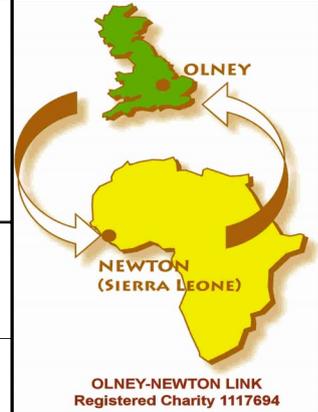


# Olney—Newton Link



*“To advance education and to relieve poverty*

*in the village of Newton, Sierra Leone, by the provision of charitable assistance”*

**February 2021**

[www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk](http://www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk)

**ONL**

## New Year Greetings from Sierra Leone

We are delighted to pass on best wishes for 2021 from our friends in Newton...



From Bakarr, former secretary of the Newton Committee, now MP for Newton

And from Brima James Kabia, Baptist Minister, who sent a picture of himself relaxing in the sunshine



### In this edition...

- The situation in Sierra Leone: page 2
- Supporting the schools: page 3
- Fundraising efforts: pages 4 and 5

To get in touch with The Olney-Newton Link contact Anne McCallum, Chair Telephone 01234 711196

For the newsletter e mail: [olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com)

## News from Newton

Brima James Kabia sent us a WhatsApp message on 21st January to let us know that the Western Area (which includes the capital, Freetown, as well as Newton) is under a new lockdown and a night curfew. This is aimed to curtail the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases throughout Sierra Leone and will be for two weeks initially. Entry and exit from the area is restricted and only essential travel from Freetown is allowed, subject to a negative COVID test within 72 hours of travel. Restaurants and bars will be closed at weekends and masks will continue to be obligatory in public places.

Most of the cases in the country have been in Freetown. The country has had 77 deaths in total due to the virus. About 3000 people have had the disease confirmed (although not all with symptoms have been tested) and currently new cases are about 30 per day.



People queueing to get fresh water from the facility James Kabia built, using funds from the ONL.

## News from the schools

The **Olney Infant Academy** has sent £155 (2,020,000 Leones) to the **Rural Education Committee School** to buy furniture. The photograph shows headteacher Mrs Princess Doherty receiving the money (quite a big pile of notes!) from Mrs Kabia. Brima James Kabia was took the picture.



**Newton Blossomville School** sent £180 to headteacher Komba Nfalie of their linked school, the **Christ Evangelical School**, via James Kabia, for school furniture. He has sent us a photo of the children singing and thanked us.

If this link works you'll be able to hear the children singing... until 21st February!

<https://share.icloud.com/photos/07ftdpjP-blOhQAOzep9SRMcg>



# Thank you....

Thank you to everyone, for the generous donations and fund raising efforts... which have enabled us to send the £1300 needed to buy replacement carpets for the preschool.

We have received £1020 from St Peter and St. Paul's Church. Thank you to you all.

We have received £295 from those who entered the November Quiz - and £50 in donations.

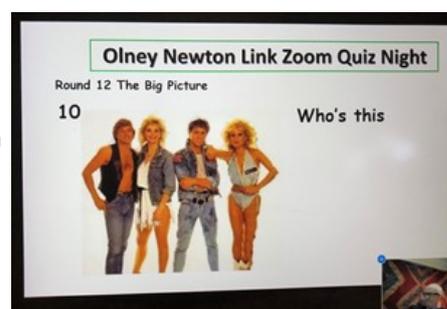
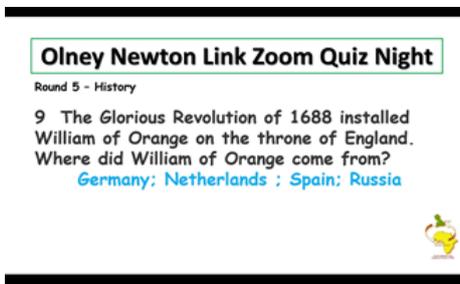
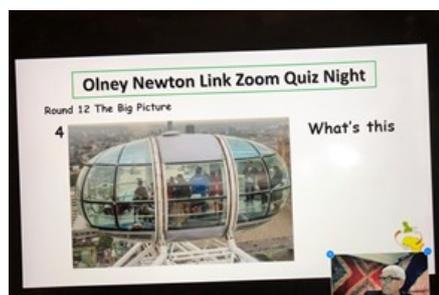
We have been given another £100 from Sue Lynch for face masks she has made. Super work Sue and thank you.

£195 has been given from collecting boxes.

Debbie Hall's sober October raised £220 for the ONL - thank you so much Debbie.

The accounts have been given to the auditor and he has agreed them and also made a donation to the ONL. It should have been us thanking him not vice versa! Nevertheless thank you very much for the kind donation.

## Quiz questions...see article on next page



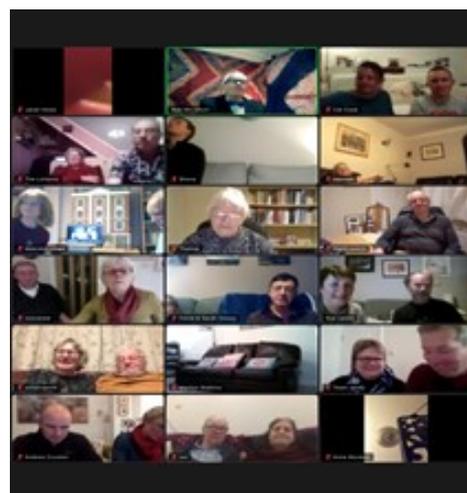
# The November Quiz

The quiz... before Christmas, on 27th November

A huge thank you from all the committee to Rob for organising this and setting the questions. And thank you too to all those who supported Rob...the loan of a Zoom account, those who acted as sounding board, those who took part in the trial, arranged advertising etc.

Teams were limited to 'households' (for obvious reasons!). Who won? Well, I'm not sure... it was difficult to decide with different numbers in each house. The Jones' team had the highest score and possibly the biggest team. Well done to them—we played for fun and it was great to see everyone! Some comments from participants:

- *Enjoyable zoom quiz with the questions pitched at the right level. Varied rounds so something for everybody.*
- We enjoyed the range of topics; some of which we knew lots about, and others we knew nothing about! However, it didn't matter, as it was all good fun and not too competitive!
- *We really enjoyed this. Thanks. Do pass on huge thanks to Rob for upping his technology game and doing such a great job*
- Great quiz. Thank you
- Thank you for arranging this – an excellent night and well done to the quiz master, yet again. Just one complaint, the fictional detectives round was fine if you read fictional detective novels, we don't. Well done to all though and hope you raised a reasonable sum for the excellent work you do.



**A big THANK YOU to all of you who have continued to donate to the ONL through standing orders in these difficult times.  
You have made a real difference  
as we cannot hold fundraising events at present.**

**If you usually attend our functions,  
would you be able to give us a little something?**

**It can be done online - go to our website, [olneynewtonlink.org.uk](http://olneynewtonlink.org.uk) and select 'donate' from the menu - or by dropping an envelope through our treasurer's door - Tricia Selwood, 18 East Street.**



**You could also ask us for a collection box in which to put your small change - assuming you're still using real money, that is!**

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