



# Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club Newsletter March 2024

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*Popular Choice Winner 'After the Storm at Tin Hut' Kusciosko NP – (photo by Lynne)*

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## Note from the Editor

Since our November 2023 newsletter the Club has enjoyed another full and varied activity program – especially over Summer when it can be a bit light on because of the heat. We have enjoyed shorter walks in Awabakal, Glenrock SCA and along many sections of our coastline.

The Snowy Mountains was again a draw card both before and after Christmas with Bob, Alan and Lynne each leading interesting walks to different locations in the mountains. Bob's walk was in clear mild weather whilst that of Alan's was mostly wet and the location which he had chosen was closed off at very short notice by NPWS. Lynne's two walks enjoyed a mixed bag of weather with beautiful evening storms to make it a bit different.

Tasmania has been another destination with several trips to the Tasman Peninsular for the Three Capes Walk and a stunning sea voyage on the Lady Nelson from Hobart to Triabunna – thanks to Col McC for his help in arranging these activities.

Dawn provided the venue again for a well-attended Ramblers Christmas Party and the Christmas break was enjoyed by six members at Coolah Tops,

Thanks to Malcolm for keeping our meeting night program full and interesting as well as the supper roster organised. More recently Malcolm has taken over the role of Activities Officer and has succeeded in putting together an Autumn twelve-week program.

We have a new Facebook presence 'Bushwalking with the Newcastle Ramblers' which complements our closed 'Friends of the Newcastle Ramblers'. The Club website is also in the process of being brought up to date and to make it more promotional and attractive to prospective members.

Many members have continued their involvement in various Landcare activities including RVRT, Obelisk Hill-Arcadia Park, Greta, Green Point and others.

Contributions from members have dwindled for this issue, however I do thank those who have come forward with items, and those for the Facebook posts enabling me to show off the great places we have enjoyed.

All the best, Bob



*A blast from the past - Greg P has recently written an article extolling the wonders of the Barrington Tops for the February 2024 edition of Caravan World magazine. Included in this edition is this 2014 photograph of the Ramblers on Mt Bromlow – Greg had led a half day walk from the Little Murray camping ground to show six of us the cairn and sign which he and venturer scouts had erected to recognise that Mt Bromlow is in fact the highest point at 1586m on the Barrington Range. Walkers were Neil R of the WW, Shayne K, Sylvia T, Elizabeth B, Bob C and Kevin W*

## 50th Garry Scully Perpetual Trophy Photographic Competition – November 2023

The Club's photographic competition started in 1973, which makes this year the 50th year it has been run. It was again organised by David M – many thanks to David. The number of entries this year was lower with people being away on trips, however the quality of entries was again of an exceedingly high standard.

Categories of photographs for the 2023 competition were as follows:

- Ramblers People - People involved in activities that the club undertakes
- Places Ramblers Go - Places where the Ramblers go,
- Things Ramblers Come Across – Objects or things that might be seen on a Club activity, natural and man-made
- Special Category - The special category for 2023 was 'Patterns in Nature'.
- People's Choice – Members get to make their pick.

Our judge this year was Chris P, a former bushwalker and Club member, commercial photographer and experienced judge. We thank Chris for his enthusiastic involvement in this year's competition, his comments and humour.

Lynne W took out the coveted Garry Scully Trophy with her photograph '*First light - Morning in Burragurra Cave*'. Congratulations to Lynne for winning the trophy and the photo album. The People's Choice Award went to two entries '*After the Storm, Tin Hut*' by Lynne W and '*Knobs and Ribbons*' by Sue L. Congratulations to Lynne and Sue, and all category winners, and thanks to all of those members taking part this year.

### Winner of the Garry Scully Perpetual Trophy 2023



*First light - Morning in Burragurra Cave – by Lynne W*

## Places People Go



**First - Tin Hut - After the Storm - Lynne W**



**Second - Widden Brook, Hunter Valley - Sue L Third - Sunlit Plains beyond Pandoras Pass - Craig W**



**Highly Commended - National Arboretum, ACT - Bob C**



**Highly Commended - Panorama, Widden Valley - Sue L**

## Ramblers People



**First - First light - Morning in Burragurra Cave - Lynne W**



**Second - There are Unicorns on the Namoi River! - Lynne T**



**Third - Are we on the Right Ridge? Answer No - Sue L**

## Special - Patterns in Nature



**First - Quills - Dawn M**



**Highly Commended - Small Pools - Mt Sugarloaf - Bob C**



**Highly Commended - Banksia Spirals - Lynne W**

## Things Ramblers Come Across



**First** - *After the Burn, Munmorah SCA* - **Craig W**

**Second** - *Knobs and Ribbons, Watagans* - **Sue L**

**Third** - *Banksia* - **Dawn M**



**Highly Commended** - *Sunshine Long Point, Oxley Wild Rivers NP* - **Angela B**  
*Shrimp, Namoi River Warrabah NP* - **Angela B**

**Highly Commended** - *Freshwater*

## People's Choice

In this year's competition, there were 12 photos nominated as the best picture with 18 people voting in the competition.

There were two photos which received the same number of votes – 'After the storm, Tin Hut' by Lynne W and 'Knobs and Ribbons' by Sue L.



*After the storm, Tin Hut* by **Lynne W** and *Knobs and Ribbons* by **Sue L**

## Bob's 2023 Snowy Backpack – 11 to 19 November 2023

*Walkers: Bob C (leader), Lynne M, Jenni M, Noel H, Malcolm M, Ingrid W, Bob B and Lois S*

It is not often that you get seven totally clear days in the mountains with not a drop of rain – fabulous Travelling the 650km (7 hours) down and back can be just as pleasurable as the walking with good car company, enjoying the beauty of our passing countryside and stopping in at our favorite haunts for morning teas and lunches – Marulan, Gunnedah, Cabramurra, Jugiong and Berrima. We do have such a wonderful country to visit. We arrived at 3.00pm at the Port Phillip FT to pick up Lois, who had been delivered there by her son Ken and not far further along the trail we parked and walked 20mins over a low crest to Millers Hut for a lovely clear star filled night.



*After our long drive it was great to relax at Millers Hut, about 20mins walk from the Port Philips FT where we had left the vehicles. It was too dry and windy to have a fire outside. Millers was built of second-hand materials by Theo and Bill Miller reportedly in 1943-1944.*

**Monday**, we were away early on most days around 8.00am and from Millers Hut we checked out Long Plain Homestead, Three Mile Dam and Cabramurra which has been restored after the disastrous January 2022 fires. Eighty per cent of the town was destroyed and has only been recently reopened. The surviving bistro building has been revamped and was a welcome location for MT and later for lunch when we returned at the end of our walk. We arrived at the Snakey Plain FT entrance about 11.30am after dropping two vehicles at the Tooma Dam parking area for our return in five days' time. Because of

the late start it was getting hot as we tackled the 11km track walk and 250m climb over Jagumba Range, which we found a bit demanding. The alpine woodland was a picture of beautiful wild flowers along the way. We arrived at Wheelers Hut at 3.30pm (the short cut across to the hut has gone missing and we ended up walking an extra kilometre further along the tracks). Before I could set up I was welcomed by a large Copperhead Snake which reared its head and actually came for me with evil intent.



*We enjoyed many lovely evenings around the open campfire at Wheelers Hut. Bob and Jenni are packed and ready to head off to Pretty Plain Hut. The hut was built by "Wingy" Wheeler for grazing, around 1900, and was moved to its present site in the 1920's. About 3km up Pretty Plain Creek we paused for MT and a good rest at an old camp site. We could imagine that this great scenic spot might have been used by the cattlemen of years gone by.*

**Tuesday**, our walk into Wheelers had been strenuous in hot conditions the day before and three of our group elected to remain at Wheelers for the next two nights whilst others set out to Pretty Plain Hut. The walk up Pretty Plain was not as easy as we had thought. The foot pad was faint and easily lost in several sections which necessitated making our own way. We arrived about 2.30pm – thank goodness that it was not too hot with some cloud relief. Still, it is a beautiful valley to walk through and the bushland which had been destroyed in 2003 fires has almost fully recovered complete with some

pretty thick understory. All up 12km for the day and 6.5 hours.

We found the hut in great shape, no doubt due to the KHA working party in April. The log book indicated that not too many people are making the trek up the valley or coming in from the east over Strumbo Range and Grey Mare Hut. Covid -19, the good rainfall for the past few years, and the lack of use by walkers has rendered the good tracks and foot pads of earlier years hard to follow and in some cases impossible.



*Two views of Pretty Plain Hut with our group sunning themselves before our day walk. The huts has been freshly oiled. The hut was built by Captain Chisholm of Khancoban, east of an older hut site. The hut was used extensively from 1940 to 1982 for commercial ski tours.*

**Wednesday**, we had a terrific day walk from Pretty Plain Hut which took us 3.5 km up Bulls Head Creek to the saddle above where the Strumbo FT now ends. We checked around to see if there was an obvious foot pad leading east over Stumbo Range and to Grey Mare Hut – no sign of it. We climbed steeply west for 1.5 km through some beautiful recovered bushland and then down to a saddle and a clear access way down into Pretty Plain Creek valley and its open grasslands – a real pleasure to walk through. There was a semblance of a 4WD track and occasional pink tape to show the way which was used in 2010 for the restoration of Pretty Plain Hut. The last section east up and over the ridge line to the hut is heavily overgrown, however a foot pad below the overhanging growth could still be just followed. All up we walked 9.5 km over about four hours.

**Thursday**, we got away an hour early to beat the heat of the day and retraced our earlier route to Wheelers Hut, taking MT on the ridge overlooking the Tooma River junction where we could observe a small Falcon hunting along the creek line close to us. The section of scrub bashing we used to follow over a ridgeline was avoided on this occasion by taking the re-entrant and its faint foot pad. The climb over the next ridgeline down into the Broadway Diggings though was scrubby and slow.

We were pleased to be back again with the rest of our group at Wheelers which had enjoyed the company of an NPA Sydney walking group for two nights. They had been down to the Tooma River ford to check river heights and found a Copperhead Snake on the way. All up our return was 12.5km for the day and 6 hours.



*Descending steeply to the Tooma River crossing, and in the process of crossing – not too difficult*

**Friday**, within half an hour of leaving Wheelers Hut we were descending steeply to the Tooma River crossing. The river was knee deep at its deepest and not difficult to cross provided you had a stick or someone to steady you over the large slippery boulders beneath the water. It was a stiff 100m climb once on the other side. Along the way we called into check out Paton's Hut which was rebuilt in 2008 after its loss to the 2003 fires. Its location is 2.75km from the Tooma Road and would be an excellent place to camp after a long drive from Newcastle. The section of open woodland from the hut to the road is magnificent. Rather than Vitaweats again we held off until Cabramurra at 1.30pm, then onto Long Plain FT.

We had intended to camp at the Blue Waterholes and do a morning walk the next day in that stunning limestone area. Unfortunately, the Fire Trail was closed so we diverted to Cooinbil Hut and its nearby attractive open

camping area. We chatted with the horse family set up over the way. All up 12.5km for the day.

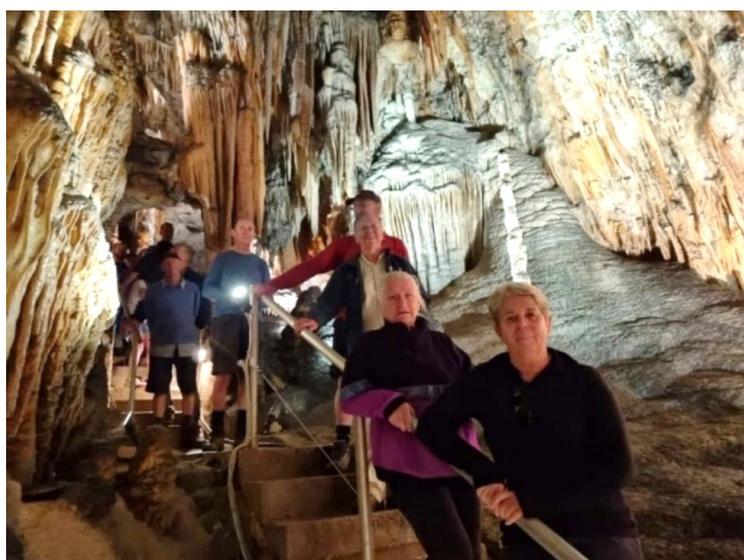
**Saturday**, we spent the morning instead at Yarrangobilli Caves and booked into the 1.5 hour guided inspection of Jersey Cave which has some of the most spectacular formations I have seen. All that remained was for us to head on down to Tumut and the Riverglade Tourist Park and later out for dinner at the Royal Hotel. Our return home on Sunday took in Jugiong for breakfast and the very interesting town of Berrima for lunch.

Another great trip to the Snowy Mountains with great company - thanks everyone and to the KHA and NPWS for the care and maintenance of the huts we visited.

*Report and photos by Bob*



*Bob B has just checked out Patons Hut and surrounds with the possibility of camping there in the future. Patons was built in 1934 by Tom and Frank Buchanan Paton, for Frank's father for grazing. It was then used by the SMA during the building of Tooma Dam, nearby. In 2003 it was burnt down in the fires and rebuilt in 2007/08 After our walk out from Wheelers and lunch at Cabramurra we arrived at Cooinbil Hut and its campground. The original building was built on this site in 1866. This building replaced it in 1905. In 1987 a large limb from the nearby tree fell and crushed half of the building. The surrounds consist of mature Black Sallee trees.*



*A good shot of our group in the Jersey Cave by Jenni, and behind them is the Cleopatra's Needle formation.*

## One Tree Hill, Watagan NP – 9 March 2024

Walkers: Frank K (leader) and 7 Ramblers



Frank described this half day walk as 'Drive to the end of Bowmans Road in the Watagans, 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. There is a slight detour to view One Tree Hill, then back to the Harris Trail for the walk back to the vehicles for lunch. It's an easy scrub bash but still requires a good fitness level. Photos by Mary McP

By all reports this was an very interesting and very pleasant walk – thanks Frank

## Nundle Blackberry Picking – 9 to 11 February 2024

Pickers: Ingrid W (leader) and 12 Ramblers



Quality Blackberries abounded for the weekend with the expert Ramblers team picking a record of over 31 kg, which will be hand crafted into over 100 bottles of the finest Blackberry Jam by Ingrid.

## Blue Mountains Music Festival, Katoomba – 14 to 17 March 2024



Twenty two Ramblers and friends travelled to Katoomba on either the Thursday before or on the Friday to stay in various accommodation options for a great couple of days of walking and music. The Ramblers have been regulars at this festival for over 15 years in all kinds of weather and disruptions. The Big Tent blew down in a hurricane the night before on one occasion and the Covid pandemic each causing cancellations. This years event was typical with misty weather making walking very pleasant.

On the way up on Thursday which was quite hot, Pauline had arranged to meet at the Norman Lindsay Gallery in Springwood to be shown through his home and for lunch in the beautiful and interesting gardens. Anna had organised to meet at Glenbrook for morning tea and later reconvene at Evans Head, Blackheath for an afternoon in the Grand Canyon. For walks on Friday there was a selection of the Grand Canyon or the Centennial/Porters Pass walks.

On Saturday Dale organised the lovely three hour return Lockleys Pylon walk before the midday start to the music. Other members, led by Ann Scott enjoyed the many other attractions and shorter walks in the mountains. Meals were enjoyed at 'Bank' and the rebuilt Katoomba RSL. Music wise Luka Bloom, Eleanor McEvoy, Eric Bogle, The Spooky Men's Chorale were mentioned in despatches.

Thanks everyone for making this such a great weekend and to leaders who led activities.



*Lockleys Pylon walk passes through mountain woodland and heath country. Unfortunately the fabulous views were obscured by mist on this occasion*



*Anna led a great trip into Centennial Glen and Porters Pass on Saturday Ann, Dale, Paul, Mellissa and Lyndon. Looking west into Megalong Valley (photos by Anna and Dale)*



*The Grand Canyon is always a favourite – Pauline led the walk on Saturday – photos by Jenni*



*A new sculpture near Echo Point commemorating the 30 year construction period for the convict built road across the Blue Mountains, and colourful plants (*Drosera spathulata*) and fungi always to be found – photos by Dale*

### **The Art of Picture Framing by Kate R – 6 November 2024**



*Kate R is a very knowledgeable and experienced picture framer and we enjoyed an interesting presentation from her on how to frame walks photos and mementoes. Thanks Kate*

## Obelisk Hill-Arcadia Park Landcare - Progress Report and Record for 2023



*Blotched Dusky Blue (Candalides acasta). –  
photo by Elaine Lewins*

This has been our thirteenth year of landcaring which has again been a most outstanding year of achievement. We continued to have enthusiastic turnouts of 10 to 15 volunteers (many from the Newcastle Ramblers) for sessions on Fridays. We welcomed many new members during the year.

Our significant achievements during the year have included:

- Working on over 54 occasions to tally up over 2150 hours of volunteer effort (equivalent to more than \$85,000 in value). This does not include the many extra hours put in by individuals outside of planned sessions with mowing, weed control and administration.
- Planting a total of over 3150 trees, shrubs and grasses to the several areas we have worked in.
- Completing the restoration of 800m<sup>2</sup> of the N/W Pit Street Rainforest Slope which involved the clearing of African Olive, Trad and fallen timber, spreading over 50m<sup>3</sup> of mulch, and planting out over 2000 plants to the slope.
- Organising a planting morning on the N/W Slope in July involving the senior students of Newcastle East Public School.
- Joining with the Friends of the Church Walk Park on three occasions to progress projects in its park by clearing weed growth, spreading two loads of mulch, and planting 150 plants.
- Joining with the Nesca Parade Landcare on several occasions to progress the restoration of 400m<sup>2</sup> of Nesca Park surrounding bushland
- The maintenance of the Ordnance Street Nature Strip, Wolfe and Ordnance Street native beds, and the eastern slope of Obelisk Hill has been ongoing. We also maintained weed control in the native beds at the southern entrance to King Edward Park (KEP) and along the Memorial Drive Nature Corridor.
- Undertaking a morning tidy up of the Darby Street Community Garden to reactivate interest in this lovely garden space.
- Elaine has again maintained our Instagram account up to date (search Obelisk\_Arcadia) which is a wonderful record of our progress since November 2015. We have a website up (see link at end of report) and have commenced adding content to a Facebook page (search Obelisk Hill Arcadia Park Landcare).
- Several of our group attended training and networking opportunities during the year which included National Tree Day on Ironbark Creek and a Landcare training session at the Brickworks Park,

The support and guidance we have received from Natural Areas of the City has again been outstanding. Especially, I thank all of the members of our group for their friendship, great company and outstanding energy. I look forward to another interesting and fun year restoring bushland in our City.

*Report and photos by Bob C*

Website Link

<https://arcadia-park-landcare-website.my.canva.site/obeliskhillarcadiaparklandcare?fbclid=IwAR2LcFB0j018fDoL8C691Voy3QmariTBA1EK2KVzBVxWHw5b0RCbEeUUomk#page-0>



*(left) the section of northern slope completed in December 2023. The senior students of the Newcastle East Public School planted out over 900 native plants to the N/W Pit Street Rainforest Slope in Arcadia Park in July 2023*

## Summer Exploration of Barrington Tops NP – 23 – 25 January 2024

Walkers: Bob C (leader), Lynne W, Mark F, Marise and Kevin W, Malcolm M, Ingrid W, Dale G, Aileen H and Nell W



*Mark, Dale, Nell, Malcolm and Ingrid enjoy the view over Polblue Falls*

Summer is a wonderful time of the year to explore the Tops. After meeting in Gloucester, we enjoyed the 60min drive up onto the Plateau in a fine mist which enhances the feeling of the Tops, particularly a walk through the Antarctic Beech Forest. We had stopped at each of the scenic lookout along the way, but no views because of the mist,

We arrived at Polblue Swamp for lunch as the mist was rising and walked the 3km circuit around the swamp. We could see the effects of Broom eradication along the way. There is still so much Broom to be removed and we will be interested to hear of Malcolm and Ingrid's experience the following week with NPWS volunteers tackling the Broom.

By early afternoon we were setting up at the Horse Swamp Camping Ground leaving time afterwards to walk down to the nearby interesting Polblue Falls. Horse Swamp which is close

to the camp is the prettiest swamp on the Tops. For the next day (Wednesday) we planned a 12km walk from the Main Road north along the Central Barrington Trail to descend to the Green Gully Pine Plantation and thence head west to Paddys Ridge Trail for a short distance before descending the Butchers Swamp Trail back to our camp – a great walk in perfect clear mountain weather which got pretty hot by the time we had finished. Later that evening we drove via the 'Firs' to the Dingo Gate for happy hour and take in the views to the west.

Thursday saw us pack for an early morning short walk around Horse Swamp before driving to Aussie Ark at Tomalla for the 11.30am inspection of this inspiring conservation organisation. The Devils were on display along with many of the other threatened species being cared for. We drove back via the Gundy Pub for a nice lunch and thence non-stop to Newcastle to return before 6.00pm

The area we were walking in is in the Stewarts Brook SF, north of the Main Road. It is a delight to walk in open mountain woodlands much the same as they have always been before the Scotch Broom arrived.

*Report and photos by Bob*



*Walking through mist in the cool Antarctic Beech Forest reveals many wonders*



*We walked around Polblue Swamp after our lunch and could see the good work being done to remove Scotch Broom. Malcolm and Ingrid had planned to join volunteers the following week to continue with eradication in the Little Murray location.*



*We approached the Green Gap Pine Plantation from lovely clean open alpine woodland. The plantation of Douglas Fir and other species was planted in the 1960s about the same time as the 'Firs'.*



*Our early morning walk to Horse Swamp*

## Stockton Bike Ride - 31 January 2024

Riders: Philippa H (leader) and 5 riders - 30km



Photos by Jackie Mann

## Jenny B Turns 60 - March 2024



Thanks Jenny for organising an evening walk through the bushland behind Redhead Beach to be finished off with dinner at the Malaysian Restaurant - lovely night - best wishes for many more birthdays



A beautiful sunset for our return along the beach

## The Three Capes and Mt Field NP Adventure, Tasmania – 9 to 18 February 2024

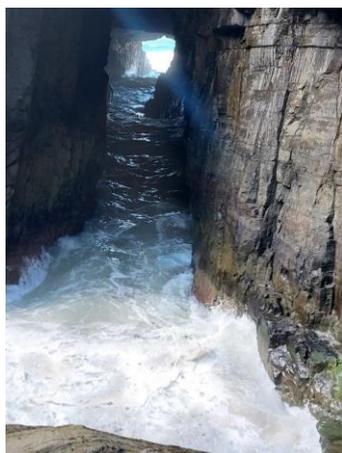
Walkers: Bob C (leader), Bob B (leader), Fran B, Anna B, Pauline B, Neil and Gail D, Robyn T, John T, Dawn M and Mick H



*The approach to Cape Pillar and Tasman Island*

It is always great to travel and walk in Tasmania, particularly when the weather is clear and beautiful for the duration. On this occasion eleven Ramblers enjoyed walking in the Port Arthur location for two days prior to setting out on the famous Three Capes Walk over the four days and three nights. In addition to our stay in Port Arthur we spent two nights in Hobart and two nights in Russell Falls Cottages at the entrance to the Mt Field NP.

Highlights included a climb of the 'Blade' for its 360 degree views over Tasman Island, and the Russell Falls and the Tarn Shelf walks in Mt Field NP. The Hobart Botanical Gardens with its cold climate Macquaries Island exhibition and the Tasmanian Museum were outstanding.



*The Remarkable Cave near Port Arthur is truly remarkable. A rest along the way to Cape Raoul. The track has been recently upgraded to a similar high standard of the Three Capes Walk. The Shipsterns Bluff and its famous surf break, a side trip from the Cape Raoul Track*



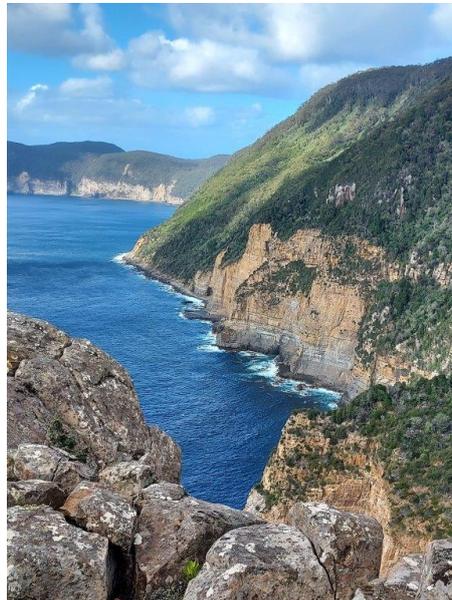
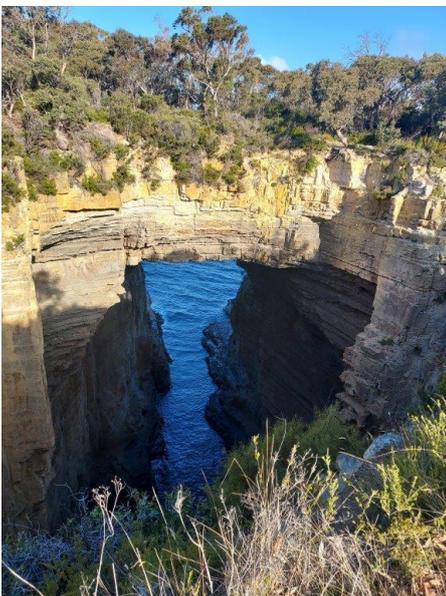
*The rugged dolerite cliff lines from our boat trip. Most of the group at the start of the Capes walk. The approach to our first nights accommodation – Surveyors Hut*



*Tasman Island from near Cape Pillar Nice shots of Dawn, Neil and Gale along the way to Cape Pillar*



*The group is ready to leave Ranakunna Hut on our last day. We came across the newly constructed Bluff Knoll public camping ground with its raised platforms set amongst Myrtle Forest. It is possible to walk from Fortesque Bay directly to the camping ground in two hours, do the Cape Pillar return walk and return via Mt Fortesque and Cape Hauy. This option is free.*



*We walked across the top of Tasman Arch after our meal at the Doo-lishus Van in Doo Town after our arrival in Port Arthur. Looking back towards Cape Pillar on our last day. The sculpture at the end of the walk at Fortesque Bay*



*Great views through the rising mist on the Tarn Shelf Walk in Mt Field NP, taken from the Rodway Hut location.*



*The beautiful Russell Falls in the Mt Field NP and views inside of the Cold Climate exhibition of Macquarie Island in the Hobart Botanic Gardens. We took a special interest in this exhibition because Col maybe part of the scientific team heading to the island this year.*

## **Morning Walk over the Stockton Bridge – 25 February 2024**

*Walker: Lynne W (leader) and seven Ramblers*



*A lovely Ramblers summer morning walk. over the Stockton Bridge to the Hunter Wetlands National Park ... then some interesting history visiting the Stockton Cemetery, and the sites of the old Quarantine Station and Fort Wallace. We wandered along the mangroves and harbour until we crossed onto the coastal walk and followed it all the way around to the Stockton breakwater and Shipwreck Walk. Watching the tugs guide a ship into the harbour is always a treat. We finished off the walk with a well-deserved coffee at the ferry terminal.  
Note and photos by Lynne W.*

## Redhead Bluff, Awabakal Reserve and Fernleigh Track Loop - 2 March 2024

Walkers: Lynne (leader) and 8 Ramblers

A hot and humid morning - made very bearable by the great company, beautiful views and ... just being in the bush :) Redhead Bluff ... Awabakal Nature Reserve .... Redhead (aka Dudley) Lagoon .... Fernleigh Track ... Redhead Wetlands/Beach Board Walk.

Note and photos by Lynne



Views south from Redhead Bluff Lookout, Sunshine Wattle and the group checking out old and gnarled Angophoras



50 years ago, Lynne caught the train from here into Newcastle to go shopping. The sitting circle in the Awabakal Education Centre

## Marmong Point Walk and Lake Macquarie Art Gallery

Walkers: Kate R (leader) and many Ramblers



A beautiful morning's walk led by Kate this morning from Marmong Point, along the foreshore and into the bush to finish at the Lake Mac Art Gallery for MT in its café.

Since 2009 First Class has celebrated and showcased the exceptional standard of work produced by HSC Visual Arts Students from the Hunter and Central Coast regions. Lynnes' brilliant granddaughter was exhibited in the exhibition

Photo by Jennifer R

## Voyage on the Lady Nelson, Hobart to Triabunna. SE Tasmania – 4 to 8 January 2024.

Ten Ramblers led by Col McC sailed on the Lady Nelson square-rigged tall ship from Hobart to Triabunna on the east coast of Tassie. (bus return to Hobart). Col was one of the volunteer crew members who looked after the sailors perfectly. There were daily short walks, at Port Arthur, Tasman Peninsula, Fortescue Bay, Marion Bay, Maria Island over the five days.



*Most of the crew ready to sail from Hobart (photo by Bev Paterson). Fishing was an option*



*The Lady Nelson rounding Cape Pillar in perfect weather and calm seas*