



# Arkwright

SCHOLARSHIPS

## CASE STUDY

Robert Fryers

### Exploring the Universe

I've always had a passion for making things and, to me, that's what the Arkwright Scholarship is all about. It's about giving young engineers the confidence and some resources to go out and build something amazing. I was fortunate enough to be awarded an Arkwright Scholarship to use for my 6th form studies in Design & Technology, an opportunity that I hope I made good use of by developing an avionics system for a solar powered, remotely controlled aircraft in the first year and a working model magnetic levitation vehicle in the second.

Of course, the benefits of the Arkwright Scholarship don't stop there. The prestige of the award, the respect that universities have for the selection procedure and the experience you gain in going through it, can make a huge difference. It certainly helped me enormously both when I applied to university and later when I was awarded an Engineering Leadership Award by the Royal Academy of Engineering.

During my time at university I co-founded CU Spaceflight - the world's only space programme to be entirely run by students. The ambitious aim is to use clever engineering to launch a re-usable rocket into space for less than £1000.

I'm now working for The Technology Partnership, near Cambridge,



Robert's view of the universe during his time with CU Spaceflight

developing medical systems. It's an exciting and varied job - I've worked on projects designing surgical tools, medical implants, diagnostic systems, inhalers and electronic injection systems to name just a few. To do this I've had to use and expand my engineering knowledge in every direction; mechanics, electronics, fluid dynamics, programming, materials, manufacturing, the list goes on. The job involves identifying and taking on challenging engineering problems, coming up with creative solutions and then carrying them through development and into production. I simply can't imagine a better way for talented, creative people with a good technical background (like Arkwright Scholars!) to make a living. It's particularly rewarding to know that my work will help to improve thousands or even millions of lives around the world. I'm working to develop myself both in technical terms as I work towards CEng status with the IET, in project leadership and in business development.

The Arkwright Scholarship was a key step in getting me to where I am today, and I'm extremely grateful to the Arkwright Trust for the important work that they do and the opportunity that they gave me.

**Scholarship Awarded:**  
2003 – 2005

**Sponsor:**

DG Marshall of Cambridge Trust

**Current position:**

Consultant Engineer with The Technology Partnership (2009 to present)

**University:**

Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Cambridge University (2005-2009)

**School:**

The Perse School

**A-Levels:**

Maths, Physics, Design & Technology, History

**The Arkwright Scholarships Trust**

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**“There is a great need, and exciting opportunities, for world-class engineers. The Arkwright Scholarships help us find the talent we must have to compete internationally.”**

Peter Taylor, Managing Director,  
TTP Group plc