

Cheshire Simple

The Quarterly Magazine of the Cheshire Homes Price 10p

Summer 1973



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Cheshire Smile

The Quarterly Magazine of the Cheshire Homes

Vol 19 No. 2 Summer 1973 10p

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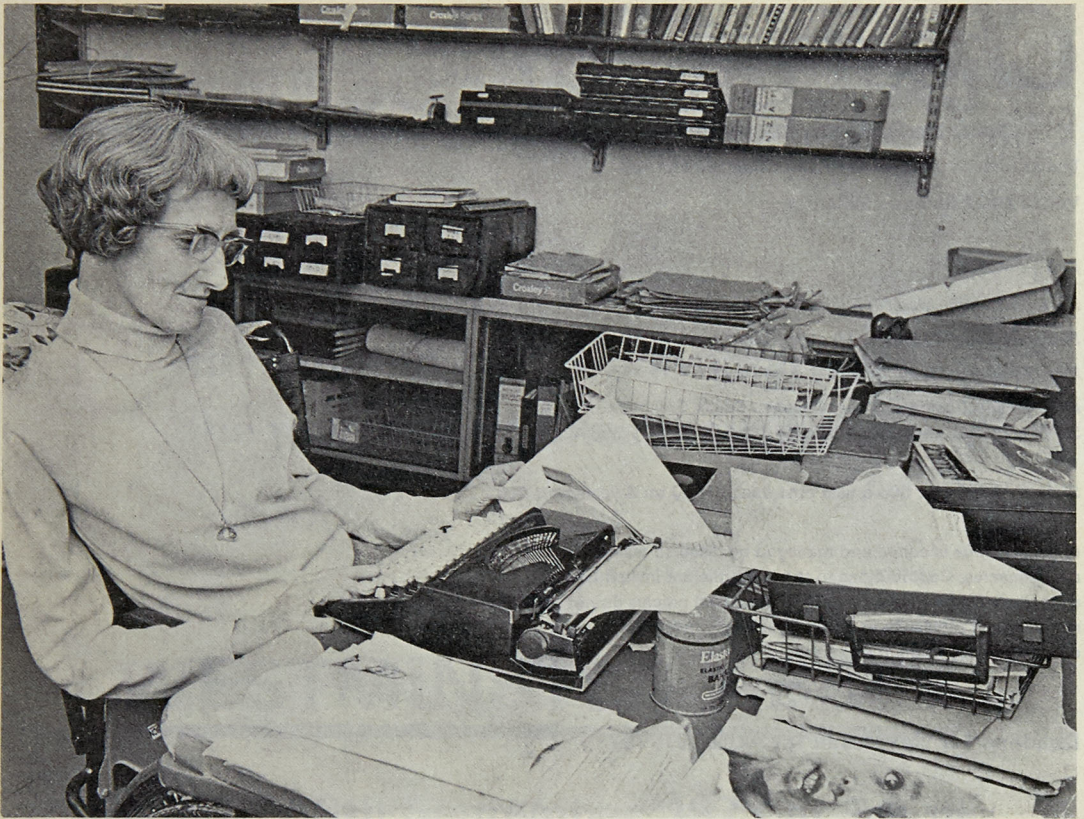
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Cheshire Smile is edited and managed by disabled residents at Greenacres. Contributions to the magazine are invited from all readers. Opinions put forward in individual articles do not necessarily represent the official view of the Cheshire Foundation,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

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Rosalind's Second Chance

As many of our readers will already know, Mrs Rosalind Chalmers, the Editor of CHESHIRE SMILE for nearly three years, died in April – at her desk as she surely would have wished.

Rosalind came to Greenacres, Sutton Coldfield, in 1965. It was in the Autumn *Cheshire Smile* of that year that, the Editor, at the time, reproduced an article she had written for the *Birmingham Post*. It was about herself, and she called it "Second Chance to Live".

As a biographical note, we can't do better than quote from that article. She wrote:

"In some ways I was very lucky. I caught polio in 1950 – an epidemic year – when my daughter was 2½ and my son five weeks old. After a few months in an iron lung and two years in hospital I went home, which had not always seemed a likely happening. I had a good husband, and we had some money and a house of our own.

We were also both very determined people. We managed to keep the home together for 12 years, most of the time with the help of a young housekeeper who had been with us first as a nursery-girl while she was still at school. After she got married we had several unsatisfactory replacements, and then, quite suddenly, we came to a full stop – or perhaps a semi-colon, I'm not yet sure which. We were defeated, not by a major battle, but by a vast number of weary skirmishes, and for the time being were too tired to do anything but retreat. The children were at boarding-school, and we looked around for somewhere for me."

"We had heard that there was a new Cheshire Home opening nearby, but there was also another home which was spoken of highly, so we decided to see that first."

"It was in a lovely position, a well-kept house surrounded by rolling fields. Inside it was beautifully airy and polished. There were impressive floral decorations and not a speck of dust anywhere. But the atmosphere of the whole place was sterile."

"The atmosphere at Greenacres, the Warwickshire Cheshire Home, was very different. You had only

to cross the threshold to feel the whole air throbbing with activity, with concern and with optimism."

Rosalind finished her article by talking about Greenacres and the extensions needed to take their full quota of 30 residents. "Even then we shall not be able to accept all those who wish to come here. The only answer is another Cheshire Home, and then another, and another, until the hospital wards and back bedrooms are empty, and all handicapped people can be given this second chance to live". No one who knew Rosalind in these last few years would deny that she made the most of her second chance.

Group Captain Cheshire has written a letter of sympathy. "It was just this very minute that I received the news of Rosalind's sudden death, and I cannot tell you what sadness it has brought . . . Throughout the Foundation there has been the greatest praise for the way Rosalind edited the magazine, and it gave me so much comfort to know that it was in her capable hands. Her outlook was such a fine one, and her professional ability so high that she succeeded in producing something of outstanding merit . . . On behalf of all connected with the Foundation I offer my very warmest and heartfelt sympathy."

ROSALIND CHALMERS— AN APPRECIATION

by Valerie Robinson (who was Rosalind's Secretary for over two years).

I first met Rosalind Chalmers in the Spring of 1970. At that time the new extension at 'Greenacres' was still in the process of being built, and the residents and staff were looking forward to the day when they could expand themselves and their lives into the new building.

Although I had spoken with Rosalind on the telephone, I was somehow unprepared, at that first meeting, to find this still young, shy, yet lively woman, rather awkwardly sprawling in her wheelchair, as if its framework was almost more than her body could bear. Her lustrous eyes, that could in turn glitter with wit, sparkle with fun, soften with compassion and darken with anger, on this occasion gazed warmly and expectantly at me, as she explained the project of *Cheshire Smile* and how she anticipated we would work together on it.

Rosalind was very enthused by the possibilities that editorship of the *Smile* raised; it was obvious that with the acceptance of this role her life was to undergo a considerable change in outlook, and consequently become a great deal more meaningful to her. Her abilities as a writer were proven — she was now bent on establishing herself as the editor of a magazine that in the first place had achieved a high professional standard, and as the official organ of the Cheshire Foundation

must be seen to be alive and ongoing, committed to the cause of the disabled and encouraging them to come together and help one another in all the parts of the world where English is spoken and the *Cheshire Smile* read.

It was a challenging situation, and in September 1970, with the new extension now completed, Rosalind Chalmers took *Cheshire Smile* into "Greenacres" — "for better or worse".

Excellent office accommodation had been made available to *Cheshire Smile* in the new extension, and Rosalind sat at her custom-built desk facing the window, electric typewriter at hand — "give me the tools, and I will finish the job!" She was now to be seen and heard typing furiously away — haunting the office at all hours of the day, energetically anxious to 'deliver the goods'.

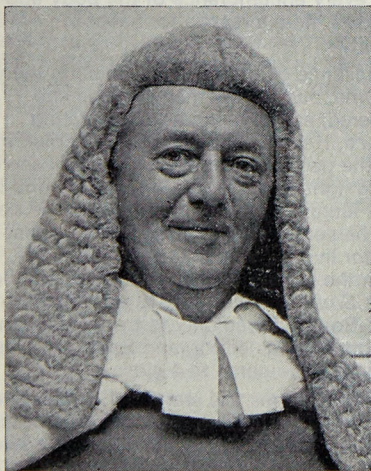
This courageous woman, who had known marriage and motherhood, was now adding to her understanding of the human experience in her new role. She was very concerned that disabled people everywhere should be encouraged and helped to lead lives as independent as possible within their given limitations — and even sometimes, in her fiery zeal — ignoring the limitations! She had suffered in the past from the apathy that so easily afflicts the disabled person, and knew that this was a very real danger to the happiness and well-being of her fellow residents and readers of the magazine. She untiringly devoted herself to initiating and encouraging all the ways and means that she found possible of helping the disabled to overcome their difficulties, and to this end she welcomed debates and discussions in the pages of *Cheshire Smile*, so that people could ventilate their views and perhaps add something valuable to the already gathered material on the welfare and future of disabled people. As she stated in her 'Viewpoint' in the Spring issue of *Cheshire Smile*, Rosalind firmly believed in "the power of the human spirit to resist every encumbrance of the body and to remain itself, free, a reason for belief in immortality".

The presence of Rosalind Chalmers in the world was, for me, and for the many people she encountered, an enriching and stimulating experience. Her fine, lively spirit, embodied in print in the pages of *Cheshire Smile* will serve as a guiding light to those she left behind, and let us hope, illumine and ease the path of the new editor. The central theme of her life was that life is there for living to the best of one's ability, and with the wonderful opportunity of editing *Cheshire Smile* she was able to put this into practice. Rosalind was only to have less than three short years as editor, and Spring 1973 saw her term of office come to a close.

But the vibrations she started, the ideas she conceived and her non-acceptance of a passive role for the disabled will be felt in the world of the handicapped for a long time to come.

The Chairman's Page

During the past three months we have been making preparations for our Silver Jubilee Annual Conference to be held in London on 29th September 1973. The theme of the Conference will relate to the organisation required to bring the Foundation Homes up to a modern standard in line with our growth and progress. The Centre on Environment for the Handicapped have held a most useful series of seminars recently at which the disabled from various "environments" were able to voice their opinions on what type of accommodation they would like. Future planning by Local Authorities appears to be for the conventional type of residential home and many disabled people, given modern aids and contemporary conditions in urban areas, would be capable of a much fuller life in more normal housing, coupled with the support and care service they require. We as a voluntary organisation are in a position to experiment in new areas and our local Committees will I am sure, be only too pleased to pioneer in these new fields.



A Foundation Feature by our Chairman, Lord Justice Edmund Davies.

Our Committee at Wimbledon, whose work is the after-care of those who have been in psychiatric hospitals, have just acquired a new property to start a Group Home for those residents from hostels who are unable to live without the support of a Warden to run the home. This is the first step in the reorganisation the Wimbledon Committee have planned, to update facilities for their work in the mental health field. There is a need for this after-care for those who have had mental breakdowns, especially in areas of high population and employment. Our only hostels are in the London area and we would be most grateful to hear from anyone in other parts of the country who would like to help to extend this work in their area.

Rosalind Chalmers has edited our quarterly magazine since Autumn 1970 and it was with much sadness that I heard of her sudden death as this edition is going to print. Group Captain Cheshire and my fellow Trustees are deeply grateful for the work Rosalind did during her editorship, and we extend our deepest sympathy to her family.

I must tell you about the splendid book written by Squadron Leader James Rush, A.F.C., F.R.S.A., who played an outstanding part in launching Matfen Hall. Entitled "The Ingenious Beilbys", it is a fascinating account of a remarkable family of 18th century Northumberland glass makers. The book is illustrated throughout by coloured pictures of breath-taking beauty and the text is admirable. The price is £5.50, but the book is itself a collector's item, and it is typical of Jimmy Rush's generosity that all profits from its sale will go to Matfen Hall. May it have the success its outstanding quality deserves!

Edmund Davies

VIEWPOINT

Far Better Off in a Home?

Rosalind Chalmers' last Editorial

Well, the old song said so, but not perhaps with much degree of conviction. Then – anything over twenty years ago – Homes really were institutions, where most of the unfortunate inmates were forced into 'a humiliating dependence little better than an unpleasant, everlasting childhood.'

The last is a quotation from 'The Disability Trap' (reviewed on page 35) a booklet recently brought out by the Disablement Income Group to illustrate the need for adequate pensions for the disabled. With respect, Dig, while agreeing wholeheartedly with your campaign for more money, you must know that residential homes are not like that, and are getting less like it all the time. At this very moment there is a tremendous appraisal of concepts about disablement. You can hardly open a newspaper or magazine without coming across an article about some aspect of it; financial, social or (naturally) sexual. There are seminars being held all over the country concerned with how best integration should proceed, and about the kind of accommodation the *disabled themselves* would like to live in. What an advance from a position of almost total disinterest only a few years ago.

Of course this doesn't mean that all is light and joy in residential homes now. But even those with old buildings and old-style administration are feeling the winds of liberation. They need to blow a bit harder, that's all!

In Cheshire homes our problem is how to change the emphasis from a looked-after family, with Matron as 'Mother', to a group of individuals capable of making their own decisions. In her Report Mrs Clark says: 'Care as an end in itself is no longer enough. We must examine the quality and the opportunities of the life we offer to our residents as people, people whose aspiration and desire to live a full life are in no way different from our own. Do we provide these opportunities, and if not, why not?'

There are signs of these changes, in the bungalows and flatlets for the married, and the new flats for working disabled to be opened in London. Now single rooms are no longer a controversial issue, and it is becoming realised that homes should not be opened in the depths of the country, because of the isolation from the rest of the community and the difficulty of acquiring staff. Homes should not be too big, or too hospital-orientated (Mrs Clark believes that for admissions 'nursing assessment and residents' assessment should have equal weight to ensure the happiness of the household').

Another sign of the shifting emphasis from the 'patient' to the 'resident' is given in the survey of the Service Corps included this month in a supplement (by Frank Spath). The Corps was described in 1963 as 'providing a new type of nurse,' but in 1973 'we do not think of Cheshire home staff as necessarily being nurses. They are residential workers; somewhere between nursing in the traditional sense on the one hand, and social work, on the other.'

So, it is clear that the conventional 'institution' is disappearing. Perhaps then you *would* be far better off in a home? An article written by residents of the Grange in the Spring issue of *Cheshire Smile* puts this point of view very forcibly; the opposite one from that taken in 'The Disability Trap'. The Grange residents stressed the miserable days endured by a disabled wife waiting for her husband to come home, and the life of continual drudgery endured by the husband. Why, they ask, should he be penalised because she is disabled? Life at a Cheshire home can be a much more fruitful existence. They also add the interesting point that today people are urged by the fit to stay at home, and keep out of institutions.

There's a turn up for the books! Just at the point where 'homes' and accommodation generally for the disabled, are improving, the disabled are being advised to stay at home at all costs (a phrase I use advisedly).

As usual in a non-perfect world everybody is right and everybody is wrong. The 'humiliating dependence' that Dig speaks of can never be entirely eradicated. One must always, when disabled, be dependent on someone, even, and sometimes even more, with all the gadgets in the world. If it is dependence on a family which resents or is incapable of bearing the burden then the humiliation is greater than that in any institution. It is hell.

Or one might be without family. The case for teenagers and grown-up children leaving 'home' is very strong: this would be the natural thing for them to do, and there is little doubt that in suitable accommodation their lives would be enriched by much greater opportunity for work, companionship and leisure activities.

On the other hand, there are husbands and wives who would be bereft if deprived of each other's company, and who feel no humiliation in their dependence on each other. On the contrary, they rejoice in it. There are families who happily absorb the disabled member, and the lives of them all are thereby enriched.

But there must be a choice. The individual must decide. Dig's call for a disability pension for all is common justice, for then the individual can decide whether to use it to sustain himself at home, *or* to pay for a flat for the disabled, or residential accommodation. It would be nice to think of the Cheshire Foundation providing in the future as many permutations for disabled living as might be needed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Leslie Wilding, Murray House . . .

'Honeymoon at Sea Breezes'

Having seen the photo of my wife and I in the *Smile*, we would like to say that the honeymoon spent at Sea Breezes was a most enjoyable one, and we can recommend Sea Breezes.

We are now living at Murray House, being the first married couple in residence since February 7th 1973 and look forward to the official opening in May.

We would like to thank everyone who made our wedding possible.

From Bob Berryman, The British Home, Streatham

'Complete Democracy in Cheshire Homes'

I am writing in answer to a letter published in the Spring 1973 issue by Mr F. D. Clarke of Worthing as similar considerations relate to any Home for the physically disabled.

First of all, I suffer from Multiple Sclerosis and have been resident here for more than 3 years: I am 48 and diagnosed as D/S when I was 26 – so I qualify as one of the obvious (?) mentally disabled! I regret, that as a person with considerable experience in Cheshire Homes Mr Clarke laid down dogmatically that any and every M/S or Parkinson victim is incompetent and unfit to help in the running of establishments; presumably he would make a similar judgement on all disabled! Also he seemed affronted that the Committee did not solicit his opinions on how a Home should be run: though of course he was the employed, not the executive.

Next, I think that as many establishments have been in existence for a short time, the management and running must be a matter of trial until the most practical ways are achieved. Also, most important of all, many residents are physically unable to do more than complete each living day with nursing help and certainly unable to spare their minute strength for other worries. To my mind the provision by homes for the disabled must cater for these unfortunates at all times. Certainly the ever-restricting burden which life brings is accepted and endured gladly by all of us – even when pain brings its special and weakening torment. So we are glad of the helpers and companions in the daily struggle or happiness when things go smoothly; This is a big reason why disabled people 'accept' in

the main and don't innovate – especially when the physical machine breaks down quickly under too much pressure and our eternal enemy frustration laughs at our weakened effort and achievements.

I fully agree with his final paragraph welcoming more personal contact between Committees and residents with the staff so that effective liaison between all parts of the invalid community is affected. Certainly here we are blessed in these matters and a happy and content Home is the result.

From Mr A. C. Waine, Multiple Sclerosis Society, London SW1V 1SJ

May I through the courtesy of your columns take up a point made by Mr F. D. Clarke, Worthing, in his letter published in your Spring edition.

I refute in the strongest possible terms that Multiple Sclerosis (Mr Clarke calls it Disseminated Sclerosis) is a mental disease. His experience of working for 9 years in Cheshire Homes should have taught him otherwise. It is my privilege to know personally, literally thousands of sufferers from M.S. Many of them are my closest friends. As a group I would say that the incidence of mental deterioration amongst them is less than that found in the population generally.

It is a pity that people rush into print and make statements which are incorrect. Not only are they misleading, they are downright harmful and cause unnecessary distress to those concerned who read them.

From Dudley V. Kitching, 'Owston View', Doncaster

Participation in Management

I have no doubt that Paul Hunt will be quite capable of adequately replying to F. D. Clarke (Mr, Mrs or Miss?) of Worthing, but if I may I should like to make a few short comments.

Firstly to split hairs: the correct term for one of the complaints he mentioned is *Multiple Sclerosis*. In just the same way we no longer refer to Infantile Paralysis, but to poliomyelitis (or Polio). On the subject of nomenclature can the Foundation give an explanation of why they still stick to the nauseating title of 'Chronic Sick'? What about chronic and physically disabled and handicapped? Such titles as they (and some Homes too . . . 'Matron', etc.), inflict upon the Disabled residents went (or are going) out with such misnomers as 'Homes for Incurables'.

Secondly, F. D. Clarke makes a legitimate point in asking Brother Hunt whether he seriously suggests that mentally disabled persons should participate to the full in the running of the Homes. But that anyone should think in such rigid terms makes me wonder whether F. D. Clarke's 'nine years in a large variety of Cheshire Homes' had made him (or her) able to assess the hidden

talents, and, all too often, misleading attitudes of the people he or she met. Could it not also be a fact that prolonged discouragement, from well-meaning but hopelessly outdated mental outlooks of a few Management Committees, Wardens, Sisters-in-charge, Matrons is the decisive factor?

Such apathy, parochialism, indifference, and absolute selfishness, can of course be found in the community at large. One has only to study the figures at election times to know that such attitudes are not confined to the physically handicapped; they are inherent in the human-being. That, however, doesn't mean that the former must not be afforded the rightful opportunity to 'speak' for their weaker brethren and accept responsibility through a recognised democratic electoral system should they feel disposed to so do.

In conclusion may I put forward the following for the consideration of all Management, Committees, Wardens, Matrons, Residents, etc. I call it the 4 C's:—

Consultation: To consult residents on matters affecting their environment, likewise the residents to consult the Head of the House not only as a matter of common courtesy but in case it conflicts with policy.

Co-operation: Self-explanatory, but oh! how many times does one hear 'THEM', 'US': With patience, tact and co-operation it could be 'WE'.

Consideration: This like the previous one is a 'two-way traffic'. All too often due to a lack of thought. We are inconsiderate with our neighbours (whether in shared rooms or in single room accommodation) with our TV's, radios, record and tape machines, THINK . . . CONSIDER . . .

ACT. Treat others as you would have them treat you. With TV's, Radios etc. after 10 p.m. fit Head-phones or ear-phones . . . The chap or the person in the next bed, or room, may want to read, write, or sleep. Managements, Wardens, Matrons, etc. consideration of approach, attitudes and actual day to day living makes or breaks a home. You may hate the sight, sound, of that Cocky Twerp in room 405 . . . but then he might think of you likewise: solution: Toleration, Consideration — you can leave; he can't!

Co-ordination: If everyone consults, co-operates and considers, then co-ordination will follow, and a happy environment, will evolve. TRY IT.

FREEDOM

O give me the moor and my horse to ride
And my big dog galloping by my side.
I care not to be in a crowded place
I like to ride with the wind in my face.
I am tired of noise and careless chatter
I like to enjoy the things that matter.
The sound of bird voices clear and sweet,
And the soft, firm thud, of my horse's feet.
Oh I envy no man his power and wealth
If I have my horse, my dog and my health.

Nora Mathieson (from 'Small Poems')

A Summer's Pilgrimages

STONEHENGE

What megalomaniac neolith King
Caused these megaliths here to be raised in this ring?

SALISBURY

From these green, rain-lashed lawns and close-trimmed planes
Rises an airy tracery of stone,
Aspiring spire to pierce the sodden sky,
Apex of neolithic art, achieved
With tools and techniques of a later time:
Natural expression of an ancient faith —
The fixed relationship of God to Man
— Or loud assertion against questioning doubts,
The embryos of our age?

RAMESES I

Tutunkhamun, the least of Egypt's Kings,
Has found in death his immortality;
My deeds were famed in life; my tomb was robbed,
I am forgot. Who queues three hours for me?

P.E.D.

Letters to the Editor—continued on page 39.

Selling

CHESHIRE SMILE

Mr Norris—Super Salesman

Cheshire Smile moved to Greenacres nearly 3 years ago and almost from the first moment we have had the help of Mr Douglas Norris in selling copies locally. To date he has sold £300 worth and shows no signs of flagging. If all the Homes had a Mr Norris — or two Mr Norris's — prepared to do the same our circulation would be doubled in no time; soon we might be self-sufficient and maybe even making a profit!

Mr Norris's methods are simple. He offers the magazines for sale, explaining that he will not be back for a year, and finds most people interested certainly to the point of spending 10p. Usually he slips in brochures about Greenacres, or forthcoming events in aid of the Cheshire Home — most people like to know about the local home. He chooses a day when there is usually someone in (a Monday) and he notes down carefully each house he has visited, to make quite sure that he does not call there again for 12 months. This way he does not strain people's interest!

Mr Norris himself is a modest man, whose hobby is breeding canaries, and who also writes poems, one of which has appeared in *Cheshire Smile*. We are very grateful for his help. Mr Norris himself would be satisfied to know that other sellers followed his example at other homes.

SURVEY OF UK CHESHIRE HOMES

Care is no longer enough

Mrs Clark's report is good stuff. It deserves careful reading and digestion, then discussion within each home between staff, residents and committees.

The Survey was undertaken at the Trustees' request, who felt they would like an over-all picture of the homes then in being in Britain after 21 years. It took fourteen months, and involved Mrs Clark in much travelling and a great deal of work. The homes, she says, all co-operated splendidly.

'Care', says the introduction *'as an end in itself is no longer enough; we must examine the quality and the opportunities of the life we offer to our Residents as people . . . do we provide these opportunities and if not, why not?'*

Mrs Clark's first impression was of the seemingly endless variants on the Cheshire theme. She felt, as many of us do, that the concept of a family can be overdone. A family implies a Mother (matron) and children (residents) and that is hardly an adult relationship for the parties concerned, tending as it does to make the Matron over-solicitous and the residents over-dependent.

Mrs Clark regretted the absence of a physiotherapist or handicraft teacher in some homes, and thought a *speech therapist* would also be an excellent thing.

In general, Mrs Clark found the atmosphere of the homes free and contented 'some more so than others'. As she admits, 'some people seem to have the ability to forget their disablement while others have not, and the approach of the former is much more conducive to personal and general happiness . . . where the quality of life can be improved is I think by more imagination on the part of committees putting themselves as individuals in the place of residents and staff'.

All or most aspects of life in the homes are reviewed in this survey, though no names are given (except in a list of 'special amenities'). For example, 20 homes allow pets, 44 homes have transport, 4 homes Ripple beds, 18 chapels, 36 a Quiet Room.

Mrs Clark was concerned that the importance of meal-times was recognised and that the 'presentation and serving of it should be immaculate . . . not all homes realise the importance of this'; Only 32 homes had mats or a

tablecloth (17 had formica tops). In 30 homes washing up is still done by hand. But in general Mrs Clark found the homes 'clean and well-kept and the staff cheerful, kind and helpful'.

In all but a few homes Staff are 'encouraged to mix freely with the residents.'

All homes apply a pre-admission assessment period, but Mrs Clark considers it a mistake in the long run for the ability to nurse the entrant to take precedence over his suitability as a member of the established household. *Nursing assessment and the residents' assessment should have equal weight* to ensure the happiness of the household.

On the vexed question of going to bed 20 homes replied 'when they like', but 22 were restricted for various reasons, mainly shortage of staff. 'Some of the restrictions were very liberal, but others were not, for instance 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. seemed very restrictive to me, even allowing for the fact that residents (or some of them) do prefer to go to bed early'. 'Late drinks vary up to 11 p.m. 2 did not give a late drink at all.'

In conclusion, Mrs Clark said 'Our concern in the Homes must be to develop what we have presently achieved so that it is applicable to the pattern of life which is growing out of our situation today.'

We — most of us in Cheshire homes — have been saved from what really was a fate worse than death. It is in no sense a sign of ingratitude, but on the contrary, a sign of the spectacular success of that operation, that now many of us would like a fuller life and that we have the spirit to strive for it.

Mrs Clark's report has been sent to the homes, and the Trustees hope that residents as well as committee and staff will read it.

RICHARD BOYDELL— MATHEMATICAL GENIUS FIRST AWARD WINNER

(Reprinted from 'Spastics News')

Richard Boydell, aged 39, a chair-bound spastic, who has triumphed over incredible difficulties to use his mathematical genius as an expert computer programmer, has won The Spastics Society's first Achievement of the Year Award.

The Award, which will now become an annual event, was for 'the most outstanding effort and the most meritorious achievement in any field in 1972 by a spastic in Britain'.



Richard Boydell receives his trophy from diplomat Sir Geoffrey Jackson who told him: 'We are proud of you'. Mrs Dorothy Boydell, whose faith in her son's ability led to this moment is on the left.

Nine semi-finalists went to the Society's London Headquarters last week for the judging, and after the most difficult task that ever faced a judging panel in view of the nominations of courage and determination presented to them, it was announced that Dick Boydell was the winner. He received a £250 cash prize and a silver trophy.

Behind the towering achievement of Dick Boydell lies a story of extraordinary determination which is truly one of the most remarkable ever told in *Spastics News*.

It is the story of a woman who against all the odds *refused* to believe that her son was so helplessly crippled that nothing could be done for him. *Refused* to believe that he could not be educated. *Refused* to believe that he was doomed to a life of frustration, without communication, intellectual stimulation, or the possibility of earning a living.

The woman is Dick's mother, Mrs Dorothy Boydell who, with her husband Jack, gave Dick the chance of a life worth living.

In their home at Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, within easy travelling distance of Dick at The Spastics Society's Oakwood Further Education Centre at

Kelvedon, Mr and Mrs Boydell told me an incredible story which can only be an inspiration to other parents of handicapped children. They obviously did not think their work had been in any way remarkable; their words of pride were only for their son.

When Dick was born he was, as Dorothy graphically remembers it 'at death's door with jaundice and he wasn't out of my arms for the first 10 months.'

He survived, but less determined parents might have wondered for what? Here was a spastic child so severely handicapped that he was effectively helpless. Jack and Dorothy took him to specialists and were told that **NOTHING** could be done. Little was known then about the condition; there was no Spastics Society to give professional advice and support, and prove that by patient treatment and training from the beginning no spastic is too handicapped not to benefit to some degree.

Give Up ?

Who could have blamed Dorothy and Jack if they had decided to give up their unequal struggle, and let Dick be permanently cared for in hospital ?

Not the Boydells. 'I was never tempted to give up', Dorothy told me. 'I knew that there was nothing in life for Dick if he didn't use his mind. It was the only thing for him. And it was up to us.'

Such was their certainty that they put aside forever their dream of having a family of five children. 'We realised,' said Dorothy, 'that if we were to do all we planned for Dick, it would occupy all our time, and it would not be fair to have more babies.'

Exercises

First they tackled Dick's physical condition. Dick had no controllable movement, except in one leg, but the Boydells did by instinct what today's experts recommend for spastic children. They put him through a full programme of exercises every day – and kept it up for 17 years.

There was no dramatic improvement. Dick didn't learn to use his arms or hands, or feed himself, or walk, or do any of the things taken for granted by the able-bodied, but today he can sit in a chair himself, and does not need to be strapped in, which might be necessary with most spastics so dreadfully disabled. Dorothy admits that she always hoped against hope that she might be able to get Dick walking, 'but it wasn't to be'.

Then, when Dick was four, it was time for his education to begin. No hope of a proper school or a trained teacher in those days, so Dorothy had to be the teacher, and the 'school' was set up at home. It was a very serious affair. There were regular hours for lessons; there was a blackboard, there were text books, even a regular 'milk break' as all the time Dorothy strived to treat Dick 'like any other child – like a normal human being.'

Dorothy determined to teach Dick to read. 'I had no experience, and I was no scholar, but I took advice about reading methods, and I bought a teaching manual.'

Dick, remember, could not speak, and he could not use his hands to write, so how did Dorothy know if she was succeeding?

Reading

'I felt he was taking it in because he wouldn't have been so interested', she said. 'And sometimes I used to make little mistakes when we were reading a book together, and I was sure he picked them up.'

'We had reading every day, and then there was history, geography, general knowledge and mental arithmetic. I set up a shop and he would choose things, add up the money, and then push the right coins to me with his foot. Oh yes, there was no doubt in our minds that Dick was intelligent.'

He advanced at such a pace, in fact, that when he was six they chivvied an education officer to see the boy and look at the advanced books he

was devouring. They begged that Dick should be allowed an education. Admittedly, Dick's speech problems were so severe that there were extreme difficulties in proving their case, but the education officer, convinced that the boy was without intelligence, would not even try to understand, so the Boydells' dream of a formal schooling for Dick was shattered.

Dorothy pleaded with schools to take him, offering to work in the schools herself in any way they wished, but all the time the answer was the same. A flat refusal to believe that locked in Dick's disabled body was a bright, inquiring mind.

His friends

But if he couldn't go to school, Dorothy was determined that Dick should have friends of his own age. She kept 'open house' for the local children, set up a super playroom, and because this was the time of sweet rationing, admits she used 'bribery and corruption' with sweets so that Dick had companionship.

'Yes, it was tiring work, and I usually had a 25-hour day,' says Dorothy, 'but Dick would never give up, so why should I?'

Jack taught Dick mathematics and geometry, but as the years went on Dick increasingly studied on his own. All he needed were the books, and when he was 13 he managed to make his father understand that he wanted a tome entitled 'The Analytical Geometry of Conic Sections.'

'I think we realised then that Dick had left us standing!' they recall.

Remember, though, that Dick's speech was so bad that while his parents could understand some of his words with great difficulty, the fact that he could not write meant that he had never fully communicated with them.

The miracle of his parents' determination and faith gave Dick the gift of learning, now an electronic miracle gave him the gift of two-way communication. Jack Boydell heard about the remarkable work of the Possum equipment which allows the most heavily handicapped to type, open doors, switch on radio, TV and lights, and control their own environment in a way never before possible.

Spastics without the use of their hands were learning to type by using their mouths – sucking and blowing to work the delicate controls. Would it be possible, Jack wondered, for a machine to be adapted to foot control? The Possum scientists were enthusiastic, and Dick became the first spastic to use the machine other than by the mouth control.

He was taught to use the Possum, and though one gets used to the extraordinary when hearing about Dick, it is almost unbelievable that his first

effort on the machine was a 250-word letter in perfect English and spelling. Dick was then 30 years old, but this was the first time his parents had ever known with certainty that their patience, their hard work and their dedication had been so completely worthwhile.

'I will never forget that moment', says Dorothy simply.

The Possum meant a new life for Dick. It enabled him to go to Oakwood. It allowed him to become an amateur radio expert with contacts all over the world. (When you 'speak' to your friends in Morse code you don't need to talk). It allowed him to become a computer programmer for the Ford Motor Company, which has been 'continually amazed at the soundness of his logical constructions'. He has been to exhibitions at home and abroad to demonstrate his Possum equipment, and he has become an inspiration to handicapped people everywhere for the way he has overcome difficulties which everyone but he and his parents thought were impossible.

The ultimate academic accolade came when, at the age of 38, Dick was elected a member of the British Computer Society, the highest honour in his field, and a rare distinction.

Words are inadequate to convey what all this has meant to Dorothy, who never wavered in her determination that life must be worth living for her son, but who says of him. 'It is his achievement. He has always had an incredible courage, determination, and a love of life.'

'Dick is outstanding. I can only say that I am very, very proud of him.'

STARVATION

by B. C. Lane (*Secretary at Holehird*)

We hear much about starvation in the world today, other people's poverty and deprivation, but do we spend enough time thinking of our personal and national poverty, starvation and deprivation?

If the above surprises you, let us think of some things, the absence of which amounts to personal deprivation, loss of zest for living, and sparkling character, all of which multiplied by our overpopulated selves, in turn deprive the nation.

Starvation of Laughter. Woe, woe and thrice woe cry the Newspapers and the Box, all depicting and expounding alarm and despondency. Serious news and views, yes, but would we not be able to bear the burden far better if we were to let the fresh wind of laughter in – would it not relieve the tension and enable us to deal with the daily crises in a calmer, more balanced way, hot

heads, cold steely heads – the lot? In the last World War there was a legal penalty in this country for the spreading of gloom and despondency, and harking back, it seemed a clean War to what goes these days.

Starvation of Tenderness. Are we becoming harsh and extreme in our judgements which we give forth from the strongholds of our plush living – I nearly said push-button living. Have we lost too much imagination to think of and feel for the unfortunates in this world, in this nation, in this district? Or are we too busy pressing on with the rat race for bigger and better homes to live in, watching the box, or racing around in our little boxes on four wheels? Have we forgotten how to stand and stare – at the star spangled velvety blue heavens on a hill top – at the moon and the stars and the dreaming lake; at the trees silhouetted in the moonlight against the night sky on mountain and fell side? Which brings me to:—

Starvation of Fresh Air. No, don't worry, this is *not* about that thorny problem of pollution. The Director of Environment and his staff exist to take care of that – but just to ask if we really know what fresh air is like while we have it with us, before modern life and progress snatches it away. It would be a pity if we did not savour it, especially late at night and early in the morning. A walk without a car can be enchanting and exciting.

Starvation for Love. To live a life starved of love is to live a deadly dull life – just like a car without petrol, not being able to go, and I do not mean the sentimental stuff either.

I well remember our dear old Rector way back in my young days, preaching to us young folk at the back of the Church about the way Love (pronounced he said in the 'pop' songs of our time LERVE) was being seduced and devaluated by the songs of the day.

Today love has gone out of fashion through being mistaken for sex and sentimentality. Yesterday (I lived the day before yesterday), the young ones thought that at last they had got it sorted – thinking sex was the cream in their coffee and the sugar in their tea, and sex became the 'in' thing. But now, pity the poor old sex, done to a cinder and burnt out – it's a case of Goodbye sex – hello LOVE!!!!

Love can be the spice of our life, making us strong to bear and to share one another's burdens instead of shooting and shouting each other down, enabling us to suffer for others instead of making sure that the other fellow does the suffering – to work for others and to strive for others, so that the other fellow does not die from real starvation. Love can help us to forget our miserable, complaining, snivelling selves, and instead make use strong to endure and overcome, to reach out and seek new horizons, actual or mental. Love can overcome everything, even our enemies.

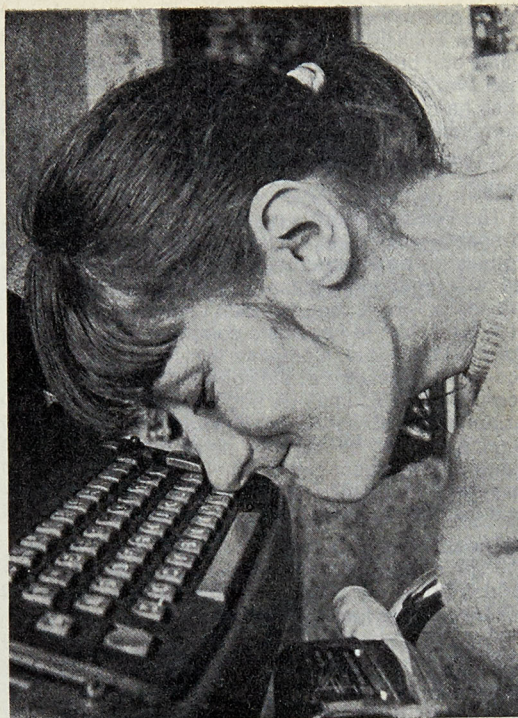
To Be or Not To Be a Cabbage

(By Elaine Roberts – Courtesy Responaut)

Sometimes, on my blacker day, I think it would be better to be a 'cabbage', incapable of thought or desire, unaware of the things which my disability makes impossible. I think of the things I might have done, and support this gloomy argument with a passage from the play 'A Day in the Death of Joe Egg' by Peter Nichols. The mother of a mentally handicapped spastic child has a visit from the vicar, who tries to comfort by saying 'Think of something worse. And of course, that's not difficult. Joe could have developed into a real person before it happened. Or she could have been a very intelligent spastic without the use of her limbs which I think is worse than being a kind of living parsnip'.

But it's not long before I shake off this undesirable mood, and take a firm hold on myself: I remember how lucky I am really and there are lots of things I shouldn't take for granted. For instance, I can see, hear, read, communicate ideas (mainly through my typewriter, one of my greatest friends), write poetry and sometimes paint. So many things! In my own way, you know, I am almost as free as anyone who has all his faculties. I sometimes believe I am even luckier because, not having to rush around constantly, I can 'stand and stare' as the poet said, and often see what others may miss. I can't always actually participate in certain activities, but this gives me a chance to take more in. So, in a way, I get more out of life.

When small, lots of people must have wondered about my education. I was almost helpless physically and had little speech. How to educate me? Why educate me at all when I probably wouldn't be able to use the knowledge acquired? These questions must have arisen, but at the age of six I went off to a boarding school! Apart from the usual learning I had speech and physiotherapy and found out how to live with other people (something which is never too early to learn). Some people may have thought it cruel perhaps to send me away so early, yet how much more cruel it would have been to keep me at home. It was a difficult decision for my parents, but I think they made the right choice.



Elaine and her electric typewriter.

Basically, my education was the same as that which most children receive. Although I could read at a very early age – my mother taught me – I found it terribly difficult to express myself, and I just could not spell. My reading was good, but because I couldn't write, actually form the letters and then the words with my own hand, my spelling was atrocious. I only really learnt to spell properly when I first had an electric typewriter at sixteen. Expressing myself, writing, compositions, was torture for me. I had to dictate everything and I remember weighing up every word and looking at the teacher who was writing for me. Maths, on the other hand, I loved – doing sums was a pleasure because I remember having little wooden blocks with numbers on with which I could set out my answers myself.

Therefore, you can see the great importance of the arrival of a typewriter. Now I could write anything I liked without feeling silly. Then the explosion came – all the ideas that had been locked inside me all those years suddenly burst

out! It was wonderful. Now I could show people what I could really do, what sort of person I was . . . I felt like a volcano!

Even with my typewriter (it didn't take long to master it), I had to work hard – and then, of course, there was a lot to catch up with. Soon, it was time to try exams. At the Thomas Delarue school students were worked hard, and however handicapped you were, exams were to be aimed at, if you were academically minded. Examining Boards soon became accustomed to allowing extra time for candidates such as ourselves who needed longer owing to writing difficulties. When it came to 'A' Levels, I sometimes had to type for as long as six or seven hours . . . And students who had greater disabilities than myself had to spread one exam paper over two days. A terrific struggle, yes, but if one wanted to get anywhere one had to make an effort, especially if one wanted to keep up with non-handicapped people. It may take longer, but we could do it . . .

So, having gained GCE 'O' and 'A' Levels, what then? Was it all pointless – having this store of knowledge? Hadn't all those years of hard study been futile? Was I going to stop there, now that I had come so far? Oh no! After all, to stop there would be ridiculous – I might as well have been a cabbage to start with! And yet to find work was a new problem. Having the qualifications I gained without my disability would have got me a long way, but I found numerous things which prevented me getting a suitable job. I saw the solution in studying for a Degree.

Several of my friends who are more severely handicapped than myself had gained University Entrance and were overcoming the difficulties jolly well. So, why shouldn't I? Being married when I decided about a Degree, the arrival of the Open University was the exact thing for me. And when I have a Degree – or rather, if, what then? Some people could spend years, if not their life, studying purely for pleasure. I am not this sort of person. I must have an aim, an end-goal, and my aim is to teach, by correspondence.

I applied to the Open University, filling in a great, long form, typing with my nose. I was utterly surprised when people showed amazement at my action. As I said before, having come so far, why not go further? I want to do something worthwhile, and this way I hope I will achieve my aims.

It will take quite a time, I know, but if I can just persevere a few more years, I'll reach my goal.

Sweden: Fokus, a way of life for living

by Sven Olav Brattgard

The second in our series of articles about European methods of caring for the disabled. Reproduced from 'Personal Relationships, the Handicapped and the Community' edited by Derek Lancaster-Gaye, published by Routledge & Keegan Paul in association with the Spastics Society.

Disabled people, like able-bodied, have expectations about home ownership, about finding a satisfying occupation and enjoying the usual leisure activities and perhaps above all enjoying a life of freedom and security despite their circumstances. The Fokus Society supports a philosophy based on these criteria and assists the severely disabled to achieve a reasonable quality of life. Fokus is concerned with the problems of the severely disabled – those who need not only specially adapted flats but also personal help in their daily living activities. The Fokus philosophy recognizes the following basic rights of the disabled:

- (a) to live under the same conditions and with the same opportunities as the able-bodied;
- (b) to live in security with access to reliable personal service;
- (c) to live in a chosen geographical area;
- (d) to have a choice of suitable occupation;
- (e) to enjoy stimulating and satisfying leisure activities.

Many people, once they have visited a tenant in a Fokus flat and have seen all the technical design and equipment details, imagine that the Fokus solution is largely an architectural one. This is completely wrong. Fokus is concerned merely to present a way of living. The very well-planned flats are only one part of the system. Another part is the service unit. Most important of all is the psychology underlying the idea. This psychology permeates the entire project. The psychological goal is to bring the disabled person into a situation where he has *freedom of choice and responsibility for that choice*, recognizing that choice is something seldom available to a severely disabled person.

The idea of Fokus in practice

Integrated flats: The Fokus Society has provided fourteen units with a total of 280 flats distributed throughout Sweden. All the units are in major urban areas where cultural and work activities are readily available.

The flats are in houses of flat blocks in residential areas but near the cultural and commercial centres.

This location facilitates visiting by disabled and able-bodied alike and by the same token makes it easy for the tenants to take part in activities in the city. From the outset all the Fokus flats are designed with the severely disabled in mind. In this way the disabled tenant is physically and psychologically integrated with normal society, though to what degree depends upon his own wishes.

The Fokus Society rents the flats from the housing company and offers the flats to severely disabled from the entire country. The disabled tenants have to rent their flats on the same terms as other tenants, enjoying the same rights and having the same obligations.

The design of the flats: A special research team elaborated a programme for the design of technically well-equipped and maximally flexible flats. This programme, which is the subject of a special publication, is the basis for the planning of the Fokus flats throughout the country. Experience and the results of research are continuously incorporated in the planning of new flats.

The Fokus flats are planned for single persons as well as for families and have one, two or three habitable rooms.

Tenant in the kitchen of a Fokus Society flat.
(Photo: Hennried; courtesy of Swedish Institute.)

Some of the flats – especially those for the single tenants, involve the use of an all-purpose room. This is made as an attempt to provide a home in which the tenant is always in the centre of the domestic environment, taking part in all that happens around him. Indeed only the toilet is separated from the rest of the flat. All the fittings in the flat are free-standing units. The tenant thus has the opportunity to redesign his own flat according to his desires and the dictates of his handicap.

All the fittings are designed to offer tenants with some kind of physical disability the maximum freedom of movement. Most of the tenants are wheelchair-users and thus in a sitting position, whilst others use crutches and have to work in a standing position. For this reason all fittings in the kitchen and toilet are flexible in height. An easily operated consol-track system makes it possible to adapt the height of counters, cupboards, stoves, ovens, handbasins and showers to what is best for the tenant.

The plan for the kitchen – like that for the whole flat – is based upon a series of analyses and investigations from the research group at the Department of Handicap Research at the University of Gothenburg. The most suitable kitchen is the angle-kitchen. Ideally the food preparation area



is between the water supply (dish-pan) and the stove. In this way the tenant has the most effective working position. Movable pedestals of drawers – preferably on wheels or castors – offer the tenant maximum flexibility of movement and design of layout and with these movable fittings he can always obtain free space under the most appropriate working place – the stove, the dish-pan or the preparing work bench.

Similarly the toilet is planned after a series of individual investigations about the special needs of the tenant. Both the handbasin and the shower are placed on a consol-track system, which allows extensive height adjustment and provides adequate wheelchair access to the basin.

In the flats a wide range of technical fixtures are provided. The electrical switches are gathered into units and placed in suitable positions – on the wall, at the bedside, on a movable table and additionally, if required, separate switch units can be connected near the bed or on the wheelchair – sometimes with radio transmitters – so that the tenant is able to open the outer door, control the lighting or call for assistance from anywhere in the flat. All flats have a main entry telephone, an intercom for contact with the service personnel, as well as an ordinary telephone.

The all-activity department in the house:

Every house in which Fokus rents flats contains special groups of rooms for different types of activities. These rooms are open to all tenants – disabled and able-bodied. There is a dining room and kitchen for those who prefer to have their main meal prepared for them and served there. There are rooms with facilities for daily physical activities and exercises – rooms equipped with all the essential accessories. There is also a bathing unit – generally with a Turkish bath and a special bath for people with more severe physical disabilities. A special room is provided for those tenants who wish to pursue some kind of hobby. The laundry is designed for use by the disabled and there are rooms for TV, for group play activities, discussions or the casual cup of coffee. All the elevators and main doors are fitted with automatic controls. In fact every kind of technical aid is utilized when it can be seen to provide for the disabled tenant a greater degree of independence in his daily living.

The service system

Important though the design of flats and common rooms is, perhaps more important still is the personal assistance offered for daily living activities by Fokus. The tenant who rents a flat from Fokus can subscribe to a day-and-night service. In this way he will obtain all the assistance he needs and which would almost certainly not be available to him elsewhere.

In these integrated flats it has been found that the most suitable system for the personal assistance for the handicapped tenants is one following these principles. Every tenant who needs more than an occasional helping hand will be given his own individual assistant. This assistant's duty is to take care not only of the tenant, but also to provide general domestic help. Thus, if necessary the assistant will wash his clothes, clean his flat, prepare his food and do the essential shopping. During the time when the assistant is in the flat personal help for the tenant will include such activities as dressing, washing and help with hygiene.

In addition to these individual assistants, service attendants of a more general nature are allocated to each house, whose job it is to provide supplementary help at any time of the day or night. Such staff can be summoned by the special call system whenever help is needed.

The division of this service into two separate groups is deliberate. First and perhaps the most important is the fact that the tenant likes to have his own individual assistant. In this way he will have somebody who knows his customs, where he keeps his clothes and other possessions, what he likes to eat and will understand all his personal habits. It is thus unnecessary for the tenant to instruct all the attendants in the detailed daily routine. Second is the fact that the individual assistants come in from outside and bring with them a special approach to the problems of personal care for they are neither servants nor nurses so much as friends arriving with news about the world around them. And third is the fact that this type of organization will encourage the tenant to take care of himself. Main service is provided at prearranged times and the tenant must be ready at the appointed hour.

Staff selection for this work is an important matter. Though a nursing background may be useful, the main qualification is the ability and willingness to care for the disabled tenants and this requires an open-minded approach to the problem. To this extent special staff training seems to be essential.

Something to do

It should be understood that the idea underlying Fokus is not limited to residence and service. It is equally important for the disabled to have something constructive to do. All Fokus units are placed in cities where relatively good job opportunities exist on the open market or in sheltered workshops. But work facilities are never provided in the same building as the flats. The tenants are required to travel to work in the same way as their able-bodied colleagues. But it takes time to find suitable employment and some tenants are not successful. The job may not be one they are willing to accept. For them, hobby

facilities must be available preferably within the general community but if he likes, opportunities exist for him to pursue his hobbies in the Fokus unit in which he lives.

However, a man cannot live exclusively for his job or for his hobbies. Contact with other people, cultural stimulus and well-planned holidays are also important and such questions play an important role in the planning of a Fokus unit. Everything is done to help the tenant to obtain the stimulus he needs. For this reason Fokus units are situated centrally in cities where a variety of activities is usually available. It is evident that the city must have special transport available, taxi or buses, for the severely disabled. A tenant in one city can, when on holiday, exchange his flat with a tenant from another Fokus unit and everywhere he goes he will enjoy the same service at the same cost.

The tenant

The Fokus Society is principally concerned with those disabled who may need service day and night. For those disabled persons who are capable of living in normal and adapted flats with only limited personal help it is possible in Sweden to provide such a service. But this is not the role of Fokus whose units are planned specially for those who have severe physical disabilities. But it must be remembered that a visual assessment of a disabled person is not enough. An inability to move freely is only one aspect of the problem. Psychological problems are another and social orientation difficulties serve only to reinforce the situation. Many disabled persons coming from rehabilitation clinics or nursing homes may well have to start in a Fokus flat and after some months or years they can, if they like, and when they have recovered their self-reliance, take a flat in the open market.

The organization provides flats for both single persons and for families and the system offers the many young disabled a chance of marrying or living together with disabled or able-bodied companions. Families with children are welcome as tenants and the service includes provision for the children.

A disabled person anxious to secure a Fokus flat must apply to a special committee, most of the members of which are disabled themselves. Selection of the tenants is made after analysing the total situation. Unfortunately, the Fokus Society can only cover up to 20 per cent of the need for special flats with service. (It should be mentioned, that in Sweden, the mentally retarded are cared for according to certain statutory provisions in a separate welfare system.)

Some information about the tenants in the 168 Fokus flats may be of interest.

Degree of disability :

Dependent on wheelchair	..	..	..	77%
crutches	..	..	..	14%
need for help with dressing	..	..	..	52%
hygiene	..	..	..	36%
turning in bed at night	..	..	..	18%

Earlier living situation :

coming from nursing homes	..	..	..	33%
parents' homes	..	..	..	37%
own homes or boarding schools	..	..	..	30%

Of those in wheelchairs some tenants are handicapped to the point that they are mobile in their flat only by using Possum operated electric chairs and Possum environmental controls for doors and lights.

Most of the tenants (80 per cent) were pensioners and out of work when they obtained their Fokus flats. In the first 46 flats – which have been in use now for more than 3 years – nearly 80 per cent of the tenants are in work or education. This shows that it is possible for many persons with severe disabilities – including those previously regarded as pensioners – to secure some form of employment or occupation and this is essential if any degree of integration in society is to be achieved or normal contacts with others established.

In Fokus units, no restrictions exist other than those common to all tenants in non-Fokus houses. The disabled tenant is an entirely free agent to plan and organize his flat and his routine as he wishes. Within the limits of his ability the tenant in a Fokus flat has to take care of himself and assume complete responsibility for his own life. He is in no way dependent upon Fokus for major decisions. He has, therefore, to rent his flat on the same terms as everyone else and to pay for it from his own funds. However, taking into account the generally reduced economic circumstances of most disabled tenants, Fokus undertakes that no tenant will be required to pay more than approximately 20 per cent of his income, excluding a basic sum of about 6,000 sw. crowns (£483) per annum. Thus in practice all pensioners, and this means most of the tenants, pay no rent. The Swedish system of low pensions and economic subsidies, attractive though it may seem, creates many problems. The tenants have to take what is given to them and frequently have little or no choice. In most cities where Fokus is established, the local authorities provide rent subsidies for the disabled for their flats. But these subsidies are not enough and Fokus is faced with the need to pay additional subsidies for the disabled. In most places the local authority is prepared to assume responsibility for and to meet the costs of the individual assistants. But Fokus has to assume responsibility for the day and night service.

The tenant has to furnish his own flat and if he has insufficient money for this purpose Fokus will help him to obtain the capital required. All tenants have to buy and pay for their own food, and we have seen that help with shopping is provided where required by the service staff. In all of the units it is possible for the tenants to have dinner served in the common dining rooms if they prefer this. The medical care that the tenant needs will be given by the normal community medical service or at the hospital. The Fokus Society is in no way responsible for the medical treatment.

A fundamental approach in the Fokus system is one of self-help. This has no reliance on a nursing situation that allows no independence of thought or action. Independence does not flow from a total care situation, but rather from one in which the disabled person is taught and required to take care of himself. But personal responsibility for his domestic and leisure arrangements remains that of the disabled person. Help, such as assistance with contacts in the community, is provided by Fokus when needed, but the onus remains that of the tenant, all as part of the principle of self-help.

Co-operation with the community and organization

The Fokus Society has three management groups. The first consists of representatives of the community; the second is drawn from the organization representing the disabled themselves, whilst the third comes from foundations and societies working with and for the disabled.

The Central Board has the task of directing the work of the Society itself. In each city, where Fokus is established, there is a Local Board and the members of this Board are appointed from the local community, from the tenants and from the Fokus Society. Very close co-operation is thus maintained in all local activities between Fokus and the community. At all stages the tenants or their representatives have an opportunity to make their voice heard and to vote where appropriate.

Before starting up in a city, Fokus has discussions with the local authorities about the location of the unit, and the opportunities for tenants to obtain jobs and education. A very important factor in these discussions is the availability of a special transportation system for the disabled in the city. As mentioned earlier, in all cities where Fokus is established, the community has a special transport system providing the disabled with taxis or special buses for journeys to works, school, cinemas, theatre or visits to friends. The combination of a good day and night service at home and a good transport service is vital if tenants are to integrate with the community and to participate in the normal activities that community has to offer.

Frequent daily contact between the disabled and able-bodied residents is essential to an improved understanding of the problems of the handicapped. It is much a matter of mutual education, a process in which children should be involved as well as adults.

The work of the Fokus Society is essentially to be regarded as a complement to the work of the authorities in the community. The real value of the Society's work – apart from offering a new way of life to about 300 severely disabled people – is that it demonstrates to the community, to the politicians and to the general public at large, that even severely disabled people can live a reasonably normal life given such technical and personal support as they may require. Fokus has been able to show that nursing homes or hospitals are not necessarily the right solution. Some day the community itself may be ready to take over the idea and the work of the Society as a part of the total system in a modern society.

THE REV. PHILIP 'TUBBY' CLAYTON, FOUNDER PADRE OF TOC H.



'Tubby' Clayton.

By Reg Coates

Reg Coates is a member of the Chippenham Branch of Toc H, which has close contacts with the Toc H branch at Greathouse (Secretary resident John H. Smith).

Perhaps by coincidence, the two Christian-inspired organizations which have much influenced the lives of many men and women, including

myself, have both had their origins in the horror of total war. In both there exists a remarkable similarity of outlook, and both work naturally together.

Leonard Cheshire, a bomber pilot of the Second World War, was one of the first to experience the emotional shock of the Atom Bomb raid on Nagasaki in 1945, but who afterwards went on to benefit the lives of thousands of people.

'Tubby' Clayton began the work for which he will best be remembered 30 years earlier, when as an Army Chaplain, he helped to set up a club for men on active service in 'Talbot House', Poperinge, the nearest habitable town in Flanders, behind Ypres. Talbot House is probably better known by its initials, T.H., which became 'Toc H' in the Army signallers' language of the 1914-18 conflict.

Toc H became the name of a Christian movement which embodies those ideals of Christian fellowship and service which all social classes and denominations shared when they met together in that house so close to the front line.

In the same way that the Cheshire Foundation accepts all men and women, regardless of their creed, wealth or colour or other social grouping, Toc H welcomes all men, provided that they are in sympathy with the ideals of the movement. In the class-conscious age into which Toc H was born the reduction of social tensions was one of the earliest challenges. Another was the breaking down of the barriers which divide the various branches of the Christian Church. The Ecumenical Movement which is slowly gathering momentum received a significant contribution from Toc H.

Tubby often said that he was not the Architect of Toc H, but it could be said that he created it, for without his influence it would never have started. He was a man of academic ability, with a great capacity for work and above all with the gift of vision and imagination.

Tubby became Vicar of All Hallows-by-the-Tower, in the City of London in 1922 and remained there for 41 years. During this time he saw the Collegiate Church of Toc H destroyed by bombs and fire in 1940, and largely due to his efforts it was restored and rededicated in 1957.

He was a prolific writer, and in addition to various Chaplaincies he promoted work for lepers, and L.E.P.R.A. is still active today thanks to his early efforts. He initiated the Winant Volunteers scheme, whereby young Americans, usually on vacation from University, come to this country to undertake voluntary work in youth clubs, etc.

Tubby was concerned with people. He enjoyed the friendship of many thousands of men and women; some rich and well-known and others humble and obscure. He did not put on an act

and was always 'just himself', yet he spurred many men to live fruitful and Christian lives.

A number of Cheshire homes have Toc H branches and residents find much help from its aims of 'living together in love and joy and peace, disowning discouragement, practising thanksgiving and leaping with joy to any task for others', for the little communities in Cheshire Homes share the same needs of us all.

There can be no finer memorial to Tubby than the movement called Toc H, which continues to work for the Kingdom of God in the wills of men.

GLORIOUS MAJORCA

by Pamela Phillips

Early in March when most people were enduring the perils of Winter twenty physically disabled people from Surrey flew on a nine day holiday to Majorca. This was the Voluntary Association for Surrey Disabled, first venture abroad. From the word go we were treated as ordinary tourists. The only concession being that we were allowed to drive our ambulances on to the airstrip at Gatwick. Some of us had never flown before and I had not experienced an evening flight. Any worries we may have had about flying were counteracted by the problems of eating dinner in a cramped up position and the temptations of spending our Spanish currency on duty free goods. Our Pilot kept us informed as to our height from the ground and our whereabouts. To me being so high up always seems unbelievable. For I feel as happy in an aeroplane as I do in a coach.

Our hotel, the Kontiki, could not really be appreciated that night for by the time we arrived most of us felt like bed. In the morning we discovered that the Kontiki, which is situated between the city of Palma and the resort of Arenal, was really what the brochure led us to believe. Before exploring could start breakfast was the first priority. I mention breakfast because it is the first time I have ever had sponge cake at that meal. My first experience of Spanish cuisine proved palatable, although it seemed peculiar to have hot vegetables as an Hors D'oeuvre and hot meat and potatoes for the main course. Another dish which was unusual was poached egg served in a fruit dish surrounded by peas. One evening we had artichokes, which I am told are a delicacy.

We did not come to Majorca simply to eat. Sunbathing, sight seeing and shopping were our main concerns. Most of the sunbathing took place on the hotel patio overlooking the swimming pool, lying back in a deck chair in our beach apparel and gazing into the sea, which was just across the

road, we really felt as though we had won the pools. My friend and I ventured into the sea dragging our helpers after us. Swimming in the sea is something I have not done since I was a child and I was surprised to find that I could swim on my front quite easily, which I cannot do in the pool. Sometimes ordinary people shun away from the handicapped but this was not so in Majorca. Other guests chatted with us telling us where they were going and what they were doing and we did likewise. Volunteers assisted us up steps and curbs without being asked. One Belgium gentleman who we met on the beach began collecting shells for us. He soon became a firm friend and accompanied us on many of our trips. Every evening there were dances held in the hotel. On other disabled holidays our helpers push our chairs around the dance floor but we thought this would look like exhibitionism at the Kontiki. But once we had plucked up courage we found that the other guests joined in enthusiastically. One night they even had a dance only for chair dancers.

Thomsons, our tour company, explained the various trips we could enjoy at a champagne reception on the first afternoon. We chose to go to Valldemosa and Formentor. A morning in Palma was fitted in as well.

Bright and early on Monday morning our excursion to Formentor commenced. A courier named Packo accompanied us. He should have been a comedian, for he kept us in fits of laughter the whole day. Although I love the sea it was a pleasant change to see the Majorcan countryside. Farm land was sparse and farm implements antiquated. For the first time I saw orange groves with the fruit ripening, also lemons ready for picking. Besides the larger orange and lemon groves, every garden had a tree, as we grow apples or pears at home. No one had realised that Majorca is famous for its leather products. These are inexpensive and excellently made. So our first stop that morning was at Santa Maria to sample the leather goods. It must be mentioned here that there was a wine cellar there as well. Here we tasted the wines. I tried the Vodka which was like water to my palate but was quite potent! Lunch was partaken at Formentor Bay which for me was the most beautiful place I had seen. What more could anyone ask for, the blue Mediterranean in front and rocky wooded mountains behind? In Formentor there is Majorca's most exclusive hotel, surrounded by five acres of gardens, tennis courts and golf courses. Here the idle rich stay, including Princess Grace of Monaco.

After we had had our fill of the Majorcan countryside we visited a glass factory and saw the glass-making process from start to finish. When the glass is formed but still warm, it floats

about the place like a bubble. Packo enjoyed himself by chasing the floating glass around the room.

Thursday found us in the city of Palma. We had hoped to see the Cathedral, but it had one unknown hazard, dozens of steps. Even gallant Spanish gentlemen could not be expected to assist us in that ascent. Outside the Cathedral was an old man with a donkey and cart, loaded with cheap dirty souvenirs touting his wares. Everyone photographed him, but I do not think he had any customers. Palma was an expensive shopping centre as expected. My friend and I fancied some strawberries but they were a 100 Pesetas a punnet which is 70p in our money. On closer inspection they looked a bit mouldy.

Going abroad teaches us many things. For example I did not know that the composer Chopin had a house built at Valldemosa. He used to stay there when he had a musical composition in mind. One of the most pleasant aspects of the holiday was the reciprocity. We left on a Sunday which happened to be one of our party's birthday. Our organiser was given a dozen bottles of champagne and we had a grand party with the band playing and everybody joining in the singing and merrymaking. There is only one more thing to say, and that is, roll on next year.

The Importance of being Earnest or, The Value of Tea to Stonecroft

(Reproduced from 'East Midland Regional News')

In the May 1972 issue of this magazine I have described how in casual conversation over a cup of tea, the idea occurred to Mrs Edith Atkinson that our Cheshire Home was an ideal place in which to hold a Flower Festival. It was in a similar manner that when Matron was having a meal with Mrs Sue Tunnard of Scremby, and the tea stage had been reached, the latter asked if Stonecroft had ever attempted to hold an auction sale such as had been held at Hovenden. A meeting was arranged between Mrs Tunnard, Miss Tuplin (who also had experience of such a sale) the Chairman of our Appeals Committee, Mrs John Dickinson and Mrs E. Burgess. Immediately recognising the potentialities Mrs Dickinson discussed the matter with Mr John Tinsley, a Lincoln Auctioneer who is on our Management Committee. She then gathered round her a Committee . . . able to give a good coverage of our normal catchment area for support.

An initial target of £1,500 was set and it was agreed each should try to persuade 10 people to collect 10 gifts each. The principle of personal

approach was adopted and proved its value in the excellent response experienced. To widen the scope the whole Management Committee was drawn into the fold. Mrs Dickinson's own efforts were wonderfully successful. Writing dozens of letters to all her relatives, friends and anyone whom she thought might have their interest aroused she found that many gave her the cash value instead of the articles they would have sent. An uncle, Mr Greswell, placed a value of £150 on what he would have sent, Mr Gordon Harvey £150, whilst Mr Raymond Caudwell, deciding that the bullock he had intended to send to the sale would be much too like one in a china shop, sent £120. Mr E. L. (Jimmy) Newby sold a ring and a clock for £150 and gave that. In fact £904 was received in that way.

Gifts then started to arrive at Mrs Dickinson's home in great profusion and big though Blyborough Grange, Gainsborough, is, it soon became apparent it would have to be a day-long sale instead of the contemplated evening sale. One day

when the family were all home there was the greatest difficulty in finding a place amongst the piles of furniture, silver, china, brassware, linen, pictures, etc., etc., for her grand-daughter's cot. It took Mr Tinsley and Miss Handley many hours sorting, numbering, cataloguing and packing the 519 separate items. Then came the task, after transport of the crates to the Corn Exchange, Brigg, of unpacking under the supervision of Mr Tinsley, and setting everything out in proper order ready for the preview on the morning of the Sale day, 11th October. It made a brave sight indeed.

The auction started at 12.30 p.m. and the brisk and generous bidding kept the sale going until the early evening. The indomitable spirit of little Mrs Dickinson and the enthusiasm of her Committee proved (shades of Oscar Wilde) the importance of being earnest, the value of careful and energetic organisation. On 6th November she presented a cheque for £3,550 to our Treasurer.

(Left to right) Mr Ian Davey, Chairman of the Flower Festival Committee, presenting a cheque for £1,475 to Mr E. Chaplin, Chairman of the Management; Matron; Mrs Joan Dickinson handing over a cheque for £3,550 – result of Auction Sale – to the Treasurer, Mr Heryott.



BIRTH OF AN IDEA

Origins and early development of the Cheshire Foundation Service Corps.

A talk given by FRANK SPATH (Member of the Service Corps Executive Committee) at the Study Centre, Le Court, on the occasion of a presentation of certificates and badges to students who had just graduated.

The idea of a corps of specially trained people to staff the Cheshire Homes had probably been growing in the Group Captain's mind long before he ever mentioned it to anyone. There are always many ideas buzzing about in the depths of that mind as anyone who knows him soon finds out. I think he first mooted the idea in public in an article he wrote for the *Cheshire Smile* in September 1958. The Cheshire Homes were then 10 years old. Many people talked about the future after the first ten years. I pressed him for an article. He produced one, and in it he gave an outline of how he saw the future role – especially the international role – of the Foundation. The three principal factors that would mould the immediate future, he said, were:—

- (1) the rapidly increasing opportunities for overseas expansion
- (2) the inability of the existing Homes to accept some of the more urgent applications for help (he mentioned particularly patients with advanced leprosy and mentally defective children from the poor classes)
- (3) the need of some effective and permanent means of perpetuating the spirit and vitality of the Cheshire Foundation.

Each of these factors presented a problem. As a means of solving these problems, he said, it had been decided in January 1958 to set up a new form of Home altogether. It was to be called the Cheshire Homes International Unit and would be situated at Dehra Dun in Northern India. Plans had already been drawn up for a 400 bed composite unit which would consist of seven or eight Homes, and what amounted to a small central hospital. The complex as a whole would have the combined advantages of a Home and a hospital.

Then the Group Captain mentioned the idea of a training centre for the Cheshire Home staff. As I said, it was the first time that he had publicly aired the idea. 'To this unit', he went on 'it is hoped that helpers and staff will come from all

over the world; from Russia as well as from America; from the furthest North to the furthest South; some to bring the benefit of their experience and their love for the sick; others to gain the knowledge and inspiration they need in order to return to their own countries and found their own Homes; and all to give an example of international co-operation in the field of the relief of suffering. That, thereby, we may add our small contribution to the cause of peace and understanding among nations'.

The Group Captain rounded off his article by talking about the spirit that animates the Cheshire Foundation – the spirit of love. 'Somehow or other love always does find a way to help those in need. It is love alone that counts, love alone that will finally triumph, and on love alone that our future in the Foundation will depend'.

Next came the formal inauguration of this Unit, this 'Project Raphael' as it was called. The Group Captain and his wife chose the name 'Raphael' because, in Christian doctrine, the Archangel Raphael is the Patron Archangel of all the sick and of travellers. The ceremony was carried out by the then Chairman of the U.K. Cheshire Foundation, Lord Denning, on the first of January 1959. Lord Denning, in his speech, dwelt on the contrast between mankind's progress in scientific achievement and the lack of progress in moral development. The question must be asked as to what attention or heed is being paid to spiritual values, to those things in life which are eternal. 'It seems that little care or attention is being paid,' and he went on, 'it is very much the essence of the Cheshire Movement to uphold and to work for such values, by fulfilling a need – the need to provide care and shelter for the suffering and the incurably sick and disabled whose families cannot or indeed sometimes will not provide for them.'

'This International Centre', said Lord Denning, 'has been conceived as forming a bond, linking

the work of all the Homes in every part of the world. People, particularly people in England, ask – why choose India? There is almost a feeling back in England that the Homes there are being deserted. But Group Captain Cheshire's vision stretches beyond the boundaries of one country, or one part of the world. He visualises an International Foundation that will bridge the differences between one part of the world and another. He chose India because India with its ancient civilisation, and its values of peace, and its message of peace and friendship, is in a position where that bridge can best be built linking East and West'.

As things turned out, the high hopes with which everyone began on the project had to be somewhat pared down. Progress was very gradual against greater odds than had at first been anticipated. Above all, the number of recruits to staff the Unit was, sadly, very small and the idea of an international training centre had to be shelved because of the lack of response.

In 1959, Leonard Cheshire and Sue Ryder were married in Bombay. During the next year or two, they set about putting the Mission for the Relief of Suffering onto a more formal basis. It was to be an association of autonomous bodies (of which the first two were the Cheshire Foundation and Sue Ryder's Forgotten Allies) to co-ordinate, strengthen, develop and keep alive the spirit and principles of the two Founders – Group Captain Leonard Cheshire and Miss Sue Ryder. The Group Captain and his wife had nothing less in view than a family, or federation, or Commonwealth, call it what you will, of charitable organisations in every country of the world, linked together in the cause of alleviating suffering.

Now under this Mission, and so under the direct jurisdiction of the Group Captain and Sue Ryder, there was placed the International Unit at Dehra Dun in India. It was now officially known as Raphael. Then in 1961 the Mission set up a new Settlement at Godalming, in England, which was to be the Western counterpart of Raphael. Among the purposes of this centre at Hydon Heath was that of training staff and helpers for enterprises all over the world that came under the umbrella of the Mission. Here was a new attempt to found the training centre which in India had come to nought.

At the Annual Conference of the Cheshire Foundation in March 1962, the Group Captain returned to the theme of the function of the Mission in general and these Raphael settlements in particular. 'Their purpose is firstly,' he said 'to look after those specialised cases whom neither the Cheshire Homes nor the Forgotten Allies cater for; and secondly, to try and set up for all time a model of how this sort of work should be done.' Then he went on to elaborate a little more on what he had in mind for

staff training. 'Then we could begin to train our own staff,' he said, 'our own Corps of Nursing as it were.' This by the way was the first time he had used the word 'Corps' in public. And, of course, it set the scene for the future. The Group Captain continued, 'They would be people with a good measure of dedication, and would have to show that this is what they meant to do as their life's work. They would not draw a full wage, but they would be pensioned, so that when they retired from work they would have security. The Homes in this country or overseas would be able to call on them if and whenever they were wanted. If we could thus create an ideal of service I think you will agree we should have gained very much.'

In June that same year, 1962, at Family Day held at Aine Hall in Yorkshire, Professor Cheshire, the Group Captain's father, speaking on behalf of his son who was in hospital and could not attend, referred to the staffing of the Homes, which he considered our biggest problem. He said that Leonard and Sue had begun to form a nursing corps, which would be composed of trained nurses and domestic staff. They proposed to start at Raphael, Godalming, and perhaps at other Raphaels throughout the world. 'The idea would be to attract people who did not want to make nursing their career, but had a feeling that they would like to help the cause of the Foundation. They would be dedicated to the work and therefore would come for a modest wage, provided that their future was safeguarded by the provision of an adequate pension. The plan was to inculcate the spirit of the Foundation in the candidates; to train to a proper standard at a hospital, and thus to form a corps of nurses prepared to go to Homes in this country and to Homes abroad. It would be a wonderful scheme if it could only be made to work, and it would make all the difference to our Homes.'

Next came the official opening of Raphael at Hydon Heath, Godalming, in December 1962. The report of this event in the *Cheshire Smile* for Spring 1963, written under the inspiration of the Group Captain, contained some more news about the forthcoming Corps. 'The training will not, of course, be ordinary nursing training,' said the report. 'It will rather show what the work of the Homes consists of and how we should like our staff to perform it. Raphael has already supplied nurses to fill emergency gaps in two Homes. And one matron-to-be has spent a short period at the settlement before going to take up her appointment.'

'We are planning to form our own Service Corps' (the first time I can find this term used in public), 'embracing nurses and all those such as cooks, domestic helpers, occupational therapists, and so on, who are needed in the Homes. This will be as it were a "Special Duties Corps", composed



Mary Beck, one of the Service Corps students.

of people who feel they want to give at least part of their lives to the service of the chronically sick or disabled without requiring in return the full wage that they could otherwise earn.

'The Corps will have its own traditions, its own terms of service and of course, its own ideals. Though its members may work on their own, and be widely separated from each other. They will have the feeling of belonging to a team, and will come back from time to time to Raphael – or rather to whichever of the several existing or proposed Raphael Settlements is closest or most appropriate to them.' (In present circumstances, of course, it would be to the Study Centre at Le Court).

The Group Captain was in circulation again when the next Annual Conference was held in June 1963. Quite a long discussion took place on staff shortages and the proposed corps of nurses. The Group Captain again spoke of the need for building up our own corps – staff in the most general sense, which includes auxiliaries, domestics, cooks, physiotherapists and so on. 'We feel that there is a call for a new category of nurse, specifically trained for nursing the "chronic sick". It is primarily of a disability or illness. There must be many girls who will never measure up to the educational standards required of an S.R.N., yet who feel called to nursing . . . If we

could get the approval of the Nursing Council and the Ministry of Health for this new category of nurse with special training, we could offer such girls a future and promotion and, by virtue of the Corps, security and stability.' We did, in fact approach both the Nursing Council and the Ministry with our ideas; they were sympathetic.

Dr Margaret Agerholm, a Trustee of the Cheshire Foundation and a member of the Service Corps Executive Committee, also had a few words to say. 'I think the idea of this new type of nurse is magnificent. We need a "Cheshire Nurse"; they would fill a definite need . . . These "Cheshire Nurses" would know the problems of disabled people and I think they would be accepted by, and work in association with, the trained S.R.N.'s'.

But that was in 1963. At that time, no one could think of any other term but 'nurse' to refer to a member of the care staff of a Cheshire Home, or any other residential Home for disabled people. Did you notice how all those people whose speeches I quoted from – even the Group Captain – kept on using the word 'nurse'? A lot of water has flowed under bridges since then. Nowadays, we don't think of Cheshire Home staff as necessarily being nurses or of Cheshire Home matrons as necessarily being nurses. Over these last ten years there has come into being an entirely new profession – residential care work. That is the profession you are in, you Service Corps members; you are residential care workers. It is somewhere between nursing in the traditional sense, on the one hand, and social work, on the other. It does indeed take something from both these other professions. Strenuous efforts are being made by the Council for Social Work Training to establish this new profession. Training courses are being set up in many parts of the country. National courses. But there were one or two set up previously by voluntary organisations, and perhaps the first of these was the Cheshire Foundation's own training scheme – the Service Corps, as it is called. We have been pioneers in this field. The organisers of these national causes have come to us to learn from our experience. Which is surely a mark to our credit. So, you Service Corps people, whatever you finally decide to do in life, wherever your future lies, will be able to hold up your head and say you have been trained by the Cheshire Foundation Service Corps.

But all this is rather to jump too far ahead. I went off the track of my historical survey in order to show the difference in ways of thought between 10 years ago when we were still thinking always of nurses, and today when we talk of residential care workers. So now to go back.

During the rest of 1963, and in 1964, nothing much happened in regard to the training scheme, although the plans were developing in the Group



Student in her room at the Centre, Le Court.

Captain's mind, and he had discussions with many people. Then he made contact with a Belgian Social Worker, Miss Andréé Ullens, who had shown an interest in the work of the Foundation. In December 1964, he appointed her Administrator of what he now provisionally called a General Service Corps. Of course, it was a Corps only in idea, not in being; she was to be responsible for its formation. She paid several preliminary visits to Le Court and I well remember the many talks we had together. I was brought in mainly because I was the editor of *Cheshire Smile* and she took every opportunity to pick my brains. On many occasions we would still be talking well after midnight. I remember one thing we discussed was the most suitable name for the Corps; the Group Captain was not too sure about 'General Service Corps.'

'Corps' was a good term for the proposed body. 'General' implied both that the body would not be restricted to working with the Cheshire

Foundation, and that the actual work of its members would not be confined to nursing in the customary sense. Argued like that, it seemed a very suitable name, but we discussed many possible alternatives. For instance, Disabled Service Corps. That was the heading of one of Andréé's memos. I had suggested it. I plugged it quite a bit. But it was dropped partly because it could be interpreted as implying that the members of the Corps were themselves disabled, and partly because the Corps was in the end confined to the Cheshire Foundation. It eventually became, as you know, the Cheshire Foundation Service Corps, or simply, the Service Corps.

For six months Andréé Ullens visited Cheshire Homes in the U.K. and in Ireland, discussing staffing problems and requirements. The Group Captain considered Ireland an ideal recruiting ground for candidates for the Corps, and his shrewd guess proved correct. He, himself, went over there and discussed his proposals with the

Management Committee of the Ardeen Home, who willingly agreed to take part in the scheme. They offered to act as a reception and training centre for Irish girls, and to keep them for a trial six months, during which time they were to be given a certain amount of basic nursing and domestic training. Those who appeared to be suitable, and wished to continue, would then come on to Le Court. This proved a sensible idea because Ardeen not only taught the trainees a great deal but at the same time benefited from their presence in the form of practical help.

Further events happened. Andréé Ullens left after six months service. At about the same time, the Le Court Home was nominated as the Foundation Home, and the Trustees, at last adopting the idea of the Corps, taking it under their wing so to speak, decided to make Le Court the headquarters of the Corps and its training centre.

In November 1965, the Trustees appointed Miss Hilda Moore to be the new Administrator and Tutor of the Corps. She had 30 years nursing experience behind her, part of it spent as Sister Tutor, and had also done voluntary work in Cheshire Homes in the West of England. She came to Le Court, and inspected the temporary accommodation in the old Bothy that the Home had set aside for the first trainees. She made it quite clear that it was quite inadequate and unsuitable. She was very firm about this. She made arrangements for these first trainees, Set No. 1 expected in less than two months, to be accommodated at, or near her own home in Somerset, and their first training to take place in Bath and at Greenhill Cheshire Home at Timsbury.

Great activity began at Le Court. The Bothy underwent speedy conversion and modernisation. The dingy and depressing bedrooms were changed into gay, cheerful well-lit accommodation. Much else was done in the way of providing better amenities for the trainees and for Miss Moore herself – to accommodate them before the permanent new building for the Training Centre was completed. Plans for this had already been drawn up. In 1966 building operations began. At the 1966 Annual Conference, Miss Moore gave a very thorough review of the progress made by the Service Corps. One interesting point was that she referred to it as the Personnel Corps. In 1966-67, Sets Nos. 2-6 took over the renovated Bothy at Le Court and lived and worked there.

It was with great regret that the Foundation heard from Miss Moore that she would have to resign her post in January 1967 for health reasons. Fortunately, we soon found a replacement – Miss Catherine Croisdale, who had been Theatre Sister for many years at Treloar's Hospital, Alton, near Le Court. She took over in January 1967, and worked with Miss Moore for a month to

provide that continuity most necessary at such an early stage of the history of the Service Corps.

It was in November 1967 that the newly built Study Centre was ready for occupation, and Set No. 7 was the first to reside here. The rest of the story is much more widely known. The Service Corps under its own Executive Committee, chaired by Mr Hampden Inskip Q.C., under the administration of Miss Croisdale, and the tutorial knowledge and experience of Miss Chapman has been making progress these last five years and bringing to fruition, or, rather, the first stage of fruition, one of the Group Captain's most cherished ideals.

All I have been doing in this talk is to show how quite a lot of thinking and talking went on before any kind of training corps saw the light of day. I certainly wanted to show the important the Group Captain has always placed, not only on the actual work of the Corps, but on the spirit in which it is carried out – the spirit of the Foundation as he so often calls it – the spirit of love – of service to others.

Frank Spath adds the following:—

It is important to expand the above talk in order to explain to a wider audience how the Service Corps functions nowadays.

The Williams Report of 1967, which was concerned with all forms of residential care, gave weighty support to the view that a nursing registration is no substitute for a specialised training in residential care work. This is because nurse training is geared to the recovery in the short term of people with acute illness, while residential care work is geared to the long-term care of people with chronic illness or disablement. The Report also stated quite explicitly that some institutions expect too great a degree of dedication and self-sacrifice from the staff they employ. 'Since most of those who remain for any length of time do so, at least partly, from a genuine desire to help those in need of care, there are large numbers who resign themselves to long hours of work, poor accommodation and exclusion from the normal social life of the neighbourhood'. It is not 'reasonable' the report went on, 'to expect all those engaged in the ordinary day-to-day running of Homes to show this single-minded self-sacrifice, nor would it be to the advantage of those in their care if they did . . . There is, perhaps, a danger amongst some managing committees, of assuming that those they employ in their humanitarian work need not expect the normal emoluments and conditions of employment, because the work should bring its own rewards and depends on charitable contributions'. 'We believe this assumption to be unwarranted and harmful to the work' declares the Report flatly. It might also be mentioned here that the number of such devoted,

self-sacrificing people appears to be declining in our society at the present time.

With such thoughts in mind the Cheshire Foundation has made the pay and conditions of work of the Service Corps students and fully-fledged graduates much more in harmony with the present day situation in comparable forms of employment than was the case when the training scheme was first thought of.

The Cheshire Foundation training scheme has been progressively developing over the last six years along the lines of this new profession of residential care. It aims to provide staff for Cheshire Homes who have been specially trained in this care work, and trained also in the aims and principles of the Cheshire Foundation.

In the eighteen-month basic course, academic education in anatomy, physiology, psychology and

domestic science is given at the Study Centre, Le Court, and at Eastleigh Technical College. And practical training is obtained during placements of three months in Cheshire Homes and at centres concerned with specialised care and rehabilitation.

Students are accepted from 17 to 50 years of age. Salary scales are based on Whitley Council rates and a superannuation scheme is fully established.

Qualified Cheshire Foundation graduates have proved themselves to be well-prepared for other careers, following a period of post-graduate service in the Cheshire Homes.

This new profession has taken time to establish its value, but even now some graduates are filling posts of responsibility in the Cheshire Foundation.

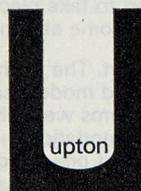
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Respectons le Handicapé!

by Tatiana de Kreisler

(reproduced from 'Polio Revue Handicap')

'Let us Respect Handicapped people!' Mlle de Kreisler's perceptive articles have appeared before in Cheshire Smile. One of her aims is to see 'homes' rather than 'institutions' for the physically handicapped in France. Cheshire homes perhaps? The first of the latter is now on the way.

In my first article 'The Right to Live' published three years ago I stressed the host of ways in which handicapped children could be helped by understanding parents. Today I met with a striking example of what can happen at the other extreme.

Some short time ago a friend paid me a visit. A 22-year-old slightly handicapped girl, she limps a little and has some irregularity in the movements of one of her arms, but her condition is not very serious. She could easily be independent and go out to work, and in fact she wants to do this.

Her family is fairly well off. They can offer their daughter everything she needs to help her gain confidence and to make something of her life; moreover, they are eager to do this, but unfortunately their love for her makes them do the opposite.

To help her forget her disability they tell her to have nothing to do with other handicapped people. But her greatest desire — her vocation — lies in caring for handicapped children! As she is herself 'in the same boat' she would succeed splendidly, and has been offered a job in a children's home. But her family is opposed to the idea, and in order to prevent her from thinking about it persuades her into 'false situations'.

For example: her brother employed her as a secretary 'on the quiet', that is to say, without informing Social Security, so that she was financially dependent on him. Then to convince her that she would have difficulty in working normally she was made to work in an 'hospice' where she had an eight hour day, with only half-an-hour's lunch break. She is encouraged in fact to do everything except concern herself with the handicapped. The effect on her of all this is nervous depression, inner instability and even an increasing psychosis.

I know that all this must sound exaggerated. That is the impression I got myself on hearing my friend's account. I was not sure whether to believe her. You can't make judgements without hearing both sides of the story! It may be that,

unknown to their daughter, the parents have valid reasons for acting in this way. However, I think it a good idea to use this case to represent the existence of others, such as those I am always campaigning against.

These disturbing cases are found less frequently with parents of the last generation. What is worse, there are still parents who hide their handicapped children away through some false sense of shame. Someone told me recently about a young man who was severely but extremely intelligent. His parents respect his gifts enough to speak of them proudly and yet refuse to let him make use of them. They packed him off to a Home somewhere, where he never sees his family at all. They only hear about him at second-hand. For my part, I know of several such cases. They have relevance even to the world of the fit, but even more so to the one with which we are concerned. They involve young men of twenty-five to thirty, sometimes older, whom their parents love with such a deformed affection that they ultimately tear them to pieces.

From the psychological point of view nothing is more destructive than having no opportunity for using one's initiative. Every handicapped person, however slight his affliction, always attracts opposition. He is never left alone and often has difficulty in developing his personality and in coping with life's unforeseen problems. Moreover, if someone keeps telling you all day 'don't do this, don't do that', 'you don't know how to do that' or 'let me do that, you can't manage it on your own' etc. then the struggle becomes impossible. Little by little the victim loses his will-power. He allows himself to be used, to be pushed into doing things which, more often than not, he does not wish to do.

Certainly parents ought to know what is best for their children, but if their love is real, comprehensive and stripped of selfishness they will realise that it is better for the child to find things out for himself, even though he sometimes risks getting hurt in the process.

A new wing, for which a £70,000 Appeal has been raised, is being built at Danybryn Cheshire Home, Radyr, near Cardiff, to provide desperately needed ground floor accommodation.

A large slice of the well kept garden – enjoyed so much by the residents on fine days – has had to be sacrificed.

But Pontypridd Soroptimists are helping to restore the beauty of the surroundings and Mrs Joan Wynn, president of the Pontypridd branch, together with founder member Mrs Jenny Davies, visited Danybryn to present new shrubs for the garden.



Vice-chairman of the management committee Mr Eddie Neal helping Mrs Wynn to plant the first shrub, watched by Mrs Davies.

When the Founder visited South Wales recently he stayed, as usual, at Danybryn. After breakfast he looked around the new extension and stopped to give a helping hand, watched by two of the residents and Mrs D. Elliot Seager. (Hill's Welsh Press Ltd.).

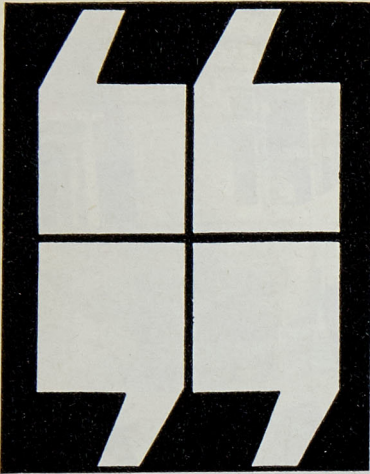




(Left to right) Bob Gabb, Mr Gordon Bates, the gardener, Ann Allmark, Charge Nurse Margaret Hester, Mrs D. Barry, secretary of the Danybryn Comforts Committee, Mr Eddie Neal, vice-chairman of the management committee, Mrs Joan Wynn, president of Pontypridd Soroptimists, Mrs Jenny Davies, a founder member, and Sheila Foley. (Photos Hills Welsh Press Ltd.)



Mrs Dorothy Elliot Seager (left) Trustee for Wales and chairman of the Danybryn bazaar committee, hands over a cheque for £1,770 to The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Alderman Mrs Winifred Mathias, who is also president of the bazaar committee. The cheque represents the proceeds from the annual Danybryn bazaar last November and the presentation took place at the committee's annual lunch at Cardiff College of Food and Commerce, of which Alderman Mathias is also chairman of the governors.



Around the Homes

Mote House—Toronto

I was thrilled to see, in the Winter issue of the *Cheshire Smile*, a photograph of the Cheshire Home recently opened in Toronto and felt very proud to think that I had been a visitor there last October, when I spent three weeks with my friends in Toronto. At this lovely Home my friend and I were greeted with warmth and enjoyed a whole afternoon with these kind people.

I would like to tell you of my marvellous holiday in Toronto. The staff here at Mote House had made sure that I had everything I needed. I was most grateful to Matron and the staff for their concern and interest. Canada does not have a National Health Service, and as I suffer from multiple sclerosis, I had to have the necessary equipment with me. My friend in Toronto had arranged for attention from a doctor and nurse twenty-four hours a day should I require it!

We had a happy journey to the airport, leaving Mote House at 5 a.m. The airport were expecting me and they had even made sure that a nurse was aboard in case of need. I was aboard the aircraft at 9 a.m. The flight was wonderful. I was met in Toronto by my friend to whom I had previously explained that I needed help with washing,

dressings and feeding. The three weeks flew by. The Canadian people were, kind and helpful. The district nurse came three times to me and by the third visit, I felt she was already a friend.

Many disabled people to whom I have spoken about holidays abroad feel nervous at the thought. But, after reading this, I hope that they will change their minds. It IS possible, and people generally are kind and helpful. There were no problems concerning my experience of a holiday abroad. Perhaps one day exchange holidays will be able to be arranged. Please take note of my holiday with a view to going yourselves!

Moira E. Griffin

'Fire' at Spofforth!

One day as I was busy typing in the small room where I keep my 'Possum Typewriter', I heard a bell ring but thought nothing of it. However a few minutes later I heard a sound of great activity and people were dashing to and fro. Suddenly 'The Penny Dropped', it must be the fire alarm!

The door of the room was slightly open so I yelled 'Will someone please rescue me!' (And someone did long before I had time to turn into a cinder). It was quite realistic though as the fire engine, and of course the firemen complete with hose and ladders were there. But in spite of feeling excited I am sure we all felt thankful that it was not the real thing!

Wyn

Tullow Topics

We have our 'season' too and there's no debutante gets more of a kick out of it than we do. Our swinging grannies are proof that there is no such thing as age in a wheelchair!

All thanks to our local friends the 'Homelanders' who even roped in international cabaret artists to do a floor show for us one afternoon, before going on to some night club. And of course we take in any fashion shows within a radius of 10 miles. An Operatic Group (old friends) came down from Dublin and gave us 'a bit of everything'. We always remember only the best is good enough for Cheshire pussies.

Our 'Man who can do everything' - Peter Kavanagh - is building a new bath room and showers just now. His 'willing slave' is Mark, one of our continental language students. We were kind enough to let Luke and he go home for their holidays, but cheer up, all ye broken hearts. They'll be back to broaden our horizons with the song and dance of Spain!

Rosemary Shevlin

St. Cecilia's Sees Sam Marry Yoko

The 10th February was both a sad and happy occasion for residents of St. Cecilia's, Bromley. This was the day when Sam, our Japanese friend and helper at the Home, married Yoko at St. John's Anglican Church, Bromley. Sam, who had been coming to the home regularly for over nine months, had endeared himself to all the residents and staff with his willing manner, charm and humour – when he laughed, you could hear his guffaw from one end of the corridor to the other.

The wedding was well-attended, not only by some of Sam's Japanese friends but also by twelve residents of the home, staff and members of the Management Committee. The ceremony was simple but impressive. Unfortunately, rain prevented us taking photographs outside the Church – how disappointing the elements can be on a day when one wants good weather!

The reception was held at a friend's home and in the evening a smaller party took place at St. Cecilia's when I had the honour of proposing the toast – simply 'Health and happiness to Yoko and Sam for their future together'. Now they are in Germany where Sam hopes to take up a position to further his chosen career (he already has a degree in Philosophy from Tokyo University). He has promised to keep in touch, and we all wish him the very best of luck.

David Floom



Sam and Yoko signing the register.



Yoko and Sam after the wedding with (left to right) Victor Price, Peter Riley, Rosemary Taylor and Beryl Morton.

Mangalore (India) — Progress Through the Years

Over the last decade, the cherished dream of a few public spirited philanthropic-minded citizens of Mangalore has come true. The Mangalore Cheshire Home has been established and a New Wing added to it. The Home Committee has endeavoured to fulfil the aims and ideals of the Cheshire Movement, making the Home 'A place of shelter' and of hopeful endeavour for the physically handicapped.

The two buildings of the Cheshire Home house 16 inmates, most of them women, suffering from the after-effects of leprosy. The watchman of the Home is one of the inmates, a rehabilitated case of burnt-out leprosy, employed now on a salary. A young girl of school age suffering from polio has also joined the older inmates and helps to enliven the homely and cheerful atmosphere of the place. It is in every sense a Home where the inmates experience the feeling of belonging and help themselves despite their physical disabilities, in the daily household chores like cooking, cleaning, washing, etc. In order to enable the inmates to lead fuller, richer lives and use their remaining talents and capabilities as best they can, a poultry unit nets a tidy income of Rs.200/- a month. The small garden yields fruits and vegetables for the daily needs of the inmates. Under the guidance of Swiss Emmaus, handicrafts such as table mats, bags, dolls and toys are made. Besides keeping the inmates constructively occupied, these articles bring in a small income which goes towards the day-to-day running of the Home.

The Home is run in a remarkably successful manner and its growth is due to the hard work put in by the inmates of the Home, to sound management by the Executive Committee, to the enthusiastic efforts of the Home Committee to raise funds, to the generous help in cash and kind from the public and student community and large donations received from the well-wishers of the town.

As one problem is solved, another problem shows itself. Since the construction of the New Wing, lack of space is no problem. But we have been forced to reject an ever increasing number of appeals for admission due to lack of other facilities. There are a number of severely disabled people on the waiting list who need intensive medical and nursing care. Expensive sophisticated machines for the severely disabled and incurably sick and the services of a warden, a trained nurse, a physiotherapist and two nurses aides employed on a salary, are most essential. The provision of such facilities involves heavy capital expenditure.

To make the Home a community enterprise in the true sense, the Home committee has planned



The cast of the 'Golden Triangle', Kasturba Medical College Staff performing at the Red Feather Gala Eve at Mangalore, in aid of Cheshire Homes, India (Photo Electric Studio).

to expand the Rehabilitation Workshop, which besides keeping the physically handicapped inmates gainfully occupied, will also provide lucrative employment for other such residents in the area. A supervisor, trained in the making of handicrafts, will be employed on salary to manage the workshop. The workshop itself will be run on a commercial basis and the profits realised will go to meet the increasing cost of running the Home. The construction of a New building to house the Rehabilitation workshop, and the purchase of machines and other equipment for the making of various handicraft products will involve heavy financial strain. Plans for the purchase of land to be converted into a farm, where vegetables, fruits and commercial crops will be grown, are also in the offing.

Much has been accomplished but much more still remains to be done to realise our hopes for the future and to make our dreams turn to reality. A fervent appeal goes out once again to the philanthropists, well-wishers, students and the public of Mangalore to help us generously in cash, kind and service and to make available further medical facilities and to set up a rehabilitation workshop and a commercial farm. It is our earnest hope that our appeal will bring in an encouraging response, as it has always done in the past.

Llanhennock & Dolywern Join Forces in Benidorm

Early on the morning of March 24th 1973 six residents from Llanhennock joined our wonderful band of voluntary helpers on a flight from Bristol Airport to Alicante, and thence by coach to the Hotel Jasmine Playa at Benidorm on the Costa Blanca. That same afternoon we were joined by two residents and helpers from Dolywern — they had flown from Luton.

The sun shone from a cloudless sky: the temperature soared into the seventies: we gladly discarded our winter woollies for summer clothes: the men changed into sports shirts and the holiday began.

We hired a private coach – this being more convenient since we take a little longer loading and unloading! On Tuesday we set out for the mountain village of Guadalest – built by the Moors and still preserved and honoured by the Spaniards. The scenery was magnificent – our Residents missed nothing. Acres of orange and lemon trees leant to the ground with an abundance of fruit and unusual flowers of bright cerise, gentle pink and white blossoms filled the clear air with their exquisite perfume.

Whilst the able-bodied members climbed to the top of 'The Eagles Nest', the residents' shopping was done at 'base camp', and a dear old Spanish lady appeared demonstrating exactly how she made the lace. On the return journey we were let loose in an orange grove and for 30 pesetas could pick as many as we could stagger back with – the guide also picked for the Residents and a grand juicy eating promptly took place!

On Thursday the second trip took us to the small fishing village of Calpe, this too was exciting, watching the boats returning with their catches, off-loading the fish and auctioning it on the quayside. In addition fresh fish of your own selection was cooked and eaten for tea in the open air. It was delicious – to say the least.

We had a birthday tea in a near-by cafe, with strawberries and cream, and endless cups of coffee, got suntanned – ate too much – the food in the hotel was of a very high-standard – and generally loved every minute of every day. We came home loaded with presents and duty-free goods, and an enormous amount of memories of the kindness of our fellow men, of loving one another and being loved in return.

My personal gratitude to all who so willingly helped make this a very special holiday – our fifth abroad – and I sincerely trust – not the last.

Bridlington Support Group's £6,342

The annual meeting of the Ryder-Cheshire Homes Bridlington Support Group, at the Town Hall on Friday was opened by the vice-president, Mr D. MacLachlan.

The treasurer, Mrs A. Martindale stated that £900 had been sent away to headquarters, and that since the group was formed in 1961, £6,342 had been raised. This included £1,800 from the sale of shell models made by Mr C. V. Colley, and a substantial amount from Mr W. G. Coleman from his speaking appointments.

St. Anthony's Artist Wins More Awards

A disabled Midland artist who paints by holding his brush in his mouth has again won major awards in the Midland Homecraft Exhibition at the Council House, Birmingham.

Mr John Bunce, of St. Anthony's Home, Wolverhampton, won two trophies to add to his previous successes over a number of years in the competition.

A member of the Mouth and Foot Artist Society, Mr Bunce's painting 'Old Man' was judged the best by a disabled pensioner.

He also took the trophy in the fine arts painting and sketching class and his sketch of an owl was the best in the drawing and sketching class.



Mr John Bunce with one of his award-winning pictures (Photo: 'Birmingham Evening Mail')

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If you require further information, please contact the Leonard Cheshire Disability Archive:
archivecentre@leonardcheshire.org

The Group Captain sent us the following poem: 'The Temple'. It was written by Sara Satterthwaite, a few days before she died at the age of 18.

Sara was an epileptic, 'a very sweet girl' and a supremely happy one. She had applied for work in one of our children's homes, but unfortunately there was no room. Unfortunately last year her epilepsy grew worse; and after a spell in hospital she came home. Between her bad times she remained happy, 'full of laughter and cheer'. After she died this poem was found by her bedside.

THE TEMPLE

I closed my eyes
and saw
The Temple which
was made of
pure white marble
immediately I entered
I knelt in awe as
I was so overcome
by the utter simplicity
and beauty
There was a
serene silence
A gold light was
radiating from somewhere
There was perfect peace
A feeling full of faith and
A complete sense of love.

After observing the surroundings
I prayed and in
the midst of my prayer
A kind voice called
"come to me, my child"
I obeyed and I
slowly advanced up the aisle and
the gold light became
stronger
Then I saw
My Lord on His throne
I stopped in my
footsteps feeling so
unworthy seeing this wondrous person
He beckoned me to
come nearer
I did as I was bid
and knelt before His feet
I looked up and saw
His face with a loving smile
His hands had
golden rays shining
from them radiating
love and mercy
I knew then that He was
The Healer
Then His Mother Mary
took my hand
and I left
The Temple
By Her side with such
a feeling of
joy and honour
Suddenly I awoke from my sleep
and wished I had not.

BOOK REVIEWS

Dress-Making for the Disabled

The Association of Occupational Therapists* have compiled this useful booklet from their magazine articles by E. E. Rogers and B. M. Stevens. It gives hints on the choice of material and patterns for wheelchair users and other disabled people. An adjustable wire-mesh dressmaking model is suggested, as this saves constant fitting difficulties.

The diagrams and instructions are explicit, and should be of considerable help to the home dressmaker.

*251 Brompton Road, London S.W.5.

'In Touch'

'Aids and Services for Blind and Partially Sighted People', a BBC Publication (60p)

It's odd that the blind have often seemed a separate branch of the disabled sometimes even referred to as 'the physically handicapped and blind', as though blindness were not physical at all, but a sort of visitation from above. Blindness is often associated with wisdom, (blind Homer), and held to be a dignified, non-embarrassing sort of ailment, whereas deafness is a social nuisance, and most forms of physical disability disagreeable to look at!

This book has evolved out of the excellent radio programme 'In Touch'. It lists all the known aids and services available to blind people, with full details and addresses. There are also sections on getting around, everyday living, in the kitchen, etc. — some blind people may have additional handicaps or are simply getting older.

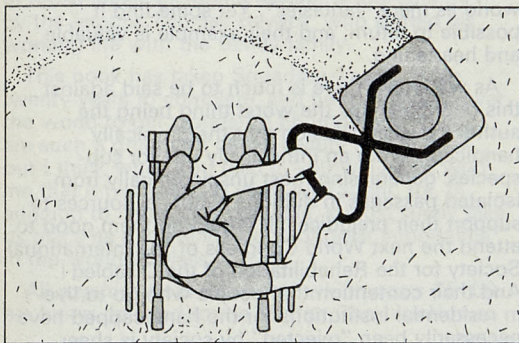
There is a large amount of help to be had, when it is known about. It is a little odd, therefore, that this useful book is not produced in braille, but perhaps that is scheduled for the future.

'The Easy Path to Gardening'

This splendid book has been published by the Readers Digest Association in conjunction with the Disabled Living Foundation (at £1.25). It has sections on tools for the job, replanning the garden so that it can be worked with as little effort as possible, lawn maintenance – lawns can be mowed from a wheelchair – greenhouses (with instructions on how to make one with sliding doors) – growing vegetables, safety in the garden, etc., etc.

The drawings are excellent, and clearly illustrate how each tool works and each operation may be performed by a disabled person, whether in a wheelchair or not.

MOWING FROM A WHEELCHAIR



The easiest way to mow for most gardeners is to take long, straight runs up and down the length of the lawn. A gardener in a wheelchair, however, will find it easier to mow in a semi-circle with a Flymo electric hover machine or an undriven mower such as the Wolf 'Cadet' or the Qualcast 'Rotomini'. Brake the wheelchair and after one semi-circular sweep move the wheelchair forward for the next sweep. Continue in this way to the end of the lawn.

It is amazing what can be done in the limiting conditions of old age or disability, so long as the garden is planned to the best advantage. This book tells you how. It is aimed at people 'who are keen on gardening, but cannot work in the way they used to' and for those who 'want to prepare an easily managed garden for a time when they become less fit'.

There is information too about indoor gardening, and about the usefulness of gardening as 'occupational therapy'. This is rather too cold and clinical a term to describe the pleasure to be had from helping things to grow, or even the practical advantage of the physical exercise. But certainly gardening is an occupation which may be a life-saver to many. Just think of that, and forget about the therapy.

The Disability Trap

This booklet just published by D.I.G. (the Disablement Income Group)† sets out the evidence for disablement pension in the shape of 13 unlucky people – the losers, as the booklet calls them. Those who cannot quite get the message from bleak statistics and comparison between the price of necessities and the actual income of many disabled people, should read it and have a long think.

Disability means not only deprivation on the one hand of pleasures and normal family life, it also means that living at all will be more expensive. Being incontinent rots clothes. Calipers tear them. Easy-prepare foods cost more. Visits to hospital cost money; so do extra heating and extra telephone calls. Life is a mere struggle for survival, in an atmosphere of dread that tomorrow the husband (or wife) will be ill, and the system finally break down.

There is no doubt at all that a disability pension is urgently needed, if any of these people and the many like them are to have anything like a decent life.

But reading this booklet carefully it is clear that money is not the only thing that is needed. There is information too. Peter Osman, for instance, should be told that he could probably get a narrower wheelchair which *would* go through friends' doors. Jenny Estermann could get specially adapted cooking utensils. These things and others would help a little.

It is impossible not to be conscious of the difference between these unhappy people, many of whom 'wouldn't be sorry to pop off tomorrow' and the residents in many Cheshire homes. Now we know that *all* residents in *all* homes are not *always* rays of sunshine, nor would they be ordinary human beings if they were. Nevertheless, many lead happy, even useful lives. It is becoming possible for husbands and wives to live in 'bungalows' or 'bedsitting rooms' though as yet there are not nearly enough of these. But *now* a young man like Bruce Groves (who admits to boredom) would surely be happier with other young people, even if this were 'a home'. He has not much 'independence' at the moment.

Dig says: 'It is cheaper, as well as more compassionate, to allow people the means to look after themselves rather than to force them into a humiliating dependence little better than an unpleasant, everlasting childhood.'

Well, yes. But not all 'institutions' are like that. We should allow people the choice and give them a realistic allowance which could be used to maintain themselves at home *or* in a 'home'. And do it soon.

†Queen's House, 180-182a Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0BD at 15p.

A photograph of Bruce Groves appears on page 40.

THE TREES AND THE WOOD

by Louis Battye

Although **A Life Apart** by E. J. Miller and G. V. Gwynne was dealt with very thoroughly – and with proper severity – by Paul Hunt in the September 1972 issue of the *Smile*, it is a book of such importance to all people living in, and indeed in any way concerned with, residential institutions for the physically handicapped that a few further comments may not be out of place.

Unsatisfactory though the book is in all too many respects, I feel it shouldn't be totally condemned. The authors admit at the outset their ignorance of a complex and sensitive subject as well as their irrational prejudices. God knows they're not alone in this, but being trained sociological investigators they're at least aware of their ignorance and prejudice and can try to make allowances for these failings. The fact that they often ask the wrong questions and come up with some absurd and – to us – depressing answers shouldn't really surprise anyone. A big point in their favour is that they dimly perceive an outline of the wood while we tend to see only the individual trees. And thoroughly we know it is the trees that the wood exists for, it can still do no harm to have the balance redressed for once.

A Life Apart contains much interesting information. The authors' account of the internal political situation they found at Le Court in connexion with residents' personal freedom, discipline, the attitudes of the new Matron and of the Management Committee and so on will ring bells in several Cheshire Homes. I'm willing to bet there can't be many Homes that haven't experienced analogous situations. In suppressed and muted forms they probably go on most of the time: when pressure has built up they explode, revealing the ambivalences and contradictions inherent in the social and organisational structure of the Homes. There are so many stools to fall between. The vacillations, compromises, shifts of ground and reversals of policy by all sides in the Le Court affair are again probably typical. And inevitable.

Another fascinating passage is that dealing with the structure, policies and techniques of Admission Sub-committees. It is in the frequently agonising decisions faced by these Sub-committees that we come to the heart, the *raison d'être*, the veritable nitty-gritty of Cheshire Homes, the point where the inspiring, forward-looking pronouncements heard on official occasions come bang up against human need, human tragedy, human potentiality, for in the last analysis it is the kind of person who lives in them that determines the true nature of the Homes. Incidentally one wonders whether Dr Miller and Miss Gwynne were allowed to see

the Cheshire Homes Handbook, which lays down, often in considerable detail, the general policy each Home is expected to follow, including its dealings with residents and staff: if they were they don't mention it. Perhaps they were sworn to secrecy. Indeed, how many readers of the *Smile* even know of the existence of this remarkable opus?

One of the most important and significant facts about life in the Homes on which the authors firmly place their fingers is that for the vast majority of residents it is permanent – very few leave to live elsewhere. This knowledge is not of course new, even to sociologists: in its issue of 11th July 1963 *New Society* printed an article by Robin Higgins entitled "Permanence in Institutions" describing the peculiar psychological problems resulting from this situation. Dr Miller and Miss Gwynne airily dismiss hopes that some residents may entertain of returning to live in the wider world as mere "fantasies". Yet some find it possible to return, and their example is valuable and heartening.

As we know, there is much to be said against this book, perhaps the worst thing being the author's dismal delusion that the physically handicapped are an intrinsically inferior sub-species, generalising most unscientifically from isolated passages in dubious historical sources to support their prejudices. It would do them good to attend the next World Congress of the International Society for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled! And their contention that people who go to live in residential institutions for the handicapped have necessarily been "rejected" by society is sheer nonsense.

Considering the authors' profession, their total failure to place the Homes squarely within the context of bourgeois capitalist society is, to say the least, surprising. Although they're not profit-making concerns, Cheshire Homes are nevertheless as much products of the capitalist system as are ICI and the Stock Exchange – that is, their organisational structure implies a certain facet of a much wider socio-economic structure. I'd like to see a really thorough and competent, though not too rigidly dogmatic, analysis on Marxist lines of this aspect of the Homes.

A seriously flawed book, then, but one that should be read and pondered over by all in any way involved with the problems of the disabled.

'The Ingenious Beilbys'

by James Rush, A.F.C., F.R.S.A.

This book, written by the founder-chairman of the Northumberland Cheshire Home at Matfen Hall, tells the story of a family of glass-makers and decorators, who, in the 18th and 19th century, were responsible for some of the most beautiful

glass-work ever turned out in this country, or, indeed, perhaps anywhere else in the world, and reveals something which is not generally known, that Newcastle-upon-Tyne, now best known for shipping and coal, was at that time the centre of the glass industry of this country.

I must admit that, although I am a Northumbrian, until I read this book, I had never heard of the Beilbys, nor, for that matter, did I know that at one time Newcastle had led the world in the making and decorating of glass. But this beautifully produced book introduced them to me in a very readable manner, and the 98 photographs, most of them in colour, show the magnificence of their work.

This, however, is not just the story of a family, but also the story of a city, for it contains many historical details of life in Newcastle in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, and contains many prints of those times, including several wood-cuts by the famous Thomas Bewick, who started his working life with the Beilby family.

This book has taken Squadron-Leader Rush twenty years to complete, and he travelled all over the world to get wonderful photographs which are such a great part of the beauty of this book, but I think when you read it, you will agree with me that it has been 20 years well spent, for, in addition to being very readable, it must surely take its place as a reference-book of great importance in the world of glass.

All royalties from this book, which costs £5.50, are being donated to the Matfen Cheshire Home.

T.M.G.

Greathouse Forges Links with Wales and Portugal

Reproduced from the Chippenham Times and News

Further links were welded into the chain which binds the borough of Chippenham, Greathouse Cheshire Home, Chippenham Toc H and the Treorchy Male Voice Choir on Wednesday, when their conductor John Cynan Jones, his wife Mary and their three children paid a flying visit to Chippenham.

John's visit was primarily aimed at tying up arrangements for their concert to be given by the choir in St. Andrew's Church on September 29th

but before visiting the church and going to Lacock to see Zena Street, soprano, who will be soloist at the concert, John and his family, accompanied by Reg Coates, of Chippenham Toc H, were taken on a tour of the Greathouse Cheshire Home by Mr Tom MacGreggor, resident warden.

New Bathrooms

They not only saw the new bathrooms which had been recently installed at a cost of nearly £7,000, but, for the first time John saw the Treorchy room which was adopted by the choir last September.

He said: "I have been looking forward to seeing this room for many months – the boys back home keep talking about it."

When the choir last visited Chippenham to adopt the room last September, John was in hospital recovering from a slight accident.

Their visit coincided with the purchase by Greathouse residents and their friends of a cassette tape recorder which they will present to Irene Pereira, 31 year-old resident of the Lisbon Cheshire Home.

The thought occurred to them when they learned that Irene, who had stayed at Greathouse on holiday and made many friends, was having trouble with her own tape recorder. She comes from a poor part of Lisbon and wrote that she would no longer be able to correspond on tape with her friends in England as the price of machines in Portugal was prohibitive.

Taking Gift

It was then that the residents of Greathouse got together and purchased the recorder, which will be taken by a representative of the Cheshire Home when he visits Lisbon in June.

John Cynan and the choir have sent her one of their recordings on tape as Irene visited Treorchy during her stay in this country and attended one of the Sunday afternoon rehearsals.

When the choir first visited Greathouse in October, 1971, Irene, a student of modern languages, learned enough Welsh to thank them for their singing.

Recently, John and the choir were involved in an eight-hour recording session at Brecon Cathedral, producing a programme which is due to be transmitted at the end of May on a Sunday evening in place of Songs of Praise.



Notes

and

News

by C. A. Croisdale

It surprised me when members of the Service Corps complained about the lack of Service Corps news in recent issues of the *Cheshire Smile*. But it also pleased me; so here is another effort.

Firstly, Robert Aytoun Girling, previously Student Superintendent at Hydon Hill, has been appointed Warden of the John Masefield Home, Burcot. This home admits the first residents on 25th April, and two of our students will be arriving to help on April 27th.

Pamela Allman has been appointed Deputy Matron at Stonecroft, since February, and seems to have settled in well, and to be very happy.

Greenhill House, Timsbury is re-organising, and has appointed Barbara Green to be House-Superintendent, responsible only to the Warden. This is a definite promotion. Barbara is also a member of the Service Corps Committee, and has had a picture hung at the National Water-Colour Exhibition, Piccadilly, London.

Congratulations to Colin Knowlton, who is one of the twenty students selected from about two hundred to join the Residential Social Work Course at the Portsmouth Polytechnic this autumn.

Jassen Lee and Nicholas Rudd have recently returned from a month in Spain. They were escorting two residents from Stonecroft, and all four owe this holiday to Mr Newby, from Toc H, who lives locally. They had good weather and, apparently, a wonderful time.

We are very sorry to lose Pat Eldridge who held a good appointment at Seven Springs. She had eventually to relinquish this on account of ill health.

Miss Chapman and I have visited various centres, seeking a replacement for Banstead Place.

The outcome has not yet been decided, but it will be the best for the students that we can find.

Teresa Macdonald who has been at Staunton Harold since her completion of training in 1970, married on April 26th. We wish her and her husband every happiness.

Sheila Harnett married in February. She is now Mrs Hewesten, living in Glasgow.

Set No. 18 has just completed the Course. Each member did very well, and we were proud to have Mr Bloor, Principal of Eastleigh Technical College to give the awards. All are at present working for the Cheshire Foundation.

Miss Chapman and I send our good wishes to all who are taking examinations this year in the field of Further Education. Also, we would greatly appreciate help with the Service Corps Stall at the Le Court Fête, in the shape of anything sellable, however small. But please no rubbish and no jumble. Would you send your contributions by July 14th.

Wheelchair Fund (Overseas)

Last September I started a Fund to buy Wheelchairs for residents in Cheshire Homes overseas. There is a desperate need for wheelchairs as in nearly all the Homes they have to be bought privately, a cost of a wheelchair varies from country to country, from as little as £40 to as much as £200. In some countries the wheelchairs can be bought locally; in others they will have to be imported. In some of the Homes several residents have to share a wheelchair and this seriously restricts their independence.

I have written to all the overseas homes and had many replies so far I have had requests for over 80 wheelchairs and so far I have been able to send money to buy two wheelchairs and very soon I hope to be able to get two more but their is a long way to go.

The raising of the money started with Kingsdale School Military Band playing Christmas Carols at Waterloo Station and raised £135, a Tutor Group at Kingsdale School raised £20 by walking round and round the School backwards, I have also designed a label badge with the aid of Kingsdale School (a wheel of a chair and a feather) they are very popular with children and can be bought from me on sale or return, selling price 3p each. Any School or Club etc., wishing to obtain badges I would be only too pleased to hear from them.

Donations to the Wheelchair Fund would be gratefully received and Cheques should be sent to:

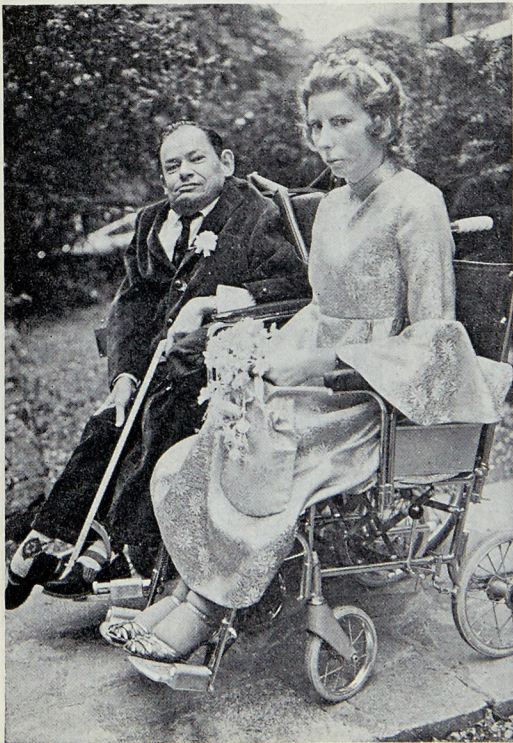
Wheelchair Fund (Overseas)
c/o R. Norman Whiteley,
Athol House,
138, College Road,
London, S.E.19.

Athol House Weddings

During the past twelve months there have been two weddings at Athol House. Last July Virginia Woodward and Michael Goldie were married at All Saints' Church, Rosendale Road, Dulwich, (see photo), and, after the ceremony, the 'Friends' gave a lovely reception for them at the Home. All their friends will be glad to know they have settled down happily in their flat in Westminster and still keep in touch, paying us a visit from time to time.

More recently, on the 7th April in fact, another wedding took place at St. Oswald's Church, Norbury and, on this occasion, the bridal pair were Brenda Lawrence and William Hall. Once again, the 'Friends' provided a wonderful reception for over a hundred guests. For Brenda and Bill, surrounded by their relatives and friends from far and wide, it must have been a very happy, though exhausting, day. The honeymoon over, they too are settling down happily to a life of 'married bliss' — boiled eggs for breakfast, lunch and tea!! — but without the burden of moving into a flat, as they were able to have the double room, then vacant, at the Home.

Virginia and Michael Goldie.



Letters to the Editor (continued)

From Victor Finkelstein, London, S.E.13.

I was rather pleased to see Mr Clarke's views in his letter about Paul Hunt's 'As I see it', because this gives disabled people a chance to correct remaining out-of-date attitudes still current among able-bodied people. At a time when we disabled people are making our greatest effort to increase social integration we can expect some able-bodied people to make a rear-guard defence of the old ways. They will try to find all sorts of reasons why disabled people are not yet ready, are not quite able, etc., to run their own lives. Mr Clarke's letter is a good example of this.

I, too, read Mr Hunt's article carefully and nowhere did I find he made 'the assumption that the Residents are suffering *only* from Physical Disabilities'. Obviously Mr Clarke makes this assumption for Mr Hunt, because he sees this as a significant pre-requisite for democracy. But why shouldn't mentally handicapped people participate in the running of their own 'Homes'? As I understand Mr Hunt's views, the participation of *all* residents in the running of their home is a 'right', although, of course, not all might wish to exercise this right.

Not only can we seriously suggest that mentally disabled people participate, to their full capacity, in the running of their homes, but many people, such as psychologists, are increasingly seeing the *necessity* for this to happen. If people are not to become institutionalized (with all this means in terms of apathy, isolation, etc., — i.e., the dehumanization effects of having others control one's life), we must find ways to help residents to participate in the running of their lives as human beings.

To say that 'many Residents have not the slightest interest in running' their homes is arrogant prejudice towards disabled people. The question is, surely, *why* this is so (if it is true)? I know of no research which indicates the views of disabled people on this particular question. In fact, of course, one of the main complaints of disabled people is that we are not consulted about our own lives. Until we are helped to take a more active role in our social condition, apathy is bound to prevail in the institutions.

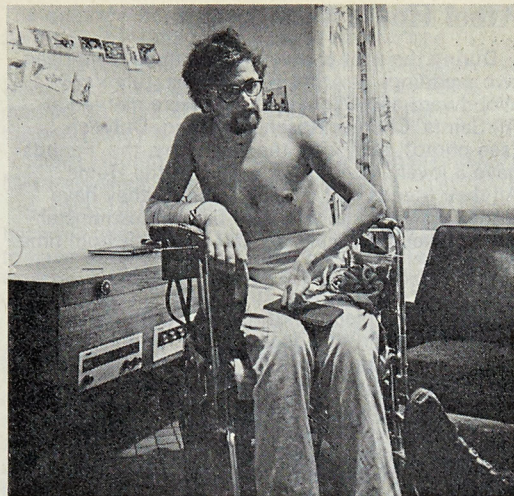
Firstly Mr Clarke says you can't have Democracy in the Homes. He then goes on to say that 'very many' residents don't want it anyway. So, you see, *he is* democratic after all, because his views reflect the views of 'very many' people. Mr Clarke wants it both ways.

He goes on to write about 'Rulers and Ruled' as though this was a fixed law of running homes. But, once again, the question is *why* is there this set-up in the first place? It is exactly these 'laws'

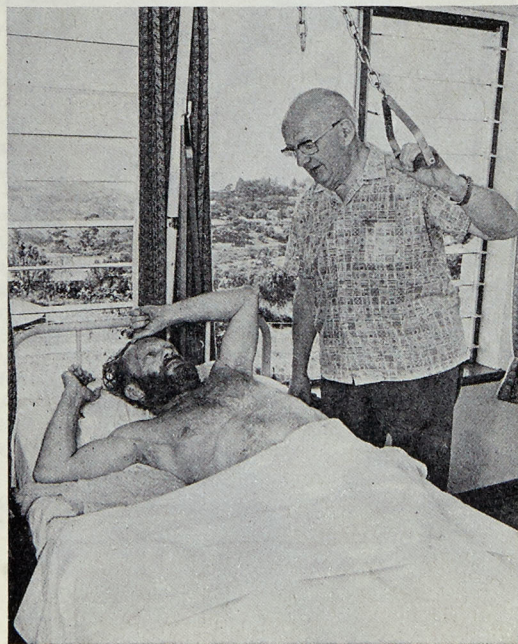
that those who advocate democracy wish to change. It is increasingly recognized, following conclusive research into institutional life, that the daily routine of the inmates encourages the development of apathy, depression, lack of interest in social affairs, etc. Hardly surprising, then, that many disabled people may appear uninterested in the way their lives are run in the homes.

One of the main contributors, to institutionalism, is the progressive control by the staff over the inmates right to run their own lives. The attitude of 'rulers and ruled' in staff is part of the way in which residents are encouraged to accept the lack of control they have over their lives. Mr Clarke complains about not being consulted by the rulers (the committee), in the same way residents (the ruled) often complain. Since he does not ally his complaint with those of the residents (in fact he sets them apart), he is placing the staff complaint above those he is supposed to be helping. In fact, in this context when we view a home through Mr Clarke's eyes in terms of rulers and ruled, the staff are seen to be the agents of the rulers in controlling the lives of the ruled (compare this with the research into the role of nurses in relation to medical staff and their patients). Therefore, the refusal to link the staff complaint, of lack of consultation, with the residents complaint merely reflects the wish of certain staff to join the group of rulers, and their frustration at not having everything their own way.

Recently it has become clear that the most severely disabled people can, with aids and help, live their lives in ever increasing independence. Not only is it desirable to have full democracy in the homes, but the very idea that this is not possible is seen to be part of the backward attitudes that help to institutionalize disabled people and keep them ill-equipped to function in this was as human beings. What we should be looking at is not the question of whether or not there should be democracy in the homes, but how we can set about increasing this.



Bruce Groves at home (see page 35).



Trustee Mr Peter Rowntree, visiting Jimmy Black, resident at the Queensburgh Cheshire Home, Natal (S.A.) (Photo 'Natal Mercury')

Death of David Martin

David Martin, of Le Court, died suddenly in April while on holiday in Devonshire. During the last two years David had been in charge of the Cheshire Foundation's library of tape recordings, and the Group Captain is much affected by the loss. 'David was someone for whom I had the greatest admiration and respect as well as deep affection. I can never forget all the kindness he showed me, and indeed all the trouble he went to in helping me in many different ways. He faced the tragedy of his disability with outstanding courage and cheerfulness, and on several occasions I contemplated trying to make a film of his life.'

David Martin came to Le Court in January 1968. Before that, however, he had been Chairman of the Southampton Support Group for two years, and had worked hard raising money for the Home. Having been here only two months he was elected Vice-Chairman of the Residents' Committee, and then, four months later, became Chairman for over a year. His many contacts with the Army proved invaluable to the Home, especially at the time of the Annual Fete these last few years. He was engaged to be married to Carrie Bradley, at whose home he died, and everyone at Le Court offers her their deepest sympathy.

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.

Gabriel Rehabilitation Centre

Madras.

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

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. Disabled people are admitted according to need, irrespective of race, creed or social status.

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.

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. E. Elliott, Esq./R. G. Emmett, Esq./Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris, G.C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., M.A./The Earl Ferrers/Major T. V. Fisher-Hoch/J. R. Handscomb, Esq./J. H. Inskip, Esq., Q.C./H. E. Marking, Esq., C.B.E., M.C./T. Peace, Esq., M.C./B. Richards, Esq./Peter Rowntree, Esq./W. W. Russell, Esq. (Vice-Chairman)/N. R. Trahair, Esq.

Secretary: Miss C. T. Short.

Assistant Secretary: Mrs K. Harper.

Hon. Medical Adviser: Dr Basil Kiermader, F.R.C.P.

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

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 Foundations 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.

Cheshire Homes in Britain

Bedfordshire

Amphill Park House, Amphill. Amphill 3247 (3173)

Buckinghamshire

Chiltern CH, North Road, Gerrard's Cross SL9 8JT.

Gerrard's Cross 86170 (84572)*

Carmarthenshire

Coomb, Llanstephan. Llanstephan 292 (310)

Cheshire

The Hill, Sandbach. Sandbach 2341 (2508)

Cornwall

St Teresa's, Long Rock, Penzance. Marazion 336 (365)

Denbighshire

Dolywern, Pontfadog, Wrexham. Glynceiriog 303

Eithinog, Old Highway, Upper Colwyn Bay. Colwyn Bay 2404 (30047)

Derbyshire

Green Gables, Wingfield Road, Alfreton

Devon

Cann House, Tamerton Foliot, Plymouth. Plymouth 71742 (72645)

Douglas House, 33 Gillard Road, Brixham. Brixham 4787

Dorset

The Grange, 2 Mount Road, Parkstone, Poole.

Parkstone 740188 (740272)

Dumfries

Carnsalloch House, Dumfries. Dumfries 4924

Durham

Murray House, St Cuthbert's Road, Blackhill, Consett.

Consett 4000 Office (2363)

Edinburgh

Mayfield House, East Trinity Road, Edinburgh EH5 3PT.

031-552 2037 (4157)

Essex

Seven Rivers, Great Bromley, Colchester. Ardleigh 345 (463)

Glamorganshire

Danybryn, Radyr CF4 8XA. Radyr 237 (335)

Gloucestershire

Cotswold CH, Overton Road, Cheltenham GL50 3BN.

Cheltenham 52569.

Hampshire

Appley Cliff, Shanklin, I.O.W.

Le Court, Liss. Blackmoor 364 (229)

Hertfordshire

Hertfordshire CH, St John's Road, Hitchin SG4 9DD.

Hitchin 52460 (52458)

Kent

Mote House, Mote Park, Maidstone. Maidstone 37911 (38417)

St Cecilia's, Sundridge Avenue, Bromley BR1 2PZ.

01-460 8377 (7179)

Seven Springs, Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Tunbridge Wells 31138 (20130)

Lancashire

Honresfeld, Blackstone Edge Road, Littleborough.

Littleborough 78627 (78065)

Oaklands, Dimples Lane, Garstang, Preston.

Garstang 2290 (3624)

Springwood House, Garston, Liverpool L25 7UW.

Garston 7345 (5400)

Leicestershire

Roecliffe Manor, Woodhouse Eaves, Loughborough, LE12 8TN.

Woodhouse Eaves 890250

Staunton Harold, Ashby-de-la-Zouch LE6 5RT.

Melbourne (Derby) 2571 (2387)

*Residents' Telephone No. in brackets.

Lincolnshire

Hovendon House, Fleet, Spalding PE12 8LP.

Holbeach 3037 (3241)

Stonecroft House, Barnetby. Barnetby 344

London

Athol House, 138 College Road, SE 19. 01-670 3740 (6770)

Monmouthshire

Llanhennock CH, Llanhennock, Caerleon, NP6 1LT.

Caerleon 420045 (420676)

Norfolk

The Grove, East Carleton, Norwich NOR 94W.

Mulbarton 279

Northumberland

Matfen Hall, Matfen, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Stamfordham 212 (383)

Nottinghamshire

Holme Lodge, Julian Road, West Bridgford NG2 5AQ.

Nottingham 869002

Oxfordshire

Greenhill House, Twyford, Banbury. Adderbury 679 (667)

John Masefield C.H., Burcot, near Abingdon.

Somerset

Greenhill House, Timsbury, Bath BA3 1ES. Timsbury 533

St. Michael's, Axbridge, Somerset. Axbridge 358 (204)

Staffordshire

St Anthony's, Stourbridge Road, Wolverhampton WV4 5NQ.

Womburn 3056 (2060)

Surrey

Hart's Leap Children's Home, Hart's Leap Road, Sandhurst, Camberley. Crowthorne 2599

Hydon Hill, Clock Barn Lane, Hydon Heath, Godalming.

Hascombe 383

Sussex

Heatherley, Effingham Lane, Copthorne, Crawley.

Copthorne 2232/3 (2735)

St Bridget's, The Street, East Preston, Littlehampton.

Rustington 3988 (70755)

Warwickshire

Greenacres, 39 Vesey Road, Sutton Coldfield.

021-354 7753 (7960)

Westmorland

Lake District CH, Holehird, Windermere. Windermere 2500 (387)

Wiltshire

Greathouse, Kington Langley, Chippenham.

Kington Langley 235 (327)

Yorkshire

Alne Hall, Alne, York OEG 73. Tollerton 295

Beechwood, Bryan Road, Edgerton, Huddersfield HD2 2AH.

Huddersfield 29626 (22813)

Champion House, Clara Drive, Calverley, Bradford LS28 5PQ.

Bradford 612459 (613642)

Kenmore, Whitcliffe Road, Cleckheaton BD19 3DR.

Cleckheaton 2904 (2724)

Marske Hall, Marske-by-the-Sea, Redcar TS11 6AA.

Redcar 2672

Mickley Hall, Mickley Lane, Totley, Sheffield S17 4HE.

Sheffield 367936 (365709)

Spofforth Hall, Harrogate HG3 1BX. Spofforth 284 (287)

White Windows, Sowerby Bridge. Halifax 31981 (32173)

HOMES FOR PSYCHIATRIC AFTER-CARE

London

Miraflores, 154 Worple Road, Wimbledon SW 20.

021-946 5058

Gaywood, 30 The Downs, Wimbledon SW 20. 01-946 9493

Nicholas House, 3 Old Nichol Street, Bethnal Green, E 2.

01-739 5165 (9298)

Cheshire Homes in Britain—continued.

MENTALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Cheshire

The Green, Christleton, Chester. Chester 35503

Dorset

Fairfield House, Lyme Regis.

Hawthorn Lodge, Hawthorn Road, Dorchester.
Dorchester 3403

Cheshire Homes Overseas

Secretary, 5 Market Mews, London W1Y 8HP.

Tel. 01-499 2267

Argentina

Buenos Aires

Canada

Toronto, Port Credit (Ontario), Saskatoon

Ceylon

Mt Lavinia, Negombo, Kiala Matale

Chile

Concepcion, Santiago

Eire

Ardeen (Co. Wicklow), Barrett CH (Dublin), O'Dwyer CH

(Co. Mayo), Rathfredagh House, (Co. Limerick),

St Lawrence CH (near Cork), St Patrick's CH

(Co. Carlow)

Ethiopia

Addis Ababa, Asmara (Clinic)

France

Holy Land

Bethlehem

Hong Kong

Chung Hom Kok (near Stanley)

India

(Office: Ch. Homes India, 18 Nemi Rd. Dehra Dun, U.P.),

Bangalore, Baroda, Bombay, Burnpur, Calcutta,

Coimbatore, Dehra Dun, New Delhi, Jamshedpur,

Katpadi Township, Covelong, Madurai, Mangalore,

Ranchi, Poona

Kenya

Mombasa

Malaysia

Johore, Kuching (Sarawak), Selangor (Kuala Lumpur)

Mauritius

Tamarin (Floreale)

Morocco

Marrakesh, Tangier

Nigeria

Oluoyole (Ibadan), Orlu, Lagos

Papua and New Guinea

Port Moresby

Philippine Islands

(Philippines CH Inc. Manila), Sinag-Tala for Men Quexon

City, Sinag-Tala for Women Village Project 8, Quirino,

Novaliches, Quexon City (Sheltered Home)

Portugal

Carcavelos

Sierra Leone

Bo, Freetown

Singapore

CH Singapore

South Africa

Chatsworth CH (Durban), Queensburgh CH (Natal),

Fairhaven CH, Muizenberg (Cape Province), Port

Elizabeth

Spain

Las Planas (Barcelona), Masnou (Barcelona)

Thailand

Bangkok, Siri-Wattana CH (Bangkok), Soi Thongpoon

U-thid (Bangkok)

Uganda

Kampala, Tororo, Baluba, Saroti

USA

Madison (New Jersey)

West Indies

Georgetown, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago

Overseas Homes include those for crippled and mentally retarded children, and for burnt-out leprosy cases.

Further information from the Secretary (address and Telephone No. above).

2 Sue Ryder Foundation

Sue Ryder Homes, Cavendish, Suffolk CO10 8AZ

Tel: Glemsford 252

Founder: Sue Ryder O.B.E. Charity Reg. No. 222291

Registered as a Charitable Foundation, completely undenominational and relying on voluntary contributions and small grants from local authorities, the Foundation was started by Sue Ryder to bring relief to any who are sick, lonely, homeless, or in any kind of need. It seeks above all to render personal service to the survivors as a small token of remembrance not only to the living, but to the millions who died and suffered and endured in our common cause. The Foundation is not restricted to helping only survivors but is devoted to the relief of suffering on a wider scale. Thus the work is a living memorial and as such strives to help adults, children of all ages who are in need, sick or disabled whoever they may be.

Sue Ryder Homes (United Kingdom)

Cavendish, Suffolk. Hickleton Hall, Doncaster. (Homes for disabled of different age groups. *Stagenhoe Park*, near Hitchin. (Holiday/permanent home for survivors of the Resistance and Nazi Concentration Camps and their children. Also disabled patients).

Sue Ryder Homes (Overseas)

Germany, Grossburgwedel. (8 cottages for families and single persons).

India, Sue Ryder Medical Aid Foundation, Bangalore.

(Voluntary teams of doctors and nurses). Ryder-Cheshire International Centre, *Dehra Dun, U.P.*

Israel, Nathanya. (Homes for girls).

Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Greece. (Individual case work).

Proposed sites in Volos (Greece) and Canea (Crete).

Poland 25 homes. *Yugoslavia*, 21 homes.

3 Missionaries of Charity

This Order founded by Mother Teresa of Calcutta, numbers over 500 Sisters and 90 Brothers who run a large number of Homes for the Destitute in many countries of the world. Enquiries to: Co-Workers of Mother Teresa, Corbiere, 27 Queen's Avenue, Byfleet, Surrey.

4 Order of Charity

A non-denominational and voluntary society working to bring medical aid to leprosy sufferers in all countries.

A Founder member of the U.K. and European Committees of Anti-Leprosy Organisations. Enquiries to: The Secretary 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1.