



Wayne Pitman, N.S. Provincial Rep for UN/NATO Veterans Group presents Noah with a Supporter Crest from the UN/NATO group.

**BASS RIVER:** All eyes were on Noah Tremblay as he stood among some of his canine heroes, realizing a dream come true. Police service and rescue dogs stood with their handlers beside the Forgotten Heroes Monument Noah designed and brought to reality, quite an accomplishment for a twelve year old.

For the past year, Noah has been raising money to build the unique Forgotten Heroes Monument, in memory of all animals and handlers who served in the Canadian military and police forces. He was able to raise over \$13,000 and on July 1st,

before a crowd of more than 200 people, Noah's efforts were applauded as the remarkable monument was unveiled.

Noah arrived at the Forgotten Heroes Ceremony on the back of a motorcycle driven by Wayne Pitman, N.S. Provincial Rep for UN/NATO Veterans Group. Later in the service Mr. Pitman presented him with a framed "Supporter Crest" from the UN/NATO group.

MP Scott Armstrong gave Noah accolades as one of several guest speakers at the Forgotten Heroes Ceremony saying, "Minister of Veterans Affairs Steven Blaney told me



Petty Officer Pierre Tremblay, Noah's father, salutes during the singing of "O Canada".



Flags were lowered to half mast in honour of all those who have lost their lives serving our country.

# Forgotten Heroes Monument Unveiled

## A MONUMENTAL DAY FOR 12 YEAR OLD NOAH TREMBLAY.

this was absolutely his favourite project in the whole world that he was able to fund or visit," and he went on to say "I believe Noah is the youngest person to ever apply for, work with and achieve an application which was approved by the federal government. This is a great testament to the work he did at 11 and 12 years old."

Tribute and congratulations to Noah were echoed by MLA Karen Casey, Mayor Bob Taylor and Councillor Tom Taggart. Noah approached all levels of government for funding and his request was never turned down. Tom Taggart was amazed at Noah's presentation to County Council and said he couldn't ever remember councillor's unanimously agreeing to hand over money so quickly.

The Forgotten Heroes Monument features the names of Canadian service men and women and their animals engraved on black granite. Stepping stones imprinted with different sets of animal footprints next to human footprints are placed around the base of the monument, along with a large statue of a Newfoundland dog, named Gander, seated on the ground.

Noah was inspired by Gander, a mascot with the Royal Rifles of Canada in WWII, who died when he picked up a grenade thrown at Canadian soldiers. Gander's comrades had requested a monument be established to honour animals. "This request at the time was denied and when I found this out, this was when I knew I wanted to help these men honour these animals and make their request come true," said Noah as he spoke at the unveiling ceremony.



Time for a group photo in front of the Forgotten Heroes Monument. Left to right: Constable Justin Russell and Quaid; Constable Conor McGowan and Echo; Constable Brent Bates and Baylee; Sgt Duane Rutledge, New Glasgow Police Service, with Ekko; Noah Tremblay; Cpl Al Hamilton with his Police Service Dog, Arik; Master Cpl Justin Caron, Military Police, with Vimy; Paul Service, Hfx Reg. Search & Rescue, with Eikoe and Sean Saunders, Hfx Reg. Search & Rescue with trainee, Luke.

The Forgotten Heroes Monument honours a variety of animals including horses and pigeons. Mrs. Florence Hughes of New Glasgow was very moved when she read about Noah's project in the newspaper. "My uncle raised pigeons during the war and I felt I just had to get in touch with Noah," she said as she presented Noah with a large trophy engraved with the words "Presented to Noah Tremblay, In recognition of your kind heart and generous spirit." Mrs. Hughes enjoyed her visit to the Veteran's Memorial Park but said she was overcome with emotion while reading the names of comrades who had served in the North Nova's with her husband. A flock of homing pigeons were released as the monument was unveiled.

RCMP spokesperson, Constable Brent Bates thanked Noah for remembering the animals and their handlers. Several of the handlers took a moment to pose for a photo with their dogs at the Forgotten Heroes Monument.

Noah ended the ceremony by thanking everyone for their support, especially his

family, and presenting his mother Sonya Tremblay with basket of flowers.

A reception was held, following the ceremony, at West Colchester Consolidated School.

**Veteran's Memorial Park is located along Highway #2, in Bass River.**

**Videos of the official ceremony are available on the Shoreline Journal facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/theshorelinejournal>**



Proud family moment! Noah (centre) poses with his mom, Sonya, grandmother Madeleine Tremblay, grandfather Yvan Tremblay and father, Pierre following the unveiling of the Monument.



Melina Tremblay (Noah's sister) and aunt Pam Campbell visit with Truro Police Service Dog Quaid and Constable Justin Russell at the entrance to Veteran's Memorial Park.



Florence Hughes made a trip over from New Glasgow to meet Noah after reading his story in the newspaper. She presented Noah with a beautiful trophy in appreciation for his work with the Forgotten Heroes Monument.

## Colchester RCMP Praise Forgotten Hero's Monument

It was with great honour that members of the RCMP were invited to participate in the unveiling of the Forgotten Hero's monument in Bass River on July 1st, 2012.

Members of the RCMP Police Dog Service attended Veteran's Memorial Park in Bass River on Canada Day, for the unveiling ceremony to remember animals whose lives were sacrificed or are still serving during times of war.



It is inspiring to see that a person as young as Noah Tremblay was able to take his idea and see it through to such a fitting conclusion.

The Colchester RCMP applaud Noah for his energy and dedication in completing such a wonderful monument. It is something that the residents of Bass River and the rest of Nova Scotia should be very proud of.