

Reports Week Ending 27th June 2010

A big well done to Dave Larkin, Kev Sykes & Javi for getting their Cat 3 licenses, there quite a few wins/excellent results for TVS in the reports below – lets keep it going!!

Kitsmead Lane & Dunsfold - 3rd & 11th June by Dave Larkin

A couple of results this week and finally got cat 3 "Hooray" .The first was on 3rd June at Kitsmead Lane in a handicap road race, finished 3rd after puncturing on lap 5 and managed to rejoin a lap down in the same position (after replacing the tube) and then 3 of us managed to break away on lap 8 and stay in front to the finish. The 2nd was on 11th June at Dunsfold circuit finished where I finished 3rd again in the Cat 4 30 mile race.

Link to Full Result 3rd June:

<http://www.surreyleague.co.uk/results/results2010/jun2010/jun3.htm>

Link to Full Result 11th June:

<http://www.surreyleague.co.uk/results/results2010/jun2010/jun11.htm>

Team Axiom Weekender – 12th & 13th June by Chris Long

On the Saturday afternoon I raced in the 10 mile TT on the P881, conditions were warm but fairly windy and ended up with 5th place in 21:10 with Steve Walking winning in 20:10, this was my best Open placing of the season so far so pleased with that and starting to feel a lot stronger again.

On the Sunday morning it was the 25mile TT on the P885/25, this was the first time I had raced on this version of the course so was a little unsure how to approach it! The first few miles were pretty much down hill and I was doing over 40mph at one point, then a small climb and then onto the A3, the wind was slight and I felt pretty good so pushed hard on the hills and recovered on the downhill sections and as I approached the 23 mile point I had plenty left in the tank so dug in as hard as I could for the last few miles to finish in 53:26 a PB for a 25 for me and good enough for 9th place – the winning time was 49:58 so lots of work to do still!! A decent weekend and definitely a well run event by Team Axiom and well worth entering next year for anyone that fancies some TT'ing.

Link to Full Result:

http://www.team-axiom.co.uk/rs%20open_we.html

Charlotteville 7th Evening 10 - 16th June

A few TVS'ers riding here & well done to Chris Sharrock for an excellent 1st place on his road bike!!

Link to Full Result:

http://www.charlottevilleecc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=680:7th-evening-10-16-june&catid=77:2010-results&Itemid=66

Bognor Open 10 - P901/10 – 17th June by Chris Long

This was the first time I had raced on the 10 version of this course but having done a few 25's on here I was fairly confident of how I needed to ride this one, the strong wind messed up my pacing plans and basically rode pretty hard to the turn with the wind helping and then with the wind against on the way back just pushed as hard as I could – it obviously worked as I ended up with 1st place in 20:58 & £40 winnings that my wife will claim as compensation for all the training time I have been doing!!

Link to Full Result:

<http://www.bognorregiscyclingclub.org/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/brcc10open17june10prelimresultsheet.doc>

Dunsfold park series #2 Cat 4 race – June 18th by Adam Herridge

A 7pm start for this event, so no need to get up at the crack of dawn for a change! Chris and I arrived early with plenty of time to sign on and warm up. Javi was also one of the first to arrive so we knew we'd have a decent TVS presence.

Chris and I were after a podium place, but Javi had cycled every day that week and said he'd take it easy at the back and see how things went. It was a small pack that day, with only 19 riders; this was probably due to the forecasted downpour and England game playing that evening.

We rolled up to the start feeling strong and race ready. Off we went! Well...just about; the pace was painfully slow. We sat in the middle of the pack for the first 4 or 5 laps with nothing much happening other than the expected rain making a presence. The conditions were so poor and the track surface so bad in places that it was only a matter of time before someone got a puncture. Unfortunately, that someone was Chris!

The pace was really slow now, nobody was doing any work (including myself) so I decided to take a turn. I lead the group for a lap and increased the pace, then let a couple of guys from Dulwich Paragon CC come through. They looked at each other and then gave the pack a spurt of acceleration. After a minute I came back through and said "let's keep it up" to them and with the help of a guy on a fully pimped S-works we kept the pace higher for a couple of laps.

A few more guys did some work on the front and on about lap 7 or 8, Javi appeared next to me and had decided that even after a week's training, being at the back was too easy for him. He took some decent turns and with the last lap looming there were lots of riders attempting breaks and plenty of accelerations going on. With the last corner approaching I was 3 from the front, but all of a sudden the entire group decided they wanted in on the action and came round on the right which ended up boxing me in! Luckily however, on the final stretch to the finish, everyone did exactly what I expected them to; put the hammer down with 400 yards to go! I let a few go on, expecting them to run out of steam, and was behind Javi. I held on and with 100 yards to the finish gave it my all! I quickly accelerated up and made some ground taking third place overall, with Javi following quickly in fifth.

A good result for TVS with two in the top five, and only a top ten place needed from me to get Cat 3!

Link to Full Result:

<http://www.surreyleague.co.uk/results/results2010/jun2010/jun18.htm>

Farnborough & Camberley Open 10 – H10/8 19th June by Chris Long

Another windy day and legs a bit sore from the Bognor event meant I had to be a little bit sensible with my efforts, managed a 21:15 for 3rd place which was ok and in the prize money again

Farnham RC Open 25 – H25/8 – 20th June by Chris Long

An early start on Fathers Day for this one, the wind was up again and my legs were feeling the effects of the previous few races so was not looking forward to the 25 miles ahead and knew this was going to be hard effort for me. My pace was definitely off the previous few races but managed a 55:50 for 3rd place which completed a decent weeks racing for me

Link to Full Result:

http://cyclingtimetrials.org.uk/Default.aspx?gv484_gvac=2&gv484_gvff0=55233&gv484_gvf10=0&language=en-GB&tabid=109

Charlotteville 8th Evening 10 - 23rd June

A few TVS'ers riding here & well done to Tony Wybrott for getting 1st place

Link to Full Result:

http://www.charlottevillecc.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=688:8th-evening-10-23-june&catid=77:2010-results&Itemid=66

Dunsfold Park Series #3 - RT316 - 4ths - 30 miles – June 25th by Kevin Sykes

A week ago I went through my Monday morning ritual of getting on the scales to check I am still under the maximum weight restriction to ride my carbon fibre bike, I was alarmed to see that something needed to be done if I was to prevent the risk of the frame breaking beneath me.

Having not trained as much as I would have liked through injury, and also work pressures stopping me from getting back in time to race, I was adamant that this week, I was going to leave early enough to make it to Dunsfold Park's Friday evening race. With heavy traffic I was almost resigned to not making it, but fortunately got there with a couple of minutes left to find the start, sign on and say hello to Javier.

10 laps of 3 miles, and very soon we were off. I tucked in near the back to suss out the course. It was pretty flat and had lots of width so far less chance of crashes than my last few races at Hillingdon in the winter. It seemed that the wind was against us no matter what the direction. I was quite tired from getting in the miles in the week so generally was happy to wheel suck at the back of the group and see how things unfolded. In about lap 4, a small break went with about 7 riders. I knew that this had a small chance of getting away so accelerated hard to join. However, the rest of the group did and we came back together. Pace was quite high and I did at one point consider abandoning. However, at about lap 6 things eased off a bit and I stuck with it. A lone rider then accelerated away and made about 400 yards on the group. No one including me was willing to expend the effort to join and after $\frac{3}{4}$ of a lap we were all back together. A couple more fluctuations in pace and suddenly we were on the last lap. Everyone slowed down to be fresh for the final push. We got to the finishing straight and I was still near the back of the group. The pace went up and I knew the time had come to put in a big effort. I wound up the cadence on a biggish gear and on the wide finishing straight at Dunsfold, a path way to the front seemed to open up. Through gritted teeth and Max effort I was really pleased to see the riders go behind me. I knew I still had enough to keep pushing the gear to the finish so kept the effort on to cross the line first by a decisive margin I am told. No celebrations because I would have probably wobbled & fell off. As we cruised down to a sensible speed, I found Javier who had also placed well in the sprint and had come in forth.

I was very happy with the win. The only disappointment was that I am no longer eligible to ride this very nice, well organised evening event on a fabulous circuit. If you have been thinking about trying racing, this is a great place to start.

Link to Full Result:

<http://www.surreyleague.co.uk/results/results2010/jun2010/jun25.htm>

Dunstable Park Series #2&3 - 4ths - 30 miles – June 18th & 25th by Javier Nunez

Enjoyed both the 25th and the 18th races at Dunstable Park. Dunstable series are a good opportunity to enjoy racing for beginners. My past experience in a handicap race was a bit stressful, having spent most of my energy keeping safe from crashing rather than the race itself. Dunstable track is almost flat, very wide, smooth surface, open curves and close to the traffic.

Both races were very similar, 10 laps (30 miles), with a group of riders very homogeneous (all cat 4). Consequently both races finish in a sprint (I tried in a couple of occasions to go away from the group but didn't find good company to make a serious try). After the last curve, there is a long straight line of about 500 metres. Long enough to blow out if you start sprinting too early. In both races I tried to take the last curve in the outside line and within the 5 first places. About 300 metres to the end, I found myself in the front of the pack. Then a couple of riders jumped. For me it was impossible to sprint harder at that point to follow their wheels. I kept my speed high without really sprinting to the end. In both races I had one of our TVS team mates on my wheel. In both cases they jumped off my wheel very strong. Impossible for me to keep their wheel. Adam got the third position (the 18th) and Kevin the first one (the 25th). Myself I did 5th and 4th respectively. It was good fun.

VC Bristol Open 10 - U47 27th June by Chris Long

An early start for my 8:35 start time, I was running late and luckily the start had been put back by 15 minutes so I was able to do my normal warm up and warm it was!!

The temperature was already rising and by the time I started at 8:50 it was pretty hot and only a light breeze so good conditions, I wasn't feeling too optimistic though as it had been a rush getting there and the warm up had felt fairly hard work compared to previous races

I started pretty hard and settled into a decent rhythm reaching the turn in less than 10 minutes so was thinking I could get close to 20 minutes, the 2 roundabouts negotiated successfully and back onto the dual carriageway with 4.8 miles to go and the clock around 10 minutes 20 seconds

The dual carriageway rises mainly going back and the breeze was slightly against so I just pushed as hard as I could and with ½ a mile to go I was around 18 minutes 45 seconds, if I could keep the pace at around 30 miles an hour I would do it but I was already on my limit and couldn't keep it at 30 miles an hour!!

As the clock ticked past the 20 minute mark I was out of the saddle fighting the bike and crossed the line for a 20:17 and ?? place – another PB and getting closer to that 20 minute mark!