



Covid-19 & Sierra Leone

Covid 19 today's figures: 2,354 confirmed cases with 74 recorded deaths and 1,792 recovered

Banbury International Community School

The compound wall has been built, the gates have been fitted and the external walls have been rendered and the base coat of paint has been applied.



Port Loko Primary School

I have recently been approached to support a 7th school! I was slightly wary of “spreading myself too thin”, however I then received a number of photos and despite my initial hesitation I felt that I ought to try and see if there was a way of helping them. It is a Primary School with just over 400 children attending from the surrounding 12 villages. Despite the staff being paid by the Government, basic things such as classroom furniture are not included in the support. A week ago I posted the photo on Twitter with the caption “No child should have to endure these conditions whilst attending school. This is the harsh reality for these children at a school I've been made aware of & who need help in #SierraLeone Just £10 will fund a desk & bench set for 3 children”.



150 of the 400 children have to endure these conditions on a daily basis. Some of them sitting/crouching on the floor, others using benches as desks – surely I can do something? More to follow...

Mahera Wharf Oxford United

Club captain, Mohamed Tenanah Kamara, a midfielder, has been selected for the Under 17 Sierra Leone National Football Squad. This is a massive achievement for Mohamed and the entire Mahera Wharf Club. When I was first introduced to these guys in April 2018 they didn't even possess a team football strip. With fantastic support from Peter Rhoades-Brown, Oxford United's Commercial Director, Oxford United FC and a number of Oxford fans we have managed to improve the quality of life for the 60+ lads in this small impoverished community.



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Raging Fever in Port Loko Primary School !

No there is not an outbreak of an illness !! John an Oxford United supporter who has supported me previously contacted me and said he would see what he could do, but couldn't promise anything.

He explained that he used to run the OUFC fans team (Raging Fever FC) and their bank account has sat with some funds in it for a while. He sent out an e-mail, with photos to the squad, saying "Alan's recent Tweet shows children attending school (good!), but having to sit on the hard mud floor whilst trying to write and learn (bad) due to there being no funding for anything beyond the teachers and basic materials. A desk that can seat 3 children costs £10. Given we have no real use for our current funds I propose that Raging Fever FC funds the desks. It would be a good use of the money aligned to an initiative that is supported by the Club. It's this or a group curry post-lockdown and I think I know which one is a better use of the money.....AND they've all agreed to a man that we should fund the £500 required for the 50 desks".

What a FANTASTIC result! I am pleased to say that the money has been transferred to Freetown and they are starting to make the desk & bench sets this week.



SINCERE THANKS to the Raging Fever FC "lads"

I can't wait to get the photos and send them to you all. Many, many thanks for acting as the catalyst in helping me to "Make A Real Difference".

Momoh's carer

I was sent this picture by Pastor Mark of the lady's left wrist - you don't need to be a doctor to realise how awkward and painful this type of growth must be.



There's no NHS in Sierra Leone so the only way to have it removed is to pay for an operation yourself. Having known Momoh for about 7 years I knew that

this condition would ultimately impact on him as well as his carer. Pastor Mark told me that the operation and post-operative care would be just shy of £100. This seemed a small price to pay and I am pleased to report that last Wednesday the operation was completed and Momoh's "Auntie", a Sierra Leonean term of endearment for an older lady is making steady progress

Oxford United kit donations

I recently shipped some donations courtesy of Anna of Enable The Children, a physiotherapy charity in Freetown, and here are some of her staff members proudly wearing their OUFC kit items.



It may be last season's kit, BUT the lads at Mahera Wharf Oxford United were really pleased with the latest donation of a team strip from their "mother club" And express their sincere thanks for the continued support of Peter Rhoades-Brown & all at OUFC.



The footballs were donated by my good friend Adrian at The Roll Out The Barrel Trust. He donated a consignment of 50 footballs and more of these will be on the consignment of goods that I will be delivering to the shippers in Lewisham on Thursday.

The donations will include lots of assorted Oxford United kit, second hand football strips from Banbury Irish FC & Aberaeron FC, school uniform items donated by Sew Sublime, Banbury and mini-football. The total consignment has a total value of circa **£6,000** Many thanks to all the donors of the above items.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to Banbury Print & Design and to Magenta Storage, Banbury for all their continued support.