

International

Nuffield News

April 2009



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Jottings from the INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMAN

This newsletter contains both positive and sad news.

The passing of Steven Bullock, 1976 scholar and immediate past Director of the UK trust, is a great loss to Nuffield, and to the many scholars who became close friends. Our sincerest sympathies to Gill and family (see obituary in this issue).

A report on the 4th Contemporary Scholars Conference (CSC) also appears in this issue. This was an outstanding success and thanks go to John Stones for putting the programme together, with help from Jim Geltch.

The programme tests new scholars, both intellectually and emotionally, draws them to a wider view of agriculture and its place in society, and exposes them to issues that are determining the future of their industry. I can say, without fear of dissent from the 2009 scholars, that this



Peter Nixon, International Chairman

week made a considerable impression on their thinking, gave a glimpse of the road ahead - and new friends.

Planning is underway for next year's CSC which will be based in Washington DC and Pennsylvania. The opportunities for new Nuffield Scholars continue to expand!

Our thanks go to Julie Mate (1987 UK Scholar) who has agreed to re-format and manage the layout and production of this newsletter for us.

Peter Nixon, International Chairman
peter@nixonfarming.com.au

News in brief...

■ Departed Scholars

It is with great sadness that we announce the deaths of the following Scholars:

Stephen Bullock - UK NSch 1976
Don Hoskins - Australia NSch 1971
J S Maxtone Graham - UK NSch 1959
The Hon Neil McNeil - Australia NSch 1951
Andrew Peddie - UK NSch 1949
Andrew Wallis - UK NSch 1993

■ Congratulations

- OBE for **Professor Wynne Jones**, former chairman of the UK NFST.
- Order of Australia for services to horticulture goes to **Bill Casimaty** (NSch 1967).
- Former UK Chairman, **John Alvis**, appointed High Sheriff for Somerset.
- Open Farm Sunday pioneer, **Ian Pigott**, wins Countryside Alliance 'Rural Hero' title.
- **Ben Todhunter** (NZ NSch 2006) and **Donna Field** win the PGG Wrightson Land and Life Award in the 2009 Canterbury Ballance Farm Environment Awards.

2009 Nuffield Calendar

Date	Event	Venue	Host
28-30 April	Dairy Study Group	Wiltshire	Nuffield UK
29 April	South West Group	Pineapple Business Park, Dorset	Nuffield UK
1 June - 12 July	Global Focus Programme June/July group	Philippines, China, Mississippi, Canada, Ireland, France	Nuffield Australia
5-8 June	Poultry Group Spring Wkend	West Midlands	Nuffield UK
10-11 June	Cereals 2009	Vine Farm, Wendy	Nuffield UK
18-20 June	Arable Study Group	Stratford on Avon	Nuffield UK
26-28 June	Beckett Scholars	Herefordshire	Nuffield UK
27 July - 7 August	State selections	All Australian States	Australian State Assocs
31 August - 1 Sept	National selection	Melbourne	Nuffield Australia
16-17 Sept	Dairy Event 2009	Stoneleigh Park	Nuffield UK
24-26 Sept	Horticultural Study Group	Kent	Nuffield UK
18-19 Sept	Media & Comms Group	Suffolk	Nuffield UK
22 - 25 October	Spring Tour	Sydney	NSW Nuffield
23 October	Scholar presentations	Sydney	Nuffield Australia
23 October	Nuffield Award Dinner	Sydney	Nuffield Australia
30-31 October	2009 Winter Conference	Chester, Cheshire	Nuffield UK
28 Feb - 5 March 2010	CSC	Washington DC, USA	Nuffield International
27 Feb - 5 March 2011	CSC	Auckland, New Zealand	Nuffield International
25 Sept - 8 Oct 2011	International Conference	Adelaide and Perth, Australia	Nuffield Australia

For further information, please visit www.nuffieldinternational.org

Around the globe



Australia

Nuffield Australia has had an exciting few months. We currently have our 2009 February departure Scholars completing their **Global Focus** programme. They have visited New Zealand, the UK, Europe, Brazil, Mexico, and the US in six weeks. A fantastic snapshot of world agriculture.

A particular mention of the **Contemporary Scholars Conference** in the UK, where the Scholars from 'down under' meet and network with scholars from the northern hemisphere. A great programme with some fantastic experiences for all involved.

In early March, we had nine of our past Scholars attend the **Outlook Conference** in Canberra. Outlook is the conference that presents agricultural forecasts for the next 12 months, both domestically and internationally, as well as discussing topical issues such as water usage and climate change.

This was the first time that Nuffield

Australia has attended in an official capacity. It was an honour for me to be able to speak at the conference on the topic of productivity, and also to promote Nuffield and what it is attempting to achieve in front of an audience of over 700.

Finally, in late April Nuffield Australia is holding a **Strategic Review Workshop** in Cairns, as part of the traditional Autumn Tour. The objective is to set the direction for Nuffield Australia for the next five to ten years. This is in tune with previous planning; the most notable being the Miller Inall external review of the then 'Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars Association', completed in 1999.

Nuffield Australia has achieved many of the objectives set out in the review and is now ready to take the next step. We look



2009 departure Scholars visit the Palace of Westminster, London.

forward to the results of the workshop and implementing our new direction in 2009.

David Brownhill, Chairman
gowrieoffice@bigpond.com

United Kingdom

2009 Awards

Despite a difficult summer and autumn, applications for the 2009 Awards held up well and exceeded expectations. They were all of a very high standard giving the Selection Committee a difficult task to draw up a shortlist of candidates for interview. Thanks go to all those who encouraged and supported candidates and helped prepare them for their interviews.

In total 23 new applicants were awarded. Carrying the flag for British food and farming, their study topics include:

- Agricultural commodities in a changing world
- Investigating markets for goat meat potential
- Setting up secondary dairy units and the sharing of labour and resources

- 2012 EU ban on conventional cage egg production and its effect
- Straw bale use in the construction industry
- Marketing advantages for beef and lamb high welfare systems
- Slow Food Movement
- Recruitment, training and retention of quality staff in the pig industry

It is reassuring to see once again the enthusiasm and drive of so many younger people in the industry. Those who did not succeed will undoubtedly be disappointed, but will be encouraged to apply again.

New sponsors

The MacRobert Trust has confirmed its support for a dedicated Nuffield Award for Scotland for a three year term starting in 2010. This is a major success for Nuffield Scotland Chairman, Sarah Mackie, and her fellow Scholars who have worked so hard to raise the profile of Nuffield in Scotland.

The Gordon Newman Travel Fund is to provide a generous donation towards the 2009 Scholar, Alistair House, who received a Nuffield Trust Award for his study into maize. The fund was established on the retirement of the late Gordon Newman from the Maize Growers Association.

The Trust is indebted to **Jill Willows NSch** who offered a new 'general award' for 2009.

The Award was won by Rob Bebbington who will study 'Collaborative farming within the arable sector'.

Successes

Professor Wynne Jones, former chairman of the Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust, has received an OBE in the 2009 New Years Honours list in recognition of his services to agricultural higher education.



Wynne has been at Harper Adams University College for 21 years and Principal for 13 years. His retirement from the college was announced in March.

Ian Pigott has scooped the 2009 Countryside Alliance 'Rural Hero' Award for his pioneering work on Open Farm Sunday; the national event that opens the countryside up to a whole new audience and promotes farming in an accessible way.

Ian's simple idea of getting farmers to 'recognise the importance and significance of reconnecting with consumers' has fast become a summer staple. In 2008, over 400 farmers held events on the third annual Farm Sunday.

Innovation and leadership in social media has earned 2007 Scholar, **Heather Gorrige**, the 2008 Global Dell Small Business Excellence Award. By using social media to connect with current customers and reach



2009 UK Nuffield Scholars.

new ones, Heather won her Herefordshire-based natural gardening mail order company, Wiggly Wiggles (www.wigglywiggles.co.uk), the title and \$50,000 prize money to boot.

Congratulations are due also to past Chairman, **John Alvis**, on his appointment as High Sheriff for the County of Somerset. He was officially sworn in at Wells cathedral in March. The High Sheriff is the Queen's representative in the county for all matters relating to the justice system and law and order, and the role has existed for at least 1,000 years.



John and Pauline Alvis

Tim and Marnie Dobson's high profile promotional activities for their new Goat meat enterprise have already led to an appearance on 'Kill it. Cook it. Eat it.' in 2008. It was followed by their appearance in the goody bag on Ready Steady Cook on BBC2 in December. Tim was also a finalist for the 2008 Nuffield Steven & Gill Bullock Award.

The appliance of NEW SCIENCE to transform the UK agri-food sector



2009 FRANK ARDEN MEMORIAL AWARD

Nuffield UK is pleased to announce a special award offering leading individuals the chance to carry out a unique study into new science and frontier technologies which have the potential to transform the UK agriculture and food sectors.

New science and innovative technologies are being developed at all levels of the food supply chain - from ultra rapid genetic analysis and elite genotypes at the farm level, right through to novel, high value food products to address society's nutritional challenges. But many of these opportunities remain untapped or underutilised.

The aim of this special award - to study 'The appliance of new science and frontier technologies to transform the UK agriculture and food sectors' - is to identify the technologies which could prove of most value, and explore how best industry can access and apply them to both differentiate and significantly improve the competitiveness of the UK agri-food sectors.

"We believe this new study will be of immense importance in bridging the gap between the laboratory and the field or factory, and in identifying new relationships across the UK food chain," says John Stones, NFST Director. "There is also much to gain from bringing together the country's strengths in agri-food science in the context of our own unique environment and land resource, and our own challenges of sustainability and food security."

This special award is generously sponsored by the **Frank Arden Memorial Fund** established specifically to support studies that address key topics of importance to the UK agricultural industry.

The award is open to UK residents working in the fields of food, farming and forestry. There is no age limit. Applicants are required to submit a proposal outlining their scheme of study, together with how they intend to act on their findings. (Submissions should be presented on one side of A4.)

The closing date for applications is 22nd May 2009, with interviews for shortlisted candidates to be held in June 2009.

Previous Frank Arden studies include: 'The image of British Agriculture' - **Guy Smith NSch**; 'Maintaining long-term incomes for rural land based businesses' - **Tony Pexton NSch**; 'Expansion of the EU' - **Will Taylor**; 'The carbon footprint of British agriculture' - **Prof Chris Pollock, Julian Morgan, Jiggy Lloyd NSch and David Hugill NSch**.

Further information from John Stones, NFST Director
Tel. 01858 555544 Email. nuffieldscholar@aol.com

New Zealand

In February we hosted the first stage of the Australian **Global Focus Tour**. This was hosted in the Waikato and organised by Jenni Vernon a 1994 Scholar. The tour focused nutrient management in the Waikato River catchments.

The New Zealand Scholars then travelled to London to attend the **Contemporary Scholars Conference** and the feedback to date has been extremely positive - great friends made, contacts for research secured and an overwhelming understanding of the privilege offered by the Nuffield Scholarship.

The New Zealand Trustees will meet in May and begin the planning for hosting the 2011 CSC.

Our own **New Zealand Biennial Conference** is to be held in Gisborne in May 2010. This is an interesting part of New Zealand and will focus on sheep and beef production, with a strong look at the Maori Incorporation business model and the role it plays within the Gisborne District. Any Scholar is more than welcome to join us.

Barbie Barton, Secretariat
nuffield@fedfarm.org.nz / rogbar@xtra.co.nz



2009 NZ Scholars - Alec Jack, Mandi McLeod and Greg Pardoe

Canada

In late November, Nuffield Canada held its annual meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and appointed **Barry Cudmore** as Chairman and **Barb Coté** as Vice-Chair.

A strategic planning committee has now been established by the association to develop an action plan for Nuffield Canada. The goals of the plan will be to increase the number of Scholars and seek out permanent sponsorship.

Looking ahead, in June 2009 Manitoba will host the **Summer Global Focus Tour** and the 2009 annual meeting for Nuffield Canada will be held in Ottawa, Ontario.

Looking further ahead to January 2010, Jack Rigby is also organizing a tour for **Nuffield Alumni** to visit Argentina, Peru and Chile.

Barry Cudmore, Chairman
barrycudmore@pei.sympatico.ca

Zimbabwe

Scholar contacts restored

Contact has been established with **Faye Sandwith**, Honorary Secretary of the **Zimbabwe Scholars Association**. This has led to renewing the contact details of 13 Zimbabwean Scholars who had been lost to our database.

Faye has been Secretary since returning to the fold after 16 years of sanctions against Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. She can be contacted on Tel. (263) 04 481821, Email. faye@hortico.co.zw.

Land grab continues

Zimbabwe's remaining farmers have accused Morgan Tsvangirai's new unity government of failing to act to stop a fresh wave of farm invasion.

In early April, John Worsley-Warwick, who runs a hotline for targeted farmers, reported a two-pronged assault on white farms. Magistrates had charged at least 50 farmers with illegal occupation, while another 77 reported some form of invasion. On 1st April, the Supreme Court also endorsed a series of eviction orders against farmers, destroying the last vestiges of hope of legal relief.

CONTEMPORARY SCHOLARS CONFERENCE

28th February – 7th March 2009

The 4th international CSC brought 2009 Scholars together from all parts of the globe to look at the key issues facing farming. The Conference highlighted the differences between northern and southern hemisphere agriculture as well as subsidised versus unsubsidised systems.

In the UK

The London programme was highlighted by a private tour of the Houses of Parliament on 2nd March, followed by a meeting with members of the House of Lords during a session hosted by Lady Hazel Byford.

Later that day, Scholars were guests of the New Zealand High Commission, at New Zealand House, where presentations and discussion on global agricultural trade ensued on the 15th floor penthouse suite overlooking Westminster.

A drinks reception, hosted by The New Zealand Ambassador, followed at which notable figures from farming, related industry and government - including 10 embassy representatives - were present. Also in attendance was HRH The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of the Nuffield Foundation, who moved a vote of thanks on Nuffield's behalf.

A constant theme throughout the CSC was climate change and how agriculture across the world is poised to tackle it. Graham Sinden of the Carbon Trust explained his organisation's approach to carbon footprint labelling in the UK and the discrepancies in how it's measured.

The talk at Australia House produced a heated debate, especially as several of this year's Scholars are studying carbon offsetting and related topics.

Methane produced from waste food in landfill and livestock farms was also a hot topic. Bronwen Jones, of the UK Government's Department of Agriculture said Scholars had to be ready to face these issues head on.

After two intensive days of presentations and discussions, new recruits left the city for some grass roots study - including visits to Norman Collett Ltd, a fruit marketing producer

group based in Kent and Ian Pigott's farm in Hertfordshire - at which a number of issues were picked up on which impacted on many of the new Scholar's studies.

In Europe

Scholars boarded the Eurostar to visit a French Co-operative, near Lille. Then onto the French and Belgian war graves and battlefields.

This visit proved a poignant experience for all, and one that united Scholars in their experience. Accompanied by Alan Forbes, a professional tour guide in the area, Nuffield Australia's CEO, Jim Geltch, brought the deserted trenches to life with his knowledge of the Australian's role in war history.

In later discussion, it was thought that the battlefield tours brought a clearer understanding for the international Scholars of a past need for European unity, especially in agriculture.

The following day in Brussels the new Scholars had a glimpse of the intricacies of EU policy, with excellent speakers at the heart of planning.

Micheal Treacy, head of the Irish Farmers Association, gave a frank slant on the importance of lobbying. Mr Treacy also put pressure on the new Scholars to get involved in the political process globally.

Irishman, Dereck McCabe, enjoyed the opportunity to thrash out some of the bigger issues in agriculture: "As individuals we're very isolated in our communities and we rarely get together to have inspirational discussions like this," he said.

Scholars also met Carmello Troccoli, Policy Advisor to Coldiretti, an Italian co-operative representing more than 1.5 million farmers. He believes labelling and honesty with consumers is essential, especially with issues such as climate change and GM crops on the global agenda: "Labelling is key - I insist on transparency. In Italy farming is linked to

tradition and small farms and consumers are in turn linked to that. They eat and talk about food in my country. We cannot ignore them," he said.

Australian Scholar, Adam Butterworth, who runs an oyster hatchery in South Australia, said: "There has been a range of open discussion on this conference from lots of different areas of agriculture. I'll go home with a renewed sense of vigour for my business."

2009 UK Scholar, Michael Dart, who is planning to study the Slow Food Movement, summed up the Conference saying: "I have learned this week that we all have tonnes in common with Scholars across the globe. Equally we all have a lot of the same challenges in farming to face."

Kate Little, 2009 UK Scholar



Number crunching

46 speakers gave talks to Scholars during the tour.

2 guest Scholars joined the group for the European Tour - from South Africa and Zimbabwe.

80 minutes of premier rugby action was enjoyed by Scholars at the Madjeski Stadium, Reading.

54,896 names of Commonwealth soldiers lost in action between 1914 and 15th August 1917, with no known grave. The names are engraved on the walls of The Menin Gate.

49 farmers and agriculturalists awarded Nuffield Scholarships in 2009.

133.8 billion Euros - the European Union annual budget.

43 percent of the annual EU budget spent on agriculture, rural development, environment and fisheries.

6 different hotels stayed in by Scholars during the conference.

1 cornishman lost in the lifts at HSBC, Canary Wharf.

A Canadian Nuffield Scholar discovers more than just answers to his topic

Lloyd Alexander, a famous American author, once said: "We learn more by looking for the answer to a question and not finding it than we do from learning the answer itself."

I thought how true of this Nuffield experience I've been so richly blessed with. In fact, how many of us have found answers to questions we weren't even searching for?

Did you come home with a better understanding of what really matters to you? I did.

I went out in search of answers to precision farming technologies. I came home with a greater understanding of the world around me, my role as a father, husband and the direction of our business. You know, I don't ever recall writing down the questions to the answers I discovered. I'd like to share some of those answers with you now.

How many of us remember driving through new and beautiful landscapes thinking I can't believe I'm here. All alone, no cell phone coverage, just time to think, drive and be inspired by 'creation' as you make your way to the next destination. Oh, and reminding yourself to stay on the left side of the bloody road, Canuck!

It's amazing how one phone call to a perfect stranger can lead to warm hospitality, engaging conversations and new friendships.

The first stop on my independent study was New Zealand and then, for the second time in twelve months, I was off to Australia.

I learned three important things about my study topic, precision farming technologies, that I could take home and apply to our farming system.

First, precision technology and economies of scale are not mutually exclusive. It is possible to improve profitability through scale and precision technology like variable rate fertilizer, gypsum, lime, controlled traffic tram lines and inter-row seeding.

Second, I discovered the little things in our production system we could manage better. Things like compaction, leaf senescence, capturing solar energy through seeding direction, seeding rates, fungicides and soil amendments.

Finally, after staying with the current and former Guinness World Record Holders for wheat yield, I learned that their record wheat crops were grown on pea stubble, seeded two years after grass breaking, and on six-inch row spacing. Nitrogen, growth regulators and fungicides were applied at the same growth stages on soils you'd never think capable based on soil test results.

Oh, and they both spent a fraction more producing fifty percent higher yields than the average. Spending time with two gentlemen so passionate about grain farming was the highlight of my trip.

Now, the answers to questions I never thought I was searching for. The first one is home.

As a husband and father of a Nuffield baby, born 15 weeks early on March 28th 2008, during my Global Focus Tour, I've spent a lot more time with family since I came home and will continue to make them a priority.

I realised how easy it was to sacrifice family with the excuse of "work" to shoulder the blame.

Next, the plans for growing our agronomy, farm, publishing and carbon



Steve Larocque, 2008 Nuffield Scholar

offset businesses came clear to me somehow. Perhaps it was the ability to stop thinking about work for a while and occupy my mind with understanding others and their successes, challenges and futures in agriculture.

Perhaps it was the fresh air in that remote end of the world along the southern tip of Western Australia. Whatever it was, I am very thankful for the opportunity to grow personally and professionally.

I still have another three weeks of travel planned before I hand in my report in November. I have four more record holders to visit and several new Nuffield friends to stop in and see. I sure look forward to stimulating and challenging conversations about agriculture and the world around us.

For those of you who are interested, I offer my weekly publication for free to Nuffield Scholars. Beyond Agronomy News is a crop production and grain market e-newsletter written by yours truly. If you'd like to be added to the subscriber list, just drop me an e-mail at steve@beyondagronomy.com. Have a great year.

**Steve Larocque
2008 Canadian Nuffield Scholar**

Nuffield Drive...

Yes, Nuffield Drive does exist... outside Rakaia, Canterbury, New Zealand. The road sign was spotted by UK Scholar, Tom Rawson, and New Zealand Scholar, Tom Mason (pictured) en route to a new lifestyle block in Methven, owned by the father of Nuffield Scholar, Jon Wright.



Stay in touch!

www.nuffieldinternational.org

It is our aim that the Nuffield international website will become the international link for all Scholars - providing easy access to Scholar reports, forthcoming national events and conferences, links to relevant websites and news. Please take a look. Your comments and suggestions would be most welcome.

**Peter Nixon
International Chairman
peter@nixonfarming.com.au**

Contributions welcome...

If you have news to report or success stories to share, please let us know! Send full details to:

**Jim Geltch
International Secretary
PO Box 586, Moama,
NSW 2731
jimgeltch@nuffield.com.au**



Steven Bullock

Nuffield UK and International Director 1988-2001

It is with immense sadness that we report the death of Steven Bullock. He died peacefully on 27th March following an illness.

STEVEN CHARLES BRUCE BULLOCK, who died in March aged 72, was a quiet unassuming gentle sincere man who during his working life had played a pivotal role in British agriculture.

After leaving King Alfred School in Golders Green, he went to Wye College, University of London, achieving a BSc in General Agriculture and a National Diploma in Agriculture.

Having graduated at Wye, Steven went on to Leeds University where he gained a Post Graduate Diploma in Farm Management, returning to the family farm for next two years, before becoming Managing Director of the Farmers Weekly's group of nine farms in 1963.

The publishers of Farmers Weekly had set up these farms which were spread across the UK and Northern France. They had dual objectives; as a test bed for new ideas and innovations, while also being able to demonstrate best practice across a wide range of farming types spread across a wide range locations and environments. They could report back regularly in the periodical on the activities, progress and problems on the farms, warts an-all.

Steven's role in managing the Farmers Weekly farms, from 1963 to 1988 coincided, with the era dubbed the Second Agricultural Revolution.

It was a period which saw a rapid uptake of science-based innovations which revolutionised farming methods and increased productivity by leaps and bounds.

It was an era which saw the introduction of new management methods based on financial as well as physical performance, and Steven's reporting back gave farmers an important insight into the rapid changes that were taking place in the agricultural industry.

In 1988, Steven Bullock moved on to take over as Director of the Nuffield Farming Scholarships organisation, a role in which he continued to have a great influence in farming circles.

The organisation was originally set up in 1947 with the help, advice and financial assistance of the Nuffield Foundation, with the objective of identifying and giving keen young people the opportunity to study the latest developments in farming methods overseas.

Over a period of several years the Nuffield Foundation withdrew their services, and the farming industry took over responsibility for financing and running the organisation and the selection of scholars.

Steven, who received a Nuffield Farming Scholarship in 1976, was to over-see a period of transition and consolidation of the organisation when its two arms, the administration and the Scholars Association, were brought together, eventually with the incorporation of the Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust in 2003.

Besides his responsibilities relating to the UK Trust and Scholars, Steven was also heavily involved with the arrangements for the visiting overseas Scholars from the Commonwealth countries, Southern Ireland and France.

Even after Steven Bullock retired as the Director in 2001, he continued to play an active role by undertaking the arduous task of editing, compiling and the publication of the Trust's Annual Report and over-seeing the publication of the returning scholars' reports until April 2008.

In 2007, Steven and Gill Bullock generously instigated their award for the Scholar who had best demonstrated a change in outlook and activity stimulated by their 'Nuffield experience' and its application.

Steven Bullock had many links with agricultural industry. He was a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Farmers, a member of the Royal Agricultural Society, The Farmers Club, the Mid-Sussex Farm Management Discussion Group, Secretary of the Ruminators Discussion Group and was a past Chairman of the Sussex Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group. He also served as a councillor on Wealden District Council, chairing the Area Planning Committees for a period.

His list of leisure activities included reading, stamp collecting, travel, DIY and enjoying the property he and Gill lovingly restored in the South of France.

He is survived by Gillian, a research scientist whom he married in 1963, their two sons and six adored grandchildren.

Memorial fund and book of remembrance

Gill Bullock is very grateful for the innumerable and wonderful messages of condolence she has received. She is quite humbled by the fantastic response worldwide and wishes Steven could read the tributes.

Following a private family funeral, a Memorial Service is planned for mid-June to be held in London - date to be advised. Gill has requested 'no flowers please', but if anyone wishes to make a donation, the family is setting up the Steven Bullock Memorial Fund. This will go towards St Wilfrid's hospice Eastbourne,

which helped Steven so much, and Gill's PEDPACT project in Kenya, where they hope to establish something in his name. Donations can be sent to Dr GRT Bullock, East Holme Farm, Maresfield, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 3AY.

Steven was an early adopter of the internet and recognised its power in communications. In that spirit, and to capture the thoughts of Scholars worldwide, the Trust has set up an on-line 'Book of Remembrance'.

To contribute, please log onto:
<http://www.nuffieldscholar.org.uk/tributes.aspx>

2009 UK Scholarship Awards



YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AWARD

CAROL ATKINSON
(Goole, Yorkshire)

'Straw bale use in the construction industry'

Carol is married to Richard and has two sons. They run a 120-cow suckler herd on 220 acres of grassland at Eastington, Goole. As a business diversification, Carol has developed, designed and built an environmentally friendly straw holiday cottage on the farm, with a second one on the way, providing 'holidays that don't cost the earth'. More details at www.strawcottage.co.uk.
carolatkn@aol.com



TREHANE TRUST AWARD

OWEN ATKINSON
(Nantwich, Cheshire)

'Role of the vet in knowledge transfer to the dairy industry'

Owen is married to Laura and has three children. He is a partner in a large farm animal veterinary practice, based at Whitchurch, Shropshire, specialising in dairy. Apart from clinical work on a number of dairy farms, Owen is increasingly involved in speaking to farmer and industry groups, particularly on dairy cow lameness and rumen health. He is an accredited 'CowSignals' instructor and has developed a rumen-health monitoring programme for use by vets and nutritionists on dairy farms.
owen@lambertleonardmay.co.uk



CENTRAL REGION FARMERS TRUST AWARD

SIMON BALL
(Wooton-under-Edge, Glos)

'Marketing of food and education of consumers'

Simon is one of three brothers farming 750-mixed acres with his parents at Tortworth, Wooton-under-Edge. Apart from the main farm enterprises of commercial beef and sheep, the business is home to the Tortworth Estate Farm Shop. Managed entirely by Simon, the shop supports over 120 suppliers, and offers a wide selection of quality products and produce. The family also runs a catering company and a canteen at the local Bristol Sales Centre.
simonball@googlemail.com



JILL WILLOWS AWARD

ROB BEBBINGTON
(Whitchurch, Shropshire)

'Collaborative farming within the arable sector'

Rob is a Shropshire farmer's son based at Whitchurch, Shropshire. He is currently a director of Fieldfare Farmers Ltd, a contract farming company managing mainly arable land for seven different farmers. All of the 1400 acres is block cropped, but Rob employs an averaging system to reduce risk. In 2006, the home farm was fully developed into a rural events centre - Dearnford Lake - for hosting a variety of recreational and country pursuits, including corporate and training days, fairs and events, as well as providing a venue for weddings.
rbebbington@yahoo.co.uk



BEMB (R&E) TRUST AWARD

NICK CHIPPINDALE
(Harrogate, Yorkshire)

'2012 EU ban on conventional cage egg production and its effect'

Nick is married to Lorna and has three daughters. He is the Managing Director of Chippindale Foods Ltd which produces sources and packs over two million eggs per week for major retail outlets in the North of England. Nick is the fourth generation to be involved in the family business. He has a passion for design and innovation, whilst encouraging 'fresh thinking' in all areas of the business. He is a director of the Central Egg Agency.
nick@chippindalefoods.co.uk



ROYAL WELSH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AWARD

HUW DAVIES
(Llanwrda, Carmarthenshire)

'Marketing advantages for beef and lamb high welfare systems'

Huw is married to Sheila and has three daughters. He is a sheep farmer on the Dolaucothi National Trust Estate where he stocks 650 Beulah Speckled ewes on 280 acres. Apart from farming, Huw has enjoyed managing and developing the Dolaucothi lamb brand on behalf of fellow National Trust tenants, as well as facilitating similar business ventures across the UK. He sits on a series of local and national agricultural committees and councils, and was recently appointed chairman of the Ruminants Standing Committee within the Farm Animal Welfare Council. He is a Life Governor of the Royal Welsh Show and a Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Societies.
huw.llandre@famline.com



RASE AWARD

MICHAEL DART
(Exeter, Devon)

'Slow Food Movement'

Michael has four children and is company director of a family farming and retail business based at Topsham, Exeter. The business was established by his late father, Ronald, who started selling his fruit and vegetables to the local community from a small hut at the bottom of his field in the late 1970s. From these humble beginnings, Darts Farm has grown into a nationally renowned local food hub, selling the produce from hundreds of food and drink producers, showcasing the finest food and drink from the South West of England.
michael@dartsfarm.co.uk



DARTINGTON CATTLE BREEDING TRUST AWARD

JULIAN ELLIS
(Penzance, Cornwall)

'Government/voluntary environmental schemes'

Julian runs a mixed 390-acre farm just three miles from Lands End. His enterprises include a 150-cow Guernsey herd plus followers, spring cabbage and spring barley. He also runs a small contracting business, mainly drilling and spraying. Julian is a parish councillor and a former chairman of Cornwall YFC. He is also a contributor to Farmers Weekly, writing a column on a monthly basis.
jjellis@tiscali.co.uk



JOHN OLDACRE FOUNDATION AWARD

ANDREW FREEMANTLE
(Exeter, Devon)

'Possibility of introducing a fair trade system for British agriculture'

Andrew and Liz have two children. Andrew is a pig farmer, farm shop owner and outdoor caterer. The 70-acre family farm carries a 300-sow farrow-to-finish Freedom Food pig farming operation, with finished pigs selling into a niche market via a processor and through Andrew's own outlets - wholesale to independent businesses, through a farm shop, through catering trailers and through an outdoor pig roasting business. He owns and runs the enterprise with the help of 10 full-time and 15 part-time employees. Andrew currently sits on the board of Taste of the West.
andrew@kennifordfarm.com



HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AWARD

EMMA GARROD
(Stamford, Lincolnshire)

'Quality vegetables - low-input farming'

Emma is a vegetable research agronomist working in the family-owned fresh produce company, Produce World Ltd. The company manages numerous fresh produce supply chains for partners in retail and the food service industries. Apart from own-grown, the company sources produce through joint-ventures and grower groups, both in the UK and overseas, and offers a diverse range of fruit and vegetables. It has particular expertise in low input and organic vegetable production.
emmagarrod@yahoo.co.uk



THOMAS HENRY FOUNDATION AWARD

WILLIAM HAIRE
(Crumlin, Co Antrim)

'Modern selection techniques in the pedigree beef herd'

William is a pedigree and commercial beef farmer who also specialises in show preparation. The main enterprise on the family's 85-ha grassland farm is a herd of pedigree Hereford and Aberdeen Angus cattle, which runs alongside a commercial suckler herd of native British breeds. Semen from the Hereford bulls is marketed throughout the UK and Europe, and ET is used extensively. William is a member of the RUAS and the National Beef Association NI Council.
williamhaire@hotmail.com



BPEX/MERIAL AWARD

RICHARD HOOPER
(Telford, Shropshire)

'The recruitment, training and retention of quality staff in the pig industry'

Richard is married to Sam and has two children. He is from a farming family and currently works for Harper Adams University College in Shropshire as the Livestock Unit Manager. While he is passionate about pigs, Richard also breeds pedigree Simmental cattle as a hobby.
rhooper@harper-adams.ac.uk

2009 UK Scholarship Awards



NUFFIELD TRUST AND GORDON NEWMAN TRAVEL AWARD

ALISTAIR HOUSE
(Weston-super-Mare, Somerset)

'Growing grain maize in temperate zones'

Alistair is married to Charlotte and has three daughters. Having bought the family farm at Bleadon, Weston-super-Mare in 2000, he is now farming in partnership with his brother. The farm grows around 800 acres of maize, 75% of which is for grain. The business also plants a similar acreage under contract for local farmers. As a business diversification, around 20,000 sq ft of redundant farm buildings have been converted into light industrial/office use and let out. Other business interests include agricultural engineering, as well as a local shop/Post Office and café.
a.house@farmline.com



WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FRUITERS AWARD

DOUGLAS HUTTON-SQUIRE
(Woodbridge, Suffolk)

'Precision horticulture - tools and technology'

Douglas is married to Juliet and has two children. He currently works for FAST Ltd as a fruit growing advisor primarily responsible for East Anglia, but also members in Scotland, West Midlands and Kent. His work includes top-fruit and soft-fruit advice on pest and disease management, plant nutrition, pruning, crop load management, harvest monitoring and new developments. He sits on the committee of the Essex and Suffolk Fruit Growers Society.
doug.hs@fastltd.co.uk



NUFFIELD TRUST AWARD

KATE LITTLE
(Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria)

'Investigating markets for goat meat potential'

Originally from Somerset, Kate moved to Cumbria in 2006 to run a 120-head dairy goat herd from rented estate buildings. She is now planning to establish a goat meat herd to develop markets for this healthy and tasty meat. She will also work with large UK dairy goat enterprises to help them establish a production system and market for unwanted males. As part of her new business venture, Kate is also planning to sign up to a basic butchery course with a local abattoir.
littlehatstand@yahoo.co.uk



NFU AWARD

ANDREW MYCOCK
(Buxton, Derbyshire)

'Dairy farm expansion'

Andrew is married to Rachel and has two children. He farms 400 acres of land at or above 1,000 ft at Flagg, Buxton, in partnership with his mother. The main enterprise is a 315-cow Holstein dairy herd and 230 dairy replacements run on an intensive, heavily stocked system. As well as milk sales, Andrew sells around 30 newly calved heifers a year and has a 5 Van C L caravan site. He currently sits on the NFU East Midlands Dairy Committee and is a former member of the National Dairy Committee. He is past chairman of Bakewell NFU and Derbyshire Grassland Society, and until recently was a council member of DFOB. Andrew is currently vice president of Derbyshire YFCs.
andrew@amycokc.orangehome.co.uk



NUFFIELD TRUST AWARD

ALEX PAGE
(Bruxelles, Belgium)

'Rural development and the shift to environmentally sensitive farming'

Alex is on secondment from Defra and works for the European Commission in Bruxelles. He is project manager for the 'Less Favoured Areas' exercise - a full policy project involving evaluation, stakeholder consultation and drafting of legislative proposals for the EU Council. He is also an adviser to DG Agriculture on WTO and State Aid issues.
ambpage@hotmail.com



NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY (MAC COOPER) AWARD

PAUL ROBINSON
(Beverly, East Yorkshire)

'Fertility improvement in the high yielding dairy cow'

Paul is married to Rachel and has five children. He is a dairy consultant working for Kingshay Farming and Conservation covering all aspects of dairy production, but high output systems in particular. He also delivers practical workshops and technical notes on fertility, lameness, soils and good environmental practice. He is secretary of the East Yorkshire Grassland Society and vice chairman of the northern area of the British Grassland Society.
paul.robinson@kingshay.co.uk



CENTRAL REGION FARMERS TRUST AWARD

JIM SHANKS
(Hawick, Roxs, Scotland)

'Reducing consumption of bought-in energy for milk production'

Jim farms 507 mixed acres near Hawick in the Scottish Borders, growing oats, wheat, barley and lupins to compliment the dairy herd of 215 Holsteins. He also buys in around 300-400 sheep each September for finishing in March. The farm also supports an on-farm cheese making business which is run by Jim's parents. All cheese is sold locally and the business is growing steadily. Jim sits on the local farm benchmarking group and on the decision making group for local LEADER+ projects (CAP community projects). Outside farming, Jim's latest claim to fame is winning the BBC's 'Weakest Link' in 2008!
hawickmanabroad@hotmail.com



THOMAS HENRY FOUNDATION AWARD

GREGG SOMERVILLE
(Dromara, Co Down)

'Setting up secondary dairy units, and sharing of labour and resources between units'

Gregg farms in partnership on the family farm at Dromara, Co Down. The farm's 130 grassland hectares support 200 medium merit dairy cows and youngstock, most of which are cross-bred. He is a member of United Dairy Farmers' Area Council and is currently taking part in crossbreeding trial work with Hillsborough Research Park.
gregg-s@hotmail.co.uk



ANNE & ALAN BECKETT AWARD

OLIVER SURMAN
(Upton-on-Severn, Worcestershire)

'Conquering the world from a farmhouse kitchen: A recipe for success'

Oliver is married to Alex and is a partner in the 850-acre organic family farming business based at Upton-on-Severn. Enterprises include a 200-cow dairy herd and a suckler herd of 100 Aberdeen Angus cross cows. Cereals are grown for home consumption and Christmas turkeys are also produced. In addition, the farm supports a recent diversification into the food sector which has led to the branding and retailing of home grown beef under the Pegoty Hedge label and the manufacture of a range of organic ready meals. Oliver is a member of the local NFU branch and is chairman of a local buying/discussion group. He undertook the 'The Challenge of Rural Leadership Course' in 2008.
ojsurman@hotmail.com



YOUNG NUFFIELD AWARD

HARVEY THOMAS
(Penzance, Cornwall)

'To what extent do governing bodies of countries outside the UK assist with new entrants in the landbased sector'

Harvey is a land agent on the Queensberry Estate in southern Scotland (Buccleuch Group). The Estate covers some 120,000 acres with a progressive mix of enterprises - including let farms, in-hand farming operations, commercial forestry, the largest area of designed landscape in Scotland, a vast sporting interest, a visitor centre, a residential and commercial property portfolio, and a large mining operation. Harvey's responsibilities include the joint day-to-day management of the let agricultural, residential and commercial portfolio. Harvey is a keen sportsman, having represented his county at both cricket and rugby. He is currently playing for Dumfries in National 1, Scotland.
hthomas@buccleuch.com



OLDACRE FOUNDATION AWARD

IAN TREMAIN
(Bridgwater, Somerset)

'Agricultural commodities in a changing world'

Ian is a farmer's son from Cornwall and is married to Rosie. He studied at the Duchy College and subsequently joined W J Oldacre as a cattle specialist. In 2001, Ian started Tremain Ltd and, in a joint venture with the Bristol Port Company, built a blending plant at Avonmouth Docks. Today Tremain trades 50,000 tonnes of blended feeds for the ruminant sector. Ian served as president of the Bristol Corn and Feed Trade Association in 2002.
iantremain@me.com

2009 Irish Scholars and the Scholar for France will be featured in the next newsletter.