

# Brighter Days 2013 Wrap up.

After only 6 weeks planning we did it. A small group of mates got together with an objective to raise some money for some Children's charities that we were close to. SUDS (Sudden Unexplained death Syndrome) and the DEBRA Foundation (Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB)).

The Brighter Days Inaugural Rally.

We met on the Saturday morning at the Whittlesea Tennis club for Car and Bike rally registrations and everything went as planned. Each participant donated \$100 per vehicle on registration. We registered over 40 vehicles (cars and bikes) and set off for Bright. Riding or driving we travelled together stopping at Mansfield for Lunch, Whitfield for a couple of pots and then Myrtleford, finding ourselves tacked onto the back of the "Myrtleford Town Fair" Parade. Once we arrived in Bright, most chose to relax at the Alpine hotel for a few drinks while some took the opportunity to shower and ready themselves for the evenings entertainment.

With 600 plus people at the Sound Shell by the river, The Smokin' O'Briens took control playing some classic music to all at the gig, even to those in the caravan park over the river. After the first set Jason ran a very successful auction adding to the funds raised earlier. Another set by the Smokins assisted by Brian Canham (Pseudo Echo frontman) and things really got rockin'. We wrapped the night up at eleven and rally participants were invited to a private drink at the Alpine.

Next morning was Show & Shine and the turn up was sensational with almost 60 vehicles entered. During this event we had the silent auction running successfully in the background.

The Show and shine winners were as follows;

Best Softail – Glenn Chesser - Springer

Best Dyna – Ray Stivala

Best Bike in Show – Greg Bergin - Softail

Best Custom build bike – Mark Walkley/Wes Reid – American Iron Horse

Best Modified Harley – Greg Bergin - Softail

Best Classic Car – Alan Robinson

Best Custom Car – John Panhook

Best Car in Show – James Theuma

Peoples Choice Car – Tony Smale

Peoples Choice Bike – Glen Hough (Huffy)

After the Show & Shine we set off on the Cooper Card Run (Poker Run). We picked up our first card at the Alpine Hotel and then headed up to Mt. Buffalo for card 2. Cards 3 & 4 were collected (or purchased) at another 2 stops on the way back to Bright with the last card back in town. Another bunch of cash was raised on the card run and everyone was happy with the result.

We closed off the silent auction raising another bunch of money for the kids and settled in to some more live music from Steve, Matty, Stones, JD and a special appearance from Matt Chesser on the drums. The night was closed off reasonably early for most, a little later for others.

After breakfast the next morning we said our goodbye's and headed home.

All up we exceeded the \$10,000 target raising over \$25,000 in total. After cost we have managed to collect over \$12,000 for each charity. These funds will be presented to both charities in the coming weeks. We'll keep you posted.

Thanks to all those involved in the running of this event. You know who you are,... So do we!

FOR ALL INTERESTED... we are definitely running this event next year but we plan to raise the bar for the locals and for all those heading up from Melbourne to visit the beautiful Alpine township of Bright. Keep Labour Day weekend blocked out in your diaries and keep watching for information on Facebook. Thanks Do-Dah's.