



Alumni Newsletter

THE MAGIC CONTINUES

JOHN ISLAND'S 60TH SUMMER

In a few days, the boats will start pulling up to the dock and the 2013 camping season will begin. John

Island's 60th summer of camp will get under way and the same magic of the island will take hold as it did in 1954 when the camp began.

Things were a little different back in 1950's. The Greyhound

The small flotilla of boats would load up with campers and luggage and begin the 1 1/4 hour trip up the Whalesback Channel to the John Island harbour. Those of us that were left behind for the second trip across would spend our time investigating the Mitchell's ice house and the docks.

Boys camp was in July and girls camp was in August. Nothing co-ed back in those early years, but that was the status of camping in most places.

It was from those humble beginnings that traditions, friendships and interest in our very special surroundings began and started to grow.



Campers still come to John Island Camp for the same fun, friendship and adventure as 60 years ago

Since those initial years, the six bright red cedar strip canoes have become 60 bright red royalex and fibreglass canoes. The Kismet, Maxie "M" and Flora "B" have become three state of the art aluminum boats that have cut the crossing time from 75 minutes to 7.5 minutes—quicker and safer.

Instead of the 80 - 85 persons in camp in the mid 1950's, the kitchen now prepares food for up to 225 campers and staff at one time. . . The numbers have grown.

But one thing has not changed. That special feeling when you step onto John Island. It is still there.

Keep watching for news about John Island's very special 60th Anniversary in 2014.

EAGLE-TALON CABIN TO GET MAJOR FACELIFT

When the Rotary Club of Sudbury supported the construction of the only double camper cabin back in 1954, little did they know their name would live on well into the second half of the century when they agreed to assist with the renovations to this senior camper cabin. After 59 years of use, the cabin will receive new windows, doors, inside paneling and outside siding, a new deck, fireplace renovations along with other repairs that are necessary to bring the cabin to the new "John Island standard" for camper cabins.

The original cabin was open for use in 1954 with one camper cabin and a common room with a stone fireplace. A few years later the second camper cabin was added to the north end of the building to complete the original design. More recently, separate counselor rooms were removed to allow for more spacious camper accommodation.

During the spring and fall seasons, the common room has been used for group training and information sessions. It has always been a popular cabin for campers.

Despite the funding assistance from the Rotary Club, the camp is still accepting donations to assist with the cost of the renovations.



Eagle—Talon cabin being built

CHILDREN SPEND SUMMERS AT CAMP**JIC - A MOTHER'S PERSPECTIVE**

When I had children, I had romantic notions for them of summers away at camp. As a result, my children have attended JIC since they were 6 years old beginning of course with Guys 'n Gals and progressing through the programs. The years flew by....my son is now a third year counselor and my daughter is a River Norquay. They participate in clean up weekends with my husband in May, they market JIC during the off seasons, and they begin the countdown to leaving for JIC on January 1st. We have an entire armoire dedicated to JIC necessities and supplies. In light of all of this, have never experienced or stepped foot on the Island.



Maureen Egan

When I shipped my 6 year old son via bus at Lily Creek to JIC my family and friends (in retrospect) were hesitant. My parents, I know, doubted my decision. Waving good bye to my son and subsequently my daughter for 5 long nights was nuts!! But my romantic notion was not subject to collaboration. The kids were eager and excited and we were eager and excited driving away to 6 days and five nights of freedom. Friends and family said: "how can you do that? Will they be ok? Won't you miss them?" Fast forward to more recent years. Friends and family are now envious of my summers without teenagers.

Was it all perfect? Of course not. A letter home from Kiernan one year detailed his desire to come home and his confession that Nick promised him "if you cry lots your parents have to pick you up." Break my heart! Many calls to the Island proved Kiernan and Nick were just fine.

Grace urging Tory in grade three to take the leap to two weeks supported our direction for her and we stayed the course while she changed her young mind a few times.

Although I have never stepped foot on JIC, much of it comes to me at the end of every summer – enough that I think I can make my own beach by now. The hockey bags and sleeping bags are unpacked on the front step and do not come in the house until all the sand is out. It's a much less enthusiastic task compared to when that hockey bag is packed in June.

JIC is closely linked to Mother's Day in our household. The annual JIC clean up and prep weekend is always the second weekend in May and that is my Mother's Day gift. My spouse and children leave me for the weekend and go to JIC to paint, build, pull out canoes and kayaks, clean and more. For me, that is better than brunch, flowers, candy or jewellery.

Will I ever get to JIC? My "little campers" love that I've never been there and maybe that is wonderful family lore to continue.



Kiernan Krueger (far right)



Maureen's daughter Tory with 2012 Greenways

COMMUNITY PARTNERS - MOVING US AHEAD

Our partners in camping at John Island enrich the camp experience for staff and campers. We have enjoyed working with various groups across Ontario for years, and amongst those we have developed partnerships along the North Shore in many areas. Some of these include the Serpent River First Nation, Rona, Reach for the Rainbow, Lasalle Secondary School, Amatol and Sudbury Manitoulin Childrens' Foundation to mention a few. We will highlight two of our partners in each of the next few newsletters as they are all helping make John Island a better camp.

SERPENT RIVER FIRST NATION

Back in the mid 1960's when John Island decided to transport campers to the camp from Walkhouse Bay in Cutler rather than from Spanish, a relationship began between the Serpent River First Nation and John Island Camp.

Serpent River First Nation is a long established community and was a signatory to the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850. It is an Anishinabek First Nation located on 5250 square kilometres of land.

Here is what Chief Isadore Day has to say about our partnership.



Chief Isadore Day

Partnerships, if fostered with the right ingredients, can be rewarding, lucrative, and provide for a solid collective path forward. That describes the relationship that Serpent River First Nation has had with YMCA John Island Camp program. A unique set of opportunities and benefits have endowed our relationship over the last several decades because of hard work, respect and the desire to help families and children cultivate a stronger social fabric through the programs at John Island where Serpent River First Nation not only has had its children participate, our Youth have been part of the program delivery. Another underlying cornerstone in our affinity that we have as Anishinabek People, we Our Elders tell us that belong to the land and that this connection must always be honored to the highest degree in

“A unique set of opportunities and benefits have endowed our relationship over the last several decades...”

all of our activities. This is a strikingly similar value that the John Island program leaders have always upheld and enhanced through their programming. The facility and the land on which it sits has always been treated with respect and dignity – a personified approach; similar to the Mother Earth teachings of the Anishinabek. I want to congratulate Pete Kerigan and his camp directors for their hard work and dedication towards the promotion of strong and respectful relations with the land and the Anishinabek of Serpent River First Nation. This is why we look forward to our seasonal greeting of our strong partnership to provide a service to each other.

To that end, Serpent River also wants to take this opportunity to extend its hand in gratitude for the numerous opportunities to work with John Island YMCA in building Youth leadership capacity, employment skills and values, and sharing its technical and policy expertise. In the last couple years we have been leading up to developing mentoring and knowledge-sharing from YMCA on policies that focus on best practices and procedures for camp safety and effective programming. Through this effort, Serpent River First Nation will be looking at instituting program development models and procedures for camp programs in the community that establish the type of effective outcomes seen at the John Island Camp.

In conclusion, let me just say that Serpent River looks forward to an ongoing relationship with YMCA that is conducive to strong communities and partnerships working toward strong and healthy future generations. Consistent with the 2010 Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Assembly of First Nations and the National YMCA of Canada, we are committed to this partnership with solid confidence that we can collectively affect positive outcomes in the lives of Children and Families that we serve.



A “MOOSE” BY ANY OTHER NAME By Brent “Moose” Pigott (1957)



Brent “Moose” Pigott

My parents decided to apply to send my brother Bill and I to John Island Camp in the summer of 1957. I was 7 yrs. old at the time and so Camp Director Al McCann visited our home out in Frood Mine to make sure he thought I was ready to attend camp as an underage applicant. I must have passed the test because in early July, I found myself aboard the Kismet riding rough water over to John Island with a load of campers.

My recollection of that first summer are somewhat vague although I still remember the sand, the dining hall, the outdoor wash house and bath rooms, Smitty and the Craft Shop and of course, Mrs. Miner’s chelsea buns. Between Bill and I, we think that he had Buster Aistrop as his counsellor and I had his brother Cliff. Time went by very quickly and I had a great time with all the activities. Even when my Mum and Dad came up for Visitor’s Day, I was too busy to go to meet them. Bill filled them in on what I had been up to and also raised concerns with them about me and my clothes being filthy - go figure??

One of the more memorable experiences of the session was my participation in the final night Staff Skit. Although the details of those who participated and the skit story line are a little sketchy, I do remember wearing Maintenance Director Elwood Mitchell’s rather large plaid jacket and work boots for the skit. The jacket had the word “MOOSE” attached to the back. Bill recollects that the skit had a canoe trip theme and we think included actors such as Hike/Trip Director Lance Bailey, Al McCann, Smitty, Elwood and of course, yours truly. It was great fun.

I must admit that the nickname “Moose”, stayed with me right through high school and university – even my Dad called me “Mooser” right up until he passed away. Interesting that over 50 years later, there are still a few people that call me “Moose”. You can imagine my surprise when Gary Gray emailed me recently to share this bit of camp history with the John Island Camp newsletter readers. Thanks to Gary for the opportunity to do this and thanks to Bill for helping to fill in some of the details.

SPRING WORK WEEKEND - May 10 - 12, 2013

IT’S A WORK WEEKEND! IT’S A FUN WEEKEND! IT’S A FRIENDSHIP WEEKEND!

It appears as though we will have one of our best turnouts in years for the annual John Island Camp Work Weekend this spring. And that is especially good since we have a number of important projects on tap for the spring that will have to be completed before summer staff training begins.

Whether you are good at painting or hammering or cleaning or helping others, we will have a job for you to do during the day and lots of fun, games and munchies in the evening.

If you bring kids that can work, we will have work for them. If you bring kids that need care, we will have staff available to look after them so you can work. We promise to make sure everyone has a bed (bring your own sleeping bag) and to feed you good food.

We will start the weekend on Friday May 10th (we will have a hot supper until 7:00 pm and pizza available until 10:00 pm) and will end after lunch on Sunday, May 12th (so you can get home for Mother’s Day Dinner). Saturday is our main work day so if you want to come but can not come until later on Friday (but before dark), we can get you across the Whalesback. If you have to leave after supper on Saturday or earlier on Sunday, we can get you across.

Some people have their favourite tools that they prefer to use, so bring them along if you like. We will have tools and supplies at the camp to make sure we can make best use of the time we have together.

We need to know in advance how many people we are cooking for and how many beds we will need. Please contact Scott, Camp Director, at scott.thomas@sudbury.ymca.ca and let him know your travel plans and numbers.



Al and Pam Will working on a 2012 project

IT'S A SECRET THAT ONLY CAMP PEOPLE KNOW

WHAT IS IT ABOUT CAMP ANYWAY?

It doesn't happen to everyone, but it sure happens to a lot of us. We go to camp as a youth not really sure what this place is going to be like and then its effects start taking us over. Before long, our two or four week experience each summer becomes the pivotal point of our lives and everything else has to fit into that annual slice of our life. It shapes our values, our friendships, our dreams and our future. It turns timid and introverted kids into self-confident masters of their own lives. It converts socially insecure and hesitant boys and girls into sensitive and thoughtful leaders.

Those of us who spent our years at camp decades ago still value those camp experiences. For many it is only after years of life away from camp that we realize the real influence those sandy beaches we left so many years ago. Nothing else has the ability to affect the life of a youth in a positive way than a camp experience.

It is no wonder therefore that year after year the alumni of John Island Camp continue to support the camp where the memorable experiences began for so many. Some support their children or grandchildren to attend camp - others contribute annually to the fund to support children with needs to attend - still others make donations of finances or time to ensure the capital needs of the camp are looked after each year. Whatever our continuing relationship is with our camp, it will make a difference in the lives of children.

OLD PHOTO SHOWS AN ACTIVE VILLAGE



This old photo from the Demarais Family shows the John Island lumber mill and village as rarely seen. The photo is taken from Aitken Island in winter with the mill in full operation. The piles of lumber in front are piled on the man-made islands in the harbour. The smoke stacks indicate where the mill is. On the left side just above the piles of lumber you can see the John Island street with all the houses. Behind these houses on top of the bare hill are two houses—that of Guy Multhroup and the Asst. Manager (behind the current archery range). The current ball field would be located between the houses in the centre of the photo and the houses on top of the hill. It is only because of the lack of trees that we can identify all of these features.

INFLUENCE OF CAMP PROMINENT**REFLECTIONS OF A FORMER STAFF**

By Jeff Chi

It was only a few short years ago that I was working at John Island, my main life goal was coming up with every excuse I could to drive those quads around the island. Nowadays I can proudly say I own my own quad (an old Honda 350 that makes the Yamahas on JIC seem luxury), along with a new baby boy, a fiancé (Whitney Belanger), and my own small business.

Life since JIC had me living in Toronto for a while taking on several odd-jobs such as a telemarketer, digging dirt out of basements, dishwashing and handing out flyers on the street corners. From there I moved out to BC for a winter to ski. There I became very interested in photography and website design. I ended up moving back to Toronto again to attend college classes to learn web design.

While in Toronto I was offered a job back in my hometown of Elliot Lake to work for the local art council managing the co-operative art gallery. I moved back to Elliot Lake and worked for the art council until my contract ended. After that I found another job working for Xstrata in Sudbury shooting and editing training and promotional videos for them. This job had me living in Sudbury during the weeks and coming back to Elliot Lake on the weekends as my fiancé is a teacher in Elliot Lake and we own a house there.



Ryan Chi

Early on working with Xstrata, my fiancé and I found out that we were going to have a baby. Realizing that the life of living in Sudbury during the week just wasn't going to work once the baby came, I started to develop a business plan to start my own media design company that I could run out of Elliot Lake. A month before our baby's birth I completed my contract with Xstrata and started my business, Chi Media and Design in Elliot Lake.

Our baby arrived on December 28th, 2012. A healthy baby boy that, after much discussion, we decided to

name Ryan Foo-Loong Chi. The middle name is a tradition from our Chinese culture and the translation means 'rich dragon'.

Life with a baby isn't always easy but we have great support with both sets of grandparents, my brother, both my sisters and many friends close by to help. Ryan has recently learned how to smile and getting a hard earned smile is the best feeling in the world. My fiancé and I are planning on getting married this Summer at my parents camp along the shores of lake Huron.

Thinking back working at John Island was one of the best jobs I ever had. I got to work outside every day, no need to cook, wear sandals, lots of friends, dodge ball, rest hours, sure the pay wasn't great, but what did I need money for back then anyway.

I still love going back to see the island on the May Work Weekends when I can, and it'll only be a few short years until we start bringing little Ryan to Walkhouse for Little Guys and Gals



Jeff Chi



Grandma and Grandpa Chi surrounded by family

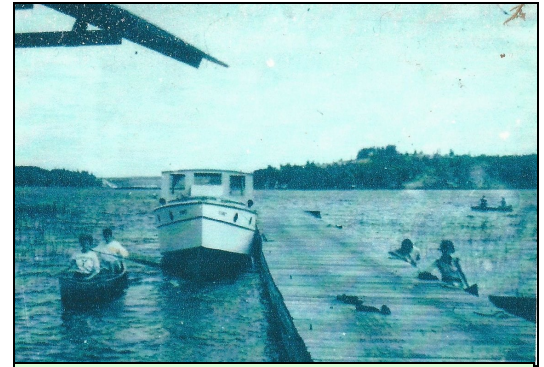
Donations are always welcome at John Island. Donations help sponsor children in camp, help award bursaries to staff, and help keep our camp buildings in quality shape.

CHANGING WATER LEVELS**THE RISE AND FALL OF OUR CAMP DOCKS**

When I first arrived at Mitchell's dock in Spanish as a 12 year old camper in 1954, I was in awe of the docks and the number of boats that were anchored alongside. Right next door was the even larger and much longer government dock used by fishing boats, government boats, and a few private boats. After the hour and a half ride on the Kismet, we arrived at camp and disembarked on this very long, very new, and very strong dock later to be referred to as the "high water" dock. There were row boats tied up to the structure as well as wooden sail boats, and 6 bright green cedar strip canoes neatly stacked on the canoe rack shelter at the land end of the dock.



Current low water dock - a 20 min. walk from camp



The original camp dock at high water level

For years, this "high water" dock

served the camp as both the program watercraft headquarters and the docking facilities for the larger "Kismet" and later "Ironsides" boats. Then we were hit by the first major rise and fall cycle of Lake Huron. As the water continued to fall, a new location had to be found for docking the Kismet as the area around the original dock was too shallow to safely operate the boat.

The area that was chosen was just inside the back harbour close to the docking area of the lumber mill back at the turn of the century. There were pilings and piles of first cuts off the logs from the mill which burned down less than 50 years previous in this area. These served as a solid base for the planking which was put

on top of old cuts from the mill and we had a dock that served camp until the rise cycle of Lake Huron made the original dock useable again.

As the water level cycles required changing back and forth, the bridge continually required upgrading and the trail to the "low water" dock area required constant attention. During a low cycle in the late 1980's it was decided to make a more permanent dock for these more frequent and longer lasting low water cycles. The new dock was kept in the same general area as the more temporary low water dock of the 1960's, but where there was easier access by the famous John Island tractor and its eclectic assortment of trailers.



The '60's low water dock and potential site of new low water dock



New docks at Walkhouse Bay

Today, as the level of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay continue to drop lower and lower, we are getting ready to build a new "low water" dock. The site apparent is back to that first low water dock built in the 1960's. As this process continues, the original 1954 300 ft. dock stands on dry land as a memory of the years when the water level in the lake was close to five feet higher than current levels.

Meanwhile, over on the mainland side of the John Island crossing, the new docking system built by the Serpent River First Nation and installed with help from John Island should meet our needs for years to come. We are thankful to the Serpent River

First Nation for taking action on the mainland side.

First Nation for taking action on the mainland side.

GOING, GOING, GHANA!

By Alex Haalboom

Alex Haalboom is a seasoned John Island Alumni having been a camper, Greenway, Norquay, Counsellor and Sr. Staff Member (Leadership Manager) in her 10 year career with the camp. This year Alex accepted the position of International Intern with the Canadian YMCA International program, a position which matched her up with the Toronto YMCA and their international partner, Ghana. When Alex wrote this article, she was still

In 2009, I was fortunate enough to participate in John Island's exchange with the Egypt YMCA. For four incredible weeks, I saw how the YMCA's mission of "empowering young people" plays out in different ways depending on local conditions and community needs. Now, I find myself in the thick of yet another YMCA international experience – this time in Ghana!

What a whirlwind it was that brought me here. A tip from the lovely Nora Cole (J.I.C. staff 2005-2006) led me to the YMCA of Greater Toronto's International Internship Programs. She had just finished a five-month placement with the Ghana YMCA, and suggested I apply for the position of Environmental Projects Officer that had just opened up. Several interviews, lots of training, and a classic last-minute-all-nighter-pack-up later (you'd think after 10 years at camp I would have packing figured out by now...) and here I am! Akwaaba (welcome) from Accra, the capital city of Ghana.



Alex Haalboom in Ghana

As the Environmental Projects Officer, my job is to research, develop, and begin implementing a youth curriculum on environmental sustainability and sanitation consciousness. This is a very exciting field to work in; sanitation issues are real in Ghana and people are passionate about finding solutions.

There are some huge challenges, perhaps most obviously a lack of waste management infrastructure and facilities (garbage disposal is tough when there is no garbage day!). This means there is nowhere for waste to go; streets become lined with refuse and gutters become clogged with plastic. However, there is also some really motivating space for change and positive action – everyone I have talked to is driven to increase awareness of environmental and health issues in their communities. People want to find solutions! The YMCA has already started down this path, for example, at the YMCA Ghana School for the Disabled, students are upcycling plastic wrappers by sewing them into very trendy bags and wallets.



Ghana YMCA Headquarters

I can't wait for a few months from now, when the curriculum will be complete and most of my work will be facilitating the workshops with high school students. If there is one thing that seven years on staff at J.I.C. has taught me, it is how rewarding it is to witness young people becoming empowered. If there is one thing that the Ghana YMCA and J.I.C. have in common, it is their incredible young people who are growing into really inspirational leaders!

... now that I think about it, actually, John Island has made me super prepared for this internship! Here are some other similarities between my work at the YMCA in Ghana and my work at J.I.C.:

- Really, unreasonably friendly colleagues
- The only work vehicle is a 16-seater van which I am under no conditions allowed to drive
- Head lamps come in very handy after the sun goes down (like J.I.C. at night, Ghana is currently undergoing power-rationing)

.....cont'd on next page

THERE IS AN ISLAND FAR AWAY

By Mary-Liz Warwick

I was a camper at John Island Camp from 1978-1986. I have so many great memories and feel privileged to have experienced such an amazing place. I will never forget my first hike to Lost Lake, my cabin's out-trip to Mary's Cove, hanging out on the giant spider web and all of the fun outdoor games. I still have all of my badges for swimming, sailing, canoeing and I am most proud of the fact that I earned a Polar Bear badge every year that I attended. I also enjoyed singing around the campfire but had no idea at the time that I would still be singing those camp songs this many years later.

Two and half years ago my husband and I became the proud parents of Veronica Elizabeth. She has completely changed our lives and we cannot imagine life without her. I also cannot imagine a day when at least one song that I learned at John Island Camp is not sung in our house. Every time we brush our teeth Veronica and I break into, "If you wake up in the morning/At a quarter to one/And you feel like having/Some John Island fun/ You brush your teeth/ Chechecheche/ Chechecheche/ You brush your teeth/ Chechecheche/ Chechecheche." This began innocently enough when I was trying to encourage Ronnie to brush her teeth. It had been a real battle until I thought of that song. Now brushing her teeth is a piece of cake!

I began singing the "Bird Song" (I have forgotten its proper title) just over a year ago. "Way up in the sky/ The big birdies fly/ While down in the nest/ The baby birds rest/ With a wing on the left/ And a wing on the right/ The birdies are sleeping/ All snug for the night..." She quickly learned all of the actions and especially loves to yell "Shhhhhhhhhh....The birdies are sleeping!"

When Ronnie was 4 months old, I began bringing her to swimming lessons at the Y and it became tradition that I would sing "Swimming/ Swimming/ In my swimming pool/ When days are hot/ When days are cold/ In my swimming pool...." while we were getting ready to go. Now, by the time we get to the last round which you 'sing' using only the actions, she is in a full belly laugh and yells, "Again! Again!" at the end.

Other Ronnie favourites include "Sam the Laboratory Man", "The Aardvark Song" and "Going On A Lion Hunt". These were all favourites of mine too and I can't tell you how much fun it is to teach them to her. I cannot wait for her to attend John Island Camp and I will encourage her to earn lots of badges and to sing at the top of her lungs around the camp fire. After all, "We're from John Island/ And we're on the best team..."

.....cont'd from page 8

- An appreciation for carb-based meals (the prevalence of rice makes me feel like I am right back on outtrip... although the hot sauce never runs out in Ghana!)
- Birkenstocks are my footwear of choice
- There is somewhat less reliable internet than I have become accustomed to... although some might argue that this is a good thing for my productivity!
- The coasts of Ghana and of JIC, although perhaps low on international travel radar, contain some of the most beautiful beaches in the whole world
- In both places, my chocolate keeps melting faster than I can eat it

Although I am certain that come May I will find myself missing my favourite Island, I know that it is because of the skills I gained at JIC (and the friendly tips from former co-counsellors!) that I have been given the opportunity to do this work in Ghana. As a good (and somewhat un-camp-savvy) family friend told me before I left – "You see Alex! All of that time in the woods paid off and you can finally do something, a real job!". Although I would argue that not one second of my time at camp was wasted, I am excited to learn and grow as I walk this new path (in Birkenstocks, of course!).



Except for the palms, a typical JIC scene

ALL ABOUT ALUMNI - JOHN ISLAND ALUMNI KEEP IN TOUCH

Rebecca Coulas (nee: Clark) (JIC 1990's) and husband **Brent** (JIC 1990's) are living in Sudbury and teaching school. They are parents to Clara and Elliott. Elliott was recently baptised in Sudbury with water which had washed over the sands of John Island.

Dean Waddell (JIC 1980's) and **Sherri McWade** joined the ranks of the married last July and visited John Island with the family this past summer. Dean and Sherri are living in Sudbury.

Mary Waddell (JIC 1960's) recently was awarded the Queens Diamond Jubilee Award for her work with cross country skiing, primarily Cross Country Canada. Congratulations Mary!

Carissa Hart (JIC 1999-2004) reports she is still living in Fernie, B.C. teaching grade 4 - 5 French immersion in a part-time, temporary contract. She has two boys, aged three and one, who are teaching her more about trucks than she ever wanted to know.

Donna TenEycke (Bolton) (JIC 1960's) is retired and living in Sudbury spending her time keeping fit at the Y, playing golf and travelling. Donna and her brother **Ron "Ticker" Bolton** (JIC 1950's and 60's) recently attended **Brodie Hart's** (JIC 1950's and 60's) retirement in Walkerton. Congratulations Brodie!

We would like to let your camp friends know where you are now, what you are doing, etc. Send us an e-mail at gary.gray@sudbury.ymca.ca. If you would like to contribute an article, you can do that as well.

We Remember.....

We fondly remember Vivi-Ann Mitchell who passed away peacefully in her sleep on Feb. 22nd. Vivi-Ann was a counsellor and nurse at John Island starting in 1954 and met her husband, Ellwood, at the camp.

Vivi-Ann and Ellwood spent a week at Family Camp this past summer, revisiting the place where it all started over 55 years ago. A highlight of the week was the marriage of their son, Michael, to Deanne at the camp chapel. A large number of the Mitchell family was able to attend not only the wedding but the entire week with Vivi-Ann and Ellwood.



The John Island Camp Alumni Newsletter is available 3 ways:

1. On the internet
2. By e-mail
3. Printed and mailed

WE NEED TO KNOW YOUR PREFERENCE(S)

Send us an e-mail to: gary.gray@sudbury.ymca.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We all know that camp friendships last a lifetime.

However, time can separate us and send us to unknown addresses and even distant countries.

Send us an e-mail about yourself—where you live and what you are doing and whatever else you would like to share with those who you may have lost touch with. We have an active mailing list of over 750 alumni and hundreds more check us out on the John Island website.

You can contact us at: gary.gray@sudbury.ymca.ca



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