

Newsletter



Duty roster

9 April, Newham

VVCC (R), Ian Smith (TC), Ian M. Smith (TC), Adrian Dickinson (TC), Nigel Kimber (TC), Sean Wilkeson, Harry Hibgame, Brian McCann, Michael Paull, Philip Johns, Rob De Bernardi, Geoff Darroch, Colin Doherty, Tom Leaper

16 April, METEC

John Thomson (R), Julian Paynter, Rob Amos

If rostered for duty, you must be there at least 1 hour before start time. It's your responsibility to find a replacement if unable to do your duty, then advise

*Andrew Buchanan,
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Are you heading to Newham this Saturday for the Eastern Vets VVCC Open handicap? If so, I hope you got your entry in before closing time – you won't be able to enter on the day. Remember the race starts at 1.30 pm. Don't forget your tail light – visible from 200 metres and fully charged – and please, if you can, bring a plate to contribute to the spread after the race. And best of luck!

Last week we were at Dunlop Road. Read on for race reports from A, B and E grades. There's also news from the 2016 Masters Track National Championships and the Otway 300 mountain bike race. Eastern members acquitted themselves well in both.

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Graded scratch races, Dunlop Road, 2 April

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
A grade (22)	David Holt	Russell Newnham	Peter Howard	Richard Abel	Rob Amos
B grade (20)	Tim Maffey	Bruce Will	Boyd Williams	Ross Tinkler	
C grade (23)	Greg Harvey	Dean Niclasen	Kym Petersen	Dave Worland	David McIndoe
D grade (18)	Harry Hibgame	Neville Williamson	Phil Johns	Colin Mortley	
E grade (6)	Laurie Bohn	Jeff Smith	Jim Swainston		
F grade (6)	John Eddy	Clive Wright	Rod Goodes		

A grade

A good field in A grade, over 22 starters, including a few up from B grade. A strong headwind on the finish straight looked like it could make a breakaway possible, caution was needed on the back straight as Nigel tried to control the Imelda Marcoses coming out of the shoe sale.

The race started off at a steady pace with Daniel Hulbert, Cam White and Mark Trounson among the early pace setters, with attacking riders not being given much rope. The main action was when a shoe-shopper decided to do a three-point turn in front of the bunch doing 50 km/h. A quick call had everyone on the brakes safely, with no need for discs!

An attack by Phil Cavaleri had him off the front for a couple of laps. When the bunch caught Phil, Peter Howard put in a counterattack, closely followed by Rob Amos. The two worked together until Richard Abel and Steve Ross bridged across. It nearly ended in disaster when Rob misjudged their speed as he rolled back onto Peter's wheel as Steve was coming through. A 160 kg hip and shoulder saw both riders with the wobbles for a few seconds before all four started

to work on increasing the gap.

With two BikeGearNow and two Croydon riders away, it was down to a full strength Skope Team to chase them down – which they succeeded in doing several laps later, along with super sprinter Russ Newnham, Ken Mayberry and Ray Russo. Surprisingly, nobody attacked in the break as the bell rang, Dave Holt took the win from Russ and Peter, with Richard and Rob taking the rest of the prize money.

Rob Amos

B grade

Nineteen riders turned up for racing at Dunlop Road and with a light southerly wind it promised to be a good solid ride with an upwind finish.

After the warm-up lap was completed, the first to attack was Pete Ransome, the retired paramedic, and he accelerated like he had lights and a siren on the bike. Peter was soon brought back to the pack and next to go was Mark Wallace, a serving paramedic, and he also took off like an ambulance on its way to a job. Mark took longer to bring back because I think there was a bit of collusion up the front, not wanting to chase a





mate down. The next attack was from Tim Maffey, who showed how strong he is, but the pack was in no mood to let him too far off the leash. Then Doug Renyolds took off and Bruce Will jumped with him. I thought this was looking very dangerous but with some strong coordinated riding we brought them back.

The last big attack came from Tim Maffey, and again it was Bruce who snapped straight onto his wheel. They started to work together to create a very handy gap. With about 10 minutes to go the group decided to try to bring them back, but the closest we got to them was about 100 metres. We were then riding for the lower places on the podium.

The bell lap was pretty fast, with those who thought they had a chance moving to the front positions. As we rounded the top turn I moved onto Ross Tinkler's wheel and he moved nicely through the traffic. As there was a pretty strong headwind blowing I wasn't going to poke my nose out until the last second. We were rapidly catching Boyd Williams but ran out of room. I did have a go at getting over Ross but just didn't have the pace and so that's how we finished. I didn't see the finish between Tim and Bruce but Tim won, Bruce got 2nd, Boyd 3rd and Ross 4th.

Sorry to those I didn't mention except to say that all put in a really good race with no noticeable incidents and no naughty words (I think). Thanks to all those on duty and those officials that do duty every week.

Peter Webb

E grade

When I look back to the beginning of the crit season I remember getting belted almost weekly. Rob de Volle was top banana and could attack or sprint. He was willingly backed up in the aggressive stuff by Harry Hibgame and Zen. Dr John Marx came along like a meteorite, won the Christmas handicap, but came crashing back to earth the next week. Tucked away also was Ken Allan, who unleashed himself in January by lapping us. JC, Juanita and Mark Granland played little cameos on the way to D grade.

Paula McGovern put up a great ride at Gruyere to drop all except one and proceed to D. Amazing how many people you come across in a season.

On Saturday we had our faithful five except Barry Ellem was replaced by Laurie Bohn and Ray Watts went to D. I'm sure Phil Johns was there also, as was Barry Rodgers. We were very well behaved and swapped quite long turns evenly for the duration. Nigel did a good job handling the shoe sale traffic, and C grade got the red flag 'according to Hoyle' and obeyed it!

We had to breathe in a bit when A grade went past, but felt fairly safe. Working turns was good practice for this week's Open but I reckon we might have to be up about 5 km/h faster. Barry put his nose in the wind about two to go with a strong turn, and I took over with about 500 m to go. Laurie and Jeff came past with 200 to go and I battled Ronnie for what was left!

Beauty that things have been safe for the last few weeks. It makes things a hell of a lot more enjoyable for the organisers. Thanks to the army of people who turn up to marshall Dunlop Road.

Jim Swainston





Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Kew, 30 March

Racing was washed out this week. Current standings in the Loop Aggregate are below.

Rider	Points
John Hasouras (N)	24
Doug Page	20
Dean Niclasen	20
David Drew (N)	18
Ian Clark (N)	18
Ray Russo	18
Laurie Bohn	17
Barry Rodgers	15
Neal Cartledge	14
Stephen Lane (G)	14



Aggregate leader John Hasouras and Owen Anstey under Keith Bowen's watchful eye at the Loop.

News etc.

L'Étape Australia

A number of Eastern Vets riders have participated in the now annual L'Étape du Tour cyclosporatives, which follow the course of a mountain stage of the Tour de France some days in advance of the race. The event regularly attracts huge numbers of riders, mainly from the Northern Hemisphere. This year it comes to Australia for the first time, and the route (157 km in the Snowy Mountains of New South Wales) was recently announced. For details, go to letapeaustralia.com.





Other racing

2016 Masters Track National Championships



Tom Leaper, 1st 3000 m Individual Pursuit M3,
1st 20 km Points M3

Neil Wray, 1st 500 m Time Trial M10,
2nd Men's Sprint M10



Dave Moreland, 2nd 15 km Points M6

Otway 300 Mountain Bike Race

John Pritchard and Mark Withers,
3rd Grand Masters Category. In the
Grand Masters Category, the
average age of the two riders must
be 60 years or older.



David McCormack





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Future events

Eastern Vets

See the following page for details of the VVCC Open at Newham on Saturday 9 April.

For other events, please refer to page 1 of this newsletter, or go to <http://eastervets.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
<p>Tuesdays 9:30 am (9:00 am during DST) Main Yarra Trail (meet under Burke Road overpass)</p>	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
<p>Sunday mornings Beach Road Ride. Leave 8.00 am sharp. Meet at Peanut Farm Reserve, cnr Blessington & Chaucer Sts, St Kilda</p>	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	
<p>Saturday mornings (7.30 am) and Sundays/public holidays (8.00 am) Meet at Ringwood Clock towers, Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood</p>	Maroondah Hwy to Carlton for coffee, then return	Fast social	

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