

Belper Bicycle Club

Strong winds and heavy showers conspired to make cycle racing difficult for Belper BC/Thorntons riders at the weekend.

In the Woodbank Trophy Road Race near Buxton, a circuit taking in Axe Edge and Hitter Hill had to be completed three times in the 48 mile event.

A process of attrition on the tough mountainous course reduced the field from 60 starters to about 20 riders by the last lap.

On the final climb of Hitter Hill, the race smashed to pieces and powerful climbing from Belper BC's Colin Witty, revelling in the hills, took him to seventh place at the finish with riders

coming home in dribs and drabs for minutes afterwards.

On the same course, covered four times for 66 miles, the National Junior Road Race Championship started immediately after the Woodbank Trophy race.

Belper BC's Darren Perry and Michael Curtis rode but found the going tough with heavy showers and a 100 rider field.

The latter proving dangerous on the fast descent from the top of Axe Edge.

Elsewhere, Derrick Woodings and Ron Legg were flying the Belper BC flag in the veterans National Road Race Championship on Humberside.

Saturday saw the conclusion of the two week long Milk Race with the British Banana Falcon team in dominant form.

For the second year running they took the overall honours with Chris Walker from Sheffield in the coveted yellow jersey.

Walker also took the points and combine competitions.

To further underline the banana's domination, they also took the team prize.

Chesterfield professional Mark Walsham won his third Milk Race stage this year, having won two of Belper BC's Hilly Time Trials earlier in the season.