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The Shoreline Journal

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FRONT PAGE BRIEFS December 2010



After the week of torrential rains in early November, Stacey Culgin sent in this note from the Truro Daily News: Belmont, October 29, 1896: "The recent rains have caused much damage in this as well as surrounding districts. Among other serious losses by the floods are the destruction of Albert Higgins' mill dam at Crowe's Mills, which is almost entirely washed away and the bridge over the main road here is broken in three pieces. This is a serious loss. About one mile of C.B. Lindsay's sluice for carrying deal washed away. The bridges at Lower Belmont and Belmont Station are badly damaged and the road at Lower Onslow near Alex. Hamilton's is washed out for some distance. This is the heaviest freshet known in this locality for many years."

The Nova Scotia 4-H Provincial Council held their AGM at the Debert Hospitality Centre on November 19th and 20th. Approximately 80 members from all areas of the province attended the meeting. We'll include extensive coverage in the next issue.

The Parrsboro Citizens' Band will hold their Annual Xmas concert on Monday evening, December 20, 2010 at the bandhall in Parrsboro. Come and listen to the sounds of Xmas with music by the Parrsboro Citizens' Band and many others. You will be pleasantly surprised by the renovations to the interior and exterior of the hall. Price for the concert will be \$10.00 per person. The band is asking everyone to bring something for the area foodbank.

MacCaull Villa Notes submitted each month by Hazel Hill is not available for this issue. Nice to see Florence Adams back with her Great Village Area Notes, and her very popular poem. Congratulations to Florence and Joyce Starratt on the celebrations of their 90th birthdays during the month of October.

The Wild Blueberry Producers Association of Nova Scotia held its annual meeting in Truro on November 19th and 20th. Their AGM was scheduled too close to our printing time to include in this issue. We'll be able to devote more space in the next issue.

Who will be 90 or 90+ in 2011? The Shoreline Journal wants to know which area residents will be celebrating birthdays of 90 or 90+ years in 2011. We are asking readers to send the name, age and birthday to Maurice Rees, publisher at 902-647-2968 or email: maurice@theshorelinejournal.com Deadline: January 15, 2011.

The Colchester Historical Society is seeking the public's assistance to recognize heritage champions. Do you know of individuals or groups who strive to promote or preserve Colchester heritage, whether through their writing or a built heritage project, with the use of multimedia or in some other way? You can nominate them for a Heritage Award by picking up a nomination form at the Museum on 29 Young Street, or from the website, colchesterhistoreum.ca. The nomination should include all contact information as well as a description of the work. Photographs and other related documents should also be included. Please submit completed nomination forms before January 15, 2011 to: Colchester Historical Society, 29 Young Street, P.O. Box 412, Truro NS, B2N 5C5, 895-6284. www.colchesterhistoreum.ca The awards will be presented as part of the Heritage Night Celebration on February 24, 2011 at the Colchester Historical Society Museum and Archives. For more information contact: Melanie Ballard, Chair Heritage Committee, PH: 897-8066, days, or Email: mballard@eastlink.ca



The Veterans Memorial Park monument is flanked on either side by two additional monuments.
(Betty Ann DeWitt Photo)

Photos from the November 11 Remembrance Day events are featured here in the Shoreline Journal on pages 15 to 18.

Tidal Turbine Removal Halted

By Maurice Rees

High winds and strong Bay of Fundy tides have halted plans by Nova Scotia Power and its tidal turbine partner, Open Hydro, to remove their 400 tonne tidal turbine from its position on the ocean floor 10 Km West of Parrsboro.

The six storey high, 400 tonne test turbine was installed just over a year ago and was to be removed after a two year test period. However, communications from the turbine were lost shortly after the turbine was lowered to the ocean floor amid much fanfare last year. Malfunctioning sensors are blamed for the lost of data retrieval. A two second clip from a remote camera lowered

into the water earlier this year, showed, that two of the turbines blades had been severed.

Open Hydro, developer and its partner, Nova Scotia Power decided earlier this year to extract the turbine from the turbulent Bay of Fundy tides during neap tides in mid-November. The turbine was to be raised to the surface then shipped by barge to Cherubini Metal Works in Dartmouth for analysis to determine reasons for the malfunctioning.

On November 15th workers started the removal procedure around 4:00 am, but strong winds caused problems with locating the barge in the required precise position to affect a successful move. Shortly

after noon on the 15th, Open Hydro's president cancelled the operation's first attempt, stating they had run out of time.

A second attempt on Tuesday, November 16th was cancelled due to high winds and exceptionally strong tides. The operation must be conducted in accordance with the level of the tides. Officials from Open Hydro, which is financing the removal cost, says that extraction of the non-functioning test turbine is still doable, and will be done later in the month.

The Bay of Fundy's strong tides has been recognized as presenting an engineering challenge to successful development of tidal power. The Bay of Fundy pushes over 100 billion

tonnes of water every tide - more than all the freshwater rivers and streams in the world combined. The volume of water and strong currents create challenges in development of in-stream tidal technology to deliver clean, renewable power.

On Sunday, November 14th, the Federal Government announced a contribution of \$20-million for the Fundy Ocean Research Centre for Energy (FORCE) tidal project in the Bay of Fundy. It is the largest single grant available under the renewable and clean energy portion of Canada's Clean Energy Fund.

FORCE has also signed an \$11-million contract for the production and installation of four subsea cables in the Minas Passage test site, with work shared between Nova Scotia and Italy. Scheduled for installation in 2011, the cables will give FORCE the largest offshore transmission capacity of any in-stream tidal energy site in the world.

The cables will connect tidal devices to the grid, allowing Nova Scotians to receive clean electricity directly from the Bay of Fundy. It will also enable real-time data collection, and more opportunity for learning and research.

Each of the four subsea cables for the test site has the capacity for 16 megawatts, for a total of up to 64 megawatts. Each 34.5-kilovolt cable is designed to allow adding more tidal devices in the future. With a combined length of 11 kilometres, the total capacity of all four cables will be about 64 devices, enough power for more than 20,000 homes.

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Maddy MacLean was one of the first youngsters to visit with Santa at the Great Village Community Association Christmas Craft Sale on Nov. 20th. (Harrington Photo)

Great Villagers Upset

By Maurice Rees

Normally, November 11th is a day of somber silence and reflection as we attend or participate in Remembrance Day services. However, this year was totally different for many in Great Village, who became emotional, upset and angry.

Instead of blocking off the road to stop traffic during ceremonies at the cenotaph, Department of Transportation workers in conjunction with the RCMP set up barricades and pylons to reduce traffic to one lane, yet still permitting traffic to flow past the cenotaph during the 11:00 am service.

The incident caused a lot of

turmoil and sent tempers flaring. As the crowd gathered and the 11th hour approached, instead of letting traffic be directed by flagmen and RCMP, local residents stepped forward to stop traffic as they have done in the past.

Even though the RCMP tried to move the crowd to one side of the road, local residents refused to move from the roadway. Try as they might, RCMP was unable to get cooperation from local residents and traffic was blocked for upwards of an hour.

The next day, even before the Shoreline Journal office opened, the phone started ringing, with people complaining

about what was attempted the previous day at the Remembrance Day service in Great Village the previous day. Although they did not want their name to be published, callers indicated in previous years, they had halted traffic to ensure a high level of safety and they felt it was disrespectful to have traffic passing by during the ceremony.

Immediately a call was placed to Tom Taggart, councillor for District 10 stated he had chosen to attend services in Bass River, and did not attend. However, he stated that, at the request of the Great Village Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, he had called the RCMP Commanding Officer requesting traffic barricades be erect-

ed to stop traffic during the services.

Tony van den Hoek, Great Village says he felt it was not only unsafe to have traffic driving by, when residents were gathered on the road; respect was not being shown, and passing traffic would make it impossible to hear speakers during the ceremony.

Further checking in the area, revealed the road was blocked for ceremonies in Londonderry. In Parrsboro, those attending the service filled Main Street in front of the cenotaph, which borders the main thoroughfare.

Local resident, Heather MacKay said, "I was very sur-

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