

Eve and I went along to Brands Hatch to assist and support Jeff Statham and Kath in his first outing with the 420 SEAC Racer. It was looking very tatty and severely abused in its grotty green colour when Jeff purchased it some years ago. Having spent immense time and funds transforming it back to its former glory, the old 'Yellow Peril' is now looking splendid in its new livery having undergone a total renovation. It was great to see the old hero back on the circuit; a credit to Jeff's ability, who would have guessed he's a fireman.

The SEAC had to have a special exhaust system fabricated to quieten it down to meet current noise regulations. (Mainly down to these

environmentalists purchasing houses near racing circuits and then complaining about the noise). It has been rumoured that next year the noise levels may be as low as 100 dBs or even lower. That's given another topic of discussion for these pages.



Back to the story after being side tracked, Jeff obviously took things steady for the first couple of sessions to get familiar with the SEAC's characteristics and of course the circuit but once he'd found roughly the right line; and the car behaved itself he started to drive a bit more confidently and managed a time of 1 min 54 secs for the full GP circuit. Not bad for first time out in a strange car and an unfamiliar circuit. I remember the SEAC Racer in its days with Steve Cole at the helm and always watched in awe but never imagined I'd be driven round in it one day. The only time the car disgraced itself was when the passenger door window decided it wanted to get off



but a quick grab from my hand persuaded it otherwise. The weather staved fine for us and we all had a great day, if anyone gets the chance to see the racer at a meet then pop along and say hello. As many of you have probably noticed I haven't sent in many reports for a while, this is due to my ever increasing work load leaving less time for doing my duty. Brian Thomas has offered to take the reigns of RO and

hopefully a few of our loyal band will assist him with the task. I know the rest of our region will support Brian and helpers as they have me. I have enjoyed my stint of nearly eight years but time has come to start handing over to start handing over these shores. I wish Brian good luck for the future, please give him your support.

Jim Gamsby



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