

Tadros breaks own Ninfield course record

PETE Tadros broke his own course record in a Hastings & St Leonards Cycling Club evening event on the Ninfield circuit.

In Gear rider Tadros clocked 29.49 in excellent conditions on Wednesday, last week, to eclipse the mark he set last year - when a top French rider over in the UK doing some training with PB Science also rode - by one second.

Nic Baldo had broken Eastbourne Rovers' course record, over a slightly longer course with a different start, on the same roads that same week and was a little surprised to be beaten by 19 seconds.

But Tadros acknowledges that he has been riding that course for more than a decade, and knows every inch of it and exactly how to ride it. Last week Baldo won the Irish national stage road race, a measure of how good he is.

The Hastings event was won by Ivan Johnson (34:15) with Malcolm Daly (35:15), Jon Molton (36:16), Simon Newell (36:36) and Joe Jenner (37:47) making up the top five.

Fifteen-year-old Joe Kingsman has only just got a road bike, unusually starting with one set up for time trials, and was not familiar with the course yet produced a superb time of 43.36 which he will improve on very rapidly on the evidence of his first competitive ride.

Wednesday's (June 13) evening time trial is a later meet with signing on at 7pm opposite the Hastings Academy (formerly Hillcrest School) for first rider off at 7.30pm in the first of three classic Hastings-Rye-Hastings 18-mile trials. Any cars should be parked off the main road in Old Winchelsea Road.

Four Hastings & St Leonards Cycling Club members, meanwhile, rode the Veteran Time Trial Association's (VTTA) 10-mile time trial event at East Hoathly on Saturday.

John-Paul Brophy (non-vet) achieved a superb 22.06 on this undulating course in far from perfect conditions on an unusually cold morning for June.

Simon Newell also rode extremely well and only just missed out on a gold standard 25mph ride by a few seconds, recording 24.02. On a faster course, he would undoubtedly have gone under 24 minutes.

Tim Carpenter, who is also the association's recorder, achieved his fastest time of the season with an excellent 24.43 and his father Maurice managed a fine 33.06 on a tricycle.

Carpenter's mother, Esther, previously a top local rider who works tirelessly as the association's Surrey/Sussex district secretary, was out on marshaling duties. Tim Miles was the other member riding and recorded 27.45.

As this was primarily a veterans' event for riders aged 40 and above, performances were also measured against a national standard time based on age which Carpenter (50), Newell (50) and Miles (65) all managed to get under.

New less generous standards have been introduced this year, making them much harder to achieve. Many of the club members who would normally have been riding were away in France on a touring trip, but will be back in time for the next Wednesday evening club event.