



Newsletter of Eastern Veterans Cycling Club

Newsletter, March 9th 2013

This week! Official Race Roster for March 9th. Metec: Nick Bird, Peter Brann and Peter Barnett.

Next week March 16th. Gruyere: To be advised.

Note: Members rostered for marshal or traffic control duties must be at the circuit at least one hour before the scheduled start time to assist with the setting up of the course. (But bring your bike, you just never know). If a marshal fails to turn up for duty, a rider will be balloted to do that duty. If you cannot turn up for duty, you must find a replacement and please advise Andrew Buchanan at tiptop2@optusnet.com.au

Casey Fields 2nd March 2013

Race report:

From all reports, it can be gathered that it was a bit breezy at Casey Fields last week. There was an Elimination race for A-grade, but the results are not available. It could be assumed they were blown away with the riders.

a-grade: (No report)

b-grade: (Nigel Frayne)

Cyclone Casey lived up to its reputation on Saturday with a howling easterly blasting the circuit with wicked cross winds and a block headwind down the back straight. The differential between upwind and

downwind legs is exemplified by the graphic of Lap 4 shown below.

As convention dictates attacking into the wind is more likely to succeed and hence there was a nice range of likely types out to try their luck. You have the solid super-tankers like Ian Milner at one end and the tumbleweeds like me at the other. When my turn for adventurism came around I made sure to have a super-tanker in company. Unfortunately for them, there's not much protection from a tumbleweed so, like all the other attacks, ours also failed.

The decision to include an intermediate sprint at the 30 minute mark had the usual effect of spicing up the race. The sprinters usually can't help themselves and the cunning foxes know to keep safe and then



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immediately attack. It was my intention to keep safe and just try to stay in the race. The 1/2 lap leading up to the sprint was a crazy affair causing the entire bunch to blow apart with a number of riders finding themselves so far from company that it was game over.

For me this was the critical point in the race. It would have been curtains if not for two things, a very dark and deep look into the black pit of inner mongrel and the salvation of hiding in the wheels of Rob Suter and David Hyde – thanks boys, I owe you one. It took us, was it a lap, or was it two, or was it...? When you are that deep down in the hole it's hard to recall much of anything. Somehow eventually the combination of Rob and Dave's determination and the easing pace in the bunch allowed us to regroup.

However this was a significantly smaller bunch now, maybe 10 riders? The sight of John Pritchard sitting in a deckchair, already changed into civvies, beer in hand, was telling. Nice point of view while we continued to be buffeted and beaten about the head by the relentless gale. And relentless attacks also continued by the likes of Doug Reynolds and a new rider (to me) Peter Bertelsen not at all happy with our company and determined to break away.

Alas for them and lucky for us mortals it was not to be. Somewhat bemused by life's mysteries I found myself hearing the bell of reality ringing. Suddenly the brain had to switch into 'last lap mode'. I searched around for inspiration and picked out two wheels to follow – Ray Russo, erstwhile A Grader soon to be reunited with his peers; and former A Grade wily fox, Phil Thompson, sure to be making the right moves for me to follow. Jostling for positions caused a constant change pace as riders took turns saying "not me" to leading out. I was happy to take the sit on Ray Russo's wheel in 4th pozzie as we headed into the wind on the back straight. One opportunist took off early and ran to a 20 metre gap while the rest of us chuckled under our gasping breath. When the serious sprint started there were six riders ahead of me and the handlebars were almost touching. Things spread out a little more once we hit the home straight but the strong boys were pulling away from me with Ray determined to get back to A Grade and taking the win from wily fox Phil and the evergreen Doug Reynolds in 3rd. I guess I'd picked the right wheels. The only problem was not being able to stay with them. I did manage to haul in the early sprinter and rolled over the line in 5th. Phew! Tough day out.

C-grade: (Colin O'Brien)

Casey's C grade race was going to be one in which either a strong and smooth working break-away would succeed or everyone would simply pull down the shutters and simply go for the sprint. Well, when you have a number of keen riders open to the former strategy maybe there was a chance. The very blustery east wind made riding in a big bunch more challenging as riders were unsure whether another might be blown into them at some of the tricky parts of the course...an incentive for a small group.

Steve, way to go mate, opened up break away proceedings early on with Colin O'Brien and David Pyne heading off to join him momentarily until the bunch caught up. Frank Tomsic and Dave Pyne were too strong for Steve and got away early which they did for some laps as they headed up to the intermediate sprint won by Frank...well done in the wind. Dave feeling the effects of a sore hamstring dropped away and rode with the bunch. A few other riders also chased down to the sprint line as Frank eased back a little to regain some energy waiting for some help. The riders began to bunch up behind. Then, half a lap later Colin jumped across and joined Frank with Hamish Moffatt with the bunch still not far back. Steve waited then for the right opportunity to jump across so then we had a keen group of four.

The break-away group quickly settled in and began to work together sharing the time in front...Hamish down the back, Steve up the straight, Frank past the start and back around into the bend with Colin a long pull with-and-across the wind to keep speed up to the start of the windy back straight where Hamish took over again.

And so it went and for each lap for 10 to 15 minutes as the group gradually started to move away from the bunch. Enthused by their success they continued to roll over smoothly and kept consolidating their distance from the bunch...maybe $\frac{3}{4}$'s of a lap near the end. With Frank starting to think about his sprinter's legs and, as sprinters do, saving his energy nearer the end, pulled away strongly up to the finish with Colin 2nd, then Hamish followed by Steve. The group never let up and were happy that a shared effort in such blustery conditions was rewarded with success.

The bunch struggled with enough riders to share duties off the front and progressively fell behind. It was a day that a breakaway could succeed or just as easily fail. This one worked.



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With their enormous earnings shared the foursome managed to buy a Mars Bar, half a coke and a beer each. What more could they ask for.

d-grade: (Paul James)

On arrival the wind must have been blowing @ 40 knots plus, one of if not the windiest days I have ridden at Casey. This made for some very cautious first few laps (and just at the start, we are thrown an intermediate sprint. Didn't that throw a few thoughts into some heads)? With most taking a short turn at the front you could sense something was about to happen, and then @ 25 minutes they rang the bell for the intermediate sprint. It was at about the halfway point of this lap and with a very strong tail wind Paul took off. This seemed to catch most by surprise or were they right in thinking, how crazy? The only chaser at that stage was Adrian, who continued to be just behind Paul all the way to the finish line. It was at this stage that Adrian kept going soon followed by the Handicapper (Peter). The two of them kept the breakaway going (though comments after the race were the officials for the day thought they were of the back) for just on 50 minutes when first Adrian and then Peter were brought back to the bunch. Just 2 laps later the bell was ringing again, which brought about more jockeying for position, you could see the experienced get to the right spot at the right time with Adrian, Michael, Peter, Graham, Colin all there about. It was the real sprinters day with Graham just getting over the line from the fast finishing Michael and Peter. Adrian was looking so close for a place, but the massive effort (for the second week in a row), just took its toll. Great day and as usual, thank you to all of the officials that make it possible for us to ride.

d-grade: (Peter Mackie)

Surprise!! Surprise!! It was windy at Casey!

The lead was shared by only a few, Michael from Northern was looking strong and the group kept a close eye on him throughout the race. Right on the twenty minute mark we were given the bell for the intermediate sprint. Nobody seemed in a hurry to lead the bunch out; however Paul James used the unusual tailwind up the slight incline to make his break, and I'm sure I heard Colin mumble "bugger" or something a bit naughtier. Adrian was the only one to chase Paul, and from the bunch it looked rather funny as they headed down the back straight looking like they were pedalling but coming backwards. Eventually Paul held on to take the sprint and sat up and recovered whilst Adrian rode straight pass Paul for a break.

With the bunch not doing anything in the intermediate sprint Peter decided to take a chance & rode away from the bunch (I'm pretty sure they sat up), passed Paul and onto Adrian's wheel. The wind would be a challenge but Adrian and Peter stayed away for most of the race. The bunch appeared to be thinning and eventually looked to be only four chasing Adrian & Peter.

Adrian tied on the second last lap, after seeing Adrian return to the pack & not knowing how long to go, Peter decided to ease up and save some energy, however this didn't work to well as soon as he re-joined the bunch, they were given the bell. Paul had the pleasure of leading the group around (a very unusual position for Paul), Colin on Paul's wheel, followed by Adrian, Graham, Michael and Peter.

Half way down the back straight leading into the finish straight the order of the bunch as still unchanged, than Adrian went, Graham jumped on his wheel, Peter on Grahams and Michael & Colin soon to follow. Adrian succumbed to tired legs half way up the straight Graham taking the lead, with Michael, Peter, Adrian & Colin fighting for the places. End result was a tight finish for second and third: Michael 2nd and Peter 3rd – just!!

e-grade: (No Reports)

f-grade: (Alex Watts)

On Saturday afternoon I arrived at Casey Fields feeling a little tired and just wanting to **Take It Easy**. I looked at who was going to ride F-Grade: Keith, Rod, Clive, Stewart and, for the second week on the trot Petra. Petra ain't no **Witchy Woman** but she sure can be a devil of a rider to race against! We started slowly and I had a **Peaceful Easy Feeling** which was good, because last week I had ridden like a **Desperado** at Dunlop Road. I didn't want to go too hard, otherwise last nights red wine could make a very unattractive **Tequila Sunrise**! As we came off the neutral lap my mind was in neutral with **Doolin-Dalton** and little else going through my brain.

Then, before we knew it, Petra was **Already Gone**, taking the fight to us all. I settled on the saddle, promised my bike the **Best of My Love** and hunted with the F-Grade pack to chase her down.

The next highlight was the intermediate sprint, which required us to ride faster than **James Dean...**(RIP). As we came off the corner and rode up to the line it became clear that this was a race between Clive and



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Rod. The years rolled back and, it was rumoured, this was to settle a score that began back in **OI' '55**. Clive pipped Rod to take the honours, but then again he's always been a **Midnight Flyer**.

As the race continued it was clear that a few of the guys were **On the Border**. So it proved, with Petra, Keith and Rod succumbing to the windy conditions after a brave fight.

With Clive thinking about the dollars he had just won, Stewart and I put a push on and created a gap. Stewart and I talked about the finish...I was nervous...one of us had **Lyin' Eyes!**

Stewart is definitely getting stronger and **One of These**

Nights real soon he'll clean up in F-Grade (and above), that's for sure.

On Saturday though I was able to **Take It to the Limit** and secure the victory.

I'm able to appreciate the racing, but also enjoy myself **After the Thrill Is Gone**.

As usual the drinks service was impeccable, as if we were in a **Hotel. California** like weather again, albeit a little windy - weren't we lucky.

("Control+click" on each high light to take you to that song. Alex has too much time on his hands! He should be our next editor. Ed)

Speed graph for Lap 4;(Nigel Frayne)



A-Grade Teams points as of March 2nd.

Ranking Tables	Casey	
Team	Race 5 Points	Fields Rank
Giant Celtic	88	1
Adriatic	52	2
Omara	41	3
Bike Force	26	4
Croydon Pick-a-Part	22	5
BikeGearNow/VeloEx	13	6
EVCC	12	7
Team Skoda	10	8
Check sum	264	

Riders	02-Mar-13 Points	Rank
Ciaran Jones	40	1
Justin Davis	35	2
Tim Jamison	20	3
Guy Green	18	4
Andrew Mapstone	18	4
Gerard Donnelly	16	6
Tony Chandler	15	7
Rus Newnham	15	7
Phil Cavaleri	14	9
James Steward	12	10
Boyd Friis	12	10



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Results: Casey Fields, Saturday, March 2nd.

	First	Second	Third	Intermediate Sprint
a-grade (27)	Ciaran Jones	Roy Clark	Gerald Donnelly	Stefan Kirsch
b-grade (15)	Ray Russo	Phil Thompson	Doug Reynolds	Tony Curulli
c-grade (16)	Franc Tomsic	Colin O'Brien	Hamish Moffatt	Franc Tomsic
d-grade (10)	Graham Cadd	Michael Paull	Peter Mackie	Paul James
e-grade (8)	David Coull	Alan Hicks	Geoff Miller	Alan Hicks
f-grade (6)	Alex Watts	Stewart Jenkins	Clive Wright	Clive Wright

Officials at Casey Fields, March 2nd.

Thanks to Peter Mackie and Ron Stranks who were on the desk taking entries. Special thanks to all those on-course led by Richard Dobson, the referee along with the following, ensured we had a safe race. Thanks to Phil Coldwell Mark Cheeseman and Geoff Cranstone. Thanks to Andrew Buchanan, who manages the duty roster and ensures we have enough people on the day for our races, to J.C. Wilson who brought the trailer along and Dean Niclasen, who was on hand with the drinks.

GSR Results: Metec, March 5th Croydon Cycleworks Tuesday Summer Series

	First	Second	Third	Forth
a-grade (15)	Andrew Mapstone	Chris Hughson	Steve Ross	
b-grade (18)	Duncan Hansford	Darren Woolhouse	Mark Edwards	Mark Peacock
c-grade (22)	Dan Hulbert	Brian McCann	John Clarkson	Maurice Wiese
d-grade (14)	Phil Aarons	Peter Brann	Neil Cartledge	
e-grade (6)	Peter Gray	Alan Hicks	J C Wilson	

Results: The Loup February 27th.

	First	Second	Third
Division 1	P Cauleri (N)	Peter Ferrie (N)	Phil Thompson
Division 2	Tony Curulli	J Housaris (N)	Richard Dobson
Division 3	David Mayne	Peter Gray	Alan Cunneen

Croydon Cycleworks Summer Series Aggregate to 5th March 2013

	Name		Grade	Points		Name		Grade	Points
1	Clark	Roy	A	86	14	Reynolds	Doug	B	50
2	Mapstone	Andrew	A	82	15	Brann	Peter	D	48
3	Aarons	Phillip	D	72	16	Dymond	Adam	C	48
4	Hughson	Chris	A	72	17	McCormack	David	C	48
5	Pyne	David	C	72	18	Amos	Rob	A	44
6	Edwards	Mark	B	70	19	McCann	Brian	C	44
7	Cartledge	Neil	D	64	20	Ross	Steve	A	44
8	Goodall	Dayle	B	60	21	Russo	Ray	A	44
9	Black	Wes	D	54	22	Ellenby	Chris	B	42
10	Kirsch	Stefan	A	54	23	Hansford	Duncan	B	42
11	Wiese	Maurice	C	54	24	Herzog	Marcus	B	42
12	Eastwood	Craig	B	50	25	Ransome	Peter	C	42
13	James	Paul	D	50					

Only 3 races to go! Prizes to the total value of \$6855 down to 14 places.



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Eastern Vets Program: www.easternvets.com/

Saturday	Mar	9	2:00pm	Metec	Graded Scratch Race.
Tuesday's			6:00pm	Metec	GSR Summer Series
Wednesday's			10:15am	The Loup	Graded Scratch Race
Saturday	Mar	16	2:00pm	Gruyere	Kermesse.
Saturday	Mar	23	1:30pm	Dunlop Rd.	Graded Scratch Race.
Monday	Mar	29	7:30pm	Ringwood Club	Annual Meeting
Saturday	Mar	30	2:00pm	Metec	Graded Scratch Race.

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 Program: www.northerncycling.co.au/

Sunday	Mar	10	9:00am	National Boulevard	Graded Scratch Races
Sunday	Mar	17	9:00am	National Boulevard	Graded Scratch Races
Sunday	Mar	24	10:00am	Lancefield	Bradley Family Memorial Handicap.
Sunday	Mar	31			Easter Sunday. No racing.

Victorian Veterans Cycling Council program: www.veterancycling.com.au/

Sunday	Mar	10	9:30am	O'Brien Contracting Central Vets	Woodstock on Loddon. 66k. \$25
Sunday	Mar	17	9:30am	Sth. West Credit/Robbie Hall Memorial. Warrnambool Vets.	Wangoon Res. 62k. \$25
Sun.	Mar 29 to Apr			South Pacific Championships	Maryborough. Road, Sprint ITT & Crit. \$25/event
Thursday	Apr	25	1:00pm	Benghazi Handicap Northern Vets	Lancefield, 76k

Note: Entries are to be on the appropriate VVCC Open entry form (available on VVCC website) and are to be accompanied by the requisite fee.

Note: The club benefits from the sponsorship from the Ringwood Club, even if you do not use the facility, but you must register with the Ringwood Club. It doesn't cost you anything and you are under no obligation to ever attend the club. So, please fill out the Ringwood Club application form and return it to the EVCC or post it to PO Box 8114, Burnt Bridge 3134.

Other coming events etc:

Please advise the editor of any future events that could be of interest of the members.

The Annual General meeting will be held at the Ringwood Club on Monday, March 25th at which committee positions become vacant and new officers are elected. To date we have received no indication from any of the membership to nominate for any of the positions available. The club doesn't run itself, it requires input from members, the more who help the less there is for those who do.

If you have any desire to help the club please consider nominating yourself for a position on the committee. The positions that are Appointed Positions available are;

Elected Positions;

- President / Vice President- Safety Officer
- Secretary / Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer / Assistant Treasurer / Membership Officer
- Handicapper / Assistant Handicapper
- Club Captain / Club Vice Captain- VVCC Delegate (1 of 3)

Appointed Positions;

- Safety Officer
- Referee
- Newsletter Editor
- VVCC Delegate (1 of 3)
- Race Committee member





Peter Wykes, former Eastern member is running a track training/coaching session at DISC every Tuesday morning from 10.00 am until 12 noon. Peter is a level 1 coach. You can hire a bike for \$10 and you might need to take out a CA licence for \$66. This is a non racing licence, but enables you to ride at DISC and enter Gran Fondo's without having to pay extra. If you are interested, contact Peter on 9404 1740.

Eastern Member Profile



Name: Steve Ross

Occupation: Sheetmetal Design/Laser Programmer

Current grade with Eastern: A grade

Your age & grade when you first joined Eastern: 43/ C grade.

When & How did you get into Cycling: After losing interest in playing footy in my early teens I got the motocross bug and raced until I was 17 achieving 'A' grade at the Waverley and Nunawading clubs. Throughout the week though it was all bmx. My mates and I would ride long distances to the best jumps and compete with each other in an effort to stay airborne for the longest. It wasn't all athletic though, in between jumps we'd put away a ciggie or two (shame file) and talk about how cool our last efforts were.

Later on after gaining a motorcycle license my addiction to road motorcycles began. Over a period of 15 years I owned many of the best sports bikes going and followed the race scene pretty closely attending many local and interstate events as a spectator. *Watching* sport is not really the same so eventually it was all about blowing off your mates through Reefton & Black Spurs and eventually track days at Phillip Island on my Honda Fireblade. After ruining a \$500 set of tyres in one day, enough was enough and I had to find something else.

In 1993 a triathlete friend convinced me to accompany him on a 30km training ride using his spare Apollo racer. It nearly killed me (nothing has changed), but I enjoyed it and bought the bike. As we actually worked together, he roped me into entering the BRW corporate team triathlon, representing Corning (Optical Waveguides). We (our team of 3) entered 3 years in a row, eventually placing 10th overall (1st in manufacturing) from over 700 teams on our final attempt.

I entered many triathlons throughout the warmer months each year and joined Carnegie Caulfield Cycling Club to help with bike fitness. I usually raced D or C grade at Waverley Park. Later, after turning 35, joining Southern Vets and racing (mostly at the same venue) in C grade. Training for 3 sports was very demanding though & I eventually dropped the triathlons.

My cycling became pretty sporadic after my son's junior footy took over Saturdays, and running my 3 boys around during the week to music lessons etc. meant cycling time was hard to come by. My son Elliot's former footy coach (Matt White) always kept me filled in on the latest at the Eastern Vets racing scene and finally after ditching the dreaded cigarettes for good, I joined the club in 2007.

Sporting/Employment highlight: Under 13 premiership with BTYC footy club is hard to beat.





Most memorable Cycling Win / Race (why): 2012 Christmas Handicap. I didn't win, but to make the final with riders like Leaper, Kirsch, Clarke and Jones I was more than happy.

Favourite & least Favourite circuit (why): Gembrook. Why? The hill, stupid!

Other sporting / hobby interests: Good food, good wine and good beer (and the mighty Tiges).

The rider you most admire at Eastern: Rob Amos. He can read a race well and never gives up.

The rider you most love to beat: Everyone in my grade, or in a handicap, everyone!



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