# THE SOUNDER

SPRING 2001

CLAYOQUOT WILDERNESS RESORTS NEWSLETTER





**Cowboy Comes West** 

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**Boom Town** Camping Comes of Age



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### Grizzlies spotted near Tofino

*"The perfect setting to shake off the hectic NBA Season"* —Vancouver Grizzlies



Grizzlies Colour Commentator, Jay Triano paddling about in Quait Bay.

Following a long and stressful basketball season, Grizzlies Head Coach Lionell Hollins, Colour Commentator Jay Triano and Community Relations executive Linda Tremblay and assorted spouse, children and friends retreated to Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts for a much-needed Easter break and unwind.

When the group first convened to the South Terminal of the Vancouver Internationl Airport to await the North Vancouver Air flight to Tofino, the

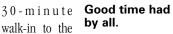


Grizzlies' ex-Headcoach Lionel Hollins and wife Angie in a much needed time-out.

silence was deafening. A 'tough' season and the uncertainty of new team ownership left little to talk about. But little more than one hour later, when resort GM John Caton met the enterage at the dock in Tofino, the Clayoquot air had already begun to work its magic and grins flared ear to ear.

The ensuing weekend was a delicious mix of relaxation and adventure. Of couples and families, and great long meals and fantastic stories. There was the daytrip to Hot Springs

Cove and the walk through the old-growth. Children pausing to inspect the names of foreign sailboats carved into the cedar f o o t p a t h s, stretched the



thermal pools past one hour, but no one seemed to mind. There was the deep water fishing that yielded as many stories as fish, and there was that killer starfish—but that's a story for another day.

One rainforesty morning—the

group made off for the Bedwell River Valley to check-in on the new Wilderness Outpost and visit the stables. Unbeknownst to them, a mare named Cheyanne had just given birth



"Grizz", born April 23, 2000.

to the first of two foals to be born at the resort that spring. "Grizz" as she was summarily named, looked comforted but perplexed by the dozen or so yellow slickers and twice as many matching boots that came to welcome her to the world.

On the walk back to the launch, Angie Hollins gave-up the secret ingredient in her sweet potato pie, Jay reflected on the past Grizzlies season and spoke of the road ahead to the Olympics (as coach of the Canadian Men's Olympic Basketball Team), and the children darted in and out of the underbrush.

On the final day, couples went off alone to kayak or hike, or paddle about in the lake, fishing for trout, or just settled in by the fire for a snooze. That last evening, Chef's Easter feast and wine pairing drew impromptu applause and waves of approval suddenly the size 16 shoe was on the other foot.

A fitting end to a Wild Easter Weekend.

# QUAIT BAY-



It is no secret to locals that when the stars come out in the Clayoquot night, something remarkable happens. What *has* been secret is just which stars come out, and when. Far be it from Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts to spill the beans about where

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these famous, or infamous people head to under the cover of night. Far be it from us to talk about the visit last summer of a certain leading man, from a family of actors, whose brother is an actor and whose father was legendary. Far be it from us to talk about

### STARS GO 'AU NATUREL'

the pop divas, the royalty, the sports legends.

There are a few exclusive "agencies to the stars" in those hills that aren't as good as we are at keeping secrets. They're spilling the beans about two unique little getaways just west of the flight path between Los Angeles and Vancouver. Two secluded retreats where even the brightest lights can escape and fade into the gentle, anonymous rythms of the Sound—far away.

Far be it from us.

### **Eco-Expansion** Nominated for "Ocean Blue Award"

As we enter our third full year of operation, we reflect on how we have grown. In an environmentally-sensitive direction of course—not up, but



sideways—expanding resort offerings in and around the Sound.

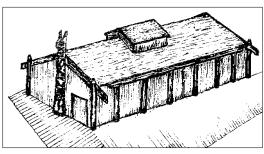
Whatever we do and wherever we do it, we govern ourselves by the laws of the jungle, harnessing the natural energies of wind, water and sun whenever possible. For the most part, lights go on and off when they should, and the water is always hot.

We are proud to announce that Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts was nominated for a coveted "Starfish Award" for outstanding environmental practices in the year 2000. The award is presented by the Ocean Blue Foundation with the co-operation of Tourism British Columbia. The Ocean Blue Foundation concerns itself with the protection and preservation of North America's marine environments.

The Genovese Family Trust, owner of CWR, is committed to balancing biological and cultural diversity with economic development.

# *New* Ceremonial Feasthouse

Toward the end of last season, construction began on the traditional longhouse on the promontory of the shore directly behind the resort. This authentic cedar longhouse, designed and constructed with the blessing of



local First Nations elders from the Ahouset band is a remarkable addition to west coast resort offerings.

The longhouse is now fully operational and will be used for large social and corporate gatherings and celebrations all year-round. From spring through fall, on balmy Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, it will be the site of the historic Kelsmant, or traditional salmon barbeque. Step back in time to an old summer village and enjoy fresh salmon grilled in authentic First Nations fashion—over an open firepit, accompanied by traditional song, dance and storytelling.

The longhouse, while deceivingly authentic in architecture, is smart-

wired to the millennium to accommodate the most demanding corporate convener. It will accommodate 150 cocktail style, 100 theatre style and 70 in a classroom set-

ting. For more information on corporate functions call Sue Simmons, our Director of Corporate and Group Sales at 403.217.9205.

The *Kelsmant* feast is offered to resort guests as a no-charge option to dining room service. Non resort guests may reserve in advance, taking the 3:30pm water taxi from Tofino Harbour, returning at 10 pm. Call 1.888.333.5405 for prices and more information.

### Tell Them You're Visiting Your Mother

QUAIT BAY-

Let Mom in on your little secret – just in case someone should call, then head straight for Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts and the new Healing Grounds Spa and Wellness Centre. Opening summer 2001, the new facility will offer complete rejuvenation for body and soul.



Situated in the heart of one of the world's last remaining temperate rainforests and surrounded by the energy of the ages, the Healing Grounds is a must-stop on the path to holistic wellness. Surrounded by vast cedar decks and lush fern gardens the spa complex sits on the foreshore where a lakewater waterfall spills soothingly into Quait Bay.

A special introductory offer is being extended this season. The Celestine Pilgrimage Wellness Retreat can be booked as a four or six day getaway including such pampering pleasures as the full body sensory spa experience, salt glow, botanical facial, paraffin treatment, herbal wrap, aromatherapeutic massage, morning stretch classes, and a visit to the seven

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Ferns	Restful	Lust	
Hot springs	Gourmet	Eagle	
Grizzlies	Feasthouse	Waters	
Ferns Hot springs	Restful Gourmet	Lust Eagle	Eat

natural geo-thermal pools of Hot Springs Cove. All spa packages include spa cuisine menus created as a result of one-on-one consultation with Chef Timothy E. May. The four day spa retreat is being offered for \$995 (USD \$749) and the six day retreat for \$1,595 (USD \$1,095). Both packages include luxury accommodation, water transfers and parking in Tofino.







BOOK NOW FOR THIS OR NEXT SPRING (same low price)



CLAYOQUOT WILDERNESS RESORTS remote • refined • remarkable 1.888.333.5405 / www.wildretreat.com Clayoquot Sound, Tofino. British Columbia

# -BEDWELL RIVER VALLEY-

### WHERE BOOMERS GO TO CAMP

"It was a scene from Out of Africa, except we were in B.C."

—Janice Mucalov, travel writer

When we first opened our floating resort at Quait Bay it became apparent that inasmuch as our guests enjoyed the great outdoors, they were as partial to pampering, gourmet fare and soft beds as they were to soft adventure. It was then that the seed of the idea for an ultra-luxurious summer camp for big kids was born.

So, at the height of last summer we opened our innovative new Wilderness Outpost at Bedwell River, bordering Strathcona Provincial Park. Our first guests were discriminating travel writers. We invited them to critic the offering, adventure and the food and beverage service. The final word was a written one in

fact, "sublime" wrote one journalist, "heaven" wrote another. One seasoned traveller described the four-

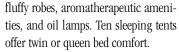




Partial aerial shows hot tub and common areas.

the Outpost's magic, all wanting to stay longer, several booking ahead for this year.

The Outpost, fashioned after turnof-the-century great camps of northern New York State is a 21st-centurysafari style enclave of sleeping, dining and lounge tents. Guest quarterseach with its own firepit and hitching post—are roomy prospector style white canvas tents erected on raised wooden platforms with high sidewalls, generous verandahs, woodstovehoused propane heat, handmade Adirondack furnishings, down duvets, tropical netting, antique accessories,



The dining tent glows with candle and oil lamp light and the tables sparkle with antique china, crystal and silver. Sideboards groan under the weight of Chef's offerings as tales of adventure float away on the warm summer breeze. After dinner, guests retreat to the plush furnishings of the lounge tent for sherry and board games or opt for a steamy soak nightcap in-hand, to watch the twilight turn to night over the river and Bedwell Bay—the darkest night, lit only by millions of stars.

Cedar boardwalks link the discreetly situated tents to each other and to the open camp kitchen, woodfired cedar hot tub, sauna and modern shower and washroom facilities. Windmill and solar panel technologies provide a/c power and hot water.



An outpost dining table awaits four-star fare.

Outpost adventures revolve around it stable of 18 endurance and trail horses, marine and hiking activities. Service standard parallel those at our floating resort at Quait Bay. Call toll-free for a free *Adventure Planner* and special package information.



Room with a view.

course Outpost dinner as "the best meal I've ever had—anywhere".

The day the journalists left, visitors from all corners of the globe started to arrive. They too were smitten by



Outpost horses 'take five' outside guest tents.

# -BEDWELL RIVER VALLEY-



Wakanohana crossed the Pacific to ride his first horse.



Well worth the wait. The smile says it all.



Cowboy lesson number one—watch where you step.

that came over Wakanohana's face assured everyone that he was right were he wanted to be, and the ice was broken.

After a spectacular dinner and a good night's rest, Wakanohana dressed in jeans and a denim shirt and headed for the Outpost, eager to try a horse on for size. Thankfully, resort GM John Caton had given some serious thought to size, and had a special draft horse brought in to accommodate Wakanohana comfortably.

Greetings and riding instructions were exchanged – in the international language of cowboy of course – and then came the moment of truth. Without a moment's hesitation Wakanohana was up, and off he rode down the alder covered lane toward Strathcona Provincial Park. Had it not been for a pressing schedule and that sumo-size racing car waiting for him in Monaco – yes, Monaco -Wakanohana surely would have ridden right back to Japan.

Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts was honoured by the visit of Yokozuno Wakanohana.

### Sumo Superstar Plays Cowboy

Imagine being so incredibly disciplined, that you never once strayed from your chosen path. Imagine being 28 years old, a national hero, but having never travelled outside of your country. Such is the life of the Sumo wrestler. The ancient sport of sumo wrestling demands immense commitment and a will to forsake all recreation and social distraction This level of devotion is almost unheard of here in North America, but revered in Japan.

In Japan, sumo wrestlers are national treasures. In spring 2000, one such treasure, young Masaru Hanada announced his retirement from active sumo wrestling. Known traditionally as Yokozuna Wakanohana, Masaru was thought to be the decade's most charming sumo and his every move was watched by Japanese media, and consequently, by millions of adoring fans.

Little known was the fact that underneath his near 300lb frame, the charming Wakanohana was like a little boy whose dreams revolved around riding horses and racing cars. So, it was a surprise to many that his retirement wish was to ride a horse and race a car. Officials in Japan rallied to make Wakanohana's dreams come true and have it all happen before the 'cutting off of the sumo topknot' ceremony in September 2000. In April, Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts received a call from Japan advising that of all the places in all the world where one could go to ride a horse, Wakanohana's party wanted to visit the resorts. The arrival to the resorts of Yokozuna Wakanohana and his entourage of managers and top-knot dresser and translater and Japanese and Canadian television cameras and crews, was nothing short of spectacular. Resort staff had assembled on the dock in welcome and one and all held their breath as the sumo weighed his surroundings. But the boyish grin

#### "Do Tell!" What they say about us

"There could be no more fitting lodging for paradise than eco-touristic Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts."

—National Geographic Traveler magazine

"Talk about rustic luxury—(your) very own wild utopia.."

---Westworld magazine

"the ultimate in seclusion plus comfort..." —The Globe & Mail newspaper

"Consider this floating lodge in the Canadian wilderness a spa for your soul." —Greg Norman's Shark.com

- "To revel in the wilderness but with all the comforts one could wish for..." —Toronto Star
- "Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts (is) truly Paradise Found."
  - ---Northwest Palate magazine
- "Everything felt just right ... and the staff...like old friends." —American Express Dreamscapes
- "The Outpost with the most a luxury lodge in Clayoquot Sound" —Western Living magazine

## FOOD & WINE -



Chef Timothy E. May

If you had asked resort Chef Timothy E. May at the end of November, what his plans were for the off-season, he likely would have What's Cooking for 2001 Season answered "to sleep for two months". And sure enough, he did retreat to his A-frame overlooking the bay, showing neither hide nor hair for two or three days. But then, like a bear hungry for spring, he ventured back to his drawing board, exploding with ideas for the new season.

After a few weeks in Ontario for Christmas, Chef got busy tasting newrelease Pacific Northwest wines for his newly expanded cellar, cataloguing recipes for his modern natural cuisine cookbook (we'll keep you posted), and writing back to the dozens of guests he had promised recipes to over the course of the season.

He then launched into the 2001 table d'hote menu. The new fivecourse dinner menu, which will still change daily, but will offer more choices at all levels (starters, mains and desserts), include palate-cleansing sorbets between courses, and more vegetarian options. There will also be a new children's menu with activities.

The kitchen will be dishing during the cocktail hour as well this year. Each evening, from 5 until 6:30, hot and cold hors d'oeuvres will be served in the great room or outside on the wrap-around deck.

Next, Chef got to work on designing munchie baskets to be given to guests upon check-in. "For the most part, the baskets are a take-home gift. But to be honest, they serve a dualpurpose-I expect to receive fewer pajama-clad midnight visitors."

And finally, turn-down will turn up some artistic surprises in 2001. "You just never know what will show up on your pillow," says May.

New table d'hote menu offers more choice and palate-cleansing sorbets.

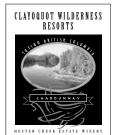
#### RESORT TO OFFER SPA C

2001

Effective spring 2001, Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts will be offering Spa Cuisine to guests so inclined. But, instead of developing a single spa

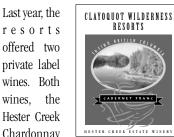
menu, Chef May has, in consultation with nutritionists and spa-frequenting guests, decided to work on a oneon-one basis which each spa patron to satisfy his or own unique requirements. "If guests can communicate their specific dietary needs to me in advance of their visit, so much the better," says May, "but if not, no problem, I love a challenge."

#### **Private Labels**



resorts offered two private label wines. Both wines, the Hester Creek Chardonnav

and the Hester Creek Cabernet Franc offered guests extraordinary value. The goal of the private label program was to provide guests with excellent red and white wines that were reasonably priced, plus accommodate a wide range of food-pairing opportunities.



The CLAYOQUOT WILDERNESS RESORTS season will bring different private label wines, CABERNET FRANC but for now. Chef is keeping the in-

side information under his hat.

And finally for spring, there will be a private label bottled spring water. The spring water, from a sealed acquifer hundreds of feet beneath a mainland rainforest is 100% pure, complimentary to guests

#### LOCAL FLAVOUR

Grilled Oyster Chowder with Cumin and Thyme

12 medium oysters, grilled
500 ml vegetable stock
1 litre whipping cream
1 medium onion, diced
2 oz. chives
one lemon, halved for juice



small bunch fresh thyme
olive oil
cumin
sea salt
crushed black peppercorns
warmed soup plates

Grill oysters over high bbq flame until shells open. Remove, cool and remove meat from shell. Saute onions in olive oil. Add cumin to taste and finger-crushed thyme leaves, cooking until onions are translucent. Add stock and bring to boil then add cream, reducing to simmer. Season to taste and place oysters in broth just to re-heat through. Ladle into warmed bowls and garnish with fresh thyme.

### BUSINESS NEWS-

### Relaxation and Play: Best Mental-Therapy

We have the eighties to thank for the conventional thinking about corporate performance—the wisdom that equates performance with time spent, and success with sacrifice. But while there is a parallel between applying oneself and achieving results, smart managers now know that there is more than one way to get to the top.

The hard way is the old way – long hours, stress, and A-type modelling. The new way is much easier, more fun, and a whole lot less stressful. Today, forward-thinking managers include relaxation and play as integral components of mental-therapy. They know that in order to think outside the box, one has to get outside the box – sometimes way out.

Interestingly, most of the staff at Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts have themselves escaped big city pressurecookers, and they know exactly what it takes to get the creative juices flowing. Step one is to relax, step two is to inspire, and step three is to let nature take its course. The formula is flaw-lessly accurate.

Resort corporate getaways include team-building and de-stressing programs, social interaction, alone time, soft adventure and soft beds—all designed to inspire willing and unwitting participants to count on themselves and each other and to lay a foundation for creative problem solving. Something to think about on the commute to work.



### Winning Partnerships

Two of North America's top-rated luxury travel agents have added Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts getaways to their catalogue of offerings. Both Backroads, a packager of unique high-end adventures, and Butterfield and Robinson, a Canadian agent for luxury getaways, have designed oneof-a-kind retreats to one or both resorts. Backroads packaged trips typically combine soft sports like bike riding, canoeing or kayaking with fine dining and unique hotels and resorts all over the world. Butterfield & Robinson offer a complete range of getaways to unique resorts off the beaten path. For more information call the resorts tollfree, or Backroads at 1.800.GO.ACTIVE B&R at 1.800.678.1147.

#### Website Upgrades Include Video-Stream



Soon **www.wildretreat.com** will highlight digital video of both the resort at Quait Bay and the new Wilderness Outpost. Award-winning videographer Russ Heinl visited the resorts last summer for his landmark aerial adventure "Canada's Edens – Great Resorts of the Pacific Northwest". Some of his breathtaking footage will be available for viewing on-line. Visit often and watch for informative new pages, "Getaway Specials" and "Corporate Strategies" and expanded pages on the new Healing Grounds Spa and Ceremonial Feasthouse. We can also be reached at **www.clayoquotwildernessresorts.com**.

#### Resource Based Economy Comes Full Circle

Little more than a decade ago, the Clayoquot Sound landscape looked very different than it does today. Tofino was a fishing village with just a few hotels, and logging camps were dotted up and down the coastline. Locals relied on fishing and forestry for their livelihood. Ironically, more than ten years later, they still look to the hills and the sea to sustain them, but in a

#### very different way.

After environmentalists launched the world-famous Battle of the Sound in the early 90s', Clayoquot Sound became known for its unique natural beauty and delicate eco-system. It is now a UNESCO designated Biosphere Reserve Area and home to a thriving ecotourism-based economy.

Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts

played a milestone part in the transition from one natural resource-based economy to another, when in the spring of 1999, the 65 employees of the closeddown west coast offices of forestry giant MacMillan Bloedel, and their spouses, celebrated their last days together at a two-day retirement celebration held at the floating resort at Quait Bay. It was history in the making.

#### Orca Club Contest

Again this season we offer conveners of corporate groups of 24 or more room nights—that's 12 rooms for two nights, six rooms for four nights, or eight rooms for three nights—a Complimentary Spa Weekend valued at \$995 (\$749 US). Call for details.

For information on Customized Corporate Retreat or Group Getaways call our Director of Corporate and Group Sales, Sue Simmons at 403.217.9205 or the resort toll-free.

### CAST OF CHARACTERS

# Whale Whisperer

Of the hundreds of thousands of words I have written over these past three years as a writer for Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts, too few have been about general manager "Cowboy" John Caton. Today, John asked me to write about "the resort family" that has worked together since day one. So with great enthusiasm I retrieved my notes on one and all - on young husband and wife caretaker team Erin and Gordon McDonald who live together on Quait Bay in a sailboat anchored very near the resort. But Erin and Gordon are away for a time clearing land for a home they will build eventually at Stuardson Inlet, so I couldn't be in touch. Then there's Timothy E. May, or "Chef" as he's commonly called. Chef is somewhere on the mainland preparing for Canada a la Carte, a showcase in San Francisco, of the best food and wine that Western Canada has to offer. Then of course there is Adele Caton. Adele is the glue that holds the resorts - and John - together. She is his wife and mother to their sons Courtney and Chad. Then there's Qaamina and his

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family, and Courtney, and Chad and Shari, and others. There is much to tell about them all, and I will - just not today. Today, John misses Adele.

Until nine days ago, when Adele went east to visit family, she and John had spent every day and night together since they arrived to the west coast from Ontario in the spring of 1998. Nine days ago, with the entire resort family away for a spell, John was alone - alone to play for the first time in a very long time. Suddenly there was no one to notice whether or not he attended to all that needs doing in the offseason.

I spoke to him early that evening, fresh in from the January chill, having spent the day talking (his words) - or doing that thing that cowboys and wild horses do - with Storm, his unbroken stallion who commands the woods up behind the resort. I was not at all certain it even was John that I was talking to at first. The character at the other end of the phone sounded not unlike my pre-school son telling tale of some fantastic adventure. It was in fact John, disclosing with



#### Caton, at home on the range

unbridled enthusiasm, the greatness of horses and fresh air and nature and life—and freedom. If only he could tell Adele.

That's John, through and through. A rough and tumble cowboy with a big soft heart. Full of a thousand dreams and not enough time to make them all come true. John is the visionary behind the resorts and their expansion. He dreams in full colour, quite probably in IMAX, and I'm sure, at the speed of light. And he has found his opus in Clayoquot Sound.

A former real estate developer, rock and roll manager and record producer, John shed his suit and tie, donned chaps and a Stetson and followed his dreams to Quait Bay. He says something called him, called him west. He says it still calls him.

I've seen him beckoned out to sea, unaided by artificial intelligence – no depth finders, no sonar – then cut the boat motor and be surrounded suddenly, by whales. Grey whales, orcas, humpbacks—a few or a family, gathered as if to say hello to one of their own.

I've seen him walk onto shore, whistling what must in reality be half of some diurnal dialogue, and have



Don't try this at home

Hannah the red tailed hawk come jetting down out of the sky, talons poised as if to shred some unfortunate creature, and light gently on his arm for a kiss.

He is answering the call—the call of the wild. Adele, is due home tomorrow.

#### Zodiac Promises Big Fun, Big Smiles

Clayoquot Wilderness Resorts has added even more fun to its roster of marine adventures. The "Whale's Tail" a 12-seater zodiac, powered by dual 250HP Mercury motors will be zipping around Clayoquot starting in March, offering guests a super-charged, superfun way to see the sound.

She will be skippered primarily by "Cozy", or Quoashinis as she is known

in her traditional language of Nuuchah-nulth. Having grown up on the water, Cozy is at home at sea and knows its inlets, bays and open range like the back of her hand. And while you know she never would, its comforting to know that Cozy could get you there and back with her eyes closed.

Whale watching and Hot Springs Cove day trips are just two zodiac-based activities available to thrill-seekers. Call for information and rates.



#### Yours For The Asking

Call us toll-free or on-line and ask for a Free Adventure Planner.

This 16-page full-colour booklet describes in vivid detail, countless wilderness adventures available at one or both resorts. Our 38-page corporate brochure and our comprehensive rack brochure are also yours for the asking. We can be reached at

1.888.333.5405 1.250.726.8235

