

# *The Bell Island Community Policing Newsletter*

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

**June 2005**

## ***From the Corporal's Desk***

Have you ever sat on the boat and watched the excitement in a group of youngsters when they are off to town or farther abroad to play basketball or volleyball representing our Island. Just last week I did. There was a flurry of yelling and carrying on while on the boat sailed across the Tickle. The behaviour was similar to what one would expect from young people. It grabbed my attention for a reason that took a few minutes to understand.

I watched as the consumption of fruit drinks, chips, pop and bars became the order of the day. Each wearing the uniform / team shirts of Bell Island, openly displayed to the public. It made me wonder if they even knew how proud it made us older Bell Islanders to watch as they took the Islands name to others

abroad. I really don't think they did.

I say this because when I was a kid - no smart remarks - my priority was to have fun (and to tease as many girls as possible in the midst of all of it). I was willing to go on any field trip just to get out of school. I wanted to see other schools and the communities where the other teams lived. It was interesting and fun but the last thing on my mind was how I was making the older ones from my community feel proud. At least that is how I remember it.

Like Bell Island, I came from a small but growing community that worked hard to raise good solid youngsters. Each parent I knew helped build the local youth centre known as the Rec Centre. The centre came about after a few grants and a lot of donations paved the way for volunteer hours pounding nails and pouring cement. I remember a local

gentleman laying the varnish on the new gym floor after numerous persons placed thousands of nails in 2 x 4's laid on their edge to make a surface good enough for sanding and finishing. The work was 10 % money and 90 % volunteer. Why? Because the kids needed it. That was reason enough. Everyone kicked in what they could.

The same thing goes on here. Look at the Boys and Girls Club. Look at the Heritage Hall. People don't do nice things for youth just because they like the work...they want to see kids grow up and be glad they lived in such a great community as Bell Island. Look at the hockey, figure skating, church related youth activities, school sports and other kids club activities. Their leaders usually are the ones who were the participants years before. These programs exist because someone

cares about how kids feel about themselves and how they look and interact with the rest of the world.

I once read about the Bell Island track and field program and how the sports performed in the province and beyond. Someone had to believe in the kids here for that to happen. Champions don't just exist - they are cultured. Bell Islanders were known far and wide for their running and jumping skills. They were known for their hockey. They were known for the crowds that turned out to watch them and cheer them on whatever the sport. This remains to this day. And the reason is because it brings us older crowd back to when we were the ones wearing the uniform. Many can remember the shirt that had an Island business name on the rear of it. It brought us back to the feeling of being care free and excited about leaving our community to show others what we are made of.. It reminds us that there is a lot more to life than paying bills.

I want to thanks those kids for that day I saw them on the boat. I don't even

remember what they were playing or where they were going. I will just be thankful to all young Bell Islanders who practice and participate and represent us. You are a special part of your community. Something you will not understand until someday you are sitting on a boat watching others do the same thing. Life happens in circles! Have a great safe summer.

**Submitted by: E.B. MERRILL, Cpl.  
Bell Island RCMP Police**

***Notice to Bell Island Residents - Donations to Public by Kiwanis Club of Bell Island***

Kiwanis Music Festival  
\$ 55.00  
RCMP Christmas Party  
\$ 50.00  
Legion Poppy Fund  
\$ 100.00

Msgr. Bartlett Arena  
\$ 86.25  
Santa Claus Parade  
\$ 500.00  
St. Michael's Parish  
\$ 30.00  
Red Cross (Tsunami)  
\$ 300.00  
Islanders Volleyball

\$ 200.00  
Bell Island Figure Skating  
\$ 100.00  
Bell Island Minor Hockey  
\$ 500.00  
Canadian Cancer Society  
\$ 50.00  
Goldie Cummings  
\$ 100.00  
Easter Tournament Minor Hockey  
\$ 40.00  
Bell Island Bike Rodeo  
\$ 300.00  
Mothers Day Cancer Walk  
\$ 50.00

Between October 1, 2004 and April 30, 2005  
Kiwanis donated \$2461.25 to community efforts here and some abroad. Any projects that are youth related are our priority!

**Submitted by: Boyd MERRILL, Secretary for Gary GOSINE, President Bell Island Kiwanis**

***News From the 50 Plus Club***

It gives me pleasure to report that the 50 Plus Fitness Class is thriving and growing by leaps and bounds (no pun intended).

We continue to meet each Monday and Thursday nights at the Wabana Complex, at 7pm for an hour and a half of fun and fitness. New members are always made very welcome and we look forward to seeing even more people join in the fun and exercise program.

One of the criteria of our program is that you leave your cares and worries behind. We concentrate on the positive, we laugh as much as we can, we don't back bite or make fun of each other, but we do enjoy each other, we are a big happy family of ladies who want to stay fit both physically and mentally.

For those of you who are not familiar with our program, here is a rundown of our activities:

- Warm up exercises - 15 minutes
- Low impact aerobics - 30 minutes
- Cool down exercises - 15 minutes
- Weight lifting - 15 minutes
- Meditations - 15 minutes

Our class is called: PUFF (Project Upright Fun and Fitness)

The Upright means we do all of our exercises on our feet, there is no getting down on the floor to workout on mats. All exercises are either: Standing - doing various upper and lower body stretches and exercises. Walking - walking around the exercise area, and the hall area. Dancing - dancing around the exercise area, singing to the music and having a pretty happy time. Weight lifting - our ladies use dumb bells of varying weights, from two 1 pound weights, to two 3 pound weights. Meditations - At the end of our program we sit in a circle, with relaxing music playing in the background, while I read a short meditation to everyone. The meditation could be a walk on the beach, a visit to a country estate, walking in the woods, visiting a temple, or the meditation could be one where we get in contact with our inner selves, our male and female selves, and meditations about expressing our creativity, developing intuition, and other topics of interest to us all.

Please make it a point to come along, try it out, and see what you are missing. I promise you will come back for more.

**Submitted by: Diane Butler**

### *Delectable Delights*

Some interesting Newfoundland recipes - If you haven't already made them- Give them a try:

#### AUNT MARY'S COD BUBBLY BAKE

- 2 tbsp butter
  - 1 large onion
  - ½ cup diced celery
  - 1 tsp salt
  - ½ tsp pepper
  - 1 can cream of mushroom soup
  - 1/4 cup of water
  - 1 can mixed vegetables
  - 1 cup cooked noodles
  - Bread crumbs
  - Cheese
- Saute onions and celery in butter. Add fish (as much or as little as you like), salt and pepper. Mix in soup and water. Cook ten minutes. Add vegetables and noodles. Mix. Place in butter dish and bake in over at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Add bread crumbs and cheese during

last 10 minutes. Delicious!

P.S. if you know who Aunt Mary is please let us know.

**PAN FRIED TROUT**

Native Newfoundland Trout are a treat!

Catch and clean a dozen or so pan size trout (if you cannot catch, then buy them)

You also need:

- ½ cup flour
- salt
- pepper
- ½ cup milk
- ½ cup fat

Wipe fish with damp cloth. Dip fish into the milk and then into seasoned flour. Fry in hot fat until brown, turn fish and brown other side. Delicious!.

**NEWFY JIGGS DINNER**

- 4 pounds salt beef
- 1 large cabbage
- 6 potatoes, whole
- 6 carrots
- 1 turnip, large
- 2 pounds salt ribs
- 4 onions, peeled, whole
- pepper
- 6 ounces Screech.

Place salt beef and ribs in

large boiler, filled with water. Bring to a boil. Add two ounces of screech to a six ounce tumbler, fill with cola over ice, and pour into the Chef. Boil salt beef and ribs for two hours for 5 minutes or so, drain water, then refill the boiler with water and bring to boil again. Boil for two hours or until meat is tender, then add all vegetable. Generously sprinkle with pepper, and cover for another 30 to 40 minutes. Pour two more ounces of screech over ice and top with cola, pour into cook or cook's helper. Just before serving Newfy Jigg's dinner, toss back remaining two ounces of screech without ice or cola and proclaim "long may her big jib draw"! . Serve dinner.

**ICEBERG SCREECH**

First, locate a beached iceberg. Many can often be found along our shores. Chip off several chunks. And reduce to ice cube size. Drop one or two into highball glass. Pour two fingers of screech over iceberg ice cubes. Add a dash of cola or water and a twist of lime. Delicious and different.

**MOOSE BURGERS**

- 2 pounds ground moose meat
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 6 strips bacon, crisp.
- 1 can cream mushroom soup. (If desired)

Mix moose meat, pepper, and onion together, with liberal dash of salt and pepper. Shape meat into patties. Sprinkle with minced bacon. Place butter or oil in fry pan and add patties. Sear, then cook on each side for three minutes. Heat soup and pour over burgers. Do not dilute soup.

**Source: 'The Great Newfoundland Trivia & Family Fun Book', Submitted by Don Squires**

***GREETINGS FROM  
YOUR CO-OP TO  
THE PEOPLE OF  
BELL ISLAND ON  
YOUR  
'HOMECOMING  
YEAR'***

As summer approaches (we know it has to be out there somewhere in the fog!), thoughts naturally turn to the events which will shape our lives and our community over the next couple of months.

Congratulations from your Co-op to the Wabana “Boys & Girls Club” on their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The “Schedule of Events” we all received this week shows just how hard the organizers have been working to make this an all-inclusive celebration!

Your Co-op is working to expand our Membership and Loan Capital programs as noted in the last Newsletter. Please leave your name at the Bakery if you are interested in purchasing a membership or want more information on the loan capital program. We’re upgrading our application forms and loan certificates, which I thought would be available by now, but they will be ready for circulation very shortly. In the meantime, from any names left at the bakery this month, we will draw for a prize and that will continue throughout the summer.

After two successful summers, it appears our “Breakfast at the Bakery” program will not go ahead this year. The final decision will be made in the next couple of weeks and will depend on volunteers to help us on Saturday mornings to cook and serve breakfast. The program, as you all know, has been responsible for our new windows, the air conditioning unit for the kitchen, and other renovations needed. However, we need volunteers as several of those who gave their time every Saturday mornings for the past two summers will not be available this year. Please give it some thought and give Kay a call if you are interested (488-2271).

Another fundraiser your Co-op will be undertaking in the next month or so is a Bell Island cookbook for sale throughout our “Homecoming Year” and beyond. I’m looking for recipes from Bell Islanders – recipes that are “tried and true” in your family. We’ll use your name and the area in which you live which will make it even more special. I’ll add some poems and one page stories of the people of

the island to make this a really special souvenir. But to have it succeed, I need your great recipes now! We all know that Bell Island has some great cooks and bakers, so I’m looking forward to your response. Just drop them at the bakery and you’ll see your name in print in a month or two. Sincere thanks from your Co-op. Your Co-op has one vacancy on its Board right now, and as we have many exciting initiatives planned for the next year, we hope people will consider serving on the Board for 2005. We’re a grand group of people, all friends and neighbors living on the island, and you’ll be more than welcome by each of us! We meet on the second Sunday afternoon each month for about an hour. If you’re interested in volunteering for your Co-op, please give me a call at 488-2271. Volunteering is something a lot of people have thought about but just don’t get around to doing. I’ve been a volunteer most of my adult life, and for the most part have enjoyed meeting new people and taking on new challenges.

So, give it some thought and you'll find you have a couple of hours a week that you can give back to your community, whether it be serving on your Co-op Board or volunteering at the hospital, the Boys & Girls Club or other groups in the community.

Congratulations to all involved with our "Homecoming Year" and your Co-op wishes you every success as you continue with your planning and head into the home stretch! Your volunteering is helping our community come together to celebrate our history and I hope everyone will get out, enjoy the events, and make this a successful year.

Congratulations again to the Boys and Girls Club on their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You've been a big part of life on Bell Island and in the lives of most of the young people of Bell Island for half a century – and may that continue for many years to come!

**Submitted by:**  
**Kay Coxworthy**  
**Secretary**  
**The Bell Island**  
**Community Development**

### **Co-op**

#### ***Shawna Mugford --- One Year Later***

We would appreciate the opportunity to send a heartfelt thank you out to all those who were involved in or contributed in any way to the benefit supporting Shawna Mugford and family last year in their time of need. It's been a year now since Shawna has undergone what doctors say should be her last open heart surgery. At a recent Cardiology appointment, tests revealed positive results for Shawna and confirmed what doctors hoped to see at this point following her surgery. Shawna is progressing very well despite the many obstacles she endured over the past eight years. We could not have done this without the help of family, friends, and people like you who found it in your hearts to help us in any way possible and contribute to our worthy cause. Once again, Thank You to all from the Lawrence and Mugford family.

**Submitted by: Juanita  
Lawrence**

### ***Thank You***

Thank you to Bell Island Residents and Bell Island Businesses for your financial support in our various fundraising efforts to send St. Michael's Grade 9 Girls Volleyball Team to Sherbrooke, Quebec. Without your support, we simply couldn't have done it!

**Submitted by:**  
**Islanders Volleyball  
Club, their parents, and  
coach Deanne Hiscock**

**Team Members:**  
**Meagan Benoit**  
**Heather Benoit**  
**Brittany Blackwood**  
**Wendy Brown**  
**Amanda Curnew**  
**Jessica Kelloway**  
**Crystal King**  
**Sarah King**  
**Amy Maddigan**  
**Jennifer Sweeney**  
**Courtney Vokey**  
**Sharon Whelan**

***Bell Island Ferry  
Users Committee-  
June Update***

The Committee Executive

has not met since the last the Annual General Meeting in April. An Executive meeting is being scheduled for early June.

While no formal meetings have been held the Committee is in regular contact with Marine Services officials and MHA Whalen's Office on a variety of issues.

**COMMUTERS:**

The Summer 2005 Commuter passes have been substantively processed. Over the past 12 months over 500 separate individuals have held commuter passes, of which 75 were issued to Commuters commuting from the Cove. The 425 Bell Island based passes are a testament to the importance of the ferry service as a means to travel to the City region for employment and further education.

Commuters are encouraged to purchase the 12 use Advance ticket rather than purchasing single tickets as the time it takes to purchase single tickets slows down the ferry turnaround and

leads to delayed departures. Tickets can no longer be purchased unless the commuter produces a pass on each purchase for the purser's review at the ticket office.

**FERRY LINE-UP LANES:**

Travelers are reminded of the ferry use rules, which stipulate that vehicles may not be left unattended in the ferry line-up lanes leaving gaps, which frustrate other users. Misuse of the line-up can lead to vehicles being towed etc.

The Committee is continuing to lobby heavily for the Transportation Department to extend and pave the ferry line-up lane in the Cove through the Rock cut in order to address a significant traffic safety issue.

**COME HOME YEAR FERRY SCHEDULE:**

Efforts are underway to negotiate increased ferry service for the 4 weeks of the Come Home Year Festivities especially on the weekends. Your support and cooperation in keeping our ferries and ferry terminals clean and tidy is welcomed.

Normally in summer months the ferry service carries upwards of 30,000 round trip passengers per month. This summer we expect to see the 30,000 to increase significantly as Come Home Year attracts many more visitors.

**VESSELS AVAILABILITY:**

The Committee has secured a commitment that both vessels will be fully available for the summer period with vessel inspections completed so as to minimize any downtime. A commitment has been made to have some painting done on the vessels in the near future. Our big concern is that in the event of an unforeseen ferry breakdown there is likely no spare ferry available to fill in as the Hamilton Sound is struggling to fill in for other broken down ferries and may not be available as a back-up.

**DOCKS SAFETY:**

The Committee remains disappointed and concerned at the slowness of efforts to fix the docks

and the dock fendering such that the safety of the docks can be restored. The Provincial Occupational and Health and Safety Division have ordered several sections of the dock closed due to the seriousness of the poor condition these docks are being kept.

**REPLACEMENT OF THE HAMILTON SOUND:**

The Committee's standing lobby to have a new vessel constructed to replace the Hamilton Sound so that Bell Island has access to a modern spare vessel continues to be pursued. The Provincial ferry fleet is in desperate shape and action is needed now to fund new vessel replacements.

**SUMMER TOURISM GUIDES:**

The Committee expects to hire 6 students this summer under Government programs to assist with tourism promotion etc.

If you have ferry concerns please contact Committee members- (David Brazil, Gary Gosine, Boyd Merrill, Ed Kent, Keith Kent, Alexa

Laurie, Tony Power and Donna Kubik.)

**Submitted by: Ed Kent**

***Town of Wabana***

CLEAN UP: Council wishes to advise residents that trees or sections of trees have to be cut in four-foot lengths and tied together or put into garbage bags for council employees to pick up.

**June 18th, 2005**, has been designated CLEAN-UP DAY for the town. Council wishes to encourage everyone, adults and young people to come out on June 18th. and help clean up our town. Hot dogs and drinks will be served in front of the Fire Hall.

Some unknown persons are still throwing garbage and debris around town in un-designated areas. If you see any persons engaged in this activity please report it to the RCMP immediately.

COME HOME YEAR: The Wabana Boys and Girls Club, the council and other organizations are working very hard to have a

successful Come Home Year celebration. Many events and activities are planned and the calendar of events has been posted on the Bell Island website ([www.bellisland.net](http://www.bellisland.net)). If you have an event you wish to include please contact the town council office.

TIDY TOWNS: We are pleased that many homeowners have started to tidy up their properties. Perhaps this year we will receive recognition from the Tidy Towns committee. Please make a special effort this year to clean up and dress up your properties. Thank you.

**Submitted by: Diane Butler**

***Charges and Convictions***

On 2005-05-03, a 22 year old East End male was charged with Assault and two charges of Breach of a Recognizance (document you are released on from previous arrest) from a 2005-02-20 incident near

the Post Office. The first appearance was set for 2005-05-27 and then was set aside that date until 2005-06-15.

On 2005-05-04, a 22 year old female from the East End, charged with Assault after an incident at Belle's Bar on 2005-02-20, appeared in court. The matter was set aside until 2005-05-18. On that date, she entered a guilty plea and received a Suspended Sentence and one year Probation.

On 2005-05-04, a 44 year old Wabana male, charged with Assault and Breach of Probation from a 2005-03-19 incident at a residence in the East End, appeared in court. The matter was set aside until 2005-05-26 and that date was set aside until 2005-07-04.

On 2005-05-04, a 30 year old male from the East End, charged with Cruelty to Animals, appeared in court. The charge arose from two separate incidents on 2004-11-09 in the East End. A guilty plea was entered and the judge ordered a Suspended Sentence, one year Probation and a \$50

Victim Fine Surcharge.

On 2005-05-11, a 19 year old male from the East End appeared in court for one charge of Assault. The charge arose from a 2005-03-23 incident at the residence of his girlfriend. The matter was set aside until 2005-05-19 and then again until 2005-06-17.

This same 19 year old male also appeared in court on 2005-05-19 for a first appearance for another charge of assault from a 2005-04-26 incident that resulted in him being arrested, charged and brought before a judge for release. The incident occurred at his parents residence at Town Square. This matter was also set aside until 2005-06-17.

On 2005-05-12, a 46 year old male convicted of Uttering Threats on 2005-04-26, appeared in court for sentencing. The charge arose from a 2004-08-01 incident at his girlfriend's residence. This male was sentenced to one day, time served and three years probation.

On 2005-05-17, three young males (two age 14, one age

15) appeared in court on charges on Break and Enter to Commit Theft and Break and Enter to Commit Damage. The charges arose from a 2005-03-03 incident in Lance Cove. One of the 14 year olds and the 15 year old were sent to Diversion (to be dealt with outside of the court process) and the remaining 14 year old was sentenced to twelve months probation.

The same 14 year old male sentenced to probation in the above noted matter, also appeared in court this date for sentencing after being convicted on 2005-04-12 for two charges of Breach of an Undertaking. He was arrested and charged on 2005-03-15 for these offences. The sentence for these charges is the same, twelve months probation.

On 2005-05-17, a charge of Uttering Threats for a 15 year old female from St. Philips was sent to Diversion. The charge arose from a 2005-02-15 incident on The Green that date involving police.

On 2005-05-19, a 42 year

old male from the East End, appeared in court on one charge of Impaired Driving on an ATV on Bennett Street on 2004-05-01. This male entered a guilty plea to Driving With A Blood Alcohol Level Exceeding .08 and a charge of Impaired Driving was withdrawn. He was sentenced to 14 days jail and received a two year Driving Prohibition.

On 2005-05-24, a 43 year old male and his 23 year old son from The Green, appeared in Supreme Court for trial. The 43 year old was charged with Assault Causing Bodily Harm, Break and Enter, Mischief and Assault. The 23 year old was charged with Assault Causing Bodily Harm, Break and Enter, Mischief and Breach of Probation. The charges stem from a 2003-03-08 incident in the East End residence of a 30 year old victim. The judge has set a court date of 2005-06-17 to render his decision and sentencing (if required).

On 2005-05-24, a 21 year old male from St. John's appeared in court for a charge of Breach of

Probation from a 2004-05-09 incident on The Ridge. A guilty plea was entered and he was sentenced to time served.

On 2005-05-24, a 17 year old Wabana male was charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle Without a Valid Driver's Licence, Operating a Motor Vehicle Not Registered and Operating a Motor Vehicle Without Insurance. The charges stem from a 2005-04-08 incident which resulted in this male's dirt bike being seized by police. The first court appearance is set for 2005-06-29.

On 2005-05-27, a 41 year old male from the East End was found guilty of Obstructing a Police Officer and Causing a Disturbance. A charge of Assault and a charge of Mischief were withdrawn. The charges stem from a May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004 incident in the East End residence of his girlfriend. A pre-sentence report has been ordered and the facts (whenever someone pleads guilty or is found guilty of an offence, the accused must admit what happened to the judge or "state the facts" of the incident to the judge.

The facts of the case are worked out and agreed upon between the Crown and the defence) and sentencing are set over until 2005-07-12.

### ***Thank You***

The newsletter is now distributed to every household on Bell Island via Canada Post thanks to the sponsorship of the Town of Wabana. Extra copies can also be picked up at the Bell Island R.C.M.P. detachment Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

The newsletter is also available on the internet at website:

[www.bellisland.net](http://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.merrill@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:boyd.merrill@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)

## **The Bell Island Policing Newsletter**

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