



### **Ride of Respect 2018**

The Ride of Respect is the Anzac ceremony for the motorcycling community, where motorcyclists can pay tribute to our tri-service personnel. It is also an opportunity to raise funds to support Military Charities. The ride was first organised back in 2010 in the UK, by two grandmothers whose grandsons had been injured on active service. On that first ride over 22,000 motorcycles took part. Since 2014 many other countries around the globe have hosted the event. It is the privilege of the Widows Sons to host the Ride of Respect here in Christchurch.

As dawn broke on the morning of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April riders started to descend, slowly filling the carpark at The Papanui RSA. By 10.00 o'clock there would be a total of 365 riders. After the quick talk outlining the event and a short safety briefing the group headed out. Cutting through the Christchurch traffic they soon found their way to The Rangiora RSA. A short stop to regroup, before forming up on mass, for the ride through the town then onto Oxford and its Workingmen's club via the Loburn back road. The food this year was supplied by Oxford school (who raised over \$1000) and thanks to all of our sponsors over 70 prizes were given to the lucky ones. Our last stop would be The Templeton RSA where a lone Piper played and the group stood in silence listening to the last post play and hearing the Soldier Ode.

Mr B.J Clarke President of the RSA was present and it gave me great pleasure to be able to hand over \$3695 raised on the day. A further \$800 was given from the sale of the badges and another \$1000 went to major RSA projects. The locations this year were marshalled by members of the Freemasons who did a fantastic job, ensuring that entrances remained clear and that everyone was welcomed. Great thanks must also go to the bike shops and businesses that supported the event, not to mention all who took part in the ride. Thank you all for your great support and the atmosphere you brought to the day. It was great to see the respect shown for the event both on and off the roads.

For more Photos and details go to the Ride of Respect New Zealand Facebook page.

“Lest we forget”

