

Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club

PO Box 719 Charlestown NSW 2290

www.newcastleramblers.org.au

Winter-Spring Programme 2025 (Updated 3 Aug 2025)

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, MW: Morning Walk, BP: Backpack BR: Bike Ride CC: Car Camp PA: Paddle

Yellow Highlighting indicates NSW School Holidays

Winter Programme

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| | | July | | |
| 21 July | Mon | Regular Monday Night Meeting Backpacking Gear by Malcolm Supper Malcolm M | | |
| 23 July | Wed | B/R Clarence Town – Glen William loop, 10 am start from Clarence Town Lions Park all on sealed quiet country roads, ~ 25 km | | Philippa 0402 844 147 |
| 26 July | Sat | DW Pioneer Creek Falls (G3/8 km) Telegherry Forest Dungog Area | | Malcolm 0429 641 640 |
| 27 July | Sun | Sunday 27 July DW Old Wangi railway line (G3/10km/150m) There used to be a railway line from Awaba to the Wangi power station. The relics of that line are still there in the bush. This walk will follow part of that line through lovely bush maybe with some geymea lilies. Lunch at Toronto perhaps? (Swansea map) | Meet cnr Awaba Road and Cook Street, Toronto at 8am. | David M 49546164 |
| 27 July | Sun | Peek Into The Past – Visit Historic Tocal Homestead. Open Day at Paterson – all day activities, history talks and food. Entry fee – see website. https://tocal.com.au/peek-into-the-past/ Greg will be at 'Thunderbolt's Cottage' 10.00am to 3.00pm | | Greg P 0401278467 |
| 30 July | Wed | DW Break wall to Break wall (G2-3) Postponed due to weather Meet at Nobby's Pavillion – Walk the break wall... catch the Ferry across to Stockton ... walk the Stockton break wall (and along the ballast walk as time permits) ... coffee ... and return trip to Nobbys Pavillion. | Meet 8:30am at Nobbys car park | Sue Holt 0437213221 |
| | | August | | |

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|--------------|-----------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| 2 August | Sat | Hunter Botanical Gardens. – cancelled due to weather Visit Gardens - Possible guided tour. There is a Sculpture exhibition opening on Saturday. Bring morning tea & lunch- or, there is a cafe. | Meet at 9am | Malcolm 0429 641640 |
| 3 August | Sun | DW TBA | | |
| 4 August | Mon | Regular Monday Night Meeting Walks Planning Meeting Supper Nel W | | |
| 6 August | Wed | DW Tanilba Habitat Centre (G2/5 km/) M/T at the centre. | | Ingrid 0427 55 3212 |
| 9 August | Sat | DW Lake Macquarie Rogaine https://nswrogaining.org/coming-events/ Individuals can enter this event – or put together a team! | | Refer to link to register. |
| 9 August | Sat | DW Waverly Cemetery Train to Bondi Junction and then bus to visit Waverly Cemetery near Clovelly. Return similarly. Walk short distance to and from the bus stop – and then wander around the cemetery. Bring lunch, drinks and snacks. Probable coffee en route as time permits. | Meet at Cardiff Station 7:10 am Arrive back at Cardiff at 17:34 pm | Angela L 0438016162 |
| 10 August | Sun | D/W Fairview Homestead (G3/12km/150m) Follow a fire trail into the beautiful Mangrove Valley to visit the historic Upper Mangrove cemetery and the old Fairview Homestead. Mangrove map. | | David M 49546164 |
| 10 August | Sun | DW Sugarloaf circuit (G3/200m/7km) | Start 10am at picnic shelter. | Dale Graham 0428399083 |
| 13 Aug | Wed | B/R Redhead to Swansea and Return Follow the Fernleigh Track from Redhead to Belmont – then further along the bike path to Swansea. Return the same way. | Meet 8:30am at Liles Oval Trackhead | Sue Holt 0437213221 |
| 15-17 August | Fri - Sun | DW/BP/CC Navigation Shield Arrive Friday evening to receive navigation data One-day event on Saturday (DW) Two-day event over Saturday and Sunday (BP) | | |
| 16 August | Sat | DW Heaton (Brunkerville) Gap to Wakefield (G3/10 km/210 m) Part of the GNW. Possibility of visiting a natural arch in Bangalow Creek. - car shuffle. Bring MT & Lunch. Maps: Quorrobolong & Wallsend | | Craig W 0405 615547 (text please) |
| 16 August | Sat | DW 'Ambassador for a day' (G2/500m/10 km) Join a Newcastle city-walk with a group of bushwalkers visiting from QLD. Route will include the Cathedral, Arcadia Park, the Anzac Walk then returning on the Bathers Way | Start 9am Queens Wharf. | Dale Graham 0428399083 |
| 17 August | Sun | DW TBA | | |
| 18 August | Mon | Regular Monday Night Meeting Supper Ingrid W | | |
| 20 August | Wed | DW Hunter Wetlands Centre | Meet at the centre at 9 am | Nell |
| 22-25 August | Fri-Mon | Backpack 'The Pondage' - Gardens of Stone Limited Numbers Priority to those who were on the originally scheduled dates (NB - some flexibility with dates, based on EOI) | | Lynne K 0435889233 |

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| 23 Aug | Sat | DW Beehive trail & Wildlife underpass G3/200m/5km Road and off-track walk to large wildlife tunnel under freeway. | | Arthur R 0408 943 282 |
| 24 Aug | Sun | DW TBA | | |
| 27 August | Wed | DW Break wall to Break wall (G2-3) Meet at Nobby's Pavillion – Walk the break wall... catch the Ferry across to Stockton ... walk the Stockton break wall (and along the ballast walk as time permits) ... coffee ... and return trip to Nobbys Pavillion. | Meet 8:30am at Nobbys car park | Sue Holt 0437213221 |
| 30 Aug | Sat | DW Mt Wareng G4/10km/340m Flat-topped mountain near Howes Valley on the Putty Road. Fire trail to the base of the mountain then up a mostly grassy spur for views of Wollemi and Mt Yengo. Maps: Howes Valley, Mount Yengo | | David M 49546164 |
| 31 Aug | Sun | DW DW Summerland Point to Gwandalan (G2/10km/20m/5hrs) Track walk, easement trails and some street walking along foreshore reserve to Gwandalan and return. Map: Catherine Hill Bay | Meet 8.30 am Summerland Point Reserve, Off Cams Blvd, opposite shops, Boat Ramp Rd, Summerland Point | Jenny B 0419 249 335 |
| | | September | | |
| 1 Sept | Mon | Regular Monday Night Meeting Guest Speaker - Mina Bui Jones Bush Heritage Australia will talk about opportunities to volunteer restoring their land to its original state. Supper Ingrid W | | |
| 3 Sept | Wed | B/R Ash Island (20 km) Some gravel so unsuitable for road bikes with narrow tyres | 10 am start from the Welcome Walk car park | |
| 2-7 Sept | Tues-Sun | Car Camp – Warrumbungles (3 nights) and Pilliga Scrub (2 nights) Tues: Drive to Warrumbungle National Park – meet there. Camp in the Warrumbungle National Park Campground for 3 nights. Grand High Tops/Breadknife/Mt Exmouth walks – others as time permits. Night sky viewing at a local observatory and a possible day visit to Sidings Spring Observatory. Friday Morning: Drive to Pilliga Scrub via Baradine. Camp for 2 nights – Sculptures in the Scrub Walk/Dandry Creek Walk/Sandstone Caves Circuit. Sunday morning: Drive home via Pilliga Pottery. <i>Need to make own bookings for campsites – Warrumbungle N.P. Blackmans No. 2 (cost depends on type of site) and Sculptures in the Scrub picnic area and campground (Free but have to book)</i> EOI | | Sue H 0437213221 |
| 3 Sept | Wed | DW (or BR) TBA | | |
| 6 Sept | Sat | DW TBA | | |
| 7 Sept | Sun | DW TBA | | |

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| 10 Sept | Wed | DW (or BR) TBA | | |
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| 13 Sept | Sun | DW TBA | | |
| 14 Sept | Sun | DW TBA | | |
| 15 Sept | Mon | Regular Monday Night Meeting Supper TBA | | |
| 17 Sept | Wed | DW (or BR) TBA | | |
| 20-21 Sept | Sat-Sun | CC Horse Run (G4/11km/100m) A car camp to give us time to explore down into the Horse Run from above. Friday night or early Saturday start. Could be a day walk on Saturday. Not suitable for caravans. High clearance vehicles best. (Doyle's Creek map) | | David M 49546164 |
| 20 Sept | Sat | DW TBA | | |
| 21 Sept | Sun | DW TBA | | |
| 24 Sept | Wed | DW (or BR) TBA | | |
| 27 Sept | Sat | DW TBA | | |
| 28 Sept | Sun | DW TBA | | |
| Future Events | | | | |
| 13-17 Oct | Mon-Fri | CC Red Rock Reflections Caravan Park. A car camp with a difference. Bring your dogs along. I will have 2 border collies (you don't need a dog to participate. Non dog walkers can visit nearby National Park). We will be doing beach walks and walks in the nearby State Forest. You will need to book your own site. Contact me for more details. | | Jenni M 0439387426 |
| 15 October | Wed | B/R Carrington Circuit Circuit from Carrington along Throsby Creek, through Mayfield and Waratah to the university, return via Brickworks Park, Jesmond, Lambton, and Broadmeadow ~ 25 km. Cycle paths and quietish roads, a bit up and down through the university. | Start at 9 am from Connelly Park, Fitzroy Street, Carrington | |
| 31 Oct -9 Nov | Fri-Sun | BP Buller Huts Trail. G5/90km/5000m/7days. This hike will be based on the Buller Hut Trail Circuit. It is a 7-day hike with additional travel days required. The hike will leave and finish at Mt Buller in Victoria. Due to the terrain, numbers will be limited. EOI please. | | Sue H 0437213221 |
| 1 Nov | | First Aid Training with Kylie | | |
| 9-16 Nov | | BP Easy Week in the Snowy Mountains – Easy backpacks and day walks – itinerary to be decided EOI please | | Bob C 0417624091 |
| 22-30 Nov | | BP Jagungal Wilderness. (G5/ /) Route will depend on any National Park closures at the time, but the intention is to include climbing Mt. Jagungal and a fair amount of off-track walking. Limited numbers. EOI to Alan Thomas | | Alan Thomas 0419491612 |

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| TBA | | Visit to Westpac Rescue Base | | |
| July 2026 | | BP Jatbula Trail. EOI (G4/ 62 km/5 days 4 nights) Nitmiluk Gorge to Leliyn (Edith Falls). Camp restricted to 15 people. Option to stay the night at Leliyn camp ground. | | Nell Watson 0413899710 |
| Oct-Nov 2026 | | Nakasendo Way (135km over 9 days. Each day's walking is 10-24km.) Late October/early November 2026, when the autumn leaves will be at their most spectacular. Staying mostly in historic inns and observing the Japanese way of life. The Nakasendo Way starts in Kyoto and ends at Tokyo. Read about it here: https://www.nakasendoway.com/ We will use the following travel company (a number of Ramblers have travelled with before): https://walkjapan.com/tour/nakasendo-way Cost for the walk will be approximately \$6680. Flights will be around \$1300 return. There will ofc be other costs for local transport, some meals, tours of Kyoto and Tokyo, etc. EOI: contact David M at davidmorrisonann@gmail.com . Limited numbers. | | David M at davidmorrisonann@gmail.com . |
| 26-30 April 2027 | | BP: Tasmania Overland Track – Northern section (G4/ 51km /4 Days) Private accommodation with all meals supplied. Light weight packs. The Fagus' leaves should be changing colour around this time of year. (The only native deciduous Australian plant.) Local, knowledgeable guides. Launceston area transport to and from, return to Launceston. 12 people maximum – a private group walk. Cost \$3700. A deposit is required. A 20pp information PDF is available by email from me. EOI in the first instance please. | | Craig W 0405 615547 text preferred |

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.