

# BOY WONDER

PROFILE ON 'MINIMOTO RACER' ALEX GAULT

Scottish boy wonder (or 'boy blunder' as his dad calls him) Alex Gault from Carluke in Scotland, first sat on a Minimoto at the tender age of nine, and that was back in August 2000. A month later there the lad was at his first race meeting at Inglistone in Edinburgh. Alex is now 14 and has since raced Minimotos in regional and National championships and one European championship. As well as Minimotos, Alex has raced an assortment of bikes and has taken to circuit racing like a duck to water (and a very fast duck at that).



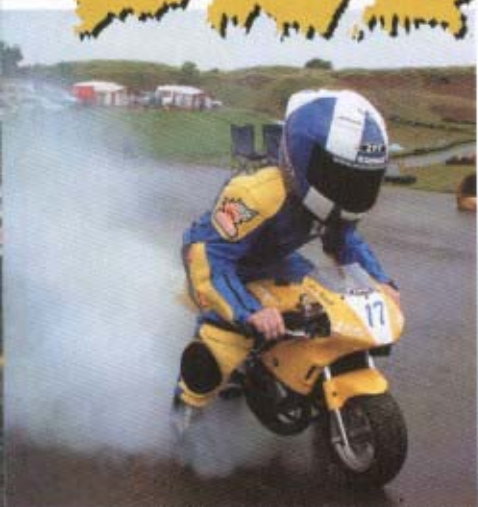
2001, when Alex first got to ride the ZPF Minimoto

## NEW KID ON THE BLOCK

In 2001, Alex was the only rider ever to win the Scottish Minimoto Championship on anything other than a Polini. A trip to Italy that year resulted in him being awarded the title of official British ZPF rider by none other than Pier Franco Zanetti, the owner and founder of the ZPF factory, and the man responsible for introducing a young man called Valentino Rossi to the sport of Minimoto back in 1990. Zanetti is widely regarded as the creator of the most exclusive Minimotos in the world. Alex raced ZPF between 2001 and 2003 and still regards Pier Franco and his family as very good friends. It was inevitable though that Alex made the move from Minimotos to motorbikes. And although he's stepped up a few sizes, he hasn't forgotten who or what helped him to the successes he's achieved.

By 2003, now backed by EP Barrus, Alex raced a Motohispania RX70 in the JRA Formula 80 Championships. And in his debut season Alex was able to lift the JRA crown while breaking a few records along the way. This was the first time that the champion had come from outside England, and the first time the championship had been won on anything other than a Cagiva, which had dominated the series since its conception. During 2003 Alex achieved the fastest lap at every circuit he raced at. He was also invited to race a Metrakit Mini GP— and consequently beat the official rider four times out of six races. The kid moves...

Come 2004 and Alex had moved up to the 125 GP Class and went on to ride two Honda RS125s in the JRA (Junior Road Racing Association) Championship. Once again he won the championship and also the Preston and District Open Singles Club Championship, and this is in addition to the outright single-cylinder lap record at the Three Sisters circuit.



Celebrating a win at Rowrah in 2001



*Racing a Metrakit in 2003*

There's clearly no stopping this boy racer. So who are his main rivals? "There are loads of good riders out there," says Alex. "Every one of them is capable of doing anything they want if they've got the right head on their shoulders." Indeed, anything can happen in motorsport, so what's been Alex's worst race? "A Minimoto race at Kinsham," he says. "It was the first year I contended the British Championship I would have finished third but my dad jetted the bike too lean and it seized. I suppose it wasn't a bad race, just disappointing. Come to think of it, I've had a few of those which were my fault..."

### WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH

When the going gets tough, the tough get going... 2005 is going to be a busy year for Alex, and January was no exception for the Gault family. Alex has now signed a three-year contract with Malaguti, and this will see him ride one



*Alex on his 125 in the rain at Three Sisters*



### GOING FOR GOLD... ALEX'S ACHIEVEMENTS

#### 2002

ACU (Auto Cycle Union)  
National Junior 'B' Champion  
ACU National Production 'A' Champion

#### 2003

British PG Minimoto Champion  
Darley Moor Formula 80 Club Champion  
JRA (Junior Racing Association) F80  
National Champion

#### 2000

Scottish Junior Winter Pocket Bike  
Champion

#### 2001

North of England Junior  
Pocket Bike Champion  
Junior Endurance Champion

#### 2004

Preston & District Open Single Cylinder Club  
JRA GP125 Champion

#### 2005

To infinity, and beyond...



*A confident Alex at Darley Moor, 2003*

