

Newcastle Ramblers Bushwalking Club

PO Box 719 Charlestown NSW 2290

www.newcastleramblers.org.au

Spring Programme 2025 (updated 28 Sept 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

Spring Programme				
		October		
1 Oct	Wed	BR Leader Required		
3-5 Oct	Sat-Sun	CC Mt Royal (G3, 12km), Camp at Graham and Dani's block for one or 2 nights, or come up for the day. Due to road closures, Mt Royal trail will be inaccessible but we will do a closer walk in the area.		Barry Williams 0431237976.
4 Oct	Sat	DW TBA		
5 Oct	Sun	DW 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.	8am behind Belmont McDonalds or 8:45am at the Big Flower at Ourimbah.	David M 49546164
6 Oct	Mon	No Regular Meeting – Public Holiday		
6 Oct	Mon	MW Bolton Point to Marmong Point (G3/3-4 hr) Bring morning tea	starting 8:30am	Kate 0439374323
8 Oct	Wed	TW CAVES BEACH G2/5km/20m/3 hrs Scenic track/beach walk to enter the Caves at extreme low tide. Then track/beach walk along foreshore & headlands. Bring own picnic dinner to have after the walk.	Meet 5.30 pm Caves Beach Surf Club, end of Mawson Close Caves Beach	Jenny Bourke 0419 249 335
11 Oct	Sat	MW Belmont Wetlands Loop (G2-3/6 km /2.5hr) Walk around Belmont Lagoon and part of the Fernleigh Track - beginning and ending on the Lake near Cold Tea	Meet 7:30 am at Car Park on Lake Mac near	Lynne K 0435889233

		Creek. Coffee Cart available on the Fernleigh track. (Might get wet feet if we have some rain)	Cold Tea Creek. Belmont Sth	
12 Oct	Sun	DW TBA		
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 Oct	Wed	B/R Carrington Circuit Ash Island (20 km) Some gravel so unsuitable for road bikes with narrow tyres Bring morning tea to have at completion of ride.	9 am start from the Welcome Walk car park	Philippa 0402 844 147
18-20 Oct	Sat-Mon	CC and Day walks Mill Creek. <i>Come for just a day walk on the Sat or Sun - or for all 3 days. (Mill Creek is about 2 hr from Newcastle)</i> You will need to book your own site if you are camping Sat – Convict trail and Finch's Line (G3/10km) Sun – Mill Creek track to Aboriginal Engraving Site (G 3-4/10 km) Mon – Drive home via Bucketty Convict Walk and Wollombi for lunch.		Lynne K 0435889233
18 Oct	Sat	DW TBA		
19 Oct	Sun	DW TBA		
20 Oct	Mon	Regular Meeting Photo Comp entries close Josh van Lier from Newcastle Council Josh will give an update on the Council's Southern Beaches Coastal Management Plan for the high-risk section from Bar to Merewether Beach. Supper by Dale G		
22 Oct	Wed	MW Wildflower Walk and Gilbey Loop Walk (Belmont Wetlands State park) (G2/5 km)	Meet 7:30 am At Jewells Carpark on the Fernleigh track	Lynne K 0435889233
23-28 Oct	Thur-Tues	CC Morton National Park and Bundanoon Garden Festival Contact Anna B 0408612674 to book in plus information about camping. Limited numbers. Come for part or all of the trip. Thursday - Mt Annan Botanical Gardens, Mt Gibraltar Bowral (6 km 240 m ascent & descent 2 1/2 hrs) Cecil Hopkins Nature Reserve Moss Vale wetland rich in bird life. Then drive to Camp Bundanoon Friday - Bundanoon Creek & Fairy Bower (5.2 km /340 steep ascent /descent/4 hrs)		Anna B 0408612674

		- Grand Canyon Lookout & Fern Glen (3/4 hr) - Lovers Walk (2.8 km 50m descent/ascent 11/4 hrs) Saturday & Sunday Bundanoon Garden Festival Monday Christmas Creek Glen (12 km steep descent/ascent 460m/6 hrs) Tuesday Fitzroy Falls 4 km 1 1/2 hrs		
25 Oct	Sat	DW Mountaineer		Malcolm 0429 641640
26 Oct	Sun	DW Brooklyn dam and new board walk. (G3) Train trip and full day walk		Kate 0439374323
29 Oct	Wed	BR Leader required		
31 Oct -7 Nov	Fri- Sun	BP Vic High Country. G5/70km/5000m/5 days. 5-day hike with 4 additional travel days required. Visit High Country Huts (including Craigs, King, Cobbler and Vallejo Gantner), walk some sections of the AAWT and other areas of the Vic High Country around the Howqua River. Limited Numbers. Fully Booked (Waiting List only)		Sue H 0437213221
Oct TBA		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	Oct TBA
		November		
1 Nov		First Aid Training with Kylie		
3 Nov	Mon	Regular Meeting Walks Planning Supper Barry W		
5 Nov	Wed	DW TBA		
8 Nov	Sat	First Aid training 9am - 3 pm Charlestown Uniting Church (the same place as we have our meetings) Cost \$25 Bring M/T and lunch Contact Malcolm 0429 641 640 ASAP to book your spot.		Malcolm 0429 641 640
9 Nov	Sun	DW TBA		
9-16 Nov	Sun- Sun	BP Easy Week in the Snowy Mountains Easy backpacks and day walks – itinerary to be decided EOI please		Bob C 0417624091
12 Nov	Wed	BR – Leader required		
22-30 Nov	Sat - Sun	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

Future Events

TBA		Visit to Westpac Rescue Base		
March 13-15 2026		2026 Blue Mountains Music Festival – It's not too early to start planning for this event by putting accommodation reservations in place – follow details on the BMMF website - please advise me of your interest – daywalks and music in the mountains		Bob Clifton 0417624091
May 2026	Thur to Sat	EOI - Return to the Daintree for Rainforest Rescue Community Planting Day and touring the Wet Tropics and Cooktown	May 2026	Bob C 0417624091
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.