

Blackburn teenager Robinson keeps up autotest success

SIMON Robinson and Hazel Johnson were the winners of the latest production car auto-test events at Blackburn With Darwen Services.

Robinson, from Blackburn, won his class at the M65 venue in December to claim the inaugural ANWCC Junior Production Car Autotest Championship.

And the 15-year-old St Wilfrid's Academy pupil took first place in the Under 17 Motor Club (North West) event on Sunday to continue his progress.

Autotest events are held regularly at Blackburn With Darwen Services and see competitors navigate around a series of cones to measure precision driving skill.

Drivers as young as 14 are allowed to participate as part of a road safety campaign, giving experience to teenagers to encourage them to learn how to handle cars away from the public roads before they turn 17.

Robinson, of the Accrington Motor Sport Club, took first place in the production car autotest in his Peugeot 106 ahead of Bolton-le-Moors Car Club's Jack Mather.

Jack Foster, of the Under 17 Motor Club, finished third.

A day earlier, Johnson won the first production car autotest event of the weekend.

The Accrington Motor Sport Club driver took first place in her Nissan Micra, with Mather second once more and Robinson in third position.

The National B Autosolo was won by Kendal and District Motor Club's Steve Kettle in a Citroen Saxo.

Stephen Mather, of Bolton-le-Moors Car Club, was second overall and won his class.

Chris Kettle took third place and first in his class, with John North fourth and Mark Andrews fifth.

Paul Kelly was sixth ahead of Steven Thompson, seventh, John Wadsworth, eighth, and Jeff Buchanan, ninth.

Alec Tunbridge, of Bolton-le-Moors Car Club, won the Clubmans Autosolo in a Caterham Seven.

Lancaster Motor Club's Simon Barnes was second overall and first in class, while Roger Barfield, of the CSMA and Under 17 Motor Club, finished third and first in his class.

Steve Rhodes was fourth with Bolton-le-Moors Car Club's Dave Graves fifth and Simon Blackburn sixth.

The Under 17 Motor Club are now working in conjunction with the CSMA NW and Accrington Motor Sport Club to offer a free entry to the autosolo and production car autotest at Lymm on June 24.

Anyone interested can take part in a prize draw to win the free entry if they do not hold an MSA competition licence and have not competed in a motor club event for two years. Anyone over 18 and holding a RTA driving licence can enter the autosolo driving a competition car provided by Go Motorsport North West, while anyone aged between 14 and 18 with no RTA licence can enter the production car autotest driving a school car – although a parent must be present.

The closing date for the draw will be Friday, June 15 and for further details visit www.u17mc-northwest.org.uk .

By [Chris Flanagan](#), Sports reporter
