

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for September 2025

www.swtc.org.nz

Club night:

Tuesday 9 September 7.30 pm

Cookes' house, 57 Wood Street

Speaker: Juliet and Ed Cooke on their recent trip from Cairns to Adelaide

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Juliet & Ed Cooke
Supper box is kept in the store cupboard at Studio 73

For the next two meetings the roster is:

October: Ian & Rosie Montgomerie

November: Bruce & Mary Lambert

Trip List

2025

Date	Destination	Trip Coordinator	Phone	Fitness
6.9		Barry Kempton	027 430 5935	
13.9	Skyline Walkway with MTC	John Rhodes	304 9095	M
20.9	Rewa Bush Conservation Reserve	Juliet & Ed Cooke	304 9797	M
27.9	Masterton Trails	Lesley Callaghan	021 033 5538	M
5.10				

If you wish to go on a trip, please let the organiser know by the Thursday prior.

Trip Gradings

The letters are an indication of how tough it will be.

E **Easy.** Completely flat, no hills, 2 – 3 hours.

M **Moderate fitness.** Some hills, well formed tracks. 4-6 hours walk per day.

F **More fitness.** Steep hills, challenging tracks. May go off tracks. 6 – 8 hours walk per day.

Leaders: Please remember if you are unable to lead your trip it is your responsibility to find a replacement leader / trip.

Trip Reports

DUNTULM, MANGATARERE VALLEY 26 JULY

A combined SWTC / MTC trip

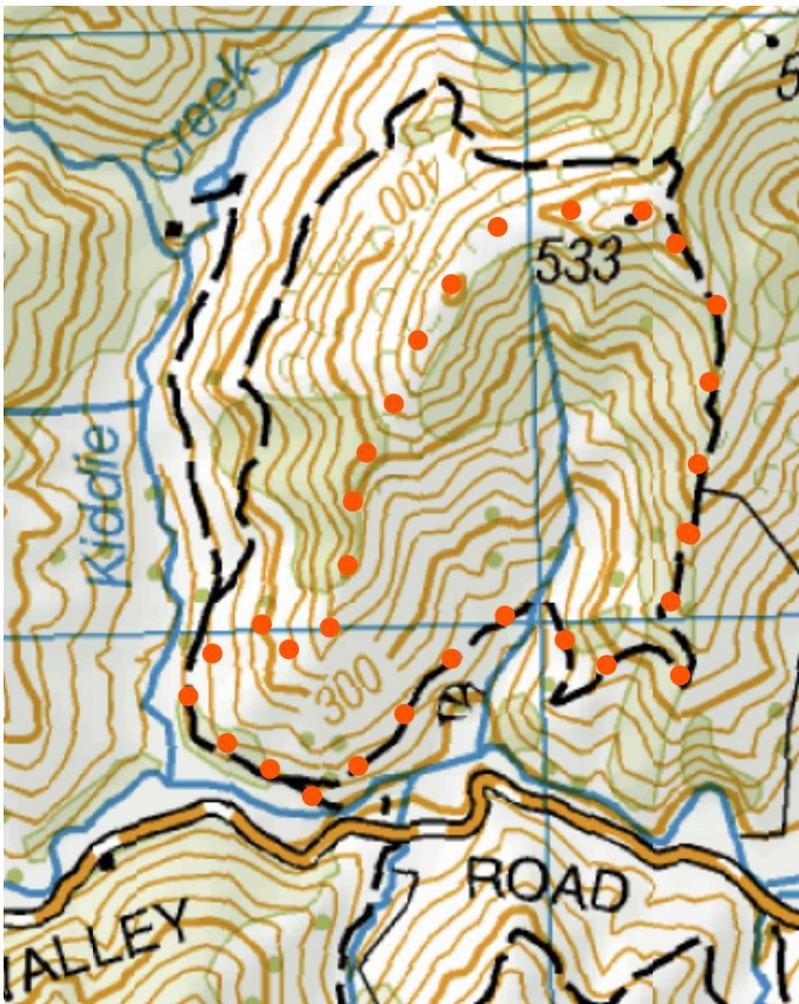
On an extremely frosty morning, five trampers set off up the 4WD track that at first sidles benignly, then makes an unremitting ascent to point 533. Here Alastair Nicholson met us with tea, coffee and Anzac biscuits brought up with his electric quad. Never was a morning tea so enjoyed!

We admired the view and did our best to identify peaks in the interior of the Tararuas that were showing above the nearer ridges. Later analysis showed that our 'Aokaparangi' was really McIntosh.

On a route that was new to most of us, Celia then led us down the ridge to the southwest, back to the valley. Alastair came part way down to service a trap, part of the Duntulm pest control project. All agreed that we'd had a stunningly good walk.

Photos are at <https://swtc.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025.07.27-Duntulm.pdf>

Barry Kempton, Ian Montgomerie, Josh Oakly, John Rhodes, Celia Wade-Brown (coordinator)



WINZENBERG HILL TRACK WORK 2 AUGUST

A combined MTC / SWTC trip

Four of us followed the usual route from behind the caretaker's house at Holdsworth to the water intake. Before we reached the ridge above, two unexpected participants swelled our ranks.

Continuing the climb through the bush, two stopped to remove a branch from a windfall. Upon reaching the scrub—regrowth from the great fire of 1908—we spread out so that each person had her or his own section of track to deal with.

The result was that morning tea and lunch were taken at different places, but everyone achieved the main purpose of the walk, i.e. tea-drinking. Two continued to the summit.

Our subsidiary purpose was also accomplished, so that the scrubby section of the track now allows unimpeded walking.

Nigel Boniface, Gail Edwards, Liz Frater, Conrad McCaffrey, Josh Oakly and John Rhodes

Nigel and Liz at work. *Conrad McCaffrey*



PYLON TRACK 16 AUGUST

On a sunny but frosty Saturday morning four SWTC members and two dogs met, discussed the planned route and conditions and set off for the Rimutaka Pylon Track. Despite a muddy start we were soon gaining height, and all enjoyed ambling up to the first pylon, before taking the chimney stack path to the tops. The weather was kind, and we were encouraged by two solo adventurers who were on their way down. The chimney stack was a great spot for some photographs - Barry's dog enjoyed posing perilously on a rock. After a little more scrambling we were on the top, where it was a little windy - but the views across to the main range covered in snow were amazing. Before long we were at the lunch spot just above the junction. The steep long track down is definitely a knee tester - though views are great and it was sunny and warm. We were down and on our way home by 1.45pm. Overall it was a great day out.

(All Trails rates this route as Hard - 9km distance and 668m elevation gain).









BIKE RIDE 23 AUG

Six bikers left 10 Danske Close at 9.30am to bike around to Belvedere Rd where John and Karen were waiting to join us.

It was a cold morning but sun was peeping through slowly so it was going to be a nice morning.

We biked on out to Carrington, past Fensham Reserve and through farmland, up over Carrington Hill, down to the intersection of Tea Creek Road and Haringa Road and turned right and back to the corner of Fensham and back to town.

We arrived at Wild Oats Cafe at about 11am, had a much needed coffee and a chat and then back to our place.

A good bike ride, good weather and good company. Those who biked were Barry Kempton, Ross Anderson, David Bowie and daughter Karen, and John and Karyn Wendon.

Co-ordinators for the morning Bruce and Mary Lambert.



