



'RAPHAEL'

NEWSLETTER OF

THE RYDER-CHESHIRE FOUNDATION

Vol. 5 No. 1

MARCH, 1970

PRICE 10c.

A NOTE ON ADOPTIONS

Most of you know that "Raphael" depends entirely on charitable contributions for its maintenance, and the work there cannot be continued without the assistance of friends in Australia and New Zealand, because we are not permitted to solicit funds within India. A cheque is sent monthly from England, but otherwise "Raphael" is the special concern of Australia and New Zealand. Adoptions and Endowments are a unique way in which assistance is rendered to "Raphael", and we are most grateful to all who have partaken in the scheme.

The residents of "Raphael" live in the simple manner of their people. The mentally retarded are cared for in one unit, called 'Ava Vihar', the destitute children in another, 'The Little White House', whilst the Leprosy community live, work and help one another in their own colony at "Raphael". They all respond to the slightest sign of encouragement or affection, and it is for this reason we encourage Adoption so that they may share in the goodwill extended to them, and perhaps feel more secure as a result. Many families as sponsors, join together in this, sending clothes little gifts, used toys and bright picture postcards.

In Australia, many clubs, schools and groups of neighbours who have responded to our plea for Adoptions, say that they are grateful to have this opportunity for giving such practical support, in a personal way, where it is so badly needed.

It takes \$50 to \$100 per year to support a patient, depending on his or her age and condition:

- A. To fully support a Mentally Handicapped child, a leprosy patient, or patient in the ward for chronic sick, it costs \$100 per year. This covers food, clothing, medical and nursing care, drugs, treatment and the training or education indicated by the ability of the patient.
- B. To fully support a Destitute child at "Raphael" (a destitute child is one whose parents suffer from Leprosy or for some reason are unable to care for their children), it costs \$70 per year. These children have to be educated, and where indicated, prepared for a suitable trade, as they will one day leave "Raphael" and take their place in the world.

- C. For the "endowment" of any resident or patient at "Raphael" the cost is \$50 per year. Endowment covers accommodation, necessary maintenance of existing buildings, etc. As with Adoption the sponsor receives a photograph and details, as well as regular news of the patient or child.

This Adoption scheme has a three-fold purpose. Firstly, it offers a home and sense of security to some destitute, ill, or unwanted man, woman or child; secondly, the sponsor is able to have a personal contact with the recipient, and so extend affection and goodwill; and thirdly, the whole idea is an inspiration to all who work at, visit or come in contact with "Raphael", and an assurance, therefore, that we in Australia are not unmindful of the desperate plight of some of our neighbours in S. E. Asia.

Adoption Secretaries are:

N. S. W.	VIC.	A.C.T.
Miss Ella O'Keefe, 46 Victoria Street, <u>WAVERLEY</u> , 2024	Miss Josephine Collins, 7C, 587 Toorak Road, <u>TOORAK</u> , 3142	Mrs. Pauline Smith, 102 Endeavour Street, <u>RED HILL</u> , 2603
	Tel: 24. 7682	Tel: 94. 440

Please contact one of the above for further information, or complete the form at the back of the newsletter. Perhaps you have a friend, or together with others you could contribute towards a specific adoption. You will come to realize more personally the value of the whole project.

PEOPLE IN THE VICTORIAN FOUNDATION

Mrs. Pat Brooks is at present spending some two months at "Raphael", to gain first hand experience of conditions there so that she will be better able to speak to groups about the Foundation's work. The Victorian Foundation deliberated for some time before it agreed to pay the majority of Mrs. Brooks expenses for her journey, but eventually agreed to do so because it was thought actual experience of "Raphael" was a most important prerequisite for effective talks. On Mrs. Brooks' return, we look forward to many, many requests for talks from her, and she will be prepared to travel interstate in order to spread her message as widely as possible.

Mrs. Brooks and Miss Josephine Collins expect to spend some time in Adelaide with Mr. Ross Stanford, Australian President of "617 Squadron" to lay the groundwork for a South Australian Foundation which it is hoped will be formed during, or before Group Captain and Mrs. Cheshire's visit later this year.

The Victorian Secretary would like to publicly acknowledge the secretarial work done for the Victorian Foundation by Miss Zoe Goldsworthy and Miss Beryl Simmons. It is fortunate indeed, and a constant reminder of the wide appeal of the work we are doing, that busy people like Miss Goldsworthy and Miss Simmons volunteer assistance.

Mr. John Graham, Victorian Secretary, will be taking a six months business trip to New Zealand from the 8th March. In his absence, Mr. Frank Gilmore will be acting Secretary. Mr. Gilmore's duties as Treasurer will be resumed by previous Treasurer, Mr. Don Sinclair. The addresses of these men are given in the panel at the end of this newsletter.

VOLUNTEERS

Since our last newsletter two new volunteers have commenced work at "Raphael", one who claims allegiance to N. S. W. /Victoria, the other from Victoria.

ANNE YOUNG, nurse, has returned to "Raphael" for her second term of voluntary service, under the auspices of Australian Volunteers Abroad. Many of our readers will have heard of Anne, who returned from India in 1967, after two and a half years at "Raphael." We wish Anne well, this time in the capacity of Nursing Superintendent. While Anne was working in Sydney as nurse/receptionist, she became very active with the North Sydney Support Group.

ROBYN RANKIN, physio-therapist, educated at Moreland High, has been working at the Bendigo Base Hospital since gaining her Diploma of Physiotherapy. Robyn, also under the auspices of A. V. A. arrived with Anne at "Raphael" at the end of January and has since celebrated her twenty-third birthday.

The Ryder-Cheshire Foundations of Australia take this opportunity to convey their deepest appreciation to the Director and staff members of the OVERSEAS SERVICE BUREAU for their kindly interest and generous help in making arrangements to send these two girls to India.

INCREASED VICTORIAN FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

The Victorian Foundation is at present committed to remit \$10,050 per year to "Raphael", being three months maintenance at \$3,350 per month. At a recent meeting, it was decided to increase the annual commitment to \$14,700, by accepting responsibility for a further month's maintenance and, in addition, to pay the annual maintenance of the T. B. Unit, (\$1,400).

At the same meeting it was agreed to raise a special grant of \$7,000 towards the cost of securing an all-season water supply for "Raphael."

TAX DEDUCTIBILITY ON DONATIONS TO OVERSEAS AID ORGANISATIONS

Some references to ACFOA (the Australian Council For Overseas Aid) have previously appeared in the newsletter. The Ryder-Cheshire Mission for the Relief of Suffering, which is really the parent body of the various Australian Foundations, is a member. One issue with which ACFOA is particularly concerned is the campaign to secure from the Commonwealth Government the concession that donations to overseas aid organisations such as the Foundations should be deductible for Income Tax purposes.

The ACFOA Council Meeting in 1969 resolved to take certain steps to obtain this concession and a number of booklets have been printed, outlining the case in favour of it. Copies are obtainable from the Victorian Foundation's Acting Secretary, Mr. F. Gilmore, Broadly, the case is based on two principles:

1. That Australia's total contribution towards overseas aid should be increased.
2. That tax deductibility would encourage the work of voluntary organisations who are already well organised and making a considerable contribution.

What can you do ?

- (a) Obtain a copy of the booklet and familiarise yourself with the case.
- (b) Contact your Local Members of Parliament and/or prospective Members of Parliament, stressing your interest and asking them to take every opportunity to press for tax deductibility.
- (c) If you are a member of any other organisation, sponsor and encourage that organisation to pass a resolution along the lines:

THAT in view of Australia's need to increase its aid to people in developing countries through organisations concerned in raising money in Australia for expenditure on Relief and Overseas Development, the Federal Government be urged to allow donations of \$2.00 and more to such organisations as deductions from income for Income Tax purposes.

AND FURTHER THAT the members of this (Club/Society/Branch, etc.) be encouraged to contact their Local Members of Parliament and/or prospective Members of Parliament to acquaint them of this resolution.

FOUNDATION AND GROUP NEWS

New South Wales Foundation and Support Groups

Mr. J. Quinn has agreed to become Honorary Treasurer to the Foundation.

Miss Monica Bethel of 136 Woodland Street, Balgowlah now looks after clothing collection.

Miss Ella O'Keefe of 46, Victoria Street, Waverley, is now Adoptions Secretary.

A very pleasant pre-Christmas Function was held on December 8th for Members of the Executive, Support Groups and Friends and Supporters. Slides of "Raphael" were shown by Mrs. Bessie Marr and a talk was given by Miss Barbara Coleman and Mr. E. N. Miller on their recent visit to "Raphael." Sixty people attended and enjoyed a supper of liqueurs, cake and coffee.

This Christmas, Gordon Council gave permission for Ryder-Cheshire Christmas cards to be sold on a street stall one Saturday morning, with great success.

Attractive Ryder-Cheshire diaries sold well and with their story and pictures of "Raphael" will help spread knowledge of the Foundation.

Miss Anne Young left last month for "Raphael" with a contingent of Overseas Aid Abroad volunteers. Anne will spend two years as a Nursing Sister at "Raphael."

Mrs. Renata Cochrane will be looking after arrangements for Group Captain and Mrs. Cheshire's visit to New South Wales. Her telephone number is 49-1936.

Gippsland Support Group

Greetings to all Ryder-Cheshire supporters for 1970 from Gippsland Support Group. We are away to a good start for the year.

Our first meeting, held on February 5th, after nearly two months break, was attended by Mr. John Graham and Mr. Frank Gilmore, who braved the heat to visit us. We thank them both for coming.

Our Indian Curry Buffet, held in November 1969, gave us a profit of \$78.67. A most enjoyable night was had by those who attended. Hot Curry, followed by fine entertainment from some local folk singers. The Christmas break was preceded by a pleasant dinner at one of our newest motels.

An item of exciting news is the formation of a new group at Hazelwood Power Station, inspired by the work of Mr. Dick Swainson.

Currently, we are planning our Annual Dinner Dance for June 20th, and also working on preliminary arrangements for Group Captain Cheshire's visit in November.

Goulburn Valley Support Group

The Goulburn Valley Support Group has been in recess over the holiday period. We have wool ready for knitters once the cooler weather comes and the busy season finishes for farmers and orchardists. We plan an autumn clothing drive; and we look this year to increasing the number of local adoptions and endowments. For this reason, we will welcome a visit from Mrs. Pat Brooks on her return, both to inform present generous supporters and to encourage new ones.

Templestowe Support Group

On the 6th October 1969, the Victorian Council agreed to the formation of an official Support Group at Templestowe under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Margaret Jackson. This Group has actually been in existence several years, and has raised about \$400.00 in each year of its existence. The Victorian Foundation welcomes its newest official Group.

Melbourne Support Group

The Group's first meeting for 1970 was held at the University Club, 100 Collins Street, on 5th February.

Miss Josephine Collins, Australian Liaison Officer, was present and brought the Group up to date with plans for Group Captain Cheshire's visit later in the year. She also reminded us all of the importance of the adoption scheme and encouraged the Group to look for new sponsors.

As a result of a successful Christmas Card and Diary selling campaign in December, 1969, the Group's financial position is very healthy. Congratulations are due to Mrs. W. H. Calanchini and Mrs. Margaret Quigley for their work in this regard.

Miss Gay McHugh was able to report that bookings for the Group's two theatre nights at Gilbert and Sullivan operas in February and March indicated that they would be profitable as well as enjoyable functions.

With February and March catered for, the Group is planning a family picnic day in April. Nick Byrne is making enquiries for a suitable venue.

Ballarat Support Group

In October the Ballarat Ryder-Cheshire Support Group joined forces with Community Aid Abroad (Ballarat) and Save the Children Fund (Wendouree Branch) to organise a Walk On Want. This proved highly successful and our share of the proceeds netted \$1,500.00. We would like to thank the organisers, participants and donors. This was the first time in Ballarat that organisations working for overseas aid combined, thus making history.

Our Secretary for the last four years, Miss Mary Murphy, was married in December and we sincerely offer her and her husband all good wishes for the future, sad as we are to lose her. We are hoping she may start a Group in Wodonga/Albury area where she is now living. A silver tray was presented to Miss Murphy at a small farewell party given by the Committee. Mrs. E. McLenehan has kindly taken over from Miss Murphy. Her address is 310 Ligar Street, Ballarat. Telephone - 2.6483.

We enjoyed the two visits of Mrs. Pat Brooks during the latter part of 1969, and appreciate her untiring efforts in giving talks. We are looking forward to her return from India and to hearing first hand accounts of life at "Raphael" in a future visit to Ballarat.

WANTED! SECRETARY.

Like to do some worthwhile work in your spare time ? Miss Josephine Collins, Honorary Australian Liaison Officer for the Australian Foundations, and Victorian Adoptions Secretary has appealed to us, to ask if some kind person would volunteer to help her out one day a week with typing and general office work. Anyone to do so will find the work rewarding, and their assistance greatly appreciated by Miss Collins who works constantly and energetically for "Raphael." Miss Collins' address is: Flat 7 C, 587 Toorak Road, Toorak, 3142. Telephone - 24.7682

FROM THE LITTLE WHITE HOUSE

Following is an excerpt from an article by Miss Pamela Holt, who is in charge of the Little White House children assisted by the Indian House Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis. Pamela comes from Adelaide. She is in her third year of voluntary service at "Raphael" and is outstanding for her affection for the children as well as the excellent way she manages the Childrens' Home. Instead of living in the Staff Quarters, Pamela has chosen to stay in a microscopic bedroom at the Little White House, where she shares a bathroom with the children.

Pamela's room is a conglomeration of report books, clothes and shoes for repairing, bunches of keys, a sewing machine, her own clothes slung over a rope suspended from the roof, insecticide kept there for safety, broken toys, rags for dusters, badminton rackets and wall charts which she seems to be interminably preparing.

"We have 68 children in our Little White House at present, all but the babies Peter and Rohit attending school. 14 are going to St. Agnes' Junior High School run by the Nuns; 3 attend a Government School, which is one of the biggest in Dehra Dun, while the remainder are in our school attached to the Little White House. Our school has classes ranging from Kindergarten to 4th Grade, with three local teachers coming daily. We hope that the Government School will work well, as this is a new attempt at integrating the children with the outside community.

About 12 of the children, mostly Christian, attend a United Church Sunday School each week. The walking distance doesn't disturb them at all, and during the monsoon season they set off with the grand total of two umbrellas, or three if lucky, to slosh across the causeway. They enjoy very much meeting the other youngsters.

Senior girls from an English medium school are now coming twice a week to coach the older group, plus a few of the younger, slower children, with their studies at the Little White House. We are hoping for a gradual improvement in the standard of work. Certainly, the interest aroused by the contact with these older children from outside is good.

Some of the older girls have expressed a wish to study as nurses and teachers. The boys pose bigger problems as they are not so academically inclined. Residential technical schools are available, and we continue to look for leads in this direction. Meanwhile, we have had a favourable reply from a boarding school in Bihar (Mahuadahn) which is run by the Australian Jesuits, and it looks as though two of our boys, Raju and Georgie, will go there in January. Maybe others will follow later.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis, an Indian Christian couple, are a great asset as the Little White House Parents. They have four children of their own who live with them. Mrs. Dennis, a well qualified Nursing Sister, has a most pleasant way with the children. She and her husband are very involved in the work and tremendously aware of the many needs that institutionalised children have. Their insight into the mental and cultural requirements of the children is most beneficial, and are points about which a European cannot be so sensitive."

THE AUSTRALIAN FOUNDATIONS

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 Vice Presidents: Mr. J. Spencer, Mr. P. McMahon
 Hon. Secretary : Miss M. Wilson
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DEAKIN, 2600 Telephone: 81. 5949

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To: 21, Moorwatha Street,
MACLEOD, 3085

Adoptions Secretary: Miss J. Collins,
 7C/587 Toorak Road,
TOORAK, 3142 Telephone: 24. 7682

COPY FOR NEWSLETTER

Please send all copy to Miss F. Apperly, 52 Canterbury Road, Toorak, Victoria, 3142 by 15th February, May, August and November.

The Adoptions Secretary,

I would like to adopt/endow a:

LEPROSY PATIENT/MENTALLY RETARDED CHILD/
DESTITUTE CHILD

I understand that the cost is;

<u>FOR ADOPTION:</u>	LEPROSY	-	\$100 per annum
	MENTALLY RETARDED CHILD	-	\$100 per annum
	DESTITUTE CHILD	-	\$ 70 per annum
<u>FOR ENDOWMENT:</u>	ALL CATEGORIES	-	\$ 50 per annum

I understand that I will receive a photograph and some details of the patient or child chosen for me, and also news direct from "Raphael" two or three times each year.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

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