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ead. Photo: Oswin

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### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Mitsubishi will revert** to its normal livery for the Telstra Rally Australia, but outside sponsorship returns for the Hong Kong-Beijing and Thailand Asia-Pacific rounds. The October dash through China will see Nikon backing Kenneth Eriksson, Ari Vatanen and Kenjiro Shinozuka, while for Thailand in December the cars will carry support from the Singha brewery.

**Jarmo Kytölehto is hoping** to arrange for Tim Ashton to retain the use of the Vauxhall Astra GSi for the Network Q RAC Rally, even though it will no longer have official Vauxhall support. The car should be sold after the Manx, but the Finn wants to end the year as he had planned with the World Championship finale in Chester.

**Per Svan could be contesting** the British Rally Championship next season, the Swede a possible purchaser of the Vauxhall Corsa that David Llewellyn has been driving recently.

**Mika Korhonen's Group N win** in Finland was enough for him to clinch the Finnish Group N title. Sebastian Lindholm is already overall champion despite retiring with a blown head gasket on the second stage, and Harri Rovanpera is confirmed as Formula 2 champion despite also retiring from the 1000 Lakes Rally, which was the penultimate round of the championship.

**Trevor Godwin finished 41st** of the 43 finishers on the 1000 Lakes Rally, but the British driver was one of the stars of the event. He and David Wyer had to take three goes at a deeply rutted hill in the Himos spectator stage, but got the biggest cheer of the day when their Mini finally completed the one-mile test in 9m31s. They were the only British privateers to finish the Finnish event, Adam Kent being forced to retire from a massive class lead when his Peugeot 106 hit a rock with such force as to smash the sump.

**Leonidas Kirkos** beat Acropolis winner Aris Vovos to win last weekend's Rallye ELPA in Greece by almost four minutes. Marc Timmers was third ahead of Stratissino's F2 winning Nissan.

**Three British crews** – Nigel Arnfield, Martin Stockdale and Simon Chapman – have entered this year's Rothmans Cyprus Rally, but overseas support for the last Coefficient 20 Euro round has been dismal, with only six visitors reported for the September 21-24 event.

**Liam O'Callaghan** has decided to miss the Manx Rally in favour of the Tour of Flanders Belgian championship event.

**Carl Merrill is now the only driver** with a chance of catching Paul Choiniere for America's SCCA/Michelin PRO Rally title. Merrill won the Ojibwe Forest event at the weekend, while Choiniere trailed in 13th after stalling on stage four.