Speaker David Brandenberger about his Solatrike Project

The Solatrike-project is more than a story about travel. But about an unusual recumbent trike which is powered by the sun and human power. And about a man who faced life and death, struggled with wind and weather, challenged problems in a field he didn’t learn, fought against all odds of bureaucracy and all alone without any support team in the background.

The story starts with the announcement of his doctor, that he suffers an uncurable disease and the uncertainty of his life span. Shall he work until he’s retired and even could die before? Nah, he went his own unusual way. Built a solar powered recumbent electric trike and set off to a world cycling tour, without having an idea of long distant cycling and electricity. His goal is as far and as long as he can. Following only a rough plan and his instincts. He decided to do something useful for the unsure future he still has and try to make the future better for some young people in 3rd world countries. On his travel he raises money for the Organisation Horyzon, a branch of the Swiss YMCA, which is doing education programs in 3rd world countries.

Was he dealing with fear? Isn’t it much safer to stay home? What, open end? Going on your own? Nah, you're too old, weak, inexperienced and so on. But he faces those fears with a little secret which is larger than life. Meanwhile he ended up cycling for more than 3 ½ years, went from Europe through Central Asia, crossed China from West to East, came through South Korea and Hong Kong and went to Australia, where he cycled from Darwin via Broome to Perth and further on through the Nullarbor to Adelaide, 31’000 km already.

David Brandenberger has a background as an optician and photographer and worked on that field for over 25 years. As a self-taught artist as well, he went through various exhibitions of his paintings and photographs, and concerts as a musician. Traveling was always a part of his life and he has been on every continent so far. Nearing the age when the most having families he set off to do what a free man can do. To be free and just explore. His vision is to encourage more people to think out of the box!

<https://www.d-t-b.ch/solatrike-projekt-solatrike-project/>