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Lunar's limited-edition Saros is unveiled



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# UPDATE

## Striking Swifts and Sterlings showcased

► WORDS VAL CHAPMAN PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN CHAPMAN



Last month we announced Swift's construction innovation, called SMART HT (the HT stands for High-Tech) and the launch of two new flagship ranges with all timber products eliminated from the floor and body. This month, with the Swift Elegance and Sterling Continental ranges now unveiled to the public at the NEC show, we take you deeper into the details, with more images, of the eight new models, taken at the NEC show.

Five years of research and development and £2.5m of investment went into the development of the construction method and the two new ranges. Swift's Group Commercial Director, Nick Page says that materials used are "the most advanced that we know about in caravans".

Swift's Design Director, Chris Milburn, explains that, with designs heavily influenced by automotive trends, a "purposeful and striking look" has been designed. "Aerodynamics have played a significant role in the design of these caravans."

Flush windows help with aerodynamic efficiency. Grab handles are integrated into the bodylines. Gas compartments have a three-point locking system. Doors have magnetic exterior stays instead of clip systems. Awning lights have red LED indicators to act as a warning to tell you when the alarm has been activated.

Readers who visited the NEC show in February will have seen Swift's new construction technology in cutaway detail; the design team

ABOVE Swift is celebrating its 50th year with the launch of the two new ranges. This centrepiece with golden livery was on show sitting on a mirror so that visitors to the stand could see the new floor construction

ABOVE RIGHT An early prototype of the new models, on show at the NEC with a cutaway side enabling visitors to see the floor and wall structure in cross-section

turned one of the early prototypes into an exhibition unit (above), with floor and furniture construction visible in cross-section, to showcase the new build system.

At the launch event, National Sales Manager Gary O'Brien drew our attention to "wow-factor interiors" and "the first timberless floor in the UK". And Nick Page emphasised that the new ranges are "the most aerodynamic caravan that we've ever made." He added; "Technology in construction has enabled us to make a lighter caravan and so load it with specification."

With prices at between £2500 and £3000 above Swift Conqueror and Sterling Elite models, the Swift Elegance and Sterling Continental caravans enjoy flagship status.



Elegance 480



Elegance 570



Elegance 570

# Lunar launches limited edition range and a new Quasar



Continental 580



Clubman Saros Edition lockers have high-gloss cream doors

The Saros skylight is long, and set into a light-surrounded panel



The first of three special editions of the Lunar Clubman range has been unveiled. These limited edition models, called Saros, with high spec and wow-factor styling, are launched to celebrate 40 years of the Clubman marque.

Skylights are establishing themselves as something of a caravan fashion statement and the Saros follows that trend, but with a shape and location unlike that in any other caravan. The Saros skylight is oblong, and set into an elliptical panel that stretches from the lounge into the central area, surrounded by a ring of lighting and with spotlights mounted into it.

Styling is dominated by high-gloss cream, on locker and wardrobe doors and drawer fronts, and turquoise, for the kitchen splash-back and a slim panel running across the caravan above the front windows. The radio/CD unit, with Bluetooth and remote control functionality, is mounted into the panel.

Lights over the lockers are dimmable. The grab handles conceal bright white lights for use when you are pitched.

The first Saros model, launched at the NEC show, has a fixed bed. Weights are 1331kg MIRO and 1485kg MTPLM.

All three Saros models are priced at £22,690.

And the name? Adhering to the lunar theme, the special edition is

named after the lunar eclipse saros cycle. Our internet quest for more information revealed that a saros is a period of days that can be used for predicting eclipses of the moon and sun. The name saros (of Greek origin) was first given to the eclipse cycle by Edmond Halley in 1691. There are two eclipses this year, one in April and the second in October.

## New family Quasar



Lunar has added a family layout to its Quasar range. The new five-berth Quasar 525 was launched at the spring NEC show.

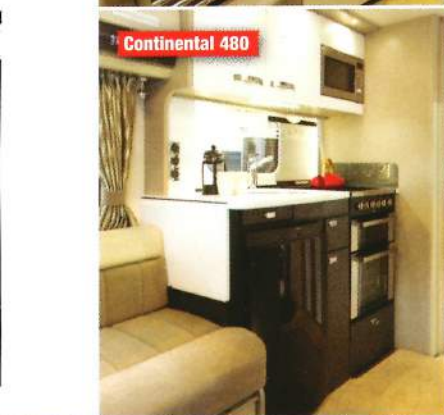
It has a twin-lounge layout. The rear sector sleeps three; you can make a double bed from the lounge-dining furniture, and raise the bunk from the rear wall.

The offside central shower room has a step-in shower. The front lounge has seating long enough to make single beds.

The price is £16,945. Weights are 1209kg (MIRO) and 1380kg (MTPLM). Lengths are 5.41m (body) and 7.06m (overall). The width is 2.2m and the headroom is 1.95m.



Continental 645



Continental 480



Elegance 645

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