



“making a real difference” in

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It has been a few weeks since my last Newsletter and I apologise for the time lapse. Things have been happening at some of the projects, but not really photogenic opportunities. I was also waiting for 2 Grants from Rotary to come through, which I received at the end of August and this enabled work to resume at several projects.

Sad news

I am sad to report the passing of Pastor Joseph (aged 77), Headteacher at Christian Hope School, who I first met in November 2005. He was a great guy, very well respected in the community, and he will be sadly missed by all that knew him.

I have also heard, this morning, that Potho of Mahera Wharf FC, one of the 2 lads who has represented Sierra Leone at Under 17 football, passed away yesterday as a result of Malaria.

This just demonstrates the fragility of life in Sierra Leone, and it is a real tragedy that this talented teenager has been lost at such a young age. I am trying to establish further details. I am looking into setting up a fund for the boys at Mahera Wharf FC so they can obtain essential medication.

Shipment bound for Freetown



On Thursday I went to Lewisham with a car full of football kit/boots/trainers, knitted blankets, text books, T-shirts and other assorted items. MANY thanks to Oxford United, Easington Sports FC, Cumnor Minors FC and Sainsbury's Banbury for all their donations and to Magenta Storage for all their help and support. 2 large crates for Freetown

Solomon's recovery



At the end of June Solomon was badly injured when he was knocked from his motor bike by a hit & run driver. He attended hospital on Friday for a check-up and X-rays. He says “The progress is very good. The left hand's X-fix has been removed today, but due to the damage on the left foot/leg, I have to wait until mid-next month before it's removal, but meanwhile I must continue with the exercises twice a week till everything is alright”. I am providing Solomon with ongoing financial support until he is able to return to his duties as headteacher of Liverpool Community School.

School refurbishment

At 5 of the schools that I support we have just started to undertake a programme to repair and replace a lot of the classroom furniture. We always use local carpenters to make the wooden desk and bench sets but they obviously have a limited life expectancy. We don't have a budget for repairs so any repairs and replacements are done as and when required. We are also equipping Christian Hope School with additional furniture so they can become a registered exam centre.

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Momoh – an update

Last Sunday Momoh was going to church when his wheelchair hit a small rock and he was tipped out and suffered some cuts and bruises. I had been saying to Pastor Mark that we should look for a new chair for him and this was the catalyst.



Mary, Momoh's elder sister sent me the following "We were all saddened by his fall and injuries when he fell from his old wheelchair. We do not have enough words to express our gratitude for this very expensive wheelchair that a supporter of Mr Alan's bought for Momoh. His joy keeps increasing every day, as does ours. We are now very happy to see a new, better, more comfortable wheelchair & we are all very grateful for this gift"



Today is Momoh's birthday and Pastor Mark has given the family some money, on my behalf, so they can enjoy a special birthday meal.

Calvary Praise Academy

The blocks have been made ready to start building the tower which will house a 5,000 litre water tank which will complete the gravity fed water system from the recently dug well.



Some of the junior pupils at Calvary Praise Academy with their new school furniture funded by the Oxford Isis Rotary Club and match funded by a Rotary District 1090 Grant – MANY thanks.

