

SoleXoz

NEWSLETTER #20 JULY 2009

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NEWS

SolexOz members stormed the walls of Williamstown again for this year to celebration of Bastille Day. We joined the Citroen Clubs annual Breakfast at Café Breizoz and enjoyed a 3 course breakfast of pastries and pancakes washed down with lashings of coffee and orange juice. Member Tiby lead our group with a great rendition of the French National Anthem.

The weather was very kind, after a wet week in Melbourne with the skies clearing for a mostly sunny morning for our run from South Melbourne to Williamstown. Tiby ran his freshly restored 1700 for the first time and blitzed the field with some expert riding. After all those years of riding his 2200 in France Tiby showed he had not lost any of his Solex skills.

Participants on the run were; Don D, Geoff, Frank, Ern and Peter on 3800's Don S and Graham on 3300's and Bryan and Tiby on 1700's. Peter's blue MBK 3800 had its first outing and looked a treat. A big thanks to Tiby for supplying the French flags for us to fly on our Solexes.



PEOPLE AND BIKES

Many members of our group have elected to flee the Southern winter and head to the warmer climes of the Northern Summer. Frank and Denise have just returned from a break in the UK and France. During their visit to the Loire Valley, Frank called in on our old friend Bertrand who supplies many difficult to find parts to our members. Frank said Bertrand is a great guy and very helpful. (See photo page).

Ted and Helen are currently in France and Germany for a wedding and a Citroen event. I am sure Ted is snooping around the swap meets and dealers for Solex bikes and parts, rumors of several Solexes arriving soon are very strong. I feel there maybe an overweight baggage allowance awaiting Ted upon his return!

Frances and Andrew have also been spotted in Paris taking photos of Solexes as they speed by and I am sure Andrew will not be able to resist the temptation, grabbing a few bargains to bring home.

Graham has paid a quick visit to NZ and caught up with our good friend Keith at Cycle Trading in Christchurch. Graham spent some time in Keith's treasure den and purchased a stash of new old Solex parts, so if you are looking for that difficult to find small part see Graham at our up-coming SWAP DAY.

With all this frenzied buying in Europe and New Zealand, our Swap Day at next month should be an event not to be missed.

With the supply of Solexes starting to thin out, there has been quite a bit of wheeling and dealing over the past month; Ern sold his beautifully restored ex Mackay 1700 to Tiby, this is probably one of the quickest 1700's around, fitted with a 6.5 cylinder and a 3 ring piston and looks and goes extremely well. Frank has purchased one of Ern's very rare Pli 5000's. This beautifully restored example will join Frank's growing fleet in Brighton. To replace these losses Ern has purchased a rare 2200 from Geoff and will turn this into another high quality restoration. Graham has bought two 5000's in Christchurch and intends to restore one of these for his wife. Graham is keen to do a fully white colour scheme on this 5000 and should look great. Graham has also purchased a 1700 from Queensland although missing a motor this is a very nice bike and even has new tyres. Anyone with a spare 1700 motor please contact Graham.

FOR SALE & WANTED

Frank has a 1700 and a blue 5000 for sale, both of these Solexes run well and only need a small amount of TLC to turn them into good bikes. Joe from Bendigo is looking for an early model basket case to restore. Graham is looking for 1700 Motor. Peter has a black 3800, which is undergoing a refurbishment and will be available in a week or two.

Call Geoff or contact us on our website email address; solexoz@gmail.com if you wish to know more details of the above or for any other "For sale or wanted".

COMING EVENTS

□ SATURDAY AUGUST 15; "SWAP AND TECHNICAL DAY"

The event we have been waiting for, our inaugural Swap & Tech. day at Frank's place in Brighton. A chance to pick some of those hard to get parts or swap some of the bits that you have accumulated over the years.

Also, Ern and Geoff will be available to carry out minor tuning and adjustments, so do not hesitate to take advantage of this free service. Further details will sent the week prior.

Coffee will be supplied and BYO Buns, Doughnuts or croissants' for morning tea.

□ SEPTEMBER RUN- SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

Our September run will be another "Visite de ville" around the City of Melbourne, a chance to see more historic and hidden parts of our beautiful city. More details later.

□ OCTOBER EVENT- 50 YEARS OF THE 1700- SUNDAY OCTOBER 11

We are organizing a special event to celebrate the anniversary of the introduction of the iconic 1700 model. We hope to create a record for the most 1700's in one place in Australia, so make sure your 1700 is running for this event. I am trying to organize a venue, possibly the Historic Hawthorn Tram Museum for this event, more news later.

PHOTO PAGE



Bertrand and Frank under a Solex fruit tree somewhere in the Loire Valley.



Andrew eyeing off a 3800 in the town of Quiberon near Vannes on the North Coast of Brittany, France.



Solex 5 wheel Campervan.



Ideal for the back seat driver!



Time to get the 1700 polished up for the 50th Anniversary in October.



Solex 2 wheel drive? Twice the power and twice the chance of engine failure.

SEE YOU ON THE NEXT RUN,

AU REVOIR, GEOFF 😊