

~ THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888 ~ CONSTITUTION.

1. NAME

1.1 THE ORGANISATION SHALL BE KNOWN AS 'THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888'.

2. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

2.1 THE PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY IS TO PROVIDE A CLUB THAT MEETS TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF THE WHITECHAPEL MURDERS AND THE SOCIAL IMPACT THAT THIS EVENT HAS HAD ON THE EAST END OF LONDON. THE SOCIETY WILL ALSO STUDY THE HISTORY OF THE EAST END AND ANY RELATED VICTORIAN OR EDWARDIAN TOPICS.

2.2 THE SOCIETY WILL OFFER TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS ON VICTORIAN OR EDWARDIAN SUBJECTS AS WELL AS OTHER TOPICS OF INTEREST AND PROMOTE FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION AMONG ITS MEMBERS.

2.3 THE SOCIETY MAY AFFILIATE TO ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION THAT THE COMMITTEE DECIDES IS APPROPRIATE FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES AS STATED AT 2.1 AND 2.2, AND DISAFFILIATE FROM ANY GROUP OR ORGANISATION IF CONTINUED AFFILIATION BE, IN THE OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE, AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF THE SOCIETY

2.4 THE SOCIETY IS OPPOSED TO ALL FORMS OF RACIAL, RELIGIOUS OR HOMOPHOBIC PREJUDICE OR DISCRIMINATION, AND IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A SAFE, SECURE AND EQUAL ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL GENDERS. THE COMMITTEE THEREFORE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHHOLD OR CEASE THE MEMBERSHIP OF ANY PERSON WHOSE VIEWS, BEHAVIOUR OR ASSOCIATIONS MAY BRING THEM INTO CONFLICT WITH THESE IDEALS.

3. MEETINGS

3.1 THE SOCIETY WILL HOLD SIX OFFICIAL MEETINGS PER YEAR ON THE FIRST SATURDAYS OF:

FEBRUARY
APRIL
JUNE
AUGUST
OCTOBER
DECEMBER.

3.1.1 THESE MEETINGS SHALL BE OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS. HOWEVER, ADMITTANCE FOR NON-MEMBERS SHALL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE.

3.2 IN ADDITION TO THE OFFICIAL MEETINGS, SIX UNOFFICIAL INTERIM MEETINGS WILL BE HELD. THESE MEETINGS WILL BE INFORMAL AND OPEN TO NON-MEMBERS. ADMITTANCE FOR NON-MEMBERS SHALL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE. THEY WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE FIRST SATURDAYS OF:

JANUARY
MARCH
MAY

JULY
SEPTEMBER
NOVEMBER.

- 3.3 ONE MEETING WILL BE DESIGNATED FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING EACH YEAR
- 3.4 THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888 TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR PERSONAL LOSS OR INJURY WHILST ATTENDING ANY OF ITS MEETINGS OR SEMINARS.

4 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 4.1 THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ONE HOUR BEFORE THE OFFICIAL DECEMBER MEETING AT 6.00 PM. IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, THE A.G.M SHOULD BE HELD NO LATER THAN THE SAME DAY AS THE OFFICIAL FEBRUARY MEETING. NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN TO MEMBERS BY THE OCTOBER MEETING AT THE LATEST.
- 4.2 THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE OPEN TO ALL FULLY PAID-UP MEMBERS. MEMBERS WHO WISH TO APPLY TO JOIN THE COMMITTEE WILL NEED TO HAVE HAD THREE YEARS OF CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP. HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE MAY CO-OPT ANY MEMBER REGARDLESS OF THEIR LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP ONTO THE COMMITTEE IF THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERS THEY HAVE SKILLS/EXPERIENCE WHICH IS OF USE TO THE SOCIETY. NOMINEES SHOULD GIVE NOTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE A.G.M ANNOUNCEMENT IN OCTOBER.
- 4.3 THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE A.G.M:
 - 4.3.1 THE PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS, SUBJECT TO AN ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT, BY THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888 TREASURER.
 - 4.3.2 THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS. PLEASE NOTE: MEMBERS WILL BE ADVISED OF THIS VIA THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY JOURNAL AND WEBSITE PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

5. **MEMBERSHIP**

- 5.1 MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL PERSONS INVOLVED OR INTERESTED IN THE WHITECHAPEL MURDERS, THE HISTORY OF THE EAST END OF LONDON AND RELATED VICTORIAN OR EDWARDIAN ISSUES.
- 5.2 ALL MEMBERS SHALL BE ENCOURAGED TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY AND WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY JOURNAL.
- 5.3 MEMBERSHIP IS BASED ON A SUBSCRIPTION FEE, SET ANNUALLY BY THE COMMITTEE.
- 5.4 MEMBERSHIP IS GRANTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE.
- 5.5 THE COMMITTEE SHALL REVIEW THE MEMBERSHIP OF ANY MEMBER WHOSE CONDUCT HAS ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE REPUTATION OR DIGNITY OF THE SOCIETY, OR THAT HAS CONTRAVENED ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY AND/OR IS DEEMED CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF THE SOCIETY. ANY PERSON WHO RESIGNS OR IS REMOVED FROM MEMBERSHIP SHALL NOT BE ENTITLED TO A REFUND OF HIS/HER MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION OR ANY PART THEREOF OR ANY MONEYS CONTRIBUTED BY HIM/HER AT ANY TIME

- 5.6 ALL MEMBERS WILL OBSERVE STRICT PROPRIETY WITH EACH OTHER IN TONE AND LANGUAGE.
- 5.7 THE SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT MAKING ORGANISATION, WHICH SEEKS TO MINIMISE COSTS TO ITS MEMBERS. EXPENSES SHALL BE MET BY A COMBINATION OF FUNDRAISING, SUBSCRIPTION AND ENTRY FEES FROM NON-MEMBERS WHO WISH TO ATTEND OFFICIAL MEETINGS. SUBSCRIPTION LEVELS ARE TO BE MAINTAINED SO AS TO COVER AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE - ADMINISTRATION, POSTAGE, STATIONERY, JOURNAL PRINTING, WEBSITE UPKEEP, CONTINGENCIES, SPEAKER EXPENSES ETC.
- 5.8 THE JOURNAL OF THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888, ITS ATTENDANT PUBLICATIONS, THE SOCIETY'S AUDIOVISUAL PUBLICATIONS, WEBSITE, MEMBERSHIP LISTS, BANK ACCOUNTS, COPYRIGHT, AND ENTERPRISES AND PROJECTS SET UP AND OPERATED UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888, ARE THE PROPERTY OF THE MEMBERSHIP AND MANAGED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THEIR BEHALF. NO PART OF THEM CAN BE SEPARATED FROM THE CORPORATE BODY OF THE SOCIETY TO BECOME A SEPARATE ENTITY OR ENTITIES WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF 65% OF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY. THIS MUST BE EXPRESSED IN A POSTAL VOTE INSTITUTED AND FUNDED BY THE PROPOSER(S) WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT FROM SOCIETY FUNDS. IT MUST ALSO FOLLOW AGREEMENT THAT THE ISSUE GO FORWARD TO A VOTE AT AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY CALLED AFTER A PETITION SIGNED BY ONE THIRD OF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY IS RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE CALLING FOR SAID EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.
- 5.9 MEMBERSHIP OF THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888 IS CONTINGENT ON MEMBERS ACCEPTING AND AGREEING TO ABIDE BY ALL TENETS OF THE CONSTITUTION.
- 5:10 COMPLAINTS BY MEMBERS ABOUT THE CONDUCT OF OTHER MEMBERS, OR ABOUT THE SOCIETY AND ITS FUNCTIONS IN GENERAL, ARISING OUT OF SOCIETY MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES, CAN BE MADE TO ANY MAIN COMMITTEE MEMBER AND WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING, WHERE APPROPRIATE ACTION WILL BE DECIDED UPON. AN EMERGENCY MEETING CAN ALSO BE CALLED IN MATTERS OF URGENCY. DISCUSSIONS CAN THEREFORE TAKE PLACE VIA EMAIL AND TELEPHONE, BUT DECISIONS CAN ONLY BE MADE AFTER A VOTE VIA EMAIL AND/OR TELEPHONE HAS BEEN SUBMITTED BY ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS. THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION SHALL BE FINAL, AND THE COMPLAINANT WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE DECISION IN WRITING BY THE CHAIR.
- 5.11 MEMBERS ARE ALSO ENTITLED TO PUT FORWARD SUGGESTIONS FOR SOCIETY ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS, OR FOR THE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE SOCIETY. THIS SHOULD BE DONE BY CONTACTING THE MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVE OR A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE, AND IT WILL BE RAISED AT THE NEXT APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE MEETING.

6. **COMMITTEE**

6.1 THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE GOVERNED BY A COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF:

- * AN HONORARY PRESIDENT,
- * HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT
- * AND ELECTED OFFICERS AS BELOW:
 - o CHAIRPERSON

- TREASURER
- SECRETARY
- ADVERTISING OFFICER
- MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVE
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT OFFICER

THE ELECTED OFFICERS HAVE ONE VOTE FOR ALL DECISIONS PUT TO THE COMMITTEE.

THE ELECTED OFFICERS MAY CO-OPT NON-ELECTED OFFICERS ONTO THE COMMITTEE. CO-OPTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS ALSO HAVE ONE VOTE FOR ALL DECISIONS PUT TO THE COMMITTEE.

THE ELECTED AND CO-OPTED OFFICERS MAY FROM TIME TO TIME CARRY OUT OTHER DUTIES IN THE FURTHERANCE OF THE INTERESTS OF THE SOCIETY AND ITS MEMBERS

THE COMMITTEE MAY FROM TIME APPOINT ASSOCIATE NON-ELECTED OFFICERS TO CARRY OUT VARIOUS DUTIES AS REQUIRED. THESE POSITIONS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE. THESE NON-ELECTED ASSOCIATE OFFICERS HAVE EX-OFFICIO ROLES WITH NO VOTING RIGHTS.

THE COMMITTEE MAY APPOINT AND/OR INSTRUCT PEOPLE AS IT SEES FIT AS ADVISERS. ADVISERS SHALL NOT HAVE VOTING RIGHTS

THE POSITION OF HONARY PRESIDENT AND HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT ARE APPOINTED BY THE COMMITTEE. THEY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND DO NOT HAVE VOTING RIGHTS.

- 6.2 THE ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE SUBJECT TO RE-ELECTION ON AN ANNUAL BASIS AT THE AGM.
- 6.3 THE NON-ELECTED CO-OPTED OFFICERS WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND ARE SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND RENEWAL EVERY TWO YEARS. OFFICERS RESIGNING ARE REQUIRED TO GIVE THREE MONTHS NOTICE.
- THE ASSOCIATE OFFICERS WILL BE APPOINTED FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS. THE AGREEMENTS WILL BE RE-SIGNED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE TWO YEARS IF THE WS 1888 COMMITTEE ARE SATISFIED WITH THE PERFORMANCES OF THE ASSOCIATE OFFICERS.
- THE ASSOCIATE OFFICERS MAY ATTEND OFFICIAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND REPORT ON PROGRESS.
- THE ASSOCIATE OFFICERS WILL HAVE NO VOTING RIGHTS.
- 6.4 ALL RESOLUTIONS WILL BE DECIDED BY A SIMPLE MAJORITY, WITH THE HONORARY PRESIDENT HAVING THE CASTING VOTE IN THE EVENT OF A TIE.
- 6.5 ALL RESIGNATIONS CONCERNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL GO THROUGH THE SECRETARY, AND MUST BE IN WRITING.
- 6.6 ALL MAJOR PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE WS 1888 WILL GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE.
- 6.7 ALL COMMITTEE AND NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS CAN SUBMIT ADVERTS WITHIN THE WS JOURNAL WHICH MUST BE WITHIN REASON AND WILL ONLY BE PUBLISHED IF SPACE ALLOWS - ALL JOURNAL MATTERS GO THROUGH THE EDITOR.
- 6.8 IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMMITTEE TO KEEP MEMBERS INFORMED OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AND ENCOURAGE ATTENDANCE.

- 6.9 THE COMMITTEE SHALL, AT ITS DISCRETION, CONFER HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP TO PERSONS WHO, IN ITS JUDGEMENT, HAS MADE AN EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION TO THE WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY 1888. THE HONORARY LIFE MEMBER WILL BE ENTITLED TO COMPLEMENTARY SOCIETY JOURNAL AND ENTRY INTO OFFICIAL MEETINGS. THE SAID PERSON WILL HAVE NO VOTING RIGHTS AND ALLOW THEIR NAME TO BE USED ON ALL WS1888 PUBLICITY. THE HONORARY LIFE MEMBER WILL BE NOMINATED AT OFFICIAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS BY SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE.
- 6.10 THE SOCIETY SHALL HOLD A BANK ACCOUNT AND PAYMENTS FROM THE ACCOUNT SHALL BE ON THE SIGNATURE OF THE TREASURER.
- 6.11 A COMMITTEE MEMBER MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE COMMITTEE FOLLOWING A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE PROPOSED AND SECONDED BY ELECTED AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH THEN SECURES THE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTED AND CO-OPTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS THEN SERVING.
IN THE EVENT OF THE VOTE BEING LOST OR TIED THE MOTION WILL FAIL AND THE CHAIR WILL FORMALLY MOVE THE PREVIOUS BUSINESS.
IN THE EVENT OF THE MOTION BEING CARRIED THE DE-SELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBER WILL HAVE THE RIGHT OF APPEAL AT THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETING.
- 6:12 THE MAIN COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY WILL SEEK TO CREATE A MEMBERS SUB-COMMITTEE TO ASSIST THE MAIN COMMITTEE IN IT'S WORK. THE MEMBERS SUB-COMMITTEE WILL ALSO PUT FORWARD SUGGESTIONS AND IDEAS FOR FUNDRAISING AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIETY AND WILL BE CHAIRED BY THE MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE. THE MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVE WILL LIAISE BETWEEN THE TWO COMMITTEES AND REPORT BOTH WAYS ON IDEAS, COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.
THE MAIN COMMITTEE WILL DETERMINE THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF THE MEMBERS SUB-COMMITTEE.
- 6.13 ALL MATTERS DISCUSSED AT COMMITTEE LEVEL SHOULD REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL UNLESS AGREED FOR RELEASE VIA OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION VIA EMAIL, MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT OR PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL OR FLYER OR HANDOUT, OR THE WS1888 SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS. THIS IS TO ENSURE THE COMMITTEE SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE WHILST ENSURING THE MEMBERS ARE CONSULTED WHERE APPLICABLE AND KEPT INFORMED OF DECISIONS.

7. SOCIAL MEDIA

- 7.1. WHEN USING SOCIAL MEDIA MEMBERS WILL NOT POST OR PUBLISH UNTRUE, MISLEADING OR DEROGATORY COMMENTS REGARDING THE SOCIETY, OTHER MEMBERS OR GUESTS OF THE SOCIETY OR POST ANYTHING WHICH CONSTITUTES BRINGING THE SOCIETY INTO DISREPUTE

8. CONSTITUTION

- 8.1 A COPY OF THE CONSTITUTION WILL BE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.
- 8.2 THE CONSTITUTION MAY ONLY BE ALTERED OFFICIALLY AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS BASED ON A SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE. IN THE EVENT OF A TIE THE CHAIRPERSON WILL HAVE THE CASTING VOTE. MEMBERS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ANY ALTERATIONS OR AMENDMENTS IN THE NEXT JOURNAL.
- 8.3 THE COMMITTEE HAVE THE POWER TO DETERMINE ANY MATTER NOT COVERED BY THE CONSTITUTION.

9. **WINDING UP OF WS 1888**

- 9.1 UPON A RESOLUTION OF 75% OF THE MEMBERSHIP TO DISSOLVE OR WIND-UP THE WS 1888, ANY FUNDS & ASSETS OF THE SAID SOCIETY REMAINING AFTER SATISFACTION OF ITS DEBTS & LIABILITIES, SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER SUCH NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS WHOSE OBJECTIVES MOST CLOSELY ACCORD WITH THOSE OF THIS SOCIETY AS DETERMINED BY THE WS 1888 COMMITTEE AT DISSOLUTION.