

# Gault gets to grips with Brands Hatch

## MOTORSPORT

ALEX Gault recorded a fourth-place finish as he tried out the track at Brands Hatch ahead of his second guest appearance in the European superstock 600 championship this weekend.

The Carlisle teenager will be racing in place of absent Suzuki rider Chris Leeson and took the opportunity to familiarise himself in advance with the Kent circuit.

He had a trying start to Sunday's double-header of races, slipping back to third place due to suspension problems in the opening event and crashing out on the third lap.

Gault was then almost too late to take his fourth place on the grid for the next race after being caught out by the timings of a shortened race card, but managed to rush out just in time for the start.

He took an early lead but again found the bike difficult to ride due to its set-up and fell back to fifth place, finally moving one further up the finishing order after a late duel over the final few corners with Yamaha R6 rider John Branett.

It confirmed the local rider's position as the top non-Yamaha rider after a weekend of enjoyable and exciting racing in the Bemsee/MRO event, his first time racing under their umbrella.

He earned his front-row starting place on the grid after his performance in the "super pole" qualifying race, having finished seventh-fastest out of the 33 starters in the opening timed session.