

Solex

NOVEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

PAST EVENTS

Don's "Descent into Darkness" took place on Friday evening, November 15. We chose to put this back one week from the previous Friday due to weather conditions, this turned out to be a smart move as the weather could not have been more perfect.

Starting from Don's Daughter's home in Burwood we travelled on some of the best Cycle paths in Melbourne following Gardner's Creek through East Malvern and onto Don's home in Chadstone. Don and Deidre put on a gourmet BBQ starting with a Champagne toast and a feast to satisfy the most ravenous of Solex Riders, great salads, cheese platters and much more.

So much fun and banter took place that we were about an hour late for ride back in the dark, a most successful evening and our sincere thanks to Don and Deidre for their great organisation and superb hospitality, well done D & D.

Those that enjoyed this top evening were: John M 1700, Frank and Jurgen on 3800's, Don S on the 4600, Brian C on the Mobylette and Neil and Geoff on 5000's.

Apologies came from Don and Marg B, Ern, Ted C, Ted B, John F, Dan B, and Frances and Andrew.



L-R: Brian, John, Jurgen, Don, Neil, Geoff and Frank.
(more photos of this run on last page)

BIKES AND PEOPLE

New member Hank from Gisborne Vic. contacted us during October to let us know he has a 3800 and wishes to join our group and be involved in our events. Hank's mother had a Solex in Holland and a young Hank and his sister often "borrowed" the bike without her knowledge but after being caught she relented and allowed them to ride it. This started a life long love of Solexes with Hank wishing to relive his youth on future rides. Hank only lives about 15 minutes from Geoff and intends to bring the 3800 up for a service and tune shortly.



DECEMBER RUN

Our December Christmas run will take place on Saturday Dec 8, this will be a repeat of our Skipton Run of two years ago, a chance to give the Solex a good run in beautiful bush surrounds. Further details will be sent out a week prior.

THE ADVENTUROUS DON'S

I am not sure if the name Don is derived from the Greek word for "Adventure" as our two SolexOz Don's have surely inherited the spirit of adventure. Whilst Neil and Geoff often sit around pontificating about, one day doing the ultimate Solex Ride, Don Scutt and Don Buckmaster are getting off their collective proverbials and into it.

Don Scutt's Big Dream

Ever since SolexOz hero Shayne Harris rode across the Nullarbor Desert from Perth to Dubbo, a distance of 3476kms some 10 years ago, Don has wanted to be the first to ride the 2700kms coast to coast from Port Augusta to Darwin on his Solex.

Inspired not only by Shayne but also a keen follower of the Solar Vehicle challengers travelling this route along the Stuart Highway.

Although still a dream Don has been carrying out time, distance and fuel checks on his 4600 in the South Gippsland area as a precursor to such an adventure. We look forward to hearing more about this possible great adventure.

Don Buckmaster's Mountain Climb

Don is a keen skier and spends a lot of time in the Mt. Buller Alpine region, this prompted him to attempt a ride to the summit of Mt. Buller. His first attempt stopped within a 100mts of the summit when Don and his 4600 both ran out of puff. But Don is determined to succeed on his next try, tuning for a bit more torque should see Don make it all the way to the top, Mt. Everest here we come.

So the message is clear, get on with those dreams, life goes by more quickly than a Solex?

PHOTOS FROM DON'S DESCENT INTO DARKNESS RUN

Photos courtesy of Jurgan



Setting Off



Photo Stop



Tucker Time



A contented John



Jurgan and John

