

## Friends of Ndi Moyo (FONM) Newsletter – January 2007

### Infrastructure

Ndi Moyo Palliative Care Centre (NMPCC) has been a hive of activity since the last newsletter. Now live and operational, the Centre has over 50 registered patients, and the whole infrastructure has come on enormously. In addition to the Centre itself, latrines and ablution block, the adjoining building will be developed in conjunction with the Nick Webber Trust to become the Administration and Volunteer Centre. Additionally, work is nearing completion on paths and a wall encircling the compound: torrential downpours have not helped. The team have even started planting fruit trees (Hybrid Mangos, Papayas, Avocados, Lemons) and a flowerbed! The resulting atmosphere should hopefully be private, tranquil and cool.



Compound Wall – Looking to the entrance of NMPCC



Staff & Volunteers at NMPCC

### Staff

Assisted by fund-raising from Ndi Moyo, the team has now been extended to include a second nurse (Dominic), a receptionist, a cleaner, night watchmen, a gardener / handyman and a book-keeper. We also funded a second trip by Catharine Nawangi from Hospice Africa Uganda: she has played an important role in training and development. A Clinical Officer also visits once a week to review and monitor the medicine dispensing records and process; it is hoped that NMPCC will before long be able to recruit its own Clinical Officer and more nurses. Trustee Hassan Pillai reports 'The Centre is already establishing an excellent reputation for care in the community; Salima Hospital has started referring needy cases'.

### Did You Know?

- £0.01 buys a bread roll for hungry patients arriving at the Centre
- Lucy's nurses often have to visit patients by bicycle taxi (up to 10km already), with a heavy medicine bag. This is a poor use of resource, and means poor response times

### Thank You!

- To the Nchima Trust: the first batch of drugs finally made it through the red tape
- To all our regular contributors: the monthly total is now up to over £500pm!
- To those who have used the occasion of a special birthday or anniversary to raise funds
- To all those who bought or distributed Trudi's lovely Christmas and Greetings Cards
- As always to the people of Draperstown and the surrounding areas of Northern Ireland, for your enormous generosity. Maureen Morgan writes 'I am overwhelmed at the generosity of my people and how Ndi Moyo has become so much part of our Parish'



Dominic on one of his first Home Based Care visits – guided by Catherine Nawangi.

### A First-Hand Account

On returning from his recent self-funded trip to Malawi, trustee Hassan Pillai wrote 'It was a joy to be accepted into the Team at the Centre; their dedicated focus is on introducing and providing Palliative Care (management of pain, physical, emotional, social and spiritual distress which accompanies the dying process) to the patients who visit the Centre and those who are on Home Based Care. These are the people who, with the guidance Lucy and organisations with which the Centre is developing association and the generous financial and physical support you provide, will make the Centre a growing and sustainable initiative. It was only by going to Malawi that I could truly understand the environment in which this work is done'.

### What Next?

- Transport: the current dependency on the vehicles owned by Lucy and Tony Finch is not sustainable, and without proper transport patients in the surrounding villages can not be visited and cared for.
- More Volunteering Visitors: the accommodation facilities will soon be available in the Nick Webber Trust building, and visitors with large hearts and / or useful skills to offer will always be welcome. For a visit to be truly effective, a stay of at least 4 weeks should be considered. For more information, please get in touch!
- WATCH THIS SPACE! For exciting news about support from The Dahan Family Foundation, and MediSend

For more information go to [www.ndimoyo.org](http://www.ndimoyo.org) and, to find out all the different ways you can help, please email [enquiries@ndimoyo.org](mailto:enquiries@ndimoyo.org)