MORE ABOUT DR STEWART RHIND

The SRF Essay Prize was renamed in honour of Dr Stewart Rhind (pictured below), who was tragically killed in a car accident in March 2013, along with his colleague Dr Julian Dawson. Dr Mick Rae, a friend and colleague of Dr Rhind, explains below why renaming the essay competition was a suitable way for the Society to remember Stewart and his contributions:

“Stewart Rhind was well known to many members of our society as a scientist, a colleague, and a friend. Stewart’s specialism was mammalian reproduction and his work on the effects of nutrition and environmental contaminants on animal and human reproductive health was internationally recognised. He had published 137 peer-reviewed papers in support of his research, and was a member of SSF and SRF for many years. There are numerous excellent reasons for the SRF essay prize bearing Stewart’s name. Firstly, as a scientist Stewart was a great example to younger scientists. He never shied away from getting his hands dirty, and it was thanks to this hands-on approach that so many younger scientists benefited from his experience, both in terms of practical expertise, and philosophical discussions with coffee. Secondly, Stewart had a tremendous command of English, and was an expert written communicator. He enjoyed the use and crafting of language, far beyond the confines of scientific writing. Thirdly, Stewart, although tremendously busy, always made time for colleagues, and particularly students. Both in a supervisory, mentoring capacity, and in pastoral care roles, Stewart was universally respected and liked by students, many of whom are members of SRF today. The Essay Prize therefore captures his love of science, his desire and ability to help train younger scientists, and his personal ability with, and enjoyment of the written word and scientific communication.

Stewart was a modest man, and, whilst he would be acutely embarrassed by this description of him, he would also be tremendously honoured by having his name given to the SRF essay competition.”