

**Background:** A number of riders, starting in Cairns, are making their way to the Victorian fires (over 9 days) raising money to support the victims of the fire on their way. By day 9 over \$35,000 was raised with additional donations and pledges filtering in. You can check out the details of the ride including daily updates, photos and even make a donation at the Ride of Fire homepage <http://www.rideoffire.com>

When I first heard of the plan to escort the “Ride of Fire” Run, I thought “What a great activity to get involved with, and a great way to get some highway experience on my brand new Sportster” (Well any excuse is as good as the next one, isn’t it?)

At 1.00pm on Monday afternoon we left Robbos and after picking Lyn and Rob up at Eaglehawk, 8 riders headed off to Goulburn. After a steady trip down the Hume Highway – (although there was one truck-driver who decided he didn’t like being overtaken by a group of Bikers, and decided to overtake us on the inside lane) we arrived at Goulburn safe and met up with Boyd, Charlie and the other “Ride of Fire” group, along with some members of the Illawarra Chapter who had escorted the Run from Sydney.

After a quick cup of coffee and snack, and of course the mandatory “Group Photo”, we brought the group back to Canberra (incident free this time), where we met up with more CHOG members, Kris, Col and some of their staff, a couple of Raiders, friends, family and Media for a Barbeque and get to know you at Robbo’s, before everyone headed off to their individual overnight stays - but not before another “Group Photo”.

On Tuesday Morning we again met up at Robbo’s to escort the Group to Gundagai. Unfortunately because it was a work day (for most anyway - although Kiwi did manage to get some time off and came with us as far as EPIC) only 4 of us were able to participate in the Escort, but nonetheless Marie, Craig, Greg and I delivered the Riders safely to Gundagai where a couple of members of the Wagga Chapter met us and continued the Escort to Albury. After yet another “Group Photo”, hugs, handshakes and kisses, the “Ride of Fire” continued South followed, (as they had been since the run began in Cairns) by the Big Yellow IPEC Truck with its driver, Geoff, in his just as bright yellow shirt. Meanwhile our “Escort” duties were over so we jumped back on our bikes and headed home to Canberra, stopping only for a quick lunch at Yass.

The two days that we spent with the “Ride of Fire” Group was really enjoyable, meeting new people, riding with them and needless to say that after almost 600km over 2 days, I am feeling much more confident on my new Sportie.

Helen

*Images below*



*Ride of Fire riders and support driver, CHOGies & Raiders.*



*Charlie & Boyd – Ride of Fire*