

## Cromar and District Horticultural and Industrial Society

Every year our committee and team of volunteers make a huge effort to organise and set up the Tarland Flower Show. The reward – a fabulous, fun day seeing the exhibitors bring in their produce, artwork and crafts to inspire others to grow and create and, hopefully, to win prizes. Our Society has been in existence for decades and part of the history of Cromar was on show this year, in the form of the regalia of the 'Ancient Order of Free Gardeners', which had belonged to the grandparents of Fiona Brown and Lynn Alsamarraie, and which they kindly donated to the Society.

We were delighted to welcome Pauline Adam, one of our life members, to present the trophies, one of which was for her as she won the 'Best Amateur Cottage Garden' trophy!

This year, the prestigious Royal Horticultural Society Banksian Medal, which is awarded to the most successful entrant in the horticultural classes, was won by Castle Fraser Gardens. Furthermore, they won the Society Trophy, the Humphrey Silver Cup and the Tillypronie Challenge Bowl for the wonderful array of fruit, vegetables and flowers exhibited by their team of staff and volunteers.

Lyndsey Fraser, Huntly, not only won the Murdoch Trophy and the Mitchell Trophy for her wide selection of plant pots and flowers, but she also won the Dr McRoberts' Trophy for the best herbaceous exhibit. Her daughter, Paige, competed in the amateur classes and won the Davidson Memorial Trophy and the David Murdoch Cup. In addition to that, she won the Meadowley Trophy for most points in Primary School Horticulture, and the Price Cup for P5-7 Crafts, proving herself to be a good all-rounder.

Everyone was delighted to see Edna Robertson, Tarland, once again win the Fowlie Trophy for amateur cut flowers, a trophy which had been donated by her father. She also won the Lady MacRobert Challenge Bowl for most points in the amateur section and the Schweppes Trophy for the best exhibit of Dahlias. One of our patrons, Sabrina Humphrey, Aboyne, whose garden is full of the most beautiful roses, was awarded the Graham Thomson Cup for the best rose display. Sabrina shared a trophy with Janet Inkster, Cushnie, for most points in amateur fruit and Janet also won the Tarland Bee Group Award for best exhibit in Honey. Despite the recent stormy weather, Brian Grant, Braemar, displayed some outstanding sweet peas and won the Price Trophy. Our President, Marcus Humphrey, won the Lawson Trophy for the most points in the fruit open classes. The amateur vegetable classes were dominated by Daniel MacWhyte, Tarland: he won the Marus Humphrey Silver Cup for most points, in addition to the MacRobert Trust Perpetual Cup for the best exhibit. A lovely exhibit of fruit, vegetables and flowers by Mary Small, Tarland, won the Lord Astor of Hever 'Have-a-Go' Trophy.

In Floral Art, the Blackhall Memorial Trophy for the best exhibit was awarded to Kate Redpath, Tarland, for a wonderful interpretation of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Karan Adams, Torphins, won the Sheila Ross Cup for most points and Jill Bruce's

lovely arrangement in a recycled container won the Buchan Trophy. Jess Gibb, Banchory, won the Moira Anderson Memorial Trophy for best exhibit in knitting and Julie Christie, also Banchory, gained the Jan Joseph Memorial Trophy for best exhibit in sewing. However, it was Marion Donald, Fife, who showed a wide range of skills and took the Cantlie Silver Cup for most points in knitting, sewing and crafts. Aileen Patersn, Aboyne, won the MacRobert Farms Trophy for her tasty baking and preserves and Paul Biddle won both the Evelyn Smith Trophy for most points and George Low Memorial Cup for best exhibit in wines.

The children's section is always one of the most enjoyable. In Secondary 1-4, Westhill's Nathan Thow entered some outstanding entries; he was awarded the Ross Trophy and the Barbara Jane Smith special prize for most points and the Donald Trophy for best specimen of handwriting. Kiara Wilkie, Tarland, won both the Graham Trophy and the Tarland Tearoom special prize for her delicious baking. In the Primary section, two Tarland girls were trophy winners: Molly McCombie's tasty baking won her the Air Commodore and Mrs RW Joseph Trophy and Ava Oliver won the Mitchell Trophy for most points in P1-4 arts and crafts.

#### 2025 Amateur Garden Competition

Baikie Special Prize for the garden who creates an environment to encourage butterflies and Bees: Gill Lumsden, Logie Coldstone

##### Class 218: Have-a-Go Garden

Bruce Shield  
Society Shield

Gill Lumsden, Logie Coldstone  
Adrian Sims, Aboyne

##### Class 219: Cottage Garden

Hopewell Challenge Cup  
Wine Casket

Pauline Adam, Tarland  
Graham Bruce, Tarland

##### Class 220: Flower Garden

Lawrie Challenge Cup  
Greer McRoberts Cup

Sabrina Humphrey, Aboyne  
Edward Coutts, Aboyne

Finally, the committee would like to thank all the volunteers and judges who willingly give up their time to make the Show such a success and the Commercial Hotel for the delicious lunch provided for judges, stewards and committee. We also appreciate the support of local businesses and individuals who generously sponsor us or donate prizes to the raffle: Tarland Paper Shop, Tarland Bee Group, Isla Black, Tarland Tearoom, Dr M Cuthbert, George and Evelyne Baikie, and many more individuals. Furthermore, thanks to our patrons for their ongoing, invaluable support: Marcus and Sabrina Humphrey, Aboyne; Robert Joseph, Aboyne; The MacRobert Trust, Tarland; David Starritt, Tarland; Jenny Tattersall, Tain; Tarland Toy Shop, and Anthony de Winton, Tarland.

