

## A good start to the journey

**A**fter two years of preparation, The Human Journey – our major new resource for churches, healthcare professionals and student groups – was launched on 17 November.

We welcomed over fifty CMF members, church leaders, and journalists to the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity for a special launch event.

A keynote address from Prof John Wyatt on some of the medical and ethical challenges facing the church today was followed by a presentation by CEO, Peter Saunders, who explained the background to The Human Journey, how it came into being and how we envisage it being used.

The Human Journey is an eight-session course designed to help Christians think biblically about health, and includes a book, Study and Leader's guides, a DVD, website and social media community.

Attendees were able to purchase our full range of products from our bookstall, and there was time for excellent canapés, drinks and the sharing of hopes, questions and aspirations about the new resource.

We very much hope that you will use and promote The Human Journey in your churches, and we are excited to think that it could also have a significant global impact too.

Visit the website [www.humanjourney.org.uk](http://www.humanjourney.org.uk) to find out more.



## Lord Falconer's phoney war

**L**ord Falconer's Assisted Dying Bill reached Committee Stage in the House of Lords on 7 November. It seeks to legalise assisted suicide (but not euthanasia) for mentally

competent adults (aged over 18) with less than six months to live, subject to 'safeguards' under a two doctors' signature model similar to the Abortion Act 1967.

The House of Lords will now debate it line by line. Opponents have tabled a whole raft of amendments, and protocol requires that each has to receive debating time. One development on 7 November was acceptance of an amendment that judges, not doctors, should take final decisions about whether someone should be



given the go-ahead to take their own life. This puts a fearsome onus on judges and at face value looks unworkable.

Opponents to the bill had tactical choices: either to try to kill the bill at the second reading – as they did with a similar bill from Lord Joffe in 2006 – or to strangle it slowly in committee by amending it, if necessary with 'wrecking' devices. They have opted for the latter, which means clear arguments against will form part of the official record of the debate.

This series of events has all the hallmarks of a phoney war. There is little hope that the bill will pass all stages in both Houses of Parliament ahead of the next general election which is already set for 7 May 2015. Falconer and his allies will undoubtedly bring the bill back to Parliament regardless.

## Don't forget our Christmas Appeal

**C**MF's Christmas Appeal for 2014 seeks much-needed support for strategic work among students and junior doctors. Students and junior doctors are the lifeblood and future of CMF. This is why we make students' and juniors' ministry a key priority.

Many readers of CMF News will testify to being converted as students. Probably their first contact with the Fellowship was a local student group or our Student Conference. Most of our 500 new graduate members since January 2010 joined us as students and were retained as juniors through our transition programme.

Pressures on Christian students and juniors are enormous – arguably greater than ever before. This is why we need strong student work and to sustain it requires a financial commitment.

Please give as much as you can: [www.cmf.org.uk/christmasappeal2014](http://www.cmf.org.uk/christmasappeal2014)

## CMF finances to end of September

**E**leanor Orr, CMF's accountant, produces accounts each month so that the board of trustees and senior staff can assess where we are in relation to budget. The most recent set of accounts we have relates to the financial situation at the end of September 2014.

Regular income such as general donations and membership was £32,000 below budget. Departmental income, for example conference income and donations to support specific ministry, was in line with budget. So overall income at £779,000 was £32,000 below budget. Development income at £152,000 was £17,000 below budget. Spending at £1,008,000 was £76,000 below budget as the result of the careful use of funds. So overall, CMF was doing better than budget with a deficit of £77,000 which was £26,000 better than budget. Thank you to all members for their support.

## Students

### Tell SYD they're coming

The annual International Medical Students Conference (IMSC) set for 9–13 February has a new name. It's been rebranded as



the Students and Young Doctors Conference, or SYD. This is also short for 'Sydenham',

honouring Thomas Sydenham (1684–89) one of the most famous Christian medical pioneers. Around 25 hand-picked young medics will attend from as far afield as South America and Africa, in addition to Eurasia. After their time in London they will attend the Student Conference at Yarnfield Park, Staffs, 13–15 February. Many of those attending will become leaders in fledgling national movements of Christian doctors, which makes this a highly strategic event. Pray for safety in travel and a fair wind with visa application procedures.

### Emerald Isle students meet

Highly encouraging. That was the gist of feedback from the Irish Student conference 31 October – 2 November at Castledaly, Co Westmeath. Some 41 students attended, mainly from Dublin, Belfast, Cork and Galway. Giles Cattermole taught them from 2 Timothy, while Laurence Crutchlow led sessions on Confident Christianity.

### Time to connect

The fourth quarter of each year is vital for CMF link people and our regional staffworkers. It's a prime time for networking and making connections, particularly with junior doctors moving to new jobs in new surrounds. CMF events have many faces: a barbecue at Horsham (Sussex), a workplace meeting in Stevenage (Herts) an 'At Home' in Farnborough (Hants). Julian Churcher, staffworker for London and the South East reports that 31 attended a Saline Solution day in Hampstead, London (a blend of graduates, students and allied professionals). If you are on the move, don't forget to update your details on the CMF database.

## Expecting to sell out!

CMF Student Conference 13–15 February 2015

We're praying for – and expecting – a sell out for the 2015 CMF Student Conference at Yarnfield Park, Staffs, 13–15 February. We live in confusing times and more than ever before critics are apt to question the goodness of God. So being confident and able to give a good account of what and why we believe is important. It's great, then, to welcome as our main speaker Mike Reeves from the Wales Evangelical School of Theology, author of *The Good God*. His theme is 'Delighting in the Trinity'. Squabbles over the Trinity have often caused confusion and worse, but it is Mike's firm conviction that the Trinity is not only great news: it is the very heart of the gospel.



Among the other speakers are Aaron Poppleton, who has travelled frequently in Eastern Europe with CMF and PRIME and will inspire his listeners to consider places not normally seen as traditional Christian mission fields. CMF's Vicky Lavy will bring a wealth of experience to the important question of choosing an elective. Other themes will include issues like suffering, when Christians disagree, and questions around women in medicine. CMF conferees who have experienced the new Yarnfield Park venue in Staffordshire have accorded it high praise, with plaudits for food, facilities and easy access via road and rail networks. Most importantly it means we can offer more places than ever before.

### Farewell to Giles Cattermole

After five very fruitful years as CMF Head of Student Ministries, Giles Cattermole is moving on at the end of the year. CMF's student ministry has come on in leaps and bounds under his leadership and we owe him a huge debt of gratitude. In 2015 he will start studying for a Diploma in Tropical Medicine. Please join us in praying for God's richest blessings on Giles and his family for future years.



Giles Cattermole

### Prayer summit

'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of,' wrote the poet Tennyson. From 16–18 January a specially invited company of about 80 CMF members and staff will spend a weekend together in a prayer summit to seek God's direction together. So even if you won't be attending, please uphold this event in your prayers.

It is a crucial opportunity to review together where we are at as a fellowship, to assess the challenges we face as Christian doctors currently and to help shape our future ministry. We are hoping that it will provide the basis for our next three year plan from 2016–2018 across all areas of our work.

### Ebola: there's plenty you can do

It's no surprise that CMF members are among the many doctors and health professionals moved with compassion by the Ebola crisis. Like so many global



emergencies, it is hitting the most vulnerable hardest. The cover story for the Winter issue of *Triple Helix* includes interviews with three CMF members who in different ways find themselves engaged

in what seems to be an overwhelming crisis.

There are things we can all do: go, give, pray and support. Save the Children are recruiting doctors and other healthcare workers to staff their new treatment centre in Sierra Leone: [cmf.li/1t83qvB](http://cmf.li/1t83qvB). The Christian Hospital Association of Liberia has notified an urgent need of staff: [cmf.li/1fUspU](http://cmf.li/1fUspU). Ebola is not the sole health issue there; babies are still being born; people are still catching malaria, pneumonia and TB; they all need care. The NHS has a register. See the CMF website for more information. The CMF STAT list – Short-Term, Able to Travel – is a mine of information. For more information contact Vicky Lavy, CMF Head of International Ministries: [vicky.lavy@cmf.org.uk](mailto:vicky.lavy@cmf.org.uk)

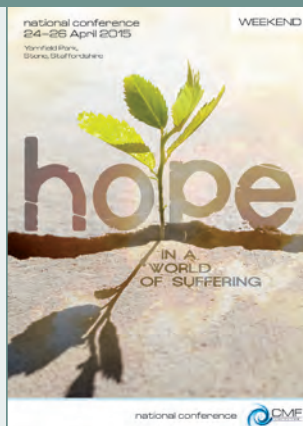


## National Conference

24–26 April 2015

In tough or confusing times Christians know they have a vast, unseen resource: the limitless grace of a good God. Hope in a world of suffering is the theme of the CMF 2015 National Conference where the Bible readings will be given by Lindsay Brown, a highly gifted expositor and former general secretary of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES).

'We will be looking at three key passages providing assurance of God's continued presence, sovereignty, trustworthiness, grace and love,' Lindsay says. 'It is an opportunity to affirm and understand more fully the sure and certain foundation for the hope that God gives to all Christians as we face adversity in a fallen world.'



We are delighted to confirm that the 2015 Rendle Short Lecture will be given by Professor Glynn Harrison, a gifted communicator, prolific blogger and author. His theme: After the revolution: re-imagining the biblical vision for sex and marriage.

There are special programme tracks for student leaders (by invitation), junior doctors, and a nurses track on the Six 'Cs' of Nursing: Care, Compassion, Competence, Communication, Courage and Commitment – and how the teaching of Jesus should shape these values. We return to Yarnfield Park, Staffs as the venue.

Early bird rates are available until 31 March so book soon: [www.cmf.org.uk/national-conference](http://www.cmf.org.uk/national-conference)

## Public policy: CMF in the public square

CMF regularly makes submissions to government and other bodies, bringing a Christian perspective to important debates in national life. Here is a list of some recent submissions by CMF:

- Response to the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee Inquiry into mitochondrial donation – 22 October 2014
- Response to the Proposed Organ and Tissue Donation (Scotland) Bill – 25 September 2014
- Response to the Northern Ireland Justice Committee Consultation on Abortion services – 12 September 2014
- Submission to the House of Commons Education Committee on Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PSHE) and Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) in schools – 9 June 2014

See CMF website for full details: [www.cmf.org.uk/publicpolicy/submissions](http://www.cmf.org.uk/publicpolicy/submissions)

### Current consultations where CMF is involved:

- Northern Ireland Department of Justice Consultation on Abortion for Disability.
- GMC Fitness to Practise Consultation: Doctors who don't meet professional standards.
- Equality and Human Rights Commission. How religion or belief have affected experiences in the workplace
- Commission on Religion and Belief in British Public Life. Specific topics include social change, law, media, education, social action and dialogue and engagement.

See CMF website for more details – [www.cmf.org.uk/publicpolicy/current-consultations](http://www.cmf.org.uk/publicpolicy/current-consultations)

### Nurses

- Steve Fouch met with the leadership of Nurses Christian Fellowship International (NCFI) at the European and Asia Pacific Regional Conferences this autumn. These events focused on whole-person care and compassion as core Christian values in nursing.
- Nurses' Refreshment Dinners have become a core part of our ministry. In London they are

held on the last Tuesday of every other month, with 10–15 attending regularly. Contact Steve ([steve@cmf.org.uk](mailto:steve@cmf.org.uk)) or Dimity ([dimity@cmf.org.uk](mailto:dimity@cmf.org.uk)) if you are interested in coming or bringing along a friend.

- Nurses have attended most of the CMF regional and national conferences this autumn – don't forget the National and Student Conferences next year!

## Carol service

10 December 2014

We are delighted that Professor John Lennox, author and apologist, will speak at this year's Healthcare Carol Service at



Service at 6.30pm on 10 December at All Souls Church London W1. Joining him is the Rector of All Souls Hugh Palmer. A long-time supporter of Christians in the health

professions, John Lennox has debated sceptics like Richard Dawkins, Peter Singer and the late Christopher Hitchens. Come. Bring a friend – or three.

### Public Policy appointment

A grant from a major Trust has enabled the appointment of Cheryl Chin to join the CMF Public Policy Team as a researcher.



Cheryl Chin

#### We asked her to tell us about herself.

'I'm from Singapore but moved to England with my family when I was 12.

I'm a qualified doctor and had been in clinical practice for 3 years before embarking on my MA in Bioethics and Medical Law. My church family is the community of St Mark's Battersea Rise, a lively Church of England community with many mid-week activities, residing in the heart of Clapham.'

#### What appealed to you about the Public Policy role in CMF?

'The opportunity to be able to learn about and influence public policy from a Christian platform was simply too good to pass up. Learning from more experienced members of the team just added heaps to its attraction and trying to apply all I'm learning in my MA and putting it to the test. Contending and reconciling between the values of the wider culture and that of Christian values is always a huge challenge, but in particular, I see the assault on a doctor's freedom of conscience as a highly challenging issue currently.'

## ICMDA World Congress

19-26 July 2014, Rotterdam

**T**his was a fantastic conference with 910 delegates from 99 countries, writes Vicky Lavy. Some 60 CMF members came, including nine students who had been given grants by CMF. Our Dutch hosts did an amazing job, accommodating 550 people with host families around the city.



CMF raised £24,640 through our bursary appeal, which funded 50 of the 200 bursaries given. This large number of bursaries meant that there was very good representation from resource-poor countries. All bursary recipients and a number of

other students and people from resource-poor countries were given a free book pack containing seven CMF titles, a Confident Christianity DVD and a free download of John Stott's 'Serving Christ in Medicine' talks.

Some comments from the British students who went:

*'A fantastic experience, it gave me a far bigger sense of what God is doing in medicine throughout the world.'*

*'Seeing the South East Asian delegates sing on the last night, with a slide show of previous medical missionaries playing in the background was something that will stay with me. It made it all seem worthwhile, that the harvest of all their hard work was here in front of us.'*

*'A huge faith encouragement to see how God's work is so much bigger than our small world.'*

*'Being taught by people from many different cultural and Christian backgrounds made me appreciate the breadth of the gospel.'*

### Power of the printed word

An important outcome for the ICMDA congress: our staff team returned with a heightened vision for the importance of CMF literature for building up of sister movements, especially set in places where resources are scarce. One African delegate at Rotterdam saw our literature and immediately had a vision for making our books available. So we're giving £200 worth of CMF books and resources to the CMDA conference in Kenya in December. We would like to do this more, and it's the sort of project our members might prayerfully consider offering gifts to make this happen.

### Homecoming

**Alice Self** (Oxford) from Pakistan and South Africa  
**Chloe Ross** (Birmingham) from Madagascar  
**Charis Bignell** (Newcastle) from Cameroon  
**Vic Parsonson** (Birmingham) from Madagascar

### Outgoing

**Katherine Fawbert** to Honduras  
**Jonathan Fletcher** (Birmingham) to Thailand  
**Jessica Hudson** to Uganda  
**Chris Lowry** (Sheffield) to South Africa  
**Katie Mayers** (Leeds) to Uganda  
**Richard Mayers** (Leeds) to Uganda  
**Rachel Nunn** (St George's) to Ethiopia  
**Timothy Nunn** (Royal Free) to Ethiopia

### Obituaries

**Mary Bancroft** (q Manchester, 1953); **John Dale** (q Bart's, 1961); **John Frame** (q Glasgow, 1949); **Robin Jameson** (q Durham, 1957); **Irene Thompson** (q Belfast, 1947); **Peter Wallis** (q King's, 1965)  
**Dennis Fox MBE** (q Bristol, 1951) based for many years at Tockington. Died 4 June 2014.

**William Michael (Bill) Gould OBE** (q Manchester, 1958) a missionary surgeon in Nepal, 1965-77, a GP in Devon for 17 years, then Director of Health Services with the United Mission to Nepal. Died 13 July 2014.

**Prof Stewart Hillis** (q Glasgow, 1967) pioneer in sports medicine. Died 21 July 2014.

**Prof Norman Nevin OBE** (q Queen's Belfast, 1947) died 28 June 2014. Genetics was his lifetime work, begun when it was a fledgling discipline. He contributed almost 300 peer-reviewed publications. CMF notified 30 July 2014.

**Martin Plumptre** (q Bart's, 1957) died 11 November 2014.

**Katherine Sheila Pring Hill** (q Trinity College Dublin, 1947) worked in South Yorkshire with the Schools Health Service and afterwards senior medical officer for the Sheffield Health Authority where her responsibilities included the childhood vaccination programme. Died 17 January 2014.

**Vivian Seif Said** (q Royal Free, 1953) died 19 April 2014. CMF notified 12 June 2014.

**Geoffrey Stanley-Smith** (q Cambridge, 1948) missionary doctor at the church hospitals of Buhiga and Matana, Burundi. Died 6 June 2014.

**Thomas Harold 'Martin' Warburton** (q Bart's, 1953) died 4 September 2014.

### Accent on neighbourliness

'Who is my Neighbour?' Reading (18 October). A great event with 46 people showing up for a morning workshop. CMF can offer a half day version of 'Who is My Neighbour?' (morning, afternoon or extended evening – the choice is yours). Some groups might find that more appealing than organising a whole day. Next up for 'Who is my Neighbour?': Dundee on 24 January 2014.

### CMF senior staff

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### Dates for your diary

<b>December</b>	
10	HEALTHCARE CAROL SERVICE 6.30pm, All Souls, Langham Place, London
<b>January</b>	
17-18	PRAYER SUMMIT (Invitation only)
24	WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR? Dundee
<b>February</b>	
13-15	CMF STUDENT CONFERENCE Yarnfield Park, Staffordshire
28	EAST ANGLIA DAY CONFERENCE Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge
<b>April</b>	
24-26	CMF NATIONAL CONFERENCE Yarnfield Park, Staffordshire
29	CMF PAEDIATRICS BREAKFAST The ICC, Birmingham

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

### CMF News

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