

STRATA 21 BCV8 CHAMPIONSHIP

Race Report Brands Hatch Round 11 – MGCC Sunday 7th September 2008

Visiting Brands Hatch as just spectators for the first time in many years Roy and I were pleased to see that the weather was not as bad as the wet forecast but overcast with the occasional spot of rain but generally dry. A reasonable number of 21 drivers had entered the M.G. Car Club meeting for the penultimate Strata21 BCV8 race of the Season and for the 11.05 practice start the skies were cloudy and the track was wet.

The Strata 21 MGCC BCV8 Championship race was slightly longer than usual at 20 minutes and was number 4 on the Sunday afternoon's programme.

Practice was completed without problem for the 3 x D class, 2 x C class, 11 x B class and 4 x A class cars who were out in practice.

Paul Sibley, Class D, had problems with a broken down tow vehicle and arrived too late to practice but would start the race from the back of the grid. After practice, Babak Farsian was not happy with his car's performance so decided to call it a day, loaded up and went home saying he may be back later.

Practice

With Class C and D cars on wet tyres due to the damp/wet track conditions for practice, pole position swapped places many times until finally John Wilson took Overall and D Class Pole with 0.57.367 from the Gulf coloured big V8 of Joe Parrington with 57.702. On row two Adrian Beer on 58.930 alongside C class Pole Phil Walker on 59.257. On row three Martin Hall on 1.01.426 alongside B class Pole James Wheeler on 1.02.341.

On row four Peter Samuels on 1.03.012 alongside A class Pole Rob Muir, well up the grid taking advantage of his standard tyres on 1.03.094 and on row five Christina Totty on a 1.03.368 alongside Ian Prior on a 1.03.738.

On row six Barry Holmes on 1.04.276 next to Jonnie Wheeler on a 1.04.334 while behind on row seven Brian Cakebread on a 1.04.727 next to Rob Spencer on 1.06.740 second time out in his dark blue Standard V8. On row eight Babak Farsian's vacant position next to Ian Longhurst taking his spot on a time of 1.07.210. On row nine Terry Savory on 1.07.232 alongside Steve Okines on a 1.07.678. On the last row Howard Grundon on a 1.10.542 alongside David Hill on a 1.11.420.

The times from bulletin 7 signed at 11.25.

The Race

Class D

The drivers completed the green flag lap and reassembled for the start. Red lights went off and John Wilson stormed away to lead the field round Paddock with Joe Parrington coming round second and Adrian Beer third. All change for lap two as Adrian had passed both Joe and John to come back round to Paddock Hill Bend leading the field, John behind dived through on the inside clipping the end of the paddock exit and flying through on the inside, past the front of Adrian and off into the Kitty Litter, his race finished. From the back of the grid Paul Sibley was diving through the field and by lap three was up to third in class behind Joe. Adrian maintained his overall lead to the flag while Joe Parrington kept good pace behind in spite of a blown exhaust box until lap five when he lost power as his rotor arm broke and had to pull off leaving Paul Sibley to chase after Adrian and take second place overall at the finish.

Class C

The season long C class duel between Phil Walker and Martin Hall was as consistent as ever with Martin getting the better start and holding Phil off until lap three when Phil passed to take the class lead until lap thirteen when Martin managed to pull back the lead which he maintained to the finish on lap fifteen. However, due to the complexities of the blue book Martin was noted as a DQ on the

result sheet as on lap sixteen when the Red flag came out for the conclusion of the race Martin was apparently not under his own power.

Class B

The battle of the B class was equally as interesting. Peter Samuels got the better start and pulled out a four second gap from James Wheeler in the early stages. Behind a battle developed with Ian Prior, Barry Holmes and Jonnie Wheeler who stuck closely together until lap five when Barry lost control and slid into the kitty litter causing the Safety Car to come out and the field bunched up. Safety Car pulled off and the drivers pulled back to racing speed now with James Wheeler much closer in Peter Samuels mirrors, James managing to pass Peter on lap thirteen but Peter fought back and retook James again on lap sixteen. Just behind Ian Prior was still having a great battle with Jonnie Wheeler and a couple of seconds further back Brian Cakebread was having a slightly lonely race. Still further back and a lap behind Christina Totty and Rob Spencer were having a race long close encounter which continued to the flag with Christina just holding Rob off.

On lap 16 the class leaders now with Peter Samuels in front and just inches away from James Wheeler came down to Graham Hill Bend, James tried to pass Peter but both went off track. Peter managed to keep his car going but on rejoining the track Howard Grunden, a lap behind, suddenly found he had no where to go and collected Peter Samuels Whilst Peter was able to continue again, Howard was left stranded in the middle of the track and there was no other option but to show the red flag. Howard being classed as DQ due to not being under his own power as the red flag was shown

Class A

After a great practice time Rob Muir got blitzed away from the start and had a great race holding his class lead to the flag despite a valiant attempt from Steve Okines. Ian Longhurst and Terry Savory came home third and fourth in class.

Round 11 Race Results

Class D

	FL	Best Lap
Adrian Beer		0:51.662
Paul Sibley		0:52.273

Class C

Phil Walker	FL	0:55.080
Martin Hall		DQ

Class B

James Wheeler		0:57.925
Peter Samuels	FL	0:57.467
Ian Prior		0:58.277
Jonnie Wheeler		0:58.049
Brian Cakebread		0:57.945
Christina Totty		0:59.584
Rob Spencer		1:00.244
Rob Spencer		0:58.361
David Hill		1:05.731
Howard Grundon		DQ

Class A

Rob Muir	FL	1:01.238
Steve Okines		1:02.807
Ian Longhurst		1:03.301
Terry Savory		1:03.649

Congratulations to

Adrian Beer - Overall and 1st in Class D

Phil Walker - 1st in Class C

James Wheeler - 1st in Class B

Rob Muir - 1st in Class A

Pam McCarthy