

SPONSORS

The Cumberland Agricultural Society (CAS) although the organiser and lead facilitator is supported by a limited number of local businesses, and we'd like to sincerely thank the H&H Group, Dodd & Co, Carrs Billington, Cumbria YFC and Clydesdale Bank for their sponsorship commitment. As well as the award, sponsors will offer mentors to successful candidates to help them with the process and introductions as well as training and support with presentations. Newton Rigg College will provide academic support.



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Rural Study Travel Scholarship 2016-17



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WHY THE TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP?

To support the next generation of our local rural and farming community with a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity to travel in the UK, Europe or worldwide to learn more about a chosen agricultural subject which will benefit their business, broaden their horizons, as well as being beneficial to the wider rural/farm community, through communicating what has been learnt and the possible benefits to others.

WHAT IS THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The scholarship will be cash to assist with the basic cost of budget accommodation and travel to a maximum value up to £2,000 dependent on the nature and scope of the project. A maximum of two awards will be given each year.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Candidates will have an involvement in farming, the supply trade and the wider rural community in North Cumbria/South West Scotland and be under 30 years of age. Individuals may nominate themselves and/or sponsors and Society will identify and encourage known individuals, who they thought would benefit from an award, plus liaison through Cumbria YFC and Newton Rigg College.

THE STUDY

With support from their mentor the candidates would organise the study which could be from 3 up to 21 days. Upon return they will be required to produce a report on what they have learnt and present their findings to CAS and the sponsors. The candidate will also be available to present to other discussion groups/societies etc.

EXAMPLE STUDY SUBJECTS COULD INCLUDE:

- Understanding the export sheep market and opportunities for UK farmers
- Dairy Co-ops in Europe – would more Co-op's in the UK help?
- Dairy breeding programme in Holland
- Is New Zealand Lamb better and if so, why?
- Maize for feed in the USA
- Local markets for local food – France
- Adding value to wool
- The US Dairy industry and mega farms – is there a place for smaller producers?

The sky is the limit...

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Candidates will need to complete an application form (available online) with a brief synopsis of who they are and what they want to study, plus details of the benefits they see arising out of their trip. Where possible, the application should be supported by a short 90 second video clip. Applications to be received by Monday 31 October 2016.

A shortlist will be drawn up and interviewed by the Society and Sponsors. The interview will sanction that the study would be beneficial to both the individual and the wider rural community, as well as identifying future personal development for the applicant; this process to be completed by 30 November 2016.

Successful candidates will be invited and announced at the Cumberland Agricultural Society AGM in January 2017 and have nine months to complete their study.

