



Thank you and hello

Thanks to everyone who continued to support The Kirsten Scott Memorial Trust (KSMT) during 2014/15 – particularly those who fundraised on behalf of the Trust, attended the summer ceilidh or made a donation. We are a small charity and super grateful for your help 😊

We hope this newsletter provides you with a snapshot of our recent activities and the people we have been able to support in the past year, through the allocation of grants.

www.kirstenscottmemorialtrust.com

The Kirsten Scott Memorial Trust
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Registered charity: SCO42819

The aim of KSMT

The aim of KSMT is to provide financial support to young people, aged 26 and under, in order for them to fulfil ambitions, enhance their personal development, and make a positive contribution, either at home or overseas.

We hope that beneficiaries will be able to enjoy rich new experiences which they would otherwise not be able to undertake, and in doing so, create a fitting legacy for Kirsten.

KSMT considers applications across a broad range of areas – including, but not limited to – the arts, sport, exploration and travel, volunteering, community projects, and educational development (excl. tuition fees). Trustees meet quarterly (Jul/Oct/Jan/Apr) to discuss applications.

If you, or someone you know, are aged 26 or under, and would like to apply, please visit www.kirstenscottmemorialtrust.com where you can download an application form, or email kirstenscottmemorialtrust@gmail.com.



Kirsten on holiday in Sicily, July 2011

Grants awarded

Over the past 12 months, the trust has provided financial support to a diverse group of young people, with an eclectic range of ambitions and funding needs. Here are some of them:



Brandon Brown (18)



Brandon was offered a place at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston USA, at the age of 16, making him one of its youngest ever recipients. The KSMT grant covered travel costs for Brandon, who is from Hamilton, near Glasgow. According to Brandon, the second semester as a guitar student has been 'really amazing' with the opportunity to play with incredible people. Brandon also took to the stage at the historic 'Rock Guitar Night', which has been going on for about 30 years at Berklee, a spot usually reserved for upper semester students.

Emma + Katie Reid (25)



In August 2014, **Emma and Katie** staged their *May Meet In Mutual* art exhibition and events series in Dundee's Baxter Park. They collaborated with numerous emerging artists from around Scotland to investigate site-responsive art practice. The experience, partly funded by KSMT, was 'invaluable' for Emma and Katie as the project developed their professional skills and confidence in curating and facilitating public art programmes. They are already looking forward to developing their next collaborative project.

Natalie Ulman (25)



A KSMT grant enabled **Natalie**, a recent St Andrews University graduate and aspiring film critic, to travel to some of the world's greatest film festivals as a journalist and reviewer. In August 2014 she went to the Locarno Film Festival, known for its daring and innovative selection of films and on to the Venice Film Festival, known for its world premieres. A Venice highlight included attending an official press conference with Al Pacino. She covered the film festivals for *The Saint* and *The Tribe* – two Scottish publications.



Charlotte Klinting (24)



A KSMT grant helped **Charlotte** travel to Ghana last summer to research the impact of certification schemes on cocoa farmers, such as Fair Trade and the Rainforest Alliance. The research informed Charlotte's BA thesis in Law and Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London, examining the sustainability of the cocoa industry in Ghana. Charlotte has a long-standing passion for chocolate, having worked in the industry in one way or another since she was 14 years old.

Gideon Omondi (25)



Gideon, a graduate from Nairobi, Kenya, participated in an internship with the Great Lakes Research Associates, which KSMT helped fund. Through this internship Gideon gained invaluable work experience to enable him to gain the knowledge and skills to begin a career in social research. Gideon grew up in Kangemi slum in Nairobi before attending the city's university.

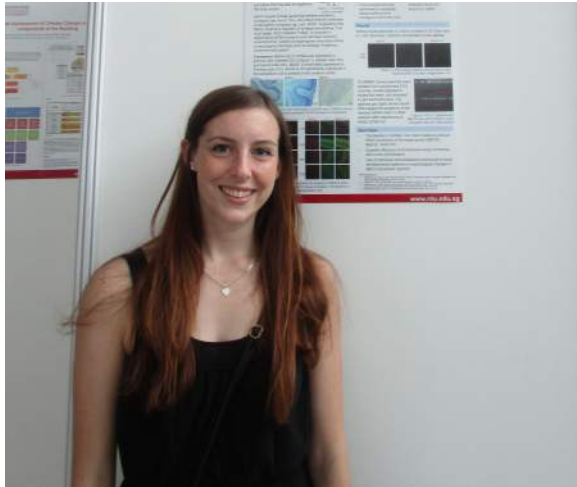
Matthew Footit (19)



KSMT helped **Matthew**, a budding young canoeist, to purchase a new racing slalom canoe, leading to improved results. He has been able to train in the new canoe regularly at the National Water Sports Centre near Nottingham Trent University, which he attends. He also plans regular trips to the Olympic White Water Course in London. At the end of the 2014 season he finished 23rd in the UK and is aiming for at least a top 15 finish and a possible place on the GB under-23 team this year.



Natalie Holroyd (21)



A KSMT grant helped **Natalie**, a biochemistry undergraduate at Cambridge University, to travel to Singapore and New Zealand to complete work experience at highly respected biological research labs – Nanyang Technological University and Auckland Bioengineering Institute. In Singapore, she joined a project to map the expression of a gene that is linked to autism and schizophrenia. In NZ, she joined a project which is developing devices to help scientists better understand how lungs work, and in turn help deal with cystic fibrosis and asthma. When not in the lab, she managed to explore Tiomen Island and trek active volcanoes.

Ross Comrie (20)



In August 2014, **Ross** climbed Mt Kilimanjaro in aid of the charity Childreach International, with the help of a grant from KSMT. Mt Kilimanjaro is the tallest free standing mountain in Africa, and the six day trek was followed by a chance to see the work the charity does in Tanzania by visiting a local school. Childreach International provide new facilities for the school and also help the staff and pupils become self sufficient through projects such as School Farming, developing farmland for the school and producing crops to feed the children.

Eilidh McLeod (22)



Eilidh, a recent IR graduate, undertook a three month unpaid internship at The Clinton Foundation in New York last summer. KSMT provided her with a grant to cover living costs and travel. During her time at the acclaimed NGO, Eilidh worked on two research projects on Ebola and energy poverty. She also organized discussion sessions during the Clinton Global Initiative annual meeting, a major event attended by celebrities, global businesses and world leaders, including President Barack Obama. As the only Scot in a group of 80 interns, it was a once-in-the-lifetime opportunity to intern at The Clinton Foundation, offering a springboard to explore the City and its many sights.



Lydia Dewis (22)

In summer 2014, **Lydia** spent ten weeks working on a research project within the Hamilton group at the University of Oxford, led by Professor Andrew Hamilton, the university's Vice Chancellor. The research undertaken by the group tackled the question of 'if nature can do it why can't we?'. Lydia's work involved synthetically mimicking a fragment of a protein thought to be the cause of protein interactions. Lydia said: 'If we can successfully investigate these interactions and understand how they can cause diseases then we can attempt to develop molecules that can disrupt these interactions, and ultimately help to prevent or cure a vast number of diseases, including cancer.'

Laura Sharpe (20)



Laura applied to KSMT in order to fund a series of shadow puppetry workshops at Weymouth Drama Club during the Easter holidays. The free one-day workshops were tailored to different age groups, from 7-18 years old, providing a new arts experience for a wide range of participants and abilities, focusing on the classic stories of 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Laura is currently studying Drama and English Literature at the University of Birmingham and is keen to pursue a career in education, within theatres.

Lucy Kendrew (21)



KSMT provided **Lucy** (above on the right) with a donation for the Edinburgh based cancer charity, It's Good 2 Give, for whom she recently fundraised for by trekking 100km in the Arctic. Lucy is a Young Ambassador for the charity, which supports local children and young people with cancer, and their families. Despite her own admittance that she 'hates' the cold, she managed to camp in conditions of minus 30 degrees, and also hone her photography skills, to contribute further to her studies in this field.



Northumberland Clubs for Young People



Northumberland Clubs for Young People work with young people aged 11-25 in the areas of Newcastle, Tyneside and Northumberland. Following receipt of the KSMT grant, Jon Niblo, Chief Executive, said: 'The award has provided us with additional resources to further develop our support services to our membership, particularly our Quality Mark work that enables our members to fully evidence their work and impact with young people. The grant award will also assist us to identify gap areas across our patch and develop new youth work provision that responds effectively to the needs and aspirations of young people.'

Continued grants

The Trust has chosen to support these recipients for another year:



Patrick Ryan (20) from Motherwell, is completing his second year at the English National Ballet School (ENB) in London. This follows a challenging first year at the world-renowned institution, with a step-up in training and rigorous assessments, including the end of year show.



Andrew Brown (15), from Glasgow, continues to excel in his windsurfing career, as one of the best junior windsurfers in the UK. KSMT helped Andrew purchase new equipment to enable him to meet his aim and move from the U17 to U20 Youth Olympic windsurf class. Highlights this season included the Dutch Youth Regatta and the European Championships in Latvia.

The Stirling School of English has received a further grant for the language instruction it provides to around 350 non-English speakers. The tutors, all of whom are volunteers, help local migrant workers, university students' dependants and immigrants, gain a better grasp of English.

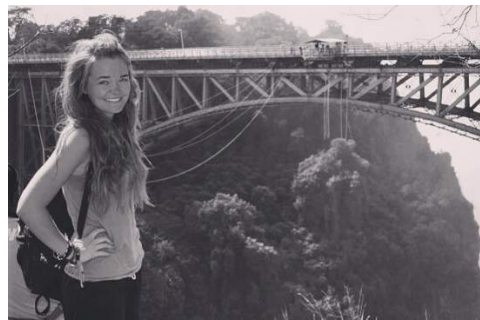


New grants

These are some recent recipients who will soon be completing their projects or pursuits:



With the help of KSMT, **Gemma Clark (17)** will travel to Prague in August 2015 to complete the Prague International Ballet Masterclass, an intensive two-week course. After graduating from the Elmhurst School for Dance next year Gemma hopes to become a professional dancer, and undertaking this prestigious course should set her well on her way.



This summer **Gillian McKay (23)**, a student at Aberdeen University, will travel to Jordan to work with Dar Al Yasmin (DAY), a rights-based NGO working with Syrian families in the Al Zaatari refugee camp. Her role there will be to organise educational activities and workshops for women and children. After graduating from university Gillian hopes to pursue a career in international human rights, specialising in the Middle East.



Lee Curley (22) has received a grant that will enable him to attend academic conferences. Lee, a PhD student at Edinburgh Napier

University, is conducting research examining jury decision-making and he is particularly interested in attending conferences on forensic, cognitive and legal psychology. He hopes to present his own work at conferences and gain public speaking experience.



Youth Stress Centre

Youth Stress Centre in Castlemilk, Glasgow, is the recipient of a grant to support its work with young people on self-esteem, confidence and mental health. The aim of the Youth Stress Centre is to promote health and wellbeing through a range of techniques, including counselling and stress management, yoga, reflexology and aromatherapy. The young people they help often come from some of the most deprived areas in Glasgow.



This summer **Nicole Stewart (15)**, from Glasgow, will undertake a three-week intensive outward-bound course, Skills for Life, supported by KSMT. This will be the second time Nicola has completed the course, and she found the last course to be hugely beneficial in developing her leadership and team working skills. In the future Nicola hopes to become an outward-bound volunteer, helping others to benefit from similar courses.



Deborah Owen (21), a geography student at Birmingham University, has received a grant to carry out a research project on environmental change in the Honduran cloud forests. The forests of Honduras are some of the most species-diverse in the world, yet have suffered significant deforestation, and are extremely sensitive to changing climatic conditions. Deborah's research will assess how climatic conditions are affecting the spatial distribution of endemic species in the area, and through computer modelling techniques predict how this will change in the future. While in Honduras, Deborah will be living in a remote mountainous community and is looking forward to learning more about the local culture.



Zimbabwe Educational Trust (ZET) is a Leeds-based charity that supports Zimbabwean communities to keep children and young people in school and out of poverty. KSMT's grant will help the Rafiki Girls' Centre, a ZET partner based in the capital city, Harare. The centre provides 9 month vocational training courses to vulnerable young women aged between 17 and 25, including: Clothing, Design, Catering, Preschool Teacher Training and Nursing. The grant will contribute to the growth of Rafiki, as it is currently receiving two applications for every place it has available, thus empowering disadvantaged young women.



KSMT has supported **Rebecca Lindsay (20)**, an English and History student at Aberdeen University, to undertake a fundraising trek in aid of Childreach International. The money raised will go to support children in the Berber area of Nigeria. Rebecca will travel to Mount Toubkal (the tallest mountain in Northern Africa) to complete a four-day hike, followed by a six-day camel expedition along the coast of the Sahara Desert.

Undertaking the same trip will be **Sarah Gunn (22)**, also a student at Aberdeen University. Sarah is particularly looking forward to experiencing a new culture and meeting some of the beneficiaries of Childreach International's work.

The Gesu School in Philadelphia, USA

KSMT has made a significant donation to the Gesu School in Philadelphia, USA. The charity educates, nurtures and enriches the lives of marginalised children from the four poorest postcodes in the city.

The Trust's donation will pay for the education, books, counselling and school meals for two children for an initial duration of three years. The great work of Gesu School was something recognised by Toby Wallace (pictured below), who regularly visited the school, inspiring and enthralled the students with stories of his transatlantic row, daring them to aim high.



Toby Wallace and Andrew McMennigall, two colleagues of Kirsten from Aberdeen Asset Management, were tragically killed during a fundraising cycle for KSMT and It's Good 2 Give in June 2013. KSMT is committed to continuing Toby and Andrew's charitable aims – utilizing the generous donations made to the Trust in their name. Gesu School is the first charity we have supported in this regard.





KSMT Fundraising Ceilidh

On Saturday 14th June 2014, KSMT held its second fundraising ceilidh at the Battersea Arts Centre in London.

The evening was a fantastic success, raising over £4,000 and bringing together many of Kirsten's friends, family, colleagues, and others for an evening of dancing and cider 'n' black.

License to Ceilidh once again provided the music and a troop of volunteers ensured everything ran smoothly. A hoard of amazing raffle prizes kindly donated by supporters of the Trust included tickets to the Golf Open, a variety of concert tickets, and much more, accompanied by some great cakes kept revellers busy when they weren't wheeling around the dance floor.

A massive thanks to all who came and made it such a wonderful evening, and particularly to those who helped on the night, donated raffle prizes and baked cakes, and to Aberdeen Asset Management for their support.

We'll let you know as soon as the 2015/16 ceilidh is in the diary!





Fundraising

Great Aberdeen Bake Off

Kirsten's colleagues at Aberdeen Asset Management continued to provide great support for the KSMT over the course of 2014. In what is now a celebrated annual event, the Great Aberdeen Bake Off in December raised £1045.



Charity Ball in Aberdeen

On Saturday 29th March 2014, Aberdeen Asset Management hosted a charity ball at the Marcliffe Hotel in Aberdeen, raising funds for KSMT and CLAN Cancer Support. Proceeds from the evening, including a raffle and a

money-can't-buy auction (featuring a signed Rolling Stones guitar!) raised a monumental £15,000 for KSMT and £15,000 to CLAN Cancer Support. Thank you!

One-mile charity swim

Richard Dyson (below on the right), for the second time, raised over £1000 in a sponsored one-mile open water swim in Cornwall. The annual event is run by the RNLI; with up to 400 swimmers taking part in the iconic swim from Pendennis Castle in Falmouth to St Mawes.



Pennies for Promise

Employees of Aberdeen also give monthly via Pennies for Promise – this is a payroll giving scheme that allows Aberdeen's payroll to round down an employee's salary to the nearest pound, with the remaining pennies going to the KSMT. This provides a fantastic regular income for the charity, and something we continue to be very grateful for.

Edinburgh Triathlon Club 24-hour swim

The Edinburgh Triathlon Club swam a collective total of 532km over 24 hours last spring, and in doing so raised a fantastic £7000 for the Kirsten Scott Memorial Trust, in memory of Andrew McMendigall. Andrew was a member of the club, and a keen triathlete himself, he was tireless in his mentoring of other like-minded athletes in triathlon, swimming and cycling. Thank you to the Club for choosing to support the Trust.



A Close Shave

John Green recently raised a fantastic £565 by shaving his hair off at Sheddocksley Baptist Church in Aberdeen. The congregation donated generously after listening to Claire Wallace, Toby Wallace's widow (pictured below on the right), explain the grant-giving work of KSMT. Thank you to John and Claire.



Donate to KSMT

If you would like to donate to The Kirsten Scott Memorial Trust, the easiest way is via our Just Giving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/KirstenScottMemorialTrust/>

From all of us at KSMT - thanks for reading and we hope you have a great summer.

*The Trustees
June 2015*



Kirsten in Guernsey, December 2010