

## September Shed Time

It has been an unusually busy time in the garage over the past month with a number of activities.

Currently my rear black rim is being rolled and straightened by the crowd at Neway Wheel Repairs in West Heidelberg. Misho is organising, doing two of his own wheels. He has a place lined up to repaint them after the blow torch damage. The flat spot on the rim, cause unknown, was starting to infringe on my riding pleasure as I could feel it pulsing through the bars/seat.

**Steve Mudford** is fitting new Ohlin fork internals to my standard forks in the next day or two. Should be grouse! **Misho** (he really looks after me) loaned me a set of forks so that I can continue riding to work. (Half a day driving the car to work in “quiet” school holiday traffic drove me barmy, it was so frustratingly slow, traffic lights a pain.)

I ordered a set of standard OEM front brake pads on-line from America and they arrived yesterday, within 10 days or so. The price was so good that I ordered 4 sets (8 pairs) for \$346 delivered to the front door. They only last around 15-20,000 km so they should last at least 18 months.

**Pina** ordered another couple of front tyres and a rear tyre (Michelin Pilot Road 3s) for me on line and they arrived in 4 days. I have worn out a set of Road 3s over winter and changed the rear last Saturday before Billy’s Simpson ride. The rear did 9,666 km and the front, with 7,500 km on it, looks like it will make 10,000 km. I’m not so sure about the front grip in the last third of its life, but they are fabulous in the wet. While the forks were out I rebalanced and rotated the front wheel. Rotated to even out the wear and squeeze a bit more life out of the tyre.

I’m with **Cliffy** on chain maintenance – it will last the same amount of time whether you polish it or not. (See **Pierre’s** article where Pierre and **Andrew Newbury** compare chain cleaning therapies. If only I had that much time to spare!) I note that my current chain is just starting to stretch at the 42,000 km mark. That includes about 5,000 km of two up commuting in peak hour traffic. The key thing is not to run the chain too tight. I have a new 2012 CBR chain and sprockets ready to fit.

**Ben Warden**