

Basotho Educational Trust



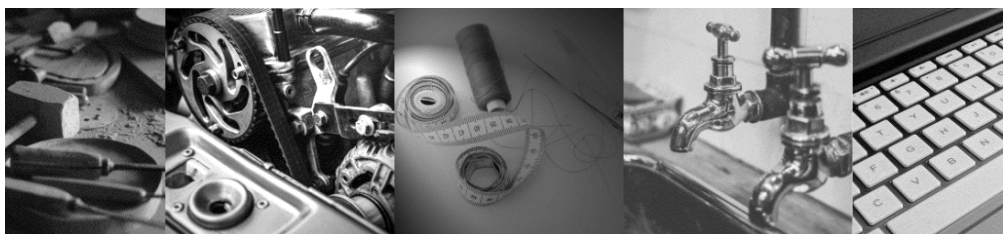
Annual Report 2022

Dear Supporters

This time we have our Annual Report combined with news of Lesotho. That includes a focus on the Principal of one of the colleges we support in Maseru (Loiki), introductions to more students and plans for trustee Sue Claydon to visit Lesotho later in 2023. Sadly former trustee, Sister Jean Mary CHN died recently and there is an obituary plus an appreciation from one of her former students in Lesotho. Finally our administrator in Lesotho, Fr Joseph, sets the scene for our forthcoming work.

With best wishes as the 2023 Lesotho academic year begins in earnest

Philippa Bird



Financial Accounts 2021-2022

Income

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Covenants | £5,303.00 |
| Gift Aid | £1,604.03 |
| CAF | £1,740.00 |
| Churches | £2,068.00 |
| One-off Donors | £4,541.09 |
| Trusts | £120.00 |
| Interest | £0.00 |
| Bank Refunds | £8.21 |
| Tools Fund | £1,000.00 |
| Total | £16,384.33 |

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 2022.

Expenditure

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Bank Charges | £0.00 |
| Admin. | £160.38 |
| Lesotho Costs | £20,631.00 |
| CC Payments | £449.38 |
| Total | £21,240.76 |

Out-turn

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Surplus/Deficit | £-4,856.43 |
|-----------------|------------|

Balance Sheet

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Previous Balance ending 31 st March 2021 | £68,453.08 |
| Surplus/Deficit on year ending 31 st March 2022 | £-4,856.43 |
| Balance at 31 st March 2022 | £63,596.65 |
| Represented by: | |
| Current Account | £63,596.65 |
| Total | £63,596.65 |

Students & Colleges



| School | Number |
|--|-----------|
| St Mary's Home Economics School, Leribe | 15 |
| Sisters of the Holy Name Computer College, Peka | 11 |
| Catholic Comprehensive Community College, Leribe | 7 |
| LOICI, Maseru | 15 |
| | 48 |

Meet the Students

Libuseng is studying for an *International Computer Driving Licence* because it is a qualification that is recognised across the world. The worst part of the course is the intermittent electricity and broadband and when she finishes her course she would love to create her own Internet Café.

When not in college she helps with chores at home but also helping with an organisation in her village called *Justice & Peace* that helps with the environment and human trafficking. Daily chores at home.

Without the scholarship she would likely have looked after poultry.



Libuseng Khoaele



Mantsoe Letseka

Mantsoe is studying *Electrical Installation* at TSL because he believes that it is a skill that is in high demand, not just in Lesotho. The worst part of the course is installing tall electrical poles, as that can be dangerous and scary. After he finishes his course he would like to get the next level qualification and then to start his own business.

When not studying, Mantsoe enjoys playing football.

With the scholarship, he would never have been able to have studied.

Ntahli is studying *Consumer Science* at St Mary's Home Economics, which covers dress-making, computer studies, maths, catering and baking, but her favourite subject is catering. When she finishes her course she would like to further her studies by going to an agricultural college and studying nutrition and would love some funding for that from BET! She is so grateful for the current scholarship because her parents were too poor to send her to college, but now she has hope for the future.

When not studying, Ntahli likes to make clothes and cook, which she sells at the local market.



Ntahli Ntoi

Planned trip to Lesotho

Sue Claydon, a BET Trustee, will be visiting Lesotho at the end of April. She plans to meet with Fr. Joseph Morenammele and to visit the vocational schools where BET sponsors students with him. She also hopes to meet a number of former students and hear their stories of how they have used their training. There is a proposed new school to visit well. Sue hopes to spend time with the local Committee and the staff of the schools to feedback to the Trustees how things are going. While in Maseru she hopes to visit Bishop Vicentia Kgabe, Patron of BET.

Sue was an education volunteer in Lesotho from 1971-75.



Sister Jean Mary - 1935-2023

Jean was born on 2nd March 1935 in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs. She was the 2nd of 4 children born to Gilbert and Vera Butler – she had an older brother (David) and 2 younger brothers (Philip and Peter). They all married and had several children so Jean has lots of nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. They are a close family and Jean became the 'Matriarch' after her mother died. David and Philip both died some years ago – Peter is still alive and lives in Australia – Jean visited him and his family there 2 or 3 times and more recently had a zoom conversation with him every few weeks.

Jean went to the local primary school and then won a scholarship to St Mary and St Anne's School in Abbots Bromley where she was a boarder. From there she went to Birmingham University to read history – she left with degree and did a year's teaching diploma after which, (in 1956/57??) in she joined The Community of the Holy Name – a religious order for women in the Church of England – at its convent in Malvern.



Jean was professed as a sister in 1959 and took her final vows in 1962. The Community was invited to Lesotho by the then bishop (John Maund) and Jean was among the 1st group of sisters to set sail on their 'big adventure' later that year. It was quite a challenge and a totally different culture but Jean thrived on it and learned the language (she would sometimes lapse into Sesotho in her latter years!) and loved the place and the Masotho sisters. She was cook, gardener, wafer bakery minion and Novice Guardian (perhaps not all at the same time) until 1968 when she returned to the UK and joined the chaplaincy team at Newcastle University. In 1973 she went back to Lesotho, first to Leribe and then to Maseru where she became Principal of St Catherine's College (until 1984.)

Jean was very sad to leave Lesotho – but always gave herself wholeheartedly to whatever God was asking of her. She was housekeeper at the convent in Malvern for a short time, then Warden of the Retreat House in Chester (1985-90). In 1990 CHN moved from Malvern to Derby and Jean became Assistant Superior. In 1994 she was elected Provincial Superior and had 2 terms of office (until 2004). During this time she lived at the convent in Derby and was made a lay canon of Derby Cathedral. When she finished her 2nd term of office as Superior, she had some months of sabbatical in Australia and America. She paid a brief return visit to Lesotho in 2005-6 as they had asked for an English sister to come and give them some help and advice.

The Community has been involved in various aspects of mission over the years. Jean worked in parishes in Stepney in the 60's, in Lambeth (based at Lambeth Palace) in the 00's and in Manchester 2013 – 17. Here she was involved in St Chrysostom's Church and at the Cathedral – and set up a reading group for people with early-onset dementia in conjunction with one of the local day centres. She also befriended and supported a young lady (from Camaroon) who was seeking asylum here. Jean enjoyed preaching and leading retreats and several people came to see her for 'spiritual accompaniment'

Jean had a great love for people and for justice. She was a very keen member of Amnesty International, joining local groups wherever she was, mainly focussing on their Burma campaigning. She was an active demonstrator – against homelessness in the 70's and anti-fracking more recently. She was highly motivated politically and showed great care and concern for the underprivileged.

The community moved to Hesse in June 2021. Jean was showing signs of dementia but was still able to enjoy the garden here and would spend hours happily sweeping up leaves. She also enjoyed reading and going for little walks 'to explore the neighbourhood'. She was diagnosed with mixed dementia in December 2022, spent 2 weeks in hospital after a fall and then moved into a care home. She was only there for 5 days and died very peacefully on 5th January 2023.

We miss her enormously and thank God for her friendship and lightness of touch and sense of fun.

From Sister Diana CHN - January 2023

BET to launch Tools Appeal

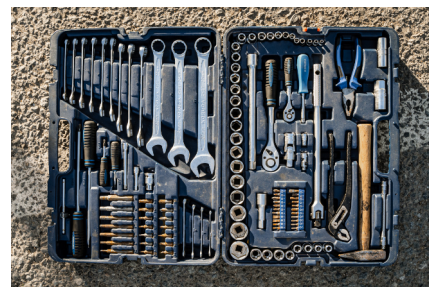
My next-door neighbour is a builder. His garage is a thing to behold – every kind of tool you can imagine. Without them, not matter how skilled he is in building, he would not be able to work, and they are very precious to him as a result.

Our BET students learn useful, practical, skills – carpentry, building, computer skills, catering, plumbing, electrical work. During their course they use the tools provided by the college where they study. But what happens when they graduate? Government sponsored students get presented with a set of tools, but BET students usually have to fund them themselves. We have become aware that for many of our students who relied on a BET grant to be able to study at all, a set of tools is beyond their means and is a stumbling block to them being able to set themselves up as working tradesmen or women.

The cost of a set of tools varies depending on the type of tools required, but is in the region of £50. So we have decided to set up a dedicated tools fund to buy a set of tools for graduating students. Students completing their courses will be able to apply for grant to the local BET committee who will then purchase and present them to the student.

We have had a generous bequest to start this fund, but this will fund tools for only a short period of time. If you would like to make a specific donation to this fund it would be very much appreciated by students and help us to ensure that going forward all BET students can be guaranteed a set of tools.

Please just mark your donation 'Tools Fund' if you would like to donate.



News from Lesotho

New dawn – A promising start

The nation has just elected for itself a new government with a new Prime Minister. At last, things are promising in Lesotho – we look forward to a growing economy, peace, good governance and stability as a whole. When you walk around you are welcome by faces full of hope and which are determined to change Lesotho into a safe home for everyone. We are all praying for the government to correct the wrongs of the past governments and serve the nation selflessly - a virtue every Mosotho is longing for.

BET Journey

This is a ministry that is continuously touching lives of underprivileged young people and giving them hope and a brighter future. As we welcome 2023, BET has witnessed and seen its sponsees leave institutions and schools to go out into the world to earn their livelihood. We trust that the skills they have acquired in carpentry, bricklaying, plumbing, home-economics, dress-making, computer sciences etc.. will open work opportunities for them, especially SELF EMPLOYMENT.

Help a Basotho student complete their course

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.

Alternatively, you can pay by bank transfer, which will save on credit card fees:

Account Number: **28746783**, Sort Code: **60-10-07**

Trustees

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

Contact

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www.facebook.com/BETstudents

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