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ISSUE NO.2  
AUTUMN 1994

# CHESHIRE *Smile* INTERNATIONAL

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE LEONARD CHESHIRE FOUNDATION

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Indonesia, Liberia, Moscow, Delhi and Canada step into the limelight

**World Week**  
Exclusive pictures from the event of the decade, plus a special eight-page supplement for you to keep



**Cheshire's Treasure Trove**  
The Cheshire Archives yield some exciting discoveries

**Rupert Ridge**  
The Foundation's new International Director paints his vision of the future



**WORLD WEEK 1994**  
Supplement inside

## EDITOR'S



## COMMENT

In the eyes of many people, this has been one of the greatest years in the history of the Foundation – thanks to the overwhelming success of World Week 1994.

It seemed an almost impossible feat but, with the help of a little organisational flair and a great deal of hard work, some 1,000 delegates were finally brought together for a series of conferences, debates and celebrations which served to both inform and inspire everyone present.

But what really made World Week 1994 so special was the people. Everybody seemed to have an amazing story to tell, and there were always more than enough delegates willing to listen!

Conversations developed between people of every race, religion, culture and colour until the event became one fascinating exchange of information from all around the globe.

It's an exchange which began almost 50 years ago – when the Foundation was first launched – and we must never let it stop. Unfortunately, we can't live in a perpetual World Week. But we CAN keep talking, through the one medium which is accessible to us all – this magazine.

Through *Cheshire Smile International*, you can tell your story to thousands of people all over the world, without even leaving your home! So keep talking to us – and we promise that we'll pass the message on...

*Jennie Taylor*

Jennie Taylor  
Editor

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Cheshire Smile International is supplied as a free service to all Cheshire Foundation Homes and Services. Because of this, we do try to keep costs to a minimum and are extremely grateful for any contributions made towards the running of the magazine.

To make a donation, please make your cheque payable to The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, and send it to The Editor, Cheshire Smile International, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London SW1P 2QN, England.

The Leonard Cheshire Foundation promotes the care, general well-being and rehabilitation of people with physical, mental and learning disabilities, through more than 320 Homes and Services around the world.

Front cover: Indonesian resident Nursad perfects his tennis service, thanks to a specially-designed Motivation wheelchair (see feature, pages 20-21) Photo: David Constantine, Motivation

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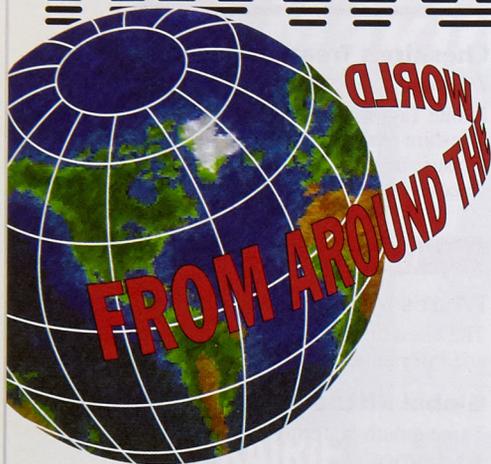
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## UK Foundation Launches Civil Rights Survey

A major exercise to solicit resident and client views on Civil Rights legislation for disabled people has been mounted by The Leonard Cheshire Foundation in the UK.

The exercise, which is in the form of a questionnaire distributed to every UK Home and Service, is believed to be the first of its kind in the country.

Completed questionnaires will be used as the basis for the Foundation's overall response to a consultation document, published by the British

Government in July. This comprises a list of recommendations for piecemeal – as opposed to comprehensive – legislation and has been drafted following public criticism of the Government's blockage of the Civil Rights (Disabled Persons) Bill earlier this year.

Meanwhile, the Bill itself has once again passed through its Second Reading in the House of Lords and there are plans to push for further time in the Commons.

## Seven Wonders of the World

No less than seven Cheshire Homes in almost as many countries are due to open in the next few months, according to latest reports.

The first opening will take place on Saturday, 17 September – at **Merewent Cheshire Home** in Durban, South Africa, while the

following day will be a landmark for **Soweto Cheshire Home**, as it completes its third phase to cater for an additional 20 residents.

On Wednesday, 19 October, UK Foundation Chairman Sir Geoffrey Howlett and International Director Rupert Ridge will attend the opening of China's second Home, at **Wuhan** on the Yangtze River.

**Casa de Santo Amaro** – a new Home for 32 residents in the Algarve, southern Portugal – is due for completion this November, while the **Kyrenia Rehabilitation Centre** in Northern Cyprus hopes to open in the New Year.

Also scheduled to open in 1995 are **Cheshire Home Pierrefond**, on the island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean, and **Roi-Et Province** in north east Thailand.



Photo: Diana Khoo

*Such an undignified position for a lady! One of the magnificent statues to be erected outside Wuhan's new Cheshire Home in China*

# An Electrifying Experience!



The infamous balloon, just before lift-off

A police helicopter, four ambulances, three fire engines and two police cars – all with blue lights flashing and sirens wailing – greeted Foundation resident Gordon Cull when he “dropped” into Luton recently.

Public-spirited people who saw Gordon’s hot air balloon passing close to electricity pylons as the pilot came in to land were so concerned that they alerted the emergency services for fear of a serious accident!

But for Gordon, who was fulfilling a life-long ambition, the landing was totally safe and normal. “We were not panicking, but someone obviously was!” he said.

Gordon is a resident of Newlands House Cheshire Home in Derbyshire, England. Having lost the use of his limbs through multiple sclerosis, he now uses a specially-adapted wheelchair which enables him to get about through manipulation of a head-controlled joystick.

But his recent balloon flight was certainly the most ambitious – and lucrative – outing to date, with more than £2,300 raised in sponsorship money.

In spite of his dramatic landing, Gordon said he would recommend a balloon flight to anyone. “It was a wonderful experience and many more people could take advantage of the highly professional and sensitive way it was all done.”



Gordon, looking incredibly calm amid the general bustle of the day

# Northern Cyprus to Open First Home

The very first Cheshire Home in Northern Cyprus is due to open in the next few months, at the beautiful coastal resort of Kyrenia.

While Kyrenia Rehabilitation Centre will begin by providing day and respite care, there are hopes that it will eventually expand to take in full-time residents. The country has a great need for residential care, as the only current option for disabled people unable to live independently is to move into a Government-run hospital.

The Cheshire project was initiated in the mid-1980s under steering Committee Chairman Attila Berberoglu. And its future Chairman looks likely to be another local man – 39 year old Ulus Ekrem.

Ulus lost the use of his legs in 1982 following a motorbike

accident, and was flown to England for a six-month stint at Stoke Mandeville rehabilitation hospital. A wheelchair user, he now runs a bar in the centre of Kyrenia and drives his own car.

Full of optimism for the future, Ulus is convinced that the new Centre will be the first of many in Northern Cyprus.

“This will be the beginning because there are already plenty of similar projects underway.

“The main problem we have is the supply of equipment, which we are currently waiting to receive from various countries abroad.

“We know that we can do anything as long as we have the equipment.

“It all takes money, which we do not have – there are many other charities in Northern Cyprus and we

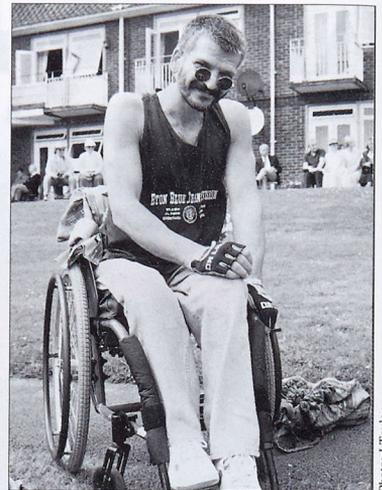


Photo: J Taylor

*Chairman-elect Ulus Ekrem – possibly the trendiest delegate to World Week!*

have to compete with them for funds. And because we are new, we need extra help.”

Ulus added: “I am sure that, were it not for the hospitality and kindness of the LCF, this Centre would never have been possible.

“Our only hope now is that it will open the eyes of the people, so that it

## State Honours for Mangalore

Octavia Albuquerque, Chairwoman of Mangalore Cheshire Home in south-west India, became a celebrity earlier this year, when she received State Honours for her work with disabled adults and children.

Some 3,000 people from across the region, as well as TV and newspaper journalists, attended the special ceremony on Sunday 20 March, where Mrs Albuquerque was presented with a commemorative certificate and 5,000 rupees for the Mangalore Home’s new building.



*Smiles all round, as Mrs Albuquerque receives her award from the Chief Minister of Karnataka State*

## Speaking in Tongues

The Foundation is making an extra effort to overcome linguistic barriers, by having its new international Cheshire Charter translated into several key languages.

Selected native speakers within the Foundation will be responsible for the actual translation of the Charter. These alternative versions will then be printed in the corporate style via the International Office, before being distributed to the relevant Homes and Services.

The Charter will initially be translated into Hindi, Tamil, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Mandarin, Japanese and Russian. However, the International Office would be happy to consider other languages if a specific request is made.

# This is LCF World Service...

*Smile* has announced the name of its first official country correspondent – Moises Diaz, from Quezon City in the Philippines.

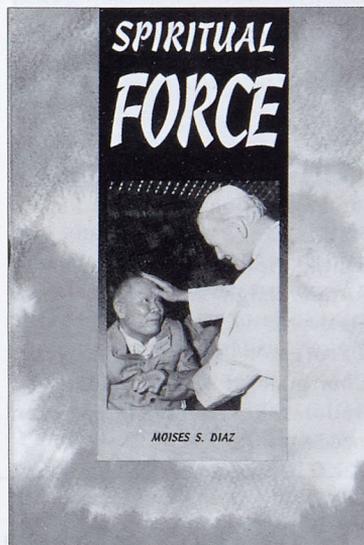
Moises, who has a severe physical disability, will be responsible for relaying news and information on Cheshire Homes and Services throughout the Philippines to Head Office in London.

He comes to the position with an impressive CV. After gaining several degrees at universities in America, India and his home country, he went on to become a researcher, sociology consultant and writer with a long list of publications to his name.

Now retired from full-time employment, Moises still has more than enough to keep him busy. In addition to being Editor of disability magazine *The Handicapped*, he is General Manager of the House with no Steps Foundation, Public Relations Officer to the Philippine

Council of Cheshire Homes, and President of the Wheelchair and Disabled Association of the Philippines.

Here at *Smile*, the ultimate aim is



A copy of *Spiritual Force* – one of the many publications written by new *Smile* correspondent Moises Diaz

to have at least one correspondent in each of the International Regions. While we are unable to offer payment, all writers will be acknowledged in the magazine and arrangements will be made to cover any reasonable expenses incurred.

Users and residents who have journalistic experience and/or skills and would like to be considered for such a position should send their details to The Editor at 26-29 Maunsel Street, London SW1P 2QN, England.

## Send Us Your Videos!

Conscious of the growing importance of video as a means of communication and as a publicity and information tool, several Homes and Services have now started to produce their own films.

The Foundation's International Office needs to keep up with new developments within the Foundation worldwide, and sees video as the ideal means of achieving this. So if your Home or Service has made – or is intending to make – a video, we would love to receive a copy!

## Thoughts for the Future

One of the highlights of World Week for many delegates was a special showing of *Thoughts for the Future* – a video made by Leonard Cheshire in 1975, in which he speaks of his aims, ideas and vision for the Foundation as it approaches the 21st century.

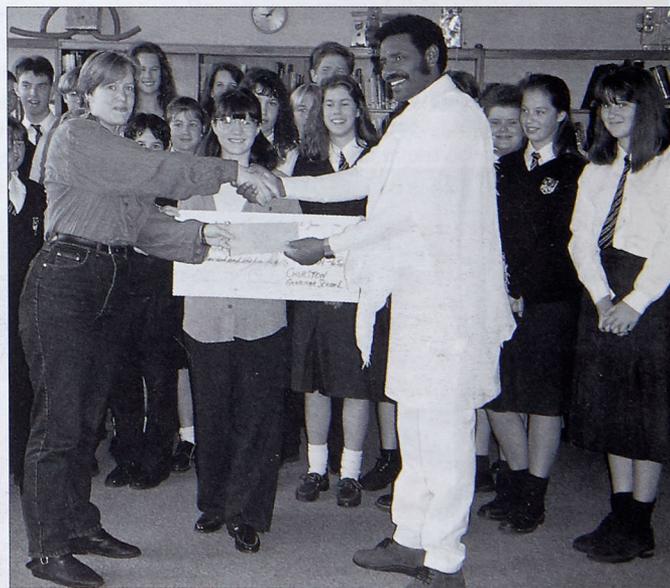
Since the showing, our International Office has received so many queries about the video that it has decided to send one copy to every Home around the world.

However, in order to do so, we first need to know which system you use. Please send details as soon as possible to Lynette Learoyd at The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London SW1P 2QN, England.

## Fasting for Funds

Pupils of Churston school in Devon raised more than £2,000 for Ethiopia's Feeding Centre recently, by going without food for 24 hours.

Their efforts were rewarded in June, when they were able to present their cheque personally to Cheshire Foundation Ethiopia's national co-ordinator Negussie Sellassie, who was visiting England for World Week.



Negussie Sellassie receiving the cheque from pupils of Churston school

## Ronald Travers Becomes Foundation VP

Ronald Travers, who officially retired from his post as International Director at the end of World Week 1994, has been elected a Vice President of the Foundation.

Ron's involvement with the LCF dates back to 1956, when he first started working as a volunteer at Le Court. He went on to become Leonard Cheshire's second in command and was made International Director in 1979.

Following his retirement as International Director, Ron sent a special message to members of the Foundation, thanking everyone who sent presents and messages of good will.

"They were so numerous that I was completely overwhelmed. The love

and kindness that they expressed will be a constant source of happy memories," he said.

"After so many wonderful years with the Foundation there will, I know, be a huge gap in my life but, very soon, that gap will be filled with those unforgettable memories."

### Other Appointments

Also appointed as Vice President of the Foundation is Charles Fenton OBE, a former President of the West Riding Homes in England and a former High Sheriff of West Yorkshire.

Professor Patrick Nuttgens, Chairman of the Foundation's Building Review Team, has been made a Trustee.



*Ron Travers receiving a commemorative baton from the Red Arrows, in recognition of his achievements as International Director*

## A Century to Remember

The Foundation's first ever nurse and one of its oldest residents died earlier this year – just five months after celebrating her 100th birthday.

Mrs Anne Mills – known to her friends as Nancy – was born on November 5, 1893 in the English

county of Middlesex. She witnessed the advent of the first motor cars and aeroplanes, as well as of radio and TV, and experienced two world wars – the second as a volunteer nurse.

Having brought up two sons, Nancy was widowed in 1945. Three

years later, she leaped at the opportunity to help Leonard Cheshire with his pioneering project, by becoming the first nurse at Le Court.

Already in her mid-50s, Nancy shared the hardships, problems and challenges of those early days with Leonard Cheshire. Their mutual admiration and respect grew with the years, even after Nancy left to be near her two sons in Canada. She and Leonard never lost contact and, in addition to regular letters, they took the opportunity to meet during GC's two visits to Vancouver.

In recent years, the wheel came full circle and Nancy became a resident of Golden Ears Retirement Centre, part of the Cheshire Homes Society of British Columbia. There, she remained active almost to the end – walking up to a mile a day and acting as President of the Residents' Council.

*Nancy Mills in her later years, with great-grandchildren Jason, Melanie and Jimmy*



# A Vision of the Future

*This summer marked the beginning of a new era for the Foundation, when it officially welcomed new International Director Rupert Ridge. We talked to Rupert, to find out a little about him and his aims and visions for the future of the organisation worldwide.*

One could describe Rupert Ridge as having married into the Foundation some time ago, since it was through his wife, Blanche, that he was first introduced to a Cheshire Home. In 1878, Blanche's great-great-grandmother founded St Michael's in England as a TB sanatorium, and in 1968 the family gave it to The Leonard Cheshire Foundation.

It was as committee member and Chairman of this Home that Rupert first learned about the realities of disability and started to appreciate the dedication and skill of those who care for disabled people.

Yet, with a successful career at British Aerospace, it was not until he heard about the International Foundation's forthcoming vacancy that he really started to hope he might be chosen as a full-time member of staff. Now, just a few months later, Rupert has already settled into his new position as though it were tailor-made for him.

## A Learning Curve

Since joining the Foundation in April, Rupert has made introductory visits to some eight different countries, mostly in the company of his predecessor Ron Travers.

"While I was expecting to find tremendous differences between the various Homes, I was impressed by the way in which each still reflects the life of the community they serve



Photo: J. Taylor

and of which they are a part. There will always be a place for residential Homes, but we must continue to offer choice in the form of other services set up in parallel or as part of those Homes," he says.

Acknowledging that the Foundation is at something of a watershed, following the recent death of its Founder, Rupert sees our work as naturally dividing into three areas – the Homes and Services currently in operation, the Homes and Services of the future, and the need to look outwards and respond to any new demands that may arise.

He places particular emphasis on training, describing it as the most significant element in the operation of the International Regions.

"I think it is important to allow existing Homes and Services to continue building on their strong foundations. But this should always be with a view to development, so as to benefit from new training techniques, facilities and skills, and the ever-changing requirements of disabled people in their local communities."

He adds: "We must not lose sight of the Founder's faith in people, and that is why I am convinced that the key to the future lies in training. Training helps people to help themselves and thereby share skills

and knowledge with maximum efficiency and minimum cost."

## Sharing Strengths

The International Regions were created some time ago, in recognition of the enormity of the Foundation's mandate and of the different characteristics of each area.

At this time of change and evolution, Rupert and his team are looking to streamline and improve the existing structure in order to facilitate the sharing of experiences within each Region.

He is also enthusiastic about the building of strong links between Homes in different countries, through exchanges and inter-communication. He sees this as a valuable way of sharing skills and of drawing on each others' cultural, spiritual and professional strengths, and has stated his intention to do everything possible to work towards greater understanding and exchange between all the Homes.

## Complete Dedication

Rupert is convinced that, while the next few years will present many challenges, the Leonard Cheshire Foundation has the strength and foresight to meet those challenges and transform them into success.

"Our Foundation possesses a unique and vital quality – its ability to attract the complete dedication of those who belong to it. This is the dedication to a single and identifiable purpose – that of our Founder's vision – and it is vividly represented in my amazingly hard-working and committed team, and in all the Homes and Services both overseas and in the UK," he says.

One thing which becomes clear in talking to Rupert is that he too possesses that vision – plus the energy, faith and dedication to carry us forward into the next century. ■

## Know Your Onions!

*Access in Paris* is the latest in a superb series of travel guides for people with mobility problems, which have been compiled by a team of experienced researchers.

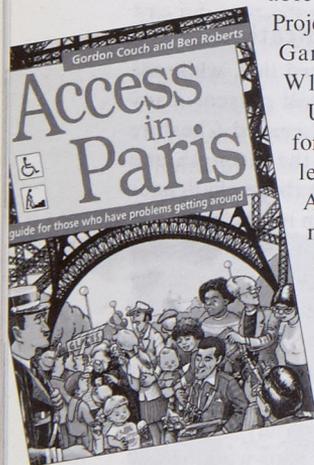
In addition to the usual advice on climate, sightseeing and useful phrases, all the books contain unique information not available anywhere else. This includes details of accessible accommodation, leisure facilities and entertainment venues, a list of recommended itineraries and – last but not least – a “good loo guide” (with map!).

The guides manage to combine readability with meticulous detail, with steps counted, handrails identified and lifts and doors measured. Although most of the text is in English, symbols used throughout the book are also translated into French, German, Spanish and Italian.

Published by Pauline Hephaistos Survey Projects on disability, other guides in the series cover Jersey, Israel and London. They are available from Access

Project at 39, Bradley Gardens, London W13 8HE, England.

Users are asked for a donation of at least £5 per copy. Anyone sending money from abroad should send cash in local currency or a cheque in sterling.



## Not Involved But Ignored

There are about 250 million disabled women in the world today, of whom about three quarters live in developing countries. And yet many international development programmes fail to address the needs of disabled women or include them in community development ventures.

Concerned about this state of affairs, disability organisation Mobility International (MIUSA) is asking for information on development schemes which have successfully involved disabled women.

In addition, it has published a booklet entitled *Including Women with Disabilities in Development Projects*, which is now available in English, French or Spanish.

Anyone wishing to submit information to MIUSA or receive a booklet should write to DWD Project, c/o Mobility International USA, PO Box 10767, Eugene, Oregon 97440 USA.

## South Africa Back in the Swim

The democratic elections and subsequent new government in South Africa have restored it to full membership of the World Health Organisation (WHO). South Africa lost its voting privileges in 1964, and has not participated in any World Health Assembly since 1966.

## Doctors Bone Up On New Test

Doctors in Britain have developed a revolutionary new test to identify those people most likely to suffer from osteoarthritis.

The test involves the injection of a “bone-seeking” chemical and mildly radioactive agent into the blood stream, which then show up susceptible areas on a special camera. Studies over a five-year period proved that the test can also predict which joints will be damaged, thereby enabling doctors to prescribe appropriate medication and treatment.



## Flying High

If you've ever considered air travel but been put off by the practical difficulties, then a new publication by the Disabled Living Foundation could be for you.

*Flying High* is specifically aimed at disabled and elderly people who would like to visit family and friends or enjoy holidays overseas. Although published in the UK, much of the booklet is relevant to travellers anywhere in the world.

It takes readers through the journey step by step, with chapters on planning the trip, what to expect at the airport and on board, arrival, and the return journey. It also includes useful information on personal hygiene and special equipment, with a list of suppliers' addresses and sources of additional information.

Copies of *Flying High* cost £2.50 inc. p & p and are available from the Disabled Living Foundation at 380-384 Harrow Road, London W9 2HU, England.

From "What does she think about the Civil Rights Bill?" to "Does he take one lump or two?", some people seem to think that having a disability makes you incapable of speaking for yourself. Frustrating, infuriating, or simply par for the course? We asked four people to give their views on:

## How do disabled people feel about non-disabled people speaking on their behalf?

### Vicious Circle

I hate it when people try to speak on my behalf – it's like they think I'm not capable of having my own ideas or of expressing myself, and that really damages my self-esteem.

I know that many disabled people do let others speak for them because they've got into the habit of relying on others. More and more disability groups are becoming aware that this is a real problem because it creates a vicious circle.

For example, recently in Portugal there was a conference about Women, Disability and the Family and no one at the table had a disability! They were all "experts" obsessed with theories, and had no personal experience of the realities of being a disabled person.

In Portugal, most of the disabled population is illiterate and therefore unable to express itself. We need to ensure that disabled people are entitled to a full education and made aware of their rights so that they can talk about their own situations, aspirations, and feelings. After all – we are the ones who know best!

**Irene Pereira**  
*International conference spokesperson and resident – Lisbon, Portugal*



### Give us Time!

As a severely disabled person, I get very frustrated when able-bodied professionals try to predict what I am going to say. While they are desperately figuring it out, I could have said it in half the time!

They either think they are helping

me with speech difficulties, or feel embarrassed that they can't understand me but won't admit it. The problem is that most professionals are not trained to deal with people's speech difficulties. If proper training were provided, life would be a lot easier.

Lack of time is another reason why professionals try to predict what I'm going to say. People with disabilities need TIME – more time than able-bodied people, because we can't respond as quickly. The world would be a better place altogether if we gave each other more time.

**John Cook**

### Making the Point

I think that, in a general sense, it is only OK for a non-disabled person to speak for disabled people if they have experience in the disability field.

Personally, I do not like it when people try to speak for me – for instance, when I'm talking to another person. It's not so bad when it's somebody who has known me for a long time because the chances are that we have discussed the subject before and they know my thoughts.

But people sometimes interrupt when I am trying to express myself, in order to make my point for me. The problem is that, if they don't know me very well, the point they make is usually completely different from the one I was trying to make!

**Wayne Middlebrook**  
*Resident – Toronto, Canada*



# Speak

### Experience is the Key

It does depend on the circumstances and the person who's speaking. If it's someone who has knowledge and experience of disabled people and really has their finger on the pulse, then it's usually OK. Sometimes, for example, my care worker may be in a better position to decide what I need because they have the experience. Also, I'm very proud – I hate to face defeat until it's imminent and then I often wish I'd listened to their advice!

However, I don't like it when people who do not know me decide what I am trying to say. I sometimes get quite angry at conferences and meetings, because people can be very condescending and patronising without even meaning to be.

Sometimes people get it so wrong that it becomes clear they don't know what they're talking about. But then again, neither do the politicians!

**Jamie Miller**

In the December issue, we will be asking:

**Do you think disabled people have enough say in the running of the Foundation?**

Please send your views (not more than 150 words) to the Editor by Monday, 3 October 1994.

# LIBERIA

*Miata Watson from Liberia's Cheshire Home suggested some traditional recipes of her native Var tribe in western Liberia. Many readers may have difficulty obtaining the exact ingredients, but Miata assures us that they can be adapted as necessary!*



## Cassava Leaf and Rice

### Ingredients

- 1lb/400gms diced meat (beef and/or chicken)
- 2 pieces of dried fish
- water
- 2 small bundles cassava leaves
- 10oz/250gms rice
- vegetable oil
- salt and pepper

### Method

Grind the cassava leaves. Boil the meat and fish together until tender and season well to taste. Pour the remaining stock into another pan with the ground cassava and simmer for about 45 minutes.

Meanwhile, remove the bones from the fish and cook the rice. Just before the cassava is cooked, add the meat and fish to the pot along with a little oil and more seasoning if necessary. Serve hot on a bed of rice.

## Liberian Fry-up

### Ingredients

- 4 plantains, peeled
- 2 fresh fish, with bones removed
- 2 onions
- 6oz/150gms tomatoes
- vegetable oil
- salt and pepper

### Method

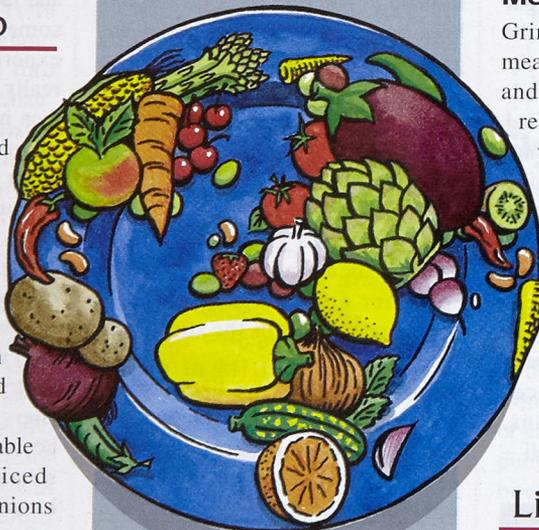
Season the fish pieces with salt and pepper.

Fry in the vegetable oil with the sliced plantains, sliced onions and chopped tomatoes.

Serve hot or cold.



## GLOBAL



## KITCHEN

Please note: Unless otherwise specified, all recipes are for four people.

## Liberian Fruit Salad

### Ingredients

- 2 grapefruit
- 2 bananas
- 1 small pineapple
- 2 small cups of milk

### Method

Halve the grapefruit and scoop out the flesh, putting the shells to one side. Dice the grapefruit flesh and add the sliced banana and diced pineapple. Add the milk and stir. Serve the salad in the grapefruit shells.

# MILES OF SMILES

Western Region    Central Region    European and Northern Region    Eastern Region    Far Eastern Region



Photos: David Constantine, Motivation

A fascinating project to construct specially-designed wheelchairs in Indonesia is just one of the areas covered in this issue (pages 20 & 21). From there, we go to the slightly chillier climes of Moscow, then on to Delhi, Liberia and British Columbia – not forgetting our two-page colour spread showing some of the feats and faces of World Week.

*Miles of Smiles*

# Delhi – The World's

Right at the heart of political India – in its capital city of New Delhi – lies an impressive Cheshire Home which, in addition to catering for some 100 residents, provides a vast range of complementary facilities and services. These include a children's wing for 5 to 15-year-olds with physical or learning disabilities, a Day Care Centre which teaches vocational training skills to people from both inside and outside the Home, three and a half acres of land for gardening and recreation, and a Physiotherapy and Recreation Centre opened by Lord Cheshire during his last visit on 19th May 1992. In addition, the Home runs a pioneering outreach service to provide advice and disability aids to people in the locality.

Smile reporter Kate Buchanan paid a visit to the capital, to find out exactly what makes India's largest Cheshire Home tick.

**D**elhi Cheshire Home is a buzzing microcosm of India, where everyone – residents, managers, cooks and gardeners and their families – lives and works together as part of a truly integrated community.

"We're just one big family," says Colonel Purkayastha, the Home's administrator who is affectionately known as "Purky" and lives in the

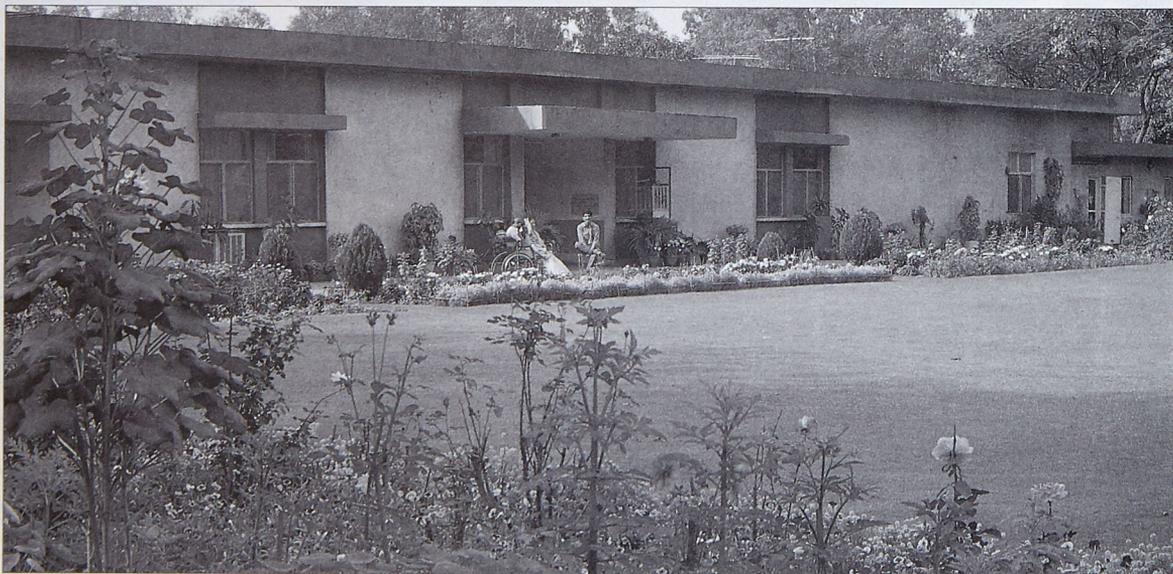
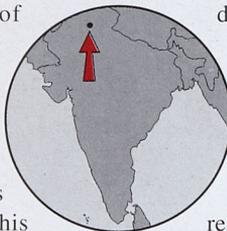
grounds along with most of his five-generation family!

Purky's wife, who goes by the unsurprising nickname of "Mrs Purky", acts as the driving force behind one of the Home's most attractive features – its fabulous gardens with their magnificent displays of fresh flowers. While this



*Residents and staff work together in the Home's new Physiotherapy and Recreation Centre*

makes them a source of pleasure to everyone in the Home, the gardens are far from being for purely decorative purposes. On the contrary, Mrs Purky has set about ensuring that the Home's three and a half acres of land also provide enough fresh vegetables for the residents' daily needs.



*Exotic flowers and herbaceous borders surround Delhi's Cheshire Home*

# s largest Cheshire Home

The rest of the food (all of which is vegetarian) is donated to the Home through an ingenious scheme. Any member of the local community can pay for a meal on a particular day of their choice, as a way of commemorating the anniversary or feast day of a loved one. Anniversaries of deaths are especially fruitful, with relatives keen to pay their respects by donating the 300 rupees (about £7) it costs to provide a full meal for all the residents and staff.

## Freedom of Choice

Everyone in the Home receives their meal on a tray and takes it to eat wherever they wish within the grounds – in the sun, in bed, alone or in a group – the choice is theirs. Such freedom of choice is paramount here. General Dhody, the Home's Honorary Secretary and a trustee for the Foundation in India, is determined that each resident should be enabled to lead as "normal" a life as possible through personal choice and independence.

To this end, residents are encouraged to get involved in the large amounts of piecework undertaken for local firms in the Home's impressive day care centre. Here, in return for a small salary, pens are assembled, bags stitched and lampshades constructed.

Some residents are even paid for their functions within the Home, such as watchman, and while this has created some rivalry, General Dhody is adamant that any problems are far outweighed by the advantages. "It has created some jealousy and competition,

but that is good. You and I deal with ego, jealousy, status and materialism as an everyday part of life. If residents are to lead 'normal' lives, then so must they," he says.

## It's all Here

One of the Home's greatest success stories is that of Shivjeet Singh, who became paralysed at the age of 21 while training for his university basketball team.

He heard about India's Cheshire Homes after seven years of moving in and out of rehabilitation hospitals. Having mentally and physically come to terms as best he could with his paralysis, he wanted somewhere to begin his new life. "I need special care as I am totally dependent physically but I also wanted to be with fellow wheelchair users who understand me. I also wanted independence but within a secure and homely environment. It's a lot to ask and I thought it would be impossible to find, but it is all here at the Cheshire Home in Delhi."

Now 35 and a chemistry postgraduate, Shivjeet is gaining recognition as a pioneer of counselling and care for people with spinal injuries in India. He has set up a counselling service at the Home in Delhi and dedicates his time to the collection and dissemination of information nationwide.

"Understanding our condition and helping us to cope with it is beyond

current Indian society – unless you are lucky enough to join a Cheshire Home family, as I did," he says.

"In the Cheshire Home I have a family, a job outside as a counsellor and adviser on spinal injuries, and I help out in the kitchen. I am worth something and can contribute to society. Without this I would have had nowhere else to go that fulfilled me. I have got my life back and I want to help others achieve the same," he adds.

## Catering for Everyone

Shivjeet shares the Cheshire Home with people of all ages and disabilities and, while this helps to create a balanced and stimulating environment, it also makes it difficult to provide comprehensive training, treatment and teaching programmes. However, the fabulous new Physiotherapy and Recreation Centre is able to cater for everyone and, together with British care worker Pat Morrison, staff are beginning to develop individually-tailored classes for each resident.

As in most Indian Homes, shortage of staff due to costs is a real problem here.

Despite this, the energy and dedication of everyone at the Delhi Home have helped to secure its reputation among the general public as a model community worthy of emulation.

The needs of Delhi's disabled population are so vast that they will only be met with the help of considerable investment and planning. But just as important as money are mentality and attitudes, and it is the region's Cheshire Home which is laying the foundations for a brighter future – where quality of life becomes a natural right for every Indian with a disability. ■



*Vijay Laxmi has cerebral palsy and until the age of 16 her family made no effort to stimulate or communicate with her. Since coming to the Delhi Cheshire Home, she has made great progress in occupational therapy and has learned to control her movements through weekly physiotherapy. Now 27, she is rarely seen without a smile on her face!*

Miles of Smiles



Photos: Ken McKay and J. Taylor

Delegates at Le Court come face to face with the Red Devils



Foundation trustee Muriel Taylor deep in conversation with Edward Emedo from Lagos, Nigeria

# World Week



Glynne Williams, Lynette Edwards and Dawne Richards frm Guyana, in national costume



June Beslièvre from Jersey puts Jude Bwalya and Sisters Julian Sheeky and Helen Mwalye from Zambia in the picture



Malagan with pres of the Reg Parahute



Stephen Walsh and Arthur Byrne from Richmond in Eire



# Week 1994



...an and Chinese delegates  
...representative and mascots  
...Regimental Band of  
...the Minute Regiment



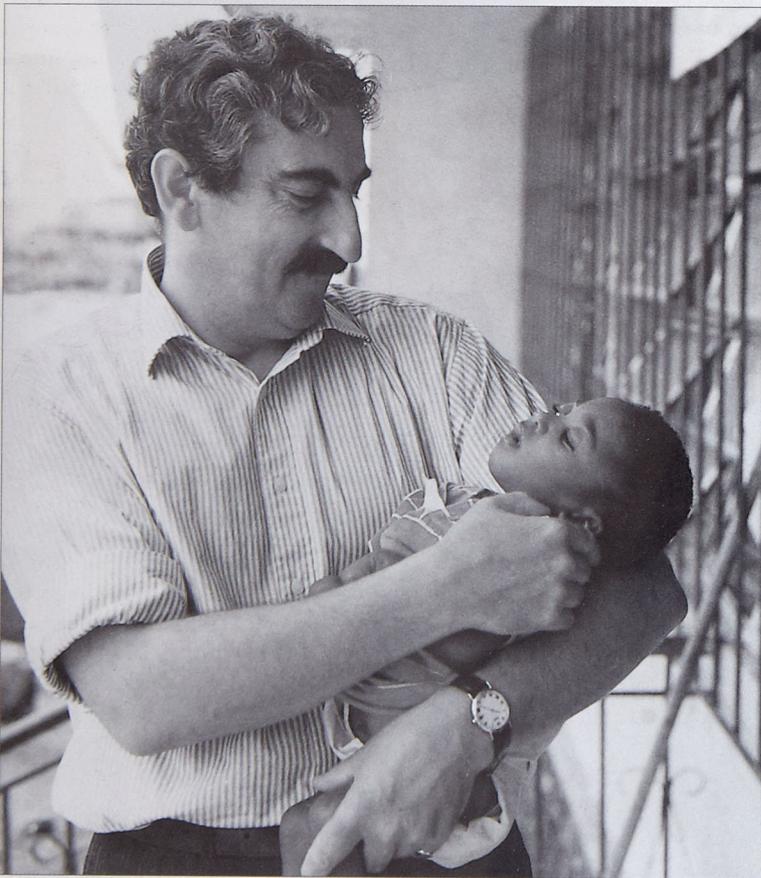
Top that! Prince Charles admires the traditional Jamaican costume of Minette Wilson

The Cadbury's Crunchie Flying Circus



# Liberia

Earlier this year, Rupert Ridge – the Foundation’s new International Director – and Mark O’Kelly made a special trip to Liberia in West Africa, to see for themselves the progress and needs of its only Cheshire Home. Mark had visited the Home in 1991 and had helped to re-establish its Committee after the recent civil war. For Rupert, though, it was his first visit and he came away with a mixture of reactions – sadness at the state of the country following the war, and delight at what is being done by this one Cheshire Home against huge odds.



Photos: Mark O’Kelly

*International Director Rupert Ridge makes friends with the Home’s youngest member, Tommie Willie*

Situated on the west coast of Africa, between Sierra Leone and the Ivory Coast, Liberia was until recently a very beautiful and prosperous country. Although strongly influenced by the USA, with many members of its intelligentsia educated there, it was a country proud of its independence and wealth – most of which was generated by the large-scale production of iron ore, rubber, cocoa and coffee.



But all that changed with the advent of civil war in 1990, which – in addition to causing massive bloodshed – laid waste much of the country’s economy, crops and services.

Today, little is left of the former Liberia. Last year, for example, not a single grain of coffee left the country. And the capital city of Monrovia – once a thriving business centre – is little more than a burnt-out shell, bravely struggling to recover.

“It made me think of Beirut at its worst – no wall was without a bullet mark, most of the buildings were destroyed or burnt out, and every other vehicle belonged to the UN,” said Rupert.

“But the people I met were all courageously cheerful and determined to put the town back on its feet,” he added.

People might ridicule the mere idea of trying to maintain a Cheshire Home amid such chaos – especially one which caters for children with severe disabilities, in particular cerebral palsy. And yet The Antoinette Tubman Home of Liberia has survived – albeit in very changed circumstances.



Residents and staff of the Cheshire Home in Monrovia have tried to make it as attractive and homely as possible

Originally established at Virginia in 1985, the Home was forced to move to its current temporary site just outside Monrovia because of the troubles.

Its current premises, which were provided by Thelma Sawyer – a Committee member and former first lady, are a converted children’s day centre. The building is not ideally suited to use by disabled people, since there are steps leading up to the front entrance. Many of the roofs were destroyed in the war, the walls are riddled with bullet holes, and while some of the rooms are habitable, the back of the house is completely shelled-out. There is no kitchen or bathroom and, in common with the rest of Monrovia, no water or electricity. All water, plus basic foodstuffs such as oil, flour and milk powder are supplied by a UN (United Nations) truck, and cooking is done over a wood fire.

The problems for such a Home, with 12 severely disabled young residents and minimal staff, could well appear insurmountable. And yet a small group of extremely dedicated and gifted individuals has proved that miracles can happen, for Liberia’s Cheshire Home has done more than merely survive – it has become an inspiring example of the Cheshire spirit in action.

“Despite the appalling odds against it, the Home in Monrovia is one of the happiest I have ever visited,” says Rupert. “As is always the case, this is entirely due to the outstanding people who see to it that every obstacle is overcome and loving care is allowed to dominate.”

One of those outstanding people is the Committee’s Chairman Eugene



The back of the Home is so badly damaged that its only use is for hanging out washing

Cooper, a businessman who devotes much of his time and abundant energy to the Home. Also outstanding for their dedication are carers Varney and Annie, who remained with the children throughout the fighting and look set to stay!

The newest arrival of all is the Home’s Director Miata Watson, who took over just nine months ago after working for 30 years at Monrovia’s JFK Memorial Hospital – first as a nurse and latterly as Assistant Director.

Herself a mother four times over, Miata came to the Cheshire Foundation because of her love for children. “During my time as a nurse, I always loved working with children with all sorts of conditions and disabilities, so when this opportunity came I seized it!” she said.

It cannot have been an easy decision, however, for running the Home is a constant uphill struggle. Not least of its problems is the persistent lack of money. It is impossible to raise funds in Liberia, because there are no funds to raise.

More than 90 per cent of the Home’s meagre revenue comes from donations made some time ago by UK Homes – but this money is fast running out. Some goods are received from England via a local community of Salesian Brothers, and the international committee has recently approved the grant of funds to buy a vehicle. But there is still a need for basic resources, in particular a new building and educational materials.

Miata explained: “At the moment, we are just picking up the basic pieces in order to have a better Home, and one of the first requirements is to find a better building. It is extremely easy and cheap to obtain property but when you have no money, nothing is cheap!”

Nevertheless, Miata never loses faith and her determination to keep going is fuelled by her love for the residents. “I know we can do it. If you love children, it doesn’t matter what the difficulties or problems are, you have to do your best to make them happy.” ■

Readers wishing to donate money and/or goods to the Liberian Cheshire Home should contact the Foundation’s International Office on 0171-828 1822.

# Getting the Motivation

Independence, self-determination and enterprise are bywords of The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, and nowhere more so than in Indonesia – where the country's one and only Cheshire Home is involved in a unique project to make wheelchairs for the local population.

Brigitte de Barletta talked to the various organisations involved in the project, and discovered an inspiring tale of determination and co-operation.

**T**he provision of suitable wheelchairs is a crucial issue for disabled people in the developing world.

Indonesia is typical in that it has no indigenous wheelchair manufacturer, meaning that most people have to make do with second-hand rejects imported from abroad. These are unsuitable for a number of reasons – they are often expensive, too large (having usually been built for the Caucasian frame), too heavy and are unable to cope with the demands of a predominantly rural environment.

Which is why a new joint project in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta – between Wisma Cheshire Home, the local hospital and UK charity Motivation – looks set to be a roaring success.

Motivation was founded in 1989 by two industrial designers – David Constantine and Simon Gue, who subsequently teamed up with co-entrepreneur Richard Frost. Its aim is to design low-cost wheelchairs, which can then be produced using local materials and labour.

Once a workshop has been established by the charity's team of experts, local workers take over and the schemes become self-financing through the sale of chairs.

Launched at the end of last year,

the Jakarta project is based at Fatmawati hospital, which has the only specialist spinal injuries unit in the whole of Indonesia and can therefore provide medical and rehabilitation services.

While the hospital will be responsible for overall production of the wheelchairs, it is the residents of Wisma Cheshire Home who will take over distribution and the management of a "Wheelchair Fund", to assist people who can't afford to buy their own chair.

In addition, residents are being trained to construct the various elements of the chairs from locally-produced materials, with everyone

eligible for a vocational training scheme.

The workshop will produce about 300 custom-built wheelchairs a year and, while distribution will initially be restricted to patients at the hospital's rehabilitation unit, it will gradually be extended beyond Jakarta to other hospitals around the country.

The scheme is now nearing the end of its pilot stage, with the current co-ordinators due to hand over the reins to their local trainees next month. And with the average cost of a wheelchair produced here at \$100, compared with \$400 for an imported one, the project would seem to have a very bright future.

## All Change!

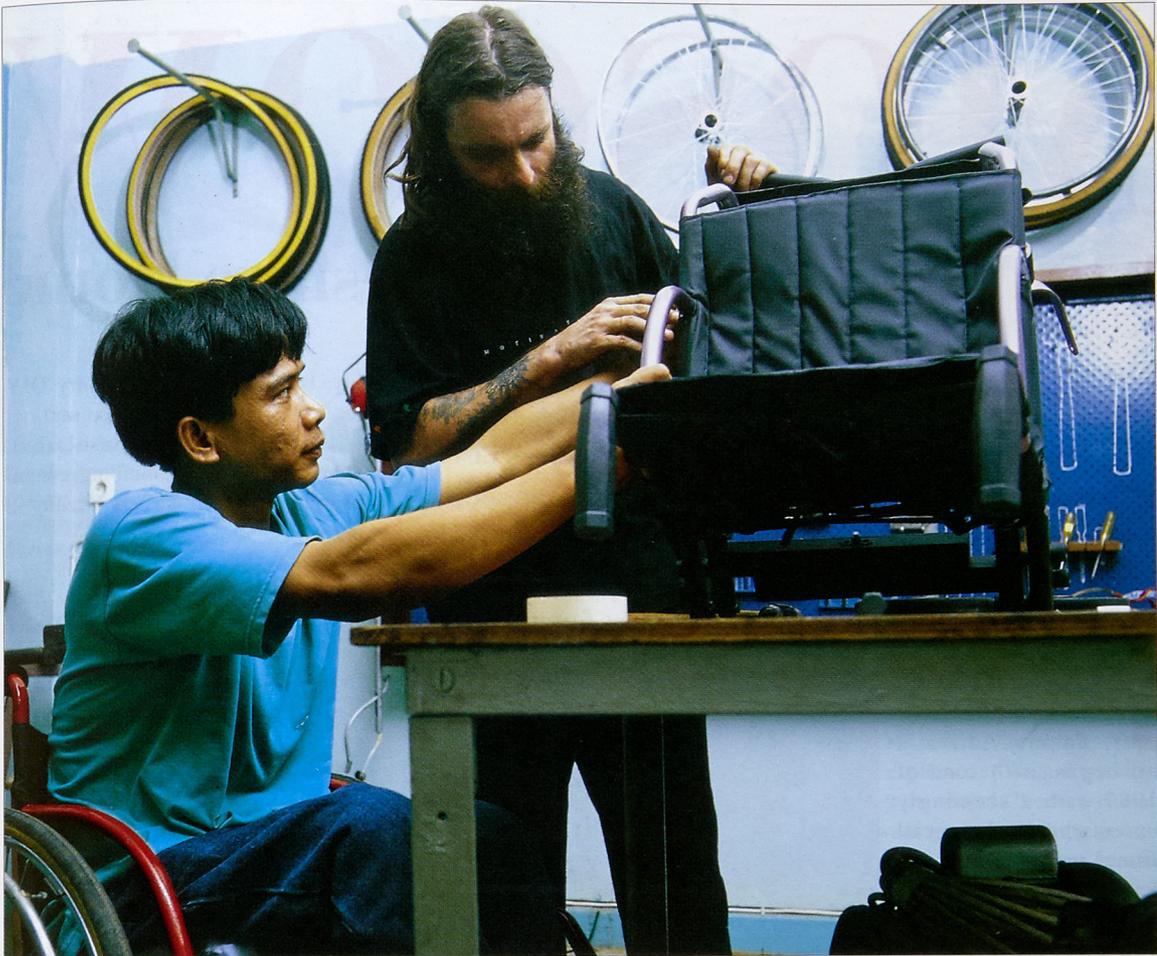
The Motivation project isn't the only thing keeping everyone at Wisma Cheshire busy, with plans afoot to rebuild the 20-year-old Home.

However, Secretary Pat Hayward stresses that developments will not be restricted to bricks and mortar. Residents already have a high degree of independence and self-determination – several are in full-time work



Wisma resident Nursad can make the most of his professional tennis coaching, thanks to his tailor-made wheelchair

Photos: Kate Buchanan



Motivation's Design Engineer Nigel Garvey teaches Wisma Cheshire resident Uci the finer techniques of wheelchair construction

and nine of them won a total of 18 medals at Indonesia's last Disabled Sports Tournament. But the aim now is to develop residents' independence even further, by placing extra emphasis on training in suitable skills, and by offering as much choice as possible.

Pat explained: "We have just done a survey and the residents want to be trained as computer operators, accountants, telephonists, tailors, carpenters and metalworkers.

"Our ultimate ambition is to be able to give each resident the choice of three options: return to their family, which often means modifying the house to enable them to use their wheelchair inside and out; rent a house near the Home and live an

independent life with the backup support of the Home; or stay in the Home and either travel to their place of work or make handicrafts for our very popular Red Feather Shop."

With Motivation in Indonesia now up and running, residents and staff are turning their attention to the need for a new Home. Plans are already underway and it is hoped that the building will be completed by 1996, when Wisma Cheshire is due to host the Biennial Conference of the Foundation's Far Eastern Region. ■

Further details on Motivation can be obtained by writing to them at Unit 316, Panther House, 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AP England. Tel: 071-278 0259 Fax: 071-278 4397

Residents proudly display their medals, following Indonesia's recent Disabled Sports Tournament



# MOSCOW

## The World's first DIY Cheshire Home

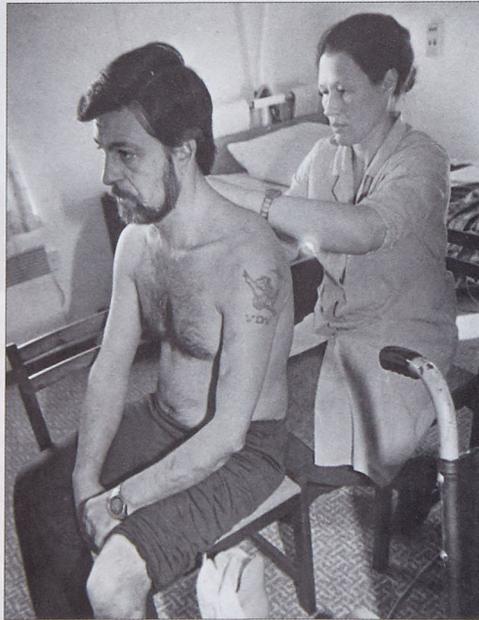
There are very few amazing achievements of the 20th century that have not been turned into cinema box-office hits. *The Dambusters*, *The Great Escape*, *Schindler's List* – all were dramatisations of true stories about human success against immense odds.

But one such story still remains to be told – and that is the story of how the Moscow Cheshire Home was founded.

For Keith Cook, the Foundation's UK Property Adviser, it all began at the end of 1989 with a seemingly unremarkable phone call from Leonard Cheshire to join him in his office for a cup of tea. There, Leonard explained that on his recent return journey from the new Chinese Home at Kunming, he had stopped off in Moscow at the request of Mosoviet Health Authority.

Excited at the prospect of having their own Cheshire Home, representatives of the Authority were now planning to visit London in two week's time – did Keith know anyone who could rustle up some building plans and estimates by then?!

Keith set to immediately and at the end of the fortnight was able to greet his Russian guests with the draft plans and estimated costs for their Home, along with the name of a Lancashire-based building contrac-



*Lt. Col. Svyatoslav Potemkovsky receiving treatment from one of the Home's trained physiotherapists*

tor. "We were on top of the world!" remembers Keith.

Due to the lack of funds and available materials in Russia – especially at that time – it was decided that the whole building should be constructed in England, then transported in pieces to the Moscow site for assem-

bly. But this was no ordinary DIY job, for each wall was to be sent out with the necessary insulation, windows, electrics, plumbing, central heating and even carpets already in place!

### Bit by bit

By the end of 1991, a suitable plot of land had been purchased, the foundations laid and a supply road constructed, so in theory it was simply a case of transporting the pieces to Moscow and putting them together.

The first main problem was the harsh Russian climate, which meant the builders had to wait for the spring when the frosts would thaw.

At the beginning of April 1992, the construction team set out for Moscow accompanied by trailers piled high with the timber-frame walls, plus a huge refrigerated lorry packed with food supplies to keep them going despite local shortages.

Staying in a hotel overlooking Red Square, the workers had a prime vantage point from which to view the Moscow coup when Gorbachev was overthrown by his rival Yeltsin. In spite of this, they didn't miss a single day's work and by October the new Home was ready, complete with a pitch roof constructed of steel slates to withstand the weather.

The Moscow climate had been a chief concern of Keith Cook throughout, since he was responsible for ensuring that the Home was as well-insulated as possible. His concern has obviously paid off, for



*The Moscow Cheshire Home has been designed to withstand blizzard conditions and temperatures as low as minus 40 degrees centigrade*

when he met the Russian delegates for the first time at this year's World Week, he was regaled with stories of the last extremely fierce winter – when they had all abandoned their own houses to shelter in the Home!



### The Afghan Syndrome

Located in a residential area on the outskirts of Moscow, Russia's Cheshire Home is in fact a short-term rehabilitation centre dedicated to treating veterans of the Afghan war. It has a maximum capacity of 32 residents at any one time, of whom the vast majority are amputees and those suffering from the severe psychological trauma known as "Afghan Syndrome". The length of rehabilitation depends on the individual, but usually varies between one and seven months.

In the two years since opening, the Moscow Cheshire Home has treated some 200 people and its nationwide renown is such that people come from all over Russia to benefit from its services and facilities. It is the Home's ultimate aim to enable every single disabled veteran to integrate back into the community and live a fulfilling and worthwhile life. But it

still has a long way to go – officials in Russia estimate that 10,000 people were disabled by the Afghan war, and other groups claim the true figure to be even higher.

While some donations are received from public organisations, most of the funding comes from the Russian Government – which understands only too well the need to integrate war veterans back into society as quickly as possible. Russian leaders, for example, have helped to overcome massive bureaucratic problems, and in February of this year the President's wife Mrs Nayina Yeltsin agreed to become the Home's official patron.

### A Russian Miracle

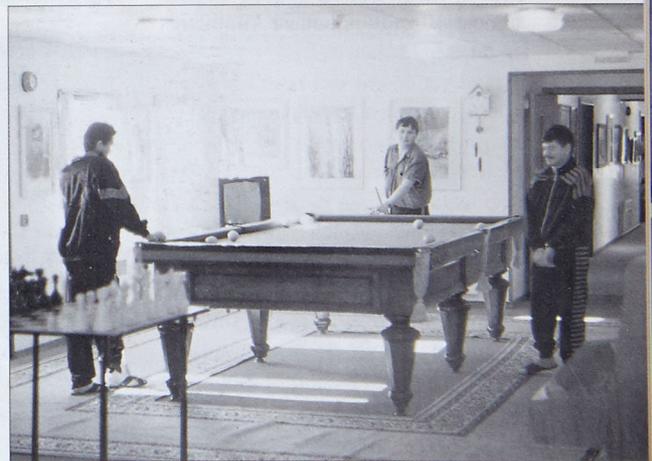
It would be no exaggeration to say that the Russian Foundation has created a miracle out of nothing. But far from resting on their laurels, the Home's representatives are determined to go on extending their work and facilities in order to support as many people as possible.

The organisation is

currently developing plans for a hotel for disabled people who wish to visit Moscow, in the absence of any accessible tourist accommodation in the capital. There are also plans to extend the Home itself, with additional accommodation plus an activity and sports centre.

As Chairman General Yuri Nauman explained: "We are striving to develop the model Cheshire Home and we want to do everything possible to create a rehabilitation centre worthy of the memory of Leonard Cheshire."

Not only is it a Home worthy of his memory, but the history behind it merits a Hollywood epic! Any film producers interested? ■



*Focus point of the activities room is its billiards table – a gift from the Home's patron and Russia's first lady Nayina Yeltsin*

# A Need as Great

Since its inauguration in 1973, The Cheshire Homes Society of British Columbia has gained a reputation for providing high-quality rehabilitation and care for young adults with serious brain injury.

To find out why, we talked to the Society's Secretary Treasurer Sid Lloyd.



King Edward resident Craig Nyguard practises his strokes at the local pool

**B**ritish Columbia is just one of many regions in Canada – a vast country which covers almost 10 million square kilometres of land and water.

And yet, in this one region alone, it is estimated that 6,000 people sustain traumatic brain injuries every year – many of them as the result of road accidents.

On leaving hospital, most of those 6,000 people return to live at home with varying degrees of support. Support which is available through in-home services and medical specialists, but also through regional programmes specific to brain injury.

One of the organisations responsible for such programmes is The Cheshire Homes Society of British Columbia, which now runs two small

group houses – King Edward House and Larkin House – and an expanding Community Support Service.

## King Edward House

When a brain-injured patient is ready to leave hospital, community-based support agencies assess how much help they will need in order to function in the community. Many people are unable to return home and therefore need rehabilitation services in a 24-hour residential setting.

King Edward House was opened in Vancouver in 1984, specifically to provide such a service on a short-term basis. Fully adapted for wheelchairs, the Home caters for a

maximum of six adults between the ages of 18 and 35 at any one time. Its speciality is the teaching of “life skills”, which include personal care, home management, nutrition, money management and interpersonal communication.

Today, King Edward House can boast a large number of success stories, since the majority of its “graduates” live independently with varying degrees of support.



## Larkin House

Located in a residential area of Port Coquitlam, Larkin House was established in 1991 as one of the first Homes to provide long-term, intensive care for young adults with

traumatic brain injury and severe physical disabilities.

The House currently provides a permanent home for five people who would otherwise be forced to live in a hospital ward or with relatives. While ensuring a high standard of medical and personal care, the staff focus on enhancing residents' quality of life. This is done through a variety of activities, and through outings to theatres, leisure centres, shopping centres and parks. Integration into the local community is seen as being of primary importance and both family and volunteer involvement are encouraged wherever possible.

### Reaching Out to the Community

This autumn sees the first anniversary of the Society's latest project – Community Support Services. As the name suggests, these provide both short and long-term support in the community, to individuals who have completed rehabilitation programmes and are living either on their own or with their families.

The project's main aim is to promote the development of people's daily living skills, in order to encourage independence. Each user is helped to identify areas of need and to utilise the relevant community resources, in order to become as autonomous and self-fulfilled as possible.



*Bruce Hildebrand of Larkin House enjoys the 1993 Christmas celebrations*

### Looking to the Future

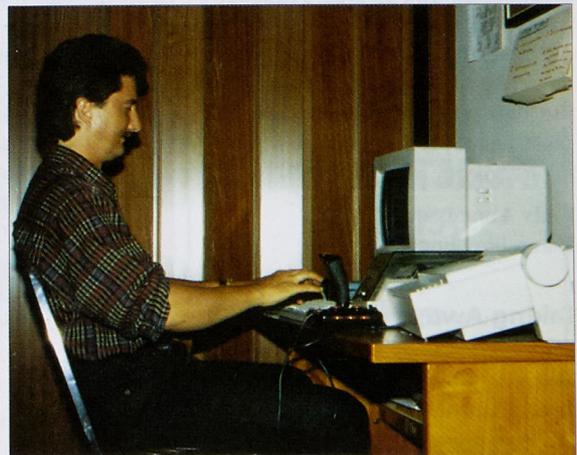
Some people would imagine that, as one of the most highly-developed nations in the world, Canada has less need of a Cheshire Foundation than many other countries. And yet, even here, the demand for high-quality residential care and rehabilitation far exceeds supply.

With 6,000 new brain injuries every year, the work done by British

Columbia's Cheshire Society could be seen as a mere drop in the ocean. But for those it helps, it is providing services which are as vital and irreplaceable as those anywhere else in the world. And with its new combination of residential care and community support, it seems to have the makings of a pioneering and long-lived organisation. ■



*Larkin House residents Bruce Borthwick, Tina Stitilis and Wayne Sevigny admiring the scenic beauty of British Columbia*



*A former resident, involved in computer retraining*



### Thank You

Many thanks for generous donations received from: R. Brown, P. Burrow, Cheshire House for the Highlands, Mrs Coham-Fleming, A. Finch, E. Footring, R. Leitao, R. Newton, D. Stovell and J. Wood.

### The Terminology Debate

May I, with no qualification other than that I take in **Cheshire Smile International**, offer my views on terminology?

I can understand that a raw nerve can be touched if people hear themselves described as "handicapped", but I cannot see what difference it makes to say "disabled" – and you have to say something. People persist in thinking it makes a difference to change names. "Dustman" has now become "Sanitary Officer" and as to the metamorphosis undergone by words of my childhood such as W.C., knickers, bust bodice etc. – well!

I do hope this letter has not touched any raw nerves. Although now I shall always say "disability", I do rather feel that the brave thing would be to face up to the fact that the two words mean exactly the same, and if people make jokes about it – let them be hanged!

**Lady Anne Brewis**  
Hampshire, England

### Taking Away the Sorrow

I am writing to say what a very good idea it is to have prisoners going to help at Saltways Cheshire Home.

I lost my dear sister, son and husband in one year and, while my husband was in hospital, met a lady

who works at the Honresfield Cheshire Home. She told me to go there because it would take away my sorrow.

I have now been going there constantly since 1981, and have met some wonderful people who I always enjoy being with. Before my retirement I was a nurse, so helping and feeding people was like coming home for me.

The courage of some of them puts the meaning back into life and I think the prisoners must feel the same way.

**Mary West**  
Rochdale, England

### Call for Action

With regard to Dr Neal's letter "A Sticky Rebuke" in **Smile** (April 1994). I am an Orange Badge user, I've only got one leg and suffer from angina and I too am at times incensed by able-bodied drivers parking in Disabled Bays on the roads as well as in supermarkets.

I would like to point out to Dr Neal and other people tempted to put sticky labels on car windscreens, that this would be leaving themselves

open to a charge of causing malicious damage to windscreens.

I don't think able-bodied drivers fully appreciate the problems of most O.B. users until they become one themselves. This is a long-running problem that won't go away unless supermarkets use their store tannoys to "call up" owners of wrongly parked cars to move them, or else risk being clamped by the supermarket managers. If supermarkets want to be patronised by disabled drivers and their families, then they must take action.

**C. French**  
Southport, England

*The Foundation's Public Affairs Department is launching a UK campaign to encourage supermarkets and other bodies to enforce their disabled parking restrictions. If you have an experience to recount, or would like to suggest a suitable method for monitoring and penalising wrongly-parked drivers, we'd like to hear from you. Please send your letters to Brigitte de Barletta at Maunsel Street.*

## ★★★★★ STAR LETTER ★★★★★

### Keeping the Spirit

Congratulations from Wales on the first issue of our new magazine! I think that, in its new "international" format, it will have served a most important purpose if it does no more than remind us in our "comfortable" UK Homes of how the "poorer" members of our Cheshire family in other countries are following GC's lead from the early days at Le Court.

Despite the restrictions and complexities imposed by

Community Care, our Social Services Departments and the Benefits Agency, we must try not to lose sight of the spirit of the original Homes. It is our cousins in the Third World who are now reminding us of how we should be living and working together to carry on GC's work.

**Bob Undery**



Each issue, the winner of our Star Letter competition will receive a stunning Foundation sweatshirt and baseball cap.

# Letters from World Week

## Keeping the Candle Burning

World Week 1994 and my third visit to an international get-together. With several new faces 'at the top' my thoughts were: "Is the candle still burning?" and "What will it be like without Leonard there?" But of course he was there – in all the love and laughter and companionship, and in the hearts of the many courageous disabled delegates who had so much to offer those of us who were privileged to share the week with them.

And the candle still burns...

**June Beslièvre**

Jersey, Channel Islands

## Thoughts from Liberia

(This letter was written during World Week).

As I ride through London, looking at all the beautiful buildings and sights, one thought comes into my mind – where does all the money come from? One may say from God. Yes, but God loves everybody, poor or rich, and gives to everyone according to their wish.

So what happened to Africa? What have we done with our money and talent? Bought guns to kill our brothers and destroy our land – all in the greedy bid for power. Yes, Mother Africa, let's put away hatred and greed and work harder than ever before to build a genuine society for the generation to come!

**Miata Watson**

## A Grateful Host

Dear Editor

We have just had the privilege of the company of three people from the Cheshire Home in Uganda, who have left us with a very good and deep impression. They may live in a poor country, but they have a very infectious personality – they own nothing, yet possess everything. We were given so much pleasure by the fact that, in the eyes of the youngest girl Florence, who is 16, their visit resembled a Christmas festivity.

This may be the start of a penpal relationship. They had so little, yet gave us so much – we will never be able to repay them for what they gave us.

**Celia Green**

## A Beautiful Experience

I have lived at Cheshire Home Bombay for the last 17 years and can truly say that I live life to the full, in spite of my disability of having no hands or legs. Our home throbs with life and we are taught not to allow our disabilities to come in the way of our abilities. I, for example, am a teacher giving regular classes in Hindi to both children and adults.

This year, I was chosen to represent our Home at World Week. Everything was very well-conducted and the sessions, talks, outings, meals and accommodation were just perfect. I also enjoyed my stay at St Anthony's Cheshire Home, where we were looked after with the greatest hospitality. There was nothing lacking.

The 9th June was a red letter day for me. I will never forget the moment when Prince Charles came and shook my hand and said he was ready to help in whatever way I wanted. I felt great, honoured and happy and will never forget this gesture of the Prince. Another experience I will never forget is the opportunity I had at one Eucharistic

celebration to say The Lord's Prayer for all the Cheshire Home residents all over the world.

The whole experience has been beautiful, for which I am grateful to all those who made it possible. I will often relive all these moments in my life and they will always remain precious and healing for me at times when I am low or dejected. Life is beautiful and worth living, no matter what your disability.

**John Adhav**

Bombay Cheshire Home, India

We welcome letters on any subject and from anywhere in the world. If you have a comment, idea or opinion you would like to express, please send it to The Editor, 26-29 Maunsel Street, London SW1P 2QN, England.

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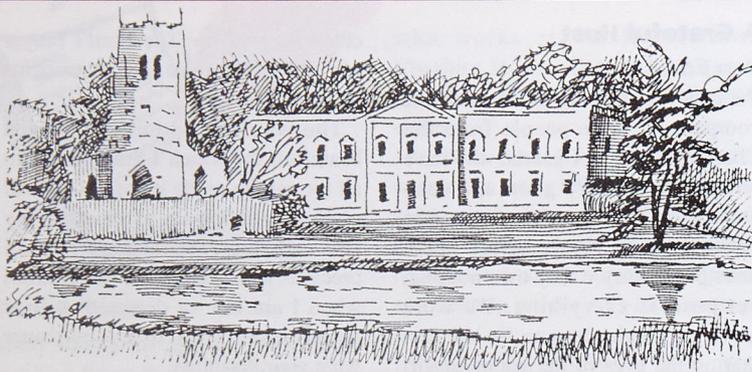
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Artist's impression of Staunton Harold Hall

# CHESHIRE'S TREASURE TROVE

**Smile Editor Jennie Taylor discovers the heart of the Foundation, in a most unexpected place...**

**T**here is no doubt that Leonard Cheshire was a great man, such as there have been very few in history. And like other great men, he had a tremendous impact on everyone he met – whether they were lifelong friends or just passing acquaintances, people seemed drawn to him.

It is because of his strength of personality and faith that Lord Cheshire's spirit remains so powerful in every place connected with him and his work. And nowhere is this feeling of presence more tangible than in The Cheshire Archives, at Staunton Harold Hall in Leicestershire.

For here, hidden away in a few rooms of this majestic old building, is the very heart of the Foundation and everything we stand for.

Staunton Harold had a special significance for the founder, as the site of one of his first Homes in the

UK. Now owned by The Ryder-Cheshire Foundation, its archives combine the central records of both organisations.

The very word "archives" can send a shiver down the spine of even the most dedicated academic. Images are conjured up of dusty cellars filled with cobweb-laden documents and forbiddingly huge tomes.

So it comes as a breath of fresh air to walk into this Aladdin's Cave of information and materials, to wander along aisles positively throbbing with life and energy, and to meet the Foundation's "archivist" Jill Roberts.

Having spent the last two years collating, sorting and cataloguing, Jill is incredibly knowledgeable and enthusiastic about Leonard Cheshire and his work – and her enthusiasm is contagious. Far from keeping material under lock and key, Jill is determined to make everything here as accessible and user-friendly as possible. For that reason, she considers herself as much a librarian as an archivist in the traditional sense of the word and – provided they are organised and preserved in the right way – refuses to be precious about any of the thousands of photographs, documents, scripts, letters, cassettes, videos and journals in her care.

Much of what is stored here is so full of the spirit of Leonard Cheshire that Jill frequently finds herself referring to him in the present tense! Hardly surprising, for everywhere you look there are personal letters to friends and supporters, hand-written notes scribbled onto scraps of paper, compilations of his favourite jazz tunes on old-style sound tapes, wonderful sepia photographs which haven't been seen for decades, and newspaper cuttings cut and pasted into scrapbooks by Cheshire himself.

The feeling for the visitor is much the same as that of the young child who ventures into its grandparents' treasure-filled attic for the first time.

But this is real treasure – for much of what is stored here is of great importance, not just to those who wish to

find out about Leonard Cheshire and the Foundation, but also to those concerned with our national heritage and 20th-century history in general. The National Film Archive



Jill Roberts, friendly face of The Cheshire Archives

was so impressed with Staunton's collection of original films – many of them from the Ryder-Cheshire Film Unit – that it has taken on responsibility for their long-term storage, preservation and protection.

Enquiries come from all areas, both within the respective Foundations and from outside. In recent months alone, these have included: an enquiry from Central TV about film footage; a request from St Cecilia's for information on its recent 40th anniversary; and a plea for photographs from world-famous sculptor David Wynne, who has been commissioned by Stowe school to produce a bust of Leonard Cheshire.

Jill sees her essential role as being the doorway to all information stored in the archives, and emphasises the fact that almost everything here is available for use and reference.

"Leonard Cheshire himself felt that one of the reasons a charity might want to keep an archive was if there had been a Founder who had attracted interest and support, and I don't think anyone would argue that this is the case with us.

"I believe the fact that he is no longer with us has only increased the need to look after the information we have on his life's work, so that it can inform and help us both now and in the future," she says.

With the help of volunteer assistant Tracy Cummins, Jill has sorted all material with the user in mind. Indexes are not only very straightforward and comprehensive, but also reflect the intimate knowledge and understanding which Jill has acquired of her subject.

While Jill's respect and admiration for Leonard Cheshire extend to every tangible remnant of his life and work, she also brings a sense of professional objectivity to her task, and is adamant that The Cheshire Archives should capture the pure essence of the man and his work by only containing the very best of the information and materials available.

"In order for the archives to really stay vital and alive, it is important that the Foundation appraises its papers regularly and that the cream – the core records – are kept here where they can be properly preserved. We must ensure that the material which people want to see in the year 2050 is still relevant and useable."

Of course, it could be argued that Leonard Cheshire lives on in the Foundation's Homes and Services across the world and that The Cheshire Archives are merely a

depository of the tangible remnants of his life. But the Archives hold the key to Leonard Cheshire, for they are the next best thing to having him here in person to explain his thoughts, concerns and motives. They are his words – complete and unedited, preserved for us intact without having been filtered through the minds of the many authors, reporters and producers who interviewed him during his lifetime.

Whether you are a researcher, journalist, or simply an admirer, here and here alone will you find the true essence of Leonard Cheshire the man, and of the faith and beliefs that he spread – and is still spreading – throughout the world. ■



*Leonard and Sue Ryder with their newborn baby girl, Gigi*



*Just two of the Archive photographs – this one shows Leonard as a young boy with his father and brother, Christopher*

### Retirements

**Bill Barnard**, Head of Home at the **Bedfordshire Cheshire Home** at Ampthill in England, has retired after 22 years' service.

Originally based at Park House, Bill's first major task was to supervise the move to Agate House in January 1977.

There, Bill developed a happy, informal atmosphere and devoted himself totally to the welfare, quality of life and needs of disabled people. He was extremely well-known and very highly regarded, both in the local community and centrally at the Foundation.

Bill now intends to retire to Devon with his wife, to pursue his ornithological interests.

### Obituaries

Mrs J. Noble, Care Manager of **The Grove Cheshire Home** in Norfolk, England, writes: "It is with great sadness that I record the death of **Maurice Symonds** on 24 March 1994.

Maurice came to live at The Grove in March 1988. He was a much-loved member of our family, serving on the Residents' Committee for several years, and he is sadly missed. We extend our sympathies to Eileen and his family.

**James Burns House** in Dorset, England reports the death of its founder **Dr James Burns** CBE GM on Wednesday, 27 April 1994, at the age of 92.

Dr Burns became involved in the voluntary sector after his retirement in 1969, when he saw the need for residential care in the Poole area. He was responsible for establishing The Grange and, in 1974, the Foundation's first Care at Home Service.

When another Cheshire Home was opened in Bournemouth in 1977, its committee named it James Burns House as a lasting tribute. Dr Burns subsequently became President of the Home,

where he was held in great esteem and affection.

Remembering him, UK trustee and resident Muriel Taylor said: "A great spirit has gone; but countless people with disabilities who were never privileged to know him will continue to benefit from the caring provision that he set in motion."

**Turfhall Cheshire Home** in Cape Town, South Africa, reports with sadness the recent death of its administrator **Mr Henry Peter Laurence**. Mr Laurence had been Chairman of the Management Committee since 1983, before becoming administrator in 1986 when he succeeded in strengthening every aspect of the Home. He was a very special person with a remarkable involvement in the local community, and he will be missed by all.

**Alne Hall** in York is sorry to report the death on 7 June 1994 of **Mrs Margaret Thornton**, aged 53. Margaret had been a resident for seven years and will be well-remembered for her sense of humour and winning smile.

Oxfordshire's **Greenhill House** writes to announce the death of its former Chairman **Harry Turner**, who died suddenly having served the Home for 20 years. As Director of Oxfordshire Social Services, Harry managed to combine a busy professional life with an amazing commitment to The Leonard Cheshire Foundation and several other charities – a commitment which became even greater after his retirement.

Harry is remembered with great compassion by everyone who had the privilege of knowing him. Greenhill House was lucky to have had his wise counsel and thoughtful and accurate input over the years.

**Freshfields Cheshire Home** reports with sadness the sudden death of **Peter Walsh** on 2 May 1994.

Peter had been Head of Home since 1986, having previously worked as a local government administrator in Merseyside for

many years. He had always taken a great interest in the voluntary sector and described his job at Freshfields as the best he'd ever had.

Perhaps the most impressive of his many achievements was to oversee the now-complete redevelopment of the Home.

Peter will be sadly missed by the residents, staff and volunteers, who extend their deepest sympathy to his wife, sons and friends.

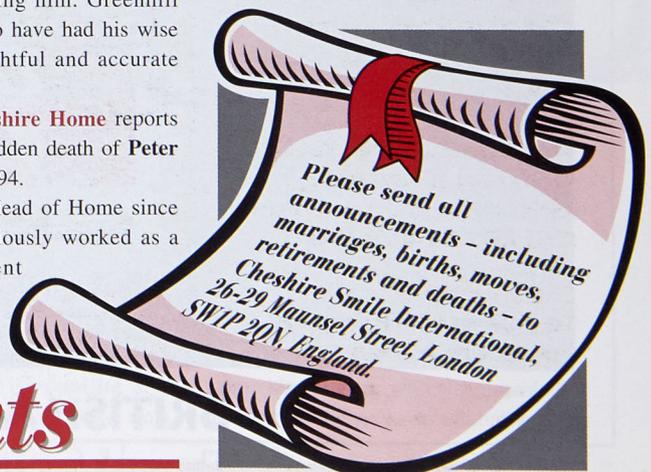
**The Leonard Cheshire Home of Gloucestershire** in England reports the sad death of **Mrs Vi Northcroft** on 7 June 1994, at the age of 80.

Mrs Northcroft's father provided the original funds for purchase of the Cotswold Cheshire Home and she was herself an active member of the Management and Appeals Committees and the Group of Friends.

**The Leonard Cheshire Home of Gloucestershire** also reports the death of a much-loved resident – **Barbara Ellis** B.Vet Med. MRCVS – on 7 May 1994, at the age of 46.

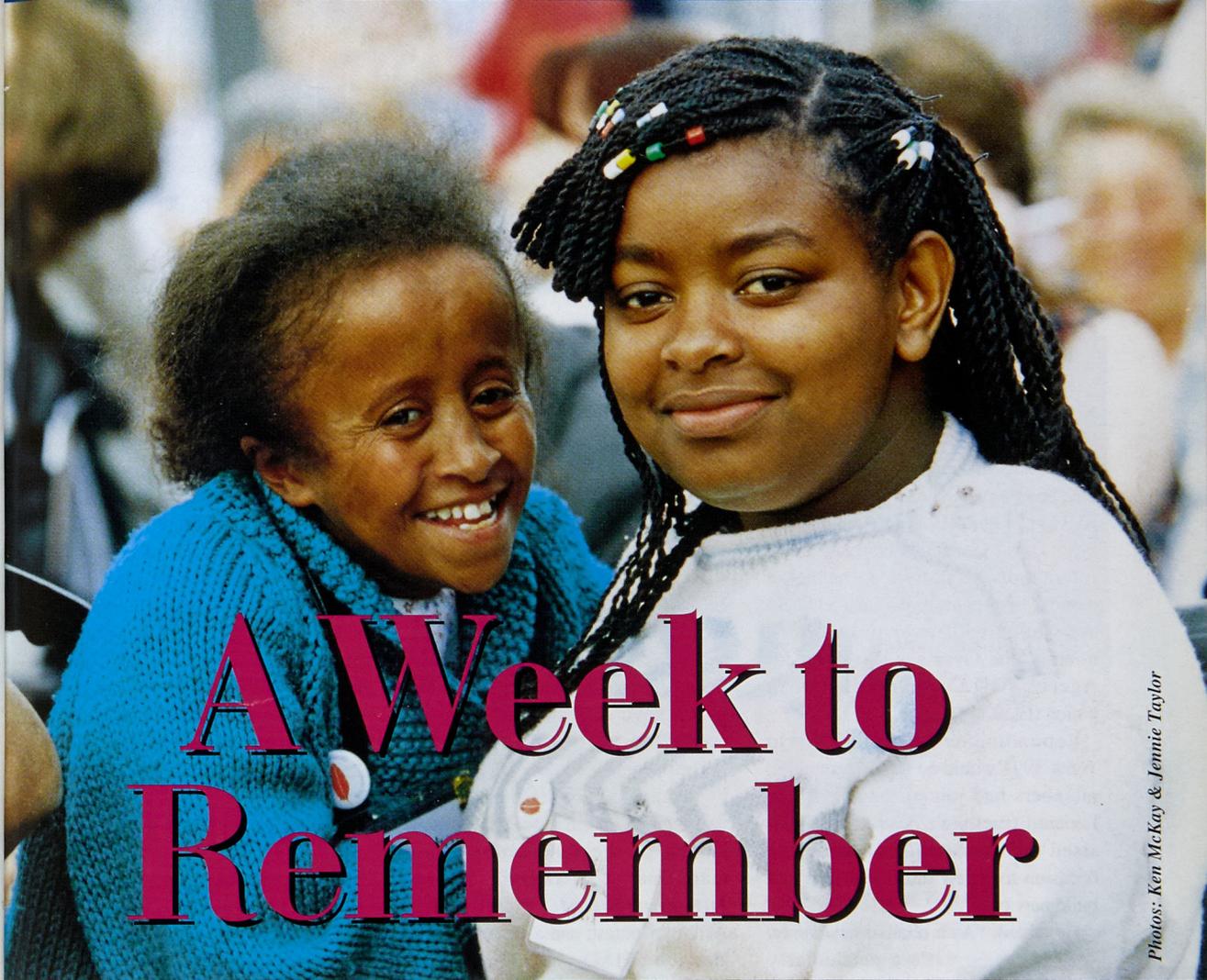
Barbara came to the Home in 1990, having pursued a very successful career in the veterinary profession. Married with two children, she was a committed Christian and was dedicated to improving standards of animal health and welfare.

Expressing his regret, Head of Home Barry Bailey said: "It is extremely sad that a life full of promise should be cut short so early, but Barbara demonstrated that life must be lived to the full and that we are not masters of our own destiny."



# WORLD WEEK

1994



## A Week to Remember

Photos: Ken McKay & Jennie Taylor

**W**orld Week 1994 was undoubtedly one of the most important events in the history of The Leonard Cheshire Foundation. Not only because it brought together, for the first time ever, delegates from each of the 51 countries in which the Foundation operates. But more importantly because it showed that the Foundation has seized Leonard Cheshire's legacy

of co-operation, faith and energy with both hands and is now set to go from strength to strength into the 21st century.

The most obvious sign of the Week's success was its popularity. At the final count, almost 1,000 delegates attended the various conferences, discussions and receptions, while the event was covered by satellite TV, countless local newspapers and

specialist publications, plus 28 radio stations – including BBC World Service.

This special supplement has been put together as a tangible reminder of World Week 1994. It would be impossible to capture the full spirit and atmosphere of the Week in a single document. But hopefully it will give some idea to those who were unable to attend, and serve as an aide-memoire



## Off to a Businesslike Start

The official business of the Week began on Wednesday, 8 June at an opening ceremony in Kensington Town Hall, when delegates were welcomed by the Foundation's Chairman Sir Geoffrey Howlett and UK Secretary of State for Health, the Rt. Hon. Virginia Bottomley.

Sir David Goodall, Chairman of the International Committee, thanked a number of organisations for their help and support all over the world – notably, the Overseas Development Agency (ODA) and the European Union (EU).

Reminding delegates that World Week 1994 would be the first time that members had joined together since Leonard Cheshire's death, he emphasised the importance of using the occasion to renew old friendships and build new ones.

He added: "As a relative newcomer, it's a particularly heart-warming experience to see in your faces just what the international part of the Foundation really means. It makes me realise

what a weighty and privileged responsibility it is to be with you today."

Virginia Bottomley is no stranger to the Foundation, since she frequently pays visits to the two Homes in her parliamentary constituency – Hydon Hill and Bell's Piece.

Having expressed admiration for the Foundation's work all over the world, she summed up with a quotation from Eleanor Roosevelt: "It's better to light a candle than to curse the darkness" and she added: "The Leonard Cheshire Foundation has lit hundreds of candles which have benefited thousands of people".

The opening ceremony was followed by detailed reports from each of the five International Regions; the official launch of the Foundation's new magazine *Cheshire Smile International*; the Creative Activity Contest; and a speech by Bob Hain on CHAD – Cheshire Homes Aids for the Disabled.

Bob explained that CHAD is a small unit run by volunteers, with the purpose of supplying good-quality second-hand wheelchairs and equipment overseas. He asked anyone in need of such equipment to contact him via the International Office.

The business of the week was continued on Thursday with conferences on International Training and The UK Experience, while Friday was

devoted to The Spirit of the Foundation (see page 7) and the Family of Foundations.

Introduced by the LCF's Chairman Emeritus Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris, speeches were given by Sir Peter Ramsbottom (Chairman of the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation and the World Memorial Fund), Michael Humfrey (Director of The Ryder-Cheshire Foundation), David Childs (Director of The World Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief), Sir Geoffrey Howlett, and Lady Ryder – Leonard Cheshire's widow and founder of The Sue Ryder Foundation. ■



*Health Secretary Virginia Bottomley is welcomed to World Week by Philippine delegate Moises Diaz*

## Moving On...

Thursday afternoon was devoted to the UK experience, which took "Moving On" as its overall theme.

Following an opening address by the UK Foundation's Director General, James Stanford, and Asst. Director of Care, Fiona Street, presentations were given by a total of five Homes and Services from across the UK –

**The Leonard Cheshire Foundation in Edinburgh, Bell's Piece, Taylor House, Leonard Cheshire Services in North East Hampshire and Leonard Cheshire Services in West Sussex.** ■

# Training – the Key to the Future

Training and Rehabilitation Adviser Sarah Holloway and Training Consultant Dr Roy McConkey gave an inspiring presentation on training, which they described as “the future of the Foundation”. The following is a summary of their speech.

Since the opening of the first Cheshire Homes more than 40 years ago, we have all come to know and understand a lot more about disability and how disabled people can live independent lives within the community.

Nowadays, while some Cheshire Homes are still “a home for life”, a growing number of others provide short-term rehabilitation, respite/day care, or support for the local community. This is what is so wonderful and unique about the Cheshire Foundation – its willingness to change and adapt as the need arises.

But what makes any Cheshire Home or Service work? The answer has to lie in the knowledge and understanding of its staff, and staff skills depend upon training.

Requests for help with training come in many forms – from how to help residents to find work, to how to cater for different disabilities and needs. Our response has been to provide Regional training programmes, which have been established over the last few years in the Far East, Africa, India and the Caribbean.

These programmes are co-ordinated under the umbrella of the International Training Plan, which provides a package of training modules and a basic training structure from which each Home can select what is most relevant to them and their needs.

The International Training Plan has three main aims:

- to train staff at all levels
- to train trainers
- to develop Regional training modules relevant to each Home.

Residents are always involved in training, and bring with them valuable experience and insight. Working together in partnership is fundamental to the way programmes are developed, and many Homes run joint training sessions with staff and residents, which have proved very successful.

which present information in a medium accessible to most.

There are currently seven video courses available, all of which have been designed to increase people's knowledge, promote positive attitudes towards the potential of people with disabilities, and change people's behaviour.



English and Indian delegates share a joke during a conference break

### How Does it Work?

Each Region has a system of key trainers who are local and know the Homes, area and particular needs of the people. This means they can quickly identify training needs and, once training has begun, are in a better position to assess staff and monitor training.

Training is provided through workshops, placements and exchanges, visits to Homes by Regional training personnel, and Regionally-produced materials – such as the new video courses,

### Where from here?

We have to think about the future and reach those people who still don't receive any help. It is for each Home to put training on the agenda and allow time for it. This is difficult because of the huge demands on staff and residents, but training has to be a priority.

We have a vision of change, regarding the lives of disabled people all over the world, and it is only through sharing that vision and the knowledge which goes with it, that we can ever hope to achieve our aim. ■

# WORLD WEEK

## 1994

**W**hile formal conferences and debates provided the basic framework for World Week 1994, it was the social events which really served to bring people together and create a feeling of unity and common purpose.

From simple shopping trips around London to two magnificent receptions, all the organised entertainments proved both popular and productive and truly set the tone for the Week.

The sightseeing began almost as soon as delegates' planes had touched down, with visits to the Tower of London on the Monday and Tuesday. These were followed by tours of Knightsbridge Barracks, Kensington Palace and Gardens, and the Metropolitan Police Training Unit – all of which served to give delegates a fascinating insight into English traditions and architecture.

### A Royal Tribute

Following Wednesday's private party to mark the retirement of International Director Ron Travers, the evening of Thursday, 9 June, was dedicated to a Royal Reception in the presence of the Prince of Wales.

Arriving shortly before 7pm, the Prince was greeted by an ecstatic crowd of people – all eager to meet him and exchange just a few words. Few were disappointed as, in an unusual gesture, the Prince made a tour of the entire room, talking with each delegate in turn. The joy of many who spoke to him was summed up by one – John Adhav, a resident of Bethlehem House in Bombay, India. He said: "The 9th of June was a red letter day for me. I will never forget the moment when Prince Charles came and shook hands with me and said he was ready to help me in whatever way I wanted. I felt great, honoured and

happy, and I will never forget this gesture of the Prince."

Expressing wonderment at the number of people present from all over the world, the Prince extended an official welcome to everyone. "I hope you will all have the best possible time here in England and that all of you will be able to find out more about each other and exchange ideas and experiences so that when you go back to your own countries, you will be even more inspired in your work."

He added: "I know that The Leonard Cheshire Foundation strives as hard as possible with a very dedicated staff, and I would like to pay tribute to them all now because I know that without them so many things would not be possible."

*Prince Charles gets into the swing of things with Kenyan delegates Elizabeth Wanjiku and Ann Gathonii (who also feature on our front cover).*



The next very special event was a Government Reception, held amid the opulence of Lancaster House and hosted by the UK Minister for Disabled People, Nicholas Scott. This was followed on Saturday with an opportunity to see a little more of London, with visits to the beautiful 15th-century Hampton Court Palace and a twilight barbeque at Maria Assumpta Convent in Kensington.

### The Final Climax

All too quickly, the Week reached its final climax on Sunday, 12 June, when a convoy of delegates travelled south to the first ever Cheshire Home – Le Court in Hampshire. For many people, it was something of a pilgrimage to see this first manifestation of Leonard Cheshire's vision, and the entertainment and activities laid on for the day helped to create a uniquely memorable occasion. These



*Rodney Craig from South Africa with Ethiopian Co-ordinator Negussie Sellassie, at the Government's Lancaster House*

included performances by the Regimental Band of the Parachute Regiment, the West End Carnival Show Band and the Liss Maypole

Dancers, followed by the death-defying antics of Cadbury's Crunchie Flying Circus and The Red Devils parachute display team.

The day also featured the presentation of a commemorative picture and baton to Ron Travers, to mark his official retirement as International Director. ■



*Delegates and guests join in the Conga at Le Court*

### Bottled Memories...

A video capturing the activities and atmosphere of World Week's grand finale at Le Court Cheshire Home has been produced as a keepsake for members of the Foundation.

Appropriately named *A Day to Remember*, the video is available for VHS Pal systems (UK standard) only, at a cost of £12 in the UK, £14.50 in Europe and £16.50 elsewhere – with all prices inclusive of postage and packing.

*A Day to Remember* is available from John and Pat Fleming c/o Greathouse Cheshire Home, Kington Langley, Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 5NA, England. For every video purchased, £1 will be donated to Le Court.



*A day to remember – captured on video for posterity*



*The team that helped to make it all happen – World Week organiser Nicky Baly (centre) with assistants Helen Cobley and Rosnah Dempster.*

# The 1994 Creative Activity Contest

**Organiser Maggie van Koetsveld reports on this year's contest.**

*Photos by Elizabeth Harkman and Emma Williams*



**T**his year's contest was bigger and better than ever before, with work of the very highest standard flooding in from around the world. Many items reflected the traditions of their country of origin - including leatherwork and tailoring from Uganda, wreaths from Ghana, calligraphy from Japan and articles in local materials from the Philippines.

All the work reflected tremendous creativity and originality, and we were particularly impressed with the money-raising ventures undertaken by so many overseas homes.

The specialist judges, who are all extremely well-known in their field,



were Joanna Trollope for prose, Bel Mooney for poetry, David Shepherd for art, Warren Potter for photography and Francis Coleman for computer work. All spoke highly of the entries, while our three experienced handicraft judges were convinced that general standards are rising.

As usual, the competition was against a standard of excellence and from nearly 1,100 entries, 159 First Class Diplomas were awarded.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to list all the results but the following names are those whose outstanding work gained them a

## **Double First:**

### **International**

#### **Budaka, Uganda**

Rose Mary Apio

#### **Burnpur, India**

Dolly Majumber

Selima Paul

#### **Eric Miles House, South Africa**

Basie Botes

#### **Harima, Japan**

Fumiaki Nishimura

#### **Katalemwa, Uganda**

Josephine Gasembye

#### **Moscow, Russia**

Gennadi Cherkasov

Sergey Skumazhenko

#### **St Laurence, Eire**

Rosemary Cashman

Catherine O'Mahoney

Beryl Gilbert

Georgina Lowe

Roy Kelly

John Francis Guerlin

### **UK**

#### **Agate House**

Leslie Mays

#### **Arnold House**

Jill Hartwell

#### **Bradbury House**

Joyce Burns

#### **Carnsalloch**

Margaret Murray

Isobel Ferguson

#### **Chiltern**

Harry Dessa

#### **Eithinog**

Stephanie Campbell

#### **Heatherley**

Susie Skinner

Karen Christie

#### **Heatherley Day Care**

Kathy Swain

#### **Honresfeld**

June Clark

#### **Holehird**

Dorothy Sorrell

#### **Isle of Wight**

Rosemary Reynolds

#### **James Burns**

Megan Bowles Activity Group

#### **Le Court**

Phyllis Young

#### **Lancaster CAHS**

Mr J Roger

#### **Mote House**

Jeanette Hadlow

Vicky Rones

#### **Newlands**

Robert Ensor

#### **Park House**

Mr M Driver

#### **St Bridget's**

Audrey Baker

#### **St Michael's**

David Hassell

#### **Seven Springs**

Mary Ockenden

Martin Barber

Diane Grey

Christine Owen

Kath Jarvis

Derek Champion



The **Roger de Grey Shield** for best art entry was won by Basie Botes of Eric Miles House in South Africa.

Awarding the **Phyllis Young Cup for Courageous Endeavour** taxed the special judges so much that in the end they pronounced Gordon Cull of Newlands, Anne Pink of St Bridget's and Jeff Winer of Seven Springs joint second, with Joan Monckton of Eithnog the UK winner, and Soo Kien Fatt of Selangor, Malaysia and Madam Wong Ching of Shatin, Hong Kong the joint overseas winners.

### Victim of Success

The Creative Activity Contest is now so popular that it has become a victim of its own success! Because of this, we are currently looking at ways of reorganising it before the next contest in 1996, so that more people can see the exhibition for a longer period.

While we have still to decide the best method for achieving this, one thing remains certain – the 1996 Creative Activity Contest will once again show the remarkable talents of those who belong to The Leonard Cheshire Foundation worldwide.



Comments and suggestions on the contest are very welcome and should be sent to Maggie van Koetsveld at Northacre, Shackleford, Godalming, Surrey GU8 6AX, England.

## Spirit of the Foundation

**F**or many delegates, one of the most moving events of the Week was a special showing of *Thoughts for the Future* – a video made by Leonard Cheshire in 1975, in which he speaks of his hopes and aims for the Foundation.

This was used as the basis for a stimulating debate on The Spirit of the Foundation – which brought to the fore people's innermost concerns and visions.

In the video, Leonard Cheshire outlines four basic principles.

- 1) As the Foundation grows bigger, we must always seek to keep the personal element.
- 2) Delegation is essential, but this must not be abrogation.
- 3) While money is necessary, we should always use the funds we have to do more and not merely regard them as an investment.
- 4) The Foundation is a layman's organisation, based on ordinary people giving up their spare time.

To these, Leonard Cheshire adds:

"I bequeath to the future, absolute freedom to go the way that you want to go – so long as those basic principles always remain at the foundation."

### Inspired

Inspired by the video, many delegates came forward to give their views on the essential qualities of the Foundation and the best way forward. Views expressed came under three broad themes:

### What is unique about the Cheshire spirit?

- Leonard himself – his humility, selflessness, simplicity and caring.
- The non-denominational, world wide character of the Foundation, which emphasises the unique dignity of each individual.
- The fact that we offer freedom and choice to disabled people.
- Our work provides an answer to

materialism and adds to the sum of human goodness.

### How do we keep the international Cheshire family together?

- We must promote mutual awareness through travel, interchange and twinning, and through training programmes.
- The *Thoughts for the Future* video should be generally available.
- Homes should produce videos of their activities and surroundings, with copies kept in a central reference library at Maunsel Street.
- The new Leonard Cheshire Charter must be translated into as many languages as possible.

### What about the future?

- We must seek to involve young people and recruit volunteers.
- We need a more ambitious public relations programme to increase awareness of the Foundation and its work.
- We must listen carefully to people's needs and expectations. Disabled people must have an equal say in the management of Homes and Services.

### In conclusion

In putting across his message, that we – the residents, staff, users and volunteers – have now inherited the Foundation and are therefore responsible for it, Leonard Cheshire also expressed a vision.

He said: "I hope we will always be reaching out so that one day we can go out and do something for the peace and security of the world."

No-one who was present would deny that World Week 1994 represented one more step towards achieving that aim. For through it, we proved that the spirit of our Foundation grows ever stronger as it spreads from person to person, from community to community and from nation to nation across the world.



**General Sir  
Geoffrey Howlett**  
KBE MC  
Chairman, The  
Leonard Cheshire  
Foundation



**Sir David Goodall**  
GCMG  
Chairman, The  
Leonard Cheshire  
Foundation  
International

### A closing message from the Chairmen and Directors

One thing which is very clear is that World Week 1994 was an enormous success. Old friendships were strengthened, new ones made and the Cheshire Family spirit was greatly enhanced. The whole event served as a further tribute to our beloved Founder, whose memory was continuously evoked both in public and in private. We were so fortunate to have Lady Ryder present, to help us build for the future.

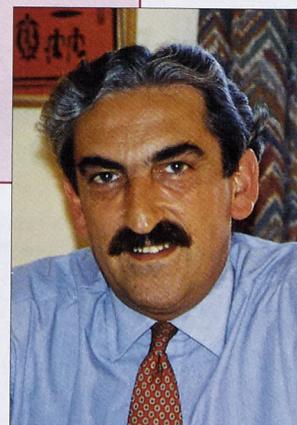
That future is all of ours to shape – World Week gave us a clear mandate to face it with confidence and to proudly carry forward the Founder's vision, as reflected in The Leonard Cheshire Charter.

Everyone who was involved in World Week deserves our congratulations, and most especially the delegates whose contributions made it such a momentous occasion.

It may seem a long way ahead, but we are now looking forward to World Week 1999 – when we will have the opportunity to review our progress and take our work forward into the 21st century.

**Rupert Ridge**  
Director, The  
Leonard Cheshire  
Foundation  
International

**James Stanford**  
Director General, The  
Leonard Cheshire  
Foundation



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