



eastern veterans cycling club

Newsletter October 6, 2001

SEPTEMBER 29 Basin Hill Climb

Thirty two keen mountain climbers and or football haters, turned out on another glorious spring day for the Bayside Cycles Basin Hill Climb. With temperatures in the mid 20's, the top part of the road recently resealed with hot mix and a wind which provided only mild resistance, conditions were perfect for some fast times. Notable rides were John Lynch (A Grade) in 15:11, only 10 seconds outside Michael Buckley's record time of last year. Peter Castillo's 16:55 in B Grade. Liz Randall's very credible 20:43 in E Grade. But the prize for the best ride must go to John Porter's 20:42 in E Grade to break the old record by 16 seconds, but to blitz his previous best by 1 min 42 sec. A sterling effort for a 73 year old. John, let us in to your secret.

In the handicap Peter Castillo's 16:55 was good enough to win from John Lynch and Liz Randall with Martin Stalder (17:50) and Greg Molesworth (18:15) equal fourth. By a quirk of the handicapping John Porter missed out on a place.

Dick Fox and Phil Thompson are the only riders to have ridden in every hill climb. The bad news for A

Graders is that Phil's time is still improving each year, cutting his first time by 1 min 5 sec. Dick has been a model of consistency, his four times are all within 8 seconds of each other. In addition to John Porter, Greg Molesworth is another big improver, taking almost 2 minutes off each year, to improve from 22:02 to 18:15 in his three attempts. Some unkind souls have suggested that after efforts like this Greg will be taking a turn on the front. Martin Stalder's three rides have all been within 12 seconds of each other and Ron Stranks is another consistent performer with three times within 6 seconds

Blackburn rode this event on September 22 and the times of their riders make interesting comparison with those from Eastern. Their stand out ride was by Murray Spinck in 14:37:19, an unbelievable average of about 28 km/hr. John Lynch would have come second to him. Peter Castillo would have come 6th in B Grade and Ian Smith and Mario Cordedda 7th and 8th in B Grade. Hans Werner, Ron Stranks and Keith Bowen, 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively in D Grade. Overall I think we compare pretty favourably. I wonder what time Armstrong, Ulrich, Pantani and co would do it in?

RESULTS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Equal 4th
Handicap	Peter Castillo	John Lynch	Liz Randall	Martin Stalder Greg Molesworth
Fastest	Phil Thompson			
A Grade	Geoff Williamson	Peter Oziemski		
B Grade	Ian Smith	Steve Weekes		
C Grade	Stephen Brown	Dick Fox		
D Grade	Hans Werner	Ron Stranks		
E Grade	John Porter	Jacqui Kennedy		

OFFICIALS

Our officials continue to do a fantastic job. Vince Di Nuzzo again took entries and started the riders, Mark Hornsby pushed the riders off, Alan Sandford, Ken Woollard and Jenny Fairbanks timed the riders at the finish. Ken Woollard and Ron Stranks cooked the BBQ and Ian Smith did a sterling job as stand in drinks man and photographer.

A special thanks goes to John and Mario Cordedda for sponsoring the event and for Mario performing a miracle on the handicaps with the first 8 place getters all being within 17 seconds of each other and for withstanding the pressure of anxious riders impatiently waiting while he worked out the results.

TODAY AT YARRA JUNCTION

Another Classic Handicap, this time at Yarra Junction. With the fine weather we are having, the hill should come in to play.

NEXT WEEK

If you haven't already put your entry in, or booked your accommodation for the *Weekend Of Racing* at Benalla, make sure you do it today. Handicap on Saturday and Graded Scratch Races on Sunday morning followed by a BBQ.

EASTERN VETS PROGRAM

Saturday October 13	2.00 pm	Benalla	Classic Handicap
Sunday October 14	10.00 am	Benalla	Graded Scratch Races
Saturday October 13	10.30 am	Camperdown	Camperdown to Warrnambool
Saturday October 20	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races with Int Sprints
Sunday October 21	Around the Bay in a Day		
Saturday October 27	2.00 pm	East Wandin	Club Road Championships

SOUTHERN VETS PROGRAM

Southern has started racing at AFL Park, 9.00 on Sunday morning and 6.00 pm Thursday evening starting in November.

NORTHERN VETS PROGRAM

Sunday October 7	9.30 am	Campbellfield	Criterionms
Sunday October 14	9.30 am	Campbellfield	Criterionms
Sunday October 21	No Racing Around the Bay in a Day		
Sunday October 28	9.30 am	Seymour	Vin Nuttall Handicap

TRAINING/CAPPUCINO RIDES

Interested in some easy training rides, including a coffee break. Then the following might be of interest.

Sunday Morning

St Kilda to Frankston and return. Starting at the corner of Beach Road and Wentworth Avenue at 8.00 am. Approximate distance 75 km. Enquiries to John Macleod 9722 1522.

Tuesday Morning

This ride is now becoming popular, with 7 or 8 riders. Yarra bike path to South Bank, Port Melbourne, or Botanic Gardens (approximate distance 70 km from Lower Plenty). Meet at various points along the bike path, 9.00 am Bonds Road Lower Plenty, 9.30 am Burke Road, other points as you wish. Enquiries to Keith Bowen 9439 8013

CLUB NEWS



Engagement: Jacquii Kennedy and Mario Cordedda.

Congratulations to Jacquii and Mario on their recent engagement, from all members of Eastern Veterans Cycling Club.

Alan Sandford doing a turn on the front? I would like to see that.

Well it happened a few weeks ago at AFL Park in D Grade. What's more there were gale force winds blowing. I am reliably informed that Alan not only went to the front and did a turn, but it was a long hard slog into the wind. It came about by a genuine ride to the front of the bunch too, not one of those where everyone slowed down to make one of those 'sit on sprinter types' go to the front. What next, perhaps we will see him compete on one of our hilly courses.

Situation Vacant

We are seeking someone to take over the summer points score from Steve Di Tullio who will be away riding the track over summer. The program runs on Excel and all that it requires is to enter the results each week. Steve can provide the 'program' and no great computer skills are required. Interested, then talk to Steve Di Tullio or Keith Bowen.

Royal Prince Alfred

It has been missing for a few weeks because of football, but it should now be back at its usual time. For non medical types RPA on Channel 9, Thursday 9.00 pm is gripping stuff. In recent weeks we have seen the ravages that skin cancers can cause to a person's face. From now on if you forget to put the 30+ on, there will be some in the Club trailer for you to use. Watch RPA next week and you will never ride without sunscreen on again.

Vodafone Arena Have you got your tickets yet? You'll be sorry you missed out

Steve Di Tullio can get season tickets (five races) at the Vodafone Arena for the 2001-02 Track season. The catch is he must have the money/form in by Friday 12 October 01. The seats are located on the lower level in the finishing straight, they are what they call the 'premium seats'. The races the tickets cover are:

1 Dec 01 Melbourne Cup on Wheels

9 Feb 02 Forges Stores Wheelrace

23 Feb 02 Austral Wheelrace

16 Mar 02 Australian Madison Championships (a recommended [by me] night)

6 Apr 02 Sid Patterson Grand Prix

Cost: (all five races) Premium Reserved Seats in the finishing Straight Adults - \$150

Aged or Disabled - \$125 (sorry no Seniors Card), Children - \$100, Family (2 adults and 2 Children) - \$400.

After 12 October tickets will only be available through Ticketek or at the door. Note that the only night that sold out last year was the Austral night. If anyone wants Steve to get them tickets they need to see him at racing on any Saturday prior to the 12 October and give me the money and he will fill in the form and get the tickets.

Annual Fees Letters have been handed out at race meetings or are in the mail. Annual fees (\$85) are due now, licences expire on 31 October. Good news if you are over 70, the fee remains at \$50.

Secret Use for Helmet Covers Riders in various grades, particularly A Grade, seem to have found a use for helmet covers. There are now 30 missing, 10 black, 4 green, 2 blue, 3 yellow, 2 purple, 4 red, 3 white and 2 mustard!!!! Tell us what they are useful for, or, better still sneak them back in the container, washed of course, no questions asked.

To those riders who returned covers last week, thank you. With racing starting at AFL Park very soon our numbers competing will be up and it would be good to have a full complement of helmet covers.

Also missing is the bell. Probably left at AFL Park, anyone who knows where it is, or has a spare one see Alan Sandford.

Around the Bay in a Day

All tickets are now sold out, but Keith Bowen has a spare ticket and it is for the preferred Port Melbourne-Queenscliff-Sorrento-Port Melbourne route. If you are interested see Keith Bowen.

Club Trailer

Through the efforts of John C Wilson the Club has purchased a new trailer. It is a builders style with easy access, but needs painting in the Club's colours to make us look a professional outfit. If anyone can help, please talk to Alan Sandford or John C Wilson.

Remember

If you have any news, members results from non Eastern events, bike bits to sell, pet or regular training rides, advertisements, or anything else that you would like to include, please give it to me on race day, by phone (9439 8013) or by e mail (keithb@rabbit.com.au).

Eastern Veterans Cycling Club
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Newsletter November 3, 2001



**SEE YOU WEDNESDAY NIGHT NOVEMBER 7
AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING.
MAROONDAH CLUB 8.00 PM.
IMPORTANT MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED**

OCTOBER 27 CLUB ROAD CHAMPIONSHIPS EAST WANDIN

Under overcast skies, but otherwise excellent conditions, 39 riders started in the club road championships. The biggest fields were in the 40 to 44 and 45 to 50 age groups, both with 9 riders. This was an excellent turn out for the road championships considering many riders are on a hiding to nothing, when racing in age categories.

East Wandin is a pretty tough course for the club championships and in all age categories the fields were

strung out after a couple of laps. The only close finish that I saw was in 40-44 age group with Kevin Turley just beating Ian Smith for third. There were no surprises in the results with all the fancied riders winning.

Congratulations to the winners and to all riders participating, particularly those riding against much better riders than they normally would in graded events.

Results

	First	Second	Third
3) - 39 (3) 6 laps	Steve Di Tullio	John Hopkins	Russell Lewis
4) - 44 (9) 6 laps	Phil Thompson	Mark Wallace	Kevin Turley
4) - 49 (9) 5 laps	Quentin Frayne	Dayle Goodall	Laurie Baigent
5) - 54 (3) 5 laps	Rob Graham	Martin Stalder	
5) - 59 (4) 4 laps	Graeme Parker	Dick Barnes	Geoff Cranston
6) - 64 (4) 4 laps	Dick Fox	David Lyons	John Wilson
6) - 69 (4) 3 laps	Ron Stranks	Keith Bowen	Alan Sandford
7) + (3) 3 laps	John Porter	Ken Woollard	Colin Smythe

Officials

Thanks to Vince Di Nuzzo, Jenny Fairbanks and Graeme Parker with assistance from Steve Fothergill, Peter Doonan, Kayley Ward, Lorraine Lloyd and Lou and Shirley Edwards for manning the corners ensuring safe riding for the participants and for John C Wilson as judge after completing a few laps.

Next Week

Still at the Park next week for more graded scratch races, but watch our program carefully because a variety of events are planned over the Summer, pursuits, handicaps, madisons, you name it we have got it. If we haven't got it, tell us and we will put it on.

Eastern Vets Program

Wednesday November 7	8.00 pm	Maroondah Club	Committee Meeting
Saturday November 10	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races

Saturday November 17	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Eastern Pursuit GSR's
Saturday November 24	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Summer Handicap
Saturday December 1	2.00 pm	Steels Creek	Summer Road Race

Southern Vets Program

Southern AFL Park, 9.00 on every Sunday morning and 6.00 pm Thursday evening. Graded Scratch Races

Northern Vets Program

Sunday November 4	9.30 am	Seymour	Chooks Wheel Race
Sunday November 11	9.30 am	Campbellfield	Criterionms
Sunday November 18	10.00 am	East Trentham	44 km Pig and Whistle Handicap
Sunday November 25	9.30 am	Toolernvale	Graded Scratch Races
Sunday December 2	10.00 am	Puckapunyal	Graded Scratch Races

CLUB NEWS

Annual Fees Annual fees (\$85) are due now, licences expired on 31 October. Good news if you are over 70, the fee remains at \$50. **FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE YOU RACE TODAY.**

Winter Points Score

Phil Thompson run away winner. Alan Sandford with his scintillating form at Benalla with a win in the handicap and scratch races the next day and then at AFL Park closed on Martin Stalder to tie for second. Full details with Steve Di Tullio.

1	Thompson, Phillip	75
2	Stalder, Martin	58
2	Sandford, Alan	58
4	Smith, Ian	53
5	Archer, Glenn	52
6	Stranks, Ron	50
6	Oberg, Steve	50
8	Wilson, John C	48

9	Smythe, Colin	46
9	Bowen, Keith	46
11	Parker, Graeme	45
12	Simpson, Harold	44
12	Graham, Robert	44
14	Porter, John	41
15	Panou, Nick	41
16	Joosten Rudy	39

Calling all Female Cyclists

Tired of racing with chauvinistic men, then now is your chance. Eastern Veterans is proposing to run races over summer for female cyclists. Please let your female cycling friends, wives, partners know. Type of event will depend on numbers. For further details watch the website, the newsletter, or talk to Alan Sandford (9878 3087) or Graeme Parker (9728 8087).



Service Industries Listing

Calling all carpenters, plumbers, electricians, gardeners, accountants, financial planners insurance agents, computer experts, etc etc. The Club is preparing a listing of members in the service industries with the view of putting the list up on the website and as a hand out to members. Most people take pot luck when looking for a tradesman, this way we can put you in touch with some one you know and can trust(?), a veteran cyclist.



Help!!!!

I am running out of articles for the newsletter. If you have any articles, news, race descriptions, members results from non Eastern events, bike bits to sell, pet or regular training rides, advertisements, or anything else that you would like to include, please give it to me on race day, by phone (9439 8013) or by e mail (keithb@rabbit.com.au).

Eastern Veterans Cycling Club
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Newsletter December 8, 2001

DECEMBER 8, GRADED SCRATCH RACES STEELS CREEK

At long last the sun shone on the field last week for the monthly road race at Steels Creek.

The mix of results, close sprint finishes and breakaways, shows that Steels Creek is one of our best courses, with only the hill climbers perhaps a bit out of it.

Newcomer Brett Morton won A Grade in an impressive breakaway from Phil Thompson with Mark Wallace third. Brett appears to have livened up A Grade and has put out a bit of a challenge to the Winter Aggregate winner Phil Thompson.

Breakaway was also the order of the day in B Grade with Ian Smith, who always seemed to be at the front and Brod Taylor getting away with three quarters of a lap to go. Cliff Lynch visiting from Southern winning the bunch sprint.

In C Grade John Wilson who has been in good form recently won from another Southern visitor in George Symons and Colin Morris.

D Grade with 15 riders had the biggest field of the day and for the first lap or so was keeping pace with C Grade. New riders up from E Grade, Mark Granland, Peter Wykes and Liz Randall acquitted

themselves well and will not be long out of the money. Unfortunately the sprint was marred by a fall involving Liz Randall and Geoff Cranstone. Luckily no serious damage was done to Liz and Geoff or their bikes. Michael Paull won from Ken Woollard and Leon Bishop who continues to show some good form.

E Grade turned out to be a judges nightmare with the place getters crossing the line together, Dominic Schipano getting the nod from Don Ferguson (another Southern visitor) and evergreen John Porter.

Liz Randall has sent the following note:

Keith ...could you put a line in the next newsletter? I'd like to thank those in D grade who stopped racing in order to assist me after my fall during the sprint to the line at Steels Creek last Saturday. It was much appreciated and I should have said something at the presentation.

I'm fine, with only surface scrapes and not even a head ache, although my helmet has died while successfully doing what it is s'posed to...saving my brain!!!!!!

Thanks Keith Liz Randall

Graded Scratch Races

	First	Second	Third
A Grade (5)	Brett Morton	Phil Thompson	Mark Wallace
I Grade (8)	Brod Taylor	Ian Smith	Cliff Lynch
C Grade (9)	John Wilson	George Symons	Colin Morris
I Grade (15)	Michael Paull	Ken Woollard	Leon Bishop
I Grade (9)	Dominic Schipano	Don Ferguson	John Porter

Officials

Our thanks go today to Graeme Parker, Steve Oberg, who was hoping to snatch a few hours sleep before starting work at 11.00pm and John Macleod. Between the three of them they did everything. Also to the drinks team of Steve Fothergill and Glenn Archer who are providing a variety of drinks including top shelf stuff.

Today

Graded Scratch Races which will be a good hit out for the Christmas Handicap next week also at the Park.

Next Week

Three events will be held, the Eastern Women's Handicap, the Eastern Christmas Handicap to be followed by Graded Scratch races.

Eastern Vets Program

Saturday December 15	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Xmas Handicap, Women's Race
Saturday December 22			No Racing
Saturday December 29			No Racing
Saturday January 5	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races
Saturday January 12	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races

Southern Vets Program

Southern AFL Park, 9.00 on every Sunday morning and 6.00 pm Thursday evening. Graded Scratch Races Southern will be racing on December 23, 27 and 30. Racing will continue in January.

Northern Vets Program

Sunday December 9	9.30 am	Woodstock	Time Trial
Sunday December 16	10.00 am	Seymour	Xmas Handicap

CLUB NEWS

Annual Fees Annual fees (\$85) are due now, licences expired on 31 October. Good news if you are over 70, the fee remains at \$50. FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE YOU RACE TODAY. For those who have paid, your licence is in the mail.

Problems at Steels Creek

Last week a resident at Steels Creek lodged a complaint about riders occupying the whole road and making it difficult for cars to pass. The complainant had to follow the bunch for two or more kilometres before they could pass. Riders must realise that we use circuits such as Steels Creek by courtesy of the local council and the police. If official complaints are lodged, we could well lose the use of our circuits. We shouldn't ride more than 2 abreast and riders at the back of the bunch should and advise the riders ahead of traffic coming up behind, to move over, or even to go in single file and as a courtesy wave the traffic through when it is safe to pass. Not only will we keep up good relationships with regular users of these roads but importantly ensure that our races are accident free.

Xmas Break Up and Road Season Presentations

The Xmas break up will take place on Saturday, December 15. It will be a big day, there will be the Xmas Handicap, Graded Scratch Races, Women's Race and the presentation of medals and sashes for the Winter road season. Please bring a plate of sandwiches, fruit, cake etc. Wives, friends, children and partners are welcome.

Calling all Female Cyclists

Tired of racing with chauvinistic men, then now is your chance. Eastern Veterans is proposing to run races over summer for female cyclists. Please let your female cycling friends, wives, partners know. First event planned for December 15. For further details watch the website, the newsletter, or talk to Alan Sandford (9878 3087) or Graeme Parker (9728 8087).

Problem With Xmas Presents

When the kids or wife ask, "what do want for Xmas?", you should reply, "I'd love an Eastern Vets T-Shirt". They're still available in L, M, and S in white and M and S in black. See Dick Fox to order yours.

While you are about it don't forget a stubby holder, also in club colours available from the drinks team of Steve Fothergill and Glenn Archer for \$5. The holders were kindly donated by Elgas, through Glenn.

The tee shirts and stubby holders were designed and supplied by Redfox Design. So if you, or your firm, or organisation requires any graphic design work contact Marty Fox on 8802 7301.

Club Jerseys

There are still a few club jerseys available (one small and four large). If you want one make sure you see Dick Fox.

Bikes for Sale

Mountain Bike

Merida Mountain Bike 18 inch alloy frame, flame yellow and blue paint.
24 speed Acera, suspension forks, ridden once, new \$745, sell for \$645, or ONO.
Phone Terry Nicholls on 9436 6260 after 7.00 pm.

Road Bike

Royce Bennett's Giant road bike 'CFR 1', 52cm frame, red and black colour scheme, very good condition. Shimano 600 group set. Ridden by a champion. Carbon fibre deep 'V' wheels (Rigida), Michelin tyres. \$500. Excellent buy as a training bike, or for someone starting out.

Tacx sport track rollers, as new, hardly been used \$150.00.

Profile training bars (suit triathlete, or for Club time trials) \$15.

Contact Kayley or Russell Ward tel 9730 1182; mobile 0408 358 695 (Kayley), 0408 553 153 (Russ)

* * *

Sid Patterson, in the eyes of many, Australia's greatest ever cyclist, died three years ago. The following eulogy was delivered Ben Kerville at his funeral.

SID PATTERSON EULOGY

By Ben Kerville

December 3,1999

From quiet homes and small beginningsout to the undiscovered[ends. There's nothing worth the wear of living but laughter... and the love of friends. "

Hilaire Belloc might well have written those memorable lines last week, instead if many decades ago, judging from the outpouring of emotion and community affection accompanying the sudden departure of one of this country's favourite sons in Sidney Philip Patterson.

Let me repeat: *"There's nothing worth the wear of living but laughter...and the love of friends.*

So who laughed most- and mostly laughed last- more than anyone you know? Patto. And who enjoyed the love of more friends than you and I would accumulate in a dozen lifetimes? Again the answer is obvious.

Dale Carnegie whose 1930's book; "How to win friends and influence people", outsold everything except the unbeatable Bible, made quite an issue of the value of laughter. as follows:

"I once spent an afternoon with Maurice Chevalier -and frankly I was disappointed. Glum and taciturn, he was sharply different to what I expected - until he smiled. Then it seemed as though the sun had broken through a cloud.

Actions speak louder than words. A smile says: "I like you. You make me happy. I am glad to see you. "

The Sid Patterson story essentially is one wherein the central figure generated universal goodwill and the readiest of ready smiles and fruity belly laughs. In Europe they called him " the Great Mister Patterson". In Australia, where levity and brevity prevail, he always has been "Patto".

To carve out a decent living as a bike rider in the Patterson era - and things haven't changed much - the European circuit was "a must". So, immediately after a luckless London Olympics 1000m time trial in 1948, Sid crossed the channel to the Amsterdam world championships and although eliminated in the amateur sprint semi-final he had recorded in his heat the fastest furlong time - amateur or professional - at the meeting.

That "surprise packet" performance encouraged Sid to compete in the 1949 amateur sprint championship at Copenhagen. But there was the small matter of financing the trip, and 50 years ago there was no government money given to aspiring champions. The family dug deep, a couple of clubs

offered some help and Patto cashed some of his trophy orders to swell the modest fund.

By 1953, he had won the world amateur sprint and pursuit titles, chalked up a highly creditable and understated third place in the world professional sprint final of 1951 (his first year as a pro) behind the mighty Reg Harris and Frenchman Jacques Bellenger...and followed this with successive world professional 4000 metres pursuit championships. He was later to win no fewer than 14 six-day races. In 1953 Patto's gross earnings in Europe exceeded 10,000 pounds sterling, or approximately 25,000 dollars Australian. The average annual earnings in Australia at that time amounted to about 1100 dollars, so the big fellow had really arrived in the family security stakes.

Moreover, with sprint racing losing much of its public appeal and promoters paying bigger money for pursuit and teams race riders, his career path was established precisely.

He celebrated his arrival in the "big time" by shouting his mother, Kitty, a trip to Europe. Mrs Patterson was one of the quiet contributors to the cycling game and there will be many bikies here today who have enjoyed the family hospitality at Bent Street, Moonee Ponds, after a night at the Board Track.

It has been stated of late – and truthfully – that Sid laughed way to stardom. But I believe that his laughter, off-handedness and preference for a pre-final night out rather than a sober training session added up to a veneer which disguised our hero's steely resolve, his ability to do the extraordinary and his unflappability in a crisis.

Nutshelling a highly complex procedure, Sid had a natural pedalling rhythm from a comfortably orthodox seating position for a big man, and he selected near average gearing. Telegraph pole thighs and a 13-stone body with a propelling posterior like the Queen Mary were supplemented by a wonderful temperament. Thus far nothing mysterious or exceptional.

But there was another factor with Sid the ability to "kick again" when seemingly spent at the end of a sprint. This "second kick" was a God-given attribute that is way beyond my capacity for athletic or physiological analysis. Maybe "genius" is the word. -

A man's man in every respect, Sid was loved by all. He was modest about his successes and concerned always about the status of the sport of cycling in Australia. Although primarily based

overseas when at his peak, he seemed to me to give a lot more of himself in Australia.

Patto was a graduate from the handicapping system unique to Australian cycling. It was devised obviously to give everyone an equal chance. But, whatever its virtues, its ultimate effect was to penalise talent.

As a champion, Sid knew better than anyone that it was bad promotion for any sport to follow this pattern. but he never whinged about being a permanent backmarker. He quietly went about beating the system the only way possible -by winning from impossible situations. ..

Bruce Small, who was the young Patterson's trade mentor long before he "invented" meter maids on the Gold Coast, despised the handicap system, because it hindered his vision of Patto as a champion to be idolised - not penalised.

And, like the Europeans, Bruce could never see any wisdom in a brilliant kid like Patterson having to concede big starts to lesser lights. "It's like a Davis Cup player beginning every game from love-30. Or Gordon Coventry playing at minus five goals for Collingwood," he argued.

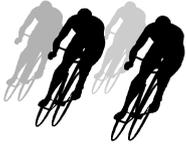
Notwithstanding all of the pros and contras of the handicap system, "The great Mister Patterson" produced some of his most wonderful rides in these events .

An outstanding example was the 1953 Austral when from scratch he gave up to 195 yards start, with a soul-destroying 60-yard gap to the nearest rider. In a phenomenal performance he caught the leader right on the line and lost by less than half a tyre.

Sidney Patterson was a supreme entertainer long before sportsmen were accorded that accolade. In my experience, he ranked with Keith Miller, John Landy and John Coleman in this respect. But because of cycling's lower public profile, Sid was something of a prophet without adequate well-merited honour in his own country. That was the only "down" in a career of highs by one of the greatest ambassadors in Australia's history.

G K Chesterton, discussing a more profound subject, observed that there is one angle by which we can stand and a million by which we may fall. In the ethics of Australian cycling Patto was never anything- but vertical – or as colloquially, "straight up the middle"

Vale Sid



eastern veterans cycling club

Newsletter November 10, 2001

NOVEMBER 3 GRADED SCRATCH RACES AFL PARK

At last, glorious Spring weather, just perfect for racing. Sixty other riders thought so too, which was our biggest turn out since last Summer. Big fields in C and D Grades, but where are all the A Graders? Only 4 starters today.

The ride of the day was Ray Clifford in his first race. He left E Grade for dead and kept on passing D Grade until he eventually left them for dead also. Ray joins other riders this year, Ian Smith, Liz Randall, Lorraine Lloyd who have all done well in their first ride with the club. Welcome to D (C?) Grade Ray.

In the big D Grade field of 22 David Lyons got the drop on the bunch with two laps to go and cleared out to win by a healthy margin of several hundred metres. Those at the front let him go, while all the 'wise heads'

who new what David was up to were at the back of the bunch and powerless to do anything (that was what they claimed anyway). In the sprint, master sprinter Bill Dove was given a perfect lead out by Clive Wright, with Neville Williamson and Barry Rodgers swamping Clive and Keith Bowen right on the line.

Another big field in C Grade with Steve Di Tullio honing his sprinting skills for the track season winning from Rowan Fell, Colin Morris and Steve Oberg, not long up from D Grade.

The combined A and B Grades saw Russ Newnham win from Phil Thompson and Steve Fothergill who has found some enthusiasm again after a bit of a lay off. Martin Stalder won in B Grade from a continuing to improve Ian Smith and Martin Peeters.

Results

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
E Grade (4)	Russ Newnham	Phil Thompson	Steve Fothergill	
I Grade (6)	Martin Stalder	Ian Smith	Martin Peeters	
C Grade (19)	Steve Di Tullio	Rowan Fell	Colin Morris	Steve Oberg
I Grade (22)	David Lyons	Bill Dove	Neville Williamson	Barry Rodgers
I Grade (7)	Ray Clifford	Mark Granland	Dominic Schipano	
I Grade (3)	Peter Nelson	Colin Tessier	Omera Pecaro	

Officials

Thanks to Vince Di Nuzzo, Jenny Fairbanks and Graeme Parker for taking entries and judging the races. To Steve Fothergill and Glenn Archer on the drinks and to Ken Woollard for being there early to open the gate.

Next Week

Still at the Park next week for the Eastern Pursuit and more graded scratch races. The Eastern Pursuit was a great success last year. It consists of teams of six, one from each grade, with first rider dropping out after the first lap, the second after the second lap etc. Two teams race against each other with the fastest two qualifying for the final. Last year there were only a few seconds between the two fastest teams. It is raced around the small circuit (900m) that was used for the time trial

Eastern Vets Program

Saturday November 10	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races
Saturday November 17	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Eastern Pursuit GSR's
Saturday November 24	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Summer Handicap
Saturday December 1	2.00 pm	Steels Creek	Summer Road Race
Saturday December 8	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races

Southern Vets Program

Southern AFL Park, 9.00 on every Sunday morning and 6.00 pm Thursday evening. Graded Scratch Races

Northern Vets Program

Sunday November 11	9.30 am	Campbellfield	Criteriums
Sunday November 18	10.00 am	East Trentham	44 km Pig and Whistle Handicap
Sunday November 25	9.30 am	Toolernvale	Graded Scratch Races
Sunday December 2	10.00 am	Puckapunyal	Graded Scratch Races
Sunday December 9	9.30 am	Woodstock	Time Trial

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Murray Is No Walkover

New member Murray Dickinson featured in the Diamond Valley News last week as Senior Sports Star of the week. Here is an extract from the article.

Murray, 63, is a race walker and in the last 15 years has walked all over the world collecting medals along the way.

Murray most recently won his age group (60-65) in the 20km road walk at the world veteran championships in Brisbane. He won silver in the 5000m track walk. He holds the Australian titles for his age group and the 3000m world track record, with a time of 14 minutes 11 seconds.

He has won competitions in the US, Finland, Japan, South Africa and England. Like Jane Saville in the Sydney Olympics, Murray has been the victim of tough judging, being disqualified at the World Championships in Rome when he was 100m from the finish. But he is not bitter.

"It's a bummer at the time, but that's your sport", says Murray. "It's all part of the game. If you are not concentrating and keeping your style you can be disqualified."

He said it is the motion of rotating the hip as you walk, that gave "that funny bum wiggle". "It is an interesting sport and takes a bit more strength than running," he said.

"You need a bit of upper body strength to push you along. And you have to be reasonably flexible in the hip department."

We will talk to Murray after a few races to see how cycling compares with walking. In the meantime be aware that Murray is obviously a pretty competitive individual.

Martin's Bike Has Been Found

You will recall earlier in the year that Martin Peeters had his distinctive, double down tube Colango bike stolen from his garage. We are pleased to report that the theft was covered by his house insurance and while Martin was enjoying riding his top of the range replacement, the perpetrators took his stripped down frame to a bike shop to have a repaint. "No there is no need to send it to Italy, just paint it blue will do", was their request. Not sure what happened to the. Do you know if your bike is covered by your house insurance? It might be worth finding out.

Calling all Female Cyclists

Tired of racing with chauvinistic men, then now is your chance. Eastern Veterans is proposing to run races over summer for female cyclists. Please let your female cycling friends, wives, partners know. Type of event will depend on numbers. For further details watch the website, the newsletter, or talk to Alan Sandford (9878 3087) or Graeme Parker (9728 8087).

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I am running out of articles for the newsletter. If you have any articles, news, race descriptions, members results from non Eastern events, bike bits to sell, pet or regular training rides, advertisements, or anything else that you would like to include, please give it to me on race day, by phone (9439 8013) or by e mail (keithb@rabbit.com.au).

THE BASIN HILL CLIMB RESULTS 1998 – 2001

Name		1998	1999	2000	2001	Grade
Buckley	Michael	17:54	16:14	15:01		A
Campbell	Peter			17:02		A
Cordedda	Mario			16:10	17:02	
Flower	Steven			16:33		A
Frayne	Quentin	17:27	17:14			A
Graham	Rob				16:42	A
Lillycrap	Michael			15:52		A
Lynch	John				15:11	A
Mathews	Grant			15:33		A
McGeoch	Ian		16:01			A
Mex	Mark				16:50	A
O'Brien	Gerard			17:13		A
Oziesmki	Peter				16:26	A
Thompson	Phil	17:20	17:16	16:27	16:15	A
Wallace	Mark			18:36		A
Williams	Jeff				16:17	A

Boulton	Andrew			18:53		B
Castillo	Peter				15:55	B
Chan	Ed			17:53		B
Curulli	Tony	20:32	20:11	20:24		B
Doonan	Peter			16:31		B
Gillies	Ian				17:30	B
Goodall	Dayle			17:46		B
Grey	Brian			18:39		B
Hainal	Nick	18:04	18:25	17:54		B
Joosten	Rudy	18:02	17:22	17:27		B
Lynch	Cliff	19:25	18:49	18:35		B
O'Connor	Michael		18:32			B
Patatou	John	17:51	17:40	19:10		B
Smith	Ian				17:01	B
Stalder	Martin		17:57	17:38	17:50	B
Turley	Kevin			18:01		B
Weekes	Steve			17:47	17:14	B

Barnes	Dick			19:16	19:29	C
Bennett	Royce	19:17	19:23	19:30		C
Binding	Gary		20:49	22:13		C
Boulton	David	19:47	18:57		19:01	C
Brown	Stephen				18:31	C
Di Tullio	Steve			19:55	19:37	C
Fox	Dick	18:44	18:36	18:42	18:41	C
Gallagher	Daniel		20:35			C
Harris	Jim			20:54		C
Ives	Dan			19:47		C
Laird	Andrew			17:53		C
Marshall	Keith		19:47			C
Molesworth	Greg		22:02	20:05	18:15	C
Morris	Colin			19:47		C
Pitrun	Michael				19:07	C
Ryan	Kieran		17:38			C
Simpson	Harold			22:05	21:09	C
Suran	Roman			19:13		C

Barlow	Frank			21:09		D
Bishop	Leon				22:10	D
Bowen	Keith		20:19	19:34	20:12	D
Hogan	Barney			21:29		D
Hopkins	John				20:50	D
Mitchell	Jenny			18:59		D
Muller	Ben				20:51	D
Oberg	Steve			20:10		D
Preece	Hylton			20:54		D
Stranks	Ron		19:59	19:59	19:53	D
Trigar	David			21:36		D
Ward	Kayley			19:55		D
Werner	Hans				19:41	D
Wilson	John			21:51		D

Allen	Clive	24:50	23:55			E
Caincarulo	Joe			21:51		E
Cunneen	Alan			27:10		E
Dawkins	Derick			23:33		E
Hay	Rod				22:01	E
Kennedy	Jacqui		21:46	21:52	21:28	E
Macleod	John	24:32	25:09		23:16	E
Porter	John			22:24	20:42	E
Randall	Liz				20:43	E
Smith	Ron		21:58	23:12		E
Smythe	Colin			25:06		E
Wilson	John C			21:44	23:54	E

BEST TIMES

A Grade	Michael Buckley	15:01
B Grade	Peter Castillo	15:55
C Grade	Kieran Ryan	17:38
D Grade	Jenny Mitchell	18:59
E Grade	John Porter	20:42



eastern veterans cycling club

Newsletter November 17, 2001

NOVEMBER 10 GRADED SCRATCH RACES AFL PARK

Typical Waverley weather today, cold winds, threatening skies and a light sprinkle of rain just before the start. Notwithstanding the gloom, there were 65 starters including 9 in A Grade, up from the four of them last week.

Despite the strong winds fields seem to stay together, with Dayle Goodall winning the A Grade sprint from Peter Oziemski and Andrew Mitchell. Michael Pitrun, after losing his way Around the Bay in a Day, and riding 10 or more kilometres than anyone else, was able to stay on track today just getting over Steve Di Tullio in the sprint with Matt Johnson coming third.

D Graders have been terrorised for ages by Bill Dove and have been saying he was good enough to ride C Grade. We were proved right today when he won in C Grade from John Wilson coming second, after a long slow recovery from illness, with Nick Panou, who also lost his way Around the Bay, third.

New rider Ray Clifford, up from E Grade after his win last week, continued to demonstrate his strength doing

a power of work at the front in D Grade and keeping the pace on to such an extent that the average speed was only 0.1 km/hr less than that in the ideal conditions last week. In the sprint Ken Lacey won from Geoff Cranston and Keith Bowen.

E Grade saw Mark Granland who has been pretty consistent, win from Dominic Schipano and Claire Taylor who keeps the tradition alive of being placed in her first ride with the club. F Grade resulted in Mick Fischer winning from Colin Tessier.

The presentations were a bit of a fiasco, with the heavens opening up just as we started. Non place getters disappeared in a flash, place getters held on until they collected their money and then took off. In the end only Dayle Goodall waiting patiently for his first place prize in A Grade and the presenters Graeme Parker and Keith Bowen were left. We can be thankful that the heavens didn't open up while we were racing.

Results

	First	Second	Third
A Grade (9)	Dayle Goodall	Peter Oziemski	Andrew Mitchell
B Grade (10)	Michael Pitrun	Steve Di Tullio	Matt Johnson
C Grade (18)	Bill Dove	John Wilson	Nick Panou
D Grade (18)	Ken Lacey	Geoff Cranston	Keith Bowen
E Grade (7)	Mark Granland	Dominic Schipano	Claire Taylor
F Grade (3)	Mick Fischer	Colin Tessier	

Officials

Thanks today to Rod Wagner, Lorraine 'always ready to help' Collings, Jenny Fairbanks and Graeme Parker for taking entries and judging the races. To Glenn Archer on the drinks, although with the onset of the rain, I think sales might have been down somewhat.

Next Week

Still at the Park next week for the Summer Handicap. This will be in two divisions with the limit markers getting as close as possible to a lap start. Last time we had a handicap around the big circuit, in Division 1, all riders were in the finishing straight together, in Division 2 the result was not as close. Will the handicapper get it right for both Divisions this time around?

Eastern Vets Program

Saturday November 24	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Summer Handicap and GSR's
Saturday December 1	2.00 pm	Steels Creek	Summer Road Race
Saturday December 8	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races
Saturday December 15	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Xmas Handicap, Women's Race
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Membership

Although we are only two weeks into the new membership year, approximately 100 hundred members have already paid their fees for the year. New members keep arriving each week. Welcome to all those new members who include: Richard Maggs, Joe Cianciarulo, Daryl Annels and Gary Binding, all renegades from Southern, Rod Hay from Northern, Ray Clifford, Steve Szalla, Claire Taylor, John Weeks and Steve Short. Apologies to any that I have missed.

The Future of AFL Park

The turn out today and those experienced by Southern of a Sunday morning and Thursday evening, demonstrates beyond doubt that AFL Park is by far the most popular circuit that we have, despite the unrelenting head winds, cold and rain that are common place. We will lose it some time soon, my guess during 2002. What then? Jim Taylor has been working behind the scenes for sometime trying to get a dedicated criterium track. When the crunch comes, the support of all veteran cyclists may be needed in order to achieve Jim's objective. I will keep you informed of any developments.

Northcote Velodrome

It has been mooted for ages, but at last something is almost happening. Tenders have been called for the construction of an indoor wooden track at Northcote, with construction due to start in February, 2002. There are still cynics around who say it will never happen, but calling for tenders seems to herald a definite commitment to construct the velodrome. I believe that seating will limited to 500. It is to be built in conjunction with a lawn bowling facility.

Club Trailer

A painting team has been organised to paint the Club trailer. Greg Molesworth will paint it and Russell Lewis will do the sign writing . The trailer is a great success and it is much easier to put things in and get them out. However, assistance would be appreciated after races to pack it up and in particular, instead of throwing your number in any where, if they were placed in numerical order. Your assistance would be much appreciated by John C Wilson who is doing a great job looking after the trailer, helmet covers etc.

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Mountain Bike for Sale

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AUDAX ALPINE CLASSIC Bright January 27, 2002

Entries are now open for the Alpine Classic. This is one of the great rides in Australia. You have a choice of three to choose from. The 100 km has one major climb of 1200m to the summit of Mount Buffalo; the 135 km, three major climbs (both sides of Tawonga Gap and Falls Creek) totalling 2400m and the 200 km involves all the previous climbs totalling 3600m. All rides involve long (20 km) climbs and the 130 and 200 short (8 km) very steep climbs. Check it out on the profile below.

The 200 km is the most popular ride with 520 starters last year and 226 in the 100 and 234 in the 130. They are held on the Australia Day weekend and Bright is just alive with lycra. The weather can be a bit of a challenge, last year was warm and humid, but one year we started off in a frost and a companion who had left his gloves at home, put a couple of plastic bags over his hands in and endeavour to keep them warm. The scenery is superb, but the rides, particularly the 130 and 200 are a bit of a challenge and make Around the Bay in a Day seemed like an easy training ride. If you want to see riders suffering watch the stragglers in the 200 climb Mt Buffalo in the late afternoon.

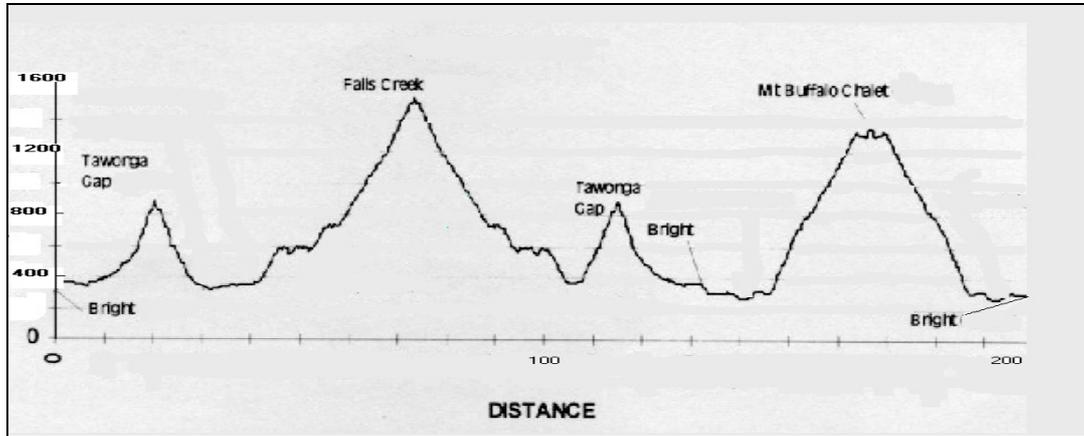
There was a stack of vets there last year, Mario Cordedda was one of the first back for the 100 in about 3 hr 30, Jacquii Kennedy (about 4 hours 5 for the 100 km), Ken Pollard (about 4 hr 15 for the 100 km), Hylton Preece did the 130, Keiran Ryan the 200, but pulled out. Keiran with the assistance of Keith Bowen changed his cluster, late the day before and much to our embarrassment put two sprockets back in the wrong order. Yeah I know it is hard to believe. Not surprisingly his gears gave a lot of trouble and eventually he had to pull out on the way up Mt Buffalo. In the circumstances it was a fantastic effort.

This will be my sixth time and my ambition is to break 4 hours, or, my first time of 4 hr 3 min effort on a tandem behind Keiran Ryan (last year I went within 2 minutes of it). Since then I have got faster each year, but sooner or later the bubble will burst. For a few years I have ridden with Jim from Sydney on the climb, last year as I was struggling with about 5 km to go up Mt Buffalo, I remember telling him that he wouldn't see me again. Anyway time heals all sorts of things and I have entered for another go at that elusive, for me, time of 4 hours.

The ride is fully supported with water and food at all the check points. Cost is \$40 or \$45 for the 200 if received before 31 December, late entries incur an extra \$5 fee. Get your entry forms from bike shops or enter on line at www.audax.org.au/alpine.

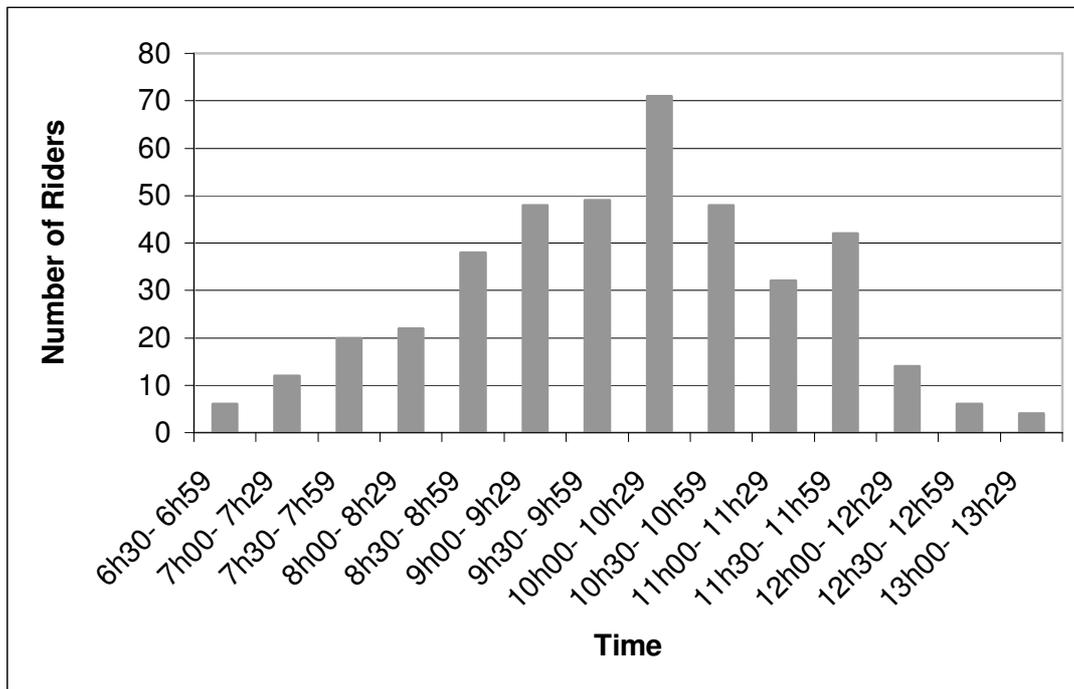
A profile of the rides is shown below. The 100 ride heads out to Smoko on the road to Harrietteville for about 16 km and then back to Bright before the climb up Buffalo. The road to Smoko is slightly up hill, but nothing major.

Keith Bowen



Finishing times for the 200 km

The following graph gives you an idea how you compare with the rest of the field in the 200. The major finishing group (about 71 riders) complete it in 10 hr to 10 hr 30, which is an average speed of 20 km/hr including stops. 75 per cent finish it in less than 11 hours. The fastest do it in between 6 hr 30 and 7 hr, an unbelievable average speed of close to 30km/hr.



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eastern veterans cycling club

Newsletter November 24, 2001

NOVEMBER 17 EASTERN PURSUIT AND GRADED SCRATCH RACES AFL PARK

Eastern Pursuit

Warm and humid conditions greeted the 54 riders competing in the Eastern Pursuit, more widely known as an Italian Pursuit.

Teams of six riders (one from each grade) race against each other, with the lead rider dropping out after each lap. F graders complete one lap and the A graders complete 6 laps of the 500m course. Sounds easy, but with four sharp corners and the short rise, it is pretty demanding stuff.

Teams were drawn up on the day and in a masterpiece of handicapping, the teams were remarkably even. The top eight teams finishing within 5 seconds of each other, only one team being off the pace.

Teams 7 and 2 which rode against each other in heat 2 were the early pace setters. It was only with the last ride of the day in which Team 3 rode by themselves, posted the best time to bump Team 2 out of the final by 35 hundredths of a second.

The final was hotly contested with Team 3 after a short break prevailing over Team 7. Both teams bettered their previous times by more than 4 seconds. The average speed of the winning team was around 43 km/hr. This was an outstanding effort considering the

sharp corners and the short break they had between the heat and the final.

The event was considered a resounding success and is sure to be repeated again. Watch the program for more 'novelty' events.

Graded Scratch Races

The scratch races were reduced in time to 45 minutes and there were 64 starters.

The tradition continued with new riders getting in the money, Brett Morton winning A Grade, Peter Wykes in E Grade, while Steve Short was in the second team in the Pursuit.

Ray Clifford took off from the start in D Grade and lead all the way, (OK, there might have been a couple of short stretches of 10m or so, when someone rode up beside him to ask him to slow down). He was passed in the sprint, but came back on the line to win from Leon Bishop and David Hill. D Grade averaged 35.6 km/hr which was solely due to Ray's efforts on the front. Welcome to C (B?) Grade Ray. Steve Oberg has cemented his place in C Grade, winning from David Lyons, with Russ Edwards winning B Grade.

Results Team Pursuit

Team	Riders			Time
3	J Williams R Edwards	B Upston H Preece	D Ferguson M Fisher	4:31.87
7	M Wallace I Collings	J Wilson S Oberg	F Barlow S Short	4:32.80
2	S Fothergill M Stalder	G Binding P Burchall	K Bowen P Donlan	4:33.15
1	B Morton R Lewis	N Williamson G Archer	M Donlan R Clifford	4:33.48
8	N Letty R Joosten	J Hopkins M Tilly	D Fox C Smythe	4:34.89
6	D Goodall B Taylor	D Lyons S Szalla	C Morris M Granland	4:35.63
9	S Prior M O'Connor	R Edwards B Dove	C Wright C Tessier	4:36.45
5	A Sunjo I Smith	D Barnes D Annels	K Woollard K Donlan	4:36.90
4	R Graham D Kenny	C Ellenby J C Wilson	R Stranks L Bishop	4:48.53

Final

Team 3 defeated Team 7.

3	J Williams R Edwards	B Upston H Preece	D Ferguson M Fisher	4:27.69
7	M Wallace I Collings	J Wilson S Oberg	F Barlow S Short	4:28.33

Graded Scratch Races

	First	Second	Third
A Grade (11)	Brett Morton	Geoff Thompson	Jeff Williams
I Grade (11)	Russ Edwards	Mike O'Connor	Gary Binding
C Grade (17)	Steve Oberg	David Lyons	Colin Morris Ivan Collings (4)
I Grade (14)	Ray Clifford	Leon Bishop	David Hill
I Grade (8)	Peter Wykes	Colin Smythe	Mark Granland
I Grade (3)	Colin Tessier	Gayle Pung	

Officials

Special thanks today to Graeme Parker and Alan Sandford for their organisation of the Pursuit. It is not easy to arrange nine even teams (the top 8 teams were within 5 seconds of each other) at short notice, but they did it without any hassle. Again thanks to, Lorraine 'always ready to help' Collings, Jenny Fairbanks for their assistance. To Glenn Archer and Steve Fothergill on the drinks.

Today

A two division handicap today, followed by graded scratch races. Remember Graeme Parker's tips for handicap racing, no, well here they are again.

Next Week

A change from the Park next week, when we return to Steels Creek for a road race.

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A spectators view of Saturday Cycling at AFL Park

All those legs, what a fascination, long ones, short ones, shaved, half shaved or may be hairy, knobbly knees, white legs, brown ones (be honest is a tanning lotion used?). What a fascinating sport, more people should watch, or join these happy friendly people. *Anon*

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RIDE WITH THE BUNCH The Secret Of Handicap Racing by Graeme Parker

The Summer Handicap, raced on the flat AFL Park circuit presents an ideal opportunity to hone your skills for riding handicapas. Graeme Parker, experienced handicap rider and the club handicapper outlines the strategies for handicap racing.

'The most important thing is to keep your bunch intact, if the bunch splits the riders will have no chance of staying away from the bunches following and winning. The objective of the handicapper is to construct groups of approximately equal ability. Inevitably, there will be some strong riders. but they must resist the temptation to ride fast. A bunch of riders all sharing the work, will have a much better chance of success than if the bunch is split into two or more groups.

The secret of staying intact is to have an experienced rider as bunch 'captain' who calls the tactics during the race. The bunch should maintain an even speed and for every member to take turns and roll over regularly at the front. The bunch 'captain' might even nominate the speed they wish to maintain, eg if there is a strong tail wind the nominated speed might be 40 km/hr, and everyone should look at their computers and keep to the nominated speed, into the wind the

nominated speed might drop to 33 km/hr, and again everyone should look at their computers and keep to the nominated speed. Strong riders must resist the temptation to put in a strong effort when at the front. Riders at the front should ease off slightly when the next rider is coming through. The rider coming through should not have to accelerate or race the lead rider to get to the front. There needs to be plenty of communication within the bunch, if you need a rest and can't take your

turn, tell someone. Places where bunches are likely to split are on corners or going up hills. If the bunch does split at these places, the leading riders should ease off so the bunch can reform.

Basically handicap racing is a team effort from the bunch, without the team effort, your bunch will not be present at the finish. If you are all there at the finish, you can then throw out the team tactics and sprint as individuals, but until then ride as a team.'

AUDAX ALPINE CLASSIC Bright January 27, 2002

Entries are now open for the Alpine Classic. This is one of the great rides in Australia. You have a choice of three to choose from. The 100 km has one major climb of 1200m to the summit of Mount Buffalo; the 135 km, three major climbs (both sides of Tawonga Gap and Falls Creek) totalling 2400m and the 200 km involves all the previous climbs totalling 3600m. All rides involve long (20 km) climbs and the 130 and 200 short (8 km) very steep climbs. Check it out on the profile below.

The 200 km is the most popular ride with 520 starters last year and 226 in the 100 and 234 in the 130. They are held on the Australia Day weekend and Bright is just alive with lycra. The weather can be a bit of a challenge, last year was warm and humid, but one year we started off in a frost and a companion who had left his gloves at home, put a couple of plastic bags over his hands in and endeavour to keep them warm. The scenery is superb, but the rides, particularly the 130 and 200 are a bit of a challenge and make Around the Bay in a Day seemed like an easy training ride. If you want to see riders suffering watch the stragglers in the 200 climb Mt Buffalo in the late afternoon.

There was a stack of vets there last year, Mario Cordedda was one of the first back for the 100 in about 3 hr 30, Jacqui Kennedy (about 4 hours 5 for the 100 km), Ken Pollard (about 4 hr 15 for the 100 km), Hylton Preece did the 130, Keiran Ryan the 200, but pulled out. Keiran with the assistance of Keith

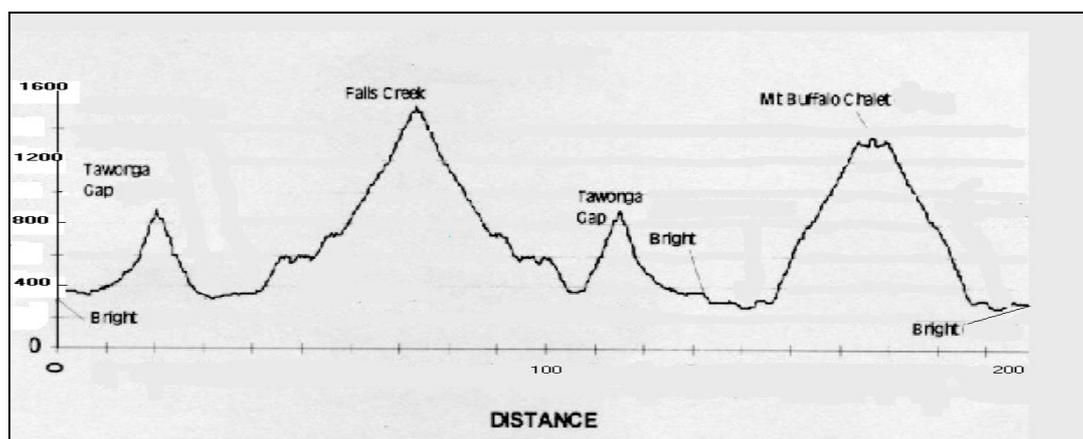
Bowen changed his cluster, late the day before and much to our embarrassment put two sprockets back in the wrong order. Yeah I know it is hard to believe. Not surprisingly his gears gave a lot of trouble and eventually he had to pull out on the way up Mt Buffalo. In the circumstances it was a fantastic effort.

This will be my sixth time and my ambition is to break 4 hours, or, my first time of 4 hr 3 min effort on a tandem behind Keiran Ryan (last year I went within 2 minutes of it). Since then I have got faster each year, but sooner or later the bubble will burst. For a few years I have ridden with Jim from Sydney on the climb, last year as I was struggling with about 5 km to go up Mt Buffalo, I remember telling him that he wouldn't see me again. Anyway time heals all sorts of things and I have entered for another go at that elusive, for me, time of 4 hours.

The ride is fully supported with water and food at all the check points. Cost is \$40 or \$45 for the 200 if received before 31 December, late entries incur an extra \$5 fee. Get your entry forms from bike shops or enter on line at www.audax.org.au/alpine.

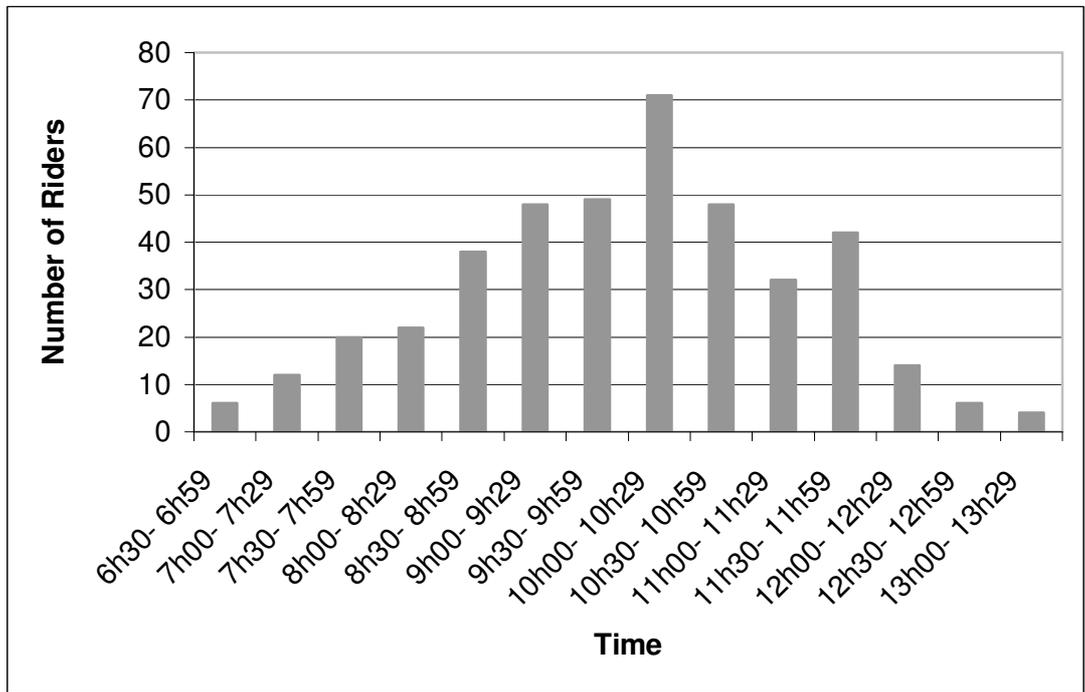
A profile of the rides is shown below. The 100 ride heads out to Smoko on the road to Harrierville for about 16 km and then back to Bright before the climb up Buffalo. The road to Smoko is slightly up hill, but nothing major.

Keith Bowen



Finishing times for the 200 km

The following graph gives you an idea how you compare with the rest of the field in the 200. The major finishing group (about 71 riders) complete it in 10 hr to 10 hr 30, which is an average speed of 20 km/hr including stops. 75 per cent finish it in less than 11 hours. The fastest do it in between 6 hr 30 and 7 hr, an unbelievable average speed of close to 30km/hr.



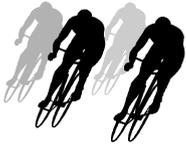
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Eastern Veterans Cycling Club

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**SEE YOU WEDNESDAY NIGHT DECEMBER 5
AT THE GENERAL MEETING.
MAROONDAH CLUB 8.00 PM.
IMPORTANT MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED**

Newsletter December 1, 2001

NOVEMBER 24 HANDICAP AND GRADED SCRATCH RACES AFL PARK Handicap

The Park turned on its worst conditions for a handicap, gale force north westerlies. The power generation people are investigating sites for wind turbines around Portland and Toora in Gippsland, someone should tell them they are wasting their time, a wind turbine at AFL Park would generate power all year round.

Division 2

The handicappers divided Division 2 riders into five groups with 3 to 5 riders in each group. The marks by 30 seconds as the bunches went off and a lap was added during the race (making it a 4 lap race) in an endeavour to give the back markers a chance. Scratch was faced with the daunting task of watching the limit bunch approach as they were just leaving the line!!!

Second limit must have ridden really well to catch up a minute on the limit bunch who were under the tutelage of Colin Smythe. Peter Wykes who showed out in the pursuit last week, won from Dominic Schipano, John Tunney, in his first ride and Mark Granland. No other groups were caught, but a group to show out was second scratch (Clive Wright, Alan Cunneen, David Triglar, Ken Woollard and David Hill) who averaged 34.5 km/hr, which was an outstanding effort under the conditions and I am sure they would have won fastest time.

Division 1

For Division 1 there was a hasty revision of handicaps before the start, with the result that the field finished relatively close together after their 5 laps. The limit group stayed clear all the race, the

1 min 30 group caught second limit (2 min) and scratch caught second scratch (30s). But no one caught Dick Fox who put in the ride of the day. For the first two laps Dick and his co-markers on limit were still intact and had not lost a second to the second limit group. Eventually only Dick Fox and John Hopkins were left. Forget about taking turns in a handicap, Dick led all the way for four laps and deserved his win, which was his first since those trail races at Caribbean Gardens last year. John Hopkins was just behind, Steven Szalla also from the same group was able to hang on for third, with Graeme Parker sprinting away from the amalgamated 1 min 30 and 2 min groups for fourth.

We have more handicaps at AFL Park in December and Autumn and I am confident that the handicappers will have honed their skills by then and we will see some close finishes.

Graded Scratch Races

The scratch races were reduced in time to 45 minutes and there were 57 starters.

A Grade saw Phil Thompson win from Gary Coombes and Mark Wallace. In B Grade a consistent David Kenney won from Gary Binding and Ian Smith. C Grade saw John Wilson, who can no longer claim he is recovering from a long illness, win from Ivan Collings, Dick 'in the money again', Fox, from Alan Zwaan. It was a day for the Wilsons, with John C winning in D Grade, from Clive Wright, David Hill and Glenn Archer. In a combined E and F Grades, Division 2 Handicap place getters, Mark Granland, Dominic Schipano and Peter Wykes shared the money.

Handicap

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
Division 1	Dick Fox 2 min:45	John Hopkins 2 min:45	Steven Szalla 2 min:45	Graeme Parker 1 min:30
Division 2	Peter Wykes 3 min	Dominic Schipano 3 min	John Tunney 4 min	Mark Granland 3 min

Graded Scratch Races

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
A Grade (8)	Phil Thompson	Gary Coombes	Mark Wallace	Brett Morton
I Grade (8)	David Kenney	Gary Binding	Ian Smith	
C Grade (19)	John Wilson	Ivan Collings	Dick Fox	Alan Zwaan
I Grade (15)	John C Wilson	Clive Wright	David Hill	Glenn Archer
I and F Grade (7)	Mark Granland	Dominic Schipano	Peter Wykes	

Officials

Special thanks today to Graeme Parker and Alan Sandford for their organisation of the handicaps. To our usual team of Vince Di Nuzzo, Jenny Fairbanks, Lorraine Collings, taking entries, judging and organising three events and to the drink duo of Steve Fothergill and Glenn Archer.

Thanks to our sponsor of the day, Michael Bowen Financial Services.

Today

Today's event will give the road experts a chance to get back in the money, after the criterium specialists have had their opportunity for a few weeks.

Next Week

Back to the Park next week for Graded Scratch Races.

Eastern Vets Program

Saturday December 8	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races
Saturday December 15	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Xmas Handicap, Women's Race
Saturday December 22			No Racing
Saturday December 29			No Racing

Southern Vets Program

Southern AFL Park, 9.00 on every Sunday morning and 6.00 pm Thursday evening. Graded Scratch Races Southern will be racing on December 23, 27 and 30.

Northern Vets Program

Sunday December 2	10.00 am	Puckapunyal	Graded Scratch Races
Sunday December 9	9.30 am	Woodstock	Time Trial
Sunday December 16	10.00 am	Seymour	Xmas Handicap

CLUB NEWS

<p>Annual Fees Annual fees (\$85) are due now, licences expired on 31 October. Good news if you are over 70, the fee remains at \$50. FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE YOU RACE TODAY. For those who have paid, your licence is in the mail.</p>

Xmas Break Up and Road Season Presentations

The Xmas break up will take place on Saturday, December 15. It will be a big day, there will be the Xmas Handicap, Graded Scratch Races, Women's Race and the presentation of medals and sashes for the Winter road season. Please bring a plate. Wives, friends, children and partners are welcome.

Calling all Female Cyclists

Tired of racing with chauvinistic men, then now is your chance. Eastern Veterans is proposing to run races over summer for female cyclists. Please let your female cycling friends, wives, partners know. First event planned for December 15. For further details watch the website, the newsletter, or talk to Alan Sandford (9878 3087) or Graeme Parker (9728 8087).

Problem With Xmas Presents

When the kids or wife ask, "what do want for Xmas?", you should reply, "I'd love an Eastern Vets T-Shirt". They're still available in L, M, and S in white and M and S in black. See Dick Fox to order yours.

While you are about it don't forget a stubby holder, also in club colours available from the drinks team of Steve Fothergill and Glenn Archer for \$5. The holders were kindly donated by Elgas, through Glenn.

The tee shirts and stubby holders were designed and supplied by Redfox Design. So if you, or your firm, or organisation requires any graphic design work contact Marty Fox on 8802 7301.

Bikes for Sale

Mountain Bike

Merida Mountain Bike 18 inch alloy frame, flame yellow and blue paint.
24 speed Acera, suspension forks, ridden once, new \$745, sell for \$645, or ONO.
Phone Terry Nicholls on 9436 6260 after 7.00 pm.

Road Bike

Royce Bennett's Giant road bike 'CFR 1', 52cm frame, red and black colour scheme, very good condition. Shimano 600 group set. Ridden by a champion. Carbon fibre deep 'V' wheels (Rigida), Michelin tyres. \$500. Excellent buy as a training bike, or for someone starting out.

Tacx sport track rollers, as new, hardly been used \$150.00.

Profile training bars (suit triathlete, or for Club time trials) \$15.

Contact Kayley or Russell Ward tel 9730 1182; mobile 0408 358 695 (Kayley), 0408 553 153 (Russ)



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I am running out of articles for the newsletter. If you have any articles, news, race descriptions, members results from non Eastern events, bike bits to sell, pet or regular training rides, advertisements, or anything else that you would like to include, please give it to me on race day, by phone (9439 8013) or by e mail (keithb@rabbit.com.au).

Eastern Veterans Cycling Club
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eastern veterans cycling club

Newsletter December 15, 2001

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members, friends and officials a happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

It has been a busy, but very successful year of racing with all our classic events and club races going well, and so far, a great start to our Summer season with our handicaps and Italian Pursuit. Many thanks to all the Committee and members for their help during the year. It is great to see all the new faces at the Club races and everyone enjoying their racing and having a good time.

Once again Merry Christmas to all.

Yours in cycling

'Sandy'



DECEMBER 8 GRADED SCRATCH RACES AFL PARK

Again, good conditions with the promise of a sunny afternoon brought out 77 riders, our biggest field since last summer. Southern had a massed start last Sunday with the consequence that a few more Southern riders took the opportunity of an 'easy' ride in a graded scratch race rather than the torture of the massed start.

A Grade numbers were up and there was probably a bit of relief in the field when Phil Thompson pulled out in the first lap with some sort of mechanical trouble. It turned out to be a broken spoke and with some quick repair (removing the broken spoke) Phil rejoined the field. Peter Oziemski had a handy lead of several hundred metres half way through the race, but next time they went by Phil Thompson had joined him. Phil managed to win the sprint for first with Peter Castillo winning the bunch sprint.

In B Grade Cameron Russell was too strong for Mike O'Connor and Brod Taylor who is consistently in the places these days.

Steve Oberg was another one to have bike troubles, puncturing in the first lap of C Grade. The President (Alan Sandford) and the Handicapper (Graeme Parker) fought out the finish, with Graeme winning out. Colin Morris another consistent performer coming third.

Leon Bishop, Glenn Archer, Frank Barlow and John C Wilson as usual, did a power of work at the front in D Grade, but no one was able to get away. The finish was a bit frantic as B Grade was in the straight at the same time. Keith Bowen managed to hold off Brian Dew and Leon Bishop with Clive Wright fourth.

E Grade had a big field with 13 starters and kept up a good pace managing to stay clear of D Grade. Another master sprinter in Don Ferguson, who can't have too many rides left in E Grade, won from John Tunney and the evergreen John Porter.

F Grade had five starters with J Beale, continuing the tradition of winning in her first ride with the Club, from D Johnson and Gayle Pung.

Results

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
A Grade (9)	Phil Thompson	Peter Oziemski	Peter Castillo	
B Grade (12)	Cameron Russell	Mike O'Connor	Brod Taylor	
C Grade (17)	Graeme Parker	Alan Sandford	Colin Morris	

I Grade (21)	Keith Bowen	Brian Dew	Leon Bishop	Clive Wright
I Grade (13)	Don Ferguson	John Tunney	John Porter	
I Grade (5)	J Beale	D Johnson	Gayle Pung	

Officials

Thanks to Vince Di Nuzzo, Jenny Fairbanks and Graeme Parker for taking entries and judging the races. To Steve Fothergill and Glenn Archer on the drinks.

Today

Three events will be held, the Eastern Women's Handicap, the Eastern Christmas Handicap to be followed by Graded Scratch races, food drink and presentations.

Eastern Vets Program

Saturday December 22	No Racing		
Saturday December 29	No Racing		
Saturday January 5	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races
Saturday January 12	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races
Saturday January 19	2.00 pm	AFL Park	Graded Scratch Races

Southern Vets Program

Southern AFL Park, 9.00 on every Sunday morning and 6.00 pm Thursday evening. Graded Scratch Races Southern will be racing on December 23, 27 and 30. Racing will continue in January.

CLUB NEWS

AFL Park

By now you will know that Mirvac has been the successful tenderer for the development of AFL Park. Contact has been made with Mirvac in an endeavour to ensure that we are able to race there as long as possible. Mirvac are likely to take over occupancy of the Park in June/July 2002, so we should be right until at least then and hopefully a bit longer, if development takes place in stages and some of the circuits are clear of the early stages. We will keep you posted.

Club Jerseys

There are still a few club jerseys available (one small and four large). If you want one make sure you see Dick Fox today.

Vodafone Arena

Steve Di Tullio was in good form at the Melbourne Cup on Wheels at Vodafone Arena, winning one of the sprints in the Points Score Race. Steve is off again doing the rounds of the Summer track carnivals and we wish him good luck and look forward to hearing of his exploits in the Newsletter next year.



Service Industries Listing

Calling all carpenters, plumbers, electricians, gardeners, accountants, financial planners insurance agents, computer experts, etc etc. The Club is preparing a listing of members in the service industries with the view of putting the list up on the website and as a hand out to members. Most people take pot luck when looking for a tradesman, this way we can put you in touch with some one you know and can trust(?), a veteran cyclist.

This listing will be up on the web site early next year, I promise.

Thanks from the Editor

A special thank you to all those people who willingly contributed articles for the Newsletter throughout the year. A special thanks to Leon Bishop for his work in keeping the Club's web site up to date. I look forward to receiving your contributions again next year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Keith Bowen



