



## FRIENDS OF MAURICEVILLE NEWSLETTER JULY 2015

The Sixth Annual General Meeting of The Friends of Mauriceville Inc. was held on 14 June 2015 at the Kopuaranga Hall. Thank you to all who sent apologies. Many of our members are spread far and wide throughout the country and attendance is not an option for them, but their continuing support is invaluable to the small group working at the local level, to fulfil the aims of our organisation.

Officers were elected:

**Chairman** Harold Devenport

**Correspondent Secretary** Jean Thompson-Church

**Minutes Secretary (in the interim)** Stuart Hoar

**Treasurer** Denise Devenport

**Newsletter Correspondent** Nerroly Hoar

**Rainbows Over Mauriceville** by Kay Flavell has continued to sell very well over the last year and there are now only 56 copies left. These are available through the web site or at the Wairarapa Archives Queen Street Masterton at a cost of \$45.

**Future signage** options for the heritage sites continue to be researched by Harold as he photographs examples from other areas and considers factors such as long term durability. It is intended that a sign be erected at each heritage site.

**The Charities Commission** has new reporting standards for registered charities such as ours. A representative has attended a recent seminar on the requirements which applied from 1 April 2015.

**Kopuaranga Camp Memorial** has been repaired by the Wairarapa Scandinavian Club.

**Mauriceville West School Reserve** Great progress is being made with this project. Toilet pans have been replaced in both toilets and a stainless steel wash basin fitted in the girls. The south wall in the girls has been renewed and roof and flashings replaced to make it weather tight. A local farmer has donated a water tank, so water now flows to the toilet building and thanks to a further grant from the Mauriceville/Kopuaranga Fair committee some broken windows have been reglazed. The school building is now completely water tight with new spouting; the roof is about to be tech screwed and the walls water blasted for painting. A new kitchen bench has also been installed. A former pupil recently used the building for a special celebration which may be the first of many community functions in the future, for locals and those with connections to the area.

**Mauriceville West Cemetery Report** The cemetery committee have been given a proof copy of a sign to be erected at the site, with the names of people buried there. The list has been produced by Julianne Buick and Barbara Barr who have spent many hours researching information from the Wairarapa Archives and the Mauriceville West Luthern Church. The sign will be printed on aluminium composite material for longevity.

**Mauriceville North Church** The painting of the main body of the church has now been completed but the roof remains to be done. These tasks are very challenging because of the height of the tower, pitch of the roof and the steep access to the site. The next project is to get quotes for the replacement of two original windows that are rotting. As our conservation plan acknowledges, our priority is to keep heritage buildings watertight. We also need to repair the front left gate as the bolts through the bottom hinge strap have rusted through and the gates need re-levelling, as a post has moved. The adjoining farm has been sold and discussions have been had with the new owner regarding the use of the church land.

**Interviewing Past and Current Residents of the Area** FOM member Ian Trass (Masterton) is prepared to conduct oral history interviews for anyone who would like to record their voice and stories for prosperity.

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

### **\$10 per anum or \$100 Life Membership**

For many, these are now due. Your ongoing financial support helps to make our vision of the Scandinavian heritage area a reality. Below is a list of **current financial members**. (If your name is missing it means that your sub. is now due.)

B Lawrence; B Larsen; E Fletcher; P McCardle; S&N Hoar; C Banks; C Littlejohn; J Farley; J&W Buick; J&O Paton; G Nelson; C Bailey; G&J Nicholson; M Kennedy; L Atkinson; D Devane; J Bray; AW Lehmstedt; M Lehmstedt; B Hughes; K Hughes; H&D Devenport

**Payments can be made directly to our bank account**

**ANZ 06-06890278183-00 \* please put your name and sub in the reference.**

**or post to Friends of Mauriceville Inc. c/- 308 Opaki- Kaiparoro Road, RD2, Masterton 5882**

## **Email Addresses**

If you receive this newsletter by mail but do have an email address would you please advise us?

[www.scandinaviantrail.org.nz](http://www.scandinaviantrail.org.nz)

Email: [info@scandinaviantrail.org.nz](mailto:info@scandinaviantrail.org.nz)