

THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB

Glasgow show

4 5 24



The Glasgow group chose a good weekend for their show when show dates were picked many years ago. Glasgow to SRGC members means cherry trees, Rhododendrons, Pieris and a wealth of herbaceous and bulbous plants in flower. The sun nearly always shines on the Glasgow show. The drive to Baljaffrey on the Northern edge of the city takes me past dozens of beautiful gardens. Scotland at its best. Blue skies and blossom and the Campsie Fells as a backdrop. You can take the motorway or drive cross country. There is easy parking and a feeling of being in the countryside rather than in the city. Indeed the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park is only a few miles further north.





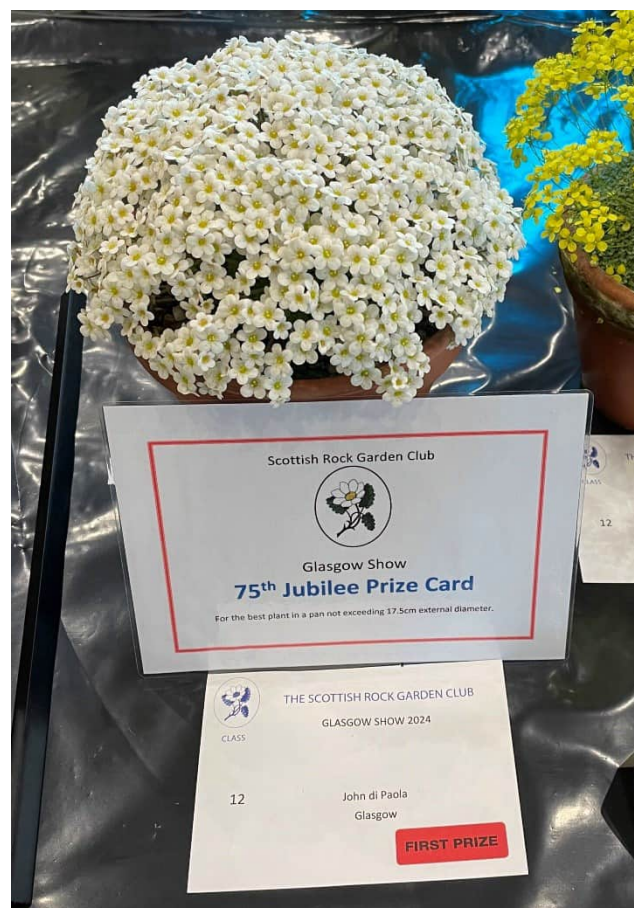
As you can see there was a very good entry at the show. .
Exhibitors came from all parts of central Scotland





David Millward's *Ramonda nathaliae* won the Forrest Medal. One week later the songstress Teya Dora sang a song Ramoda about Lilac Ramonda in the Eurovision Song Contest one week later but the song did not win. Still its not often you get a song about a rock garden plant.





Fabulous double! John da Paola shows us here how he grows *Saxifraga pubescens* 'Snowcap' to perfection. The smaller plant on the right won the 75th Jubilee prize for best plant in a pan not exceeding 17.5cm. The bigger plant on the left was awarded a Certificate of Merit. When grown to this standard Sax Snowcap has few rivals. It is a plant I expect to see each year in Glasgow.

Stephen MacFarlane's large pan of the beautiful *Trillium grandiflorum* flora plena was also awarded a Certificate of Merit. This reminded me of the double trilliums which Bob

Maxwell used to grow. When grown to this standard it is hard to beat.





Raffernaldia primuloides is new to me although our SRGC President Colin knows it well and will sing its praises. The judges agreed and it too was awarded a Certificate of Merit. It was shown in the class for plants native to Africa. This wee member of the Brassicaceae is endemic to the Atlas mountains. Raffernaldia was named in 1853 in honour of Alire Raffeneau Delile, a French botanist. It sounds as though it could have been named for tennis superstar, Rafa Nadal. Below is a picture of it growing in south west Morocco. I thank Mr. Ibn Tattou who took the picture.

Cyril Lafong is an expert in the cultivation of small Daphnes. His pale pink flowered D. petraea 'Alto' gained a Preliminary Certificate from the RHS Rock Garden Committee who were impressed by its colour.

Below is Penstemon uintahensis





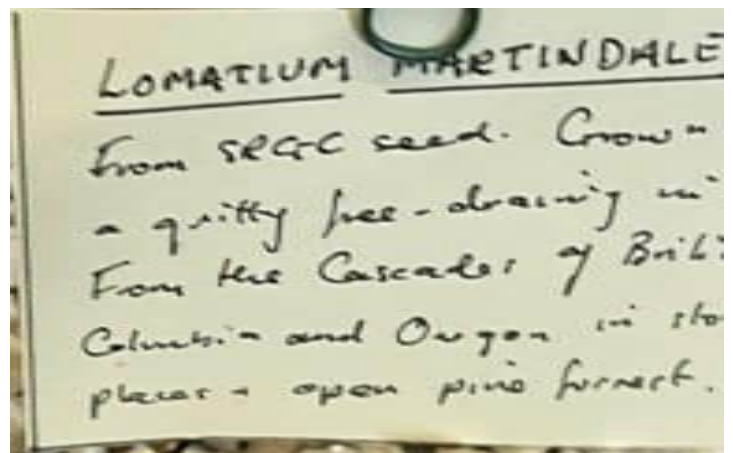
Silene nelsonii

In the past, plants assignable to this new species have been referred to incorrectly as *S. hookeri* subsp. *bolanderi* or *S. bolanderi* subsp. *bolanderi* (Gray) Abrams, names that correctly apply to another member of the *Silene hookeri* complex.

Both *S. nelsonii* and *S. bolanderi* are worthy of recognition as separate species based on morphological distinction and a molecular phylogenetic analysis. *Silene nelsonii* differs from *S. bolanderi* by its more deeply lobed, white petals; lack of well-developed coronal petal appendages; densely ciliate petal bases; and shorter, sometimes branched sepal hairs.

The plant was grown from own seeds sown 8/11/19 germinated 14/01/20.

Shown and grown by Cyril



Two American plants grown from seed. When it was still *Silene hookeri* ssp *bolanderi* I was told that it was very rare but it did however grow on the golf Course in Banff, Alberta. I have been in Banff but I didn't play golf so I did not see *S. hookeri bolanderi*. One of the first plants I grew from SRGC seed was *Lomatium martindalei*. I was drawn to its name. I remembered a song from the late 1950's, 'Deck of Cards' sung by Wink Martindale. I wondered if the plant had any association to him. I now think the species name honours a great botanist of the 1800's. Isaak Martindale a banker who amassed one of the most impressive private herbaria in the USA. I still grow my *Lomatium*. Sorry its not named for Wink but I do admire the whiskers Isaak had.

This is first time I have seen a *Lomatium* in an SRGC show.



The James Wilson Trophy for most points in Section II was won by Kathleen Cartwright.





I admired Graham Catlow's method of growing and presenting Sempervivums. He has successfully imitated nature by growing the semps in rocks as they would in nature. They did not win their class but they won my appreciation. Sempervivums are usually shown as flat pans which are also difficult to achieve. Perhaps we should have classes for 'plants grown in a natural way'?



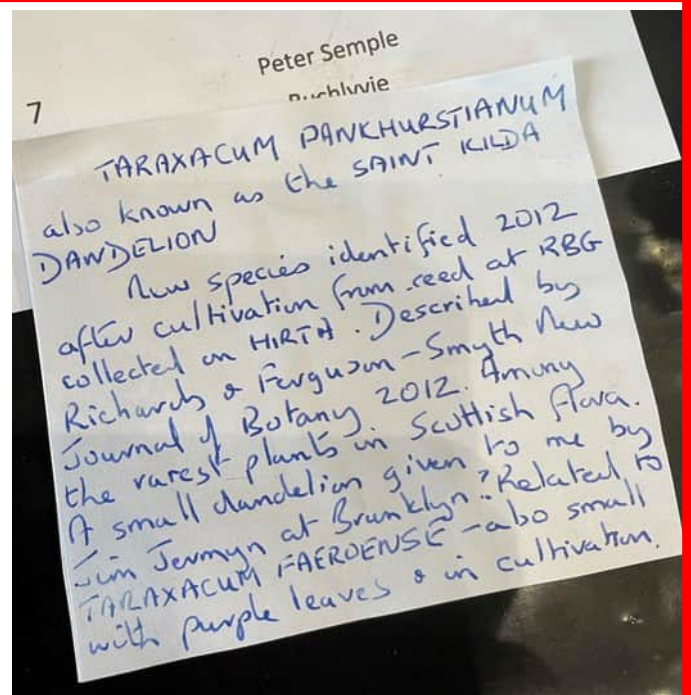


Sue Simpson took a first prize with her nice spreading Clematis 'Lunar Lass'. This is a hybrid between *C. marmoraria* and *C. petrei*. She also won the **Joan Stead prize for Best Primula**. Joan was a former president of the SRGC. She guided me in to being chairman of the show secretaries and encouraged me in the Club. I owe a lot

to Joan and her husband Don, who is commemorated in the **Don Stead Prize for most points in the bulb classes**. Stan da Prato won Don's prize



The **St Kilda dandelion** from Peter Semple. He writes that it is one of Scotland's rarest plants. Hope fully he will soon get the Faroese version.



Stan da Prato won the Ian Donald Memorial Trophy with his *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*

Stan 's 3 pan Rhododendron entry in class 4 won the Edward Darling Memorial Trophy & his Rh. Egret was judged Best Rhody in the show and won the Rhododendron Challenge Trophy.





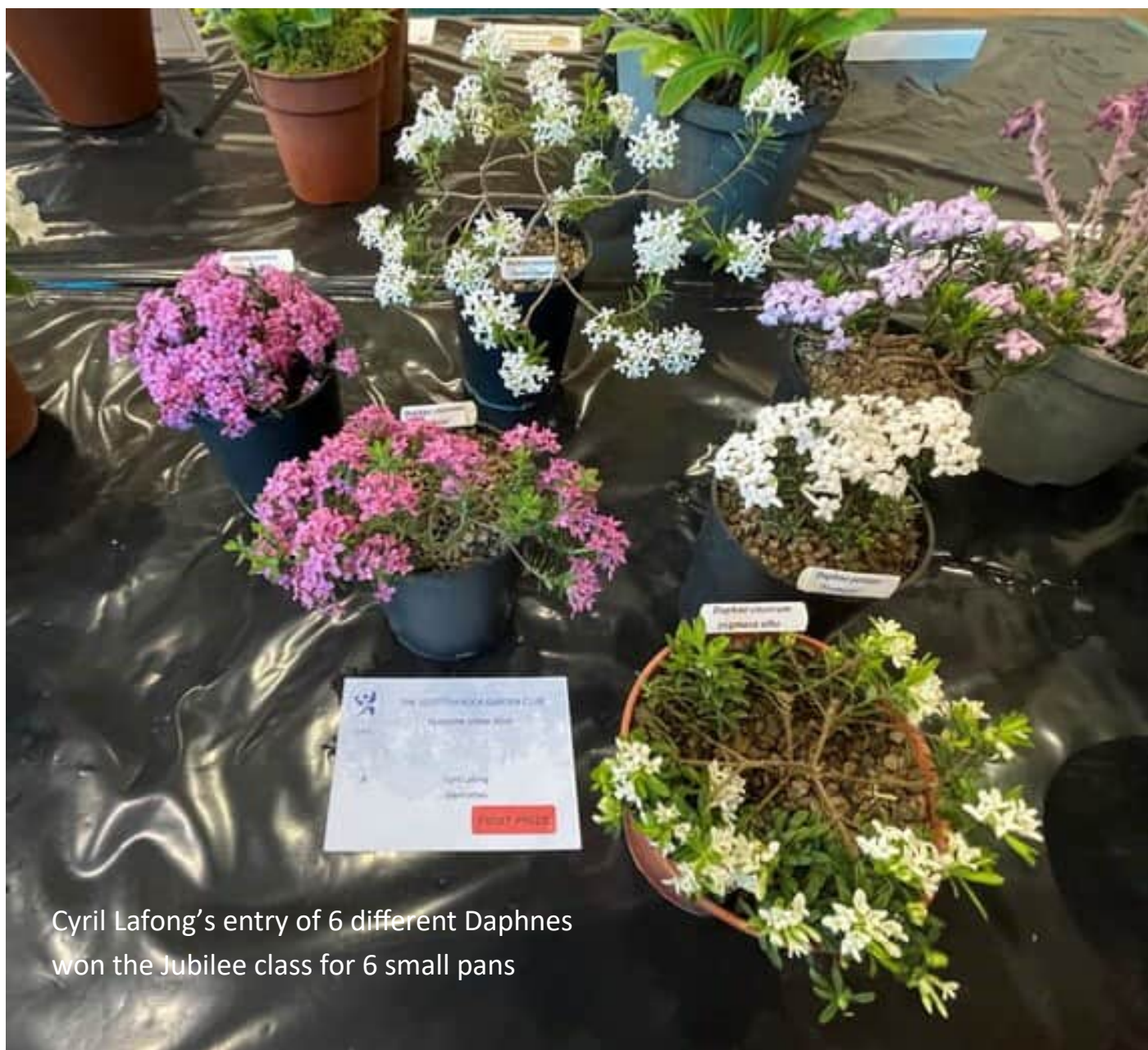
Tom Green won the Dr William Buchanan Memorial rose bowl for the Best exhibit in Class 1. This is the most prestigious Class in the show. It is the first class visitors see and demands total commitment :- 6 top class plants to qualify and even topper class ones to win. I was delighted to see *Lewisia rediviva* in his sextet, I remember seeing it growing wild in Colorado, having been guided there by my friend Panayotti from Denver.



It has a fascinating introduction to horticulture having sprung to life as a herbarium specimen.

Stan de Prato was second with his impressive entry shown below





Cyril Lafong's entry of 6 different Daphnes won the Jubilee class for 6 small pans

