

Olney—Newton Link

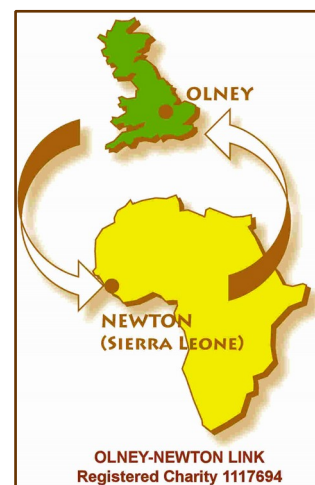
August 2014

Registered Charity 1117694

ONL

“To advance education and to relieve poverty in the village of Newton, Sierra Leone, by the provision of charitable assistance”

www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk



ONL Trustees

Rachel Lintern—Chair
Anne McCallum—Vice Chair
Janet Howe—Secretary
Tricia Selwood—Treasurer
Liz Brewster
Paul Collins
Tom James
Brian Partridge
Claire Tarawally
Marilyn Watkins
Sheila Woodhead

ONL Committee, Newton

Valicious KIng—Chair
Abu Bakarr Fofana—Secretary
Mabinty Sesay—Treasurer
Oseh Jones
Mariatu Kamara
Mohamed Koroma
Mohamed Y Sesay
Doris Harding
Unisa Turay

Contact:

Rachel Lintern—Chair
21 Austen Avenue
Olney, Bucks
MK46 4DL
Tel: 01234 711751



News from Newton

The Skills Training Centre... page 2

The Community Toilets... page 3

Latest shipment... page 4

What is this???

A photograph taken in Sierra Leone,
but what is it?



(Can't work it out? Answer on page 7)

Don't forget the invitation to tea on August 16th



The Skills Training Centre



This is the smart sign adorning the wall of the Skills Training Centre. Students are learning basic IT skills in order to gain qualifications which will help them gain employment.

Above, Examination Day! In our latest shipment **the STC have been sent a printer/scanner**, thanks to a kind donation, which will help with the production of materials.

Photocopier funded

On Mon, Jun 2, 2014 at 3:53 PM, The Linterns wrote:

Dear All

Today we have transferred Le 7million , approx. £1000, to INTL for you to purchase a photocopier and toner for the Skills Centre. We don't have enough funds at the moment for a scanner but will work towards that as soon as possible.

We are sorry that this has taken so long and we hope that it is successful and helpful for the students and tutors. These machines often seem to go wrong here so I hope you have some good technical people who will be able to help.

With best wishes to you all,

Rachel

From: Abubakarr Fofanah Sent: 03 June 2014 12:37
To: The Linterns Subject: Re: Money for photocopier

Dear Rachel,

On behalf of the link I want to thank you all very much. I am putting information in paper and pen to comply a report for you all.

We will ensure that we get the best photocopy machine that will serve the college.

God bless you all.

Bakarr



When Rachel and Anne visited in April, it was obvious that work on the grounds was needed urgently. Look at the pile of rubble. A contribution of £3000 towards the cost has been sent, which will ease the problems during the rainy season.

The Community Toilets



OLNEY IN FLOWER
United Reformed Church, Olney
(opposite of the High Street)

Fri 4th & Sat 5th July
11am - 4.30pm

Sunday 6th July
11am - 3pm
3pm - Celebratory church service

Local organisations & businesses represented through flowers in many different materials to celebrate the community of Olney.

Refreshments, logo hunt, plant sale & a variety of musical entertainment also available



The Olney-Newton Link's exhibit in the Flower Festival.

Our thanks go to Susan Heron who designed and built this wonderful 'loo in the jungle'.

We have received many kind donations from those attending Olney Flower Festival, Lifepath and Olney Infant Academy fete, and so have been able to send £2000 which will mean that one of the 4 cubicles can be totally completed. Thank you!

Items for the next Newsletter and letters and comments will be welcomed by the Editor, Janet Howe. What would you like to see in the newsletter?

Email: olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com

*The next deadline is:
Friday 17th October 2014*



What do we send to Sierra Leone?



A printer and scanner for the Skills Training Centre, donated to the link — thank you.



Engineering and IT books for the Skills Training Centre and 20 books for the Health Centre, including midwifery guides for unqualified health assistants.



Sports clothing for the schools

Every so often we use a shipping company to send a carton of goods out to Newton. The company arranges customs clearance (which is a very helpful, as we have had difficulties in the past!). It costs about £60, depending on the weight.

This month we are sending two cartons, each about a cubic metre, one to James Kabia for the Health Clinic and one to Bakarr for distribution to the Skills Training Centre and schools.



First aid and medical equipment for the Health Centre

We're going on a Lifepath!

What is Lifepath Olney? An event held every two years to tell children about the life and work of John Newton. (Alternate years focus on John Bunyan and are held in Elstow). It is run by the Scripture Union and there is a Christian message but it is open to all faiths and there is no indoctrination. Children are taught about aspects of John Newton's life and invited to reflect on their own lives in the future. The Link is involved because of John Newton's connection with Newton (obvious really!) and we give the children a 'day in the life' of a Newton schoolchild.

What is life like in Sierra Leone? This is the question we (Rachel, Rose, Brian, Janet) attempted to answer for nearly 200 children who came to our workshop at Lifepath in Olney in the last week of May. We role played a day in the life of a child in Newton - up at dawn, sweep the house, collect water from the well, find firewood, do the washing, have a quick breakfast of rice water (the water rice is cooked in) - and then a 3 mile walk to school through the jungle in 30 degree heat. We even arranged a tremendous storm with rain of Sierra Leonean force on the last afternoon! The school has rigid discipline, which is enforced by the stick, the children learn by rote, the resources are inadequate and there is nothing much to eat until after school. And yet it's a place where children are happy and glad to be because education is highly valued. We think we helped some local children appreciate how different life is in Sierra Leone from their own lives. The quote of the day? Discussing the effort needed to fetch water, find firewood, build a fire, catch, kill and pluck a chicken, one delightful little one asked why they didn't just go and buy a quiche, 'because you can eat that cold'!



Breakfast time



Preparing the fire and food



Lining up for school



John Newton and toilet!

The Olney-Newton Link would like to thank all the schools that took part in Lifepath for their generosity in giving to the *Toilets for Newton* project.

The toilet on stage received over £60, and a large puddle of water on Thursday lunchtime! In addition we received £200 from the monies you paid to attend Lifepath. Your money will be a huge help in getting the toilet block finished.

Fund Raising Events



The Cherry Fair

The Olney Colts Presentation Awards

Remember the carol *singing in the rain*? On June 28th, the day of the Cherry Fair, the rain came back. It poured with rain, flooding the entrance to The Glebe. Eventually it did clear up and once the sun came out the whole atmosphere changed, but by that time most of the arena events had either pulled out or been cancelled so visitor numbers were well down. Still, the stall did take £122 plus a £20 donation which wasn't too bad.

And then we were invited to take the tombola to the Olney Colts Awards Presentation next day, just a few fields further along. The weather was better (just drizzle) and luckily the heavy rain held off until clearing up time.



The wonderful cakes at The Raft Race



The stall

We sold tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits at The Raft Race. Thank you to the bakers, including Lindsey Pemberton.

Next fund raising event—Afternoon Tea, 16th August, in aid of the Newton Community Toilets. Details on page 7.

Olney Infant Academy Fete

A fun afternoon. The children (especially the small boys) enjoyed a competition to throw pennies in the toilet! Afterwards there was £22 in the loo!



The spread of Ebola

The Ebola outbreak is causing concern in Sierra Leone and here in the UK, as we think of our friends there. In Sierra Leone, **454 cases** had been recorded up to the end of July. In Kailahun, in the east of the country, the Médecins Sans Frontières team is running a 64-bed Ebola treatment centre. Since the facility opened, 131 patients have been admitted for treatment. So far, **12 patients have recovered** and returned home to their families. MSF has **trained more than 200 community health workers** to deliver essential health messages to people in their villages about how to protect themselves. Ebola can be caught from humans and animals. It is transmitted through close contact with blood, secretions, or other bodily fluids. Healthcare workers have frequently been infected while treating Ebola patients. Diagnosing Ebola is difficult because the early symptoms, such as red eyes and rashes, are common. Ebola infections can only be diagnosed definitively in the laboratory by five different tests. No specific treatment or vaccine is yet available for Ebola.

STOP PRESS— Following discussion with the Newton Committee we have agreed to help as follows (e mail sent to Newton Committee on 6.08.2014)

As discussed with Bakarr, James Kabia and Alusine Sesay, we would like to help with the provision of appropriate items to help with the prevention of ebola. We understand that sanitation and sensitisation (information) are the important things needed at the moment and that may include megaphones, medical clothing, disinfectant and containers for hand washing.

We recently sent £1000 for use at the STC but we are happy for you to spend up to £500 Le3 500 000 on the ebola prevention materials. Please would Mabinty account for the money as usual and we will then send some more to replace it for the STC. If you feel you need more than this amount please contact us and we will consider your request. We sincerely hope that this crisis will very soon end.
With very best wishes, Rachel

Answer to the question on Page 1:

Serabu Kitchen Water Well and Handwash

Kitchen



Pedal operated water dispensers with soap in protective covers

Water well with hand pump



The Olney Newton Link
Afternoon Tea
34 Carey Way
Saturday
August 16th
3 pm until 5pm
£5
In aid of the
Newton Community Toilets
Fund
Tickets from Rachel 711751
or Anne 711196

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2014

Saturday 16th August	Afternoon Tea at 34 Carey Way, 3pm. Tickets in advance from Anne (01234 711196) or Rachel (01234 711151)
Saturday 27th September	70s Night at The Carlton Club. Details to follow.
October	Black History Month. Display at the museum.
November 14th	Quiz Night at The Olney Centre
More details can be found on our website: www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk	

CORPORATE MEMBERS SCHEME

We are already fortunate to receive support from local businesses, both financial and practical. We have decided to formalise this arrangement and to offer the opportunity to join the scheme to a wider range of business within the area who may not be fully cognisant with the charity. The scheme will provide existing supporters with greater and more tangible recognition as well. Corporate members will be requested to sponsor the Link's work through a series of packages, briefly:

Bronze Membership, £50 per annum – Benefits:- your website link and name on ONL's website.


Silver Membership, £100 per annum – Benefits:- your website and name and description on ONL's website and your company name and logo in our newsletter.

Gold Membership, £150 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.**

GOLD

	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
	Heron Opticians a friendly, professional family business.
	David Coles Architects
	Stephen Oakley

SILVER

	Souls Garages
---	----------------------

BRONZE