

A1 DRIVERS BCV8 CHAMPIONSHIP RACE REPORT ROUND 9

**750MC Race Meeting,
BRANDS HATCH 13th August 2006**

PRACTICE

Once again the rain seemed to fall on Brands Hatch and qualifying would see very wet conditions out on track. Adrian Beer did very well putting his car on pole by over half a second. Piers Townsend also did well in the wet conditions not just qualifying pole in class but also 2nd overall! Tom Jones looked very racy with a new Prior Powered B class car, wicked wheeler wets and positive attitude gaining him pole in class B. Paul White looked dominant of class AB taking pole position in class. Rob Muir took pole for class A. Steve Okines and Tom Jones tried doing a bit of ballet both spinning at the bottom of Graham Hill. Steve Okines also did a complete 360 down paddock hill and kept going without the car even stopping!

RACE

By the afternoon the rain had stopped and the track had dried out. As the lights went out Adrian Beer had a fabulous start as did John Wilson from the 2nd row, Piers Townsend led class C with Joe Parrington having problems off the line. Tom Jones lead class B, Paul White class AB and Rob Muir class A.

Class A

Class A saw Rob Muir once again win by a large margin but with a small amount of pressure at the beginning from Steve Okines who challenged Rob Muir for the first lap, side by side down cooper straight. Rob Muir dealt well with the pressure to pull out a healthy lead to win Class A.

Class AB

Paul White dominated class AB leading from start to finish and driving well. Dawn Marie Cox took a strong 2nd position in class and Ian Longhurst came 3rd.

Class B

Once again the racing in this class was very close and competitive. Tom Jones looked as though he was enjoying his new car (*ex Brian Lambert/Ian Prior car MVB*) and had a great race leading from lights to flag, very well done on his first B class win!

The battle for 2nd was anyone's guess, Ian Prior, Mike Harris, Brian Cakebread, John Hutson and Peter Samuels all had a chance at it, Ian Prior was second for the first few laps, Peter Samuels looked as though he may get 2nd and chase for the lead until carburettor problems set in on lap 2.

Next to challenge Ian was Mike Harris, but not for long as a charging John Hutson challenged for second at Paddock Hill and made it stick, leaving Ian Prior in 3rd Mike Harris close in 4th and just behind them Brian Cakebread. A few laps later a controversial coming together between Mike Harris and Ian Prior sent them both back down the field. John Hutson looked sure for a podium until an unfortunate retirement on lap 7. Brian Cakebread put in consistently quick times to finish 2nd. Paul Atkinson and Howard Grundon also had a close race between themselves for 5th and 6th place by the end.

Class C

Class C saw a great closing battle at the end of the race between Piers Townsend and Joe Parrington. Joe had a problem getting away from the grid (*with a box full of neutrals and no drive, Jo, was about to pull off thinking a half shaft had broke when he found a gear that worked and set off after the rest of the field MVB*) and was left chasing from the back of the grid. Piers Townsend took advantage of his pole position and stormed away from the lights, Phil Walker looked the strongest he's been all season, never letting Piers out of his sight and waiting to pounce on any mistake. Joe Parrington drove very well managing to come from the back of the grid and close up on Piers Townsend. Piers made his car as wide as a bus and held off Joe till the end of the race. Unfortunately Andrew Riley retired lap 4.

Class D

Class D only had two competitors, but this didn't mean it wasn't competitive. Adrian Beer and John Wilson had a fantastic race, which was close and ran from start to finish. Adrian Beer was in front for the longest amount of time but with many challenges from John Wilson including one challenge under yellow flags, but John Wilson showed Gentlemen driving and allowed Adrian back past. The battle continued with Adrian taking the flag at the end.

JAMES WHEELER