

**THE NORTHERN
IRELAND DAFFODIL GROUP
NEWSLETTER**

VOL.8 NO. 1

2016

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Chairman's Remarks

Richard McCaw

It is hard to believe that I am well into my second year as Chairman of the Northern Ireland daffodil Group in this our special 40th Anniversary year .

What a year it has been and it is not over yet. Our group visited Holland in March. I was not able to make the trip but I heard it was fabulous . There is more about it in this Newsletter, but I must thank those who organised the trip and special thanks to our hosts in Holland who made it such a memorable visit.

The Ruby award which was a one off special award to mark our 40th Anniversary year was staged as part of the Belfast Spring Fair at Malone House which called for 7 blooms 'Ruby'(red) cup which was won by Dave Hardy, 5 entries in the class. Reg Nicholl from England was our invited Judge and he carried out his duties extremely efficiently and left us with some suggestions on how he felt we could strengthen our schedule. Most of our members attended the lunch at the Belfast Show after which the top Awards were given out to the winners. A special anniversary cake was sliced and divided to all. Thank you Denise for the cake.

The show season benefited from mostly good weather which allowed blooms to mature for longer in the field. Quantity and quality of the flowers was very good and all shows benefitted from this. Belfast show had a record number of exhibits with 596 so I would take it bloom count was up. Special mention to the children's Daffodil exhibits from single to 3 bloom vases totalling around 100 vases, brilliant. The Championship of Ireland Open had 7 entries, while the Intermediate had 3 and Novice had 6. Tremendous, well done to all. For the record Brian Duncan won the Open, John Warren the Intermediate and Mervyn Wallace the Novice.

NIGFAS had a special class in the Floral Art, 'Fair Daffodils' which attracted 6 entries and was won by Barbara Megarry.

Our Winter Show earlier in the season was well supported with some beautiful flowers and plants on the benches. Congratulations to Anne Wright on achieving Best and Reserve Best exhibit in Show.

A new award sponsored by the NIDG will circulate our affiliated Society Shows on a rota basis. This is a daffodil exhibit off 7 Blooms in one vase and first show to have this was Enniskillen which had 7 entries.

From next Season we will have the Gilbert Andrews award travelling around the shows which will be for 6 vases, 1 stem in each, any varieties representing at least 2 Divisions from Divisions 5,7, and 8 which will commence in Ballymena 2017. The N.I.D.G. will circulate the recommended wording on our group sponsored classes the criteria on Open, Amateur, Intermediate and Novice profiles for our affiliated societies.

In the middle of June, the Group was invited to Maurice and Heather Kerr's home and garden for a BBQ which was a great success and the proceeds of which are going to our nominated charity for this year. Unfortunately I could not make it as I had a surprise Birthday Party which I did not know about until the last moment. Yes, it was a big birthday 21....again!!!!

Recently we have had some very good NIDG committee meetings, so I would take this opportunity to thank all committee members for their hard work, volunteering to complete projects and of course their patience with me. Also my thanks to Terry Haley for standing in for me on several occasions.

Our AGM is on Sunday 29th January 2017 please come along and support our Group. This meeting, important as it is, is usually a chance to meet up and start our preparations for the incoming season.

Editors Notes

Maurice Kerr

After a very wet and reasonably mild winter the weather improved towards the end of March. The season here was foreshortened by the warm dry weather of May and many varieties were showing signs of dormancy in early June. Our summer turned out to be quite wet and autumn was not much better with dry days being few and far between. It will be well into October before I manage to finish planting

The Newsletter contains the usual round up of the shows. There are articles from Joan and Liam on alpines which should interest most and encourage those that have not tried growing alpines to give it a go. There is an article from Brian on his trip last year to Portugal, Dave and Terry have collaborated on the trip to Holland. Two very good friends were honoured this year which you will read

about in this issue.

Finally may I make my usual appeal to all our members to put pen to paper over the winter months and produce some copy for future Newsletters. Growing daffodils here in NI conditions is challenging for all and others can benefit from your experiences.

ALPINES

Joan and Liam McCaughey

Our first introduction to Alpines was on a visit to Switzerland in 1986 when we were completely blown away by these tiny flowers growing high in the Alps - soldanellas and crocuses poking up through snow, saxifrages and sedums growing on rocks, pulsatillas and tiny primulas in the meadows and especially the brilliant blue gentians. We were soon to learn that these choice spring gentians also grow in the Burren in Ireland and that Alpines can be found in every continent. It led to exciting visits from Patagonia to Nepal, China, North America, Kazakhstan among many countries but, best of all, these jewels can be grown at home.

Alpines –
obsessional
defined as
plants which
the treeline
with latitude
thousands of
the Alps to
the arctic).



Gentiana Casterino

strictly, to the
botanist, are
flowering
grow above
(which varies
from
metres high in
sea level in
To the keen

alpine gardener, they include many other small compact flowers, mostly growing naturally in rocky conditions. They are generally treasured because many produce flowers which are large in proportion to the size of the plant, giving a brilliant (though often short-lived) show.



Gentiana Acaulis



Campanula W.H.Paine

High in the mountains, there is a short season after snowmelt, and plants have little time to flower, attract a pollinator, and seed. Thus they commonly have prominent flowers; some may have tricks such as big bowl-shaped flowers to focus the heat of the sun, which again attracts pollinators. Flowers from Mediterranean or semi-desert regions, not strictly alpiners but many of which are grown by alpine gardeners, also have a similar problem, to complete their cycle before summer drought sets in.

So, in practice the ‘alpiners’ we grow are not limited to those growing above the tree line but extend to anything which is small, hardy and perennial including dwarf rhododendrons, conifers, woodland plants such as trilliums, and bulbs. They also vary greatly in size – not all alpiners are minute - and suit every size of garden, as cardiocrinums, candelabra primulas and blue poppies require more space while some of the choice alpiners are best grown in small troughs and crevice gardens.

It is a myth that alpiners are difficult to grow, most are not, and a display of alpiners especially when mixed with small bulbs such as narcissi can give interest to a raised bed, trough or window-

box for most of the year. The conditions that bulbs require, such as good drainage, also suit alpines which is why they mix so well. As with any form of gardening it is a basic requirement to know how the plants grow in the wild, and some alpines do require cover from winter wet. There is no danger of becoming bored either because, as more alpines become available to grow from seed, some rarer ones do provide a real challenge to even the most experienced gardener.

To describe the world of alpines in a page is impossible and, like the writer of a column on alpines in the March 2015 Daily Telegraph, it remains a mystery to us why they are not more popular. From the child enjoying tiny flowers in a trough - to the fit and energetic climbing rocky mountains, like the Alps or Himalayas, to see rare poppies, androsaces, etc. growing in breath-taking scenery - to the older gardener cultivating miniature irises, silver saxifrages and other treasures in raised beds - to photographers just wanting good pictures - the alpine world has it all. Why not give it a try - we just wish someone had introduced us to it when we were younger - but beware - you may well become addicted. Still you will have pleasure that lasts a lifetime .

NIDG EARLY SHOW
Colemans Garden Centre

Sunday 20th March 2016

What a relief that the NIDG early Show was able to go ahead as scheduled, in the past few years poor weather had led on occasions to cancellation and difficult travel conditions are often experienced. This year however the weather was fine and although some of the regular exhibitors were missing and the season was late the benches were quite well filled.

Alike with last year Nial Watson had an excellent show gaining Best Bloom with Defence Corps, 1W-Y and gaining many class awards. Dave Hardy, Derrick Turbitt and Philip Wallace battled for the remaining classes and Brian Duncan's entries in the Miniature section were victorious in both single and three stem classes.

Yet again Richard and the other staff at Colemans went the extra mile to facilitate the exhibitors and their work was rewarded not only by a good show but by the many visitors who came to see the show. Our thanks to Colemans Nursery for continuing to provide us with such an excellent venue.

SELECTED RESULTS

Six Bloom Class

1st N. Watson

‘Wild Rover’, ‘Yowie’, ‘Honeybourne’, ‘Feline Queen’,
‘Terminator’, ‘Defence Corps’,

2nd D. Turbitt

Sdg. 1012 1Y-Y, ‘Terminator’, ‘Avon Mill’,
Sdg. 1013 1W-P, ‘Rheban Red’, ‘Tingdene’,

3rd G. Wilson

‘Misquote’, ‘Haemoor’, ‘Night Flight’, ‘Queens Guard’,
‘Disquiet’, ‘Demmo’.

Single Bloom Classes

Div. 1Y-Y

1st D. Hardy ‘Nanny Anne’. *2nd N. Watson* ‘Regal Glow’.

3rd D. Turbitt Sdg. 1012.

Div. 1W-W

1st N. Watson ‘Night Flight’. *2nd N. Watson* ‘Night Flight’.

Div.1 Any Colour Cup

1st N. Watson ‘Defence Corps’. *2nd N. Watson* ‘Queen
Fiona’. *3rd D. Turbitt* Sdg. 1013 1W-P.

Div. 2Y-Y

1st N. Watson ‘Impeccable’. *2nd N. Watson* ‘Impeccable’.

Div.2Y-R

1st P. Wallace ‘Tingdene’. *2nd P. Wallace* ‘Tingdene’.

3rd D. Hardy ‘Terminator’.

Div 2W-W

1st N. Watson ‘Sea Moon’. *2nd N. Watson* ‘Sea Moon’

Div. 2 or 3 Orange Perianth

1st N. Watson ‘Hot Lava’. *2nd N. Watson* Sdg. 517

Div. 4

1st P. Wallace ‘Haemoor’. *2nd N. Watson* ‘Kiwi Sunset’

3rd G. Wilson ‘Haemoor’.

Div. 6Y Any Colour Cup

1st N. Watson 6Y-Y. *2nd N. Watson* ‘Causeway Gem’.

3rd N. Watson ‘Abracadabra’.

Three Bloom Classes

Div. 1

1st N. Watson ‘Queen Fiona’. *2nd D. Hardy* ‘Fine Shade’

3rd D. Turbitt ‘Fine Shade’.

Div. 2

1st *D. Turbitt* 'Tingdene'. 2nd *G. Wilson* 'Demmo'.
3rd *N. Watson* Mixed Vase

Miniature Classes

Single Bloom

1st *B. Duncan* Sdg. 3814. 2nd *A. Wright* Sdg. 3137.
3rd *B. Duncan* Sdg. 3658

Three bloom

1st *B. Duncan* n. Calciola. 2nd *D. Turbitt* Unknown.
3rd *D. Hardy* 'Yellow Xit'.

Best Bloom in Show, *N. Watson* 'Defence Corps'.

Best Miniature, *B. Duncan*

Best Three Bloom Vase, *D. Turbitt* 'Rapture'.

FERMANAGH GARDENING SOCIETY SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Sat. 9th. April 2016

College of Agriculture Enniskillen Campus

This new venue for the Fermanagh show was really excellent, a large well lit hall for the various classes and a good staging area. Another break with tradition was the preparation and serving of lunch by the club members. In former years lunch was provided in various hotels in Enniskillen and this new 'in house' venture was really appropriate, great atmosphere and excellent food, well done ladies!

Because of the reluctance of Spring to really get going the benches were quite sparsely filled in some classes but as usual the exhibitors made the best of what was available and the result was a lot of closely contested awards. Local grower and ever improving exhibitor Dave Hardy had an excellent day winning the Malone Cup six bloom class, the Irish Daffodil six bloom class and gaining Best Bloom award with an immaculate example of 'Burning Ring', 3Y-YYR. Mervyn Wallace another 'local' had an excellent day winning both the Novice and the Intermediate sections and gaining most points in the show. Long serving club member Sam Robinson gained the award for most points in the club members award. Fermanagh hosted a new NIDG award calling for seven blooms staged in a single vase. The five entries in this class made a spectacular display and were much admired by the visiting public. They did however present the judges with difficult choices but in the end the choice came down to which of Derrick Turbitt's two entries was better, as he achieved first and second in this new class with two excellent vases of seven

blooms.

SELECTED RESULTS

The Fermanagh Gardening Society limit awards to first and second places.

Open Section Six Bloom Class

1st D. Hardy ‘Centrefold’, ‘National Treasure’, ‘Ring Fence’, ‘Cape Point’, Sdg DT9909 1W-W, ‘Crowndale’.

2nd D. Turbitt ‘Ombersley’, ‘Centrefold’, ‘Watership Down’, ‘Gold Convention’, ‘Chickerell’, ‘Powerstock’, 2W-O.

Six Bloom Irish Raised Class

1st D. Hardy

Sdg. DT0905 2Y-YYR, ‘Narrative’, ‘Paramour’, ‘Janet’s Gold’, ‘Causeway Sunset’, ‘Ring Fence’.

2nd D. Turbitt

Sdg. DT 9909 1W-W; ‘Temba’, Sdg. DT0905 2Y-YYO, MK Sdg. 2W-P, ‘Cisticola’, ‘Arleston’.

NIDG Seven Bloom Award

1st D. Turbitt Sdg.0905 2Y-YYR ,

2nd D. Turbitt ‘Chilmark’ x 5; ‘Reban Red’ x 2.

Three Bloom Classes

Div. 1

1st G. Wilson ‘Wy’ East’.

2nd R. Mc Caw Sdg. 2914 1Y-Y

Div. 2

1st J. Smyth ‘Corby Candle’. *2nd T. Haley* ‘Dardenelles’.

Div. 2W

1st R. Mc Caw ‘Agnes Mace’.

Div. 3

1st D. Hardy ‘Burning Ring’. *2nd J. Smyth* ‘Edward Buxton’.

Div. 4

1st G. Wilson ‘Rongoiti Gem’.

AOD

1st D. Hardy ‘Jodi’. *2nd R. Mc Caw* ‘Rapid Strides’.

Awards

Most Points Novice *M. Wallace*

Most Points Intermediate *M. Wallace*

Most Points Overall *M. Wallace*

Most Points (Members) *S. Robinson*

Best Bloom Novice *M. Wallace* ‘Crowndale’,

Best Bloom in Show *D. Hardy* ‘Burning Ring’,

HILLSBOROUGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SPRING SHOW

Saturday 16th. April 2016

The tardiness of the 2016 Spring was still in evidence at this show for although most classes had entries the benches were not as well filled as they usually are at this show. Hillsborough hosted the Silver Thread Award and this was won by local stalwart Richard McCaw with three mixed vases. In fact most entrants had to use mixtures such was the scarcity of suitable flowers for staging vases of single varieties. No one competitor dominated the results and the remaining multi stem classes were shared among virtually all entrants.

The twelve bloom class was won by Denise Wallace from Nial Watson with Derrick Turbitt finishing third in a tightly contested class. Nial won the Foreign Raised class from George Wilson who in turn won the Seven Bloom single vase class. Best Bloom in Show (for the second week in succession) went to Dave Hardy with a superb bloom of 'Hibernian' 4W-P.

Our thanks is due to Hillsborough both for hosting the Silver Thread and for the excellent lunch provided yet again by the hard working lady members of the society.

SELECTED RESULTS

Silver Thread Award

1st R. Mc Caw

'Banker', 'Ombersley', 'Temba', 'Hollow Bridge',
'Lennymore', 'Dateline', Sdg. 3058, 'Alto'x2.

2nd P. & D. Wallace

'Colourful', 'Golden Flute' x 2, 'Jodi', 'Jammin' x 2, 'Burt House', 'Temba', 'Treasure Hunt'.

3rd D. Turbitt

'Chickerell', 'Cape Cornwall', Sdg. 0905 x 2, 'Bronzewing'.

Twelve Bloom Class

1st D. Wallace

'Ring fence', 'Paramour', 'National Treasure', 'Bronzewing',
'Narrative', 'Crowndale', 'Lakeland Fair', 'Centrefold',
'Burning Ring', 'Astrids Memory', 'Cape Point', 'Mari Pia'.

2nd N. Watson

'Cape Helles', 'Powerstock', 'Treasure Hunt', 'Palace Pink',

‘Warmwell’, ‘Lemon Cocktail’, ‘Camaraderie’, ‘Disquiet’,
‘Picket Post’, ‘Causeway Sunset’, ‘Spring Sunset’.

3rd D. Turbitt

‘Lighthouse Reef’, ‘Chanson’, ‘Golden Flute’, ‘Dr. Hugh’,
‘Lakeland Fair’, ‘Pacific Rim’, ‘Greenodd’, ‘Bronzewing’,
‘Temba’, Sdg. 1210, ‘Badbury Rings’, Sdg. 146 3W-YYO.

Five Varieties Foreign Raised

1st N. Watson

‘American Idol’, ‘New Penny’, ‘Eveready’, ‘Polar Flame’,
‘La Paloma’.

2nd G. Wilson

‘Cameo Joy’, ‘Pacific Rim’, ‘Orange Supreme’, ‘Bridal
Chorus’, ‘Cryptic’.

Three Bloom Classes

Div. 1Y

1st D. Turbitt ‘Ombersley’. **2nd R. Mc Murray** ‘Mwla’,
3rd G. Wilson ‘Corbierre’, 1Y-YOO.

Div. 1W

1st R. Mc Murray ‘Queens Guard’, **2nd R. Mc Caw** Sdg.2060.

Div. 2Y

1st G. Wilson ‘Treasure Hunt’. **2nd N. Watson** ‘Golden Flute’.
3rd R. Mc Murray ‘Happy Valley’.

Div. 2W

1st R. Mc Murray ‘Glasnevin’. **2nd T. Haley** ‘Narrative’.
3rd D. Pinkerton unknown.

Div. 3Y

1st D. Hardy ‘Burning Ring’. **2nd N. Watson** ‘Dateline’.
3rd R. Mc Murray ‘Lemma’.

Div. 3W **1st R. Mc Murray** ‘Signet Ring’.

Div. 4 **1st N. Watson** Sdg. W805 4Y-YO.

Div. 6Y **1st R. Mc Caw** ‘Rapid Strides’.

Div. 6W **1st G. Wilson** ‘Lilac Charm’.

AOD **1st D. Hardy** ‘Miss Lizzy’. **2nd R. Mc Murray** ‘Kokopelli’.
3rd G. Wilson ‘Sweetness’.

Five Bloom Yellow

1st P & D Wallace Mixed Vase. **2nd G. Wilson** Mixed Vase.

Five Bloom White

1st G. Wilson Mixed Vase. **2nd R. Mc Caw** Sdg. D3418 1W-P

Seven Bloom Vase

1st G. Wilson ‘Articilla’ x 4, ‘Bronzewing’ x3.

Best Blooms

Div. 1	<i>D. Turbitt</i>	‘Temba’.
Div. 2	<i>N. Watson</i>	‘Treasure Hunt’.
Div. 3	<i>D. Turbitt</i>	‘Dr. Hugh’.
Div. 4	<i>D. Hardy</i>	‘Hibernian’, <u>Best Bloom in Show</u>
AOD	<i>P. & D. Wallace</i>	‘Jodi’.

BELFST SPRING FAIR and FLOWER SHOW
Saturday 23rd April and Sunday 24th April

Best Bloom in Show	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	Class 34	Sdg.4074 1W-W.
Best Division 1	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	Class 34	Sdg. 4074 1W-W
Best Division 2	<i>Nial Watson</i>	Class 1	‘Camaraderie’.
Best Division 3	<i>P & D Wallace</i>	Class 1	‘Jammin’.
Best Division 4	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	Class 21	‘Silken Snow’.
Best any other Division	<i>P & D Wallace</i>	Class 1	‘Jodie’.
Best Unregistered Seedling (Open)	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	Class 34	Sdg. 4074 1W-W.
Best Unregistered Seedling (Amateur)	<i>Derrick Turbitt</i>	Class 70	Sdg. 1310 2W-P Int.
Best 3 Bloom Vase	<i>Robbie Curry</i>	Class 7	‘Pacific Rim.
Best Bloom (Novice)	<i>David Speed</i>	Class 77	‘Treasure Hunt’.
Intermediate Championship	<i>John Warren</i>		

NIDG RUBY AWARD – Awarded to best vase in class. Seven stems, one vase containing one or more varieties or divisions with orange/ red cup.

1st D. Hardy ‘Lennymore’.

Class 1 CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND

Twelve varieties, representing at least three divisions. One stem of each. Each bloom to be staged singly. *7 entries*

1st Brian Duncan

‘Treasure Hunt’, ‘Coliseum’, ‘Firebright’, ‘Jammin’, ‘Sheskin’, ‘Jake’, ‘Camaraderie’, Sdg. 4103 (1Y-Y), ‘Burning Ring’, Sdg. 3498 (2W-W), ‘System Alert’, ‘Robustion’.

2nd Nial Watson

‘Zwynner’, ‘Editor’, ‘Auchranie’, ‘Montroig’, ‘Camaraderie’, ‘Tangerine Tango’, ‘Warm Welcome’, ‘Garden Treasure’, ‘Burning Ring’, ‘Ice Emerald’,

'Firefighter', Sdg.767 (4W-Y).

3rd Richard McCaw

'Sheelagh Rowan', RAM182 (2Y-YYR0, 'Dorchester', 'Gold Finger', 'Angel's Wood', 'Dr. Hugh', 'Clouded Yellow', 'River Queen', 'Hollow Bridge', 'Treasure Hunt', 'Alto', 'Bouzouki'.

Class 2 ROYAL MAIL TROPHY

Six varieties. Irish raised. Three stems of each. Any divisions or divisions. *2 entries*

1st Brian Duncan

'Sheskin', 'Paradigm', 'Firebright', 'Jammin', 'Silken Snow', 'Treasure Hunt'.

2nd Richard McCaw

Sdg D3396, 'Version', Sdg. D2760, 'Angel's Wood', 'Treasure Hunt', Sdg D3342.

Class 3 W.H. ROESE BOWL AND A.D.S. RED, WHITE & BLUE RIBBON

Five varieties. American raised. Any division or divisions. One vase. One stem of each.

1 entry

1st George Wilson

'Glisande', 'Pacific Rim', 'Star Trek', 'Colonial White', 'Bridal Chorus'.

Class 4 GUY WILSON TROPHY

Three varieties of white daffodils. Two or more divisions. Three vases. Three stems of each. *1 entry*

1st Derrick Turbitt

'Draycote Water', 'Misty Glen', 'Val D'Incles'.

Class 5 SANDY McCABE TROPHY

Three vases. Three blooms in each, three or more varieties containing pink colouring. *4 entries*

1st Robbie Curry

'Cape Point', 'Amazing Grace', 'Ice Dancer'.

2nd George Wilson

'Narrative', 'Version', 'Amazing Grace'.

3rd Brian Duncan

'Robustion', 'Narrative', 'Sheskin'.

Class 6 GILBERT ANDREWS TROPHY

Six varieties, representing at least three divisions. One stem of each. Each stem to be staged singly. *7 entries*

1st Robbie Curry

'Cape Point', 'Avalanche', 'On Line', 'Amazing Grace',

‘Silverwood’, ‘Crowndale’.

2nd D & P Wallace

‘Montroig’, ‘Gold Convention’, ‘Golden Flute’, Sdg.
BSD2269, ‘Jammin’, ‘Chobe River’.

3rd George Wilson

‘Rongoiti Gem’, ‘Cameo Joy’, ‘Altun Ha’, ‘Bainden’,
‘Chinchilla’, ‘Treasure Hunt’.

Class 7 THE INTERNATIONAL AWARD N.I.D.G. CRYSTAL TROPHY

Daffodils raised outside Ireland. Three vases. Three blooms of each.
Any number of varieties or divisions. Name of raiser to be stated on
seedlings. 4 entries

1st Robbie Curry

‘On Line’, ‘Pacific Rim’, ‘Wychbold’.

2nd Derrick Turbitt

‘Sheelagh Rowan’, ‘Altun Ha’, ‘Cape Point’.

3rd James Smyth

‘Jenna’, ‘Orkney’, ‘Corby Candle’.

Class 8 AMATEUR SEEDLING CLASS N.I.D.G. CRYSTAL TROPHY

One vase. Three blooms. Any number of varieties or divisions, unregistered
seedlings, not necessarily raised by exhibitor. Raiser’s name to be stated.

10 entries

1st Dave Hardy

BSD 3908.

2nd D&P Wallace

BSD 2269, 2x3792.

3rd Derrick Turbitt

DT 0905 2Y-YYO.

COLLECTION CLASSES

Three stems. One or more varieties. One vase.

Class 9 Division 1Y.

7 entries

1st Brian Duncan

‘Kingsleigh’.

2nd Brian Duncan

‘Bronze Wing’.

3rd Terry Haley

‘Bronze Wing’.

Class 10 Division 1 W.

5 entries

1st Brian Duncan

‘Chanson’.

2nd Terry Haley

‘Chanson’.

3rd Brian Duncan

Sdg.3350 (‘Red Reed x ‘Lutana’

Class 11 Division 2Y.

14 entries

1st Brian Duncan

‘Gold Ingot’.

2nd Dave Hardy

‘Treasure Hunt’.

3rd Richard McCaw

‘Treasure Hunt’.

Class 12 Division 2W.

9 entries

1st David Pinkerton

‘Glasnevin’.

2nd Brian Duncan

‘Cape Point’.

3rd Brian Duncan

‘Camaraderie’.

Class 13 Division 3Y.

3 entries

1st David Pinkerton

‘Nonchalant’.

	2nd Richard McCaw	BSD sdg. 3342
	3rd James Smyth	'Telgarth'.
Class 14	Division 3W.	15 <i>entries</i>
	1st David Pinkerton	'Val D'Incles'.
	2nd George Wilson	'Greenodd'.
	3rd Brian Duncan	'Cerisita'.
Class 15	Any Division Y-W or Y-WWY.	0 <i>entries</i>
Class 16	Any Division sulphur perianth	3 <i>entries</i>
	1st Richard McCaw	'Spring Sunset'.
	2nd Maurice Kerr	MK sdg.1081.
	3rd James Smyth	Whiskey Mac'.
Class 17	Division 2W-P.	6 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	'Alto'.
	2nd Brian Duncan	'Narrative'.
	3rd Brian Duncan	'Cerista' (Int.).
Class 18	Division 2 Rimmed.	3 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	'Camaraderie'.
	2nd Brian Duncan	'Airtime'.
Class 19	Division 3 Rimmed.	6 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	'Burning Ring'.
	2nd Brian Duncan	'Orange Trim'.
	3rd James Smyth	'Merlin'.
Class 20	Division 4Y.	5 <i>entries</i>
	1st Nial Watson	'Tangerine Tango'.
	2nd Terry Haley	'Paradigm'.
	3rd Brian Duncan	'Mamma Mia'.
Class 21	Division 4W.	8 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	'Silken Snow'.
	2nd Brian Duncan	'Dorchester'.
	3rd Dave Hardy	'Hibernian'.
Class 22	Division 5.	5 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	BSD 3885
	2nd & 3rd not recorded	
Class 23	Division 6Y.	4 <i>entries</i>
	1st Richard McCaw	'Causeway Gem'.
	2nd Brian Duncan	'Elfin Gold'.
	3rd Richard McCaw	'Rapid Strides'.
Class 24	Division 6W	5 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	'Lilac Charm'.
	2nd Richard McCaw	'Sheer Joy'.
	3rd Richard McCaw	'Sheer Joy'.
Class 25	Division 7.	5 <i>entries</i>

	<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	'Littlefield'.
	<i>2nd James Smyth</i>	'Quail'.
	<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	N. burdeos.
Class 26	Division 8.	<i>4 entries</i>
	<i>1st Richard McCaw</i>	'Highfield Beauty'.
	<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Highfield Beauty'.
	<i>3rd James Smyth</i>	'Geranium'.
Class 27	Division 9.	<i>3 entries</i>
	<i>1st Dave Hardy</i>	'Patois'.
	<i>2nd James Smyth</i>	'Actea'.
	<i>3rd James Smyth</i>	N. poeticus ornatus.
Class 28	Division 11.	<i>5 entries</i>
	<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Lady Eve'.
	<i>2nd Terry Haley</i>	'Diversity & 2 'Drama Queen'.
	<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Maria Pia'.
Class 29	Historical variety or varieties. Registered on or before 1970 from any division	<i>2 entries</i>
	<i>1st James Smyth</i>	'Ringleader'.
	<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Pinza'.
Class 30	Intermediate	<i>8 entries</i>
	<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	Sdg 450 Y-YYO.
	<i>2nd Derrick Turbitt</i>	'Causeway Julie'.
	<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Rimski'.
SINGLE STEM CLASSES		
Division 1		
Perianth - Yellow		
Class 31	Corona Yellow.	<i>16 entries</i>
	<i>1st Richard McCaw</i>	'Gold Choice'.
	<i>2nd Deirdre Cairns</i>	Unknown.
	<i>3rd Deirdre Cairns</i>	'Inny River'.
Class 32	Corona Orange or Red.	<i>3 entries</i>
	<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	BSD3395.
	<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	MK1222.
	<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>	'Longitude'.
Class 33	Corona containing Pink.	<i>9 entries</i>
	<i>1st Deirdre Cairns</i>	'Fioli'.
	<i>2nd Michael Ward</i>	'Bronze Wing'.
	<i>3rd Dave Hardy</i>	'Bronze Wing'.
Perianth - White		
Class 34	Corona White.	<i>12 entries</i>
	<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	BSD 4074.
	<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	BSD 3733.

	3rd D&P Wallace	BSD 2269
Class 35	Corona Pink.	4 <i>entries</i>
	1st George Wilson	‘Chanson’.
	2nd Deirdre Cairns	‘Chanson’.
	3rd Maurice Kerr	‘Cryptic’.
Class 36	Corona any other colour.	6 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	‘Seville Orange’.
	2nd Brian Duncan	‘Queen’s Guard’.
	3rd Brian Duncan	‘Garden Beacon’.
Division 2		
Perianth - Yellow		
Class 37	Corona Yellow.	26 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	‘Treasure Hunt’.
	2nd Deirdre Cairns	‘Happy Valley’.
	3rd Brian Duncan	‘Gold Bond’.
Class 38	Corona Orange or Red.	25 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	‘Gallic Fire’.
	2nd D&P Wallace	‘Colourful’.
	3rd Brian Duncan	‘Brush Fire’.
Class 39	Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant.	3 <i>entries</i>
	1st Deirdre Cairns	‘Pacific Rim’.
	2nd Terry Haley	‘Pacific Rim’.
	3rd Michael Ward	‘Pacific Rim’.
Class 40	Corona containing pink.	8 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	BSD 3742 2YW-P.
	2nd Nial Watson	NW1052 2Y-P.
	3rd Terry Haley	‘Spring Sunset’.
Perianth - White		
Class 41	Corona Yellow or White and Yellow.	6 <i>entries</i>
	1st D&P Wallace	Unknown.
	2nd D&P Wallace	Unknown.
	3rd David Pinkerton	‘The Mount’.
Class 42	Corona Orange or Red.	6 <i>entries</i>
	1st Derrick Turbitt	‘Whitlarks’.
	2nd Brian Duncan	‘Young Blood’.
	3rd Deirdre Cairns	‘Royal Marine’.
Class 43	Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant.	5 <i>entries</i>
	1st Nial Watson	‘Cameraderie’.
	2nd Robbie Curry	‘Cameraderie’.
	3rd Brian Duncan	‘Cameraderie’.
Class 44	Corona White.	11 <i>entries</i>
	1st Brian Duncan	BSD 3958.

- 2nd *Nial Watson*
 3rd *Nial Watson*
Class 45 Corona Pink with colour predominant. 28 *entries*
 1st *Michael Ward* 'Cape Point'.
 2nd *Nial Watson* 'Warm Welcome'.
 3rd *Brian Duncan* 'Narrative'.
- Class 46** Corona Pink with colour not predominant. 3 *entries*
 1st *D&P Wallace* 'Montroig'.
 2nd *Michael Ward* 'Ice Dancer'.
 3rd *D&P Wallace* 'Montroig'.
- Division 3**
Perianth - Yellow
- Class 47** Corona Yellow. 7 *entries*
 1st *Richard McCaw* 'Hollowbridge'.
 2nd *Deirdre Cairns* 'Hollowbridge'.
 3rd *Derrick Turbitt* 'Hollowbridge'.
- Class 48** Corona Red. 7 *entries*
 1st *Richard McCaw* 'Angel's Wood'.
 2nd *Richard McCaw* BSD 3342.
 3rd *Dave Hardy* 'FireFighter'.
- Class 49** Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant. 13 *entries*
 1st *Nial Watson* 'Burning Ring'.
 2nd *Deirdre Cairns* 'Burning Ring'.
 3rd *Derrick Turbitt* 'Badbury Rings'.
- Perianth - White**
- Class 50** Corona Yellow or White and Yellow. 19 *entries*
 1st *Brian Duncan* 'Jammin'.
 2nd *George Wilson* 'Evesham'.
 3rd *Nial Watson* Sdg. NW 876 3W-Y.
- Class 51** Corona Red. 14 *entries*
 1st *Richard McCaw* 'Spin Doctor'.
 2nd *Derrick Turbitt* 'Doctor Hugh'.
 3rd *D&P Wallace* 'Royal China'.
- Class 52** Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant. 11 *entries*
 1st *Dave Hardy* 'Camilla Clara Kate'.
 2nd *Nial Watson* 'Topaz Dawn'.
 3rd *Dave Hardy* 'Toretta'.
- Class 53** Corona White. 8 *entries*
 1st *D&P Wallace* 'Val D'Incles'.
 2nd *Nial Watson* 'Ice Emerald'.
 3rd *Brian Duncan* BSD Sdg. 3498.
- Class 54** Corona containing Pink. 9 *entries*

	<i>1st Dave Hardy</i>	'Trentagh'.
	<i>2nd George Wilson</i>	'Pathos'.
	<i>3rd Nial Watson</i>	NW Sdg. 763 3W-WWP
Division 4		
	Perianth and petaloid segments - Yellow	
Class 55	Corona segments any colour.	9 entries
	<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	'Tangerine Tango'.
	<i>2nd Derrick Turbitt</i>	Sdg. DT 0915 4Y-O.
	<i>3rd George Wilson</i>	'Crowndale'.
	Perianth and petaloid segments - White	
Class 56	Corona segments Pink.	7 entries
	<i>1st Dave Hardy</i>	'Hibernian'.
	<i>2nd Dave Hardy</i>	'Dorchester'.
	<i>3rd Dave Hardy</i>	'Paramour'.
Class 57	segments any colour other than Pink.	9 entries
	<i>1st Dave Hardy</i>	'Gay Kybo'.
	<i>2nd Nial Watson</i>	NW Sdg' 760 4W-Y.
	<i>3rd David Pinkerton</i>	'Dunadry Inn'.
Class 58	Division 5.	7 entries
	<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Flying Angel'.
	<i>2nd Dave Hardy</i>	'Miss Lizzy'.
	<i>3rd Dave Hardy</i>	'Mission Bells'.
Class 59	Division 6Y.	7 entries
	<i>1st Richard McCaw</i>	'Suzie's Sister'.
	<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Suzie Dee'.
	<i>3rd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Chicadee'.
Class 60	Division 6W.	9 entries
	<i>1st David Pinkerton</i>	'Sheer Joy'.
	<i>2nd Deirdre Cairns</i>	'Lilac Charm'.
	<i>3rd Terry Haley</i>	'Georgia Girl'.
Class 61	Division 7.	7 entries
	<i>1st George Wilson</i>	'Stratosphere'.
	<i>2nd Deirdre Cairns</i>	Sdg. 'Presno' x 'Quick Step'.
	<i>3rd Deirdre Cairns</i>	Unknown
Class 62	Division 8.	4 entries
	<i>1st Richard McCaw</i>	'Avalanche'.
	<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Highfield Beauty'.
	<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>	'Avalanche Gold'.
Class 63	Division 9 with a red rim.	6 entries
	<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	Unknown
	<i>2nd Dave Hardy</i>	'Patois'.
	<i>3rd Dave Hardy</i>	'Frank'.

- Class 64** without a red rim. 1 entry
1st Dave Hardy 'Ballydorn'.
- Class 65** Division 11. 17 entries
1st George Wilson 'Lady Eve'.
2nd Nial Watson NW Sdg. 867 11Y-O.
3rd Dave Hardy 'Maria Pia'.
- Class 66** Any division. Yellow perianth. Corona White with or without a Yellow rim. 4 entries
1st Richard McCaw 'Trumpet Warrior'.
2nd Derrick Turbitt 'Altun Ha'.
3rd Deirdre Cairns 'Altun Ha'.
- Class 66** Any division. Unregistered seedling raised by exhibitor. 12 entries
1st Brian Duncan 3884 2O-OOP.
2nd Nial Watson 1058 4Y-YP.
3rd Brian Duncan 3760 1W-W
- Class 68** Any division with orange colouring in the perianth. 6 entries
1st Maurice Kerr 'Copperdale'.
2nd Deirdre Cairns 'Honey Orange'.
3rd Nial Watson 'Nantucket Red'.
- Class 69** One stem of lemon or sulphur self. Any division. 6 entries
1st Nial Watson 'Chortle'.
2nd Nial Watson NW Sdg. 713.
3rd David Pinkerton 'Sulphur Shades'.
- Class 70** One stem of Intermediate variety from divisions 1-4 17 entries
1st Brian Duncan 'Cerista'.
2nd Derrick Turbitt Sdg. DT 1310 2W-GPP
3rd Nial Watson NW Sdg.450 2Y-YYO.

MINIATURE SECTION

- Class 71** . Miniature Narcissus, species or hybrid. Six stems staged singly. Any number of varieties. 2 entries
1st Brian Duncan 'Chatterbox', Sdg. 07/10 Y-Y, Sdg.07/11 Y-Y, N. hedraeanthus, N. graellsii, n. bulbocodium hybrid.
2nd Brian Duncan Sdg.4288, Sdg. 3135, Sdg. 3930 'Gipsy', Sdg. N.rupicola xN. waterii, N. rupicola.
- Class 72** Miniature Narcissus, species or hybrid. Three stems. One or more varieties. 4 entries
1st Brian Duncan Sdg. 4290 N. triandus x N. assoanus.
2nd Maurice Kerr 'Kokopelli', 2 'Sabrosa'.
3rd Brian Duncan Sdg. N. rupicola x N. waterii.
- Class 73** Miniature Narcissus, species or hybrid. One stem. 8 entries

1st Brian Duncan BSD Sdg. 4284 ‘Camaraderie’ x N. dubius.

2nd Maurice Kerr ‘Segovia’.

3rd Brian Duncan BSD Sdg. 3315 ‘Silver Crystal’ x N. dubius.

INTERMEDIATE CLASSES

Class 73 Nine varieties representing at least three divisions. One bloom of each. Each bloom to be staged singly 4 entries

1st John Warren

‘Tiffany Jade’, ‘Hotspur’, ‘Carn Brae’, ‘River Queen’, ‘Gallipoli Dawn’, ‘American Dream’, ‘Jodi’s Sister’, ‘Castle Rings’, ‘Chaste’.

2nd Gordon Finch

‘Laughing Bird Caye’, ‘Gay Kybo’, ‘Jake’, ‘Cherry Gardens’, ‘Kathy A’, ‘Pathos’, ‘Temba’, ‘Mission Bells’, ‘Wheatear’.

3rd Mervyn Wallace

‘Ethos’, ‘Bronze Wing’ & 7 unknown.

Class 75 Three vases. Three stems of each. Three varieties any division or divisions 4 entries

1st John Warren ‘American Dream’, ‘River Queen’, ‘Gamebird’.

2nd John Warren ‘Tiffany Jade’, ‘River Queen’, ‘Gamebird’.

3rd Gordon Finch ‘Laughing Bird Caye’, ‘Gay Kybo’, ‘Quail’.

Class 76 Three vases. One stem of each. Three varieties any division or divisions 5 entries

1st John Warren ‘Yummy Mummy’, ‘American Dream’, ‘River Queen’.

2nd John Warren ‘Chaste’, ‘Jodi’s Sister’, ‘River Queen’.

3rd John Warren ‘Yummy Mummy’, ‘Castle rings’, ‘Jodi’s Sister’.

NOVICE CLASSES

Class 77 NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND

Six varieties representing at least three divisions. One bloom of each. Each bloom to be staged singly. 6 entries

1st David Speed

‘Hollow Bridge’, ‘Terminator’, ‘Jammin’, ‘Unknown 1Y-O’, ‘Chanson’, ‘Treasure Hunt’.

2nd David Speed

‘Hollow bridge’, ‘Bronze wing’, ‘Ombersley’, ‘Palace Pink’, ‘Chateau Impney’, ‘Badbury Rings’.

3rd Ted Thompson

All Unknown

COLLECTION CLASSES

Class 78 Division 1. <i>1st Mervyn Wallace</i> <i>2nd Mervyn Wallace</i> <i>3rd Ted Thompson</i>	4 entries 'Bronze Wing' &2 'Chobe River'. 'Bronze Wing' &2 'Gold Finger'. 'Gate Crasher'.
Class 79 Division 2 <i>1st Ted Thompson</i> <i>2nd Ted Thompson</i> <i>3rd Mervyn Wallace</i>	4 entries Unknown. Unknown. Unknown.
Class 80 Division 3. <i>1st David Speed</i> <i>2nd Mervyn Wallace</i> <i>3rd Ted Thompson</i>	5 entries Unknown. Unknown. Unknown.
Class 81 Any other division. <i>1st Ted Thompson</i> <i>2nd M. Burke</i> <i>3rd Ted Thompson</i>	3 entries Unknown. Unknown. Unknown.
SINGLE STEM CLASSES	
Class 82 Division 1Y. <i>1st David Speed</i> <i>2nd Mervyn Wallace</i> <i>3rd Mervyn Wallace</i>	5 entries 'Chobe River'. 'Gold Finger'. 'Gold Finger'.
Class 83 Division 1 W. <i>1st David Speed</i> <i>2nd Mervyn Wallace</i>	7 entries Unknown. Unknown.
Class 84 Division 2Y <i>1st David Speed</i> <i>2nd Ted Thompson</i> <i>3rd Mervyn Wallace</i>	7 entries 2Y-R. 2Y-R. 2Y-Y.
Class 85 Division 2W <i>1st David Speed</i> <i>2nd Ted Thompson</i> <i>3rd Ted Thompson</i>	3 entries 2W-P . 2W-P. 2W-W.
Class 86 Division 3Y. <i>1st David Speed</i> <i>2nd Ted Thompson</i>	2 entries 3Y-YYR. 3Y-YYR.
Class 87 Division 3W. <i>1st David Speed</i> <i>2nd David Speed</i> <i>3rd David Speed</i>	5 entries 3W-YYR. 3W-Y. 3W-Y.
Class 88 Division 4. <i>1st Mervyn Wallace</i>	7 entries 'Dorchester'.

	<i>2nd Mervyn Wallace</i>	'Dorchester'.	
	<i>3rd David Speed</i>	4W-O	
Class 89	Division 5, 7 or 8.		1 entry
	<i>1st David Speed</i>	5W-W	
Class 90	Division 6.		0 entries
Class 91	Division 9.		0 entries
Class 92	Division 11		3 entries
	<i>1st Mervyn Wallace</i>	Unknown.	
	<i>2nd Mervyn Wallace</i>	'Drama Queen'.	
	<i>3rd Mervyn Wallace</i>	Unknown.	
Class 93	Any division Yellow perianth Corona White with or without a Yellow rim.		0 entries
Class 94	Any division with pink colouring in the cup.		2 entries
	<i>1st Mervyn Wallace</i>	Unknown.	
	<i>2nd David Speed</i>	Unknown.	
Class 95	Seedling. Not necessarily raised by exhibitor. Name of raiser to be stated		1 entry
	<i>1st Mervyn Wallace</i>	2927 1Y-Y.	
Class 96	A pot of daffodils any division.		0 entries
Class 97	A pot of miniature daffodils		2 entries
	<i>1st James Smyth</i>	'Henriquesii'.	
	<i>2nd Richard McCaw</i>	'Hawera'.	
	TULIPS		
Class 98	Tulips. One Vase, three blooms. Any variety		5 entries
	<i>1st Tom Haire</i>	'Purissima'.	
	<i>2nd Tom Haire</i>	'Pink Impression'.	
	<i>3rd Clare Haire</i>	Unknown.	
Class 99	Tulips. In a pot. Any variety. Pot size unrestricted		0 entries
Childrens Classes	Exhibitors must be part of a school or youth group		
Class 100	NIDG Ribbon - 3 stems.		60 entries
	<i>1st Our Lady of Peace</i>	3x 1Y-Y.	
	<i>2nd Emily Speed</i>	'Winston Churchill', 'Auchranie', 'Cherry Gardens'.	
	<i>3rd Holy Trinity</i>	2Div 1 Y-Y & 1 Div2	
Y-Y Class 101	NIDG Ribbon - 1 Bloom. (4-11 years old)		48 entries
	<i>1st Tierna Doran</i>	'Shindig'.	
	<i>2nd Emily Speed</i>	'Cisticola'.	
	<i>3rd David Doherty</i>	'Frosted Pink'.	
Class 102	NIDG Ribbon - 1 Bloom. (12-16 years old)		0 entries

'I enjoyed my trip enormously and was greatly impressed by the welter of seedlings on display. Of the four venues I had the pleasure of judging at, namely RHS, Caughton Court, USA and Belfast the latter was by far the most interesting and the standard very exacting.'

Reg. Nicholl

**BALLYMENA GARDEN CLUB
SPRING SHOW**

Broughshane

30th April 2016

By the date of the Ballymena Show the full flush of blooms was beginning to wane after the slow start to Spring and then the succeeding weeks of warm weather had produced a rapid flowering period. The benches at the show however were filled with plenty of excellent blooms and the many entries in the multi-stem classes demonstrated the availability of flowers at this relatively late date in the season.

Of the five entries in the Open Twelve Bloom class Nial Watson's group emerged as the winner in a tight contest with Robbie Curry and Richard Mc Caw. From Nial's group a fine example of 'Camaraderie', 2W-YYO was eventually judged to be Best Bloom in show and 'Jammin', 3W-GYY from Robbie's twelve was Best Div.3.

Ballymena hosted the Amateur Championship of Ireland and Richard McCaw continued on his winning ways in this years Amateur trophies by winning this class with Robbie Currie taking second place for the second time in a twelve bloom class at this show. David Speed won the Novice six bloom class with good examples of 'Game Bird', 1Y-Y and 'Golden Flute', 2Y-Y in his well presented six.

Our thanks to the ladies of the club for the usual excellent buffet lunch which is always appreciated after the rigors of staging and judging, it makes for a most relaxing end to the morning. The other sections in the show were well supported and the many paying visitors had plenty to admire as well as daffodils when they went around the hall.

SELECTED RESULTS

OPEN SECTION

Twelve bloom Class

1st N. Watson

'Auchranie', 'Camaraderie', 'Lamlash', Sdg. 780,
3Y-R; 'Airtime', 'Garden Treasure', Sdg. 707, 4W-Y;
'Burning Ring', 'Tangerine Tango', 'Warm Welcome',
'Firefighter', 'Picket Post'.

- 2nd *R. Curry*
 ‘Spin Doctor’, ‘Ruddy Rascal’, ‘Serena Beach’, ‘Jenna’,
 ‘Angels Wood’, ‘Orbital Pink’, ‘Causeway Winner’,
 ‘Amazing Grace’, ‘Camaraderie’, ‘Ring Fence’, ‘Lake
 District’, ‘Burning Ring’.
- 3rd *R. Mc Caw*
 ‘Vendell’, ‘Laurelbank’, ‘Mama Mia’, ‘Sheelagh Rowan’,
 Sdg. D2760, 2W-YYR, ‘Angels Wood’, ‘Star Quality’,
 ‘Treasure Hunt’, ‘Zwynner’, ‘Amazing Grace’,
 ‘Causeway Sunset’, ‘Editor’.

Six Vase x Three Bloom Class

- 1st *D. Turbitt*
 ‘Jammin’, ‘Hollowbridge’, ‘Samsara’, ‘Gay Kybo’,
 ‘Sheelagh Rowan’, ‘Arona’.
- 2nd *J. Smyth*
 ‘Corby Candle’, ‘Falmouth Bay’, ‘Chanson’, ‘Online’,
 ‘Jenna’, ‘Orkney’.
- 3rd *R. Mc Caw*
 ‘Hollowbridge’, ‘Viva Diva’, ‘Vivash’, Sdg. D3342, 3Y-R
 ‘Treasure Hunt’, ‘Repertoire’.

American Five Bloom class

- 1st *G. Wilson*
 ‘Startrek’, ‘Rose Garden’, ‘Pacific Rim’, ‘Bridal Chorus’,
 ‘Smooth Sails’.

Miniature Classes

Three Vase x Three Bloom

- 1st *G. Finch* ‘Hawera’, ; N. cavaliculatus; N. rupicola.
 2nd *G. Finch* ‘Hawera’, ‘Pixies Sister’, N. cavaliculatus.

Single Bloom

- 1st *M. Kerr* ‘Sabrosa’, 2nd *M. Kerr* ‘Segovia’, 3rd *G. Finch*
 ‘Hawera’.

SENIOR AMATEUR CLASSES

Twelve Bloom Amateur Championship of Ireland

- 1st *R. Mc Caw*
 ‘Dr. Hugh’, Sdg. DT9911, 3Y-R, ‘Dambuster’, Sdg. RAM
 182, 2Y-YYR, ‘Clouded Yellow’, ‘Palace Pink’, ‘Garden
 Treasure’, ‘Ring Flash’, ‘Astrids Memory’, ‘Arid Plains’,
 ‘Alto’, ‘Hollowbridge’.
- 2nd *R. Curry*
 ‘Chobe River’, ‘Subtle Shades’, ‘Online’, ‘Glen Lake’,

'Amazing Grace', 'Temba', 'Astrids Memory', 'Crowndale'.
3rd *D. Pinkerton*
'Pooka', 'Gay Kybo', 'Zwynner', 'Cape Point', 'Chaste',
'Badbury Rings', Unknown, 'Chortle', 'Altun Ha', 'Palace
Pink', Unknown; 'Warm Welcome'.

Three Bloom Classes

Div.1 1st *R. Mc Murray*, 'Goldfinger' ;2nd *M.Kerr*, Sdg.1081, 1Y-P;
3rd *R Mc Murray*, 'Trumpet Warrior'.

Div.2 1st *D & P Wallace* 'Montroig', *D & P Wallace* 'Montroig',
3rd *D & P Wallace* 'Bouzouki'.

Div.3 1st. *D. Turbitt* 'Causeway Julie' 2nd *D. Turbitt* Sdg. 0825,
3W-W; 3rd *D. Pinkerton* 'Nonchalant'.

Div.4 1st *D. Pinkerton* 'Sir Winston Churchill' 2nd *G. Wilson*,
'Gay Kybo'.

AOD 1st *G. Wilson* 'Stratosphere'. 2nd *R. Mc Caw* 'Sheer Joy'.
3rd *R. Mc Caw* 'Causeway Gem'.

BEST BLOOMS

Div.1 *R. Curry* 'Chobe River'.

Div.2 *N. Watson* 'Camaraderie' Best Bloom in Show.

Div.3 *R. Curry* 'Jammin'.

Div.4 *G. Wilson* 'Gay Kybo'.

Div.6 *R. Mc Caw* 'Causeway Gem'.

AOD *N. Watson* Sdg. 789, 11aY-YO (Intermediate).

Miniature *G. Finch* *N. rupicola* .

OMAGH GARDENING SOCIETY SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Saturday 7th May 2016

By tradition Omagh hosts the last society show of the daffodil show season, and the date is always the first Saturday in May. This year the date couldn't have been later as the first Saturday fell on the 7th. of May. As a result blooms were becoming scarce but the exhibitors still managed to put on a good display throughout the classes.

In the Open Section Brian Duncan had a virtual 'clean sweep' in winning the Twelve Bloom Class, The Six varieties x Three Bloom Class and won all the single bloom classes. Brian also had Best Bloom in Show as well as best blooms in all four standard daffodil divisions, it is hard to improve on that for a successful show! In the twelve bloom class Richard McCaw came second and Robbie Curry was third. Both their exhibits were excellent but on

the day Brian prevailed. These two exhibitors also vied for the Senior Amateur Nine Bloom award and on this occasion Robbie came out on top. Maurice Kerr was third with a very competitive group containing six of his own seedlings.

There was quite a lot of entries in the children's flower section and as usual at this show the cut flower and floral art sections were well supported by high quality exhibits. The buffet lunch served by the lady members was excellent and added greatly to the social aspect of this very successful show.

SELECTED RESULTS

Open Twelve Bloom Class

1st B. Duncan

Sdg. 4323 1Y-Y, 'Burt House', Sdg. 3328 4W-P, 'Sheskin',
Sdg. 4113 3W-YPP, Sdg. 3781 3y-YYR, 'Greek Surprise',
Sdg. 3346 3Y-R, 'Jake', 'Jammin', 'Burning Ring', 'Camilla
Clara Kate'.

2nd R. Mc Caw

'Ruddy Rascal', 'Emerald City', Sdg. 3342 3Y-R, 'Star
Quality', 'Astrids Memory', 'Honey Orange', 'Lake District',
'Clouded Yellow', 'Samsara', 'Greek Surprise', 'Burning
Ring', 'Ring Fence'.

3rd R. Curry

'Glen Lake', Sdg. 260 3O-R; 'Astrids Memory', 'Treasure
Hunt', 'Chobe River', 'Amazing Grace', 'Compton Court',
'Greek Surprise', 'Narrative', 'Badbury Rings', 'Ice Dancer',
'Burning Ring'.

American Daffodil Class

1st G. Wilson

'Stratosphere', 'Colonial White', 'Star Trek', 'Pacific Rim',
'Rose Garden'.

Six Variety Three Bloom Class

1st B. Duncan

'Camaraderie', 'Gold Ingot', 'Burning Ring', 'Sheskin',
'Greek Surprise', 'Barnesgold'.

2nd B. Duncan

Sdg. 3904 2W-YYO, Sdg. 3916 2Y-YYO, Sdg. 2Y-O,
Sdg. 3351 3W-GYY, Sdg. 3710 2W-P, Sdg. 4Y-Y.

3rd R. Mc Caw

'Hollow Bridge', Sdg. RAM225 3W-GYY, 'Editor',
Sdg. 3342 3Y-R, Sdg. 3396 2Y-YOO, 'Greek Surprise'.

SENIOR AMATEUR CLASSES

Nine Bloom Class

1ST *R. Curry*

‘Amazing Grace’, ‘State Express’, Sdg. 3W-R,
Sdg. 260 3O-R, ‘Greek Surprise’, ‘Causeway Sunset’,
‘Lake District’, ‘Burning Ring’.

2nd *R. Mc Caw*

‘Snowy Owl’, Sdg. 3342 3Y-R, ‘Sheelagh Rowan’, ‘Angels
Wood’, Sdg. 2760 3W-YYO, ‘Causeway Sunset’, ‘Lake
District’, ‘Burning Ring’, ‘Moon Shadow’.

3rd *M. Kerr*

Sdg. 1246 1Y/W-WPP, Sdg. 1347 3W-R, ‘Sergeants Caye’,
Sdg. 1179 3W-YOO, ‘Treasure Hunt’, Sdg. 4W-Y,
Sdg. 1257 1Y-Y, Sdg. 1009/1 3W-GYO, ‘Burning Ring’.

Three Bloom Classes

Div. 1 **1st** *M. Kerr* ‘Sergeants Caye’.

Div. 2Y **1st** *D. Pinkerton* ‘Carrib Gypsy’. **2nd** *M. Kerr* Sdg.11
2Y-R. **3Rd** *D. Pinkerton* ‘State Express’.

Div. 2W **1st** *G. Wilson* ‘Soft Focus’. **2nd** *D. Pinkerton*, ‘Amazing
Grace’. **3rd** *D. Hardy* ‘Soprano’.

Div. 3Y **1st** *G. Wilson* ‘All Rounder’. **2nd** *M. Kerr* Sdg. 1219/1
3Y-R. **3rd** *R. Mc Caw* ‘Signet Ring’.

Div. 3W **1st** *D. Hardy* ‘Astrids Memory’. **2nd** *R. Mc Caw*
‘Repertoire’. **3rd** *T. Haley* ‘Demeanour’.

Div. 4 **1st** *D. Turbitt* ‘Greek Surprise’. **2nd** *T. Haley* ‘Greek
Surprise’. **3rd** *R. Curry* ‘Greek Surprise’.

Div. 11 **1st** *M. Kerr* ‘Gabriel Kleiberg’.

AOD **1st** *R. Mc Caw* ‘Cantible’, **2nd** *D. Pinkerton*
‘Stratosphere’, **3rd** *G. Wilson* ‘Jingle Bells’.

BEST BLOOMS

Div. 1 *B. Duncan* Sdg. 4243, 1Y-Y.

Div. 2 *B. Duncan* ‘Sheskin’, Best Bloom in Show.

Div. 3 *B. Duncan* Sdg. 3346, 3Y-R Best Seedling in
Show.

Div. 4 *B. Duncan* ‘Greek Surprise’ .

AOD *D. Hardy* Sdg. 3804 5Y-Y .

NIDG LATE SHOW
Sunday 15th. June 2016

This year the Late Show was held at the lovely home of Dave and Jules Hardy near Dromore in County Tyrone. The weather was excellent and both exhibitors and visitors were able to sit outside as well as walking around the well kept and very attractive gardens.

Dave had erected a large marquee to house the show and Brian Duncan had arranged a wonderful display of literally hundreds of daffodils in areas not occupied by the competition benches. Our hosts had a very rewarding show, Jules gaining victory over Dave in the twelve bloom class and Dave winning the bulk of the remaining classes. They did however miss out on the Best Bloom award which went to Terry Haley, his first best bloom award and well merited with a fine bloom of 'Hibernian', 4W-P. Mervyn Wallace ended the year on a good note winning two Best in Division awards as well as picking up many other placings throughout the classes.

All competitors were treated to a wonderful meal and as usual this show made a most fitting social end to the show season. Many thanks to the Hardy family for providing a wonderful venue and for making everyone so welcome.

RESULTS

Twelve Bloom Class

1st *J. Hardy*

'Firebright', 'Lava Flow', 'Rascality', 'Paramour',
'Camilla Clara Kate', 'Jake', 'Airtime', Sdg. 3644 3Y-Y;
Sdg. 3781 2Y-YOO; 'Brassicala', 'Brodict', 'Korora Bay'.

2nd *D. Hardy*

'Paramour' Sdg. 3902 2Y-R, Sdg. 3471 2W-P, Sdg.
3743 2Y-YYO, Sdg. 3781 2Y-YYO, 'Greek Surprise',
'System Alert', Sdg. 3631 2W-P, 'Astrids Memory',
'Firebright', 'Airtime', 'Disquiet'.

Five Bloom Single Vase Class

1st *D. Hardy* 'Greek Surprise'. **2nd** *D. Hardy* 'Astrids Memory'.

Three Bloom Classes

2W **1st** *D. Hardy* 'Camaraderie'. **2nd** *D. Hardy* 'Soprano'.
3rd *T Haley* 'Lake District'.

3Y **1st** *D. Hardy* 3Y-GYR.

3W **1st** *D. Hardy* 'Astrids Memory'. **2nd** *D. Hardy* 'Signet Ring'. **3rd** *D. Hardy* 'Silver Shadow'.

Div.4 **1st** *D. Hardy* 'Brssicala'.

AOD **1st** *D. Hardy* 'Meaney'. **2nd** *D. Hardy*. 'Ladies Choice',

3rd *D. Hardy* 'Elizabeth Ann'.

Single Blooms

- 1Y** 1st *M. Wallace* 'Chobe River'. 2nd *D. Hardy* 'Disquiet'.
1W 1st *M. Wallace* 'Kaka Point'.
2Y 1st *D. Hardy*, 'Firebright'. 2nd *D. Hardy* 'Rascality'.
3rd *M. Wallace* 'Bouzouki'.
2W 1st *G. Wilson* 'Soft Focus'. 2nd *M. Wallace* unknown 2W-P.
3rd *G. Wilson* 'Soft Focus'.
3W 1st *D. Hardy* 'Busselton'. 2nd *D. Hardy* 'Dr. Hugh'.
3rd *D. Hardy* 'Busselton'.
Div.4 1st *T. Haley* 'Hibernian'. 2nd *D. Hardy* 'Greek Surprise'.
3rd *D. Hardy* 'Greek Surprise'.
Div.7/8 1st *D. Hardy* 'Ladies Choice'. 2nd *D. Hardy* 'Twinkle Gold'. 3rd *D. Hardy* N. burdeos.
Div.9 1st *D. Hardy* 'Heaney'. 2nd *G. Wilson* 'Braid Song'.
Div.11 1st *M. Wallace* 'Drama Queen'. 2nd *M. Wallace* 'Drama Queen'. 3rd *D. Hardy* 'Jodi'.
Rimmed 1st *M. Wallace* 'Burning Ring'.
Miniature 1st *D. Hardy* 'Sun Disc'. 2nd *D. Hardy* Sdg. 13/01 7W-YPP.

BEST BLOOMS

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Div. 1 | <i>M. Wallace</i> | 'Kaka Point'. |
| Div. 4 | <i>T. Haley</i> | 'Hibernian', Best Bloom in Show. |
| Div.11 | <i>M. Wallace</i> | 'Drama Queen'. |
| AOD | <i>D. Hardy</i> | 'Heaney'. |

DAVE VIVASH

Derrick Turbitt

On the 8th September four of our members (Brian & Betty Duncan, Terry Haley and Derrick Turbitt) made a trip to Burgess Hill in England to honour a friend of the NIDG. Dave Vivash has travelled to N Ireland many times to judge at Belfast and Omagh. His jovial character and corny jokes have made him a favourite at our spring daffodil shows over the years.

This was a double celebration as it was also Dave's 80th birthday. Dave's daughter, Kim had organised a meal in the Beefeaters restaurant in Burgess Hill. We were joined by Dave, Kim and four of Dave's friends. During the proceedings Brian told us of

Dave's many trips to N Ireland and his involvement with the NIDG.

Dave was made an honorary life member and presented with an engraved glass plaque. After a pleasant meal Dave received not one but two birthday cakes both decorated with very lifelike daffodils.

The 'crack 'continued until the restaurant staff dimmed the lights and put on their coats, indicating that it was time for us to go. We would like to thank both Dave and Kim for their hospitality and hope Dave will enjoy many more trips to see our daffodils.



Daffodils in Portugal - February 2015

Brian Duncan

Travelling to Portugal in February to find and photograph daffodils in the wild can be a bit of a lottery - especially if heading for the Serra da Estrela where on two previous occasions I was frustrated by heavy snow cover.

Last year in the third week of February our little international party comprised of Juan Andres Varas Braun (Chile), Janis Ruksans (Latvia), Jan Pennings (Holland), Sally Kington (England) and yours truly from Ireland.

For part of the trip we were joined by two Past Presidents of the American Daffodil Society, the intrepid Kathy Andersen, making her 30th plus visit to Iberia, her niece Kathy Welsh and their friend Susanne Worsham. We could not have been luckier in that many species were in peak flower and of easy access.

What follows is a simple pictorial guide to what species may be found in Portugal at this time. To me the thrill of seeing wild species in all their beauty, growing in their natural habitats equates to finding an especially good or novel daffodil amongst the seedling beds at home – two excitements at extreme ends of the spectrum of daffodil enthusiasm!

***N. bulbocodium* sp. - Sa. da Arrabida**

This is a well-known site for *N. bulbocodium* *subsp. obovatus* that tends to have slightly waxy prostrate foliage and coronas more or less inflated at the mouth.



Despite careful examination and photographing of many specimens it seemed impossible to make clear distinctions because separate populations noted, as we climbed the hill, had intermediate forms *N. bulbocodium* sp. Sa. da Arrabida.

At lower levels west of Setubal there were colonies with very fine upright leaves resembling *N. bulbocodium* *var. tenuifolius*. These were mainly found in grassy roadside slopes in contrast to more typical *N. b. obovatus* found in arid, bare gravelly habitats – even growing out of tarmac roadsides.

leaning towards either type. DNA studies will probably proclaim that all are the same species despite morphological differences .

N. triandrus - near Portalegre

There is a wonderful population of *N. triandrus* at this site that is more variable than any other I have seen. Flowers range from almost pure white to deep yellow with intermediate shades in between those extremes. Botanically I imagine they would all be classified as *N. triandrus subsp. pallidulus* but the deep yellows would not be out of place in a population of *N. triandrus subsp. lusitanicus*. (formerly known as n. tri. concolor.)



N. triandrus
subsp.
pallidulus



N. triandrus subsp. lusitanicus



N. triandrus subsp. pallidulus in habitat

***N. portensis* or *N. confusus*. – Pico sao Mamede**

At this site there is a population of small golden yellow trumpet daffodils. In a fairly recent published paper they were described as the long lost *N. portensis* and this sent me searching for it. At the site there was an engraved plaque for public viewing that named the daffodil as *N. confusus*.

The controversy is ongoing but whatever the true identity I think it has several distinct features – an unusual green veined spathe, a long pedicel (usually) and extremely plicate leaves. All flowers are deep golden yellow whereas populations of *N.confusus* are very variable, with many bi-colours. In the absence of nomenclatural confirmation I have nicknamed it *N. mamedensis!* Such non-validated naming will horrify botanists



***N. triandrus* subsp. *lusitanicus* (syn. *concolor*) - Vila Velha**

All *N. triandrus* flowers growing on a steep roadside bank at this site are deep golden yellow and clearly identified as subsp. *lusitanicus* or *concolor*..

They are amongst my favourite species and are good fertile breeders - alas they are notoriously difficult to keep for any length of

time in the garden.



Driving back to the Serra da Estrela Janis Ruksans ~~think he is somewhat~~ somnolent silence by suddenly shouting “ Stop the car” He alone had spotted in the headlights a little yellow cluster by the roadside. Stop we did - and found this pictured clump and several little clumps of this delightfully flanged and fringed form of *N. asturiensis*. We had expected to find this species much earlier in the day but at higher altitudes it had not yet opened and we had resigned ourselves to disappointment.

Congratulations to the hawk-eyed Janis on two counts – firstly on being alert enough to spot the flowers and secondly for achieving such an attractive photograph in the almost pitch dark.



N. asturiensis

N. scaberulus - Ribamondego

This is another favourite species and may be the smallest of all daffodils. It grows on shallow shelves of gritty gravel, mostly on top of rocks so the bulbs must get a proper scorching in summer. It is very free flowering and makes delightful little clumps.

The picture shows two clones side by side, obviously originating from seeds. Botanists often use upright or prostrate leaves as defining characteristics for species. The picture clearly illustrates that this is not always a reliable means of identification.



I hear rumours that *N. scaberulus* may be lumped with the very similar but slightly larger *N. calcicola*. On morphological grounds I think alpine gardeners will want to have the names retained regardless of DNA studies.

N. cyclamineus - Alcofra, Central Portugal & Galicia, Spain

It was once commonly said and written that *N. cyclamineus* may be almost extinct in the wild. Perhaps growing only in some private parks in Portugal. If an accepted authority makes such a suggestion it is often accepted as factual. However, *N. cyclamineus* is common in Galicia but was seldom seen by enthusiasts because cold wet Galicia is not a popular place to visit in February.

Alcofra in central Portugal is the most southerly *N. cyclamineus* location with which I am familiar. The flowers here are typical of the originally described and illustrated forms of the

species with waisted trumpets that are widely flanged and generously toothed – often with 18 teeth as observed by EA Bowles. Specimens from Galicia generally have very straight ‘stove-pipe trumpets and are so distinct that I think they deserve some botanical recognition on morphological grounds – eg. *N. cyclamineus* var. *galiciensis*.



N. cyclamineus Intermediate forms – Insalde, N. Portugal

N. cyclamineus Galician form distinct forms in *N. cyclamineus* Aledo ~~Alcova~~ there might be intermediate forms somewhere in between Alcova and Galicia. This was based on John Blanchard’s theory that the characteristics of species could change depending on habitat, altitude (*N. nobilis*), latitude (*N. asturiensis*) or in this case longitude (*N. cyclamineus*).
Traditional form

After an extensive search in 2010, along with James and Wendy Akers and Sally Kington we found a population by a riverside at Insalde just as the light was fading. As the picture shows this contained many intermediate forms and seemed to confirm the Blanchard theory. This, of course, complicates, even negates my suggestion about giving the typical Galician form a separate varieta

my suggestion about giving the typical Galician form a separate varietal name – what do we call those that fall in the middle?

Such are the joys and challenges of studying wild daffodils in their natural habitats.



All Photographs in this article: Janis Ruksans and Brian Duncan

RUBY ANNIVERSARY TRIP TO HOLLAND

Terry Haley & Dave Hardy

The trip got off to a great start with an exhibition, organised especially for the NIDG, by Cees Breed and his son Eric and this was followed by a visit to his home and garden. The party was then taken to see Sjaak de Groot's well organised Nursery.

Wednesday was a complete contrast, although probably the highlight of the trip. It was a visit to Keukenhof Gardens which is just a short journey from Amsterdam. On arrival we were met by Jan Pennings,

who personally escorted the party through the Gardens to the Orange Nassau Pavilion and into a private VIP Lounge.



After light refreshments, made by his wife Ans, Jan gave a personal introduction and presentation on the background and current formation of the grounds in Keukenhof. Key features of the presentation included facts that some 7 million bulbs are planted each year by over 100 different companies and that there has been a steady increase in visitor numbers each year to currently over 1 million. Given that this is during an 8 week span in the spring it is quite an accomplishment. The rest of the day was spent exploring the gardens in small groups with many photos being taken.

Wednesday evening saw the celebrations turn to food and drink as we had our Anniversary trip dinner - No expense was spared and all members enjoyed fantastic food, drink and craic. During the evening it was Terry's honour to bestow honorary life membership to Jan in recognition of all the help and support he has provided our group over the years. We were also joined at the dinner by Hein and Corrine

Meeuwissen, Cees and Eric Breed, Sjaak de Groot, Carlos van der Veeke and Johan van Shapen.



Johan, who is the head of the KAVB, gave an informative talk about his role and that of the KAVB.

On Thursday we began the day with a visit to Hein Meeuwissen's fields. Hein is a specialty grower of dwarf narcissus and species tulips. His collection includes miniatures appropriate for the early indoor forcing or outdoors in the rock garden, borders and any garden that craves a unique accent. They also grow many heirloom varieties with strong naturalizing quality for years of beauty. Hein grows more than 500 species at his nursery in Voorhout. He grows a range of botanical daffodils and tulips, and some of these special bulbs are hundreds of years old. A lovely surprise whilst we were exploring the collection at Hein's was the arrival of Theo Sanders from Germany. He had driven over that morning to see everyone and NIDG members enjoyed chatting with him about his breeding research.

After everyone purchased lots of bulbs we headed the short distance to Hobaho. Hobaho B.V. provides services in the floriculture and horticulture sector. It offers intermediary services, as well as guidance and advice to customers involved in the professional production, trading, and export of flower bulbs, tubers, and ornamental plants. We enjoyed our tour around the glass houses and many of us were shocked by the technical aspects in testing and breeding new and more traditional daffodils and tulips. The staff at Hobaho also provided some delicious soup and sandwiches that went down very well.

In the afternoon we visited Leenan's during which we had the opportunity to look around their flower cutting houses and at the flowers in their fields.

The final evening of the trip was a lot more relaxed. Most members were tired and after a very tasty meal in the hotel restaurant most enjoyed a few drinks in the bar with suggestions already being made for the organising of the 'next' trip.

Introduction to History and Development of Irish daffodils

George Wilson

We who are members of the NIDG are following a long tradition of daffodil growing in Ireland and following in the footsteps of many dedicated and skilful growers. This wonderfully researched article by Brian Duncan gives an insight into the lives and

accomplishments of these men and women dating back to 1836. For obvious reasons Brian does not include his own outstanding contribution or mention his successes which span a period well in excess of fifty years. During this time he has achieved too many prestigious awards to list here but among the principal awards are;

The Gold Medal of The American Daffodil Society	1986
The Peter Barr Memorial Cup	1987
Dix Medal of The Dutch growers Association	2008

While these awards are the most prestigious to be gained in the daffodil world undoubtedly Brian's proudest moment came in the year 2000 with the awarding of Medal of the British Empire (MBE) for services to horticulture and for his service on the Daffodil and Tulip Committee of the R.H.S.

Brian has won The RHS Engleheart trophy on twenty occasions and has registered scores of top quality daffodils across virtually all divisions. Many of his registrations such as 'Dorchester', 'Queens Guard' and 'Doctor Hugh' have been with us for years and are still widely grown and exhibited as well as his newest cultivars which now include miniatures. His dedication and expertise in this new field is such that he has won both the major trophies for miniature daffodils every year since 2007! Therefore to say Brian is well qualified to write about the history and development of daffodils in Ireland is to say the least an understatement!

As well as those featured in the following article there is currently a strong contingent of NIDG members who carry on the well established traditions of breeding daffodils both commercially and on an amateur basis. Among this enthusiastic and accomplished group are Nial Watson, Richard McCaw, Derrick Turbitt, Maurice Kerr and they are to be joined in the near future by Dave Hardy. Dave has recently launched Esker Farm Daffodils having taken over from Ringhaddy Daffodils as the only supplier in Northern Ireland of daffodils for competition. The tradition of daffodil growing in Ireland is long established and happily it looks set to continue for the foreseeable future.

History and Development of Daffodils in Ireland.

Brian Duncan

The People involved

In the beginning:-

Wm. Baylor Hartland 1836-1912 Ard Cairn, Cork; Temple Hill, Cork and 24 Patrick Street, Cork

RHS Daffodil Committee from about 1885 — almost if not quite a founder member.?

Grandfather came from Kew Botanic Gardens to Ireland. Established nursery at Belview, Mallow In 1774. His father relocated to Cork in 1810. Brother Henry Albert a well known artist. Wm.Baylor was the original influence for Daffodil interest in Ireland! He started collecting around 1880. One he named 'Bishop Mann' — was apparently planted 150 previously in the Dioceses of St Finbars now a suburb of Cork.

1885 'y Original Little Booke of Daffodils — Temple Hill, Cork. The FIRST devoted to Daffodils - well - almost. 130+ varieties + a few primulas!

He was largely a collector rather than a breeder, searched throughout Ireland for different daffodils to many of which he liberally applied Latin names and descriptions which did not always meet with the approval of the establishment.

A gross understatement!! G.H. Engleheart - Quote extracts from The Garden Oct. 1886. Bowles said nothing unkind in his Book 'the Narcissus' - he just ignored him!

J. T. Bennett-Poe VMH 1846 — 1926

Riverston, Nenagh, Co Tipperary to Cheshunt, England

RHS Daffodil Committee — 1889 - 1926. Chairman 1898 — 1902. Founder Vice-president of The Midland Daffodil Society.

Not a hybridist but a keen collector, cultivator, exhibitor and judge at RHS, Cork, Scarborough, and Birmingham. A regular contributor to The Garden.

My eminent predecessor was not as down to earth as most Irishmen. He disclaimed the name 'Garden' preferring 'Refugium plantarum' for his plot in which he cultivated an extraordinary range of good plants. He was a member of a syndicate that bought and distributed some of the best new seedling daffodils at the turn of the century.

F. W. Burbidge VMR 1847 - 1905 Born Wymeswold, Leics.

I hesitate to speak about Burbidge — the 'Revered' One!
RHS Daffodil Committee 1884 - 1905

Self educated by home studies to MA standard. Worked Chiswick, Kew. The Garden. Curator Botanic Gardens — Dublin (Glasnevin?) 1879 - 1905 (for 26 years) Gardener, botanist, author, artist, traveller and plant collector. Adopted by Ireland where he was a great favourite with gardeners everywhere. Author of “The Narcissus” - a wonderful work, copies currently selling at over £600 !!! Anyone got a spare copy? Many references to his work and publications by present day experts writing about gardening in Ireland — EC Nelson. A Brady. E.M. McCracken

Miss Fanny Currey 1847 — 1905 The Warren Gdns. Lismore.

Cat. 1900 with +150 varieties. A collector, breeder who exhibited widely - RHS London; Dublin; Edinburgh; Birmingham. Probably a protégé of W.M. Baylor Hartland and credited as being a catalyst for the interest of both Guy Wilson and Lionel Richardson.

Only 7 Names attributed to her in the Daffodil register.

James Coey 1863 - 1921

William Slinger 1878 - 1961

Both of the Donard Nursery Co.

Breeders of daffodils. 23 Registrations attributed to them. Leslie Slinger, son of William, cultivated shrubs and herbaceous plants in preference to daffodils.

Sir Josslyn Gore-Booth 1869 — 1944 (Commenced Raising Daffodils. 1901) Lissadell Daffodils, Co Sligo.

Catalogues 1906 -1915 - + 180 varieties. Vast fields. Poultry and Butter by post. Seed potatoes, range of farm crops - and even Lady Gore-Booths' School of Needlework. 17 registrations attributed - including 'Mite' 6Y-Y

J.Lionel Richardson 1890—1961 (CRD.1911) 50 years Prospect House, Waterford.

From Ulster Linen family. Born Tramore, Buried Lisburn. Educated Malvern. Unquestionably the most successful raiser of daffodils who ever lived.

Interested in daffodils from an early age and encouraged by Miss Fanny Currey and Sir Fredrick Moore who gifted part of his stock of 'Glorious'.

JLR recognising its value quickly acquired the remaining stock from various sources and sold it to the Dutch — and thereby financed the purchase of the very best varieties for his breeding stud.

1915 — (aged 25) — won Lord Ardihum Cup for 50 varieties and the judge, no less than the great E.A. Bowles lavished great praise and predicted a great future. How well Richardson fulfilled that prediction as he and his flowers dominated the daffodil world for

nearly half a century, gaining a galaxy of awards and honours which is unlikely ever to be surpassed. Awards :-

Engleheart Cup -25(30) Gold Medals for Trade Exhibits —64

FCC. - 20. AM. -71 Dutch Awards 62

1931 — The Peter Barr Memorial Cup

1941 — RHS1 Gold medal of Honour for conspicuous services to horticulture.

1951 - Veitch Memorial Gold Medal

Elected vice —President of RHSI

1961 — Elected Vice-President RHS — to commemorate 50 years raising daffodils.

But these Awards fade to insignificance when we consider the legacy of wonderful daffodils he bred and which those of us who follow have been privileged to enjoy and to use as breeding stock.

His daffodils covered the full range of colours in standard daffodils in Divs. 1 -4 but he will be eternally and especially remembered for introducing :-

- Unprecedented intensity of colour in red cupped and pink cupped daffodils.
- A range of Double daffodils of more pleasing form, novel colours and stout stems.

Almost 20 Richardson cultivars are still grown in Holland totalling more than 30 hectares, about 25 hectares between Salome 8 and Tahiti. 17

Mrs H. K. Richardson 1903 — 1978 (CRD.1961) 17years

Mrs Helen K. Richardson was always by her husband's side helping at the London Shows. When he died, much to the surprise & delight of the daffodil fraternity, she courageously decided to carry on the business as usual with the help of the amazing Jack Goldsmith, head gardener, hybridist and daffodil Manager. The progressive lines of breeding continued and the records maintained as meticulously as ever.

How glad I was that she did.! I had just missed out on meeting her husband, my interest only being aroused in 1963. My First visit to 'MECCA' was in 1964. What an experience! Perfection abounded round every corner! The regimental polished layout of the beds, the architectural tidiness of the windbreaks and shelters, the precision of the removable green shade cloths, the individual staking of flowers in their rows to avoid abrasion damage, even within their hessian enclaves.

And then there were the flowers !! Ah me !!! Were they really, Really , REALLY real? I had been showing the symptoms of

‘Yellow fever’ - from this moment the diagnosis was “confirmed, incurable” and the prognosis “a life sentence of obsessive interest, irrational behaviour and compulsive urge to grow, exhibit, seek in the wild, study, and photograph daffodils at every opportunity”.

What a privilege it was to get to know Mrs Richardson — a very gracious lady and loyal if on your side. Alas, she could write a letter ‘that would take paint off a door’ if provoked by a complaint she thought unjustified.

I counted Mrs Richardson a good friend and had the privilege of travelling to American Conventions with her on several occasions and being hosted in the same enthusiasts residences. She was a good conversationalist with a sparky sense of humour — I learnt much on those trips.

Awards :-

1960 — The Peter Barr Memorial Cup

1977 — The Gold Medal of the American Daffodil Society

Jack Goldsmith 1908 - 1987

Member of the RHS Daffodil Committee from 1967 1978

But the Richardson story would not be complete without mention of Jack Goldsmith, 2nd generation Head gardener at Prospect House. He was a wonderful man with a great eye for a flower — he it was who largely decided what crosses to make and preached that ‘you always have to have an object in your mind’s eye’ How right.!

On one of the American trips Mrs Richardson asked me if I would accompany Jack - well what an opportunity and what a pleasure it turned out to be by the masters side for 3 weeks. We had a laugh a minute and became firm friends — and I learned a lot! Awards :-
1964 — The Peter Barr Memorial Cup

In total the House of Richardson contributed 835 names to the RHS Register. If that were told to Jack he would scoff— humph — about 800 too many!!!

Guy L. Wilson MAgr. VMH. 1885 — 1962 (CRD 1906)

56 years Knowehead, later The Knockan at Broughshane, Co Antrim

RHS Daffodil Committee 1918 - 1961

Guy Wilson was another child devotee who picked up interest from bulbs his mother had planted in the garden, probably from Wm. Baylor Hartland whose catalogue the young Guy was reputed to study avidly. He used to write home from school seeking reports on how certain varieties were progressing.

Guy Wilson was known as The Great White Chief of the daffodil

world because one of his great ambitions was to create top quality white daffodils. That he succeeded is evidenced by such famous flowers as the massive ‘Kanchenjunga’, refined, classical ‘Cantatrice’, the virginal white ‘Vigil’, the big bruiser ‘Broughshane’, the refined and rolled cup ‘Rashee’ and culminating with what he regarded as his masterpiece ‘Empress of Ireland’. These last two crossed have produced the present day champions.

With their different emphasis Wilson and Richardson maintained a friendly rivalry throughout their almost parallel careers. Wilson’s emphasis on whites and cooler colours (he virtually created the sulphur/greeny types and development initiated the reverse bi-colours which are so popular to-day).

Awards

Engleheart Cup 9 times Bourne Cup 9 times

RHS AM 60 FCC 12

RHS AGM 32 Dutch 63

RHS Gold medals for trade Exhibits - Numerous. Not recorded.

1933 — The Peter Barr Cup

1950 — VMH

1951 MAgr. — Queen’s University.

1956 Guest of Honour at first American Daffodil convention.

In 2006 I was privileged to be the special guest at the 50th Anniversary Convention!

Personality — Perhaps a little quaint, always wore knickerbockers/plus 4’s . Mild mannered, friend to all. Church — Sunday school supervisor, Sunday flowers. Love of classical music.

Fastidious. When roused found a fluidity of language totally out of normal character. So he was quite normal!!!

To my great regret I never had the privilege of meeting Guy Wilson but my interest was stimulated by those who knew him well or worked closely with him. Alan Smith; Sandy McCabe; Tom Bloomer.

In his 56 years - - 631 daffodils raised by him are recorded in the Register.

W.J. Dunlop c.1915 — 1990 (CRD.1937) circa33 years

Dunrobin Bulb Farm, Broughshane.

Member of Daffodil Committee — 1949 - 1972

Founder chairman of the NIDG — when Guy L Wilson Memorial Garden was set up.

A penchant for plants and an outdoor life rather than his father’s drapers shop led Willy Dunlop towards daffodils. Encouraged by Guy Wilson whom he visited often (only 3 miles away) he started as

an amateur collector and exhibitor — and ‘swept the boards’ locally.

He then bought a farm in Broughshane and started a daffodil nursery. As a one man operation this was difficult and he found himself between two stools — he wanted to be a supplier of specialist bulbs but had to sell cut flowers for the sake of the business. A very tall man of not very strong constitution this heavy work-load eventually effected his health.

What more might he have achieved had fortune been kinder? Nevertheless he was highly regarded and raised some lovely daffodils. His ‘Newcastle’ was the highest regarded Bi-colour trumpet for many years and was Best Bloom in London in 1962 and his ‘Pink Smiles’ and ‘Wedding Bell’ are still grown in quantity in Holland.

Awards:- AM 2 AGM 4 Dutch I
1961 Peter Barr Memorial Cup
132 registrations attributed.

Tom Bloomer 1905 — 1989 (CRD.1950) c.25 years

Rathowen, Ballymena

My mentor, guide and friend -I could talk him about him all night. First meeting — Tea before Omagh Hort Soc. Meeting April 1963 Apprehensive and nervous because of his exalted reputation and achievements.

Rolled up in snazzy Red sports Masseratti — out stepped tall, immaculately dressed silver haired, modest and friendly gentleman I came to know so well. I need have had no fear!

Business in Ballymena; 2 1/2 acre garden. Planted daffodils — acquired from Guy Wilson who lived nearby. A friend suggested he take some to support the local show. He won prizes and with GLW help started improving his collection and learning all he could. He became unbeatable in Northern Ireland and then concentrated on hybridising and exhibiting in London where he became the first to carry away the top Amateur Award in three successive seasons.

He then produced a Rathowen Daffodils Catalogue but health quickly intervened and he sold out to Clarke Campbell and myself. We took over all his seedlings and ran Rathowen Daffodils from 1973-1988 in Omagh. This suited Tom, he visited regularly and could keep an eye on his daffodil children and check that they were in good hands.

Rathowen won many Gold medals In London for Trade exhibits including the Coveted Williams Medal on two occasions.I have no record of and have forgotten the awards tally for Bloomer flowers,

there were quite a few but we were not as active as we might have been in presenting cultivars to the Daffodil Committee.

Tom Bloomer raised daffodils in all of Divs. 1-3 but will be especially remembered for his white trumpets 'Silent Valley' and 'White Star'.

The register records 172 names attributed to Tom Bloomer but I know he had a habit of submitting a batch of names and applying the flowers to the names later — and many names never did get a flower. Not a good practice — it already adds to the lengthy register and wastes names,.

Awards :- 1985 — The Peter Barr Memorial Cup

1988 — The Gold Medal of the American Daffodil Society.

Sir Frank Harrison 1910 - 2000 (CRD.1945) c. 50 years

Ballydorn Bulb Farm, Killinchy, Co Down

Returning from 2nd world War then Major later Sir Frank Harrison sought advice and stocks of bulbs from both Guy Wilson and Lionel Richardson and established Ballydorn cut flower trade. Frank and Patricia were both busy lawyers but they enjoyed the daffodils as part of their 100 acre farm enterprise. Initially hybridising was aimed at producing good 'cut flowers' but as they got involved in shows interests developed towards more refined blooms and especially poeticus types with green eyes. Ballydorn exhibited with some success in London, sometimes in conjunction with Carncairn Daffodils of Broughshane.

Awards :- 1993 - The Gold Medal of the American Daffodil Society

1998 — The Peter Barr Memorial Cup

The daffodil register attributes 204 cultivars to Ballydorn.

Kate Reade 1923 - (CRD.1957) c. 45 years

Carncairn Daffodils, Broughshane, Co Antrim

Of a cheerful, bubbly and positive personality Kate has displayed a joyful enthusiasm throughout the daffodil fraternity, whether at home, at the London shows or at American Conventions. Alas, she is no longer able to travel and the business has recently folded, after a short spell of being run by the Village Community Committee.

Yet another of the satellite Daffodil enterprise that grew up around and through the influence of Guy Wilson — and all because of a £1 purchase! Bulbs increased under the supervision of a gardener who had previously worked for Guy Wilson and in 1956 it was decided to start selling bulbs. Hybridising began immediately with the help of John Pearson (now Hofflands Bulbs) who had also been with Guy Wilson.

Carncairn exhibited with some success in London and at American

Daffodil Society Conventions. Perhaps the most successful cultivars have been 'Gin and lime', 'Foundling' and 'Bailey'
Awards — 1990 — The Peter Barr Memorial Cup
1992 — The Gold Medal of the American Daffodil Society
194 Registrations attributed to Carncairn.

Conclusions from above information (if any may be drawn?)

Daffodil breeders all seem to live a long time

They are all eternal optimists.

They all have an all embracing! engrossing lifetime obsession.

They all tend "to think their geese are swans" and name far too many varieties.

Only very few of their varieties survive in popularity for more than a few years.

Daffodil breeders children seldom follow their parent as hybridists.

They all leave Narcissus genetic material behind as stepping stones for future generations.

They were all mal-contented — never happy with "as is", constantly seeking to improve!

None of them become millionaires through daffodil breeding.

Lessons to be learned from reviewing their work :-

THE PERFECTION OF TODAY IS THE MEDIOCRITY OF TOMORROW.

THERE IS STILL MUCH WORK TO BE DONE.

- **Sun resistant colours**
- **Disease resistance**
- **Colour range and vigour in Miniatures**
- **Better range of pot plants**
- **Added fragrance in standard daffodils**
- **White/ Red Trumpets**
- **Revision of the Taxonomy of the Genus (last in 1831)**

Hi.

My name is Logan Belshaw. I am 6 years old. I went to my first daffodil show when I was 10 months old. Nanny and Granda took me to Alnwick in England.

When I was 2 I helped Granda dig his polly tunnel and he helped me plant my bulbs. I have been to all the daffodil shows since then showing my flowers. I have won cups at many N.Ireland shows.

I even won a cup last year that my Great Granda (Sam Jordan) and my Granda (Philip Wallace) won many years ago.

Last year I was a very lucky boy when Nanny and Granda took me to New Zealand to visit daffodil shows. There I met Peter Ramsey, Robin Hill, Denise McQuarry, John Hunter, Mike Smith and lots of other breeders. We went to visit John and Roi Speed; the Nanny and Granda of Emily Speed who is a NIDG member.

Visiting New Zealand has given me the chance to make new friends.