CLUB WINS GOLD AT GARDENING SCOTLAND

Congratulations to everyone involved in producing a superb Gold Medal display at Gardening Scotland for the second year in a row. Sadly Graham Wenham who had been our ‘leader’ in previous displays passed away last February and we all gave of our best to produce a beautiful display in his memory. It was lovely to welcome his wife Claire and two of his daughters who came to see the stand on Friday.

It was a magnificent team effort by more than 30 Club members from all over Scotland. Some donated plants, some transported them, some worked at constructing the display and some manned the stand over the Gardening Scotland weekend, promoting the Scottish Rock Garden Club, selling seed and talking to people about the plants we love. The Beechgrove Garden featured us yet again giving the Club valuable air time on TV.

So thank you one and all who are listed below. But extra special thanks must go to

Stan da Prato and Ian Christie

Who not only master-minded the display but also provided lots of beautiful plants.

The Team

EVENTS

Discussion Weekend  3 - 5 October 2014  Grantown-on-Spey

Please refer to the January issue of ‘The Rock Garden’ for full details — a Booking Form is on page 11 of these Secretary’s Pages.

REMAINING SHOW DATES FOR 2014

Summer Event to Celebrate Rock Gardening

Dunblane Christian Fellowship Hall

23 August 10am - 4pm

Flowers of the Hills & Mountains

Four talks by Olga Bondareva – Plant Hunting in Russia

A four-part event with talks, displays, plant and seed exchange and plant sales.

Late Bulb Display at Old Scone Church Hall 20 September

Coffee at 10.00am

Two presentations by

Jim Almond

10.30am

*Fritillarias from A to Z*

2pm

*Growing and Propagating Choice Bulbs*

This is a ticket only event, tickets, costing £5:00, will be on sale at the door. Members are encouraged to bring along as many pans of dwarf bulbs and flowering alpine plants as possible for a display. A single flowering bulb or plant is of interest to other enthusiasts.

Bring a picnic lunch, self serve tea / coffee provided. Contributions are invited for a 50:50 plant sale, which will be held to cover expenses.

Discussion Weekend Show 4 October - Note this Show will be open to the public from 10:30 to 12:00

Newcastle Show  11 October

Free Place at the 2014 Discussion Weekend

At the Council Meeting in March Bette Ivey, the Hon. President, drew the name for the free place at the Discussion Weekend. The winner was Arie VanSpronsen from Canada. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2015 place and should be with the Secretary no later than 28 February 2015, please note earlier cut off date!
Provisional Show Dates for 2015

Please note that these dates are PROVISIONAL and subject to change over the next six months. Please consult the 2015 Show Schedule for confirmed dates.

Dunblane Early Bulb Display          21 February
Kendal                                14 March
Stirling Show (Kincardine)            21 March
Hexham                                28 March
Edinburgh                             11 April
Perth                                  18 April
Highland Show (Nairn)                 25 April
Glasgow                                2 May
Summer Event (Dunblane)               15 August
Discussion Weekend                    3 October
Newcastle (Ponteland)                 10 October

Discussion Weekend 2014

Organisation of the event is well in hand and delegates can be assured of another warm Highland welcome. Once again the Birdwatchers and Wildlife Club folk will be on hand to lead guided walks through the local Anagach Wood where you can hope to see red squirrels and crested tits and to Loch Garten, they can also advise on other places to visit. There are also various other activities you can indulge in, including visiting Revack Estate for a wander and a visit to their excellent coffee shop.

At the time of going to print there are just a few residential places available at the Garth for the weekend. If you would like to come to the weekend contact Carol Shaw findhorncarol@icloud.com. Carole Bainbridge & Carol Shaw

DEATHS

The Club has received intimation of the death of the following members: Mr K Beeken, Bedale; Mrs I K Glaister, Milton under Wychwood; Mrs R Grand, Durham; Mr K Guest, Kesswick; Mrs C Keay, Birmingham; N Lusmore, Upper Framilode; Mrs J Rowe, Rothienorman; Mr D Underwood, Gillingham; Miss L Watson, St Andrews; Mr J Watson, Ayr; Mr G Wenham, Torpichen. We extend our sympathies to their families and friends.

Change of Information

The Secretary’s email address is now findhorncarol@icloud.com
Carolyn McNab is now the Convener of the South West Scotland Group her email address is carolynmcnab@hotmail.com
Results of the Twice Yearly Photographic/Art Competition
Held at the Kincardine Show 22 March 2014

Class 1 (Photograph of an alpine plant)
1st Dr Margaret Fraser (Lumphanan) Primula species in Bhutan.
2nd Jim Forbes (Freuchie) Dactylorhiza fuchsii

Class 2 (Alpine landscape or habitat including alpine plants)
1st Dr Margaret Fraser (Lumphanan) with “On the Rio de las Vueltas, Parque Nacional los Glaciares, Argentina”

Class 3 (Digitally manipulated image inspired by alpines) No entries!

Class 4 (Drawing or painting of a rock plant)
1st Jim Forbes (Freuchie) Tulipa tarda Colour painting.

Class 5 (Artwork or Craftwork inspired by rock plant)
1st Ann Sinclair (Stewarton). Box with knitted wire Pleione flower decoration.

Thanks for your fantastic entries! Going on a Garden Visit or out in the Garden? Don’t forget to take some photos for the next photographic competition which will be at the AGM.

Enter your craftwork for the Williamson Cup.
The Williamson Cup will be awarded for the best entry to Class 5 (Artwork or Craftwork as above). The winning entry from Class 5 at Kincardine may be re-exhibited at the AGM as a contender for the Williamson Cup. New entries to class 5 will also be eligible for the cup.

Classes and conditions of entry are in the 2014 Show Schedules.

Cathy Caudwell

Travelling Speakers Tour: October 2014

Susie Egan will be visiting/speaking to the following Groups:

Monday 20 October North Northumberland Native Flora of the Pacific Northwest
Tuesday 21 October Borders Native Flora of the Pacific Northwest
Thursday 23 October Aberdeen Trilliums of the Western US
Friday 24 October Moray/Highland Trilliums of the Western US
Tuesday 28 October Perth Native Flora of the Pacific Northwest
Wednesday 29 October West of Scotland Trilliums of the Western US
Thursday 30 October South West Scotland Trilliums of the Western US

For further information please contact the relevant Group Convener using the contact details in the Year Book.
GOLDEN JUBILEE SALVER

Nominations for the 2014 recipient should be sent to the Secretary no later than 15 August 2014. It would be helpful if a short account of the nominee’s services to the Club were to be included, and also the names of other supporters.

The Salver is presented annually to an individual member for outstanding service to the Club. All nominations are considered by the Awarding Committee which consists of previous winners of this prestigious award.

(You may submit your nomination again in subsequent years if initially unsuccessful.)

The names of all previous holders are recorded in the Golden Jubilee Salver Book which is available for inspection at the AGM. For those who cannot attend our AGM the Golden Jubilee Salver has been awarded to the following individuals.

1983 Alf Evans  1984 Joyce Halley  1985 Don Stead
1992 Sheila Maule  1993 Sandy Leven  1994 Bill Mackenzie
2004 Jackie Thomlinson  2005 Margaret Taylor  2006 Henry Taylor
2007 Jean Band  2008 Ian Young  2009 Anne Chambers
2010 Ian Bainbridge  2011 Ian Christie  2012 Jim Sutherland
2013 Julia Corden

DUNBLANE EARLY DWARF BULB DISPLAY

21 February 2015 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
A Celebration of Bulbs & Hearts
with talks at 11am and 2pm

For further details please check the website and the 2015 Show Schedule
NOTICES

EXPLORATION FUND GRANTS

The following grants have been awarded this year:

• £1,000 to David Rankin for a trip to China in 2014.
• £1,000 to Stella Rankin for a trip to the China in 2014.
• £1,200 to Pam Eveleigh for a trip to China in 2014.
• £750 to Alan Elliott for a trip to Mid-West Nepal in 2014.

Deadline for Applications for 2015

Anyone wishing to apply to the Exploration Fund for a grant for an expedition in 2015 or early 2016 should submit their application not later than 1st March 2015.

Application forms are available from the Secretary, Carol Shaw.

Contributions to the Fund are always welcome and would enable us to offer more support. Any donations should be sent to the President, Carole Bainbridge, 3 Woodhouselee, Penicuik EH26 0PG

DIANA AITCHISON FUND GRANTS 2014

No awards have been made to date this year. This is a reminder of the details of the fund. The Diana Aitchison Fund provides grants and bursaries to support young people who want to pursue a career in horticulture, and especially to further their knowledge of alpine and rock garden plants, and their cultivation. Grants from the Diana Aitchison Fund are available each year. Priority will be given to students following horticultural courses lasting one or more years and might go towards fees, living costs or travel expenses, either on a full-time course or at another location, such as summer work experience at a botanic garden or nursery. A personal contribution toward the cost of any course would be expected from any recipient. For further information contact Julia Corden julia.corden@explorersgarden.com

PUBLICATIONS

It is with mixed feelings that I announce that the SRGC Publications section is closing down. For the last couple of years there has been a steady decline in the interest in the books and sales are now very low. When I became Publications Manager there were always a lot of members browsing the books on offer and we made a decent number of sales. Nowadays few stop by to look at the new titles and a very small number of books get sold. Mail order services fell by the wayside a couple of years ago as the price of postage increased at a dramatic rate.

In the beginning I was frustrated by visitors to the stand browsing a book then taking out pen and paper to write down its details and ISBN number so that they could go and buy it from Amazon – all this directly in front of the stall holder, which I thought rather rude. As the years went by the camera on their mobile phone replaced pen and paper! Now however, even this practice has ceased indicating that gardeners now have little interest in the printed word; the Internet reigns!
I am sorry to be leaving this post but, at the same time, I have been wasting my own time in trying to provide a redundant service. On behalf of all the previous Publications Managers and myself I would like to thank all members who have supported us in the past. I trust that you have had many happy hours reading your books.

I am not buying in any more stock and am selling the remainder off at 25% discount to members. The diminishing stock will be available at the rest of this year’s SRGC events. If anyone wishes to buy by mail order please email me with your request from the list in the January Secretary’s Pages and I will let you know if it is still available and the cost of postage to you.

Many thanks to all my past customers.

David Shaw (delftdavid@gmail.com)

68th SRGC Seed Exchange 2014-2015

Seed exchange charges remain unchanged
As was the case in 2013-14, all members will have to pay for all seed requests. We have decided to keep the rates unchanged; this means that all members will pay £5, €7 or $10 for their main seed request in 2014-15, and the same for each order of 25 packets in the surplus distribution. Full details of how to pay will be included in the Seed List and online, and you can pay online for both online and paper requests. We can only accept cheques in sterling from a UK bank, and can accept sterling, Euros or US dollars in cash.

Autumn 2014 Seed Donations
Please send seed donations, individually packaged per variety, preferably in a paper envelope, and cleaned of all seed cases, debris, insects, etc to:-
Prof. Stuart Pawley, Acres of Keillour, Methven, Perth, Scotland, UK, PH1 3RA. Please include your name and address and a clearly written alphabetical list of the seed you are sending. Please don’t be put off if you only have a small amount of seed of a species, or only a few species to send - it may be the small amount of seed that no-one else has, and that someone would love to have.

The deadline for seed to arrive at Stuart’s door is 31st October 2014.
If you have “late maturing” seed that cannot be sent until later, please send the information about this as early as possible and before 31st October, to Stuart at gsp.srgc@btinternet.com. Send the list in the text of an e-mail, not as an attachment. Stuart can’t afford a computer virus at this critical time. It is important to send the information early so we can produce the seed list in good time. Please send late seed as soon as you can.

Seed Lists
All donors and overseas members will receive a seed list by post automatically. Home non-donors should request a list from Stuart Pawley, and send a C5 stamped addressed envelope to him. Last date for requesting a list is 14th December. When the seed list is posted out, it will go online at the same time; you can browse and order online as well as by post.
The online seed password for 2014/15 is in the Rock Garden #133. You will also need to enter your membership number (it’s on the envelope the The Rock Garden arrives in!)

**Seed Packeting**
Seed packeting will be done during November / early December. Ian Pryde would be grateful to hear from any UK member willing to volunteer to packet seeds. Full instructions and guidance will be provided; details from Ian Pryde on 01875 615185 or 07746 298334 or at ipryde@btinternet.com

**Seed Distribution: early 2015**
From 2014-15, we have a new Seed Distribution Team. After twelve years of superb service to the Club, the Edinburgh Group is taking a well-earned break. Our very grateful thanks and congratulations go to them for managing the distribution so well for so long; they have done a fantastic job. In 2014-15, the South-West Scotland Group will be taking on the Distribution role, and the Club is very grateful to them for picking up the baton. Full details of the arrangements for ordering seed will be included in the seed list and on the website. Seed requests must reach the new Seed Request Manager, **Neil McNulty by 15th January**. We cannot guarantee to meet requests received later. The South-West Scotland Rock Garden Group will begin seed distribution in early January; we aim to have all main requests completed by January 18th.
Donors’ seed requests are completed first, on the basis of their donation record. Donating more seed and for more years moves you up the list. Non-donors and surplus seed requests will be dealt with in order of their arrival date with Neil McNulty. Surplus seed distribution will not begin until all main requests are completed; and not before Jan. 18th, so members will receive their main and surplus requests a few weeks apart. We hope to complete surplus distribution by the first weekend in February. Please do not enquire about the whereabouts of seed requests until after 5th February; queries should be addressed to Neil McNulty, 6 Main Rd, Crookedholm, Kilmarnock, KA3 6JT, Scotland, UK.
neil.mcnultysrgcseedexchangepkrsseedexchange@talktalk.net

**US Members**
US members must have a ‘Small Lots of Seeds’ permit, which is issued by APHIS. You can find details of how to get a permit at:

This must be a **small lots** permit, as this does not require UK phytosanitary certification.

You must enclose a copy of the permit and conditions and a green/yellow customs label for each order - one for a main order, and one for each surplus order of 50 packets.
If you order online, you must still post the permit documents and labels to Neil McNulty (or you may send them to Stuart Pawley with your seed donation). You can copy your permit as many times as you need. Please ensure your permit is still valid before you send copies to us; the permits are valid for three years.
We must stress that “no permit, no seed” is the SRGC rule! We will do our best to get everyone their seed, but it must be in compliance with USDA regulations.
US, Australian and New Zealand members
We still need you, please, to send a named and numbered list of seeds requested, unless you order online, when the computer will do that job for you and us.

Other overseas members
Please check with your authorities whether there are any import requirements to your country, let us know and send any necessary documentation. We do wish to comply with any laws relating to seed imports.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Old Scone Church Hall, Scone on Saturday 15 November 2014 at 1.00 pm.

Travel Directions: Entrance to Old Scone Church Hall is off the A94 (Perth/Coupar Angus road), coming from Perth take the first left onto Cross Street and immediately left again onto Burnside and follow the signs for the David Douglas Memorial.

PROGRAMME
12.00 pm Grand Picnic
(You bring the food, we provide the wine, juice, tea and coffee.)
1.00 pm Annual General Meeting
SHORT BREAK
2.00 pm (approx) The Clark Memorial Lecture
David Millward – Following the Anatolian Diagonal
3.00 pm (approx) Tea and biscuits
There will also be:
• a non-competitive display of plants
• a members 50/50 plant sale
• the second photographic/art competition of the year
• books for sale at very reduced prices
Please bring along plenty of plants for the display and/or sale as well as entries for the photographic/art competition.
AGENDA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held at Scone Old Church Hall, Scone on 9 November 2013
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. President’s Review of the Year
5. Presentation of Honours
6. Presentation of Merit Medals by the President
7. Presentation of the AGS Salver, the Rutland Salver and the Golden Jubilee Salver
8. Consider adoption of the Accounts for the year ending 30 June 2014
9. Election of Executive Office-Bearers
10. Election of four Ordinary Members to serve a 3-year term on Council
11. Appointment of Examiner of Accounts
12. Approval of the members of Joint Rock Committee
13. Date & place of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING in 2015
14. Any other competent business

In accordance with Rule 5.1 all Executive Office-Bearers retire annually but are eligible for re-election. The following have been nominated:

President    Dr C Bainbridge
Treasurer    Mr R Green
Secretary    Mrs C Shaw
Subscription Secretary   Ms C Boulby
Editor     Prof A Edwards
Publicity Manager   Mr A J Leven
Chairman of Web Committee  Mr I Young

In accordance with Rule 6.1 four members shall be elected to the Council annually to serve for three years as Ordinary Members.

To date nominations have been received for David Shaw and Neil McNulty

Please consider becoming an Ordinary Member of Council. Talk to Carole Bainbridge or Carol Shaw for more information.
DISCUSSION WEEKEND BOOKING FORM  Friday 3rd – Sunday 5th October 2014

Please send this form and the appropriate remittance made payable to ‘SRGC Discussion Weekend’ to:

The Registration Secretary, Carol Shaw, Delft Cottage, Dyke, Forres IV36 2TF

Accommodation at the Grant Arms Hotel is in double, twin or single rooms. If you book a twin or double room please indicate the name of the person with whom you are sharing on the reverse of the booking form. Otherwise, we will use our judgement in finding you a room-mate. The Grant Arms Hotel has 48 bedrooms once these are filled we will accommodate delegates in the Garth Hotel a minute’s walk across the Square.

If you need extra nights accommodation, we will book this for you; indicate your requirements overleaf where the rates for the extra nights can also be found.

Your name badge will be printed as you have written below – (first and surname). If you want something different please write on the reverse of the form.

BLOCK CAPITALS

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

POST CODE       TEL. No.       e-MAIL

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<td>Sunday - morning coffee, lunch, afternoon tea</td>
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Give details of dietary or any other special requirements on the reverse of the form as well as the name of the other person with whom you are sharing.

NOTE: This form and remittance must reach Carol not later than 28th August 2014.

PTO for terms and conditions
Terms and Conditions for Discussion Weekend

CANCELLATIONS: Please note that no refund will be given after 17th August 2014

Extra nights for Thursday 2nd Oct. and Sunday 6th Oct. are available: £65 (DB&B) per person per night, sharing; £85 (DB&B) single. The cost of extra nights and any other charges incurred whilst staying at the conference must be settled with the hotel by each member prior to departure.

Name of room-mate:

Dietary and/or special requirements i.e. lift access to room, walk-in shower:

Visit the SRGC’s web site

• www.srgc.net •

• View Sandy’s Show Pictures and the Show Reports •

• Read Ian Young’s Bulb Log - best information on growing bulbs available •

• Join the Forum to chat to fellow rock garden plant enthusiasts world wide •

• Read the Wisley Alpine Log • Read the International Rock Gardener •

COPY DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT SECRETARY’S PAGES:

5 NOVEMBER 2014

Carol Shaw, Delft Cottage, Dyke, Forres IV36 2TF
Tel: 01309 641405  e-mail: findhorncarol@icloud.com