

Doing it together

If nothing else, the World Cup Football tournament has been a great reminder that one is too small a number to achieve greatness. The high profile first round casualties like Argentina, France and Portugal had some wonderfully talented individual players, but in a team game, it is teams and not individuals who win tournaments.

And life is a team game. Whilst we all admire those who have made great achievements in sport, music, literature, science and medicine, the greatest individual achievers recognise that they stand on the shoulders of others. Even Einstein didn't work in a vacuum but said, 'Many times a day I realise how much my inner and outer life is built on the labours of my fellow men, both living and dead...'

As medics we owe a huge debt to 'those who have gone before' and those with whom we now work. Gene Wilkes, in his book *Jesus on Leadership* sums up the advantages of teams over individuals as follows:

- Teams involve more people, thus affording more resources, ideas and energy than individuals.
- Teams maximise a leader's potential and minimise his weaknesses.
- Teams provide multiple perspectives on how to meet a need or reach a goal.
- Teams keep leaders accountable.
- Teams can simply do more than individuals.

Few people are fond of admitting that they can't do everything. But as John Maxwell, author of *Laws of Teamwork*, puts it, 'Spinning more plates doesn't increase your talent – it increases your likelihood of dropping a plate. The question is not whether or not you can do everything by yourself; it's how

soon you realise that you can't.' The essence of good leadership is delegation, as Jethro taught Moses.

Life is a team game. Whilst we all admire those who have made great achievements in sport, music, literature, science and medicine, the greatest individual achievers recognise that they stand on the shoulders of others. Even Einstein didn't work in a vacuum but said, 'Many times a day I realise how much my inner and outer life is built on the labours of my fellow men, both living and dead...'

As a family we are currently reading through 1 Kings. Chapter 6 describes how Solomon built his temple; but chapter 5 tells us he had 30,000 labourers, 70,000 carriers and 80,000 stonecutters to help him – supervised and directed by 3,300 foremen! It was a team, and a very large one at that, who built God's temple in Solomon's time, and it is a much larger team who are building God's living temple, his church, today. And we are all part of it.

I wonder if it has struck you that God himself is a team. The three persons of the Trinity work together; in a smoothly functioning hierarchy – The Father sends the Son who sends the Spirit. And each person of the Godhead has a different role. We pray by the Spirit through the Son to the Father. In choosing the twelve, Jesus chose and shaped a team; and his desire was that their love and unity would testify to the truth of the Gospel, and that his church would

follow that team pattern by using their respective gifts to 'prepare God's people for works of service' (Ephesians 4:12).

Christian Medical Fellowship is called to reflect this pattern of team-working. There is an office team in London; but CMF is much more than an office team. There is a team of Staffworkers serving our student members. And each area of the fellowship's ministry and 'administry' relies on 'committees' that are in reality teams; our students' and juniors' ministry, our publications, our overseas ministry and our finances. Teams put together *Triple Helix* and *Nucleus* and this newsletter. Teams run our conferences. CMF teams will travel to the former USSR and Eastern Europe this summer to run evangelistic camps. And in every region of the country and in every medical school there are teams of Christian medics seeking to encourage one another and stir each other up to love and serve our master.

I hope you will be encouraged to read in this newsletter what some of the various teams that make up CMF are doing; and that in whatever family, church, NHS or other team that God has placed you, you will be reminded that nothing of significance was ever achieved by an individual acting alone.

Peter Saunders
CMF General
Secretary



Peter Saunders

New Appointments



Becky Brain

BECKY BRAIN has been appointed as South-West staffworker, working two days per week for two years from the beginning of August 2002. Becky will be based in Cardiff and will be supporting Christian medical students in Cardiff,

Bristol and in the new school opening this summer in Exeter/Plymouth. Becky qualified MBChB in Cardiff in 2001, and will be continuing flexible training in general practice alongside her CMF post. She will take over the Cardiff and Bristol groups from Ruth Selwood who will move her activity further East to Nottingham and Leicester. Please remember Becky in prayer as she takes up her new responsibilities. If you would like to receive her prayer letters on a regular basis then please contact the CMF Office.



Jacky Engel

JACKY ENGEL BMedSci MPhil has acted as the CMF Publications Assistant in the last year whilst studying towards an MA in medical ethics and law. Her work on CMF publications, and in particular the upgrade of the website, has

been invaluable. With the approval of the CMF Executive Committee, Jacky has been offered and accepted a full time post as Publications and Research Assistant for a further year, and will work in conjunction with the CMF Medical Study Group and Publications Committee.

New Staff still needed

Assistant General Secretary

We are looking to develop CMF's ministry further by appointing a full time medically qualified Assistant General Secretary to work alongside Peter Saunders and share his current duties covering the full range of CMF's activities. Postgraduate medical qualification required, along with significant experience in Christian ministry and administration, and a commitment to CMF's core ministries of evangelism, ethics, medical mission, publishing and pastoral support of Christian doctors and medical students. The post would, to a large extent, be shaped around the experience, gifts and abilities of the successful applicant. Salary based on clinical lecturer scales. Please contact Peter Saunders if you would like to explore this exciting London-based opportunity. Job description and person specification are available on request.

Regional Staffworkers and Relay Workers

We are constantly on the look out for individuals able to take some time out from their medical commitments to work amongst students and junior doctors at a local or regional level on a part or full-time basis. There are immediate needs in Scotland, London and the North of England, and further opportunities may well arise in the near future. Staffworker posts are normally 4-5 sessions per week for two years, and relay posts part or full-time for 6-12 months, but other models are possible and we try to fit posts around an applicant's location and stage. In the past staffworkers and relay workers have been 24-32 years of age and have spent the rest of their time in part-time SHO, SpR, or GP trainee or retainer posts, or doing Bible College study.

Members' News

Congratulations

On their postgraduate qualifications

Brian Cleaver	FRCA
Paul Main	FRCGP
Francesca Perlman	MFPHM
Kevin Turner	DM (Oxford)

Kevin's thesis was awarded the European Association of Urology Thesis Award 2002

On their awards and appointments

Anne Merriman	MBE for services to healthcare in Uganda
Annie Garden	Chair of Medical Education in Liverpool

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:

Mary Millar (q Glasgow 1963; d 14 April 2002) was clinical director of radiology and imaging at Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow before her retirement. She also served as medical adviser to the Overseas Missionary Fellowship and was an active CMF member in Glasgow.

Richard Johanson (q Cambridge 1982; d 21 February 2002) was Professor of Obstetrics at Keele University and a consultant at North Staffordshire Maternity Hospital, Stoke on Trent. He cared passionately about the welfare of pregnant women and their babies and worked throughout his final illness to complete his work and to establish an ongoing research programme. (www.childbirthwithoutfear.org.uk)

Movements

Outgoing

Brian Carson (Belfast) to Kenya
Elizabeth Chong (Charing Cross & Westminster) to Malaysia
Sally Hall (Birmingham) to Gambia
Peter Ripley (Aberdeen) to New Zealand

Homecoming

Stroma Beattie (Edinburgh) from Singapore
Francesca Elloway (Bristol) from Uganda
Andrew Furber (Newcastle) from Nepal
Andrew Gaston (Bristol) from Malawi
Alison Geddes (St. Andrews) from South Africa
Rodney Gowers (Sheffield) from USA
Lorraine Graham (Belfast) from Nepal
Ifeanyichukwu Okike (Turkey) from Turkey
David Rodgers (Belfast) from Nepal
Andrew Stewart (Edinburgh) from Netherlands
Liz and Paul Bendor-Samuel (Cardiff) from Tunisia

General Practice

GP employment rights

Christian GPs whose practices have a 'basis of faith' should be aware of the EU Employment Rights Directive which must be implemented by all member states by December 2003. The government's consultation process is still underway, but it is likely that practices with a genuine basis of faith may be exempted from the religious (but not the sexual orientation) rules. The directive implies that practices can insist on all staff subscribing to a basis of faith where that is necessary to preserve the organisation's ethos. It is not yet known if the new rules will apply to the admission of persons into a partnership, as opposed to the granting of a contract of employment.

Practices which have a basis of faith are advised to ensure that, by 2004, they can demonstrate that the practice has a Christian ethos such that it requires all employees and partners to be Christians.

Pregnancy Crisis and Post Abortion CARELINE... 0800 028 2228

The PCPA CARELINE is a national free-phone helpline for those facing a crisis pregnancy or experiencing problems following an abortion. CARELINE counsellors are trained and experienced crisis pregnancy and post-abortion counsellors offering unconditional care, non-judgmental counselling, acceptance and unbiased information helping callers to reach an informed decision. The CARELINE is currently open between 10am and 3pm Monday to Friday and on Monday evenings. To find out more visit the website www.pregnancy.org.uk or email Alison.macklin@tinyworld.co.uk.

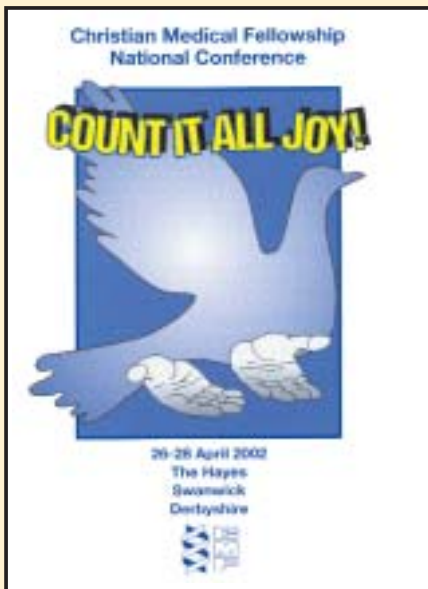


Conference Reports

CMF National Conference 26-28 April 2002

'Count it all Joy' was the conference title and an apt description of the atmosphere at a wonderful weekend which 220 attended. Rob Scott-Cook's expositions from the book of Philippians were well illustrated with many stories from his own life experience. Dr Val Inchley delivered the Rendle Short Lecture on 'The Theology of Medical Mission', which was so well received that she had to lead a discussion on it the next day. It is difficult to choose from the many excellent parallel sessions. To mention just one, Nigel Rawlinson's 'Godliness in the workplace' presented much that was valuable. In particular it was helpful to hear him say that if you enter a room and assume the people there have some faith, however small, it is easier to bring God into the conversation. He added that our mentioning God honours their seeking. I found that refreshing and encouraging. Not everyone is hostile to the gospel and by remembering that we are more ready to speak out. There were a good number of children and teenagers, ably led by the Scripture Union team. They took part in the Sunday morning service and it was a delight to see their drama and hear their singing.

Clare Cooper



Hope 21

Over 2,000 Christian leaders from over 40 countries through Europe and the former USSR attended this huge conference in Budapest, Hungary on 26-30 April. The main aim of the conference was to 'kick-start' specialist interest groups and there were 25 conferences within the main conference on issues as diverse as church planting to children's work. Several CMF members attended the Healthcare track and Peter Saunders, CMF General

Secretary, was on the steering committee for the apologetics track, the largest in the conference, which attracted 120 participants from 30 countries. CMF's training initiatives were extremely well received, especially *Confident Christianity* and *Ishmael my Brother*. The track has already led to the launch of the *European Apologetics Network*, which will link and strengthen Christian apologists throughout Eurasia.

CNM Conference

'Christian Nurses and Midwives' met together for their first official weekend conference at Feldon Lodge, Hertfordshire, in March. Simon Ogbourn gave a series of talks on Christian ethics in practice, explaining the proper basis for a methodology to think Christianly about ethical issues. A number of areas were covered including the ethics of life and death. Optional seminars covered genetics, research, mission and other subjects. During the weekend the first AGM was held at which Ros Holliday was elected as president. The constitution of CNM was ratified and the UCCF doctrinal basis formally incorporated into it. For more information on CNM telephone 07941 800637, email info@cnm.org.uk or visit the website at www.cnm.org.uk.

Ishmael My Brother

About 20 people attended the latest weekend *Ishmael my Brother* Conference run by CMF in London to equip members to reach out with the Gospel to Muslim patients and colleagues. With over 50% of some medical school intakes now Muslim, this will be an area of increasing activity in future. Please pray that those attending will be able to make the most of opportunities for witness to Muslims that God gives (see article on 'Religious Tolerance on Campus' in the July *Triple Helix*)

How to be cheerful

The CMF Rheumatology breakfast in Brighton on 25 April enjoyed a stimulating and encouraging address on 'how to be cheerful' by Prof Hill Gaston from Addenbrookes Hospital. CMF members of the BSR were joined by local CMF members and members of the Allied Health Professionals in Rheumatology, bringing the number of early eaters to 34. This was just one of a dozen CMF breakfast meetings for specialties this year.

Upcoming Conferences

CMF Autumn Conferences

The autumn conference season is almost upon us and publicity will be mailed shortly. Weekend regional conferences include Northern Irish (11-13 October), South-East (8-10 November), Northern (10-20 October) and Scottish (8-10 November) and there will be Day Conferences in the

Midlands (12 October), Oxford (2 November) and Cardiff (16 November).

Media Training Days

Two further media training days for CMF members were held in London and Edinburgh on 25 May and 14 June, and CMF former General Secretary Andrew Fergusson and 'friendly' BBC producers Andrew Graystone and John Forrest put those attending through their paces on radio and television interview techniques. We are running three more media training days this year. Local members are being mailed, but if you are out of area and would still like to come please contact Judy Wilson at the CMF Office.

London	Sat 14 September
Leicester	Fri 27 September
Sheffield	Sat 28 September

A new advanced media course focusing on 'sexual health issues' is being planned for the autumn. Watch this space.

Saline Solution 18-19 October 2002

This popular course on 'bringing Christ into the consultation' was initially developed by members of CMDA, our US sister organisation. Now we would like to tailor it to a UK context and are running a special conference to evaluate the course and to plan how to take the initiative forward in the UK. The conference, for about 20-30 doctors, will be held at West Hills House, Birmingham on 18-19 October, to follow on directly from the Birmingham Doctors' Dilemmas course (see below). We are looking for CMF members who have a genuine burden to share Christ more effectively with patients to come and take part. Initial invitations have gone out, but if you would like to be involved then please contact Peter Saunders at the CMF Office (peter@cmf.org.uk).

Doctors' Dilemmas GP Refresher Course 16-18 October

Sixth year of the popular West Midlands PGEA-approved course examining the ethical and spiritual implications of a diversity of medical advances. Held in the beautiful surroundings of West Hills House, South Birmingham. Course fee £230, accommodation £100-140. Enquiries: Dr Rosalie Bidgood, Horsehill House, Ribbesford, Bewdley, Worcs DY12 2TU. Tel 01299 403191. Fax 01299 400408. Email R.Bidgood@charis.co.uk.

World Conference on Bioethics II

The second world conference on bioethics is to be held in Gijon (Spain) from 30 September to 4 October, organised by the SIBI (International Society of Bioethics). Further details, including a full programme, are available from II Congreso Mundial de Bioetica. Email IICONGRESO@SIBI.ORG

Ethics

CMF Ethics Submissions

The General Medical Council will circulate its guidance on **Withdrawal of Treatment decisions** to all doctors in the next two months. CMF made an official submission last July (available on the website at www.cmf.org.uk/subs/withdraw.htm) and a number of individual members were involved in the subsequent consultation process. Indications are that the document has been improved significantly, but we will know the full story soon. Meanwhile we are preparing a submission on the Lord Chancellor's document on *Mental Incapacity*. The latter contains guidance on advance directives in large part compiled from advice supplied by the Voluntary Euthanasia Society.

Withdrawal of treatment decisions and advance directives remain significant back door routes to euthanasia, and the price of freedom is eternal vigilance.

New Masters Course in Bioethics

Everyday, it seems, some new medical ethical problem appears in the news: whether to do with assisting suicide or withdrawing treatment, human cloning or resource allocation. There is an obvious need for Christians, and especially for healthcare professionals, both to be informed about the breadth of the issues involved and to be clear about the ethical principles at stake. To address this need St Mary's College in Twickenham is starting an MA in Bioethics. It will be the first masters level programme in bioethics or medical ethics in the UK to be associated with a theology faculty or a Christian College and it will be taught from the perspective of the Hippocratic Judeo-Christian tradition. The course will start in September 2002 and will be offered part time over two years with classes/seminars one evening a week during term time. Modules include Principles of Bioethics, Philosophy of the Person, Medical Law and Christian Bioethics as well as topics in

more specific areas of medical ethics. For applications and further details please contact Rev Michael Hayes, Head of Department, St Mary's College, Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, TW1 4SX. Tel: 020 8240 4191. Email hayesm@smuc.ac.uk

National Day of Prayer about Abortion

Since abortion was decriminalised in 1967, more than 5 million unborn babies in the UK have been killed by abortion. Last year 186,200 babies were aborted in England and Wales and a further 11,995 in Scotland. A national day of prayer about abortion will be held on Sunday 27 October, the anniversary of the passing of the Abortion Act. Christians nationwide are asked to organise prayer events or join individually in prayer on the day. A free prayer pack with details of the day, facts and figures about abortion and suggested prayer topics can be obtained from IMAGE, Coverdale Centre, Ardwick, Manchester M12 4FG. Email stuart.image@mcr1 Tel 0161 799 5180.

Publications

New Publications

We have several new publications in the pipeline at varying stages of development. Michael Webb-Peplow is editing a new book titled *Christian Distinctives in Medicine*, which we plan to publish late this year. It is composed of thirty-five chapters and draws on the extensive archive of excellent material published previously by CMF. We also plan to re-publish *Cure for Life* by Bernard Palmer shortly. Two thousand copies have been pre-sold thereby ensuring that the costs of the print run are covered even before CMF sales. Another member has been commissioned to write a sample chapter and to prepare chapter summaries for a new book entitled *Hard questions about health and healing*. Following receipt of this material, a decision will be taken regarding the publication of the book in 2003.

Dominic Beer is editing a new multi-author book on the 'Mad, Bad or Sad?' debate in psychiatry which will discuss the nature of evil and mental illness and is in advanced preparation. Work is also proceeding on producing a revised English edition of John Wyatt's book *Matters of Life and Death*. A French translation is already in existence, and work has already begun on a Russian translation.

Web site (www.cmf.org.uk)

The web site continues to attract a substantial number of hits (over 500,000 visitors thus far) and the hit rate is likely to increase further with the launch of the completely re-designed and more attractive web site shortly. A revised CD-ROM is being produced to include all of the additional material on the new web site. The Publications Committee has also agreed that a web site should be set up either as part of the CMF site or separately to highlight the resources for schools offered by CMF which have proved so popular, particularly by those pursuing A level religious studies.

CMF Bookpacks

300 students and doctors at the ICMDA World Congress will receive a 'gift pack' of CMF publications consisting of *Matters of Life and Death*, *Christian Choices in Healthcare*, the CMF CD-ROM, and back issues of *Triple Helix* and *CMF Files*. This will be a great boost particularly for those from developing countries or others where Christian medical literature is in short supply.

CMF Files in Schools

In autumn 2000 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. We now plan to send the next 7 CMF Files to the same 2,000 schools and all 17 files to a further 1,000 schools. 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.

Publications Fund needs support

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

Publications



Students

New Appointment

We are delighted that **Becky Brain** (South-West staffworker) will be joining the team this summer (see page 2 for more details)

Student Staff News

Mark Pickering has very quickly settled into his new role as Student Secretary (see interview in the April *CMF News*) and has taken over as managing editor of *Nucleus*, supervising the students' co-ordinating committee, and communications with reps. Now that the July *Nucleus* is at the printers Mark is beginning to organise the Confident Christianity Training Tour for next autumn/spring (see below)

Give thanks for the work of three of our student staffworkers who move back into full time medicine this summer after making a fantastic contribution to the life of the fellowship.

Malcolm Savage completes one year full time as North England staffworker at the end of July and after helping to lead summer teams to Armenia and Poland will return to GP training. He will stay involved with supporting students in Sheffield.

James May completes six months part-time with CMF in West London, and is currently carrying out a world view survey of London medical students as part of research for his GP training.

Richard Collins completes six months full time in East London, and recently spoke at the Romanian Christian medical students' conference. He also returns to general practice.

Tim Lewis has completed his first year as staffworker in Ireland and after leading a summer trip to Russia (see below) he will continue for another year.

Ruth Selwood completes two years as West UK staffworker and, with Becky Brain's appointment (see page 2) will move to cover Nottingham and Leicester, in addition to carrying on with Warwick and Birmingham.

All our student staff 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 August for North England, London and Scotland, so if you think God may be nudging you please contact Peter Saunders for more details (see advert p2)

Confident Christianity – Autumn/ Spring 2002-3

Confident Christianity is a great day conference that gives some really practical advice and teaching on the why and how of evangelism, as well as dealing with the difficult questions that often get raised in response to the gospel. The aim is to help you step out in confidence and share your faith persuasively with your friends, letting the Holy Spirit loose on them! The last *Confident Christianity* Evangelism Training Tour finished in Spring 2000, but we are planning another for the autumn/spring of 2002/2003 with a dozen day conferences all over the UK and Ireland. This year we will involve CMF members along with students from local CUs, Lawyers' Christian Fellowship, Christian Dental Fellowship, UCCF Nurses and Therapy

students. The days will consist of a 10am-5pm Saturday session, usually at a central church venue. Watch this space for dates and venues. 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

National Conference 2003

The 2003 CMF National Students' Conference will be held at Swanwick on the weekend of 7-9 February 2003. **Don Carson**, Professor of New Testament Theology from Trinity College Illinois, is the main Bible Reader and the theme is 'Turning Points'. The new date (three weeks later than usual) should allow more students from schools that have a semester system to come. Please pray for the students' coordinating committee (SCC) as they make plans for the conference. About 320 attended last January's conference including 40 students from 20 countries abroad.

New Nucleus Editor

Neil Fisher, *Nucleus* Editor since October 2001, is handing over to **Helen Barratt** of Imperial College Medical School from 1 October this year. Helen brings lots of experience to the job, with two years already on the *Nucleus* team along with time as a Clegg Scholar with the *BMJ*. Neil, who graduates next year, has made a fantastic contribution during his time as editor.

New Medical Schools

Exeter/Plymouth and Norwich are opening for students this September - and a new group is also being established in Teesside. Pray for our new medical school secretaries **Drs Jo Durban** (Norwich) and **Helen Keenan** (Exeter/Plymouth) as they make contact with Christian students and begin to establish local groups. Pray also that student CMF reps will be found quickly.

BMA Conference

CMF Student members managed to get ten motions passed at the BMA Annual Students' Conference in April, and this year several of these have made it through to the BMA Annual Meeting. CMF has been invited back officially onto the BMA Medical Students' Committee (MSC) for the fourth year running. Much thanks go to **Michael Wheble**, who has represented CMF on the MSC for the last year, and to **Laurence Crutchlow**, who represented us at the students' conference.

Student Leaders' Weekend

This year will be held at the Gaines Youth Centre, Worcestershire on 27-29 September. Please get the date in your diaries now make sure that 2-3 from your medical school are able to come. Publicity will be out soon.

Electives Advice

The following two resources (just updated!) 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 Peter Armon (CMF Overseas Support Secretary) at the CMF Office. Email peter.armon@cmf.org.uk.

Elective Grants

MMA Healthserve is celebrating its 125th anniversary and would like to give 125 elective grants to students studying in English or Welsh universities over the next two years! Contact MMA HealthServe, First Floor, 106-110 Watney Street, London E1 2QE. Tel 020 7790 1336. Email info@mmahealthserve.org.uk.

The Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society offers a similar service to students studying at Scottish or Northern Irish universities for their overseas electives.

For more details contact EMMS, 7 Washington Lane, Edinburgh EH11 2HA. Tel 0131 313 3828. Email info@emms.org.

CMF Summer Teams

When **Dasha Boguslavskaya**, then still a medical student, helped to organise the first ever conference for Russian Christian medical students in her home town of Samara, South Russia, just two years ago, she was amazed when over 60 students from six different cities attended. Former CMF Staffworkers Alex Bunn and Mike Reynolds led the UK team, which helped lead the conference. They have been back several times since, and now through the work that was started through Dasha and others like her, there are Christian medical student groups in over ten cities in the former USSR. This July/August we are sending out eight teams of students and juniors to lead week-long evangelistic camps for medical students in Russia, Central Asia, Armenia, Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

Four of the teams are going to Russia. Two are from London. **Bernard Palmer** is leading a team to speak at this year's camp in **Samara**, whilst **Mike Reynolds** leads a similar camp further south in **Rostov**. **Tim Lewis**, CMF Ireland staffworker, is leading a team from Dublin to **St Petersburg** and **Mark Stirling**, Edinburgh Medical School Secretary, is leading a doctor/student team from Edinburgh to **Chilyabinsk** in the Ural mountains. **Chris Richards**, Newcastle paediatrician, takes a group from Newcastle to **Yerevan** in Armenia, for the first ever Christian medics' conference there, and **Malcolm Savage** will lead a Sheffield team to help with an IFES camp in **Poland**. Another group from West UK are helping to lead an evangelistic camp at a location in **Central Asia** where there are already several Christian medical student groups established (details confidential). Meanwhile, an Oxford team, under **Chris Downing's** leadership (South UK staffworker) returns to **Albania** (see last January's *Triple Helix*) for a second year.

All these ventures are helping to establish and build valuable regional links and partnerships which will bear great fruit for God's Kingdom in years to come. Please pray for all the conferences and camps; for the teams going and for those students coming, that they will really meet freshly with the Lord and that he will do more great things.

Mission Matters

Peter Armon writes

Sitting at the Overseas Desk is proving to be both interesting and challenging with all sorts of requests and intriguing items of interest arriving.

'Can you find a doctor who would be willing to accompany a group of elderly war veterans on a reconciliation trip to Japan, next week, all expenses paid?' (Could I take compassionate leave, I asked myself?)

'Do you know of a surgeon who would be willing to work for a month or two as a locum in a country in the midst of civil war?' (He might have difficulty entering the country as most flights in have been cancelled!)

'I have a garage full of surgical instruments - do you know of anyone who might need them?'

'What can I do with a case full of old spectacles?'

'I'm just clearing out my Office and have a large number of old BMJ's, does anyone need them?'

'We need 20 BNF's to give to our students, can you find a source of supply?'

Life is full of interest and I am beginning to find the answers to some of the questions that are put my way.

Advising those trying to make life-changing decisions about working abroad is even more of a challenge. I need your prayers for wisdom. Is there a need to be radical and push the challenge to 'forsake all and go', trusting in a God we say is fully able to meet all our needs (including the problems of re-entry into the UK medical scene at a later date), or should we be more 'careful' and 'sensible' in our advice. There is a balance to maintain but are we in danger of erring too much on the side of caution? What is God saying in a situation where it is getting increasingly difficult to answer 'the call' to mission overseas because of the rules and regulations imposed upon us and the 'impractical' nature of our training. Or is it just that the difficulties of today are of a different nature. At least today's missionaries or their children are unlikely to die within a month of arriving and communications with loved ones back home take seconds rather than months.

Current needs

Opportunities overseas abound and specific job vacancies are to be found both in *Triple Helix* and the MMAHealthServe Magazine. There are plenty of calls for those with the years of experience who are about to retire as well as those in the flush of youth and with the eagerness to serve God 'where ever'. Why not read up on the issues involved.

Retyred?

MMAHealthServe have recently produced a small booklet entitled *Re-tyred - not retired*. It contains some articles by medics who have taken up the challenge.

Locums and Locums for locums?

Would you be willing to undertake a locum for an overseas member returning on home leave? Or would you be willing to undertake a locum in this country for someone else who is off to do an overseas locum. Either way, please drop me a line and let me know. I would like to build up a database of such folk.

Travelling to exotic places?

I was greatly encouraged by the number of folk I met at the recent CMF National Conference who had made 'incognito' visits overseas recently to help out in a variety of ways. Such work is greatly appreciated by our overseas members. If you are planning a trip abroad and there is the possibility that you could include a visit to one or some of our members working in that country, do please let me know so that I can try and put you in touch. Like Paul we should be eager to encourage one another in the faith (Romans 1:12) and it can be a time of mutual blessing to both visitor and overseas worker.

Mentors

We are also looking for folk in the UK who would be willing to link up with overseas members working in their Speciality, to act as 'mentors' and encouragers to them in the work that they are doing. If you are interested in being available for such work, do please let me know.

Eagerly sought items

What to do with your old books, magazines, unwanted instruments and spectacles? I'm still working on the instruments but I can give you addresses where your old spectacles, books and BNF's would be greatly appreciated (not to Partnership House I hasten to add)

Refugee doctors

'The alien living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him as yourself...' (Leviticus 19:33) Over 600 refugee doctors in the UK are known to the BMA, and it is estimated that there may be over 2,000 in total. Most are not yet fully registered to work in the UK but given support to get through the appropriate exams (PLAB etc), most would love to work here, and could make a valuable contribution. We would love to help. Please let me know if you are a refugee doctor, or are already involved in helping refugee doctors, or would like to help them with exam preparation and clinical placements.

Dates for your diary

Overseas Update - the Residential Refresher Course July 7th-18th 2003

Global Health Care Forum. A meeting to consider 'The role of the mission hospital in the 21st century' at Partnership House, London - November 27th 2002

Junior Doctors

National Juniors' Conference - 30 August-1 September

Imitating Christ is the title of the 6th annual junior doctors' 'Beyond the Bleep' weekend conference to be held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire on the weekend of 30 August-1 September. Sheffield General Surgeon Bill Thomas is the main speaker and there will be a range of seminars on juniors' issues. The conference is targeted at those in the first four years' post graduation. Publicity has been mailed and 80-100 juniors are expected to attend. If you are a junior why not phone Medical Staffing in your next job now to ensure that you can get the weekend off?

Pastoral Care

Starting house-jobs 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.

Junior Doctors' Away Day

About 20 juniors attended an away day in Leicestershire on 15 June to pray, brainstorm and plan for CMF's future ministry amongst juniors. Lots of great new ideas and several new members for the junior doctors committee have so far resulted. Watch this space!

Juniors' Open House

There are now eight regular 'open house' meetings for juniors in different parts of the country (see bak page). These are proving invaluable in providing fellowship, encouragement and support. If you would like to start one up in your area then contact us for an 'open house pack' with lots of ideas and we will put you in touch with others who have done it for advice about what works best.



International Christian Medical and Dental Association

'We do not know what we ought to pray for'

There are not many situations in which Paul admits 'I don't know' but this is one of them and it speaks to the common experience of us all. How good that he brackets the sentence with 'the Spirit helps us in our weakness' and 'the Spirit Himself intercedes for us'.

News, Praise & Prayer

Faced with the immense challenges and changes on the world scene it is easy to retract into our corner. The current edition of ICMDA's News, Praise and Prayer specially produced for the July World Congress in Taiwan covers news of all ICMDA's member associations set out in a framework for prayer. It will help us to expand our prayer commitment to colleagues around the world. If you have not seen a copy and would like to have it please contact the office.

World Congress, Taipei June 29th – July 7th

Nearly 700 delegates joined for this congress including over 200 students from 40 different countries. In all, over 200 people were helped with bursary grants (thank you to those who contributed to this fund). Mark Pickering did an excellent job in organising and leading the student conference. Prof. John Wyatt was a keynote speaker and Janet Goodall, Trevor Stammers and Peter Saunders participated in the seminar programme. In all about 35 CMF members and students attended.

ICMDA European Conference 2004

The sixth European Conference of the International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) will be held at Schloss Eringerfeld, Paderborn, Germany on 8-12 September 2004. There will be a student pre-congress from 6-8 September.

Relocation of ICMDA International Office

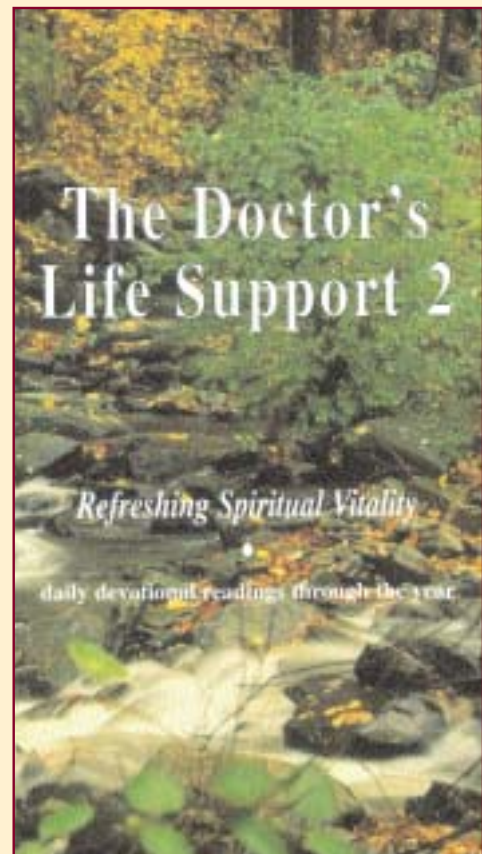
As announced in the last *Triple Helix* and *CMF News*, Dr Ralph Sinn of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada takes over as General Secretary of ICMDA on 1 October. The office will relocate to Edmonton at that time. Address details in next edition of *CMF News*.

Peter Pattison will continue in an honorary role as Regional Secretary for Europe working from home in Kent.
Email prmp@ukonline.co.uk. Tel 01892 824872

ICMDA email address at icmda@compuserve.com will continue for the time being.

Doctor's Life Support 2

Many will know the popular first edition, produced in 1986. This is a completely new edition of devotional readings for a year, written by and designed for doctors, dentists and students and coming in a new slim line format. It fits easily in a white coat pocket, hand-bag or on the consulting room desk. The style is similar to before, but the daily contributions shorter and from a wider cultural background. It makes an excellent gift for a colleague or student. Retail price £7.50 through CMF or from ICMDA office.



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.net

Finances

2001 Accounts. There is much to give thanks for financially in the last 12 months. The Fellowship accounts for the year, which now account for all the funds of the CMF Trust Ltd and the Fellowship show a surplus of just under £70,000 on income of just over £750,000. This improves on the surplus in 2000 of £25,000. We are immensely grateful to the Lord for the provision of our needs, and for this surplus during the current period of growth in CMF's activity.

The surplus has resulted from the very generous support of the membership, the

response to the increase in subscription as from 1999, the income tax recovered under the new Gift Aid rules, and judicious control of costs. In addition the stock of books has also been drawn into the accounts for the first time, providing a one off increase in resources of £16,180.

1st Quarter accounts for 2002. The Executive approved a balanced budget in February 2002, and the 1st quarter Management Accounts show a small deficit of £4,044. This indicates that the Fellowship's resources are quite finely balanced, and the financial pressures will remain as our activities develop.

Investments. During the 1st quarter of 2002, the first of the original investments, held in the name of the Trust has been

sold. During the 2nd quarter of 2002 this has been reinvested, following the newly formulated ethical policies agreed by the Executive, as part of a phased new investment programme.

Gift Aid. A very great deal of progress has been made in the area of Gift Aid, with just under 3,000 completed Gift Aid Declarations received from members. This represents the majority of those who are in position to sign such a declaration, although there is some further progress to be made in this area. Thank you to everyone who has filled in a Gift Aid Declaration.

Giles Rawlinson (Chief Administrator), Audrey Pegler (Accountant), Morwen Dyer (Gift Aid).