

Trinity Historical Society Newsletter, Issue 49

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K. Toope, J. Morris, Eds.

Trinity Historical Society (THS) will host 9 seminars in our Summer Seminar Series on Thursdays at 7:30 pm from July 3rd to August 28th, 2025, at Rocky's Place in Trinity. We would like to thank Corey Jones for allowing us to use Rocky's free of charge for these seminars.

In this edition of our Newsletter, we present the story of the eleventh of the men who are remembered on the War Monument in Port Rexton.

As always, the THS welcomes application for membership from anyone interested in the objectives and activities of the Society.



Ralph Ryan



Ralph, the son of Henry Ryan and Hannah Miller, was born at Port Rexton on July 10th, 1911. He died on September 20th, 1943. He was 32.



Family Tree

In the 1935 census, Ralph reported his occupation as fisherman, Labrador floater. He joined the Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit (NOFU) at the beginning of World War II (service # 1763) and traveled to Scotland on-board SS Chrobry in the winter of 1940. The NOFU supplied timber products critical to British coal mining which was central to Britain's war-time economy. The timber jacks cut wood by hand with bucksaw and axe. The work was hard and dangerous. Of approximately 3,600 men, 34 died and another 335 were invalided back to Newfoundland. Ralph died while in service in Scotland and is buried at Laggan Parish Churchyard, Invernesshire.



SS Chrobry



Gravestone