The year seems to be racing along with over half of it gone already. The Trustees and Richard and Barbie have been busy on a number of fronts.

The biggest area the Trustees have been active in has been the joint venture between Nuffield and Kellogg’s. We have had positive feedback from the Alumni about the concept and I have spoken to more than 20 of you personally. The feedback from the letter we sent to the Alumni about the need for a roadshow was limited with only three wanting to meet face to face so it didn’t make sense to go to the expense of holding a series of meetings to explain things further. I will ring those who wanted to attend a roadshow. For anyone who has more questions or comments please don’t hesitate to give me a call or text or drop me an email. I’m happy to discuss further.

Email raine@ts.co.nz or ph/txt (021) 443993.

Richard Green continues to talk with partners and sponsors regularly. Nuffield has a greater involvement with these stakeholders than in the past. Their feedback is very useful for us and the Nuffield Advisory Committee is a great sounding board for new ideas and information.

The combined resource of this group has also been applied to identifying potential future applicants. Some will be applying this year while others will need to be developed over time. Through our website we have had approximately 60 enquiries where they have requested an application form. The closing date for applications is 31 August 2013.

Barbie Barton, as always, is in contact with travelling scholars. She does an excellent job ensuring we keep a track of their progress and any problems that might need some assistance. As expected the scholars have all had interesting experiences and you will enjoy reading their various reports in this edition of ENUFF. For those of you who have been following their travel blogs, are friends with them on Facebook or are users of Twitter you will have enjoyed the more instant nature of modern technology. For those traditionalists, formal reporting is still as it has always been. The scholars enjoy feedback so don’t hesitate to drop them a line.

One of this year’s scholars, Lisa Harper, was unable to travel on her GFP. She will now complete this part of her programme next year.

Jenni and her Waikato team are well underway organising next year’s biannual conference. Please mark 3-6 April 2014 in your diaries. It will be held at Wairakei. Jenni has an exciting programme in store for us and will give us more detail later in the year.

Finally, the planning for the 2014 Triennial Conference in eastern Canada is well underway. The dates are 16-28 June 2014. There will be a post conference tour organised in western Canada. Please visit the Canadian Nuffield website to register.

Nuffield NZ Alumni making the headlines

We like to pass on news of our Nuffield NZ scholars achieving new heights in rural New Zealand—if you know of others, please let us know.

- Congratulations to Murray Taggart, new chairman of Alliance
- Congratulations to Julian Raine, new chairman of HortNZ
- Congratulations to Canterbury arable farmers Craigie and Roz McKenzie, national supreme winners of the Ballance Farm Environment Awards
Nuffield NZ Director
Richard Green

Nuffield New Zealand has developed strong partnerships with our sponsors. We have retained all our sponsors from the past year and almost now confirmed the Federation of Maori Authorities (FoMA) as a fifth Partner sponsor.

FoMA see Nuffield Scholarships as an ideal platform to develop Maori agribusiness leaders. We are budgeting on $330,000 of income from the sponsors below over the 2013/14 financial year (up from $280,000 last year).

We are extremely grateful to all of our sponsors and look forward to rewarding them with the quality of our Nuffield Scholars and also through their leadership outcomes for New Zealand agriculture.

Partner Sponsors
• Dairy NZ
• Beef + Lamb New Zealand
• AGMARDT
• FMG
• FoMA (Federation of Maori Authorities)

Supporting Sponsors
• Foundation for Arable Research
• Mackenzie Charitable Foundation
• Landcorp

One of our key measures of success is the number of applicants we have applying for the 2014 Scholarships. We can’t award five scholarships unless we have the quality of applicants. Some of the best scholars have always come from the personal touch where our Nuffield Alumni identifies someone with leadership qualities they think would benefit from a Nuffield Scholarship and approaches them and encourages them to apply. We need your support again this year so we can award five scholarships to deserving emerging leaders. All the details applicants require are on our website www.nuffield.org.nz with applications closing on 31 August 2013.

From 2014 we have lifted the scholarship cash amount to $40,000 per scholar up from $35,000. Individual scholars still have to contribute their own cash to meet their total travel costs but we need to ensure Nuffield Scholarships are not just available to those with the financial resources to complete them. We are also introducing a structured industry mentoring programme with scholars. Some of our Nuffield alumni will be asked if they are prepared to carry out this role.

It is very pleasing to see our Nuffield Scholars continuing to be involved in many of the top leadership positions in NZ agriculture. It is so powerful to building our Nuffield brand and our sponsorship relationships when you mention that you are a Nuffield Scholar. I encourage you all to prominently display your Nuffield Scholar credentials as it will give an “uplift” to the Nuffield Scholars who follow you in the future.

Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust Investment Fund

The fund has been managed by Geoff Buchan of Craigs Investment Partners since 10 May 2010.

Net contributions to the fund from the NZ Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust to this point total $236,334.09.

The current value of the fund at 30 June 2013 is $324,366.00.

This represents a total return over a three year period of 44.5% or 12.4% annualised return. The funds investments are made up of a wide range of assets, both in New Zealand and offshore as set out below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Allocation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9% Fixed Interest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6% Property-NZ/Aust</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44% NZ Equities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11% Australian Equities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29% International Equities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1% Cash</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The portfolio has been created with growth as the primary goal over the next five years. This may change overtime to more of an income focus, as the fund grows to a size which enables distributions to be made to Nuffield Scholars.

Returns on the portfolio going forward will depend very much on the large global players, China and the US. We continue to see positive signs of growth in the world’s largest economy, the United States, led by a rebound in the housing sector. The money-printing we have seen from the US Federal Reserve over recent years has kept interest rates and the US dollar low. With speculation mounting that this will soon reverse, we have seen US interest rates rise rapidly over recent weeks and the US dollar rebound strongly.

On the flip side of this, the world’s second largest economy, China, has been showing signs of weakness. Growth rates have come back from double digits and currently sit around 7%. While very good from a western perspective, this rate of growth will barely sustain the rapid urbanisation currently being experienced.

Through all this, New Zealand looks to be on a steady recovery path and our non-discretionary export led economy should insulate us from the worst of the global turmoil. This will be further enhanced if our dollar continues to fall and the Christchurch rebuild finally gets some momentum.

In short, the past 200 years have shown us that a diversified portfolio of quality assets provides the best risk versus return over the long term. It is a safe assumption this will continue for the next 200 years, which provides stakeholders in the Nuffield Farming Scholarship Fund with the certainty they require.

Geoff Buchan
Our Scholars latest travel plans

Steve Wilkins spent June in the Philippines, China, Louisiana, Washington and the Netherlands, followed by Brussels, France and Ireland in July, as part of his Global Focus Programme. He met wife Heather in London in the middle of that for two weeks holiday in England, Scotland and Ireland. He’s home for part of August then off to parts of Australia, the US and Canada in September and Europe and South America in October.

Natasha King has been finishing her Global Focus Programme in Mexico and California while Sophie Stanley has been in Ireland in July, the UK and Europe in August, with more of Europe, Hong Kong and Vietnam still to come.

Tafi Manjala spent July in France, the Netherlands and Ireland, is home for August and some of September and then heads for Australia until mid October.

As mentioned in the chairman’s report, Lisa Harper will pick up her six-week Global Focus Tour next year. In the meantime, she has still be able to travel to Dumfries in Scotland in June, Ireland and further into the UK and Europe in July and August.

Follow our scholars online:

Tafadzwa Manjala
Twitter: @TafadzManjala

Sophie Stanley
Follow Sophie http://sophiestanley.wordpress.com/
Twitter: @sestanley1

Lisa Harper
Twitter: @sgrangecheese

Natasha King
Follow Natasha http://gonenuffing.wordpress.com/
Twitter: @NatashaKingNZ

Stephen Wilkins
Follow Steve http://stevewilkinsnuffield.blogspot.co.nz/
Twitter: @SteveWilkins10

New insights from Tafi Manjala

The highlight of my project research project on how extension can be more effective at getting on-farm change is the meeting with Stanford Prof. Albert Bandura, pictured above, who is rated as the most quoted psychologist globally. Sitting down with him over 1.5 hours, I quickly realized I was in the presence of greatness. Prof Bandura’s work has consisted of developing change theories and testing them with PHD and Masters students. Some of his accomplishments include curing snake phobia in four hours and 98% adoption rate in Tanzania by targeting farmers that were resistant to change (for more insights read my blog). I chose to interview him due to the appreciation that understanding human behaviour is a key competency to answering part of my research project on getting faster and wider on farm change.

Extension in the USA is moving to an interstate from a state-centred delivery. This means less local group delivery. I noticed a general topic based focus in extension delivery and incentives linked to attendance and course completion.

The higher the amount of pasture eaten and the simpler the farm system on a dairy farm businesses in the 12 countries visited to date the higher the profitability of the business. High feed input systems >40% bought in feed are generally struggling mainly driven by volatile grain (high) and milk prices (low). Profitable intensive dairy operations visited have a cheap reliable source of feeds and utilising a significant amount of pasture.

My observation paints the picture that generally subsidies reduce willingness to adopt pasture based dairying in USA and Europe given that farms have the support net of up to $700/ha should their incomes fall short of meeting expenses.
Here are some bullet points of some of my recent observations:

- Farmers all around the world face similar problems and issues, but often operate in very different political and economic environments which limit or enable differences in methods of operation (e.g. subsidies, access to water, land etc). Ukraine land rights are different in that you can’t purchase land, you can only rent.

- New Zealand is well regarded as being a significant and respected player in the dairy industry.

- Communication seemed to be a common theme in many of our visits. For example, animal welfare of live export sheep from Australia was hugely affected by Australian public voice on social media after a TV story on the subject. This lead to the immediate ban of live export sheep to Indonesia and also the eventual implementation of effective animal welfare schemes such as ESCAS in countries such as Qatar.

- A local pig farmer in the Ukraine discussed the need for better communication from farmers especially in intensive industries.

- Mother Nature plays such a huge role in all farmers lives whether it be a hail storm that wipes out a potato crop close to harvest or not enough rain at the time of sowing.

- Ukraine is a country of many opportunities (water availability, cheap rents etc) but a diverse operating environment in terms of the political environment. Many entrepreneurs from overseas making successful business but it’s risky as well.

- India has the land and resources to produce food for their population, however infrastructure is limiting. Again, opportunity lies around every corner. Lots of potential for knowledge sharing.

- Visiting Anzac cove was a humbling experience—something every Kiwi should do in his/her life.

Update from Natasha King

Global agriculture continues to astound me. NZ has a great reputation globally and must continue to leverage stronger of the brand with consumers.

Woman in agriculture in India was very interesting—a major part of work force but very little influence. It was interesting in India and Qatar being treated differently for being a female.

Subsidy and innovation debate continues globally. I have seen some amazing sites but suffering sensory overload!
Update from Steve Wilkins

There is an incredible amount of construction going on in China... there is a real push to urbanise the rural people but still have them work the land, not sure how that will work out...

Many of the new cities are largely empty and although the construction workers are living in the new accommodation, they are moving with the construction, so what happens as it slows down? I can’t see how this growth is sustainable....

It would seem China’s dairy consumption is at 38m tons and is likely to rise to around 100m tons in the next 20 years. The Chinese are busy gleaning ideas from all around the world to pick up the best systems to produce more of their own milk products, but even so are probably only going to be able to produce half of their requirements.

I believe the US government is focused on making food available to everyone at an affordable price and that is often at a price below the cost of production. The hope is there will be money left at the end of the week to buy other less necessary items that the tax can be recovered on.

In order to achieve this, agriculture receives some very robust support. This is something that will not change dramatically in the foreseeable future. It will be interesting to get a perspective on this on our visit to Washington DC. Northern Louisiana is blessed with ample rainfall and coupled with what they term 'unlimited' water for irrigation, is able to produce exceptional corn and rice crops.

It will interesting to follow just how long it remains unlimited...

Because of the abundance of many of the resources needed to produce good crops, there hasn’t been much emphasis on regulation. Louisiana boasts a system where best practice is employed and stakeholders have managed work with the authorities to achieve outcomes that work for the environment and food production.

This means the environmental authorities are able to focus on what they know and are good at, rather than being involved in compliance.
Lisa was in Dumfries in Scotland in June for a Rural Enterprise Conference, where she heard a great keynote speech from Prof Alistair Anderson about how we work in a place where two competing conversations collide. One about entrepreneurship, which is all about change and progress (the classic definition of an entrepreneur is an agent of change who engages in creative destruction). The other was about the ‘rural’, which in Europe tends to be all about conserving the status quo, preserving the traditional rural landscape and lifestyle. So basically anti-change. The following is from Lisa’s blog: “He put it much more elegantly than that and I found myself recognising parallels in New Zealand and nodding.

Then we had a couple of days of papers from all around the world, which I was glued to as it’s right in my area of interest. I did my bit presenting on rural innovation in NZ.”

She also had a conversation with a researcher working on ‘illegal rural entrepreneurship’. In other words, rural crime. He blew me away with stories of stolen tractors being crated up for shipment to Eastern Europe, farmers letting their sheds out to city “gangsters” for storage of who-knows-what and green-belt bandits (urban criminals who go out and steal in the country. That bit was familiar enough) and the rising influence of the mafia in rural areas. The trend of organised crime entering rural areas has apparently spread across Europe and now Australia. “Talk about one’s world view being challenged! Guess that’s what Nuffield is all about.”

**Bi-annual Nuffield Conference**

**Wairakei Resort - Taupo**

3 – 6 April 2014

Powering into the future

Put the dates in your diary now!

Join the team in the geothermal capital of NZ where exciting alternative uses of geothermal energy are being utilized to grow our agricultural industries.

The fieldtrip will include a look at farming in a nitrogen ‘capped’ catchment and alternative research in the sheep industry.

Our returning scholars will be traversing a wide range of study topics and there will be a spot of fishing!!

**Nuffield International Triennial Conference**

15-28 June 2014

**Prosperity through Innovation**

Halifax, Nova Scotia; Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; London, Ontario

www.nuffield.ca/triennial/itinerary

Our theme “Prosperity through Innovation”. Our goal—to lift the understanding of both words to a new level. Nuffield Canada will give a warm welcome to all Scholars from all Nuffield countries in Halifax, Nova Scotia—the Atlantic Gateway to Canada—where you will visit some of the most innovative and unique agriculture operations and cultural sites in Nova Scotia. After the conference on June 18/19, which will challenge your intellect and stimulate new thinking, you will then travel to Prince Edward Island and tour various agriculture, agri-food and aquaculture operations. You will also get an opportunity to join in the 150th year celebration of Canadian Confederation (the first conference in 1864 led to the birth of Canada in 1867). You will dine on our unique and world renowned seafood and agri-food products—this will culminate with a festival of food in Charlottetown in celebration of our Confederation.

You will then discover the best of Ontario agriculture, including a tour of Niagara Falls and the Niagara wine region.
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**Nuffield Farming Scholarships**
have been offered to 124 innovative New Zealand farmers over the past 60 years.

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**Important Dates**

31 August 2013  
Applications close for 2014 Scholarship

18-23 September 2013  
2013 Nuffield Australia National Conference to be held in WA

15-16 October 2013  
Interviews in Wellington for 2014 Nuffield Scholarships

31 October 2013  
Wellington function to announce successful 2014 Nuffield NZ Scholars

31 January 2014  
2013 Nuffield NZ Scholar reports due

1-8 March 2014  
Contemporary Scholars Conference in Canberra, Australia

8-15 March 2014  
Post CSC tour to New Zealand; Global Focus Tour, week one in NZ

3-6 April 2014  
Nuffield NZ Biennial Conference at Wairakei Resort, Taupo

15-18 June 2014  
Nuffield International Triennial Conference in Canada

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**Partners**

Nuffield New Zealand is very grateful to these sponsors for their financial contribution.

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**Supporting Sponsors**