



The Scottish Rock Garden Club George Forrest Memorial Medal NORTHUMBERLAND 2011



Primula 'BROADWELL MILKMAID' shown by Cyril Lafong

Primula 'Broadwell Milkmaid' has been a good friend to Cyril. This year it took the Farrer Medal at Hexham [in alternate years the show is held under AGS rules and this was an AGS year] and last year it was the Forrest medal winner at Stirling. The picture on the left shows Cyril with the plant at Stirling last year. I forgot to take the usual Grower and Forrest winner picture, mainly because I have photographed Cyril with so many medal winning plants. Comparing the plant in the two pictures it seems to have been further on in its flowering last year, although the show date was earlier. This is probably due to this year's very cold winter.

Primula 'Broadwell Milkmaid' was raised by Joe Elliott at his famous nursery in Broadwell in the Cotswolds. Joe raised many exceptional primula hybrids including P. 'Clarence Elliott', P. 'Broadwell Oliver' and P. 'Jo-Jo', all of which continue to be among our best show plants so many years after Joe's passing. 35 years ago Joe Elliott was kind enough to mark out good show plants in his nursery catalogue for me when I hardly knew even less about alpines than I know now. Many of us have good memories of visiting his nursery and of Joe's patience with his customers.

