



Raphael Ryder Cheshire International Centre

Newsletter, July to December 2025

From the Editor's Desk

"Disability does not define a person; society's response to it does."

Greetings, dear reader!

The past months at Raphael have been marked by purpose, pride and participation. From sporting achievements at the national level to meaningful conversations around inclusion, mental health and disability rights, this period has reaffirmed our belief that true inclusion is built through consistent action and community engagement.

Disability Awareness Week | 3–6 December 2025

Marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Raphael organised a series of awareness initiatives across Dehradun.

On 4 December, students and staff presented Nukkad Natak (street plays) at Gandhi Shatabdi Hospital and a flash mob at the Doon Library, challenging stereotypes and sparking conversations around disability, rights and



inclusion.

An Inclusive Fete at Raphael on 5th December, brought together students from special and regular schools, celebrating creativity, ability and community through shared experiences.



The week concluded with a Disability Awareness Walk on 6 December, with 200–250 participants walking together for dignity, visibility and equal opportunity. We gratefully acknowledge the support of District Magistrate Shri Savin Bansal, Chief Development Officer Shri Abhinav Shah and thank all schools, organisations, parents and citizens who stood with us

Sports & Unified Sports

Raphael made Uttarakhand proud at the National Bocce Championship under *Special Olympics Bharat* in Bilaspur (24–28 July 2025), with Sonam winning Gold and Pankaj securing Silver in the Senior Categories—making Raphael the only team from the state to win both medals.



Alongside this, Raphael continues to promote Unified Sports, bringing together players with and without disabilities. Reflecting this spirit, Mukul represented Uttarakhand at an interstate football competition in West Bengal, winning a silver medal and gaining valuable experience in teamwork and competitive sport.





The Vocational Training Centre saw encouraging outcomes during the festive season, with students successfully selling diyas and candles during Diwali and Christmas. During Diwali, students showcased their handcrafted products at exhibitions held at The Doon Library, Welham Girls' School, The Doon School, The Oasis, Hopetown, Unison School, and Café Commune, gaining valuable exposure and warm encouragement from the community.

In another important step towards supported employment, two young boys from Raphael's Vocational Training Centre, Dhruv (18 years) and Abhinav (20 years), have stepped into a new world with quiet confidence. As part of a pilot initiative, they now manage a tea vending machine at the CMO (Chief Medical Officer) office, under the guidance of a staff member. From preparing and serving tea to interacting with customers, this small stall has become a meaningful step towards independence, responsibility, and inclusive employment.



Shiv Sadan: Residents at Shiv Sadan are doing well as per their age and continue to live in a supportive, calm and caring environment that ensures comfort, stability and dignity. Recently, Usha underwent reconstruction surgery of her amputated left knee and is recovering well, while Bhim Singh also underwent surgery for a sore on the sole of his left foot.

OPD Clinic: Raphael's OPD clinic continued to be a vital point of access for timely medical care, recording 3572 OPD visits over the past six months.



1953- 2025

Obituary: We remember Ashalata and Chattar Singh, senior residents of Raphael, who passed away due to old age. They will be remembered with respect and affection by the Raphael family. May their souls rest in peace.



1952-2025

We remain indebted to all our well-wishers, supporters, and donors for their continued generosity and support, which enables us to achieve our mission to relieve suffering.



The Raphael family joins me in wishing you a happy, healthy and fulfilling 2026.

Website- <https://raphaelrydercheshire.com>

Postal Address: RAPHAEL Centre, Mohini Road End, Dehradun 248001 (Uttarakhand),

Email Address: raphaelcentre@gmail.com; Tele. Nos: +91 135-6617395