

## Scottish Society for Crop Research

I. Kelly

Trustees: - Mr A G M Forbes  
Mr I E Ivory  
Chairman: - Mr J S Whitehead  
Committee of Management: -  
Mr T D Gray  
Mr A Logan  
Mr L M Porter  
Mr G Rennie  
Dr S Wale  
Secretary: - Mr I Kelly  
Treasurer: - Mr N Hattersley  
Registered Office: - c/o Scottish Crop  
Research Institute, Invergowrie, Dundee DD2 5DA  
Membership Numbers: - 260

The Scottish Society for Crop Research is a registered Friendly Society formed in 1981 by the amalgamation of the Scottish Society for Research in Plant Breeding and the Scottish Horticultural Research Association.

The Society provides a link between the Scottish Crop Research Institute and farmers, processors and other interested bodies.

The Society continued to support projects initiated in previous years such as "Malting Quality Analysis in Winter Barley Mixtures" with results of interest to the brewing industry. A contribution towards Mylnefield Research Services Ltd Raspberry Breeding Programme was repeated and the Society was pleased to see significant progress towards the signing of a major agreement to create a long term raspberry breeding programme. Grants enable Institute members of staff to attend conferences and seminars overseas to discuss their research, promote both the Institute and Society.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2002. The AGM was attended by Prof David Hughes, of Imperial College, London who took as his topic "Improving the international competitiveness of the European Food Industry: the R&D Lifeline".

The Soft Fruit walk was re-instated this year and was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July when the latest advanced selections of raspberries, strawberries and other soft fruits were displayed.

"Potatoes in Practice", the Society Potato event, in conjunction with the British Potato Council, the Scottish Agricultural College, and the Institute, was

held in August and proved of interest to many members from all sections of the industry. There was a focus on the laboratory based aspects of the management of potatoes and their pests and diseases.

The Crop Sub-Committees including Cereals and Soft Fruit met throughout the year and informed the Management Committee of their approved projects for the coming season.

The Management Committee met twice during the year, in May and November, and was particularly concerned to progress the raspberry breeding programme and to develop a higher profile for the Society.

Society membership continues to decline due to retirement and contraction within the industry. In the meantime the Society is giving consideration to boosting both its membership and its activities.

The Management Committee welcomes suggestions for research topics, particularly focused on identifiable end user needs, and comment from members and others and urges them to contribute to the Society by joining one of the Crop Sub-Committees or indeed the Management Committee.

The Newsletter of the Society still languishes although it is hoped that it can make an appearance in the near future to include a set of articles on the Product Innovation Centre (PIC) at MRS/SCRI.

The Society now has a new Secretary, Mr Ian Kelly, and a new Treasurer, Dr Neil Hattersley, both based at SCRI. The Society records its appreciation of the contributions made by the previous Secretary/Treasurer Mr D L Hood.



Fruit walk July 2002