

Connect & Grow, Speak & Serve

Training and Evangelism

More needy people come through the doors of our consulting rooms and outpatient clinics than will ever enter our churches, and they are not all patients either. Colleagues too are on a spiritual

journey – either towards God or away from him. Not all may be actively searching for truth or meaning, but most will admit there is something not right with the world.

Without many clues as to the causes, our media reports daily a world of wars, rumours of wars and economic woe. Britain in the 21st century is not exempt from confusion and anxiety; it is hardly a nation at ease with itself. National unease is embodied in political confusion as well as societal and marital breakdown.

At an individual level it is manifest in near-epidemic levels of self-harm, eating disorders, depression, loneliness, substance abuse, performance anxiety and social phobias. With this in mind, Paul Verhaeghe, a Belgian thinker, recently described Britain as 'the loneliness capital of Europe'.

All these are reasons why a strong and confident Christian witness is needed in the health professions. CMF exists to unite and equip Christian doctors and nurses to live and speak for Jesus Christ. This year we launched our **ACTIVE 2020 Vision, 'Connect & Grow, Speak & Serve'**.

Two key components of this are the call to be 'witnesses for Christ' (Evangelism) and encouraging members 'to deepen their

www.cmf.org.uk



faith'(Training). These are already major aims of our graduates, students and nurses work.

CMF has always sought to put the Gospel first. It's vital that our members are confident about it, able to share it cogently and defend it with conviction. We want to help all our members 'to

give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have... with gentleness and respect' (1 Peter 3:15).

We also have, among our members, some very gifted evangelists and apologists. We want to equip and mobilise them for more evangelistic events and initiatives in medical schools, hospitals, colleges, churches and homes.

We already have excellent resources for evangelism, apologetics and discipleship. We are refreshing *Cure for Life*, and have produced new editions of *The Greatest Person* and *A Physician's Story* (Luke & Acts). We also already have several impressive training programmes: Confident Christianity, Saline Solution, Ishmael my Brother, The Human Journey, Against the Tide and Answering other Faiths. We plan to refresh some of the older courses and make them available with attractive videos and workbooks. We are working on new courses too.

As part of **2020 ACTIVE** we plan to equip a new generation of trainers to take these tools to the membership. In addition, we will be launching a new training platform carrying curated videos, audios, articles, study guides and briefings so that members, especially students, can easily access what they need.

CMF Finances

The July accounts show an encouraging result with overall income just below budget and expenditure further below budget giving an overall deficit of £38,000 which is £26,000 better than budget. Thank you to all who continue to support the ministry of CMF through donations and subscriptions.

Christmas Appeal

A reminder. CMF hopes to raise £80,000 to ensure our work can continue and to resource training and evangelism. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution. www.cmf.org.uk/appeal

CMF staff would like to wish our members and their families a very joyful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Spotlight a new publication for nurses & midwives



In September we launched *Spotlight*, our new publication for Christian nurses and midwives.

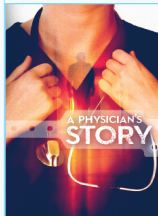
The first issue included our ten top tips for new students, why nursing is a Christian ministry and an interview with a newly-qualified nurse. The next edition is due out in January with a focus on prayer and healing. We aim to publish *Spotlight* three

times a year, each edition with an overall theme. We are keen to get feedback from members on how the format works and other ideas for content or themes for future editions. We'd especially love to hear from people who would like to write for the magazine.

Communications

New & upcoming books

A Physician's Story



This new book places Luke and Acts side by side, charting the life and death of Jesus and the growth of the early church. As we remember the birth of Jesus this Christmas, reading or

rereading Luke's accounts keeps the gospel central. More than that though, with CMF carol services happening around the UK, Christmas is often the time of year when friends and colleagues are interested in coming to church. Why not give them the opportunity to look into the evidence for Jesus for themselves?

Abortion: Doctors' duties and rights



Doctors are often one of the first sources of information for women with unplanned pregnancies, and have a unique responsibility for determining whether

abortion requests fulfil statutory grounds. This new booklet addresses questions CMF members have asked when dealing with abortion requests. Issues range from informed consent, conscientious objection and referrals, to handling conflict and alternative options, while ensuring that patient care remains the primary concern.

Lighting the Way



The new handbook for Christian nurses and midwives! The handbook covers various aspects of being a Christian nurse or midwife, from nursing as a Christian ministry to

medical ethics, and includes devotionals at the end with 40 short reflections – *Coming soon.*

Public Policy

Recent CMF submissions: NICE on end of life care for infants and children (August 2016), GMC public consultation on Developing the UK medical register (August 2016), NICE on Sexually Transmitted Infections - Condom Distribution Schemes (September 2016), Law Commission review on surrogacy (October 2016).

New staff members

Two new recruits for CMF



Philip Martin

Meet Philip Martin Senior digital producer

What prompted you to consider taking on this role with CMF?

I had reached a point in my life where I knew I needed to have more of an eternal perspective on things, my career in particular. I also knew that I needed truly to acknowledge the Lordship of Christ and be open to his prompting. Relocating my family from the north of Scotland to the south of England wasn't exactly what I had been expecting, but then most answers to prayer never are!

What were you doing before coming to CMF? Prior to joining CMF I worked for a TV production company in Scotland. The variety of projects I worked on and clients I worked alongside provided me with valuable experience for what now lies ahead of me.



Sean Gilmore

Meet Sean Gilmore Resources Manager

What prompted you to consider taking on this role with CMF?

After reading Natural Science at the University of Leicester, I saw an ad for the role and jumped at the opportunity to work for an organisation that stands in the junction of practical science and practical faith. Most of all, I love books and understand the value of having the right resources and support for the tough decisions people face in the workplace.

What were you doing before coming to CMF? I spent last year interning under the vibrant and supportive care of Trinity Life Church, Leicester. The internship gave me experience in all sorts of work, from kids to the homeless, in tech and media to event admin.

Saline Solution

CMF aims to equip every Christian healthcare professional in the UK to be an effective witness for Christ in the workplace. With this in mind, we are very pleased to announce that Stephanie Moss, Associate Staffworker for the Midlands, will be overseeing strategy for the Saline Solution course. Stephanie will be coordinating qualified trainers for the course and extending the course to make it more accessible in different parts of the UK.

Church? Following our move from Scotland to Sussex we have started attending our local Baptist church. The welcome and support we've had from everyone there has been a real encouragement.

Family? Hobbies? I'm married to Joanne, a drama teacher, and we have four children between the ages of eight and 13. We're all huge movie fans and are in the process of building a home cinema – tickets, popcorn and all – more cost-effective than the real thing! We're also a family of cat lovers.

What are your impressions of CMF so far? The most striking thing about CMF is the family atmosphere within the staff and the membership. There's a real sense of togetherness and a common purpose under Christ. What excites me most about CMF is its concern for bringing the truth and love of Christ into the arena of healthcare.

Church? I have returned to Caterham Community Church, which was my local congregational church growing up.

Family? Hobbies? I'm originally from Johannesburg, but I grew up in Kenley and Caterham from the age of six, where my family are still based. I love the outdoors, reading, and play guitar, bass, drums, anything I can get my hands on (tables, pans, boxes, whistling) – to the expense of everyone's peace and quiet.

What are your impressions of CMF so far? I have close friends and family working in the medical world so I understand there are few places more challenging to personal ethics and faith. CMF does good work, in the truest sense, and I value the work of CMF more every day as I discover the dedication of staff to members as they serve God in such a challenging environment.

Farewell to Trudy



Trudy Simpson

At the end of November we bid a fond farewell to Trudy Simpson, who has been our Junior Researcher in Public Policy for the past year. Trudy says: 'I have enjoyed my time here and learnt so much about public policy research... I've also liked devotions in the mornings'. We will miss Trudy's kind heart and diligent work ethic, wishing her God's blessing for the future.

Exciting times for students

Reflections on the autumn term

Deep:ER

It's a great encouragement to have seven Deep:ER volunteers on staff this year.

Chris Borges da Silva, Monica Hemaya,

Nandi Mnyama,

Joanna Obire, Rachel

Owusu-Ankomah, Liz

Poppleton and Sarah

Wright are working on

a number of projects

both in the office and

elsewhere. As a team

we have bi-weekly teaching sessions on topics ranging from 'How to study the Bible' through to 'End of life issues' and 'Is God a moral monster?' Applications are now open for next year. If you are considering a year out or are willing to drop a day to Connect & Grow, Speak & Serve more effectively, visit: www.cmf.org.uk/students/volunteer

Regional growth

As well as numerous creative Freshers' events, this term has seen the five regional away days and weekends – entirely student-led. One Irish attendee noted an unforeseen benefit of the weekend: 'The fact that Internet connection was poor, allowed me to break away from technological distractions'.

A South West Day drew students from Bristol, Cardiff, Exeter, Plymouth, and Swansea where they considered worldview and the sexual revolution. One student said how valuable they found it to be in providing 'a space to talk about and think practically about scenarios from a Christian point of view, and more broadly to be thinking about the influence of worldview on actions'. Local graduates are key to this work – you can mentor a student, speak at a group, host a meal and feed off the student enthusiasm.

CMF nurses groups continue to grow across the UK. This term Pippa Peppiatt, CMF Nurses Staffworker, spoke at new groups for nurses in Cambridge and Nottingham with further groups currently starting in Swansea and Plymouth.

Forum

This summer, myself and six others from St George's had the privilege of attending Forum – a national conference to meet with Christian Union leaders from across the UK to prepare our hearts and minds to give our universities

the opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Throughout the day there were several series of seminars. I particularly enjoyed thinking and learning about how best Christian Unions can engage with Muslims and share the Gospel with them. With main meetings focusing on Philippians, I discovered that mission requires us as believers to be united and with humble hearts bring others to understand the surpassing worth of knowing Christ. When we face challenges as leaders, it's so helpful to be encouraged to remember the bigger picture and that one day mission will end as we fall to God's feet and worship him'.

Second year student, St George's, London

North West weekend away

This October saw the second annual North West weekend away with medical and nursing students (and even one speech and language student!) We



all piled into an old farm house just outside Manchester belonging to Joan and Fred, two fantastic GPs who have a heart for hospitality (and feeding students)!

As well as incredible food, games and activities, Reverend Dr Robin Fisher spoke about how easy it can be to discuss spiritual things with Muslim patients and friends. He

challenged us to learn more from our Muslim friends and patients about their beliefs and ideas and how natural it can be to bring Jesus and the security of our salvation into these conversations.

Overall, it was encouraging to hear how other students around the North West are seeking to bring Jesus into their work. The weekend was also a great opportunity to encourage and be encouraged by experienced doctors, like Joan, Fred and Robin, who have been faithfully practising for many years.

A highlight of the weekend had to be the Saturday evening when we chatted around a couple of outdoor fire pits under a clear, starry sky – not something to be taken for granted in Manchester!

Joe Foster

Junior doctors' conference

Hold on to the truth of the Gospel



Hugh Thomson, former upper GI surgeon and pastor of City Church Birmingham, spoke at this year's Junior Doctors' Conference from 2 Timothy. With the theme of 'Turbulence in the NHS', talks and seminars focused



Hugh Thomson

on what it means to live as a Christian doctor in a culture that is increasingly hostile towards God.

In the main talks, Hugh encouraged us to hold on to the truth of the Gospel. Like human anatomy, he said, the truth of the gospel doesn't change. Therefore, as we know the truth, we should not be ashamed of it. We know this can be difficult. Our society's mantra is an inherently post-modern one – it believes that truth is subjective ('you're free to have your beliefs, just don't impose them on others').

So then, as Christians who believe in the objective truth of the Gospel (good news that's true for everyone), we shouldn't be surprised when we experience discomfort and persecution – but even expect it. Yet, we don't do this in our own strength or on the basis of our own merits but instead 'Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead' (2 Timothy 2:8). As we seek to take a stand for the truth in hospitals, clinics, or elsewhere, we 'Preach the Word... in season and out of season' (2 Timothy 4:2), relying not on ourselves but on what Jesus has already done for us.

Seminars were a highlight with topics including: 'What's "gone wrong" with the NHS?', 'Transgender', 'The ethics of mitochondrial manipulation', 'Stress and burnout' and 'International'. There was also the chance for delegates to meet up with others in their region, explore the beautiful Leicestershire surroundings and pray together.

International review

Fi McLachlan reflects on the work

Currently, CMF's International department aims:

1. To challenge and envision CMF members and other Christian healthcare professionals and students to be involved in serving Christ throughout the world
2. To mobilise and equip those who want to be involved in healthcare mission
3. To support and advocate for members and other Christian health professionals and students currently working overseas
4. To develop innovative and strategic thinking about healthcare mission in partnership with key organisations involved in international health
5. To support sister fellowships abroad through ICMDA and other relevant organisations
6. To stimulate, support and advise churches engaging in healthcare mission

At a time of change in the department, it is a good time to stop and reflect. How we are doing in achieving these aims? In a rapidly changing world, do they reflect the ministry that we believe we are called to? Are there additional or alternative needs and opportunities that CMF could or should step into?

To that end, the International Committee has set up a small working group to lead a strategic review. If you're interested in being a part of this, please do get in touch. We welcome ideas of what we could be doing more or less of, whether we should be doing different things, or other thoughts on how else we can serve our members in addressing global need. Do pray for us in this task. Thank you.

Please contact: fi.mclachlan@cmf.org.uk

Sydenham2 launches



Eight junior doctors' leaders from ICMDA (Germany, Romania, Holland, Ukraine, South Africa, France and Nepal) took part in the first Sydenham2 leadership training conference in October. The seven day programme consisted of Bible teaching, a range of seminars (including one with John Wyatt on medical ethics), a Christian Heritage day in Cambridge and fellowship with CMF staff and members at the Junior Doctors' Conference. The week aimed to equip them to be leaders in their respective countries' CMF organisations.

Returning

Howard Friend from Malawi (June 2016)
Elizabeth Lewis from South Sudan (July 2016)
Graham Thornton (July 2016)

Going

Helen Nabwera to Kenya (September 2016)
Nicola Maxwell to Uganda (August 2016)
Peter Cartledge to Rwanda (July 2016)
Andrew Beckham to South Sudan (June 2016)

Obituaries

Thomas Boulton OBE (*q* Bart's, 1949) was a noted anaesthetist who contributed to the modernising of his specialty at St Bartholomew's Hospital, edited the journal *Anaesthesia* and was involved in the formation of what became the Royal College of Anaesthetists. Died 1 July 2016.

Quintin Bradshaw (*q* Edinburgh, 1986) was a GP based in Lothian and spent time serving overseas in Thailand. After a heroic battle with cancer, he died on 23 July 2016.

Lois Ford (*q* Glasgow, 1951) was a GP based in Scotland. She died peacefully, after a short illness, surrounded by her loving family on 11 May 2016.

Fiona Hicks (*q* Nottingham, 1986) led curriculum development and higher specialist training in palliative medicine nationally. She was elected to the executive committee of the Association for Palliative Medicine in 1993 and served as chair of the specialty advisory committee at the Royal College of Physicians. She was passionate about person centred care. Died 23 October 2015.

Graham Melville-Thomas (*q* Cambridge, 1952) was a Consultant Psychiatrist in Wales. Died 1 November 2016.

Walter Laufer (*q* Edinburgh, 1946) was involved in tropical medicine & hygiene and public health medicine. He worked overseas in Norway, Australia and New Zealand. CMF was informed on 15 September 2016.

Stephen Lawn was Professor of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and closely linked to the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the University of Cape Town. Stephen made major contributions to the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis among populations affected by HIV/AIDS, and to reducing the burden of HIV-associated TB. Died 23 September 2016 from a brain tumour.

Louise Tebbboth was a GP in Bermondsey. Died January 2015.

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Dates for your diary

JANUARY

21 Who is my neighbour?
 6 Marshalsea Road, Borough, London

FEBRUARY

10-12 Student Conference,
 Yarnfield Park, Stone, Staffs

MARCH

4 Saline Solution,
 Founders Studio, Millbrook, Guildford

APRIL

28-30 National Conference,
 Yarnfield Park, Stone, Staffs

JULY

2-14 Developing Health Course,
 London School of Theology,
 Northwood

For more details see www.cmf.org.uk

CMF News

is issued by the CMF Office

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