



Alumni Xpress



The Newsletter of the
Association of Medical Alumni

Christian Medical College & Hospital
Ludhiana (Punjab) INDIA

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Outgoing President's Message



Greetings to the global community of CMC Alumni !

It was a privilege to serve as President of the Association, for a 3 year term, as a member of the team of office bearers and to serve on the Editorial Committee for the Alumni Xpress as well. Together, we have tried to do our best to strengthen the bond between the Alumni and the Alma Mater.

We are happy that many Alumni returned home to attend the Founder's Day Celebrations each year. We were able to publish the Newsletter biannually and e-mail it to Alumni around the world. The Alumni website www.cmcludhiana.in/alumni was created and all past issues of the newsletter can be accessed on it along with announcements and other information on alumni matters. We hope the next phase would be to have a directory of Alumni on the website. You may update the Alumni office with your current contact details at cmcl_alumni@yahoo.com

On a personal note, sometime one wonders what destiny would have one do....as I reflect on my association with CMC Ludhiana and its Alumni, history goes back to the days of my maternal grandmother and her sister who studied here...the next generation of my mother and father, graduates of the 1st MBBS Batch and the environs of CMC where I was born, grew up and from a young age, got acquainted with many of the distinguished people who shaped the institution...my own generation of students and the first hand experience of studying and working here... and, later, doing Alumni work, in the Archives committee under the guidance of Dr Betty Cowan...designing posters and brochures for Founder's Day 2001... serving in the Alumni Committee under the mentorship of the President, Dr Jugesh Chhatwal from 2006-2009...attending two meetings of the North American Alumni Association of CMC Ludhiana... and then, for a span of time, from 2009-2012, I found the mantle of responsibility resting upon my shoulders.

The responsibility was ably shared by all in the team of office bearers. In an ordinary way, we in the Alumni Committee, tried to accomplish the extraordinary and you are the true judge of how far we were able to do that. We thank God Almighty for bringing our efforts to fruition.

A heartfelt thanks to all who provided valuable feedback, helped and encouraged us in our endeavors. I would like to express our gratitude to our Director, Dr. A. G. Thomas, for his patronage and encouragement in managing the Alumni matters, and to our

Principal Dr SM Bhatti for his guidance.

I also take this opportunity to appreciate the efforts of our dedicated secretaries, Ms Sonia and now, Ms Rani who have cheerfully worked behind the scenes and facilitated the smooth running of the office. Finally, I would like to thank all the Alumni who keep this Association alive by staying connected with their Alma Mater, and contributing their time, expertise and resources.

As the mantle has now passed on to Dr Subhash Singla, the new President, and a new team, I wish them all the best and at the end of the day, I hope they experience as much joy and gratification from carrying out this work.

We are glad to give you this issue of the Alumni Xpress with a special invited article from Dr. S S Gill & Dr. R C Joshi of the Pioneer Batch, 'Down Memory Lane'.

Dr. Sheena Singh
President

Outgoing Secretary's Message



Dear Fellow Alumni,

It is time for our team of office bearers to bid farewell to you- the new team was elected on the Founder's Day this year. In the last three years, the Alumni Express was published regularly and that kept us in touch with you. We enjoyed interacting with many of the alumni through emails or phone calls. We have uploaded an updated webpage for the Alumni

Association on the CMC website. We hope that it would soon be possible to create an online system for updating the Alumni directory.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our entire team for their co-operation and support. I have enjoyed working with each one of you. Thanks are also due to our office Secretary, Ms. Rani for working hard to keep the office running. Dr. Jugesh Chhatwal, former president and Dr. Naveen Kakkar, the former Secretary of the Alumni Association helped us each time we got stuck or had a crisis, my sincere thanks to both of them.

Wishing all the best to the new team !

Dr. Gagandeep Kwatra
Secretary

New President's Message



"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." -Helen Keller

Dear friends, Greetings !

We have had a busy year full of activities in the college, Hospital and beyond and a decent financial year, considering the current economic climate and various other difficulties.

And all the hard times are made worthwhile because of all of you, my colleagues, alumni, students and friends without whose help we can not function and it further strengthens my belief that together our contribution can help and achieve greatness and keep our precious Alma Mater shining brightly as a beacon for all those who seek quality care and treatment for all ailments!

I will keep you informed about the thinking, planning and problem solving we work on in future communication.

This comes now with my heartfelt gratitude for the honor and responsibility that has been bestowed upon me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Subhash Singla

President, Association of Medical Alumni

Down Memory Lane



Dr. S S Gill



Dr. R C Joshi

5th October 1953 was a very important milestone in the history of CMC Ludhiana! CMC became a co-educational institution and was recognized for the degree course (MBBS) in Medicine (previously it was recognised only for providing License in Medicine, LSMF, for female students). Fifty medical students were granted admission after a thorough academic test and for the first time 21 men, coming from all parts of India, became part of our alma mater. (Subsequently, of course, the ratio of men and women became equal.)

Independent India was only 6 years old; Ludhiana was a very small city. On a summer afternoon when I (Dr S.S. Gill) came to submit my application, there was hardly any traffic except a lonely buffalo on the Brown Road.

I vividly remember my first day at CMC; after a breakfast heavy on parathas, the bell rang and we all marched into the Chapel where Dr. Snow, Principal presided. After a short sermon and prayer, Dr. Snow took roll call and made important announcements. I thought this was a great way of starting the day (unfortunately, few years later, this practice was halted).

We were then led to the Anatomy Dissection Hall and assigned to our dissection tables. A few minutes later, Dr. Cook, our Professor of Anatomy walked in and came to each one of us addressing us by our names and handed the stage cards. I was most impressed that she knew each one of us by our names. Later, of course, I learnt that the staff had posted our pictures with names on the bulletin board in their dining room. This personal touch, however, remained the hallmark of the institution. All the staff knew each one of us and made us aware that they were deeply interested in our welfare and education.

As expected with any major development, there were, of course, a few initial teething problems. Our accommodation, on arrival, was in dormitory style rooms at Wherry Hall (later converted to Eye & ENT OPD). In a hurry temporary showers were put up outside on open grounds, with no roof. There was no available hot water. We did not, however, grumble taking a cold water shower, out in the open, amidst the Punjab winter, as our warden Dr. Mitchell, forsaking the comforts of a hot shower at his home joined us in our travails. This was leadership by example! Within a few months we had proper indoor showers.

After a year we moved to a very pleasant accommodation at Harvey Hostel. Four years spent living there was great fun. We had musical evenings in the college mess where our mess mascot, a dog, used to burst out singing (more like yelping) whenever C. M. Singh played on harmonica. We came very close to each other and became friends for life. Last few months of final year we were split, some were in Relatives' Quarters and others went to Ross Hostel.

CMC had a beautiful campus, with well-tended lawns, flower beds, beautiful buildings and an imposing Assembly Hall. Campus was a busy place with students hanging around. It had charm and personality; I am sad to see that Medical College has relocated to a place that has neither.

Each year there were many social events; notable amongst them were the Christmas dinner served by the students to workers in CMC as a token of thanks for their services and a play produced and directed by the Dean, Dr. L N Rao. I can also recall taking part in Bhangra dance as well as a play produced by our class; both were very much appreciated. There were 'Groups' consisting of students and teachers which met on certain evenings. These evenings besides being a social occasion were also a forum for discussion on various topics, religious, social & general. All these activities contributed significantly towards our personal development. We were encouraged to contribute to the society in various

ways. Some of us went to the leper colony to administer drugs on Sundays. In 1957 there was flooding of villages around Ludhiana due to heavy rains. We went to the villages, braving through flooded land, chlorinating wells to prevent water borne diseases and providing other medical assistance.

The site where the Brown Hospital is now was our playground. The Hospital was constructed while we were students; we started seeing patients there in our 3rd year.

It was an exciting time with new teachers arriving from all over the world who were also pioneers in developing medical education in CMC. Dr. Carl Taylor came from the USA and started the Department of Preventive Medicine at CMC which was the very first in India. He also introduced 'Village Internship'. These innovations were subsequently accepted by other medical colleges countrywide. An attempt was made to introduce teaching medicine by integrating its various aspects; normal structure (anatomy), function (physiology), diseases (pathology and internal medicine), therapy (pharmaco-therapeutics and surgery). It was unfortunately beyond its time and was not accepted by the University.

Most of our teachers had never taught a MBBS class before. They worked hard to teach us and we to learn. Indian Medical Council team came to inspect if the institution was capable of teaching at a degree level. We were, however, held back from taking the 1st professional examination for 6 months.

There was close bonding between students and teachers. Examination times were stressful equally for students as well as teachers. Teachers used to wait outside the examination hall, anxious to find out how we had fared.

Eventually we took our Final Professional examination in October 1958 and the lucky ones went to Punjab University Convocation in Chandigarh to receive their degrees. Dr. Snow proudly went with us and hosted a lunch at Kwaliti restaurant

CMC had graduated its first MBBS class and another historical milestone was achieved !

Those were very happy days and we cherish the memories.

Dr. Sarjit Singh Gill, MBBS, MS, FRCS (C),
Shreveport, Louisiana, USA

&

Dr. Ramesh Chandra Joshi, MBBS , MD,MRCP, FRCP
Walsall, West Midlands, UK

Batch of 1953.

The Alumni Association cordially invites the Pioneer Batch for the Founder's Day March 24th, 2013, to celebrate their 60th reunion.

Down Memory Lane

PIONEERS, 1953-1958 PICTURES :

Dr. ERB Snow PRINCIPAL

During her time, the institution made the biggest advances.

Started admitting men, upgraded to MBBS and built the new hospital



College Chapel

This where we started our day after a brief sermon, singing of hymns and prayer.

The Pioneers looking awesome in uniform, green blazers with college crest and matching tie/scarf.



Greatest Generation! Unfortunately, we have lost so many.

Founder's day, 24th March 1954



With Union Health Minister who came to lay down the Foundation stone of Brown Memorial Hospital 24th March 1954.

From left; CM Singh, Bakhshish Masih, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Bajaj, Sarjit Gill and CL Sarin. So many, departed so young.



CM and Gill, Happy Times!



Geoff and Viola Mitchell join a group of first year medical students and technicians; - of the medical students I can

recognize from left

Standing : George Simon, Pyara Chauhan, Bakhshish Masih, Prabhu Charan Saran.

Front row : Joseph Samuel and Mathai. Jim Ashwin (author) is extreme right, he was a Physiologist from Canada. He contracted Polio while hiking in Simla , was saved by use of Iron Lung. CMC did not have ventilator.



Jim Ashwin in Iron Lung. Many times the "bijli " failed and it had to be cranked by hand.

Mr. Mitchell taught us biochemistry, he was also our warden. Very friendly, many nights we would sing "O my Clementine" and other songs, very happy times in Wherry Hall.

Before returning to Australia, they decided to take a vacation, the plane crashed on way to Srinagar and the whole family perished. That was an awful day at CMC.



Dr. FC Eggleston making rounds and teaching students and residents.

He joined CMC when we were in 3rd year, he spent his entire professional

life in Ludhiana, as Head of Surgery and later as Director.

He was a great teacher and a great surgeon, very charismatic. He established one of the best departments of Surgery in India and trained more than 100 residents.



"Pomp and circumstance"

Founder's day.

Dr. Hobbs, Dr Eggleston and Dr. Ram Singh.

Dr. Garst taught us Orthopedics, he established one of the best departments of Orthopedics and trained many residents. He and Mrs. Garst spent many years in Ludhiana.



Dr. Betty Cowan, spent her whole professional life in Ludhiana and did many things, internal medicine, blood banking, hematology, and rural medicine. She was a great teacher, much loved and greatly admired.

Mr. Charles Reynolds. He and his wife, Maud managed the Ludhiana office in New York. He was a very familiar figure on campus, helped many of us. Single handedly raised all the money to build all the new buildings you see on campus. Both of them were much loved and admired.



Men students with our warden Dr. Mookerjee, his wife and son. 1956



Tennis team, from left: Jacob Zachariah, Noah, Vijay Satija, Ramesh Joshi. Bakhshish Masih.



L-R: Dr. Cook, our Anatomy Professor with the eminent Anatomist, Dr. James C Brash-M.C., M.A., M.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.C.S. Ed., F.R.S.E., Professor Emeritus of Anatomy, University of Edinburgh. Picture taken outside the dissection hall when he was visiting. His daughter, Dr Nancy Brash, who was a Professor of Medicine here.



CM with our class mascot. The dog would sing while CM played mouth organ, and listening are: Pyara Chauhan, Ramesh Joshi, Satwant Grewal, Santosh Goswami and A.K. Biswas.



Making a smokeless choolah in Jamalpur, as part of our Preventive Medicine assignment. Satwant Grewal and Sarjit Gill.



L -R : Dr. R C Joshi and Dr. S S Gill

Convocation 2012



The Annual Convocation and Prize Distribution Ceremony of the institution was held on 10th March, 2012. Prof. Dr. S.S. Gill, Vice Chancellor, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot was the Chief Guest. Students of CMC, CDC, CON and COP were awarded their degrees. Students excelling in various academic activities were awarded Prizes and Medals by Dr Rajender Gyani, the Chairman, Governing Board, CMC Ludhiana.

Association of Medical Alumni Awards



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

Citation: "Dr. (Miss) 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, CMC Ludhiana. She graduated in 1971 and completed DGO in 1978. After her graduation, she served in various Mission Hospitals under the Central Regional Board of Health Services, CNI. She served first as Medical Officer, and later, as the Medical Superintendent in Sharan Sthan Hospital Banswara, Rajasthan and in Ratlam Christian Hospital, Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh.

As a member of the Central Regional Board of Health Services, she worked in various committees of the Board and was the Vice President of the Board for a short period.

She has practiced Internal Medicine, Paediatrics, General Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynaecology with her main area of interest being, the treatment of Infertility in a poor resource setting.

She implemented various community health projects in remote areas of Banswara and Ratlam districts with the help of Caritas, World Vision, CMAI and SBHS. She started Community Eye Services in the Ratlam Christian Hospital

with the help of Christofel Blinden Mission (CBM), Germany.

She has worked with the Government on various projects as a member of FOGSI. She is also a member of Ratlam Obstetrics and Gynaecology Society (ROGS) and has been involved in the Training of GNM Nursing students in Obstetrics & Gynaecology in Banswara Mission Hospital.

Dr. Patience continued her service selflessly, with a vision to provide health care to the people in remote areas of Central India, surmounting many obstacles and challenges faced by the Mission Hospitals.

We recognize Dr. Patience Williams' commitment in providing medical services to the poor and marginalized with compassion, conviction, integrity and perseverance. In giving you this award, Dr. Patience Williams, we take pride, for you have demonstrated to us how 'To serve one another in Love'."



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



Batch of 1976 Award for Excellence in Teaching presented to Dr. Bobby John, HOD, Deptt. of Orthopedics



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

Best All-Round Graduate-2012

I take immense pleasure and pride for being a recipient of 'The Best All-Round Graduate' award by the Alumni Association.

I should thank my seniors for encouraging me to take up responsibilities and helping me to polish my talents, my parents who never disagreed with my extracurricular activities, and the faculty who reminded that some lessons are learnt beyond the Medical Books, and to the Institution which allowed me to grow with freedom and provide me with value based medical education.

I consider myself to be fortunate to be taught the Art and Science of Medicine in a Medical School with such an inspiring History, a great legacy and deep roots in the Healing Ministry.

I will not be able to deny the fact that, I am being turned to an enthusiastic medical professional from a timid, doubtful teenager.

I look into a future to being a great human being, a good doctor, a responsible citizen and truly pray that my work will be for a King.

I thank the Lord Almighty for giving me the privilege to learn Medicine in an institution built for serving Him.

'There is always something to be learned, always an extra effort to be made.'

Rejul K. Raj

Batch of 2007

Founder's Day Celebration March 24th, 2012

The Annual Founder's Day celebrations of CMC, Ludhiana were held on March 24, 2012 in the loving memory of our founder Dr. Edith Mary Brown, who, with a lot of faith, made a beginning, that is now one of the premier medical institutions in India. The Founder's Day events were a time for reliving old memories for one and all !

Nearly 40 alumni from the reunion batches of 1962 and 1981 returned to their Alma Mater for the 50th year and 25th year reunion respectively. The program started off with the worship service held in the newly renovated Lady Willingdon Assembly Hall. The Chaplain along with Dr. Mary John lead the service. Dr. Mary Abraham Thonditharaa gave the message.





Candles were lit in the memory of graduates who had passed away: Dr. Harbans Singh Dhaliwal, Dr. Alexander Idiculla, Dr. Barkat Paul, Dr. Nita Theophilus and Dr. Naranjan Singh Gill (Batch of 1962) and Dr. Mary George, Dr. Parveen Kumar Taneja (Batch of 1981) and also for Dr. Ashish Masih (Batch of 1989) and Dr. Ashima Narru (Batch of 2006).



The worship service was followed by breakfast in the newly reconstructed Snow Hostel Mess.



The formal inauguration and CME was in the Hospital Auditorium. There was enthusiastic participation from both the Reunion Batches. Dr. Abraham G. Thomas, Director, CMC & Hosp. and Dr. S.M. Bhatti, Principal, CMC welcomed the visiting alumni.



This 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, Pediatric Hematology Oncology, Advanced Pediatric Centre, PGIMER, Chandigarh, India (Batch of 1981), on: 'TTP: Current trends in management in Children'.



After the CME, alumni from both the Reunion batches were presented with a memento by Dr. Kim Mammen and Dr. S.M. Bhatti. Then there was an open forum in which Alumni from the Reunion batches shared their experiences since graduation and also narrated anecdotes about their time spent in CMC many years ago. It brought back a lot of memories for them.

The new team of office bearers was elected for the Alumni Association during the General Body Meeting. Lunch, served in the Faculty Club lawns, was a time to catch up with batch mates and also with people from other batches.



The alumni also visited the hostels, college and hospital premises to relive old memories and to see the newer developments. The day ended with the Alumni attending the Annual play "Harvey" performed by the students in Assembly Hall.



We thank every one from the batches of 1962 and 1981 for their presence and for making the Founder's Day 2012 truly memorable !

Reunion Batch of 1962



Dr. C.V. Anantha Krishnan, Dr. Dhanwant Kaur, Dr. Pratibha Rani Bhawan Nee Gupta, Dr. Harbhajan Kaur, Dr. Kanwar Jit Bhasin, Dr. Harvinder S. Luthra, Dr. Evnice Hemlata Joseph Nee Mirchulall, Dr. Manjula Lata, Dr. Ranvir Kumar Sood, Dr. Vijai Rani Sud, Lt. Col (Dr) Jagat Jeet Singh Bhalla, VSM, Dr. Harbhajan Singh Mand & Dr. Ganga Singh attended.

Reunion Batch of 1981



Batch of 1981: Dr. Amita Trehan, Dr. Gurmeet Kaur, Dr. Kamna Sood Nagpal, Dr. Malina Pramod Nee Chaudhary, Dr. Suzanne Samuel, Dr. Dhirender Kumar Soni, Dr. Gurmeet Singh Purba, Dr. John Pramod , Dr. Niraj Thapar, Dr. Rajesh Paul, Dr. Rajeev Daniel, Dr. Sanjay Bharti, Dr. Satpreet Singh Gill, Dr. Sunil Kumar Kesarwani, Dr. Tara Chand Sharma, Dr. Balhinder S. Brar, Dr. Paramjit Singh, Col. (Dr.) Poninder Kumar, Dr. Sharadendu Bali, Dr. Mary Abraham Thonditharaa, Dr. Khrist Roy, Dr. Sarojini Sharma, Dr. Rajinder Kaur Trewn & Dr. Puneet Bajwa attended.

Pharmacology CME



Department of Pharmacology in collaboration with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India conducted a

CME/workshop on 'Alternatives to the use of animals in the MBBS Curriculum' on January 20, 2012. More than 100 delegates from various medical colleges of Punjab and adjoining states attended the workshop. The highlight of the CME was the demonstration of low cost alternatives to animal experiments and high end simulation mannequins.

"Pharmascan" Newsletter of Pharmacology



The department of Pharmacology has taken an initiative to update the doctors on new drugs approved, drugs withdrawn/banned and adverse drug reactions of drugs. The first issue of Pharmascan was published in July, 2012. The newsletter will be published quarterly and circulated to all departments. The newsletter will also be available online and you can also get soft

copy by sending a request at pharmacologycmc@gmail.com.

Department of Haemato-oncology



CMCH Ludhiana has become a first in North India to successfully transplant Stem Cells from an unrelated donor in an 8 yr old patient, Amrit Pal from Bathinda suffering from acute myeloid leukemia. There was no HLA identical donor in his

immediate family. Hence the donor search was extended to donor registries in India and abroad. A donor was located in Frankfurt through the German registry. The donor's bone marrow stem cells were harvested and carried by a direct flight to Delhi. On February 11 stem cells of the donor were successfully transplanted. Now Amrit Pal is doing very well, his own body has started generating its own stem cells.

There are a very few centers in India which conducts Matched Unrelated Donor (MUD) transplant and most of them are located in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Abraham G Thomas, Director, CMCH, said, "A new transplant centre would be opened shortly and our next step is to offer MUD transplant for thalassaemia patients as there is a huge need in this part of the country.

CMCL- FAIMER Regional Institute- Fellowship Program



This February, the 7th batch of selected fellows attended the first session of this prestigious two year fellowship held

at CMC, Ludhiana. Fellows and faculty were from India and abroad. The applications are now open for the next session (2013). For more information log on to : <http://cmcl.faimerfri.org>

World Kidney Day 2012



World Kidney Day is celebrated worldwide on the 2nd Thursday of March. The Department of Nephrology organized a

Kidney Health Camp in the Nephrology OPD on 10th March, 2012, which included nephrology consultation, free screening, dietary & health awareness.

A CME to update doctors and nurses was conducted on 7th March, 2012, on the theme "Kidneys for Life". A Kidney Awareness Quiz was organized for doctors and staff with exciting prizes and was won by Dr. Chaitanya Juneja and Mr. Deepak Masih respectively.

National CME on Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus

The Department of Ophthalmology conducted the II National CME on Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus in March. It was



organized in collaboration with the Association of Community Ophthalmologists of India (ACOIN) in the Guy Constable Auditorium. Dr Abraham G Thomas was the Chief Guest and released the souvenir. Many national and international faculty members participated in the CME. A poster competition was also organized for the undergraduate students.

Inauguration of Renovated Ophthalmology OT

The renovated OT complex was inaugurated by Dr Rajinder Gyani, Chairman, Governing Body, CMC Ludhiana Society, on 9th March. It now comprises 2 Operating rooms, one dedicated for camp patients. It has a new state of the art airconditioning unit with laminar air flow and HEPA filter.



MCI Nodal Centre For Faculty Development



Two three day MCI Basic Course Workshops in Medical Education were conducted from March 29th-31st, 2012 and September 20th-22nd 2012 as

per the updated MCI course, a total of 89 faculty members received training in these workshops. A one day orientation program was also conducted on 28th March for coordinators of MEUs of affiliated colleges. Twenty senior faculty were trained to conduct faculty development programs at their own institutes.



Body Donation



A seminar was organized by the Department of Anatomy in collaboration with the Tarksheel Society, Ludhiana on 25th May, 2012.

Body donors were commended and their family members were felicitated with mementoes by the Honorable Director. The audience was educated on various aspects of body donation and their doubts and queries clarified by Dr. Abraham G Thomas, Director, Dr. S.M. Bhatti, Principal and Dr. Anjali Jain, HOD Anatomy.

First Newborn With Permanent Pacemaker in Punjab



A young baby boy was born to a couple from Jammu at Iqbal Nursing home, Ludhiana. Unfortunately before birth, they were told that the baby had a complete heart block. Dr

Iqbal S Ahuja, an Alumnus of the Batch of 1963, referred the baby to Dr HS Bedi, Head of Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery, CMC. An immediate permanent pacemaker was inserted in the tiny baby via a minimally invasive approach. The pacemaker was 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. Highly trained ICU nurses and doctors got 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 and to make

basic cardiac healthcare facilities available and to create awareness, cardio-vascular camps are being organised by the Cardio Vascular Endovascular & Thoracic Surgery Department of CMC & H. At least one camp a month is held at a rural or small city area. Outreach camps are a part of the services provided to the community by CMC Ludhiana and for the first time in Punjab, a specially designed large, air-conditioned bus takes a team of 20-25 people including CTVS doctors, dietitians, nurses, yoga teacher and paramedics for these outreach programmes.

All patients undergo a thorough examination by superspecialist doctors along with special blood tests. A unique feature is the addition of dietary consultation and of supervised yoga therapy for all patients and their attendants. A simple regimen of exercise, prudent diet, weight control and regular checkups at these camps, could indeed keep the hearts of Punjabis in good shape.

New Post Graduate Courses

We are happy to inform you that CMC Ludhiana under the able leadership of our beloved Director Dr. Abraham G. Thomas and Principal Dr. S. M. Bhatti have been successful in starting new Post Graduate courses in Social and Preventive Medicine (4 MD seats) & Microbiology (3 MD seats) and ENT.(2 MS seats). Post Graduate students in each of these Departments have been admitted

CMC Ludhiana in College Ranking 2012



CMC Ludhiana is ranked as the 12th Best Medical College in India as per the India Today- Nielsen Survey, June 18th 2012 and 15th by Outlook magazine.





THE BATCH OF 2011: First Batch of 75 MBBS students with The Director, The Principal, Senior Administrators and Heads of Departments.

SYMPHONY 2012 (Institutional Inter College Music Competition)



On 8th of March 2012 the long awaited dream of competing on one platform for a much coveted title by undergraduates of CMC, CDC, CON and COP,

came into being. It was our respected Director Dr. Abraham G Thomas's brainchild, to have an Institutional Inter College Music Competition. Conducted in its present form for the first time, the onus was upon the Medical College, and a commendable job was done by the Principal, Vice-Principals and the Student Council 2011 to see it through and make 'Symphony' a success. Students from the 4 colleges competed in the solo and duet categories in both English and Hindi categories and it will not be an exaggeration to say that we managed to unearth some sensational talents. The event was judged by some of the eminent personalities of the city. The awards and awardees were:

Dr. Ashish Maseeh Award for Best Male Vocalist (English): Sunil Kumar, Batch of 2007, CDC

Dr. Rebecca Abraham Award for Best Female Vocalist (English): Jasmine Ruth Baluja, Batch of 2009, CDC

Dr. C M Singh Award for Best Male Vocalist (Hindi): Abhishek Gurdial Masih, Batch of 2008, CON

Dr. Abraham Thomas Award for Best Female Vocalist (Hindi): Align Tom, Batch of 2011, CMC

Surely Symphony will be a much looked forward to event in the coming years, it will keep the rich musical heritage of CMC alive.

HARVEY



The Music and Theatre Workshop was formed nearly twenty years ago, and many memorable Musicals were staged by our

students annually since 1995. The tradition of the Annual Plays at CMC Ludhiana was started by Dr Lakshmi N Rao, Professor of Microbiology. So every few years, continuing in that tradition, a play lights up the stage of the Assembly Hall. This year's production was a play, titled 'Harvey', directed by Drs. Dhruv Ghosh & Arpit Mathew. It is a comedy in three acts, by American playwright, Mary Chase and was staged on three days commencing on the 22nd of March, 2012.

Snow Day



Republic Day



Independence Day



Then and Now....



The refurbished Assembly Hall...
Centrally airconditioned !!

Obituaries

Dr Ashish Maseeh

(19/11/1970-28/2/2012)



We regret the demise of Dr. Ashish Maseeh, Professor, Department of Pharmacology on 28th February, 2012. He was born on 19th November, 1970. After completing his MBBS (1995) and MD (2002) from CMC, Ludhiana he joined 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 are 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 & Gynaecology, CMC, Ludhiana.

Dr Ashima Naru

(Nov 23, 1987- February 26, 2012) MBBS Batch of 2006



On 2006 July 10th, Ashima came into our lives. Being a member of the MBBS batch of 2006, she completed her internship in Dec 2011 and had joined as Non PG Resident in Dept of Neurosurgery to fulfill her service obligation with the college. On 2012 February 26th 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

ANNOUNCEMENT

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

May these great souls rest in peace....

It is with sadness we report the demise of the following:

Dr. Asir Wilson (Batch of 1963) who was a GP at a single practitioner practice at Port Augusta in South Australia. Some days ago he collapsed in Port Augusta, was airlifted to Adelaide, but passed away in July, 2012. He was a very well-respected GP in Port Augusta, and had been there for many years, contributing enormously to the community. Dr. Wilson was planning for his 50th batch reunion here at CMC next year, now sadly not to be.



**Dr. Vikramjeet Singh
(Batch of 1982)**

who passed away on
18th January, 2012.

**Dr. Ravinder Bajaj
(Batch of 1979)**
of Delhi

**Dr. Harkirat Singh
(Batch of 1996)**

May God give courage to their families to face this loss with equanimity.

HEARTFELT THANKS !



The Association of Medical Alumni would like to thank Mrs Papri Bhattacharya (wife of Late Dr Ajit Bhattacharya, former Prof & Head Physiology) for her generous donation of Rs. 2000 to the Alumni Office which has contributed towards the purchase of a new Canon MP258 Scanner Printer Copier.

Association of Medical Alumni Elections - 2012 New Alumni Committee



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