

## Care Not Killing

A new alliance to promote palliative care and oppose euthanasia was launched on Tuesday 31 January.<sup>1</sup> The *Care Not Killing Alliance*<sup>2</sup> now consists of 29 organisations including the Christian Medical Fellowship, the Association for Palliative Medicine of Great Britain & Ireland, the British Council of Disabled People, RADAR (Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation), the Church of England, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and the Evangelical Alliance along with other human rights groups, professional groups, healthcare providers and faith groups.

*Care Not Killing* began in late July 2005, when a small steering group first met in the lead up to the debate in the House of Lords on the Select Committee report on Lord Joffe's *Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Bill* on 10 October 2005.<sup>3</sup> 70 people representing 52 organisations, along with Peers and Members of Parliament, later attended a supporters' meeting in December 2005. That meeting, which was chaired by the late Lord Chan, was addressed by Baroness Irla Finlay, Professor of Palliative Care in Cardiff, Dr Frank Clark, Chairman of the Scottish Partnership in Palliative Care, Lord Brennan and Professor John Wyatt, Professor of Neonatal Paediatrics in University College, London.

The Alliance has three aims:

1. Promoting more and better palliative care
2. Ensuring that existing laws against euthanasia and assisted suicide are not

weakened or repealed during the lifetime of the current Parliament

3. Influencing the balance of public opinion further against any weakening of the law
- More specifically the Alliance's strategy is to:

- Provide a simple compelling and clear campaign slogan 'Care not Killing'
- Maintain a website - [www.carenotkilling.org.uk](http://www.carenotkilling.org.uk)
- Develop a network of expert spokespeople
- Fund opinion polls and support research
- Monitor developments in the courts
- Seek to mobilize mass political support
- Campaign for more and better palliative care

The Alliance's immediate focus will be to campaign against Lord Joffe's revised *Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Bill*,<sup>4</sup> due for its second reading (debate stage) in the House of Lords on Friday 12 May. This is, not coincidentally, the day after the fourth anniversary of the death of Diane Pretty, a high profile motor neurone disease sufferer, who lost her case for assisted suicide at the European Court of Human Rights in early 2002.

Organisations can join the alliance either as CORE members (£1,500pa) or associate members (£50) and individuals can join for £10. People can also sign up for the e-newsletter online.<sup>5</sup> A series of interviews with senior doctors, including several CMF members, is available to view on-line, and also on DVD, and there are an abundance of news links, articles and resources. Copies of the *Care Not Killing Leaflet*' Assisted

Suicide - What is happening in parliament and what can I do about it?' are available free to distribute; just send an email to [info@carenotkilling.org.uk](mailto:info@carenotkilling.org.uk) or phone 020 7633 0770. DVDs can be ordered for £2 each (postage free) from the same address. Apart from the many articles and news links on the site the pages on frequently asked questions (FAQs) on euthanasia and assisted suicide are a very valuable resource for those writing letters or involved in debates on the media.

CMF is committed to *Care Not Killing* because, whilst our key priority remains the Gospel message of reconciliation with God through Jesus' death and resurrection, our lives as Jesus' disciples need to be characterised by sacrificial care for the suffering and a commitment to protect the weak.

Promoting palliative care and opposing euthanasia are at the heart of what we stand for as Christian doctors. Following Christ today involves providing compassionate care for the vulnerable and protecting them from harm and exploitation. Britain has been a world leader in best practice models for palliative care; but we need to work much harder in making that good quality care much more readily accessible and overcoming the present postcode lottery. And we need to make sure that we robustly oppose any attempt to weaken the law against euthanasia, whether it is via Lord Joffe's revised Bill, via lax Codes of Practice for the Mental Capacity Act, through the Law Commission's review on the

homicide law or any other conceivable route. And it is important, in doing this, to work with others who, whilst not sharing or core commitment to the Gospel, nonetheless share our views on palliative care and assisted dying.<sup>6</sup>

CMF has been intimately involved in *Care Not Killing* from the start and has played a major role in helping to establish the Alliance's work – through financial and administrative support – and through the involvement of our members in writing, research and media. I encourage CMF members to get involved by joining the alliance as individuals (which you can do on line), making use of the resources, writing letters, teaching and training others and, most importantly, praying for the success of the work.

*'Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, "But we knew nothing about this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?'*

(Proverbs 24:11-12)

### references

1. [news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/4662312.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/4662312.stm)
2. [www.carenotkilling.org.uk](http://www.carenotkilling.org.uk)
3. [www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld199900/ldhansrd/pdvn/lds05/text/51010-04.htm#51010-04\\_head2](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld199900/ldhansrd/pdvn/lds05/text/51010-04.htm#51010-04_head2)
4. [www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200506/ldbills/036/2006036.htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200506/ldbills/036/2006036.htm)
5. [www.carenotkilling.org.uk/?type=7](http://www.carenotkilling.org.uk/?type=7)
6. Saunders P. Co-belligerence - Compromise or Christian duty? *Triple Helix* 2006; Winter:3

**Peter Saunders**  
is CMF General  
Secretary



## Fellowship news



Peter Saunders

By the time you receive this newsletter the **CMF National Conference** on 28-30 April will be almost upon us. You should have received two mailings of the conference booking form by now and we hope you are able to join us. This year's theme is 'Choosing God's Way' and the main Bible Reader is Hugh Thomson. The Rendle Short Lecture will be given by Michael Varnam.

The ICMDA 13<sup>th</sup> **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. Bookings are rolling in and by the time *CMF News* went to print over 600 had booked and over 100 bursaries awarded. Why not combine a visit to the conference with a well-earned holiday in Australia or New Zealand?

Details of both these key events are on the CMF website along with information about regional conferences, *Saline Solution* days and specialty breakfasts at [www.cmf.org.uk/events](http://www.cmf.org.uk/events) (also see diary on page 8)

Thank you so much to all those who gave via the on line appeal to provide support for victims of the **Kashmir Earthquake**. In all, with the help of Gift Aid, CMF members managed to raise £104,000 and virtually all of this has now been distributed through Kunhar and Bach Hospitals, which were both left standing despite being near the middle of the earthquake zones (see Winter 2006 *Triple Helix* to read the amazing report). Much medical relief, community care and two communications centres to enable strategic channelling of aid, were made possible by your generous gifts.

Plans are now developing for the **office move from Partnership House**. Our current best estimate is that we will leave Partnership House, where we have leased accommodation for over 32 years, by Easter 2007.

The CMF Executive has taken the decision to remain in central London, to buy rather than rent if at all possible, and to look for between 5,000-10,000 sq ft to meet our immediate and longer term needs, while also being able to offer accommodation to other like minded organisations with whom we have a desire to work more closely together.

We have now instructed a commercial agent to begin the search along the axis between Waterloo and Kings Cross in central London. Plans are continuing to develop in relation to the launch of a capital appeal to fund the acquisition, and we have already received an earmarked gift! We will be approaching the membership over the summer to support this massive project. Please be thinking and praying how you might be able to contribute to the long-term future of the Fellowship.

CMF has grown! Income and expenditure has doubled in the last six years, and the employed staff has also more than doubled, and the internal organisation is beginning to creak under this amount of growth! As a consequence, and as part of preparation for the move from Partnership House, we have sought external help in the form of a consultant highly skilled in organisation design; Mee-Yan Judge has worked extensively with both IFES and OMF along with a blue chip portfolio of British Companies, and she is carrying out an **organisational review** of all that we are doing to see how we might manage more effectively the next phase of CMF's development and growth.

*Peter Saunders* is CMF General Secretary

## Members' news

### Congratulations

On their awards and appointments

Nan Hill was awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours

Margaret Keighley was awarded MBE in the New Year's Honours for services in General Practice

Maurice McC Burrows awarded the John Snow Silver Medal

Leslie Hamilton has been appointed President Elect of the Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery in GB and Ireland

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

Megan Best (Australia) to Australia

Hannah Blencowe (Bristol) to Malawi

Rosemary Brown (Westminster) to Kenya

James & Mary Bunn (The Middlesex) to Malawi

Francesca Elloway (Bristol) to Uganda

Marko Kerac (UCL) to Malawi

Catherine Llewellyn (Cambridge) to Australia

Damian Mawer (Leeds) to Paraguay

Martin Seccombe (GKT) to New Zealand

Richard Stainton (The London) to Peru

### Homecoming

John Barker (Newcastle) from Uganda

Brendan & Sarah Clancy (Edinburgh) from South Africa

Chris & Vicky Lavy (BTL) from Malawi

Timothy & Rachel Nunn (Royal Free) from South Africa

Elspeth Paterson (Edinburgh) from Pakistan

Matthew Rotheram (Bristol) from Mongolia

Clare Shaw (Sheffield) from USA

### Change of address abroad

Margaret Cumberland (Manchester) from Malawi to Mozambique

Malte von Blumroder (Germany) from Germany to Pakistan

### CMF Committees

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](mailto:chees@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Business Advisory Committee.** Tony Bell. [bbell@sghms.ac.uk](mailto:bbell@sghms.ac.uk)

**Publications Committee.** Allister Vale. [allistervale@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:allistervale@yahoo.co.uk)

**International Healthserve Committee.**

Bruce Richard. [brucerichard@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:brucerichard@blueyonder.co.uk).

Howard Lyons. [howardlyons@msn.com](mailto:howardlyons@msn.com)

**Medical Study Group.** John Wyatt. [john.wyatt@uclh.org](mailto:john.wyatt@uclh.org)

**Junior Doctors' Committee.** Sarah Germain. [sarahgermain@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahgermain@yahoo.com)

**National Students' Executive Committee.**

John Greenall. [john.greenall@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:john.greenall@kcl.ac.uk)

**Public Policy Committee.**

Trevor Stammers. [tgstammers@doctors.org.uk](mailto:tgstammers@doctors.org.uk)

## Students



Mark Pickering

**R**eturning from the **National Students' Conference** on 10-12 February, I was struck with a palpable sense of what God is doing amongst CMF's students. 330 were present to hear Mark Ashton's challenging talks from Matthew 16-18 and Peter Saunders' excellent conference address on Radical Discipleship in Medicine – an electrifying call to count the cost and put God's priorities ahead of our own, serving him on the frontline wherever he calls us. I am particularly pleased that CDs of all the main talks from the 2006 and 2005 student conferences are now available from [pubs@cmf.org.uk](mailto:pubs@cmf.org.uk). Many students spoke of the encouragements and challenges they received.

Immediately preceding the conference was the **International Students' Preconference**, where 22 students from 13 countries spent the week in London and Oxford. Jonny Thiessen did a great job of running the week and is already capitalising on the relationships by planning a number of linked summer teams. We were particularly encouraged by the contingent from the Middle East – an exciting new development.

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Alex Bunn as **Assistant Student Secretary** to work alongside me part time for two years. As this is a fixed-term appointment it has demanded a rethink of our original plans, leaving me with overall responsibility for the student ministry. However, it does give us a very real increase of capacity in the student department and Alex is already settling in well and doing some excellent work on a variety of training projects. One of these

is training and support for medical school secretaries. We will hold an initial workshop at the national conference on 28-30 April. All medical school secretaries and other interested graduates are welcome. Email [alexbunn@btinternet.com](mailto:alexbunn@btinternet.com) for details.

The **Student Leaders' Conference** on 17-19 March brought together our seven student staff and over 40 new student leaders from the various medical schools, including some from schools never before seen at this conference. Peter Saunders led us through the lives of Moses, Nehemiah and Paul and we looked at various issues such as planning programmes, dealing with problems and putting on evangelistic events.

The **National Students' Committee** has its first meeting in London on 8 April. I am very excited about the calibre of the students on the committee and would really value prayer as we plan for this vital new project. I am convinced it will stimulate more regional activity and increase student ownership of CMF's national ministry.

Finally, the **Nucleus** team has been strengthened by an influx of new blood, but we say goodbye to our student editor, Gavin Ling, who moves on to finals and pastures new after the April edition. I extend my thanks to Gavin for his faithful service and ask for prayer for his successor Hugh Ip.

There is much to praise God for, but many vital decisions needing wisdom, and I ask that you join with me in praying for the Lord's sustaining and guiding hand as we move forward.

*Mark Pickering is CMF Student Secretary*

## Ethics

**O**ur main focus currently is Lord Joffe's *Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Bill*, which is due for its second reading (debate stage) in the House of Lords on 12 May, the day after the anniversary of Diane Pretty's death from motor neurone disease. As featured in the *CMF News* editorial and in *Triple Helix*, CMF has played a major role in the formation of the *Care Not Killing Alliance*, formed to oppose this legislation and other attempts to weaken the laws on euthanasia. All CMF graduate members will have already received their Spring mailing with a complimentary copy of the DVD 'Doctors speak on Assisted Dying' which features several CMF members. Please make good use of these in your churches and amongst colleagues so that the strong arguments against any change in the law are heard and ask for more copies of the DVD and leaflet on Assisted Suicide from the CMF office at [pubs@cmf.org.uk](mailto:pubs@cmf.org.uk).

A major debate on Lord Joffe's Bill on 13 March attracted around 400 people to the Middle Temple Hall in London and resulted in a resounding defeat for supporters of the Bill. We remain confident that when the arguments are given airspace people do understand why any change in the law would be foolish. It is part of our responsibility to ensure that our case is really heard and that the public is not simply left at the mercy of scaremongering media soundbites highlighting the experiences of those who died without optimal palliative care.

Meanwhile the Government has launched its consultation on the draft codes for the *Mental Capacity Act* and the Law Commission a review on the Homicide law including a reconsideration of penalties for mercy killing. These are both potential back door routes for euthanasia and CMF will be making formal submissions. Please pray that sanity prevails and that sound judgments are made.

The government's defeat over key amendments to the *Racial and Religious Hatred Bill* is a cause for great rejoicing and praise to God. Many people were praying throughout this process and the Lawyers' Christian Fellowship in particular worked tirelessly meeting with individual MPs to secure a victory. It is a great testimony to what prayer together with effective high level lobbying can do.

*John Wyatt is Medical Study Group Chairman*



John Wyatt

## Media

**T**wo media training days have been arranged for May. The first is a training day for psychiatrists on **Monday 15 May** when the interviews will be focusing on topics in psychiatry that tend to make the news. The second is a basic media-training day on **Tuesday 16 May**. Both events take place in London and will cover radio and TV interviews. The cost is subsidised by CMF and will be £50 per person. Further details from CMF office. We hope to arrange one or two advanced training courses in the autumn. If this interests you please let me know and I can send you details nearer the time.

*Claire Cooper is Assistant Medical Secretary*



Claire Cooper



## Junior doctors



Sarah Germain

### Recent events

About 30 attended a **Saline Solution Day** especially for juniors, on **Saturday 11 March** in London. If you want to be better prepared for the opportunities you have to share your faith with patients, colleagues and friends then look out for future *Saline* events.

### PLAB-2 Doctors' Day

'Post PLAB 2 – progressing to a post' was a day conference in January for international medical graduates. It focused on CV writing, application forms and interview skills. The day was expertly led by Geoff Norris and Margaret Hodson, together with a team of facilitators who conducted the afternoon interview practice. Everyone had a short interview and feedback on their performance. Many said they found the day very useful and were greatly appreciative. Comments included:

'Thanks so much for the efforts you put into bringing this together. It's been enlightening and a blessing.'

'It was very well organised and I gained quite a lot.'

'I've been well fed and I'm full.'

'When I came this morning I was blind but now I can see.'

'This was an eye opener for me. It has given me confidence to face an interview. The atmosphere, hospitality and food were all excellent.'

The next Post PLAB 2 conference is planned for 24 June 2006 at Partnership House in London.

*Claire Cooper is Assistant Medical Secretary*

The first **Christians in Surgery Day** took place on **Saturday 1 April** in London. Initiated by juniors, it was a great opportunity for surgical trainees and consultants to meet together for fellowship, and consider the particular challenges of being a Christian in their speciality.

### Upcoming events

**ICMDA Sydney 2006.** The ICMDA four yearly World Congress in Australia will have a special juniors' and students' pre-conference from **7-11 July**. Why don't you join the UK contingent, for some great teaching, seminars and fellowship? You could even add a holiday on to the end. More details on the conference website, [www.tourhosts.com.au/icmda2006](http://www.tourhosts.com.au/icmda2006). There's also the opportunity to make a donation to help doctors from developing countries to attend (see [www.icmda.givengain.org](http://www.icmda.givengain.org)).

**Junior Doctors' Weekend Conference.** Our next weekend conference will be held at Hothorpe Hall in Leicestershire, from **13-15 October** this year. Do put the date in your diary, swap that on-call if you can, and look out for further details! A great chance to get 'Beyond the bleep', to catch up with old CMF friends and make lots of new ones. More details on all events via the CMF website.

### Other news...

Our first **PLAB-2 Doctors' Day** (see box) was a great success in January, and we're hoping to repeat it. Let us know if you're a PLAB

## Evangelism



Kevin Vaughan

In the New Testament we often find people crossing cultural barriers in order to communicate Christ. Paul is an outstanding example; in Athens we find him quoting secular poets and speaking of an altar to an unknown God at the most popular public meeting place, the Areopagus. He then proceeds to proclaim Christ and his resurrection. Among the farming communities in Lystra and Derbe, he speaks of the God who brings the rain and crops in their seasons and to the Jews he quotes freely from their Old Testament scriptures.

How well do we cross cultural barriers within CMF UK? Are we even aware that there may be some barriers to cross? It was interesting to read in *Triple Helix* last autumn that 40% of the UK's doctors are International Medical Graduates (IMGs). Sadly many of them are Christians who have little contact with CMF.

This year we shall be aiming two special *Saline Solution* events towards different communities. On 20 May there will be a *Saline Solution* day in the Chinese Church in London; the day will be open to all and we hope specifically to draw many Christian Healthcare professionals of Chinese origin. Do encourage anyone you know who might be interested to come.

In June we shall be holding a special invitation *Saline Solution* day for doctors from India and doctors of Indian origin within the UK. If you know of anyone who might be interested to come, I'll be pleased to hear from you.

We also recognise that there are many Christian doctors of African origin in the UK, who have little contact with CMF. In what ways could we address that in the future?

How much is our fellowship within CMF limited by the culture within which we operate and the style with which we are familiar? Within our local and regional meetings do we need to make an extra effort to reach some who have not made contact with us yet?

Let us emulate Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:19, 22 & 23:

*'Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.'*

*Kevin Vaughan is CMF Associate General Secretary*

doctor who would like to attend, or if you know any PLAB doctors who might be interested.

A chance to post your comments on issues facing Christian juniors and see what others have to say.

CMF have launched a **Junior Doctors' Forum** (amongst others) via the website. Log in at [www.cmf.org.uk/forum](http://www.cmf.org.uk/forum).

*Sarah Germain is Juniors' Chairman*



## Allied professions



Steve Fouch

The Allied Professions Work has been busy over the winter – working with Christian Nurses and Midwives towards charity registration, with Christian Therapists' Network towards an administrative support role, and with both groups in helping with the organisation and administration of the joint conference held 3-5 March in Oswestry. The joint national conference saw more than eighty Christians from nursing, midwifery and the allied health professions, and more than a dozen students join together to hear John Wyatt speak on some of the major ethical and practical challenges facing us as Christian health professionals in the 21st Century.

I have also continued to be involved in the Nurses' Christian Fellowship International (NCFI) European Committee and the organisation of the NCFI European Conference in the Netherlands this August. This will be a key event in developing some of the emerging Christian Nursing groups in Eastern and Southern Europe, some of which are also being supported through our ICMDA-linked summer teams. The links in Eastern and Central Europe are growing all the time, and it is a great opportunity for a Christian voice to have a positive influence in the development of all the health professions in these lands still emerging from decades of communist rule.

At the same time, links with ICMDA and the World Congress in Sydney this July have got us involved with HIV Pre-conference and the development of a book on HIV care and prevention best practice by Christian organisations. The pre-conference (7-9 July) will



bring together a large number of Christian doctors and other practitioners involved in the fight against AIDS from around the world.

CMF, along with CNM and CTN is actively involved in a new initiative called the **Christian Workplace Forum (CWF)**. This is a growing network of people and associations relating together around a shared vision for making a Christian impact in workplaces across the UK. The aim is to see more Christian groups praying for one another in the workplace, and encouraging and equipping one another to share the gospel to colleagues and be salt and light. There have been a number of meetings with MPs and with one another to formulate plans and share resources and news. CMF is now on the Steering Group of CWF, and we have been able to share some of our resources, including *Saline Solution* and *Confident Christianity* with other Christian workplace fellowships.

On the mission front, we are involved in organising with Global Connections a major consultation and forum on new models and strategies for the development of mission hospitals in May, drawing in speakers and participants from the UK, Asia, Africa and the Americas.

**Steve Fouch** is CMF Allied Professions Secretary

## Publications



Allister Vale

### Mad, Bad and Sad

Progress on this book addressing issues at the interface of Christianity and Psychiatry has been very slow due to pressures in the CMF office, but we are now at the stage of typesetting and approval of a cover, and printing should follow very soon. The book will fill an important niche and is written in a style that should be accessible to all CMF members, pastors and well-read non-medics.

### CMF Websites

You may not be aware that CMF has three websites, all of which are popular and valuable resources. We frequently receive letters from members who have only recently discovered them. If you haven't done so yourself then please do have a look at the following.

- **Christian Medical Fellowship**

([www.cmf.org.uk](http://www.cmf.org.uk)) has over 2,000 pages including back issues for all our regular quarterly publications going back to the early 1990s. There are articles on every conceivable issue at the interface of Christianity and medicine along with reviews, press releases, news items and a host of links to other useful material on the web.

- **Healthserve** ([www.healthserve.org](http://www.healthserve.org))

focusses on overseas medical ministry and is a one stop shop for those seeking to go on an elective, to serve overseas or to find valuable information and links.

- **Ethics for Schools**

([www.ethicsforschools.org](http://www.ethicsforschools.org)) is a site developed using CMF publications but focussed on helping those doing GCSE and A Level courses on religious studies – which largely now have human bioethics as a major focus.



### Looking for a good Christian medical book?

Although we are not yet set up to sell books using a secure card system via the internet our main website does carry book reviews of good books dealing with Christian medical issues (see [www.cmf.org.uk/index/book\\_reviews.htm](http://www.cmf.org.uk/index/book_reviews.htm)) and you can order them on line via email at [www.cmf.org.uk/bookstore](mailto:www.cmf.org.uk/bookstore). We are so trusting that we will send you the book along with an invoice!

### CMF Discussion Forums

The CMF discussion forums are now open for business at [www.cmf.org.uk/forum](http://www.cmf.org.uk/forum) and work very much like the discussion forums at [www.doctors.net.uk](http://www.doctors.net.uk). In this initial stage we are restricting entry to CMF members but you can register on line and get involved right now. All you need is your CMF membership number – which you can obtain by emailing your full name and postcode to [forum@cmf.org.uk](mailto:forum@cmf.org.uk)

### Conference talks

An increasing number of CMF Conference addresses are now available in MP3 format – for a catalogue and prices contact [pubs@cmf.org.uk](mailto:pubs@cmf.org.uk)

**Allister Vale** is CMF Publications Chairman



## Mission matters

Keeping in touch and ongoing intercession for members working abroad



Peter Armon

### Student Conference

The *HealthServe* team were all involved in the recent Students' Conference. Seminars on *The Global Health Crisis* and *A Radical Career Path* by Steve Fouch and myself were very well attended. Laura was able to input and answer many questions about electives and other overseas matters from those who thronged the overseas stall. The students' enthusiasm and interest in overseas mission is always an encouragement. Maintaining that interest and bringing them to the point of active involvement overseas is one of our major challenges.

### Elective Days

Encouraging an elective placement in a resource poor country is one of the best ways of doing this and can have a life changing impact on those who go. CMF Elective Days in Leeds and London have been well attended and the feedback suggests they are much appreciated, as are the grants we are able to offer towards travel costs. We have also been involved in University and BMA Elective Events. We would be very happy to help you organise an elective event locally. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at [healthserve@cmf.org.uk](mailto:healthserve@cmf.org.uk)

### ICMDA Sydney 2006

CMF *HealthServe* will be well represented at this event with both Steve and myself involved in seminars. It means we will both be out of the Office for a couple of weeks, in my case for a month, as I take the opportunity to visit family on the far side of the world.

### Annual Report

Steve has been compiling an Annual Report of our activities over the last year which will be out soon and will contain many articles and items of interest.



Read on and hopefully be challenged to get more involved in overseas activities.

### Mission on the move

Regional Reps should have received a mailing from us, making you aware of the fact that we are willing to move out of the office and provide input on Mission Matters to local and regional events and meetings. You have only to ask and we will seek to oblige. Do take us up on this.

### The Developing Health Course at Oak Hill - 23 July - 4 August 2006

The 2006 programme should be up on the overseas website ([www.healthserve.org](http://www.healthserve.org)) by the time you read this (as are application forms) and a printed, programme will be available from the Office. Please contact [Laura.risdale@cmf.org.uk](mailto:Laura.risdale@cmf.org.uk) for more information. The course has been moved to later in July this year to avoid a clash with the Sydney ICMDA Conference. Several new speakers have been invited and new topics included and the continuing move to more interactive presentations continues. The programme has been arranged in such a way as to allow for applicants to attend for specific themed days that might be of interest to them.

### Developing Health Course CD Rom 2006

A new edition of the CD is planned for later in the year and editing is in hand. The CDs will

contain presentations from the 2004/5 Developing Health Course and much else besides. The 2004 CD proved to be an invaluable teaching resource for those working in resource poor countries and over 4,000 copies were distributed. Our strengthening links with TALC will enable both the sharing of materials and an even wider dissemination of the CDs. Our Dental colleagues have produced an excellent updated and expanded version of David Halestrap's excellent manual *Simple Dental Care for Rural Hospitals* (which was originally a MMA publication). The new booklet - a *Dental Training Manual* - is available in paper copy and will be included on the new CD. They have also been stimulated to produce a Dental CD of their own!

### Re-tyred not retired

Thank you to everyone who has submitted articles for a new edition of this publication. I hope to be able to get down to editing soon. There is still room for more contributions - especially from

retired GPs involved in a work overseas. The booklet is intended as a challenge to retirees to consider using their life skills and experience to encourage, support, teach and train expats and nationals working overseas. It will contain reports of what some of our members have done and are doing and will also contain useful information on how to bring your dreams to reality.

### Further news from Nigeria

Arising out of our involvement in the Developing Health Course held in Nigeria last year, we have been able to encourage our colleagues in the Nigerian CMDA by giving *HealthServe* grants to three of their members to help towards the cost of travel to India, to meet up with colleagues in EMFI and EHA and to take part in a medical missions course run by EMFL. The Nigerian CMDA is moving ahead with plans for a second DHC to be held this year.

*Peter Armon is Overseas Support Secretary*

## Kashmir Earthquake Appeal Closes

The Kashmir Earthquake appeal that CMF first sent out to members in October 2005 has raised over £104,000, and is now officially closed. We want to extend our thanks to all the members who gave so generously.

We have sent £80,000 to Bach and Kunhar hospitals in Kashmir. Both hospitals remain at the forefront of supporting the local communities devastated by the earthquake.

We have sent an additional £20,000 to set up an emergency communications system to enable both hospitals to keep in contact with the wider world in case of future disasters. The remaining £4,000 is being used to help subsidise costs of medical packs and CMF volunteers going to the area. Very recently we received a letter from Dr Lal Din at Kunhar who says, 'For the five months since the earthquake we have given medical help completely free to any patient coming to the hospital... We have also been able to reach out to those around with tents, blankets, tarpaulins, medical and food aid... As a result, Kunhar Christian Hospital has been a strong example of Christ's love among a devastated community.'

Please continue to pray for this work.





Daryl Hackland

### Short Term Missions

For many years ICMDA member organisations have been involved in short term missions as an outreach to neighbouring countries. Those who have participated and shared in this experience have benefited enormously in their own spiritual journeys. This adds further to the value these outreach projects are to those on the receiving end. Here are some examples to inform and encourage.

#### Argentina

The CMF in Argentina organises outreaches to outlying communities such as Patagonia in the South and Chaco to the North. Working with the Churches multi disciplinary teams engage in teaching in schools and holding health clinics. Contact is maintained following these visits through regular provision of much needed medicines. The gospel is shared at evening meetings. The message brought back tells of the great need there is for these services of compassion and the blessings such experiences bring to each one of the team. Students and young doctors are invited to participate in these activities.

#### South Korea

There is a phenomenal movement in South Korea to engage in mission reaching out into 'all the world' for Christ. All staff working in the Good Samaritan Hospital in Pohang are expected to be involved in outreach. This means much prayer, dedication, time away from work in the Hospital and family, and personal financial commitment. In addition to missions within Korea trips to Africa, Mongolia and other parts of Asia, take place three times a year.

#### Brazil

Visiting Brazil in November 2005, I met a Christian Dentist, Tercio Obara in Sao Paulo, who told of long treks for days into the Amazon Jungle. Missionaries have made contact over a number of years with communities and tribes of the region. The needs are immense for health care of the most basic kind. Tercio has had to improvise to ensure appropriate dental equipment is available for him to practise 'constructive' dentistry. The outcome of this amazing contact has been that of building a bond of trust between the tribal people and the caregivers which has opened the way for God's word to be spoken and received.

#### Southern Africa

During the recent December vacation a group of students and doctors from Durban went to Zavora, Mozambique. Here is one doctor's testimony: *Although I don't know God's exact calling on my life, my journey taught me not to fear what the future may hold but has rather instilled in me an excitement. I eagerly anticipate the events that will unravel as I walk in God's good and perfect will.* (Kim Smith)

#### Building God's Kingdom

So what's the message? Jesus says 'Go then to all people's every where' (Mt 28:19) (GNB) When we leave our comfort zones and reach out in obedience, the blessings of his provisions, plan and purpose for our lives begin to flow, these shaping and moulding us for his Kingdom.

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## ICMDA Eurasia



Peter Pattisson

urge you, brothers', wrote Paul as he set out his plans for further advance across Europe, 'by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join us... by praying to God for us' (Romans 15:30). Here is a kaleidoscope of growing points and praying points from across Europe.

#### Scandinavia

The Scandinavia movements are the oldest in Europe – Denmark founded in 1897, Finland in 1924, Norway in 1930 and Sweden in 1938. By comparison, CMF dating from 1949 is a mere adolescent! Medical mission support has always been strong and continues with AIDS care, TB control, local staff training, mission hospital support and tentmaker ministries. Right across Scandinavia there is a resurgence of student and young graduate involvement. With only tenuous links at present, Iceland remains a prayer target in Scandinavia.

#### Southern Europe

The small movements in Spain, Portugal and Greece continue with sacrificial service in hostile surroundings. Student work is closely linked with IFES. Spain and Portugal are planning a joint conference next year. We are still seeking out links in Italy, Malta and Cyprus. If anyone has any contacts in these countries please let me know.

#### Staff Appointments

Until very recently CMF was the only movement in Europe with any employed staff at all. This is beginning to change. This year AGEAS (Switzerland) are appointing a part-time medically qualified general secretary. ACM (Germany) appointed a part-time secretary two years ago and last year added a part-time student secretary (young medical graduate). CMF Netherlands have followed suit and, as mentioned above, NKLF in Norway have had a part-time student secretary (and an office secretary) for several years. Ministry development can only reach a certain level with voluntary help alone. These appointments are indicators of new advances and deserve our prayers.

#### Multi-disciplinary cooperation

Many of the smaller movements in Central and Eastern Europe include all medical disciplines. We have been taking significant steps in developing partnership with Healthcare Christian Fellowship International (HCFI) in these areas, seeking the benefit and blessing of God's people there rather than the interests of our separate organisations. This is a delicate but important process and will be much helped by your prayers.

#### Summer camps

Last year the German ACM led a student summer camp in Czech Republic with help and encouragement from James Tomlinson. This year the Czech students are inviting Slovak and Polish friends to share. Again and again these summer camps have led to the birth and growth of new movements.

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# Staff news and finance



Giles Rawlinson

## Assistant Student Secretary



Alex Bunn has joined the staff in mid February to strengthen our student work, working alongside Mark Pickering for the next two years – this is a very exciting new development as it enables more effort to be put into strengthening our student ministry. Many will know Alex and remember that he has already served CMF as a London regional staff worker in the late 90's. Since then he has gained his MRCP, done a year at All Nations Christian College, worked in sexual health and palliative care, and is also in the middle of an MA in Medical Ethics.

## Regional Staffworkers

We are in the midst of a regular turnover of Regional staffworkers; Roxy Whelan joined the regional staff team in mid March, working in Nottingham, Leicester, and Derby medical schools for two years. By the time you read this we hope to have interviewed in Scotland, after several years with no staff worker since Lorna Nunn finished. There are preliminary discussions with one or two others, but there are always more vacancies than posts filled; if this is something you would like to consider, please contact Peter Saunders in the office in the first instance.

## Scottish administrator

Scotland really is on the move! Calum Mackellar pioneered this role during 2005, and covered more than is humanly possible in one day a week! His own involvement with both the Scottish Council of Human Bioethics, and the Church and Society Council of the Church of Scotland mean that has stepped down, and we hope to interview a successor before Easter.

## Finance matters

I have just reviewed my last four finance reports of 2005, and they make interesting reading! The smile has definitely returned, as we have now caught up completely with the day-to-day financial transactions of the Fellowship, and many members have responded very generously to the request to pay both their current subscription but also any arrears, along with generous contributions in addition. This has made a very significant impact upon CMF's current finances.

However we are finishing the 2005 audit before Easter, and I expect the final 2005 accounts to show a deficit well in excess of £100,000. The Executive has also considered a 2006 budget with a deficit close to £100,000. In the short term we can consider living beyond our means in this way because we have financial resources in the bank. However it is not sustainable in the medium to long term.

There are two ways you might consider helping redress this: As of mid March 2006 there are over 800

graduate members and 600 student members who still need to pay their subscription for both the current year and past years, and we will be in contact by email and phone to help you do this in the simplest way possible for you. This will have a massive impact upon our ongoing finances. Do please help us by digging out a copy of a subscription letter from me, and sending in your subscription, and any additional support you are able to give.

Secondly, the graduate CMF membership has remained static at between 4,500 and 5,000 members for at least the last 6 years despite 200 students qualifying each year. Promotion to glory, and losing contact are probably the two largest reasons for members not continuing to support the Fellowship, along with an awareness of being too busy, and being overwhelmed with CMF material along with everything else. We remain very keen to honour every member of the Fellowship, even when membership only means paying a subscription and little more.

But are you aware of any colleagues or medical friends whom you could encourage to join the Fellowship, and help share the financial load? 1,000 new members would transform our finances, but also represent a massive additional coordinated force for good in the medical profession, and in society. Would you consider inviting one or more colleagues to join CMF in 2006? We can check the membership database to let you know if your colleagues and friends are already members, and we would be delighted to send you further copies of the *Introducing CMF* booklet we circulated in the summer of 2005.

## Thank you

I need to say thank you to every member who has filled in a new or increased Bankers Order over the last year. Many have committed to make a regular monthly, quarterly, or annual financial commitment to the Fellowship, and this is immensely helpful, and we are continuing to process these, and also to acknowledge them as they are set up, for the first time in at least three years.

The back page would not be complete without reference to direct debit! The decision to launch direct debit was taken by the Executive in principle in 2002, but delivering it has been inextricably linked to all the membership database problems of the last two years. Now that we have caught up, we are planning how to move forward, and the first beneficiary of such a move will be the ability to pay subscriptions and additional donations by direct debit, which we believe will be much simpler for every member, and administratively. Roll on the day!

*Giles Rawlinson is CMF Chief Administrator*

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## Dates for your Diary

### April

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

### May

- 3 Rheumatology Breakfast, Glasgow
- 5 Saline Solution, Oxford
- 15 Psychiatry Media Training Day, London
- 16 Basic Media Training Day, London
- 20 Saline Solution, Chinese Church, London
- 24 Ophthalmology Breakfast, Manchester

### June

- 7 Saline Solution, Stockton
- 10 Annual General Meeting, London
- 27 BMA Breakfast, Belfast

### July

- 6 Dermatology Breakfast, Manchester
- 7-16 ICMDA World Congress, Sydney
- 13 Psychiatry Breakfast, Glasgow
- 14 Plastic Surgeons Breakfast, Sheffield
- 23-4 August Developing Health Course, Oakhill, London

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