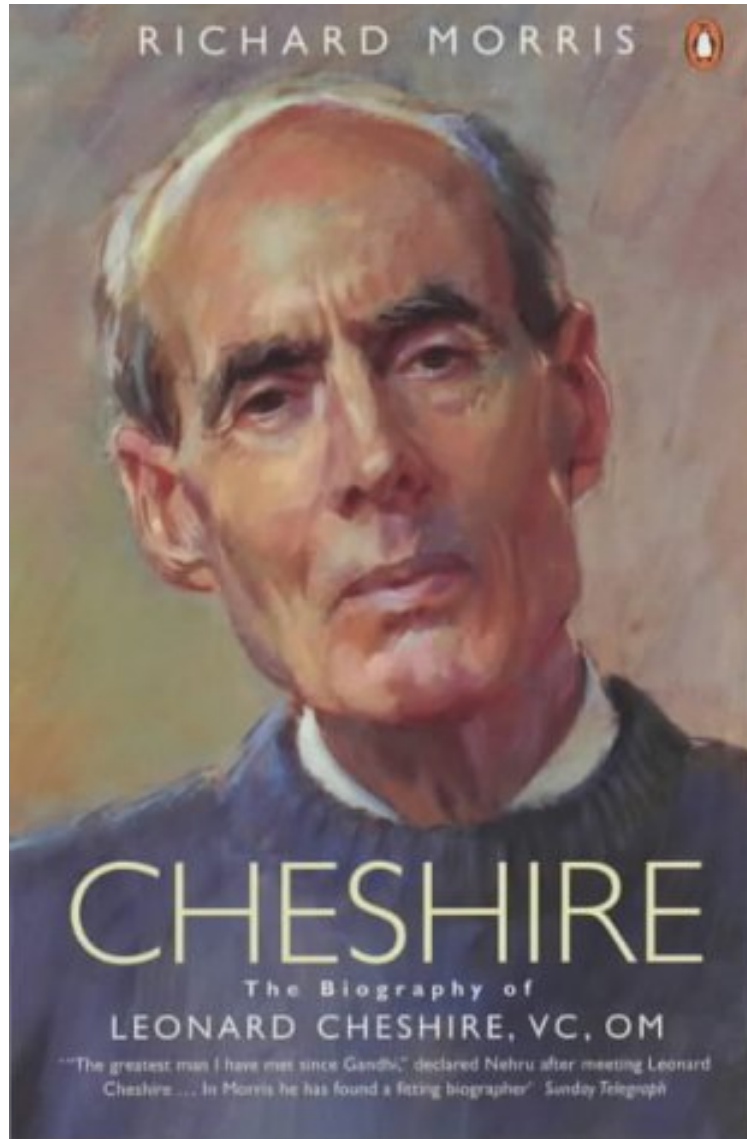


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## Cheshire: The Biography of Leonard Cheshire Vc, Om

*Richard Morris*

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**Richard Morris : Cheshire: The Biography of Leonard Cheshire Vc, Om** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cheshire: The Biography of Leonard Cheshire Vc, Om:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Morris does well By henry Morris, the 'renaissance man' composer, historian, writer, singer, family man and dog lover, has excelled himself with this biography of Chesire. If Guy Gibson was the Liverpool AFC of WWII war bomber pilot biography then this is the Arsenal. Expertly written, his scholarship shines forth on every page, it appears their isn't a source he hasn't exhausted!!!!!! He must have locked himself away

for at least 8 and a half years to produce this biographical gem. Let us hope that there is more to come and that lack of time doesn't triumph over his next book.

Group Captain Leonard Cheshire flew 101 operations in World War II. The first, in 1940, took place six days after Dunkirk. After the 100th he was awarded the Victoria Cross. His 101st - and last - mission was to Nagasaki, where he witnessed the dropping of the atomic bomb. In this biography Richard Morris examines the profound character of a man whose war career brought him the highest military distinction, and whose peacetime work of compassion earned him the Order of Merit. Broad in scope, and drawing on a vast array of previously unpublished letters and documents, this biography examines Cheshire's family history and his days at Oxford; his experiences as a bomber pilot, which included his time in command of 617 Squadron, also known as the Dambusters; his post-war work for Barnes Wallis; his serious illness and convalescence; and the pursuit of new challenges in his pioneering work to provide recognition and accommodation for the disabled. It is peopled with priests and politicians, diplomats and the dispossessed, the famous and the obscure, who all contribute to the emerging picture of a Christian humanitarian whom Nehru described as "the greatest man I have met since Gandhi". Together with his wife, Baroness Ryder of Warsaw, Leonard Cheshire's campaign for the relief of suffering remains unparalleled. "Cheshire" reveals the magnetic personality of a man whose courage, compassion, determination, charm and, above all, faith have left a legacy of achievements and influence which spans the world.

About the Author Richard Morris is a writer and lecturer in archaeology and history and is now Director of the Council for British Archaeology. His acclaimed biography of Guy Gibson was also published in Viking and Penguin. He is married with three children and lives in Harrogate.