

## STRATA 21 BCV8 CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL ROUND OF 2008

After a season long contest for the overall Champion position, there were three drivers, Phil Walker, John Wilson and Peter Samuels, who still had a chance going into the last round at Snetterton on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2008. On the day, this came down to just two drivers when John Wilson was not able to recover his car in time after his incident at Brands Hatch. Even though Phil Walker went into the last round leading on points he had a hard battle with Martin Hall and could not take sufficient points to beat Peter Samuels who came away from Snetterton with a maximum 15 points to add to his final total. When all the points were added and checked, Peter Samuels was crowned Overall Champion with 141 points with Phil Walker on 135 points.

### 2008 STRATA 21 BCV8 Championship Overall Champion



**Peter Samuels**

Peter finally taking the Overall Champion after 10 years of trying in the BCV8 Championship and in a year when he clearly raised his hopes and ambitions to claim the coveted No 1 for 2009. Class B is never the easiest class to claim the overall champion from due to the number of entrants and the level of competition the class has produced over the years. Whilst Peter has had close battles on many occasions with the “Wheeler Gang” in particular and with Rob Huff on his only outing with BCV8 in 2008, Peter had the edge over his rivals at many of the rounds and is a worthy champion.

Commiserations to all other drivers, especially Phil Walker (Class C) and John Wilson (Class D) who, although in different classes, had a close battle with other competitors in their class throughout the season.

## STRATA 21 BCV8 CHAMPIONSHIP

### Race Report MGCC Snetterton

#### Round 12

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2008

#### Practice

19 drivers made their way across country to the flat and open Snetterton Circuit for the final round of the 2008 STRATA 21 BCV8 Championship. A warm welcome back to Martin Jones who rejoined BCV8 in his MGB after significant surgery just before MGCC Silverstone 2008 and to Ken Deamer who was having his first outing since his car was damaged in the infamous early season Brands Hatch incident.

With threats of rain and wind throughout the day there was no telling how either practice or the race would go. Fortunately the rain stayed away until the end of the race day although a gusty cold wind blew across the circuit most of the day. Practice had to be red flagged when Rob Muir destroyed his engine and left a significant oil slick around Corum and Russell bends, Several bags of cement later and the cars were allowed out again to complete the practice session. Paul Sibley finally took pole position from Adrian Beer and Joe Parrington (all Class D). Phil Walker kept his hopes of overall Champion alive by taking Class C pole position ahead of Martin Hall but to keep the contest active even longer, Peter Samuels also took Class B pole, this was going right the way to the chequered flag. There were no Class AB cars at this round and in spite of blowing his engine apart, Rob Muir had done enough to secure Class A pole position.

Unfortunately, Rob Muir (engine) and Ken Deamer (suspect gearbox) would not be able to start the race.

#### Practice times, Round 12.

#### Practice times as issued by MGCC

Driver	Class	Grid	Time
Paul Sibley	D	1	1:18.313
Adrian Beer	D	2	1:18.787
Joe Parrington	D	3	1:21.035
Phil Walker	C	4	1:24.085

Martin Hall	C	5	1:24.144
Peter Samuels	B	6	1:25.933
Jonnie Wheeler	B	7	1:27.293
James Wheeler	B	8	1:29.645
Brian Cakebread	B	9	1:29.655
Rob Spencer	B	10	1:30.560
Ian Prior	B	11	1:31.082
Ken Deamer	C	12	1:31.952
Neil Cawthorn	B	13	1:33.939
Paul Atkinson	B	14	1:36.760
Rob Muir	A	15	1:37.748
Steve Okines	A	16	1:38.887
Ian Longhurst	A	17	1:39.614
Brian Smethurst	A	18	1:39.952
Martin Jones	B	19	1:43.720

### ***The Race***

17 cars took their places on the grid for the 20 minute final round of 2008, as the lights went out Paul Sibley maintained advantage over Adrian Beer with Joe Parrington in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Martin Hall took Phil Walker in a determined drive to lead Class C with Peter Samuels pushing hard on the first lap to maintain his hopes of overall champion and had a comfortable lead over Jonnie Wheeler and James Wheeler at the end of lap 1. Ian Longhurst took the lead of Class A from a determined Steve Okines with Class A Championship Leader Brian Smethurst down in a safe 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The race progressed at full race speeds until lap 8 when the unfortunate Rob Spencer lost control around Corum rolling his immaculate Class B MGB GT V8 several times until it finally came to rest on all four wheels. It was such a relief to see Rob get out of the car unaided and start to walk to the side of the track. This incident brought out the safety car as the circuit ambulance was dispatched to tend to Rob along with the recovery vehicles to remove Rob's badly damaged car and clear up the debris.

The race cars were held behind the course car for 4 laps before being released for just two clear racing laps before the flag fell to end the race.

In the last two racing laps, Adrian Beer managed to take the lead to win overall and Class D and set the fastest lap, Martin Hall managed to stay ahead of Phil Walker in Class C and set the fastest Class C lap, Peter Samuels won Class B and set fastest lap to gain a maximum number of points to be crowned STRATA 21 BCV8 Champion for 2008. Ian Longhurst had a race long duel with Steven Okines but managed to be ahead of Class A as the flag fell. Brian Smethurst kept a watching brief on these two at a safe distance to gain enough points to claim Class A champion for 2008.

### **Round 12 Race Results**

<b>Class D</b>	<b>Best Lap</b>
Adrian Beer	<b>FL</b> 1:17.579
Paul Sibley	1:18.179

<b>Class C</b>	<b>Best Lap</b>
Martin Hall	<b>FL</b> 1:22.709
Phil Walker	1:23.277

<b>Class B</b>	<b>Best Lap</b>
Peter Samuels	<b>FL</b> 1:26.374
Jonnie Wheeler	1:28.850
James Wheeler	1:26.589
Ian Prior	1:26.942
Brian Cakebread	1:28.888
Neil Cawthorne	1:32.128
Paul Atkinson	1:33.239
Martin Jones	1:37.906

**Class AB**

No Entries

**Class A**

Ian Longhurst	1:38.520
Steve Okines	<b>FL</b> 1:35.918
Brian Smethurst	1:38.918

**Congratulations to**

**Adrian Beer** - Overall and 1st in Class D

**Martin Hall** - 1st in Class C

**Peter Samuels** - 1st in Class B

**Ian Longhurst** - 1st in Class A

After a dramatic season by BCV8 Standards, well done to all drivers who took part and commiseration to those who had problems throughout the year. I hope you will all be with BCV8 again in 2009 for which we are already working on a programme of race meetings.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the Awards and dinner night on 15 November 2008, details of which are contained on the website. Please go to [www.bcv8.co.uk](http://www.bcv8.co.uk) click to enter the site and follow the links in the Awards Night box.