

Pryce crowned John Easson award winner for 2011

THE 2300 Club of Blackburn have chosen Osian Pryce as the winner of the 2011 John Easson Award.

Machynlleth rally driver Pryce was picked up the prestigious award which is worth a total prize fund of £4,000.

The 18-year-old was the choice of the judges after careful deliberation, which saw the four finalists travel to Preston to take part in interviews with the

panel of judges.

Pryce emerged as the winner after a very close run contest with fellow finalists, Matt Griffin, Chris Ingram and Robert Wheeler.

This year the judges, headed by former Tour of Mull clerk of course Clive Molyneux, from Blackburn, along with co-driver 'legend' Ian Grindrod, former international co driver and boss of Motordrive Seats Allan

Whittaker, and guest judge Bury based Subaru WRC driver John Cope, all agreed, once again this year, the task of choosing a winner from the line up of finalists was very difficult.

Judges chairman Molyneux said: "This year was a very close run final, with the judges scores totalled up, only half a point separated each of the four finalists."

"It is unfortunate that there

can only be one winner.

"We feel Osian will be a worthy recipient of the 2011 John Easson Award, and of course we wish runners up Chris, Robert and Matt the very best of luck and success with their continued rallying."

"The 2300 Club would like to thank all candidates who applied for the award, and wish everyone good luck and success in their rallying for 2012."



VICTORY Gwyndaf Evans

Evans in rally title

RALLY: Gwyndaf Evans and co-driver John Millington were the overall winners of the 2011 Roger Albert Clark Rally – repeating their victory of two years ago.

The duo once again drove their Ford Escort MK2 from Viking Motorsport at the Yorkshire event that started last Friday.

Evans and Millington were eight minutes clear of second places duo Tim Pearcey and Neil Shanks.

The partnership of David Stokes and Guy Weaver came home third.

Donington confirmed

VENUE: Donington Park's date on the 2012 Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship calendar has been confirmed – meaning all 10 BTCC fixtures for next year are now in place.

The historic Leicestershire venue will host the second event of the season, on April 14-15, when the BTCC, the UK's premier motor racing championship, tours the country.

Rocky rally

EVENT: The Rockingham Stages Rally returns for its annual December visit this Saturday and Sunday.

The 2011 event includes the narrow road network behind the grandstands, extending the long stages beyond the circuit.

Tickets are available from just £10 in advance. Contact 01923 822590 for more details.

Red Bull duo

F1: Red Bull has confirmed that Sebastian Vettel and Mark Webber will attend the end-of-year celebration show scheduled for Saturday, December 10.

The show will take place in Milton Keynes along the full length of Midsummer Boulevard.

AGM for LCCC

MEETING: The Lancashire & Cheshire Car Club host their annual general meeting tonight at The Roebuck pub, in Flixton, Greater Manchester, at 8pm.

Afterwards there is a social evening with free coffee and mincepies.

Simon proves he's a class act at autotest

■ Teen takes NW Car Clubs' overall title

By ANDY CRYER
Sports Editor

BLACKBURN teenager Simon Robinson has been crowned the inaugural ANWCC Junior Production Car Autotest championship winner for 2011.

The 15-year-old St Wilfrids Academy pupil won his class at the Accrington Motorsport Club Autosolo event at the weekend to cap a fine first year.

Robinson, driving his Peugeot 106Gti 1600cc car, has dominated throughout the 11-meeting series to win the title of the Association of North Western Car Clubs overall championship.

Accrington Motorsport club team-mate Daniel Barker, 17, also from Blackburn, also performed well over the weekend to confirm his second place in the overall championship and the class A title.

Autotesting involves a series of tests to measure precision driving skills, and the events often include stopping and starting with the front and rear wheels straddling a line, with sections of each test usually completed in reverse.

Steve Johnson, Go Motorsport Regional Development Officer, hailed Robinson's achievement and praised the contribution the championship has made to youngsters in motorsport.

He said: "We have seen Simon increase in both his skills and confidence over the last 18 months and his driving is now in excess of



TITLE Blackburn driver Simon Robinson in the Peugeot 106Gti 1600cc

people aged 18 or 19.

"His skill levels and competency and car control are so much greater than probably 80 per cent of motorists on the road."

"He is used to driving a car and he has come across all issues he might experience. You don't want people racing around the streets and having crashes."

"What we are doing in the North West is the only area of the country that is doing this work. Because motorsport is trying to evolve."

"People think it costs a lot of money but it cost £20 to enter on Saturday."

Thirty drivers from across the north west took part in the weekend's autotest event, competing across four different championships.

EASY DOES IT

Mark Eastham does his best in a Nissan Micra, right, to follow the cones during the production car autotest event



Robert Kennedy, of F1000 club, was the overall winner at the production car autotest event, while Hazel Johnson, of CSMA, AMSC and u17MC, again performed well in her Nissan Micra by coming second in class.

Mark Andrews, of BLMCC, won

the Clubmans event in his Ford Ka 1300cc, while Knutsford DMC's Richard Duddell, in a Mini Cooper S, won the national B event.

William Jarman, of Wigton motorclub, won the autosolo national B event driving a Peugeot 205ti 1900cc.

Endurance event Le Jog will hit Lancashire roads

LE JOG, widely acknowledged as one of Europe's toughest endurance events, takes to the road this weekend.

And spectators will get the chance to see the cars and crews in action at three East Lancashire venues on Sunday.

The 17th annual running Le Jog sees classic, vintage and veteran cars battling it out on a 1,400 mile course between Lands End and

Le Jog in Lancashire

The Lancashire venues are (approx times):
12.24: Test at the Tickled Trout Samlesbury
12.29: Test at the Red Rose Hub Bluebell Way Fulwood
12.57 in/13.57 out: Time Control at the Aspinall Arms, Milton, Whalley

John O'Groats with the longest night navigation section ever to be included.

The infamous Welsh night section will have over 30 time controls – 75 per cent of which will be 4 minute sections and the longest section will only be 3.5 miles – but the route has been designed it with loops to allow controls to be cut for those running late.

Wales will also see some tough, late-evening regularities where crews' driving, navigating and

timekeeping will be tested.

"We want to see every crew arrive at the Telford rest halt, tired but with a big satisfied grin on their faces," said organiser John Kiff.

In addition this year's Le Jog is planned to have up to 30 tests at 26 venues – more than double the number of some recent Le Jogs and more than the last Rally of the Tests.