

"RAPHAEL"

RYDER CHESHIRE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

For the Relief of Suffering

DEHRU DUN, U.P.
INDIA



Sue Ryder. Leonard Cheshire.

Founders —

GROUP CAPTAIN LEONARD CHESHIRE, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C.
Mrs. SUE RYDER CHESHIRE, O.B.E.

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The Ryder-Cheshire Foundation (Victoria)

Committee

Chairman:

The Hon. Sir Arthur Dean, L.L.M.

Vice-Chairman:

Philip H. N. Opas, Q.C. L.L.B.

Hon. Treasurer:

Stuart H. Collie, Esq.

Hon. Secretary:

Mrs. A. A. Lord, M.B.E.

"Homeden"

48 Lansell Road,

Toorak. Phone: 24-5283.

Hon. Liaison Officer:

Miss Barbara Coleman,

"Raphael"

16 Pritam Road,

Dehra Dun, U.P.

INDIA.

Hon. Liaison Officer for Adoptions:

Miss Josephine Collins,

487 St. Kilda Road,

Melbourne. Phone: 26-3913.



Up-to-date £1600 has been sent from Melbourne. and a cottage for four leprosy families, to cost £1000, is being built.

To Our Subscribers

This news letter is intended as a report of what your Committee, with your assistance, has done and hopes to do. I believe you will take away from your perusal of it a deep conviction that you are participating in a most profitable activity. You will feel you are helping to bring joy and love and freedom from hunger and poverty to many adults and children in India who would otherwise be condemned to misery, disease and under-nourishment. The inspiration of our founder, Group Captain Cheshire, has helped us to follow his leadership and to support his planning. We earnestly solicit a continuance of your interest and support.

ARTHUR DEAN

Chairman



Mission For The Relief of Suffering

Since the war Group Captain Leonard Charles Cheshire, V.C., D.S.O., D.F.C., has devoted his life to the cause of the chronically sick, regardless of race, colour or creed. From the United Kingdom, where there are 40 Cheshire Homes, the movement has spread through Europe, Asia, Africa, as far as Hong Kong, Singapore and New Guinea.

After his marriage to Sue Ryder, who is famous in her own right, for her work amongst the Displaced Persons in Europe their ideas and ideals amalgamated into a partnership called the Ryder Cheshire Mission for the Relief of Suffering. Far Eastern Headquarters were set up in Dehra Dun, and named "RAPHAEL", after the Archangel of healing.

At "Raphael" it is the hope and dream of the Cheshires to provide a lifelong home for 600 incurable and destitute persons of all creeds and communities. Here they may help one another to lead happier and more fruitful lives, and the spirit and ideals of the joint founders may be perpetuated.

The site of the International Centre of "Raphael", is a wooded estate at Dehra Dun, 150 miles north of Delhi in the Himalayan foothills. It comprises at present a Leprosy Colony housing 100 people, a Unit for 55 Mentally Handicapped Children, and a Children's Home, for the care of 30 little ones, (Children of leprosy patients, and others in poor and tragic circumstances). The first ward of the Hospital is at present under construction.

Aid For The Lepers

By TREVOR DAVIS

At a small, self-contained colony, at Dehra Dun, in India, dotted by neatly kept, white-washed brick homes, an unusual experiment is giving 100 lepers help they have never known before.

It is also doing much to remove from them the stigma of "unclean" which clings to all lepers in India, and causes them to ring a bell to warn of their coming so they may be avoided.

Perhaps even more important, it is restoring to them the human dignity they lost when they first became afflicted by the disease, which has crippled four million of India's population.

Dehra Dun centre, named "Raphael", is one of many throughout the world.

For three months of each year it is wholly maintained by the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation in Victoria.

It was visited recently by Mr. Phillip Opas, Q.C., vice-president of the foundation, while on his way to England.

Mr. Opas, who has just returned to Melbourne, said this week that, apart from the 100 lepers, "Raphael" housed the 25 destitute, but non-infected children, and 52 other mentally retarded children.

The lepers, housed in brick units in groups of four families, are mostly "burned out" cases which cannot be helped further by medical treatment.

Despite, this, and the fact that many have lost toes or fingers through their illness, they are taught and encouraged to help themselves and keep their houses neat and tidy.

"The lepers tend their homes with great pride, because they have never known anything like this," Mr. Opas says.

"And they do it so well I would call "Raphael" almost a model village."

The inmates also have been taught, as part of their training to become as self-sufficient as practicable, to operate clothing machines.

They make their own clothes and cloth, as well as shoes and artificial limbs.

They also tend their own goats, keep pigeons and bantams for eggs and grow a small quantity of grain.

"Instead of many of them feeling sorry for themselves, they are getting about and helping others less fortunate," Mr. Opas said.

"And their children, who have been taken away from them, are as happy a bunch of children as you could wish to see, neatly dressed and well cared for."

The children's playground is dominated by a fountain, topped by a model koala bear and flanked on the ground by kangaroos.

A plaque on the fountain is inscribed: "To Raphael, from friends in Australia (N.S.W.)"

Also in the playground are swings and slides, donated by the children of a nearby school, who saved their pocket money for almost a year to buy them.

The school for the mentally retarded children was started by a Rockhampton teacher, Miss Pamela Breslin.

"She brought them to the stage where they could identify colors, in itself a great achievement, and her work is being carried on with satisfactory results," Mr. Opas said.

"I believe "Raphael" is a wonderful venture and that every penny that is being spent there has been wisely spent, which was one of the reasons for my visit.

"And as a humanitarian venture it is one I regard so highly I will do all I can for it."

Mr. Opas said New Zealand, New South Wales and the Ryder-Cheshire organisation in England, were, like Victoria, contributing to the centre's upkeep.

It cost £1000 to build a home for four leper families, and for each £50 donation another child could be "adopted" and cared for at the centre for a year.

Mr. Opas said the Victorian foundation would welcome donations, which could be forwarded to the foundation secretary, Mrs. A. A. Lord, 48 Lansell Road, Toorak.

(By courtesy of "The Age", Melbourne 3/10/64).

Group Captain Leonard Cheshire visits Australia and New Zealand

by Barbara Coleman.



Group Captain CHESHIRE, V.C. in Town . . .

The visit of Group Captain Cheshire to Australia had the usual devastating crisis and insuperable problems, which are forgotten in the final blaze of success.

The Group Captain had comparatively few contacts here, and we owe an enormous debt of gratitude to COLLEEN McLEOD, who was living in Sydney for the past few years, but has now left for Singapore with her husband. She had been in Bombay during the pioneering days of the Home there, and since coming to Sydney worked with remarkable zeal and perseverance to arouse interest in "Raphael". (During this time she and her very small band of workers have been sending money, clothes . . . and encouragement to Dehra Dun in a steady stream).

Richard Pape, author of "Boldness be my Friend", also did much to organize the Group Captain's week in Sydney.

SYDNEY

D-DAY was April 14th, and after two days in Sydney the Group Captain flew to New Guinea, where an exciting itinerary was worked out by Renata Cochrane. A committee was set up in Port Moresby, to initiate a Home for Mentally Handicapped Children, and an acre of land was donated for the site.

The Group Captain returned to Sydney for Anzac Day. He was a guest of honour on the official dais during the traditional march through the streets of Sydney. He afterwards spent a few hours at lunch with members of his own

group, the No. 5 Bomber Command. At the Luncheon a collection was taken up for "Raphael", and I believe an ice-cream cake, depicting a bomber was raffled.

The week in Sydney passed quickly with luncheons, meetings, and visits to Schools. The two films "Living Waters" and "Share Thy Bread", made by the Group Captain of the work in India, proved an enormous asset, and people were deeply moved by all they saw and heard.

Included in the itinerary was a visit to LITHGOW, the home town of Miss Mary Joseph, who worked at "Raphael" in 1960. The films were shown in the City Hall to an enthusiastic audience, and since then Mary has formed a Support Group.

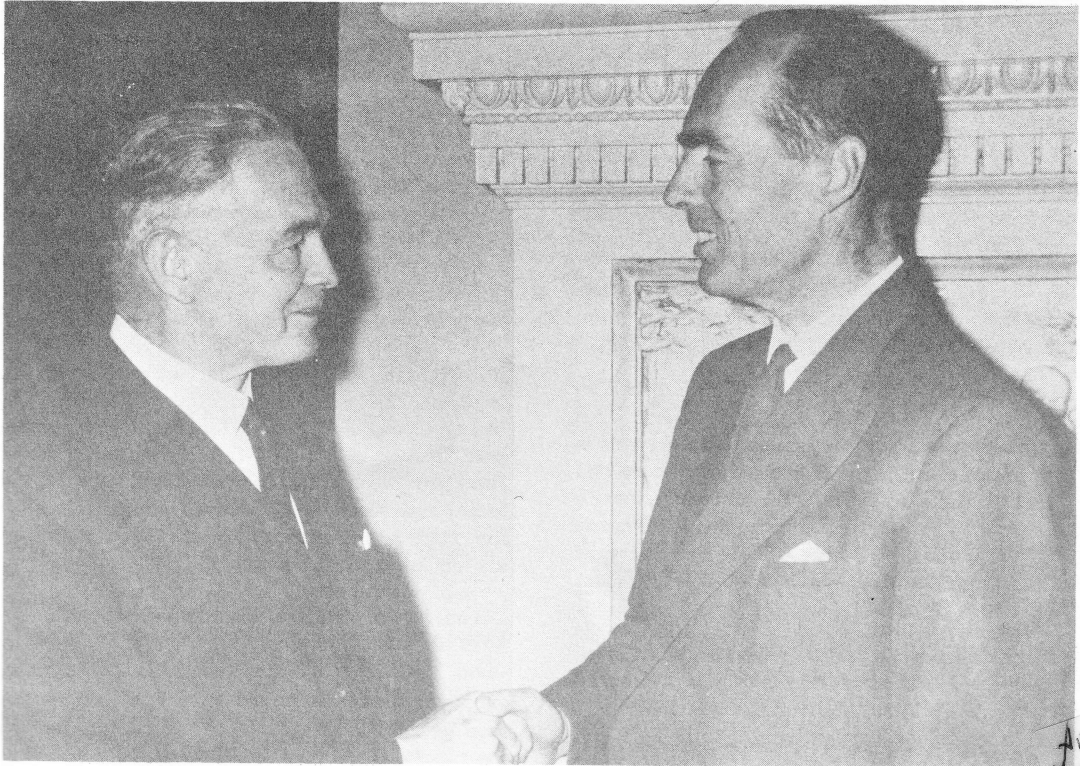
It is the "Adoption Scheme" which is having great success. Several of the schools which the Group Captain visited in Sydney, have adopted children at "Raphael" by paying £50 per year. Also the people living in a suburban street have taken a child. The sponsors are given a photograph and details of the patient allotted to them, so they have a very personal link with us in Dehra Dun. There is something appealing about such a bond being built up between the two countries, even in such a small way.

MELBOURNE

On May 1st the Group Captain flew to Melbourne to spend a week in Victoria. On arrival he was met by Press, Radio and T.V. representatives, after which he was entertained at lunch by the Ryder Cheshire Committee. The nucleus of this Committee was formed when Group Captain and Mrs. Cheshire were here in 1959. A considerable amount of money was sent to "Raphael" from this small group. We were all delighted when, a few days before the Group Captain arrived, the Hon. Sir Arthur Dean, Chancellor of Melbourne University consented to be Chairman of the Victorian Committee. This has made a great difference to our future.

The week was hectic. Mrs. A. A. Lord, our Hon. Secretary and her active band of helpers organized an official late afternoon Reception, at which His Excellency the Governor of Victoria, Major General Sir Rohan Delacombe, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Cr. and Mrs. E. L. Curtis were present, and over £800 was raised for "Raphael".

That night Cheshire was guest speaker at an Apex dinner at Heidelberg. Several Apex clubs in Victoria and the Riverina have shown their interest in "Raphael" in practical ways, and it is hoped that later in the year we may benefit even more from these men who carry out the ideals of Apex in such a genuine and sincere way.



The Hon. Sir Arthur Dean, welcomes Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, V.C. to Victoria

At the Kew Town Hall on Sunday, Group Captain Cheshire, V.C., gave an illustrated address sponsored by The Australia Asian Association. He was introduced by The Hon. Sir Charles Lowe, K.C.M.G., M.A., LL.D., and given a wonderful reception.

During the week we were driven to Ballarat by Miss Josephine Collins who worked for two months at "Raphael" in 1962, and who helped a great deal with the itinerary for the Australian tour. She and I had been to Ballarat a few weeks earlier and found it difficult to arouse any interest, apart from that of a dedicated few. However, as so often happens, we were greeted by a staggering response. 1,000 people came to the City Hall for the Group Captain's lecture and film show, and a very staunch and active Ryder Cheshire Group now exists.

At least 16 patients at "Raphael" have been adopted by groups, schools and individuals in Ballarat. Our first Mentally Handicapped child to be adopted there, was Dolly, who was sponsored by a school for Mentally Handicapped children.

We spent the night at Ballarat and next day drove to Geelong, where again we received a heart warming welcome. Mr. Burrowes, the Chairman of our Ryder Cheshire Group, organized the programme.

After a combined Rotarians' Luncheon where the Group Captain was guest speaker, we drove to a picture theatre, which was generously offered to the Committee for the afternoon. Here, the Group Captain spoke to 1,400 children and showed them the two films. Since then we have received a steady stream of donations, and several adoptions have been arranged.

Feeling rather exhausted, we then retired to rest at Mr. Burrowes beautiful property outside Geelong. Here, the Group Captain enjoyed an hour tramping around the paddocks, alone, but for the dogs and his camera. That night there was a huge subscription Dinner and again we showed the films to about 300 people. It was a most rewarding and successful visit.

Next day, the Group Captain flew to New Zealand, tired but happy. To quote his words: "These two weeks have opened up completely new horizons for us."

For myself, those weeks and the ensuing ones will be treasured memories when I am back in Dehra Dun. As one of the Australians there it will mean a great deal to know that we are all, according to our own opportunities, either in India or Australia, united in our endeavours, to assist the work for the sick and suffering at "Raphael", and further the fine ideals of the Ryder Cheshire Mission for the Relief of Suffering.

PENTRIDGE PRISONERS DONATE THEIR WORK TO 'RAPHAEL'

A very active member of the Melbourne Sub-Committee arranged for Barbara Coleman and Josephine Collins to visit "A" Division of Pentridge Prison.

It was their first visit to a Prison and so, naturally they were nervous, especially as they were both expected to talk.

Their official hosts were the La Trobe Debating Club who quickly put them at ease by a very warm welcome. They were first taken on a "tour" of the Library, the Toy-making room and Artists' Room where they met and chatted with the men as they worked during their recreation time. Each of these rooms has its own story of achievement, which perhaps will be told in future editions of "Raphael".

The meeting of about 100 prisoners was chaired by Kevin — President of La Trobe Prisoners' Debating Club. Also at the table were Wally —, (the secretary), Albert, and Mr. J. J. F. Ryan, the Education Officer. Barbara talked about the Group Captain and his work, particularly referring to "Raphael" and then showed the film, "Share Thy Bread." Josephine spoke about the Adoption Scheme. After this they were kept busy answering constructive and pertinent questions for nearly an hour.

Barbara and Josephine were thanked by Albert who realised they were there in prison because they wanted more than they had. Now, they had been shown the work of two people who voluntarily and at financial loss to themselves, had lowered their standard of living to associate with and assist those who were in desperate need of help.

Whilst mingling with the men as they drank tea they listened to their enthusiastic ideas of how they can help "Raphael" and immediately they presented a beautiful coffee table, inlaid with Australian woods, to sell or raffle, and two oil paintings for Barbara to use at "Raphael". In future, anything they make in the workshop or recreation rooms in their own time may be given to our committee to help "Raphael".

A week later, Barbara and Josephine returned to the gaol for an interview which was taped and will now be sent to all divisions of all gaols in

Victoria. They talked again with a dozen or so prisoners who were still bubbling with enthusiastic plans. They have innumerable schemes of how to help us including an art exhibition in a Melbourne Gallery. Lou and Doc are very talented. Lou recently won a prize in an international art competition in Sydney.

Invitations were sent to Barbara and Josephine to attend the grand finals of the Victorian Debating Society. The La Trobe prisoners were participating in four of the finals. Barbara and Josephine were only able to attend two of the finals and were deeply moved and touched by the warmth and genuine sincerity of the prisoners on each of these visits.

The Ryder-Cheshire Foundation, and particularly Barbara and Josephine, desire to publicly thank the Governor and the staff at Pentridge, for permitting this privilege of speaking to the men about "Raphael". They sincerely express to Mr. Ryan their deep appreciation of his ever courteous help and assistance and the practical help and generous gifts from the prisoners.

Au Revoir to BARBARA COLEMAN

A meeting of the Executive Committee at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Lord, was followed by a late afternoon party given by them to farewell Barbara Coleman, who returns to India this month.

Since her arrival in Australia, Barbara has shed her radiance throughout Victoria, and New South Wales, and has been an inspiration to all those who, by monetary donations, gifts of clothing etc., and gifts to raise money, are helping to maintain "Raphael".

Group Activities . . .

Sydney
Geelong
Ballarat

SYDNEY:

The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. E. G. Miles has sent a very detailed report of this very active group, consisting of sixteen members. They promised Group Captain Cheshire to support "Raphael" every June and January. The June maintenance money of £800 presented no problems, but from July the Committee faced the alarming problem of finding £800 by December.

So far:—

A theatre party at the "Ensemble" Milson's Point was a full house.

An Art Exhibition by Miss Audrey Russell was held at a Morning Tea Party at the home of Mrs. K. Brealey.

The Treasurer, Mrs. J. Gow and her husband opened their magnificent Garden for inspection and served Devonshire Tea.

Other Committee Members have shown films and given talks to interested groups.

Many groups are knitting multi-coloured striped jumpers and cardigans for the Indian children. Readers who have any leftovers of wool are requested to send them to:—

Mrs. P. Gow, 20 John Savage Crescent, Penant Hills, N.S.W.

The Adoptions Committee consisting of Mrs. G. L. Jones and Mrs. J. Joseph are responsible for growing interest in the scheme.

Future Activities:

Theatre night at the "Ensemble", Milson's Pt. This is their second Theatre Night.

Christmas Carols and Luncheon on 25th November, at Mrs. E. G. Miles, 10 Hamilton Parade, Pymble, N.S.W.

Christmas Cards at 1/- depicting the Taj Mahal. Be sure to send them to all your friends. Thus you will be spreading the appeal and secondly you will be supporting "Raphael", Dehra Dun.

The Cards are available from Mrs. Miles, the Hon. Secretary, and Mrs. R. B. Miller, the Hon. Asst. Secretary. 41 Dorset St., Epping, N.S.W., D.

LITHGOW.

President: Mr. Pat Robson.

Hon. Secretary: Miss Sandra Rowan.

Committee: Miss Mary Joseph, Mrs. Case, and Mrs. Mary Roebuck.

Recently held its four Fashion Parade with the wonderful result of £150 profit towards their Ryder-Cheshire Foundation effort.

GEELONG.

Their active businessman Chairman, Mr. Howard Burrowes, keeps his committee alive for the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation. Reports that Mrs. Paula Silverside is visiting the schools and showing films and slides.

COLERAINE COMMITTEE:

Chairman — Mr. H. M. Wettenhall.
Committee — Mr. N. Ashbury, Mr. Tunny Baudinette and Mr. R. Bunge. This enthusiastic group recently held a successful Barbecue and Woolshed Dance.

ADOPTIONS:

This Scheme is proving very successful. There are thirty-five Children adopted by groups and individuals in Victoria:— Melbourne, Ballarat, Geelong and Coleraine, and in N.S.W.:— Sydney, Lithgow and Glenorie.

To fully support a Mentally Handicapped Patient £50 p.a.

To fully support Leprosy Patient . . . £50 p.a.

To fully support a Destitute Child . . . £35 p.a.

BALLARAT:

President: Mr. John G. Hurley.

Vice-Presidents: Mr. Frank Petch and Mrs. C. Moloney.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. T. Kingston.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: Mr. A. Morffew.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. R. McCluskey.

Members: Canon J. L. A. Price, Miss A. A. McLean, Mr. W. P. Fogarty, Mr. B. J. Colbert.

The wonderful Committee is supported by a membership of sixty people who each subscribe 10/- p.a.

Members of the Executive meet monthly and the general meetings are held quarterly.

In addition to the many Church groups working both physically and financially in the great task of helping the under-privileged peoples of Asia, Africa and North America. There are two other very active organizations, Asian Concern Council and Community Aid Abroad. There are members of this Branch of Ryder Cheshire Foundation on these two Committees. They act as liaison Officers between their Committees and as times passes, will undoubtedly contribute to greater co-operation between all three Committees.

BY EVEN THE SMALLEST CONTRIBUTION TO "RAPHAEL" you will be welcomed into our International Family.



DONATIONS MAY BE SENT TO:—

MELBOURNE:

Mr. P. H. N. Opas, Q.C. (Vice-Chairman Ryder Cheshire Committee, Victoria), Owen Dixon Chambers, 205 William Street, Melbourne.

Mrs. A. A. Lord, M.B.E. (Hon. Sec.)
48 Lansell Road, Toorak. 24-5283.

Miss Josephine Collins, 487 St. Kilda Road,
Melbourne. 26-3913.

SYDNEY:

Mrs. P. Gow, Hon. Treasurer, 20 John Savage Crescent, West Pennant Hills, 84-4180.

(Hon. Sec.), Mrs. E. G. Miles, 10 Hamilton Parade, Pymble, N.S.W.

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Clothing may be sent to: Mrs. J. Arundell,
409 North Road, South Caulfield.

Please enclose this coupon with your donation:

NAME.....

Address.....

AMOUNT.....

Cash
Cheque
Postal Note

"New Lives for Old", the story of the Cheshire Homes, a book by Wilfred Russell, is available on request at 35/- a copy.

The Duke of Edinburgh said "This is the story of one of the greatest acts of humanity in our time."