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Level: Silver Practice and Qualifying

Dates: 6-11 April 2025

Start location: Peats ferry boat ramp (just off M1 on north side of Hawkesbury River)

Finish Location: Parsley Bay Boat ramp-Brooklyn

Journey summary:

Day 1- 13km Paddle

Unload gear and pack kayaks before departing on water and head north upriver and travel through Milson Passage. Stop to check out post boxes on Bar Point before continuing north. Pass historic village of Marlow and sight town of Spencer before landing at camping area at Gentlemans Halt. Public toilet-Bar Point and campsite. POI- Paddling through Milson Passage/villages and housing only accessible by boat/ high sandstone cliffs/ Riverboat postman doing daily run with tourists/birdlife/historic campsite.

Campsite GR- 280950

Day 2- 15.5 km Paddle

Travel across river to Spencer to fill water and continue downstream past old wharf use in early 1800's. Paddle to entrance of Pumpkin Ck and explore. Continue south to Bar Island and check out former school/church site and also historic cemetery. Continue to campsite at twin Beaches and select campsite. *Public toilet at Spencer and campsite. POI- Historic settlements of Spencer and Marlow, paddling in mangroves of Pumpkin Ck, Bar Island historic cemetery.*

Campsite GR- 274883

Day 3- 15.0 km Paddle

Journey south all day on Berowra Creek pass ferry/township of Berowra Creek. If time permits, explore calabash creek before paddling upstream to reach campsite at Crosslands. Public toilet at campsites and Berowra boat ramp. *POI- many river settlements along route, car ferry, small creeks to explore south of Berowra Ferry.*

Campsite GR- 245774

Overnight camp/resupply/hot showers at Crosslands Youth and Convention Centre. On the morning of day 4, group will board minibus to transfer to Parsley Bay, Brooklyn to commence next section of journey.

Day 4- 14.8km Paddle

Load kayaks and cross Hawkesbury River to Dangar Island and do short circuit walk to explore. Continue on to Tank Creek and hike up to waterfall/rockpools Follow shore to mouth of Patonga Creek and negotiate bar. Paddle up creek to campsite, unload, paddle to head of creek and return to campsite. Public toilets at Dangar Island and Patonga boat ramp. POI- Historic Dangar Island, waterfall and rockpools on Tank Creek, entering over sandbar of Patonga Ck, paddling through oyster leases to reach campsite.

Campsite GR- 3394888

Day 5- 16.5 km Paddle

Load kayaks and journey down Patonga Creek. Cross Hawkesbury River and follow shoreline to Cottage Rock and fill water bladders. Turn west and paddle up Jerusalem Bay and into Pinta Cove to find campsite. *Public toilet at Patonga boat ramp. POI- Commercial fishing craft on river, birdlife, Cottage Rock beach and water-refill.*

Campsite GR- 332813

Day 6- 15 km Paddle

Exit Pinta Cove and paddle to western end of Jerusalem Bay before turning east. Paddle south into Refuge Bay to check out waterfall. Paddle north to Eleanor Bluff and then paddle to finish at Parsley Bay boat ramp. Load kayaks and complete trip documents before return to HVG. Toilets at Parsley Bay boat ramp. POI- Paddling under Jump Rock in Jerusalem Bay, standing under waterfall at Refuge Bay, History of Refuge Bay, sea cliffs and birdlife.