



PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES Adam Morgan in action. Picture: CHRIS WYNNNE

Trio of top fives for Morgan

MERCEDES-BENZ Ciceley Racing continued their impressive start in the 2013 British Touring Car Championship at Donington Park, with Blackburn's Adam Morgan bringing home a trio of top five finishes to boost his position within the championship standings.

"I was absolutely delighted with how everything went – to come to Donington Park and be so competitive has taken me by surprise," said Morgan.

Starting on the third row of the grid in race one between an MG sandwich of Jason Plato and Sam Tordoff, Morgan got off the line well and after a battling start set

the fastest lap of the race on lap three.

Tordoff and Morgan soon found themselves hot-on-the-heels of fellow Lancastrian Frank Wrathall and, after a superb tussle between them for a number of laps, Morgan eventually propelled himself up the order to fifth by the end of race one.

After another textbook start in round five, Morgan refused to let the four front-runners out of his grasp as he finished fifth again.

Morgan came desperately close to a podium in the third and final race as he capitalised on a clash between Tom Onslow-Cole and Dave Newsham, to reach fourth.

Driving the race of his career, Morgan set about hunting down Aron Smith in third position. And as the action unfolded thick and fast, he did just that.

But his dream of a first podium in the BTCC would be short lived, however, as he came under increasing pressure from works Honda pair Gordon Shedden and Matt Neal, who eventually found their way past.

"To come away from Donington Park with three top five finishes and sixth position in the championship standings is unbelievable," said Morgan.

The series returns to action on May 4-5 at Thruxton.

Clubs join forces for Autosolo meeting

THREE East Lancashire motor clubs have joined forces to offer young drivers the chance to compete in an Autosolo meeting for free in a unique competition.

Run as part of National Motorsport Week, the under 17 Motor Club North West are offering a free entry for a first time driver aged 18 and over at their Lymm meeting on June 23.

There's also a free entry – worth £75 – for a young driver aged between 14 and 17 at the same event.

"There's no catch. All you have to do is register your name and contact details on the club website," said organiser Steve Johnson.

"Autosolos and Production Car Autotests are ideal for newcomers as they require no previous experience, no special training and no special competition car.

"For cheap motorsport this is as good as it gets!"

"We have classes with passengers to allow 14-year-olds to start driving a long time before starting driving lessons on the public road.

Johnson added: "We promote road safety by encouraging youngsters to learn how to handle cars where it is safe and legal to do so, which is not on the public road."

To enter the competition go to u17mc-northwest.org.uk.

The prizes have been funded by the Under-17 Club NW and the Lymm meeting is also promoted by Accrington Motor Sports Club and the CSMA (North West) Motor Sport Group in conjunction with the ANWCC.

Battling Steve is a mini giant

Entwistle secures best result of year

By NEIL JOHNSON
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STEVE Entwistle scored his best result of the year with a giant-killing performance on the Ilkley Jubilee Historic Rally.

With just 998cc under the bonnet of his Orangebox Mini, Entwistle and navigator Bob Hargreaves finished a brilliant sixth overall and third in class.

"I'm very happy with the result, considering the quality of the field and that the only crews ahead of us were in much more powerful machinery, such as Porsches and Ford Escorts," said Entwistle.

"We might have finished as high as third overall if we hadn't lost 30 seconds on a regularity and then with a misfire on one of the tests.

"But I'm sure everyone could say 'if only', so I'm not complaining too much! At the end of the day it's one of my best ever results."

Organised by Ilkley and District Motor Club, the Jubilee is one of the top historic road rallies in the country and forms part of the HRCR (Historic Rally Car Register) Clubmans Championship and used roads



and test sites in East Lancashire.

The 150-mile route comprised a series of regularity sections and 10 'timed to the second' special tests on private land.

The rally kicked off with three tests in quick succession at Craven Cattle Market, which saw Entwistle and Hargreaves, in their iconic ex-Roy Mapple car in the top three – despite the power disadvantage.

The morning's regularity sections were split up by a tight and twisty test on the car park and perimeter of PPE in Kelbrook, followed by a test on the loose surface road surrounding Elslack Reservoir.

"It was a very demanding day for both the driver and the

navigator," said Entwistle, who is being supported by Mini specialists Mini Sport of Padiham.

And there was success for other East Lancashire crews out on the rally.

In the Ilkley Jubilee Run, which ran alongside the main event and featured just the special tests, Blacko's Ross Butterworth, with Richard Kenyon on the maps, finished first overall in their Ford Escort

Fourth place went to Pendle pair Clive Escreet and Tom Leeming in a Morris Minor, with Lee Moulden and Nathan Derbyshire rounding off the top ten in their Triumph Dolomite Sprint.



ON THE ROAD TO SIXTH Steve Entwistle in action

Students play a part in rally stage

MOTORSPORT students from Myerscough College have returned from playing a part in the latest stages of the Junior World Rally Championship.

The students, from the college's Foundation Degree course in Motorsport Management, were hand picked by bosses at Ford's M-Sport team, the motor manufacturer's rally arm, to assist them across the season.

During their stay, the students helped with all aspects of the event's preparation.

The students – Amy Ellison,

Andrew Nash, Alex Henry, Will Talbot, Oliver Brown and James Turner – will also travel to other stages in Greece, Finland, Germany, France and Spain, before the final stage of the season in Wales in mid-November as part of the unique project.

Assistant Head of Higher Education Motorsports & Mechanisation Ronnie Sandham said: "The students had a great time and everything went very smoothly. Their inclusion in the team gives them confidence and they can't wait for the next event in Greece."



HARD WORK The students in Portugal