



scarborough public library

# Cliffcrest Branch

## Historical Highlights



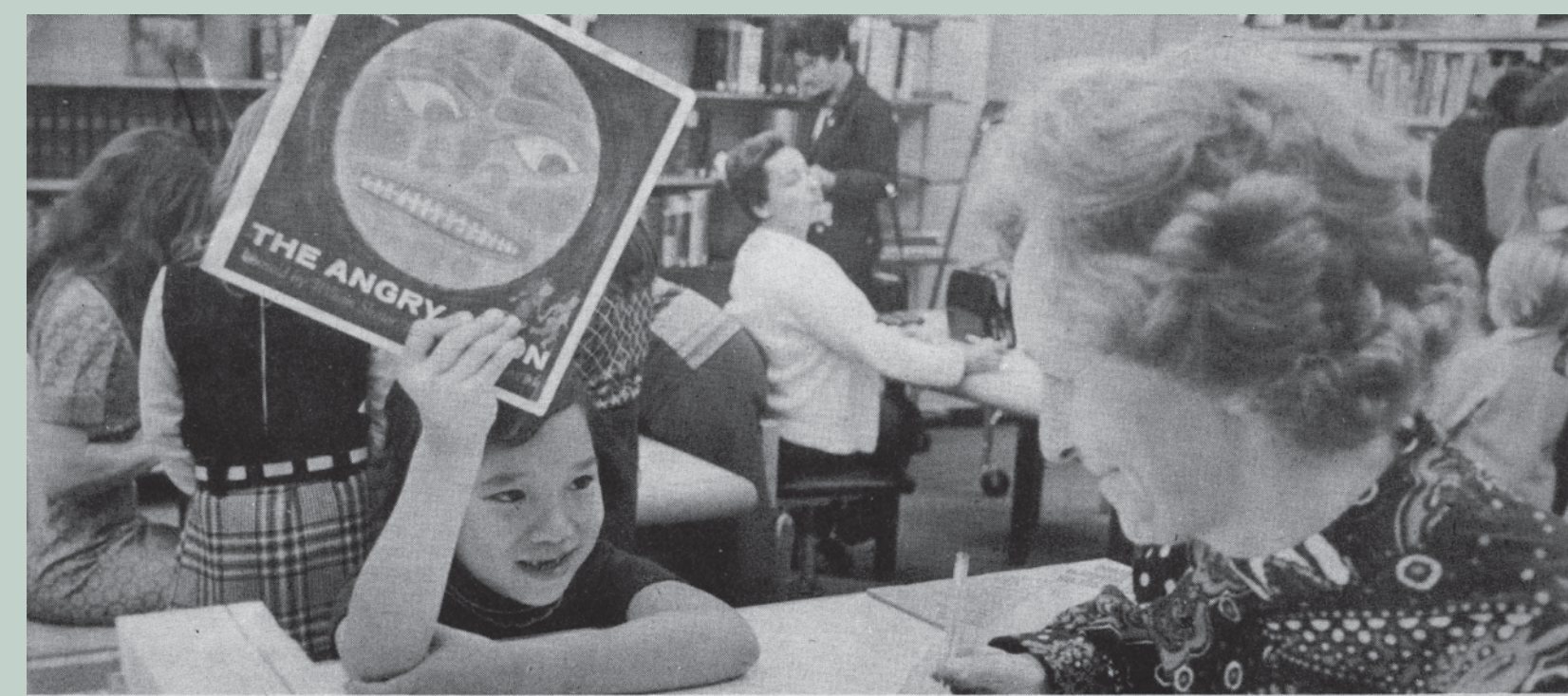
### 2977 Kingston Road, October 2, 1972 – March 1, 2008



**Bookmobile service, 1956**  
Scarborough Public Library, established in July 1955, used bookmobiles to bring library service to the township's burgeoning suburbs. Service to the Cliffcrest area started in 1956 with one bookmobile stop near Stop 21 on Kingston Road at Fenwood Heights. Helen Petersen, the librarian here, was the director of the Scarborough Public Library in 1972, when Cliffcrest Branch opened.

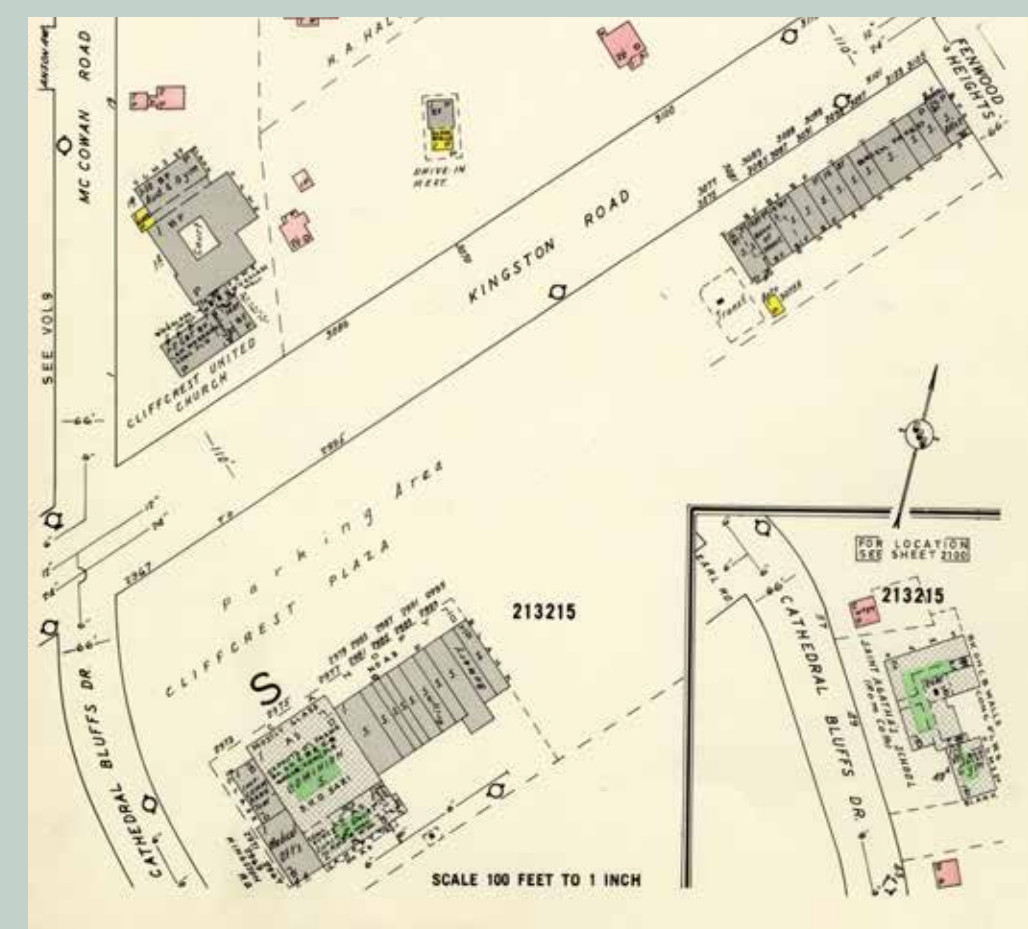
WATCH FOR THE OPENING OF THE NEW **CLIFFCREST branch library** ON MONDAY OCTOBER 2 1972  
BRANCH HOURS — MON.—FRI. 12:30 P.M.—8:30 P.M.  
SATURDAY 9:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.  
YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE ALBERT CAMPBELL DISTRICT LIBRARY & OTHER SCARBOROUGH & METRO TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY COLLECTIONS VIA TELETYPE NETWORK.

SCARBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY **cliffcrest branch** FILMS • RECORDINGS PICTURES • CASSETTES BOOKS • MAGAZINES  
PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES DISCUSSIONS & LECTURES CRAFT DEMONSTRATIONS FILMS, PUPPET SHOWS CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN.



**Cliffcrest's first borrower**  
DONNA LEE, 7 checks out the first book to be borrowed from the new Cliffcrest library with librarian Joan Hinds. Scarborough library's newest branch at Kingston Road and McCowan will be officially opened on Friday at 7:45 p.m. Celebration events start at 12:30 p.m. Staff photo: David Kaplan

Scarborough Mirror, October 11, 1972.



**Plan of Cliffcrest Plaza, February 1969**  
In autumn 1971, library staff met with Joseph Kerzner, president of Cliffcrest Plaza Ltd., and reported: "In 1972 a store next to Dominion Store will become available and the location, size and rental conditions meet the Board's requirements." A lease for no. 2977 was signed in April 1972.

### Scarborough opens 10th library in fall

Scarborough's public library system will open its 10th branch this fall on Kingston Rd. at McCowan Rd.  
The library, serving Cliffcrest area residents, will have 12,000 volumes and a teletype service which will make the entire collection of the borough's library system available to members.  
The heart of the library with its charge out desk was especially designed to move aside to make room for film presentations and lectures.  
An area has been set aside for children and special programs will be set up for them, officials report.

**Kingston Rd. library opens**  
Scarborough library system today opened its 10th branch: Cliffcrest in Cliffcrest Plaza on Kingston Rd. at McCowan Rd. and it will be open Monday to Friday from 12:30 to 8:30 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Residents in the area, who had urged a library for several years, took part in planning sessions involving library facilities, layout, hours, and programs.

Toronto Star, October 2, 1972

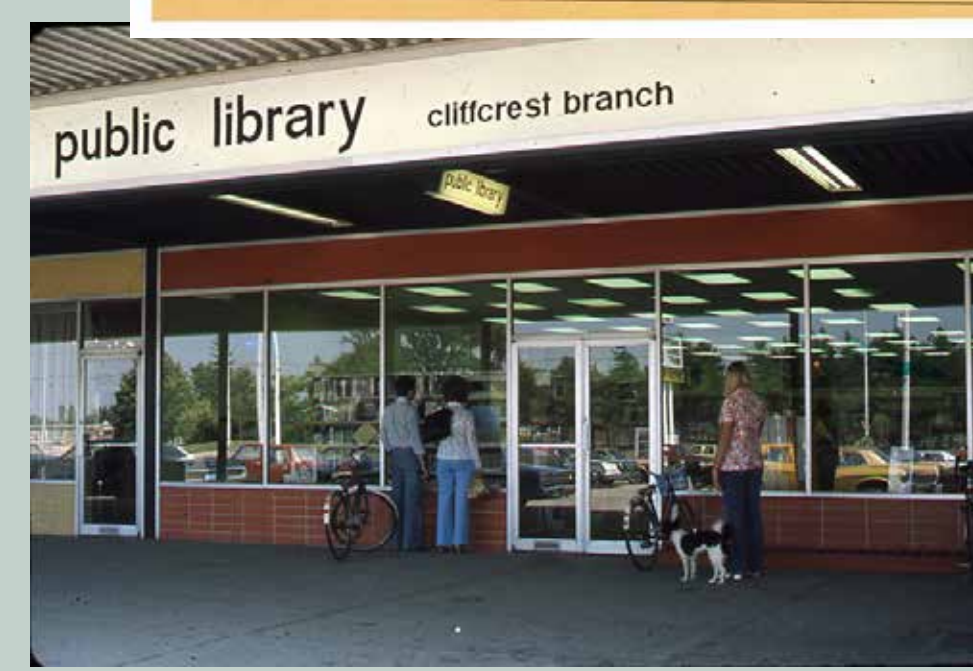
Toronto Star, July 22, 1972



**Official Opening, October 13, 1972**  
Eileen Collins (extreme left), Dick Murphy and Peggy Porter of the Cliffcrest Branch Community Advisory Committee join C. A. Hammond (second from left), chairman of the Scarborough Public Board, to officially open the new Cliffcrest Branch.

you're all invited to **open house** at the new **cliffcrest branch library** in the cliffcrest plaza, kingston road at mc cowan road  
Friday, October 13, 1972  
from 12:30 p.m. onward  
official opening at 7:45 p.m.  
entertainment, refreshments, special exhibits, video, crafts, children's programs, drop-in, turn-on, take-out.

**cliffcrest branch library**  
SCARBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY



Exterior, 1975



25th anniversary sign, 1997



Interior, 1972

**NEXT TIME YOU'RE SHOPPING AT CLIFFCREST PLAZA COME AND VISIT US AT THE CLIFFCREST PUBLIC LIBRARY**

SCARBOROUGH public library cliffcrest branch

**WE OFFER YOU ALL THESE THINGS — FREE!**  
BOOKS — MAGAZINES — RECORDS — CASSETTES — FILMS — EXHIBITS  
A SPECIAL TEEN COLLECTION — MULTILINGUAL MATERIALS — A TELETYPE NETWORK — EVENTS

**HOURS:**  
MONDAY AND TUESDAY 12:30 — 8:30 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY CLOSED  
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. — 8:30 p.m.  
SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

**REGULAR PROGRAMMES:**  
STORY HOUR FOR 3 TO 5 YEAR OLDS EVERY TUESDAY 1:30 P.M.  
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP THE 3RD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH 2:00 P.M.  
CHILDREN'S CRAFTS 3:00 P.M.  
EVERY SCHOOL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY  
LIBRARY VISITS FOR SCHOOL CLASSES, TEACHERS AND PARENTS  
PHONE FOR AN APPOINTMENT

**THE LIBRARY PHONE NUMBER: 266-5697**  
"Just tell us what you want, and we'll get it for you." — Joan Hinds, Branch Head

National Shopping Centre Promotions, c1977.

### 3017 Kingston Road, Opened April 3, 2008



**CLIFFCREST BRANCH REOPENING**

Toronto Public Library Board invites you to the opening of the newly relocated and renovated Cliffcrest Branch

Cliffcrest Branch, Cliffcrest Plaza, 3017 Kingston Road

Thursday, April 3, 2008  
Doors open at 12:30 p.m.  
Open up for family entertainment and refreshments

Discover all your new library has to offer!

www.torontopubliclibrary.ca

Cliffcrest Branch's new location in the Cliffcrest Plaza opened on April 3, 2008. McKinnon Design planned the new space, a 75 percent increase over the old location, expanding from 2,800 to 4,900 square feet. The budget for the branch relocation and expansion was \$585,500.



**Interior, 2008**  
Cliffcrest became Toronto Public Library's first "browsing branch" in April 2008, with open-facing shelving (similar to retail stores) to display popular books, magazines, and audio-visual materials. Reading lounges were provided for customers to browse items.

Panel prepared by Toronto Public Library staff using materials from library collections, April 2008.

Cliffcrest Branch opened to the public on October 2, 1972 in a storefront leased at 2977 Kingston Road in Cliffcrest Plaza. It was the tenth branch operated by the Scarborough Public Library Board, and replaced a bookmobile stop at the plaza.

Consideration for a branch library to serve Scarborough's "thickly populated section of Cliffside in the south" started back in 1956. The same year, bookmobiles began to make regular stops in the local area.

Over the next 15 years, community

residents were increasingly vocal about their desire for a library, until on February 19, 1970, the Scarborough Public Library Board approved "in principle the establishment of a branch library in the Cliffcrest Plaza dependent on the availability of funds."

In 1971, the library board budgeted \$180,000 to open the new neighbourhood library. The following year, it invited the community to form an advisory group to help plan the new branch.

Cliffcrest Branch became part of the

Toronto Public Library in 1998, with municipal amalgamation. Refurbished in 1985 and 2001, the branch was closed temporarily on March 1, 2008 to relocate to a different unit in Cliffcrest Plaza (at 3017 Kingston Road), which reopened on April 3, 2008.