

## Cyberspace Shopping

GUY ALLEN'S quest for the Holy Grail, sorry, make that his quest for a good used 1980 Suzuki GS1000G cylinder head, had more-or-less come to nought after trying all his usual contacts. It was time for Guy to turn to the WWW for help...

A decade as a motorcycle courier was all it took for Sydneysider Mike King, frustrated with the constant task of hunting for parts to keep his bikes on the road, to turn an idea into reality, with the launch last month of [www.findapart.com.au](http://www.findapart.com.au). An Internet parts finding service, it claims to revolutionise the way industry and the general public source new, used and reconditioned parts in Australasia.

According to King, gone are the days of thumbing through the Yellow Pages or trawling the Internet searching out wreckers. This new website, [www.findapart.com.au](http://www.findapart.com.au), does it all for you - with a rapidly growing database of dealers, wreckers and suppliers only too willing to meet the demand.

The service works by matching the parts that you need with wreckers and dealers who are listed in the database as suppliers of those parts. A simple form-based front end coupled with sophisticated database-driven programming is the technology that drives the site, King explains, sending out your parts request via email to multiple wreckers/dealers across Australasia, who respond directly to your parts enquiry with prices, quotes and availability. It's quick, it's fast and most importantly it's free.

You can give the site the once over at [www.findapart.com.au](http://www.findapart.com.au) or call Mike on (02) 9544 7820 for more information.

We gave the site a try recently, looking for a 1980 GS1000G head in good condition. Our initial impressions were very positive - we received 11 responses from wreckers within a few days, several of whom could help.

The offer from Jap Motorcycle Dismantlers at [www.japmcdismantlers.co.nz](http://www.japmcdismantlers.co.nz) looked pretty good to us so we

did the deal by email, quoting the usual, apparently unending bunch of credit-card digits.

As you can see from the picture a lovely looking head arrived. I was keen to get one with good intact threads - they're all crisp.

It took about a week in transit.

Our findapart test run was a good experience.



Above: the headaches of finding bike bits and pieces are now a thing of the past. Right: a fine looking head; that GS part's in pretty good nick too!