

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR NOVEMBER 06

In October we mused about the Foden steam truck that was brought to Texada in 1913 and wondered what may have happened to it. Don Pillat called to tell me that he remembers his father saying that he saw the Foden working in and around Gillies Bay. Dons father Joe worked at that time for the Alberta Lumber Company having gone to work for them before his fourteenth birthday in 1914. According to Joe what the Foden did best was to get stuck. Don states that he thinks that the engine from the Foden may have been used to replace the engine in a steam donkey, which had been damaged in a fire. This of course leads to speculation that the truck and engine may have been abandoned and parts of it may lie buried in the local area. We will keep an eye peeled! The display celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Credit Union on Texada was well received and when you read this it will have been moved to the Seniors Center. Our aim is to establish two or three display sites through which we can rotate different displays particularly over the winter when it is not possible to have the museum open on a regular basis

The Texada Heritage Society held a meeting on Friday the thirteenth of October but so far there have been no serious consequences. Plans for the society and for the museum were discussed. Holding our meetings at 1030 am just prior to the Friday lunch seems to be a good idea and we plan to continue at this time. Meetings are normally held every second month. We want to welcome Pat Parsley, Sandra Bartram and Tom Carney who sat in on the meeting and hope that they will become active members.

We are very pleased to announce that Doug Paton has agreed to become Deputy/Assistant/Associate curator at the museum with a view to replacing yours truly in due course of time. Doug has done yeoman service already in creating our photo database and, in conjunction with his daughter Laurie, our web site. Speaking of web site I urge you to pay it a visit at texadaheritagesociety.com.

Having survived Halloween again it is now time to start contemplating Christmas so until next time please take care of each other.

Norm MacLean