

# Friends of Ndi Moyo Newsletter – October 2011

## AND NEW CHRISTMAS CARDS ON SALE...!



Dear Friends

It has been a while since we have updated you on all the developments at Ndi Moyo and all the contributions our supporters have made at home and abroad to the tremendous and vital work that Ndi Moyo does in Malawi. It is hard to fit it all into one newsletter...which is why this update is longer than usual!

You may recall from our last newsletter that one of the UK Trustees, Maureen, was about to depart for Malawi once again to support the Ndi Moyo team with her energy, cheer and dedication. Her moving letter written to you all encapsulates how Ndi Moyo continues to go from strength to strength and performs a vital role in the Salima community:



*"I visited Ndi Moyo for ten weeks in May, June and July this year. It was a time of catching up on developments and what surprises I had in store. I found a Centre of Excellence headed by Lucy and a growing medical team of one clinical officer and three nurses providing dedicated, professional, caring service and support to the growing number of patients who come from as far away as Lilongwe to receive treatment. One patient*

*came many miles and said "Ndi Moyo is the place where I am listened to and respected".*

*The staff and patients had a birthday party for Lucy and the action of one elderly patient (pictured above with Maureen) during the celebration said more than I could ever say in words. This lady spontaneously got up and walked over to Lucy and I have never seen so much gratitude expressed. She hugged Lucy and raised her hands in the air thanking God for what she receives at Ndi Moyo and she sang her appreciation.*



*Another moment that spoke volumes of the service provided at Ndi Moyo, was at the monthly patients' day when Sam, a regular volunteer was doing foot massage with a patient. I observed her washing the feet of the patient, so respectfully and lovingly, then soothing the patient while she gently massaged her feet.*

*I had a reunion with my friends Dorothy and Lena whom I had met in 2004. This is Dorothy (pictured right), an orphan being brought up by her grandparents, who Lucy met in 2004 and nurtured back to being, now a young lady attending school. Lena, the gracious grandmother to Carol and James, is still beaming and providing care to her grandchildren.*



*It was these personal meetings that spoke to me of what Ndi Moyo*

*is: a place giving life. A place giving dignity and respect to those who have so little and nothing"*



Special thanks must go to Shawna and Lara (pictured below with Lucy and Tony), Canadian volunteers, who spent three months at Ndi Moyo and did incredible work during their stay supporting the Vulnerable Children programme.

Special thanks also to Dr Helen Cox who once again has been over to volunteer at the Centre and provided invaluable help. In addition to the practical assistance she provided, Dr Cox also brought medicines worth £4,000 with her for the patients! During her stay, Dr Cox continued to be impressed by the care provided by Ndi Moyo and said the following of the Vulnerable Children programme:

*“Anne is a 39 year old lady with cancer of the cervix, now very advanced causing severe back pains and bladder problems. By now she is severely anaemic and malnourished. Her youngest child hovered in the background while the Ndi Moyo team visited. Inevitably one wondered what would be the fate of this little girl.*



*It was therefore very interesting for me to see for the first time Ndi Moyo’s Vulnerable Children Programme – assessing and hopefully meeting the needs of children whose parents have died or who are now too ill to cultivate their garden and provide food, school uniforms, mosquito nets or blankets. Everywhere you visit in the village are hordes of children, even more appearing from nowhere if you are rash enough to get out a camera. One bereavement visit was carried out to the background of children dancing in front of their reflections in the ambulance’s chrome bumper!*



*Their material needs are simple, and could be so easily provided with a little money: such as a school uniform for about £3. Without this a child can only go school on the one day a week when uniforms are not required so that they can be washed!”*

## Welcome to...

Jack and Henrietta Schenk whom we are delighted to welcome into an operations role at the centre on a two-year placement. They will be responsible for the day-to-day running of Ndi Moyo thus enabling Lucy and her team to focus their energies more easily on their patients.

Joe Stringer who will be leaving for Malawi this week for 6 weeks of volunteering at the centre. He is ready to turn his hands to anything that he is asked to do. He will leave with a suitcase full of medical items needed at the centre. We wish him a happy and successful trip. Joe’s parents have kindly made a substantial donation to Ndi Moyo enabling this opportunity.

Our new UK Trustee, Kate Neil, who is already making a valuable contribution to Ndi Moyo.

## Christmas cards!

**We have some fantastic new Christmas cards on sale! Please see attached to this e-mail our illustrations of the cards and order form.**

## Our website...

**...is being updated and in the next few weeks and months you will find no end of inspiring information about all that Ndi Moyo is doing. We especially recommend the moving video of the Ndi Moyo team at work: [www.ndimoyo.org](http://www.ndimoyo.org)**

**Keep reading for the most important part of our newsletter...our thanks to all of you!**

# A very big thank you to...

- All the initiatives going on throughout the country and particularly the regular Farmers Markets which publicise Ndi Moyo's work and raise approx £80 on each occasion. Here are Anne and Eileen of the Alderney Edge Farmers Market:



- The children of St. Columba's Primary School, Straw, Draperstown, who raised £177 all from saving their pennies.
- The Cookstown and Magherafelt Lions Club, N. Ireland who sent a cheque as part of Maureen's May visit.
- Many thanks also to Jay Babiani, and Veena Mamtara and their family for extensive support over the last 12 months – they have contributed towards the purchase of weak liquid morphine, vincristine, tyres for the ambulances and mattresses for patients, as well as supporting the idea of extending the Centre
- Mike Finch and the Beer Festival at The Royal Oak, Gretton raised £1,701. NM purchased Tranexamic Acid Tablets with some of these funds – NMPCT had just run out of this medication, vital for patients with cervical cancer.
- Mrs Rosemarie Richtmann, who lives in Regensburg (Germany). She raised £900 by asking for donations instead of presents for her 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

- Maureen's sister Eileen O'Kane who sponsored her trip to Ndi Moyo in May, and Bridget & Joe Mullens and Micky & Breige Lawless who also provided funds for the trip.
- St Anne's Parish Church, Oldham who raised £411
- Maureen would like to sincerely thank the people, teachers, parents and pupils of Ballinascreen and the Draperstown area who contributed with such generosity prior to her volunteering visit to Ndi Moyo in May, June and July this year.

- St. Thomas of Canterbury School who, in advance of Maureen's departure for Malawi, raised £1400 to buy medicines for the centre. This money was raised as a result of one of the parents who contacted the school because her company wished to support a charity



nominated by an employee and Ndi Moyo was put forward. The company donated £1000.

- The remaining £400 was raised by staff, children and parents who walked from Tower Bridge to Westminster Bridge in July.
- Lord Patriarch Banks Trust – grant for £6,235 to enable refurbishment of the Clinic.
- Star Lizard for a second grant of £20,000 which is to further develop the nascent 'vulnerable children' project

## Seeking your help...

We have created a 'wishlist' of items (from £0.38 to £4000!) that would be of tremendous value to the Centre in Salima. If you're interested in finding out more / providing funds for such items please email [enquiries@ndimoyo.org](mailto:enquiries@ndimoyo.org)

*If you need help with any other fundraising initiative or further information about how to donate, email [enquiries@ndimoyo.org](mailto:enquiries@ndimoyo.org) or visit [www.ndimoyo.org](http://www.ndimoyo.org)*

**While we highlight specific fundraising events, we never forget our regular supporters who commit to amounts ranging from £4 to £100 each month (Gift Aided and GAYE). Your regular commitment = Confidence = Ability to plan = Sustainability.**

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT**

**Please also look at our wonderful Christmas cards and order form that are attached to this e-mail!**