

JULY - AUGUST 2023

PEAKY NEWSLETTER



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Bi-Monthly newsletter of Peaky Striders Inc
www.peakystriders.org.au

This newsletter is a bit different. We have reached 20 years of incorporation. For new members this means the walking group became a not for profit group with volunteers taking on the work involved in running a club. This newsletter has a look at the past and present. For a jaunt down memory lane, read on.



Sunday 16 July 2023 Sutherland to Surf 7.30am. Paul Tam has registered Peaky Striders as a group. A delicious soup lunch is on at Terrie's home, after it is all over and all members are welcome even if you haven't done the hard yards! The soup lunch in the past has been a fun way to end the walk.
<https://www.onlineentry.com.au/S2S2023.aspx>

Oatley Fun run, date to be advised

Sunday 13 August 2023 City to Surf. Social function after the walk at lunch time at Oatley pub.
<https://city2surf.com.au/>

Friday 3, Saturday 4 November 2023 Bundanoon Social weekend. *Save the date!* Come down to a beautiful part of the world and enjoy walks, glow worm caves and stay at Bundanoon Hotel. En-suite rooms are priced between \$149 to \$179 per room per night. The social sub committee is planning a fun weekend. The hotel has put rooms on hold under "**Judi Mealey: Peaky's Striders Walking Club.**" If you would like to call or email to make a formal reservation in your own name and provide credit card details in order to secure the booking. The room cost is not deducted from the individuals credit card until the morning of the checkin being Friday 3rd November. Bundanoon Hotel Address: 6-18 Erith Street Bundanoon NSW 2578 P: 02 4883 6005. First in, best dressed!

Saturday 2 December 2023 Christmas function at 16 Foot Sailing Club. Save the date.

DID YOU KNOW?

This club is run very well. The reason why is that we have a history of very long serving hard working committee members.

Maureen Connelly (Treasurer), Di Craven (Secretary) and Terri Spence (President) have held their positions since 2003. Thanks Maureen for these details and for the committee's hard work.



Maureen Connelly



Di Craven



Terri Spence



Sue Garcia was the Walks Co-ordinator and Publicity Officer from 2003 to 2014.



Robyn Sullivan has been the Walks Co-ordinator and Publicity Officer from 2015 to 2017, then Social Secretary from 2020 to 2022.



Anne Mattison was Social Secretary from 2003 to 2008 and Morning Tea Co-ordinator from 2003 to 2013.

DID YOU KNOW Cont.



Carol Hamilton was Uniform Co-ordinator (with Lynne Brannock) from 2003 to 2008 and from 2018 onwards is Walks Co-ordinator.



Anne Wilson and Jan Coghlan were Uniform Co-ordinators from 2011 to 2022.



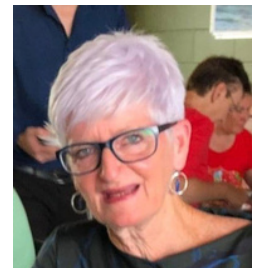
Cheryl Lucas has been Morning Tea Co-ordinator since 2014.



Glenn and Patsy Williams were Social Secretary from 2009 to 2014.



Carol King was Publicity Officer from 2018 to 2021.



Barb Seager and Gail Brown were Social Secretaries in 2015 to 2016. Gail continued this role in 2017.



Lynne Brannock was Uniform Co-ordinator (with Carol Hamilton) from 2003 to 2008.



Liz Whitecomb was Social Secretary in 2018.



Thanks to everyone who help, Margaret Mayhew who audits our accounts and Brian Craven who guards the stamp!



Thredbo trip February 2004 - blast from the past

In the archives, I found this gem, describing one of the fabulous Peakies trips. For the members still involved, enjoy this trip down memory lane. For newer members, this is why Peakies events can be fun!

Our Happy Group of Thredbo Adventurers

Lynne Brannock
Denice Blomfield
John & Liz Buckley
Julie Chalker
Maureen Connelly
Brian & Di Craven
Gail De Maria
Sue & Primi Garcia
John Hall
Carol Hamilton
Rhonda Leeming
Janelle Likidis
Anne Mattison
Michael Patterson
Reli Reica
Lani Reica
Robyn Sullivan
Terrie Williams & Russell



We met at the Pub for a drink sitting on the balcony enjoying the beautiful evening and then had dinner there – large choice for Friday night special - fish n' chips or chips n' fish – but the price was right, the tucker was good and the company was great, so we were a happy group.



We wandered back to Candlelight Lodge to enjoy drinks in the lounge with music and a dancing demo by Janelle & Michael and then it was dancing lessons for Robyn...she only missed colliding with the stone mantelpiece because she was relaxed having already had a few schnapps!!!!



Friday 27 February 2004

For most of us, the journey is not usually a highlight – but merely necessary to reach our destination.

However this is not the case when you travel with Janelle in her "people mover" and the group of Lynne, Gail, Robyn & Michael had a very entertaining trip from the moment they started. They were all in fine form with much singing, giggling and leading Annie, who was following with Maureen, Carol and Rhonda "round roundabouts"..... to say the least!

In Janelle's own words....

Journey from Sydney commencing with the first round-a-bout at Peakhurst. Conversation was constant for the whole journey. Took approximately 8 hours singing to the Sound Of Music and thank God for the petrol station at Thredbo Village!



Our home for the next few nights was Candlelight Lodge with great views of the mountains and the bobsled.



After breakfast we enjoyed the glorious sunshine and a leisurely walk to limber up – 4kms along the Riverside Walk to see the beauty of the ghost gums, summer flowers and babbling brook.

Robyn organised Mini Olympics for our afternoon activities.

The Mini Olympics consisted of:

- 50m lap of the heated Olympic pool, your favourite stroke was allowed, just as long as you tipped the other end of the lane
- Indoor Rock Climbing – lose your balance or fall off and it's back to the start was the rule for this activity
- 2kms power walk around Thredbo Village from the Leisure Centre following a set course.

Each team had to decide on a name and a war chant –

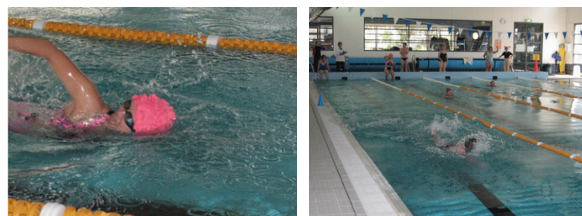
The Dream Team



The Puddle Ducks

Thredbo trip February 2004 - blast from the past

The Olympics commenced at 1pm at the Indoor Leisure Centre where we put into teams and all in our swimmers ready to swim 50m lap of the pool



Hot Bods



The star was our own Esther Williams aka Terrie Williams – complete with two piece cossie, toned body, bright pink bathing cap and goggles.

Some swimmers struggled – 50 metres took us longer than it takes Geoff Huegill, but we all had style!! Special cheers to the really fast swimmers.

When our breathing resumed back to normal, it was a quick change into the black & orange and the pressure was on for the rock climbing, but in true Peaky team spirit, the challenge put to us was met & we all passed with flying colours.

The Tea Bags



Next was the 2km walk from the Leisure Centre around the course set to us, up steps, passed the bobsled, tennis course, and around the Village back to the Centre and the timekeepers were all waiting earnestly with the stopwatches on us.

It was then time for the Judges – Robyn, Terrie, Primi, Reli & Lani to test their maths. It took them a while so the results were obviously very close, although one team was disqualified as a walker was seen running by a judge and that, as we all know, is strictly forbidden.

As if we hadn't made fools enough of ourselves it was then play time on the water slides – what a hoot!!! Of course rules are for breaking, so after a few goes sitting and going down the slide feet first, it was then 2 on a mat, some head first and then 3 on a mat – no prize for guessing that team – Denice, Janelle and John B – his worry was 'where do I put my hands'!!



We met in the lounge at 6pm for the medal presentation and a celebratory pre-dinner drink.



The winning team was **The Tea Bags** – consisting of Terrie Williams (for the swim leg), Di Craven, Maureen Connelly, John Buckley & Sue Garcia.



It was then off to The House of Ulir for dinner. As the restaurant had changed hands from the previous visit to Thredbo a couple of years ago, the restaurant had made changes and the jukebox was gone, so unfortunately there would be no dancing on the tables tonight!

However the food was great, everyone was happy to stand around chatting as they cooked and again, a good night was had by all. We enjoyed the Bucks Party at the next table until, after the speech by one of the friends, we decided to let them finish their night and our group went off in search of night life or a good night's sleep.

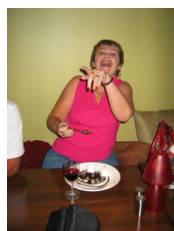
Some of our Peaky's summed up today this way.....

Terrie
As in the past, Thredbo put on beautiful weather, Russell and I arrived with minutes to spare for the "Olympics" which was a great event – it was terrific to see everyone laughing and trying something different. I loved seeing happy laughing faces facing the three challenges. Some fearful, but happy to finish laughing.

Michael
Mini Olympics was great but needed physio for injuries and muscles not used for so long. Didn't know there were so many expert physios in the Peaky's. Thanks to Maureen, Lizzy and Carol for their expertise.

Rhonda
The rock climbing was my highlight of the weekend. I was so surprised that I could actually do it. So don't be surprised if my new pastime includes rock climbing in my busy agenda. A great weekend had by all.

Denice
I am so glad I had swimming lessons.



The Tea Bags also won for the best war chant – so it was a clean scoop of prizes and of course, another demonstration of "Everybody's jinglin', jinglin', jinglin' more..."

Sunday 29 February 2004

There was much anticipation during breakfast as we checked the sky with a few threatening black clouds, as today was our **20kms Main Range Walk** - walking from Kosciusko to Charlotte's Pass and we were all pumped and excited.

It was a cold morning and we had to make sure our backpacks had sufficient warm clothes, beanies, gloves, at least 1ltr water & of course lunch and snacks. We met over at the chairlift, were introduced to our guides Mark and Gilly and were the first ones on the chairlift.

The view from the chairlift was so nice but very different from the way we all know it with everything covered in snow

We started our walk up Mt Kosciusko and it took a little while to acclimatise to the altitude and some of us were a bit breathless to begin with.

We enjoyed learning about the area from Mark & Gilly, who are so knowledgeable and were more than happy to give us so much information on all aspects of this delicate area. The wildflowers were glorious.

Janelle & Michael left us at Mt Kosciusko as they wanted to climb to the peak and our guides had decided we would not do that today.

This trip takes in some of Australia's highest peaks and the very best alpine scenery around. This beautiful walk passes glacial lakes and fragile ecosystems.

We stopped for a welcome lunch break overlooking Lake Albina and thoroughly enjoyed sitting with such a stunning view and the tranquillity.

Thredbo trip February 2004 - blast from the past

We battled strong winds on the walk and had many layers of clothes on to keep warm but as long as those dark clouds kept moving and didn't rain, we were relieved.



This is our own "Heidi" of the mountains

We continued the afternoon trek, still all awestruck by the beauty and then became excited as we saw a patch of snow near the Blue Lake.

About 4.10pm all was going well and we knew the *ninth and final hill* was almost upon us

& THEN WE SAW IT – this was no ordinary mountain.....

This was like something we had never seen before and for sure had not walked before!!



It honestly felt as though we would collapse before reaching the end of our Main Range Walk. However in true Peaky form we tried all ways to get up that hill – arms swinging, walk zig-zag like Heartbreak Hill – nothing made it easier - it was just a sheer, hard slog.

However once at the top and seeing Terrie, Russell & Primi waiting for us was good and then a most welcome treat - CHAMPERS, CHEESE & BIKKIES!!!!



We then had an hour's coach trip back to Thredbo and it was goodbye to Di & Brian, who had to tackle the long drive home.

After hot showers we all staggered to the lounge of the Lodge – down the 2 flights of stairs was not good because as we know – what goes down must come up!

We were all excited about the expedition and the fabulous day we had just been part of and we relaxed with a few drinks. It was too much effort to go out for dinner, so as Russell & Primi had enjoyed a relaxing day and did not endure all the harsh conditions we did, they volunteered to go & pick up pizzas, which we enjoyed.

We all took time to reflect on our day.

Quotes on "Best Thing About Today"

Carol	Scenery
Maureen	Up there and on top of everything
Julie	The last hill – "Shit Hill" – you feel as though you're the only person in the world
Lani	The wind going through me
Reli	The tranquility up on the chairlift
John Buckley	All the snippets of information from Mark & Gilly
Gail	Sitting on the hill having lunch & feeling part of a group and the beautiful scenery
Russell	Enjoying watching you all do what you do
Robyn	Anticipation of snow flakes
Terri	Absolutely freezing cold – felt back to my old self and privileged to be given the opportunity to do it again
Anne	Going up chairlift, the silence and looking down on Thredbo village
Liz	Struggled the walk but learnt how to look after my Gortex Brand Parka
Lynne	Camaraderie with us as a group and with my best friend Gail
Rhonda	General achievement to be able to do such a wonderful thing at my age

Primi	Waving you all goodbye and then – yes - home alone!
Sue	Sheer beauty and delicate vegetation and how lucky that this is our country
John Hall	Champagne and bikkies at the end of the whole walk – best walk in Australia
Michael	Not having to do the 9 th hill. Getting to the top of Mt Kosciusko
Janelle	When we walked up the hill and the trail of Peakys after we left
Denice	How beautiful it is and no matter how many times you do it, it is so beautiful
Di	The top of "Shit Hill"
Brian	Best 24 hours I've spent in a long time

Robyn then announced a very deserving Achievement Award. This was presented to **Gail** who achieved something she thought she never would. She is now so much fitter than when she first tried to walk with Peakys almost two years ago and found the walks difficult. Now we are delighted she is a Peaky Strider and she proudly wore her medal on her chest for the rest of the evening. Gail said she has now conquered Everest. Lady Gail Everest sounds a fitting name. **Our Congratulations to Gail.**

Some of our Peaky's comments.....

Julie
The best weekend I've ever had. Couldn't have asked for better company and remember Russell – "woman maketh the man"!

Reli
Thank God for Di & Brian's extended wardrobe! What would we do without them!

Lani
The walk was the best experience for a long time – brilliant. The camaraderie was great.

Thredbo trip February 2004 - blast from the past

Robyn

Shit Hill – I was frozen, my bladder was full (can't pee in the Snowy), I was tired after 19k's of hills, rocks and wind. Gilly said "we're almost home" and then I saw Shit Hill and remembered from last time how this walk finished. For those who have done Pamela Avenue at Peakhurst, and thought it bad "you ain't seen nothin' yet!!" Julie took flag honours and yours truly came a pathetic last, but Brian coaxed me over the line with a fine glass of bubbly – oh so lovely! To finish this little story I end with a quote from our Annie Mathieson – "it was a f----- of a hill"!

Anne

I made it to the top of the hill and didn't say f--- once

John Hall

View from Mount Carruthers to Mt Kosciusko, Club Lake and other Peaks. Also snow at Main Range turnoff.

Maureen

It was like childbirth – we will forget about the bad bits – that hill – and only think about the good parts and then do it again. I couldn't get over the vastness and also I think that the way we all keep together was great and everyone entered into the spirit of the weekend.

Di

Being on the top of Australia with a beaut bunch of mates. Notching up another half-marathon (or close enough), it certainly outdid Pete's bloody walk for a training exercise.

It was good to see everyone having fun. We then relaxed in the sunshine enjoying morning tea together before we said goodbye and started the long trip back to the big smoke.

It was a really fabulous weekend, enjoyed by one and all and with many memories to last for ages.

There is something special about a Peaky Adventure!

Carol

What a long trip – a trip that should have taken 6 hours, took 8 hours due to us feeding our faces. Another great walk – slow and steady gets there. What scenery! Seven lakes and one snow spot.

John & Liz

**Teabags/Puddle Ducks/Dream Team/Hot Bods
Ducks were dunking tea bags, dream team were dreaming of hot bods. Tea Bags against strong competition dunked to a win. Talk about water slides, it was like karma sutra (all the positions). Himalayas have nothing on Kosciusko. Mt Everest was conquered with hardly any complaining.**

Russell

I like the way everyone seems to interact and have a good time.

Lynne

Well, the whole weekend has been 20/10 and it's hard to pick the best part. Whether it be our fun trip down in the car, the relief of getting out of the pool and knowing it was over or conquering the mountain. But the best part of all is being a Peaky Strider with the nicest people in the world.

Gail

I loved the weekend, thank you to everyone especially Rob. I think my best "time" was the waterslide – unexpected but so much fun. The mini Olympics were fantastic – as much fun getting to the event (anticipation) as the event itself. The range walk was terrific. I feel part of the Peaky group because of this weekend. Thank you

Special thanks to Robyn for all the planning and organising to ensure it was a very successful **Peaky Striders Thredbo Adventure**. All of us really appreciate it and we had an absolutely fabulous time.

Monday 1 March 2004

This morning was a sleep-in and a lazy breakfast before meeting at the Bobsled for our last bit of fun. The daredevils who had ridden the bobsled before were all lining up eager to have an adrenalin rush going down the hill.



A whale of a time - Sunday 4 June 2023

A drizzly day dawned for this social occasion. Judi (our social secretary) and Helen left home very early to secure the best seating as there were no bookings allowed. As it was raining, Judi and Helen decided on the room downstairs. A great choice as we had the room to ourselves! Cheryl and Gerry were the next to arrive, followed by the 11 train trippers and others by car.

Lunch was very enjoyable with everyone, all 23 of us, mingling and having a great time. A little bird told Judi that it was Paul's 65th birthday so a rousing Happy birthday could be heard, followed later by one candle on a cake (Thanks Jenny).

After lunch we saw some whales breaching. It made up for the previous days walk when the fog obscured the sea and nothing could be seen. At about 2.30pm the train trippers back to the station, where on the way Helen dropped her ice cream. But overall a lovely day.

PS Thanks Henry for the title of this article!



A whale of a time - Sunday 4 June 2023 cont.



Social walk Taronga Zoo to Balmoral - 12 June 2023

It was a fantastic day and 16 Peakies and friends arrived by train to Circular Quay, then a ferry to Taronga Zoo. Initially it was a bit cool, but as the walk went on everyone warmed up.

The views were stunning, company good fun. We arrived at Balmoral about 12.15pm and most people had lunch on the foreshore. Glenn did pop into a restaurant for a glass of wine with Gail and Rhonda.

After lunch some of us had ice cream, then the bus arrived to take us to Taronga Zoo then on to a ferry then trains home. A very enjoyable day with lots of stairs!



Social walk Taronga Zoo to Balmoral - 12 June 2023 cont.



2023 NATIONAL ORCHID EXTRAVAGANZA

Incorporating The Paphiopedilum Society of NSW

Friday 11th August to Sunday 13th August 2023

The Arena Sports Club
140 Rookwood Road
Yagoona NSW 2199

9am to 4pm Friday and Saturday
9am to 3pm Sunday

Come along and see some of the best flowering orchids in the country on display and purchase some top quality plants from industry experts.

Championship Benching

A variety of displays, including Floral Art and Individual Blooms.

Admission – Adults \$5
Children under 14 years free



**VENDORS FROM NSW, VICTORIA,
QUEENSLAND AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA
SELLING A WIDE VARIETY OF ORCHIDS**

FREE PARKING

Antoinette thought some members may be interested in going to see orchids.

Happy Birthday

July

Jennie Davie

Sue Rose

Judi Mealey

Terrie Spence

August

Jenny Howard

Henry King

Juenene O'Gorman

Dawn Black

Robin Donnadieu

Camden Park House



Jen Howard mentioned another interesting outing for members - Camden Park House and Garden

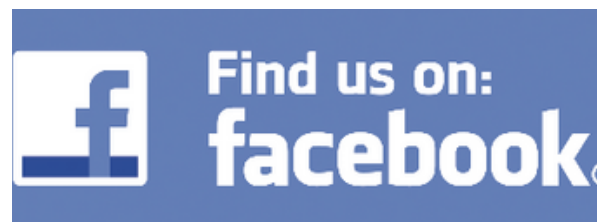
Spring Open Weekend 2023

16th and 17th September 2023

(10am to 4pm)

Tickets going fast:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/o/camden-park-house-47597485333>



END