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“Driving the BRM at the Monaco Historic Grand Prix has truly been the experience of my lifetime”

Andy Soucek has taken the Yardley BRM P153 driven by Mexican Pedro Rodríguez in the 1970 Formula 1 Season to its race debut at the Monaco Historic Grand Prix.

We will let Andy share the experience by himself:

“When a very dear friend of mine presented me with the opportunity to drive his BRM at Monaco, I was sure it would be a great experience. But I was not entirely prepared for the magnitude of it.

It all started with picking up our Bentley Flying Spur road car at the Cars Gallery dealership in Barcelona, and driving to Monaco with my family aboard. The trip in itself was already a wonderful experience, but Monaco took it to a wholly different level. I had already competed at this venue several times and I really like the track, but this weekend the whole setting and crowd was very different from the competitive spirit of the F1 Grand Prix weekend which I had known previously.

We were able to meet some of the drivers I admired during my childhood, and it was a great climate of companionship all throughout the event. When one car had a problem, there was no shortage of people from other competitors trying to help solving it, which shows the great spirit around the paddock.

From the first moment I took the BRM P153 onto the track for Free Practice, I could not believe how the whole experience just absorbed me. It was a huge challenge to drive a car handling so differently from anything I had driven before, but I enjoyed every second. Being able to experience what those idols of my childhood had, was just incredible, and I have nothing but huge respect for them. The car performed well, and we qualified P6 for the Race despite some fuel pump issues that we could not solve throughout the weekend. We estimate that this issue cost us close to two seconds per lap, so we would have been up there fighting for the podium.

The race start went well, and I was able to overtake Paolo Barilla on the first few metres, but when approaching the turn before the tunnel section, we had the fuel pump problem again. I was able to move on, but sadly it went worse later in the lap and had to retire the car.

Despite this problem, I have enjoyed each and every lap of the weekend, and it will be an experience which I will never forget. I would like to thank my dear friend for giving me this opportunity of driving his historic car, and I would jump on the chance of doing it again in the future, that's for sure.”

There is not too much time to rest however, as Andy will already be back to “normal duty” the next weekend, for Round 2 of the Endurance Series at Silverstone, Bentley’s “home track”.

Qualifying will start at 09:45 local time (10:45 CET) on Sunday, and the Main Race at 15:00 local (16:00 CET) the very same day. A live stream will be available for both events under <https://www.blancpain-gt-series.com/gt-tv>

Additionally, Eurosport 2 will be connecting live mid –race, to provide live coverage from 18:00 CET for the last hour of the race.



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