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Romsey



[Online Profile](#)

## SELECTION OF ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE

**Havant Chamber Orchestra,**  
2020 - Ongoing

**Nova Foresta Classical  
Players,** 2018 - Ongoing

**Basingstoke Symphony  
Orchestra,** 2017 - Ongoing

**Sinfonia of Arun,** 2017 -  
Ongoing

**Magna Sinfonia,** 2017-2021

**City of Southampton  
Orchestra,** 2017-2020

**Havant Symphony Orchestra,**  
2017-2020

**Winchester Symphony  
Orchestra,** 2016-2020

**Welsh Philharmonic  
Orchestra,** 1986-1989

**BBC Welsh Concert  
Orchestra,** 1989

**National Youth Orchestra of  
Wales,** 1984-1990

# ROBERT ECKETT HOLMES

## EDUCATION AND MENTORS

**Martin Gatt (LPO, LSO, ECO)**

2015 - Present

**Peter Davies (WNO)**

1989-1994

**Martin Bowen (BBC NOW)**

1986-1993

**Stefan de Haan (LSO)**

1988-1992

**Cecil James (LSO)**

1987-1988

**Catherine Phillips-Millar (Berkshire  
Maestros)**

1983-1989

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Highly competent bassoonist with over 30 years of experience in the symphony orchestra, chamber and solo environments. Having started playing the bassoon at the age of 12, I quickly progressed through the county youth orchestras to attain the principal bassoon seat in the National Youth Orchestra of Wales. Initially having freelanced in South Wales and following on from a career as an Air Traffic Controller, I have brought my bassoon playing to the south coast of England where I now works as a professional freelancer. Over 40 years of playing the instrument have allowed me to gain a vast knowledge of both core and extended principal bassoon repertoire. I am an experienced section manager, leader and coach and a very knowledgeable teacher.

I am the founder of "Wessex Winds" - an initiative to bring the highest standards of Wind Ensemble playing to the area.

In addition, I am also a keen bassoon reed maker and adjuster - a skill that I teach to all my students early in their studies of the instrument.

## PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

**The Test Trio - Bassoon**

2018 - present

**Nova Foresta Classical Players**

2018 - Present

**Freelance Bassoonist**

2017 - Present

**Notos Wind Trio**

2017 - Present

**Founder - "Wessex Winds"**

*A collection of Wind Trio, Quartet, Quintet, Sextet and Octet groups.*

2023 - Present

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## SELECTION OF PERFORMED ORCHESTRAL WORKS

- Shostakovic Symphonies Nrs 3,5,7,11 and 14 (1st bn.)
- Rimsky Korsakov Scheherazade (1st bn.)
- Tchaikovsky Symphonies 1 - 6 (1st bn.)
- Beethoven Symphonies 1-9 (1st bn.)
- Verdi's Requiem (1st bn.)
- Ravel Piano Convento in G minor (2nd bn.)
- Malcolm Arnold Symphony No.2 (1st bn.)
- Donizetti "Una furtiva lagrima" from L'elisir d'amore (1st bn.)
- Mozart Marriage of Figaro (Complete Opera)
- Mahler Symphonies 1-9 (1st and 2nd bn.)
- Stravinsky Firebird (1st bn.)
- Tchaikovsky Romeo and Juliet Overture (1st bn.)
- Bernstein West Side Story (complete) (1st bn.)
- Orff Carmina Burana (1st bn.)

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## TEACHING POSITIONS

Visiting Bassoon Tutor, Salisbury Area Young Musicians (2018 - )

Visiting Bassoon Tutor, St. Swithun's School, Winchester (2020 - )

Visiting Bassoon Tutor, Twyford Preparatory School, Twyford (2022 - )

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## OTHER EXPERIENCE

**Musician's Union Member**

**Public Liability Insurance**

**Air Traffic Controller (NATS)**  
(1993 - 2017)

**Enhanced DBS**

**Duke of Edinburgh**  
Leader and Assessor

**First Aider**

**Additional Needs Course**

**Diploma in Management Studies**