

Challenged to live by a different set of values

Becky Horton shares impressions from the 2016 CMF Student Conference

And then I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb (Revelation 7:9)

We had a lovely foretaste of this as the 2016 CMF Student Conference got underway. We began by singing 'No-one like Jesus' in four different languages. What a way to get us looking forward to that great day when people from all nations and languages stand before the throne of our saviour and redeemer!

This year's conference attracted a record 450 attendees from across the country. In fact from all over the world: UK of course, but as well Spain, Latvia, Brazil (just to name a few countries our delegates came from).

We heard a series of three talks delivered by Tim Chester on the book of Revelation and everyone could choose three seminars. Saturday afternoon was free to do activities; including a walk,

National Conference 2016 beckons

Unmissable! A word to sum up prospects for the 2016 CMF National Conference. We are in for a rich feast. Make sure you register today.

Professor Don Carson, a world leader among New Testament scholars and teachers, opens up Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. The social context in Corinth posed many of the same challenges that Christians face today. A pluralistic world: one God or many? A licentious world: how to stay upright and pure in a world of rampant sexual licence? A church marred by internal squabbles: how to find true unity in the body of Christ? How can our Christian witness grow and flourish when we're surrounded by all these issues? Paul, who helped found the Corinthian church, reminds his readers of the need to hold onto the essentials of faith; 'matters of first importance'.

Professor Andrew Tomkins gives the 2016 Rendle Short Lecture where the theme is 'Tackling global health inequalities'.

This will be our CEO Peter Saunders' 25th consecutive CMF 'national'. He joined CMF a quarter of a century ago as Head of Student Ministries. He looks forward to greeting old friends and making new ones.

Bookings: www.cmf.org.uk/doctors/events/national-conference



outdoor games, and a Jungle Speed tournament. You may have come by yourself but no one ever felt left out. It was easy to speak to new people in seminars and at coffee time.

We met in groups with the medical schools geographically closest to us to reflect on what we had learnt and to plan future events. We ended with a final conference address and sharing the Lord's Supper.

From Revelation we were challenged to live by a different set of values from the people around us. We were encouraged massively that, even when it feels like we are losing battles, we can know that it has already been won by Christ.

In the regional sessions it was really helpful to take some time out to reflect. I can't speak for everyone but my head was feeling quite full – but what a joy to get alongside the others in our region. Be excited about joint events coming up soon.

So what were the highlights? The best bit about the conference was getting to know so many other Christian medical students. I was



encouraged to live more wholeheartedly for Christ, both at medical school and in my future career.

Overall, loads of fun; and we have left with 'Do not weep. Behold' (Revelation 5:5) stamped more firmly onto our hearts.

Becky Horton is CMF Student Link for Norwich.

Finance update

As this issue of *CMF News* went to press the CMF annual accounts for 2015 were awaiting audit. I can say with confidence, however, that our 'bottom line' will be a lot better than budget. I am expecting a deficit for the year of about £30,000. This is thanks to the continuing generosity of members making donations and paying subscriptions, and our continuing tight grip on costs.

The board of trustees has a target of bringing CMF back to breakeven by 2018 and the result from 2015 shows we are well on the way to achieving that.

Graham Sopp, CMF Head of Operations.

Public Policy and Advocacy

Not in Our Name



A group of midwives have written a letter to The Royal College of Midwives, opposing the College's support for the BPAS campaign to legalise abortion for any reason up to birth.

If you are a midwife, student midwife or maternity support worker please sign the letter, or if you know anyone who is a midwife and objects to the Royal College's support for this campaign, please point them to the letter and ask them to sign. To view and sign the letter visit: bit.ly/notinournameuk

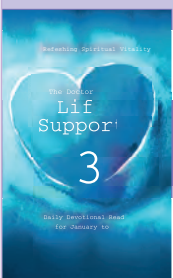
Down's Syndrome screening petition

CitizenGO have created a petition to urge Jeremy Hunt to prevent the implementation of cfDNA screening for Trisomy 13, 18 and 21 and to ensure that better support is provided for parents who have a child with a disability.

Down's babies and abortion petition

A petition letter to the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists seeks to put an end to late term abortions for babies with Down's Syndrome, disputing the classification of Down's as a 'serious handicap'.

New DLS now out



A new edition of the much-loved *Doctors' Life Support* is now available. There is a Scripture reading and devotional comment for every day of the year (though there is no year dating, so it's not time sensitive). It's a truly international project masterminded by ICMDA with a Canadian editor and much of the print and production done in India. CMF members contributed over a third of the entries, many of them doctors working internationally.

Cost £7.00. Order at www.cmf.org.uk/bookstore

Meet Trudy Simpson

CMF's new Researcher in Public Policy



Trudy Simpson

We are delighted to welcome **Trudy Simpson** to the staff of CMF. Trudy takes over from Cheryl Chin as Researcher in the Public Policy Team. Trudy brings a background in journalism. We put some questions to her.

What prompted you to apply for this role?

A friend of mine who is a CMF member saw the role advertised and told me about it. The moment I saw it, I felt the Holy Spirit prompting me to apply. I am glad I did. I like being here. I definitely know this is where God wants me to be right now.

Tell us something of your past experience?

I spent more than seven years working in journalism and also served as a volunteer in several Christian organisations before coming to CMF.

Your church? I currently attend Hillsong London. I love the worship and the teaching is good. They meet people where they are on their faith journey.

Family and connections? My immediate family, namely my parents, three sisters and their families, are not in the UK but I have been blessed with having several lovely cousins here.

Impressions having done two months in the job? I am enjoying my time here. I have learned so much about public policy research, particularly how faith impacts public policy issues and how important it is to ensure that policy makers are exposed to godly perspectives on issues that affect so many lives. I also like meeting with colleagues for devotions in the mornings.



Tom Roberts

Tom Roberts, Communications Coordinator for the past three years, left at the end of January to join the staff of UCCF, working on Bethinking.org, UCCF's apologetics website.



Cheryl Chin

Cheryl Chin has finished her one year term as Junior Researcher with the CMF Public Policy and Advocacy Team. It's not a complete break. She has taken on CMF speaking engagements and joined the CMF Triple Helix editorial committee.



Andrew & Rhiannon Horton

Andrew Horton who works with the CMF Communications team married Rhiannon Parfitt on 12 March. Our best wishes.

In the steps of Wilberforce

A key skillset for leaders of movements of Christian doctors is engaging in the public marketplace. Participants at the 2016 Sydenham Conference for international emerging leaders, had a taster of this during the London leg of their training experience.

A visit to the Houses of Parliament included hearing at talk by Fiona Bruce MP who is on record as saying that 'defending and fighting for the sanctity of human life' is her priority in Parliament. She showed willingness to stand on controversial causes with her amendment to the Serious Crime Bill 2014 seeking to make abortion on the grounds of the sex of the baby illegal, an amendment rejected by 292 votes to 201.

A day in Cambridge was a further opportunity to trace examples of how Christians shaped the Christian foundations

of the UK. There were visits to several Cambridge colleges, but perhaps the most moving was St John's where the contribution of William Wilberforce MP is commemorated.

Most people associate Wilberforce with the anti-slave trade campaign, but his political canvas was much wider. He dedicated himself to what he termed a 'reformation of manners', a campaign supported by King George III.

Refreshing the CMF website

Work is well underway to refresh the CMF website and it should go live in late April. We have produced an attractive, contemporary, homepage with improved navigation. It will be based around CMF's new '2020 Active' vision for the years 2016–2020 and serving our overall theme, 'Connect & Grow, Speak & Serve'.

Around and about

Events and updates

CMF summit set for June

An invited group of about 80 leaders and links and senior staff will gather (June 18–19) for a time of reflection, prayer and shaping as the Fellowship launches our '2020 Active' five-year plan. The summit will incorporate a meeting of the CMF General Committee.

CEO Peter Saunders says, 'This is a crucial opportunity to take stock as a fellowship and to help shape our future ministry in the light of the challenges we face as Christian doctors in the next five years.'

Two firsts and a revival

Our graduate work continues to expand and we are delighted to report two 'firsts'. A **Palliative Medicine Breakfast** (Glasgow, 11 March) and a **Physicians' Breakfast**, (Harrogate, 16 March). We are pleased too that the CMF Psychiatry network has reactivated, with a Day Conference in London planned for 29 April.

Student nurse update

Pippa Peppiatt, our Student Nurses Staff worker, 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: 'Thank you for prayers for new CMF student groups to be established for nurses and midwives. These are now happening and encouraging students in London, Southampton, Oxford and Leeds. I have fantastic student Reps who are growing in their leadership roles. I'm hoping that most of them will make it to the Rep training at the National Conference, and I'm also planning a retreat day for them in May. Having now seen a successful working model and got such positive feedback from student nurses, I'm trusting God to open more doors and multiply this group model in other cities'.

Pray that God will continue to grow the ministry, open doors, and bring along key people for Pippa to recruit and train, especially in Cambridge, Nottingham and Cardiff where she is currently visiting.

If you are interested in supporting nursing and midwifery students in your area or workplace, or hosting a local meeting group, email: pippa@cmf.org.uk or steve.fouch@cmf.org.uk

Belfast students take up a challenge

In February, Christian medics at Queen's, Belfast were presented with an unusual, but fantastic opportunity. We were approached out of the blue by our Students' Union, asking us to participate in the university's annual 'Sexual Health Awareness' week. The Union asked our CMF group to lead a seminar looking at the Christian view of sex.

We happily obliged. With the help of a local minister, Trevor Johnston from All Saint's Church, we led a seminar entitled 'Sex Bomb: Exploding Misconceptions'. Trevor tackled three common misconceptions about God and sex; 'Having lots of sex = freedom', 'Sex is always "just sex"' and 'God is anti-sex'.

This was one of the best attended events of the week, and was followed by great questions from non-Christian visitors. We are very excited for the opportunities in the future to declare Christ in the midst of the secular Students' Union.

Thomas Dowling is a 4th Year Medical Student, president of Queen's CMF and Student Link for Ireland.

CMF Links meet up

The West Midlands (including Birmingham, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Herefordshire) is one of CMF's most vigorous regions in terms of member connections and activities. So the Graduates staff trio from the London office (Head of Graduate Ministries Pablo Fernandez, Graduate Ministries Coordinator Ruth Haley and Staffworker Julian Churcher) visited Birmingham recently in the first of a planned series of visits around the UK.

We joined local Associate Staffworker Stephanie Moss for an evening with the Regional Team Leader (RTL) and eight other local Link members, enjoying supper and fellowship together. It was an invaluable opportunity for the Graduates team to connect in person with local members and to hear stories, ideas and suggestions, to answer questions and to build friendships. We plan similar gatherings in other regions around the country in the months ahead in order to deepen and strengthen CMF's ministry nationwide.

Initiatives

New team to oversee short-term work



Aaron Poppleton

A steady stream of members testifies to the benefit and enrichment that has come through short-term placements. **Aaron**

Poppleton is heading a new CMF team to strengthen and build up short-term work. CMF summer teams, camps and summer conferences all have enormous potential to expand and grow. Aaron brings plenty of experience, as those of us who have heard his conference reports will testify. The team's first initiative is a pilot one day course on healthcare for asylum seekers and refugees (see separate notice).

Healthcare for refugees & asylum-seekers



Public debate about refugees and asylum-seekers is a daily occurrence. Doctors who work with them find they often present unique healthcare challenges. Some are torture victims.

Others suffer illnesses relatively unknown in the UK. There are issues of culture and language to negotiate.

At the urging of a partner movement in Europe, CMF is running a one day pilot course on healthcare for refugees and asylum seekers. Sessions include: Why deliver healthcare to refugees and asylum seekers?, common presentations, including physical and mental health; women's and children's health; and barriers to healthcare delivery (language barriers, culture, beliefs). Speakers include: Aaron Poppleton (Preston); Andy Lephard (GP with a special interest in refugee and asylum seeker health); Jess Richards (GP with a special interest in the health of women and children from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds); Jim Newmark (clinician, Freedom from Torture Trust).

Saturday 25 June, South Parade Baptist Church, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 3LF
£25 Doctors, £20 Nurses, £15 Students.
Book online: www.cmf.org.uk

Farewell to Vicky

After almost eight years as Head of International Ministries, **Vicky Lavy** has decided to hand on the leadership of CMF's international work to someone new. She plans to leave by the end of July after this year's Developing Health Course.



Vicky Lavy

Huw Morgan, Chair of the CMF International Committee writes: I'm sure you will all want to join me in thanking Vicky Lavy for the dedicated and creative way in which she has led the International department.

Under her guidance the Developing Health Course has grown in numbers, influence (and revenue generation) and has been a key step for many in their journey to overseas service as well as a valuable support and refresher for many already serving.

'Who is my neighbour?' days held in numerous regional locations have successfully laid the challenge of the majority world's medical need as a rich avenue for Christian service before many young (and not so young) health professionals. Her persistent work on disentangling the complexities of revalidation for doctors working overseas has been invaluable.

In addition to all this of course there is the weekly support and advice given to colleagues already serving or considering serving in the developing world, and she has brought great personal sensitivity as well as wise counsel to this task. The various booklets she has produced will serve as a lasting resource for those considering overseas service.

We want to extend our prayerful good wishes to Vicky for the future. Whilst sad to see her go and mindful that she will be a hard act to follow, we are confident that this is indeed God's timing for the next stage in her professional life.

ICMDA staff vacancy

Student and Junior Graduate Executive Officer
Raising tomorrow's leaders, networking globally.

A unique opportunity exists for a qualified doctor or dentist (aged 30-40) to further God's mission among students and juniors through the International Christian Medical and Dental Association (ICMDA).

The task is to maintain dynamic contact with leaders of national student movements as well as attending and contributing to regional meetings and conferences. This is a paid post, one day a week, where the appointee will work from home.

Applications close 30 June 2016. For more information contact Vicky Lavy vicky.lavy@cmf.org.uk

CMF Staff Vacancy

Head of International Ministries

Are you passionate about international health? CMF is seeking a **new Head of International Ministries** who will raise the profile of global health and mission as well as mobilise, support and resource Christian doctors working in this area. The person appointed will be a doctor with some cross-cultural experience, a good networker, who can be a Christian voice in the global health arena and make strong connections with other national Christian medical movements. 6-10 sessions a week, based at the CMF office. For full details see the CMF Website www.cmf.org.uk

Ethiopia's first family medicine graduates

CMF members Tim and Rachel Nunn who are involved in a pioneering three year Family Medicine Course, report the first graduation has taken place. Present was the Minister of Health plus donor partners from Canada and USA.

Nepal embraces palliative care

CMF member Dan Munday has provided input to a meeting of stakeholders as Nepal moves towards creation of a national strategy for palliative care.

Movements

We didn't have space for this information in our last issue, hence the list is long and some dates not recent.

Going

- Emma Clow** to Papua New Guinea (July 2015)
- Giles Cattermole** to Rwanda (July 2015)
- Graham Thornton** to Niger (July 2015)
- Elizabeth Lewis** to South Sudan (July 2015)
- Peter & Catriona Waitt** to Uganda (July 2015)
- Michael Smith to Nepal** (July 2015)
- Elizabeth Howard** to Malawi (August 2015)
- Melita Gordon** to Malawi (August 2015)
- Caroline & Grant Harris** to Malawi (September 2015)
- Amber Wilson** to Uganda (September 2015)
- Joanne Hastings** to Papua New Guinea (January 2016)
- Andrew McArdle** to Sierra Leone (March 2016)

Returning

- Janet Charnley** from Pakistan (July 2015)
- Christine Raby** from Malawi (November 2015)
- Raymond Givan** from Uganda (November 2015)
- Chris Lowry** from South Africa (November 2015)
- Malcolm & Elizabeth Molyneux** from Malawi (December 2015)

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Dates for your diary

APRIL

22-24 CMF NATIONAL CONFERENCE
Yarnfield Park, Stone, Staffs

29 PSYCHIATRY DAY CONFERENCE
CMF, Johnson House, London
9.30-4.00

JUNE

25 REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER
HEALTH
South Parade Baptist Church,
Headingley, Leeds, LS6 3LF

26 June - 8 July
DEVELOPING HEALTH COURSE
Oak Hill College, London

29 MISSION FAIR
Oak Hill College, London
7.00-9.00 pm

For more details see www.cmf.org.uk

CMF News

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