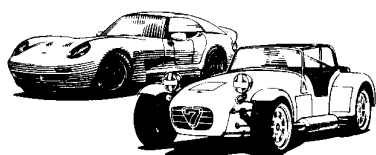
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IGC CATERHAM SUPERLIGHT CHALLENGE AUTOSPORT CATERHAM EURO CUP

Chassis specification

Engine	1.8-litre MG-Rover aluminium K-Series, mounted longitudinally Bespoke large valve/large port cylinder head 11.0:1 compression ratio Mechanical tappets, double overhead cam, 16 valves MBE967 engine management system 4 into 2 into 1 side-exit 6in catalytic silencer
Maximum power	200bhp@7900rpm
Maximum torque	152lb ft @5900rpm
Transmission	Caterham six-speed manual
Brakes	Front/Rear, 228mm solid disc AP racing brake calipers & 254mm vented front discs available as extra-cost option
Suspension	Front, independent, twin wishbones, anti-roll bar, race-spec Bilstein dampers Rear, de Dion, lower A frame, upper Watts linkage or upper radius arms, adjustable anti-roll bar, race-spec Bilstein dampers
Wheels & tyres	Front, 6.5in x 13in, Avon (UK)/Yokohama (Eurocup) slick Rear, 8.5in x 13in, Avon (UK)/Yokohama (Eurocup) slick Caterham three-piece split rim with magnesium centre
Safety equipment	Six-point race harness, plumbed-in fire extinguisher, honeycombe boot floor panel, side-impact protection system
Dimensions	Wheelbase, 2225mm Front track, 1336mm Rear track, 1336mm
Minimum weight	Car without driver, 505kg Car with driver, 595kg



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IGC CATERHAM SUPERLIGHT CHALLENGE

Roll of honour

CHAMPIONSHIP TOP 10

1999		2000		2001	
1st	Bart Hayden	1st	Rob Jenkinson	1st	Chris Cooper
2nd	Rob Garofall	2nd	Matt Bettley	2nd	John Gladman
3rd	Richard Hay	3rd	Gerry Taylor	3rd	Philip Gladman
4th	Nigel Taylor	4th	Alex Pilgrim	4th	Peter Mangion
5th	Jack Newland	5th	John Stack	5th	Gerry Taylor
6th	Howard Redhouse	6th	Peter Mangion	6th	Rob Garofall
7th	John Grant	7th	Hugh Hayden	7th	Stephen Worley
8th	Peter Mangion	8th	John Ingram	8th	Peter Ratcliff
9th	Hugh Hayden	9th	Rob Griffiths	=9th	David Hornsey
10th	Stephen Worley	10th	Rob Durrant		Jack Newland

RACE WINNERS

Brands Hatch

01/05/00 (Indy)	Matt Bettley	19/08/00 (Indy)	Matt Bettley
20/08/00 (Indy)	Rob Jenkinson	10/09/00 (GP)	Matt Bettley
06/05/01 (GP)	Chris Cooper	07/05/01 (GP)	John Gladman
30/09/01 (Indy)	Philip Gladman		

Castle Combe

24/09/00	Chris Cooper	27/08/01	Chris Cooper
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Croft

08/07/00	Rob Jenkinson	09/07/00	Matt Bettley
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Donington Park

02/04/00 (Nat)	Rob Jenkinson	29/05/00 (GP)	Matt Bettley
03/06/01 (GP)	John Gladman		

Knockhill

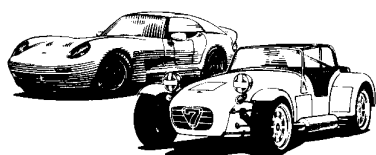
04/06/00	Rob Jenkinson	04/06/00	Rob Jenkinson
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Oulton Park

28/08/00 (Int)	Matt Bettley	23/06/01 (Int)	John Gladman
18/08/01 (Fost)	Chris Cooper	18/08/01 (Fost)	Philip Gladman

Snetterton

16/04/00	Rob Jenkinson	07/05/00	Rob Jenkinson
25/03/01	John Gladman	22/07/01	Chris Cooper



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