

SAANICH ARCHIVES

News & Events

February 22, 2016

What's Happening at Saanich Archives



This Week in History: Happy Birthday, Saanich!



New Donation: Gorge Postcard Tray



Feature Collection: Nellie McClung



Photo: Flowers for Seed at Robinson Bros. Seed Farm

This Week in History: Happy Birthday, Saanich!



Saanich is celebrating 110 years as a municipality in 2016. On March 1, 1906, the District of Saanich was incorporated and **Thomas A. Brydon** elected as first Reeve. On the same day, the **Saanich Police Department** was established and was staffed with one constable. From 1906 to 1911, municipal officials met at the first Municipal Hall, located at **Glanford and Vanalman**. A replica sits on the grounds outside the Saanich Police and Fire Building on Vernon Avenue. [Browse photos of municipal officials](#)

New Donation: Gorge Postcard Tray



Recently, we received this small WWI-era tray featuring a Gorge postcard under glass. The stamp on the bottom reads: "Made by disabled soldiers, At The Red Cross Work Shop, Victoria, B.C., Canada". Interested in finding out more about local Saanich soldiers? We are still **looking for volunteer researchers** to help with our **Saanich Remembers World War One Project**. The information you find will become part of a permanent resource at Saanich Archives. [Get involved](#)

Feature Collection: Nellie McClung



This year marks the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, beginning in Manitoba. Well known for her advocacy of the movement, **Nellie McClung** was much more than an author. She was also an activist, politician, public speaker, member of the CBC Board of Governors, and Canadian delegate to the League of Nations. She lived in several locations in Canada, but spent the latter part of her life in **her Gordon Head home, "Lantern Lane"**. The Nellie McClung Collection at Saanich Archives includes books, photographs, personal correspondence, and ephemera collected by family friends. [Read related article from Canada's History](#)

Photo: Flowers for Seed at Robinson Bros. Seed Farm, ca. 1945



In the spirit of the annual local flower count, here is a photo of flowers for seed at **Robinson Brothers seed farm, ca. 1945**. The greenhouses at the rear of the picture were used to start the plants in the spring and as a drying area for the seeds in the fall. There were several seed growers on Vancouver Island during the 1940's and 50's. In Saanich, bulb farm locations included Gordon Head and what is now Central Saanich. Visit our Reference Room to learn more. [Take a closer look](#)



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