

# Eisteddfod begins with 'captivating' piano recitals

CAPTIVATING piano performances sounded a 'wonderful start' to this year's Eisteddfod.

Elizabeth College pupil Francois Cloete, 13, was yesterday crowned winner of the Edwin Le Messurier Trophy, in the under 14 piano class, with a performance of Shui Cao Liu that impressed the adjudicator Peter Hewitt.

Francois was given a highly commended grade and so was Phoebe Crook for her performance of To a Wild Rose.

The other four pianists, Jacob Wright, Amelia Hudson, Evie Hart and Henry Partington, were all given a grade of commended.

Francois, who started practising his piece from September, said the best part of performing was 'getting into the music'.

'It does not matter what you are playing or what happens, just that you really enjoy it and get into it,' he said.

Mr Hewitt, who gave praise and guidance to all the performers, said the piece by Francois was very fluent and had nice balance between the hands.

'This was a performance that drew me in,' he said.

Phoebe Crook, 13, of Ladies' College, also praised his performance.

'I thought when he was playing, he was so good and I want to be like him when I play,' she said.

Phoebe said she also enjoyed getting drawn into the music while playing.

'It is a really nice feeling when you do get it right,' she said.

■ Eisteddfod results will appear daily in the Guernsey Press from Saturday with two special supplements selected from the best of the festival.



Eisteddfod entrant Elizabeth College pupil Francois Cloete won the Edwin Le Messurier Trophy yesterday.

(Picture by Peter Frankland, 13781823)