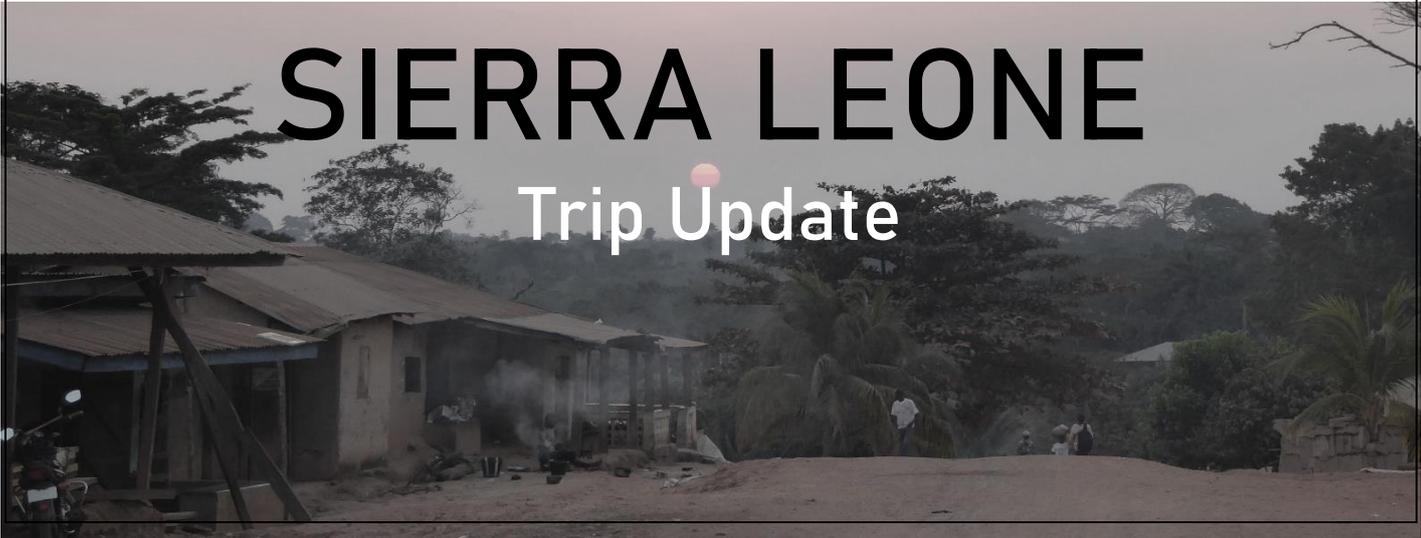




# SIERRA LEONE

## Trip Update



Hi,

I thought it would be good to do an update on our recent trip to Sierra Leone, Ali and I hope that you get a better insight of our work as you read through these next few pages.

Our work in Sierra Leone is varied and we now wear a few different hats when we visit. We go to encourage and support our teams, both Maranatha Christian Outreach Ministries and our Watchmen International Team (Transformed International in the UK). We also visit our African family and friends and spend time with them. It is always special when we visit but it is also demanding and difficult at times, for many different reasons.

This most recent trip was actually quite relaxed, we had a pretty relaxed schedule and it was so nice to be able to have some thinking time in between programme activities to process things. Don't get me wrong, we did fit a lot in but it was a little less hectic than usual and we liked that. It was just a little disappointing that we had to leave in such a hurry a couple of days earlier than planned and we didn't get as much time as we had hoped with Pastor Ken Fullah to go through things that had been discussed and helping him a little more with the computer.

Thank you for taking the time out to read and please feel free to get in touch with any questions you might have.

Love and blessings, Ali and Lorraine xxx

**Page 2**

**Maranatha  
Christian  
Outreach  
Ministries**

**Page 3**

**Transformed  
International**

**Page 4**

**Personal Projects  
and Prayer**



Maranatha Christian Outreach Ministries is a small charitable organisation working primarily in the Kailahun District of Sierra Leone, West Africa.

**Very simply we help to facilitate the evangelical work of local churches in Kailahun.**

We do this by showing the Jesus Film, which gathers crowds and then preaching the gospel, praying for the sick and starting discipleship groups within those communities.

We had a great time with the Maranatha team and it is always such a privilege to preach the gospel in these communities. Considering Ali and I are pretty new to this, I believe we have both found a new passion in life. I can say with confidence that I actually love preaching the gospel and telling people about Jesus and how much He loves them, I would never have believed I would hear my self-saying that.

My highlight this trip was having the awesome opportunity of preaching side by side with my husband in the prison in Kailahun and leading a large group of men in a prayer of repentance and acceptance of Jesus, they listened intently to what we had to say and then fell on their knees as I led them in prayer. I cannot express in words how that makes me feel, my heart is so full of joy and I pray that every single one of those men will now make good positive decisions as they move forward in their lives as Christians and I pray that their new faith in Jesus will be sealed and protected.

We visited two communities and showed the Jesus film, Ali preached at one of them and I preached at the other, at both outreaches many people responded to the gospel and we prayed for the sick. You can never tell how many people genuinely respond to Jesus. Our team will return to these communities and begin discipleship groups with those who are serious, people are encouraged to attend local churches and our team work with and encourage the church leaders. All we can do is be obedient in what God has called us to do and allow the Holy Spirit to do the rest.

We spent some time with the team discussing the programme over the last year and looking forward to the coming year, discussing, planning and praying together. This team are so passionate about preaching the gospel it humbles me, they work tirelessly in very difficult conditions to tell people about Jesus. The road networks to these communities are bad and the weather for the majority of the year is wet, it rains a lot so the roads are treacherous, especially when you think that they are travelling on motorbikes with all of the equipment, including a generator.

We always visit the Adullum Church Primary School, the building in the photograph was funded through Maranatha and they love us to visit, we also dug a well and built a toilet block. Ali and I each had the opportunity to preach at the Adullum Bible Church at the Sunday morning services whilst we were there, this is always such a privilege.





We are a UK-based Christian charity working across the church denominations in Africa – training Pastors and leaders to be effective trainers of trainers, discipling and empowering young people through the Africa Youth Award, supporting nursery school education, and providing clean and safe drinking water through our Lifewater project.

Watchmen International West Africa, was only officially launched in January last year when Roger London, The UK Director visited Kailahun with us. Ali and I are Trustees of both Transformed International and Lifewater UK and the work that they do in Africa is amazing, it links in really well with the work of Maranatha COM and seemed the natural next step.

Part of this trip was to visit the new Africa Youth Award groups in Sierra Leone and it was such a privilege to visit each of the four groups and speak to the young people and listen to their testimonies of how the programme has impacted their lives. We heard some amazing stories.

One was of a young man who prior to his involvement with the AYA was a drinker and a smoker of marijuana, he told us how the leaders of the AYA had pursued him and given him Bible scriptures to read, through reading the scriptures the Holy Spirit had touched him and he made the decision to join the AYA group. His life is now transformed, he attends church regularly and serves in the church, he is no longer a drunk and does not take drugs and he is learning how to become a welder.

There were many more wonderful testimonies from young people who's lives have been changed because of their involvement with the AYA.

The other thing we did was to have a team meeting and it was great to have Rev Edwin Borsu and Emmanuel Taylor join us all the way from Liberia. They travelled 4 ½ hours on a motorbike to join us for a 3-hour meeting and then travelled back in the same day. It was a very productive meeting and both the Sierra Leone team and the Liberian team shared about how the programme was going in their respective countries. Both teams want to develop the work and want to do more training courses and add more AYA groups. The biggest difficulty is trying to slow them down.

Obviously Transformed International works in 11 African countries and the funding to support the work has to be spread out across all the nations and each nation's need for this ministry is great.

It is a real privilege to be able to work with Transformed International and Lifewater UK especially for us to see the work develop in Sierra Leone. We want to thank Transformed International and Lifewater UK for all that they do and for having faith to see the ministry develop in West Africa.



# Personal Projects

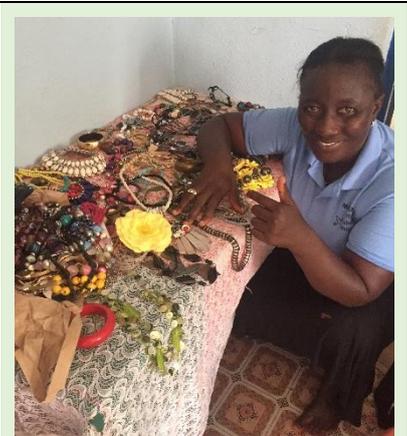


We have been visiting Kailahun since 2009 and as you can imagine we have built some very special relationships with people there, they are like family. The three young men with us in the picture below we would call our African sons. We are very proud of all of them. The picture of the market stall was sent to us recently by Abu (left). Abu wanted to start selling clothes, so this trip we were able to take two suitcases full of clothes for him from Grace Ministries so as he could start his business, he was thrilled and it was a real blessing when we got the pictures to show us that he was already up and running. Abu is such a hard worker.



Amara is in the middle, he again works very hard and wants desperately to go and study to be an accountant and on the right we have Salia, last year we bought Salia a motorbike so as he could set up as a bike rider to earn money to support Nancy his partner and their son Henry.

This is Mummy Gloria Fullah and she is the wife of Pastor Ken Fullah who heads up both the Maranatha and the Watchmen International work in Sierra Leone. Mummy Gloria works so hard to support her husband in the ministry and they are a fantastic team, she buys and sells jewellery to make a living. We were able to take her a bag full of costume jewellery to help with the business, which we took from Grace Ministries, we also paid for a table for a year at the local market for her to make things a little easier. We would love to help Gloria more in the future.



## Prayer

We hope you have enjoyed reading about our trip and that this update has given you a bit more of an insight into what we do. We would really appreciate your ongoing prayer support at this time. Even though it is less than two weeks since we were there, so much has changed in the world and all the things we talked about and discussed as we move forward have now been put on hold.

This week President Bio of Sierra Leone has declared a state of National Emergency for a period of 1 year, this has massive implications for our ministry. All church meetings have been stopped and all gatherings of over 40 people have been stopped. This country is still reeling from the Ebola epidemic that struck just a couple of years ago, thankfully they seem to have learnt from it and are the only West

African country with no cases of Covid-19. This state of emergency means we will not be able to return to Sierra Leone for at least another year, which is disappointing as we were hoping to be able to go in November with a new vehicle.

We wrote to Ken Fullah this week and asked that all Maranatha projects be stopped until further notice, the board of Watchmen International also wrote to all the teams to cease all WI ministry and Lifewater projects with immediate effect all across Africa.

These are unprecedented times that we live in and we believe it is just moving us closer to the return of Jesus. WI teaching is all based around "Preparing Gods people for the soon coming of Jesus". Let's get ready people.

### Prayer Points.

- Give thanks to God for all he has done in bringing each of these ministries this far
- Give thanks for our safe return to the UK and for bringing Glenys safely home from Kenya/Uganda
- For Ken and Gloria Fullah as they head up both ministries in Sierra Leone
- For Revd Borsu and his team in Liberia
- For the team, protection, health and provision for them and their families
- For the provision of the vehicle, we now have £10,200 in the bank which is fantastic, we have time now to continue raising funds for another year.
- For ongoing provision financially for Maranatha COM.
- For ongoing financial provision for Transformed International and Lifewater UK
- For Roger and Glenys London and the board of TI and Lifewater UK
- For Ali and I and our family
- For wisdom as we move forward
- Pray for repentance and healing all around the world at this time



Roger & Glenys London



Ken & Gloria Fullah



Ali & Lorraine Patience

2 CHRONICLES 7 449

**God Appears to Solomon Again**  
(1 Kgs 9:1-9)

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<sup>11</sup>After King Solomon had finished the Temple and the palace, successfully completing all his plans for them, <sup>12</sup>the LORD appeared to him at night. He said to him, "I have heard your prayer, and I accept this Temple as the place where sacrifices are to be offered to me. <sup>13</sup>Whenever I hold back the rain or send locusts to eat up the crops or send an epidemic on my people, <sup>14</sup>if they pray to me and repent and turn away from the evil they have been doing, then I will hear them in heaven, forgive their sins, and make their land prosperous again. <sup>15</sup>I will watch over this Temple and be ready to hear all the prayers that are offered here, <sup>16</sup>because I have chosen it and consecrated it as the place where I

## Contact Us

If you have any questions or would like further information in relation to any of our work in Africa, then please get in touch also if you feel the Holy Spirit may be prompting you to support financially, then please also get in touch. We appreciate all of your support and encouragement. God Bless, Ali & Lorraine

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