

OFs Cycle 1000km in France

Terry Hurlock (68-73) and Nigel Robinson (64-74) recently completed a long distance cycle ride in France. The Velodyyssey runs down the west coast of France from Roscoff in Brittany to Hendaye on the Spanish border. The total distance is estimated at 1250 kms.

Nigel and Terry completed the route from Roscoff to Lacanau-Ocean before breaking off to ride about 60 kms into Bordeaux where they finished. They covered about 1,000 kms in total averaging approximately 100 kms per day over the ten day ride.

Ironically, in 1973 Nigel and Terry decided to hitch-hike to Bordeaux during the summer holidays. Hitch-hiking was very difficult and they never actually made it to Bordeaux having been



picked up by some young German tourists who were going to Arcachon in their VW camper van. Terry has been working and living in Bordeaux before his retirement in June 2016.-Nigel visited him there in the summer of 2016 when they came up with the idea for the joint cycle ride. This meeting in 2016 in Bordeaux was only 43 years after the original planned visit!!



The Velodyyssey is a great advertisement for cycling in France with a large part of the route on cycle-only routes along the sides of canals and the sea together with visits to beautiful towns such as Morlaix, Nantes, La Rochelle, Rochefort and Royan. It was a really enjoyable trip with some challenging days, particularly the one when 134 kms were completed with strong headwinds!! They had prebooked hotels and Bed & Breakfasts so there was an itinerary to stick to over the ten days.

The two photos show us near the start in Morlaix with the viaduct in the background and at the finish in Bordeaux.