



PIONEER MISSION LEADERSHIP TRAINING

FITTING

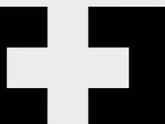
*Put your
pioneer call
into action*

IN IS

OVER-

RATED

**CHURCH
MISSION
SOCIETY**



The prospectus

DREAMER

CON- TENTS

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“We commend the CMS pioneer training as an exemplar for pioneer ministry training.”

Church of England Ministry Division inspection report, 2017

FITTING IN IS OVER- RATED

**All of God's people are called to join
in God's mission, wherever they are.**

We're particularly looking for people like this:

- Those who don't really blend in with the crowd.
- The questioners.
- The quiet and the not-so-quiet revolutionaries.
- The ones whose ideas seem "a bit out there".
- The rebels with causes.

Sound like you?

**Then read on and get in touch:
pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org**



**WHY DO WE NEED
MISSION PIONEERS?**

PIONEER MISSION LEADERSHIP TRAINING

THE PIONEER CALL

*and how to know
if you have it*

*“Pioneering can be
really isolating....
It’s been like a
homecoming to
be in CMS and see
the space that’s
opened up for us.”*

Kim, MA student

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DISCOVER THE FREEDOM OF NOT FITTING IN



**“How did you get here today?”
A seemingly ordinary question.
Yet, when someone asked it
during a CMS pioneer training
session, it kicked off an
extraordinary conversation.**

At this point, the course itself had only been going for a few weeks. Yet one of our pilot students, Andrea from London, described how she was already bored with travelling the same route to Oxford. So that morning, she had tried a different way.

She was not alone. Pretty much everyone else said the same thing; they had turned off their GPS or changed their routes. Just to explore. Just to see what happens when you don't pick the most straightforward path.

And in a sense, that is what pioneering mission is about. You may know the direction you wish to go, but you would like to get there in a more creative way. You want to listen and learn and experiment. You want to put away the map and chart a different course. Because for you, the journey is just as important as the destination.

**This is the pioneer call.
And it can be a real
gift to the church and
to our world. >>**

>> **Yet pioneering is a gift that is often misunderstood.**

We know this from years – make that centuries – of experience. Church Mission Society people today come from a long line of pioneers who refused to settle for the status quo. People like William Wilberforce, John Venn and others who worked together to abolish the slave trade, to fight for the rights of oppressed people at home and to share Jesus with the world.

“Pioneer studies offer me a gateway to challenge, clarify and contribute to ongoing conversations while engaged in active ministry and mission.”

Dupe, MA student

Sure, today they are considered heroes, but in their day lots of people thought they were... well, “freakishly enthusiastic”.

In other words, they didn’t exactly fit in.

Today, we know from listening to our students that pioneering is an adventure, but it can be a lonely one. Which is a shame because pioneering shouldn’t be done alone. One reason why students like our course so much is because of the community that’s created – this is a place where you do fit in!





*“CMS is a safe place to explore pioneering, **a place where people will listen and not judge** even the most off the wall ideas.”*

Sarah, certificate student



Your calling is calling

If you think you might have a pioneering call, email pioneer@churchmissionsociety.org and ask for a course application

PUTTING YOUR PIONEER CALL INTO ACTION

“Teaching was done in a relaxed, creative manner which didn’t feel like hard work at all, and yet I found that my learning and understanding moved on enormously.”

Liane, joined CMS for a single module



How will this course help me? Why study with Church Mission Society, or for that matter, why do a course at all?



■ **Our course is specifically designed** by pioneers for pioneers. You'll get a chance to connect with experienced pioneer practitioners who want to see you flourish and your imagination channelled into action.

■ **Our course is designed** to be flexible, so you don't have to stop doing while you are learning.

■ **Our course will equip** you for groundbreaking, transformational and sustainable mission, giving you what you need to initiate and follow through on mission projects that will help to change lives.

■ **Our course provides** a dynamic, supportive learning community that will be there for you as you process your learning, take risks in mission and reflect on your journey.

*"I feel absolutely that at last, **I am with people who know what I am talking about.** It's like arriving in safe harbour after toiling in stormy seas for so long."*

Jane, diploma student

>> By connecting with Church Mission Society...

you'll gain access to 200+ years of pioneering mission experience, a vast and varied global pioneering network, leading thinkers coming to teach and the Crowther Centre for Mission Education, which houses an extensive mission library and important historical archives. Church Mission Society is also the home of the Anvil Journal of Theology and Mission, on the cutting edge of creative mission thinking. And you'll be the first to be invited to our stimulating Pioneer Conversation Days.

“Our primary distinctive as a course is that we view everything through a missional lens. CMS has 200+ years of cross-cultural mission experience, which is invaluable as we think about pioneering mission in all the cultures and contexts existing in Britain today. I’m constantly inspired by our wide range of students, their willingness to take risks and their sense that anything is possible.”

Dr Cathy Ross, MA course leader



“We found CMS staff and teaching to be of a very high standard. Staff are research active and this feeds into teaching and practice... Students’ own pioneering research is also taken seriously and included in CMS-organised conferences and published books. Courses are led by practitioners as well as academics.”

Church of England Ministry
Division inspection report, 2017

Why not connect

To learn more about Church
Mission Society’s call:
churchmissionsociety.org

PIONEER MISSION LEADERSHIP TRAINING

PATHWAYS AND QUALIFI- CATIONS

“It was great experience for me. I found out how entrepreneurship and mission work together for the Kingdom of God through the programme!”

Ambrose, joined CMS for a single module

DISCOVER THE FREEDOM OF NOT FITTING IN

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The Pioneer Mission Leadership Training programme began with a pilot group of nine students in 2010. Today almost 200 people have completed pioneer training with CMS, and you could join them!

There is a wide array of course options, so pick the pathway that works best for you:

1 INDIVIDUAL MODULES

You don't have to be pursuing an accredited award to participate in the course. Feel free to explore a module like missional entrepreneurship, spirituality and discipleship, or developing worship and ministry in context.

Choose from:

- Pioneer ministry
- Pioneer youth ministry
- Pioneer children and family work

2 CERTIFICATES ACCREDITED BY DURHAM UNIVERSITY THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP WITH RIPON COLLEGE CUDESODON

Earn an accredited certificate in Theology, Ministry and Mission in a specialisation of your choice. Certificate studies encompass six modules and are completed over one to two years.

"As my mission and practice evolves on the ground I increasingly find my space for reflection, challenge and support comes from the CMS community... The training has opened the doors for me to a community of lifelong support, challenge, inspiration, companionship and learning."

Berni, certificate student

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DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY, MINISTRY AND MISSION

Through a partnership with Ripon College Cuddesdon, we offer a diploma from Durham University in theology, ministry and mission. This is comprised of 12 modules over two to three years. Each year includes:

- one day a week at CMS in Oxford (about 30 days a year)
- a residential week
- one weekend visiting other communities or a placement with another community

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THE BA IN THEOLOGY, MINISTRY AND MISSION

Again accredited by Durham University through a partnership with Ripon College Cuddesdon, you can continue on from the diploma to complete a selection of level 6 modules to achieve a BA degree. This can be completed in 12 or 18 months with a combination of study modules and a 12,000–15,000 word dissertation.

5

ORDAINED PIONEER MINISTRY

If you have been selected for training for ordination as a pioneer minister in the Church of England or are in the process of becoming selected, our course is an approved pathway for training. Through a unique partnership

with the Oxford Ministry Course at Ripon College Cuddesdon, you will be part of their learning community as well as the CMS pioneering mission community. This is an exciting combination that has proved to be the right choice for many ordinands.

“I looked briefly at other colleges but the warm welcome, the variety of expressions that pioneers get into and the missionary heritage were an unbeatable combination.”

Chris, pioneer ordinand

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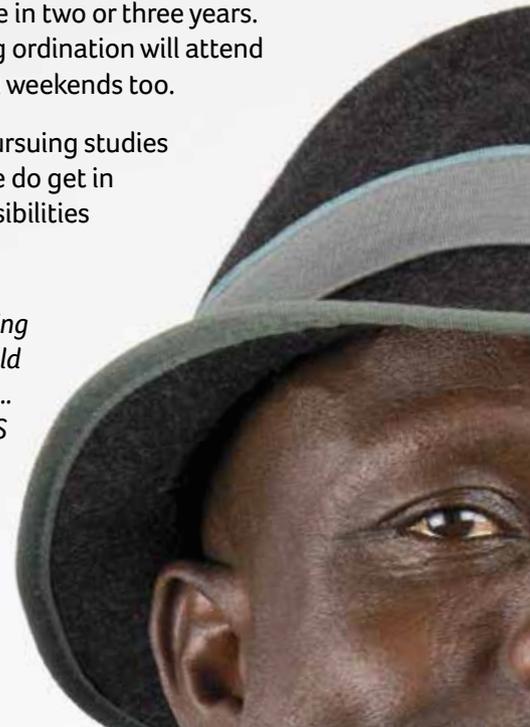
THE MA IN THEOLOGY, MINISTRY AND MISSION

Accredited by Durham University through a partnership with Ripon College Cuddesdon, the programme consists of six modules assessed by a variety of methods and a dissertation of 12,000–15,000 words. Students can complete the programme part time in two or three years. Candidates also pursuing ordination will attend Ripon College residential weekends too.

If you are interested in pursuing studies at a doctoral level, please do get in touch to explore the possibilities we can offer.

“I desired a learning environment where I could ask critical questions... having discovered the CMS pioneer MA, there was really no other choice.”

Tim, MA student





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LICENSED LAY PIONEERS

If ordination isn't for you, but you would still find it worthwhile to have some recognition from the Church of England in your context, you can be admitted into the order lay workers in the Church of England through CMS.

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PIONEER HUBS

Interested in pioneer mission training, but can't commute to Oxford? We are developing pioneer hubs for people like you. The first opened in 2016 as a joint initiative between CMS and the Diocese of Chelmsford. Called the St Cedd Centre for Pioneer Mission, this hub offers a programme especially designed for those already busy with work, community action or church life and ministry. It is divided into six modules, delivered over an 18 month period. Alongside their classroom studies, students work on their own pioneering mission projects locally. Future hubs are being explored across the UK.

“For me, this is the only course I wanted to do, because it’s so mission focused.”

Karlie, lay pioneer

DISCOVER MORE

For more information, faculty bios and to see what other students have to say about the course visit: pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

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drew me to the course:
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very.’**”

Luke, diploma student

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

*“Training at CMS comes off the back of over 200 years of developing cross-cultural missional practice, and all the lessons learned from that. As a pioneer, it has opened up my vocation in fresh ways and given me a language to understand **the urgent need for innovation and creative thinking in mission and ministry within today’s society.**”*

Susie, pioneer ordinand

You can study a wide range of modules, at a variety of levels:



1 CERTIFICATE MODULES:

Introduction to the Bible – an overview of the purpose, context and content of the Old and New Testaments, becoming familiar with approaches to biblical study and considering how to engage biblical texts in mission and ministry.

Introduction to Church History – an overview of church history and its social, cultural and political context, helping you to see how history might have shaped your practice and experience.

Foundations for Theology and Reflective Practice – an introduction to contextual theology, principles and methods of reflection, and their place in mission and practice.

Pastoral Care, Ethics and Ministry – an introduction to key issues in both pastoral care and ethics, giving you the tools and theological framework to approach pastoral situations, as well as the space to reflect on your own views and experiences.

Mission and Evangelism – puts the Bible in conversation with culture to help us gain greater understanding about our own practice of mission, looks at historical trends

and current approaches to engaging with and witnessing to the world around us, along with practical engagement in mission.

Foundations for Reflective Practice in Context – this module joins up with a placement in order to allow you to reflect on your own work in practice, and gives you a context to implement your learning from other modules.

Values, Policy and Practice in Children and Family Work – a foundation course in ministry with children and families, including context, professional standards (including legal frameworks), principles and values involved, and the opportunity to reflect on practices and principles in this area of ministry.

Values, Policy and Practice in Youth Work – a course exploring our understanding of the context of youth work and the values, practices and legal frameworks it entails from a Christian perspective, as well as considering methodologies for working with young people.

Basic Playwork Skills in Children's Work Practice – an introduction to good practice in relationships with children and families, and to explore the principles and processes involved in using and leading play in your children's work practice.

Basic Youth Work Skills and Practice

– an introduction to good practice in youth work, including key skills in relationships, communication, teaching, learning styles, administration and leadership, as well as the chance to develop these skills in your ministry setting.

Spirituality and Discipleship – explores different approaches to discipleship, considering various Christian spiritual practices and biblical models for prayer and engaging practically with these in your own life.

2 DIPLOMA MODULES:

(Certificate modules, plus a selection from the following:)

Bible in Context – considers different approaches to interpreting the Bible and how to read in light of both its original and subsequent contexts, looks at how the Old and New Testaments can be related to each other, and applies this learning to your own engagement with the Bible.

Leadership and Theology for Ministry and Mission – explores theories and skills in leadership and team working, considering them from a theological and mission focused perspective, integrating biblical and pastoral approaches to leadership, and reflecting on how these can inform your practice.

Developing Ministry and Worship in

Context – this module links with your own work or placement to deepen your knowledge and understanding of Christian worship, develop practical skills, and equip you in leading worship, preaching and pastoral care in your context.

Mission Entrepreneurship: Principles – an introduction to social enterprise and its relevance in mission, theological reflection on the nature of entrepreneurship, and the opportunity to learn practical skills to set up and manage a pioneering mission project. (This is a residential module also known as Make Good.)

Mission Entrepreneurship: Practice – putting the learning from Mission Entrepreneurship: Principles into practice, this module gives you the chance to undertake a pioneer mission project under the supervision of an experienced practitioner.

Missional Theology in Global Context – considers theology and approaches to mission from global perspectives and examines contemporary culture, seeing how important understanding context is for our own missional practice.

Missional Ecclesiology – an introduction to historical and theological perspectives on ecclesiology and the ways in which the missional church has consistently implemented new approaches, including the opportunity to see how this works out in pioneering settings.





“The CMS Pioneer Course has been amazing in that it is an entire curriculum built around the idea of forming leaders whose identity is found in being God’s people on mission.”

James, MA student

3

BA MODULES:

(Certificate modules, plus a selection from the following:)

Issues in Biblical Theology – explores key themes and critically examines key thinkers in the study of both Old and New Testaments.

Justice, Environment and Mission in Global Context – examines Christian engagement with issues of justice, development and the environment, addressing theology and missional practice, and offers the opportunity to reflect on the implications in your own context.

The Creative Arts and Christian Ministry and Mission – aimed at mission or ministry practitioners, this module explores the potential of engagement with the arts to express, explore, shape, nourish and critique faith.

Theological Perspectives: Community Development – offers space for dialogue and theological reflection on approaches to community development, as well as studying specific initiatives.

Chaplaincy and Contemporary Christian Mission – explores the distinctive ministry of chaplaincy in mission, including the opportunity to experience a chaplaincy context.

Islam and Christian-Muslim Engagement – explores theological and practical issues in Christian-Muslim engagement to equip you for encounter in a range of mission and ministry contexts.



4 MA MODULES:

Reflective Practice: Leadership and Collaboration – equips you to discern appropriate models of leadership and evaluate your own experience in leadership. Material is drawn from both secular and Christian contexts.

Anthropology and Christian Mission – an introduction to culture, context and worldview. You will develop your own reflexive capacity in relation to your cultural background and behaviour.

Research and Reflection: Resources and Methods – an introduction to various research methods and approaches to theological reflection. There will be an opportunity to design a research project.

Mission and Ecclesiology in Contemporary Context – explores the role and mission of the church both historically and in the contemporary world, bringing your experience into conversation with various perspectives.

Reflective Practice: Mission and Evangelism – an opportunity to gain a solid grasp of missiology and to engage with current mission issues through exploration of themes and metaphors. It will also help you to reflect missiologically on your own context and experience.

Theologies in Global Perspective – helps us to engage in theology in the current global context by examining global perspectives on the Bible, faith and mission.

Dissertation – this is completed in the third year of study. It is a piece of work of 12,000–15,000 words enabling you to follow an area of interest in depth.



CONSIDERING THE MA COURSE? CHECK THIS OUT

“The roots of pioneering ministry are in the missionary movement and therefore CMS is uniquely qualified to train Church of England [pioneers] for the urgent missionary task in the UK. **CMS pioneers will benefit from the years of experience in cross-cultural mission** that is CMS’s expertise and the church will gain many well equipped and specially trained individuals for 21st century mission.”

Rachel Jordan-Wolf, national adviser for mission and evangelism for the Church of England

KEEP UP TO DATE

These modules may be updated, or new ones offered, so do have a look on our website for the most up-to-date list: pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

PIONEER MISSION LEADERSHIP TRAINING

THE PIONEER CALL IN ACTION

So what kinds of things do pioneers do? Here are some stories about our students, and what they have done next.

DISCOVER THE FREEDOM OF NOT FITTING IN

ORN

GOD'S

CHURCH FOR RAGAMUFFINS

The Church for Ragamuffins is an innovative style of church in Luton set up by Luke Larner. It was started to offer those coming out of addiction recovery a space to explore their questions of faith.

Luke explained that “because the standard 12 step recovery process for addicts is designed to help people acknowledge that they are powerless over their addiction and that only a higher power can set them free”, the link with Christianity is unsurprising. “I believe that God reaches out to people as they go through the recovery process to bring healing and restoration,” he said.

But church can present an extra challenge. “They have an experience of God, then they turn up at church and get overwhelmed by the language, structure and format of the

service... We had to work out a style that bridges the gap between real life and church language and culture.”

Most of the church members are recovering from addiction, homeless or living on the margins. Some have a short attention span, are illiterate or struggle with authority, but still they are finding faith, lives are being transformed and a number have been baptised.

“Not long ago some of our members were begging in order to feed their drug habit, but now we are seeing people encounter God and their lives are changed.”

PATHWAYS TO A NEW ADVENTURE

Sue Steer started pioneer training to help make sense of her experience and ended up stepping out into an even bigger project from scratch!

It began when Sue was challenged about what it meant to be an active Christian in her everyday life. After going to a conference about how churches could make a difference in their communities, she started looking at how dilapidated and underused church buildings could become of use to her local community.

Sue led a team to raise funds, refurbish the buildings and partner with the local community to form Pathways. They carried out an audit to explore local needs and made

plans, though these did not always turn out in the way the church and team had envisaged.

As Sue was led by God to listen to and love the community, groups of people began using the building and were supported and befriended. The first few years were an emotional rollercoaster as some groups succeeded and others failed. After that, things settled as the church began to find its place again in the community, and saw valuable relationships form and people's faith develop.



One thing Sue expected was crossover from Pathways to people coming to church. That never really happened, and this was one reason why she started the pioneer course with Church Mission Society – to try to understand what God was up to. She concludes, “Now I think our church has grown, but in different ways. Church happens all week, through our activities and certainly we see people growing in their relationship with Jesus, just not in a conventional way.”

After her training, Sue felt ready for a new challenge, as she had been equipped through her experience and her pioneer training at CMS to take on an exciting role that she was now qualified for.

The new venture is about starting from scratch... again. Sue is a pioneer community worker in a brand new community. So far, there are fewer than a hundred houses occupied, but there is a steady stream of people moving in. Sue’s new mission field is a place called Lubbesthorpe on the outskirts of Leicester. The plan is to build a new town of 4,250 houses along with schools, workplaces, community facilities, shops and green spaces.

Sue explains, “My role is simply to build community... The hope is that eventually some sort of missional community will be born but

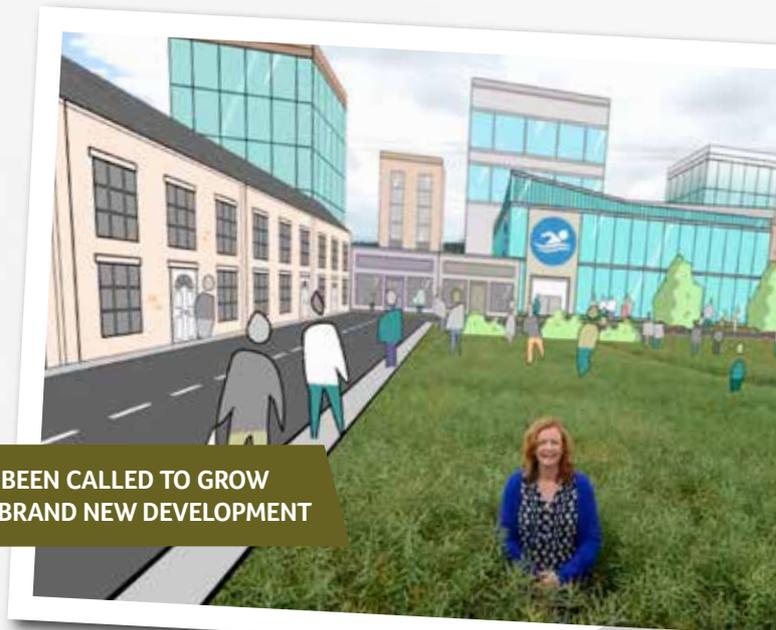
when and what it will look like will be decided by God in his time.”

The foundations of this community have taken the form of a “Community Hub” – a temporary building that Sue is working on making home-like to welcome residents, and to host coffee, cake and small gatherings. This is the main community space (along with a garden in which Sue hopes to start a growing project) until the school is completed in 2019, and main community facilities several years after that. At present, Sue is working with the residents who have moved in to start community groups – so far they are looking at a toddler group and a running club.

Alongside this, there are the makings of small missional community which is made up residents who are interested in talking about what faith means in Lubbesthorpe. Exciting!



**PIONEER SUE HAS BEEN CALLED TO GROW
COMMUNITY IN A BRAND NEW DEVELOPMENT**



CHERISH

Following a career in retail management, **Erika Biscoe** trained as a nail technician. Her dream for pursuing a ministry around her manicure table emerged while she was helping to lead Kidz Church.

“The girls would eagerly queue up at the end of the session and ask for their nails to be painted. It wasn’t long before parents were joining the queue, too.”

This led her to start offering free manicures in the community room of her church in Bicester.

“I find that people feel safe and able to relax while I do their manicures. Spending time one-to-one breaks down barriers and makes it easier for people to open up and talk about life and faith and even ask for prayer.”

During her pioneer ordination training with Church Mission Society, Erika had a breakthrough during a session on missional entrepreneurship: “An idea for pioneering a course for young people started to crystallise in my mind and spirit.”

While doing manicures, Erika had connected with many young people with low self-esteem who talked about self-harming and suicidal thoughts. Wanting to go deeper than just doing their nails, Erika decided to develop a six-week course for teenagers that combined the practical skills of doing a manicure with spiritual teaching from the book of Esther. Her course, Cherish: Made for Such a Time as This, was born. In between learning how to do manicures, the participants look at verses from Esther and talk about life issues. In the process each has found renewed confidence and her own voice.

Cherish is now going global and is currently being translated into Portuguese. It will be piloted by CMS mission partner Debora Santana in Goiania, Brazil, as she starts a beauty salon for people living on the streets.



***“I find that
people feel safe
and able to relax
while I do their
manicures.”***

Erika, pioneer ordinand

SPACE TO BREATHE

Andy Freeman runs his own Community Interest Company called Space to Breathe, which, after years of being a side project, became his full time job after completing his MA with CMS in July 2017. This company is all about asking “Is there more to life?”

Andy has had a long background in working with New Monasticism and spirituality but was particularly interested in those who connected with a non-religious spirituality.

His time at CMS crystallised these ideas into concerted entrepreneurial proposals but also a theological and missional foundation from which to build. Central to this was his week on the Make Good course as part of his studies where he pitched Space to Breathe as a company for the first time.

Andy’s dissertation was also important for him as it focused around ecclesiology and asked deep questions about what outcomes his work needed to have to imagine not just as a business but also authentic missional outcomes. He commented, “I loved the course – its variety and depth was a wonderful adventure and those I studied with were wonderful co-travellers... I finished with a deeper and more theologically rigorous view of my mission and calling and equipped for the future.”

Andy is now based in Sheffield and works with a number of organisations, groups and individuals providing authentic spiritual solutions for everyday problems.

You can find out more about his work at www.spacetobreathe.eu

PIONEERS IN ACTION

Find more stories at
pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

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DISCOVER THE FREEDOM OF NOT FITTING IN



HOW DO I GET IN- VOLVED?

Are you a dreamer, a doer, an imager, an activist, in other words, a pioneer? Or do you have a hunch you might be? Then join us and be set free to put your call into action.

More stories, module descriptions and information about open days, costs and timetables can be found on our website:
pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org

GET IN TOUCH

To start a conversation, email:
pioneer@churchmissionsociety.org

“I think every system, organisation or culture gets stuck with business as usual and needs people to see new possibilities that are different to the way things are and the church is no different. **Pioneers are people who see new possibilities and then they are able to make them happen. We sometimes call them ‘dreamers who do.’**”

Jonny Baker, pioneer course leader



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