

## BORDER UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY BICENTENARY BURSARY FUND

Report to year-end 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### **Background:**

*The Bicentenary Bursary Fund was established during the Society's 200<sup>th</sup> year in order to create a fund to help young people from the Society's area who wish to pursue a course of study or a learning opportunity that will advance their career but will also (very importantly) contribute to the wider rural economy of the Borders. It follows the Society's original motto – that of 'encouraging improvement'.*

*The fund is invested through professional fund managers, under the control of the Society's trustees. The Awards Panel meets quarterly to consider applications made and, if appropriate, make an award. The maximum award is 50% of the costs of the study / trip / course. The Panel also keeps the terms and conditions of the scheme under constant review.*

*The Awards Panel this year has comprised: Luke Comins, Ian Fleming, James Joicey (chair), Jill McGregor, Charlie Robertson, Douglas Stephen, Neil Thomson and Andy Winwood. Mags Clark and Gordon Chisholm also attend the meetings.*

### **Report:**

This report covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

During the year a total of **six** completed applications were received. One was turned away as being outwith the scope of the scheme; one was an application for retrospective funding; one was subsequently withdrawn. The other three were successful and were:

- (i) Carina Calder – to attend a conference and complete a study tour in Canada on Honeyberries;
- (ii) David MacTaggart – to study deer-farming practices in New Zealand;
- (iii) Danielle McKinnon – to undertake personal development training under the British Horse Society (Level 4) in connection with her work with underprivileged young people.

In addition to the above, the Panel awarded **three** bursary grants in response to applications from individuals to attend the 2018 Commonwealth Agricultural Conference in Edmonton (Canada) as Next Generation delegates from BUAS: Emily Douglas, Paul Richardson and Mags Clark.

The total amount of bursary support given through these six applications was £9200.

The Bursary scheme continues to be widely promoted throughout the Borders, both in 'traditional' form (i.e. leaflets and advertising) and on Social Media. Adverts are kindly carried quarterly by Agrimart and Kelso Life, free of charge. BUAS members are encouraged to draw the attention of any likely applicant to the scheme, details of which are on the Society's website.

Plans are under discussion in order that space can be made available at the annual Border Union Show for a dedicated display highlighting the award-winners.

No amendments were made to the Terms and Conditions during the period.

*James Joicey  
October 2018*