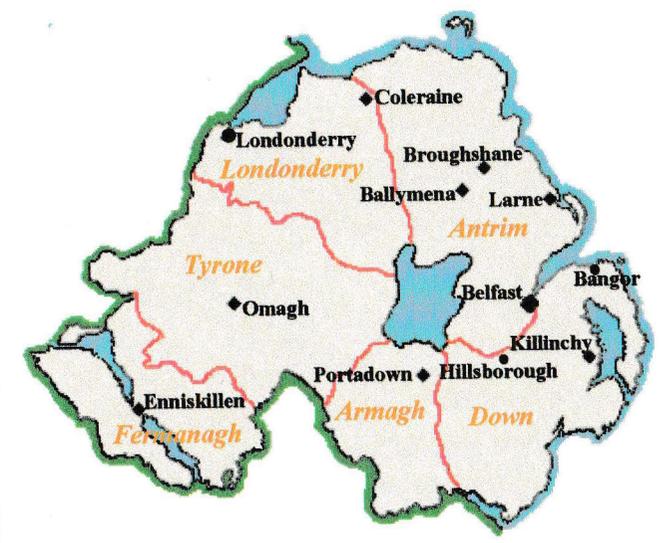


Newsletter

of the
Northern Ireland
Daffodil Group



Half yearly publication

Autumn 2005
Issue

**THE NORTHERN IRELAND DAFFODIL GROUP
NEWSLETTER**

VOL 6 NO. 6

2005

OFFICERS OF THE GROUP

Chairman

D. TURBITT, 16 Swilly Rd., Portstewart, Co. Londonderry.

Vice Chairman

B. DUNCAN MBE, 'Knowehead', 15 Ballynahatty Rd.
Omagh, Co. Tyrone. BT78 1PN

Treasurer

D. TURBITT, 16 Swilly Rd., Portstewart, Co. Londonderry.

Secretary

J. SMYTH, 35 Tullyglush Rd., Banbridge, Co. Down.
BT 32 3TN – Telephone 028 9269 2400

Committee

R. CURRY, 19 Beechdeene Gardens, Lisburn, Co. Antrim
V. HOUSTON, 5 Mowhan Rd. Markethill, Co. Armagh
D. McCORMICK, 38 Culcavy Rd. Hillsborough, Co. Down
N. WATSON, Ringhaddy Lodge, Killinchy, Co. Down

Co-opted members

S. McCAULEY, 6 Belfield Park, Foyle Springs, Londonderry
M. WARD, 20 Cluney Grove, Killiney, Co. Dublin, Ireland
D. CAIRNS, 49 The Moorings, Malahide, Co. Dublin.

Publications Committee

I. SCROGGY, G. WILSON and D. TURBITT
M. KERR email - heatherkerr@nireland.com

Auditor

R. McCAW, 77 Ballygowan Rd. Hillsborough, Co. Down

CHAIRMANS REMARKS

Signs of autumn are apparent, the days are shortening, daffodils are planted, (well almost) and seeds have been sown. Internet photos of Southern hemisphere prize winning blooms reinnoculate the yellow fever and thoughts turn to flowers of next spring.

Passing time brings changes, and it is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Crosbie Cochrane during the summer. Crosbie was a founder member and past chairman of the group and it seems only a very short time ago since he chaired our annual general meeting in January. We offer the condolences of the group to his wife, Freda and the family circle.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the group for their support (and friendly banter), our secretary James Smyth, behind the scenes man, Richard McCaw, the publications committee and all those who help the group in various ways. A special word of thanks to Jill McIvor and her team who make us comfortable at our meetings in Balance house.

Our programme diversified a bit this year with a visit to an alpine garden (but we saw some snowdrops with yellow markings) and a very enjoyable July visit to the international rose trials at Dixon park near Belfast. In November we look forward to a visit and talk from Malcolm Bradbury, honorary editor of the R.H.S. year book. An additional meeting has been arranged as Ian Young from the Scottish Rock Garden society has agreed to give us a talk on alpine bulbs (mostly narcissus and some other interesting bulbs).

One possible way to recruit new members and encourage the growing of better daffodils is through our bulb

sales. In September I gave a talk on daffodils to the City of Derry horticultural society. Members eagerly snapped up bags of mixed seedlings and spare bulbs at the end of the meeting. Hopefully this will lead to more entries in their spring show next year. A big thank you to those who donated bulbs and manned our stand at the Belfast autumn show in Botanic gardens. The only training required for our sales team is to watch a few episodes of 'Open all Hours'.

Finally may I wish all our members a mild winter and an enjoyable and successful daffodil season for 2006.

Derek Turbitt

EDITOR'S NOTES

I will begin with an apology for the late production of the newsletter. This was due to the fact that I had a major disaster with the computer due to me ignoring an antivirus update when downloading an email and requesting the computer to do it later. One learns by ones mistakes. I lost everything that was on the computer and was unable to recover any of my recent files, since I last rebuilt it in the spring. The automatic virus checker knew better and I should have let it download the latest update which would have taken precedence over the email. Now everything is backed up on disk immediately because of the amount of work involved in setting everything up and the loss of quite a lot of material which I cannot replace.

So on to more mundane matters copy is virtually nil so the request is being made yet again for more material for future publications. Take advantage of these long winter nights and put pen to paper or better still type it up on the computer and send it to me so that we can continue to produce

an interesting publication.

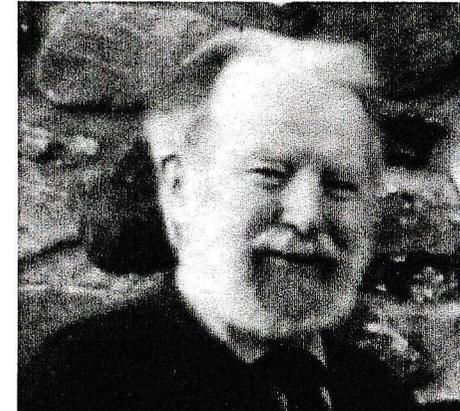
We include in this edition an obituary for Crosbie; a very deep loss to us all. The usual show reports, a report on a visit to Patrick Kiernan by Brian and George and the continuation on the talk Brian gave on Intermediates. After the first part I received an interesting email re the production of yet another list and I would like to say that as someone who does a little breeding but has never intentionally purchased intermediate varieties that I found it quite interesting as the list revealed to me that I have used some of the varieties named in my breeding programme in the past and may have discarded blooms which failed to meet the size requirements for show. Recent inclusion of classes for intermediates in show schedules is to be encouraged and supported whenever possible although it will probably lead to many debates in the future.

The long range forecasters are predicting a hard winter but someone has forgotten to notify the daffodils- 'Castanets' is already up in my ground six inches and I thought it was early last year when it threw its first bloom during the second week of January along with 'Avalanche'. The former was still throwing flowers as late as March and I staged one at the early show. It could well be in bloom this year before Christmas unless there is a dramatic drop in temperature even though we have had our first touch of ground frost the second week in October. I notice also that some of the divisions 1 to 4 are just below the surface this week as I loosened the soil with my hand cultivator on rigs that are coming into their third year.

I hope that you have all completed your planting on schedule and trust that you all have a good season in the year ahead.

Maurice Kerr

CROSBIE COCHRANE MBE
1921 -2005



It is with great sadness that we record the passing of our esteemed member Crosbie Cochrane. We are left with the memories of the times spent in his company, the smile, little snatches of conversations and the joy that he brought to many. He was a true gentleman and will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

Born on July 11th 1921 Crosbie was the only son of David and Anna Mary Cochrane. He was educated at First Comber Church School and Regent House School before gaining a scholarship from the Ministry of Agriculture to attend Reading University. After obtaining a degree in horticulture he lectured in Lancashire before returning to the family farm when his father died in 1950.

During his time at university he had the distinction of obtaining Blues for cricket and hockey and he played hockey for Lancashire County.

Crosbie gained further qualifications with a National diploma in Horticulture and became a Fellow of the Institute of Horticulture in 1986. The following year he received the OBE in recognition for his services to horticulture.

When working for the Civil Service he set up the horticulture centre at Greenmount Agricultural College when it

reopened after the Second World War. His career changed direction when he decided to retire from farming and he became secretary to the all Ireland Aberdeen Angus Cattle Society.

Cherryvalley house was sold and he and the family moved to Dublin in 1958 where he remained until 1968 when he felt the call to return to the Civil Service in Northern Ireland. Here he worked until his retirement at 65 in the Advisory Branch visiting vegetable farms and providing information on commercial crop production rising to the pinnacle of his career by becoming Chief Horticultural Officer of the Department of Agriculture.

An important part of his life was his association with television and radio where his expertise was much sought after in numerous gardening programmes. Crosbie's name was synonymous with the world of gardening in Ulster. He was called upon on many occasions to open gardens for various charities and to speak at gardening clubs and Women's Institutes.

During a very full life he had a long association with the National Trust serving as a member of the gardens Committee for 20 years and was Vice-President of the Royal Ulster Agriculture Society. He was involved with Rotary both in Dublin and in Newtownards and was a member of the Ards Probus club.

Crosbie had a long association with the NIDG from its formation; taking a very active interest in the group. He was a founder member and served as Liaison to the Department of Agriculture for many years. He served the NIDG both as Chairman and Vice Chairman in the late eighties. He was keenly interested in all the activities and was most generous with advice to all the group on many of the cultivation problems they encountered as he had an immense and diverse knowledge of the many differing conditions our members grow their daffodils under.

On behalf of the NIDG members and friends we extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Winifred and all the family circle

Maurice Kerr

SHOW REPORTS 2005

N.I.D.G. EARLY SHOW 20th MARCH

After some panic regarding an early March slow-up in the daffodil flowering sequence the frost relented and suddenly blooms appeared in such quantities that this years early show was the best for some time with 356 high quality blooms on display. In the event the main classes and awards were evenly shared with Nial Watson winning the six bloom class, Maurice Kerr winning the seven stem one vase class using a 2W-W seedling of his own and Kate Reade winning best bloom in the miniature section with seedling no. 84/86 1 W-W. Brian Duncan won best bloom in show with 'Queens Guard' 1 W-Y, Nial Watson won best Div. 2 with 'Impeccable' 2Y-Y, Derrick Turbitt gained the award for best Div 3 with 'Chilmark' and Brian was successful in Div.4 with 'Dorchester' 4W-P and Div5 to Div 11 with 'Maria Pia'. All other exhibitors got winning tickets throughout the classes and as ever this first show was an excellent social gathering after 'Winter hibernation'. It was particularly gratifying to see Victor Houston one of our regular stalwarts at meetings appearing here as an exhibitor and featuring among the results. As ever we are indebted to Coleman's Garden Centre for providing an excellent venue with lots of visitors to keep us alert with their questions. The unlimited supply of coffee also helps to make this a most convivial occasion with which to start the show season.

COLERAINE SHOW REPORT

Coleraine show is traditionally held on Easter Saturday at the University of Ulster, Coleraine. This year with Easter falling early (26th March) the decision was made to put the show back a week to April 2nd which unfortunately led to a clash with Hillsborough. Of course what happened; the

earliest season that I can remember with early varieties in flower by mid March and mid to mid late season varieties in bloom by the end of March.

With the clash of dates I was worried that this could become a one-man show. I cut nearly every bloom in the garden to fill the benches in the open classes. Local members of the society covered the intermediate and novice classes and Ian Scroggy from Carnlough provided stiff competition for me in the open classes. I won the Coleraine championship for nine blooms (at least 3 divisions) and included 'Chobe River' 1Y-Y (best div1) and 'Bailey' 2O-R (best div 2 and best bloom). Weight of numbers meant that I won most points in the three bloom classes and single bloom classes. Seedling 9702 (3Y-YR) won the 3 bloom 3Y- class and the single bloom div.3 rimmed class. However a sister seedling 9709 (3Y-GYR) which won the seedling class was best div.3. Ian Scroggy had best div.4 with a stunning 'Dorchester'. (4W-P)

Hugh Wright, a local exhibitor won the intermediate cup and Rae Weir, a new exhibitor won the novice cup. Despite the change in date a good crowd of visitors enjoyed the show and the Guy Wilson daffodil gardens, which are in the university grounds.

HILLSBOROUGH GARDENING SOCIETY SPRING SHOW 2nd APRIL 2005

For various reasons Hillsborough Spring Show was not as well supported as usual by the core group of N.I.D.G. exhibitors fortunately this did not detract from the quality of bloom on display or from the usual enthusiastic paying visitors to the show. On the day Brian Duncan carried off the vast majority of best bloom awards as well as winning the Open Twelve Bloom class where he also gained third place with a 'judges nightmare' selection of Div. 4 and upwards plus a few Intermediates. In the Senior Amateur classes Richard McCaw

and George Wilson were the main protagonists with George just edging out Richard in the Twelve Bloom class but Richard taking home the silverware for most points overall. Richard also won the Best Seedling and best Div.1 awards with one of his own seedlings 'RAM 74' (1 Y-Y). As ever the organisation by the Hillsborough Club was beyond reproach and the superb buffet lunch was appreciated by all the visiting judges.

SELECTED RESULTS

Open Classes

12 Bloom

1st Brian Duncan

'Queens Guard'; 'Sdg.2364' ('Hero' x 'Tribe'); 'Sdg. 2103' ('Verdoy' x 'Chanson'); 'Bronzewing' 'Temba'; 'Cisticola'; 'Sdg.2968' (Prairie Fire x Auspicious); 'Sdg.23689' ('Yoshiko' x 'Naivasha') 'Dorchester'; 'Lennymore'; 'Harbour View'; 'Gold Ingot'.

2nd Richard McCaw

'Wampum'; 'Arthurian'; 'Lighthouse'; 'Kingstanding' 'Terminator'; 'Young Blood'; 'Lennymore'; 'Cryptic', 'Applins'; 'Saxonbury'; 'Sdg.2060' (1 W-P); 'Sdg.RAM75'(1Y-Y)

3rd Brian Duncan

'Kaydee'; 'Sdg.97/19' ('Tyree' x 'Neederburg'); 'Sdg2404' ('Gresham' x 'Dorchester'); 'Elfin Gold' 'Sdg.1963' ('N. Cyc.' X 'Bryanston'); 'Brooke Aga'r; 'Sdg.99/56' ('Prairie Fire' x 'Auspicious'); 'Rimski' 'Urchin'; 'Bantam'; 'Lilac Charm'; 'Sdg.2716' ('Surrey' x 'N. Cyc.')

Five Varieties - Foreign Raised

1st Brian Duncan

'American Heritage'; 'Banker'; 'Trumpet Warrior'; 'Predator'; 'Rongaiti Gem'

2nd Richard McCaw

'Potential'; 'Graduation'; 'Trumpet Warrior'; 'Strawberry Ice'; 'Newcomer'

Senior Amateur Classes

12 Bloom

1st George Wilson

'Ethos'; 'Cryptic'; 'Surrey'; 'Fiona McKillop'; 'Party Girl'; 'Lennymore'; 'Royal Marine'; 'Crackington'; 'Banker'; 'Wy-East'; 'Kingsgrove'; 'Greenodd'.

2nd Richard McCaw

'Terminator'; 'Dateline'; 'Lennymore'; 'BSD Sdg' ; 'Barnesgold'; 'Applins'; 'Regal Bliss'; 'Night Music'; 'Megalith'; 'Sdg. PK64'; 'Ethos'; 'Motts Mill'

Best Bloom Awards

Best Bloom and Best Div. 4 Brian Duncan, 'Dorchester'

Best Seedling and Best Div.1 Richard McCaw, 'RAM75'

Best Div. 2 Brian Duncan, 'Sdg. 2368' 2W-P ('Yoshiko' x 'Naivasha')

Best Div. 3 Brian Duncan, 'Sdg. 2990' 3Y-R ('Sdg. 2328' x 'Tropical Heat') Best A.O.D. Brian Duncan, 'Lilac Charm'.

FERMANAGH GARDENING SOCIETY

Prize winners at the Enniskillen Show. *Open Section A*

1 One seedling any division raised by exhibitor *Brian Duncan*

2 6 varieties (Irish Raised) 1 bloom of each selected from at least 3

Divisions *Brian Duncan*

Open Section B

3 6 varieties one bloom of each selected from at least 3 divisions each bloom to be staged singly *John Ennis*

4 3 Blooms one variety Division 1 *John Ennis*

5 3 Blooms one variety Division 2 coloured perianth *John Ennis*

6 3 Blooms one variety Division 2 white perianth *Lady Hamilton*

7 3 Blooms one variety Division 1 or 2 pink coloured cups *John Ennis*

Summary

Brian Duncan won both classes in section A open

John Ennis won 13 of 20 classes in Section B open

Gordon Barton won 7 of 8 classes for which there were entries in Intermediate Section D

Best bloom in Show *Brian Duncan*

Most points *John Ennis*

BALLYMENA GARDEN CLUB SPRING SHOW 16th APRIL 2005

The Ballymena Show saw the return of Robbie Curry to the Northern show scene following his Irish Amateur Championship win in Dublin the previous weekend, and what a triumphal return it turned out to be. Robbie won the NIDG Silver Thread Award, the nine bloom Amateur Senior Class and also managed third place in the twelve bloom Open class with the 'left overs' quite a record. In the Open Section Brian Duncan and Nial Watson were the main entrants with Brian winning the twelve and Nial having Best

Bloom in Show with 'Silent Valley' from his twelve, not bad for a 1964 registration! In the Open Senior section Robbie Curry, Richard McCaw, Maurice Kerr and George Wilson shared the spoils, Maurice gaining the award for most points in the single stem classes and George winning the corresponding trophy for multi-stem classes. The non daffodil classes in the show were well supported, the Floral Art entries as ever looked particularly good and even though the weather on the day left a lot to be desired the public turned out to give support. Thanks to Ballymena for hosting the Silver Thread Award and for their usual wonderful hospitality.

Results Open Section

12 Bloom Class

1st Brian Duncan

'Gold Ingot', 'Dorchester', 'Ruddy Rascal', 'Dr. Hugh', 'Bronzewing', 'Bouzouki', 'Sdg. 2368' (2W-P), 'Ethos' 'Goldfinger', 'Young Blood', 'Sdg. 2225' (2Y-R), 'Alto'.

2nd Nial Watson

'Silent Valley' 'Arid Plains' 'Dunley Hall' 'Lamlash' 'Gold Ingot' 'Asila' 'Badbury Rings' 'Alto' 'Val d'Incles' 'Crackington' 'Watamu' 'Altun Ha'

3rd Robbie Curry

'Serena Beach', 'Coramandel', 'June Lake', 'Chobe River', 'Ahwahnee', 'Evesham', 'Twicer', 'Cape Point'.

Sdg. '0019' (3 W-Y) Sdg. (2Y-R) 'Sugar Bird' Sdg. 5-30-02 (2Y-YYO)

American Raised Five Bloom

1st George Wilson

'Star Trek', 'Silken Sails', 'Stratosphere', 'Mission Bells', 'Cool Crystal'.

2nd Nial Watson

'Oryx', 'Eland', 'Stratosphere', 'Hillstar', 'Mission Bells'.

Six Varieties - Three stems of each x Three Divisions

1st Richard McCaw

'Dr. Hugh', 'Dunadry Inn', 'June Lake', 'Cape Point', 'Port Noo', 'Cool Crystal'.

Amateur Senior Classes

Silver Thread Award (Three Vases of Three Stems One or more varieties x Three Divisions)

1st Robbie Curry

'Serena Beach', 'Dunley Hall', 'Evesham'; 'Santana', 'Warwick Castle', 'Stanway'; 'Glassnevin', 'Sheelagh Rowan', 'Loch Alsh'.

2nd Sandy McCabe

'Limpopo', 'Stanway', 'Jake'; 'Moralee', Sdg., 'Altun Ha';

'Chinchilla', 'Dateline', 'Shangani'.

3rd *Richard McCaw*

'Asila', 'Naivasha', 'Amazing Grace'; 'Samsara', 'Mulroy Bay', 'Triple Crown'; 'Gay Kybo', 'Fragrant Rose', 'Sheelagh Rowan'.

Nine Varieties x One Stem x Three Divisions

1st *Robbie Curry*

'Gay Kybo', 'Chobe River', Sdg. '1547', 'Moon Shadow', 'Stanway', 'Amazing Grace', 'Samsara', 'Royal Marine'.

2nd *George Wilson*

'Cool Crystal', 'Badbury Rings', 'Silken Sails', 'Arizona Sunset', 'Savoir Faire', 'Ballylig', 'Soprano', 'Inny River', 'Ruby Wedding'.

3rd *Maurice Kerr*

All M. Kerr Seedlings.

Crawford Cup (Highest Points Multi Stem Classes) - George Wilson

Frazer Cup (Highest Points Single Stem Classes) - Maurice Kerr

Best Bloom in Show 'Silent Valley' Nial Watson

CITY of BELFAST SPRING FLOWER SHOW

23rd & 24th APRIL

As ever The Parks Department of Belfast City Council laid on excellent staging and display facilities, the latter being a large marquee appended to the historic Barnets House. Due to the early season many exhibitors had to make use of flowers they had kept in various 'coolers' in order to cover the classes and various divisions. Given the type of season The Open Championship of Ireland class was well supported and visiting judges Tony James and Dave Vivash were presented with five evenly matched high quality entries to differentiate. After judging Brian Duncan prevailed with Richard McCaw second and Nial Watson third. Brian included a bright Div. 2W-P seedling which went on to win Best Div.2 bloom, this was a most attractive and different flower with a clear white reflexing perianth. Derrick Turbitt added to his fine Belfast record with his seedlings, this time he gained Best Div.4 and best vase of

three with his 4Y-Y. Other best blooms were Brian Duncan's 'Ethos' and the third visiting judge Mike Brooks won the Div. 5 to 11 class with a fine example of 'Mowser', he also won the American Daffodil Society five stem class. Robbie Curry had another fine show with wins in the Gilbert Andrews and the International Award showing large flowers of consistent high quality. During the two days of the show the public attended in good numbers visiting the various attractions both outside in the grounds and in the house and marquee. The Parks Dept. are to be complimented on the increasing success of this Spring Fair.

BEST BLOOM IN SHOW	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2656'
BEST DIV. 1	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	'Ethos'
BEST DIV. 2	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2656'
BEST DIV. 3.	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2261'
BEST DIV. 4.	<i>Derek Turbitt</i>	'Seedling 0028' 4Y-Y
BEST ANY OTHER DIV .	<i>Michael Brook</i>	'Mowser'
BEST SEEDLING	<i>Brian Duncan</i>	Seedling 2656'

Class 1 CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND No. of Entries 5

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

1st *Brian Duncan*

'Seedling 2600' 2W-WPP, 'Ruddy Rascal', 'Star Quality', 'Bronze Wing', 'Ethos', 'Seedling 2656' 2W-WP, 'Bouzouki', 'Seedling 2265' 2W-YYO 'Dorchester', 'Seedling 2225' 2Y-O, 'Seedling 2261' 3W-Y, 'Goldfinger'.

2nd *Richard McCaw*

'Seedling 2017' 4W-Y, 'Santana', 'Amazing Grace', 'Arid Plains'

'Tinder Box', 'Fragrant Rose', 'Ahwhanee', 'Naivasha'

'Sheelagh Rowan', 'RAM 86' 3Y-YR, 'RAM 12' 3Y-Y, 'Seedling 1547' 3Y-R.

3rd *Nial Watson*

'Chukar', 'Armidale', 'Soprano', 'Brodick',

'Altun Ha', 'Hawangi', 'Burning Bush', 'Silent Valley',

'Ridgecrest', 'Outline', 'savoir Faire', 'Compton Court'.

Class 2 ROYAL MAIL TROPHY No. of Entries 2

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

1st *Brian Duncan*

'Seedling 2600' 2W-WPP, 'Gold Ingot', 'Ruddy Rascal', 'Seedling 2329' 4W-P, 'Seedling 2265 2W-YYO', 'Jake'.

2nd *Richard McCaw*

'Ahwhanee', 'Cape Point', 'Dr. Hugh', 'RAM 108' 3Y-GYYR, 'Triple Crown', 'Notre Dame'.

Class 3

WH ROESE BOWL AND A.D.S. RED, WHITE & BLUE RIBBON
No. of Entries 1

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

2nd Nial Watson

'Spindlerop', 'Brian's Favorite', 'Berceuse', 'Connestoga', 'Chukar'.

Class 4 GUY WILSON TROPHY No. of Entries 2

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

1st Maurice Kerr

'Silversmith', 'WhiteStar', 'Misty Glen'.

2nd NAS.

Class 5 GILBERT ANDREWS TROPHY No. of Entries 5

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

1st Robert Curry

'Night Fire', 'Serena Beach', 'Sheelagh Rowan', 'Stanway', 'Seedling 0019'

2nd Richard McCaw

'Seedling 1547' 3Y-R, 'June Lake', 'Port Noo', 'Seedling 108' 3Y-YYR, 'Ahwhanee', 'Unknown'.

3rd Maurice Kerr

'Seedling 103/1' 1Y-Y, 'Seedling 88/39/6' 2W-YYO, 'Dr. Hugh', 'Seedling 24/3 2Y-R, 'Seedling 199 2y-R, 'Seedling 216/4' 2W-P.

Class 6 THE INTERNATIONAL AWARD □ SOUTH EAST ENGLAND DAFFODIL GROUP AWARD

Daffodils raised outside Ireland. Three vases. Three blooms of each. Any number of varieties or divisions. Name of raiser to be stated on seedlings. No. of Entries 2

1st Robert Curry

'Samsara', 'Stanway', 'Altun Ha'.

2nd Richard McCaw

'Samsara', 'Badbury Rings', 'Caithness'.

Class 7 DAFFODIL SOCIETY GILT MEDAL

One vase. Three blooms. Any number of varieties or divisions, unregistered seedlings, not necessarily raised by exhibitor. Raiser's name to be stated. No. of Entries 6

1st Derek Turbitt

'Seedling 0028' 4Y-Y

2nd Derek Turbitt

'Seedling 0516'

3rd Maurice Kerr

'Sdg.90/3' 3W-GYYO, 'Sdg99/2' 3Y-YYO, 'Sdg 199' 3Y-R

COLLECTION CLASSES Three stems. One or more varieties. One vase.

Class8 Division 1Y. No. of Entries 2

1st Brian Duncan

'Goldfinger'.

2nd Maurice Kerr

'Seedling 103/1'.

Class9 Division 1 W. No. of Entries 2

1st Brian Duncan

'Korora Bay'.

3rd Maurice Kerr

'Sherpa'.

Class10 Division 2Y. No. of Entries 5

1st Maurice Kerr 'Seedling 24/2', 'Seedling 29/3, 'Seedling 111'.

2nd Brian Duncan

'Dardanelles'.

3rd Brian Duncan

'Gold Bond'.

Class 11 Division 2W. No. of Entries 6

1st Maurice Kerr

'Seedling 150' 2W-YYO.

2nd Nial Watson

'Asila'.

3rd Sandy McCabe 'Watership Down', 'Silver Surf', 'Stoke Charity'.

Class 12 Division 3Y. No. of Entries 7

1st Brian Duncan

'Armidale'.

2nd Sandy McCabe

'Samsara', 2 'Dateline'.

3rd Maurice Kerr

'Solar Tan'.

Class 13 Division 3W. No. of Entries 8

1st Maurice Kerr

'Port Noo'

2nd George Wilson

'Moyarget'

3rd Brian Duncan

'Limpopo'

Class 14 Any Division Y-W or Y-WWY. No. of Entries 1

1st Brian Duncan

'Altun Ha'

Class 15 Division 2W-P. No. of Entries 7

1st George Wilson

'Phinda', 2 'Soprano'

2nd Brian Duncan

'Harbour View'

3rd Maurice Kerr

'Mentor'

Class 16 Division 2 Rimmed. No. of Entries 3

1st Brian Duncan

'June Lake'

2nd Maurice Kerr

'High Society'

3rd Michael Brook

'Ringleader'

Class 17 Division 3 Rimmed. No. of Entries 8

<i>1st Richard McCaw</i>	'Triple Crown'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2267' 3Y-YYR	
<i>3rd George Wilson</i>	'Kirkinriola'	
Class 18 Division 4Y.		No. of Entries 4
<i>1st Sandy McCabe</i>	'Moralee'	
<i>2nd Derek Turbitt</i>	'Seedling 0024' 4Y-Y	
<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Le Torch', 2 'Mamma Mia'	
Class 19 Division 4W.		No. of Entries 7
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Serena Beach'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Dorchester'	
<i>3rd George Wilson</i>	'Gay Kybo'	
Class 20 Division 5.		No. of Entries 1
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	Seedling ('N. Triandus' x 'Young Blood')	
Class 21 Division 6Y.		No. of Entries 0
Class 22 Division 6W		No. of Entries 3
<i>1st Richard McCaw</i>	'Elizabeth Ann'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Georgie Girl'	
<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Elizabeth Ann'	
Class 23 Division 7.		No. of Entries 3
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Perpetuation'	
<i>2nd Derek Turbitt</i>	'Stratosphere'	
<i>3rd Michael Brook</i>	'Susan Pearson'	
Class 24 Division 8.		No. of Entries 2
<i>1st Maurice Kerr</i>	'Avalanche'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Highfield Beauty'	
Class 25 Division 9.		No. of Entries 1
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Kamau'	
Class 26 Division 11.		No. of Entries 3
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Mallee', 'Atricilla', 'Electrus'	
<i>2nd George Wilson</i>	'Tripartite'	
<i>3rd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Gabriel Klieberg'	

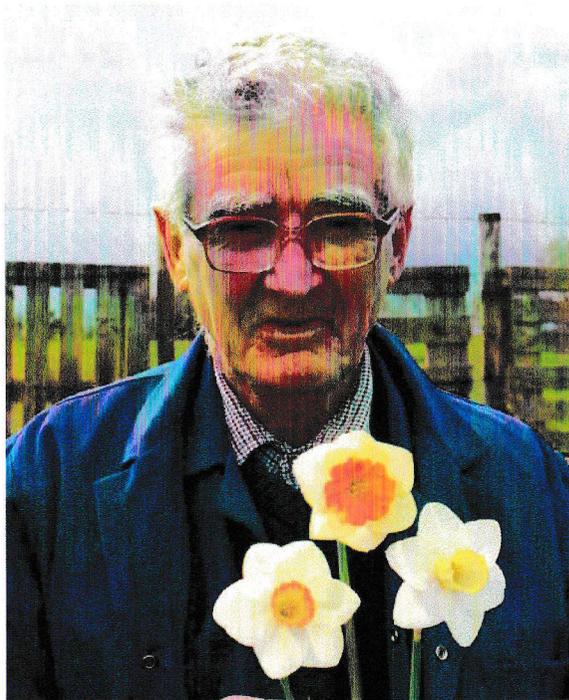
SINGLE STEM CLASSES

Division 1 Perianth - Yellow

Class 27 Corona Yellow.		No. of Entries 10
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Goldfinger'	
<i>2nd Robert Curry</i>	'Inny River'	
<i>3rd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Ethos'	
Class 28 Corona Orange or Red or Pink.		No. of Entries 1
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Belfast Lough'	
Perianth - White	Class 29 Corona White.	No. of Entries 9
<i>1st Sandy McCabe</i>	'White Star'	

<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2269'	
<i>3rd Nial Watson</i>	'Silent Valley'	
Class 30 Corona Pink.		No. of Entries 4
<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	'Korora Bay'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Korora Bay'	
<i>3rd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Korora Bay'	
Class 31 Corona any other colour.		No. of Entries 1
<i>2nd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Pop's Legacy'	
Division 2 Perianth - Yellow		
Class 32 Corona any other colour.		No. of Entries 10
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Coromandel'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Gold Ingot'	
<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>	'Michael's Gold'	
Class 33 Corona Red.		No. of Entries 9
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Bouzouki'	
<i>2nd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Bouzouki'	
<i>3rd Michael Brook</i>	'Banker'	
Class 34 Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant.		No. of Entries 9
<i>1st Sandy McCabe</i>	'Shangani'	
<i>2nd Robert Curry</i>	'Santana'	
<i>3rd Nial Watson</i>	'Shindig'	
Class 35 Corona containing pink		No. of Entries 4
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2253'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2420'	
<i>3rd Michael Ward</i>	'Seedling 2485'	
Perianth - White		
Class 36 Corona Yellow or White and Yellow.		No. of Entries 8
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Soft Focus'	
<i>2nd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Soft Focus'	
<i>3rd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Seedling 88/40/7'	
Class 37 Corona Orange or Red.		No. of Entries 7
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Young Blood'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Conestoga'	
<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Young Blood'	
Class 38 Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant.		No. of Entries 4
<i>1st Maurice Kerr</i>	'Seedling 130'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Seedling 88/38/3'	
<i>3rd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Ringleader'	
Class 39 Corona White.		No. of Entries 9
<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	17 'Sheelagh Rowan'	

Spring 2005



Patrick Kiernan
see article Cool, 'Cam' & Collected



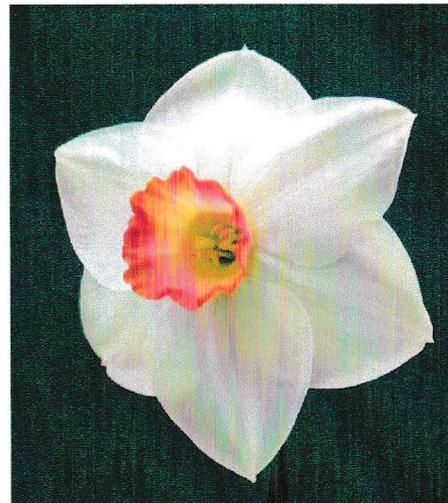
'Sdg. 9412' Best Vase of Three exhibited by an Amateur
Derek Turbitt



Dave Vivash
visiting judge at Belfast Spring Flower Show



'Ethos' Best Div. 1
Brian Duncan



**'Sdg. 2656' Best Bloom in Show
Best Seedling & Best Div. 2**
Brian Duncan



'Sdg. 0028' Best Div. 4
Derek Turbitt



'Mowser' Best Any Other Div.
Michael Brook

<i>2nd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Chinchilla'	
<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>	'Cultured Pearl'	
Class 40	Corona Pink with colour predominant.	No. of Entries 22
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Alto'	
<i>2nd Nial Watson</i>	'Seedling 368'	
<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>	'Soprano seedling'	
Class 41	Corona Pink with colour not predominant.	No. of Entries 9
<i>1st Michael Ward</i>	'Savoir Faire'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Seedling 500/1'	
<i>3rd Derek Turbitt</i>	'Seedling 9719'	
Division 3	Perianth - Yellow	
Class 42	Corona Yellow.	No. of Entries 6
<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	'Lemma'	
<i>2nd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Nonchalant'	
<i>3rd Robert Curry</i>	'Nonchalant'	
Class 43	Corona Red.	No. of Entries 14
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Stanway'	
<i>2nd Michael Ward</i>	'Solar System'	
<i>3rd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Jake'	
Class 44	Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant.	No. of Entries 17
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Triple Crown'	
<i>2nd Richard McCaw</i>	'Triple Crown'	
<i>3rd Nial Watson</i>	'Ring Fence'	
	Perianth - White	
Class 45	Corona Yellow or White and Yellow.	No. of Entries 25
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Carnearney'	
<i>2nd Derek Turbitt</i>	'Seedling 9412'	
<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2589'	
Class 46	Corona Red.	No. of Entries 12
<i>1st Sandy McCabe</i>	'Purbeck'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Seedling 89/1'	
<i>3rd Derek Turbitt</i>	'Singin Pub'	
Class 47	Corona Red or Orange with colour not predominant.	No. of Entries 12
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Busselton'	
<i>2nd Nial Watson</i>	'Ardglass'	
<i>3rd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Wavelength'	
Class 48	Corona White	No. of Entries 9
<i>1st Derek Turbitt</i>	'Silverwood'	
<i>2nd Robert Curry</i>	'Silverwood'	

<i>3rd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Silver Crystal'	
Class 49	Corona Pink	No. of Entries 5
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Dena'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 97/40'	
<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Demeanour'	
Division 4	Perianth and petaloid segments <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow	
Class 50	Corona segments any colour	No. of Entries 8
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 2778'	
<i>2nd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Crowndale'	
<i>3rd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Seedling 52'	
	Perianth and petaloid segments - White	
Class 51	Corona segments Pink.	No. of Entries 8
<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	'Temple Cloud'	
<i>2nd Sandy McCabe</i>	'Dorchester'	
<i>3rd Brian Duncan</i>	'Dorchester'	
Class 52	Corona segments any colour other than Pink	No. of Entries 10
<i>1st Robert Curry</i>	'Serena Beach'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 1926'	
<i>3rd Maurice Kerr</i>	Seedling	
Class 53	Division 5.	No. of Entries 5
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 1885'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Jingle Bells'	
<i>3rd Michael Brook</i>	'World Class'	
Class 54	Division 6Y.	No. of Entries 2
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Seedling 1962'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Prototype'	
Class 55	Division 6W.	No. of Entries 2
<i>1st Brian Duncan</i>	'Elizabeth Ann'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Lilac Charm'	
Class 56	Division 7.	No. of Entries 10
<i>1st Michael Brook</i>	'Mowser'	
<i>2nd Michael Brook</i>	'Oregon Green'	
<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>	'Stratosphere'	
Class 57	Division 8.	No. of Entries 6
<i>1st Michael Brook</i>	'Dan Du Plessis'	
<i>2nd Maurice Kerr</i>	'Highfield Beauty'	
<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>		
Class 58	Division 9.	No. of Entries 3
<i>1st Nial Watson</i>	'Canticle'	
<i>2nd Brian Duncan</i>	'Kamau'	
<i>3rd Richard McCaw</i>		

Class 59 Division 11. **No. of Entries ?**

1st Nial Watson 'Vanellus'
2nd Brian Duncan 'Electrus'
3rd Michael Ward 'Vanellus'

Class 60 Any division. Yellow perianth. Corona White with or without a Yellow rim. **No. of Entries ?**

1st Sandy McCabe 'Altun Ha'
2nd Sandy McCabe 'Altun Ha'
3rd George Wilson 'Altun Ha'

Class 61 Any division. Unregistered Seedling raised by exhibitor. **No. of Entries 13**

1st Richard McCaw 'Seedling 43'
2nd Nial Watson 'Seedling 372'
3rd Richard McCaw 'Seedling 76'

Class 62 Any division with orange colouring in the perianth. **No. of Entries 6**

1st Richard McCaw 'Bossa Nova'
2nd Robert Curry 'Honey Orange'
3rd Maurice Kerr 'Limbo Seedling'

Class 63 One stem of lemon or sulphur self. Any division. **No. of Entries 4**

1st Robert Curry 'Clouded Yellow'
2nd Robert Curry 'Clouded Yellow'
3rd Maurice Kerr 'Seedling 99/2'

Class 64 One stem of Intermediate variety from divisions 1-4. **No. of Entries 8**

1st Richard McCaw 'Seedling 62'
2nd Richard McCaw 'Seedling 86'
3rd Maurice Kerr 'Seedling 99/2'

MINIATURE SECTION

Class 65 Miniature Narcissus, species or hybrid. Six stems staged singly. Any number of varieties. **No. of Entries 0**

Class 66 Miniature Narcissus, species or hybrid. Three stems. One or more varieties **No. of Entries 3**

1st Brian Duncan 'Stafford'
2nd Michael Ward 'Hawera'
3rd Deidre Cairns 'Petrel'

Class 67 Miniature Narcissus, species or hybrid. One stem. **No. of Entries 4**

1st Michael Ward 'Hawera'
2nd Michael Ward 'Hawera'
3rd Deidre Cairns 'Little Soldier'

AMATEUR CLASSES

Class 68 N.I.D.G. PLATE Six vases. Three stems each. Six varieties any division or divisions. **No. of Entries 3**

1st Derek Turbitt
'Serena Lodge', 'Garden News', 'Seedling 9412', 'Soprano', 'Triple Crown' & 'Port Noo'.

2nd Richard McCaw
'Nonchalant', 'Cool Crystal', 'Asila', 'Pacific Rim', 'RAM 44' & 'Soprano'.

3rd Robert Curry
'Carib Gypsy', 'Altun Ha', 'Samsara', 'Stanway', 'Triple Crown' & 'Seedling 1596'

Class 69 AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY Any division or divisions. Five varieties, American raised. One vase, one stem of each. **No. of Entries 2**

1st Michael Brook
'Dickcissel', 'Star Trek', 'Silken Sails', 'Mission Bells' & 'Startosphere'.

2nd George Wilson
'Oregon Green', Emerald Empire', 'Chromite', 'Beautiful Dream' & 'World Class'.

NOVICE CLASSES

Class 70 NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND
Six varieties representing at least three divisions. One bloom of each. Each bloom to be staged singly. **No. of Entries 1**

1st Deidre Cairns
'Carib Gypsy', 'Stanway', 'Lysander', 'Oryx', 'Brindle Pink' & 'Triple Crown'.

COLLECTION CLASSES

One or more varieties. One vase. Three stems.

Class 71 Division 1. **No. of Entries 0**

Class 72 Division 2. **No. of Entries 1**

1st Deidre Cairns 'Carib Gypsy', 'Libby' & 'Brindle Pink'.

Class 73 Division 3. **No. of Entries 1**

1st Deidre Cairns 'Stanway' & 2 'Little Karoo'. (Best 3 Bloom Novice)
'Little Karoo' Best Bloom Novice

Class 74 Division 4. **No. of Entries 1**

1st Deidre Cairns 'Pink Pageant'.
Class 75 Any other division. **No. of Entries 1**
1st Deidre Cairns 'Oryx'.

SINGLE STEM CLASSES

Class 76 Division 1Y. **No. of Entries 0**
Class 77 Division 1 W. **No. of Entries 0**
Class 78 Division 2Y. **No. of Entries 1**
1st David Pinkerton 'Carib Gypsy'.
Class 79 Division 2W. **No. of Entries 1**
1st Deidre Cairns 'River Dance'.
Class 80 Division 3Y. **No. of Entries 0**
Class 81 Division 3W. **No. of Entries 1**
1st Deidre Cairns 'Doctor Hugh'.
Class 82 Division 4. **No. of Entries 1**
1st Deidre Cairns 'Pink Pageant'.
Class 83 Division 5, 7 or 8. **No. of Entries 1**
1st Deidre Cairns 'Ice Wings'.
Class 84 Division 6. **No. of Entries 0**
Class 85 Division 9. **No. of Entries 1**
1st Deidre Cairns 'Seedling'.
Class 86 Any division. Yellow perianth Corona White with or without a Yellow rim. **No. of Entries 0**
Class 87 Any division with pink colouring in the cup. **No. of Entries 1**
1st Deidre Cairns 'Unknown'.
Class 88 Seedling. Not necessarily raised by exhibitor. Name of raiser to be stated. **No. of Entries 0**

**OMAGH GARDENING SOCIETY
 DAFFODIL & SPRING FLOWER SHOW
 SATURDAY 30' APRIL 2005**

For the second year Omagh Gardening Society held their show in St. Columba's Church Hall which is a really excellent venue with good staging facilities and catering to provide the ever thirsty exhibitors with tea and coffee. Although it is by tradition quite late in the season there is always a good turn out of blooms and this year was exceptionally good which either reflects the type of season or the number of refrigerators available. In any case the benches were well filled with good quality blooms and it was encouraging to see quite a few Intermediate and Novice entries. The judging panel was boosted this year by two Dutch daffodil enthusiasts who were guests of

Brian and Betty Duncan. They were very impressed by the speed at which Best Blooms etc. were selected under the guidance of club stalwart Sam Dukelow. Brian Duncan and Nial Watson provided all the Best Blooms in the Open Section while Robbie Curry took home yet more awards for Best Amateur Bloom as well as winning the Amateur Senior nine bloom class. Maurice Kerr gained the award for most points in the Amateur collection classes and Richard McCaw won the corresponding trophy in the single stem section. George Wilson won the American Daffodil Class, Bob Patton showed Best Intermediate Bloom and W. Robinson won Best Novice Bloom. A fine buffet lunch was provided by the hard working ladies of the club and an excellent day was rounded off in the evening with a well attended any highly enjoyable Dinner Dance in a local hotel.

Results Open Section

Twelve Varieties

1st Brian Duncan

Sdg. '1926' (4W-Y) Sdg. '2625' (3Y-O) Sdg. '2296' (2W-P) Sdg. '2340' (3Y-YYR) 'Gold Ingot' Sdg. '2589' (3W-Y) 'Hot Affair' Sdg. '2680' (2W-P) Sdg. '2282' (3W-YPP) 'Summer Solstice' 'Jammin' Sdg. 2331 (3Y-R).

2nd Robbie Curry

'Royal China', 'Samsara', Sdg. (2W-WWR), Sdg. MK 11', 'Compton Court', 'Silkwood', 'Jake', 'Gay Kybo', 'Notre Dame', 'Armada', 'Naivasha', 'Santana'.

3rd Nial Watson

Best Blooms 'Bon Viveur', 'Soft Focus', 'Compton Court'.

American Class

1st George Wilson

'Jingle Bells', 'Bell Song', 'Final Curtain', 'Stratosphere', 'Intrigue'.

Six Varieties, Three Stems of each

1st Brian Duncan

Sdg. 1296 (4W-Y) 'Goldfinger' Sdg. 2680 (2W-P)

2nd Richard McCaw

'Cantabile' 'Triple Crown' 'Naivasha'

Minatures - Three Stems

1st Nial Watson 'Sundisc'

Single Stem

1st Nial Watson 'Sundisc'

Amateur Senior Classes Nine Varieties

1st Robbie Curry

'Gay Kybo', 'Night Flight', 'Messen', 'Jake', 'Soprano', 'Armada', 'Warmington', 'Compton Court', 'Soft Focus'.

2nd Maurice Kerr
 'Inny River', 'Gay Kybo', 'Ahwahnee', Sdg. 89/20/2 (3W-YOO),
 'Outline', 'Sdg. 88/10/9'(3W-YYO), 'Sdg. 199'(2Y-R), 'Sdg.
 216/4' (2W-P), 'Triple Crown'.
 3rd. *Richard McCaw*
 Best blooms, 'Pooka', 'Amazing Grace', 'Santana'.
Best Bloom Div.1 *Brian Duncan* 'Goldfinger'
Best Bloom Div.2 *Nial Watson* 'Soft Focus'
Best Bloom Div.3 *Brian Duncan* 'Jammin' (Best
Bloom in Show)
Best Bloom Div.4 *Brian Duncan* 'Sdg. 1926' (4W-Y) Best
 Bloom Div.5/11 *Nial Watson* 'Bon Viveur'
 Best Bloom Amateur *Robbie Curry* 'Armada'
 Best Bloom Intermediate *Bob Patton* 'Jake'
 Best Bloom Novice *W.M. Robinson* 'Ladies Choice'

N.I.D.G. LATE SHOW

On Sunday 8th. May many refrigerated blooms (and exhibitors) travelled to Ringhaddy the beautiful home and grounds of Nial and Hilary Watson. As ever the views over the lough were glorious and the Watsons had arranged a full tide and bright sunshine in order to enhance the views even more. Michael and Jocelyn Ward travelled from Dublin with a handful of blooms just for the craic and James Smyth reappeared as an exhibitor. In all seven exhibitors staged a total of 158 blooms, although this number was probably exceeded by the fantastic display staged by Brian Duncan who later chaired a 'name that seedling' brainstorming session to round off the day. From this exercise we all learned how difficult this task can be. Robbie Curry finished an already successful season on a winning note by winning the six bloom class from Richard McCaw. Richard won the seven stem single vase class with George Wilson second and Brian won all the Best Div. plaudits apart from Div.5 to 11 where our host triumphed and Div.1 where James Smyth was successful.

RESULTS

Six Stem Class

1st. *Robbie Curry*

Sdg. 'Burning Bush', 'Compton Court' 'Soprano', 'Notre Dame', 'Little Karoo'.

2nd. *Richard McCaw*

Best Blooms 'Jake' & 'Notre Dame'

7 Stem Single vase Class

1st. *Richard McCaw* 'Little Karoo'
 2nd *George Wilson* Mixed Div. 9
 3^d. *Richard McCaw* 'Notre Dame'
Best Div. 1 *James Smyth* 'Swanvale'
Best Div. 2 *Brian Duncan* '2680' (2W-P) also Best
Seedling and Best Bloom in Show
Best Div. 3 *Brian Duncan* 'Jammin'
Best Div. 4 *Brian Duncan* '1962' (4W-Y)
Best Div. 5 to Div. 11 *Nial Watson* 'Green Lodge'
 Sincere thanks to Nial and Hiliary for wonderful hospitality including lots of mouth watering home baking and for opening up their home to provide the perfect end to the season.

Cool, 'Cam' and Collected

Being a tale of travel, seedling selection and hospitality

The message on the pad beside the telephone read; 'BSD, Patrick ? mid-morning tomorrow - are you interested?' My immediate interest was to unravel the message and as my good lady couldn't enlarge much on the text I phoned Brian Duncan. It transpired that he was going down to Patrick Kiernan's in Co. Longford to assess his current seedlings and fulfil a long term commitment. Of course I was interested, even when Brian suggested we meet at Ballygawley roundabout at seven 7.45am the following morning, Wednesday April 6th. I was assured by 'Herself' that my presence wouldn't be missed even though our younger son was to be married within a few days, they could manage without me. (It's nice to have your true worth revealed every now and then!)

After a relatively traffic free and uneventful fifty mile trip I arrived at the appointed meeting place with around fifteen minutes to spare and waited for Brian to arrive which he did, right on time. However he drove past without a glance as he had assumed we would meet on the exit side as opposed to the entry

side of the junction, we quickly got sorted and under way. With a two hours plus journey ahead it wouldn't be possible to choose a better travelling companion than Brian especially as he drove and I surveyed the emerging Spring scenery. There were lots of Primroses and some excellent plantings of daffodils in the villages and towns we passed through, gorse was also in full bloom and the hedgerows were showing flushes of bright new green, altogether a really pleasant journey. Having stopped for a mid-morning coffee and 'sussed' our bearings we pressed on towards Patrick's home. We knew we were getting close as plantings of pink cupped daffodils began to appear by the roadside and eventually after driving up a long lane we arrived. What a greeting we got, Patrick's sister and brother in law were kindness itself and plied us with tea and cakes and the man himself had such a gentle self effacing manner that it was easy to strike up an immediate rapport.

Patrick answered all questions with modesty and openness coupled with an undercurrent of humour, typical was his reply to the obvious 'How did you get started' query. He replied that he read somewhere of someone breeding and raising new types of plants from seeds and thought daffodils would be a nice subject to work with. His reply to a question regarding the source of his original breeding stock was also quite amusing and showed his determination, as he couldn't import legally direct from the U.K. he had someone who physically (and undoubtedly illegally) carried bulbs into Eire from Northern Ireland. While the 'craic' was great the weather was changing rapidly and becoming ever more dubious so Brian, Patrick and myself set out for his rigs armed with flower containers, stakes and tags. Patrick's rigs are located in a wind swept fenced off section of a field adjoining the lane leading to his house. By now the weather had become very threatening and coats, hats and gloves were needed for survival.

We had scarcely got through the fence and into the plot when Brian stuck a stake in the ground and declared it was hard to know where to go to next as there was so many bright and attractive flowers on display. Some of them showed signs of damage due to the

exposed site and Patrick informed us there had been hail showers during the previous few days, but despite this there were also excellent blooms to be seen all around. Many of the flowers showed signs of their parentage and Patrick would often refer to his sheets of records to confirm Brian's suggestions in this regard. Just as we had worked out a system for marking and recording those cultivars worth further growing and assessment Patrick looked at the sky and told us it was time we sought shelter as we were about to be rained on in some style. So having marked around five or six blooms in literally three metres of the first rig we retired to shelter in one of the outbuildings in the yard where we watched the torrential rain coming down and swapped fishing tales.

It probably started with a query about the location of the Inny River in relation to Patrick's original home and developed into reminiscences of his early fishing adventures in this river and in the lakes that also feature in his named cultivars. Patrick's description of the problems he overcame in acquiring suitable tackle and lures was a recall of a bygone era. His modest suggestion that a ten pound Pike was probably as big as he had caught led to him talking about fishing for Perch in a stretch of water that was so full of fish that they were swimming around his feet as he was casting. This in turn prompted Brian to tell of an American friend who once described his local river as being so full of fish that you had to hide behind a tree in order to get the bait onto the hook! Fortunately at this stage the rain cleared before the fishing tales got totally out of hand, and so back to the daffodils.

The criteria that we used in marking blooms was their potential for use as show flowers but it rapidly became clear that Patrick also had many flowers that would make excellent garden plants being too large or wrongly shaped in the cup for exhibition purposes. It was also equally evident that even these flowers had smooth well overlapping perianths and held their heads well above the foliage. It was at this stage that Brian suggested I should take a selection of Patrick's flowers to Dublin on the next Saturday as I was going to compete in the Irish Amateur Championship. I agreed

without hesitation and from now on we selected and cut with this aim in mind. Rapidly the bucket began to fill with all the colour combinations and divisions required to fulfil any show entry requirements and just as rapidly the weather worsened and we had to retreat once more to our shelter.

This time the fishing tales were neglected and talk centred round daffodils and it emerged that Patrick had stopped hybridising some seven years ago. As Brian had brought a large bunch of pollen bearing blooms it was suggested that perhaps now would be a good time for Patrick to take up the brush again. Time will tell if persuasion worked. We also discussed how I could use Patrick's flowers at the forthcoming show as I would be staging them on his behalf. We hoped the organisers of the South County Dublin Horticultural Society would be sympathetic to our request. During this debate on things daffodil the weather eased and we were able to make our way back to the rigs.

This time we got a prolonged spell of non-rainy weather although the wind still blew and it remained bitterly cold. As we progressed through his seedlings Patrick seemed genuinely surprised so many (almost thirty in all) were deemed worthy of further growing. There were others that were most certainly commercially viable including a 2W-O which at first glance looked like a Div. 11. When Brian suggested that some of the Dutch growers would love to market this flower Patrick gently replied that he didn't grow daffodils to make money, a reiteration of a statement I first read in the 1998 edition of *Daffodils In Ireland*. Somehow to hear these sentiments spoken so sincerely and softly by the man himself, surrounded by his flowers gave an unforgettable insight into this genuinely humble man.

Having finished our appraisal and cut sufficient flowers for Dublin we retired to the house where Patrick's sister laid on a super lunch and we had a good natter about all sorts of things local and international. Then in true travellers style having been pampered and thawed out and following a brief photography session Brian and I took our departure from this wonderfully hospitable group of Longford people. We had a pleasant and

uneventful return journey and went our separate homeward ways at Ballygawley.

Since you probably think the title of this article is a little obscure a word of explanation may help. As described above the weather was well beyond the cool stage and the wind was more gale than calm. However, Patrick lives in Cam Lane off Cool Road and we collected excellent flowers and even more enduring happy memories, simple isn't it?

Postscript.

By the time Patrick's blooms were transported in less than ideal conditions in Brian's car and then mine, never mind the hammering they had already taken from the weather they were far from perfect when I staged them in Dublin. Two of them did however gain third places, one in an open 2W class and the other in a seedling class with eight other entries. The six stem group also drew much favourable comment for size of bloom and impact of colour. Maybe some time I will get the opportunity to repeat the exercise under properly prepared circumstances, I would love to do that! Thanks to S.D.C. Horticultural Society for their co-operation on the day.

George Wilson

INTERMEDIATE DAFFODILS

Continuation of notes used by Brian for a talk on Intermediate Daffodils from the spring edition.

How to determine what to include in a list?

Controversial again! How to select for size? What about plant proportions? For Show or Garden?

I think there are two basic approaches to establishing an approved list.

- 1) **Include all those in the Daffodil Register that are under 80 mm in diameter** - this requires a detailed search. I think the ADS has done it!
- 2) **Cultivars may be recommended by an 'Intermediate' sub-committee who observe, measure, assess flowers exhibited**

or proposed as Intermediates etc. I think this was the approach of The Daffodil Society in establishing its list - which is very small! Only about 20 -30 cultivars I think. Probably because 'proportionality' is a consideration.

3) A combination of the above.

In the first case I think the list will be far too big and in the second case I think it will be too restricted. So some sort of combination is probably desirable.

Registrant's measurements are not always reliable - they are taken at a point in time, in one season and may be very different another year, or may be bigger when grown elsewhere. Accordingly, many varieties may have to be removed. Also, many flowers in the Register do not have the diameter recorded.

Committee formed lists tend to be largely restricted to flowers which appear on the show bench and are readily available for measuring and assessment. If you add plant proportions to the committee requirement then the list gets smaller still.

How to maintain a list?

Judges of Intermediates need to be asked to measure listed flowers exhibited that appear too large and report to the appointed committee for decision. This is not easy and requires good coordination, diligence and enthusiasm by a few dedicated and thick-skinned committee members! They will always be in trouble for removing someone's pet flower!!!

What to do about unregistered Seedlings?

Here the debates are about: -

May they be shown in classes with named varieties or Should they only be shown in special classes?

Can they be added to 'Approved Lists'?

My view is simple - we must encourage raising and showing of seedlings so let them be shown in open classes against the best named things - or in special seedling classes - whichever the exhibitor wishes - and let the judges determine if they qualify by measuring or whatever.

Flower/Plant proportions?

Here we have a very important debate, which is not easy to resolve. I think we all probably agree that for a true 'Intermediate' the plant should be in proportion to the flower size - as say, in the case of 'Bantam' or 'Brooke Ager'. When the Dutch think of Intermediate daffodils they tend to think of the plant first and the flower second.

But for show purposes this is an aspect that is impossible to regulate when the stem can be cut to appropriate proportions for staging.

I don't have the answer to this problem but I certainly favour plant and flower being attractively and appropriately proportioned.

Climatic influences?

There are those who consider that some flowers can be both Standard and Intermediate - depending on where they are grown. That, if the climate is hot and unfavourable some cultivars, normally regarded as standards, will be smaller and therefore qualify as Intermediates. I come from a climate where this is not an issue but I cannot appreciate this kind of thinking.

I think that size should be a matter of **GENES and not GEOGRAPHY** - and wherever Standards and Intermediates are grown together the sizes will be relative. Just imagine the confusion of judges who roam from favourable to less favourable growing areas!

I think this problem highlights the value of 'Approved' lists.

Breeding for Intermediates

I don't want to spend too long on this subject as we have an **International panel of experts** who will have many ideas.

I suspect that most Intermediate daffodils have arisen by accident - and indeed that many fine small flowers have been discarded as 'RUNTS' - as too small to be any use - by many breeders in the past, including myself.

However, with the wider and developing interest even breeders like David Jackson, (who really doesn't like the idea of Intermediates very much) are keeping the best of the small ones. As I

have not consciously made many crosses with Intermediates in mind I really do not have much experience on which to base recommendations, but I suspect that intercrossing many or all of the varieties on the list which I have provided, might produce interesting results. Also, I did find that Foundling is a useful parent - for Intermediates - and what some Aussies have called 'Irish Cyclamineus' !!!!

Flowers used for slide show

Name	Div./code	Country	Breeder size	Parentage
Afterhot	2Y-YYR	USA	Mitsch 70	Sdg. x Leprechaun
Anvil Chorus	2W-O	USA	Havens 70	Cool Flame x N. jonq.
Apricot Blush	2O-O	N.Z.	Irwin 72	Sdg. X Sdg.
Bantam	2Y-O	UK	Barr	55 ?
Birthday Girl	2W-GWW	N. I.	Duncan 73	Easter Moon x Knowehead
Brooke Ager Word)	2W-P	USA	DuBose 74	Pink Ice x (Coral Light x My
Deference	2Y-Y	USA	Havens 75	On Edge - Kingbird
Dik Dik	2Y-R	USA	Mitsch 62	(Market Merry x Carbineer) x Armada) x N. Cyclamineus
Dreamlight	3W-GWR	N.I.	G.L. Wilson?	Dactyl x Mystic
Elfin Dell	2W-P	N.Z.	Hunter 75	Easter Moon x Pink Era
Emerald Light	3W-GYO	USA	Havens 60	Lemon Tree x Emerald
Fairy Magic	3W-GWP	N.I.	Duncan 77	Sdg. x Sdg.
Gimli	2W-P	N.I.	Duncan 72	Roseworthy x Foundling
Harpisichord	11a Y-P	USA	Havens 75	Hillstar x Pink Holly
Jade	3W-GWW	USA	Mitsch 65	Cushendall x Cantabile
La Traviata	3Y-YYR	USA	Havens 75	Bantam x Kindled
Lauren	2Y-GYR	N.I.	Duncan 72	(Garden News x Triple Crown) x (Triple Crown x Badbury Rings)
Lissome	2W-W	USA	Evans ?	Broomhill x Stainless
Oh Kaye	4W-P	Tas.	Barwick 72	Anne of Cleeves x Lawali
Pink China	2W-P	USA	Havens 80	Pink Ice x Sdg.
Rimski	2W-YWP	N.I.	Duncan 73	Stainless x Foundling
Rimster	2W-YWP	N.I.	Duncan 74	Roseworthy sdg. x Foundling
Scarlet Tanager	2Y-R	USA	Havens 70	Bantam x Kindled
Signoriana	2W-GYP	N.I.	Duncan 63	Fellowship x High Society
Sophie Girl	2W-P	UK	Abel-Smith	?Chelsea Derby x Leonaine
Sweetie Pie	3W-GYY	UK	Pearson 73	Tryst x Fairmile
Tiny Kiwi	2W-R	N.Z.	Farmer 70	?
Ticonderoga	3W-YYO	USA	Havens 75	Merlin Sdg.
Urchin	2W-P	N.I.	Duncan 74	Roseworthy x Sdg.
Wee One	2Y-R	N.Z.	Brogden?	Orator x Salute
Warm day	2O-O	N.I.	Carncairn75	Stylish x Rory's Glen
Zaphod	3W-OOR	Tas.	Barwick 80	Icon x Matapan

THE BALLANCE HOUSE



Ideal location for an outing
HISTORIC HOUSE / MUSEUM /
GUIDED TOURS / CRAFT / GIFTSHOP /
TEABARN: serving a variety of traditional
and homebaked produce.
GROUP BOOKINGS WELCOME
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE

OPEN: APRIL - END

SEPTEMBER TUESDAY - FRIDAY 11AM - 5PM

SATURDAY & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2 - 5PM

OTHER TIMES BY ARRANGEMENT

118A LISBURN ROAD, GLENNAVY, CO. ANTRIM BT29 4NY

TELEPHONE : 02892 648492

HERITAGE TOURIST ATTRACTION OF THE YEAR 1997

The Northern Ireland Daffodil Group
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

TO J. Smyth, 35 Tullyglush Rd, Banbridge, Co. Down. BT32 3TN

Mr.

I/We Mrs _____

Ms. _____

Post Code _____

desire to become a member of The Northern Ireland Daffodil Group and enclose a sum of £7.50/£18.00 being my subscription for 1 or 3 years. (Please delete as appropriate.)

Date _____