

The Bell Island Community Policing Newsletter

**The Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Avalon East District - Bell Island Detachment
Executive Editor: Cherie Bennett**

July 2004

From the Corporal's Desk

One would guess that in the world of policing that there would be lots of contact with youth who are in conflict with the law. That is correct for sure. And one might also think that when questioning these youth there would be questions like "Why did you do it? Why did you have to do this damage? Aren't you sorry?" All these questions again would be common. But there is one question that is often asked that you might not have thought of. It is one of the first questions I find myself asking young persons in Newfoundland and Labrador as often as the ones above. It is "What have you had to eat today?"

One might think in our 2004 world of video games, TV, commercials, new cars, bigger homes and flashy clothes that the hungry kids we see on TV only exist in

far away countries. If I told you there were kids who have eaten from neighbours dog dishes outside you would think of the commercials on TV about UNICEF or Save the Children Fund and not about our province. If I told you about kids who split their one dollar meal tickets in two so they could get fed tomorrow you might think New York or Toronto and not about our province. If I told you about kids who are faced with jail time, being locked up and losing their freedom and they ask "What's for dinner?" you might think of Russia or Iraq but surely not Newfoundland and Labrador. You are very wrong. All these examples and more happened in Newfoundland and Labrador, recently, often and will re-occur again soon. Even in Bell Island. In fact some of the

preceding are about our own community but are occurring elsewhere as well.

As police persons there is a lot you can become hardened to, seeing a kid hungry is not one of them. Not even if you try. Seeing a kid commit a crime to get food is not easy to take either. Being hungry is a concept that most people today can't relate to not even close. Sure there are times you look in the cupboard and say there is nothing there. But another person could come behind you and make a fine meal out of the same cupboards. In reality only our elders in our communities can remember real hunger and a select few of our youth.

I can easily remember convicted young offenders coming into an institution where I worked in and they

were displaying the actual signs of malnutrition and dehydration and this was 1982-87 in Canada! These same youth often gained 10 to 40 pounds in the first 6 months of being in jail. Not from eating too much but from eating balanced meals. The stories they told about the treatment they lived in, the parents gambling away their groceries, the routine of eating the same valueless type of food 7 days a week because it was cheap and it allowed some money left over for the parent(s) to buy liquor. I will never say I have seen it all but I have seen more than most. And what I have seen has not been isolated to a few cases; it has been consistent and repetitive and remains to this day in our world we falsely look at sometimes.

Where am I going with all this? ...well simply I was merely wondering if we see a kid who is usually saucy and seems to be always hanging around and getting into trouble and we ask ourselves "I wonder what he or she had to eat today"? Chances are I bet I know the answer....and now so do you. We need to start caring for those in our communities far better then we now do.

***Wabana Boys & Girls Club
"Every Kid Has Potential"***

Our summer is just about over and the programs at the club are winding down. We have approximately 250 members registered for the summer programs this year including children from other provinces. With the excellent attendance this year no games have been cancelled due to default. If you have a relative home that would be interested in participating in the remaining summer programs, call or drop into the club. Also, throughout the summer, the members had an opportunity to take part in our Breakfast Program, which was offered every second Wednesday morning before they started their games. It was nice to see the kids take advantage of this program and for them to socialize with their peers as well as the staff.

Unfortunately, the Away Days that took place on Fridays didn't seem to be as popular this year. Therefore, if there are any suggestions or feedback it

would be greatly appreciated. Due to the failure of one of my floppy disks we couldn't reach the deadline for last months newsletter, so I would like to speak a little of our Annual Awards Day. We would like to thank the parents and members of our community that attended our Awards Day and supported our members in their 2003 accomplishments. Also, a huge thank-you to: Volunteer Fire Department, WBGC Ladies Auxiliary, and Kiwanis Club for their kind donations. We like to congratulate the many members that received awards especially Boy (Keith Neary) and Girl (Ashley Arnold) of the Year, these two senior members have volunteered a tremendous amount of hours towards many of our programs and fund-raising projects. We would like to congratulate our sportsmanship winners for 2003, Evan Kent and Jennifer Lewis.

On June 18th our Youth Volunteer Program held a Flea Market; it was a great success, so thanks to the

people that volunteered their time and donated goods. The Youth Volunteers will be having another Flea Market on Tuesday August 31st @ 10:00 am at the Boys & Girls Club. Anyone wishing to donate any new or used item call the club for a pick up or drop them off at the club.

During the summer months the Boys & Girls Club will be having a ticket draw. These tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00, the prizes are 1st Prize \$1000.00 and 2nd Prize is \$500.00. Please support the club, if you would like to sell some tickets call the club, we would appreciate your help. We also have some T-Shirts for sale at \$12.00 each, just drop into the club to see them.

During the week of August 16 – 20 the Boys & Girls Club will be having a Activity Week for the members before they get ready to return to school. There will be a fee of \$2.00 per child per day to take part in these events. There will be many prizes awarded, so encourage your children to participate in final week of summer program. Schedule of events will be available at

the club the week of August 9th.

On Sunday, August 8th at 2:30 the club will be holding their Annual Walk/Bike A Thon. Any one interested in taking part in this event can pick up a sponsor sheet at the club. There will be a party for all walkers once all monies are collected. Each walker will receive 1 ticket per \$1.00 collected to win valuable prizes such as bikes and many other prizes.

Submitted by Joe Somerton

**BELL ISLAND
BRIGHTER FUTURES
FAMILY RESOURCE
CENTRE**

**HOLLIE NEARY -
PROGRAM
COORDINATOR
488-2699**

Summer Schedule - Since the last news letter things have changed - there will be no Parent & Tot Programs until September. The **following programs will continue** - Healthy Baby Club and Public Health Nurse Baby Weigh-in Program.

I would like to wish all residents a safe and happy summer and encourage any family with children aged 0 to 6 years to come and take part in our many programs starting in September.

***NEWS FROM YOUR CO-OP
BAKERY***

Breakfast at the Bakery:

Our Saturday Morning breakfast is well underway and as visitors continue to arrive, we're seeing more and more families with their visitors at our tables on Saturday morning. Thanks to everyone and we hope you'll enjoy a hearty island breakfast with us while you're on the island. You never know who you'll meet as you wait for your order to arrive! Many of you are former residents or have roots here on the island, and you can always hear someone ask who their parents were, then instant recognition and the stories start! Thanks to you all, your "Deli Waitress" may mix up your names but we'll never forget your contribution to our fund-raising efforts.

Then there's the gal we've all dubbed the "Toutin Queen" of the island, Norma Hidgon who joins us every Saturday rain or shine. When we see her coming over the hill someone always yells "put on the toutins girls, Norma's coming!" Norma pays for a full breakfast, but eats only our delicious toutins, so we keep them coming till she's full! She's a great supporter of the bakery, and we thank her sincerely for her weekly support Norma, our Saturday mornings wouldn't be the same without you!

Air Conditioned Comfort!

Our bakers are now working in air-conditioned comfort thanks to every one of you that continues to support our Saturday Morning Breakfast Program. The difference is unbelievable, and we now have no fear that our wonderful bakers will turn into "puddles of grease" in the heat!

Student Helpers in the Bakery:

We have three great student helpers in the bakery this summer and we hope they are enjoying their time with

us. We're certainly all grateful for the extra pairs of hands! Looking at them work, you'd think they were born to be bakers! Welcome onboard to Nicole Jackman, Terri-Lynn Fitzgerald and Jordan Shea.

Bakery Products Going to Salmonier!

We're delighted to announce that Roz (Pendergast) Jardine of Salmonier Country Manor is taking a supply of our delicious breads and rolls for her guests this summer! Anyone interested in visiting this beautiful Country Manor overlooking the Salmonier River can call (709) 781-6661 or email manor@webpage.ca. You can check out the website at webpage.ca/manor.

Paul McGee of VOCM Enjoys our Bakery Products!

Paul McGee isn't just one fantastic radio host, he also has good taste! Apparently he tried some of our product while he was over here to host the

St. Mary's Guild Concert several weeks ago, and called last week to know if we sold our products anywhere off the island. Unfortunately we lost our market with the closure of the Co-op Stores. Paul, who hosts the morning show on VOCM with sidekick Claudette Barnes, and newsmen Gerry Phelan and Vince Gallant, is a well known "staple" of our early morning drive to work here in the province, a great host who apparently also has great taste! We hope he enjoyed the package of sample Bell Island Bakery goodies we had delivered to him – and that he was able to share some of it with Claudette and the rest of the staff. Keep up the great programming Paul, and you're all welcome to visit us at any time to stock up on goodies at the bakery! The "Photo Shope" is now open for the summer!

Long time "tenants" of the former Board Room at our Co-op building, Ron and Carol Bennett and their "Photo

Shoppe” are back for another year with a great supply of Bell Island and other Newfoundland framed and unframed photographs. They invite you to stop by while picking up your baked goods and browse among their great selection. Check out their website www.photoshoppe.ca, email them at thephotoshoppe@aol.com or give them a call at (709) 488-2625. Remember, it costs nothing to view, you could find some great memories of Bell Island at the Photo Shoppe and maybe even meet old friends as they too browse and remember.

Congratulations!

Congratulations and best wishes to all the graduates of St. Michael’s High who are heading off to Memorial or one of the public or private colleges in September.

Congratulations also to Karen Tucker of Middleton Avenue, an honors student, who recently graduated from the Human Resource Management course at Keyin Technical College in

St. John’s. Karen received the award for academic achievement at her graduation and is heading for a work-term with Fisheries and Oceans Canada before seeking employment. Good Luck Karen!

Congratulations to the many couples who were married on Bell Island this summer – best wishes for a happy future wherever life may take you!

Congratulations to Mollie and Gerald Tremblett who celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary on July 24th with a Mass at St. Michael’s and a “bash” at the Hall hosted by their children.

Special congratulations to my husband of 43 years, Ed Coxworthy who turns 65 on August 13th. Also to my friend Carol Bennett who’ll also celebrate on that day (I won’t give away her age!).

Finally, sincere congratulations from all of us to Ron Bennett who retired in June, following a 30-year career as a teacher. Enjoy your

retirement Ron, and we look forward to that “Shed Party” sometime in the coming months!

*Kay Coxworthy
Secretary
Bell Island Co-operative
Society*

AROUND AND ABOUT ON BELL ISLAND – SUMMER 2004

Visitors are everywhere on Bell Island as we finally begin to enjoy some good weather this summer! While most visitors are coming back “home” to see old friends and family, many have no connection to the island and are drawn here by attractions such as our “Mine Tour and Museum” which continues to be a real “drawing card” for the island and a “must see” for anyone visiting whether you once lived here or are a visitor just doing a day trip. Watch for whales in the Bay, three of them were having a great afternoon showing off for those of us on a recent crossing of the “Hamilton Sound” which had lots of visitors

onboard and more than a few video cameras were capturing the event to show once they returned home.

Most high school and post secondary students found jobs funded by the federal and provincial government this summer. However, there are still some that haven't found work, so if you need something done, I'm sure there are young people willing to work for a day, a week or a month until school starts again.

Bell Island Day was another success this year! Held on Sunday, July 18th it coincided with the RC Cemetery Mass and from all accounts a great time was had by all. Any truth to the rumor that 2005 is to be a "Come Home Year" for Bell Island.

The Coffee Shop on the Beach continues to see most of the visitors who are "home from away" as everyone stops in for a coffee or an ice cream for the kids on their way to the city. The "breakfast crew" turns up around 7 a.m. and there's no shortage of news of the day, talk of the "olden days", compliments

and criticisms as the "regulars" hone their wit and wisdom, often at the expense of our long-suffering hostess, Patsy, who has the patience of Job with this lot, but it's all in fun and a great way to start your day.

Congratulations to annual visitor, expatriate Bell Islander and recent retiree, Dan Stone who was named "2003 Volunteer of the Year" by his hometown of Orangeville, ON for his dedication as Founder/Coach of a hockey team made up of developmentally challenged players. Dan was also named in 2003 as "Senior Volunteer of the Year" for the Orangeville-Brampton Area by the Industrial Accident Prevention Association. Some readers may remember Dan from his days at St. Kevin's School where he was a star player with the school hockey team and band leader in the 2410 Cadet Corps or his years as a member of the Knights of Columbus on the island. Dan and his wife Vivian Jackman left Bell Island in 1969 after

he completed the electrical course at the old Bell Island Trade School and a subsequent apprenticeship with Ashley Electric in St. John's. Up until his retirement, Dan was employed for 25 years with Consumer Glass. Dan continues to come home for a visit every summer and he enjoys the early morning camaraderie at the Coffee Shop. Congratulations Dan – and Patsy definitely owes you a free breakfast!

Bell Island – it's a great place to live, and for all who once called the "Iron Isle" home, welcome back. Have a great holiday!

Kay Coxworthy

JULY CONTRIBUTION - BELL ISLAND FERRY USERS COMMITTEE

The Committee has been extremely active in recent months in efforts to preserve Bell Island's ferry service and schedule and ensuring that the service [Ed remains

affordable and accessible.

1. Negotiations on service cutbacks:

As of late July the Committee is actively engaged in negotiations with our MHA and Government officials in very serious discussions which could have serious impacts on the ferry service if negotiations are not successful. Targeted cuts planned for the Bell Island ferry service for this year have been to date successfully delayed and avoided. At stake are suggestions that the vessels operate as little as 12 hours daily instead of 14 to 16 hours, restrictions in midnight service, reductions in the early morning service by the second vessel etc. as well as tighter controls on overtime use and other measures. The Committee remains committed to the preservation of the year round 2 vessel service as the foundation to Bell Island's economy and that reductions are counterproductive and not acceptable

2. New Provincial Ferry Coalition:

One major initiative has been the Committee's lobby to the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Municipalities to organize the 40 ferry connected towns to work together for the best interests of ferry connected towns. Below you will find a copy of a news release reporting on a highly successful organizational meeting resulting in the formation of a new Ferry Coalition and also a Statement of Principles for the new Coalition. Resultant from this and other efforts Transportation and Works Minister Rideout has agreed to meet with the new executive of this Committee to discuss their issues. Several delays have been encountered in attempts to set up this initial meeting

3. New Vessel Construction:

Minister Rideout has also stated that he will present to Cabinet a ferry vessel replacement plan this summer, hopefully leading to a construction start in 2004 of a

replacement for the aged Hamilton Sound.

4. Protection of Ferry Schedule:

The Committee prepared a presentation for Cabinet consideration making a strong case not to proceed with cutting 4 daily trips from the schedule. It is our understanding the case was well received and we are hopeful and optimistic that the full 2 vessel ferry schedule will not be reduced as had been planned. We must remain vigilant and you are encouraged to continue to present the case to MHA Minister Whalen accordingly.

5. Ferry Rates:

The Committee is still not satisfied that ferry rates increased when lowered rates were promised and especially annoyed that the the 2004 10% increase was applied incorrectly due to absurd rounding. (\$3.00 times 10% is not \$3.50.) Planned higher rates will hurt Bell Island's

economic recovery. A commitment was made to lower rates and it should be honoured

6. Vessel Refits:

The Beaumont Hamel in mid July finally returned from its refit. The Committee is upset that the refit was not done earlier as we had requested and the non availability of the Beaumont Hamel was very disruptive to success for those dependent on tourism for their livelihoods.

7. Strike Free Status:

The Committee is actively lobbying Government to declare Provincial ferry services as strike free with no disruptions of schedules by strikes. The Captains Guild contract expires in 2004 and there is a risk that another ferry strike could take place if Government does not act soon.

8.. Commuter Passes/Advance Tickets;

Applications for renewal for the summer period are available and should be forwarded promptly for

processing. Commuters are strongly encouraged to purchase the advance ticket pass thus assisting with a faster vessel turnaround and less time wasted buying single tickets.

9. Electronic Information Signs Activation:

Having being installed 9 months ago we are about to throw the towel on hopes of activation and the failure to activate these signs points to lack of commitment and concern and it has to be a source of embarrassment for Transportation officials.

10. Feedback:

If you have concerns on the ferry service please contact Manager Hammett or a Committee member. (Mayor Gary Gosine, Tony Power, Chairperson David Brazil, Keith Kent , Officer Boyd Merrill, Dr. Alexa Laurie or Ed Kent - Committee Consultant)

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD: Continue to register ferry concerns

on increasing rates, reduced schedules, vessel inadequacies and other issues and make your voice heard by calling :

Minister Whalen -729-4713 -
DianneWhalen@gov.nl.ca

Myrle Vokey -Minister Whalen 's assistant-
myrle.vokey@gov.nl.ca
or
mvokey@gov.nl.ca 729-4753

Minister of
Transportation-729-3678
-wstminister@gov.nl.ca
or
trideout@gov.nl.ca

Premier-
premier@gov.nl.ca 729-3570

The Committee encourages all to visit the Bell Island website Ferry Users Committee section operated by Reg Durdle for the latest on ferry issues
http://www.bellisland.net/ferry_users/index.htm.

Have an enjoyable summer. Here's wishing

for a successful tourism season for those dependent on the industry which will sink or swim dependent on an affordable and accessible ferry service. We echo the message in a recent edition by Officer Merrill to take pride in your community and to maintain your property as best as possible.

The Committee will continue to deploy 6 summer student employees at the terminals to assist tourists thanks to Government grants and the support of Island Advisory Services who coordinate student summer employment.

*Contributor-
Ed Kent -Committee
Consultant*

*New Coalition:
Newfoundland and
Labrador Federation of
Municipalities*

News Release (May 25,
2004)

Topic: Successful meeting of municipal leaders results in formation of new Coalition to tackle emerging ferry service

downgrades.

Under the auspices of Federation President Herb Brett, over 35 municipal leaders, representing over 50% of the Province's marine connected communities gathered today in St. John's. The group set out in its 4 hour meeting on a path to develop a strategy and action plan to address an emerging crisis facing over 40 ferry connected towns.

In recent months the Province's 16 intra-provincial ferry services, due to actions and inactions by Government, have seen a worsening of ferry services.

In particular:

a. The aged ferry fleet is edging closer to collapse with no new additions in over 15 years

b. The promised lowering of ferry rates over 5 years has been replaced with a planned 27.5% in increases.

c. Ferry service and schedules are being cut and downgraded

d. Government has failed to act to implement strike free status for ferry services.

e. The Labrador ferry service delivery model has come into question

After considerable discussion, the Group adopted a statement of principles and these are attached.

Five MHA's representing all parties spoke to the group and showed support for the issues. (Yvonne Jones, Oliver Langdon, Gerry Reid, Randy Collins, Kathie Goudie and Clyde Jackman

A new advocacy group was formed to represent the interests of ferry-connected communities. The Marine Transportation Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador was established and an 8-member executive was put in place. Members include Federation chairperson Herb Brett, Mayor Gary Gosine from Bell Island, Clifford Rowe and Gerald McKenna from the Fogo

**Island area, John
Anderson from Makovik,
Mayor Agnes Pike from
West St
Modeste, Mayor Aubrey
Rideout from Long Island
and a South Coast nominee
to be appointed later.**

Principles (May 2004)

**The new executive will
meet in the near future to
elect a chairperson. In the
coming days the new
executive will be seeking a
meeting with the Minister
of Transportation and
Works and later a meeting
with Cabinet.**

**These meetings will
address the adopted
statement of principles and
seek resolutions leading to
an affordable, effective,
accessible and safe ferry
service and proactive
measures to promote the
economies of our rural
ferry connected towns.**

**For further information,
please contact Herb Brett
at the Federation Office or
Mayor Gary Gosine at
749-9222.**

**Marine Transportation
Coalition of Newfoundland
and Labrador**

Statement of adopted

TO SEEK HONOURING OF COMMITMENT TO CONSTRUCT NEW VESSELS

* To replace 30 to 40 year old unsafe vessels and to end 15 year freeze

* To seek an end to schedule disruptions and expensive breakdowns

* To ensure refits ferries at dockyards are expedited

TO SEEK STRIKE FREE FERRY SERVICES STATUS

* To have Government adopt the same policy as the Gulf service, ensuring no schedule disruptions during the strike

* To advocate on the Provincial service the same policy as the Gulf ferry service

TO SECURE HIGHWAY DESIGNATION FOR FERRY ROUTES

* To seek Provincial road designation and equivalent treatment

TO HAVE PROMISED LOWER FERRY RATES IMPLEMENTED

* To have Government implement equivalent cost of road travel policy

* To seek the

honouring of the Blue Book Policy- Phased lowered rates over 5 years

* To ensure " Do as we say (Gulf), not as we do (Provincial).

TO HAVE A FAIR APPLICATION OF FERRY RATES

* To ensure rates when increased are implemented as approved

E.g. (\$3.00 TIMES 10% IS NOT \$3.50 or 18% for seniors, children etc)

* To secure comparable seniors/student discounts Province wide-50%

TO TARGET TO ENRICH SCHEDULES AND TO SAY NO TO SCHEDULE CUTS

* To prevent schedule cuts that harm island economies, tourism and jobs

TO SEEK A FAIR RESOLUTION OF LABRADOR FERRY SERVICES

* To help facilitate fair and considerate policies respecting the best delivery of service to Labrador communities

TO PROMOTE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR 40 FERRY CONNECTED TOWNS

* To work for policies to support industries (fish processing and tourism)

* To dispel out migration policies that are not acceptable to Newfoundland and Labrador as a Province on the Gulf service and neither are they acceptable to intra-provincial ferry connected towns

* To achieve ferry services that are accessible, affordable and safe

*BELL ISLAND
COMMUNITY FOOD
BANK*

July 31 2004

*Report by Marilyn
Sheppard*

Thank you to all who supported us on Bell Island Day. Again this year was a great success for us. We would like to Thank all the volunteers, WBGC, The Town Council and all students who helped us make this possible.

We would like to welcome Ashley Fowler as our SWASP Student this year. I hope she enjoys being with us as much as we enjoy having her.

In order for our Food Bank to continue to operate we have to Fund-raise. If anyone would like to help us with our fund-raising we would really appreciate it. Interested people may call 488-2656.

Winners of Tickets drawn on Bell Island Day were:

Scooter.....#
312009.....won by Lee
Coady.....Drawn by
Sheila Harnum

Basket.....#
8013117.....won by Neil
Besso.....Drawn by
Rev Sheppard

.
Lawn Ornament.....#
57.....won by Shelly
Rouzes.....Drawn by
Millie Rees

Wishing everyone a
“WONDERFUL
SUMMER”.

Unsolved Crimes

On July 25, 2004 between

6:30 and 7:30 in the evening, a black Honda Civic was parked across the road from Slade’s Convenience Store. It was parked alongside the cemetery fence facing Lance Cove. The driver side was hit by another vehicle. Anyone with any information regarding this incident, please call the Memorial Street detachment.

Submitted by Cst. Donovan

Charges and Convictions

Unfortunately, we are missing two out of five members submission due to vacation time for the month of July. I PROMISE to ensure they are included in next month’s charges and convictions section and not missed! I even noticed a couple of incidents that escaped my attention in June so you’ll see a few incidents that occurred that month.

Food for thought..... the police (especially a grey haired individual known as The Chief) has been charging and seizing ATV’s like a house on

fire.

On 2004-06-08, a 34 year old male attended court on a charge of Assault With a Weapon from a March 7th incident that occurred at the West Mines Sports Bar. The matter was re-scheduled for 2004-06-23 and then on that date, this male pled not guilty and the trial is set for 2005-01-06.

On 2004-06-09, a 33 year old male attended court on a charge of Assault from an April 16th incident that occurred at the East End residence of his girlfriend. The matter was re-scheduled for 2004-06-22 and then re-scheduled that date to 2004-08-06.

On 2004-06-22, a 47 male attended court on a charge of Assault from a June 11th incident that occurred at the Fourth Street residence of his wife. The matter was set aside until 2004-07-22. This male pled guilty that date and was sentence on 2004-07-30 and rec’d a Suspended Sentence and one year Probation.

On 2004-06-23, a 23 year

old male from The Green appeared in court on a charge of Breach Of Probation. The matter was rescheduled to 2004-07-21 when he pled not guilty and the trial is set for 2005-01-24.

On 2004-07-06, a 22 year old female appeared in court on charges of Assault, Uttering Threats and Breach of Probation from two separate but related incidents that occurred on the Ridge on 2004-05-07 and 2004-05-09. The matter was re-scheduled for 2004-07-28 when she pled guilty and sentencing is set for 2004-10-27.

On 2004-06-30, a 26 year old male from St. John's was charged with Assault With a Weapon and Causing a Disturbance for June 29th incident that occurred outside the West Mines Sports Bar and then outside his father's residence in West Mines. His first appearance in court is 2004-08-03.

On 2004-07-06, a 26 year old male and a 21 year old male appeared in court on a Breach of Probation charges from a 2004-05-09

incident on the Ridge. The matter for the 26 year old was re-scheduled until 2004-07-28 and then on that date, was re-scheduled to 2004-09-08. The matter for the 21 year old was re-scheduled until 2004-09-22.

FYI: When we say a matter was "set aside" or "re-scheduled", it usually means that they have not yet entered a plea (guilty or not guilty). Usually it is re-scheduled by the Judge at the request of the defense for a large variety of reasons.

If you ever have any niggling questions about any terms or phrases we use in this newsletter, feel free to let any of us know and we'll try to address them in future editions.

Cst. Colleen Donovan

To the Dear Girls in My Life

I sat under an oak tree in Ashfield on a summer day, drinking iced tea and visiting with my mother. "Don't forget your girlfriends", Mother advised, clinking the ice cubes in her glass.

No matter how much you love your husband, you are still going to need girlfriends. Remember to go places with them now and then; and do things with them, even when you don't necessarily want to, And remember that girlfriends are not only friends, but sisters, daughters, mothers, grandmothers and other relatives too. Women supporting and relating to other women is our responsibility and our gift.

"What a funny piece of advice," I thought. "Hadn't I just gotten married? Hadn't I just joined the couple-world? I was now a married woman, for goodness sake, not some young girl who needed friends!"

But I listened to my Mom. I kept in contact with my girlfriends and even found some new ones along the way. As the years tumbled by, one after another, I gradually came to understand that Mom really knew what she was talking about!

Here is what I know about girlfriends:

girlfriends bring casseroles and scrub your bathroom when you need help;

girlfriends keep your children and your secrets.

girlfriends give advice when you ask, sometimes you take it and sometimes you don't.

girlfriends don't always tell you you're right, but they usually tell the truth.

girlfriends still love you, even when they disagree with your choices.

girlfriends laugh with you and don't need canned jokes to start the laughter.

girlfriends pull you out of jams.
girlfriends don't keep a calendar of who hosted the other's last big party.

girlfriends will celebrate for your son or daughter when they get married or have a baby, in whichever order that happens.

girlfriends are there for

you in an instant, and when the hard times come,

girlfriends listen when you lose a job or a friend.

girlfriends listen when your children break your heart.

girlfriends listen when your parents' minds and bodies fail.

My daughters, sisters, family, and friends bless my life! When we began this adventure, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other.....
Pass this on to your girlfriends/sisters/daughters. I just did!
Submitted by Dale Fitzgerald

Thank You

Many thanks to all the business who are kind enough to allow the newsletter to be displayed for pick-up.

The newsletter is also available on the internet at website:
www.bellisland.net.

Thanks to Reg Durdle for

his help in doing this and for the excellent job he does on the website.

Closing

If you have any comments, concerns, or questions about the newsletter please contact us Cpl. Boyd Merrill at boyd.e.merrill@rcmp-grc.gc.ca or Cst. Colleen Donovan at colleen.donovan@rcmp-grc.gc.ca. We can also be reached at the RCMP Detachment at 116 Memorial Street. or (709) 488-3312