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Winner of The Dr. Cyril Hart Memorial Award Announced

The Scottish Forestry Trust is delighted to announce that the winner of The Dr. Cyril Hart Memorial Award for 2012 is Hamish Mackintosh a postgraduate student previously based at the School of GeoSciences (IERM), Edinburgh University. His paper, "Long-Term Survival of Saplings during the Transformation to Continuous Cover" was published in *Forests* 2012, 3. The paper was co-authored by Gary Kerr of Forest Research and is the first paper produced from Hamish's PhD project on Developing the Silviculture of Continuous Cover Forestry: using the experience and data collected from the Glentress Trial Area.

Speaking from his home in Edinburgh, Hamish said, "I thank the Trust for this recognition and I am very happy to have been a part of the work that has been in progress at Glentress since 1952. I hope these findings will also inspire further interdisciplinary studies on the transformation of even-aged plantations to continuous cover woodlands in Scotland and throughout the UK".

Presenting the award, Robert Scott, the Chairman of The Scottish Forestry Trust said, "It is very important to the Trust to see that research findings are translated into practical findings that can in turn be acted upon by the wider forest industry. Hamish's paper was a particularly interesting example of this and we commend his efforts and that of the paper's co-author."

Commenting on the award recognition, co-author Gary Kerr said, "I am delighted that Hamish's paper has been recognized by the Scottish Forestry Trust in this way. His work at Glentress has provided us with valuable new insights into sapling mortality which, if confirmed by data from a broader range of sites, may mean that present guidance to forest managers will need to be revised."

Ends

Notes for Editors:

The Dr. Cyril Hart Memorial Award is presented to students who have received funding support from the Scottish Forestry Trust and who as a result of their research have produced publicly available, quality papers through a scientific journal; article or practice note which clearly demonstrates the translation of scientific research into practical information suitable for wider forestry sector consumption. The award may also be given to papers, which contribute to the enhancement of silvicultural practice.

The Scottish Forestry Trust is the leading UK Charitable Trust providing funds for research, education and training in support of British Forestry. Established in 1983 by a gifting of share capital, the Trust is a registered charity and has a remit to provide private sector funds to support research and education throughout the British forestry industry. Since 1983, the Trust has provided in excess of £2m to over 140 projects ranging from supporting post graduate education through to contributing towards industry applied research and assisting policy formulation.

Dr. Cyril Hart obtained his forestry and land training under the late Major C. P. Ackers of the Huntley Manor Estate, acting as land agent, and later as Managing Director of the associated companies of Forest Products Ltd., and Woodland Improvement Ltd., at Huntley. In addition, he managed forestry estates in England, Scotland and Wales, and lectured in forestry and estate economy at the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester. Dr. Hart was elected a Verderer of the Royal Forest of Dean in 1952, and for most subsequent years until his death in 2009, was H.M. Senior Verderer. He acted for many years as the Chairman of H.M. Inclosure Commissioners of Dean Forest, and served as a member of the B.B.C. Regional Advisory Council, and the South West Regional Hospital Committee. Dr. Hart was awarded the O.B.E. in 1982.

The Award was commissioned from and created by Angus Clyne of Murthly, Perthshire <http://www.angusclyne.co.uk/profile.html>.

Further information, and a photograph of the award presentation is available from SFT Director, Bob Stubbs at director@scottishforestrytrust.org.uk