

## NEWS

### Research Projects/PhD's

Four of the PhD students that are partially funded by The Trust were scheduled to give presentations of their work at the South East Midland Branch AGM on 8th November as follows:

Alexandra Cooke (Cranfield University) on "Filter socks as an effective end-of-pipe solution"

Iain Dummett (Cranfield University) on "Strip tillage and soil health, comparing within and between rows"

Agnese Mancini (Cranfield University) on "Optimising soil erosion control and runoff management in forage maize"

Anthony Millington (Harper Adams University) on "An investigation into the effects of soil compaction and tillage on plant growth and yield of winter barley".

Unfortunately, Anthony was ill and could not take part. The other three students gave impressive accounts of their work with Iain being awarded the prize for the best presentation.



**ABOVE: Douglas Bomford Trust students (left to right), Agnese Mancini, Iain Dummett and Alexandra Cooke**

### Studentships

A total of twenty applications for Douglas Bomford Trust scholarships were received from students at Harper Adams University and shortlisted candidates were interviewed by a panel comprising Antony Burgess and David White as trustees and the secretary Paul Miller on 18th November 2015. A separate application was received from an MEng student studying mechanical engineering at Cambridge University and the

student, Martina Cheadle, was interviewed by Peter Redman and Paul Miller on 20th January 2016. The standard of the written applications and presentations at the interviews was very high – two of the students from Harper Adams University made applications detailing a project that they wished to undertake and the panel decided that these should be supported as small projects outside of the studentship scheme. Two grants have now been made to:

Thomas James for a final year project entitled "An investigation

into improving hydraulic component efficiency through the use of additive manufacturing processes"; and

Tom Spinney for a project concerned with developing a control system for a flail hedge trimmer.

As a result of the selection process, five studentship awards were made to students at Harper Adams and these will be presented at a special event on 17th February 2016. An award was also made to Martina Cheadle at Cambridge University. We wish our students well and look forward to hearing of their progress.

### Travel Awards

The Trust, together with AGCO/Massey Ferguson, contributed towards a group of thirteen students from Harper Adams University visiting the Agritechnica exhibition in Hanover, Germany in November 2015. The students travelled from Manchester airport on the Thursday evening and spent two days (Friday and Saturday) at the exhibition. The Group prepared a comprehensive report of their visit

that was submitted to The Trust and showed that they were all impressed by the scale of the exhibition and the machinery on show. Different individuals highlighted the exhibits that they had found of particular interest and aspects of the show that was relevant to their interests and future aspirations. Further details of the visit can be obtained from The Trust's office.

#### Interested in working with the Douglas Bomford Trust?

The current Secretary of The Trust has indicated to The Board of Trustees that he wishes to reduce his work for The Trust over the next twelve months. If you are interested in working with The Trust in this capacity, please contact the Douglas Bomford Trust office. Tel: 01234 750876 or enquiries@dbt.org.uk



**ABOVE: Group of Harper Adams University students on the AGCO/Massey Ferguson stand at Agritechnica in November 2015.**