

Trip Report by Bruce

Trip: **Driver Awareness and Sports Day**
Date: **26th April 2014**
Location: **Janowen Hills 4WD Park**
Trip Leader: **Gary and Rob**



Photo Taken from
<http://janowenhills4wdpark.bigpondhosting.com>

Whilst I was not able to participate in the sports day or the camping my time at Janowen Hills was enjoyable and well spent participating in the Club's Driver Awareness program facilitated by Rob.

Courses like this are a way of achieving a number of objectives some of which are: -

- Bringing people together
- Establishing Club Shared Values
- Setting a pattern for safety and cooperation on club trips
- Pass on basic driving and recovery techniques
- Provide an opportunity to safely try these techniques
- Check vehicle inventory against recommendations

After an informative few hours covering the theory behind the above topics and many others we adjourned for a coffee/tea break (in my case a coca-cola) and then prepared ourselves and vehicles for a brief trip into the Janowen Hills.

As is often the case putting theory into practice can be a daunting task but with Rob keeping a watchful eye on us we were able to complete basic snatch-strap recoveries and see first hand how all four wheels need to be on the ground to achieve forward or backward momentum.

For me the important thing is - safety and to come home from a 4WD trip with body and vehicle intact. With the tips and techniques that Rob has explained and passed on I believe we are all a little bit more prepared and each trip we participate in will build on that knowledge and hopefully make us better drivers in the bush or on the beach.

As part of the club charter - each member needs to have completed the Driver Awareness Program but even without that requirement these courses are always invaluable and build confidence within the club that each member on a trip can work together safely and harmoniously. I highly recommend taking on this program as soon as you can after joining the club.

Thanks again to Rob and my apologies to Gary for having to head off early.
Perhaps next time I can help referee...

Bruce

(Yours in Fun and Safe 4Wding)