



## CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

At various points in the Old Testament, in order to acknowledge what God had done, the people set up a stone as a reminder – Jacob did it after God met with him in his sleep at Bethel for example, and Joshua did it after the people had crossed the River Jordan on dry land (Gen 28:18-19, Joshua 4:5-7). There is a subtle difference though, between this and the way we use statues nowadays to commemorate events or people from the past. On the whole the events we commemorate are definitely in the past – they may still impact our lives now, but they are usually only considered worthy of a statue when they are deemed ‘historical’.

The memorials set up in the Old Testament were much simpler, and put up immediately after something had happened – with the understanding that it didn’t mean the end of the story that they were part of, just a marking of significant moments along the way. So, when Samuel had overseen the beating back of the Philistines in 1 Samuel 12 he set up a stone and called it Ebenezer, which means “Up to this point the Lord has helped us” (1 Sam 7:12).

This newsletter highlights some of our 30th anniversary celebrations, including the wonderful tea party we enjoyed recently (see overleaf). There are still plenty of opportunities to join us in celebrating all that God has done over the last 30 years.

We very much want these celebrations to be in the spirit of these Old Testament memorials – looking back with gratitude, while acknowledging that this isn’t the end of the story. Without a doubt the Lord has helped us. We are trusting Him to continue with us as we move forward, and we’d love you to join us for the journey ahead in whatever way you are able. Thank you for all your support, prayers and encouragement. **Mark CRiBS CEO**

### The impact CRiBS had on me as a child

*“I had the privilege of singing at CRiBS 30th Anniversary Afternoon Tea. CRiBS has a special place in my heart because approximately 25 years ago as a little girl in primary school, I remember Gordon (CRiBS founder) portraying the nativity story through the eyes of a homeless clown and a loaf of bread, a memory that has never left me. I am now a mummy to a three year old son and I am grateful that CRiBS continues to share the truth of the gospel in our local schools in both poignant and relatable ways. When I became a Christian at a young age the CRiBS visits made me feel less alone as a follower of Jesus and less afraid to share my belief.” Kirstie*

### Where CRiBS are working

CRiBS started out working in the London Borough of Bexley, and we remain passionate about the opportunities to serve schools in our Borough – it has also been encouraging to see new doors opening in neighbouring areas – teaching RE, running our Unlimited programme, Moving Up or CAP Money, and performing seasonal productions. You can see the locations and range of schools on the map.



Blue = primary schools in LB of Bexley  
Red = primary schools outside LB of Bexley  
Purple = secondary schools (LB of Bexley and beyond)

#### Prayer Point:

- That opportunities increase, particularly for more schools booking the delivery of Christianity

### Prayer for Schools: Friday 29th Sept '23, 7.30pm

Stone St Mary’s Primary (Horns Cross, Greenhithe, DA9 9EF)  
Albany Park Baptist Church (Stansted Crescent, Bexley, DA5 3JB)



Linking with a national initiative to pray for schools, we are holding a prayer event in two different venues, one in Bexley and one in Dartford, specifically to pray for local schools as well as the work of CRiBS. Please join us at whichever is most local or relevant to you.

This term sees schools preparing to say farewell to their pupils in Year 6. Our workshop, Moving Up, gives time and space for pupils to discuss and resolve worries and questions they may have about their transition to secondary school.



*“It was very enjoyable because it helped me to realise I shouldn’t be scared of secondary school” (Pupil)*  
*“Lots of opportunities to discuss concerns and address questions that children may have” (Teacher)*

#### Prayer Points:

- For the Team to give good wisdom and for the children themselves as they make this big move (including some of the Team’s children).
- For more opportunities to work in secondary schools to continue our link with children.





# CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

To donate to CRiBS  
use the QR code or visit  
[www.cribsonline.org/donate](http://www.cribsonline.org/donate)



[www.cribsonline.org](http://www.cribsonline.org) [info@cribsonline.org](mailto:info@cribsonline.org)



Our Afternoon Tea Party in June, to mark our anniversary, was a joyous event. Many came together for an afternoon of remembrance, thanksgiving and celebration. We were delighted that Gordon Raggett (founder and former CRiBS CEO) was able to come and share about the starting of CRiBS and its impact.

Events such as these cannot happen without many hands and we'd particularly like to thank those who made the birthday cake, the scones, the sandwiches, helped set up, and provided entertainment (Doug Snow and Kate Foot on the piano and The Causeway Revels).

**THANK YOU to those who've raised monies for us thus far this year!!! We'd love to know if you are holding an event or are supporting CRiBS in other ways.**

## Making a difference in our community

As the school year draws to a close and the summer holidays loom closer, churches across the LB of Bexley are coming together to bring the Church into the community. CRiBS will be supporting both Lark in the Park (Sidcup Place) and Spark in the Park (Danson Park). Bring along your families (and look out for members of our team!)

## Prayer Point:

- That all who attend are impacted with the Good News of Jesus and have life-changing experiences.

For more info visit [sparkinthepark.org.uk](http://sparkinthepark.org.uk) & [larksidcup.com](http://larksidcup.com)

**We want to raise  
£30,000**

£1,000 for every year of our  
work in schools

**Can you be part of helping secure CRiBS  
work in schools into the next 30 years?**

**CRiBS**  
LIVING VALLEY & GARDEN

**£10,000  
raised  
so far**

THE GRAHAM FAMILY ARE RUNNING AND SCOOTING PENS  
EMMA (11) & ABE ARE WALKING

**30 MILES FOR 30 YEARS**

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP US CELEBRATE

'Open Garden' held in June

Saturday 17 June 10.00am - 12.00pm

**FUNDRAISING PLANT SALE**

ST PETER'S CHURCH, HEXTABLE

**CRiBS**

**FIONA & PAUL COMPLETED THEIR 10K RACE**

"It was a challenging course (hilly) but we had a great run putting in 59:36 (Paul) & 1:11:04 (Fiona)." **£2000 RAISED (plus gift Aid)**

**PARENT VALLEY 10K**

Like some ideas of how to raise money for CRiBS?

Visit [cribsonline.org/30for30years](http://cribsonline.org/30for30years)

Visit [www.youtube.com/cribscharitabletrust](http://www.youtube.com/cribscharitabletrust) to view our  
'Highlights of the past 30 years' & 'From the CRiBS team: Thank You!'



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