

# Olney—Newton Link

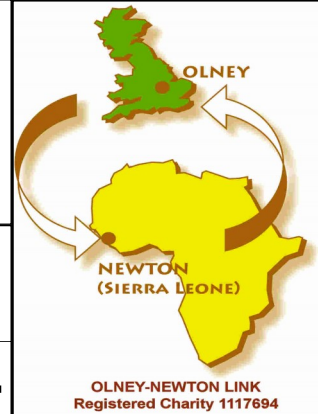
*"To advance education and to relieve poverty*

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

**August 2016**

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

**ONL**



## Well Done!

A report from Valicious King, Chairman of the Newton Committee:

"The well has now been completed and when you send us the balance money we will pay the shop owner for the materials".

This money for materials has been sent. The photographs were via WhatsApp, which is our main means of communication with Newton at present.



## Now Let's Raise the Roof!

Preschool report ... page 2

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# Raising the Roof of the Preschool

The preschool building is progressing very well. Thanks to fund raising and generous donations we have been able to send more money and as you can see from the latest photographs, the roof is beginning to rise. With a great deal of foresight, Mabinty Sesay, Newton Treasurer, has ensured that a reinforcing layer has been added at the top of the walls. The struts are being built and as soon as we can send more, the waterproof top will be added. Then it's a matter of equipping the building for young children.



Obviously with such a large project, the Trustees need to be sure that proper accounts are kept and Mabinty keeps us up to date with developments by sending her expense accounts and by taking photographs regularly so we can see what has been done.

Accounts have to be sent as WhatsApp photographs—this is our latest update together with a transcript so that you can read it.

DATE	ITEM	DETAILS	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
9/5/16	Iron rods	To do the beam	82 pcs	50,000	4,100,000
	Stirrups	" "	40 pcs	20,000	800,000
	Binding wire	" "	1 roll	250,000	250,000
	Boards	" "	50 pcs	55,000	1,750,000
	Collection of Iron items	" "	3 trips	300,000	900,000
	Labour	" "			500,000
	Money spent on water well project				4,700,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>15,000,000</b>

All prices are in Leones.  
The current exchange rate  
is about 8000Le = £1

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# The Newton Institute

The Olney Newton Link was asked by the Institute (formerly the Skills Training Centre) if we would consider providing some support for students who were having difficulty paying their fees and supporting themselves while studying. The Trustees decided that they would support cases of hardship by sending up to a total of £500 each year (very little when you consider UK fees).

The Newton Committee were asked to scrutinise applications and decided which students would benefit most. Conditions were made: for example, students had to have completed the previous year successfully.



Bursaries were awarded this year to:

*Ester Tarawally. My name is Ester Tarawally born of Newton7. Prince Alfred rd. I study Human Resource management . I have received a partial scholarship for my course . Thank you very much. God bless you.*

*Ishmael Kanu. My name is Ishmael Kanu. I am born of Newton.I am a student of Newton College studying accounting and Financial. I have received a scholarship for my studies from Olney Newton Link . Thank you.*

*Adama Jar. My name is Adama Jar I am a student at Newton College studying banking and finance. I have received a partial scholarship for my final year N.C.T. V. A. exams from Mr Fofana and team . Thank you very much.*

*My name is Alimamy Tarawalie, a student of Newton College doing Teachers Certificate. Thank you for the scholarship.*

*Sarah Mansaray. My name is Sarah Mansaray ,I am a student at Newton College. I study banking and finance. I have got a partial scholarship for my final year examination from you. Thank you very much.*

*James Sankoh. I am a student at Newton college. I study accounting and finance. I am born of Newton. Have received a scholarship from Mr Fofanah for my final year Diploma Course. God bless you all.*

*My name is Ernest bai Raymond born in Newton , 148, Old Motor Road. I study Human Resource Management I have received partial scholarship for my course. Thank you. God bless you.*

We wish them all success in their studies and in their future careers.



# First Aid Delivered

In April we sent a carton containing First Aid equipment to James Kabia. We have now received two photographs.



Mr Swaib and one of his workers displaying some of the contents in the carton.

He rescues many people involved in road accidents . He is by the old road about 150 meters from the market.

James Kabia

## **ONL Trustees**

Anne McCallum—Chair  
Contact Anne at  
43 Carey Way, Olney, Bucks  
MK46 4DR  
Tel: 01234 711196  
Rachel Lintern—Vice Chair  
Tricia Selwood—Treasurer  
Janet Howe—Secretary  
Liz Brewster  
Chloe Kegg  
Tom James  
Brian Partridge  
Glenn Selwood  
Marilyn Watkins  
Sheila Woodhead

## **TRUSTEES NEEDED!**

Would you be able to spare an evening every 2 months or so? The Olney Committee is looking for people willing to help. They are especially keen to hear from anyone with marketing or business experience.

Contact Anne or Rachel to find out more.

## **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

Have you got something to say? Items for the next newsletter to Janet Howe, by email to [olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com), or to any trustee, by mid October please.

**DARE  
TO  
WRITE**  
IT:

# Fundraising Events

## Cherry Fair

Better weather this year (I can't believe I am actually writing this after the last few weeks!!) enabled our tombola to raise £390.

Thank you to all our helpers and supporters!



## Olney in Flower

A magnificent display thanks to Noriko Heyes and Rose Platt... and not forgetting Brian Lintern's model of a well (Look hard, it's at the back).

The display was much praised for its evocation of Sierra Leone life—the well, plastic utensils, baskets and rampant vegetation.





# Midsummer Madness

This event began in the afternoon with fun stalls aimed at children and parents. Sadly, it wasn't well attended but those who came enjoyed the activities and challenges.

Music (Classical and Modern) was included too from early afternoon to late evening and many people enjoyed the ambiance of a summer evening outdoors accompanied by the gentle strains of Ian and his friends.

Thank you Ian for your organisation of this lovely event! The ONL benefitted to the tune of about £260.



Ian Roberts and friends

The 'Olney Trio'



Coconut Shy



Books galore



Splat the Rat (nearly!)



Lucky Dip



Jam Jar Jungle

# Riverfest

A great chance to win a duck by fishing it out of a pond! This was much enjoyed by the younger children and a lot harder than it looked. Thanks to Sue, Tricia, John and Janet for helping.



# Lifepath

Every two years, The Bridgebuilder Trust and The Scripture union organise an event for school children about the life and work of John Newton.

The Olney Newton Link are asked to run workshops about daily life in Newton. It's hard work but good fun and a very good way to ensure lots of people find out about life in Sierra Leone. Four groups visit our 'Newton house' each day for three days and they all seem to enjoy the experience and begin to realise how different it is to live in Sierra Leone.

Thank you to all the children for the super donation of £175 towards the preschool.



The day begins in a 'village house'. The children learn where Sierra Leone is, meet their 'mother' and are sent off to do essential morning tasks—collecting wood for the fire, fetching water, sweeping the house.



With water collected, time to do the washing (by hand, of course) and to hang it on the bushes to dry.

Then cooking—rice, 'greens' (cassava leaves or similar), maybe some dried fish or chicken if you're really lucky. The pot will simmer all day until the evening meal at about 5pm.

Breakfast—a drink of rice water ( the liquid left after cooking last night's dinner).

Next it's a walk to school—maybe as much as 4 miles through the bush—and the children have to scare the birds away from the family's crops on the way.



School is different—no computers; very few books—pens, pencils and exercise books aren't provided so if your family is poor you might not have one. Learning is by repetition and copying from the blackboard. Songs are used to help children remember. Discipline is strict. But the children are eager to learn and enjoy school, education is highly valued.

Rachel, Brian, Rose and Janet.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2016

Saturday August 20th 3pm till 5pm	<b>Afternoon Tea:</b> at 34 Carey Way. <b>Tickets in advance please</b> from Anne (01234 711196) or Rachel (01234 711751)
Friday 11th November	Quiz Night
Sunday 4th December	Dickens Day
21st January 2017	Race Night

More details can be found on our website: [www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk](http://www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk)

### 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—**Ashwood Chimneys, David Coles, Heron Opticians, J Garrard & Allen, Souls Garages and Stephen Oakley.**

#### GOLD

	<b>Ashwood Chimneys</b> is a professional, highly accredited, family run company based in Olney which undertakes and specialises in all aspects of chimney works within the Beds, Bucks and Northants area.
	<b>David Coles Architects</b>
	<b>J Garrard &amp; Allen</b> , 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— <a href="http://www.jgalaw.co.uk">www.jgalaw.co.uk</a>
	<b>Heron Opticians</b> a friendly, professional family business.
	<b>Stephen Oakley</b>

#### SILVER

	<b>Souls Garages</b>
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#### BRONZE