

NUFFIELD INTERNATIONAL CHAIR REPORT, BY ROGER MERCER



I have the privilege to report to our global alumni and all those friends and stakeholders of the extended Nuffield family on the activities of Nuffield International (NI) during 2016. This has been a seminal year in the growth of the organisation as we expand our global footprint.

It is worth reflecting on how NI came to this point of our evolution and to recognise those who have contributed their vision and passion for Nuffield beyond their own country efforts.

It was in Ireland in 2008 when Peter Nixon, 1991 Australian Nuffield Scholar, took the reins as chairman of NI as a pre-cursor to Australia hosting the 2011 triennial conference. Peter was chairman of an organisation, which did not have a charter or bank account and only existed as a forum to meet every three years. He quickly set about changing this and by 2011 he had an agreement and set of rules by which NI could operate, to present to a meeting of alumni in Adelaide. This agreement was formally ratified by the six country chairs present (Terry Hehir, Australia; Barry Cudmore, Canada; Philippe Quignon, France; Pdraig Walshe, Ireland; Stuart Wright, New Zealand and Jack Ward, UK).

By this time, all Nuffield chairs were attending the Contemporary Scholars Conference each year, which enabled the NI board to meet regularly to decide on strategy and governance issues.

Between 2001 and 2014, when the triennial conference was held in Canada, NI under the astute guidance of Stuart Wright from New Zealand, admitted Netherland into the Nuffield family and agreed to provide a NI scholarship for candidates outside the current seven participating countries.

Fortuitously, we were able to reach an agreement with TIAA Global Asset Management, a global farming investment company, to fund scholarship in 2015 and awarded to [Cecilia Fialho](#) from Brazil. TIAA also funded a scholarship in 2016, awarded to Luciano Loman. Luciano is currently completing his scholarship research.

The breakout year has been 2016 with the appointment of a full time Executive Officer, Jim Geltch, who had previously managed Nuffield Australia. With considerable financial support from the UK and Australia as well as Canada and New Zealand, has enabled NI to ensure management was well enough resourced and to spend the time necessary, to secure funding for further scholarships.

The result has seen five NI scholarships awarded for 2017. We have two from Brazil, one from USA, one for South Africa and one from Brussels in the EU representing the global fishing industry. See the [link to the scholar profiles](#). More than just the five scholarships awarded, there has been considerable momentum developed to achieve a greater result for 2018.

In reviewing 2016 from a NI perspective, some of the other highlights have been:

- A very successful CSC held in Cavan Ireland in March 2016. We had Nuffield scholar representatives from 8 countries and a further 6 nationalities present as guest. This global diversity coupled with the extraordinary and generous welcome given to our scholars by the people of Cavan, made the 2016 CSC a very memorable event. Many thanks to Bill O'Keefe and John Tyrell, Irish Chair, and Executive Officer respectively, for hosting NI. However,

many of the accolades must go to Alo Mohan and Catherine Fox (not a Nuffield scholar) who worked diligently to present a varied program which encapsulated excellent speakers, a great venue and the opportunity to partake of the legendary Irish hospitality.

- The seven Nuffield country national conferences have all been resounding successes throughout the year. New Zealand held their biennial conference in Blenheim; Australia in Adelaide; Ireland in Dublin; Dutch in Dronten; French in Paris, Canadian in Calgary and UK in Newcastle. This enabled the 2015 scholars to make their respective presentations and the opportunity to formally announce the 2017 Nuffield scholars. Congratulations to all these scholars and well done to the respective country executives for an exceptional job in presenting Nuffield in the most positive light.
- The United Kingdom has the honour of hosting the triennial conference in 2017. Details of the conference can be found elsewhere in the newsletter. However, I would like to make special mention of my committee, who have worked tirelessly to pull together an exciting program which will highlight the best of British Agriculture. A special mention must be made to the 70 financially aided registrations for recently returned scholars. This has been a deliberate strategy of the committee to ensure the conference is especially affordable for those younger scholars. A special treat will be the presence of 30 of the 2017 scholars (also at the discounted registration rate), who will participate in the triennial as a part of their Global Focus Program.
- The establishment of a Foundation Fund to strategically assist NI in their endeavours to expand our global footprint. Scholars will be approached, with the full knowledge of their country board, to contribute financial support and personally be an integral and founding partner in the internationalisation of Nuffield.

In closing, can I take the opportunity to thank my board members and their respective executives who support them. On behalf of the NI board, we would like to wish everyone, who is a part of the Nuffield family, all the best for the festive season and wishing you a successful and prosperous 2017.

Nuffield Australia Report, By Andrew Fowler, Chair and 2000 Scholar



I am pleased to introduce myself as the new Chair of Nuffield Australia. It's an honour to be appointed and I look forward to working alongside my fellow Directors, Scholars, management team and the international Nuffield network.

I am a 2000 Nuffield Scholar, managing a 28,000-hectare mixed cropping and livestock property near Esperance, Western Australia. I was appointed Chair in September, following the AGM held at the Nuffield Australia National Conference in Adelaide, South Australia.

I would like to thank outgoing Chair and 2005 Scholar Andrew Johnson for his hard-work, helping to grow our National Conference, expanding the development of Nuffield International and overseeing the transition of CEOs from Jim Geltch AO (1986 Sch) to Jodie Dean.

I would like to formally introduce Jodie Dean as our CEO. Appointed in May, Jodie has an extensive understanding of rural and regional issues, and is passionate about Australia's food and fibre industries. She also has communication, marketing and event management skills as well as broad industry networks which serve her well in this role.

Jodie's previous roles include Operations Manager at Grain Trade Australia and Senior Manager - Agricultural Development – at the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales. She also has research and extension experience, working across the Grain & Graze Program, NSW Department of Primary Industries and Central West Farming Systems.

I also take this opportunity to thank Jim Geltch for his hard work and dedication to Nuffield Australia as the CEO over the past ten years.

Across Australia, we've had a good season across many industries, including record grain production and strong recovery across the grazing sector with excellent and sustained red meat prices. The River Murray, Australia's longest river at 2500km, has been experiencing 30-year highs for river flows following a very wet winter so there has been full water allocations for irrigators.

Our Global Focus Program (GFP's) continues to be a major highlight. In 2017, there will be a record number 58 Australian and International Scholars participating in this six-week, world-class, guided international study tour across three continents.

There will be six GFPs in 2017, with three programs run in March-April, and three in May-June. In addition to 25 Australian Scholar participants, we welcome the involvement of ten UK Scholars, six New Zealand Scholars, six Irish Scholars, five Scholars from The Netherlands, two Canadian Scholars and five Nuffield International Scholars from Brazil, USA, South Africa and Belgium. We are confident that it will continue to be an intense and enriching study experience, with such a broad mix of Scholars and countries represented.



Photo: 2017 Australian Scholars announced at the National Conference

In 2017, our major event will be our National Conference, to be held in Darwin in the Northern Territory, 19-21 September, followed by a two-day regional tour.

The Conference will host delegates from the International Association of Programs for Agricultural Leadership (IAPAL) members. These represent about 40 USA state-based rural leadership programs as well as Canada, Scotland, Mexico and Australia. They will hold internal meetings in Darwin and attend our conference allowing excellent networking for those in attendance.

I look forward to seeing many of you at a Nuffield event in 2017 and best wishes for the New Year.

Nuffield Canada Report, by Kelvin Meadows, Chair and 2011 Scholar

Nuffield Canada held its Annual General Meeting in Calgary, Alberta, in late November. We partnered with the AgEx Conference, an annual Farm Business Management Council event, to encourage attendance at both events.



Photo Caption L-R: Greg Donald, Colin Hudon, Becky Parker, Chairman Kelvin Meadows
Nuffield Canada held its Annual General Meeting in Calgary, Alberta, in late November. We partnered with the AgEx Conference, an annual Farm Business Management Council event, to encourage attendance at both events.

At this function, reporting scholars Greg Donald, Colin Hudon and Becky Parker presented their reports at an evening dinner and were awarded certificates of completion as fully-fledged Nuffield Scholars.

We were also pleased to introduce 2017 Scholars Jason Fransoo (sponsored by Glacier Farm Media), Matt Hamill (sponsored by Western Grains Research Foundation), Nicole MacKellar (sponsored by Grain Farmers of Ontario) and Kristina Polziehn (sponsored by Alberta Wheat Commission) at this same event, where they quickly recognized the value that Nuffield alumni can offer to their networking strategies and travel study plans.



Photo L-R: Jason Fransoo, Kristina Polziehn, Nicole MacKellar, Matt Hamill, Chairman Kelvin Meadows

Special guests included many of our investor partners. Jim Geltch was also on hand, and provided valuable input to our new Scholar orientation. Thanks, Jim, for including us in your busy travel schedule!

Over the past year, many of our Scholars have participated in a wide variety of industry events. Their efforts are helping to promote the program across all sectors and as a result, we're seeing an increase in awareness at events like the AgEx conference and similar industry gatherings.

Our goals for 2017 include increasing the number of Nuffield Canada scholarships awarded to five, with a stretch goal of six. We have expanded the role and time commitment of our Executive Director Shannon McArton, allowing us to focus on securing financial support for a growing number of scholarships and finalize an operational plan that includes succession planning, clear definition of roles and responsibilities and an enhanced communications strategy.

Extreme weather created challenges for large areas of primary production across our country this year, ranging from severe drought to record-setting precipitation. The livestock sector suffered setbacks, with slumping cattle prices and the added pressure of a tuberculosis outbreak that has quarantined many operations in Western Canada. The value-added food sector has always been

challenged by changes in consumer demand but this has also opened up high margin opportunities for innovative products that provide time-saving options to an increasingly health-conscious consumer.

I have spent some time in Eastern Africa recently, with Wayne Dredge and Jim Geltch, meeting with investors and potential Scholars interested in participating in the Nuffield International experience.

Nuffield France Report, by Benoit Presles, Chair and 1985 Scholar



The year 2016 saw the first public presentation of Scholar reports. Three presentations from the 2015 group were delivered to an audience of some 60 people. It was a good opportunity to show what Nuffield is all about and to explain the richness of its global network of contacts.

Photo caption: 2015 Nuffield Scholars at the public presentation in France: Guillaume Bernard Baptiste de Fressanges and Victor Leforestie

This is also the first year that Nuffield has been asked to set up a Portrait Gallery of innovative farmers at the International Agricultural Machinery Show in Paris.

Concerning partners, new contacts have been made which should be formalized in 2017. A new project for developing Nuffield France was adopted at the AGM in November. It will deepen the involvement of our partners in the life of the association whose aim is to contribute to the emergence of a creative, innovative, responsible and communicative agriculture.

The Scholars

The selection board feels that quality of the candidates has increased significantly. The quality of the studies, the development of individual potential from the overseas visits and contacts, and the active support and effectiveness of the Nuffield network are beginning to be recognized in France and attract attention.

Agriculture in France, 2016

2016 was a disastrous year for agriculture in France. Cereal crop yields were poor and so were prices. There were structural surpluses in the milk sector and problems in the traditional livestock sector. Many farms face serious financial difficulties but this crisis will probably be the driving force for restructuring by those operators capable of taking control of their own destiny.

About 30 per cent of farmers in France are real entrepreneurs and managers. They are the ones who will build French agriculture tomorrow with a clear focus on their farming practices, on the value-added of their products, and with less dependence on their professional organizations which have a tradition of strong commitment to defending models that are no longer relevant.

My Experience as President

The role of Nuffield President in France is a huge task because we do not yet have the capacity to finance an employee to manage daily operations. The situation is made more difficult by the limited commitment of former Scholars. This is why we have created a new project to develop the association involving both Scholars and partners who will ensure the development and secure the future for Nuffield France.

Nuffield Ireland Report, by Bill O’Keeffe, 2010 Scholar and Chair



In September, we selected the six 2017 Scholars from almost 40 applications. Briefings will be arranged in January for the new Scholars with agri-food businesses, policymakers and sponsors, to provide insight into the Irish agri and food sector.

Photo: 2017 Nuffield Ireland Scholars: Left to Right: Niall O’Regan, Ed Payne, Eamon Sheehan, Bryan Hynes, Owen Brodie and Lorcan Allen.

Nuffield CSC 2016

Ireland hosted the Contemporary Scholars Conference in Cavan in March. There was an attendance of almost 100 Scholars, country chairs, executives and guests from 12 countries. The Scholars had the opportunity to meet speakers from companies, policy makers and technical experts, and to visit companies and see the Irish grass-based dairy system. They also experienced local food, culture and sport (Gaelic Football local derby between Cavan and Armagh). There is no truth in the rumor that the Guinness ran dry at the Cavan Crystal Hotel during the week of the CSC!

Nuffield Ireland Conference 2016

Our Annual Conference took place in Dublin on 14 October. There were 135 delegates, with almost two-thirds of our alumni in attendance. We had presentations from the returning 2015 Scholars, and the 2016 Scholars presented their GFP experiences, key messages and main issues that they learned. Our Keynote speaker, Michael Hoey, is MD of a very progressive family-owned, agri-food business, which is one of the largest growers and suppliers of potatoes and onions to retailers in Ireland, and has a prepared foods division. Jim Geltch attended and addressed the conference, which was followed by a dinner where 100 delegates and guests attended.



Business issues for Irish agriculture

Britain’s decision to leave the EU has major consequences for Ireland. Over 40 per cent of Ireland’s food exports are to the UK, with uncertainty about how this will be affected. The fall in the British Pound since the referendum has severely hit the value of these exports. At times the decline in sterling was 15 per cent against the Euro.

We have a 500km land border with Northern Ireland, and it remains to be seen how this will be handled post-Brexit. There is very little clarity about the likely consequences or timescale of Brexit, so, this topic is very high on the agenda. Business does not like uncertainty, and many companies are already taking decisions to reduce the risks.

Scholar News

Mary Delaney (2014 Sch) was elected as President of the Agricultural Science Association (ASA). The ASA is the professional body for graduates (Level 8 degree) in agricultural, horticultural, forestry, environmental and food science, which has 1,700 members.

Kevin Moran (2015 Sch) received the 2016 FBD Young Farmer of the Year award.

Brian Rushe (2015 Sch) was elected County Chairman of Kildare Irish Farmers Association.

Aisling Meehan (2011 Sch) is on the Council of the Law Society of Ireland.

John Fagan (2002 Sch) was the feature farm on RTE's (Irish national TV) 'Big Week on the Farm', which was transmitted on five successive nights in April. From lambing, calving and hatching, Big Week on the Farm charted the life-cycle of farm animals, providing the nation with real-time access to the world of Ireland's farming countryside. This series explored how a new era of farming is emerging, with technology and science innovations, like precision farming and beef genomics transforming the industry. 'Big Week on the Farm' was the overall winner of the Agricultural Journalism Awards for 2016.

Shane Fitzgerald (2011 Sch) held an open day on his farm to mark his success in winning the National Heifer Rearing Competition. Shane was also elected on the Council of Glanbia Co-op in 2016, and joins Pdraig Walshe (1996 Sch) and Jonathan Tighe (2008 Sch) on the Glanbia Co-op Council.

The Netherlands Report, by Djûke van der Maat, Netherlands Chair



Nuffield Netherlands is very proud of all six 2017 Dutch Nuffield Scholars: Roland van Asten, Marten Dijkstra, Jaco de Groot, Jaap Dun, Rick Baats and Erik Stegink. This year, for the first time a Dutch Scholar joined a GFP. In 2017 there will be five scholars who will get that great experience as well.

Being chairman of Nuffield Netherlands, Djûke was invited by Rabobank to be in the discussion panel at the Farm to Fork summit in Sydney and join the Global Farmers Master Class. She had the honour to speak to the Dutch king and queen during the Farm to Fork summit (see photo above).

And see below a photo of our latest Scholar, Rick Baats. He is the winner of the Dutch Apprentice at the beginning of this month. Rick had to complete many assignments about farming, entrepreneurship, innovation and more and he has done a great job.



Nuffield New Zealand Report, by Juliet Maclean, Chair and 2000 Scholar



2016 has been a busy but productive year for Nuffield NZ.

The year started with our new 2016 Scholars attending the CSC having attended a briefing in December the previous year.

Photo: Murray Douglas (1997 Scholar) thanking Peter Yealand for his hospitality in hosting during the 2016 NZ Biennial Conference.

The 2015 Scholars submitted their reports shortly before presenting at our biennial Nuffield NZ Conference which was held in Marlborough. The Conference provided the opportunity to visit some unique farming ventures in the top of the South Island including aquaculture, viticulture, horticulture and pastoral.

At our AGM, held in conjunction with the conference, Julian Raine stood down as Chair and was acknowledged for his contribution to Nuffield NZ and International. Juliet Maclean is the new Chair and was quickly introduced to NI by Julian and Jim Geltch.

NZ hosted the final leg of the Brazil GFP with a lower North Island program providing a range of farming and agri-business visits in April. The Scholars were also able to share some time with the Kellogg Leadership Programme attendees who were in Wellington at the same time.

Applications for 2017 Scholarships opened on 1 July with a record number (39) high-quality applications. This year, six Scholars were selected, due to the selection of only four Scholars in 2016. The scholars represent dairy, sheep, beef and arable sectors. The Scholars are Nadine Porter (arable), Ryan O'Sullivan (dairy), Mat Hocken (dairy), Jason Rolfe (dairy/agri-business), Rebecca Hyde (sheep and beef) and David Kidd (beef).

New initiatives have been introduced this year to ensure we achieve favourable results for our investors and better position our Scholars for success at the conclusion of their scholarships. These initiatives include:

- A two-day NZ and industry briefing.
- Reflective learning practices - to ensure Scholars are better equipped to understanding and link their overseas experiences and the implications for NZ.
- Linking research topics with the NZ agri-business agenda.
- Allocating research advisors to Scholars to assist with working on research topics and reports.

The partnership with the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme continues to be successful with the leadership pathway showing positive results. Three of our six 2017 Scholars have completed the Kellogg programme.

Some notable successes on the global stage were celebrated in 2016. **Craige Mackenzie** (2008 Sch) a newly appointed Nuffield NZ Trustee, won the global 2016 Precision Agriculture Farmer of the Year Award and is driving some NZ initiatives with government. **Richard Fowler** (2016 Sch) was selected for Portrait Gallery of Innovative Farmers for the next SIMA Exhibition in Paris (two of only six represented).

NZ is looking forward to hosting the Nuffield International 2020 Triennial Conference with a good contingent of Kiwis going over to the 2017 Triennial Conference in the UK to sell the highlights.

Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust, UK Report, by Wallace Hendrie, UK Chair and 1995 Scholar



We have had another exciting year at Nuffield and another amazing group of young people have become Nuffield Scholars adding to the leadership potential and knowledge in our industry.

We had a great conference last year in Belfast, thanks to Campbell Tweed and the Scholars of Northern Ireland. The conference is now a must event for Scholars and the consistency and quality of the papers shone through. The buzz, ideas and the networking for Scholars, potential Scholars and sponsors has really made it the event to attend. We were delighted to welcome a fantastic number of local sponsors this year - their support is invaluable. We hope their contacts will help us pull in our next group of scholars from Northern Ireland.

We welcomed the 18 new Scholars to Nuffield this year and the awards ceremony has helped to introduce them to their sponsor and the wider body. The pre-conference induction day now gives new Scholars a full insight into what to expect and how to prepare for the learning journey ahead.

In March, at the CSC, we were again kindly hosted by Savills, whose staff gave the group the benefit of their expertise in presentation skills, media and analysis. We were given a good grounding in the issues around Europe from Maeve Whyte and were treated to a full-on debate on Brexit whilst Patrick Begg and his team from the National Trust challenged the group on strategic thinking.

The CSC itself was welcomed to Cavan by Nuffield Ireland and what a genuine welcome we received. It is amazing how well the UK Scholars gelled and performed at the group tasks. We were given presentations by industry leading operators including a real insight into the reasons why the 'Harvest 2020' initiative is such a success and why the Irish agricultural industry is going from strength to strength - especially in the dairy sector. The Scholars were once again led in their group challenges by Jean Leonie and Sally Thomson. Jim Geltch always says "the knowledge is in the room" and the CSC now functions to enable Scholars to take full advantage of that. The growth of individuals during this short period is immeasurable and we left Ireland with firm friendships made and some fantastic contacts for future travels.

Nuffield international is now well on its way to being a fully funded stand-alone organisation with Jim Geltch as its CEO. Jim, as usual, has set himself ambitious targets and has already secured funding for five scholarships this year.

Kelvin Meadows will take over as Chair of Nuffield international from Roger Mercer at the 2017 Triennial next year and they, with Jim, are working very hard to underpin the funding for this amazing new endeavour. Jim and Sally will lead the organising for next year's CSC in Brasilia, Brazil.

The program that Roger and his committee have put together is amazing with the title "Small Island Big Ideas". This World conference will show the best British agriculture has to offer with a thoughtful and comprehensive program. I must thank Roger Mercer and the team for putting together this fantastic event. Thank you also to Julie Mate for the wonderful work she has done pulling the program together and producing such an excellent website. So please have a look and get booking now.

We also selected our first Nuffield Farming Lecturer, Professor Michael Winter. He will present a lecture in London 2018 on the subject of: "How agriculture can serve the multi food cultures of 2025". With thanks to Meryl Ward and the Arden family for funding and working with us on the evolution of the Arden scholarship.

Applications this year were strong and we had 43 candidates for interview over the three days in October. I would like to thank all the selectors Allan Blackburn, Dorothy Fairburn and Frank Thompstone along with Julian Darling, for their wisdom and endurance to select the Scholars, the Best 204 Report and, this year, the Nuffield Lecturer. This year we selected 19 Scholars studying a wide range of topics from aquaponics to weed mapping. Part of the joy in this role is witnessing the passion and enthusiasm for our industry from future Nuffield Scholars. More emphasis has been placed on a Scholar's report that is focused and will deliver real change within the industry.

The work of the board has continued apace. We have committed to underwrite more GFP scholarships and our work with sponsors in the spring moves us further to help understand the potential of the GFP for all. We are all committed to the individual scholarship and delivering the best people to progress leadership in UK agriculture.

We have further reviewed our mission statement and values with a view to promoting Nuffield to a wider audience. Building on our excellent profile with the BBC, Farmers Weekly and Farmers Guardian, we would like to extend the Nuffield possibilities for those outside the usual Nuffield

circles. We must recognise that agriculture has moved on from an era when farmers were entrusted to feed a hungry nation. We all now play a part in a sophisticated supply chain not just in food but energy, the environment and leisure.

We would also like those of you who are aware of potential leadership roles within the industry sector boards or expert committees, ways that Nuffield's can inform the decision-making process. We are not a lobby organisation but do have a duty, as individuals, to inform and take a lead.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as chairman and must thank Julian Darling for his support to me personally and his skill and energy in the role of vice chairman. Your board have a wide range of skills that we have brought to bear on the running of the Trust and on behalf of Nuffield I thank them for their work. I must single out Louise Manning for her role as Chair of the Communications Sub-Committee and her amazing work with the Scholars to get the best from their scholarships.

Finally, I would like to thank Mike and Poey and their team who have made the smooth running the trust possible. We have come a long way in a relatively short time.

Nuffield Report from the USA, by Ed Kee, Secretary, Delaware Department of Agriculture



Photo Caption L-R: Scott Wagner, NE farmer; Dr. Mark Isaacs, Director Uni. Delaware; Geoff Ruth, NE farmer; Ed Kee, Delaware Secretary of Agriculture; Doug Oertwich, NE farmer; Melinda Rasmussen, NE farmer; Jim Geltch; Dan Bautista, Uni. Delaware

The Nuffield Scholars – USA program, is now formally established as a Delaware Corporation and as a tax exempt, non-profit organisation under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

The following officers and directors comprise the board of directors:

Ed Kee – President. Secretary of Agriculture, State of Delaware; former vegetable crops specialist for the University of Delaware.

Jean Lonie – Vice President. Director of Student Recruitment, College of Agriculture, Pennsylvania State University.

Jim Geltch – Secretary/Treasurer. Chair, Nuffield International Scholars. Former CEO of Nuffield Australia. Nuffield Scholar, 1986. Farmer, New South Wales, Australia.

Barton Ruth – Director. Farmer, Rising City, Nebraska. Former Eisenhower Fellow. Past President of the American Soybean Association.

Bill Northey – Director. Secretary of Agriculture, State of Iowa. Farmer. Past President of the National Corn Growers Association.

In addition to becoming formally organised, Jim Geltch and Ed Kee have visited California, the Midwest and Eastern U.S. to introduce the Nuffield program and philosophy to potential supporters and to network with many others to identify and encourage potential Scholar candidates.

The first board meeting was held on November 21, at Holiday Inn Express, Omaha, 2010 Abbott Drive, Clear Lake, Iowa.

Meeting Farmers in Delaware about a Chicken Industry

Ed Kee and Jim Geltch met with four Nebraskan famers who had travelled to Delaware to meet with farmers, researchers, and processors about the viability of setting up a chicken industry in Nebraska. A large supermarket chain, Costco is building a processing plant in Nebraska and has approached several farmers with supply contracts. This mission, organised by Ed, was to assist the farmers in their assessment of the proposal.

This meeting came about due to the Nuffield network. Jim arranged for Ed to meet Bart Ruth in Nebraska and Bart's son Geoff led this small delegation to Delaware after an invitation from Ed. The key driver for the farmers was the potential supply of chicken manure.

First Nuffield International Scholar from the U.S.A.

Poultry farmer Georgie Cartanza, from Dover, Delaware, is the first American to receive a Nuffield International Scholarship, one of 90 farmers from around the world to participate in the global agricultural scholarship program.

Cartanza, who recently began work as poultry extension specialist with the University of Delaware, will be spending 16 weeks overseas studying farming technology and production efficiencies. She will travel to China, Brazil, Canada, Israel, the United Kingdom, France, Italy and The Netherlands, learning about topics including production needs, extreme climates, consumer demands, food safety and organic poultry transitions.

Cartanza has worked with poultry for more than 20 years, including time with Mountaire and Perdue. She has raised poultry on her farm near Dover for the last ten years, and has raised organic chickens since April 2015. She began her new position as UD poultry extension agent on 1st December. and will continue to farm.

NUFFIELD IN BRAZIL, Report by Sally Thomson



Nuffield in Brazil continues to build momentum, with focus on connecting with like-minded organisations and individuals to raise awareness of the Nuffield brand and objectives, identifying potential candidates and investors, and receiving travelling Scholars well here in Brazil. In 2016, we welcomed Nufarm as the inaugural investor to offer a scholarship exclusively for a Brazilian, and thank TIAA-CREF for their continued investment in an international scholarship, open to a number of countries including Brazil. We have received 32 Scholars in Brazil in 2016; an important opportunity to showcase Nuffield's biggest asset – our people and your curious minds – thank you for coming. Brazil means food and despite El Nino and political challenges, 7% of the world's food is produced in Brazil with forecasts for this to increase to 12% by 2020, without any significant opening up of new land.



Our Nuffield engine-room is in good form, adding both depth and breadth to its character this year:



- Welcome to our 2017 Nuffield International Scholars - **Murilo Betterello** – financially supported by Nufarm to research the role of digital platforms in knowledge transfer, and **Carla Borges**, financially supported by TIAA-CREF to study on-farm systemisation with a focus on machinery maintenance and parts inventories.

- Welcome to our 2017 CSC delegates, **Alf de Wit, Elder Bruno and Pedro Magalhaes**, selected from a strong field of Brazilian candidates to attend the 2017 CSC in Brasilia.



- Congratulations to **Cecilia Fialho**, inaugural Nuffield International Scholar (2015) for the publication of her insightful report comparing the regulatory markers on biotechnology policy in Brazil, China, European Union and the USA.

- **Luciano Loman**, awarded the 2016 Nuffield International Scholarship supported by TIAA-CREF continues his studies in vertical agriculture, with his results due in mid-2017.

- 2016 CSC representatives - **Marcelo Queiroz, Rodger Douglas, Joao Martins and Victor Ayres** attended the CSC in Cavan, Ireland, and remain engaged in developing our local foot-hold and receiving travelling Scholars in Brazil.



- Welcome to **Ana Paula Ponchio**, our pro-bono communications manager, who brings a wealth of energy and experience to the team.



The Nuffield in Brazil network has been communicating via webinars, to get updates from our travelling Scholars and organise ourselves internally. 2016 also saw the establishment of our Nuffield in Brazil Strategic Advisory Committee, who meet twice a year to guide the Nuffield effort within the wider landscape. We are grateful to Ian Hill, Cesario Ramalho, Xico Graziano, Marcos Gaio, Sergio de Zen, Fabiano Paganella, Marcos Iha and Colin Butterfield for their support and guidance.

We look forward to receiving Nuffield 2017 Scholars and Country Executives at the CSC in Brasilia in March 2017 for the CSC.

South Africa Report, By Jim Geltch, CEO Nuffield International and 1986 Scholar



Photo: The Farmer Exchange, Nuffield Scholars and emerging RSA farmers

It has been well documented that Thato Moagi has been selected as South Africa's first Nuffield Scholar. Thato was introduced to Nuffield during the 2016 Global Focus Program (GFP) when the Scholars met with a group of young South African emerging farmers in what was billed as a "Farmers Exchange". This exchange had been arranged by Nuffield through the auspices of Hlami Ngwenya, an inspirational South African who is a realist within RSA, with a passion to mentor and empower people to achieve outcomes themselves.

The Nuffield Scholars who participated found the experience very rewarding, but importantly it unearthed Thato.

However, there was one important ingredient missing before Thato could apply for a Nuffield Scholarship. That was an investor who was willing to invest the considerable funds in making a scholarship available to a South African.

Shaun Cawood, Managing Director of Northern Star, a RSA agricultural development company, had attended the 2015 CSC in France after being invited by Bill O'Keefe, Nuffield Ireland Chair. Bill had met Shaun at a Rabobank Global Farmer Master Class in The Netherlands and Shaun was so impressed with the Nuffield program, he committed the funds for a South African Scholarship.



Photo caption L-R: Selection Panel, Shaun Cawood (MD Northern Star), Kelvin Meadows (Canadian Chairman and 2011 Scholar), Thato Moagi, Allison Lea (2004 UK Scholar) and Jim Geltch, NI CEO

Subsequently, Thato Moagi was interviewed, and after her bon fides had been well-established by visiting her farming operation, she was awarded South Africa's first Nuffield Scholarship.

Thato's award has been a catalyst for Allison Lea, who sat on the selection panel, and Doug Hutton-Squire, 2009 UK Scholar domiciled in RSA, to endeavour to compile a list of Nuffield Scholars living in RSA. The intent is to establish set up a small website, with a South African focus, to create awareness and galvanise support for an RSA Nuffield Trust.

This is a great initiative by Alli and Doug which NI will give as much support to as possible.

Zimbabwe Report, By Jim Geltch, CEO Nuffield International and 1986 Scholar



Photo Caption L-R: Stephen Crawford (1999 Scholar), Helen Goodwin (1994 Scholar), Faye Sandwith (long time Honorary Secretary Nuffield Zimbabwe), Liezel Crawford (Steve's wife), Rob Fisher (2002, and last Zim Scholar), Kelvin Meadows (Nuffield Canada Chair), Kathy Etheredge (Richard's wife), Wayne Dredge (2014 Australian Scholar), Romee Fisher (Rob's wife), Richard Etheredge (1966 Scholar), Jim Geltch (CEO Nuffield

International and 1986 Australian Scholar) and Jeff Kockott (2001 Scholar).

Through the efforts of 2014 Nuffield Australian Scholar, Wayne Dredge, and 2002 Zimbabwean Scholar, Rob Fisher, five Nuffield Zimbabwean Scholars, wives and the organisations long time secretary and honorary member, Faye Sandwith, met in Harare for dinner on 1 October 2016. Apologies were received from Trevor Gifford (1995) and Doug Bruce (2002), who were both out of the country.

It was an important gathering for several reasons, one of which was articulated by one of the Scholars present in these few words:

"What a delight last night was. Nothing high powered but really mind blowing to have you amongst us and in the Nuffield way getting everyone to talk. Really good for the soul. Thank you very much."

"I know we have thought to get together on several occasions but it has never happened. Everyone has been so intent on trying to survive and finding a way forward that we have neglected the good stuff. There has been such a scattering of friends and families all over the world and communities blown apart that often when we catch up with those that are still around is at funerals, of which there are many."

"Thank you all for coming out. I was horrified that you were staying in a hotel. Please in future contact us and we would be delighted to have you to stay. However, it was a feat in itself just getting some of us together for the evening."

Nuffield International plans to make this get together an annual event. Having a cohort of Nuffield Scholars in Zimbabwe, will make our attempts to establish a Nuffield scholarship program across the African continent, much easier to achieve.

CONTACT

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