



### Working together

Joseph Padfield, sitting, and the other hearing impaired residents of the Villa in Midland, are benefiting from a joint project of the Quota Club, represented here by past president Margaret Douglas, and

Villa owner Alex Jarlette. Padfield is hearing sounds clearly by wearing a headset which receives infrared signals bounced from the walls of the room by the infrared radiator behind Jarlette.

## Invisible light beams help hard of hearing

The Quota Club of Huronia has pledged to raise \$3,000 to help pay for state-of-the-art hearing equipment for residents of the Villa in Midland.

The Canadian Hearing Society delivered a wireless sound transmitter and auxiliary equipment to the Villa last week.

Villa owner Alex Jarlette said the new equipment enabled him to have a normal conversation with a resident of two year's standing. Previously, even though the man wears a hearing aid, Jarlette had to speak loudly close to his ear.

Sound picked up by a microphone is shunted through an amplifier and an infrared radiator. The infrared light rays bounce from the walls of the room.

Anyone wearing a special headset, even someone profoundly deaf, can hear clearly anywhere in the room.

Of the Villa's 160 residents, 60 are hearing impaired. The new equipment comes with 10 special headsets. The headsets are \$200 each if an individual wants to buy one from the Canadian Hearing Society.

The Villa and the Quota Club are sharing the cost of the equipment in use at the Villa. Villa activity director Mary Norwood had the idea and approached the Quota Club 18 months ago.

Her son is hearing-impaired and uses a similar hearing system in school. She thought the special equipment would be ideal for the residents of

a nursing home.

An omni-direction microphone in the middle of a room will pick up all of the sounds in the room.

On the day after delivery, the headsets and transmitter were used during a residents' council meeting, and a bingo game.

Having the headsets means both people with average hearing and the hard of hearing who are wearing a headset can listen to a television program. Without the headsets, the volume is so high for the not hard of hearing listeners that they have to leave the room.

The Quota Club will be raising money to pay for the hearing aid equipment with a Valentine's Day dance. The Quota Club is a professional women's service club which focuses on aiding the hard of hearing and the elderly. The club is interested in helping pay the cost of buying this equipment in other institutions for the elderly.

Anyone interested in a demonstration of the effectiveness of the equipment is welcome to visit the Villa, owner Alex Jarlette said.

This type of equipment is rare in nursing homes north of Toronto. Two public places in Simcoe County which have this equipment are the Orillia Opera House and the Georgian College theatre.

In the past the Quota Club has donated a Vocal Two unit to Penetanguishene General Hospital, and a closed caption adapter for the large screen television in the Midland Public Library.

### PA Day fun at Wye

An action-packed day is planned for Dec. 4 to entertain your child the "natural" way at the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre. Call now (526-7809) to reserve space in the junior program (ages 6-8) or senior program (ages 9 years and up).

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### Cop in the hospital months after crash

Midland Police Constable Joe Reynolds, in intensive care in Huronia District Hospital with a blood clot last week, was transferred to another hospital for a CAT scan.

The constable's health problems stem from last May, when his cruiser was spun in a circle by a car fleeing at high speed a second Midland police cruiser.

Constable Reynolds, 44, has had other problems since the collision. There are hairline fractures in his hips. One of his vertebrae is damaged. A doctor has told him that nothing can be done about his spinal injury. He might develop

arthritis.

Constable Reynolds, a first class constable, has been with the Midland Police Department since July, 1975.

In the same collision, at Heritage Drive and William Street, Tracey Cook, 17, of Manly Street, Midland, died after the car fleeing at high speed was hit by the same car which then hit the police cruiser.

Police charged Bartley Caughey, 19, of Midland, with criminal negligence causing death, and refusing to stop for police.

Caughey's preliminary hearing is set for a date in March, 1988.

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