

GODPARENTS ANTHROPOSOPHICAL TRAINING FUND  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 2014



Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund  
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Registered in England No. 5002529  
Registered Charity No. 1102158



## Godparents Children's Fund

The Children's Fund is a designated fund of The Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund (GATF) and offers loans or grants towards tuition fees/contributions for children in Steiner Waldorf education in the UK. We give priority to families in short term need due to unforeseen circumstances. The Trustees will only consider applications submitted by a SWSF school or kindergarten. Please see our website [www.gatf.org.uk](http://www.gatf.org.uk) for more information.

Applications to the Children's Fund have increased dramatically over the last few years and we are unable to meet all requests for help. We are appealing for donations to enable financial assistance to be given to those families in extremely difficult situations whose children depend on remaining in Steiner education for their wellbeing. Please consider whether you can make a donation, however small, to contribute to this worthwhile fund.

The Trustees thank our regular donors for their support over the years, and those who have generously supported the fund this year.

- ✎ **The Trustees will give priority to families in need of short term help to keep the children in school for reasons such as poor health of a parent, loss of employment etc.**

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### From a former Hibernia Art Therapy student:

*'Dear All at the Godparents,*

*I wish to express my gratitude for the loan you provided towards my training at Hibernia. I also thank you for your patience as the picture changed in relationship to how payments could be made.*

*After the art therapy training I did an integrated counselling course and that provided a good balance for me. Presently I take therapeutic art groups and offer individual counselling sessions focussing on addiction.*

*Reflecting back I can appreciate the richness of the Hibernia training in that it was both challenging and fulfilling on many levels. An anthroposophical training course is an invaluable life experience and the Godparents support many who would otherwise not have the opportunity to avail of this. Thank you again, good wishes to all involved in the organisation, and for its future.'*

Unfortunately the Hibernia course closed a few years ago, some loans are still being repaid.

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## Contact details

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## Introduction:

The Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund (GATF) was founded in 1968 as the Godparents Association and has existed in its current form since 1977; it was instigated by Mercury Provident Ltd. in conjunction with the Camphill Regional Economic Sphere Meetings for England and Wales. The charitable aims were reconstituted in 2004. Our Charity registration number is 1102158

GATF has as its remit, the provision of interest free loans to individuals wishing to undertake anthroposophically based professional training in the United Kingdom. The loans are available to applicants for the second and subsequent years of their training to support the tuition fees of their chosen course. The loan agreements are legally binding and require both references and a guarantor. All applicants are interviewed and their identity checked. Loan repayments are made over a five year period. We now ask all applicants to start repaying when they take out the loan.

We noticed an increase in applications this year, out of thirty eight applications, one was refused and five withdrew their applications after the loans were granted. The trustees gave thirty two student loans. In total the Trustees agreed loans of £71,130. The trustees also agreed Retrospective Grants of £10,648.

We are pleased to now offer loans to students on the North of England Early Years training (NESWEC). Unfortunately we have heard that the Artemis Speech and Drama course has closed, and the Camphill Eurythmy School has amalgamated with West Midlands Eurythmy.

As the funds are restricted we rely on donations and interest on the funds to cover the running costs. Unfortunately again this year we had a shortfall. The trustees have reviewed this and decided that our reserves are healthy enough to cover this.

## Trustees for the year:

Michael Mehta (chair), Angela Clarke, Gabriel Kaye, Sue Peat, Niki Nakamura. Joan van Holsteijne has resigned; we thank her for her support.

**Company Secretary:** Jane Avison who administers the funds.

## Can you help?

Please support our work. Donations can be sent to the office or paid on line. There is also a donate button on our website [www.gatf.org.uk](http://www.gatf.org.uk)

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## From a Korean student on the Peredur Eurythmy Course:

*'Thank you so much for your support for my 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Eurythmy Training. Especially as a non-European student, we didn't have working permission during study, so without your support I couldn't study. I just had to give up. I've got inspiration from you so in the future when I am going back to my country, Korea, one day I'd love to set up a Korean 'Anthroposophical Training Fund' for new students so more people who can't afford, they can get support and don't need to give up their dream.'*

## Report from an Art student on completing her loan:

*'My three years at Hibernia College ended in 2007. I gained a BA and became a qualified Arts and Health Practitioner. I achieved this with a huge amount of support from GATF, teachers, students, family, friends, Barclays, Halifax and determination. I am so proud. The same year a neighbour's words stayed with me. He told me to start looking for work now, as he has witnessed many students over time get their degree and do nothing with it. I'm grateful that I listened. In 2008, feeling a little more rested and grounded, I started thinking about how to get work. Open mindedness was going to be key, so I started making phone calls; set up meetings, and gathered information.*

*A friend and teacher who was a Primary School Head of Speech and Language in Bristol rang to ask if I would like to volunteer to help her out. I said yes. Aged from 4-7 years, many of the children had challenging backgrounds. Many had delayed speech or none at all. They had specific exercises to do and I came up with ideas in the form of a game to get them to do these. I signed up with Protocol Education and have since worked in over 30 schools and nurseries, working with a wide range of ages from 4 months to 7 years. I took the opportunity to use art with the children either one to one or in groups. I came into contact with children who were hyperactive, grieving, with behavioural problems, speech delay, autism spectrum disorders, who were vulnerable, had low self-esteem. One child told me she couldn't do anything because she wasn't good. (She was only two years old).*

*I volunteered as an Arts and Health practitioner for three friends. The first using clay, the second I mentored, and the third using watercolours. I was petrified of stepping out into the world with these new skills. However I wanted to build my confidence and so asked these trusted friends for feedback. Between December 2008-2011 I was invited to join my local garden committee. I became Head Gardener! I got involved with garden events. I headed Christmas carol singing, sold my handmade cards to raise funds for the garden and approached local shops to donate gifts for our raffle and made soup for our annual fireworks event. I met some very interesting people who helped me with my vision. I met my first client at a neighbour's party. Community has played a large part in developing my professional role.*

*December 2009- Nov 2010 I undertook the Artist's Way course with four other women. I got my second role as an Arts and Health practitioner at a Primary school, working with eight children aged between 4-12 years. This was the first time I ran group sessions and I was very nervous. The group became a team, they learned to listen to, and support each other. This six week session was extended to twelve!*

*2011-2012 - I volunteered for 'Sailability' working with adults and children with a range of disabilities who wanted to sail. September 2011 - I volunteered as a reading buddy and Arts and Health practitioner at Filton Avenue School, with children aged between 4-7 years. This led to the school employing me for a day a week, and in fact has continued to the present day. August 2012 to present day, working with a client with dementia.*

*When I started to write this report I didn't really appreciate how much work had gone into the last 7 years towards becoming the Arts and Health practitioner I am today. I have come full cycle with a light at the end of the tunnel. I started with a dream, completed the course with great support. By being open minded and walking down new roads, I was provided with tools. I gave and learned to receive and can now acknowledge, with appreciation, how many people make me what I am. They are still with me on my path of light and love.'*

## Guidance Notes for Loan Applicants

### Eligibility

- ✘ The Training Fund offers financial assistance to students undertaking the following courses:  
**Steiner Waldorf Teacher Training      Rhythmical Massage Therapy**  
**Anthroposophical Art Therapy      Bothmer Movement**  
**Eurythmy and Eurythmy Therapy**
- ✘ The Trustees will not fund the first year of a course, accommodation, food costs or give retrospective loans.
- ✘ Loans are interest free and are given towards **tuition costs only** for one academic year. Students requiring financial assistance in subsequent years will need to re-apply annually.
- ✘ The maximum amount of loans given over the duration of a four year course is £6,000.
- ✘ Non European Economic Area (EEA) students will be required to hold a visa valid for the duration of the course. A copy of the visa is required to be sent with the loan application.
- ✘ The Trustees will only consider applications from students who have been accepted on their training course and who do not owe the course any money.

### Applications

- ✘ Completed application forms (downloadable from our website [www.gatf.org.uk](http://www.gatf.org.uk) or from your course leader), signed by the course leader, and with the non refundable administration fee must be sent to the GATF Office by the **end of February**.

### Referees

- ✘ Applicants are required to give the names and addresses of two referees who have known the applicant for at least five years. We will contact the referees to verify the applicant's suitability for a loan. References from family members are not accepted.

### Interviews

- ✘ Interviews will be held between March and May, usually at the course venue. The Trustees will consider all the applications and students will be notified of the decision by the end of June. Proof of identity (passport or driving licence plus a utilities bill or bank or credit card statement) will be required at interview, together with a copy for our files.

### Guarantor

- ✘ If successful, students will be required to provide an independent Guarantor who will undertake to repay the loan in full if they are unable to do so. This can be a family member.

### Loan repayment term

- ✘ A GATF loan is a legal agreement and is to be repaid within five years of issue or on leaving the training.

### Monthly repayments

- ✘ Students will be required to set up a monthly standing order for a minimum of £30 from the start of the loan.
- ✘ The name of the student should be put as a reference when payments are made. Please notify the office at once if a cash payment is made at a bank, as the name will not be recorded.

### Loan agreement

- ✘ Funds will be paid directly to the course and will not be released until the loan agreement form and guarantee have been received and monthly repayments have commenced.
- ✘ It is a condition of the loan agreement that students keep the Trustees informed of any changes in their circumstances or contact details.

The Trustees reserve the right to vary any of the above or to make exceptions.

The decisions of the Trustees are final and personal or telephone appeals will not be considered.

Any concerns should be put in writing, addressed to the Trustees.

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## ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND GRANTS 2013-14

During the year 2013/2014 the Training Fund gave loans to twenty three female and two male students ranging from the age of 20 to 61. One application was refused. A further five students applied but withdrew their applications.

The tables below show the different trainings and nationalities assisted.

	Students	Loans
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
London Waldorf Early Years	8	
NESWEC	1	
LWTTS	7	
North England Teacher Training	0	
West England Teacher Training	5	
Edinburgh	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>£50,690</b>
<b>EURYTHMY</b>		
Camphill Eurythmy School	0	
Peredur Eurythmy	3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>£6,000</b>
<b>THERAPIES</b>		
Eurythmy Therapy	0	
Bothmer	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>£900</b>
<b>ARTISTIC</b>		
Tobias	6	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>£13,540</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>£71,130</b>

## NATIONALITIES

British	16	Japanese	1	Bulgarian	1
French	1	Polish	3	Greek	1
German	1	Romanian	1		
Hungarian	2	South Korean	1		
Italian	3	Czech	1		

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*'Thank you once again for your enormous help..... I'm still working intensively with Speech which has been the greatest gift of my life!'*

Extract from financial statements  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2014

The following figures are taken from our Trustees' report and financial statements as inspected by Gibbons Mannington

<b>Fixed assets</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
Tangible assets	1,583	£2,320
Programme related investments	231,044	£239,701
	<b>£232,627</b>	<b>£242,021</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	1,409	1,065
Cash in bank	463,630	480,190
	<b>£465,039</b>	<b>£481,255</b>
<b>Creditors</b> amounts falling due within one year	-1,992	-£2,372
<b>Net assets</b>	463,047	£478,883
<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>695,674</b>	<b>720,904</b>
<b>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Donations	12,133	£14,112
Legacies	0	£10,425
Interest receivable	1,486	£1,649
Other income	1,695	£1,471
	<b>£15,314</b>	<b>£27,657</b>
<b>Less: Expenditure</b>		
Education	27,301	£50,569
Governance costs	2,601	£2,702
	<b>£29,902</b>	<b>£53,271</b>
Surplus/deficit for the year	-25,236	-£25,614
<b>Balance of fund at end of year</b>	695,674	<b>£720,904</b>
<i>A full copy of the accounts is available on request.</i>		
Loan repayments for the year	<b>79,786</b>	<b>£76,184</b>

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*'Thank you for the letter notifying me of the completion of the payment back to GATF. The training I received at Hibernia for which you have generously supported has been truly worthwhile. The work I do at Ringwood Waldorf School and Sturts Farm is both rewarding and much valued. Thank you very much.*

*I wish you all the best at GATF.*

## Information for Courses

The Trustees of the Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund (GATF) rely on training course leaders for assistance in assessing students' suitability for a loan towards **tuition costs** only. The following are the criteria for course eligibility:

- ✘ All courses taking non EEA/EU students must hold a UK Border Agency Sponsor Licence.
- ✘ Teacher Training Courses must be recognised by the Steiner Waldorf Schools Fellowship and comply with the criteria laid down by the Association of Steiner Waldorf Teacher Educators.
- ✘ Therapeutic Courses must be recognised by the appropriate body in Dornach and give the relevant qualifications for working in the UK.
- ✘ The Trustees will not fund foundation courses, art, music and language courses.
- ✘ The Trustees can only lend to students on viable courses and may ask to see audited accounts.
- ✘ The Trustees will not fund the first year of a course or give retrospective loans.
- ✘ **New courses** wanting assistance for their students should send course information, leaflet, fees etc. to the office. The request will be considered by the Trustees. However, students on the course will not be eligible for loans for at least a year.

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### From a card sent by a former Tobias Art student:

*'Thank you dear Godparents for the loan for Tobias where I did learn to fly!'*

### From a former CVT Botton student:

*'I have set up as self-employed and have started my own small business. There are 2 branches in it (if you can call it that): one is teaching eurythmy and the other is craft. I am working on taking eurythmy into businesses and organisations as a staff development tool, and also to work with organisations who support people with special needs and to set up evening classes. I have set up my own website for this and am currently working on a leaflet. I have taught a couple of sessions in Garvald organisations in Edinburgh and am making good contacts with other local businesses and organisations. It is a long term project but I am hopeful that things will start to get busier next year.*

*I also make crochet items and cards to sell and sell in 3 shops in Scotland as well as at local markets and online. This also takes a long time to establish and for people to know what I do, but just this month there has been a noticeable increase in sales.'*

### American Art Therapist - Tobias:

*'You will be happy to know that I am mailing out a check today for my final repayment. I am sincerely grateful for the loan and the opportunity to become an Art Therapist. I have continued my studies and have recently finished my training as a MCLT (metal coloured light therapist). Now I will work to begin a foundation and research as well as practice this therapy along with artistic therapies.'*