



TRUST NEWS

Summer 2015

Making a difference: 16 students backed in 2015

The Trust has marked a real achievement in being able to assist 16 needy students this year, up from 15 last year.

A favourable exchange rate has helped but thanks are due entirely to Trust donors who have continued to give in support of the charity's bursaries and the Margaret Thomas Scholarship. The Trustees are particularly grateful for a few generous donations that boosted the funding available for this year.



However, challenges remain. Many UKZN students struggle to find the necessary funds to support themselves, pay their fees and complete their studies. The Trust is able to help only a fraction of them.



We receive many emails from students desperate for assistance. It is hard for the Trustees to have to refuse them. We make our selections from a shortlist provided by the Student Funding Centre according to our criteria of need.

We call on alumni and Trust supporters in the UK to give as best you can so the Trust can continue its work making a real difference to students' lives and the wider society. Please use the donation form enclosed.

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

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

Web: www.ukznuktrust.org Tel: 07968 142671 E-mail: info@ukznuktrust.org

Value of Trust's aid underlined

The Trust's bursaries and scholarship play a valuable role in trying to bridge a funding gap for needy students who have cleared their first year of study.

The point was underlined in discussions between the Executive Director of the UKZN Foundation Trust, Jane Meyerowitz, and UK Trust Chair Roger Smith at a recent meeting in London.

Students qualify for state funding of their fees in their final year but many have difficulties paying their fees in their intermediate year or years (depending on the length of the course of study). This is where independent charities such as the UK Trust step in and make a vital contribution by providing assistance which can allow needy students to graduate.



The University and the Foundation Trust recognise the significance of this help and are grateful to the charities and their donors for the difference they make.

However, the problems caused by a lack of funding remain huge, preventing some students from registering for further study. The issue has led to new fund-raising initiatives this year.

The UK Trust, which always has focused on helping individual students in need, will continue to make a contribution in its special way with the abiding support of its donors.

Keep up with the Trust online

You can find the latest news about the Trust, as well as information for donors, on the charity's website at: www.ukznuktrust.org



A Facebook group, Friends of the University of KwaZulu-Natal UK Trust, is at: www.facebook.com/groups/ukznuktrust

Trust Chair Roger Smith welcomes contacts from UK alumni and supporters via **LinkedIn**. See: www.linkedin.com/in/rogersmithuksa

Can you give some of your time to the Trust?

We are seeking a new Trustee or Trustees after Frank Kantor stepped down earlier this year. Frank, former general secretary of the Free Churches Group, has gone to work for the Nazareth Trust in Israel. We wish him all the best.



We are seeking one or two volunteers to help fill the gap and take the Trust forward with fresh initiatives.

The Trust, as a small, independent charity, does not employ any staff or rent any offices. All the work is done by the Trustees and Trust supporters on a voluntary basis. Trustees serve without remuneration or reward.

The work is not very onerous, involving about three meetings a year.

If you are interested in helping the Trust by becoming a Trustee, please contact the Chair, Roger Smith. Contact details are on page 1.

Raise funds for the Trust



You can use Virgin Money Giving to create your own online sponsorship pages in aid of the Trust.

We urge you to bring in donations to the Trust through sponsored activities from walks to marathon running or sponsored events from birthday appeals to concerts.

Simply set up your page following the instructions at www.virginmoneygiving.com and let friends, family and other potential sponsors know, as well as the Trust. We will be glad to assist.

Keep in touch!

We remind alumni and supporters to make sure the UKZN Alumni Relations Office and the Trust have their up-to-date contact details, including an email address.

Remember to email alumni@ukzn.ac.za and info@ukznuktrust.org with any changes.

It is a good idea to add these two email addresses to your online contact lists so that emails are not rejected.

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