



# MAPLE RIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter November/December 2011

### COMING UP THIS SEASON

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Starting in November, the Haney House Museum will be decorated for the holidays, and will showcase a "WINTER TOUR", which includes artifacts from the Maple Ridge Museum collection. From clothing to sleds and skates, to that extra quilt placed on the bed for warmth, the tour aims to paint a picture of what it would have been like having to cope with the different elements with far less resources than we're used to today. Alongside the artifacts, there will be extra photographs from the archives and interpretive panels placed throughout the house for reference.

On Thursday, December 15th from 1 to 4 pm Haney House will be having a HOLIDAY SOCIAL open house to show off the new tour, and in lieu of an evening Christmas gathering at the heritage church. There will be homemade goodies, hot beverages and a chance to go through the house and sing a few carols. If you plan to attend please contact Allison ahead of time, so enough refreshments will be on hand.

If you can't make the afternoon event on December 15th or you just want to make a day of it, in the evening, a group of Historical Society members will be attending the ACT to see "A CHRISTMAS CAROL". If you would like to join us, contact Val at the museum at 604-463-5311 about tickets. If we get a large enough group, the price is only \$15 per ticket and it looks like a grand production!

In December the Maple Ridge Museum will have two displays at the MAPLE RIDGE LIBRARY, one showcasing various kinds of Christmas wrapping paper, and popular toys, and the other showing the different kinds of food that go into various holiday meals, and utensils used to prepare everything. Remember those jell-o molds? They'll be there too!



### NOVEMBER MEETING CANCELLED

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There will be no member's meeting on Thursday, November 24 because the presenter, Kelvin Chiddick, will be away that weekend. He will be presenting his program on his Serengeti safari experience at St. Andrew's United Church as a fund-raiser in January.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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It's that time of year again when we ask you to renew your membership in the Maple Ridge Historical Society. We really need your support. It gives us a louder voice as we continue to pursue our goal of a new museum for our community. Please tell all your friends!



Mr. Simister's store and Leggatt's Pool Room & Barbershop on Ontario Street (224th Street), down from Haney House.

### SIMISTER'S BAKERY

Pitt Meadows resident **Michael Hayes** has loaned us a wonderful album from the Davenport family. Harold Davenport was municipal clerk for many years.

Included in the album are some wonderful shots of Port Haney taken in 1926. They are a welcome surprise for the Dewdney Alouette Railway Society members who have been working hard on the Port Haney diorama on the lower floor of the museum. The diorama shows the pool hall and now they have a picture of Simister's bakery to add to the display.



Mr. Simister standing next to his delivery van with a basket full of bread.



Courtesy of Bill Saunders's estate, we have some new photographs of the Cenotaph as it looked when first moved to Memorial Peace Park in 1953.

## REMEMBRANCE

This past month the district held a ceremony to acknowledge the service of all our veterans by renaming a section of 224th Street to "Veteran's Way". The renamed section is from the location of the Legion Branch 88 at Brown Avenue to the entrance to the ring road at Memorial Peace Park. It's not a long distance but the veterans assembled on a crisp and sunny October afternoon seemed very pleased by being so honoured.

Many years ago, from 1927 to 1953, the Cenotaph was located at the entrance to the Maple Ridge Cemetery and there the veterans assembled at the first Remembrance ceremony in 1927. This was also the first gathering arranged by the newly formed Branch 88 Legion and its women's auxiliary.

The Legion first met in members' homes until 1946 when their ranks swelled with the returning soldiers from the Second World War. The Legion's first building was an old hardware store

on lower 224th Street, recently demolished after yet another life as a gym.

In 1951, at the urging of Ted Boyer, a parade from the Legion to the Cenotaph was added to the Remembrance Day observation. It must have become apparent very quickly that the long walk would be a hardship for senior and wounded veterans and so the campaign began to move the Cenotaph to the centre of town.

In 1953, with the cooperation of the Women's Institute who had been the creators of the monument in the first place, and in conjunction with celebrations of Queen Elizabeth's coronation, the Cenotaph was moved to near its current location in Memorial Peace Park.

The annual parade from the Legion to the Cenotaph has been a fixture of Remembrance Day ever since. This year, for the first time, the route of that parade will be officially called, "Veteran's Way".



## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Due to the fact that the last Sunday of the month falls on Christmas Day, the Dewdney Alouette Railway Society will hold their monthly open house on Sunday, December 18th from 1 to 4 pm.

That is also the last day the museum will be open until after the holidays. We will reopen on Wednesday, January 4.



Detail of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama: "Port Haney street scene."



## VACUUM FOR ST. ANDREWS

The vacuum cleaner at the heritage church hall has gone the way of all things and we're looking for a replacement. The area to be vacuumed is small—piano riser and front hall mats—so a smaller, used vacuum would be fine. If anyone has an older vacuum they'd like to be rid of, call Tom at 604-463-1377.

## PHONE NUMBER CHANGE

Please note that **Tom Little**, our buildings manager, will start using the Haney House phone for booking of St. Andrews Heritage Church Hall and other building related issues. The phone number is 604-463-1377.



## HALLOWE'EN RECAP!

Despite the rain, our Spooktacular Halloween event at Haney House was very well attended. We had over 45 people visit the house on Sunday, October 30th, partaking in crafts and guided tours from our costumed guides. It will be an event we'll definitely be doing again next year, given the low cost it takes to put on. Most visitors carried on to the Maple Ridge Museum where the DARS group was having their monthly open house so we entertained nearly 40 people there as well.

## REFRESHMENT PERSON NEEDED

We are looking for a volunteer to take over the shopping for and serving of refreshments for the Historical Society's member meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month. This task would start in January of 2012. Petty cash is provided to cover the expenses. If you're interested in taking on this duty, please contact Val or Allison at 604-463-5311.

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



### Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: [ras1@uniserve.com](mailto:ras1@uniserve.com)

