

Tornado RCC Open 10 mile Time Trial P337 **Sunday 25th March 2018 for Road & TT Bikes** **A South DC Sporting Time Trial Series and Spring Cup Event**

EVENT REPORT & MEDAL WINNERS

Event Organiser : Adrian Watkins
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Timekeepers : Mr David Crocker, Sotonia CC,
Mr Alan Sharpen, Sotonia CC

A welcome break from the recent wintery conditions enabled this, the 3rd open time trial for the promoting club to run in more favourable conditions. That said, it was 'heavy' morning, with damp conditions under tyre. One hours lost sleep and a weekend double of racing for many of the field did not hinder some very solid performances.

In the road bike event, Dave Dent (GS Stella) took the win on the challenging P337 course out near Holmsley in the New Forest. The 54 year old veteran rider recorded an impressive 24:32 earning himself not only top spot, but fastest veteran as well. Having rode this course back in October last year on a TT bike, his time was only 6 seconds slower on the road bike today!

2nd place went to 19 year old George Creasey (Bournemouth Cycleworks-UK Biking-Trek) with 26:25. Just 3 seconds behind came Richard Porter (CC Weymouth) completing the road bike event podium with 26:28.

In the Ladies competition, Elizabeth Pressage (University of Bath CC) took the honours with 27:27. Second and third place awards were unclaimed as Elizabeth was the only ladies rider in the road bike event. Her time was good enough for 5th overall, an excellent performance.

Congratulations to 16 year old Ben Butterworth (Poole Wheelers) who claimed 1st Junior with 31:37. At the other end of the age scale, 2nd fastest veteran award went to Richard Porter (CC Weymouth) with 3rd spot going to Jerry Bromyard (...a3crg).

After a 2 minute gap, it was the turn of the TT bike riders to set off on the 2 laps of the course. It turned out to be a very close battle for top honours. Brendan Reese (Army Cycling Union) who has just entered the veteran ranks at 40, stopped the clock at 24:12 for a sound first place. 2nd overall went to 54 year old Neil Mackley (Fareham Wheelers CC) with an excellent 24:32. Incredibly, just one tick of the second hand separated the times of second, third, fourth and fifth places with Bryce Dyer (Velo Club St Raphael) just pipping team mate James Horton for third place with 24:33.

Kirsty McSeveney (Fareham Wheelers CC) was the fastest lady on the day with 27:01, a very good time for an early season attack of the P337. 16 year old Lucy Gadd (Liv CC Halo Cycles) earned a fantastic second place in the ladies competition and fastest junior with 27:47. Michelle Walter (Bournemouth Arrow CC) did not suffer the same bad luck with a puncture as per the last event done on this course, coming home in 29:17 for third fastest lady.

Rounding off the Time Trial bike event with the fastest veteran awards, 1st went to Neil Mackley (Fareham Wheelers CC), 2nd place went to the overall winner Brendan Reese (Army Cycling Union) and 3rd to Bryce Dyer (Velo Club St Raphael).

No open event can be staged without a team of helpers and officials who give up their time (and the chance of a lay in) to make sure things run as smoothly as possible, so a big shout out and massive thanks to all the crew today : Alan Sharpen (Start Timekeeper), Richard Walter (Pusher off), Matthew Downer (Start Marshal), David Crocker (Finish Timekeeper), Emma Wyeth (Results and signing on/off), and all our marvellous marshals : Martin Howes, Ian Turner, Mat Jessopp, John Brian, Zak Snell and Chris Case. Thank you Marjorie and Lee for the fabulous job you did with the refreshments. Thanks also to Richard Wyeth for the 'IT' skills with the results, and help at the HQ before and after the event.

Event photography was done by Ben Stewart and all the super action shots will be put on the Tornado Community Facebook page so do have a look. If you use any, please do acknowledge Ben.

For those contesting the Sporting Time Trial series and the Spring Cup, a very healthy points haul was on offer today, so do check the latest standings.

Thanks also to Darren and Rob from Estrella Bikes who kindly displayed some new bikes, and to Martin Howes from Sunday Club Clothing for supporting the event and issuing the awards at the end. Thank you to all the riders who stayed on afterwards for some well earned refreshments and to applaud the winners.

The Tornado road Cycling Club hope you enjoyed this event and would love to see you all back again for our next Open Time Trial on Sunday September 30th.