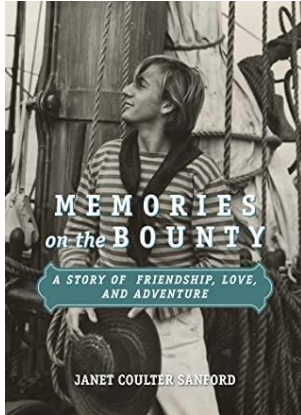


## MARY CAMPBELL READS BOOKS



### Memories on the Bounty: A Story of Friendship, Love, & Adventure

by Janet Coulter Sanford 



This was the first of several books I chose to read recently all of which are by local New Brunswick authors about local NB people all of whom I have a personal connection.

**Janet Coulter Sanford** is a retired teacher from Moncton, and 'Bounty' is her first book, published in 2021. It would be classified as a memoir, but it also functions as an adventure story, a biography, and an account of true and lasting friendship.

We learn quite a bit about the author herself and what motivated her to write the book. A high school teacher of English, a loving wife & mother, a dedicated friend, and now a published author, she is self-professed as finding writing to be a very slow process. However slow she may be, she is very good at it.

A number of years ago, Janet became best friends with a man by the name of Roy Boutilier and learned that while still a teenager, he spent a year aboard 'Bounty II' - the replica ship built in NS to be used in the filming of the movie 'Mutiny on the Bounty', on her maiden voyage to Tahiti. Roy loved to recount tales that arose from that year of adventure, and Janet was intrigued.

Then, Roy was diagnosed with Alzheimer's/dementia. She and he both realized that a wonderful first-hand account of his adventures would soon be lost forever if they didn't act quickly. Janet thought she could put together a booklet of the highlights for his family. It turned into something far more than that in many ways.

Roy & Janet began to meet almost every Monday morning to hear Roy's tales and comb through his journals, scrapbooks, & other memorabilia. It was a special time in their lives and Janet believes she was helping him deal with his disease as well. She also pursued other avenues of research, and eventually, they were able to speak to the few survivors of that adventure, or some of their relatives, in an attempt to fill in some gaps. Those tales, in their own way, were just as fascinating as those Roy told.

Eventually, Roy's disease took its toll, but Janet felt so fortunate to have amassed so much material to work with. The end result is this little 150-page book with anecdotes, clippings, and a few treasured photos, all of which serve to round out Roy's adventure on *Bounty*, in Tahiti, California, and back to the Maritimes.



So much is contained in this little book. It is truly an effort of love, combined with adventure and friendship. I do not believe Roy ever got to see the finished product - but then again, he got to live it! He would be truly proud!

**UPDATE** – This book was just nominated as a finalist in the 7<sup>th</sup> annual New Brunswick Book Awards in the Writers' Federation of New Brunswick Nonfiction Award category. The winners will be revealed at an awards ceremony on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.