

Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club

PO Box 719 Charlestown NSW 2290

www.newcastleramblers.org.au

Activity Program for 2023 (updated 21 August)

Visitors are welcome to join any Ramblers activity. Just email your contact details to newcastle.ramblers@gmail.com and someone will contact you.

TO ATTEND A CLUB MEETING:

Club Meetings are held 7:30pm on the 1st and 3rd 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

2 Aug	Wed	BR. Cooranbong to Brightwaters & return, 28km. Most off road on shared paths. Small section of quiet 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	BP- Pantoney's Crown, Gardens of Stone NP G5/18km/900m. <i>Postponed due to closed access. Group went to Goulburn River instead.</i>
5 Aug	Sat	
6 Aug	Sun	DW. Paramatta History Walk. G2
7 Aug	Mon	Regular Meeting. Presentation by Brad (experienced bushwalker and paramedic). Supper: Arthur R.
9 Aug	Wed	BR. Ash Island. approx. 25 km, 2 1/2 hrs. 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	CC. Bundeena. Bonnie Vale Campground (Royal National Park) 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	DW Elrington Railtrail & Swampy Creek trail ,Werakata National Park - G3/10km/100m See Hebburn No 2 coal mine and Kearsley wetlands. Pleasant walk with no big hills

13 Aug	Sun	DW. NSW Art Gallery. – Archibald Prize. Hi Alan Walk to Art Gallery. If its fine, we can eat in the Botanical Gardens so bring lunch. We will walk to Circular Quay. Great place for ice cream. Train departs at Central at 3.18 pm.
19 Aug	Sat	
20 Aug	Sun	DW. Jilliby SCA (G3/250m/10k/3-4hrs). A delightful ridge walk, dropping down spur for a bit of exploration. Some offtrack, steepish ascents and descents in state conservation area near Mandalong. Opportunity to practice navigation. This is roughly the route my team took on 2017 Lake Mac Rogaine. Map: Dooralong
21 Aug	Mon	Regular Meeting. Presentation by Greg “Bushrangers at Large” Supper: Jenny B.
22 Aug	Tues	DW. Barraba Spur. 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	BP. Widden Valley - G4/30km/250m –. 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
23 Aug	Wed	BR. Cooranbong to Brightwaters & return including ride around Avondale College, 32km. 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. Similar to the ride of 26 July, but adding Sandy Creek, Girls Loop, Boys Loop around Avondale, and Cooranbong Community garden.
26-27 Aug	Sat-Sun	BP. Yengo National Park: Frying Pan Rock and Burragurra (G5/23 km/900m/2 days)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: Kulnura, Murrays Run <i>Limited numbers.</i>
26 Aug	Sat	
27 Aug	Sun	
1-3 Sept	Fri-Sun	CC. Mill Creek Campground (Dharug NP). Fri afternoon to Sunday. DW Sat: Mill Creek Circuit plus explore an Aboriginal engraving site (G3-4/12 km/600m/approx 6 hours) On Sun there are two options: Lynne will follow the old Nth Rd for several km and return (G3/8 km/280m/approx 3 hours) or for those who want to stay another night, David M is planning a full DW – an exploratory walk to find a cave.
2 Sept	Sat	BR. Fosterton Loop 21 km (3 km gravel) , quiet country roads, small hills, picnic lunch in park at end of ride (or in Dungog café if riders prefer)
3 Sept	Sun	DW Mugogamarra Nature Reserve – Wildflower walk. Entry \$15/ Concession \$10. + \$5 Parking.
4 Sept	Mon	Regular Meeting - Guest Speaker – “Richmond Rail Trail” <i>Supper- Philippa and John</i>
5 Sept	Tues	DW. GNW Yuelarbah Track-head to Teralba Station (G3/15.7 km/150m/4-5 hours walking) 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	BR. Redhead to Caves Beach return , ~ 40 km, mostly bike path or quiet streets but briefly on highway shoulder at Belmont, mostly flat, suitable for all bike types.
6 Sept	Wed	DW. Woy Woy to Killcare G3 13km 4hrs 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	DW. Wondabyne Station – Pindar Cave 11.5 km return, 4-5 hours, 490 metres ascent/descent, G4;
10 Sept	Sun	DW. Rhondda Ramble (G4/7km/190m). 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	CC Wollomi NP, Ganguddy camping area, Dunn's Swamp on Cudgegong River. G2-3. 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	DW Berowra to Cowan. G4/6hrs/13km/884m. 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	Regular Meeting Walks Planning for next 3 months. Supper Barry W.
19 Sept	Tues	DW. Karuah Hill .G4-5/9 km/320m/4-5 hours (depending on the vegetation)This is mostly an off track loop walk through Karuah Nature Reserve and climbing over Karuah Hill. Good opportunity to practise navigation.
20 Sept	Wed	BR. 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	DW Sculpture on the Farm G1/1km/20m Park on farm at Fosterton or free bus from Dungog. \$5 entry, book on-line. www.sculptureonthefarm.com
1 Oct	Sun	Daylight Saving begins. Twilight Walks Commence.
2 Oct	Mon	No Meeting – Long Weekend
30 Sept- 3 Oct	Sat- Tues	CC Coolah Tops NP – 3 nights at The Barracks Campground. G2-G4 walks, 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	CC Warrabah NP. 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.

5– 15 Oct	Thur-Sun	BP.Three Capes walk and Bruny island in Tasmania. It is FULL but will take names for a wait list.
7 Oct	Sat	
8 Oct	Sun	
8-12 Oct	Sun-Thur	CC & DW- Mt Kaputar National Park G3-G4 - 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	Regular Meeting - Amanda Hyde from Local Land Services speaking about Hunter Wetlands Restoration Project and nearby swamps. ENTRIES FOR PHOTO COMP CLOSE Supper Bob C.
17 Oct	Tues	DW.Blacksmiths beach to Galgabba Point.12 km/G2/3-3.5 hours Swansea 1:25000
17 Oct	Tues	TW Blackbutt Reserve. G2/5 km/100m/1 1/2 hr Track walk through reserve. Optional Dinner at nearby Blackbutt Hotel
21 Oct	Sat	
25-29 Oct	Sun	
	Wed-Sun	CC. Southern Highland walks and Bundanoon Garden Ramble weekend. Base camp Gambells Rest Campground - Morton National Park Bundanoon. Wed afternoon walk Box Vale Walking Tracks 7.2 km 2 hours return Mittagong Thurs- Fitzroy Falls East and West Rim trails 11 km 5 hours. Fri- Bungonia National Park Red Track Slot Canyon Track 5 hours return steep up and down 3.8 km Saturday and Sunday many short walks around campsite Morton National Park plus Bundanoon Garden Ramble - 8 beautiful country and village gardens \$25 plus possible visit to Red Cow Farm Garden 7480 Illawarra Hwy Sutton Forest \$10-\$15
28 Oct	Sat	
29 Oct	Sun	
31 Oct	Tues	DW. Awabakal/Ferneleigh track loop 10 km/G2/3-3.5 hours

		Wallsend and Swansea 1:25000
4 Nov	Sat	
5 Nov	Sun	
6 Nov	Mon	Regular Meeting – Boot Fitting. Kate R. Supper Jenni M.
11 Nov	Sat	
13 – 17 Nov	Mon-Fri	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.
12 Nov	Sun	
14 Nov	Tues	DW. Stockton Loop 11 km/G2/3.5-4 hours Wallsend 1:25000
12-19 Nov	Sat-Sun	BP. Easy Snowy Backpack – Seven Days – Snakey Plain and Wheelers Hut, Pretty Plain –Kosciusko NP – G4/5/10km/d / upto150m/day. 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.
18 Nov	Sat	
19 Nov	Sun	
20 Nov	Mon	Regular Meeting Annual Photographic Competition See all the entries and winners presented. Supper Alan T.
25 Nov- 3 Dec	Sat-Sun	BP. Kosciusko NP – Jagungal Wilderness. G5. Wheelers, Pretty Plain, Derschos, Tarn Bluff, Cesjacks, Mt. Jagungal. Limit 8
25 Nov	Sat	
26 Nov	Sun	
2 Dec	Sat	
3 Dec	Sun	
4 Dec	Mon	Regular Meeting Xmas Supper after Meeting. All bring a plate to share.
7-12 Dec	Thur-Tues	BP. Snowy Mountains (Rolling Grounds and Main Range. (G5/40 km/ 1240m /4 days walking & 2 days travelling). Island Bend- Guthega-Rolling Grounds-Twynam saddle -Blue Lake- Charlotte Pass. Mainly off-track, route may change. <i>Limited numbers.</i>
9 Dec	Sat	Picnic/Xmas Party.
10 Dec	Sun	

13 Dec	Wed	DW.Catherine Hill Bay to Fraser Park beach circuit G3/11km/5hrs. A pleasant coast walk, all on track. Bring morning tea and lunch.
16 Dec	Sat	
17 Dec	Sun	
18 Dec		NO MEETING
30 Dec	Sat	
31 Dec	Sun	
1 Jan	Mon	New Year's Day – NO MEETING
4-8 Jan	Thur-Mon	Sailing Adventure. SE Tasmania. 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.
6 Jan	Sat	
7 Jan	Sun	
13 Jan	Sat	
14 Jan	Sun	
16 Jan	Mon	Regular Meeting. Supper – Philippa & John
Feb 5	Mon	Regular Meeting Supper Dale G.
11-14 Feb	Sun-Wed	BP. Tasmania. Three Capes Walk. 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>
10-21 Feb	Sat-Tues	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 – Fly, stay in cabins, car hire involved – numbers limited

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. 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.