

**The
Eric Thompson
Charitable Trust**

**for organists
and organ music**

**Encouragement and support
for young organists**

Grants to aspiring professional musicians in financial need, including:
scholarships, summer schools, specialist lessons, composition

Welcome!

2015-16 has been a busy year of grant-making, events and performances, none of which would happen without our supporters. Heartfelt thanks to everyone - your generosity is greatly appreciated.

We hope you find this newsletter a useful and interesting update of our work. We're always interested to hear about anyone who needs our support or wishes to find out more, so if we can help in any way please do email info@OrganTrust.org or call + 44 (0)20 3143 3040. Do feel free to share this Newsletter with others!

Grants 2015 - 16

Since the start of 2015 The Eric Thompson Trust (ETT) has awarded over £10,000 in grants, enabling 14 young musicians to:

- Attend 'Oundle for Organists Abroad' courses in Paris and Amsterdam
- Undergo specialist tuition and masterclasses
- Carry out research projects

[Click here](#) to read more about recipients of ETT awards.

Awards 2015 - 16



David Loxley-Blount

The first recipient of The Eric Thompson Trust's new **Annual Award** for a project associated with organ study, performance, composing, recording or research is **David Loxley-Blount**. David's application to compose *DuoSet*, four pieces for organ each accompanied by one other instrument, is being premiered at this year's October Recital Series in St Lawrence Jewry, Guildhall, London (see below).

[Click here](#) to read his Press Release.

Congratulations to former Cambridge organ scholar **Jemima Stephenson** who went to the Netherlands on our prestigious **Flentrop Scholarship** in April 2016. Sponsored by [Flentrop Orgelbouw BV](#), Jemima visited Zaandam in Holland for an introduction to the craft of organ building and tuning, and for lessons with distinguished Dutch organists. The scholarship is open to organ students studying in the UK or Ireland who are under 25 at the time of taking up the scholarship. Highlights from Jemima's report will appear in our next Newsletter.

Recent & Forthcoming Events

Royal Festival Hall

Trustee **David Titterington**, Head of Organ Studies at the Royal Academy of Music, gave a superb recital to an audience of over 900 in the Royal Festival Hall (RFH) on 8th February this year. Many friends and supporters of the Trust came along and attended a reception to raise awareness of the ET Trust's work. David's eclectic programme included Carl Nielsen's massive *Commotio*, César Franck's majestic *Grande Pièce Symphonique* and the world première of *Chaconne* by Sally Beamish, all of which displayed the chameleon colours of the RFH's recently restored Harrison & Harrison organ.

Organists in Business

Saturday 18th June 2016 saw a most successful [Organists in Business](#) forum run by the Royal College of Organists in partnership with the Eric Thompson Trust. Trustees **David Titterington** and **Anne Marsden Thomas MBE** joined other speakers who presented topics such as publishing, teaching, performing, and even employment status and tax! Held at London's Dutch Church, it was a lively and informative event enjoyed by all the delegates.

October 2016 Organ Recitals - Tuesdays 1.00 to 1.45 pm



The Eric Thompson Trust weekly organ recitals are held every October at The Guild Church of **St Lawrence Jewry**, Guildhall, London. This year each recital will include a composition by David Loxley-Blount, beneficiary of the Trust's Annual Award. We are most grateful to him, the organists and instrumentalists for agreeing to take part.

[Click here](#) for details & to download the programme. *See you there!*

Arrivals & Departures

New Trustee



A very warm welcome to **Revd Canon Jeremy Davies**, former Precentor of Salisbury Cathedral, who joins our team of Trustees this autumn.

We wish him a happy association with the Trust, and look forward to his contributions.

Chairman



In early 2016 **Robin Jéquier** took over as Chairman of the Trust.

Based in Devizes, Wiltshire, he is a freelance fundraising consultant, a keen dog walker and a (very) amateur organist.

Robin has been an active Trustee since 2012.

Patrons

After many years of loyal service as Trustees we bade farewell to **David Wakefield** (Chairman until 2016) and to **Richard Fisher**. We're enormously grateful to them for everything they have done for the Trust, and delighted that they have accepted our invitation to be honorary Patrons. We look forward to their continued involvement.

Looking Ahead

2016-17 Annual Award



We recently selected the next Annual Award winner, **Richard Moore** who, with Ellie Lovegrove, is producing a recording of organ and trumpet music. They will use the organ at Portsmouth Cathedral for the recording.

A former Organ Scholar at St John's College Oxford, and St Paul's Cathedral, Richard later studied with David Graham at the Royal College of Music, London.

Fundraising

We recently launched the Trust's campaign to broaden its reach in the field of organ music and to raise further awareness of its mission. We are proud that we have started to:

- Increase the amount of grants we make each year.
- Fund our Annual Award of up to £5,000 p.a. to encourage specialist projects.

Good News

This year we successfully applied to the **Promenaders' Music Charities** to help fund our Annual Award. So far we have received £2,000 with the prospect of more to follow. *Thank you, Promenaders!*

To sustain these achievements our fundraising must continue!

Click here
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For more information:

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