

Newsletter



Duty Roster

**Saturday 3 February,
The Loop, Kew Boulevard**
John Williams (R), Phil Taylor,
Daniel Hulbert, Lawrence Lee

**Saturday 10 February,
Garfield**
Richard Dobson (R), Graham
Cadd (TC), Ian R. Smith (TC),
Juanita Cadd (TC), Ken Bone,
Phil Smith, Geoff Cranstone,
David Mann, Stewart Bendall,
Tony Kimpton, David Moreland,
Grant Farr

*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,
tjptop2@optusnet.com.au*

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

There's an assortment of results and race reports in this week's newsletter – playing catch-up after the Editor's summer break. There have been two Saturdays at Casey Fields, plus several Tuesday evenings at METEC and Wednesday mornings at the Loop in Kew, and most results from all venues are inside.

This Saturday we try again at the Loop (also known as the Teardrop) in Kew after a washout in January. Racing starts at 2 pm and registrations will close at 1.45. Access is off Studley Park Road or Yarra Boulevard. There is limited parking on the Boulevard, and more at Studley Park Boathouse, just below. And remember, tail lights are required for all VVCC races.

Eastern members have been active elsewhere during Australia's summer of cycling, too – visiting South Australia for the Tour Down Under, and Bright for the Audax Alpine Classic, to name just two examples. Peter Gray was among those who went to Adelaide for the TDU, and his reflections on the week are also inside. There may be a report on the Alpine Classic in coming weeks. And who's riding out to Kinglake on Sunday to watch Men's Stage 4 of the HeraldSun Tour ...?



Graded scratch races (with intermediate sprint) at Casey Fields, 27 January

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd
A Grade (7)	Dave Pyne	Phil Cavaleri	Jean-Philippe Leclercq
B Grade (10)	Peter Webb	Peter Mackie	Dean Niclasen
C Grade (13)	Matt Clark	Hylton Preece	Paul James
D Grade (6)	Ken Allan	Colin Mortley	Nick Hainal
E Grade (6)	Alan Cunneen	Pat Ruys	Susan Williams
F Grade (3)	Ray Watts	Clive Wright	Rod Goodes

B Grade

By Peter Webb

Well, Casey Fields was as still (wind-wise) as I have ever seen, but it was bloody hot. I personally love riding in the heat as all the broken and arthritic bones don't hurt so much. Our race in B Grade was to be of the usual format except for an intermediate sprint, with points awarded for the winners. The race was pretty fast with a few attempts to get away, the most notable was by Mark Edwards but he gave up when John Thomson (oldest bloke in the race) brought everyone back. I usually don't indulge in this sprint because I try to roll the sprinters by coming over the top of them when they sit up after the sprint. Fortunately for me, so did another five people that had the same idea, Dean Niclasen led out and Pete Mackie tacked on as did Mark Edwards, Peter Morris and John Thomson. I bridged across and with a heart rate of 180, I managed to join them. After about a lap of seriously hard work John said goodbye, so did Mark Edwards – his parting comment was 'Good luck to all of you'. We settled into a very good rolling turn rhythm and no one shirked a turn, this was to prove the winning move and we gapped the rest of our competition by a substantial margin. When the bell rang we never let up and Dean, who had done a lot of work, said, 'If you want it, mate, it's yours, I'm stuffed'. I sat on the front until the back straight, which was into the wind, Dean came around to shelter myself and Pete Mackie from the wind.

Pete was behind Dean and I was obviously behind Pete. Into the finishing straight Dean pulled off and now it was a drag race to the finish between myself and Pete. Pete stamped on the the pedals and went for the win but I was being patient and waiting for the very last second to try and get to the front. With a big throw of the bike on the line I managed to beat Peter by probably a tyre width.

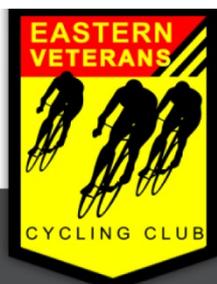
Thanks to everyone who volunteered and officiated on a very hot day.

E Grade (I)

By Jim Swainston

I found the weather very deceptive out at Casey on Saturday. If you stood in the shade with a bit of a southerly blowing, it seemed pleasant, but once out on the track with the heat and humidity it was a different story! The intermediate sprints accentuated the difficult conditions. Even though we were only going for 1st and 2nd, it spread most of the bunches out.

We started in a pretty civilised manner, swapping turns evenly. The make-up of the bunch was quite different to the previous week with Pat Ruys, J.C. and Sue Williams back, also Alan 'Doc' Cunneen down from D and appreciating the drop in class. I was a bit wary of Pat as he has the ability to throw in a hard turn around 30 km. One of these sees me struggling with my recovery. Strangely, Pat struggled with his own recovery and was a couple of hundred





metres off the back when the intermediate sprint cropped up. The Doc took off like a startled gazelle and won by daylight with possibly Sue 2nd [*actually, J.C. 2nd – Ed.*]. I thought, 'He'll never recover', but he did and Pat made a miraculous recovery, flying past me with J.C. in tow.

J.C. blew shortly after this and Ronnie also came adrift, leaving Doc, Pat and the ever-present Sue to battle it out, even though she did yo-yo a bit. I saw little point grinding it out and adjourned to the shelter of the tent. Our final sprint was pretty one-sided as acceleration isn't one of Pat's finer points, and Doc's friend was daylight again. The ever-consistent Sue picked up another deserved place, starting her year off well.

Well, we will try again at the Loop next week, maybe cool and dry!

Thanks to all who made the day possible.

E Grade (II)

By Pat Ruys

My first race for the year, a points race. First sprint Alan Cunneen 2pts, J.C. Wilson 1pts, Ronny 3rd, Susan 4th, Jim 5th, me off the back, dropped and nearly quit. Felt terrible, first ride in 21 days, but I didn't give up. Took me a lap and a bit after the first sprint to get back on to the wheels of Alan, Susan and Ronny, both J.C. and Jim had dropped off the pace. Then sat on the back for a bit, attacked with 10 minutes to go, with Alan on my wheel, my heart rate was high so I eased off a bit. Susan caught us with three laps to go. On the last lap I found myself on the back of the bunch and attacked again just before the last corner. Dropped Susan, and Alan rode over me just before the finish line. Alan 1st (5 pts), myself 2nd (3 pts), Susan 3rd (2pts). Congrats to Alan 1st overall with 7 pts, me 2nd (3 pts) and Susan 3rd (2 pts). Happy with the result after being crook with the flu and no voice.

Graded scratch races at Casey Fields, 20 January

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd
A Grade (7)	Phil Smith	Phil Cavaleri	David Holt
B Grade (11)	Paul Firth	Gavin Plummer	Peter Webb
C Grade (10)	Steve Short	Ian Milner	Paul James
D Grade (8)	Ken Allan	Mike Joss	Greg Harvey
E Grade (7)	Jim Swainston	Tony Lateo	Rod Goodes

B Grade

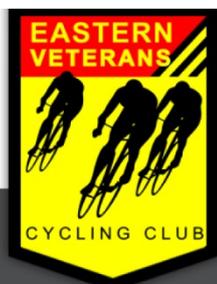
By Peter Webb

The weather at Casey fields was pretty good, with a southerly blowing at about 10 knots and keeping the temperature down.

My race got off to a bad start with a puncture on the neutral warm-up lap. I was able to take a short cut across the BMX track, throw a can of sealant into the tyre and add a few PSI with the track pump from my car. I managed to get back onto the track within the 1-lap rule (I think).

The pace was on with Paul Firth on the front. Paul had come down to B Grade after a week off with some virus that had laid him low. Also down to B Grade was Ray Russo, so with those two in the bunch the chance of anyone getting away was just about nil. Most of the bunch had a dip at the front at one time or another but no one was able to establish a break, and any time the speed went down Ray ramped it up again.

When the bell rang to signify one lap to go, both myself and Gavin Plummer were nearly track standing as neither of us wanted to take the lead. Down the back straight, big Doug Page took off,





no one showed any interest in chasing him. Doug established a good lead and once the pack got out of the headwind the pace went up. Paul decided to see if he could catch Doug, and Gavin and myself jumped on with Paul. With about 200 metres to go we caught Doug, and then it was a drag race to the finish. Paul hung on to finish half a wheel ahead of Gavin, with me half a wheel behind Gavin. Thanks to everyone for a great tactical race, and to all volunteers and officials.

E Grade

By Jim Swainston

Always interesting to see just who turns up for our grades. We are never knocked over by an abundance of starters, which sets Handicapper Peter some puzzling conundrums. Should he run just F or just E, or both? We were missing some of our brighter lights on Saturday, such as J.C., Petra Nic, Pat Ruys and Sue Williams, which made life more bearable in E Grade. Seven starters was encouraging, with Tony Lateo showing the benefit of some recent training.

We rode a nice even tempo with most of us doing lap turns, which suited the evergreen Rod Goodes. Rod is like that external paint slogan – he just keeps on keeping on.

As the race went on, the tempo lifted slightly and Laurie Bohn and Ray Watts drifted off the back. Ronnie demonstrated that he has been doing a bit by making a solid attack at about three laps to go. I looked at who might bridge the gap and wasn't too convinced, so I thought it had better be me and I made contact down the back straight.

Rod did an amazing job to handle that lift in pace and still have a bit left for the finish. The new and improved Tony led for the last lap from John Eddy, and really stepped up the pace with about 400 metres to go. My script said Tony would tire as he straightened for the run home, John would sprint past and I might come off John.

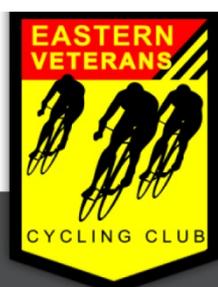
Wrong. I didn't know John had that little tumble at the Loop on Wednesday and Tony rode him off, which meant I had to go three wide on the right to get past. Fortunately everyone held their line and all was well. Rod quietly slipped into 3rd, which is something of a Club record for an 87-year-old. Ronnie acknowledged this at the presentation – high praise indeed as Ronnie doesn't give compliments lightly!

Lots of people away in Adelaide, but a pleasant day weather-wise and a good turn-up. Some real courage shown in breakaway attempts.

Thanks to all those who officiated.

Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Crit Series, 30 January

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (8)	Chris Hughson	Richard Abel	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Phil Smith
B Grade (12)	Darren Woolhouse	Rob Amos	Colin Doherty	Mark Edwards
C Grade (12)	Doug Reynolds	Paul James	Darryl Blanchett	Sam Bruzzese
D Grade (9)	Geoff Mackay	Dale Walton	Ken Allan	Peter Brann
E Grade (4)	Harry Hibgame	J.C. Wilson	Leon Bishop	--





Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Crit Series, 23 January

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (10)	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Steve Ross	David Moreland	Perry Peters
B Grade (9)	Dean Niclasen	Rob Amos	Darren Woolhouse	Anthony Gullace
C Grade (17)	Peter Gray	Walter Savini	Darryl Blanchett	Rob Lewis
D Grade (10)	Adam Hinds	Greg Harvey	Max Michelson	Veronica Vandebroek
E Grade (5)	Harry Hibgame	Leon Bishop	J.C. Wilson	--

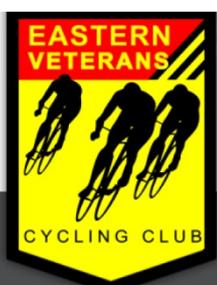
Duck under the radar

By Peter Gray

Last Tuesday night's racing attracted some unexpected traffic to the METEC circuit. It wasn't motorcycle students learning to ride. It wasn't licensed drivers improving on their towing skills, nor was it cyclists in our GIR program. The curiosity seekers (stickybeaks) that appeared during our hour of racing were mostly juvenile, webfooted locals, apparently intent on rehearsing their road crossing skills under the supervision of their parents. It wasn't unlike a bunch of cyclists trying to cross the Eastern Freeway at peak hour.

Their presence did provide C grade with a hazard in addition to the Cateye reflectors.

Well that's about my 100 words worth. Sorry! You'll have to ask someone else what happened in the race.





Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Crit Series, 16 January

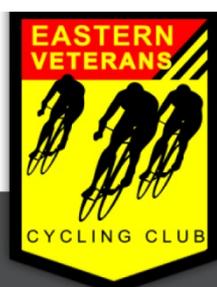
Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (9)	Richard Abel	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Tayfun Ugrasbul	Glenn Newnham
B Grade (8)	Chris Ellenby	Colin Doherty	Dean Niclasen	Darren Woolhouse
C Grade (13)	Matt Clark	Darryl Blanchett	Chris Beard	Rob Lewis
D Grade (4)	Ken Allan	Colin Mortley	Veronica Vandebroeck	--
E Grade (3)	Harry Hibgame	Allan Hicks	J.C. Wilson	--

Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Kew, 31 January

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1 (8)	Stephen Lane (N)	Chris Munro (CV)	Tony Hallam
Division 2 (14)	Roman Suran	David Rooke	Peter Morris
Division 3 (10)	Doug Reynolds	Peter Gray	Simon Bol (N)
Division 4 (4)	Michael Waterfield	Susan Williams	John Eddy

Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Kew, 17 January

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1	David Holt	Chris Ellenby	Nick Gibson
Division 2	David Rooke	Russell Wheelhouse	John Williams
Division 3	Geoff Darroch	Neil Cartledge	Stephen Barnard
Division 4	Barry Rodgers	Barry Ellem	Alan Cunneen



News etc.

Light off for planning

By Peter Gray

If there were rules to planning a trip with minimum disorder, then my recent excursion to Adelaide to witness the 20th Tour Down Under (TDU) may have broken all of them.

Despite the high temperatures and leaving things to the last minute, my first experience of the tour was an enjoyable one.

It was great not having to drive anywhere, as all racing venues were within a comfortable riding distance. Even the local 'watering hole' was only a two-minute walk from our accommodation, thus avoiding the possibility of dehydration in the stifling heat.

You really couldn't go wrong in Adelaide, could you?!

Colonel Light didn't think so (pictured below, overlooking the city and a video screen of the TDU finish). I wonder whether he envisaged today's South Australian state capital hosting a world-class cycling event.

High, low and lighter moments

Probably the highlight of my week was witnessing the delight on Richie Porte's face as he rounded a bend solo at the 500 m to go mark, to a stage victory on Willunga Hill. My lowlight was having to dismount from my bike and walk 200 m of the Corkscrew Road ascent. Packing a bike fitted with a compact crankset, instead of a 39:25 gear combination, may have been helpful. Most amusing moment was having to stop with hundreds of other cyclists on the Willunga ascent, while organisers erected the 1 km to go inflatable structure. For some strange reason, I likened it to the Orica-Greenedge bus incident during stage 1 of the 2013 Tour de France. I look forward to returning to Adelaide at a cooler time of year to ride more of the countryside.

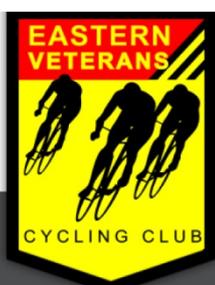
Light's journal

Extract from Colonel Light's journal, 1839 (as quoted from a plaque attached to the base of his statue):

The reasons that led me to fix Adelaide where it is I do not expect to be generally understood or calmly judged at present. My enemies however by disputing their validity in every particular have done me the good service of fixing the whole of the responsibility upon me. I am perfectly willing to bear it and leave it to posterity and not to them to decide whether I'm entitled to praise or blame.



Light's Vision, cnr Montefiore Road and Pennington Terrace, North Adelaide. Photo: Peter Gray





Track bike for sale

- DEVER 3R TRACK BIKE \$1200
- Used four times indoors
- Alloy frame, DEVER carbon composite fork
- Carbon bars
- 3R alloy track 30 mm deep wheelset
- San Marco Blaze saddle
- Padded tape on bars
- Not included: pedals and bike computer

A quality, super light, fast bike, **make an offer**.
Pick up at Richmond or I can bring it to a crit.

Susan Williams 0412 787 785,
susan.williams@netspace.net.au



Future events

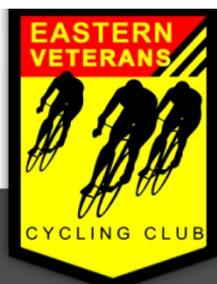
Eastern Vets

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 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.

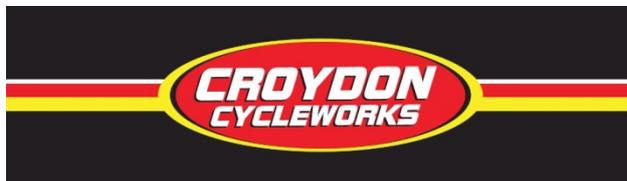
Northern Vets

For details, go to www.northerncycling.com.





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