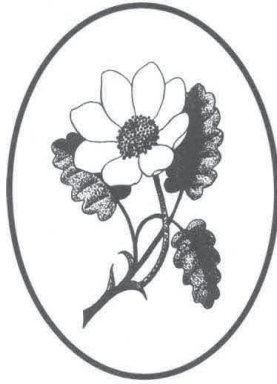


THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB



2017 YEAR BOOK & JANUARY SECRETARY'S PAGES

NOTICE

The 2017 AGM will take place on Saturday 11 November 2017 at the
Balformo Road Church Hall, Scone.

Full details will be published in the July Secretary's Pages

DISCUSSION WEEKEND PEBBLES

Friday 13th - Sunday 15th October

Details of the programme can be found in the January issue of
"The Rock Garden"

The BOOKING FORM is part of this booklet.

THE SHOW SCHEDULES are printed as a separate document and include the Show Rules, Special Awards, Rules for Judges, RHS Joint Rock Garden Plant Committee information, full details of all Shows and the Photographic/Art Competitions.

Show Schedules are no longer sent automatically to overseas members.

Should any overseas member wish to receive a copy, please contact the Secretary.

Honorary President

Mrs Elizabeth IVEY, 56 Tarvit Avenue, Cupar, Fife KY15 5BW

Honorary Vice-Presidents

Mr Ian AITCHISON, 20 Gorse Way, Freshfield, Formby, Merseyside L37 1PB

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The Regius Keeper, The Royal Botanic Garden, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5L

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Chairman of the Standing Committee of Show Secretaries

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Exploration Awards Committee Chairman

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Treasurer's Assistant

Mr Neil McNULTY, 6 Main Road, Crookedholm, Kilmarnock KA3 6JT 01563 526351 neil.mcnultysrgcseedexchange@talktalk.net

WORKING GROUPS

Admin. Chairman: Mr R Green. Members: Prof. D Rankin, Mrs C McNab, Dr C Bainbridge, Ms C Boulby.

Educational. Chairman: Dr A Elliott. Members: Mrs G Lee, Mrs M Wylie, Miss H Wilson

Members Activities. Chairman: Dr D Millward. Members: Mr K Blundell, Mr J Lee, Mrs J Wylie

Publicity, Publications & Conferences Chairman Mr F B Caudwell: Members Mr A Edwards, Mr S Leven, Ms J Corden

Web. Chairman: Mr M Topsfield: Members: Mr I Young

OTHER COMMITTEES

Aitchison Fund. Chairman: Mr R McBeath. Members: Dr D Millward, Mr R Green.

Exploration Fund. Chairman: Mrs L Mills. Members: Mrs A Chambers, Mrs A Christie, Dr D Millward, Mr I Pryde, Mrs C Shaw (Committee Secretary), The Treasurer.

Golden Jubilee Salver. Members: Previous recipients

Group Conveners. Chairman vacant: Members: All Group Conveners

Show Secretaries. Chairman: Dr D Millward Members: All Show Secretaries

The Bulb Group. Chairman: Mr A Leven. Members: Mr F B Caudwell, Mr I Christie, Mr R Green, Mrs L Mills, Mrs C Shaw, Mr I Young.

GROUPS: CONVENERS, MEETING VENUES & DATES

Aberdeen: Mr Mike HOPKINS, Sunfield, Leschangie, Kemnay, Inverurie AB51 5PP 01467 642429 Rubislaw Church Centre, Beaconsfield Place, Aberdeen: Last Tuesday in the month.

Angus: Mr Michael ALMOND, The Retreat, Grange, Errol. PH2 7SZ 01821 642232 Room 2F13, Dalhousie Building, Old Hawkhill, University of Dundee: First (or second) Monday in the month.

Ayrshire: Mr George WATT, Burnside, Littlemill Road, Drongan, East Ayrshire KA6 7EN 01292 592445 Alloway Church Hall, Alloway: Second Wednesday in the month.

Borders: Mrs Roberta CARRUTHERS, 36A West High Street, Greenlaw, TD10 6XA 01361 810270 roberta.carruthers@btinternet.com Bowden Village Hall: First Monday in the month.

Edinburgh: Mr John MITCHELL, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 20a Inverleith Row, Edinburgh. EH3 5LR 0131 248 2918 j.mitchell@rbge.ac.uk RBGE: Second Tuesday in the month.

Highland: Mr John OWEN, Askival, Fort Augustus PH32 4DS 01320 366246 askivalalpines@johnowen58.orangehome.co.uk Nairn Community Centre: Second Wednesday in the month

Moray: Mr Alan SOUTER, Stac Pollaidh, Aberlour, AB38 9LL 01340 871504. alan.souter@talk21.com New Elgin Public Hall Annex, Land Street, New Elgin: Last Friday in the month.

North Cumbria Rock Garden Group (North West England): Mr. Chris Hansen, Riverside, Cross Gates, Lamplugh, WORKINGTON, Cumbria CA14 4TU. Tel: 01946 862067 email: chansen312@btinternet.com Meeting 3rd Friday evening in the month .

North Northumberland: Mr Mike DALE, Bradley Brook Farm, Felton, Northumberland NE65 9HR 01670 787714 Belford Community Centre, Belford: Various Wednesday or Thursday afternoons, details from Mr Dale.

Perthshire: Ms Susan BAND, Scotts Park, Pitcairngreen, Perth PH1 3LT01738 583213 susan@pitcairnalpines.co.uk North Inch Community, Gowans Terrace Perth PH1 5BF: First Tuesday in the month.

South West Scotland: Mrs Carolyn McHALE, The Limes, Kirkcudbright, Kirkcudbright DG6 4XD 01557 870225 carolyn.mchale@btinternet.com Threave Garden Visitor Centre, Castle Douglas: Usually third Thursday in the month October to March

Stirling: Mr Sandy LEVEN, 2 Leighton Court, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0ED 01786 824064 sandy.leven@btinternet.com Dunblane Christian Fellowship Hall, Stirling Road, Dunblane: First Wednesday in the month, except January, which will be second Wednesday; most meetings start at 2pm.

West of Scotland: Mr John LEE, 25 Douglas Drive, Old Drumchapel, Glasgow G15 6SW 0141 944 2411. The Fraser Centre, Douglas Street, Milngavie: Second Monday in the month.

Group Meetings are normally held monthly from September or October until March or April. The normal dates of meetings are given and the lectures usually start at 7.30 pm. Exceptions do occur, so it is wise to check by contacting the appropriate Group Convener. Please check the website for an up-to-date listing.

AWARDS

Golden Jubilee Salver

Surviving recipients are: Mr A J Leven, Mrs E B Ivey, Mr R J D McBeath, Mrs J Wyllie, Mr A D McKelvie, Mrs L Bezzant, Mr T G Sprunt, Mrs J Thomlinson, Mrs M Taylor, Mr H Taylor, Mr I Young, Mrs A Chambers. Dr I Bainbridge, Mr I Christie, Mr J Sutherland. Ms J Corden, Mrs LMills, Mr A Newton.

The Salver may be awarded annually to an individual who has given outstanding service to the Club. In 2016 the recipient was Ann Christie.

AGS Salver - Plantsman of the Year

The AGS Salver for the highest aggregate of First Prize Points in Section I of Club Shows in 2016 was awarded to Dr Stan da Prato with 6780 points.

Rutland Salver

The Rutland Salver for the highest aggregate of Prize Points in Section II of Club Shows in 2016 was awarded to Christine Boulby with 310 points.

The President's Award

For service to a local group was awarded to Audrey Leach and Pat Watson

Merit Medals

Merit Medals have been awarded in 2016 as follows:

Gold: Mr P Hood (1st), Mrs S Watt (1st), Mr A Spenceley (1st), Mrs R Fiddes 3rd), Dr D Millward (3rd), Mr W Russell (3rd), Mr T Green (4th), Mr G Rollinson (4th), Mr S Sutherland (4th), Mr A Furness (5th), Mrs J Wyllie (9th), Dr S da Prato (11th), Mr C Lafong (14th).

Silver: Mr G Butler, Mr T Harding, Mr & Mrs F Higgins, Mr J Watson, Mrs S Watt.

Bronze: Mr J MacDonald, Mr F Henderson, Mrs S McNulty.

David Lane Award

The David Lane Award for the best photograph in "The Rock Garden" was awarded to Bob Moore for his photograph of *Primula scotica* in the July issue of the Journal.

The Alf Evans Award

The Alf Evans Award for the best alpine stand at Gardening Scotland was awarded to Kevock Garden Plants.

Best Exhibit in Art Group:

The Williamson Trophy was not awarded this year

THE DIANA AITCHISON FUND

This Fund, in memory of nurserywoman Diana Aitchison, awards grants and bursaries to support young people who wish to pursue a career in horticulture and can demonstrate an interest in furthering their knowledge of alpine and rock garden plants. Further information and application forms are available from the Fund Administrator: Miss Julia Corden, 2 Lettoch Place, Pitlochry PH16 5BB Tel 01796 474410 e-mail: juliacorden@pitlochry.org.uk and on the SRGC website.

EXPLORATION AWARDS

The Exploration Fund was set up in 1985 to award grants to help finance projects or trips pertaining to rock garden plants. Feedback in the form of articles, talks, photographs etc., is appreciated. Recipients of grants need not necessarily be members of the SRGC.

In 2017 there will be 2 application deadlines - 28 February and 15 November.

Application forms for grants are available from Carol Shaw
findhorncarol@icloud.com 01309 641405.

Contributions for awards are always welcome and would enable us to offer more support. Any donations should be sent to the Treasurer, Mr Richard Green, Cedar Cottage, Balfron Station, Glasgow G63 0SQ

ANNUAL LECTURES

The Clark Memorial Lecture is given at the Annual General Meeting.

The Jim Archibald Lecture is given at the Discussion Weekend. The essential feature of this lecture is that it is given on bulbs.

The W. C. Buchanan Memorial Lecture is given at the Discussion Weekend. The essential feature of this lecture is that it is given on the raising and growing of plants.

The Harold Esslemont Lecture is given at the Discussion Weekend. The lecture is devoted to plant hunting and the introduction of plants.

The John Duff Scottish Lecture is given at the Discussion Weekend. The lecture is to be given by a Scottish speaker.

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Scottish Rock Garden Club became affiliated to The Royal Horticultural Society in 1954.

CLUB STATUS

The Scottish Rock Garden Club is registered as a Charity, No. SCO 00942.

INFORMATION DEADLINES

- Show Schedules: to the Chairman of Show Secretaries by 1 November
- Show Reports: to the Editor within one month of Show concerned
- Journal Material: to the Editor by 1 April for the July Journal
to the Editor by 1 November for the January Journal.
- Advertisement Copy: to the Advertising Manager by 1 April for the July Journal
to the Advertising Manager by 1 Nov. for the January Journal
- Secretary's Page Material: to the News Editor by 18 May for the July issue
to the News Editor by 18 November for the January issue
- Yearbook Material: to the News Editor by 18 November
- Applications for Expenses: to the Treasurer by 30 June

SECRETARY'S PAGES

SHOWS

18 February DUNBLANE EARLY DWARF BULB DISPLAY*

Mr Sandy LEVEN, 2 Leighton Court, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0ED Tel 01786 824064 sandy.leven@btinternet.com

Two talks by Johan Nilson of Gothenburg Botanic Garden, Sweden

11am Bulbs at Gothenburg Botanic Garden

2pm Alpines and rock plants at Gothenburg Botanic Garden

18 March KENDAL SHOW

Mr Alan OATWAY, Coulmore, Canny Hill, Newby Bridge, Ulverston, LA12 8NT
Tel: 015395 30702, email: Alan.Oatway@agsgroups.org

25 March KINCARDINE SHOW#

Mr Sam SUTHERLAND, 18a Kirk Street, Kincardine FK10 4PT Tel 01259 731695
scsutherland@hotmail.com

1 April NORTHUMBERLAND SHOW, HEXHAM*

Angus Thompson, The Old Garden House, Belsay Hall, Belsay NE20 0DX
01661 881240 email Angus.Thompson@agsgroups.org

8 April EDINBURGH & THE LOTHIANS SHOW

Dr David MILLWARD, 4 Newbyth Stables, East Linton, East Lothian EH40 3DU!
Tel 01620 870283 dmillward6@aol.com

15 April PERTH SHOW*

Ms Julia CORDEN, 2 Lettoch Place, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5BB Tel 01796 474410 julia.corden@pitlochry.org.uk

29 April HIGHLAND SHOW

Carol & David SHAW, Delft Cottage, Dyke Forres. IV36 2TF Tel 01309 641405
delftdavid@gmail.com

6 May GLASGOW SHOW

Mr John LEE, 25 Douglas Drive, Old Drumchapel, Glasgow G15 6SW Tel 0141 944 2411

20 May ABERDEEN SHOW

Ian & Lillian Chapman, 3 Morningside Crescent, Aberdeen AB10 7NW Tel 01224 310188 ian.chapman273@gmail.com or Lillianjaychapman@gmail.com

3rd JUNE GARDENING SCOTLAND (Joint Rock Only)*

The SRGC is building its own stand again this year. Help is needed in setting up the stand, loaning plants and shrubs and being present at the actual event to sell seed, talk to visitors and generally promote the Club. For further information please contact Richard Green 01360 440701 treasurer@srcg.net

FLOWERS OF THE HILLS & MOUNTAINS 19 August 10am – 4pm Dunblaine Christian Fellowship Hall and Victoria Halls

Sandy Leven, 2 Leighton Court, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0ED 01786 824064
sandy.leven@btinternet.com

Two talks by Kenton J Seth, Paintbrush Gardens, Grand Junction, Colorado, USA

- 11am The American crevice garden
- 2.30pm Plant hunting in the Wild West – things you may grow and adventures in chasing seed
- Display of rock garden plants, flowers, foliage and fruits
- Seedling and plant exchange
- Plant Sales

LATE BULB IN ABERDEEN

A Celebration of Autumn Plants and Bulbs 23 September 8am – 4pm

Ruthrieston West Church Hall, 199 Broomhill Road, Aberdeen AB10 7LU

(The same hall where we used to have the spring show)

Mike Hopkins, Sunfield, Leschangie, Kemnay, Inverurie AB51 5PP 01467 642 429

10-11 am: Matthew Topsfield. In the footsteps of John Blanchard

12-1 pm: Ian Young. Growing Narcissi and other bulbs

2-3 pm: Dave Millward. Autumn bulbs of southern Turkey and Jordan

Plant display

Members are asked to bring as many autumn flowering bulbs and plants, including shrubs and trees to make the display. Please bring as many plants as possible, either in pots or as cut stems in vases Plants will be grouped into classes on the day but there are no restrictions as to how many plants an individual can display.

There are no trophies, prizes or points awarded.

Plant sale

Contributions of seed, plants, corms and bulbs to the 50:50 sales will be most welcome. Rumbling Bridge Nursery will have plants for sale.

Photographic and other exhibits

Display space will be available for photographs. Please contact Mike Hopkins before the event to discuss your requirements.

13 – 15 OCTOBER DISCUSSION WEEKEND PEEBLES

11 NOVEMBER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING #

*** JOINT ROCK MEETING # PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

SRGC ADVERTISING MANAGER

The Club is looking for a new Advertising Manager, please refer to the advert in the Journal for further information.

DEATHS

The Club has received intimation of the death of the following members: Jean Ballantyne, Kilmarnock; Tom Bewis, Aldershot; Viv Chambers, Killearn; George D Cheetham, Matlock; Dennis Corden, Pulborough; Ing Ingemar Elf, Sweden; Donald Emsile-Smith, Dundee; Robert Galloway, Ayr; Miss V Green, Colchester; Richard Hancock, Hereford; Margaret Harper, Banchory; David Hoskin, Nelson New Zealand; Isobel Kearn, Bristol; Ernest Lehrmann, Gelnhausen Germany; James Lockhead, Newbattle; Hugh McAlister, Ireland; Dr Lila McIntyre, Stirling; Bob Maxwell, Helensburgh; Dr John Milne, Aberlour; Ian M Park, Aberdeen; Mrs G Phillips, Lincolnshire; James Rowe, Roseneath; Mr E Santoro, Isle of Arran; Andrew Smith, Dollar; Avril Smith, St Andrews; Paul Street, Derby; Luit van Delft, Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands; J J B Watson, Bedlington; Lady Phyllis Yonge, Edinburgh.

We extend our sympathies to their family and friends.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

Kirsty Wilson has created an Instagram account for the club, which can be shared worldwide and will hopefully engage with a younger audience. Instagram is an easy way to share images and short content. It will also have a link to the website. If you could please all share on all social media platforms and send Kirsty any images and content to share. To get Instagram just simply download the app to your phone or view on a web page. Our username is `srg_club`, so you can follow us at https://www.instagram.com/srg_club

DUNCAN LOWE ANDROSACE DRAWINGS

Many members will know that Ian Bainbridge has been selling Duncan Lowe's original drawings from the book *The Genus Androsace* on behalf of the families of Duncan Lowe and David Mowle.

Sales in 2016 have resulted in donations of £265 being made to The Woodland Trust, the Alpine Garden Society and the Scottish Rock Garden Club, and of £132.50 to

Community Action Nepal and the Pahar Trust Nepal, both of which are providing post-earthquake support to rural communities.

Ian will continue to sell the pictures during 2017 at Shows and events, and by post; most are priced at only £25. Anyone interested can contact Ian at bainbridi@aol.com or on 01557 814141 for details.

MODERNISING COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS

Thank you to the members who have already sent me their email detail. The club would like to use email as an efficient way of communicating with members. If you have not already done so, and you are happy for us to do this, please send an email to emails@srgc.net. Just give your name address and membership number if you know it in the email you send. If you are family members, the database can hold two email addresses per membership.

You may already have supplied us with an email for specific purposes such as Council, Membership Renewal, Seed Exchange or to a Show Secretary. However, we need to know that you are happy for us to use that email to contact you about general club information, so please let us know if we can use your email for this purpose.

The information is, and always will be, stored securely with the membership data, and will not be passed to any other person or organization and if at any time you decide you want to discontinue getting club information, just let me know at the above email address or by post.

If you prefer to, you can let us know your details by completing the form below and posting it to the Subscription Secretary at 10 Quarry Avenue Acklington MORPETH Northumberland NE65 9BZ United Kingdom or passing it to a Council member to deliver to me.

If you don't use email, rest assured you will still receive communications.

Name(s)	
Membership No if known	
Address line1	
Address line 2	
Town	
County	
Country	
Email	

I am happy for SRGC to use my email to contact me with general club information

Signed: _____

Return to: Subscription Secretary, 10 Quarry Avenue Acklington, MORPETH
Northumberland NE65 9BZ United Kingdom

NEW EVENT

Rock Gardening from the Ground Up 8 July – Grantown-on-Spey

9:45am	Registration, tea coffee
10:15am	Growing Alpines in Inhospitable Places Neil Huntley
11:10am	Basic Needs of Growing Alpine Plants Ian Christie
Noon	Lunch, tea, coffee
1:00pm	Designing a Rock Garden Carole Bainbridge
1.50pm	Bulbs in the Rock Garden Susan Band
2.40pm	Comfort break
2:50pm	Growing Rock Garden Plants in Containers Ian Bainbridge
3.40pm	Open Question Time
4:00pm	Tea, coffee and depart

Thanks to the extremely generous bequest by David Boyd the SRGC is organizing a series of out-reach events. The first of these will take place on 8 July in Grantown-on-Spey. The talks will be on a practical 'club' level and will be open to both local gardeners and members of the SRGC with weighting given to those who live in areas where there is no local group. There will be five speakers all talking on practical elements of rock gardening.

The cost for the day is £12.50 to cover teas, coffees, soup and sandwiches. There is plenty of accommodation in the Grantown if you are coming from out with the area including camp sites, B & B's and the Grant Arms Hotel itself, where you will receive a special rate of £75 for DB&B if you quote Grantown Event when you make your book.

The day will start at 9.45am with registration along with tea and coffee and will end at 4pm, again with tea and coffee.

Space in the Osprey Suite at the Grant Arms is limited to 70 people, plus the speakers, so if you are interested in attending either phone me on 01309 641405 or email findhorncarol@icloud.com to reserve.

Carol Shaw

SEED EXCHANGE & DISTRIBUTION

As you receive this Year Book and Secretary's Pages, the 70th Seed Distribution will be nearing completion. Queries about seed requests should be addressed to Mr. Neil

McNulty, neil.mcnyltysrcseedexchange@talktalk.net but please do not enquire about the whereabouts of seed until after 15th February.

Neil McNulty, 6 Main Road, Crookedholm, KilmarnockKA3 6JT. Tel. 01563 526351

Details of the 2017/18 Seed Exchange will be given in the summer issue of the Secretary's Pages.

DISCUSSION WEEKEND BURSARY 2017

An annual bursary is offered to one member of the SRGC who has never been to a Discussion Weekend. This covers the cost of the Discussion Weekend. All other expenses, e.g. travel, extra nights at the hotel etc. must be met by the recipient. In 2017 the Discussion Weekend will be held in the Cardrona Hotel, Peebles, 13 – 15 October.

Group Conveners as well as the Forum Administrator should canvas interest within their Group/Forum and select one individual to be nominated for the bursary. Members who are neither part of a Group or the Forum should make their submissions directly to the secretary.

The nominations should be sent to the Club Secretary either by e-mail or by post. One member will be selected from all those put forward.

Note: Deadline for receiving all nominations is 28 February 2017.

EXECUTIVE & COUNCIL CHANGES

Please see the AGM minutes for details of all changes.

Thanks for all their hard work are due to the following people whose term of office ended during the course of the year: Julia Corden, Peter Maguire, Peter Semple, Sheila McNulty (Ordinary Members on Council), Carol Shaw (Secretary), Barry Caudwell (Chair of Show Secretaries) and David Shaw (Chair of Conveners). Welcome to all new Office Bearers and Council members – full details appear in this publication.

RESULTS OF THE TWICE YEARLY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION AGM 12 NOVEMBER 2016

Class 1 – Plant portrait in cultivation or the wild.

1st Jeanie Jones, Lockerbie with *Arisaema* and *Primula cockburniana* in Sichuan.

2nd Margaret Fraser, Lumphanan with *Armeria pseudofrigida* in Svalbard.

3rd Matthew Topsfield, South Uist with *Narcissus cantabricus* subsp *cantabricus* in Spain 25th March 2016.

Class 2 – Alpine plant in their habitat

1st Margaret Fraser with *Oxyria digyna* in Svalbard.

2nd Jeanie Jones with *Primula amethystina* in Sichuan.

3rd Matthew Topsfield with Montane grassland on Terra rossa over limestone in a cool moist habitat with *Narcissus hedraeanthus*.

Class 3 - Digitally manipulated work, no entries

Class 4

1st Jim Forbes with colour painting of *Fritillaria acmopetala*.

Class 5 – no entries

Note that our elegant trophy, the Williamson Cup could not be awarded this year because nobody entered Class 5 at either of the competitions. I hope this will encourage at least one of you to create some artwork over the winter and spring season for entry in our next competition, which is at the Kincardine Show in 2017.

The Twice-yearly competition rules are published in the Show Schedules booklet or on the website. Remember to include mounts and titles when making an entry.

Cathy Caudwell

Check out the Scottish Rock Garden Club's website

www.srgc.net

where you will find

The International Rock Garden

Ian Young's weekly Bulb Log

The Jim Archibald Archive

Access to the On-line Seed Ordering facility

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PLEASE RETAIN THESE FOR YOUR FUTURE REFERENCE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Rock Garden Club held on Saturday 12 Nov. 2016 in the Balformo Road Church Hall, Scone at 1 pm

The president, Professor David Rankin, welcomed 62 members to the Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Rock Garden Club. He remarked that he was impressed by the range of activities of the club, now 83 years old, and that we should celebrate this. He hoped that the club would still be flourishing in another 80 years.

The president reported the deaths of members including Jamie Taggart - nurseryman at Lynn Botanic Garden, Viv Chambers - with Anne a grower, shower and long-standing supporter of the club, Ian Smith – first convener of the Moray group, Lady Phyllis Yonge – long-time supporter of the Edinburgh Group, and Harley Milne - past president, Edinburgh group convener and show secretary, who was shown high up on a mountain – looking for plants on a snowy day!

1. **Apologies** had been received from Carol and David Shaw, Jean Wyllie, Ian and Maggi Young, Lyn and Ron Bezzant, Helen Greenwood and Monica Wylie

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 14th November 2015, held at the Old Scone Church Hall

Barry Caudwell proposed acceptance Bette Ivey seconded and the members approved.

3. Matters arising

None

4. President's review of the year

There is a lot to report, this year and every year, reflecting the wide range of activities of our lively club. And that reflects the diverse interests of our members. To some it is growing mountain plants that is most important, and for some of them showing plants, grown to the highest possible standards, is an integral part of that. For others, it is the friendship found in local groups, meeting for talks and garden visits, and at shows. But our meetings and shows are mainly relevant to those of us who live in Scotland or the north of England – and that is less than half of our members. For those who live further away, the highlights may be seeing plants growing in the wild, receiving the journal twice a year, taking part in the forum, following logs and reports on the website, or being involved in the seed exchange. Occasionally, people from further afield meet, at our annual discussion weekends or the ten-yearly international conferences.

Apart from the website, these activities are very much part of the original concept of the Club when it was established in 1933. The minutes of that meeting are part of the club archive, some of which has been transferred to the Royal Botanic Garden

Edinburgh. There it will be catalogued, and it will be freely available to members.

Our shows are one of the main ways in which we bring our interest in plants to the wider public. There are ten competitive shows each year, three of them held jointly with the Alpine Garden Society, as well as three non-competitive ones. Each one is run by a local team, so there are a huge number of people contributing. Thank you all. David Millward is taking over from Barry Caudwell as convener of show secretaries, which involves complex tasks such as coordinating the diary of dates and preparing show schedules for publication. Special thanks to both of them.

The club's displays at Gardening Scotland have been impressive in recent years, but the team really excelled this year. They won a Premier Gold Award for the first time, and a special award for the best display of alpine plants in the show. Premier Gold Awards were instituted a few years ago, and there are just five of them each year. These displays involve a great deal of work, in the planning and preparation, in building up over four days, in talking to the public for three days, and in the final demolition and clearing up – which takes just a few hours. That last stage is sad, but the rest is creative, sometimes exhilarating, and the outcome is a beautiful display, which shows the public something of the plants that inspire us all. We thank the many people who contribute.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Anton Edwards, who has edited *The Rock Garden* for many years. He manages to acquire sufficient interesting material, sometimes after pursuing reluctant authors, to fill more than 250 pages a year. Look at any one page, and think about the effort involved in preparing it in such an attractive way. Then look at a whole article, and think about the editing of the content, the cropping, adjusting colours and arranging of photographs. Then look at a whole issue, and think about getting it filled exactly to the brim. For many of our members, this is the part of the club that is most important to them, and its continuing high quality is a matter for satisfaction.

The website is probably our most public face, and the Forum is the most active part of that. Ian and Maggi Young and Fred Carrie have put an enormous amount into our on-line presence for many years. Ian also produces his *Bulb log* every week and the *International Rock Gardener* on-line journal every month. Together, all of these have built up an invaluable information resource. Other people need to be involved, and we are looking at how we can develop in the future, while safeguarding the best of what has already been done. Use of social media is developing, with more to be done.

Our total membership is about 2300, plus electronic memberships, and some of these are for families. The total number of people is somewhat less than 3000, holding up reasonably well, but consistently declining a little from year to year. It is good to see young people starting to take a more prominent role; we should remember that those people who met in the Rutland Bar in 1933 to form the Club we would now regard as young!

Fortunately, our finances are in good shape, as seen in the financial report. However,

there are consequences of the decrease in membership.

One consequence is that core costs remain much the same, regardless of the number of members. It costs about £6500 to produce the first copy of our journal; each subsequent one costs a little over £1. So we need to be looking for ways to reach out to more people, as well as being careful and efficient in our use of our resources.

All our local groups continue, some with smaller numbers and others finding it difficult to get members to take on leadership roles. We will be looking at ways we can tackle this, perhaps by increasing cooperation between our groups and with those of other societies.

Good news is that we were left £10000 by David Boyd. We have decided to use this to have series of one- or two-day events, in places where there are a few members of the Club, but no local group. The first, called "Rock Gardening from the Ground Up" and pioneered by Carol and David Shaw, will be in Grantown-on-Spey on July 8th 2017. Who are working with both Badenoch and Nairn Gardening Clubs, and aim to attract people from all along the Spey Valley. A second one, with a very different format, is being considered for the Outer Isles in 2017.

Our healthy finances enable us to support various activities that contribute to our charitable aims.

The Diana Aitchison Fund gives grants to individuals to help them pursue a career in horticulture. The number of awards was smaller this year, after an exceptionally large number was made last year. It is encouraging to see that one of our new council members, Hannah Wilson, was a recent beneficiary of this fund, which helped her to complete her degree at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, where she has now started a PhD.

In contrast, there were an unprecedented number of good applications for exploration grants this year, and ten grants were made, for expeditions to Bhutan, the Black Sea, China, Iran and Spain. There isn't a specific fund for this purpose, and needs have to be balanced against other calls on the club's resources. We have received a donation from Dr Bissy Genova, a member in Bulgaria; other contributions are of course always welcome.

During the year we have also made grants to aid the publication of a book by Janis Ruksans on crocuses, to sponsor a speaker at the Czech International Rock Garden Conference, and we have contributed to refurbishment of the old alpine house at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

The seed exchange continues to flourish, with the South West Scotland Group doing a great deal of work through the various phases – receiving seed, preparing the list, packeting, receiving orders and distributing seed. George Watt has taken over from Ian Pryde as Packeting Manager; we are particularly grateful to them for past and future work, as well as to the large number of people who work cheerfully and efficiently. A lot of thought also goes into developing the processes involved in the

exchange. The fact that most of us don't notice them is a testament to their efficacy!

We also use some of our funds to support educational meetings – i.e. the annual discussion weekends and the ten-yearly international conference. Our support is mainly used to bring a sparkling array of star speakers. This year's discussion weekend was run by the Edinburgh and the Lothians' Rock Garden Group at the Cardrona, in the Borders. The sense of people enjoying themselves grew through the weekend, as we were treated to eight outstanding talks, covering subjects including fritillaries, Scottish natives, hellebores, an alpine garden in Germany, a nursery in Scotland, a garden in America and planting hunting in Peru. So many people contributed, and we are really grateful to them all. And the team is back planning for a second weekend in 2017. They have set themselves high standards.

Plans for the international conference in 2021 have been started under the leadership of Sandy Leven. It is to be in Perth from May 8th to 11th. Talks and other planned activities will take place in the Perth Conference Centre, where there will be provision for all the eating and drinking and socialising. Accommodation will be in hotels etc. nearby – or further away if you prefer – allowing participants to choose the level of facilities (and price).

All of these activities are coordinated by Council, all of whose members are now on the five Working Groups. These are effectively sub-committees consisting of Council members and other co-opted people. Much of the work of the Club is devolved to them. We thank everyone who works so hard, particularly the members who have completed their three-year term of office: Julia Corden, Peter Maguire, Sheila McNulty and Peter Semple; David Shaw and Barry Caudwell, standing down as chairmen of group conveners and show secretaries; and Carol Shaw, who has kept the Club on course during eight years as secretary.

As we look to the future, we need to think about how we meet the needs and aspirations of the next generation. Many live in flats and don't have gardens. Do others have spare space, or need help to look after their plants? Could we have a buddy system, or mentoring? If we continue to evolve as a club, we will flourish.

5. Presentation of honours

None

6. Presentation of merit medals

Bronze

Jimmy MacDonald,
Fraser Henderson
Sheila McNulty

Silver

Graham Butler
Trevor Harding
Francis and Marjory Higgins
Jim Watson
Sue Simpson (Watt)

<u>Gold Medal</u>	Peter Hood Sue Simpson (Watt) Alan Spenceley
2 nd Gold Bar	Roma Fiddes David Millward Watt Russell
3 rd Gold Bar	Tom Green Geoff Rollinson Sam Sutherland
4 th Gold Bar	Alan Furness
10 th Gold Bar	Stan da Prato
13 th Gold Bar	Cyril Lafong

7. Presentation of the AGS Salver, Rutland Salver and Golden Jubilee Salver

AGS Salver for the Plantsman of the year with the highest aggregate of first prize points in section I: Dr. Stan Da Prato, with 6780 points

Rutland Salver for the highest aggregate of prize points in section II: Christine Boulby with 310 points

Golden Jubilee Salver for outstanding service to the club: Anne Christie

Peg Crosland Award for the best article in ‘The Rock Garden’: not yet awarded

David Lane Award for the best photograph in ‘The Rock Garden’: Bob Moore’s photograph of *Primula scotica* on page 51 of the July journal.

Williamson trophy award for the best entry in section 5 of the photographic/arts competition: not awarded this year

President’s award – for outstanding service to a local group: Audrey Leach and Pat Watson (Ayrshire group)

8. Consideration and adoption of accounts

All members received a copy of the statement of the club’s financial activity and balance sheet. The full accounts were available for inspection.

Richard Green presented the accounts. a) 75% of the subscription fee went on the journal.

b) Although there are around 2,500- 3,000 club members the membership is declining by around 50 people a year. Therefore subscriptions may have to go up.

c) A bequest of £10,000 had been received from David Boyd. This will be used to run special events, and is enough for 8 to 10 events.

d) Without the bequest the club would have lost £10,000.

e) On the 30th June 2016 the club had assets of £545,784. £261,773 of this is in the restricted Diana Aitchison fund. Julia Corden expressed a hope that more students could be found to benefit from this educational fund.

The treasurer recommended the accounts for approval. Julia Corden proposed adoption of the accounts and Liz Mills seconded the motion, which was then approved by the meeting.

9. Election of Executive office bearers

The President and Immediate Past President have to be confirmed in their posts each year. David Rankin (President) and Carole Bainbridge (Immediate Past President) were nominated by Barry Caudwell, seconded by Julia Corden and approved by members present.

In accordance with section 5.1 of the constitution all other executive office bearers retire annually but are eligible for re-election. The following had been nominated by Carol Shaw and seconded by David Rankin, and were approved by members present:-

Treasurer	Richard Green
Subscription Secretary	Christine Boulby
Editor	Anton Edwards
Publicity manager	Sandy Leven
Web manager	Ian Young

Carolyn McNab was proposed as Secretary by Richard Green seconded by Liz Mills, and approved by the meeting.

The names of office bearers not on the council were also presented and approved. Bette Ivey remains as Honorary President.

10. Election of four ordinary members to serve a 3-year term on the council

In accordance with section 6.1 of the constitution four members shall be elected to the council annually to serve for three years as ordinary members.

Hannah Wilson proposed by Alan Elliot seconded by John Mitchell

Jean Wyllie proposed by Bette Ivey seconded by Willie Campbell

Barry Caudwell proposed by Michael Almond seconded by Henry Taylor

The meeting approved the nominations.

11. Appointment of examiner of accounts

It was proposed to appoint Ewen Dyer of Martin Aikin & Co Ltd of Glasgow. Liz Mills proposed Barry Caudwell seconded the motion and the meeting agreed.

12. Approval of the members of Joint Rock Garden Plant Committee A list of the committee members was presented and approved.

13. Date and place of Annual General Meeting 2017

David Rankin proposed that the AGM in 2017 should be held at the Balforno Road Church Hall Scone on Saturday 11 November 2017. Some members of the group asked about returning to the previous hall in Scone. David Rankin said that after consultation the location would be confirmed in the secretary's pages.

14. Any other competent business

The President expressed thanks to Glassford Sprunt for his work, including selling a million plant labels at the meetings over the years.

The meeting expressed its thanks to Carol Shaw for all her hard work as secretary for the club. David Rankin confirmed that she had been sent a bouquet of flowers. He then closed the meeting and thanked people for attending.

THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

	Not es	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2016 Total funds £	2015 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	62,917	-	62,917	53,357
Other trading activities	3	11,375	-	11,375	12,574
Investment income	4	<u>6,416</u>	<u>8,581</u>	<u>14,997</u>	<u>13,972</u>
Total		80,708	8,581	89,289	79,903
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		9,072	-	9,072	10,874
Charitable activities	5				
Educational activities		52,238	4,622	56,860	62,786
Publicity expenses		3,941	425	4,366	1,946
Charitable activity		<u>16,032</u>	<u>1,726</u>	<u>17,758</u>	<u>14,282</u>
Total		81,283	6,773	88,056	89,888
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>203</u>	<u>(9,607)</u>	<u>(9,404)</u>	<u>(1,630)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(372)	(7,799)	(8,171)	(11,615)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		284,383	269,572	553,955	565,570
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>284,011</u>	<u>261,773</u>	<u>545,784</u>	<u>553,955</u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB

**BALANCE SHEET
AT 30 JUNE 2016**

	Not es	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2016 Total funds £	2015 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	711	171	882	975
Investments	11	<u>207,782</u>	<u>247,526</u>	<u>455,308</u>	<u>435,146</u>
		208,493	247,697	456,190	436,121
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	12	2,662	-	2,662	3,168
Debtors	13	24,299	9,121	33,420	43,347
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>59,382</u>	<u>5,277</u>	<u>64,659</u>	<u>91,013</u>
		86,343	14,398	100,741	137,528
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(10,825)</u>	<u>(322)</u>	<u>(11,147)</u>	<u>(19,694)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>75,518</u>	<u>14,076</u>	<u>89,594</u>	<u>117,834</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>284,011</u>	<u>261,773</u>	<u>545,784</u>	<u>553,955</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>284,011</u>	<u>261,773</u>	<u>545,784</u>	<u>553,955</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	15			284,011	284,383
Restricted funds				<u>261,773</u>	<u>269,572</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>545,784</u>	<u>553,955</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17th November 2016, and were signed on its behalf by:

David W.A. Rankin

David Rankin - Trustee

Carol Shaw

Carol Shaw - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

DISCUSSION WEEKEND BOOKING FORM

Friday 13 – Sunday 15 October

The Discussion Weekend will again 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 try to find 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.

Please send this form 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**. (Mike may be contacted by e-mailing mikeh3@tiscali.co.uk)

Terms and Conditions: **The booking form and full remittance must reach Mike not later than the 7th August 2017. Cancellations: Please note that no refunds will be given after 14th August 2017.**

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	£237		
Friday Dinner – Sunday Afternoon Tea - Single Occupancy	£295		
Saturday Morning – Sunday Afternoon - Double Occupancy	£165		
Saturday Morning – Sunday Afternoon - Single Occupancy	£195		
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			