

Bearing Witness

Albania was a closed country until 1990. The dictator president Enva Hoxha, who had committed himself to establishing the world's first atheist state, had claimed that Albania would not be free until the last Christian priest had been strangled with the intestines of the last Muslim mullah. Churches and mosques were destroyed and thousands of religious leaders were executed or exiled, whilst he systematically cut off relations with Belgrade, Moscow and China between 1948 and 1980. Their communism was simply not radical enough.

After the revolution in 1990, the people pulled down his statue in Skanderbeg Square. Then followed the pyramid scandal, in which many Albanians lost all their savings, followed by complete civil breakdown resulting in 300,000 fleeing the country. Then the Kosovo crisis with the influx of 500,000 refugees. Now the country is making a painful transition to democracy.

I had the privilege of meeting the first two Albanian Christian medical students at an ICMFDA conference in Hungary back in 1996. When we visited Albania last month there were around 50 Christian doctors and medical students in the country, most of them converted from nominal Muslim backgrounds in the last five years. It was humbling to see the vibrancy of their faith and hear their vision for rebuilding their nation.

The Gospel of Christ can penetrate into the darkest of situations and bring new life and hope. As Christians we are called to bear witness to this message of the cross – but we need to be aware that it is a message that divides people. The apostles were welcomed as the 'fragrance of life' by some and rejected as the 'smell of death' by others,¹ as Albanian

Christians, and all others who have suffered in Christ's name, know only too well.

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There is evidence that our own post-modern society is becoming more antagonistic to the gospel. This may seem ironical in a culture that prides itself on tolerance and respect; but when we preach Christ as 'the only way'² or stand up for Christian values³ we should expect that there will be opposition. And whilst it must always be our aim to 'explain the hope that we have within us with gentleness and respect',⁴ we have to expect that, even then, some opponents will try to silence us, and even use political means to do so.

We have a long way to go to reach the depths of Albania under Hoxha, but over the past few months I have been made aware of three incidents in which opponents have attempted to silence Christian students. In the first (see editorial in July *Triple Helix*), a Muslim chaplain attempted to have CMF and UCCF banned from all campuses in the UK in the interests of 'religious tolerance'. In the second a university CU were told they could not use university premises for a Christian mission. The third incident involved a CU being banned from campus after a gay student group had complained about 'homophobia'.

The freedom to share our faith and to express our opinions on ethical issues is a fundamental democratic right protected by law (p4). And like Paul, who sought legal protection on

grounds of being a Roman citizen,⁵ we may need graciously to remind our opponents of what the law says, and stand up in defence of our junior members and students who are most likely to be victimised.

But even if the law in this country should change, we need to take to heart the example of the apostles, who when forbidden to share their faith, simply declared, 'We must obey God rather than men.'⁶ They were acting under higher authority, so simply refused to be intimidated – and also suffered for it.

This autumn's *Confident Christianity* evangelism training tour (p4), and the new *Ethics for Schools* website launched this September (p4) are two exciting initiatives for getting the Gospel message (and Christian values) more widely heard. Please pray for the success of these ventures, and please join in.

And as we do so, let's remember what a wonderful privilege it is to be bearers of the message of the cross. Let's pray for more opportunities to bear witness to it (and for the courage to take them), and let's also be prepared to count the cost, so that others, can come to know Christ's love and forgiveness like our new brothers and sisters in Albania.

Peter Saunders
CMF General
Secretary



Peter Saunders

- 1 2 Corinthians 2:16
- 2 John 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:15; Acts 4:12
- 3 John 7:7
- 4 1 Peter 3:15
- 5 Acts 22:25
- 6 Acts 5:29

New Appointments



Kerry Waterfield

KERRY WATERFIELD has just been appointed as North-East CMF Staffworker, working four sessions a week for two years from the beginning of September 2002. Kerry will be based in Newcastle and will be supporting medical students and

junior doctors in Newcastle, Durham and Leeds. Kerry is originally from Northern Ireland and qualified MB ChB in Newcastle in 1998. Alongside her CMF post she will be continuing flexible training as an SHO in Palliative Care. Her husband Matt is a teacher.



Becky Petherick

BECKY PETHERICK has been appointed to work alongside Midland's staffworker Ruth Selwood for six months part-time from August 2002. Becky graduated MB ChB from Birmingham in June 2001 and will be supporting students

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

Please remember Kerry and Becky in prayer as they take up their new responsibilities.

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/East Anglia and the North West 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. Staffworkers spend the rest of their time in part-time SHO, SpR, or GP trainee or retainer posts, or doing Bible College study.

Contacting CMF staff

If we tell you that Peter Saunders' personal email address is peter.saunders@cmf.org.uk you should be able to guess the rest.

Medically qualified staff

General Secretary. Peter Saunders.
Overseas Support Secretary. Peter Armon.
Student Secretary. Mark Pickering.
Assistant Medical Secretary. Clare Cooper.
North-East England Staffworker. Kerry Waterfield.
Midlands Staffworker. Ruth Selwood.
Irish Staffworker. Tim Lewis.
South England Staffworker. Chris Downing.
South-West Staffworker. Rebecca Brain.
Midlands Relay Worker. Becky Petherick.

Office staff

Chief Administrator. Giles Rawlinson.
Office and Publications Manager. John Alford.
Doctors' PA. Judy Wilson.
Students' and Juniors' PA. Sandra Hartley.
Overseas PA. Joan Arnold.
Accountant. Audrey Pegler.
Publications/Research Assistant. Jacky Engel.
Office Assistant. Morwen Dyer.

Members' News

Congratulations

On their postgraduate qualifications
 Timothy Nunn MRCS

On their awards and appointments
 Alison Fiander Chair of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Wales, College of Medicine in Cardiff

If you have recently received an award, a new appointment or postgraduate qualification please let us know.

Movements

Outgoing

Simon Loader (Birmingham) to Bangladesh
Fiona Seaman (Glasgow) to Nepal
Richard Taylor (Bart's) to Canada

Homecoming

Stobhan Burns (Dublin) from Canada
Jamie Erskine (St. Bartholomew's Hospital) from Gambia
Hilary Johnson (Leicester) from Australia
Ian Levett (Southampton) from Yemen
Ailsa Martin (Glasgow) from Japan
Ruth Roberts (Birmingham) from Zambia

Change of address abroad

Alyas Masih (Pakistan) from Pakistan to USA

Obituaries

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

Douglas Black (q St Andrews 1936; d 13 September 2002) was Professor of Medicine in Manchester from 1959-77 and later President of the Royal College of Physicians. He is best remembered for the 1980 'Black report' on *Inequalities in Health*, which defined the moment where it was no longer possible to doubt that poverty and health were inextricably linked.

John (Jack) Darling OBE (q Belfast 1934; d 12 July 2002) was General Surgeon to the Ground-nut Scheme, Tanganyika, then in government service in Tanganyika and at Mulago Hospital, Kampala, Uganda. He later served as Consultant Surgeon and Superintendent to the County Hospital, Huntingdon, 1964 - 1976.

Robert Fleming (q The London 1932; d May 2002) was a General Practitioner before retiring in Bath.

Stuart Horner (q Birmingham 1956; d 1 June 2002) was Professor of Public Health in Preston. His life as a Christian in public health and his open witness at the BMA, where he served as chair of the Central Ethics Committee, were an example of a rare kind.

Douglas Jackson (q Guy's 1940; d 26 September 2002) was a Consultant Surgeon in the Accident Hospital, Birmingham and former CMF chairman. He founded the Birmingham burns unit, at that time the largest in the world, and devoted his life to the management of burns, introducing the 'pin-prick test' for assessing burn depth. He was a prominent and popular speaker and writer in CMF's early years.

Emrys Thomas (q Edinburgh 1929; d 19 March 2002) was a medical missionary with the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society. After qualifying he worked in Nazareth and Damascus, keeping the hospital open in 1945 when the city was shelled. In 1959 he went to Botswana where he worked in the mission hospital at Molepolole until he retired to Edinburgh in 1970.

Ann England (q Cardiff 1959; d 2002) worked as a Clinical Assistant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology before her retirement in Eastbourne.



Conference Reports

Media Training Days

This year's basic media training days have now finished with the London, Sheffield and Leicester events in September bringing the 2002 total to five. Over 90 CMF members have now attended a basic media training day and a number have spoken on radio and television since. We are planning more next year. In the meantime a new advanced media course focusing on 'sexual health issues' is scheduled for 22-23 November.

Student Leaders' Weekend

Over 50 student leaders and CMF staff attended the Student Leaders' weekend at the Gaines Youth Centre in Whitbourne, Worcestershire on 27-29 September. Tim Lewis led the Bible readings on 2 Timothy on the theme of 'Be strong in Christ Jesus' and other CMF student staff led seminars on leadership and evangelism. This time student leaders and staff in law, nursing and therapy joined us.



Delegates at Junior Doctors' Conference

Junior Doctors' Conference

Beyond the Bleep 2002 focussed on 'Jesus: Our Ultimate Example'. Sheffield Surgeon Bill Thomas gave the Bible readings and a range of seminars tackled juniors' issues. About 90 junior doctors in the first three years post-graduation attended, including three delegates from Germany.

Upcoming Conferences

CMF Autumn Conferences

The autumn conference season is now well underway and you should have already received publicity for conferences in your region. Weekend regional conferences include Northern Irish (11-13 October), Northern (18-20 October), South-East (8-10 November), and Scottish (8-10 November) and there will be Day Conferences in the Midlands (12 October), Sheffield (17 October), Oxford (2 November) and Cardiff (16 November).

Saline Solution - 18-19 October

Saline Solution is a popular course for integrating faith and practice developed by our US sister organisation CMDA. This two-day conference in Birmingham, led by Bob Snyder and Bill Peel, examines how it could be adapted to a UK context.

'Playing with Humanity - where do we draw the line?'

Nigel Cameron and Andrew Fergusson will be main speakers at this CBPP conference covering issues in bioethics from a Christian perspective in London on 2 November 2002. Online booking is available at www.cbpp.ac.uk/booking1.htm.

Ethics

CMF Ethics Submissions

CMF has recently made submissions to the Lord Chancellor's consultation on *Advance Directives* and to the Human Genetics Commission consultation on *Genetic Testing*. These are available on the CMF website at www.cmf.org.uk/ethics/subs/advance.htm and www.cmf.org.uk/ethics/subs/testing.htm respectively. Both consultations have closed but neither has yet reported its findings.

New Masters Course in Bioethics

This new course at St Mary's, Twickenham, trailed in the July edition of *CMF News*, started this September. Based on Judeo-Christian and Hippocratic principles, it has proved popular with CMF members with five having enrolled for the first year of part-time study.

National Day of Prayer about Abortion

A free prayer pack for this event on 27 October 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.

Junior Doctors

Junior Doctors' Committee

Following a brilliant juniors' conference we sadly say goodbye to several long-serving members of the junior doctors' committee who for various good reasons are moving on: Peter and Emily Barnsdale (emigrating to Canada), Richard Baxter (just married), Charlotte Lewis-Barling (new baby) and Katy Ozanne (mission work in Uganda). James Tomlinson and I are staying on and we are encouraged that a number of keen new juniors have already volunteered to join.

Survey Results

Over 240 (25% of junior members) returned the questionnaire we sent to find out how CMF is currently supporting juniors. Many of you said you were too busy with work or other commitments to be able to attend the current national or even regional meetings and conferences. But what you would like is:

- To know the other Christian juniors in your area and speciality
- More local fellowship and support groups
- Career guidance events
- Events aimed at particular specialities
- More day and evening meetings, rather than weekends

What of the future?

In the light of your replies, and our committee away day, the key ideas we'd like to take forward are:

- To encourage more local juniors groups (there are already ten 'open houses' - see p8)
- Lists of contact details for juniors in each area
- Careers Day
- Speciality Events
- Medical Missions Day

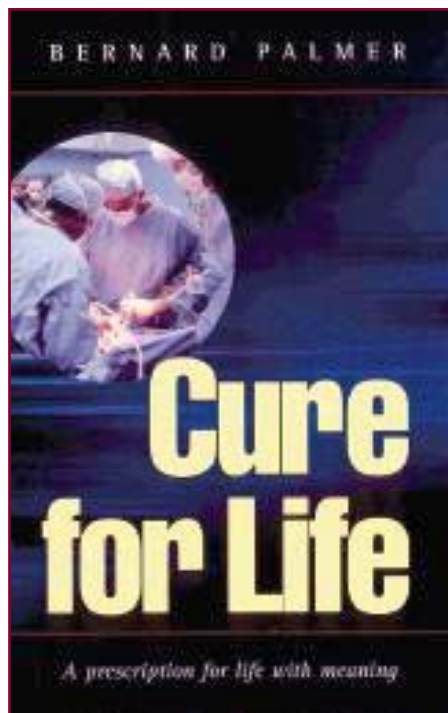
How can you get involved?

We can't do everything as a committee though, and there are lots of ways you can be involved:

- Set up a local Open House with a few colleagues - contact CMF office for a starter pack. Arrange a local evangelistic event - what about a dinner or ball?
- Get involved in your local BMA group
- Speak or write on an ethical issue - CMF can provide Media Training
- Write an article for CMF on an issue you feel passionately about

Sarah Germain

Publications



New Publications

The second edition of Bernard Palmer's popular book *Cure for Life* is now available through CMF. The book has also been translated into Albanian, and we are presently seeking to publish it through a partner organisation in that country. Meanwhile work continues on the other three books mentioned in the last edition of *CMF News*: *Christian Distinctives in Medicine*, *Hard Questions about Healing* and *Mad, Bad or Sad?*

Matters of Life and Death

This popular book by John Wyatt, which is already available in English and French editions, has now been translated into Russian and should be printed by the end of the year. There are now groups of Christian doctors and medical students established in about 20 cities throughout the former USSR, including many new converts, so the project is timely. *MLD* is currently being translated into Spanish and we have had enquiries from people offering to help with Hungarian, Romanian and Arabic editions.

Free books

Over 300 Christian doctors and medical students from developing countries received a free pack of CMF books valued at over £40 each at the ICMDA Conference in July. If our faith (and finances) had stretched further we could have used another 200. CMF's publications were particularly welcome to delegates from countries with little or no Christian medical literature of their own. English is increasingly the language of medicine, science and the internet, and Christian doctors all over the world are increasingly facing the same issues.



New CMF Website and CD-ROM

The new CMF website was finally launched in early September and has had a warm reception. Like the 2000 edition it is also available on CD-ROM and contains over 800 articles including 41 full editions of *Nucleus* and 19 of *Triple Helix*, in pdf (full design) as well as text format. Check it out on www.cmf.org.uk



Ethics for Schools

www.ethicsforschools.org is a new CMF website designed for students and teachers involved in religious studies and philosophy/ethics courses at GCSE and AS/A2 level which was launched on 25 September this year. It contains over 300 articles from CMF publications on bioethics and apologetics issues. The same week the religious studies departments of the 3,000 largest secondary schools in the UK were sent a complimentary set of *CMF Files* and information about CMF publications. The website is also available on CD-ROM. Why not purchase some copies for your local secondary school? (See insert in *Triple Helix*)

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 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!

Evangelism

Confident Christianity

The apostles shared their faith in words people understood, in an environment where their

hearers felt comfortable, and with opportunity for discussion. So should we! *Confident Christianity* is a one-day evangelism training course with a difference that employs just these principles. Since 1989 over 2,000 doctors, medical students and others have benefited from over 60 day conferences throughout the UK and beyond. A new 16-centre tour starts in Belfast on 26 October and finishes in Cardiff on 15 March 2003. Taught in an interactive style by CMF staff, the course aims to teach you to share your faith 'with gentleness and respect' (1 Peter 3:15) and to answer those difficult questions. Coming soon to a venue near you. Whilst the tour is aimed mainly at CMF's student members, doctors and non-medics are equally welcome. More information is available on the CMF website at www.cmf.org.uk/evang/conf/intro.htm or from the CMF Office on students@cmf.org.uk.

Belfast	26 October
Kilkenny	1-2 November
Sheffield	2 November
Dublin	9 November
Oxford	9 November
Leeds	16 November
Newcastle	23 November
Bristol	30 November
London	18 January
Glasgow	25 January
Plymouth	25 January
Leicester	22 February
Edinburgh	22 February
Manchester	1 March
Southampton	8 March
Cardiff	15 March

Freedom to evangelise

In view of recent difficulties experienced by some student Christian groups in their relationship with student unions and university bodies we have sought a legal opinion on this issue. The conclusions are as follows:

1. In the United Kingdom, there is both freedom of expression and freedom of religion; the courts will protect these rights against acts by 'over-enthusiastic' student bodies and universities.
2. Freedom of expression means that everyone (including both Christians and non-Christians) can express their views on the important socio-economic issues in societies.
3. Christians are free to express their views on issues such as; that homosexuality is a sin, that abortion and euthanasia are wrong and that the unsaved are in a dangerous situation.
4. Language by Christian students must be moderate, but this applies to non-Christians as well (and offensive attacks on Christians are not permitted).
5. Section 43 of the Education (No. 2) Act 1986 provides that universities and colleges must allow full freedom of speech, freedom of religious speech and access to all university facilities (rooms, minibuses and notice boards).
6. The university authorities may make arrangements for the well running of the campus, but such arrangements must be reasonable and 'non-discriminatory'; if they are unreasonable, or directed against Christians, the courts will strike them down.



Students

New Appointments

We are delighted that **Kerry Waterfield** (North-East staffworker) and **Becky Petherick** (Midlands relay worker) have joined the staff (see page 2 for more details). This brings the CMF student staff to eight. Regional Staffworkers are still needed in North-West England, Scotland and London/East Anglia.

Student Staff News

Mark Pickering led the students' preconference at the ICMDA World Congress in Taiwan (see p7) in July, and will continue as ICMDA Student Secretary, in addition to his CMF Student Secretary post. A number of new area student secretaries have been appointed by ICMDA to assist Mark, reflecting the continued growth of the work. These include two members of CMF UK. Mark's main tasks this term include planning the national students' conference in Swanwick and co-ordinating the *Confident Christianity* evangelism training tour. In addition to this he oversees the Student Executive (SCC) and *Nucleus* magazine.

Tim Lewis, now in his second year as Irish staffworker, led a summer team to St Petersburg in July (see below) and is gearing up to lead *Confident Christianity* day conferences in Belfast, Kilkenny and Dublin in October/November.

Ruth Selwood, now in her third year, has been involved in Freshers' events in Leicester and Nottingham and visited Bulgaria to lead the student track at a Balkans Christian Medical conference in early October.

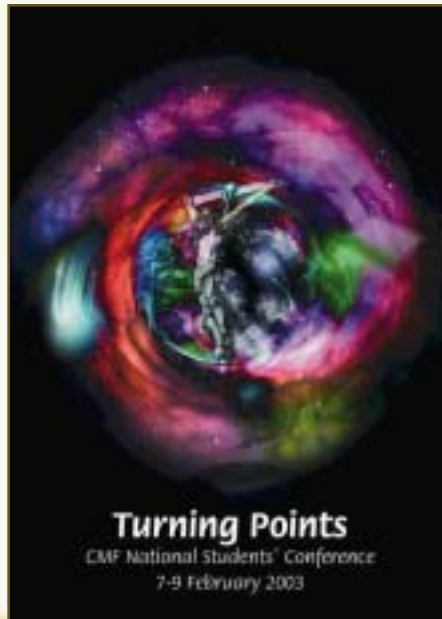
Chris Downing, after leading a summer team to Albania returned there in September with Peter Saunders to speak at a conference for Christian doctors. He is now supporting Christian student groups in Oxford, Southampton and West London. Chris and Sarah's first child Jonathan was born in August.

Rebecca Brain has made a flying start as South West staffworker covering Cardiff, Bristol and the new Peninsular School in Exeter/Plymouth, where a support network for students has been quickly established.

All our staffworkers produce regular prayer letters so if you would like to support any one of them in prayer please let us know.

Turning Points

Publicity is now out for the CMF National Students' Conference to be held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derbyshire on the weekend of 7-9 February 2003 and all students should receive a booking form with this mailing. Don Carson and John Patrick are the main speakers. Seminar topics include Surviving as a House Officer, Psychiatry, Nazi Doctors, Euthanasia and Cloning. 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 Medical Schools

New medical schools opened in Exeter/Plymouth and Norwich this autumn and plans are already well underway to establish CMF student groups in both. We are now looking for members willing to support Christian students in next summer's new schools in Brighton and York/Hull.

BMA News

Congratulations to Jenny Ciechan (Edinburgh) who has been re-elected as chair of the British Medical Association Medical Students' Committee (MSC), and also onto the BMA Central Ethics Committee. Meanwhile Francis Sansbury (Cambridge) takes over from Michael Wheble as the official CMF rep on the BMA MSC.

Freshers' Packs

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 Sandra on students@cmf.org.uk.

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 in 2003 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@healthserve.org

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 Suzan Mesropyan visited the Swanwick Student Conference this January the idea was sparked of running an evangelistic camp for medical students in her home country of **Armenia**. A link was established with CMF members in Newcastle and after much prayer and planning a team of junior doctors and students led by Chris Richards and Malcolm Savage visited Yerevan in August. About 30 students and doctors came to the camp, including several non-Christians, and in conjunction with the Armenian student leaders the Newcastle team got alongside people and helped run medical and ethical teaching and fun activities. Chris gave a series of talks on Romans which were very well received, and there was great interest and openness. The Newcastle team remains in touch by email and plans to strengthen the links over the coming year.

The Armenian Camp was just one of eight CMF doctor/student summer teams this year. Chris Downing led a group of junior doctors and students from Oxford to help lead a camp in **Albania** in August. Again for the second year running, Mark Stirling led a doctor/student team from Edinburgh to **Chilyabinsk**. Bernard Palmer led a team of four to **Samara** in South Russia, where over 60 medical students from six medical schools came for Bible and medical teaching. Tim Lewis led an Irish team to **St Petersburg** for the first time, whilst Mike Reynolds spoke at the inaugural medical student conference in **Rostov**, south Russia. Other teams visited **Poland** and **Central Asia**.

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.

Mission Matters

Peter Armon writes

Many thanks to those who have been in touch following the last newsletter. It's good to know that it's read! I think we have found a home for a few old spectacles, some surgical equipment and books. It's also been good to hear from some who are about to travel overseas and want to be put in touch with CMF mission partners in the area they are visiting.

Old BNFs

These are always in great demand and are treated like gold dust by some of our overseas partners. Don't throw them away, we can usually tell you of some one who needs them. Please get in touch.

Availability for overseas Locums

Several folk have expressed a willingness to have their names put on a database of available locums and I am working on that in conjunction with MMAHealthServe. Don't expect an immediate call but it's good to know who can be called upon when a need arises.

Refresher Course

This year's Refresher Course again took place in the beautiful surroundings of Oak Hill College, North London from 24 June – 5 July 2002. Thirty-four doctors, nurses and midwives attended including five who came as day visitors. Several different nationalities were represented and they came from many different working environments around the world. There were 'old timers' in cross-cultural work and several about to start out on an overseas assignment.

It proved to be very much a 'family affair' with 8 children present, ranging from 20 months to 9 years of age. Helen Clegg did an excellent job overseeing their care with

Mission Matters

some assistance from parents and others on occasions. David Clegg was back - as a participant during the first week and then to take over from Peter Armon who attended the ICMDA Conference in Taiwan during the second week of the course.

Several new speakers added their own particular spice to the mix. The majority of the participants evaluated the course as good or very good - both in presentation and content - with comments such as 'brilliant', 'very practical' and 'just what I needed'. It was interesting to find that several participants had been before and were coming back for more. Our thanks go to all the speakers who so willingly and freely give of their time and expertise year by year.

Many thanks must also go to Peter and Hilary Bewes who once again did a brilliant job of hosting the course and making every one feel at home. The more informal evening meeting where participants shared some of the joys and sorrows of their work were much appreciated, as were the morning and evening worship and Bible study sessions.

Several requests were made for some round-table discussions and practical workshops to be included in future events. So, watch this space. The 'member care' sessions were also much appreciated.

Next year's course will again be held at Oak Hill College in North London from 7-18 July 2003.

Please make it known to those who you think might benefit from it. Brochures will soon be available. Let me know if you want some.

Healthcare Mission forum – 27 November 2002

To be held under the auspices of the Healthcare Missions forum of Global Connections, this will take place at Partnership House, 157 Waterloo Road, London.

Aimed particularly at the CEO's of Mission Agencies and NGOs, it will consider the role of the Mission Hospital in the 21st century.

Speakers with considerable experience on the field, both expatriate and nationals from Asia, Africa and South America have been invited. If you are interested in mission, don't miss it.

For more information contact Steve Fouch at MMAHealthServe.
(Email steve@healthserve.org;
Tel: 020 7790 1336)

Conference for returned missionary couples 3 – 8 November 2002

Burrswood Christian Centre is holding a conference for missionary couples re-adjusting to life in the UK. It offers an opportunity to 'come aside and rest awhile' and a chance to take stock and recharge the batteries. The course will include training workshops, group work, personal interview, worship and recreation.

For more details, contact: Fiona Lloyd-Williams, The Conference Centre, Burrswood, Groombridge, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9PY. Tel: 01892 86363

Refresher Course attendees





International Christian Medical and Dental Association



Mark Pickering giving away books

ICMDA's XII World Congress held in Taipei, Taiwan, July 2002, saw 660 delegates gathering from more than 60 different countries. Among these were 250 lively students from 45 countries. ICMDA's scholarship fund reached £92,000 and was used to assist 123 graduate physicians and dentists and 85 students. Of this £33,000 was contributed through CMF (UK) and its membership. The emphasis on students, the younger generation of graduates and those from emerging countries was encouraging. Thank you, CMF, for your investment in the lives of these young colleagues from around the world (see report in the October 2002 *Triple Helix*)

The Sunday offering for ICMDA development topped £20,000 (including pledges) meeting the need for 2002. The projected need for 2003 is twice that figure.

ICMDA's XIII World Congress is scheduled for Sydney, Australia, July 2006 – a date for your diary.

ICMDA Development

The Taipei Congress gave stimulus to work in East Asia. With delegates from Mongolia, China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Philippines and Papua New Guinea, as well as from ICMDA's member countries in the region, there is great potential for growth

• Please pray for the appointment of God's man or woman to spearhead this work.

The Nigerian CMDA (1,000 graduate members and 2,000-3,000 involved students) is keen to develop work in West African neighbouring countries

• Please pray for wisdom and resources to make this a reality.

Southern Africa: Chris and Vicky Lavy in Blantyre, Malawi have encouraged a lively group of young graduates and students. Five of these were in Taipei. There is great need for pastoral work among doctors, dentists and students across the region.

• Please pray for Jeremy and Jane Bates as they settle into work in Malawi. Jane is a former ICMDA student secretary.

In **Europe** the needs are immense and varied. CMF personnel continue to make an enormous contribution across the continent – the mission field on our doorstep. In Taipei Dr Demosthenes Katsarkas (Greece) was appointed to chair an ICMDA European Committee. With Dr Peter Pattison as Secretary they will be partnering with CMF and other leading European movements as they seek to develop the work across Europe, leading up to ICMDA's European Conference in Germany (near Frankfurt) 8-12 September 2004 (students 6-12 September). A **date for your diary**. CMF members and students have traditionally been a bit coy of participation in European conferences – but *Europe needs you* and maybe you need Europe too!

Doctor's Life Support 2, the entirely new edition of ICMDA's book of devotional readings, is proving extremely popular. It makes an excellent Christmas gift to a colleague or student. Unit price £7.50 + p&p, available from CMF or ICMDA European office. The offer of three for the price of two has been extended to the end of the year (2002)

• Get one for yourself and give two away.

ICMDA International Office has moved to Canada:

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ICMDA Canada, #202, 8170 -50 St NW, Edmonton, AB, Canada T6B 1E6

Email: icmda@telus.net

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Tel: +44 (0) 1892 824872

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ICMDA (UK) Trust will continue and donations (bursaries for European conference and development) can be received at that address and will be handled through gift aid arrangements as before. Cheques should be made out to ICMDA (UK) Trust. **Credit Card transactions can no longer be handled in UK.**

Finances



2nd quarter accounts for 2002. The Executive approved a balanced budget of £719,000 in February 2002, but 2nd quarter management accounts show income £12,000 below budget and expenditure £18,000 above budget creating a **deficit of £28,000** at the half year. This follows annual surpluses of £25,000 and £70,000 respectively in 2000 and 2001. A number of factors contribute, but income is down due mainly to subscriptions staying at the same level as last year, rather than increasing, and the absence of any legacies, which last year gave a £15,000 boost to half-year income. Expenditure is up because the Refresher Course has been accounted for in the 2nd

quarter, rather than the 3rd, and because the computer system is ahead of budget as a result of changes being implemented to the membership database system.

At a time when many charities are struggling, we are thankful for the very generous support of our members. CMF's strength at a time when the stock market is suffering lies in the fact that over 90% of our income comes from members' subscriptions and donations (and tax recovered), rather than from investments or sales.

Relative to many other charities we own very few assets, and keep our investment cushion at a minimum meaning that we are never more than four or five months from 'going

out of business' completely. So what comes in is spent in ministry. This keeps us efficient and accountable. But there is no room for complacency. The full £75 subscription covers less than half of what CMF spends annually and so we are heavily reliant on the extra giving of members over and above subscriptions for our continued activity.

New BAC members needed. CMF's business advisory committee, which oversees the management of our finances, needs new members. We are particularly looking for the spouses of CMF members with experience in charity administration, accounting, business and law. Enquiries to Giles Rawlinson at the CMF Office.