

SHIPTON UNITED CHARITIES

The Trustees, at their last meeting in March, again considered the difficulty the community is facing in order to organise help for those who live on their own and are ill, or for those discharged ever earlier from hospitals and not yet ready to cope fully. An earlier admission by Oxfordshire Social Services that they had exhausted their 1994/95 budget five months before the end of the financial year, crystallised the problems to come.

The Trustees have built up a small reserve of money independent of the Christmas distribution, and our contributions to local hospitals, and this is being held in readiness to pay at least in part for the work the Social Services are unable to do. The Trustees will meet again in October to review the situation. It is not proposed at this time to reduce or cease to meet the cost of the Christmas distribution at the end of this year. But should it become apparent that further funding is needed to provide carers in 1996, it may be necessary to do so next year.

It could well be argued that the money available for distribution is not very much when faced with the cost of providing carers even for a limited amount of time. The Trustees however, are bound by the terms of the Trust which state unequivocally that the "object of the United Charities shall be to relieve either generally or individually persons resident in the Parish of Shipton-under-Wychwood who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress". The kind of carers who are needed must be properly trained and paid for their services, and ready to be called out at any time of the day or night.

Graham Canning, Chairman, Shipton United Charities.

CHARITY SEARCH

Charity Search is one of the very few charities set up specifically to ensure that elderly people in genuine financial need receive the help that is available to them from charitable sources.

One of the main problems is that people do not know how to find help from charities and many people are unaware that they could qualify. Charity Search is concerned to see that *charitable funds* reach those they are intended to help.

There is no charge at all for the advice and help given.

For further information write to:

The Secretary, Charity Search,
25 Portview Road, Avonmouth, BRISTOL BS11 9LD.
Tel: Bristol (01272) 824060 10 am - 4 pm.