

# Newsletter

of the  
**Northern Ireland  
Daffodil Group**



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

APRIL 1991  
ISSUE

# Rules of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group

## 1. Title

The group shall be called "The Northern Ireland Daffodil Group Society".

## 2. Registered Office

The registered office is 1 Glenholm Crescent, Belfast BT8 4LT.

## 3. 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 or 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 for 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.

## 4. Membership and Subscription

Membership of the Society shall be open to anyone on the payment of a minimum subscription, for the time being, of £5 per annum or £12.50 for 3 years due on the 1st January. Any member being twelve months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned.

Honorary Members, who shall be elected on the recommendation of the Committee at a general meeting of the Society shall not be eligible to vote and shall not be liable to pay the subscription.

## 5. Committee

The management of the Society shall be vested in the committee of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer and four additional members, and the committee shall have power to co-opt, and power also to invite a non-member to attend its proceedings.

A quorum for committee meetings shall be four, with the Chairman having a casting vote.

A record of proceedings shall be kept.

The officers and committee shall be elected annually at the annual general meeting, and may be removed from office only by a general meeting.

No member may serve for more than 4 consecutive years on the Committee.

## 6. Sub-Committees

The committee shall have power to appoint a sub-committee for any special purpose. A sub-committee shall make a record of its proceedings. The Chairman of each sub-committee shall be an ex-officio member of the committee.

## 7. Annual General Meeting and Other General Meetings

The annual general meeting shall be held in January each year, and other general meetings may be held at any time directed by the committee. Ten or more members may convene a general meeting if the committee refuses their written request for a general meeting. At least 7 days notice in writing shall be given of any general meeting and shall state the agenda.

A quorum for General Meetings shall be fifteen, with the Chairman having a casting vote.

Any member desiring to propose a resolution shall send the proposed resolution in writing to the Honorary Secretary, to arrive not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

## 8. Amendment of Rules

Rules may only be amended at a general meeting of which due notice had been given.

## 9. Voting at General Meetings

Every fully paid up member shall be entitled to vote at a general meeting and the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

A record of the business conducted shall be kept.

## 10. Accounts

A Bank Account shall be maintained in the name of the Society and cheques shall be signed by the Treasurer and the Chairman or Secretary.

An audited statement of the accounts of the Society shall be submitted by the Treasurer to the annual general meeting.

An auditor, whether honorary or paid, shall be elected at each annual general meeting.

## 11. Disputes

Any dispute between a member and the committee shall be determined by a sub-committee appointed under Rule 6 and the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Society, the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer for the time being, shall be members of such sub-committee.

## 12. Dissolution

On dissolution of the Society the assets shall not be divisible between the members but shall be given to a body, whether incorporated or not which has purposes which are charitable in a manner as nearly as may be resembling the purpose of the Society and which is selected by the Society at its terminal general meeting.

# CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

M. J. KERR

It is only when one assumes the office of chairman of the Daffodil Group that one begins to realise the responsibilities that come with the post. Unlike my predecessors, many of whom were and are professionals in the field of horticulture or in daffodil breeding, I am a complete amateur. I hope to bring enthusiasm, and carry out to the best of my ability the tasks associated with the post and justify the confidence you, the Group, have placed in me.

This has been a harder winter so far than we have had for some years but nature tends to even things out in the long term. I look forward with optimism on this cold February evening to the show season. The Belfast Show this year is moving to a new venue at Woodlawn Garden Centre and is being organised by the Road Show who will hopefully not lose sight of our aim in that we are trying to bring to a wider audience the enjoyment of knowing, growing and showing that which many people assume to be a golden flowering spring bulb. The early date and the harsher weather could affect the entries, but then my fellow enthusiasts seem to do the impossible and overcome the vagaries of the weather and produce the flowers when the need arises. I would urge our members to support as many of the province's shows throughout April/May and to make a special effort to support and publicise the Late Show which will be held at Brian and Betty Duncan's house when they open their garden in conjunction with the National Trust on the 12th of May. We hope to have a stall from which to sell blooms and some house plants. I would appeal to you all to bring any spare flowers and if possible one or two plants so that we may boost our funds.

I would like to congratulate (I think sympathise is more correct — *Ed.*) John O'Reilly on his appointment as Editor of the Newsletter and I would urge you all to help with copy for the publication, should it only be a show report for your local area, so that all members may be kept abreast of the news. It is very easy to leave articles for others, but remember this is your Newsletter and you may use its columns for articles or anecdotes of an educational or humorous nature. The more articles you produce the easier it will be for John and his editorial team to follow the very high standard set in the past. I am sure you will all join with me in expressing our heartfelt thanks to Sandy McCabe for his sterling efforts on this front in the past and for continuing in the post of Secretary and to Gilbert Andrews for continuing as Treasurer.

The committee have already been busy drawing up the programme of meetings for the year. We are endeavouring to have a wide range of topics, so that members have an opportunity of having a venue in their local area. I realise that it is not always

possible for members to attend all the meetings, but please do try and attend as many as possible.

To all fellow enthusiasts who read this, may the coming season be memorable, in that if you breed may your dreams be realised; if you exhibit may your blooms be perfect and to those who venture outside the Province may you emulate the success of last year.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I must begin my report on a sombre note.

The death on Christmas Day of W. J. Dunlop severed another link with the past. He was a daffodil stalwart whose place in daffodil history is already assured. His family requested no letters and the funeral was private. I will take this opportunity, accordingly, to express our sympathy to his widow and family and perhaps Mrs. Reade might care to write an appreciation for publication in the next issue of our Newsletter.

On the Mainland, 1990 will be remembered as a somewhat disastrous season insofar as the main London Show was concerned. It was not so for us. For once fortune smiled on us at this Mecca of Daffodil Shows and we took full advantage. Gold Medals were won by Carncairn and Rathowen. Mrs. Reade was awarded the Peter Barr Cup, Brian Duncan regained the Engleheart, I was successful in the Richardson Trophy and John O'Reilly added his name to the list of winners of the Blanchard Prize. I doubt if ever again will such an array of trophies be on this side of the Irish Sea in the same year.

Belfast Spring Festival was again very successful though the enjoyment was somewhat marred by the compulsory evacuation of the hall for two hours due to an elaborate bomb hoax. Though our foreign and mainland visitors were enthralled watching (from a safe distance) the activities of the Bomb Disposal Squad, it was an interruption we could have done quite well without. Nevertheless the festival was well supported by both the general public and exhibitors and it now seems to be a permanent feature of the show season. This year the festival has been extended to three days from 12th-14th April. Schedules should be available shortly and I trust that all exhibitors will be out again in force.

The Silver Thread Award was inaugurated at the Enniskillen Show in 1990. First winner was Richard McCaw and we congratulate him on his success. This year the competition will be held in Coleraine — a show worthy of success and all the support we can give to it.

Attendance at our meetings during the year was disappointing to say the least and once again raises the question of their value. Membership figures at 31/12/90 were as follows: Irish (44), U.K. (23), Foreign (27).

To obtain copy for the Newsletter proves as difficult as ever. However, it was published in April and October as usual, but it is proving to be a very expensive production. Not only the printing costs but the ever-escalating cost of postage is a heavy drain on our finances. I have no doubt that the Treasurer will be commenting on this a little later.

One bit of good financial news was the success of our small stand at the Belfast Autumn Show. To our commercial growers and others who provided bulbs for sale, to those members who gave up their week-end to act as salesmen, our thanks are due. Our funds benefited to the tune of some £150.

As I intimated in my report last year, other commitments make it impossible for me to continue as Secretary/Editor. It has been an enjoyable task in many ways and I feel honoured at the trust you have placed in me over so many years. To my successor, whoever he or she might be, I pledge my full support and would ask each of you to do likewise.

Thank you for your attention, ladies and gentlemen, and now in conclusion, may I wish each of you every success in the future — with the exception of those classes in which I am competing.

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## JUDGING SCHOOL

At the last committee meeting it was decided to try and encourage exhibitors to try their hand at judging. For this purpose it was decided to hold seminars at various shows and to set a test at the end of the year. The date and place will be decided at a later date. The test would be carried out along the lines of that of the Daffodil Society. If any member wishes to take part in such a venture he should contact the Hon. Secretary as soon as possible.

### SHOW DATES

- March 24th — N.I.D.G. Early Show, Tullyglass House Hotel.
- April 6th — Bangor (Church of Ireland Halls), Hillsborough.
- April 9th and 10th — London, R.H.S. Halls, Westminster.
- April 13th and 14th — Belfast Spring Show, Woodlawn Garden Centre, Saintfield Road.
- April 20th — Coleraine (Silver Thread Award), Enniskillen.
- April 27th — Ballymena, Broughshane Community Centre.
- May 4th — Omagh, College of Further Education.
- May 12th — N.I.D.G. Late Show, Duncan Daffodils, in association with National Trust.

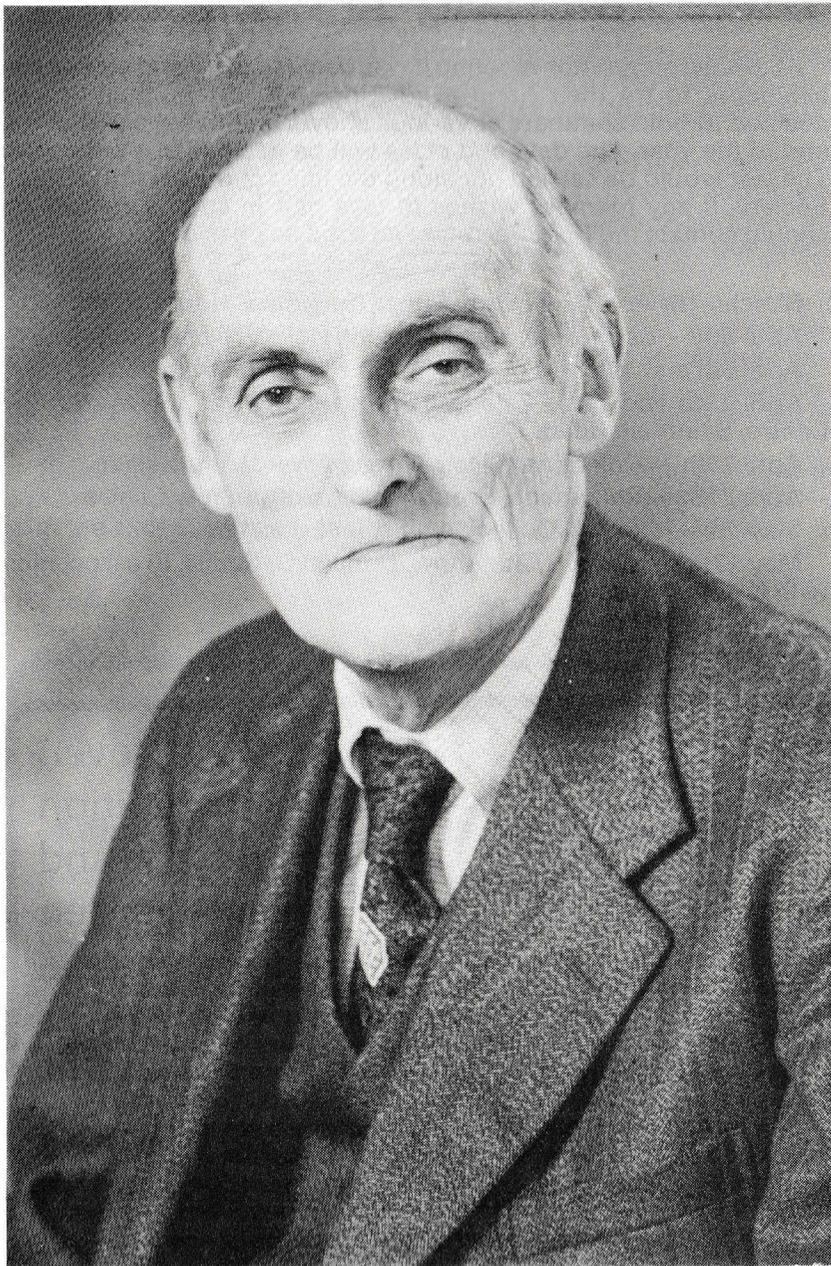
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Mr. W. J. Dunlop.

## W. J. DUNLOP

KATE READE

Daffodil growers throughout the world will be saddened to learn of the death of William J. Dunlop on Christmas Day 1990, after a long illness. We send our sincere sympathy to his wife and two sons.

Willy Dunlop was born and brought up in Ballymena. He started his working life in the drapery business run by his father, spending as much of his spare time as possible in the large garden owned by his parents. He formed a friendship with Guy Wilson and started growing flowers, which he exhibited in Ballymena and Coleraine, winning many prizes.

When Willy left the drapery business to go into the daffodil trade he already had promising seedlings growing on. He bought a farm at Dunrobin, Broughshane, from which he issued his highly respected W. J. Dunlop daffodil catalogue and began to supply top quality exhibition bulbs throughout the world.

In 1942 and 1943 he was awarded Gold Medals in Dublin.

Willy had a great eye for colour, and meeting Lionel Richardson in Dublin he discovered the brilliant reds and oranges that could be achieved in the coronas. Some of his highly brightly coloured introductions are still grown today: 'Enniskillen', 'Glenwherry' and 'Kildrum'.

In everything that he attempted, Willy was always supported by his hard-working wife and, as they grew older, his two boys, Robin and John.

From 1946 onwards he put up trade stands in London and won Gold Medals in 1949 and 1950. From 1949 until health problems forced him to give up commercial daffodil growing, Mr. Dunlop was a respected member of the Narcissus and Tulip Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society. In 1963 he was second in the Engleheart Cup, and was awarded the Peter Barr Memorial Cup in 1961 for his work in exhibiting and breeding daffodils.

When we started our business, Willy frequently phoned and he was always ready with advice from his long experience in the trade.

For some years he grew his bulbs in drills which was easier for planting and digging as it was done by tractor. This method however made it very difficult to inspect the flowers and I well remember him climbing over the drills with his long legs when inspecting seedlings.

The Dunlops ran a cut flower trade as well as the bulbs. In this venture the whole family helped: cutting and bunching flowers in all weather. The house in which they stored the flowers for market was a picture of glorious buds just opening up.

In 1972 Willy found he could no longer manage such an exacting business. His eldest son Robin, who had showed a great interest in his father's new seedlings, had developed an allergy which prevented him working with flowers or indeed handling them at all.

The Northern Ireland Daffodil Group owes much to Willy Dunlop. He was chairman of the original steering committee and his enthusiasm, experience, wisdom and good humour were important factors in laying a sound foundation for the long term success of the group.

Willy put up his last stand in London in 1972 and left us "The Box" for luck. This was an enormous wooden box full of green baize aprons, watering cans, vases, green blocks, etc. It appears like magic by the kindness of the R.H.S. staff from the cellars below the hall and arrives beside our stand. We always think of Willy when we use it.

Many people still ask about him from all over the world. I think his most famous flowers were 'Ormeau' and 'Newcastle', which has been blest bloom at the London Show and is still widely regarded as the best bi-colour trumpet available, and topped the poll of winnings in 1990. We still have many requests for 'Downpatrick' and 'Glenwherry'. He will be remembered for his flowers long after a lot of his contemporaries have been forgotten. I remember him for his great enthusiasm, his sense of humour, his strong opinions and his kindness to beginners in the trade.

It was very sad that he did not have longer to follow through his breeding programme, and that he had to suffer such a long illness.

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### **BELFAST 1992**

The dates for the 1992 City of Belfast Spring Flower and Garden Festival have been set for the 10th, 11th and 12th of April.

The early date seems to be the price daffodil exhibitors have to pay in order to be part of this large commercial undertaking.

If there are any of our overseas members who may be contemplating coming to this part of the world on those dates you would be most welcome to visit our daffodils and countryside as well as judge the main classes of our premier Show. Intending visitors should contact the Hon. Secretary before the end of the year.

# Brian Duncan

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**NORTHERN IRELAND DAFFODIL GROUP**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1990**

1989	EXPENDITURE	£ p	1989	INCOME	£ p
	£			£	
212	Lecture Expenses . . . . .	111-50	259	Annual Subscriptions . . . . .	376-78
227	Postage and Stationery . . . . .	116-42	23	Current Account Interest . . . . .	26-92
838	Printing Newsletter . . . . .	1,000-00	575	National Savings Interest . . . . .	524-49
231	Belfast Show . . . . .	97-80	110	Spring Show Sales Net . . . . .	119-35
35	W. J. Toal Award . . . . .	35-00		Autumn Show Sales Net . . . . .	146-33
48	Daffodil Society Subscriptions and Newsletter . . . . .	180-00	35	Donations . . . . .	—
24	Obituary Notice . . . . .	16-44	40	Adverts . . . . .	—
17	Committee Meeting . . . . .	—			
145	Trophy . . . . .	—			
4	Donations . . . . .	—	406	Balance: Being Deficit for Year	363-29
		<u>£1,557-16</u>			<u>£1,557-16</u>

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1990**

1989	EXPENDITURE	£ p	1989	ASSETS	£ p
	£			£	
	Sundry Creditors . . . . .	130-00	231	Cash in Hand . . . . .	45-00
	Income and Expenditure Account:		37	Cash in Current A/c. £123-86	
	Balance at 1.1.90 . . . . .	£7,953-84	366	Cash in Deposit A/c. £10-00	133-86
	Less Deficit for Year . . . . .	£363-29	5,575	National Savings Investment . . . . .	5,600-00
		<u>7,590-55</u>	405	Income Tax Refund . . . . .	405-47
			32	Daffodil Soc. Medals £10-00 Less Subscriptions £22-00	10-00
		<u>£7,720-50</u>	117	Stocks Newsletter Covers . . . . .	117-50
			97	Ties . . . . .	97-39
			140	W. J. Toal Awards . . . . .	105-00
			58	"Daffodils" . . . . .	58-25
			881	Show Vases . . . . .	881-47
			—	Silver Thread Awards . . . . .	266-57
		<u>£7,720-50</u>			<u>£7,720-50</u>

The foregoing Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet have been prepared from the books and information received from the Treasurer, Mr. G. Andrews, and I certify they are in accordance therewith.

Signed: J. W. CARLISLE



Sandy McCabe being presented with Championship of Ireland Trophy at Omagh, 1987, by Mr. Acheson Aiken.

## SANDY McCABE

The appointment of a new Editor heralds the recommencement of the series of Personality Profiles. I am pleased and privileged to pen these notes on Sandy McCabe — a most obvious candidate, a very good friend and a much feared rival in many a Championship of Ireland skirmish on the show bench — but more of that later.

It seems almost that destiny designed that Sandy would discover, in daffodils, a most rewarding and consuming pursuit. Not only was he born at daffodil time, on 8th April, 1935, but his birthplace in Broughshane, within fragrance distance of the newly raised 'Cantabile', gave pedigree and an enviable opportunity to work with the world famous daffodils of his early employer, the revered Guy L. Wilson.

Unknown to one or the other, Sandy and I attended Ballymena Academy at the same time, only one grade apart. At this time Sandy was working during school holidays for Guy Wilson as a general 'dogsbody' or 'gofor'. His duties included cleaning bulbs, bagging and labelling the bulbs so meticulously and individually selected by G.L.W. himself, and bicycling parcels to the Post Office. Sandy must have given some sort of satisfaction to his employer as he was retained for three years and earned dramatic percentage increases in wages from £2 per week in 1951 to £3 and £4 per week in 1952 and 1953 respectively.

Sandy could not help contrasting his much-needed remuneration with the price of one bulb of the still-remembered New Introductions of 1951, i.e. 'Forthright' 2Y-Y, £15; 'Home Fires' 2Y-R, £12; 'Kilmorak' 2Y-R, £7; 'Vigil' 1W-W, £5. These figures highlight the changing values and ratios between wages and new daffodil introductions. Applying the 1951 to 1991 wage multiplication factor to 'Forthright' and 'Vigil' their introductory prices would be in the region of £450 and £150 respectively in 1991!

So much for the diversion which I found impossible to resist. The story now progresses to October, 1970, when Sandy was promoted and transferred to an important government post in Omagh, a town to which I had been posted some 15 years earlier. It is doubtful if Sandy had given any thought to daffodils since leaving the employ of G. L. Wilson. Was fate, destiny or sheer coincidence about to catch up with him again? The house he chose to buy was being sold by a certain Ross Workman, a good friend and colleague for whom I had acted as best man when he married. I had also bullied or persuaded the said Ross Workman to plant some exhibition daffodils. The season not being appropriate for lifting bulbs, Sandy had readily allowed Ross to leave the daffodils in the ground for later removal and, in the meantime, to cut flowers for the 1971 Omagh Show. The earlier conditioning and latent interest in the McCabe

breast was beginning to flutter — at least to the extent of curiosity which caused him to visit the show and find out how his garden tenant had fared. Did destiny yet again arrange that Ross should, apart from other prizes, gain the Best Bloom in Show award for the Guy Wilson raised 'Rashee' (introduced 1955 at £30)? Anyhow Sandy almost regarded this as a win by proxy — after all **that** 'Rashee' came from **his** garden! He realised, probably for the first time, that ordinary mortals with small gardens could grow top quality daffodils and win prizes in the best company. Accordingly Sandy ordered a few bulbs in 1971, but not having sought up-to-date advice, his selections did not quite take his first show in Omagh in 1972 by storm. However, he did win a first with 'Sweetness', and a second and a third prize, and so he was back into the 'fraternity'. He then gained rapid promotion from the Third Division to the First in three seasons, having won the Novice Cup in 1973 and the Intermediate Cup in 1974.

Since that time he has become the top amateur exhibitor in Northern Ireland with a series of top awards to his credit, including, to my chagrin, the Championship of Ireland in 1985 and 1986, and the Royal Mail Trophy in 1985, our two major awards. He has also won a number of Best in Show awards in Northern Ireland. Outside the Province he is one of several Northern Ireland exhibitors to have won the Blanchard Prize at the London Daffodil Show. He then graduated to senior Amateur and Open classes, and the winning of the Richardson Trophy for 12 cultivars, last year fulfilled a long-held ambition. Having once been second in the Bowles Cup, his outstanding ambition is to go one better in this major class and have his name engraved on a trophy which only Tom Bloomer was ever able to win for Northern Ireland — a feat Tom achieved three times in the mid-1950s.

Sandy McCabe is perhaps the most dedicated and selective daffodil exhibitor I have met. The space he allocates for his daffodils was pre-determined many years ago — daffodils are not allowed to encroach on early or mid-season potatoes for the pot. This disciplined approach means that he is regularly culling and upgrading his stocks. He grows a maximum of 8 bulbs of any cultivar and his maxim is "If it doesn't win, it's not in" — no matter how attractive or pretty, there's no room for sentiment and the roguing is ruthless. It is amazing how his flowers respond to this pitiless "win or else" approach! I even feared for the future of his beloved 'Mary Kate' had she not won a Best Division 5-9 at Omagh in 1990.

With such an approach to daffodil growing, only limited space and attention has been given to hybridising and since 1973 only three or four crosses have been made each year — and even then, on one occasion, the pods were cut off by the human version of Mary Kate before they had a chance to yield seed. However, we do look forward to some more seedlings of a standard to match the 2Y-R (S.3) which won the Northern Bank Trophy at last year's Belfast Spring Festival Show.

Growing and showing is only one aspect of the McCabe contribution to daffodils. He has been a committee member of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group since 1977 and was Chairman in 1980-81. His clear thinking administrative capability and wide-ranging contacts in the daffodil world made him an obvious candidate for the all-important jobs of Secretary and Editor in 1987. These positions were combined with great authority and dedication until the most recent A.G.M. when he was 'permitted' to give up the Editor's pen — provided he retained the role of Secretary.

Sandy has long been an advocate for the establishment of one large major show in Belfast at which the N.I.D.G. major trophies would be awarded, and which would allow presentation of our best modern daffodils to a much wider gardening public. In co-operation with the Belfast Parks Department, the Spring Flower Festival, incorporating the N.I.D.G. Daffodil Show, was first held in 1989. Sandy deserves much credit for the fact that this is already an established event in the Northern Ireland gardening calendar. Indeed, it is growing so rapidly in importance and size, that there is some danger of the Daffodil Show being swamped by commercial interests.

As a scribe, Sandy has also given loyal service with his impartial and racy style of reporting on the Northern Ireland Show scene for the R.H.S. Year Books and other Daffodil Society journals throughout the world.

I, personally owe much to Sandy McCabe. A comradeship has developed around a common daffodil interest which has lasted for almost twenty years. During this time there have been many evenings ("Are you coming round for a salad piece?") and week-end visits ("I have a bottle of Black Bush") in Omagh or in Ballymena, where he and Mary now live. Sometimes these visits were entirely social, with daffodil debate going on till early dawn, but often there was a work element which would sorely test the best of friendships. However, true daffodil enthusiasts just like to be closely associated with all aspects of the work — and I value the assistance given over the years with digging, planting, cleaning, dispatching as well as cutting, packing and staging for trade exhibits in London. Sandy once accompanied me to an American Daffodil Convention in Memphis, Tennessee. Once, in the middle of the night there, he missed the bathroom door and ended up in the hotel corridor. His banging on the door to get back into the room awakened some irate neighbours, whilst I slept on. Various explanations have been offered as to why Sandy was found wandering the hotel corridors, attired only in pyjamas pants, at such an hour. He still swears the above story is true and that he had to go down thirteen floors to get a key from reception — I don't know, because I heard nothing.

And so I end this profile with the sentiment and motto of the '41 Club' — "May the hinges of friendship never rust", and may we, in the N.I.D.G. continue to enjoy his company and involvement in our activities and deliberations for very many years.

# CAN YOU HELP AGAIN?

Attached is another list of entries in the International Daffodil Checklist that have been called in question for one reason or another. (The first was sent out at this time last year.) The Narcissus Classification Advisory Committee would again welcome your help in deciding whether the entries should be amended or not.

It is hoped that you may grow some of the daffodils in question yourselves, or be able to alert the Committee to someone who does. You may be able to send blooms to the Committee. You may be able to supply information from early catalogues.

If you have observations or other information, please telephone or write to The International Daffodil Registrar, The Royal Horticultural Society, PO Box 313, London SW1 2PE (telephone 071-834 4333).

If you can spare blooms, please send them to the Narcissus and Tulip Committee, meeting at The Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, London SW1 on 19 February, 12 March, 9 April, 30 April, 1991 and at the Chelsea Show on 20 May, 1991.

Please have a look at last year's list again too. Some of the questions there are still not settled.

And please keep the present enquiries in mind for next season if they have arrived too late for some of the earlier flowering varieties.  
Sally Kington February 1991

International Daffodil Registrar  
PO Box 313, Vincent Square, London

N.B. Measurements and colours required are those of **mature blooms**.

## QUESTIONS OF CLASSIFICATION AND IDENTITY 1991

*Cv. name*

*Present division*

*Present colour code*

'Actaea' 9W-YYR  
'Amber Castle' 2YYW-WPP  
'Ambergate' 2O-R  
'Audubon' 3W-WWR  
'Barleythorpe' 1W-W  
'Bath's Flame' 3Y-O  
'Bernadino' 2W-YYO  
'Brano' 2W-GYY  
'Broadway Rose' 2W-GPP  
'Cairngorm' 2YYW-W  
'Calabar' 2Y-Y  
'Camelford' 2YYW-YPP  
'Chinese White' 3W-W  
'Chinita' 8Y-YYR  
'Clare' 7Y-Y  
'Colblanc' 11W-GWW

*Subject of enquiry*

eye zone colour  
corona colours  
corona colour  
corona colour  
division; corona colour  
corona colours  
corona colours  
eye zone colour  
eye zone colour  
corona colours  
perianth colour  
corona colours  
eye zone colour  
perianth colour  
eye zone colour  
eye zone colour

'Dawn Mist' 2W-WWP	origin
'Delabole' 2Y-YYR	corona colour(s)
'Dik Dik' 6Y-R	division
'Doctor Alex Fleming' 2W-R	division; corona colour
'Early Bride' 2W-O	corona colours
'Foray' 2W-YYO	corona colour(s)
'Gay Challenger' 4W-O	corona colour(s)
'Gay Ruler' 4W-O	corona colour
'Glorification' 2W-YOO	corona colour(s)
'Golly' 4W-Y	corona colour
'Gourmet' 1W-Y	origin
'Greenholm' 9W-GYO	corona colours
'Hexworthy' 3W-WYY	corona colours
'Highland Wedding' 2W-GWP	corona colours
'Honeymoon' 1Y-Y	corona colour(s)
'Ice King' 11W-Y	division
'Irmelin' 8W-R	corona colour
'La Riante' 3W-YOO	corona colours
'Matika' 3W-R	division
'Merrymeet' 4W-O	corona colour(s)
'Modulux' 2W-P	eye zone colour
'Moon Orbit' 2Y-Y	division
'Mrs William Copeland' 4W-W	corona colour
'Nightingale' 9W-OOR	corona colours
'Parody' 2Y-W	corona colour(s)
'Pearl-Shell' 11W-Y	corona colour
'Poetarum' 9W	corona colour
'Printal' 11W-Y	corona colour(s)
'Roger' 6Y-O	perianth colour
'Roman Tile' 2W-WYP	corona colour(s)
'Sacajawea' 2Y-YYO	corona colours
'Segovia' 3W-Y	division
'Silver Moon' 2W	corona colour
'Silver Plate' 11W-Y	corona colour
'Stint' 6Y-Y	division
'Sundial' 7Y-Y	eye zone colour
'Surfside' 6W-Y	corona colour
'Sweet Prince' 1W-WWY	perianth colour(s)
'Tawny Lad' 2Y-O	perianth and corona colours
'The Little Gentleman' 6Y-Y	division
'Waterperry' 7W-Y	perianth and corona colours
'White Plume' 2W-W	eye zone colour
'Xit' 3W-W	division

*What makes a garden and why do gardens grow?  
Love lives in gardens — God and lovers know.*

Carolyn Giltman

## 40 YEARS AGO

The Engleheart Cup was won by J. L. Richardson using 'Ceylon', 'Signal Light', 'Petsamo', 'Narvick' and 'Mahmoud'. He also won the only gold medal awarded for trade stands. G. L. Wilson was second in the Engleheart. The six variety class was won by W. J. Dunlop. Dr. Topping staged Best Bloom with 'Cantatrice'.

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## 30 YEARS AGO

J. L. Richardson again wins the Engleheart. The outstanding flower in his group being 'Romance'. John Lea took second place and in his group was 'Inverpolly' the best flower of the Show. J. M. de Navarro was third. The six variety class was won by C. F. Coleman. John Lea also won The Bowles Cup while David Lloyd won The Richardson. 'Irish Light' was Best Bloom in the daffodil competition. W. J. Dunlop is awarded The Peter Barr Cup.

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## 20 YEARS AGO

John Lea wins The Engleheart. His best blooms being 'Canisp', 'Torridon', 'Dell Chapel' and 'Inverpolly' (Best Bloom in Show). Mrs. Richardson was second and John Blanchard third. The Bowles Cup was won by John Blanchard. Among the single bloom class winners in The R.H.S. Show were T. Bloomer with 'Olympic Gold', Carncairn with 'Fiji' and 'Acropolis', F. A. L. Harrison with 'Silver Chimes', Dr. Watson with 'Foundling', B. S. Duncan with 'Syracuse' and 'Spellbinder' and W. J. Dunlop with 'Downpatrick'. 'Lysander' staged by B. S. Duncan wins Best Bloom in Omagh. John Blanchard is guest speaker at Omagh Show Dinner. 'Kingscourt' staged by novice Mr. Crawford from Doagh was Best Bloom in Ballymena.

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## 10 YEARS AGO

John Lea wins The Engleheart. His winning entry contained 'Achduart', the Best Bloom in Show. Rathowen won gold for their trade display. Tony Noton wins The Bowles and Paul Payne The Richardson. 'White Star' wins Best Division 1 for Rathowen. Mr. R. de Jaeger was awarded The Peter Barr Cup.

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**N. Ireland**

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# 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.

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The Northern Ireland Daffodil Group

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

To: SANDY McCABE, 21 Parkmount Crescent, Ballymena, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland

Mr.

I/We Mrs.

Miss

Address

(BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

desire to become a member of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group, and enclose the sum of

£5.00/£12.50 being my subscription for year/s

Date