



South Wales Institute of Engineers  
Educational Trust 2007

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## Professor William Norman Thomas CBE 1885-1960

### WILLIAM NORMAN THOMAS TRAVEL AWARD

1. The South Wales Institute of Engineers Educational Trust (SWIEET) offers awards normally up to £500 each, to enable members of an Institute to visit a foreign centre in order to study any scientific or technological problem arising in connection with the applicant's professional work. An award may be used to cover the cost of a small project, or to supplement an award from another source which is not sufficient to cover the whole cost of a major project.
2. To be eligible for an award the applicant must have been a member of an Institute normally for a period not less than two years. Applications can be submitted at any time.
3. An applicant should state the nature of the problem, give an estimate of the cost and state whether any other source is making an award for the project, and if so, the amount.
4. If funds are available no single award will normally exceed £500.
5. Upon conclusion of the project the awardees will be required to make a short report to SWIEET.
6. Be prepared to visit at least three schools to promote Engineering and Science (By prior arrangement with the school).
7. Normally two thirds of the award will be paid in advance; the date for this should be specified by the awardees. The balance of one third will be paid on receipt of the report.

## Guidance Notes for SWIEET Awardees Attending Schools

These notes are intended as guidance to recipients of SWIEET Awards, setting out the requirements of the Trust.

- 1 Upon receiving an Award, a recipient will be expected to undertake three visits to schools to enhance the understanding of engineering in schools
- 2 We would be looking, initially, at the 12-16 age groups, prior to sixth form study and age 16 subject decisions
- 3 It is the recipients responsibility to identify the schools for visits, often their "old school" or neighbourhood school
- 4 The SWIEET Office will help with arrangements and introduction to schools, if needed
- 5 To help with this process, the SWIEET Office has explanatory and promotional material that the recipient can use in schools
- 6 Upon completion of the visits, the recipient would produce a short report (250 – 500 words) outlining their experiences, mentioning the number of schoolchildren and teachers seen and any follow up contacts that they would recommend
- 7 The messages expected to be put across are:-

Engineering, in all its disciplines represent a good and worthwhile career

It is an option not promoted strongly, but there are massive opportunities to be enjoyed

The recipient, from their personal history, to explain how they got into engineering

The appropriate subject choices at school, and the times they need to be taken

Subsequent experience in Colleges and Universities

The opportunities available to young people (best described by those a few years ahead of them) in engineering

The median salaries for young engineers are catching up rapidly with the previously assumed careers of law and accountancy

SWIEET exists to help and encourage young people, so get into contact with us