

Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club

PO Box 719 Charlestown NSW 2290

www.newcastleramblers.org.au

Autumn Programme 2024 (Updated 1 April 2024)

Activity Grading details are set out at the end of the program

TO SUBMIT AN ACTIVITY:

Email details to WALKS OFFICER at ramblerswalksofficer@gmail.com

TO JOIN AN ACTIVITY:

It is **essential** to contact (text, phone or email) the Leader at least 48 hours before the activity is scheduled to begin.

TO ATTEND A CLUB MEETING:

Club Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at our Uniting Church Hall, 24 Milson St, Charlestown.

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

		MARCH		
Mar 2	Sat	DW. Redhead Lookouts/Awabakal Reserve/Fernleigh Track G2-3/10km/approx 3.5 hours/120m Climb the 'Bluff' and check out the views, then continue through the Awabakal Reserve to the Awabakal Filed Centre. Cross onto the Fernleigh Track to walk back to Redhead and return to the cars via the wetlands. Optional coffee at one of the Redhead cafes. Maps: Swansea and Wallsend 1:25000	Meet at Webb Park, Redhead at 8 am	Lynne 0435889233
Mar 3	Sun	DW. Lake Macquarie Gallery G3 2 –3 hours walk Exhibition plus morning tea	Meet 8am at Gallery	Kate R 0439 374323
Mar 4	Mon	Regular Meeting – Talk “Preparing the Hall for a meeting” – Malcolm M. Supper by Nell W.		
Mar 6	Wed	BR. Booragul to Valentine & return 26km. Mostly on cycleways, some quiet roads.	Meet in carpark near Teralba Sailing Club, First Ave., Booragul (our usual meeting place) ready for a 9am departure i.e. get there <u>before</u> 9am.	Alan S 0408 657912
Mar 7	Thur	TW. Wangi Point/G3/4km Pleasant stroll thru Lakeside track Grade 3 as it has a few gentle rises with some steps. Bring supper snack &. beverage	Meet at track head on Reserve Rd at 5:30pm near the junction of Pelican & Dobell Drives Wangi Wangi (beyond the caravan park if you approach that way)	Angela L 0438 016162
Mar 9	Sat	D/WOne Tree Hill in the Watagans G4/9k/4hrs Drive to the end of Bowmans road, walk along the road for a while, then an easy scrub bash to the lookout point of the	Meet 8.00am at Freemans Waterhole Shell Service Station end.	Frank Text 0402456459

		Congewai Valley for morning tea. Continue on through the scrub for a short distance then drop down for an undercliff walk to an exit point to join up with the Harris trail. A slight detour to view One Tree Hill, then back to the Harris trail for the walk back to the vehicles along the trail. It's an easy scrub bash but still requires a good fitness level. Bring morning tea and lunch, gloves.		
Mar 10	Sun	REDHEAD RAMBLE G3 Walk down the cliff to the tessellated pavements, Awabakal Reserve, Fernleigh Track, the lagoon, the Owens Walkway & Redhead Beach. It will be shortened & changed if the weather is extremely hot.	MEET at the park in Ocean St, Redhead, at 9am.	Margaret C 0412 194 194
Mar 13	Wed	B/R 2 hrs/ 15 km , riding through the Belmont Wetlands area and onto the Fernleigh Track before the Owens walkway to Redhead Beach. Time for morning tea or a swim before riding back along the Fernleigh Track to Belmont. Not suitable for road only bikes, hybrid or mountain bikes please.	Leaving Belmont TAFE at 9 am.	Dale G 0428399083
Mar 13	Wed	DW Maritime Museum A pleasant walk from Central to Darling Harbour via The Old Goods Rail Line approx 30 minutes. Meet our guide Peter Crawley for a tour of The Maritime Museum. Bring lunch or eat at a nearby cafe. We will return to Central in time for 3:15pm train.	Morning train times: Hamilton 7:28 B'meadow 7:31 Cardiff 7:38 Fassifern 7:49 Morisset 8:05 Central 9:59	Robert G 0428 385 121
14-17 Mar	Thur-Sun	CC Blue Mountains Music Festival - Bushwalks and Music - - Drive to Katoomba on Thursday 14 March to stay 3 nights and attend BMMF - Google for details - early bird tickets on sale now - stay in ABB or at the YHA. On Friday we will do a good day walk before the music starts in the evening. Short morning walks on Sat and Sun - please let me know if you are interested	Please let me know if you are interested and I may be able to assist with accommodation – YHA and ABB are available at the moment for less \$100/p/n on a shared basis	Bob C 0417624091
16 Mar	Sat	D/W -Circumnavigate Blacksmiths (G2/7.5km/0m) - Start from surf club, walk out to breakwall, then along beach before diving inland to cross the highway and go down to the lake. Follow the lake back to the start for BYO breakfast in the park at the surf club.	Meet at Blacksmiths Surf Club car park at 7:30am	David M. 49546164
17 Mar	Sun			
Mar 18	Mon	Annual General Meeting Supper by Ingrid W.		

20 Mar	Wed	B/R TBA		
18-22 Mar	Mon-Fri	CC. Barrington Tops. 4 nights car camping in Barrington Tops for day walks. Similar, but different to Bob's activity in January. Come for the 4 nights, or for some of it. It is 1500 metres above sea level, so nights will be cool & days a lovely temperature for walks. <i>Restricted to 10.</i>		Alan S. 0408 657912
23 March	Sat	DW. Point Clare to Woy Woy (Egyptian Hieroglyphs Walk) G3/11km /5hrs Check out the mini canyon with walls inscribed in mysterious Egyptian Hieroglyphs, Aboriginal rock carvings, interesting rock pools and waterfall, huge rock overhang with Aboriginal rock art, panoramic views. Bring morning tea and lunch.	Train Newcastle Interchange 6.53am Change at Wyong. I will be getting on at Cardiff. Second last carriage upper level.	Frank Text 0402456459 or frank.kupina@live.com.au
24 Mar	Sun	DW Brunkerville G3-4/8km/500m/4 hours Part of GNW heading east towards Teralba from Brunkerville. All on fire trail, some steep sections. Bring morning tea Map Quorrobolong and Wallsend		Jenni M 0439 387 426
26 Mar	Tues	TW Redhead G2/5km/20m/1.5 hrs. Walk on the boardwalk and tracks through wetlands to the beach. Optional dinner at a restaurant nearby. We have to book restaurant by 19/3 Map: Street Directory	Meet 5.30 pm Webb Park, Beach Rd. Redhead.	Jenny B. 0419249335
27 Mar	Wed	B/R – Soldiers Point-Fingal Bay return ~ 38 km , mostly on cycleway but short distance on dirt/sand surface and some road riding,	start at Spencer Park, Resthaven Avenue, Soldiers Point at 10 am (note later start time).	Philippa H 0402844147
28 Mar	Thur	TW CAMERON PARK Dinner afterwards overlooking the water at the Harrigans Cameron Park Hotel.	Meet at 5.30 pm at the Pasterfield Sports Complex, Horizon Ave, Cameron Park	Margaret C 0412 194 194
29 Mar- 1 Apr	Fri-Sun	EASTER WEEKEND – looking for someone to organise this year's Easter CC.	??	??
30 Mar	Sat	DW Birubi to 1 mile Beach. G3 9km Easy coastal walk part of Tomaree Coastal walk. Bring M/T Lunch	Meet Iris Moore Reserve 8.30 to organize car shuffle	Lynne M 0401 618092
		APRIL		
1 Apr	Mon	Easter Monday - No Meeting		
1 Apr	Mon	Wallsend Heritage Walk (G1/7.5km/50m) - Wallsend is 150 years old this year. Join us on a walk around the historic parts of Wallsend before going for lunch at the RSL. We will be accompanied by a special guest who has lived in Wallsend all her life and can give some insight into growing up in Wallsend.	Meet 8:30 at the rotunda on the corner of Tyrrell and Nelson Sts. Carpark in Charles Street.	David M. 49546164 and Kay E.
3 Apr	Wed	B/R TBA		

6 Apr	Sat	DW. Barrenjoey Lighthouse. – G2/G3 - Catch the ferry from Ettalong wharf (9:30am) to Palm Beach. Walk up to Barrenjoey lighthouse and then return along beach side. Walk back to ferry terminal up over ridge through Wiltshire Park, Florida Rd and Pacific Rd. Probably 5-7 km?. Ferry costs \$14.70 (one way), need to be there 10 min prior to departure. Bring morning tea and lunch. Swimming. Possibly back for 2pm ferry - next ferry is 3:30pm.	Meet 8:30 Big Flower, Ourimbah to carpool.	Mary M 0413 285 961
7 Apr	Sun			
7 Apr	Sun	DAY LIGHT SAVING ENDS		
9 Apr	Tues	TW - The Parks of 2300 G2/3 - Walk Civic to Church Walk Park, Arcadia Park, KEP, Anzac Walk, Nesca Park, Centennial Park. Optional meal at Lowlands Bowling Club. Walks notes available.	Meet at Civic Park at 5:00 pm	Bob C 0417 624091
10 Apr	Wed	B/R - Morpeth – Wallalong - Woodville – Largs – Lorn – Maitland – East Maitland – Pitnacree – Morpeth 33 km, all on sealed road,	start from Queens Wharf Park Morpeth at 10 am (note later start time).	Philippa H 0402844147
11 Apr	Thur	DW Visit to Shortland Wetlands 3hrs of exploration of trails and spend some time with a Guide. I plan to book canoes (3 seaters for those wishing to Paddle Creek Creek (\$30.00 per craft), bring insect repellent extra clothing for wet area E.g. Long sleeves over- shoes- Lunch (Cafe option.) Need numbers for organising paddle by 6th April - great place to purchase native plants ,book and gifts.	Meet 9am at Wetlands Centre, Sandgate	Contact Jill on 0421 216 873 by 6th April to book a canoe.
13 Apr	Sat			
14 Apr	Sun	DW Rocky Crossing (near Dungog) G3 Classic Walk in the foothills of Barrington Tops	Meet at Hexham MacDonalds 7.30 am	Kate R 0439 374323
15 April	Mon	Regular Meeting. Guest speaker, Johannes Hendriks “9 days packrafting the Franklin River in TASMANIA. - with a side trip to Frenchman’s Cap.” Discussion will include the use of Garmin in Reach as an emergency communication device, a means of communicating with family and indicating position using Garmin Mapshare. Mapshare was used for rainfall forecasts & river flows. Supper Anne S.		
16 and 17 April	Tue/ Wed	B/P Bob Turners Track – Colo River – Easy Overnight Romp into the Colo River via Bob Turners Track - G4-5/300m/5km each way. Camp, swim and relax on the riverside.	Travel arrangements TBA	Bob C 0417624091

		Limited numbers Maps:1:25,000 Colo Heights and Mountain Lagoon		
17 Apr	Wed	B/R - TBA		
19 - 20 Apr	Sat	CC Baerami Bush Dance		Barry W 0431 237976
20 Apr	Sat			
21 Apr	Sun			
24 Apr	Wed	B/R Gresford & Vacy, ~ 44 km (14 km gravel unsuitable for road tyres), some hills	Start at Gresford Community Park, 12 Park Street, East Gresford at 10 am (note later start time).	Philippa H 0402844147
25 Apr	Thur	ANZAC DAY		
25 Apr	Thur	D/W Warakata Conservation area (ANZAC Day) G3/6km/50m Near Pelaw Main on tracks part of the future Richmond Vale Rail Trail Map: Cessnock		Arthur R. 0408 943 282
27 Apr	Sat	DW (half day) Glenrock/Dudley Beach ramble. G3/5km/100m/3h Nice circuit walk on part of GNW, Fernleigh track, minimal street, bush tracks behind Dudley Beach, some history. Varied terrain. Map Wallsend & street directory.	Start 8.30 am& finish 12noon at Glenrock carpark (Burwood Rd).	Kevin W 49422275
28 Apr	Sun	DW COORANBONG G3/11km/10m/4.5hrs Flat track walk along Dora Creek, over swing bridge to Avondale College & Cooranbong return. <i>Map: Morisset</i>		Jenny B 0419 249 335
		MAY		
1 May	Wed	B/R TBA		
1 May	Wed	Riverboat Postman G2 Cruise the Hawkesbury on the Riverboat Postman for 3 relaxing fun hours departs 10am BOOKINGS: Phone the company to book on 0400600111 and tell them you are with the Ramblers Places book out fast so book ASAP. \$55 concession includes cruise, morning tea and lunch	7.51am train from Cardiff station	Anne 0427905530
4-5 May	Sat-Sun	BP. Johnsons Beach. Very Easy (Good for beginners) G2-3/17.5km/200m/2 days (N.B. The day walks are without backpack and make up 9.5 km with 160m elevation gain) Drive to Mungo Brush for the Mungo Rainforest Track and then to Boomeri for a picnic lunch on the lake. Walk to Johnson's Beach (4 km) to set up camp and explore Johnsons Hill in the afternoon. Leave Johnsons Beach mid-morning on Sunday to return to Boomeri (4 km). Drive to Mungo	Meet Saturday morning at Hexham McDonald's at 8:30 am or Hawkes Nest (place TBA) at 9:30 am	Lynne 0435889233

		Brush for a short walk along the Tamboi Walking track and lunch. Maps: Bombah Point and Myall Lake 1:25000		
4 May	Sat			
5 May	Sun	DW. Yellow Billys Cave G3-4/6km Rough track some off track Beautiful walk along Broken Back range with views of Hunter valley to the bushranger's cave. Bring mtea/lunch	Tinker's vineyard at 8.30am on the cnr of McDonald Rd and Oakey Rd Pokolbin. A 30-minute drive to the transmission towers to commence walk.	Lynne M 0401 618 092
6 May	Mon	Walk Planning Meeting – Winter Program Supper Lynne M	From June to September	Malcom M Walks Officer
8 May	Wed	B/R TBA		
11 May	Sat	D/W The Glen at Craven G3/10 km/250m Walk from Wards Glen to Terrel Trip. The reserve is near the village of Craven. Map: Warranulla.		Arthur R. 0408 943 282
12 May	Sun			
14 to 16 May	Tue to Thu	B/P Mid-Week. Mt. Yengo NP. G5/3days /30 km. Mostly off track, Nav walk. Day 1. Howes Arm to Mountain Arm Camp. Day 2. Riley's Paddock via Tumbledown Ck. Day 3 via Timor Creek to Nowlands Trail and out. Requires 2 cars.		Alan T 0419491612
15 May	Wed	B/R TBA		
20 May	Mon	Regular Meeting Supper Jenni M		
18 May	Sat	Lisarow to Gosford Via Katandra Reserve, Toomy's rainforest walk, Rumbalara Reserve. G3/12km/5hrs Many features to be seen, panoramic view. Bring morning tea and lunch	Train Newcastle Interchange 6.53am, change at Wyong and arrive at Lisarow 8.16am. Second last carriage upper level	Frank Text 0402456459
19 May	Sun			
22 May	Wed	B/R TBA		
25 May	Sat	D/W – Stockton Sand Dunes and Tin City G4/10km/50m -	Meeting times TBA	Bob C 0417624091
26 May	Sun			
29 May	Wed	B/R TBA		
25-26 May	Sat-Sun	CC and Day Walks in Bouddi NP (Tents only at Putty Beach Campground – close to car) Sat: Box Head G4/7km/250m/4 hours Loop Walk starting at Pretty Beach (One section is off track with a short but steep descent onto the rock platform followed by some rock hopping) Sun: Coast Walk from Putty Beach to Macmasters Beach G3/7km/220m/4 hr (including time to enjoy the views). Car shuffle needed.		Lynne 0435889233

		Option to just do a single day walk. Individual booking of camp sites needed – https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/camping-and-accommodation/campgrounds/putty-beach-campground		
31 May – 2 June	Fri-Sun	BP. Long Wheeney Creek/Royce's Arch G5 /approx 34km /900m /3 days (Mostly off track) Limited Numbers Maps: Wirraba 1:25000	TBA	Lynne 0435889233
		FUTURE EVENTS		
3 June	Mon	Regular Meeting: Boyd Carney NWPS Broom Bash – Managing Scotch Broom in the Barrington Tops National Park		
14-16 June	Fri-Sun	BP. Burragurra. G5 /approx 30 km /1250m/3 days (Mostly off track) Limited Numbers Maps: Murray's Run and Kulnura 1:25000	TBA	Lynne 0435889233
28-30 June	Fri-Sun	BP. The Pondage/ Gardens of Stone G4-5 /approx 20 km /500m/ 3 days (Off Track) Limited Numbers Maps: Ben Bullen 1:25000	TBA	Lynne 0435889233
Date TBC		Preparing for the Nav Shield: Using a Compass & Map Reading		Alan T 0419491612
19-21 July	Fri-Sun	CC. Navigation Shield. Adventure weekend run by NSW Emergency Services. Join one of the Ramblers Teams for this fun navigation competition. No experience necessary although we usually offer a training walk or two in the weeks before the actual Competition. Club has compasses for loan – contact Alan 0419491612.	TBA Participants are advised of the location a few days before the comp. Usually within 2 or 3 hrs drive from Sydney. Need to be set up by 6:00pm on the Friday night to collect Maps and for team to plan strategy.	Angela: ramblerswalksofficer@gmail.com
May '24		EOI - FRANCE MAY-OCTOBER 2024 hexatrek.com 3034klms 138,000 m elevation gain, loss G6. Budget about \$12K. Very, very limited numbers (3) 15th May 2024 to 1st October 140 days (just a guide) including 20 zero days. HexaTrek is a 3034 km hiking trail, connecting 14 of the most beautiful national parks and crossing France from the Vosges to the Pyrenees. The path follows the highest mountain regions joining together some of the most emblematic summits, natural wonders and wildest places. Stopping off in the most picturesque villages. This walk has stunning scenery, (ignore) concentrate		Alan K. 0411367428 alankellyplumbin@gmail.com

		instead on the fact this will be a hard walk with 138,000 metres of elevation change.		
20-27 Oct	Sun-Sun	Yarrangobilly Caves House. A week of DWs (G2-G4) in Yarrangobilly Area and Snowy area. Accommodation at Yarrangobilly Caves House. Limited Numbers. Cost \$425pp. Deposit of \$200 to hold your reservation. Balance to be paid in April.		Jenni M 0439387426
2 Nov	Sat	Remote First Aid Training- 9am till 3pm - Charlestown Uniting Church Hall - Contribution of \$ 25 - Presenter Kylie Ledger . No certificate at completion of workshop. BYO morning tea & lunch Everyone enjoyed this interesting workshop when last run 2 years ago		Anne S 0427905530
10-17 Nov	Sun to Sun	BP – Snowy Mountains – Easier Backpack and daywalks - G4-5 Itinerary to be Finalised	TBA	Bob C 0417624091
Late Nov		BP Victorian High Country G5/61km/3230m/ walking 5 days and 5 nights (travel time/car shuffles not included in this time) Route includes: Mt Lovick, Mt Magdala, Mt Howitt and Mac Springs, Crosscut Saw, Mt Cobbler and Lake Cobbler. Mainly on footpad. Opportunities to explore the local region. Maps and hiking notes to be supplied online later. Limited Numbers.	Bookings not taken until later in the year.	Meg W 0400669937
7-15 Dec.	Sat-Sun	BP. Kosciusko NP. G5. Route TBA will depend on Park closures and Snowy 2 construction. <i>Maximum 8. 2023 participants get priority.</i>	Not taking bookings till mid-year.	Alan T. 0419491612

Activity 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 consider 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.

