

In Touch



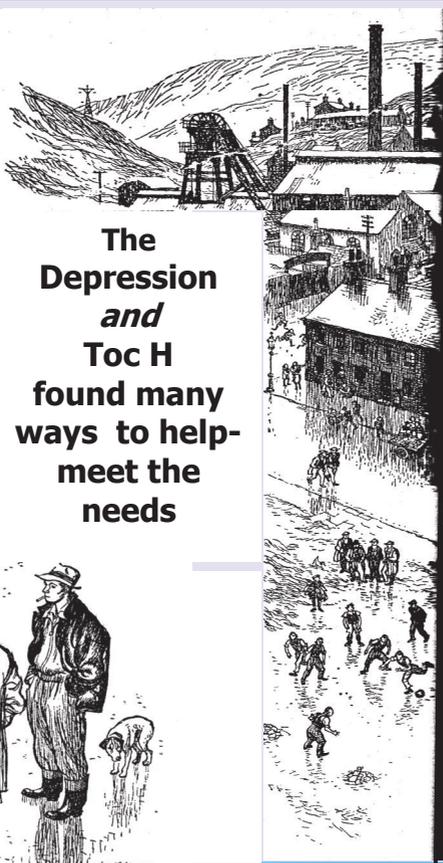
March 2020

Charity No 211042

**Centenary Edition 3 of 10
Toc H—1930 to 1939**



**The
Depression
and
Toc H
found many
ways to help-
meet the
needs**



THE QUEUE

**Take your turn
to draw the dole -
to pay for rent
and boots and coal,
to dress the kids
and buy some grub,
but not a farthing
for the pub**

(..... 8 further verses)

**You give us room
enough to play
And love and matery
And have our day
But still we cry
Along the queue
"For God's sake give us
Work to do!"**

*The whole poem was published
with the illustrations surrounding it
together with an article
by Ian Fraser in 1939.*

FRIENDSHIP SERVICE FAIRMINDEDNESS WITNESS

**By Toc H MEMBERS (Past and present) for Toc H
MEMBERS (Present AND FUTURE)**

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IN TOUCH

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EDITORIAL

In this issue of In Touch Jo Adams gives us a brief overview of Toc H in the 1930's which were years of expansion and growth, in which the country was suffering from the aftermath of economic decline and the slump. During the problems faced by local communities, members were able to develop innovative projects that contributed to the building up of a sense of community.

In the years that are the focus of this issue there were upheavals on many levels not the least the abdication of the King who was a good friend to the Movement, though his brother maintained the link as patron.



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It is interesting to read of the activities of the Branches which were many and varied, to read of them helps highlight that we live in a different age where regular group meetings are less popular than at a time when there was no TV and all the linked networks that dominate our lives today.

The beginnings of the League of Women Helpers is highlighted which is a seminal point for Toc H in that in being incorporated the women were able to bring their gifts to the Movement, a factor that is highlighted in the play 'The Four Points of the Compass'. It is hard to believe that in many ways the formation of the LWH was quite a radical step in that it allowed them freedom to contribute more than making the tea for meetings.

The importance of our history is shown in a creative manner in the publication of these special journals for the

centenary. The content is a reminder of the important and innovative projects that were started and the good things that were offered. The idea of filling in potholes may seem eccentric but it was and is a community service.

On February 23rd the play was produced at All Hallows By the Tower and I was impressed and pleased by the members of the audience who had links with a Mark which had influenced their whole lives, whilst they were no longer members they held Toc H as being an important part of their lives even if it was in the past.

In looking forward beyond the centenary it is important that we reflect on the past and the activities that built on the foundations of the 1920's. The many important projects led to membership and commitment that remain important today.

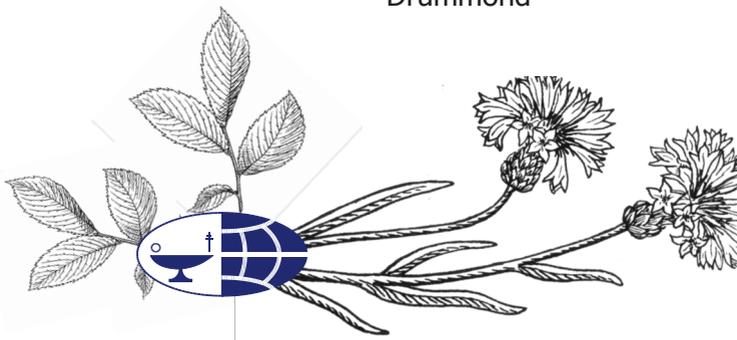
As we look forward it is important that we give thanks for the past whilst looking forward with imagination. We need to ask what we can learn from the many projects that were being developed in the 1930's and would lead to even more in the years that lay ahead.

It is our task, that is the Board and the members, to ask what we offer in the future; we live in a fast-moving world where change and decay (in the words of the hymn) are all around us. In the light of these factors we need to be looking to the future by learning from the past and realising that we need to be open to new ideas and initiatives.

Change is never easy though in reading this journal 30's was a time when change was an accepted part of being a member of Toc H. Let us look forward with hope and vision.

Terry

Drummond



Corvid 19

How things have changed since the Virus hit!!

And how when you look around now things are in many ways similar to when Toc H was growing apace. Incredibly active and spreading camaraderie. Now however we are being asked to self isolate and to avoid contact as much as we can. For my own part I had half a lung removed on Dec 27th and have had three further stays in hospital since then. I have refused chemotherapy — why would I want my immune system lowered at a time like this!!? Don't get me wrong, in my case the risks about equalled the positives and I did not go against medical advice.

There may not be food shortages , BUT, people's stockpiling has emptied shelves and left aisle after aisle bare. Even the shelves of dog chews are emptied!! - let alone, vegetables, meat, fish, toilet rolls etc etc. Now those of us over 70 are advised and may be ordered to self isolate —and it makes sense!!! However Toc H members would have been the very people who did check regularly on the elderly, who helped working parents now the schools are closing. Would fetch and carry all sorts of things. Would walk dogs and so many things like that. BUT our number members who can do such things is small, the branch structure has, on the whole, collapsed so what do we do?????

Well for my own part, with the above health issues, the age and diabetes, it would be madness not to do what we are asked so I am learning to be a recluse and will just have to concentrate on producing the increased number of In Touch!!!! That should stop me being bored!!!!

I shall still give pens to folk like the neighbours who've offered to shop for us. Doug is having hospital tests on Saturday and no doubt I will collect him with fewer pens than he went with!!!!

Please just keep as safe as you can and if you need to hear a voice Use the phone!!

Blessings to each of you from both Board and Office!

Hilary & Doug

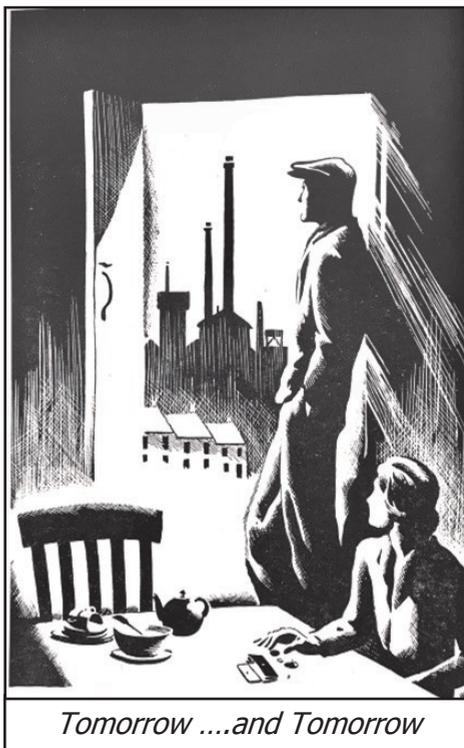
The Movement of Toc H

1930~1939

At the start of a new decade, eleven years on from that first committee meeting held in London and eight years after the Royal Charter received the King's signature Toc H had become a vibrant organisation. The 10th Annual Report stated that in the last 12 months the number of branches and groups had increased from 583 to 708 in the British Isles and 49 branches and 175 groups overseas and this growth continued throughout the next ten years.

This rather unprecedented success story came at the start of a decade that did not live up to the dreams and expectations that many had hoped for.

In many areas of society there was a concern about the continuing unemployment and resultant poverty, branches in Wales for example, felt that life was harder than during the Great War. The impact of the Great Depression, which had begun in 1929 in the USA, began to reverberate in this country and in December 1931, the pound was devalued by 30% and pay cuts enforced across many sectors including the services. In fact Toc H frequently highlighted the problem of unemployment in the Journal urging every member to respond.



The underlying feeling, that was beginning to evolve, was that all this hardship and fear would serve to accentuate differences between men and the ultimate horror of fresh conflict may follow. In a wider sense, there was growing unease about the political situation in Europe and several articles appeared in the Journal about disarmament in an effort to inform members.

Framework of Toc H

The administrative framework of the organisation was largely in place with 'Marks' (houses) in large towns that provided fellowship and some accommodation to travellers, lunch clubs, meeting rooms, recreational facilities and bases for the local branches etc. Groups and branches elsewhere met in a variety of premises, either purpose built or converted, often by the members themselves, or even in each other's 'drawing rooms'. Some procedures, rituals and symbolism had also developed that gave the organisation their individual personality.

The central ethos of the Four Points of the Compass

Friendship, Service, Fairmindedness, Witness

remained at the heart of Toc H defining its purpose and upholding its existence.

Toc H did not however, remain the same and continued to examine itself to guard against complacency and to maintain standards ensuring that it continued to evolve over the decade.

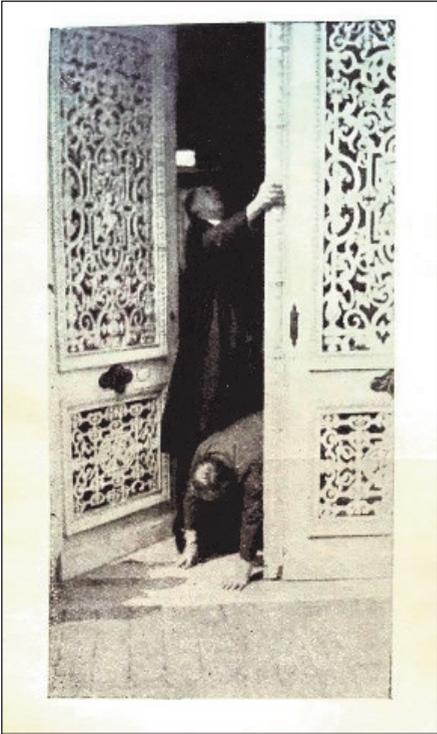
On the death of King George V in January 1936 Toc H extended their sympathy to their Patron the former Prince of Wales, then were relieved to hear in April as King he had agreed to continue in the role. This, of course changed again after his abdication when George VI assumed the role.

Toc H and organised religion

In another administrative directive, it was explained that Toc H was a spiritual movement with a definite Christian basis that should be applied to everyday life and activities. Each group had its own officially appointed Padre, but was not a sect and should complement and not compete with the Church. To this end members were encouraged to worship in their own churches and not arrange any Toc H activity that would clash with Sunday worship.

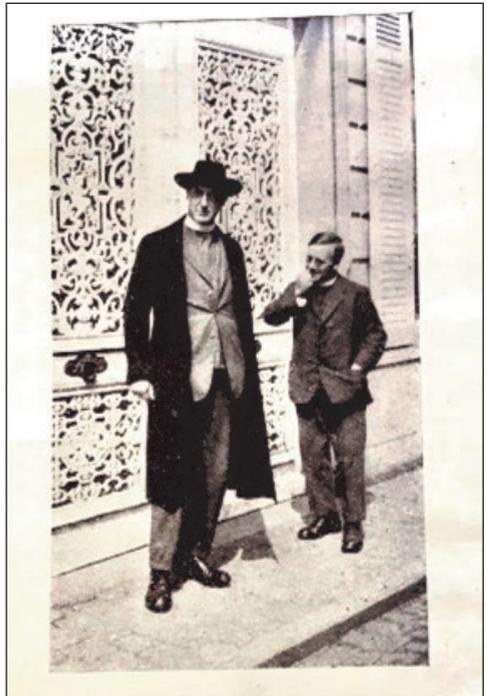
Talbot House in Poperinge

Perhaps one of the most symbolic moments to occur this decade was the re-opening of Talbot House in Poperinge, gifted to the organisation by Lord Wakefield. A great deal of refurbishment and renovation took place in the house and garden with only the Upper Room being restored to its wartime appearance and purpose. Padres Talbot and Clayton officially opened the house on 28th April 1930 and it became a place of pilgrimage for many members.



The opening of Talbot House, April 28 — The Founders opened the doors and let 30 Toc H Padres in.

“The long and the short of them all!” Rev Neville Talbot in the foreground with Rev ‘Tubby’ Clayton standing some feet behind to accentuate their height difference.



*There was once a padre said, Why
Should anyone need to be shy?
At Trinity Square
Just frown if you dare ;
It's really impossible—try !*

Talbot House in London

This was re-opened in a Georgian House in Trinity Square and considered by some as the 'flagship' Mark. Its facilities included a gym with a boxing ring, a hall for lunch clubs, larger meetings and church services, a skittle alley, the Overseas Office, offices and a bathroom.

Guest nights

One of the fundamental activities of both Marks and Branches was a Guest Night where members, or invited speakers, would give talks which would, hopefully stimulate discussion. Tubby felt very strongly that these meetings, whilst being informative and entertaining, should also 're-vitalise' the spirit so participants would go back out into the world and pass this feeling on to others. His suggested programme for a Guest Night would include

Time to hob-nob

One short account of a job tackled or to be undertaken

Humour

Singing/and or stunts

Food

Light (*particular ceremony with the Lamp*)

Family prayers

Set piece, i.e. speaker, debate or other "big business"

Branch business limited to 10 snappy minutes

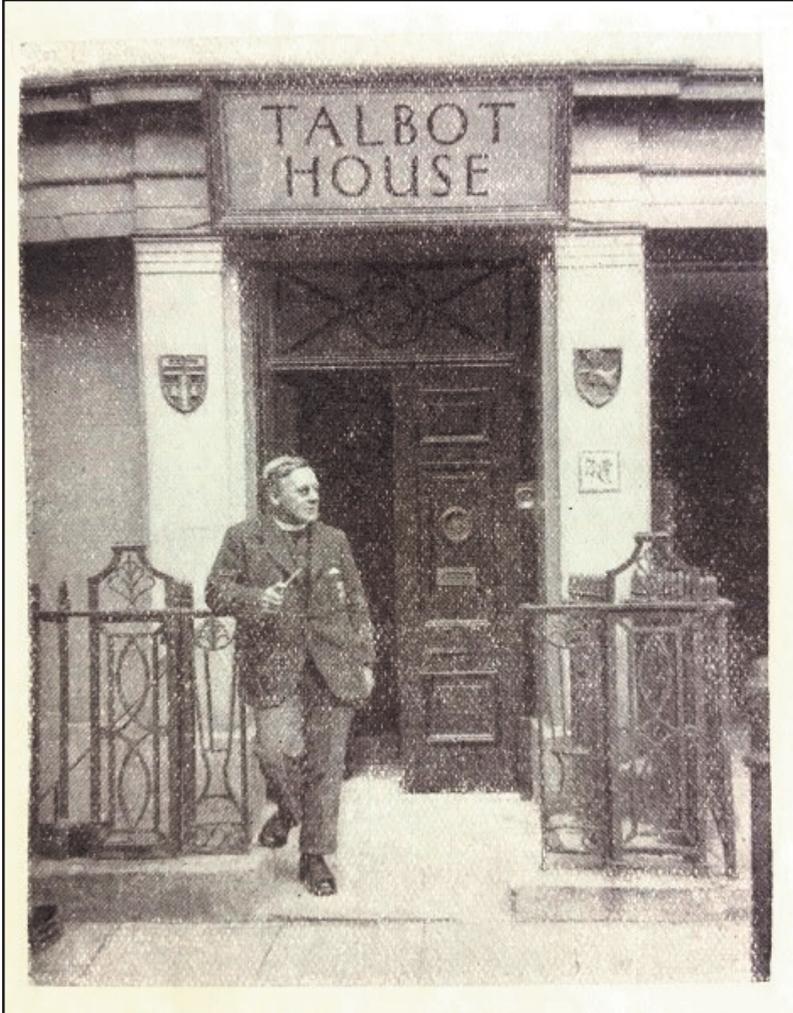
"Pathe Gazette," especially overseas items.

The format for each item was then described in great detail which cannot be reproduced here. Whilst Guest nights were indeed

frequently held in all branches, it is unknown how closely this agenda was adhered to!

Subsequently Pat Leonard (Toc H Padre of Manchester Mark) added his thoughts about the purpose and value of Guest nights saying

“Toc H begins by the creation of human friendship – spreading it abroad through jobs and guests. It begins on the human side and ends on the Divine”



Tubby standing outside the London Mark

Food and Fellowship

Item No.5 in the above list, *Food* was considered a vital element in Toc H life. In this context Tubby explained that a real meal was required, whether it was supper, tea or a single course hot pot supper, taken sitting down, thus promoting sociability and fellowship. Tea and biscuits were no substitute!

This concept of a meal eaten together stems from early Christian communities and Jewish tradition where religious discussions may have taken place. While this might not happen so often in a Toc H gathering it provided the opportunity for conversations, which may range from religious to secular to occur, which would hopefully be stimulating for members and welcoming for guests.

In addition to the formality of Guest nights, Toc H members certainly enjoyed a huge variety of social occasions, some purely for fellowship, but many others associated with some sort of fund raising activity. The majority seem to enjoy food in various forms from fish and chips, sausage and mash, pot luck suppers, B.Y.O.G, formal dinners and of course pancakes. More unusually paper bag lunches were arranged in London for office workers and messenger boys.

In 1931, Toc H in GB was re-organised into areas with a view to improving and encouraging self-government. Ideally, each area would have at minimum, a Padre and a layman as full time staff who would oversee matters in their area. The main purpose of this was to make the organisation more financially viable and shift the burden of fundraising to all, rather than relying on Tubby who had been the main fundraiser in the past.

Banners

Wadhurst and Hyde branches were two of the first to acquire a banner that was used to reaffirm and publicise their existence at Festivals etc. These became very popular and the



Journal suggested that ideally, they should be made by members, but could also be made professionally.

Toc H and the Services

Given that the roots of Toc H had been in serving the needs of the Armed Forces during conflict Tubby decided early in the 1930's that this relationship should be clarified. After discussion it was agreed that any member of the forces could join Toc H and, both officers and men could work together within Toc H without any deference to rank. Thus the work of Toc H expanded all over the world serving the forces on land, sea and air and service personnel could work with members whenever possible.

League of Women Helpers (LWH)

The status of the LWH within the wider Toc H movement continued to be a source of great contention. Since the re-birth of Toc H it had been recognised

“that women were intensively interested in its work and drawn by its ideals”

“that it could not be the fine true thing that God meant it to be without the active help of women”

However, despite admitting that the help of women was vital, in 1922 the Central Council had refused to allow them to be members but emphasised that they were within the 'Family Circle' and so could experience, “the joy and inspiration of the Toc H spirit.”

The fundamental problem, it would seem were the numbers involved. So many women wanted to join, that the men were concerned about how many women should be members of what, essentially they considered to be a men's organisation....

This perceived fear that the men felt, was considered flawed by some more enlightened members, who actually thought that women had just as much right to be a part of Toc H as men, having suffered as much, albeit in different ways, throughout the war years. To prevent them from being a part of the Toc H family would be an injustice.

One suggestion was to use the model of the Scout and Guide movement. Briefly, this would mean that there would be a completely separate organisation for the women (like the Guides), run on the same basis as Toc H but on a parallel. In addition there would be another organisation, which would help the men when required but have no particular status.

The article concluded that :

“the LWH is alive to the necessity of interpreting Toc H in terms of womanhood, and not in mere copying of manhood.”

Perhaps the last word on this for now should be from Tubby who said “LWH is essential to Toc H in all its full development...not as an isolated parallel movement, but as an integral part of the family life of Toc H.”

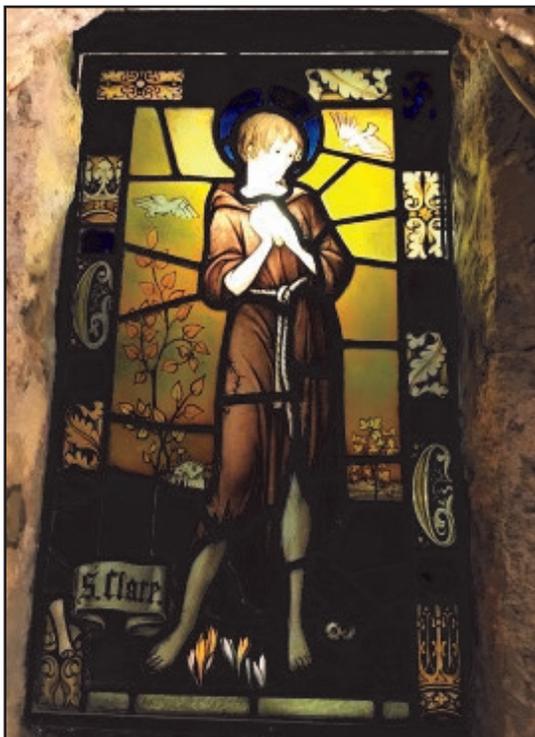
The subject was revisited in 1932 when the Central Council decided that the two parallel organisations should remain the same, but with more co-operation between them. There were no women present at the discussion.

Despite the wide range of work carried out by the LWH, at the end of the decade relations between them and Toc H still seemed sensitive. An article in 1936 stated that “the time is long overdue for a radical change of attitude towards the LWH on the part of the average member of Toc H”.

“The present attitude, which while not universal, is fairly wide-spread, is one of slightly amused tolerance or rather shamefaced dismissal and is due to a profound lack of knowledge of the LWH”.

While this article initially reinforced its patriarchal attitudes, it finally conceded that Toc H should not just expect help with canteens,

The stained glass window of St. Clare in the LWH chapel at All Hal-



sock-mending and running parties, when the LWH did such valuable work involving many current social problems.

At a branch level, Oxford professed to be a little frightened of the LWH while Croydon felt that the problem was

“the ignorance of the average member about the aims of LWH”

Croydon then went a step further by suggesting that joint business and recreational meetings should be held regularly to develop fuller understanding between the two organisations. It was not until 1938 that the LWH could form a new branch without permission from the men.

As if to prove a point, in 1937 one very successful scheme had been undertaken by the LWH in conjunction with the Tyneside Council of Social Services. In an effort to address the appalling social problems in the area the LWH agreed to raise enough money to fund a social worker in Felling-on-Tyne to live in a house and provide many valuable facilities for girls in the area. This was tremendously successful and indeed after 4 months a member of LWH was appointed to the role. The scheme was extended to provide help to many families in the area and was so successful that it received a royal visit from the Duke and Duchess of York.

The LWH also published its own journal called The Log which ran from 1926-1967.

The LWH even featured on Cigarette Cards in 1934.....

Business connections

Tubby was keen to enlist the help of large industry both to increase membership and encourage financial assistance. Sir Herbert Austin donated £5000 for a new Mark in Birmingham in memory of his son who was killed in France in 1915.



THIS SURFACE IS ADHESIVE. ASK YOUR TOBACCONIST FOR THE ATTRACTIVE ALBUM (PRICE ONE PENNY) SPECIALLY PREPARED TO HOLD THE COMPLETE SERIES

OUR KING AND QUEEN

A SERIES OF 50

38

AT A "TOC H" FESTIVAL, 1934

For ten years the Queen, when Duchess of York, was patroness of the "ToC H League of Women Helpers." In this picture she is shown at the Albert Hall in 1934 lighting the Lamps of the Magnificent of new branches. The Queen has demonstrated her practical sympathy with the League of Women Helpers by supporting its various efforts, and in December 1932, Her Majesty lit up two new illuminated windows in All Hallows, Barking-by-the-Tower, a church which is closely associated with "ToC H."

W. D. & H. O. WILLS

ISSUED BY THE IMPERIAL TOBACCO CO., 107, GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND, LTD.

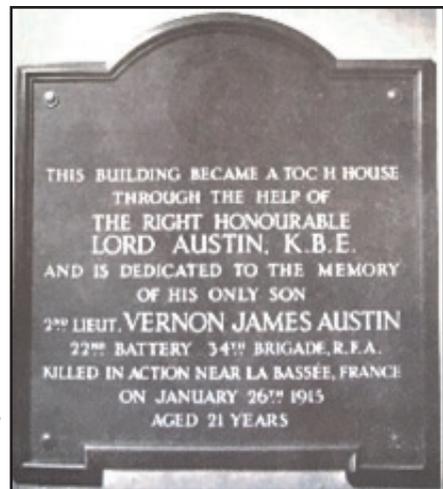
At the lamp lighting ceremony held in Birmingham at the end of 1932 there was not a big enough church to hold the Thanksgiving ceremony so the Directors of Cadbury Brothers in Bournville allowed them to use one of their large dining halls. The service that followed mirrored the Quaker ethos of the owners with the plain service paper,



The New Mark VI, Birmingham (Photo: The Cadbury Family)

simple prayers and praise and included a three minute silence. After the service, Cadbury's provided a delicious tea, members of the Cadbury family mingled with the members and everyone was given a parting gift of a box of chocolates with a special cover bearing the Arms of Ypres, the name of Toc H and the date.

Dame Elizabeth Cadbury also helped by allowing Toc H to use her



grounds and barn for a Social gathering for all members in the city. In a similar way Witney in Oxfordshire had the support of the Early family of the famous Witney Blanket Company while the Morris Minor company in nearby Cowley also contributed to the organisation.

Expansion overseas

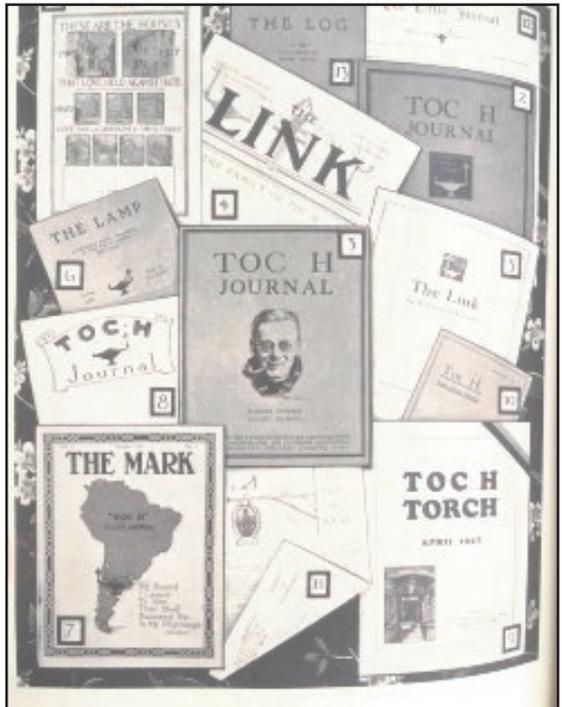
Throughout the decade Toc H continued to develop all over the world so an overseas office was opened in London to liaise and disseminate information. Tubby also hoped that companies would connect more easily with suppliers and any young lad who was sent out to work abroad could be helped by local Toc H members who would hopefully, help them settle in.

Branches were being formed in India, Canada, South Africa, Ceylon, Iraq, N. & S. America, Jerusalem, Malta, China, Gibraltar and Australia. Many had their own equivalent of the Journal.

In addition to this there were branches or groups on ships, in ports and on airbases, some known as Lone Units in such places as the Moravian Mission in Tibet one man working in Melanesia.

The range of activities were similar in many ways to those in GB, and included work with the blind, deaf, handicapped, boys clubs, wireless provision, schools and hospitals etc. However the geographical differences also demanded different solutions. In particular at ports in Ceylon and Malta there was much work with the Service personnel, young boys on ships were cared for and in Ceylon this was extended to boys from a submarine crew.

Branches in South Africa were aware of racial issues



with special cinema showings for native children, guest night talks highlighting the issues and Bulawayo held a weekly cinema club with profits going to the Native Welfare Society. Pretoria had 9 Afrikaans speaking members and Nairobi branch were getting involved in a very ambitious project in conjunction with the local Municipal Affairs Officer to provide housing for 20,000 permanent African people. In Melbourne there was a weekly distribution of food that was organised like a military operation to 900 hungry families distressed by unemployment. The area also seemed to be affected by severe winters so Toc H delivered wood and clothing to those in need.

Strangely a Guest night in Iraq featured a debate on the Channel Tunnel while more expectedly a branch in South Africa had a talk on snakes. A Boys Club on Slave Island had a chilling ring to it while in China a branch member volunteered to be the Best Man at a wedding presided over by a Toc H Padre.

In Europe branches opened in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Brussels, Antwerp, Ypres, Paris, Berlin and Hamburg. Members in all of these branches were predominately Ex-pats apart from those in Germany which were, interestingly all German.

In Canada two members of Edmonton group who were waiting for the opening of the Great Mackenzie, the navigation channel to the Arctic Circle volunteered to spend their evening treating sled dogs with distemper. Many of the puppies were nearly blind and could hardly breathe but after much bathing and swabbing they recovered. Several weeks later the same two men who were canoeing further north in the freezing waters when they were summoned by an old man gesticulating from the bank. His daughter-in-law had given birth with little assistance and the baby was now suffering from a haemorrhage. Luckily one of the men had some medical training and was able to help. Subsequently they paddled back there every evening for three weeks to continue the treatment.

In 1939, work in Australia had a contemporary feel about it, when Toc H members joined volunteer fire fighters to help fight the bushfires that were ravaging thousands of square miles resulting in much loss of life as well as damage to property and stock. After the fires had been extinguished members again helped as part of teams who retrieved scattered stock, slaughtered half burned animals, reconstructed milking

parlours etc.

Kadina in Australia filled up potholes on local roads, perhaps Toc H could do that here!

Members provided help after an earthquake in Chile and in New Zealand where they also delivered a sheep to families in distress, where else would that happen!!



Finally, Toc H contributed to rather grand pillars of a new chapel in Kandy, Ceylon and the branch offices in Rio de Janeiro had their office ransacked when rebels took over the town. These were subsequently re-furbished a year later when the rebellion was over.

New developments in GB

Following on from work that began in 1928 in the West Country branches in that area continue to run a 'Showman's Rest House' at local fairs. This involves borrowing or hiring a suitable building or marquee and turning it into a resting place for the

travelling showmen who would have otherwise have nowhere else to relax.

They would be open night and day and have comfortable chairs, Toc H proverbs hung on the walls and a small table draped with a Union flag with a Rushlight and flowers placed upon it. This would be used as an Altar for Communion on the last morning. The canteen sold tea, bread and butter, biscuits, cakes and boiled eggs. There were only a few local lodgings so often Showmen and their children would sleep there overnight. The Toc H spirit pervaded the area giving the travellers and wayfarers sanctuary, fellowship and some stability, things that were

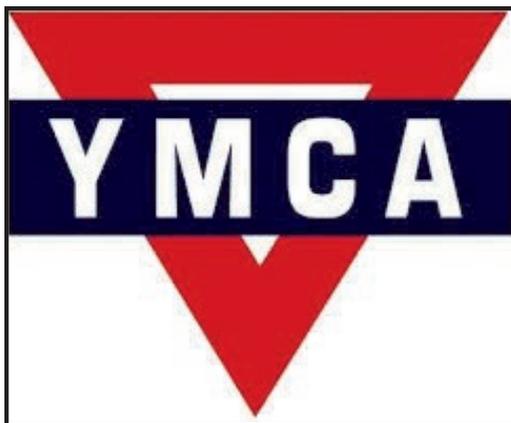
often lacking in their nomadic lifestyle. Similar fairs began at the Nottingham Goose and Birmingham Onion Fair to name just a couple. This work provided a model for other branches to follow for many years to come.



Youth Hostel Association

Similarly, Toc H was one of the organisations (others including The Quakers, YMCA, Girls Friendly Society to name a few ...)

instrumental in the establishment of the Youth Hostel Association in this country. This had begun in Derbyshire in the 1930s, as an increasing number of young people were visiting the hills in their spare time in an effort to escape from life in the industrial areas. Many were discovering the joys of rambling and to accommodate them,



hostels were built, many staffed by Toc H volunteers, so that the young people could utilise basic but affordable accommodation. Similar work was also championed by Tiverton branch in Devon. The timing of this work corresponded and was possibly in liaison with the birth of the Youth Hostel Association in this country, under the auspices of the National Council of Social Services who were campaigning to get more young people out of the urban areas as a respite from the poor air quality and cramped housing. This aim was to provide cheap accommodation and encourage hiking for better health and to fight disease.

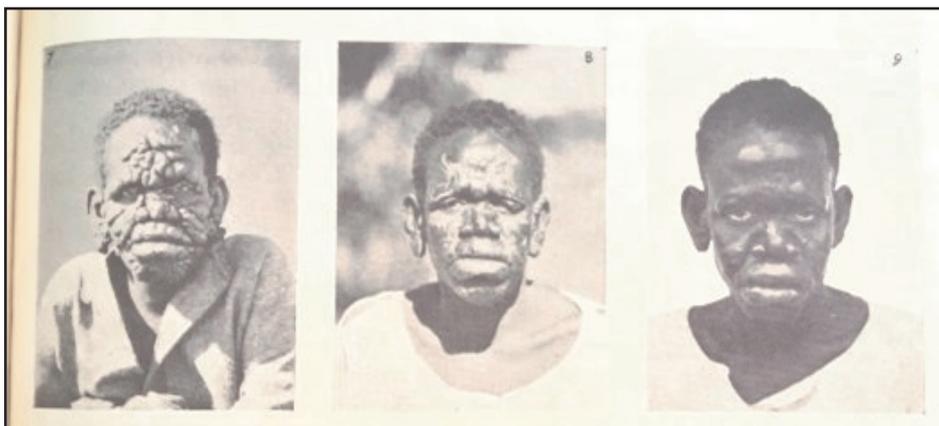
Documentary evidence shows the part Toc H played by helping at a Wayfarers Hostel in Tiverton. In 1931 they rented a house to the nascent YHA for £1 a week for a while and in 1932 they helped to set up the YHA hostel in Falmouth, the first in Cornwall. As the decade progressed the YHA spread all over Europe and in New Zealand Toc H branches added their support to its expansion there saying

“There is the same attraction in both movements,
adventures in fellowship and fellowship in adventure”

In a similar collaboration several branches maintained land for the National Trust cross the country.

Leprosy - A major campaign

On his return from a tour around Africa in 1934, Tubby decided that the problem of Leprosy should be addressed. He had realised that the care and treatment of the disease was not restricted to the medical profession so there was ample scope for help from non-medical volunteers. He arranged for Toc H to work alongside the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association (B.E.L.R.A.) and pledged to raise awareness of the disease in the Journal and through Branches and to provide volunteers to give personal assistance in the field.



This was to become one of Toc H's major campaigns that was to continue for many years.

The usual grassroots work continued of course, special mention to two branches in Scotland, Hamilton, who held an oat cake competition, which involved eating an oat cake or bannock while whistling the National Anthem and Pollock who held a 'Smoking Concert' for the local unemployed. (Smoking Concerts originated in the Victorian era and consisted of live music performed for an audience of men who smoked and discussed politics).

Glasgow branch undertook a dangerous challenge to try to reform gangsters and 'razor slashers' (shades of Peaky Blinders), and thankfully reported great progress. In another new initiative Scottish members made the effort to contact Commercial Travellers who moved constantly around the country with a view to providing some company during their long evenings spent in hotel rooms.

Branches in the South began working with gypsies, another area of work that was to be re-visited in the future. Increasing concern about young boys at sea, predominantly in the Merchant Navy led to extension work in ports here and overseas, with the main focus in Southampton where a Sea going boy's hostel was built.



Talbot House Club for
Sea-going boy's hostel in
Southampton

The ultimate sacrifice

This occurred on Anglesey in 1939 when Sgt C W Wilkinson a member of Bangor branch, received a call one night saying that some children were on the beach and in danger of being cut off. He set off on his bike to look for them, not knowing that they had already reached safety, and was overwhelmed by the tide and drowned. The last seen of him was the light of his bicycle lamp...

Work within education

Work in schools was growing with members going into both private and state schools to invite boys to meetings to introduce them to the ideals of service in the community and to encourage future membership. Ideally when school members went on to University they joined groups there. Sometimes, the challenge of "City and Varsity" or "Town and Gown" presented problems in blending groups in University towns but the spirit of conciliation usually won the day. One example of this progression was Donald Lloyd, who moved from Bishop Stortford College to Worcester College, Oxford in 1932 and joined the University branch. On one occasion he went to help Welsh Miners dig for surface coal for their families. He stayed with a miner's

family and was horrified to find that the money he gave them for his board and lodging was deducted from their means tested benefit.

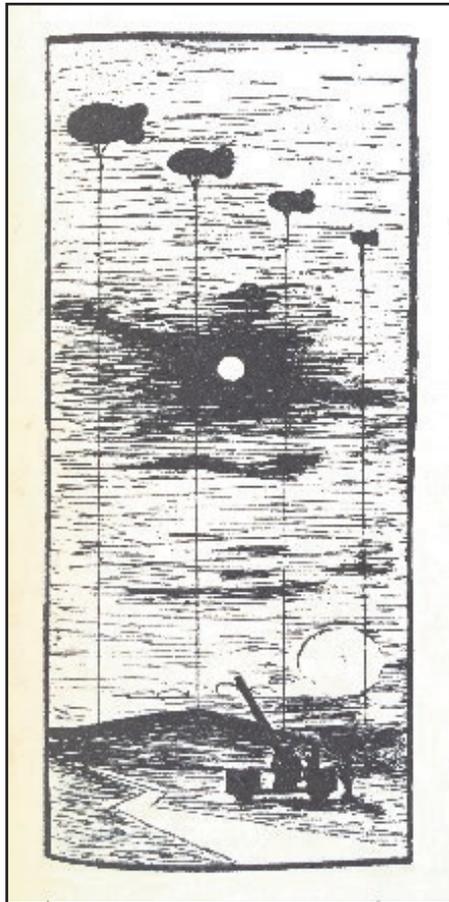
One moment in history

Toc H in Harrogate took part in a moment of history when, on October 11th 1936, 65 of the Jarrow marchers spent the evening with them on their way to London. The following evening Toc H provided a concert for them at Harehills Trades Union HQ, while further south branches in the East Midlands were standing by to help.



and the next moment in history.....

Apart from the usual activities, some of the focus of Toc H work in the final year of the decade was to address the increasing likelihood of war. Indeed members were already considering ways of looking after the many servicemen at work looking after Gun, Searchlight and Balloon stations all over the country.



The spectre of another war was, of course the worst possible scenario that those who had experienced the horrors of 1914-18 had always dreaded. There was much discussion and many preparations made, so that on September 3rd when war was declared, Toc H, the organisation born out of one war, was prepared for the next.

Jo Adams

References on request

We will remember them !

**Irene Tucker
David Hammond**

Hazel Whiles



Age shall not weary them

A Much Appreciated "Thank You!"

Dear Colleagues

I want to personally thank you for the excellence of the January "In Touch", virtually every page lifted by illustrations of pleasing and relevant illustrations of pleasing and relevant perspectives.

The major article by Jo Adams on the worldwide spread of Toc H in the 1920's under the leadership of its founder Rev. P.B. (Tubby) Clayton ~ who I gather elsewhere was careless about what he ate, was outstanding.

Trusting future In Touch will be equally inspirational.

I liked and was touched by Hilary's item on "The Joy of Giving" and ask whenever convenient that you arrange to send me a sample of some of those pens to give away etc. a week.

As a guide and welcome two afternoons a week within St. Martin's In The Bullring, I meet scores of people ranging from royalty to rascals and have opportunity to present a few to the more desirable ones during those 6 hours. I enclose a donation in favour of Toc H.

Yours in good faith, Paul R

Editorial Comment: *Thank you Paul for your kind words, it is really uplifting to know that In Touch is not just disappearing into a void!!*

We have failed to communicate about the cost of the pens. Toc H has already paid for them effectively from subs. The main point is to spread the feeling of Toc H and there is in fact no charge to those who will just give them away and respond if asked about Toc H. Enjoy thanking people ~ it gives joy all round!

THE FOUR POINTS OF THE COMPASS

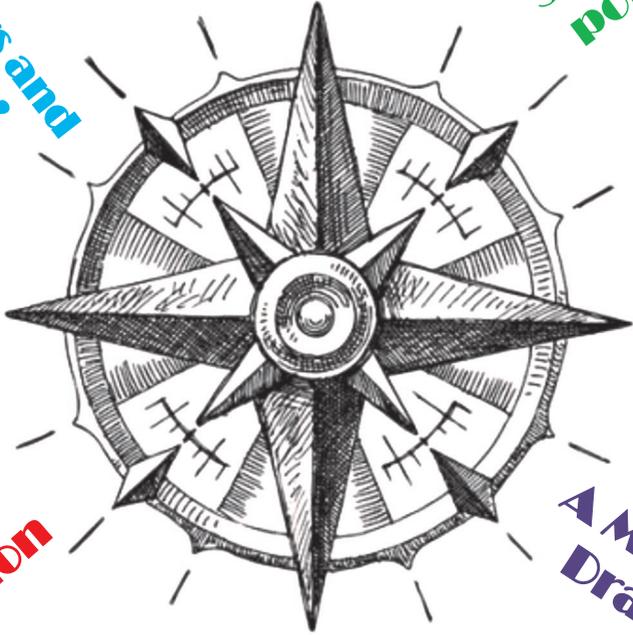
THE STORY OF THE TOC H MOVEMENT

Fantastic!

FAIRMINDEDNESS

**Staggering
portrayal**

**100+ years and
time flies!**



FRIENDSHIP

SERVICE

**Awesome
Production**

**A Must See
Drama!**

WITNESS

Yes! & Challenging!!

Jun 27 2020 - Crowmarsh Village Hall, Crowmarsh Gifford
Jul 25 2020 - venue TBC, Saltburn
Plans are also being made for Lincoln

Beyond Eternity Promotions Limited 07702 253638 www.beyondeternitypromotions.com

The Four Points of the Compass Review of the All Hallows performance

At the spiritual home of Toc H, All Hallows by the Tower, '*The Four Points of the Compass*', a play that celebrates the Centenary of the organisation, was performed for the second time.

After an introduction and welcome from Terry, an audience of about 36 gathered in the Church and listened with rapt attention as the history of Toc H was described by three actors. The use of images and sound helped to contextualise the story.

It was obvious that many of those present had been involved with or touched by Toc H during their lives and perhaps the most poignant moment was when *The Four Points* were being explained and some people whispered the words in unison.

The audience consisted of members from near and far, church visitors, others who were just interested and even a man who had stayed at a 'Mark' (Denmark House) many years ago. His time there had obviously made an impression on him.

The National Needlework Archive brought some branch banners to display, their names almost glowing as the lights dimmed for the performance. It was great to have Hilary's new banner alongside them too.

The interval drinks provided time for people to mingle and chat.

An evening simply staged, but memorable and uplifting.

Jo Adams



NATIONAL PRAYER CYCLE

(This can be used weekly or monthly)

Friendship – To love widely

We love widely for all members, Branches and lone members in UK and overseas; and for those who are unwell.

Service – To build bravely

To build bravely thinking of people's needs in the UK and overseas and for new ways of serving and supporting them.

Fair mindedness – To think fairly

We think of plans for Toc H's ongoing development and for the Board and others looking after its opportunities.

Witness – To witness humbly

To witness humbly thinking of the Toc H Centenary and for all special events being planned this year.

Pray that more will share in the vision and work of Toc H.

*Prepared by Canon William Bestelink
January 2020*



MISSION STATEMENT

The aims of Toc H are defined by the four points of the compass, first defined in 1920:

Toc H is committed to building a fairer society by working with communities to promote friendship and service, confront prejudice and practice reconciliation.

Friendship:	To love widely
Service:	To build bravely
Fairmindedness:	To think fairly
Witness:	To witness humbly