

New face for the public

By LINDA KIRBY
Staff Writer

Promoting the local police force and making the public more aware of police work will be part of Sergeant Bill Gall's mandate as the new public relations officer for Halton Regional Police.

A member of the force for the past eight-and-a-half years, Sergeant Gall began his police career in Milton where he remained for nearly four years, before transferring to the identification department at Oakville headquarters.

He succeeds Sergeant Al McQueen who was first named to the position over three years ago, when the public relations department was announced by Police Chief James Harding.

In his position as public relations officer, Sergeant Gall will coordinate requests for police guest appearances at schools and community groups as well as being a contact person for news media.

"I am hoping to take a more

active role in getting information out to the public... stories I think both the public and the media would like to hear about," he said, adding he feels the public should be more aware of the local force, its services and the personalities involved.

He noted that too often, the Halton force is missed in news headlines despite the fact local officers have participated in major investigations.

"I think we should be letting citizens know that we are out there and doing a good job," said Sergeant Gall.

In addition to his police duties, the 30-year-old officer has played an active role with the Halton Regional Police Association.

He served as president of the association between 1979 and 1980 and has also been chairman of the bargaining committee for two years.

A Burlington native, Sergeant Gall continues to reside in that community with his wife and four-year-old daughter.



Sergeant Bill Gall is the newly assigned public relations officer for Halton Regional Police.

Ever had polio?

Registry interested

If you had polio in your youth, the Ontario March of Dimes wants to hear from you.

North Halton resident Pat Woode, who had polio when she was a child, states the polio kids of the 50s are now middle aged and there may be a problem with "post-polio syndrome."

"Post-polio syndrome" is described as terms of fatigue, respiratory problems and muscle weakness being experienced by former polio patients.

In order to bring all the experiences of these patients together so a study can be done, an Ontario Post-Polio Registry is being set up.

The registry, established by the Ontario March of Dimes, will assist in the investi-

gation of the need for assessment units, identify people who may want further information on the syndrome, provide further information on polio issues and initiate awareness programs for physicians and health personnel to assist in better meeting the needs of people who have had polio.

Mrs. Woode said the registry does not want a lot of information but they would like to know how many people in Ontario had polio and what problems may now be emerging as a result of the disease.

Anyone who has had polio can contact Mrs. Woode by telephoning 877-1436 or writing to her home at 28 Chapel St., Georgetown, L7G 2L9.

SHARING WITH OTHERS

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