

CMF is moving office

CMF has to move. The building in which we are located has been sold to a developer and will be knocked down and replaced by a hotel some time between January and December 2007. The Church Missionary Society, our landlord, has already purchased a new HQ in Oxford and will move there between January and July 2007. Although our current lease runs to the end of 2007, CMS are entitled to give us three months notice, at any point from the end of September this year. We expect to have to move between 12 and 18 months from now.

CMF Headquarters has been located in Partnership House at 157 Waterloo Road for over 30 years. During this time we have expanded from a small team of three with a turnover well under £100,000 to a team of 25 with over £1m turnover. Over half of this expansion has taken place since the year 2000; and two years ago when merging with the *MMA Healthserve* we took over the whole of the fifth floor to occupy our current space of 4,500sq ft. Currently we occupy just over two thirds of this, subletting the remainder to the *Lawyers' Christian Fellowship* and *Interhealth*.

The timescale of the move has only just become clear but the CMF Executive, advised by an 'Exodus Committee', has been prayerfully considering options for some time and now has a clear plan for the way ahead. The main questions we have been considering are:

- Do we rent or buy?

- Do we stay in London or move out?
- How much space do we need?

The major factors in making this decision have been staff retention, partnerships, accessibility and cost.

Over the past five years we have built a strong **staff team** who are skilled, well-trained and committed to CMF and we don't want to lose them. All are located in the South-East but scattered throughout London and the Home Counties. Our **partnerships** with other organisations have increased significantly. In addition to our close links with *Interhealth*, *PRIME* and *Lawyers' Christian Fellowship*, we provide administrative support for Christian Nurses and Midwives, Christian Therapists' Network and ICMDA Eurasia. Many other organisations use our conference facilities. This has led to huge synergy particularly in our student ministry, public policy and overseas mission work. Many of our key partners are located in central London.

Accessibility for day conferences, committee meetings and networking with partners is also a key priority and we want to be good stewards of the resources God has given us and keep **cost** to a minimum too. We currently pay well over £100,000 in rent and service charges; money that could either be freed for ministry or used to service a mortgage of over £1m.

A consideration of all these factors has pointed us very clearly to a central London location. London's easy accessi-

bility by road, rail and air, and the fact that it is still the UK centre for medicine (Royal Colleges, RSM, BMA and GMC), media and mission make it the obvious choice.

So we are currently looking as our first option to:

- Buy rather than rent
- Stay in central London
- Seek at least 5,000 sq ft preferably in a stand-alone building

We would not have chosen to move at this stage. Our landlords have made this decision for us, and yet it is God himself who is sovereign over it. We believe strongly that if God wants us to remain in central London then an ideal property will become available for us at a price we can afford. This will enable us to keep building our ministries and partnerships well into the 21st century and ensure that CMF continues to have a strong and growing influence in student ministry, public policy, world mission and the medical profession.

CMF has always been a high-turnover, low asset organisation, and even following the merger with *MMA Healthserve* we hold substantially less than twelve months of our operating costs in assets. So in order to realise this option, in terms of costs of purchase and refurbishment, we will need to raise about £2 million by the end of this year, an amount equivalent to two years' of our annual turnover. The International Healthserve Committee has already pledged the first 10% of this (£200,000) from funds realised in the sale of the old

MMA Healthserve Headquarters in Camden.

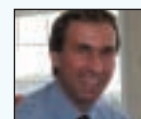
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I have been amazed by the generosity of members to recent requests. Under 500 members have given over £100,000 in the last year for our Tsunami and Kashmir earthquake appeals alone – and ten times this amount is given by members each year in subscriptions and donations.

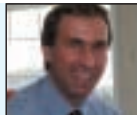
We will be looking to members to support this venture. To this end we are launching an appeal during the spring of this year asking the membership to support this next significant step in CMF's development, by donation, future pledge, or interest free loan. Watch this space as the plans develop.

'Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... Test me in this,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.' (Malachi 3:10)

Peter Saunders is CMF General Secretary



Fellowship news



Peter Saunders

I hope that what is described in this first edition of *CMF News* for 2006 will encourage you. Let me highlight some special issues for **praise and prayer**. As featured on the front page one of our biggest challenges in the coming months is our **approaching move** from Partnership House. It is essential that we get this right and that we are hearing and following God's leading. In addition we will be trialling some **new database software** to improve our communications facilities. The *GivenGain* system enabled us in October to launch an appeal to support two Pakistan mission hospitals treating victims of the Kashmir earthquake and raised over £75,000, most of it online. The system also helped us to email selected groups of members about a number of conferences, including the ICMDA World Congress.

With this mailing you will find full booking details for the **CMF National Conference** on 28-30 April. The theme is 'Choosing God's Way' and the Bible Reader is Hugh Thomson. The Rendle Short Lecture will be given by Michael Varnam. Please book now.

The **Students' National Conference** at Swanwick on 10-12 February 2006, 'Radical King, Radical Kingdom', is CMF's largest and probably most strategic annual event. Students are our future and we have always made a priority of investing in them. It's also an opportunity for many student leaders from other countries throughout Eurasia to visit, both to encourage us and to glean ideas for growing their own national movements. With the upcoming change in Mark Pickering's role to focus on training and development, the search for his successor and the development of a new student's executive, our student ministry is undergoing a period of real growth.

The **ICMDA 13th World Congress in Sydney** from 11-16 July, 'Health and Hope' (preceded by a students/juniors conference on 7-11 July), will bring together over 1,000 Christian doctors and medical students from all over the world. We will either have emailed you, or if we don't have your address, 'snail mailed' you about this event and more information including how to book online is available on the CMF website in the events section. Why not combine a visit to the conference with a well-earned holiday in Australia or New Zealand?

CMF specialty breakfasts at College conferences are a great way to meet and catch up with other Christians in your specialty. From March to July this year there will be breakfasts for the specialities of gastroenterology, paediatrics, rheumatology, ophthalmology, dermatology, psychiatry and plastic surgery. Details on page 8 and the CMF website.

Two exciting new developments this year are the **PLAB doctors' conference** on 21 January and the **Christians in Surgery day** on 1 April. The former event is for international medical graduates of refugee status who have passed the PLAB 2 examination. The day is free of charge and will focus on CV construction, job applications and interview skills. The latter event has been inspired by the already successful Christians in Psychiatry conference that started two years ago.

Meanwhile the **Saline Solution** roadshow on 'integrating faith and practice' continues into a third year. So far 34 day conferences have been held with six more planned for this year thus far (see p8 for dates and venues) Do book in for one near you if you haven't already been.

We hope you can join us at one of these events, or if not, benefit from tapes available from the CMF Office. Full details of all conferences are available on the CMF website at www.cmf.org/events and dates and venues are listed on page 8 of *CMF News*.

Peter Saunders is CMF General Secretary

Members' news

Congratulations

On their awards and appointments:

June Jones - PhD in Medical Ethics

Tim Lyttle - Medical Director on the Wrexham Local Health Board

Andrew Fergusson - President and CEO of the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity

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

These have been moved to *Triple Helix*

Outgoing

Adam Black (Glasgow) to India

Sharon Kane (Manchester) to Mozambique

Martin Scholten to Germany

Jin Poi Tan (UCD) to Malaysia

Philip Wood (St Bartholomew's) to Uganda

Homecoming

Stroma Beattie (Edinburgh) from Singapore

Ruth Smith from Australia

Gregory & Katie Warner (KCL) from New Zealand

Change of address abroad

Joel Dembele (Yugoslavia) from Chad to Rwanda

Amy Forry (USA) within USA

Lee Wei Lim (Ukraine) from Ukraine to Netherlands

CMF Committees

CMF is highly dependent on the generosity of hundreds of members who willingly and voluntarily give time to developing the fellowship's ministry. If you would like to know more about any specific area of our ministry then feel free to contact the following:

Executive Committee. Mark Cheesman. chees@blueyonder.co.uk

Business Advisory Committee. Tony Bell. bbell@sghms.ac.uk

Publications Committee. Allister Vale. allistervale@yahoo.co.uk

International Healthserve Committee.

Bruce Richard. brucerichard@blueyonder.co.uk

Howard Lyons. howardlyons@msn.com

Medical Study Group. John Wyatt. john.wyatt@uclh.org

Triple Helix Editorial Board.

Peter Saunders. peter.saunders@cmf.org.uk

Nucleus Editorial Committee.

Gavin Ling. nucleusforgavin@yahoo.co.uk

Junior Doctors' Committee.

Sarah Germain. sarahgermain@yahoo.com

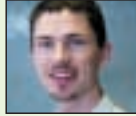
Students' Co-ordinating Committee.

John Greenall. john.greenall@kcl.ac.uk

Regional CMF Meetings

Information about local groups for graduates, juniors and students are available on the CMF website at www.cmf.org.uk/fellowship

Students



Mark Pickering

As we roll into another year my mind is fixed very much on the National Students' Conference on 10-12 February, 'Radical King, Radical Kingdom'. By the time this newsletter reaches you, bookings will be rolling in and final preparations will be being laid. Pray for Mark Ashton, giving Bible addresses from Matthew 16-18, Peter Saunders giving the conference address on 'Radical Discipleship in Medicine' and all the seminar leaders making their preparations. Year after year the conference is a great blessing, encouragement and challenge to our student groups around the country. It gives a real boost to groups who bring a good number of students, so pray for reps as they publicise the conference and encourage bookings. If you're a student reading this and haven't sent in your booking form yet, let me encourage you to do so now! Further details are on our website – follow the links at www.cmf.org.uk/events to find them.

As usual we plan to welcome a number of international students to our conference to show our solidarity and help them as they develop their own Christian medical movements back home. Around 20 will be coming to the International Students' Preconference in London and Oxford on 6-10 February, immediately preceding the conference. It has already been a great help to have Jonny Thiessen, our new International Coordinator, on board to make arrangements for this. There is a good group of leaders and potential leaders hoping to be there from Eurasia and beyond – please pray for the necessary financial and visa

arrangements to be made and for a stimulating programme as it comes together.

I have now officially handed over my role as ICMDA area student rep for Western Europe to Euan Dodds, a paediatric SHO in Glasgow. I am excited about this development as Euan, with more time and language capability than me, is already contributing to the expansion of Christian medical activity in this area. Pray for him as he takes on this new role.

Part of the key to having strong local student groups is the support offered by their local medical school secretary; these are graduates linked to each medical school. Although they often do very valuable work we have not offered them much in the way of support and training. We hope to develop this by starting with a training workshop for medical school secretaries (particularly new ones) at the graduates' national conference on 28-30 April. If this is successful we plan to take it forward regionally and make it more regular.

John Greenall (student chairman) and I have made further progress on plans for a new national student committee, with the aim of increasing ownership and involvement of students around the regions in the core activities of CMF's student ministry. We see this as a significant step forward and would really value prayer, particularly in terms of recruiting the right students from each region to join the committee, defining its scope and priorities and making sure that it results in a genuine growth and strengthening of CMF's student activity.

Mark Pickering is CMF Student Secretary

Ethics



John Wyatt

Following the House of Lords Debate on the Select Committee Report on his *Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Bill* Lord Joffe announced his intention to table yet another bill under the same name. This had its first reading in the House of Lords on 9 November and is reported on briefly in the Winter 2006 edition of *Triple Helix* sent to members with this issue of *CMF News*. The second reading (debate stage) will probably take place in February. The Bill seeks to legalise physician assisted suicide but not euthanasia along the lines of the Oregon model, but we should not be fooled by these apparently less radical demands. If the bill clears the House of Lords it will then need to traverse the House of Commons but it is by no means likely that the government will grant it parliamentary time in this session.

Meanwhile north of Hadrian's Wall MSP Jeremy Purvis has failed to get the 18 signatures from MSPs necessary to introduce his euthanasia bill into the Scottish Parliament. This was due to very effective lobbying by a strong coalition in which CMF members were very much involved. Since October the Royal College of Psychiatrists has launched a consultation to find out its members' views and a survey conducted by doctors.net.uk has found that 69% of respondents agree with the RCGP decision to oppose a change in the law. We responded to two major consultations in November. They are:

- *Good Medical Practice* (General Medical Council)
- *Review of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act* (Department of Health)

Both submissions are available on the CMF website at www.cmf.org.uk/ethics/submissions/ Do pray as the committees deliberate.

Two new consultations to which we intend to respond are:

- HFEA on *Screening embryos for low penetrance genetic disorders* (closing date 16 January 2006)
- *Mental Capacity Act* consultation on draft codes (due in March 2006)

CMF has now formally joined the *Alive and Kicking Alliance* (see www.aliveandkickingcampaign.org) aimed at halving the number of abortions in the UK. Over 6,200,000 babies have lost their lives since the 1967 Abortion Act came into being; a number equivalent to more than 10% of the entire UK population. More than 200,000 babies continue to be aborted in Britain each year.

The alliance's other aims include:

- An immediate, substantial reduction in the upper age limit for abortion
- Eliminating discriminatory abortion of disabled babies up to birth
- Proper enforcement of the abortion law as originally intended
- A prohibition of abortions for social convenience
- A Charter of Informed Consent drawn up to ensure women are made aware of medical and psychological risks associated with abortion
- A cooling-off period between diagnosis of pregnancy and access to abortion
- Provision of compassionate alternatives to abortion
- Increasing support for families with disabled children
- Guaranteed regular reviews of the abortion law

Please pray for all those who are called to write and comment on these issues in the public square.

John Wyatt is Medical Study Group Chairman

Junior doctors



Sarah Germain

ICMDA Sydney 2006

The 4 yearly ICMDA World Congress is happening this summer in Sydney, Australia with the theme 'Health and Hope'. There's going to be a special juniors and students pre-conference from 7-11 July, before the main conference 11-16 July. We're hoping to have a large UK contingent going so why don't you join us? The pre-conference includes speakers such as Jonathan Lamb (Langham Partnership, formerly of IFES), and a range of great seminars. For full details including online booking see the conference website, www.tourhosts.com.au/icmda2006. There will be a web discussion group for those planning to go, to give help in setting the trip and for fellowship - more details on the CMF website. Even if you can't go, then consider making a donation to help doctors from developing countries to attend, via www.icmda.givengain.org. It is now possible to gift aid donations, which adds 28% to your gift at no extra cost to you.



are many overseas doctors in the UK who have taken their PLAB exams but are now struggling to find jobs. To try to help this vulnerable group we're organising a day conference on 21 January 2006, to provide advice and support on areas such as CV writing, interview technique, and the NHS system. Please be praying for this day.

Junior Doctors' Weekend Conference

We had a great juniors' weekend conference in September, with Jim Paul speaking from the book of Ecclesiastes (see Autumn 2005 *CMF News* for report). This year's conference will be slightly later, from 13-15 October 2006, at Hothorpe Hall, Leics. It's a great time to get 'Beyond the Bleep', and enjoy fellowship with other Christian doctors who can empathise with what you're going through. Do put the date in your diaries now and swap on-calls nearer the time. More details to follow.

Supporting Post-PLAB2 Doctors

As many of you will know, there

Saline Solution Day for Juniors

To encourage us as juniors in our witness to our friends, colleagues and patients we're going to be holding a special *Saline Solution* Training Day in London on Saturday 11 March 2006. See the CMF website or contact the CMF office for more details.

Christians in Surgery Day

It's on Saturday 1 April 2006, but it's not an April Fool's joke! A great opportunity for Christian surgeons to meet together for a day in London, to enjoy fellowship and to address some of the specific issues facing their speciality. Again more details via CMF website or office.

Evangelism



Kevin Vaughan

More than two years ago, we revised our aims in CMF to include 'Evangelism - To encourage Christian doctors and medical students to be witnesses for Christ among all they meet.' We have always been encouraged to share our faith with our colleagues, but in the past some have been reticent to share faith with patients for fear they would be abusing their position or acting in an unethical way.



Over the last two years, more than nine hundred people have participated in one of the 34 *Saline Solution* conferences, which we have held in 2005-2006. One of the main tenets of the course has been called the *SPR* of Spiritual Care - ie. the need to treat our patients and colleagues with *sensitivity, permission* and *respect* in line with 1 Peter 3:15, 'But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with *gentleness* and *respect*.'

In response to the cry of our generation for 'holistic' medicine and meeting the needs of the whole person, the NHS in recent years has decided to invest significantly in 'Spiritual Care'¹

The *Saline Solution* day is spent grappling with what this means for the doctor and other healthcare professionals, and many participants have told me of a new awareness of opportunities to address spiritual issues with patients since attending.

We plan to build up a team of people up and down the country who can lead *Saline Solution* days, and individual CMF members in clinical practice and medical education in the regions are already bringing new insights, as they get involved. Please contact me if you would like us to organise a day in your area or to get involved yourself.

Further developments have come through ICMDA Eurasia where we are working with neighbouring national Christian medical organisations. We have jointly led two *Saline Solution* days in the Netherlands and there are plans for similar events in Germany and Norway in the New Year.

Kevin Vaughan is CMF Associate General Secretary

1. *Caring for the Spirit: A strategy for the chaplaincy and spiritual healthcare workforce*. November 2003.

Surviving House years Book

One of our newest CMF publication projects is starting to take shape, under the editorial guidance of Caroline Bunting, a JDC member. It's going to be full of testimonies, Bible verses, and godly wisdom on how to

cope with a whole range of issues facing Christian Junior Doctors today. We're still looking for contributors, so get in touch if that could be you.

Sarah Germain is Juniors' Chairman

Allied professions



Steve Fouch

Nurses' and Therapists' Joint Conference

This year's conference will be entitled 'Whatever Next... Developing a Biblical response to current healthcare trends' and will be held 3 - 5 March 2006 at the Quinta. John Wyatt will be the main speaker, and will be looking at how we respond as Christians to issues impacting on healthcare in the 21st Century. As ever, I will be doing two seminars on overseas mission for nurses, midwives and allied professionals.



of your Christian nursing or midwifery colleagues to think about coming.

I also had a fruitful meeting with the UK chapter of the **Fellowship of Christian Nurses of Nigeria** (FCN) in Luton in early November. They sent three delegates to a CNM meeting later that month in London, and we hope to see links strengthen between these small but dynamic groups. There are many other African, Asian and European Christian health professionals now working in the NHS, and linking with them to encourage them in their faith and witness remains a challenge, but our links with ICMDA, NCFI and HCFI should make this more achievable in the coming year.

Healthcare Sunday

This is an opportunity for the church to be encouraged to pray for and support the health professionals and informal carers living in their congregations. In 2006 this will be on 15 October. We have kept an overseas emphasis in the programme and resources each year (available as a CD-ROM from me at the CMF office, or online at www.healthcare-sunday.org.uk).

In November I attended the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville. This event draws together more than two thousand Christian health professionals, medical and nursing students and others with an interest in working overseas,

Christian Nurses & Midwives

CNM has a new website (www.cnm.org.uk) and expanded quarterly newsletter (with an increasing mission focus). I am working with the CNM Council towards charity registration and they have just been accepted as members of Nurses' Christian Fellowship International (The equivalent of ICMDA for nurses). Student membership is growing (>30), as is overall membership (>130 including students), but there is a need to raise the profile of the fellowship considerably, as this probably represents a little over 0.5% of all the Christian nurses, midwives and health visitors estimated to be in England & Wales. If you have any colleagues who are Christian nurses, midwives, health visitors, please put them on to me and encourage them to think about joining CNM.

Nurses' Christian Fellowship International (NCFI)

A major conference is planned for August 2006 in the Netherlands (see www.ncfieurope.org for more details) on ethics and spirituality in nursing care. Pablo Martinez will lead the daily Bible studies. We hope to see over 300 Christian nurses attending from all over Europe. Again, do encourage any



Allister Vale

Publications

Book packs for ICMDA Sydney: can you help please?

The ICMDA World Congress is to be held in Sydney in July 2006. The CMF gave book packs to students and developing world delegates at the World Congress in 2002 and the Eurasian Congress in 2004. At its meeting on 3 December 2005 the Executive Committee agreed in principle to provide complimentary book packs again for the Sydney Congress. However, whether we can do so, will depend on the generous support of members. Please give what you can by sending a donation to CMF marked *Sydney book pack appeal*. Thank you.

Hard Questions about Health and Healing

Total sales of Andrew Fergusson's book have reached 1,200 copies. *Christianity* described it as 'thought provoking, challenging and enlightening'. Have you read it yet? Did you buy extra copies to give to friends and colleagues at Christmas?



CMF publication offers

Until we can offer sales on line, members clearly welcome the convenience of publication offers. Sales by this method have increased seven-fold since this approach was introduced, with each order being worth approximately £23. We hope that total book sales in 2005 will be of the order of £25,000. Alas, CMF books represent a small proportion of total sales.

New CMF publications

We have not yet been able to appoint a Senior Editor which is essential if we are to publish books of quality promptly after submission. Three books are in the process of preparation with a fourth being considered. The most advanced (*Mad, Bad or Sad*) has been delayed further by lack of available in-house resources, though outside editorial assistance has been sought. *Please pray for the appointment of a Senior Editor.*

Website materials

We have recently agreed a request from an American Bible College to make use of the materials on our website. *Are you making use of the extensive resources offered by the website?*

Allister Vale is CMF Publications Chairman

for a two-day conference. It is a mission mobilisation event similar to our *HealthServe Day*, but on a considerably larger scale. It was a great encouragement to see so many young health professionals and students of all disciplines with a keen desire to serve the Lord in global mission. We hope to run similar event in the UK over the next eighteen months. Watch this space.

The Global Connections Healthcare Mission Forum will be held on 11 May this year (with a

second one pencilled in for October/November), and will look at 'What are the issues affecting the viability of Christian Hospitals in the 21st Century?' The autumn event will be looking at community healthcare and development as part of healthcare mission. More information will be available shortly on the *HealthServe* website, www.healthserve.org.

Steve Fouch is CMF Allied Professions Secretary

Mission matters



Peter Armon

Kashmir Earthquake – the need for longer-term involvement

The CMF appeal has generated a hugely generous response in terms of money donated together with some members who have offered to get involved personally (see *Triple Helix*). In the short term, CMF has been directing interested persons to SIM, Tearfund and other secular agencies who are organising relief teams. The information that we have received back from members working in the area is that the local hospitals have been overwhelmed by the numbers of folk turning up (often unannounced) to help out.

In the longer term the needs will continue far beyond the time that media interest wanes. Prior to the earthquake, this was one of the areas to which CMF had been considering sending short-term teams. The needs and priorities will have changed but if you are interested in being involved in longer term care and reconstruction (or already are) please do get in touch with us.

Keeping track of your movements overseas and our database up to date

Both the Kashmir Earthquake and the Tsunami of 2005 have demonstrated the importance of having facts at our fingertips to enable a rapid response. We have a mass of information about members overseas interests from a survey carried out three years ago and, to a lesser degree, from one carried out last year. However, I continue to hear of members who are 'hiding their light under a bushel', who are involved overseas but not making us aware of what they are up to.

Can I encourage all such members, once again, to keep us in the loop if you are involved in short term visits



Kashmir earthquake

overseas, or are willing to offer your skills when needs arise, please let us know – at peter.armon@cmf.org.uk – so that we can add the details to our database.

As I mentioned in the last *CMF News*, we would also be interested to hear from any members who are about to make a trip overseas for any reason, and who might have time on their hands to encourage and support national or expatriate members working in that country. We can often put you in touch with local groups who would value your input and encouragement.

We would also be particularly interested in hearing from any who are prepared to:

- Respond to disaster/emergency relief situations
- Offer as a locum overseas
- Offer a clinical attachment to a PLAB doctor.

Writers needed

We are in the process of producing a new edition of 'Re-tired not retired' and are looking for contributions from those who have been using their retirement to work overseas. The aim of the booklet is to stimulate interest and challenge other to follow suit. The article should include a brief biographical paragraph; some snapshots of interesting things you have seen and done and lessons you have learnt which would be of value to

PRIME - Partnership in International Medical Education



John Geater

The ongoing growth of PRIME carries a sense of awesome responsibility. We are aware that we are being led to develop a whole new model of sharing the values of the gospel within academic medical teaching. As we share our vision abroad we are repeatedly finding such an appetite to hear more, both from individuals and from teaching teams in universities and medical schools: many have never been aware of this dimension of our call to heal the sick.

In this last year 29 friends have volunteered to give nearly 200 weeks of top teaching skills in 17 countries. We are in touch with several other countries as well. All teaching is offered without cost to our hosts, and it is not surprising therefore that the potential future openings are growing exponentially.

We continue to need to build a database of future experienced teachers who might offer both short and long term courses for both students and teachers, help to develop curricula, or perhaps advise on local health development or management issues.

Those who consider an NHS sabbatical might like to discuss opportunities with us.

Inevitably we have increasing administrative responsibilities: we are praying for the Lord's gift to us to stabilise this essential foundation, and we do seek your ongoing support in all possible ways please.

Do also consider sharing your wisdom with us at one of our home brainstorming days – the next is on 28 January at 157 Waterloo Road.

Do be in touch either via www.prime-international.org.uk or contact John Geater on j.geater@which.net

John Geater is Director of PRIME

others and perhaps ease their passage into a similar work. Length should be limited to 900 words or so and can include one or two photographs. It may be that there are some trainees who would have undertaken part of their training abroad who would like to share the experiences with others. We would also be interested in hearing from you.

Elective Days 2006

Traditionally, CMF has organised two Elective Days each year, one in Leeds and the other in London. In times past, a similar day was held in Scotland. We were excited to hear that a number of CMF student groups have held their own Elective Day Conferences during this year – and we would encourage others do likewise. Do let us know if you do. Advice comes free and if you are looking for

speakers or want us to help, we may well be able to help

Elective Days 2006 will be held at: South Parade Baptist Church in Leeds on Saturday 4th March and in London, at Partnership House on Wednesday 15th March.

See www.healthserve.org for details

Developing Health Course 2006

This will be held at Oak Hill College at the slightly later date of 23 July to 4 August, to avoid a clash with the ICMDA Conference in Sydney. Do let any prospective overseas workers and any on home leave know about the course. Further details can be found on the overseas website at www.healthserve.org

Peter Armon is the Overseas Support Secretary

International Christian Medical and Dental Association

ICMDA



Visit to Central America and Brazil - 14-26 November 2005

At the Conference in Ecuador in December 2004 the Regional ICMDA Secretary, Dr Luis Urrutia, extended an invitation to attend the XI Congreso Centreamericano to be held in San Salvador from 17-19 November 2005. This visit afforded the opportunity to meet with members of the CMDA Mexico and members of the emerging contact group in Brazil (Sao Paulo) on the return journey to South Africa.

El Salvador

The Conference, meeting under the theme of 'Medicine – Ethics and Christianity' was attended by a record group of 180 delegates. Whilst most of the participants were from El Salvador, the countries of Guatemala, Panama, Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua were well represented. Inspiring stories were heard from their reports of struggles and difficulties in establishing as well as sustaining the associations. Outreach programmes of short-term missions, evangelical meetings, clinic services, *Saline Solution* seminars and recruiting doctors/dentists for under serviced rural areas, were highlighted. Each Association was an encouragement to others as all were seeking to deepen the commitment to Jesus Christ through their witness and service. The decision was taken for Panama to host the XI Congress in 2007 and Nicaragua in 2009.

Mexico

An indication had been provided to the ICMDA office that CMDA Mexico were keen to host the XIV World Congress in 2010. Following the devastation of Hurricane Wilma, many of the hotels on the 'golden 12 km'

Caribbean Coast were non operational but now signs of restoration were very much in evidence. There was no doubt that Cancun would very shortly be throbbing with life again and that the recently established University in Cancun would provide an affordable venue.

Following a day and a half in Cancun, I attended an excellent meeting with CMDA Board members including the President Dr Martin Cortes. Hearing the testimony of Christian colleagues reaching out in compassion to natural disaster victims and the holding of regular medical/health care programmes in poor disadvantaged communities was a huge blessing. I came away most inspired and filled with the Joy of our Lord, knowing that CMDA Mexico continues to provide many opportunities for spiritual growth, prayer, fellowship and study of the Word.

Brazil

Contact had been made with Dr Wilson Bonfin, the incoming President of Medicos de Cristo in Brazil to meet with Dr Tercio Obera to discuss and promote the establishment of an ICMDA member group in Brazil. What an amazing meeting this was. Dental care outreach programmes into the remote isolated villages of the Amazon Basin had established opportunities to share the Gospel with the people and had bonded missionaries together. Apart from establishing a meaningful link with Medicos de Cristo in Brazil the expectation is that they will be moving towards being received into full membership of the ICMDA. They are to hold a National Conference in September 2006.

Daryl Hackland is ICMDA General Secretary
Email: icmda@webstormsa.co.uk
(full unabridged report on request)

ICMDA Eurasia



Area Student Representatives (ASRs)

Over the last few years ICMDA has appointed a team of young doctors to nurture and encourage the student work in different parts of the world. In our region we have eight ASRs. James Tomlinson and Ruth Pavlovic cover areas at the borders of our region.

Christopher Gerken (Germany) covers Central Europe (Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Czech and Slovak Republics, Hungary, Slovenia). Nada Petrovski (Serbia) covers the Balkans.

Within the last six months we have appointed four new ASRs. Nikolai Vasilyev (St. Petersburg) covers Russia, Artsiom Adamenka (Belarus) covers Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. These two replace Andrew Greenfield who is standing down.

We are excited about this new team of Student Representatives and at what God may work through them. They value your prayers.

Eurasia Regional Consultation. 19-23 March 2006. Stubenberg, Austria

This is a gathering that has grown in the making. With a new team of ASRs this will be an important opportunity for training and fellowship for them. The Eurasia Regional Committee of ICMDA meets about every 18 months and this will be the opportunity to meet.

We have also settled on a location in Eastern Austria for the next Eurasia regional conference (in September 2008). The committee and the ASRs will have the opportunity to meet with the Austrian conference organising committee for advance planning of programme, speakers etc. This is a key opportunity to feed into the planning process a broad spectrum of international input at an early stage two and a half years before the conference.

We have also invited a number of younger leaders from across Europe to participate, so that this will be a good opportunity for seeking a clear and united vision of what God is doing in Europe and of what he wants us to be doing.

ICMDA Eurasia Regional Co-ordinator

The last issue of *CMF News* carried notice of the appointment of Jonny Thiessen as CMF's international coordinator. This is a shared appointment with ICMDA Eurasia and Jonny works about one third of his time for ICMDA. A number of you have contributed to his support and we are extremely grateful for this. Jonny is already proving his worth in the role. With his knowledge of Russian language and interest in that area of the region, we look forward to developing his ministry in the Eastern reaches of our region.

Peter Pattison is the ICMDA Eurasia Regional Secretary
Tel: 01892 824872 Email: icmda@ukonline.co.uk

ICMDA Bursary/Scholarship Fund

This is for those in need of financial support to attend the ICMDA World Congress in Sydney on 7-16 July 2006. Donations can be sent to ICMDA European Office, Russets, Woodlands, Pembury Kent IN2 4AZ, UK. Cheques made payable to ICMDA UK Trust. Alternatively you can give via the ICMDA website at www.icmda.givengain.org. UK gifts given by either route can be augmented by Tax reclaims.

Staff news and finance



Giles Rawlinson

Staff news



We mentioned **Jonny Thiessen** in the last issue of *CMF News* as the new International Coordinator; he is now really well settled in, having just received his National Insurance number, making him legal at last! He has also got engaged to Fiona, a fellow student at All Nations, and they plan to get married in the summer of 2006. Congratulations! As you read this Jonny will be preparing for the Students' International Pre-Conference, a critical and strategic time for international visitors to the annual Students conference at Swanwick in February; please pray that the right individuals are able to come and really benefit from all that the conference offers.

Staff roles continue to change and develop; **Laura Risdale** was seconded to PRIME for 4 months, but it has now been decided that PRIME need more direct administrative support. Please pray for PRIME as Mary Morgan, one of the Trustees develops PRIME's administration, and for Laura as she is redeployed at CMF.



Tanya Yeghnazar, our Communications Officer was also seconded to the Lawyers' Christian Fellowship (tenants of ours here at Partnership House) part-time, to see whether a shared appointment would help move both organisations forward. Despite growing links with the lawyers this has not proved practical, so Tanya is continuing to develop CMF's media and public policy profile. Please pray for her as this role develops.

Charlotte Hattersley joined the staff in September 2005, as a **Regional Staff Worker** for the North East, covering Leeds, Hull, York and Sheffield Medical schools, giving two days each week to this role. She is also a qualified GP based in Beverley, North Humberside. We continue to be on the lookout for **Regional Staff Workers** to give part of their time to support the work amongst medical students and juniors; could you offer up to two years alongside your medical practice? Please speak to Peter Saunders, if this is of interest to you.

Office move

Plans for the **Office move** are continuing to develop, as you will have read on the front page of this newsletter. Please pray for the staff, as we come to terms with moving from Partnership House after many years, along with all the associated upheaval and disruption. Work associated with such a move is also significant; please pray for all those involved with all the practical implications of this move during 2006 and 2007, whenever the move occurs.

Finance

The great catch up is almost complete! The Finance team of Charles Otim, Joan Arnold and Geoff Smith have compressed two years work into one, and we are now reaping the benefits of more timely information, and much more immediate communication with individual members.

Annual Subscriptions.

We sent out over 1,000 requests for current and past subscriptions paid by the reminder system just before Christmas, representing requests for nearly £90,000. This would be a fantastic help to CMF's expected deficit of £100,000 for 2005. We are continuing to follow up all members to ensure that we don't lose touch with any individual.

Regular Standing Orders.

Of the many members who give by regular standing order, more than 200 instructions have failed, with an annual value of just under £30,000. If even half of these are re-established CMF's ministry will be able to continue growing!

Thank you.

Thank you to every member who has responded to the annual request for financial support, or to specific appeals for individual projects, or who has increased their regular standing order to CMF in 2005. This financial generosity remains fundamental to CMF's long-term development and growth.

You may not appreciate it, but your generosity has seen CMF's Income and Expenditure double over the last 6 years from approximately £500,000 to £1,000,000. All this has come from a static membership roll – 1,000 students and 4,500 graduates. What more could we do if our membership had also doubled in the last 6 years – 2,000 students, and 10,000 graduates? Well, the administrative and financial joys would have grown significantly! Will you join us in recruiting one new member in 2006, to achieve that target of adding 1,000 new graduate members? Thank you so much, and thank you to the Lord for all his goodness to us!

Direct Debit!

These back page musings would not be complete without an update on direct debit! Like British Rail, we really are getting there, and yes I am as confident as I can be that Direct Debit is coming, and should arrive in 2006! (I acknowledge that I have been saying that since the spring of 2003, but we have climbed many mountains in between!)

Giles Rawlinson is CMF Chief Administrator

Dates for your Diary

January

- 14 SCHB Conference, Edinburgh
- 21 PLAB Conference, London

February

- 8 Saline Solution, Tunbridge Wells, Kent
- 10-12 National Students' Conference, Derbyshire
- 18 Saline Solution, Belfast
- 25 CMF Executive Committee, London

March

- 1 Saline Solution, Ilkeston, Derbyshire
- 4 East Anglian Day Conference, Cambridge
- 4 Electives Day, Leeds
- 11 Saline Solution for Juniors and Students, London
- 15 Electives Day, London
- 17-19 Student Leaders' Conference
- 21 Gastroenterology Breakfast, Birmingham

April

- 1 Christians in Surgery Conference, London
- 6 Paediatrics Breakfast, York
- 27 Executive Committee, Swanwick
- 28-30 National Conference, Swanwick, Derbyshire

May

- 3 Rheumatology Breakfast, Glasgow
- 5 Saline Solution, Oxford
- 20 Saline Solution, Chinese Church, London
- 24 Ophthalmology Breakfast, Manchester

June

- 10 Annual General Meeting, London
- 27 BMA Breakfast, Belfast

July

- 6 Dermatology Breakfast, Manchester
- 13 Psychiatry Breakfast, Glasgow
- 14 Plastic Surgeons Breakfast, Sheffield
- 11-16 ICMDA World Congress, Sydney
- 23 July-4 August Developing Health Course, Oakhill, London

CMF News

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