



UPDATE

NEWSLETTER

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This year has been rather a rather special one when the Trust celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Trustees decided to mark the occasion with a '**TEA PARTY**' at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh. The date selected was 25th April to coincide with the Trustees' spring meeting. The John Douglas room which is available for private events is situated at the end of the restaurant with glazed walls on two sides giving the impression of being outside without the inconvenience of inclement weather; and taking advantage of the lovely surrounding external area. Thirty guests attended and we were delighted to welcome back two past Trustees, Rosemary McDiarmid and Grace Franklin. Three recipients of financial aid also came along and gave a talk on how the trust had helped them and an update on where they are now. Anne Tweeddale received a loan which enabled her to pursue her career as a speech therapist at St John's hospital. Having paid up her loan she then offered her time to assist the trust and was the treasurer for a couple of years until pressure of work consumed her spare time. Kirstin Johnston, a mum from Berwickshire, is pursuing an Art Degree at Edinburgh Art College, now part of the University of Edinburgh. Kirstin brought along samples of her work which was varied and very interesting. The third member was Faye Carruthers who, having obtained her MBA is currently doing temporary work until her ideal job comes along.

Representatives were also invited from Napier and Edinburgh Universities to enable them to have an insight into the work of the Trust. To help augment funds a raffle was organised and raised £114 grateful thanks to all who contributed. The star prize was a lovely painting donated by Jean Connor and won by Margaret McGregor. We were honoured to have two Altrousers with us, my

husband, Alan who sadly died in August and Louise's husband. Louise very kindly made a special cake depicting the Trust's emblem, which was enjoyed by all. A convivial afternoon when friendships were renewed.

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TO DATE THE ALTRUSA CAREERS TRUST HAS DISBURSED £88,511 TO 245 WOMEN.

Repayments :

In these difficult financial times when jobs are at a premium it is heart warming to have several recipients now in a position to repay their loans.

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Tribute

We were so sorry to hear that Leonora Waterston died on 4th September 2012 at St Columba's Hospice at the ripe old age of 96. Leonora has always been a great supporter and gave generously if she was unable to attend any of Trust's events.

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If you are looking for funding to improve your career prospects or wish to make a donation please contact us at --

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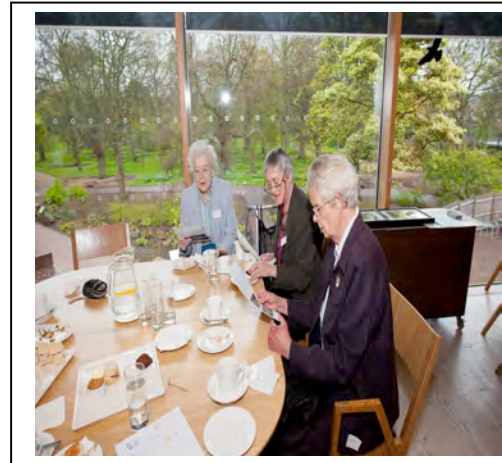
www.altrusacareerstrust.org.uk



**25th Anniversary TEA PARTY
at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh**



A group enjoying afternoon tea and a chat



Rosemary, Grace and Jean.



Louise with the celebration cake.



Heather and Margaret



Olive has a winning ticket



Alan Mitchelson and Ian Dickson

□

**25th Anniversary TEA PARTY
at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh**



Kirsin's work

Anne, Kirstin and Faye all funding recipients



A jolly afternoon had by all.

SPONSORSHIP

This year 18 applicants were offered an interest free loan and five women took up the offer and they are:

Jane who is studying to obtain a B.A (Hons) in Social Work; **Kearney** is pursuing a Legal Practice course which is part-time over a period of 2 years; **Catherine** is training to become a chartered accountant; **Siobhan** is studying at the Institute of Professional Legal Studies; and **Lesley** is pursuing a MEd in psychology of Education. Many applicants received funding from council and others, perhaps, were worried about repayment

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Dear All at Altrusa Careers Trust
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity and help during my MSc. I am now working as a trainee Genetic Counsellor/Research Practitioner which is my dream job and I would not have been able to do so without your help. I have now set up my direct debit repayments of £25 per month.
I will always be thankful for your help.
Best wishes
Gemma.

- oOo

Dear Yvonne

Please pass my thanks on to all the Trustees for the loan as I would otherwise be unable to continue with my legal training. I am most grateful.

With kind regards
Kearney

- oOo -

Dear Mrs Gammon

I would like to thank the Trustees of the Altrusa Careers Trust for supporting me in my music therapy training I am incredibly grateful for the support you have given me and I am delighted to be in a position when I can repay the generous loan provided by the Trust, Before finishing my training in June, I applied for and was offered the role of music therapist in a school for 11 – 19 year olds with profound and multiple learning disabilities . The post is for three days a week and at the moment is a maternity cover position. I am working with lots of students, within the school, who faced a range of challenges on a daily basis, and being in a position to help , enable and support these young people is a privilege.

I have also taken a small honorary role at a hospital for people with serious and/or enduring mental health illnesses. The service provided by the Art Therapies department is incredibly important to the well-being and rehabilitation of its patients. This is an area of music therapy that I would be interested in pursuing, in the future as my career develops. I would like to thank you and the other Trustees again for supporting me during my training.
With all best wishes
Grace...

A TRIBUTE TO ROSEMARY MCDIARMID

Sadly Rosemary died on Saturday 13th. She had been in a Care Home in Dunoon since her husband Iain died a couple of years ago. Rosemary was a founder Trustee of the Altrusa Careers Trust and being an accountant kept us on the straight and narrow, especially in the early days. She stepped down as the treasurer in 2002, but remained as a Trustee and played an important role until in 2009 she retired as a Trustee. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the funeral but Grace Franklin, also a founder Trustee did and this is her account of the day.

"Just to let you know Rosemary had a beautiful send off. There were only 20 – 24 people at the crematorium in Greenock. Then everyone went across to Dunoon where the service in the High Kirk was really fitting and upbeat. Most of the 80 people there were locals. Others had come from afar. One of the hymns we sang was "Will your anchor hold in the storms of life" – described as one of her favourite hymns.(You'll remember that Iain had been a Boy's Brigade leader and that is the BB hymn). The day was sunny though cold , it had the promise of spring. The close family and the minister all referred to Rosemary's commitment to ACT and also her reluctance to go and even after a massive stroke her strong will and spirit prevailed' and only after the last family member had left her bedside did she finally and quietly exit this life".