

Staff Association

J. Fairlie

The Scottish Crop Research Institute has had a very active Staff Association for the past 8 years and, currently, there are approximately 200 members. The primary aim of the Association is to raise funds for charity through raffles, prize draws, functions and donations from companies. Staff are encouraged to nominate both local and national charities to be beneficiaries, and at the Annual General Meeting, the members choose the charity.

For the year 2000, Roxburghe House in Dundee (a local hospice), was chosen. Mrs Elizabeth Goss, Service Manager, was presented with a cheque for £1708 in March 2001, and this money will be used to improve the gardens for the patients.



The Staff Association organises several outings for staff, including golf competitions, angling competitions, surfing, snowboarding and ten-pin bowling. Currently, there is a weekly yoga class, and there are netball, volleyball, softball, badminton and football teams, who are provided with equipment and strips from Association funds. This year, there have been inter-divisional netball and football tournaments, and a fun swimming gala. In June, the Association hosts a

summer BBQ for staff and their families, and a Ceilidh, Disco and children's party are held in December.

There is a monthly draw for cinema tickets and a meal for two, as well as periodic prize draws. Local companies, restaurants, and theatres generously donate the prizes for these draws. This year's prizes include a flying lesson from Dundee airport. Staff discount schemes are also organised by the Staff Association and these include local shops, hairdressing salons, purchase of seeds and plants, as well as Corporate Sports membership at Dundee University Sports Union. The Association also holds corporate membership of the National Trust for Scotland, which provides four membership cards for staff use. 'Which' magazine is provided for the SCRI library.



Jane Fairlie presents a cheque to Elizabeth Goss.

Membership fees for the Association remain at £1.50 per month and the office bearers and committee are elected annually at the AGM. The charity for the year 2001 is DEBRA, which raises funds for children with a rare skin disorder.