

Get involved!

Crosslinks exists to help people get involved in God's mission.

How can you play a part this year? →



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1. Centenary Celebration Service



In October, we're marking our big birthday with two celebratory services.

Join us on 6 October in London or 15 October in Northern Ireland. At both of these events, Christopher Ash will give a bible talk and we'll hear encouragements and news from our past and present gospel workers across the globe. The service will be followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments.

LONDON

When? Thursday 6 October 2022, 6pm

Where? Dundonald Church, Raynes Park

Speaker: Christopher Ash

NORTHERN IRELAND

When: Saturday 15 October 2022, 6.30pm

Where: St Anne's Drumglass Parish, Dungannon

Speaker: Christopher Ash

Details and booking info at crosslinks.org/events

2. Pray

Do join us on the third Monday of the month for our online prayer meeting.



We meet together for an hour to be encouraged from God's word, hear an interview with a current mission partner and to pray for their ministry and wider needs from across the Crosslinks family.

For more details go to crosslinks.org/events

Please also pray using our daily prayer diary (available via social media, PrayerMate or in print). It contains up-to-date, specific prayer requests from the front line and is a great resource to guide your prayers for God's mission.



3. Give

Under God, Crosslinks has existed for 100 years thanks to the generous partnership of churches and individuals like you.

On top of generous giving to mission partners (which goes towards their personal and ministry costs) we need financial gifts to sustain the work of the many Crosslinks projects and bursaries that we support.

Also, our central costs are only partially covered by gifts to mission partners. Central costs include all that the UK staff team do, such as administration, pastoral support and church visits.

Please consider a gift towards these needs at crosslinks.org/give



4. Go

We love sending men and women overseas, both short-term and long-term.



There's no better time to get the ball rolling than in our centenary year. You might have an idea of where you want to serve, or we can help find a placement that matches your skills and interests.

Explore some current options at crosslinks.org/go

Talk to your church leaders then get in touch at crosslinks.org/enquire

Opportunities you can take part in include:

- Teaching at a bible college in The Gambia, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Chile, Kenya, India or Latin America.
- Pastoring a church in Ethiopia, the Canadian Arctic, Tanzania, South Africa, Western Australia or the Czech Republic.
- Evangelism and discipleship among students in Portugal, the Czech Republic or Thailand.

Plus many more!



Crosslinks Centenary



Celebrating
100 years of Crosslinks



Crosslinks celebrates its centenary on 27 October 2022.

That's 100 years of taking God's word to God's world!

The society began in 1922 as the Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society. The inclusion of 'bible' emphasised the need for all members and missionaries to uphold the authority of scripture as God's word – in the face of those who were seeking to undermine it. The word 'churchmen' was added as a reminder that the society belonged to the Church and churchgoers across the British Isles. The society became Crosslinks in the 1990s.

Over the last century, 1,420 men and women have been sent out through Crosslinks. Their reflections tell a story of the Lord's faithfulness to his servants and how he is bringing about a great harvest through his steadfast labourers.

1920s

'Perhaps the most striking thing of the year is the waking up to the fact of the colossal nature of the task set before us, as well as of one's own insufficiency. Our medical work rapidly broke down barriers of suspicion. We were frequently called to houses where patients were too ill to come. Our friend who usually accompanied us to interpret was once heard to describe my office as "Assistant to Lord Jesus" – an office I greatly long to fulfil! I have the inestimable privilege of preaching the gospel in an unevangelised area, but we need more and more the grace of humility that the Lord may be able to use us effectively.'

AT Houghton, Myanmar, 1924 – 1940.



1960s

'I remember one week-long mission trip to the village of Karenga. The greatest benefit of all was perhaps to the missionaries. We went at the end of a busy term feeling physically tired and spiritually inadequate for the task. We came away relaxed and renewed in spirit. The mission week had brought us back to the basic truths about the Christian life and showed us again God's purpose and love for us.'

Mary Morris Jones, Uganda, 1957 – 1965.



'My work was to point nominal Christians to Christ and help them read the Bible for themselves. Life was hard, especially in the heat of summer. We'd make hour-long journeys on tough roads to reach the villages but we were always conscious of the Lord's presence. He'd encourage us as we saw people understanding that God loved them when no-one else cared.'

Joy Carr, India, 1958 – 1966.

1990s

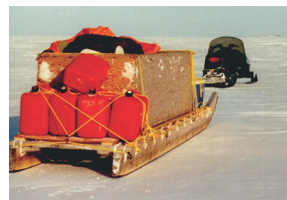
'We went to the Arctic because we felt we had something to give back for all the wonderful things that God had done for us. And yet, we ended up giving very little, only receiving. It was a privilege to share the Inuit's lives for a little while. We did an ordinary job in an extraordinary place.'

Kit Maclachlan, Canadian Arctic, 1992 – 1998.



'We learnt that the Lord enables his very ordinary ministers to do new things in unaccustomed ways beyond their expectations. We saw that there is nowhere on earth that Jesus is not present.'

Michael Maclachlan, Canadian Arctic, 1992 – 1998.



2010s

'Being on the receiving end of being supported financially by other Christians is immensely humbling, encouraging and joy-giving. It makes me marvel at what the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ does in uniting us and causing us to share what he has entrusted to us.'

Nerena Neathercoat, South Africa, 2006 – 2022.



2020s

'Nothing could get us ready for moving to Chile: learning a language, social revolution, being exposed to tear gas, running away from riots with the kids, half the metros burnt down, plus COVID. It was the perfect storm for struggling. There were definitely times when I wasn't smiling but I can look back and say that God is really good, really kind and really wise. Yes I probably would have done it differently if I was him, but I would have done it worse!'

Matt Pope, Chile, 2019 – present.

1930s

'I feel a greater love for the Inuit each time I go among them, they are a most lovable people. Men sometimes grow impatient at what they consider God's slowness but those rest periods are necessary for later fruitage. Nothing of serious import should be rushed.'

Jack Turner, Arctic, 1929 – 1947.



1950s

'The Lord does not often go in for 'quick fixes'. Miracles do happen but progress which lasts he brings about through prayer and patience. My ministry was to encourage the Christian families to reach out into the district with the gospel and establish new centres of witness for Christ. I learnt to accept a long-term view. I also saw that the Lord loves to do the unexpected – when things didn't turn out the way I had planned, he had something better in mind for us.'

Bob Beak, Kenya, 1953 – 1969 and 1984 – 1989.



1970s

'We preached and taught and tried to plant churches. It was amazing that God chose me to be his servant. However I know that without his mercy, love, faithfulness and constant grace, nothing lasting would happen. He taught me that apart from him I can do nothing.'

Prudence Irwin, Kenya, 1964 – 1978.



1980s

'My time in Kenya taught me the importance of relationship within the community. The Lord was my constant protector, provider and enabler.'

Mary Sergel, Kenya, 1981 – 1988.



'I learnt about the great and supportive nature of the body of Christ and the privilege of being part of the missionary community.'

Karen Stickley, Tanzania, 1984 – 1987.

2000s

'The Lord taught us again and again that he is always faithful – that he is carrying out work which he invites us to join and despite our weaknesses he is able to bear fruit through us. We learnt that you need a combination of prayer, courage and humility to do pioneer work in difficult situations.'

Andrew and Camilla Symes, South Africa, 1992 – 2006.



'The Lord taught me about true dependency on him. Our lives, health and everything else come from him – something the Tanzanians are so aware of. Seeing this made me more prayerful. One student had no money for a bus fare so walked 20km by foot to come to college. Another couldn't afford the study fees so arrived with a bag of maize to pay for his fees. They were keen to study and made sacrifices to do so.'

Jo Sayer, Tanzania, 1997 – 2006.

'God taught us to be patient when we wanted to run away and to endure when our work dissolved into nothing. When our teammates were expelled from the country our small but thriving church fell apart. We were discouraged. It took three years for the church to start growing again but prayers were answered and many souls came into the church.'

Mike and Safaa Cloud, North Africa, 1996 – 2010.



'Despite all the challenges and setbacks, it is so apparent that God was in the midst of it all, working out his sovereign plan for the good of his people and for his glory. And in that we rejoice.'

Joe Clarke, Portugal, 2015 – present.

'When asked about newcomers' ministry in Europe the parable of the sower comes to mind. The seed of the gospel is sown among them without us knowing what type of ground it is landing on. It is rare for this seed to take root and bear fruit but we continue preparing the ground and removing the obstacles to belief. We keep on persevering in sharing our faith trusting that God is opening ears and softening hearts to the truth of his word.'

J, Western Europe, 2002 – present.