

Lascelles Bursary Awards 2023

As in previous years, in 2023 we again advertised Bursaries of up to £500 for talented local young musicians to contribute towards tuition costs or instrument/equipment purchase. This year we received 14 applications. Two Trustees met to evaluate the applications and awarded 10 bursaries, totalling over £4,000. The awardees have a wide variety of musical interests and are learning many different instruments, including percussion, Indian vocal music and saxophone, as well as more traditional classical orchestral instruments. We are well aware of the considerable costs of enabling children and young people to pursue musical interests and are delighted to be able to help where we can.

We were also delighted that Mark Dangerfield, a former Bursary awardee, performed classical guitar interludes at our Amersham A Cappella concert in our Spring 2023 concert series.

Christine Norton, Trustee

Friends' report 2023

Thanks to our loyal Friends whom we continue to see booking early to secure their seats and welcome to new Friends.

After many years of support Gill Walley is stepping down as Friends secretary. Many thanks to Gill for her years of enthusiasm and Claire Jenkin will now take over as Friends Secretary.

It was great to see Friends at the reception which we hosted before the orchestral concert in April. As this seemed to work well, we will be running the Friends' Reception in November, straight after the 4pm concert (approximately 6-6.30pm start) so that Friends attending either concert can attend. We hope to see you there!

In addition we have plans for a special Ruby Friends membership **for one year only** to celebrate and acknowledge the 40 years the festival has been running and plan to have a Friends "Birthday party" event in summer 2024. More details to follow.

Claire Jenkin, Trustee