



AUGUST 2012 NEWSLETTER

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MELBOURNE NEWS

RECENT EVENTS

“SHINY FRANK’S FLOGATHON” took place on Saturday August 18. Frank and Denise kindly hosted this eagerly anticipated event for the 3rd time and it just gets better each year.

A lot of buying, swapping and selling took place with lots of hard to get parts for sale as well as several complete Solexes.

This was a great social and fun event and saw five members joining us for their first event including Katsuya, Chester, John G, Gerhard and Jacques a very warm welcome.

One of the highlights of the day was morning tea that included Frank’s Famous Hot Dogs served with Coffee and Sticky Buns.

Fifteen members attended on the day:

Andrew, Chester, Denise, Don, Frank, Geoff, Gerhard, Jacques, Joe, John G, John M, Katsuya, Peter S, Ted and Tiby.

Apologies came from Ern who is holidaying on the Sunshine Coast, Neil who was riding around country NSW, Glen who was in Brisbane and Peter H.

A sincere vote of thanks to Denise and Frank for hosting this very enjoyable day. See our photo page for some shots of this day kindly supplied by Andrew.

FUTURE EVENTS

Sunday September 16.

Neil has organized our next country run from Smythesdale to Skipton and return.

This run takes in some really beautiful country along a very good rail trail. Total distance is approx 64 kms, the start point at Smythesdale is about 20 kms South West of Ballarat. Further details will be advised one week prior.

Friday October 12.

Don’s Dastardly Tour of Darkness, this will include a sunset and night ride finishing with a BBQ at Chateau Scutt. Further details closer to the event.

ADELAIDE NEWS

Coucou, bonjour SolexOz and Solexians,

Oui, I have arrived back in the land of Oz & yes, my adventures in France were nothing short of fantastique. Solex’n was a big part of it and I managed to combine it all with the help of family. My uncle had already found another 3800 for my son Jacob that we dismantled there in my late grandfather’s workshop, and bought it back in parts in the suitcases. I’ve been working on it

ever since we've been back and it's almost done. John K has been helping me with the motor. (rebuild because I like a fresh start and trouble free motoring). I also found an old 1955 Peugeot Bima (if you don't know it - it's like a Solex but the motor is under the pedal crank). That was a lot of fun getting that bike, we found it on a site called www.leboncoin.fr/ great site but more for the locals, but you never know because the Froggy I bought the Bima from was very helpful. I'm lucky that I can still speak French because he didn't speak English but the site is worth checking out. Anyway, I'll start working on that project soon.

I did have time to visit Marc Deschamps from Lesolex in Paris @ - 87 avenue Charles de Gaulle, and purchased some Solex parts from him, had a chat & got to know him a little bit better. His shop was heaven I could have spent days in there, it's a big mess like very disorderly so much stuff everywhere new and old, I loved it and got some pic's just to show you guy's. (see photos below) I was lucky to find more parts and very nice people all over including my hometown Moulins, where my uncle was able to help me some more. Not very far from Moulins is the VSX71 warehouse but you can only order on line and cant visit - not from a lack of trying either: nice guy to talk to but he just didn't have the time for a visit, I could only order just like we do from home and got 10 Solex tyres for 150 Euros + 145 Euros for postage.

I rode my grandfather's pushbike to town and ran into a nice old Mobylette mechanic that sold me a motor and some parts for 30 Euros - yeah baby; That was a bit more luck, he was a great old school traid'y type that loved to share some knowledge & story's. I was in heaven again and it was just getting better every day.

We got to see a part of the Tour De France and got lots of goody's, now that's a great day and I will do that again next time we go, the country side is just beautiful and all the villages and small towns are just so unreal to look at and spend time in and drink and/or lunch.

But Paris was the best, I think Jacob fell in love with all the French girls -Parisians Ohhlala and the food was so so good, we did everything there the Louvre ,Eiffel Tower, St Michel, lunch on the Champs- Elysees & Pere Lachaise cemetery to visit Jim Morrison (The Doors) just to name a few things. All in all, we really enjoyed the summer sun, wine, food and family it was magic .we got to nick over to New York for 5 days & had a great bike ride along the Hudson River and Central Park that was amazing.

Back home in little old Adelaide SolexOz is a little bit quieter than Melbourne, but the boys & I have been on a big ride to Linear Reserve at Athelstone along the River Torrens a couple weeks ago, that was a last minute decision "let's just go" and for John & I it was about a 90km trip & even more for Billy garcon (120km) Bill's got his 2200 & 3800 on the road now, his been working very hard on them after restoring his beloved Indian and John has not stopped Solexing in the shed ever since ever. We're also planning a McLaren Vale Solex wine tour very soon. As soon as the weather permits it in fact. As you can see, we are all still alive and well and hope to continue our journey together.

Merçi beaucoup, A bientôt, Pascal, Billy, & John, SolexOz Adelaide



PHOTOS OF SHINY FRANK'S FLOGATHON

Photos courtesy of Andrew



From left Geoff, Don, Joe, Gerhard, Ted and Frank.



Looking into the Dungeon of Solex Treasures.



John G studying Solex miscellanea.



Monsieur's Jacques and Tiby.



Frank's 4600 and 3800



5000 "Bleu"