

Volunteer Profile

by Rasma Bertz



Joan Watterson

Joan enjoys her Wednesday morning desk shifts, and I enjoy being her sidekick. She says opposites attract. For instance, she's a joyful new dog mum - I am a long established cat person; she's a die hard non-fiction reader - I am all about sci-fi fantasy.

However, we are finding many things in common including an appreciation of wit, health, and the joy of life. It is my pleasure to introduce you to a woman with whom I discuss Egypt and from whom I get bamboo. We are in it for the patrons. Cookies are a bonus.

Joan didn't take long to become involved in our community since arriving in 2010. She helps out with the Conservancy - working on The Acorn and species-at-risk data entry. Two days after moving to Salt Spring, she got her library card and started training as a shelver two weeks after that!

Her father used to say, "If you have the chance to help someone, you do it." A WWII veteran, he lived the ideals of 'service to his community' in all aspects of his life. While his death is still fresh, he taught Joan about respect for others and continues to inspire her.

Joan was born in Kenora. It's the first town in Ontario once you leave Manitoba - beautiful lake country with as many people as live year round on SSI. Thinking to follow in her mother's footsteps, Joan decided to do a BA and become a teacher. She soon realised that university French and high school French were worlds apart; luckily, a chance meeting with an inspiring feminist thespian led her to change to Theatre.

Although never going pro, Joan has enjoyed doing voice-over work and feels that her degree helped her come out of the shy bookworm shell that led her to hide in the school library. She still loves books and libraries. She has an intense drive to learn as much as possible, from what I can see, which inspired her to complete a MA in Health Psychology in Vancouver.

Joan was a medical writer/editor when a mutual client introduced her to a quiet, funny, and sweet graphic designer named Harry. They clicked, they married and they now work together. You will be familiar with some of their work if you like Happy Planet products.

She and Harry decided to move away from Vancouver, and since both had grown up in similar communities, Salt Spring appealed, especially with the infrastructure and reliable

internet. When opportunity knocked, it knocked them right out of city life and over here.

Joan is currently reading Evelyn White's biography of Alice Walker, which she describes as "a great writer doing justice to the life story of a great writer". Joan's favourite book-of-all-time is a collection of essays called 'Living by the Word' written by Alice Walker.

Sometimes you will see Joan walking with a cane. She has good days and bad days like the rest of us but when she is on the desk at the library, you will never see her without a cheerful greeting and a welcoming smile.

This and That

Volunteers needed:

- Shelf Monitors
- Children's Programmer
- StoryTime presenters
- Radio Show Hosts/techs



Please contact Karen at khudson@saltspringlibrary.com if you are interested in learning more about any of these positions.

Also needed: Cookie Lady (or Man) - involves weekly checks on the refreshment supplies - cookies, milk, sugars, coffee, etc. and replenishing them using funds supplied. Contact Lyda Smith at sidlyda@shaw.ca

Mark your calendar to help the library collect statistics during its **Annual Typical Week: Oct. 24-29th.**

Patrons and volunteers can find a list (updated monthly) of our new books at:

<http://saltspring.bclibrary.ca/new-items>

Please visit our Salt Spring Island Public Library page on Facebook and hit the "Like" button.

Book Launch Book Launch

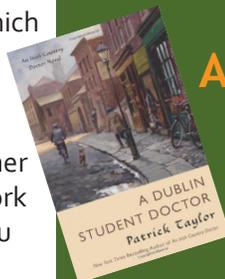
A Dublin Student Doctor

by *Patrick Taylor*

International Bestselling Author
& Local Writer

**Wednesday October 19th 7:00 - 9:00 pm
at Barb's Bakery & Bistro**

Sponsored by the Library
Co-hosted by Salt Spring Books & Barb's Bakery & Bistro





Librarian's Report

by Brigitte Peter-Cherneff, Chief Librarian

We've had a productive summer of activity at the Library. Our temporary quarters at 118 Jackson Ave (next to the CO-OP gas station) are operating well. We've had many compliments from our volunteers and the public on the attractiveness and usability of the temporary library.

The children's library had a busy summer with puppet plays and workshops and the summer reading club activities. The children's activities were held in the Library Annex at 108 Jackson, just two doors down from the temporary library. The annex is where the book cataloguing and processing occurs and it has a small meeting room that can be used for activities and Board meetings. We still get some confusion about these two sites so new signage has recently been added to make it clear **where the library actually is!** If you haven't driven by the old McPhillips Avenue library site lately, you will see that significant progress has made on the new building.

Our sincere thanks go out to the many volunteers who assisted with the move to the temporary library. Thanks to Sid and Lyda Smith the move was well organized and took less time than originally thought. It has also taught us a lot about what to expect when we move into our new building in 2012. We hope to use volunteers again in combination with professional movers so we may be calling on many of you again.

Despite our reduced footprint we intend to stay active in the community. This fall we are hosting two school-based children's programs in October through our membership with IslandLink Library Federation. Popular young adult author Kenneth Oppel will be at SS Middle School on October 4th and Norden the Magician will be presenting at Saltspring Elementary, Fernwood Elementary and Fulford Elementary on October 6th.

If you have a shift for shelf monitoring we encourage you to come and help us keep the book shelves in good order as use of the Library is increasing.

Summer Students Report



Olivia Budd

This summer was my second time working at the library. I enjoyed having a few more tasks and responsibilities than last year, and I gained lots of experience.

I helped Sheila Spence to organize and run the Summer Reading Club down at the Annex. Although the number of children attending was small, I had a really good time! I worked a great deal with Sam; helping to move and set up the temporary library, helping on the desk, shelving and thirthing, and working on lots of odd jobs given to us by Karen and Brigitte!

I also compiled an extensive list of Canadian children's and young adult authors, so that the library will hopefully be adding many more Canadian authors to its collection.



Sam Rowlandson-O'Hara

I submitted my application and started getting emails from Karen about when my interview could be. It was absolutely lovely to sit down with her and Lyda and talk about this amazing opportunity for a summer job. And then I was hired... and the packing began.

We all have our stories from the move, and I won't bore you with mine, but it was incredible to be part of the monumental change that Mary Hawkins Memorial Library took to becoming Salt Spring Island Public Library 'Temporary Location', and to see all the phenomenal work everybody put into this metamorphosis.

One of the projects that Olivia and I worked on was the Canadian Heritage Project. It involved finding all the Canadian authors in our Junior and YA section and placing a small Canadian flag on the spine of the book.

As summer draws to a close and the school advertisements slowly squirm back onto our radios and televisions, I give a gigantic thank you to the Monday thru Friday teams. Working with you was a brilliant pleasure which I hope can be repeated. Karen and Brigitte, you are both fantastic bosses.

I will continue my Library experience on every other Saturday, switching off with the delightful Paisley. Thank you to everyone, have a brilliant fall.



Goodbye to our 2011 Summer Students

by Karen Hudson, Librarian

The library was extremely fortunate to be able to hire university student Olivia Budd and GISS student Sam Rowlandson-O'Hara for full-time summer positions thanks to grants from the Government of Canada under the Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs programs. Both of these hardworking, intelligent young women exceeded our expectations, and thanks to them, the library ran smoothly and efficiently over the summer. We wish Sam and Olivia every success in their ongoing studies, and musical and theatrical careers.

Summer also saw the hiring of new Saturday student, Paisley Conrad, who takes over for Hana Mulder, who graduated from GISS. Paisley, who is in theatre at GISS, brings her enthusiasm and strong work ethic to our Saturday crew.

Now that summer has ended, and we have settled into the cozy temporary library, the collection's committees have resumed their purchasing and we are balancing our service to the public in this facility while we plan for the new building.

I give updates on our progress on the library radio show *Word on the Rock* Wednesdays at 11:30 am on 107.9 CFSI. International bestselling author and local writer Patrick Taylor will appear as my guest on October 19th to discuss the latest book in his very popular series, 'A Dublin Student Doctor: An Irish Country Doctor Novel'.

