

Graduates' conference: looking for heroes

Pablo Martinez, an eminent psychiatrist from Barcelona, battled airport queues, traffic jams and stormy showers to be with us at this year's National Graduates' Conference – and how thankful we were! Across three measured and powerful talks he opened up the Scriptures to us. Titled 'Heroes of Faith,' the lives of Daniel, Timothy and Epaphroditus, and David were examined with fresh insight and relevance to today's Christian doctors. 'A relevant, insightful exposition of the Bible', said one delegate; 'Excellent, thought provoking' wrote another.

More than 150 graduates had gathered in an atypically cold and damp Swanwick over the last weekend of April. It may have been tough to garner volunteers to organise a walk through the intermittent rain, but the food was good, the fellowship was warm and the Spirit was with us.

The usual excellent range of seminars punctuated the talks, meals and free times. If you wanted to know about serving Christ abroad, bringing seniors and juniors together, or even why being a doctor on Facebook isn't as harmless as it seems, there was something for everybody.

In a moving and honest address, Tim Lyttle delivered the annual Rendle Short Lecture. Read the report in *Triple Helix* and listen to the lecture on line (www.cmf.org.uk/media). As Lyttle said, work in the NHS can be damaging to our health, work-life balance and sense of care for our patients.

He showed us a poignant video testimony of Professor Kieran Sweeney, an expert on primary care, and a senior lecturer and honorary professor of general practice at the Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry in Plymouth. Prof Sweeney was diagnosed with malignant mesothelioma at the age of 57 and died on Christmas Eve 2009. In his last few months he shared on video the testimony of his interactions with the NHS staff and systems that cared for him in his last year of life.

The room was quiet. A few tears amidst a few notes, tweets and coughs. It was a timely talk at a time of uncertainty with a distinct message: the NHS needs an 'avalanche of compassion'.

Next year's conference, 26-28 April will be open to student leaders as well as graduate members.

Andrew Horton is CMF Media Producer



Pablo Martinez



Tim Lyttle

Development Plan Appeal: don't stop half way

CMF's three year Development Plan, launched at Easter 2011, has brought in half the targeted total of £700,000 – but it is vital that giving continues if our ministry plans are to be fully implemented.

We are grateful to the members who have already given generously to the Development Plan Appeal. The recession is taking its toll on most charities and CMF launched the development plan as many others were making dramatic cuts.

We have shelved plans to repay the mortgage on Johnson House, but the ministry is more vital than ever. The aim is to strengthen our ministry to **doctors**; consolidate our **student ministry**; build our ministry to **nurses**; develop our **communications**; engage **churches**; influence **public policy**; and mobilise members for **mission**.

For the first time we are approaching trusts for funds to support our work, but we continue to rely on members' generosity to finance our work uniting and equipping Christian doctors. Please give generously so that doctors can have the connections, opportunities, resources, training and support to be effective disciples living and speaking for Jesus.



Where will you make links?

More than 100 members have already volunteered to become CMF links. **Our aim is to have a CMF link person for every workplace, church, locality, foundation school, medical school, deanery and specialty where there are Christian doctors.**

Although membership of the local church is vital, doctors often need to talk and pray with others who understand the challenges of medicine. Our current priority is, therefore, to strengthen and support these grassroots networks and relationships through this link scheme.

The new roles are limited, specific, focused and manageable for busy people. The focus is not on meetings but relationships – knowing other Christian doctors and introducing them to each other and to CMF.

There are still many vacancies in all areas of the country. Which link role are you best-placed to fulfil? Further details and links to the role descriptions are on our website at: cmf.li/LuCPcb – please sign up.

Peter Saunders is CMF Chief Executive

An introduction to CMF - new DVD

CMF has a new DVD to help recruit members. 'An introduction...' for doctors, and a separate video for churches, present the key aims of the fellowship in a succinct and fresh style. They are available on DVD, on our website, and on YouTube – all free of charge.

CMF's Media Producer, Andrew Horton, gathered the footage, conducted the interviews and edited the final pieces. Andrew says: 'Video is the quintessential medium for communicating a message in today's media-saturated world. Combining powerful images, engaging interviewees and tight, bright editing, I hope these resources will be widely used and warmly received.'



Steve Clifford



Trevor Stammers

We hope you will watch them and use them to help recruit new members and to gain support from your church. Contact us if you would like a copy on disc rather than downloading the video from www.cmf.org.uk/media

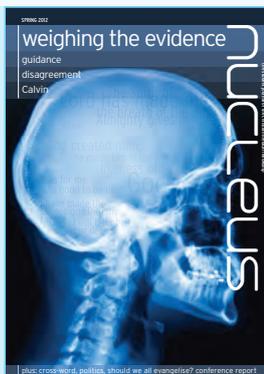
Catherine Butcher is CMF Head of Communications

Nucleus

Student members of CMF each receive a copy of *Nucleus*, the students' journal, three times a year – normally in the same mailing as *Triple Helix*. This summer, *Nucleus* will be posted separately to reach students at the start of the next academic year.

If there are young people in your church starting out as medical students this autumn, we would love to send them a free copy of *Nucleus* together with details about linking up with CMF in their medical school. Please contact Giles@cmf.org.uk with their contact details.

Nucleus is available online at www.cmf.org.uk/publications



Summer School 2012

June 25-29 saw students and student team members gather in Harby Christian Centre for a week of fun and fellowship as they learned more about living and speaking for Jesus in medicine.

Each morning we studied 2 Timothy together. Each day ended with prayer and praise. Topics covered included medical ethics; worship, wisdom and witness; 'Confident Christianity'; the theology of work, and a writing workshop.

There was lots of free time to enjoy the amazing sports facilities and local countryside, as well as a couple of film nights... and a game of crugger (if you don't know what it is, you'll have to come next year). All in all, it was a great time for connecting and learning. Let's pray for more such opportunities for more of our students in the coming year.



Giles Cattermole is CMF Head of Student Ministries

Thanks to interns

During the past year we have been grateful to interns who have joined the team for varying lengths of time:

Hannah Johns, Daniel Ng, Wilson Ong and **Sooyoung Lee** worked as student interns; **Suzie Jasper** has worked as a communications intern.

There are many opportunities to serve CMF as an intern. Contact the office for details.

Invite a colleague to breakfast

What has the BMA Annual Representative Meeting got in common with the Summer Meeting of the British Association of Dermatologists?

The humorous possibilities of the answer are endless, but the right one is that CMF organises a breakfast meeting at these and eight other professional events during the year.

At these meetings, open to all, we have the opportunity to meet with other members with the same specialist interests, enjoy listening to an inspirational speaker, and discuss issues of interest. Keep an eye out for your invitation to the next meeting of your specialty, then come along and bring a colleague.

Pablo Fernandez is CMF Head of Graduate Ministries

Welcome for junior doctors

As a junior doctor it can be daunting to start a new placement in a new town or city. As well as the pressures of adapting to a new environment and learning the ropes, it can be a very lonely time.

Thankfully, help is on hand! CMF's Welcome Scheme puts junior doctors in training in touch with a more senior CMF member in their new location. It ensures that each one has a local contact to help them settle in and to provide mentoring and friendship.

One of the most useful things that CMF members can do is to support junior doctors as they face the challenges of their professional training years. We keep hearing great stories of how people are blessed by the support received during these crucial years at the start of their careers. It works both ways, too, with senior doctors finding their faith challenged and refreshed through these encounters. I encourage everybody to get involved if they can.

If you are a junior doctor, simply give us your new contact details, (including your mobile phone number and your current hospital) and we'll do the rest!

If you are interested in being a Welcomer yourself, we want to hear from you!

Pablo Fernandez is CMF Head of Graduate Ministries



PRIME

Partnership in International Medical Education

Nurses: challenged and inspired

The first nurses' summer school brought together a dozen Christian nurses to wrestle with the theological and professional core of nursing. The event was held at Tyndale House in Cambridge, coordinated by the Kirby Laing Institute for Christian Ethics. CMF's John Wyatt led us through detailed studies of the history of nursing and its roots in the Christian faith. He then focused on the theology of nursing, and our understanding of personhood, humanity and the mission of God's people. The discussions that ensued continued throughout the day (and night) and left all with many challenges and much inspiration.

Other events for nurses have included: a national joint conference with allied health professionals in Nottingham in March; a series of bi-monthly 'Refreshment Evenings' for nurses and midwives (student and qualified) in London, and meetings with smaller groups of student nurses in London, Oxford, Cardiff and Guildford.

The enthusiasm among students to meet, pray and study the Bible and its relevance for their

training and practice has been very encouraging. Also there are growing numbers of qualified nurses wanting to support and encourage the students. We are hoping to build a wider network of volunteers to extend the work in the coming year, and are preparing for Freshers' Week events, as well as for a national conference for student nurses and midwives next year.

Steve Fouch is CMF Head of Allied Professions Ministries

A Christmas carol service for medics in your area?

In 2011 CMF and CNM hosted a carol service at All Souls, Langham Place in London. The event attracted hundreds of guests from surrounding hospitals and clinics. If your church would like to host a carol service for local healthcare workers, contact the communications team at CMF for ready-made posters, invitation designs, and CMF promotional literature.

The Values Added programme designed by PRIME and CMF to help junior doctors express their faith in everyday practice, is now being launched across the UK. Aiming to help doctors develop a practical approach to Christ-like, whole person medicine, it presents topics for discussion and exploration in a modular format that gives a flexible structure for guided study. The programme also provides an opportunity for fellowship and encouragement during a period of early professional life that can be both challenging and isolated.

We are seeking to link interested doctors in grades FY1 to ST2 with our growing number of facilitators, who are keen to host regular small-group meetings. Please visit www.values-added.org for information, including an outline of the first module.

Overseas, opportunities for PRIME increase, including requests from major international health organisations and institutions. If you are a medical or nurse teacher with academic credibility, have a sense of calling to improve health globally, and are prepared to give your time freely, please contact us at www.prime-international.org

Saline Solution

A hospital in Kent, a hall in Plymouth, a home in Keele and a church in Leeds: some of the places the *Saline Solution* course is being held this year for doctors, medical students and other health professionals. *Saline Solution* provokes discussion, inspires confidence, provides useful tools for your witness and creates an opportunity for fellowship with Christian colleagues. To find out about a course near you, please contact Ruth Haley at CMF or see the website.

Healthcare Sunday

Most churches have at least one member who works in the NHS. Healthcare Sunday, 21 October, is an opportunity for your church to find out more about the doctors, healthcare workers, students, lecturers, academics and trainers in your congregation and local community.

Healthcare Sunday was set up over a decade ago as a way to help churches engage with health and medicine. For one Sunday every year we pray for, encourage and support those in the Church who work in healthcare, and remember all those working in local health institutions.

For resources to help your church mark Healthcare Sunday this autumn visit www.healthcaresunday.org.uk and contact CMF for brochures inviting members of your church to 'become a friend of CMF'.

Regional reports

London & South-East



Julian Churcher

Summer brings us into gardens. An afternoon tea for members and their families was enjoyed in Chorleywood recently. A similar event is planned in Eastbourne. A third local group has commenced in Hertfordshire, and the stimulation and encouragement of getting together for fellowship – not necessarily with any predetermined agenda – was a thrill to witness on a recent evening visit there.

North of England



Fiona Schneider

Please give thanks for ongoing support for doctors in stressful situations, by phone and face to face. Also, for the enthusiasm for a new open house group in the Leeds Bradford area and the enthusiasm of the York and Liverpool area groups.

Please pray for more local groups to form; for the expansion of the doctors' spiritual appraisal service led by Anne and Dave Crick; for work with hospital chaplains and for all doctors who are moving into new posts this summer.

Our regional team members send out regular prayer letters. If you have not received your regional prayer letter, please contact Gwen Gowers at CMF.

New Word Alive

CMF ran a lunchtime forum at New Word Alive this Easter – over 60 people came and were encouraged to meet other Christians in healthcare from all over the country. We would love to do more at other Christian festivals; do get in touch if you are going to one and could take some resources to share.

International

Sooyoung Lee

We are continuing to improve our electives resources. Student intern Sooyoung Lee carried out a major overhaul of our database and we now have up-to-date information for over 80 hospitals and 30 organisations offering electives.



Sooyoung Lee

Wilson Ong recently carried out an online survey of 1,016 students and junior doctors as part of a Special Study Module that he did with CMF. Of the 236 who responded, 72% chose to go to a resource-poor country. It's great to see that the majority are using their electives to gain a little understanding of 'how the other half lives' – or more accurately, how the vast majority of the world's population lives; 80% are in low and lower middle income countries.

61% chose to go to a mission hospital or project; we don't have many Christian healthcare institutions in the UK so it's good to see students making the most of the chance to investigate the pros and cons. Only 66% reported that their medical school gives help with elective planning, so we have an opportunity to benefit students, both in and outside CMF, by sharing resources and helping with events.

There is enormous interest in developing countries in the student world. It would be great to see lots of student groups organising meetings about electives and medical mission, to tell the world that our God cares for the whole world and has a heart for the poor.

ICMDA news

International Christian Medical and Dental Association

The past year heralded a season of change for ICMDA and the Eurasia region with new team relationships, fresh regional initiatives and a newly configured region.

Caucasus: As I write a first ICMDA Christian Medical & Dental Conference for the Caucasus is imminent. This conference is a major development in the work in the Caucasus and aims to equip healthcare workers to be 'salt and light' in their workplaces.

Eurasia Consultation: March's ICMDA Eurasia Consultation connected and equipped leaders of national movements. We are grateful to CMF for providing seminar speakers and books for those attending. During the consultation CMF's Vicky Lavy became a member of the Eurasia regional committee.

For more information see www.icmda.net or contact Eurasia@icmda-online.org

New CMF Board members

Peter Phillips is to chair the CMF Board of Trustees, taking over from Nick Land who stands down after three years in the role. Peter is a consultant stroke physician in Ipswich Hospital.

Howard Lyons will continue to serve as treasurer.

Thanks goes to the Board members standing down – **Douglas Noble, Clare Bird, Naomi Pritchard** – for their service to CMF.

Members due to join the Board are **Mark Pickering**, a GP in Yorkshire; **Andrew McArdle**, a paediatrician in Cambridge; **Liz McClenaghan**, a final year student in Brighton; **Dominic Beer**, a consultant psychiatrist in London; and **Jonathan Fisher**, Board member and Medical Committee Chair, MSF (Operational Centre Amsterdam).

Congratulations on their appointments

Gordon Stirrat - Vice-President of the Institute of Medical Ethics

Rhona Knight - Chair, IME Education Working Group

Change of location

Charis Bignell (Newcastle) to Cameroon

David Fearon (Glasgow) to North Africa

Wendy Mills to Nepal

Helen Nabwera (Nottingham) to The Gambia

Stroma Beattie (Edinburgh) from Singapore

Roy Jones (Sheffield) from Chad

David Moore (Sheffield) from Papua New Guinea

Jennifer Watson (Nottingham) from Pakistan

Obituaries

Christopher Bartley

(*b* 1920; *q* McGill University, Montreal & Oxford / The London Hospital, 1943, *d* 20 June 2012) Consultant physician, The Lambeth, Bolingbroke and St Thomas's Hospitals.

Alan Binnie

(*q* Edinburgh 1951, *d* 24 May 2012) A GP in North Northumberland for 25 years until his retirement.

Terence John Hamblin

(*b* 1943; *q* University of Bristol 1967; *d* 8 January 2012) A haematologist and expert in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia.

Sir Alexander Macara

(*b* 1932; *q* Glasgow University and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; *d* 21 June 2012) A consultant senior lecturer in epidemiology and public health medicine at Bristol University and a former BMA council chair.

Regional CMF meetings

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

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Dates for your diary

August

29-30 KLICE/ CMF: Medical ethics for the 21st century Tyndale House, Cambridge

September

15 Juniors' MMC (Careers) Day, London
27 Nurses Refreshment Dinner, London

October

6 Board of Trustees, London
5-7 Northern Conference, Scarborough
13 Saline Solution, Nottingham
20 God Loves the NHS Conference, London
20-21 National Student Committee, London
21 Healthcare Sunday
26-28 Junior Doctors' Conference, Hothorpe Hall, Leicestershire

November

2-4 Irish conference
3 London & SE Day Conference, London
9-11 Scottish Conference, Stirling
17 Oxford Day Conference
18-19 Parish Nursing Symposium, Hothorpe Hall, Leicestershire
24 Who is my Neighbour?, Cardiff
29 Nurses' Refreshment Dinner, London

For more details see www.cmf.org.uk

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