

VILLAGE NEWS

Hello, my name is Olive Tucker and I live at 4 Coombes Close, Shipton. I am the person who collects and collates village news items for the Oxford Times, having carried out this task since September 1976. Until March 6th of this year my "job description" by the Oxford Times was Village Correspondent, but this has now been changed to Neighbourhood reporter.

At a seminar at which 85 out of 139 reporters were present (the oldest of whom at 84 years of age has served the Oxford Times for 70 years), we were told of plans to increase the village image to a community or neighbourhood one and thus to expand it considerably. At the same time we were asked to write an article in our local magazines. All this is in the early stages, but maybe such news snippets might fill 1½ pages instead of the present ½ page each week.

Once we reporters have submitted our copy and it has been acknowledged, then the Oxford Times will decide if a specific article should be enlarged upon and also if it should be diverted "sideways" to a more local paper such as the Witney Gazette, Bicester Advertiser, Oxford Mail (regional), Oxford Star or the Herald Series.

So there we are, and the reason for this article is so that any individual or organisation in this area will know who to contact if something interesting occurs which they would like to put in the Oxford Times. Photographs are now encouraged and here a 12 x 35mm film can be supplied if the Oxford Times feel it's warranted.

Finally, may I say that reporters have now been asked to submit a person's full name e.g. Mrs Betty Bloggs, rather than Mrs B. Bloggs or Mrs Bloggs. I should be interested to know of any comments on this, as I always personally have favoured the Mrs B. Bloggs example and have been told on several occasions that people do not want their full Christian names printed.

First Aid Course

Is your first aid knowledge rusty? A Basic First Aid course involves eight hours tuition, usually spread over four weeks. A modest charge is made to cover administration costs and use of equipment. If you are interested in doing a course please contact Rosemary Wilson, 831810.