

25 January 2020

# Eastern Cycling Club Newsletter

## Duty Roster

**Saturday 25 January**  
Yarra Boulevard, Kew  
Tony Curulli (R), Grant Greenhalgh, Chris Hughson, Tony Dalton

**Saturday 1 February**  
Casey Fields  
John Thomson (RR), 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, [tip2@optusnet.com.au](mailto:tip2@optusnet.com.au).*

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Welcome to the ECC Newsletter for 2020! Last Saturday was something of a red letter day as all those present at Casey Fields celebrated the 90th birthday of Rod Goodes, who lined up as usual in F Grade – a fine achievement. There was a lap of honour with Rod on the front before the racing started, and more than a few kind words were spoken at post-race presentations. We welcomed Rod's wife of 63 years, Anne, and a number of other family members and friends to Casey for the afternoon. You'll find race reports and a note of thanks from Rod inside, as well as a profile of Rod that Jim Swainston prepared for the newsletter in 2017.

There's been plenty else going on. Tuesday and Wednesday racing, of course – results inside. Many are in Adelaide for the Tour Down Under, and Eastern was well represented at the AVCC National Championships there last weekend. Congratulations to all who took part and especially to those who placed. Chris Ellenby's summary is inside.

Looking further up the road, the calendar for 2020 includes the Eastern Grand Prix women's race on Saturday 4 April. Entries are open at <https://entryboss.cc/races/4484>. And if you scroll down you'll find details of the Port Campbell to Warrnambool Handicap, coming up on Saturday 15 February. Veteran riders can compete without a CA licence.



Rod Goodes (centre, in CCW kit), 90 years young, leads the bunch on a lap in his honour last Saturday.

## Graded scratch races, Casey Fields, 18 January

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd
F Grade (5)	Ron Stranks	Rod Goodes	Neil Cartledge
E Grade (4)	Harry Hibgame	Laurie Bohn	John Eddy
D Grade (7)	Ken Allan	Colin Mortley	Susan Williams
C Grade (8)	Paul Anderson	Ken Saxton	Andrew Buchanan
B Grade (7)	Ross Clark (N)	Ray Russo	Darren Woolhouse
A Grade (7)	Alex Randall	Glenn Newnham	Perry Peters

### F Grade

*By Neil Cartledge*

A lot was said about, and to, Rod Goodes on Saturday – all good for a good man on a good day! Rod turned 90 during the week and is still racing. To many of us, that is an amazing feat. With all the maladies one can contract, getting to 90 years is a great outcome. To be still training and racing is fantastic. Rod still does spin classes each week to maintain fitness, and races regularly. He is one of the very first to turn up to a race venue and has his own dedicated parking spot close to the track entry at Casey.

F Grade with Rod on the front led the field in a lap of honour for the birthday boy. It was suggested that Rod lead but, being the tactician that he is, Rod slipped to second wheel whenever he was into the wind – one of the many skills Rod has learned since stating riding at the age of 15. After the lap of honour, Rod's comment was that he had led A Grade at 90. Something that was common in the past.

This being a ride to show respect to Rod, it was agreed prior to racing to not defeat Rod. Rod of course was not part of this agreement!

It started out as most F Grade races do – slow until the legs warmed up, and then the pace increased a little. Clive went to the front into the wind and then followed a few rolled turns. Ronny took a long turn down the back straight and increased the pressure up the finish straight, causing a small gap to appear. Knowing Ron is likely to keep going if he gets the chance, we increased the pace and kept Rod protected until the attack was shut down. Rod wanted to take a turn but the feeling was to keep him as fresh as possible, so somebody would take over.

Trial rider Martin Deeley looked comfortable at all times and could well have gone to the front with ease, but heeded instructions to sit on the back and not influence the race. Casey is Martin's training ground so expect to see more of him now that he can race unhindered. We hope he enjoyed his first race with Eastern.

The bell saw the bunch down one rider. Clive had dropped off after finding the wind a bit too tiring – as we all did. Thanks, Clive, for your contribution. The last lap was expected to be a formality, with only the race for the minor places being unpredictable. On the back straight Ronny led out and the great



Roddy Goodes tried to get on his wheel, with the rest of us hoping to cover him. On the turn Ron gave it his best shot and pulled away by five or six lengths, with Rod now on the front of the rest of us. When Ron looked around to see the gap it was expected he would now sit up, but the line was too close and we all went over in a tight bunch, with Ronny first and Rod Goodes a very close 2nd. Well done, all.

At 90 years of age, Rod Goodes was on the podium and we had the great and enjoyable privilege of riding with him. A memorable day!

Many happy returns, Rod!

## **C Grade**

*By Andrew Buchanan*

Eight C Grade hopefuls rode off, and found an easterly 'breeze' not resembling anything we'd felt outside Casey that day – so what's new?!

Visits to the sharp end during the first few laps, mainly by Adam, Andrew, Ken, Paul Anderson and Doug, set the tone. There was going to be some work to do.

About halfway in, Paul A. was looking threatening, making some leg-testing moves into the wind before a decisive move, with Doug in tow, again into the wind. This split the small bunch, with Ken and Adam the closest chasers, then Steve and Andrew gasping (I was, anyway) to get back with them. In all the excitement we lost Paul James and Greg along the way.

Paul A. maintained his strong move, and dropped Doug, who drifted back to the reassembled main bunch. So it was one away, with five in pursuit, working reasonably well together.

The pursuit morphed into a race for the lower steps on the podium, while Paul rode on

strongly to win by a good distance. The rest of us had a crack for the minors, with Ken outprinting us to get a solid 2nd. Andrew hung on for 3rd.

Congratulations to Paul on a strong performance, and to the bunch for a good ride!

## **A Grade**

*By Mark Edwards*

So, after a year without a Saturday win except for the Christmas Handicap, I was honoured with an A Grade upgrade.

With only vague disrespect, it wasn't the toughest A Grade field, TdU, Nationals and holidays keeping a few away, and Frogzzie stuck marshalling. The reigning Club Champ loving the #1 plate, AMac licking his lips in anticipation, Rob A. always ready to keep everyone honest, a couple of slick and sneaky sprinters in Webster and Peters looking to hide, and the mugs Firthy and me there to make up the prize money.

After a wonderful lap of honour with Rod Goodes we set off. The warm-up lap was a bit quick for my liking, a couple of real laps, then the jets doing a little teasing, no afterburners, just a little more throttle, enough to drop an unwell Firth and put me in deep. Glenn and Alex dangled us for a bit before Alex got sick of cruising and rolled away. Perry seemed more surprised than the rest of us as he followed. Don't let that wheel go! I let mine go and wondered. Blow up now or sit and wait and see? I could read Perry's confusion from way behind – looking back like an old dog being led in to the vet again. Guys? What? He elected to slide back just as Newnham decided he'd had enough of toying around dead weight and started pedalling. 'Jump on, Perry!' nice guy Glenn (NGG) called as he eased by, so he did, for a bit,





then, you know – coda. For a couple of laps he was in that endless loop, looking as weary as John Lennon in the sad [Hey Jude](#) clip.

We let him slip back in, no teasing – we all play nice in A Grade. Now we were just circulating, watching the guns slip further away each lap. Rob did most of the grunt work with the rest poking our noses out a few times. I was feeling pretty good I had sorta lasted in A Grade 'til I realised we couldn't make a dint on B Grade. I so wanted to cruise by pretending I didn't know any of them but, for the first time in like ever, the A Grade field did not lap B Grade. Bummer. No Plan A or Plan B. I wanted to save a bit coz John Thomson was refereeing and I was worried I hadn't put on a front light, but soon enough Rob started attacking to try to take the sting out of the sprinters. He tried uphill, downhill, into the wind, crosswinds. I can see where Ellenby got all his moves.

In the end it came down to the bell, Glenn and Alex almost lapped us also-rides still together. Peters and Webster finally starting to look interested. Did someone say sprint finish? Ears forward, eyes on Rob lurking at the back. I was thinking maybe they'll let an old man step onto the A Grade podium, a once-in-a-lifetime chance. Then I remembered these are bike racers. Envelopes, points, kudos, bragging rights – it's gonna be on for a distant 3rd. Perry goes first, long, from the front – wait, that was going to be *my* move! Paul winds up, the clear favourite, but somehow doesn't finish him off. The rest of us roll in, me pedalling for all I was worth while the others eased down. No ride Sunday or Monday, still spent.

It was nice while it lasted but, like that frog should have said, 'It's easier being green'.

Thanks to all, especially Rod G. for being such an inspiration.

## Rod Goodes

### The Rod Goodes story

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 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, more than 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 in 2019 was made a Life Member of Eastern Cycling Club. Ken has been an Eastern member for decades, 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 many times over Easter, where he duelled with his old sparring partner Brian Long and they recently 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.

*Jim Swainston*

## **A note from Rod**

To all Eastern Club Members,

Thank you all so much for your very memorable surprise party, birthday cake and card for my 90th birthday last Saturday.

In all my years of riding it is a memory that will last forever – especially the ride in front of the peloton!

Many thanks to Adam and Susan, to Jim Swainston for his kind words, and a special thank you to our Handicapper Peter for looking after my surprise guests, who were organised (and kept secret from me) by my wonderful wife Anne.

A big thank you to F Gade for treating me so kindly on this day.

Once again, thank you all for this lasting memory!

*Rod & Anne Goodes*



## AVCC National Championships, Adelaide, 18–20 January

		Crit	Road	TT	Overall
M3 40–44	Max Kornhofer			5th	
M4 45–49	Stefan Kirsch	2nd	6th	3rd	1st
M5 50–54	Tony Kimpton				
M6 55–59	Steven Ross	7th		7th	
M7 60–64	Russell Newnham	1st	19th	3rd	2nd
M7 60–64	Rob Suter			9th	
M8 65–69	Chris Ellenby	4th	2nd	5th	2nd
M9 70–74	Tony Dalton	3rd	3rd		
M10 75–79	Keith Wade	8th	5th	4th	2nd
M10 75–79	Dan Ives	6th			
F4 45–49	Kym Petersen	2nd	2nd		
F5 50–54	Paula McGovern		6th		
F7 60–64	Sue Sharples	1st	2nd	4th	1st
F7 60–64	Pam Vandersluys	2nd	3rd	3rd	2nd

Overall age group placings are awarded to riders who participated in all three events. Points were awarded in each of the three races: 1st = 5, 2nd = 4, 3rd = 3, 4th = 2, 5th = 1.

Some interesting numbers about the Nationals:

- A total of 222 entries (28 Female, 194 Male)
- Every state had at least 1 entry
- 61 entries from Victoria
- 14 members represented Eastern (4 Female, 10 Male)
- Eastern members collected:
  - 2 Gold medals
  - 6 Silver medals
  - 6 Bronze medals
- 6 Eastern members finished either 1st or 2nd overall in their age group.

The event was extremely well organised, with challenging courses and conditions suitable for National Championships. Standard of competition was high, with up to 25 starters in some events.

Hopefully the event will be held in Adelaide again in 2021 with an even greater representation from Eastern. Highly recommended!

*Chris Ellenby*



## Croydon Cycleworks Summer Twilight Crit Series, METEC, 21 January

Grade	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
A Grade (6)	Jean-Philippe Leclercq	Alex Randall	Max Kornhofer	--
B Grade (8)	Craig Stannard	Craig Oliver	Adam Dymond	Brad Jones
C Grade	--	--	--	--
D Grade (10)	Chris Norbury	Peter Brann	Ron Gillies	Michael Muscat

Ride of the night was awarded jointly to Adam Dymond, who snagged 3rd after going up to B Grade to 'make up the numbers', and Max Kornhofer.

### News etc.

#### Peter Ransome

Peter Ransome had a quadruple heart bypass operation last week and is recovering in Knox Private Hospital. Pete is slowly on the mend and hopes to be back home by the weekend.

I visited Pete during the week and dropped in the get well card signed by all who raced at Casey on Saturday. Pete asked to pass on his thanks to all for their messages and wishes.

On behalf of all your mates at ECC, Pete, we wish you a speedy recovery and hope to see you back on the bike soon.

*Adam Dymond*

#### Renewing your membership

To those who have not yet renewed your membership: a reminder that if you are planning to do some training rides while you are holiday, renewing will ensure that you are covered by the insurance that comes with your membership.

Give Juanita Stumbles a call on 0408 180 673 if you have any problems with online renewal here: <https://easterncycling.com/membership/>. You can renew your membership over the phone – just have your credit card handy. Please do not start a new membership because you cannot remember your username or password.

If you are turning 70 anytime in 2020, you are entitled to a reduced membership fee, which is only the AVCC and VCV portion of the fee. This is effective from 1 January 2020, regardless of when in 2020 you turn 70. Again, if you have any issues renewing, please call Juanita.





## 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.

### Other events

The 2020 edition of the Melbourne to Warrnambool is less than a month away and the event is growing from strength to strength.

This year the Warrnambool Race Organisers Committee has worked with sponsors, Warrnambool City Council and the local community to bolster the race program and spectator experience.

Of particular note are the addition of a Saturday handicap and Sunday criterium. Not only do participants get two races across the weekend – they get the experience and thrill of finishing on Raglan Parade!

### Port Campbell to Warrnambool Handicap, Saturday 15 February 2020

Race category: Open (Men and Women)

Eligible membership categories: CA J19, U23, Elite, Masters, Veterans licence

- Special agreement is in place to cover rider insurance (both CA and Veterans).
- The event will be handicapped by a representative of Cycling Victoria and a representative of Veteran Cycling Victoria.
- Veteran members continue to enjoy a handicap event.
- Veteran members benefit from traffic management and course infrastructure.
- Cycling Victoria and Veteran members get the chance to compete head-to-head.

Event website: click [here](#).

Link to enter: click [here](#).

Fuelling for the Port Campbell Handicap: click [here](#).

BikeSportz Portal: click [here](#).





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