

## Walking the walk

**W**e sometimes think it is we who choose to be Christians and practise medicine, but that is not true, John Wyatt told an audience of over 400 at the 2014 CMF Student Conference at Swanwick.

Introducing the theme 'Walking the Walk', looking at ethical issues confronting us in medicine, he said: 'The fact is that before the world began, before the big bang, God the Father saw you and loved you and decided to call you into existence in his sovereign, loving wisdom. He has prepared work especially for you to do ... at this particular and confusing time in world history.'

He recalled how 43 years ago as a first year student attending a conference at Swanwick he experienced a 'real sense of God calling me in a different direction'. He said he was praying 'that as something special happened in my life 43 years ago, it will happen for some of you'.

Attendees heard Bible readings on the Letter to the Colossians from Mark Meynell, senior minister (training) at All Souls, Langham Place in London. Colossians, he declared, was 'a scandalous text'. It is just as 'unpalatable' today as it was when first written because its exclusive claims about the uniqueness and deity of Christ 'unrelentingly collide with most modern-day assumptions'.

It is always encouraging when large groups of students attend. This year the biggest delegation was from Imperial College, London: 33 in all. But the conference is perhaps even more important to Christian students who feel very isolated: 'I just loved seeing and meeting so many Christian medical students,' commented a student who is obviously starved for contacts with Christians at her particular medical school. 'Now I know I'm not totally on my own!'

Among the seminar themes were practical responses to abortion (Celia Wyatt), prayer (Matt Lillicrap) and anorexia (author Emma Scrivener).

There was time to relax as well as learn. Manchester students, with help from internationals from Denmark and the Czech Republic, emerged as quiz champions, having managed to upstage London which had won several years in a row.

This is the last time the Student Conference will meet at Swanwick. Next year the venue is Yarnfield Park Conference Centre in Stone, Staffs.



### Target gets closer

**W**e are truly thankful to God for a magnificent response by members and friends to the CMF Development Plan appeal. When the appeal was launched in Easter 2011 the target set was a challenging £700,000. As this issue of CMF News went to press we had received £564,635, with a further £135,365 needed to reach the target. We will shortly be writing to all our members asking their help to get this project across the line. Pray that people who have already given will see the point of helping complete the task.

### CMF partners new DLS production

**A** big thank you to CMF members who worked hard to contribute 60 'thoughts' for *The Doctor's Life Support* (DLS) project which will be launched at the ICMDA World Congress in Rotterdam in July. DLS is a much-loved daily reading experience. Instead of producing a whole year of readings the new edition will cover half a year, with a further edition to follow. So we are open to receiving more contributions. Email [john.martin@cmf.org.uk](mailto:john.martin@cmf.org.uk) for templates.



### 'Corrie' suicide sparks media frenzy

**H**ayley Cropper's emotional suicide on Coronation Street in January created a media storm. CMF (with Care Not Killing) found itself in the spotlight. Peter Saunders and Andrew Fergusson gave ten media interviews in total, with Andrew fielding a Radio 5 Live phone-in, and Peter appearing live on ITV's 'Daybreak' programme. Most of the interviews can be heard again on the CMF website: [www.cmf.org.uk/media](http://www.cmf.org.uk/media)

## New from CMF

### The Electives Handbook

A student elective is a great opportunity to do something different, widen experience and learn new skills.



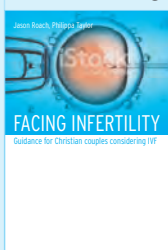
Many students will say that the experience was life-changing and challenged them to see the world in an entirely different way.

Even so, choosing where to go and how to prepare can be daunting tasks. *The Electives Handbook* (CMF) is a concise and practical booklet which helpfully guides the prospective traveller through the options and issues they will encounter.

'I hope lots of our members will buy this booklet and pass it on to medical students they know', comments CMF Head of International Ministries Vicky Lavy, who co-authored the booklet with medical students Rachel Perry and Emma Pedlar. £3.00, available from CMF: [cmf.li/110XKm2](http://cmf.li/110XKm2)

### Facing Infertility: Guidance for Christian couples considering IVF

Infertility affects one in seven couples. Not surprisingly it is deeply distressing, and penetrates every area



of the lives of couples affected. Options available are complex and confusing. Few babies are available for adoption but there are now myriad ways in which to have a child of your own,

or even someone else's child.

Many infertile couples will consider in vitro fertilisation (IVF). But where do they look if they want ethical guidance about this option? This new booklet by Jason Roach and Philippa Taylor and published by CMF sets out the key issues involved in what is a complex and emotive subject. Included, too, are two personal testimonies from couples who both considered IVF and decided to take different courses of action. Pastors who find themselves on the receiving end of questions from infertile couples will also find this booklet timely and helpful. To be published Spring 2014.

## Thank you for your partnership

There are enormous benefits from being a CMF member. It enables connections with other Christian doctors, opportunities

to be part of local groups for prayer and mutual support, inspiring national and regional conferences and breakfasts for particular specialties, and publications to help you keep a finger on the pulse of the interface of faith and medicine. What is often overlooked, however, is what CMF membership helps make possible for others.

Your membership is an investment in the next generation of Christian doctors. It helped subsidise 350 medical students who attended this year's Student Conference, ensuring that medical students are equipped to think biblically about their faith and work. It enabled 26 medical students to attend the International Medical Students Conference. Many of them will return to their home countries to play key roles in founding and leading national movements of Christian doctors.

Your CMF subscription enables the Fellowship to support 190 Christian doctors working internationally, the majority of them

in resource-poor settings. With your help the annual CMF Developing Health Course equips and envisions doctors for work overseas, both short and long term. A Christian doctor's impact is exponential, not only through service in the workplace but in contributions to the life and work of local churches too.

As well, CMF membership fuels public witness, both in the profession and in national life. The challenges are immense. There is unprecedented hostility to the Christian faith and the ethical precepts it offers. So it is more important than ever that the Christian voice is heard in public forums and in the media.

Peter Saunders, Chief Executive of CMF, says, 'I want to thank warmly all CMF members for their partnership in the gospel. Your prayers, your subscriptions and your gifts help ensure that a future generation of Christian doctors is equipped for service in medicine, that vital overseas work is supported and the Christian voice in the public square is not muted.'

■ Please consider giving a Christian colleague or friend a CMF Gift Membership. See [www.cmf.org.uk/gift/buy](http://www.cmf.org.uk/gift/buy) for details.

### God and the silent pager

Stories of God-sent opportunities to share faith in the course of routine work situations were a huge encouragement to delegates attending a Birmingham Saline training day, held on 15 March.

A surgeon recounted how she had been called to re-site a cannula. Initially she asked the nurses to try to find someone else: she thought there would be plenty of colleagues capable of doing this. What's more she had plenty to keep her busy. A couple of hours later the nurses phoned again. No-one else was available: she really was the only one who could do this task, so she went. She apologised for keeping the man waiting and he told her he had been waiting all day for the chaplain to come and it was now evening.

The surgeon sat and chatted after sorting the drip, then offered to pray with him. He was so grateful and for 40 minutes her pager was silent, so she had time for unhurried conversation. Surely, here is an example of God's hand at work. Some 21 delegates gathered at a venue a stone's throw from Birmingham University. In total there were 29 delegates, (14 medics, six nurses, five students and four allied professionals) plus four trainers.

CMF is keen to sponsor as many Saline training days as possible. Why not prayerfully consider offering one in your area. For more info contact Ruth Haley, CMF Graduate Ministries Coordinator: [ruth.haley@cmf.org.uk](mailto:ruth.haley@cmf.org.uk)

■ CMF is producing two promotional videos explaining the Saline vision. CMF wishes to acknowledge with gratitude our partnership with IHS Global, which originated Saline and is energetically promoting it globally. CMF was represented at an International Saline consultation in Budapest on 23 January 2014. See article in this month's Triple Helix.





## Changes to Nurses Ministry

**F**or some years CMF

has been working in close partnership with

Christian Nurses and Midwives (CNM) to develop a Christian nurses' fellowship in England and Wales. Recently CMF and CNM have mutually agreed that trying to run a single ministry through both organisations was not the most effective way forward, and so it is that the membership and ministry of CNM formally became a part of CMF in February.

This means that all CNM members are now CMF members – which means that we will see little change in practice, as we all already get CMF mailings and access to events. The CNM website, Facebook and



Twitter pages are all changing to reflect this. The nursing department of Steve and Dimity carry on serving graduate and student nurses as before, and the ministry is now known as **CMF Nurses and Midwives**.

Our greatest asset in building up a nurses' ministry and fellowship is our membership. You can encourage and support Christian nurses where you are, connect them with CMF, encourage them to come to local or workplace meetings, join you at regional or national conferences, etc. Gift Memberships for nurses and other resources will be going live very soon.

### Nurses' appeal

**T**o date our Christmas appeal to support new opportunities among nurses has yielded a highly encouraging £69,446.

### International Students encouraged

**D**iscovering English culinary delights was a daily joy for the 26 students attending the 2014 International Medical Students Conference (IMSC) held in London from 3-7 February.



Fish and chips went down well, but some drew the line at mushy peas. Together they represented 23 countries as far-flung as Africa, Central Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

The key themes were ethics and practical organisational skills to be used within local CMF groups in their home

countries. Many will return with a vision for pioneering CMF-type work in their home countries.

Playing a key role with talks on ethical questions was Professor John Wyatt.

### ICMDA registrations and bursaries

There is still plenty of time to register for the ICMDA World Congress in Rotterdam, 19-26 July 2014 (22-26 July, with students and juniors meeting 19-22 July). There are realistic hopes of achieving an attendance of 1,000. This promises to be a seminal event. Medics attending earlier Congresses testify to its far-reaching impact on their lives and careers.



Pray for a good outcome for the appeal to CMF members to provide bursaries to enable people from resource-poor countries to attend. ICMDA wants to provide at least 200 bursary places: so far it has received a daunting 700 applications. We hope to contribute £25,000 – so far giving stands at just under half of that.

### New leadership for ICMDA Eurasia



Rick Paul



James Tomlinson

**Rick Paul**, who is based in The Netherlands, has succeeded **James Tomlinson** as ICMDA coordinator for the Eurasia region. Heartfelt thanks go to James for his dedicated service over many years. In mid-March there was a useful consultation for representatives of movements in the region, with Vicky Lavy attending on behalf of CMF.

## PRIME

Partnership in International Medical Education

**R**ichard Vincent has become PRIME's first-ever Chief Executive Officer, while John Caladine has joined the PRIME Board of Trustees as treasurer, succeeding Alan Ritchie.

PRIME tutors delivered 59 separate programmes in 34 different countries across Africa, Asia, Europe, North, South America and Oceania, according to its latest Annual Report. Here are some highlights:

Albania used to be one of the most isolated and backward eastern European countries. There are growing opportunities for Christians to contribute to medical education and there is now a full-time PRIME tutor located in the country. PRIME delivered several Transformation Conferences with workshops on diabetic feet, cardiology, ophthalmology and advanced skills in consultations. Training for mental health professionals was also undertaken.

In Armenia a team of PRIME tutors have completed a three year palliative care project. The 2013 programme included paediatric palliative care and teaching in Nagorno Karabagh. PRIME teams have now taught in all the major medical and nursing schools in the country.

Egypt, scene of much communal unrest, continues to receive support from PRIME in various teaching hospitals. Plans for an MSc in Family Medicine are being explored. A tutor training conference is planned for later in 2014.

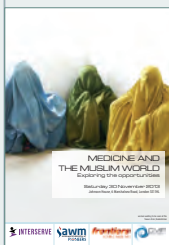
Requests have been received from South Sudan for help with mental healthcare training, including management of epilepsy and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. There are hopes to provide training for church leaders and Christian workers, again on mental health, at the request of a local evangelical bishop.

### GP chaplaincy network

The Association of Chaplaincy in General Practice has launched a new website. The Association seeks to facilitate connections between people who are interested in this concept. [www.gpchaplaincy.com](http://www.gpchaplaincy.com)

## Muslim world beckons

A big sense of excitement and anticipation about our times – things are happening. ‘Let’s catch the wave!’



So said one delegate who attended the ‘Medicine and the Muslim World’ conference, held at Johnson House on 30 November 2013. CMF was co-host alongside Interserve, AWM and Frontiers, agencies which, combined, work in over 50 countries.

There are 1.6 billion Muslims around the world, making Islam the second biggest faith. While many associate Islam with countries in the Middle East or North Africa, nearly two-thirds (62%) of Muslims live in the Asia-Pacific region, according to US-based Pew Research analysis. In fact, more Muslims live in India and Pakistan (344 million combined) than in the entire Middle East–North Africa region (317 million).

Attendees heard about the huge world of opportunity that exists for Christian doctors and other healthcare professionals to serve Christ in Muslim settings: through traditional mission agencies but also a plethora of academic and NGO posts as well as private clinics.

In March CMF CEO Peter Saunders spoke on Christianity and Islam at a public event at University College London sponsored by the CMF group. Pray that seeds sown among Muslim students will bear fruit.

### East Anglia focus on leadership

Leadership in the NHS was the theme for a high-quality, ‘helpful and timely’ conference for members from East Anglia region (Addenbrooke’s, 8 March). Members everywhere report stresses, from the need to work in an increasingly complex NHS but with diminishing resources. Several commented they were greatly encouraged by original and highly practical biblical insights on servant-leadership.



Future plans for East Anglia region include home meetings two or three times a year for food, fellowship and Bible study. There is determination to help people from across the generations to meet one another. This is in addition to an annual Christmas Carol Service and a future regional conference. Speakers included Peter Saunders (Bible reading), David Pitches (servant leadership) and Howard Lyons (marketing the NHS internationally).

### Outgoing

**Peter Finch** (St. Thomas’) to Zimbabwe  
**Christine Kiire** (Oxford) to Malawi  
**Philip Meager** (Liverpool) to Thailand  
**Tina Maddison** (Birmingham) to Thailand  
**Dina Robertson** (King’s College London) to China

### Homecoming

**Becky Hammond** (Norwich) from Somaliland  
**Kieran & Sarah Dinwoodie** (Glasgow) from Uganda  
**Valerie Inchley** (Liverpool) from Nepal  
**Simon (Guy’s) & Jane Daniell** (Cambridge) from Kenya  
**William & Patricia Turner** (Cardiff) from Ghana

### Obituaries

**Andre Stockley** (q Guy’s, 1945) CMF notified 17 December 2013.  
**Katherine Hill** (q Dublin, 1947) worked at the forefront of preventative medicine in underprivileged areas of Sheffield for many years. Died 17 January 2014.  
**Bernard McCullough** (q The Middlesex, 1962) a missionary doctor in DR Congo for 13 years and a GP in Eastbourne for 22 years. Died 15 February 2014.  
**Olive Todd** (q UCL, 1947) died 12 January 2013. CMF notified 12 March 2014.

### CMF Staff Vacancy

CMF is looking for a Public Policy Researcher. Based at CMF’s office in central London, this new part-time role (two days a week) is to assist the Head of Public Policy and the Chief Executive in CMF’s public policy work. The successful applicant will have a degree-level qualification, preferably with some medical and/or scientific experience or qualification. Experience of bioethics and some understanding of policy, media and Parliament would be highly beneficial. Closing date is 7 April. For further details and an application form please email [recruitment@cmf.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@cmf.org.uk)

### London students reading group

John Wyatt is working with the CMF Student Team to organise a London-based student reading group. Over the years CMF has been at the cutting edge of promoting awareness on ethical issues and part of the programme will be a carry-over from John’s involvement with the annual KLICE conference on ethical themes. Alongside the need for grounding each generation of students in ethics, CMF is discerning a need to offer ‘thought-leaders’ training, to raise up a future generation of Christian medics who can be of influence at the cutting edge of ideas and education. Membership is by invitation. If you are interested contact Giles Cattermole: [giles.cattermole@cmf.org.uk](mailto:giles.cattermole@cmf.org.uk)

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### Dates for your diary

- April**
- 9 Paediatrics Breakfast  
The ICC, Birmingham
- 25-27 CMF National Conference  
Yarnfield Park, Staffordshire
- 30 Rheumatology Breakfast  
ACC Liverpool
- May**
- 9-11 Junior Doctors’ Retreat  
Abernethy Ardeonaig Outdoor  
Centre, Scotland
- 17 Saline Solution  
NCF Scotland, Glasgow
- 21 Ophthalmology Breakfast  
The ICC, Birmingham
- June – July**
- 29-11 Developing Health Course  
Oak Hill College, London
- July**
- 19-26 XVth ICMDA World Congress  
Rotterdam, Netherlands
- September**
- 13 Careers Day Conference  
CMF, London

For more details see [www.cmf.org.uk](http://www.cmf.org.uk)

### CMF News

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