



**Canon  
Collins**

Educational & Legal  
Assistance Trust

**ANNUAL REVIEW**  
**2014–2015**



# 01

2014–2015 at a glance

# 02

Welcome – Stuart Craig, CEO

# 03

Introduction – Tshepo Motsepe, Equal Education

# 04

Professor Maano Ramutsindela, alumnus and Vice-Chair

# 05

Scholars from across southern Africa

# 06

**Creating change through People**

Meet the scholars

Impact Awards

15 years with Leigh Day

New LLB Law Scholarships

# 10

**Creating change through Civil Society Partners**

Legal Resources Centre

Equal Education

Wits Justice Project

Project Summaries

# 16

**Creating change through Networks**

Scholars' Conference 2015

Zackie Achmat

Events in the UK and South Africa

Alumni Network

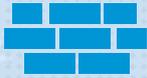
Meet the Scholars' Scholar

# 23

Farewell from Sandy Balfour

# 24

Finance Summary



**We built up capacity  
at the Equal Education  
Eastern Cape office**



**We trained 50  
youth facilitators with  
Equal Education**

# 2014 — 2015

## AT A GLANCE



**We completed a £1million  
grant to the Legal Resources  
Centre from Comic Relief,  
on the Right to Housing**



**We supported  
113 scholars from  
nine countries**



**We received  
donations from 1957  
people in the UK**



## Board of Trustees

- John Battersby (*Chair*)
- Patricia Choiral
- Dr Kai Easton
- William Frankel OBE
- Dr Beacon Mbiba
- Dr Mpalive Msiska
- Lawson Naidoo
- Pfungwa Nyamukachi
- Professor Maano Ramutsindela (*Vice-Chair*)
- Professor David Simon
- Jill Williamson OBE

## Staff – London

- Stuart Craig: CEO (*as of Sept 2015*)
- Sandy Balfour: CEO (*up to Sept 2015*)
- Eva Lenicka: Scholarships Assistant
- Caitlin Pearson: Partnerships & Communications Officer
- Victoria Reed: Scholarships Manager
- Roger Richards: Finance & Administration Manager

## Staff – Johannesburg

- Gillian Attwood: South Africa Manager

## Interns

- Fiona Ramsay
- Siobhan Margolis

## Thanks

**We are grateful to the following people for their time and assistance over the past year**

- Tunrayo Martins
- Leticia Taimo
- Nancy Adimora
- Julia Shapiro



# Welcome

## STUART CRAIG, CEO

For those who may be less familiar with the Canon Collins Trust, our origins go all the way back to 1981. Those dark days of apartheid, the struggle against the oppressor, and widespread condemnation of the regime from many international sympathisers formed the backdrop to John Collins' vision of a just and fair South Africa. His aim was to support the education of those who had the spirit and the determination to transform the country and make freedom a reality.

Fast forward to 2015, and these are attributes we still look for today in the students who apply to us for higher education scholarships. As you will

soon discover within these pages, we support the thought-leaders of tomorrow: those who have a genuine passion for social justice, and a demonstrable commitment to leaving a better society behind them. The civil society organisations we support with grants from third parties – and funds we raise ourselves – also share this vision.

Less than five per cent of the scholars who apply to us actually 'make it' through our rigorous selection process, but we are very proud of those who do. Please join us now in celebrating their achievements, some of which are profiled in this Review. We hope you will enjoy reading it.



Scholars Zarina Nteta and Busi Mnguni

# Introduction – Tshepo Motsepe

"Every generation has its struggle." These are the words adapted from the writings of Franz Fanon that we in Equal Education have used to define our present struggle. Equal Education (EE) organises high school students in township and rural schools – and their parents – to challenge the injustices and inequalities still prevalent in the South African education system (see pages 12–13). EE uses research and activism to advance this change.

In the recent weeks of October 2015, South Africa experienced a landmark moment in its history. Universities announced an increase in fees, and students from across the country mobilised in protest with the campaign #FeesMustFall, resulting in a national shut down of campuses across South Africa. The president met their demand for a moratorium on fee increases for the 2016 academic year, but this was only a small part of the bigger picture. Students continued to protest, calling for workers at the universities to be paid better salaries and their employment conditions be improved. They demanded that the children of university cleaners and gardeners be admitted and exempted from paying fees, just like the children of academics.

This was a significant moment of solidarity, highlighting a change in mind-set of an emerging young intelligentsia. They were raising their voices against one of the most significant factors separating the poor and the rich in South Africa – access to quality and equal education. In Cape Town, the university students were joined in protest by secondary school learners and EE members. The South African youth has identified its struggle and mission, and the momentum for change has been ignited. Young emerging scholars at universities are challenging the status quo and forging ahead against inequality by employing research and peaceful forms of activism to bring about change.

Canon Collins scholars are no exception. With a shared commitment to social justice, and in a wide range of disciplines, the scholars are actively creating research that speaks to the work of social movements. In this review you will hear stories from some of the scholars, activists and progressive organisations that form the Canon Collins network. We are proud to be a part of it.

**Tshepo Motsepe**  
General Secretary  
Equal Education



Tshepo Motsepe

## Professor Maano Ramutsindela, Alumnus and Vice-Chair of the Trust

It's exactly 20 years since I first applied for a Canon Collins scholarship. Back then I was a geography lecturer at the University of the North, better known as Turfloop. It was clear that to progress in my career I needed to do my PhD. It was equally clear that I could not do this without support. I had little idea that when I applied for a Canon Collins scholarship that this was the beginning of a relationship that would endure and grow. Perhaps another alumnus, Sipho Pityana put it best at our Canon Collins scholars' conference two years ago. Speaking from his own experience he said, "When you accept a Canon Collins Scholarship, you become a soldier for justice."

It is a sad truth that, more than two decades after South Africa's transition to democracy, the struggle for justice goes on. More than most our partner organisation, the Legal Resources Centre, shows just how complex and elusive an idea 'justice' is. What we mean is a fully democratic society based on the principle of substantive equality and in which the principles, rights, and responsibilities enshrined in our national Constitution are respected, protected and fulfilled.

This is the work of Canon Collins Educational and Legal Assistance Trust (CCELAT). From those early days as a scholarship fund, the Trust has found ways to create a unique (and much needed) space for scholars, researchers, activists and government to meet, to share, to collaborate and to create and put to use knowledge for the benefit of others. Throughout this report there are many examples of how we do this. For me the highlight of each year is our scholars' conference. In 2015 we held it in Cape Town. There were 64 scholars studying in 15 disciplines and from 9 countries. Speakers included Professor Jonathan Janssen, vice chancellor of the University of the Free State, Zackie Achmat of the Treatment Action Campaign and Tshepo Motsepe, General Secretary of Equal Education. But I was especially excited to witness the quality of debate from our scholars. I was pleased that so many of them, like our 2015 scholars' scholar Cerene Rathilal (see page 22), are planning careers in academia.



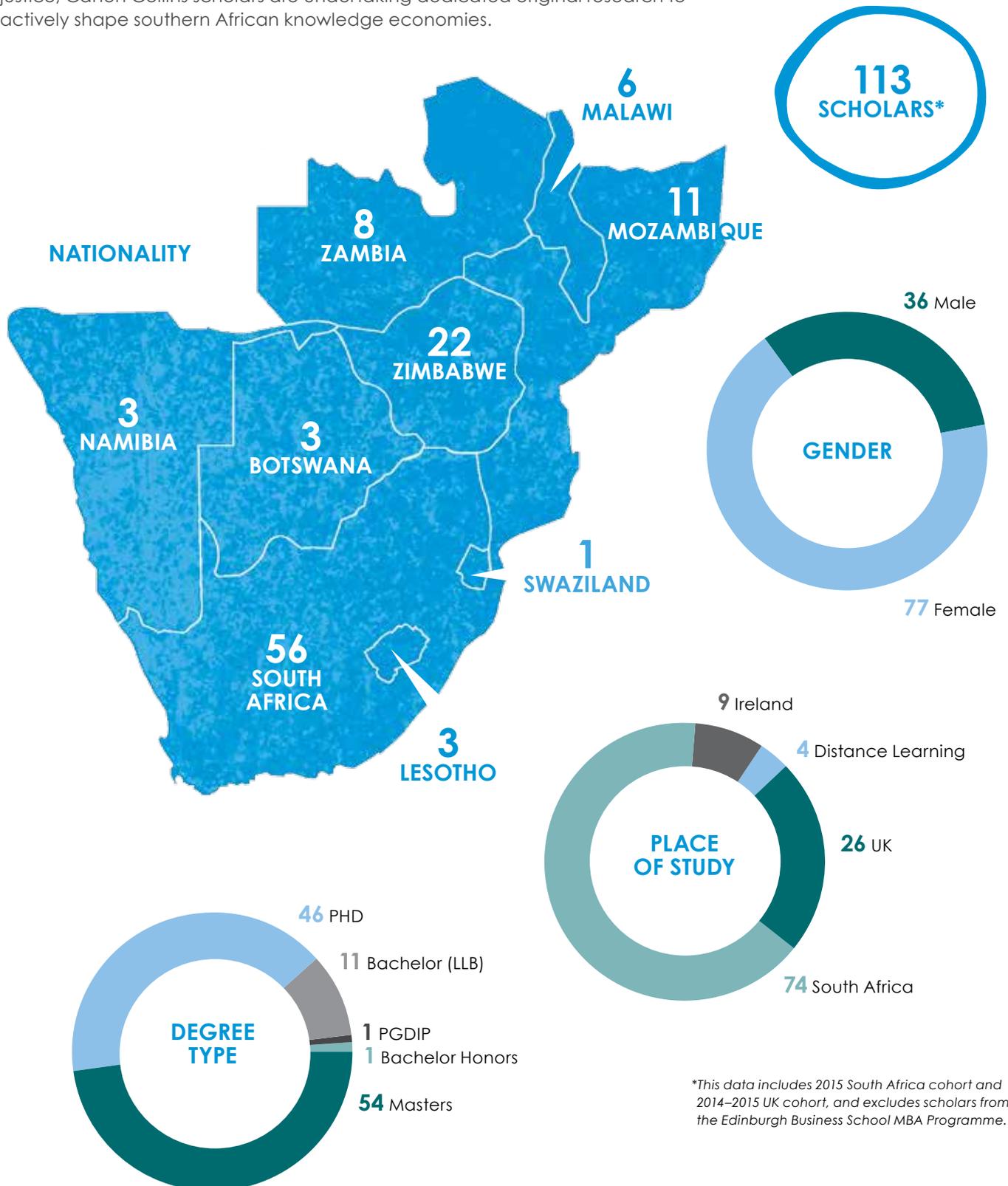
Professor Maano Ramutsindela

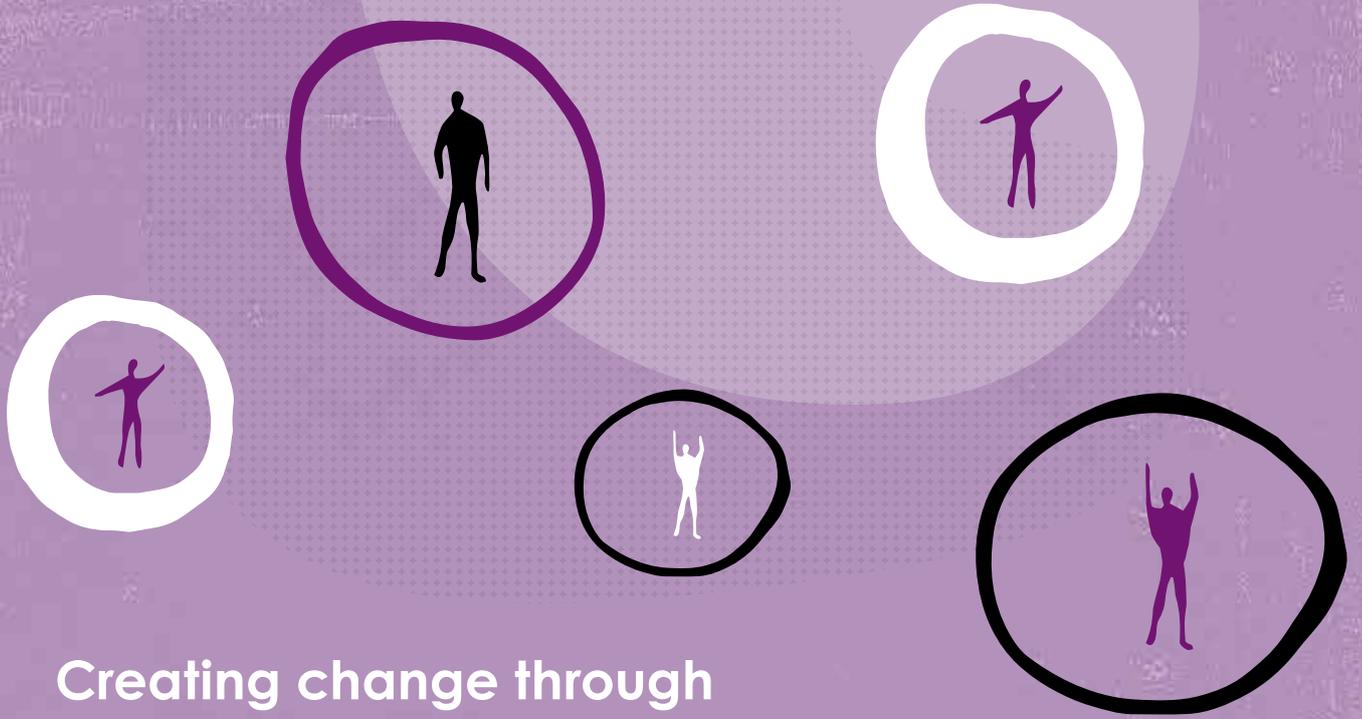
**"This is the generation that has inherited the possibilities and challenges of our past. They are also the generation who will lead us in the future."**

They are also the generation who will lead us in the future. By bringing them together, by offering creative, empathetic support, by advancing a compassionate politics and by respecting the diversity and creativity of southern Africa's young people, the Trust continues to make a unique and lasting contribution to all the peoples of southern Africa.

# Scholars from across southern Africa

Canon Collins scholars are at the forefront of research, activism and leadership in southern Africa. Through our own resources, and in association with others, the Trust enables talented individuals to pursue undergraduate law, and postgraduate and doctoral studies in a range of fields. Driven by a shared commitment to social justice, Canon Collins scholars are undertaking dedicated original research to actively shape southern African knowledge economies.





## Creating change through **PEOPLE**



**CHRISTINE PETA**  
Zimbabwe,  
PhD in Disability Studies,  
University of Cape Town

Christine is dedicated to pursuing the emancipation of disabled women in Africa, having grown up with three disabled sisters in Zimbabwe. She worked as a housemaid to raise fees to fund her previous studies, before being awarded a scholarship. After completing her PhD, she plans to set up a disability rights organisation. The focus will be on saving the many lives of disabled African women who are dying unnoticed in their homes as a result of inadequate health services, and a lack of information in appropriate formats, such as braille and sign language.



**STEFFANIE MUSINGARABWI**  
Zimbabwe, MPhil Climate Change  
and Development, University of  
Cape Town

Coming from a disadvantaged background, Steffanie worked two jobs while studying full time, before being awarded a scholarship. She is now in the second year of her MPhil, researching world perspectives on climate change with a focus on gendered mainstreaming of environmental management. Steffanie has witnessed the vulnerability of women in relation to the impact of climate change, and has highlighted the issue of their exclusion from environmental decision-making processes. She hopes her research will contribute to improving women's participation in developing environmental policy.



**DAMIAN SAMUELS**  
South Africa, MA Political  
Studies, University of the  
Western Cape

Damian holds qualifications in media and marketing management, and has six years' experience in print advertising. In 2010, he left his advertising career to pursue his passion for political studies. Specifically interested in the politics of cultural production (particularly film), distribution and audience reception, his research focus includes visual historiography and the politics of social representation. Damian is also a filmmaker and has completed a feature-length documentary and a short film.

# Impact Awards

At this year's scholars' conference (see page 16), we tried something new. Inspired by our philosophy of activist scholarship, we asked the students: 'what are you going to do to improve the lives of others?' Scholars pitched project ideas, live to the audience, in a bid to win two R30,000 awards (these were also supported by the Southern Africa Trust). The winners Leah Matsinha and Nyasha Manjengenja both from the University of Cape Town, were chosen by their fellow scholars.



(L-R) Godknows Mukoyi, Leah Matsinha and Yvonne Zunyai

**“I couldn’t go to varsity this year because I struggled with the fees. This project has helped me get back on track, guiding me to research career and course opportunities.”**

Zimkitha Jwara, Cape Town



Nyasha Manjengenja



## SOAP MAKING & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Leah Matsinha (PhD Chemistry, UCT) has launched a project to equip young people with entrepreneurial skills. Using her expertise as a chemist, Leah is leading the sessions in soap-making to teach the young residents of Rose of Sharon orphanage in Harare, Zimbabwe how to create products from basic materials, and how to generate an income from these.

**“This project has taught me a lot. I can now produce cleaning products and know how to manage my own business.”** Midwin Mhlanga

## FROM TOWNSHIP TO VARSITY

Nyasha Manjengenja (PhD Child & Family Studies, UCT) is using her Impact Award grant to run workshops which aim to assist students at township schools to gain access to higher education. She is helping students with all aspects of the university application process, including securing funding, providing career guidance, and preparing them for university life. Nyasha has been working with three township schools, where teachers have assisted her by identifying promising learners who were struggling to pay university application fees and those who needed help with the process as a whole. So far the project has supported 23 students who are now eligible to get into university.

# 15 years with Leigh Day Lawyers for Social Justice

**“The knowledge I will acquire from obtaining this degree will be instrumental in my starting an organisation that will defend the rights of the underprivileged, and also in educating them of their rights regardless of their age and economic status.”**

*Melezwa Dlangamandla, LLB Law, University of the Western Cape (pictured right)*



The Trust is grateful for the continuing support of London law firm, Leigh Day and our sincere appreciation goes to their partners and staff. With a shared commitment to social justice, our collaboration has been fruitful, enabling more than 65 students to complete their law degrees at the University of the Western Cape. With additional support from Leigh Day, we are now expanding this programme to the University of Fort Hare. From 2016 there will be 10 new Leigh Day scholarships each year. South Africa remains a deeply unequal society in which many people are unable to realise their rights. Our Leigh Day scholarships are offered to students who demonstrate the desire and the potential to contribute to South Africa's constitutional democracy

and to develop legal systems which are just and equitable. Our alumni go on to practice as attorneys at some of South Africa's top law firms and civil society organisations, to teach in universities and to act as prosecutors for the national authority.

Monique Prinsloo (graduated 2012) is a Lecturer at UWC. Sizo Dlali (graduated 2007) is a Prosecutor at the National Prosecution Authority and Justin Jaftha (graduated 2012, *summa cum laude*) is a researcher at the Constitutional Court. Leigh Day scholars are also making an impact in South African civil society. Gaylene Blankenberg (graduated 2008) is an attorney at Legal Aid SA and Solmonic Joseph (graduated 2012, the first in his family to get a degree) is a Candidate Attorney at the Equal

Education Law Centre. Government benefits too. Cheslin Paris, for example, is an attorney in the Department of Social Development.

As well as excelling in their studies, many Leigh Day scholars have demonstrated their commitment to social justice through their involvement in student-led community projects, such as the Street Law Society, which educates juvenile prisoners on their rights and Students for Law and Social Justice, of which one of our scholars – Michail Darryn Le Roux – was elected Chair in 2014. Another top scholar Toni Dammert recently led the UWC Moot Court Society (which stages simulated hearing or court proceedings) to represent South Africa at the International Law Moot Competition in Washington D.C.



*UWC team representing South Africa at the Philip C Jessup International Moot in Washington D.C. (L-R) Jamila Parker-Ismail, Toni Dammert, Hendrik Theron and Raeesa Ebrahim*



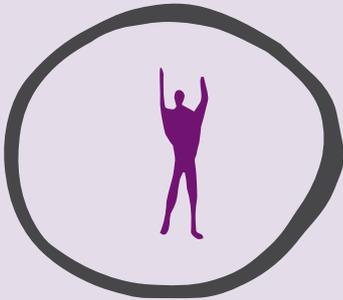


## New LLB Law Scholarships

In 2015, Leigh Day doubled the size of its grant to the Trust. The extra money will support five LLB scholarships each year at the University of Fort Hare in the Eastern Cape, whose distinguished alumni include Nelson Mandela, Julius Nyerere, Kenneth Kaunda and Desmond Tutu. Through this scholarship programme, through our support for the candidate attorney positions at the Legal Resources Centre in Grahamstown and through our support for Equal Education's work on the norms and standards campaigns (page 12), the Trust hopes to have a sustained impact in one of South Africa's poorest provinces.

"I am extremely proud of the success of the Leigh Day law scholarships at the University of the Western Cape over the past 15 years, and what our students have been able to achieve. My partners and I were therefore delighted to be able to double the programme from 2016 with the initiation of the Leigh Day law scholarships at the University of Fort Hare. We hope to be able to support many more students who would otherwise be unable, to undertake their law degrees, to go on to serve their communities for many years to come."

*Russell Levy, Partner, Leigh Day (pictured left)*



**"Education is one of the most important aspects of life. Defeating the odds and having the privilege to study to this level has allowed me to better my life, that of my family and through my professional work, I hope the lives of my community."**

*Solminic Joseph, alumnus, graduated 2012 (pictured above)*



## Creating change through

# CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS

## Know your rights

### THE LEGAL RESOURCES CENTRE AND ACCESS TO HOUSING

The right to housing is one of the most contested in South Africa. Rapid urbanisation combined with weak governance means that many people struggle to find adequate and secure places to live. Funded by Comic Relief, a five year project with our partner the Legal Resources Centre, has sought to address some of the injustices arising from this situation, often with the aim of securing precedent-setting judgments in court.

The LRC has a long history of providing legal services to the poor and vulnerable throughout South Africa. Since the darkest days of influx control and forced removals, the LRC has been at the forefront of fighting the edifice of apartheid-era land and housing law.

During this project, the LRC has continued to champion the rights of ordinary citizens, as provided for in the South African Constitution. In urban areas this work ranges from protecting the rights of evictees living in informal settlements and in occupied buildings, to confronting corruption in the allocation of subsidised housing. In litigating against the State, municipalities and private landowners, the LRC seeks to improve living conditions in informal settlements and protect vulnerable communities from environmental damage.

Many of the urban poor depend on informal trading on the street, and have very precarious incomes. They are vulnerable to eviction and the confiscation of their goods, which

they are frequently unable to buy back, which in turn plunges them into deeper poverty. The LRC is fighting for their rights, and has made significant progress, particularly in Durban (see next page).

The challenge of educating people about their rights and how to assert them remains a significant one. The work of the LRC has resulted in that communities being better able to organise themselves, to lobby public authorities and to build on the gains won for them in court by the LRC. It is important to continue this work, and build even stronger links with civil society organisations supporting the poor, so that their rights can be protected, livelihoods secured and the development of cities made more inclusive and productive.



Trader John Makwickana (far right) with members of Asiye e Tafuleni

## ASIYE E TAFULENI

Following disputes between informal traders, the police and municipality at the early morning market in Durban, the LRC set up the 'Know your rights campaign', working with partner NGO Asiye e Tafuleni. Over the past five years, partnerships such as that with the Asiye have helped both organisations expand their work beyond strategic litigation, to areas like exposing corruption in the city administration.

**“The trader community is much more legally savvy thanks to the long term engagement with LRC lawyers. If you speak to the traders’ leaders you’ll appreciate it, and because these groups in Durban are well organised, you know that that message is reaching upward of 90 000 traders across the city.”** *Stephen Berrisford, African Centre for Cities – Project Evaluator*



Resident Timothy Mkosana with wife Daniswa and daughter Sisamkele, Isiqalo informal settlement on Vanguard Drive, Cape Town

## JABULANI ZULU & MADLALA VILLAGE

As migration to urban areas increases and local municipalities fail to keep up with the demand for housing, more and more people are forced to build shelters on vacant land – land that is often under the ownership of local government. In the case of Jabulani Zulu and 390 occupiers who live on a property known as Madlala village, the LRC are defending the rights of these occupiers against violent and repeated demolitions of their homes by the eThekweni Municipality, in Durban, who evict people from the land unlawfully, without following statutory processes. In August 2015, the Durban High Court issued a judgment in favour of the LRC's clients, ordering that these demolitions and evictions were unconstitutional. This ruling is vital to preventing other municipalities conducting similar large-scale demolitions, and ensuring that occupiers are protected from repeated destruction of their homes.

## JOE SLOVO COMMUNITY, WESTERN CAPE

Representing approximately 20,000 occupiers of the Joe Slovo informal settlement, the LRC appealed to the Constitutional Court against an order by the City of Cape Town, who were evicting communities to make way for the N2 gateway low-cost housing project. The Court ordered the relocation of the occupiers, but ruled that adequate provision of affordable housing and basic services must be provided before people can be relocated. The case brought to light the complexity of upgrading informal settlements and underlined the challenge of talking about a single 'community' in a situation where well-capacitated civil society bodies are lacking. The LRC played an important and nuanced role in supporting and counselling many of the groups involved, as they grappled with an ever-evolving legal terrain.

# Equal Education

## #FIXOURSCHOOLS

Fighting for minimum norms and standards for school infrastructure with Equal Education



EE learners protesting at Moshesh Secondary School, Eastern Cape

In the struggle to improve the quality of education in South African schools, Equal Education has been campaigning relentlessly for the release of the Norms and Standards for School Infrastructure regulations and their implementation. These laws define the basic level of infrastructure that every school must meet in order to function properly, including safe toilets and classrooms, water, electricity, and security. Following four years of intense campaigning, these regulations were finally released by the Minister of Education in November 2013. However, any taste of victory soured when in January 2014, Michael Komape,

a 6 year old learner in his first week of school, drowned in a pit latrine when the corroded iron sheet serving as the toilet seat gave way. The laws that should have prevented Michael's death remained inert more than a full year after being passed. This young learner has been commemorated in the renaming of EE's campaign, now called the Michael Komape Norms and Standards Campaign, which aims to hold Government to account on the implementation of this law.

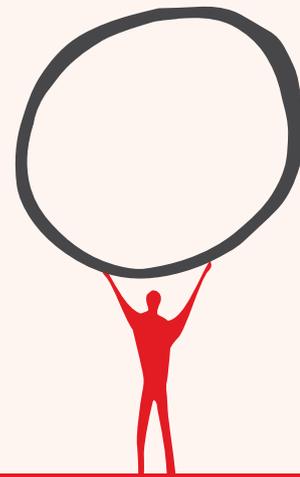
Over the last year, the Trust's continued collaboration with Equal Education has seen the

establishment of a new office in the Eastern Cape, the hub for EE's ongoing Norms and Standards education and mobilisation work. July 2015 marked the end of the first year of a Comic Relief grant, managed by the Trust, to support this critical work. Intense campaign action, including a nation-wide sleep-in protest in April, and a march of more than 2000 learners, parents and teachers to the Eastern Cape Department of Education in May, has resulted in a significant step forward – namely the release of Government's Implementation Plans. These set out what infrastructure is needed where, and how the needs will be addressed. This small victory was brought about through public demand. Two weeks after EE's intensive campaigning, the implementation plans were finally made public.

The work ahead entails careful monitoring of these Implementation Plans. The Trust continues to support EE's efforts to engage with communities, educators, learners and government to ensure that those affected understand their rights under this law, and how the law should be implemented. EE will be analysing and verifying Government's infrastructure backlog lists to ensure that the information pertaining to listed schools is accurate and that all schools requiring infrastructure appear there. It is already apparent that some schools 'disappear' off the list without explanation. By November 29th 2016, all schools made entirely from mud, asbestos, wood or metal should have been rebuilt (there are 400 mud schools in Eastern Cape alone), and all schools should have access to water, sanitation and electricity. Equal Education's work is critical in holding Government to account on these promises.



Facilitators Amanda Sindane and Thabang Eric Mabuza



**“I’ve learned to become a better leader and to think out of the box. I’ve also learned to have facts before acting.”**

*Judith Mahlangu, facilitator*

## Training Community Leaders



EE's youth organisers (called 'facilitators') are critical to the success of EE's work, engaging directly with members on the ground in organised school and community meetings. Our SA Manager, Gillian Attwood has continued to support the facilitators through a tailored training programme designed to strengthen youth organisers' leadership and facilitation skills. Building on the success of this initiative, this training will expand from Gauteng province to the Eastern Cape in the coming year.

**“The facilitators were given the chance to voice their opinions, and were engaged in all the sessions. This helped us to learn and feel united.”**

*Ntombizodwa Pitso, facilitator*



Facilitator training day in Gauteng

# Wits Justice Project



Thembekile Molaudzi

Since 2013, the Trust has partnered with Wits Justice Project (WJP) to produce cutting-edge human rights research and journalism. Through multi-lingual community radio shows, WJP is also active in providing legal information and education to a wide demographic, including prison inmates. Through research, WJP has found that many people are imprisoned for no good reason other than that they are too poor to access real justice. Additionally, failings in the system lead to gross human rights abuses. Bringing these issues to the fore, the project's journalists have produced a consistently excellent standard of journalism, winning Webber Wentzel's Legal Journalist of the Year four times in a row.

Supported by the Trust, these journalists and researchers have also been instrumental in challenging miscarriages of justice that continue to permeate the South African legal system, such as in the case of Thembekile Molaudzi, who, following a relentless campaign against his wrongful conviction, was released in 2015 after 11 years in prison.

Molaudzi was arrested in 2002 following a botched hijacking and murder of a police officer. The processes of investigation and conviction were deeply flawed. With only Grade 10 education under his belt, Molaudzi spent his time

behind bars studying the constitution and advising other inmates of their rights. Armed with only prayers and the courage of his convictions, he soldiered on. Senior WJP journalist Carolyn Raphaely reported on the story for 3 years. Through this connection, the Lawyers for Human Rights intervened. Molaudzi appealed the case and won, and in June 2015, he was finally reunited with his family. His case demonstrates the fundamental need to educate people about their rights, should a miscarriage of justice take place.

## CANON COLLINS SCHOLAR MARCHÉ ARENDS INTERNS AT THE WJP

Marché holds a BA in Print Journalism Production from the University of Cape Town and is currently enrolled in the Honours Creative Writing Programme at Wits.



### WITS JUSTICE RADIO SHOW

Broadcast on Theta FM to about 345 000 listeners every week.



### JAIL BREAK

WJP contributes to the long-running Theta FM show aimed at prison inmates and their families, reaching five correctional facilities in South Africa.



### JUSTICE FOR BREAKFAST

The popular series of roundtable events facilitates academic input into societal innovation, and breaks down walls between authorities and activists.



**"I am proud to be a part of the WJP team and excited to learn more about human rights and South Africa's criminal justice system. As a journalist I feel privileged to work in an environment which values – and has the resources to support – thorough investigative reporting. In today's economic climate this is a rare find so I plan to take advantage of my time here by contributing as much as I can to an organisation committed to bringing about positive social change."** *Marché Arends*



### AGLIT+

Empowering adolescent girls in Malawi through education

This year we completed a three year project, using educational programmes to improve the quality of life for vulnerable adolescent girls in Neno and Mwanza districts, Malawi. The project was generously funded by the UK Department for International Development (DfID).

---

**2700** adolescents with limited access to education participated

**83%** of the group acquired literacy and numeracy skills, allowing them a second chance to re-enter primary school

**97%** of the participants took an HIV test after taking part in personal health education during the project



### GIYANI CAREERS CENTRE

Guiding and training learners and teachers in Limpopo, South Africa

The GCGC provides an invaluable service in assisting young people and adults in finding their future career paths, particularly in mathematics and the sciences. With financial support from JP Morgan, the Trust strengthened and expanded the work of GCGC in helping primary and high school learners, teachers, post-school youth, and the general public in finding the right career.

---

**8000** visits to the Centre over a 20 month period

**116** teachers took part in a career guidance programme, 67% of whom had had no prior experience



### SMALL PROJECTS FOUNDATION

Building capacity of community organisations in Eastern Cape, South Africa

Working with 8 community-based organisations (CBOs) in one of the poorest provinces in South Africa, the Trust has helped to address health and social crises amongst vulnerable women and children.

---

**28,000** pregnant women tested for HIV since 2012, with more than 5,000 receiving ARV treatment

**93%** of their babies were born HIV negative

**2000+** vulnerable and orphaned children supported and cared for by the CBOs



# Creating change through **NETWORKS**

## Scholars' Conference 2015

The Canon Collins scholars' conference is a unique opportunity for scholars, alumni, partners and friends of the Trust to connect, and debate key issues affecting their region.

From 24 to 26 July 2015, the Trust held its annual scholars' conference at the offices of law firm Webber Wentzel in Cape Town. This year's theme was 'Theories of Change', intended to stimulate debate on how Canon Collins scholars and alumni could become effective agents of social transformation. Sixty four scholars came from around the country to discuss their research, debate pressing issues in southern Africa, and build and strengthen networks within the Trust community.

The scholars were joined by experts and activists from civil society and academia. Tying the sessions together were a wonderful group of trustees and alumni, who brought their professional experience and skills to create a dynamic, productive and open space for dialogue and debate.

---

**"I am more than a scholar; I am part of a larger network and vehicle for positive and relevant change."** *Aretha Cooper,*

*PhD Cell Biology, University of Cape Town*

---



**WATCH**  
Conference videos are available to view on our Youtube channel

## PROGRAMME

- More than 30 presentations by Canon Collins scholars about their research and its relation to the theme 'Theories of Change.'
- A panel on '*Mobilising Communities and Harnessing Research in the Pursuit of Social Justice*', with **Zackie Achmat** (Ndifuna Ukwazi), **Sheldon Magardie** (Legal Resource Centre), **Tshepo Motsepe** (Equal Education) and **Solminic Joseph** (Equal Education Law Centre)
- A discussion about '*Enacting Change in Research, Civil Society and Policy*' with **Mandeep Tiwana** (CIVICUS) and **Bhekinkosi Moyo** (Southern African Trust)
- Presentations on '*Science and the future of humanity – climate, research & education*' by **Dorothy Nyambi** (African Institute for Mathematical Sciences), **Michael O'Brien-Onyeka** (Greenpeace Africa) and **Tristan Hauser** (Climate Systems Analysis Group, UCT)
- Skills development workshops run by trustees, alumni and friends of the Trust. These covered the areas of leadership, networking, communications, publishing and advocacy that will enable scholars to put their research skills and knowledge into practice.
- The inaugural **Canon Collins Scholars' Impact Award**, where five scholars pitched their ideas for action to win a R30,000 prize, with the winners chosen by the scholars themselves (see page 7)
- A closing speech by **Zackie Achmat** about the history of the Treatment Action Campaign and how research contributes to the fight for justice (see page 18).



**“The speeches on Sunday were mind blowing! They made me want to go and change the world immediately!”** Asiphe Mgweba,

LLB Law, University of the Western Cape



The keynote address was delivered by Professor Jonathan Jansen, Vice Chancellor of the University of the Free State, and provided scholars with an alternative perspective of change, arguing that reconciliation and effective leadership in times of peace is necessary to avoid the arrival of conflict.

Scholars were invited to engage with Professor Jansen's approach to change in a subsequent question and answer session, and debate his ideas with other speakers during the weekend, who advocated for different and radical approaches to effect change in the region.

# “No matter how powerful something is, you can change it”

FROM ZACKIE ACHMAT'S PLENARY SPEECH

How can research contribute to the fight for social justice? How can people mobilise to demand the change they want to see in their lives? The history of the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) gives a clear and powerful example\*. TAC was founded in December 1998, with the aim of securing equal access to AIDS treatment. Using a whole host of creative and targeted strategies, the movement made remarkable gains over the years towards a government-provided universal treatment programme for those affected by HIV and AIDS in South Africa.

Zackie Achmat, one of the founders, told the story of TAC at the Scholars' Conference in 2015. He spoke about how ordinary people in working-class communities mobilised and began to educate themselves about HIV science in treatment and prevention. Armed with this knowledge, TAC activists could demand from the government the treatment they needed to survive. Zackie Achmat also described how the campaign, equipped with the latest research in virology and competition law, challenged big pharmaceutical companies in the courts. In 2013, companies GlaxoSmithKline and Boehringer both agreed to allow generic companies to sell their medicines in South Africa and other sub-Saharan African countries. This was a huge victory for the campaign and for improving access to life-saving drugs.

---

**“The first and most critical thing to do, is to understand that we can win. The recipe for winning is first to start with rights. Everyone has a right to life, to dignity, to healthcare access. The second thing, is to do decent research. Very decent research, going across the spectrum, with interdisciplinarity. To learn those things and to teach them. To learn them yourself as an activist and to teach them, where people do not have the knowledge. To mobilise, to build alliances, to build your own media, and if you need to, to use the courts. But use the courts creatively, targeting a side of law that has never been used, or that people won't expect you to use. It is important for us to know that, no matter how powerful something is, you can change it.”**

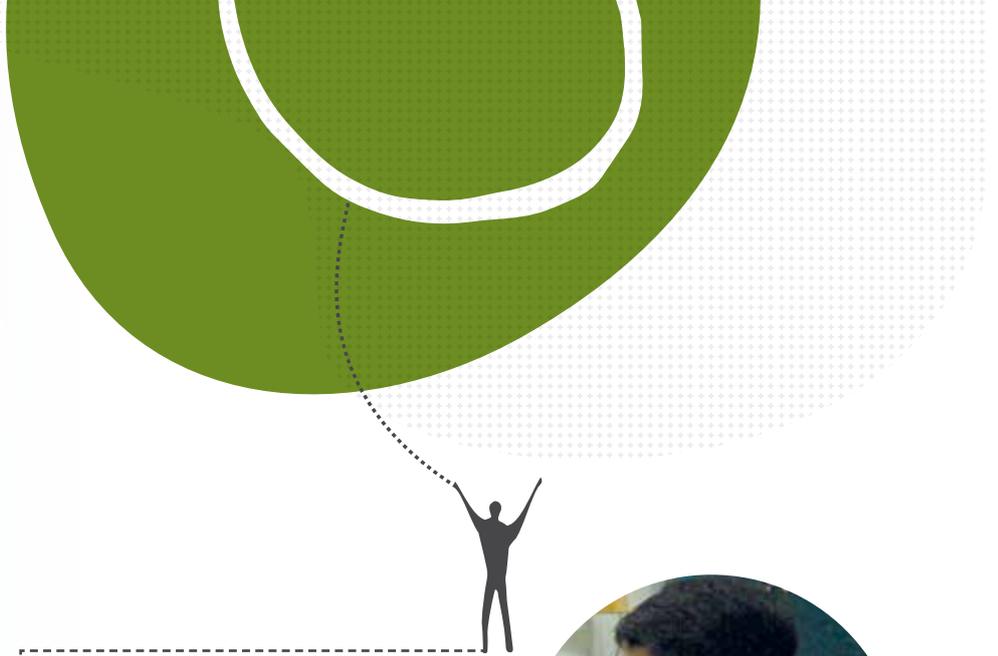
---

*\*Fighting for our lives: The history of the Treatment Action Campaign 1998–2010' is a comprehensive overview of the movement, available on the TAC website: [www.tac.org.za](http://www.tac.org.za)*

## CIVICUS INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY WEEK

### 22 November 2014, Johannesburg

International Civil Society Week, hosted by CIVICUS, brought hundreds of civil society activists from all over the world to Johannesburg to discuss 'Citizen Action, People Power'. The Trust hosted a panel discussion featuring the Legal Resources Centre's Regional Director, Naseema Fakir; Project Coordinator of the Wits Justice Project, Nooshin Erfani-Ghadimi; and General Secretary of Equal Education, Tshepo Motsepe. Chaired by Nicolette Naylor, Senior Program Officer at the Ford Foundation's South Africa office and a Canon Collins Alumnus, the discussion focused on the role of learning and research in activism.



### LESSONS FROM SOUTH AFRICA: JANET LOVE IN CONVERSATION WITH SHAMI CHAKRABARTI

#### 25 September 2014, London

Shami Chakrabarti CBE is director of the civil liberties advocacy organisation Liberty. At this event she spoke to Janet Love, director of the Legal Resources Centre, and South African Human Rights Commissioner. They discussed the progress of rights-based advocacy in South Africa, and what has been learned in the 20 years since the official fall of apartheid.



## BOOK LAUNCH: FIGHTING TO LEARN

### 22 June 2015, London

In June 2015, the Trust co-hosted the launch of the Legal Resources Centre's latest publication *Fighting to Learn* with the Centre of African Studies at SOAS, University of London. The publication is an essential handbook for all those who want to understand how the law can (and can't) be used as a strategy to achieve equal, high quality education for all South Africans. The event brought together speakers Helen Mountfield QC, Sandra Fredman and representatives from the LRC, Human Rights Watch and Right to Education Project to discuss the right to a basic education in the South African context, and to debate how litigation might be used as a tool to ensure the government adequately provides for all South Africans.



Professor Sandra Fredman FBA, Oxford University



Canon Collins scholars and staff. A full list of profiles can be found on our website [www.canoncollins.org.uk](http://www.canoncollins.org.uk)



---

**“A few years ago I signed up for a debit order and had forgotten about it. Then at the conference in 2014 I met Pedsizai, the Scholars’ Scholar, and it was very emotional for me. Before that I didn’t realise that we had actually helped to make this happen and this was a tangible person going to lectures and doing their degree... because of us. I call it ‘being the legacy’, and I am very passionate about it.”**

*Orefile Malope, 2007 alumna*

---

---

**“If we keep this drive for change, our generation can really make an impact in the future.”** *Elke Matthaei, PhD Geography, Stellenbosch*

---



## Alumni Network

Canon Collins alumni form an important part of our approach to contributing towards the achievement of an open and just society in southern Africa. Alumni are encouraged to network with current scholars at a series of events throughout the year, lead sessions on selected themes such as education and thought leadership,

## GIVING BACK AND BUILDING CAPACITY FOR THE FUTURE

pioneer projects that involve the wider Canon Collins community and fundraise for the Scholars' Scholar Campaign – an initiative that seeks to fund more scholars through efforts of the alumni.

This year saw the launch of the Canon Collins Trust Alumni Network (CCT-AN), the culmination of many

months of hard work from a number of South African alumni. Dinner was interspersed with speeches and opportunities for scholars and alumni to connect and reconnect. The evening laid the foundation for the building of a long-lasting community of on-going solidarity, thought leadership and active citizenship amongst CCT alumni.

# Scholars' Scholar

The **Scholars' Scholar Campaign**, funded entirely through the fundraising efforts of our alumni, is about acknowledging the opportunity alumni have had to study. Through contributions to the Campaign, Canon Collins alumni make it possible for another to travel the same road. Selected by the alumni, this year's Scholars' Scholar is Cerene Rathilal, a PhD candidate in Mathematics at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

## What did it mean to you to be selected from so many applicants for the Scholars' Scholar award?

Firstly, I am completely humbled that I was recognised by the alumni for this award, despite being amongst a truly remarkable group of 2015 scholars. Secondly, I believe that holding this award means that I have a responsibility to not only excel in my studies, but to fulfil a social role by investing my time and contributing to others, as others have chosen to do so in me.

## What influenced your passion for mathematics?

My greatest influence, while growing up, was my Dad who always encouraged me to think "outside the box" and to constructively approach challenges. As a result, mathematics became my favourite subject at primary school and has been my natural choice of study. Today it is a permanent part of my lifestyle and I cannot see myself doing anything else.

## How does your work have an impact in the wider community?

I have been providing free weekly mathematics tuition to Grade 12 students at two schools in the Phoenix area in Durban. I also provide free private tuition (from home) on alternate weekends to university students who require help.

## What do you hope your research will contribute to the field?

My current research is on "The connectedness of metric frames", which is in an area of Point-free Topology. Frame theory is a fairly recent development within Pure Mathematics that has matured over the last 50 years but still has many unanswered questions. When I am done with my research, I hope that I am able to provide useful and clear characterisations of connectedness properties for metric frames.

Conducting research is important for progression of society, it allows for innovation and for ideas to be propagated. I view research as the medium of academic communication, hence (irrespective of the subject or one's place of study) one of the ways to make a valuable contribution is through original research.

## Why is it important for alumni to 'give back'?

Because this not only ensures the longevity of the Trust but is also a collective effort that showcases social responsibility in action...which is what we as Canon Collins scholars and alumni strive towards.

## What legacy do you hope to leave as the Scholars' Scholar?

I hope that I am able to dispel the idea that mathematics is "hard" or difficult, by sharing my love and the numerous applications of the subject and its undeniable beauty.



**"I believe that holding this award means that I have a responsibility to not only excel in my studies, but to fulfil a social role by investing my time and contributing to others, as others have chosen to do so in me."**

*Cerene Rathilal*



Sandy Balfour at the 2015 Scholars' Conference

---

**“Our scholars and partners understand that solidarity is a strategy of mutual support.”**

---

## Farewell from Sandy Balfour

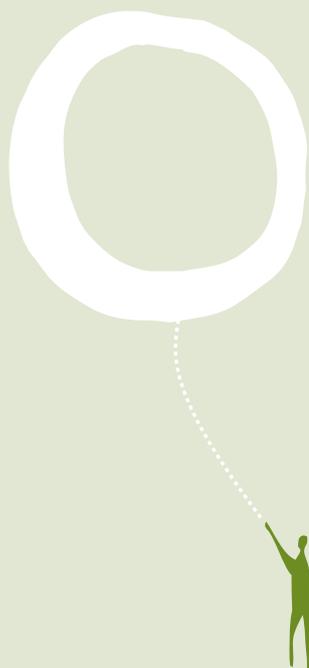
When I started here five years ago it was a pleasure to discover that that the core of the old solidarity movement – that generation of people in Britain who understood South Africa's history, who felt an allegiance to its people, and who celebrated its transition to democracy – was alive and well\*. Here was a movement whose politics was both formal and informal, was rooted in people, and was open to the shifting needs and imaginations of the emerging, cacophonous nation. It continued to find its best expression in organisations like the Trust and as a result we are able to work for an open and just society by

1. Scholarships and research grants for people from southern Africa
2. Funding for and collaboration with civil society partners and by
3. Acting as the catalyst for creating alliances between scholars and researchers

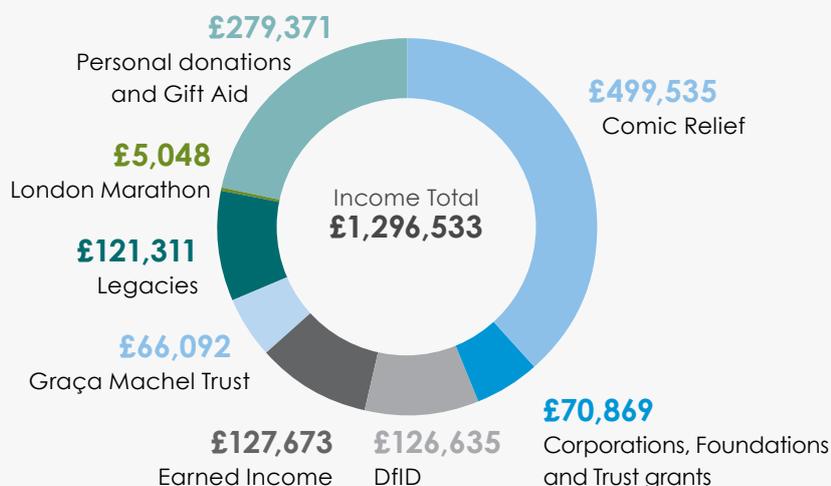
The Canon Collins Educational and Legal Assistance Trust (CCELAT) community is an open and collaborative network. And this gets to the heart of why working with our scholars, with the LRC, with Equal Education and the Wits Justice Project and with other civil society partners has been such a pleasure and a privilege. Our scholars and partners understand that solidarity is a strategy of mutual support. By participating in our events, by working with each other, by sharing our research and by contributing to our debates they have made us stronger, have taught us to think more clearly and have become our effective agents for change.

I hope you have enjoyed this review, and writing this piece is my last act at the Trust. I am leaving knowing that I leave CCELAT in good shape. I want to thank our supporters, my colleagues and trustees who have served us so well over the years. The Trust is an organisation forged in the best traditions of solidarity and I am sure it will prosper. But I also know I am not leaving it entirely. CCELAT is a very welcome, and I suspect permanent, presence under my skin.

*\*Sandy Balfour was CEO of the Canon Collins Educational and Legal Assistance Trust from 2010–2015.*



# Finance Summary 2014

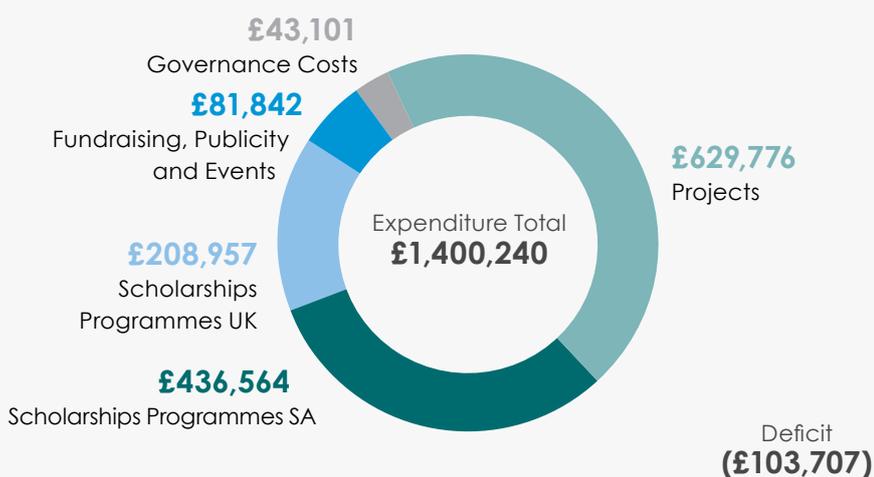


## In memory of

- Peter Baynes
- Elizabeth Bird
- Joyce Margaret Buchanan
- Roger Diski
- Terry Furlong
- Gerald Goldman
- John Graham
- Ethel de Keyser
- James Learmonth
- Ros Moger
- Geoff Parkyn
- Gabby Sanders
- Elizabeth Wilson

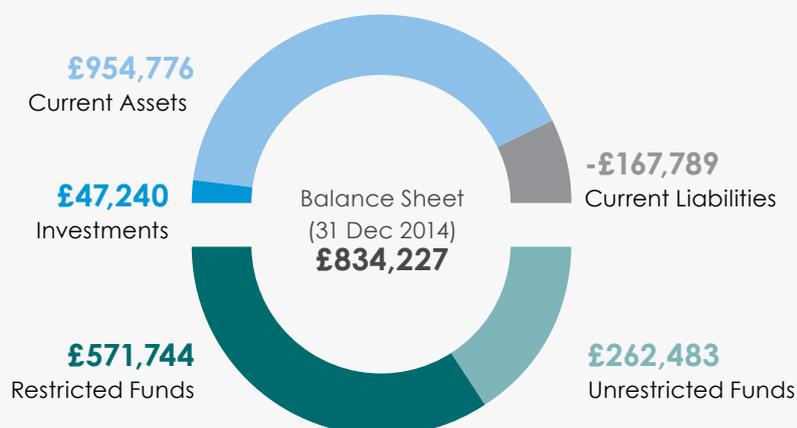
## Legacies

- Miss A J Mangold
- Miss Elizabeth Ransome Wilson
- Miss Patricia Radford
- Mrs M M L Pimm
- Ms Mora Julia Clark
- Ms Rachel Welbourn
- Ms Ruth Tomalin



## With special thanks to the following donors

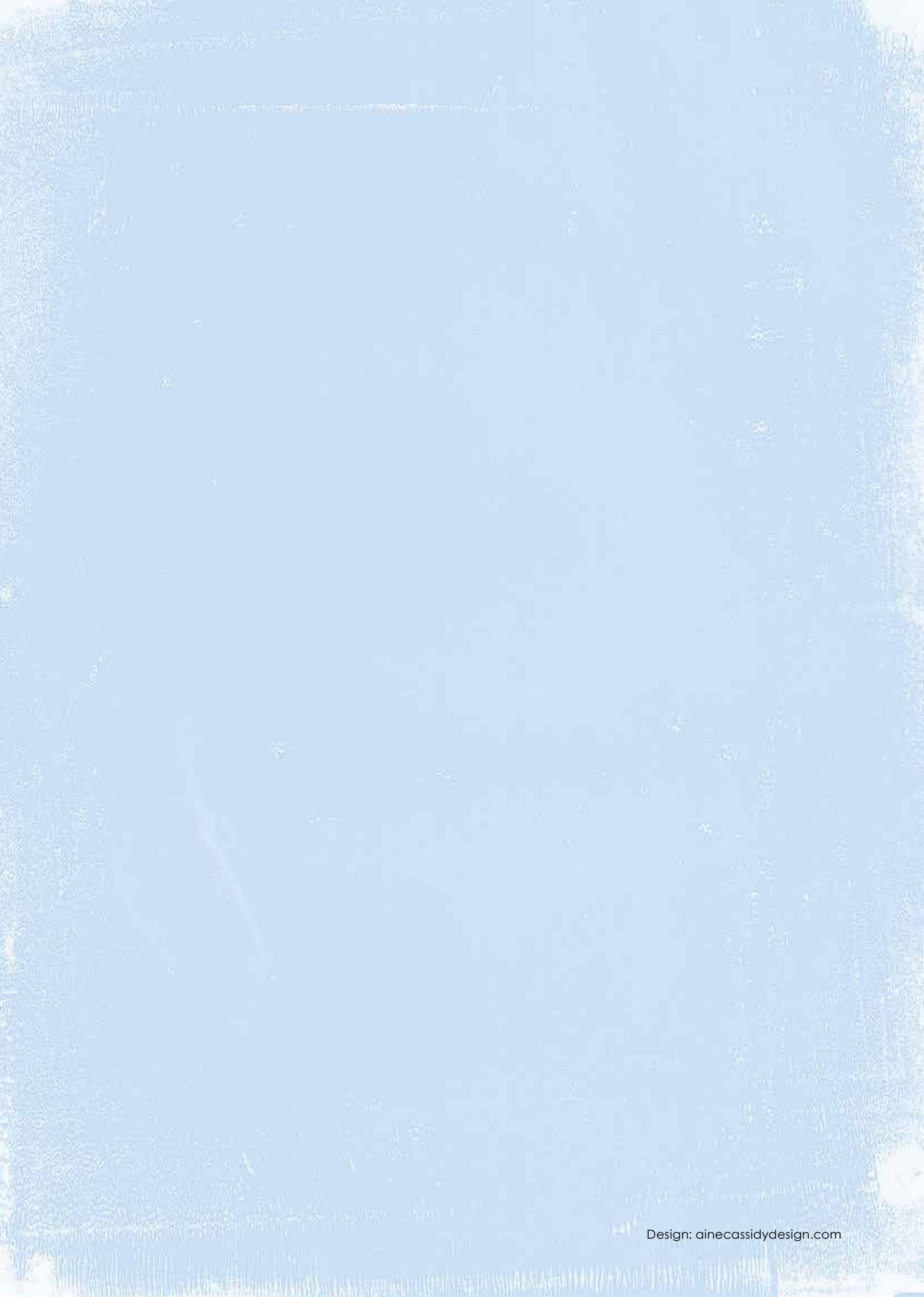
- Ben Anthony & Helen Brook
- Helen Beach
- Mr M E Bird
- Ms J A Coker
- The Gibbs Charitable Trust
- Jusaca Charitable Trust
- Joffe Charitable Trust
- Leigh Day & Co
- Prof Shula Marks OBE
- Mr Anthony E Phillips
- The Derek Raphael Charitable Trust
- The Eva Reckitt Trust
- The Alan & Babette Sainsbury Charitable Fund
- The Westcroft Trust
- Ms Cynthia Zukas

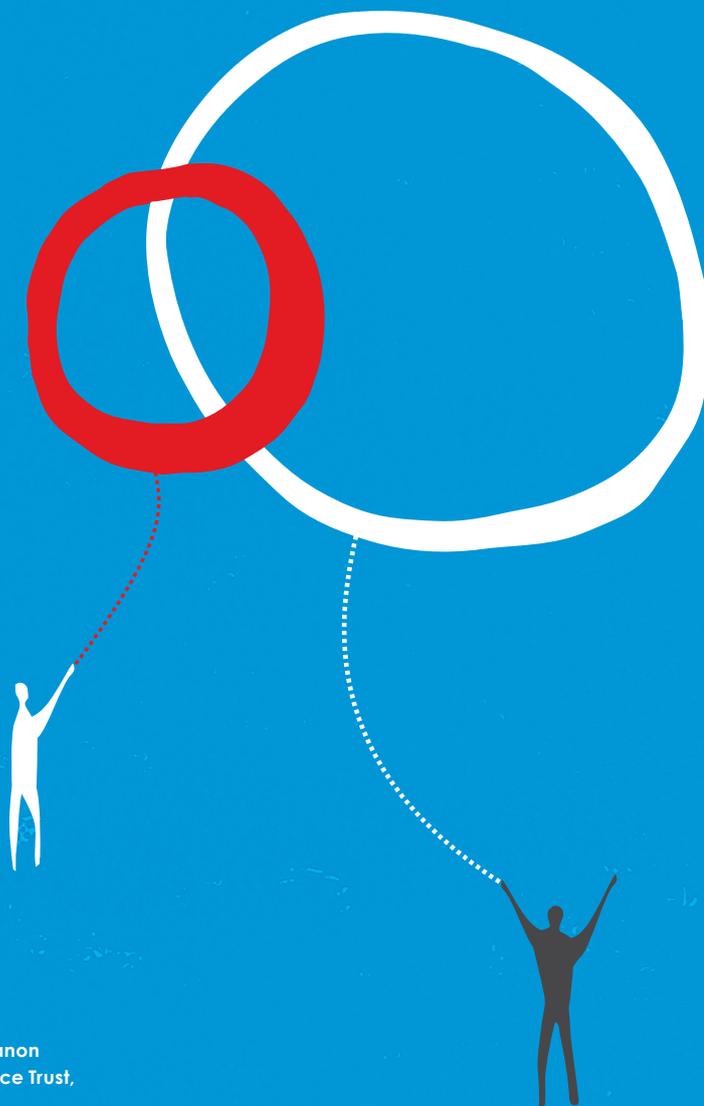


## 2015 London Marathon team

- Malcolm Drakes
- Harry Farlow
- Colin Gourlay
- Lisa Huggins
- Dumisani Kapanga
- Andy Watt
- Neil Williams

Copies of the full set of audited accounts and annual report may be obtained from the office or from the Charity Commission website.





## Find out more

[www.canoncollins.org.uk](http://www.canoncollins.org.uk)

 CanonCollinsTrust

 CanonCollins

Registered in England and Wales as Canon Collins Educational and Legal Assistance Trust, a company limited by guarantee (no. 04965891) and a charity (no. 1102028)

### Registered and head office:

22 The Ivories  
Northampton Street  
London, N1 2HY, UK  
Tel +44 (0) 20 7354 1462  
Fax +44 (0) 20 7359 4875  
[info@canoncollins.org.uk](mailto:info@canoncollins.org.uk)

### South Africa office (Registered: Section 21

Reg no. 2006/015109/08)  
PO Box 34692  
Groote Schuur 7937  
Cape Town  
South Africa  
Tel +27 (0) 10 500 2303