



Don Lock (right), Tony Hill, John Mansell and Chris Woodcock before the off in the National 24-hour championship.

DON RIDES 426 MILES TO A CLUB RECORD

DON LOCK, 35, achieved his ambition in the National 24-hour time trial championship to beat the Worthing Excelsior club record of 426 miles.

Although official results are not available for a couple of days, Don unofficially clocked up 429 miles as he wended his way, along with the 70 other riders, through Sussex, Hampshire, Surrey and back to Sussex to finish at Effingham.

Don was in fine form over the first 12 hours, covering 235 miles, which is only eight miles below his best for a 12-hour race. But during the early hours of Sunday morning he hit a bad patch and it was not until he reached the final circuit at Effingham that he really regained his early drive.

Four Worthing Excelsior riders started at midday on Saturday but only two completed the course, which proved a real killer in very hot conditions on Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday morning.

TRAINING

John Mansell hit a bad spot early on and only survived to the 120-mile mark, while Tony Hill, the reigning club champion and record-holder, who was not able to put in as many miles in training as he would have liked, survived until the 280-mile mark.

But Chris Woodcock, the least experienced of the four riders, gamely fought his way through to complete 390 miles, a splendid performance for a rider who has not previously raced longer than 70 miles.

Robin Johnson, the sole Brighton Mitre rider, rode well after having stomach trouble during the night to top the 400-mile mark by a few miles.

Competing in high-class Redman Trophy 90-mile road race, Central Sussex rider Don Awcock recorded what is probably the outstanding ride of his career.

This 23-year-old carpenter, who was unlucky last week when his chain jammed in the Old Kent Road race two miles from home when assured of a place, stayed with the leading bunch on Sunday over a tough Lingfield circuit.

The final sprint to the finish saw Don fighting it out neck-and-neck with John Marshall from Hounslow and though the official result will give the race to Marshall by half a wheel there was no more than a tyre's width in it.