

LIDBURY IS TOPS DESPITE CRASH

OXFORD'S Emma-Kate Lidbury shrugged off a bike crash to win Ironman 70.3 Mallorca for a second year running.

Lidbury skidded and fell as she entered transition two between the bike and run stages, but after some brief first aid continued and won the race.

The 32-year-old former *Oxford Mail* reporter, who lives in Risinghurst, led after completing the 1.2-mile swim in 27mins 10secs.

A strong finish to the 56-mile bike section saw her clock 2hrs 37mins 3secs - and she held on for four victory by four minutes after with a 1.28.01 split for the 13.1-mile run.

"It was a bit of a painful experience," said Lidbury of her fall.

"I managed to carry on, although at one point I wasn't sure I would be able. As the defending champion, there was a lot more pressure and expectation on me.

"I was really pleased to win, although I am not sure when I will be back in full training."

Lidbury had three stitches in her left knee in Majorca and was then checked out at the Manor Surgery, Headington

and the John Radcliffe Hospital this week.

She said: "The race pretty much all went to plan until I came skidding off my bike into the transition.

"There was one girl who caught up to me on the bike, but I knew I could forge ahead on the big climb.

"I think I had about a five-minute lead by the end.

"I am still not completely sure what happened with the crash.

"On minute I was up riding, the next I was skidding all over the place.

"But adrenalin is quite a dangerous drug and I was able to carry on and defend my title."

This was Lidbury's second victory of 2012, having won Challenge Fuerteventura last month.

She lies third in the world rankings for 2011-12.

"It has been a great start to the year," said Lidbury.

"Some of the girls I was racing against in Mallorca I didn't expect to beat by that much.

"My next race is due to be Ironman 70.3 Switzerland in three weeks' time, depending on how the rehab goes."



BATTERED, BRUISED BUT VICTORIOUS: Emma-Kate Lidbury, complete with plaster and poorly knee, celebrates her victory in Mallorca Picture: Ian Osborne

Witney's trophy triumph

WITNEY retained the Gareth Jeans Trophy for the second year in a row in the A League gala at Dunstable.

Amy Louise Harris took the swimmer-of-the-match award for her storming win in the 14 years 50m freestyle in a personal best.

Nathan Harkin and Matt Floyd were voted runners-up.

OTHER RESULTS
Winners: A L Harris, E Pitson, Y Speare, M Good, I Pitson, C Naus, E Nutt, N Harkin.
Personal bests: L Leese, A L Harris, S Tanner, M Good, C Naus, K Johnson, D Watkins, A Anderson, E Doughty, E Thessieu, M Floyd.

● **ABINGDON** Vale's Dan Wilmot picked up three silver medals in the Wycombe and District meet at Handy Cross.

Wilmot finished second in the 50m breaststroke, 50m backstroke and 100m backstroke.

Club long-course records were set by aged ten and under swimmers Georgina Bibby in the 50m breaststroke (49.34), Zoe Lovibond in the 50m backstroke (41.12) and Wilmot in the 50m breaststroke (47.57).

ABINGDON'S OTHER MEDALISTS
Silver: F Beckers 100m backstroke; G Bibby: 50m breaststroke; N Curtis: 50m breaststroke; Z Lovibond: 50m freestyle.
Bronze: T Arnot: 50m backstroke; G Bibby: 100m freestyle; N Curtis: 100m backstroke, 50m freestyle, 50m butterfly; M Jackson: 100m freestyle; J Kan: 100m freestyle; Z Lovibond: 50m backstroke, 100m backstroke; J Rennie: 100m breaststroke; Y Tajalli: 50m freestyle; D Wilmot: 100m backstroke.

BILLIARDS

Richardson is champion

LEE Richardson is the Oxford Times Cup champion.

Richardson beat Adam Brown 500-315 to land the Gentworks-sponsored Oxford & District League event.

ANGLING Send your news to sportsdesk@oxfordmail.co.uk or call 01865 425452 (Mondays 10am-6pm)

Matt finish at Bishops Lechlade 19lb rainbow

THERE was a good turn-out of 18 for Predator's latest **Spring League** match fished at Bishings Bowl Marshes, near Leamington.

Matt Ryman (Predator) led them home with 45.6.0, a real mixed bag of tench, bream, roach, carp and small barbel on pole long and short with pellet and paste.

Tony Wright (Predator) caught a similar bag on pole long and midwater on corn and paste for 29.12.0, followed by David Phillips (Predator) with 27.8.0 using the same tactics, but with mainly pellet on the hook.

Gerald Foley finished only sixth overall, but deserves credit for catching more than 400 fish for his 21.2.0.

Oakfield Fishery's Saturday match on Brook and Swallow Lakes attracted 33 anglers and produced a cracking finish.

Just one decent carp separated the top five places as Mike Smith squeezed home with a net of mainly carp to 9lb from the margins on peg 14 on Swallow.

Meat and pellet were the successful baits.

Result: 1 M Smith (GOT Baits) 73.12.0, 2 N Bryan (The Matchmen) 72.7.0, 3 M Worrall (Acorn Angling) 70.0.0.

OTHER RESULTS
Oakfield: (Monday, Kingfisher Lake, 14 fished) 1 S Wroe (Dynamite Oakfield) 31.11.0, 2 G Keetley (J&K Tackle) 23.11.8, 3 M Page (Dynamite Oakfield) 20.7.8.
Oakfield: (Wednesday, Brook & Swallow, 17 fished) 1 L Ripper (GOT Baits) 97.12.0, 2 J Rogers (Frenzee GOT Baits) 84.6.8, 3 N Bryan (The Matchmen) 76.1.8.
Panshill: (Sunday, Wood Lake, 19 fished) 1

R Guppy (Acorn/Panshill) 95.2.0, 2 B Eddy (Panshill) 46.8.0, 3 R Young (Frenzee) 45.14.0.

TOMORROW'S FIXTURES
North Oxford: Club match, Oxford Canal, Frenchay Road. Draw 8am.
Carp League 2012: Tunnel Farm Barn.
Masons AC: Club match, Slinket Lane, Aynho. Draw 8am.

● **MARSTON AC** are staging a working party on their stretch of the Cherwell on Sunday, May 27 at 10am to clear swims for the new season.

Any help from members would be appreciated. More details on 07789 890256.

Marston's 2012-2013 permits are out now and cost £10 for seniors and £5 for OAPs and juniors. They include full ODAA membership and are available from local tackle shops and Pads and Paws pet shop in Marston.

LECHLADE Trout Fishery produced some monsters last month.

On Lechlade Lake, 236 anglers caught 683 fish, including 194 doubles, topped by a magnificent rainbow of 19.5.0.

Donna Varley also had a fish of 15.7.0, while the biggest brown went 11.8.0.

On Bushleaze, 342 anglers caught 1,091 fish averaging just under three and a half pounds.

There were 308 fish over 6lb, the largest going 7.8.0.

The best flies were dry olives and sedges, along with sunken daddies and buzzers.

● **WHEATLEY Flyfishers and Flytys Club** are on the look-

out for new members.

They meet at least every two weeks to fly-fish lakes and reservoirs and everyone chooses the dates and venues that suits them.

They also get together at the Cross Keys in Thame for flytysing.

Anglers of all abilities are welcome, from beginners to experts.

The subscription for the year is £20 and discounts at certain venues are available to members.

Anyone wishing to learn more about fly fishing and fly tying can contact secretary Roger Tomlin on 01865-438864.

● **PLACES** are still open on a series of free courses to

introduce people to fly fishing being run by members of the Farming Fly Fishing Club.

The sessions, which start at 6.30pm for 7pm, are being run at the club's Darlow Water, at Hardwick, on Wednesday evenings, May 23 and 30, and on June 6 and 13.

Organiser Ken Day said: "The sessions are suitable for beginners and also for those who want to improve their technique.

"If people have their own tackle they are welcome to bring that along, but we have plenty of tackle for people to use if they do not have their own."

Anyone interested should contact Ken on 07713 767 887.