

MUSEUM MUSINGS FOR OCTOBER 08

We had a very successful summer with our museum enterprises. The opening of our new museum in Van Anda was well received. The Blubber Bay museum was open each weekend all summer and we had many visitors. We would like to thank Dylan Gable for his very good work there and also Morgan Robertson who filled in as required. We also want to thank Cecilia Campbell for “manning” the Van Anda museum and for being on call for unscheduled visits. Neither museum will be open on a scheduled basis over the winter but drop over any Wednesday morning to the Van Anda museum and you will find some of us there.

Our major activity this fall will be the offering of a program to some 15 students from the Van Anda school. Called “Our Island-Our History” our purpose is to educate the students in the history of our island using the museum resources and incorporating field trips to look at various artefacts and sites. The program will run one period a week until early December. Thanks to Clarence Wood for putting this program together

We regret to announce the passing of Stan Beale Senior who was a member of a family prominent in the mining industry on this island. Stan’s father Fred developed the Beale Quarries in the early 1930’s which ultimately became Lafarge Cement. Stan served in the Canadian Army in WW2 and later developed a quarry at Marble Bay which was sold to Ideal Cement in 1956. Stan continued to work at Ideal until his retirement in 1983. He was instrumental in the move of the company to the west side of the island and the acquisition of the Texada Iron Mine property in 1977. Stan Junior is still involved in mining activities on the island. Our picture this week is of a 1924 Ford truck used in the Beale quarries up until 1936.

Until next time take care of each other and remember to think and act green.

Norm MacLean

