

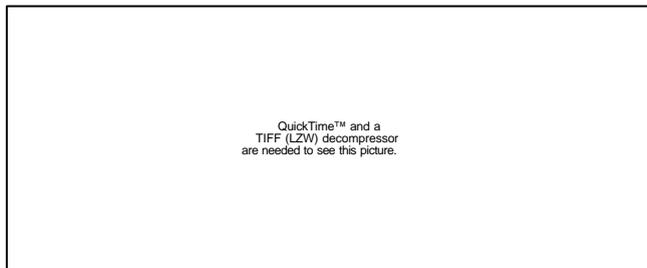
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Newsletter March 2005

Race Results

13 February Wangara Criteriums

The showers forecast for Sunday morning didn't appear but under blue skies there was a fair bit of humidity that saw bidons being given a hiding and the racing secretary rubbing his hands as the soft drinks tin overflowed with coins. Sixty-seven riders started and most finished, though unlucky man of the day was without doubt Ray Craig who could be heard cursing his brand new tyres as he walked the straight on the penultimate lap.

'A' grade had a strong field of 15 riders and the pace from the word 'go' was hot, causing the field to split at about 25 minutes into the race. The slightly uphill finish didn't seem to slow down anyone in the group and with 50 metres to go it was anyone's guess as to the winner. However, perhaps the knowledge that he was leading the 'Roger Sutton Points Competition' inspired Ian McFall for he emerged clear of the pack to hold off previous week's winner Merv Byfield by half-a-length,

with Steph Ratcliffe and Graeme Muston fighting a close finish for third place. In his first ride in 'A' grade this season, Fred Landon showed he had the ability when finishing a metre or two down.

The riders in 'B' grade didn't appear to want to make it easy and there were attacks from the first lap. Andrew Bennett, Bob Russell and Ken Harvey made an early attempt but were soon brought back to the bunch, while fresh out from South Africa, Mark de Castro also made his presence known during the course of the race. In a wild bunch finish Dave Hutson showed his mettle and promotion potential when surging to the line just ahead of a flying Gary Boterhoven and Gavin Brown – after, he stated, riding 150km the day before. Mark de Castro was pleased with his 4th place alongside Ed Campbell and the rest of the 16-strong group.

Once again Colin Rossiter appeared to be struggling throughout the hard contested 'C' category race but managed to summon

his strength in the final dash to the line to beat Trev Robson by a good length. Bill Crout kept up his consistent placing when finishing close behind, while recent member, Richard Edinger, showed his steady improvement when getting into the prize-money just ahead of Len Hall.

'D' grade was ridden aggressively with some of the attacks coming from the two women in the field, Jane McIntyre and Carrie Prior. At the finish, however, there was little doubt as to the winner even 100metres out, as the silver hair of Gerry Lawford was recognisable as he surged to an unbeatable lead. Ed Willis, still on the comeback trail, showed some of his old sparkle when finishing second ahead of the rejuvenated Rod Babel, and Lindsay Froyland, while Frank Kettle just failed to get into the money prizes, finishing fifth.

'E' witnessed nine starters and eight finishers in this closely contested event, the odd man out being Jim Campbell who decided the humidity didn't help his cause. After an absence of almost a year, the unknown quantity (or quality!) was Roger Broun, who showed at the finish that he was still capable of finishing in style by taking 2nd place behind Jack Iveson, and a length ahead of Des Williams and Brian Paxman. The ladies were in close contention, 'though not appearing in the prize list.

'A' grade – 45mins + 2 laps

1. Ian McFall; 2. Merv Byfield;
3. Steph Ratcliffe; 4. Graeme Muston;
5. Fred Landon; 6. Tony Beaumont;
7. George Miller; 8. Wal Crowley;
9. Paul Barizza; 10. Dom Bruewhiler;
11. Alan Clark; 12. Rob Suter;
13. Andrew Duff; 14. Leigh Barker.

'B' Grade – 40mins + 2 laps

1. Dave Hutson; 2. Gary Boterhoven;
3. Gavin Brown; 4. Mark de Castro;
5. Ed Campbell; 6. Mike Watson;
7. Brett Shortland; 8. Mario Librizzi;
9. Ken Harvey; 10. Dave Bebee;
11. Ian Logan; 12. Steve Dodd;
13. Bob Russell; 14. Frans Karel;
15. Andrew Bennett; 16. Rick Churchill.

C Grade – 35mins + 2 laps

1. Colin Rossiter; 2. Trev Robson;
3. Bill Crout; 4. Richard Edinger;
5. Len Hall; 6. Roger Scott;
7. Bob Stephens; 8. Alan Kinghorn;
9. Barry Eversden; 10. Doug Macdonald;
11. Paul Wighton.

'D' Grade – 30mins + 2 laps

1. Gerry Lawford; 2. Ed Willis;
3. Rod Babel; 4. Lindsay Froyland;
5. Frank Kettle; 6. Kevan Logan;
7. Jane MacIntyre; 8. Denis Robinson;
9. Dave Nangle; 10. Carrie Prior;
11. Paul Crespi; 12. Tony Speechley;
13. Shane White.

'E' Grade – 30mins + 2 laps

1. Jack Iveson; 2. Roger Broun;
3. Des Williams; 4. Brian Paxman;
5. Leo Enright; 6. Sheona Clark;
7. Janet Bennett; 8. Heather Sanderson.

Saturday 19th February AHG Driving Centre, Perth International Airport.

It was thumbs up by everyone for this first visit to the Driving School circuit at the International Airport – and a big thanks go to our Patron Kerry Bruewhiler for her generosity in sponsoring the cost of hiring the venue. It was nice not to have to worry about traffic and though there were a few tight bends, the riders managed them without too much trouble. On a relatively warm afternoon and with a stiff breeze against them on the finishing straight there were a few tired legs and flushed faces at the end of the various races but everyone was of the opinion that next season we should consider running two or three events there if hiring was still possible. While Saturday afternoon doesn't suit everyone (there were 54 starters) the policy of reducing the number of grades when numbers was down seemed to work well.

'A' grade with 19 riders was the largest group of the day and that all riders finished close together after a race full of attacks says much for the quality of our premier riders. However, three managed to get away after 25mins and it looked as if Merv

Byfield, Mark Petterson and George Miller would sweep the board but unfortunately for George, he punctured and was only able to guess what might have been from the shelter of the chasing group. Meanwhile, the duo swapped turns until the final straight when Mark Petterson took a tiring Merv Byfield in the sprint – though by that time the word sprint might have been only semantic! Paul Barizza also managed to get away from the group in the last couple of laps to finish alone in third place (again!!) while Andrew Brierley led in Darren Miller and the rest of the field. Impressing the crowd was new rider Matt Tognini who took up a few opportunities to attack.

Success comes to those who persevere and never was that more true than in the case of Andrew Bennett who after a few years in the ranks of ‘B’ grade was delighted to record his first win which he achieved in a strong sprint finish - a just result after his earlier efforts and his performances over the previous few weeks. Early animators were Bob Russell, Eddie Campbell and Mario Librizzi who pulled away in what looked like a winning break, only to be gradually pulled back to the bunch. New member Simon Chester impressed with his second placing in the sprint, with old hand Laurence Wynne close to his wheel in third. Brett Shortland and Ian Watson moved into the money when taking fourth and fifth respectively.

‘C’ grade also saw much attacking riding but the move of the day came with about 15 minutes to go when Bob Stephens and John Domican worked well together to produce a gap of about 300metres that they held to the end – even managing (in the words of the Sargeant Major) not to become ‘contaminated’ when they got mixed up with ‘A’ grade. Bob proved the stronger in the sprint but as this was John’s first ride for a while, he was quite happy to take second place. Doug Macdonald managed to creep off the front to finish some 20metres ahead of the bunch that was led in by Len Hall.

The limited number of total entries saw 18 ‘D’ & ‘E’s combined in ‘D’, though a couple of special prizes were put in place for ‘E’ grade contestants. A few of them found the pace a bit hard but some were in at the kill, with 6th place going to Michelle Robertson, and at the end of the first bunch Brian Paxman and Leo Enright also featured. The sprint went to ex-seaman, now landlubber, Roger Broun who sealed his fate in ‘D’ when taking his second win in consecutive weeks, while Shane White also showed his potential by again finishing on Roger’s tail. Lindsay Froyland kept up his points tally for the Roger Sutton competition when taking third place while Frank Kettle and septegarian, Ray Craig, just failed to make the frame.

‘A’ grade 45mins plus 2 laps

1. Mark Petterson; 2. Merv Byfield;
3. Paul Barizza; 4. Andrew Brierley;
5. Darren Miller; 6. Matt Tognini;
7. Steph Ratcliffe; 8. Fred Landon;
9. Graeme Muston; 10. Ian McFall;
11. Steve Burglund; 12. Dom Bruewhiler;
13. Wal Crowley; 14. Tony Beaumont;
15. George Miller; 16. Alan Clark;
17. Rob Suter; 18. Dave Hutson.

‘B’ grade 40mins plus 2 laps

1. Andrew Bennett; 2. Simon Chester;
3. Laurence Wynne; 4. Brett Shortland;
5. Mike Watson; 6. Atilla Nagy;
7. Mario Librizzi; 8. Bob Russell;
9. Doug McVickers; 10. Ken Harvey;
11. Steve Dodd.

‘C’ grade 35mins plus 2 laps

1. Bob Stephens; 2. John Domican;
3. Doug Macdonald; 4. Len Hall;
5. Roger Scott; 6. Bill Crout;
7. Trev Robson; 8. Bob Barnes;
9. Ralph Rana; 10. Paul Wighton;
11. Carrie Prior.

‘D’ grade 30mins plus 2 laps

1. Roger Broun; 2. Shane White;
3. Lindsay Froyland; 4. Frank Kettle;
5. Ray Craig; 6. Michelle Robertson (1st E); 7. Dave Nangle ; 8. Denis Robinson;
9. Tony Speechley; 10. Brian Paxman (2nd E); 11. Leo Enright; 12. Janet Bennett;

13. Heather Sanderson; 14. Sheona Clark;
15. Des Williams; 16. Jim Campbell.

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We are adding in high-end road bikes to the elite range of bikes that we carry at the Cottesloe store. New 2005 Campagnola and Shimano equipped models are in, good deals include:

- 2005 model, 10sp Campagnola, full carbon **ORBEA** for \$4750.
- New 2005 Giant TCR composite models just arrived into stock.

It will take a while to build the range but you will get great support at Cottesloe

T-Mobile TCR Advance

Have you recently seen a distinctive pink 2005 Giant TCR Advance (No1 UCI team T-Mobile bike), the rider wearing a WAIS jersey? This is Andrew Wade and you can get one from FIX.

Andrew Wade at Worlds

FIX Bikes sponsors Andrew Wade and other junior riders in WAIS. Andrew was selected to the Australian junior road and MTB teams and in October raced at the World Road Championships in Verona. Well done Andrew.

Supporting cycling in WA



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- Used by the Australian Institute of Sport
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27 February – Wangara Criteriums

Cloudy skies presented a cooling effect on the occasion but the sweat still poured as attack followed attack in ‘A’ grade. Early animator, Matt Tognini, made a determined effort from the word ‘go’ but was brought to heel after a couple of laps. The first successful move came at about the 20 minute mark when Fred Landon and Dom Bruewhiler made a determined attack, to be joined the next lap by Andrew Brierley. The trio drew steadily ahead, though Graeme Muston managed to close the gap and with all four doing hard turns there was little hope of the rest of the field getting to grips, despite valiant attempts by Alan Clark and Steph Ratcliffe to solo. Thus, at the bell the four escapees had a good minute to play with, though the expected four-up sprint was reduced to three when Andrew powered away on the final leg of the course to finish some 20metres ahead of Graeme Muston, with the on-form Fred Landon coming in just ahead of Dom Bruewhiler to take third place. Matt Tognini led in the bunch just ahead of Paul Barizza.

‘B’ grade was also conducted at a fast pace with a few attempts being nullified quickly by the bunch, though Bob Russell managed to draw away for a lap or so around about half way through the race. Colin Rossiter promoted to ‘B’ on the day was happy to hang on for much of the race, though everyone should recognize by now that however much he suffers he is always capable of pulling out a good sprint. And so it proved when he shot out of the tightly packed bunch with 100metres to go, to hold off Ian Logan by a length with Brett Shortland, Rick Churchill and the rest coming in for the camera to sort out the placings.

Paul Verburg hadn’t race for over twelve months but was there at the finish to upset the handicapper with a strong sprint to get first over the line. Wayne Lally on the come-back trail showed some of his old

LOWER PRICES – FOR THE FUN

sparkle when finishing close behind for second place while old hand Alan Kinghorn put in a good effort to finish a close third. Ed Willis who started in 'E' grade a few weeks ago showed his rapid improvement by coming in fourth, while Roger Scott finished 5th for the third week in a row.

'D' and 'E' grades were again merged for their 30minute plus race with 18 of the 19 starters finishing in the bunch finish. Odd man out was Tony Speechley who was forced to abandon after only a lap following a pulled muscle. The results reflected that of previous weeks when Shane White and Roger Broun filled the first two places, thus prodding the handicapper to seriously consider giving them an upgrade. Jack Iveson again showed that he is basket case for inconsistency when filling third place (against his last place of the previous week) while Rod Babel just managed to squeeze out young Ray Craig and the President when taking fourth place. First in 'E' grade went to Jack Iveson – though future policy will dictate one rider, one prize!

'A' grade 45mins plus 2 laps

1. Andrew Brierley; 2. Graeme Muston;
3. Fred Landon; 4. Dom Bruewhiler;
5. Matt Tognini; 6. Paul Barizza;
7. Ian McFall; 8. Wal Crowley;
9. Steph Ratcliffe; 10. Dave Hutson;
11. Tony Beaumont; 12. Alan Clark;
13. Andrew Duff; 14. Merv Byfield.

'B' grade 40mins plus 2 laps

1. Colin Rossiter; 2. Ian Logan;
3. Brett Shortland; 4. Rick Churchill;
5. Andrew Bennett; 6. Bob Russell;
7. Mike Watson; 8. Dave Bebee;
9. Clint Bird; 10. Mark Leaker;
11. Brian Sheldrick; 12. Ken Harvey

'C' grade 35mins plus 2 laps

1. Paul Verburg; 2. Wayne Lally;
3. Allan Kinghorn; 4. Ed Willis;
5. Roger Scott; 6. Bill Crout;
7. Richard Edinger; 8. Trev Robson;
9. Paul Wighton; 10. Bob Stephens;
11. Alan Dovey; 12. Carrie Prior;

13. Doug Macdonald; 14. Bob Barnes.

'D' grade 30mins plus 2 laps

1. Shane White; 2. Roger Broun; 3. Jack Iveson (E); 4. Rod Babel; 5. Ray Craig; 6. Kevan Logan; 7. Paul Crespi; 8. Denis Robinson; 9. Brian Paxman (E); 10. Michelle Robertson; 11. Gerry Lawford; 12. Heather Sanderson (E); 13. Des Williams; 14. Jim Campbell (E); 15. Janet Bennett (E); 16. Dave Nangle; 17. Hilton Fry.

Sunday 6 March – Kewdale

The forecast thundery showers didn't appear and under clear blue skies 76 riders were tempted out of their beds to participate in the morning's activity. With 'Roger Sutton' points in the offing there was expectation of lots of action and the field in 'A' grade didn't disappoint, with a promising break developing after about 15mins of riding. Dom Bruewhiler, Steve Berglund and Bob Suter were involved and were joined by Fred Landon when he bridged the gap. However, the chase was intensified and after another 15 minutes they were brought to heel. Came the final lap and Ian McFall was seen to hurtle around the final corner and fly up the straight. Paul Barizza lying 2nd in the points competition pulled out all stops to pull him back without success but when it appeared that he would finish in second place Darren Miller came out of nowhere to lunge past. Steph Ratcliffe defied his growing years when finishing fourth to just ease past Steve Berglund, while Alan Clark pulled off one of his best rides in recent times when sprinting to sixth place.

With 23 starters, 'B' grade were an imposing group as they barrelled around the circuit, though there were no epics and it all came down to the bell. There was no great surprise when Atilla Nagy who usually shines in the premier grade, zoomed up the straight for victory. Gary Boterhoven showed his excellent sprinting powers when finishing only a couple of lengths behind and a length or two in front of the continually improving Paul Hare, while Brett Shortland again showed his

ability by finishing just ahead and alongside Bob Russell and first time performer Scott Fisher.

The 'C' graders started off at a reasonable pace but 15 minutes into the race Brian Sheldrick and Richard Edinger stirred up the action and remained at a couple of hundred metres ahead for the rest of the race. Brian triumphed in the final sprint, though Richard looked pleased with his performance. Doug Macdonald led in the field for third place, while Roger Scott who has finished one place outside the prize-money for about four or five consecutive weeks was glad to take hold of the envelope when finishing fourth.

'D' grade saw a few new faces as their ranks were swollen by demotions from 'C'. However, two of these, Alan Dovey and Frank Kettle, who subsequently filled the first two places were destined for a short stay and likely to be upgraded at the next event! Gerry Lawford at a ripe 74 years of age showed the rest of the field that age is no barrier, beating the President, Kevan Logan by a couple of lengths, while 77 year old Ray Craig also showed he hasn't lost his bounce when heading Lindsay Froyland over the line to take 5th place.

Supported by ten starters there was quite a bit of action in 'E' grade, and what was pleasing to note was that the female component had much to do with that performance. Heather Sanderson riding her final event before heading back to the snow and ice of the Yorkshire Dales received enthusiastic shouts of encouragement as she took out the race prime just ahead of Paul Crespi. while Fran Watson and Janet Bennett featured in the major placings when taking out second and third respectively behind Paul. Not all the encouragement came from the spectators as Des Williams sportingly shouted on the opposition as he took fourth place.

Because of the largesse of the Department of Transport & Infrastructure and to publicise the forthcoming Bikeweek a few exotic primes were donated and valiantly

fought for in each race. Fred Landon, Brett Shortland and Richard Edinger thus went home with a puncture outfit each, while Gerry Lawford and Heather Sanderson received a bell embossed with a heart and the words 'I love cycling'. Are we approaching an era when Gerry will use this contraption to signal that he's about to pass his opponents in a sprint?

'A' grade 45mins plus 2 laps

1. Ian McFall; 2. Darren Miller;
3. Paul Barizza; 4. Steph Ratcliffe;
5. Steve Berglund; 6. Alan Clark;
7. Mick Russell; 8. Merv Byfield;
9. Fred Landon; 10. Mike Lawrence;
11. Dave Hutson; 12. Tony Beaumont;
13. Wal Crowley; 14. Andrew Duff;
15. George Law; 16. Rob Suter;
17. Paul Moke; 18. Dave Townson;
19. Dom Bruewhiler.

'B' grade 40mins plus 2 laps

1. Atilla Nagy; 2. Gary Boterhoven;
3. Paul Hare; 4. Brett Shortland;
5. Bob Russell; 6. Scott Fisher;
7. Dave Bebee; 8. Wayne Lally;
9. Andrew Bennett; 10. Laurence Wynne;
11. Derek McVickers; 12. Ken Harvey;
13. Bob Stephenson; 14. Frans Karel;
15. Rick Churchill; 16. Paul Verburg;
17. Dan Gillespie; 18. Steve Illich;
19. Graham Dix; 20. Colin Rossiter;
21. Clint Bird; 22. Mark Leaker.

'C' grade 35mins plus 2 laps

1. Brian Sheldrick; 2. Richard Edinger;
3. Doug Macdonald; 4. Roger Scott;
5. Trev Robson; 6. Bill Crout;
7. Doug Willing; 8. Ralph Rana;
9. Shane White; 10. Pat Briggs.

'D' grade 30mins plus 2 laps

1. Alan Dovey; 2. Frank Kettle;
3. Gerry Lawford; 4. Kevan Logan;
5. Ray Craig; 6. Lindsay Froyland;
7. Hilton Fry; 8. Rod Babel;
9. Michelle Robertson;
10. Denis Robinson; 11. Jane MacIntyre.

'E' grade 30mins plus 2 laps

1. Paul Crespi; 2. Fran Watson;
3. Janet Bennett; 4. Des Williams;
5. Jim Campbell; 6. Brian Paxman;
7. Sheona Clark; 8. Kevin Hart;

9. Heather Sanderson.

Track Racing

26 February, Speed Dome

Another disappointing turnout of only six riders but being stalwarts of the track they performed with their usual fervour to produce some exciting racing. With the Westral only a couple of weeks away the handicap was of particular interest with the longmarkers riding strongly to hold off scratch, with the much improved Denis Robinson and Michael Kuipers taking the honours. Bob Barnes showed he is fast hitting form when improving his placings and in finishing second in the 15-lap scratch to Steph Ratcliffe.

Miss-and-Out

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Terry Skinner;
3. Bob Barnes.

6-lap handicap

1. Denis Robinson (170m); 2. Michael Kuipers (180m); 3. Steph Ratcliffe (scr); 4. Bob Barnes (100m); 5. Colin Rossiter (110m); 6. Terry Skinner (Scr).

15-lap Scratch

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Bob Barnes;
3. Terry Skinner; 4. Colin Rossiter;
5. Denis Robinson; 6. Michael Kuipers.

Forthcoming Events

Noms from 8.15am and **before 8.45am** for 9.00am starts. Noms close at 8.45 and late entries are charged an additional \$2.

Saturday 12 March - 'John Sullivan' Vets Westral, Speed Dome

Racing 2.00pm to 6.30pm. Come and support your colleagues and watch some exciting racing. Also see some of Australia's stars in the Senior 'Westral'. This is one of Australia's oldest races, first run a hundred years ago and is worthy of your support.

13th March, 40km Time Trial Championship.

Run in conjunction with ATTA.

1st person off at 7.30am.

Course Hopelands Road (1.2km south of Karnup Road, Serpentine). See ATTAs web page <http://www.atta.asn.au/>

Note: this is part of the Bikeweek activities and is the first counting event for the Rose Preedy Points Score competition.

Noms accepted up to Tuesday 15 March

20 March – Cycle Instead – WCMCC Criterium Age Division Championships, Smeaton Way, Rockingham

Note: This event is sponsored by BikeWest and the Department of Transport and Infrastructure as part of the 'Bikeweek' activities.

Points will be awarded in the Age Criterium titles for the **Roadman of the Year competition**. The timetable for the event will be as follows, though note riders should be at the line at least 30 minutes before these times as some groups may be combined (depending on numbers).

Distances = **time + 2 laps**

Start time/Divis./Distance/Est. finish

9.00am - 70+ .	20mins	9.26 *
9.02am - 45-49	45min	9.52
9.30am - 65-69	25mins	10.00
9.55am - 55-59	40mins	10.40
10.03am - 35-39	45mins	10.53
10.43am - 60-64	30mins	11.21
10.56am - 40-44	45mins	11.49
11.24am - 50-54	40mins	12.09
12.20pm	Prize Presentations	

* also 75 yrs plus, 80yrs plus (these riders compete for medals in their own age division but compete for money prizes in the combined division). Similarly for **women** who will compete in **age groups 10 years above their age**.

Please note that prize-winners will be expected to stay for the presentation

Roger Sutton Competition Awards will also be presented

3 April – organised training ride. Details to be announced.

10 April, Graded Scratch, Herene Hill.

'A' 55km; 'B' 55km, 'C' 44km; 'D' 44km.

17 April, Lakes Bikes, Wandl

Age Div. races. 35-44yrs, 45-54yrs 63km;
55-64yrs 54km; 65yrs plus 45km.

Roger Sutton Competition

Congratulations to the prize-winners in the Roger Sutton competition. It was a close fought battle but Ian McFall who clinched the verdict in the last counting 'A' grade race of the season with a grand sprint victory at Kewdale, proved a popular winner. While 2nd and 3rd placed Paul Barizza and Graeme Muston were also in 'A' grade, the extent of the competition in that grade means that they were worthy winners of the competition. There was a wide dispersion among the divisions, with Paul Hare's 4th place reflecting the progress that he has made since joining the club, while the 'oldies' also shone in the persons of Lindsay Froyland who performed well throughout the season; Ray Craig who at 77 years of age did magnificently, despite complaining about his knees, as did Des Williams only three years Ray's junior. Rod Babel proved the quiet achiever, while Dave Hutson who joined only this season was in good company with Steph Ratcliffe who has won more of our two major competitions than any other member. Commiserations to those who just missed out and Doug Macdonald must be kicking himself for pulling his foot out at the sprint finish a week or two ago (the first ten places get the awards). But to those who missed out, think ahead to the Rose Preedy Competition during the road season.

1. Ian McFall 153 points
2. Paul Barizza 140
3. Graeme Muston 130
4. Paul Hare 128
Lindsay Froyland 128
6. Ray Craig 119
7. Rod Babel 118
8. Des Williams 115
9. Dave Hutson 114
Steph Ratcliffe 114
11. Doug Macdonald 112
12. Bill Crout 111
13. Tony Beaumont 110
Hilton Fry 110

15. Colin Rossiter 108
16. Gerry Lawford 107
17. Dom Bruewhiler 106
18. Pat Briggs 105
19. Ian Logan 104
20. Janet Bennett 103

Points score Master, Dave Nangle, will provide an extended list at the Criterium championships.

Rider Profiles

Des Williams – a good old 'un!

Des Williams commenced as a racing cyclist back in 1947, and has continued competing for almost the entire time since then. Few sportsmen, in any sport, can boast of being a competitor for in excess of 50 years.

No discussion about Des Williams can be complete without paying tribute to his wife, Lois. During his long career Des has had her full support. She has been around bikes and bike riders for almost as long as Des. She has been, and remains a great support to him as a competitor, and in his work as an administrator. In the early days of the West Coast Vets (and subsequently West Coast Masters), Lois made a valuable contribution and is remembered by the older members as being one of the important lady helpers, albeit whilst maintaining her low profile and doing the work in an unobtrusive manner. Juggling raising a family of four children, as well as an ongoing involvement in cycling, not only as a 'cycling widow', but helping out on race days whenever needed, makes Lois a very special person who has contributed greatly to her husband's longevity in the sport, and to the growth of Masters cycling in this State.

Des completed an apprenticeship in Furniture Making, but soon after finishing his indenture he looked for work that offered some big money. This desire took him to the wheat fields of western South Australia where he got a job stacking bags of wheat (yes folks, this was before bulk handling of grain!) Each bag weighed approximately 180lbs, and he set the local record for having stacked, (similar to a

large hay stack) - 160,000 bags in one season.

After a brief spell as a drainage contractor, Des realised there had to be an easier way to earn a living. He became a Sales Representative for Godfrey's Electrical Appliances. He stayed with that firm until he opened his own electrical appliances store in Victoria Park, where he stayed in business until his retirement several years ago.

Des was originally from Adelaide. He showed considerable promise as a young rider in his early years as an amateur. He competed with the Henley/Western Suburbs club. Within a couple of years he was Junior Road Champion of South Australia but after a couple of years he decided to join the professional ranks and had instant success. As a 20year old he finished third in a 3-day tour, and won the Adelaide - Kadina Classic, a road race of 89 miles. In 1953 Des decided to try his hand racing in WA. During that year he was placed in a number of major races, but failed to break through for a win. Third in both the Douglas Jones Memorial and that year's Beverley to Perth, plus 6th place in the Collie-Donnybrook was as close to a win as he managed. He returned to Adelaide where a bad fall caused him to suspend his involvement in racing for a couple of years.

In 1962 he came back to Perth to watch the Commonwealth Games, and later decided to settle here. In subsequent years he strung together a number of notable wins as he consolidated his place as a force to be reckoned with in the ranks of local professional cycling. His list of successes included a win in the Charlie Nalty Memorial race, held at the old Midland Oval track, First in the Belmont Classic on three occasions (this race included climbing Lesmurdie Hill three times), and First in the 1974 Beverley - Perth. He followed the Beverley success with a win in the Golden Gala Classic held in the Goldfields. This race started in Boulder and went out through Kambalda,

Coolgardie, and back to Boulder - a distance of 228 kilometres.

In 1991 Des went to the world Veterans Championships held in Austria. He finished 3rd in the Sprint, and 10th in the Age Handicap, and finished in the top four in the overall age classification.

In 2001 he competed in the Australian Veterans Championships held here in Perth. He was first in the criterium, and was third in the road race. He also won the All Round Age Title.

Des has competed in several national veterans championships/Masters Games. In 2003 he again won his age category in the Australian Championships held in Port Pirie, after again winning the criterium and finishing 3rd in the road race.

In 1980 Des, along with Cliff Gilmore and Bill McWhirter (himself a Beverley to Perth winner), founded the West Coast Veterans Cycling Club. This body later merged to form the present day West Coast Masters Cycling Council. He was the inaugural Secretary, and later President. He remained as President until just 4 years ago.

Des claims to have never been overly-ambitious in terms of his cycling, but says his main pre-occupation these days is in making sure he manages to not get dropped next week. Over the years Des has worked his way down the grades, but at all times, he has remained competitive in whichever grade of cycling he has been involved in. During his 50 plus years as a competitive cyclist he has enjoyed a good deal of success, but his contribution to the sport in this State far outweighs any personal gains he has achieved along the way. Des continues to enjoy sound health and remains competitive. Members can look forward to his ongoing involvement in the sport of cycling, and the Club's activities, for many years to come.

This club owes a lot to Des Williams and his wife Lois, but for them, the greatest

reward is seeing strong fields and large numbers of competitors each week.

Carrie Prior – a good young ‘un!

Carrie Prior is one of the club’s newest members. In fact, not only is she new to the club, but she is new to riding a bike. Her introduction to cycling came in May 2004 as a result of her new-found interest in triathlons. Since becoming a triathlete Carrie had found a liking for cycling and has decided to participate in Masters cycling events on a regular basis. She finds that the regular competition improves her cycling overall, but she has found the social aspect of Masters cycling refreshing and enjoyable.

Like many young girls and women, Carrie was obsessed with horses from a very early age. She successfully competed in eventing and equestrian events for 18 years before becoming increasingly involved with work. At a time when she was looking for a diversion and something to relieve the stresses and pressure of her work, she had a long discussion with Peter Robertson, the Olympic triathlete competitor. He recommended she consider taking up the sport, if only a semi-social basis. Once she became involved, she soon established contacts with a wider circle of triathletes. Very soon her competitive nature surfaced and she was striving to improve every aspect of her new sport. In the ten months since she started competing in triathlons, she has had numerous placing in her Age Group. Having now been well and truly bitten by the bug, she aspires to compete in, and complete the Half Marathon event in May, and to then go on to the Iron Man Triathlon in November. This event consists of a mere 3.8k swim, 180km cycle leg, followed by a 42k run. Initially Carrie commenced racing with the Masters group in order to improve her cycling for triathlons. In recent weeks there has been evidence of considerable improvement in that she is often seen at the front of the C Grade group, mixing it with some of the stronger riders in the bunch.

Carrie is a Real Estate Agent. She has held a Principal’s licence for several years, and was a real estate salesperson for 8 years prior to establishing her own business in Fremantle five years ago. To have survived so long in such a competitive environment is testament to her determination to succeed, a character trait that seems to have been carried over into her sporting interests. Carrie describes herself as something of a ‘non-traditional’ real estate agent. In addition to the usual practices of selling homes and operating a rent roll, she devotes a lot of time to working with property developers in conducting feasibility studies into testing the viability of future projects in her area. In addition to operating her business, Carrie is a member of the Real Estate Industry’s Panel of Arbitration. This is the industry’s own self regulatory body that deals with complaints against REIWA members lodged by members of the public. Just to show she does not have enough to contend with at the moment, as well as continuing to operating her own business in the North Bank precinct of North Fremantle, Carrie is a candidate for the forthcoming Local Government elections. She believes her expertise in the field of strategic planning in developing will enable her to contribute greatly to the operations of the council.

There is little doubt that Carrie’s determination and perseverance will see her succeed in whatever she does, and we can look forward to her setting her fellow cyclists a challenge as they strive to contain her in races.

Tom Lyons

Tsunami Appeal

Thanks to the persuasive powers of our President, we are pleased to report that the WCVCC contribute \$460 towards the Tsunami Appeal. Thanks to everyone for contributing.

FEES

Note: This will be the last newsletter sent out to unfinancial members. Remember that even if not yet racing, the insurance

cover provided with your licence will
cover you for training.

MJD/March'04