

THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB KENDAL SHOW — SRGC/AGS

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Geoff Rollinson has been exhibiting at the Morecambe/ Blackpool/Hexham show since the beginning



Once again members of the SRGC and AGS flocked to Kirby Kendal school in Kendal for the first of our. The show was well supported by exhibitors as well as by members keen to stock up with plants from the numerous nurseries attending. The Forrest Memorial Medal for the Best Plant in the Show was won by *Dionysia tapetodes* shown by John Dixon. The winning plant is starred in the adjacent picture alongside some of the 'runners up'. The judges look solemn because they are really concentrating and making up their minds!





John Mitchell [right] Alpine Supervisor at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh has been awarded the Lytell Trophy for 2022, which is presented to someone who is 'advancing our knowledge of alpines' the RBGE supports our show with excellent informative displays like the one above.





Best foliage plant was Stan da Prato's compact Japanese cedar, *Cryptomeria japonica* 'Tenzan' [centre above]. At this time of year the foliage is starting to change from winter gold to summer green. Stan has won many prizes with his conifers. This is one of the more unusual. It is wider than it is tall and has been described as a 'flat topped doughnut'. Luckily it there is no hole in the centre. Look out for one and plant it in a trough.



The classes for foliage plants are always interesting and the judges choices of the winners can be argued over. Sometimes they seen a little hard. Here are a selection from Kendal. My favourites were *Coprosma* 'Evening glow'. *Ozothymus* (*Helichrysum*) County Park Silver and of course the *Cryptomeria japonica*. I must give a special mention to the golden leaved Thyme, proof that 'ordinary' garden plants are welcome on the show bench. Look round your garden and find a plant or two to take to the next show. You will be warmly welcomed by the show secretary.





Saxifrage Coolock Gem *Hepatica japonica*
 Iris Katharine Hodgkin *Fessia greilhuberi*
Ypsilandra kansuensis *Corydalis sewerzowii*

The *Hepatica japonica* shown by Chris Lilley won the Clarkson Trophy for best Ranunculaceae. Iris Katherine Hodgson was part of Michael Myers entry which won him the Michael Roberts trophy for most points in the Intermediate section. Peter Hood's *Corydalis sewerzowii* was awarded a Certificate of Merit. I liked the *Ypsilandra*.

Spring time is bulb time

After a long dreary or perhaps not so dreary winter bulbs force their way up through cold wet or even frozen ground to announce that the seasons are changing. We expected lots of bulbous species at Kendal and were not disappointed. This year Anne Wright dominated several classes with her fascinating Narcissus hybrids. Some of them have a very complex ancestry. Anne has succeeded in expanding the range of forms and varieties with her hybrids. We are fortunate that she makes her hybrids available to the gardening cognoscenti and ordinary gardeners like me. There were several excellent pots of Fritillaria on the benches, the best of which were shown and in many cases grown from seed by Don Peace. Other genera like Gagea, Galanthus, Chionodoxa, Crocus, Scilla, Ornithogalum and Erythronium popped up throughout the show but it was the Narcissi which dominated.





FRITILLARIA



SUNSHINE IN A BOWL WINS THE MOWLE

The David Mowle Trophy for Best Plant in the intermediate and novice sections was awarded to this excellent pan of *Narcissus cordubensis* shown by Heather Barraclough.



Diane Clement won the Bill Mackenzie Trophy for her entry in the '3 plants from one continent'. Her continent ...ASIA. Her plants *Ornithogalum lanceolatum*, *Ypsilandra cavaleris* and *Hepatica japonica*.



This fine pan of crocus helped Brenda Nickels win the SRGC Bronze Medal

Shiela Bellingall won the Reginal Kaye Trophy for most points in the novice section

Don Peace won the Hollett Trophy for most points in the open Section.





The classes for Ranunculaceae and Fumariaceae provided lots of colour as well as interest. A few weeks ago all these *Corydalis* were dormant.

Few genera are as effervescent as these. We have to thank Janis Ruksans in Latvia for enriching our gardens with many of these plants.



PRIMULA







Peter Hood 's plant of Dionysia 'Inka Gold' was judged the best plant in a pan not exceeding 19cm and won the Duncan Lowe Award



Another wonderful Corydalis. Why is it here?
Just because I like the genus



The show was superb and due to its location drew exhibitors from far and wide. People sometimes ask why is it a joint show when the SRGC is Scottish based. I can give you Past President Eric Watson's answer when talking about the Newcastle show "The SRGC has members in the north of England and this is their local show". The triumph of the north of England shows is that they allow members of AGS and SRGC to meet up with old friends.