

Help a Basotho student complete his or her training

The average cost of an individual student's fees, including examinations, books and/or tools is £350 a year.

With a regular donation, you can help ensure stability in these young peoples' lives and make it easier for them to plan for the future. You can set up a standing order or make a one-off donation using the credit card facility on our website – www.basothoeducationaltrust.org - or use the form below.

Donation Form

I would like to help the Basotho Educational Trust support a technical student:

Full Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Email _____

I enclose a one-off donation of:

£ _____

Please make cheques payable to "Basotho Educational Trust" and post to the address below.

giftaid it I am a UK tax payer and want BET to claim the tax on my gift. My tax bill this year will be more than this gift.

Keep up with news about BET, students and Lesotho on our

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BETStudents

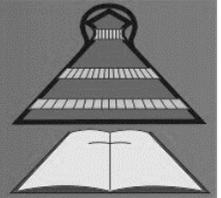
Trustees

Ms Philippa Bird TSSF
Dr Rebecca Chandler-Wilde
Ms Wendy Edwards
Sr Monica CHN
Mr Graeme Shaw
Ms Sue Claydon

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Basotho Educational Trust is a registered
Charity No. 285541

Basotho
Educational
Trust



Annual Report 2020

Khotso!

And thank you from the UK Trustees and Lesotho Committee for all your support. For 2020/21 we are now supporting 70 students, up on 2019/20. In BET Lesotho, it was a busy year and we are grateful to Sister Nthati CHN for assisting our Administrator Motselisi Hlubi.

Coronavirus has hit Lesotho hard. A lockdown in the spring of 2020 closed schools and students unable to study. Schools reopened for the new financial year in July but infections have now greatly risen and a second lockdown is in place. Health care facilities cannot keep pace, and the situation is being exacerbated by illegal border crossings from South Africa by people unable to afford Coronavirus tests.

It is too early to say exactly what impact this will have on our students, their courses and their prospects, but they will inevitably face great challenges in the coming months and years. The Lesotho Council of Churches is organising a week of prayer shortly and we are all asked to lend our efforts to that. You can also help to pre-empt their struggle to survive through and beyond this pandemic by making an extra donation, if you can. Or you may wish to put forward the Trust for your church 2020 Annual Lent Appeal or hold a frugal lunch in aid of the Trust.

Meanwhile the last 12 months have seen greater use of the credit card facility on our website: www.basothoeducationaltrust.org It is ideal for one off donations – it saves you the hassle of posting while we save time banking a cheque!

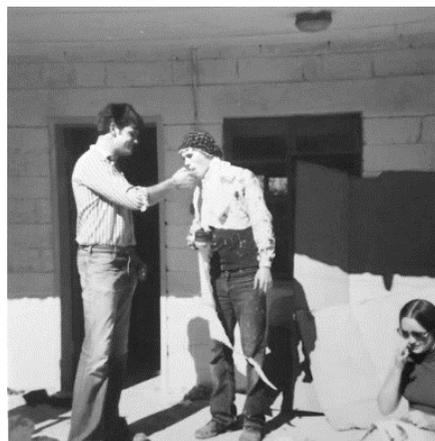
We wish all our supporters a safe and Happy New Year for 2021,

Philippa Bird

Chair of Trustees

Why I support the Basotho Educational Trust

Photos of me are a rarity. But we carefully hoarded a set taken on a student working trip to Lesotho in 1981, where I met my long-suffering husband – pictured here.



That trip was a series of ‘firsts’ for me. The first time I had seen the reality of apartheid in South Africa. The first time I had had the experience of being the only white person on the street. The first time I had ever eaten Papa, the staple food in Lesotho, the first time I had been to a church with a beaten earth floor. The first time I had ever seen a nun directing workers on a building site (and there being absolutely no question about who was in charge....) I’ve never forgotten the experience. I saw first-hand how difficult life can be when you can’t afford to pay for education, and hence cannot gain the skills that would help you to get a better job, earn more, and provide more easily for yourself and your family. How useful an education would be, not just for you and your family, but also your community to have skilled people to call upon. I began to appreciate just how valuable the education I had received was, and how much of a ‘leg-up’ I had been given.

I’d been given a chance. And the aim of BET from the start was to give others the same chance that we had received. To help others overcome the hurdle of the cost of an education and then leave it to their own determination and ingenuity to make something of it.

Which is why I donate every month to the Trust. It’s enormously satisfying to see young people progressing through their studies, and then be gainfully employed with a skill that will be valuable to them throughout their working lives. Over the years a small sum of money has given opportunities to so many who would not have been able to train without financial support from BET. It’s been a privilege to be able to be a small part of it.

Rebecca Chandler-Wilde - January 2021

Support for students in Lesotho 2020/2021

Thanks to you, our supporters, we have now achieved our latest goal of supporting 70 students. Details of numbers per school for the current academic year are below:

COLLEGE OR SCHOOL	STUDENT NUMBERS
St Rose Computer College	15 new students
LOIC	14 new students
Makhaliso Dressmaking	15 existing students
Technical School of Leribe	13 existing students
St Mary’s Home Economics School	13 existing students

Financial Accounts: 2019-2020

Policy on reserves: All BET’s income is unsecured. The Trustees therefore hold in reserves sufficient funds to support all sponsored students to the end of their course in the event that income from donors ceases.

Restricted funds: All covenants and funds from one off donors were received for the purposes of sponsoring the selected students. The figures represent the independently examined accounts of the Basotho Educational Trust for the year ending March 31st 2020.

INCOME		£	BALANCE SHEET		£
Covenants		5,647.00	Prev. Balance year		
Gift Aid		1,389.60	ending March 31 2019		64,712.09
CAF		1,680.00	Surplus/deficit on year		
1 off donors		9,054.58	ending March 31 2020		-3,533.13
Trusts		70.00			
Inland Revenue		0.00			
TOTAL		17841.18	Balance		61,178.96
EXPENDITURE			Represented by:		
Lesotho costs		20,772.56	Current Account		61,178.96
Bank charges		42.50			
Admin.		201.74			
Credit card facility		357.51			
TOTAL		21,374.31	TOTAL		61,178.96