

Sharing experiences acquired in  
our work in sub-Saharan Africa,  
especially Ghana



*at*

Notting Hill Methodist Church

London

In support of efforts to 'revive'  
Nixon Memorial Hospital,  
SEGBWEMA, SIERRA LEONE

1<sup>st</sup> September 2012

*P. OFORI-ATTA FRCS*

*FOUNDING PRESIDENT, MOTEC LIFE -UK*

**THEME: THE PILGRIMAGE TO THE MOUNTAIN.**

[www.moteclife.co.uk](http://www.moteclife.co.uk)

## TRUSTEES



## Patron

\* Prof Lord David Alton



Unified rhythm is important



# \*THE PRESENTATION

\*WHO

\*WHY

\*WHERE

\*WHEN

\*HOW

\*WHAT

# \*The charity

## 1118994

- \* **Motec Life-UK** is a medical charity based in West Hertfordshire comprising volunteer and allied health professionals whose objectives are to provide educational, training and health care services to the underprivileged people of the West African subcontinent.
- \* 6 years since establishment

# \*MOTEC LIFE

- \*Movement of people, experts
- \*Orthopaedic -Trauma Service initially
- \*Transfer of Technology, Skills
- \*Education, Efficiency, work Ethic
- \*Capacity building in target institutions
- \*Leadership that is prepared to lead & learn
- \*Industry
- \*Faithfulness
- \*Economical

# \* Membership Demography

- \* Multi-disciplinary, multi-national multi-cultural and multi-faith to reflect on the current trend of 'One Global World, One People'.
- \* Registered membership is 160 across the British Isles with scattered supporters in Holland, USA, Canada and India.
- \* Consortium of patrons led by Prof Lord David Alton.

# \*Strength

## Composition

- \* Nurses
- \* Doctors
- \* Pharmacists
- \* Physiotherapists
- \* Teachers  
/Lecturers
- \* Students
- \* Microbiologist
- \* Radiographers

## LOGISTICS

- \* Administrators
- \* Plumbers
- \* Accountants
- \* Chiefs
- \* I.T Experts
- \* Policemen
- \* Politicians
- \* Solicitors
- \* Manual workers
- \* Engineers
- \* Agriculturists
- \* Pastors

# \* Linkages

- \* Affiliated to the [World Orthopaedic Concern](#) (UK)
- \* Supported by the [International Organisation for Migration](#) (I.O.M.) / Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA), Den Hague
- \* Administratively collaborates with:
  - The Ghana High Commission (GHC-London)
  - British Medical Product Manufacturing Companies
  - The Ghana Health Service
  - Christian Health Association of Ghana / National Catholic Health Service
- \* The organisation is linked with the [Tropical Health and Educational Trust](#) (THET)

# \* Our mission

\* We are dedicated to improving educational, training and health care services in sub-Saharan Africa especially Ghana.

\* We work with the Ghanaian target hospitals and para-medical institutions to upgrade the services they offer the general public.

# \* Opportunities

- \* The opportunity to work with colleagues in sub-Saharan Africa, provide professional experiences of mutual benefit to the volunteers from the United Kingdom and our health workers in Africa.
- \* Our services benefit our Ghanaian medical and allied professional colleagues, students and the patients we serve.
- \* We rely on the generosity of the members of the public, philanthropists, organisations and companies and the sacrifices of many to keep our humanitarian work going. The demand for our services is daunting.

# \*How?

- \*This is being achieved through a co-ordinated programme of working visits to *TARGET HEALTH INSTITUTIONS* in the sub-Saharan region especially Ghana.'
- \*Two major and one small group working visits to Ghana each year.
- \*Average 35 volunteers to Ghana each year.
- \*Health workers /students exchange programme in UK /Ghana /India3.

# \* Our prime activities

- \* Saving Lives through improvements in Medical / Surgical / Nursing care practices
- \* Improvements in Patient Rehabilitation practices
- \* Education and training of hospital staff through working visits and exchange programmes - Ghana, India and UK
- \* Humanitarian assistance
- \* Income generation through civil projects
- \* Building Communities by supporting rural health projects, nutritional rehabilitation projects etc

# \* Target hospitals/institutions in Ghana

- \* Teaching Hospitals

- \* Mission Hospitals in 3 regions of Ghana including Nursing and midwifery colleges

- \* Government Hospitals in 2 regions

# \* Collaborating UK/ Indian institutions

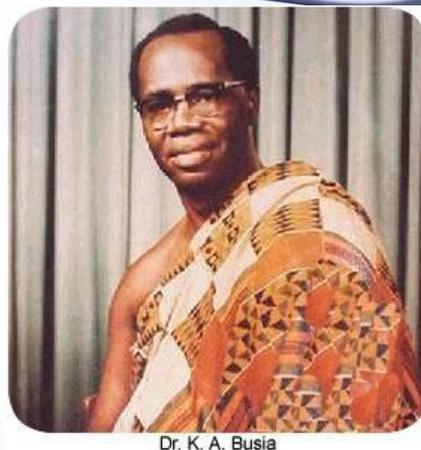
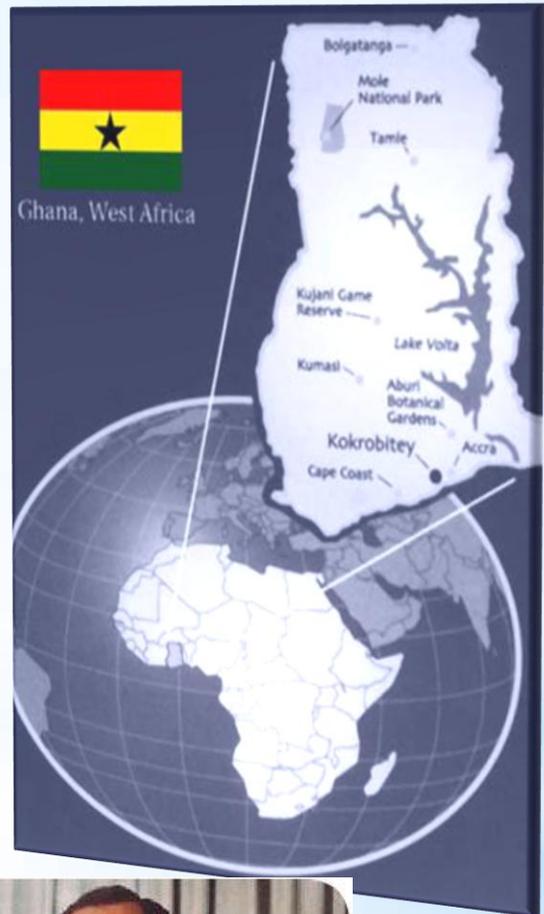
- \* West Herts NHS Trust Hospitals
- \* St Georges Hospital, London
- \* Northwick Park Hospital
- \* Spirehealth Care (BUPA), Harpenden
- \* London post graduate School of Surgery
- \* St John of God Hospital, Kerala State, India

\* THE  
FUNDAMENTALS



\* WHY WE DO  
WHAT WE DO

\* “My great purpose is to study all I can, and then when the time comes to pour out my life in the service of my God and my country. Learning without God is empty. Knowledge is useless, unless it makes us better servants of humanity. ”



Dr. K. A. Busia

\* **Dr A. A. Busia**

**\* NELSON  
MANDELA**

***\* “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”***

\*“I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all, but whatever I have placed in God’s hands, that I still possess”

\***Martin Luther  
King**

# \* Humility

*\* “Encouraged by the gift we have received, we consecrate ourselves to God and dedicate ourselves to serving the Church in the assistance of the sick and those in need, with a preference for the poorest”.*

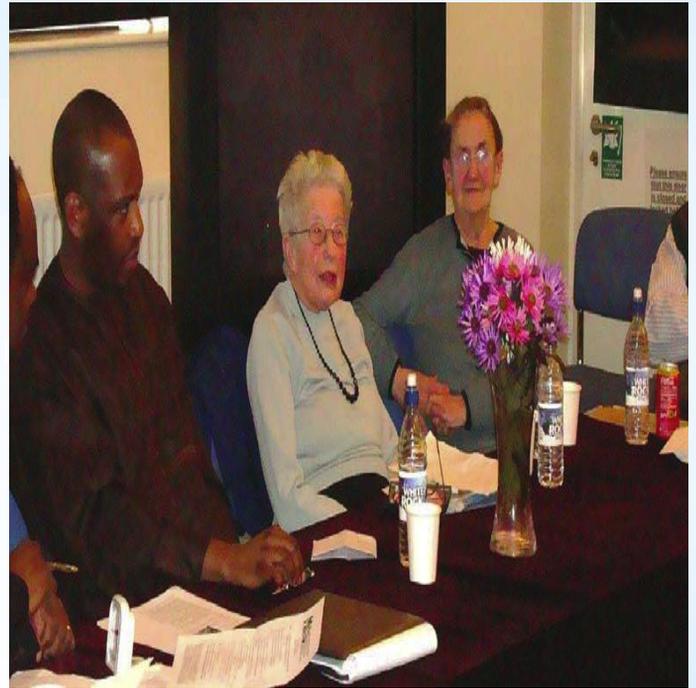
*Bro Fortunatus*

# \* Our belief

\* “No life is worthwhile unless it has been useful and made a positive difference to the people we see or never get to know” *P. OFORI-ATTA*

# \*Practicing

- \* I have always believed that the best way to improve any system is to learn about it well
- \* There is no better way than working in that environment, set a common objective, identify the problems with the people, find solutions through exchange of ideas, education and training.
- \* The alternative of imposing changes by going all alone from outside could lead to the rapid collapse of services.
- \* Bottom up approach worthwhile



**\* COLLABORATION  
WITH PEOPLE  
AND THE CHURCH**



With 3 generations of families grateful for life saving operation

## INTERNATIONAL SURGICAL CENTRE FOR RURAL GHANA



\* Making the  
people count

# Motec's fund raising dinner

# For NUWLIFE Project



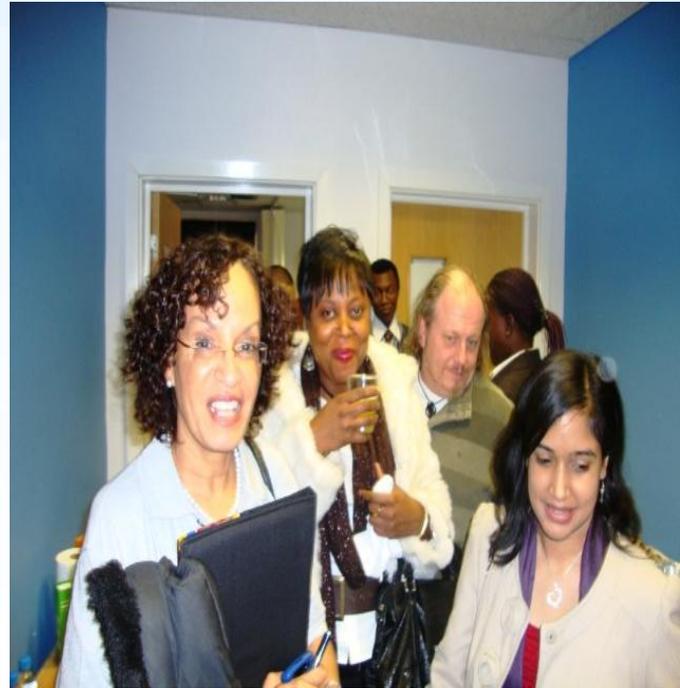
## \* Mobilising kind hearted people



Working with local  
supermarket



Motec task  
force



\* Movement of  
the people

# \*Teaching



**Working  
together with  
local staff**

**Teaching session  
with local doctors**



**\* INTERACTIVE!**

## Education

\* *Book donation*



## Workshop for paramedics, Ghana



\* **Skills transfer**  
Surgery with local  
surgeons in Ghana



- \* Mothers to engage in farming healthy food items on land close to hospital as they look after their children on the ward
- \* □ Mothers to be trained to prepare „food“ for children from farm produce.
- \* □ Vocational training alongside -sewing, tie and dye materials, carvings, soap manufacturing from shea butter etc,
- \* Funds for initial raw materials and equipment for income generating vocation

 **NUWLIFE**  
Nutrition Working for LIFE

**There are  
many  
mountains to  
climb in life.**

**CHARITY WORK IS ABOUT CLIMBING A  
MOUNTAIN - a special pilgrimage**

\* Meeting the challenges in our work  
*“After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb”*



Nelson  
Mandela

The night before  
his murder Dr.  
Martin Luther King  
said “*I have been  
to the mountain  
top and I have  
seen the  
Promised Land*”.

**We will get  
there!**

# Changing a system for the better

“If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him.” *Mahatma Gandhi*

The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him his own. ~*Benjamin Disraeli*

# \* Approach

- \* Local, traditional and National system of administration to be brought on board carefully through personal contacts.
- \* Education of the general staff on the job and demonstrating basic steps to solve problems step by step.
- \* ‘Conflicts’ in the hospitals, not be used to split the staff but to be considered an opportunity to educate and unite.
- \* Punctuations of efforts - times for meditation - may be necessary to maintain a safe tempo.
- \* Help establish the principles of accountability.
- \* A reward system is not a bad thing.

# \*Confrontations

- \*Financial
- \*Work ethics
- \*Ego's - threat to local 'Lords'
- \*Poor logistics
- \*Incompatible systems -  
government/ church
- \*Interferences
- \*Fundamental problems tend to  
have their roots in foundations  
of the establishment

# \* The Diaspora

- \* Over ten million Africans now constitute an invisible nation that resides outside Africa. The IMF estimates that the African Diaspora now constitutes the biggest group of foreign investors in Africa. ‘Money cannot teach your children. Teachers can. Money cannot bring electricity to your home. Engineers can. Money cannot cure sick people. Doctors and health workers can. Knowledge is the engine that drives economic growth, and Africa cannot eliminate poverty without first increasing and nurturing its intellectual capital.’

*Philip Emeagwali*

# \* In a global context- Philip Emeagwali

The Diaspora have demonstrated that talent is congenitally universal but opportunities have geo-ethnic connotations.

\*The African Diaspora with support from friends, can be engaged to serve as positive bridge-builders and goodwill ambassadors mandated to strengthen and advance the relationship between Africa and the West.

\* Will be ideal for Sierra Leoneans with a clear view of both sides of the continents to continue to expand their roles.

NIXON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
AND FRIENDS NEED YOU

LET US CONNECT WITH OUR  
OWN PEOPLE AND THOSE WHO  
NEED US

THE TIME TO STEP UP EFFORTS  
IS WHEN PEOPLE ARE IN MOST  
DIFFICULTY- AND WHEN THEY  
ARE OUT OF THEIR DIFFICULTIES  
LET THEIR EXAMPLE BE THE  
LIGHT FOR OTHERS.

With God on  
our side,  
together we  
can give life  
a chance



\*Thank  
You!