



2008 MRO CHAMPIONSHIPS BRANDS HATCH, 19TH-20TH JULY



Waddelow breathless at Brands

Another clean sweep at Brands, as she did in May when she won all four GP circuit MRO SuperTeen races, now sees Stephanie Waddelow surging ahead in the standings. This latest breathless four race win achievement by Waddelow has reinforced the point that this young lady is for real and a very special talent, writes Terry Howe.

Following a double victory on Saturday the 16-year-old schoolgirl appears to have the Kent venue pretty well taped. The outcome of the opening race, like all the MRO SuperTeen races this season, was in doubt until the chequered flag came out. Waddelow, Alex Olsen, the local rider from



Rochester, 12-year-old sensation Wayne Ryan and Nick Anderson all at one stage or another led the race but in a four way dash for the flag it was Waddelow the winner.

A similar scenario unfolded in race two as Marsh Academy schoolboy Ryan made the hole-shot with Waddelow and Andy Reid (no 17) bickering for second. Soon after Ryan lost the position to Waddelow but this 12-year-old, whose foster parents had to gain special permission from Camden social services for him to race, regained control with a classic move on Waddelow through McLaren.

Towards close landscaper Olson was engaged with Reid as a big bunch grouped for another frenetic run in to the flag. Last

lap and Reid ran into Clark too hot, rejoined and finished seventh, with Waddelow getting the verdict from Ryan and Olsen. In similar fashion Waddelow powered her SS Racing/Signal UK Aprilia to more MRO SuperTeen success on Sunday, taking victories from Olsen and Ryan on both occasions.

Liam Lyon clinched the 2008 Dyna Pro Supersport 600 title following two hard earned victories on day one, but the engine on his Yamaha R6 expired soon after. Still suffering from a coccyx injury received in the last round at Snetterton, Tom Dean got his weekend off to a flier powering his Castrol Yamaha R6 into the lead of Saturday's opener.

Initially Dean defended the position well from Stuart Wickens, Big Tone Yamaha R6, and Lyon. A lap three move saw Lyon dive beneath Dean at Paddock for the lead, and on this lap journalist Rob Hoyles, testing new BT 003 Bridgestones, was into fourth and soon after powered his Yamaha R6 into third ahead of Wickens and Chase Collyer. Hoyles later retired his Yamaha with a battery failure while Collyer was making big progress on his Mike Smith Tuning Yamaha R6, finishing in third behind Dean and Lyon. Paul King was the top Clubman.

Lap two of Saturday's second race saw 19-year-old Lyon take control once more, with Dean looking strong in second. A stylish burst to the front running action from Max Hunt was a feature of the race, while Collyer and James Wainwright, Triumph 675, were duelling for sixth. Lyon got the verdict and the title, while Hunt was the top Clubman. Chase Collyer, a survivor of a first lap skirmish that eliminated Sy Langford and Lyon, made this Sunday restart count but found Hoyles in lively form; the Yaxley rider powering his robhoyles.com Yamaha on to his first MRO win of the season. Chase Collyer, still in with a shout of a top three championship finish, helped his cause with a great race two victory from Hoyles and Hunt.

Sam Bishop (no 23) powered his Kester Cunningham John Yamaha R1 to his second Pirelli-Metzeler Superstock 1000 race win double at Brands Hatch giving the Norwich ace a 21-point cushion over Norfolk rival Peter Baker. Bishop got the hole-shot away in race one with Michael Goodfellow, Suzuki GSX-R, in pursuit. Baker, Morello Suzuki GSX-R, and Lee Hodge on the Glynn Racing Suzuki GSX-R were well in the mix in these early stages, but after Nelson was high sided from his Suzuki at Druids the race was stopped and a five lap restart saw Bishop again dominant, with Goodfellow and Hodge taking second and third respectively.

Pole sitter Bishop made the position count in race two but lost the advantage as Hodge swept under him at Surtees for the lead. Soon after Bishop regained control at Druids, but easing away from a five rider train wasn't straightforward for Bishop in the early stages. Mark Lister retired his Orwell Motorcycles Suzuki GSX-R with a puncture on lap two but Hodge, Nelson and Baker kept up the pressure on Bishop, but the 21-year-old stayed tough for the win.



Ben Lightowler made his case for a title shot at both the Pirelli-Metzeler MRO Stocksport 600 and the Junior Stocksport tiles after a stylish double victory in round eight of the series. The Harrogate rider found Pat Sheridan a handful but both these Yamaha R6 pilots showed no fear as they duelled for supremacy. Lightowler got the verdict over Sheridan in race one but Daniel Watkins, Suzuki GSX-R, maintained third, giving the Canterbury rider his first overall rostrum spot of the season. Lightowler got his K2 Racing Yamaha off the line with some urgency in race two leaving Sheridan buried in fifth. Watkins and Grant Whitaker, HWW-Ferris Yamaha, duelled for second in the early stages. Lap four Sheridan was up to fourth while Silverstone winner Dean Morrice, Walker Transport Yamaha R6, and Paul Hinchcliffe, SLH 24/7 Suzuki ZXR, were in the mix for that position as well. Three-quarters distance and Sheridan was with Lightowler and dived under him at Paddock in textbook fashion for the lead. Lightowler returned the compliment at Graham Hill Bend soon after, made a back marker situation count and eased clear for victory. Watkins was third from Whitaker, Hinchcliffe and Morrice.



Tim Venables (no 60), the 20-year-old apprentice fitter from the IOM, had his best Triumph Triple Challenge meeting of the season recording three rostrum results hoisting the Manxman into the top six of the Michelin Young Guns series. Venables made the hole-shot in race one but fell prey to the on-form Scott Rowbottom soon after. Lap four Rowbottom, the 24-year-old from Lincoln, lost the front end of his Daytona 675 at Druids and he was out. Simultaneously Josh Wainwright tumbled out of contention at Graham Hill. Mid distance

Venables was in charge again but having to battle hard to defend the spot from Lance Carey. These two Young Guns were the top two while Mark Cheetham and Jack Sim dealt with the TDG Cup places, but battled out a brilliant race for the overall top six positions.

Race two was an awesome Young Guns/TDG scrap involving Venables and Sim in the early laps, then Rowbottom took up the front running spot on his North Lincs Construction entry. Venables managed to reel in Rowbottom but there was to be no disasters for him this time and he stayed cool for the win. Jack Sim just managed to overcome Carey for the third overall position while Young Guns championship leader Mark Cringle snatched fifth from Cheetham and Wainwright.