



# Eastern veterans cycling club

www.easternvets.com

## Respecting the Rights of all Road Users

*Newsletter December 12<sup>th</sup> 2009*

### Casey Fields – Graded Scratch Races – December 5<sup>th</sup>

#### Race report

Conditions weren't much better than last week but the turnout was, seventy-three registering to start, and had it not been for the Tour of Bright there may well have been over eighty, a dozen of our members taking to the hills up North. But this was Casey Fields in the Summer time, it was cool, it was overcast and it was windy - from the west with the occasional foray to the south - typical for Casey. The serious attacks would come into the wind; though the finish line and onto the top straight or around the right-hander onto the westbound 'not so straight', the not so serious attacks would come with the wind along the back straight. Any rider separated from their pack would undoubtedly lose the battle and finish alone. Race control took heed of the temperature (but not the wind) and deemed an hour and twenty-five for the top grade through to an hour for the half-dozen starters in f-grade.

#### a-grade

Ten greeted the starter, the impact of the Tour of Bright being felt most keenly by this grade. With the absence of Guy, Roy & Tony, perhaps we thought (or hoped - ed.) it would be a straightforward hour without the normal smash & bash. First wrong thought of the day, second came as the call went out "1 hour 25" with the usual disclaimer of plus or minus!

The third wrong thought came on the first lap. As most thought it was, or by convention should be, neutral with Trevor Coulter attacking pretty much from the first corner, the group watching him for a while before Stephen Ross took up the cudgel and brought Trevor back to his senses.

Around the 10-minute mark Trevor & Stephen attacked in unison, Damian Burke led the reply and all back together, only for David Holt to launch an attack quickly covered by Nigel Kimber & Stephen.

At the 18-minute mark, Stephen & Trevor again leapt off the front closely followed by Anthony Gullace. Damian and David led the chase and after a lap it was all back together again although a few lungs were beginning to hurt as the strong westerly proved a day long enemy on the straights past the Clubhouse and out bound through the chicanes.

At the 22-minute mark Trevor & Stephen leapt away, Damian responded, bridged the gap and for a couple of laps the three were away but the chasers were having none of it and it was all back together at the 27 minute mark. A drink and a breath and

before the bidons were back in their cages, David attacked with his usual flair.

Up front the flurries continued for the next 20 minutes as David continuously tried to get away, Trevor bridging on every occasion, he wasn't going to die wondering. Whilst Kevin Starr, Nigel and Damian responded, either by putting their noses to the head-stem to drag the break back or trying to jump the gap themselves, only to look back and see the others coming across to cover. Kevin rode away at about the 50-minute mark, the weary bunch allowing him some rope but the day and the wind wore on him and Kevin wasn't away for long. Paul Wilson countered the capture for his lap and a bit before being returned.

On the hour David launched another sojourn off the front. This popped the group apart with Darren Darling saying farewell, having just completed a long turn up front he missed the last wheel as the bunch took off. Stephen & Anthony also found the change of pace a problem, not having recovered from their earlier attacks and exertions. The three chasing valiantly, but vainly, for the next 10 minutes before conceding defeat, the wind making for a long final half-hour.

A respite from the surging was welcome until Trevor started to up the heart rates again with a couple of attacks along the back straight in the closing third of the race (amazing what comfortable feet can do - ed.). The punch in the jumps getting a little slower and the sprinters beginning to get some air back in their legs and start to contemplate the finish. Phil Thompson appearing at the front during the chases and at the 75-minute mark it was still all together. So as the lap count ticked up and the time ticked down to the finish it was still seven all watching each other....

One twenty-two on the clock and the look for the bell began in earnest, in anticipation David attacked on the run to the line, Trevor covered, Phil hard on his wheel and the rest clawing across the gap. Except Nigel who'd lost his chain (twice) his balance (once) and the wheel in front in the scramble up the incline. Nigel's only hope that the bunch back off when/if it all came back together. Five hundred meters later it did and they did and it was back to seven, all watching each other. Until Kevin tried a sneak away move but that was shut down faster than your mother did when you found the chocolate biscuit tin.

Finally the bell was rung and the pace dropped as the usual jockeying for non-position ensued. David finding himself on the front lifted the pace, Damian & Kevin duelling for his wheel, Phil & Trevor behind. The call went up that it was Nigel's birthday (dirty tactics - ed.) so he should be allowed the win with a Cadel

like attack but the bunch was in no mood for presents. Nigel attacked anyway, out of the saddle and into the wind, David covered quickly, Damian slid back to watch Phil & Trevor, the line was strung out. Nigel faded, the line compressed, right into the final loop Nigel went to the back, if they didn't surge Nigel would be ok, they surged. Six rounded the bend into the back straight, Nigel following, hoping the surge wouldn't last.

Despite the strong tail wind speeds eased a bit and hopes firmed, but as the metres rolled under the wheel the speeds increased to the mid to high 40's and hopes faded. It was a bunch of six led by Paul Wilson, strung across the road that headed into the last corner. David attacked hard going into the corner, Kevin fought to keep his wheel Phil on his, Damian marking Phil. Out of the corner David was clear, Phil drifted wide, Damian let him know he was there before accelerating past him and out after David. Trevor and Kevin were caught in a wall of wheels. A hundred metres out David and Damian were well clear of the rest, finishing in that order with Phil and Trevor following behind.

### **b-grade**

By all accounts it was Rob Harris on the front of this race from go to woe, except for the bits where the brothers Ian (Smith & Milner) launched the odd, short lived, attacks, and the bit at the end where everybody goes fast but Rob doesn't.

### **c-grade**

It was new member Trent Nicholls doing a lot of the early work with help from the 'Diesel'. Neal Cartledge shouldering more of the load as the race progressed. Into the second half efforts were made to cull the competition and attacks became the order of the race, Steve Short the major antagonist. The constant surging and recovery allowing d-grade to catch up and pass at one stage, the sheer embarrassment enough to spur the followers into action and the grade to regain some pride.

### **d-grade**

No report.

### **e-grade** (Les McLean)

With the temperature around 21°C and the wind from the NW, but not as strong as last week, 11 riders faced the one hour and five minute race.

From the start Andrew Ferridge went straight to the front and without a look sideways, or backwards, to see if all left the start line Ok, he was off. Brian Farrell knew the danger that if we let him go we would have trouble catching him and immediately pounced on his wheel. Andrew was like a man on a specific mission, trying to drop all and sundry as he powered around the circuit with everyone strung out behind. This continued for around three laps until Brian, who was suffering some heart problem, thought it prudent to drop off the high speed bunch and try to get his system back into some sort of racing order. As he dropped back he yelled to Juanita, "Don't let him go or you'll never see him again". Andrew however kept racing onwards without even a glance back.

Around this stage Kenton Smith had picked up a piece of wire with his front wheel and it was shot back to his rear. Not knowing what had happened he dismounted to see what damage was done but finding nothing he rejoined the field on the next lap.

After four or so laps Andrew relented and Adam Dymond went to the front to take up the pace making duties without slackening one bit. The race speed was averaging over 36k's at this point. Then it was Mike Langan, a Northern rider, who, with fellow northerner, Damian Breed, took over the pace making. These three riders did a heap of work before Juanita could not hold back and she too started to go to the front. Robin Condie, not wanting to be left out, then took over and made his presence felt.

The pace being so high, other riders decided that it was more prudent to stay in the bunch and just try to survive. Les McLean, Laurie Bohn and Richard Maggs doing their small part on the front at odd times. Having not seen Andrew since Adam relieved him on lap five all thought he had been dropped but around the halfway mark he launched himself from the back of the field and took off down the back straight past everyone. The chase was then on, led by Damian Breed. Andrew eventually caught but he continued to push the pace along at the front.

Just after that attack, Damian and Mike launched an attack of their own and tried to get away but Juanita and Les chased them down, Andrew countered trying again to get away. However as the field were aware of his tactics they were right onto him.

Towards the last few laps Andrew again launched another attack and it took the field a lap to catch him. Just before the bell Damian launched an all out attack and jumped past the field and gained 50 meters. No one wanted to chase but Juanita, sensing the danger, took off after him with Les on her wheel and the rest strung out. Up the finishing straight Juanita moved over and exclaimed "I'm done it's up to you to catch him". Les tried to take over but only lasted a couple of hundred meters when Laurie, sensing his plight, went past and slowly reeled Damian back.

Just before the bell Andrew again shot to the front with Juanita on his wheel and he kept the pace very high. Around the s's before the back straight Damian raced past Andrew and Juanita with Mike close on his heels, the pair followed by Robin. With the tail wind Andrew kept increasing the speed of the chase down the back straight. Halfway along the straight Kenton shot past Les and Andrew in pursuit of the three leaders. At the bend into the straight Damian jumped hard and really took off. Robin was right onto him followed by Mike with Kenton still chasing hard. It was a very fast and hard slog up to the line but it was Damian winning from Robin with Kenton just getting over Mike for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The rest seeing the pace so high at the bend gave it away and just rolled over the line content that the torture was over.

All credit goes to Damian who is a new rider and showed us all during the race how talented, fast and strong he is.

### **f-grade**

With half a dozen starters there wasn't going to be anywhere to hide and little protection from the conditions for each of the competitors. The aim; stay together to the start of the sprint and then get out of the saddle. But then theory meets reality, and four

laps later Catrin Harris and Carol Ross found themselves with a gap to close; Carol the first to lose the slipstream, followed shortly after by Catrin. The four gentlemen continued to apply the pressure and roll to the finish where Keith Bowen carried his form from the recent Northern Vets series to take the win

from renowned sprinters Ron Stranks and Frank Carrol. Rod Goodes unfortunate to not run a place or get a mention in the race report.

## Results

	First	Second	Third	Fourth
<b>a-grade (10)</b>	David Holt	Damian Burke	Phil Thomson	
<b>b-grade (15)</b>	Rob Truscott	Dayle Goodall	Bruce Dunlop	Grant Edmonds
<b>c-grade (14)</b>	Grant Greenhalgh	Harold Simpson	Chris Norbury	Denis Pauwells
<b>d-grade (18)</b>	Rob Castellani	Rob Green	Sam Fazio	Leon Bishop
<b>e-grade (11)</b>	Damian Breed	Robin Condie	Kenton Smith	
<b>f-grade (6)</b>	Keith Bowen	Rod Goodes	Frank Carroll	

## Officials

Thanks to Keith Bowen and Ron Stranks who were on the desk taking entries. Thanks also to Colin Morris, Mick Lynch and Paul Kelly for controlling the race and recording the finish. Also thanks to Richard Dobson who manages the duty roster and ensures we have enough people on the day for our races, to Michael Paull, standing in for JC, who brought the trailer along and Peter Mackie who was on hand with the drinks.

**Note :** Members rostered for marshal or traffic control duties must be at the circuit at least one hour before the scheduled start time to assist with the setting up of the course. (but bring your bike, you just never know)

## Tuesday Night Results

	First	Second	Third
<b>a-grade (0)</b>			
<b>b-grade (10)</b>	Darren Darling	Leigh Bailey	Damian Burke
<b>c-grade (9)</b>	M. Edwards	Chris Norbury	John Thomas
<b>d-grade (9)</b>	P James	Mark Cheeseman	Sam Bruzzese
<b>e-grade (5)</b>	M Pauwley	Clive Wright	

## Eastern Vets Program

Saturday	December	12	2:00pm	Dunlop Road	Graded Scratch Races Charity Day - Cancer Council
Saturday	December	19	2:00pm	METEC	Christmas Handicap
Saturday	December	26		No Racing	
Saturday	January	2	2:00pm	METEC	Graded Scratch Races
<b>Monday</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8:00pm</b>	<b>Maroondah Club</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>
Tuesday	Dec	15	6:00pm	METEC	Graded Scratch Races <b>Note :</b> No entry to circuit before 5:00pm
	Jan	5, 12, 19, 26			
Wednesday			10:00am	The Loop – Yarra Boulevard	Scratch Races + post race coffee

**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 Program

Sunday	December	13	9:30am	Freight Drv, Campbelfield	Graded Scratch Races
Sunday	December	20	10:00am	Avenal Rd, Seymour	Merle Jamieson Christmas Handicap (48k)
Sunday	December	27		No Racing	

## Gippsland Vets Program

Sunday	December	20	10:00am	Kernot	Graded Scratch Races
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## Victorian Veterans Cycling Council Program

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**Note :** Entries are to be on the appropriate VVCC Open entry form (available on VVCC website) and are to be accompanied by the requisite fee.

**Other Results, etc.:**

**For your calendar**

Date	Location	Event
3/1/2010	Geelong	Amy's Ride - www.amygillett.org.au
10/1/2010	Buninyong	Australian Open Road Cycling Championships Interested in watching the best battle it out, the club is looking at making a day of it, see Graeme Parker (gandeparker9999@bigpond.com) or David McCormack (davemacq@bigpond.com) to register your interest.
24/1/2010	Bright	Audax Alpine Classic - www.audax.org.au/public
7/3/2010	Falls Creek	BV – 3 Peak Challenge, 230k. - www.bv.com.au/great-rides/42359
13-14/3/2010	Mansfield	SCODY High Country Cycle Challenge - www.bikeevents.com.au
27/3/2010	Torquay	Great Ocean & Otway Classic Ride - www.supersprint.com.au

**Tour of Bright**

Several of our members made the trip north to Bright for three races in the hills over two days;

Saturday morning : Road Stage; Men B,C, Masters 1-5: 108km, Masters 6+: 84km

Saturday afternoon : 16km Time Trial.

Sunday morning : Mt Hotham ascent.

**b-grade**

Posn.	Name	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total
22	Stefan Kirsch	2:56:15	0:22:55	2:06:36	5:25:46 (+0:06:07)
28	Peter Howard	2:55:57	0:23:47	2:08:05	5:27:50 (+0:08:11)

**Masters 4/5**

Posn.	Name	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total
4	Roy Clarke	2:58:41 (4 <sup>th</sup> )	0:22:08 (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	2:08:19 (7 <sup>th</sup> )	5:29:08 (+0:01:08)
5	Michael Hay	2:58:41 (5 <sup>th</sup> )	0:23:22 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	2:08:11 (6 <sup>th</sup> )	5:30:14 (+0:02:14)
7	Guy Green	2:58:41 (6 <sup>th</sup> )	0:23:35 (13 <sup>th</sup> )	2:08:56 (8 <sup>th</sup> )	5:31:12 (+0:03:12)
9	Tony Chandler	3:00:21 (11 <sup>th</sup> )	0:23:26 (11 <sup>th</sup> )	2:09:25 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	5:33:12 (+0:05:12)
13	Callum Geogh	3:03:12 (16 <sup>th</sup> )	0:25:30	2:09:07 (9 <sup>th</sup> )	5:37:50 (+0:09:50)
15	Gerard Donnelly	2:59:35 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	0:22:29 (5 <sup>th</sup> )	2:16:43	5:38:48 (+0:10:47)
23	Frank Nyhuis	3:03:46	0:25:22	2:17:42	5:46:51 (+0:18:51)

**Masters 6+**

Posn.	Name	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Total
16	Nigel Frayne	2:38:40	0:26:44	2:40:32	5:45:57 (+0:28:23)

**Anaconda Adventure Race**

The Anaconda Adventure Race, the third leg in the International Adventure Race Series, was conducted Sunday (6/12/2009) in Lorne with over 1160 competitors tackling the course in pristine conditions on the surf coast. The event consisted of a 1.9km ocean swim, 13km ocean paddle, 15km coastal trail run, 24km mountain bike and a 1.5km beach run to the finish line

Su Pretto (ex EVCC member and all round good-gal) came second in the women 40 plus, son James 6th in open male and Tom Crebbin second male 40 plus.

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