

## Speaking Out

*'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.'*  
(Proverbs 31:8-9)

The 2004 autumn conference season - six weekend conferences, six day conferences and six *Saline Solution* training days - was a great blessing for those involved. I was greatly encouraged personally by the teaching and fellowship and if you managed to make it to one or more of these events I hope you were too.

The theme of November's Scottish Conference in Glasgow was 'Speaking Out'. Through his excellent Bible readings, Alastair Noble, Education Officer for CARE in Scotland, challenged us to be willing to speak up for the gospel and for Christian values in a world that is increasingly hostile to both. (If you didn't make it then tapes and CDs are available from the CMF Office) A series of seminars on the same theme drove home the message about speaking out to our society on bioethics, sexual health, work, disillusionment and for the disadvantaged. CMF members in Scotland are taking their responsibilities seriously and actively looking for opportunities to fulfill CMF's fourth aim of 'being a voice for Christian values in the church, profession and society'.

Francis of Assisi said, 'I share my faith with everyone I meet and occasionally I use words'. There is of course a great truth here - that actions of compassion speak louder about the love of Christ than mere speech does. But it disturbs me when I hear Christians using this as an excuse for keeping silent about the gospel and Christian values. I suspect that the real motivation is often not compassion but cowardice.

Speaking out for truth and justice is just one of many responsibilities we have as

Christians. But I suspect it is the one that we most willingly shirk, simply because it can be so costly. Being a Christian is costly in many ways. It is costly to live a life of obedience and service, costly to go on loving against the odds, costly to persevere when we are tempted to give up and costly to give generously of our energy, time and money. But when we speak out we pay a cost of a different kind, because speaking out makes us a target for attack.

John the Baptist lost his head for speaking out about vice and corruption - but he did not shrink from confronting individuals in power when it was appropriate to do so. The prophets and apostles were persecuted for what they said, rather than what they did. Jesus himself was crucified for his words, rather than his healing or his miracles.

And yet Christians are often reluctant to risk ridicule, attack or 'loss of influence' by putting their heads above the parapet. Karl Marx was particularly disdainful of Christian priorities, 'You Christians have a vested interest in unjust structures which produce victims to whom then you can pour out your hearts in charity'. And whilst we would not embrace his communist philosophy or solutions he did have a point. Real concern for the marginalised is evidenced *both* by charity and by speaking out.

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Bishop Dom Header Camara of Recife, Brazil, who lived as a bishop among the poorest of the poor during the Brazilian dictatorship (post 1964), made this observation. 'When I served the poor they called me a saint, when I asked why they were poor, they called me a communist'. Camara understood the structural reasons for the deep poverty of so many

of his fellow Brazilians. He challenged the obscene wealth of the rich, and the embarrassing linkage of the Church with the powerful in his country.

As Christian doctors we have a responsibility to speak out. The *Saline Solution* course is aimed at helping doctors to speak out about their faith in the surgery and on the wards - but we also need to speak out on behalf of the marginalised, the disempowered and those who have no voice - the poor, elderly or confused, those with head injuries, dementia or strokes, those suffering from chronic or psychiatric illness, the terminally ill, children, unborn children and human embryos. We need to speak out in everyday conversation, through our NHS trusts and hospitals, through the BMA and Royal Colleges, through government and on the Christian, secular and medical media - both nationally and internationally. And we need to encourage one another to make and create opportunities and remember that we are not alone. CMF regularly makes official submissions to government consultations on ethics and issues press releases on topical issues; and our three websites contain a huge amount of helpful material on issues at the interface of Christianity and medicine to equip us.

Mordecai's words to Esther urging her to speak out when her own people were under threat are just as relevant to us today: *'If you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance... will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?'*

(Esther 4:13-14)



Peter Saunders  
CMF General Secretary

Peter Saunders

## Recent Changes

During 2004, in addition to our normal ministry activities, we increased our office space by 200%, merged with MMA Healthserve, implemented a new computer system, appointed eight new staff including an Associate General Secretary, supported four ICMDA regional conferences, ran fourteen *Saline Solution* day conferences, built stronger links with partner organisations (esp LCF, CNM, CTN, PRIME and Interhealth), responded to five major government consultations and generally upped our media and public policy profile.

In a growing organisation (CMF has grown over 60% in both income and activities in the last four years) these sorts of changes happen – and in planning for the future the CMF Executive wants to make further appointments to ease the workload of existing staff and further develop our ministry. Further details for all posts are available from Giles Rawlinson at the CMF Office. Please pray that God raises up the appropriate people for the tasks ahead.

## New Staff Sought

### Senior Editor

CMF's publications have grown and are increasingly in demand by Christian doctors and medical students all over the world. We are seeking to appoint a new full time senior editor based in the London office who would provide editorial oversight for CMF's books, booklets, periodicals, CD-Roms, websites and translations and, in conjunction with other staff, manage distribution of the same.

### New International PA

ICMDA Eurasia has grown hugely over the last ten years with many new national Christian medical groups forming, all needing pastoral and literature support and encouragement. At the same time PRIME (Partners in International Medical Education) is getting a growing number of requests for training in general practice from all over the world and especially the former Soviet Union. As both organisations deal very much with the same ICMDA-linked groups abroad, and as both are now

needing formal administrative support, we are seeking to appoint a new full time PA to support the joint work of both along with CMF's ICMDA-linked international activities. This new post will be funded jointly by ICMDA, PRIME and CMF.

### London Student Secretary

CMF Student Secretary Mark Pickering is moving to the north of England in autumn 2005 to take up a new post within CMF overseeing student staff training and pastoral support. We are therefore seeking to appoint a new London Student Secretary to take over Mark's current duties in the CMF London Office including oversight of the Students' Coordinating committee and *Nucleus* editorial committee, organisation of the National Students' conference and encouragement and support of student leaders. This would be at very least a part-time post (5-6 sessions per week), but could also be full time, in which case it would be extended to include student speaking engagements and some staffworker support.

### Student staffworkers

There are now vacancies for student staffworkers in North East England, East London/East Anglia, Scotland and Ireland. Posts are normally 4-5 sessions per week for two years, but other models are not impossible and we try to fit posts around an applicant's location and stage. Staffworkers are usually 24-32 years of age and spend the other half of their time in part time SHO, SpR or GP trainee or retainer posts, or in doing Bible College study. Salary is based on graduate teacher scales.

## Interhealth move in

CMF is in the process of sub-letting the remaining space on the fifth floor of Partnership House to Interhealth, who will use the office for administrative support to supplement their growing healthcare support ministry to Christians working abroad in developing countries. We have long enjoyed a close relationship with Interhealth and many CMF members have benefited from their health advice, screening and debriefing whilst serving abroad. The Lawyers' Christian Fellowship have already moved in alongside us, meaning that all the extra space we took on in April is now being put to good use in serving God's Kingdom.

## Members' News

### Congratulations

On their awards and appointments  
**Alison Jackson** MD  
**Paul Jakeman** MSc and FRCP  
**Helen Barratt** MA Bioethics  
**James May** MA Bioethics  
**James Paul** MA Bioethics  
**Jason Roach** MA Bioethics

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

### Outgoing

**Yeow Mei Ean** (OXFORD) to USA  
**Geoffrey Atkinson** (THE LONDON HOSPITAL) to Thailand  
**Iain Craighead** (ABERDEEN) to Nepal  
**Andrew Perkins** (ROYAL FREE) to Mali  
**Philip Simmons** (NEWCASTLE) to Tadjikistan  
**Jane McNutt** (BELFAST) to Albania  
**Anthony Males** (CAMBRIDGE) to USA  
**David Tyers** (LEICESTER) to Swaziland  
**Ruth Smith** (NOT KNOWN) to Australia  
**Alastair Smith** (ABERDEEN) to USA  
**Ann Fursdon** (NOTTINGHAM) to Chad  
**Jenny Gonde** (KINGS COLLEGE) to South Africa  
**Andrew Hodges** (BIRMINGHAM) to Uganda

### Homecoming

**Kathryn Ozanne** (OXFORD) from Uganda  
**Sharon Kane** (MANCHESTER) from Zimbabwe  
**Anne Hyams** (SOUTHAMPTON) from South Africa  
**Philip Wood** (ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL) from Canada  
**Sarah Petrie** (ST BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL) from Liberia  
**Rachel Tan** (BRISTOL) from Malaysia  
**David Clegg** (EDINBURGH) from Zambia  
**Tina Lloyd** (NEW ZEALAND) from New Zealand  
**Paul Foster** (MANCHESTER) from Nepal  
**Paul Howorth** (MANCHESTER) from Kenya

### Change of address abroad

**Irmgard Spittler** from Nepal to USA

### Obituaries

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

**Roger Cudmore** (*q* Sheffield 1959; *d* November 2004) was a retired Paediatric Surgeon who lived in Merseyside

**Albert Luka** (*q* Egypt 1954; *d* August 2004) was a retired GP living in London.

**Winifred Morton** (*q* Edinburgh 1949; *d* 28 September 2004) was a retired GP living in Kent.

**John Raw** (*q* St Mary's 1942; *d* 14 August 2004) was a GP in Sutton and an accomplished artist.



## Upcoming Events

Twenty two CMF events take place from 1 January to 31 May including four weekend conferences (Irish, National Students, Student Leaders, National Doctors), eight *Saline Solution* training days, four specialty breakfasts and two student elective days. In addition local students, juniors and doctors groups meet regularly around the country. See page 8 for dates and details and also check out the CMF website at [www.cmf.org.uk/fellow/events.htm](http://www.cmf.org.uk/fellow/events.htm)

### National Conference

*Transformed by God* is the theme of this year's national conference at Swanwick on 22-24 April. The main Bible reader is Spanish psychiatrist and Word Alive speaker Pablo Martinez and the Rendle Short lecture will be given by Kiran Martin, founder of the Asha project in India, which has transformed the lives of slum dwellers and become a best practice model world-wide. A broad range of seminars addressing issues at the interface of Christianity and medicine make up a very exciting programme. You will have received publicity with this mailing. Please plan to come and book now.

Do let us know if you'd like us to arrange one in your area.

### Specialty breakfasts

CMF holds about a dozen breakfasts annually at annual College meetings around the country, with those for

gastroenterology, rheumatology, paediatrics and ophthalmology coming up from March to May. Details on page 8.

### Last Rights – Will euthanasia happen here?

Speakers include Andrew Fergusson,

Tim Maughan, Nigel Cameron and Paul Conrathe. St Paul's Church, Robert Adam St, London, 10am-4pm, 22 January. For bookings and further details visit [www.bioethics.ac.uk/events.html](http://www.bioethics.ac.uk/events.html), email [events@care.org.uk](mailto:events@care.org.uk) or phone Helen Beattie on 020 7227 4716. Website: [www.bioethics.ac.uk](http://www.bioethics.ac.uk)

# Finance Matters

## FINANCE MATTERS

We have recently dubbed Charles Otim 'The Flying African' (imagine, if you will the Flying Scotsman steam train, rather than the African Queen with Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn!). The finance wheels are certainly beginning to spin, and there is plenty of steam as we make the new Oracle membership database perform as it should on the membership finance side, and the long process of catching up begins. The consequence is that many members will receive long overdue thank you letters from CMF during January, and we will unravel many long-standing issues in relation to members' subscriptions. During 2005 we certainly expect to implement a move to direct debit, which will make a significant difference to our handling of regular payments from members, and this move is long overdue. Thank you very much for your patience in what has been a very difficult time for the accounts operation in the London office.

In the 5 years from 1999 to 2003, CMF's expenditure has increased from £521,000 to £862,000, an increase of over 60%. This has enabled CMF to do 'immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power'. This is due to the generosity of many members, but CMF has also been the wonderful beneficiary of many very generous legacy bequests, and indeed it has been these legacies (£160,000 over the last 5 years), which have made a significant difference to our overall finances and enabling very significant growth and development in CMF's ministry. Might we continue to ask you to consider CMF when you come to reviewing your will? Thank you very much indeed.

**Giles Rawlinson**  
Chief Administrator



Giles Rawlinson

## Students



Mark Pickering

### Student Leaders' Conference

This kicked off the academic year at the Gaines centre in Worcestershire on 24-26 September.

Alex Bunn (former London staffworker) spoke very well on Nehemiah (talks available on CD from [pubs@cmf.org.uk](mailto:pubs@cmf.org.uk)). Numbers were low, prompting us to rethink dates for 2005 as the long summer break and freshers' events make attendance more problematic. This year's conference will be 4-6 March 2005.

### Freshers' Events

These have gone well in many medical schools and there is a steady stream of

new student members from around the country. Please pray for more to join.

### Staffworker and Relay Worker News

The team are working hard (Lorna Nunn – Scotland, Richard Knox – Midlands, Becky Brain – South West, Tim Hinks – South, Peter Friend – Cardiff Relay, Matt Kehoe – London Relay). We had an excellent team day on 8 November to pray, plan and discuss problems and future events. Please pray for successors when Becky and Lorna move on in February.

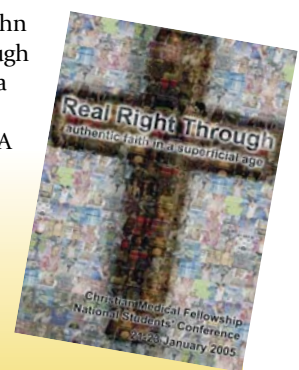
### Nucleus

Helen Barratt has retired as editor and been succeeded by Gavin Ling (St George's) for the January edition.

### Real Right Through

Plans are going well for the National Students' Conference on 21-23 January 2005. Richard Cunningham (UCCF)

will speak from 1 John on 'Real Right Through – authentic faith in a superficial age' and Dave Stevens (CMDA USA) will give the conference address on 'The Marks of a Christian Doctor'. Please pray for large numbers and changed lives.



### International Students' Preconference

This precedes the National Student Conference on 17-21 January 2005. For about the ninth year we expect 20-25 student leaders from Eastern Europe and Eurasia. Pray for the right students, visas, accommodation and much fruit in our sister movements in these countries.

**Mark Pickering**  
Student Secretary

## Juniors



Sarah Germain

### Surviving House-Years book

The early years as a junior are often tough: after the relative safety of student life, suddenly the 'rubber hits the road'.

Maintaining Christian vitality and standing up for Christ is more difficult than ever in the face of long hours, shift work, and little time to spend with family and friends. But surviving is essential: if we struggle in these crucial years we may lose our faith completely. So enter the 'Surviving the House years' book - topic based, A-Z format, testimonies, Bible verses..... Aiming to cover a wide range of issues relevant to us as juniors such as relationships, finances, loneliness and mission. Would you like to be involved? We want to try and get lots of different people to contribute to it, juniors and seniors, from the UK and overseas. Let the CMF office know if you have any ideas for topics you want to see covered, or if you would like to be involved in writing a short testimony or article.

### ICMDA European Conference

Eight CMF UK students joined around 250 students and junior doctors for the preconference of the ICMDA European Conference in Krelingen, Germany on 5-8 September. This was followed by the main conference with around 600 from over 50 countries. John Wyatt (UK), John Patrick (Canada), Pablo Martinez (Spain) and Chris Steyn (Holland) gave excellent teaching at the preconference. Students testified to being inspired by this and by meeting such a range of students from varying situations and countries, all following the same Lord and seeking to serve him in medicine.

We made good contacts in a number of countries where we have previously had few links, especially France. There was also the first real meeting of a good number of ICMDA Area Student Reps from across Eurasia. It was a great time of feedback and brainstorming for developing this network of students and junior doctors who support student movements across the world.

### Sharing our faith

How do we reach out to our friends, colleagues and patients with the good news of the Gospel when our conversations with them are usually about one of the range of lifestyle issues

## Beyond the Bleep - Reflections on the national Juniors' conference

After a long week in the hospital as a PRHO, getting used to the environment where constant demands are placed on juniors, with long working hours, it was a great opportunity for me to leave the hectic schedule and spend time with God, learning his Word and to spend time with other Christian junior doctors.

About 100 of us gathered on 10-12 October at Hothorpe Hall, Northampton from all over UK and overseas. It was a real privilege to be with doctors who came from South Korea, India, Sudan and Burma who are sitting their PLABs in the UK and to support them in our prayers, and others who traveled from Germany, Hungary to be with us this weekend.

Chris Lambert, SpR in Anaesthetics, gave the conference talks on Philippians, focusing on problems particular to junior doctors in a hospital setting. The apostle Paul's identity was not based in his status, abilities or achievements or experience, but on Christ (3:1-11). Jesus came to earth taking the form of a servant and calls us to follow in his footsteps. It is difficult to be 'servants' as doctors, but Philippians 2 reminds us that we are here for the benefit of others and not ourselves. Finally we are called into

authentic Christian relationships with one another (1:3-5). Even if we have nothing in common, we are called to live out God's grace and to nurture and be committed to each other, as we share the gospel.

The conference was a great opportunity to spend time with God and with each other, to pray for each other, to recover from our hectic schedules and also to grow as Christians. Please pray especially for other juniors abroad:

- Myanmar for its political deadlock
- Uzbekistan for its political leaders and persecution outburst, the safety of Christians and evangelistic opportunities
- Hungary as they plan their first junior doctors' conference next year. Integrity of Christian doctors to rise up as there are many corruption
- South Korea - to mobilise Korean medics to Muslim countries
- Germany- Give thanks for the ICMDA European conference

Eugenia Lee  
Junior Doctors' committee



The main conference room

or decisions that we're all facing, rather than about the claims of Christianity? In our post-modern society we need to find a way to introduce Jesus into these conversations about relationships, buying a house, career plans etc, and show that Christianity is relevant to all areas of our lives. We're in the process of developing material that we will introduce at a juniors day conference in Birmingham on Saturday 12 March to help us do better in sharing our faith in this way, including case scenarios and role plays. If you're interested in joining us then watch this space.

### Surgical Careers Day

Which speciality should I go into? What about a period overseas? When should I



Conference delegates

do research? Just some of the questions that we ask as juniors when we're trying to plan our careers. Career guidance is often not easily available though, so we're interested in putting on a Careers Day to look at some of these issues with a range of experts within a speciality, including addressing issues particular to us as Christians. We'd also like it to attract our non-Christian colleagues, helping to address a need they have, and bringing them into contact with Christians and the difference our worldview makes to our lives. We're planning to start with a surgical Careers Day, with others to follow. Details to follow....

Sarah Germain  
Juniors Chairman



## Publications

As *CMF News* went to press Andrew Fergusson's new book *Hard Questions about Health and Healing* was at page proof stage and about to be printed. A special order form was sent with the last *CMF News*. If you have not ordered a copy it is not too late.



Allister Vale

Bernard Palmer's book *Cure for Life* has already enjoyed wide circulation in Albanian and Russian and the Bulgarian translation has just now been completed.

The editing on *Mad, Bad and Sad* is now at an advanced stage. There is an increasing demand for CMF literature both in the UK and abroad and the Executive has just given approval to the appointment of a senior editor to help speed the production of our books, booklets, periodicals and websites.

The redesign of our main website at [www.cmf.org.uk](http://www.cmf.org.uk) is nearing completion and the new look will be evident (and available on CD-ROM) very shortly.

In 2005 we will be 'rebranding' CMF's publications to give a uniform 'new look' to our books, booklets, periodicals, websites and training materials. More on that soon.

**Allister Vale**  
Publications Chairman

## Evangelism

Over a year has passed since CMF's second aim was amended to read 'To encourage Christian doctors and medical students to be witnesses for Christ among all those they meet.' In that time we have held sixteen *Saline Solution* day conferences at various venues around the country: recently in Nottingham, Exeter, Margate, Brighton, Norwich and Stoke-on-Trent, with further modifications to the original programme.



Kevin Vaughan

The feedback has been very positive and clearly, for many who have participated in the conferences, the opportunity to rethink how to integrate Christian faith and medical practice has come at an

opportune moment. In a society where most people have no connection with 'organised church' it seems that God is speaking to many Christians, including healthcare professionals, about the importance of being supported and trained by their churches to be effective witnesses in the workplace.

For those who would like to test the water first, we are running short 'taster' seminars on integrating faith and practice, which can be a 60-90 minute session within a bigger event or run as an evening meeting. Several who have participated in these seminars have subsequently chosen to attend a day conference. The student staffworkers are also happy to lead these seminars for students. Do ask if you would like one in your patch.

We have further conferences planned as follows:

Fri 11 February	Hull
Wed 16 February	Essex
Sat 19 February	London
Thu 3 March	Newcastle
Fri 11 March	Aberdeen
Sat 9 April	Amsterdam
Wed 4 May	Southampton
Wed 11 May	Birmingham

**Kevin Vaughan**  
Associate General Secretary

## Ethics

The Select Committee reviewing Lord Joffe's *Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Bill* has now finished taking oral evidence and is expected to report to the House of Lords in the New Year when a decision will be taken about whether to take the proposed bill forward.

The majority of committee members now appear to support the bill which will legalise Dutch style euthanasia in the UK. Whilst the GMC, RCN, BMA, Association of Palliative Care Specialists and CMF all opposed the bill the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) and the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) sat on the fence. The RCP gave evidence of behalf of the Academy of Royal Colleges so please write to your college and ask them to distance themselves from the RCP. Our own written submission is still available on the website homepage at [www.cmf.org.uk](http://www.cmf.org.uk) and Professors Alan Johnson and Tim Maughan gave oral evidence to the committee on behalf of CMF



John Wyatt

on 14 October. Please do keep praying that wisdom will prevail and do also please take the opportunity to write to Select Committee members with your views – again details are available on the CMF website.

*The Mental Capacity Bill*, dealing with advance directives, proxy decision-making and research in individuals with learning disabilities passed its third reading in the House of Commons on 14 December. It next passes to the House of Lords. Many groups have worked hard to ensure that amendments are tabled which prevent this bill becoming a Trojan horse for euthanasia by omission.

The Human Genetics Commission (HGC) consultation *Choosing the Future* closed on 15 November and CMF's submission is available on the website at [www.cmf.org.uk/submissions/future](http://www.cmf.org.uk/submissions/future) The consultation covers a wide range of issues ranging from screening of embryos and genetic research, to fertility treatments and the prospect of designer babies. More details are available on the Human Genetics Commission website at [www.hgc.gov.uk](http://www.hgc.gov.uk).

**John Wyatt**  
Medical Study Group Chairman

## Media

The autumn media training courses were well supported. Participants are often surprised by how much they learn in a short space of time, although perhaps wishing the day was longer too. Basic courses were held in Manchester and Northern Ireland - where some of the *Love for Life* team were trained. In London we held a training day focusing on abortion. Seven female doctors attended and all agreed that the day was of value. The advanced course looked at developing world issues and our group of CMF members kept the journalists on their toes. Dates and venues for the media training in 2005 have yet to be decided.

CMF Press releases continue to attract a growing amount of media interest and are available on the CMF website at [www.cmf.org.uk/press.htm](http://www.cmf.org.uk/press.htm) Please pray for CMF members speaking on the media – for opportunities, courage and clarity.

**Clare Cooper**  
Medical Secretary



Clare Cooper

## Mission Matters



Peter Armon

### Looking forward, looking back

The beginning of a new year is traditionally a time to review the past and prepare for the year ahead. In the last year we

have merged with *MMA HealthServe* and developed a multidisciplinary overseas department while at the same time undertaking the Office move. The merger has gone well and Steve and Laura have settled into CMF. Duplication of effort has diminished, allowing greater efficiency and room for expansion while links with other healthcare professional organisations have been enhanced through Steve's previous links and continued networking.

Over the last 3 years, all of our Elective and Overseas materials have been updated and expanded and now include similar materials for allied health professionals. The *HealthServe* website has been relaunched under the name of CMF and the overseas database radically overhauled. There has been an increasing involvement in Careers Fairs and Elective Days at BMA and Medical School events and with other healthcare organisations. Over 3,000 copies of the Developing Health (DHC) CD have been distributed around the world and have been very well received.

During the coming year, we hope to be able more effectively to market the resources that CMF has to offer to Mission Agencies and to other faith-based and Non-Governmental Organisations working overseas. We are assisting the Nigerian CMDA in running their first overseas Developing Health Course (DHC), producing a second edition of the DHC CD Rom, developing a programme of short term multidisciplinary trips overseas and strengthening links with PRIME, ICMDA and related healthcare organisations.

### A useful website - [www.medicstravel.com](http://www.medicstravel.com)

This secular website - contains a wealth of valuable information for those looking for interesting short-term work overseas as well as excellent electives information.

### A helpful document

I hope you will have picked up your free copy of 'The Rough Guide to a better World - and how you can make a difference' at your local Post Office over Christmas. Produced by the Government's Department of International Health, this document contains a wealth of interesting and challenging information, advice and contacts to enable you to get involved in reaching out to the poor.

**Peter Armon**  
*Overseas Support Secretary*

## Allied Professions

Since joining the CMF office team in April, I have been busy unravelling the process of the merger between MMA and CME, as well as starting to mobilise allied health professionals into mission.



Steve Fouch

During this time I have been to the Nurses' Christian Fellowship International Congress in Seoul, South Korea, where nearly 400 Christian nurses from 33 nations gathered together. This was a great time of encouragement for all those present, and enabled fruitful contacts to be made with Christian nurses groups around the world, many of whose members are currently working in the UK.

The Christian Nurses and Midwives fellowship (CNM) in the UK is in the process of relaunching itself, and it is holding a joint conference with the Christian Therapists Network (CTN) and the students groups for nursing and the allied professions on 4-6 March at The Quinta, Oswestry. Contact [healthserve@cmf.org.uk](mailto:healthserve@cmf.org.uk) for more details.

Both CNM and CTN have an active interest in overseas mission, and have a growing number of local fellowships across the UK (there is a separate Nurses' Christian Fellowship in Scotland). CNM can be contacted on [info@cnm.org.uk](mailto:info@cnm.org.uk) and CTN on [info@ctn.org.uk](mailto:info@ctn.org.uk)

The ICMDA Asia Pacific Conference was held in New Delhi on 21-24 October, drawing around 140 participants from 12 countries. John Patrick led some excellent plenary sessions, and there were some very stimulating seminars looking at a variety of issues from the provision of healthcare to the urban poor, to the cultural impact of Christian medical missions in Indian society and religion. It was greatly encouraging spending time with so many Christian medics from across the region and hearing what God was doing in nations as diverse as Myanmar and Australia.

While I was in India, I also attended an Allied Professions conference hosted by the Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI). Around a hundred Christians in clerical, technical and clinical allied health professions attended the conference in Calcutta. CMAI has a range of specialist ministries within its network across India, and with the Evangelical Medical Fellowship of India (EMFI) is seeking to develop Christian health professionals to make a major impact on their nation.

Back in the UK we are seeing an increase in demand for short-term placements for physiotherapists, speech and language therapists and occupational therapists all over the world. If you have any Christian colleagues who are interested in working overseas on short-term (or long-term) placements, please get them to contact me at [steve.fouch@cmf.org.uk](mailto:steve.fouch@cmf.org.uk)

**Steve Fouch**  
*Allied Professions Secretary*

### Dates for your Diary

#### Student Elective Days 2005

**In Leeds**, at South Parade Baptist Church on **Saturday 5 March**

**In London**, at Partnership House on **Wednesday 16 March**

**The impact of HIV on World Mission'** at Partnership House, London, on **Friday 11 March 2005**

**Developing Health Course**, 3-15 July 2005 - at Oak Hill College in North London

**Serving God overseas as a Healthcare Professional** at Oak Hill College in North London on **Saturday 9 July 2005**



# International Christian Medical and Dental Association



## EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS IN NEPAL

After a most thrilling and blessed Asia Pacific Regional ICMDA Conference in New Delhi, India (20-24 October) it was a great joy

for Priscilla and me to travel together with some of the 10 Nepali delegates who were returning home. All stress of travel to Kathmandu for us was relieved as we relaxed with newly found friends and followers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We arrived in Kathmandu on Monday afternoon (25 Oct) to be quickly whisked away to drop luggage at the TEAM Guest House before heading for the hills and the country. An evening in the Hostel at Nakargot, high above Kathmandu with its superb view of the snow capped Himalayas and Mt Everest in the distance, provided a time of quiet reflection and of talk about things ICMDA and the newly formed Nepal CMDA. A midmorning meeting in Patan Hospital in Kathmandu brought 32 supporters and members of the NCMDA together to share in a time of fellowship and mutual encouragement. This was an opportunity for the ICMDA to share its vision and mission in the world.

During our time in Kathmandu we were made aware that Hospitals under Mission management were undergoing changes. The Government of Nepal is negotiating the taking over or handing over of their administration to other structures. Much prayer is called for as new opportunities are presented in paving the way forward.

Dr Arjun Karki has the passion for the establishment of a medical school based on the Patan Hospital model. The vision is for an autonomous, self sustaining academic institution of higher learning dedicated to improving the health status of the people of Nepal, especially those who are poor and living in remote rural areas. Should anyone reading this sense a call to be part of this challenging venture, please make contact with us at [icmda@webstormsa.co.za](mailto:icmda@webstormsa.co.za)

We left Nepal rejoicing that plans for outreach and growth in Nepal are mushrooming. Please pray for our Christian colleagues in Nepal as they witness together in the Kingdom.

**Daryl Hackland**  
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## ICMDA EURASIA

Letters of appreciation and thanks continue to come in from those who attended the ICMDA Eurasia conference in Krelingen. I am

often asked to pass on thanks to donors who made it possible for students and doctors to receive bursary grants and so be able to attend the conference. It was money well spent. Two students independently said, 'It was the best week of my life'.

In October SKLS, the Finnish CMF movement, held their 80th anniversary meeting. They are the second oldest movement in the world (after the Danish movement founded in 1897). They have over 1,000 members (in a country with a population of only a little over 5 million), but like many of us, not all members are active. There is still a strong interest

in medical missions in Finland and it is encouraging to see, as elsewhere, growth and vigor among the student groups in Finland's five medical schools.

Also in October the Estonian Christian Physicians' Society (CMF equivalent in Estonia) held a day conference in Tartu, Estonia's university city two hours' drive South East of Tallinn. This was a first event for them outside of Tallinn and was aimed to attract the students a number of whom attended (including two who had been at Krelingen).

In November the Union Evangelique Medicale et Paramedicale (UEMP) in France held a regional day conference near to Rouen. In France also there is a renewed interest in the medical students. In Strasbourg there is a Christian group of over 60 in the medical school - a remarkable number for any French university. They deserve our prayers.

**Peter Pattison**  
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## PRIME - Partnership in International Medical Education

An increasing number of CMF members are involved with PRIME which is a registered UK charity dedicated to improving standards of healthcare worldwide, with contacts in over 20 countries. It is particularly concerned to develop primary care overseas and aims to advance the cause of whole-person and patient-centered medical practice, promote co-operation and liaison between primary and secondary sectors and build frameworks for ethical decision making.

Teaching given by PRIME aims to motivate, empower and encourage participating doctors and other health care workers to be agents for change and improvement within their health care system and to facilitate the development of appropriate and effective delivery of health care, especially to the less privileged. PRIME has strong links with the Royal College of General Practitioners International Committee and the Postgraduate Medical School of Brighton University. Following on from the very successful conference on education that PRIME held at the recent ICMDA European Conference, it is hoped to establish a worldwide network of Christians involved at all levels in healthcare education, providing mutual support, resources and the sharing of ideas.

Teaching is from a Christian perspective of compassion and respect for the individual as a person made in the image of God, but courses are designed to be acceptable to and accessible by doctors and health care workers of other faiths or of none.

Website: [www.prime-international.org.uk](http://www.prime-international.org.uk) or contact [info@prime-international.com](mailto:info@prime-international.com) if you wish to know more or would like to support the work in anyway.

**John Geater**  
Director of PRIME