

## MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR DECEMBER 06

The museum is not open on any formal basis during the winter however a number of us meet there every Wednesday to work on a variety of ongoing projects. We welcome anyone who feels like dropping in particularly if you bring some island artifact or photograph or story that you think may be of interest or value as part of our history.

Recently we received another donation from Barbara Kempe as she continues to sort through stuff from the home she shared with Joe. Included was a King James version of the Bible published in 1830 which makes it the oldest book in our collection. Inscribed in the back are the names? John and Mary Ann Arthurs who were married in 1851 and Grace Arthurs who was born in 1852. We believe this family has an island connection and would appreciate any information. Our photograph this month shows how mail was delivered to the citizens of Gillies Bay in February 1960. This is “mail call” at the corner of Sanderson Road and Balsam. The tall man in the centre is Dr McCallum who was the medical doctor at the time. The man at the right is Dr Sanderson, then a retired school principal, after whom Sanderson Road is named and in whose house we have the pleasure of living. The others in the photo are not identified. Any ideas? Probably the most important industry on the island is the limestone industry which began in a small way in the late 1880's. The year 2007 will see the one hundredth anniversary of limestone quarrying in Blubber Bay. Suitable celebrations are now being planned which will include the museum and will likely take place over the July first weekend so keep that date open.

It seems weird to be wishing you all a Merry Xmas in November but deadlines must be met so Merry Christmas every one and till next time please take care of each other.

Norm MacLean

