

# The Scottish Rock Garden Club

## Glasgow Show

5 5 18



This year's Glasgow show was the biggest SRGC show of the year [as usual?]. Exhibitors and nurserymen from all over the country brought an unbelievable selection of 'Rock Garden Plants'. There was a heady mix of bulbs, cushions, orchids, shrubs, stonecrops, Primulas, saxifrages and mountain plants from all over the world. Such is the diversity of species grown by our members. There was something for everyone. We were treated to plants which were new to even the diehard show goers amongst us. As usual Glasgow welcomed a number of Exhibitors from England's northern counties. Indeed the Forrest medal was won by Ian Kidman from Ebchester in County Durham. Ian probably has a touch of Scotland about him since Ebchester is close to Consett where many Scottish steel workers settled after the demise of steel making in Scotland. Ian's plant .... *Cassiope lycopodioides gracilis*





Class A had 5 excellent entries, meaning that this class alone featured 30 different plants! The winner [top left] was Ian Kidman who featured *Daphne petraea* 'Flamingo', *Cassiope lycopodioides* 'Rokujo', *Phylodoce nipponica oblong-ovata*, *Wikstroemia* [*Daphne*] *gemmata* plus a yellow viola (*V. douglasii*?) and a *Primula*



Left is Sue Simpson's second prize entry featuring *Primula henricii*, *Androsace vandellii*, *Lamium sandrasicum*, a fabulous *Saxifraga stolitzae*, two plants of *Anemone thalictroides*, one the purple double 'Oscar Schoaf' and the other a double white. Her *Saxifraga stolitzae* was in my opinion the finest plant in the class!

Above is Stella & David Rankin's entry which featured three plants with yellow flowers:- *Meconopsis pseudointegrifolia* and *Corydalis wilsoni*, *Primula auricula albocincta*



Tom Green's entry [on the left] was third. He showed pink *Androsace himalaica*, a yellow *Primula auricula* hybrid, *Cassiope* 'Badenoch', *Lithospermum oleifolia* (one of my favourites with its blue flowers tinged by pink on the reverse.), *Narcissus* 'Hawera' and *Saxifraga cinerea*.

Tommy Anderson showed [above] a beautiful dome of *Androsace cylindrica*, *Lamium armenum*, *Leucjum nicaeensis*, a pink *Lewisia nevadensis*, *Eriogonum ovalifolium nivale* and a magnificent *Anemone* 'Green Dragon'.







Stan da Prato won the large 6 Pan Class with *Rhododendron Dora Amateis* (one of my favourites), *Trillium chloropetalum*, *Lathyrus vernus*, *Ourisia caespitosa*, *Tulipa 'Red Riding Hood'* and *Primula petiolaris 'Sherriff's form'*. This won him the Dr William Buchanan Memorial Rose Bowl. William Buchanan was a farmer who retired to Bearsden where he had a wonderful much visited and fondly remembered garden. He was a prominent member of the SRGC in the 1950's.

Ian Kidman won the Henry Archibald Challenge Rose Bowl for the best exhibit in Class 3, 3 Pans distinct.

They were *Lamium sandriasicum*, *Primula henricii* and *Cassiope lycopodiodes 'Beatrice Lilley'*. This magnificent Beatrice Lilley might have won the Forrest medal but Ian had a *C. lycopodioides gracilis* which was even better!.... Bottom right







*Primula 'Delight' seedling*

*Primula 'Delight'* is a yellow primula hybrid selected by David Philbey. In 2014, seeds were collected from the plant and sown 21/11/14. Germination took place 5/4/15. The resulting seedlings were quite variable. This selected seedling was chosen for its habit and colour and grown on in standard alpine compost.



*Gentiana angustifolia 'Rotling'*

*Gentiana 'Rotling'* is a new *Gentiana angustifolia* cultivar selected by Frank Schmidt of FlorAlpin Nursery in Germany. Flowers are first pinkish white and turn into violet. An unusual and very lovely cultivar. In cultivation, it requires a rich, well drained and moisture retentive compost.



*Saxifraga felineri*

*Saxifraga felineri* is a rare saxifrage that is confined to Picos de Europa in Northern Spain. It is a more attractive kabschia type than its Pyrenean cousin *Saxifraga aretioides*. It has been called *Saxifraga aretioides* subsp. *felineri* in the past but is now deemed a species in its own right.

In cultivation it is grown in the alpine house in gritty J1 based compost and given some protection from the sun during the summer months.



John di Paola's *Primula scotica*

GLASGOW 2018  
THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB  
SECOND PRIZE  
John di Paola





Stan da Prato won the 3 pan dwarf Rhododendron class with these wee smashers. This meant he won the Edward Darling Memorial Trophy.

Watt Russell took the Ian Donald Memorial Trophy for Best Scottish Native Plant with his excellent Paris quadrifolia.

Stan won the 2 pan Scottish native with his wonderful Salix reticulata and the delicate fern Cystopteris dickeana.

Even more delicate in the same class was Brian & Shelagh Smethurst's Cryprogamma crispa.







The above plants are in the 'Native to Scotland classes'. The Paris quadrifolia at the back left won the Donald Trophy for the Best plant Native to Scotland for Watt.

You have also to admire Stan's Salix reticulata at the bottom right. I am always surprised at how big its leaves are.

On the opposite side of the show bench was the class for 2 pans Native to Australasia. Brian & Shelagh Smethurst won with their Melicytus alpinus, a wee shrub from New Zealand with very stiff stems, and with bright red tubular bells the south Australian Correa pulchella.

When it came to plants with silver foliage it was a battle of the giants!

Stan's Tanacetum densum won over Watt's Helichrysum heldreichii.

At the bottom right is Carole & Ian's Oxalis enneaphylla with wonderful leaf markings....from South America.







The plant pictured above was introduced to us about 20 years ago by the Gothenburg Expedition to Pakistan. It has had several names attributed to it. At present we must thank David & Stella for revealing its latest name *Bukiniczia cabulica*, which implies that it was first found in Afghanistan maybe near Kabul!



The one pan cushion plant Class was won by David Millward's magnificent *Saxifraga pubescens* 'Snowcap'. The 2 pan class was won by Ian & Carole's *Kelseya uniflora* and *Arenaria alfacarensis*, which sounds much grander than its common name of Spanish sandwort. I liked Sue Simpson's *Draba* 'Buttermilk'. What a refined flower colour in a genus famed for lurid chrome yellow or white flowers!





Tom Green won the 3 pan Primula class. His entry comprised two fine *Primula pubescens* plants, one white and the other rose lilac with a yellow centre. The third plant was more unusual, *Primula petelotii*. It is one of only 3 Primulas native to Vietnam. It likes a cool place in the alpine house. In nature it is found on Mount Sapa on shady banks near water at 1800 m. It is illustrated below. N.B. its leaves are unusual for a Primula.



David & Stella were 2nd with subspecies of *Primula bullata*, namely, var. *delavayi*, var. *bullata* and var. *bracteata*.



The 2 pan Primula Class was won by Sue Simpson with a wonderful if unusual pairing. Bright yellow P. 'Lindum Golden Orb' and the 'weirdly' bicolour P. 'Lindum Sweet William'. Both were very well flowered and presented. I loved John di Paola's P. 'Celtic Maiden'. A splendid cream flowered hybrid with strong stems. Cyril Lafong's P. *henricii* was Best Primula







The diminutive *Primula sharmae* caught my eye and inspired me to search out more about it. Shown by the doyens of unusual and rare Asiatic Primulas David and Stella Rankin, it grows in the central Himalaya of west and central Nepal in open rocky places, one of which is in the Annapurna region. Its name commemorates Professor K.N.Sharma who collected specimens of it on behalf of the Maharaja of Nepal. Pictures on Primula World indicate that like the common Primrose this species has flowers with petals of varying width. The splendid plant at Glasgow has overlapping petals and wonderful farinose leaves. Other forms can be a bit 'starry'.

The picture below shows Tommy Anderson's fabulous *Cyclamen persicum*.



Below right is David Millwards class winning *Anemone thalictroides*, a really classy winner! The biggest example I have seen.

Immediately below Watt Russell's winner in the Fumariaceae class, *Corydalis wilsonii*, one of the finest and most dependable flowering alpines for the summer cool house. Once you have it, it gently seeds around. It likes to grow under the bench.

Bottom right is Ian Christie's plant of *Meconopsis integrifolia* which was much admired, especially by me!







Fritillaria lanceolata from George Young



Fritillaria pyrenaica 'Bernard Tickner' from Cyril



Fritillaria liliacea from George Young





There was an excellent selection of smaller growing bulbs in the show, which fairly brightened up the second bench. Something for everyone, as the picture at the bottom shows. I liked the way the plants look as if they belonged together and had not just accidentally found their way together because of the class numbers.

How about that wee tulip at the front?

Steven McFarlane's large pan of *Trillium grandiflorum* flore plena was much admired. It reminded me of the huge pans of this shown by Harold Esslemont and later by Bob Maxwell.

I also liked Lionel Clarkson's *Allium nevskianum* with its orange-sized heads of open flowers, proving that there is much more to onions than an accompaniment for steak or burgers.







A well deserved certificate of Merit was awarded to Cyril's *Lewisia tweedyi* lemon. Watt Russell's white *Lewisia cotyledon* was almost as wonderful, rarely have I seen its equal.





Impressive! Sue Simpson's 2 pan entry in Native to Americas, *Benthamiella patagonica* and *Lewisia tweedyi*. The former gained a certificate of merit. Fabulous! How many thousands of flowers are there?











*Jeffersonia dubia alba*  
Seeds sown 20/06/03

*Jeffersonia dubia alba*



THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB



The Gothenburg Trophy

awarded to

Cyril Lafong

for

best plant grown from seed  
*Jeffersonia dubia alba*

at the Glasgow SHOW

Judges signatures

*[Signatures]*  
Dulia Club

date 5th May 2018