



Media Release

Date: 4th November 2015

The UK's future leaders in Engineering honoured

The Arkwright Scholarships Trust has conducted its annual award of prestigious Scholarships to future leaders of the engineering profession. 397 sixth form Scholarships have been awarded at Ceremonies in London and Glasgow.

The Arkwright Engineering Scholarships act as a beacon to the most talented STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) students in UK schools and help to ensure that high-potential young people stay engaged in the STEM careers pipeline.

The new Arkwright Engineering Scholars received their awards at Ceremonies supported by the Institution of Engineering and Technology and the Rail Industry, spearheaded by Network Rail, Carillion and Colas Rail. This year's Scholars come from all educational backgrounds across England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands. A record 29% of the new Scholars were female.

The Scholarships were awarded to each new Scholar by Naomi Climer, President of the Institution of Engineering and Technology 2015/16 in London, and Hugh Gill, Chief Technology Officer of Touch Bionics in Glasgow.

Dr Martin Thomas CEng FIET, Chief Executive of the Arkwright Scholarships Trust said: *"I have been hugely impressed by the creativity, technical skills and leadership prowess of the young men and women receiving their Scholarships this year. It is well-documented that the country needs 100,000s of new engineers to take the economy and society forward. But some of these newly-trained people need to also act as outstanding leadership beacons within industry and academia. The Arkwright Engineering Scholarships are the first step on that road to achieving such a vital position within UK engineering. Congratulations to our 397 new Scholars!"*

Scholars are selected for their potential as future engineering leaders by assessing their academic, practical and leadership skills in STEM. These are gauged through a rigorous selection process comprising: an assessed application form including a teacher's reference; a two-hour aptitude exam; and a university-based interview. The Scholarships support students through their sixth form studies and encourage them into top universities or higher apprenticeships.

The Scholarships consist of an annual financial award to each Scholar and to his/her school, and enrichment activities such as mentoring and industry visits that enhance a Scholar's experience of engineering in a real-world context. Arkwright Engineering Scholarships are highly regarded by university admission tutors and industry recruiters and are one of the most prestigious accolades that a talented sixth form student can receive.

The Scholarships are supported by nearly 200 different sponsoring organisations: commercial and industrial companies, industry regulators, universities, professional institutions, trade associations, training boards, Worshipful Companies, all three armed services, charitable trusts, personal donors and schools.

Three undergraduate Scholarships, each of £12,000 in value, were also awarded at the Ceremonies generously funded by The Reece Foundation and The Eranda Foundation.

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Notes for Editors

Hi-res photos are available upon request.

1. About the Arkwright Scholarships Trust

The Arkwright Scholarships Trust is an independent charity that identifies, inspires and nurtures future leaders in engineering and technical (as opposed to aesthetic) design.

Arkwright tackles its aim by awarding Engineering Scholarships through rigorous selection to high-calibre students from all educational backgrounds to support them through their 'A' levels and Scottish Advanced Highers.

Since 1991, Arkwright has awarded 4113 Engineering Scholarships.

Arkwright also awards a small number of Undergraduate Scholarships each year, available exclusively to existing Arkwright 'A' level Scholars.

2. For more information please contact Jayne Beddows, Head of Operations, jbeddows@arkwright.org.uk , tel: 01926 333210, www.arkwright.org.uk

The 397 new Scholars and ~1400 guests heard from inspiring engineering speakers during the Ceremonies in London....



...and Glasgow:



A huge amount of engineering achievement and potential was on show as the 397 new Arkwright Engineering Scholars received their Scholarships:



New Scholars and their parents networked with fellow Scholars, their Sponsor and VIPs such as the IET Young Female Engineer of the Year, shown below at the Glasgow Ceremony:

