Following a general election with a record low turnout (only 25% of the electorate voted for the government!) it is clear that ordinary people feel increasingly marginalised from the corridors of power. Doctors too, feel increasingly under attack in the wake of Shipman, Alder Hey and Bristol, and under more pressure with the burgeoning bureaucracy, paperwork, government directives and regulation. 85% of the country’s 24,000 GPs responding to the GPC survey are ready to resign from the NHS and many of us feel that we are expected, like God’s people in an earlier age, to ‘make bricks without straw’. The moral climate gives little reason for encouragement either - and with the legalisation of euthanasia in the Netherlands, the lowering of the age of gay consent, the rubber-stamping of embryo stem cell cloning, the free availability of the morning after pill without prescription and government aid to the world’s poor at a record low - all in the last six months - we wonder what the next few years have in store. Can things get worse?

The cryptic title of Andrew Ferguson’s Rendle Short Lecture at this April’s National Conference comes from an obscure part of 1 Chronicles which details the characteristics of King David’s army tribe by tribe:

‘...men of Isaachar who understood the times and knew what Israel should do’
(1 Ch 12:32)

Andrew challenged Christian doctors to be ‘men of Isaachar’ who understand our times and know what to do. The message of how to be God’s people in a State which has jettisoned Christian faith and morality was further hit home in a superb series of talks on the life of Daniel by Professor Hugh Williamson. I chose the same theme for my own CMF update and it was also picked up in a series of presentations on the NHS Plan and Overseas Mission. At times like this it is sobering to remind ourselves that God is sovereign over all these forces that feel out of control. From the book of Daniel we learn that fire can’t burn, lions can’t bite and Kings can’t rule without his say so. ‘The Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes’ (Daniel 4:25). Even Satan himself must ask God’s permission to act (Job 1:12; Luke 22:31) - like a dog on a leash.

Of course this does not guarantee us a trouble-free life. Far from it! God’s promise to his people is rather that he will be with us in the struggles, and bring us through them into his eternal Kingdom, come what may. In the midst of all the challenges we face, God is working his purposes out. Jesus Christ is building his church, the new heaven and earth is coming and God’s victory is certain. And as his people we are called to live holy and godly lives and to stir up and encourage one another as we see that day drawing near (2 Peter 3:10-13; Hebrews 10:24,25).

CMF News is a small part of that stirring up and encouragement. We hope you like the new format. Please let us know what you think. The previous newsletter was looking increasingly like one of those official drug bulletins that we consign to the bin after a brief scan. In the words of Editorial Board chairman Andrew Brown it was ‘not really helping us fellowship’. The students’ newsletter Nucleus News was worse. A facelift for both was long overdue, so with the welcome savings on Triple Helix last year (we were £14,000 within budget!) we have launched CMF News which will go to doctors and students alike. Please use the contents as fuel for prayer and as an encouragement to stand together as ‘men and women of Isaachar’ in this generation.

Peter Saunders
CMF General Secretary
New Appointments

New Irish Staffworker

Tim Lewis is our new student staffworker in Ireland, following on from Roselle Ward. Tim qualified at Trinity College Dublin in 1995 and went on to complete his FRCSI whilst doing some part-time training at the new Irish Bible Institute. He is well known to Irish CMF students. Tim’s post with CMF will be five sessions per week for two years and will involve encouraging Christian students in evangelism, discipleship and mission at the five Irish medical schools. Tim is seeking to do an MSc in Community Health at the same time, whilst his wife Julie completes her paediatric training. Tim and Julie have Africa in their sights long-term.

New Northern Staffworker

Malcolm Savage is our new North England staffworker. Malcolm qualified at St George’s in London in 1999 and has completed his PRHO and first year SHO posts, planning to specialise in accident and emergency. As a student he was CU president at St Georges and later chairman of the CMF Students’ Co-ordinating Committee. Malcolm’s post with CMF will be full-time for a year, covering Newcastle, Leeds, Sheffield, Manchester and Liverpool. Malcolm is married to Rachel, also an SHO, and they live in Wakefield.

New BAC Chairman

Renal Physician Tony Wing retires as chair of CMF’s Business Advisory Committee this summer after 25 years at the helm and Tony Bell, Professor of Neurosurgery at Addinson Morley, takes up the reins.

New CMF Chairman

Surrey GP Liz Walker takes over from Kevin Vaughan as CMF Executive Chairman this summer. Liz was a previous chairman of the Junior Doctors’ committee and her husband Simon, an accountant, is one of CMF’s business advisors. Simon and Liz have two children. Chairman elect (for 2003) is Chris Summerton, Consultant Gastroenterologist in Manchester.

Members’ News

Congratulations

On their appointments

- Michael Chan: People’s Peer
- Paul Main: Associate Director of Postgraduate General Practice Education in the South West Deanery
- Phil Jones: Senior Lecturer in Medicine, Addenbrooke’s Hospital

On their postgraduate qualifications

- Sarah Ross: MRCP
- Pauline Wilson: MRCP

Obituaries

We report the deaths of the following members and offer sympathy to their families:

- John Griffiths (q Barts 1949; d May 2001) was senior consultant surgeon at Barts and the Royal Marsden and treated Sir Anthony Eden. He had a distinguished career in teaching research and in colorectal surgery and was equally respected as a Christian thinker, an occasional preacher in both English and Welsh, and a regular contributor to debates about the place of Christianity in modern life.
- James McCVicker (q Dublin 1962; d 13 January 2001) took early retirement due to ill-health but was a CMF member for 38 years.
- Coralie Rendle-Short OBE (q Bristol 1936; d 20 March 2001) founded the department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Makerere University, Uganda and later served as Professor of O&G at the Haile Selassie University in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She spent the last 25 years of her life with her sister in Cambridge, and despite developing severe deafness remained cheerful throughout, completing a Diploma in Theology at London Bible College at the age of 84.

Movements

Outgoing

- Ruth Butlin (CARDIFF) to India
- Helen Hanson (LEEDS) to Nepal
- Valerie Inchley (LIVERPOOL) to Nepal
- Sharon Kane (MANCHESTER) to Zimbabwe
- Andrew Ostins (BIRMINGHAM) to Zambia
- Andrew Stewart (EDINBURGH) to Netherlands
- Hui-Tai Tan (GLASGOW) to Australia

Homecoming

- Katrina Butterworth (NEWCASTLE) from Nepal
- Alice Flewett (ROYAL FREE) from Niger Republic
- Helen Johnston (EDINBURGH) from Nepal
- Stephen Lown and Joy Herd (NOTTINGHAM) from USA
- Andrew Perkins (ROYAL FREE) from Mali
- Mark & Teresa Pietroni (THE LONDON HOSPITAL) from Bangladesh
- Stephen Richardson (ST. THOMAS’) from Gibraltar
- Anita Stronach (BIRMINGHAM) from Canada
- Alison Talbert (THE LONDON HOSPITAL) from Tanzania
- Rachel Tarling (EDINBURGH) from Tanzania

Change of Address Abroad

- Andrew Loke (GLASGOW) from Australia to Malaysia
- Ernst Rettedal from Norway to Tanzania
- Ian Smith (LEEDS) from Switzerland to France
- Carolyn Tipton (THE LONDON HOSPITAL) from France to Chad
Conferences and Events

CMF Autumn Conferences

The autumn conference season is almost upon us and publicity will be mailed shortly: Weekend regional conferences include Northern Irish (5-7 October), Northern (12-14 October), South-East (9-11 November) and Scottish (16-18 November) and there will be Day Conferences in the Midlands (3 November), Oxford (10 November) and Cardiff (17 November).

Conference on Morning-After-Pill – Wednesday 11 July

Saturday Night and Sunday Morning is the innovative title of a conference organised by the Centre for Bioethics and Public Policy (CBPP) on the ethical and public implications of the morning-after-pill. The meeting will be chaired by Dr Andrew Fergusson former General Secretary of CMF and Main Speakers include Dr Graham Barker from Schering Health Care Limited and Dr Trevor Stammers, Tutor in General Practice at St George’s Medical School. Venue is the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 (south of Lambeth Bridge). Further details from CBPP.

ICM Courses on International Child Health

The Centre for International Child Health (CICH) aims to equip professionals working in the areas of mother and child health and of disability with the appropriate skills, knowledge and attitudes to manage effective community-based programmes in developing countries and to contribute to teaching, research and/or policy developments in their own specific field.

All the programmes at CICH are rated excellent (23/24) by the QAA, the UK Government’s teaching quality assessment body. For information on the full range of long and short courses available in 2001/2002 please contact the CICH, Institute of Child Health, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust, University College London, 30 Guildford Street, London WC1N 1EH. Tel 020 7905 2119. Fax 020 7404 2062. Email cichcour@ich.ucl.ac.uk. Website www.cich.ich.ucl.ac.uk.

Course on Care for the Dying

St Francis Hospice Education Services, in collaboration with South Bank University, is running courses on ‘the Care of the Dying Person and their family’ in Romford in 2001/2002. The first module (October/November 2001) deals with grief, loss and bereavement and Psychosocial Aspects of Care; and the second (January/February 2002) with Pain and Symptom Management in Palliative Care. For further information and application form contact Jan McManemin, Education Secretary. Tel 01708 758641.

Publications

New Publications Assistant Sought

We are seeking a new publications assistant to help take a number of publications projects forward. The work will include literature research, writing, sub-editing, desk-top publishing, web authoring and other work on CMF’s periodicals, website and co-publications. It would suit a young graduate with a first degree in philosophy, ethics or life sciences. Starting salary would be around £11,000-£13,000 depending on qualifications and experience of candidate. All enquiries to Peter Saunders at the CMF Office.

300,000 Website Visitors!

The numbers keep going up and up! CMF’s internet homepages have now had over 300,000 visitors from 100+ countries since they were launched at www.cmf.org.uk in June 1997. Most visitors are non-Christians seeking information on ethical issues and the most popular page is ‘twelve reasons why euthanasia should not on ethical issues and the most popular page is

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CMF Courses in Schools

Last Autumn we sent complimentary copies of the first 10 CMF Files on medical ethics to the heads of Religious Studies in the UK’s 2,000 largest secondary schools. These have been well-received and well over a hundred schools have ordered copies of the CMF CD-ROM or other publications subsequently. So, last term we sent complimentary copies of the CD-ROM and the first 13 CMF Files to 400 Regional Religious Studies Advisors. Issues of Medical ethics come up frequently in school RS curricula and the CMF website has been one of the first ports of call. Having a CD-ROM in a school library means that our material is even more accessible and that more students and teachers will be reading it.

Matters of Life and Death in India

In a joint venture with IVP and Emfi, our sister-organisation in India, we have recently sent 500 copies of John Wyatt’s Matters of Life and Death to that country for distribution to Christian doctors. Due to the generosity of IVP, and some good management by John Alford, Office Manager, we were able to do it (including freight) for only £1,200 (retail cost of the books alone would be £5,000). Matters of Life and Death is now available in French and work is proceeding to produce Spanish and Russian editions.

Publications Fund needs support

As a result of some new projects, and the fact that we haven’t specifically appealed for some time, the CMF publications fund is currently at a low ebb. If you would like to help top it up, so that we can continue with more projects like those on this page, then please feel welcome!

Doctors’ Life Support - Could you write a short devotion?

The Doctors’ Life Support is a daily devotional for Christian doctors published jointly by CMF and ICMDA, which is appreciated all over the world. ICMDA plan to release a new edition soon but need 180 more short contributions to complete it. Could you write one?

The standard format follows that of the previous edition (Go to the CMF Homepage at www.cmf.org.uk and hit ‘Thought for Today’) and further advice to authors is available from ICMDA at 82/88 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1LQ. Tel 01223 321715. Email icmda@compuserve.com.
Looking for a GP post or locum?
The CMF GP Bureau has lists of principals looking for partners who are members of CMF, of doctors seeking partnerships, and of trainers seeking trainees. Please send full details of what you have to offer/what you are looking for. Please mark all correspondence ‘Personal’ and send to: Dr Greg Foulwell (Personal), Ian Gow Memorial Health Centre, Milfoil Drive, Langney, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN23 8RR. Please send SAE for a questionnaire to help match applications with vacancies.

Doctors’ Support Network

The Doctors’ Support Network (DSN) is a warm friendly self-help group for doctors with mental health problems including stress, burnout, depression, psychoses and eating disorders. The group believes that contact with and support from other doctors can aid recovery. While not a specifically Christian organisation, Christians are involved. London and Scottish branches exist and there are plans to set up similar branches in other areas, especially Bristol.

What has York got to do with Athens?

How can Christian Doctors respond to patients and colleagues with a different worldview? By Richard Hain, Senior Lecturer in Paediatric Palliative Care at the University of Wales College of Medicine, at the annual CMF Paediatricians’ Breakfast in York on 5 April. About 60 people attended, making up 10% of those present at the Royal College meeting on the Thursday.

This was one of about a dozen annual college meetings of juniors covering a range of hospital specialities and general practice. We meet three or four times a year to plan day and weekend conferences, and to try and think more broadly about the specific needs of juniors and how they can best be addressed within CMF.

Open House

One of the exciting developments over the past year has been the many ‘open houses’ that are starting to happen all over the country. Pioneered in Birmingham, there are now groups meeting in Oxford and London amongst others. Their main aim is to provide fellowship, support and encouragement (as well as lots of cakes and puddings!) for Christian doctors at a local level. A time to share stresses (and encouragements) from the week, and to pray for one another. It’s a great way to think about how our faith works out day by day in practice.

Is there a group near you to join? See p8 or find out from CMF central office: 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8XN  Tel 020 7928 4694  Fax 020 7620 2453
Email news@cmf.org.uk
Website www.cmf.org.uk
If not, how about starting one with a few colleagues?

‘Wisdom Which Works’

‘Beyond the Bleep’, the juniors’ weekend conference, is moving from Swanwick to Hothorpe Hall, Northants this year. We’re going to be looking at ‘Wisdom Which Works’ from Proverbs, with Alan Johnson (Professor of Surgery in Sheffield). There will be seminars such as...
Pastoral Care

The immediate years post-graduation can be tough both as a doctor and as a Christian. Frequent job changes, lack of geographical stability, and long hours on-call can make it difficult to get settled into a local church and enjoy fellowship with other Christians on a regular basis. Many who were keen Christians as students fall away during this time. The work brings with it many pressures to compromise faith, and our junior doctors need lots of support at this vulnerable stage of their careers. This August, over 200 PRHO and SHO members of CMF will be linked to other CMF graduates near their place of work for fellowship and support. If you are interested in learning more about the pastoral care scheme please contact Giles Rawlinson at the Office.

How you can be involved

If you have any ideas on how we can be better addressing the needs of juniors in CMF then please let us know via the CMF central office - we’d love to be of help. The best way for things to happen is from grass roots upwards. We’d love to be of help. The best way for things to happen is from grass roots upwards. If you are interested in learning more about the pastoral care scheme please contact Giles Rawlinson at the Office.

New Nucleus Editor

Caroline Ashby, Nucleus Editor since January 1999, is handing over to Neil Fisher of Royal University Medical School from October this year. Caroline has made a tremendous contribution during her time as editor including a year as Founders’ Scholar - and will be joining the CMF Publications Committee.

The First and The Last

is the theme of the next CMF National Students’ Conference to be held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire on the weekend of 18-20 January 2002. The Bible Reader will be John Lennox from the Whitefield Institute in Oxford. Prof John Wyatt of University College London will give the other main address and there will also be a range of 15 seminars on issues at the interface of Christianity and medicine. 350 came last year. Publicity will be out with the October edition of Nucleus. Please keep the weekend free when planning CMI houseparties.

BMA Conference

CMF Students submitted ten motions to the Annual Students’ Conference of the BMA in March, and although none made it through to the BMA Annual Meeting, they generated a lot of discussion, particularly on ethics issues. CMF has been invited back onto the BMA Medical Students’ Committee (MSC) for the third year running. Much thanks go to Laurence Crutchlow, SCC chairman, who has represented CMF on the MSC for the last two years.

Electives Advice

The following two resources are still available FREE to members on request:

Planning your Medical Elective Overseas - all you need to know

Medical Elective Opportunities - with over 30 mission societies

Planning your Elective is also available on the Internet at www.cmf.org.uk/members/prepelec.htm

If you’d like specific advice on the where, why and how of your elective, or would like to be put in touch with other students who may have been to the same hospital (or country), contact David Clegg (CMF Overseas Support Secretary) at the CMF Office. Email david.clegg@cmf.org.uk.

We have a database of over 300 previous elective students and can put you in touch with other students on request. David can also advise about elective grants available from MMA Healthserve.

Student Leaders’ Weekend

This year will be held at the Pioneer Centre, Kidderminster on 28-30 September. Please make sure that 2-3 from your medical school can come. Publicity will be out shortly.

CMF Summer Teams

When Edvin Selmani visited the ICMDA conference in Hungary in 1996 he was one of only two Christian medical students in the country of Albania. Now he is training in orthopaedics and working in his spare time as a staffworker for BSKsh, the Albanian IFES movement. A growing number of Albanian Christian junior doctors and medical students are meeting regularly in Tirana and reaching out to their colleagues with the Gospel. When Edvin visited England this January to attend the CMF National Students’ Conference the idea of an evangelistic camp in Albania was sparked during a visit to Oxford; and this August Junior Doctors’ Chairman Sarah Germain will be leading a team of Oxford junior doctors and students to Albania to help out. The Albania camp is just one of six CMF summer teams this year.

A group of junior doctors and students from Cardiff along with Ruth Selwood, West UK CMF staffworker, are helping to lead an evangelistic camp for medical students in the Balkans, to be held in Serbia in late July. This follows an earlier trip in March this year. Edinburgh Medical School Secretary Mark Stirling is leading a doctor/student team from Edinburgh and Glasgow to Chilyabinsk in the Ural mountains of Russia in early August. Over 80 students, mainly non-Christians will be coming to the camp to learn more about Christianity. The event is being run as a joint venture with IFES and a Christian lecturer in the Chilyabinsk medical school. Alex Bunn and Mike Reynolds, former London staffworkers, led a similar camp in Samara, South Russia, last summer where a number of Russian students professed faith; and Mike is taking a team back this July/August to help lead another. The two remaining camps are being run at locations in Central Asia where there are already Christian medical student groups established. James Tomlinson is leading one team and Alex Bunn the other.

Please pray for all these ventures; that God’s Spirit will move, that students will come to faith and that more international friendships will grow.
Evangelism

Sharing faith with patients
Liz Croton’s article on sharing faith with patients in this month’s Triple Helix casts new light on a challenging subject and comes coincident with an increasing number of enquiries from members who have been the subject of patients’ or relatives’ complaints for offering advice of a spiritual nature. We suspect this may be the tip of a larger iceberg and would like to hear from any other members who have experienced problems. Whilst this is an area where we must be sensitive to the vulnerability of patients, the GMC itself has said that it is only concerned about sharing of faith in the medical context if it is done in an ‘insensitive or inappropriate’ way.

Lunch Bar Evangelism
Twelve Christian doctors wanting to learn how to give lunch-bar evangelistic talks attended a weekend conference run by Peter Saunders and Richard Cunningham in Oxfordshire in April. Each participant had to prepare a 12-15 minute evangelistic address on sexuality, pluralism, science and faith, or suffering - and then field questions from the other attendees acting as devil’s advocates. Several of those attending have already put their new skills to the test in university mission contexts since. There are huge opportunities for this sort of evangelism in medical school campuses, but very few currently equipped to take them up.

Future training days are planned, so please let Peter Saunders know if you are interested.

Saline Solution Videos
The Apostle Paul encouraged the Colossians to ‘season their conversation with salt’ when speaking with non-Christians. The Saline Solution is a resource developed by our US sister Conference run by CMF in Ishmael my Brother speaking with non-Christians. The ‘season their conversation with salt’ when The Apostle Paul encouraged the Colossians to

Media Training Days
CMF General Secretary Peter Saunders went to a CMF media-training day in Manchester last autumn and left with the intention of ‘starting slowly with friendly quiet radio’. However a few days later he found himself on hostile live television debating the use of embryos in stem cell research. Other (less threatening) opportunities have followed. Sometimes it’s best to jump in at the deep end! There is an increasing need for CMF members to be prepared to speak out on ethical issues, but most of us have little formal training in this area. To remedy this, CMF is holding five more (highly subsidised) one-day media training days this Summer/Autumn in Bristol (16 June), Glasgow (19 June), Leeds (22 June), Sheffield (22 September) and Birmingham (29 September). There will be lots of hands-on experience and expert tuition from Christians involved in the media.

Places are limited (12 per day) so if you would like to come then Judy Wilson at the CMF Office can supply more details.

CMF Ethics Submissions
Submissions to the House of Lords Select Committee on Stem Cell Technology closed on 31 May. The committee, which is being chaired by Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, will report later this year. Several CMF members, including General Secretary Peter Saunders have made individual submissions.

The General Medical Council is currently holding a consultation on Withdrawal of Treatment decisions. CMF will be making an official submission, but individual members are encouraged to do the same. Further information is available from the GMC Website on www.gmc-uk.org/standards and you will find plenty of relevant research material on the CMF website including a previous submission on withdrawal of treatment decisions (www.cmf.org.uk/subs/nontreat.htm), a CMF File on Withdrawal of Treatment (www.cmf.org.uk/brief/treat.htm) and other articles on the BMA policy and euthanasia (www.cmf.org.uk/ethics/euth.htm). Withdrawal of treatment decisions are, we believe, the key back door route to euthanasia.

We will also be submitting to the Nuffield Council of Bioethics Consultation on Genes and Behaviour this July. Again individual submissions are welcome and plenty of helpful information is available in the CMF File mailed with this edition of CMF News.

Medical Mission

New Overseas Support Secretary still sought
David Clegg, Overseas Support Secretary for CMF and General Secretary for MMA HealthServe, retires this summer. Are you the person God is calling to carry forward the vital work of supporting and developing global medical mission?

CMF aims to ‘support Christian doctors and medical students serving Christ and his Church throughout the world’. MMA HealthServe is committed to ‘mobilising Christian healthcare professionals to serve Christ and his Church in the developing world’.

The appointee would be employed by CMF, but seconded half time to MMA HealthServe. The post would be split equally between the two offices in Waterloo and Shadwell, East London. Salary in line with Association of University Teachers scales, with London weighting, and pension provision. Applications close on 23 July 2001. If you think this might be you please talk to Peter Saunders at the CMF Office on +44 (0) 20 7928 4694, peter@cmf.org.uk

Doctors for China?
Volunteer health personnel in all fields are needed to help provide medical services and training in the remote regions of Qinghai Province, North-West China. The Jian Hua Foundation has been involved in training and development programmes in the province since 1996 and in short-term medical programmes since 1998. Plans and finance have now been secured to start a Postgraduate Education Centre within a local hospital in Xining City. The broad aims are to educate village doctors on two-month secondment programmes from rural areas, raising their knowledge of medical science, clinical skills and public health protocols.

If you would like more information please contact: Douglas Noble, Jian Hua Foundation UK Medical Representative (Oxford) at douglas.noble@green.ox.ac.uk

MSI Professional Services (formerly MSI) has a vision to improve the medical care in remote areas in China; by 2001 over 1,000 Christian professionals had volunteered their time to serve with MSI on short and long term service. To find out more details contact msiuk@hotmail.com or visit their website at www.msiprofessionalservices.org

You can train a Christian doctor for £600 per year
The Southern Sudan is one of the most unsettled parts of Africa and urgently needs doctors and other health personnel. To train a doctor in Khartoum costs only about £10 per week. Costs are higher for Southern Sudanese who are refugees in neighbouring countries but a small
amount goes a long way. It is vital now to invest in the skills which are needed, both in the present emergency and for the reconstruction once peace is achieved. If you would like to help train a Southern Sudanese Christian doctor, nurse or medical assistant please make contact with Robin Shawyer, The Hugh Pilkington Charitable Trust, 27 Northmoor Road, Oxford OX2 6UJ. Email robin@hpct.org

Christian medicine abroad: making an impact

PRIME (Partnership in Medical Education), which runs the Burrswood Doctors’ Dilemmas Courses, has a number of invitations to facilitate courses for groups of primary care doctors overseas, mainly in Eastern Europe. They would be interested in hearing from GPs who have experience in post-graduate education (VTS or PGEA) and from specialists with a keen interest in GP education who might be prepared to commit one or two weeks a year to this unpaid but highly rewarding activity. Please contact Dr John Geater, 25 St Helen’s Down, Hastings TN34 2BG. Email j.geater@which.net

International Christian Medical and Dental Association

Sharing God’s grace at the growing edges of Christian Medicine

ICMDA News, Praise and Prayer

With this issue of Triple Helix and Nucleus is included the latest edition of ICMDA’s News Praise and Prayer. The central section of this (on blue paper) carries news of student activities.

This is a one-off mailing with Triple Helix and Nucleus. If you would like to receive it regularly please write or email ICMDA office. We will be happy to send it to you free of charge. Students and junior doctors please supply a reasonably permanent address where possible!

Taiwan July 2002

ICMDA’s XII World Congress is highlighted on page 11 of News Praise and Prayer. Brochures and registration forms are available through CMF or from ICMDA office.

Main speakers for both students and graduates include Professor John Wyatt of London and Dr John Patrick (Canada).

This is an exceptional opportunity once in four years to meet a wide range of Christian colleagues from around the world. The student congress promises to be the largest and most exciting yet. Colleagues from emerging movements need the encouragement of the presence of a good number from the larger well-established fellowships. Do ask God if he would have you attend.

ICMDA Development

Also with this mailing is ICMDA’s brochure outlining development opportunities across the world. This was considered in some detail at ICMDA’s annual committee meeting in April.

There are many indications that we stand at the threshold of a period of great opportunity. Letters from isolated Christian doctors and from small groups in many different countries suggest that God is drawing together Christian medical fellowships right across the world.

ICMDA, working in partnership with IFES, is encouraged to see new work among medical students in many countries. There is more detail on page 10 of News Praise and Prayer.

Do read the brochure carefully and ask the Lord if he would have you be a part of this exciting period of advance among Christians in our profession.

International Christian Medical and Dental Association

82-88 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1LQ, UK
Tel/Fax +44 (0)1223 321715
Email icmda@compuserve.com
Website www.icmda.org

Finances

Accounts. The accounts for the year ended 31st December 2000 were accepted by the General Committee at its meeting on 23 June. Considerable gratitude to God was expressed for the small surplus of £25,000 on total turnover of £660,000.

Trust and Fellowship. The CMF Trust Ltd and Fellowship accounts have now been combined, giving a much clearer picture of the overall financial position (A summary is available from the office).

1st Quarter accounts. These showed a small surplus of £11,000 on turnover of £190,000.

Gift Aid. We received £78,000 in income tax reclaimed during 2000. In the first quarter we reclaimed £26,000, significantly the largest contributor to the Fellowship’s ministry! Have you filled in a Gift Aid declaration yet? Please help us to empty Gordon Brown’s pocket!!

Student Staff worker support. Full-time and part-time regional staff workers are only employed when sufficient regional support has been raised. During 2001 Mark Pickering and Marcus Andrews have worked in London, Ruth Selwood in the West Midlands, Malcolm Savage (newly appointed) in the North, Roselle Ward and Tim Lewis (newly appointed) in Ireland, and Claire Clark in Scotland. Would you be able to contribute to this very significant work amongst students and juniors doctors, and support such a worker in your region? Please contact the office for more details.

Did you know? Less than a third of our income comes from membership subscription? The Fellowship’s ministry remains wholly dependent upon the additional generous gifts of our members. Thank you for all your support.

Giles Rawlinson, (Chief Administrator). Audrey Pegler (Accountant), Morwen Dyer (Gift Aid).
Tel 020 7928 4694. Email finance@cmf.org.uk