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Moral march to movement's half-century

Walter Schwarz, Religious Affairs Correspondent

MORAL Rearmament — the movement that tries to instil "absolute moral standards" — celebrates its 50th anniversary today with a day-long meeting and prayer service at

London and meetings throughout the world.

The movement has 800 fulltime staff and thousands of part-time volunteers in Europe, the US Asia and Africa

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Income in Britain totalled £802,000 last year. In London, MRA stages religious drama at the Palace Theatre, which it

owns, and publishes a magazine, For a Change.

relations".

The movement developed from the Oxford Group, founded in 1921 by Frank Buchman, a US-born preacher. He launched MRA at a public meeting held by East London mayors at East Ham in 1938.

The chairman at the meeting, Mr Bill Jaeger, now aged 76, said this week that he still worked for MRA's trade union wing to "instil the right attitudes and motives in labour