

Cheshire Smile

Quarterly Magazine of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation—Autumn 1984 25p



The meaning of RAPHAEL
—a new experiment in living
Story begins on Page 18

Cheshire Smile

The Quarterly Magazine of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation

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Cheshire Smile is edited and managed by disabled residents at Le Court. Contributions to the magazine are invited from all readers. Opinions put forward in individual articles do not necessarily represent the official view of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation. It is the Editors' aim, however, to encourage free expression of ideas but they reserve the right to shorten, clarify or reject, at their discretion, material received for publication.

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A COMFORTING STORY FROM **RAYMAR**

AFTER USING MY ROHO CUSHION FOR TWO YEARS, PRESSURE SORES ARE A THING OF THE PAST. IT'S CERTAINLY GOT TO THE BOTTOM OF MY PROBLEM!

I SIT IN MY ROHO NOT ON IT THAT'S HOW IT WORKS-BY SPREADING MY WEIGHT WITH NO SINGLE PRESSURE POINT.

MY ROHO IS EASILY CLEANED AND MAINTAINED-SOMETHING NOT POSSIBLE WITH SOME CUSHIONS

I CAN NOW SIT FOR HOURS & DO MANY THINGS I COULD NOT THINK OF DOING BEFORE!

MY ROHO GOES ANYWHERE WITH ME - EVEN IN MY CAR.

I THOUGHT MY ROHO WAS EXPENSIVE AT FIRST - BUT NOW I KNOW IT'S WORTH EVERY PENNY. ROHO WORKS!

TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF WITH

ROHO

THE DRY FLOTATION CUSHION

Raymar, P.O. Box 16, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon. Telephone: Henley-on-Thames (0491) 578446

Editorial

At the time of writing we are at the beginning of what is termed "the silly season" when everyone is off on holiday and even the politicians have taken a break from Parliament to go and do whatever politicians do on these occasions. Some of us however still continue to take life and our responsibilities quite seriously. Hampden Inskip's article "A Trustee to do What?" is the time-old dilemma of whether one can serve two masters and still retain one's integrity. As the author of the "Handbooks of Care" which have the support and endorsement of the Cheshire Foundation Hampden appears to be saying to the residents of the Homes "I know that I should be giving more support to what I have written, but my commitments as a Trustee do not allow me to go any further." If the Handbooks are seen as containing good advice on the general running of a Home and show that they will

improve the lifestyle of residents then, isn't it only fair that as much pressure as possible should be put upon the Homes administrators to see that many of the proposals set out in the handbooks are put into operation and given a fair trial. Hampden Inskip is a man of sincere belief and has contributed much to the benefit of residents in our homes. He has no need to feel that he has in anyway abrogated his duties as a Trustee, but he must show himself to be a man of action—not just words. How many other Trustees or members of Management Committees, though aware of the problems and faults in the present system, care enough to write about it, let alone be willing to act.

Influence?

It was interesting to note the greatly improved access facilities that have been made to the main pavillions at the National Agricultural Centre at

Stoneleigh where the Annual Conference is now held. Conference sessions were varied and enabled many to air their views and ask questions on the subjects presented but lack of time did not bring these to the body of delegates. The small increase in resident representation is an encouraging sign. Sir Henry Marking, Chairman International Committee, spoke about the Homes Overseas and their reliance upon their own local resources to enable them to exist. We see this position clearly in the article by B. Grover who has lived the past eighteen years at Raphael in Northern India. Mr. Grover's story shows us just how important the provision of homes is in the developing world. It is encouraging to see that residents in our overseas homes retain their community spirit by helping and assisting each other in all manner of ways in accordance with their cultural and social background.



I DON'T THINK THEY HAVE YOUR FAITH, SIRE!

Group Captain Cheshire receives Honorary Degree

Each year the University of Oxford holds the "Encaenia" the ceremony of conferring Honorary Degrees. Those chosen to receive these honours come from all walks of life and include Royalty, Heads of State, academics, poets, musicians and those who have done some special service for their country or community.

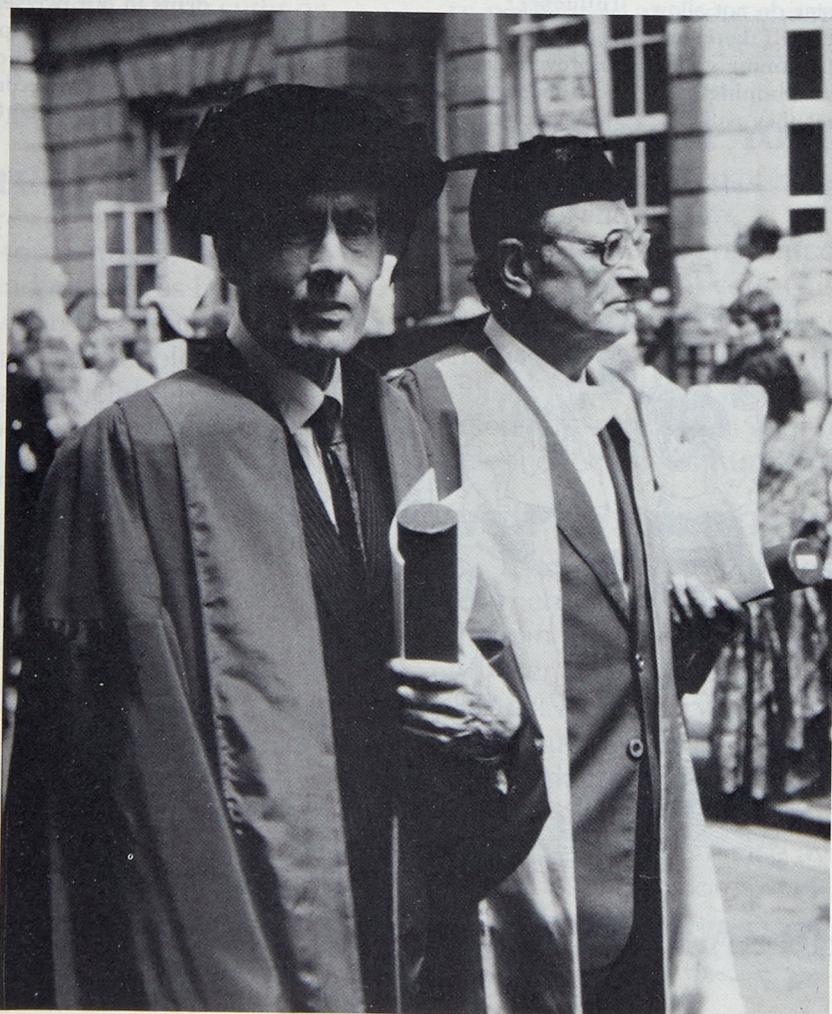
This year's ceremony took place on Wednesday, 27th June and the Degree conferred on Group Captain Cheshire was that of Doctor of Civil Law.

The procession started from Brasenose College, led by the Vice-Chancellor of the University Mr Geoffrey Warnock, who presided over the Encaenia in place of the Chancellor, the Earl of Stockton (the former The Rt Hon Mr Harold Macmillan). After passing through the Divinity School and the Old Bodleian Library they entered the Sheldonian Theatre, the venue of all Oxford degree ceremonies.

The Public Orator, G. W. Bond of Pembroke College, gave the oration, as tradition dictates, in Latin, to all those being honoured.

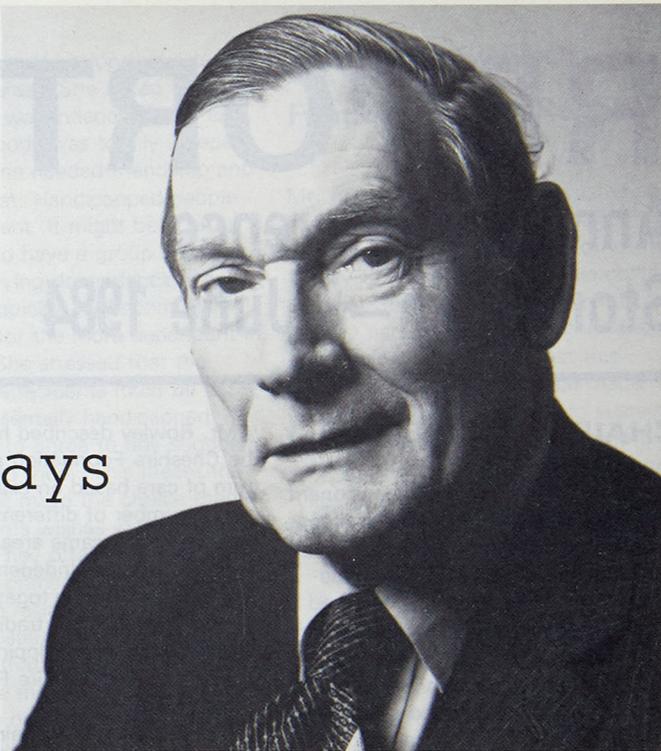
Group Captain Cheshire was the first to receive his Doctorate and the tribute in his honour finished very aptly—"Here is a man motivated by the Christian virtues, and by the greatest of these, which is Love".

After the ceremony in which Honorary Degrees were also conferred on five others including Dame Eva Turner and Philip Larkin, the procession made its way to All Souls College for the Encaenia Garden Party to which all prominent members of the University are invited. A fitting end to a memorable day.



With acknowledgements to Martin Mitchell

the Chairman says 'thank you'



It has given me great pleasure to have been present at the openings of three Cheshire Homes during the last few weeks, two having been new wings and the other the opening of a rebuilt Home. Each of these had taken several years to bring to fruition but finally resulted in providing residents with accommodation of a standard which any of us would be prepared to live in. Improvements such as these, where residents, staff and voluntary helpers have all taken a full part in the project, not only raise our residents' standard of living but also provide an uplift in morale which gives a Home a new lease of life and stimulates expansion of the Homes' activities.

These occasions, which are only part of the many improvements to Cheshire Homes throughout the country during recent months have brought very clearly to mind the debt of gratitude which we owe to those who saw the necessity for these improvements, took up the challenge, persevered through all the difficulties and set backs and finally produced results. The initiative came mainly from past and present members of Management Committees, many of whom have been associated with the Foundation from the very early days and the Wimbledon Home was rebuilt by the Cheshire Foundation Housing Association.

In an organisation as diverse as the Foundation where the emphasis is on local involvement in local projects, the effort which individuals put into these projects seldom receives wide enough recognition. It therefore falls to me to say on behalf of the Foundation to all of you who have in any way contributed to the improvement of our Homes, thank you for all you have done and may your efforts be an example to all of us.

Peter Rawley

REPORT

Annual Conference

Stoneleigh—9 June 1984

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Rowley, Chairman of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation, opened the conference by welcoming delegates. He said the Foundation had had a successful year, one in which there had been an expansion in its various activities. This expansion had taken place by means of a change in the way of providing care for disabled people. He felt that note was to be taken of the Government's policy of encouraging the private sector, which is not restricted to the voluntary charitable sector such as the Cheshire Foundation, but also includes the private commercial sector, which was increasing its provision of small private homes for elderly and disabled people. He stressed the need to ensure that the Cheshire Homes continue to offer the best accommodation for disabled people. He reminded Homes that the Registered Homes Act replacing the HASSASSA Act is likely to come into force in the autumn, and with this all Homes will have to be registered with, perhaps, dual registration for nursing homes.

No new Homes had been built. Extensions and improvements to a number of existing Homes had been made, giving better facilities for residents. When planning alterations Mr. Rowley asked that Management Committees research the need as indicated in Part III of the Handbooks of Care. Mr. Rowley explained that the recent move by some Local Authorities to shift the burden of resident sponsorship on to the Social Services had been discussed with a Government Minister who gave assurances that there was no intention that sponsorship of residents in Cheshire Homes should be taken over by the Social Services. Any Homes requiring help in this matter should contact Maunsel Street.

Mr. Rowley described how he saw the Cheshire Foundation as a spectrum of care based on existing Homes with a number of different Cheshire activities in the same area—Home—Support Service—Independent Living Centres—all working together with the possibility of existing traditional Cheshire Homes developing into an umbrella for all Cheshire Foundation activities.

In conclusion, the Chairman remarked on the successful Family Week in Rome, and congratulated Paul O'Callaghan (resident, Spofforth Hall) on his organization of the raising of £8,000 which was presented during that week to the Group Captain and his wife to further their work.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Dennis Greig, Honorary Treasurer, first welcomed Rita Bellety the new Assistant Treasurer, then reported that up to the end of the last financial year there was a deficit on the running expenses of £3/4 million as opposed to £600,000 the previous year. Donations, legacies, etc. to our Homes stand at approximately £1.6 million.

At Headquarters, capital cash resources are up £200,000 to £3½ million and, due to last year's commitments, £4½ million is required in the next three years. There was an increase in expenses at Headquarters and in loans to Homes. Homes had made great efforts to repay money loaned.

Mr. Greig explained that the overdraft situation of last year had improved due to the postponement of some projects and other actions including a demand that new projects produce 30% of required capital before commencing.

IMPACT OF AGEING

Dr. Monica Stewart

As a member of the Foundation's recent working group which was asked to explore the experience of ageing of existing residents and the needs of present residents in Cheshire Homes, Dr. Stewart said that there was a great lack of literature or research on the experience of disabled people who may spend the rest of their lives in a residential home, subsequently ageing there. She felt that perhaps this was because it was only in recent years that people who had been, or are, very heavily disabled, have survived into old age. It seems clear that the Foundation is already providing accommodation and care for a substantial number of older disabled people. Dr. Stewart thought there was no reason to believe that this will change, but there was reason to expect the resident population will get older. There was no information obtainable on the relationship between various disabilities, age and admission, or age and death. Dr. Stewart quoted from Ralph Newton's article in Cheshire Smile (Spring 1982) in which he stated that nearly all applicants with congenital disabilities were under 50, those with neurological diseases were between 40 and 59 and those with other conditions were over 50. She doubted if this would continue to be so because of the current policies of provisions enabling many such people to avoid residential care or to not seek admission until they were older and, as with neurological diseases, might enter a home in late middle-age and live only a relatively short time. If these assumptions were correct, she said, they will have considerable implications on the way which people with different disabilities experience growing older in a residential home. She

reported that in the view of the working group, the important issue to arise was not from recognition of change associated with growing old, but from the effects of changes which occur over time, affecting all residents of whatever age. There was a need to increase awareness with the Foundation among staff, Management Committees and residents that people's requirements do change as their life progresses and it was felt there was a need to review provision regularly, to provide flexibility within the services and to ensure that residents can choose their own way of life. Residents in Cheshire Homes were, Dr. Stewart concluded, a physically particularly vulnerable group and it was recommended that the medical needs of all residents should be regularly reconsidered, and that further research was done into the experiences of disabled people as they grow older in any living situation, and the needs and experiences of disabled people growing older in residential care.

SUB-CONFERENCE

Mental Care

Mrs. Tuema Pattie, Trustee and member of the Mental Care Sub-Committee, welcomed everyone and introduced Mrs. Evershed who spoke on the subject of "Independent Living". She felt the principles and philosophies of mental health have changed with the introduction of "normalization" and community care. Mentally Handicapped people who had previously been thought incapable of looking after themselves are now enjoying an enhanced life by caring for themselves in group homes or hostels. Within the Foundation itself Bell's Piece Cheshire Home is investigating the possibility of establishing some satellite homes where residents will be able to live more independent lives.

Mrs. Evershed pointed out the financial aspects of group homes, where the occupants are supported by the DHSS benefits to which they are entitled, and the voluntary organization running the home has only to find the money for the needed staff.

Mrs. Evershed put forward a few topics of interest. She asked "How independent was independent?" and said that nobody was totally independent, everyone needed friendship and a leaning post. Handicapped people are no different. It might be useful, she added, to have a group within the house of varying dependencies, some will mature quicker by becoming responsible for the more dependent in the house. She stressed that the choice of the residents must be respected. Mentally handicapped people tend to agree to any suggestions made to them. This meant they often did not make the choice themselves. Parents wishes were also important. They often fear a less supportive environment for their children.

In training residents for daily living outside a hostel or hospital, it must be ensured that the training is systematic. Some mentally handicapped people have difficulty in translating skills learnt in one situation to another situation. In some cases it might be appropriate for a member of staff to move in with the group while they are training, and then to gradually withdraw as the group becomes more confident.

It was unrealistic, she said, to look for absolute success in such a project. With the aid of a support person, an individual with behaviour problems can be helped to mature and remain within the group home. The support person, she explained, can be of two kinds—either support with domestic work, or support with learning new skills. It is difficult to know whether both tasks should be carried out by one person or whether the two types of learning should be kept separate. In a voluntary home the dedicated work of a volunteer can often be as useful as the advice of a professional person.

Mrs. Evershed concluded by saying that every aspect of the life of a resident must be concentrated upon so that he or she can become more independent.

SUB-CONFERENCE

Family Support Service

Mr. Bruce Weatherstone, Trustee and Sub-Conference Chairman, began by describing the financial position of the Family Support Service. While costs of most Services were now met at least in part by statutory authorities, there was no guarantee that this money would continue to be made available. How to continue to sustain those Services already in operation, and whether to give active encouragement to the development of further Services, were two main questions to be considered by the Foundation.

Dr. Monica Stewart (Principal Medical Officer, Adult Health, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Health Authority) felt that the logical pattern for the future was that of the type of community care that could be provided by Family Support Services. An alternative to hospital care was to provide elderly and handicapped people with support that was adequate to their needs, so that they could continue to live in their own homes for as long as possible. Support in the community was not expensive. It was important not to be frightened by the prospect of imagined unmanageable numbers of an increasingly elderly population. The essential factor was need, not age, and the means that could be found to meet this need. There was discussion of the criteria regarding age that were used in different Services. Some Family Support Services had adopted a policy of taking clients from all age and handicap groups without any problems. The suggestion was made that formal guidelines should be provided by the Foundation as to the means for selection of appropriate client groups, but it was agreed that proven need was the only real and necessary criteria, within a framework of the funding available.

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Mr. Peter Bancroft, Chairman of the South-West Wiltshire Family Support Service, spoke on the subject of cost-effectiveness. Control of the cost of the Service, fund-raising and providing quality and reliability of care, with the organizer playing an important part in this were, he thought, the responsibilities of the Management Committee. The aim should be to achieve the lowest cost per hour of service per client. In this way the highest possible number of hours of care could be provided for clients using whatever money was available.

Of prime importance in attempting to obtain grant aid from Social Services and Health Authorities was the keeping of detailed financial records, providing a running analysis of costs.

There was consideration of ways in which clients might be helped to obtain financial assistance with payment for receipt of a service, such as guidance as to exactly what supplementary benefits they are entitled to and help that could be obtained from various organisations.

When the Family Support Service had originally been set up, it had been thought that once it had been demonstrated that the Services were meeting a need, funding would be made available. Future planning on the part of the Foundation would have to take account of the fact that the total cost of all Services could eventually return to central funds, requiring underwriting of all existing schemes.

RESIDENTIAL CARE CONSORTIUM

Dr. Wendy Greengross

Dr. Wendy Greengross, Trustee, described how the Residential Care Consortium had been started in the International Year of Disabled People by a group of people from the Leonard Cheshire Foundation and other charitable organisations who were looking at the needs of people in residential care. A computerised scheme had been devised whereby prospective residents can be helped to find the home most suitable for them. By filling in one of two forms, the applicant then sends it to the Residential Care Consortium who, in turn, would return it, giving the names of three residential homes offering the facilities sought by the applicant. Dr. Greengross stressed the point that it was not the intention of the Residential Care Consortium to take from the homes or client the function of actually deciding which home the resident would choose, or vice versa. She reported that a large number of people, when told they had to go into residential care, made arrangements to find a home for themselves without exploring whether such a move was necessary, and it was by contacting the Residential Care Consortium that information could also be given regarding services and facilities in various areas.

INTRODUCING COMPUTERS

Dr. Hartley Miller

Dr. Miller gave an illustrative talk on three devices which he said were, in fact, computers—the washing machine, the 'talking' car and the switchboard, and he described how each functioned in relation to the computer and where this might fit in the provision of such technology for disabled people. When buying a computer, he explained that it was just one of a whole range of different things which had the characteristics of these three devices. The actual input could be signals or words, and these were able to control things such as closing doors, producing letters on a screen or piece of paper. In terms of the homes' use for a computer, Dr. Miller thought it would be a question of what the needs were of particular residents. Computer games were the category for the general public, but in the context of the homes he had visited, Dr. Miller had seen these merge into other recreational and constructive activities. He felt that the computer would deploy time more efficiently and constructively in the administrative tasks of a home.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

GROUP 1

Personnel and Industrial Relations

The Chairman, Mr. E. L. Archer opened the discussion by pointing out that the Foundation now had 70 Homes with an average of more than 30 residents each and that as employers the Homes were no different from any other organisation. He felt that sometimes too much was expected from employees—possibly as a result of the emphasis on voluntary work in the early days. There were today a vast area of statutory rights and a need for documentation.

The question of STAFFING LEVELS was raised by **Douglas House**. An attempt to find some solution to the problem had resulted in studies of similar-sized Homes—two had been chosen, those with 16-21 residents and those with 21-25. In each case the staffing had been found to be remarkably similar—around 30 hours per week per resident for care staff and around 40 hours for all staff, including care and ancillary staff.

The Chairman added that it was possible that the projected Annual Review might produce information on this subject.

At **Oaklands** the question of STAFF PENSIONS was proving a problem. Oaklands found it impossible to offer a pension fund and many members of staff found this presented difficulties. Could the possibility of joining other schemes be pursued or, alternatively, could the Foundation itself undertake to start its own pension scheme? Molly Roe said that a circular to Homes was being prepared on this subject.

Dolywern has a private arrangement with the Local Authority by which all full-time staff are included in this scheme.

Douglas House had considered a private scheme but the Local Authority had not approved it because it was more expensive than their own.

Hydon Hill has approached the County Treasurer and is planning a pension scheme with Scottish Widows.

Molly Roe (Personnel Officer at HQ) recommended the Social Workers' Pension Fund and Federated Group Pension Scheme—both of which are run specially for the social work field.

RATES OF PAY was the next subject to be considered and it was discovered that there was a divergence of views as to which scale was the most appropriate for a particular Home.

Buckfield House asked for clarification on the difference between the various schemes and it was suggested that the Whitley Scale was most appropriate for nursing staff but that the National Joint Council was probably best for other members of staff, largely because of the convenience when negotiating maintenance rates. However, few Homes would want to operate both, so it was a matter of deciding which had the most advantage for each particular local situation.

Douglas House said they would very much like to arrange short EXCHANGES between some of their care staff and employees from other Homes and asked anyone interested to contact the Head of Home.

The representative of **The Hill** questioned the attitude of the Foundation to Unions as those present seemed to him to be anti-union in general. Mr. Archer repeated that the Foundation accepted the right of staff to belong to unions. Molly Roe said that there was no objection to unions as such, but there were helpful and unhelpful union officials and each situation might need different handling. The Hill found it difficult to see how they could avoid getting involved in negotiations if they conceded a recognition agreement. Mr. Archer advised that situations should be discussed with the Personnel Adviser as they developed.

GROUP 2

Finance

This group was chaired by Mr. Dennis Greig, the Foundation Honorary Treasurer, who referred to an incident involving a burglary of wages when

the amount lost exceeded the insured limits, which excess would not be recoverable from insurers. It was agreed that it was sensible that risks and sums insured should be reviewed annually.

Discussion continued on the subject of passenger liability when care attendants carried clients in their vehicles and when minibuses were driven by staff and/or volunteers. It was agreed that the policyholder should make a statement of use and drivers to the relevant insurance company, and in the case of employees, they should ensure that the policy contained an "indemnity to employer" clause.

Mr. Greig said he was particularly concerned regarding the degree of involvement of staff with residents' cash, and suggested encouragement of residents to deal with financial matters through their banks, by authorising banks to collect and pay monies by standing instructions. Representatives of two homes agreed that they maintained accounts for residents' cash and arranged the deposits and withdrawals therefrom. Concern was expressed that, apart from the work which this entails, the home could find itself liable to charges of misappropriation of residents' funds, justly or otherwise. In any event it was important that homes ensured that they had specific authority to handle the residents' monies.

GROUP 3

Public Relations and Fund Raising

Lady June Onslow, Chairman, opened the meeting by stressing the importance of maintaining a good image. We were dependent on public goodwill. The Foundation was unusual in that it did not make a very big investment in public relations and limited advertising to a very small number of journals with the aim of influencing solicitors, lawyers and accountants in advising their clients concerning the allocation of legacies which were a very important source of revenue. She wondered whether there were any views about whether the Foundation should change its policy and spend more money on more extensive advertising. Legacies were dropping and there was a real need to keep up the pressure on people who already supported us by all the means at our disposal.

Fund Raising

Mrs. Kay Christiansen, Public Relations Officer, said that there was no particular mystique on fund raising. What was required was hard work, careful planning and a certain amount of luck. Homes should investigate local charitable trusts which were not always well known and often did not have their available funds taken up because of this. Very often charitable money was for local projects only. Not all these trusts were listed, but every local authority would know of their existence.

GROUP 4

Training and Staff Development

This group was chaired by Mrs. Eda Topliss (Trustee) and was presented by representatives from the Hampshire Centre for Independent Living (HCIL). It considered the extent to which disabled people could and should participate in the training and development of those who gave them care. The four representatives gave their views on this subject in the differing care schemes relating to the environment situations in which they lived, and there followed a discussion between them and speakers from the floor on the practicalities of Independent Living and the problems of those in residential care.

At Le Court, residents were consulted before a decision was taken about appointing a new Head of Care or Head of Home—this was how it should be. Several speakers from the floor expressed their concern and frustration that, as residents, they were unable to make their voices heard. There were many homes where residents would like staff to be trained to treat them as people. Another resident added that he knew only two of his Management Committee members and yet that committee was managing his life; he felt that there was nothing he could do about it and that it was up to the Foundation to make the people who ran their homes appreciate what they were there for.

Peter Wade, a Trustee and in a wheelchair himself, agreed that this was a real problem. However, the Foundation acknowledged that they had a duty to try and spread, not absolute uniformity, but a certain model of approach and had been try-

ing to do this for some years, not always successfully. A package of training was being evolved slowly and was being disseminated throughout the homes. It was hoped that the new review procedure would help in this.

GROUP 5

Future Trends in Design for Disabled People

In introducing this subject Mr. Peter Allott, Trustee who chaired this group, said it was the tendency within the Foundation to discontinue shared accommodation. Single rooms were being achieved either by a reduction in occupancy or in building extensions. He also mentioned the possibility of sheltered accommodation in which a certain degree of independence could be achieved, with care facilities close at hand.

In the discussion which took place there were several queries from Cheshire Home representatives dealing with the type of alterations they should be making if the present Home was the traditional large building; the recommended size of a room and whether

the present new designs for homes would be suitable for the severely disabled resident of the future. A suggestion from Agate House was that both kinds of design be accepted to suit the less disabled and more severely disabled person. The needs of present residents should not be forgotten in the effort to cater for residents of the future.

Mr. Wycliffe Noble stated that the Foundation must widen the choice for disabled people.

SIR HENRY MARKING *International Chairman Overseas Homes*

In his report on the homes overseas, Sir Henry Marking said that there was now 140 homes established throughout the world and another 35 were in the process of formation. Although these homes were called Leonard Cheshire Homes, they did not come under the responsibility of the U.K. Trustees as there were separate Trusts established in each country, but the U.K. was still looked on as the Mother Country of The Leonard Cheshire Foundation. He was grateful

to the U.K. Trustees for their generosity in giving further financial support for the year and explained that the homes overseas existed on the money they received from their own resources as there was no government aid. In order to try and give some cohesion for the homes overseas the International Committee had divided the world into regions with the idea that the homes in these different regions would help each other. The homes overseas valued the link with the U.K. and this could never be stronger than if the link was between two individual homes. Sir Henry stressed the importance of the U.K. homes twinning with those overseas and he hoped more homes would do this. He would try to encourage these homes to acknowledge the gifts they receive, and made mention of the International Newsletter which covers a wide range of news from the homes overseas. In closing, Sir Henry thanked Peter Reynolds (resident, Oxfordshire Cheshire Home) for taking on the work of the Wheelchair Fund, and he stressed the need to help those residents in our homes in other parts of the world.

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES ● *Kina, Lady Avebury—Chairman of the Code of Practice Working Party*

Lady Avebury described the contents and formulation of this recently published book by a Working Party whose members had had direct experience and working knowledge of different forms of residential care in the statutory, voluntary and private sectors and a lot of input had come from the Cheshire Foundation because of its direct links with disabled people in its Homes. She said that the question of attitudes had been dealt with at some length so that the reasons for respecting a resident's "rights" in all senses, could be more readily understood. The Code was a charter for all residents irrespective of their degrees of vulnerability. For related reasons, she continued, the Working Party had not over-emphasised the labelling by client groups of residents as they felt that the shared needs of all residents were more important and more numerous than those which divided them, and that too great a stress on specialist care could hinder the task of normalisation. Lady Avebury stressed that the over-riding aim of the Working Party was to minimise the sense of "loss" to an incoming resident to a Home

and to acknowledge that residential care has to be more positive than mere accommodation. Dual registration had been discussed and it was hoped that where a home required this, visits of inspection by local registration authorities would take place twice a year at the same time as that of the health authority and that a mutually agreeable formula would be made between them regarding this issue. In another section of the book, Lady Avebury said the Code dealt with the importance of full information about the home being provided, trial stays, reviews of placement and general views and on all issues relating to the management of residents' finances and property. This was done to protect the people working in homes and the residents, and if clearly agreed rules were established in this respect then the fear of abuses and mutual suspicions may lessen as would the opportunities of actual exploitation or malpractice. It was hoped that these recommendations would encourage the development of other means of assisting residents and thereby achieve some of the hoped for integration. On

the section "Special Client Groups", Lady Avebury said that the Working Party had reiterated the principles of care as they relate to specific client groups and stated where different legal requirements apply. In each case the Working Party had tried to set down good practice as it was understood in current terms, and the fact that this may not find favour may lie in ignorance of today's practice and in gross underestimation of residents' potential for development. Some of the worst examples of incompetent practice can be found in specialist client groups Homes in both the private and voluntary sector because they have been run in a separate enclosed way, insulated from change in ideas and the examples of others in the field. Lady Avebury concluded by saying that the mention in the Chairman's speech of the growth in the private sector in residential care made it very clear that a certain amount of responsibility was going to rely upon the good voluntary organisations setting the pace, the standards and the example.

Closing

Address

by

GROUP

CAPTAIN

LEONARD

CHESHIRE v.c.

It is a tremendous pleasure for me to be at the Annual Conference each year and to have the opportunity of sharing the day with you. On behalf of my wife and myself I want to thank Paul O'Callaghan and everyone who generously contributed to the magnificent and wonderful gift of £8,000 to us on the occasion of the Family Week in Rome. This money is going towards setting up the first home between our two Foundations in Rome. Because it is difficult to start in a capital city, we are beginning with a Home Visiting Service. I do thank everybody who went to Rome and I am very sorry at the difficulties that occurred, the great majority of which could never have been foreseen. It was the most stimulating and inspiring occasion. Please accept my grateful thanks from Sue and I for the gifts, cards and everything that you sent us from so many different places.

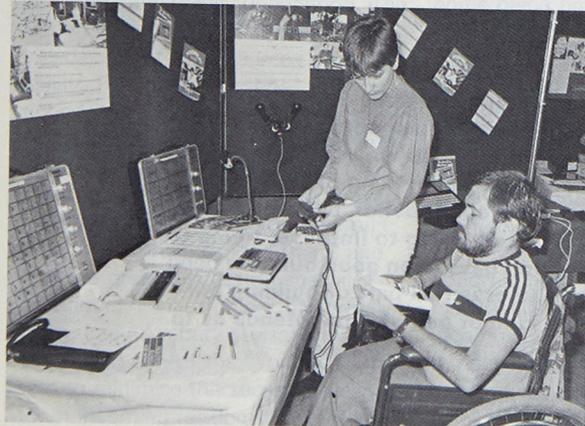
We each started our Foundations before we knew each other. At the time of our marriage we hoped that the two would amalgamate, but supporters of each felt it was better they should remain separate. But there was work to do which did not fall within the terms of reference of either of our two Foundations, so in 1959 we established the Ryder/Cheshire Mission for the Relief of Suffering. This Mission started a major project in Northern India, and this was Raphael. We agreed that everything we did in Australia and New Zealand would be for Ryder/Cheshire, and over the years a network of support groups have built up in these countries who have raised over one million pounds towards Raphael. We have a hostel in Melbourne for people from country districts who are suffering terminal illness. The Ryder/Cheshire Mission runs about four projects, the latest of which is one among the Burundi refugees in Western Tanzania.

Through an unexpected gift of money we have been able to purchase Staunton Harold, and this will become the operational headquarters of the Mission. Part of it will be a Sue Ryder Home and we are intending to establish a data and resources centre. There is a need in this country where all available information on disability, not only in the West, but in the developing world, is stored in such a way that it can be analysed and researched.

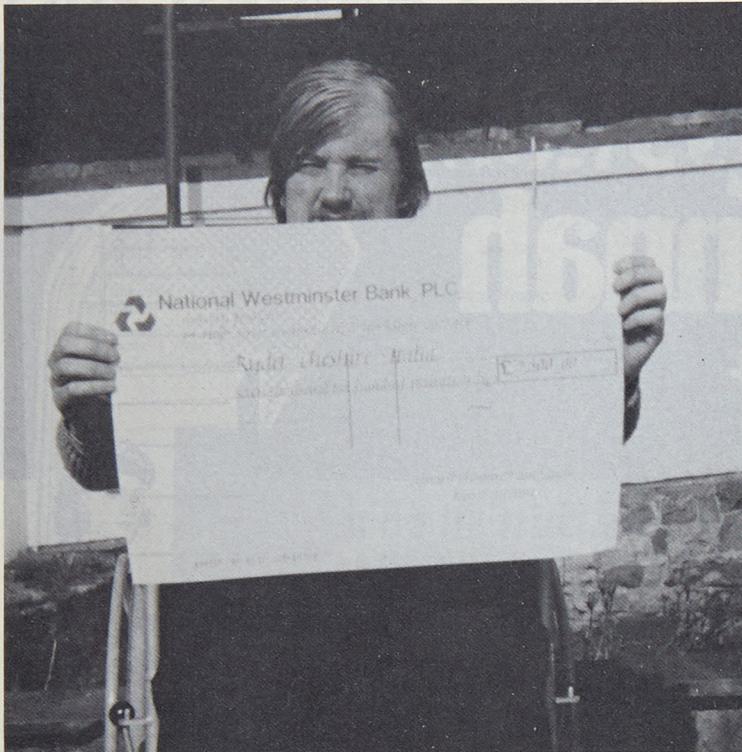
We sincerely hope that the three Foundations can continue to compliment and support each other forward into the future. When we started the compulsion was to get hold of anything in order to provide alternative accommodation to chronic care units. The very effort of trying to improve, trying to cast off old ways that have been good but now need to be replaced, is an essential part of building ourselves up into the kind of person God intends us to be. Thank you.

Our Roving Camera at the ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1. Residents and helpers from GREATHOUSE.
2. G/Capt. Cheshire talking to Neil Slatter.
3. A resident from ATHOL HOUSE enjoying a demonstration of an electronic system.
4. A Group from DOUGLAS HOUSE, Brixham.
5. Residents from SEVENOAKS CHESHIRE HOME.
6. Maj. Gen. Graham Mills talking to Frank Spath from LE COURT.



Anniversary Gift . . .



When it was realised at Spofforth Hall, that the Family Week in Rome coincided with the Silver Wedding anniversary of the Group Captain and Lady Sue Ryder; Paul O'Callaghan, a resident, approached the 'GC' to ask what he would like for a present. Typically, he did not want anything for himself but felt it would be a good idea if something could be provided for the new home in Rome.

Paul then wrote to all the UK homes inviting them to join in and make whatever contribution they could towards an appeal. Many homes sent donations both great and small and shortly before the 'Family Week' approximately £7,500 had been collected. A 'Presentation Cheque' for the full amount was prepared and Margaret Murray, a resident of Carnsalloch made the presentation to the Group Captain on behalf of the UK homes on the evening of 5th April 1984.

Some donations arrived after the formal presentation and the final total paid over was almost £8,300.

Paul O'Callaghan at Spofforth Hall, holding the 'cheque'.



TRAVELLING COMPANIONS

Dorothy Allott, wife of Foundation Trustee Peter Allott, pictured here at London Airport with Kenmore Cheshire Home resident Audrey Johnston and British Airways Handler Don Carter, en route for South Africa.

Audrey is spastic and desperately wanted to visit her widowed father and sister in Durban. The problem—who would escort her? Dorothy was able to arrange a visit to her son in Johannesburg to coincide with Audrey's trip and looked after her on the plane, returning to Durban to escort her back to England after a month.

A TRUSTEE . . . TO DO WHAT?

It is Sunday, July 1st. I am sitting in a deckchair in warm sunlight.

Yesterday I picked up a copy of the summer issue of the Cheshire Smile. I read it this morning. The combination of the restrained letter from Mr. Pinder and the reticent comment on it by the Editors have ever since been ringing out a summons for me to show cause why I should not be indicted for dereliction of duty as a Trustee.

It will be recalled that among the points made by Mr. Pinder were:—

- (i) Those who have most cause to complain about poor standards of care or other malpractices in a home are those most likely to be deterred from doing so by fear of victimisation.
- (ii) Where there is a weak residents committee the chances of bringing about changes are remote.
- (iii) There are many responsible for running Cheshire Homes who maintain that much of what is said in the Foundation Handbook of Care is unworkable. He asked whether anything could be done to demonstrate that they are wrong?

The Editors commented "The Handbooks of Care were produced and published as a guideline not as a directive for the running of a Cheshire Home and this is always used as an excuse for not implementing many of the recommendations put forward. If residents were more aggressively active in their homes the changes Mr. Pinder talks of could become reality."

Although neither Mr. Pinder nor the Editors say so they leave me

with the sure knowledge that I have turned aside from important duties placed on me as a Trustee.

I know that if I was a resident in a Cheshire Home in which those in authority were saying that many of the recommendations in the Handbook were unworkable I would be thinking and saying, at least to those who I knew thought in the same way. "Why don't those Trustees ensure that their recommendations are followed? They seem to think that their relationship with the Management Committee and Senior Staff is more important than standing up for what I naively believed were their convictions. Must we be bottom of the peck list?"

Would I, if a resident, put forward complaints to the Management Committee or Trustees? If I had been severely disabled from infancy and had spent many years in residential care my fear of victimisation in all kinds of petty but intensely corrosive and distressing ways would be deeply ingrained and always present. If I was in a home whose staff and Management Committee thought that many of the Handbook's recommendations were unworkable and where there was a weak residents committee the prospect of my putting forward my complaints would, I have to acknowledge, be very slender. I think I would probably rationalise my fear by saying "After all I must bear in mind they are well intentioned people, I mustn't upset them" or "they will probably come round to make the changes gradually" or "when this so-and-so

retires as Chairman of the Management Committee things will be different".

Yes: I know that there are homes in which many of the recommendations of the Handbook are said to be unworkable. I know that many residents have profound and inhibiting fears of victimisation. I know that there are residents committees which are ineffective.

How then do I answer that challenge which I have thrown out to myself as a Trustee from my hypothetical position as a resident in a Cheshire Home? I cannot. I have to plead guilty to having had excessive regard for the power of persuasion when I know there are some who will never be persuaded. I have to plead guilty to accepting that an anticipated change of chairmanship of a Management Committee or Head of Home is sufficient reason for taking no effective action even though the anticipated change is 12 months or more away. I have failed to insist that I answer, at least to myself, the question "Would you find that acceptable if you were a resident in that home?"

I will now go and walk in the woods at the end of the garden and think again—and, perhaps, decide—what my office as a Trustee of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation requires me to do.

Hampden Inskip

Raphael

through the eyes of B. K. GROVER
a resident there for the past eighteen years

It was a warm day of June 1966. My mother woke me early in the morning while everyone else was asleep. I could see sadness writ large on her face, her eyes red and moist. In a quivering voice she said, "Get up my dear, don't you have to go today?" She kissed my forehead. She then hurriedly bathed me, dressed me, and fed me the breakfast she had prepared. By the time I was ready it was 8.30 a.m. Suddenly I heard an approaching car stop at our gate. I knew it was my friend who had come to take me to Raphael.

I was seated in the car with my bag and baggages. In no time the car started moving and I could see my mother standing at the gate waving at me. Tears streamed down her cheeks and she kept standing till we disappeared out of sight. That was a sad moment which I still recall so vividly. It will linger on in my memory. I let out a deep sigh and in a flashback remembered the heated discussion which took place the previous night. It was then that the matter of my moving to Raphael was finalised.

My mother was not in favour of my going to Raphael. She was too sentimental and sensitive to the separation. Obviously, I feel she was right. She was a mother. Everyone else in the family thought that it was high time I should seek a "shelter". I on my part could not deny the fact that I was growing older and it would become difficult for my family to look after me when my mother was no more. My ailing father was silent on the subject. He was a neutral observer, but both my brothers insisted that I should take a firm and quick decision.

Consequently I had to make up my mind once and for all. Not wanting to lose any time I had been

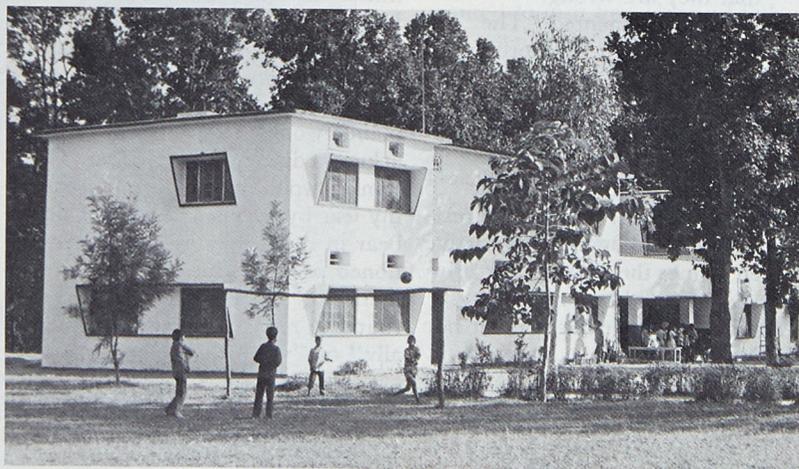
making efforts for my admission into any one of the Cheshire Homes in India. I contacted one of my local friends who was a social worker and happened to be associated with the local Cheshire Home. It was with his help and guidance that I was able to approach our founder, Leonard Cheshire. A ray of hope kindled in my heart when I was assured of a bed in the new home called Raphael, which was still in the making.

Eventually I arrived at Raphael. It was a nice change, a desirable diversion from my home. I thought I was happy, that I would be able to spend the rest of my life in comfort. But I missed the family love which had to be sacrificed in view of the changing circumstances. I tried to forget everybody at home but it was not possible as the memory of old days would linger on and disturb me and I used to spend many sleepless nights. Yet I tried to put on a smile and not let anyone else know of what was torturing me. I think I was too sentimental and emotional too. Probably this was

due to the fact that I had never stayed out of the house before.

With the passage of time, I got used to the new way of life which seemed quite interesting. I began to know more of Raphael and its numerous activities. I had freedom to move about in a wheelchair aided by someone whom I could easily get hold of. This gave me the opportunity to have insight into human suffering. Every evening I would move into different wards and say hello to the bed-ridden patients.

Raphael is a place of interest for those who are strictly dedicated to work for the relief of suffering. It has five different sections, namely: leprosy colony (now changed into Shiv Sadan), Little White House, meant for the children of the lepers, most of whom live in the colony, also a number of the young children from outstations. They are provided with clothes and shelter and food, besides medical care. The mental unit (now called Ava Vihar) has approximately 50 residents of different ages and different degrees of mental disability. They are a love-





able and cheerful lot and deserve love and care. The TB ward has approximately 25 patients who are undergoing treatment for TB. Their condition needs more attention than any other section because they are likely to become seriously ill quite suddenly. Therefore a nurse is on duty at all times. Any moment emergencies can arise. But many patients after having a course of treatment recover completely and go home to lead a normal life. The chronic ward in which I live was full to capacity when I came to Raphael. It is a fairly large building with several rooms of different sizes but now the number of patients has thinned out to six or seven which means 2 or 3 rooms are occupied by them and the rest of the building is used for offices. The chronic patients, including me, are physically handicapped and hardly need

much nursing care unless they fall ill. Their main requirement is physical help.

When I came to Raphael, the TB ward and staff mess building were under construction. It was after a few years that the building was completed and the TB ward came into existence. Apart from these main sections there is a primary school where the children of staff, the Little White House children and those from the nearby river-bed community of lepers, are taught up to 4th class. They join other schools after they have passed from here. Also there is a workshop where weaving is done by the lepers of Shiv Sadan. They have fixed working hours and they attend to work at the appointed time.

Since I am a long term resident, I know much about the chronic ward and the residents living in it.

I live in a two bedded-room. My room-mate, Chatru, is a young man who had a fall from a tree while cutting wood and his spinal cord was injured which means he is paralysed below the waist. But his hands are normal and he has been taught to stitch clothes. He can wheel himself in a chair. Raphael has provided him with a hand driven tricycle—which is very useful when he goes every morning to Ava Vihar or Little White House to mend the clothes of the residents there.

There is another bedridden resident like me, Bhola who has a sorry story to tell. His mother, it is said, wanted to get rid of him because he was handicapped at birth. She could not look after him and so she threw him on the railway tracks so that he would be run over by a train. But that didn't happen. God's ways are mysterious. The driver of the speed-

ing train could see him and stopped the train. Coincidentally our late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawarhalal Nehru, was travelling on the same train. A huge crowd of passangers had gathered round the place and Bholo was saved. The travelling Prime Minister requested the railway authorities to have him admitted into a Cheshire Home in Dehra Dun.

Parminder, like us, is bed-ridden too. He has muscular dystrophy and he cannot use any of his limbs and so he is completely dependent on others. But he is an intelligent lad. He passed 4th class of primary school some years ago when he was shifted to the Little White House. Then owing to staff difficulties he was transferred back to the chronic ward. He is well mannered and affectionate too. He calls me Uncle Grover and I love him.

In the female ward we have two old ladies: Mrs. Skinner who is 92 and Mrs. Darques. It is nice meeting them both for a chat.

My condition is the same as that of others in the chronic ward—I am completely dependent on others. I need help for every activity in daily living. I used to have better eyesight when I came here so I could spend most of my time reading and writing. But now things have changed. I have developed cataracts in both eyes so I am not able to continue with my writing for the time being. The operation for my eyes is still a long way off, so I have to wait patiently looking forward to brighter days.



We have an occupational therapy department in the chronic ward building where I go every afternoon to paint with my mouth. I spend one hour making some greetings cards for all occasions. This gives me considerable joy and satisfaction and it also helps me to spend my time in a useful way. Those who follow in my footsteps are Bhola and Parminder, equally enthusiastic. Parminder uses his hands and paints very delicate cards. His paintings are sophisticated, While Bhola, like me, uses his mouth. My cards are sold in England twice a year—Easter and Christmas. I have a friend who does the business for me.

We have a very limited means of entertainment since we are mostly confined to the chronic ward. The only source of real entertainment we get is through the TV set which is installed in my room and I have to look after it. We all get together to watch the movies on the t.v. and enjoy it immensely. Apart from this entertainment I entertain myself by

writing stories. I used to be a very active writer and could do fairly well. I have to my credit over 50 stories and articles published in various leading magazines of this country and abroad.

Having stayed at Raphael for nearly 18 years I have witnessed many developments and changes—both for the worse and the better.

We are having a water tower built behind the chronic ward because every summer there is an acute water shortage at Raphael. The staff have to fetch buckets full from a long distance for drinking and kitchen purposes. The tower, when complete, will supply water to every section of Raphael. It was inaugurated by the Australian High Commissioner in India who came all the way from Delhi to lay the foundation stone and there was a large gathering of people at Raphael including the residents from all the sections. It was a grand function, everyone sang and danced to the drum. Sweets were distributed to

them by the local guests who very kindly attended.

Apart from this major development which is an encouraging feature, there are several other buildings coming up. Ava Vihar is housed in a new building built 2 years ago. For all these development projects, Raphael is financially assisted by countries like Australia and New Zealand.

Raphael is a beautiful place. It is surrounded by tall sal trees. On one

side of it is a forest where wild animals once lived. On the other side of it is a wide expanse of rispana, the seasonal river which used to overflow in the monsoon, but now the flow has been diverted for agricultural purposes and consequently it remains to be a dry river bed where the poor class of people have built huts and dwellings. One can have a panoramic view of Mussoorie which is not too far away. At night Mussoorie is more

splendid to see with its tiny lights twinkling like stars and that adds to the beauty of the place. In short, I think a visit to Raphael is worthwhile. It gives you an idea of what is being done for the community of the silent sufferers and handicapped who would have otherwise died undiscovered and unnoticed. All this has been achieved with the undying efforts of our founder Leonard Cheshire, to whom we all owe so much.

(Photographs by courtesy of Norman Potter)

Leprosy victims and their young children with Sue Ryder and Leonard Cheshire. In the background are homes in the leprosy village



The Custodian at the gateway to a 13th Century manor house in the Midlands, which is open to the public, greeted me with: 'You can't come in here.' 'Why?' I asked. He pointed to a notice on the wall stating that wheelchairs are not admitted. I asked if I could sit in my chair in the garden immediately inside the entrance, then I could enjoy looking at the lovely grounds and the manor, while my family went inside. Again, I was told: 'You are not bringing that wheelchair in here'. The custodian suggested I walk across the lawn to a bench 50 m away. 'What does he think wheelchairs are for?' I wondered. Finally, he agreed that I have my wheelchair outside and sit on the grass just inside the gateway. (A more disabled person would not have had this option.) This was to be the first of a number of times I have experienced discrimination.

So there I sat watching young children perform hair-raising stunts on the unguarded outside staircase of the manor house. Surely, as a reasonably educated adult and experienced wheelchair user, I could have been allowed to take responsibility for my own actions? Society doesn't make decisions for you simply because you can't drive a car, cook well, knit, play football or get five 'O' levels, so why should it simply because you can't walk? Leaving aside the physical limitations of MS and its peculiarities, such as fatigue, shouldn't you be able to do everything you did before you developed the illness? If you are a wheelchair user, can you still travel normally on a train (other than in the guards van, along with the livestock) or on a bus? Some airlines will insist on your being catheterised if you are on a flight for longer than four hours; others demand that if you are disabled you pay for an escort to travel with you, though airlines pride themselves on catering for unaccompanied children on long flights and attend to travel-sick passengers. Can you use a public telephone? Can you get into your local shops? Can you even cross the road alone? Only if and where there is a kerb drop. Can you still enjoy an evening at the theatre or cinema? Around 60% of them still ban people confined to a wheelchair.

A PART— NOT APART

by Sue Jones

With acknowledgements to MS News, Spring 1984.

In all these areas, I'm glad to say, improvements are gradually being made but not before time: you'd never guess, looking at our physical environment, that wheelchairs have been around for over 150 years! It's a slow process, but one which could be speeded up if more disabled people played an active part. It is still unusual in some places for the needs of disabled people to be thought of unless we have spoken up. It is important that we make our experiences known constructively, for only we can point out what the real needs are. After all, how much did you know about disability-in all its wide variety-before you became personally involved in it? Let's be aware that disability does not apply only to 'a small minority of people. It is the normal condition of humanity'.⁽¹⁾ No-one's body is 100% all of the time, and all of us age. Disability is only a matter of degree: just think how many people you know who wear glasses. Even if you still use society's black and white thinking, 1 person in 10 is disabled, which is quite a sizeable minority.

It is attitudes, just as much as access, which need changing in our society. When I asked my local Education Department which of over 60 evening classes in my town was accessible, they replied that none were but asked what class I had in mind. I told them I wanted to continue with psychology or sociology, which I had begun before I needed to use a wheelchair. Instead they proudly offered me an afternoon class in 'handicrafts for the disabled'! And that was in the International Year of Disabled People of 1981, with its emphasis on integration. But we must look at our own attitudes, too. Allan Sutherland noted in his book⁽²⁾ that people who



acquire a disability recognise that it has not fundamentally changed them from the person that they always were. But they do not necessarily abandon their stereotypes completely: they see that they personally do not correspond to the general idea of 'The Disabled' but fail to take the further step of recognising that neither do other people with disabilities.

Two years have passed now since the International Year so it's pertinent to ask what has been happening in Parliament during that time. Quite a lot, in fact, as those of you who follow such news will know. There have been three attempts in the House of Commons to bring in a Private Member's Bill which would make discrimination against disabled people illegal, along the lines of the Race Relations Act and the Equal Opportunities for Women legislation.

When Alf Morris, MP, was Minister for the Disabled, the Government set up the Committee on Restrictions Against Disabled People (CORAD). This was very ably chaired by Peter Large of DIG and they produced their findings in February 1982. Amongst many recommendations, their most striking was that discrimination against disabled people should be made illegal. Although each member of this Committee had set out by being against the idea of legislation, they had all, with one exception, changed their minds after having examined the wide-ranging evidence submitted to them.

Sue Jones is a member of the MS Society's Sutton Coldfield and District Branch and devotes much of her time to access and disability rights affairs.



At the beginning of the International Year I, too, thought there was enough goodwill around towards disabled people for such legislation to be unnecessary and that it might be damaging. But three years of campaigning to try to have local facilities improved (as Access Officer of my forward-looking MS Branch) has changed my mind. It has become all too clear that society does not allow disabled people the same freedom to act, within their physical limits, which it allows everyone else. As Jack Ashley, MP and Chairman of the All Party Committee on Disability in Parliament says, 'Disabled people have suffered discrimination in silence for years but now there is an awakening.' There is a growing desire amongst disabled people for the same rights—and the responsibilities which go with them—as others artomatically enjoy. We want to be fully integrated into society: a part—not apart.

So far, however, the Private Members' Bills in the House of Commons have failed. In the summer of 1981 Jack Ashley, MP, had made the first attempt but unfortunately it was lost owing to lack of parliamentary time. I was invited to observe the second attempt by Donald Stewart, MP, back in February 1983. At the end of the five-hour debate there were fewer than the 100 MP's needed in the Chamber for the vote. It was ironic that whilst the Government on the floor of the House were questioning just how often discrimination occurred, I watched a young woman using crutches being barred from entering the Strangers' Gallery because of her disability! When it was brought to the attention of the House, MP's on both sides expressed their concern.

A similar incident occurred during the third attempt to introduce a Private Member's Bill, by Bob Wareing, MP, on 18 November 1983: this time, a blind lady with her guide-dog was refused admission. The speaker of the House announced that he would look into its rules but this, surely, is a very piecemeal way of making improvements for disabled people? Each time somebody has to get hurt first and then a complaint has to be made, both of which could be avoided if there were legislation. Able-bodied members of society can take it for granted that their needs have been met automatically but disabled people can't—yet. 'The world is not for the able-bodied alone: it is for all of us,' is how one disabled writer puts it. She goes on to say 'We have yet to learn to complain about it, or even recognise discrimination for what it is.'⁽³⁾ Bob Warwing's Private Members Bill failed after a five-hour debate. Members of the House of Lords then decided to introduce two disability Bills themselves, one of them being the Wareing Bill re-introduced by Lord Longford. Both Bills were debated a month later, on 16 December 1983, and received a Second Reading, despite considerable opposition and the Government stating that both Bills were unacceptable and it 'will not provide sustenance for them in any way at any further stage.' The Committee stage, however, was due to begin at the end of January but whether a Bill will be taken back to the Commons remains to be seen. You may be interested to know that there are several members of the House of Lords who are wheelchair-users and are active in disability affairs, being known as the 'mobile bench'!

It is an impossible task, of course,

to summarise in a few lines 19 hours of debates over the last two years but the Government brings up two main points. One is the cost, although no estimate is given. It is a sad day when a society puts cost before a matter of principle. Most major reforms are costly, though maybe only in the short term: it must have been very expensive to abolish slavery, for example, or to build schools for everyone once education was recognised as a fundamental right. From much more recent history, opposition members point out that it costs this country £600-£1000 million per year to defend the Falklands and the 500 families resident there. When we balance against that the £10,000 pa RADAR has spent looking disability cases over the past two years—which is the only guide there is to likely costs—we are talking peanuts.

The Government's second argument is that disabled people would be helped much more by a programme educating and persuading the general public. But the history of such programmes is unconvincing: nearly £8 million was spent on trying to persuade the public to use seat belts in cars and in the end legislation had to be introduced. In the field of disability itself, in 1944 the quota system in employment was introduced but today—forty years later—some firms have not heard of it and nearly 70% still ignore it. There have been the 'Positive Policies' and the 'Fit for Work' campaigns as well as award schemes and financial inducements to employers taking on disabled workers, but still the unemployment rate amongst disabled workers is permanently twice as high as the able-bodied.

Introducing his Bill in December, Lord Longford said 'Discrimination against the disabled is a revolting, a contemptible evil and we none of us should sleep easily in our beds if we do not take this opportunity of doing all in our power to bring it to an end. One leading newspaper has described the Bill as a charter for the disabled. . . . For myself, I would describe it as a long overdue measure of justice to our disabled fellow citizens.' A later speaker in the debate put the matter concisely: 'We cannot legislate against prejudice but we can legislate against the way in which people behave.' Some people have argued that legislation could damage the undoubted goodwill that exists towards disabled people but surely it would only upset those who are prejudiced and wish to discriminate or even feel guilty at their prejudice? Anyone with a real concern for equal rights would not want a single person to suffer discrimination.

I feel—and it was quoted in the House of Lords—that until there is

effective legislation on access and discrimination disabled people will remain at the mercy of another individual's whim: he will dictate where they can or cannot go, not they themselves. Such law would set a standard and hopefully remove the burden at present put on disabled people to complain when they are unfairly treated. If disabled people have equal rights, as the World Charter for the '80's says they have, then we shouldn't have to complain continually. It's not only time-consuming and often frustrating but is a somewhat negative activity. I, for one, would rather be spending the time enjoying more positive and enriching aspects of the life God gives us.

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- (1) Allan T. Sutherland 'Disabled We Stand' Human Horizons Series of Souvenir Press Ltd. 1981 £3.95 (p 18).
 - (2) Op cit p 88
 - (3) Micheline Mason 'In From the Cold', magazine of the Liberation Network of People with Disabilities, No.6—Spring 1983 (p 16).

During last summer the Spastics Society initiated meetings across the country for its members and 'the overwhelming majority of delegates at each regional conference voted in favour of anti-discrimination legislation.' In the House of Lords in December, Lord Longford placed a great deal of weight, in his opening and closing speeches, on a letter which had appeared in The Times just before the Commons debate the previous month. It was signed by official representatives of 13 societies concerned with disabled people, including John Walford, our own General Secretary, and read:

'We, all of whom have intimate knowledge of the prejudice and discrimination suffered by disabled people, implore Her Majesty's Government not to block the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Bill (Amendment).'

As Lord Longford said, 'They are the people who know best.'

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PLAN CHEST

Keith Cook

Vox Populi

Latin was my weakest subject but at the Stoneleigh Conference the Voice of the People made itself heard quite strongly when the 'Homes Planning Team' from Maunsel Street was given an opportunity to lead an afternoon Seminar on "Trends in the Design of Accommodation for Disabled People". Starting with a quick look at the way homes have changed over 30, or more, years, there followed a discussion which helped to highlight some of the difficulties being met and the wide range of choices which are available when designing accommodation accessible by a wheelchair and suitable for the care of disabled people. The principles of independence and privacy were accepted as the first considerations and the forming of a design which gave and encouraged a freedom of choice was obviously very essential.

The size and groupings of bedrooms was a natural topic for discussion and Mr. Wycliffe Noble was questioned on the factors which determine the dimensions and shape

of a resident's own room. A detail sheet of this can be obtained from Central Office with other general information on design suggestions. As would be expected, there were many views expressed on personal preferences and residents spoke of their need for greater privacy and for the communal areas to be broken down as much as possible to help residents re-establish small group relationships.

In Search of Normality

It was well appreciated that "distance" and "division" meant more travel and time required from the staff, but residents felt that this was inevitable where a more normal lifestyle was being achieved and in some instances this might be offset by the support given between residents in smaller groups. In seeking "normality", the Seminar Chairman, Mr. Allott, pointed out the undesirability of hotel-type corridor extensions and encouraged all homes with multi-bedded rooms to consider other design possibilities or

the move to purpose-built accommodation rather than to perpetuate a lay-out having institutional qualities.

10-Year Plan

A resident's plea for the right to have a wash-basin in their own room was sincerely echoed and this led to an expression of feelings that the needs of the present resident should not be forgotten, even if the building being provided had to be capable of meeting the anticipated needs of residents in 10 years' time.

To offer a summary would seem totally inadequate, but all the planning suggestions were aimed at achieving

improved privacy and independence, providing flexibility for the future, broadening the choices of disabled people.

Returning to my weak Latin, we must ensure that "Vox Populi" does not become "Vox et Praeterea Nihil"—A voice and nothing more.

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United Nations Corner UNHCR

Switzerland

In the spring of 1983 the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees asked Pestalozzi Village if they would accept a group of Cambodian children from among the 900 who were still waiting in Thailand's refugee camps. Now 13 children have been accepted and have joined the 150 children from Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Italy, India, Korea, Tibet, Tunisia and Vietnam. They attend the Kindergarten's 'international' school but their houseparents are from their own country.

Italy

The Italian government has just made an exception to the geographic restriction which it normally applies to non-European refugees, and has given refugee status to 35 Afghans in Ladispoli, near Rome. After a

long and adventurous journey from Afghanistan through Iran, Turkey and Yugoslavia they had arrived illegally in Italy in 1982. Basir and his mother (45), wife Raima (25) and their two children Sorab and Tamina, his two sisters (15 and 7) and his brother Nagic (11) constitute one family. Basir has requested the UNHCR branch in Rome to try to arrange for his father (52) at present a refugee in Karachi, Pakistan, to come to Italy. Then Basir, once he has all his papers, will begin to re-build his own life and that of his family in Italy.

Monaco

This tiny country is the smallest country of asylum. In August 1979 the Principality welcomed 17 Vietnamese refugees, sixteen of whom are still living in the large house which overhangs the port. Within a

few months they were able to find work and today they are carpenters, handymen, gardeners, secretaries or dressmakers. One of the housewives confided that their salaries were not always sufficient to allow them to buy their food in Monaco. 'Life is very expensive here, every week we go to a supermarket in the suburbs of Nice'. But these refugees are more conscious of their luck.

United Kingdom

Just a line on the refugee situation in the U.K. which has received the highest number of any country in Europe (143,000) with the single exception of France (150,000). 17,000 Indo-Chinese people have been integrated into the community.

The work of the High Commissioner in Europe is becoming increasingly difficult due to the recession and high unemployment.

Elizabeth Greenwood

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Around the Homes



St Michael's

A gleaming red helicopter from The Queen's flight touched down with precision in a field adjoining St. Michael's Cheshire Home, Axbridge, Somerset, on Tuesday, July 17th, and the diminutive figure of The Duchess of Kent alighted to open the new £200,000 wing, accompanied by her Lady in Waiting, Mrs. Peter Wilmot-Sitwell.

Dressed in an elegant white and red dress with a sailor type collar and a white hat with a single scarlet rose under the brim, The Duchess was greeted by the Lord Lieutenant of Somerset, Lt. Col. G. W. F. Luttrell, M.C., J.P., and then met The High Sheriff of Somerset. Mr. Charles Clive Ponsonby-Fane and his wife, and other officials from Somerset County Council and Sedgemoor District Council.

The Duchess began the visit by officially cutting a white ribbon across the entrance to the new extension. After this she was presented with a bouquet of pink roses and white carnations by Petronella Greenaway, who is spastic, and comes from the West Indies and has been a resident since 1977. Petronella was looking charming in an apricot dress with a white hat, and confessed afterwards that she was trembling with nerves!

Inside the new extension, which contains nine single rooms, two bathrooms and a sluice, The Duchess met Eileen Milton who is 72 and suffers from rheumatoid arthritis and has been a resident since the home first opened in 1968. Eileen is a gifted pianist although now not able to play much, but still has a number of pupils. As the Duchess knelt down to chat with Eileen on the same level as her wheelchair, Eileen could not resist telling her: "You're lovely!". The Duchess then met Marguerite Baguley who showed her a large collection of Royal pictures which grace the wall of her new room. She intends adding a photograph of the Duchess's visit to them.

On then to the Amenities Room where all the residents and staff were assembled. The Duchess had long



The Duchess of Kent receiving a bouquet of flowers from Petronella Greenaway, at the start of her visit to St. Michael's

chats with all the residents and many of the staff and said with simple sincerity how very glad she was to be there to meet them all. Although they confessed to nervousness, her friendly and charming personality soon put everyone at ease.

Jenny South, a resident who is a skilful and enthusiastic needlewoman, presented The Duchess with her own personal present—neatly wrapped up in gift paper. The Duchess immediately opened it and admired the pink embroidered tablecloth. "How beautiful" she said, "And what a very kind thought. I'm delighted with it."

Then there was a visit to the home's superb chapel and a long chat with visiting clergyman of three denominations who visit the home, after which it was time for lunch, followed by a full tour of the home.

For the residents it had been a very special day and the memory of the Duchess's grace and warmth will stay with them for a long time.

St. Michael's was originally a TB sanatorium but in 1956, when medicine conquered the disease, it was

used as a convalescent home for the elderly until in 1968, the Gibbs Family Trust handed it over to The Foundation for use as a Cheshire Home. The first extension was added on in 1977 and provided twenty-three of the thirty-nine residents with single or double bedrooms instead of the previous institutional type dormitories. Building on the second extension opened by The Duchess started in 1983. Now completed, the residents have privacy and a real home which they can be proud of, where they can entertain friends and enjoy full rights to contribute to decision making. Residents serve on both management and house committees and help in many ways to run the home. Several run the shop, two run the newspaper orders, some distribute mail, others help with re-cycling Christmas cards, organising the bar and with running of the Scrabble Club.

Leisure activities include listening to music, watching TV, art classes, photography and outings to places of interest locally.

* *

Around the Homes



Marske Hall

Warmest congratulations to Mrs. Constance Turner, who was awarded the M.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. The Home's much-loved Matron for more than 21 years, she has recently been helping to supervise a £400,000 development which Group Captain Leonard Cheshire expects to open later in the year.

Middlesbrough Evening Gazette picture



L to R standing: Mrs. H. M. Piggin, Mr. F. Critchley, Miss D. Ayris.
L to R seated in wheelchairs: Mr. Gerald Henry, Miss M. Turner, Mr. N. Barlow, Mrs M. Myers, Miss G. Calvert, Mr. J. Mawson
L to R seated on ground: Mrs. D. Hill B.E.M., Mrs M. Sharp (Matron)

Spofforth Hall

Residents, staff and voluntary helpers were all thrilled when Mrs. Dorothy Hill was awarded the B.E.M. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

The award was in recognition of 23 years of care, love and devotion to the residents of Spofforth Hall. Mrs. Hill, a farmers daughter, first came to the home as a visitor, along with a friend, just after the death of her mother. Having met some of the residents she decided she would like to become involved, and so started work at the home as a temporary help.

One impression Dorothy referred to was the continued improvement in accommodation and facilities for residents, but more importantly that it had become a real home for them.

Her responsibilities are numerous, including ensuring that every resident receives a personal present at Christmas and on their birthday, and not just a gift, but the one they would have chosen for themselves.

However, her greatest contribution is a "gift" for being able to "get through" to anyone in low spirits—her sincerity, cheerfulness and friendliness, so treasured by all residents, are an invaluable contribution to Spofforth Hall.

Around the Homes



Mayfield House

On Tuesday 3rd July 1984 Mayfield House Cheshire Home, was bursting at the seams with visitors. The occasion—"The Opening of the New Wing" (14 single bedrooms & 1 double bedroom) by His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch.

The day dawned bright and clear and most residents dressed up for the occasion. After the official opening the Duke and Duchess toured the Art and Crafts Exhibition and made purchases.

The Exhibition was a new venture and a great thrill for the residents, who have taken up painting in the last year or two, to see their works hung together with those of their friends. On the arrival of the Duke and Duchess, Bunty Addison presented Her Grace with a bouquet of flowers, while Douglas Addison presented His Grace the Duke with Leonard Cheshire's latest edition, autographed for the occasion.

After having tea, the Duke and Duchess chatted with the residents.

Betty Cockburn



The Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch, residents, staff and friends, by an exhibition of residents' paintings at the opening of the New Wing of Mayfield House, Edinburgh, on 3 July 1984

James Burns House

The Centenary of 'Marks & Spencer'—a firm dedicated to a beneficent involvement in society and to concern for the individual in it—has been celebrated by every branch being asked to select a project that would be of lasting benefit to those in need. James Burns House was indeed fortunate to be chosen as their special charity by the staff at the Boscombe branch—who raised an astounding £1,000 to add to the £6,000 allocated from the central Centenary Fund. This donation has hugely boosted our Extension Appeal.

In the garden of the House, on a lovely day, before local dignitaries and representatives of the store, the home and the Foundation, Mr. John Salisse, a director of Marks &

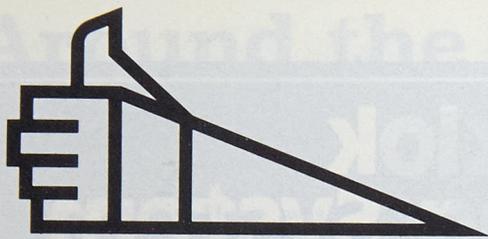


A group of residents from James Burns House, Bournemouth, pictured outside the House of Commons with their M.P., David Atkinson (on the back row, second from the right). The party was shown round the Palace of Westminster by Mr. Atkinson and later sat in the Strangers' Gallery to watch the House of Commons in session.

Spencer, presented the splendid combined sum (symbolised by a gigantic plastic 'cheque', produced—amidst laughter—by Mr. Richard Wolff, Manager of the Boscombe branch) to Miss P. M. Lodge, Chairman of our Management Committee. A toast was drunk and thanks warmly expressed, and a delicious tea, provided by the local store, concluded the happy occasion. In the evening, an informal party was given by the home to say 'thank you' again, and Mr. Salisse,

Mr. Alan Dent, Co-ordinator of Centenary Projects, and Boscombe staff and their families mingled with other friends and supporters.

The presentation is commemorated by an inscribed brass plaque, now on the wall outside the Hudson Room, depicting the Penny Stall in Leeds Market where the whole enterprise began. The 'Bazaar' was set up by the non-English-speaking immigrant, Michael Marks, in 1884; Tom Spencer became his partner ten years later.



Motor Neurone Disease Association

The Star who did not die in vain—



Photo, John R. Rifkin

Actress, Sally Miles, who suffers from Motor Neurone Disease with (from left to right) Mr. John Mortimer, QC, Mr. Anthony Lyness, Mr. Anthony Quayle, Lord Bernard and Lady Miles (parents of Sally Miles), Lady McNeil (Honary President of the MNDA) and guests at the launch of The David Niven Campaign for the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

On Sunday, June 3rd, a special reception was held at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts to mark the start of The David Niven Campaign for the Motor Neurone Disease Association. The evening included excerpts from some of David Niven's best-known films; "Separate Tables", narrated by Dame Wendy Hiller, "The Guns of Navarone", narrated by Anthony Quayle, and "Paper Tiger".

The objective of The David Niven Campaign, the Joint Presidents of which are James Niven and David Niven, Junior, is to raise money to help the Association continue and expand its vital work. The Association plans to finance even more research projects into the cause of MND and, until the day of a cure, to do everything possible to ease the plight of sufferers and their families.

During his lifetime David Niven brought happiness to millions. Now, his death has focussed attention on a hitherto obscure disease. It is hoped that this campaign, mounted in his memory, will hasten the day of a cure and bring new hope to sufferers. David Niven, that archetypal English gentleman, did not die in vain.



Dear Editors,

It was good to see Audrey Shepherd's article 'Reflections on Nuclear Weapons' in the last edition of *Cheshire Smile*. I am one of a small minority in our home who regard the threat of nuclear war, by accident or design, as the greatest danger that faces us today. The majority prefer not to think about it.

I, too, am disabled and unable to demonstrate actively, and I would agree with her that we CAN do something by writing letters to newspapers, the Government, local authorities, etc. The disabled often have more time than other people to do such things. 'Protest and Survive' is my motto.

Yours sincerely,
Sheila Goldie

Dear Editors,

I was disappointed that my last letter (*Attitudes*, Summer '83 issue) seemingly provoked no response from other readers, and quite frankly I don't understand the lack of letters to the Editor since I always feel provoked to make comments about most articles in the *Smile*! But don't worry, I will keep this letter clean.

Actually, I believe that the standard of many articles in recent copies of the *Smile* has improved. Perhaps that is a significant point. Do readers feel they cannot meet the higher standards? Do they stand accused of 'Wrongful Attitude' and feel unable to defend themselves?

It's never easy to accept criticism of oneself, particularly if one has been, for example, dishing out bad care practice for years, but how else is progress to be made? I look back over my ten years in residential work and cringe at my own mistakes, my own attitude in the early days of my career. I may well look back in ten years at these letters I have written and cringe once again. It doesn't matter. What does matter is that I can acknowledge the mistakes and learn from them.

Mistakes don't make people inhuman, unless of course one chooses to continually ignore them, therefore, also ignoring the trouble and pain they are causing others.

Some readers may be asking, 'Well, what is good care practice? What is the right attitude to adopt?' Good question. I concluded in my last letter that the people in question should try to put themselves in the position of any resident. I would say

to anyone, 'try to imagine being disabled. What does it feel like, what do you want, how would you like to be treated?'. You can't answer because you are not disabled but you are getting closer to an understanding of the situation.

Of course, I could be completely misjudging the readers. They may be all in harmony with the ideas expressed in the articles, or they may have taken all criticism on board and are at present reforming themselves, in which case I stand corrected.

Yours sincerely
G. E. Bradley,
Sussex.

Dear Editors,

We enjoyed ourselves very much during the Family Week. It was indeed pleasant making new friends and getting to know them. We felt as though we were one in a big family. The friends we made were especially sweet, kind and hospitable. There was so much to share, learn, discover and experience among ourselves. It has certainly made us richer where knowledge and experience is concerned.

The tours were enjoyable and eye opening. It was exciting and thrilling to be able to see the world-renowned ancient city of Rome. Rome by night was an incredibly unforgettable experience. It was captivating! In all, it was such an experience that we are unable to transmit on paper. This was indeed a privilege and wonderful trip for us.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the organisers and the people concerned for their kind thoughts, labours and gesture in making this trip a most successful and memorable one. We were sad when the time came for us to bid all our new found friends goodbye. But the warmth of their love and friendship still burn brightly in our hearts.

Yours sincerely,
Resident Goh Bee Hong
The Singapore Cheshire Home

Dear Editors,

I am registered blind and am also physically disabled as a result of having cerebral palsy.

I am proposing to start a magazine on cassette for people who are visually handicapped and who also have additional disabilities. By doing this I hope to, in a very small way, try and lessen the isolation that people in this position probably feel—I certainly do. I am aiming to cater for people over 18 years of age, but not for those over 65. I am also unable to cater for the mentally handicapped.

The magazine will be provided free of charge, but donations in stamps and stamped addressed envelopes would be appreciated.

If any of your readers are interested, could they please contact the address below.

Yours sincerely,
Miss V. Slane,

OPEN THE DOOR

“Disabled people shouldn’t be afraid to complain about problems getting into entertainment venues,” said Esther Rantzen, launching Greater London Association for Disabled People’s (GLAD) Open the Door Campaign in London’s Royal Festival Hall this May.

Ideally, of course, they wouldn’t have to complain. Growing numbers of theatres and arts centres are making changes which allow disabled people to enjoy entertainment on equal terms. These are examples many more could follow, Esther pointed out: “In ten years time, let’s hope there won’t be any places not fully equipped: the investment is worth it.”

There’s a long way to go before then, as some of the speakers at the campaign launch made clear. Edna Smith, principal of Redbridge Association for Handicapped People, herself a wheelchair user, told the audience about a local cinema which wouldn’t let a disabled mother and daughter sit together. The mother wanted to sit in her wheelchair in the aisle next to her daughter’s seat. But the manager said no, ‘because of fire regulations’. Finally after a heated dispute, the police were called and the two women were asked to leave the cinema.

Not all disabled people would have argued to such lengths. Many, who have similar difficulties, may just go home upset and disappointed, after being made to feel they are not wanted in a cinema or theatre audience.

While there is no legislation requiring entertainment venues to provide facilities for disabled people, it remains a matter of management discretion. GLAD’s ultimate objective is tighter legislation making basic facilities for disabled people

compulsory in entertainment venues.

However, it’s not all bad news. There can be a positive side to complaining. In fact, the Redbridge cinema mentioned by Edna Smith has now put in a ramp and spaces for wheelchair users to sit. The manager was actually in the right about the safety regulations: by law gangways in cinemas and theatres must be kept clear. However, the new facilities have solved the problem for disabled people and satisfied fire safety requirements at the same time.

It’s this kind of switch in attitude that GLAD’s open the door campaign aims to encourage. As the campaign leaflet points out, with a flexible approach and cooperation between entertainment management, fire safety officers and disability groups, most access difficulties can be solved within the terms of the legislation.

What the law requires is that every public entertainment venue must have a safety licence. This is renewed annually after inspections by the buildings regulations and fire departments of the licencing authority—in London this means the GLC. Any wheelchair seating arrangements must be approved by the inspecting officers and detailed on the licence.

However, there is nothing in the relevant legislation to prevent a disabled person entering any entertainment venue approved as safe by the architect and fire officer. But, as it is at the moment, the law does not require theatres and cinemas to cater for disabled customers—it is up to management whether or not to offer special facilities.

That’s why efforts at education and persuasion, like the Open the Door campaign, are important. Another point to be made clear to entertainment managers is that adaptations do not have to be

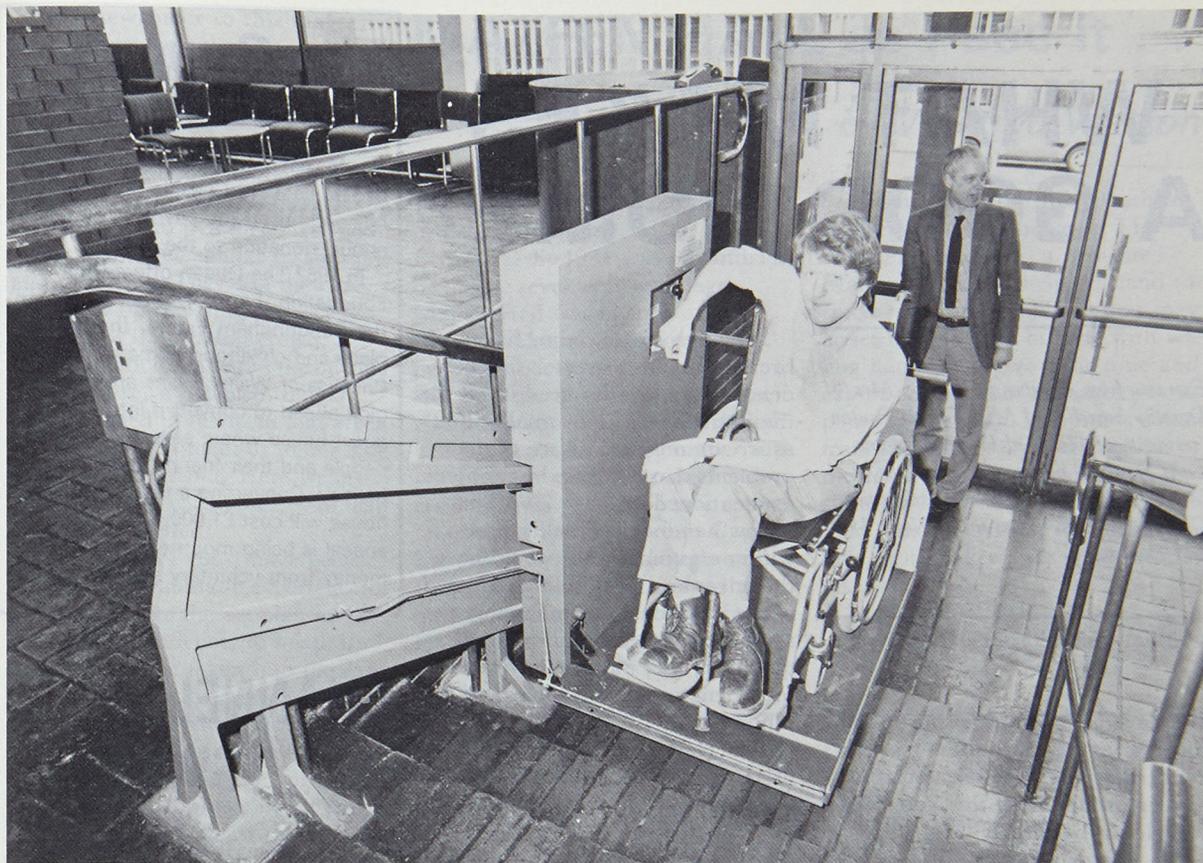
expensive. Just the addition of a simple ramp could open the door to disabled people. Removeable seats can also be installed at little extra cost. These can be easily lifted out to make space for a wheelchair user to sit beside a friend.

At the Kenneth More Theatre in Ilford manager Vyvian Ellacott discovered it only cost £5 extra per seat for three removeable seats. “Commercially, I take the view that if I’m not lucky enough to sell all three seats to disabled people every night they can still be used by able bodied customers. In fact, I had no trouble selling them at all and those removeable seats paid for themselves within six months,” he commented.

Now he plans further improvements, such as an induction loop, to make the theatre suitable for people with all sorts of disability. “We have to make doors welcomingly open to disabled people” was his advice to other entertainment managers. GLAD hopes to see far more of them following his example of the Open the Door campaign.

Another good example is being set by the Bloomsbury Theatre in London. They have just put in two stairlifts giving access to the auditorium and an entrance ramp. “The idea is that disabled people can be as independent as possible when they come to our theatre,” said Bloomsbury’s manager Ian Norris. “The lift is self-operated so they can get in unassisted without a lot of fuss.” Now he’s keen to see for more people with disabilities in the audience regularly and hopes in the future to adapt a toilet and add removeable seats in the auditorium.

These are just some of the entertainment venues leading the way. More are beginning to think about changes. It’s also up to disabled people to go out and use these new facilities and prove the need for more.



Stair lift at Bloomsbury Theatre. Photo: Robert Aberman

New entrance ramp at the Bloomsbury Theatre. Photo: Robert Aberman



WHAT MAKES A GOOD HOME?

Extracts from a paper written by Mrs. Dorothy Sorrell and Miss Carole Pouton (residents at Holehird Cheshire Home, Lake District) which was presented at a Study Day for members of Management Committees from homes in the North West and Scotland.

We have compiled this short paper together as we share the same views concerning both the development and environment of this home, and its role in the future.

As regards progress, we feel Holehird is very much to the fore. Three of our residents are on Management Committee, and one on Executive Committee. Our management play a very active part in our lives . . . indeed the Chairman is prepared to act as driver, advisor, wine waiter, croupier, mentor and general factotum when need be. But we feel that perhaps the greatest step forward, and to us comparable to Neil Armstrong's first step on the moon, was the availability of single rooms. In one fell swoop many problems caused by communal living were alleviated. Being allowed to choose one's own decor and buy our own furnishings did much to give one back a sense of identity. A chance to re-create a little of what one had lost, or indeed, never achieved. It also provided an extra bonus in that the majority of staff respected and responded to what we were trying to do, because one of the sad factors of living in a large home is that the individual is always reduced to the lowest denominator. By this we do not mean that some of us think we are better than others. Nothing could be further than the truth. In fact the more articulate of us tend to speak up on behalf of those less fortunate.

Although single rooms have brought about a greater independence for those who need it, we feel the future must lie in smaller units, as we are only too aware of the problems that beset the larger home, as mentioned on page 20 of the yellow handbook. Smaller units within existing homes would have the advantage of fulfilling the needs of the individual, become more personalised, thereby improving the quality of life, and the lowest common denominator factor would be minimised.

The Handbook of Care, published by the Foundation, was a tremendous leap into the 21st Century for disabled people. It is a perceptive piece of writing that has been compiled by people living and working within the Foundation, who have observed and cared enough to listen to residents' hopes and fears, their dreams and their longings. Something common to us all.

If you elect yourself responsible for those in care, do not dismiss this book. Read it and ask yourself: if you were suddenly disabled tomorrow and you entered a Cheshire Home, isn't this the way you would like to be treated if your mental faculties weren't impaired? Despite what some may say to the contrary, there are those who enter Cheshire Homes to gain independence—not lose it.

The degree of disability will always determine what kind of people will seek residential care—or perhaps, what is more to the point, will be eligible for residential care.

Management will always have the dilemma of keeping the home viable whilst bearing in mind the needs of existing residents—not an enviable task. But where the future is concerned they must look to the type of care and opportunity they are offering the individual, bearing in mind that it should be encouraging—not encompassing.

The Queen's Donation

Her Majesty the Queen, who is Patron of The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, has authorised the payment of an annual donation to the charity.

In 1982 The Queen offered the Foundation the use of Park House on the Sandringham Estate, the birth-place and childhood home of the Princess of Wales. Plans are now forging ahead to convert it into a holiday guest house where severely disabled people and their friends can have a holiday. Converting and equipping the house will cost £1,000,000 and an appeal is being mounted to raise the money from voluntary sources.

CHANNEL SWIM

The members of the Ashby Rotary and Ashby Hastings Rotary, Ashby Round Table and Ashby Rotaract Clubs are very active in the area helping local charities and local people—often “behind the scenes”.

These four organisations have joined forces to promote a Cross Channel Swim and Prize Draw of £1,000 1st Prize, associated with the swim, to raise as much as is possible towards the cost of a new Leonard Cheshire Home which is being built at Netherseal in South Derbyshire.

The above mentioned clubs will brave the elements in a relay swim across the English Channel to raise funds for the move from the present Staunton Harold Cheshire Home to this new home with its vastly improved facilities for its residents. The new home will be ready for occupation by the summer of 1985. It will be a purpose built, single storey building in its own grounds and will provide room accommodation for 34 physically handicapped residents. These residents come from Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire or Derbyshire and are of all ages.

Further coverage of this event will appear in the winter edition of Cheshire Smile.

I, as a newcomer to this magnificent house, feel so enchanted with it. I am grateful for the privilege of living here.

The fact that the house and its grounds are on loan to the Cheshire Foundation, has made it possible for thirty people to live their lives with others who have similar disabilities and problems. They feel they are no longer on the fringe of society just one of the general crowd, a sensation not often felt in the outside world where, if disabled, one is either pushed to the front and given preferential treatment or to one side and forgotten about. Here we are on a level with each other, with help on hand if needed.

Like many of you I have been through the traumatic experience of having to make the decision to give up my independence, to break up my home, to be taken into the care of strangers, to lose my individuality. However, within a few weeks, I have lost some of my self pity and learned how to integrate with other residents, and to make new friends.

Now to the residents themselves! We are a mixed bunch, not fudduddies by any means. Our age range is from twenty-two to sixty-six years old, from youth to pensionable status. Our views on religion differ, but each to his own on that point. The political system sometimes brings forth brimstone and fire, but thank heaven we still care, feel and think about what is happening in the outside world around us.

We have a Residents' Welfare Committee who make suggestions for outings to the coastal areas or around our beautiful countryside, or to the theatre when a good play is being staged. Shopping sprees are usually popular with the ladies.

During our winter season we have visits from choral societies, amateur operatic societies and the Northern Opera Company. They all come to entertain us, the acoustics in our main hall are really excellent, the place lends itself to these activities. A local historian comes to lecture and show slides of our birthplace; Northumberland, which is very interesting as we are learning about our own locality.

Our physiotherapist gives us a session twice a week and keeps our limbs moving, our occupational therapist also comes twice a week, her patience is exceptional, her sen-

MATFEN HALL as I see it . .

by Winifred Watson

sitiveness and understanding of our problems unlimited.

April 27th, 1984 was our official birthday, seventeen years ago Maften Hall was opened as a Cheshire Home. Some of the first people to become resident here are still with us. Our guests, who are also our staunchest friends, joined us for a beautiful buffet supper supplied by our chef. I, as the newest resident, was privileged to cut the huge birthday cake! Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, although on a very tight schedule, managed to attend, making it a very special day for us all.

Life in general at this Cheshire Home is what we make it. The rudiments are here, a dedicated Matron, plenty of help on hand to smooth out any problems that may arise, friends from outside with willing hands who give their time and expert advice from management to painting our rails. Happiness comes from the inner self, a realization of the condition of our frame and the situation in which we find ourselves, then a determination to live as it is now, not hanker after what used to be.

Give thanks for Cheshire Homes.

THE TWO ROADS

I stood upon a hill at eventide
Watching the swallows skim the breathless sky,
A rabbit stirred a fern frond at my side
The drowsy mountain heaved, then seemed to sigh.

Below, I saw, across the mountain's lap
A road, that ran so straight, so white, so smooth
As if some idling giant o'er a map
Had cut in sport a long and glistening groove.

And down that road there came the pad of feet—
The whirl of wheel—the murmur of a throng,
Who jostled on amid the dust and heat
And saw no beauty as they passed along.

Beyond, beside the river 'neath the trees
A tiny pathway wound across the scene,
Like ribbon, blown by every wandering breeze,
Now lost, now found again amid the green.

The solitary figure of a man
Passed down that glade whence led his wayward guide,
He leapt the brook, that hailed him as it ran,
And laughing, followed as a river by his side.

* * * *

And what is Life but road or winding track
That leads us on towards the setting sun
And Death a shadow ever at our back
With greedy eyes upon the sands that run.

And those who speed along that level road
Shall reach the end ere scarce they seem begun,
Shall never know the pleasure of a load,
Or joy of hazard safely overcome.

But those who take the Path and journey down
To wander o'er the moorland of the years
Shall find, as Autumn tints with gold and brown,
Great joy, before the end appears.

Leslie T. Montgomeri

1983 was the Wheelchair Fund's eleventh year, and a sad one in which R. Norman Whiteley, MBE., who had built it up from very small beginnings in 1972, died unexpectedly in February. Norman who started the Fund after spending a holiday recuperating from pneumonia in Marrakech where he stayed next door to a Cheshire Home. There the money was so short that the children had to crawl about on their hands and knees if they could not walk and older people just stayed in bed because they felt sure that there was no point in getting up when they had not got a wheelchair. He saw people getting about by sitting on boxes fitted with castors. When Norman returned to England he was determined to try to improve their conditions. He wrote to Group Captain Cheshire, who encouraged him in his idea to establish a fund to supply wheelchairs and other appliances both to residents in overseas Cheshire Homes as well as to individual applicants.

During the next ten years the Wheelchair Fund progressed from strength to strength, culminating in a record income in 1982 of £17,730 of which £11,695 was used in that year for sending 94 wheelchairs overseas, together with medical equipment and in some cases money, where locally made wheelchairs are more easily available. 1982 also saw Norman's personal highlight when he received the MBE "for services to the Leonard Cheshire Foundation International Wheelchair Fund".

Norman had arranged, during last months of 1982, the shipment of an entire workshop plus equipment to the Children's Hospital in Rabat, Morocco. This equipment was The Leonard Cheshire Foundation International's contribution to a mobile project which is serving initially the two provinces of Marrekech and Tangiers, and was originated by the paediatric orthopaedic surgeon at the Rabat Children's Hospital. A number of charitable organisations are involved in the project and it is perhaps fitting that this was one of Norman's last major undertakings, where he first had the idea for the Wheelchair Fund.

WHEELCHAIR FUND (OVERSEAS)

Annual Report and Accounts for the year 1982/3

John Florence, who trained two Moroccans at his orthotic workshop in Sussex, visits Morocco periodically to see how the project is progressing. He reports that the workshop is now operational, and visits to outlying areas to assess and measure disabled children for appliances are under way.

Norman had also arranged for £1,000 to be sent to the Philippines for distribution among the wheelchair users in the Cheshire Homes, and for drugs to be sent to an asthma sufferer there. A special Latex mattress was sent to a bedridden resident in the Durban Cheshire Home and a recent visitor to the home reports that the mattress has eased the man's back tremendously. £500 was sent to the Worth Trust in India, who supplied locally made wheelchairs and appliances to residents in the Cheshire Homes. Wheelchair accessories were sent to Mauritius, together with four wheelchairs, a Roho cushion and a cover. A container full of second-hand calipers and crutches was sent to Zambia for distribution among Cheshire Homes there.

Since Norman's death in February the Fund has not been quite so active, although a number of contributions have still been gratefully received and fund raising events have been planned, and my thanks go to all concerned. Offers of financial and other forms of help are still coming in too numerous to mention in this report, but while

there is so much poverty in this world we cannot have too much help.

A wheelchair and pair of crutches have recently been delivered to the Home at Mount Lavinia. A total of sixteen wheelchairs and accessories requested for the childrens homes in Addis Ababa and Sarawak have now been ordered. Money has been transferred to the Enugu Cheshire Home for the supply of an artificial leg for a young man living nearby.

Miss Rukmani Kaluarachchi from Sri Lanka visited in June, and requested any number of second-hand wheelchairs, even broken ones which she said she will try to repair, for children in the Sambodhi Home which cares for 400 children of all ages and disabilities under its one roof. I have promised to send as many as become available at the end of August.

Wheelchairs in reasonably good condition and any equipment for the rehabilitation of the disabled is welcomed if it can be delivered to me at the Oxfordshire Cheshire Home, Twyford, Banbury, Oxon, OX17 3JB.

The Leonard Cheshire Foundation International continues to expand in developing countries where so often the lack of money prevents disabled people from being rehabilitated, and I envisage a continuing demand for the service which Norman Whiteley started and which I am very happy to take over.

Peter Reynolds

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE—Two bedroom bungalow, £48,000. The home and fairly large garden suitable for wheelchair use. Bathroom and main bedroom equipped with electric hoists. Post-um equipment installed. S. N. Rohloff, 13 Fairfield Crescent, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, Sussex. Tel: 832610

FOR SALE—BEC 24 portable electric wheelchair with safety strap and battery charger. Dual control. 2 speeds. Solid tyres. Used 6 times only. Cost £854.00. Will accept £650.00 Phone: HAVANT 476647.

FOR SALE—CAR CHAIR UNIT consisting wheelchair and lift/transfer mechanism. Lifts chair with occupant into front passenger position. No modification to car necessary. Excellent condition, 12 months old. £1,250 o.n.o. Tel: Northampton (0604) 407190.

Pencils, superb ball-pens, combs, diaries, bran tub toys, etc., gold stamped with your organisation name. Raise funds quickly—easily. Repeat orders assured. Details: **NORTHERN NOVELTIES**, Spencer House, Spring Gardens, Bradford, BD1 3HE.

THE LEONARD CHESHIRE FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL WHEELCHAIR FUND (OVERSEAS)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1983

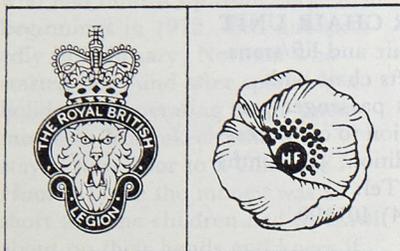
1982	Income	1983	1982	Expenditure	1983
£		£	£		£
	Inner Wheel Clubs of Great Britain:			Wheelchairs, Repairs and New Parts	
	No 18 District	63.81	9,539		3,704.55
	Driffield	30.00			
	Hemel Hempstead	25.00	2,155	Overseas Shipping Costs	229.82
6,913	Forres	50.00			
5,600	Leonard Cheshire Foundation	832.31	160	Sundry Expenses	22.86
	Rotary Clubs of Great Britain:				
	Greenford	114.00			
	Peckham	60.00			
1,144	Golders Green	150.00			
	Appeal Donations:				
	Norwich Union	100.00			
	Grindlays Bank	100.00			
	Kleinwort Benson	100.00			
	Anonymous	500.00			
2,275	Others	130.00			
1,541	Other Donations	570.34			
256	Deposit Account Interest	176.49			
17,729	Total Income	3,051.95	11,855	Total Expenditure	3,957.23
1,031	Bank Balance 1 October 1982 (1981)	6,905.79	6,905	Bank Balance 30 September 1983 (1982)	6,000.51
<u>£18,760</u>		<u>£9,957.74</u>	<u>£18,760</u>		<u>£9,957.74</u>

AUDITORS REPORT: The above income and expenditure account is in agreement with the accountancy records which in our opinion have been properly kept.

St Paul's House
London EC4P 4BN

December 1983

Moore Stephens & Co
Chartered Accountants



WE DO NOT FORGET

June 6, 1984, marked the 40th Anniversary of the D-Day landings, possibly the greatest military victory in history, when troops from seven nations stormed the beaches of Normandy and thus ensured the beginning of the end of the war in Europe.

So it was that H.M. The Queen, other Heads of State and Allied leaders, together with many thousands of the men who took part in the epic invasion, returned to the beaches of France this summer to recall that fateful day and to celebrate with French citizens, liberated from an evil regime.

But, above all, this was a pilgrimage to honour the memory of the thousands of men who gave their lives so that we might have freedom—many of them mere boys of 18.

Many visitors to Normandy this year were members of The Royal British Legion, who believe they owe it to those who did not come back to honour their memory and to care for their widows and children. Indeed, the presence of D-Day widows in France on June 6 was largely due to the Legion, who considerably influenced H.M. Government to include these women amongst the official visitors.

The RBL believe that it is not enough to remember only those who died in battle, although annual pilgrimages to war cemeteries in many parts of the world have been organised since 1948. For many, D-Day marked the beginning of a lifetime's battle against suffering and disablement and, for them, the Legion is on duty every day of the year.

The Legion are the country's largest private employer of disabled people and have twice won the Government's "Fit for Work"

Award. At their Poppy Factory in Richmond, Surrey, 103 severely disabled ex-Service men and women work full-time, and 9 part-time, to produce some 38 million poppies, 300,000 remembrance crosses and 67,000 wreaths for the annual Poppy Appeal. The Royal British Legion Village in Maidstone, Kent, employs more disabled people in a variety of work, including printing, the production of road signs and timber pallets. Here, too, is The Churchill Centre, a purpose-built assessment and rehabilitation centre. The Legion also operates the Attendant's Company, the second largest car parking and security organisation in the country, employing 716 ex-Service people, 28% of whom are disabled.

The plight of war widows has always concerned the Legion and they are doing all they can to right the anomalies of unjust pensions awarded to those whose husbands died before 1973. Pension rights in general are an important part of the Legion's work, with many thousands of cases being handled, free of charge, every year.

In the past 20 years the RBL's autonomous Housing Association has provided homes for more than 16,500 elderly and disabled people.

Their five Country Homes have proved a happy residential environment and skilled professional care for ex-Service men who, because of old age or infirmity, are unable to look after themselves. And their three Convalescent Homes give a short break, in peaceful surroundings, which is often all that is needed to complete the cure for those who have been ill.

Every year more and more people suffering as a result of war continue to turn to the Legion for help. This

is particularly evident now, as drastic pruning of State Health, Welfare and Social Services adds to the burden placed on the voluntary sector. But the ex-Service community knows it can rely upon the Legion in time of need. And the Legion knows it can depend upon the British public, whose generosity during each Poppy Appeal allows them to continue their wide range of benevolent and welfare work. Equally, they rely upon the help of people who give time as collectors, without whom the Appeal would not be possible.

Forty years ago, the end of six years of world-wide war was, at last, in sight. The poppies we wear this Remembrancetide will truly mean "we will remember them".

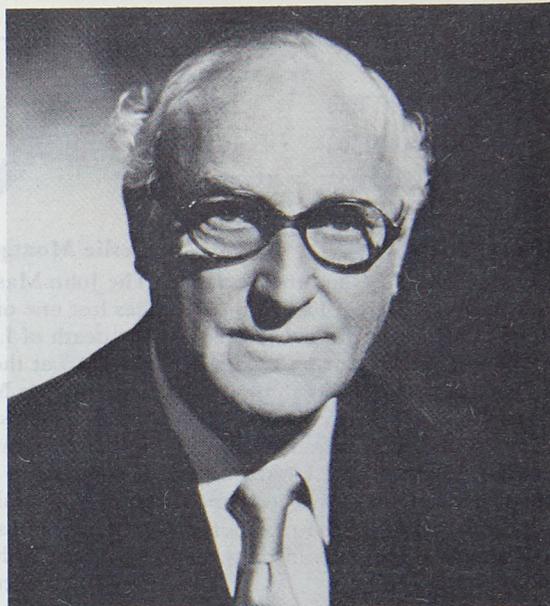
WHAT THEN?

Now when the day is over,
And the race is finally run,
Will you pause and wonder
Just how it had begun,
Well you see my dear friend,
It isn't up to us
To rant and rave and run around
Causing a great big fuss.
We try our best to be a man
Until we realize we are part of one
big plan,
So now you see,
How big we be
When face with reality.

George Graff
Quinte Cheshire Home, Ontario

Obituaries

GEOFFREY REID HERRICK



The news of the sudden death of Geoffrey Reid Herrick at the age of 74, while enjoying a pleasant holiday in the South of France was received with shock and sorrow by his many friends within the Foundation.

Geoffrey first became involved in work for the disabled in the 1950's when he joined the Nottingham Support Group of Staunton Harold, later becoming Chairman of the Steering Committee to start a Cheshire Home in Nottingham, a task he approached with his customary energy, enthusiasm and considerable organisational talents. When Holme Lodge was purchased in 1960 for £4,500 and the appeal fund was launched to bridge the gap between the £450 held in the bank, Geoffrey and his wife Marjorie held a party to celebrate his 50th birthday. Instead of presents he asked everyone attending to make a donation towards the home.

Holme Lodge opened its doors in April 1961 and Geoffrey remained its Chairman until he was appointed a Trustee of the Foundation in 1975, maintaining at all times his keen interest in the running of the home and his friendship with the residents, many of whom referred to him affectionately as "Dad".

Geoffrey's influence within the Foundation was a powerful one, bringing to every problem that had to be tackled his incisive common-sense, humanity and ability to cut through verbiage to arrive at the essential issues.

His confident, breezy personality cheered all he met and his optimism was infectious. A keen sense of humour and a willingness to listen to the point of view of others were just two of his many qualities.

His career started in 1940 when he volunteered for the Air Sea Rescue Service and skippered an Air Sea Rescue Launch. After the war he joined the Marathon Knitwear Company, one of the largest suppliers for Marks and Spencer, and described himself with impish humour as "a knicker manufacturer"! He joined the Board of this company in 1953, became Managing Director in 1968 and Chairman of the Company in 1971, but was always disarmingly modest about his considerable business achievements.

In his younger days he was a very keen sportsman and later a dedicated spectator, particularly of Rugby.

Of great personal warmth, and gaiety he was always willing to respond to any calls on his time and he and his wife Marjorie never missed a single social or fundraising function at Holme Lodge.

A comfort to his family and friends was the knowledge that Geoffrey died very peacefully and was conscious to the end with his wife and friends around him.

Typical of him was his request that, instead of a funeral, he would like a party held at Holme Lodge in his memory.

He leaves a wife and two sons, to whom deepest sympathy is extended. Geoffrey will be missed greatly.

AN APPRECIATION

by Len Archer

It was Geoffrey Reid Herrick's quality of utter dependability and his capacity for friendship which throughout his life made him a man of such distinction.

Successively as a Commissioned Officer, a Business Executive, Chairman of a Company and Head of a Government Training Board he was a Leader—not given to compromise but most generous in his tolerance of the views and ideals of others. He enjoyed to the full a breadth of interests both sporting and intellectual, built on a happy and secure family life.

It was latterly in connection with his work for the Leonard Cheshire Foundation that many of us knew him best of all. In our minds his name will always be inseparable from Holme Lodge where he was a Founder, then Chairman for 14 years before becoming a Trustee of the Foundation. He has given unique service and his mark is made indelibly.

We shall all, in our own ways, remember him with affection and respect.

FRED JOHNSON

Staunton Harold Cheshire Home have suffered a great loss in the death of Mr. Fred Johnson, aged 69, of Woodville, Burton-on-Trent. He was treasurer of Staunton Harold and had been actively involved in this home since it was founded 30 years ago. He was also one of the leaders in the persuasion and development of the new home at Netherseal, which is in the process of being built.

Jennifer Bramley aged 31, passed away on the 1st February. She became a resident at Mote House in July 1975 and was loved by us all. Through her sufferings she remained cheerful, showing much courage. She will be very sadly missed.

Jackie Beresford aged 48, passed away peacefully on the 24th May. She was at Mote House for approximately one year. Even in that short time, we came to know her and will miss her.

Leslie Montgomeri

The John Masefield Cheshire Home has lost one of its personalities in the death of Leslie Montgomeri (Monty) at the age of 71 on 24th April, 1984. Monty brought to the home a wide knowledge of the banking and commercial world, having been brought up living over the shop in a banking family and being a banker himself. From his time as Manager of the Bank of Scotland Branch in Piccadilly, London, he had many friends in the business world and was able to attract their interest in the home.

He served the home as Chairman of the Residents' Committee for a number of years and right up until the time of his death never ceased to show a deep concern for what was going on about him. He will be missed.

Ivy Langton, resident of Cann House, died peacefully on 1st June, 1984.

George Edward Bridge, resident of Cann House, died peacefully on 21st May, 1984.

Earl Pinder

Sadly we have to announce the death of Earl Pinder, resident of Mickley Hall, on the 10th June. He had been with us for 5½ years and was an active member of the Residents' Committee, of which he was Chairman during 1981.

He thought deeply about life in general and was a regular contributor to the Cheshire Smile. He was a poet of some repute, his entry in the Foundation's Creative Activity Contest last year won second prize, and as his entry for this year was prepared we are continuing to enter it as we feel this is what he would have wished us to do.

Cyril Madden, aged 56 years, died on the 7th January, 1984. One of the first residents of the new Jersey Cheshire Home, Cyril was a quiet, uncomplaining man who loved every moment of his new environment. Cyril had spent the previous four and a-half years in a geriatric unit and he lived for the day that the Cheshire Home would open. He will be sadly missed.



DIRECTORY 1984

THE LEONARD CHESHIRE FOUNDATION

Registered as a Charity Number 218186

Leonard Cheshire House, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London SW1P 2QN. Tel. 01-828-1822

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Founder: Group Capt. Leonard Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO, DFC

Past Chairmen: The Rt. Hon. Lord Denning, PC
Professor Geoffrey Cheshire
The Rt. Hon. Lord Edmund-Davies, PC

Chairman Emeritus: Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris, GCB, DSO, OBE, MA

Chairman: Peter Rowley, MC, MA

Hon. Treasurer: Dennis Greig

Trustees: Peter Allot; Dr. F. Beswick; Group Capt. G. L. Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO, DFC; Lady Sue Ryder CMG, OBE; Mrs. P. K. Farrell, OBE, JP; D. Greig; Dr. Wendy Greengross; His Honour Judge Inskip, QC; B. R. Marsh; Sir Henry Marking, KCVO, CBE, MC; Lady June Onslow; Mrs. G. Pattie; The Hon. Sir Peter Ramsbotham, GCMG, GCVO; D. M. Roe; Mrs. P. Rowntree; G. Thomas, BA; J. Threadingham, OBE; N. R. Trahair; J. V. Tindall; Mrs. E. Topliss; H. Turner; P. Wade; R. B. Weatherstone;

Director: Arthur L. Bennett, Deputy Director (Care):

C. Paul Brearley, Administration Manager: Simon Hardwick, Asst. Treasurer: Rita Bellety. Head of Mental Care: Michael Libby, Personnel Adviser: Miss M. D. Roe. Homes Planning Officer: Keith Cook, Family Support Service Adviser: Mrs Margot Hawker. Public Relations Consultant: Bill Simpson, Public Relations Officer: Mrs. Kay Christiansen Information Officer: Wally Sullivan.

Leonard Cheshire Homes care for the severely and permanently handicapped. 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 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 Leonard Cheshire Foundation (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.

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

The Family Support Services aim to provide personal care and help for physically and mentally handicapped people living in their own homes. It thereby helps to prevent or alleviate stress in families with handicapped member(s) and enables disabled people, whether living alone or with their families, to continue living at home for as long as possible. It is probable that family support services for disabled people (including services under the umbrellas of other organisations) will be greatly expanded as they meet the needs and wishes of so many people.

Family Support Services Adviser:

Mrs. Margot Hawker, Leonard Cheshire House, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London, SW1P 2QN. Tel: 01-828-1822 (Queries to Christine King).

SPECIAL SERVICES

Aids and Equipment Advisers:

Judith Cowley (South), Lesley King (North)

Flats for couples, one of whom is disabled:

Robin House, St. John's Road, Hitchin, Herts.

Disabled Students accommodation:

Taylor House, 16 Osler Road, Headington, Oxford. Oxford 68620.

CARE ADVICE SERVICE

Office: Leonard Cheshire House, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London SW1P 2QN.

Care Advisers: Hugh Bryant (South-West), Beryl Capon (South Yorks/Notts/Lincs), Mary Copsey (Central South), Brian Foster (Scotland and North-East), Bob Hopkinson (North-West), Sue Langdown (East Midlands), Harry Lowden (West Midlands), Alma Wise (South-East)

THE LEONARD CHESHIRE FOUNDATION HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Chairman: L. P. Mecklenburgh, Suite 1, Argyle House, 29-31 Euston Road, London NW1 2ST. Tel: 01-278-6630.

The Leonard Cheshire Foundation Housing Association deals with requests from groups and individuals, or committees acting on behalf of physically and/or mentally handicapped people. To acquire property or land, apply for funding through the Housing Corporation or Local Authority, and arrange for the conversion or building of suitably adapted accommodation. The accommodation may range from hostels, group homes, sheltered housing or independent houses in the community.

THE LEONARD CHESHIRE FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL

Chairman International Committee: Sir Henry Marking, KCVO, CBE, MC

International Director:

International Secretary: Miss Toni Morgan, Leonard Cheshire House, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London, SW1P 2QN. Tel: 01-828-1822

The Leonard Cheshire Foundation International comprises some 147 homes in 45 countries throughout the world.

THE RYDER-CHESHIRE MISSION (for the Relief of Suffering)

Registered as a Charity Number 235988

Founders: Lady Ryder of Warsaw, CMG, OBE, and Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO, DFC, in association with Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

President: Mrs. Lakshmi Pandit.

Chairman: The Hon. Sir Peter Ramsbotham, GCMG, GCVO.

Administrator: Michael Humfrey.

The Mission was founded by Lady Sue Ryder and Leonard Cheshire for the principal purpose of pioneering new projects which, although fulfilling a clear need and in keeping with their general aims and objects, would not quite fall within the scope of their respective Foundations. Five such projects are:—

Raphael, the Ryder-Cheshire International Centre, P.O. Box 157 Dehra Dun, U.P., India which cares for some 300 people of all age groups who are in need.

Raphael comprises a colony for burnt out leprosy sufferers, a home for severely mentally retarded children, the "Little White House" for destitute orphaned children and a small hospital with two separate wings, one for general nursing and the other for the treatment of TB.

In addition, Raphael operates a mobile TB and leprosy clinic in the Tehri, Garhwal area of

the Himalayan foothills. There is a Cheshire Home in Dehra Dun itself, so Raphael is not able to appeal locally for funds. With effect from June 1976, responsibility for its financial upkeep has been assumed by the several separate and autonomous Ryder-Cheshire Foundations which exist in Australia and New Zealand.

The administration is in the hands of a General Council and the Director is Major-General Ranbir Bakhshi MC (Retd).

Gabriel, Mount Poonamallee Road, Manapakkam, Madras 600-089, India

Gabriel is a training unit for leprosy and other patients who are living on their own in Madras but who are incapable of obtaining work because they lack a trade.

The Unit is financed mainly from Indian sources, but some help is given by the Ryder-Cheshire Mission.

The Chairman of the General Council is N. E. S. Raghavachari, ICS, (Retd.).

The Ryder-Cheshire Home, Jorpati, Kathmandu, Nepal

This home for 30 disabled young people is intended to complement the work of the existing Nepal Disabled and Blind Association which donated the land to the Mission. The home will concentrate on the rehabilitation of its residents and will share its training facilities with the N.D.B.A.

The home will be administered by a Governing Committee and a Local Administrator has already been appointed.

Because it is not possible to raise locally any of the funds needed to run the home, all the money required has to be found by the Mission within the United Kingdom.

Ryder-Cheshire Films Unit, Cavendish, Suffolk

This Unit produces films and video-tape programmes about the work of the Founders and their respective Foundations. Details of these productions are available on request.

Raphael Pilgrimages

A pilgrimage to Lourdes is arranged annually for chronically ill and permanently handicapped people who might not be accepted on other pilgrimages. Willing helpers are welcomed on these pilgrimages.

The Leader of Pilgrimages is Gilbert Thompson, 77 Woodcote Road, Caversham Heights, Reading, Berks, RG4 7EY.

SUE RYDER FOUNDATION

Registered as a Charity Number 222291

Sue Ryder Home, Cavendish, Suffolk, CO10 8AY.

Founder: Lady Sue Ryder, CMG, OBE

Chairman: H. N. Sporborg, CMG

Honorary Councillors: Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO, DFC; Miss E. B. Clarke, CVO, MA BLitt (Oxford), JP; A. J. A. Green; W. L. Morris; J. Priest; A. Powditch, MC; Lady Ryder of Warsaw CMG, OBE; Mrs. M. Smith, JP, John L. Stevenson, FCS, ACIS, FTIL.

The Sue Ryder Foundation was established by Lady Ryder during the Post War Years, after she had been doing relief work on the Continent. Its purpose was—and still is—the relief of suffering on a wide scale by means of personal service, helping the needy, sick and disabled everywhere, irrespective of age, race or religion and thus serving as a Living Memorial to all who underwent persecution or died in defence of human values, especially during the two World Wars. Sue Ryder Homes care for the sick and needy of all ages, including children, and principally for the incurably sick and disabled, the homeless and those others for whom the general hospitals can do no more and who have no suitable place to go.

There are Sue Ryder Homes/Hospitals in Britain and overseas.