

GODPARENTS ANTHROPOSOPHICAL TRAINING FUND

Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund Trustee Report for August 2020 to July 2021

Taken from the annual accounts:

The Trustees of GATF are very grateful to all our regular supporters. As our funds are restricted, we rely on donations and interest on the funds to cover the running costs and to be able to give grants.

The Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund (GATF) was founded in 1968 as the Godparents Association and has existed in its current form since 1977, 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. This year we asked our solicitor to update our loan agreement and guarantor forms. The loan agreements are legally binding and require both references and a guarantor. All applicants are interviewed (due to Covid this could not be face to face) and their identity checked. Loan repayments are made over a five-year period. Courses shorter than 2 years will be considered by the trustees who may agree to offer loans.

Applications dropped again this year, no doubt due to Covid and Brexit. We had 22 successful applications, and a further 3 withdrew their applications. The trustees gave 22 student loans to one American,

fourteen British, one Chilean, two French, one Italian, one Lithuanian, one Salvadorian and one Taiwanese students. Fourteen students were on teacher training courses, seven studying eurythmy, and one Art Therapy. In total the Trustees agreed loans of £49,182.00; the trustees also agreed Retrospective Grants of £2,397.34. Twenty-seven loans were repaid this year; the average number of years to repay was three.

We welcomed a new trustee, Trevor Mepham. Trevor has been a class teacher and then an adviser to Steiner Waldorf Schools both in the UK and abroad and we welcome his experience and knowledge.

Update:

The trustees are pleased to announce the appointment of Charlotte Mander, initially as assistant administrator. The office will be moving to Thirsk. Charlotte will be administering all loan applications this year, and will take on the finances at the beginning of the next financial year (August 2022) when the present administrator retires.



Charlotte



Former Peredur eurythmy student working in India.

From a former student of the West of England teacher Training:

I'm writing to inform you that I have now paid the remaining balance of my loan from the Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund for my second year on the WESTT course, in full. I would like to express my appreciation for the support that you have given me by accepting me for the loan which enabled me to attend the course.

You may be pleased to know that I am now teaching full-time having taken on a class at Drumduan School in Scotland. I hope that you are keeping well and that the GATF is strong and healthy in these challenging times and will be able to continue supporting future Waldorf trainees. It is such a valuable service that you provide.

Just to say I made my final payment. I wanted to say a huge thank you for this loan and all your work. I am now in my third year of teaching and it would not have been possible without the loan.

Former student of the London Early Years Training.

Children's Fund:

We have a small restricted fund to assist families in short term need to help pay the school fees. At present we have a small amount of loan money available. In order to give grants, we need donations.

To apply the school must give a recommendation, a loan application form will then be sent to the family and the trustees will consider the application. Any loan given will be sent to the school the child attends.

We are grateful to Sarah Lett, a former early year's student who raised money for GATF and the Christian Community by giving recitals of her songs.



Dear Mrs Avison
Please know I appreciate very much the provision of a loan and your kind attention to all the papers.

With many thanks and best wishes
Present student

From a former student in Budapest

I would like to say thank you for your patience with me and am really grateful because I couldn't have finished my WESTT course without your generous

help. I've been an English teacher for 6 years now and a class teacher for one year. And I really enjoy my job!



Here I attach a picture of me and my class ploughing the land to sow wheat this autumn.

I keep learning from my pupils now.

News from a former WESTT student now on the Crossfields Integrated Education Diploma:

In the first lockdown of 2020 following the closure of Wynstones School I initiated and led the founding of a new education project: The Grove in Stroud, Gloucestershire. The project aims to support children and young people age 6 to 16 in becoming resilient, resourceful and responsible citizens for a sustainable world, through a programme inspired by Waldorf pedagogy, following a relational, restorative approach, with a strong land connection. We have an outdoor base on Oakbrook Community Farm, which pioneers biodynamic agricultural projects, and indoor bases at Crossfields Institute in Stroud where our oldest students are working on the Integrated Education Diploma, and All Saints Church, Uplands which houses our three younger groups. We work in strong and supportive partnership with families, and host (online) regular community circles and workshops. In January 2021 we supported students learning at home through a variety of different mediums including online sessions, facilitated

independent study and creative projects, and supporting parents in their engagement and facilitation of their children's learning journey. We look forward to growing and deepening our work, with more opportunities to mix age groups, celebrate festivals as a community and get out a lot more into the local community, amongst much more - but for now, we are very grateful to be up and running and giving over thirty young people the opportunity to deepen their capacity for resilience in these times through strengthening and supporting their relationships with themselves, others and the land and facilitating inspirational independent learning.



North of England Steiner Waldorf Early Years Group

From a former Tobias School of Art student:

Hello Jane. How are you?

I am emailing to say that I have now paid the rest of the money. I would like to thank you for all your support and patience all these years. Me becoming a Transpersonal Arts counsellor was a real dream and your help was paramount in making this a reality. I wish you an amazing Christmas and a wonderful new year. Health and Joy always

Dear Jane,
Thank you so much for this, I am very touched and grateful. I really appreciate your care; it is a great help. Please give my warmest thanks to the trustees.

Trustees:

Michael Mehta	Chair
Jon Syed	Company Secretary
Niki Nakamura	Finance trustee
Angela Clark	
Angela Querido	
Lynda Abrahams	
Trevor Mepham	

Sue Peat	Consultant
Jane Avison	Administrator
Charlotte Mander	Admin Assistant

If you would like to join our trustee group, please email admin@gatf.org and send a recent c.v.

The GATF community of students and donors now extend around the world. As Trustees we are delighted that our support has enabled you to pursue your training and to share the fruits of your efforts with many others. If you or any friends/colleagues are able to make any further donations to enable us to continue providing loans for anthroposophically based courses please use the links below. The seed funding that you can provide can blossom into ripe fruits for others in the future!

With warm wishes
Michael on behalf of the Trustees.

Please donate:

Training Fund

Bank: CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4JQ

Account	Godparents Anthroposophical Training Fund (GATF)
Number:	00033280
Sort code	40-52-40
IBAN:	GB17CAFB40524000033280
BIC	CAFGBG21XXX

Children's Fund

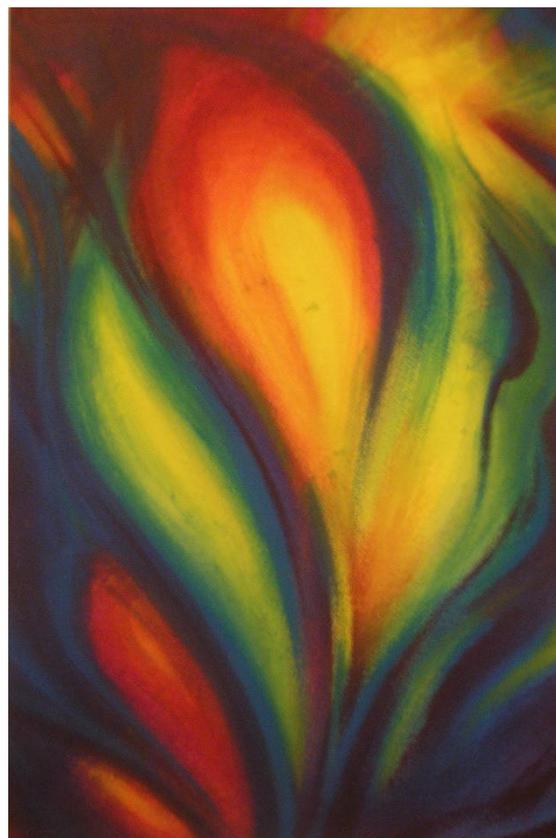
Account	GATF 2
Number	00033281
Sort code	40-52-40
IBAN	GB87CAFB40524000033281
BIC	CAFGBG21XXX

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