

## 2015 Fuchs Winter nationals at Willowbank

Saturday night around the fire, the question was asked. How are we getting to the drags in the morning? Woolli asked who was going and he started counting heads (I think he had to take his shoes off). It was declared that we would have somewhere between 18 and 22. A couple of phone calls later and transport was sorted. We leave Club corner at 10 am.

Sunday morning we get ourselves all dressed and fluffed up ready for the arrival of our transport. We needed two limos and Mel offered to transport the kids if we didn't all fit in them. I think we would have had some upset children if they had to travel in anything but a limo. All loaded and off we go. Carwyn was in one vehicle with the children while the rest of the adults travelled in the other. Well I can't say what happened in the other vehicle but phones came out for photos, selfies and about a thousand posts on Facebook before we even left the driveway. Must get into that one day!

Arriving at the drags, there was a bit of confusion whether all people in both cars had been paid for, but the officials assured us it was all sorted. All we needed now was to find our way to the track. Through the pit paddock and then some people wanted to hit the food stalls. Apparently they had worked up quite an appetite traveling from Lowood to Ipswich. I must admit it is a bit of hard work posing for all those photos. You should try it next time.

We found a seat in the grand stand a bit over half way down the strip. We could see the start and finish lines and a big screen just across the track. Can't get any better than this but then as the cars started hitting their throttles. Well I have never been to the drags before (watched them on TV but never had the buzz of real action). Don't blink cause even the babies are doing under 10 second quarter mile. I think the quickest of the day was 4.7 seconds and over 400kmh. Just a little quicker than our fourbys.

Just behind the grand stand were more pits and it was interesting to watch them strip the engine down and reassemble it. Apparently they can change an engine in 26 minutes (must talk to my mechanic about this). Fuel wise, it is a bit scary. The dragsters have a ninety litre fuel tank and they only do a short burn out to warm up, so they don't use it all before they finish. At full throttle they burn about 250 litres a minute. Glad I'm not filling them!

In between the thrills of the races we snuck off to fill the belly. There was quite a good variety of food to choose from including burgers, kebabs, pizza, roast pork rolls and even ice cream, donuts and those frozen drink things. There were also plenty of souvenir places to buy shirts etc. with some of them dropping prices considerably towards the end of the day.

About 5pm Woolli got the call that the limos were waiting. They were a little early so we had time to watch a few more races before departing and loading up for the trip home (sorry, back to Club Corner). The members that didn't attend the drags had the fire going when we got back and the sausages were cooked and waiting for us. Well done guys. Thanks all for a great day and to Woolli and Linda for their hospitality throughout the weekend.

**Vince**