
Remembering Professor Colin S. Reynolds

An obituary for our former Director, and Research Fellow, Colin Reynolds, by Dr. Bill Brierley

Colin joined the FBA after completing his doctorate in 1970 and worked for over 35 years, retiring finally in 2002. In his later years in employment he became the Director of the FBA. He continued to be involved as an Honorary Research Fellow, as a trustee and as editor of The FBA's scientific journal *Freshwater Reviews* up until his death.

In his retirement, Colin continued to build international links and together with other FBA fellows promoted and was one of the founders of the European Federation of Freshwater Sciences (EFFS). The aims of EFFS are to promote freshwater sciences throughout Europe, by improving communication and collaboration among scientists and by organising scientific meetings, encouraging young scientists to attend and present their findings.

Colin was an internationally renowned scientist, studying microscopic plants (phytoplankton) in rivers and lakes, and built strong collaborations with other researchers in Brazil, Chile, France, Holland, South Africa and New Zealand to name a few. He published prolifically, even in his retirement – writing over 150 scientific papers and three text books.

Colin received many honours during his scientific career. Some of the prestigious ones include the winner of the International Ecological Institute (ECI) prize in 1994, which is awarded annually to an ecologist distinguished by outstanding and sustained scientific achievements. He was awarded an MBE in 2000 for his “Services to customers of the Water Industry” which resulted from him sitting on and advising OFWATs consumer committee for over 10 years. Colin was awarded the Naumann – Thienemann Medal for his outstanding achievements in “limnology (studying lakes) of the highest merit”. This award was presented



Colin did outstanding work for the FBA for over 35 years, and kept a close relationship with us until his recent passing

to him at the International Limnological Society convention in Australia in 2001.

Colin also had a passion for teaching. Many students and others benefitted from his very generous giving of time and energy in encouraging people to learn more – he had a great skill in making very complicated science sound very simple! We have received numerous emails of condolence from around the world in the last 2 weeks and will produce a more detailed celebration of Colin's life and work in the next issue of *FBA News*.



Colin (4th from left) performing in the FBA panto!



Colin had a passion for teaching, and was revered by students