

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for November 2025

www.swtc.org.nz

Club night:

Tuesday 11 Nov 7.30 pm

Cookes' house, 57 Wood Street

Speaker: Charlene James. She will be speaking about her trip to the Canadian Arctic in search of the elusive Narwhal.

The trip and lodge are organized by the Weber family and is called Arctic Watch. It is the only facility on Somerset Island, along the Northwest Passage in Canada's High Arctic, 74degree North. Well above the treeline and midnight sun provided 24hour of daylight. A number of iconic Arctic mammals and beautiful vast landscapes during our hikes and helicopter journey were seen and will be shared.

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Bruce and Mary Lambert

Supper box is kept in the store cupboard at Studio 73

For the next meeting the roster is: Kay and David Bowie

Trip List

2025

Date	Destination	Trip Coordinator	Phone	Fitness
8.11	Bucks Road area. Ask Neil for more info	Neil Johnstone	021 073 6162	M
15.11	Pathway new Manawatu Gorge road Te Ahu a Turanga. Walk from Ashhurst side to top and back	Juliet & Ed Cooke	06 304 9497	M
22.11	Te Kopahau Reserve with Masterton TC. Wgtn south coast. More details to come	John Rhodes	06 304 9095	M
29.11	Colonial Knob from Camp Elsdon & back	Coordinator needed		M
6.12	To be confirmed	John Wilson	027 557 2873	

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
- M** **Moderate fitness.** Some hills, well formed tracks.
- F** **More fitness.** Steep hills, challenging tracks. May go off tracks.

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

Trip Reports

MURRAY'S TRACK MT HOLDSWORTH 12 OCTOBER

After a rapid rescheduling of this excursion from Saturday to Sunday, the weather on the day did its best to discourage some members who had planned to participate.

MTC, due to adverse weather on the west coast, had cancelled their outing on this day, so a joint trip was on the cards.

In the end, three trampers set off through wild wind-lashing showers to Donnelly's Flat and up the Atiwhakatu route. Winds were tracking at around 50kmh, and foliage debris littered the ground, including a recently downed Miro tree, along with several others that had been cleared from the path surround.

The exit to Murray's Track was detected about an hour into the venture; it occurs roughly 100 metres before the River Ridge track turnoff and is mainly indicated by a couple of triangular orange markers (and trampers with knowledge of its locale!)

As we traversed the ridge the weather turned its intensity up a notch or two. A welcome morning tea break (or jellybean break for Josh) was called on a slightly more sheltered part of the incline, to refuel us for the remaining distance. Reconnection with the main track took about an hour, and it was noted that the exit/entrance from Murray's was a real "blink and you'll miss it" affair, so it was decided to reinforce a stone indicator nearby to enhance this.

Return down the watery path to the main carpark took us to about 12.30, where lunch was partaken in the shelter of Holdsworth Lodge's entrance.

Trampers: Josh Oakly, John Rhodes, Stefan van Trigt









