



# TRUST NEWS

Summer 2012

## Trust to help 13 students in 2012 - despite austerity



The UKZN UK Trust is providing assistance to 13 needy students at the University this year through its bursaries and the Margaret Thomas Scholarship – down from 14 last year.

The Trustees regret that pressure on the charity's finances in the current difficult economic climate means there is less money available to support students in 2012. Meanwhile, the need for help for poorer students remains very high, with the Trust having to refuse many deserving cases.

The fact that 13 students are being helped is something of which the Trust's donors can be justifiably proud – but the situation gives cause for concern as more funding is desperately needed. The Trustees therefore once again call upon alumni and supporters in the UK to give as generously as they can.

The money given by donors makes a huge difference to the lives of students, evidenced by the heartfelt messages of thanks received.

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TRUSTEES: Roger Smith (Chair); Tess Marsh (Secretary); Richard Cooper (Treasurer); Penny Holmes; Lorna Nimmo; Atholl Swainston-Harrison.

TRUST ADDRESS: Flat G, 317 Leigham Court Road, London SW16 2RX

Web: [www.ukznuktrust.org](http://www.ukznuktrust.org) Tel: 07968 142671 E-mail: [info@ukznuktrust.org](mailto:info@ukznuktrust.org)

# Five students have bursaries renewed for second year

Five of the 13 students being assisted by the Trust this year also received Trust bursaries in 2011. The Trustees were pleased to be able to renew their awards in the light of very good results achieved by the students in their second year of study.

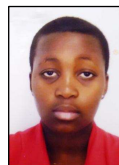
The five students are studying law or social work degrees requiring four years of full-time undergraduate study and therefore do not yet qualify for new state funding arrangements for the final year of study.

The renewals include **Nombulelo Mngadi**, 20, who featured in the previous issue of Trust News. She is studying for a Bachelor of Social Work degree because she believes social workers can help deprived people to achieve a brighter future.



**David Leonard**, 25, is studying for an LLB because of his strong interest in the South African legal system. He hopes to become an advocate, focusing on social justice work within the local community.

**Sinothile Shezi**, 29, says she chose to study Social Work because "it is a passion of mine to help people overcome some of their most difficult challenges: poverty, divorce, addiction, illness, disability, etc".



**Sicelo Sibiyi**, 24, says he always had a dream of studying for a law degree. He is looking forward to practising as a lawyer but he enjoys legal research and hopes to become an expert, giving advice.

**Lungile Khawula**, 19, is studying Social Work with the aim of improving conditions in her community. She would like to bring hope and a better life to deprived children in particular.



## ***Margaret Thomas Scholarship goes to Arts student***

The Trustees have decided to award the Scholarship in memory of Trust co-founder Margaret Thomas to a second-year BA student, Siyabonga Innocent Nxumalo. He achieved good or excellent results in his first year of study, which covered courses including Philosophy, Classical Civilisation, Media Studies and Global Politics. We hope to provide more information about him in the next issue of Trust News.

# Success of birthday appeal highlights ways of giving

Trustee Penny Holmes has raised more than £300 for the Trust through an appeal to friends and family to make donations on the occasion of her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Trustees were delighted with this welcome injection of funds through such a simple gesture and have thanked Penny for the initiative.



The case highlights the fact there are many different ways of helping the Trust in its efforts to support needy students at UKZN. The Trustees urge alumni and supporters to consider what they may be able to do to help. Just a few points:

- The Trust welcomes regular giving by standing order as this provides a reliable stream of income. If you can, please fill out the relevant part of the form enclosed with this newsletter and return it to the Trust.
- We encourage donors to consider making a legacy or bequest to the Trust in their will, in the knowledge that they will be helping make future provision for students. To continue to make a difference to the lives of others can be one of the best memorials you can leave.
- The Trust gains a small amount every year from the charity flowers scheme – please see details below.

If you have any fund-raising ideas which can help the Trust, please get in touch.

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## ***Help the Trust - when you buy flowers***



The Trust is part of a scheme for charities run by Guernsey Flowers Ltd. Customers who order flowers on the charity flowers website can select the Trust as the charity they want to receive 15% of the retail price. The next time you need to order flowers for any occasion please remember the Trust and go to: [www.charityflowers.co.uk](http://www.charityflowers.co.uk)

Full details about how to order can be found on the website. Please remember to select the code for the UKZN UK Trust from the dropdown menu when entering your order details.

# Trust hit by mailing cost rises

The escalating expense of printing and posting the Trust's newsletter and donation appeals to about 1,100 alumni in the UK is putting unwelcome pressure on the charity's finances.

The costs of printing and envelopes have increased gradually in recent years, but second-class stamps are the most significant element of the mailing budget and the latest huge increase in their price has come as a blow to the Trust. The Trustees expect that the rise in the price of stamps would add about £300 to the annual cost of the Trust's mailings twice a year. The overall cost would then be about £500 more than it was just a few years ago.



The Trustees have done what they can to save by securing cheaper printing and envelopes, but there is no saving to be made on postage stamps. Under the circumstances, they have decided to experiment with sending out the newsletter and appeals by e-mail in Summer 2013 and evaluating the response against that achieved by the current system in terms of donations, standing orders and comments.

The Winter 2012/13 issue will be sent out in printed form by post in the usual way in November this year. Please let us know your views on this question, preferably by e-mailing [info@ukznuktrust.org](mailto:info@ukznuktrust.org)

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## News from the Trust – on the web



The Trust has a website with all the latest news on its work, as well as information for donors.

The site includes details of how the Trust supports needy students. It also has links to related bodies.

Please check out the site – and visit it regularly for the latest news. You will find it at: [www.ukznuktrust.org](http://www.ukznuktrust.org)

### **REMEMBER US WHEN CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS!**

Please tell the Trust whenever you change your postal or e-mail address. The Trust will pass the details on to the Alumnus Office, which provides the address labels used for Trust mailings.