

SRGC SECRETARY'S PAGES



JULY 2016



AGM & GRAND PICNIC SATURDAY 12 NOVEMBER

For full details and Agenda please see pages 9 & 10

SRGC WINS BEST ALPINE DISPLAY AT GARDENING SCOTLAND

This was our best ever display earning the Club a much coveted Premier Gold Award and Best Alpine Display in Show. Huge praise must go to everyone who helped create it, the members and nurseries who provided so many beautiful plants, the construction and planting team and all the others who worked away in the background. Every year the display team improves on its previous performance and this is reflected in the judges' awards.

For those of you who didn't manage to see the display at Gardening Scotland, you can see lots of photos of it on the Forum on the Club website and on the Club Facebook page.

Many thanks also to the team of helpers who man the stand over the weekend, promoting the Club and its work as well as selling hundreds of pounds worth of seeds.

POSITIONS VACANT

The Club is looking for a new secretary as Carol Shaw has made it clear that, due to health issues, it is time for her to resign. Equally Ann Brown stepped back as minute secretary at the last AGM and we are still looking for her replacement.

If you think that either of these roles is something that might interest you please email Carol Shaw findhorncarol@icloud.com or call 01309 641405 for further information.

EVENTS

Discussion Weekend 14 - 16 October 2016 Peebles

Please refer to the July issue of 'The Rock Garden' for full details.

Summer Event to Celebrate Rock Gardening

Dunblane Christian Fellowship Hall

20 August 10am - 4pm

Flowers of the Hills & Mountains

11am Willie Campbell Botanical Travels in Search of Plants in Wild Places

2.45pm Bob Mitchell - Alaska

3.15pm Elspeth Macintosh Looking after Bulbs at the RBGE

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

REMAINING SHOW DATES FOR 2016

A Celebration of Cyclamen Weekend 24 - 25 September

The Evergreen Hall, Bluebell Lane, Penrith CA11 7LH

Tea/coffee and biscuits at 10am both days

For a full list of speakers and subjects, directions to the Evergreen Hall and information on accommodation please see the July Journal

Members are encouraged to bring along as many pans of dwarf bulbs and flowering alpine plants as possible for a plant display. The Cyclamen Society is organising a competitive show and members of both clubs are welcome to enter

Bring a picnic lunch or visit one of the local restaurants, self serve tea / coffee provided. Contributions are invited for a 50:50 plant sale, which will be held to cover expenses.

Newcastle Show 8 October

Discussion Weekend Show 15 October

See Show Schedules for further details of these two Shows

The Club Library Has Moved!

The library is now with Neil and Sheila McNulty in Kilmarnock. Please call them on 01563 526351 or email neil.mculty@talktalk.net if you wish to organise borrowing any books or to obtain a list of the books available.

Provisional Show Dates for 2017

*Please note that these dates are **PROVISIONAL** and subject to change over the next six months. **Please** consult the 2017 Show Schedule for confirmed dates.*

Dunblane Early Bulb Display	18 February
Kendal	18 March
Stirling Show (Kincardine)	25 March
Hexham	1 April
Edinburgh	8 April
Perth	15 April
Highland Show (Nairn)	29 April
Glasgow	6 May
Aberdeen	20 May
Summer Event (Dunblane)	19 August
Newcastle (Ponteland)	7 October
Discussion Weekend	14 October

Discussion Weekend 2016

Organisation of the event is well in hand and the weekend is now almost fully booked. If you would like to attend the weekend please fill in the booking form at the back of these Secretary's Pages and return to Mike Hicks the booking secretary.

DEATHS

The Club has received intimation of the death of the following members: Mr Kingsley P Butler, Nova Scotia; Mr Stanley Clarke, Brora; Mrs Joan G Conner, Australia; Miss Margaret Fraser, Culloden; Miss J Green, Heathfield; Mrs Isla Hall, Felton; Mr Hugh McAlister, Castlewellan; Dr R McRitchie, Stevenage; Dr Neville C Morgan, Selkirk; Mr John Oliver, St Ives, Cambs; Mrs G Phillips, Lincolnshire; Mr Finn Ragn-Hansen, Denmark; Mr Tony Rymer, Wormald; Mrs Evelyn Shand, Huntley; Mr Ian Smith, Elgin; Marigold Speir, St Andrews; Mr Jamie Taggart, Helensburgh; Mrs Joan Beeston, Worcester; Mr Gerald Thieme, Berlin; Mrs Christine Thomson, Edinburgh.

We extend our sympathies to their families and friends.

DUNBLANE EARLY DWARF BULB DISPLAY

18 February 2017 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

A Celebration of Bulbs with talks at 11am and 2pm

Book this in your diary now! For further details please check the website and the 2017 Show Schedules.

Results of the Twice Yearly Photographic/Art Competition Held at the Kincardine Show 19 March 2016

Class 1 (Photograph of an alpine plant)

1st Bob Maxwell (Tibbermore) *Merendera kurdica* at Lake Van, Turkey.

2nd Matt Topsfield (Benbecula) *Galanthus reginae-olgae* ssp *reginae-olgae* in Langada Pass, Central Mountains, Greece.

3rd Jim Forbes (Freuche) *Nerine bowdenii*.

Class 2 (Alpine landscape or habitat including alpine plants)

1st Matt Topsfield (Benbecula) with "Mountain habitat with *Crocus hadriaticus* ssp *hadriaticus*. Central Mountains, Greece".

Class 3 Matt Topsfield (Benbecula) "Variations in leaf forms of *Cyclamen graecum*, Southern Peloponnese, Greece". A photomontage of different leaf forms.

Class 4 (Drawing or painting of a rock plant)

1st Jim Forbes (Freuchie) *Aquilegia alpina* Colour painting.

Class 5 (Artwork or craftwork inspired by rock plant) No entries.

Going off on holiday, 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.

The Williamson Cup will be awarded for the best entry to Class 5 (Artwork or Craftwork as above).

Classes and conditions of entry are in the 2016 Show Schedules.

Cathy Caudwell

GOLDEN JUBILEE SALVER

Nominations for the 2016 recipient should be sent to the Secretary no later than 15 August 2016. It would be helpful if a short account of the nominees 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 information is available on our website.

NOTICES

EXPLORATION FUND GRANTS

The following grants have been awarded this year:

- £750 to Matt Topsfield for a trip to Spain following in Blanchard's footsteps 2016.
- £1,000 to Jiri Papousek for a trip to Iran to study Dionysias in 2016.
- £680 to Michael Mauser for a trip to Iran to study Dionysias in 2016.
- £1,000 to Christopher Brown for a trip to Bhutan to study the flora of Jigme Dorji National Park.
- £5,000 to Edward Shaw, Peter Edge, Graham Gunn, Ngaire Burston, for a trip to Sichuan and Yunnan group objective to learn from the leaders David and Stella Rankin.
- £1,000 Susann Nilsson for a field trip to the Black Sea to study Pulsatillas in 2016.

Contributions to the Fund are always welcome and would enable us to offer more support. Any donations should be sent to the Treasurer, Richard Green.

Free Place at the 2016 Discussion Weekend

At the Council Meeting in March the President drew the name for the free place at the 2016 Discussion Weekend. The winner was Netta Milne of the Moray Group. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017 place and should be with the Secretary no later than 28 February 2017.

Rock Gardening... From the Ground Upwards Grantown-on-Spey 1 July 2017

Thanks to the David Boyd bequest we are able to run a new event each year, the first of these will take place next July at the Grant Arms Hotel, Grantown-on-Spey. This event is still in the early stages of planning and is expected to have lots of short talks and hands on practical time. Topics will include: Basic needs of rock garden plants; Rock garden design; Plants; Alternatives to an actual rock garden e.g. raised beds and troughs; Special areas e.g. by seaside or on an exposed moor.

This will be a non-residential event, though there is plenty of accommodation in Grantown from camp sites via B & B's and Guest Houses to the Grant Arms itself. Further details of this event will be in the January 2017 Journal and the Show Schedules.

70th SRGC Seed Exchange 2016-2017

Password for 2016-2017: ayrSWS70

SEED EXCHANGE TEAM

Seed Reception Managers:

Drs Ian and Carole Bainbridge: 01557 814141.

Luckie Harg's, Anwoth Road, Gatehouse of Fleet, Castle Douglas, DG7 2EF, Scotland.

Seed Packeting Manager

George Watt: 01292 592445

Burnside, Littlemill Road, Drongan, East Ayrshire, KA6 7EN, Scotland

Seed Distribution Team Manager

Carolyn McNab: 01557 870225

Barmagachan House, Borgue, Kirkcudbright DG6 4SW, Scotland.

Seed Request Manager

Neil McNulty, 6 Main Rd, Crookedholm, Kilmarnock, KA3 6JT, Scotland.

Note: all seed correspondence, lists and queries should be sent to: seed@srgc.org.uk.

SEED DONATIONS AUTUMN 2016

Please send fresh clean seed as early as possible, and no later than 31st October.

Send seed to Ian and Carole Bainbridge at the address above.

Late seed can be accepted if a list has been sent by post or e-mail to reach us by 31st October. Please send e-mails to seed@srgc.org.uk.

The seed list will be compiled on 1st November, so late seed may well not be in the exchange.

Please: Write the full name of the seed on each packet of seed, and if collected in the wild state where.

Write your name or initials on each packet.

Put all seed of one type in one packet.

Use small packets when possible (and avoid very big packets!).

Supply a list of donated seed in alphabetical order.

Please put your e-mail, phone number and membership number (if known) on the list in case we have any queries.

Provide comments on any new or rare seed.

Wild seed: There has been much discussion recently about illegal collecting of wild seeds. The reputation of the SRGC is at risk if we offer seed that has been collected illegally, or which does not have distribution permission. This could harm future attempts by people who want to collect seed legitimately. The SRGC is not able to check every seed submission, so please do not submit wild-collected seed that would put our reputation at risk. Please also retain the documentation giving any relevant permission for as long as possible.

SEED LISTS 2016

All members (except those with paperless subscriptions) will receive a seed list automatically by post. There will be no need for UK members to request lists. Please ensure your membership is renewed promptly, to ensure you receive a seed list.

Seed lists will be posted in late November and the seed list will be online from late November as well.

The request system will be live until 15th January, which is the closing date for receipt of all seed orders.

To access the online system you will need to register each year, and use the password which changes annually. **The password for 2016-17 is ayrSWS70.** You will also need to enter your membership number; only the digits, so for example, member REW97836 only needs to enter 97836. Queries about passwords and membership numbers can be sent to seed@srgc.org.uk.

SEED PACKETING

Seed packeting will be done during November / early December. The Ayr Group would be very grateful to hear from any UK member willing to volunteer to packet seeds. Full instructions and guidance will be provided; details from George Watt on 01292 592445 or email seed@srgc.org.uk

SEED DISTRIBUTION: EARLY 2017

The South-West Scotland Group will manage the distribution again in 2017. Full details of the arrangements for ordering seed will be included in the seed list and on the website. Seed requests must reach the Seed Request Manager, Neil McNulty, by the deadline of 15 January 2017.

The seed distribution will begin in early January and all main requests will be sent out by late January. Donors' seed requests are completed first, then non-donors in order of their arrival date followed by surplus seed requests. This means that main and surplus requests are sent out separately and may arrive a few weeks apart. The whole distribution should be completed by the end of January.

Please allow for delays in the postal system before enquiring about the whereabouts of your seed. Please wait until after 5th February; after when queries should be addressed to Neil McNulty, 6 Main Rd, Crookedholm, Kilmarnock, KA3 6JT, Scotland, UK, or at seed@srgc.org.uk

US Members

Members from the USA must have a ‘Small Lots of Seeds’ permit, which is issued by APHIS.

You can find details of how to get a permit at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_imports/smalllots_seed.shtml

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

Please apply for your permits ahead of the seed exchange to ensure there is no hold up in getting your seeds back to you.

You must enclose a copy of the permit and conditions and a green/yellow customs label for each request - one for a main request, and one for each surplus request of 50 packets.

If you order seed online, you must still post the permit documents and labels to Neil McNulty, as soon as possible - to arrive before 15 January (or you may send them to Ian and Carole Bainbridge 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! Several packs were left unsorted last year as the paperwork never arrived. 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 main order 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 your country has any seed import requirements. Let us know what we need to do, 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 Balformo Road Church Hall, Scone on 12 November 2016 at 1pm.

Travel Directions:

From Perth drive into Scone, straight up the main road passed Tesco. There is a Davidsons chemist on the left hand side of the road and just on the bend there is Scone New Church. Turn left by the black railings at the Church into Balformo Road. There is parking available beside the halls and also at the Wheel Inn (turn back onto the main road, left and the Wheel Inn is about 50 yards on the left hand side.)

If you are traveling to Perth on public transport walk down Leonard Street and New Row to York Place. The number 7 bus, which runs every ten minutes, leaves from the bus stop opposite the Library.

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

3.00pm (approx)

Tea, coffee and biscuits

- a non-competitive display of plants
- a members 50/50 plant sale
- the second photographic/art competition of the year

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 2016

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held at Scone Old Church Hall, Scone on 15 Nov. 2015
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, Rutland Salver and Golden Jubilee Salver
8. Consider adoption of the Accounts for the year ending 30 June 2016
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 2017
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	Prof David Rankin
Treasurer	Mr R Green
Secretary	Vacant
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 no nominations for Ordinary Members have been received please consider whether you can serve the Club in the capacity.

DISCUSSION WEEKEND BOOKING FORM

Friday 14th – Sunday 16th October 2016

The Discussion Weekend will be held at the Macdonald Cardrona Hotel, Cardrona, Peebles. This 4-star hotel has a range of facilities including an 18-hole golf course, indoor pool, health club and sauna. Accommodation can be booked for double or single occupancy. Rooms have either double or twin beds. If you are booking a double occupancy room please indicate your preference for a double or twin. If you are sharing with someone not included in this booking please state their name, otherwise we will use our judgement in finding you a roommate.

All rooms have lift access and most have walk-in showers. If you specifically want a walk-in shower please tick the box on the form. In addition please give details of any dietary or other special requirements.

Dogs are accepted in a limited number of rooms at an extra cost of £10 per dog per night, payable when you checkout. If you intend to bring dogs into your room please indicate this on the form.

If you need extra nights we will book these for you. Please give details of dates and room type in the space provided. The extra night rate for a double occupancy room - dinner, bed and breakfast is £65 per person sharing and £100 for single occupancy. The cost of extra nights must be settled by you with the hotel on checking out.

Your name badge will be printed as you have written – (first and surname), unless you inform us otherwise.

Please send the form overleaf together with the appropriate remittance made payable to **‘E&LR Group – The Registration Account’** to: **The Registration Secretary, Mike Hicks, 11 Lidgate Shot, Ratho, Newbridge, Midlothian, EH28 8TY**

Terms and Conditions: **The booking form and full remittance must reach Mike not later than 1st August 2016.** Cancellations: **Please note that no refund will be given after 15th August 2016.**

Please complete in Block Capitals

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

E-MAIL

TEL. No.

RESIDENT	PRICE Per Person	NO.	TOTAL COST
Friday Dinner – Sunday Afternoon Tea - Double Occupancy	£217		
Friday Dinner – Sunday Afternoon Tea - Single Occupancy	£274		
Saturday Morning – Sunday Afternoon - Double Occupancy	£155		
Saturday Morning – Sunday Afternoon - Single Occupancy	£190		
TOTAL COST			

Double Occupancy Room Preference: Twin beds Double bed

Walk-in shower required: Yes No

Room where Dogs permitted at extra charge: Yes No

Dietary requirements:

Special requirements:

Name of Roommate booking separately:

Extra nights required:

NON - RESIDENT	PRICE Per Person	NO.	TOTAL COST
Friday Evening (Including Dinner)	£35		
Saturday – Morning Coffee, Lunch, Afternoon Tea	£55		
Saturday – Morning Coffee, Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Dinner	£85		
Saturday Dinner	£40		
Sunday – Morning Coffee, Lunch, Afternoon Tea	£55		
TOTAL COST			