

FRIENDS BACK TO SCHOOL AFTER 82 YEARS AWAY.

Ian Trass is an active member of the Friends of Mauriceville (FOM) Committee and he volunteered to interview older members associated with the Mauriceville district and with the Mauriceville West School. The results of the interviews will be placed on the FOM website scandinaviantrail.org.nz Ian interviewed three men and then discovered they were all in a photo published in the 90th Jubilee celebrations booklet. The photo was taken of pupils at the Mauriceville Wests School in 1940. Ian had an inspirational idea. He arranged to pick up the three men in his car and drove out to the Mauriceville west School which is being restored for the community. He took a photograph of the three men holding a copy of the original photo. For Ian to be able to take a photo with three of the 16 students 82 years later was a miracle in itself. Ivor Williams now 96, Murray Nielsen aged 94 and Merve Lehmstedt aged 89 returned to check out the old 1940 classrooms. In the future Ian may contact you to record your story or go onto the website and make contact with the Friends of Mauriceville today.

The journey out in the car was also a revelation to Ian as they each shared their experiences and stories with him which was like an episode of the television series “Last of the Summer wine!” Ian’s grandparents also farmed in the region so he was able to relate to the stories being shared

At the Mauriceville Fair this weekend The Friends of Mauriceville will have a stall with a display and selling the booklet “Whispering Roads” as well as sharing future possibilities and activities of the group within the district. Look out for the Scandinavian flags.



3

