

The Nobleton Public Library

The idea of a public library for Nobleton had been in the minds of many of the citizens for some time. In the fall of 1965, the Nobleton Lions Club, under president Walter Barker, undertook the library as their project for 1966.

In October of 1965, the Village Trustees passed a resolution allotting the land next to the fire hall for the new library building. The Lions Club held their annual car draw to obtain funds, this being so successful that construction began in the spring of 1966. The building took shape slowly but steadily to completion in the fall of that year. The architectural design was donated by Ray Shupe of Nobleton while the construction was supervised by Harold Pearson. Much assistance was donated by Walter Barker. In the fall of 1966 the interior finishings, shelves etc. were completed by Harold Pearson and his sons.

Meanwhile, the club named a library committee consisting of three members of the Lions Club and a village trustee. Named to the committee were Lions John Pickard, Dr. David Harper and Donald Garden. Lyman Copithorn represented the trustees. The local library appealed to the Provincial Library Service for assistance, which was given in the form of information, pamphlets etc. The financial aid could only be given to a library registered under the provisions of the Provincial Library Act. The committee decided to register as an Association Library. This involved a petition signed by ten responsible citizens and registered in the County seat. An Association was formed late in 1966. The initial ten members were: Mrs. H. Pillage, Mrs. D. Brown, Mrs. K. Goodfellow, Mrs. K. Holychuk, Mr. Lyman Copithorn, Mrs. A. Biggs, Mr. John Pickard, Mr. John Bragg, Mr. Donald Garden and Dr. David Harper.

The Library Board held its first meeting on Monday, November 28, 1966. The chairman, secretary and treasurer were elected. The chairman was Donald Garden, secretary Mrs. Ken Goodfellow and the treasurer Mr. John Pickard. The first concern of the Board was the new legislation to take effect on the first of January, 1967, which would abolish all association libraries causing the township board to be the smallest unit to exist under the Public Library Act. The choice was to exist alone without provincial grants or to request the township to take over whereby provincial grants would be available.

The new King Township Library Board was established on the 28th of December 1966 and three libraries comprised the new system - King City, Schomberg and Nobleton. Mrs. Holychuk and Mr. Garden represented Nobleton on this Board.

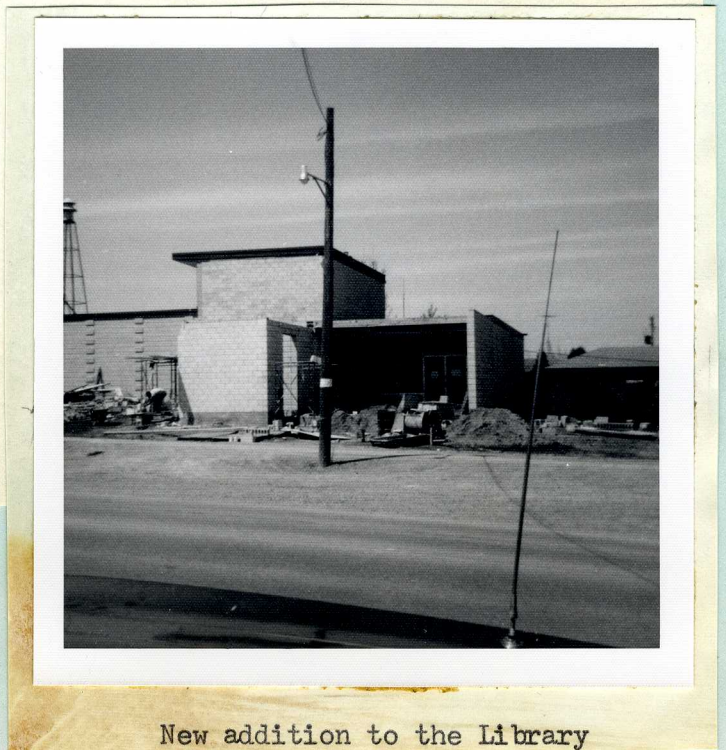
A township librarian was hired, Mrs. Q. Hardy, from the King City library, and soon the process of setting up the Nobleton Library was undertaken. Mrs. Hardy resigned at the end of a three month period. The problem in acquiring a certified librarian for the township caused much delay in opening the Nobleton library. In the late fall and winter the Board resolved to hire an uncertified librarian and was fortunate to find Mr. Ian Scott, a school librarian, in Newmarket, to fill the position.

The slow business of ordering and selecting books, initiated by Mr. Garden, was taken over by Mr. Scott in January 1968 and the doors of the library opened on the 9th of March 1968. The furniture, which was purchased by the Lions, was in place and lent a pleasant atmosphere to the library.

Such is the history of our library, but it is only the beginning. There is much to be done and the young community will demand more each year in the search for knowledge.



Donald Garden.



New addition to the Library



1991

Nobleton Library

- Sept. 26, 1986 Sod turning by Mrs. Lyman Davis and released balloons as a fund raiser
- Mar. 18, 1987 Evelyn Huycke of the Nobleton Women's Institute presented a cheque for \$1000,00 to the library
- Aug. 25, 1987 Closed the doors of the library on King Rd. The staff packed all books, other materials and equipment under the direction of the Branch Head, Rose Jones.
- Sept. 9, 1987 Official opening of the new library on Highway 27 and Sheardown Dr.
- Sept. 10, 1987 Approximately 300 children from the Nobleton Jr and Sr schools were present for the laying of the corner stone and the placing of the time capsule.
- Oct. 24, 1987 Gala Dinner Dance in the Nobleton Arena for fund raising. Organized and prepared by Ron and Rose Jones and Val and Alex Churchman.
- Oct. 1987 Helen Lucas a well known artist living in our area presented a large painting 'Noble Geranium'
- Sept. 1987 King Library System went on computer

The new library is 4000 sq. feet and features a large area of book stacks, a reading section, circulation desk, staff room workroom and office. Also a multipurpose room for programs, meetings and art displays.

We now have a collection of talking books which were purchased from a donation by the Nobleton Lions

We have also increased our collections of large print books music cassettes and have added videos, a French collection, a selection of toys and compact discs.

The staff of the Nobleton Library at the time of opening consisted of Rose Jones, Branch Head, June Mullings Joan Jordan and Jane Jones as assistants and 3 students. Our hours increased to 26 hrs a week

The new Library was designed by Architect Eugene Janiss and build by Ron Wilson Construction Ltd. of Nobleton.



Nobleton W.I. donates cups and saucers and kitchen utensils to the new library. 1988



Mary Anne Merritt Evelyn Huycke Rose Jones (Librarian)

