

# The Brian Large Bursary Fund

## Registered Charity No 328747

### Report for the period 6 April 2023 to 5 April 2024

The Brian Large Bursary Fund was established in 1990 in memory of Brian Large, a leading transport planner, who died in 1989.

#### Statement of the Fund's Purpose

The advancement of the education of the public and in particular the promotion and encouragement of teaching and research in the field of transportation studies at universities in the United Kingdom.

#### Administration

Trustees: Nicholas M Dybeck  
Dougie McDonald  
Martin G Richards OBE  
Michael Roberts.

Administrator: Martin Richards OBE  
Address: The Old School House, Coldharbour, Dorking, Surrey,  
RH5 6HF.

Accounts prepared by: Nicholas Dybeck.  
Accounts checked by: Michael Roberts.

The Trustees meet from time to time to consider the Fund's investment portfolio, to decide on the amount and type of awards to be made available, and to make decisions on applications received.

#### Report for 2023-2024

##### Trustees

There was no change in Trustees during the year.

##### Accounts

Total receipts during the year amounted to £135,640, including £112,614 from the sale of investments.

A total of £32,750 was disbursed in the form of bursaries paid during the period, and £1,000 was paid to the winner of the 2023 Voorhees-Large Prize. Operating expenses were £61,000. £70,000 was used to purchase investments.

Our total assets at 05 April 2023 were £894,743 (investments: £878,784; cash at bank: £15,959). Our total assets at 05 April 2024 were £888,616 (investments: £840,828; cash at bank: £47,788). Consistent with our established policy, we sold some assets to finance our grant award programme.

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### **Reserves Policy**

The established policy of the Trustees is to award bursaries to an annual value in line with the Trust's cash resources, augmented from time to time by a part of any increase in the capital value of the Trust's funds beyond that required to maintain their value in real terms. Accordingly, the Trustees consider that as there are no circumstances in which a reserve would be required to meet the Fund's obligations there is no need for them to maintain a separate reserve.

### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the Fund might be exposed and are satisfied that their procedures mitigate them.

### **Web Site**

The Trust has a web site, [www.blbf.co.uk](http://www.blbf.co.uk), to provide information about the Fund for potential beneficiaries, universities and other interested parties.

### **Data Privacy**

The Trust has a Data Privacy policy, available at [www.blbf.co.uk/gdpr-policy](http://www.blbf.co.uk/gdpr-policy)

### **Safeguarding**

The Trust has a Safeguarding policy.

### **Distribution of Funds**

Funds are mainly distributed by means of bursaries awarded annually to students undertaking a taught Masters course in transport at universities in the United Kingdom. In addition, the Fund awards an annual Voorhees-Large Prize to a transport Masters graduate.

The Trustees regularly review their procedures for the awards they make, seeking to ensure the funds are providing the intended benefits. The Trustees confirm that in doing this and in making awards they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Information on the bursaries and the Voorhees-Large Prize is disseminated to an e-mail list, maintained by the Fund's Administrator, of contacts within UK Universities offering a full time Masters course in Transport. Within the universities, the Trustees rely on course administrators to make their prospective students aware of the existence of the bursary funds.

### **Bursaries**

From its inception, the Trust's purpose has been served through the award of Publication, Travel and Masters Bursaries of varying levels. Since 2000, the Trustees have focussed their funds on providing Bursaries to support UK residents studying full-time for a taught Masters in transport at a UK university. The Trust's Bursaries are intended to provide funding to students who would not otherwise be able to commit to a full time Masters course in transport without the need to spend a substantial amount of time in paid work.

Bursaries are awarded by the Trustees only to students who have been recommended by the university of their choice. The Trustees' decisions are based solely on the merits of each

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applicant, as assessed from the information they and their sponsoring university have provided on the Fund's application documents. This includes the benefit they are likely to receive from completing a transport Masters course and their potential contribution, after graduation, to the profession and work of transport planning.

In order to comply with the Common Reporting Standard, the Trustees include a question to establish the tax residency status of beneficiaries on their bursary application form.

For the academic year 2022/23 the Trustees awarded five bursaries of £8,600 each to:

Edward Bunting	University of Leeds
Sophia Coates	University of Leeds
Cassia Copeland	University of the West of England
Nerys Medi Davies	University of Cardiff
Adam Wilkinson	University of Newcastle

These students each received the final £2,800 tranche of their bursary in the financial year 2023/24.

For the academic year 2023/24 the Trustees awarded four bursaries of £9,250 each, but one of the students subsequently decided not to pursue their planned studies. The three students who have been supported by the Fund are:

David Gannon	University of Westminster
Natalie Lakehal	University of Newcastle
Owen Wallace	University of Cardiff

They received the first two instalments of their bursary, totalling £6,250 each, during the financial year 2023/24 and were reported by their university to be making good progress. The final payments, of £3,000, will be made in the Trust's reporting year 2024/25.

The Trustees are assured that those students awarded a Brian Large Bursary complete their Masters courses and progress on to careers in transport.

### **The Voorhees-Large Prize**

An annual prize award, the Voorhees-Large Prize, was announced in 2010, in memory of both Brian Large and Al Voorhees. Al was the founder of Alan M Voorhees and Associates and its UK company, MVA, of which Brian was a Director. The prize, worth £1,000, is awarded to the student studying for a transport Masters at a UK university considered by the Trustees to have written the best dissertation relative to a set of published criteria. UK universities offering a transport Masters course are invited to nominate the best dissertation on a topic related to transport policy, analysis or planning, prepared and submitted by one of their Masters students in the twelve months, usually to 30 November.

The 2023 Voorhees-Large Prize was awarded to Jamie Ward for his Institute for Transport Studies, University of Leeds, dissertation *A route-level analysis of the relationship between bike sharing and public transport: integration, complementation and substitution*. Jamie found that most bike sharing journeys in London compete with public transport and that bike sharing often represents a quicker but more expensive option, suggesting that bike sharing has great potential to relieve pressure on London's overcrowded public transport system, providing fares are competitive. One of the Fund's Assessors described Jamie's work as '*pushing towards PhD level*'