

Trip Report – Brasserie April 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

Trip leaders: Ian & Rhonda McKinley

Trip Report by : Jenni Mason

Attendees : A record 88 people attended this Brasserie

The first to arrive was Bruce Gendle who staked out the campsite on Thursday morning. Bruce had the wood ready for the fire when the Mason family arrived on Thursday evening at around 6.30pm. It was a little wet setting up camp but the fire was started and we managed a couple of wines around the fire before the rain started.

Friday morning very early (6am) we heard cars and on going out to investigate we found Peter Moss, and Ken & Jim Powick arriving. As it was still dark we all had a nice hot cuppa before Peter and the boys sorted out their spot for the weekend and set up camp.

It was a little wet but started to clear late morning to reveal a beautiful autumn day.

The boys spent the morning retrieving trees and cutting firewood ready for the Friday arrivals, and there were a lot. We didn't do a count but there was a good group of us around the fire on Friday night.

Saturday morning we woke to beautiful sunshine and there was a lot of activity as more trees were bought in and the chains saws were going for most of the morning.



Camp ovens started to appear mid morning with damper and cakes, and an excellent first time scone effort from Craig Wallace.

Nathan Gilbert arrives and set us in motion to get the meat and vegies ready for the hangi (urban style). The preparation took some time and then it was on cooking away around 12.30



We had a small accident with Peter Moss stabbing his eye with a tent pole. A good lesson always tip out the tent poles onto the ground don't pull them out of the bag. Talk to Pete if you want to know why. Ronda did a good job of cleaning him up and he was sent off to hospital to check for major damage and potential stiches. He arrived back mid afternoon ready for Ken & Jims bar to open.

Ken & Jim bought along home made...well everything from Scotch to Sambuca and Baily's. The boys had a good flow of trade for the afternoon and some attendees were a little worse for wear early evening.



Ken & Jims Bar



Ian after frequenting ken & Jims bar

Unfortunately a heavy fog / mist started to come in and settle on our camp site mid afternoon. There was a little rain but didn't deter us from sitting around the fire. With 88 people the circle around the fire was large and in some cases in rows.



The food variety was great once again. As there was a lot of meat in the hangi (beef, Lamb and Pork) there were quite a few vegie dishes along with fettacine, rice dishes and of course the deserts.

The kids had a great time and the wet weather didn't deter them from running around together all weekend.



Sunday morning was still damp and we all had to pack up wet tents and camper trailers. Some went straight home with a group going to the glow worm tunnel before coming back to collect their trailers and head home.

Thanks to Ian and Rhonda for a fantastic brasserie and we are looking forward to the September one (or maybe a Christmas in July???? – might be a bit cold but a good fire will fix that). Perhaps we can break the record and get 100 people!!!