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Bill Melbourne
kisses wife
Gertie at a
retirement
party held
Saturday:
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"Gertie" the librarian retires

BRADFORD — The lady who has been largely responsible for building up the Bradford Public Library retired last week after 14 years of service.

Gertrude "Gertie" Melbourne was honored at a retirement party Saturday evening at the Bradford Fire Hall.

Former library board chairman Edward Devlin said Mrs. Melbourne was "a very enthusiastic worker" who would attend as many workshops as she could at her own expense to gain the expertise needed to run the library.

"She deserves a lot of congratulations for that," Mr. Devlin said.

He also thanked Mrs. Melbourne's husband Bill for his volunteer work around the library as well. "He couldn't do

anything but," Mr. Devlin said smiling.

REVOKED

He recalled one occasion when Mrs. Melbourne asked to attend meetings of the library board. She asked permission to revoke the membership cards of board members who hadn't been in to borrow books for some time. He laughed, "Guess who the first one was? The chairman of the library board.

"You've benefitted so many people over the years," he told Mrs. Melbourne, as he presented her with a copper coal shuttler.

Reeve Ken Wood, the only member of Bradford council in attendance, conveyed "deep appreciation from our

community... Thank you for what you have done for us," he said.

PRIVILEGED

Mrs. Melbourne said after the presentation, "It's been a privilege for me to serve the people of our community. I've

enjoyed meeting so many people."

She said she had "mixed feelings about saying goodbye," and urged Bradford residents to continue to use the services of the library.

After expressing her

appreciation to her co-workers and members of the town and Simcoe County library boards, she thanked her husband

Bill for his support over the years.

"If it hadn't been for him I couldn't have been there," she said.



Librarian honored

Bradford librarian Adrienne Price (left) presents retiring librarian Gertie Melbourne with a bouquet of roses at a reception held in the fire hall last Saturday. Many friends and co-workers were on hand to thank Gertie of 14 years of service. See the story.