

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2026

PEAKY NEWSLETTER



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

Happy New Year once again !

This is the first newsletter for 2026. The end of 2025 had some sadness, as a loved Peaky passed away. The memories of Jean in the following pages showed me how this club is not just a walking club, but one that has strong friendships too. Also in this newsletter see the last few Peaky events and photos.

CALENDAR FOR 2026

Tuesday 13 January 2026 - Walking resumes.

Wednesday 14 January 2026 - Wednesday walks start at 7am due to hot weather (months of January February and March).

Saturday 7 March 2026 Ten pin bowling. TBC. More details via email soon.

March 2026 - Mt Annan walk TBA.

Thursday 19 March 2026 - Annual General Meeting. TBC.

Friday 27 to Sunday 29 March 2026 - Canberra Peace walk.

Monday 6 April 2026 - Easter Social walk.

Sunday 19 April 2026 - MS Walk.

June 2026 - Social walk.

Saturday 20 June 2026 - Five Lands Walk.

Sunday 19 July 2026 - Sutherland to Surf.

Sunday 9 September 2026 - City to Surf.

October 2026 TBA - 7 Bridges walk.

November 2026 - Oatley fun run TBA.

Late November/Early December 2026 - Christmas event.

Date to be confirmed.

Wednesday 16 December 2026 - Last walk for the year.

Thursday 17 December 2026 - Presentation night, no walk.

Tuesday 12 January 2027 - walking resumes.



Memories of Jean

Jean Facey, a long time Peaky, died on 16 November 2025. Her funeral on 25 November was heartfelt and some important memorabilia of Jeans life was displayed, including golf clubs and a Peaky T shirt. A few Peakies have written their memories of Jean.

Carol King said “Jean Facey – what a woman! An oft said wish among many of her walking companions was ‘I want to be just like Jean when I get to her age’ – always on the go with a heart of gold. Never one to shy away from helping others be they family or friends she would go to their aid no matter what she was doing at that time. When a call went out for the centenary of the end of WW1 Jean was there. Knitters were asked to create 60,000+ poppies for the Australian War Memorial. Jean knitted dozens of poppies for the cause and gave one to every walker as well, which we still wear every Anzac and Remembrance Day with thoughts of Jean.

And what a sense of fun she had, telling tales of all the costumes she made for parties with her golfers, her tennis partners and for Peakies when the word went out to ‘dress up’ or a special occasion called for it, such as Australia Day. During our walks she would always share a bag of lollies either mints or an unusual one she got from the local Chinese grocery shop. Her little treat.

Happily married just a few days short of 67 years, Jean lived life to the full even through several years of chemo treatment with never a complaint. I feel sure we will all be saying ‘remember when Jean said-did-.....whatever’ for many years to come. She was loved and will be missed.”



Memories of Jean continued

Cheryl Lucas said

“Her family was her world, always worrying about how she could help them with their problems if they had any. Jean was always ready to offer to drive friends to Drs appointments than pick them up when they were ready. Jean and I were good friends always swapping plants with one another and enjoyed our company with each other. We would go and have coffee somewhere before Ron got sick and had long chats with whatever was bothering her. I miss her so much. I can't pick up the phone anymore just to hear her voice. She was a lovely lady ❤️”



Margaret Mayhew had this to say: "Except for our lovely Jean I may not have persisted at Peakies. I have never been a fast walker so, at first I felt quite out of it among all the striders. But I kept turning up because Jean kept talking to me. My not turning up would have been a big loss to me, so a big, big thank you to my friend Jean."

One last story about Jean. On the 1st March 2025 we had a very hot day bowling. Greg, Judie's (our social secretary), husband drew out Jean as a partner. He was probably thinking what chance did they have. Well, Greg and Jean won the competition, with Jean planning the bowling carefully. Lynne Brannock presented Jean with the perpetual trophy. To the end, Jean was competitive and enjoyed all activities. **Vale Jean.**



Presentation night 18 December 2025

Another great evening at the Masonic club for our end of walking in 2025. The meal cost was provided by the Peakies and \$10 was given to members for a drink. Jeans husband Ron and daughter Deb were special guests with Jean getting 1250 walks over the years. There were some lucky door prizes, suspiciously everyone was on the one table!

Thanks Maureen for getting the \$10 notes. And again to Di for organising and decorating the tables with lights and flowers..



Presentation night 18 December 2025 cont.



Presentation night 18 December 2025 cont.



Presentation night 18 December 2025 cont.



Deb (Jeans daughter), Ron and Terri
at presentation night.

Walk on Wednesdays 3rd December & 5th November

From Di Craven on Facebook “On 5 November it was a superb day in our beautiful city for the WOW. While I enjoyed a ferry to Kirribilli other way WOWers walked through the rocks over the bridge and down to McDougall Street Kirribilli to enjoy a purple display put on by the jacarandas. Thanks Judi for organising.”



On 3rd December was the final WOW for the year. There was a ferry ride, beautiful scenery and an easy walk through the National Park. Jibbon loop was an easy 5 km walk and has great views of Port Hacking and the ocean. Lunch was at Bundeena community services club at midday.

Christmas Dinner 7 December 2025

The weather was very changeable. Saturday was extremely hot, then on Sunday the weather turned cold. Some were warm with blankets around them, others borrowed clothes. In spite of the weather, the Christmas dinner was lovely. To spice things up there were brain teasers during the dinner and a competition for the best dressed. Margaret Mayhew won the dress up competition, a worthy winner as it was her very special birthday that night. It was a privilege to hand her the prize and have her chose the Peaky Christmas dinner on her birthday. Some Peakies walked across the bridge from Oatley and it was a pleasant walk. Good food and great company as always.



Christmas Dinner 7 December 2025 cont.



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Christmas breakfast December 13 2025

It was a very warm Saturday morning for a walk, as usual. And as usual there was a sumptuous breakfast at Oatley Castle. The spanakopita and sandwiches disappeared very quickly! The French Apple cake was very much appreciated. The recipe is on a later page of this newsletter. Cheryl had made a lovely gluten free cake for Di, and this was given to Glenn to pass on to Di. Thanks to all who organised the lovely food.



Christmas breakfast December 13 2025



Weekend away 31 October to 2 November 2025

The Mittagong weekend was enjoyable. The comedy on Friday night was interrupted by a huge sound of thunder and lightning. The emergency generators went on. And so did the comedy. The winners were Liz (“what did the grape do when it was still done? It gave a little w(h)ine”), Henry and Cheryl. After dinner the lights were still out and we were trying to figure out how to turn the torch is on our mobile phones. Fortunately later on in the evening the electricity came back on again.



Weekend away 31 October to 2 November 2025

In the morning there were about 15 Peaky's that did the walk around the lake and saw a few ducks. The next stop was Illawarra Fly, about 45 minutes away from Mittagong. The scenery along the way was very green and lush and the weather drizzly. When we got to the Illawarra fly both Brian and Lyn's zip line was cancelled due to the weather, but the skywalk was still possible. A bit of rain here and there but a lovely walk nonetheless.



Weekend away 31 October to 2 November 2025 cont.

After the sky walk, some went straight to Robertson pie shop and others went to Carrington Falls then on to the pie shop. The pie shop had delicious vanilla slices (9 out of 10) . When some of us left the pie shop there was fog everywhere. Quite dangerous.



Weekend away 31 October to 2 November 2025 cont.

The rest of the day was free until dinner at the Mittagong pub. The food was quite good and after dinner, Lyn M wanted a drambuie. Many pubs don't sell it, but Terri's eagle eye spotted it and a bottle was opened. For \$7 a dram (wasn't on the list of drinks), it was quite reasonable and a few others had one too. On Sunday some went to the Welby garden centre and others went to Retford Park historic house while others went home! A fantastic weekend. Thanks Glenn and Judi for organising.



Weekend away 31 October to 2 November 2025 cont.



French Apple cake

At the Peaky Christmas breakfast many commented on the delicious French Apple cake. Margaret Mayhew has given us the recipe.



Serves 6-8

- 25g butter, for greasing
- 2 eggs
- 150g caster sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 125ml vegetable oil
- 150g plain flour
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 4 medium apples, peeled and cored, cut into 2cm pieces
- 2 tbsp demerara sugar
- whipped cream, to serve

1. Heat oven to 170C fan-forced (190C conventional). Grease a 1.2-litre loaf tin with butter and line with baking paper. Reserve any leftover butter. In a bowl, lightly whisk together the eggs and sugar, then whisk in the vanilla extract and the oil. Gently whisk in the flour, salt and baking powder to form a batter.

2. Stir the apples through the batter and pour into the tin. Dot the reserved butter on top and scatter with the demerara sugar. Bake for 1 hour, or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes and remove from tin. Serve warm or at room temperature with whipped cream.

Did you know?

Did you know that you can buy and replace award Items eg T Shirts, vests etc at cost?

Contact our uniform co-ordinators for more details.

Happy Birthday

January

Patsy Williams

February

Lee Carr

Glenda Brady

Anne Mattison

Carol King

Lyn Williams

Brian Craven

Tom Breen



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END