

The Scottish Rock Garden Club

Summer Meeting

Dunblane 18 8 18



What a party!

When Scottish Rock Garden Club members arrived at the Victoria Hall in Dunblane on palindrome Saturday (18 8 18) they were greeted by three big tubs of empty bottles. Unfortunately for thirsty Club members these were the remains of a function held earlier in the week and not a foretaste of the coming day's catering plans. None the less we did have a very enjoyable day. Our members are famed for their friendly camaraderie and ebullience. This year, many non-members who had seen our publicity posters or read about the show on "What's on Stirling" joined us for a very enjoyable day.



Right at the start I want to thank those members who brought flowers and plants for the Display. The display tables down one side of the hall was full of interest from a single flower stem in its own vase to beautiful arrangements in vases and a display of foliage plants in several troughs. If there were to be a Forrest Medal it would have been awarded to Sue Simpson's magnificent Mandevilla 'Sundaville Pink'. Although Sue's plant looked like a shrub because of the way she had intertwined the stems, Mandevilla is in fact a genus of climbing vines. They are native to the tropical forests of Central and South America. They are sold as exotic patio plants but they do need protection from frost in winter





Kathleen Cartwright's vases of Clematis (above) and Crocosmia (below)



Jean Wyllie's *Cyclamen hederifolium* plants



Barry & Cathy Caudwell chose to show single stems each in its own glass

Top right:- fruit of a *Stewartia* sp.

Centre:- *Zauschneria californica*

Bottom right:- *Potentilla* 'Tangerine'

By picking only a small flower stem from the plants you can show other members what you grow in your garden. I would encourage everyone to bring their plants to the SRGC displays as cut flowers. The object of the displays is to illustrate the diversity of plants grown by members. It is much more an exhibition than a competition.



Graeme Butler brought a plant which I had not seen before, *Filipendula palmata* (dwarf form). We all know our native meadow sweet but this wee bright pink form is a good introduction. I thought at first it was an Astilbe! The vase of Marjoram, Tansy and Orpine was shown by Barry & Cathy





When a single flower head is seen in isolation it is much easier to appreciate the delicacy and intricacy of its structure. Placing a panful in the hands of its grower lets you appreciate the size of the flowers. Thank you Ian Bainbridge for holding up the pan of *Eucomis bicolor*

Ian & Carole's pan of *Sarracenia* was as tall as the *Eucomis*. It seems to be looking in all directions for a few insects to snack on..





More delights from Ian & Carole were three of my favourite plants, especially the Primula. It reminds me of a visit to Ascreavie, Mrs Sherriff's garden, with the Glasgow group many years ago. They are *Acis* [*Leucojum*] *autumnale*, *Campanula rainieri* x *campanulata* and *Primula reidii williamsii*.

Anne Chambers brought the large flowered *Cononopsis* 'Himal Snow', the New Zealander *Gentiana saxosa* and a nice vase with white *Primula vialii* 'Alison Holland', *Platycodon grandiflorum* and *Therorodion camtschaticum*. The last is a catchy name in more ways than one! I know the plant as *Rhododendron camtschaticum*. You learn something every day, at least I do!



Two views of Ian Christie's *Lilium henryi*. It is a Chinese plant found in the wild in Hubei and Guizhou provinces where it grows on limestone cliffs in shady humus rich soils. I believe it is named for Augustine Henry, the plant hunter who although always described as being Irish was born in Dundee. He sent 15,000 dry specimens and 500 plants to Kew in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He was a doctor of medicine who while he was based in China investigated plants used in Chinese medicine.



Margaret & Henry Taylor also brought *Lilium henryi* but theirs was accompanied by *Lilium* 'White Henry'. The latter is an American hybrid between *Lilium henryi* and *Lilium leucanthum*.

They also brought a stem of a pear tree with its pears. It is a variety native to the Carse of Gowrie [between Perth and Dundee] called 'The Christie'.

I sense a bit of jiggery pokery here. Ian Christie shows *Lilium henryi* and Henry and Margaret show the pear 'The Christie'.



Margaret & Henry also exhibited many flowers in small vases

Passiflora caerulea

Eschscholzia californica [pink]

Daboecia cantabrica alba

Daboecia 'William Buchanan'

Buddlea davidii 'Dartmoor'

Eucryphia 'Nymansay'



Sue's collection of
Streptocarpus
flowers





I must apologise to George Watt for not taking pictures of his Maple collection. When I was photographing there were too many people looking at them and I forgot to return



Julia Cordon brought the biggest flowers!

Hydrangea paniculata





'People who love plants'

