

The Bell Island Community

Policing Newsletter

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

December 2004

From the Corporal's Desk

Another year has come and gone and what an interesting year it has been. A lot has happened on our Island. 2004 has been a year where if nothing else our humble newsletter has succeeded in getting out our little bit of information each month without fail and for that I thank each of you reading this newsletter. I thank those who prepare the newsletter, those who contribute and especially those who take the time to read same. Without the latter we would be cooking supper without having anyone to eat 'er up! It is an important circle.

This article is going to be a little different this month. No long winded analysis or lengthy moral statement just a few reminders in a

form that came to me as I was thinking back over the year while walking the dogs just before Christmas. The format is simple and I trust you enjoy same. A very happy belated holiday season and the very best to all in the New Year from us here at your police office.

A - Always be friendly no matter what the circumstances. Life is far too short.

B - Be a neighbour to everyone. You can't have friends if you're not willing to be one.

C - Care for your family. Raise them with values and ideals. They won't always do what you say but they will mimic your behaviour.

D - Declare your principles. "If you don't stand for something then

you stand for nothing".

E - Eat good food. The world today is full of junk. You are what you eat. This is a good time to be a vegetable....I guess....you know what I mean.

F - Find ways to help others solve their problems. To many people feel alone. Find them and make them feel better.

G - Give to charity. No matter who you are you can help.

H - Hold principles of Christianity close to home/heart and all you do.

I - Initiate conversations with people. Share smiles and suspend sorrows. The world is not perfect but we can control how we perceive it. Share this with others.

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J- Jumping to conclusions is like jumping on thin ice - Its OK until your faced with the bottom of the pond. Think!

K - Kellogs says it best...Breakfast is important. Feed yourself something before you turn yourself out into the world.

L - Live! Don't just take up space. Furniture does that.

M - Make sure you learn something new every day. Read, learn to read, watch TV with purpose. Your brain is a muscle as well. It is not a spacer for your ears. It needs to be challenged.

N - Never take drugs.....Never take drugs.....Never take drugs.....Never take drugs!

O - Open your mind to new ideas as well. Sometimes old ideals are outdated. Only horses use blinders.

P - Practice sharing positive stories. Don't gossip or make up rumours. If you share hate you will be known as such. Pessimism is not attractive nor useful in any way.

Q - Quiet your mind at least once a day. Take time to relax and unwind.

R - Remember what is important in life....every minute of your life. It is easy to get upset over nothing. Why bother.

S - Show compassion.

T - Think before you talk. A person does not long remember a physical gesture but will well remember the one who called them a name.....especially a child.

U - Use what you have to build community.

V - (tough one) Visualize your expected achievements and they will come true. All athletes and business persons know this one.

W - Worry Not! Worrying is the most wasted form of thought there is. Worry is simply the fear of doing something that will change what you are worrying about. People who plan to solve their problems never worry. They don't have to.

X - X Rated films are not for kids. Supervise what

your kids are seeing. Talk to your kids. Everything they do "IS" your fault not someone else's. Take responsibility and don't blame society. You are accountable and responsible for your kids.

Y - Yearn to be successful whatever you do. Practise and practise more. Your success depends on practise and education.

Z - Zip up your lips around your elders. Listen and learn. Asian cultures have the right idea. They respect those who have had more experiences than them. Seniors are a source of information. It is like my father always says..."just ask me and I'll tell you the truth of it all. I have seen it many times before.....you haven't". He was right!

It doesn't matter what you do in this world...what matters is what you do for others!

Corporal Boyd Merrill

New Release 2004-11-29
What do you do when you can't think of a solution to repeated nuisances entering your store or

dealing with persons who repeatedly cash bad cheques? What can you do when faced with situations involving fraud, counterfeiting, forgery, and other criminal incidents at your place of business? Well what Bell Island did was to form their own Better Business Association.

Association spokesperson and secretary Cpl. Boyd MERRILL applauded the business community of Bell Island for partnering amongst themselves and with police to make a difference. The initial idea was to join all bar owners on the Island together to become a force to be reckoned with while dealing with inappropriate bar behaviour, patrons who habitually fight or cause disturbances and similar acts. But once the group met for the first time they soon realized the issues were more far reaching and involved all types of businesses.

This association plans to meet each month on the first Monday to discuss how they can improve their own security systems, protect themselves from loss and generally learn

how to better survive in today's realities of business. All businesses are encouraged to send a representative to the next meeting January 3rd, 2005 at 1 p.m.

MERRILL notes that community residents that band together often find many successes not realized when trying to do things alone. This is community development and protection at it's best. end

Contact 727-1861 Cpl. Boyd MERRILL

EARLY HISTORY OF BELL ISLAND - PART 4

In the case of the English it is known that many were deserters from the Royal Navy. With most of the Irish, it was a case of finding freedom in a new land from oppression at home. In between there could be a variety of causes, including hiding from justice, evading debt or marital troubles, and in general escaping from various difficulties at home. In many instances though it was simply a case

of responding to the call of adventure, which brought many young men from the Old World to the newer lands across the sea.

A story is told of an Englishman in the last century who was walking along a lonely road in Devon from one village to another when he was overtaken by darkness. Seeing a horse and wagon standing outside a gate in a high wall he crawled into the wagon, which was covered in with canvas, and made himself comfortable for the night.

Presently the gate opened and two men appeared carrying a long box which they placed in the rear of the wagon without noticing that they had a passenger. Our friend soon realized, after the team got underway, that he was lying beside a corpse, and that the two men were grave robbers (or "burkers" as they were known, after the notorious "resurrectionists" William Burke, who was hanged at Edinburgh in 1829.)

By and by they came to a tavern and the driver said, "This is dry work, Joe.

Let's go in and have a drink." A deep voice answered him from inside the wagon, "I don't mind if I do". The two robbers, thinking it was the dead man who spoke, jumped down off the seat and took to their heels. Whereupon their passenger drove to the nearest doctor, sold the corpse and the rig for a handsome "profit" and so obtained sufficient money to buy a passage out to Newfoundland.

But to return to the subject of old tombstones, in the C of E cemetery on the Beach Hill there is a monument to Thomas Searl who died January 14, 1819, aged 71 years. He was an Englishman from Kent. He too grew fine crops and was also a breeder of horses. There is also a stone to the memory of Jenry Normore, a grandson of the first settler, who died March 18, 1860 aged 88 years. He was a successful farmer and kept twelve milch cows and other cattle.

Up to fairly recent times there were two old headstones near the road over the Beach Hill, standing in unfenced

ground. They have since disappeared with the widening of the road. One was dedicated to the memory of John Jackman of County Kilkenny, Ireland, who died December 10, 1810. He was a successful fisherman. The other stone was erected to the memory of William Dwyer of Waterford who died December 18, 1814. The oldest tombstone in the R.C. cemetery is one to John Power who died May 18, 1873. He raised oats on his farm in addition to other crops. The Power farm at the Front was a famous one. The earlier of that family was Thomas Power, born in Waterford, who died on Bell Island, at the age of 88 years. One of his descendants, of the same name, had a big farm near St. Michael's Church and kept thirty head of cattle as well as many sheep and pigs. He employed a number of young men who afterwards became farmers themselves. Thomas Power is said to have been the first to build a silo in Newfoundland. In one season eh sold 300 barrels of turnips in Harbour Grace and Carbonear which he

had grown on his farm.

Name the Notable Newfoundlanders

1. Father time because he invented Daylight Savings Time.

2. He was the first white man to walk, along with an Indian guide, across the Island in 1822.

3. This ex-patriot Newfoundlanders defeated James Elliott in 12 rounds in 1879 to become Heavyweight Champion of the World, and retired undefeated.

4. This young man became the first Newfoundlanders to play with a NHL hockey team, the Detroit Red Wings.

5. He helped save millions of lives. His invention? The anti-gas mask, adopted by the War Department during WW1.

6. She opened a chain of restaurants in the United States, famed for their

botanical decor and good food. It was an Empire Built on a dime.

7. She was the last known survivor of the Beothucks, Newfoundland's original inhabitants. She died in St. John's in 1829.

8. He was instrumental in bring Confederation with Canada to Newfoundland in 1949 and was premier of the province for more than 20 years.

9. This millionaire medicine man made his fortune through sales of Patent medicines and sponsored a newscast bearing his name that lasted for 30 years.

10. He won the Victoria Cross for bravery in addition during WW1, as well as the Cross du Guerre. He was awarded a state funeral.

Match these names with the above statements

A. Thomas Ricketts

- B. Alex Faulkner
- C. Honourable John Anderson
- D. William Epps Cormack
- E. Joseph R. Smallwood
- F. Gerald S. Doyle
- G. Johnny Dwyer
- H. Cluney MacPherson
- I. Shanawdithit
- J. Patricia Murphy

Answers to the above at the end of the Newsletter.

Rearrange the letters to name some popular fish

- HODSFIC
- LEREKPIC
- ACKMRELA
- NOLMSA
- EKIP
- HSAKR
- NUTA
- ARINDSES
- NIFLBEU
- BUTHALI
- ROUTT
- WSRDOIFHS
- ALWHE
- PALCNI
- LYRAGNIG
- SABS
- NSAPPRE
- HRREGIN
- YLLFHIE
- RECHP
- LAHEW OUNFLDER

Submitted by Don Squires
Wabana Boys & Girls

Club
“Every Kid Has Potential”

Once again another year have come to an end and on behalf of the Board of Directors, Staff, and the members of the Boys & Girls Club we would like to wish the people of Bell Island and the readers of this newsletter the very best for 2005.

2005 marks a very important milestone for our club; we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. We have served thousands of Bell Islander in our 50 years. With the continued support from the people of Bell Island we hope we can provide the same services for another 50 years. We have a 50th Anniversary celebration planned from July 22nd to July 31st. Some of the Events planned are Meet & Greet, Sport Events, Cook Outs, Club Breakfast, Reunion Dance, Social Event, Entertainment Event, Musical Night, Dinner Theatre, Club BBQ, Gala Banquet, the Firemen's street dance and Hall of Fame dinner will also be apart of our anniversary.

You can find out more about these events if you visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.bellisland.net"](http://www.bellisland.net) www.bellisland.net . The Boys & Girls club is currently looking for volunteers to help with different types of programs. If you have some free time on your hands and a talent/skill that you can offer to our members at the club please call. Being a non profit organization we can very much use an extra set of hands to assist with our everyday programs. One hour a week won't only make a difference with our programs but would make a difference in the lives of our members. Being on the topic of volunteers, I would like to congratulate and thank our Youth Volunteers who have played a major role with our daily programming. They have become great role models for the younger members of our club plus a great asset to the staff. Members of the Youth Volunteer Program are Ashley Arnold, Amanda Arnold, Tamie Arnold, Sean Hammond, Freddy Matthews, Jessica Rees, and Keith Neary, we are hoping to see you all back

again this year. We had a year end party for these volunteers and they have been awarded for their dedication and support to this program.

Registration has started for the Winter Programs, we ask that your child call or drop in to register for the programs of their choice. We are offering Floor Hockey for all age groups, 11-14 and 13-18 Co-Ed Volleyball, 13-18 Co-Ed Basketball, Boys Soccer 9-13, Girls Soccer 11-14, and many other programs such as Road to Reading, Life Skills, and Homework. So don't hesitate sign your child up for these programs.

On December 4th we held our annual Breakfast with Santa, I would like to thank Santa for taking time out off his busy schedule to make this possible, the ladies (Shirley Murphy, Eileen Power, & Gertie George) who prepared the breakfast, and Brenda Sweeney for taking the pictures.

On Monday December 13th, I had the privilege to attend a very special Christmas party for some

very special people in our community, the Adults with Developed Mental Disability. It was a party that was hosted by Social Worker (Lori Hann) and the R.C.M.P. and it was a great time for all who attended. All were very excited upon the arrival of good old Santa but the highlight of the afternoon was the performance of O Holy Night by Bonnie Skanes. We all seem to get caught up in our busy schedules this time of the year and forget about others around us especially these adults, being one of those busy people, thanks to Lori & the RCMP for taking time to remember the Adults with Developed Mental Disabilities. I'm looking forward to seeing this an annual event. During the run of a year the Boys & Girls Club have many fund raising projects to help with the operation of the club and run programs. Without your support to these projects it a lot harder to make this happen. So, we ask the people of the community, especially the parents of our members to please support our projects. Some nights to remember are every

Thursday night Bingo at the Legion and our Monthly Card Game, which is held on the last Monday night of the month.

I would like to end this letter by thanking all the people and organizations who support the Boys & Girls Club, we look forward to your continued support and we welcome anyone else who would like to jump aboard.

A quick reminder to all of our members that registration for 2005 has to be paid by the end of January. The membership will be the same as 2004, \$5.00 for ages 14-18 and \$3.00 for members 5-13.

Submitted by Joe Somerton

News from the Town of Wabana

Our 2005 Tax Schedule is on the last page of this newsletter. Note to residents: No tax increase again this year.

Come Home Year 2005 - BELL ISLAND - STILL

ALIVE IN 2005

You are invited to help us celebrate COME HOME YEAR. Join in the fun from July 15 to Aug. 15, 2005. For more information call the Town Hall or visit our website www.bellisland.net. 2005 also marks the 50th Anniversary of the Boys and Girls Club on Bell Island.

All former alumni are invited to participate in a variety of fun events during Come Home Year. Calendar of Events coming in early 2005.

**Diane Butler,
Town Clerk
Town of Wabana
Phone 488-2990**

Bell Island Brighter Futures Family Resource Centre

As you are reading this article it is now 2005 - the beginning of a new year. I would like to encourage all residents with children ages 6 years down to the time of conception to take

part in Brighter Futures. These programs are for **all** residents, **free** of charge, programs help your child grow and develop, family activities are offered through out the year and most of all you spend quality time with your child. The more participants in programs the more that can be offered to you and your child. Make a conscious effort to drop by and see what we have to offer to you and yours.

Activities for the new year have not been confirmed as yet - some things we hope to have in the new year are family events like breakfast, entertainment, and visitors for you and your child to enjoy. Just call or drop for a completed calendar of events for each month.

P.S. I would like to send out a special thank you to SANTA who visited our centre for pictures and came to our Christmas party with the children. We all appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to spend time with us.

Big Thanks

Wonderful Party!!
Monday afternoon, Dec. 12, 2004, a party for the developmentally delayed was held at the parish hall. This was an excellent fun time for everyone who attended, which included members of the RCMP, their wives, staff from the RCMP headquarters, Lori Hann from Community Services, Tom Spracklin, and of course the children and young adults for which this party was held. All people who made this event so successful must be commended for their efforts in organizing such a wonderful afternoon.

Parents and caregivers wish to thank all involved who helped make this a fun filled and enjoyable time.

**Hollie Neary - Program Coordinator
488-2699**

“ATTENTION”

October's issue of the Newsletter contained an article for residents / businesses / organizations interested in establishing a Credit Union on Bell Island. While the response has been encouraging, a

much larger interest from the public is required.

The formation of a Credit Union is a step by step process that can only progress **by your initial expression of Interest.** If you want your own Financial Institution. **DO NOT HESITATE** to call either Wayne Flight at 488-2962 or Ken Kavanagh at 488-2221 or via e-mail kavanagh.ken@gmail.com

Name the Notable Newfoundlanders answers below:....

1. C - Hon. John Anderson
2. D - William Epps Cormack
3. G - Johnny Dwyer
4. B - Alex Faulkner
5. H - Cluney MacPherson
6. J - Patricia Murphy
7. I - Shanawdithit
8. E - Joseph R. Smallwood
9. F - Gerald S. Doyle
10. A - Thomas Ricketts

***Kevin Bouzane
June 25, 1941 -
November 5, 2004***

The family of the late Kevin Bouzane would like

to express their sincere appreciation to relatives, friends, and neighbours who were very supportive and caring during Kevin's illness and sudden death. Special thanks to Father Wayne Dohey and Father Butler for conducting such a beautiful funeral service, and to Pendergast's Funeral Home for their professionalism and compassion. Thank-you to the doctors and staff on the 6th floor of St. Clare's Hospital and to all those who sent cards, flowers and monetary donations in Kevin's name to the Dr. Walter Templeton Hospital. We would like to especially thank the doctors and staff of the Dr. Walter Templeton hospital for the care and kindness they have given to Kevin over the past twelve years. You will always be in our hearts, and we will be forever grateful. Although it is impossible to thank everyone, please be assured that your many acts of kindness, care and comfort will always be remembered.

**Sincerely,
Roslyn, Ida, Robert and Sean**

Charges and Convictions

On 2004-11-25, a 32 year old male from the Green, appeared in court on a charge of Impaired Driving from an August 1st, 2004 incident. The matter has been set aside until 2005-01-05.

On 2004-11-26, a 30 year old male from the East End was charged with Cruelty to Animals and is to appear in court on 2005-01-12. The charge arose from two separate incidents on 2004-11-09 in the East End.

On 2004-12-01, a 44 year old male from the East End, appeared in court on one charge of Uttering Threats, and one charge of Intimidation from a July 23rd, 2004 incident that occurred in an East End residence. The matter has been set aside until 2005-01-10.

A 48 year old Wabana male appeared in court charged with Theft Under \$5000 from an August 6, 2004 incident from a West Mines residence. He pleaded not guilty to that charge and the trial was set for 2004-12-06 and the charge was

dismissed that date.

On 2004-12-07, a 26 year old male from St. John's, charged with Assault With a Weapon and Causing a Disturbance from a June 29, 2004 incident outside West Mines Sports Bar and his father's West Mines residence, attended court and the matter was set aside until 2004-12-21 and then again to 2005-02-14.

On 2004-12-08, a 33 year old male was scheduled to attend court for a trial on a charge of Assault from an April 16th, 2004 incident that occurred at the East End residence of his girlfriend. He did not appear and a Warrant of Arrest has been issued.

On 2004-11-23 and 2004-12-08, a 24 year old Wabana male, charged with two counts of Assault and one count of Mischief from a 2004-10-01 incident at a residence on the Ridge appeared in court. His plea date was set aside until 2005-01-12.

On 2004-12-21, a 17 year old male from the East End attended court for a charge of Uttering Threats. The charge arose from an

incident outside the teen dance at the Heritage Hall on 2004-10-22. The matter has been set aside to 2005-02-01.

Thank You

Many thanks to all the businesses 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 Noble at colleen.noble@rcmp-grc.gc.ca. We can also be reached at the RCMP Detachment at 116 Memorial Street. or (709) 488-3312.