

AlansAfrica

"making a real difference" in

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magenta
SELF STORAGE

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Helen, Branch Manager Banbury, and the directors for helping solve my storage space for all the football kit and school uniform items that I have waiting to ship to Sierra Leone.

Liverpool School junior library



As you can see from the photos the junior library is now complete. We are going to re-locate the water tank, shown on the right of the picture, to a more suitable position where it will not cause an obstruction and it will collect water from the existing classroom block and the library room – this work will be completed this week.

A message of thanks from Liverpool School

We continue to thank you and your supporters, for making GREAT differences in our communities, especially in our Liverpool Schools.

Our community is very proud to have such wonderful facilities that have benefited, and will continue to benefit, generations yet unborn. You have delivered our children from total darkness to a brighter future with promising opportunities. We will ever be grateful to you ALL.

Solomon Kamara, Headteacher

So what's next ?

We still need to finalise the purchase of all the text books for both the junior & secondary school and the equipment for the laboratory. We are also in the process of finalising details for the installation of mains electricity to a number of the classrooms.



WESTMINSTER
GROUP FOUNDATION

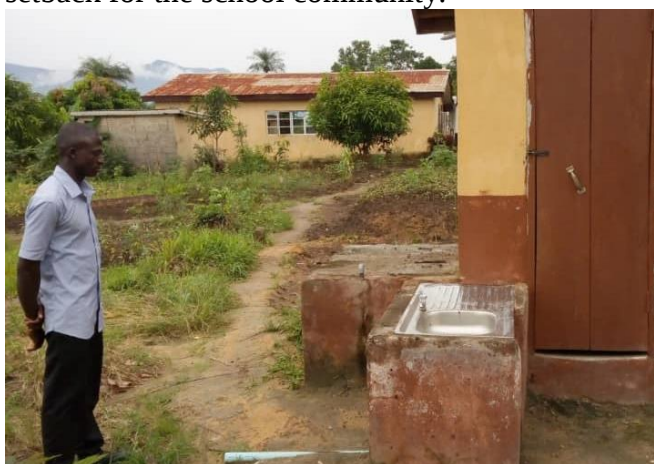


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In May 2017 we installed a handwash station comprising a 1,000 litre water tank & stainless steel sink and harvested rain from the toilet block roof so that children could wash their hands – a big step forward for personal hygiene at the school I am **really** sad to report that on Saturday 8th September, during the night, thieves stole the tank and although the police and local community elders are investigating I don't believe we will find the culprits. This is obviously a significant setback for the school community.



To say I am upset is a **vast** understatement but I am working with the school and we will come up with a solution so that we can replace the tank and make it more secure than previously. This will mean building a wall to enclose the tank but we will still need access for any maintenance.

I have to stay positive about this setback. Over the last 13 years of involvement in Sierra Leone this is only the third time that we have had such a setback but nevertheless it is still frustrating.

The downside is that I need to raise an additional **£500** to undertake this remedial work as it is not something that was budgeted for. It **will** happen because of the importance of maintaining basic hygiene for the 100+ kids at the school.



On Saturday September 1st Books & Ink, Banbury held their SEVENTH book sale of the summer and raised **£217** taking their total this season to an **AMAZING £1,040**. This will all go towards the cost of purchasing text books for the junior & secondary school at Liverpool School, Waterloo. MANY sincere thanks to Sam, Karl & Sandra for all their tremendous support. The grand total raised so far for the “book appeal” is **£4,400**.

SO why do I do what I do in Freetown?

I went to Sierra Leone in 2005 believing it would be a one-off life experience but those 11 days were life changing for me. Initially I worked as a Rotary volunteer for Mercy Ships, but on my third trip, 2007, I decided that by working directly with a community I could **“Make A Real Difference”**. I am now supporting 4 school communities and have funded the building of 31 classrooms, 5 toilet blocks, installed water harvesting systems on 18 of the classrooms, and handwash stations on 3 toilet blocks, sunk one well & refurbished another.

There have been many other smaller things going on including “The Sunny Girl” project, payment of school fees, provision of school uniforms and I have shipped literally thousands of £'s worth of assorted football/sports kit, school uniforms & school equipment.

This has only been possible with a fantastic network of supporters – Banbury Rotary Club, many Rotary Clubs in District 1090, Rotary Clubs across the UK, Westminster Group PLC, Oxford United FC, hundreds of local groups and schools, dozens of individuals and companies that are often mentioned in my Newsletters. To **EVERYONE** who has supported me, in any way, a sincere thank you, because by working together we have **“made dreams a reality”** for literally hundreds of people in communities in the Freetown area.

In short – I do it because I can and I know that in a small way we are **“Making A Real Difference”**.

Mandela said: “Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mine worker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farmworkers can become the President of a great nation”.