

Drivers Newsletter 2016 Issue #3

A very busy time since the beginning of May for all our formula, the season now into full swing with the first championships having been contested and the chase for points titles well and truly on. Well done to Hot Rod driver 270 Keiran Collis and Junior Banger driver 450 Blake Platts who have both joined the Hat-Trick Heroes club. Thanks go to National Banger drivers 382 Jack Foster 180 Mark Foster and 25 Joe Parsons for representing Startrax away at the first major championships of the year. Congratulations to Hot Rods 56 Mart Jones the new National Champion, and 184 Martin Smith the new British Champion and 1600cc Banger driver 160 Simon Crew also new British Champion. Lots of big meetings still to come with The Storm and all Banger day to celebrate the 30+ year career of 999 Paul Stormin Norman, G&M Banger Bits Hot Rod World Final both in August and the Glyn's Auto Repairs Junior Banger World Final in September, all at Stoke.

National Bangers

Stoke on May 22nd for the individual Battle of Britain, heat wins went to 312 Brad White and 69 Matty Randall with 382 Chubby claiming the title win in the final. The all Granada session at Coventry in June raised a respectable mid 20,s entry, car of the meeting the superbly tuned out Senior and Junior(!) mk2 Hearse's of 73 Crucko and 73 Junior.22 Dave Vincent unstoppable on the night taking all three wins. The Terminator at Belle Vue on July 3rd was an excellent meeting just under 30 cars plenty of wrecking and some good action race wise. 25 Joe Parsons grabbed the title and All-Comers win with the returning 514 Paul Woods taking the other All-Comers win.

The Storm is coming as Saturday August 13th at Stoke we say farewell to Paul Stormin Norman with just under 50 Unlimited and 60 Micro Bangers booked so far. A host of names from the past and present will send this celebrated racer of more than 30 years off in fine style. Stoke again on August 28th when it will be National Series Round 4 for 2Ltr Bangers.

The chase for the Silver Roof which runs until November has 382 Chubby over 80 points ahead of 25 Joe Parsons these pair well ahead in the chase for Ipswich World Final qualifying with just the two dates in August left to score points for Ipswich. The National Series has now had three rounds and with points for Startrax drivers only the race for those top 30 places and an invitation to race at the National Series Finale at Coventry in October is taking shape nicely. 382 Chubby leads the way from 275 Rusty, 526 Fatkidd, 266 BigAl, and 82 Big T. Over 50 drivers have scored points so far in the series, a sign of how healthy the racing has been at Startrax, thanks to all the drivers and their teams.

1600cc Bangers

Belle Vue on May Day Bank Holiday with heat wins going to 123 Paul Manning and 260 Tim Crew with 290 Jonathon Harrison taking the final from 260 and 123. Coventry on the 28th May and heat wins for 33 David Attrill and 60 James French before Attrill made it a double in the final with 267 The Tramp and 286 Dan Phillips the placemen. Belle Vue again for another Bank Holiday heat wins for 160 Simon Crew brother 260 Tim winning the other. 284 Craig Riches winning the final from 258 Chris Hart and 25 Joe Parsons. Stoke on June 4th had heat wins for 08 Baggo and 132 Connor Dando his first win since moving up from the Junior Bangers. 297 Lee Wiles won a great final from 230 Mad Dan and 160 Simon Crew. Back to Coventry on June 18th for the first title of the year, the British Championship. The Crew brothers started on pole and 160 Simon went on to win the title a great drive for second from 993 Jake McCarthy with 69 Matty Randall third. All-Comer wins went to 284 Craig Riches and 69 Fatty Matty. The Head2Head Team Challenge took place at Stoke on July 30th. Team Minted wiping out the Stokey Boyz in their grudge match while slightly down on numbers England lost to Team Wales, however with convincing wins on points in both All-Comers the day belonged to overall winners Team Minted.

The Mike Parker Promotions night at Belle Vue on Tuesday August 16th is shaping up to be a great night, with offers to lend cars for the Old Boys race coming in we hope to stage one race for those attending the reunion. The last two World Qualifiers at Coventry August 20th and Belle Vue August 29th with a domestic meeting at Stoke on August 28th.

The chase for point's honours is once again a race for second and third place as for the fifth year running 260 Tim Crew runs away with the lead. The battle for the other trophy places is between 160 Simon Crew 284 Craig Riches and 123 Paul Manning just 24 points separating the three drivers. The World Qualifying Points also has 260 Tim at the top with the same top four as the national points 230 Mad Dan is currently fifth with two rounds remaining to make the top 25 Startrax qualifiers.

Hot Rods

Stoke on May 22nd for the National Championship. The title race was up first and although 184 Martin Smith lead most of the way a stray wheel on the track ended his chances and left second place 56 Mart Jones clear out front to take the win from 2 Lee Rudge and 73 Paul Wright. The rest of the meeting saw 2016 novice 270 Keiran Collis take a hat-trick of wins for a 40 point maximum. Coventry on May 28th for G&M Banger Bits WQ4, heat wins for 27 James GT Watson and 101 Phil Tbone Mitchell while 77 Jim Fletcher won the final and the Sponsor's prize of a new Kingpin tyre, 101 Tbone in second and 99 Danny Davies in third. Stoke for a domestic on June 4th and the returning 45 Scott Meir won heat one before 40 Neil Hayes won heat two and the final from 99

Danny Davies and 85 Ben White. The end of the grading period saw 101 Tbone up to Super Star and 77 Jim Fletcher back up to Red while 270 Keiran Collis made Red for the first time. Another novice driver for 2016 99 Danny Davies made Blue while 19 Shane King slipped to Blue.

The G&M Banger Bits WQ5 & British Championship at Belle Vue on July 3rd saw the heats based on National Point's rankings. Heat one had the lowest point scores on the front row with a reverse grid for heat two and the British Championship Final based on the heat scores of each driver. Heat one was won by 43 Stuart "Bert" Bromley from 27 GT and 40 Neil Hayes. Heat two went to 184 Martin Smith from 77 Jim Fletcher and 43 Bert. The British Championship Final had 43 Bert and 184 Smithy on the front row, the pair setting the pace from the off, it was a good clean and close race until the last lap when back markers got caught in the chase Bert went wide and Smithy cut to the inside line going into the last lap to take the win Bert having to settle for second with 27 GT claiming a good third place. The final G&M Banger Bits World Qualifier at Stoke on July 30th saw 20 cars attend. The opening heat went to 142 Andrew Earl before 43 Bert carried on his good form taking heat two then the final from 284 Ryan Latham and 56 Mart Jones. Grade changes for August have 77 Jim Fletcher up to Super Star while 52 David Matthews slips down to Red. Down to Blue is 81 Kris Millar while going the other way are 40 Neil Hayes and 100 Andy (Grandad) Mitchell. Newcomer 142 Andrew Earl goes up to Yellow while 45 Scott Meir and 80 Lorne Pilip drop to Yellow.

The chase for National Point's and the three trophy places has 184 Smithy still holding on to a 27 point lead at the top but with a real purple patch recently 43 Bert climbs to second one point ahead of 85 Ben White. Another on fine form 77 Jim Fletcher just grabbed the last Super Star spot on average score being joint 4th with 270 Keiran Collis.

The next three meetings up to September make up the grading period for point's, Belle Vue on Tuesday August 16th. The G&M Banger Bits World Final at Stoke on August 28th and Stoke again on September 24th. There will be a full write up on all 20 qualifiers in the meeting program so please confirm your World Final booking by August 10th.

Junior Bangers

A really good couple of months from the young stars of tomorrow, Coventry attracted 20+ on April 23 with heat wins for 90 Joey Holmes and 144 Matthew Venables. The final was won by 619 Brad Tomlinson from 450 Blake Platts and 90 Spud. Stoke on May 22nd and heat wins for 104 Ellis Hopkins and 619 Tomo before 450 Blake Platts won the final from 619 Tomo and 104 Bird. Back to Coventry on May 28th and heat wins for 104 Bird and 204 Travis Dring. 450 Blake Platts taking his second final in succession beating 95 Elton Hopkins and 14 Jo Persico. Coventry on July 16th saw 450 Blake Platts draw level at the top of the points after a hat-trick of wins. Stoke on July 30th and heat wins for 450 Blake Platts and 132 Archie Cullum. The final produced the best race of the year with 450 Blake Platts just holding off 95 Elton Hopkins and 99 Shaydy Gough despite there being no more than four car length's between the three of them for most of the race.

The Glyn's Auto Repairs Junior Banger World Final at Stoke on Saturday September 24th will have a minimum of 10 Startrax registered drivers on the grid. The chase for those places has one qualifying

round left at Stoke on August 13th with still time to make those places. The qualifiers so far are: 450/90/95/104/99/619/244/458/134/21, they will be joined by drivers from Spedeworth, Incarace, PRI, Trackstar and Buxton.

The Glyn's Auto Repair Points Championship has seen the stunning form of 450 Blake Platts allow him to overtake 90 Spud at the top of the table while the now consistent 95 Elton Hopkins is riding high in third place.

Lady Bangers

Yet more improvement from our lady racers has seen Steve move to prize money for every meeting for the rest of the year. May 22nd saw heat wins for 81 Gemma Lord and 850 Mikeala Teal. Gemma then did the double again winning the final from 584 Kimberley Smith and 381 Jade Challenger. June 4th and 244 Michelle Murdoch made the long trip from Scotland worthwhile winning heat 1. Heat 2 and the final both being taken by 850 Mikeala Teal, 381 Jade Challenger and 110 Mary Tyler second and third in the final. July 30th had heat wins for 203 Britney Walsh and 584 Kimberley Smith. Kim then going on to win the final to complete an excellent day from the Cornwall based team! 203 Britt in second and 411 Nikki Calvert in third.

The points chase is getting to be an exciting battle, 203 Britt now opening up a lead over 205 Kayleigh in the personnel battle of the Walsh's. 381 Jade Challenger and 81 Gemma Lord who began the season as novices now sit third and fourth with 232 Sammie Dugmore down to fifth. 850 Mikeala Teal's fine form has seen her climb to sixth place, 282 Kirstay Challenger holds on to seventh with 584 Kim Smith moving up to eight, 110 Mary Tyler and 100 Emma Mullins completing the top ten so far.

Spike

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