

# The Scottish Rock Garden Club

## Forrest Medal Perth Show 2015

# Andromeda polifolia 'Nikko' Shown by Stan da Prato

'MASTER OF ANDROMEDA!' is a grand title suitable for our SRGC Plantsman of the Year – this year, last year, the one before.... Stan has won top prizes at all our shows. At Perth his entry in the "big" 6 pan class included two Andromedas. The Forrest medal winner was this 12 inch pan of Andromeda polifolia 'Nikko'. There was no room for any more flowers, thousands of tiny pink heather-like bells, covered a cushion of dark green needle like foliage. A. polifolia is a circumpolar plant. This form 'Nikko' is Japanese and carries the name of Nikko National Park on Honshu Island. The other Andromeda in the class was the one which took the Forrest at last year's Highland show, A. polifolia 'Blue Lagoon'. Maggi Young, when writing about Andromedas in last year's Highland show Forrest report, wondered how the plants would cope with being

potted on. Now we know. They are better than ever.

Well done Stan, we know Japanese Cherry trees grow well in Scotland and now we can recommend their Andromedas as well. Many of our most choice plants are native to the Land of the Rising Sun. this one also flowers in the Lands of the mid-night sun. Lets raise a glass of Sake and drink their health.

Now that Stan has repotted these large plants he tells me that his transport, hitherto known as 'The Tardis' because of its capacity, has reached its limit!.

