

Newsletter



Duty roster

19 December, Dunlop Road

John Thomson (R), Mark Granland (TC), Dayle Goodall (TC), Neil Cartledge (TC), Max Michelson, Kym Petersen, Darren Smith, Ben Muller, Neville Williamson, Greg Harvey, Ron Chapman, Ian Jones, Gerard Donnelly, Bernie Evans, Andrew Mapstone

26 December, no racing

If rostered for duty, you must be at there at least 1 hour prior to start time. It's your responsibility to find a replacement if unable to do your duty, then advise Andrew Buchanan, tjtop2@optusnet.com.au

Editor: Nick Tapp
nick.tapp@detail-ed.com.au



Saturday's racing at METEC was marred by a crash in E grade that saw three riders – John Marx, Zen Gawronski and Rob Devolle – fall. All three were removed by ambulance with broken bones and other injuries. Our thoughts are with the three injured riders and we wish them a speedy and complete recovery. The A, C and E-grade races that were running at the time were abandoned, with no result recorded. Jim Swainston's report from the E-grade race is inside. At the post-race presentation (for B, D and F grades), Juanita Stumbles, who narrowly missed being involved in the crash as well, stressed to all the vital importance of keeping your eye firmly on where you are going.

Note that there will be no racing on Boxing Day, Saturday 26 December. Saturday racing will resume at Casey Fields on Saturday 2 January 2016. Holiday timetables for Tuesday and Wednesday racing are inside.

In her role as Club Treasurer, Juanita reports that the club collected \$1,170 at Dunlop Road on 28 November and \$168 at the Loop on 2 December, making a total of \$1,338. It has been proposed that this be rounded up to \$1,500 to be donated to White Ribbon, Australia's only national, male-led campaign to end men's violence against women.

An error

In last week's newsletter, the caption to the photograph of F grade at the Christmas Handicap stated that Clive Wright and Brian Farrell had dropped the third rider in their group. In fact, John Eddy had dropped *them* and was leading the race at the time! Oops.



Graded scratch races, METEC, 12 December

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd
A grade (15)	No result – crash		
B grade (13)	Colin Doherty	David Pyne	Ian Smith
C grade (24)	No result – crash		
D grade (11)	Dean Niclasen	Darren Woolhouse	Adrian Dickinson
E grade (12)	No result – crash		
F grade (4)	Laurie Bohn	Clive Wright	Jenni Collins

E grade

As Saturday racing returned to METEC, no one expected the dramatic conclusion to our race. The early laps saw attacks that unloaded a couple of faithful club members. We then settled down to a solid tempo which saw some of us stretching a bit. As I commented a couple of weeks ago, I had never seen Zen Gawronski in such good form, but we were to see that this could all change in the blink of an eye. Rob Devolle continued his solid form, supported by Dr John. It was pleasing to have sufficient numbers to require splitting the grades.

Just after halfway, a man I don't know did a long hard turn and I ran out of ink! Fortunately, Tony Lateo had been dropped a little before me and we teamed up and worked to the finish. We were pleasantly surprised to find we were holding the bunch. As we came to the bell I noticed a couple of strange things happen: a rider in a red cap rode straight on at the left-hander, and first-aider Shelley ran to her car. I had a feeling something dramatic had happened and it sure had!

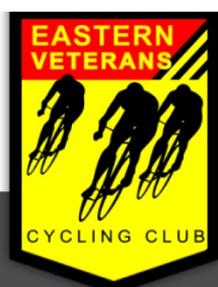
That 90 degree left-hander is no cakewalk to get around and has to be lined up correctly on the way in to come out with some margin to spare. There was a heap of pace on in the bell lap and excitement got the better of the leader, who unfortunately crashed. Rob and Zen couldn't avoid the carnage. Juanita, clever lady that she is, slipped through on the inside to safety. Was it nous or sheer luck?

Peter Ransome and Shelley were superb and really looked after the fallen as well as organising the helpers until the ambos arrived. The report is: plenty of broken bones – not what you want at this time of the year.

Years ago, I picked up a thought from the book *The Power of One*: 'First with the head, then with the heart.' Simply put, think your way through difficult situations rather than letting your emotions control your actions.

I'm sure Zen, John and Rob will have lots of support.

Jim Swainston





Tuesday night racing at METEC, 15 December

There was no Tuesday night racing at METEC this week as the track was in use for driver training.

Racing is scheduled next Tuesday 22 December. Tuesday night racing then takes a short break and will return on Tuesday 5 January 2016.

Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Kew, 16 December

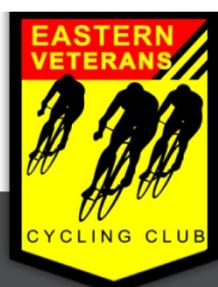
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1 (17)	Fraser Short (N)	Phil Cavaleri	Paul Cullen
Division 2 (15)	Rob De Bernardi	John Williams	Phil Taylor
Division 3 (7)	Andreas Weber	M. Collins (N)	S. Bol (N)
Division 4 (7)	John Eddy	Barry Rodgers	Frank Lees

Wednesday morning racing at Kew Loop will continue across the Christmas break, on:

- Wednesday 23 December
- Wednesday 30 December
- Wednesday 6 January.

Start time is 10.15 am as usual; register by 10.00 am.

For added interest, next Wednesday 23 December, a number of riders will be on vintage steel bikes, wearing vintage or replica kit. Join in if you want to – the more, the merrier – but don't expect any handicap relief. Keith and Steve are not easily fooled!





News etc.

Wellington to Auckland Challenge, 14–21 February 2016

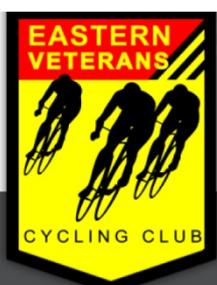
We now have four Vets booked to do the 900 km, 12-stage race from Wellington to Auckland between 14 and 21 Feb 2016:

Geoff O'Loughlen (+ partner)
Greg Foster
Dave McCormack
John Williams.

For anyone else that is interested, it is not too late to enter. Bookings are open until the end of the year, and last year I didn't book until mid-January. Cost for race entry, hotels, dinners and transportation of luggage (each day) is NZ\$1337, or around \$1280 in proper Aussie dollars, and most of us are booking flights into Wellington and back out of Auckland for around \$250 each way, including 30 kg of luggage.

Any queries, please call me on 0419 713 087, or email on john.williams@jhw.com.au.

John Williams





Future events

Eastern Vets

For other events, please refer to page 1 of this newsletter, or go to <http://easternvets.com/roster/>

Note: Graded Scratch Race entries are accepted on the day up to 15 minutes before the advertised race start time. Handicap entries close the Tuesday before the race. Riders entering a handicap MUST pay the entry fee regardless of participation. Fees are due on race day; entrants will NOT be allowed to start in any EVCC race until fees have been paid.

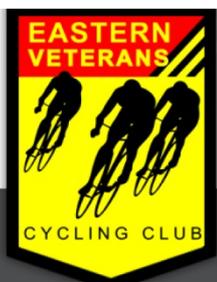
No late entries will be accepted for either scratch races or handicaps. Entries to handicaps can be submitted via e-mail to the handicapper or on any race day prior to the event.

Northern Vets

For more details go to <http://www.northerncycling.com/>

Training rides

Day/Time/Place	Route	Style	Contact
Tuesdays 9:30 am (9:00 am during DST) Main Yarra Trail (meet under Burke Road overpass)	Under Burke Road on Main Yarra Trail to Southbank via Yarra Boulevard and bike paths along the river and return	Social, bike paths and roads, coffee @ Southbank	Keithb33@optusnet.com.au
Sunday mornings Beach Road Ride. Leave 8.00 am sharp. Meet at Peanut Farm Reserve, cnr Blessington & Chaucer Sts, St Kilda	Ride along Beach Rd to Frankston. 10 min stop. Then ride back to St Kilda (approx. 65 km)	Social ride, coffee back at St Kilda	
Saturday mornings (7.30 am) and Sundays/public holidays (8.00 am) Meet at Ringwood Clock towers, Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood	Maroondah Hwy to Carlton for coffee, then return	Fast social	





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