

Newsletter

10 December 2016



Duty Roster

10 December, Dunlop Road

John Thomson (R), John Macleod (TC), Frank Nyhuis (TC), Nick Hainal (TC), Michael Day, Anthony Gullace, Rob De Bernardi, Darren Woolhouse, Colin Doherty, Susan O'Keeffe, Laurie Gates, Geoff Darroch, Ian Gillies, Andrew Wedderburn

17 December, METEC

Richard Dobson (R), Harry Hibgame, Troy Jordan

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

Editor

nick.tapp@detail-ed.com.au



Last Sunday we took on Northern Cycling at Northern Boulevard in the Dave Ryan Memorial Crits. Thirty-seven Eastern riders took to the start line against 56 from Northern, and the final points tally was almost identical to the numbers who raced: Eastern 38 to Northern 57. Full results are on the [Northern Cycling website](#). There is just one race report inside, from D Grade. Also inside is a summary of the situation in the club aggregate championship with just two Saturdays of racing remaining for the year.

This week we are at Dunlop Road, then on 17 December it's the Christmas Handicap, a day for all the family at METEC.

Peter Morris has kindly agreed to babysit the newsletter while the Editor takes a break. Next week's issue will be the final one for 2016, then Pete will take over through January.



*Rob De Bernardi leans it into the bottom corner at the Loop on Wednesday. Results are inside.
Photo: Nick Tapp*

Dave Ryan Memorial Crits, Northern Boulevard, 4 December

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
A Grade (14)	Darren Roberts (N)	Michael Borowski (N)	Scott Riddell (N)	Glen O'Rourke (N)	
B Grade (15)	Kevin Russell (N)	Paul Webster	Trevor Perry (N)	Terry Hollibone (N)	
C Grade (26)	Fritz Charalam (N)	Colin Morris (N)	Franc Tomsic	Anthony McCulloch (N)	Rob Giles
D Grade (19)	Peter Gray	Rob Lackey	Terry Duggan (N)	Mark McCrossin (N)	
E Grade (12)	Craig Stannard	Barry Rodgers	John C. Wilson	Keith Wade	
F Grade (7)	Stacey Hatton (N)	Brian Forbes (N)	Georgina Hasouras (N)	Michael Waterfield	

D Grade

The Dave Ryan Memorial Criteriums at National Boulevard were held last Sunday morning as usual – except for one thing, which didn't occur to me until just now. One 'lap of honour' of the Boulevard was not undertaken by the riders as a tribute to Dave and all that he represented to both veteran cycling clubs in which he competed. I hope we can remember to do this at future memorial races.

I used to delight in catching up with Roger (Dave's terrier, presently a US citizen). Dave's family were not present this year due to notification delay. Dave was a pretty fierce but giving competitor and so it is fitting that a race held in his honour takes on those attributes. But, having said that, a bike race is a bike race, and it reflects a broad range of abilities and tactics on the day.

Numbers up!

Eastern Veterans Cycling Club had just squeezed in with a majority of riders for the D Grade race (ten to Northern's nine) and so had expectations to perform well, and we did just that. Without spending any time on tactics, our boys rolled off the start with a kind of silent confidence, which one rarely experiences in veterans racing.

As nominated 'sprinter', I was under strict

instructions not to do any work at the front – which I was very happy to obey. However, our team was well endowed with many riders capable of strong finishes, including Darren Woolhouse, Rob Devolle, Robert Lackey, Ken Allan and Harry Hibgame.

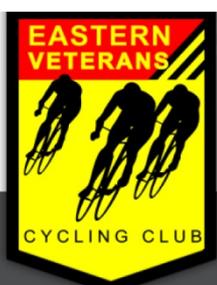
Specialists attack

Initially, the Northerners set a fairly high pace in still and coolish conditions, but gradually our guys came to the fore. Once Northern had exhausted their options, Rob and Darren started to attack the bunch several times. While unsuccessful as sustained breakaways, they made the Northern riders work to bridge the gap. I think our attacks perhaps required an additional rider to forge a significant gap and one that might have eventually gone unchallenged. Average speed for the initial 20 km was 36 km/h. Darren launched a few attacks of his own at various points in the second half, one with Ken nearing the bell. Again, they didn't quite have the 'umph' needed to succeed.

It was good that our boys held back to give them a chance at establishing a lead.

Bell time!

It's not difficult to imagine the chaos which often accompanies mass sprints in pro racing. To their credit, everyone from Eastern held their





composure but a 'big bust-up' seemed inevitable as the bunch rounded the beginning of the sprint straight. We had all our predominant sprinters ready to fire and it appeared likely we would drive each other to the finish. Northern rider Sam Rizzo had other ideas, attacking just on the bend.

You gotta go, when you gotta go!

The attacker had gained a few bike lengths on the lead group, prompting me to jump the queue in pursuit of his wheel. Wasted energy or now or never?!

Our speed kept on rising as the gap closed. 45, 50 km/h, two lengths. 55, 60, one length. 65, I'm on Rizzo's wheel as we hit the flat with 100 metres to go. My legs wouldn't spin any faster and the chain was already on the 53/11.

The joke I had with Darren about fitting a 58-tooth chainwheel, after the northerly wind sprang up two-thirds into the race, had come to pass. In a desperate attempt to overtake, my bum dropped to the seat and the head went down. Maybe not the prettiest pose but it pulled me to within one wheel of the lead. My lunge for the finish was

ineffective and Rizzo crossed the line in 1st place, with me in 2nd and Rob L. 3rd.

Hands off

It was unfortunate for the Northern victor that a 'rush of blood' to the head shortly after crossing the line caused him to take a hand off his bar to pump the air, but that action led to his disqualification, raising the placing status for Rob and myself.

Northern on points

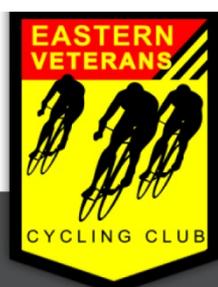
After the dust had settled, we all gathered in the local cafe for presentations and drinks.

Northern retained the perpetual trophy by 19 points (57 to 38). The number of Eastern riders in attendance (37) was better than at previous gatherings but numbers and results could be improved if our members appreciated what a competitive and exuberant team effort can produce. Well done to our riders and to all competitors and officials.

Peter Gray

Tuesday racing at METEC, 6 December

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (11)	Chris Hughson	Peter Howard	Daniel Hulbert	Rob Amos
B Grade (11)	Doug Reynolds	Perry Peters	Dayle Goodall	Phil Taylor
C Grade (13)	Darren Smith	Peter Gray	Haydn Chapman	Franc Tomsic
D Grade (9)	Darren Woolhouse	Harry Hibgame	Michael Muscat	David Casey
E Grade (4)	Peter Barka	Leon Bishop	John Eddy	



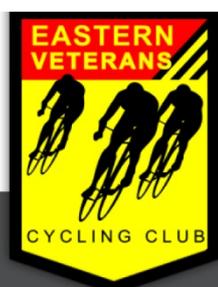


Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Kew, 7 December

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1 (14)	Stephen Lane (G)	Chris Munro (CV)	Agostino Giramondo (N)
Division 2 (12)	Craig Tucker	Roman Suran	Mark Edwards
Division 3 (8)	Peter Gray	Neil Cartledge	David McCormack
Division 4 (6)	John Eddy	Barry Rodgers	Richard Maggs

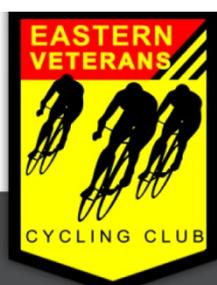


Our own Phil and Paul (Cavalieri and Firth, respectively) lead the chase out of the bottom corner in Division 1. Photos: Nick Tapp





Above: Steve Barnard (L) and Andreas Weber follow Craig Tucker through the corner in Division 2. Left: Michael Waterfield (Division 4) is about to be overtaken by a strong breakaway from Division 1.





Club aggregate championship

J-P still top of the tree

As the year draws rapidly to a close, defending club champion Jean-Philippe Leclercq holds a slender 4-point lead in the club aggregate over equal-placed rivals Ken Allan, Peter Gray and Phil Smith.

With only three rounds remaining (weather permitting), including the bonus Christmas Handicap, all contenders will have to perform well to capitalise on their podium chances. No rest for the wicked, either. Despite A Grade not having qualified for aggregate points on 11 occasions, J-P and Phil are in great form and should be miles ahead of the bunch, as they often are on

the road. Handicapper Mackie may be looking closely at last year's Christmas Handicap performances!

Ken and Peter have done well in D Grade with Ken (elevated to C grade) also a bit unlucky, having placed on several occasions when grade numbers were less than the obligatory eight.

Still an arithmetical possibility at 19 under, Colin Mortley would have to win every remaining race to make it. Good luck, Col.

Peter Gray

News etc.

Legends' Night Dinner tickets

There are two places available at a table of 10 Victorian veteran age cycling enthusiasts (so eight places already taken) at the Tour Down Under Legends' Night Dinner, to be held on Saturday 21 January – after the Willunga Hill stage, and before the final criterium stage in Adelaide.

The cost is \$220 per head if you take up this offer; \$250 if you order as individuals.

If interested, contact John Bodey (Sale) on 0427 539 611.

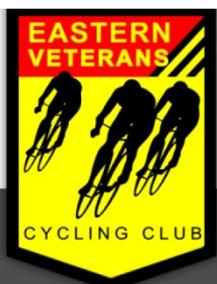
Lost and found

Q. What do a Virgin Blue, a Pura light start, a pair of black gloves and sunglasses and a stainless steel flask have in common?

A. They're all looking for someone who used to love them.

Owners may recover their belongings from the club trailer or contact petergray.ebserve@gmail.com.

PS Nice jerseys!





Future events

Road National Championships

Ballarat (Buninyong), Sunday 8 January 2017

Women's race at 8.00 am (102 km)

Men's race at 11.50 am (183.6 km)

EVCC BBQ on the Hill

Location is near the top of the Mt Buninyong climb (look for the EVCC tent).

The barbecue is fully catered for by EVCC volunteers. Drinks are available at club prices.

Parking is available near to our proposed site if you arrive early enough.

Further details to be advised later, when known (by email or on EVCC website).

All welcome. If you are interested in watching the racing and having a barbecue with your mates, please email Colin Mortley (cmadcab@bigpond.net.au) so that numbers are known for catering.

Ride to the Road Nats

Last year, a small group drove to Ballan Station and rode 30 km or so to join the BBQ on the Hill and enjoy the closing stages of the women's race and the entire men's race. At the end of the day we had a return ride. It solved a number of difficulties with attending the Nationals:

- Have to leave so-o-o early to get a park.
- Even then, difficult to park near the course.
- Miss out on my Sunday ride.

John Williams, David Brown, Mal Jones and Walter Savini are all intending to repeat the ride next year, meeting at Ballan railway station at 8.30 am on 8 January. Let John know (0419 713 087) if you want to join us (so we know who to wait for). Also please email Colin Mortley with BBQ numbers.

Eastern Vets

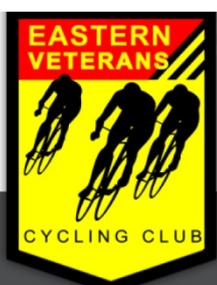
For other events, please refer to page 1 of this newsletter, or go to <http://eastervets.com/roster/>.

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 www.northerncycling.com .





Training rides

Day/Time/Place	Route	Style
Sunday mornings Beach Road Ride. Leave 8.00 am sharp. Meet at Peanut Farm Reserve, cnr Blessington & Chaucer Sts, St Kilda	Ride along Beach Rd to Frankston. 10 min stop. Then ride back to St Kilda (approx. 65 km)	Social ride, coffee back at St Kilda
Saturday mornings (7.30 am) and Sundays/public holidays (8.00 am) Meet at Ringwood Clock towers, Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood	Maroondah Hwy to Carlton for coffee, then return	Fast social

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