



Newsletter May 2013

Chairman's Annual Report for the Fifth Annual General Meeting of Friends of Mauriceville, held on the 9 June 2103 at Kopuaranga Hall.

Wow, another year has gone and it gives me great pleasure to present this end of year report.

Progress has been going on throughout the year and I wish to comment on the following.

After a few ups and downs the Mangaoranga cemetery signage was completed, however another coat of paint may be required. There has been some good feed back from those visiting and looking for family grave sites.

The web site, Scandinavian Trail has been upgraded with a new logo and layout. We have been having some problems with receiving emails from the website, but this has now been sorted.

This year, a brochure was produced with our new logo and this has been well received by all. Our thanks to Phillipa Devenport-Johns, for designing this brochure.

Thanks to Tom Dunn and Bill Taylor who undertook to upgrade our Constitution.

An application was submitted to The Lotteries Grants Board for funding for a Conservation Report for the Mauriceville North Norwegian Church. We are delighted to have been successful. This will allow for work to proceed on this report.

I have had a meeting with Mr David Hancock from Destination Wairarapa who was interested in FOM, and was keen that we keep them informed, as there may be ways in which they can assist. This may be in the way of signage on state highways etc to help boost tourism.

Both Denise and I were able to attend the Scandinavian Festival in February and to be a part of an important event for the descendants of the early settlers of the 70 mile bush and to witness the time and effort that was involved by those concerned.

A static display was held at the Mauriceville/Kopuaranga Fair with a chance to interest the local people and to sell some Whispering Roads books. Thanks to all who helped.

It was great to be able to have a meeting in the Mauriceville West School to enjoy the surroundings and to be provided with a progress report on what the committee's aims for the future are. This is a challenge for all concerned which I am sure will be well worth the effort.

Of recent times there has been a lot of concern from people about the proposal of flooding the valley for water storage, if this proceeds a lot of the important history would be gone forever and it is important that we ensure that this does not happen, so keep up the pressure and don't be afraid to write to the papers and to those concerned.

Finally we have said farewell to Kay, our founder and an inspirational lady who was responsible for starting FOM and making us more aware of our history. A farewell was held at Pukaha Mt Bruce on Anzac Day in conjunction with members of many of the organisations she has been involved with. A Certificate of Appreciation Scroll was presented to her. Thank you and good wishes for your new life in the USA. I am sure you will enjoy your family and we are only an email away.

Kay's new book – Rainbows Over Mauriceville – is at the design layout stage. So far we have funding for this stage to be done. However, more fund raising will be required to enable us to get it printed. The Committee discussed at our last meeting the possibility of calling for Debentures if we are unable to raise the money required through Grants. We have been privileged to see the outline of the book – it will be a must for all of us. Although Kay will leave NZ before we get to the print stage, she has given us an undertaking to she will take full responsibility for quality control.

Thank you to all members for your time and effort during the year.

Harold Devenport. Chairman

Julianne Buick reports from the Mauriceville West Reserve School Committee:

The Mauriceville West Reserve School Committee is steadily making progress. We are close to our funds target, to re-pile the building. It will be great to have that huge job complete so we can then move forward and work on some of the smaller projects that also need attention.

Shortly Derek Ramsay with his digger will arrive and lay some drains in the Reserve paddock. While he is there we will also get him to make an access drive from the tennis court up to the front of the school.

When that is completed we can erect the FOM sign towards the Historic Cemetery.

Plans are also in place to re-batten the road frontage fence. Tumu Masterton Ltd have kindly donated the battens and wire.

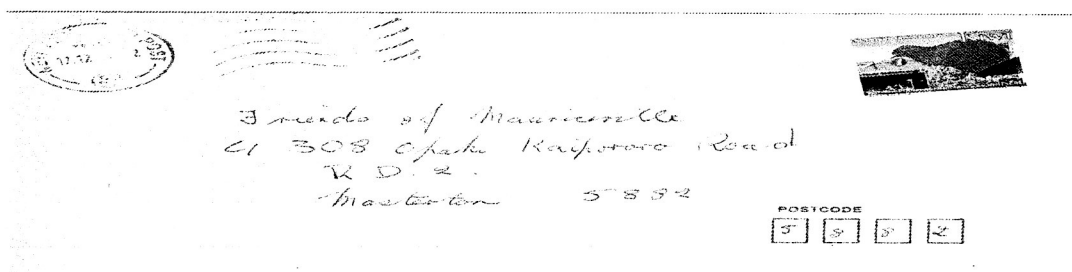
Report from Treasurer:

Thanks to everyone who paid their subscriptions during the 2012/13 Financial Year.

Some very generously paid twice. When our new brochure was sent out with the newsletter in December of last year, a number of people who had already paid their 2012 subs, paid again on the tear-off part of the brochure. So if you received a thank-you and receipt, from December 2012 until now, please do not pay again until 2014. Thanks must also go to a number of people who chose to pay Life Memberships.

I did receive a \$10 sub from someone, but there were no details enclosed. A scan of the envelope shows below – if anyone recognizes the writing please ask the person to get in touch with me – Treasurer, Friends of Mauriceville, C/o 308 Opaki-Kaiparoro Road, R.D. 2, Masterton 5882.

If you choose to pay your sub into the bank account, could you please include your address along with your name in the reference section. An email to info@scandinaviantrail.org.nz giving your details and date of payment is another alternative. This information helps us keep our members details up to date for sending out newsletters. Bank account details are 06-0689-0278183-00.

**From Norma Dunn – Mauriceville Fair 2013**

The 16th Annual Mauriceville/Kopuaranga Fair will be held at the Clarke Domain in Mauriceville on Sunday 1st December 2013.

The Fair will again feature quality craft and food stalls from around the region, all day live entertainment including amusement and entertainment for children.

Free entry and free car parking.

Stall sites available. The Feilding steam train will be running an excursion to the Fair from Palmerston North and will also pick up Fair going passengers from Masterton railway station. For more Information regarding the Fair phone Norma Dunn on (06)372 5900 or for information regarding the steam train excursion phone Russell Wiseman on (06)323 5493.

From Dr. Kay Flavell

Monday 20th May 2013

Dear friends

Kia ora and greetings from a hot afternoon at my desk in sunny Vallejo, California.

I want to thank you all for the wonderful and unexpected combined Farewell Afternoon Tea on Anzac Day 2013 arranged by the Friends of Mauriceville and Mt. Bruce organizations. Thank you too for a very moving and thoughtful parting gift, a scroll I shall always treasure, acknowledging my small contributions to the history of settlement 'in the upper Wairarapa Valley'. It was a deeply moving day for me, and I continue to feel blessed in having had the chance to get to know you all. I shall certainly be back, and in the meantime I hope to keep up a steady correspondence via email with many of you.

This week I also look forward to making progress on the layout of *Rainbows over Mauriceville*, working with an editor at Steele Roberts in Wellington.

And I wish you all strength in the continuing fight to preserve the historical buildings and memorials of South Road, along with the road itself. We will not become silent. Too much is at stake. I am right beside you.

Affectionately,

Kay Flavell

From Stuart and Nerroly Hoar - Methodist North Church

At its meeting 17.04.13 Lottery World War Commemorations, Environment and Heritage Committee approved a grant towards preparation of Conservation Plan. The amount allocated is \$5750 and the plan will be prepared by Architecture Diagnostics. We have a 12 month grant time frame and there will be a hard copy and a PDF version. The later will be deposited with NZHPT.

Nerroly and Stuart met with David Kernohan (NZHPT approved Conservation Architect) on site 17.05.13 and he has commenced his photographic records. We have suggested a copy of the plan also gets put in the local archives. David thought this a good idea and plans on doing likewise for Mauriceville West School and Kopuaranga School for future reference.

The painting working bees will commence again early in spring. Rodent bait has been fixed in place (primarily upstairs) and the back of the organ reattached as vermin damage was evident inside. Grass was mown at the entrance.

We welcome a young and enthusiastic trustee to the Mauriceville North Trust; Brendon Larsen (a great grandson of Lars Larsen who was himself a trustee in the 1920s and son of Graham Larsen also a former trustee).

On 13 October we were advised that the Methodist Church are employing an engineer to do an IEP. No costs will be incurred. The date is yet to be confirmed.

Rev. Tony Bell, Superintendent Methodist Synod Lower North Island and Jenny Olsson secretary visited 14.01.13 the church and village on a familiarisation tour. Their feedback was very positive about our preservation efforts.

Scandinavian Festival 22nd-24th February 2013.

It was another good Festival. Personally, as convener, I was delighted that we had a lot of "Youth" involved throughout the Festival.

On Friday we were welcomed with a Powhiri at the Norsewood School, this was followed by Speeches and entertainment by the Pupils. The pupils showed us around the classrooms, which had been decorated for the occasion, some also featuring National Cooking of the country they were representing. In the

Julianne Buick reports from the Mauriceville West Reserve School Committee:

The Mauriceville West Reserve School Committee is steadily making progress. We are close to our funds target, to re-pile the building. It will be great to have that huge job complete so we can then move forward and work on some of the smaller projects that also need attention.

Shortly Derek Ramsay with his digger will arrive and lay some drains in the Reserve paddock. While he is there we will also get him to make an access drive from the tennis court up to the front of the school.

When that is completed we can erect the FOM sign towards the Historic Cemetery.

Plans are also in place to re-batten the road frontage fence. Tumu Masterton Ltd have kindly donated the battens and wire.

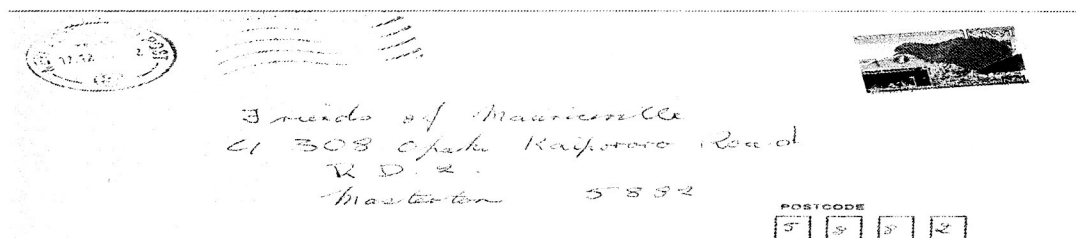
Report from Treasurer:

Thanks to everyone who paid their subscriptions during the 2012/13 Financial Year.

Some very generously paid twice. When our new brochure was sent out with the newsletter in December of last year, a number of people who had already paid their 2012 subs, paid again on the tear-off part of the brochure. So if you received a thank-you and receipt, from December 2012 until now, please do not pay again until 2014. Thanks must also go to a number of people who chose to pay Life Memberships.

I did receive a \$10 sub from someone, but there were no details enclosed. A scan of the envelope shows below – if anyone recognizes the writing please ask the person to get in touch with me – Treasurer, Friends of Mauriceville, C/o 308 Opaki-Kaiparoro Road, R.D. 2, Masterton 5882.

If you choose to pay your sub into the bank account, could you please include your address along with your name in the reference section. An email to info@scandinaviantrail.org.nz giving your details and date of payment is another alternative. This information helps us keep our members details up to date for sending out newsletters. Bank account details are 06-0689-0278183-00.

**From Norma Dunn – Mauriceville Fair 2013**

The 16th Annual Mauriceville/Kopuaranga Fair will be held at the Clarke Domain in Mauriceville on Sunday 1st December 2013.

The Fair will again feature quality craft and food stalls from around the region, all day live entertainment including amusement and entertainment for children.

Free entry and free car parking.