



Mt Crawford Cook-Off

July 11th – 13th

After a wet week, about 20 cars braved the short trip up to Mt Crawford Forest in the Hills and were rewarded with beautiful weather & a weekend of fun.

After the majority of tents, campers & vans found their spots at Fromms Farm on the Friday night, an evening of relaxation & camaraderie around the campfire slid into the wee hours of the night.

Next morning, a few day-trippers & the last of the campers joined the throng. A selection from a packet of Chinese fortune cookies, sorted out the trip reporter (actually, it was a great & fair way of finding the 'lucky' hidden winner).

After lunch, we all trotted our cars over to a bumpy & wet patch of forest track to compete in the car skills events.

- 1) Passenger holding a tennis ball on a spoon outside the framework of the car while driver negotiates the challenges of the track. If ball is dropped, passenger to retrieve it to original position. Vehicle is timed.
- 2) Driver is blind-folded with passenger giving instructions to complete same route. Timing & trust are essential.

Great skills, hilarity and team-work were exhibited as tennis balls went bouncing all over the course & usually into the mud. One team made some alteration to the line of short posts, lineating the track, but after the recrimination abated, track maintenance repositioned the outdoor décor.



The overall timed winner of both events was the Plowman team of Steve & Val. Well done! A lovely wind-around tour of the Forest and it was back to camp to prepare for
THE COOK-OFF.



John Battle had made some extra half-drums on legs which spread the coal-base around between the participants. Soon the aroma of stews, casseroles, breads, roasts & scones drew everyone to the shelter shed to watch the judging. Paul & Gayle Bartel were the lucky judges with the hardest decisions.

Then we all tucked into the shared main courses with puddings, pastries & dumplings to follow. Man, was everything goooood!!!

1st Prize: - the bolar roast – Dave Read

2nd Prize: - caramel dumplings – Marcia Kemp

3rd Prize: - curried prawns – Grant Reid

Special thanks also to Grant Reid for organising the trophies.

The Special Weekend Award – “The Golden Shocker” went to Kerry Muhleder for her contribution to ‘Entertainment & Environmental Issues’.

A not-as-late night around the campfire finished a wonderful day.

The sound of breezes in the pines woke us to a lovely morning and reluctantly we packed up the accommodation to go home.

Many thanks to John and Sam Battle for a magic weekend of fun & frolic.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THE NEXT COOK-OFF!