

## **THE WYCHWOOD LIBRARY**

The future of the Wychwood Library was discussed last week at a meeting attended by Tom Forrest, Oxfordshire County Librarian, Andrew Coggan, Assistant Director, Mrs Beryl Brown, Branch Librarian, and representatives of the Trustees of Milton Village Hall (John Miller, Chairman, Jack Chapman and John Rawlins) and the Friends of the Wychwood Library (Douglas Cunningham, Chairman, and Frank Barea, Secretary). County Councillor Rodney Rose also attended.

The meeting unanimously reiterated its desire to ensure that a library serving the Wychwood area is maintained in Milton-Under-Wychwood. Tom Forrest outlined the three options which the library authorities currently have under consideration:

- 1) To extend the present library facilities at Milton and provide external access to the upstairs flat thus providing a permanent source of income.
- 2) To re-site the library within the grounds of Milton Village Hall.
- 3) To obtain the lease of an alternative site within Milton village.

Mr Forrest pointed out that it was normal Council procedure for premises to be required on a freehold basis and for that reason option 3 was least favoured, although he stressed that all possibilities were under consideration.

With regard to option 2 the Trustees of the Milton Village Hall gave their approval in principle to the proposal subject to satisfactory arrangements being made concerning the financial implications of the proposed new building, its maintenance and running costs, rental fees, etc.

The Friends of Wychwood Library expressed its satisfaction that matters were now beginning to make positive progress. The next stage is for a public meeting to take place possibly in January 1999 in Milton Village Hall when the proposed alternative plans will be submitted in detail and the fullest possible opportunity is given to everyone concerned to express their views and preferences.

### **The Lady Reade Educational Foundation**

Small grants are available from the above charity, for the purchase of books or other educational aids, to young people resident in the Wychwood parishes of Shipton, Milton, Leafield and Ramsden, who are undertaking further education. Applications should be made, in writing, giving details of study or training, to the Trustees, before 1st January. Please give home address also.

Applications to:

Mrs M V Nicholson, Trustee and Secretary, 10 Sinnels Field,  
Shipton under Wychwood, OX7 6EJ.