

Troubled Times

I woke this morning to news of the Western alliance's attack on Taleban and al-Qaeda positions in Afghanistan in retaliation for the 11 September terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Centre. Restraining evil and protecting the innocent are concepts at the heart of Christian morality and most of us will want to see justice for the bereaved and for the people of Afghanistan, although Christians will be divided amongst those who support 'just war' and those for whom any military action is anathema. Given, however, that the war has started and that the evidence implicating Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda seems solid, we need to pray that the alliance achieves its stated aims of disarming terrorist factions and installing a more just regime in Afghanistan; whilst limiting civilian casualties and providing for refugees. Given that 90% of British heroin comes from Afghanistan, there might also be hope for curbing drug trafficking!

But apart from the worries we all share about military action making the whole problem worse, there are other elements of the response to the 'attack on America' that disturb me.

First, I am disturbed by the disproportionate attention given to this terrorist attack in which 6,000 people died relative to other recent human tragedies both natural and man-made: the Turkish and Gujarati earthquakes, the Rwandan massacre or the silent epidemics of malaria, TB, AIDS and smoking-related illness. *Every day* worldwide 50,000 children die from diseases that are, in the main, easily preventable or treatable, and 160,000 unborn children die by abortion. Shouldn't we be re-examining our priorities?

Second, I am disturbed by the prime minister's 7 October statement that, 'Islam is a peaceful and tolerant religion, and the acts of these people are contrary to the teachings of the Qur'an'. Whilst it is true that most Muslims have already distanced themselves from the 11 September atrocities, it is not difficult to demonstrate that the whole concept of violence against

non-Muslims has its root in both the Qur'an and in the example of Muhammad himself. Tony Blair is understandably anxious to avoid offending Muslims at a time when the alliance against the Taleban remains fragile, but as well as misrepresenting the source texts of Islam he does a grave disservice to many non-Muslims who have suffered (and still are suffering) under Islamic regimes. Muslims in Britain should rightly be protected from attack, but I am equally wary of how secular authorities might now react to complaints about 'islamophobia' and 'incitement to religious hatred' by discriminating against Christians and Jews.

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Third, I am concerned by the prime minister's grandiose vision (in his 2 October speech) of a new international community solving every problem from deforestation to the Palestinian problem. It is one thing to call nations together to address a specific terrorist threat. It is quite another to promise world peace. History should remind us that such polemic has sometimes led in the past to the establishment of discriminatory regimes where minority groups suffer severe repression. World government is something of which Christians should be very suspicious (Rev 13:1-10).

Fourth, we must be careful not to idolise Western freedom and democracy. Those who live in countries (and there are many)

where less than £2 per head is spent on healthcare per annum, where the best land is deployed to produce cash-crops for Western consumers and where 50% of the GNP goes on debt service to Western creditors hate the West with some justification. Many see the West's financial institutions and multinational companies as the 'weapons' that global capitalism employs to oppress and enslave the developing world. Some may have seen the World Trade Centre as a legitimate target for 'harbouring' these organisations. Let's not be blind to our own society's failings. God judged Sodom because she was 'arrogant, overfed and unconcerned' and 'did not help the poor and needy' (Ezk 16:49) and the description fits the West quite well.

Which brings me to my final concern. We diminish God's sovereignty if as Christians we deny his involvement in the events of 11 September. It is a sobering fact that the Bible regularly ascribes the most appalling acts to God's meaningful purposes (for example see 2 Ki 19:25; La 3:37,38; Is 45:7; Am 3:6 and not least Acts 4:27,28). God is not averse to using evil people as his instruments of judgement, even against his own people (1 Ki 19:15-17; Is 10:5,6) and our Western civilisation's idolatry, sexual immorality, shedding of innocent blood and materialistic self-indulgence must make us more than ripe for his judgement. We can be thankful for God's patience and mercy in preserving us thus far, but we also need to take warning. When people asked Jesus about a tragedy in which people had died under a collapsing tower he said 'unless you repent, you too will all perish' (Lk 13:1-5).

As Christian doctors our response to these events has to be one of sober appraisal, humble repentance, practical compassion, earnest prayer and a radical rethink of our personal and professional priorities.

Peter Saunders

CMF General Secretary

A longer and fully-referenced version of this article is available on the CMF website at www.cmf.org.uk/news/sept11.htm

Staff and Committee News

New Overseas Support Secretary

Peter Armon is the new CMF Overseas Support Secretary and takes over officially from David Clegg at the end of November. Peter qualified MBBS at Charing Cross in 1965 and went on to specialise in obstetrics and gynaecology. He has extensive experience abroad in Malawi, Tanzania and Gibraltar and will work part-time with CMF as Overseas Support Secretary and part-time with MMA HealthServe as Medical Director. Peter's wife Carol is a teacher and counsellor and they have three children Matthew, David and Jeremy, all married.

New Midlands Relay Worker



Verona Beckles

Verona Beckles has been appointed to work alongside West UK staffworker Ruth Selwood for six months part-time from September. Verona graduated MBBS from Imperial College in June 2000 and

will support Christian junior doctors and students in Birmingham and Warwick, while taking part in UCCF's Relay training programme. She returns to an SHO post in February.

New Doctor in CMF Office



Clare Cooper

Clare Cooper will be working alongside General Secretary Peter Saunders in the CMF Office, one day per week, from the beginning of November, helping with correspondence and publications.

She qualified MBBS at Charing Cross in 1979 and has worked as an associate specialist in dermatology in recent years. Her husband Michael is a GP.

CMF Medical Staffing

In December 1999 the medically qualified CMF office staff consisted of a full-time General Secretary, a full-time Student Secretary, a part-time Overseas Support Secretary, two part-time London staffworkers and a part-time student scholar (3.7 f/t equivalents). When Peter Saunders took over as General Secretary in January 2000, the previous General Secretary and Student Secretary posts were split between the new General Secretary and the (non-medical) Chief Administrator posts. The joint

appointment has paid off considerably in streamlining CMF's administrative structures, and in integrating graduate and student ministries, but now for the first time in five years we have no London staffworker and therefore only 1.5 f/t equivalents of medically qualified staff in the London office (General Secretary and Overseas Support Secretary). In view of growing ministry opportunities, continuing heavy workload and CMF's (almost unique among charities at this time) healthy financial position, the Executive is now strongly considering the appointment of another full-time medically qualified staff member. Watch this space!

Members' News

Congratulations

On their awards

Andrew Potter MBE for service to the blind in Central and West Africa

On their appointments

Tim Maughan Professor of Oncology in Cardiff

On their postgraduate qualifications

Richard Croft DM
Beth Colby MRCPsych
Tim Lyttle MSc
Tim Matthews MRCS
Paul Herbert MRCS

If you have recently received an award, a new appointment or postgraduate qualification please let us know for the next edition of *CMF News*.

Obituaries

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

Basil Barkworth (q Guy's 1945; d 3 July 2001) was resident medical officer at Mildmay Mission Hospital in London and a wartime radiologist in Palestine and North Africa before working as a general practitioner in Eastbourne from 1948-82.

Alan Gilmour CBE (q King's 1956; d 18 July 2001) was a general practitioner in Herne Hill from 1958-67, served on the BMA Secretariat from 1967-79 and later became Director of the NSPCC from 1979-89 before retiring in Dorset.

Kenneth McAll (q Edinburgh 1935; d 2 June 2001) worked with Eric Liddell (of Chariots of Fire fame) as a medical missionary in China before being interned by the Japanese. After the war he trained in psychiatry, becoming increasingly convinced that spiritual factors underlay much mental illness, particularly through incomplete mourning for relatives who had died violently.

Robert Pearson (q Middlesex 1946; d 26 June 2001) worked as a medical missionary and general practitioner before retiring in Letchworth.

Harold Rodgers OBE (q Barts 1931; d 24 June 2001), a former President of CMF, was Professor of Surgery at Queen's University Belfast from 1947-73, where his experience as a wartime surgeon in North Africa and Italy helped him in caring for the first casualties of the troubles. After retirement he worked in Nigeria, Nazareth and Nepal.

Kenneth Warner (q King's 1941; d 8 November 2000) was a general practitioner before retiring in Derby.

Movements

Outgoing

Malcolm Greaves (CHARING CROSS) to Malaysia

Howard Harper (THE LONDON HOSPITAL) to Mongolia

Sharon Kane (MANCHESTER) to Zimbabwe

Mark and Teresa Pietroni (THE LONDON HOSPITAL) to Bangladesh

Andrew Stewart (EDINBURGH) to the Netherlands

Homecoming

Jane and Jes Bates (BRISTOL) from South Africa

Donald Brownlie (BELFAST) from Malawi

Simon Collins (LIVERPOOL) from Angola

Alexander Duncan (THE LONDON HOSPITAL) from Pakistan

Joy Herd (NOTTINGHAM) from Ghana

Helen Johnston (EDINBURGH) from Nepal

Helen Kennedy (ABERDEEN) from France

Stephen Lawn (NOTTINGHAM) from USA

Elsbeth Pitt (ABERDEEN) from Indonesia

Jonathan Wraight (EDINBURGH) from New Zealand



Change of Address Abroad

Yutaka Ishida from Bangladesh to Japan
David Walter from Bangladesh to Malaysia

CMF Internet Discussion Forum

As *CMF News* goes to print we are in the process of setting up a secure internet discussion forum for CMF members with the help of *Doctors.net*. In a password-controlled setting this will enable CMF members to discuss issues, advertise jobs, share information and prayer needs on line and generally enhance our fellowship. *Doctors.net* is a peer-led internet resource for UK medical practitioners available free to all registered doctors and UK medical students and provides email facilities, on-line forums, job adverts, a medical news service and an online medical library. Many CMF members are members of *Doctors.net* already and others can join simply by visiting www.doctors.net.uk and filling in a simple on-line form. You will need your GMC number. The CMF discussion forum will be available very shortly via the forums page. Check it out!

Publications

New Publications Assistant Still Sought

We are still 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. Salary would be around £11,000-£13,000 depending on qualifications and experience of candidate. All enquiries to Peter Saunders at the CMF Office.

New Publication for Christian Nurses

The newly formed group Christian Nurses and Midwives (CNM) launched its newsletter *CNM News* in August this year. Complimentary copies are available from CNM, 38 West Avenue Road, London E17 9SE. Tel 07941 800637. Email info@cnm.org.uk

Publications

Conferences and Events

Beyond the Bleep 2001-Wisdom Which Works

Liz Croton reports on the CMF Juniors' National Conference at Hothorpe Hall on 7-9 September. The annual CMF junior doctors' conference has now reached the grand old age of five and continues to attract doctors from all over the UK and worldwide with the promise of great fellowship, expository Bible teaching and an opportunity to throw away that bleep - at least for the weekend! This year around 100 delegates from all over Europe attended.

In keeping with the computer age in which we live, the weekend was titled WWW (Wisdom Which Works) with the main Bible talks taken from the book of Proverbs. The main speaker was Professor Alan Johnson, chairman of ICMDA and Professor of Surgery in Sheffield. Over the three days, he expounded godly wisdom in three highly illuminating talks entitled, 'wisdom with money', 'wisdom in relationships' and 'wisdom with words'.

Proverbs is one of those Old Testament gems that most of us can quote from if pushed but requires serious time and commitment to assimilate fully. It offers us, however, a fascinating and sobering insight as to how God's people should conduct themselves in their dealings with others. In the highly charged medical environment in which we live and work, it is all too easy to follow the crowd and perhaps even abandon our Master's call to be 'salt and light' in our

darkened world. Professor Johnson took us right back to the beginning and illustrated why the wise person should speak truly, avoid gossip, guard against the accumulation of possessions and maintain fidelity in human relationships. It was hard teaching but highly relevant to each of us in our personal walks with God.

The main talks were backed up with small fellowship groups where issues raised were prayed through and the practical implications of living the 'proverbial way' were discussed. In the style of the student conference, Beyond the Bleep also ran six topical seminars from which delegates could pick and choose. They ranged from old favourites such as 'Working worldwide' to 'Priorities in decision making' led by new CMF Chairman (woman!) Liz Walker.

As with previous Beyond the bleeps, the itinerary included some regular activities that no self-respecting CMF junior doctors' conference should be without. These included the return of the infamous 'Degeneration game' on the Saturday night and the equally entertaining and highly original Junior Doctors' Committee opening sketch, illustrating the events leading up to and around the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

I will end with an open invitation to those of you doctors three years or less post-graduation to next year's Beyond the Bleep which I'm sure on the scale of things promises to be even better. It really is a

breath of fresh air when compared with hardcore medical life and well worth rearranging your rota for. A fabulous opportunity to get back on-line with God again!

CMF Autumn Conferences

The autumn conference season is now well underway and you should already have received publicity for conferences in your region. Weekend regional conferences include Northern Irish (5-7 October), Northern (19-21 October), South-Eastern (9-11 November) and Scottish (16-18 November). There will be day conferences in the Midlands (3 November), Oxford (10 November) and Porthcawl (17 November).

Conference on Morning-After Pill - Wednesday 28 November

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 health implications of the morning-after pill. The meeting will be chaired by Dr Peter Saunders, 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 (east of Lambeth Bridge). Further details from CBPP, 51 Romney Street, London SW1P 3RF. Tel 020 7227 4706. Email info@cbpp.ac.uk

Students

Regional Staffworker News

Malcolm Savage started work in North England in September and will be covering Newcastle, Leeds, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool and the new medical school at Durham. He and Rachel have just moved to Sheffield.

Tim Lewis also started in September and will be covering Belfast and all five schools in the Republic of Ireland from a Dublin base.

Please pray for Malcolm and Tim (and for their wives Rachel and Julie) as they get established in their work. Please also make the most of them as speakers and advisors.

Ruth Selwood led a team of Cardiff students and junior doctors to Serbia in July to help run a Christian camp for medical students. She is now in her second year as West UK staffworker, covering Birmingham, Cardiff and Bristol and the new medical schools at Warwick and Swansea.

Mark Pickering, former Nucleus editor and London staffworker, is working with CMF for six months part-time from August, helping with *Triple Helix* and *Nucleus* and organising the international preconference week for students coming from abroad to the Swanwick Conference in January.

Congratulations to **Claire Clark**, former Scottish staffworker, who gave birth to David Graham on 3 September.

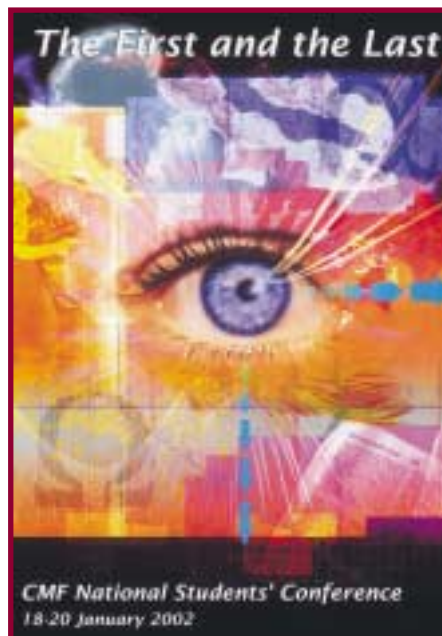
All our staffworkers produce regular prayer letters so if you would like to support any one of them in prayer please let us know. We are still looking for staffworkers for London, East England and Scotland, so if you think God may be nudging you please contact Peter Saunders for more details.

New Medical Schools

A new CMF student group has just started at Warwick University and we are planning to establish student groups at the new medical schools in Norwich, Durham, Plymouth, Hull & York, Brighton and Swansea as they open over the next few years. Please pray that God will raise up leaders for these groups and local doctors who are willing to support them.

New Nucleus Team

The new *Nucleus* Team under the leadership of Neil Fisher have made a great start this October and hope you like the issue of *Nucleus* you received with this mailing. Please do get back to them with encouragement, offers to help and suggestions for issues that you would like to see covered in future editions of the magazine.



The First and The Last

Publicity is now out for the CMF National Students' Conference to be held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire on the weekend of 18-20 January 2002 and all students should receive a booking form with this mailing. John Lennox from the Whitefield Institute in Oxford will give three talks from the book of Revelation: 'One like a Son of Man', 'To him who Overcomes' and 'the Throne of God'. Prof John Wyatt of University College London will give the other main address, 'A Light in Medicine'. Seminar topics include Surviving as a House Officer, Psychiatry, Medical Mission, Euthanasia, Evolution, the New Genetics and Prayer. Much more information about the conference and on individual seminar topics is available on the CMF Students' website at www.cmf.org.uk/students/natconf.htm. Around 400 delegates are expected and space is limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

New BMA Rep

Michael Wheble, medical student in Leicester, is the new CMF rep on the BMA Medical Students' Committee (MSC). CMF has been invited back onto the MSC for the third year running and Michael takes over from SCC chairman, Laurence Crutchlow, who has represented CMF on the MSC for the last two years.

Student Leaders' Weekend

Over 50 student leaders and CMF staff attended the Student Leaders' Weekend at the Pioneer Centre, Kidderminster on 28-30 September. Peter Saunders led the Bible readings on the book of Nehemiah and other CMF staff led seminars on leadership and evangelism.

Electives Advice

The 2002 CMF Electives Preparation Days will be on 9 February (Edinburgh), 9 March (Leeds) and 20 March (London); publicity out soon. 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/mission/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.

Elective Grants

The Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society provides grants to students studying at Scottish or Northern Irish universities for their overseas electives. For more details contact EMMS, 7 Washington Lane, Edinburgh EH11 2HA. Telephone 0131 313 3828. Email info@emms.org. MMA HealthServe provides the same service for students studying in English or Welsh universities. Contact MMA HealthServe, First Floor, 106-110 Watney Street, London E1 2QE. Tel 020 7790 1336. Email info@mmahealthserve.org.uk.

Freshers' Packs

Following summer graduation CMF Student membership currently stands at around 900, with another 250 expected to join in the next academic year. CMF Freshers' Packs are available from the CMF Office on request and include an introductory letter to CMF, a joining form, conference brochure and complimentary copies of *Nucleus* and *Triple Helix*. Ideal to give to your Christian friends who are not yet members. Email students@cmf.org.uk.

CMF Student Website

The CMF Student webpages are undergoing a major revamp to include funkier graphics and more information about coming events and resources along with links to other Christian medical student sites both in the UK and abroad. Why not pay us a visit on www.cmf.org.uk/students/home.htm?



General Practice

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 Folwell (Personal), Ian Gow Memorial Health Centre, Milfoil Drive, Langney, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN23 8BR. Please send SAE for a questionnaire to help match applications with vacancies.

Hospital Doctors

Specialty Conferences

About 60 Christian psychiatrists attended a special conference on the Mad/Bad Debate at Church House, Westminster, London on Saturday 14 July at the end of the Psychiatrists' Royal College meeting. Main speakers included three Christian Professors in Psychiatry. The main talks will form the basis of a forthcoming CMF publication. We hope that this will be the first of many similar specialty-focussed conferences for Christian doctors arranged to coincide with College meetings. If you are interested in doing something similar in your own specialty then we would be very interested in hearing from you.

Juniors

Open House

Groups of Christian junior doctors are starting to meet together in their local area to support and encourage each other. James Tomlinson, a member of the Junior Doctors' Committee, is hoping to start an email group, so those interested in setting up and running an 'Open House' themselves can share ideas and experiences, and along with Matt Hawker has developed a resource pack on how to do it. Do get in touch with the CMF Office if you'd like further information on how to become involved.

Meeting your needs

As a committee we're very conscious that many Christian juniors aren't involved in CMF activities, either regionally or nationally. We'd love to know why. Do the events not meet your needs? Do you have too many other commitments with church etc...? We're going to be sending out a questionnaire to all those who have qualified in the last 10 years, to try to find

out which events you've been to, and what else we can be doing to support you better. Please fill it in and let us know your suggestions.

Future conferences

Plans are already being made for the Junior Doctors' Day Conference in Birmingham next year - Saturday 16th March. We'd also like to encourage lots of juniors to go to the National CMF Conference at Swanwick in April. Do put the dates in your diary and look out for more details.

International Christian Medical and Dental Association

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

'Called to Serve'

ICMDA's first East Africa Regional Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya, 8-12 August. Under the title 'Called to Serve' 100-150 delegates (including 40 students) from 7 African countries met for fellowship, ministry and challenges. The conference was hosted and ably organized by Kenya Christian Medical Fellowship.



Some of the 100-150 delegates



Exuberant African singing, thoughtful Bible ministry, the pain and challenge of HIV/AIDS across Africa and the sacrificial example of East African doctors serving in remote regions, challenging unethical practices and encouraging their students: all of these served to create an unforgettable occasion. 'God uses ordinary people who are fully committed to him to do extraordinary things' became a watchword of the Conference.

Most of the students and many of the doctors were assisted with bursaries from

Pastoral Care

With the help of two London medical students, Kwasi Appiah and Emmanuel Obiabo, who each spent a week chasing up junior doctors, we were able to link 85 out of 181 PRHOs and 67 out of 197 first year SHOs with other CMF members for pastoral care and support this August. Many of those not linked were in areas where we don't currently have CMF members willing to act as pastoral carers, so if you would like to offer your services please contact the CMF Office.

Sarah Germain, Chairperson, Junior Doctors' Committee

ICMDA transmitting donations mostly from UK members. They and we are tremendously grateful to those who through their generosity made it possible for them to attend.

East Africa Regional Office

Kenya CMF has established a small office in the newly opened Scripture Union building in Nairobi. Along with employing a part-time secretary this has been a significant financial outlay for them. At the Regional Conference the Kenya junior doctors contributed to purchase a computer for the office, not only for office work but so that their students can have access to the internet in congenial surroundings and without the interminable waits encountered at public outlets and medical libraries. The office will also serve as ICMDA's regional office. A first part of ICMDA's development fund will go to the maintenance of this and our thanks are due to those who have contributed to this fund.

ICMDA's first South American Regional Conference met in Uruguay 12-14 October. This promises to be another significant step in ICMDA's regional development.

Taiwan July 2002

The brochures for ICMDA's XII World Congress are included in this mailing (Graduate brochure with *Triple Helix*: Student brochure with *Nucleus*). There has been great interest in this Congress among students from many countries and we are expecting 200-300 students among the 1,000 or so participants. Already over 300 requests have been received for bursary assistance from doctors in disadvantaged situations and from students. Your further generosity to the bursary fund promises large spiritual returns for relatively small financial investment in the lives of these colleagues. Gifts may be sent to the ICMDA office and can be enhanced by Gift Aid tax reclaims.

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

Medical Mission



Attendees at the CMF Overseas Service Committee 'Away Day'

OSC Away Day

Members of the CMF Overseas Service Committee met with others with a vision for medical mission for a brainstorming 'away day' at Partnership House on 9 June. Under the chairmanship of Tim Goodacre, Oxford plastic surgeon, those attending heard an exciting series of reports of what God is doing through different organisations involved in healthcare mission and spent time in prayer seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance for future direction. Reports presented on the day covered the work of the Residential Refresher Course, telemedicine, the Christian charities ICTHES, THET, PRIME, ICMDA and MMA HealthServe along with a brainstorm on courses and resources available. The day will prove invaluable in helping CMF define the best ways of assisting members involved in medical mission and in mobilising and resourcing more doctors to serve abroad.

Healthcare Mission Forum - 27 November

The dawn of the 21st century has seen a big shift in factors affecting the health needs of the poor: foreign debt, war, displaced communities, the new epidemics of HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB, and the growing problem of drug abuse. In order to look strategically at how the UK missionary movement can address these issues more effectively, CMF and MMA HealthServe are launching a new Healthcare Mission Forum under the auspices of Global Connections. The first meeting is at Partnership House, 157 Waterloo Rd, London on Tuesday 27 November from 10am-4pm. Cost is £10 including a buffet lunch. For more information contact David Clegg at CMF or visit the 'events' section of the Global Connections website at www.globalconnections.co.uk/events.asp.

Overseas Update Course

31 doctors, nurses and midwives attended this year's Overseas Update Residential Refresher Course at Oak Hill College on 18-29 June. A full report appears in the October edition of *Triple Helix*, which you should receive with this mailing. Dates for 2002 are

8-19 July. More information is available from David Clegg at the CMF Office.

CMF Summer Teams

When Alex Pavlovic visited the Swanwick Student Conference a few years ago the idea was sparked of running an evangelistic camp for medical students in his home country of Serbia. The war in Kosovo put things on hold temporarily but this July after much prayer and planning a team of junior doctors and students from Cardiff went to Serbia with West UK staffworker Ruth Selwood. 80 students and doctors came to the camp, including 50 non-Christians, two of them professors. In conjunction with the Serbian student leaders the Cardiff team got alongside people and helped run English and medical teaching and fun activities. The main gospel talks by Ben Hope-Gill were very well received, and there was great interest and openness. Five people made professions of faith at the camp and many others have started attending church since. The Cardiff team remains in touch by email and the Serbian leaders are following up with evangelistic Bible studies.



Mike Reynolds' Famous chicken sketch

The Serbian Camp was just one of six CMF doctor/student summer teams this year. A group of junior doctors and students from Oxford along with Bernard Palmer helped lead a camp in Albania in August attended by 30 local students, half non-Christian, with several again making professions of faith. Similar results were seen in Chilyabinsk in the Ural mountains of Russia the same month where Mark Stirling led a doctor/student team from Edinburgh and Glasgow. Over 50 Russian students attended.

Mike Reynolds led a similar team of four to Samara in South Russia, where around 60 medical students from as far away as Belarus (three days by train!) came for Bible and medical teaching. James Tomlinson and Sarah Morgan spoke at the inaugural student conference in Kyrgyzstan whilst Alex Bunn and Helen Lane participated, with an international team including US medics, in a camp attended by over 100 medical students in Kazakhstan. Helen has stayed in Central Asia as part of an IFES team.

Further summer teams are planned for next year. Please pray for all these ventures; that God's Spirit would continue to move, that new Christians would be built up in Christ, that more doctors and students would be willing to go and that more international friendships will grow in the future.

PRIME Healthcare: making an impact

The British primary care system, despite its failings, has much to recommend it and there is nothing similar in most of Eastern Europe and the former USSR, where doctors specialise very early. PRIME, which runs the Burrswood Doctors' Dilemmas Course, held a course on primary care based on Christian values in Albania last Spring, which was very well-received. This summer they are running similar conferences in Romania and Russia. Further invitations are coming in rapidly and God seems to be opening a wide door into many countries for the Christian gospel and evidence-based medicine. PRIME 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

ICTHES

The International Community Trust for Health and Educational Services (ICTHES) was founded in 1999 to provide a resource of medical teaching material. All Trustees are Christians. ICTHES publishes journals based on ten years of experience producing the *Journal of Community Eye Health*, which has a circulation of 16,000 in 171 countries. *Repair and Reconstruction* is now in its second edition and the first editions of two new journals on Mental Health and ENT are due out shortly. For more information and a complimentary copy of any of the journals contact Dr Murray McGavin. Tel 0131 442 5339. Email mcgavinclan@xalt.co.uk



Evangelism

Saline Solution Videos

The Apostle Paul encouraged the Colossians to 'season their speech with salt' when speaking with non-Christians. The *Saline Solution* is a resource developed by our US sister movement CMDA for helping Christian doctors integrate their faith and practice more effectively and relate to patients as whole persons with body, mind and spirit. We are awaiting permission from CMDA to sell the videos here, but in the meantime they are available on loan from the CMF Office. If you already have one and have finished using it, can we have it back please? The demand is high.

Confident Christianity

The last Confident Christianity evangelism training tour finished in Spring 2000, but we are planning another for the autumn/spring of 2002/2003. Meanwhile a full set of training materials, along with other resources on evangelism, is available on the CMF CD-ROM and on the website at www.cmf.org.uk/evang/evang.htm In the meantime training days (full Saturday) can be arranged through the CMF Office on request.

Luis Palau Outreach - May 2002

As part of the Lawyers' Christian Fellowship 150th anniversary year, Luis Palau has agreed to be guest evangelist at a series of lunches and dinners around the UK in the week of 13-18 May 2002. The LCF will host lawyers, other professionals and

businessmen to hear Luis share his testimony and the gospel. CMF has been invited to participate in meetings in Southampton, Bristol, Birmingham, Northampton, Nottingham, London, Liverpool and Manchester. The main needs are for intercessory prayer, table chairpersons (responsible to fill a table with 10 guests), follow-up and sponsors. More information is available from LCF, 33 St James Square, Bath BA1 2TT. Tel 01225 789166. Email director@lawcf.org.

Ethics

Key Current Issues for Prayer

- That the Diane Pretty case currently under judicial review would not result in a slippery slope towards the legalisation of euthanasia
- That the General Medical Council would make wise decisions in drafting its final guidelines on Withdrawal of Treatment Decisions (see below)
- That the Pro-life Alliance would be successful in its High Court Appeal to reverse the government decision on therapeutic cloning (expected end of October)
- That the FPA's judicial review on abortion practice in Northern Ireland will not result in more abortions

Media Training Days

The five media training days in Bristol, Glasgow, Leeds, Sheffield and Birmingham this summer have been a huge success.

Around 30 doctors have received training in radio and television interview skills and former CMF General Secretary Andrew Fergusson, who has led the days along with BBC producers John Forrest and Andrew Graystone have been very impressed with the calibre of those attending. We plan to run more training days next year so if you are interested in being involved contact Judy Wilson at the CMF Office. There is an increasing need and opportunity for CMF members to be prepared to speak out on ethical issues, but most of us have little formal training in this area. However the skills are not difficult to obtain! Perhaps God may be calling you?

Media Training Bursaries

The Jerusalem Trust has for some years been running a bursary scheme for Christians working in television with the aim of helping them develop their practical skills and therefore use them to fulfil the Trust's objectives of promoting the Christian religion. Further information is available from the Television Training Bursary Fund, PO Box 20732, London E3 5FW. Tel 020 8981 3503. Email bridgetcass@email.msn.com.

CMF Ethics Submissions

CMF has made an official submission to the General Medical Council's consultation on **Withdrawal of Treatment Decisions** which is available on the CMF website at www.cmf.org.uk/ethics/subs/withdraw.htm. Our submission on **Genes and Behaviour** to the Nuffield Council of Bioethics is at www.cmf.org.uk/ethics/subs/genebeha.htm. Both consultations closed on 31 July but neither has yet reported its findings.

Finance

Financial Position. The Management Accounts of the CMF Fellowship and Trust (now combined) for the six months to June 2001 showed a healthy surplus of £38,000 compared to £23,000 at the same time last year. The 1999 subscription increase continues to work through, adding £10,000 to 2000's figure. Donations and one-off gifts were also ahead of budget, along with Gift Aid tax recovery and legacy income leading to income being £46,000 ahead of budget overall. Ministry expenditure is over budget by £9,000 due to the most part to timing errors in the budget split for Refresher Course and increased conference expenditure. *Triple Helix* remains significantly within budget meaning that general expenditure was £338,000, about £4,000 within budget overall. The nine months accounts for the combined Fellowship and Trust will be produced in early October and will form the basis of the preliminary budget for 2001.

Payroll Giving. In 2000 the Chancellor of the Exchequer abolished the upper limit on payroll giving and generously committed the government to add 10% to every donation until 2003. This means that a gift of £100 is worth £141 to CMF. It costs a 22% taxpayer £78 and a 40% taxpayer only £60. You can use payroll giving to make separate donations to individual charities, or you can make a single donation to a payroll giving agency like CAF or Sovereign. The agency adds the tax and the extra government 10% and places the total in an account for you to spend with a charity 'cheque book' or charity card. For more information about how to arrange payroll giving contact Giles Rawlinson at the CMF Office. Email giles.rawlinson@cmf.org.uk

Ethical Investment. Compared with most charities CMF is a high turnover, low asset organisation but the Executive remains committed to significant reserves to provide for 3-6 months expenditure cover. We are presently

seeking advice on moving to a more soundly based ethical investment policy.

Student Scholarship Fund. We are grateful to the junior doctors who at their annual conference in September (read earlier report) gave £1,790 towards the Student Scholarship Fund, but about £8,000 more is needed to enable 24 student leaders from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union to attend the National Students' Conference in Swanwick in January 2002. If you would like to contribute specifically please send an earmarked gift to the office.

Did you know? The full £75 CMF subscription covers less than one third of the money CMF spends annually on our many medical student and graduate activities, our publications, our pastoral work for juniors, and ensuring that there is an ethical Christian voice heard within the medical profession. So we are heavily reliant on the extra giving of members over and above subscriptions for our continued activity.