



Bell Island Community Policing Newsletter

April 2006

*The Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Avalon East District – Bell Island
Executive Editor: Donna Kubik*

From the Corporal's Desk

"The seal harvest will come and go and we will all know little difference. Maybe we should all pitch in and buy a G.P.S. system for the London dude who can't seem to remember where he is. We can't have ex-rockstars walking around Canada without direction"

Controversy seems to be everywhere these last few weeks.

There were comments flying in the "Open Line" programs every day about the Seal Oil capsules, the Oil Industry and yes the Bell Island Hockey.

It seems since we live near the ocean and we love the hockey, we are involved somewhat in all three.

Now I am not big enough or dumb enough (don't say it!) to get involved in the politics of any decisions made about any of these things but I have made some neutral observations and have heard comments.

Being a landowner etc. on Bell Island and a taxpayer I can ask for a bit of leeway here as well.

I didn't know that Seal oil capsules were even for sale at the store in town everyone is talking

about. I wish I did. I know they are good for me, full of the omega 3 essential fatty acids etc. that keep the ole heart ticking'.

It seems to me that those who support using all of the seal carcass would be in favour of this product as well. Native cultures believe that if you need something and it has to be "taken" then use it all. I agree. I personally didn't like seal much until a Bell Island lady made the best tasting meal I have ever had and I won't mention Marion's name but I hope to try more. I really think that in Canada the only ones really thinking about this issue much are the ones living here in this province. The people living up on the mainland with the \$2000.00 dollar mortgages have more to worry about than seals. I doubt the farmers in Sask. even know what a seal looks like. It just seems that

since the focus of the media is in NL. then the most hype is here.

I wonder what would happen if we all turned off the TV for a week then what would it matter....really. The seal harvest will come and go and we will all know little difference.

Maybe we should all pitch in and buy a G.P.S. system for the London dude who can't seem to remember where he is.

We can't have ex-rock stars walking around Canada without direction.

The oil industry seems interesting lately. Unless one is really missing the issue here it is time to encourage our youth to think in terms of what this industry is going to mean job wise and start heading there.

I remember Norman Phillips and Doug Charters (two fellows I

(From the Corporal's Desk continued...)

grew up with) saying to me when we were about 17 or so in New Brunswick, "We are going to train for the upcoming jobs in Alberta because the oil industry is big there".

Both left at 18 and came back at 38 or so. They both got married, bought a house and paid for the house the same day.....cash.

The message here is simple. The oil is here. Forget what everyone is saying and start working towards your future and get the education now. Yes there were others I grew up with who didn't believe Doug and Norman and they are still in N.B. at dead end jobs. This goes for those who left school in grade 9 or 10. Get of your butt and get the upgrading and get that trade you see others getting. No one is going to pass it to you. I am encouraged from the teens I have spoke to who are actively working towards this...good for you. Keep up the positive attitude.

Newfoundland and Labrador

is on an upward swing no doubt about it! Good for us!

What about the hockey? Well I changed my mind and I am not bringing that issue up...not a chance. Congrats to the Junior Blues for sure. You guys played a heck of a series!

One thing I have learned here is that The Island loves it's hockey!!!!!! And yes they are vocal because cheering one the home team is the acceptable thing to do. But there are limits to behavior at a public sporting event and 99% of Bell Islanders abide by them. Recently though two ladies from out of town spoke up about some behavior they felt was inappropriate and voiced it on an open line radio show. One of our own defended our Island because it hurt him to have anyone suggest that there was the level of barbaric behaviour they described on our home soil. Unfortunately it would be impossible for any of the regular hockey fans to see everything that goes on especially one of our valued seniors who is more

interested in the hockey than what others may or may not be doing. We love ya Ray ole buddy! Feel free to send this off to Randy.

I will just say this to the allegations those two women made: We, as Bell Islanders, are very sorry you had negative experiences on this Island.

We are a fun loving, hard working and hockey loving town and yes we have a very few that act before they think, regardless of their age.

We don't condone their actions whatsoever! We are not even going to argue about what happened or if it happened. We simply know you expressed hurt and we express being sorry back to you both. We hope you come back and look for the positives here. There are lots. Thanks for being so candid.

PS:

The police chief and his wife open his house to a free dinner before any hockey game. Hope to see you soon.

Cpl. Boyd Merrill

Greetings From St. Michael's Parish



“Please take time to celebrate the Easter liturgies and to welcome the Risen Lord into our hearts.”

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

The winter months are slowly coming to the end and now we await the wonderful spring and summer months that lie ahead.

I want to remind our readers of some of the important dates that are significant for our parish. Please consider these dates as important especially for those who are part of the various activities and liturgies in our church.

Holy Thursday: April 13th:
Mass at 7:00 and Night Prayer at 11:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14th:
Service at 3:00 p.m. with Stations of Cross at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil
Mass: 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

I remind the parents of Children/Youth who are

participating in the Home Religion Program to attend all our meetings and make sure you are aware of the dates of the various celebrations:

Confirmation: Saturday, April 29th: 5:00 p.m.

First Eucharist: June 4th at 10:30 a.m.

First Penance: Wednesday, May 17th at 7:00 p.m.

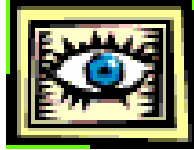
Please take time to celebrate the Easter liturgies and to welcome the Risen Lord into our hearts.

I realize that it is a time for many events to take place but I hope we can take time to attend church and to keep holy the days of the Holy Triduum which include Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday.

May you and your family be blest in all you do and may the Lord bring you His peace and love.

Sincerely,
Father Wayne Dohey
St. Michael's Parish

A LOOK INTO THE PAST



Today I was destroying some old files at our office and came across this letter from a lady who had lost (not really lost but ripped from her) her deceased mother's family ring. I hope this time you are listening. The letter goes like this:

IS ANYBODY LISTENING

DOES ANYBODY CARE

IN MY OPINION:

Bell Island is gone to the dogs. People should stand up for what's right. So many homes are broken into, property destroyed. Someone has to know something or is everyone walking in the dark? Do parents know where their children are or what they're up to? Are you content to sit back and be walked over, or become a part of those people who vandalize others by buying their stolen goods?

Please take a stand for what's right, and take action or your home could be next. Bell Island used to be a place where you didn't have to lock your doors at night, before going to bed. Now you need to lock them during daylight hours, just to visit a neighbor. So please if you know of anyone trying to sell TV's, VCR, CD players, CD's, Super Nintendo System, remember there's innocent children doing without because someone was bold enough to take what doesn't

belong to them. Even if you know a person who bought a TV lately or any items that would raise suspicion, please find it in your heart to do the right thing.

Those items can be replaced in time but those people took something from me that no amount of money could ever replace, "MY MOTHER'S FAMILY RING. You see my mother passed away 9 years ago and left me her family ring. It's all I had left of her. Along with this ring was her death certificate. This shows how very cruel people can be.

We need your help. The people of Bell Island need your help. Those manipulating people need to be stopped. But until the community reaches out to bring Bell Island back to the peaceful place it used to be, those people will continue and the gang will just get bigger and worse.

PLEASE REACH OUT YOUR HAND AND HELP INNOCENT PEOPLE. Drop a line to P.O. Box _____, Bell Island, NF. A0A 4H0 or phone 488-____ or have some real courage and call the police at 488-3312.

Let those people know you're not going to be pushed around. Don't let them persuade you to hide the truth. Confidentiality is guaranteed. Use a pay

phone if you need to. PLEASE HELP.

GOD BLESS

From: A vandalized Family. When I came across this, I remembered the file and the family. The person writing this letter was broken hearted as this piece of jewelry was the only material thing she had left of her mother. Yes she had her memories. But what good was this ring to another person. The stones in the ring represent the love of a family. They are no good only to the person to whom it belonged.

My mother also died 16 years ago and left me her family ring and each of my sisters a piece of jewelry. I know we would be broken hearted to lose these items, ever the sewing thimble that she so lovingly sewed our blankets with. It is such a small item, and can be bought at such a small price, but can never be replaced in your heart and mind, we only have one mother, don't take a part of this lady's mother away.

I blanked out the address and the phone number as I don't know if these are still valid and I would not wish to have others disturbed by any number of letters or phone calls, but I have them here on file and can pass along any information. Perhaps the people who took part in this crime were

young and have grown up or grown a conscience. Wouldn't it be wonderful if this ring could be returned so many years later!

Like the lady said, look in your heart, find the ring, find the courage to return it, after so long a time what would it hurt you to give it back if you either took it in the first place or bought it from the person who took it. Drop it in an envelope to P.O. Box 1179, Bell Island, NL A0A 4H0.

I repeat her blessing:

God Bless if you can find it in your heart.

**Submitted by:
Dale Fitzgerald**

This is Peace!



It's 7 am and the house becomes alive with movement as the family begins stirring to greet the new day. The old man lights the fire in the stove and places the kettle on it to boil for tea. His wife makes the porridge and cooks the eggs for her husband and their young grand-daughter.

After breakfast, the wife busies herself with the routine of the day. There are dishes to be washed, laundry to begin and a house to clean. The grand-daughter watches intently as her grandmother mixes the flour, salt, sugar, butter and yeast together. After all the woman's kneading, the ingredients magically combine to form the soft dough. The little girl is enchanted with the swishing sound of her grandmother's hands gently slapping against the light, fluffy mixture. When she is satisfied that the dough is the perfect consistency, the old woman makes the sign of the cross over the pan. She tells her grand-daughter that she is thanking God for having the strength in her body and the materials in their home to make the bread.

In the background, is the steady drone of the wringer washer accompanied by the low voices of callers to a phone in radio talk show.

It's 11 am and the wife is not to be seen. The grand-daughter knows exactly where to find her. The child glances to the left of the living room and spots her grandmother. She is sitting on the side of the bed she shares with her husband. The tangy fragrance of lemon oil used by the old woman to polish the furniture permeates the air. The

antique wood shines in the sunlight streaming through the bedroom window. The grand-daughter watches quietly as the woman holds her prayer beads. The clear glass beads that once sparkled in the light have become smooth and dull from the rhythmic, gentle caressing of the old woman's fingers. Her demeanor is one of serenity and peace.

With trusting eyes that are growing dim with age, she lovingly gazes on the statue of the Blessed Virgin sitting in a place of honor on her dresser. It was a wedding gift from a then elderly neighbour who had long since entered the gates of Heaven. The grandmother is thanking God for this beautiful day and all it will bring. Dear Lord, this day is for You. I give You all my thoughts, words and actions. Help me live this day with love in my heart.

It's 7 p.m.. The evening meal has ended. The dishes have been washed and put away for tomorrow. The house is warm and comforting with the aroma of food that was so lovingly prepared and so proudly served to the family lingering in the kitchen, the very heart of this home. This is combined with the scent of fresh laundry that has been dried outside on the clothesline which the woman and her grand-daughter have just finished folding and sorting.

The kindly old man enters the kitchen and reverently says, "It's time." He kneels next to the daybed at one end of the kitchen table and gazes out the

window at the powerful waves of the cold, Atlantic ocean crashing against the rocky shores of the beach located just a short distance from their home. The only noise is the sound of the wind howling off the back of the Island. The rough, jagged cliffs rise majestically out of the sea. They are standing guard against the foamy whitecaps that constantly batter the shoreline.

His wife takes her place beside her husband, as she has done every day for over fifty years. The grand-daughter is passed a set of pink, plastic prayer beads and kindly told to "sit next to Nan." The family begins. "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

It's 8:30 p.m.. The elderly lady gently places the covers over the little dark haired girl and tenderly kisses her forehead and cheeks. "As I lay down on my right side with Almighty God to be my guide, if any evil troubles me, Blessed Virgin, awaken me."

The wrinkled, calloused hands carefully brush a wisp of freshly washed hair from the sleeping child's face. "Nan loves you, my Duckie," she says as she tiptoes from the room. Dear God, guide us safely through the night.

It's years later. The old man has left his home on earth to dwell in the presence of the
(continued on next page)

(continued from page 5)

Lord he so lovingly and faithfully served. The grand-daughter has grown and has married and has children of her own. The young, dark haired woman sits on the hospital bed gently cradling the frail, old woman in her arms. They are surrounded by other family members yet they are only aware of each other. For each of them, only the other exists.

Their roles have been reversed. The grand-daughter holds the old woman's head securely to her breast where she is sure that every beat of her breaking heart can be felt by the woman who's given her so much love. The young woman softly brushes wisps of white hair from the old

woman's face. She rocks her grandmother in her arms just as she rocks her young babies. As she rocks, she sings in a voice strong and clear,

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star so strong and bright.

Gentle mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom. Teach us love.

(Rev. Carey Landry, 1980, *Glory and Praise*, Vol.1, p. 27)

The young woman gazes into the beautiful blue eyes, so like the crystal blue eyes of her own daughter. These eyes, that have long ago lost the ability to see, try to focus on her face. For a moment, the women's eyes meet and time stands still. The young woman

says, "It's okay, Nan, I'll be alright. You go to the Light."

With dignity and grace, the grandmother passes peacefully away in the arms of the child she loved and raised as her own. Sleep well, Precious Angel, you've earned your rest.

The young woman quietly enters the bedroom. She stops for a long time to lovingly gaze at the sleeping children. The three little girls, whose golden hair is so unlike that of her own, stir as their mother kisses each of them. In a voice, soft and gentle, she begins, "As I lay down on my right side..."

Bell Island

THIS SPRING LOCAL ARTIST, BRIAN BURKE, WILL BE CARVING A RELIEF SCULPTURE INTO AN EXISTING BRICK WALL

THE WALL IS PART OF WHAT WAS ONCE THE VAULT FOR THE BUILDING THAT SERVED AS THE SURVEYORS' OFFICE AND RECORDS OFFICE AND IN LATER YEARS AS THE WABANA TOWN HALL. TODAY THE BUILDING IS BEING USED BY THE FOLKS OF THE TOUCH OF CLASS PROJECT.

THE NEARLY 100 SQ FT SCULPTURE WILL FEATURE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS TENDING TO WORK HORSES, WORKING ON THE PICKING BELT, CUTTING WOOD AND LIMING FENCES; ALL OF WHICH WERE DUTIES PERFORMED BY YOUNG WORKERS ON BELL ISLAND DURING IT'S MINING DAYS.

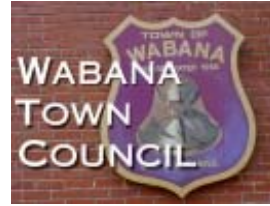
THE SCULPTURE IS BEING SPONSORED BY THE BELL ISLAND SPORTS HALL OF FAME, THE WABANA TOWN COUNCIL AND THE BELL ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY. IT IS HOPED THAT WEATHER WILL ALLOW THE WORK TO START EARLY IN APRIL.

WE WOULD LIKE PEOPLE HERE AND ELSEWHERE TO KNOW THAT BELL ISLAND IS CAPABLE OF DOING A LOT OF THINGS: SOME THAT FEW OTHER COMMUNITIES, REGARDLESS OF SIZE , WOULDN'T EVEN THINK OF ATTEMPTING.

THANKS, BRIAN
488-2054



Wabana Town Council News



Respect

The last council meeting began with a minute of silence to honour the memory of Walt Fillier who had served many years in the Wabana Volunteer Fire Brigade. We would like to express our sincere sympathy to the Fillier Family.

Regional Games

The Killick Coast games are being organized by the Town of Torbay and will be held from August 12-19, 2006. These games will be open to youth who must be 11 by Dec. 31/06 and under age 16. The games will involve Soccer, Ball Hockey, Basketball, and a Cross Country Run. The Kinsmen Community Centre in Torbay will be the

focal point of the games but some activities will take place in neighbouring communities. Mr. Todd Gillingham will be the representative for the Town of Wabana for the games.

Regional Planning

Capital Coast development Alliance, the regional economic development board for North East Avalon, has partnered with the North East Avalon Joint Council to host a Strategic Planning Session on regionalism on March 31-April 1. The sessions will deal with regional economic development, a regional home-based business strategy, and a regional

communication strategy. Pat Craig will represent the Town of Wabana.

Waste Management

We live in a time when we are encouraged to respect the environment and do what we can to cut down on the amount of garbage going to landfills. In this regard we will be contacting officials from MMSB to get more information on composting and how the town can cooperate in making our community a more pleasant place to live.

Submitted by
Councilor Patrick
Craig

**Social Workers –
Advancing &
Strengthening
Communities**



The profession of social work is sometimes misunderstood. For example, social work often sounds like other professions, which may cause confusion.

The media shows social workers in one way, i.e., removing children. Registered Social Workers in our province, help people with a wide variety of personal problems, but they are equally responsive to social problems; such as, poverty, unemployment, racism, sexism and other emerging social needs.

As you can see below social workers are employed in a variety of settings.

Where do social workers work??

Social workers work in settings such as: family services agencies, children's aid agencies, general and psychiatric hospitals, school boards, correctional institutions, welfare administration agencies and federal and provincial departments.

An increasing number of social workers work in private practices in areas such as mental health and marriage counseling. For example, in Newfoundland and Labrador, social workers are employed in areas such as Child, Youth and Family Services, Shelters & Women's Centers such as Naomi Center, Recreation Centers such as Boys & Girls Club and the YM/YWCA.

Many social workers are employed in government offices within policy/research positions. Others are employed in a long-term care environment such as the Agnes Pratt Home and Saint Luke's Home.

The ultimate mission of the social work profession: ***To work for change with our clients to create environments in which they can fulfill their potential.*** SocialWorkers... enriching lives and relationships.

Thanks,
Allan and Doug

Any questions about social work??? We can be reached between the hours of 8:30 and 4:30, Monday-Friday.... Phone 488-2708.



CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DU SANG

Canadian Blood Services is asking Bell Island residents to share their health and vitality by rolling up their sleeves to help hospital patients requiring blood and blood products. With just one donation of blood, you can save or improve up to three lives. If you have ever thought about donating blood in the past, please consider acting on it now.

Your blood donation is a gift that can be given every 56 days throughout the year to help hospital patients in need.

Call 1 888 2 DONATE (1 888 236-6283) to book an appointment at the following blood donor clinic:

Bell Island Thursday, April 27th, 2006

St. Michael's Parish Hall, Main Hall

5 pm - 8 pm

NEW DONORS AND WALK-INS WELCOME

Every minute of every day, a blood product is needed by someone in Canada. Over 50 % of Canadians say they or a family member have needed blood or blood products for surgery or for medical treatment. Despite the number of people who have been touched by the need for blood, less than 4 % of the eligible population donated blood last year.

This is your opportunity to ensure that hospital patients in Newfoundland and Labrador receive the blood and blood products they require! Please take a little of your time to give someone else a lifetime!

Paul McGrath

Communications Specialist

Canadian Blood Services Newfoundland and Labrador

THIS IS KIWANIS



I have just come back from a mid year conference in Nassau, Bahamas with my class of 28 Lt. Governors in Eastern Canada and the Caribbean.

Membership for growth in our district was the theme for our conference. It's up to us as Lt. Governors to aim for that increased membership. The theme this year is 'Together We Can'. My next conference is the Kiwanis International Convention, which is being held in Montreal at the end of June.

This summer we will host the District Convention, August 3,4,&5th in St. John's,NL

Kiwanis is a Global Organization of Volunteers dedicated to changing the world one community & one child at a time.

In our local club on Bell Island we now have 19 members, we need one more member to get back to Charter strength.

Our club was formed in January of 1951. It's Bell Island and St.John's 55th anniversary. Bell Island intends to celebrate this, in June later this year. Also Kilolitres will be celebrating their 50th.

Our Curling Bonspiel this year hosted 15 teams. It was once again a major success. All

monies raised go back to help our youth. They are "Our Children of the World" which is Our Kiwanis Motto. We can use your Help and Volunteer Time. Kiwanis, globally donates 6,000,000 volunteer hours per year. We need VOLUNTEERS for our convention this summer. Bell Island is responsible for transportation. We need you to help in any capacity. Our Club consists of: Riv Ford Sr., Con Murrin, Wins Kitchen, Gord Skanes, Clayton King, Bren Keough{treasurer}, Gary Gosine, Bob Mitchell, Keith Quigley[President], Terry King, Rick Clarke, Boyd Merrill[Secretary], Bob Hammond, Cyril Power, Freeman Noseworthy, Philip O'Keefe, Walter Tucker, Des McCarthy, and Jerome Warren. Together We Can,Help Kiwanis in helping the children of the world.

On Mar 25th myself as Lt. Governor of Division 21 and Charles Taylor,Past Lt. Gov. representing the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada as Ambassador drove to Stephenville,NL. We saw the disaster which displaced 156 families,374 people &67 children. We met with Maj.Darlene Anderson of the Salvation Army and Tom O'Brien, Mayor of Stephenville. We presented the Town's disaster victims with a cheque of \$12,400. This money represents \$5000 from the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada,\$3000 from Lt.Gov. Gerry Lethbridge of Sydney Nova

Scotia and \$4400 from the NL clubs.

Thanks to all of these great people that do work on behalf of Kiwanis. On this project alone, "WHY WOULD YOU NOT WANT TO JOIN KIWANIS?" There clubs are located province wide which include:

St.John's,Cabot, Grenfell, Carbonear, Kelligrews, Clarendville, Gander, Grand Falls-windsor and Bell Island.

I am personally asking you to either join one of our clubs or volunteer this coming summer. Congratulations to the team of Joe Somerton and Sean Tipple who won the CURLING BONSPIEL. This year there was \$ 5000 in prizes donated and over \$2500 profited, it took close to 1000 volunteer hours to put of this function alone.

Yours in KIWANIS
Lt. Governor Gary Gosine

MESSAGE FROM THE BELL ISLAND SPECIAL OLYMPICS

I would like to give you an update of the 2006 Special Olympics Newfoundland & Labrador Winter Games. The Bell Island Special Olympics had six athletes participating this year.

The athletes were:

Kristen Carbage, Bonnie Skanes, Eileen Whalen, Marge Standford, Justin Lahey, and Gerald Fowler.

The games were held on the weekend of Feb. 24 – 26, 2006 in Carbonear.

The athletes stayed at Carbonear Collegiate School. On Friday night the teams paraded to Paddy's Garden for the opening ceremonies. From there they were bussed to Camp McCarthy for a Social which included snowmobile rides, hot chocolate, marshmallows, and a wiener roast. For those who didn't want to be outside or wanted a warm-up, they had music playing inside so the athletes could dance. At 10:00pm the

athletes were bussed back to the village for the night.

On Saturday there was supposed to be competitions, but due to the weather it was postponed until Sunday. However, the athletes still had an enjoyable day.

During Saturday morning the athletes had a choice to play board games and watch television in the cafeteria or go to the gym where they had different exercise activities that they could take part in. Around 12:00pm they had subs and soft drinks for lunch. When lunch was over the athletes had a choice of three different movies to watch. After the movies they had a talent show. About 3:30pm all the athletes started getting ready for a dinner and dance that night, where they had a wonderful time.

On Sunday morning the competitions went ahead. The Bell Island athletes participated in the 100m and 200m Snowshoeing Race. I'm proud to say that they all did well.

Kristen Carbage and Eileen Whalen won **2 gold medals**;



Special Olympics

Bonnie Skanes won **2 silver medals**; while

Marge Standford and Gerald Fowler both won **1 gold and 1 silver medal**.

After the competitions concluded, all athletes posed for photos, which they were all very proud to be part of. After a fun filled weekend all athletes and coaches boarded the bus to return home.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim Kelloway for driving the athletes to and from the games. I would also like to say a **very special thank you** to two other coaches, Amanda Reid and Leann Bickford, who helped me out tremendously while we were at the Winter Games. **THANK YOU SO MUCH.**

The Athletes now begin to prepare for the provincial games which are held during the month of June. Upon the completion of these games I will provide another update to the newsletter.

**Head Coaches
Josephine Lewis &
Lorne Morgan**

Bell Island Special Olympic Committee

The Special Olympians of Bell Island need your support! In the recent Community Newsletter from Bell Island there was an editorial outlining the need for people like yourself. This reference is in relation to the generous spirit of you or your organization.

The "Adopt an Athlete " idea came about as a result of numerous conversations concerning the need to give our Special Olympians the same dignity and respect we give all those who represent our community. These 16 individuals work hard all year to give their best and we should as well.

The program involves a donation of \$200.00 (tax deductible) to go to the uniform, registration and misc. fees needed to take part in the Olympics in June of each year. We want it to be clear to all the observers of the games that the person they are looking at is from our Island!

Each donator will receive a photo of the entire team as well as a plaque signifying their support of these dedicated individuals.

If you would like to support this "Adopt an Athlete" program, please forward a cheque or money order to:
Bell Island Special Olympic Committee
Attn: Boyd MERRILL
Box 1179, Bell Island, NL. A0A - 4H0.

Please advise if a receipt is needed and where to forward it to. If you wish to make a smaller donation please send same along to same address with our thanks. Every bit helps!

If you have any questions please call me personally.

Thanks in advance,

Boyd Merrill

(The following is taken from the Special Olympics Website NL.)

Newfoundland and Labrador Special Olympics is an incorporated, not-for-profit registered charity with a mandate to provide sport, training and competitive programs for our citizens who have a mental disability. We are an accredited chapter of Canadian Special Olympics and started programs in Newfoundland and Labrador in 1986.

Our first year saw four athletes and two coaches operate out of the YM/YWCA. In 1997, Newfoundland and Labrador Special Olympics provided services to over 350 athletes in 31 programs throughout the province. We currently have programs offered in the metro St. John's area, Conception Bay South, Bell Island, Mount Pearl, Trinity-Conception, Bonavista-Trinity-Placentia areas, Clarenville, Port aux Basques and Happy Valley/Goose Bay.

Special Olympics is a Grass Roots organization run by volunteers who offer sport programs and sport skill training on a weekly basis. We are very fortunate to have over 240 Volunteer Coaches who provide quality programs that encourage athletes to compete at a level of their choice. Our philosophy at Special Olympics is that our athletes come first in everything we do. In fact, at Special Olympics, programs represent 80% of what we do. In addition to grass roots programs, Special Olympics offers competitive opportunities at the regional, provincial, national and international levels.



"TRIBUTE TO BELL ISLAND COMMUTERS"

When Joey closed down Dosco mines
We moved to the Labrador
We moved to Galt and Edmonton
Where we'd never been before
We toiled all day, no one could say
The island boys were slack
But our hearts still longed for the dear old Rock
So we packed up and came back.

Now the Tickle is our highway
And the old Beach Hill our byway
Storms won't keep us from a workday
We're commuters with the WST!

No traffic jams at 5 a.m. the stars are still in view
The cheerful lights of the coffee shop
Is a haven for this crew
Where we share a tale, while the sky grows pale
And our "Pats" pours up a brew
While the breakers roar on the nearby shore
As the day begins anew.

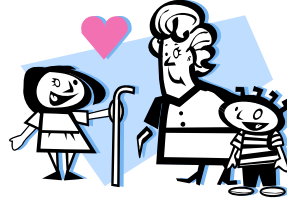
We must take jobs across the Bay
To keep our home and hearth
We'd rather live here on the Rock
Than in any place on earth
They'd like to see us pack and leave
But that will never be
For miners blood runs in our veins
We'll stay here strong and free.

A hundred years have come and gone since first they mined the ore
On surface, then beneath the Bay, but these days are no more
So we're off to work, and we'll shirk, through the storms well make our way
To live where once our father's toiled, on our island in the Bay.

Kay Coxworthy



THE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER



Quick question – can you name one community volunteer who has made life better here on Bell Island? Maybe it's the teacher who coaches minor hockey or the commuter who comes home after a long day "chasing the boat" to attend another planning meeting for a fundraiser to help the local Boys & Girls Club, the Legion, the local Food Bank or the kids taking part in Special Olympics.

Throughout the history of this community, like others throughout the province, volunteers have played a huge part in the growth of our town, making it a better place to live and raise our families. In the heyday of the mines, even after a day underground, the men who had worked all day in the mines gave their time to help build sports fields, schools, and so much more of the infrastructure that made this community great.

Their legacy continues in the volunteerism that is still evident here today – as it is in towns throughout the province. For volunteers really form the backbone of any community. Even young people contribute to the volunteerism that is so vital to our towns. According to official survey, Newfoundland and Labrador has the highest percentage of young people volunteering of any province in Canada.

These same statistics show that in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2000, residents of the province contributed a total of 28.6 million hours of volunteer work, which in today's dollars, even computed at minimum wage, is valued at over \$190 million dollars! In fact, our volunteer efforts amount to approximately one work week of time per year for every man, woman and child in the province – the equivalent of

15,000 full time jobs!

Each of us has done some volunteer work in our community over the course of a lifetime, and certainly Bell Island benefits every day from the work of its volunteers. These are your friends, neighbors, coworkers – all contributing their time to make this a better place to work and live.

Volunteer Week 2006 has been designed from April 23-29.

During that time, I hope you'll reach out to a local volunteer with a word of thanks for all they do, for the time they give our children, our elderly, our sick – for all they give without thought of a reward, for the efforts which make such a big difference in all our lives.

Be a volunteer! And to everyone who volunteers, THANKS on behalf of all of us.

Kay Coxworthy

R.C.M.P Community Announcement



I am forwarding this email to announce or in some cases remind us of the MP Foundation and its work.

Please check noted website and set your imaginations wild.

I am willing to submit ideas that fit the criteria for our area. If we don't ask we loose already.

Think outside the box. Boxes were only made to control the willing. That is why they left the top open for the rest of us!

Please reply to me and not the originator.

Cpl. Boyd Merrill
Bell Island RCMP

Hi Folks,

Please be advised that applications may now be submitted for the next funding cycle of the Mounted Police Foundation.

In the last funding cycle, "B" Division was successful in obtaining approximately \$30,000 in funding for various community policing projects around the province.

Please make your community groups aware of the Mounted Police Foundation and consider making an application if you require funding for a project in your community.

The deadline for applications is April 18th.

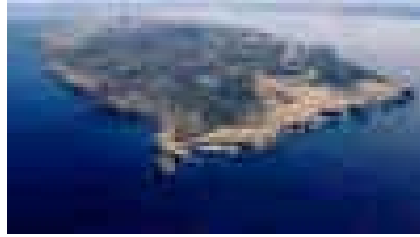
All information and application forms are available at www.mountedpolicefnd.org

Cheers, Scott

Scott Noseworthy, Sgt. Royal Canadian Mounted Police Community & Aboriginal Policing



Fantasy Island



In the city thousands of pedestrians wandered through the streets hoping to find something that would relieve the overwhelming boredom. Motorists stared absentmindedly through their windshields as traffic lights changed from red to green. Others who hadn't yet heard the news remained in a state of confusion hoping desperately that it had not happened again. Within department stores and shopping malls, customers gathered around TV sets and stood with open mouths in disbelief as the reality of the situation became apparent.

Those in the medical profession quickly noted the increase in the number of patients suffering from severe depression. City hospitals were placed on full alert for they were well aware of the disastrous consequences that would

result as the people of St. John's became aware that they were once again isolated, cut off, from the civilization they had known on Bell Island. Heavy arctic ice had entered Conception Bay. Emergency measures immediately swung into action. Ideas gained through years of planning and countless meetings and workshops were about to be put into practice. Experts knew that the civilian population of the city could easily panic if they were not assured of an effective and timely response to the situation. Workers would need an alternate, safe and uninterrupted means of transportation to their jobs in Health, Education, and the service sectors on the Island even if the government had to be called upon to provide temporary financial assistance to support the economy of the whole Northeast Avalon region. Just as the disaster relief

plan was about to be executed, Divine Providence intervened in the form of a gale force Southwest wind. Thousands of people rushed to the shores of Conception Bay in great celebration, shouting with delight at the first sign of open water. The ice had begun to move off shore. Hope was restored. Isolation had ended and once again other Newfoundlanders could get to Bell Island.

**Written and submitted by
Bern Metcalfe**



The Lions Club



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Portugal Cove * St. Philip's Lions Club 14 March 2006

Present: Bert, Frank, Nancy, Fred, Mary, Bradley, Roxanne, Olive, Gladys, Josephine
Absent: KL Randy, Boyd (at large), Dot, Sharon, Daphne.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Lion Frank Libbey Lions invocation said by all Minutes of the last meeting were read by Lion Bradley.

Motion: Lion Fred 2nd by Fred that minutes be accepted as read.

Carried Business arising from Minutes: Letter from the Mt. Pearl Lions Club to buy space in their 50th Anniversary booklet, which was deferred to this meeting, cannot be located. Lion Fred to re-acquire the letter.

Lion Bradley to continue to deal with Intl. on vests after he receives catalogue. 500 brochures are on the way for mail out.

Committees: VOXM Bingo: Lion Bert turned in \$3735.00. Lion Bert requested a cheque for \$5000 for VOXM. Only five weeks of Bingo left. Monies to go to many charities in the province.
Bert's Pennies: \$40.00 turned in by Lion Bert.

Membership: Lion Bradley has

ordered brochures from International. We will approach the Post Office for prices on distribution when the brochures arrive and hopefully interest people in the Club.

Correspondence District Governor's Newsletter is available for review, as well as the minutes from the General Meeting held at the St. John's DGO in February.

New Business: There are now three rooms available for the Gander DGO. Lions are to advise Lion Fred if they are traveling to Gander.

Letter from the Lions Foundation of Canada (LFC Chair) Loretta Ryan requesting any assistance in sponsoring a dog within the District.

Lion Fred reminded the club that there were several outstanding donations that we usually make this time of year: Max Simms Camp, Hearing & Speech, Lions Foundation of Canada. Lion Fred indicated that the Max Simms Camp needs an average annual donation of \$60 per member from the Districts to help with its ongoing financial needs. In anticipation of the upcoming DGO the Club passed a motion to double our previous annual contribution: A \$ 1000 donation will therefore be made to the Max Simms Memorial Camp. Motion by Lion Josephine, 2nd by Lion

Nancy. Carried. Two other donations were made: \$ 100 for Hearing & Speech. Motion by Lion Bert 2nd by Lion Fred. Carried. \$ 100 for LFC. Motion by Lion Bert 2nd by Lion Fred. Carried.

The Club will require an Executive to be in place over the next couple of meetings for September 2006. Item will be added to a future agenda.

Lion Fred asked that the Club consider our participation in the purchase of a truck for the Max Simms Camp. This would be a long term project over the course of 4 years, requiring donations in the thousands of dollars. Lion Fred will check with GM Canada and Terra Nova Motors on their willingness to participate with us, and bring some figures in for the Club to consider. It may be a case where we would partner with another Club or the Zone.

The official induction of Lions Frank and Roxanne Libbey will take place at the next meeting. A pot luck will be served at 7 p.m.

Adjournment: 8:30 p.m.
Lion Bradley Moss
(Secretary)

Contact Us:

If you have any comments, concerns, or questions about the newsletter please contact us:

Cpl. Boyd Merrill at:
boyd.merrill@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

We can also be reached at the RCMP Detachment at 116 Memorial Street. (709) 488-3312.

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

Life Test by Charles SCHULTZ of "Snoopy" fame.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winner for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care.

"Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia." (Charles Schultz)
