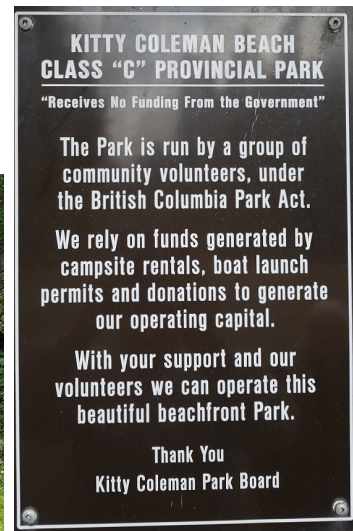


Sep 23 - Kitty Coleman Provincial Park, Comox BC

We left Elk Falls this morning heading south. We were looking for a park listed on our provincial campground map - Kin Beach. After driving around trying different routes, we decided to give it up and head to Kitty Coleman Provincial Park, a Class C provincial park. We'd passed this park as we drove south.

The layout of the sites is a bit different. The fire rings and benches are on the water side of the road and the actual campsites are on the other. At least for Jen, this keeps the smoke from the campfires a distance away.



We enjoyed a cuppa and admired the view.



While we enjoyed our tea, I couldn't resist taking this picture.

Just as we were finishing dinner a couple strolled by. We chatted at length. Howard and Jean are originally from Yorkshire, UK. It's been 40 years since they emigrated but you wouldn't know that talking to Howard; he sounds like he just got off the boat! What a nice couple. They live in Union Bay (just down the road) and each year they travel south with their class C motorhome to Desert Hot Springs, CA for five months. They suggested we should check it out. We might just do that.



The next morning we were bound and determined to find Kin Beach. None of our maps or literature had any markings relating to Kin Beach. Howard and Jean said it was on the north side of the airport. So off we headed. Turning onto a road at the north end of the Comox airport (and going past a pub - a good sign), we arrived at the proverbial fork in the road and just at the last minute, there it was! A sign to Kin Beach.

We parked Alfie and strolled out the waterfront walk in the sunshine. Just as we were approaching a wooded heart, we noticed Bob about to take a picture of his wife of 50 years, Sheila, standing in the heart. I immediately asked if they wanted a picture of the two of them. Of course! So we traded taking pictures.

We chatted - at least 30 minutes or more, Jen standing all the while. While I didn't want to, I suggested it was time to get (Jen) moving. I knew this was going to bite her later.

Bob and Sheila are locals. They have a 22' travel trailer, but Bob really doesn't like dragging it around. They've been looking at mini-buses. Bob is definitely interested in the concept of kitting out a mini-bus and making it a mini motor home. Of course I had to ask an obvious question: "So are you going to tow a car?" Bob's answer was something along the lines of: "Well, there you go. What do you do?"



There are tradeoffs no matter what you decide. I must admit I sometimes think a Sprinter-type van towing a Smart car might be a way for us to go down the road. But then Jen asks where her wheelchair will go and my planning starts all over again.

Bob indicated he'd be quite happy just trailing his trailer around Vancouver Island, but no further. I wish them well. It was a real treat to meet them. I hope our paths cross again.

We ran into Courtenay, did a bit of shopping, then headed back to camp. When we pulled in, I noticed a pamphlet lying on one of our chairs. Howard and Jean had dropped off a brochure about the RV park in Desert Hot Springs. Thank you so much!

Tomorrow we head home via the old Island Highway. See you then.