

# Activity Report – Public Quarry Day

We have had a busy few weeks.

On March 25 we held our annual public “come and try” day for the general public out at our training quarry behind the old Shanty. Building on last year’s effort which went very well, we made a few adjustment to the program and I think we ended up with an excellent day even though visitor numbers were down, probably due to our lower publicity profile this year, and the distraction of the floods and lots of other activities around town. The dozen visitors who did attend though were very keen to learn more about the club and its activities.

After spending quite a bit of time planning the event a team of hard workers spent the Saturday preparing the venue by slashing the tall grass in the parking area, demonstration areas and the self drive track, and setting up the barricades and signs for the driving circuit. Thank you to those who brought along whipper snippers and mowers, and an especially loud thank you to John Moore who brought along his tractor and slasher.

Sunday morning early saw the team out there again putting up the shelter tarp, setting up the toilet and BBQ and so on before the visitors arrived.

Our program for the day saw demonstrations of winching, how to snatch recover a vehicle correctly, how to drive up and down steep hills and recover from a stall, and how to set up a vehicle for bush driving and expeditions. These went extremely well. Before lunch we also had time for the visitors to get in some driving practice around the quarry circuit and the self drive track under the guidance of experienced club members.

After a great BBQ lunch and chat about the club, we repeated the morning exercises finishing up around 4 pm.

Events such as this take a lot of work by many people – from pre-planning, organising handouts, preparing signs, setting everything up, organising the toilet, manning the gate, buying food, cooking lunch, preparing the site, running the demos, looking after visitors, and so on – not to mention packing it all up at the end of the day. It’s all a bit like a military exercise and I am exhausted just listing it all. As always, all the work was done cheerfully and very efficiently and this goes a long way to making such an event enjoyable for club members as well as visitors. Thank you all. *John Kent*



