

# The Scottish Rock Garden Club Stirling Show in Dunblane

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The Stirling show schedule has many classes for bulbous plants, not only for specific genera but also for multipans of different genera. Stan da Prato won the 6 pan bulbous plants different genera [above] while Barry and Cathy Caudwell won the class for 6 pans of bulbous plants distinct. The difference between the class definitions is important. Stan's pans had to be of different genera — Muscari, Narcissus, Hyacinthus, Corydalis, Cyclamen and Tulipa, whereas Barry and Cathy were able to enter three Narcissi as well as a Fritillaria, a Muscari and an Ipheion. These two classes bring a lot of colour and interest to the show.





The two pan bulb class seems to me to have had a wee stranger in the entry. Third prize went to a Hepatica and a Parquilegia. It was won by Jim Watson with his *Tecophilea cyanocrocus* and *Ipheion 'Alberto Castillo'*

#### FABULOUS DISPLAY OF COLOUR

I like the blue and white flowered *Iris graeberiana* 'White Falls'. It resembles *Iris magnifica*. I was surprised to see a pan of *Iris* 'Frank Elder', as I think of it as a plant for the Early Bulb Display in February. We all seem to think that everything is blooming earlier this year but that is obviously not true. The *Narcissi* seem to flower at the same time each year unless it is extremely cold. *Narcissus moschata*, *Tete-a-Tete*, *watieri* and the *bulbocodiums* flower each year for this show,





This is the bigger of David Millward's two pans of *Narcissus obesus* 'Lee Martin'. This won the Forrest Medal. It overwhelms the other entries in its class as well as everything round about!. It shouts 'WINNER'. David like me was given a few bulbs several years ago by the generous grower, Bill Robinson. It is a splendid form.

In my report on the Kendal show I bemoaned the fact that we see fewer fritillaries in our shows these days. How wonderful then to see these at Stirling, *Fritillaria acmopetala*, *sewerzowii*, *olivieri?* and *gibbosa*.





The Native to Scotland class was won by Stan's *Salix reticulata*. This wee tree must have won enough first prizes on its own to qualify for a silver Merit Medal! Peter Semple brought the Scottish spring into the hall with his fine pan of Primroses, *Primula vulgaris*. A terrible name for a beautiful plants. It is not 'vulgar'. However the Classically educated among you will know that *vulgaris* just means 'common'.

There are always plants from genera which do not have a specific class; hence *Hyacinthus*, *Allium*, *Tecophilea* and a *Muscari* sit happily together. The *Allium* won and is a good garden plant but has a tendency to seed around. It needs careful placing in the garden but is well worth its space because it soon dies back to wait for next spring when it bursts forth to brighten up any corner. It does well in dry shade!



George Forrest Memorial Medal	David Millward	<i>Narcissus obesus</i> 'Lee Martin'
Spiller Trophy for Best Primula	Jane & Alan Thomson	<i>Primula</i> 'Jackie Richards'
Institute of Quarrying Quaich for The Best non-European Plant	Peter Semple	<i>Tecophilea cyanocrocus</i>
The Ben Ledi Trophy for The Best European plant	David Millward	<i>Narcissus obesus</i> 'Lee Martin'
Carnegie Dunfermline Trust Trophy for Most Points in Section I	Stan da Prato	
Fife County Trophy for Most Points in Section II	Carolyn McNab	
Glasford Sprunt Trophy for Best Ban of bulbs less than 19cm	David Millward	<i>Narcissus obesus</i> 'Lee Martin'
Certificate of Merit	Jane & Alan Thomson	<i>Hepatica</i> 'Millstream Merlin'
Certificate of Merit	Sue Simpson	<i>Anistome imbricata</i>

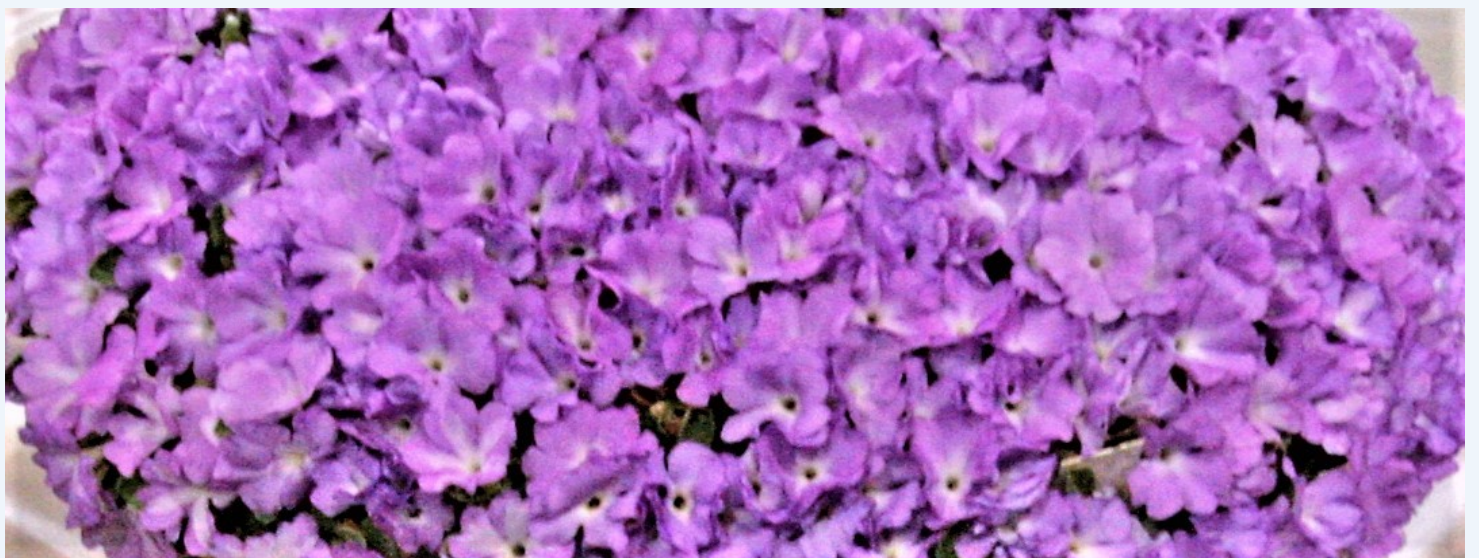


Two Plants so similar but from mountains thousands of miles apart!

With ancestors from the European Alps, hybrid Primula 'Jackie Richards' on the left, won the Spiller Trophy for Jane and Alan Thomson.

From the Himalaya, Anne Chambers' Primula whitei 'Arduaine form' won its Class. It is probably the best petiolarid Primula for growing in Scotland

















For the first time ever, I missed this year's Stirling show. It is obvious from the pictures that it was a good show with many interesting plants. Congratulations to everyone who took part and to Show Secretary Sam Sutherland and his team for all their work.#

For this article I am indebted to Stan da Prato for taking and sending me the pictures and to Maggi Young for correcting my mistakes.