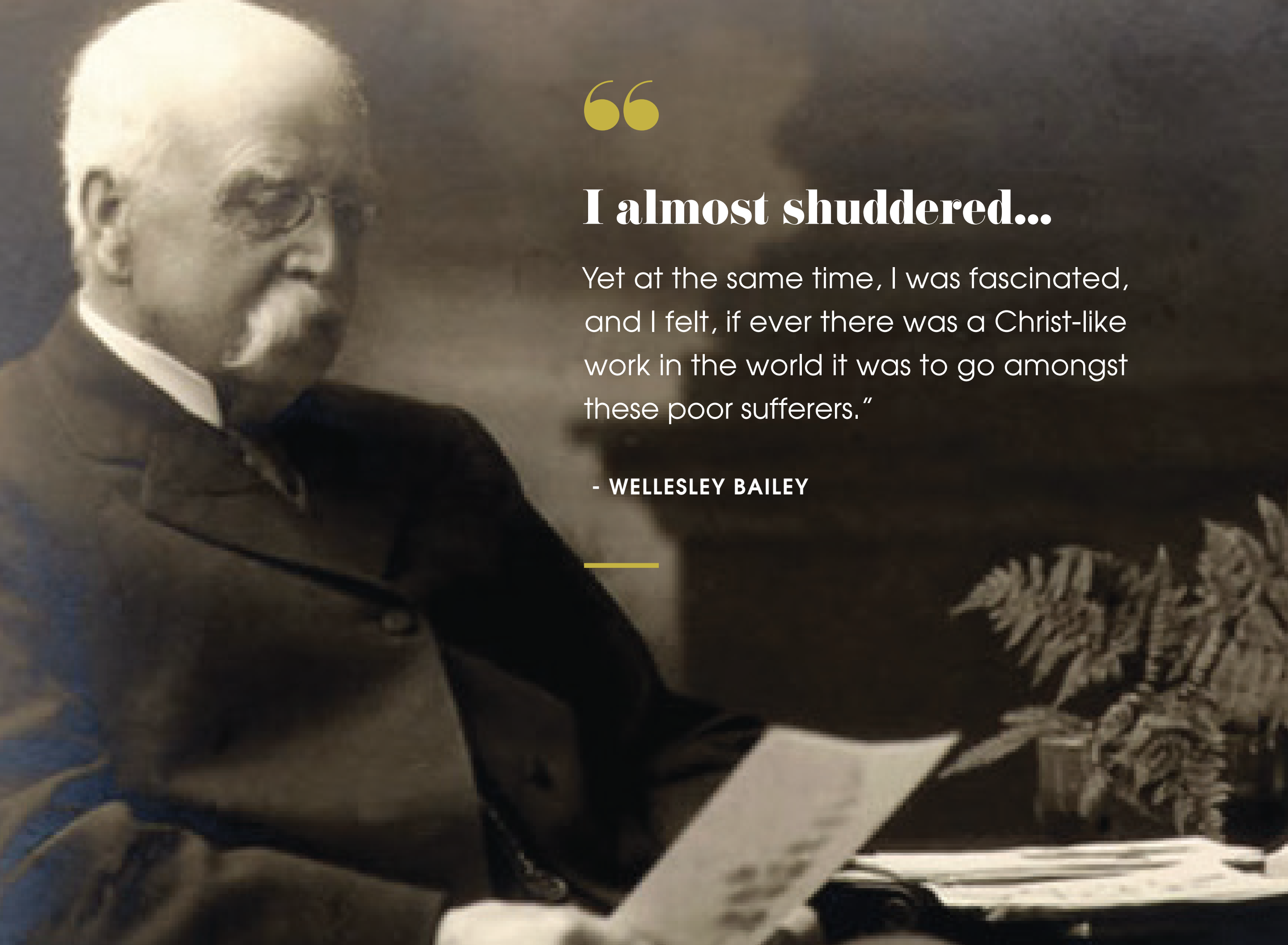
Bailey and Pim

SERVING SINCE 1874

OUR STORY



“I almost shuddered...

Yet at the same time, I was fascinated, and I felt, if ever there was a Christ-like work in the world it was to go amongst these poor sufferers.”

- **WELLESLEY BAILEY**

Wellesley Bailey

A young Irishman, Wellesley Bailey sought meaning and purpose. An adventurer at heart, he traveled to Australia and then to India. England was at the height of growth, investing in colonies and building its wealth.

In India, Bailey struggled to find the meaningful employment he dreamed of. Then he met Reverend J.H. Morrison.

Morrison had a heart for the most desperate and despised – people affected by leprosy. At that time, people affected by leprosy, if they were lucky, were housed in asylums. Many of these asylums, run by the government, were deplorable hovels of poverty and disease. Mission agencies supporting the asylums made significant changes, treating the inmates with respect and dignity.

Morrison invited Bailey to come with him to visit a small leper asylum. Bailey's life changed forever.

Wellesley Bailey was an innovative and compelling leader. He made significant strides in the care of people with leprosy, engaging in research and medical care. He also led innovative fundraising initiatives. He visited countless churches and communities in Ireland England and North America, sharing the stories of his work.

Wellesley Bailey and his wife, Alice, committed their entire lives to serving people with leprosy. They worked tirelessly to raise support and awareness about the needs of people with this cruel disease. The support started in Kingstown with three Quaker women: Charlotte, Isabella and Jane Pim.

> “**We wish to do something…**
>
> and consider that we could promise, or try to collect about £30 a year, if such a small sum would be of any real help to you.”

- CHARLOTTE PIM

The Pim Sisters

Daughters of a wealthy Quaker industrialist, banker and investor, Isabella, Charlotte and Jane Pim committed their time to social concerns in their community and beyond. The sisters were extremely active and served in hospitals and food distribution projects during the Irish Famine.

The Pim Sisters were deeply moved by the stories their friend Alice, wife of Wellesley Bailey, told of India. For the sisters, this unknown land was one of exotic mystery and immense need.

The Pim sisters knew that they wanted to do whatever in their power to help. They set up a more formal event where Wellesley and Alice could address a larger crowd on the needs facing people with leprosy.

After returning to India, the Baileys received a letter from Charlotte Pim. “We have been thinking that we would like to help in this work, but we cannot promise very much in the way of money,” she wrote. “Still we wish to do something, and consider that we could promise, or try to collect about £30 a year, if such a small sum would be of any real help to you.”

The Pim family was instrumental in helping the most affected communities during the Potato Famine. They used their family church, the Friends’(Quaker) Meeting House in Monkstown, to hold a soup kitchen for destitute families.

This was the same venue Wellesley Bailey used in September 1874 to share the needs facing people in India. Though the Pim sisters promised a gift of £30, that first full year brought in donations of over £600.

Charlotte Pim chaired the first board for the “Mission to Lepers”. As an organized charity, they promised to continue supporting people with leprosy in India. In fact, Wellesley Bailey later commented, “Though I have been called the founder of the Mission, I have always thought that Miss Charlotte Pim equally deserved the title.”

Today, Manjeet spends his time strengthening the muscles in his hands and walking on a treadmill at the hospital to restore the strength in his feet and legs. He's eager to get back outside to run and play with his friends!

Manjeet

We met Manjeet at Naini Community Hospital in Uttar Pradesh, India.

At just 8 years old, Manjeet shows the spirit of the child he is, yet he's trapped in an ailing body.

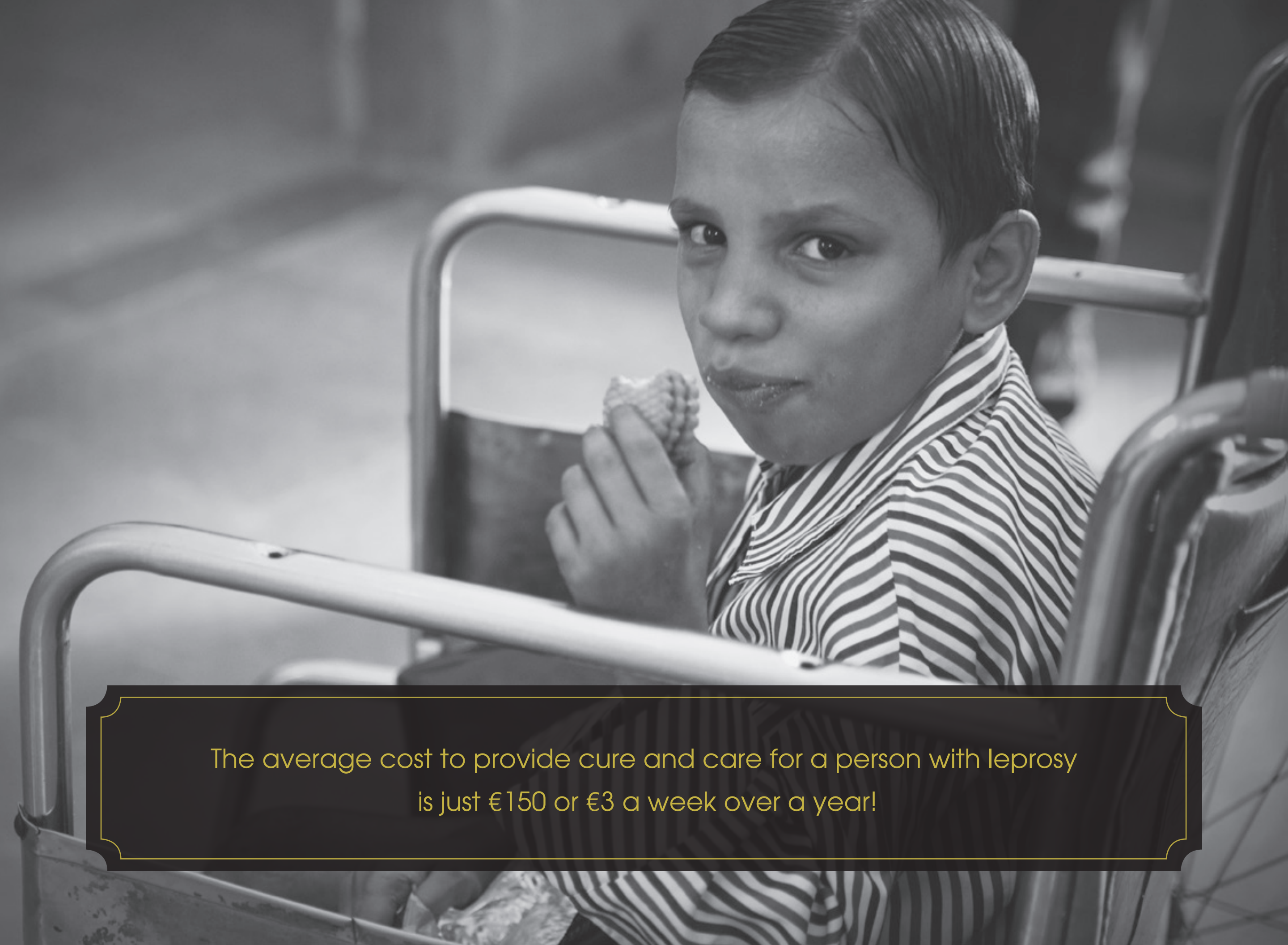
Manjeet has leprosy. What started as a few discoloured patches on his skin quickly progressed to a rash covering his entire body. He is one of seven boys born into a family living in extreme poverty. Struggling to provide food for the family, Manjeet's parents could not take their son to the local clinic – they just did not have the money to pay the fee.

As the leprosy took hold of Manjeet's body, his feet became numb. He walked across the rocks and sharp sticks. He felt nothing. He found it more and more difficult to walk on the uneven ground in his small village.

> His parents watched him suffer. They couldn't put off a visit to the hospital any longer.

Thankfully, they brought Manjeet to the Naini Community Leprosy Hospital in Uttar Pradesh, India – a partner hospital of The Mission to End Leprosy. He was given the Multi-Drug Therapy to cure him of leprosy. Trained surgeons worked on his legs, improving his ability to walk significantly.

All of this care was provided free of charge because of the support of The Mission to End Leprosy and its partners.



The average cost to provide cure and care for a person with leprosy
is just €150 or €3 a week over a year!

Together, with our supporters and partners, The Mission to End Leprosy is bringing the cure to the children, women and men who are needlessly suffering. We're offering hope for a life beyond disease.

Saira

Saira was a teenager in Bangladesh when she first noticed the patches of discoloured skin on her arms. No one in her family recognized the symptoms, so they took her to a local healer in their village. As was the custom, the healer concocted a lotion and told Saira to cover her arms every day and the patches would heal.

> Instead, her condition worsened. Every day there were new symptoms. In time, she lost feeling in her hands and her feet. Saira was terrified – she needed help.

When Saira arrived at our partner hospital, she received the Multi-Drug Therapy to cure her of leprosy. But news of her diagnosis reached her village and the story spread that Saira had leprosy.

After being discharged, Saira came home only to find her brother blocking her path. Leprosy is a feared disease in Saira's community – many people believe it is a curse from the gods. Giving into this fear, Saira's family forced her to leave.

She returned to the hospital where plans were set in motion to provide Saira a new home with the help of The Mission to End Leprosy. While her new home was constructed, a team from the hospital went into her village to explain the truth about leprosy. This understanding may mean that Saira will be welcome home in the near future.

Because of the support received through The Mission to End Leprosy, Saira is safe and completely cured of leprosy!

Leprosy

Today we know that leprosy is caused by bacteria from the same family as tuberculosis. The infection affects the cool regions of the body: feet, hands, nose, eyes. For many years, people assumed leprosy ate away at healthy flesh.

The truth is that leprosy attacks the nervous system, numbing the nerves. People suffering with leprosy lose their feeling of pain. They can pick up a hot kettle or walk on sharp stones without feeling a thing, this leaves them prone to damage.

But the body still reacts. Untreated wounds fester and infections worsen, even leading to amputation. Classic symptoms of leprosy include the clawing of the hands and feet and the inability to blink, leading to blindness. If left untreated, leprosy will lead to a life of disability.

In 1982, Dr. Vincent Barry and a team of researchers at Trinity College, Dublin, discovered a cure for leprosy! For the first time in history, people with leprosy had the hope of a cure. But the stigma of leprosy is slow to change.

> Leprosy is most prevalent in regions of intense poverty. These regions struggle to overcome major barriers: sanitation, education, safe water and employment.

Families, friends and neighbours are afraid. People are hesitant to be diagnosed. They are afraid that if their community discovers they have leprosy, they will ask them to leave.

The most important action is to seek treatment as soon as symptoms appear. We’re helping to educate communities so people come to our partner hospitals immediately. Because of our supporters, we’re able to provide all medical treatment free of charge.

Leprosy is the oldest known communicable disease in our world.

For centuries the curse of leprosy has been feared. For generations people affected by leprosy had no hope – just the consolation and kindness of faithful caregivers. There was no cure, only the ongoing deterioration of feet, hands and facial features.

Thanks to a discovery at Trinity College, Dublin, a cure is available. We are proud to play our part in making that cure available to 15 million people since the 1980s.

Bailey and Pim

SERVING SINCE 1874

THE mission TO END LEPROSY

www.tmtel.org

What started as a vision of Wellesley Bailey, his wife Alice and their friends Charlotte, Jane and Isabella Pim, has grown exponentially since 1874. Now known as The Mission to End Leprosy, this Irish organisation continues to treat and prevent leprosy and a range of other tropical illnesses across Africa and Asia.

At Bailey and Pim, we pay homage to these extraordinary visionaries of the past. All our profits are donated to The Mission to End Leprosy, continuing the work of Bailey and Pim.

Your patronage is valued as each time you visit us, you’re helping to bring hope and a cure to people suffering with leprosy and related diseases of poverty.

We invite you to join us as we cure people with leprosy. Your gift of €150 or €3/week cures 1 person.