

p37



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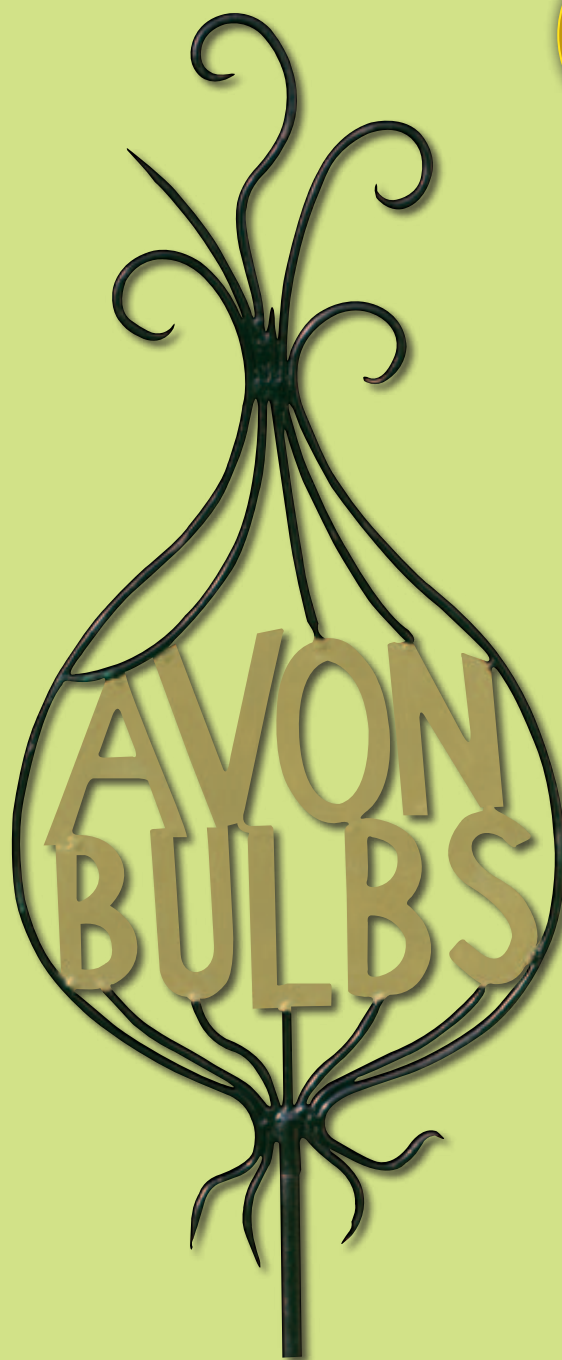
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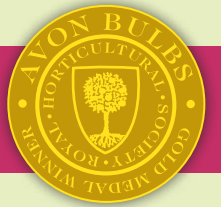
p34



Mail Order Catalogue **Spring 2016**

PLANTS AND BULBS  
TO FLOWER IN THE SUMMER  
AND SNOWDROPS

[www.avonbulbs.co.uk](http://www.avonbulbs.co.uk)



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28 Gold Medals at Chelsea in 29 years

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EMAIL:

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TEL:

01460 242177

01460 249060

Burnt House Farm  
Mid Lambrook  
South Petherton  
Somerset  
TA13 5HE

## WELCOME TO THE AVON BULBS SPRING CATALOGUE 2016

This time last year I wrote about having to say goodbye to three long standing members of staff (28 years between them) but a year on there is an opportunity (below) to introduce the two full time replacements (who some of you will already have met at flower shows or possibly on the nursery).

We were unsuccessful in finding an apprentice to fill the third position and we currently seem to be managing with part time help, but if you know of a budding horticulturalist looking to find meaningful employment in rural Somerset, we might be interested!

We have also decided to invest in a new Website and (because they are so intricately linked) a new Mail Order Software program for the office. This quite a daunting undertaking, but progress is being made daily and no huge obstacles have yet appeared to thwart us. From the viewpoint of our customers I hope that the transfer will be seamless and that some of the niggles experienced by some when they reach the paypage on the old website disappear, and we expect there to be lots of benefits such as:

The site will be responsive to the connection that you use – be that a pc, tablet or phone.

More images will be available – just as soon as I have taken some more to illustrate all the plants!

You will be able to buy and redeem Gift vouchers online.

We will be able to offer end of season discounts without us needing to resort to refunds and for us, adjustments to orders should be much simpler to manage.

CHRIS IRELAND JONES



### RHS Perfect for Pollinators.

The RHS Perfect for Pollinators mark is only given to plants that support pollinating insects in gardens. Bees, butterflies, moths, hoverflies and many others visit flowers to feed on nectar and pollen; while doing so they transfer pollen and increase seed set and fruit development. Find out more at [rhs.org.uk/plants](http://rhs.org.uk/plants)



**Micky**

Darryl was a management trainee at Winchester Growers in Lincolnshire after studying for a degree at Reading and an MSc at UEA. He is particularly keen on orchids although Alan is converting him to Snowdrops and he will be getting married in 2016.

## New team members

Micky has worked in many gardens and for several big organisations from the National Trust at Hestercombe, Castle Drogo and Killerton to Gigha in the Scottish Isles so comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience.



**Darryl**

## Snowdrop Pots

We recycle and reuse the pots in which some of the snowdrops have been grown, but we do get asked for pots by keen Galanthophiles who might be growing their own snowdrops to sell or give away. We try not to encourage the growing of snowdrops in pots long term, but of all the pots we have used over the years these seem the most suitable for single snowdrop bulbs. They are 9cm square and 12.5cm deep with good drainage holes and of a robust construction and only available in black!

We are advised of a manufacturing delay as the catalogue is written, but have been assured that supplies will be available in Jan 2016.

Sent with any order they will not incur additional postage charges, sent alone please allow £3.00

**668-01 Snowdrop Pots £2.00 for 10**



## Sign Up to our Newsletter

We send out a newsletter once a month (no more!) alerting you to any events we might be attending or awards we might have won, sales at the nursery, seasonal special offers on the website, comments on items in the gardening press, hints and tips which we hope might be useful. All you need to do is register your email address on the website, and you can unsubscribe at any time.



## Maxiflex Gardening Gloves

More and more people now garden in gloves. These are hard wearing and comfortable gardening gloves that still allow you to feel what you are doing but most importantly one's hands do not sweat inside them. Washable (inside out in a cool wash). The Medium size fits nearly everyone here, though a Small size is offered too. Include these with an order for £4.50 each (sent on their own please add £3.00 postage).

669 - 01 Maxiflex gloves (Medium) £4.50  
669 - 02 Maxiflex gloves (Small) £4.50



**Glove sizing:** If unsure this is a guide – finger to wrist, or right round the palm, whichever the larger measure – under 8" we think the Small (7) size is likely to fit best, over 8" our Medium (10) may be better.



Plants we list which have received the **RHS Commendation 'Award of Garden Merit'** are now tagged with the trophy symbol. Space does not allow us to add the hardiness rating – please be aware the award applies to the ease of cultivation, excellence and constitution, but not necessarily hardiness.



ATKINSII

All those who look on themselves as being collectors of Snowdrops had to start somewhere in order to learn to recognise the differences between all the many forms of snowdrops, and just as importantly, to find out how they grow in the garden, what they like and what they don't like. Some gardeners (and gardens) grow snowdrops easily, others find it more of a trial. Experiment first on the less expensive snowdrops! There are some very good snowdrops that are distinct, vigorous and less costly - where getting a collection together could be more affordable before you catch the bug and have to spend more on any 'Extra Special' snowdrops. We do not stock the ordinary single or double snowdrops, but we can recommend Cambo Estates near St Andrews as a good source of these 'in the green'. Telephone them on 01333 450054 for details.

The number in brackets at the end of most entries refers to the entry for the same snowdrop in

'Snowdrops' by Bishop, Davis and Grimshaw, the index in the early editions was difficult to use.

## FOUNDATION SNOWDROPS

These first pages are filled by the snowdrops that we think that beginners should start with but include ones that even experienced snowdroppers cannot have enough of.

All the 'foundation snowdrops' are supplied as fresh dug plants, they have not been grown in pots and are supplied 'in the green' (which means having been dug in growth, possibly still in flower, packed and posted rapidly with the roots protected in coir in a plastic bag, indicated by the Trowel symbol). They will need replanting in the ground soon after their arrival. You will receive planting instructions and a guide to the basics with your order.

☛ = Dug plants



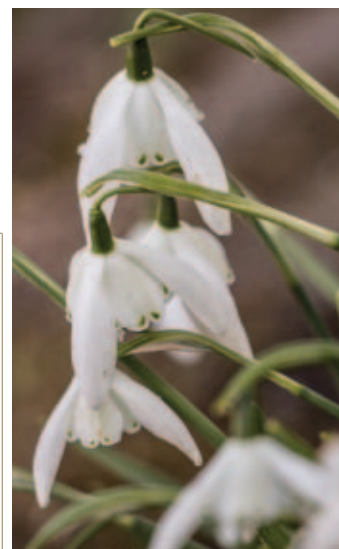
ATKINSII



BLEWBURY TART



ELWESII MONOSTICTUS



LADY BEATRIX STANLEY

### ATKINSII ☛ 22-09

Its exact origin may be something of a mystery, but this is one of the first hybrid forms, still one of the finest and best garden-worthy snowdrops - it is sterile and very vigorous with elegant long outer segments. ☛ (225)  
**£12.00 for 3**

### BLEWBURY TART 22-18

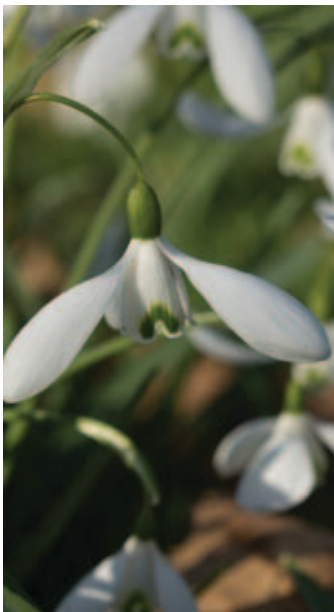
Found as a single clump, an oddity amongst other single and double G. nivalis, in Blewbury churchyard, this sterile form opens nearly flat revealing nearly all green inners. ☛ (120)  
**£7.00 or £20.00 for 3**

### ELWESII MONOSTICTUS 22-21

This is a wonderful, easy and vigorous single marked G. elwesii which might seed interesting hybrids if grown near other types. Pale vigorous leaves. ☛ (35)  
**£5.00**

### LADY BEATRIX STANLEY ☛ 22-25

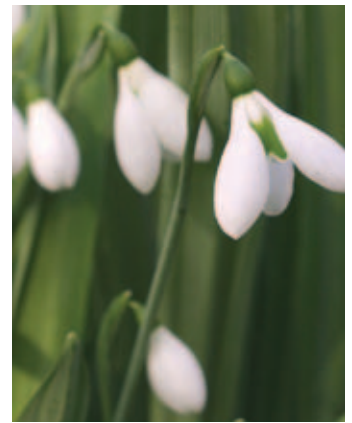
Circulated in the 1950s under a different name this was officially renamed by Richard Nutt in 1981. A neat double flower seemingly in the grip of the longer fang-like outer petals. Smaller statured but increasing when left alone. ☛ (296)  
**£6.00 or £16.00 for 3**



MAGNET



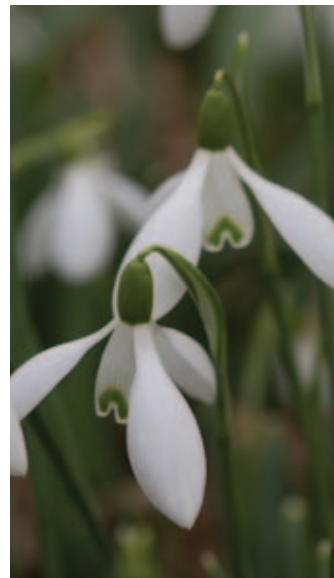
RIZEHENSIS



PLICATUS



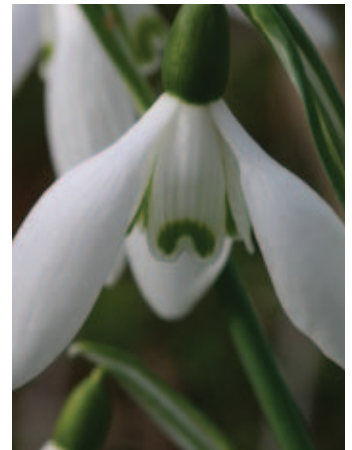
LADY ELPHINSTONE



MELVILLEI (OF HORT)



S. ARNOTT



STRAFFAN



VIRIDAPICE

### LADY ELPHINSTONE

22-26

One of the Golden Oldies and so far, the only readily available double yellow snowdrop. Since its discovery in Cheshire in the 1890s it is still a shock to lift the flower and see the wonderful glowing yellow markings – but some years are better than others, may need time to settle. ←

£20.00 for 2

(116)

### MAGNET

22-27

An instantly iconic snowdrop. The distinctive feature being the long pedicel (the spur holding the flower to the stem) which allows the flower to dangle and sway with great grace. This has to be one of the best snowdrops of all, pretty, mobile and increasing readily from offsets but setting no viable seed. ←

£6.00 or £16.00 for 3

(235)

### MELVILLEI (OF HORT)

22-158

Presumably from Scotland originally to commemorate David Melville, gardener at Dunrobin Castle. This came to us from Richard Nutt, famous for changing the name of a plant from year to year. It is a very early selection with very long ovary, flowering before G. Atkinsii here. Vigorous.. ←

£6.00 or £16.00 for 3

(82)

### PLICATUS

22-46

First described as occurring on the Crimean peninsula in 1808. A very broad-leaved form of the species plant with dainty rounded flowers. It is very vigorous though there are fewer flowers and well suited to spreading through wilder places seeding freely. Bulbs of these are more variable in size and may not have evidence of having flowered. ←

£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

(22)

### RIZEHENSIS

22-38

An early flowering species from northern Turkey where it grows in shade amongst hazel. Often at its best at the end of January it is a dainty snowdrop with matt green leaves showing a faint central stripe. ←

£8.00

(50)

### S. ARNOTT

22-40

The trump card in the Giant Snowdrop Company's list in the 1950s, but still a snowdrop that can infect the innocent with Galanthomania, such is its magic and appeal. Tall, thick petalled, very white, scented and vigorous, a superlative snowdrop. ←

£13.00 for 3

(238)

### STRAFFAN

22-42

Sometimes the best tunes are played on the oldest fiddles, and this reliable, late flowering plant probably from the Crimea first to Ireland then on to England, two stems from the largest bulbs, giving a white carpet en masse. ←

£6.00 or £16.00 for 3

(241)

### VIRIDAPICE

22-44

Found almost a century ago in the north of Holland, old hat maybe but still one of the strongest growing of the green and emerald tipped snowdrops. ←

£6.00 or £16.00 for 3

(108)



## COLLECTOR'S SNOWDROPS

MAGNET

### COLLECTOR'S SNOWDROPS:

The varieties below are nearly all supplied from pots (indicated by the Pot symbol, but if not they will be dug, indicated by the trowel symbol). As they are all grown on the nursery the availability of some of these is limited and orders are taken on a first come first served basis, and if we have to cancel any orders (should the stocks we thought that we had not live up to expectations, this is gardening not engineering) any cancellations start with the last orders to be received. It is however unusual for us to have to cancel orders.

We believe these to be flowering sized bulbs and in many cases there is a big bulb and an offset all counted as one. Whilst these are pot grown, to save on the postage costs the plants are 'knocked out' of pots and sent in plastic bags, but this is much kinder on the roots than when they are being dug.

▼ = Pot grown  
 ⚒ = Dug plants

#### AILWYN 22-146

Found first by Richard Nutt at Anglesey Abbey and named after Lord Fairhaven. One of the few almost perfect doubles with tidily packed petals. Early to flower but long lasting. ▼

£22.00

(296)



AILWYN

#### ALAN'S TREAT 22-107

A lovely poculiform *G. nivalis* from Normandy with boldly splashed outer segments of perfect proportions. The original tiny clump (in 2003) had only three flowering sized bulbs, all given away by the finder, hence the name. We are likely to sell out of these early in 2016 ▼

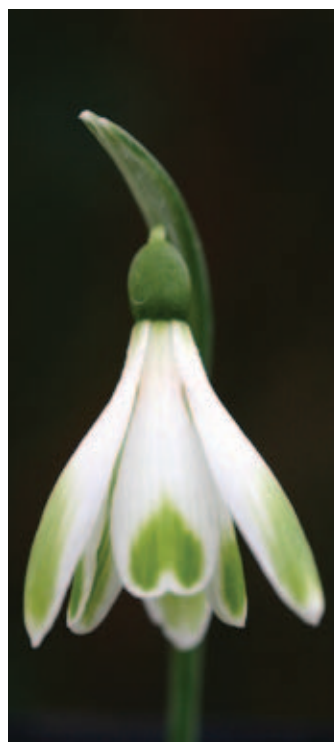
£30.00

#### ALISON HILARY 22-16

Slim outer segments, slightly clawed at the base resulting in an attractively rounded shape, the inner segments are heavily marked at the base in a X or H shape that fades towards the apex. Found at Sutton Court, Herefordshire, the famous Backhouse garden. ▼

£20.00

(248)



ALAN'S TREAT

#### ANGELIQUE 22-47

Introduced from France in 1999 by Mark Brown. Remarkable in its time for its poculiform attributes (6 petals of nearly equal length). A charming find, the name commemorates a young life cut far too short. ▼

£20.00

(100)



ALISON HILARY



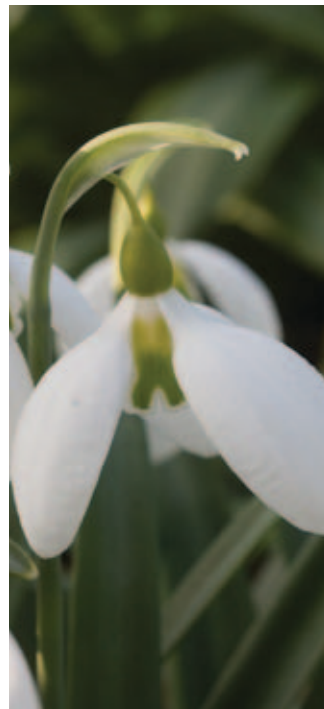
ANGELIQUE



ART NOUVEAU



BIG EYES



BUBBLE



CARYL BARON



BALLERINA



BILL BISHOP



BYFIELD SPECIAL



CLARE BLAKEWAY PHILLIPS

**ART NOUVEAU 22-99**

This lovely form was given to us by the owners of a famous Normandy garden who had rescued it from a nearby wood. The spathes are curved like a shepherd's crook whilst the outer segments, tipped green, are only a little longer than the inners. Increases well. ▼

**BALLERINA 22-237**

Found by Phil Cornish in 1991 at Twigworth, Gloucestershire. A short and very pretty double flowered form, the mature head of petals so full as to form a tutu. Similar in many respects to Mrs Wrightson's Double. ▼

**£18.00** (302)

**BIG EYES 22-222**

A hybrid, originally from a remote seedling swarm of *G. nivalis* X *G. plicatus* in Berkshire. This new form bewitches all who see it with large green 'eyes' on its inner segments. ▼

**£40.00**

**BILL BISHOP 22-19**

An old favourite that we have not listed for some time. Long, heavy outer segments contribute to large flowers which on relatively long pedicels swing close to the ground. ▼

**£10.00** (229)

**BUBBLE 22-205**

A seedling from a swarm of *G. elwesii*, a late flowering hybrid with conspicuous rounded segments of superior quality and when well grown often exhibiting an extra petal or two. ▼

**£40.00**

**BYFIELD SPECIAL 22-12**

Found by Andy Byfield and bulked up by Michael Baron at Brandy Mount, Alresford in the early 1990s. Outer segments inwardly clawed with a bold inner segment mark on a large well proportioned flower. A much better snowdrop than is widely realised. ▼

**£13.00 or £22.00 for 2** (244)

**CARYL BARON 22-220**

A desirable and new green marked seedling found at Avon Bulbs.

The narrow outers are splashed dark green with a dark green inner marking. It is nice that this follows Byfield Special as continues the connection, named as it is after Michael Baron's late wife who was thrilled to be given some when first named. ▼

**£35.00**

**CLARE BLAKEWAY PHILLIPS 22-174**

The leaves are glaucous and fairly flat to the ground, the flowers large with lots of pale green washing over the inner segment, all under an olive green ovary. One of a number of finds made by Richard Blakeway Phillips in the 1970s. ▼

**£15.00 or £40.00 for 3** (249)



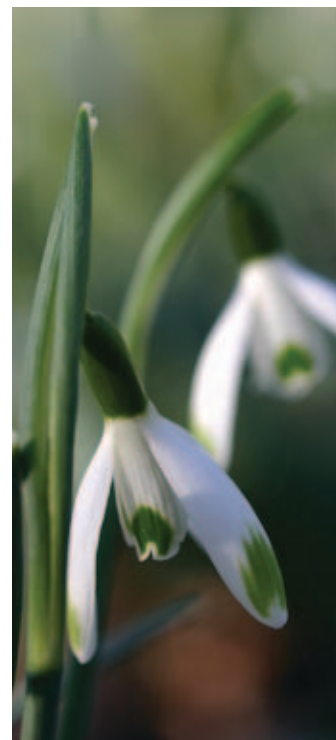
CORNWOOD GEM



DAVID BAKER



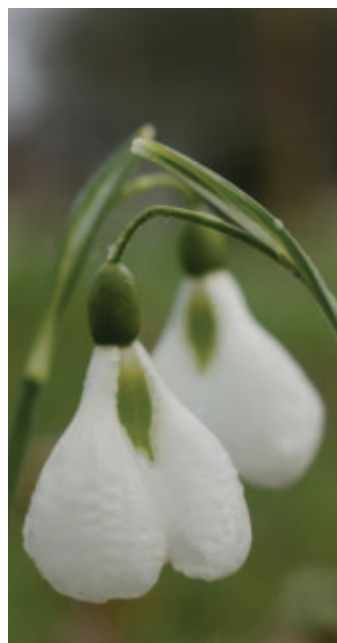
DYMOCK



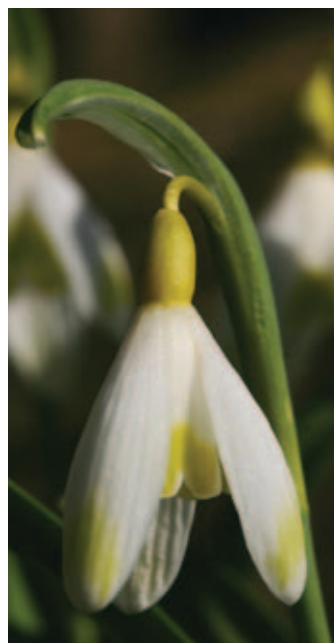
ELFIN



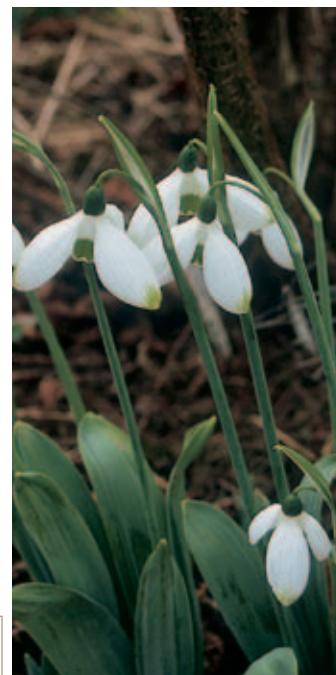
COWHOUSE GREEN



DIGGORY



ECUSSON D'OR



ELWESII GREEN TIPS

### CORNWOOD GEM

22-200

Another oddity from the woodland Mount at Cornwood in Devon – an early rather upright double with dark green ruffled inner segments, quirky but vigorous. Dug plants. **£6.00 or £15.00 for 3**

### COWHOUSE GREEN

22-166

When shown on the legendary 1994 exhibit of David Bromley's these arrived with Mark Brown from his garden in France and at the time was then the most desirable snowdrop to date. Found in Buckinghamshire, this hybrid has a ghostly green glow to its outer segments which captivates all onlookers.

**£25.00**

(276)

### DAVID BAKER

22-255

A snowdrop new to our list, its outer segments flare slightly at the tip so their shape is more pagoda like, the outers are marked with green at the tip when established. Late flowering.

**£22.00**

### DIGGORY

22-161

Found in a population of *G. plicatus* near Wells, Norfolk by Rosie Steele and Richard Hobbs in 1993 and named after Rosie's late son. Instantly recognizable, even from several steps away, distinctly inward curving tips to the outer segments, the effect being quite lantern-like.

**£22.00**

(147)

### DYMOCK

22-248

Found by John Sales in 1997 in Dymock, Gloucestershire and noticeable for its arching and remarkably blue green leaves which some suggest represents hybridisation between *G. elwesii* and *G. ikariae*. The flowers are less unusual with an inner X marking with the base of the X filled in.

**£20.00**

(265)

### ECUSSON D'OR

22-111

A remarkable find by Mark Brown in 2002, sought after for its extremely unusual combination of yellow tips to both inner and outer segments of the flower. Ecusson is a tiny hamlet of four houses in Normandy and the French word for a shield. Delicious pink cider is also sold under the same name in France.

**£40.00**

### ELFIN

22-83

Distinctly upward facing when in bud but quite whilst small flowered, with green tipped outer segments it is a vigorous form increasing quite quickly to make fine clumps. Originally from Phil Cornish.

**£10.00**

(107)

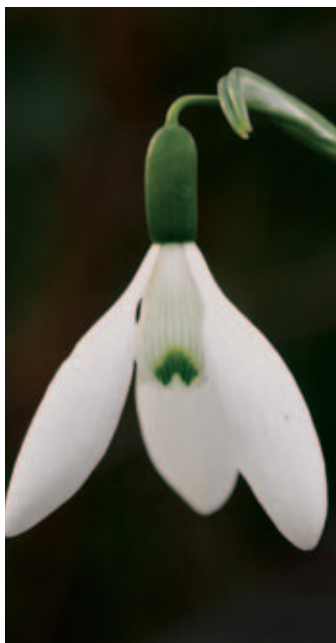
### ELWESII GREEN TIPS

22-07

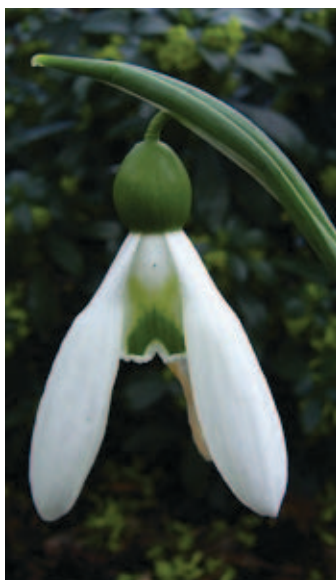
Exhibiting several desirable features that make this a fine snowdrop and demonstrating its superiority, it is tall, early, robust and the broad petals are prettily marked with green.

**£12.00**





EPIPHANY



FLORENCE BAKER

**EPIPHANY** 22-112

An elegant snowdrop originating from David Bromley's Shropshire garden. Long ovary, long outer segments and an early habit, quite often starting to flower in the first week of January. ▼  
£12.00

**EXCELSIS** 22-188

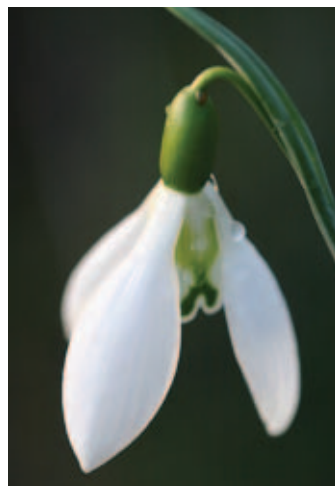
A stunning hybrid found here on the nursery recently with long shapely outers and heavenly green marked inners. ▼  
£15.00

**FAKE PEARLS** 22-252

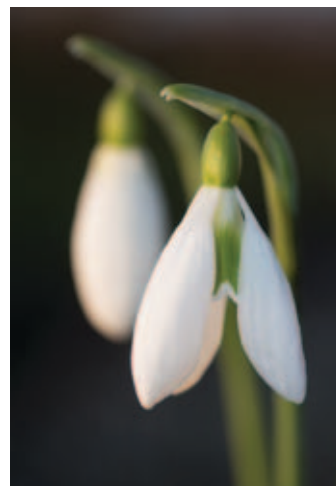
These came from the garden of Kit Grey-Wilson, and came with the name The Pearl. When they flowered it was noticed that they were not what they should have been and hence the name. Distinctive, early and vigorous. ▼  
£25.00



EXCELSIS



FIELDGATE PRELUDE



FAKE PEARLS



FIELDGATE FORTE



FIELDGATE TIFFANY

**FIELDGATE FORTE** 22-190

A seedling of G. modern Art raised by Colin Mason in the 1990s. Called Forte for its ability to regularly produce two flower stems. It has green staining at the tips of the outer segments and dark green inner segments. ▼  
£25.00

**FIELDGATE PRELUDE** 22-130

This is the earliest flowering of the Fieldgate forms deriving as it does from seed collected off G. Mrs Macnamara., but these are more marked on the inner segment. ▼  
£14.00

**FIELDGATE SUPERB** 22-168

A late flowering form that has broad outer petals, clawed at the tip to provide body and curvature, the inner markings a green X, the bottom half usually solid green, the upper part fading towards the apex. ▼  
£20.00



FIELDGATE SUPERB

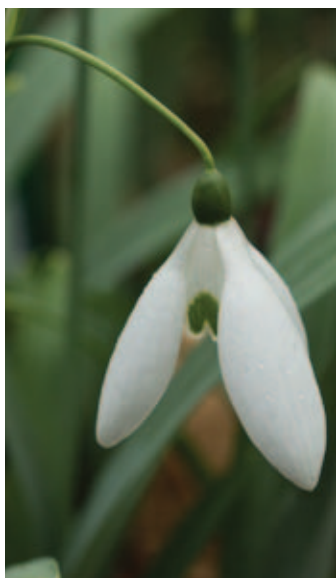
**FIELDGATE TIFFANY** 22-165

A wonderful large and late flowering selection with rounded puckered flowers, stunning when seen as a clump. ▼  
£14.00

**FLORENCE BAKER** 22-202

A strong, tall early flowered plicate snowdrop with leaves that develop early in the season, the inner segment markings distinctly separated. From the National Trust property of Owletts in Kent. ▼  
£10.00

(153)



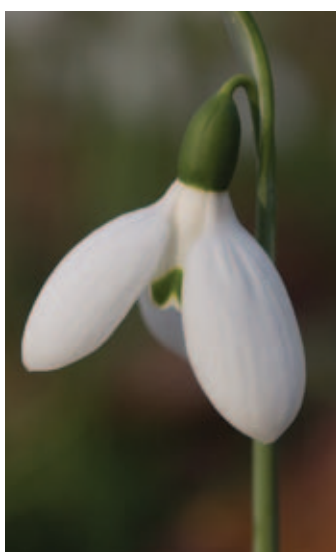
FLY FISHING



GALADRIEL



GREEN ARROW



GABRIEL



GEORGE ELWES



GREEN COMET

**FLY FISHING** 22-178

One of the Must Have snowdrops, originally a seedling selected at Avon Bulbs over 10 years ago. It has an incredibly long and slender pedicel, perhaps longer than any other and early flowering too. ▼ **£23.00**

**GABRIEL** 22-221

An early (December) flowering form of *G. elwesii monostictus* which was identified at Avon Bulbs in the 1980s. The name comes from its habit of raising its outer segments when brought into the warm, reminding one of angel's wings. ▼ (174) **£13.00**

**GALADRIEL** 22-167

A late flowering shapely flower of hybrid origin. Selected at the Beth Chatto garden near Colchester by David Ward and named after Tolkien's 'Lady of the Wood' in the mid 1990s. Very broad leaved and the inner segment marked with a broad Y. ▼ **£15.00**

**GEORGE ELWES** 22-29

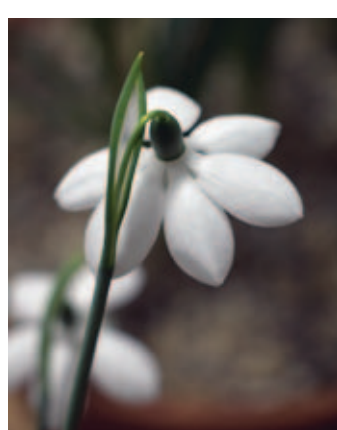
Large flowered on upright stems, the inner segments marked by an elongated and tapering X. The spathe is also unusually long. A *G. elwesii* x *G. plicatus* hybrid named after Carolyn Elwes' late son in 1979. ▼ (265) **£10.00**

**GODFREY OWEN** 22-238

Distinctly different with six outer segments of the same length as well as six shorter inner segments usually marked by two small green dots. Quite leafy, as many *G. elwesii* are, named after the late Margaret Owen's husband in 1996. ▼ (205) **£25.00**

**GRAVITY** 22-225

Another spontaneous seedling that arose at Avon Bulbs, this time under the hazelnuts. A large low heavy flower with long shapely outer segments. ▼ **£40.00**



GODFREY OWEN



GRAVITY

**GREEN ARROW** 22-154

Found as a seedling in the same garden as *G. Sally Pasmore*, this must have had a measure of *G. Viridapice* in its parentage. Late, tall, bright green tipped flowers held on very short pedicels, clumps in flower are late flowering and quite distinct. ▼ **£15.00 or £27.00 for 2**

**GREEN COMET** 22-256

From John Morley's collection, a hybrid with very large flowers, similar indeed to those of *G. Comet*, but with unusually broad green leaves. ▼ **£22.00**

▲ Photo credit: Mark Smyth



HERCULE



HONEYSUCKLE COTTAGE



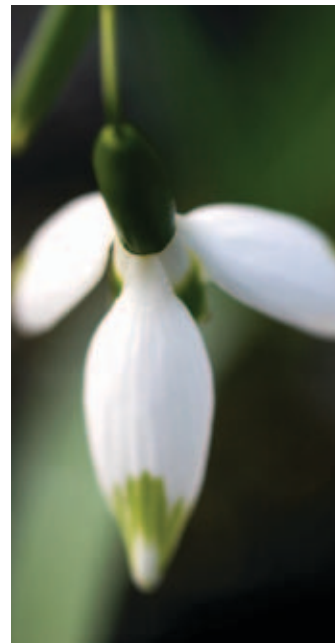
JADE



HILL POË



HIPPOLYTA



JESSICA



JIMMY PLATT

**HERCULE 22-148**

A selection made by Mark Brown in France from a batch of bulbs sourced in England. A stately presence provided by a bold flower, upright stem, and faintly green tipped outer segments. ▼  
**£24.00**

**HILL POË 22-56**

An Irish snowdrop originating near Nenagh in County Tipperary in the early 1900s. Often with 4 or 5 outer segments which result in a very rounded appearance, these circle the fully double rosette of inner petals. Upright with a short pedicel and late to flower. ▼  
**£12.00**

**HIPPOLYTA 22-31**

Very early, this is an exquisite double with a good upright stance though not overly tall. Neat looking with broadly rounded outer petals. Dug plants. ◀  
**£8.00**

(293)

**HONEYSUCKLE COTTAGE 22-134**

From Sally Pasmore's charming country garden, this is a tall, early, vigorous *G. nivalis* x *G. plicatus* hybrid, bolt upright and showy. Vigorous and clump forming. Dug plants. ◀  
**£8.00 or £20.00 for 3**

**JADE 22-173**

Originating from a swarm of naturalised *G. nivalis* in Gloucestershire. This bulb stood out from its sisters with glowing green splashed outer segments. ▼  
**£30.00**

**JESSICA 22-01**

Found by Phil Cornish near Wroxall, Warwickshire in 1997. A fine form of *G. elwesii* with sharply defined green markings on the outer segments and a long green ovary and broad, arching foliage. Phil named it after his wife. ▼  
**£18.00**

(191)

**JIMMY PLATT 22-269**

We met Jimmy Platt in 1989 very soon after Chris took on Avon Bulbs and we lodged the bulb he gave us with friends where it languished for years before being recovered. Evidently it has taken a long, long time to build up this stock! Late flowering. ▼  
**£25.00**

**JONATHAN 22-258**

A selection of *G. elwesii* with handsome rounded segments which show, when first open, a strange creamy glow. Best in winter sun and summer shade. ▼  
**£22.00**



JONATHAN

▲ Photo credit: Judy's Snowdrops

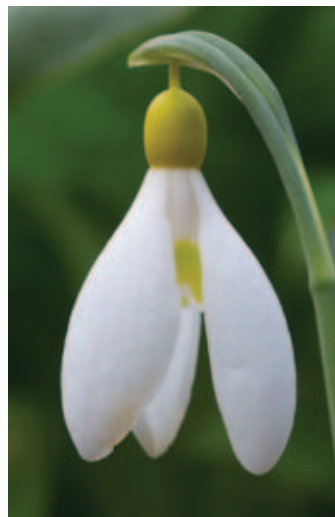
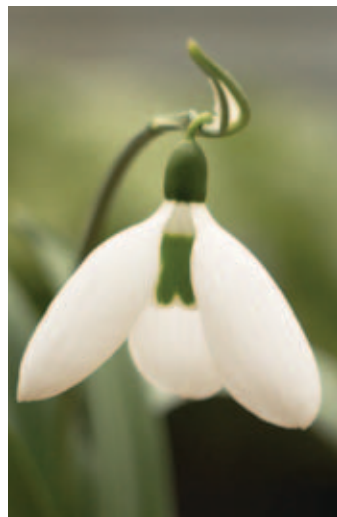


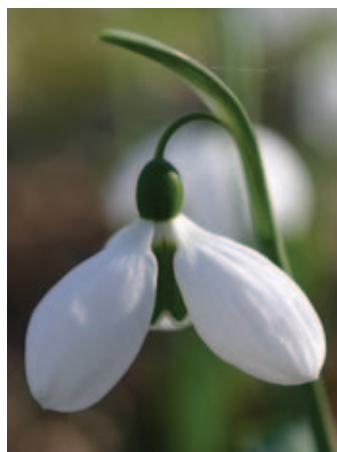
Photo credit: Lina Hesseling

KERSEN

KILDARE

LOUISE ANN BROMLEY

MADELAINE



KEW GREEN

MELANIE BROUGHTON

**KERSEN** 22-249

The name describes the inner green marking and is Dutch for Cherries, and indeed the outline describes a pair of green cherries on their stalks above the apical notch. Rarely, if ever, offered. ▼

£25.00 (81)

**KEW GREEN** 22-193

Given by Ghilleen Prance to Victoria Wakefield from the Kew Collection. It then found its way to Veronica Cross, where at one snowdrop lunch was highly praised and dispersed. Broad plicate leaves and a large handsome flower. (We have sold these as Kew in the past ourselves). ▼

£22.00

**KILDARE** 22-149

An Irish customer picking one of these up in February at the RHS show was heard to remark "the greener the better". These derive from the emerald isle with the outer segments washed in a pale ghostly green. Found by the Bakers on a trip there in 1995. ▼

£15.00

**LITTLE MAGNET** 22-132

When first found on thin chalky soil, the small clump was well named, moved to Somerset from Blewbury, it grew somewhat. But it still has an exceptionally long pedicel. Dug plants. ◀

£8.00 or £15.00 for 2 (234)

**LORD MONOSTICTUS** 22-13

This fabulous form falls under the *G. elwesii monostictus* heading, but it is a very distinct and superior form that we have been selling as a separate item for some years. The bulbs are large, the foliage blue-green and very bold, the flowers substantial and well shaped, we think it well deserving of its elevated title, though the nomenclatural purists hate the irreverent name. Dug plants. ◀

£10.00

**LOUISE ANN BROMLEY** 22-129

This may still have the record for the largest or longest petals of any snowdrop and is named for the sister of famous galanthophile David Bromley in Shropshire. One of the very best selections of *G. elwesii*. ▼

£22.00

LORD MONOSTICTUS



LITTLE MAGNET

**MADELAINE** 22-172

A rival to Wendy's Gold and in some ways better as this selection makes good sized clumps from which the bold yellow markings on the inner segments seem to glow in the low February sunshine. ▼

£22.00

**MELANIE BROUGHTON** 22-33

A mid to late season bloomer with tall sculptured flowers. One of the very best hybrids to come out of Anglesey Abbey in Cambridgeshire and named after the daughter of Lord Fairhaven. ▼

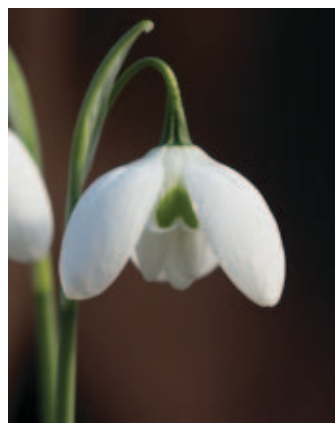
£10.00 (266)



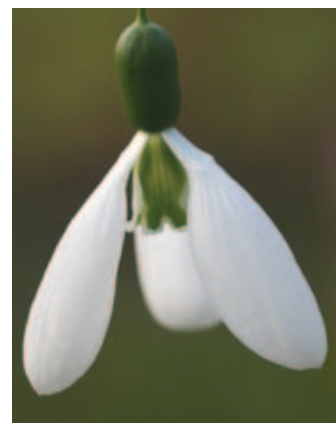
MIDWINTER



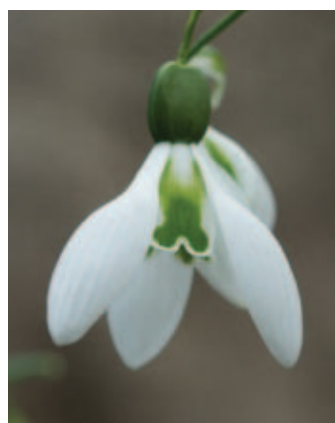
MRS THOMPSON



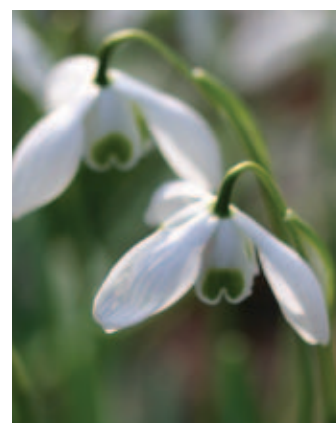
NATALIE GARTON



PERCY PICTON



ONE DROP OR TWO?



OPHELIA



MILLER'S LATE



MRS MACNAMARA

MRS MACNAMARA 22-35

Very early flowering indeed, often in early January with good upright flower stems sporting long pale leaves. The flowers are pretty and simple. Mrs Macnamara was Dylan Thomas' mother in law. **£12.00** (177)

NATALIE GARTON 22-43

A G. elwesii hybrid with semi-double flowers. A lovely rounded, thick petalled flower named after the late Natalie Garton of Ramsden in Oxfordshire, who distributed it from her beautiful garden before her death in 1996. **£14.00 or £26.00 for 2**

ONE DROP OR TWO? 22-250

A charming snowdrop where mature bulbs will throw two flowers from each pedicel, doubly serendipitous - and an explanation for the name. The flowers are most distinct for their dark green inner markings. **£40.00**

OPHELIA 22-32

One of a series of doubles raised by Mr Greatorex of Norfolk using G. plicatus and pollen from the double form of G. nivalis. Amazingly early, vigorous and floriferous. Dug plants. **£8.00** (294)

MIDWINTER 22-28

A very early form of G. elwesii which (here in Somerset) is regularly at its best in the first half of January. Huge handsome flowers and typically broad glaucous blue green foliage. Sold (in error!) by us as Maidwell L years ago. Dug plants.

**£12.00**

MILLER'S LATE 22-118

One of the last snowdrops to flower and useful for that. The hugely long flower is not supported by a long stem so can look compressed, but is handsomely topped, as if by a modern minimalist headpiece, by the curling spathe arching close to the ovary. **£12.00** (176)

MRS THOMPSON 22-88

Iconic in that few snowdrops seem to be so instantly recognisable when fully open in the sun, but they can be variable as some flowers can have 4 - 6 outer segments, or sometimes two flowers fuse at the top of a single stem. Deservedly sought after for all its variability. **£10.00**

PERCY PICTON 22-104

Deserving pride of place. A very long pedicel and an arching stem means that it is hardly ever still. Usually with two flower stems which flower together. A lovely bright green inner X marking. Named after the father of Paul Picton of Old Court Nursery near Malvern in 1999. **£10.00** (156)



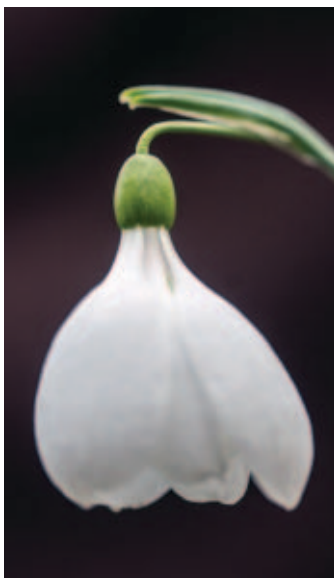
PHILIPPE ANDRÉ MEYER



POLAR BEAR



PUSEY GREEN TIPS



PHANTOM

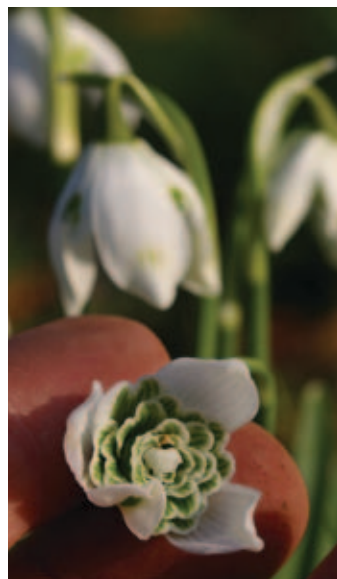
**PHANTOM** 22-262

Aptly named as the origin of this unique snowdrop is a bit of a mystery. Regularly twin scaped, the first flower a large beautiful poculliform, the second is marked rather like *G. plicatus* ssp. *byzantinus*, a bizarre combination.

▼  
£80.00



PHANTOM (SECOND FLOWER)



POM-POM

**PHILIPPE ANDRÉ MEYER** 22-229

Mark Brown's discovery, and named for a generous previous employer. This is a *plicatus* hybrid and one of the best Trym type seedlings. Showy and vigorous in the ground, though quite short. ▼

▼  
£60.00

**POLAR BEAR** 22-270

These form enormous bulbs when dormant, we have had to pot them into 1 litre pots rather than our standard snowdrop pots. The flowers, with rounded segments are held on very short pedicels so seem to look outwards, late flowering and quite charming. ▼

▼  
£15.00

**POM-POM** 22-136

A wonderful neat double *G. nivalis* with row after row of perfect inner segments, turned upside down they remind one of a tiny double white Camellia or Dahlia. Mid-late season. ▼

▼  
£15.00



PRIDE O'THE MILL

**PRIDE O'THE MILL** 22-159

From the Mill House garden owned by Daphne Chappell in the early 1990s, a *G. gracilis* hybrid, possibly with *G. plicatus*. The inner segments are darkly marked, especially at the tip and they flare outwards. The outer segments are thick and rounded under a yellowish ovary. Early flowering. ▼

▼  
£15.00

**PUCK** 22-92

From the same Devonian wood that produced Devon Marble, Fuzz and Cornwood this charming form of *G. nivalis* exhibits three extra haphazardly arranged 'petals' over and above the 3 outer and 3 inner segments, it is as if that mischievous Fairy had been up to his tricks. ▼

▼  
£20.00

**PUSEY GREEN TIPS** 22-36

First offered by the Giant Snowdrop Co. in the 1960s and in cultivation since 1938. An interesting double with green on both inner and the outer segments which was originally found in the Vale of The White Horse, Oxfordshire. Dug plants.

▼  
£6.00

(117)



PUCK

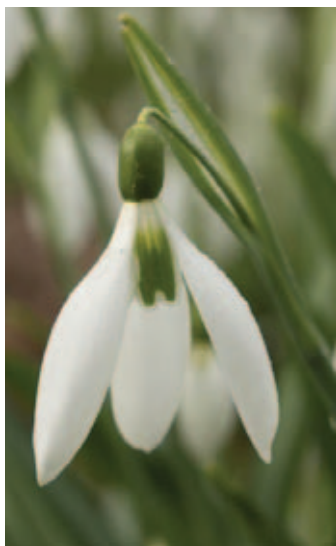


REVEREND HAILSTONE

**REVEREND HAILSTONE** 22-179

A majestic tall and early form of *G. elwesii* from Anglesey Abbey and often at its best by the end of January with stems sometimes over a foot high. ▼

▼  
£12.00



SALLY PASMORE



ST. PANCRAS



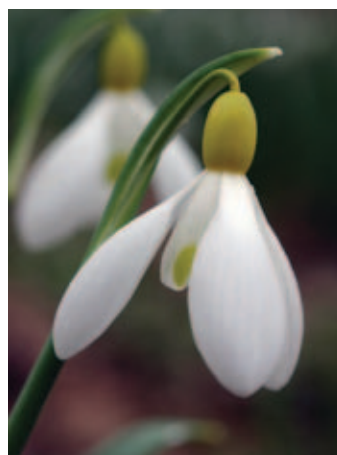
ST. ANNE'S



STARLING



SENTINEL



SPINDLESTONE SURPRISE



SUTTON COURTENAY


### SALLY PASMORE 22-60

An elegant and well poised snowdrop, rather like the owner of the Somerset garden in which it was born. Long refined outer segments and usually with two scapes above broad plicate leaves.

Dug plants   
£10.00


(157)

### SENTINEL 22-150

A large flowered hybrid with bold upright blooms in mid season, the inners showing a large green X marking. 

£16.00

### SPINDLESTONE SURPRISE 22-90


Another of the so called Golden snowdrops. This one originally shown by Jim Jermyn who then owned the Edrom Nursery in Scotland. Very very close to Primrose Warburg in appearance and we have decided to only offer them under the one name. 

£16.00 or £30.00 for 2


(275)

### SPRITE 22-197

A seedling found here on the nursery about a decade ago and twin scaled to increase the stock from a singleton. All green inners are revealed when the outers rise, these have 5 or 6 green lines on the outside surface for added appeal.


 £16.00 or £40.00 for 3

### ST ANNE'S 22-45

A late slender flower with more delicacy than some. The narrow tapering outer segments opening to reveal long inner segments marked top and bottom. Found in Norfolk but named after the church near St Anne's Manor at Sutton Bonnington, Nottinghamshire. 

£20.00 (268)

### ST PANCRAS 22-58


A double, probably *G. elwesii* x *G. nivalis* fl.pl. found in 1994 in North Somerset by Alan Street. Greyish leaved with heavy headed flowers with long outers that clasp the flower, the centre of which shows three long inner segments that protrude, somewhat fang like. 

£16.00 or £30.00 for 2 (305)




SPRITE

### STARLING 22-208

A seedling from the copse at Avon Bulbs, possibly *G. elwesii* x Hill Poe ? Long pointed outer segments on a flower that hangs on a very short pedicel and consequently one sees into, the dark green marked inner segments appear quite star-like. Very long lasting in flower. 

£28.00

### SUTTON COURTENAY 22-160

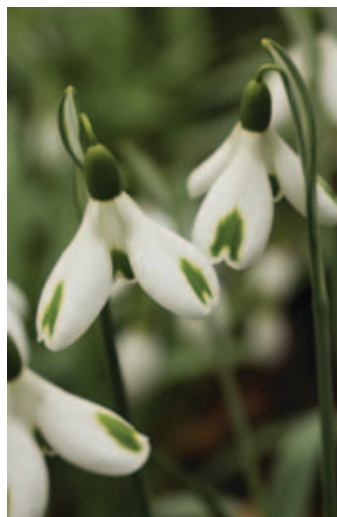
A form of *G. gracilis* distributed from the garden at South Hayes but originating from the garden of Nancy Lindsay and the village of the same name. Very early flowering with short leaves at flowering with bold, bright, large flowers marked with a very pale olive coloured ovary. 

£20.00

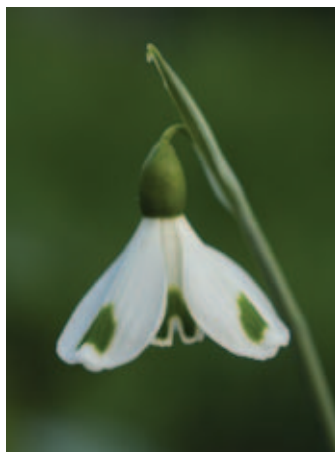
(269)



THE WIZARD



TRUMPS



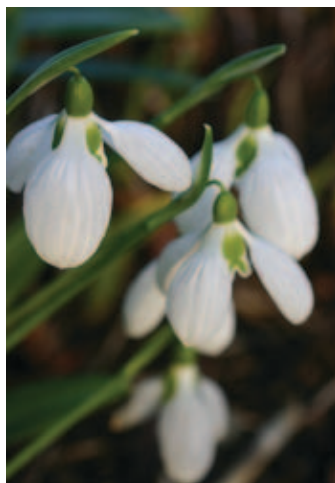
TRYMPOSTOR



TRYZM



UNCLE DICK



THREE SHIPS



TRYMMING



TRYM

**THE WIZARD** 22-209

Another seedling found in the copse at Avon Bulbs with stunningly green marked flowers, inside and out! All those who see it fall under its spell. ▼  
**£40.00**

**THREE SHIPS** 22-105

Unusually early flowered form of *G. plicatus* with rounded flowers with puckered markings on the outers. Found by John Morley in Suffolk in 1984. Early enough to sometimes be in flower at Christmas, sometimes even earlier. The name comes from the Christmas carol. ▼  
**£17.00**

**TRUMPS** 22-164

A stunning and vigorous hybrid first spotted in John Morley's garden by Matt Bishop. Early to flower with bright green outer segment and increasing freely. One of the best green-tipped snowdrops and a must have variety for every snowdrop garden. ▼  
**£26.00**

**TRYM** 22-89

Discovered in about 1987 in Westbury on Trym. From it many seedlings have been named much more recently, all variations on the same iconic look with its heavily marked outer segments. Nearly all of them are named with a Trym connection. Some report it slow to increase but once seen never forgotten. ▼  
**£22.00**

**TRYMMING** 22-181

Shown at Vincent Square and much coveted, this has perhaps the largest, boldest and brightest green splashed outer segments and often with two scapes when well grown. ▼  
**£25.00**

**TRYMPOSTOR** 22-182

This is shorter, earlier into flower and much more vigorous so probably much more rewarding. Shown at Vincent Square in Feb 2011 where it was awarded a Preliminary Commendation (since when any we have had for sale have simply flown off the sales table). ▼  
**£30.00**

**TRYZM** 22-265

Yet another self sown seedling at Avon Bulbs, this time under some larch but not far from *G. Trym* and *G. rizehensis*, hence the name. A dainty and delightful hybrid. ▼  
**£80.00**

**UNCLE DICK** 22-49

Long, ribbed outer segments surround strongly X marked inners. The name connects it to Richard Trotter in Inverness-shire, the same man commemorated by Trotter's Merlin. One of the last to flower in any season. ▼  
**£15.00**

(260)





VERTIGO



WARWICKSHIRE GEMINI

**VERTIGO** 22-121

A sport of *G. Viridapice* which many will know well, but the flower on these is held between the 'rabbit's ears' that are the spathe and so face upwards, hence the dizzying naming. As the flower matures it does get released. ▼  
**£35.00**

**WARWICKSHIRE GEMINI** 22-139

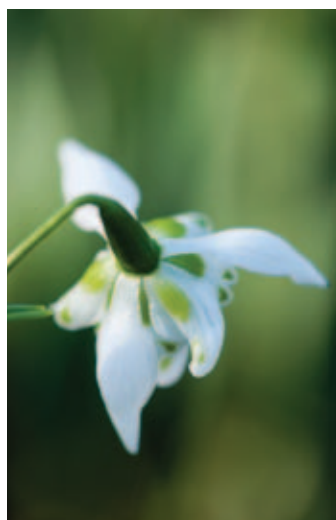
A giant form of *G. elwesii*, most showy and handsome with bold blue grey leaves and when settled will throw twin flowers from each pedicel, hence the name. ▼  
**£18.00**

**WASP** 22-101

Another find from Sutton Court, this time by Veronica Cross in 1995. This is a vigorous small snowdrop with narrow tubular segments which on the long pedicel and swaying in the wind looks very insect like. They grow well and are certainly rather different. ▼  
**£15.00** (271)



WASP



WELSHWAY

**WELSHWAY** 22-162

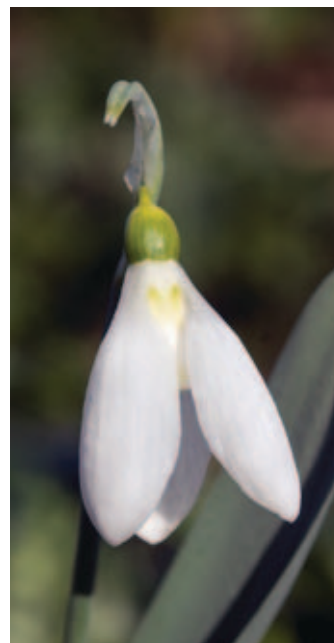
Named after the property owned by the Purkess' near Cirencester in 1995. A double with narrow outer segments, somewhat like Heffalump but taller and the inner segments more ruffled. ▼  
**£15.00** (305)

**WENDY'S GOLD** 🐝 22-05

Most of the original stock of this 'bench mark' golden snowdrop was lost, but a couple of bulbs kept back and given to nurserymen ensured, through twin scaling, that this wonderful snowdrop survived. The flowers appear more yellow in full sun rather than in too much shade. ▼  
**£20.00** (159)



WENDY'S GOLD



YASHMAK



LEUCOJUM VERNUM

**YASHMAK** 22-267

A selection of *G. elwesii* which has two very faint dots at the base of the inner segment, so aptly named. Prefers well drained soils, dry in summer. ▼  
**£35.00**

**LEUCOJUM**

**VERNUM** 106-04

Almost impossible to successfully establish as dry bulbs, these are supplied 'in the green' like the snowdrops and seem to grow away perfectly happily thereafter. When established the leaves emerge early through the soil surface, often in the autumn. Best in moisture retentive soil, shaded in summer. ▼  
**February/March 6" (15cm)**  
**£6.50 for 3**



## Snowdrop Sales and Events in the Spring of 2016 that we shall be attending.

**Harvey's Garden Plants, near Bury St Edmonds, Suffolk** **Saturday 30th Jan**  
Snowdrop sale with several good UK suppliers, lunch booking in the Garden Room restaurant essential. Valentine Wijnen will be giving a lecture before the snowdrop sale starts 01359 233363. Nominal entry fee.

**Norfolk Plant Heritage East Tuddenham.** **Saturday 30th Jan**  
Talks by Joe Sharman and Andy Byfield. Several snowdrop growers selling.

**Altamont Gardens, County Carlow, Ireland** **Saturday 6th Feb**  
Talks held at a Hotel nearby followed by garden tours and snowdrop sales at Altamont. Pre booking required.  
Contact Hester Forde: [hesterforde@gmail.com](mailto:hesterforde@gmail.com)

**Alpine Garden Society Snowdrop Conference.** **Saturday 6th Feb**  
**Newport, Shropshire.**  
Booking essential through the AGS: 01386 554790 Talks by Julian Sutton, Ian Christie, Eddie Roberts and Joe Sharman and several nurseries selling mainly snowdrops.

**Shaftesbury Snowdrop Gala** **Saturday 13th Feb**  
Talks by David and Margaret MacLennan and Melvin Jope followed by buying opportunities from several snowdrop nurseries. Part of a week long event. Pre booking essential. Website: [www.ShaftesburySnowdrops.org/festival2016](http://www.ShaftesburySnowdrops.org/festival2016) or phone 01747 854321

**RHS early Spring Show at Vincent Square, Westminster.** **Tues. 16th & Wed. 17th February**  
10.00- 5.00 Free to RHS members. Exhibits and plant sales.  
Website: [www.rhs.org.uk/showdates2016](http://www.rhs.org.uk/showdates2016)

**Great Comp (Kent)** **Saturday 21st February**  
10 – 4 (Charge for garden entry) Refreshments. Check their website for more details.

**Orlich, near Nettetertal, NW Germany.** **Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th February**  
Snowdrops and early spring plant sale

**Mannheim Spring flower show (near Frankfurt)** **Sat. 5th & Sun. 6th March**  
Website (German): <http://www.luisenpark.de/veranstaltungen/kalender>

Orders can be brought to shows that we attend if booked in advance and if suitable for the material ordered.

## Snowdrop Cards

Avon Bulb's Snowdrop Cards, all photographed on the nursery by Chris Ireland-Jones

We intend to refresh the selection of snowdrop cards that we offer so we may not be able to provide a full set when ones that we only stock in small numbers finally sell out. We will either adjust the price or provide others where this happens.

The cards are all A6 (6"x4") on good quality card and commercially printed, blank inside for your own message. They all come individually sleeved with a good quality white envelope.

There are two 'composite' cards each with 15 small pictures (all named), these are our Mastercard and Top of the Drops cards. All the individual pictures used on these are also available as individual cards (see the proviso above), so there are presently 32 cards to choose from in total!

### 'Top of the Drops'

16	21	26
17	22	27
18	23	28
19	24	29
20	25	30



### 'Mastercard'

1	6	11
2	7	12
3	8	13
4	9	14
5	10	15

Cards may be ordered at any time, if ordered alone please add £3.00 P&P to your order.

Cards with 15 pictures:

'Mastercard' (as shown top) £1.00

'Top of the Drops' (as shown bottom) £1.00

Individual cards:

All the smaller images are available as cards at full card size, please order these by name. £1.00

Either full set of 15 (Please specify which set) £13.00

any 5 cards £4.50



### 'Mastercard'

- 1 Angelique
- 2 Benhall Beauty
- 3 Highdown
- 4 Mrs Thompson
- 5 Sandersii
- 6 Art Nouveau
- 7 Comet
- 8 Lapwing

### 'Top of the Drops'

- |                 |                          |                  |
|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 9 Robin Hood    | 16 Alan's Treat          | 24 June Boardman |
| 10 Sickie       | 17 Cowhouse Green        | 25 Titanic       |
| 11 Augustus     | 18 Ecusson D'Or          | 26 Blonde Inge   |
| 12 George Elwes | 19 Jade                  | 27 Ding Dong     |
| 13 Magnet       | 20 Spindlestone Surprise | 28 Irish Green   |
| 14 S. Arnett    | 21 Blewbury Tart         | 29 South Hayes   |
| 15 Straffan     | 22 Diggory               | 30 Trym          |
|                 | 23 Heffalump             |                  |

# Snowdrop Order Form

Please only use this order form for Snowdrops, Snowflakes, Gloves or Cards to be sent together.

Please use the special snowdrop Order Form – Orders on this form will be handled separately (and probably earlier) from orders for the other spring planted bulbs and will be sent out using the Royal Mail First Class Post or Overnight Carrier for a charge of £4.95 regardless of order size within mainland UK, to Europe from £10.00.

Stock ref. no.	Plant name	Price & Pack Sz	No of Packs	£
22-92	Puck (EXAMPLE ONLY)	£20/1	2	40.00

subtotal	
carriage	
total	

Postage on a Snowdrop order  
£4.95 (mainland UK only)



JIMMY PLATT WITH ALAN STREET (1989)



# Mail Order for Spring 2016

Snowdrops & Leucojum only, but if ordering these you may also order cards, gloves and books on this form

Office use only:	
Date received:	Order No:

**Avon Bulbs Ltd • Burnt House Farm • Mid Lambrook  
South Petherton • Somerset • TA13 5HE**

Required Fields

Title:      Mr  Mrs  Miss  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Forename or Initials: \_\_\_\_\_  Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

House: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/No: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number:

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Mob: \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Your details are only used by us and our carriers and not passed on to anyone else.

**Other Delivery Instructions:**

Is this an order for collection?  \_\_\_\_\_

Is it a gift?  \_\_\_\_\_

If you are likely to be out during the day, please suggest where the parcel should be left or who else might accept delivery. \_\_\_\_\_

If you want your order to be sent as a gift to someone else (invoice to you), tick the box and put the recipient's name and address and postcode in the space provided to the right. \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment:** Orders are not accepted without payment except by prior agreement.

Please include payment or please charge my **Visa / Mastercard** account.

Cheque enclosed  Yes, value £ \_\_\_\_\_, or

Card No.

Valid from date   /        Card expiry date   /

Security code (last three digits on reverse of card)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



# Plants and bulbs to flower this Summer

From here on please use the order form on P45/46



## ACTAEA

SIMPLEX BRUNETTE 🏆 90-01

Lovely dark leaved plants (as long as they grow in some direct light) but also shade lovers which love heavy moist soils, so quite a change from our usual fare that requires "well drained" soils. They used to be called the Cimicifuga and plenty of our older readers will recognise that name better. The flowers appear as tall white scented plumes in late summer and early autumn and we think that these will all flower in 2016 having been grown in 1 litre pots in 2015.. Allow 24" (60 cm) spread



Sept/Oct 60" (1.5m)  
£8.00



▲ Photo credit: GAP Images

## AGAPANTHUS

Perennial plants that originate in South Africa, but many hybrid forms are now available providing the potential to have a display of Agapanthus in the garden or pots from late June through to September. There are fully deciduous (and hardy) ones and fully evergreen (and tender) forms and many that are between the two and it is not always apparent where the divide lies! Do be aware of what your growing conditions will be so that you choose the right variety for your particular aspect, soil, latitude and altitude. All factors to take into consideration with regard to hardiness.

Most importantly they are sun lovers. They are also very drought tolerant, but do often perform better in wet summers and if the soil is good they will make huge clumps. New flower buds are formed the previous autumn so they flower better after a long damp autumn. There are probably hundreds of varieties to choose from and of these it would probably be no loss if half of them disappeared! They should be with you for years so apart from hardiness select your purchases by colour, height, form of the flower, abundance

of flower and flowering time. Well established plants only need further division when flowering diminishes, they are very versatile, ideal for seaside gardens are not palatable to rabbits and relatively unaffected by slugs and snails.

The evergreen forms derive from plants from milder and wetter parts, they tend to have broader and fleshier leaves and because they keep their foliage through our winters they require some protection. At the other end of the scale the deciduous forms tend to have narrower foliage and shed their leaves before the winter so they are considerably hardier. All the same, it is still worth mulching their 'crowns' with something in the late autumn – if this is soil-enriching manure all the better as they are hungry feeders, and therein lies the problem for plants in pots - the restricted root run is fine whilst there is some nutrition available, but when the compost has been depleted of nutrients they will not flower. Also the compost in pots suffers more from freezing and thawing than the soil at any depth unless you provide some added protection during the winter. There is a trial in

progress at RHS Wisley of the hardy forms of Agapanthus which might be worth a look?

There is a new pest of Agapanthus that we are being told to look out for, the Agapanthus Gall Midge, so new that it has yet to be properly named. It is uncertain yet whether this is just going to be an annoying pest that we are going to have to learn to live with, or how devastating or manageable it might be. But I feel that is a case in point for better biosecurity on imported plants. There is scant information anywhere about it, just type in Agapanthus Gall Midge to find out what little there is.

The indication as to whether plants will be supplied from pots or from division is offered as a guide only, it cannot be guaranteed upon. Plants from division (ones which we have divided from bigger 'crowns' dug on the nursery) might take longer to become established in the garden and to flower well, they may take a year to settle in. But after a year plants from division and plants from pots will be very similar, all other things being equal.



ALAN STREET 2-26

A beautiful dark flowered seedling identified by Alan here some 12 years ago, we first listed them in 2013. Nearly indigo coloured flowers produced in profusion, the heads not so full that you do not see the individual flowers, outstanding. The foliage is deciduous. Much admired at the Wisley trial. From division. 🐜

August 30" (75cm)  
£7.50

AQUAMARINE 2-04

Rather earlier than most and altogether shorter with tennis ball sized heads on erect stems, the flowers are deep dark blue with a purple hue. Vigorous and being slightly smaller with quite short foliage these are very suitable for pots for early display. Divisions. 🐜

July/Aug 24" (60cm)  
£6.50 or £18.00 for 3





## ARCTIC STAR

2-32

Early flowering (for Agapanthus) as we sometimes have these flowering for Hampton Court in early July. Large headed, in arctic white on shorter thick stems. The foliage is greyish green and quite broad, semi evergreen but tougher than that sometimes suggests. Divisions. 🗑️

July/Aug 20" (50cm)

£6.50

## ARDERNEI HYBRIDS

2-18

Narrow leaved and deciduous, so tough. White flowered with a pink tinge as they fade, the flower stalks behind the flower are reddish brown adding depth and contrast. Vigorous plants with long, quite thin but very numerous stems providing mid season display. The flowers, rather bigger than an orange, delicate looking rather than dense. From generous divisions. 🗑️

August 30" (75cm)  
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3



## CASTLE OF MEY

2-23

An early mid season form with lovely mid blue flowers with a violet hue, the midrib of each flower darker. Slightly larger headed than most with many stems on established plants. Deciduous unless the winter is very mild. Full pots that flowered last summer, and also division. 🗑️

July/Aug 30" (75cm)

£6.50

## GRASKOP

2-34

Dark flowered with compact heads in violet inky blue, initially held erect but as they elongate they droop much like those of A. inapertus. Fortunately they are nowhere near as tall. Deciduous foliage habit. From pots. 🗑️

July/Aug 34" (80cm)  
£6.00



## A Collection of Agapanthus

999-306

Castle of Mey x3

Streamline x3

Northern Star x3

9 plants from pots  
for £46.00  
save £4.50



## HEADBOURNE (OR PALMER) HYBRIDS (BLUE)

2-07

Derived from a strain that was developed with hardiness in mind by Lewis Palmer at Headbourne Worthy in Hampshire in the 1940s. These are a 'swarm' – so expect some variation, the flower colours vary around a mid blue and in height, flower size and leafiness they also vary slightly. Generally long stemmed with orange sized heads providing an extended season of interest in the border. They are deciduous, mid season flowering and supplied from division. 🗑️

July/Aug 18-30" (45-75cm)  
£14.50 for 3

## HEADBOURNE HYBRIDS

(WHITE)

2-08

White flowered plants from the strain above and with the same general characteristics. Also from division. ←

July/Aug 24-30" (60-75cm)  
£6.00



## INAPERTUS

2-10

Very tall and late flowering with long clean stems that support the flowers several feet above the foliage. Dark blue coloured with long tubed flowers that droop pendulously. The foliage is more evergreen than most and we mulch the crowns with straw as a precaution, but we have had some cold winters and they seem unaffected. Far to the north they may need more protection still. Plants from generous division. ←

Aug/Sept Up to 5ft (150cm)  
£6.50 or £18.00 for 3

## ISIS

2-15

Late mid season flowering with deep blue flowers, the stems characteristically angled towards the sun. The heads are not very big but are produced in profusion. This is not a widely grown form but ours came from Beth Chatto and she knows a good plant. Named after the stretch of the Thames, it remains untarnished by current madness elsewhere. Deciduous and from division. ←

August 26" (65cm)  
£6.50



## LAPIS LAZULI

2-36

One of the earliest to flower, bright deep blue and shorter than some. Semi deciduous so perhaps not for the coldest gardens but a consistent bright performer in our Hampton Court displays in past years. From pots. ▼

July 24" (60cm)  
£6.50

## LOCH HOPE 🏆

2-21

A vibrant mid blue flower held on typically angled stems quite late in the season. There are various forms of what is supposed to be Loch Hope being sold, these are the real deal and really do flower well despite a poor reputation provided by the impostor! Deciduous and from division. ←

Aug/Sept 36" (90 cm)  
£6.50





### NORTHERN STAR 2-35

Stiff stemmed, these slightly angled from the upright topped by large rounded heads, often with a second flush of flowers on shorter stems, the individual blue flowers showing darker purple stripes down the petals. From division. ◀

July 30" (75 cm)  
£6.50 or £18.00 for 3

### PURPLE DELIGHT 2-51

Well named I feel as this is outstanding with lilac- pale purple flowers, with the pale flower stems contrasting well with the colour of the flowers. More or less evergreen so not one for the coldest gardens. Late flowering.

Aug/Sept 36" (90cm)  
£6.50



*There are about 15 more Agapanthus listed on the website: These are varieties that we have been given over the years and never found time to propagate more seriously. They are all offered under the names provided when they came to us and will be offered as divisions, often only in small numbers.*

▲ Photo credit: GAP Images



### STREAMLINE 2-50

Early flowering plants with mid blue heads formed of loosely held flowers, often with more flowering stems to come as the first flowers. Semi deciduous so perhaps might be mulched in cold gardens but otherwise plants to extend the beginning of the season.

July 18" (45cm) ▼  
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3

### TAW VALLEY 2-33

A deep inky blue flowered form, raised by Dick Fulcher with slightly arched stems over deciduous foliage. These are from pots. ▼

July/Aug 24" (60cm)  
£6.50 or £18.00 for 3



### TOM THUMB 2-11

This is the shortest form of Agapanthus that we grow, but with the longest flowering season ! Some flowers appear in July, but the same plants often have some flowers on them in the late autumn. Tangerine sized heads on short wiry stems. The foliage is more evergreen but being narrow, short and wiry we presume that this helps as it appears completely hardy. Suitable for smaller pots or tubs, either alone or in a mixed summer planting. Pot grown plants. ▼

July/Aug 12" (30cm)  
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3

### WINDSOR GREY 2-20

Refined large headed long stemmed plants with dense heads of silver grey, turning slightly pink as they age. From the Saville Garden near Windsor. Late mid season flowering with semi deciduous foliage, from division. ◀

Late summer 30" (75cm)  
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3





## ALBUCA

Two members of the same family although at first glance one could miss that they are related. They derive from the Eastern Cape in South Africa. The larger of these two is a very fleshy leaved, big bulbed plant, almost a succulent, which tends to grow half in and half out of the ground. It will survive some frost but being semi evergreen needs protection in anything but the most favoured spot. The second is a much smaller plant which is more deciduous so can be easily overwintered as a dry bulb so they are rather easier to protect being fully dormant in winter.



## NELSONII 52-05

Ivory and green flowers face upward around a tall raceme, opening from the bottom of the spike, the waxy flowers strongly almond scented. Attractive glossy succulent foliage through much of the year. Unusually one of the only flowers where the petals act like stigma in the pollen transfer process (check on wikipedia!). Grapefruit sized bulbs.

June/July 30" (75cm)  
£5.00 or £13.50 for 3



## SHAWII 52-06

Flowers the colour of ripe bananas, these point down and regularly set a profusion of seed from which you can easily increase your stock. The foliage is narrow and minutely toothed, feeling quite rough to the touch. A fun plant for a patio, brought in to winter inside when dormant. Chestnut sized bulbs.

June/July 24" (60cm)  
£7.50 for 3

## ALLIUMS

The bulbous Alliums were planted in the autumn and will have spent the winter growing roots and readying themselves to flower in the late spring. These spring planted forms have no real bulb and are more herbaceous in their appearance and flower later in the summer so they can be divided and replanted safely both in the spring as well as the autumn. Sun lovers, as are nearly all Alliums.



## ANGULOSUM 153-28

Bright green and glossy leaved for most of the year. Pale lilac flowered in late summer and increasing to tight clumps in time which visibly shimmer and hum on a warm late summer day when beset by feeding insects. Probably the most butterfly friendly plant we grow.

July/August 12" (30cm)  
£6.00 for 3 (small clumps)

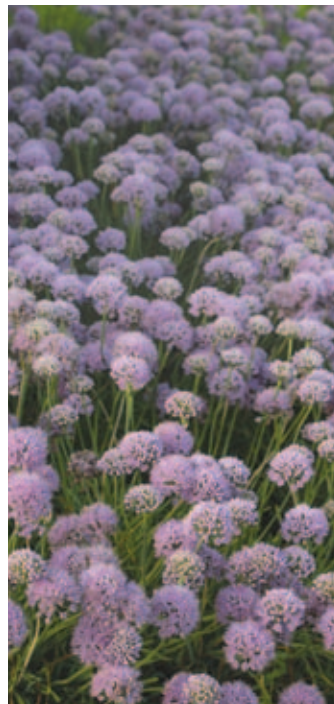


▲ Photo credit: GAP Images

## SCHOENOPRASM FORESCATE 153-63

Large flowered form of the culinary chives, these with larger purple-pink heads which are good in any sunny position, perhaps bordering a path or edging a herb bed. They will need dead heading otherwise one risks contamination by seedlings which will revert to less interesting pale flowered chives.

June/ July 10" (26cm)  
£3.50 (small clumps)



## SENESCENS SSP.

### GLAUCUM 153-30

Summer flowering plants with ground hugging blue-green foliage with twisted leaves which soon matts the ground. Flowering for ages at which point it is difficult to see the leaves for the amount of flower, small tight lilac pompoms adored by the insects. Easy beneficial plants for sunny conditions. Plants from division.

Summer 12" (30cm)  
£3.50 (small clumps)



## ALSTROEMERIA

I claim that florists would be at a loss to find an alternative to Alstroemeria which they use over many months of the year. The many forms that they sell are hybrids, various crosses between winter growing Chilean and summer flowering Brazilian species. Those we sell are much simpler, though in British gardens are more successful in a sheltered sunny site and whilst they have a reputation for being difficult to transplant these young plants seem to grow reasonably easily, it is the old woody tubers that tend not to grow.

The A. ligtu forms will have been potted in the early autumn and each pot contains a number of tubers, the flowers of which will all vary in colour. They tend to grow away early in some protection here so they may appear a bit 'leggy' on arrival, but plant them deeply, hardening them off gently if the weather is still cold.



## TUBEROSUM 153-38

Wiry stems support white flowers marked with a pink midrib flowering in the second half of summer. In flower for ages and hugely attractive to lots of beneficial insects. Tough, wiry stemmed and increasing, all parts very garlic scented and also called Chinese chives.

Aug/Oct 24" (60cm)  
£6.50 for 3 (small clumps)

## LIGTU HYBRID 4-04

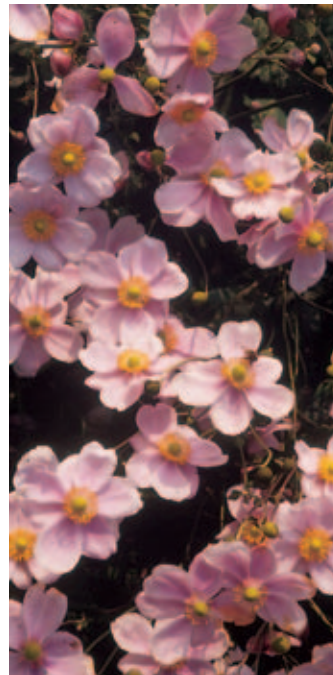
These plants, which originate from Chile, could be mixes of apricot, cream, pink, yellow or occasionally white in lovely combinations. The leaves on all Alstroemeria are resupinate – twisting upside down, so what appears as the upper leaf surface is actually the lower one. Plant 5" deep, on a gravelly base.

June/July 24-36" (60-90cm)  
£4.80 or £13.50 for 3 (pots)



## ANEMONE

*Anemone japonica hybrids*  
 Everyone knows them and all, except for people who have planted them previously in the wrong place (and have found that they are difficult to remove) love them. For late summer colour and dogged persistence they take a lot of beating and in this part of Somerset look particularly gorgeous planted against the Hamstone that so many older houses are built of. Their naming, and the distinction between the types is complicated and even impenetrable. The important features are colour, height and flowering time, even amongst the doubles there is variation between the numbers of petals on the same plants. All these supplied as 9cm pots



**KONIGIN**  
**CHARLOTTE** 157-141  
 Large pale pink saucer shaped flowers made up of many petals on tall wiry stems. Very suitable for sun or part shade and typically used at the back of the border for late summer and early autumn interest.  
 Aug/Oct 60" (1.5m)  
 £5.50

**PAMINA** 157-143  
 More branched than the others and more compact than most with masses of bright pink semi double flowers that are at their best before any of the others.  
 Aug/Sept 24" (60cm)  
 £5.50

**LIGTU FRANCES** 4-08  
 The emerging leaves are strongly yellow margined through the spring so clumps of these are literally outstanding early in the year. The flowers are all the same, a pale biscuit pink.  
 June/July 24-36" (60-90cm)  
 £4.80 or £13.50 for 3 (pots)

**HONORINE JOBERT** 157-140  
 Large white chalice shaped flowers with yellow stamens, tall, tough vigorous and showy. Equally good in sun or to brighten up areas of shade.  
 Aug/Oct 48" (1.2m)  
 £5.50



**LADY GILMOUR (CRISPA)** 157-142  
 Shorter than most of the other types with pretty semi double pink flowers over leaves that are quite different from all the others, interestingly crumpled and crisped.  
 Aug/Oct 16" (40cm)  
 £5.50

**RICHARD AHRENS** 157-144  
 Pink flowered, mostly single but occasional extra petals occur on some flowers, all fading to a blush pink as the season progresses. Very pretty and trouble free.  
 Aug/Oct 36" (90cm)  
 £5.50

**PSITTACINA (PULCHELLA)** 4-06  
 A Brazilian species, which in Britain flowers late in the summer, with green and red flowers. It is reputed to be slightly more tender than A. ligtu but emerging later in the winter it is easier to mulch. Never very happy on very limey soils. From division.  
 Aug/Oct 18-24" (45-60cm)  
 £4.00 or £11.00 for 3



**WHIRLWIND 157-145**

Double petalled in white and seeming to glow on account of the number of flowers and their whiteness so very illuminating of darker areas, though it will also thrive in full sun.

Aug/Oct 34" (80cm)  
£5.50



**WILD SWAN 157-35**

Although most of the Anemones that we stock and sell are summer dormant, this variety is supplied in growth in 1 litre pots. First identified by Elizabeth Macgregor on her nursery and thought to be of hybrid origin. In flower intermittently from June to late October with compact crowns, like short early flowering Japanese Anemones, but far more controllable! For sun or partial shade with broad white flowers, the backs of which are washed in blue, showing more strongly when the light is lower and the flower less open. Allow 18" (45cm) spread.

June-Oct 18" (45cm)  
£9.00

**ASTRANTIA**

Found wild in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus these are really herbaceous perennials and should be familiar to many as 'Pin-cushion' plants. In reasonable soil, either in full sun or part shade they produce mounds of soft lobed foliage with taller flower stems in a variety of hues. They are hungry feeders and slow to form big clumps. Good with Alliums, Actea and Heuchera for summer borders. Cut them back by two thirds after their first flowering each year to encourage a second flush late in the same year. Useful cut flower, with an unusual fragrance. All these are supplied as divisions of larger field grown clumps.



**MAJOR 1-04**

A large flowered form, the individual heads are bigger than a 50p piece (officially the 'petals' surrounding the flower are just bracts). Green and white with pinkish highlights.

May/July 24" (60cm)  
£5.00

**GILL RICHARDSON 1-08**

Seemingly darker and tidier in its form and in all its parts and appearing tighter in their clumps for all that.

May/July 18" (45 cm)  
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3



**HADSPEN BLOOD 1-05**

One of the darkest forms, dark leaved and crimson black flowered, deriving from Nori and Sandra Pope's selections at Hadspen – though the site there has now been bulldozed with plans for a hotel we hear.

May/ July 24" (60cm)  
£5.00



**ROMA 1-07**

A very lovely form with soft pale pink heads which are produced in profusion. A neat plant that remains in flower for ages, one of the very best.

May/ July 20" (50cm)  
£5.00



**SUPERSTAR 1-09**

All white flowered, with green detailing on the surrounding bracts. Bob Brown suggests that this is possibly an improvement on 'Shaggy' which was a plant Margery Fish made famous. They seem to flower very late and the advice for a second flush of flowers may not work with these.

May/July 15" (40cm)  
£5.00



**BEGONIA**

**SUTHERLANDII 9-07**

Small leaved and small flowered, a very undemanding Begonia that could be used for hanging baskets as it trails prettily, or in pots as it also forms a stem if it can, or it could be used as a houseplant. Lots of people tell us that they, or a friend, had it for years and formed quite an attachment to their Begonia and having lost it have not been able to find it for sale again. Not hardy for the garden in the winter, but dried off for the winter they will gradually get larger as the tubers enlarge each year.

Summer  
£3.50



**BENITochiba** ☞ 9-08

With a bit of luck and a good choice of situation these might be hardy, they are officially endorsed to about -5 C but it would be safer to keep them dry and frost free over winter. One could grow them as a houseplant or outside in the summer where they have tidy, deeply lobed leaves marked in pink and olive. There are flowers, rather sparse and pink but it is the leaf that is so interesting and colourful for much of the year. Spreading to about 18" (45cm).

Summer 24" (60cm)  
£4.50



**BRUNNERA**

**MACROPHYLLA JACK FROST** ☞ 18-04

Incredibly useful in many of our spring displays this plant has both architectural merit. Its lovely 'crazed' leaves, broad freshly green and iced in white lie horizontally, setting off the narrow more vertical foliage of the properly bulbous plants, and then the sprays of tiny bright blue flowers in the late spring add a smokey haze. They are members of the Bugloss family, all enjoy slightly damper conditions in part shade. Supplied from 9 cm pots.

April/May 18" (45cm)  
£5.00

**CROCOSMIA**

Summer stalwarts in the garden, and available in a range of marmalade orange and yellow flowers which the butterflies love. They will not flourish for long on thin dry soil; plant them quite deeply where they receive full sun and summer moisture. You should be prepared to split them up and move them on every 3-4 years, it rejuvenates them and without this attention they can go into a decline.



**LUCIFER** ☞ 15-07

The earliest to flower, often in late June, which is a bit surprising in that it is also one of the tallest. Well named with fiery red flowers on green black stems which are set off by the wide pleated lush green foliage. Bred by Alan Bloom in the late 1960s it should be a favourite for all but tiny gardens.

June/July 40" (1.0m)  
£4.80 or £12.00 for 3



**EMILY MCKENZIE** 15-04

Large burnt-orange flowers with a prominent chocolate blotch which are held relatively close to the stem above dark erect foliage. Much later into leaf and hence still dormant as small wizened bulbs in the spring Late-flowering.

Sept/Oct 18" (45cm)  
£3.75 for 10 or £8.50 for 25



**PAUL'S BEST YELLOW** 15-37

First admired at Dick Fulcher's nursery in Devon when he claimed that this was the best new Crocosmia. It is good and I prefer the clear bright yellow colours in the high summer better than the brooding reds of some Crocosmia anyhow. Upright and quite tall with long flower tresses.

Aug 36" (90cm)  
£6.50 for 3



**BESSERA**

**ELEGANS** 3-04

Conical orange-red flowers which have a passing resemblance to a Fuschia flower. Creamy coloured within, with long paler protruding stamens. The foliage is long and needle like. They originate from southern USA and Mexico so require a dry winter's rest without any frost, but being winter dormant that should not be too tricky? 5 of these are enough for a 6" (15cm) pot in good free draining compost placed outside to flower in the late summer.

Aug/Sept 18" (45cm)  
£4.00 for 5



**CAUTLEYA**

**SPICATA ROBUSTA** 154-04

Interesting Himalayan members of the ginger family, closely related to the Roscoea and Hedychium which are listed later. Hardy here with no winter protection, but winter dormant hence easy to mulch in colder parts as necessary. They would prefer some shade in summer, scorching sun on their broad leaves is not to their liking. Yellow and orange flowers highlighted by the bright red bracts within which they are held. Bright green foliage. Happy in damp part shade, as they are at Rosemoor in Devon growing among ferns. Divisions from plants grown in the open.

Summer 18" (45cm)  
£5.00 or £14.00 for 3



**LAMBROOK GOLD** 15-32

Many rounded small golden apricot yellow flowers on a good strong stem with paler green foliage, easy and increasing.

Aug 24" (60cm)  
£5.00 for 10



**QUEEN MARY II** 15-35

The RHS Plant Finder thinks this is the same plant as C. Columbus. Purplish in bud but a warm apricot colour in flower with darker foliage. Producing lots of flower. Easy and increasing

Aug/Sept 30" (75cm)  
£4.50 for 15 or £7.00 for 25

## DAHLIA

For anyone new to Dahlias they need sun and would like it hot - when they also do better in moist soils where they repay ones efforts with zingy displays in jaunty colours that go on for months and which the butterflies and bees love (the ones with exposed centres anyhow). Then, ahead of the winter, you have to decide to either leave your tubers in the ground (when you will try and provide an extra covering of material to keep them drier and

more frost free) or lift the tubers (to dry them in the autumn before storing them out of the frost for the winter). There is no hard and fast rule as to which is more successful, your location, soil type and attitude to risk will lead you one way or the other. As an alphabetic list these looked pretty confusing so they are listed here by their 'classification' (in brackets after the name) so the more similar types follow one another.



### THOMAS A EDISON (DECORATIVE) 26-38

Named after the man who invented the phonograph, the first motion camera and a long lasting lightbulb! We have not grown it for long but it was the outstanding success in the garden in 2013. Big flowered, in a crushed plum colour that goes brilliantly with the deeper reds, purples and pinks. Best late in the summer.

Summer 30" (75cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3

### HAPPY SINGLE KISS (SINGLE) 26-49

I am uncertain as to how to describe the colour of the flower, pale peach perhaps, with a darker brown ring around the stamens. The foliage is dark and being heavily branched results in a profusion of flowers.

Summer 24" (60cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3

### AMBITION (CACTUS) 26-36

Bright vibrant purple, medium sized heads covered in spiky petals, and lots of flowers on each plant. Green leaved.

Summer 30" (75cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3

### ARABIAN NIGHT (DECORATIVE) 26-13

Full headed, saucer sized heads that are packed with petals, opening the colour of really ripe raspberries, paler thereafter. Richly coloured and not so tall that they require staking. Slightly earlier than most other Dahlias into flower.

Summer 30" (75cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3



▲ Photo credit: GAP Images

### NUIT D'ETE (CACTUS) 26-04

Tightly rolled petals (I admit stealing the analogy that I have read elsewhere of them) looking like quills, deep red-black in the centre and crimson-red at the edge. Slightly 'shaggy' as they go over but rich and effective in the garden or as cut flower. Dark green leaved.

Summer 30" (75 cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3

### RIP CITY (DECORATIVE) 26-37

An upright, strong growing plant with dark green leaves and strong stems with fully double reddish black flowers, almost black at the centre. Taller and later than Nuit d'Ete, the petals less tightly rolled.

Summer 40" (100cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3

### HAPPY SINGLE PARTY (SINGLE) 26-48

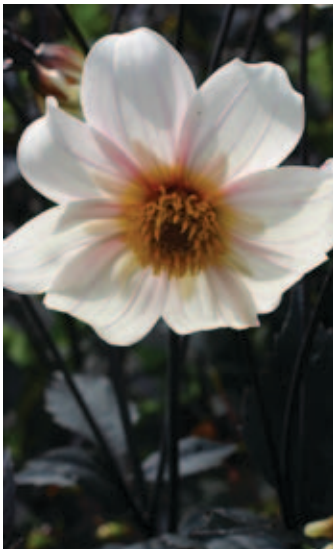
Dark leaved with jaunty yellow flowers, more cupped than the Bishop of York and on a smaller plant these are in full flower a month earlier. Simple, pretty and a magnet to butterflies.

Summer 24" (60cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3

### HAPPY SINGLE FLAME 🏆 26-50

One of the outstanding single flowered Dahlias seen on a visit to the National Dahlia Collection in September, dark foliage, upright (despite the near gale) vivid red, pale yellow around the deep red disc, itself covered in gold.

Summer 24" (60cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3



**TWYNINGS  
AFTER EIGHT  
(SINGLE) ♡ 26-51**

Gorgeously robed in glistening black leaves, a strong contrast plant for both its deep hued foliage and then the white flowers with a yellow centre, the petals flushed pink as they fade. The butterflies love it, and they too are shown off to advantage against it. It must be planted in full sun to tan most deeply.

**Summer 48" (120cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3**



**BISHOP OF  
LLANDAFF ♡  
(MISCELLANEOUS) 26-05**

Bright vibrant reddish flowers with an orange tint, the foliage is a dark burnished purple (which is always darkest if planted in direct sunlight) and the combination is always impressive. An old favourite dating back to 1924 and the original mother parent in the others in the Bishop series, even my grandmother grew them in the post war years.

**Summer 36" (90cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3**



**COCCINEA VAR.  
PALMERI  
(MISCELLANEOUS) 26-08**

A single tuber from Dr Jamie Compton given to us many years ago has impressed autumn visitors to the nursery (grown in the open ground, mulched but otherwise unprotected and surviving -15°C in past winters). Fully 8' (230cm) tall and equally broad without being bold, the characteristically dissected foliage providing a light and airy feel. The scattered flowers abound in the late summer in a clear zingy orange. Limited numbers of pot grown tubers.

**Late summer 6-8' (180-230cm)  
£6.50**



**GENOVA  
(POMPON) 26-42**

This form has pale lavender colour flowers which gradually fade to near white as they gently expand. Heads initially about 3" (8cm) across. Always covered in blossom later in the summer.

**Summer 30" (75cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3**



**BISHOP OF  
AUCKLAND  
(MISCELLANEOUS) 26-15**

Richly crimson coloured single flowers with a golden centre, nicely symmetrical and dramatic against the dark foliage, typical of the Bishop series.

**Summer 36" (90cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3**



**BISHOP OF YORK  
(MISCELLANEOUS) 26-16**

The dark foliage combines really well with the single yellow flowers, which in some lights have an apricot hue. Later into flower and really almost better in late summer when mature plants are well covered in flower, and to which butterflies are so attracted. Elevating and vibrant.

**Summer 30" (75cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3**



**FRANZ KAFKA  
(POMPON) 26-45**

Possibly the breeder was a fan of the Prague born writer, evidently single sentences of his sometimes spanned a whole page, tricky for translators! The Dahlia named after him is simpler - pink with paler edges to the petals and about 3" across.

**Summer 26" (65cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3**



**NATAL  
(POMPON) 26-44**

Vibrant crimson red with many flowers on each plant. A flower that really stands out but easy to place as green and red always works. Heads about 3" (8cm) across.

**Summer 26" (65cm)  
£3.00 or £8.50 for 3**



## DIERAMA

### PULCHERRIMUM 79-02

South African plants that make thick clumps of leaves and (after years of waiting) reward one with arching stems flying delicate fluttering flags of bell shaped flowers in the summer, but rarely whilst in pots. They need good soil in a sheltered setting with summer moisture and probably full sun. Where they thrive they are the envy of all. We have done all the waiting and watering for you, these are pot grown plants (in 1 litre pots) that may already be 3-4 years old but will flower once established in your garden. These will vary in colour from pale pink through to plum, and possibly some whites.

Summer 36-48" (90-120cm)  
£8.50



## DISPOROPSIS

*Somewhat similar to the thicker stemmed Polygonatum (Solomon's Seal) these are plants for some shade and are almost evergreen with hanging bells held from the leaf axles along the stems. These will be supplied from divisions. All are very hardy.*

### ASPERA 36-08

Darker leaved with the fleshy leaves more spaced out up the stem with waxy flowers that are purple speckled within. A slow growing woodlander.

May 18" (45cm)  
£4.50



### PERNYI 36-04

Scented waxy bells hang from the tough fresh stems in the spring (the old stems are better cut back before this), increasing in humus rich soils in shade.

May 18" (45cm)  
£3.50



### TAIWANENSIS 36-06

Evergreen with thick leathery leaves, more pleated than those of D. pernyi with white flowers formed under the stem like Polygonatum but purple within. More upright and 'finer' than pernyi (despite the appearance of the illustration!). For any reasonable soil in full or part shade.

May/June 24" (60cm)  
£5.00

## EUCOMIS

*Eucomis plants go dormant with the frost, having emerged from the ground very late in the spring (in late May or early June) by when the threat of frost had passed. Planted deeply in the ground and emerging late they thus avoid any damage. The earliest flowering (E. autumnalis) is thought to be the most tender. In tubs or planters they will need more protection in winter, but needing no moisture or light when dormant, they could spend the coldest months in a dry shed.*

*In summer the flowers are topped off by a crown of small tufted leaves, hence the common name for them – the Pineapple Lilies. They last ages in flower, and architectural seedheads follow the flowers till the frost cuts the stems down as*

*dormancy returns. Looking a bit exotic they are much easier to grow than first imagined, only requiring deep planting in a reasonably fertile and moisture retentive soil in the sun to do well. Slugs can be a problem as they emerge from the ground, but they are not palatable to rabbits. And the flower stems last ages in water, just cut off a short amount of stem each week as you change the water and you'll get 3 or 4 weeks from them.*



### AUTUMNALIS (ZAMBESIACA) 21-04

Glistening in bright sunlight these produce dense cylinders of white flowers opening first from the bottom with a bright green top knot. These are the earliest into flower and then in either flower or decorative seed head for months. Plant bulbs about 6" (15cm) apart. If you delay planting them till mid May they flower later and then last much longer, flowering in the cooling months after the summer heat.

Aug/Sept 12" (30cm)  
£6.00 for 3 or £9.00 for 5



### BICOLOR

Held on a tough succulent stem, some of which are darkly freckled, the flowers hang densely jostling for space, each flower a pale ivory green with a purple centre and hemmed in purple. As they set seed these swell and inflate to an architectural green cudgel that develops a purple and brown suntan as it ages. Glossy leaved and good for pots or the garden. Allow 10" (25cm) spread or 3 bulbs in a 14" (35cm) pot.

Aug/Sept 18" (45cm)  
£6.00 for 3

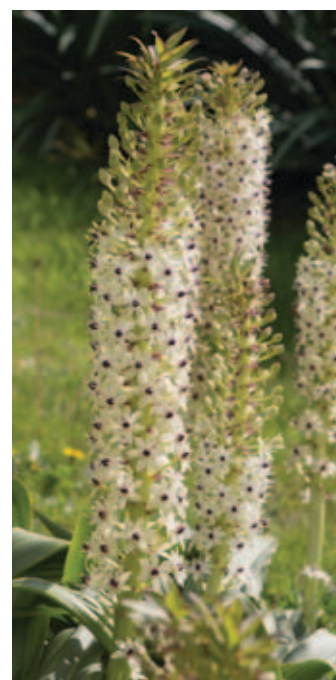
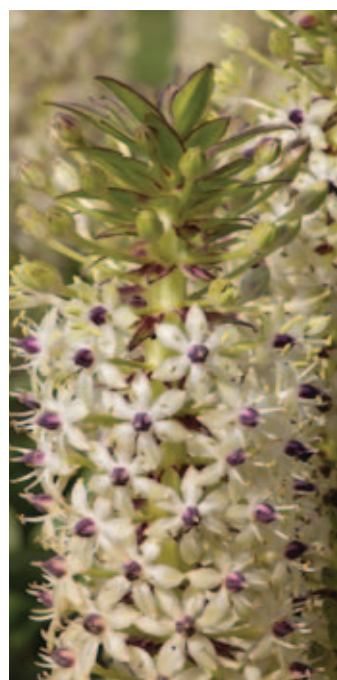
21-05

### COMOSA (OUR DARK LEAVED SELECTION)

Especially selected plants identified and isolated here from the group above with dark leaves, dark stems and purple flowers. But not quite as dark, or as uniform, as E. Sparkling Burgundy..

Aug/Sept 30" (75cm)  
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

21-10



### COMOSA

The best of the 'standard' garden forms, these are waxy flowered in shades of green and pink topping a stem that can be as long as 18" (45cm) and they last for ages with architectural seedheads following. Excellent again as cut flower. Possibly too big for ordinary planters, so allow 15" (40cm) spread in a sunny border. Cricket ball sized tubers.

Aug/Sept 24-48" (60-120cm)  
£3.00 or £8.00 for 3

21-08

### COMOSA CORNWOOD

A very distinct clone(only raised by vegetative propagation, so all the plants are identical) with pale jade coloured stems covered in dozens of glistening pinkish ivory cream flowers from which shine out the distinctive purple-black ovaries, like rows of dark buttons. Not as tall as most other E. comosa.

Aug/Sept 18" (45cm)  
£5.00

21-09





### COMOSA PINK GIN

21-11

Glowing pink, especially in the low angled autumn afternoon sunlight this clone is outstanding for its combination of clear pink flowers and bright green foliage. The flowers get bigger as the bulb's girth grows, then through natural splitting, a clump develops. A brilliant plant, but produced only through splitting so our stocks will always be limited, but combine it with the plant below for a 'boozy' pairing near the patio?

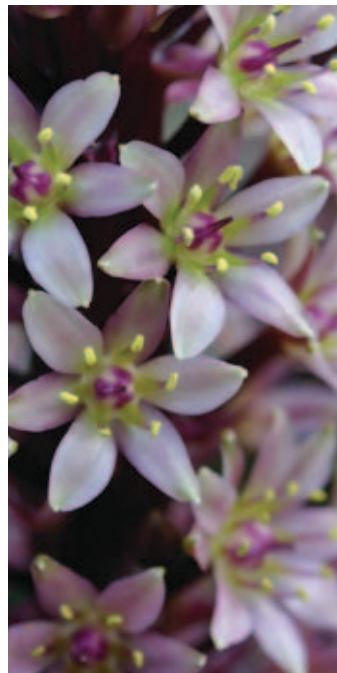
Aug/Sept 4' (120cm)  
£9.00

### PALLIDIFLORA

21-07

Some sell the same plant as *E. pole evansii*, we think ours is its correct name, though the former is highly regarded. These are yellow-green flowered on stems some 3" (8cm) thick, the individual flowers on stiff pedicels held away from the stalk. Late flowering and very tall, the bulbs are equally sizeable and need planting deeply to provide enough support to the stem.

Sept/Oct 4-5' (120-150cm)  
£10.00



### COMOSA SPARKLING BURGUNDY

21-12

A striking pink and purple flowered selection identified in the 1960s with deep burgundy-purple leaves and flower stems which emerge from the ground in the early summer near black, turning more olive green by mid-summer. Cricket ball size tubers. They must be grown in direct sun to achieve their true colouration.

Aug/Sept 20" (50cm)  
£7.50

### VANDERMERWEI

21-13

A speckled leaved and dark flowered species of considerably smaller stature. Probably best in a pot or planted in a raised bed, but do grow them in direct summer sunshine to achieve the darkest colouration.

Aug/Sept 6" (15cm)  
£5.50 or £13.50 for 3

## GALTONIA

I am told that it may not be too long before we should be calling these Ornithogalum, but till then we will stick with the familiar Galtonia? These are South African bulbs which are best in sunny borders, they perform best of all in a wetter summer, remember the South African summers are wet and the winters dry. The bell shaped flowers hang on short pedicels away from the green stem, waxy and elegant. The effect is peaceful and cooling, providing useful vertical accents and they combine perfectly with other South African plants such as Agapanthus and ornamental grasses. If you garden on particularly cold wet soils further north you may think about lifting the bulbs in November and storing them dry overwinter. On lighter soils they seed about. Plant bulbs about 5" (12cm) apart, and beware of slug attack on emerging foliage.



Photo credit: GAP Images

### CANDICANS

23-04

Towers of waxy, milk-white flowers on sturdy stems with upright grey-green leaves. Stately plants, always admired. If you delay planting your bulbs into May you tend to get flowers that last longer in the slightly cooler autumn than those flowering in the peak of the summer heat. They also grow away more readily when planted later rather than sulking in the still cold soil. Masses of seed results. We have found a really good source of really healthy bulbs, and despite some concern over the size of the bulbs our trial bed in 2015 was wonderful, if you have been disappointed before try again with these young bulbs, they will surprise you too.

Aug 36" (90cm)

£4.00 for 3 or £12.00 for 10



### VIRIDIFLORA

23-06

Less ramrod straight than G. candicans and later flowering with pale green flowers and broader pale green leaves. Whilst these will flower in 2016 from what are quite small bulbs they do in time tend to grow much bigger so anticipate more and more stems from your clump in time, flower arrangers love them.

Sept/ Oct 30" (75 cm)

£5.50 for 3



## GLADIOLUS

### CALLIANTHUS



24-19

### MURIELAE

Often still called Acidanthera murielae these bulbs were first collected in Ethiopia where they are found wild throughout the mountain chains of East Africa. Our winters are too wet and cold for them and consequently they do not successfully over winter in most British gardens. But they are reasonably inexpensive and supplying big bulbs (as we do) they will produce an impressive show in the same year as planting. If you do wish to try to over-winter bulbs they will need a dry frost free winter rest. I would suggest that you stagger your planting in the spring and keep some bulbs back to plant late (the end of May) for an extended show into the cooler autumn days when the flowers last twice as long. Long, slightly pleated, deep green leaves provide a lush foil, the furled buds emerge almost unnoticed to open with white flowers with a chocolate throat that sway gently on the lengthening flower stems. Understated and refined they have a subtle perfume, stronger in the evenings, so do position them near to a door or path to take full advantage of the scent for by that stage their flowers are nearly at nose level. A 12" (30cm) pot will take about 7-10 bulbs, but choose a heavy deep one for increased stability.

We usually have these ready and available just before Christmas as a suitable gardening gift – something you might remember for Christmas 2016 maybe after you have enjoyed some this summer?

Aug/Sept 30" (75cm)

£4.80 for 20 or £11.00 for 50

*There is a huge range of hybrid Gladioli. These shorter forms (which often appear under the epithet of 'nanus') are very suitable for small gardens and will not need staking. In cold areas their early emerging leaves can be frost burnt, and where mice are a problem the bulbs can present an attractive meal. They are best in sheltered sunny spots in fairly well drained soils, in colder areas they might do better in some protection.*



### NANUS ATOM 24-18

Orange red flowers, each emboldened by a white edge enhancing the petal shape especially where they overlap, they are rather lovely.

July 30" (75cm)

£4.00 for 10 or £9.00 for 25



### NANUS MIRELLA

24-17

Initially pillar box red in flower, fading gently, with good upright stems. We have found them to be long lasting in flower.

July 30" (75cm)

£4.00 for 10 or £9.00 for 25



**NANUS NYMPH** 24-11

White flowers with reddish purple lipstick markings on the lower petals. The flower stems are more wayward and less upright, this is the most sought after of the coloured forms when we exhibit them together.

July 24" (60cm)  
£4.00 for 10 or £9.00 for 25



**NANUS THE BRIDE** 24-06

Greenish white flowers with a pale yellow green throat to each flower, the most popular of the shorter forms by far.

July 18" (45cm)  
£4.00 for 10 or £9.00 for 25

*The flevo series are the result of a breeding program led by the Snoek family in Flevoland, a polder reclaimed from the IJsselmeer in central Holland. They are very upright with the flowers held close to the stem in a variety of 'modern' colours with good lasting qualities. These may also need some mulching in cold gardens in the winter, though could also be lifted and stored dry as they tend to be pretty inactive in the winter when kept dry.*



**HYBRID FLEVO COOL** 24-21

Two tone lilac coloured flowers with a darker reddish purple tongue of colour in the throat, I can see them being used in flower arrangements with Agapanthus heads.

Aug/Sept 24" (60cm)  
£4.00 for 10



**HYBRID FLEVO LAGUNA** 24-20

Yellowish green coloured with upwards of eight flowers up the stem, all edged in crimson.

Aug/Sept 24" (60cm)  
£4.00 for 10



**HYBRID FLEVO VITO** 24-22

Scarlet red flowered, broken up with yellow rays down the centre of the petals and by pale anthers.

Aug/Sept 24" (60cm)  
£4.00 for 10



**PAPILIO** 24-13

These bulbs never get very big and in the ground their anchoring stolons tend to 'move' them in the soil so they sometimes land up some way from where they were planted. The hooded purple green flowers almost demand to be held up so as to look at the feathered purple and gold markings within. Perfectly hardy here and over much of the country elsewhere I would expect, increasing quite rapidly in soils that are not too dry.

Late summer 36" (90cm)  
£6.00 for 5



**RUBY** 24-14

These were originally presumed to be a form of *G. papilio* when first sold at Hadspen. Now they are thought to be more closely linked to *G. ecklonii*. Sturdy plants which are relatively vigorous and indeed seed around the nursery, but evidently less hardy than the species above, with hooded crimson flowers exhibiting slight variability in shade and flower shape. The seedlings they throw do vary widely in shape and colour, suggesting that this is a plant of hybrid origin.

Late summer 36" (90cm)  
£3.50 or £9.00 for 3

## HEDYCHIUM

South East Asian members of the ginger family, forming big plants by late summer. They are sun lovers with broad green foliage and hollow stems. All parts smell of ginger to some extent. The flowers are sweetly scented. Hardier than one might expect, ours have survived past winters outside with a mulch. *H. coronarium* is more tender and would need winter protection of some sort. All these by division.



### CORONARIUM 🏆 27-04

Clusters of white flowers, yellow marked, extending from cone shaped buds with big jungle green stems and leaves. These will flower in sunny gardens outdoors, but do so late in the year and on shorter stems, and will need winter protection. However they love a warmer greenhouse even more (even a huge pot protected in winter) when they will flower rather earlier than suggested. Fantastically fragrant.

Sept 48-60" (120-150cm)  
£3.50



### DENSIFLORUM ASSAM ORANGE 27-06

Completely hardy here, the same form as collected by Kingdon Ward in 1938, with many narrow orange flowers. Vigorous and increasing, particularly these past summers although they emerge from the ground very late, they could provide a very unusual jungle summer screen.

Aug & Sept 30" (75cm)  
£5.00 for 3 or £7.50 for 5



### DENSIFLORUM STEPHEN 27-08

The flower is much longer and looser than those of Assam Orange, yellow and orange in colour. They increase steadily in our heavy loam soils.

Aug & Sept 40-50" (100-125cm)  
£4.50 or £11.00 for 3



### TARA 🏆 27-05

Fragrant orange coloured flowers in a loose arrangement on strong tall stemmed plants. Here they are grown in the open and unprotected but in cold gardens it may be wise to mulch them in cold winters. One of the outstanding plants on the nursery in the summer of 2015.

Aug/Sept 6' (180cm)  
£6.50



## HEMEROCALLIS

### KWANZO FLORE PLENA 19-09

This daylily I believe to be virtually indestructible in a gardening sense. Tough, vigorous and persistent, back into leaf early in the spring and with a long flowering period as the individual flowers take over, one from another. Full-petalled, brownish orange in colour with darker markings; a very old hybrid. An easy, bone hardy, bombproof herbaceous plant, also good near water. Allow 18" (45cm) spread from divisions.

Aug 30" (75cm)  
£3.50 or £8.50 for 3

## HESPERANTHA (SCHIZOSTYLIS)

*It will take a long while for me to naturally use the new name for this family, whilst its pronunciation was always argued over, the old name stuck in my mind better. Easy plants where they can be grown in the open and the soils are not too dry in the summer. Grassy leaved and appreciative of being split up every 3 or 4 years. These from 9 cm pots.*



### COCCINEA MAJOR 🏆 41-04

Crimson red in flower with broad shiny petals. Iconic and essential autumn flowering plants.

Sept/Nov 20" (45cm)  
£5.00



### COCCINEA MOLLIE GOULD 41-05

Pale pink flowered but on closer inspection most of the pinkness comes from irregular pink freckling over the petal surface. Cup shaped flowers.

Aug/Oct 14" (75cm)  
£5.00



### COCCINEA WILFRED H BRYANT 🏆 41-06

More star shaped flowers with narrower petals in an attractive pale pink

Aug/Nov 14" (75cm) £5.00

▲ Photo credit: GAP Images

▲ Photo credit: GAP Images

## IRIS

A huge family and our list for autumn planting offers many more truly bulbous ones. These are the open ground grown forms which are dug and divided in the early spring to order, so will all be supplied as divisions.



### GRAMINEA 103-106

Grassy leaved with plum coloured flowers nestling low within the foliage and with a greengage perfume. Flowering best in a warm sunny spot near the Iris unguicularis which enjoy the same conditions?

May-June 10" (25cm)  
£6.00 for 3



### ORIENTALIS 103-18

From northern Greece and Turkey, a more rhizomatous plant with magnificent displays of white and yellow flowers atop tall stems. They take a while to settle and thicken up, quicker in open sunny conditions and in moist soils, but they are tough and dependable. They could also be used as marginal or bog plants.

Late spring 36" (90cm)  
£7.00 for 3



### SIBIRICA 103-12

A good mid blue unnamed form close in character to the species (which comes from north east Asia), it flowers brilliantly in the open ground but efforts to flower in a pot for exhibition have always failed for us. This is a tall form, the flowers reaching 3-4' (90-120cm) especially in good moisture retentive soils. The named forms that follow are all a bit shorter.

May/June 36" or more (90cm)  
£10.00 for 3



### SIBIRICA CAMBRIDGE 103-30

Impressively floriferous with lots of supporting foliage and as a consequence quite vigorous. The flowers are pale Cambridge blue with a golden throat nestling close to the foliage. Easy to grow in any reasonable soil in the sun.

May/June 30" (75cm)  
£4.50



### SIBIRICA DREAMING YELLOW 103-31

White standards with pale creamy falls and the centre darker yellow again.

June 30" (80 cm)  
£4.50 or £12.00 for 3



### SIBIRICA FLIGHT OF BUTTERFLIES 103-26

Two tone flowers with the purple blue standards rising above the patterned white and blue falls. The foliage is narrow and compact, persisting and quite grass-like in winter. Easy and increasing.

May/June 30" (75cm)  
£4.50 or £12.00 for 3



### SIBIRICA SILVER EDGE 103-32

Two tone blue flowers, the standards paler than the falls with a fine thread of silver edging the flower.

June 30" (75cm)  
£4.50 or £12.00 for 3



### IRIS SIBIRICA SPARKLING ROSE 103-33

Seemingly less leafy but with rosy purple flowers, veined with white towards the centre, with a yellow throat.

June 30" (75cm)  
£4.50 or £12.00 for 3



### SANGUINEA SNOW QUEEN 103-28

A clean white flower with golden yellow markings at the base with more rounded petals. A subsection of I sibirica, these are originally central Asian. For open conditions in moisture retentive soil, a neat and tidy plant producing lots of flower.

June 30" (75cm)  
£4.00 or £10.00 for 3

## IXIA

We have used some *Ixia* to great effect at Chelsea over the last couple of years, they provide a waxy upright and colourful addition to the display. But despite people telling us that they grow them in their gardens and that they self-seed and reappear regularly they are not always easy plants in the British climate. These successful gardeners must be gardening on light sandy soils as ordinarily our winters are too wet and cold for unprotected bulbs. But on the other hand they are pretty cheap to buy and we feel that by planting them in the early spring you should certainly get a worthwhile display the same summer. Generally small bulbed, somewhere between a large pea and a small marble.



### SPOTLIGHT 105-09

Not quite as tall as Mabel with white flowers, red striped down the back of each petal.

Summer 20" (48cm)  
£3.00 for 10 or £6.00 for 25

## KNIPHOFIA

*The Kniphofia are sun lovers and would prefer an open sunny position. But gardening books mostly suggest that they need very well drained soils to do well. We think that in this they are wrong. In our heavy loam soils which are never waterlogged for long the field grown varieties thrive and increase well, despite having experienced temperatures below -15°C with little protection in past winters. They must be much more resilient than is usually suggested. In cold areas one may need to be careful of extended freeze ups, against which a protective mulch of the crown would be advisable. They last ages in flower and offer vertical accents of colour in the late summer with very little trouble at all.*



### CASTOR 105-04

A shorter form with pale cerise pink coloured flowers. Without the stem length of Mabel they tend to not arch as dramatically but better in smaller spaces.

Summer 24" (60cm)  
£3.00 for 10 or £6.00 for 25



### MABEL 105-05

A rich crimson coloured form, this one taller than many. The long stem length allows them to arch prettily, but they do need to be in good light otherwise they will not open properly.

Summer 36" (90cm)  
£3.00 for 10 or £6.00 for 25



### BEES LEMON 145-18

From the Bees stable (an old nursery 'Bees of Chester' 1938-1960). Green buds turn pale yellow late in the summer and early autumn on these. From division. Allow 15" (40cm) spread.

Aug/Sept 36" (90cm)  
£5.00



### BEES SUNSET 145-05

This is a large and vigorous glowing orange on an apricot stem forming good barrel shaped flowers. An outstanding form in the RHS trials 2007-2009. These make thick clumps in time and have many flowers. We provide generous divisions from open ground raised plants. Allow 15" (40cm) spread.

July/Aug 40" (100cm)  
£5.00



### BUTTERCUP 145-06

Warm orangey-yellow flowered plants, vigorous and making good mounds of healthy foliage, well able to support the strong flowering stems. Divisions from field grown stock. Allow 15" (40cm) spread.

July/Aug 40" (100cm)  
£5.00



### ICE QUEEN 145-08

Flowering late in the summer and then into the early autumn with ghostly green spikes in bud turning to creamy white flower heads, the last flower stems bravely resisting any early frosts and lovely in the early autumn when the spent flower stems provide natural scaffolding for splendid spider's webs. Divisions from field grown stocks Allow 18" (45cm) spread.

Late summer 40" (100cm)  
£5.00



### RICH ECHOES 145-17

Strong apricot yellow flowers following dusky orange buds on dark bronzed stems. Raised by Ed Brown (son of Bob). Tending to have two flowering phases, one early and another in late summer, ours still have many flowers in early November. Another top performer in the trials. From division, allow 12" (30cm) spread.

June/Sept 30" (70cm)  
£5.00



## LATHRAEA

### CLANDESTINA 71-105

Purple toothwort, a parasite mainly of willow, poplar hazel and alder (though rarely seeming to cause any harm to its host). The slightly orchid like flowers are all one sees above ground, a true parasite having no chlorophyll. Plant these divisions close up against the bole of a mature host.

April • 3" (8cm)  
£5.00 or £13.00 for 3

## LILIUM

*For scent, drama and beauty the lilies are hard to beat, truly one of the nation's favourite flowers! But do remember that many of the lilies are derived from plants that originally grew in nearly monsoonal conditions. They thrive on a combination of high rainfall and good drainage! So in an effort to lock in water near the plant do add lots of humus to the soil when planting and because many are stem rooting (the roots emerging from the stem between the bulb and the soil surface provide anchorage and sustenance) it may be necessary to plant them quite deeply. Lily beetle is a scourge, red and black and very visible as adults, they are easily squashed under one's shoe but their larvae (in a slimy protective blanket) are worse to deal with. Over much of the UK now they are a pest for which there seem to be no natural predators. The insecticide Provado does work to reduce their numbers, diminishing the overwintered population.*

### Asiatic trumpet forms:

*Tall lilies for borders with large hugely scented trumpets flowering in mid summer.*



### REGALE ♡ 31-04

Much like a good string of pearls on a simple black dress, Liliium regale provides that indefinable understated but classical look, and in this case with a huge scent. Glistening white with some yellow in the throat, the backs of the petals flushed with pink. Reportedly less attractive to the lily beetle when grown alone?

July 36" (90cm)  
£7.00 for 3



▲ Photo credit: GAP Images

### REGALE ALBUM 31-05

Very similar to the lily above, but without the pinkness to the back of the petals and still heavily perfumed.

July 36" (90cm)  
£7.00 for 3



▲ Photo credit: GAP Images

### RED VELVET 31-36

Deep mahogany red with lots of flowers on each stem all marked with darker speckling. A really good, upright new lily with poise, the dark stem only adds to the effect.

July 36" (90cm)  
£5.50 for 3



### Asiatic forms:

### NETTY'S PRIDE 31-35

A rather more 'modern' lily compared with many of the others that we list but it is popular for the contrast between the ivory exterior and the dark cappuccino dusted centres, speckled where they meet. Really good in containers and if they provide a contemporary feel then these lilies will only enhance that look.

June/July 30" (75cm)  
£5.20 for 3



▲ Photo credit: www.visions.com



### Asiatic double forms:

### ELODIE 31-30

A very pretty semi double flowered lily in peachy pink with a sprinkling of darker freckles. Columnar rather than branched in habit and quite tall with tidy wide leaves. A pollen free variety with a good vase life, if you can bear to cut them for the house.

June/July 36-48" (90-120cm)  
£5.20 for 3



▲ Photo credit: www.visions.com

### SPRING PINK 31-43

A semi double Asiatic with large flowers in the palest pink. Upright and pollen free which adds to its lasting qualities.

June/ July 30" (70 cm)  
£5.20 for 3

### PINK FLAVOUR 31-44

Very pretty flowers in shades of pink, paler at the throat and darker at the petal rims.

June/ July 36" (100cm)  
£5.20 for 3



▲ Photo credit: www.visions.com

### SALMON FLAVOUR 31-45

I do sometime wonder about the naming of new plants, would you eat salmon this colour - but be that as it is! These are tending to apricot rather than pink with fresh almost luminous petals, freckled at the throat.

June/July 36" (100cm)  
£5.20 for 3



### Oriental forms:

*More obviously hybrid forms, all of which have some 'Oriental' characteristics. Generally not so tall and perhaps better suited to containers.*

### CASA BLANCA ♡ 31-11

Upright plants with huge, scented, sparkling white flowers, palest pink on the reverse with big, dark anthers that look mascara brushed. They do not grow well in very limey soils and may be less tolerant of unusually cold winters, but fantastic in pots in more ericaceous compost where the late flowering and very heavy scent can be enjoyed to the full.

July/Aug 30" (75cm)  
£5.20 for 3



## LIRIOPE

MUSCARI  109-04

Everyone knows the 'Black Grass' - Ophiopogon by sight, even if they do not know its Latin name. These are closely related, their foliage is nearly evergreen, mound forming and narrowly linear – and in this case dark glossy green (when planted in some shade). In the late summer and autumn very long lasting erect 'ropes' of purple-mauve flowers decorate those mounds, a bit like the flowers on spring flowering Muscari. They like fertile soil in part shade and are very tough, but slow growing. Combining well with autumn flowering Cyclamen and Hesperantha (previously Schizostylis ) they are welcome in the autumn garden when purple is not a common colour. Avoid planting them in full sun, in scorching years their foliage can get burnt.

Sept/Oct 10" (25cm)  
£4.50 or £12.00 for 3

## OPHIOPOGON

NIGRESCENS  116-04

Alluded to in the previous plant, (and out of alphabetical order for that reason) this is a useful companion plant to many others, providing a dramatic contrast equally well to bright foliage plants or shorter low pale flowered plants such as Snowdrops, Colchicum or Cyclamen for instance, as the image shows at Anglesey Abbey in Cambridge. In leaf all year round the small purple flowers are a nice adornment in the early summer but if planted in a little shade these set strings of shiny black berries which last for ages through the autumn and winter. (The resulting seedlings may well be green leaved however). Easy, tough and slowly creeping. Plants from division

Summer 8" (20cm)  
£2.50 or £7.00 for 3

## NERINE

*Late-flowering members of the Amaryllis family which flower in the autumn without their leaves. Often seen as 'fickle', they seem to grow and flower unattended in some gardens whilst in others despite being worried and fussed over they appear to flower sparsely, if everything else seems right just allow them time to settle! They do need good light, some summer moisture and to be left alone till tightly clumped - then they flower best of all. Close observation of the flowers in direct sun will reveal their iridescent sparkle.*



BOWDENII  33-04

Very familiar pale fuchsia-pink flowers that seem to thrive best at the base of a warm wall. Shallower planting suits them best and they seem to flower better when somewhat congested. Flowering in the same year as planting is sometimes unimpressive, but be patient for spectacular autumnal fireworks, resulting in a well deserved Award of Garden Merit.

Sept/Oct 15" (40cm)  
£3.60 for 3 or £10.00 for 9



BOWDENII PINK SURPRISE  33-14

Large headed but shorter stemmed with deeply cut petals of the palest pink with a darker pink midrib. One of our prettiest cut flowers and lasting ages in water when picked. Recently highly recommended in a trial of hardy Nerines. With the same growth patterns as N. bowdenii they should be as hardy, though no doubt it would be wise to be cautious till you have lots of them?

October 15" (40cm)  
£10.00 for 3

ZEAL GIANT  33-19

A certain favourite with bright cerise-pink flowers, on long clean stems. Big bulbed (relative to N. bowdenii) and quite slow to increase. The long lasting flowers adorn many Harvest Festival flower arrangements locally! Raised by the late Terry Jones in Devon. Late flowering and hence better in some shelter in a sun warmed soil. It is also winter dormant and should be as hardy as N. bowdenii.

Sept/Oct 18" (45cm)  
£3.80 each or £11.00 for 3





## ORLAYA

### GRANDIFLORA 12-01

Much admired in our exhibits where we use these plants as a green companion to the more 'stemmy' bulbs in April and May, their white flowers also enhance the more varied colours of the late spring flowers. But people do find them a bit tricky to germinate and so we have done it for you. Plants that will have become quite well rooted in 9 cm pots, ready to pot on carefully to a larger size (probably 2L) which to plant into a border in early May. They resent much root disturbance and carrot fly is sometimes the cause of their downfall, but we will provide some tips to help.

Summer 18-24" (45-60 cm)  
£4.00 or £11.00 for 3

## POLYGONATUM

*The Solomon's Seals, a family of hardy perennials which will grow nearly anywhere. Their preference is for heavier, moisture retentive soils in some shade. Some will get impressively tall in such shade, sunnier situations will result in stems that are of shorter stature. They are affected by the Gooseberry Saw Fly caterpillar – though not all to the same extent. These are supplied as divisions (roots).*



### CURVISTYLUM 42-10

Dark stemmed plants with narrow purple tinted foliage and an arching habit carrying small mauve waisted bell shaped flowers in whorls at each leaf axil up the stem. Graceful yet very tough.

June 30" (75cm)  
£5.00 or £12.00 for 3



### ODORATUM 42-09

A tough yet rare native plant somewhat shorter and more compact than the other species with stems that are less upright than those of other members of the family. Much less affected by the Sawfly caterpillar. The flowers are scented, white and green.

May 18" (45cm)  
£6.50 for 3



### SIBIRICUM 42-13

Tall, graceful plants with fine, narrow leaves, quite olive green in colour. Dangling white flowers from the leaf axils on the erect stems. The thicker stems give the impression of a small thicket of bamboo in miniature.

May/June 48" (1.1 m)  
£5.00 or £12.00 for 3



### VERTICILLATUM ROSEUM 42-06

Tall and slender stemmed with whorls of narrow leaves and clusters of pink flowers up the stems in early summer. Red berries take their places in the late summer as the leaves begin to yellow, starting the garden's autumnal mood. More delicate looking than many of the family, but just as tough underneath it all.

June 36" (90cm)  
£5.00 or £12.00 for 3



### X HYBRIDUM 42-04

The toughest most vigorous and most familiar of the Solomon's Seals, and for good reason. Apart from being a garden stalwart the stems can be harvested for use in the house as cool green and white displays when in flower, or as home grown filler for much of the summer. Best (and more luxuriantly impressive) in some shade and in moisture retentive soils.

May/June 24-36" (60-90cm)  
£6.00 for 3 or £12.00 for 7



### X HYBRIDUM GRACE BARKER 42-07

The variegated leaf form, shorter and more compact plant with irregular but dominant creamy white flashes over the grey-green leaves. The flowers are white, dangling below the arching stems just as you would expect, coordinating nicely with the foliage.

May/June 18-24" (45-60cm)  
£5.00 or £12.00 for 3



### X HYBRIDUM WELSH GOLD 42-15

Grown in the open the leaves of this form do turn golden in the spring (under the influence of what we are not sure). In some years the effect is stronger than in others but when it happens it is dramatic.

June 30" (75cm)  
£5.00



## RHODOHYPOXIS

### BAURII HYBRID 39-04

Small South African bulbs which, when happy, really do flower their socks off for very little return in effort. They do not like it wet in winter (when they are dormant), so we would suggest that you either need very well drained conditions (a raised bed perhaps) or, potted as the picture shows, or in discrete mesh pots which can be planted in the garden all summer, and lifted (in their pot) for a dry winter's rest somewhere dry. The bulbs are naturally small and knobbly – just a warning to ensure no disappointment on arrival! Unselected for colour, these come in shades of pink, white and red. Potted into an all purpose mix (they do not want too much lime) 5 bulbs would, through the summer, fill a 4" (10cm) pot, with sun and regular water and with a bit of dead heading they might be in flower for 6 weeks or more.

Summer 4" (10cm)  
£4.00 for 5 or £11.00 for 15

## ROSCOEÆ

These hail from the Himalayas and eastward (with family connections to the ginger family). They are very hardy and for us (in heavy soil) do well in the open, although they are more routinely suggested as plants for part shade. So shade will do, as long as it is not too dry, and here they are useful in providing interesting summer colour in sometimes testing conditions.



## TRICYRTIS

The 'Toad Lily'. Wonderful autumn-flowering herbaceous plants. Tall, with soft corrugated leaves along wiry branched stems, the ends of which support purple orchid-like flowers. Best in a little shade, but happy enough in full sun as long as it is not too dry. When dormant they disappear back to small and unlikely looking rhizomes with an arrowhead-like growing point.



Photo credit: GAP Images

### CAUTLEYOIDES 40-06

Much earlier flowering than any others with pale butter yellow flowers held well above the foliage, a more erect and less branched plant.

Early summer 15" (40cm)  
£7.00 for 3



Photo credit: GAP Images

## SANDERSONIA

### AURANTIACA 62-01

A tender bulb, closely related to the Gloriosa (the Flame Lily of Southern Africa and India). These are neither as tall nor such good climbers with only small tendrils on the ends of the terminal leaves on which to hook themselves. Late to emerge from the soil but in flower for many weeks, even months, with bright orange lanterns (which if you wanted to, last ages as cut flower too). They must be overwintered dry and probably somewhere warmer than the greenhouse or shed. A good conservatory plant too.

Summer climbing to 3' (90cm)  
£3.50



### AURICULATA 40-08

Flowers with bold purple lips and a slightly paler hood, supported on corrugated foliage, making their displays from mid July through to September. Vigorous and easy.

Late summer 15" (40cm)  
£3.50 for 5 or £6.50 for 10



Photo credit: GAP Images

### PURPUREA 40-10

Strong stemmed, with thickening at the nodes on the 'stems', somewhat like a bamboo, with successions of mauve-purple flowers providing interest and colour over several weeks.

Late summer 24" (60cm)  
£5.50 for 3



## SMILACINA (MAIANTHEMUM)

Woodland plants related to the *Polygonatum*, often for shaded and more moist conditions and native of north west America.



### FORMOSANA 45-04

Orchid-like flowers on first sight. A white background nearly covered with rosy purple freckling. Tall, and wiry stemmed, the first flowers replaced by further flushes of flowers on the lower branches.

Sept/Oct 36" (90cm)  
£5.00 for 7



### BEESIANA 40-05

A natural garden hybrid between *R. cautleyoides* and *R. auriculata* which results in vigorous plants with variable purple markings on otherwise yellow flowers - some have purple tips, others are more than half purple. Vigorous and easy.

Late summer 15" (40cm)  
£4.00 for 3

### PURPUREA BROWN PEACOCK 40-11

Darker leaved and with red tinged 'stems' (pseudostems to be correct), the flowers are mauve and lilac and they bloom a bit later in the year. The colour of the foliage and the fact that the whole plant is more compact makes a clump of these much more outstanding and desirable.

Late summer 24" (60cm)  
£8.00 for 3

### RACEMOSUM VAR AMPLEXICAULE 46-06

Pleated leaves give way to tassel like flowers in cream, a bit Veratrum-like, and these result in long lasting red-brown seedheads in late summer. Easy and tough, plants from division.

May/June 18" (45cm)  
£4.50

### FORMOSANA STOLONIFERA 45-06

Much paler than the form above with the background white more dominant, the leaves are also broader, softer and hairier and in some shade this grows pretty tall.

Sept/Oct 45" (1m)  
£3.00



Photo credit: GAP Images

## WHITE TOWERS 45-07

Upright stemmed with softly felted leaves alternating along them with, at each leaf base emerge the flower stems holding tight buds which gradually open with white flowers with a yellow ring at the base. Very suitable for shade where the paler flowers will stand out. From 9 cm pots

Sept/Oct 18" (45cm)  
£5.50



## TROPÆOLUM

### TUBEROSUM KEN

#### ASLET 47-08

Some tubers trained over some pea sticks have flowered for months this autumn and a few bulbs trained up some netting have camouflaged an oil tank for the summer. Pretty, knobbly pink flushed bulbs produce Nasturtium-like foliage that scrambles into the light to produce masses of slightly snakelike flowers in green and orange. The tubers tend to grow toward the soil surface so may need reburying at intervals. Easy and increasing

Autumn climbing to 8' (2.5m)  
£6.00 for 3

## TULBAGHIA

*Exceedingly drought-resistant plants from southern Africa. Members of the lily family all with garlic scented foliage and, with us, in flower for many months. Some of them are grown outside here, mulched in winter. In colder areas they may be better grown in pots in full sun, brought in to over-winter where they will not be frozen solid.*



## TRITONIA

### X ROSEA (DISTICHA RUBROLUCENS) 15-11

A close relative to the Crocosmia and it may be more accurate to lump them together. Really long-lasting in flower with small papery rose pink bells sequentially flowering along their thin wiry branching stems. Never many flowers open at once but in flower most of the summer. A lovely soft shape and colour to enhance a sunny border. Persistent grass-like foliage providing protection to the bulbs in the winter. South African plants, so they may benefit from a winter's mulch in cold areas. The small bulbs will not harm from being planted 4" (10cm) deep.

Summer 24" (60cm)  
£5.00 for 5



### ALLIACEA 130-14

No-one has been prepared to help us confirm whether this is correctly named. We have grown it under this name for years. It is probably a hybrid form (maybe of *T. alliacea*) being sterile, but it spreads and thickens merrily here under cold glass flowering from June till October with masses of long lasting small khaki and green flowers.

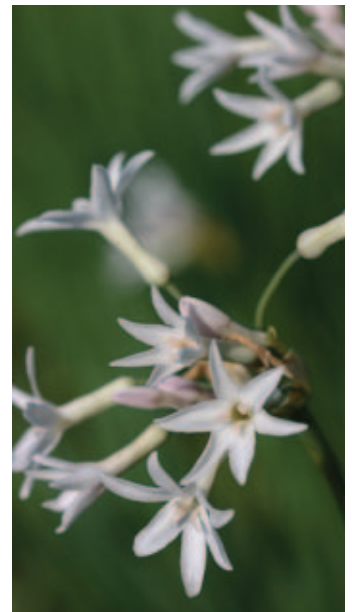
Summer 14" (35cm)  
£5.00 for 3



### COMINSII X VIOLACEA 130-12

One of the longest flowering plants we grow, some early flowers are usually to be seen in late May, and there are usually still some flowers in October. One deadheading session in mid-summer and a sunny well drained soil is all that is required! On the edge of hardiness here so protection is probably a wise precaution. Lilac mauve flowers which, with the foliage, is all quite strongly onion scented. A really good patio plant.

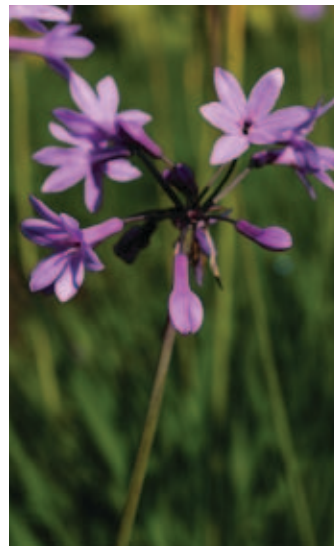
Summer 14" (35cm)  
£3.50



### VIOLACEA PALLIDA 130-07

Daintily flowered in white, flushed the palest pink. These are smaller flowered with shorter and less coarse foliage and generally more delicate but increase well where happy, they do need a bit of shelter, a mulch in winter and a sunny site.

Summer 18" (45cm)  
£4.50 for 3



### VIOLACEA 130-17

These flower continuously from June to October with a slightly pungent garlic smell from any crushed foliage. Probably the hardiest of the family, we grow them outside here with a mulch in winter, violet purple flowers.

All summer 18" (45cm)  
£3.50



### VIOLACEA SILVER LACE 130-08

Strongly silver-variegated form of *T. violacea*; purple-flowered and worth trying outside in sheltered gardens but the conventional wisdom is that this form is more tender. They are however very long flowered and would make an unusual patio subject, the foliage alone being very eye-catching.

Summer 14" (35cm)  
£6.50 for 3

# Seeds from Avon Bulbs

Any packet  
of seeds  
**£2.50**

We have a seed box which travels to the shows and from which customers can pick out seed packets that they might like to purchase. The range is small and generally reflects the plants that we have grown and are showing to associate well with the bulbs on the display (but the annuals flower from seed very much more quickly than bulbs) particularly at the Chelsea Flower Show where so many visitors from abroad want something to take home and try for themselves.

But many of our mail order customers do not see us at the shows and may like the chance to buy a packet or two? Availability may be limited depending on the demand at the shows!



Average seed contents: 10

**Lunaria annua**  
**'Alba Variegata'**

Hardy biennial, late spring flowering with scented white flowers on branching hairy stems bearing leaves with strong white variegation. The seed cases are distinctive as papery translucent discs. Early spring sown plants will flower the following spring and summer but autumn sown seed will not flower till the second spring. The variegation becomes more pronounced with age. Grow in sun or part shade. Self seeding around the garden. Mature plants 2-3' tall (60-90cm)



Average seed contents: 20

**Allium cernuum**

Claret pink flowered plants of reasonably well drained locations in full sun. Of North American origin and hardy in the UK, self sown seedlings spreading and thickening one's clumps. Summer flowering about 18" (45 cm) tall with leaves that persist for much of the year. The flowers are good for beneficial insects.

Either sow directly where they are to be grown in the autumn or early spring, or thinly in a seed tray of well drained compost. Prick out when large enough to handle without damage. They may take 3 years to flower from seed, some will flower in their 2nd year



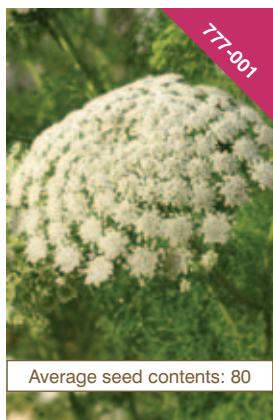
Average seed contents: 10

**Lunaria annua**  
**'Chedglow'**

Hardy biennial flowering April to early May with wonderful chocolate leaves and lilac flowers, growing to 3' (1 m) or a bit more.

Decorative seed heads persist with translucent discs that can be used in dried arrangements.

Sow 2 seeds per single pot outside in a shady sheltered spot and plant out into the border in full sun or part shade when large enough. Sown in the spring, plants will flower the following year, but late sown (June onwards) will take a second year to flower. These will hybridise with other Lunaria close by. The leaves are eaten by rabbits.



Average seed contents: 80

**Ammi visnaga**  
**'Mystique'**

Hardy Annual. Large domed umbels of green and white flowers supported by fine feathery green foliage in the summer about 2-3' tall (60-90 cm), very good cut flower (strip most of the leaves off as these turn yellow in a vase) and a very good foil for colourful summer flowering dahlias in sunny but moist soil. Sow the very small seed thinly in either early autumn (August-September) or in the spring (March-April) directly into well drained soil in a sunny position.



Average seed contents: 80

**Nicotiana mutabilis**  
**(Ornamental Tobacco)**

A striking tender plant up to 5' (1.5m) with showers of white flowers which turn through pink to a deep magenta as they mature. The effect is spectacular with both colours present on the plant together. Sow thinly in warm moist conditions in the late spring only covering the seed very thinly (the seed is tiny). Once large enough to handle prick out a few plants into individual pots and grow them in warm, light conditions. Keep potting the plant on till it is 6" tall (15cm) when it can be planted out into a sunny border. Flowers in the late summer. If a plant is overwintered (in frost free conditions) flowering is much earlier and more profuse the second year.



Average seed contents: 15

**Anthriscus sylvestris**  
**'Ravenswing'**  
**(Black Cow Parsley)**

Perfect for a wild garden or meadow. An elegant, clump-forming biennial or short lived perennial with finely divided ferny foliage of darkest mahogany-bronze and umbels of white flowers in late spring and early summer. Plant in well drained soil, in sun or partial shade. Height 80cm, spread 50cm.

Sow in trays in May-June or Sept-Feb. Sow finely and evenly. Cover thinly with compost or grit and position in good light outside. Transplant individual seedlings when large enough to handle, into 3in pots. Select seedlings with dark, purple brown foliage, occasionally a plain green seedling may appear. Will self-seed freely unless you remove spent flower heads.



Average seed contents: 10

**Orlaya grandiflora**  
**(White Lace Flower)**

A plant of meadows, vineyards and olive groves in the Mediterranean. Fern-like foliage and lace-like white umbels, with the outer petals a larger than the inner. 18-24" tall (45-60cm). An easy to grow annual setting seed that you can collect and grow. Sow individually into small single 3" (7cm) pots of seed compost and germinate in warm conditions in the spring or early summer. Pot on as required to achieve a strong plant 4" (10cm) tall before planting out into a sunny border.



Average seed contents: 80

**Nigella damascena**  
**(Love in the Mist)**

A hardy annual suitable for any soil but it must be grown in a sunny position. The common name is suggested by the way the flower is held in a nest of lacy bracts. This form is not the normal blue one, but opens white and matures to a wonderful antique pink, perhaps a form called Persian Rose. Originally from southern Europe these grow to between 8-20" (20-45cm) tall. Easy to grow and especially useful for providing colourful ground cover in poorer soils.

Sow the seeds thinly, in the early autumn and again in early spring for a succession of flowers, directly into the soil, covering them lightly. They set bladder like seed pods after flowering, they should self sow in succeeding years.



Average seed contents: 30

**Tulipa sprengeri**

May flowering species tulip, now unknown in the wild. Red flowered, often verdigris marked on the outside with contrasting golden anthers. About 18" (40cm) tall. Sow reasonably thinly in a deep seed tray and plunge in the ground in shade to grow without disturbance till the bulbs that form are large enough to transfer, then plant (with as much soil as possible) 2-3" deep in part shade where they will not be disturbed again. Or sow where you want them to grow and they will do all this themselves! May take 3-4 years to flower, but avoid disturbance in the area. Once flowering will self seed. Bulbs flower when grape sized or larger.

P&P for any number of seed packets ordered alone within UK £1.50, or destinations within the EU or Switzerland please add £2.50 P&P







# Avon Bulbs - how it all works

**Generally:** This catalogue is **valid** through the spring of 2016 and expires in May. The **prices** are for single bulbs unless it says otherwise, and can be found under each description. Please remember that this catalogue was written in late November, bulbs we offer are listed in the expectation, not the certainty, that we can supply them. Nature, the weather, and the perishability of living bulbs means that we sometimes cannot supply things that we list, despite our best intentions. If that happens we make **no substitutions** for items out of stock without contacting you for authority unless they are from our Collections, within these we do make suitable substitutions if required.

If, when you get your parcel, you are concerned at all by its contents please contact us as soon as you can. We do occasionally make mistakes, but we do make no specific guarantees about our bulbs except that we believe them to be viable, suitable and correctly named. We cannot **guarantee** flowering - though we would expect it in the first season from the vast majority of the bulbs supplied under reasonable growing conditions.

**Ordering:** You can order by post or phone. Alternatively you can browse this catalogue but place your order on-line using the Quick Order facility on our website. Whichever way you do it we will **acknowledge** your order, ideally by email but if not, by post. Please check that your order has been correctly entered onto our system.

**Paying:** Please provide a means of payment with your order. This could be your **credit or debit card** details (the card payment is then taken as the parcel is despatched), similarly a **Not to Exceed cheque** - made out like a normal cheque but undated and with no values. Across the top of the cheque you instead write "Not to Exceed £XX" where the value is a slightly greater than the amount you expect to pay. We will then complete it at the time of despatch for the correct total. Or a normal **cheque** for what you believe is the right amount (which we will bank when the order is placed). If the card payment is not authorised at the point of despatch your order will be held up whilst we contact you and obtain your correct card details.

**Delivery - When?** There may be some delay before we can send you your order. The Galanthus (Snowdrop) orders will be dealt with first, probably in late February / early March, the other bulb orders in mid-late March and early April.

**How much?** The basic **postage charge** is £4.95 for all parcels within mainland UK, but there are exceptions. For addresses in the Scottish Highlands, the Scottish islands, Northern Ireland and Island destinations such as the Channel Islands, Isle of Wight, Isle of Man and Scillies we may need to add a surcharge dependant on parcel weight.

**In detail:** Parcels under 2 Kg are sent by the Royal Mail (as are all parcels to the addresses listed above). Parcels heavier than 2 Kg will be sent to mainland UK addresses with our carriers, Interlink Express, on a next working day service (no deliveries on a Saturday). Providing us with your **email address** will result in a message from us to confirm despatch of the parcel (whoever the carrier) and will also result (for the parcels sent with Interlink Express) a further advisory message to allow you to track the delivery. From Interlink also (if you provide a **mobile telephone number**) you will be sent a text message telling you exactly when your parcel will be delivered (to within an hour) and you can reply to this to change that time slot. Whichever service we use we do recommend that you provide us with **Safeplace** leaving instructions. The delivery will then not require your signature but will be left where you nominate.

**European Customers:** We can supply bulbs to Europe. The minimum postage for parcels weighing less than 2Kg is £10.00 for parcels sent by Air Mail. Larger parcels vary in cost depending on destination country, details of these price bands can be found on our website.

**Collecting your Order:** You may like to collect your order from the nursery or at a show we are attending and avoid a delivery charge. This can be arranged for a mutually convenient moment when the bulbs are available.

## Make your delivery convenient to yourself!

You will receive an email however your parcel is sent (as long as we have your email address and your computer settings allow our messages to get through) but in addition if we have your mobile phone number and your parcel is handled by Interlink Express you will get an automated text message to let you know when they will be making the delivery (within a 1 hour window). If that is not convenient you can put off the delivery to a more suitable moment using set answers to that text. However if we have your Leaving Instructions regarding a Safeplace to leave the parcel you need not be at home at all!



### PARCEL INFO

Your parcel has been despatched on 29th Jan for delivery by Interlink Express. View your 1 hour delivery timeslot on morning of 1st Feb at [www.interlinkexpress.com](http://www.interlinkexpress.com)

### PARCEL INFO

Your parcel is out for delivery today 1st Feb and due to be delivered by Interlink Express between 11.20 - 12.20

### PARCEL INFO

Your parcel is due for delivery by Interlink Express between 11.20 - 12.20. To change the date  
TEXT 1 for 2nd Feb  
TEXT 2 for 3rd Feb  
TEXT 3 for 4th Feb



## Five Year Diaries!

**This remarkable diary really is a real memory builder!**

As you fill one entry you cannot help but look back to what you wrote on the same day in past years. Keeping a record year on year of the weather for the day can really help you understand your garden and its microclimate, as well as remind you of your gardening successes and lessons to learn. But you can also include films you saw, books you read, how much jam you made, who called for a chat or came to dinner, what you ate, what the grandchildren told you, the list is endless!

Finished in a wipe clean cover and spiral bound with botanical illustrations by Susan Olgivy marking the start of each month. 6" wide (15 cm) and just over 9" deep (23.5 cm) and weighing 770 g these are provided in a purpose made delivery sleeve and can be posted at any time (they make great Christmas presents) but can be started at any time of year. Unique to ourselves and not available elsewhere.

**£15.00 including P&P (within UK) Additional EU postage £6.00**

### Collection Times

We are primarily a business that operates by Mail Order. But if you live nearby, or are passing by when we are likely to be getting your order ready, you might like to collect your order and save on the postage?

Please phone to arrange this if required.

### GIFT TOKENS

These can be supplied at any time of year for any value over £15.00. We will send it with an attractive card with your message, adding the recipient to our mailing list for future catalogues. Our new ones can now be ordered and used on-line as well.



If undelivered, please return to sender:  
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