

2020 ACTIVE – Connect & Grow, Speak & Serve

Peter Saunders explains CMF's vision for the next five years

CMF exists to glorify God by uniting and equipping Christian doctors and medical students to live and speak for Jesus Christ in medicine. We are called to be faithful to God's great commission

(Matthew 28:19–20) and great commandment (John 13:34–35) against a background of three huge ongoing challenges:

1. Geopolitical and economic crisis and its impact on families and the health service
2. Growing hostility to Christian faith and values from Islam and the new atheism
3. Escalating healthcare needs and diminishing resources both here and abroad

To grow to full maturity in Christ in the face of these challenges we need each other – in order to be both encouraged (Hebrews 10:24–25) and equipped (Ephesians 4:11–13).

Our development plan from 2011 to 2014 had seven key objectives and involved raising an extra £700k over three years.



By God's grace and with your help we both achieved the objectives and raised *over* £700k.

2015 has been a year of capacity building with five main priorities: strengthening our senior team and board, laying the foundations for a volunteer programme, completing migration of our IT database to an online platform, promotion of the Human Journey course and putting a fundraising strategy in place. Again these aims have been largely achieved, within budget.

Following much prayer and planning over the course of this year the CMF senior staff and board are just putting the finishing touches to our **2020 ACTIVE Vision** for the years 2016–2020.

The overall theme is **Connect & Grow, Speak & Serve**. These four imperatives are deeply grounded in Scripture and sum up all that we are helping members (doctors, nurses and students) to do. They are to be reflected in a soon-to-be-launched new website and across all our publications and activities.

The 2020 ACTIVE vision is all about clarity and focus. So until 2020 we plan to focus on six key priorities. These fit the acronym ACTIVE – which makes them easily memorable but does not convey any order of priority – all are important:

1. **Advocacy** – Being a voice for the voiceless
2. **Communications** – Digital and print for the next decade
3. **Training** – Courses, resources and road-shows to build up and equip
4. **International Partnerships** – Strengthening our international partners
5. **Volunteering** – Opportunities for members to serve in new ways
6. **Evangelism** – Sharing and defending the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ

We look forward to sharing this journey with you. Look out for more details in the coming months.

Peter Saunders, Chief Executive

National Conference 2016

We are delighted to have **Professor Don Carson** delivering the Bible readings at the next National Conference, 22–24 April 2016. He is an acclaimed



Don Carson

Bible scholar, speaker and author. Taking his theme from 1 Corinthians 15 he will speak on 'Matters of first importance: what is primary and essential to the Christian faith.'

This is a vital theme for Christian doctors, where there is much confusion about what the gospel is and how it applies in relationships and the workplace. In three talks we will hear how the apostle Paul sets out what is primary to the Christian faith. We will reflect on how this applies today so we will be encouraged to live out our faith and bear witness to Christ with renewed confidence and commitment.

Professor Andrew Tomkins will deliver the 2016 Rendle Short Lecture: 'Tackling global health inequalities'. Andrew recently edited a special issue on Global Health in *The Lancet*. He works at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, and the Institute for Global Health, UCL.



Andrew Tomkins

Finance update

We have just launched our Christmas Appeal. Please give generously (cmf.org.uk/appeal).

The management accounts for the nine months to September show that income is ahead of budget by just under £55,000. This is thanks to the continued generosity of members supporting CMF through donations and good attendances at the National Conference and Developing Health Course earlier in the year.

We've continued to keep a tight grip on costs with our spending being £40,000 below budget. As a result, our deficit was close to £29,000 as against our budgeted deficit of £122,000. Praise the Lord for this encouraging result and thanks to all the members who have helped to achieve it.

Graham Sopp, Head of Operations

Public policy

Update

Contribution to Nuffield report on 'naturalness'

Philippa Taylor, Head of Public Policy, was one of four people invited to give oral evidence about naturalness to The Nuffield Council on Bioethics, for a new report they are preparing. It is a theme that often emerges in public discourse. Nuffield explains: 'From genetic modification and synthetic biology to reproductive technologies and cloning, the idea that if something is unnatural, it raises ethical problems is a theme that runs through many discussions. Similarly public debate often reflects an idea that it is good for certain things, such as ingredients in food or cosmetics, to be natural.' The final report was published on 30 November.

Organ donation: the case for opt-in

Following a written response to the Scottish Parliament's Health & Sport Committee on a proposal to amend organ donation law in Scotland, Philippa Taylor was invited to give oral evidence to the Committee. CMF had already made a submission, indicating support for organ donation but arguing that donation of organs should be a positive choice by each individual.

Oxford group considers abortion and disability

The Oxford Pro-Life group, which hosted a recent talk by Philippa Taylor on abortion and disability, say they learnt five important things from her presentation: the law current law is ambiguous; ethical questions over disability are similar to sex-selective abortion; whatever the law, numerous difficult issues will always arise; society should treat those it can, and care for those it can't; peri-natal hospices can provide the support needed (most of the audience had never heard of these hospices).

Other CMF submissions

- NICE guidance on care of the dying adult
- Screening for Down syndrome in pregnancy

Read the full submissions at: cmf.org.uk/publicpolicy/submissions

Meet Graham Crosbie

CMF's new Membership and IT Manager

Graham joined CMF staff in September as Membership and IT Manager in succession to Martin Parsons. We asked him a few questions:



Graham Crosbie

What attracted you to this role?

The work of CMF intrigued me and it's also rare to find an organisation these days that's uncompromising in taking such a clear biblical stand on issues. Earlier this year I prayed about the sort of role that should be my next career step and my role here at CMF is the answer to that prayer.

Tell us something of your past experience

I have nearly 30 years' experience in IT across roles in support, software and web

development, and project management. Recently I have worked primarily in the non-profit sector helping organisations of all shapes and sizes on a variety of web and digital engagement projects.

Tell us about your church involvement

I moved to London nearly six years ago to be part of the core team planting Hope Church Newham in Stratford, East London. I serve the church in a number of ways: as part of the leadership team, as a small group leader, in heading up our web and social media team, and admin support for our pastor.

Tell us about your family life

I've been married to Ursula, a civil servant, for over 18 years. We live in east London.

The importance of local connections

Important things happen when Christian doctors and students meet to share and – most importantly – pray. It is at local level that we *are* the Fellowship.

As I travel around the country I become more and more convinced of the importance of members connecting locally. This may happen by members attending a regional conference or Saline Solution, welcoming junior doctors or opening their homes. All this demonstrates the vital importance of CMF Links. We constantly need to recruit new people: please prayerfully consider if this is something for you.

Autumn is probably the busiest time of year for our Graduates Team. We now coordinate 15 Breakfasts during annual meetings of the Royal Colleges and other medical societies.

We have just completed a wonderful menu of regional conferences. Early in September our annual **Careers Day** for juniors and final-year students, held in London, was enthusiastically received. This year we also did something a little different, offering a programme based on the theme 'Serving in Babylon' at several regional events, most recently the **Midlands** and **Northern** conferences. Some of the speakers were different at each venue but members appreciated engaging with a theme that helps us to think and speak in the face of increasingly hostility to the Christian faith.

Our biennial **Retirees' Conference** addressed the challenge of finishing well: the 'long' view of what we do in life. It may sometimes be many years before the fruits of

what we have begun will become visible. Paul Adams, a retired doctor and pastor presented Bible readings on the theme by focusing on the last instructions of the apostle Paul, the prophet Elijah and the leader Joshua. At our **Scotland Conference**, William Harrison, a portfolio GP and teaching church elder from Aberdeen offered case studies from the lives of Abel, Abraham and Jacob (from Hebrews 11) and moved on to Jesus 'the author and finisher of our faith' (Hebrews 12).

Pablo Fernandez

Head of Graduate Ministries

Mining for flecks of gold

Fifty of us gathered in November to hear Will van der Hart of Mind and Soul speak on 'Growing in gratitude and compassion'. The spiritual and psychological benefits of 'mining' gratitude were convincingly taught: we sometimes need to pan among the grit and sand of life for the tiniest flecks of gold for which to thank God.

Compassion – especially towards ourselves – is the other side of this coin, with healthy self-love and acceptance so often a struggle for healthcare professionals. Testimonies from two afternoon speakers catalysed discussion and prayer, and many encouraging conversations were held in between sessions. Nurses, student nurses and medical students joined a 50:50 balance of hospital and GP colleagues at all stages for a lively and encouraging day.

Julian Churcher, London & SE staffworker

Disciplining students, growing leaders

John Greenall tells us about the new CMF volunteer programme

I am generally not an excitable person – a raised eyebrow or small fist pump is about as far as it goes. But I am excited by the launch of four different opportunities to volunteer with the Student department from August 2016 – under the umbrella 'Deep:ER'.

Disciplining student leaders, writing, speaking, growing as a leader and more. This is a great opportunity to combine faith and medicine, putting roots down deep and helping students to do the same. Volunteers will access our CMF training programme and there is also the opportunity to study with one of eight partner organisations.

Deep:ER Trainee: For F3 year or other year-out opportunities, a minimum of two days a week for a year.

Deep:ER Student Trainee: For intercalating students who can give approximately one day a week for a year.

Deep:ER Impact Volunteer: To volunteer during your holidays or other short period.

Deep:ER Associate Staffworker: To disciple students and juniors in your region, usually alongside less than full time training or 'drop a day' for CMF.



Look out for our promo videos and visit www.cmf.org.uk/students/volunteer for more information and to apply. Applications are open now so please spread the word.

'So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him...' (Colossians 2:6–7)

New groups for nurses

Pippa Peppiatt, our new Student Nurses Staffworker blends time at the CMF office with a growing portfolio of 'fieldwork', which includes meeting with students, nurses, UCCF and church workers, as well as speaking at new nursing groups and conferences. She writes, 'Praise God that he has provided graduate hosts and student nurse reps in the four cities I'm focusing on: Southampton, Oxford, London and Leeds. I have personally met and gone through their roles with most of these lovely nurses and midwives. Now I am working on resources and content for use in groups. Each of these four groups had their first meetings which have gone well. I'm speaking at the second month's meetings on "How to Survive Nursing School".'

Presently Pippa's contacts tend to fall into five main categories: student nurses and midwives, graduate nurses/midwives willing to act as hosts and mentors, student workers local to group locations, church workers who are local to locations of new groups and resource speakers – largely graduate nurses who have a particular passion or experience to impart and speak about at a group.

Please pray:

- That God will bless these new groups, help relationships to form and each student nurse and midwife to be encouraged.
- That God will continue to grow the work, open doors, and bring along key people for Pippa to recruit and train.

If you are interested in supporting nurses/midwives and students in your area or workplace, or setting up or hosting a local meeting group, email: steve.fouch@cmf.org.uk or pippa.peppiatt@cmf.org.uk

NCFI World Congress 2016

The Nurses Christian Fellowship International (NCFI) World Congress is taking place 6–11 June 2016 in the Philippines. The theme will be 'Healthy Lives in a Broken World: A Christian nursing response'.

Find out more and book online at ncfi.org/conference/congress-2016. We will be sending a small delegation from the UK – do let us know if you are planning to go as well.

Saline sows seeds

Jane Kay tells how Saline seeded a prayer meeting in her workplace:



I knew the Lord had given me my role at University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) and I wanted to be a witness there for him. When I attended Saline Solution I sensed the Lord wanted me to 'have a go'. So I asked the chaplains if I could start a weekly prayer meeting – they said I could!

A small group began with nurses who had been through Saline. We pray for the success of the Trust in every department, for patients (without breaking any confidentiality), and for all staff, visitors and volunteers. The group remains small, sometimes only myself, sometimes two or three of us; one time there were seven of us.

Two of the chaplains have approached me with prayer requests for patients and offered to follow up any patients during the week that we reach. God is at work in the Trust and we never underestimate the power of God or underestimate the power of our prayers. It's an exciting time in the presence of the Holy Spirit and we love it.

Conference roundup



Over 40 applications have been received for 25 places from international student leaders to attend the 2016 Sydenham Conference in London (8–12 February) which

is end-on with the weekend Student Conference (12–14 February) where we expect a sell-out. Tim Chester will open up the book of Revelation, explaining its relevance to our times. Another fascinating speaker will be Adrian Warnock (social media and new technology). In the seminar line-up: healing (Andrew Fergusson), issues in psychiatry (Nick Land), and answering other faiths (Alex Bunn & Mark Pickering). The recent Irish student conference (23–25 October) attracted a good turnout from both sides of the border.

A helping hand for DHC

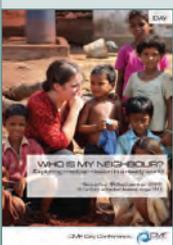
Mary Hopper has taken on the task of assisting Vicky Lavy, Head of International Ministries, with administration of the annual Developing Health Course (DHC). The course seems to be growing each year and more hands on deck are needed to deal with a growing mountain of administration. Mary has been part of the team running the course for many years and so is ideal to fill this slot.

Mary worked for 15 years as a nurse-midwife-tutor-counsellor in Africa with two different agencies, then as an independent missionary. Returning to the UK, she taught in the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences at Oxford Brookes University, all the while regularly visiting Africa as a trainer and therapist.

She does private counselling and trauma work, and offers counselling sessions in NHS primary care. She is an Associate member of the British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists, and an accredited counsellor with the Association of Christian Counsellors. Welcome aboard Mary.

Next year's Developing Health Course
26 June – 8 July

Who is my neighbour?



That's a question that prompted one of Jesus' greatest parables. In our global community the answer could put us in contact with people on the other side of the world or some neighbourhood close to where you live.

This year CMF ran 'Who is my neighbour?' events in Glasgow and Sheffield for people interested in medical mission and cross cultural international work.

Fifty people came to the Glasgow event. They ranged from students testing whether they have a call to work internationally, to retirees keen to seek out openings and opportunities. On offer was an interactive workshop with opportunities to learn more about work in different regions.

Why not consider hosting 'Who is my neighbour?' in your area. Vicky Lavy would love to hear from you. She will tailor a programme to fit your needs. This event can work as a morning, a full-day or extended evening.
vicky.lavy@cmf.org.uk

Obituaries

Monty Barker: Mentor to a generation of doctors

Monty Barker, who made psychiatry his chosen career at a time when few Christians were prepared to, inspired a generation of Christian doctors to follow in his footsteps. He became a CMF 'treasure'.



Monty Barker

Montagu Gordon Barker was born in Glasgow on 12 March 1934. Having recovered from life-threatening tuberculous meningitis, he went on to graduate in Medicine from St Andrews's, *Cum Laude*. After further post-graduate training in Dundee, he was appointed in 1968 as a consultant psychiatrist in Bristol.

Students learned to appreciate the way an extraordinary depth of knowledge could be grounded in a compassionate, practical and (sometimes) no-nonsense approach to his patients. He lectured in pastoral studies at Dundee and Trinity College, Bristol, then for many years in the Faculte de Theologie Vaux-sur-Seine, Paris. From 1988 he taught every year at the Union Biblical Seminary, Pune, India, as visiting professor.

Perceptive and penetrating, both in conversation and pastoral counselling, with the (sometimes) disconcerting tendency to raise one eyebrow in questioning mode, he became advisor, counsellor, mentor and friend to countless numbers, investing much of his time in students and young people.

Monty died on 1 July 2015 after a short illness and is survived by his wife Rosemary, his children Nicola and Jonathan and two grandchildren.

John Baigent (q Leeds, date unknown)

Forrest Brewster (q Glasgow, 1968)

Doris Geddes (q Aberdeen, 1950)

Judith E Gray (q Queen's Belfast, 1964), died 7 May 2015. Based in Belfast, held a teaching post in reproductive health before retirement in 2000.

Alan Green (q Bart's, 1956)

Edward Somerset Short, died 1 August 2015.

Nephew of Arthur Rendle Short (remembered in the annual CMF lecture named after him) second of three brothers in a medical family including the late David Short.

He qualified in Bristol, worked in India until 1977 when he joined a practice in Sandbach, Cheshire. In retirement became a pastor in Castle Combe, Wiltshire, where he served for 16 years.

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Dates for your diary

December 2015

- 5 HEALTHCARE CAROL SERVICE (EDINBURGH)
6.30pm, Bruntsfield Evangelical Church
- 9 HEALTHCARE CAROL SERVICE (LONDON)
6.30pm, All Souls, Langham Place

February 2016

- 12-14 STUDENT CONFERENCE
Yarnfield Park, Staffs

March

- 16-19 PRIME ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Northampton

April

- 27 RHEUMATOLOGY BREAKFAST
SECC, Glasgow
- 29 PSYCHIATRY DAY CONFERENCE
CMF, London

For more details see www.cmf.org.uk

CMF News

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