



Life after Ebola



Needs Assessment



2016 Accomplishments



Carol Service

Life After Ebola



The REC Primary school in Hamilton Village in Sierra Leone re-opened earlier this year after the Ebola outbreak was declared over. Like many other schools it had been used as a health post and suffered some damage to the water system we had installed.

We are hoping to help the school make good some of the damage as well as complete the programme we had previously committed to, i.e. making sure every classroom has a stock of books for both teaching and recreation. As the village is going to be connected to the national grid, the school is hoping to be wired for electricity to take advantage of the opportunities for instruction and income generation.

Progress on the Hamilton School project has been slow as the school juggles planning and management with the normal demands of the school year, but we are really grateful to Melrose for keeping the lines of communication wide open.

Needs Assessment



The Trustees commissioned a needs assessment earlier this year. It was carried out by Melrose Asgill, our project coordinator. The first main finding was that enrolment had doubled after the school gates were reopened. The school now had 566 pupils, 299 girls and 267 boys.

Classes one and two were most affected with enrolments over 100 in each class. These numbers were the result of government's abolishing fees for government primary schools. Unfortunately, there has been no matching additional support and classrooms that once comfortably accommodated class sizes of 20—40 are now extremely over-crowded.

The new classroom sizes mean that the stock of textbooks we had supplied last year is no longer able to provide one book per child. We hope that the teachers will be able to manage instruction with one book between two or three pupils.

2016 Accomplishments



Thanks to introductions/suggestions by our Patron, Dame Linda Dobbs, we have been able to form two new partnerships this year with Book Aid International and also with Build on Books. As a result two shipments of books and toys are on the way to the school. One shipment is coming in via the Sierra Leone Library Board and is already in the country and the second shipment will be delivered direct to the school in early December.

The classroom cabinets have been completed and should be substantially stocked by the end of this year.

The Head-teacher, Mrs Isatu Koroma, has reported that they had a 100% pass rate in the primary leaving exams. The level of performance compared very favourably with other schools. The school's highest score was 315 against the national top score of 333. To put this in context, no pupil from the school had ever passed the exam before the TLBPET partnership.

We are grateful for the technical guidance of Miriam Conteh-Morgan on the design of the cabinets and for providing advice to teachers on how to maintain the libraries.

Carol Service



Despite the cold, we are grateful that so many of you are planning to come out on the second Sunday in December to join your voices to ours.

This year, the service will be at Norbury Baptist Church, Semley Road, SW16 4PS, starting at 3pm. Mince pies and hot drinks will be served afterwards.

We expect to have a musical contribution from Jojo Philips, a gifted young singer of Sierra Leonean heritage.

The talented Mr Derek Vincent will accompany the carol singing and the Rev William George will again conduct the service.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Rev David Coram and the Norbury Baptist Church congregation for being our hosts once again.

Featured Supporters



Dame Linda Dobbs has been our Patron for several years. Unfortunately, her travel schedule (despite being retired) means that she can seldom attend our events. However, not only is her financial support unfailing, but she often links us to organizations like Book Aid International and Build on Books that make our support of REC Primary School, Hamilton greater than if we were working alone.

Ransford Davies-King has upgraded our Facebook page and makes sure we are well represented on social media via Twitter, Instagram, etc. Our FB likes are climbing steadily and he is broadening our virtual profile. Thank you, Ransford!

Donations



As you do your Christmas shopping on line, please consider signing up with **The Giving Machine** and nominating TLBPET as your charity. Every time you order something from a linked retailer, TLBPET receives a small percentage of your spend—at no extra cost to you! Ask us about it.

Pencil Case Appeal: Please continue to fill pencil cases with maths instruments, pens, crayons, pencils etc.

Smartie Challenge: You can make a donation by filling empty tubes with 20p pieces. A full tube helps you get rid of unwanted coins and provides us with up to £14.

By pre-arrangement, we still accept donations of educational resources, furniture and so on. However, because of the cost of storage and removals, we ask that you give us time to make the necessary storage arrangements.

You do not need to wait for special events – every time you think of us you can go to our 'donate' page on our web site and use a variety of options to make donations – large or small!

If you are interested in seeing your donations go further, please complete a Gift Aid form—ring us or send an email to info@tlbpet.org.uk and we will send you a blank form.

About the Charity



The Lottie Betts-Priddy Education Trust was launched on September 24, 2000 to commemorate the life of Lottie and to ensure the continuation of her hopes and aspirations for the children of Sierra Leone.

The Trust formally became a UK registered Charity on the April 11, 2001. As such our accounts, income and expenditure are reviewed annually by the Charities Commission.

Although a small charity, TLBPET uses innovative strategies to 'punch above our weight':

- networking and collaborating with bigger charities,
- providing our schools with a range of 'soft inputs'
- focusing on one or two schools at a time

Patrons: Dame Linda Dobbs, DBE; Ms Cecilia Thomas

Trustees: Ms Isa Davies, Mrs Casho Macauley, Mrs May Morgan, Dr Karin Hyde, Dr Nemata Majeks-Walker

Project Coordinator: Ms Melrose Asgill

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Registered Charity Number: 1086127