

# Solex

## JUNE 2015 NEWSLETTER

### TECH TIP

#### Lighting

We are now in the depths of winter and whilst many may find this a bit depressing, one aspect I enjoy about early sunsets is night riding. My comments here are mainly based on model 1700 ownership. It has been my experience that, especially with the yellow tinted headlight globes, THE Solex lighting system is marginal at best. But wait, modern technology is at hand ! For a while now, I have been experimenting with 12 volt MR16 cree LED globes and have found that, with a bit of judicious fettling, they can be made to work reliably behind the original headlight lens (530 lumen, narrow angle beam items seem to be the best). Don S (4600) and Neil (650) have also converted their bikes.

Another solution which is much easier to fit is to purchase a dedicated LED-Lithium- ion powered cycle light with around 1000 lumens. I purchased a set from Aldi for less than \$50.00 and the results are amazing. The battery has a long lead and velcro's to the bike somewhere convenient and the headlamp is a quick-fit "O" ring set up for the handlebars.

Both types would have amazed an original Solex rider from the '60's and '70's.



The yellow LED circuit almost looks like the original yellow tinted globe.

## LARA TO GEELONG WATERFRONT RUN

Our very first Lara to Geelong Waterfront run failed to inspire a large number of attendees: Don S and Frank on 4600'S, Charles (3800), Neil (650) and Myself (1700). Ern joined us later at the waterfront for our traditional café sojourn.

Our hardy crew was not to be deterred by some frost on the ground and cold temperatures. It may have been cold but it was clear and there was no wind. Once the light mists dissipated, it was a glorious sunny day. Not long after we started, we reached the Geelong Grammar school and the lagoon opposite where there were many yachts moored. The still conditions providing picturesque reflections on the water.

The next stage of the track becomes a shared path working its way past the North Geelong industrial area. Nothing to get inspired about here but the track soon makes its way back to the bay where the scenery becomes very good again.

Soon we were parking our bikes in front of the wharfshed café with Ern in attendance. We enjoyed some really nice food and light refreshments. Noone seemed to be in a hurry and it was past 1pm before we were heading back to our cars again. The return run was just as enjoyable and the general consensus was that this run was a "good un" and possibly to be an annual run. All told, the journey was about 45 klms long.



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## **FUTURE EVENTS**

**FRIDAY NIGHT/BBQ AT THE WESLEY COLLEGE BOATSHED**  
**17 TH JULY 6.30pm. Hopefully with some videos.**