

WHITECHAPEL METHODIST MISSION

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REPORT 1975

AND

WELCOME



LONDON CALLING

THE fascination of London grips so many people, especially those who have been brought up there. As a boy, I went to school through the Borough by tram to the Victoria Embankment; as a student to King's College in the Strand and as a theological student, I stayed for some week-ends in the flying bomb period in the top flat of the Whitechapel Mission. Later, as a missionary in West and Central China, my thoughts and prayers often went back to the home City.

Now my wife and I have returned to London, to Whitechapel – to an area of immense need in the midst of so much affluence. Conditions have greatly changed for many families – the Welfare State has brought improved Social Security, better Old Age Pensions and many of the old slum properties have gone. But let us make no mistake, conditions are bitter and hard for a great many people who have found their way here.

The legendary “streets of gold” of London may encourage some enterprising people to come – but some wish to get away from home, to get lost in the big city; some come out of a sense of adventure, whilst others drift to London in the hope of finding casual labour! For whatever cause, men and women come from Scotland, Wales, Ireland and from all parts of England. And when they come – they find the stark reality of lack of work, high costs of rooms and inadequate means to support them. In some cases they face physical suffering and even violence, as one of our ministers found when he was ‘mugged’ in the course of his pastoral visitation.

Who cares in this situation? So many people in need place heavy demands on welfare services. Homeless and hapless ones drift through any welfare net and are faced with hopelessness – sleeping rough, glad of a meal, grateful to get a clean shirt or dress and to be treated as a person – by those who feel called to express Christ's Compassion.

Over the years, the Whitechapel Mission has built up a tradition of personal care, through the work of devoted ministers and the fine succession of deaconesses, so well expressed in the selfless devotion of the present deaconess, Sister Nora Fowler. The Mission owes a great debt to the present Staff as well as to past members, who have carried on amid great difficulties in the past few years.

Amid the economic strains on the nation, the steady stream of the needy grows in London Boroughs. St. Paul looked forward to the day when he would visit the Imperial Capital of the Empire, Rome itself – when he reached it, he did so as a prisoner, to proclaim a gospel of freedom! This gospel of freedom is desperately needed in our Capital City.

The work of the Mission is to proclaim Christ's care and His freedom.

- in the London Hospital where patients are regularly visited.
- at Windyridge Farm Home where young men on probation are helped to find the use of a truer freedom within society, as well as
- in the Thomas Jackson Memorial Hostel, where we look forward to new developments in our programme for caring for young people, whilst

– in the Mission itself, the caring love of Christ is proclaimed in word and deed.

Such a programme of Christian outreach is only possible by means of your prayers and gifts. You can provide the tools which in our hands Christ can use to lift the fallen, to restore hope in place of despair and to bring light to those in darkness. Thank you for all your help.

May God be with you,

JOHN H. CHAMBERLAYNE.

Front cover photo : OUR SUPERINTENDENT MINISTER
AND MRS. CHAMBERLAYNE

OUR
SECRETARY



SUNDAY PROGRAMME

TIME 5 p.m. Invasion – as 110+ men and a few women descend on us for tea and biscuits. There's no time to breathe now. Can I borrow a razor please? Any shoe polish? My zip's broken – a needle and cotton. I've lost my specs. The requests are endless. 6.30 p.m. Peace reigns, for nearly all stay for worship. 7.30 p.m. The soup is ready. Thanks to the staff and voluntary helpers everyone is soon served. There's a gripping play on T.V. but some wish to see the doctor – a clean dressing, a boil, dirty heads, burns, bruises and leg ulcers, etc. An alcoholic so weak with shakes, he cannot stand. Some we can deal with, others are referred.

Not only Sunday but all the week we are made aware of the needs of those around us. We don't need to go to them, they come to us. Furniture, food, friendship, or just advice, we are here to serve in the Lord's name.

The majority of our women live alone and enjoy the warmth and chat before their meetings. Many come just after 12 o'clock for a 2.15 p.m. meeting.

Perhaps some feel that our folk seek only material things – they do. But as we offer help and friendship, the door so often opens to deeper things. Charlie was severely burned in his 'Skipper' (derelict buildings - sleeping rough). He is one of the regulars. We visited him in hospital – now he constantly thanks God for his life and wants his future life to be more purposeful. The way has opened to talk of a loving Lord to him and to others, who know how we have cared for him.

SISTER NORA

ROOM AT THE INN

ONE evening during the autumn the front door bell rang, on answering I was confronted by two people, a man and a woman, the man had come with a request to be deloused.

This entailed stripping him of all that he possessed and spraying him, then he could wash himself down and would be given a clean set of clothes.

When this had taken place I was invited to accompany them back to their home. This was a privilege indeed!

On reaching our destination, a ten minute walk from the Mission I found the most unlikeliest home that I had ever seen.

There were no easy chairs to relax in; there was no settee, no television to look at; most of the wallpaper had peeled off the walls, and in places gaping holes were left revealing bare brickwork. Floorboards were being used as fuel for the fire, and the beds were a bundle of rags.

And I had been invited home!

Yes, I was privileged, for "Skippers" are as closely guarded as are the Crown Jewels in the Tower of London.

I remember reading about a couple who trudged miles in order to be in a certain place at a certain time, but on arrival at their destination there was found to be no room at the inn!

There are many such people around Whitechapel who have found no room at the inn. They have to make do with what they can get.

As far as is able, Whitechapel Mission offers some of these folk room, clothes and food.



"WHEN I WAS IN NEED YOU GAVE TO ME"

The Somewhere Club on a Tuesday is still going strong, so much so that shortly another day will be allocated to this venture.

Another day of Somewhere for those who have Nowhere.

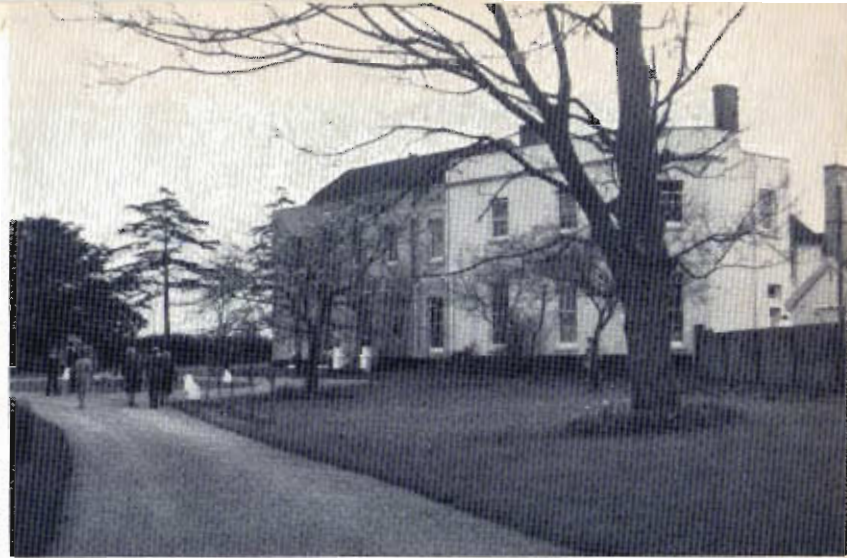
Yes, we aim to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick and in prison, but what is more important is that we try to provide room for these people where otherwise the inn would be found full.

MALCOLM.

WINDYRIDGE FARM HOME

NAYLAND

ONCE again I have been asked by the Superintendent Minister to write a few lines for incorporation in the Annual Report and in a reflective mood referred to the Report of 1970; this is the Report on which the frontispiece portrayed two Astronauts landing on the moon and headed "Mission Achieved". The past year has been very much a "Mission Achieved" year so far as Windyridge is concerned. It has seen the new Hostel, new Building Trades and Remedial Teaching block completed and has meant that the time has come to implement all our past requirements, now having ample accommodation for all aspects of training now undertaken at Windyridge. Looking back it seems only yesterday when the Managing Committee placed before the Home Office their thoughts as to the future and I suppose that in another five years we shall be looking back and evaluating the use to which all these facilities have been put. As some people know the buildings were officially opened during the year by Mr R. W. Caton, one time Chairman of Windyridge and oldest serving member of the Managing Committee; and Mrs M. E. W. Pusovnik from the Home Office. The overall work being undertaken has increased dramatically in the past 12 months, what with the age range increasing, we are now accepting young men between 18 and 25; recently it was agreed that bail cases will also be added to our coverage and we are busy now inaugurating a system whereby bail cases may be accepted without too much disruption of our training programme.



WINDYRIDGE HOME

For those who feel that they would like to be more involved with the work at Windyridge I would add that we are always pleased to accept gifts of new books to our library. This is one area for which there is no official allowance and we are endeavouring to develop this leisure activity as we are convinced that great enjoyment can be achieved especially for those who are interested.

Once again we are planning in advance and hope to have an Open Day during the early summer when it is hoped that we shall be able to meet many of our old friends.

JOHN STOWERS, Warden



(above) OPENING OF
THE NEW
RESIDENTIAL UNIT
— WINDYRIDGE



(right) LEARNING TO
CARE ON
THE FARM

A message from the Hon. Treasurer

WE acknowledge with grateful thanks all the prayerful help and assistance given by our generous supporters, yet the coming year could well be a difficult one for all of us.

Our devoted staff are busy as ever but we still need money to support their efforts, and never more so than in these days of frightening inflation. Let those of us therefore who wish to help but don't share the heat and burden of the days in Whitechapel itself, examine ourselves to see if we could do a little more!!

Gifts and legacies are always welcome. So too is a Deed of Covenant for a minimum of seven years which makes every £1 given worth over £1.50 to the Mission at present rates of tax.

I am pleased to report that we still have the benefit of Fred Yelland's advice and experience on the Executive. What a good friend he has been to Whitechapel!

“Ye Clothed Me . . .”

THERE is great need for men's and large women's coats, men's underclothing and spectacles. We appreciate the parcels which have come to us and our Clothing Store continues to meet the needs of men who sleep rough and want warm garments to protect them.

As we go to print, we record with sadness yet with gratitude the passing of the Rev. John Jackson on 12 November 1975. We give thanks for his fine ministry — in the Churches and over the radio — and we sorrow with his dear ones in their loss. May his ministry of caring continue in many hearts as the Lord's support sustains us all.

OUR THANKS TO :—

All who help us in so many ways and so many places

- all who give so much
- our committee members
- all helpers from the London Hospital and our Sunday workers
- Mr Leonard and Mrs Reynolds our organist and pianist
- our solicitors, auditors, bankers and printers
- our friends at the Home Office

OUR FRIENDS WILL RECOGNIZE THAT IT HAS BECOME NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE RISING COSTS OF POSTAGE, TO ACKNOWLEDGE GIFTS ONLY WHEN REQUESTED.

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.

A Medic bath needed — £400 — for our expanding medical work. Will you help us to get it ?

**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.

Associate: Mr. Malcolm Thomas.

Superintendent's Secretary: Miss Rosalie Poole.

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, E.1.

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: 3 Maples Place, E1 2EE.
Tel. 01 - 247 - 4059.

Executive Committee for Whitechapel Mission

Revs. Deryck Collingwood, C. Leonard Tudor, Dr. Irvonwy Morgan, J. Arthur Hoyles, Messrs. Ambrose Applebe, J. C. Baker, P. Bates, H. J. Boiton, F. A. Butt, R. W. Caton, L. Mole, J. A. Reddall, J.P., G. Rowland, F. C. Yelland, Mesdames N. D. Clipson, H. M. Dunnett, Sister Nora Fowler, Mrs M. Freeman.

Secretary: Rev. Dr. John Chamberlayne.

Windyridge Management Committee

Rev. J. Arthur Hoyles, Messrs. R. W. Caton, Mr C. Bagshaw, Mr K. L. Hollingsworth, Maj. Gen. J. K. Shephard, Mesdames E. Beddoe, H. M. Dunnett, M. B. Chamberlayne, Miss M. Beattie, J.P.

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

Secretary: Rev. Dr. John Chamberlayne.

Warden: Mr J. E. Stowers

Matron: Mrs J. E. Stowers

Medical Officer: Dr. C. R. Gilbert

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