

Ryder-Cheshire News



THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF RYDER-CHESHIRE FOUNDATIONS

For the Relief of Suffering

Founders:- Group Captain Lord Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO, DFC: Lady Ryder of Warsaw, CMG, OBE

NO. 46

APRIL 1999

RYDER-CHESHIRE IN AUSTRALIA

1964 - Towards 2000 Plus

As we near the end of the 20th Century, National President
AIR MARSHAL J.W. NEWHAM, AC. (RET.)
reflects on the development of the Australian Foundations.

Sue Ryder and Leonard Cheshire were married in Bombay in 1959 and the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation came into being under the umbrella entitled *Mission for the Relief of Suffering*. Their separate Foundations (The Leonard Cheshire Foundation and the Sue Ryder Foundation) continued to operate independently, whilst their work would come together at "**RAPHAEL**", the Ryder-Cheshire International Centre at Dehra Dun, Northern India.

The development of the Ryder-Cheshire Foundations in Australia, and the dedication and stamina of members has been remarkable. Special people, through their work with the disabled and disadvantaged were able to further the ideals and aims of Lady Ryder of Warsaw and Group Captain Lord Cheshire of Woodhall by taking on the load, together with New Zealand, of sustaining Raphael.

How did I meet Leonard? In 1986 I visited my NZ counterpart, and whilst there we were both invited to attend a reunion of No 617 (Dambuster) Squadron. Previously, I had met a number of 617 Squadron members in Australia (Ross Stanford of the South Australian Foundation for one) but had not expected this concentration of famous airmen of WWII. I had not seen before or since so many awards for courage and achievement in the one room. It was a stunning evening. Leonard and I were seated together and chatted throughout about operational flying and several strategic and ethical issues; never a word about his chosen work, and only a few words of explanation when I enquired about it. This was to come later in the year when I was visiting London on RAAF business and we lunched together. As before he was interesting, extraordinarily articulate and generous with his interest in me. I emphasised to him my resolve to quit running things when I retired.

After I had retired, Leonard called me from Melbourne. Would I go to Port Moresby with Jack Thurgar to look at problems with the Cheshire Home? We went, and arrived back in Sydney to report to the 1990 Biennial Meeting that very day. A series of visits to PNG eventuated; we kept in touch with Leonard and reported to the National Executive at several of its meetings thereafter. When Dame Roma Mitchell's appointment as Governor of South Australia was announced, Leonard just happened to be in Australia. We met, and chatted, and "Yes" he did remember my resolution, and the conversation drifted. At the end of lunch, Leonard stood up and said: "Well, I'm relieved that is resolved." We shook hands, and he left for his next appointment. At the next Executive Meeting, held a few days later in Canberra, Leonard Cheshire introduced his nomination to succeed Dame Roma. I cannot remember having much say in the matter. Thus a rewarding relationship was cemented.

(continued p. 2)

Sue Ryder and Leonard Cheshire are two of the great people of this century. Both sit at the pinnacle in the order of physical and moral courage, and benevolence

All who have met them, and those who have visited Raphael, remain touched by the selfless nature of their work. It is these people who have kept Ryder-Cheshire in Australia going since those first meetings in Ballarat and Geelong in 1964, who occupy a special place in my reckoning. Your dedication has sustained my association with the Foundations over the past 11 years.

I value my links and friendship with you greatly, and thank you for your unstinting application to this great work.

Over the past 35 years Ryder-Cheshire Australia has grown in stature and sustained its splendid work. This is a satisfying way to conclude this phase in our history. At our next meeting we will look at the way ahead. I expect that our target will remain the relief of suffering in India and in Papua New Guinea. There are times when the news from both countries leaves me with doubt, yet I find no diminution in the motivation of the members of this special organization.

We will hold our next Biennial Meeting in Adelaide in the year 2000, the climax of both the 20th century and the 2nd millenium.

Your unflagging zeal shows me the way ahead and boosts my sense of duty and I thank you for that.

*Jake Newham
April 1999*

RELEVANT DATES

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1959 | The <i>Raphael Centre</i> in Dehra Dun, Northern India founded on an estate of 23 acres of Reserved Forest Land leased by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh on the recommendation of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharal Nehru. |
| 1964 | Leonard Cheshire arrives in Melbourne and addresses well attended Public Meetings in Ballarat and Geelong. As a result of this visit a Melbourne Support Group was started, working in close co-operation with the now official Victorian Foundation. |
| 1966 | A.C.T. Foundation inaugurated. |
| 1970 | S.A. and W.A. Foundations inaugurated. |
| 1972 | Queensland Foundation inaugurated. Strong Support Groups started in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia. Visits by the Founders in 1966, 1970 and 1974 helped to strengthen the grassroots of Foundations and Support Groups throughout Australia. |
| 1971 | The National body was established to co-ordinate the work in Australia and establish closer links with the New Zealand Foundations. The first National Chairman was Mr. Justice Nagle who had succeeded Air Vice Marshal John MCAuley as President of the N.S.W. Foundation. Australia and New Zealand accepted the responsibility for the financing of "Raphael" and the two countries combined in selecting and sending volunteers to work at "Raphael". |
| 1964-Present | There has been a constant stream of volunteers to Raphael from Australia and New Zealand, but that is another ongoing and long story. |

RAPHAEL NEWS

From the Director

8 December 1998

Di McEwen and Jane Waters were with us during first week of December. For Jane it was like homecoming after 18 years. She was here in 1980-81 and looked after Liaison Office. Everyone remembered her very fondly. It was great meeting such ardent supporters from Australia.

We celebrated World Handicapped Day on 3 December and it was a good gathering of local schools. *Ganga* from the Day Centre was honoured by the District Administration on this day.

Soon we are going to start a short course for all those untrained teachers who are looking after handicapped children in this region. Mrs. Pryio Lall is going to organise it in Ava Vihar.

Gauri will be leaving us in January. She is getting married in February and then leaves for USA. *Ganga* will officiate as Principal [at the Day Centre] until we find a suitable replacement.

We continue having good volunteers. For me and Gita it has been a good experience to meet so many in the last four and a half years.

6 January 1999

We celebrated Xmas very nicely, and all the children enjoyed the day.

Little White House and Ava Vihar residents are fine. Living conditions have further improved. This year we will be taking very few new children - we already have full strength, and senior children will have to make places for the younger lot.

Pryio is busy conducting the Bridge Course for those looking after handicapped children of the region. There will be a series of such courses of six weeks duration.

Roma, our new Liaison Officer, is well settled. Al (Tony) Burnett of Darlington, Perth, was in Dehra Dun for a few days. He visited us at Raphael.

20 February

The weather in Dehra Dun has been very pleasant. We have recently had a very good number of volunteers from UK, Australia and New Zealand.

In the Inter Cllege Sports Meet held in November in Dehra Dun, *Daya Ram* came first in the Long Jump, 100 Metre Race and the 200 Metre Race. *Beena*

Gurung studying in her final year of the B.Sc. represented her College in the Regional Volleyball Tournament held at Meerut in December.

Polly Hauxwell and Nicola Webb, ex-volunteers from UK were with us last October and conducted a workshop for the teaching staff of Ava Vihar and the Day Centre.

Our Day Centre took an active part in the cultural programme of the Doon School Founders' Day, where the Centre had a stall of handicraft items made by the children and on another occasion they participated at the fete held at the Welham Girls' Founders' Day celebration.

'MENCAP', a non-government organisation in the UK, which raises funds for the mentally retarded and slow learners organised two groups in the UK, who came to India to take part in *The India Bike Ride* from Shimla to Delhi via Dehra Dun-Haridwar. The first group of 119 cyclists reached Raphael on 19 November and the second group of 125 on 27th November.

Gaynor Tilley from South Australia arrived in early February. She has come like Father Christmas bringing gifts. We thank the South Australian Aviation Museum for its gift of a complete cricket set for the Little White House children.

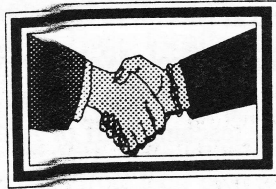
Thanks to RCF Australia we have got a new linen set for LWH.

The Chairman will be visiting USA and Canada during May/June with a view to raising funds for the Raphael Corpus [investment fund].

29 January - a letter from Chairman General Bakhshi [Rummy] on his visit to the U.K. in 1998. Rummy writes:

"My visit to England to meet up with over 40 old friends was very successful.... We were hosted by 18 friends including Peter Ramsbotham and Michael Humphrey. I telephoned an old friend, Richard Cook, now 90 years old. He recognised my voice after 17 years! We had an excellent lunch! Another old friend was an officer of an Indian Battalion I had met on two consecutive days in Burma - in 1942!"

"I am working on a plan to visit USA/Canada in 1999 in the hope that I can raise sufficient money to build up the Corpus, interest on which will help run Raphael. Please pray that I will succeed in this mission."



NEWS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES - Secretary Jenny Coleman

The NSW Committee met in November 1998 and February 1999. It was reported that Leonard Cheshire's last book *Crossing the Finishing Line* had sold well.

STALLS - Over \$3000 was raised from 6 Street Stalls held between May and October - from the sale of goods and books. Further stalls are planned for April and May. These stalls have been successful in raising significant funds.

From sponsorships, generous donations, and fundraising NSW has been able to forward \$30,000 to the overseas fund in the current financial year.

VICTORIA - President Peter Newton

1998 ended in a flourish with the annual Concert in October, a garage sale in November, a campaign aimed at increasing sponsorships and a concerted effort to sell Christmas cards.

Once again the small committee has started 1999 with energy and enthusiasm. In the past five months eleven new sponsors have adopted residents at Raphael - they will receive their reward when letters arrive from Raphael telling them of the progress of their adoptees. Thanks are extended to all sponsors, some of whom have been contributing generously for 30 years. Victorian members who would like to know more about the sponsorship scheme should contact *Helen Newton on 03 9894 3191 or write to her at 50 Myrtle Grove, Blackburn Vic 3130*. Helen would be delighted to talk to you.

The Leonard Cheshire Rose - Many people purchased the Rose in 1998 and enjoyed the magnificent red bloom throughout the summer. For those who missed out, or who would like to send a rose as a gift to a friend or loved one, we are taking orders again this year. [An order form for Victorian members is inserted in this Newsletter.]

FUNCTIONS - 1999

2nd June 1999, 12.30. - A Parade and Sale of fine imported knitwear and made-to-measure

tweed garments at the Uniting Church Hall in Toorak. Lunch and refreshments will be served and entertainment provided by the tap dancing group "Elizabeth Ryan's Golden Oldies". For bookings phone *Helen McKendrick on 03 9827 2065 or write to her at 3/545 Toorak Road, Toorak Vic 3142*.

CHRISTMAS CARDS - 1999

A range of cards has been selected and sales will commence earlier in 1999. Businesses and corporations will be targeted, and we ask supporters to purchase cards. Contact *Peter Newton well before Christmas, 03 9894 3191 or write to 50 Myrtle Grove, Blackburn, 3130*.

BALLARAT SUPPORT GROUP

Cath McLenehan - Publicity Officer

A very successful evening, both socially and financially, was the result of our joining with BETA SIGMA PHI branches to attend a National Theatre production of "84 Charing Cross Road".

Currently we are planning a Sunday Luncheon in May with a Speaker. A new attraction will be an exhibition of framed poems written and donated by a gifted member and sponsor, Joy Brisbane, wife of Jeff. Much of Joy's work has been published and we will see some poems written about Raphael. We have also received a generous cheque from the Estate of Joy's parents. Thank you Joy.

While Jeff and Joy were at Raphael last year - about their 7th visit, they were told of the need for a roof over the outdoor physiotherapy area. We are most grateful to Loreto College for their gift of \$1,500 for this purpose.

Geoff Nott continues to give his excellent talks on the Ryder-Cheshire Foundation and Raphael, and together with the Committee, we aim to increase awareness of Raphael and the Foundation during 1999.

QUEENSLAND - President Leslie A. Nordon

At the Annual General Meeting on 20th March we welcomed to the Queensland Foundation Inga McMaster. The following office bearers were elected:-

Patron: Sir Walter Campbell KBE, AC, QC.

President: Leslie Nordon

Treasurer: Margaret Lawton

Sponsorship Secretary: Inga McMaster

1998 has not been a good year and we hope that 1999 will be better for all concerned.

Greetings to all other Foundations and all who support our work throughout Australia.

E-mail received from Jenny and Conor D'Arcy of The Gap, Queensland (29 January)

(Jenny was a volunteer at Raphael a few years ago.)

Hi Margaret - I noticed in the last Newsletter that you're on-line so thought I'd say hi!

Conor and I have not been as active as we would like in our support of Ryder-Cheshire recently as we spent a year travelling overseas. However, the Newsletter has been invaluable in keeping us in touch with the happenings around Australia and also at Raphael. Sad to hear of the deaths of Babita and Col. Rege, amongst others, both of whom I spent a lot of time with during my volunteer days at Raphael.

After reading Newsletter No. 45 Conor and I decided to raise some funds during February. As we did once before we invited friends around to our home and had Indian food/dress and a raffle. We have fixed the date for February 13th - will keep you posted.

AND on 17th February - Well, it was a great success and we raised over \$400. All entered into the spirit and came dressed in various varieties of Indian outfits and generously bought raffle tickets. Conor cooked chicken legs in the Tandoori oven, and with rice and dhal etc., everyone was well fed. We also had Jill Stewart and Inga McMaster (newly arrived in Brisbane from Canberra) so there were three ex-Raphael people, including myself. Great to catch up again.

GREAT! *It sounds like a good time was had by all. Thanks for the information. Margaret*

SOUTH AUSTRALIA - Secretary Margaret Blaber.

The Oswald-Raphael Support Group forwarded \$600 raised at their annual dinner in November. This is part of the group's sponsorship of a resident in the Little White House.

Three members of the committee attended a Garden Party at Government House. The Governor of South Australia Sir Eric Neal, and Lady Neal, hosted this function for members of the many organisations of which the Sir Eric is Patron.

FILM MORNING - Once again S.A. is joining with other organisations in a Film Morning to be held on 24th May.

[Insert enclosed for S.A. members].

Annual General Meeting - will be held on Wednesday 19th May - official notification will be sent to all members.

Biennial 2000 - S.A. will host the conference in April 2000. Early notices will be sent to all Foundations and Support Groups.

Sponsorships - Patricia Frith continues to do an excellent job keeping in touch with sponsors and with the Liaison Officer at Raphael. Recently Patricia has arranged a 'replacement' adoption for the Torrens Soroptimists - their previous adoptee has now reached adulthood and is now employed at the Raphael Ashwan Day Centre. This is one example of the success of the sponsorship scheme.

S.A. readers who would like more information on sponsorships, should contact Patricia, Tel. 08-8556-2604 or write to her at PO Box 393, Willunga, 5172.

Incidentally, Patricia and Ken have now moved to a new home - we wish them all the best in their new environment.

Volunteer at Raphael - Gaynor Tilley is currently at Raphael and from a letter received, has very quickly become involved with the activities. We look forward to a report from Gaynor for the next Newsletter.

Christmas Cards - The 1998 season resulted in increased sales and a significant addition to funds. S.A. has ordered four new cards for 1999.

This was Ross Stanford's last season as coordinator of the Christmas Cards. His final report will be included in the next Newsletter.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO ROSS,
AND TO RUSSELL LONGMIRE FOR THE
MANY YEARS OF WORK IN COORDINATING
THIS VALUABLE FUNDRAISER ON
BEHALF OF FOUNDATIONS
AND SUPPORT GROUPS.**

WESTERN AUSTRALIA - Secretary Evelyn Petters

Visit of Rowland King from U.K. - On 2 March 1999 Council members joined House Guests at the Perth Ryder-Cheshire Home for afternoon tea with Mr. Rowland King who, in October 1998, completed a three-year term in Tanzania as Administrator of the Ryder-Cheshire Rehabilitation Centre at the Katumba Refugee Settlement. Rowland gave a very vivid account of his experiences whilst at Katumba, highlighting the remoteness of the settlement, the very basic facilities which are available there, and the despair of the situation which has seen these refugees isolated from their own countries for a number of years.

Annual General Meeting - This was held on 7 March and the Hon. John Toohey AC, QC was elected President. The retiring President, Des O'Connor, paid tribute to the work of Council Members and in particular to Barbara Seabrook who retired as Vice-President and who has held an office continuously for over twenty five years. Following the business of the meeting Colonel Harpal Ahluwalia, Administrator of International Humanitarian Law of the Australian Red Cross (WA) gave an illustrated talk on Land Mines Issues and showed a video taken of Princess Diana whilst she was on her last visit to Angola.

Leonard Cheshire Memorial Awards - These awards are given in the memory of Leonard Cheshire, and the fund ing is raised from a special event during the year, usually a musical event. There were five awards of up to one thousand dollars each awarded in 1998. Three of these awards went to three young people with disabilities in the South West of W.A. for each to follow individual activities in courses of drama, dance and creative art. A further award was granted to a child in Perth to participate in special music therapy. The final award has been granted to a volunteer group who run riding classes for young people with disabilities for the purchase of two horses.

Several Council members attended a ceremony in Bunbury in March when the Vice-President of the WA Foundation presented award certificates to the three young recipients. In presenting the certificates Malcolm Petters said it was particularly fitting that these awards had been granted to these young people in the country in view of the involvement of the Foundation has with the many country guests who use the facility of the Perth Ryder-Cheshire Home whilst in Perth for medical treatment.

MT. GAMBIER SUPPORT GROUP - SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Earlier this year, National President Jake Newham wrote to Di McEwen, Secretary of the Support Group:

".....it ocurred to me just how much you and the Mt. Gambier Group have contributed to Raphael in every respect. I write, therefore, to offer my thanks and congratulations for this splendid effort.

We know well how difficult fund raising can be, and I wanted you to know of the importance and timeliness of your recent contribution of \$6000, dedicated to the provision of linen for the Little White House residents, and TB serum for the Mobile TB Treatment Program. I regard this latter project as most important, especially as it is little known that the p̄ogram embraces those most unfortunate refugees from Tibet who have congregated in the Dun Valley.

I would be most grateful if you would convey my special thanks to your colleagues and to The Rotary Club of Mt. Gambier, which I'm told donated \$1000.

The National Executive joins me in thanking you for your time spent at Raphael, and for your unflagging work in meeting special calls for help when the going is tough. "

VISIT TO RAPHAEL

by Di McEwen of The Mt. Gambier Support Group



DI MCEWEN AND JANE WATERS visited Raphael towards the end of 1998. For Jane, it was a return to the place where she had lived and worked for two years in 1980-1981. *Di writes:*

It was good to be home with my family in Mt. Gambier for Christmas, but what an adventure I had during my time in India. We arrived in Delhi just before midnight.... if you have been to India you will understand the culture shock I experienced during the first few hours.... otherwise it is difficult to convey the emotions, feelings and thoughts which assaulted me as we made our way precariously through the flickering half light and smog, the blaring horns, the mass of traffic and people.... Jane, my travelling companion and seasoned India traveller, assured me that we would arrive in one piece despite the fact that we were travelling at high speed, on the wrong side of the road, and that the oncoming traffic could move over because there are no kerbs or footpaths to impede this maneuver in Indian cities. I was grateful to arrive at the sanctuary of the Hotel. I soon learned that indeed the Indian drivers possess an acute sense of judgement which I concluded made them very skilled and competent and in fact after my initial journey I felt quite safe.

.... I was keen to be on our way to Dehra Dun and then Raphael, where I knew I would be part of an environment of positive action and hope. I also made a decision to stop being judgmental and to continually remind myself that I was a visitor in a strange and alien land of all that is ancient, extraordinary, bizarre, wonderful, shocking and breathtaking. We arrived at Raphael early in the afternoon and as we drove under the arched gateway into the community it all seemed familiar to me - The Little White House, Shiv Sadan, Ava Vihar, The Hospital and The Mess. We received a very warm welcome, especially Jane....

Our time was spent most fruitfully and it was great to see the community at work. Every time I visited the different areas of the community, I recalled the plight of those similarly afflicted in Delhi and thanked goodness for Raphael. It was heart warming to see the the happy and healthy children who would have been condemned to a life of begging and homelessness due to their leprous or orphan status, if it wasn't for this great little community. I spent a day with the TB outreach team.... I appreciated seeing at first hand the positive work being done in this field. TB, along with leprosy, malaria, malnutrition and AIDS, are the major health problems of India. There were six foreign volunteers working during our stay - 4 British and 2 Swedish. They worked mainly with the disabled and I came to admire the patience and conscientiousness of these wonderful young people, all in their late teens and early twenties. being in Ava Vihar is an absolute delight - watching them go about their simple tasks and lessons with great concentration and diligence one moment, then during leisure time erupting into riotous gaiety. It was a very happy place to be.

My favourite people were the lepers of Shiv Sadan. They accept their afflictions with a patience and dignity that was a lesson to me. Unfortunately many of them are becoming old and quite frail now and suffer from painful joints etc. Their small colony housing 85 people is set in a delightful, leafy green section of Raphael and the residents, despite their handicaps keep it neatly swept and washed. It must be blessedly cooler in the mid summer heat and humidity. It was with great pleasure during my first day at Raphael that I recognized Dewan, the resident of Shiv Sadan that our family sponsors. He was going about his daily plumbing tasks that he regularly undertakes at Raphael and was quite dumbfounded that I was actually there. I became particularly close to his wife Devki and we talked a lot through an interpreter and I had a meal with them in their small hut. It was very difficult to say goodbye to her.

Being able personally to talk over small problems about communication with the liaison office was particularly beneficial to me. The new officer, Roma, is charming, warm and compassionate as well as organised and efficient. An Indian lady of great intelligence, Roma, listened to my concerns and understands very well what is required to keep the interest of our supporters alive and well.....

I spent a really enjoyable if somewhat unruly time in the common room of the Little White House organising the Christmas card writing with the children. They are all learning English as this is compulsory but are at different levels of accomplishment, so there was advice coming from all directions, as each child was keen to demonstrate his/her expertise to me. I wish I could have recorded these interludes. Children are the same the world over.

The other person I was delighted to meet was the Director, Brigadier Harshpati - a very warm man who cares very much for all those in his charge. I suspect he needs great patience at times.... General Bakhshi still arrives every morning at nine-thirty.... my assessment during my short time at Raphael is that the Brigadier is doing a good job.

Finally, it was time to leave, and it wasn't easy. As we drove down the long drive at dawn, we could see two small figures waiting at the gate. It was Dewan and Devki with a large bunch of marigolds for both Jane and I. I must admit I was moved to tears and kept those marigolds very carefully all the way back to Delhi, a car journey of seven hours, and when we boarded the train for our tour through the north, I managed to find a jug to place them in. They brightened our small bathroom on the train for almost a whole week.

A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE.

FOLLOW UP

In the December issue of Ryder-Cheshire News, a *POSTSCRIPT* referred to a special Remembrance Day (1998) feature in *The Yorke Peninsula Country Times* (Kadina, South Australia), by Journalist Keith Bailey. It was the birth date of W.O. Ronald Howard Boyd (11/11/1911-4/5/1944) killed in action during an air raid on Maily Le Camp, France, in May 1944 (a raid led by Leonard Cheshire). He was the uncle of Doris Boyd of Kadina. Since then I have been corresponding with Doris (who is now a member and supporter of the S.A. Ryder-Cheshire Foundation).

Doris was only a small child when she last saw Uncle Ron in mid-1942 shortly before he joined the Royal Air Force. Over fifty years later Doris and Keith (a workmate, and a keen historian) embarked on a quest for information on the death of her Uncle. Extensive research revealed most of the details. This brought her in contact with many people, including three former members of Ron's squadron, a young French historian who provided details of the crash, and a German fighter pilot who was present on the night of the crash.

During the many months of research letters were received from relatives of men who took part in the Maily-le-Camp raid. Contact was made with relatives of George Casey and Jack Rankin, the two Canadians who died with Ron Boyd. Both of these correspondents spoke of their own involvement in similar research. Mr. Fred Watts of Brisbane, whose brother was killed in the same raid, wrote about a visit he made to France to see his brother's grave, and to attend the unveiling of a Memorial at the Maily camp (now a French Army training camp).

In all, 250 British, Canadian and Australian airmen lost their lives on this raid.

In a recent letter from Doris Boyd she says:

There has been a lot of mail coming through from Britain and France, as well as Australia, since I sent copies [of the article] to those who helped with the research. So many of them have also had their own interesting stories to tell, and it has been a great learning experience. After he finishes several large projects he already has "under his wing", Keith feels he has enough material to write a book!!

Through her research, Doris Boyd has made many friends, and her correspondence list has increased dramatically. I thank her for sending us this story.

[Copies of the article can be supplied to interested readers.]

**THE LEONARD CHESHIRE ROSE
FINAL ORDERS**

This will be the last opportunity to order plants for delivery in July 1999. Orders may be placed with the individual Foundations/Support Groups, or direct to Margaret Blaber, Unit 2/5 Cornish Street, Stepney, S.A.5069, Tel. (08) 8363-4584. After 1999 the plants will no longer be exclusive to Ryder-Cheshire but available through commercial outlets.

Two paintings by artist Barbara Storer of South Australia were made of the Rose. These were then reproduced as Cards (Christmas and Plain). The sales of these cards has been most successful throughout Australia.

The paintings have been placed in the Ryder-Cheshire Home in Ivanhoe, Victoria, and in the Barbara Seabrook House in Perth.

CARING FRIENDS

It was good to receive the December Newsletter of the Ryder-Cheshire Home at Ivanhoe. Among the many items of interest were these:

The first supply of the Leonard Cheshire Rose arrived. We have to establish a memorial Garden of these Rose trees on the grassed area between Buildings 12 & 14. Mr. Ray Holland of Donolly, a former resident, came in early June to prepare 'the garden'. We have now had our first flowering.

JUST TO SAY:

"...thank you for the privilege of staying at the Ryder Cheshire Home in Ivanhoe. It is a wonderful concept for country people needing somewhere to stay while undergoing daily treatment at city hospitals. A home away from home...with caring house parents".

"Thank you very much for making our hard time so much more comfortable. Thanks heaps".

LATE MAIL received from Jack Thurgar of the ACT, enclosing the *Papua New Guinea Cheshire Home Newsletter*.

Perhaps you can use a story or two from this Newsletter.*

The ACT Branch 'Proms' nights were very good (even though it rained) and raised quite a deal of money and community awareness.

*Sorry Jack, run out of space, will include in the next issue.

The next Newsletter will be issued in August 1999
Contributions in the form of articles or letters are welcome and should be sent to Margaret Blaber, 2/5 Cornish Street Stepney, South Australia 5069 by 31 July 1999

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