

## Going slow to go fast

**D**espite having lived in England since 1989, like most people born in New Zealand I am a keen supporter of the All Blacks rugby team and am hoping that 2007 will be the year when they manage to win the Rugby World Cup for the first time since 1987! Based on their current form they might just do it. They now have the best record of any All Black team in history, having won 33 of their last 37 internationals.

How has such a small country managed such dominance? Part of it is surely that New Zealanders care more deeply about rugby than they do about anything else. A surgical colleague of mine once placed a rugby ball and textbook of surgery in his new-born baby boy's cot in the hope that they might have some influence in shaping his future.

But All Black success is due to more than just obsession, passion and vision. From primary school the structures and processes are in place to train and develop the stars of tomorrow. Almost every boy plays in a weight-graded school team with people his own size, so the smaller boys with real ability have a chance to develop, and the whole year is carefully planned and organised so as to be full of fixtures and tournaments that will nurture talent. At national level the Super Twelve, National Provincial, Trinations and Autumn international programmes are carefully integrated and well-funded so that the clubs, provinces and the national team all get to field their best players. Inspiring top-level coaching completes the mix. This

combination of passion, vision, grass roots involvement, leadership, systems and structure delivers results. All this in turn came about by careful planning – 'going slow to go fast'.

CMF is currently accepting the challenge of 'going slow to go fast'. God has mightily blessed us since 2000 – and thanks to the generous support of members our annual income has grown from £500,000 to £1.2 million and our staff numbers from ten to 28 resulting in many new ministry initiatives and much fruit for God's Kingdom. But we have achieved this growth without giving similar attention to our systems, structures and processes, and without any real increase in our membership. And so for the last six months we have been giving careful attention to these things as a platform for the ministry challenges of the 21st century. What will this involve?

### New building

When we first received the news that Partnership House, our rented home for 32 years was to be demolished this year, we asked ourselves, What on earth is God doing? We now see it as God's way of preparing us for the future. We have launched a capital appeal and have put in an offer on a property in central London which we think will be just ideal for our future ministry needs. It will also enable us to build further our strong partnerships with Christian nurses, lawyers, therapists and mission agencies through providing accommodation, conference and meeting facilities. You will have already received the appeal literature and at the time

of going to press we had raised £623,000 of the £2 million required. Please do pray about this and give generously.

### New staff structure

Our basic staff structure, that of the General Secretary and Chief Administrator relating individually to most staff, had not changed appreciably since 2000. With all the ministry growth this basic structure needed remodelling. To do this we have been working with Mee-Yan Judge, a gifted Christian management consultant, and her team from *Quality and Equality*. This has helped us to think and plan much more strategically and to mend structures and processes that were creaking. We are now in the process of reorganising staff into a number of ministry departments, each headed by a senior staff member, so that each member of staff can specialise and work more efficiently. This will mean that we can manage ministry growth in a much more carefully planned way in the future. This will involve some change and reshaping of roles for key staff – and in the first stage of this our Chief Administrator Giles Rawlinson, after seven years of faithful and fruitful service, has handed over to Joshua Wathanga, and Andrew Fergusson has rejoined us as locum Head of Publications and Communications (see page 8). The whole new structure should be clear by April. Watch this space.

### New focus

CMF has four aims – discipleship, evangelism, mission and proclamation – but of these we believe that the most important is disci-

pleship – equipping Christian doctors and medical students to serve Christ better in their families, churches and work. To this end we want to focus much more on our grassroots ministry amongst members – strengthening local fellowship and boosting our membership. A big part of this will involve freeing up our medical staff from administrative work in order to 'get out more' amongst members. This will

**...passion, vision, grass roots involvement, leadership, systems and structure deliver results**

help foster local groups, and encourage all of us better to 'stir up one another to love and good works' as we see the day of Christ's return drawing near.

Let's continue to seek God's grace and enabling as we work our way through realising this vision and getting the processes, structures and systems in place to build our ministry to advance Christ's Kingdom in and through medicine in the 21st century.

*'To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and for evermore! Amen.'* (Jude 24,25)

**Peter Saunders**  
is CMF General Secretary



## Fellowship news



Peter Saunders

I hope that what is described in this first edition of *CMF News* for 2007 will encourage you. Let me highlight some special issues for **praise and prayer**. As featured on the front page, two of our biggest challenges in the coming months are our **upcoming move** from Partnership House and the **restructuring** of CMF central office in order that we might serve you, our members, better. In the next issue we will unveil our plans.

With this mailing you will find full booking details for the **CMF National Conference** on 27-29 April. This year's theme is 'Follow me!' based around Jesus' Great Commission to 'go and make disciples of all nations' (Matthew 28:19). Jesus invested considerable time and energy in forging the character and vision of his own disciples. This annual conference will look at what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in the 21st Century based on the Sermon on the Mount.

The Bible Readings will be led by **Rob and Marion White**, who will be well known to those who attend Spring Harvest. Rob was previously Senior Minister of Poynton Baptist Church, and before that he was National Director of Youth For Christ. Marion is currently involved with Stop The Traffik, a major global coalition working together to help stop the sale of people and to see the traffickers prosecuted.

The Rendle Short Lecture will be given by **Dennis Wrigley**, who is the leader of the Maranatha Community, an interdenominational Christian community committed to unity, renewal, prayer and healing. There will also be practical seminars on aspects of Christian life and ministry including serving the poor, praying for the sick, marriage, singleness, challenges in medical ethics and witness at work. Do join us for an inspiring and uplifting weekend of prayer, teaching and fellowship and to hear more about where God is leading CMF in the coming days.

The **East Anglia Day Conference** in Cambridge on 3 March is titled 'Making End of Life Decisions: A review of the issues in the light of the Mental Capacity Act'. This event will explore the theological and legal issues and allow plenty of time for discussion about practicalities. Come for a stimulating day of talks, panel and small group discussion.

The **Students' National Conference** at Swanwick on 9-11 February, 'The God we serve is able', is CMF's largest and probably most strategic annual event. More details on page 3. 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.

**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 specialties of gastroenterology, paediatrics, rheumatology, ophthalmology, psychiatry and dermatology.

We hope you can join us at one of these events, or if not, benefit from recordings available from the CMF Office. Full details of all conferences and breakfasts are available on the CMF website at [www.cmf.org/events](http://www.cmf.org/events) and dates and venues are listed on page 8 of *CMF News*. Information about local groups for graduates, juniors and students is available on the CMF website at [www.cmf.org.uk/fellowship](http://www.cmf.org.uk/fellowship)

*Peter Saunders* is CMF General Secretary

## Members' news

### Congratulations

**Scott Murray** - Inaugural chair in Primary Palliative Care at the University of Edinburgh

**Chris Summerton** - Honorary Professor in the School of Healthcare Professions at Salford University

**Allister Vale** - President's Medal, RCP

**Janice Allister** - FRCGP

**Thean Soon Chew** - MRCP

**Ben Sinclair** - MRCGP

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

### Obituaries

**Donald Duck** (*q* Edinburgh 1950; *d* 8 June 2006) was posted to CMC Ludhiana, India with CMS, later working in Kashmir and Pakistan. Subsequently he was a GP in Mallaig, Scotland.

**Charles Fee** (*q* Belfast 1974; *d* 16 July 2006) was a consultant in Accident and Emergency medicine. He lived in Craigavon, Co. Armagh.

### Outgoing

Thomas Accialini (Germany) to Sudan

Tamsin Booth (Southampton) to Canada

Mairi Crawford (Newcastle) to Uganda

Michael Puttick (St Mary's) to Nepal

Sarah Tucker (Bristol) to Nepal

Peter & Catriona Waitt (Liverpool) to Malawi

Susannah Woodd (Edinburgh) to Malawi

### Homecoming

Sylvia Anderson (Belfast) from Pakistan

Rena Downing (The Middlesex) from Kenya

Martin Edwin (Cambridge) from Egypt

Andrew Fergusson (St Thomas') from USA

Clare Nichols (Bristol) from Singapore

Rachel Pinniger (Bristol) from China

Nicola Wilderspin (Oxford) from Malawi

### Change of address abroad

Ruth Fitch (Birmingham) from Kenya to South Africa

Dhires Mahajan (Nepal) from India to Nepal

Patrick Tan (Singapore) from Singapore to Australia

David Walter from Malaysia to Bangladesh

### CMF Committees

If you would like to know more about our ministry, do contact us:

**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)

**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)

**Public Policy Committee.** Trevor Stammers. [tgstammers@doctors.org.uk](mailto:tgstammers@doctors.org.uk)

**Triple Helix Editorial Board.** Peter Saunders. [peter.saunders@cmf.org.uk](mailto:peter.saunders@cmf.org.uk)

**Junior Doctors' Committee.** Ben Hall. [ben.hall@doctors.net.uk](mailto:ben.hall@doctors.net.uk)

**National Students' Committee.** Avril Stirzaker.

[avrilstirzaker@bluebottle.com](mailto:avrilstirzaker@bluebottle.com)

## Students



Mark Pickering

A new year brings a chance to reflect on the last one and to consider priorities for the next. For me this is particularly pertinent as I finished as a GP registrar in October and have **increased my CMF commitment** to ten sessions a week. I plan to continue working two sessions a week as a GP.

As I have thought about the best way to maximise the impact of CMF's student ministry, two words have repeatedly come to mind – training and resources. Training for the large network of volunteers we have – local student reps and medical school secretaries, as well as national student committee members who already do a lot of great work. We must give more than ever to supporting and equipping them to build up students through local and regional activities. A vital part of that training is providing quality resources, to help them put on events that hit the mark, find good speakers, or lead groups and support students locally. Do pray for us as we strive to do this. It's been a great encouragement for me to get out and about more, meeting students on their own turf.

The focal point of the year ahead is the **National Students' Conference** on 9-11 February. Booking forms are available and also downloadable from [www.cmf.org.uk](http://www.cmf.org.uk). We look forward to a fantastic time reminding ourselves that 'The God we Serve is Able', with Hugh Thomson speaking from Daniel and Rhona Knight encouraging us to put ourselves 'In the Firing Line', standing up to make a difference as a Christian medic. Plan to be

there and pray for the speakers and seminar leaders as they prepare!

During the autumn term the staff team have been leading **Confident Christianity** evangelism training events in Glasgow, Brighton, Cardiff, London and Nottingham. These were greatly appreciated by all who attended and more are planned in the new year in Leeds, Warwick (both 27 January) and Manchester (10 March). Further details are at [www.cmf.org.uk/outreach/](http://www.cmf.org.uk/outreach/)

The **National Students' Committee** has a new chair – Avril Stirzaker from Manchester. Avril has already done great work as a student rep and brings enthusiasm and gifting to this role. Her first meeting in the chair will be on 20 January. She would love to hear from you on [avrilstirzaker@bluebottle.com](mailto:avrilstirzaker@bluebottle.com) if you have ideas or feedback. Thanks again to John Greenall, who has now handed the chairmanship over to Avril, for all his excellent work in setting up the NSC over the past year.

Christian students appear to be facing an **increase in opposition** from those hostile to Christian belief or practice. Christian Unions at Edinburgh, Herriot-Watt, Birmingham and Exeter are in negotiations with their student unions, which may lead to legal action, after restrictions of various kinds. CMF students at Bart's and the London medical school are challenging the historic position of their student union, which limits activities of all religious and political groups. All involved would value your prayers for wisdom, so that they would challenge where appropriate and the Lord would be glorified, both by our methods and the eventual outcomes.

*Mark Pickering is CMF*

## Ethics



Andrew Fergusson

2007 opened with every probability there will be even more controversial ethics debates than in 2006. We all suddenly became aware of the little American girl, Ashley, born with 'static encephalopathy', whose Seattle parents sought medical intervention to keep her size and weight down to facilitate their future care of her at home.

At the age of six, three years ago, she had radical surgery including hysterectomy, appendicectomy and breast bud removal, and high-dose hormones are being used to prevent further growth. Internet criticism resulted in her father publishing an explanatory blog on New Year's Day. By 4 January the child 'frozen in time' was a lead story globally, and a CMF spokesperson on SKY and the BBC suggested that if the patient did not fit her environment, a more holistic option might have been to amend the environment to fit the patient, rather than drastically amending the patient to fit the environment. What are appropriate goals for high technology medicine?

### Human-animal hybrids?

The very next day, the science community launched a pre-emptive strike in the media about the possibility that the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) might refuse applications for licences to create human-animal hybrids. Because of a shortage of human ova from which to derive embryonic stem cells for research, several centres propose to insert human genetic material into the hollowed-out nucleus of cow or rabbit ova. However, about 0.5% of the total DNA in the resultant embryo would then be animal DNA in the cytoplasm.

Lively media debate followed, with extensive CMF input, and Parliament's Science and Technology Committee plans to hold an Enquiry. On 10 January written submissions were invited, with a deadline of 22 January! CMF made a submission, arguing that science must operate within ethical boundaries, that all the clinical benefit of stem cell therapies is currently coming from ethically non-controversial 'adult' stem cells, that we should not be creating embryos for destructive stem cell research whether they be 100 or just 99.5% human, and that God's creation of species 'according to their kinds' is significant.

### Other controversies

CMF was very much involved, through the Care Not Killing Alliance, in the defeat of Lord Joffe's Assisted Dying for the Terminally Ill Bill last May and in helping to overturn the BMA's neutral stance on assisted suicide. These were huge victories and it now looks very unlikely that we will see another attempt to change the law this parliamentary session. In the meantime Baroness Hlora Finlay is introducing a Palliative Care Bill into the House of Lords shortly to improve funding of, and access to, good palliative care.

2007 will see the 40th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act and we can expect further campaigns from both sides. The Mental Capacity Act comes into force in April, and forms the subject matter for the East Anglia CMF day conference in Cambridge on 3 March. The tragic murders of the Suffolk prostitutes have inevitably sparked calls for the decriminalisation of almost everything in the sex trade, and we never know where the next controversy may come from.

*Andrew Fergusson is CMF Head of Publications and Communications*

## Junior doctors



Ben Hall

**H**appy New Year from the Junior Doctors' Committee!

As I write this in early January, the National Junior Doctors' Conference seems a distant memory, but back in October we once again enjoyed a fantastic weekend at Hothorpe Hall.

Andrew Nicholls, himself a former medic, led our exploration of the story of Daniel, and his superb teaching was equalled only by the pleasure of enjoying each other's company and fellowship during the weekend. Although we were together for only a few short days, nevertheless we all headed home both refreshed and revitalised. As well as being tremendously grateful to Andrew, as a Committee we would also like to thank all those that made the weekend possible, including those that led worship, and the Office staff who so ably supported the Conference.

The 2007 National Juniors' Conference will once again be at Hothorpe Hall in Leicestershire, this time at the later date of 23-25 November. Please put the date in your diaries now. We have just started planning this so would appreciate your prayers as we put the programme together. As always we welcome any ideas from you.

As a Committee, we are exploring ways in which to develop and enhance both the Pastoral Care scheme and the Open House programmes. At present we are still without a chairperson, but we are grateful for your continued prayers for the smooth running of the Juniors' activities.

CMF is moving increasingly into providing specialty conferences. The psychiatry day conference has been running for several years now and last year's conference for Christians in surgery was a fantastic success.



Delegates at the National Juniors' Conference

Watch this space for more coming up. In the meantime, if you are in training grades and attending a College meeting this year then do try to make it along to the CMF breakfast (see page 8). In the last two years we have run conferences for overseas doctors with PLAB who were trying to find NHS posts. These have been a great blessing to those who have come. We will not be running one this year because of the change in government policy that has led to thousands of overseas doctors having to return to their home countries. Please do pray for these doctors, many of whom face an uncertain future after committing years training in the UK. There is an increasing need for junior doctors to be available to respond to media requests. CMF can provide suitable training and opportunities, so if you feel that God may be calling you to take a more active role in speaking out on important issues, do keep alert to future media training days.

Finally can I encourage you to contribute generously to CMF's appeal for the new building. Many of us will feel we are just emerging from debt, but by the world's standards as juniors we are very well off. Gifts can be spread which means that, allowing for Gift Aid, just £16 a month for four years will result in £1,000 being added to the appeal total. Which of us cannot afford that? With every blessing from the Committee for 2007.

*Ben Hall is a Juniors' Committee member.*

## Evangelism



Kevin Vaughan

### Saline International

Internationally there is a growing tide of Christian doctors and other healthcare professionals who want to make a difference for Christ in their work situation and particularly to explore how they can be witnesses both effectively and appropriately in the clinical context. There is now considerable demand to take the *Saline Solution* conference to about sixty other countries worldwide and the time has come for a revised and reduced basic version which can easily be adapted to different national contexts with local stories and illustrations, and for a new emphasis on training national course leaders.

International Health Services, under the leadership of Bob Snyder, has commissioned Bill Peel, one of the original authors, to write a revised version in conjunction with national leaders from the USA, UK, Hungary and India. Originally the authors had no expectation that the course would be used outside America but in fact the *Saline Solution* conference has been used widely in different versions in the USA, UK and Hungary, and occasionally in about 15 other countries. It has been translated into Dutch and German recently, work is being done to produce a definitive Spanish version and the demand to take it further afield is likely to continue. One of the challenges is to find an accessible format for all users, as some prefer a one day, others a two day version, and some prefer to have plenty of research material on the connection between faith and health.

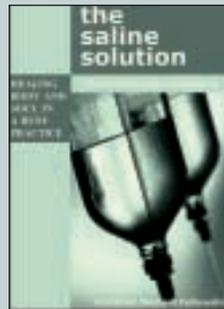
In the UK about 1,200 of us have been exposed to the *Saline* material within the last three years. I would be very interested in comments from any of you on how the material and presentation can be improved and adapted to make it more accessible to a wider range of people, how to help participants to integrate its principles into their daily practice, and how to encourage them to find local support in prayer and in practical ways, so that the impact of the course increases over time.

### Confident Christianity

Much evangelism fails because it is done in monologue without opportunity for disagreement and discussion. This often leaves non-Christians frustrated in not being able to raise objections, clarify misunderstandings and have their real questions answered.

*Confident Christianity* is an evangelism and apologetics training course developed by CMF to train Christians in the art of dialogue evangelism. It is based on the apostles' own strategy as recounted in the book of Acts: the Gospel in words people understand, in a seeker-friendly environment, and with the opportunity for discussion. Since 1990 CMF has held over 70 *Confident Christianity* day conferences, with over 2,500 participants. This term we are running more. And now the whole course is available on DVD with accompanying notes and powerpoint slides so that you can use it in your own churches. For more details please contact me at [kevin.vaughan@cmf.org.uk](mailto:kevin.vaughan@cmf.org.uk).

*Kevin Vaughan is CMF Associate General Secretary*



## Allied professions



Steve Fouch

At the start of the year, the big build up on the allied professions' front is towards the nurses' and therapists' joint conference, which is being held 2-4 February at Hebron Hall near Cardiff. The theme is 'Working Wisdom' – looking at the practical wisdom of the book of Proverbs – and we will seek to understand how we can apply it to our work practice and working lives. There will also be opportunity to discuss the personal implications of the talks in small groups and to pray for one another. We will be welcoming back Hugh Thomson as our main speaker – Hugh was the main speaker at CMF's national conference in 2006.

If you have any Christian colleagues in nursing, midwifery and the allied health professions do let them know about this conference. More details can be found online at [www.ctn.org.uk/conf07/index.php](http://www.ctn.org.uk/conf07/index.php) or by emailing me at [steve.fouch@cmf.org.uk](mailto:steve.fouch@cmf.org.uk)

We have also run a couple of *Saline Solution* courses with Christian Nurses and Midwives. The first in November in Birmingham was run mainly by the local CNM group with input and support from Kevin Vaughan, while in Chatham, Kent in December, Kevin and I led the seminar between us. Although both events were small, they were well received. We are planning for these to be the first of what we hope will be a regular series of locally led, multidisciplinary *Saline* days in the coming year.

The Christian Therapists' Network (CTN) is going through a time of change, with a new leadership structure, a new regional structure, and a new leadership Council. One of the big challenges is how to support



CNM Executive Committee

the allied professions students, as there are no plans for UCCF to replace their allied professions staff worker. At the same time, CNM is in the midst of registering as a charity and developing its student ministries.

Internationally, the main event in 2007 will be the European Student Christian Nurses' spirituality conference in Malta, supported by Nurses' Christian Fellowship International (NCFI). This will be the third such conference (the previous two were in Glasgow and Glamorgan respectively).

A lot of my time is currently occupied with the internal changes in the CMF office. However, I still have had time to be actively involved in the setting up of the ICMDA HIV Initiative which arose out of the ICMDA International Congress and pre-conference in New South Wales July 2006 (see [www.icmdahivinitiative.org](http://www.icmdahivinitiative.org) for more details).

I have also been working with the Christian HIV & AIDS Alliance in sponsoring Christian Research to run the first major interdenominational survey of attitudes among Christians in Britain on HIV & AIDS (results expected to be published in the Spring of 2007).

*Steve Fouch is CMF Allied Professions Secretary*

## Publications

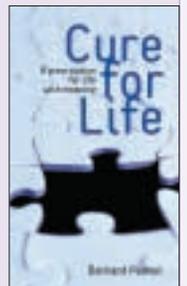


Allister Vale

There is very good news regarding four books. Please order copies via the CMF Office.

### The Shepherd is my Lord

CMF will publish Dr Janet Goodall's thought-provoking book on Psalm 23 in January 2007. Janet brings a doctor's perspective to the most famous of biblical songs. Its six verses are relevant to life issues today, just as they were when David composed this musical poetry. The book looks at settling conflict, finding our way in life, coping with 'valley experiences', making moral choices and life after death. In the Foreword, John Wyatt writes, 'Janet's habit of applying knowledge of Scripture to everyday life is spread across the pages. Intermingled with this wisdom are stories from her career in paediatrics, alongside tales from her life experiences and travels.'



### Can it be me?

Marjory Foyle's autobiography has just been published by CMF. Marjory Foyle spent over 30 years as a medical missionary in India and Nepal. Responding to huge needs, and partly as a result of circumstances in her own life, she specialised in psychiatry and became the director of a leading Christian Psychiatric Centre in India. Marjory is recognised as a worldwide expert on the nature of stress and how it affects Christians working in cross-cultural situations. This book is an open and honest insight into her life.



### Mad, Bad or Sad?

This multi-author book was published in December 2006. Chapters include: What is mental disorder? Childhood influences on antisocial behaviour; Treatment approaches; Responsibility and the mentally ill offender; Personal responsibility and its relationship to substance misuse; Demons and evil in a Christian context.

### Cure for Life

A further reprint of Bernard Palmer's book has just been published by CMF - a most compact and readable account of the essentials of the Christian faith. The content is derived from a Christian basics course that the author and others have run over many years. Buy to use!

### Complementary and Alternative Medicine

The CMF is proposing to publish for use in general practice a series of leaflets based on the articles published in *Triple Helix* written by the late Dr George Smith.

### CMF Website

Some 250,000 people visited the website in 2006. It is hoped that it will be possible to purchase books online in 2007.

*Allister Vale is CMF Publications Chairman*

## Mission matters

Keeping in touch and ongoing intercession for members working abroad



Peter Armon

### We need your input

You will be aware of the restructuring process going on within CMF Office as we try to become more effective in serving the needs of our members. In the overseas section, we would like to hear from members with comments or suggestions about the services we are, and should be, offering. One component of our work is to encourage and support members working overseas (including re-entry issues), to assist those taking steps to do so and to challenge others to consider doing so. We also seek to advise and assist students in their preparations for an elective.

There is room for improvement in both these areas and no doubt there are other areas we should be exploring and developing strategies for the future. Please get back to me with your ideas. We need to know that we are scratching where you itch if we are to offer an effective remedy.

### Developing Health Course (DHC) UK 1-13 July 2007

Details are available online at [www.healthserve.org/developing\\_health/](http://www.healthserve.org/developing_health/) Both the brochure and booking forms can be downloaded. The programme will soon be available on the site. Please make this known to any who are interested in working abroad. The RCP usually accredits attendance at the course for CPD purposes.

Plans are in hand for CMDA Malawi to hold a similar course in the autumn of 2007. CMDA Kenya are considering a similar event for healthcare workers in East Africa. Please pray for them and us in our preparations – that these events will go ahead and be a blessing and encouragement to those working overseas.

### Have I got what it takes to work as a healthcare professional overseas?

This is the theme of the **CMF HealthServe Day on Saturday 7 July 2007** at Oak Hill College, London. This event will take place in the midst of the DHC. It is aimed at all healthcare professionals who are thinking of working overseas – especially in a resource poor setting.

Marjory Foyle, whose book *Can it be me?* (see page 5) has just been published, will be examining the topic in a keynote lecture and considering the causes of missionary attrition and what steps can be taken to avoid them. Marion Knell, author of *Families on the Move*, will be looking at the joys and sorrows facing those raising a family in a foreign culture. There will be a choice of several seminars. Several mission agencies will have stalls and present opportunities for service. It is hoped many missionaries and overseas nationals who are participating in the DHC will also attend.

It should be a fantastic opportunity to find out more about the challenges of working overseas; meet overseas nationals and those who are already involved and network with others of like mind.

### Publications

The new edition of *Re-tyred – not retired* is complete and awaiting publication. It should be available soon. A useful resource for retirees who are thinking about using their new found freedom, accumulated wisdom and skills, to work abroad.

A new edition of *Preparing for your Elective* has been completed and should soon be available. Work is in hand on a new version of our *Mission Handbook* bringing a broader

## PRIME - Partnership in International Medical Education



John Caroe

### CRAIOVA, Romania, November 2006 An example of PRIME's work

Christian medical students have become the leaders for PRIME's opportunities in medical schools in Romania.

Craiova is a University town in the South: PRIME was asked to lead a two-day conference on doctor-patient relationships, consultation skills and stress.

Attendance was the best ever recorded for any PRIME event; about 600 signed in. About a quarter were doctors, the rest medical students and a few nursing students.

From the very start the openness and enthusiasm of participants was unbelievable – interaction was rich in spite of the numbers involved. Short sessions with frequent change of speaker/facilitator kept interest at a keen level. Laughter and clapping were frequent and in particular the course ended with gifts and flowers accompanied by a prolonged standing ovation. Formal evaluation sheets were most encouraging.

The course was reported and quoted on both national and local TV. As a result a professor and Christian student were interviewed live the following week at prime time (unintended pun!) on national TV to debate the whole issue of whole patient care.

This course was the most anointed ever and all tutors felt overwhelmed by the blessing. The fruit is awaited, but the possibility of a university summer camp is being discussed. The enthusiasm of participants coupled with official encouragement gives huge promise.

We are so aware of the special intercession that undergirds PRIME's work. Thank you.

*John Caroe is Chairman of PRIME*

approach and simply entitled *Working Abroad*.

Work on the *2006 Developing Health CD Rom* continues apace, though work pressures and various technical hitches in making it a web-based exercise (which should speed up the editing process in future years) have slowed matters down. A draft copy, at least, should be available early this year.

Please make all these issues a matter of prayer – that these resources won't be unnecessarily delayed and that they will be a blessing to those who use them.

### Short Term Opportunities

Both BMS and SIM will be offering a number of short term trips in the coming year.

Contact [www.bmsworld-](http://www.bmsworld-)

[mission.org/](http://mission.org/) or Peter Jackson at [www.sim.co.uk](http://www.sim.co.uk)

MSI are offering a number of short term opportunities in China for both healthcare professionals and English teachers. Contact Andy Stevens at [msiuk@hotmail.com](mailto:msiuk@hotmail.com)

Prohealth International have places on short term outreaches within Nigeria in the coming year. They can be contacted at [prohealthinternational@yahoo.com](mailto:prohealthinternational@yahoo.com)

Visit the opportunities section of our overseas website for more ideas. [www.healthserve.org/overseas\\_opportunities/](http://www.healthserve.org/overseas_opportunities/)

*Peter Armon is CMF Overseas Support Secretary*

## ICMDA

International Christian Medical and Dental Association



Daryl Hackland

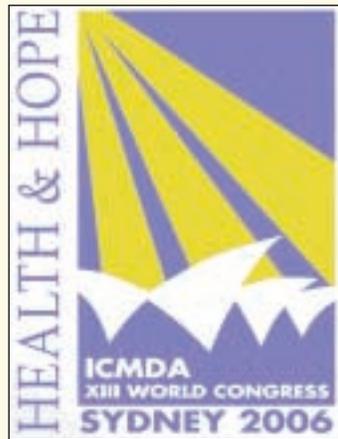
Following the whirlwind excitement and encouragement of the 2006 Sydney World Congress it has been so strengthening to learn of ongoing growth and development for the kingdom around the world, particularly in South America. The next World Congress in 2010 will be in Punta del Este, Uruguay. From 6–11 September 2006 I visited South America in preparation for this.

The National Evangelical Congress of Health Professionals (ICEPS) held its conference from 7–9 November 2006 in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. It brought together many associations, such as *Medicos de Cristo* (CMF), Healthcare Christian Fellowship and Wings for Life. Over 450 attended, more than expected - some journeyed over 24 hours by bus.

Each morning a different pastor led the Bible teachings, focussing on what it means to serve compassionately in the name of Christ. These were followed by a daily exposition on Daniel, which set an excellent tone of challenge for all the delegates. There were three morning plenaries on the conference theme of *Professional but Priest*. I was privileged to share in these sessions on the three topics of prophetic call, being salt and light (Christian influence) and servanthood.

The afternoons were taken up by excellent round table discussions with plenty of stimulating discussion. Workshops followed, grappling with the issues facing Christian professionals in Brazil. The one on 'The Church's role in HIV/AIDS' drew up a declaration for the conference to implement.

During the conference there were two meetings of national organisations. At the meeting of *Medicos de Cristo* their board decided unanimously to apply for full ICMDA membership. What a



joy it will be to welcome Brazil into the ICMDA family when this process is complete.

During a meeting of the Healthcare Christian Fellowship (HCF) we shared information on the present moves from within HCF International and ICMDA towards greater co-operation and networking; this was enthusiastically received.

On the Saturday afternoon teams went out to the streets of Belo Horizonte to hold evangelistic outreach programmes to both children and adults, sharing the 'gospel of wholeness' in Christ.

This was truly a most fantastic conference, which united so many Christian health professionals from the participating organisations. Out of such unity will no doubt come the support and encouragement for Argentina and Uruguay as they continue to plan for 2010.

Then we travelled on to Uruguay and to the beautiful coastal town of Punta del Este, looking at various details of the plans for the World Congress, such as proposed venues for the students' and junior doctors' preconference and the main congress.

I strongly recommend that you set aside the time and resources to be there where the action will be in 2010. God bless.

**Daryl Hackland** is ICMDA  
General Secretary  
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## ICMDA Eurasia



Peter Pattison

The last four months of 2006 have been an exceptionally busy time for ICMDA Eurasia. Kevin

Vaughan has been in Germany, Netherlands and Switzerland with *Saline Solution*. James Tomlinson was in Austria in September for consultations over the regional conference at Schielleiten in September 2008.



Russian students committee bi-annual meeting

Euan Dodds (Area Student Representative (ASR) for Western Europe) was at the IFES Ireland conference and sent us good reports. I have been in Denmark and Czech Republic for good conferences. It was good to see our ASRs, Laura (Scandinavia) in Denmark and Chris (Central Europe) in Prague. Both made excellent contributions and the students are greatly encouraged to see themselves as part of a wider movement. There was a new group of about 30 students in Prague.

Further afield, Jonny Thiessen had nearly three weeks in Russia, encouraging Kolya (the ASR) and other young leaders, planning for the Russian-speaking sub-regional conference in Samara in July 2007. His experience of living in Russia and ability with Russian language is a huge help. On the way there and back, he also met up with students in Riga, Latvia.

James spent seven weeks in Central Asia in October/November and saw many things coming together. In October leaders from four countries met, elected a regional committee, nominated a young doctor in Kazakhstan to be their new ASR, started planning for an HIV/AIDS conference and generally took the leadership into their own hands. This was hugely encouraging to James and to us all.

One of our ASRs was in Egypt in September for the 25th anniversary of their CMF – the only ICMDA member organisation in the region. She was excited to see a new group of over 100 students and young doctors – something that has not happened for a long time. There were visitors from Sudan and there has been much activity in the latter part of the year for support of Christian medics in Sudan.

As well as a new ASR for Central Asia, the appointment of a new Balkan ASR from Romania is in process. This highlights the importance of the regional committee meeting and ASR training time planned in March 2007 in Marburg, Germany. From January James Tomlinson has officially begun as Associate Regional Secretary working two days a week (nominally!). This is a huge step forward for the region and Marburg will be an important time of consolidation.

The last edition of *CMF News* carried a misprint. We do push the borders of what may be described as Eurasia, but not quite to include Central America! Thank you for your prayerful support of what God is doing in the Eurasia region and beyond.

**Peter Pattison** is the ICMDA Eurasia Regional Secretary  
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## Staff news and finance



Peter Saunders

**G**iles Rawlinson left CMF at the end of 2006, after seven years as Chief Administrator. Having qualified BSc in Psychology in Durham in 1978, Giles moved into the business world and gained an MBA



Giles Rawlinson

at the London Business School in 1987. With wide-ranging skills in finance, IT and team management, and experience in a number of small businesses and charities, Giles was able to provide great support to then also-new CMF General Secretary, Peter Saunders, as he took up the role of CMF General Secretary in February 2000, and between them they led the CMF Office into a time of considerable expansion.

Seven years is a good period of service (with biblical precedent!), and Giles felt it right to move on to seek God's will for new challenges. We wish him and Caroline every blessing and assure them of our prayers for their future.



Joshua Wathanga

Giles was able to overlap with his successor and we welcome **Joshua Wathanga** as our new Chief Administrator. Born in Kenya, Joshua first qualified in veterinary medicine in Nairobi in 1980, and then in 1984 gained an MSc in Tropical Veterinary Science in Edinburgh. During this time he was working for the Kenyan government in agriculture and livestock development.

Six years working as General Secretary of the Fellowship of Christian Unions (FOCUS) in Kenya followed (1986-92). Then, concerned by the themes of poverty and macro-economic reforms in Sub-Saharan Africa, Joshua gained an MBA in the USA in 1994. He was later to spend a sabbatical year at the London School of Economics studying population and development. More than ten years since have been spent in England at the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) as Chief Administrator and Associate General Secretary. Joshua joins us at a critical time of change and is already proving the wisdom of his appointment.

Joshua commutes daily from Oxford where he lives with his wife Gladys, who works for Tear Fund. Their elder son, Wathanga, is doing A-levels and their 15-year-old son, Wahome, GCSEs. Joshua works out in the gym and plays tennis with the boys when he can, and the family worship at St Andrew's C of E in North Oxford.

Joshua says: 'CMF has tremendous potential for the work of the Gospel in the UK and around the world through the influence of Christian doctors' and asks prayer for God's hand on the change process.

At the same time, the Executive has made a new appointment of Head of Publications and



Andrew Fergusson

Communications, and we welcome back **Andrew Fergusson**. A general physician turned GP, Andrew first came to CMF in 1989 as Assistant General Secretary. Overlapping with his predecessor, Keith Sanders, for 18 months, Andrew took over in October 1990 and spent a decade as General Secretary, leaving at the end of the millennium.

He spent five and a half years in a portfolio career which included being an elected member of the General Medical Council, consulting for CARE and the Centre for Bioethics and Public Policy, being a freelance writer, speaker and broadcaster, and helping lead his local church. A year was spent in Illinois, USA at the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, and on return it seemed a good fit for both Andrew and CMF that he trial this new post. For budgetary reasons, the initial appointment is only for six months, but it has long been a goal that CMF have somebody working proactively to improve communications and to market our excellent publications.

Andrew has returned to Bromley, Kent and he and Catrin have rejoined Brook Lane Community Church. Their family are now completely independent – Hannah (25) is PA to an MP and Alex (22) is a pastoral assistant for students at Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge.

### Finances

We are currently working on end year figures and it looks like we are on target to meet the budgeted income of about £1.2 million for 2006. However, the budget included a projected deficit of £100,000 which will further dip into our shrinking reserves. Since we have had deficits in the two previous years, we cannot contemplate another deficit in 2007. We are grateful for all CMF members who have contributed this year, and appeal to those not currently doing so to consider sharing in the ministry of giving.

We are encouraged by the response of many members to our request to move their annual subscription and donation to a regular monthly or annual standing order. Bank standing orders have contributed close to £350,000, an increase of about 16% in the last two years.

We are aware that in the very busy life of medical practice it is very difficult to remember to pay the subscription and send donations to CMF. We would like to encourage members who have not yet placed a standing order to do so as this reduces the administration load of the regular reminders. We are also investigating possibilities of using direct debits in the future and we will give you more information about this when arrangements for this are complete.

*Peter Saunders is CMF General Secretary*

### CMF staff

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### Dates for your Diary

#### February

- 3 Executive Committee, London
- 9-11 National Students' Conference

#### March

- 3 East Anglia Day Conference, Cambridge
- 3 Leeds Electives Day
- 14 London Electives Day
- 23-25 Student Leaders' Conference
- 17 Executive Committee, London
- 23-25 Student Leaders' Conference
- 27 Gastroenterology Breakfast, Glasgow
- 29 Paediatrics Breakfast, York

#### April

- 14 Executive Committee, London
- 27-29 National Conference, Swanwick, Derbyshire

#### May

- 10 Rheumatology Breakfast, Birmingham
- 23 Ophthalmology Breakfast, Birmingham

#### June

- 21 Psychiatry Breakfast, Edinburgh
- 26 BMA Breakfast, Torquay

#### July

- 5 RCOG Breakfast, London
- 7 Healthserve Day, Oak Hill, London
- 12 Dermatology Breakfast, Birmingham
- 14 Executive Committee, London

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