



# Eastern Cycling Club

25 May 2019

# Newsletter

## Duty Roster

### Saturday 25 May, Thornton

John Thomson (R), Walter Savini (TC), Craig Stannard (TC), Steve Short (TC), J-P Leclercq, Kym Petersen, Richard Harvey, Tim Crowe, Ross Bowlby, Dale Walton, Ken Allan, Max Kornhofer, Haydn Chapman

### Saturday 1 June, Casey Fields

tba (R), Franc Tomsic, Stefan Kirsch

*If rostered for duty, you must be there at least 1 hour prior to start time. If unable to do your duty, it's your responsibility to find a replacement, then advise Andrew Buchanan, [tiptop2@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tiptop2@optusnet.com.au).*

Banner photo: Pete Morris

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Autumn really turned on a treat at Yarra Glen last Saturday. Even the early strong headwind on Glenview Road dropped away as the laps went by. Results and race reports are inside.

This Saturday we cross the Divide to Thornton for the 50 km Royce Bennett Handicap. Let's hope the BoM's prediction of a '90% chance of rain' is as accurate as most of last weekend's polls. This is a pre-entry event and registrations have closed. Riders should check in at the desk at the Thornton Recreation Reserve (or across the road), on Taggerty–Thornton Road just south of the Goulburn Valley Highway, by 1.15 pm. Limit riders will depart at 1.30 pm.

Racing on the following Saturday 1 June will be at Casey Fields.



C Grade turns into Yarraview Road at the bottom of King Street. Eventual winner Martin Peeters is in blue in the centre. Photo: Alison Skene



## Graded scratch races, Yarra Glen, 18 May

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd
A Grade (9)	Richard Abel	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Glenn Newnham
B Grade (13)	Anthony Netkow	Paul Firth	Nick Tapp
C Grade (14)	Martin Peeters	John Williams	Brendan Wain
D Grade (7)	Max Michelson	Colin Mortley	Greg Harvey
E Grade (7)	Jason McCoy	Michael Muscat	Geoff Miller

### A Grade

*By 'Yarra' Glenn Newnham*

Yarra Glen is a circuit that suits me. It's generally hard enough to whittle down the field, but not so hard that I'm one of the ones whittled down. We started with a field of 10 in A Grade. Richard Abel and J-P were the obvious ones to watch during the race, and Phil Cav, Steve Ross serious dangers if it came to a sprint.

It only took until lap two for Richard to hit us with his first attack up the Glenview hill. I might have been on his wheel that time but gradually the bunch came back together. Richard basically repeated this pattern each lap, with J-P, Kevin King and Lawrence Lee taking turns to go with him. Each time the group would gradually come together again. By lap five we were all feeling the effects of the previous attacks and when Richard, J-P and Lawrence jumped again, nobody was in a state to chase them down.

When I looked around at the crest of the hill there were only another three riders with me in the second group: Kevin King, Garron Buckland and Gooch. Lawrence obviously took pity on us after a lap or so off the front and dropped back to help us chase. We were

working well together but even the five of us weren't strong enough to bridge the gap.

I believe it was a pretty clear sprint for 1st with Richard crossing the line ahead of J-P. I was wondering how Garron (who I know can sprint) and Lawrence were feeling as we approached the line on the final lap but I had just enough in the legs for 3rd. Thanks to my chase buddies, and well done to Rich and J-P, who spent around seven laps out on their own. They are tough fellas for sure.



*Two tough fellas. Jean-Philippe and Richard take the corner into Yarraview Road. Photo: Alison Skene*



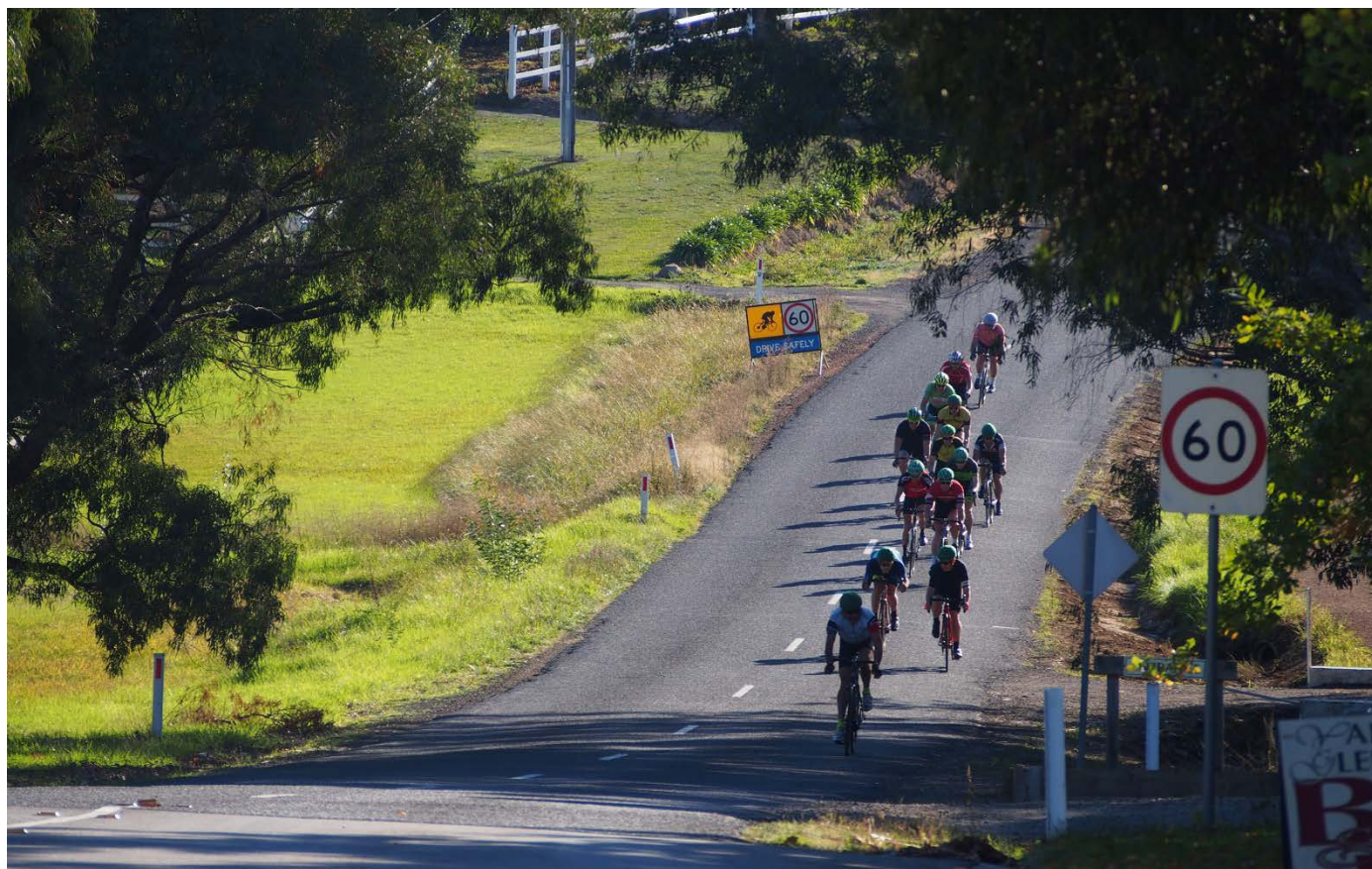
## B Grade

*By Nick Tapp*


There were 13 riders in B this week – the same suspects as at Gruyere the week before, plus Dave Anderson (Northern), Ian McGeoch and a couple more – and it was a cracking autumn afternoon. The headwind on the uphill was fairly brutal at first but dropped somewhat by an hour in.

My plan was to be unseen until the last 100 metres, but I found myself on the front a couple of times early on. As expected, John Blyth and Anthony Netkow pushed it up the hill most laps while the rest of us concentrated on the wheel in front. Paul Firth, Ian and Dave also did plenty, Stuart Bendall too, and we reached halfway without fuss.

With four or five laps to go, the first inevitability came to pass when Anthony simply rode away and no one could follow. With three to go, John did a flyer up the hill (the second inevitability) and got about 100 metres up the road and past C Grade, who were on the bell in front of us. We overtook them up the hill, then backed off as they responded and went by again, led by John Williams I think. We now sat off the back of C all the way around to the finish and let them sprint; then it was time to get organised in pursuit. John was still in sight. I went to the front up the hill and suggested to Craig Oliver that we would catch him if we shared the work. Sure enough, with Paul, Ian and Craig Stannard among the helpers, we did (share) and we did (catch him).



*Ian McGeoch leads B Grade down King Street. Photo: Alison Skene*



Halfway around our bell lap, Anthony is long gone and out of sight, but the rest of us are back together. Into the long finishing drag, the speed increases. The two Craigs are on the front close to the verge, Paul a wheel or two back, out towards the centre of the road, me on Paul's wheel, Rob Suter and John tucked in on the left. There's a crosswind from the right. The road kicks up, Paul shifts right and lights the fuse, and I go with him. I have the perfect sit but am expecting Dave Anderson or Ian to challenge from behind. A hundred to go, I edge out from behind Paul but wait a moment longer. Fifty to go, I go hard, and draw up beside him, he senses someone coming and finds a bit more, and I get within a handspan but no further. It's Paul 2nd, me 3rd. Anthony is watching us sprint from the side of the road. Strava gives Paul and me the same time for the sprint as Richard Abel in A Grade and Brendan Wain in C.

Thanks to everyone in the bunch for a good, hard, safe race, and thanks to the day's marshals and other officials.

## C Grade

*By Rob Lackey*

Not consistent with my racing this year due to TFPBEB (Trip to France Piggy Bank Equity Builder), I was looking forward to the Yarra Glen race as it is a circuit that I have grown to enjoy over the past year or so.

The usual Saturday morning antics of trying to be at three places at once unfolded. Throw in a quick detour for a democracy sausage and I had little time to reflect on the hangover from Friday night drinks. If you haven't been to the Mitcham Social, then do! It's a great little spot off Rooks Road with a healthy range of beers on tap. I think they serve wine and food for those who are interested but the tap beer is cold, wet and tasty!


Anyway, the sun had appeared and the great drive up (have I ever said that we live in a beautiful part of the world?) with some great coffee and company ensured that spirits were lifting. That was until I stepped out of the car and felt the brisk cold breeze on my face. Oh, I thought, we'll enjoy that in our faces on the way *up* the hill. This won't be fun as, no matter what I do, I can't seem to make myself narrower to avoid such a headwind, and the gravitational pull won't play into my hands either!

Looking around at the pre-race briefing, there were a few faces that I didn't recognise and wasn't sure how they would go on such a track. One thing was for sure, I was going to cover anyone having a crack in terms of trying to make a break – well, when it suited me of course. There were a few internal conversations being held at this point with a number of trade-offs, compromises and preferences – much like a political party room really. Anything is possible when it's just in your head! Again, like a few political parties that I won't mention the names of.

It was on our first lap and up the first climb that Mr J. Williams looked as though he wanted to stretch his legs, and moved from behind me up the line and out into the clear. I covered him and though I wasn't too worried about everyone else at that stage, didn't hear anyone else getting back on until the right-hander before the heading down King Street.

The next few laps had a few people going off the front at various parts of the track but no signs of a major break forming. John had a couple of other nudges back up the hill, but nothing to note until Andrew Buchanan streamed past with a couple of hangers-on toward the top of the first part of the climb. They managed to sustain a gap just as the break from A Grade were sailing past. This seemed to create some hesitation in our bunch, and Andrew et al. continued down





King Street with a sizeable gap. I gave it a nudge to catch up to them and encourage them that, given the split in our group, we keep going to form a break. Well, the words must have come out differently to what I intended as they did the opposite. No break, and everyone got back on.

The next couple of laps were fairly non-descript. I played a bit of 'surf the peloton' (Robbie McEwen, *One Way Road*) while mucking about with my Garmin, and dangled off the back for a couple of laps.

I figured we were moving well (later confirmed by the Garmin as I ended up with a couple of PBs) and there wasn't the usual interaction with A and B Grades (I think A Grade passed us once).

The bell lap had B Grade overtake us at snail's pace heading up the hill. El Presidente Adam politely informed them all (B Grade) that we were on the bell lap, which only seemed to inspire them to go half a pedal stroke quicker at that point in time.



Left to right: Ian Milner, John Williams, Rob Lackey. Martin Peeters peeks over John's back. Photo: Alison Skene

At that point, Mr Williams shot past, to which I again responded. We moved well but regained everyone by the corner onto the main straight. Heading towards the finish line there seemed to be some good momentum but nothing of a sprint train forming. Waiting for my chance to launch, I followed Mr Wain out and had to take some corrective action as Mr Peeters moved through from my left to right in avoiding what I think were some popped B Grade riders.

No worries, this is salvageable, I thought – just as Mr Williams shot past. again. I gave it

everything but it seems as though the legs were a little fatigued. 4th! Not the result I wanted, but happy with the day in that it was safe, good fun racing, and by the time I got back to the car, my hangover was gone – magic!

Congrats to Martin, John and Brendan for their respective podium places. Well done and thanks to everyone who turned up to make the race happen on the day – appreciated.

See y'all next week.

### Wednesday criterium at the Loop, Yarra Boulevard, 22 May

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
Division 1a (6)	Tony Kimpton	Simon Romano (N)	Mark Seddon (N)
Division 1b (7)	Pete Morris	Ray Russo	Dean Niclasen
Division 2 (4)	Tony Curulli	David Griffin	Doug Page
Division 3 (5)	Andre Weber	Shane Dwyer (N)	Michael Muscat
Division 4 (1)	Alan Cunneen	--	--

Thanks to referee Susan Williams, Dean Niclasen and other helpers.

### News etc.

#### Change to age limit for male Veterans

Members who watch their email will have seen the notification sent around this week by Veteran Cycling Victoria of a change to the age limit for male riders. Male riders 30 years old will now be able to join a Veterans club. As it says in the email, 'This has taken place over a long period of time. The final outcome and announcement should not have come as a surprise.

'Should you have any questions about this please consult with your Club Executive, they have been included in the entire process.'







## Room to rent in Girona

Eastern member Rob Birch lives in Girona, Spain. It is a fantastic location for cycling, not far from the Pyrenees, France and the Mediterranean.

Rob has a 2-bedroom apartment and his second bedroom is available to rent for any Eastern Cycling Club member, subject to availability (June is currently booked out). Price is €120 per week or €20 per night. Rob's contact details are as follows:

Email: [robgb53@gmail.com](mailto:robgb53@gmail.com)

WhatsApp: +61 478 119 502

Mobile: +34 662 060 483

## Future events

### Eastern CC events

Please refer to page 1 of this newsletter, or go to <https://easterncycling.com/roster/>.

Note: Graded scratch race entries are accepted on the day up until 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 ECC 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 CC events

For details, go to <http://northerncycling.com.au>. Please note that Northern has a new start time of 10 am for road races. Start time for criterium races at National Boulevard remains unchanged at 9 am.

## Sponsors

