

A refuge and strength in times of uncertainty

The ripples of the economic recession are now beginning to be felt in the health service where the rising drug bill, increased burden of life-style related disease and growing elderly population have created a cocktail of increasing need and spiralling costs at the same time as the government attempts to restructure and reduce spending.

As yet there seems to be little agreement on the shape of reform.

CMF's Three Year Development Plan

In May I finished a tour of Bristol, Nottingham, Glasgow and Newcastle. This gave me the opportunity to meet CMF members, let them know the good news of where we are now, and speak about our exciting plans for the future.

By now qualified members should have received a letter from me commending CMF's Three Year Development Plan (extra copies available on request). This has been put together by the CMF board and staff.

As we have earnestly and prayerfully sought God's leading we have identified eight key areas of growth to target over the next three years aimed at strengthening our ministry and serving the church.

These include strengthening our core services to students and doctors, helping CNM (Christian Nurses and Midwives) build a new nurses' ministry, launching a new website with on-line forums and new media, engaging and resourcing churches through a 'friends' and 'link churches' scheme, building stronger links with media and Parliament, mobilising members for mission and developing our home, Johnson House.

There are much fuller details in the brochure sent with my letter. You will read about the £1.2 million extra funding needed – over and above our budgeted income. Members raised £1.2 million to buy our Johnson House in 2007, so this is an equivalent challenge, but over three years rather than one. Please do take time to read prayerfully through these plans and consider how you might be able to help.

At this time when so many charities are trying hard just to make ends meet, we do realise how blessed CMF is to have such a dedicated and involved membership, and we remain acutely aware of our responsibility to use our talents wisely for the Kingdom.

It was wonderful to be able to brief so many CMF members on my tour and at the national conference, and I found the response deeply encouraging. I trust that, in the same way, you too will be inspired by our plans for the future.

'Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means'
2 Corinthians 8:11 (NIV84)



The Health and Social Care Bill, with its plans to replace Strategic Health Authorities and PCTs with GP Consortia, continues to limp slowly forward in an increasingly amended state amidst much criticism. It will be some time before the future path is fully clear.

As doctors we face huge uncertainty about funding, jobs and work structures as these events unfold and we wonder what sort of environment we will be practising in this time next year and what impact these changes will have on our institutions, teams, families and patients.

Meanwhile our own economic and political uncertainties are dwarfed by disturbing events elsewhere: Greece teetering on the brink of financial meltdown, with Spain, Ireland and Portugal threatening to follow; unrest in the Middle East and unresolved conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya. And our uncertainties are not just political and economic. The Christchurch earthquake and Japanese Tsunami have been grim reminders this year of how fragile our lives are even in the supposedly economically robust and politically democratic West.

Yet amidst all this turmoil Jesus Christ is in control and is patiently and steadily building his church to testify to the truth of the gospel and to minister to the lost and broken. Every crisis brings new opportunities to love and serve for God's people.

I hope that this edition of *CMF News*, with stories of all God is doing in and through Christian doctors and medical students, will inspire you in your own personal walk as you seek to love and obey him day by day.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea... He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth" (Psalm 46).

Peter Saunders is CMF Chief Executive



New Staffworker

Julian - tell us about your professional life to date



Julian Churcher

I trained in London, at St Thomas's Hospital Medical School (now part of KCL), and after junior posts did my GP training in the Cotswolds. I returned to London in 1988 to a pioneering practice in Battersea, SW London, and became a GP trainer. I left in 2004 to work on the staff of our church, in a mixed pastoral & managerial role, and devoted

2010 to writing on the theme of 'calling'.

What are your hopes for the London Staffworker role?

My patch is London and the adjacent counties, and I see my role – in concert with my colleagues in Scotland and the North of England – as a means for CMF to serve our members with the emphasis on 'fellowship' – supporting local CMF groups, developing

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Website facelift

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mentoring and prayer networks; possibly at times an advocacy role. I look forward to building links between CMF and local churches and para-church bodies. But to start with I'm asking questions and listening, finding out what models for local support work best, and seeing where we could develop our ministry further so that every Christian doctor in the country is well resourced in the front line of medical service.

Who is at home and what do you do to relax?

I'm married to Holly, a community midwife and native of Canada, and we live in Wandsworth. We've three daughters, two at university (one a CMF student member!) and one still at primary school. I cycle, and Johnson House is a bracing 30 minute ride from home. I ski erratically but with enthusiasm, and enjoy painting and photography.

Tell us about your church

We're members of St Mark's, Battersea Rise, a charismatic evangelical Anglican parish church fellowship affiliated to the New Wine network. I'm in a men's group that meets fortnightly to feed on the word of God (and cake) and to pray for and 'sharpen' (Proverbs 27:17) each other.

How can members best pray for you?

The team at Johnson House and my graduate and staffworker colleagues are a great bunch whom I'm enjoying getting to know. Please pray for discernment as to where to focus my efforts, multiplication of my contribution, wisdom in juggling family and work commitments – and protection for all on London's 'Cycle Superhighway 7'. Thank you very much!

CMF's website has had a facelift.

The award-winning site at www.cmf.org.uk still includes the same extensive range of news, research material and information, but with a fresh new look.

Plans are already in place to develop the website still further, creating three sites to meet the needs of CMF's different audiences: a members' site, a communications site for the general public and an international site for those with a world mission focus.

Use the website to:

- keep up to date with issues at the interface of faith and medicine
- encourage your faith and inform your practice
- link with colleagues in your area or specialty
- sign up for events
- buy books at CMF prices

Help CMF to grow and develop by encouraging your colleagues to visit the website and to join CMF. Also, look out for our summer communications survey so you can tell us what information and encouragement you need on the website and what formats are of most use to you.



CMF Blog - what could you write for us?

Since launching in January, the CMF Blog has developed into a highly popular source of comment on all things Christian and medical.

Our blog receives 14,000 page views a month and around 4,000 unique visitors. Content ranges from medical practice issues to global health and mission, with regular comment on public health, and start and end of life debates. A recent blog post on Dr Richard Scott, who is being investigated by the GMC for discussing faith with a patient, received over 2,000 hits.

All our posts are directly linked to Facebook and Twitter, making them easier to share and allowing them to reach a far bigger audience. If you're not on Facebook or Twitter you can subscribe to the blog via RSS, allowing you to get an email each time we update the blog. Look for the orange RSS logo on the homepage of the blog: www.cmfblog.org.uk

We're also very keen to encourage new contributors to write blog posts for us. Blogging is a great way for CMF to get a message or a newsworthy item out to the wider public alongside (and sometimes complimenting) our usual press coverage. More blog writers will bring a greater diversity of content and a fresher feel to our output. Could this be you? Our Media Producer, Andrew Horton, would like to hear your ideas. Contact him at andrewh@cmf.org.uk

At A Given Moment



A new book by Dr Graham McAll encourages doctors to share in the Christian faith.

Available from the CMF website now. www.cmf.org.uk/bookstore

'At A Given Moment' is a wonderful book that will teach you about introducing faith appropriately into your healthcare setting. This is a book you need to read, and I encourage you to do so.'

(Bob Snyder, MD, President, International Health Services)

Recruit a Friend

Fellow Christians often ask CMF members for guidance on end-of-life care, abortion, infertility, contraception and a range of other healthcare issues. CMF wants to help Christians to address the growing number of issues at the interface of Christianity and medicine. We want to equip Christians to:

- make informed decisions about their own healthcare and the care of family members
- support doctors and other healthcare professionals as they seek to treat patients as whole people – body, mind and spirit
- engage in the national debate on issues which have a significant effect on the most vulnerable people in our society
- respond with Christ's compassion to the healthcare needs of the poor, vulnerable and marginalised worldwide

Now non-medics can become 'Friends of CMF' free of charge. Friends will receive regular email updates on public health, medical practice, global health and mission, plus start and end of life healthcare issues, addressed from a biblical perspective.

Friends of CMF can sign up at www.cmf.org.uk/friends or complete and return a tear-off card. Use the sample card in this summer's mailing to recruit a 'Friend of CMF' from your church.

More copies of the card and extra copies of *Triple Helix* are available to give away; email pubs@cmf.org.uk to place an order.

National Graduates' Conference report

It feels like a long time since the National Graduates' Conference took place in Swanwick over the May holiday weekend. The main conference theme was *On Wings Like Eagles* and so it proved for many delegates. Hugh Thomson's Bible readings on Isaiah 36-40 provided a great source of encouragement and challenge. Attendee's feedback was uniform in appreciation of these sessions and you can listen to the full recordings in the Media section of our website.

There was also the usual range of topical seminars covering a wide range of practical issues, such as workplace evangelism, the stewardship of money and Christian practice in the new NHS. This practical feature of the conference is always popular and attracts wide participation. Feedback from seminar participants demonstrated high levels of interest and engagement in the discussions and suggestions for additional themes to be explored in future conferences.

Vicky Lavy and Ted Lankester directed our thoughts to the opportunities available to doctors and other healthcare professionals for service in resource-poor countries, some of which are otherwise closed to the gospel. Ted's lecture on opportunities to engage in global health work, included some vivid examples of successful projects in Asia and other parts of the world. Many found these sessions inspiring and were encouraged to look at the bigger picture. A summary of the lecture is available in *Triple Helix*.



Not that everything was work at the conference. The weather was excellent and the programme provided free periods that some used to go on an organised walk, sit outdoors and catch up with old friends, have ad hoc meetings or simply enjoy some private time to sit and read. The bar area was well patronised in the evenings, and everybody welcomed the chance to spend time in conversation with friends old and new, away from day to day duties and concerns. The conference centre staff were

characteristically cheerful as they served us delicious and abundant meals three times a day. I am still trying to exercise away the extra pounds gained as a consequence!

Since I had only been in post for less than two months, this year's conference was also a great opportunity for me to meet so many of the members and to experience the encouragement of being in touch with the many facets of Christian medical service that are trademark of the Fellowship.

Pablo Fernandez is CMF Head of Graduate Ministries

Goodbyes and hellos



Matt Lillicrap



Kerry Lim



Von Madanire



Liz McClenaghan

This summer we bid a very fond farewell to **Matt Lillicrap**, our staffworker based in Newcastle and to our three interns, **Kerry Lim**, **Von Madanire** and **Liz McClenaghan**. We are very thankful for all their work and partnership in the gospel, and we pray God would bless them as they continue to serve him in different ways.

We're always looking for people willing to work for CMF, either in a voluntary capacity as an intern or associate, or more formally as a staffworker. So please do pray as we seek to fill these gaps... and consider whether you might be the answer to that prayer!

By God's grace, we look forward to **Scott Stadalsky** (staffworker) and **Megan Kibbey** (associate staffworker) joining us in Dundee in August. Please pray for them as they settle in, and build good relationships with the students and with others involved in student work there.

Summer events

Please pray for our student events this summer. We have three teams planning to join medical student camps and conferences in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus in August and September; 29 August - 2 September is our own Summer School in Cumbria, a more in-depth study week (with lots of fun!) for about 20 students. And the week afterwards, we've been invited to join UCCF for student leader training at 'Forum', which is very exciting – a really good chance to develop relationships with Christian Union leaders.

Finally, please pray for our graduating members starting work as doctors in August, and for freshers coming to medical school in September/October. This is a crucial time for them!

Who is my Neighbour?



Have you been to our one-day workshop on medical mission?

It's a day for those who are exploring possibilities in international work, and also for those who plan to stay put but want to support others.

Our next workshop is in Newcastle on 12 November and we are taking bookings for 2012 – contact vicky.lavy@cmf.org.uk if you're interested.

STAT - Short Term, Able to Travel

Are you interested in serving overseas? The STAT list is a register of members who want to hear about short-term needs such as locums in mission hospitals, help with training or extra support in a crisis. We send intermittent email alerts to members on the STAT list – you might be the person to fill the gap, or might know someone who could. The list is growing – if you would like to be added to it, email vicky.lavy@cmf.org.uk

Short and long term needs abroad are listed on the CMF website at www.cmf.org.uk/international

International Study Group

Do Christian organisations make a difference to health in the developing world? Does short term mission do more harm than good? What comes after the Millennium Development Goals? These are some of the questions that the newly-formed International Study Group is investigating. We aim to provide a Christian voice in the International Health arena. Contact vicky.lavy@cmf.org.uk to find out more.

CNM

Christian Nurses & Midwives

Over the last six months, CMF has been building a new partnership with Christian Nurses and Midwives, bringing all their back office administration under CMF's roof with the intention of building up a new, stronger fellowship movement amongst Christian nurses, midwives and health visitors in England and Wales. Annie Leggett has been busy building links and relationships with Christian nursing students, tutors and qualified nurses.

We are also planning a series of events around the country over the next 18 months to build relationships with Christian nurses and allied health professionals around the UK, to encourage them in fellowship, to remind them to make Jesus central in their work life, and to equip them to be salt and light in their workplaces. If you have any contacts who are Christian nurses, midwives or health visitors, do get them to make contact by email steve@cmf.org.uk or annie@cmf.org.uk. Also point them to the CNM website www.cnm.org.uk where they can join up online and find out about upcoming events.

One important event is on 21-23 September: a retreat for nurses at Emmaus House in Bristol. Entitled *Rediscovering Your Calling*, it offers a chance for reflection, prayer and refreshment for busy health professionals. Please let any nurses you are in contact with know about this – details at www.cnm.org.uk

Outgoing

Bethan Davies (Cardiff) to Senegal

Homecoming

Stroma Beattie (Edinburgh) from Singapore
Christine Singleton (Manchester) from Thailand

Obituaries

Roy Maudsley (q Liverpool 1942; d 10 March 2010) was an orthopaedic surgeon living in Ascot.

Angus Donald (d 26 March 2010) trained at the Radcliffe Infirmary, at Vellore, India and then worked at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Hospital, Oxford, before continuing his career at The Royal London and Stoke Mandeville. He became established as a family doctor in Dunstable, Bedfordshire where he worked for the last 24 years.

David Booth (q The London 1960; d CMF informed 27 April 2011) worked as a consultant obstetrician before his retirement.

Alistair McIntyre (q Barts 1981; d CMF informed 1 May 2011) was a consultant in gastroenterology, at Wycombe Hospital, Bucks, who had just completed a review of the guidelines for management of iron deficiency anaemia before his sudden and premature death.

Paul Isaac (q Cambridge 1939; d 1 June 2011) had practised as a surgeon until his retirement some 30 years ago to Hampshire. He left a generous legacy to CMF.

Regional CMF meetings

See www.cmf.org.uk/fellowship for information about local groups

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Dates for your Diary

August

29-2 Sep Student Summer School

September

10 Junior Doctors' Day Conf, Glasgow

22 Association of Anaesthetists

Breakfast, Edinburgh

24 Junior Doctors' Day Conf, London

October

1 Psychiatry Day Conf, London

3-5 Retirees Conf, Northamptonshire

5 Freshers' Day, London

14-16 Northern Conf, Scarborough

15 Student Leaders' Training Day

20-22 PRIME Tutor Development, Manchester

28-30 Junior Doctors' Weekend Conf, Leicestershire

November

5 London & SE Day Conf

12 Who is my neighbour?, Newcastle

25-27 Scotland Weekend Conf

26 Oxford Day Conf

December

3 Board of Trustees, London

For more details of upcoming events, see www.cmf.org.uk

ICMDA

International Christian Medical and Dental Association

New CEO for ICMDA

The international office for the ICMDA has now moved to Vellore, India with David Paul joining Vinod in the office. To contact the international office email office@icmda.net

Leadership Training in Eurasia

Envisioned, able and supported leadership at national and regional level is vital. In recent months ICMDA in Eurasia enabled a first leadership training conference for three countries in the former Soviet Union. This saw 30 key student and graduate leaders come together to get to know



each other to share the situation in their countries, encourage each other and hear from God what he wants to do in their countries

through them. Our next student and junior graduate leaders' training is planned for the Nordic and Baltic countries in September.

As we go to press a pilot 'Thought Leaders Training' event is taking place in Austria to enable a new generation of medics to communicate authentic and relevant Christian responses to current issues, and defend and promote Christian values with secular organisations, media and governments. Do pray for these

different initiatives to support leaders in national movements across the Eurasia region.

Eurasia Team Meeting

In April the members of the ICMDA Eurasia team, its Area Student Representatives (ASRs), Committee, as well as representatives of partner organisations and the organising team for the ICMDA World Congress in 2014 gathered in the UK near Coventry for five days of training and planning. Thanks to CMF UK who helped provide training sessions and facilitated visas for participants attending the meeting.

James Tomlinson is the ICMDA Regional Secretary for Eurasia

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