



President's Report

14/08/2018

Craig Wilson

2017-2108 has been a year of mixed fortune for the Club and for my role as President.

Firstly, there has been much to celebrate.

We successfully ran two signature events;

- The Mt Buller Round of the Victorian Downhill Series, a wonderful turnout of Volunteers from our club to make this event happen and a significant commitment and involvement by Ben Annear, Club Secretary.
- Mansfield Tour, 2018, a round of the Victorian Road Series was held once again with a wonderful volunteer effort from our Club, guided by Event Managers Di Condie and Bruce Haket. The format for Mansfield Tour will change somewhat in 2019 with the Club taking over management of the event.

Our Summer Racing Season was a wonderful weekly celebration of our sport and our Club. Large numbers of juniors participated each week in Dirt Crits, and solid numbers of riders raced on the road throughout the Summer.

After a number of years with very few junior riders we once again have a juniors engaged in Open, State and National level competition, in both road, mtb and bmx disciplines. It's great to see cyclists of all ages riding, competing and enjoying, we wish all of our juniors well in their endeavours.

The Club completed an internal consultation to develop a strategic plan, this is an important component for any organisation/club wishing to secure funding for projects from all levels of government. We have some large ideas and without the strategic plan they will not be able to commence. A huge thankyou to Donna Stevens for undertaking this challenge.

We have continued to push for "One License" in our cycling community and whilst no details have been provided, Cycling Australia informs me that moves are afoot, so perhaps in my lifetime.

Two of our members have recently completed their Level II Commissaires training, which gives us a greater breadth of skills in our racing adventures. Thanks to Di Condie and Leonie McLaughlin for making their time available to complete this training.

There has been some disappointment;

After many years of hard work we were unable to secure a site for a competition BMX track. The Club is no longer pursuing this option, and we need to recognise the significant efforts of Adam Baker and Paul Fletcher who have worked tirelessly over many years in the interests of the club and its members.

There has been opportunities for reflection;

November will always be a period of reflection for the Club. In my first year in this role we experienced the loss of our friend and club member Alain Guerin. The “Alain Guerin Memorial Handicap” has been held each year since Alain’s death, and it is my hope that we continue to honour his memory and love of cycling, and increase the profile and importance of this race on the cycling calendar.

Simon Gerrans (Life member of our club) announced his retirement last week, his career mirroring the history of our club, in that we began as a club in 2002, Simon began his professional European career with Portuguese Club Carvalhelhos – Boavista in 2003, he then went in to various clubs including, AG2R, Credit Agricole, Cervelo Test Team, Sky Pro Cycling, Orica Greenedge in its various forms and in 2018 BMC racing.

Simon’s Palmares includes:

Australian Champion 2008

2x GC Jayco Herald Sun Tour ('06, '05)

4x GC Tour Down Under ('16, '14, '12, '06)

2x Grand Prix Cycliste de Quebec ('14, '12)

Milano-Sanremo ('12)

Liège - Bastogne - Liège ('14)

GP Ouest France - Plouay ('09)

Grand Prix Cycliste de Montréal ('14)

Tour de Finestre ('05)

2x stage Tour de France ('13, '08) including Yellow Jersey

Stage Win Vuelta a Espena

Stage Win Giro D'Italia

He is a credit to our town, his family, our sport and our Club. I will personally miss chasing bike races that he is in, and we thank him for bringing Pro cycling up close and personal to all of us.

Chapeau Simon and we wish you all the best in your future.

There are some thankyou's;

Thank you to the Delatite Hotel for being our home base.

Thank you to the executive committees over the past four years, it has been a fabulous team environment. I am certain that I will miss our monthly meetings. Special thanks to Bruce and Ben who have served on the Committee throughout my term.

Thank you to my family who have supported my involvement with the Club over these years.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the Club.

Cycling is my passion, sometimes that passion is greater than at other times, but always a passion. This club allows me to pursue my passion in my own little town, a luxury that other cycling passionistas don't have.

I am retiring as president after 4 years in the role, I am confident that the committee will manage the affairs of our club into the future and I am hopeful that new energy will bring about great things for MMBCC.

I am also hopeful that we continue to look after each other, this club is about more than racing, it is about a great bunch of people sharing passion and enjoyment.

A friend of mine once said " If you ask someone ½ an hour after the race who won, most people would say ,dunno, but it was a great race."

We are

"A Social Club with a Cycling Problem"

Craig Wilson
President 2014-2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Wilson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.