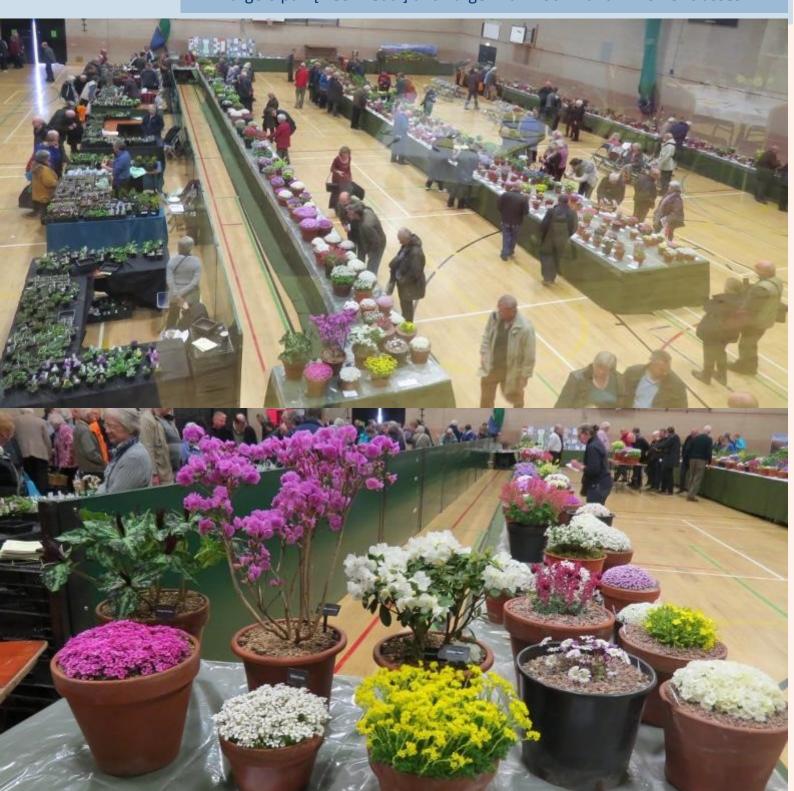
The Scottish Rock Garden Club & The Alpine Garden Society



HEXHAM SHOW 2nd March 2016

The Saxifraga 'Coolock Gem' Show. Different plants of S. 'Coolock Gem' from different exhibitors, not only won the George Forrest Medal but also the Large 6 pan [AGS Medal] and Large I Pan Rock Plant in Flower classes.





Winner of the large 6 pan class was George Young and second was

Stan da Prato. George's plants were Sebaea thomasii,

Calianthemum anemonoides, Saxifraga grisbachii, Trillium rivale,

Saxifraga 'Coolock Gem' and Primula 'Broadwell Milkmaid.

If you wanted 6 plants to grow on to Forrest medal winners these would be a good six to choose.





















Frank & Barbara Hoyle won the Large 3 pan Primula Class with 'Marjorie Wooster', 'Pink Aire' & 'Mrs Dyas'

Tom Green came second with 'Pink Aire', 'Philip' [the marginata type] & 'Blindsee'





All these are eligible for the 1 Pan Primulaceae Class. They would even be OK in a 1 pan Primula. All these domes of flower and only David Valentine [far left, front] is showing his leaves. Don Peace won with P. Broadwell Milkmaid'

In the Asiatic Primula Class the very tiny, pink, yelloweyed P. warshenewskiana beat its much taller primrose and yellow cousin, P. elatior ssp. cordifolia.





Family Melianthiaceae? Well I would be stuck too. Imagine being on 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire' and the million pound question was to name a genus in the Melianthiaceae Family. It would take me hundreds of guesses to come up with 'Trillium'.

I was delighted to see Fred & Pat Bundy's plant of Trillium chloropetalum 'Val Mulverhill' win again. I wish it were widely available. It is so distinct. With plain leaves and the maroon pink suffusion into the petal bases, I took it for a yellow form of T. albidum.

I also liked Alan Spenceley's fabulous pot of T. nivale. A real wee gem. Ian Instone showed a pan of Trillium rivale seedlings, which showed colour variants from pink to white.









Don Peace won with Pleione 'Heckla' & Fritillaria crassifolia. Cyril Lafong with Tecophilea cyanocrocus & Ian & Carole Bainbridge with the daffodil with the very long name, Narcissus rupicola watieri 'Abaleish'











Tommy Anderson's excellent 3 pan entry of

Saxifraga 'Allandale Ginn',

Trillium nivale & Corydalis glaucescens was awarded the R.B.Cooke Plate. Great to see three white flowered plants in peak condition in this class.



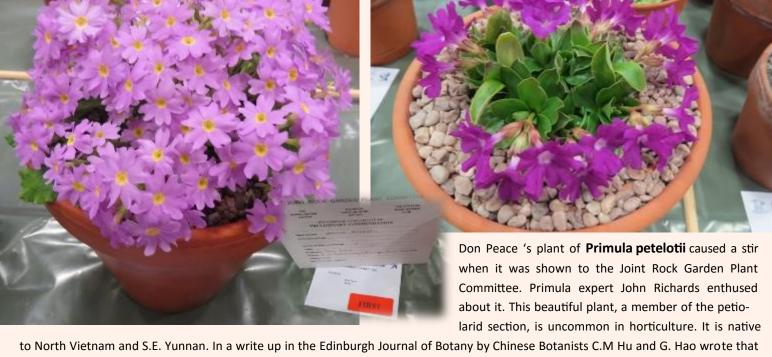
The '1 pan rock plant in flower' class was contested by another 6 white flowered plants alongside a pink Corydalis solida which although correctly entered must have felt that it too should have had white flowers. Frank & Barbara Hoyle triumphed with their S. 'Coolock Gem'

Jim Watson just pipped Ian Kidman in the 3 pan Primulaceae class









to North Vietnam and S.E. Yunnan. In a write up in the Edinburgh Journal of Botany by Chinese Botanists C.M Hu and G. Hao wrote that it was known from one collection from Mt Chapa in Vietnam. John Richards wrote that this was in 1932. Don's plant shows what a beautiful plant it can be when grown by an expert. The second collection mentioned by Hu and Hao was from Vietnam. After flowering, each scape slowly bends toward the ground and starts to grow a new plant. Roots appear on the plantlets just above the bracts. I hope it bends a lot and roots prodigiously. In many shows a rare plant like this would be trumpeted and displayed on a high plinth but at our SRGC / AGS shows such behaviour would be inappropriate. So there it was just sitting on the bench in a big class of Asiatic Primulas. It was awarded a Certificate of Merit. Well done Don and thank you for bringing this rarity.

Alan Furness' Primula clusiana 'Murray Lyon' is another splendid Primula. It is a member of the Arthritica subsection of the Auricula section of the genus Primula. That's the section I would be in! It hails from the Austrian Mountains west of Vienna. This clone has been in cultivation for longer than I have been a member of the SRGC. Its name commemorates the late General Murray Lyon who was a staunch supporter of the Perth Group. Below Left. Tommy Anderson's beautiful entry which won the AGS Medal for the small 6 pans.

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Below: once the joint Rock Meeting is finished Carole and Ian Bainbridge's work begins. Carole is secretary of the Committee and must write up descriptions of the award plants for the RHS. This involves taking samples of flower and leaf. The plants are also photographed. Carole has pictures going back many years to when she started photographing the award plants at Scottish SRGC shows.



I admired Lionel Clarkson's Primula petiolaris 'Sherriff's form'. There must be hundreds of buds to come. The name commemorates George Sherriff [below right] who with Frank Ludlow collected in India, Tibet and Bhutan before and after WW11. I bet they would be gratified to know that this collection of theirs was still going strong.













SILENE CALIFORNICA Coryophyllaceae
This lovely Silene comes from the
foothills UST the mountains in
California and adjacent States. It has
recontly been reintroduced as seed by
Applains the seed firm from the USA

Hepatica acutiloba 'Louise Koehler' (Ranunculaceae)

Louise Koehler is best remembered as the Minnesota gardener who grew and shared with the nursery trade Anemonella thalictroides 'Schoal's Double'. She found this semi double form of Hepatica acutiloba in a Minnesota woodland and offered it to Merv Eisel, a horticulturalist with the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum to propagate. He registered the name to remember Louise Koehler. In 1966, Lincoln Foster wrote in the NARGS bulletin that he had never come across any double forms of the American hepaticas. This form of H acutiloba has only recently become available in Europe.

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Diane Clement



