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Covid-19 Sierra Leone latest figures
3,938 confirmed cases, with 79 recorded deaths and 2,780 recovered.

Kunduma School & Community well

The work was started on Tuesday 2nd March and the progress is **AMAZING** given that everything is done just using picks and shovels. Just ten days later they have dug down 14 metres & have just reached the water table. All the spoil is hauled out using a bucket & rope on a pulley system, which is also used to get the workmen in and out of the well.



The next picture shows one of the guys, who has just finished his shift being “given a lift home” by five of his workmates. I don’t think UK Health & Safety would approve of this, but it is just what they are used to and it seems to work well - no pun intended! If I was there, Fayah says they would need **at least 10** guys on the rope!



On Thursday they reached the water table, 14 metres down. Over 300 people from two villages will benefit from the installation of the well.

We are going to fit a hand pump, as the use of a submersible pump is not possible as there is no local electricity supply. They have fitted filters beneath at the base of the well to sift the dirt and they use chlorine tablets for purifying the water for drinking. Click [here](#) to see some video footage.

Support in 2021

So far this year I have received donations of **£4,750** Thanks to the Rotary Clubs of Misbourne Matins, Princes Risborough, Witney, Banstead, Witney Inner Wheel & Banbury Tangent Club and all you that have made individual donations (“one offs” or via standing orders). To you ALL a sincere thank you for **“Helping Make A Real Difference”**

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Ishmael

The article about Ishmael generated a lot of interest and a number of offers of financial support. The initial consultation, tests and scans have been funded by the Rotary Club of Misbourne Matins to who I am extremely grateful. The unknown factor, apart from the diagnosis, is the cost of any further treatment that may be required, but I am pleased to report that several other potential donors who contacted me have pledged to support further costs and once again to them my sincere gratitude.

Ishmael was admitted to hospital last Tuesday and was placed on a special nutritional programme. They undertook tests on Wednesday and Thursday, and I have just heard from Pastor Mark with the results. Ishmael was diagnosed with pneumonia and his case is critical and his recovery will take some time. Both he and his “aunty”, the lady who took him in when his mother died, are staying at the Cottage hospital, and if needed he will go back to Connaught hospital to see the specialist again.

There are additional costs for his ongoing treatment (there is no NHS in Sierra Leone so drugs and medicines have to be paid for) and I am having discussions with several parties who may be willing to contribute towards these costs.

Young Oxford, Aberdeen



I've been supporting these guys for about 10 years with the provision of kit and they are really excited because on the shipment I am sending to Freetown there is a complete set of shorts for them.

Juggling funds to meet project demands

With **TWO** major projects on the go and other day to day commitments in Sierra Leone I have added another skill to my CV – **juggling funds** - for those that know me you probably think it's my only skill! Both these projects really need to be completed before the rainy season but with Covid restricting the number of speaker engagements, funding is not plain sailing. The total cost of the 2 projects is **£10,700** - although both projects are progressing well, as it stands we may fall short of the funds needed to complete both projects before the “rains”

Liverpool Community School

The progress to build the two additional new classrooms is really good and in just under three weeks they have reached roof height with the blocks. The scaffolding is perfectly safe!!



They are going to build the gable ends and start to fit the roof timbers in the next few days and then the zinc sheeting will follow. I am confident that the building will be watertight prior to the rainy season at around the end of May. Whether or not we are able to concrete the floors and do the rendering and painting is dependent on adequate funds becoming available to enable this. There is also a requirement to furnish the two classrooms but this may take time as it relies on incoming funds

Sponsor a child/Sponsor a classroom

Bob Taylor from the Rotary Club of Oxford Isis has put together a scheme to help generate funds for the furnishing/equipping of the two classrooms. Each classroom will house about 60 children.

We will have 3 seater desk and bench sets made at a cost of **£15** each (equivalent to £5 per child). The children are responsible for supplying their own exercise books, a book per subject, so they need a pack of 10 which costs **£2.50** and they also need pens and pencils. **£8** funds a child's costs for a year. A blackboard for a classroom costs just **£15**. Often schools on limited budgets just paint an area of the plastered wall black, but it is not ideal. A **REAL** blackboard is a far better alternative & lasts longer. If anyone is interested in supporting this appeal please contact me via e-mail. It would be a shame to let Bob's hard work go to waste - cheers Bob.