

SolexOz

NEWSLETTER # 25, JANUARY 2010

NEWS

Welcome to 2010 and another fantastic year of SolexOz. Over the past year, SolexOz has really come of age. A club is only as good as its members and we are extremely fortunate to have a collection of wonderful characters that encourage, organize and participate. Nearly every event in 2009 was organized by a different member; this added a wonderful variety to our runs. Who could forget gems such as Frances's Collingwood Pub 'visite du Ville', Ern's Point Nepean Coastal Park Run, Ted's Maribyrnong River Jaunt and Bastille Day Breakfast, Don D's Camberwell Run, Don S's Sticky Bun Run, and of course Shiny Frank's Swap Day at Brighton.

It certainly is special to be part of these wonderful runs and to enjoy the camaraderie that accompanies it. To ride our iconic French Cyclos with such an eclectic bunch of people is a gift we will treasure for years to come. Members having their first rides this past year included Helen, Marc H. Graham, Tiby, Neil and Bob.

Records were also broken this year, firstly with the 1700 Birthday celebrations in October at Como, with 11 Solexes and a mind blowing, 14 Solexes on our final run for 2009.

The December Run was a re-enactment of our first run that took place back in 2007. That first run saw only 3 riders including Andrew, Mark and Geoff sedately riding around the AGP circuit, two other stalwarts also attended, Frances was at the send off and Don D broke down on his way to the start. As they say, "Humble beginnings....."



Geoff, Andrew and Mark ready to launch into history on the first ever SolexOz Run, 2007

In absolute contrast to that first run, our 2009 December run saw the largest attendance yet. 14 Solexes broke the morning peace in South Melbourne and headed to Albert Park Lake for some exciting laps around the AGP circuit. Beautiful weather and very little traffic made this a most memorable day. This was a first run for Bob, Neil and Tiby's son, Artemis, who rode pillion with Tiby.

The "Team" then returned to Solex Central for Hot Scones with lashings of Jam and Cream washed down with Tea and Coffee all beautifully prepared by Kerry. Bon appetit

Attendees were;

Frances, Don D. and Frank all on 5000's, Tiby/Artemis and Neil on 1700's, Don S. and Bob on 3300's, Andrew, Ern, Ted, Bryan, Geoff and Peter all on 3800's and of course Joe on the fabulous REX.

Frances has been on hand to record most of our runs including the first, as well as the most recent, see, yet another superb photomontage on the final page of the newsletter.

We would like to wish our members in other parts of the country and overseas a happy new year, including Huw in Canberra who often travels over 600 Kms. to join us on our runs, Nick, Jan John, Bruce and the crew in South Australia, Ray, Theo, Steve and Martin in N.S.W. Hans in Brisbane, Mark J. Luc V. Tom N. and Shayne and the crew in Western Australia. Overseas members include Bertrand, Franck M. and Bryan H. in France, Markus and Peter in Germany and Jeff, Brian C. and Charles in the U.S.A.

Our Geelong group is growing with Neil joining Marty, Beverly and Bruce. Marty has been off the screen for a while but contacted us before Christmas and hopes to be back in action on our January Run.

Geoff's son Glen has recently purchased a very original 2200 from Frank, this Solex was bought at a Paris swap meet by Nick 2 years ago, it looks, and goes great. Glen has taken Bryan's lead and is running this bike on Castrol R (castor oil) and it smells as good as it looks. Glen hopes to join us on our January Run.

Graham is off to Christchurch shortly, to pick up a few more Kiwi treasures, including an immaculate Blue 5000 and a 2200.

Thanks to Joe and member Peter in Germany our SolexOz Forum is now working really well. Please do not hesitate to Logon and ask questions or just tell everyone who you are and what Solexes you own, or maybe your experiences with the Solex. To access this site go to; <http://velosolexforum.forencity.de/index.php?c=9> . If you have any problems with the logon, see Joe's instructions in our SolexOz newsletter No.24.

Joe has also up-graded the SolexOz "Photogallery" and "In the Workshop" pages on our Website. Please check them out, nice work Uncle Joe!

COMING EVENTS

Our next Monthly Run will take place on Saturday January 16. Details of this run will be sent out the week prior.

Also we have a few members wishing to have an informal run over the New Years Weekend, probably a short run on Saturday and a coffee around Williamstown and Altona, we will let you know, if and when by email during the week leading up to Jan 1,

Other runs coming up soon are:

- a. A Bellarine Peninsula Run being put together by member Neil, this will most likely start in Geelong.
- b. Don S's Venus Bay Challenge.

Tiby is putting together an article for our newsletter about his experiences riding his 2200 in France as a teenager, this also includes stories about his family who were also keen Solex riders, anyone else with contributions for our future newsletters please forward them to Geoff, Happy New Year to all our SolexOz Friends and Families, Au Revoir.

ALBERT PARK VELOSOLEX RUN 12 DECEMBER 09

