

Railway Mission Annual Report

2016/2017

“We have used the chaplain services on a regular basis. Nothing is too much trouble for them and we appreciate the support your [chaplaincy] team provide to families who are at rock bottom”

British Transport Police T/DS 4772 Gerry Griffin
B Division Fatality Investigation Team



Railway Mission

*‘Support on
Life’s Journey’*



'Support on Life's Journey'

Railway Mission

Dear Railway Industry Colleagues,

Once again the Board of Trustees for the Railway Mission wish to express our appreciation for the generosity and support of the railway industry for the chaplaincy service provided by the Railway Mission

Through the last year, Railway Mission continued to see doors opened and relationships built. But without the continued generous support of the railway industry our chaplains would not have been able to reach out to those in need of our support and care as effectively as the chaplaincy team has been able to do.

Our chaplains are on-call seven days a week, to respond to major rail incidents, including fatalities, either due to suicide or accident. The chaplaincy team are available to support railway staff and members of the public affected by such sad and traumatic incidents.

In the event of a major incident with loss of life on the railway chaplains are always deployed. This included the tragic Croydon Tram Crash in November 2016 and the terrorist attack that took place in the vicinity of the Palace of Westminster in London, where our chaplain Dylis George spent time with staff and police at Westminster Tube Station.

Although the terrible events of recent months do not fall into the financial year covered by this report. I feel I should acknowledge the work our chaplains have done in supporting the industry and BTP following the terror attacks at Manchester Victoria, London Bridge and even BTP Officers at Grenfell Tower.

Kind regards,

Keith Rose (Chair of Trustees)



Croydon Tram Crash

On the 9th of November 2016, a Croydon Tramlink tram operated by FirstGroup, on behalf of Transport for London (TfL), derailed and overturned on a sharp bend approaching the junction. There were seven fatalities with 58 other people injured.

The tram was running from New Addington to Wimbledon via Croydon, and was on the approach to Sandilands tram stop soon after 6:00 a.m. A preliminary report issued a week after the accident indicated that although the speed limit approaching the junction was 20 km/h (12 mph), the tram had been travelling at 70 kilometres per hour (43 mph).

Chaplain John Robinson spent his time at the Croydon Council building, Bernard Wetherill House with the families of the victims at the Casualty Advice Bureau which was set up to offer face to face welfare for family and friends. John remained with the BTP Family Liaison Officers supporting families awaiting confirmation of the deaths of loved ones.

Chaplain Christopher Henley supported British Transport Police at Croydon Station as officers returned from the crash site for rest breaks.

Chaplain Dan Godwin was deployed to Tramlink East Croydon to support staff affected by the tragic incident. The HR staff put up posters advertising the fact that he would be back the following Tuesday, once people had had time to process the events and that he would be available for people to talk to. On both that day and the following Tuesday staff found that being able to share their thoughts and feelings with a chaplain was extremely beneficial.

A Brighter Mission

The train operator, London Midland and its supplier, Arco, have come to the aid of the Railway Mission, kitting out our chaplains with new high visibility clothing.

London Midland's Passenger Services director, Tom Joyner, explained "The Railway Chaplaincy service has helped many people - particularly after fatalities and other incidents, and we wanted to thank them for the service they give our colleagues and customers. Knowing the chaplains needed some new protective clothing we talked to our supplier Arco and they kindly offered the kit for free."

Arco's National Account manager, Tracy Figg joined Tom to hand over the new equipment and said "This has been my best ever working day. Extremely satisfying and great to meet all the Railway Chaplains".

Liam Johnston, the Executive Director of the Railway Mission said, "the generosity of London Midland and Arco has been such a surprise and a real blessing to all of the chaplains. This high visibility clothing will help raise our visibility and not just because of the colour! Having the Railway Mission's logo and name so visible will help identify chaplaincy team from a distance. Everyone in the chaplaincy is very grateful to London Midland and Arco"



Chaplaincy Support

At the end of March 2017 Railway Mission employed thirteen full-time, seven part-time and four volunteer chaplains.

Our chaplains have an extensive schedule of visiting, including stations, offices, signal boxes, and depots. The past year has seen our chaplains involved in personal support to both serving and retired railway staff and their families through bereavements, illness, redundancies, and a host of other issues and concerns. They also conduct various high-profile public events such as Remembrance services. Much of the work of the chaplains is at the invitation of rail managers; thus demonstrating the continued appreciation of the industry for the pastoral support and care provided by the Chaplains. The significant level of suicides on the rail network is an area where the chaplains provide much support, something which is increasingly recognised and valued officially within the industry.

The pie charts opposite give the raw data for chaplaincy visits to the main areas of the industry. However, these statistics do not take into account work with other areas of the industry, such as Maintenance, Concessions, Suppliers, Heritage Railways and the public affected by operational railway incidents.

SPMH and B-FIT

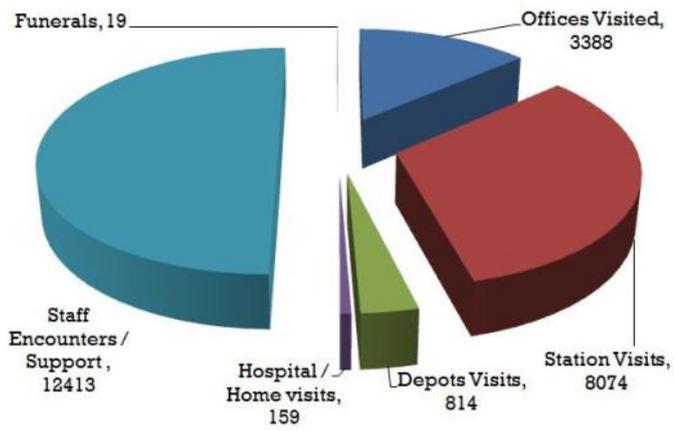
Chaplains work with British Transport Police's Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Team (SPMH) and B Division Fatality Investigation Team (B-FIT) to support families and witnesses of fatal or near fatal incidents on the railway.

“We have used the chaplain services on a regular basis. Nothing is too much trouble for them and we appreciate the support your [chaplaincy] team provide to families who are at rock bottom”

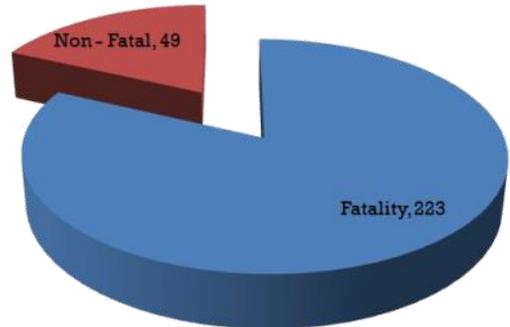
British Transport Police
T/DS 4772 Gerry Griffin
B Division Fatality Investigation Team

Railway Mission
Dylis George

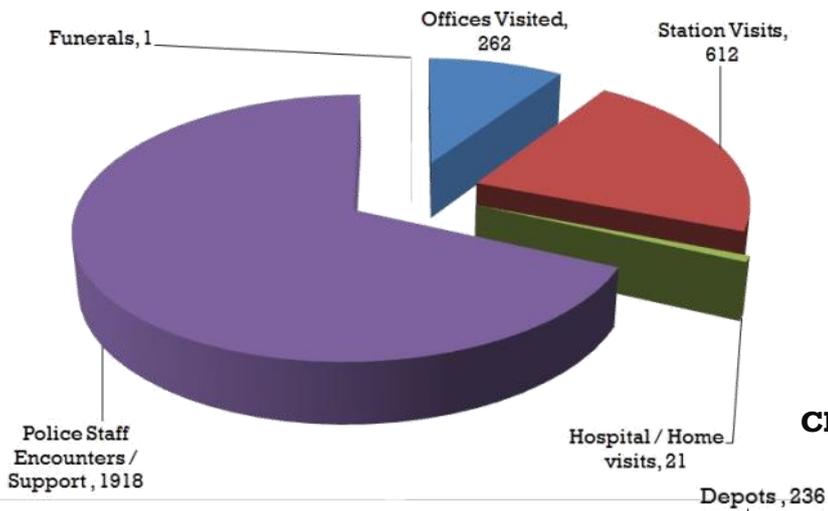
Chaplaincy Visits TOC and FOC



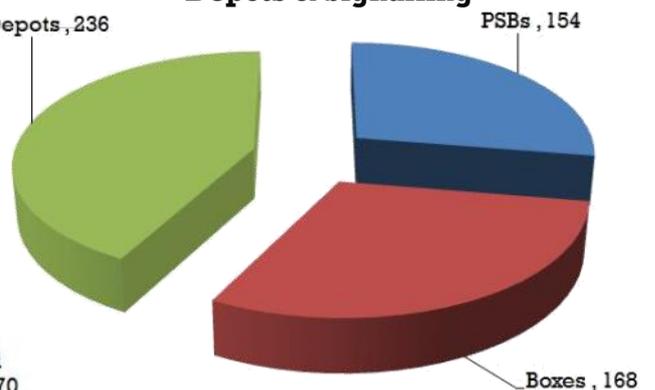
Follow-up of Railway Incidents



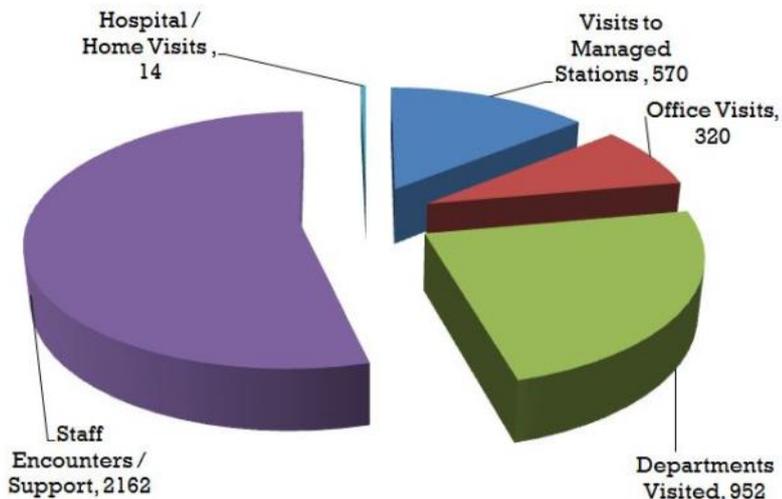
Chaplaincy Support to BTP



Chaplaincy Visits to Network Rail Depots & Signalling



Chaplaincy Visits to Network Rail Stations and Offices



Armistice and Remembrance

Remembrance services are not intended to glorify war, trivialise sacrifice and loss experienced, but to both facilitate a corporate act of remembrance and to bring a connection between church and industry that can stimulate conversation and understanding. Chaplains are



working to build on the success of the past and to enhance the chaplaincy and the relationship between stations and local churches.

At Paddington Station Michael Portillo (Pictured left), journalist, broadcaster, former Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister and a staunch railway supporter and enthusiast was invited to take part in the service. Having such a high profile individual, helps raise the profile and impact of these services .

There is a growing interest in having railway based remembrance services led by the Railway Mission chaplains. St Pancras has begun to hold a service there rather than join with the more established service at King's Cross. The 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 next year will be an important time to highlight these events and look forward to 2039 100th anniversary of WWII.



Transitioning Chaplaincy for London

In March 2015 the partnership Railway Mission and London City Mission (LCM) have operated for many years ended when LCM refocused their work from industrial chaplaincy to the more deprived residential areas of Greater London.

Historically LCM subsidised the cost of the chaplaincy service in the London and South Eastern, East Anglia and South Western areas. With the changes to LCM's focus Railway Mission were required to fill the posts that would become vacant when the LCM chaplains were reassigned.

LCM agreed to transitional funding for Railway Mission in order that we could meet our obligations in relation to the pastoral support of railway industry staff. This funding is due to come

to an end in March 2018. It is important that we increase our income to cover the additional costs of the six new chaplains Railway Mission has employed to cover the areas.

Karen Stead has been appointed as Marketing and Fundraising officer for the Railway Mission. It is planned that this post will help maximise the potential of charitable support from trust funds, supporters and corporate bodies.

We are also looking to demonstrate the value of chaplaincy to the railway industry and increase the financial support from our railway business partners, so that the chaplaincy service can secure the future of the team and enhance the pastoral support already provided.

Summary of 2016/17 Accounts

Charitable Income and Endowments Donations and legacies

Supporter Donations	41,027
London City Mission (a)	137,823
Railway Company Donations (b)	252,660
Other Income	441
Trust Companies	9,799
Income Tax Refunds (c)	6,272
Donations for Calendars	3,614
Sponsorship and Fund Raising Events	10,073
Legacies and Memorials	2,495
Sub Total	<u>464,204</u>
Investment Income	8,687
Total	<u><u>472,891</u></u>

Expenditure on Charitable Activities

Staff Related Costs	393,949
Operational Costs	25,950
Legal and Professional Fees	9,443
Sundry Expenses Depreciation and Bank Charges	1,979
Printing of Calendar and News Letter	18,453
Fundraising Events	<u>251</u>
Sub Total	<u>450,025</u>
Gains/(losses) on listed investments	4,673
Total	<u><u>445,352</u></u>

a) The integration of the chaplaincy areas previously covered by London City Mission has been successful, and a good team spirit exists throughout the organisation. The LCM transitional funding to Railway Mission runs for three years, ending on 31 March 2018. £137,823 was receiving during the year. Next year (2017/18) will be the last year of LCM support.

b) The highest proportion of Railway Mission's income is received by way of direct donation from the Railway Operating Companies. Twenty two different companies have provided total donations of £252,660.

c) Support from individuals and related Gift Aid continue to provide significant funds, with around £47,000 (2016 £44,000) being received in this way.

Railway Chaplains with New High Visibility
Jackets provided by London Midland and Arco

Arco National Account manager Tracy Figg
and London Midland's Passenger Services
Director Tom Joyner pictured with chaplains

