

NEWSLETTER 2017

The Altrusa Careers Trust has just celebrated its 30th anniversary and with regret it has been decided by the Trustees to wind down the Trust.

It has been my privilege to be a Trustee during that time and actively take on each of the various roles. It has been interesting to witness the many changes in women's aspirations in their chosen careers the variety from hairdressers, beauticians, teachers, therapists, social workers, nursing, medicine, musicians, opera singers, lawyers, accountants and recently an astronaut. Women nowadays are playing an important role in society and it has been an enlightening experience to assist women from different backgrounds. Many single parents, for various reasons have had to struggle to maintain a home and career.

It is appropriate, at this point, to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported the Trust financially and at the various fund raising events which without you we would not have been able to continue the work. During the past 30 years we have been able to assist ? women and disburse ?.

There are four Trustees and each of us plays an important role. An applicant's first contact with the Trust is on our website which has been maintained by Louise, application forms have been received and approved by Raye, processed by Pam and finally I have had the pleasure of posting out the cheques. A small team but it has worked well for us and as we live in different parts of the UK thanks to emails etc communication is easy.

One of the rewarding parts of being Trustees, is to receive the many letters of thanks from recipients and being able to help them climb the career ladder. This we have done on a voluntary basis and all funds raised went towards this apart from basic expenses.

We thought you might like to read a few of the many 'thank you' letters .which we have received over the years.

Drama therapy student – Jessie.

With your help I have come so far in the last year. I have completed a clinical placement in a Special Academy for students with complex, and special educational needs. I am also running a weekly drama-therapy group as well as seeing an individual outpatient client.

The costs of my courses are so heavy as the clinical supervision needed for these placements are essential as I am sure you can imagine. It has been such a help to have some financial assistance and I cannot thank you enough for your continuing support.

MSc Marketing – Lynne

I am now 6 weeks into the 2nd of 3 semesters. My progress to date has been excellent. I have achieved 69%, 80%, 83%, 85% in the first four modules. The modules have allowed me

to gain a financial insight into marketing and widened my knowledge considerably. I am very much enjoying the experience. My thanks again for the support that the Altrusa Careers Trust was able to provide..

National Diploma in Music Therapy – Danielle

I have just completed my first term of my final year as I write this personal statement which would not have been possible without the support provided by the Trust. I cannot thank you enough and will forever be grateful for the opportunity it has provided. This term has had many achievements and challenges, which are learning experiences and have made me more resilient and determined to achieve in the performance industry.

Royal Northern College of Music - Juliet

I am writing to you to report on my recent two terms at the college of music as a final year student. Many exciting opportunities have been presented to me as a result of continuing my studies here and I am extremely grateful to the Altrusa Careers Trust for making this next step in my vocal training possible .

MSc Medical Genetics and Genomics – Ruth

Since starting my Masters in Medical Genetics and Genomics (MSc) I have learned a great deal about the diagnosis of human genetic disease and the process of investigation involved . I have undertaken the first course of lectures entitled 'Genetic Disease' which taught me of the wide variety of genetic diseases present in the human population along with their genetic cause and various treatments for those conditions. I have found the classes so far to be very interesting and have been achieving good grades. Within the next few months I will be starting my dissertation also, though the topic of this is yet to be decided.

MA Fine Art (Sculpture Pathway) – Hattie

This past year with the help of the grant from the Altrusa Careers Trust and the award I received from the Slade School of Fine Art I have been able to reduce the time spent on part time work and allowed me to focus more on my studio practice in my final year. I have started writing my thesis on the subject 'Geomorphological Poetics' and am preparing my work for the final degree . I am excited about the work I am making at the moment. I feel it has improved since I started the course. Many thanks to the Altrusa Careers Trust for its support.

MA Social Work – Angela

I am now half way through my final year. I have less than 50 days left of my placement which is going extremely well. I have learned so much about being an adult Social Worker. The placement has made me rethink my career options of working with children to working with adults whilst my children are still young . It has been challenging at times to fit University (Studying) placement and looking after my children. However, I have a really good child minder who has supported me a lot this past year. I am extremely grateful for your contribution to support me through my final year of my studies. Without the support you gave me I don't know how I would have continued going to placements that takes me over an hour each way. Your contribution towards my childcare helped to release some funds to put towards travel expenses.

MBA - Faye

I have passed my final exam and felt it important to write formally to the Trust to express my gratitude.

There is no doubt that without the benevolence of the Altrusa Careers Trust I would not have achieved my Masters in Business Administration. Having been made redundant in 2008 I was keen to pursue my intention to obtain an MBA. My redundancy pay was consumed by 3 months of unemployment so I had no financial means of funding my dream qualification..

Sourcing funding is a dismal activity . I felt both impoverished at having to beg for money but also privileged that I was not in the desperate state that some students seemed to be

Thank you again for the funds. It gave me back my dignity and the future looks positively rosy.

These are only a very few of the many letters we have received and we wish all those we have helped success in their chosen careers.

Thanks also to our accountant, and my fellow three Trustees.for support and assistance in enabling us to achieve so much during the past 30 years.

Yvonne.