**The Neil Glyn Stocker Memorial Scholarship**

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**History and background of the Scholarship**

Neil Stocker was a master craftsman who served with the South Island Organ company for 43 years becoming the firm’s factory foreman. Neil was the company’s first apprentice, coming straight from the Timaru Technical College in 1968. He was the man staff went to when they wanted to know how to do something or where to find something. Neil Stocker was one of three men to die when the Durham St Methodist Church collapsed in the Christchurch earthquake on 22 February 2011. They were part of a team of eight removing a pipe organ from the Church which had been badly damaged in the
4 September quake the previous year. His death robbed the company of a much loved skilled craftsman. Neil Stocker had a great love of the outdoors, belonging to a tramping club and a four-wheel-drive club. He also had a love of motorbikes and was a skilled rider.

The Scholarship recognises the great contribution Neil Stocker made to organ building in his journey from being a model apprentice to a master craftsman.

**Purpose of the Scholarship**

To provide support for organ builders who wish to further their knowledge and skills.

**Scholarship components**

The Scholarship provides funding to assist with in-depth study of organ building and may be made up of the following components. The timing of these may be flexible within a period of two years.

1. To work with organ builders in order to learn techniques of organ building both traditional and innovative.
2. To study organs of interest to gain a historical perspective on the organ and its development.
3. To assist with an in-depth study of the applicant’s choice of an aspect of organ building with the aim of submitting an article for publication in ISO publications or similar periodicals.
4. The Scholarship may cover international air travel costs and assistance with accommodation during the term of the scholarship.

**Number of Scholarships offered**

Normally a single Scholarship will be offered bi-ennially.

**Total value of the Scholarship:**

Up to $4000 over the agreed tenure of the Scholarship as determined by the Selection Panel.

The Scholarship funds will be paid, whenever possible, direct to the relevant parties in the holder’s activities.

**Tenure of the Scholarship**

Up to two years.

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**Selection criteria**

The Scholarship is open to all organ builders in New Zealand who are employed by an organ-building company, and who are New Zealand citizens and permanent residents.

The Scholarship will continue to be offered in future years. If in any one year there is no acceptable applicant, it may be offered again the following year.

**Selection Panel**

A Selection Panel will be appointed by the Council of The New Zealand Organ Preservation Trust.

(The present appointees are John Dodgson, Charles Sullivan and Roy Tankersley..)

**Closing date for applications**

31 January following the year in which the Scholarship is offered.

**How do students apply?**

Applicants are required to submit:

1. A completed application form, which is available from the NZOPT website or from the NZOPT Secretary (addresses are listed below).
2. A full CV.
3. A 1 – 2 page personal statement outlining the applicant’s future plans. This statement should include the applicant’s career goals and how this Scholarship would help to achieve those goals.
4. One confidential professional, and one confidential personal reference, that should be sent separately by the referees direct to the NZOPT Secretary. The names and contact details of these referees should be provided in your application.
5. Applicants may be required to undertake an interview with the Selection Panel.

**When do the applicants learn of the decision?**

In late February.

**What conditions are attached to acceptance of the Scholarship?**

The winner of the Award will be expected to undertake all the components of the Scholarship detailed above.

**For an application form and more information about the Scholarship contact:**

Charles Sullivan

Secretary

New Zealand Organ Preservation Trust Inc

1 Gloucester Street, Wilton, Wellington 6012. Email: charles@capitalresearch.co.nz

The NZOPT website, at: www.nzopt.org.nz .Click on the tab: “NSMF Scholarship”

*Dated: 9 November 2013*