

The Farmers Club Charitable Trust (FCCT) award over £40k of bursary funding to celebrate its 40th anniversary.

An exciting new initiative that supports the delivery of a 'Snapshot Study' has proved an outstanding success for the FCCT. Promoted during the second year of #AgriLeadershipWeek applications were sought to deliver a short-focussed study on topics that covered a wide range of themes. Both the application and final study include a video presentation which has attracted a wide range of applicants with study titles based around community agriculture business models, changing how we think about and use nitrogen, aquaculture potential for seaweed production for biofertiliser. In total twenty-three people are going to benefit directly from the initiative with many more gaining from the study findings in the future.

The theme topics were released each day of #AgriLeadershipWeek.

- Bringing technology to the industry
- Farming practices of the future.
- Feeding the world (increasing production and reducing waste)
- Educating future farmers, growers and consumers
- Self-sufficiency in food production from UK agriculture.

The FCCT has added the Snapshot Study award to their educational bursary packages for the first time this year to help celebrate its 40th anniversary. This package of bursary funding complements the Trusts long standing support for Agricultural Educators with the Agricultural Educator Awards and the Leadership Bursaries offered to attend the prestigious Windsor Leadership Trust programme.

During its four decades of existence the Trust has distributed more than £500k of bursary funding to a wide range of farming projects, taking UK agriculturists to all four corners of the globe. With the trusts aim of 'promoting the science and technology of agriculture in all its aspects for the public benefit' the Snapshot Studies are an exciting addition to the suite of educational packages of support offered to the industry.

Stephen Fletcher, Chairman of the Trust said: "This was a really exciting initiative to be added to #AgriLeadershipWeek. With a 'light-touch' application and final study presented in video format the Trustees have attracted a wide spectrum of applicants who have chosen to study a range of very topical themes. Stephen added, "Celebrating the Trusts 40th year in this way highlights the importance of its commitment to support training and education within the industry."

Study video presentations are due to be submitted at the beginning of September 2022 and the Trustees are keen to share the findings with the wider industry.