

ATV RUN - Cape Breton to Truro



Shaun Burke, Hector Mackinnon crossing a bridge in Guysborough County while making an ATV run from Canso to Truro. (Yorke Photo)

By David Yorke

Avid ATV riders Shaun Burke of Brookfield, and David Yorke of Five Islands have rode the trails all over Nova Scotia for years. This past spring they both realized they had a couple other things in common. Both wanted a new ride, and also both had dreamed of running the trails from Aulds Cove through to Truro.

They had purchased new ATV's and started GPS'ing trails that would bring them home. Saturday September 11th-2010, they along with

five other riders, hired two trucks and a mini van to deliver them to the causeway. Some had gone down Friday and stayed at the Cove motel and all met for breakfast at the Irving Big stop. A short trip to Mulgrave (Pirates Harbour) where the trail started, got them underway at 10:30am.

First stop had to be for picture taking at Goose Harbour Lake. A beautiful big dam and a nice spot to have a break.

After checking out almost every road to find the right trail, we finally got to do some exploring after five hours or

so. The trail we were to follow, we were told went from Pirates Harbour right through to Boyleston. Several bogs and bridges that needed repairs also hindered our pace.

After hurricane Ivan there were trees across the trail at a rate of two per kilometer. A tee in the road sent us exploring again for a trail around a big swamp that needed to be crossed. An hour later we found a good trail around some of it. All ATV's had to be winched across 100 feet of it to the trail. Along the sides of the trail we noticed some old junked cars which told us we were near civilization. We stopped to talk to a gentleman cutting wood. Sydney MacPherson was his name, and he was really surprised to find we were heading to Truro.

He gave us some directions to go to the pipe line. This would take us through Manchester and down the pipe line several kilometers.

Beautiful scenery kept the cameras busy as we went through the villages of North riverside road, Intervale, Havendale, and Lesterdale. Back onto the pipeline, a huge

beaver dam helped us decide to head to Guysborough town. Here we filled up with gas, the best coffee that day, and junk food.

The Trans Canada Trail was a welcome site as we continued to cut windfalls along the way.

At around 6:30pm we crossed the Salmon river and the swinging bridge that was built by the Military. The rhinos were squeezed small enough to get through.

Having GPS'ed this part of the trail before made it easier to navigate in the dark and rain. A few wrong turns later we were on track again.

Passing through Country Harbour at around 11:30pm I hit a bump on the trail that sent me into the ditch. The Rhino tipped over at about 30° which made it impossible for me to get out. The guy's came back and we wrenched the atv out and back onto the road. Next came Aspen at around 12:00pm. We were on the run now to get to Sunny brae to the camp. The fire tower at Blue mountain was a welcome site as we knew we were close to sleep. Going up the old railroad at Eden Lake got us excited, cause now we were 20 minutes away. At 2:30am we got into Hector Mackinnons camp in sunny brae.

Around 3:30 am, seven bad boys went to bed with no supper.

Sunday morning Hector showed up at 5:30am to say good bye, he didn't want to miss us. We were all dead asleep when he layed on the horn.

By 10:00am we were ready to head home with Robin Fleet as our new leader. These trails were better with no trees and short cuts got us to the #289 highway at around 2:00pm. We parted ways here as we knew how to get to pembroke from here. A decision was made in Pembroke that Shaun, Dave and Darrel would go on to Brookfield and George, Jonathan, John, dave and Tim would go to Riversdale to tim's house. Here Tim took the boys to debert to get the trucks and trailers. At 4:45 we were loaded and on our way home. A note on facebook at around 9:00pm said WE DID IT, and that we were too tired to tell about the trip, till tomorrow night.

Special thanks to Jim Richards, Beverly and Rachel MacKenzie for supplying the transportation to the causeway for us.

Historical Society Seeking Heritage Award Nominations

The Colchester Historical Society is seeking the public's assistance to recognize heritage champions. Each February the Society celebrates Heritage Day by hosting an open house which includes the presentation of Heritage Awards.

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: mbal-lard@eastlink.ca

Bass River Historical Society

By Denise Gilley

2010 has been a great year for the Heritage Society. We've held and been a part of some great events, we've had lots of visitors in to the museum and we've been able to make some great upgrades to our building. Thanks to everyone for all of the help and support over the past year.

We wish everyone a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

News From The Past - 1961: Bass River, Dec. 27, - Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Rector and family, of Ontario, are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Rector.

Students spending the Christmas Season at their homes here are John Dunning and Hedley Fulton, of Acadia

University, Wolfville; Malcolm Taggart, of Dalhousie University, Halifax; and Joan Campbell, of Teachers College, Truro.

Christmas concerts held at the Elementary School on Tuesday afternoon, the West Colchester Regional High School on Tuesday evening, the United Church on Wednesday evening, the Baptist Church on Thursday evening, and the Nazarene Church on Friday evening were well attended and the programs enjoyed by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Faulkner and daughter, of Shelburne, are spending the Christmas season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Faulkner and her parents, Rev. and Mrs. R. Barkhouse.



Shaun Burke, Tim Densmore, Jonathan Calnan and Dave Crow using the GPS to find their way. (Yorke Photo).



Dave Crow, Tim Densmore and George MacKenzie admiring the beautiful scenery along the Maritimes-Northeast Pipeline in Guysborough. (Yorke Photo)

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