



THE SIERRA LEONE WAR TRUST FOR CHILDREN
(SLWT)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

May 2003 – April 2004

"Mankind owes to the child the best it has to give"
United Nations Declaration

In accordance with the points laid out in Part VI of the 1993 Charities Act, the Trustees present their report and annual accounts for the year ended 30th April 2004:

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Introduction by Chairperson, Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr

Dear Reader,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, it is with pleasure that I present the 2003-2004 Annual Report of the Sierra Leone War Trust for Children (SLWT).

As we reflect on our achievements during the last year, we are confident that SLWT is entering a new and important phase in our structure and growth.

At project level, we are pleased to report that October 2003 marked the successful completion of the first year of the Thuan Mathinki Community Rehabilitation (TMCR) Project. Working towards our goal of promoting access to universal education for all, we focused our efforts on restoring the Kagbankona Primary School. This school served as the only access to formal education in the Community, but had been destroyed during the decade long civil war in Sierra Leone. 2003 saw the enrollment of over 60 children in classes 1-3, a majority of whom are girls. There is now an increase in demand for enrollment into the school. This has meant that we have had to expand upon our original objective of restoring the existing primary school building and refocus our efforts on the expansion of classrooms to include classes 4 to 6.

In order to fully support our goal of promoting education, we have continued to provide holistic support to the Community through farming and psychosocial activities, concentrating especially on the involvement and empowerment of the women in the Community.

In December 2003, Trustee Othame Kabia and newly appointed Project Coordinator, Georgina Akibo-Betts made a self-funded visit to the Thuan Mathinki Community in Sierra Leone. This gave them an opportunity to see, first hand, the invaluable work that is being implemented by our charity partners the Christian Children's Fund Sierra Leone (CCF-SL). Meeting the members of the Community also provided invaluable insight into the continuing needs of the people of Thuan Mathinki and a renewed sense of passion for, and belief in the Project.

Internally, SLWT has also concentrated its efforts this year on self-generated funding. We are planning two events which we hope will become annual social and fundraising gatherings: An Evening of Jazz & the Spoken Word in June 2004 and the SLWT 5KM Fun Run in October 2004. We believe that such events not only serve to raise funds, but to create an awareness of the continuing needs of the children and youth of Sierra Leone.

At an international level, we continue to work with other development agencies in the UK, and support their efforts in working towards Africa's long term development.

We look forward to the coming year and to your continued and growing support.

Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, Chair

Dated: 1st May 2004

Mission, Vision, Methods of Intervention & Policies



SLWT's Mission Statement:

'SLWT will work to promote education, health, rehabilitation and self-sufficiency of children and youth affected by war in Sierra Leone through advocacy and the provision of financial and technical support.'

SLWT's Vision Statement:

'Becoming an authority on the welfare of war-affected children and securing a better future for them.'

SLWT Profile

Brief History

The Sierra Leone War Trust for Children was formed in April 1999, by seven Sierra Leoneans, living and working in the UK. This was in response to the atrocities committed against children in Sierra Leone, during the country's ten year civil war. The Trustees are committed to improving the welfare of war-affected children and work for the Trust on a voluntary basis.



Areas of Operation:

Overseas: West Africa: Sierra Leone





Beneficiaries / Objects of the Trust:

Children, youth and adults who are in conditions of poverty, sickness or distress, and vulnerable groups who have been displaced, or have otherwise been affected by civil war or other conflict.

Methods of Intervention:

SLWT's primary aim and objective is to identify and fund projects in Sierra Leone that assist children who have been adversely affected by the war. SLWT works through partnerships with established and credible local non-government organisations based in Sierra Leone to implement projects. SLWT implements and manages local projects that are holistic in nature. SLWT believes that in order to promote the welfare of a child, that child's family, home and community must be supported.

In identifying and executing projects, SLWT adopts the 4 stage framework, described below:

-  Performance of a situational needs assessment, with the assistance of and input from local partners, proposed project beneficiaries and other relevant sources;
-  Performance of an assessment of the capacity and the capability of SLWT and its local partners to effectively and efficiently respond to a given situation;
-  Decision on a proposed Project and the evaluation criteria for assessing the impact of the Project;
-  Frequent and continuous evaluation and monitoring of the Project with reporting to donors.

SLWT's Policies

SLWT's Policy on General Reserves:

SLWT aims to apply all incoming resources to its charitable work. To this end, we keep General Reserves at the lowest possible level needed to cover working capital requirements and meet contractual obligations not covered by restricted funding.

Key achievements at a glance

For the past year and a half, SLWT has focused its efforts and funding on one project: The Thuan Mathinki Rehabilitation Programme (TMCR). The TMCR Programme directly meets SLWT's objective of promoting the education and rehabilitation of children affected by the war. Through SLWT's partnership with Christian Children's Fund Sierra Leone (CCF-SL), direct technical and financial support is being provided to the Thuan Mathinki Community that has had a significant impact on the life and future of this community.

Thuan Mathinki is made up of 27 villages in the Bombali district in the north of Sierra Leone. The TMCR Programme has been implemented in 6 of these villages. It adopts a holistic approach to rehabilitation by providing the following projects:

EDUCATION SUPPORT through the restoration of the existing primary school and the construction of more buildings. We have secured enough funding to provide the Thuan Mathinki Community with their first complete primary school by the end of this year. Three teachers have now been hired (two of which are on a distance learning teacher's course). An Oil Palm Plantation Project is also planned, estimated for completion in July (2004). Profits from the plantation will be used to cover the costs of maintenance of the TMC School, its teachers' welfare and any other needs of the school, thus providing the Community with a sustainable education system.

FARMING SUPPORT by providing the Community with loans to facilitate food security & economic self-sufficiency through agriculture. The first part of the year saw 30 farmers successfully enrolled on the programme. This number increased in the second farming year from 30 to 100 farmers. These farmers now grow rice, potato, cassava & seed groundnut. The long term aim of this project is to support the Community through the transition from subsistence farming to commercial agriculture.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT by addressing post conflict trauma through the implementation of psycho-social and cultural activities. We have provided members of the Community with workshop training on post-conflict management and resolution. Land issues and post war conflicts have been resolved as a result of these workshops. We have collaborated with the Red Cross to provide a Traditional Birth Attendance centre for women, which will be completed in the first quarter of 2005; we have provided 15 Ventilated Improved Pit (VIP) latrines; construction on a water well is due to start in March 2005; and by the end of 2004, members of the Community would have received training on HIV/AIDS awareness. Our future plans include improving access to health facilities, and working with the local Health Ministry towards the construction and operation of a health centre that will serve the whole community.

Looking Ahead



Sierra Leone PC Simeon Sesay (left) showing a villager our TMCR Project fundraising brochure

2005 is a significant year on the international development calendar. It is the deadline that international governments and agencies have set for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

At SLWT, we aim to focus our advocacy on securing access to education for all children in Sierra Leone, especially the girl child. We work towards influencing international policies on Africa and its development. For example, through our membership of the African Diaspora Voices for Africa's Development (ADVAD) in the UK, we will continue our engagement with international agencies such as the Commission for Africa, and seek to influence their recommendations, especially on the role that the African Diaspora can play in Africa's Development.

At project level, 2005 will also be a significant year for SLWT, as it marks the mid-term evaluation of the Thuan Mathinki Community Rehabilitation Project. This will give us the opportunity to fully assess its successes and to adapt the programmes to meet the changing needs of the Community.

This year, we will also focus our efforts on raising awareness amongst the children and youths of Sierra Leone on the growing threat of HIV/AIDS and drug addiction.

We will start with a project based workshop in December 2004 in the Thuan Mathinki Community. There will be a series of workshops with the aim of creating trainers within the Community who will become a point of information and education for the rest of the villagers. These workshops will be organized by the Society for Women & AIDS in Sierra Leone (SWAASL).

In 2005, we also aim to implement an HIV/AIDS Awareness Schools Project, with an out-of-school programme, focusing on children and youth who do not attend school.

Research will be conducted to ensure that the Project is entirely needs based. We aim to work with the Government of Sierra Leone, specifically the Ministries of Education, Health, Youth & the Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender & Children's Affairs.

We will also focus on internal capacity building, in order to ensure that SLWT is reaching its fullest potential in terms of the service it provides to Sierra Leone's war-affected children and youth. This 'internal house-keeping' will include the appointment of a new Trustee in order to expand our reach and database, and a 3-year Strategic Business plan, that will help us to focus on our objectives, and ensure that we remain focused on our commitment to the war-affected children and youth of Sierra Leone.

All our future plans, of course, are fully dependent on the continued support of all our donors.

SLWT ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2003-APRIL 2004
Registered Charity No. 1085628

Sierra Leone War Trust for Children
Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 30 April 2004

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2004 Total £	2003 Total £
Receipts				
Grants	-	6,907	6,907	11,835
Donations	18,128	7,815	25,943	8,323
Art Exhibition	<u>-</u>	<u>6,829</u>	<u>6,829</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Receipts	<u>18,128</u>	<u>21,551</u>	<u>39,679</u>	<u>20,158</u>
Payments				
<i>Fundraising Costs</i>				
Art Exhibition	<u>-</u>	<u>3,400</u>	<u>3,400</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Project Costs</i>				
Tower Hill Kindergarten	-	1,029	1,029	-
Thuan Mathinki Community Rehabilitation	<u>8,142</u>	<u>6,862</u>	<u>15,004</u>	<u>13,202</u>
	<u>8,142</u>	<u>7,891</u>	<u>16,033</u>	<u>13,202</u>
<i>Support Costs</i>				
Staffing	1,172	5,544	6,716	8,750
Staff Training	100	-	100	-
Insurances	689	-	689	-
Postage, Printing and Stationery	406	115	521	367
Telephone and Internet	847	-	847	1,176
Sundry	<u>50</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>34</u>
	<u>3,264</u>	<u>5,659</u>	<u>8,923</u>	<u>10,327</u>
<i>Charity Administration Costs</i>				
Independent Examination Fee	<u>450</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Payments	<u>11,856</u>	<u>16,950</u>	<u>28,806</u>	<u>23,529</u>
Net Receipts/ (Payments) for the Year	6,272	4,601	10,873	(3,371)
Bank Balance Brought Forward	<u>3,217</u>	<u>6,960</u>	<u>10,177</u>	<u>13,548</u>
Bank Balance Carried Forward	<u>9,489</u>	<u>11,561</u>	<u>21,050</u>	<u>10,177</u>

Note 1

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Sierra Leone War Trust for Children
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As at 30 April 2004

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2004 Total £	2003 Total £
Fixed Assets (at cost)				
Furniture	150	-	150	150
Computer	<u>1,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,417</u>	<u>1,417</u>
	<u>1,567</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,567</u>	<u>1,567</u>
Cash Balances				
Cash at Bank	<u>12,435</u>	<u>8,615</u>	<u>21,050</u>	<u>10,177</u>
Creditors				
Tax and National Insurance	-	2,946	2,946	-
Independent Examination Fee	<u>450</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>
	<u>450</u>	<u>2,946</u>	<u>3,396</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes

1. Restricted Funds

These represent funds received where the donor imposes restrictions on spending that are narrower than the general objects of the charity.

At 30 April 2004 Sierra Leone War Fund for Children held restricted funds of £11,561 (2003 - £ 6,960)

:

	£	£
TMCRC Project		
- For building a well	1,463	5,000
- Grant received 30 April04	6,907	-
Tower Hill Kindergarten	3,191	-
Printing and Publicity for Art Exhibition, May 2003	<u>-</u>	<u>1,690</u>
	<u>11,561</u>	<u>6,690</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Sierra Leone War Trust for Children (SLWT)

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30 April 2004, which are set out on pages 8 & 9

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As Charity Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of the procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the 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 such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 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

Nicola Anderson FCA
Chartered Accountant

Bramble Dew
Rasehill Close
Chorleywood
Herts
WD3 4EW

Dated:

People

Board of Trustees

Dennis Greene (Secretary)
Felna Fox
Othame Kabia
Philip Swaray
Renée Horton-Spring (Treasurer)
Trudy Morgan
Yvonne Aki-Sawyer (Chairperson)

Dennis Greene (BSc MSc) is an Information Architect with the Market Analytics group at BNP Paribas. In his role as Secretary, Dennis is heavily involved in the day to day running of the organisation.

Felna Fox (BA Hons AADip ARB) is a qualified architect who runs her own company specializing in graphics and property redevelopment. She volunteers some of her time to SLWT and considerable skills to SLWT and is responsible for the design and production of all graphics for SLWT. She is married with two children.

Othame Kabia (BA Hons MSc) is a Principal Finance Officer in Southwark Council's Children's Division. He has been a Major in the Transport Squadron Royal Logistic Corp since 2000, commanding the 210 Transport Squadron. He also has an interest in developing the IT sector in Sierra Leone. He provides support to SLWT as and when is necessary.

Philip Swaray (BSc MCSE MILCE) is an entrepreneur with interests in communications and bauxite mining. He is married with two children.

Renée Horton-Spring (BA Hons) works for Tectura UK Ltd (a Microsoft Business Solutions Partner), as Head of Projects and Methodology. Renée is also responsible for the maintaining SLWT's accounts, in her capacity as Treasurer.

Trudy Morgan (B.Eng Hons MBA) is a consultant in Asset Management at Atkins Rail. In 2001, she completed her MBA at Cranfield School of Management. She uses her expertise in Business Management to help develop SLWT's marketing strategy.

Yvonne Aki-Sawyer (BSc Hons MSc ACA) left her position as a Director in the Financial Markets Division of Andersens in 2001, to spend more time with her young family. She now manages her own business. In her role as Chairperson, she volunteers one day a week at SLWT, and is heavily involved in the development of the organisation.

Project Coordinators

UK

Georgina Akibo-Betts (BSc Hons) is the only paid SLWT full-time staff. She worked in TV Production at the BBC for three years, before joining SLWT. As a Sierra Leonean with a keen interest in African development, she is pleased to be an active contributor to the improvement and development of Sierra Leone and its children.

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Sierra Leone

Simeon Sesay is an experienced development project worker. He has been with SLWT for a year and a half, since the start of the TMCR Programme. He liaises very closely with our charity partner, CCF-SL, and has chosen to live in the Community to ensure that the aims and objectives of the Project are met, and that we are constantly made aware of the changing needs at ground level.

Charity Partner

Christian Children's Fund Sierra Leone (CCF-SL)

Country Director: Davidson Jonah

Spiritus House

8 Howe Street

Freetown

Sierra Leone

Tel: 00 232 22 236 206

Advisory Board

An Advisory Board has been appointed this year, made up of experts in development work across Africa, specializing in Sierra Leone:

Davidson Jonah

Eva Richards

Gladys Carrol

Marion Morgan

Pamela Greene (*It is with deep sadness that we report that since the completion of this document, Mrs Pamela Greene has passed away*)

Friends of SLWT

The Baroness Cox of Queensbury

Mr Garth Crooks OBE

Squadron Leader Winston Forde

Mr Fergal Keane

SLWT does not subscribe to members.

Events

Past Events

SLWT is committed to raising funds through our events as this gives us the perfect opportunity to meet and thank our supporters and also raise awareness of the needs that remain in Sierra Leone.

The TMCR Art Exhibition

As documented in the last year's annual report as a future event, the Art Exhibition took 31st May 2003 at The Royal Commonwealth Society. The Exhibition's theme will be '*Painting Africa – Rebuilding Lives*. It featured works of art by various African painters, including works created specially for the event by Bartheus Award winners, Hector Ofori and Mark Buku. The event was a huge success and raised a total of £6,829

The Tower Hill Project

In collaboration with an informal organisation, The Tower Hill Project, a Jazz benefit concert, '**For Children's Sake**', was hosted by Gwyn Jay Allen & Friends at the Richmond Parkshot Theatre on Saturday 8th November 2003. This was in aid of the construction of new school buildings at the Tower Hill Kindergarten School in Sierra Leone. Of the total money raised, £200 was donated to SLWT.

Future Events

An Evening of Jazz and the Spoken Word is planned for early summer of 2004. With contributions from notable poets, this evening will help raise awareness of the continued needs of our children in Sierra Leone. The life-changing progress of the TMCR Project will be highlighted; it will also help highlight existing post-war issues, and the country's continued need for funds.

The **SLWT 5KM Fun Run** is scheduled for Autumn 2004. We aim to invite 100 participants to raise £100, with the goal of raising a total of £10000.



A few supporters viewing an SLWT video presentation at the Art Exhibition, May 2003



Viewing a few of the works of art on display, Art Exhibition May 2003

Donors and Other Supporters

SLWT operates solely on the support from funding agencies and individual donors.

This year, we have received funding from the following organisations:

Organisation	Amount (£)
Yapp Charitable Trust	1500
St. Stephen Church, Wimbledon	3500
Fulmer Charitable Trust	500
Zurich Community Trust	5000
Methodist Relief & Development Fund (MRDF) (1 st tranche of a total donation of £13, 815)	6907.5

We have also received considerable financial support through private donations.

SLWT would like to extend our sincere thanks to all those who have made donations throughout this year. Your support has enabled us to continue with our work and vision alive, of securing a better future for the war-affected children and youth of Sierra Leone.

Acknowledgements

SLWT would like to extend their sincere gratitude to the many individuals and organisations, who in their various ways have supported our work. On behalf of the beneficiaries (the war-affected children, youths and their families), we wish to thank you; with your help, we are making a huge difference and changing lives. We look forward to your continued support in the coming year.

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Registered Charity No. 1085628

Contacts

Registered Office	7 Thornton Road, Little Heath Potter's Bar Hertfordshire EN6 1JJ
Correspondence Address	35 Chelsfield Gardens Sydenham London SE26 4DJ
Governing Document	Declaration of Trust dated 30 January 2001. Registered with the Charity Commission on 19 March 2001
Registered Charity No.	1085628
Independent Examiner	Nicola Anderson FCA MACIE
Bank	National Westminster Bank plc Law Courts, Temple Bar Branch 217 Strand PO Box 10720 London WC2R 1AL
Website	www.slwt.org www.slwt.ik.com
Email	slwt@yahoo.co.uk slwtinfo@aol.com

The Annual Report and Financial Statements as set out on pages 2 to 15 were approved by the Trustees on Monday 17th January 2005

And signed on their behalf by

Y Aki-Sawyerr
Chair

R Horton-Spring
Treasurer