

NEW YEAR MESSAGE



Another year is drawing to a close, and Christmas as a season of giving, reminds us why we volunteer our time and expertise, for the benefit of others less privileged than ourselves.

Our expertise and wealth of knowledge is used to educate and uplift fellow professionals in Ghana who in turn, bring hope and happiness into the lives of thousands.

For Motec Life UK, 2009 has been a very successful and satisfying year. We continue to count on the support of the International Organisation for Migration / Migration and Development in Africa for sponsorship of some of the recourse personnel for our work in Ghana.

A lot of work has gone into setting up the Surgicentre and drug manufacturing base at Sefwi Asafo and God willing it will be up and running in the next six months. The building has been modified and refurbished and the order for equipment has been sent out.

The Nutrition Working for Life (NUWLIFE) project is taking shape and negotiations are ongoing with the chief and people of Jirapa in the Upper Western Region.

Ghanaian nurses have been selected to go to India for six weeks observational training at the beginning of next year.

There have been marked improvements in the Nkawkaw radiological services due to a donated x-ray machine and the hard supervisory work of some of our members.

Specialist workshops took place at Akosombo for trauma and orthopaedics during the October trip which was well attended. A workshop for ambulance personnel and paramedics was well patronised earlier. Lectures and on the job training have taken place at our target hospitals on all educational visits.



Motec Lecture session in Ghana 2009

Two container loads of medical equipment and goods have been collected, packed and delivered to Ghanaian hospitals.

We have seen marked improvements in Motec's Information technology, and a project is in the process of being finalised for Koforidua and Nkawkaw. We owe our gratitude for this to David Lewis, Sarah Olney and Charlotte Warren.

Dr Hemeng from Kumasi KATH is on a three months at Northwick Park hospital learning critical care skills to take back to her home hospital to improve services there. Preliminary reports suggest that Dr Hemeng is making the most of the opportunity diligently and her mentors are doing the best for her. This has been a great initiative by Motec.

These are but some of our success stories.

These successes have been due to the persistence, dedication and hard work of Motec Life members, and we are to be congratulated and encouraged. Without all your hard work and empathy for the less fortunate none of this could be achieved. Praise where praise is due and each and every one of us is to be congratulated. Ayeekeo-o-o!



Motec's function in Hemel Hempstead 2009 - a common purpose.

You do not have to travel to Ghana to be a valued member of Motec Life. Your precious time, your physical and intellectual input this side of the Atlantic is what gives the travellers inspiration and the foundation on which to build Motec Life's successes. Your support and unflinching loyalty is what keeps us all going when the going gets tough.

We are entering a new year, and alongside all our own personal and professional responsibilities, a lot more will be expected of all of us where our voluntary commitments are concerned. We cannot rest on our laurels. Projects and training courses are being set up in Europe for Ghanaian Trauma and Orthopaedic surgeons in 2010. Hopefully other doctors will come over for critical care training in UK hospitals in 2010

Books worth more than £1000 have been donated by Motec and the International Organisation for Migration to Nurses Colleges in three institutions. Besides, Motec is sponsoring the training of a mid-wife for St Ann's Maternity Home in Ashanti in order to double -up the number of qualified mid-wives at the cost of about \$3,000.00 (Canadian) through the sacrifice of a dedicated member in Canada.

Another specialist workshop is expected to take place next year in Accra. The events of 2010 for Motec will continue to evolve as the year rolls on and different opportunities present themselves.

Some of us will be travelling to Ghana again next year to give lectures and encourage the maintenance of improvements that have been instigated in the last few years. New practices and work ethics will be introduced and encouragement to maintain standards will be recommended.

We will not always be the teachers. There is a lot we take for granted in the developed world. We will be learning from our professional Ghanaian counterparts how to appreciate what we have here, how to work to better standards and to treat our jobs as the vocations they are meant to be.



Working together with local health workers help develop better approaches.

Never should we under-estimate the power of our team and member efforts to improve the lives of those less fortunate. Our input however small makes a big difference to those you are trying to help.

For this we thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts and humbly implore that you to continue your great work.

We are also very grateful for all the moral, advisory, legal, financial and fundraising support we have received from the following institutions, groups companies and individuals:

Patron – Professor Lord David Alton – House of Lords UK

Co-patrons - Professor Daasebre Oti-Boateng – Ghana

Mr Peter Henry Phillip Dyson FRCS – UK

Bro Laurence Kearns and Mr John Mitchell of co Dublin

International Organisation for Migration (IOM)/ Migration and Development in Africa (MIDA) – The Hague

International Development Company – (St John of God) Dublin

World Orthopaedic Concern UK

Ghana High Commission, London

St Mary and St Joseph Parish, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead

The National Catholic Secretariat, Accra

Medical Companies - Coring UK Ltd, Exactatech Ltd UK, Smith and Nephew UK, SODirect, De Soutter Medical, Synthes UK, 3M, Johnson and Johnson - Accra and others.

Rotary Club – Hastings

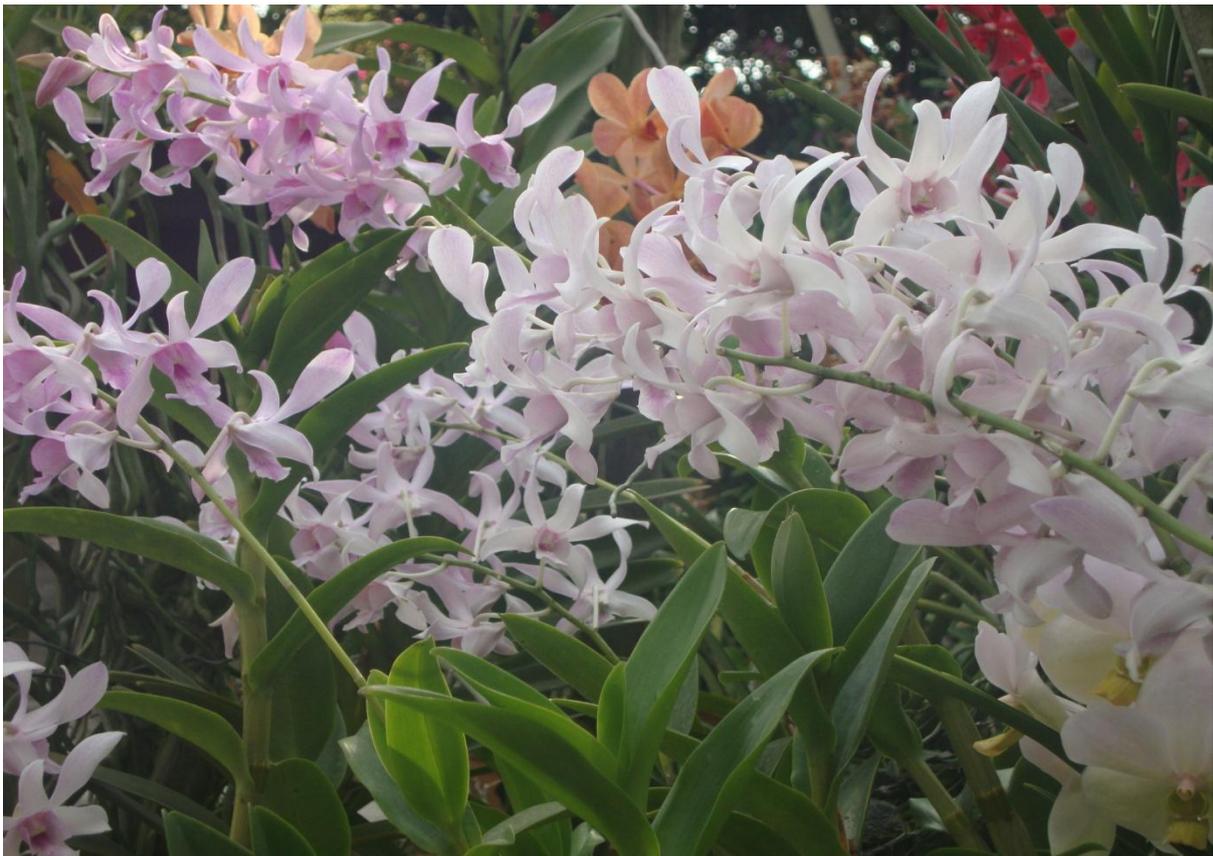
St John of God Hospital, Kattappana, India

Other Individual supporters – Mrs Marilyn Goreham, Mrs Zena Bullmore, Mrs Pamela Fleming, Mrs Corinne Budd, The Merrington family, Mrs Linda Bigham, Mrs Jane Jackson, Mr Mark Osborn, Mr Hemant Vikharia, and others.

Ghanaian hosts – Nkansah, Bediako, Keatley, Dita, Estelle Appiah and Benson families – to you, we say a big thank you.

We look forward to your continuing support for the New Year and hopefully for many years to come.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful, healthy, successful and Happy New Year.



Christine Amakye and P. Ofori-Atta

The Presidency, Motec Life UK.

23rd December 2009