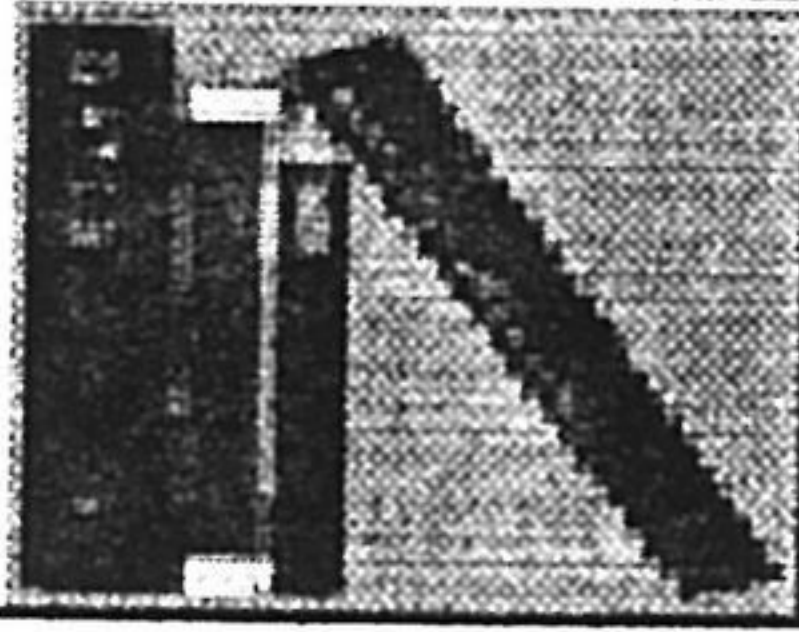


# LIBRARY NOTES



## Tales of the Unexplained

Maybe it's the influence of the comet Hale-Bopp, but for some reason the Ann Farwell Public Library has been the site of untold mysteries and marvels this past month. For instance, did anyone notice the sudden appearance of a wonderful bike rack on the library lawn? We were just about ready to call in Unsolved Mysteries when Don and Heather Ross confessed to putting it there for the use of all the cyclists visiting Milford.

Meanwhile, in other sudden appearances, the Milford Mystery Keys of the Month have turned up at the library this time. If you have visited the library within the last three weeks and find that you can no longer unlock the door to your house, check your pockets. Your keys with the red leather tag are missing and can be retrieved at the library.

If that isn't strange enough for you, try this story. Our volunteers enjoyed yet another adventure in cataloguing this month, and once again Walker's Garage managed to save the day. After carefully checking the weather report, (no surprise blizzards on the way) Valencia Logan, Gillian Parker, Joan Kane and Sasha, Ann Elson, and Lori Farrington gathered at the library to take care of that backlog of book donations once and for all. Everything was ready. The volunteers were poised, hands ready over the typewriters, when, you guessed it, the electricity went out. The librarian was all for packing it in and calling it a day, but without missing a beat, the party of cataloguers decided to tackle the books by hand. Now here's where Walker's Garage comes in. After great trial and error, it was discovered that the only suitable pens for cataloguing by hand were of course, the ones from Walker's Garage. Due to their foresight in mailing pens to all of us, the volunteers were able to complete the cataloguing for 70 books.

An interesting footnote to this story demonstrates a basic scientific law. Every action has a complete and opposite reaction, which is why it only took three days for fresh donations to replace the 70 books we managed to get to the shelf! It doesn't really take a scientific law to see that the library reflects the spirit of the community that built it. Every time you drop a loonie in the pickle jar, leave a handful of pocketbooks on the counter, or stop in to lend a hand, the library is a little better equipped to serve you. Thank you to everyone who has shown their support for the library in so many different ways.

Our last little mystery is called The Case of the Missing Overdue Books. According to our records, out of the 13,966 books that were borrowed in 1996, over 100 of them have not yet been returned. This represents more than \$3,000 in replacement costs, which is money we just don't have to spare. During the month of May, books that were due in 1996 can be returned with no penalty and no questions asked. Also, don't get alarmed if you receive a telephone call from the library. We are updating our membership records, and plan to check in with all our patrons over the next few months.

- Janet Elson

## IN APPRECIATION

For those of us fortunate enough to be frequent visitors to South Marysburgh throughout the year, the delight of spending time by the Lake called Ontario over the Easter weekend is wondrous - especially when it is the first visit in several months.

The arrival procedure includes a long series of pleasurable events. The delight of exiting the 401 and crossing the bridge to The County; the comforting feeling of driving through downtown Picton; the complete satisfaction of passing the South Marysburgh signpost; the pleasurable joy of seeing the cottage, the Lake, the grass and the trees showing some early signs of life.

Once the automobile has been unpacked and the limbs stretched, the process of truly appreciating our surroundings begins. And in due course, having admired the surrounding area and listened to the sounds of nature, the recent issues of the South Marysburgh Mirror are read with interest. Those involved in the production of this very fine publication deserve our congratulations for a very fine job very well done.

During an all too brief sojourn at the cottage, there is much to look forward to doing. Included is having a "small" ice cream at the Black Creek Cheese Factory, visiting Dale at the best organized recycling plant I have seen in Ontario, purchasing miscellaneous items at Hicks General Store, a meal at the Milford Coffee Gallery or another "small" ice cream at the Emporium, admiring numerous antiques at Moore's, planning flower and vegetable gardens at Walker's.

Time passes quickly at the cottage - no doubt because there is so much to do and so much to appreciate. All too soon it is time to load the automobile and depart. But we leave with many happy thoughts accumulated during our visit and we look forward to our return to South Marysburgh and spending time reading the next edition of the Mirror.

- Reginald Geopholus Armbruster