

# Newsletter

of the  
**Northern Ireland  
Daffodil Group**



Half-yearly publication of the  
**Northern Ireland Daffodil Group**

APRIL 1982  
ISSUE

# The Northern Ireland Daffodil Group



## Objects

The purpose for which the Society is established is the advancement of horticultural education through the study of the genus *Narcissus* and in furtherance of such purpose:

- (i) to promote public participation in the said educational purpose;
- (ii) to promote the establishment of public gardens or of display beds in such gardens which include plantings of *Narcissus* bulbs;
- (iii) to provide bulb stocks for plantings within para (ii) above;
- (iv) to promote, or advance scientific or practical research into the breeding, cultivation, and production of *Narcissus* cultivars;
- (v) to promote, or advance the study of *Narcissus* diseases and pests with particular reference to making Northern Ireland an international centre for the production of healthy stocks of *Narcissus*;
- (vi) to promote, or advance the production of new and improved cultivars of *Narcissus* by hybridisation, and the increase of stocks of the best types of existing cultivars;
- (vii) to publish, or assist in the publication of scientific and practical information and to publish a journal in respect of the activities of the Society;
- (viii) to promote, or advance the holding of shows, lectures, meetings, and displays which include exhibits of material relating to the *Narcissus* and to which the public is admitted, and wherever held throughout the World;
- (ix) to promote, or sponsor the promotion of classes for *Narcissus* at any Horticultural Show including the provision of trophies, cups, or prizes for such classes;
- (x) to provide, or nominate suitable qualified persons to judge classes or exhibits of *Narcissus* at any Horticultural Show or at any Show or display having such a class or exhibit;
- (xi) to provide, or nominate suitable qualified persons to give lectures, or to provide exhibits relating to the *Narcissus*;
- (xii) to aid, and to receive aid from the Departments of Agriculture in Northern Ireland, and for England, Wales, and Scotland, or from any body or person whether incorporated or not and whether carrying on activities in Northern Ireland or elsewhere, which has objects which include the purpose of the Society and which aid will advance the purpose of the Society;
- (xiii) to grant financial aid to meet in whole or in part the travel costs of a person provided or nominated by the Society to act as a judge at a Show within para (x) above, or to give a lecture or provide an exhibit within para (xi) above, or to provide a trophy, cup or prize at a Show within para (ix) above, whether or not such person is a member of the Society;
- (xiv) to accept subscriptions and gifts (whether of real, chattel real or personal assets), devises and bequests;
- (xv) to borrow, or raise, or secure the payment of money by mortgage or otherwise;
- (xvi) generally to manage, invest, and expend all the property and monies of the Society;
- (xvii) to affiliate or associate with any body or person whether incorporated or not, and whether carrying on activities in Northern Ireland or elsewhere;
- (xviii) to do all such other acts which lawfully are incidental to the purpose of the Society.

THE NORTHERN IRELAND DAFFODIL GROUP

## NEWSLETTER

April, 1982

Vol. 1 No. 10

### OFFICERS OF THE GROUP

#### *Chairman*

SANDY McCABE, 21 Parkmount Crescent, Ballymena.  
Telephone Ballymena 48231

#### *Vice-Chairman*

JACK CARLISLE, c/o Northern Bank, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

#### *Secretary*

SAM BANKHEAD, 32 Ballybollen Road, Ahoghill, Ballymena.  
Telephone Ballymena 871899

#### *Treasurer*

GILBERT ANDREWS, 1 Glenholm Crescent, Belfast.

#### *Committee*

MRS. K. READE, Carncairn Lodge, Broughshane, Ballymena.  
MRS. E. MAJOR, 62 Abbey Park, Bangor.  
J. KENNEDY, Pine Valley, 20 Drumboley Road, Ballycastle.  
W. J. DOUGLAS, 36 Church Road, Portadown.

#### *Liaison to Northern Ireland Growers*

W. J. TOAL, 16 Beechland Park, Dunmurry.

#### *Liaison to Ministry of Agriculture*

H. CROSBIE COCHRANE, 3 Manse Road, Newtownards.

#### *Editor of the Newsletter*

R. STERLING, 60 Churchill Park, Bangor.

## Chairman's Remarks

As the days lengthen and with dusk falling a little later each day, we see those green shoots emerging from their winter quarters. Additionally our hopes and anticipation awaken from their annual hibernation. However the doubts and uncertainties also grow.

Will those green shoots herald many prize-winning blooms? Will they flower in time for the first Show? If so, will we have enough left for the last Show? How have the flowers fared after the coldest winter since records were kept?

The answers to these questions will eventually be answered, but for the present we can only wait and wonder with impatience. The winter which has just passed was notable for its extreme cold. Temperatures of over 15° of frost were commonplace. In some parts of the world this may be classified as being quite temperate, but in Northern Ireland the effects were devastating. We are definitely not accustomed to such extremes.

Several years ago I recall losing a number of expensive and sought-after varieties through a similar freeze allied to inadequate covering of my pots. Thankfully the moist weather which accompanied that cold spell was absent this year. This coupled with a more liberal use of straw makes me hope that perhaps all is not yet lost.

I am anxious to return to the exhibition side of daffodil growing after my enforced lapse. I look forward to renewing many friendships and hopefully to make new ones. Speaking of friendships brings to mind the anticipated visit of some overseas visitors who are scheduled to visit Northern Ireland in 1982. We hope to welcome them from New Zealand, U.S.A. and the mainland of England. They are assured of the warmest of Irish welcomes.

Our Group continues in a healthy state, but as I have stated before it behoves each of us to attract new members — particularly from the younger generation. Let each of us in Northern Ireland resolve that in 1982 we will be responsible for recruiting one new enthusiast. It is only by the influx of new members that our Group can progress and prosper.

In conclusion, may I wish all our members, wherever they reside, the best, brightest and "bloomingest" season they have ever known.

S. McCABE

February, 1982

## Chairman's Report

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to our A.G.M. I am pleased to see such a fine attendance and am particularly glad that Mr. W. J. Toal is able to attend after his illness. No A.G.M. or any meeting of the N.I.D.G. would be complete without his affable presence. After the euphoria created by the World Convention in 1979 and the reflected glory of the same in 1980 last year was by contrast a remarkably quiet one. As I have already stated elsewhere it was particularly frustrating for me personally. Nevertheless the Group members enjoyed considerable success in the exhibition field.

I do not propose to mention the awards individually with the exception of William Dukelow. To gain five prizes from seven flowers on his first trip to London augurs well for the future. A few years ago an English exhibitor posed the question, how do you find them in Northern Ireland? Each year there is someone new coming along. William is keeping up the tradition.

During the year we were pleased to welcome Miss Barbara Fry, unfortunately I missed her address through duty commitments but I understand that it was very well received. We also had a brief visit from Mr. and Mrs. Frank, Tennessee.

1982 promises to be a good year for visitors. Hopefully we will see Mr. Peter Ramsey, New Zealand, the Roeses from California and Mary Lou Gripsover from Tennessee. There may well be others. Our "Newsletter" continues to receive much favourable comment. I thought that the last issue, though unfortunately late in publication through no fault of our editor, was particularly good. We need more contributions however and I would appeal to all members to consider providing material to ease the burden of Mr. R. Sterling who deserves credit and our grateful thanks for his untiring efforts. I would like to give notice to all exhibitors that 1982 will see me back in business after an enforced lapse of one year. I don't know what the quality of my flowers will be like coming from my impoverished soil and after the very severe winter recently experienced. However I will be in there battling for as many prizes as possible and particularly for the Amateur Championship.

My thanks to all for their support throughout the year particularly our Secretary and Treasurer. A special word of thanks to Sir Frank and Lady Harrison for their hospitality when they hosted the Late Show which was well supported. Thank you for your attention.

## Secretary's Note

The Northern Ireland daffodil fraternity were blessed with a mild winter and spring in 1981, with southerly winds blowing in from Africa, laden with Sahara dust. It is the first time I can remember seeing cars stained brown after a shower of rain.

Most of the daffodils bloomed within a couple of weeks in temperatures averaging around 56°F. The early Shows benefited from this freak weather with Show benches packed to capacity. We all hoped the rest of the Show season would be as good. Unfortunately a snow storm swept through the

province in the early hours of April 23rd — we awoke that morning to find all the daffodils flattened and under a carpet of snow three inches deep. The snow lay for 48 hours and most blooms never recovered from having been driven into the soil.

The late Shows would have been a disaster had it not been for Mrs. K. Reade and Mr. B. S. Duncan putting extra exhibits in the classes.

A new class was introduced in 1981 for the amateurs only, it was a six bloom class called the Amateur Championship. This was staged at seven Shows and the person with the highest points overall was declared the winner. This class was won by Mr. Michael Ward of Dublin — it was very well supported with a high standard being set.

During the past year thirteen new members have joined the group. I have received letters from overseas members congratulating us on the "Newsletter" and saying how much they looked forward to receiving their copy. When I reported this to the A.G.M. everyone wished to thank Bob Sterling, our Editor, for an excellent job well done.

I would like to wish everyone every success in the forthcoming season.

I would be grateful for any suggestions as to the kind of lectures that members would like the committee to arrange. The programme for 1982 has been arranged but it would give us time to arrange it for 1983.

S. BANKHEAD

## Editor's Note

I enjoy my visits to Billy and Louie Toal each month, not only to see that Billy is progressing after his illness but to listen and learn about the "old days" and the characters of those days. Billy is doing fine and looking forward to the incoming season. He and Louie send their good wishes to all their friends and their thanks for the cards, gifts, etc. during his illness.

Billy has contributed a lot to the "Newsletter" and as Chairman of the Group, so I would sincerely wish to record my thanks to a gentle old gentleman who was always willing to assist in the whims of the Editor.

Our Officers and Committee have had a rather lazy year during 1981 and I'm not alone in hoping that 1982 will bring better things.

The Editorial Committee elected was a complete disaster as to my knowledge they didn't even have one meeting — maybe through a "chat in" between the Chairman, Secretary and the Editor we may justify our existence in supplying bulbs and our "Daffodils in Ireland" Booklet in Primary Schools in Northern Ireland so that we may foster an interest in the flower by the school children.

Why not classes at the 1983 Spring Shows for the flowers that the bulbs will produce?

My personal apologies to the Hillsborough Horticultural Society and especially to John Bownass in relaying the message that the Committee would approve that Hillsborough would host the 1981 Championship. The decision not to approve was taken because it was not leaving enough time between the London and Hillsborough Shows, plus a scarcity of judges.

Hillsborough Horticultural Society will host the 1983 Championship.

This issue of the "Newsletter" completes the first Volume so it would be my wish to thank the many enthusiasts who made my efforts so much easier

by the contributions, suggestions and help. Perhaps the next Volume will bring copy from many untapped sources.

A letter from Mr. E. Schubert:

G.D.A./D.D.R. 9540 Fwickau  
Hilferdingstr 1  
East Germany, G.D.R.

I would like to have any contact with the famous Irish gardeners. Perhaps you know a member of your Group who is willing to answer and correspond with me. I look forward to a letter and meanwhile my very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,  
Eko Schubert

## Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Group continued in a healthy financial state and that the excess of income over expenditure in 1981 amounted to £20.44 which was due in full to a welcome refund of income tax.

### NORTHERN IRELAND DAFFODIL GROUP

#### Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st December, 1981

EXPENDITURE		£	p	INCOME		£	p
Lecture Expenses		99.75		Annual Subscriptions		196.14	
Printing and Stationery		5.00		Bulb Auction		20.50	
Postage		147.67		Deposit Interest		39.69	
Printing Newsletter		395.00		Dividends—Gross		440.00	
Donation:				Net		51.33	
Guy L. Wilson Memorial		20.00		Sales—"Daffodils in Ireland"		4.00	
Daffodil Society Subscription		5.00		Income Tax Refund		66.00	
Daffodil Society Journals		10.00					
N.I. Amateur Championship		105.00					
Bank Fees		1.80					
Sundries		8.00					
		797.22					
Balance being excess Income over Expenditure		20.44					
		<u>£817.66</u>				<u>£817.66</u>	

#### Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1981

LIABILITIES		£	p	ASSETS		£	p
Sundry Creditors		—		Cash in Hand		—	
<b>Income and Expenditure Account:</b>				Cash in Bank Current		181.33	
Balance as at 1/1/'81		4,751.43		Deposit		199.29	
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure		20.44					
		<u>4,771.87</u>					
				Income Tax Refund due		380.62	
				£4,000 11% Exchequer Stock at Cost		66.00	
				Shares at Cost		3,629.34	
				Daffodil Society Medals		70.00	
				Less Sales		23.00	
				Stock—"Daffodils in Ireland" nominal value		47.00	
		<u>£4,771.87</u>				10.00	
						<u>£4,771.87</u>	

# NEW ZEALAND NOTEBOOK

WILSON STEWART

The "bones" of this article were put together during a tedious delay at Auckland Airport while waiting for a fault in a plane to be rectified. Although all this hanging about could well have been dispensed with it did provide a chance to gather some thoughts together before leaving New Zealand soil.

I was asked on many occasions "What do you think of our flowers?" I can only say in honesty that on the whole I was very much impressed and very envious too. Imagine a climate where frost is almost unknown, where the rainfall in spring seems to be high, where the soil is a light volcanic one and appears very easily worked and you have the growing conditions for the North Island and quite a bit of the South Island. It is no wonder that daffodils grow large, smooth and well-coloured. I was unfortunate enough to hit a late, cold season and saw very few collections at anything like their peak of flowering but I saw enough flowers on the Show bench to have to admit that in many respects we are lagging behind. It is hardly sensible to make definite comparisons when one has to rely on mental pictures six months old but even so there are quite a few sub-divisions in which I saw flowers better than I had seen before.

1Y-Y. It is good to be able to report that 'Kingscourt' is still a popular and consistent Show flower but it is a much better and smoother bloom than it is with us. 'Viking' too was in good form and well-coloured and I saw one superb specimen which I thought was a certain winner — but was not. I also saw the best flower of 'Golden Vale' I have yet encountered but this too failed to please the judges. Some cultivars which I liked (and which were also in the cards!) included 'Golden' (Ronald's), a large flower with classic double-triangle perianth and perfect poise, 'Kaduni' (Yeates) and 'Tubal' (Phillips), two O'More Seedlings 3/69 and 55/67 and his 'Gold Flush', 'Reward' (Brogden) 'Valley Gold' (Cotter), and 'Temple Gold', 'Cameo Gold' and 'Terragona' all Bell's. 'Temple Gold' is as good a yellow trumpet as I would wish to see with great size combined with perfect balance so that the flower is not at all coarse.

1W-Y. 'Newcastle' was almost totally absent and seems not to have transplanted well but 'Lod', 'Pontes', 'Rowella' and 'Betrin' are all Jackson raised and would do credit to any collection. With 'Bon Accord' and 'Ebony' from Bell and 'Cyros' (Phillips) and 'Lenz' (Chambers) also available there are plenty of alternatives.

1W-W. Rather a different story here. 'Empress of Ireland' is not as early as at home and I saw few blooms of it. 'Queenscourt' does not seem to have taken on and the Bloomer "whites" were all late flowering. 'Anitra' (Jackson) was having an off season. I saw a few neat but small specimens. 'Mercedes' (Jackson) seemed to be sulking too and the best I saw were 'Lady Slim' (Fairbairn) and 'Sea Fever' (Bell). The former is very smooth and the latter has very good substance.

1Y-W. These were sub-standard I thought apart from a huge Bell Seedling which was really good.

2Y-Y. 'Strines' seems to be settling down well and comes very smooth and well-coloured. 'Golden Aura' has changed the shape of its cup and has gone

straight-sided with a flange. I also thought the perianth less rounded. 'Abona' and 'Ningana' both from Jackson were good. 'Gold Script' (?), 'Gold Flush' (O'More) and the Phillips' Seedling 75-49-3 were all fine flowers with the Brogden's 'Gold Gem' taking best bloom at the South Island National. I gather it is no stranger to top honours and is a most imposing flower.

2Y-R. 'Falstaff' and 'Loch Hope' were both much in evidence because of their earliness — the flower seemed less ribby than I know it. The Brogdens have a string of fine flowers in 'Salute', 'Danger' and 'Career' with several very fine seedlings as well including the best flower at the North Island National Show. 'Red Mantle' (Bell) is worth remembering. I saw 'Red Rum' and 'Bold Lad' growing in several collections but they both seemed to lack size. In the non-predominants old 'Majorca' turned up frequently belying its years. A pity it seems to have disappeared here. 'Fire Brigade' (Bell) has a most unusual crinkled edge to its cup and is a distinct flower and 'Kasia' (Jackson) has good enough form to hold its own in any company and was best bloom at Christchurch.

2W-Y. 'Cyros' (Jackson) seems to vacillate between Divisions 1 and 2 but I saw more flowers of it as a large cup. Wherever it belongs it is a very smooth and consistent flower. 'Flash Affair' (Glover) has even better contrast and a wax-like substance and different again is 'Bandit' (Brogden) a very striking cultivar with a flat yellow-orange banded cup — very showy in a group class.

2W-R. The lateness of the season made it difficult to come to any conclusions as so few were out. 'Arndilly' was in good form and causing some confusion due to its originally being registered as Division 3. The most spectacular flower I saw was Brogden's X40/3 — a real eye-catcher.

2W-P. With 'Dear Me' (Piper), 'Vahu' (Jackson) and 'Verran' (Jackson) there is a trio of early pinks to which we have no answer. They open their true colour and have good thick perianths. 'Vahu' is perhaps the most imposing but is less consistent than 'Dear Me'. 'Tiare Moana' and 'Liebestraume' are both excellent Bell productions. However, the flower which will stay in my mind as long as any was a Bell seedling of great size, a flat pure white perianth, a clean bright pink long cup and a green throat. On this showing it would give any pink anywhere a run for its money.

2W-W. 'Canisp' figured in many growers' beds but although very neat lacked a little size. Not so 'Ben Hee' which seemed to have grown a size. 'Broomhill' was not as early as I know it. 'Springston Charm' and 'Springston Gem' are two of Len Chambers sister seedlings and are both excellent Show flowers. 'Ellanne' (Verry) is really white and 'Rhapsody' (Jackson) has good substance and smoothness. The two I would like to have seen were not ready — 'Immaculate' (Jackson) and 'Egmont Show' — both looked superb on slides and have high reputations.

3Y-Y. I saw nothing in this sub-division and heard that 'Lemonade' fails to live up to its name more often than not.

3Y-R. This is a different story with Jackson's pair, 'Dimity' and 'Tia' quite on a par with 'Achduart' and 'Trelay' (Phillips) well in contention. The Brogden's seedling 70/2 looks to be in the same league.

3W-Y and 3W-R. 'Placid' (Jackson) would seem to be the best early cultivar of its type but the Brogdens have a serious contender in X52/2 and the Phillips a good one in No. 49. Red cups were obviously scarce but I liked 'Anacapri' (Bell) and 'Kazuke' (O'More). 'Ariel' turned up more than once and seemed too useful a flower to have been allowed to disappear here.

'Rockall' seems to have two forms — one with quite broad petals. Either way it came with a very white perianth and intense colouring in the cup.

3W-W. A very good 'Verona' turned up at Blenheim but being pot grown was the only vase of it I saw. 'Polar Imp' (Philpott) was almost the only early cultivar and has good form except that the colour in the edge of the cup seems to wither out rather than fade. 'Sea Dream' (O'More) looked promising when growing.

There was a fine selection of doubles with 'Gay Song', 'Orotava' and 'Fiji' the best of the British ones. I saw many good seedlings including some pinks and David Bell has a lot under number which are of very high calibre.

Two cultivars which cannot be left out are 'Tracey' and 'Trena' (Verry) the lovely white and bi-colour cyclamineus which would shine in any company — and do.

I thought all flowers on the whole better in texture than ours and put this down to the less variable climate. It is somewhat tantalising to go to a country for a short stay and not to see the preliminaries and aftermath of flowering. I cannot say I came away with any radical ideas on growing to try out but then, as pot-growing is almost unheard of and hardly necessary for the majority, it was not to be expected that I would.

One aspect of the Shows which I feel could be copied was the picking out of the various premier blooms. This need not necessarily involve a great deal of extra time or work for the judges and it is not too difficult to keep a weather-eye for candidates when one is judging group classes. When the various blooms are well set out on a special table it makes a most important and interesting focal point for both exhibitors and the general public.

I also noticed that Show officials were most anxious to see that exhibitors were made as welcome as possible instead of appearing to have to be "suffered". How pleasant it would be to arrive at one of our major Shows and find table space reserved and vases ready and waiting. (As I have, as yet, no experience of Shows in Northern Ireland the preceding remarks apply strictly to English events!)

To say the trip was worthwhile is an understatement. I have an abiding memory of wonderful all-yellow flowers in particular, of a climate which can, I imagine, only be equalled in Southern Ireland and of a spirit of friendly rivalry which I think is unique. Needless to say I shall plod on with my pots through wind, cold and snow but will cast an envious thought from time to time to my second flowering season of 1981 and hope that the experience can be repeated at some not-too-distant future date. Anyone who can visit New Zealand for the World Convention in 1984 can look forward to a daffodil season the equal of any.

## Daffodils — South Island, New Zealand, 1981

A. W. CHAPPELL

This spring could be called the spring that nearly wasn't. It is hard to say where it went wrong. The weather was not severe and a good rain in early August could only have been beneficial but this is where the season went wrong. The rest of August and early September remained cool at about 9-10°C and growth was very slow.

As a consequence when the South Island National Show was held at Blenheim there was very little support from South Island growers and flowers that were shown showed the effects of being forced and the colour was not as good as it should have been. For myself I was only able to take some fifteen blooms.

Consequently, North Island growers were able to take most of the major classes. The Christchurch Show held the following week produced much better flowers but the later red and whites and pinks are still to come out.

The National Show at Blenheim in other respects was an outstanding success and our hosts are to be congratulated on the wonderful time they gave the visitors. This was one of the best Nationals yet.

We were very fortunate to have Wilson Stewart available to step in and judge the Open Class Collection owing to the indisposition of Mr. J. Davenport at the eleventh hour.

Indeed the visit of Wilson Stewart to New Zealand and our Daffodil Shows made this a memorable occasion and made up for the vagaries of our season. It was our pleasure to have him as our guest for the week following the National Show at Blenheim and to have him judge for us at our Christchurch Show.

We look forward to be able to entertain any other visitors who may decide to visit our country.

I will leave it to Wilson to comment on our Shows and our flowers but I am sure his visit was all too short and he missed seeing some of our better varieties.

### SOME FURTHER NOTES ON ACCLIMATISING DAFFODILS

Further to my earlier report I would like to say that all of the imports that were planted twelve months ago are growing strongly and appear to have just about adjusted to our spring.

Whilst the ones which were H.W. from Tony Noton do not have many flowers they are growing well. 'Achduart' and 'Loch Lundie' are flowering for the second time and are looking well. The Rathowen bulbs are about the same so I hope to have flowers from most by next spring. It is quite interesting, so why not try some New Zealand and Australian varieties. I am sure Wilson Stewart will be happy to advise on some of our better varieties he saw during his visit. Unfortunately some of the best did not come out until after he had all too soon to depart.

## Division 3 Favourites

SANDY McCABE

In attempting to compile a list of favourites from Division Three, one is immediately struck by the very narrow choice applicable in the first sub-division, 3Y-Y.

'Lemonade' and 'Beige Beauty' spring readily to mind but thereafter one must think long and hard. 'Lemonade' practically had the class to itself for years though it was never one of my strong fancies. The American raised 'Beige Beauty' can produce some lovely blooms though it only develops its colouring after a few days.

Recent developments have seen the advent of 'Advocat' and 'Mint Julep'. Both can be quite beautiful but as usual there are snags. 'Advocat', if potash is applied too liberally can occasionally produce a hint of colour in the cup rim which knocks it out of the all-yellow class. 'Mint Julep' sometimes has feathery protrusions which spoil the flower for Show.

Blanchard's 'Ferndown' and Noton's 'Citronita' are probably the best in the sub-division. Owing to their prohibitive cost (to me) I am not really familiar with either. I have not yet been able to afford either of these particular luxuries.

This sub-division offers a real challenge to all budding hybridisers to make a name for themselves in the daffodil world.

In 3Y-YYR sub-division similar comments apply. Developments have been few. 'Perimeter' is perhaps the best known but Chapman's 'Dinkie' registered over 50 years ago can still be grown to win.

'Narya' impressed when first seen a few years ago but its early impact on me has not been sustained. It burns easily which is a failing it has in common with its rivals. I understand that Murray Evans 'Sunapee' regularly wins in the U.S.A. but I cannot recall ever seeing it in bloom over here.

Progress has been more pronounced in sub-division 3Y-R — the solid coloured cups. The old favourites 'Chung King' and 'Doubtful' no longer pose a serious threat. 'Achduart' probably leads the field in the traditional style of flower with 'Altruist' and 'Sabine Hay' being the most decorative with their coppery-orange colouring. 'Trelay' from New Zealand is a big bold flower but is rather crepy when grown in Northern Ireland. Perhaps it is not yet settled down.

'Ulster Bank', like 'Doubtful', is borderline between Division 2 and Division 3. A very round flower with a short neck it has great substance and colour. Unfortunately it too is not sunproof but is proving to be an extremely good parent.

In the sub-division with white perianth but no cup colour, 'Aircastle' is the front runner in my opinion. Whether it strictly complies with the requirements of a white perianth is and has been the cause of much debate. Nevertheless it is a most beautiful flower which has numerous best bloom awards to its credit. I just wish I could grow it like Mrs. Reade of Carncairn.

Richardson's 'Syracuse' is most attractive but is rather late and Bloomer's 'Woodland Prince' is extremely consistent but I find it difficult to get the size that other growers achieve. Of the white perianth with solid coloured cups the old Richardson 'Kilworth' x 'Arbar' Cross produced numerous named

flowers. My favourite however, must be Duncan's 'Doctor Hugh' named after an old friend, Doctor Hugh Watson. A large pure white perianth backs an orange-red crown with a green eye. 'Rockall' is the best known of the oldies but I also like Bloomer's 'Lucky Star' and 'Woodland Star'.

In the rimmed varieties 'Merlin' and 'Kimmeridge' take the honours. The former is a really splendid flower with a string of successes to its name. The latter also has a good track record and is very consistent. However it burns very easily and needs to be protected for the Show bench. Bloomer's 'Silent Cheer' is a close runner up to 'Merlin'. It is very white and also consistent in producing good quality Show blooms.

For the all white section, 'Verona' cannot be overlooked. Though it received a F.C.C. over 20 years ago it is still a regular winner, but it has strong competition from its child 'Vernie'. The latter has the advantages of being earlier and has a pure white cup immediately on opening. Mitsch's 'Cool Crystal' is another must in the class and I also like Carncairn's 'Snow Magic' which I unfortunately lost in transit from Omagh to Ballymena.

In conclusion if I were restricted to one flower from each sub-division my list would be 'Beige Beauty', 'Sunapee', 'Achduart', 'Aircastle', 'Doctor Hugh', 'Merlin' and 'Verona'.

## Arresting Personalities

The R.U.C. in Northern Ireland has received reliable information that several auspicious and notorious characters of the daffodil world may make a sortie into the Province this Spring.

Contingency plans have been drawn up to ensure that they are arrested on arrival and safely escorted to the various daffodil remand centres. Sentence "in absentia" to two weeks hard labour has been already pronounced on Dr. and Mrs. Peter Ramsey (New Zealand), Mrs. Mary Lou Gripshover (Tennessee), George Tarry (Cheshire) and those charming couples Bill and Rosemary Roesse (California) and Bill and Laura Lee Ticknor (N. Carolina).

A warm welcome awaits these people and any others who care to join us during the 1982 season. We hope it will be a memorable and enjoyable visit for all our arresting personalities.

F.B.I. / C.I.A. / M.I.5 / K.G.B.

## New Members

- MR. J. T. E. AKERS, Normanton, Yorks., England.
- MR. J. BECKETT, Portadown, Co. Armagh.
- MR. W. J. DUKELOW, Omagh, Co. Tyrone.
- MR. K. HUGHES, Victoria, Australia.
- MR. W. KNIERM, Cleveland, U.S.A.
- MR. H. LEISSNER, Langensebold, W. Germany.
- MR. J. MORALEE, Walmerdeal, Kent.
- MRS. W. R. MacKINNEY, West Chester, Pa., U.S.A.
- NORTHERN DAFFODIL CLUB (INC.), New Zealand.
- MRS. J. ROBINSON, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim.
- MRS. B. ROBERTSON, Taylor, S.C., U.S.A.
- MRS. T. W. SMITH, Stevenson, Md., U.S.A.
- MR. F. SILCOCK, Victoria, Australia.
- MR. F. WHITE, Omagh, Co. Tyrone.

# THE LATE, AND THE LATE, LATE SHOWS IN NEW ZEALAND

PETER RAMSAY, HAMILTON, NEW ZEALAND

Many years ago a small group of Northern New Zealanders bemoaned the fact that their part of the world did not feature a daffodil Show late enough to exhibit some of the outstanding rear-guard daffodils. So, in 1973 the newly formed Northern Daffodil Club decided to inaugurate such an exhibition. In its initial concept this was to be a family Show, with Northern enthusiasts coming together for an end of season fling — combining flowers with fun. The luncheon was to be a feature — “pot luck” with both men and women demonstrating their culinary prowess, complemented by the products of local vineries. The schedule was a limited one designed for the lateness of the Show — thus more classes for whites than yellows, for small cups rather than trumpets, and with plenty of scope for doubles. It also featured the unusual — six blooms to a vase, floral arrangements, etc.

The initial Show and several subsequent were held in small school halls which usually had supper rooms attached. The first Show was a tremendous success. The flowers were marvellous. I still remember the spectacular best bloom — the first (and to date late) of John Lea's 'Inverpollly' seen on the Show benches in New Zealand. The premier blooms were a great lot, many of which in other years would have formed seed pods or withered away unseen. Names like 'Modulux', 'Ceres', 'Welcome', 'Lysander' and 'April Clouds' suddenly assumed the same importance as the mid-season flowers. And the luncheon was no less spectacular, explaining in part the present writer's penchant for chubbiness. (My children refer to me as portly, my wife — depending on the context as chubby or cuddly!)

All of these successes led to a unanimous vote for making the fixture a permanent one. And like the oft-quoted Topsy, since then it has just grown. In 1973 some 300 flowers were staged by about a dozen enthusiasts — this year 1,296 blooms were exhibited. And there have been other changes. In 1978 the view was expressed that the flowers were not receiving enough public exposure — indeed this was true as our door take seldom exceeded the entry fees. In addition it was felt that some kind of sponsorship was needed to reward the grower's efforts. So, after a fair amount of the Kiwi version of wheeling and dealing the decision was made that if the Mountain won't come to Mohammed, then . . . Which is a way of saying that we took the late Show to the public by staging it in the exhibition court of a large shopping mall in a middle class suburb of Hamilton city. The deal struck was one of no door charge, but with the shopping centre management supplying the bulk of the prizes, a substantial donation, and looking after other matters such as radio and press advertising, etc. By a happy co-incidence our club was able to join forces with Pan Am Airlines who sponsor a major floral art contest — the outcome was a very lovely exhibition. Everyone was happy — the shops turn-over increased markedly during the Show (people even come in charter buses), Pan Am extracted good publicity, and not only did our favourite flower get more than a passing glance from several thousand shoppers, but we also, through the medium of raffles and plant sales, make a nett profit exceeding four figures. At the last two Shows we have added an extensive educational

stand which features judging points (see “American Daffodil Journal”, December, 1980 pp. 114-115), and also stands by a potter, painter and porcelain artist, all of whom donate prizes for the Show.

Now, Bob Sterling, who asked me to write about one of our Shows in New Zealand, is probably wondering when I'm going to get to the point and write about some flowers! As mentioned above, the late Show this year was a record one with well over a thousand flowers staged by some thirty exhibitors with an age range of eleven to over sixty. (Sorry about the vagueness of the upper figure, but some ladies just won't tell!) The blooms were the best of the season, of the quality I kept promising Wilson Stewart in the week he stayed with us, but which never appeared. The medal class had nine excellent entries and was a very close contest. My smaller, but neater flowers won the day from a large, colourful, impressive (indeed through my spectacles frightening) collection staged by Graham Phillips. Speaking of spectacles, being very short sighted, I am developing the habit of looking at other people's flowers with specs on, but at my own with 'em off. Thus I bring my rival's flowers into sharp focus and can spot a fly speck at twenty paces, while my own take on a kind of angelic blur. The only problem I'm having with this scheme of things is that despite frequent urgings our panel of judges refuse to adopt the same procedures. Back to the flowers. Mine were a fairly standard set for a Kiwi Show, with 'Merriddee', 'Achduart' (well settled into New Zealand now), 'Gay Challenger', 'Golden', 'Director' (an excellent late flowering 1Y-Y), two numbered O'More Seedlings and 'Flash Affair' which is about the best Downunder bi-colour. Graham's entry featured some different ones to usual — 'Recital', a flamboyant American pink, 'Park Springs', and most unusual of all, Murray Evans raised 'Quassar'. This is the brightest pink I've yet seen, and has a better perianth than most. Third was a nice entry from Ian Storrey with good flowers of 'Kazuko' and 'Golden Aura'. Ian would have been pleased to head off up-an-comers like Robin Hill, who travels 400 miles to get to this Show and established national exhibitors like Mavis Verry and Phil Phillips. Class 2 at the late Show has a trophy which would look familiar to many Irish growers. It is a mounted monogram which George Yarrall had made in Northern Ireland during the World Convention. George, our founder and patron, passed away two years ago, and we now compete fiercely for this memorial trophy. In line with George's wishes the class is an international one with flowers from at least four nations. Last year I managed to get disqualified thanks to a late exchange of flowers (ho hum); this year I made amends by winning very narrowly from an excellent entry staged by Phil Phillips. I thought myself very lucky to win this class. Phil staged a lot of fine, new imports such as 'Irish Mist' and 'Golden Joy', but included a couple of very bright, but quite rough flowers (such as the cup-dominated 'Eclat'). Third in this class was a welcome Auckland visitor, commercial grower Brian Parr. Brian doesn't show a great deal which is just as well for those of us that do. He had an excellent bloom of the hard to grow bi-colour trumpet, 'Bruce', in his collection. The premiers were well up to standard. Standing out were Mavis Verry's 'Lordship' (1YY), Robin Brown's 'Stormy Weather' (1WY), Graham Phillips' 2YY Seedling — 'Camelot' x 'Yves', one of the best individual flowers seen this season; my 'Vahu' (still the best Downunder pink, although small this year) Phil Phillips' 'Gay Song', Wilf Hall's 'Fiji', Ron Tyrell's 'Dove Wings' and Brent Hamilton's 'Bandit'. The last

named youngster gained the most meritorious entry in the Show with his novice collection of large, well grown flowers.

The late Show this year wasn't as late as usual as we were forced to have it a week early owing to a clash of commitments at the shopping centre. So we were able to fit in our family Show in the basement of one of our national judges home — it was back to a limited schedule and unlimited food and wine. The flowers at this wee Show were quite the best seen anywhere this year. If premiers had been selected they would have been better than either the national or the "official" late Show. To the fore were a lot of Jim O'More's numbered Seedlings, one of which, a 3WY bred from 'Nelly' and 'Chinese White', is the best yet seen in this division. A 'Daze' x 'Arbar' 3WR was also eye catching, while 'Quassar' showed out yet again. 'Cool Crystal' was in good form, large, heavily substantanced and round, while an Australian raised called 'Kudos', a rimmed red and yellow brought to the Show from Palmerston North, was worth a premier certificate. The season ended on a small note of controversy with the selection of best bloom. At the "official" late Show a magnificent broad petalled 'Rockall', grown as only Mavis Verry can in New Zealand, was an unchallenged champion. At the "unofficial" late, late Show another 'Rockall' took the honours. That this was not generally accepted was revealed by a secret ballot taken prior to the revelation in which the best bloom didn't get one nomination! People with specs on noted a very bad weather run, and, crime of crimes, large white spots on the cup. The ballot spoke for itself: 'Immaculate' 15; 'Achduart' 1; 'Director' 1; 'Cool Crystal' 1 and 'Kudos' 1. The unlucky 'Immaculate' is an Australian raised 2WW — a pristine flower. This is a highly recommended variety in a strong division, being very consistent, and with classic form. It has already taken a best bloom award in New Zealand, and will take many more in the future.

All of the above "events" have been captured on coloured slides. Later on this year I shall prepare a tape-slide programme for George Tarry which will find its way to your shores, as, incidentally, I will for the 1982 Show season. Good luck to you all.

## Division 3

G. ANDREWS

As a fairly recent grower and exhibitor, I'm not so sure that I qualify to give my opinion on what are probably the most colourful of all narcissi — however our Editor says, "Get writing!" My comments are confined only to those flowers I grow.

### YELLOW PERIANTHS

'Achduart' — a good strong grower of good form and colour — possibly a little pale in the perianth.

'Perimeter' — good in rimmed classes, but difficult to get right.

'Moon Rhythm' — a newcomer from Ballydorn. Good form, but has a tendency to fade in the perianth.

### WHITE PERIANTHS

'Aircastle' (W-Y) — a great favourite on the Show bench, but not one of mine. Great form, but as it ages the beige shading puts me off.

'Park Springs' (W-Y) — good round perianth and good colour. The cup has a tendency to fade slightly.

'Lancaster' (W-GY) — a strong grower which increases well. Has a deep yellow crinkled cup with a green eye. Does well with me.

'Rockall' (W-R) — a tall, strong plant. Flowers are large with good strong colour in cup and perianth. A regular winner on the Show bench.

'Merlin' (W-GYR) — although inclined to be on the small side, the flowers are outstanding in form and colour. Very slow to increase. It will be around for a long time yet.

'Bird Song' (W-GYR) — a fairly new variety from Carncairn. Similar to 'Malin'. If a little longer in the perianth, it could be a really great flower.

'Purbeck' (W-YYO) — a really beautiful flower. Has a lovely round perianth of broad petals and a beautiful neat cup, pale green at the base with a deep orange band at the mouth. My favourite 3.

'Presto' (W-GYR) — a tall strong grower which produces very fine blooms late in the season. Ballydorn's answer to 'Malin'.

'Verona' (W-W) — an all-white which can be really outstanding on its day. Is inclined to have a slightly oval cup.

Best of the bunch — 'Merlin', 'Purbeck', 'Rockall', 'Presto', 'Achduart'.

This season I look forward to seeing for the first time with me: 'Cairn Toul', 'Advocat', 'Lisbane', 'Jamestown' and 'Fairmaid'.

## The New University of Ulster

Coleraine Co. Londonderry Northern Ireland BT52 1SA

Telephone: Coleraine 4141 Telegrams: 'University Coleraine'

Ref. G/23.6

19 January, 1982

Dear Sam,

I have recently compiled several lists of old daffodil cultivars which we are trying to locate through the recently formed Irish Garden Plant Society and the National Committee for the conservation of Plants and Gardens. I am enclosing these lists in the hope that N.I.D.G. members may be able to help locate some of these varieties especially those on the Guy Wilson and Donard lists.

I would be grateful for any help you can give in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

S. Bankhead, Esq.,  
32 Ballybollen Road,  
Ballymena,  
Co. Antrim.

D. WILLIS (DR.)  
Superintendent of Grounds

### CULTIVARS BEING SOUGHT FOR N.U.U. DAFFODIL GARDEN

Ace of Diamonds (Engle) 1923  
Aida (Brodie) 1913  
Avebury (Brodie) 1928  
Balaclava (Brodie) 1930  
Banchory (Brodie) 1937  
Baronet (Brodie) 1926

Barrii Conspicuous (Back) 1886  
Basra (Brodie) 1927  
Bath's Flame (Engle) 1914  
Beacon (Engle) 1897  
Blackwell (Back) 1907  
Blizzard (Engle) 1927

Bodilly (Will. P.D.) 1925  
 Bokhara (Brodie) 1927  
 Bombastes (Brodie) 1914  
 Bonny Winkfield (Brodie) 1927  
 Bonython (Will. P.D.) 1927  
 Boskenna (Brodie) 1930  
 Bradwardine (Brodie) 1937  
 Braemar (Brodie) 1937  
 Breda (Brodie) 1933  
 Bridegroom (Brodie) 1927  
 Bright Gold (Brodie) 1929  
 Brilliancy (Engle) 1906  
 Brimstone (Engle) 1923  
 C. J. Backhouse (Back.) 1886  
 Caerleon (Evelyn) 1933  
 Cairngorm (Brodie) 1910  
 Callirhoe (Chap.) 1923  
 Cheerio (Brodie) 1932  
 Cicely (Wil. A.M.) 1927  
 Clackrattle (Will. P.D.) 1932  
 Hebron (Brodie) 1923  
 Homer (Engle) 1898  
 Horsfieldii (Horsefield)  
 Invergorden (Brodie) 1930  
 J. B. M. Camm (Back.) 1884  
 James Hogg (Brodie) 1913  
 Jubilant (Will. P.D.) 1925  
 Kaffir (Brodie) 1923  
 Kandahar (Brodie) 1927  
 King of the North (Brodie) 1927  
 Clava (Brodie) 1929  
 Cordova (Brodie) 1931  
 Coronach (Back. Mrs.) 1927  
 Coverack Series of Brodie (any) 1928/30  
 Crimea (Brodie) 1930  
 Crimson Braid (Chap.) 1918  
 Crocus (Will. P.D.) 1927  
 Croesus (Will. J.C.) 1912  
 Cromarty (Brodie) 1933  
 Crown Derby (Brodie) 1932  
 Dante (Engle) 1896  
 Daphne (Culpin) 1914  
 Dava (Brodie) 1931  
 Dawson City (v. Tub.) 1925  
 Duchess of Brabant (Back.) 1889  
 Elegance (Bath) 1923  
 Ellen Willmott (Engle) 1897  
 Eskimo (Brodie) 1927  
 Eva (de Graaff) 1930  
 Feu de Joie (Cope.) 1927  
 Fortune Series of Brodie (any) 1928/30  
 Galata (Brodie) 1927  
 Gallipoli (Brodie) 1923  
 Garibaldi (Wil. A.M.) 1933  
 Glorious (Will. J.C.) 1923  
 Glory of Leiden (de Graaff) 1887  
 Glory of Noordwijk (de Groot) 1902  
 Godolphin (Will. P.D.) 1925  
 Gracious (v. Leeu.) 1931  
 Grandis (Leeds) 1890  
 Hades (Back. R.O.) 1925  
 Havelock (Will. P.D.) 1907  
 Peter Barr (Barr) 1902

Pilgrimage (Brodie) 1923  
 Pink of Dawn (Radcliff) 1934  
 Pink Pearl (Engle) 1908  
 Pink 'un (Buckland) 1914  
 Polar Sea (Brodie) 1933  
 Quartz (Brodie) 1923  
 Quetta (Brodie) 1927  
 Red Rim (Engle) 1923  
 Red Sea (Brodie) 1927  
 Lady Margaret Boscawen (Engle) 1898  
 Lanarth (Will. P.D.) 1907  
 Ledbury (Wil. A.M.) 1937  
 Loch Fyne (Brodie) 1914  
 Lord Roberts (Barr) 1901  
 Lovat Scout (Brodie) 1930  
 Lulworth (Kend. W.) 1890  
 M. J. Berkeley (Back) 1890  
 Magnolia (Brodie) 1922  
 Marmora (Brodie) 1923  
 Milk and Honey (Cope.) 1927  
 Mrs. Berkeley (Engle) 1900  
 Mrs. Robert Sydenham (de Graaff) 1907  
 Mrs. William Copeland (Cope.) 1930  
 Miss E. M. Bowling (Cran.) 1918  
 Mitylene (Engle) 1923  
 Monarch (Barr) 1907  
 Morocco (Brodie) 1923  
 Morven (Brodie) 1914  
 Naxos (Engle) 1923  
 Odessa (Brodie) 1929  
 Ossa (Brodie) 1923  
 Pearl of Kent (Haydon) 1906  
 Pera (Brodie) 1927  
 Rewa (Lower) 1928  
 Riva (Brodie) 1927  
 Rodosto (Brodie) 1929  
 Rosary (Engle) 1926  
 Rosslare (Brodie) 1933  
 St. Egwin (Will. P.D.) 1927  
 Scarlet Beauty (Back. Mrs.) 1926  
 Scarlet Perfection (Back. Mrs.) 1923  
 Scrambled Eggs (Cope.) 1931  
 Seagull (Engle) 1895  
 Silver Plane (Lowe) 1927  
 Silver Salver (Brodie) 1922  
 Sir Watkin 1884  
 Slieve Donard (Engle) 1927  
 Smyrna (Brodie) 1927  
 Southern Gem (Will. P.D.) 1913  
 Suda (Brodie) 1927  
 Sulphur (Will. P.D.) 1927  
 Sybil (Bath) 1907  
 Tregoose (Will. P.D.) 1927  
 Trevisky (Will. P.D.) 1930  
 Tunis (Will. P.D.) 1927  
 Turin (Will. P.D.) 1927  
 Valetta (Brodie) 1926  
 Vestal Virgin (Back. H.) 1908  
 White Emperor (Engle) 1913  
 White Sentinel (Engle) 1926  
 William Backhouse (Back.) 1890  
 Winter Gold (Barr) 1928

#### DAFFODIL CULTIVARS RAISED BY W. B. HARTLAND OF CORK

Agnes Pearson	Orestes	Maud West
<b>Ard Righ</b>	Parmenia	<b>Miss Weisse</b>
Berenice	Pelops	Mother of Pearl
<b>Bishop Mann</b>	Pigmy	Nabob
Brontes	Plutarck	Nathalie
Buffcoat	Polly Eccles	Nectarine
Bugler Dunne	Porthos	Niobe
Buttercup	Precocity	North Star
Butterworth	Primatice	Opelia
Cedric	Goldfinger	Robert Burns
Cervantes	<b>Helen Falconer</b>	Rosa Bedford
Claddagh	Hilda Dondroche	S. Arnott
Clovis	Ione	Silver Bar
Coat of Arms	Irish Guard	Silver Spur
Cock Robin	Ivanhoe	Spectrum
Cockatoo	James Bray	Spread Eagle
<b>Colleen Bawn</b>	Jenny Woodhouse	Star of Fire
Constance Pierpoint	John Riddle	Strophe
Corona Hibernica	Killarney Sunset	Prometheus
Countess of Desmond	King of the Poets	Pylos
Countess of Southesk	Lady Arnott	Rainbow
Cupida	Lady Beatrice Pole-Carew	Reality
Daisy Pied	Lady Gregory	Rings Dove
Delos	Lady Isabel	Robe
Early Bird	Lady McCalamont	Sweepstake
Enid Marion	Leander	The Fuchsia
Epaulet	Leonidas	Vivian Burbidge Hartland
Erini	Little Gem	White Heather
Fairy Ring	Lodestone	White Helmet
Gladys Hartland	Longstander	William Baylor Hartland
Goblet of Gold	Lorna Doone	William of Orange
Golden Circle	Mme. Melba	
Golden Plover	Maria Edgeworth	

#### DAFFODIL CULTIVARS RAISED BY SIR JOSSLYN GORE-BOOTH AT LISSADELL

Alannah	Eileen	Sheila
Brian Boru	Eochy	Sir Horace Plunkett
Cathal	Fin MacCumhal	Joseph Sangster
Deidre	Lady Gore-Booth	Muriel
Diarmuid	Malachy	

#### DAFFODIL CULTIVARS RAISED BY MISS F. CURREY, LISMORE

Glandore	Lismore	Sir Walter Raleigh
Helen	Rosetta	

#### DAFFODIL CULTIVARS RAISED BY HOGG AND ROBERTSTON OF RUSH

Countess of Mayo	Mrs. Mark Perrin	Rush Giant
F. W. Moore	Mrs. Thorley	Sir Walter Scott

#### DAFFODIL CULTIVARS RAISED BY DONARD NURSERIES, NEWCASTLE

<b>Alpha of Donard</b>	Pharais	Steve Bernagh
Astron	<b>Preantor</b>	<b>Solid Gold</b>
Cappawhite	St. Dorothea	Spring Song
Golden Miller	Shining Sun	Star of Hope
Golden Thought	Silver Song	Sunblaze
Green Mantle	Sky Blaze	Tabor

#### OTHERS

Countess of Annesley

G. L. WILSON CULTIVARS		
Armoys	Donegal Glory	Immaculate
Athford	Dunluce	Irish Queen
August Moon	Eglington	Jack Spratt
Ballysally	Epicure	Johnneen
Benone	Everest	Justice
Braggart	Thomas Hardy	Killarney
Bridal Morn	Tor	King Connor
Butter Bowl	Valiant	Lacquer
Candlelight	Felix Schwab	Lalage
Candour	Flava	Larne
Charming	Florists Delight	Last Out
Chit Chat	Fortress	Lisroan
Clonmel	Fountain	Lord Antrim
Contarf	Giant Muticus	White Dame
Columbine	Glenarm	White Sea
Comely	Glenravel	White Sister
Conjurer	Gold Reef	White Wave
Connemara	Golden Attraction	March Wind
Cornish Saint	Golden Flag	Marmion
Countess of Antrim	Goodwill	Matron
Cranog	Grey Lady	May Blossom
Culbann	Helzephron	May Molony
Darius	Hermitage	May White
Derrybann	Hexagon	Mellow
Dingo	His Excellency	Melzar
Disraeli	Honey Boy	Miss Prim
Diva	Hopeful	Molly Bawn
Donegal Beauty	Ice Curtain	Mountsandel

J. L. RICHARDSON CULTIVARS			
Alroi	Fanny Currey	Le Phare	Reynoldstown
Ardmore	Glanmire	Le Voleur	Royal Ruby
Ares	Golden Chariot	Leila Carew	Sansovino
Ballaghtobin	Golden Ingot	Loyalist	Saturnus
Ballinode	Golden Pedestal	Luxor	Sargeant Murphy
Ballyferis	Golden Prospect	Manna	Silver Bowl
Biancona	Greenore	Marquis of Headfort	Silver Jubilee
Boswell	Gregalach	Master Robert	Silver Spring
Caballero	Helen O'Hara	Mirage	Silvo
Cashel	Jack Horner	Music Hall	Sir John French
Comeragh	Kencott	Nanette	Slievenamon
Daytona	Kilbarry	Noble Star	Solario
Decumen	Kilsheelan	Potheon	Taffytus
Dunloe	Koko	Primrose Knight	Tapin
Easter Hero	Kylemore	Punchinello	Trump Card
Easter Queen	Millicent Taylor	Red Heart	Zionist
Egypt			

# The Australian Daffodil Season 1981

## ... as I saw it

LINDSAY PRICE DETTMAN

### Introduction

I propose to write this paper in two parts:  
(a) Daffodils of note and growers. (b) My impressions of historic Tasmania.

### DAFFODILS AND GROWERS

The first Daffodil Show that I visited was Wandin Garden Club Australian Daffodil Society Show, held in the Wandin North Hall on the 29th and 30th of August, 1981.

Guy L. Wilson's 'Knothead' exhibited by Mr. Chambers was judged the Best Daffodil; Fred Silcock's 1W-W 'Anitra' x 'Chillagoe' must have been very close. The Champion Pink was staged by Ellimatta Daffodil Nursery 'Sir Samuel' a relative new member to the bench was raised by Michael Spry. A very smart bloom of 'Maxine Grey' 2Y-R of Bill Blanden's raising gained Mr. D. Betz the champion bloom award in the Amateur section.

The Silver Jubilee Daffodil and Floral of the Leongatha Horticultural Society came next.

It was in their Town Hall and as usual it was well advertised and attended. Mr. George Miller of Foster was awarded the premier award for a first class exhibit of 1Y-Y 'Hi Lass'. Mr. Fred J. Saunders gained the best bloom award in the Woorayl Shire (Local) with 'St. Edwin', a 2Y-Y.

Some others of note were: 'Crescendo' 2Y-YO; 'Yarley' 1Y-Y; 'Daydream' 2Y-W; 'Revelry' 2Y-O; 'Akala' 1Y-Y and 'Janz' 2Y-GR.

### Box Hill

Held in that Town Hall did not attract a great number of entries on the 5th September, 1981. Mrs. Murray Gardiner received the award of Show Champion with an un-numbered but very smooth and iced white 2W-W. Ellimatta Daffodil Nursery gained the champion pink award for a 'Pink Treasure' Seedling 1/76. This would have given Murray Gardiner some satisfaction because he raised 'Pink Treasure'.

### Open Day, 6th September, 1981

Despite the cold and showery weather this day at Ellimatta Daffodil Nursery attracted a lot of people who enjoyed themselves viewing the seedling daffodils in the Terraces. I suggest that they are a good introduction for possible members to the Australian Daffodil Society.

### Kyneton, 10th September, 1981

Possibly the keenest contested Show in Victoria this season. Graham Miller gaining Show Champion with an excellent bloom of Mrs. Beryl Walker's seedling 'First Frost' and this bloom won the award in the intermediate section too. Mrs. Evelyn Murray won the champion seedling with a very lovely 2Y-OR. She exhibited two 2Y-R which were very good also.

### DAFFODILS AND GROWERS IN TASMANIA

On arrival on the Princess of Australia at Devenport on Saturday the 12th September, 1981; I drove down to Westbury to their Garden Club Show staged in their very old Town Hall. I was able to meet again Mr. R. H. Glover, D. R. and C. Broadfield's and Mr. D. T. Oldham. In addition I met Mesdames

R. Johns and D. Heazlewood and Mr. C. R. Best for the first time. All busy with their staging. Of the Daffodils they staged those that impressed me most were R. N. Glover's 'Vanessa' 2W-P, 'Craigs Son' 1Y-Y, 'Venessa' x 'Spitly' 1W-P, 'Craig' x 'Barrington Gold' 2Y-Y, 'Pink Special' a very deep pink, 'Debra Jane' 3W-OY and 'Astro' 2Y-R; D. R. and C. Broadfield's 'Yappa' x 'Craig' 2Y-Y, 'Craig' x 'Spanish Gold' 1Y-Y, 'Sasham' 1Y-Y, Jackson Seedling 24/75 2Y-R, Seedling 9/76 2Y-Y; C. R. Best's 'Berit' Seedling 1Y-Y, 'Tiska' 1Y-Y, 'Gwyn' 1W-W, 'Pontes' 1W-Y, 'Sean' 2Y-Y, 'Redeem Seedling' 2Y-R; R. John's Seedling 'Dear Me' x 'Bon Rose' 2W-P, 'Abebe' 1W-W and 'Jinder' 2Y-OR. A quite nice Seedling 1W-P was staged for Jim Radcliffe. The long almost parallel trumpet could be described as a R.H.S. Colour Chart Red Group 36.

I ordered some name labels to put on my daffodils at future Shows. Perhaps you too would like some.

They are available from their Secretary, Mr. D. R. Broadfield, 12 Hope Street, Ulverstone, 7315, Tasmania.

===== Slit for Stem
Name or No. _____
Class _____
===== Slit for Stem

Having enjoyed a delicious hot lunch cooked and served by the ladies auxiliary of the Garden Club, I left and drove down South for Hobart where I stayed at a first class licensed Motel. Should any holiday-maker be planning a trip to Tassie I could completely recommend the excellent dining room and room facilities of the "Crestwood", 511 Brooker Highway, Moonah, Tel. 72-5833. It is no more than 5Kl. from the Hobart G.P.O. After an early breakfast in my room at 7.00 a.m. of bacon and eggs, toast, butter and marmalade washed down with strong, hot white tea, I departed South to visit Robin and David Jackson. A picturesque journey through the orchard country of Fern Tree, Longley, Huonville, Franklin through Greeveston. An all up trip of approximately 45Kl. on sealed but fairly narrow roads with lots of tight bends and there is nestled the Jackson's home farm and about 50% of their daffodil stock.

David was out to meet me with his aged bull-dog who did not take kindly to Midnight, my constant companion. Went inside for the Australian morning tea where I re-met George Tarry from Well Lane Ness, South Wirral, Cheshire, England and of course Robin Jackson.

After an early lunch we all drove down to the second property at "Waterloo" where the Jacksons grow the remainder of their daffodils. Whilst Robin was picking some, David and George were hybridising and recording the crosses I had the wonderful opportunity to view the seedlings which had only flowered once or twice. They are recorded here for those who would like to persuade the Jackson's to part with one or two of their choice.

#### JACKSON'S SEEDLINGS

55/78 'Verran' x 'Tim' (David's late Dad). 2W-P of very good substance and overlap. Soft powdery pink throughout its length.

13/75 'Betrim' x 'Lod'. A borderline 1W-Y with a rolled open serrated cup white, broad and excellent overlap perianth.

36/78, 73/69 x 'Lod'. Another borderline 1W-Y of attractive shovel-

shaped white perianth segments of outstanding substance enhanced by a deep yellow trumpet slightly open and serrated at its mouth.

92/81, 74/72 x 'Madang' x 'C. E. Ratcliffe' x 'Egina'. This is a clear 1W-P of very good substance and overlap. The long soft pink trumpet is attractively serrated at the mouth.

262/79 'Mercedes' x 'Cillia'. 2W-W excellent white, a first class substance. The long cup is quite open and neatly serrated at the mouth.

123/77, 195/67 x 'Kopt'. 3Y-OO quite large for a Division 3 flower. The perianth segments are deep gold-flushed copper. Of very good substance supported by a lovely orange acorn cup that balances the flower beautifully.

33/81, 158/78 x 'Dimity'. 2Y-YO medium tinged flower of deep golden perianth of very good overlap and flush copper. The yellow-orange acorn-shaped cup is just outside the measurements of a Division 3.

11/81 'Mercedes' x 140/70. A 1W-Y of iced white perianth segments except where they are evenly splashed with the deep yellow of the attractive trumpet.

58/78 'Verran' x 'Tim'. A 2W-P iced white of excellent substance and overlap. The very long cup is of soft pink throughout its length.

80/78 'Verran' x 74/73. My choice of the Jackson's pink cups. First class colour and substance set off by a circular barrel to a long soft pink slightly open serrated cup.

130/77 'Nala' x 'Daric'. 1W-Y with white substance of exceptional quality slightly spoiled by a small uneven spill of yellow from the lovely golden yellow rolled and serrated trumpet.

67/77 'Mercedes' x 19/70. 1W-W of excellent form and overlap supported by a neat rounded trumpet slightly open and serrated at its mouth.

188/76 'Verran' x 'Cathlin'. 2W-PP. Another lovely pink daffodil. Very white shovel-shaped perianth of thick substance and a faultless two-toned long pink cup the last 6 mm. is a distinct lavender and it's slightly serrated at the mouth. Show Champion at Launceston September, 1981.

In the evening after a typical Tasmanian dinner cooked by Robin we sat down and talked daffodils for some time. David told me that they were seeking new strains with a view to breeding out of their Y-Y and W-Y or P the broad trumpets or long cups. Stated that they never catalogue bulbs until they have at least a stock of a dozen. That 'Dimity' is their most consistent 3Y- backed as a breeder as well as on the Show bench. I got 'Brett' his 3Y-R this season but am not yet able to make a fair comparison on just one flower. Robin shares my view that the definitions of Triandus, Cyclamineus, Jonquilla, Poetaz, Poeticus and Species should be simplified.

We are all in accord that a meeting of representatives from all Daffodil States, the A.C.T. and possibly New Zealand to discuss judging, stewarding, major and minor faults would be to our mutual benefit. My suggestion was a venue in Adelaide, South Australia preferably early 1982. This would be the most central venue and well served by air for New Zealanders and Western Australians. At David's suggestion, George Tarry and I helped him and Robin stage the daffodils for the Launceston Spring Show to be held in the Industrial Hall, Elphin Show Grounds, Launceston.

#### LAUNCESTON HORTICULTURAL SPRING SHOW

16th-17th SEPTEMBER, 1981

The daffodils that impressed me at this Show are as follows:

54/76 'Verran' x 'Cer' 1W-P.

36/76 Parentage not given 2Y-YO.

41/81 Parentage not given 1Y-Y.

76/4 'Rhana' x 'Kimellar' 4W-Y.

'Ariika' 3W-YR. An outstanding flower raised and shown by Mr. Harold Cross who assured me it was not for sale for some years yet. It certainly deserved the card for the Champion Division 3.

30/1 'Chillen' x 'Balamara' 1Y-Y.

188/76 'Verran' x 'Cathlin' 2W-PP Jackson's Daffodils. Show Champion described the last of Jackson's seedlings.

38/77 'Comal' x 'Warbin' 1Y-Y.

105/81, 215/71 x 'Sea Dream' 3W-GWW.

14/80 'Kristin' x 'Kasia' 2Y-R.

Not numbered 'Craig' x 'Barrington Gold' 1Y-Y.

'Goldwyn' 1Y-Y.

151/75 'Golden' x 'Comal' 1Y-Y.

245/78 'Dimity' x 195/67 3Y-R.

43/78 No Parentage 2W-P.

'Golden Hope' 1Y-Y.

36/72 No Parentage 2Y-YO.

269/76 'Verran' x 'Salome' 2W-P.

'Vavacious' 2W-P.

'Scope' Champion White Daffodil 1W-W.

'Pacific Lady' 2W-Y.

'Vanessa' 2W-P.

'Fiddledeedge' 3W-G.

'Scapa' 1W-W.

'Tony John' 1Y-Y.

6/80 'My Word' x Cyclamineus 6W-YP.

24/81 'Aircastle' x Cyclamineus. Very soft pleasing -Y.

YW 19/80 'Kopi' x 'Daydream' 2Y-YO.

'Jo' Champion Novice Section 3W-YR.

After a talk with the exhibitors seen and not seen at Westbury, i.e. Harold Cross, Michael Temple-Smith, Jim Ratcliffe and Freddie Silcock (over from Victoria to view the Show) had lunch and returned to Hobart.

#### SUMMARY

I thought that the standard and freshness of the daffodils was very high except there were very few reversed flowers or divisions 5 to 12 benched.

## HISTORIC TASMANIA

During my stay in Hobart an old army comrade showed me points of interest.

We drove first to Port Arthur to view the famous jail. Now it is a Tourist resort but the burned out Prison Church offers a grim reminder of the prisoners lot before the end of the Nineteenth Century.

A walk around the 3-storied jail buildings shows one to imagine what a harsh lot they experienced.

Maybe it was this type of prison life that caused the birth of the saying "Down Under".

Back in Hobart we visited the oldest Military Barracks in Australia, i.e.

Anglesea to quote "Colonel Lachlan Macquarie, Governor of the Colony of N.S.W. paid his first visit to Van Dieman's Land, (Tasmania) then a dependency of that colony, in the latter part of 1811. During an inspection of Hobart Town, which had been founded some eight years previously, Macquarie became concerned about the accommodation provided in the township for the detachment of troops from his regiment, the 73rd of Foot, who were responsible for the security of the settlement.

On December 2, 1811 Macquarie rode to the top of a small hill 1.6 Km. south-west of the town and declared it was the spot for a Barracks. The hill has been called Barrack Hill from that day. Macquarie directed that the Barracks were to be built to house 150 men, with quarters for the officers and a hospital to accommodate 32 sick persons.

It was not clear when the first work on the new Barracks was done but the Reverend Robert Koopwood, the first clergyman to officiate in the colony, records in his diary that he attended the laying of the foundations stone of the officers' quarters and mess, by the then Lieutenant Governor, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Davey, Royal Marines, on August 17, 1814. However several buildings were partially completed by 1818 and troops were occupying the barrack area several years before that date.

The Barracks (named Anglesea by Governor George Arthur after the Marquis of Anglesea), who was Master General of the Ordnance in England during Arthur's tenure (1824-1826) remained Headquarters of the British Military Force in Tasmania until the last British Regiment stationed here left 1870.

Occupants of the Barracks area ranged from a boys' school, girls industrial school, girls reformatory, aged women's home, through tenants who rented the grounds for pasturage, to gymnasium, weather bureau (from 1882) and the Royal Hobart Bowling Club. The latter two still occupy their respective leases in the Barrack grounds.

Architecturally building within the Barracks can be divided into three phases. Those buildings erected between 1814-1838 all constructed of convict bricks; those buildings erected 1838-1870 mostly in local sandstone and buildings erected since the turn of the Century.

For those who are historically inclined to visit to Anglesea Barracks would be well worth while.

#### WEST POINT — HOTEL — CASINO

Of course one had to see some of the New of Hobart and where best to do so. One wonders where all the players in the Casino get their money to gamble. People of all walks of life, shapes and sizes wager on the host of games of chance. It would be one of the best landmarks of the city.

#### HEADING FOR HOME

I left Hobart on the morning of the 19th September to drive North-West to embark at Devenport for home. Called on Mr. Michael Temple-Smith in a suburb of Hobart and had a look at his daffodils before leaving. They were rather crowded, perhaps when his Dad returns soon to Hobart after working in Melbourne and subsequently doing approximately 9 months tour of Australia; they will buy some land and spread the planting out.

The first night out of Hobart I made Queenstown having passed through the rugged country from Norfolk, Tarraleah, Derwert Bridge. A long climb up through the mountain. I sighted the vast areas where the land had been

stripped. The land looked stark but with re-forestation it will soon return to its normal appearance.

The next morning set forth to Devenport via Zeeham, Rosebery, Parrawe, Volla, Somerset, Burnie and stopped at Ulverstone to view Mr. Donald and Craig Broadfield and their daffodils. Thence on for Devenport where I stayed the first night with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ratcliffe. Viewed Jim's 1Y-B and 1W-B (his pride and joy). Next morning Jim took me down to the town where I was surprised to see a Hotel-Motel named Elimatta. Having no better place to rest that evening I booked in for the place for the night. A reasonable standard and price. The next day went for a leisurely drive along the North Coast west of Devenport to Boat Harbour and returned to embark that afternoon for home.

I would think my predominant thought of Tasmania could be summed up in the words of "Wordsworth":

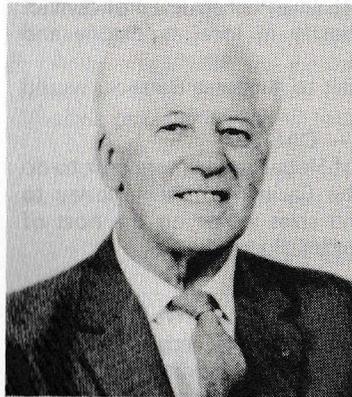
*"I wander'd lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host of golden daffodils."*

They were growing everywhere and one day not too far away, I plan to return and spend some time viewing daffodils that must have been in the same soil for well over 100 years. Perchance locating some of those now extinct everywhere in the world.

By kind permission Australian Daffodil Society

## Personality Profile

# TOM BLOOMER



*The social, friendly, honest man  
Whate'er he be,  
'Tis he fulfills great Nature's plan  
And none but he!—Burns.*

I understand the object of this new series which is largely biographical is to pay tribute to the personalities selected and to outline their main achievements. Emphasis is to be on human aspects, to attempt to portray the character, personality and philosophy behind the success and achievements.

This is a difficult task but I am nevertheless honoured to be invited to write about Tom Bloomer. It is appropriate that he should be the first personality of this profile series. His name is well known at home and wherever daffodils are grown and exhibited as the raiser of 'White Star', arguably the best 'White Trumpet' in existence at this time. Though 'White Star' may be

## Revised Classification of Daffodils 1977

1. The classification of a daffodil cultivar shall be based on the description and measurements submitted by the person registering the variety, or shall be the classification submitted by such person.
2. Colours applicable to the description of daffodil cultivars are abbreviated as follows:  
W—white or whitish; G—green; Y—yellow; P—pink; O—orange; R—red.
3. For purposes of description, the daffodil flower shall be divided into perianth and corona.
4. The perianth shall be described by the letter or letters of the colour code most appropriate.
5. The corona shall be divided into three zones: an eye-zone, a mid-zone, and the edge or rim. Suitable coded colour descriptions shall describe these three zones, beginning with the eye-zone and extending to the rim.
6. The letter or letters of the colour code most accurately describing the perianth shall follow the division designation.
7. The letters of the colour code most accurately describing the zones of the corona shall then follow, from the eye-zone to the rim separated from the perianth letters by a hyphen. In Division 4, the letters of the colour code most accurately describing the admixture of petals and petaloids replacing the corona shall follow in proper order, using 3, 2, or 1 colour codes as appropriate.
8. If the corona is substantially of a single colour, a single letter of the colour code shall describe it.

Using these basic requirements, daffodils may be classified as follows:

### **DIVISION 1: TRUMPET DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: One flower to a stem; trumpet or corona as long or longer than the perianth segments.

### **DIVISION 2: LONG-CUPPED DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: One flower to a stem; cup or corona more than one-third, but less than equal to the length of the perianth segments.

### **DIVISION 3: SHORT-CUPPED DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: One flower to a stem; cup or corona not more than one-third the length of the perianth segments.

### **DIVISION 4: DOUBLE DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: Double flowers.

### **DIVISION 5: TRIANDRUS DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: Characteristics of *Narcissus triandrus* predominant.

### **DIVISION 6: CYCLAMINEUS DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: Characteristics of *Narcissus cyclamineus* predominant.

### **DIVISION 7: JONQUILLA DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: Characteristics of the *Narcissus jonquilla* group predominant.

### **DIVISION 8: TAZETTA DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: Characteristics of the *Narcissus tazetta* group predominant.

### **DIVISION 9: POETICUS DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: Characteristics of the *Narcissus poeticus* group predominant.

### **DIVISION 10: SPECIES AND WILD FORMS AND WILD HYBRIDS**

All species and wild or reputedly wild forms and hybrids. Double forms of these varieties are included.

### **DIVISION 11: SPLIT-CORONA DAFFODILS OF GARDEN ORIGIN**

Distinguishing characters: Corona split for at least one-third of its length.

### **DIVISION 12: MISCELLANEOUS DAFFODILS**

All daffodils not falling into any one of the foregoing Divisions.