

Cheque sent. 24-11-08.



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Dear neighbours:

Family Histories of Mauriceville and Hastwell Districts

and Invitation to join a new group - Friends of Mauriceville Inc

Greetings, my name is Kay Flavell. Since 2001 I have been living in the old concrete house of Normandell (now New Pacific Studio) in Kaiparoro and have recently published Living in Kaiparoro, telling the stories of some of the families of this area. Over the next three years, I am working on piecing together stories and photos of the schools, families and farms of the Mauriceville and Hastwell district, and invite you to contact me at 354-8441 or to drop in to NPS if you can help me with this work.

I have already talked about some of this material in ch. 4 of the above book, which mentions Danish and Norwegian connections with Kaiparoro (Isaksons of North Road, and Larsens of West Road.)

Because many of the descendants of early Mauriceville families are now living all over New Zealand, I have also proposed setting up a Friends of Mauriceville group. Its mission is 'to preserve the cultural heritage of the Mauriceville and Hastwell districts and to encourage cultural exchanges

among artists, writers and musicians in Scandinavia, Scotland and Aotearoa New Zealand.'

All of the work done at New Pacific Studio is done in consultation with the Wairarapa Archive (director Gareth Winter) and Aratoi (director Marcus Boroughs). Gareth and Marcus are both members of our New Pacific Studio board.

Last weekend I handed out sign-up sheets for Friends of Mauriceville at a reunion of the Swenson family organized by Colin Swenson, Annette Swenson and Margaret Larsen. I have also begun to circulate it in Masterton and new signatures include those of Ron and Pat Neighbours, Gray Nelson and John and Janice Osborne.

Friends of Mauriceville is designed to supplement existing organizations in the district. As a charitable organization with a cultural aim, it will apply for funds for various projects. These will include artist residencies at New Pacific Studio and a public art project called Whispering Roads, to be developed in conjunction with Aratoi Museum of Art and History and Wairarapa artists and writers over the next few years.

I hope you will give your support to this work and help keep alive the memories of this fascinating district. Annual membership will be \$10 per family. The first \$100 will go to pay the incorporation fee.

Best wishes

Kay
Kay Flavell Email: newpacificstudio@xtra.co.nz

Friends of Mauriceville Incorporated

Our mission is to preserve the cultural heritage of the Mauriceville and Hastwell districts and to encourage cultural exchanges among artists, writers and musicians in Scandinavia, Scotland and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Please add my name to the Friends of Mauriceville Inc. (Annual membership \$10).

Name, address, email if available: