

Grasstrack racer Jack Parkinson with some of his trophies. (w6081a846)

Picture: Ken Mann.



Eight-year-old Jack earns thrilling grasstrack championship success

ON THE day Lewis Hamilton won the Formula 1 World Championship in dramatic style, a young Ossett racer was lifting a motorsport title of his own.

In his first full season of racing, eight-year-old Jack Parkinson-Blackburn put his inexperience behind him and was crowned the Lancashire Auto-Cadet Grasstrack champion. The five-round champi-

onship went all the way to the final races, held at Scunthorpe Speedway track, and the Southdale Junior School pupil produced a gutsy series of rides to take the title.

Jack has a hectic social life as he also plays rugby league for Shaw Cross Sharks juniors. Going into the Scunthorpe rounds of the Auto-Cadet Grasstrack championships, raced over two days, Jack trailed

the championship leader by seven points but overhauled his rival to win in style.

Four wins and a second place finish from Saturday's five races put Jack within striking distance and two further victories in the first two races on Sunday levelled the title standings.

Despite falling in the third race, Jack got back into the saddle to finish second and made sure of

the championship trophy with a win and a runners-up spot in the final two races of the competition.

Speedway fan Jack, who has been riding motorbikes since the age of three, is not resting on his laurels, however, and is already planning more success as a racer. Next season, he will move up to the Cadet class of grasstrack racing.