

LOVE SIERRA LEONE

England & Wales · Charity number 1157847

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2014-07-15

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 25 Davenant Road
Oxford
OX2 8BU

Phone 07710348395

Email contact@lovesierraleone.org

Website www.lovesierraleone.org

Activities

Objects: 1THE ADVANCEMENT FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF EDUCATION IN SIERRA LEONE AMONGST IN PARTICULAR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND CHURCH LEADERS.2THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AMONGST IN PARTICULAR THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE.3THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF POVERTY,DISTRESS,SICKNESS OR SUFFERING AMONGST THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE.4 THE RELIEF OF FINANCIAL NEED AND SUFFERING FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AMONG VICTIMS IN SIERRA LEONE OF NATURAL OR OTHER KINDS OF DISASTER.5THE ADVANCEMENT FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF AMATEUR SPORT AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION IN SIERRA LEONE.6 ANY OTHER EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE OBJECTS AND PURPOSES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE.

Activities: The Trustees have individually supported Sierra Leone since the end of the civil war in 2002. We work primarily with the Christian Community Church Mission in SL to provide support for education, health, and general well-being to children and adults in Sierra Leone. We also work with some primary schools to improve young children's English skills.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- Sierra Leone

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£19,998	£20,856	-	-
2024-12-31	£26,755	£27,494	-	-
2023-12-31	£31,366	£33,672	-	-
2022-12-31	£36,825	£39,280	-	-
2021-12-31	£41,382	£37,451	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
RICHARD BAYFIELD	Chair	2014-03-25
IAN GILL		2014-03-25
NORMAN ROBINS		2014-03-25
Rev DAVID BENDOR SAMUEL		2014-03-25

LOVE SIERRA LEONE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157847

Accounts



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2024

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Thank you.

The first and most important message within this short report is to thank you, our Supporters, and our Trustees. We are thankful to Pastor Yatta Samura for his multiple ministries to those in need, irrespective of whether they have a Christian faith or not, and to David Sandi for his ongoing dedication to Ahkom School. There is another emerging concern, that of an increasingly prevalent drug culture amongst the young.

Times are getting harder for many in Sierra Leone. High inflation is a constant threat. The money we send to Pastor Yatta (C3M) and David Sandi (Ahkom) does not go as far as it did in previous years. Yet they achieve so much with the support we are able to give them.

Overview of 2024

2024 was a year of both challenge and encouragement for Love Sierra Leone. While the nation faced political instability and economic hardship, the charity and its partners continued to deliver practical help, education, and ministry support. Feeding programmes, school activities, medical relief, and growing church ministries marked the year, all sustained by faithful donors in the UK.

Highlights of the Year

Feeding Programmes

Freetown, January 2024: Grace Community Church hosted a celebratory meal with food, music, and dancing. For many, including a mother and her 3 children, it was the only food the family received that day.

Kono, January 2024: A further feeding programme provided hot meals for 178 children from nearby villages, along with elderly community members who came seeking food.

Our XMAS meal fundraising target was £5,000. By December, nearly 50% had been raised to support these programmes.





Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2024

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Ministry and Churches (C3MSL)

The mission now consists of 2 churches in Freetown and 6 in the Kono region. Baptisms, discipleship and youth engagement showed encouraging growth across the churches led by Pastor Yatta.

C3MSL organised a youth Camp in December for more than 250 young people, to strengthen faith and fellowship across partner churches.



Sports Life Ministry reached several new schools in Freetown. The schools welcomed the sports programme, which is growing as a tool for outreach and community building.



The ministry faced challenges - pastors faced illness, churches worked with limited resources and little or no transport. Political unrest and food shortages added strain to the overall program.



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2024

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Education and Young People

Ahkom School – Sports Day: In March students competed in athletics across four school houses, with Red House winning. This event boosted community spirit and children’s confidence. Trainers were given to the poorest pupils, many receiving proper footwear for the first time.

Ahkom School reported continued progress in education and vocational training during the 2023/24 year.



Medical Supplies

A consignment of medical supplies such as bandages and dressings (not medicines), collected by a trustee, was shipped to Sierra Leone. Though out of date by UK standards, the items were safe and valuable, and much appreciated in local clinics.

Challenges

Sierra Leone remained tense following the disputed 2023 elections and an attempted coup. International concern about lack of transparency in the electoral process continued into 2024.

Pastor Yatta described hunger and poverty as “too much,” underlining the urgent need for continued support.

Financial Summary

In 2023 income was £26,755 and we spent £27,494. Donations for C3M and Ahkom school were lower than in previous years (in 2023 our income was just under £32,000). We maintained the same level of giving to C3M and Ahkom by using money from the LSL general fund. Our reserves stood at £1,192 at the end of the year. Our expenditure is summarised below:

- Christian Community Church £16,425
 - Church & Sports Ministries £12,750
 - Office rent (SL) £1,000
 - XMAS meal £2,500
 - Bank fees etc £175
- Ahkom School £10,475
 - Teachers salaries, sponsored children £10,400
 - Bank fees, etc £75
- LSL General Fund £594
 - Accountant fees £168
 - Bank fees, etc. £426
 - ** LSL General Fund funds were used to maintain payments to C3M ministry (£5000) and Ahkom School (£7173). The general fund was significantly depleted during 2024



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2024

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

and without additional income we will not be able to continue this level of support going forward.

Outlook for 2025

While we continue to be constrained by lack of resources, we will continue to support C3MSL and Ahkom school as best we can, especially in the following areas:

- Support churches in discipleship, evangelism, and leadership training.
- Grow the sports ministry and host large-scale youth events.
- Sustain and expand feeding programmes during Christmas and New Year.
- Address the threat of drug taking amongst the young.
- Pray for peace, stability, and poverty reduction in Sierra Leone.

Giving

If you would like to support our activities you can donate online (one off or standing order) at www.lovesierraleone.org or by cheque, payable to "Love Sierra Leone". For further information please contact Richard Bayfield, 25 Davenant Road, Oxford, OX2 8BU, (01865 311800), email info@lovesierraleone.org.

Love Sierra Leone

Income & expenditure account for the year ended 31st December, 2024

Love Sierra Leone

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 2024

	2024	2023
<u>Income</u>		
Donations	22,075.57	25,468.13
Gift aid refunds	4,675.33	5,894.19
Interest received	4.52	3.64
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Income</u>	26,755.42	31,365.96
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Donations to overseas projects	26,725.00	32,827.50
Other finance charges	601.00	676.00
Other costs	168.00	168.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Expenditure</u>	27,494.00	33,671.50
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Net income</u>	-738.58	-2,305.54
Balance as at 1st January 2024	1,931.05	4,236.59
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total funds at 31st December, 2024</u>	1,192.47	1,931.05
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Represented by:</u>		
CAF accounts	1,192.47	1,931.05
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,192.47	1,931.05
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**Love Sierra Leone
Independent examiners report**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Love Sierra Leone

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145) of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

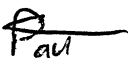
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Name:	P T Skinner
Professional qualification:	FCCA
Address:	30 Bankside Court, Stationfields, Kidlington, Oxon OX5 1JE
Date:	22.01.2024

LOVE SIERRA LEONE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157847

Accounts



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2023

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Thank you

The first and most important message within this short report is to thank you, our Supporters, and our Trustees. We are thankful to Pastor Yatta Samura for his multiple ministries to those in need, irrespective of whether they have a Christian faith or not, and to David Sandi for his ongoing dedication to Ahkom School and to RightToRead.

Times are getting harder for many in Sierra Leone. Inflation reached over 50% during the year. The money we send to Pastor Yatta (C3M) and David Sandi (Ahkom) does not go as far as it did in previous years. Yet they achieve so much with the support we are able to give them.

C3M – Pastor Yatta’s ministry

2023 was a memorable and unforgettable year in our ministry, marking our ministry’s 25th anniversary. Our first church was started 6th September 1998 and we now have 9 churches with almost 1500 members. We had a celebration with the theme “Making the most of every opportunity” Eph. 5:15-16. We brought all the branches together in Kono and ended with a national Thanksgiving Service. Many other denominational heads were also invited.



Our Sports Life

ministry put together a planning retreat for leaders to plan our 2024 program. Sports Life works in schools and the community with various sporting events and disciplines, including Jog4Jesus when many hundreds of community members join us. We are using sport to bring people together.

The Youth of the Mission held a 3-day Youth camp that brought together all the other branches even though there were lots of financial challenges we were happy that they managed it.

The Mambo Church celebrated Children's Sunday which made the children excited. Thank God for what he did.

We are grateful to God for what he is doing and how he is taking us through.

Pray for the pastors and their families for God to provide for us to adequately help.





Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2023

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Christmas Meals for Children – from Pastor Yatta

The hunger in this country is too much and the poverty rate is very high. Where parents are finding it very difficult to look after their children. Children are hungry going up and down in this country. When you talk about food they will be there. The XMAS meal was held in 2 locations this year.

Freetown: The program was held by the women of the grace Community Church. They had good food, music and dancing. It was joyful for them and they had a lot of fun.



They also had hand-outs to take home. 66 children attended from both the church and the community.

A woman by the name of Mrs. Kamara came and said thank you to one of our organisers. She said they had nothing to eat that day in their home. So the feeding was a blessing to her family - she sent all her 3 children. She came in tears. She was very

grateful and asked me to say thank you to you guys.

St. Andrews church and school, Meama, Kono: This is the first time they had such a wonderful program. We decided to take the program to the school in Meama. The children come from neighbouring villages; many walk 3 miles to school from their villages.

This is a village setting and a very poor community. It was difficult to stop people from coming. It was organised for the church children and school. Many elderly people came with pans to beg for food. It was a blessing to the children and community. They had 178 children.

Some of the children were drinking soft drinks for the first time. Oh what a Christmas for them! The Chief and the community heads were very happy and grateful. They asked us to remember them every time we have the opportunity. On behalf of the children the Churches and communities I say a big thank you for putting smiles into the faces of our children. Thank you we are grateful.



Ahkom School – David Sandi

In 2020 we applied to become a Government supported school. However, since then none of our teachers have been placed on the government payroll. Being a government supported school precluded us from collecting school fees (however small) to pay teachers and cover other necessary costs. In 2023 the school governors decided to revert back to private-funded status, which is a slow, ongoing process requiring various government approvals. As we await the ministry's response our financial woes mount. We need to cater for stipends (we cannot afford salaries) for 29 teachers plus other support staff and school maintenance. Ahkom school has retained its high academic achievements thanks to our dedicated, hardworking and underpaid staff, a student body that is



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2023

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

determined to achieve, and support from our friends at LSL in the UK. Our teachers and staff live on less than £30 a month – a small sum when you consider a bus ticket from Kono to Freetown is £10. We are very, very grateful for their dedication in the face of our current financial hardship.

In difficult times like this, we feel compelled to appeal to anyone who can contribute towards the salary of a teacher or two, or an ancillary staff. Or to sponsor a student, many of whose impoverishment takes its toll on our meagre income because at Ahkom, our credo of “helping the poor” makes it difficult for us to turn our backs on the most disadvantaged, particularly students, preferring to share the little that comes our way to ensure they meet some, even if not all, of their education needs. Which, even if not always the best financial decision for us, gives us the satisfaction of being able to “help” the neediest.



On a more positive note, Ami (left) and Esther (right) are former Ahkom students whose schooling was sponsored by LSL. Ami passed her diploma in Civil Engineering with distinction. She was our first student to receive an invitation from Milton Margai University to progress on to the BSc level in Civil Engineering. Esther is completing a course in Public Health at Njala University.



RightToRead

RightToRead (RTR) uses technology to improve English language outcomes for pupils. We launched the programme at Ahkom School in 2015 with a plan to reach many thousands of pupils within five years. However, for various reasons, including lack of funds, the program has not grown beyond 6 schools and under 1000 children. Schools that currently use RTR continue to see a 10-20% improvement in pupils’ results and we will continue supporting them (ongoing running costs are small) but from 2024 we will not be investing to expand the program to new schools until we have a clearer route to widespread adoption.

Financial Summary

In 2023 income was £31,366 and we spent £33,672. Donations for C3M and Ahkom school were lower than in previous years. We maintained the same level of giving to C3M and Ahkom by using money from the LSL general fund. Our reserves stood at £1,931 at the end of the year. Our expenditure is summarised below:

- Christian Community Church £17,175
 - Church & Sports Ministries £13,250
 - Office rent (SL) £1,000
 - 25th Anniversary celebrations £1,250
 - XMAS meal £1,500
 - Bank fees etc £175



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2023

Charity #1157847

lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

- Ahkom School £9,003
 - Teachers salaries, sponsored children £8,465
 - Books, seeds for farm £138
 - David Sandi UK visit £250
 - Bank fees, etc £150
- RightToRead £7,050
 - Salaries, teacher allowances, IT Support £6,975
 - Bank fees, etc. £75
- LSL General Fund £444
 - Accountant fees £168
 - Bank fees, etc. £276

Outlook for 2024

We continue to support the 3 strands of Education, Sport and Ministry. The act of helping our neighbour fits with our Christian perspective, although many of us ask whether we can do more.

We recognise that we are a charity of its time. That is we Trustees and many supporters have now reached pension age or are close to it. We Trustees believe that by 2028 (when the Trustees average age will be 70) we should have a plan for succession (or closure).

So we are actively looking for a Charity that works in Sierra Leone that we may partner with and would welcome any introductions that our supporters can facilitate.

AHKOM CHARITABLE STATUS ENDING DECEMBER 2024

We send our love and thanks to Dr Diana Snape, the former Chair of Ahkom charity, who is now residing in St Luke's Hospital Oxford. Diana gave up the Chair's role of Ahkom a few years ago and, as no Committee member or Ahkom supporter came forward as a replacement Chair, the charity had to be closed. On an interim basis the Ahkom charitable status has been maintained through Love Sierra Leone. However, this temporary arrangement will be closing at the end of this year. If any of you or your contacts would like to establish a new Ahkom charity then please do get in touch.

Giving

If you would like to support our activities you can donate online (one off or standing order) at www.lovesierraleone.org or by cheque, payable to "Love Sierra Leone". For further information please contact Richard Bayfield, 25 Davenant Road, Oxford, OX2 8BU, (01865 311800), email info@lovesierraleone.org.

Love Sierra Leone

Income & expenditure account for the year ended 31st December, 2023

Love Sierra Leone

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 2023

	2023	2022
<u>Income</u>		
Donations	25,468.13	30,504.97
Gift aid refunds	5,894.19	6,319.72
Interest received	3.64	0.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Income</u>	31,365.96	36,824.69
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Donations to overseas projects	32,827.50	38,323.80
Other finance charges	676.00	800.00
Other costs	168.00	156.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditure	33,671.50	39,279.80
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Net income	-2,305.54	-2,455.11
Balance as at 1st January 2023	4,236.59	6,691.70
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds at 31st December, 2023	1,931.05	4,236.59
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Represented by:		
CAF accounts	1,931.05	4,236.59
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,931.05	4,236.59
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Love Sierra Leone
Independent examiners report

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Love Sierra Leone

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145) of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Name: P T Skinner
Professional qualification: FCCA
Address: 30 Bankside Court, Stationfields, Kidlington, Oxon OX5 1JE
Date: 27.02.2024

LOVE SIERRA LEONE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157847

Accounts



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2022

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Thank you

The first and most important message within this short report is to thank you, our Supporters, and our Trustees.

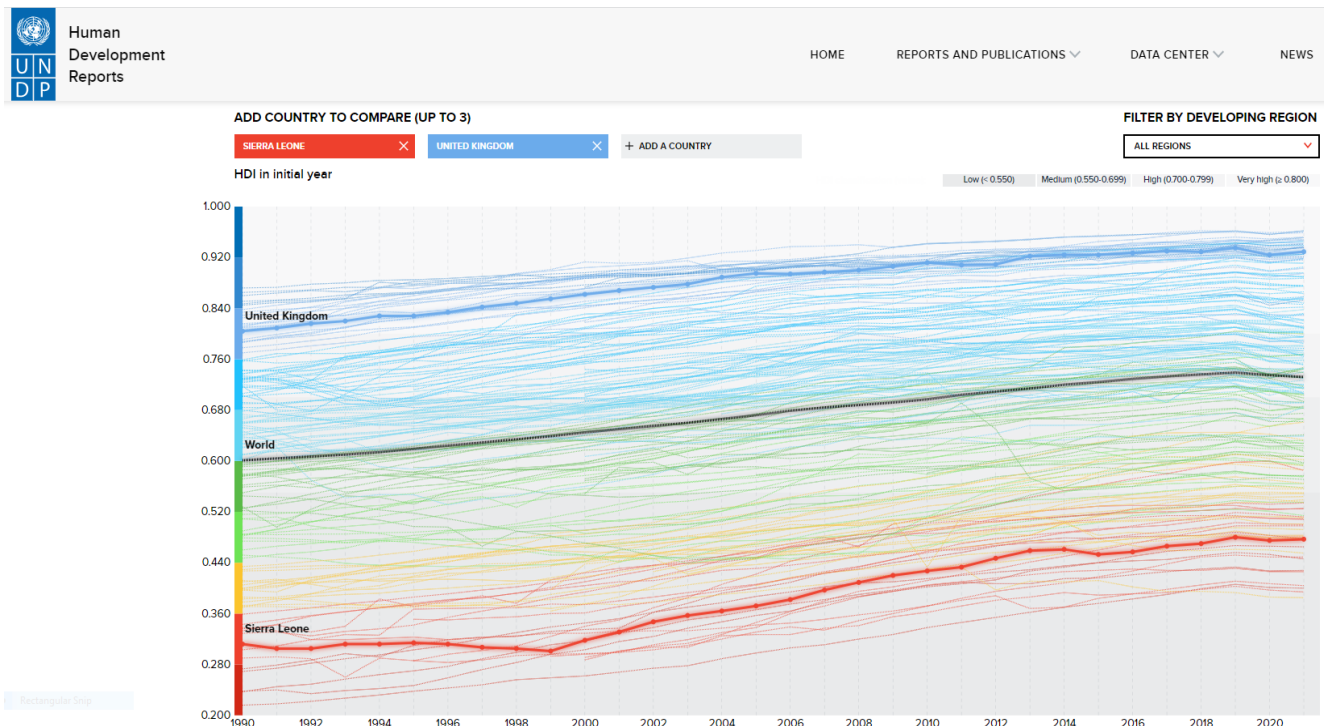
We are thankful to Pastor Yatta Samura for his multiple ministries to those in need, irrespective of whether they have a Christian faith or not, and to David Sandi for his ongoing dedication to Ahkom School and to RightToRead.

UN Human Development Index (HDI) – Sierra Leone 182 out of 189

The United Nations Index is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and have a decent standard of living. The HDI is the geometric mean of normalized indices for each of the three dimensions. In the UN’s report dated 2020, Sierra Leone finds itself at 182 out of 189! (Norway is at 1 and the UK is at 13).

(<https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI>)

This is the context in which this ministry operates.





Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2022

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Christmas Meals for Children December 2022 – report from Pastor Yatta

We look forward to the Christmas meal every year. We are really grateful to God for the provision you are making. This time I divided the money into 4 parts, and you can see photographs at: <https://lovesierraleone.org/2023/01/19/christmas-feeding-program-dec-2022/>

1. Kono Church. They did a big cook, brought 63 children to church and fed them. Many Children from the neighbourhood came around but they had to restrict to the children in the church.
2. Central Church in Freetown. They did a whole day of treats, entertainment, games and food for their Sunday school children at the beach.
3. Sports Life Ministry. We cooked for 68 teenagers after their sports training on Christmas Eve. They ate so much that they don't want to go home! I also gave them a small amount of money to take to their parents to help with the family meal on Christmas day.
4. Grace Community Church Mambo. The newest church in the Mission. They bought toys and used clothing to share with the children and members. The church lives in a very poor community 58 people benefited.





Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2022

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

RightToRead

RightToRead (RTR) uses technology to improve English language outcomes for pupils. Since piloting RTR in 2015 at Ahkom school with 100 children we now have 7 schools in the program, reaching over 1200 children. Start and end-of-year assessments showed a 10% improvement in children's English skills over the course of a year. Sadly one school dropped out of program due to a change of leadership at the school. Some other schools are interested in adopting RTR however, we need to provide a laptop and in-class TV screen to each school and we don't have the funds to purchase these. Adults and parents in the community continue to ask for RTR lessons to improve their English. Again, lack of funds prevented us from making any progress on this front.

Ahkom School – Update November 2022

David Sandi writes to us: *"Greetings once more to everyone. I begin the Ahkom update with some really good news about 2 Girls who have been supported by 2 faithful supporters for many years:*

A big hand to Nick and Vicky for the determined assistance they've given Ami and Esther over many years. Ami's been bullying, academically, all her elders in the engineering department at Milton Margai University. To the point they made her their year rep. Esther's Public Health results just came out – straight A's and although she's currently on the Higher National Diploma programme, she also topped all those on the degree programme doing the same modules. She's now been invited to transfer, asap, to complete her course on the degree programme". [Read More.](#)

In late 2020 we merged Ahkom charity into LSL. We recognise there is a funding gap between the aspirations of the School and the actual giving.

Financial Summary

Income in 2022 was lower than the previous year. We used money from LSL general funds to make up shortfalls in Ahkom school and C3M-specific donations. Total income was £36,825 including £6320 in Gift Aid. Expenditure for the year was £39,280. We ended the year with £4,237 in reserve.

Christian Community Church £10,228

- Church & Sports Ministry £9,050
- Office fees (SL) £1,000



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2022

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

- Bank fees, etc £178

RightToRead £9,400

- Salaries, teacher training, IT support £9,300
- Bank fees etc £100

Ahkom School £9,371

- Teachers' salaries & sponsored kids £5,920
- Replacement laptop, farm project, etc £1,226
- Travel for David Sandi UK visit £2,000
- Bank fees etc £225

LSL general fund £10,281

- Donations to Ahkom school £3,090
- Donations to C3M £4,125
- Office, church vehicle repairs £769
- XMAS and Easter meals for children £2000
- Bank fees, etc £297

Outlook for 2023

We continue to support the 3 strands of Education, Sport and Ministry. The act of helping our neighbour fits with our Christian perspective, although many of us ask whether we can do more. Whilst Covid has not (so far) been as devastating as in other parts of the world, the indirect effect has been to increase poverty.

We recognize we need to stabilize our support for our current commitments to C3M Church, Ahkom school and Sports Life. We consider that "stabilize" means knowing that we are able to support them for some months/years ahead. This would mean finding longer term donor commitments and a contingency fund.

Giving

If you would like to support our activities you can donate online (one off or standing order) at www.lovesierraleone.org or by cheque, payable to "Love Sierra Leone". For further information please contact Richard Bayfield, 25 Davenant Road, Oxford, OX2 8BU, (01865 311800), email info@lovesierraleone.org.



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2022

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins



Love Sierra Leone

Income & expenditure account for the year ended 31st December, 2022

Love Sierra Leone

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 2022

	2022	2021
<u>Income</u>		
Donations	30,504.97	33,820.15
Gift aid refunds	6,319.72	7,561.75
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Income</u>	36,824.69	41,381.90
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Donations to overseas projects	38,323.80	36,473.90
Other finance charges	800.00	832.74
Other costs	156.00	144.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Expenditure</u>	39,279.80	37,450.64
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Net income</u>	-2,455.11	3,931.26
Balance as at 1st January 2022	6,691.70	2,760.44
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total funds at 31st December, 2022</u>	4,236.59	6,691.70
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Represented by:		
CAF accounts	4,236.59	6,691.70
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,236.59	6,691.70
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**Love Sierra Leone
Independent examiners report**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Love Sierra Leone

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145) of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement


In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Name: P T Skinner
Professional qualification: FCCA
Address: 30 Bankside Court, Stationfields, Kidlington, Oxon OX5 1JE
Date: 03.03.2023

LOVE SIERRA LEONE

England & Wales - Charity number 1157847

Accounts



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2021

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Thank you

The first and most important message within this short report is to thank you, our Supporters, and our Trustees. However before going further we should remember Ibrahim Kamara and Foday Bangora who perished in the tanker fire in Wellington, near Freetown. Ibrahim and Foday were among the 100+ victims of the fire. We did pass on small gifts to their families in recognition of their work within the ministry.

We are thankful to Pastor Yatta Samura for his multiple ministries to those in need, irrespective of whether they have a Christian faith or not, and to David Sandi for his ongoing dedication to Ahkom School and RightToRead.

UN Human Development Index (HDI) – Sierra Leone 182 out of 189

The UN's Index is a summary measure of average achievement in key dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable and have a decent standard of living. The HDI is the geometric mean of normalized indices for each of the three dimensions. In the UN's latest report dated 2020, Sierra Leone finds itself at 182 out of 189! (Norway is at 1 and the UK is at 13).

(<https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/human-development-index#/indicies/HDI>)

This is the context in which this ministry operates.

Petrol Tanker explosion, Freetown – 6th November 2021

The BBC reports graphically of the horrors of the explosion. “..... a bus was completely burnt, while nearby shops and market stalls were caught up in the flames. Brima Bureh Sesay, the head of Sierra Leone's National Disaster Management Agency, said there were many "burnt corpses ... It's a terrible, terrible accident".

Ibrahim and Foday worked with some of the amputee football players as part of the sports ministry team. Pastor Yatta wrote: *“Very, very sad my brother. I felt guilty because they came to visit me to collect footballs. However, they did not reach their home. They faced this fatal accident. Today they are no more.”*





Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2021

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

Christmas Meals for Children



Due to cash shortages at the bank in Freetown, Pastor Yatta was unable to collect the money we sent in December for a Christmas meal. He managed to get the money in January and provided a meal for about 150 children from the local community.



Pastor Yatta wrote: In poor countries like Sierra Leone children look forward to a feeding program of this nature. The feeding gives us a direct connection between the children and their families. They were sure of one big meal and a take home pack.



There is a cry for food in this country. Children go to school on an empty stomach. That is why some young girls ages 11 and 12 years old dropped out of school and are given into early marriage. Hunger is a nightmare. In their gift packages we put soap, face mask and hand sanitizer to prevent them from COVID 19 that has started growing again in Sierra Leone. You

would have loved to see the excitement on the faces of the children when they received their gifts. We had an enjoyable time together. We played games and danced. They even danced on their way home!

Meanwhile Davide Sandi organised a meal for at Ahkom Technical School in Kono where 220 children benefited from your generosity with a Christmas meal and a small gift.



RightToRead

RightToRead (RTR) is a program that uses technology to improve English language outcomes for pupils. We piloted RTR in 2015 at Ahkom school with 100 children we now have 7 schools in the program, reaching over 1200 children. Start and end-of-year assessments continue to show 10-20% improvement in children's English skills over the course of a year. Several other schools are interested in adopting RTR but we don't have the funds to engage them – we need to provide a laptop and in-class TV screen to each school. Adults in the



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2021

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

community, as well as some military schools have also asked for RTR lessons to improve their English. Again, lack of funds prevented us from making any progress on this front.

Ahkom School

In late 2020 we merged Ahkom charity into LSL. Ahkom provided support for Ahkom School and this is now being provided by LSL. Ahkom donors have transferred their standing orders over to LSL (thank you!). The trustees believe that having Ahkom school within the LSL fold will allow some synergies, e.g. broader 'Sierra Leone focussed' fundraising encompassing education, sports and ministry.

Financial Summary

Income in 2021 was £41,382 including £7,562 in Gift Aid. We spent £37,451 and ended the year with £6,692 in our reserves. Our expenditure is listed below:

Christian Community Church £10,747

- Church & Sports Ministry £10,200
- Office fees (SL) £370
- Bank fees, etc £177

RightToRead £7,534

- Salaries, teacher training, IT support £6975
- Fundraising / grant applications £480
- Bank fees etc £79

Ahkom School £12,695

- Teachers' salaries & sponsored kids £9790
- New classrooms £1150
- Replacement equipment from burglary £900
- Hospital treatment for David Sandi £305
- Travel for David Sandi UK visit £250
- Bank fees etc £300

LSL general fund £6,475

- Travel, laptop £1000
- XMAS and Easter meals for children £5000
- Fees, etc £475

Outlook for 2022

We continue to support the 3 strands of Education, Sport and Ministry. The act of helping our neighbour fits with our Christian perspective, although many of us ask whether we can do more. Whilst Covid has not (so far) been as devastating as in other parts of the world, the indirect effect has been to increase poverty.



Love Sierra Leone Annual Report 2021

Charity Number 1157847

www.lovesierraleone.org

Trustees: Richard Bayfield, Rev David Bendor-Samuel, Ian Gill, Norm Robins

We recognize we need to stabilize our support for our current commitments to C3M Church, Ahkom school and Sports Life. We consider that “stabilize” means knowing that we are able to support them for some months/years ahead. This would mean finding longer term donor commitments and a contingency fund.

Giving

If you would like to support our activities you can donate online (one off or standing order) at www.lovesierraleone.org or by cheque, payable to “Love Sierra Leone”. For further information please contact Richard Bayfield, 25 Davenant Road, Oxford, OX2 8BU, (01865 311800), email info@lovesierraleone.org.



Love Sierra Leone

Income & expenditure account for the year ended 31st December, 2021

Love Sierra Leone

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 2021

	2021	2020
<u>Income</u>		
Donations	33,820.15	32,301.52
Gift aid refunds	7,561.75	5,947.87
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Total Income</u>	41,381.90	38,249.39
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Donations to overseas projects	36,473.90	35,847.90
Other finance charges	832.74	655.34
Other costs	144.00	144.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditure	37,450.64	36,647.24
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Net income	3,931.26	1,602.15
Balance as at 1st January 2021	2,760.44	1,158.29
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds at 31st December, 2021	6,691.70	2,760.44
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Represented by:		
CAF accounts	6,691.70	1,158.29
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,691.70	1,158.29
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Love Sierra Leone
Independent examiners report

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Love Sierra Leone

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under section 145) of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

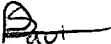
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed 

Name: P T Skinner
Professional qualification: FCCA
Address: 30 Bankside Court, Stationfields, Kidlington, Oxon OX5 1JE
Date: 17.02.2022