



Friends of Ludhiana

Christian Medical College (CMC) Ludhiana
Punjab, North India

News Bulletin

Number 12/2

November 2012

Good Samaritan Fund

'Jesus said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. ... A Samaritan, as he travelled, came to where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ... Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man ... ? Go and do likewise."

Luke 10 v.30 - 37

Providing healthcare for the very poor continues to be a considerable drain on CMC's financial resources and the institution receives no support from the Indian government. Dr. A.G. Thomas, Director, recently told Friends of Ludhiana that last year CMC had given charity to patients worth over Rs.8 crores (just under £1 million), a considerable amount from their resources.

It is very difficult for CMC to budget an amount needed to treat the underprivileged. On a daily basis, patients arrive at their gates from many miles away, with differing conditions, sometimes turned away from other private hospitals because of their inability to pay. In some cases patients and their families delay seeking help for fear of the cost.



Kishan is 42 years old, married with three children, and is a shoe maker in Ludhiana. He was admitted to CMC with bowel cancer requiring surgery, stayed in hospital for 22 days and was discharged in a satisfactory condition. His parents had raised around 70% of the cost of his treatment (equivalent to over two years' his salary) from funds and loans, but because the cost was high CMC still made a significant concession.

Hira, aged 23, had been involved in a road traffic accident in November 2011 and suffered a head injury which required a two month hospitalisation at CMC. He had been completely bed ridden since the accident and unable to take regular physiotherapy. He was re-admitted to CMC in July 2012 for rehabilitation by the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. X-rays taken showed ossification in both knee joints and the objective of his care for the month in hospital was to enable him to stand and walk independently. His father had been working as a manual labourer, but was now sick himself and the family were asking relatives for help to enable Hira to undertake this treatment.



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**Open Day
Saturday
11th May 2013
St. Andrew's
United Reformed
Church
Gerrards Cross**

CMC Websites

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Raman was 10 months old when his parents brought him to CMC. The family live in the state of Haryana where his father works as a labourer and his mother is a housewife. He was admitted through the A&E department, where he had been found to have an abscess on the left hand side of his face, caused by a fall from bed four days previously. The abscess was drained under general anaesthetic and he stayed in hospital for 14 days, but as the family wanted to continue treatment in a hospital nearer to their home, he was discharged and referred to another hospital. The parents had borrowed money from relatives for Raman's treatment, but CMC paid over 30% of the total cost.

Meenu's family live around 35km from Ludhiana. Meenu, aged 12, had been suffering from fever and headache for seven days. The main diagnosis following her admission was tubercular meningitis and, despite being treated with antibiotics, she suffered seizures and a week later developed respiratory distress; two days later she suffered cardiopulmonary arrest and died in hospital. The parents had borrowed money from friends and relatives for her treatment, but CMC covered over three quarters of the cost.

Nandini was just four months old when she came to CMC in August 2012. She is an orphan and lives in the Missionaries of Charity home in Ludhiana. She was admitted with septicaemia, acute bronchopneumonia and respiratory failure and required intensive care. She was reliant on the Missionaries of Charity and CMC to fund her treatment.



Dhruv lives with his family in Ludhiana. He was admitted to CMC aged 16 months suffering from severe anaemia, a condition which, alongside malnutrition, doctors at CMC regularly see in very young children. Both Dhruv's parents are uneducated and his father works seven days a week as a labourer. Dhruv stayed in CMC's Paediatric Ward for eight days, but his parents were insisting that he be discharged and had put an appeal in the newspaper for help to pay the remainder of the hospital bill after CMC had given 33% concession.

Balkeshan lives with her husband 350km from Ludhiana in Jammu and Kashmir. She had been diagnosed with parathyroid adenoma and had been in a government hospital in Jammu for eight months. She was referred from there to CMC, where she underwent surgery. Her condition deteriorated after developing septicaemia and pneumonia and she died after a month in CMC at the age of 30, leaving a husband and two sons.

Hardeep's son was just two hours old when he was admitted to CMC. He had not cried at birth and was suffering from meconium aspiration pneumonia with severe birth asphyxia and was treated in the paediatric ICU. His 25 year old mother stayed with him and his condition improved with treatment so that he became stable enough to be moved to the ward, and he was discharged after 16 days. CMC gave funds from the Good Samaritan Fund towards his treatment as the family were said to be borrowing money from friends and relatives to try to pay the bill.

Aradhana was just nine days old when she came to CMC suffering from, among other things, septicaemia, acute gastroenteritis, diarrhoeal disease, severe dehydration and acute renal failure. Her condition gradually improved and after eight days she was discharged. Her family are migrant labourers and her father works in a factory six days a week. CMC treats many other patients from migrant labourer families who have moved to Ludhiana from other poorer states of India seeking employment, but who struggle with the high cost of living in the city and have no spare funds for healthcare.



Sapna was seven years old when she came to Ludhiana from her home in Jalandhar. Her father is deceased and her mother is unemployed. Sapna is the youngest of eight children, with three brothers and four sisters, who earn money by collecting scrap metal with a magnet. Sapna was admitted to CMC through the A&E department suffering from malaria and TB. Because of the family's situation they were unable to

contribute anything towards the cost of treatment, although a church school charity were able to give assistance alongside CMC's concession.

Paramjit is a 23 year old autorickshaw driver earning around Rs.200 (£2.50) per day. His younger brother works in a factory and his three sisters are married. When he was involved in a road traffic accident, sustaining fractured ribs, he required hospitalisation, initially in HDU due to haemopneumothorax. His parents received money from friends, who had previously given for the earlier marriage of his sisters, to contribute towards his treatment; the bill was approximately 450 times Paramjit's daily wage and therefore outside his ability to pay completely.

Jaswinder was an unemployed 27 year old widowed mother of two living 120km from Ludhiana. Her husband, a truck driver, who was HIV+, died two years ago. Jaswinder's father is a rickshaw puller and her mother suffers from blood cancer. Jaswinder came to CMC having had abdominal pain for a month and was diagnosed with chronic calculous cholecystitis and stayed in hospital for three days.

Mrs. Nisha had been married for a year when she gave birth to her first child at the age of 20. The family were living in temporary accommodation and her husband was working as a cook in a small hotel. She came to CMC the day after childbirth suffering from post-partum haemorrhage and eclampsia and was monitored in intensive care, then afterwards transferred to the ward. They had raised around 60% of the cost of her treatment, which equates to over six months' of her husband's salary.

These are some of the patients recently helped through the Good Samaritan Fund. When the UK government has said it will stop aid to India by 2015, there is still a great need to help the poor and underprivileged. CMC will continue to respond to need when it can, as it see this is in keeping with its Christian foundation and truly reflects the heart of Jesus who, when He was on earth, always showed love and care to the poor and underprivileged and taught His disciples to do the same.

***Will you support CMC in its continuing ministry? Can you be a Good Samaritan?
Please support our Christmas Appeal and encourage your family and friends to
consider supporting this very worthwhile cause.***

News from CMC's Director

CMC was once again permitted to admit 75 medical students for the MBBS course for 2012 admission.

Permission from the Medical Council of India (MCI) and the University has been received for new postgraduate courses in ENT, Community Medicine and Microbiology.

MCI also inspected CMC to start new post-graduate courses in Neurology, Nephrology, Paediatric Surgery and Cardiothoracic Surgery.

The renovation/construction for the College of Physiotherapy and additional hostel space for medical students has been taking place.

New equipment (endoscopes) for Medical Gastroenterology is needed. CMC has two gastroenterologists who are fully occupied with the work load. (*Friends of Ludhiana has agreed to assist with the purchase which will aid in the diagnosis of cancers.*)

The Bone Marrow Transplant Unit for the care of patients with thalassemia, leukaemia, etc. was dedicated in September.

CMC also has a new medical oncology unit for care of all cancer patients.

CMC is focusing on the rural outreach work in Malerkotla and Hambran, the latter in a rural belt with about 20,000 population.

'Let me thank you and the Board for giving us help for the (purchase of) Neuro-Physiology equipment which has been procured. We are also grateful for your offer to help with the Upper GI endoscopes for the Gastroenterology Department. Thank you and assuring you of our prayers and best wishes as you continue to support the work among the people in north-west India, started by Dr. Brown in 1894.'

Dr. Abraham G. Thomas, Director CMC Ludhiana

Medical Oncology Unit

The population of the State of Punjab (around 26.5 million) has perhaps a longer life expectancy and better health standards than the rest of the population of India, but statistics show that around 20,000 new cases of cancer are diagnosed every year in the state, an incidence rate estimated to be one case for every 800-900 people. Cancer forms a significant proportion of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) which are on the rise across the globe and in India. Incidence of cancer is rising due to multiple factors, such as an increase in an ageing population, smoking/tobacco abuse, unhealthy life-style and increasing awareness, the burden and importance of which is recognised by an increase in funds allocated by the Planning Commission of India.



CMC Ludhiana is one of the first institutions in North India to offer comprehensive treatment to cancer patients including surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and palliative care since the 1970s. Dedicated medical oncology services were re-established in March 2011 and there were 459 new patients seen for suspected cancer diagnosis from April 2011 to March 2012. The team caters to a wide variety of patients with solid tumours primarily including cancers of the breast, lung, colon, upper GI, hepatobiliary tract, head and neck, and genito-urinary tract (and other rare types of cancers like sarcomas, germ cell tumours and brain tumours). Most cancer patients need multidisciplinary care and the medical oncology unit works in close association with

various surgical units, surgical specialities, radiation oncology unit and medical units and their specialities to provide comprehensive care to all the cancer patients. The team strongly believes in Evidence Based Medicine and actively participates in healthy discussions in weekly Institutional Tumour Board meetings.

The Medical Oncology team works in tandem with Clinical Haematology and Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Unit led by Dr. M. Joseph John. Dr. Sewa S. Legha, a CMC alumnus and a world reputed figure in oncology, provides constant support and consultation for managing difficult cases.

The Medical Oncology Unit has dedicated OPDs six days a week, two of these in the city centre, and the team is available for emergency consultations around the clock. A 24-hour oncology helpline is available for oncology and haematology patients.

The Medical Oncology team is regularly presenting cases at the weekly Institutional Tumour Board meeting with frequent scientific presentations on chemotherapy, biological agents and new published clinical trials with the aim to be up to date with the latest in cancer management. With the guidance and recommendation of Dr. Sewa S. Legha, the team was instrumental in getting funding from Jiv Daya Foundation (US based NGO) for supporting the staff for palliative care unit which began functioning in October 2011 after a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between CMC and JDF. The majority of the nursing and paramedical staff of the Medical Oncology team and Clinical Haematology and BMT unit is shared to ensure appropriate running of the office, day care centre, special tests laboratory and the oncology – haematology ward (general and private).

STATISTICS FOR 2011-12

1,567 patients seen in Oncology OPDs

216 new registrations with cancer suspected

889 admissions

20 patients died in hospital

54% of patients seen were female
over 300 of the patients were in the 51-70 age bracket

Cancer Incidence

21% - breast

20% - GU

15% - GI

9% - lung

3% - head and neck



Ms. Richa Sharma maintains the database of all new patients seen in oncology OPDs or as ward consultations. She underwent a two week training course as case manager in Hyderabad and Dr. Kunal Jain, Assistant Professor and Head of the Medical Oncology Unit, received six weeks' training in Pain and Palliative Care at Trivandrum. The team also consists of three other doctors and a physician assistant, who is a qualified nurse.

A chemotherapy certification course was conducted last year for nursing staff from the haematology and oncology units, the radiotherapy department, ward 15 and surgical units. Lectures were delivered by senior faculty, senior oncology nurses and pharmacists regarding various aspects of chemotherapy especially regarding safe handling, precautions, administration and disposal. The National CNE for Oncology-Haematology nurses was conducted at CMC in September 2012, attended by 300 delegates from across the country. Physician Assistant (PA) in Haematology and Oncology as a formal training programme was started in July 2011 with accreditation from the Institute of Allied Health Sciences and three students were enrolled. There is active teaching of undergraduate MBBS students, and postgraduate MD residents and BDS students of between eight and 12 hours every week. Regular teaching for the oncology nurses and PA students is also conducted by all members of the team.

The current Medical Oncology unit in itself is a relatively new unit and has just completed over one year of functioning with support from the clinical haematology unit, general medicine units, general surgery units, various specialities and administration. The palliative care unit was established with funding from Jiv Daya Foundation. After discussion with the Pharmacy Committee, it was decided to give concession on chemotherapeutic drugs to patients on cash purchase at CMC's pharmacy counter.

National Cancer Registry Programme has been initiated and CMC Ludhiana is one of the nodal centres led by Dr. M.K. Mahajan. This will be a good opportunity to maintain CMC's oncology database and the medical oncology unit is regularly contributing to the patient database. The new Oncology Day Care facility will be used for administering chemotherapy and other supportive care medicines to cancer patients on an OPD basis. It is a four-room facility near the Trauma Centre and comprises of a waiting room, chemo infusion room, procedure room and STL lab.



Future plans include the initiation of clinical trials, a cancer support group for breast cancer, expansion of palliative care services, working more closely with the Fellowship Department for patient support, to convert abstracts and posters prepared for conferences into actual publications, to develop educational pamphlets for patients on cancer, screening and different forms of treatment, and arrange awareness camps.

The incidence of cancer is rising rapidly emphasising the need to develop comprehensive cancer treatment facilities for patients in the region and this area has a huge potential for growth.

APOLOGY WE WOULD LIKE TO APOLOGISE IF YOU TRIED TO TELEPHONE THE LONDON OFFICE NUMBER EARLIER THIS YEAR AND RECEIVED NO REPLY. THE TELEPHONE PROVIDER DELAYED IMPLEMENTING OUR REQUEST FOR A MESSAGE ADVISING THE NEW NUMBER AND WE THEREFORE REGRET THAT FOR OVER 10 WEEKS WE COULD NOT BE CONTACTED. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEW NUMBER OF 07535 329560 SHOULD BE USED – IF WE ARE NOT AVAILABLE WHEN YOU CALL, PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AND WE WILL RING BACK.

Clinical Haematology, Haemato-Oncology and Bone Marrow Transplant Unit - a pioneer centre in India

CMC's Clinical Haematology, Haemato-Oncology and Bone Marrow (Stem Cell) Transplant Unit has now been operational for five years and CMC is the first institution in Northern India to establish a dedicated unit. This year the matched unrelated donor (MUD) stem cell transplant and haploidentical donor transplant programmes were started and CMC Ludhiana is the first institution in the country to launch these programmes. The centre has, so far, performed a total of 38 transplants.



The team specialises in the management of patients (both paediatric and adult) with all haematological disorders (related to red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets, bleeding disorders) and Haemato-Oncology (leukaemia (blood cancer), lymphoma and multiple myeloma) and has performed the first successful transplants in northern India for a number of diseases. With stem cell cryopreservation and special tests laboratory (STL) now available at CMC, the team is able to perform complete coagulation work for patients with bleeding disorders and has started a comprehensive haemophilia care centre. Work has steadily increased in the laboratory and in the first six months of 2012 it performed 4,970 complete blood counts and around 120

specialised coagulation tests (as compared to 321 and 60 respectively in the last six months of 2010).

The Haematology-Oncology tumour board registry was started in June 2011 and shows a total number of 90 patients, 66% of them male, 34% female. As regards their disease classification, 59% have leukaemia, 25% lymphoma and 13% multiple myeloma. The unit has now completed two clinical trials with eight other ongoing trials and three more in the pipeline.

In February 2012, the team performed an MUD transplant for a seven year old boy with high risk acute myeloid leukaemia, the first MUD transplant in Northern India. The boy did not have parents or any siblings who were HLA identical, but a donor was identified in Frankfurt through their donor registry, a 42 year old woman. Once the patient had undergone conditioning for a week before the procedure, the stem cells were flown in on the day of the transplant from Germany. The patient was discharged 34 days later and had 100% donor chimerism with no residual disease. Then in June a 1½ year old child underwent MUD transplant for thalassaemia, the youngest patient in India.



CMC is currently affiliated to the German and US registry (NMDP), as well as DATRI, an Indian registry; stem cells can be obtained from these centres if there is no family donor. Other collaborations exist –

1. Dr. Philip Kuriakose visited CMC a year ago to assess CMC as a possible centre for a twinning programme with Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit (USA); a definitive plan was drawn up, which

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
New	5	48	101	396	385
Re visit	119	586	1188	2536	2930
Total	124	634	1289	2932	3305
Admissions	23	337	523	550	730

Patient Statistics 2007 to 2012

was approved this year, and, through it, CMC hopes to improve existing facilities and expertise to become a referral centre for Northern India covering a population of 40 million.

2. Baxter India Private Ltd. has selected CMC as a

Centre of Excellence for Comprehensive Haemophilia Care and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the next three years.

3. Sir Ratan Tata Trust individual grants programme for patients undergoing bone marrow transplant at CMC has extended its existing grant for a further two years until 2013.

CMC is pioneering treatment through its bone marrow transplant programme, inaugurated four years ago, and the need for a transplant facility in the area is immense. A new 5 bedded state-of-the-art Bone Marrow Transplant Unit has been constructed in the hospital. There is a need to establish a fully-fledged matched unrelated transplant/haploidentical transplant programme as many patients, particularly those with thalassaemia, do not have a family donor.

'I firmly believe that with God Almighty at the helm of affairs and a spirited team, CMC Ludhiana will be able to fulfil the vision of providing excellent care for the people of India.' (Dr. M. Joseph John, Associate Professor and Head)

Nagma was seven years old and had been diagnosed with severe aplastic anaemia, a condition where blood cells stop their production from bone marrow. Patients with this illness require multiple blood transfusions as they are prone to life threatening infections and bleeding as cells to protect the body are absent. Her only hope for a cure was a haematopoietic stem cell transplant, with a success rate of between 80 and 90% if performed at the optimum time. Nagma was fortunate that CMC had found a full HLA match in one of her two younger sisters (six year old Tanya), but without CMC's help the family would not be able to afford the costs of treatment, estimated between Rs.8-10 lakhs (£9,500 - £12,000). Her father is a truck driver and struggles to meet the daily needs of his family, let alone expensive medical treatment. Sadly, Nagma, three months post-transplant, was lost to rejection and infection.

First Newborn with Permanent Pacemaker in Punjab

A young baby boy was born to a couple from Jammu at Iqbal Nursing Home, Ludhiana. Before birth, they were told that he had a complete heart block. Dr. Iqbal S. Ahuja, an alumnus of the 1963 Batch, referred the baby to Dr. H.S. Bedi, Head of Cardio-Vascular & Thoracic Surgery (CVTS) at CMC. A permanent pacemaker was immediately inserted into the tiny baby via a minimally invasive approach, kept below the skin in a pouch specially created in the abdominal wall. The baby's condition immediately improved. The baby was kept in the Paediatric ICU where highly trained ICU nurses and doctors helped



her over the crisis. CMC is one of the few institutes in India to provide this service. According to the makers of the pacemaker (St. Jude – an

international company based in USA) this is the first such implantation in a neonate in Punjab.

Outreach Cardiac Programmes

According to the WHO, heart disease has touched epidemic proportions in India. To counter this, to make basic cardiac healthcare facilities available and to create awareness, cardio-vascular camps are being organised by the CVTS Department of CMC. At least one camp a month

is held at a rural or small city area. These outreach camps are a part of the services provided



to the community by CMC and for the first time in Punjab, a specially designed large air-conditioned bus takes a team of 20-25 people including CVTS doctors, dieticians, nurses and paramedics for these outreach programmes. All patients undergo a thorough examination by superspecialist doctors and special blood tests. A unique feature is the addition of a dietary consultation and of supervised yoga therapy for all patients. A simple regimen of exercise, prudent diet, weight control and regular check-ups at these camps, could keep the hearts of Punjabis in good shape.

Alumni Matters

Association of Medical Alumni Elections 2012

New Alumni Committee

President – Dr. Subhash Singla
 Vice Presidents – Dr. Nitin Batra, Dr. Jaineet Patil
 Secretary – Dr. Wilson Jai Xavier
 Joint Secretary – Dr. Pamela Jeyaraj
 Treasurer – Dr. Rajesh Isaac
 Executive Members – Dr. Shubhra Rathore, Dr. Abhilasha Williams, Dr. Francis Sridhar Katumalla, Dr. Ajay Kumar and Dr. Parvez David Haque.



Founders Day – 24th March 2012

The Annual Founder's Day celebrations were held on 24th March, 2012. Nearly 40 alumni from the reunion batches of 1962 and 1981 returned to their Alma Mater for the 50th and 25th year reunions respectively. The formal inauguration and CME was followed by a Scientific Session. Dr. Harvinder Singh Luthra, Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic & Mayo Medical School, USA (Batch of 1962), spoke on: 'Recent Advances in the pathogenesis and management of Rheumatoid Arthritis'. The second talk was delivered by Dr. Anita Trehan, Consultant, Paediatric Haematology Oncology, Advanced Paediatric Centre, PGIMER, Chandigarh, India (Batch of 1981), on 'ITP: Current trends in management in Children'.

Batch Reunions

The next Founder's Day celebrations will be held on Sunday 24th March 2013 at CMC Ludhiana, when the batches of 1982 and 1963 will celebrate their 25th and 50th reunions respectively.

Association of Medical Alumni Awards

Lifetime Service Award 2012 presented to Dr. (Miss) Patience Williams

'Dr. Patience Williams has been selected after due consideration to receive the Annual Alumni Lifetime Service Award of the Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, for outstanding work done in India after graduation. Dr. Patience Williams belongs to the

MBBS Batch of 1967. She graduated in 1971 and completed DGO in 1978.'

Dr. V.K. Satija Memorial Award for Best Clinical Teacher presented to Dr. Nitin Batra, Head of Department of Ophthalmology

Batch of 1976 Award for Excellence in Teaching presented to Dr. Bobby John, Head of Department of Orthopaedics

Eileen B. Snow CMC Alumni Award for Best All Round Graduate – 2012 presented to Rejul K. Raj (Batch of 2007)

Obituaries

Dr. Ashish Maseeh (19/11/70 - 28/2/12)

Dr. Ashish Maseeh, Professor in Department of Pharmacology, died on 28th February 2012. After completing his MBBS (1995) and MD (2002) from CMC Ludhiana he joined the Department of Pharmacology as faculty from August 2002. He was a dedicated and hardworking teacher who was immensely talented in artwork and music. He was very helpful to all the students and always ensured that all students were taken care of. He was instrumental in designing a lot of wonderful pieces of artwork for logos and college T-shirts, archives and the Pharmacology museum. He was a singer par excellence and contributed a lot to the institute. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Tapasya, Professor in Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, CMC Ludhiana.

Dr. Ashima Narru (23/11/87 – 26/2/12)

Dr. Ashima Narru arrived at CMC on 10th July 2006. Being a member of the 2006 MBBS batch, she completed her internship in December 2011 and joined as Non PG Resident in Department of Neurosurgery to fulfil her service obligation. On 26th February she was tragically taken away from us. When we came to know her, she immediately went on to claim a special place in all our hearts. Intelligent, witty, studious, loyal, kind, generous – these are only a few of her qualities. She lived a good life, however short it was. When thinking about her, what comes into mind is her easy and open smile which could light up a dark room. She was always optimistic and could see the brighter side of a black hole. We all miss her. How unfortunate, the way she was taken from us, so cruel and sudden! Most of us still can't believe she is gone. In the end, the fact remains that she will never be truly gone, as long as she lives on in our hearts. Ashima, we love you, we will always remember you. May God rest her soul.

Contributed by MBBS Batch of 2006

Fund-raising dinner organised by the Friends of Ludhiana, Queensland, Australia

The first-ever fund raising dinner organised by the Friends of Ludhiana, Queensland was held on 5th May 2012 in Brisbane. A total of 130 people attended, including alumni from Brisbane, other parts of Queensland and interstate, friends and colleagues of alumni and friends in Brisbane, a number of medical practitioners in and around Brisbane, and people from church groups and Gurdwara.



Elaine Unkles OAM was the MC for the evening, which commenced with a welcome by Dr. Jacob Cherian, President, FOL Qld, after which a ceremonial 'lighting of the lamp' took place. The invitees requested to 'light the lamp' were Sarah Cherian, Microbiologist S&N, Brisbane, wife of Jacob Cherian, Christina Salins, Helen Woolcock, Gitanjali Pawar, Kevin Tang (Gastroenterologist, Gold Coast, whose father is an alumnus Batch of 1962), and

Cathy Chandini (representing the Friends of Vellore, Qld).

Helen Woolcock and Elaine Unkles were presented with shawls, and honoured in recognition of their work at CMC Ludhiana. Dr. Helen Woolcock is an Occupational Therapist who worked at Ludhiana between 1965 and 1969 and established the Occupational Therapy Department there. Elaine is a Physiotherapist and Former Director of Physiotherapy at the Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital. She worked at Ludhiana between 1968 and 1971, and was involved with Helen in the establishment of the Spinal Injuries Unit. She was also Head of the School of Physiotherapy for two years. Elaine was conferred OAM for service to physiotherapy.



Entertainment for the evening included two musicians from the Brisbane Conservatorium, a cellist and a classical guitarist, who produced some lovely music to accompany the three course Indian meal.



The guest speaker was Dr. Rob Henderson, formerly Head of Neurology at the Royal Brisbane Hospital. Dr. Jeyaraj Pandian worked with him some years ago and Dr. Henderson visited Ludhiana a couple of years ago. Dr. Henderson proved to be a clever and engaging speaker as he shared his experiences in India and particularly Ludhiana, and was very appreciative of the work at Ludhiana.

The Bhangra group 'Sher-e-Punjab' proved to be a big hit. Some typically energetic performances by the group inspired an impromptu call for 'all alumni and guests' to come up and join in the action. The alumni needed no second invitation and a number of the guests joined in and enthusiastically participated. It was delightful to watch senior local medical specialists get up and try their hand at Bhangra for the first time!!



The evening came to an end after the vote of thanks by Dr. Harish Iswariah and a good time was had by all.

The January and October 2012 issues of *Alumni Xpress* are available from Friends of Ludhiana by e-mail (PDF file).

Betty Cowan Research and Innovation Centre



RESEARCH

Dr. Neeta Kang, Head of Innovation, highlights the number of projects the Centre is currently undertaking and how the equipment from Friends of Ludhiana (UK) and other agencies (DBT) are being utilized in various investigations.

The main areas are in basic research and short term project training. They also have a new pilot study that is in progress. For 2012 there are a total of 10 projects running either concurrently or at various time points during the year. This does not include rural outreach projects on cancer awareness and screening.

There are currently two Central Government Projects (Department of Biotechnology) being undertaken. In addition six students have been attached to BCRIC for their M.Sc. and B.Tech projects. A new project – pilot study with the Department of Haemato-Oncology, CMC is using microRNAs as stable blood based biomarkers to measure the immune levels of leukaemia patients and how the innate and adaptive immune levels of the human body helps in determining how well the body fights diseases. The project is in collaboration with Drs. Joseph John and Naveen Kakkar.

CLASSES AND COURSES

Dr. Kang is in the process of organising 2-day classes and one-week courses on quantitative real-time PCR (Q-RT-PCR) applications. The participants will be divided into three groups: beginners, intermediate and advanced. At the advanced level, the participants will be allowed to bring their own samples to be processed at BCRIC Molecular Research Laboratory. The main objective of these classes/courses is to teach faculty from within and outside CMC on the various applications of Q-RT-PCR and encourage them to write research proposals using this technology. Topics will cover research on RNA and DNA.

EQUIPMENT

Friends of Ludhiana has funded the purchase of equipment and the latest additions are:



the Rotor-Gene Q Real-time PCR machine with High Resolution Melt Curve Analysis (QIAGEN) and laptop computer with software (pictured left) and the Rotary microtome (LEICA RM2125-RTS) and rectangular slide waterbath (LEICA), both used to facilitate PCR investigations.



In addition Dr. Kang and her research colleagues continue to produce papers for publication and submit abstracts for conferences.

India Today Survey

India Today first launched its Best Colleges Survey and Rankings in 1997. Since then, the number of colleges has risen from around 9,500 to over 30,000 and the number of students enrolling for a college education has risen from 5.5 million to 16.9 million. In the survey of India's Best Medical Colleges 2012, CMC Ludhiana ranked 12th [behind All India Institute of Medical Sciences New Delhi (ranked 1st) and CMC Vellore (ranked 2nd)], which is five places higher than it ranked in 2011.

Other News from CMC

Department of Neurology

Dr. Jeyaraj Pandian, Professor and Head, has been re-elected to the World Stroke Organisation (WSO) Board from Asia/Oceania region for a second term and has taken over a new position as a Chair of World Stroke Campaign of WSO.

Permission has been received from the Medical Council of India to start a DM Neurology training programme and CMC has admitted the first candidate.

They have received two major grants:

1. Department of Biotechnology, India and National Institute of Health USA to establish the National Stroke Registry (Rs. 1.2 crores, around £160,000 pounds).
2. Approval for a grant of 1.5 million AUS\$ from NHMRC Australia to do a clinical trial in stroke rehabilitation in India. This is in collaboration with The George Institute Sydney, Indian Institute of Public Health Hyderabad, CMC Ludhiana, University of Glasgow, University of Nottingham and University of Sydney.

The Department has a new EMG machine. There are plans to start a Neurosonology lab under the stroke programme, construct a new ward with 45 beds and a new Neuro ICU, establish a centre of excellence in cerebrovascular disorders and start a neurointervention programme.

Urological Surgeons visit CMC

In June 2012, **Mr. David Gillatt FRCS**, Clinical Director of Urology, Southmead Hospital, Bristol, **Mr. Mark Speakman FACS MS FRCS**, Consultant Urological Surgeon, Taunton and Somerset Hospital, and Vice-President, British Association of Urological Surgeons, and **Mr. Sandy Gujral FRCS**, Consultant Urological Surgeon, King George & Queens Hospital, Barking, Hoving and Redbridge Hospitals NHS Trust, London, visited CMC for *An Update in Urology* taking ward rounds and giving lectures to the medical faculty, medical students and post-graduate residents, particularly in the management of prostate cancer. **Mr. Vinod Nargund FRCS**, Consultant Urological Surgeon at Homerton University Hospitals, London, visited later in the summer when he demonstrated laparoscopic urological operations as well as teaching students and gave interviews to the newspapers regarding kidney cancer awareness.

Conjoined Twins

In June 2012, Dr. Dhruv Ghosh from CMC's department of Paediatric Surgery was one of a team of 34 medical experts who operated to separate one year old conjoined twins at the Mission Hospital Padhar (Madhya Pradesh). A group of six batchmates from CMC Vellore had joined with other experts from across India and Australia to undertake this ground-breaking surgery in a rural setting. There was initially concern that the nearest tertiary hospital was 200km away, but the team worked towards overhauling the existing set-up at the hospital, preparing the infrastructure, loaning specialist equipment from companies and putting together the team, very intricate planning.

Stuti and Aradhana had been delivered at the hospital in May 2011 and their shocked parents indicated that they would not be able to take them home. Since then the girls had been growing up in the hospital's neonatal ICU, looked after by two ayahs and being visited by their mother. Sadly Aradhana did not survive. However, Stuti is now 17 months old and started walking without support a few weeks ago. Her abdominal wound has healed completely after discharging about three months postop. The chest wall will need further cosmetic improvements when she is much older. She has been home to celebrate Diwali and had a good time with her parents, brother and other relatives and will return home permanently next year.

CMC Staff visit UK

Dr. Ashish Varghese, Professor of ENT, had received a fellowship to attend the British Academic Conference in Otolaryngology in Glasgow in July 2012. During his stay in UK he met with Martin Porter (ENT surgeon who has previously visited CMC) and spent three days with Mr. John Watkinson at University Teaching Hospital Head and Neck Clinic in Birmingham.

Dr. Pamela Jeyaraj, Professor of Radiotherapy, spent a week in UK in August 2012 on her way back to India, having spent a month at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, USA. She was able to have several days' hospice experience whilst she was here.

Prayer Topics – December to February

Week 49 : 2nd – 8th December

Opportunities exist at CMC to take **Postgraduate Studies** in medical, surgical, dental, and nursing disciplines. The postgraduate programme started in the 1960s and now offers degree, diploma and doctorate courses across CMC's colleges. Some of those who study come from mission hospitals and will return with greater experience to serve in those hospitals. Others will stay at CMC and join the faculty in due course. The University has recommended the start of new postgraduate courses in a number of departments and CMC hopes to implement this in the near future.

The Fellowship Department runs diploma courses in **Clinical Pastoral Care Counselling** and **Pastoral Healing Ministry**. Ten places are available for each course and subjects covered include crisis counselling, counselling for the HIV/AIDS afflicted, for the mentally and physically challenged and addiction. The courses have similar content, although the DPHM course gives more importance and experience to hospital chaplaincy.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the many opportunities there are at CMC for postgraduate study in many specialities and disciplines*
- *students admitted for pastoral care diploma courses*

PRAY FOR

- *departments hoping to commence postgraduate studies in the near future and an increase in the number of faculty members to make this possible*
- *the postgraduates when they return to mission hospitals with greater skills*
- *those returning to church situations with new skills to minister to the emotional and spiritual needs of the sick and needy*

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Romans 12 v.2

Week 50 : 9th – 15th December

The **ENT Department** deals with all types of ear, nose and throat diseases, performing

routine operations as well as surgery on patients with cancer of the head and neck, seen in consultation with the Radiation Oncologist. The department sees 60-80 outpatients daily and has seen an increase in the number of operations over the past few years. Endoscopic procedures, major reconstructive ear surgery, excisions for malignant diseases continue alongside the development of neuro-otology services for balance problems and inner ear disease. Outreach clinics in camps, including those in smaller mission hospitals, also give the opportunity to teach the community on various diseases.

The department has welcomed four UK specialists who have offered surgical instruction, seen patients, taught students, given wider lectures and offered encouragement and advice



PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the new senior staff who have joined this department*
- *a new audiometry room and equipment*

PRAY FOR

- *plans for postgraduate recognition for the department*
- *the staff as they seek higher standard in excellence*
- *the replacement of routinely used basic instruments*

"Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor."

Luke 7 v.22

Week 51 : 16th – 22nd December

Student Hostels All the students live in hostels, some of which are good, such as the Snow Hostel for female medical students, whilst others are far from acceptable and very overcrowded, such as the nurses' hostel, and the male dental students do not have any accommodation at all. The increase in the

number of MBBS students means that there is an urgent need to increase the capacity of the existing hostels by 125. Back-up generators have recently been purchased for some of the hostels to maintain the supply of electricity to students, particularly at crucial times in their studies.

The renovation of the **Assembly Hall** has been completed and will be able to seat 400 students at a time.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *dedicated wardens who take responsibility for student welfare whilst they are in residence*
- *new hostel accommodation for female dental and nursing students*
- *the provision of generators to maintain electricity supply to the hostels*

PRAY FOR

- *speedy resolution of accommodation problems*
- *worthwhile and lasting friendships to develop amongst the students to help them during their studies and beyond*

"A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master."

Matthew 10 v.24-25

Christmas

Christmas is a special time of year for Christians throughout the world. At CMC there are many different events and activities across the campus to celebrate and to reach out to the community with good news.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the Christian community at CMC*

PRAY FOR

- *chapel services at CMC and church services in Ludhiana*
- *special activities and events within CMC when there are special opportunities for proclaiming the gospel*



"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" which means "God with us."

Matthew 1 v.23

Week 52 : 23rd – 29th December

The **Department of Neurology** started as a Division of the Department of Medicine in 1989 and became an independent Department in 2001. The Neurophysiology lab has a Video EEG and an EMG/EP machine and will soon be upgraded with Sleep Study facilities. A Comprehensive Stroke Programme was started in December 2007 and there are six dedicated acute beds where stroke patients are managed. Intravenous thrombolysis is routinely given for patients who come within the window period of 4½ hours of stroke onset. A dedicated Autonomic lab was established in 2010. The department has a separate Clinical Trials Office to manage all the Neurology drug trials. At present there are six ongoing International trials in various fields of Neurology. The Department



is involved in Clinical Research and most of the projects are self-funded from the departmental research fund. In 2010 CMC received

a grant from the Indian Council of Medical Research for a 'Ludhiana Population based Stroke Registry' project (three years). The future plans are to start Neurology training programme (DM or DNB), Neurosonology lab and Neuro-interventional treatments.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *permission to start a new postgraduate training programme and the admission of the first candidate*
- *award of a grant to conduct a clinical trial in stroke rehabilitation*

PRAY FOR

- *good relationships with collaborating institutions in India, Australia and UK*
- *plans for a new ward and ICU*
- *good functioning of new equipment*
- *the development of new programmes and facilities*

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

Romans 8 v.26

New Year's Eve

CMC Ludhiana has many **Friends and Supporters** around the world, including those who have previously worked or studied there. Sometimes at the end of the year there can be great joy for all that has happened but also sadness in unfulfilled dreams.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *all that has been achieved through the ministry of CMC in the past year*
- *the faithfulness of CMC staff and students in their work*
- *the support of friends and supporters around the world*

PRAY FOR

- *CMC as it continues to serve the people of Ludhiana and Punjab in the year ahead*
- *those responsible for planning for the coming year*

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1 v.3-6

NEW YEAR'S DAY

At the beginning of a new year, we recognise again the faithfulness of God to CMC Ludhiana for nearly 120 years.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the witness of CMC Ludhiana in caring service for more than a century.*

PRAY FOR

- *a sensitivity to the needs presented by changing situations*
- *wisdom in prioritising projects*
- *adequate resources to provide the services needed*

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are steadfast for ever and ever, done in faithfulness and uprightness. Psalm 11 v.7-8

WEEK 1 : 30th December – 5 January

The **Director** carries overall responsibility and has an important role in leading and guiding the institution. He has an administrative team to

help him – Associate Director, Deputy Director, Medical Superintendent, General Superintendent – who are involved in various aspects of CMC's work; many of them also have clinical responsibilities alongside their administrative work.



The Director also works closely with the Chairman of the Governing Body in implementing the decisions of the Board and upholding the mandate and vision of the whole institution. He therefore has an important role in bringing together the community of CMC in all its diversity to a unity of purpose and witness.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *a well-qualified and experienced Director*
- *the team of administrators supporting him*

PRAY FOR

- *wisdom and discernment for the administrative team*
- *the balance needed between clinical and administrative work*
- *the building of trust in relationships with staff at all levels*

Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. Philippians 2 v.5-7

Week 2 : 6th – 12th January

The **Medical College** started in 1894 to train Indian women to serve in the field of medical education and health services, emphasising the integration of training and health care. The College became co-educational in 1953 and upgraded to the MBBS course. In 2011 it was permitted to increase admissions from 50 to 75 students each year to the undergraduate MBBS course.

The college has been a pioneer in initiating changes in medical education. The Medical Education Unit was created in 1987.



The **Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research** (FAIMER), USA has recognised the activities of the institution by creating one of three Regional Institutes for faculty development at the college. The FAIMER regional institute holds its sessions in February each year, enrolling 20 Fellows for intensive training in educational methods and leadership. Similarly, the Medical Council of India (MCI) has recognised the institution as one of eight Nodal Centres for faculty development. More than 1,000 teachers from various medical colleges have so far been trained through these initiatives.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *CMC pioneering changes in medical education*
- *recognition by national and international organisations for excellence in medical education*

PRAY FOR

- *ongoing relationships with MCI and FAIMER*
- *continued growth in infrastructure and faculty numbers to support the increase in the number of students*

Therefore ... stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15 v.58

Week 3 : 13th – 19th January

The **Department of Social & Preventive Medicine** works to improve the attitudes and practices of those living in slum areas of the city and villages. It offers care to those in greatest need – pregnant women, babies, pre-school children – and gives education on nutrition, disease, family planning and sanitation through a number of clinics held in areas of the city. It operates a school health programme where children are given check-ups and health education is given with the active participation of teachers and staff. Other opportunities include the training of mothers to be dais



(birth attendants) – to assist deliveries, give care to the newborn and advise mothers on the breast-feeding of babies and solid feeding of toddlers.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the pioneering work of CMC in community health for many years*
- *a decrease in the infant mortality rate*
- *a large percentage of pre-school children having been immunised against killer diseases*
- *opportunities to teach prevention as well as cure*
- *an opportunity to redevelop some village clinics*

PRAY FOR

- *women to take home to their villages when they return the skills and knowledge they have learnt*
- *greater acceptance of health care and advice by the urban and village populations*
- *adequate staffing numbers*

Then Jesus went round teaching from village to village.

Mark 6 v.6

Week 4 : 20th to 26th January

The **Betty Cowan Research and Innovation Centre (BCRIC)** was established at CMC in November 2007 as a lasting and appropriate tribute to Dr. Betty Cowan's selfless service and contribution to CMC's life and work. The Centre provides leadership, direction, support and monitoring on all aspects of research activities across CMC, especially for departments with postgraduate programmes, be it medical, dental, nursing or paramedical. It is independent of any existing department, but closely co-ordinates activities with Community Medicine as one of its main objectives is to research prevailing health problems of the community served by CMC.



PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the establishment of the Centre*
- *two experienced members of staff as Head of Innovation and Head of Research*
- *the establishment of a Molecular Research Laboratory within BCRIC*

- *project funding which has allowed further staff to be appointed*

PRAY FOR

- *further growth in the research culture at CMC*
- *success in grant applications for research funding*
- *advice given to postgraduate students on research design*
- *the organisation of CME/Workshops for postgraduate students, faculty and staff from CMC and other institutions*

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11 v.3

26th January

Republic Day (26th January) celebrates and commemorates the anniversary of the founding of the constitution of India in 1950.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *a freedom of operation in the Punjab*

PRAY FOR

- *good relationships with the local community in Ludhiana*
- *helpful and cordial contacts with the local municipal authorities and other official bodies*

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 1 Timothy 2 v.1-2

Week 5 : 27th January – 3rd February

The **Outpatient Department (OPD)** building is found immediately behind the front gate of the hospital and clinics are housed on various floors of the spacious building. The clinical departments operate six days a week and 350,000 patients will visit the OPD in a year, an average of over 900 each day. The Registration Department is the first point of contact with CMC for many; it can be a daunting experience if the patient and their family have travelled into the bustling city from a remote village. It is important that they feel welcomed and can find the appropriate clinic and help they need; receptionists are encouraged to make CMC patient friendly and comfortable. A new

electronic medical record system is working well and OPD cards are now issued to help patients when availing a variety of services. Another centre with six consulting rooms has been started in another area of the city and the number of patients seen there is gradually increasing.



PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the provision and functioning of the OPD*
- *an increasing number of patients using the outpatient services offered*
- *additional services in OPD*

PRAY FOR

- *the reception staff at the entrance of the OPD*
- *cohesiveness in the staff of the OPD*
- *the patients coming to CMC, particularly for those for whom it is their first visit*

On hearing this, Jesus said "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick." Matthew 9 v.12

Week 6: 4th – 10th February

The **Department of Biochemistry** and **Department of Pathology** teach the medical, dental and nursing students and train laboratory technicians to Diploma standard. Both departments also provide routine and special investigations for patients, some services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There are problems with space in the laboratories, but it is hoped that a new lab complex will be created once permission from the authorities has been received. The **Blood Bank** processes blood components for use in patient treatment and it is estimated that 95% of donors are the relatives of patients. An exciting ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) thalassaemia screening programme has been running since 2000.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *new equipment in these departments*
- *the recent opening of new blood bank facilities*
- *improved accuracy of testing which has resulted in a higher level of patient referrals*
- *recognition from ICMR and resources for the thalassaemia programme*

PRAY FOR

- *closer working relationships amongst the Pathology Department staff*
- *more improved equipment to support a high level of service*
- *the development of a new lab complex to ease pressure of space*

For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no-one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. ... for precious is their blood in his sight. Psalm 72 v.12-14

Week 7 : 11th – 17th February

The **Department of Radiodiagnosis** (Radiology and Medical Imaging) offers both conventional and specialised investigative procedures. Alongside general X-rays, interventional radiology, ultrasound, MRI and CT scan services are available to patients. The department undertakes a training programme at undergraduate and postgraduate level and trains radiographers. As well as a dedicated



department within the hospital, X-ray equipment is also found in the Trauma Centre (A&E) and trained radiologists and radiographers can

be found throughout the hospital.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the continued successful training of radiologists and radiographers*
- *provision of modern equipment providing an updated diagnostic facility, particularly an MRI scanner, the first in the region*
- *developments in computer technology which allow x-rays to be available to doctors on the wards*

PRAY FOR

- *further commitment of staff to improving patient care with Christian love*
- *plans in hand for upgrading the radiographer training to degree status and additional well-qualified teachers*
- *the provision of new imaging modalities*

Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance. Proverbs 1 v.5

WEEK 8 : 18th – 24th February

The **Pastoral Care** of patients, relatives, staff and students is the responsibility of chaplains, Bible women and some volunteers from among the Christian staff. The **Fellowship Department** (or 'Chaplaincy') has always played an important role in the life of the institution. The staff arrange ward services, visit patients, maintain racks of free literature in the hospital, conduct staff prayers and services in chapels and help with the nurture of students. Morning prayer takes place early each day in the College and Hospital chapels followed by a hospital-wide radio broadcast. The chaplains and assistants then move around the departments offering prayer for patients and relatives, naming those due to undergo surgery or another procedure. In the afternoon staff of the Department visit the wards praying individually for patients requesting prayer. The Department provides support for many Christian groups meeting around the campus through the year.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *freedom to speak and care in Christ's name*
- *the dedicated team in the department*

PRAY FOR

- *guidance in future planning and developing pastoral care ministry to the needs of patients, their relatives and local community*
- *the nurture of CMC's students in their faith*
- *sensitivity in working with all who come within CMC's care*
- *ongoing openness to new needs and opportunities for witness*



Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care.

1 Peter 5 v.2

Week 9 : 25th February – 3rd March

CMC has North India's first **Emergency/Trauma Centre**, equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and world class facilities to deal with multiple traumas. The centre has 25 beds and

two fully equipped resuscitation rooms. There is a separate paediatric area, suturing room, orthopaedic room and a room for the treatment of burn patients for those requiring emergency treatment. It provides services to all emergency patients, including those injured in agricultural, industrial or road accidents.

The **AMARS** (Ambulance Motorbike and Rescue Service) project started in 2003, the first service of its kind in the whole of India, which enables CMC to respond to major incidents and accidents, providing victims with urgent and appropriate medical care within



the Golden Hour of trauma. The staff involved have been trained to provide major life support and resuscitation care.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *state-of-the-art facilities for Accident and Emergency patients*
- *dedicated staff who adapt to major disaster situations*
- *all CMC staff who respond to major*

emergencies that occur

- *the AMARS staff who attend accidents and bring patients to CMC*
- *the AMARS team as they visit areas of the city to educate about trauma care and the services CMC offers to assist the critically ill*

PRAY FOR

- *qualified personnel dedicated to emergency services*
- *the smooth functioning of the emergency rooms*
- *members of the AMARS team for the continued development and use of their skills*

The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you.
Psalm 9 v.9-10

Pray for Dr. Abraham Thomas and the administrative team for wisdom to further develop the work of CMC – its pioneering treatments, its care for the poor, its training of doctors, nurses and dentists for the rural hospitals of India - so that it remains a beacon for Christ's grace in the Punjab.

Open Day – 11th May 2013

St. Andrew's United Reformed Church
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire

The next Open Day is planned for Saturday 11th May 2013 in Gerrards Cross. The day will include the Annual General Meeting of Friends of Ludhiana and activities for CMC alumni. The programme is currently in the early stages of planning, but it is hoped to have a senior member of staff from CMC (to be confirmed) and contributions from UK health professionals who have visited CMC.

Council of Management and Board of Reference

Rev. Dr. John Rennie retired from the Council (and as Vice President) at the AGM in May 2012 and did not seek re-election. Although appointed to the Council in 1991, he first visited CMC in 1967 and has given significant training to CMC staff in laparoscopic surgery techniques. We are grateful for his wise counsel and work for both CMC and Friends of Ludhiana.

Dr. Sunil Thomas has succeeded John Rennie as Vice President.

Mr. Tim Jenns was reappointed to the Council at the AGM in May 2012.

Miss Eileen Platts ceased to be a member of Board of Reference on her death. She had previously been appointed a member of the Council in 1989, then to the Board of Reference in 2002.

In Memoriam

Miss Eileen Platts

Eileen was born in Hartlepool on 8th November 1925. She went to the local school and attended the Methodist Church regularly. After she left school she went to work in the Blind Babies Home. She loved looking after the babies and took her nursing training at the Royal London Hospital from 1944 to 1948, after which she took Midwifery Training at the famous Simpson Memorial Hospital.

Eileen went to Liverpool for her tropical and eye training. She kept hearing of the need for an Eye Sister in Ludhiana; she had given her life to the Lord for His Service some years earlier and was ready for His call. She was advised to go to Bible College and she went to Redcliffe Bible College for two years. She asked the Lord for guidance and verses in Joshua, Ezra and John confirmed to her that this was God's call to go to Ludhiana and she arrived there in 1953.



Eileen was very happy at Ludhiana and popular with the staff and students. She did not spend long on the Eye Unit but worked a good deal on the Chest Unit and many other wards and eventually became the Deputy Nursing Superintendent for a while. She loved taking Bible studies for the nurses and also loved riding round the compound on her bicycle. She used to go out to the villages especially one village where Sadhu Sunder Singh used to be.

Betty Cowan, in her autobiography, remembered how she and Eileen were embarking on a long train journey and horrified that they could not find

Eileen's name on the passenger list shortly before departure. A further search revealed a certain 'Eleven Plates' had been allocated the next seat to Dr. Cowan. Eileen's exuberant personality resulted in various pseudonyms and one given to her by a rather cheeky visitor from USA was 'Chatty Platty'.

Rev. David Bronnert, the then Vicar of St. Johns Church Southall, visited and invited Eileen to come to Southall when she retired, which she did in 1988. She was at Ludhiana for 34 years and received many meritorious citations and presentations from the staff when she retired. In 1989 she was given the honour of going to Buckingham Palace to receive the MBE for her services to the poor and needy in India



Eileen died on 1st May 2012 at the age of 86. Her funeral in Southall was well attended by some who had worked with her at CMC. CMC held a memorial services in the hospital chapel, attended by a large number of staff, past and present.

A book of condolences, prepared from messages received from the CMC family around the world, is available on request (with a suggested donation in her memory to cover costs).

Mrs. Marjorie Housden

Marjorie Housden was the wife of the late Dr. Gerard Housden, who served at CMC in Staff and Student Health from 1961 to 1964 and General Secretary of the Ludhiana British Fellowship from 1967 to 1971. She served as an Honorary Vice President of the Friends of Ludhiana until the early 1990s. She died in February 2012.

Mrs. Noel Norrish

Mrs. Norrish was the wife of the late Alan Norrish who had served as the Chairman of the CMC Governing Body.

We convey our sincere condolences to the families and friends of these who gave many years' faithful service to CMC Ludhiana.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: ALL ARTICLES AND PICTURES IN THIS BULLETIN HAVE BEEN REPRODUCED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE AUTHORS. IF YOU WISH TO REPRODUCE ANY ITEMS EITHER IN WHOLE OR IN PART, PLEASE CONTACT THE FRIENDS OF LUDHIANA OFFICE.

INTERNET USERS – FUNDRAISING FOR FRIENDS OF LUDHIANA

SEARCHING Everyclick.com works like other major search engines, except that it generates cash for charities, at no cost to you, by donating half of the advertising revenue generated. So far around £50 has been raised for Friends of Ludhiana – not much in UK terms, but potentially five free contract operations for poor patients in India. To register Friends of Ludhiana as your charity, visit www.everyclick.com

SUPPORTING Do you wish you could make your donations to Friends of Ludhiana online by debit or credit card? It is now possible to do so. Donations made through Everyclick are processed by Charities Trust, a registered charity, which reclaims Gift Aid on your donation, if appropriate, and forwards the funds to us, advising the donor's name if they have not asked to remain anonymous. To find out more, visit www.everyclick.com

SHOPPING Easyfundraising is a free service – by using the links from their website to shop directly with each retailer, each purchase made will generate a cashback donation, the amount depending on the retailer, to the cause you wish to support. New retailers are regularly being added, so consider signing up if you shop via the internet. Please register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk

GOSPEL CARDS

Please consider ordering and using Gospel Cards, as 20% of the cost of the cards sold will be donated to Friends of Ludhiana and other Christian societies. (£160 was raised in the year to June 2012.) Please visit www.GospelCardsEtc.com or write to Gospel Cards, PO Box 56, Bridgend CF31 2JY (Tel: 01656 647551).

To: **Friends of Ludhiana, Westerlands, Clayton Road, Ditchling, Sussex BN6 8UY**

- Enclosed is a donation of donation of £_____ for the Good Samaritan Fund for the treatment of poor patients at CMC Ludhiana.
(Please make cheques payable to Friends of Ludhiana)
- I/we* wish to support this project on a regular basis. Please send a Bankers Order form.
- Please send me/us* regular news of this project.
- Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made
- giftaid it*
- today in the past 4 years in the future
(Please tick all boxes you wish to apply.)

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

- I/we* require an acknowledgement for my/our* donation.

Signed _____ Date _____

* Please delete as appropriate.

Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone	
E-mail	