

WELCOME TO YOUR MUSEUM

On July 5 our Texada Museum will celebrate the dedication of a dramatic new addition - the Clarence Wood Room. Here visitors may peer in store windows as they stroll old Van Anda's boardwalk (cleverly crafted by Lorrie Pirart).

Visit the blacksmith shop and assay office. Find out how a "Wee McGregor" drag saw operates. View Don Pillat's impressive collection of chainsaws. Discover how miners' lamps have evolved through the years. Imagine a trip down Little Billy mine with authentic ore cart and mine chute display.

But mostly, our museum shines a light on the people and events of Texada's history. Through intricate woven cedar basketry and stone anchors our First Nations legacy is revealed. Both rough clay pots and delicate bottles speak of Texada's Chinese pioneers.

Over 100 years ago Steamboat Bob (Walter Pinnock) provided local boat service with his driftwood-powered 8hp steamboat *Wood Nymph*. On display is the boat's steam whistle, later used by Ideal quarry to warn of blasting.

Bill Young lived on Texada for over 94 years. His hand-crafted herring rake conjures up images of a solitary fisherman paddling a dugout canoe.

In 1955 Jack Leslie, a British navy veteran, retired to a one-room cabin in Blubber Bay. Using local materials he began crafting detailed model sailing ships which won awards at the PNE. These are on view. One marvels at the intricate detail and the patience needed to complete each model.

The fine desk from Dr. MacCallum's office will rekindle memories for many museum visitors as will Kempe's Vananda Store glass display case. As we peer in many will recall pressing small noses against the same glass in years past to discover the magic of penny candy.

Cookstoves, butter churns, treadle sewing machines and laundry washboards remind us that homemaking 100 years ago was, indeed, a chore (although Nan Johnson's red dancing dress speaks of lighter times). The Texada sports trophy collection reminds us of an active community.

Your Texada Museum proudly collects, protects and displays treasures of our past and honours our pioneers, helping us to understand who we are today.

We invite you to visit this summer.

Peter Lock

Texada Island Heritage Society