

Staff Association

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The staff Association of the Scottish Crop Research Institute is now in its 9th year, and to date has raised almost £7000 for charities, both locally and nationally. There are approximately 200 members, and the primary aim of the association is to raise funds for a nominated charity through raffles, prize draws, functions and donations from exhibiting companies.

At the Annual General Meeting, members nominate a different charity each year. In 2001 the organisation chosen to benefit was DEBRA which raises funds for children with a rare skin disorder. Vice-Chairman Jim Wilde presented a cheque for £1444 to Robin Hood from DEBRA, on 10 April 2002 in the staff restaurant.



The Staff Association organises events for staff such as golf and angling outings and competitions, curling 'taster' evenings and ten-pin bowling fun nights. Currently, there is a weekly yoga class and there are netball, volleyball, badminton and football teams, who are provided with equipment and strips from Association funds.

In late June, the Summer BBQ is hosted by the Association for staff and their families. In December, a Ceilidh, a staff Disco, and children's party are held annually. A highly successful Institute Christmas lunch took place in 2001 when eight members of staff entertained us with Scottish music, followed by our own piper prior to lunch being served.

Every member has the opportunity to win cinema tickets or a meal for two each month, and periodically there are prize draws held where local companies have donated prizes. All the proceeds from the prize draws are donated to the nominated charity. The Association holds a corporate membership for the National Trust for Scotland and four cards are available for staff use. Also discount schemes are organised with local retailers, hairdressing salons, and seed and plant companies. Corporate Sports membership at Dundee University Sports Union for staff families is also organised by the Association, and 'Which' magazine is provided for the Institute library.

Membership fees continue to be £1.50 per month and the office bearers and committee are elected annually at the AGM. The charity for the year 2002/2003 is Ninewells Cancer Campaign.