



SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

LARA TO GEELONG WATERFRONT RUN

ATTENDEES : Geoff (5000), John Mc, Peter and Charles (3800s) John M (1700), Neil (650) and Ern- visiting.

Today was going to be a good day for a ride on a Solex. Weather cool but dry and a trail that took in some rural atmosphere, bay views including boats and ships, an oil refinery and the waterfront area of a city.

We left Lara before 10.00am and the trail was very quiet and with very few people to feel the ground shake with big single thump. We made good progress with all bikes running well and it didn't take long before we reached the Geelong Grammar School area with the yachts on the nearby lagoon bobbing around with masts moving to the gentle breeze. The scenery from here changes rapidly to the tune of industrial with the oil refinery taking centre stage. Still, the refinery doesn't make too much money from the miserly VeloSolex.

Before long we are riding beside the bay and, once again, the track is very picturesque as we pass the water, boats and many comical bollards. We are now entering the city area of Geelong and the track is a lot busier as people are walking, jogging and riding bikes. No one seems to mind the procession of Solex bikes sharing the track with them.

We arrive at the waterfront café and, once again, the bikes generate a lot of interest. There was a group of Harley Davidson riders intrigued enough to come over and ask us about our bikes. They were genuinely interested and appreciated our odd little bikes. Once in the café, we enjoyed some food, drink and the social aspect of ride.

Soon it was time for the return journey. We made good progress once again until just after the Grammar School, Neil's bike refused to go any further under its own steam. We checked for fuel and changed the spark plug but all to no avail. John ended up pushing him and the 650 along with the 1700 until we were on the outskirts of Lara and some steep uphill sections of the track. John then got the car and doubled back to collect both bike and rider.

Once again, we had a great ride. As a post script the problem with Neil's bike turned out to be a sheared woodruff key to the flywheel. This, of course upset the timing causing failure to proceed.





BIKES FOR SALE

Brian C has a model 1700 for sale as follows:

VeloSolex 1700 or 2200. Frame # 2103906. Frame rusty but recoverable. Wheels/seat/bars etc a bit ratty. Motor # 2090082 - '61 1700 by the look of it. Motor was a good runner when last fitted to a push-bike..!

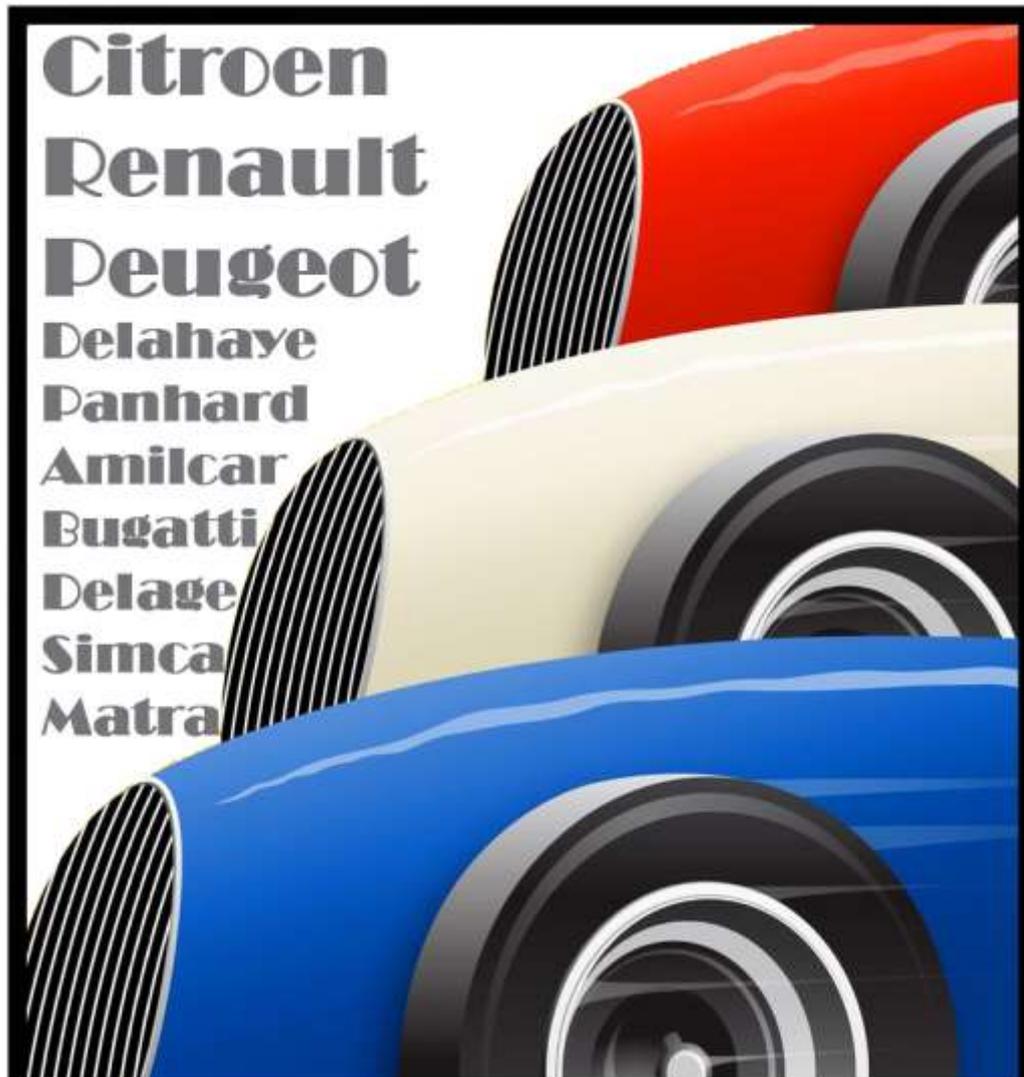
Asking \$400. Bike and motor in Eltham. Call Brian 0409 024482 Many other odd Solex bits to pick through.



OUR NEXT RUN

Our next run will be on Sunday October 28th. We have been kindly asked by Rob Belcourt from **CCOCA** Citroen car club for a Solex representation at the French car festival. We would

like as many Solex bikes as we can muster. Don and Dee have kindly offered for us to start the run from their house at 14 Kalymna Gve Chadstone for the aprox 30 min ride to the venue. We can meet at 9.00am for a 9.30 start. The bikes will be judged and therefore it would probably be considered polite to stay through the result announcement.



French Car Festival

Sunday October 28 2018 at 10 am

Markham Reserve

80 Victory Boulevard, Ashburton

Jointly organised by

Citroen Car Club of Victoria

Citroen Classic Owners Club of Australia

In association with Peugeot Car Club of Victoria and

Renault Car Club of Victoria

French Car Festival 2018

Schedule of Events

- 9.30 a.m. Sponsors and food outlets enter to set up
- 10.00 a.m. Gates Open (Entry fee \$10.00 per car)
- 1.00 p.m. Concours judging starts
- 2.00 p.m. Concours judging ends
- 2.30 p.m. Results announced and trophies presented.
- 3.00 p.m. Event closes

EARLY NOTICE FOR NOVEMBER WEEKEND RUN

VENUS BAY/GREAT SOUTHERN RAIL TRAIL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17TH AND 18TH

This is an exciting weekend run that can optionally start on Friday 16th from Venus Bay (Don and Dee have kindly offered for people to camp, **or bring a caravan**, on their property) or on Saturday 17th for a later than usual start to allow participants time to get to Koonwarra. **If people from Trentham or elsewhere are joining us on the Saturday we will leave Koonwarra at 11am (approx. 2 hrs 45 minutes from Trentham), otherwise 10 am. If you have any other queries about accommodation on the Friday night please contact Don or Dee on 0540644570 or email doubled@ozemail.com.au**

The starting point is at a small village called Koonwarra and the trail is called "The Great Southern Rail Trail" and it is blessed with panoramic views of lush bushland, temperate rainforest and pristine seascapes. The Great Southern Rail Trail winds its way through South Gippsland and the surface of the track is quite similar to the Queenscliff rail trail. There is very little traffic and virtually no public road riding. The ride would encompass riding from Koonwarra to Port Welshpool and return for overnight accommodation at Welshpool hotel/motel which is quite inexpensive and has excellent evening meals. The following morning after breakfast the return journey would take us back to Koonwarra. The total distance travelled would be 135 klms.

Here are some notes of our reconnaissance run : Start at Koonwarra- a very picturesque village known for its fresh produce at a once a month farmers market and enjoyable café offering good

food and coffee. The track from here to Fish Creek is just over 25 klms and skirts green pastures and semi bushland. Fish creek has some very good cafes offering good food and drink. After leaving here we follow the track which by passes Foster and Toora. Again, the track had beautiful scenery which by now gives glimpses of the sea and the distant hills of Wilson Prom. Along this stretch we pass undulating very green farmland and even some rainforest. Toora is an historic town situated at the foot of Mt Best and Mt Fatigue and as such it offers terrific views towards the mountains but also spectacular views to Corner Inlet and Wilsons Prom. From here we head to Port Welshpool and are greeted by a coastline complete with fishing boats, picnic and BBQ facilities and the end of the trail. We then double back to our overnight stop at Welshpool which is nestled in the foothills of the Strzelecki Ranges and, once again, offers terrific views. The hotel/motel here offers a very good evening meal but not breakfast. Next morning after breakfast we then start the return journey which has some nice long straights to Toora and from there the already mentioned scenery to Koonwarra which takes around 21/2 hours. Now this is quite a long run but would have to be one of the best Solex runs we have ever done. Right up there with the weekend run we did a few years ago to Bright. I would like to do this run with our group and encourage you to convey your interest or comments to either Don, myself or Neil so that we can make it happen. **If you are able to join this expedition please let John know for booking accommodation.**

DECEMBER RUN

Our action packed run of events continues with our final run of the year being a special Christmas run in picturesque Trentham. Geoff and the Trentham boys will host a special run to remember. A date has not been finalised as yet and will be conveyed in due course.