

The Scottish Rock Garden Club

Stirling in Kincardine

March 29th 2016



Before the general public get in to see a show, a lot of work has to be done. Most of this is carried out in obscurity by the Show Secretary who must record the entries, make out entry cards and set out the show, making sure that the right exhibitors get the right cards. There are always last minute changes to entries and classes must be adjusted. That is why Show secretaries never have time to chat before judging has finished. Until then the SS must have a solution to any problem which might come along

WHO JUDGES WHAT?

The show secretary also has to invite the judges. No person may judge at the same show for more than 2 out of 3 years. The judges are those 6 people smiling in the two pictures and the one much more serious, the Show Secretary. So thank you to [left to right] Peggy Anderson, Alan Gardner, Ian Christie, Show Secretary Sam Sutherland, Glassford Sprunt, Jean Wyllie and Peter Semple. Since they include 3 past Presidents and Past Treasurer as well as a former seed Exchange manager they should know what they are doing! Between them the judges have a wide experience of different types of plant. Each class is judged by 3 judges. If one of them has an entry in the class, another judge is substituted. 2 out of 3 judges must agree on the prize



winners. This leads to much discussion but in the end it all works out well. After the decisions are made, the stewards record the results and they are totted up to see who has won most points etc. After all classes are judged the time has come to judge Best in Show and award special prizes and trophies. The plant which is judged Best in Show is awarded a George Forrest Memorial Medal.





Cyril's Jubilee Six entry on the left with Sue Simpson's on the right. Both are well presented. It is nice to see the saxifrages in full bloom. Every Year new hybrids are released and the registrar of hybrids, parentage, description and naming is a task undertaken by The Saxifrage Society. I have been a member for many years. It has not involved much commitment from me as I have been a lurker. I do enjoy receiving their annual Journal and the web reports. I am happy that my subscription is used to further knowledge in this huge genus of plants. My favourites are plants like these Kabschias and the early summer flowering silver saxifrages. Mine don't grow as well as these! Most of these are new selections. Barry & Kathy Caudwell's Sax. boydii sulphurea is a reliable old hybrid, one of the first plants which I bought.





Saxifraga 'River Thame'



Saxifraga 'Dawn Frost'



Saxifraga 'Your Smile'
S. 'River Thame' & S. 'Dawn Frost' from Sue Simpson
S. grisbachii? & S. porophylla from Ian Christie
and Stan da Prato's S. Mary Golds



Saxifraga Mary Golds



Tom Green's fine *Corydalis solida* is wonderfully compact. I like the bluey shades in the unopened buds. There are now lots of red forms of *solida* but I really like this one. Ten years ago or more the bench would be full of plants of *Corydalis solida* George or 'G.P. Baker'. It seems to be out of fashion.

The snowdrop is one of the biggest I have seen: it is Cyril's pot of *Galanthus plicatus* 'E.A. Bowles'. Not only is it BIG it is peculiar. Note how the inner three petals no longer form a tube but they mimic the outer petals. There is also no green mark on the petals.

Ian Christie's *Galanthus* 'Eyeshadow' is big by normal snowdrop standards and was dwarfed by E.A. Bowles. Ian's 'Breachin Cross', part of winning his 2 pan entry with *Leucojum vernum*





Iris nusairiensis x aucheri

I. nusairiensis x aucheri is a recent hybrid raised by Dr Arnis Seisums of Riga. Arnis used a good blue form of *I. nusairiensis* as the seed parent and pollen from *I. aucheri* 'Olof' (previously *I. aucheri* 'Shooting Star'). The offsprings are slightly variable.

In the wild an iris, intermediate between *Iris nusairiensis* and *I. aucheri*, grows in SE Turkey, Malatya province. The population has large creamy flowers with a deep yellow patch on the falls. It is more robust than *I. nusairiensis*. It will be described under its own name in the coming monograph by Arnis and Tony Hall.



Stan da Prato's winning 6 pan entry in the class for 6 pans distinct genera, bulbs. This is a difficult class to fill especially in a late season.

The exhibitor is putting 'all his eggs in one basket'.





Sisyrinchium douglasii is most often found in Scottish Rock Gardens as a white flower. Stan showed the white form in his 3 pans from the open class. In the wild white flowers are very rare. The predominant colour is magenta. Why? Jack Drake's Inchriach Nursery near Aviemore sold the white form. Jack had travelled widely in Western north America with Will Ingwersen and they collected the rare form and propagated it.



A nice seedling mixture



Iris winogradowii from Ian Christie



Peter Semple's
IRIS SINDPERS



Narcissus jacetanus



Narcissus 'Little Gem'



Tulips

T. humilis

T. neustruevae

T. 'Stresa'

T. humilis 'Lilliput';

FRITILLARIAS [clockwise from right]

Cyril's *F. gibbosa* won the G. Sprunt trophy for the Best Pan of Bulbs in a 19cm pan

David Millward's *F. aurea*

Peter Semple's *F. pudica* 'Richard Britten'

2 from Jean Wylie *F. aff. walujewii* and *F. yuminensis*

3 colour forms of *F. imperialis* from the RBG Edin.







Stan da Prato took the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust Trophy for Most Points in section 1. This is a tribute his terrific support for this shows and all the other SRGC shows as well. The pale blue Scilla is *S. mischtschenkoana*, a fine bulb for early spring flowering. I have only grown it under cold glass.

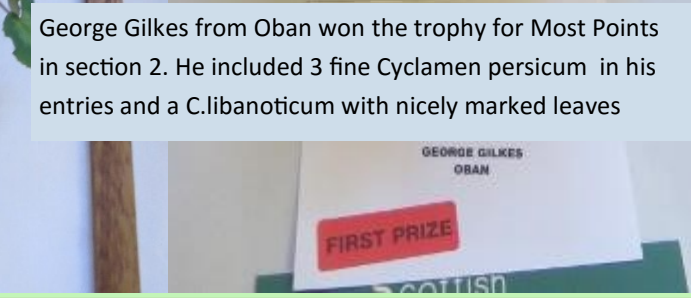
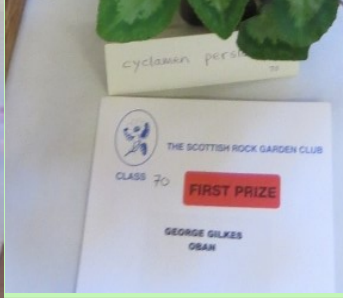
Sam Sutherland took the Spiller Trophy for Best Primula with a fine dome of *P. allionii* 'Mary Berry'



Anne Chambers' *Primula nana* was awarded a Certificate of Merit. Sue Simpson's *Pulsatilla vernalis* must have been the Best European Plant in the show and the winner of the Ben Ledi Quaich

The Forrest Medal and the Institute of Quarrying Quaich were taken once again by Cyril Lafong's *Trillium rivale* 'Purple Heart'





George Gilkes from Oban won the trophy for Most Points in section 2. He included 3 fine *Cyclamen persicum* in his entries and a *C.libanoticum* with nicely marked leaves



