

Olney—Newton Link

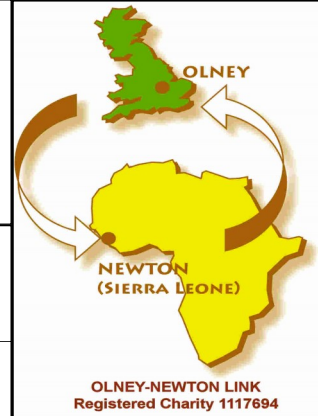
"To advance education and to relieve poverty

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

August 2018

www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk

ONL



Financing the building of wells to provide clean drinking water and reduce water borne diseases

Working with the preschool to help it become self sufficient – charging those parents who can pay, considering bursaries for those in need, funding purchase of furniture and the building of a toilet block.



What is the ONL doing?

Encouraging the development of training and employment opportunities such as James Kabia's tailoring apprenticeships and practical skills courses at the Institute



Sending items to Newton which have been donated—first aid equipment, carpentry tools, school books, and football kit

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Another brick in the well...

(with apologies to Pink Floyd
and even more apologies to those who don't know who Pink Floyd are/were...)

The ONL sent £3000 out to Newton on 21st May to assist with the building of a **third** well in Newton. We haven't received any photos of the finished well yet but hopefully all is in progress. Another well is also planned.

This was the estimate we received from Val King, the Newton chairman.

Hi all people Olney

Expenditure for well one

Cost per well digger	Le 4,000,000
Cost per half ton iron rod	Le 3,000,000
Total cost of cement used for the well and Calvert construction	Le 3,000,000
Cost of sand	Le 2,000,000
Cost of iron stones (Granite)	Le 3,000,000
Cost of hand well tap	Le 11,000,000
Transportation	Le 2, 000,000
Total	Le28,000,000 which is about £2,700
(£1 is about 10,500Leones at the moment)	

Second Expenditure for well two Le 28,000,000

All people of OLNEY, the people of Newton and its environs say many thanks to you for coming to their aid at the time of the need , which is water and they appreciate you so much for this aid and they are asking you for more well construction as rainy season is closer and all streams will not be too good for human consumption so they are asking for more wells before the rainy season and I as chairman of the Link and committee members are in support of more wells to the sustainability to the people of Newton

Newton OLNEY Link

Report on water well project from

Valicious King

Chairman Newton Committee



The Preschool

The Newton Preschool is currently sharing the toilets which were built by the Institute a while ago. This isn't working very well for the young children and so we have been requested to finance the building of another toilet block for preschool use. Trustees are considering this estimate, received from Mabinty Sesay, Treasurer and Preschool Manager. The cost would be about £4000.

Estimate from Mabinty, received 18th June 2018

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
1 CEMENT	To build septic and to roof	120 bags	55,000	6,600,000
2 SAND	3	3 full trips	1,500,000	4,500,000
3 Granite	For building and septic	full trip	3,500,000	3,500,000
4 Iron rods	15 pcs	75,000	1,125,000	
5 Ball stones	1 full trip	1,200,000	1,200,000	
6 Timbers	For Roofing and concrete	1 bundle	3,500,000	3,500,000
7 Zinc	For Roofing	4 bundles	800,000	3,200,000
8 Nails	Assorted	1	300,000	300,000
9 Roofing felt	For Roofing	2 bundles	70,000	140,000
10 Carboleon	For painting boards	2 gallons	120,000	240,000
11 Doors	2 metal 4 wooden	1 set	2,200,000	2,200,000
12 Toilet seats	4	4 pcs	200,000	800,000
13 PVC pipes	connections	4 full length	150,000	600,000
14 Tiles	For tiling floor and walls	40 cartons	100,000	4,000,000
15 Paints	For painting outside and	6 gallons	150,000	900,000
16 Wash basins	For hand washing	2 pcs	400,000	800,000
17 Labour cost or Volunteering				5,880,000
Total				39,485,000

Item	Description	Amount	Unit cost	Total
Cement	septic etc	120 bags	55,000.00	6,600,000.00
Sand		3 trips	1,500,000.00	4,500,000.00
Granite		1 trips	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00
Iron rods		15 pcs	75,000.00	1,125,000.00
Ball stones		1 trips	1,200,000.00	1,200,000.00
Timbers	roofing & concrete	1 bundle	3,500,000.00	3,500,000.00
Zinc	roofing	4 bundles	800,000.00	3,200,000.00
Nails	assorted	1 assorted	300,000.00	300,000.00
Roofing felt		2 bundles	70,000.00	140,000.00
Carboleon		2 gallons	120,000.00	240,000.00
Doors	2 metal 4 wooden	1 set	2,200,000.00	2,200,000.00
Toilet seats		4 pcs	200,000.00	800,000.00
pvc pipes	connections	4 lengths	150,000.00	600,000.00
tiles	floor & walls	40 cartons	100,000.00	4,000,000.00
paints		6 gallons	150,000.00	900,000.00
wash basins	hand-wash	2 pcs	400,000.00	800,000.00
Labour		1 item	5,880,000.00	5,880,000.00
TOTAL				39,485,000.00

OLNEY NEWTON LINK COMMITTEE, SIERRA LEONE.

Comprehensive Summary Report On the Progress of the Link.

This report was received from Bakarr, Secretary of the Newton Committee at the end of May. The Olney Committee has already sent the money for the third well and has asked for further information about the other items.

1.THE STATE OF AFFAIRS OF THE LINK

The Olney Newton link has made considerable efforts in providing basic social needs for the people of Newton. It has made quite a lot of progress so far with an effective and diligent committee that has been coordinating its activities here in SL. Going forward, the reconstitution of the committee and new members are needed, especially as Bakarr who has served as Secretary and administrator for many years has been elected Member of Parliament for Newton.

(The Olney Committee has sent a Certificate to Bakarr in recognition of his 15 years of wonderful service)

He will be designated as an Ex officio member who from time to time will make his input in the progress of the Link and provide an oversight function and an advisory role to ensure proper implementation of projects.

We intend to appoint members of the school link to be part of our committee.

2. UPDATE ON PROJECTS.

Water well project

Val King is the personnel in charge of this project. He stated that out of the three wells approved he has completed two and has sent photos of them.

The Preschool Project

It is amazing to see the preschool growing very well as a symbol of hope in the future of the link. Vulnerable children have been able to gain preschool education.

- The children share toilet facilities with the Institute which is a potential health risk for our children
- The incentives for teachers and the caretaker as some parents are too poor to pay for their children. The preschool is a free help humanity to rescue the vulnerable needy.

The Institute

It is worth reporting that the institute as a blue print on the foundation of the link has thrived. It has made considerable gains in its vision in promoting the lives of the young people of this community. A good number have graduated and are now gainfully employed. The challenge ahead is to move forward from the status of an institution to a university college. We need to provide adequate seating, renew the IT equipment and create a library and lab for our public health services department.

The School Link

The ONL has made considerable efforts in promoting our schools' education system by providing teaching and learning materials. The school exchange program was disrupted by the Ebola virus outbreak. But the schools keep in contact. We intend to appoint a representative of the schools to be part of our committee.

3.RECOMMENDATION

The Newton Committee has resolved that the health centre project is the more pressing felt need of the people and a redefined project will be sent to you for due consideration. We also recommend for the completion of the water well project and finally the facilitations of our communication system.

In conclusion, I express my gratitude and appreciation to all members of the link for whose contributions we will ever remain grateful.

Faithfully submitted by.
Hon.AbuBakarr Fofanah
Outgoing Secretary.

21st May 2018



Fundraising—The Cherry Fair

As I write this my PC is whirring away, trying to keep itself cool in our unusually hot summer. Sierra Leone temperatures!

And the Cherry Fair was blessed with good weather too, so thank you to all of you from the ONL who helped and all who supported us, raising just over £400 towards our next project in Newton.



Problems living in Sierra Leone

Our correspondent from Sierra Leone reports:

Recently my family and I were attacked in our home in Sierra Leone. It was a vicious attack carried out at night by a gang of lads who broke into the house and took a large number of our belongings. This gang has been terrorising our community for a while now, and the police are almost powerless to stop them as they have no resources to use in order to catch them. It begs the question why do they attack and rob?

One reason is lack of education. It's expensive sending a child to school, the equivalent of a fortnight wage for some people just to pay school fees and that's before buying uniform and all the other equipment such as pens, pencils etc. Nothing is given to the kids by the school, even a paracetamol tablet has to be bought—from home or by the teacher. So, there's a huge number of youths that drop out. And no benefits scheme to help them out or apprenticeships to start their careers. Boredom is a huge problem, so the gang culture begins to form.

There is also becoming an issue with drugs - not heroin or cocaine but tramadol. This stuff is everywhere and makes these males think they are invincible. They take it with cheap alcohol, sit around all day then when night comes they break into people's houses and steal. This is then sold for money to buy food for the family and yes more tramadol.

What can be done? Firstly, an overhaul of the education system which am pleased to say is beginning to happen. The new president has declared that no parent should pay school fees in a government run school, and that schools should not charge exorbitant fees for other equipment. But the country needs to start better training for the skills such as carpentry, plumbing, electricians etc. vocational training centres are there but badly under resourced. They need new or barely used tools to train students properly, not just old-fashioned equipment that is barely safe. It's a huge ask but if the country is to develop it's desperately needed.

Perhaps then, these gangs will have a purpose in life and the fear felt by us householders will start to abate.



Lifepath in Olney

Every two years the Scripture Union organises an event based at Olney Church to inform children about the work of John Newton and to encourage them to consider their future 'lifepath'.

The Olney Newton Link is asked to provide workshops for groups of children on life in Sierra Leone. We tell them about the climate, the town of Newton, the sort of house they would live in, the duties they would have in the home (role play involved here—getting water, sweeping, washing, cooking) and then give them a school lesson SL style.

This year the workshops were organised by Marilyn, Sue, Wendy and Janet and despite the groups being much bigger than usual the children responded well and we enjoyed helping them learn a little about Newton life.

Our thanks go to the Scripture Union who have made a generous donation towards the next water well.



Where is Newton?



At home with 'mum'



Collecting water from the well, doing the washing, putting it out to dry

School Time



FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2017

Saturday 25th August	Afternoon Tea—to be confirmed by e mail soon
Friday 21st September	An Evening with Ian Roberts and Friends at the Two Brewers. Supper included. 7.30pm
Monday 29th October	Autumn Antics—afternoon at the Youth Club—details to follow
Friday 9th November	The ONL Quiz. 7 30pm start, The Olney Centre. Supper.

More details can be found on our website: 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—**David Coles, Heron Opticians, J Garrard & Allen, Novalex Solicitors, Souls Garages and Stephen Oakley.**

GOLD

	David Coles Architects
	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.
	Do you want high quality, commercial legal advice for your business as well as excellent value for your money? If so, call Novalex Solicitors on 01908 440020 or email karen.mason@novalex.co.uk .
	Stephen Oakley
	Souls Garages

SILVER

BRONZE