

The Little Library  
that Grew....  
And Grew.....  
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By Marilyn Ming  
Salt Spring Island Public Library  
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Once upon a time, a long time ago, when your grandmothers were very young,



Salt Spring Island had a very small library down in Fulford Harbour, but it burned down and then there was no library at all.

One day, a lady named Mary Hawkins and her friends said, "We need more things to read."

This island needs a library!"

A man named Mouat said

"You can have a room in my store for your library."

And so the library began with a few books in a small room. The people on Salt Spring were very happy and they donated their books and used the library a lot.

One day, Mary Hawkins said,

"This room is TOO small.

We have books on our toeses,

we have books past our noses,

we have books coming out our

ears

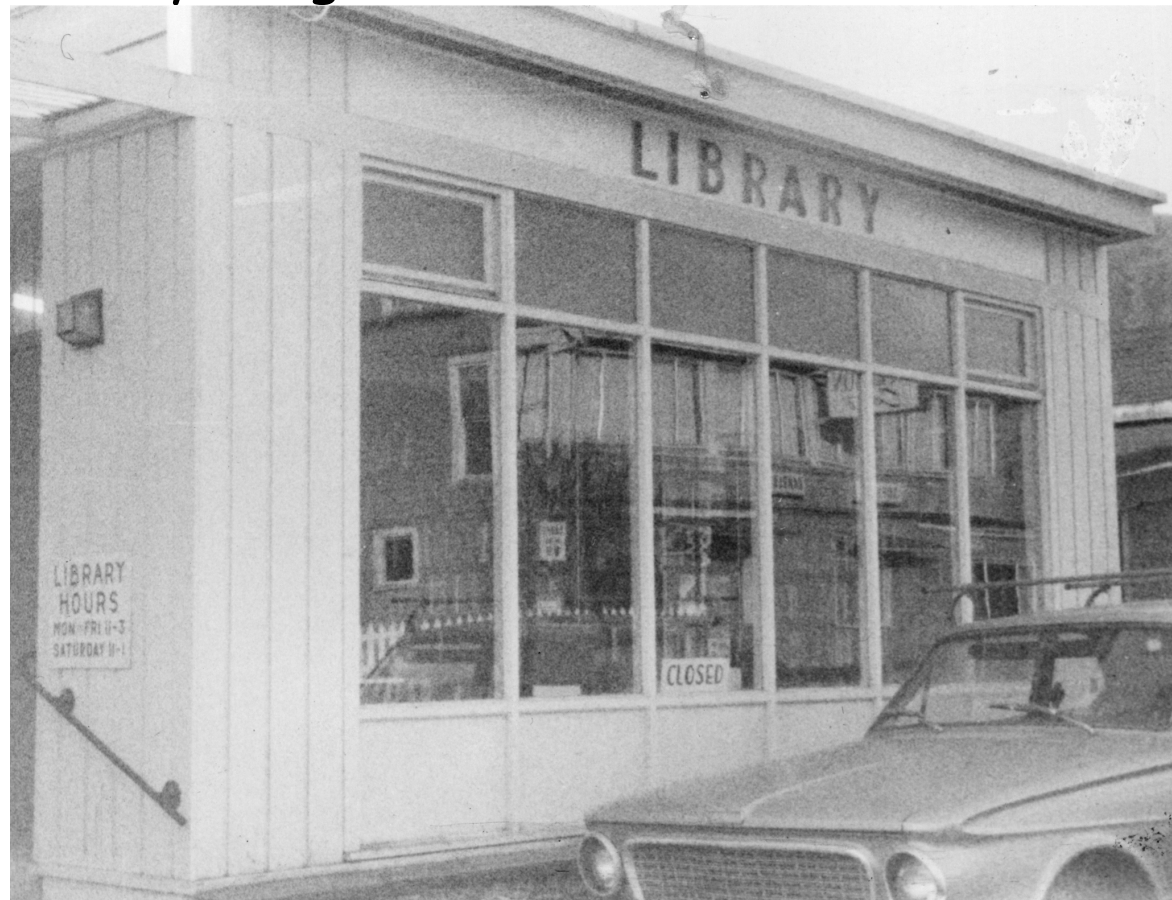
and there is no room for the people to come."

"Yes," said her friends "we need more room."



So they looked around the island and they found a boat house.

There was no boat in the boat house and it was bigger than their little room, so they bought the boat house and moved the library.



The people on Salt Spring were very happy and they donated their books and used the library a lot.



Before too long, Mary Hawkins said,

"This boathouse is TOO small.

We have books on our toeses,

we have books past our noses,

we have books coming out our ears

and there is no room

for the people to come."

"Yes," said her friends

"we need more room."

So they bought the house next to the boat house and the Salt Spring Library became the only library in Canada to have a bathtub!



The people on Salt Spring were very happy and they donated their books and they gave money and they used the library a lot.



Before long, the library people said,  
"This library is TOO small.

We have books on our toes,  
we have books past our noses,  
we have books coming out our ears,

and we even have books in the bathtub and there is no room for  
the people to come."

"Yes," said the people "we need more room."

This time they added a room onto the boat house and the people house and made the library we have today.



But still there were only a few books for children. One day, two ladies said "We need a place for children and we need books for them."



So Norma Keech and Merle Sheffield got the library people to give them some money and a small place for just children. It was upstairs and very nice, but still very small.

They organized story times and reading clubs.



Then the grown-ups wanted more room too and so they fixed a place in the basement for the children. Now the children had their own library but it was still not very big.



The people on Salt Spring were very happy and they donated their books and they gave money and they used the library a lot.

Before too long, the library people said,

“This library is TOO small.

We have books on our toes,

we have books past our noses,

we have books coming out our ears,

and there is not enough room for the children and things for the children.”

So they went out onto the island and they asked the people what they thought, because there were many more people now than when the library was just a boathouse or a room in a store.

"Yes," said the people "we need a bigger place, and most important we need more things for the children."



So the library people decided to cut their meeting room in half and give the other part to the children.

Then Ms. Spence said,

"The library may be too small, but we can still make the children's place much better and we can get more



good books, and  
some magazines, and  
more videos and  
posters and computers and



we can have a party!"

So there was a party with balloons  
and a singer  
and lots of cookies!



And the children used the library a lot until one day,

All the people said,

“We need more room. This library is TOO small.  
We have books on our toes,  
and videos past our noses,  
we have tapes and CDs coming out our ears,

and this children's library is TOO small.....”