

Olney—Newton Link

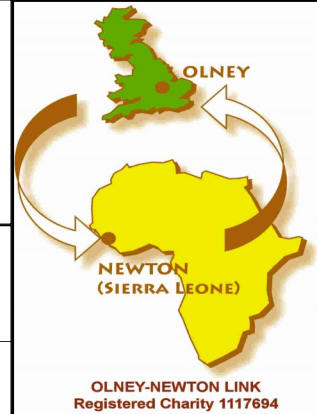
"To advance education and to relieve poverty

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

January 2023

www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk

ONL



***Happy New Year to you all
from the ONL
and from Newton...***

Happy 2023 to you all...
Brima James Kabia, Baptist
pastor

***Wishing you a Happy New
a year and thank you for
your continued support...***
Mabinty Sesay, Newton
Treasurer

***Blessed New Year to all
you people of the Olney
Newton Link UK...***
Val King, Newton Chair

Mabinty also sent a
photo of an end of
year party at the
preschool - obviously
an extended family
and friends
celebration!



Goods to Newton

We sent 4 boxes to James Kabia in November...

A huge thank you to all of you who gave the items. It seems they were just what was needed.

1 box for Komba (Christ Evangelical School) - containing books - 2 boxes for James with hymn books, bibles, some first aid equipment, HBC T shirts from the Churches of Olney, school uniform from the Olney infant school - for distribution around Newton, 3 sets of tailoring rulers, some used sweatshirts for distribution to any part of the Newton Community and 3 pairs of spectacles. There was a mixed box with books for Komba and some card, pencils and rulers, plus other items for James.

Delivery to his address was paid for and the expected date of arrival was 11th November. The boxes took longer than expected, they were held on the quay in Freetown for a while. James has them now and was delighted...



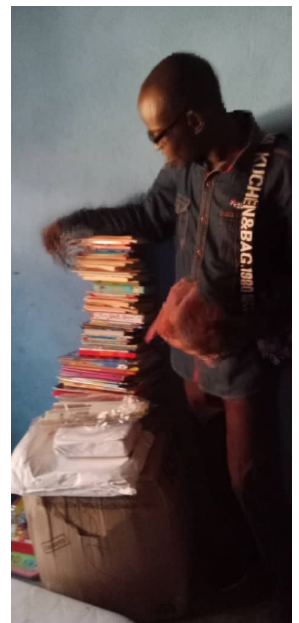
2nd January 2023

THANK YOU FOR PUTTING SMILES ON THE FACES OF MY PEOPLE.

Good morning all, I write to inform you all that I have on today's date distributed the holiday bible school T- Shirts, hoods and the uniform to my community people who are in need. I am pleased to inform you that all the children who received the these gift from you are very grateful and jubilant to receive such precious gifts from you people.

In this regard , I registered for and on the behalf of my people my heartfelt gratitude to you all. We are always grateful to you for your relentless efforts in promoting our people. Thanks so much.

Brima James Kabia



James and Friends ↑

Komba and his books ►

A New School!

From James Kabia....

This is to inform you all that for the first time in the history of Kpoubu - Newton, we have got our first secondary school which have started this year for both junior and senior pupils. I will be very grateful if could twin this new baby of ours with one of the Secondary schools in Olney. We will also appreciate text book in the following English - dictionaries, Maths and sciences.

The School's name is GOSHEN HIGH SCHOOL Kpoubu -Newton.

The Principal's name is Abdul Kabia and the ONL can contact him if anyone knows of a nearby school wanting to link. The Ahmadiyya Agricultural Secondary School in the main part of Newton is the one we have linked with in the past.



James Kabia has received the contract to make the school uniform for the new Goshen secondary school. Two of his machines were taken by ex students. He'd like these replaced by some from the UK (apparently these are better than can be bought locally). We have sent a couple of tailoring kits, plastic ones. Previously we got some reconditioned machines from a centre in Chesham, Workaid, but they are unable to help this time as they are collecting machines themselves for Nigeria.

We have an offer of one machine but need more, of a robust and reliable make that will survive the tropics. Older machines seem to work well as they are easier to repair than the modern variety and electric is fine as they have solar power and generators.

If you know of anyone who can help, let us know, please.

Contact Janet at olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com



Farming Basket

Trustees sent some more money to Newton to support another group of women in James Kabia's farming scheme. This is a project to enable women to support their families. They are given seeds and sometimes chickens to grow for food and income.

James has given twenty women who will benefit from The Farming Basket project the sum of one million three hundred thousand old Leones (ie 1300 new Leones or about £60) each.



Committee members

ONL Trustees

Anne McCallum Chair
Contact Anne at
43 Carey Way, Olney, Bucks
MK46 4DR
Tel: 01234 711196
Brian Lintern Vice Chair
Tricia Selwood Treasurer
Janet Howe Secretary
Debbie Hall
Brian Partridge
Marilyn Watkins



ONL Committee, Newton

Valicious King Chair
Mabinty Sesay Treasurer
James Conteh Secretary
Mariatu Kamara
Millicent Brown
Amadu Fofanah
Maria Koroma
Saidu Kamara
Tommy Brown

Sad News

We were very sorry to hear that Tom James had passed away.

Tom supported the ONL by working as a trustee for ten years, from 2013. He was an enthusiastic volunteer at fundraising events. He made an invaluable and knowledgeable contribution to the work of the link.

The well attended funeral was a mark of his widespread involvement in the community and the respect everyone had for him.

We would like to offer our condolences to Chris, his wife, and to all his family.



Amazing Grace 250

Brian Lintern was invited to the Cowper and Newton museum to meet a representative of the Sierra Leonean High Commission and explain what was happening about AG250.



This is what the museum reported....

We were delighted to host Witson Tebeh Yankuba, Head of Chancery, and Abdulai Braima, Information Attache, from the Sierra Leone High Commission last week! We were also joined by Salamatu Sesay, Ophelia Cole, and Abdul Kanu from the Sierra Leone Community and Brian Lintern from the Olney Newton Link. Everyone had a wonderful time visiting the museum and The Church Of St Peter And St Paul, Olney (with a delicious afternoon tea at Teapots).

Mr Braima said "Meeting you was great and your museum was inspiring. The visit is a teaching moment that I will never forget. Thank you for working so hard to keep such a deep historical piece still sailing and still illuminating the world around us- a world where we can still salvage the best out of the worst!"



These photos are from the Cowper and Newton Museum website.

Brian with Mr Yankuba and Mr Braima from the Sierra Leonian High Commission

Our photographic display in the background



At the exhibition

If you would like to visit the exhibition
Sierra-ously Surprising,
details can be found on the museum's website,
www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

Fundraising

T H E Q U I Z

A very successful and enjoyable quiz. Our thanks go to Rob, question master, for another challenging evening; to Catriona for assisting him and keeping score; to all those who cooked and cleared up as the food was delicious and much appreciated and of course to all of you who came and made it such a pleasant evening. It was a hotly contested competition which The Silent Generals won. We raised nearly £700 for the ONL!



The Winning Team, The Silent Generals

D I C K E N S O F A C H R I S T M A S

Sunday 4th December dawned misty and cold but not raining or snowing. The gazebo protected us from the worst of the wind, thank goodness, it was cold enough without the breeze!

The morning was very busy and we had to send for more boxes of bottles and top up the tickets frequently! By the afternoon we'd sold nearly all the tickets and with just a few bottles left people were encouraged to try their luck as the odds of winning got better.

A huge **thank you to all of you who donated bottles**. It's our biggest fund raiser and without your help we wouldn't have raised the magnificent £1000 we took!

Thanks too to those who arrived early to put up the gazebo, to those who moved bottles to the marketplace during the day and to all who helped man the stall.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2023

Spring 2023	<p>We have exciting plans but dates have yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>Look forward to the soup lunch, concerts and much more... details to follow</p>
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More details can be found on our website: www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk

Can you help by becoming a trustee? We meet about 4 times a year and keep in touch by e mail and occasional video meetings at other times. It isn't vary difficult, all you need is common sense and a willingness to learn about Sierra Leone and ask questions! Contact Anne or Janet (olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com)

CORPORATE MEMBERS SCHEME

We are fortunate to receive support from local businesses, both financial and practical. Corporate members sponsor the Link's work through a series of packages:

Bronze Membership, £100 per annum – Benefits:- your website link and name on ONL's website.

Silver Membership, £150 per annum – Benefits:- your website and name and description on ONL's website and your company name and logo in our newsletter.






Gold Membership, £200 per annum – Benefits:- your website name and link and profile (maximum 30 words) on ONL's website and listing as sponsor in newsletter and logo.

Platinum Membership, £500 per annum - Benefits; link, profile (maximum 200 words) on ONL website, logo and advert carrying their logo in newsletter

Our very grateful thanks to those who have already joined the scheme—**David Coles, Heron Opticians, J Garrard & Allen, Souls Garages and Stephen Oakley.**

Contact Anne or Tricia for more details of bronze, silver and gold sponsorship

GOLD

	<p>David Coles Architects</p>
	<p>J Garrard & Allen, Solicitors, has been established for over 200 years. The firm has a local and international clientele. We like to provide a friendly, efficient and prompt service to our clients, many of whom have been with us for years. The firm is pleased to sponsor the Link's work. For more details of the areas of law covered by the firm, please view the website—www.jgalaw.co.uk</p>
	<p>Heron Opticians</p> <p>a friendly, professional family business.</p>
	<p>Stephen Oakley</p>
	<p>Souls Garages</p>

SILVER

BRONZE