

ISISA ("To Be Taken Care Of") – An Opportunity

Through Fr Bill Johnston and Fr Cyprian Mncwango, we have contact with the Sisters of the Community of the Holy Name at KwaMagwaza, Zululand, who for several years have been supporting orphans in Isandlwana area through their programme called ISISA. They would like to offer funding for tertiary education for those most capable of benefiting from it. This will help the young people to have the best chance of good incomes and to benefit their community in future. The tertiary education cost is around £1500 per year at present.

One person has already qualified as a teacher and another with a degree in public administration, awaiting a job. Now three more have been chosen to do likewise.

At the recent Helwel Trust Council meeting we were supportive of ISISA as a whole but decided that the Trust's grants should continue to be aimed at the greater numbers of beneficiaries we reach through TREE, Ukhanye and ACAT. However we also felt it would be appropriate to bring this opportunity to the attention of our Friends who may be interested in sponsoring individuals through tertiary education directly. You can do so by sending cheques made payable to **The Community of the Holy Name** to Convent of the Holy Name, Morley Road, Oakwood, Derby, DE21 4TB, with a note specifying that it is for ISISA.

Bank transfers and internet payments can also be made to **COHN No. 2 account** which is account number 23115452, sort code 16-00-15 and referencing it ISISA.

Can you help us do more?

Send cheque donations to Helwel Trust: Carol French, Copperfield, Station Road, MUCH HADHAM, HERTS, SG10 6AX

Or, donate quickly and securely online at <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/helweltrust>

If you would like to receive more copies of this Newsletter please contact the Organizing Secretary, Liz Williams at Swallow Barn, Common Road, Mitchel Troy, Monmouth NP25 4HZ
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HELWEL TRUST NEWSLETTER

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supporting Rural Development Projects in
Northern KwaZulu Natal, South Africa

News update

Summer 2017

Dear Friends of Helwel Trust,

Our mid-year update brings you news from Ukhanye Community Care Centre which Carolyn and Howard Mowbray were able to visit earlier this year. Our council meeting at the beginning of April reviewed the reports provided by our partners in KZN, and agreed the next tranches of grant payments subject to our obtaining satisfactory answers to some challenges which I am glad to say we have now received. And I am glad to report that our income is sustaining the level of grants we are giving in our 3-year programmes, so that later this year, when Council meets again to consider future programmes, we can maintain or increase, rather than rein in, the levels of grant. Thanks in particular go to two very generous donors; and hurrah for the separate endeavours, amazing endurance, and fund-raising talents of Lisa Mills and John Sharp (see inside)!

I do hope to meet as many of you as possible at our September events - for details of which, please read on.

Andrew

Andrew Pemberton, Chairman

News from TREE

TREE recently told us about one teacher who has been receiving their Sizanani post training support, reported on at length in the December 2016 newsletter. Thandanani Mbatha in Nquthu has really impressed the TREE staff with how well she is applying her learning in the classroom, and how excited and motivated she is in her role. The photo shows some of her 57 strong class well engaged in a maths exercise using Duplo Lego. Thandanani has reported that the children's attendance is improving and their learning is accelerating.



Visit to UKhanye (UCCC) by Carolyn and Howard Mowbray in March 2017

Our friends at UKhanye Community Care Centre were delighted to welcome us, only five months after the group visit in 2016. We were on holiday in South Africa which is rather like a second home country for us as we lived there between 1969 and 1975, at the Charles Johnson Memorial Hospital at Nqutu and in Nongoma.



An additional building donated by Corobricks is well used for the new creche and the feeding of the 80 or so orphans and vulnerable children. Both buildings are well used for activities for the elderly, a farmers' association, a well baby clinic with immunisations and by the church. And there are plans for a youth club. Helwel has recently paid for new VIP toilets, computer for the office, deep freeze, safe, water tank, fencing and other garden equipment. We do not pay any salaries. Everyone there and here are volunteers.

Helwel also supports the two year training of Nompilo Magubane, the teacher in the crèche, so it was particularly good to see her with 30 pre-school children having their lunch, supplied with funding from KFC and some vegetables from the Mothers Union garden. We were concerned by the lack of toys in the creche so this will be the focus of fundraising for our next sponsored hike in September.

Let us pass on a quote from our visit: "Other donors come and go but Helwel Trust is probably unique in the length of its commitment and friendship".

Photo (right) shows Phyllis Sikhosana (Acting CEO, and ex-CJM nurse), Gertrude Mazibuko (Deputy Chairperson), Carolyn Mowbray, Kate Manyathi Vilakazi, (Chairperson) and Sanele Madondo (Facilitator), all standing in front of the Helwel funded Barker building.



ACAT news

It's rained! That's really good news for the people who depend on the land in the Nqutu area to grow crops to sell and to feed their families as this story illustrates. Thank you for helping us to provide support for them.

Ntombi Ndlovu joined an ACAT group in 2015

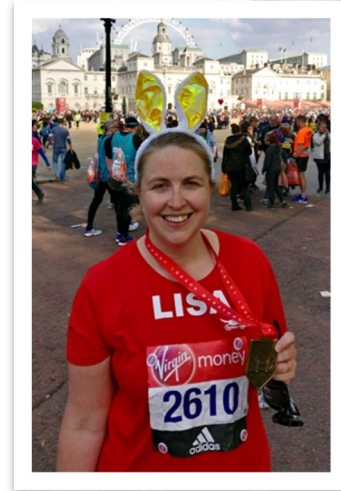
and now she grows vegetables for her family consumption and saves the money she earns from vegetable sales into the local Savings and Loans Group to which she belongs. As a result, she has been able to buy herself furniture and household electrical appliances.

Fundraising news

On 16th April John Sharp (7), inspired by his trip to TREE pre-schools in South Africa last October, undertook a heroic 44mile sponsored cycle ride at The Devon Dirt Bicycle Event. John is raising funds to train another pre-school teacher (£1000 raised to date!) and you can show your support at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/nikki-sharp>



On 23rd April Lisa Mills ran her first marathon in London for Helwel Trust. It was a perfect cool but bright day for runners and spectators alike, and Lisa enjoyed every minute of the 26.2 mile route around London's great landmarks, starting and finishing with a smile! So far Lisa's marathon has raised just over £2,000 and there is still time to donate at <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/lisamillsmarathon>



Upcoming events in 2017

Helwel Hike 2017 – 2nd September

We warmly welcome all-comers to this year's sponsored walk on magnificent Dartmoor. A gentle circular walk around Widecombe-in-the-Moor, taking in views of Hounds Tor, St. Pancras Church and, importantly, an Inn for lunch! Hike Sponsorship this year will support Ukhanye Community Centre and their Crèche. Please see the enclosed sheet for more Hike information including sign up and sponsorship details.

Gig to raise funds for Helwel Trust — 30th September

On September 30th 2017 join us for dinner-and-dance (bring your own dinner contribution – do your own dancing!), to the accompaniment of jazz and pop classics brought to you by **Mal Practice and the Sick Notes**. The band includes Bill Foster, formerly of CJM Hospital and Helwel Trust Council. The event will take place at Maisemore Village Hall near Gloucester, GL2 8JE, 7-11pm. Please come, and bring your friends! It promises to be a great night out in a good cause. If anyone would like to come from further afield, nearby friends can offer accommodation, just ask Andrew. Tickets £10 each from Za Ellis (za1960@icloud.com) or Andrew Pemberton (andrew.pemberton@btinternet.com).