

**Strata 21 BCV8 Championship
RACE REPORT ROUND 7.
MGCC Silverstone International Race Meeting
22-24th June 2007**

**RACE REPORT –
QUALIFYING**

34 entries took to the track for the STRATA21 BCV8 Championship at 09:40 in cloudy but dry conditions.

Class A saw Ken Deamer and Rob Muir return to do battle. Rob Muir, now with a set of part worn Dunlop “squigley’s” on his 2006 Championship winning car, took class A pole ahead of Ken Deamer. Richard McKoen was next ahead of Oulton Class A winner Robert Croft and Ian Longhurst and Brian Smethurst. It was good to see Terry Savory back amongst it with his repaired BGT after his unfortunate incident at Brands Hatch.

Class AB saw Bob Luff continue to dominate in 2007 taking Class pole well ahead of newcomer to BCV8 Gordon Bruce and our very own President, Barry Sidery Smith back from his trip to Le Mans with the ex works MGB, DRX 255C.

Class B was more like it used to be with 13 entries but the names at the front do not change that much with Russell McCarthy taking Class B pole ahead of a charging Tom Jones. The next three had Mike Harris, Jonnie Wheeler and Ian Prior chasing hard, something which would continue into the race later in the day.

Class C had a familiar look with Joe Parrington on pole; Paul White only managed 4 laps before mechanical problems meant he had to call it a day early even though he had managed 2nd in Class C, ahead of Piers Townsend, Phil Walker, Martin Hall and Andrew Riley who never stops smiling now that he is coming to terms with his Class C car.

Class D saw a very close battle for Pole between John Wilson and Adrian Beer, with John just nosing ahead at the end of the session. Paul Sibley continues to develop his Class D car and held 3rd in class ahead of Peter Collis and the ever present Roy McCarthy in his little Yellow flyer.

THE RACE

CLASS D

As the lights went out, John Wilson made the better start with Adrian Beer close behind. Paul Sibley made a good start to keep 3rd place ahead of Peter Collis and Roy McCarthy. By Lap 3, Adrian Beer had taken John Wilson to lead the fieldbut John had not given up and retook the lead on lap 4, a position he would retain until the flag in spite of some pressure from Adrian. Further back, Paul Sibley and Peter Collis were chasing each other hard, initially with Paul ahead...The sight of Class D cars being driven well and in close company never fails to amaze and all 5 Class D cars at Silverstone were battling hard for their positions to the amazement of

many spectators and supporters alike....but Peter soon retook the position on lap 2 to finish 3rd overall and in Class D with the unfortunate Paul Sibley stopping due to mechanical problems on the penultimate lap. Roy McCarthy brought his car home 4th in Class D.

CLASS C

Martin Hall had an engine problem in a non- BCV8 practice session and would not start. Joe Parrington took Pole but then lost ground as he had a bad start due to gear selection problems. This left Piers Townsend to head class C for a large part of lap 1.....until Joe sorted out which gears were where and set off to regain Class C lead by the end of lap 1, a position he would keep to the chequered flag. Phil Walker came 3rd ahead of Andrew Riley 4th in Class C.

CLASS B

With Russell McCarthy on Class B pole and Tom Jones behind a Class C car Russell took advantage and held position through the first few laps setting quicker lap times than Tom.

Further back, the battle for third was hotting up. Barry Holmes had an early battle with Ian Prior but once Ian got past Barry had no one to play with to bring his BGT V8 home 6th in Class B. Ian Prior prepares to pass Barry Holmes to set off to join Jonnie Wheeler and Mike Harris. Mike Harris initially held 3rd in Class B with Jonnie Wheeler and Ian Prior chasing hard.

These three putting on a fantastic display of clean but competitive racing with 3rd and 4th positions swapping time after time. This battle went on throughout the entire race until Jonnie made it count for the last two laps to secure 3rd in Class B. John Hutson spun at Becketts on lap 1 but continued to take 8th in class at the flag. At the head of Class B Russell held off Tom until lap 7 when passing back markers, Tom found a way past and held position right to the flag to take a hard fought win of Class B. Tom's hard work paying off as he was selected driver of the race and of the day by the commentator and the MGCC. Well done Tom.

I enjoyed a race long battle with Bob Luff for 7th in Class. Although Bob was in Class AB whilst I was in my Class B, B GT V8, we seemed to enjoy the battle even though on one lap, Bob went incredibly wide at Copse (even lost sight of him in my mirror he was that far off) he soon came back to take up the challenge again. Others were not so lucky in their private battles. David Hill spun coming out of Becketts and was collected by Richard Croft (Class A) who had no where to go..... others managed to find a way pastbut it was chaos for a while!!! Newcomer to BCV8 for this round was Simon Cripps who found that Luffield is a bit tricky. Fortunately no damage was done other than to his pride and Simon recovered to claim 10th in Class B. Welcome to BCV8 Simon, hope you enjoy the challenge of the MGB in a friendly Championship environment.

CLASS AB

Bob Luff made a great start but lost ground when John Hutson (Class B) spun in a busy approach to Becketts which held Bob up and allowed others through. However, Bob maintained the lead of Class AB to the flag. Further back, newcomer to BCV8 Gordon Bruce, Car no 12, only managed one lap prior to retiring. Not a good start but as they say, things can only get better!! Barry Sidery Smith in his Belgium MGB took 2nd in Class AB, apologies Barry, you may be BCV8 President but clearly the photographers did not know that and I have no photo to show!

CLASS A

Class A was well supported for this round with 7 cars all battling for the win. Rob Muir made a good start but was soon taken by Ken Deamer. Rob was not giving up and managed to retake the lead on lap 3 only for Ken to come back again and take the lead of Class A on lap 4, a position he would hold to the flag. Rob took 2nd in Class with Richard McKoen 3rd. After being involved with David Hill, Rob Croft did well to recover to take 4th in Class A ahead of Brian Smethurst and Terry Savory. Rob Muir took a spell at the head of Class A but had to settle for 2nd at the flag.

Congratulations to:

John Wilson for race and Class D win.

Joe Parrington for his Class C win

Tom Jones for his Class B win

Bob Luff for his Class AB win

Ken Deamer for his Class A win

MIKE BREEDON

See MST Timings for Practice and Race results under Results