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End of an Era - Tina Garford Retires

After 13 years and countless deliveries, Tina Garford, one of Maxey's best loved and recognisable residents is hanging up her newspaper delivery bag for good.



Tina Garford surrounded by gifts presented to her by villagers on her retirement from active service as Maxey's mobile newsagent. Enjoy it in good health.

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Through rain, snow & sunshine she and her family and generations of local teenagers have provided a quietly professional delivery service for national & local newspapers and magazines to the inhabitants of Maxey & beyond.

Always up and about very early - even before the local farming community - Tina became a familiar sight in the village with her old milk round notebook & money satchel. With no village shop or post office in Maxey, the newspaper delivery service is a vital neighbourhood facility.

Tina also helped collect subscriptions to the Village's '200 Club' charitable lottery (proceeds to the Village Hall Fund) without charging anything for her time.

Realising that this really was the 'end of an era' three enterprising residents, Di Hindle, Jenny Homewood & Jane Duffelen organised a collection to show the village's admiration of Tina's selfless commitment over so many years. A letter asking for comments & reminiscences about Tina's tenure (as a well as a cash donation!) was delivered to every household in Maxey. Returns were made to Shaws Coaches on the High Street.

The Village Hall Committee - who run the 200 Club - also decided to mark the occasion with a gift & presentation.

Fast forward to 8.00 pm on Tuesday 29 July 2003 at the Blue Bell Pub in Maxey. The worst kept secret in Maxey was out - Tina was to be presented with her gifts of appreciation.

Arriving with her husband, David, Tina looked surprised at the number of people who had turned up. Wasting little time Andy Bagworth & Margaret Cook - representing the Village Hall Committee - presented Tina with a cheque, bouquet of flowers & 2 years free subscription to the 200 Club. Andy went on to say that - by his calculation - Tina had probably collected over 100,000 individual 200 Club Subscription Fees throughout her 13 years of service. Quite an achievement.

Next, Di Hindle, on behalf of the village, presented Tina with a gift pack of chocolates & champagne as well as a cheque amounting to several hundred pounds. Without pausing to let that news sink in Di also helped Tina unveil a commemorative garden bench seat as a reminder of the villages affection for her.

Finally - and some tears were shed here - a bound book of tributes, well wishes and thanks - compiled from the returned letters - was handed over.

To cap a top evening Tina bought everyone a drink! She is truly a village treasure and will be irreplaceable.

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