

Northern Ireland Daffodil Group

Founded: 1976

President
Brian S. Duncan

Chairman
Terry Haley

Hon. Secretary
Dave Hardy

Hon. Treasurer
Derrick Turbitt

Mrs Rose Crozier
Director – Belfast City Parks
Belfast City Council,
City Hall,
Belfast BT1 5GS



Dear Madam,

Some years ago, in 2004, The Daffodil & Tulip Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society came to Northern Ireland on the joint invitation of the Belfast City Council and the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group. They visited the Horticultural and Daffodils show at Malone House, assisted in judging, held one of their regular meetings and granted some RHS Awards to Irish bred plants.

There has been an indication from the RHS Bulb Committee (the successor to the D & T Committee) that they would be interested in returning in 2019 – indeed, even that they might be prepared to hold their Late Daffodil Show in Northern Ireland as part of their ambition to spread and increase their influence beyond London. With this aim in view they have held their Late Show in Harrogate for the last couple of years and seek another location outside London. To have their Late Show held in Belfast would be a great boost to local horticulture and a recognition of the unique historic and current position that Northern Ireland holds throughout the world as an important centre for specialist daffodil breeding.

For such a visit to happen an invitation would need to be sent to the RHS as soon as possible. This could either be issued directly from the Belfast City Council, or preferably as a joint invitation with the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group.

This initial letter is to enquire if the Belfast City Council would consider issuing such an invitation and to offer hospitality to delegates as in 2004. I append a rough draft of the programme for 2004 for your information. If you agree in principal then I think it would be necessary to form a small joint committee to discuss and arrange the programme. If the RHS was prepared to bring their Late Show to Belfast the implications would be greater inc. considerations about co-ordination of their schedule and our current Belfast Show schedule. There would need to be meetings with RHS Shows manager and the Committee Chairman and Secretary.

Currently we have three N. Ireland members on the RHS Bulb Committee so we already have a good line of communication.

I look forward to your preliminary response and suggestions how we might proceed..

Yours Sincerely,

Terry Haley (Chairman)

Dave Hardy (Hon Sec.)



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NIDG & RHS Committee Visit Belfast Spring Show 24/25th April 2004

Friday 23rd April - RHS members arrive at Barnett's Demesne
by taxi or otherwise as arranged Pick-up by assigned hosts for overnight stay.

Saturday 24th April.

RHS members brought to Show by hosts.

6.30am – 10.30pm	Staging of Exhibits
10.30am – 11.00am	Coffee for Judges and RHS visitors
11.00pm Prompt	Judging of Exhibits
1pm	Reception RHS Visitors and Judges 21
1.30pm	Lunch for Judges and RHS visitors
	Welcome/Greetings
	Belfast Parks??
	NIDG Vice-Chairman
	RHS Vice Chairman?
2.45pm – 3.30pm	RHS Committee Meeting in Montgomery
3.30pm - 5pm	Visit Show
5.00pm	RHS visitors picked up by hosts
7.30pm	Cocktails (hosted by the RHS ?)
8.00pm	Daffodil Dinner @ Belfast Castle 40
	Speeches
	Belfast Parks??
	NIDG Chairman
	RHS Chairman
	Gifts = 1 to RHS from B Parks Individual from
10pm	Depart for hosts residences.
	Host
	Guests
Nial and Hilary Watson.	Lady Skelmersdale; Sally Kington. David Matthews
Geo. and Sandra Wilson	Dave Vivash
Sandy and Mary McCabe	Reg. Nicholl
Brian and Betty Duncan	John Blanchard; Noel Burr Jan Pennings Jan Dalton; Geoff Ridley
A.N.Other	Len Olive;

Sunday 25th April

9.30am	RHS Visit to home of Brian Duncan, Omagh.	
10.30am	Coffee	
12noon	Buffet Lunch	
12.30pm	Depart for Ringhaddy Daffodils,	Dan McCormick @ Show
2.00pm	Arrive Ringhaddy Daffodils	
4pm	Depart Ringhaddy Daffodils	
5pm	Arrive back at Belfast Spring Show	
6pm	Depart for Airport	