

BORDER UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BICENTENARY BURSARY FUND

Report for the period from 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025

Background:

The Bicentenary Bursary Fund was established during the Society's 200th 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: '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: Tommy Clark, Peter Douglas, James Playfair-Hannay, Andrew Johnson, James Joicey (chair), Jill McGregor, Jane Mitchell, Derek Robeson, Charlie Robertson, Mary Thomson and Marshall Wilson. Gordon Chisholm (Rennie Welch) and Dan Withall (BUAS) also attend the meetings as observers.

This year the Bursary Fund attracted **eight** applications, of which one was ineligible.

The seven successful applicants were

Anna Barbour - for extra-mural studies in qualifying as a vet under the RCVS (Royal [Dick] Veterinary College, Edinburgh)

Katy McFadyen – participating in the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth's Mission to Botswana

Katie Forster – participating in the Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs' Agri-Affairs Study Tour to Texas

Jos Pringle – towards obtaining the Society of Master Saddlers and City and Guilds' Assured Certificate in Saddle Fitting

Alex Whittle – participation in the Rural Leadership Programme

Lorna Jackson – towards training at Plumpton College in Advanced Principles of Winemaking

Christopher Ruddock – participation in the Rural Leadership Programme

In addition, training in **Public Speaking** was arranged for selected former bursary winners. Two sessions, each with five participants, were held in the summer. The trainer was Maryanne Johnston from Biggar, a highly-regarded trainer in public speaking with a wide range of corporate clients.

These resulted in awards totalling £12,758.00:

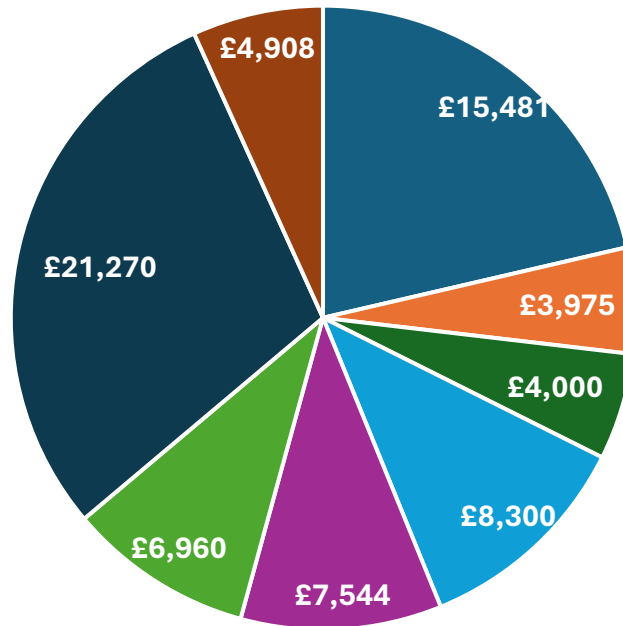
Since inception in 2013, awards total **£72,438**. The pie charts below give more breakdown.

The Panel continues to be very grateful to Agrimart for advertising the Bursary Scheme three times a year on behalf of the Society and also to all BUAS members who help to spread the word. Posters showcasing some of the recipients of Bursary Awards were placed around the showground at the Border Union Show. The Bursary Panel requests, and receives, periodic updates from all its recipients.

James Joicey - October 2025

BUAS Bursaries by Value

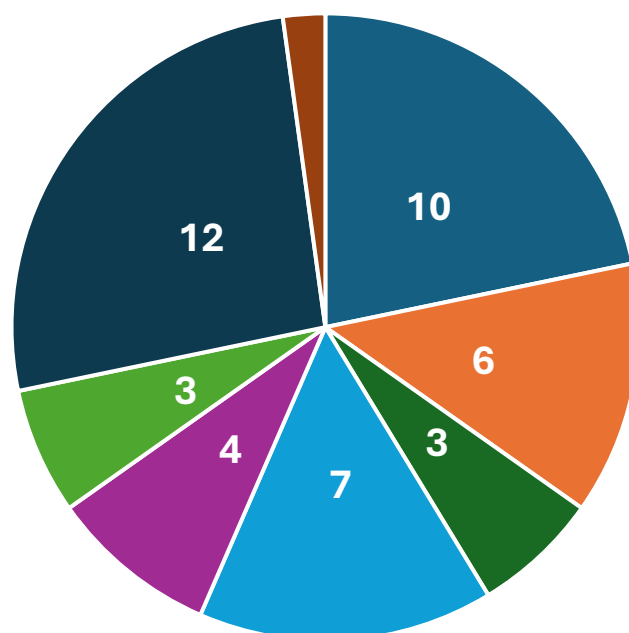
from inception (2013) to y.e. 30.Sept. 2025



- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ■ Vocational Development | ■ Leadership |
| ■ Veterinary EMS | ■ Next Generation Study Tours |
| ■ Agricultural Management | ■ Other Study |
| ■ Professional Development | ■ Public Speaking |

BUAS Bursaries by Category

from inception (2013) to y.e. 30.Sept.2025



- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ■ Vocational Development | ■ Leadership |
| ■ Veterinary EMS | ■ Next Generation Study Tours |
| ■ Agricultural Management | ■ Other Study |
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