



## **“Correct Me If I'm Wrong”**

*The quarterly bulletin of the Global  
Community of Mission Information Workers*

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*Volume 2, Number 4, October 2012*

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### **See You There!**

We are aiming for a community that functions well remotely. Include those who cannot travel. Reduce the travel of those who can. This is part of the CMIW vision. It is one of the reasons we started this email newsletter. We need simple ways to communicate with each other.

But the vision also calls for some face-to-face meetings, which can be essential to good remote working. We like meeting face-to-face! It takes a lot of money (meeting venues and travel

costs). It takes lots of time (booking the flights, packing, travel time, waiting around in airports, unpacking, meetings). But some things happen when you meet face-to-face that do not happen when we email or talk on the phone. The apostle John knew this. He wrote, “I have much to write to you, but I do not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.” (2 John 1:12)

So what shall we do? Can we do anything without taking up more of your valuable time and money? We want to start by making the most of existing opportunities for face-to-face contact. So we are launching, “See You There!”

Each of us – Larry, Stephanie and Chris – travels to conferences from time to time. They may be international, regional or even national gatherings. But what they have in common is that other Christian information workers may be there. In future, when we plan to go to a gathering like that, we will let you know in this newsletter. We will give an Email address just for that meeting. If you are thinking of going to the same conference then send an Email to that address. We will try to arrange an informal meeting during the conference for mission information workers to get to know each other and share ideas, and we will Email you the time and place.

What if you are planning to go but we are not? If you are prepared to take responsibility for setting up and facilitating an informal meeting of mission information workers at the conference, then let us know. We will set up an Email address (even if none of us is going) and you can communicate with others who plan to go. So why wait? Look at your calendar now and make the most of it! You may have a chance to meet someone new and catch up with old friends. And we hope to ... see you there!

**See you there:** If you'll be at Ethne next month, and want to get together, send an Email to:  
[cmiw-at-ethne@googlegroups.com](mailto:cmiw-at-ethne@googlegroups.com)

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### **Holding you in our hearts...and in our database**

*Chris Mayard*

We try to be very conscious of security. That is one of the reasons we want you to know about the data we hold for you. At the moment an entry in our database contains the following fields:

- **First Name:** Chris
- **Last Name:** Maynard
- **Email:** Chris.Maynard@transforminginformation.com
- **Alternate Email:** *(If we know one, we record it and it is useful when the first one breaks.)*
- **Other Contact: Phone, Skype:** ChrisMaynard3
- **Country:** UK
- **Location:** High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire *(Sometimes this is a full address, especially if people include that in their email signature)*
- **Organisation:** Transforming Information, WEA Mission Commission
- **Other Information including Jobs and Roles (relatively static info):** Info Mgmt Consultant. Transforming Information Ltd. is his own company. Was in JIMI Task Force. *(This can be quite narrative. Usually things of current relevance. This could help us to put individuals in contact with one another although I don't think we have used it like that yet.)*
- **Contact Status:** *(Blank is normal. Other values so far are: "Dodgy email", "Broken email", "Removed")*
- **Log of Changes, Communication and Transient Things:** 2012-06 added organisation and role. Original source: Ethne09 & Memberdata *(This is mainly stuff that is not interesting unless we have to track back for some reason. Here we put a record of requests to join, emails that bounced and changes made to the data.)*

The master list is a private document on the worksmail.net domain hosted securely by Google Educational Apps. Only 4 of us have access and we know each other well. Only one of us takes copies for backup purposes onto one secure computer.

For any one person, many of the fields are blank, but we fill things in as we learn more. Usually we learn from your emails (especially your "signature"), sometimes from the web or personal contact. We expect to keep removed entries, partly to make sure we don't add people to the list who have asked to be removed. But if you ask us to delete all your data we will. For a few of you we also have the answers to a short questionnaire that we ran in our April 2012 newsletter.

We could keep you on the email list with just an email address and a few notes in the "Log of Changes". We are prepared to do this if you wish, but it will make it difficult to get to know you and to help you in other ways. We see this community developing beyond just an email newsletter, as we shared with you in the early editions. So we want to know something about our members.

If you want to know what information we are holding about you, please ask.



*Chris Maynard, Stephanie Kraft and Larry Kraft--we are holding our community in our hearts and in our prayers.*

## This and That...

### ***How do urban centers influence their adjacent rural communities?***

In April Doug Lamp of Sepal in Brazil wrote us the following:

About 600 leaders gathered for 5 days of interaction and challenge to consider the evangelism and church planting needs of the immense and dry hinterlands of Brazil's northeast region, known as the "Sertão". At the onset of the conference a battle cry was sounded to plant 10,000 churches over the next ten years in the many rural towns and villages of this neglected region. Logistical problems, beyond just spiritual needs, related to accomplishing this challenge quickly became

apparent during this conference. Updated research is needed to more accurately define the location of these churchless communities and to better understand to what extent rural areas are being influenced by the adjacent urban populations. Research tools for onsite surveys of physical and social needs in these communities would enable church planters to contextualize evangelism and church planting strategies. OCI and its Brazilian mission counterpart, SEPAL, is committed to assist ministries of this region to develop survey tools and to update research on the communities of this region.



Does anyone have tools or resources to help Doug?

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### ***Save the date!***

The next International Lausanne Researcher's Conference is to be held in Chiang Mai, Thailand, Tuesday 28th January to Saturday, 1st February 2014? It promises to be a rich time of sharing stories and studies. We think you will enjoy interacting with Christian researchers from all over the world in this lovely venue.

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### ***Passing the Baton***

There's probably nothing we as information workers can do that will more fruitfully contribute to the fulfillment of Jesus' reconciling plan for the Church than to disciple younger leaders. Follow this link to read David's Markham's persuasive take on the subject:

<http://www.etnopedia.info/?p=823>

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### ***Who Works on What?***

David Armstrong writes: "It might be helpful to share a chart of who works on what kind of data. For example, I try to monitor short-term mission data, both organizations who send out short termers and where people want to go and what they want to do. That is what I would have to offer, and what I would love to know about should anyone else have data on that line. Thanks for trying to herd the data cats."

If you have something to suggest to David, drop us a line and we'll put you in touch.

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### ***We're now on Facebook***

Will you like us? Will you join us? Please visit us on Facebook at:  
Community of Mission Information Workers (CMIW)

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## **Information from the Word**

One man sharpens another. Or as the Good News Translation puts it, "People learn from one another, just as iron sharpens iron" Proverbs 27:17. Can mission information workers sharpen researchers? That's what the CMIW task force wants. How does it happen? What does it look like? When did you last sharpen another mission information worker? When did one learn from you?

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### **Final Details:**

- This bulletin is produced by the Community of Mission Information Workers Task Force comprised of Larry Kraft, Stephanie Kraft and Chris Maynard. Please send any suggestions of issues to discuss or any other ideas to "[cmiw@worksmail.net](mailto:cmiw@worksmail.net)".
- Editorial team: Stephanie and Chris; layout and distribution: Larry.