



University of KwaZulu-Natal UK Trust

(formerly University of Natal UK Trust)

Registered charity in England & Wales no 1004047

TRUST NEWS

Summer 2013

Trust donors to help 12 students this year



The UKZN UK Trust is providing assistance to 12 needy students at the University in 2013 through its bursaries and the Margaret Thomas Scholarship – thanks to donations from alumni and supporters.

This is no mean achievement but pressure on the charity's finances continues to reduce the number of bursaries we can provide. With less money available this year, the Trustees regret that the number of students being given support is one down on last year.

The needs of many poor students remain acute and we have been unable to offer help for many deserving cases. One such is a second-year Bachelor of Nursing student who comes from a family of seven with a total income equivalent to less than £800 a year. She has done well in her studies and has had very good grades, averaging 73%. Unfortunately we have been unable to include her on this year's list of students

receiving Trust bursaries, owing to lack of funds.

Your donations make possible the continuing education of students such as this who aspire to qualifications that will ensure their future employment and benefit the society as a whole. The Trustees urge donors and supporters to give as generously as you can.



Good response to appeal for e-mail addresses

The Trustees have welcomed the level of submissions of e-mail addresses in response to the call made in the previous issue of Trust News and wish to thank all those alumni who have made sure that the Trust and the University's Alumni Affairs Office have a current e-mail address for them.



The Trust will be able to make significant cost savings by e-mailing the newsletter and related forms instead of sending it by post. Printing, envelopes and stamps, which have seen a sharp increase in price, have amounted to hundreds of pounds which can better be spent on funding bursaries.

We do hope that the switch to e-mail will not deter you from reading the newsletter, which we will continue to send in June and November, and that everyone will continue to support the Trust at least as generously as they have done in the past.

While cheques are still welcome, we are encouraging donors to make their donations using internet banking, remembering to ensure we have their Gift Aid declaration where appropriate. Plans are also in hand for donations to be made via an online giving page. Please check the Donate page on our website for more info.

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Margaret Thomas Scholar Nxumalo among students thanking donors for assistance

The Trustees have been pleased to receive messages of thanks from students who received the Trust's help in 2012, particularly a letter from Siyabonga Nxumalo who was awarded the Margaret Thomas Scholarship.

Siyabonga, a Bachelor of Arts student, writes that the Scholarship "not only reduced the financial strain that disadvantaged students like myself are always faced with but ... revived my passion to be resourceful and extend a helpful hand towards those communities that are still denied a right to basic needs".

He speaks of his interest in the courses he has been studying – including Philosophy, Classical Civilization, Politics and the Media, and Cultural Studies – saying they have advanced his analytical skills. He believes he is strongly placed to investigate social ills and address them with possible solutions.

Siyabonga plans to work to help rural and semi-rural communities in developing self-dependence through wider access to forms of subsistence and commercially viable production: "I believe this will eradicate food shortage and lack of basic needs that are fundamental to communities' well-being."

The Trustees recently awarded the Scholarship to Senamile Ngobese, a Bachelor of Social Science student, for 2013.

Five students have had their bursaries renewed for this year, including Ayanda Simelane and Sithuliso Ntshangase, Bachelor of Education students who featured in the previous issue of Trust News.

Please use Charity Flowers to assist the Trust



The Trustees are calling on those who back to the Trust to help in a small way by making use of www.charityflowers.co.uk when they want to buy flowers.

The Trust joined the scheme run by Guernsey Flowers Ltd a couple of years ago but use of the service by Trust supporters has been fairly low so far. However, customers who order flowers on the website can select the Trust as the charity they want to receive 15% of the retail price.

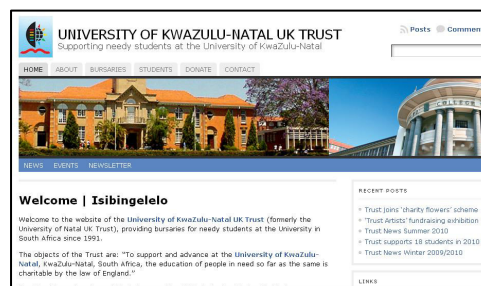
Orders placed in this way so far have provided a small bit of revenue for the Trust – but every pound helps. Please use the charity flowers website the next time you want to buy flowers. Full details about how to order are on the website – remember to select the code for UKZN UK Trust from the dropdown menu when entering your order details.

Keep up with the Trust – on the web

The Trust's website has the latest news on its work, as well as a wide range of 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. You will find it at: www.ukznuktrust.org

Plans are in hand to provide an online giving page. However, if you use online banking, you may send your donation by electronic transfer to the Trust's bank account and e-mail the Trust to advise, including your Gift Aid Declaration if applicable. See the Donate page on the website for more info.



REMEMBER THE TRUST WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Please remember to inform the Trust – and the University's Alumnus Affairs Office – whenever you change your postal or e-mail address.

Posted letters that are returned are a waste of money that could have been better spent on the Trust's bursaries. Meanwhile, switching to e-mail for sending out the Trust's newsletter makes it even more important that we have your correct e-mail address.