



● Winning line-up: Back row (left to right): Derek Addrison (first male veteran), Laura Elliott (first local female and female junior), Alban Scully (organiser), Richard Puxty (first male overall), Glenn Cooke (European champion who presented the trophies). Front row: Sian Pilling (second female), Anne Addrison (first female veteran), Sarah Anning (third female), Mark Horne (organiser), Matt Davis (second male), Glynn Todd (third male and previous winner). Not in picture: Katy Oxborrow (first female) and Francois Dumontier (first junior male)

Puxty leads the way

THE best so far. That was the verdict on the eighth annual Sevenoaks Triathlon.

The event, organised by the Sevenoaks Tri-7 Triathlon Club, attracted 300 entrants from all over the country.

Such was the demand for places that the organisers had to turn away applications from another 100 triathletes wanting to take part.

The competitors had to complete three stamina-sapping disciplines – a 400 metre swim at Sevenoaks Swimming Centre, a 19.5 mile bicycle ride and five mile run around Knole Park.

Among those taking part were European champion Glenn Cooke, who had kindly agreed to present the prizes.

He took part just for fun and finished first in a new record time of 1:24:38 knocking some five minutes of the previous best performance.

Winner of the men's competition was Richard Puxty, a member of the White Oak Triathlon Club, Swanley, in a time of 1:30:07.

Runner-up in the main event was Matt Davis (Total Fitness) in 1:30:22 with Glynn Todd (Metropolitan Police) third in 1:31:03.

The women's event was won by Katy Oxborrow (Coasters) who was 34th overall in 1:42:36, second was Sian Pilling (Greenwich Tritons) 1:43:28 with Sara Anning (Total Fitness) third in 1:45:04.

Husband and wife team Derek and Anne Addrison of the 1066 Tri Club were the first male and female veterans finishing

SEVENOAKS TRIATHLON

in 1:31:33 and 1:53:46.

The first local male was Shane Hand, from Sevenoaks, a member of the White Oak Triathlon Club, who was 14th overall in 1:37:05.

He narrowly beat Simon Elliott, a new member of the Sevenoaks Tri-7 Triathlon Club, who finished a very creditable 17th overall in 1:38:02.

There were also a good performance from Sevenoaks Swimming Club's Dave Hibbins (1:47:50) who was 57th.

The first local female and junior was Laura Elliott (1:57:15) who was 128th overall. Francois Dumontier (1:52:58) was the first male junior finishing 134th.

The men's team prize was won by White Oak Triathlon Club with the 1066 Tri Club taking the

women's title.

For the first time a blind competitor, Paul Hatfield from Hastings, took part. He and his partner Jill Leader were 230th overall in 2:50:29.

Event organiser, Alban Scully, said: "It was better than ever. Everything went as smooth as clockwork."

The event of next year's triathlon has been fixed for September 17.

Times of other local runners were as follows: David Jones (White Oak TC) 1:40:37, Peter Long (Tri-7) 1:50:19, John Setford (White Oak TC) 1:51:45, Paul Abnett (White Oak TC) 1:54:41, Michael Andrew (White Oak TC) 1:54:58, Stephen Dunn (Sevenoaks Swimming Club) 1:58:34, David Simpson (Sevenoaks Athletics Club) 2:04:10, Robert Halstead (Swanley and District) 2:06:06, Jane Frogley (White Oak TC) 2:07:36, Jeremy Bayliss (Westerham RFC) 2:11:07, Anthony Swinney (Westerham RFC) 2:22:35, Chris Bray (White Oak TC) 2:15:32, Andrew Clark (Westerham RFC) 2:18:44, Edward Oatley (Sevenoaks Prep School) 2:25:57, Grahame Bunn (Westerham) 2:27:05.

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