

TO ROB.

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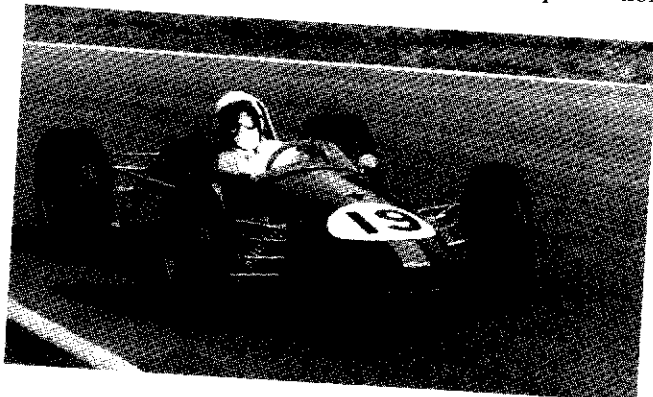
BOB WISSE. ENJOY THIS PART
ABOUT BT21-20.

Formula 3

Meanwhile I had been to see Ron Tauranac, money in hand, so see if my Formula 3 Brabham BT21 was going to be ready soon. Before I had gone away to the Can-Am series I had seen Ron and explained to him that I didn't have the money yet, but by the time I got back I would have it, so would he please save me a place on the order list?

I had casually mentioned this to a few of the old hands and they informed me that unless I placed the deposit there was no way I would be getting a Brabham in the foreseeable future. I have been eternally grateful to Ron for taking my word, and when I arrived back in England I rushed down to Weybridge to see him and hand over my deposit, and he gave me the date that my new car would be ready.

Ron Tauranac is one of life's great men. A very clever engineer, he designed all the winning Brabhams up to 1972, oversaw the production, and generally worked about 20 hours a day for many years. Having finally bought the team from Jack, and run it himself throughout 1971, he then sold it (for considerably under value) to Bernie Ecclestone. Ron then designed the Trojan F1 car, with Tim Schenken as driver, but ~~later~~ hit the jackpot with his own company **RAIL**, becoming a successful racing car manufacturer all over again. Few people succeed in becoming a successful designer/manufacturer even once. Ron did it twice.



ABOVE Racing again, at last. My new BT21 Brabham at Oulton Park, 1967.

He is direct, totally honest, doesn't ~~suffer~~ fools, and was often misunderstood, but I ~~have~~