



**Stephanie Chanfreau**  
2017 Nuffield France Scholar



**My family roots are in the south of France. I am dedicated to developing the French tea industry. We have a farm south of Toulouse but it is not suitable for tea so I am looking for land to rent or buy south of Bordeaux for my tea plantation.**

The week was a very rich experience. We talked about a huge range of topics related to agriculture, Brazil and Nuffield. It was sometimes hard for us as French because English is not our mother tongue so we have to be checking our brain all the time. It was a great challenge. Sometimes I think it was too full but as tomorrow will be the end I think maybe I want a little bit more.

Another thing I wanted to say was maybe my project was a bit unusual and it was a strange feeling that even with a strange subject to be embraced by the network, embraced by Nuffield. It is nice to be feeling like I am part of a family here.

### **What was a favourite part?**

I like the routine to have one daily value every day and to have a different country introducing the speakers each day. When it was the day for France I had the feeling to become part of the network. It was not just a polite way to introduce the speakers – I was really in charge of my speaker and I really appreciated talking with him and the opportunity to speak with all of Nuffield.

My best part was maybe the session about the environment because I think it is a big challenge for us. I also liked the feedback from the speakers on succession and family business models.

### **What will you do when you get back home?**

Now I am on my own race – I have 18 months and I want to take time to really plan my study. I also want to speak about succession with my family. This question was a little bit blocked and this conference has facilitated my way to speak about that.

The third thing I really want to do is, we are not a strong Nuffield country and I think it is a pity because we have a lot to share with all the other Nuffield countries. I want to help change this.

### **What is your Nuffield study topic?**

My Nuffield research is on how we can adapt tea plantations to temperate areas. It will be divided in two parts – the first is to acquire the knowledge of making tea in traditional tea producing countries because if I want to make a high quality I need to be inspired by these countries – China and Japan mainly. The second part is to visit farms in new tea producing countries like the New Zealand, I hope the USA and the UK.

I will then make a diagnosis of these farming systems and to understand the difficulties they face in order to design a tea plantation with not a lot of difficulties.

### **What would you tell others thinking about applying for a Nuffield Scholarship?**

Just do it! It really opened me to another world of international farmers. Even with everyone involved in really different farming it is just crazy how we have the same values in common.

***A Nuffield Scholarship is an intensive preparation for farmers and agri-professionals who are committed to life-long learning and to promoting excellence in all aspects of agricultural production, distribution, management and communication.***