



SEFWDC Trip Report – Peake – November 2024

With only a few of our own members putting their names down for this trip, the Committee made a decision to open the trip up to another club, the Mount Lofty Rangers in Adelaide, in an effort to bolster numbers and create contacts with another club. With a hot weekend forecast, unfortunately a few vehicles dropped out of the trip, including the three from Mount Lofty Rangers. However, three vehicles, three members of our Club and a prospective member of our club all enjoyed the trip.

Ian and I arrived Friday afternoon, and the place was beautiful! Under blue skies, we set up our camper trailer in the pick of the spots – in the shade between a couple of gum trees (Judy's favourite spot for her little caravan!), put out the solar blanket, and enjoyed a beverage whilst listening to the birds chirping away.

Later we were joined by Brett and by prospective member Tony. It was a nice evening to get a fire going so we enjoyed a chat and we made some campfire scones. It is always interesting to see what improvements the various groups make to the shelter each time we visit. A generous number of black and red camp chairs made their appearance this year!

Saturday morning, after breakfast, it was time to introduce Tony to the Peake sand play area. We aired down our tyres to about 18psi and off we went, initially over smaller dunes and around various tracks to acclimatise Tony and then we moved on to the bigger dunes and those whose tracks took turns once over the peak. Peake isn't Peake without practicing a few rescues (both us and Tony) so we came back to camp for lunch having experienced quite a lot. We went back out after lunch for more of the same, returning late afternoon for a drink, dinner but no campfire as it was hot and windy that evening.

Sunday morning we headed out again, this time to the large sand dune which we all managed to conquer, including Tony with his new skill set in sand driving! The view from the top was magnificent - such a clear day we could see in every direction. Getting down was a bit trickier with a bit of a bump at the end providing an element of the unexpected! Brett was our leader, followed by Tony and we brought up the rear. It was then Brett's turn to get bogged and rescued as he crowned a rise with a very steep descent, deciding to stop (solidly) rather than going over! Practice with a bridle, snatch strap, Maxx Traxx and the use of a shovel, not to mention the vehicle providing the assistance was a good learning and reinforcement for us all. It was the first time I had driven a vehicle being pulling out by another.

We all packed up and headed home after Sunday lunch.

Peake is such a great spot for getting to know your vehicle and trying / perfecting sand driving techniques (including a good spot for donuts! as Ian found!). Our club's allocated weekend is the first weekend in November, so don't forget to put it in your diary, and join in the learning and fun of a great weekend.

Cheers, Vanessa.