

WEST COAST MASTERS CYCLING COUNCIL Inc.

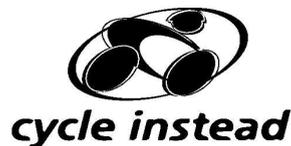
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Affiliated to the Australian Veteran Cycling Council (AVCC) and the International Cycling Federation (ICF)

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Newsletter December 2005

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thanks to the valiant few who attended the AGM we managed to get a comfortable quorum. Proceedings went smoothly under the capable directions of the President and our worries as to finding replacements for two of the retiring officers were resolved. It was agreed that fees for 2006 should remain as paid in 2005 (see renewal membership form enclosed). The treasurer reported our financial situation as quite comfortable, while the President reported on a satisfactory year as far as the racing was concerned.

The election of Officers and Committee members saw three new faces, with the following being elected for 2006.

Patrons: Kerry Bruehwiler; Stan Fennell, Wayne Lally.

President: Kevan Logan

Vice-President: Denis Robinson.

Secretary/Treasurer: Mel Davies.

Handicapper: Mark Keyser.

Racing Secretary: Sheona Clark.

Committee: Dave Bebee, Dom Bruehwiler, Bruce Bussey, Alan Clark, Wayne Lally, Brian Paxman, Colin Rossiter, John Smith.

These are the folks to approach if you have any complaints or suggestions to enhance the functioning of the WCMCC.

Forthcoming Events

NOTE: All Crits will start at **8.30am unless otherwise stated.**

8 January – Criteriums, Kewdale

15 January - AHG Motor Complex (take right onto Grogan Road – off Horrie Millar Drive, International Airport, **4.30pm** start.

22 January - Criteriums, Kewdale.

29 January – ‘Jim Thompson Memorial’ – Criteriums (Points Score) Smeaton Way, Rockingham [See boxed notice next page].

5 February - Criteriums, Wangara (Achievement Way (Start Heritage Stairs).

12 February - Criteriums, Kewdale.

19 February - Criteriums, Kewdale.

26 February - Criteriums, Wangara (Achievement Way (Start Heritage Stairs).

QUIZ NIGHT

Order your tickets soon from the President or Alan Clark. Our annual Quiz night will be held at the Rivervale Community Centre, Francisco Street, Rivervale on the evening of February 17th February. If you

have any donations in the form of prizes they would be most welcome. Full details in the next newsletter.

Peel CC - Jim Thompson Memorial Criterium 29th January 2006

The Main Event consists of four races at A, B, C and D Grade with cash prizes awarded for first to fourth places.

All races will be run as a points score - Points will be awarded 5 for first, 3 for second, 2 for third and 1 for fourth.

A Grade will race for 50 minutes with sprints at approx 10, 20, 30, 40 and at the finish 50 minutes + 1 Lap

B Grade will race for 45 minutes with sprints at approx 9, 18, 27, 36 and at the finish 45 minutes + 1 Lap

C Grade will race for 40 minutes with sprints at approx 10, 20, 30 and at the finish 40 minutes + 1 Lap

D Grade will race for 35 minutes with sprints at approx 9, 18, 27 and at the finish 35 minutes + 1 Lap

Sprint timings may well be varied to avoid clashes of grades during a sprint

C and D grade point scores will be multiplied by 1.25 to allow for the lower number of sprints.

The overall Trophy and additional cash prize money will be awarded for the rider from the above grades to score the most points. The winner will also receive a replica trophy with the original trophy being returned to Rockingham City for display.

The Secondary Event will be run for E Grade and will have it's own Trophy and prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Riders' scores from E grade will not be counted for the main event. The trophy will be returned for the following year's race

E Grade will be raced for 30 Minutes with sprints at approx 10, 20 and at the finish 30 minutes + 1 Lap

Timing:

09:00 – 10:00 E, C & A grades.

10:00 – 11:00 B and D grades

11:30 – Presentation at Sausage Sizzle about 300 metres north of start/finish line.

Nominations \$10 WCMCC Licence obligatory.

Jacobs Creek Vets Tour Down Under

Watch your cycling heroes, and compete in three days of veteran riding:

18th January – Criteriums at Angaston in the Barossa Valley.

Friday 20th January – Road races at Yankalilla.

21st January – 300 metre Straight Line Sprint at Wilunga.

Open to AVCC registered riders only.

All events coordinated so that participants can watch finishes of the major Tour. For further information see the web page at www.tourdownunder.com.au

South Pacific Veteran Cycling Championship, Maryborough, Vic. 14-17 April 2006.

Nomination forms are available with Denis Robinson or the Secretary for this annual Easter Classic run by the Victorian VCC. \$18,000 in prize money. Nominations close 31st March 2006

Race Results

13 November, Criteriums, Kewdale

There was a turnout of 68 riders for the first crit of the season, and it was good to see quite a few faces that had been absent during the winter months. The weather was kind, though anyone heading up the home straight on their own would have hit a breeze in the face. Despite that, a few did attempt breakaways with one successful and rewarding foray being made by Steve Dodd in 'B' grade. Attacking half way through the race, he was joined by six riders in the final laps but went again on the final lap never to be caught by his compatriots. Taking the 2nd place was Brett Shortland, who held off 3^d placed Geoff Marshal, Alan Clark, and Mick Russell – the latter surprisingly finishing last of the group despite having just had his biography written up in the October newsletter!

'A' grade with 10 riders was a few short of recent numbers but that made little difference to the attacking riding, with Garry Collett and Tony Beaumont setting

the action scene on lap one. The winning move came with about 5 laps to go when Steph Ratcliffe took the initiative to jump away. He was joined a couple of laps later by a determined Dave Townson and the finish came down to a two-up sprint that went to Steph – a good start for his ambition of once more take the Roger Sutton Points competition. George Miller who had been active throughout the race took a deserved third place when bringing in the bunch, with Garry Collett a length or two behind in fourth.

‘C’ grade saw a break of two ‘cleanskins’ on the fourth lap when new riders Duncan Farrow and Rod Hartridge opened up a good gap that they retained for the rest of the race. There was a lot of hesitation in the bunch to bring them back with only Steve Illich making a determined and successful move to bridge the gap. In the sprint finish, Duncan Farrow showed he had lots in reserve when he easily distanced himself from the other two riders – therefore sealing his future destiny as a ‘B’ grader – while Steve Illich held off Rod Partridge to take second place. John Dixon who used this as his return event after many years off the bike rode well to beat the rest of the bunch while Trev Robson, egged on by shouts of ‘come on grandpa’ by his grandkids finished just ahead of newly returned Alan Kinghorn.

The ‘D’ graders looked as if they were riding themselves in, as the pace appeared to be steady but not too brisk. Leaving the verdict to the sprint there was no surprise when Barry Eversden shot out of the group to take 1st place by a couple of lengths. Gerry Lawford showed promising form in his first ride in months when taking second, while Frank Kettle was pleased with his third place over Ed Willis, Terry Lack, Denis Robinson and a host of other riders who were spread across the width of the road. Apologies to all who don’t appear in the finishing list, but the camera, for some reason of its own, only took a frame or two of the finishing action.

With a small field of six riders it was unlikely that anyone would be allowed to

ride off the front in ‘E’ grade. However, Janette Bennett found the going tough in her first race since the end of last criterium season and had a lonely ride but battled on to complete the race. No doubt her form will quickly improve. This left the finish to a sprint and with 50metres to go it looked as if John Payne was going to cross the line first but this was to ignore the determined efforts by Des Williams and Brian Paxman who passed him a few metres before the line.

Altogether a good start to the criterium season and possibly heralding some large fields for the rest of the season.

‘A’ Grade 45 mins + 2 laps

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Dave Townson;
3. George Miller; 4. Gary Collett;
5. Paul Barizza; 6. Dom Bruehwiler;
7. Graeme Muston; 8. Merv Byfield;
9. Tony Beaumont.

‘B’ Grade 40mins + 2 laps

1. Steve Dodd; 2. Brett Shortland;
3. Geoff Marshall; 4. Alan Clark;
5. Mick Russell; 6. Andrew Duff;
7. Bryan Taylor; 8. Enzo Cadelli;
9. Wal Crowley; 10. Mike Watson;
11. Bob Stephens; 12. Dave Bebee – pen ran out of ink at this point!

‘C’ Grade 35mins + 2 laps)

1. Duncan Farrow; 2. Steve Illich;
3. Rod Hartridge; 4. John Dixon;
5. Trev Robson; 6. Allan Kinghorn;
6. Roger Scott; 7. Brian Sheldrick;
8. Dave Equid; 9. George Fyvie;
10. Alan Dovey; 11. Paul Wighton;
12. Bill Crout; 13. Roy Swift;
14. Bruce Bussey; 15. Ben Murdoch.

‘D’ Grade 30mins + 2 laps

1. Barry Eversden; 2. Gerry Lawford;
3. Frank Kettle; 4. Ed Willis;
5. Terry Lack; 6. Denis Robinson;
7. Jack Iveson; 8. Ray Craig – and rest of bunch.

‘E’ grade 25mins + 2 laps

1. Des Williams; 2. Brian Paxman;
3. John Payne; 4. Laurie Livie;
5. Sheona Clark; 6. Janet Bennett.

20 November, Criteriums, Kewdale

Despite the alternative cycling attraction of the big Perth Ride in town, there was a good turnout of over 60 riders for the second criterium of the season. The earlier 8.30am start proved popular and with not a cloud in the sky things didn't get too warm by the time the racing was completed, allowing folk to get back in time to dig the garden and wash the dishes! 'A' and 'B' were run as points races, a nice change from the normal run of events, though it did stretch everyone as the non-sprinters kept attacking while the sprinters had to keep vigilant to bring them back to the bunch. Dave Townson proved king of the premier grade when taking four of the five sprints and finishing 3rd in the other. Closest rival was Matt Togninini also with placings in all five sprints, while Paul Barizza with four placings finished in third place overall. Odd man out was Steph Ratcliffe who won the 3rd sprint with a breakaway ride that just succeeded.

'B' graders with 19 riders and the largest field of the day also witnessed some excellent and aggressive riding. Mick Russell was in his element taking the first two sprints in very close finishes against Brett Shortland. In the third sprint the positions were reversed but while Matt was second in the fourth and final sprint, young Mick faded and found himself one point adrift of Brett when the score was tallied. Andrew Duff had a very good day, taking a fourth and a third and really shining in the final sprint when he led in the field by a good 20metres.

In the more conventional racing environment, 'C' grade seemed full of fire in their 35 minute and 2 laps event, with new riders Colin Prior and Graham Iddles breaking away to stretch the bunch on a number of occasions. At the finish, however, it was the old fox, John Dixon, who showed the way to go when jumping away on the final corner and holding off the chasing bunch by a good 15 metres. The consistent Trev Robson was up among the winners again just managing to ease out Steve Illich, Bob Stephens, Roger Scott and the rest of the group.

'D' and 'E' were combined for the day but as most of the lower grade were not only able to keep in touch but were seen at the front of the bunch on numerous occasions then perhaps we were looking at an artificial barrier. Some even mentioned that it was easier riding in the large bunch than in the small 'E' grade of the previous week. Anyhow, the competition did everyone the world of good and most folk seemed quite happy with the pace and their placings, although Heather Sanderson welcomed back from the 'cool' of the Yorkshire Pennines looked a bit hot and bothered in the sun. Ed Willis took the sprint but in 2nd place was brand new female rider Annie Bramley who will no doubt do some more damage to male egos as the weeks go on. Evergreen 'veteran' Gerry Lawford was the first 70-year plus rider home, beating the young Frank Kettle into fourth place, while Doug McDonald and Patt Briggs brought in the remainder of the troops. First 'E' graders across the line to claim the special 'E' prizes were Des Williams and Brian Paxman in 12th and 13th places respectively.

'A' Grade 45 mins + 2 laps (Points)

1st. Dave Townson 22pts; 2nd. Matt Tognini 12; 3rd. Paul Barizza 9; 4th Steph Ratcliffe 5; 5th Dom Bruehwiler 3; 6th George Miller 2; 7th Tony Beaumont 1; 8th Gary Wright 1.

'B' Grade 40mins + 2 laps (Points)

1st Brett Shortland 14 pts; 2nd Mick Russell 13; 3rd Andrew Duff 8; 4^h Ian Logan 3; 5th Geoff Marshal 2; 6th Gary Boterhoven 2; 7th Dave Bebee 2.

'C' Grade 35mins + 2 laps)

1. John Dixon; 2. Graham Iddles;
3. Trev Robson; 4. Steve Illicjh;
5. Bob Stephens; 6. Roger Scott;
7. Frans Karel; 8. Bruce Bussey;
9. Bill Crout; 10. Damian Appleton;
11. Colin Rossiter; 12. Len Hall;
13. Brian Sheldon; 14. Cathi Dixon;
15. Colin Prior; 16. Alan Kinghorn.

'D/E' Grade 30mins + 2 laps

1. Ed Willis; 2. Annie Bramley;
3. Gerry Lawford; 4. Frank Kettle;

5. Doug Macdonald; 6. Pat Briggs;
7. Jane MacIntyre; 8. Ray Craig;
9. Paul Crespi; 10. Denis Robinson;
11. Tony Speechley; 12. Des Williams;
13. Brian Paxman; 14. Sheona Clark;
15. Vince Preedy; 16. Rod Babel;
17. Jack Iveson; 18. Heather Sanderson;
19. Laurie Livie. 'E' grade prizes – Des Williams, Brian Paxman.

27 November, Criteriums, Kewdale

A fair turn out of 66 riders. Another glorious day when the sun shone, though the draft coming from the east was somewhat strong. Yet, that didn't deter some very aggressive riding in A, B & C grades where riders surged off the front as if they were going for sheep stations. Dom Bruehwiler was one suicide candidate in the premier grade, riding away from a surging bunch on a few occasions. This tended to increase the agro and others adopted similar tactics, with attack coming after attack. Matt Poyner took the initiative with about 15 minutes to go, but was brought back at the 2-laps to go mark. However, his effort didn't seem to result in any self-injury and in the twelve-up sprint he just managed to hold off Andrew Brierley, with Dave Townson, Paul Barizza and Chris Glasby also very closely in contention.

With 22 starters, 'B' grade also saw lots of action, though most of it was by one man – Steve Dodd, who showed his strength by jumping away after about 5 minutes, to hold off the bunch until about 8 minutes to the finish. The verdict was, however, determined again in a mass sprint with a great clashing of shoulders as two large lads – Mick Russell and Andie Haskins ploughed a crooked furrow up the straight. The verdict went by half-a-length to Mick, though he was suitably rebuked by the Sergeant-Major for his unruly conduct. New rider, Daryl Henthorn showed great promise when finishing third just ahead of Chopper Marshall, with Enzo Cadelli celebrating the birth of a new boy in the family by taking out the magnificent 5th prize of \$10 that will no doubt go into the

lad's education fund. With it being a large field, prizes went down to 8th place.

'C' grade was also treated to a show of force when Graeme Iddles went away on the 2nd lap. Sloping back to the bunch, he went off the front again on another couple of occasions before finally drawing away in the final laps to take a fine win. There is no doubt that he won't be seen in 'C' grade again! For the third week in a row, John Dixon was able to outsprint the bunch and did so with plenty of space between himself and 3rd man Mark Leaker who was making a return to the ranks. Trev Robson, now becoming the perpetual fourth was next across the line ahead of Steve Illich who had also been active in trying to close the gap opened up by Graeme Iddles.

'D' grade tended to split early in the race as three or four riders just getting back into racing found the going hard, and once off the shelter of the main bunch there was no getting back. As is usually the pattern in 'D', it was a battle of attrition, with riders falling by the wayside rather than moving off the front. This suited the handful of sprinters who were content to leave the real action until the final straight, a fine victory going to Gerry Lawford who rode far more sprightly than becomes a 74 year old when beating Ed Willis by a good half-a-length. Larry Ross filled third place alongside Frank Kettle and Pat Briggs.

'A' Grade 50 mins + 2 laps (Points)

1. Matt Poyner; 2. Andrew Brierley;
3. Dave Townson; 4. Paul Barizza;
5. Chris Glasby; 6. Mike Lawrence;
7. Dom Bruehwiler; 8. Merv Byfield;
9. Gary Collett; 10. Steph Ratcliffe;
11. Greg Stoyles; 12. George Miller;
13. Peter Trench; 14. Matt Tognini.

'B' Grade 45mins + 2 laps (Points)

1. Mick Russell; 2. Andie Haskins;
3. Daryl Henthorn; 4. Geoff Marshall;
5. Enzo Cadelli; 6. Dave Bebee;
7. Dave Hutson; 8. Ian Logan;
9. Andrew Duff; 10. Wal Crowley;
11. Gary Boterhoven; 12. Clint Bird.
Sorry, no more places recorded.

'C' Grade 40mins + 2 laps)

1. Graham Iddles; 2. John Dixon;
3. Mark Leaker; 4. Trev Robson;
5. Steve Illicjh; 6. Bob Stephens;
7. Roger Scott - no more place taken.

'D/E' Grade 30mins + 2 laps

1. Gerry Lawford; 2. Ed Willis;
3. Larry Ross; 4. Frank Kettle;
5. Pat Briggs; 6. Denis Robinson;
7. Paul Crespi; 8. Tony Speechley;
9. Ben Murdoch; 10. Brian Paxman;
11. Laurie Livie; 12. Ray Craig;
13. Heather Sanderson.

4 December, Criteriums, Kewdale

An unseasonably cool day with a threat of rain in the air and a stiff breeze blowing riders towards the finish. This saw 61 riders at their starting blocks as the Sergeant Major performed the count-down ceremony. Racing was fast and furious in 'B' grade as Atilla Nagy and Duncan Farrow went from the gun. When the attack faded, Atilla was at it again along with new rider Paul Montauban and it looked for a while as if they would hold off the opposition. However, a few in the bunch who also had their eyes on the spoils worked to pull back the pair. Just as they were caught, with about three laps to go, Dave Hutson and Wal Crowley made the move of the day and pulled away to a clear lead, Wal sitting up as Dave Hutson made a strong bid for the line. Alan Clark took out the bunch sprint for third place with Andie Haskins finishing fourth a few centimetres ahead of Geoff Marshal, Paul Montauban, Dave Bebee and the rest of the 19-strong bunch.

The 18-strong 'D' grade rode at a brisk pace that forced a few riders off the back. Roger Broun was one of these but was delighted to finish the race after being off the bike for almost a year through illness. Leo Enright suffered the same fate but also could look at a long period of non-competition as his explanation for performance. Most of the real action in the race came on the final sprint to the line when Barry Johnston proved much too strong for any other in the group. Doug Macdonald showed his usual consistency

when finishing second, while new rider Geoff Usher put in a good performance to finish third just ahead of Larry Ross, Pat Briggs, Tony Speechley and the rest of the mob.

'C' grade were the odd-fellows on the day when participating in a point-score race. However, an early attack involving Steve Illich, Bob Stephens and UK visitor Ernie Lightfoot played mayhem, split the field and shared points for the first three places. Steve Illich proved the sprinter of the day when taking three of the four sprints. Bob Stephens took the final sprint of the day and three second places, while Ernie seemed happy with his tally of three third places. There was also keen sprinting in the chasing bunch but they showed little interest in working together to bridge the gap.

It was dynamite from the word go in 'A' as George Miller attacked and stayed at the front until joined after 15 minutes of the 50 minute race by Dom Bruehwiler, Tony Beaumont, and Andrew Brierley. They kept up a hot pace but were later joined by a flying Matt Poyner and Matt Tognini. With the pace warming up, first Tony Beaumont and then Dom Bruehwiler were shed from the back, the latter staying in no-man's land until the end of the race. In the sprint, Matt Poyner again showed he is a force to be reckoned with when beating Andrew Brierley for the second time in a fortnight. Matt Tognini finished in third place ahead of George Miller who had enjoyed a very active race. Dave Townson led in the bunch ahead of Steph Ratcliffe and new rider Garth O'Leary who said that he'd enjoyed the race.

'A' Grade 50 mins + 2 laps

1. Matt Poyner; 2. Andrew Brieley;
3. Matt Tognini; 4. George Miller;
5. Dom Bruehwiler; 6. Dave Townson;
7. Steph Ratcliffe; 8. Garth O'Leary;
9. Gary Collett; 10. Tony Beaumont;
11. Rob Suter.

'B' Grade 45mins + 2 laps

1. Dave Hutson; 2. Wal Crowley;

3. Alan Clark; 4. Andie Haskins;
5. Geoff Marshall; 6. Paul Montauban;
7. Dave Bebbe; 8. Dereck McVickers;
9. Kevin Cottier; 10. Steve Rouse;
11. Bob Addy; 12. Duncan Farrow;
13. Mark Cummings; 14. Andrew Duff;
15. Clint Bird; 16. Ian Logan;
17 Atilla Nagy.

'C' Grade 40mins + 2 laps (points)

1. Steve Illich 18 points; 2. Bob Stephens
14; 3. Ernie Lightfoot 8; Roger Scott 3; 5.
Ed Willis 2; 6. Colin Prior 2.

'D/E' Grade 30mins + 2 laps

1. Barry Johnston; 2. Doug Macdonald;
3. Geoff usher; 4. Larry Ross; 5.
Pat Briggs; 6. Tony Speechley;
7. Pat Coolican; 8. Ray Craig.
1st in E grade – Brian Paxman – no more
placings recorded.

11 December, Criteriums, Wangara

A low number of 44 riders turned up at Wangara, many without doubt being put off by the overnight rain. But ye of little faith, once more not one drop fell and there was even sunshine before the end of racing. It was, however, a hard task on the rise to the finish and it was curtains for most who dropped off a wheel.

'A' grade with nine riders was small but mighty with attacking riding from about lap five when Gary Collett, George Miller and Dave Townson opened up a useful gap of about 100 metres. They were out on their own for half the race but quietly but surely Andrew Brierley, Steph Ratcliffe and Paul Barizza pulled them back, leaving Dom Bruehwiler, Wal Crowley and Dave Hutson in their wake to struggle on valiantly. After 55 minutes of hard work, it looked as if George Miller was going to cross the line first, but that was to underestimate a strong last second lunge by Andrew Brierley that gave him the verdict by a few centimetres. Dave Townson finished half-a-length down in third place, while Steph Ratcliffe led in Paul Barizza and Gary Collett.

'B' grade saw new riders Mike Stothers and Ken Winch stir up the action in the last

20 minutes of the race when they moved to a lead of a couple of hundred metres. There was some effort made to bring them back but during the finishing few laps the efforts made no impression and the duo had a free run to the line where the sprint was taken by Mike. In the following bunch it was all out for the third place but no-one was able to seriously challenge Enzo Cadelli who continues to impress with his strength. Dave Bebee came in about a length down, while 6th place went to only female in the grade, Kerry Chapman.

'C' grade saw a strong field of twelve riders, though there were a couple of complaints after the race that quite a number didn't show their faces to the wind until it came to the sprint. This went to Mark Leaker who had recently returned to the fray, while the familiar faces of Bill Crout, Trev Robson and Doug Macdonald took out the money prizes. Ernie Lightfoot and Jeff Usher who had been two of the faces at the front for much of the race, finished fifth and sixth respectively. Nick Crane did well to hang on until two laps to go considering that this was his first road race ever.

'D' grade saw steady attrition as the wind played havoc, though there was still a healthy field that survived to contest the sprint. It was Pat Coolican, just returned to the racing scene who best judged the run to the line, while Ben Murdoch broke a series of DNFs to finish a close second. Recently appointed van officer Paul Crespi once more finished in the money when taking fourth place just ahead of Vice-President Denis Robinson and old-man Ray Craig. Shane White struggled valiantly at the end of the field in a comeback race following his accident towards the end of the road season and was pleased to just complete the race.

'A' Grade 45 mins + 2 laps

1. Andrew Brierley; 2. George Miller;
3. Dave Townson; 4. Steph Ratcliffe;
5. Paul Barizza; 6. Gary Collett;
7. Dave Hutson; 8. Dom Bruehwiler;
9. Wal Crowley.

'B' Grade 40mins + 2 laps

1. Mike Stothers; 2. Ken Winch;
3. Enzo Cadelli; 4. Dave Bebee;
5. Kerry Charman; 6. Alan Clark;
7. Phil Johnson; 8. Paul Montauban;
9. Derek McVickers; 10. Bob Stephens.

'C' Grade 35mins + 2 laps (points)

1. Mark Leaker; 2. Bill Crout;
3. Trev Robson; 4. Doug Macdonald;
5. Ernie Lightfoot; 6. Jeff Usher;
7. Barry Johnston; 8. Colin Rossiter;
9. Barry Eversden; 10. Nick Crane.

'D' Grade 25mins + 2 laps

1. Pat Coolican; 2. Ben Murdoch;
3. Paul Crespi; 4. Denis Robinson;
5. Ray Craig; 6. Tony Speechley;
7. Brian Paxman. 8. Sheona Clark;
9. Heather Sanderson; 10. Shane White.

18 December, Criteriums, Airport Circuit

Many thanks to Dom and Kerry Bruehwiler for sponsoring this event.

From the chill of midweek to the hottest day this summer was a big jump faced by all riders. However, anticipating relief from the heat by the 4.30pm start, some 56 riders braved the conditions to ride on what turned out to be a windswept circuit. 'A' grade was down to ten riders, but that seemed to make no difference to the effort put into the event. George Miller was his usual attacking self, though this time he was joined by Paul Barizza, the pair tandeming smoothly to a substantial lead after 25 minutes of riding. Towards the end of the race Andrew Brierley and Dave Townson gave chase and seemed at first to be pulling them back, but the effort told under the hot conditions and they were content to sit in no-mans land. At the line it was George Miller who triumphed, with Paul Barizza taking a close second. Behind the duo, Dave Townson attacked before the straight and Andrew Brierley for once didn't seem to have the answer, though a cocky Dave sat up with 10 metres to go and was almost victim to a last minute lunge by Andrew that threatened his Christmas bonus. Paul Moke, making a rare appearance finished first out of the remaining bunch.

With 19 starters, 'B' grade had the largest field and offered competitors the greatest shelter of the day against the wind. The field stayed together for most of the race despite some valiant efforts to break up the line. With five minutes to go to the bell, Steve Rouse and Alan Coleman forced a lead but were brought back on the bell lap. However, Alan still had the energy to make a long sprint to beat new rider Garth O'Leary by a length, with Gary Boterhoven a further half-a-wheel adrift. Only the camera showed that Laurence Wynne had just beaten Atilla Nagy on the line, while Bob Stephens showed that he was still capable of holding his own with the younger lads, when finishing sixth.

'C' grade starting first at the warmest part of the day didn't seem to keen to mix things until the Sergeant Major waved a five-dollar note for a prime. Damien Appleton took the award but it was Ernie Lightfoot who took advantage by moving to a few hundred metres lead as the bunch eased after the sprint. Ernie remained out on his own for 15-minutes until joined by Doug Macdonald and Cathi Dixon. The three then worked together until the final corner when it was all on. Doug again showed his sprinting prowess by moving to a two-length victory ahead of Ernie and Cathi Dixon, the latter admitting she had little left after being buffeted by the wind around the course. Damien Appleton led in the rest some 30 seconds behind and finished just ahead of Darren Lee and Jeff Usher.

The 'D' graders were largely content to sit together for much of the race. Sheona Clark attempted to get away towards the end but found the ride into the wind took its toll. Ray Craig was once again hit by the puncture bug but managed to borrow a 'A' graders wheel and rejoined after a lap out. Larry Ross looked comfortable throughout the race, as did Ben Murdoch and it was no surprise to see them take out the bunch sprint. Ray Craig who was a close third was full of praise for Dave Townson who had baned him the wheel

but refused point blank to give Dave part of his winnings. Roger Broun was very pleased to finish fourth, showing some recovery after his long layoff.

'A' Grade 45 mins + 1 lap

1. George Miller; 2. Paul Barizza;
3. Dave Townson; 4. Andrew Brierley;
5. Paul Moke; 6. Steph Ratcliffe;
7. Dom Bruehwiler; 8. Wal Crowley;
9. Gary Collett.

'B' Grade 40mins + 1 lap

1. Alan Coleman; 2. Garth O'Leary;
3. Gary Boterhoven; 4. Laurence Wynne;
5. Atilla Nagy; 6. Bob Stephens;
7. Colin Douglas; 8. Ed Campbell;
9. Mario Librizzi; 10. Colin Muijs;
11. Steve Raus; 12. Tony Tucknott;
13. Paul Loveridge; 14. Steve Dodd;
15. Derek McVickers; 16. Steve Illich;
17. Alan Clark; 18. Bruce Bussey;
19. Clint Bird.

'C' Grade 35mins + 1 lap

1. Doug Macdonald; 2. Ernie Lightfoot;
3. Cathi Dixon; 4. Damian Appleton;
5. Darren Lee; 6. Jeff Usher;
7. Trev Robson; 8. Chris Hunt;
9. Barry Johnston; 10. Pat Coolican;
11. Bill Crout.

'D' Grade 30mins + 1 lap

1. Larry Ross; 2. Ben Murdoch;
3. Ray Craig; 4. Roger Broun;
5. Tony Speechley; 6. Paul Crespi;
7. Denis Robinson; 8. Brian Paxman;
9. Rod Babel; 10. Sheona Clark;
11. Shane White; 12. Jack Iveson;
13. Heather Sanderson.

Track Results

Speed Dome 18 November

The first of the Summer series saw a promising turnout of ten track addicts, all keen to test their mettle on the boards. Steph Ratcliffe was again in excellent form when taking all events, though he had to pull out all stops as all results went down to the line. Amanda O'Connor was the only female rider and she gave good account of herself in all races, while new rider Darren Baxter showed that he will be a force to be considered seriously once he

has some more competition under his saddle.

Derby final – 4 laps

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Terry Skinner;
3. Phil Nichols; 4. Mario Librizzi.

15-lap Scratch

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Terry Skinner;
3. Phil Nichols; 4. Amanda O'Connor;
5. Darren Baxter.

15 lap points Score

1. Steph Ratcliffe 9pts; 2. Terry Skinner 7;
3. Bruce Bussey 3; 4. Phil Nichols 3;
5. Alan Clark 3; 6. Amanda O'Connor 1;
7. Darren Baxter 1; 8. Pat Briggs 1;

6-lap Handicap

1. Steph Ratcliffe (Scr); 2. Terry Skinner (Scr);
3. Phil Nichols (30m); 4. Alan Clark (60m).

Speed Dome 25 November

It might have been that the event was held on a Saturday night but only five Masters riders turned out for a great night of racing. Five was sufficient to get a couple of sprint events off the ground but they joined in with 'B' or 'C' grades for the longer bunch events. Steph Ratcliffe was again in fine form, taking the 4-lap Derby in both the Masters and in the 'B' grade final and also finishing 1st in the 'C' grade elimination race. In the latter, Terry Skinner finished 3rd and Amanda O'Connor 4th. Phil Nichols shone in the Masters Derby when taking 2nd place. Saddest man of the evening was Denis Robinson who turned up at the last minute only to find his super duper certain to win new tyres had let him down.

Derby final – 4 laps

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Phil Nichols;
3. Terry Skinner; 3. Phil Nichols;
4. Aaron Baxter.

Speed Dome 3 December

A far better turn out than the previous week saw the Masters enjoy a full programme. Stephen Brough added a bit of spice to the affairs and everyone raced keenly to entertain the crowd. Our only

female, Amanda O'Connor, performed well and gave the lads a run for their money when finishing third in the points race.

Derby final – 4 laps

1. Simon Brough; 2. Steph Ratcliffe;
3. Terry Skinner; 4. Phil Nichols.

15-lap scratch

1. Simon Brough; 2. Steph Ratcliffe;
3. Mick Russell; 4. Phil Nichols;
5. Amanda O'Connor.

Elimination

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Terry Skinner;
3. Simon Brough; 4. Amanda O'Connor.

Points Race – 15 laps

1. Steph Ratcliffe 15 points;
2. Terry Skinner 8;
3. Amanda O'Connor 5;
4. Phil Nichols 5.

Speed Dome 10 December

There was a good turnout of ten keen riders for the Friday evening session, which saw some impressive riding. Once again, there was strong competition between Simon Brough and Steph Ratcliffe, though Terry Skinner upset the formbook when he took first place in the first event of the evening. Amanda O'Connor again impressed, especially as she also rode a very hard 20km WACF ladies Championship event during the evening.

12-lap Scratch

1. Terry Skinner; 2. Steph Ratcliffe;
3. Simon Brough; 4. Amanda O'Connor.

4-lap Derby

1. Simon Brough; 2. Steph Ratcliffe;
3. Phil Nichols; 4. Terry Skinner.

10-lap Scratch

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Simon Brough;
3. Terry Skinner; 4. Amanda O'Connor.

6-lap Handicap

1. Simon Brough (Scr);
2. Terry Skinner (20m);
3. Phil Nichols (20m);
4. Steph Ratcliffe (Scr).

Speed Dome 17 December

The last of the Speed Dome Series witnessed some excellent Masters racing alongside the State Championships of the WACF. Competition was keen and the spoils were shared, with Terry Skinner showing excellent form to take out the points race, while Steph Ratcliffe kept up his fine record when winning the other two races on the night. Phil Nichols was again consistent in always being there at the kill, while most improved rider of the night was Amanda O'Connor who surprised everyone with a very strong finish in the 10-lap scratch in which she finished second. Amanda also performed well in the WACF Senior Women's 10km scratch when finishing with a bronze medal. The handicap was a close-run event, with Denis Robinson off 115metres, just failing to hold of the rest of the field to the line.

10-lap Scratch

1. Steph Ratcliffe; 2. Amanda O'Connor;
3. Phil Nichols; 4. Terry Skinner.

15-lap points score

1. Terry Skinner 13pts; 2. Steph Ratcliffe 10pts;
3. Phil Nichols 7pts; 4. Amanda O'Connor 3pts.

6-lap Handicap

1. Steph Ratcliffe (Scr); 2. Phil Nichols (30m);
3. Terry Skinner (30m); 4. Denis Robinson (115m).

Takeover bid!

As a first move in their five-year takeover plan (a secret plan that is currently being duplicated and widely circulated throughout the land!) the wise gurus of Cycling Australia in the east have decreed that from 1st January, our riders will no longer be able to participate on the track as AVCC riders but will be forced to take out a licence with them if they wish to participate in the Friday or Saturday night races at the Speed Dome. That this is likely to make the racing programme unviable for the WACF for much of the season seems not to worry them in the least, as they believe our members will flock to their fold. They openly admit that their wish to take in Masters riders is to build up

numbers so as to be able to tap more government money and also to benefit by the registration fees of our 2,000plus membership. However, there is no guarantee that these funds will filter back to the veteran ranks if past experience is anything to go by, and there is also little doubt that should they capture some of our members they will be treated with the contempt that veteran riders have in the past by the national organization. Our members have nothing to gain and much to lose by abandoning our ranks for the promised-land as envisaged by Cycling Australia. So if men in trenchcoats wearing 'Cycling Australia' badges on their lapels should approach you and whisper temptations in your ear, just tell them to go away to play with their marbles!

Life Membership

At the Rose Preedy Presentation dinner, Brian Paxman received a surprise when he was presented with a life membership badge for services rendered over many years to the club. Brian acted until recently as Racing-Secretary and has been an active committee member for many years both with The West Coast Masters CC and the West Coast Veteran Bicycle Club. Congratulations to Brian from us all for joining the handful of members who have been granted the honour.

Injury

Just received news through the grapevine that Tony Beaumont suffered a double fracture to his pelvis during a training run a few days ago. He'll be off his bike for a while and we wish him a rapid recovery

Bereavement

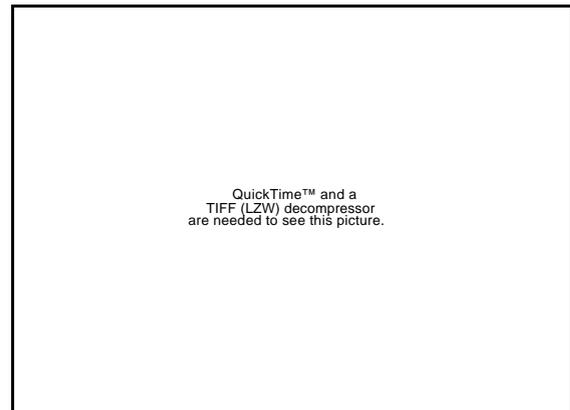
It is with great regret that we announce the death of Don Philp of the Peel CC who died of a heart attack at the young age of 57 years. Don had ridden a time trial two days before and had attended a social function of the club the previous evening, so that it came as a great shock to everyone. Our condolences to partner Jeantine and children Kate and Alex.

Insurance & Membership Renewal

Just to remind you that for all those who haven't already taken out the 2006 licence, your insurance cover cuts out at midnight on 31st December. Pointless moaning if you forget and you have an accident on 1st January.

Ripley's Believe it or Not

Mick Russell, seen here in action, was once a slim young lad!



Christmas Greetings

From the editorial staff (all one of them) of the newsletter and committee of the WCMCC, here's wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

May the New Year bring you fitness and fast times, and may your thighs suffer not from odd aches and cramps! May your Christmas stocking be stuffed with top class equipment and may your partner give blessing to your long absences on the bike.

MJD/Dec'05