Dr Donald Mackay, who was Deputy Director of the Ross Institute at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, died in 1981 after many years of outstanding work in tropical occupational health, especially on the tea plantations of South Asia. He was an outstanding physician, brilliant teacher, and a man of the greatest integrity and commitment.

The medal is awarded annually; in alternating years by the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

The award is for outstanding work in tropical health, especially relating to improvements in the health of rural or urban workers in the tropics. Preference is given to suitable medically qualified candidates, but those in other disciplines are eligible.

It will next be awarded in 2017 by ASTMH and in 2018 by RSTMH.

Only RSTMH Fellows (members) are eligible to nominate and be nominated for this award.