



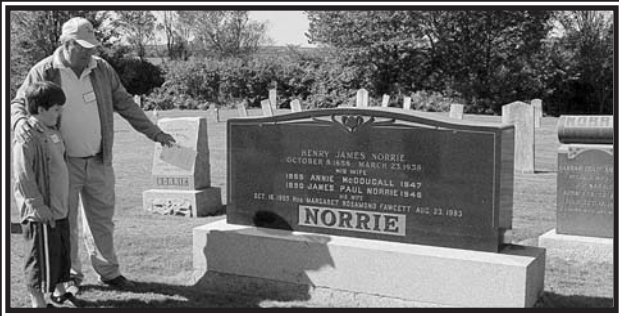
Allison (Allie) Groves unveils the new monument. Allie had been opening/closing graves and a Trustee from 1945- 2009.



Master of Ceremonies, Jim Lorraine welcomes everyone to the 250th Anniversary of the Onslow Island Cemetery. Guest speakers included (left to right) Bonnie Waddell (Col. Historical Society), Marie McCully Collier (President of Onslow Cemetery Company), Rev. Gerry Kerr, MLA Karen Casey, MP Scott Armstrong, Councillor Ron Cavanaugh.



Jean King, a long standing member of the Onslow Cemetery Company cut the celebration cake.



Five generations of Norrie's are buried in the Onslow Island Cemetery. Rod Norrie took the opportunity to explain some family history to his nine year old grandson Nathan Norrie Cavanagh,



Members of the Cobequid Planters Society Ken Henderson, Bonnie Waddell and Wayne Foster represented the original planters who would have arrived in 1761 from New England and Ireland.



MLA Karen Casey presents Marie McCully Collier, President of the Onslow Cemetery Company, with a certificate of congratulations on behalf of the Government of Nova Scotia.

250th Anniversary of Onslow Island Cemetery

By Linda Harrington

No one seems sure exactly why a cemetery might have been established out on an island but in 1763 at a Township of Onslow Meeting it was voted, "That the East side of the Island in the Upper Mash be aloed and sequestered for a burying place." (Israel Longworth, Truro c.1880).

On Sept. 7th, friends and supporters of Onslow Island Cemetery gathered to celebrate the 250th Anniversary, with the unveiling of a Commemorative Monument.

The cemetery roads have changed over the years, many of the earliest grave markers are gone but the significance of one of the oldest burying grounds in Nova Scotia remains steadfast, with strong ancestral connections, prompting a large turnout for the 250th Anniversary.

Eleanor Norrie, Vice President of the Onslow Cemetery Company assisted with promotion of the event and was very pleased with attendance. She and her husband, Rod Norrie, son of former NS Senator Margaret Norrie visited the Norrie family plot with grandson Nathan. Nine year old Nathan was able to visit the grave sight of several ancestors, beginning with his great grandmother Margaret and great grandfather James Paul.

Rev. Gerry Kerr, of Trinity United Church, opened the Anniversary Service with a prayer with Jim Lorraine acting as Master of Ceremonies.

Jim lives in the family homestead built in 1791, not far from Onslow Cemetery where his relatives, including his father Ed Lorraine, are buried. He found some historical records in the home and noted in 1880's workers on the farm were paid \$8/month or 25 cents a day, 50 cents/day if they brought their own horse. Beef was sold for 3 cents/pound.

Several dignitaries, including District 8 Councillor Ron Cavanaugh, MLA Karen Casey and MP Scott Armstrong offered their congratulations and words of appreciation to the Trustees. Bruce Curry and Allison (Allie) Groves assisted with the unveiling of the Commemorative Monument, designed by Stone Mason Heather Lawson.

Mr. Groves began digging graves in the cemetery at the age of 14, continuing for 64 years until his 'retirement' in 2009. "There have been lots of changes over the years," he notes, "When I started at age 14, I used a pick and shovel

and now they use a back hoe. There are not as many graves dug as there used to be, with many people choosing cremation."

Bonnie Waddell, of the Colchester Historical Society, presented a brief history of Onslow Island Cemetery. She says there are three noteworthy dates: 1763- when the Island Cemetery was established, 1853- an Act was passed in Legislation to address some problems at the Cemetery and 1901- the Trustees were incorporated. She related several interesting burial customs, such as keeping a headstone handy in case of an unexpected death, which could be used as a door step in the meantime.

Onslow Cemetery Company President Marie McCully Collier thanked all those who helped with the Anniversary Celebration and those who have been caretakers of the Cemetery all these years.

In 2013, the 1901 "Act Incorporating the Onslow Cemetery Company" was amended so that lot holders,

Economy / Five Islands News

By Ruth Thompson

Marilyn Cock would like to thank everyone who sponsored her for the annual Umbrella relay walk. It is greatly appreciated. Marcia & John Leask of Waterloo, Ont. spent a few days with Denny & Marilyn Cock

Rev. Florence hosted a meet and greet for her Granddaughter, Rachel Mary. She is one beautiful baby. Of course she was as proud as a grandmother can be. There was quite a few people there. The baby slept most of the time. She certainly a very content baby. Congrats to the parents as well.

Denny & Marilyn Cock and their granddaughters, Sara & Marina went to Cape Breton, they visited Fort Louisbourg and drove around the Cabot Trail.

My granddaughter visited

me for a few days. She wanted to come to Nan's house. The fall season is coming quite fast. There are a lot of activities planned for the economy area. By the time this paper is out, the Yard sale at the Rec. Centre will be just a memory.

The Annual Umbrella Walk was a great success. Results will be posted next month. Please watch for the children waiting for the bus and for those students walking to school.

Even though I live in town now, I still want people to give me the news so I can print it. I know that most people want to read what other people are doing. So remember I cannot print it if you do not give it to me.

My e-mail address is ruth.thompson@bellaliant.net Phone # 324-2262. Until next month. Happy reading.

rather than the Governor in Council of the NS Legislative Assembly, could approve changes to the by-laws. Marie McCully Collier says it took over a year to get the necessary paperwork submitted and she was very grateful to

MLA Karen Casey, the Office of Legislative Council and the Trustees for all the efforts put forth to see this happen. "This will make it so much easier to renew or fix a few things in the by-laws that need to be updated," she says.

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