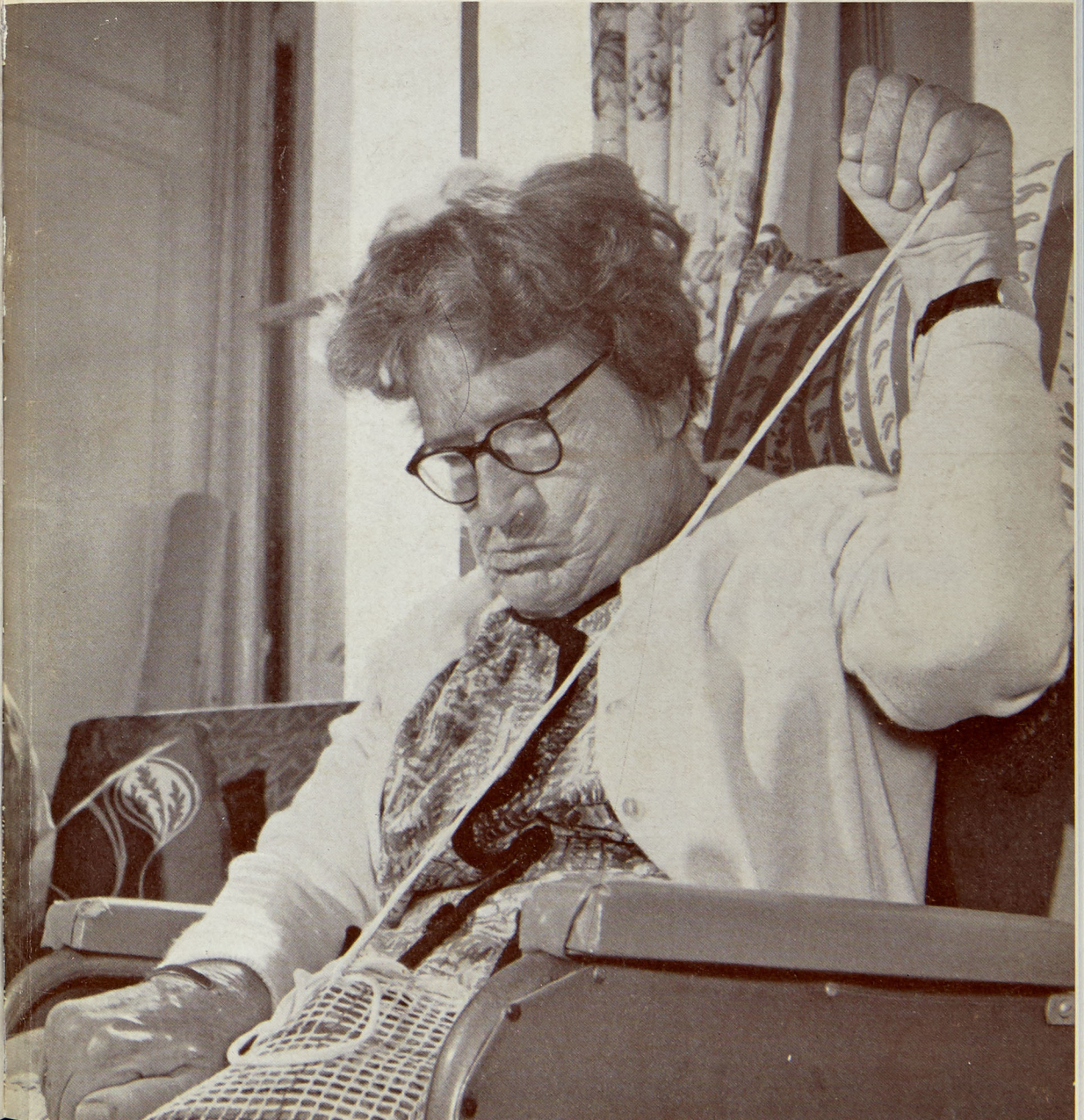


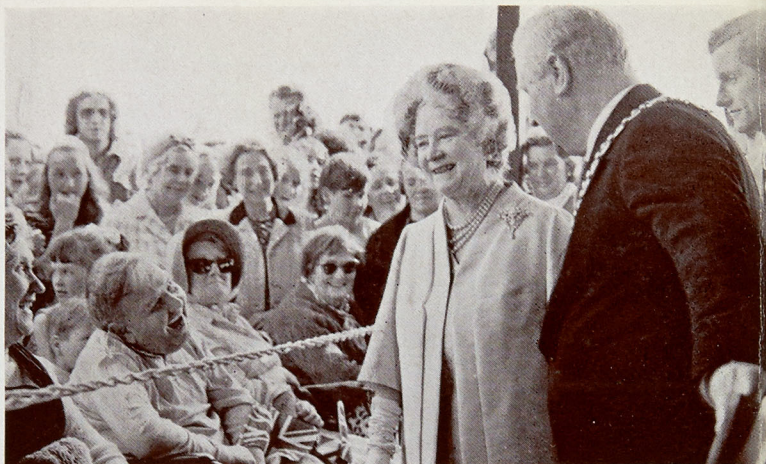
Cheshire  
**Smile**

Quarterly Magazine of the  
Cheshire Homes

Autumn 1971 Price 10p



Residents of the Cotswold Home with members of the Cheltenham Group of Friends meet H.M. the Queen Mother at Cheltenham.  
(Photo: Cheltenham Newspapers)



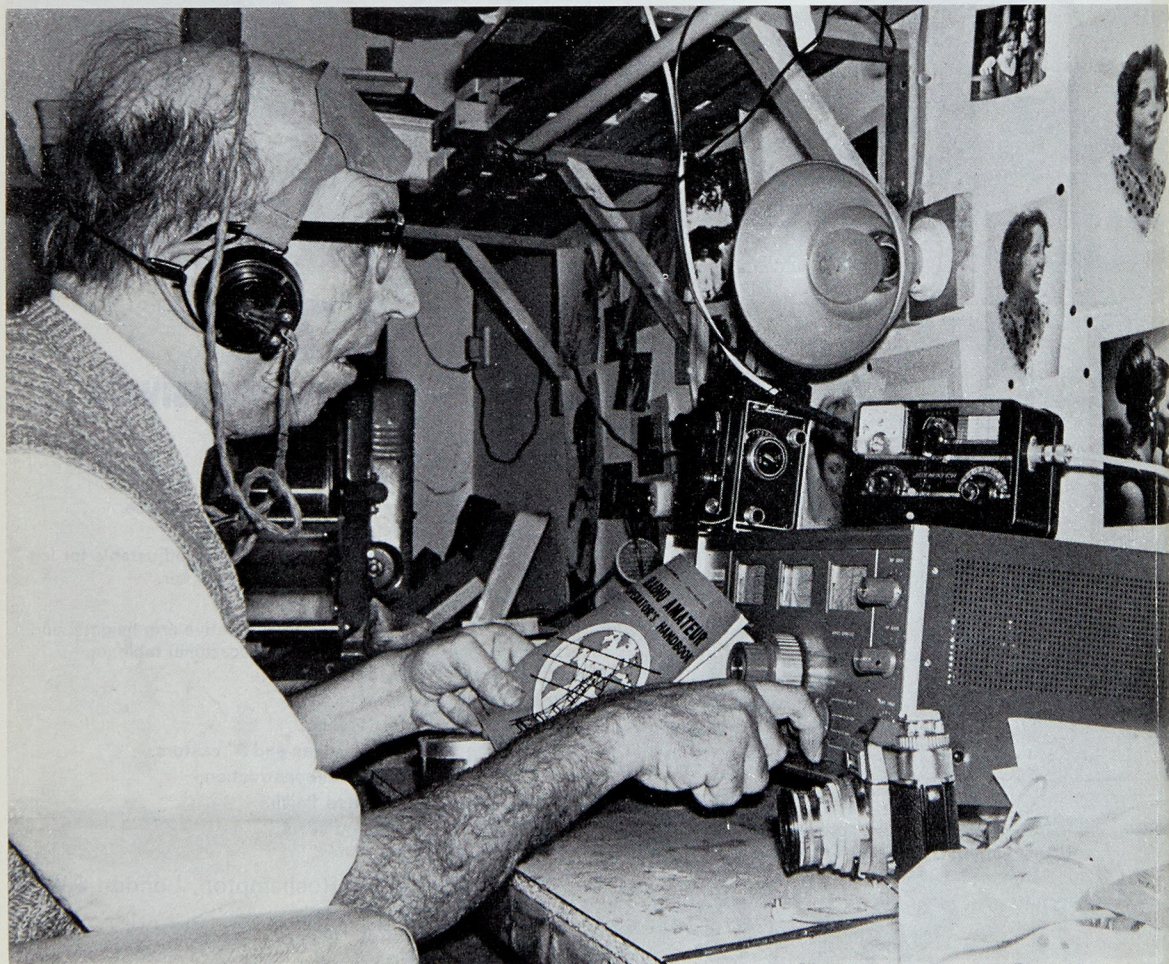
Some of the residents and staff of the Cotswold Home meet H.M. the Queen at Tewkesbury.  
(Photo: Berrows Newspapers)



### Cheshire Homes are World-Wide!

Neville (Le Court) at his radio. Cheshire Homes residents meet on the air on Thursdays at 2 p.m. But the world is their oyster, and distance no barrier to communication.

(Photo : Edwin L. Appleton)



# Cheshire Smile

The Quarterly Magazine of the Cheshire Homes

Vol. 17 No. 3 Autumn 1971 10p

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*(From the 'Mote House Smile')*

*Frontispiece and Photo of Brian Line from 'Do You Know about Le Court?'*

*(Edwin L. Appleton, F.R.P.S.)*

## Deadline for Next Issue

Contributions for the December 1971 issue to be sent to :

**Mrs. Rosalind Chalmers,**  
**Greenacres, 39 Vesey Road,**  
**Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire,**  
and be received by 4th October at the latest.

*Cheshire Smile* is edited and managed by disabled residents at Greenacres, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire. Contributions to the magazine are invited from all readers. Opinions put forward in individual articles do not necessarily represent the official view of the Cheshire Foundation. It is our aim, however, to encourage free expression of ideas.

Publication dates fall roughly in the middle of March, June and September, but in early December.

# The Chairman's Page

A Foundation Feature  
by our Chairman,  
Lord Justice Edmund Davies



The Young have been commanding a great deal of our attention during the past few months, and as a result two new Homes for children will be opening in the Autumn. Fairfield House, Lyme Regis in Dorset, will be a home for mentally handicapped children over the age of eleven, and Harts Leap at Sandhurst, Surrey, will be our first home in the U.K. for physically handicapped children. The Trustees extend their warmest wishes to these Homes, and send their sincere thanks to all those who have contributed in any way towards their establishment, including the Trustees of the Muriel Best Charitable Trust, the pupils of Marlborough College, and Lady June Onslow.

Youth was not one of the items on the agenda for our Annual Conference at the end of May, but during the informal discussion one delegate advocated publicity about Cheshire Homes aimed at young people. This, of course, has been Leonard Cheshire's aim for many years, and each month his list of engagements includes talks at schools, youth clubs, and prize-givings at colleges. So many invitations are received that he cannot possibly accept them all, and it is hoped that Ronald Travers, who is now assisting him, will be able to cover some. Individual speakers from our Homes also cover many school and club engagements, and David Martin at Le Court is now able to supply taped messages and talks by Group Captain Cheshire which will widen the scope still further. Norman Whiteley at Dulwich has a selection of slides of the Homes and these can be borrowed to illustrate talks.

As our Vice-Chairman, Mr. Wilfred Russell, stressed at the conference, having aroused the interest of the young in our work their enthusiasm must not be allowed to dwindle by any indifference on our part. We find that they are full of new ideas worthy of trial, and they have ability, energy and strength which can be harnessed, to the great advantage of all. I should like to advocate a drive to invite these young people to take more responsibility in all branches and at all levels of our activities.

There is a continuing need for Cheshire Homes, and it is the young who will have to carry on the work started by Leonard Cheshire—and they have a rich contribution to make of a kind which only they can render. We would warmly welcome their greater participation.

*Edmund Davies*

The Spastics Society recently ran a Literary Contest, which provoked some excellent entries. Jeanie Moss was the winner of the Poetry Section (female), and we are reproducing her poem, by courtesy of Spastics News. Next time we are printing the men's prize-winning essay. 'Putting away Childish Things'.

## You Need not Fall in Love

by Jeanie Moss

'You need not fall in love,' I said,  
When you feel love's tendrils clinging,  
Tear them off quickly, lest they grow . . .  
Oh, then I did not know, that silently, unseen,  
They could grow firm and strong—  
Beautiful, clean, shining flowers,  
Spilling their sweetness everywhere  
On ordinary words; on scraps of song . . .  
'You need not fall in love,' I said.  
Oh, I was wrong !

I awake to see,  
Your eyes smiling at me,  
Friendly and calm,  
Though the room is cold,  
My heart is warm,  
Singing with joyous ecstasy !  
Loving is not enough.  
Oh, that I could clean for you, cook for you, sew for you,  
Lay out a freshly ironed shirt upon the bed—  
Both of us 'dressing-up' to dance and dine . . .  
No one shall say of you—  
'Poor man, he has a crippled wife.'

# VIEWPOINT

'In our treatment of the handicapped we must be concerned always with their rehabilitation in terms of the restoration of the complete person. We must consider three aspects—the medical, social and occupational. In medical rehabilitation, we are concerned with cures and the restoration of the patient after injury or illness. Social rehabilitation aims to help the individual to resume his life in the family and in the community. When we come to the occupational, or what is sometimes called industrial rehabilitation, we have to consider again the problems of finding employment for the handicapped. This employment is needed if the disabled are to be able to support themselves. This can help to give the handicapped their self-respect and to enable them to take their rightful place in society. There is no need for the disabled to be regarded as a liability. In many occupations he should be able to use his abilities to the full. Talents and aptitudes may be specially developed, and experience in other countries has often shown that absenteeism and labour turnover is less among the handicapped than among other sections of the working population.'

The quotation above is an extract from the A.G.M. report by Mr. Ang Lai Soon, President of the Sarawak Cheshire Home. Like the Singapore Declaration, but perhaps in an even more practical manner, it goes to the heart of the matter.

Cheshire Homes have played their part well in making life meaningful for badly disabled people: in rescuing them from geriatric wards and giving them back their dignity and sense of identification with the world. But what then? The more 'normal' disabled people feel the more they begin to want the 'normal' things of life, one of which is work, or productive occupation of one sort or another.

Many overseas homes have virtually no staff—the residents do the work. Often they help to support themselves by 'home industries' or outside factory work. Work to them is more than a psychological necessity, often it is accepted as a requisite of survival.

But we (for better or for worse) are part of our sophisticated Western environment. We have more severely disabled residents—and colder weather, so that it is not possible to live half out of doors. Nevertheless, there are communities—Louis Battye wrote of a German one a little while ago—which are run by their residents, though of course with able-bodied voluntary help. Paul Driver reminded us that when Athol House was small residents did a great deal of the work, and that when it became too big for this to be possible the close feeling of involvement had gone.

Perhaps homes with only 10 residents are too small to be 'economically viable' as the phrase goes. But what about a number of small buildings, to be grouped round a central block? Then one would have the involvement as well as the advantages of a larger community. Of course some people might prefer to go out to work, or to take in outside work and there are some who will not be able to do any of those things, or will not want to. But there are few who would not prefer to be as independent as they can, and with the help of electronic equipment and careful planning even badly disabled people can achieve a good measure of independence.

Homes differ—of course they do. And it is right that they should. Nothing would be worse than one regimented version of a Cheshire Home (if you could imagine such a thing!). For there isn't one 'right' version to the exclusion of all others; needs, people, opportunities, all vary. We are in the fortunate position of being able to experiment with different sorts of homes; big, small, bungalow, hostel, 'cottage' and so on. We are the experts in the field of disablement, and thus should be able to pioneer with confidence.

The more Cheshire Homes there are of differing types, the more one can observe them and pick out the features most appropriate to one's own needs. Overseas and U.K. homes have a lot to teach each other: can their ideas be transplanted?

With the concept of work as a necessity for everyone, disabled and able-bodied alike, there naturally goes the other concept of integration into the rest of society. We can't live apart from what is happening there, for it concerns us too. I have heard it said that the recent 'Disabled Persons' Act has little relevance for Cheshire Home

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

residents. This is only true if we intend to live hermetically sealed from even our fellow disabled. One of the provisions of the Act, the providing of access to public places, is directly connected with the right to work—as well as the right to leisure. The bell rings for us too, as indeed it always does.

## FROM JANE CURTIS, HORNCHURCH

### The Single Room Controversy

The pros and cons of single rooms will, no doubt, continue to cause a good deal of argument in *Cheshire Smile*. It may seem impertinent for an outsider to comment, but there are some aspects of the discussion which may be in danger of being overlooked. In your Summer issue Paul Driver (page 29) and Paul Hunt (page 7) mention one Home where single rooms are said to be the cause of high running costs and high staff turnover. Their comments and the sentence quoted from the report of the Matrons' conference: 'If the amenities were too great the Home became more like a hotel where residents were inclined to expect hotel treatment' does seem to call for more general discussion.

From a practical point of view it is reasonable to assume that it is more expensive to heat a number of single rooms than a quarter of that number of four-bedded ones. It would also seem sensible to imagine that with a large number of single rooms staff would have to walk further. However, one would have thought that this would have been offset by the advantage of being able to shut the door and get on with washing and dressing one resident without coping with the pleas to pick this up or fetch that from his room-mates. One would hope that other residents could contain themselves in silence until one reached them!

As an ex-slave at Le Court I realise that my nursing experience is limited, but it did give me an insight into the tremendous demands made on the staff, and it would seem essential that the geography of the Home should lessen the stress for everyone concerned as much as possible. In fact, comfortable single rooms for each resident and each member of staff would seem an indispensable part of creating a relaxed but lively community life.

It is one of the main principles of the Cheshire Foundation that the individual should retain his self-respect, and single rooms are an important factor in this. But this is surely different from expecting 'hotel treatment'. (The writer of the report was implying that staff might be treated as servants—the old-fashioned kind, I imagine!) This brings one back to the eternal problem: what is this person's—staff or resident—role in the community, and how is the community affecting him? One feels a great deal of sympathy for the idealistic young person who comes to work in a Cheshire Home to 'care for' the disabled, and instead of finding himself looking after 'patients', finds he must cope with a sophisticated and demanding community life. In a situation where he imagined he would be the 'normal' one he suddenly finds himself exposed and helpless. He is with people 24 hours a day, and they will get to know him as only his close family will have done before. He will be left with few illusions about himself.

He has to find some way of living with this kind of pressure. Certainly staff do not want to become waiters and chambermaids in an unusual hotel, but neither do they want to be the tenders of a large and expensive cabbage patch. What are the alternatives?

If I may suggest it, the *Cheshire Smile* offers an unequalled forum for all sections to have their say. For instance, What are the practical and economic problems of single rooms? What are the psychological problems they pose for staff and residents? Do they change the community, and if so, do they enrich or impoverish it? What kind, as opposed to how much, care do residents really want? What does the possession of his own room do to a resident in the eyes of a staff member—does it raise or lower his status? What does it do to relationships between individual residents or between individual staff members?

## FROM C. TARLING AND E. FANSHAW, M.A.O.T., LONDON W14

### 'The Raging Moon'

Your comments on the film *The Raging Moon* seemed very fair. We felt it to be a film with a fictitious story based on what would be a novel idea to most of the

general public. Fictitious because, although we were not told many diagnostic facts, it appeared that the main characters were paraplegics who, in this day and age, would be quite capable of leading a life at home and earning a decent wage in open employment. We were not told the results of Bruce's efforts to get a job as a switch-board operator, perhaps because this would bring too much realism into the picture. The cinema-goer will notice that all the disabled characters in the 'Home' has visible props such as a wheelchair or crutches to make it clear to the layman who was on which side!

The patronising attitude of many able-bodied people was portrayed by the Matron and Vicar, as was also the overprotective attitude of the heroine's mother. This was borne out by our personal experience on arrival at the box-office of the local cinema where, although we are two normal, intelligent, attractive girls, one was ignored because she was in a wheelchair, while the other was pressed with questions about her friend's capabilities.

This film should not be taken as a serious documentary on the subject of residential care of disabled people in general, as this is obviously meant to be a sentimental, romantic evening's entertainment to those people not immediately involved in the subject.

### FROM J. W. WARREN, TAUNTON Happy at Cann House

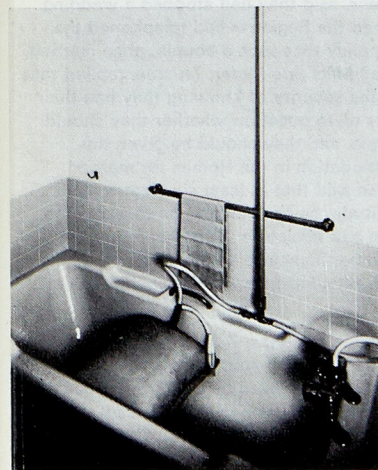
I am prompted to write to you for two reasons. Firstly, our daughter Winifred has recently been accepted into Cann House at Plymouth. Secondly, today we had an Air Mail letter from her cousin in Canada, who was interested as to what kind of institution Winnie had gone into. Knowing the ramifications of the Cheshire Homes and their world-wide influence, I looked up the Spring issue of *Cheshire Smile* to see whether Canada came into your orbit and to my great surprise I find that Mississauga, Port Credit, is on the list—the exact place from which our niece has written. I have suggested that she contacts the Chairman of the Branch and tells them what a wonderful place her cousin is in at Plymouth, England.

It is a great comfort to my wife and myself to know that our daughter is comfortably settled in a beautiful home with very nice people, for we could not do it ourselves as we are in a two-roomed old folks' bungalow. I am 82 and my wife 78 . . .

God bless Group-Captain Cheshire and his marvellous band of helpers.

**Note:** A poem by Mr. Warren is on page 19.

### Tamplin Lifting Bath Cushion.



#### One Answer to the Bathing Problem

Mr. A. T. Tamplin, a Development Engineer in Sussex, has invented a bathing device which should help many handicapped people. This is a stable water-filled cushion which lowers you gently into the bath and raises you again without effort. It will lift up to 20 stone, and has no mechanical parts to go wrong—just one screw in the wall! It works from mixer-tap shower connection on bath or from washbasin taps, and is extremely simple and safe to operate.

The cushion can make bathing more enjoyable and eliminate heavy lifting in certain cases. Full particulars from Mr. Tamplin, Birdham Cottage, Westlands, Birdham, Chichester, Sussex. Price £24 (basin connectors optional extra £2). Post and packing £1. Local Authority grants may be available in some circumstances.

*The Inflated Cushion. Photo: Charles Howard.*

# Annual Conference 1971

by Valerie Robinson

Valerie Robinson is the CHESHIRE SMILE secretary and reports on this year's Conference for the magazine. She says: 'This was my first attendance at an annual conference. As a newcomer I had the impression that this annual meeting had grown somewhat unwieldy since its inception. It might have made matters a little easier for those speaking from the floor and for those involved with the technicalities of recording had we been seated in a wide semi-circle, and perhaps grouped roughly into the different regions. However, apart from this one criticism I found the Conference both interesting and stimulating.'

The Cheshire Foundation's Annual Conference was held this year at a new venue—the Bloomsbury Centre Hotel in Coram Street; the layout being well suited to conference needs, as the conference room itself, the foyer, refreshment room and services were all sited en suite, so that after a long journey delegates were able to enjoy light refreshments speedily and conveniently before the conference began.

The opening address was given by the *Chairman, the Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Edmund Davies*, in his customary lively manner. After referring to outstanding matters from last year's conference, the Chairman gave news of new homes and steering committees. The G.L.C. had now started building flats and bungalows for the disabled, and our Hon. Surveyor, Mr. Tom Taylor, was very busy visiting possible sites for new homes and also preparing reports in connection with extensions to many of the existing homes. Mr. Lord was also very busy advising on equipment at homes in various parts of the country.

*Group Captain Cheshire* brought the conference up-to-date with a report on overseas developments following the International Conference. He emphasised the need for the continuation of the policy of decentralisation, and said he wished links could be strengthened between homes all round the world. The Group Captain had obtained a slide projection system linked to a tape recorder for use at homes, and he illustrated his talk about the new homes at Kuala Lumpur and the Philippines with some colourful slides.

Next on the agenda was a discussion on *putting aims into practice*: this item, in fact, turned out to be the central theme of the morning, and a good deal of lively interplay of questions and answers took place. *Standards of Individual Freedom*, this bone of contention, was thoroughly chewed over by *Norman Whiteley, Athol House*, and *Brian Line, Le Court*, who both spoke forcefully from the residents' point of view. Getting-up and going-to-bed times seemed to be rather prickly matters! but it was generally decided by the conference that the residents must come first, and with the help of voluntary workers staffing problems might be eased. Each home must make its own rules.

Touching on voluntary workers, *Mr. E. Dobbs, a voluntary worker from Seven Springs*, said that the residents themselves were the best trainers—he felt the voluntary worker should persevere and overcome any problem of rejection by residents. This remark was warmly applauded.

Voluntary help generally was discussed, and various people put forward suggestions as to where help could be obtained: the Police Cadets, the Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, the Girl Guides and Rover Scouts all being mentioned. *Mr. Allott of White Windows* made the point that the homes were now accepted as a training ground for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. This encouraged the young people concerned to become interested in the work of a Cheshire Home.

*Mr. A. V. M. Williams, Warden of St. Michael's*, said they had stopped a wedding between two severely disabled residents when the Registrar had telephoned the Home. He asked if it were the Foundation's policy that such a couple, once married, should continue to live at the Cheshire Home? *Miss Sue Ryder, Trustee*, replied that every individual living in a Home must have the security of knowing they had their whole lives in front of them, and it wasn't for us to question whether they should marry or not. The problem should be overcome, and they should be given the opportunity to marry if they wished. Accommodation in the Homes for married couples was then discussed, and the Chairman said that at least six Homes had married couples living in them. The basic attitude, he said, should be to extend to residents as far as possible the same freedom and choice as if they were not incapacitated . . . it was almost a matter of impertinence to say that you may not stay in a Home if you decided to get married. He advised wise counsel in certain cases where there were practical difficulties.

Problems of *communication* were discussed: *Mr. R. Jones, Administrator of Danybryn*, said that this was a problem, particularly with young people. At a school of 2,500 he had met 65 pupils who had not previously heard of Cheshire Homes. These young people were now giving service to the Home. The Group Captain said he had found tremendous idealism and support from schools in Australia and New Zealand. He suggested that schools should be approached on a practical realistic

level. Miss Sue Ryder agreed that it was from the teenagers that we gained support in all countries, including the U.K. It should be explained to them that it was part of their heritage and their responsibility to work with the disabled and sick of all age groups. Quite a lively discussion ensued, and various ways and means of promoting communication with young people was put forward. A direct approach to principals of schools was thought best, not forgetting Colleges of Further Education and Technical Colleges.

Later Mr. J. H. Inskip, *Trustee*, said that what we know to be the real problems of communication must be discussed; there were difficulties which nobody had mentioned. Some Homes had 25 residents, which he thought the ideal number, but in a large house how did you get your staff to feel that they counted? In some Homes they were drawn in by the Matron, but sometimes they felt their views were not wanted. Mr. Inskip said he would like to hear some views on this and other real issues.

Mrs. P. R. Wallace, *Matron of Matfen Hall*, felt that young staff should be brought in. There should be young people on social and house committees, and free expression of views should be encouraged. They were hoping to form a folk club at Matfen.

Mr. Inskip then gave information about Service Corps training and courses for staff, and problems concerning these were discussed.

*Luncheon* was served in the dining-room, and the delegates had some opportunity to meet old acquaintances and new friends.

The *Second Session* opened with a showing of a beautifully photographed film about an Indian boy called 'Dilip', with commentary by the Group Captain. Dilip's success story—a burnt-out leprosy case—highlighted the good work of Indian Cheshire Homes. The Group Captain mentioned that *Ronald Travers* had joined the Foundation to direct the Ryder-Cheshire Film Unit.

*Questions from the Homes* were next on the agenda. Consideration was given to the question of an *adequate staff/resident ratio*, bearing in mind the proposed 40-hour week. Mrs. Chapman pointed out that the first thing to remember was that all the residents in all the Cheshire Homes needed 24-hour help seven days a week 52 weeks a year. Also that during 'peak hours' many more staff are needed than at quieter times. On consideration she felt that three staff to five residents should be the ratio for care staff—this would not include admin. and domestic staff. Regarding hours of work, she suggested that a straight shift system was preferable, rather than constant split duties.

The next question concerned the *Annual Accounts* of the Foundation, and the possibility of their being discussed by representatives of the Homes. Mr. Peace, replying on behalf of Mr. Emmett, said that as far as the accounts from individual Homes were concerned, by the time they had been produced they were 'strictly historical'! some of them being 12 months behind. However, the accounts of the Foundation as a whole were distributed to all the Homes, so that there was the opportunity of discussing them at Management Committee meetings. Representatives were always welcome at the Finance and General Purposes meeting. Mr. Peace went on to discuss the negotiating of certain items of supply and service on a national basis, and whether this was an advantageous proposition.

The implementing of the *Singapore Memorandum* was touched on, and Mrs. Clark, *Trustee*, outlined the possibilities of implementing the system of *regional development*. She confirmed that she had met many people in her travels round the country who desired this to happen.

The question of the *Cheshire Home Emblem* was raised, and the possibility of a standard design, such as the Red Feather. The existing emblem in use in the U.K.—the Red Feather superimposed on a silver shield—would be considered as well as any other ideas.

The *optimum number of residents* in a home was amplified by Dr. Agerholm, *Trustee*, who said that economically homes were probably not running to the best advantage with under 40 residents—on the other hand, there were many who thought 20 the ideal number. It was felt that a compromise could be reached when something

less than 40 would be accepted as the right number. Dr. Agerholm made the point that it might be a good move psychologically if people who married from a particular Home moved to another in their married role.

Whether enough use was being made of the young was touched on again, and it was felt that a great deal more could be done to encourage co-operation from them.

The last item on the agenda was the *Chronic Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970*, and how it assisted residents, Mr. Udall gave a brief talk on the Act and its implementation. He felt that pressure must be brought to bear if it were to be truly effective. Further general discussion followed concerning residents working outside the Homes, and the practicalities of this and other aspects of the Act.

The Chairman then brought the conference to a close.

Afterwards I felt that as Mr. Inskip had pointed out, the deeper issues might not have had the airing hoped for; on the other hand, the atmosphere was not quite conducive to discussion 'in depth'—taking place as it did in a very large room with many people present, and with such a full agenda. Perhaps if the progress of regional development goes ahead important administrative matters could be dealt with at regional meetings, and the national conference become more of an agreeable social gathering of all the Homes?

**Note :** An edited but more detailed account of the conference will be sent to the Homes when ready.

## Education on Wheels

by Brian Line

(reproduced from *Wessex News*)

**Brian Line is responsible for arranging many money-raising projects for Le Court. His Liphook-London wheel-chair push in September realized £1100 for the Building Fund, £200 for the West Surrey Cheshire Home and £25 for the Le Court General Fund. Currently he is organising another wheel-chair push round the Deck of H.M.S. Bulwark. This article is the result of information gathered by Brian while working with students of Southampton University (WESSEX NEWS is one of their publications) on a survey or 'empathy test' carried out in Southampton.**

I have just spent three days in the University and so have had an opportunity to look round it from the disabled person's point of view.

Perhaps it would be a good idea to explain my own background and education—or lack of it. I was born in 1937, and was 5 years old and just starting primary school when I was crippled by rheumatoid arthritis. This effectively prevented me from having any kind of formal education until I was 12.

I was 20 when I left home and came to Le Court Cheshire Home. After several years, trying my hand at various things, I decided to work for an 'A' level in Art.

By this time people were beginning to realise that education is even more vital for disabled people than non-disabled. Authorities, both local and central, were beginning to help us use our minds since we could not use our limbs.

I had the problem of young people in mind when I went down to Southampton University. First I considered the architectural problems. The old University has five steps up to the entrance. Once you get up them you are confined to one floor which contains the old refectory, various offices (including the Community Services), and the Bar. In the Bar you need a good stiff brandy before trying to get into any of the offices on the floor below! This involves going right round the side of the building, down very steep slopes and a flight of steps.

The new Union building, by sheer luck, has a ramp intended for loading goods for the shop and the refectory. Once up the ramp, it is easy to get into the refectory, the ballroom, the concourse and the Union shop. Having made a tour of these, my spirits were rising until I decided to go to the lavatory, but found that none was accessible in the building. In fact it was necessary to make a journey right across to the Nuffield Theatre and negotiate three steps to solve the problem.

All students need to go to the library, but I discovered that the main part of it was up on the main floor.

What about the facilities? Many of these have steps also. The Arts Building (Block 2), French, Spanish, Geography and so on; the Physics Block, Electronics and Chemistry; all present problems to the wheelchair user. The Sports Centre did seem better designed for wheelchairs.

It was clear from only one visit that if I were a student on wheels I would have a formidable problem getting around, even with the help of friends.

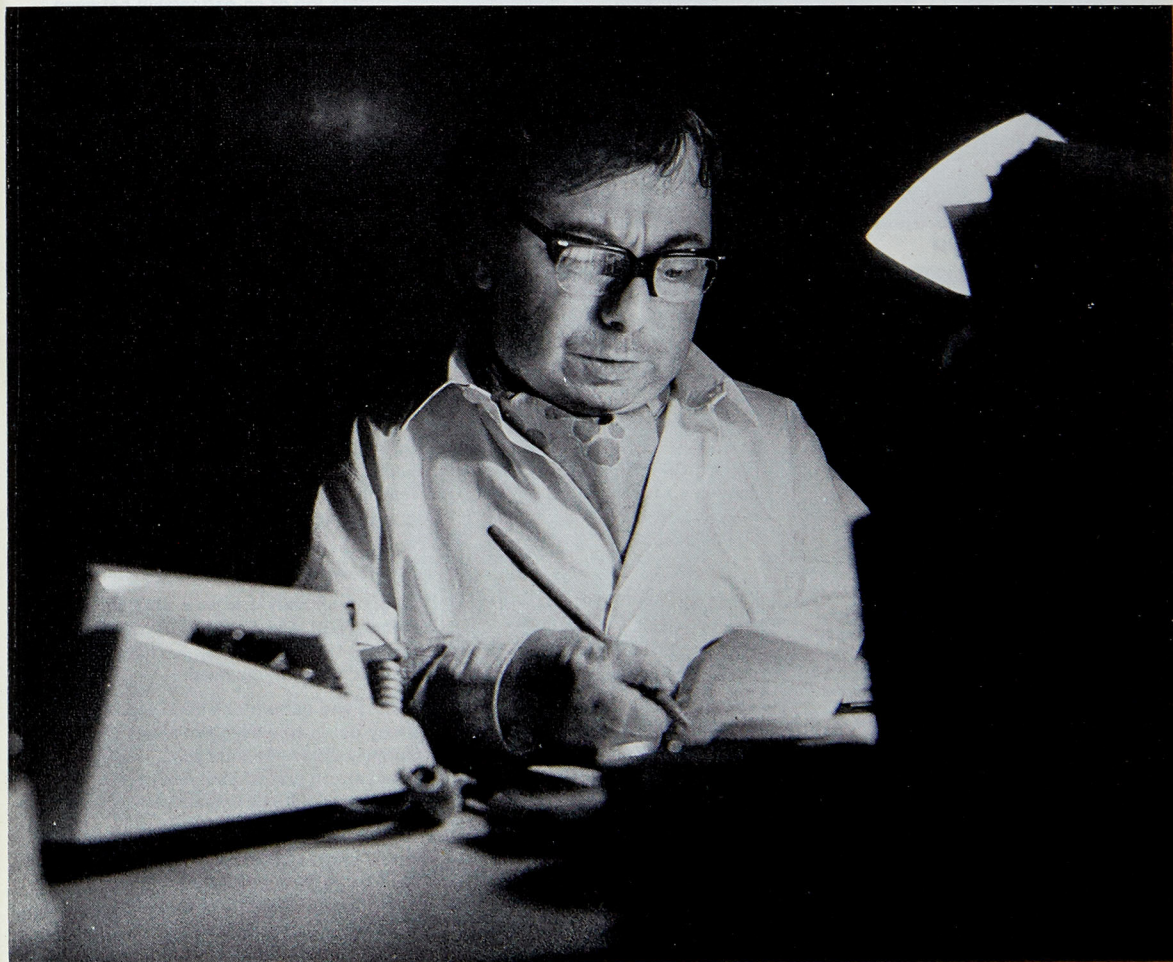
The list I have given is merely the tip of the iceberg which confronts any disabled person who wishes to be a student at Southampton University. Most of the steps are wide enough to have ramps laid on them, but these would be too steep for power-

driven chairs, so the student would be dependent on friends' help, even then. It would also be necessary to install lifts.

What are the other nine-tenths of the iceberg? They are not architectural but living problems. The University is willing to take disabled students, and suggested, when a resident at Le Court applied for registration, that accommodation would be available, either in the Halls of Residence or in digs in the town. The bedrooms in the Halls of Residence are upstairs, so that rules them out. But an even more important difficulty is that there is no provision for help with washing, dressing, going to the lavatory and putting to bed. As far as I know no University in the U.K. provides hostel accommodation\* and help with these daily living activities yet. This is the insurmountable problem which would face me or any other person as disabled as myself, whether we had four 'A' levels or one 'O' level. I suppose some of the able-bodied students might be willing to help one or two disabled people consistently in these ways. But by 1980 there will be far more than one or two students aspiring to University education. To create an environment in which it is possible for an agile

\* Hostel for disabled students is planned for Oxford.

*Brian working in his room at Le Court. (Photo: Edwin L. Appleton)*



mind in a disabled body to take a degree course, the University Authorities and the students must start thinking and planning now for the future. Then in 1981 a disabled person will have a much better chance of higher education than in 1971.

You may wonder if there is a real likelihood of more people wishing for a University education. Apart from the ones I have already mentioned you have only to look at the statistics. Each week in Southampton alone, eight people are seriously injured in accidents. Vessa Wheelchairs Ltd., at Alton, who made the wheelchair in which I visited the University, supply the Department of Health with 3,000 standard wheelchairs a year. And they are only one of a number of similar firms.

By 1980 technology will have advanced to the point where the mind is far more useful in far more ways than we can imagine now. An astronaut has to be A1, physically and mentally, to fly to the moon and beyond. But the back-up team in Houston don't have to be A1 physically. Their job consists in sitting in chairs with computers and buttons and switches which could be operated by people in wheelchairs as easily as by people in armchairs. Industry is no longer controlled by muscle and brawn but by machines, operated by one man and the flick of a switch. And the number of disabled people will be such, even without a war, that jobs will have to be found for them because society could not afford to support them in idleness.

But this means starting now. It means a mammoth job of co-partnership between disabled and able-bodied people, from student to Parliamentary level. It means recognising the one bond which is common to any human being, whether he be in a wheelchair, black, yellow, Jewish, German, Russian, American or English; the bond of the spirit of man.

It is only with your help and our perseverance that we can achieve by 1980 a situation when we can truly say that to be disabled does not mean to lose one's dignity as a human being.

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## New Group Formed

*(Reproduced from 'Contact')*

The inaugural conference of the Association of Disabled Professionals was held at Digby Stuart College of Education, Roehampton Lane, London, during the weekend of January 1st-3rd and a steering group formed to draw up the constitution and aims.

First chairman is Peter Large, a severely disabled polio victim, and secretary Alison Heath, who is deaf. There are already well over 100 paid-up members from all parts of Great Britain.

Any disabled person holding a job in a professional or executive capacity, whether through qualifications or experience, is eligible, and so are students. The annual subscription is £1.25 for students. All enquiries should be addressed to the Association of Disabled Professionals, British Council for Rehabilitation of the Disabled, Tavistock House, (South) Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9LB. (01-387 4037).

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## The House that has Everything-

### New London Aids Centre.

On the 1st March the Disabled Living Foundation officially opened a permanent Aids Centre at 346 Kensington High Street, London, W.14. The Centre is on the ground floor with plenty of space in which to display all the aids, and the Foundation has arranged them in the rooms in which they would probably be used.

As you enter the Centre a room on your right is laid out with children's aids; some which they recommend and others which they don't. However, with both good and bad displayed it means they can more effectively show 'the best buy'. The floor was constructed of a waterproof material and the pattern was of children's games, such as snakes and ladders, Ludo, etc. The next room had children's wheelchairs, electric chairs and adaptations; also numerous other aids for mobility.

As you went further into the Centre you came to the kitchen, with types of cookers, washing machines, fridges and laundry aids. The kitchen is laid out at three working heights, for people standing, sitting or in wheelchairs. The aids shown are nearly all standard items, and someone setting up a kitchen could get some excellent ideas.

We next move on to the living-room where there is a P.O.S.M. typewriter, operated

by R. Norman Whiteley

by sucking and blowing through a tube : also a P.I.L.O.T. operated typewriter, worked by pressing knobs on a keyboard. There is a page-turner, which is very easy to use, and among other items two kinds of talking book, an electric typewriter and a chess set.

The bedroom has two types of bed, the Bickerton electric adjustable bed, and another bed which can be adjusted in height both at the head and the foot. There are bed-clothes of many types and various dressing aids.

Another section deals with mobility : different wheelchairs including electric ones, hand-controlled conversions for cars, cars converted to take people in chairs and a

*The Aids Centre, electric chairs, hoists, etc.*



*Aids to 'leisure' living.*



number of hoists. There are also photographic displays throughout the Centre dealing with access, employment for the disabled, outdoor activities, gardening and sports for the handicapped player. There is a conference room and reference library, and a room fitted with projector and slide projector for showing aids in use.

I found the Centre very interesting and well worth a visit. It is not open to the public generally, but you may make an appointment by writing or phoning. This is necessary because you would not get the full benefit of it unless one of the demonstrators took you round. They are qualified occupational therapists, and very interested in the job they are doing. If they don't know the answer to any question they are only too willing to look it up in the reference library! I would like to thank the head demonstrator, Miss Tarling\* for showing me round, and I wish the Centre every success.

\* Miss C. Tarling, M.A.O.T., 346 Kensington High Street, London, W.14. Telephone 01-602 2491/5. Individual appointments on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons, and parties on Monday, Wednesday or Friday afternoons, Tuesday or Thursday mornings.

## COMMENT-

### Men With No Shoes

by Dudley V. Kitching (previously  
of Kenmore Cheshire Home)

We who are physically handicapped are apt to fall into the same trap as the fit, who claim that the world owes them a living without making the slightest attempt to show why. Of course there are those, and I like to think the majority, who give their all without counting the cost, and are worthy of a rich reward for their strenuous and often literally painful efforts. I am thinking of members of such organisations as DIG (Disabled Income Group) and the Polio Fellowship, with its indefatigable secretary, the late Frederic Morena, O.B.E. I was proud to have been one of its first provincial members, and later becoming its first branch secretary in Derby.

But though it is not always in our power to fulfil our ambitions or crusade against the inequalities of the world, isn't it within the powers of all of us to come to terms with that world?

In doing this it is essential that there is a two-way traffic of understanding, and of being understood, between the disabled and the able-bodied. It is regrettable that statements should be made displaying an absence of such mutual understanding, i.e. 'The problems of single room nursing were discussed. The new purpose-built house at . . . had 27 single and two 4 bedded rooms, had caused staffing problems and a rise in expenses. If the amenities were too great the home became more like a hotel where the residents were inclined to expect hotel treatment.' (*From the Spring issue of Cheshire Smile.*)

One is tempted to be sarcastic about staff who crave for 'institutionalism', with its ward-like bedrooms and complete absence of 'home comforts': hot-beds of inertia and Dickensian conditions. But in all fairness there is another side of the coin; privacy and modern surroundings are a privilege, rather than a right. And aren't courtesy, consideration and commonsense also prerequisites of community life?

No one underestimates the difficulties of destroying the communication barriers and the bloody-minded prejudices and indifference which exist on both sides. But they can be overcome.

Some of the people who have successfully achieved this come to mind: the spastic who, despite terrific speech and other problems, has published his autobiography—a most inspiring book. Another spastic has fought the battles of his less fortunate companions, finding them employment and persuading Ministries to change their decisions—an enormous achievement in itself! (Ironically he now languishes in a local authority home with others not of his age or intellect. However, he accepts his position, and gets to grips with his day-to-day problems.)

Then there are those who live in respirators but continue to run their homes, and blind people, who becoming blind late in life have to learn new techniques of doing things, and fight to retain the right to continue with their pre-blind pursuits. One such person who has gained the admiration of all who know him and listens to his radio programme 'In Touch' is David Scott Blackall. When he can talk of the beauties of the world, which he will never see again, who are we to complain of our corns? We can at least see the 'fern fringed pool'!

This remarkable attitude of David Scott Blackall's conveys what is essential for all

disabled people, the facings of facts and the acknowledging of the problems confronting them as a direct result of their physical condition; having done that, getting down to the task of overcoming them. The convincing of others is the most difficult. I recall the look of horror on my late mother's face when I decided to drive a motorised invalid carriage. I must say I was a bit taken aback myself when I first met 'Queen Anne', for it resembled the first horseless carriage, with the high seating arrangement under which was slung—almost as an after-thought—the two-stroke petrol/oil engine. One major accident and a different type of vehicle later mother was convinced, and I was allowed out without my red flag escort.

I can imagine a similar look upon the face of even his close friends when Franklin D. Roosevelt became President of the United States. History tells not only how he came—saw—conquered, but how he will be remembered as one of the world's greatest politicians.

True, we can't all be presidents—or for that matter politicians—but many of us could take a much more active interest in our local government affairs; keeping our social services up to a high standard of efficiency; and the local councillors on their toes—particularly in respect of the Disabled Persons' Act.

There are many ways, too, of helping charitable bodies, such as the Cheshire Homes, to augment their income. When you think that if 12 of us formed a savings group of 5p a week; in a year that would be £31.20. Not a substantial sum, but it could be an inducement as well as a help to a Residents' Amenities Fund. Of course I know of the sterling work done by support groups, without whom the work of these homes would probably grind to a halt. But of these support groups how many have handicapped members?

To the opponents of 'charity' (and I confess it used to nauseate me to see the begging on 'Hospital Days' in the pre-N.H.S. era) I would say this: to me charity is love, and we can express that love in many ways. For charity-giving for reasons of self-indulgence or aggrandisement I have nothing but contempt. But charity-giving to *supplement* the amenities already provided is a most desirable thing. It can be a bond between all concerned, a means by which one disabled person can help another and the fostering of yet another requisite essential for the disabled—to think outwardly. A Chinese proverb puts it admirably:

*'I thought I was hard done by, for I had no shoes . . . until I met a man who had no feet.'*

## Possum's First Car

by Paul Bates

(reproduced from 'Possability')

**'My movements are limited to slight pressure of the tips of three fingers and a thumb and some slight head mobility. These do not appear to be the best ingredients with which to fulfil an ambition to drive, but it was the thing I wanted to do more than anything else.'**

My first three years as a fully fledged motorist are coming to an end and I must soon renew my most highly prized possession—my driver's licence. How I enjoy filling in that line where they ask if you have any defect in movement or control of muscular power of an arm or leg! Being a tetraplegic reliant on continuous mechanically produced respiration leaves a load of possibilities for filling in this section of the licence renewal form.

I approached Reg Maling\* about six years ago with the idea of a pedal-less, steering-wheel-less car, and, typically, he was encouraging about the project. I purchased a well-used milk float from a North London dairy, but it was several years before the conversion was completed; it involved a large quantity of goodwill and material help from a number of companies throughout the country.

Just as it was an extreme change of role for the milk float to be carrying me instead of 26 dozen bottles of T.T. milk, so it was a considerable change for me to have to control it with such limited power and movement. It also required a change of psychological attitude after some thirteen years of near total dependence and immobility.

The controls, five microswitches and a linear potentiometer, were mounted on a moulded splint by a dental mechanic who proved to be a master of improvisation and the possessor of abundant patience. My fingers had to be inserted into wire loops and only the support of the loops made contact with the microswitch actuators. The splint was then strapped to my arm and the arm to my body.

The thumb steers to the left, the index finger operates the accelerator and, in a relaxed position, the transmission brake; the second finger steers to the right and the

\* Director of Possum.

third finger operates a Possum selector on which lights, flashers, horn, emergency brake and direction change are available. It is comparatively easy when you are attempting to carry out only one function, but several at the same time is a little more complicated. For instance, you might want to turn left, and this involves pressure on the thumb to turn, pressure on the index finger to maintain forward motion and pressure on the third finger to operate the appropriate flasher. You are asking one small part of the brain to bombard three adjoining digits with a variety of signals, knowing that the total power in those fingers would not crush a rotten tomato! It is even more remarkable the way Possum transfers the microswitch's signals into making a milk float into a passenger vehicle of normal behaviour.

The traction batteries which drive the car and provide the power for the controls are mounted under the floor of the vehicle, which gives an excellent stability but means that I tend to sit *on* the vehicle rather than *in* it. My height off the ground adds to the conspicuousness of the vehicle. This, coupled with its slow process and the apparent lack of movement on the part of the driver, causes far too many people to turn round than is compatible with safety.

Since the early days we have added a fibreglass detachable roof which makes it available in either G.T. or open form! We installed a telephone to meet any emergencies, but it has yet to be used. A year ago Cableform modified the speed control with the result that the car now behaves in a far more refined manner and far less like a jerky robot.

The fact that the Ministry of Transport adopted such an enlightened attitude towards the whole concept of a remote controlled car places an extra responsibility on my shoulders, in the sense that any error would betray the trust that the Ministry put in me. It is not difficult for people suffering from any loss of mobility to understand the enormous benefits, psychological, and to a lesser extent, physiological, that are gained from the freedom provided by this car; to be master of one's own destiny, even in a limited way, must be the best possible mental therapy. This clearly demonstrates the fact that the day has come when electro-mechanical aids can provide an adequate substitute for humans, when it comes to the search for a source of independence and its accompanying sense of elation.

The car's leisurely pace and my height above the road enables me to see more of the countryside—and more of people's gardens—than you could ever hope to see in a lifetime of motoring by normal conveyance. This highlights one of the sadder aspects of the current rat-race, the pace of which denies a true appreciation of the countryside's many beauties. From my lofty perch I am aware of inquisitive glances from cows who temporarily suspend their grazing, of dogs barking, and of small children who rush indoors to fetch their parents to observe the strange man driving by with his arms folded! All I need is to be preceded by a pedestrian with a red flag for the image to be complete.

*Paul ready for the road.*



The majority of my 800 miles in the past three summers have been accumulated in the very pleasant countryside which surrounds my home in North West Sussex. I have made the odd visit to the local pub, though as a great believer in not drinking and driving I have restricted myself to a maximum of half a shandy. Even so, it is interesting to watch the expressions on the faces of the people sitting outside enjoying their morning pints . . . one can almost hear them say: 'God, he drinks as well . . . !'

800 miles on main and secondary roads have proved beyond doubt the practicality of the car. There is a hope that a second version can be built from the lessons learned from this experimental prototype. There is no question that it could be done, but it would involve appreciable expense and an abundance of that even rarer commodity, skilled time. I envisage a car with a speed of up to 20 m.p.h., a range of 35 miles, ample heating to allow winter motoring, proper suspension, proportional braking and steering, but for the time being all this must remain a dream. The only encouraging thing is that it does not seem such an impossible dream as did the present car some six years ago.



*En route in the Possum car, with fibreglass roof.*

# Have YOU Ordered your Possum yet?

Possum equipment can transform your life. With its aid you can type, ring a bell, switch on T.V. and many other things, even if you are almost totally paralysed. But not enough people know about Possum, as ROGER JEFEOATE, Deputy Director, tells in this article. Write to him at Possum Research Foundation, 63 Mandeville Road, Aylesbury, Bucks, if you think he can help you or anyone else you know.

The Possum Sector Unit Type 1 has been available under the National Health Service in the United Kingdom for just under 5 years, and during that time *less than 150 machines have actually been issued*. Many of you will know that I feel this is merely the 'tip of the iceberg' and that there are hundreds of cases throughout the country who could benefit from the provision of this unit—and other forms of Possum equipment—if *only they knew of its availability*. We are very much hoping that increasing publicity—such as our recent very successful article in the Christmas edition of the Multiple Sclerosis Society's Journal—together with newspaper articles, television and radio items will bring home to an increasing number of people the benefits that Possum equipment can provide for the severely disabled.

As part of this programme I am asking all members of the Association, if they know of anyone who might benefit from the wide range of Possum equipment available, to get in touch with me and I will follow up with a personal visit to the person concerned to see how best we can be of assistance. Some of you already do this, but I would like all of you to keep an eye open for an opportunity of helping someone similarly disabled to regain some independence through the provision of Possum. I am often asked about the distribution of Possum equipment throughout the country and how many units there happen to be in a particular city or area. As an example, incredibly there is no N.H.S. Possum equipment in Sheffield, and only one in Leeds, yet both have a population of around half a million! Similarly there are only two in the city of Liverpool, and two in the city of Manchester (with Salford), each with populations not very far short of three-quarters of a million. Yet Bradford, with a population of only a quarter of a million, can boast four N.H.S. machines and one pre-N.H.S. unit. As an example of the point I am making, it was Gordon Booth with the help of his wife Alice who was the first N.H.S. Possum user in Bradford, and who subsequently introduced us to the following three cases (with a fourth applying) as well as well-known Welsh Possum user in Merthyr Tydfil, Mrs. Esther Thomas.



## Notes and News

Miss Chapman and I are delighted to tell you that Robert Aytoun-Girling has obtained his Diploma in the 2-year Residential Social Work Course at Enfield College, with Distinction in various subjects including Psychology and Nursing. Vera Kealy has been accepted for State Registered Nurse Training at the May Day Hospital, Croydon, and Jennifer Passmore begins her Registered Nurse Training at Hereford in August.

I would like to mention the way we are expanding our own courses. We have already established a link with the Queen Elizabeth Foundation, and three students at a time spend two months at Banstead Place Rehabilitation Centre. The students also visit Leatherhead College and Dorincourt Sheltered Workshop.

By courtesy of Miss Sheila Garrett, Chief Nursing Officer of St. Thomas's Hospital, we hope to send our best students for a month to gain experience in the Respiratory Unit at the South Western Hospital, a hospital in the St. Thomas's group. Students will be taught the needs and nursing care of the patients as well as the use and maintenance of the respirators and the other machines needed in this kind of work.

Set No. 17 (see photo) are the first to have attended Eastleigh Technical College. This was a pilot scheme, and the curriculum may be modified later. The group has very much enjoyed the time there, and I hope that their knowledge of cooking, catering, laundry, upholstery, soft-toy making and pottery will prove beneficial to the Homes!

One word about the Residential Social Work Diploma Courses now run by the Technical and Polytechnical Colleges in England. These are either of one or two years' duration, for those over 25, or can be taken as in-Service training. They are intended for those already working in senior positions in residential care homes. The Council of Social Work Training is in close contact with the Cheshire Foundation when compiling the part of the curriculum relating to care for the disabled. Those holding the Diploma will be eligible for senior posts in all future homes of residential care. The Service Corps Training serves as a preliminary training for these courses.

There will naturally always be a place for the Registered and Enrolled Nurse in a Cheshire Home. Indeed S.R.Ns are essential in homes registered as Nursing Homes.

And no one could possibly overlook the value of the orderlies, who know their residents so well, and without whom no Cheshire Home could function. Nevertheless, Service Corps members are also full of enthusiasm. They want to feel needed, and that they count for something in the running of the Home.

The theme of the March 15th-19th Study Group at Le Court was 'Communication'. Mr. J. Winder, Chairman of the Lake District Home, attended the session for the first time, and compiled a report of the proceedings, which he summed up as follows:

'Miss Lane and I enjoyed the course and found it very worthwhile, not least because of the opportunity of being at Le Court, which is an interesting community, and secondly, because of the opportunity of meeting Matrons, Sisters, Nurses and Wardens from other Homes in the Foundation and sharing their problems. My only regret is that I was the only representative of a Management Committee who stayed the full course. One or two others popped in, but I think it would be greatly to the advantage of Homes and Management Committees if these courses were attended by members on the management side. I am grateful to have been able to blaze the trail, and hope many others will follow.'

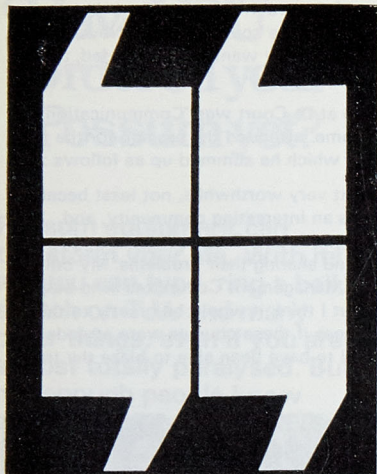
Set No. 17 at Le Court.



## Who Cares ?

When you are retired  
And have lots of time to spare  
You might ask yourself the question,  
Does anybody care?  
It's not that you want pity  
Or other people's help,  
But friendship is essential  
When you are on the shelf.  
You draw retirement pension  
And contrive to pay your way,  
And you just go on a'living  
In a way that's far from gay.  
You join an Old Folk's Centre  
To try and find a friend,  
But you are soon forgotten  
As you reach your Journey's End.  
And when you reach the Great Beyond  
You will think of them down there,  
And ask Our Father in his prayers  
To teach them HOW TO CARE.

J. W. Warren.



# Around the Homes

Topical items, facts and views from the Cheshire Homes all over the world. This section will be a news miscellany of interest to readers in general. So please send us brief accounts of what you've been doing and thinking recently.

## First Stop Ethiopia, next Stop Uganda!

In March 1969 Miss Denise Tabernacle of the Cheshire Foundation came to Asmara to start a Cheshire Home similar to the one she had begun in Addis Ababa six years before. Only Denise can accurately recount all the problems she met! She had first to find a building for the Home. While the search was on, Denise held daily clinics for about 25 polio victims in one small room of the Public Health Centre in the poorer section of Asmara. This went on for almost a year and a half. She also began polio vaccinations with an initial donation from the World Health Organisation in Israel. Meanwhile, the Asmara Lions' Club had agreed to remodel a large unused building just out of town. And Miss Tabernacle continued to peddle her bicycle spryly to and from carpenter, work and the local hospital, with braces over one handlebar and sandals in a plastic bag over the other until August 1970, when she had to leave Asmara to help with the Cheshire Home in Kampala, Uganda.

Just before Denise went, a physiotherapist from the United States, Sue Wilbur, arrived to take over the clinic. Before leaving, Denise provided all that was necessary for operating the clinic: an adequate building, a more than competent Ethiopian assistant, and a VW minibus in which to transport the children to the out-of-town clinic. (She obtained the car just in time to leave for Kampala and start all over again with another bicycle!)

Now the new clinic has expanded a great deal. It is open from 8 to 5 p.m. daily, with Miss Wilbur and two Ethiopian assistants seeing an average of 40 patients a day, with a total enrolment of about 70 children. Most are polio victims, children with birth defects such as club feet, and a few cerebral palsy victims.

Unfortunately business is booming, and the clinic hopes soon to expand its limited polio vaccination programme by handing it over to the Public Health Department, which is staffed and equipped to vaccinate on a much larger scale.

When the clinic opened initially there was no doctor to examine the children, many of whom were badly in need of corrective orthopaedic surgery. Just at the right moment, however, a missionary doctor from a nearby town expressed an interest in the clinic and began visiting it twice a month to evaluate the problem children. He has since operated on at least a dozen of the clinic's patients, and plans to continue on an even greater scale in the future. Dr. Gil Din Hartog of the American Evangelical Mission in Ghinda has really increased the potential of the Cheshire Clinic in Asmara.

Financially the clinic has been aided by many sources in Asmara. The Christmas Gift Committee, headed by Her Highness Princess Tenagneworq, donated E\$50,000 to cover costs for the next four years. The Rotary Club gave E\$2,500 to buy furniture for the new clinic, and various groups associated with the American Communications Base in Asmara have given a lot of time and money to keep the clinic in crutches, plaster, braces and



*His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie being welcomed by Miss Sue Wilbur on arrival to open the clinic in February, 1970.*

fun activities for the children.

As yet the clinic has not built a surrounding fence and the small dormitory planned for the front of the present building. Until these are completed there can be no residents. Even after the construction is finished the goal of the clinic is to take in only those children whom the therapist and doctors feel can be rehabilitated in a few months. Because of limited space and money this will enable the clinic to serve a much larger number of needy children.

Sue Wilbur.

## News from India (Newsletter 1971)

The International Conference of 1969 recommended the setting up of a Council, with three U.K. Trustees and delegates from other foundations. The first meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur on October 10th and 11th 1970, with General Virendra Singh representing the Indian Foundation.

Group-Captain Cheshire visited homes in South India in March this year, before attending a meeting of the Trust in Delhi. He passed through Bombay on his way to Australia and New Zealand in October and visited Raphael on his return journey in December.

**Bangalore** now has its full complement of 20 women patients. A new wing is planned, to include a workshop and veranda. Ivy, one of the oldest residents, has had an operation and can now walk

a little. **Baroda** is a spacious home in beautiful surroundings. Some of the patients do spinning or gardening, and others regularly do factory work. **Bombay** last year joined forces with the British Women's Association and produced 'Ross' (Terence Rattigan), benefiting by Rs40,000/-. The third permanent building was opened by G.C. in July. **Burnpur's** secretary, Lt.Colonel P. N. Kak, who started the home, recently suffered a bomb attack. By a miracle he survived, with severe injuries to his arm. Col. Kak has decided to leave Burnpur—he will be a great loss.

At **Calcutta** they are considering starting a Children's Home. There was a Red Feather Ball in October 1970. **Coimbatore** at present has three women, three men and five boys. Fencing the boundaries of the home and installation of a motor for the borewell are in progress. **Dehra Dun** is full, with 42 patients and a long waiting-list. The chief event of the year was the installation of a booster pump. **Delhi's** Foundation Stone was laid by Air Chief Marshal P. C. Lal, in the presence of Group-Captain Cheshire. The new home (opposite the Holy Family Hospital) will contain a special wing for ex-servicemen and provide training for Cheshire Home staff.

The home in **Jamshedpur** (11 boys and 35 girls) is situated in a 35-acre plot, but not much of the land can be used at present due to shortage of water. It is hoped to dig a tubewell, and the home now has a tractor. **Katpadi** has over 70 burnt-out leprosy cases, and is run almost entirely by the men and women

themselves, who have recently received a splendid printing-press from a German organisation.

**Madras** has 28 men, women and children, some of whom have made three patchwork quilts and earned Rs200/-. They have bought a goat from their Welfare Fund, and named it 'Sundari'. (The home also has a cow called 'Lakshmi', who recently had a calf.) **Madurai** is the newest home in India (1969). A 10-acre site has been acquired from the Government, and in March 1970 the Group-Captain laid the Foundation Stone. **Mangalore** is a small home for women suffering from the after-effects of leprosy. A new wing is to be added, and students from all over Mysore State have been building a compound wall. A poultry farm has been paying good dividends.

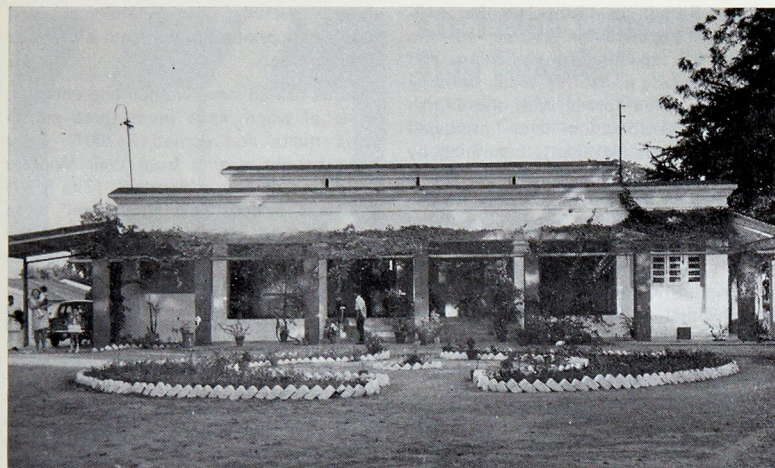
**Poona's** former Committee (in the presence of Col. Kak, representing the Trust) have handed over to a new Committee, though before doing so Commander Godrej had seen the completion of the new building. Mrs. Storrs has bequeathed her house in **Ranchi**, with four acres of land to the Trust, and it is hoped to establish a home there in due course.

**Raphael** (Dehra Dun) is a joint venture of Group-Captain Cheshire and his wife, Sue Ryder. Miss Joan Usher, who had been Matron Administrator since 1967, left in 1970 and was succeeded by Col. D. P. Puri, formerly Military Specialist at the Military Hospital, Dehra Dun. He was faced by a servants' strike about 'superfluous staff' soon after he took over, but now relations are very cordial. Better water arrangements have been made by Mr. Mukherji, an engineer from Burnpur, kindly lent by Col. Kak, and the army has helped to repair the causeway. Raphael has over 300 inmates, and costs nearly Rs30,000/- per month to run; most of this sum coming from individuals and groups in Australia and New Zealand who have agreed to sponsor a resident at Raphael and about whom they like to receive regular reports; and some from shops and two or three support groups in Britain.

J. A. K. Martyn.



*Jamshedpur—some of the 46 children of the Home.*



*Jamshedpur—main building, donated to the Home in 1956 by Mrs. Rustomji P. Patel. It now houses the dining-room, class-rooms, etc.*

## **'Family Group at Dehra Dun'**

The Govind Bhavan Cheshire Home, Dehra Dun, was an absolute gift to Group-Captain Cheshire by Princess Vimla Devi of Nabha (Punjab). It opened in 1956, for the care, treatment and general well-being of disabled men, women and children of all classes and communities, regardless of caste or

*Family Group at Dehra Dun.*



creed. At present there are 43 inmates and a great demand for admissions, but because of workers' troubles we cannot take in any more patients.

The Home is run on funds raised by the generous Dehra Dun public and other organisations in India. It has an Executive Committee of 20, and an Advisory Committee of six, who meet every Friday to discuss, manage and solve day-to-day problems of all natures.

A 'Bumper Jumble Sale' was recently organised by Mr. and Mrs. Martyn, the Ladies' Art Club and Committee members of the Home. It was perhaps the first Jumble Sale to be held in Dehra

Dun in aid of a charitable cause, and raised nearly Rs5,000/-.

May Thakar Das.

## Not for all the Tea in China...

Since his car accident 14 years ago, Denis Naidoo lived in a hospital chronic sick ward: a really grim, dark and dreary place. Now he is one of the first two residents at the new Chatsworth Cheshire Home, near Durban. He couldn't get over how light and airy and quiet the home was, and said it quite frightened

him at first. But now he wouldn't move for all the tea in China—or rather India, for Chatsworth is an all-Indian home with Indian residents, staff and management. (Chairman, Dr. Fatima Mayat.)

Denis paints in oils, and is pictured with his latest creation, a seascape.

The Chatsworth Home is built on two levels, with the residents on the floor above. The stairs will be converted to a ramp, with access to a level garden and a recreation-cum-workshop (the old garage). It will be able to accommodate nine residents, and extensions are planned for the future.

*The Chatsworth Home before alteration.*



## Good News from John Dixon

### Steering Committee Chairman in Toronto

They have obtained a 3-storey home in the centre of Toronto with the help of a benefactor and will commence renting on 1st September. They hope to be in a position to receive their first residents in October or November.

## Llanhennock Re-visits Majorca

Five excited residents and some good and faithful friends joined my husband and myself on this exciting adventure—our third trip abroad.

We boarded a B.A.C. 1-11 jet at Rhoose Airport at 10 a.m. on March 27th in brilliant sunshine for the two hour ten minute flight to Palma. Last year we stayed at Arenal. This year we had found a quiet and beautiful spot called Camp de Mar.

The Hotel Playa was really first class; the lifts being large enough to take a wheelchair and three other people. The hotel staff were kind and helpful, and we all enjoyed eight very happy and full days.



*Denis Painting at Chatsworth.*

Highlights of the holiday were visits to two different barbecues. Here we ate chicken and sucking pig, potatoes baked in their jackets, all washed down with red and white wine, champagne and hot rum punch! We sang all the way back in the coach and fell into bed happy and contented in the early hours of the morning.

We also had a superb coach trip to Vall-demosa and the mountains beyond. Oranges and lemons grew in profusion with wild flowers of amazing beauty. Little villages and grand villas all added to the charm of the day.

We saw Palma by night; brilliant lights shimmering in the calm waters of the bay and the majestic cathedral towering above it all.

I am so grateful to all who came and helped so willingly; to the aircrew, airport staff, the couriers, the travel agency—just everyone for their humanity and the happiness five disabled people knew.  
Lilian Edwards.

Note: This holiday cost £31.50 fully inclusive—the residents start saving again almost at once! Mrs. Edwards is planning a trip to Ibiza in the autumn to find a suitable hotel for next spring.

## The Cotswold Home's Help for Raphael

I would like to tell all the residents and the staff of the Cotswold Home how much we appreciate the constant generosity and help which they have regularly given to Raphael, our community in Northern India, over the last ten years. It is one thing to give an occasional gift—very welcome as they are—but it is another to persevere in one's efforts from year to year in order to help relieve suffering somewhere here at the other end of the world. Thanks to their help many improvements on a small or large scale have taken place at Raphael, and my wife and I saw great strides at it on our last visit there. We can say that the Home, who has now raised over £700 for Raphael, has allowed them to keep a child for 14 years, as we reckon that this costs an average of £50 per year. On behalf of all the Foundation I offer our very sincere thanks for their generous and appreciated support.

Leonard Cheshire.

## Spastics Society Gift for the Chiltern Home

The Chiltern Home has received a gift of £4,000 towards the cost of its new extension from the Spastics Society. In return the Chiltern Home will provide places for another two spastic residents.

Mr. James Loring, the Spastics Society's Director, says that although inflation has hit their own funds very badly they still endeavour to co-operate with other charities caring for the handicapped. In this case mutual self-help benefits everyone, as it enables the Society to secure two long-term residential places at the same time as it aids the Cheshire Home with capital costs.

## Spofforth Shop Raises £2,000 for Baroness Masham's Appeal

Baroness Masham of Ilton was handed a cheque towards her £12,000 Appeal by Mrs. Stella Parkin, on behalf of the Spofforth Hall Shop in Cross Street, Wetherby.

The shop, which in each of the preceding four years had raised £1,800 for the Home, is run entirely by voluntary helpers and sells anything it is given: books, clothes, jewellery, etc.

*Mr. Ball and his satisfied customers!*  
(Photo: 'Middlesex County Press')

Lady Masham's Appeal is to provide Spofforth with an Occupational Therapy Centre and kitchen modifications. Her one criticism of Cheshire Homes was that due to lack of facilities residents did not always have enough to do. To provide such facilities was therefore a very worthwhile project.

## High Living at the Chiltern Home!

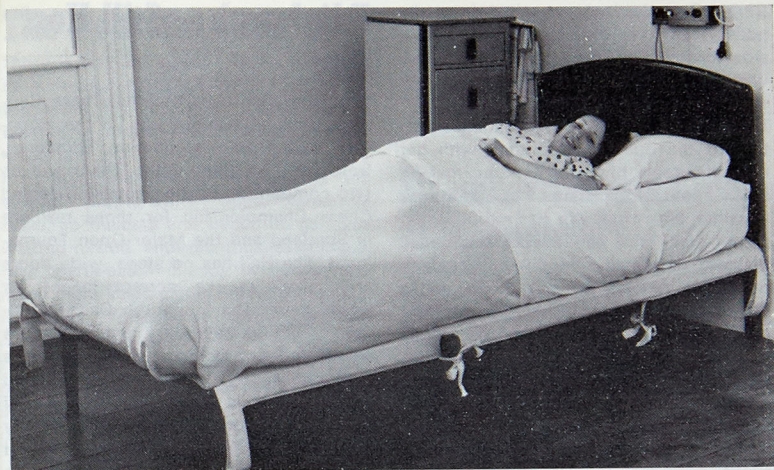
Mr. Brian Ball, Chairman of the Management Committee, chef's hat askew and oven-cloth rampant, benignly surveys his fellow committee members (see photo). Previously Mr. Ball and his team of 'waiters and waitresses' had served residents and staff with an excellent and much appreciated meal.

Another Chiltern meal in prospect is a Charity Dinner at a London hotel when the organisers, a consortium of London businessmen, hope to raise at least £10,000.

## News Flash from 'Holebird Herald'

We were delighted to receive a visit from Bill Hall and Brenda Lawrence, both looking extremely well and happy. Brenda, who had been one of the original residents at the Lake District Home, and Bill, who had been there for three years, became engaged 18 months ago, and are waiting for suitable accommodation before getting married. Bill has just started work as a trainee telephonist for the G.P.O.





## 'Carry your Bed, Mum?'

Staunton Harold's fire precautions include this 'carrying blanket', which can be left permanently on the bed (see photo). If there should ever be a need for emergency evacuation, the bed-clothes and occupant can be removed together and without difficulty, as demonstrated by the Warden, Mr. Vernon, in the second photograph.

## Cruising in 'Sparkle'

After reading in the *Spring Cheshire Smile* about the catamaran specially built by S.P.A.R.K. (Sportsmen Pledged to Aid Research in Crippling Diseases) being available for chartering on the Thames, several residents of Athol House decided to take advantage of its nearness to Dulwich and have a day on the river. A booking was made for May 21st, for eight residents and five escorts. No one was troubled that this made a party of thirteen. It certainly did not affect our good fortune, for everything went smoothly from start to finish.

We set off just before 9.30 a.m. One escort took the others and one resident in his car, one resident drove himself in his Invacar, and the rest of us went in our own small ambulance, two sitting in front with the driver and the other four in their chairs in the back.

'Sparkle's' mooring at Surbiton was reached in an hour. She was close in to a convenient riverside path, with a parking place nearby. Our two drivers and the skipper of 'Sparkle' put us aboard with no trouble at all. Most of the party settled themselves at the stern, the others sat in front of the cabin with a wide view of our course up-river. The non-slip surface of the deck made moving about safe and easy as did the smooth running of the cat. However, the passengers, with the exception of our ambulance driver (who had some experience of small boat sailing), were content to bask in the sun, while the skipper and his wife did all the running about with ropes, casting on and off at the locks.

There was very little traffic on the river, only enough to be an interesting change from the variety of craft moored along the banks. We had hardly any delay at the four locks we went through, Molesley, Sunbury, Shepperton and Chertsey, and our progress was steady and peaceful.



The riverside houses, from adapted caravans to the splendour of Hampton Court, were continually interesting. About 1 p.m., however, it was a riverside pub that some of the passengers were looking for! Just past Chertsey lock a suitable mooring appeared, and we were able to have the picnic lunch we'd brought, augmented by drinks from the landward. After lunch we turned back and saw the scenery from a new angle. This time there was a little more traffic on the river, and a long enough delay at one lock for one of our escorts to dash ashore for ice-creams for all. We reached Surbiton about 5.30 p.m., and were home in Athol House an hour later. The day was so successful that another booking was made for those residents who were unable to go on the first trip. They went on July 9th, an even more sunny day, and had an equally happy time. This was my first time on the Thames, and to see it on a perfect May day was an unforgettable experience. We were very grateful to all the people whose help and kindness made the trip possible, and to the skipper and crew of 'Sparkle' for making us feel so welcome.

Nessie Rowan.

## Honour for Friend of Spofforth

We were highly delighted to hear that our good friend, Ray Jarman, had received the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

He has done a great deal of work in arranging entertainment for the Scotton Bank Hospital for many years. Now he has taken us 'under his wing' in the matter of entertainment—as indeed he has been doing for the past few years. We thank him very sincerely for his hard work, and send him good wishes from us all.

W. Reeder.

## Mote House News

*The Walk*: One brisk Sunday morning in April a very successful walk of 10 miles round the lake in Mote Park took place. Members of our Management Committee and the Lord Mayor of Maidstone, Miss J. Oldershaw, being among the walkers, whose ages ranged from 7 to 70 years young. The sponsors—the Lions' Club, Maidstone, and Round Table and Rotary

Clubs. The residents watched from the house windows, and some ventured outside to cheer on the walkers. The result was £1,100, and our grateful thanks to all involved.

*The May Fair*: Miss Hattie Jacques performed the opening ceremony with her own inimitable brand of humour, making quips about Mote House steps and their possible fate after she had stood upon them! Next she had a chat with each resident and stall-holder, making many purchases and leaving a trail of laughter wherever she went. Then she settled down to signing autographs. The afternoon was a very happy one. In the evening we had a new venture, a Supper Dance in the May Fair marquee, for which 400 tickets at 75 p were sold. We hope this dance will become an annual event.

*Our New Mum*: Mrs. J. Gifford, who has a husband, son and daughter, finds her family increased by 37! She has a terrific sense of humour, and is quickly becoming part of our lives. We wish her every success.

## New Site for White Window Fete

This year our annual Garden Fete and Open Day wasn't strictly speaking an 'Open Day' at all. In fact it was a fete with a difference, as for the first time in the history of the event it was held not at White Windows itself but at the Ryburn Secondary School, Sowerby.

Opened by the well-known television actor and playwright, Mr. Colin Welland, whose mother, Mrs. Norah Williams, we have recently welcomed as a resident, and in the presence of various civic heads the fete offered five-a-side football, a performance by the Barnstormers Drama Group, the Ryburn School Band, and a Bingo session run by Matron and the staff among its attractions.

The change of venue was something of an experiment, but on the whole it is thought to have been a successful one: the facilities for car parking were certainly more adequate than at White Windows. And a sum of about £800 was raised, which can't be bad!

## Edinburgh — Still Host City

The Sixth Scottish Disabled Chess Congress will be taking place in the Hope-toun Hall, Thistle Foundation, Edinburgh, from 6th–11th September. There will be two competitions: the Scottish Disabled Chess Championship for those resident in Scotland and the Major Open Tournament. The Hall has no steps, wide doors and tables at the correct height for wheelchairs. The Edinburgh Chess Community act as recorders, keeping score sheets and also making moves for players where necessary. Therefore a player need only indicate his move to be able to take part. (Last year's championship winner could move only his head. The Major Open winner from Bristol was blind.) The qualifications for both events are in three categories: wheelchairs, blind and those requiring personal assistance. This Chess Congress is held every year, and the Organising Secretary, 1 Chapel Court, Thistle Foundation, Edinburgh, EH1 6AEF, would be glad to hear of any disabled reader interested in chess.

The British Council for Rehabilitation of the Disabled held its Fourth International Seminar and Exhibition from 27th June–3rd July in the Assembly Rooms. The programme included lectures, tours, films and other events. The seminar attracted visitors from many different countries, and ideas were widely exchanged. On the last day at the 'Aids' Exhibition in the Waverley Market, some residents had a great time trying out the small motorised chairs!

On 26th June a Bumper Garden Fete was prepared at Mayfield House. Unfortunately however it rained and the entire fete had to be brought indoors. Despite the bad weather crowds of people came and the amount realised was £455.

In the last few weeks we have had the pleasure of visitors from the Social Services in Sweden and Germany. The old bus has been on the run quite a lot these days, taking tours round the city, exploring the docks and looking for liners. It also took us to Spittal where we exchanged two of our residents for two from Matfen. Another resident has flown on holiday to Puerto Rico!

## The Peaceful Garden

There is nothing lovelier than a garden—mine measures 6 ft x 4 ft and is 2 ft high, and what joy it gives! I have always wanted a rockery, and at last I have made one.

In it there are crocus, blue, yellow and stripey purple-white ones, miniature irises, so delicate and beautiful, gentians waiting to bud, with dianthus, saxafrages, tiny hearts-ease—already in flower, and many more small plants growing between the little rocks—not forgetting two miniature rose trees.

I am handicapped and work in my small garden in my propelling chair, planting and weeding for hours on the sunny days.

This is the one place where there is happiness and peace and I thank God for it.

Jackie Sexton,  
Mote House.

## Strawberries and Cream at St. Michael's

The idea of a Strawberry Fair started in November of last year, and various organisations from all over Somerset readily offered to help, including the Air Training Corps, many local Women's Institutes, Rangers and Scouts, the Lions and 'Pirates' from nearby Clevedon, and a few residents from St. Michael's. The

grounds of the home, some 17 acres in all, are on the lower slopes of the Mendip Hills, and overlook the huge Cheddar Reservoir, a perfect spot for a Fair. A huge marquee housed some of the 50 odd stalls, and others were set all round the house. Just about everything edible was on offer—strawberries and cream of course!—a M.I.S.M. (Made in St. Michael's) stall and many others.

Group Captain Cheshire travelled down to the West Country specially to open the St. Michael's Fair. He spent the morning with us, and was able to see the many developments since his last visit to Axbridge on our Opening Day in 1959.

The Group Captain commented in his opening address that funds were always required by organisations like St.

## Greenacres in the Picture

Greenacres has now finished the first part of their extension, which includes one double and eight single bedrooms, sitting-rooms etc. An 'Open Day' on 8th May gave visitors the chance to view

the improvements, and the bedrooms particularly were much admired. During the afternoon a portrait of Group Captain Cheshire, which was painted by Mr. Langley's brother-in-law, was

unveiled by Mr. Wilfred Russell, Vice-chairman of the Foundation. (See photo of Mrs. White, Chairman of the Management Committee, receiving the picture.)



Michael's and functions like the Strawberry Fair were undoubtedly one of the happiest ways of raising money.

Apart from all the stalls and side-shows at the Fair there was a display given by a local dancing school, demonstrations of judo, vintage cars and steam engine, donkey rides and a spectacular 'Fly Past' by two famous aircraft. When the Fair came to an end over 3,000 visitors had been to it and the gratifying sum of more than £1,500 raised.

May I close on a personal note? On behalf of all the residents, sincere thanks to the Warden, Joint Chairmen and staff and all the supporters who helped to make the Strawberry Fair such a wonderful success.

Eileen F. Milton.

## 60 Circuits Equals 5 Hours

(From the Le Court 'Newsletter')

Without doubt the biggest event in June was Brian Line's marathon wheelchair push. The operation was a triumph of careful planning. The 20 residents and other people in wheelchairs who were being pushed; the soldiers, sailors and civilian pushers were aboard H.M.S. 'Bulwark' by 10.30 a.m. Commander Parry, the executive officer, greeted them all and laid on coffee while everybody waited for the push to start. We crowded on to the disc-like helicopter lift and, to the accompaniment of clanging bells, rose

gently on to the flight deck. Commander Parry fired a Very light and we were off. At first the view of Portsmouth Harbour was full of interest, but 60 circuits and 5 hours later it no longer had quite the same fascination.

The soldiers from SEME Bordon and the sailors from H.M.S. 'Bulwark' started off with great energy (some of them finished with unabated energy) and we went round at high speed. One who was pushing Neville with more enthusiasm than care hit a metal obstruction on the deck, and Nev described a parabola on to the bridge of his nose. He was taken below to the sick bay and given first aid and then he insisted on finishing the 15 miles. For a week afterwards he looked as

*Photos by H.M.S. 'Bulwark' Photographic Office.*



though he had been in a prize fight, but now is a normal colour and seems his usual outrageous self. This was the only mishap.

At lunch-time we descended on the musical disc again, the Navy provided urns of tomato soup and tea, and we ate the lunch we brought with us. At the end of the afternoon, when the wind had freshened and it had begun to be distinctly chilly for people in wheelchairs, we thankfully went down again into the oily warmth of the hangar deck for more hot sweet tea. Brandy could not have been a better reviver. And so home, after being helped down the specially smoothed non-slip gang plank by a team of sailors.

The total from this enterprise should be between £1,600 and £1,700. There are so many thank-yous to say that it would be invidious to single out anybody in particular, but we are tremendously grateful to everybody who contributed towards making June 6th such a successful and enjoyable day.

*'The Marathon Push round the Deck'*

## Squadron 617 and Oaklands

In May about 300 people, including six war-time members of Leonard Cheshire's former squadron (617), the Mayor and Mayoress of Lytham St. Annes, Mr. Edward Gardner, Q.C., M.P. for South Fylde, and Mr. Richard Todd saw a midnight matinee performance of 'The Dam Busters' at the Plaza Cinema, St. Annes-on-Sea. Proceeds (over £173) were for the North Lancashire Home, Oaklands, at Garstang. (Mr. Todd was, of course, the star of the film.) Unfortunately attendance was rather sparse, probably due to the fact that the B.B.C. had shown 'The Dam Busters' on TV the previous evening. A letter was read from the G.C. expressing his disappointment at not being able to be with his former colleagues on this occasion. Donations and messages were received from Sir Barnes Wallis, Mrs. Guy Gibson, former Squadron Commander Willie Tait, and many war-time

*Squadron 617 with picture of war-time fighter at the Midnight Matinee.  
(Photo by The West Lancashire Evening Gazette)*



and serving members of the squadron. On the following Saturday Mr. Todd opened the Garden Fate at Oaklands, when over £1,000 was raised for the extensions. The war-time squadron members, as always supporting the home, started a Balloon Race which went on throughout the afternoon. The next week the Rev. Alan Talbot came to speak to residents and staff on 'The Leonard Cheshire I Knew'. Mr. Talbot was formerly a navigator with Cheshire's squadron, and since then had worked with Trevor Huddleston as a missionary in Africa before returning to work under him in Stepney.

## Marriage

**O'Neil-Lowe** : On April 24th 1971, Eugene O'Neill to Kathleen Lowe, both residents of the Lake District Home, Holehird. Afterwards at the West Surrey Cheshire Home, Hydon Heath, where they have a flatlet.

## The Other Side

by Mary Roskrow

**'We have many visitors. Some are very kind and speak to us as if we were not in a wheelchair. Others stare at us as if we were articles of pity.'**

## Deaths

**Briggs** : On June 15th 1971, Constance Briggs, a resident of Springwood House for 4 years, and previously at Dolywern.  
**Davies** : On July 1st 1971, James Moore Davies, aged 36, a resident of Mote House since 1966.  
**Gaze** : On May 4th 1971, Norman Sidney Gaze, aged 52, a resident at Cann House since 1960, and a past Chairman of the Residents' Committee.  
**Gisborne** : On April 17th 1971, John Henry Gisborne, aged 28, resident of Le Court East Wing for 2½ years.  
**Kilburn** : On April 24th 1971, Emily Kilburn, a resident of White Windows for 7 years.  
**Lythe** : On May 16th 1971, Kenneth Lythe, aged 49, a resident of Spofforth for over 4 years.  
**McDonagh** : Eileen McDonagh, aged 32, a resident of Holme Lodge for only a few months, and previously at Seven Rivers.

**Perrin** : On June 9th 1971, Robert Perrin (Bobbie), aged 43, a resident of Holme Lodge since 1967.  
**Russell** : On May 5th 1971, Charles Russell, aged 27, a resident of Holme Lodge for 7 years.  
**Tomlinson** : On April 19th 1971, Alexander Tomlinson (Alec), aged 60, a resident of Hovenden House since 1963.  
**White** : On April 8th 1971, Andrew Dunsmore White (Andy), a resident of Le Court for 15 years.

You will be wondering no doubt who I am. Well, my name is Mary Roskrow. Unfortunately I am a widow, but I am very happy living at St. Teresa's. I never thought I would be, as I was quite determined that I would not like living here.

You see as time goes on one becomes more mellow and acclimatised with one's surroundings and company, more settled. I think myself I've become older and wiser as the years have gone by.

I have been a disseminated sclerosis sufferer for the past 14 years. Can you imagine my horror when I realised that I should eventually not be able to walk at all? But the fact remains and one learns to live with one's disabilities. Life is not so bad after all.

I am trying to write this book to get rid of some of my energy. I seem to have a great deal which I cannot now use up. For instance, I can no longer type or write, but that doesn't worry me. I have bought myself a tape recorder so that I may start a book and let you know what it is like living in a Cheshire Home. I have been here 9½ years, and oh my! what changes I have seen. People come and people go. I have seen them with happy faces and I have seen them with long faces, but I realise that a long face is no good.

I had a long face for a long time, especially when I realised that my husband had cancer, and was incurable. I knew the only thing I could do was to pray that he would be taken before he suffered too much, and I think my prayers were answered, for he was really only at a terrible stage for the last six months of his life.

For the last three months he came back to Cornwall, being Cornish, and me being of Cornish birth. He came back to Tehidy Chest Hospital. Fortunately I was taken to visit him every fortnight, and the last time he was blind, poor fellow. He didn't know I was there until he heard me cough, and then he was quite sure I had been there for the past fortnight. It was not true, of course, but I let him live with this lie.

I have two children, my son now 22 and my daughter now 19. My son works in a bank in Cornwall and seems to be very happy there. My daughter, bless her, is more like me; she works in a night-club in Plymouth. She comes alive when others go to sleep. It is a very good class of night-club, mind you. She is a barmaid, and she is so very happy. She says, Mum, you don't have to worry, I see them drunk and I see them sober, and I soon pick out the sheep from the goats, so I am not worried at all about her. She comes to visit me regularly every five or six weeks, and the Matron here, Miss Mary Munley, kindly gives her lunch, and of course that saves me worrying.

I wish you readers were here to see for yourselves what it is like. We are all one big happy family. Sometimes not so happy, other times very happy. Like all families we stick together very well, and it's surprising, if one member of the family is ill, how the other members worry and make enquiries. If one is very ill everywhere is quiet, it really is marvellous. I cannot put on paper what it means to live in a place like this. I am sure it is what our patron, Group-Captain Leonard Cheshire, V.C. (fondly known to us as 'G.C.') would like it to be, a home, a real family life. If he came here he would surely see it and feel the atmosphere. Of course, there are some things we like and some things we don't, and like all families some members are closer to us than others.

I didn't know what to call my book so I am entitling it 'The Other Side', so that you may all see what it is like to live on the other side. This place is not a prison, if it is, it is an open one. We come and go as our wish takes us—with Matron's approval, of course.

Now I personally find this home a great equaliser. Whether we have a pound or a penny we have one thing in common, that we are all disabled for one reason or another. The great majority of us cannot walk or use all our limbs; sometimes even our speech becomes impaired, but since I have been here I know what everybody means, and if I can't speak very well—the others know what I require.

I am Chairman of the Residents' Committee, so the others come to me with any little thing that is bothering them and I put it to the Residents' Committee, and if necessary our views are placed before Matron.

Now I want to record my book properly. I want to tell you what it was like when I came here first in 1959. Unfortunately I contracted T.B., and on the 24th June had to be admitted to the County Chest Hospital at Tehidy. That meant I had to leave home; my last home; which was at St. Blazey, near Par. I had to leave my children, it was a terrible blow to me. My daughter was only 9. Well, I went to Tehidy, thoroughly browned off with everything. I was only six stone, so you can imagine I was very sorry for myself when I arrived there, but eventually I made friends and we had plenty of fun.

When I became free of infection they didn't know where to put me, so finally it was decided that I should come here for a fortnight to see if I liked it. In those days I didn't like it; this wasn't the home I wanted to go to. I remember coming down here on St. Patrick's Day 1960. What a day to come. I left Tehidy Sanitorium and all my friends; but never mind, I had to do it. I cried in the ambulance all the way down from Tehidy to St. Teresa's, and I remember turning into the drive still in tears, and by this time it was moonlight. I was so unhappy, but thank goodness my sense of humour hadn't completely deserted me, and as we turned in the first thing I saw was draw-sheets waving in the wind, in the moonlight. They were out drying, and for a moment or two my crying changed to laughter. I said to the ambulance attendant who was with me, 'Oh dear, they wet the beds down here as well.' It made me feel no end of good.

Everyone was wondering what I would be like, and of course, as I said, I was determined not to like it. So when the end of my fortnight came I told the Matron I would never like it here, and I asked to see the doctor. I saw Dr. Hall, who was our doctor in those days. He asked me what the matter was, and I told him I didn't like it here and I would never like it, no matter how long I had to stay. What was I going to do? My fortnight was up. I wanted to go home, meaning my own home. You can just imagine what my feelings were when I was told I couldn't go home, as my husband wouldn't have me. I think that that was the hardest blow I have ever had. I thought that I would never get another one as hard. It was as though someone had hit me with the wettest piece of cod, but nevertheless I couldn't go home so I had to stay, and was I a miserable person. Looking back now I wonder that the rest of the residents did not kick me out on my ear.

Luckily I made a very dear friend of another resident who was called Mrs. Ruby Frisken. Oh she was a good friend. She had the same disease as I have but at a more advanced stage. She couldn't even wipe her nose. I remember being in the lounge one day and someone laughed at her, because she couldn't wipe her nose. Being the rebel I am I thought that was terrible, so I took out my own handkerchief and wiped

Mary Roskrow at St. Teresa's.



her nose for her, and we were firm friends until the day she died. We used to spend hours laughing together about this and that, and it did help to pass the time away.

I'll never forget the first day I went out with a party from here. I swallowed hard all the way; everything was so different. I had always been used to going out in our own car; in fact prior to my illness I used to drive. But things had altered, and I thought I had better make the best of them as they were. I think the first trip I went on was our annual one to Woolworths, and once again my sense of humour came to the fore and I did all I wanted to do.

A girl called Enid Bottomley was here then, a very pretty girl who used to give the vote of thanks. The first year nothing happened as far as I was concerned, and then we went to Woolworths again. In the afternoon the other residents who were accompanying me said: 'You will have to give the vote of thanks tonight, Mary.' I told them I had never done such a thing in my life, and I was sure I would never be able to. They so ragged me that I said: 'Very well, if that's what you have in mind I won't go,' so they assured me I wouldn't have to do it.

We all went off to Woolworths, and as usual did our shopping and looked around. When we had finished the staff kindly provided refreshments.

I can see now what the move was, but I didn't then. I was put in the middle and when it came to the vote of thanks Alderman Stephens, the Chairman of our Management Committee, asked Enid Bottomley who was going to give it. Enid, without turning a hair, said 'Mary.' I thought to myself, well, it is now or never. I did it, and everybody said I did a good job. Of course we had the Mayor of Penzance there in those days. It was not a simple vote of thanks as it is now. I tried to thank them all in order and had to make the old brain-box work. You can imagine the sigh of relief I gave when it was all over.

The next trip we went on was to the Yacht Club at Port Navis. I was a greenhorn and didn't realise the move about empty glasses—we daren't leave one! Everyone made sure we were drinking, so I made one drink last a long time.

*An open-air basket class.*



We used to visit lots of places. People were so good to us, taking us out and trying to brighten our dull lives. We went to Culdrose Naval Air Day. When we arrived there the bus was surrounded by Petty Officers and Wrens, who were going to take us round for the day. We went all round the airfield, into the Static Tents, and saw various exhibitions by the Naval personnel. We had a stand there, and I had a wastepaper basket on display, made from cane and showing different colours and patterns, which I could do quite well. I was very proud to be able to show it to the Petty Officer who was showing we round. All the different stitches and weaves ! We had a lovely time.

The thing is that here everything goes on the same. We are all in the same beds. We all wake up at the same time in the morning and at 8 o'clock the day begins. We all have transistors, and the majority tune into the News, and then its breakfast. When I first came, at 8 o'clock on the dot the day staff would come in bringing the trays, with a lovely good morning smile, and naturally we smiled back. It didn't matter how miserable and fed-up we were feeling, which we did and still do at times. Then we had our breakfast, helped by the staff whenever they were required. Well, I was fortunate in those days because I could do most things for myself. After we had had breakfast we were bathed and dressed and made as comfortable as we could be in our chairs. I could dress myself when I came. I couldn't stand, but the staff used to get me out of bed into my chair and pass my clothes to me. What a joy it was putting on something one wanted to put on, and we were helped in every possible way.

People didn't seem to live at such a pace then. They had more time, and would chat with us. We had a very dedicated crowd of people working here. We had Philip, a male orderly and poor old Tony Mullion, who has unfortunately now passed away. There was an older fellow called Jim Beard from Penzance. He was a dedicated man, and there was dear old Gracie from the Lizard. She was such a pal and still comes to see us even though she is retired. She worked at Predannack, and I remember her saying how long it took to boil six eggs by means of a candle.

Anyway, they didn't worry; it didn't matter at all. If they didn't have the eggs one day they had them the next, and that was the atmosphere at Predannack and also here when I arrived. It was like coming home, they were all so kind. I know Gracie used to do our laundry for us, or the staff used to do it between them, and Gracie would make sure that the right things were put into the right drawers, so that when we wanted to put something on we knew where to find it. If the staff decided to tidy our drawers they would take us with them and watch what was being done; not that anyone would ever take anything. My goodness, they would rather give to us than take from us. The atmosphere was very pleasant for residents and staff alike. I was unhappy because of myself, not because of the way I was treated here. I was unhappy because I couldn't go to my own home, but the reason was that my husband knew he had cancer and could not possibly look after me. I was so full of self-pity that I could not see his point of view.

As my husband and I were both unable to look after our children it meant that our daughter Lindsay had to go to boarding-school. Our son Barrie decided himself that it was time he started earning his own living, and so instead of going to university or college he left school and started work.

I decided that I had to make the best of things. It needs a great deal of understanding, both from the staff and the family, for self seems to become prominent. I suppose this is a natural reaction.

We have many visitors. Some are very kind and speak to us as if we were not in a wheelchair. Others stare at us as if we were articles of pity.

# T.V. REPORT

(Entry in the T.V. Critic Competition.)  
Fashions at Royal Ascot

It was the first day of the Royal Ascot Races, and although there was no drive up the course, because the weather was too unreliable after almost a week of continuous rain, the members of the Royal Family were still very much in evidence.

The usual elegance was visible in spite of the cloudy and sometimes menacing sky. The gentlemen, as always, looked superb in their morning dress and light grey top hats, escorting some delightfully dressed ladies. Some of the younger element, however, were dressed quite unsuitably in 'hot pants' with large floppy hats, looking like competitors in some outlandish fancy-dress competition; fortunately they were very much in the minority. Other race-goers, young and some not so young, strolled about in trouser suits, not exactly in the true Ascot style!

Another lady looked dressed for an 'evening out'—a low-backed full-length dress, with a short fur cape and light coloured high-heel shoes—an impractical outfit for a cold windy day at the races! It was amusing to hear one of the commentators say: 'Some of the ladies are concealing warm vests and probably long johns under smart outfits!' The 'Newspaper Fashion' looked rather ridiculous in the wind, and the hat was far from elegant.

The racing was, as always, very exciting, and the afternoon thoroughly enjoyed, especially by the residents of Seven Springs Cheshire Home, Tunbridge Wells, who gamely backed their fancies on each race and won and lost their imaginary bets with a pleasure probably unequalled by the race-goers.

Christina V. Silverthorne,  
Seven Springs.

# FILM REPORT

'THE RAGING MOON'

Because of the kindness of a friend of Wendy Cooper's we were able to see this film at Greenacres last month, and were fascinated by it. Of course we

watched it like a company of hawks for deviations from the normal—our normal. The film was talking to experts; the most critical audience there is.

*'The Raging Moon', with 'residents' including Malcolm McDowell and Michael Flanders.*



It passed this test well. Certainly the wheelchairs were all a bit newer than is usual, and the residents themselves more active and perhaps better-looking than ourselves! but this was excusable in terms of 'romantic fiction'.

The apparent lack of staff worried us a bit. The two sympathetic friends had been voluntary workers in the book, which left Matron and the rather odd night-porter, whose function seemed only to frustrate night prowlers. We were puzzled by the talk of rules and regulations. There didn't appear to be any,

apart from the discouragement of night walking. At any rate they didn't inconvenience the hero much. In fact, as far as the people in the film were concerned there seemed no practical reason why they shouldn't get married and set up house together. They could look after themselves perfectly well.

Bruce's transformation from an ordinary young man to a patient in a wheelchair was excellently done, as was Jill's and his growing awareness of each other. The difficulties of pursuing a courtship were less in this Home than they would

be in many others—given all that space, and those residents' ability to hare up and down ramps. And what magnificent bedrooms they had! (all singles).

However, none of these things was the heart of the matter. There the film made no mistake, and its message came over loud and clear: love transforms and overcomes obstacles, for the disabled as for the rest of the world. A straightforward and obvious enough proposition you would think. This film will help people to remember it.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### Room to Turn Round!

Under the somewhat forbidding title: *Four Architectural Movement Studies for the Wheelchair and Ambulant Disabled\** Felix Walter has compiled the first study of the movement and accessibility needs of the disabled using real people. Except in the case of toilet design, information in the past has been acquired via the drawing-board, with the subsequent wastage of money and material due to the necessarily included 'overlap' to cover all contingencies. Mr. Walter does not claim to have produced a final comprehensive survey, but 'a practical guide which might be used until it is possible to employ accepted sampling methods'.

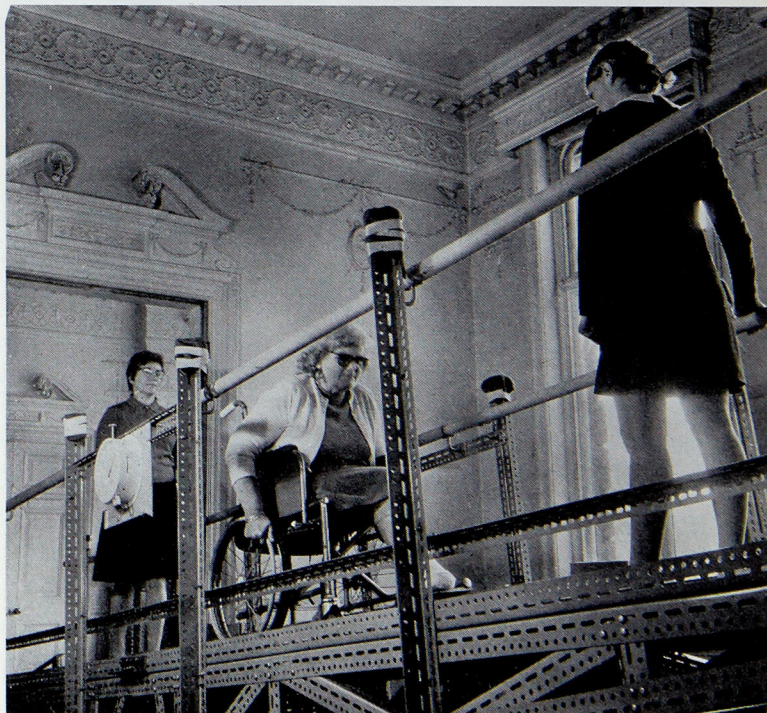
The disabled people helping in the survey (several from the London Cheshire Home) embody a wide range of disabilities, and include walkers, wheelchair users (both hand and power driven) and wheelchair-pushed. It is salutary to be reminded how the needs of crutch-users and wheelchairs sometimes conflict. Many of the former prefer steps to ramps, and here it was found that walking disabled prefer a narrow corridor or doorway because they could lean against it if necessary, and because the crutch itself was more stable when placed in the angle of wall and floor.

The four space studies dealt with are of circulation and doorway-maneuvring, ramp gradients, disabled drivers and their vehicles, and garages. The team was able to make some general comments on wheelchairs: the 'deplorable

condition' of some did not affect their findings, as the aim was to record the *status quo*. 'Many participants said they found difficulty in obtaining help for the repair of defective wheelchairs or adjustments to suit their own needs. The model of wheelchair, and its size, was sometimes found to be incompatible with the real requirements of the user. There appeared to be some lack of accurate assessment of the user's needs at the time when the chair was prescribed'.

The team found that in some cases the garage could not be used because, for example, there was no room for the driver to use his chair and his car inside it. In another case there was a tree directly outside! As with wheelchairs, many drivers found themselves with a car inappropriate for their particular disability. Not till the Ministry stops allocating a chair or a car instead of the chair and the car will this situation be remedied. Nowhere is the fact that each

*Preparing to move between lateral screen without touching them.*



'customer' is an individual more patent than in the case of the disabled.

This study of minimum space needs will be a most useful one for architects, local authorities and others engaged in building for the disabled and elderly. Attention to its findings could mean much more independence for the disabled and at the same time save money and the number of staff needed to look after them.

\* by Felix Walter, FRIBA (£1.50). Obtainable from the Disabled Living Foundation, 346 Kensington High Street, London W14. Enquiries to Miss B. M. Stow at the same address.

## Do it Yourself at Home!

*Self Aids* is an immensely practical book. With the help of clear almost self-explanatory drawings it suggests simple tools and adaptations which will make the handicapped user's life easier. Many of these can be made at home, but details of where they may be bought are also given. The list of contents: clothing aids, personal toilet, household, typewriter, where to go for help, give a good idea of the ground covered.

Most of these ideas will be known to somebody, but very few to everybody. Often you think, well, of course! Why didn't I think of that? As, for example, the foam dish mop for a washing aid, the spiked board for peeling vegetables with one hand, the 'rope ladder' for help-

ing you to sit up in bed. Housewives in particular will find this book useful, and there is a whole section on the disabled secretary, and how best to aid her at the typewriter.

I thought perhaps the advice on how to put on your stockings or trousers erred on the optimistic side. If you can balance with such agility on the edge of a chair or bed you aren't really likely to have much dressing difficulty in the first place!

*Self Aids* is compiled by Wendy Davis, S.R.O.T., M.A.O.T., with drawings by Rosalie Brown. It is published 'with the generous help of the Thistle Foundation', and copies may be obtained from them at 22 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DF. (37p, including post and packing.)

*The Ramp study in progress.*



## 'Shin Kicking Champion'\*

**'You could be a shin kicking champion with your tin legs but you will never be able to climb. You're a cripple, and that's that.'**

Norman Croucher's accident happened when he was 19, and was no-one's fault but his own. Wandering one evening in a drunken daze near a railway track, his legs were severed below the knee by a passing train. A schoolboy heard his cries and summoned help. 'Although I felt ashamed of losing my legs through being drunk I was glad the accident was not caused by someone else's negligence. If that had been so I would probably have become bitter.'

Surfacing briskly from this traumatic experience (the nurses found him under the bed crawling towards the door) Norman was given a wheelchair and then equipped with 'pylons'—plaster casts with metal extensions—until the time when his artificial legs could be fitted. With the pylons he managed to climb the first ten feet of a tree, and decided that when he had his new legs he would be able to climb seriously.

Not many weeks afterwards he persuaded an experienced climber to climb with him and together they scaled a Cornish cliff. The 'legs' were painful to wear, at first very painful, and his stumps were often raw and bleeding. But he persevered, and the last thought in his head was any sort of sedentary occupation. As one nurse told him: 'Don't let them persuade you to be a tailor or a watchmaker. That's what a lot of people will say you ought to be, but it wouldn't

suit you. Have you ever thought of working with handicapped people, or being a social worker?"

Norman had. For several years now he worked with the Social Unit at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, helping 'down and outs', drug addicts and many other kinds of 'social flotsam'. At the same time he continued to climb. His ambition was to climb the Jungfrau, but first he had to toughen himself, so that he was physically capable of the feat. To do this he decided to walk from John O'Groats to Lands End, and to donate the money gained from sponsors—£1,140—to Oxfam.

This is a deceptively matter-of-fact book. Norman tells his remarkable story (another of his acquired talents!) without the slightest trace of self-pity. Nor indeed is pity called for from anyone, but rather admiration pure and simple for his many achievements.

Norman climbed the Jungfrau. Then, as he said, 'I could rightly call myself a mountaineer, and that pleased me greatly.'

\* by Norman Croucher, published by Barrie & Jenkins at £2.



Norman pausing on his Oxfam walk.

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## Christmas Cards

Several readers have asked about a *Cheshire Foundation Christmas Card*. The Foundation does not issue one, but most of the *individual Homes* do, and enquiries should therefore be made to them. The *Sue Ryder Homes* have a good selection of cards (from 24p a packet) and other Christmas novelties. Send for their illustrated leaflet from Cavendish, Suffolk. The *Mother Teresa Committee* also have cards—enquiries to 2 Silvermere, Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey.

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## The Megan du Boisson Memorial Prize Competition (DIG).

This competition (closing date *October 1st 1971*) invites written contributions of 2,000–3,000 (maximum 5,000) words about the problems of disablement. The object is to 'stimulate new thought . . . in field of the clinical, sociological, psychological, engineering or economic'. Entries from disabled people and others with specialised qualifications or experience are welcomed. *Prize £100*. Rules and entry forms from: The General Secretary, Disablement Group Charitable Trust, Godalming, Surrey.

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## Are You Satisfied with Your Wheelchair?

The Bath Institute of Medical Engineering is currently studying the design of wheelchairs and in particular are relating this to the individual needs of wheelchair users. So that we can obtain a wide cross-section of opinion we should be grateful if, through your columns, we may ask all wheelchair users who would be willing to answer a postal questionnaire to be kind enough to get in touch with us: A. R. C. Rowe (Executive Director), St. Martin's Hospital, Wellsway, Bath, Somerset.

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## Holiday Hotel for the Handicapped

An all-the-year-round hotel for disabled holiday-makers has been opened in Skegness. It has 20 bedrooms, level entrance and a lift. Cost for a single room is £16 per week—£15 sharing a double room. The hotel is owned by the Holidays for the Handicapped Trust, and further information may be had from the Manageress, Miss Sidebotham, Sea Breezes, 41 Scarborough Avenue, Skegness, Lincs. (Skegness 4168).

# Table of Residents

Disabled Residents in U.K. Cheshire Homes as at 31st December 1970.

Home	Men	Women	Total	Home opened
Alne Hall, Yorkshire	24	6	30	June 1956
Ampthill Park, Beds.	24	14	38	Feb. 1956
Beechwood, Yorkshire	15	15	30	July 1966
Cann House, Devon	18	15	33	Mar. 1960
Carnsalloch House, Dumfries	12	20	32	June 1961
Champion House, Yorkshire	5	8	13	Jan. 1970
Chiltern Cheshire Home, Bucks.	5	5	10	May 1968
Coomb, Carmarthen	19	21	40	Oct. 1960
Cotswold Cheshire Home, Glos.	10	13	23	Sept. 1960
Danybryn, Glamorgan	15	18	33	Nov. 1961
Dolywern, Denbighshire	20	20	40	Feb. 1962
Eithinog, Colwyn Bay	14	14	28	Sept. 1968
Greathouse, Wiltshire	14	18	32	Aug. 1958
Greenacres, Warwickshire	4	10	14	July 1964
Greenhill House, Adderbury, Oxon.	8	11	19	Jan. 1969
Greenhill House, Timsbury, Somerset	9	12	21	Feb. 1962
The Grove, Norfolk	14	16	30	Nov. 1961
Heatherley, Sussex	22	22	44	May 1961
The Hill, Cheshire	18	11	29	Sept. 1961
Hitchin, Herts.	14	17	31	Nov. 1969
Holme Lodge, Notts.	14	14	28	Apr. 1961
Honresfeld, Lancs.	16	11	27	May 1958
Hovenden House, Lincs.	18	18	36	July 1957
Kenmore, Yorks.	14	13	27	Jan. 1961
Lake District Home, Westmorland	16	15	31	May 1961
Le Court, Hampshire	32	22	54	May 1948
Llanhennock, Mon.	14	14	28+	Jan. 1962
9 S. term (holiday)				
London C.H., Dulwich	10	11	21	Jan. 1961
Marske Hall, Tees-side	15	15	30	Feb. 1963
Matfen Hall, Northumberland	16	20	36	Apr. 1967
Mayfield House, Edinburgh	14	15	29	July 1960
Mickley Hall, Sheffield	12	24	36	Nov. 1967
Mote House, Kent	18	20	38	May 1961
Oaklands, Garstang, Lancs.	10	10	20	Oct. 1969
St. Anthony's, Staffs.	25	16	41	Nov. 1961
St. Bridget's, West Sussex	19	14	33	Nov. 1955
St. Cecilia's, Kent	17	17	34	July 1954
St. Michael's, Axbidge	23	20	43	Apr. 1968
St. Teresa's, Cornwall	15	15	30	May 1951
Seven Rivers, Essex	13	15	28	Jan. 1958
Seven Springs, Kent	8	8	16	July 1968
Spofforth Hall, Yorkshire	12	16	28	July 1959
Springwood House, Liverpool	15	15	30	June 1967
Staunton Harold, Leics.	24	18	42	Oct. 1955
Stonecroft House, North Lincs.	15	14	29	June 1965
White Windows, Yorkshire	21	14	35	Nov. 1956
West Surrey Cheshire Home	21	21	42	July 1968
<b>Mental Rehabilitation Hostels</b>				
Gaywood, Wimbledon	27	27	54	Nov. 1957
Miraflores, Wimbledon				Oct. 1962
Nicholas House, London	12	11	23	Feb. 1965
<b>Homes for Mentally Handicapped Children</b>				
The Green, Christleton, Cheshire	9	9	18	May 1964
Hawthorn Lodge, Dorset	14	13	27	Jan. 1958

# Mission for the Relief of Suffering

Registered in the U.K. as a Charity

**Founders:** Sue Ryder, O.B.E., Group Captain G. L. Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C., and Rev. Mother Teresa, M.C.  
**President:** Mrs. Lakshmi Pandit

Out of the combined work of the Sue Ryder Foundation and the Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick there has evolved the concept of an association—or family—of separate and autonomous organisations, each devoted in its own way to the relief of suffering but all sharing the same ideals and principles. The function of this Mission is, on the one hand, to strengthen its member-organisations by virtue of making them part of some larger entity, and, on the other hand, to extend their opportunity of doing good by the possibility of joint and concerted action. Application for membership from any charitable organisation is always welcome.

As one step towards this goal, the member Foundations have pooled some of their resources and experience in order to meet specific and urgent needs not falling within their respective terms of reference, and have set up the following:

## Raphael

P.O. Box 157, Dehra Dun, U.P., India.  
Under the personal supervision of Sue Ryder and Leonard Cheshire, and staffed in part by volunteer nurses, physiotherapists and others from Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain. This Unit, which was started in 1959, now

cares for nearly 300 persons in need, including 130 leprosy patients, 80 severely mentally retarded children, and 64 destitute children. There is also a 40-bed hospital.

## Gabriel Rehabilitation Centre

(Punavazhvo Illam), Mandappakkam Village, St. Thomas Mount, Madras-16.

A residential Training Centre for the disabled, including leprosy sufferers.

*Chairman:* Mr. S. Arul doss.

*Superintendent:* Mr. A. F. Morris.

## 1 The Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick

Registered in accordance with the Charities Act 1960

The Cheshire Homes care for the incurably sick or permanently disabled—those for whom hospitals can do nothing further. They are run as homes, and offer the affection and freedom of ordinary family life, the residents being encouraged to take whatever part they can in the day-to-day running of the house and to develop their remaining talents. Dis-

abled people are admitted according to need, irrespective of race, creed or social status. The average number of residents when the Homes are completely established is 30.

The Management of each Home is vested in a Committee as representative as possible of the local community. The Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick

(a registered charity) is the Central Trust, and has ultimate responsibility for all the Homes. It owns all the property, and acts as guarantor to the public that the individual Homes are properly managed in conformity with the general aims of the Foundation. Similar charitable Trusts have been established to control the Homes overseas.

### United Kingdom

7 Market Mews, London, W1Y 8HP  
Telegrams, Cheshome, London, W1  
Tel: 01-499 2665

*Patrons:* Dr. G. C. Cheshire, F.B.A., D.C.L.  
The Rt. Hon. The Lord Denning, P.C.

*Chairman:* The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Edmund Davies.

*Trustees:* Dr. Margaret Agerholm, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.(Oxon)/Peter Allott, Esq./Group Capt. G. L. Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C./Mrs. Sue Ryder Cheshire, O.B.E./Mrs. M. M. Clark, J.P./R. G. Emmett, Esq./The Earl Ferrers/Major T. V. Fisher-Hoch/J. R. Handscomb, Esq./H. E. Marking, Esq., C.B.E., M.C./Miss C. E. Morris, B.B.E./T. Pearce, Esq., M.C. (Managing Trustee)/B. Richards, Esq./Peter Rowntree, Esq./W. W. Russell, Esq. (Vice-Chairman).

*Secretary:* Miss C. T. Short.

*Assistant Secretary:* Miss K. Sweet Escott.

*Hon. Medical Adviser:* Dr. Basil Kiernander, M.R.C.P.

*Hon. Treasurer:*  
R. G. Emmett, Esq.

## U.K. Cheshire Homes Directory

		Tel. Nos.	
		Office	Residents
Alne Hall, Alne, York, OEG 73	Tollerton	295	—
Amphill Park House, Amphill, Bedfordshire	Amphill	3247	— 3173
Athol House, 138 College Road, London, S.E.19		01-670 3740	— 6770
Beechwood, Bryan Road, Edgerton, Huddersfield, Yorkshire HD2 2AH	Huddersfield	29626	— 22813
Cann House, Tamerton Foliot, Plymouth, Devon	Plymouth	71742	— 72645
Carnsalloch House, Kirkmahoe, Dumfries	Dumfries	4924	—
Champion House, Clara Drive, Calverley, Pudsey, Yorkshire LS28 5PQ	Bradford	612459	— 613642
Chiltern Cheshire Home, North Park, Gerrards Cross, Bucks. SL9 8JT	Gerrards Cross	86170	— 84572
Coomb, Llanstephan, Carmarthenshire	Llanstephan	292	— 310

		Tel. Nos.	
		Office	Residents
Cotswold Cheshire Home, Overton Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 3BN	Cheltenham	52569	—
Danybryn, Radyr, Glamorgan, CF4 8XA	Radyr	237	— 335
Dolywern, Pontfadog, Llangollen, Denbighshire	Glynceiriog	303	—
Eithinog, Old Highway, Colwyn Bay, Denbighshire	Colwyn Bay	2404	—
The Grange, 2 Mount Road, Parkstone, Dorset			
Greathouse, Kingston Langley, Chippenham, Wiltshire	Kington Langley	235	— 327
Greenacres, 39 Vesey Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire		021-354 7753	— 7960
*Green Gables, Wingfield Road, Alfreton, Derbys.			
Greenhill House, Timsbury, Bath, Somerset BA31 ES	Timsbury	533	—
The Grove, East Carleton, Norwich, NOR 94W	Mulbarton	279	—
Heatherley, Effingham Lane, Copthorne, Crawley, Sussex	Copthorne	2232/3	— 2735
Hertfordshire Cheshire Home, St. John's Road, Hitchin	Hitchin	52460	— 52458
The Hill, Sandbach, Cheshire	Sandbach	2341/2	— 2508
Holme Lodge, Julian Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5AQ	Nottingham	89002	—
Honresfield, Blackstone Edge Road, Littleborough, Lancashire	Littleborough	78627	— 78065
Hovenden House, Fleet, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE12 8LP	Holbeach	3037	—
*The John Masefield Cheshire Home, Nr. Abingdon			
Kenmore, 100 Whitcliffe Road, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire BD19 3DR	Cleckheaton	2904	— 2724
Lake District Cheshire Home, Holehird, Windermere, Westmorland	Windermere	2500	— 387
Le Court, Liss, Hampshire	Blackmoor	364	— 229
Llanhennock Cheshire Home, Llanhennock, Caerleon, Monmouth, NP6 1LT	Caerleon	545	— 676
Marske Hall, Teesside Cheshire Home, Marske-by-the-Sea, Redcar, Yorks. TSH 6AA	Redcar	2672	—
Matfen Hall, Northumberland Cheshire Home, Matfen, Northumberland	Stamfordham	212	— 383
Mayfield House, 107 East Trinity Road, Edinburgh, EH5 3PT		031-552 2037	— 4157
Mickley Hall, Mickley Lane, Totley, Sheffield, Yorkshire, S17 4HE	Sheffield	367936	—
Mote House, Mote Park, Maidstone, Kent	Maidstone	37911	— 38417
North Lancashire Leonard Cheshire Home, Oaklands, Dimples Lane, Garstang, Lancs.	Garstang	2290	— 3624
Oxfordshire Cheshire Home, Greenhill House, Twyford, Banbury, Oxon.	Adderbury	679	— 667
St. Anthony's, West Midland Cheshire Home, Stourbridge Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs.	Wombourn	3056	— 2060
St. Bridget's, The Street, East Preston, Littlehampton, Sussex	Rustington	3988	— 70755
St. Cecilia's, Sundridge Avenue, Bromley, Kent, BR1 2P2		01-460 8377	— 7179
St. Michaels, Axbridge, Somerset	Axbridge	358	— 204
St. Teresa's, Long Rock, Penzance, Cornwall	Marazion	336	— 365
Seven Rivers, Great Bromley, Colchester, Essex	Ardleigh	345	— 463
Seven Springs, Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent	Tunbridge Wells	31138	— 20130
S-W Lancashire Cheshire Home, Springwood House, Springwood Ave., Liverpool L25 7UW	Garston	7345	— 5400
Spofforth Hall, Harrogate, Yorkshire HG3 1BX	Spofforth	284	— 287
Staunton Harold, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, LE6 5RT	Melbourne (Derby)	2571	— 2387
Stonecroft House, Barnetby, Lincolnshire	Kirmington	244	—
*Torbay & East Devon Cheshire Home, 33 Gillard Road, Brixham, Devon			
West Surrey Cheshire Home, Clock Barn Lane, Hydon Heath, Godalming, Surrey	Hascombe	383	—
White Windows, Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire	Halifax	31981	— 32173
<i>Mental Rehabilitation Hostels</i>			
Miraflores, 154 Worple Road, Wimbledon, S.W.20		01-946 5058	—
Gaywood, 30 The Down, Wimbledon, S.W.20		01-946 9493	—
Nicholas House, 3 Old Nichol Street, Bethnal Green, London, E.2		01-739 5165	— 9298
<i>Homes for Mentally Handicapped Children</i>			
Hawthorn Lodge, Hawthorn Road, Dorchester, Dorset	Dorchester	3403	—
The Green, Christleton, near Chester	Chester	35503	—

# Overseas Homes

Secretariat : 5 Market Mews, London, W1Y 8HP. Tel : 01-499 2267

## ARGENTINA \*Buenos Aires.

**CANADA** Ontario Cheshire Home Foundation (Hon. Sec : A. W. Finlay, 9 Langton Avenue, **Toronto 12**)

\*Cheshire Home, **Toronto Metro** (Steering Committee Chairman, John Dixon, 2305 Delkus Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario).

\*Cheshire Home, Mississauga, **Port Credit**, Ontario. Chairman, Mrs. W. Bouch, 1491 Indian Grove Road, Port Credit, Ontario).

\***Saskatoon** Steering Committee. Dr. John Owen.

**CEYLON** Chairman: Sir Richard Aluwihare, K.C.M.G., C.B.E.

Cheshire Home, **Mt. Lavinia**.

Cheshire Home, Wester Seaton Farm, **Negombo**.

Cheshire Home for the Aged, Kiala, **Matale**.

**CHILE** Chairman: Mr. Revel Dick, C.B.E.

Fundacion Hogares Cheshire De La Esperanza, Casilla 3337, **Santiago**.

**EIRE** Chairman: Chief Justice Cearbhall O'Dalaigh.

**Ardeen**, Shillelagh, Co. Wicklow. Tel: Shillelagh 8.

**Barrett Cheshire Home**, 21 Herbert Street, Dublin. Tel: Dublin 62883.

**Rathfredagh House**, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.

**St. Laurence Cheshire Home**, Nr. Dunkettle, Cork.

**St. Patrick's Cheshire Home**, Tullow, Co. Carlow.

**ETHIOPIA** Chairman: Ato Desta Girma.

Cheshire Home, P.O.B. 3427, **Addis Ababa**.

CM

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Govind Bhawan, 16 Pritam Road, **Dehra Dun**, U.P.

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\*Cheshire Home, Meathmarg, **Ranchi**

Cheshire Home, Bishop's Compound, **Poona, 1**. Office address: 19 Right Flank Lines, Wanowrie.

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Amani-Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 8552, Lenana Road, Kilimani, **Nairobi**.

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Oluyole Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 1425, Ibadan

Orlu Cheshire Home, Ubulu Postal Agency, Eastern Central State.

Mushin Cheshire Home, P.O. 374, 91 Agege Motor Road, Mushin, **Lagos**.

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Sir Milton Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 128, **Bo**.

Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 916, **Freetown**.

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Singapore Cheshire Home, Singapore Council of Social Service Building, Room E-2,  
2nd Floor, 11 Penang Lane, Singapore 9.

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

Chatsworth Cheshire Home, 74 Road 217, Chatsworth, Durban, Natal.

**Queensburgh Cheshire Home**, 890 Main Road, Moseley, Natal.

Fairhaven Cheshire Home, 1 Baden Powell Drive, **Muizenberg**, Cape Province, South Africa.

\*Cheshire Home, P.O. Box 848, **Port Elizabeth**, Eastern Province.

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Cheshire Home, **Bangping**.

#### **UGANDA**

Cheshire Home for Paraplegics and Infirm, P.O. Box 6890, **Kampala**.

**Busoga Cheshire Home**, Busoga Province (Dr. B. A. Wallace, P.O. Box 558, Jinja).

\*Cheshire Home, **Tororo**. (Alan Walker, Esq., P.O. Box 223, Tororo).

Cheshire Home, St. Francis Leprosarium, **Baluba**.

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\*Cheshire Home, **Jamaica**. (Felix Fox, O.B.E., P.O. Box 271, Kingston).

Cheshire Home, St. Andrews Gardens, San Fernando, **Trinidad and Tobago**.

\* Homes in preparation. C For crippled children. CM For mental-retarded children. L For burn-out leprosy cases suffering from consequent disabilities. Overseas Homes are generally known by the names shown in bold letters.

## 2 Sue Ryder Foundation

Registered in the U.K. as a Charity

*Sue Ryder Homes, Cavendish, Suffolk.*  
Tel: Glemsford 252.

*Founder:* Sue Ryder, O.B.E.

*Hon. Advisers:* Sir Eric Berthoud,  
K.C.M.G., M.A./Mr. K. Johnstone,  
C.M.G./Sir George Clutton, K.C.M.G./  
Mr. J. Priest, J.P.

*Hon. Medical Advisers:* Dr. Grace  
Griffiths, M.B.  
Dr. W. T. Tillman, M.D., M.R.C.P.  
Dr. M. Ryder, M.B.

*General Treasurer:* Mr. B. Morris,  
F.Comm.A.

*Secretaries:* Miss C. Brooks/Miss S.  
Jollands/Miss C. Curran/  
Miss H. Phayre.

Completely undenominational, and relying on voluntary contributions, the Foundation was started by Sue Ryder to bring relief to survivors who, as a result of Nazi persecution, particularly in homeless or in some kind of need. It seeks above all to render personal service and affection to the survivors as a small token of remembrance, not only to the living, but to the millions who died.

Thus, the work is a living memorial. The Foundation is not restricted to helping only survivors, but is devoted to the relief of suffering on a wide scale.

### **Sue Ryder Homes for Concentration Camp Victims**

Stagenhoe Park, Nr. Hitchin, a permanent Home for 30 survivors.

**Hickleton Hall**, near Doncaster, Yorks.  
(Goldthorpe 2070).

*Chairman:* Mr. G. Bostock.  
*Housemother:* Miss Mollie Trim.

### **St. Christopher Settlement,**

Grossburgwedel, Hanover.

*Chairman:* Frau Dr. Flügge.  
Eight homes and several flats.

### **St. Christopher Kreis,**

Berlinerstrasse, Frankfurt a.M.

*Chairman:* H.R.H. Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhein.

### **Homes for the Sick and Disabled in Poland**

In co-operation with Director J. Sieklucki,

Office for Co-operation with Foreign Countries, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, ul. Miodowa 15, Warsaw.  
Twenty-five Homes.

### **Homes for the Sick and Disabled in Yugoslavia**

In conjunction with Mrs. F. Defranceski, Secretariat of Health and Social Welfare.  
Twenty-three Homes.

### **Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Greece**

Individual case work.

### **Homes for the Sick and Disabled in Israel**

*Chairman:* Dr. Kurtz.  
Home to be established.

### **France**

**Le Plan due Castellet**, near Toulon,  
Home for children.

## 3 Missionaries of Charity

Mother Teresa was born in Albania in 1910. In 1928 she came to Calcutta to join the Loretto teaching order. Here she remained for 20 years until the call came to devote her life to the poor and destitute. So with the permission of the

Church she founded a new congregation, the Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the poorest and most abandoned. Today her Order, which numbers 470 Sisters and 90 Brothers, runs 24 Homes in India, mostly for the

dying, many schools, and has now spread to Ceylon, Tanzania, Italy, Australia and Venezuela.  
Enquiries to Mother Teresa Committee (U.K.), c/o 2 Silvermere, Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey.

## 4 The Order of Charity

Registered in accordance with the Charities Act 1960

50 Fitzroy Street,  
London, W.1.

*President:* The Lady Diana Cooper

*Hon. Medical Consultant:*  
Dr. Stanley Browne, O.B.E., M.D.,  
F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., D.T.M.

*Vice-Presidents include:*

The Earl of Longford, Archbishop  
Roberts, Bishop Trevor Huddleston,  
Sue Ryder, O.B.E. and Group-Captain  
Leonard Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C.

The Order of Charity is a non-denominational and voluntary society working to bring medical aid to leprosy sufferers in all countries. It originated in France under the inspiration of Raoul Follereau and was established in England in 1949 by Major W. Angus-Jones, O.B.E.

In spite of modern advances in the treatment of leprosy—drugs that are effective in all kinds of leprosy have been available for about twenty years—only one patient out of every five has any chance of receiving any treatment at all for his disease. The Order gives regular help to

a number of leprosy projects in different countries and aims to make the facts about leprosy more widely known. It was a founder member of the United Leprosy Aid Committee (U.K.) and of the European Committee of Anti-Leprosy Organisations (ELEP).

Enquiries to the Secretary, 50 Fitzroy Street, London, W.1.

## Small Advertisements

Has anyone in the Homes something to sell? Or have you any needs you wish to make known? Why not use this section?

**Note to Advertisers.** All enquiries, and matters regarding advertising in *Cheshire Smile* to be sent to: The Secretary, *Cheshire Smile*, Greenacres, 39 Vesey Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.

### An Ideal Gift

Do you know you can make a gift of a year's subscription to the **CHESHIRE SMILE** to your friends or relations?

An attractive greetings card will be sent to anyone you like to name with the next issue of the magazine. It will convey your good wishes and explain that a year's sub. comes from you as a gift. Post us a remittance for 10s. or 50p (£1 8s. 0d. or £1.40 for a three-year sub.), and we will do the rest.

**Hand made goods** of various kinds are available, or can be ordered, at most of the Homes. Why not visit your nearest Home, and see if there is anything you would like?

The **Cheshire Homes** need volunteers for organising fund-raising events, for undertaking transport runs, for working in the Homes in their spare time—anyone who feels drawn to this kind of work.

### Do you collect Green Shield Stamps?

If not, the following Homes could make good use of them—Heatherley, Le Court, Athol House, Llanhennock, Greenacres and Mote House.

**Spare parts** for electric indoor wheel-chairs wanted by London Cheshire Home (Athol House), and Le Court.

### Subscription Form

Annual Rate—10/- or 50p. (post free)

If you would like to receive the 'Cheshire Smile' regularly, please fill in your name and address and post this form, with a remittance for 10s. or 50p to the Treasurer, The 'Cheshire Smile', Greenacres, 39 Vesey Road, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.

(N.B.—Receipts are sent only on request.)

Mr./Mrs./Miss

(block capitals)

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## Budding Robin Hoods Please Note!

A new Sports Centre for the disabled is to be built in Glasgow, part of a 'social, cultural and recreational centre being provided entirely by voluntary effort, and the first of its kind in the city'.

Disabled athletes will have facilities to practice a variety of sports, such as archery, javelin-throwing and netball, in preparation for the Paraplegic Games (last year held in Edinburgh). Already in operation is an indoors centre, financed by the Glasgow branch of the Red Cross, which now offers art and musical appreciation and will eventually give opportunities for indoor sport.

The new Centre has an 'ideal site' opposite Cowglen Hospital where there are 50 beds for the severely disabled. It is hoped that the Centre will act as a bridge between the hospital and the outside community.



*Lachie Stewart, Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist, cutting the first turf at the new Centre. (Photo by courtesy of Scotsman Publications Ltd.)*