

## Services host autotest event

BLACKBURN and Darwen Services will play host to two Production Car Autotest events on Saturday and Sunday.

In conjunction with the Blackburn with Darwen Casualty Reduction team, the Under 17 Motor Club Northwest will stage their event on Saturday between 11am and 4pm. On Sunday between 10am and 3pm, the Accrington Motor Sport Club host the second event at the services on the M65 on Sunday between 10am and 3pm.

"There are 24 entrants for Saturday and 31 for Sunday," said organiser Steve Johnson.

"It's going to be a fantastic weekend and spectators are welcome."

Accrington's Robert English has earned entry into the autotest after earning the most improved performance award on a pre-driver road safety day in August.

## Hodgson takes on role with Ducati

BURNLEY'S former Superbikes star Neil Hodgson is to take on the role of ambassador with Ducati.

The 38-year-old won both the British Superbike Championship and the World Superbike Championship with Ducati and also made appearance in MotoGP for the Italian brand.

He will now promote and support the Ducati 848 Challenge series, taking over as ambassador from



**ROLE** Hodgson

Blackburn's former world Superbike champion Carl Fogarty. A spokesman said: "Neil's first Ducati 848 Challenge role will be a pre-season track day with the 848 Challenge riders."

## Carne's new team

HASLINGDEN rider Tom Carne has agreed to join Repli-Cast UK Racing for the 2012 British 125GP Championship.

The 18-year-old prospect made his debut this year with RCD Motorsport/FPW Racing in the championship, which is a support series of the British Superbike Championship.

But the 2010 ThundersportGB championship winner has now opted to switch teams and join Repli-Cast, who are based in Barnsley.

Carne said: "I am happy to be on board, I can't wait for next year, I'm really looking forward to riding for Team Repli-Cast."

"I have a feeling its going to be a good year and I'm in training for 2012."



**DEBUT SEASON** Hazel Johnson driving at the Hall Trophy  
Picture: NICK HUNTRIDGE

# Johnson claims two titles

ACCRINGTON'S Hazel Johnson has won two titles after completing Clitheroe Motor Club's Hall Trophy at the weekend.

The 19-year-old is in her first year of rallying but has won her class in the SD34 Championship as well as in the ANWCC Championship.

"It has been my first year so I'm very pleased," she said. "I get a lot of enjoyment out

of it and I am the only female in my section. "Obviously there are other females in the sport, but it's a male-dominated sport."

Johnson teamed up with co-driver Steve Butler, also from Accrington Motor Sport Club, to finish third in class and 21st overall in her Nissan Micra the Hall Trophy at Blyton Airfield in Lincolnshire at the weekend. Clitheroe's John Gorton and

Andrew Komosa, from Blackburn but now based in Surrey, had to retire because of differential issues after the sixth stage.

Clitheroe's Chris Woodcock and Heidi Woodcock were forced out of the rally in the fifth stage following engine problems.

The event was won by Manchester's Steve Simpson and Mike Lawson.

# Bentley brothers reach finish of Safari Rally

By CHRIS FLANAGAN  
Sports reporter

WHALLEY brothers Mark and Ed Bentley have achieved their aim of making it to the finish of the East African Safari Classic Rally.

The duo committed around £30,000 to funding a one-in-a-lifetime trip to compete in the famous rally in Kenya and Tanzania, insisting they were just hoping to make it to the end of the mammoth 3,000-mile event.

The rally started in Mombasa on November 29 and ended in the same Kenyan city on Monday, with the Bentley brothers completing the event in 21st position overall to earn an iconic finisher's trophy of an elephant.

They ended the first day in 16th position, with Mark tweeting: "At the end of stage 2 I was giving dollar bills to the Maasai tribe to help us out of the mud - quite surreal."

"Sixteenth overall, waited for a giraffe to cross the stage." The rally progressed to the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and they climbed to 10th overall despite a puncture.

In 38 degree heat, they headed back into Kenya and on to the capital Nairobi but dropped to 13th position after requiring a new gearbox.



**INTEREST** A crowd gathers as Mark and Ed Bentley (right) deal with a puncture on the Safari Rally and their trophy for finishing the event (above)

One stage then had to be cancelled due to flooding after torrential rain on a rally that incorporated all sorts of variable terrain.

The duo suffered a setback when car problems later meant they missed a stage, incurring a two-hour penalty, but a new clutch was

fitted and they were able to continue. A further 40 minutes were lost because of more issues with their Ford Escort Mk1 but they were able to make it to the finishing line in 21st to fulfil their lifelong ambition.

"Finished!" Mark tweeted. "What a week!"



## Today's racing

### WINCANTON

#### Good to soft1

#### 1.10 NOVICES' HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 4)

£4,000 added 2m 6f Penalty Value £2,599  
35-00P Bobbie Magern (26) (BF) N T'non-Davies 6 11 12W T'non-Davies (7) 04P53- Generous Bob (236) J W Mullins 4 11 10 W Kavanagh (3) 40U-3P Carrickmines (IRE) (12) (C) Dr R Newland 9 11 8 S P Jones 00-442 Cool Steel (IRE) (24) A King 5 11 8 Thornton -121P5 Caunay (21) N Mulholland 4 11 6 T Scudamore 540-52 Water Garden (FR) (11) D Pipe 5 11 4 T J Murphy 44U3-P Kavegiri (18) P Gundry 8 11 0 M Griffiths (5) 60456 Powerfullbeat (466) Mrs K Sanderson 7 11 0 60-630 Aaly (23) Mrs L Richards 4 10 12 M Bradburne (OPPOU) Exiles Return (IRE) (11) Mrs J Retter 9 10 7 N Schofield  
BETTING: 15-8 Cool Steel, 3-1 Water Garden, 7-1 Bobbie Magern, 8-1 Carrickmines, Generous Bob, 10-1 Caunay, 14-1 Kavegiri, 25-1 others.

#### 1.40 BEGINNERS' CHASE (CLASS 4)

£5,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £3,249  
P5341/ Glash Duff (IRE) (624) J Scott 6 11 0 N Schofield 450-22 Duke Of Lucca (IRE) (13) P Hobbs 6 11 0 R Johnson 3303-U Habbie Simpson (25) (D)(BF) A King 6 11 0 R Thornton 511U04 Joker Choker (IRE) (18) N Henderson 6 11 0 R Killoran P/420- Lord Ragnar (IRE) (260) (D) P Gundry 8 11 0 N Fahily /P5F-P Master Alfredo (204) Mrs S Nock 7 11 0 J Doyle 1P61P/ Midnight Sail (649) A King 8 11 0 J McCarthy 213F- Sang Bleu (FR) (334) P Nicholls 5 11 0 D Jacob

1-3326 Webberys Dream (22) J Scott 8 11 0 M Griffiths (5) 1126-B Molly Round (IRE) (11) (C) J G Cann 7 10 7  
BETTING: 9-2 Duke Of Lucca, 11-4 Habbie Simpson, 7-2 Joker Choker, 9-2 Sang Bleu, 12-1 Midnight Sail, 11-4 Lord Ragnar, 20-1 Clash Duff, 33-1 others.

#### 2.10 HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 4)

£6,500 added 3m 1f 110yds Penalty Value £4,224  
43212- Upham Atom (24) (CD)(BF) Mrs K A Buckett 8 11 12L Treadwell 22454 Nudge And Nurdle (21) N T'non-Davies 10 11 11W T'non-Davies (7) 22P20/ Tarquinus (FR) (638) (C)(BF) C Mann 8 11 7 N Fahily 2-P041 Just The Job (IRE) (10) N Mulholland 7 11 1(Tex) 4526T/ Magot De Grugy (FR) (27) V Dartnall 11 11 0 D O'Regan 1114P/ Freeline Fury (763) B J Llewellyn 11 10 9 J Doyle 4551/6 Master Cobbler (IRE) (26) (C) D Down 9 10 8 J M Davies  
BETTING: 5-2 Just The Job, 11-4 Magot De Grugy, 5-1 Upham Atom, 11-2 Nudge And Nurdle, 6-1 Tarquinus, 12-1 Master Cobbler, 16-1 Freeline Fury.

#### 2.45 HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 3)

£8,500 added 2m Penalty Value £5,523  
P1P3- Nobunaga (F84) (D) Miss V Williams 6 11 12 A Coleman -03550 Tarkant (IRE) (33) (D) E Williams 6 11 11 113-02 Tony Star (FR) (7) (D) P Hobbs 4 11 10 R Johnson 1P-263 Henry Hook (IRE) (43) (D) V Dartnall 7 11 9 D O'Regan 21013 Arab League (IRE) (7) (BF) D Pipe 6 11 8 T Scudamore 3-1314 Brunston (144) (D)(BF) N Henderson 5 11 6 R Killoran 0-1125 Looks Like Slim (187) (CD) B De Haan 4 11 5 D Jacob 4100P Gay Sloane (IRE) (22) (D) M Coombe 7 11 4 Kieran Woods (5) 162-00 Katchmore (IRE) (17) (D) M Blanshard 4 11 4 J McCarthy 322-14 Dineur (FR) (23) (BF) A King 5 11 1 R Thornton 103322 Dancewiththedevil (IRE) (7) (D)(BF) B J Llewellyn 10 10 13 P2P54 Jigsaw Dancer (IRE) (23) (CD) A Turnell 9 10 11 N Schofield F-001F Dragon's Den (IRE) (7) (CD) C Down 4 10 10 A Glassonbury

/SP-P5 Don't Panic (IRE) (9) R Hodges 7 10 1 B J Powell (7) BETTING: 9-2 Tony Star, 5-1 Dineur, 11-2 Arab League, 6-1 Brunston, 8-1 Nobunaga, 12-1 Dancewiththedevil, Henry Hook, Tarkant, 14-1 others.

#### 3.20 JUVENILE HURDLE (CLASS 4)

£7,000 added 2m Penalty Value £4,549  
64 Band Of Thunder (31) N Mitchell 10 12 D Jacob 4023- Boogie Knight M Gillard 10 12 A Thornton 46 Drawn Free (IRE) (35) C Tizzard 10 12 J Tizzard 6 Educated Son (103) B De Haan 10 12 J Doyle 6 Mentalist (FR) (26) Miss V Williams 10 12 Stagecoach Danman (F40) A Batchelor 10 12 M Quinlan (3) Lady Bridget (P31) M Gillard 10 5 T Phelan (3) BETTING: 15-8 Mentalist, 3-1 Stagecoach Danman, 11-2 Educated Son, 13-2 Band Of Thunder, 8-1 Lady Bridget, 12-1 Drawn Free, Boogie Knight.

#### 3.50 CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' H'CAP CHASE (CLASS 4)

£4,700 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £3,054  
612-P5 Ere Alfie (IRE) (35) N Williams 7 11 12 R Mahon P124-4 Randio (FR) (29) (C)(BF) V Dartnall 6 11 11 E Glassonbury (6) 4/023- Mylord Collonges (FR) (288) (D) S Nock 11 11 8 Conor O'Farrell 6F1-32 Morenito (FR) (16) (D)(BF) T R George 8 11 8 J Greenall 563045 Folie A Deux (IRE) (23) P Gundry 9 11 8 M Griffiths 24250- Pacha D'Oudaires (FR) (263) M Blake 8 11 7 R Killoran 13-30P Bethelohygobbs (IRE) (141) N Mitchell 9 11 Gavin Sheehan (5) 165-0P Silver Dollars (FR) (26) (D) D Arbuthnot 10 11 5 520520 Gunship (IRE) (22) (D) Mrs C M Hamilton 10 11 4 D E Mullins 1P-766 Local Present (IRE) (14) R Hodges 8 11 2 B J Powell (5) 61460U Legends Lass (FR) (7) (D) Mrs J Mason 9 10 12 G Hawkins 1413P- Marias Rock (236) (BF) J Scott 9 10 10 P64-33 This Way (IRE) (10) B Ryall 9 10 7 C J Davies (5) BETTING: 4-1 Morenito, 6-1 Randio, 15-2 Ere Alfie, 8-1 Folie A Deux, Mylord Collonges, Marias Rock, 10-1 Pacha D'Oudaires, Gunship, 12-1 others.