

WHITECHAPEL METHODIST MISSION



REPORT 1977



**FREEDOM
IN THE
SPIRIT**



SETTING MEN FREE

Freedom came to the early followers of Jesus – as they sought to proclaim his Good News – freedom from sin, from broken relationships – from the restrictions of Jewish legal requirements – free to enter into a way of righteousness, into a path of service and love to embrace all mankind.

Men and women still long to hear the Good News – to gain freedom from evils which grip them as firmly as ever. The alcoholic is in the grip of an “evil spirit” quite as firmly as Legion of old. The drug addict is overpowered in his will, yet he sometimes hungers for a path to freedom. Another man confessed to me that he had been in the grip of a gambling obsession which had destroyed everything of worth he possessed – his family relationships, his business and his health apart from his fortune.

Freedom from such burdens is often costly as John Bunyan pointed out. He carried his burden to the foot of the Cross and there his burden rolled away. Many hang on to their burdens – as an alcoholic confessed to me; “This bottle is my God” – yet in sober moments, the same man will long to be free from this burden which

bears down upon him. Christ has commissioned us to set men free – and this task takes many forms.

Windyridge Farm Home is a place where the staff seek relentlessly to set young men (and in the near future, young women) free from anti-social activities – to enable them to use their talents constructively for society.

The Medical Unit of the Mission seeks to set men and women free from physical ills – to provide them with a better use of their bodies through the service of doctor and nurse. Similarly in the London Hospital the Minister as Free Church Chaplain (with the rest of the Chaplaincy) is called upon to help free patients from fears, guilty feelings, anxieties and cares which build up before and during their illnesses.

Week by week, the Mission staff are called upon to offer hope of a better way of life – the path to a fuller life amid the restricted conditions of many of the cares about us. We are grateful for those who support us in this work in a voluntary capacity – for our doctors; our nurses who help not only medically but in weekly kitchen chores and for the retired lady worker who helps us in various ways and for our office staff (Beryl Crofts and Dorothy Slater) with many more, who offer their prayers and sacrificial gifts for the furtherance of the work. For my own part, it is difficult for me to acknowledge adequately the devotion of my Mission colleagues – of Sister Nora Fowler and of Pastor

Malcolm Thomas, who have worked so steadfastly during the year. As we seek to set others free in Christ's name, so you can set our hands free to do the tasks and share the burdens. We believe that you will continue to uphold us all in coming days – until the light of freedom and release shines in the faces of many more men and women from East London and from all over the land.

Thank you all for your help.

JOHN H. CHAMBERLAYNE
Superintendent



Shut-ins Party at Christmas

TREASURER'S REPORT

I don't need to remind our many friends that inflation is making our task that much more difficult. The work of the Mission with its dedicated staff is as vital as ever, and doing a job that the State, with all its resources, can never emulate.

We are grateful to all our helpers, many of whom give year after year. (Such as Haywards Heath Methodist Church which has entertained to a meal our men on their Annual Outing for several years.) We especially thank the Woolnoth Society in the City of London, who arranged a Film Festival Night at the American Embassy, a Fashion Show by their Ladies' Committee, and helped in modernising our kitchen; and also Verwood Methodist Church which has helped us with our Medical Room project – by a Church Concert, a Sponsored Walk and a Jumble Sale, raising in total a considerable sum for our medical work, to which the Methodist Relief Fund has also contributed.

If you pay Income Tax, why not consider executing a seven year Deed of Covenant, which means at current rates, more than £1.50 for each £1 given? We have lost some of our faithful Covenanters through death in recent years, and many who remain are in their 70's and 80's, so you can see the need for new ones. I shall be delighted to respond to any enquiries.

Thank you again for all your prayers and practical assistance.

LESLIE MOLE

LIBERATION

In the Old Testament the proclamation of liberation was part of the Jubilee celebrations so perhaps this year it is right that we think in terms of freedom. From what? To what?

Looking back over the year there are signs of hope.

One day being unavoidably late for the children's club I found they were doing just what they liked. "We're bored", said one. "Can't we DO something? "What are we doing tonight" is a regular question. Organisation comes into its own and the children are happy.



*"Hardly
a
home"*

A few years back our hostel lads used to rebel over a few rules. Several have been back to see us and they are realising that freedom comes when they settle down, pay their rent, keep their jobs and think of others before themselves and this is happening.

The women still enjoy the time they spend together in the meetings. Freed from four walls they find fellowship together, and have enjoyed too the hospitality of friends at Lydd and Chelmsford.

"Sister, have you any curtains or a saucepan? I've just been allocated a flat". This is a great break through in Council policy and now some of our folk are experiencing freedom from hostellised life and 'skipping'.

Let us pray too that all may find the freedom that comes from knowing Christ.

SISTER NORA

Freedom From Disease

I am pleased to report that the new surgery is almost complete and we are looking forward to moving in. Reading through old books we discovered that there was a doctor on the Staff in Thomas Jackson's time and we see our work as a continuation of this. There is an ever increasing demand for our services and we are happy to be able to meet this need encouraged by all your gifts which have made this new enterprise possible.

DR. P. R. OUTEN

"THE PRISONER"

If you have watched a series called 'The Prisoner' on television, you will know that the man imprisoned is given a number, and he objects very strongly. So much so in fact, that he begins to shout –

"I am not a number, I am a free man!"

The programme may be fictitious, but the number of "Prisoners" we deal with at Whitechapel Mission, year after year, is on the increase, and they are very real.

Take the case of David.

He is a prisoner because he wants to be.

Every few months I visit him in Pentonville.

His crime – shattering shop windows in Bethnal Green, and then giving himself up to the police, in the hope that he will be locked away because, as he says, "Nobody cares about me!"

Then there is Brian.

He is a 'prisoner', although he doesn't want to be.

It started many years ago, and it took such a hold of his life that he has become addicted.

Methylated Spirit – Neat!

Oh, the times that Brian has tried to kick the habit and lead a normal life. Unfortunately, the only answer for him lies in death.

There is a small number who shed the shackles of helplessness and find their way back to a normal way of life; a good job, a flat, perhaps reunited with their families.



"A home of one's own"

Many more are not so fortunate. They are not welcome at home, they are shunned by friends, they are driven away.

"Prisoners" of all descriptions find a welcome at the Mission. They find shelter, food, clothes; in a word hospitality. A place where we try, to the best of our ability, to bring –

Good News to the suffering and afflicted.
and to announce liberty to the captives.

MALCOLM



WINDYRIDGE Probation Home Nayland

*Colonel Round presents
swimming certificates
to residents*

One of the established traditions of The Whitechapel Mission from its very earliest days has been linked with an awareness of particular needs of the time. WINDYRIDGE aims to provide a nurturing environment offering opportunity for the young, insecure, rejected and frequently inadequate offenders who find themselves in conflict with themselves and society at large. A great deal of heart searching, thought and work has gone into plans to provide a more realistic group learning experience which will, hopefully, provide incentive for improved relationships and self-confidence so vital to ultimate rehabilitation. It is anticipated that major changes will take place in the New Year and it is hoped that a happy and successful report on the new regime will be able to be made next year.

Due to extensive fund raising events in the area in aid of the Jubilee Celebrations, it was decided to shelve our planned



*Jubilee
Celebrations*

Open Day. Firm plans have, however, been made to have a bumper one next year when it is hoped to add a substantial sum to our Swimming Pool Fund.

No report for the current year would be complete without mention of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations. We were welcomed wholeheartedly by our friends and neighbours in Nayland and spent a delightfully happy day in the village, the celebrations ending with street dancing in the evening. It is quite remarkable that no unfortunate incidents occurred and the four residents who were awarded a Silver Jubilee Spoon as a prize in the Fancy Dress Competition unanimously decided to donate it to Windyridge, which we all thought was a pretty fine gesture.

In the face of ever increasing pressures to relinquish both social and Christian standards, we continue to fight the good fight and it is indeed taking all of our might, but in this we are very much aware of the strength and support

we receive from The Mission and its appointed members of the Managing Committee.

Having mentioned our Managing Committee one is immediately reminded of the sadness we all experienced upon the passing of our dear friend Reginald Caton. He was our longest serving member, a former Chairman and a much cherished friend of us all. His warmth, generosity, concern and love will be missed for a very long time indeed.

J. E. STOWERS

The Clothing Store has been in great demand. We appreciate all the parcels sent to us. Men's shirts, underclothing and suits are urgently needed as well as spectacles. Jackets and overcoats help those who are sleeping rough.

The Food Store needs to be extended – as prices rise we need to make provision for increasing numbers who are coming to us. This will be our project in this coming year – to care for the hungry, in body, mind and soul.

It is with regret yet in deep thanksgiving that we record the passing of Mr. Fred Yelland who has served the Mission and Windyridge for very many years as Treasurer. His life of devoted service and generous witness remain as an inspiration and stimulus for us all.

Thanks are due to the West London Mission for permission to use the picture of the dove on the front cover of this Report.

FORM OF BEQUEST BY WILL

For the guidance of friends who may desire to make bequests for the general work of the Whitechapel Mission, we append the following form of bequest.

I GIVE AND BEQUEATH to the Superintendent for the time being of the Whitechapel Methodist Mission, 212 Whitechapel Road, London, E.1., 1BJ. for the use of the said Mission, the legacy or sum of £ (free of duty), and direct the said last mentioned legacy or sum to be paid within twelve months after my decease from the proceeds of my real and personal estate, but primarily out of my personal estate, and the receipt of the Superintendent shall be sufficient discharge to my executors.

NOTE—The Mortmain and Charitable Uses Act, 1891, enables Testators to give by Will for the benefit of any charitable use not only pecuniary Legacies, but also tenements and hereditaments of any tenure. The Will must be signed by the Testator at the foot or end thereof in the presence of two independent witnesses, who must sign their names, and addresses, and occupations, at the same time, in his presence and the presence of each other.

If you have already made your Will, kindly add a Codicil directing a legacy to the Whitechapel Mission.

*Work
Centred in
Worship*



OUR THANKS TO:-

All our helpers in so many ways and so many places

- all who give so much
- our various committees and officials
- all helpers from the local hospitals. Our Sunday workers and all those who assist us during the week
- Mr. Leonard and Mrs. Reynolds our organist and pianist
- our solicitors, auditors, bankers and printers
- our friends at the Home Office and in many of our Churches.

**YOU can help
our work by . .**

*Praying for our work
and workers*

Sending a donation now

*Having a collecting box
in your home*

*Covenanting your gift
(Details on request)*

*Making a Legacy in
your Will*

*Arranging a Gift Service
or Carol Party in
your church*

*Sending clothing
parcels*

*Asking for a Mission
speaker for one of
your meetings*

THE WHITECHAPEL MISSION FOUNDED 1896

General Office, 212 Whitechapel Road, E1 1BJ

(Entrance Maples Place)

ALL GIFTS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

Superintendent: Rev. Dr. John Chamberlayne.

Deaconess: Sister Nora Fowler.

Sister Mary Chamberlayne (retired).

Associate: Pastor Malcolm Thomas.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. L. Mole.

Solicitors: Messrs. Butt & Bowyer, 37-41 Bedford Row, WC1R 4JJ.

Auditors: Messrs. Barker, Hibbert, Smiles & Co.

Bankers: Barclays Bank Ltd., Mile End Branch, 234 Whitechapel Road, E1.

Centres of Christian Activity

Whitechapel Mission: 212 Whitechapel Road, E1 1BJ. Tel. 01-247-8280.

Windyridge: Nayland, Colchester. Tel. 0206-262332.

Thomas Jackson Memorial Hostel (N.C.H.): 3 Maples Place, E1 2EE. Tel. 01-247-4059.

Executive Committee for Whitechapel Mission

Revs. Deryck Collingwood, Dr. Irvonwy Morgan, C. Leonard Tudor. Messrs. H. J. Bolton, M. A. Booth, S. Fuller, L. Mole, J. A. Reddall, J.P.,

G. Rowland, B. Yelland. Mesdames H. M. Dunnett, M. Freeman, Sister Nora Fowler, Miss J. Moors, Miss S. Nicholls, Miss C. Storey.

Secretary: Rev. Dr. John Chamberlayne.

Windyridge Management Committee

Messrs. C. Bagshaw. K. L. Hollingsworth Dr. F. Rilstone, Maj.-Gen. J. K. Shepheard, Mr. P. Strover. Mesdames J. Caton, M. B. Chamberlayne, H. Dunnett, J. Eames, Miss M. Beattie.

Chairman: Col. J. C. Round, J.P.

Secretary: Rev. Dr. John Chamberlayne.

Principal: Mr. J. E. Stowers.

Matron: Mrs. J. E. Stowers.

Medical Officer: Dr. C. R. Gilbert.

Chaplain: Rev. W. Jones.

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