

# ROD'S RETIREMENT



This year we were very sorry to see Rod retire after 23 years loyal service to the Institute of Aquaculture.

Rod joined the Institute from the Marine Research Laboratory (Aberdeen) as Assistant Director in 1989, later becoming the Deputy Director. He has had a central role in the success of the Institute, taking on many administrative roles but also leading some of our largest grant awards. His efforts on our behalf have been exceptional, including those roles which others avoided such as reading and grading hundreds of our papers before submission to the UK research assessments (REF and RAE). Despite the many roles Rod fulfilled he still managed to find time to edit the Journal of Fish diseases making it the leading journal in the field and he is continuing in this role in his retirement.



Rod has retained an enthusiasm for parasitology throughout his career, with an especial interest in *Anasakis* spp. He has always been a conscientious and considerate supervisor and this is reflected in the high profile positions many of his former MSc and PhD students now occupy throughout the world.

The one characteristic that everyone appreciates more than all others is Rod's calm and balanced advice. Even when others were getting hot under the collar Rod always found a way forward. In any situation if Rod has something to say it is worth listening.

Rod is very well liked but has always been a private person and therefore it was rather difficult to decide what to do with the many generous donations we received for his leaving present. Eventually we decided to put most of the money into a book token to support his life long love of reading the printed word and also a basket of epicurean delights. We held a farewell gathering in the Institute seminar room followed by a BBQ at the Meadowpark Hotel



During his time with us every student and member of staff benefited from his calm and wise words. The only negative thing I could possibly say is that he has left us some very large shoes to fill. So on behalf of us all I would like to thank him for all his time efforts and enthusiasm and wish him all the very best for a long and happy retirement.



Photos by Shafiya Naeem