OXFORDSHIRE DIABETES STORIES

There are now 100 stories on the 'Diabetes Stories' website. As a press release notes: 'The original collection of fifty interviews with people diagnosed with diabetes since the 1920s has been augmented by fifty interviews with family members and healthcare professionals. The website has already become the chief resource for anyone interested in experiences of diabetes since the discovery of insulin. Now there is a rare opportunity to discover how family members regard diabetes and to compare personal and professional experiences.

'Together these 100 interviews provide a unique record of life with diabetes, from one interviewee's diagnosis in 1927 right through to the first decade of the twenty-first century. As far as we know, this is the only oral history website in the world that enables users to hear all the original unedited recordings, mostly lasting between one and two hours each. One website visitor described the experience of listening to the full stories as "addictive", but other visitors make use of the website's search facilities to

locate particular subjects that interest them. In addition to the full unedited recordings, the website offers short audio samples from each interview, written summaries, full transcripts, a glossary, an inter-active database, and facilities to search for words, phrases and subjects. There are contemporary photos of the interviewees as well as historical photos.'

The website is based at the Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (OCDEM) and was funded by the Wellcome Trust. For those who wish to continue using the original website, its structure has been retained in the 'People with Diabetes' section. Other sections are entitled 'Healthcare Professionals' and 'Family Members'. There is also a new website page entitled 'Images' which incorporates photos of all the historical equipment and documents lent or donated by interviewees from both projects.

 Website: www.diabetesstories.com