

Newsletter



Duty Roster

Saturday 9 December, Casey Fields

Nick Tapp (R), Shane Crowhurst, Rob Harris

Saturday 16 December, Casey Fields

Colin Mortley (R), Gerard Donnelly, Geoff Mackay

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, tiptop2@optusnet.com.au

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



The annual race between Eastern Vets and Northern Cycling for the Dave Ryan Memorial Trophy fell foul of the predicted superstorm last Sunday and was called off, to be rescheduled at a later date. Results from Tuesday night at METEC and Wednesday morning at the Loop are inside.

For the next two Saturdays we are at Casey Fields, off Berwick–Cranbourne Road, near Cranbourne. The registration desk will close at 1.45 pm and racing starts at 2 pm. It's a closed circuit with no vehicular traffic, but tail lights are still required.

In the absence of Saturday race reports this week, I hope you'll enjoy Peter Gray's report from METEC and Jim Swainston's profile of 'veteran's veteran' Rod Goodes (below right, with Steve Fairless earlier this year, after accepting the awards for Club Road Race and Criterium Champion, 85 years and over). *Photo: Mark Edwards*



Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Crit Series, 5 November

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (11)	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Chris Hughson	Tayfun Ugrasbul	Ken Mayberry
B Grade (13)	Shane Crowhurst	Brad Thexton	Chris Ellenby	Boyd Williams
C Grade (21)	Peter Gray	Bob Lewis	Brad Jones	Brendan Wain
D Grade (12)	David Griffin	A. Hinds	Ken Allan	Geoff Mackay

C Grade

By Peter Gray

Boy! Race 9 of the Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Series (quite a mouthful) sure attracted some challenging competition, with C Grade once again presenting the most participants (21).

It was 'gogogo' from the start with Kym Petersen, Sam Bruzese and Brad Jones perhaps the most prominent up front, but the bunch were refusing to give any rider(s) a breakaway opportunity into a fairly stiff easterly wind.

Despite some confusion nearing our bell lap due to a B Grade bingle, the group continued the high pace till the carnage was sorted.

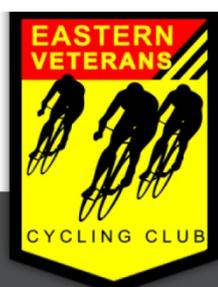
Given the large numbers ready for a TdF style sprint, I'd decided it was imperative to be up near the front well before the 'bump' in order to follow a lead attack. Inadvertently, I became the 'bunny' when the initial attackers slowed. Driving solo past the railway crossing into a headwind seemed to take longer than trying to pronounce Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch*, and I found the chasers closing the gap. Once up around the bend, the painful headwind became an exhilarating tail, allowing yours truly to hold off the 'wolves from the door'.

* Railway station in Wales, UK, that boasts the longest recorded placename.

Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Kew, 6 December

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1 (11)	Stephen Lane (N)	Paul Firth	Mark Reynolds
Division 2 (14)	Russell Wheelhouse	Peter Morris	Chris Ellenby
Division 3 (9)	Michael Allen	Stephanie Coulson	Davina Calhaem
Division 4 (5)	Frank Lees	Barry Ellem	P. Griffiths

Thanks to Keith Bowen, Barry Rodgers, Laurie Bohn and anyone else who helped out.





Profile

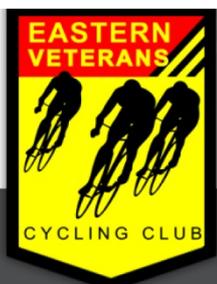
The Rod Goodes story

By Jim Swainston

Born in 1930, Rod Goodes would have experienced the Great Depression first hand. People of his generation would also have had vivid memories of the Second World War. By 1947, people seemed to be coming out of their shells and looking for entertainment to get involved with. In cycling, the North Essendon board track was starting to draw fans, and a flat track in Ferntree Gully named Brenock Park could pull 30,000 people to a carnival. Rod started to race in this era, with the Box Hill Professional club, whose track was on the reserve at the corner of Canterbury and Middleborough roads.



Rod (centre) in action with Clive Wright and Petra Niclasen at Casey Fields in July 2017. Photo: Mark Edwards





Rod did have a short flirtation with ballroom dancing around this time and met his lovely future wife, Anne, but nothing happened for years. She was a patient girl! Rod, a plumber and gasfitter, bought a wildly sloping block in Kitchener Road, South Box Hill, and proceeded to build a magnificent contemporary split-level home, which was completed in 1957. Any man who could build this house, on a 45-degree sloping block, and not have it washed into Gardiners Creek in a downpour, is pretty damn clever! The Goodeses became a twosome in 1958, almost 60 years ago – amazing what happens if you just keep hangin’ about. Rod wasn’t one for moving around a lot: as a kid he lived in Box Hill, he went to school in Box Hill, raced with Box Hill and now lives in Box Hill, about 800 metres from where the track was!

Rod’s first cycling innings finished in 1953 when he decided to concentrate on his work career, but he had notched up some sound performances in this time. He must have enjoyed training for, and riding in, the longer road races as he finished the Melbourne to Warrnambool (260 km) four times and the Melbourne to Lakes Entrance (320 km) twice. Locally, he twice won the Box Hill Traders 50 mile handicap, which was run out Burwood Highway to Ferntree Gully, Monbulk, Lilydale and finished outside the Box Hill Town Hall. Cars weren’t a problem, mainly snakes and bushrangers. Rod has listed some of the riders who were members of the club in this time. A prominent one is Ken Woollard, who has just celebrated his 90th birthday. Ken was an Eastern Vets member for decades and is a former World Masters Road Champion, and rode in the first Sun Tour in 1952. Another rider of note was Alec Whamond, who finished 10th in that Sun Tour out of 65 entrants. Alec was a regular pro scratchman and had a handy brother, Herb, as well. Rod mentions a one-armed rider (nothing to do with a TV series), Brandon Dew. Brian Dew is his nephew, and gives his uncle a lot of praise in the Ben Schofield book *Wheel Life*. Rod’s collection of trophies and photos is mind-boggling and, lined up with Anne’s dancing trophies, would take days to absorb. His wins and placings stretch over almost 50 years of Veterans cycling.

Rod and I’m sure Anne made their way to Maryborough last Easter, where he duelled with his old sparring partner Brian Long and they collected a title each in their age division – a fantastic effort to get there and contest. Rod liked to go up to Benalla each year and take part in that three-day tour, seldom coming home empty-handed. In fact, he rode in almost every Veterans race worth riding in over almost 50 years and won a significant number of them. It has been a privilege to spend time with Rod and Anne preparing this story as they are great company. Anne is horrified that Stuart O’Grady is not getting the the recognition he deserves in Australia and I heartily endorse her feelings. Rod and indeed his longstanding friend Ken Woollard are both wonderful ambassadors for their sport, Eastern Veterans and their original club, Box Hill Pros.

Future events

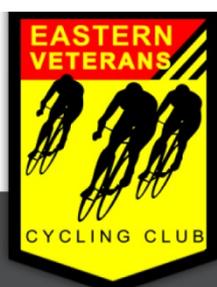
Eastern Vets

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

Note: Graded Scratch Race entries are accepted on the day up to 15 minutes before the advertised race start time. Handicap entries close the Tuesday or Wednesday before the race, as advertised. Riders who enter a handicap *must* pay the entry fee regardless of whether they participate. 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 to the handicapper via email or TeamApp, or on any race day before the event.

Northern Vets

For details, go to www.northerncycling.com.





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