



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."*





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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



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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.



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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
<u>Total Income</u>	41,381.90	38,249.39
<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
Total Expenditure	37,450.64	36,647.24
Net income	3,931.26	1,602.15
Balance as at 1st January 2021	2,760.44	1,158.29
Total funds at 31st December, 2021	6,691.70	2,760.44
Represented by:		
CAF accounts	6,691.70	1,158.29
	6,691.70	1,158.29

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

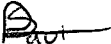
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(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