

THE GERONTIUS AMENITY FUND

England & Wales · Charity number 1159792

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-01-06

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

Contact

Address 2 Fitzharrys Road
Abingdon
OX14 1EJ

Phone 01235534018

Email GerontiusFund@aol.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS AND THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH AMONG PEOPLE IN POVERTY RESIDING PERMANENTLY OR TEMPORARILY IN SIERRA LEONE.

Activities: We send money to Sierra Leone where our administrator, Hannah Lassayo, pays hospital bills for poor people. E.g. after collecting our Abingdon sale money (?93.95) Hanah sadly was injured (RTA) She went to Hospital where she met a mother in tears because her daughter with typhoid and malaria urgently needed a blood transfusion but the mother had no money. "We shall pay" said Hannah so we did! (?90)

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** SIERRA LEONE
- Sierra Leone

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-21	£7,037	£8,918	-	-
2024-06-21	£6,812	£7,570	-	-
2023-06-21	£6,712	£5,011	-	-
2022-06-21	£7,340	£7,604	-	-
2021-06-21	£3,718	£2,695	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Hazel Glennie	Chair	2015-01-01
Charles Murray		2018-07-04
SARAH ELIZABETH MEARS MA oxon		2015-01-01

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Annual Report

We have had a busy year with the Gerontius Amenity Fund. We have successfully treated 2 cancer patients requiring chemotherapy and I am extremely grateful to all our donors. We have treated 32 patients, some of whom were repeat patients with different conditions. Malaria and typhoid continue to be a problem with 10 of them having malaria and/or typhoid. We have also had 2 cases where malnutrition has been part the diagnosis, an alarming new phenomenon. This 4 year old was referred to us with a hernia but the surgeons were unable to operate because of his malnutrition.



This 30 year old was laid flat with fever, chest pain and bodily pain.

I should also like to thank our volunteers who have helped at fundraising events, without whom our work would not be possible

On the fundraising front, we had 3 very good events. After we made a loss at our Barn Dance we invited Eliane Poney to join us. She has connections in the Ivory Coast. Meanwhile our administrator Hannah has been offered a piece of land in Sierra Leone we would like to use to build a school. So our Burns Night in January was a joint fundraiser for the Fondation Marie in the Ivory Coast, the school in Sierra Leone and healthcare. As was our Garden Party in June. We are trying to change our charity constitution to “Alleviation of Poverty in West Africa” so we can legitimately fundraise for all 3 projects through the charity.



Gerontius Fund accounts			Date	age	Name	Condition	Amount Spent in Leone	Amount Spent converted into Pounds
							Rate 28.2 SLE/£	
Income and Expenditure Account			1st July 2024		xy	malaria and typhoid	5,460	£193.61
Year ending 21 June 2025			4th July 2024		xx	fever and cough; eye injury; malaria, pin worms	6,000	212.76
	£	£	15th July		xy	malaria and typhoid; hook worm	5,000	£177.30
Income			29th July		xy	stomach ache	3,000	£106.38
			30th July 2024		53 xx	eye clinic	33,000	£1,170.21
Donations received		5,904	31st July 2024		xx	abdo problems	2,500	£88.65
Fundraising income	Barn Dance	292	1st August 2024		xx	sick	1,700	£60.28
	Burns Night	222	7th August 2024		xx	Fever and vomiting	3,650	£129.43
	Garden Party	64	15th August 2024		80 xx	stroke; joint pain	7,500	£265.95
Mary's Wedding		555	22nd August 2024		5 xy	malaria	3,350	£118.79
			24th August 2024		32 xx	vaginal infection	3,000	£106.38
			1st September 2024		50 xy	hypertension, fever and pain	2,000	£70.92
Total income		<u>7,037</u>	13th Septmeber 2024		28 xy	Injection abscess, severe infecton	4,500	£159.57
			15th September 2024		xy	typhoid gut perforation, repeat surgery	12,000	£425.53
Expenditure			26th September 2024		xx	cervical cancer	55,500	£1,968.08
Sent to Sierra Leone		8,560	17th October 2024		xx	physio	5,000	£177.30
Transfer fees		55	25th October 2024		xy	physio and hypertension	7,000	£248.22
costs of fundraising		303	27th ocotober 2024		xy	post-op (hernia) sore	2,500	£88.65
Total Expenditure		<u>8,918</u>	29th October 2024		xy	typhoid and malaria	3,000	£106.33
			14th November 2024		xx	severe pain in eyes	2,000	£70.92
Income		7,037	26th November 2024		17 xx	Breast lump surgery	15,000	£531.91
Expenditure		8,918	0 16th december 2024		xy	gonorrhoea	2,000	£70.92
Net income / (expenditure)		<u>-1,881</u>	8th January 2025		xy	bad sore	9,500	£336.87
			29th January 2025		xx	sore foot	4,000	£141.84
Balance from 21/6/2024		2,280	1st February		xx	ulcer, malaria, surgery	7,800	£276.59
Balance at 21/6/2025		<u>399</u>			xy	fever and chest pain	1,500	£53.19
		<u>-1,881</u>	26th February		19 xx	vaginal infection	2,000	£70.92
			13th March 2025		19 xy	pneumonia	5,000	£177.30
			19th March 2025		30 xy	Fever and bodily pain	6,000	£212.76
			7th April 2025		4 xy	malnutrition and hernia	2,500	£88.65
			9th May 2025		xx	gastroenteritis	1,800	£63.82
			20th June		xx	acute ulcer	1,850	£65.60
					xy	double hernia surgery	15,000	£531.91
						Subtotal	241,610	£8,567.54
						car	22,500	£797.87
						Total	264,110	£9,365.41

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This has been a relatively quiet year for the Gerontius Amenity Fund. We have failed miserably to get Hannah (our administrator) and her husband across here for a fundraising trip. It had been suggested we should “peg” it on the Abingdon Passion Play on 22nd June and an invitation was duly issued... however in the end the Visa application was rejected. And Hannah went to a Christian conference in China instead! (see photo).



In Sierra Leone Hannah has been very busy ferrying patients to and from hospital. This year we have treated 32 patients, see list accompanying the accounts. They have ranged in age from 18 months to elderly with a variety of conditions. Our patient with a leg ulcer is still ongoing. Malaria and typhoid continue to be endemic. One of our patients was a 43-year-old man with malaria who was admitted unconscious. He survived! One of our most worrying cases was an 18-month-old girl (see below) who had been abandoned by her mother. Her father brought her to us as she was suffering from malaria and malnutrition. It is the first time malnutrition has been part of the diagnosis, which bodes ill as the Global cost of living crisis increases.



Simple Charity accounts

Income and Expenditure Account Year ending 21 June 2024

	£	£
Income		
Donations received	5700	
Fundraising income giftaid	0	1112
Total income	<u>6812</u>	
Expenditure		
Transferred to Sierra Leone transfer fees	6967	133
Hall Hire	70	
Cielch Band	400	
Total Expenditure	<u>7570</u>	
Net income / (expenditure)	<u>-758</u>	<u>0</u>
Balance at 21/6/2024		2279
Balance from 21/6/2023		3037
Net income / (expenditure)	<u>-758</u>	<u>-758</u>

Neil Dennis, Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Statement:

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my
1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any
* to prepare financial statements which accord with the
accounting records has not been reached

Signed

C Beale

Date:

17/19/2024

Date	age	Condition	Amount	GBP	rate
2nd July 2023	11 xy	Hook worm	1850	£74.90	24.7
3rd July 2023	xy	swollen stomach and difficult bre:	5600	£226.72	
4th July 2023	xy	malaria and typhoid	3395	£137.45	
22nd July 2023	65 xy	swollen testicle	4960	£200.81	
29th July 2023	xy	appedicitis	5120	£207.29	
30th July 2023	xx	malaria and typhoid, eye+hyperte	8900	£360.32	
2nd August 2023	xy	amputated foot	7500	£303.64	
3rd August 2023	xy	leg ulcer ongoing	9000	£364.37	
17th August 2023	xx	Urinary Tract Infection	1800	£72.87	
19th August 2023	xx	fever and htpertension	3600	£145.75	
20th August 2023	50 xx	vagina infection plus fibroid	10250	£414.98	
24th august 2023	29 xy	pleural effusion	5000	£202.43	
1st Septmber 2023	xy	blisters on penis and leg and sevr	750	£30.36	
6th Septmber 2023	12 xy	eye condition	1700	£68.83	
7th Septmber 2023	50 xx	spondiolysis-physio	7000	£283.40	
13th Septmber 2023	xx	fibroid	11000	£445.34	
14th Septmber 2023	xy	malaria, typhoid, hypertension, di	1850	£74.90	
1st Ocotber 2023	xy	surgery hernia	5000	£202.43	
6th October 2023	xy	hernia	5000	£202.43	
10th Ocotber 2023	xy	congestive cardiac failure	2800	£113.36	
11th October 2023	xy	stomach pain with fever	1950	£78.95	
25th October 2023	38 xy	swollen scrotum	1850	£74.90	
28th October 2023	40 xy	hernia	5000	£202.43	
23rd November 2023	xx	Fibroids	4000	£161.94	
26th November 2023	43 xy	malaria- admitted unconscious	2250	£91.09	
3rd December 2023	xy	eye condition	1500	£60.73	
15th January 2024	3 xx	severe fever and cough	1000	£40.49	
28th January	xy	eye treatment	2000	£80.97	
29th January 2024	xx	malaria and typhoid	1850	£74.90	
18th March 2024	xy	finger cut off	4450	£180.16	
27th March 2024	22 xy	kidney disease	14700	£595.14	
22nd April 2024	18 m xx	malaria and malnutrition	750	£30.36	
23rd April 2024	xy	abdominal pain	700	£28.34	
7th May 2024	xx	bone pain, painful to touch	3870	£156.68	
26th May 2024	42 xy	kidney failure	8000	£323.89	
	car		7440	£301.21	
				6898.18	

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This has been another busy year for the Gerontius Amenity Fund. Hannah Charley has continued to do sterling service, taking patients to hospital for no reward save that of knowing she is doing God's will. She and her granddaughter Hazel (my namesake) both had birthdays in August and I sent them each a dress (see photo). She is meticulous about sending me reports on all the patients including bills and clinical reports (see below). This is very interesting for me as a former doctor.



We have treated a total of 19 patients ranging in age from 2 to 63. Our patient with a chronic leg ulcer is still with us. (It is getting better, Honest!) A notable case was the child who received permanent eye damage when the end of the cane poked her eye while the teacher was beating another child. This is the 2nd time we have had such a case and the late Peter Penfold said he "might mention it" during his trip to Freetown. Unfortunately, I didn't manage to catch up with him before he died to see if he had such a conversation.

Peter will be sorely missed as a source of advice and inspiration. In particular I could do with his advice on how to arrange a trip here for Hannah and perhaps her husband next summer. (Although I did speak to the Sierra Leonean Ambassador about it at Peter's funeral!) As Hannah rightly pointed out, I was a guest of honour at her Wedding and it is time for a return trip. We are hoping she might come across for the Abingdon Passion Play on 22nd June 2024



to
at

Such a trip might involve a fundraising Barn Dance as a chance to meet her. We had a very successful fundraising Barn Dance last April. Special thanks are due Lesley Austen who gallantly stepped in the last minute and led the calling on a voluntary basis. It's just a shame I took

her thank you flowers to the wrong house! Still maybe someone else appreciated them- God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform and we continue to watch in wonder the wonders He is performing in Sierra Leone.

Simple Charity accounts

Income and Expenditure Account Year ending 21 June 2023

	£	£		SLE	£
Income					
Donations received	5538		age		
Fundraising income	175		xx malaria and typhoid	8,150	558.28
giftaid	999		48 xx nephrotic syndrome	2,600	248.89
Total income	<u>6712</u>		37 xy leg ulcer	14,000	849.88
Expenditure			18 xy severe malaria	850	54.80
transferred to Sierra leone	4765		xy Chest infection	1,300	78.92
transfer fees	84		xx spondylolysis	5,500	264.42
Costs of hall for Barn Dance	65		xy inflammation	3,000	144.14
Costs of hall for AGM	46		2 xx severe fever+cough	500	24.02
cardnet	50		xx eye	1,000	48.05
Total Expenditure	<u>5011</u>		45 xx fractured foot and cut mouth	2,450	105.58
Net income / (expenditure)	<u>1701</u>		45 xy hyperglycaemia, typhoid, dysentery	4,335	186.85
Balance at 21 June 2023		3037	xy fractured foot	5,500	237.03
Balance from 21 June 2022		<u>1336</u>	20 xy fractured foot with abscess	10,500	452.50
net income		<u><u>1701</u></u>	63 xy cardiac problems	4,350	187.50
			24 xy abdominal problems	2,500	21.55
			12 xx cane poked eye *	2,900	132.00
			20 xx Pelvic Inflammatory disease	2,040	87.93
			45 xx umbilical Hernia	750	32.33
			xy swollen jaw	300	11.54
			subtotal	72,525	£3,726.21
			transport costs	9,007	£340.50
			totals	81,532	£4,066.71

Hazel Glennie 22/1/2024

* schoolgirl, teacher was beating another child and end of cane went in her eye

Signed (treasurer)

Date:

22/1/2024 C Beale CLAUDETTE BEALE

Independent Examiner's Statement:

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to doubt that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records, and to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records, has not been reached.

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The Gerontius Amenity Fund

Saving Lives in Sierra Leone

This year we have treated 22 patients at a cost of about £6000.

Undoubtedly our saddest case was Salome Charley, the daughter of our administrator, Hannah Charley. She was a previously fit and well 33 year old who sadly contracted malaria. She ended up on ITU with cerebral malaria. Despite oxygen therapy etc she died a few days before Christmas. Probably as a result of the stress, her grandmother had a stroke, becoming another of our patients.

Nevertheless we have had some success stories. At the other end of the scale, we successfully treated a baby with an umbilical hernia at a cost of just £50. Typhoid and malaria continue to be prevalent. We successfully treated a 6 year old with a hernia- he had to have his malaria and typhoid treated first!



Taking patients to hospital has been greatly helped by the car we bought for Hannah last year, (fundraising outside the charity) including some very generous donations. This has been particularly helpful for our 37 year old patient with a leg ulcer which is healing *very* slowly.

On the fund-raising front we had a thoroughly enjoyable supporters' meal at the King's Head and Bell pub in Abingdon - the Landlord kindly giving us the function room for free. My commercial instinct said we should give a free meal and ask for donations. Unfortunately tentative enquiries with our supporters pointed out this wasn't what their donations were for! So we asked for at least, £20 (the cost of the meal) which reduced the number of guests. But at the end of my presentation those who were there gave generously.

the Gerontius Amenity Fund

**Income and Expenditure Account
Year ending 21 June 2022**

	£	£	age	Name (removed Condition)	Amount (SLE) see below ongoing	GBP (approx.)
Income						
Donations received	5088			xy Leg Ulcer (ongoing)		176
giftaid	1283			xy abdominal pain	2,500,000	286
justgiving	54			xx 4 weeks physio following stoke	4,000,000	50
Fundraising income(meal)	915			xx umbilical hernia	700,000	393
				xx cardiomyopathy	5,500,000	64
				xx eyes	890,000	114
				xy malaria and typhoid	1,600,000	54
Total income	<u>7340</u>			xy T.B.	750,000	71
net income from meal	635		35 xy	fell off roof	1,000,000	68
				xy malaria and typhoid	950,000	86
Expenditure				xx continuous fever and headache	3,500,000	86
			45 xy	dysentery	1,200,000	86
Transferred to Sierra Leone	7192	(see table)	72 xx	severely sick, can't walk, old fracture	1,200,000	1964
transfer fees	132		37 xy	Leg Ulcer (ongoing)	27,500,000	143
Cost of meal	280		33 xx	cerebral malaria	2,000,000	264
				stroke	3,700,000	252
				xy hernia	3,525,000	1643
				xx fractured hand following assult	3,525,000	75
Total Expenditure	<u>7604</u>			xy knee surgery	23,000,000	290
			5 xx	serious pain in foot	1,050,000	46
Net income / (expenditure)	<u>-264</u>		48 xx	nephrotic syndrome	4,060,000	86
				xx high fever and convulsion	650,000	233
Balance from 21 June 2021	1600		xy	malaria and typhoid	1,200,000	35
			xx	appendicitis	3,500,000	35
Balance at 21 June 2022	<u>1336.38</u>		1 xx	malaria	520,000	6804
					98,020,000	

Signed (treasurer)

Date:

Wood Annie 9th December 2022

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

has not been kept

* to prepare financial
~~2 to which in my~~
opinion, attention

the accounts

*C Beale (Claudette Beale)
09/12/2022*

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This year we have successfully treated 8 patients with conditions ranging from high blood pressure to hernias. Malaria and typhoid continue to be very prevalent. We have also unsuccessfully treated 5 patients-but still, it's worth trying! Hannah was particularly upset by the death of an elderly man whom we have been treating for several years for ongoing prostate cancer. He was taken ill during the night and she had no way so getting him to hospital and he died.

This led us to intensify our efforts to fundraise a car for her. We had to fundraise outside the charity. We had been advised that if the charity bought the car, it had to be registered in the name of the charity. I had no wish to be woken at 4 in the morning to be told that a car registered in my name had been involved in an accident! So we fundraised outside the

charity, my son James kindly setting up a "gofundme" page for us. We made up the rest of the money ourselves and, on the Wednesday before Christmas, proudly walked into the Post Office to transfer £8000 to Sierra Leone. (I think the biggest miracle of the lot was that at 8 minutes to 11 on the Wednesday before Christmas there was no queue at the Post Office-Sally had a hair appointment at 11am in Ock Street!) The result is

Our administrator, Hannah Charley, now has a car she can use both for her own personal use and to take sick people to hospital. It has been well used. Since buying the car, we have treated a 33 year old man with liver disease. Hannah had to take him to not 1 but 2 hospitals because of the pressure on the health service due to coronavirus. At the second hospital, sadly they weren't seen because the surgeon was only seeing 20 patients a day because of coronavirus. So Hannah took him back there again early in the morning, to be in the first 20 patients. It was just as well we had the car!. Fortunately he was eventually admitted to hospital and was discharged some days later much better.

Sadly Hannah herself had typhoid in June, and the charity paid for her treatment. Despite having typhoid herself, she still managed to care for an elderly lady with diabetes, Sadly the lady died, despite the fact that Hannah had managed to take her to hospital in the middle of the night as an emergency and had the prescription in her hand. But we live to fight another day!



Gerontius Fund Accounts Year Ending 21/6/21

Income & Expenditure

Income from donors	3318.25	
Gift Aid Reclaimed	400.00	
		3718.25
Transferred to Sierra Leone	2621.00	
Transfer Fees	73.96	
		2694.96
Surplus for year		<u><u>1023.29</u></u>

Balance Sheet

Balance Carried Forwards 21 June 2020	577.66
Surplus / deficit in year	1023.29
	1600.95
Comprising	
Bank Balance as at 21 June 2021	1600.95
Acruals & Creditors	
Debtors	
	1600.95
Additionally: held in Sierra Leone	620.83

Conditions Treated

xy	prostate cancer	0	
xy	Leg Ulcer-ongoi	7,155,000	550
xx	stomach Pain	850,000	65
xy	High Blood Pres	1,000,000	77
xy	Hernia-surgery	3,000,000	231
xx	malaria and wo	500,000	39
xy	Hernia-surgery	2,218,000	171
xy	Hepatitis test, r	4,129,149	318
xx	hernia water coming from umbilical, and fibroid	0	0
xx	Difficult breathi	700,000	54
xy	cirrhosis	3,500,000	269
xx	typhoid	2,950,000	227
xx	Diabetes	0	