

Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club

PO Box 719 Charlestown NSW 2290

www.newcastleramblers.org.au

Autumn Programme 2024 (Updated 1 May 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.	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 5:30p m near the junction of	Angela L 0438 016162

			Pelican & Dobell Drives Wangi Wangi	
Mar 9	Sat	D/W One 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 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.	Meet 8.00am at Freemans Waterhole Shell Service Station end.	Frank Text 0402456459
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	Bob C 0417624091

			on a shared basis	
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	Day Walk TBA		
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	Margaret C 0412 194 194

			Pasterfield Sports Complex, Horizon Ave, Cameron Park	
29 Mar- 1 Apr	Fri-Sun	EASTER WEEKEND Easter CC. TBC		
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	DW 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		Philippa H 0402844147
7 Apr	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
7 Apr	Sun	DAY LIGHT SAVING ENDS Day Walk TBA		
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
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	Day Walk TBA		
21 Apr	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
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.		
17 Apr	Wed	B/R - TBA		Philippa H 0402844147
19 - 20 Apr	Sat	CC Baerami Bush Dance		Barry W 0431 237976
20 Apr	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
21 Apr	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
24 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
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	DW Yuelarbah Trackhead to Dudley Beach Loop (G3/9km/700M/3.5 hours) Walk to Dudley Beach via Leggy Point, return via GNW/Yuelarbah Track. Bring morning tea.	Meet at Yuelarbah Trackhead Carpark, Burwood Road at 8:30 am	Tracy 0414 843 024
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 S 0427905530
4 May	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
5 May	Sun	DW. Yellow Billys Cave (G3-4/6km) Rough track some off track	Tinker's vineyard at 8.30am on	Lynne M 0401 618 092

		Beautiful walk along Broken Back range with views of Hunter valley to the bushranger's cave. Bring mtea/lunch A 30-minute drive to the transmission towers to commence walk.	the cnr of McDonald Rd and Oakey Rd Pokolbin	
6 May	Mon	Walk Planning Meeting – Winter Program Supper Lynne M	From June to September	Malcom M Walks Officer
8 May	Wed	B/R HEZ & Warakata Nat Park - 25km approx On road and Off so narrow tyres not suitable. Quiet area, little traffic.	Meet: Leggetts drive 2km south of Kurri and Pelaw Main	Arthur R 0408 943 282
9 May	Thur	Ayrfield #3 (G3/11km/70m) - A track through a lesser-visited part of Werakata NP. Views, inland vegetation, coal mining relics, dam. (Greta map)		David M 49546164
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	Day Walk TBA		
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	DW Caves Beach to Catherine Hill Bay and return (G3/12km /600M/ 4.5 hours) Walk to Catherine Hill Bay through Wallarah National Park past Pinney Beach and Shark Hole. Bring morning tea and lunch.		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
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. Second last carriage upper level	Train Newcastle Interchange 6.53am, change at Wyong and arrive at Lisarow 8.16am.	Frank Text 0402456459
19 May	Sun	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
20 May	Mon	Regular Meeting Members photos bring some to share. Supper Jenni M		
22 May	Wed	B/R TBA		Leader Required

25 May	Sat	D/W – Stockton Sand Dunes and Tin City (G4/10km/50m)	Meeting times TBA	Bob C 0417624091
26 May	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
25-26 May	Sat-Sun	<p>Day Walks and Optional Overnight Camp in Bouddi NP</p> <p>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) Drive to Bouddi Lookout to park cars and walk 1.2 km to Campground. (Tents only at Tallow Beach Campground – either backpack or wheelbarrow!)</p> <p>Sun: Coast Walk from Putty Beach to Macmasters Beach (G3/ 7km/220m/4 hr (including time to enjoy the views). Return to cars (walk 1.2 km.) Drive to Macmasters Beach. Car shuffle needed</p> <p>One campsite has been booked – only max 6 people can camp. Option to just do a single day walk on either the Sat or Sun</p>	Meeting times TBA	Lynne 0435889233
29 May	Wed	DW G2-3 TBA		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
31 May – 2 June	Fri-Sun	<p>BP. Long Wheeney Creek/Royce's Arch (G5/approx 34km /900m /3 days) (Mostly off track) Limited Numbers Maps: Wirraba 1:25000</p>	TBA	Lynne 0435889233
May '24		<p>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 instead on the fact this will be a hard walk with 138,000 metres of elevation change.</p>		Alan K. 0411367428 alankellyplumbin@gmail.com
<i>Winter Programme</i>				
JUNE				
1-2 June	Sat-Sun	<p>Photography course 2 x 1/2 days details TBA</p>		David M 0427 783 059
1 June	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
2 June	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
3 June	Mon	<p>Regular Meeting: Boyd Carney NWPS Broom Bash – Managing Scotch Broom in the Barrington Tops National Park</p>		

5 June	Wed	BR Raymond Terrace-Medowie return 32 km return, mostly on cycle way, one hill and a few ups and downs https://maps.app.goo.gl/SvqrDZzXxY3jD6798 .	10 am start from Boomerang Park Raymond Terrace	Philippa H 0402844147
8 June	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
9 June	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
12 June	Wed	Day Walk TBA		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
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
15 June	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
16 June	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
17 June	Mon	Regular Meeting		
19 June	Wed	B/R TBA		Philippa H 0402844147
22 June	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
23 June	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
25 June	Wed	Day Walk TBA		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
28-30 June	Fri-Sun	BP. The Pondage/ Gardens of Stone (G4-5/20 km /500m/ 3 days) (Off Track) Limited Numbers Maps: Ben Bullen 1:25000	TBA	Lynne 0435889233
29 June	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
30 June	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
Date TBC		Preparing for the Nav Shield: Using a Compass & Map Reading		Alan T 0419491612
JULY				
1 July	Mon	Regular Meeting		
3 July	Wed	B/R TBA		Philippa H 0402844147
6 July	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
7 July	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
10 July	Wed	Day Walk TBA		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
13 July	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
14 July	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
15 July	Mon	Regular Meeting		
17 July	Wed	B/R TBA		Philippa H 0402844147
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. Participants are advised of the location a few days before the comp. Usually within 2 or 3 hour drive from Sydney. Need to be set up by 6:00pm on the Friday night to collect Maps and for team to plan strategy.	TBA	Angela: ramblerswalksoffi cer@gmail.com

		Club has compasses for loan – contact Alan 0419491612.		
20 July	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
21 July	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
24 July	Wed	Day Walk TBA		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
27 July	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
28 July	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
31 July	Wed	B/R TBA		Philippa H 0402844147
		AUGUST		
3 August	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
4 August	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
5 August	Mon	Regular Meeting		
7 August	Wed	Day Walk TBA		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
10 August	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
11 August	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
14 August	Wed	B/R TBA		Philippa H 0402844147
17 August	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
18 August	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
19 August	Mon	Regular Meeting		
21 August	Wed	Day Walk TBA		Tracy and Peter H 03414843024
24 August	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
25 August	Sun	Day Walk TBA		
28 August	Wed	B/R TBA		
30 August	Sat	Day Walk TBA		
31 August	Sun	Day Walk TBA		

Future Events

20-27 Oct	Sun-Sun	Yarrangobilly Caves House. (G2-G4) A week of DWs 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 day walks – (Easy G4-5) My planned walk this year is for more Snowy Hut discoveries in the Tantangara Area, which is lower down and not too many hills. Drive down via Cooma to Namadgi NP and walk 4km to Waterhole Hut on the Settlers Track to camp, next drive to Tantangara area and walk 6km to Scofield Hut to camp for two nights and a daywalk in the location, then walk 10km south to Gavels Hut to camp and next day walkout 5km to vehicles, and drive and walk 4km to Hainsworth Hut on	TBA	Bob C 0417624091

		Long Plain for the night, before 10km walk over to Old Currango Hut to camp. Return 5km to vehicles and head down to Tumut/Adelong for the night. Limited numbers to 8 – full detailed maps and itinerary available. Maps: 1:25000 Tantangara, Denison, Rules Point		
Late Nov		BP Victorian High Country *G5/61km/3230m/5 days) (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 until midyear.	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.