

SolexOz

NOVEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

MELBOURNE NEWS

The November edition of our SolexOz newsletter is somewhat brief as your editor has just completed a house move resulting in changes and disruptions such as a new computer, new Internet provider as well as new phone services. All of this plus the trauma of moving from burbs to the bush (Trentham) has created a small amount of chaos, the task of settling in to the new abode and finding time to produce a newsletter has been a bit of a trial. So please bear with us as things will return to normal very soon.

RECENT EVENTS

On Saturday November 17 our group enjoyed a "Tour de Ville" of the historic Port of Melbourne including Sandridge, Fishermans Bend and the Westgate area.

The Gold Rush of the 1850's turned Melbourne from a quiet backwater into one of the busiest cities in the world and the Port of Melbourne grew into one of Australia's most important commercial and industrial centres. We toured the historic docks and factories as well as visiting the more recent history of the tragic Westgate Bridge collapse of the 1970's.

We also enjoyed a great coffee stop and brunch at the Salford Lads Club in Port Melbourne. Participants included John M and Tiby on 1700's, Brian C on his 3300, Alex Peter and Geoff on 3800's, Frank on the 4600 and Ern on the Pli 5000.

Apologies came from Joe, Don, Ted and Neil.



The team minus Tiby who took our photos.



Ern caught with his pants down?

FUTURE EVENTS

Our next run will take place on Saturday December 15, the Geelong team have organised a run starting at Limeburners Cove just near the rear of Geelong Grammar. We will ride the Coastal Trail into Eastern Beach via Corio, Rippleside Park and Western Beach. We will have a pre-Christmas Brunch and get-together on the Geelong foreshore before returning to Limeburners and home. Final details will be sent out a week before.

BIKES AND PEOPLE

Neil recently purchased a Dutch 330 from Cam in Canberra. After a bit of fettling Neil has this rare and desirable early Solex running very well.

This is the only one of it's type in Australia and was bought from the Netherlands in the 1960's by it's original owner who settled in Murray Bridge S.A.

The owners son started a faithful restoration in the late 1990's but never completed it and it was sold to Geoff in Melbourne who completed the resto and had it on display in his office for a number of years before selling to Cam.

Dutch Solexes were built under licence by Stokvis in Holland and the early models such as the 330 are now very rare and collectable in Holland. We hope to see Neil out and about on this lovely gooseneck model soon, it is a very classy bike.

The Dutch 330 came in several colours and the green utility models such as the one listed below looked superb.



FOR SALE

There are a couple of Solexes 3800's currently for sale. Both are well sorted go very nicely and both are in Melbourne. Contact Geoff on 0403 359876 and I will pass on contact details to anyone interested.

Well that's all for this month, apologies for the brief newsletter but all will be back to normal next month.

Cheers SolexOz

