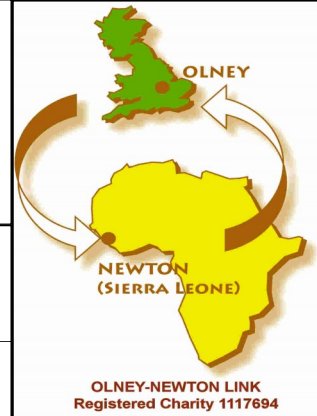


Olney—Newton Link



“To advance education and to relieve poverty

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

August 2021

www.olneynewtonlink.org.uk

ONL

The Newton Committee

From Val King, on 30th July 2021

Good morning to u people of Olney

First and foremost let me apologise for not hearing from me for quite a long time as chairman of the link, my iPhone get crashed and I was unable to send minutes for past meetings but have tried to get a good one this time and moreover I was tied up with job pressure and was also with the COVID-19 team working in the province but thank God am back to Newton. The last two meetings held through phone as we observed the Covid-19 laws will be submitted. I remember I promised to submit names of the Olney Newton link committee members in Newton, as follows:

**Valecious King
Chairman**



**Mabinty Sesay
Treasurer**



**James Conteh
Secretary**



**Mariatu
Kamara**



Millicent Brown



Amadu Fofanah



Saidu Kamara



Abdul Karim



Tommy Brown

Awaiting
photograph

Mariam Koroma

Awaiting
photograph

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

For the newsletter e mail:
olneynewtonlinknewsletter@gmail.com

Covid in Sierra Leone

We have been hearing in the news about increased prevalence in Africa so we asked Mabinty Sesay (Treasurer) about the situation in Newton.

Conversation via WhatsApp with Mabinty... on 28th June

I see that the covid cases have been growing in Western area. What is happening in Newton, are people getting the vaccine? I believe that over 30s can get the vaccine which is essential if we are all to fight this problem. Brian

Hi all.

Thanks very much for your concern. We have a few cases at Home Leone which is just a mile to the centre of Newton. Many people are not yet vaccinated in Newton. The vaccine is only available at Waterloo government hospital.

Hi Mabinty, sorry to hear that there is limited access to vaccines. Is this due to limited supplies? Do you have to pay to be vaccinated or is it only given to certain people?

I agree with Brian that universal vaccination is essential to control Covid.

Take care,
Anne

Good morning Ann.

Yes there is limited supply.

No money is being collected, but people find it difficult to get the vaccine at Waterloo.

Sometimes people have travelled so many times to go there but no vaccine is given to them.

They use their time and money but at the end they receive nothing. Because of that many people have lost interest in the vaccine.

The issue of home Leone is very scary in our community. They have so many workers around Newton.

Thanks again Ann.

God continue to bless you.

On July 24th from government reports...



Sierra Leone Coronavirus Cases: **6,250**

Deaths: **119**

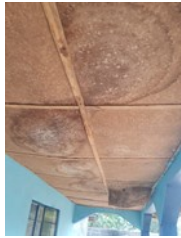
Recovered: **4,241**

Claire (nee Lintern) and Mahmoud Tarawally came to Rachel's memorial. They said they were able to travel from Sierra Leone just before the country was put on the red list and joined us after their statutory 10 days quarantine and tests. We were delighted to hear that they have been doubly vaccinated (one through Covax and one Sinopharm).

The Preschool

Repairs Needed

At the end of May we heard that the roof of the preschool had been damaged by a falling tree. Thanks to donations for the Quiz we were able to send £450 to effect the repair.



The damage and estimate

Mended

Improvements to the Preschool Area

We reported in the last edition that the area surrounding the preschool was being paved so dirt didn't get carried into the building and spoil the carpet. They were also improving the boundary with a secure wall using money we sent out last year. Mabinty has sent photos...



The new wall



Before



Construction



Finished Paving

Registration of the Preschool

In order to register the preschool with the government and obtain funding, the land the building is on needs official registration. The ONL has sent £516 to enable this to be done.

We were slightly taken aback when we saw this computer generated image which is nothing like the real preschool, but apparently this is how it's done in Sierra Leone.... And there are two stories so that one could be added if needed at some point in the future.



Newton Pre-school as seen on Google Earth - dated 26th April 2021



The pre-school area looks to be secured and roof intact, as far as can be seen from the air. Cannot see any tree that could now damage the roof.

Events

Memorial for Rachel, July 31st

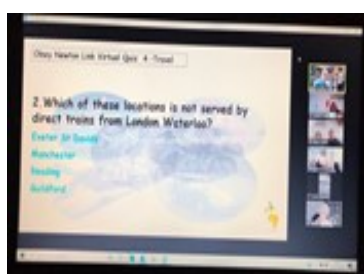
A small number of trustees, committee members and former trustees gathered in Anne's garden for tea in memory of Rachel Lintern and her outstanding contribution to the work of the Link.. Brian suggested this as she would have preferred it to a formal service and she enjoyed the teas so much. Claire and Mahmoud were able to be with us (having quarantined for 10 days!) and Helen and family came too. We also remembered Rena Partridge and her establishment of the ONL.



Virtual Quiz Number 4

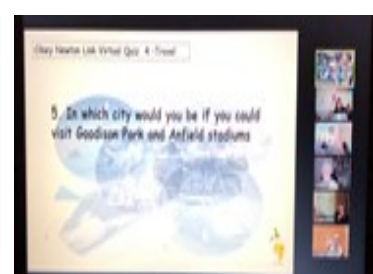
Not quite as well attended as the previous ones but great fun again...and with regulations easing people were able to meet in groups this time. Thank you to all those who joined in, raising £240 for the ONL, and to Rob for setting the questions on a travel theme!

We hope you will join us in real time for a quiz and supper in November, date and venue to be confirmed asap.



Olney Newton Link Virtual Quiz 4 - Travel

6. What famous train takes a variety of tours between 2 & 7 days through Scotland and can cost upwards of £11,000.00 per sleeping compartment?



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 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!

A big thank you to our GOLD sponsors

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