

# Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club

PO Box 719 Charlestown NSW 2290

[www.newcastleramblers.org.au](http://www.newcastleramblers.org.au)

## Activity Program for 2023 (updated 31 July)

Visitors are very welcome to join in any of our activities. Just email your contact details to [contactramblers@gmail.com](mailto:contactramblers@gmail.com) and we will send you details. If you would like to attend a Club Meeting, Club Meetings are held 7:30pm on the 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at our Meeting Hall, 24 Milson St, Charlestown.

DW: Day Walk, TW: Twilight Walk, BF: Breakfast Walk, BP: Backpack BR: Bike Ride CC: Car Camp PA: Paddle

1 July	Sat	<b>Navigation Refresher for Navshield Attendees</b> - Spend a few hours refreshing skills marking up a map, determining the best route, and actually following a route. Wallsend map <i>Will be finished by lunchtime.</i>
2 July	Sun	<b>DW. Abbots Falls (G5/5km/3hrs)</b> This is my favorite Watagans Creek walk. It is technically a G5 but is not a hard walk. Scenery is beautiful with shaded moss filled glens and waterfalls. Access is much easier than most Watagans creek walks.
3 July	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting</b> – Short Presentations from several members on how to plan and run an activity followed by an Activities Walks Planning session. Supper- Ingrid W
4 July	Tues	<b>DW. The Basin to Mt Warrawolong, Watagan NP G4/12km/300m.</b> One of the best sections of the GNW - rainforests, creek gullies, open woodland.
5 July	Wed	<b>BR. Duckenfield Loop</b> , 25 km, almost completely flat, quiet rural roads suitable for all bikes, finishing with morning coffee at a Morpeth café
8 July	Sat	<b>DW. Mt.Royal - G5 /6km /1184m /5hr</b> Mt Royal is located about one hours drive north of Singleton. This is a stunning walk and a Ramblers favourite, offering superb views of the Hunter Valley. Note that there is a steep climb and some rock scrambling. The walk requires a good level of fitness and is not suitable for people who are uncomfortable with heights(exposed scrambling). Wear protective clothing against stinging nettle, and gloves.
9 July	Sun	
11 July	Tues	<b>DW. Brunkerville. G3-4/8km/500m/5hrs</b> Part of GNW heading east towards Teralba from Brunkerville. All on fire-trail except 100m bush bash. Some long steep sections. Bring morning tea and lunch.

12 July	Wed	<b>BR. Congewai Valley. 24kms gravel</b> .- great scenery 9am start at the end of the tar before the bridge. There's a gravel area where you can park. Mostly flat with one moderate hill and a creek crossing ( optional) to get the full distance. <i>Not suitable for road bikes .</i>
15-16 July	Sat/ Sun	<b>CC. Navigation Shield</b> Location Goulburn River NP, using map & compass to find checkpoints. Come along & learn from experienced members.
15 July	Sat	
17 July	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting.</b> Presentation on the recent Rail Trail Trip- Dawn M. Supper – David M.
18 July	Tues	<b>DW. Glenrock Circuit.</b> G3/10km/100m. 3-4 hrs. Via Scout camp and Flaggy Creek. Track walk. Possibly Whales.
19 July	Wed	<b>BR. Bulahdelah – Markwell Loop</b> , 30 km, The ride includes unsealed road unsuitable for road bikes. Late morning tea or lunch in cafe on return to Bulahdelah. <b>Note later start.</b>
20 July	Thur	<b>DW. Awaba to Wangi Rail Trail.</b> G2/3/10km/20m. Scenic historical Awaba walk along the old coal line to Wangi Power Station.
21-24 July	Fri- Mon	<b>BP-Mt Werrikimbe G4/26km/500m</b> – Walk out to Mt Werrikimbe from Racecourse Swamp via the Werrikimbe Trail to Big Hill Creek then Mt Werrikimbe Trail. Return via Upper Hastings River to Cobcrofts Rest Area. Likely to involve some off-track walking. Numbers limited
21-24 July	Fri- Mon	<b>CC at Mooraback</b> to support Peter with his Mount Werrikimbe BP. i.e. drop hikers off at start of track and pick up when he finishes. There are a couple of good DWs that attendees can do.
22 July	Sat	
23 July	Sun	<b>DW. Summerland Point to Gwandalan return.</b> G2-3/10 km/20 m/4 hrs. Track walk along foreshore through reserves, easements & some streets. Fairly flat walking & lake views. Map: Catherine Hill Bay
25 July	Tues	<b>DW. Brunkerville to Heaton Lookout.</b> G3/10km/5-6 hrs/500m climb. Climb to Heaton Lookout (great views)Follow the GNW for a little bit into the creek system

		and then use Barnier's Rd to return to Heaton Lookout G3 (all on footpad or track) Distance - approx 10 km Elevation gain - approx 500 m
29 July	Sat	<b>DW The Mountaineer trail G4/8km/600m</b> Walk on steep fire trail to a hut & return
30 July	Sun	<b>DW. Sandy Creek Loop. G4-5/12km/430m</b> Offtrack loop walk from Finchley Campground to Sandy Creek to find the end of the Old Timor Creek Trail.
2 Aug	Wed	<b>BR. Cooranbong to Brightwaters &amp; return, 28km.</b> Most off road on shared paths. Small section of quite roads thru Dora Creek. No big hills. Lunch in Barden Park on shore of Lake Macquarie. Bring snacks & lunch. Afternoon tea / coffee in a café on return to Cooranbong.
4-6 Aug	Fri-Sun	<b>BP- Pantoney's Crown, Gardens of Stone NP G5/18km/900m</b> – Pantoney's Crown via Baal Bone Gap and Crown Creek. Returning via Baal Bone Point. Involves some exposed scrambling and rope assist/pack hauls. Numbers limited.
5 Aug	Sat	
6 Aug	Sun	<b>DW. Paramatta History Walk. G2</b>
7 Aug	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting.</b> Presentation by Brad (experienced bushwalker and paramedic). Supper: Arthur R.
9 Aug	Wed	<b>BR. Ash Island. approx. 25 km, 21/2 hrs.</b> Mostly quiet, flat gravel roads & tracks, not suitable for road-only bikes. This loop ride includes some historical buildings, wetlands, a restored rainforest and follows the edge of the Hunter River. Bring water and lunch for afterwards.
11-14 Aug	Fri-Mon	<b>CC. Bundeena. Bonnie Vale Campground (Royal National Park)</b> Located on the waterfront near Bundeena (approx 3 hrs drive from Newcastle. Easy day walks (One to Aboriginal engraving site and a small section of the coastal walk)
12 Aug	Sat	<b>DW Elrington Railtrail &amp; Swampy Creek trail , Werakata National Park - G3/10km/100m</b> See Hebburn No 2 coal mine and Kearsley wetlands. Pleasant walk with no big hills

13 Aug	Sun	
19 Aug	Sat	
20 Aug	Sun	<b>DW. Jiliby SCA (G4/450m/10k/3-4hrs).</b> A delightful ridge walk, dropping down spur for a bit of exploration. Some offtrack, steepish ascents and descents in state conservation area near Mandalong. <b>Opportunity to practice navigation.</b> This is roughly the route my team took on 2017 Lake Mac Rogaine. Map: Dooralong
21 Aug	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting.</b> Presentation by Greg "Bushrangers at Large" Supper: Jenny B.
22 Aug	Tues	<b>DW. Barraba Spur.</b> G3-4/11 km/450m/ 5 hours Follow the GNW from Congewai Valley to Barraba Campsite. Includes an additional side trip (off track) along a beautiful ridge to a fantastic lookout over the Congewai Valley. Map: 1:25000 Quorrobolong)
22-24 Aug	Tues- Thur	<b>BP. Widden Valley - G4/30km/250m –.</b> Tues start and walk up Widden Brook (7km) to a nice camping spot in this beautiful valley, for two nights. Daywalk on Wed and walk out on Thurs. Would suit beginners. Map: 1:25,000 Mount Pomany
26-27 Aug	Sat- Sun	<b>BP. Yengo National Park: Frying Pan Rock and Burragurra</b> (G5/23 km/900m/2 days) CC Fri evening at Mogo Ck. Ridge to the Boree track. Visit Frying Pan Rock, Burragurra and a couple of other Aboriginal sites. Camp in an overhang. Return to the Mogo Camp along another ridge. Maps: Mt Yengo & Wollombi. <i>Limited numbers.</i>
26 Aug	Sat	
27 Aug	Sun	
1-3 Sept	Fri- Sun	<b>CC. Mill Creek Campground</b> (Dharug NP).Fri afternoon to Sunday. DWs: Sat: Mill Creek Circuit plus explore an Aboriginal engraving site (G3-4/12 km/600m/approx 6 hours ) Sun: Follow the Old Nth Rd for several km and return (G3/8 km/280m/approx 3 hours)
2 Sept	Sat	<b>BR. Fosterton Loop 21 km (3 km gravel),</b> quiet country roads, small hills, picnic lunch in park at end of ride (or in Dungog café if riders prefer)

3 Sept	Sun	<b>DW Mugogamarra Nature Reserve – Wildflower walk.</b> Entry \$15/ Concession \$10. + \$5 Parking.
4 Sept	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting - Guest Speaker – “Richmond Rail Trail”</b> <i>Supper- Philippa and John</i>
5 Sept	Tues	<b>DW. GNW Yuelarbah Track-head to Teralba Station (G3/15.7 km/150m/4-5 hours walking)</b> Car shuffle to leave a car at Adamstown Station. Walk from Glenrock car park to Teralba Station. Catch the train back to the car.
6 Sept	Wed	<b>BR. Redhead to Caves Beach return, ~ 40 km,</b> mostly bike path or quiet streets but briefly on highway shoulder at Belmont, mostly flat, suitable for all bike types.
6 Sept	Wed	<b>DW. 26 August Sat Woy Woy to Killcare G3 13km 4hrs</b> From Woy Woy railway station walk along Brisbane Waters shore- line then climb up Backwall Mt for morning tea at the lookout. From there walk over the Rip Bridge, check out Daley's Aboriginal rock art site. Great views from Allen Strom lookout. Bring morning tea and lunch.
9 Sept	Sat	<b>DW. Wondabyne Station – Pindar Cave 11.5 km return, 4-5 hours, 490 metres ascent/descent, G4;</b>
10 Sept	Sun	<b>DW. Rhondda Ramble (G4/7km/190m).</b> A bit of a wander in the open bush behind Teralba. Some tracks but a fair bit of open cross-country. Should be plenty of wildflowers and some mining history. (Wallsend map)
12- 15 Sept	Tues- Fri	<b>CC Wollomi NP, Ganguddy camping area, Dunn’s Swamp on Cudgegong River. G2-3.</b> Scenic sandstone pagodas on the eroded western edge of the Sydney Basin, spectacular spring wildflowers. Walk, kayak, fish, bird watch, relax. BBQs. Bring firewood and drinking water. Map: Olinda. You need to book your camp site with NPWS.
16 Sept	Sat	
17 Sept	Sun	<b>DW Berowra to Cowan. G4/6hrs/13km/884m.</b> One of the best sections of the GNW. Track down to Berowra Waters for great views and delightful bushland. All on track.
18 Sept	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting</b>

		<b>Walks Planning for next 3 months.</b>
20 Sept	Wed	<b>BR.</b> Magenta – Long Jetty – Chittaway Bay return along Tuggerah Lake, ~ 32 km. Mostly on cycle way, very flat.
23 Sept	Sat	
24 Sept	Sun	
30 Sept	Sat	<b>DW Sculpture on the Farm G1/1km/20m</b> Park on farm at Fosterton or free bus from Dungog. \$5 entry, book on-line. <a href="http://www.sculptureonthefarm.com">www.sculptureonthefarm.com</a>
1 Oct	Sun	<b>Daylight Saving begins. Twilight Walks Commence.</b>
2 Oct	Mon	<b>No Meeting – Long Weekend</b>
30 Sept- 3 Oct	Sat-Tues	<b>CC Coolah Tops NP – 3 nights at The Barracks Campground. G2-G4 walks,</b> exploring. Bring bikes if you want to. Need to book sites as soon as possible as long weekend in school holidays – only 4 sites left.
3-7 Oct	Tues-Sat	<b>CC Warrabah NP.</b> This national park is north of Manilla on the Namoi River. Camp 4 nights at the Warrabah campground – 2WD accessible. G2-G5 DWs, explore this park which is new to most of us, trips to see nearby attractions. Water based activities fishing, canoes, pack rafts. Will be leaving here and going to Mt Kaputar NP.
7 Oct	Sat	
8 Oct	Sun	
8-12 Oct	Sun-Thur	<b>CC &amp; DW- Mt Kaputar National Park G3-G4</b> - Expressions of interest sought for a week of day walks in Mt Kaputar National Park. Walking options including Yulladinida Lookout, Euglah Rock, The Governor, Scutts Hut & Kurrawonga Falls. Variety of accommodation options including cabins and sites for tents and camper trailers.
14 Oct	Sat	
15 Oct	Sun	
16 Oct	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting</b> <b><i>ENTRIES FOR PHOTO COMP CLOSE</i></b>
21 Oct	Sat	
22 Oct	Sun	
28 Oct	Sat	
29 Oct	Sun	
4 Nov	Sat	
5 Nov	Sun	
6 Nov	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
11 Nov	Sat	
12 Nov	Sun	
18 Nov	Sat	

19 Nov	Sun	
20 Nov	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting</b> <b>Annual Photographic Competition</b> <b>See all the entries and winners presented.</b>
25 Nov	Sat	
26 Nov	Sun	
2 Dec	Sat	
3 Dec	Sun	
4 Dec	Mon	<b>Regular Meeting</b> <b>Xmas Supper after Meeting.</b> <b>All bring a plate to share.</b>
9 Dec	Sat	
10 Dec	Sun	
16 Dec	Sat	
17 Dec	Sun	
18 Dec		<b>NO MEETING</b>
		<b>FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST</b>
12-19 Nov 2023		<b>BP. Easy Snowy Backpack – Seven Days – Snakey Plain and Wheelers Hut, Pretty Plain –Kosciusko NP – G4/5/10km/d / upto150m/day.</b> Drive via Tumut and short walk to Millers Hut on Sunday night. Drive to Snakey Plain FT to walk to Wheelers Hut for one night, then Pretty Plain for two nights and back to Wheelers Hut– Dates to be finalized – Expressions of Interest – limited numbers.
Mid Nov	Mon-Fri	<b>CC Oxley Wild Rivers National Park – East Kunderang Homestead – Expressions of interest sought for a week of activities in Oxley Wild Rivers National Park based out of East Kunderang Homestead. Maximum of 14 people. Activities include swimming and canoeing on the Macleay River, Halls Peak walk, Chandler River Gorge and day walks to historical sites and features.</b>
25 Nov- 3 Dec		<b>BP. Kosciusko NP – Jagungal Wilderness.</b> G5. Wheelers, Pretty Plain, Derschos, Tarn Bluff, Cesjacks, Mt. Jagungal. Limit 8
7-12 Dec		<b>BP. Snowy Mountains (Rolling Grounds and Main Range).</b> (G5-6/40 km/ 1240m /4 days walking & 2 days travelling). Island Bend- Guthega-Rolling Grounds-Twynam saddle -Blue Lake- Charlotte Pass. Mainly off-track. <i>Limited numbers.</i>
4-8 Jan	Thur-Mon	<b>EOI. Sailing Adventure. SE Tasmania.</b> Lady Nelson square-rigged tall ship. Hobart to Triabunna (bus return to Hobart). Daily short walks, possible - Port Arthur, Tasman Peninsula, Fortescue Bay, Marion Bay, Maria Island. 5 days/4nights sleep aboard,

		all meals. 10 berths available. \$1250 per person.
11-14 Feb		<p><b>BP. Tasmania. Three Capes Walk.</b>  Port Arthur to Denman’s Cove Boat 11:30, 11 Feb 2024  Track Walk and Hut Accommodation 11, 12 and 13 Feb  Fortescue Bay to Port Arthur Shuttle 16:00, 14 Feb  Adult \$495. Concession \$396.  Bookings to be made individually on Tassi Parks Website  <i>I would be interested to hear from anyone who can recommend accommodation around Port Arthur</i></p>
10-21 Feb		<p><b>Three Capes Walk and East Coast Tasmania- Join Bob Barber on his Three Capes Walk and later walks to Cockle Creek, Mt Field and other locations</b> – Fly, stay in cabins, car hire involved – numbers limited</p>

## Notes to Program

Grading: The grade of the activity is represented by four numbers: the terrain, the distance, the altitude gain and the duration. It appears for example as G3/12km/200m/4hrs. The type of terrain is represented by a grade number: Grade 1 (G1) – On roads or tracks, mostly flat. Grade 2 (G2) – Mostly on tracks, low gradient, relatively flat terrain. Grade 3 (G3) – Mostly on tracks, some hilly sections, rougher terrain. Grade 4 (G4) – Steeper, rougher terrain, may be off track. Grade 5 (G5) – Mostly off track, difficult terrain. Grade 6 (G6) – Strenuous off track walks. The distance is the number of kilometres to be covered. The altitude gain is the total of all the separate climbs in the activity. The duration is the actual time taken for the activity, not including travelling time. **Grading is subjective and cannot take into account all possible factors, so if you are uncertain about the grade, the terrain, or the experience and fitness required, ask the leader for advice.**

Bookings: are required for all activities unless otherwise specified. Meeting place and time is decided at the meeting before each activity. People leading an activity for the club may decline any request to attend. Visitors are welcome on walks with the permission of the leader and are covered by the Club’s insurance. Obtain the leader’s permission before bringing any other person on an activity or if considering leaving an activity prematurely. People under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult and are that person’s responsibility for the duration of the activity. All participants are required to sign an Assumption of Risk (waiver) form.