



BK Otway Education Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship

Background

Brian Otway (1926 - 2018) was a passionate farmer up until his death aged 91. His father and grandfather were earlier surveyors and pioneer farmers.

Brian Otway grew up and was schooled in Auckland but most weekends and holidays were spent with his brother, Bill, helping out on the family farm in the Waimai / Matira valleys. During World War Two Brian trained as a pilot with the R.N.Z.A.F.



In 1946 he attended Lincoln College to complete a Diploma of Agriculture where he also played for the Lincoln College 1st XV rugby team until 1948. Three of Brian's children also attended Lincoln College studying programmes in agriculture and horticulture.

In the late 1940s Brian purchased a gorse and scrub infested block of land (originally milled for Kauri trees then Kauri gum) in the Te Arai district (Wellsford) with no buildings, fences, or roads. Brian worked extremely hard, contracting off the property by day (land clearing with a bulldozer) and working on his own land by night. Locals called him "mad Otway" as they could see the lights at night time while he was cutting gorse. Once cleared, Brian had milking cows. Soon after he transformed this property and nearby properties into highly productive sheep and cattle farms that also supported large tracts of native bush.

After selling these properties in early 2000 he continued on in his eighties with the help of his youngest son to develop a large rundown farm near Kerikeri. Even in his last years he managed trips to the farm to get onto his beloved bulldozer.

Brian knew the importance of education and believed everyone should have the opportunity to access it. The family saying: standing at the foothills gazing at the sky, how should I get up there if I never try?" is what Brian stood for. Hard work meant results.

In 2009 Brian Otway settled a Charitable Trust known as the BK Otway Education Foundation and on his death a significant part of his estate was left to the trustees of the BK Otway Education Foundation for its purposes.

Regulations

1. Purpose

The BK Otway Education Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship was established in 2020 by the BK Otway Education Foundation to support students who are entering their second year of study towards a Bachelor of Agriculture, Bachelor of Commerce (Horticulture) or Bachelor of Viticulture and Oenology degree, or entering a Diploma in Farm Management or Diploma in Horticultural Management at Lincoln University.

2. Number/Value

Three scholarships will be offered annually to full time students studying at Lincoln University. The annual value of each scholarship shall be \$8,000 towards tuition fees.

3. Eligibility

- a. Applicants must be full time students entering :
 - i. their second year of their Bachelor of Agriculture, Bachelor of Commerce (Horticulture) or Bachelor of Viticulture and Oenology degree, or
 - ii. a Diploma in Farm Management or Diploma in Horticultural Management.
- b. Applicants must be New Zealand Citizens or Permanent Residents.

4. Selection Criteria

The criteria for selection will be

- a. Hardship barriers making continuing study difficult
- b. Academic Merit (all first year courses completed successfully)
- c. Evidence of and/or planned activity to support the New Zealand Agriculture or Horticulture industries.

5. Selection Committee

The scholarship shall be awarded based on a recommendation of a selection committee which shall comprise:

- a. The convenor of the Scholarships Committee, or nominee
- b. A representative from the Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- c. A representative of the BK Otway Education Foundation.

The selection committee may request the applicant to attend an interview as part of the selection process.

The selection committee may refrain from making an award if it finds no candidate of sufficient merit.

6. Tenure

- a. The scholarship is tenable for one year, however an application may be made to extend the scholarship for a further year.
- b. The scholarship is tenable with any other scholarship, award or bursary that permits this.

7. Application

Applications close 1 March at 4pm. Please return your application form to the Scholarships Office. You can either email, post or deliver to the following:-

Email address: scholarships@lincoln.ac.nz

Postal Address:
Scholarships Office
Lincoln University
PO Box 85084
Lincoln 7647
Canterbury

Physical Address:
Scholarships Office
Student Administration
Ground Floor George Forbes Memorial Building
Lincoln University

Phone: 03 423 0000