

The Friendship link between Bo District in Sierra Leone and Warwick District

23 November 2022

Return to Bo City, Sierra Leone

A group from One World Link (OWL), including two Midwives, have visited Bo City in Sierra Leone for the first time since the Covid pandemic.

Four members of OWL travelled to Bo City in late October to meet friends and discuss projects for the first time in over 2 ½ years. Although online meetings enabled discussions between groups here and in Bo, there is nothing quite like meeting in person to continue the relationship between the two communities which has existed for over 40 years.

The group consisted of Richard Hall, Chairman of Warwick district OWL, Helena White and Zoe Milburn, both Midwives. 17-year-old William White, Helena's son, was also visiting for his second time, to meet friends and enjoy the experience. Helena and Zoe were able to deliver several training sessions during the visit, for Midwives and health clinic workers.

Royal Leamington Spa Town Council have had a link with Bo City Council for over 40 years. Richard met with dignitaries at Bo City Council and brought back a letter from the Council marking the 40-year link and thanking our town council for a donation towards a tree planting project in Bo district.

One of the main purposes of the trip was to explore further links between health organisations, so both Bo Government Hospital and Bo Children's Hospital were on the list of places visited.

A strong schools link has existed for many years, between 15 schools here and in Bo district. This was emphasised when visiting 8 of the schools during the week in Bo.

Another project being explored during the time there was for younger people, developing IT skills. Potential funding for this and other projects is being sought to help bring them to fruition.

For more information about One World Link, visit our website at: www.oneworldlink.org.uk

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Richard Hall stated that 'We had a great time visiting friends old and new and we thank members of Bo OWL for their warm hospitality. It is hoped that we can welcome visitors from Bo next year but in the meantime we will continue to work on existing projects and look for ways to make the newer project ideas happen'.

ENDS

Images



Caption: Richard Hall meets staff and pupils at a school in Bo in relation to the tree planting project.

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Caption: Meeting (from left to right) the Deputy Mayor, Senior Development Planner and The Chief Administrator of BCC with Dr Wusu Sannoh, Chairman of Bo OWL



Caption: Learnington and Warwick-based midwife Helena White delivering training to midwives in Yemoh Town clinic in Bo.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

Local charity ONE WORLD LINK has been promoting friendship & mutual learning between Bo District (Sierra Leone) and Warwick District for over 40 years. The link is volunteer run and inspired by a desire for justice, equality and mutual understanding and is maintained through activities such as exchange visits, cultural events, links between schools, teacher exchanges, projects such as the DFID funded Waste Management Project and many other activities. Over the years it has helped to strengthen both communities and their awareness of global & development issues. To find out more about One World Link visit www.oneworldlink.org.uk

For enquiries, please contact Richard Hall (rahemail@gmail.com)