

LOCAL RIDERS WELL UP

FOUR members of the Hastings and St Leonards Cycling Club competed in the first road race of the season in the South East on Saturday.

Covering a hilly circuit based on Frant, the riders were lucky to find fine, though cold, conditions for the 27 miles. In the sprint finish Hastings riders John Willis, Richard Bateman and Russell Walsh filled ninth, 10th and 11th places, with Alan Brooks some 2min down after being baulked by a crash on the first lap.

While these four members have already begun their racing for 1984, others continue with their preparations. At least seven seem likely to ride the East Sussex Cycling Association Hardriders 16-mile event at Hellingly on March 4, two will ride the Eastbourne-London road race on the same day and others have plans for team time trials in the early part of the season.

Preparations are also continuing for the club's representative trip to Schwerte at Easter, when the five-man team will contest three races against teams from Schwerte and other Ger-

man towns, together with teams from five other European countries.