

## P

**Pachycereus**

Cactaceae

See sub-section **Cacti****Paeonia**

Paeoniaceae. Peony.

***P. cambessedesii***

'The flowers are solitary, of a deep rose pink and about 3½ inches to 4 inches across; the plant is dwarf, only reaching 1½ feet to 2 feet high. The most striking point about the plant is the bright crimson colour of the stems and young leaves in spring.

**Origin:** native in Mallorca, Balearic Island.

'*P. cambessedesii* was collected by Miss Frances Geoghegan of Co. Dublin on the Island of Majorca, where it was found growing in a rocky and almost inaccessible spot on Cape Formentor. Miss Geoghegan kindly presented her plant to enrich the Glasnevin collection.

C. F. Ball, writing in 1909, described this little peony as '...the earliest to flower at Glasnevin, opening in April.'

**refs:** *The garden* **73** (12 June 1909): 287; Nelson, *An Irish flower garden* (1984), 82-83.

**illusts:** *an Irish flower garden* (1984), plate 2; *An Irish flower garden replanted* (1997), plates 6 & 7.

***P. delavayi* x *lutea*** [unnamed]

'bears yellow flowers splashed with mahogany red.'

**Origin:** presumed to have been raised and subsequently introduced by Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

**ref:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 93.

***P. emodi* 'Emodoff'**

Flowers pure white; a big bushy plant, about 1m tall.

**Origin:** from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin.

According to Sir Frederick Moore (quoted by Stern) it was a cross between *Paeonia officinalis* 'Alba', pollinated by *P. emodi*. Stern cast doubt on this parentage, and suggested that the 'very beautiful form' was just a vigorous form of *P. emodi*, from which it differed but little. He noted that it came true from seed, and was a diploid like *P. emodi*.

Plants of this cultivar were being despatched from Glasnevin to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in November and December 1922, but an entry for "*Paeonia emodi* x seedling" in October 1901 may be an earlier reference. Various plants labelled 'Emodoff' grew in the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, during my years as taxonomist but none seemed truly to match the plant described by Stern.

**refs:** Stern, *Paeonia* (1946), 94-95; Ms register of donations from the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin.

***P. lobata* 'Sunbeam'**

'Improved. The most brilliant colour in hardy flowers; dazzling scarlet'; 'large handsome flowers of a glowing scarlet colour'; 'No other hardy flowers I know can excel this in the brilliance of its colour; 2ft.'

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; 'a form selected here.'

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 128.

**'Anne Rosse'**

syn: *P. delavayi* x *lutea* 'Anne Rosse'

Tall shrub, to 4m or more, with erect woody, sparingly branched stems; foliage concentrated at tips of shoots; leaves deciduous, mid-green, divided into acute segments; flowers solitary, large, to 20cm across, a few together at tips of shoots, with about 8 overlapping petals, pure lemon-yellow with some red streaking or flushing at base; anthers red, carpels red.

**Origin:** from Birr Castle, Birr, Co. Offaly. This was raised by the Earl of Rosse (Michael, 6<sup>th</sup> earl), and is regarded as a hybrid between the yellow-flowered *P. lutea* var. *ludlowii*, crossed with the dark red-flowered *P. delavayi*.

The original bush still grows at Birr Castle, and is now about 5m tall.

**awards:** Cory Cup (Earl of Rosse, 25 April 1961); AM (1961).

**refs:** Walsh, Ross & Nelson, *An Irish florilegium* (1983), 122-123; Nelson, *An Irish flower garden* (1984), 126; Bowe & George, *The gardens of Ireland* (1986), 126-127.

**illusts:** *An Irish florilegium* (1983), plate 23; Bowe & George, *The gardens of Ireland* (1986), 127.

**'Derek Hill'**

syn: *P. delavayi* x *lutea* var. *ludlowii*

Petals yellow with rich orange patches in the centre of each one; stamens yellow; shrub to 1m tall at least.

**Origin:** raised by Derek Hill, St Columb's, Churchill, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, and still grown in the garden at The Glebe Gallery. While this is not been formally named hitherto, it should bear his name.

**refs:** Hill, 'A hybrid tree peony', *The garden* **103** (1978): 247; Nelson, *An Irish flower garden replanted* (1997), 156-157.

**illust:** *The garden* **103** (1978): 247.

**'Ledger's Variety'**

'white flowers splashed with purple and yellow'.

**Origin:** the only account of this is in an article by Brian Cross, Lakemount, Co. Cork, where it is described as a 'lovely Irish variety ... [and] good value as a cut flower.'

**ref:** *Ir. gardening* **1** (3) (June-July 1992): 5.

**'Phylis Moore'**

syn: *P. delavayi* x *lutea* 'Phylis Moore'

Flowers c. 8cm diameter, cup-shaped, but opening wider with age; petals yellow with red rim, and slight green tinge; stamens orange-red; fragrant; foliage pale green, large, deeply lobed and toothed; shrub to 3m tall.

**Origin:** Lady Scott (Valerie Finnis) stated that this was 'a seedling selection by Lady Moore in about 1945'. It appears to be a form of *Paeonia lutea*, akin to *Paeonia* 'Anne Rosse', but with much smaller flowers.

Graham Thomas described this plant as 'most fetching ... small flowers, dark yellow with large mass of crimson stamens. (*in litt.* 25 May 1988).

**award:** AM RHS 1988.

**refs:** *The garden* **114** (1989): 254-255; Nelson, *An Irish flower garden replanted* (1997), 156-157; *Ir. garden* **6** (8) (October 1997): 36-38.

**illust:** *The garden* **114** (1989): 254-255.

**Papaver**

Papaveraceae. Poppy.

before 1912

***P. bracteata* 'Darkness'**

'Quite a new shade of colour in this ornamental race of plants - handsome flowers of crimson lake'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; this cultivar was included among a set of *Papaver* cultivars donated to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, in February 1898.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 128. before 1960

***P. bracteata* 'Delicata'**

Flowers 'beautiful shade of delicate rosy flesh'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; this cultivar was included among a set of *Papaver* cultivars donated to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, in February 1898.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 128.

***P. bracteata* 'Vesta'**

Flowers 'French white very fine'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; this cultivar was included among a set of *Papaver* cultivars donated to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, in February 1898.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 128.

**'Fireball'**

syn: *P. orientale* 'Nanum Flore Pleno'; *P. x hybridum* 'Fireball', 'Fire Ball'.

**Origin:** Athy, Co. Kildare; introduced by Holland. Murray Hornibrook provided the history of this plant.

With reference to Miss. E. D. Hume's inquiry as to when this appeared first in Ireland, perhaps the following may interest her.

About 1908, this double oriental poppy which runs about everywhere was given to me by Lady Alice Coote of Ballyfin, Queen's Co. [Offaly]. She was a Miss Webber of Kellyville, Athy, Co. Kildare, and I understood from her that this double form originated in her mother's garden at Kellyville some 30 years previously – that would put its introduction about 1878. About 1923, Mr. H. den Ouden, of Boskoop, saw it in my garden and asked for it. Soon afterwards he offered it in his wholesale catalogue as var. "Fire Ball", but he told me later that another double form – not identical – had been offered in England almost simultaneously. I have since lost sight of it and do not know what double form is in British cultivation, but the Irish form is a beautiful but ineradicable weed, as invasive as *Polygonum sachalinense*.

[See also the unnamed double poppy noted below.]

**refs:** Walsh & Nelson, *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), 186-187; Nelson, *An Irish flower garden* (1984), 152; *Gard. illust.* 62 (8 June 1940): 289; *The garden* 110 (1985): 271-274.

**illusts:** *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), plate 43 [watercolour]; *The garden* 110 (1985): 273 [colour photograph] (as *P. lateritium* 'Flore Pleno'); Connolly & Dillon, *In an Irish garden* (1986), 138.

***P. orientale* 'Lady Frederick Moore'**

syn: 'Lady Moore'

'Flowers of this delightful Oriental Poppy measure over 7 inches across, a beautiful shade of clear salmon pink with a conspicuous black basal blotch, and stems as stiff as a bamboo...'; 'a large and most beautiful variety, pretty shade of clear salmon-pink, with crimson blotch.'

**Origin:** This poppy – a charming cultivar, larger and better than 'Princess Louise' – was raised and introduced by Perry, Enfield, Middlesex. It gained an award of merit in 1914 and was being distributed from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, in May 1919. It was named after the wife of the Gardens' Keeper, Phylis, Lady Moore. And, it is still in cultivation.

**award:** AM RHS 1914.

**refs:** Perry's *Special offer of Japanese & other lilies ...* 113: 22; Perry's *Catalogue of alpine & perennial seeds* 177: 3; *The Irish garden* 6 (8) (October 1997): 36-38; *Moorea* 10 (1993): 35-40.

c. 1898

[not named]

'a double variety which blooms slightly earlier than the type ... It is a true perennial and originated here.'

**Origin:** 'here' was Ballykilkavan, Stradbally, Co. Laois, which garden is famous as the place where William Robinson left the glasshouse windows open! This poppy 'very gay at present in the borders ... fills the gap between the blooming of Tulips and the single' poppies. Alas no further details were provided by Mrs F. Otway Johnson in 1898. It is just possible that this was 'Fireball' (see above), and that the story given for 'Fireball' needs to be modified slightly.

**ref:** *Gard. illust.* 50 (9 June 1928): 362.

***Pelargonium***

Geraniaceae. Indoor geranium.

c. 1900

['Dublin']

**Origin:** not of Irish origin.

**ref:** *The garden* 88 (1924): 268.]

'Old Irish' – see 'Lady Mary Fox'

**'Koko'**

Flowers double, petals with deep purple margins and white central streak; leaves dark, glossy green; an ivy-leaved cultivar, with trailing habit.

**Origin:** this artificially produced cultivar was 'created' at University College, Cork, by Judy Cassells, in the spring of 1984, using *Pelargonium* Petal Streak Agent (PPSA) to transform 'Rio Grande'. It was released commercially in 1987.

**refs:** Walsh & Nelson, *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), 194-196 (for general information see Hamilton, 'Wye's new geraniums', *The garden* 108 (1983): 146-148; for more detailed scientific accounts of PPSA see e.g. *Scientia Hort.* 17 (1982): 89-96; *Acta Hort.* 131 (1983): 287-297.)

**illust:** *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), plate 45.

**'Lady Mary Fox'**

syn: 'Old Irish', 'Mrs Moon', 'Mr J. Douglas', etc.

'Edges of leaves often prettily shaded with red, which harmonises with the flowers'; flowers red.

**Origin:** a plant with many names, including 'Old Irish', according to Miss Henrietta White, Headmistress of Alexandra College, Dublin, who had a keen interest in *Pelargonium*. I do not think this is of Irish origin, nor is there any record that Miss White raised and named cultivars herself.

**ref:** *Flora & sylva* 3 (1905): 138.

**illust:** *Flora & sylva* 3 (1905): opp. p. 138 (colour plate before 1919)

***Penstemon***

Scrophulariaceae.

**'Beech Park'**

syn: perhaps 'Barbara Barker' (see below)

Stems to 60 cm tall; flowers with narrow tube, mouth pink, white throat and extending to the lobes.

**Origin:** I do not know the precise history of this cultivar. It came from Beech Park, Clonsilla, Co. Dublin, the garden of David Shackleton, and was among the cultivars at a *Penstemon* trial in the RHS Gardens, Wisley. Dr Tony Lord commented that David Shackleton

used to say that if you sowed a packet of seed, you were bound to get something just as good. He was being

provocative: why else did he propagate it every year?

A good plant, it received an award of garden merit after the trial (1990-1994).

It may or may not be identical with another penstemon named 'Barbara Barker', and the stock may even include seedlings (see Way & James 1998).

**award:** AGM

**refs:** *Ir. garden* 3 (4) (July-August 1994): 25; *The RHS plant finder 1995-1996*, 468; Lord, 'Peerless penstemons', *The garden* 119 (1994): 304-310; Way & James, *The gardener's guide to growing Penstemons* (1998).

**illust:** *The garden* 119 (1994): 307.

### 'Evelyn'

syn: 'Pink Seedling', 'Phyllis', 'Sissinghurst Evelyn'

'Semi-shrubby, upright habit, clear pink flowers; blooming July to autumn'; 'commencing to produce its spikes of deep pink flowers in spring.'

**Origin:** from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

An excellent plant, it received an award of garden merit after the *Penstemon* trial at the RHS Garden, Wisley (1990-1994).

Easily distinguished by its very slender, lance-shaped leaves, and pale pink flowers.

**award:** AGM

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 93; Lord, 'Peerless penstemons', *The garden* 119 (1994): 309; *Ir. garden* 2 (4) (July-August 1993): 14-16; Dillon, *The flower garden* (1993), 120-121.

**illusts:** *The garden* 119 (1994): 307; *Ir. garden* 2 (4) (July-August 1993): 16; Dillon, *The flower garden* (1993), 120-121.



### *Pentaglottis*

Boraginaceae. Green alkanet.

### *P. sempervirens* 'Variegata'

syn: *Anchusa sempervirens* 'Variegata' (listed as "fol-variegata") 'Handsome pale green leaves, strikingly margined with creamy yellow; a very fine foliage plant.'

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. No variegated cultivar of *P. sempervirens* is in cultivation today (fide *The RHS plant finder 1997-98*). Could this be a Daisy Hill Nursery introduction?

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 129.



### *Pericallis*

Asteraceae. Garden cineraria.

### *P. x hybridum* Glasnevin Strain

syn: *Cineraria* Glasnevin Strain

Flowers blue.

**Origin:** a seed strain, from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin; perhaps never widely distributed, but maintained at Glasnevin.

**refs:** *Ir. gardening* 1(1906): 16; Nelson & McCracken, '*The brightest jewel*' (1987), 202.

### *P. lanata* var. *cyanophthalmus*

syn: *Senecio heritieri* var. *cyanophthalmus*

Ray floret white, disc florets 'very bright' blue.

**Origin:** portrayed in *Curtis's botanical magazine* from the garden of a Mr Clelland, Rosemount, near Belfast, but its history is not known. It is unlikely that Clelland raised it.

**refs:** *Curtis's bot. mag.* (1840): tab 3825; *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 184-187.

**illust:** *Curtis's bot. mag.* (1840): tab 3825 (reproduced in *The*

*new plantsman* 4 (1997): 185).

### 'Purple Picotee'

syn: *P. heritieri*, *Senecio heritieri* [misapplied]

Flowers daisy-like, with dark purple disc; ray florets white to very pale lilac tipped with purple.

**Origin:** a hybrid that has perhaps been cultivated in Irish garden since the beginning of the present century, and grown generally as *Senecio heritieri*. (see below)

**ref:** *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 184-187.

**illust:** *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 185.

There is an intriguing couple of letters to Frederick Moore, Keeper of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, from J. T. Bennett-Poë, concerning an enigmatic cineraria, before 1935 be quoted. Both were written from London, where Bennett-Poë then lived. His brother was Captain James Hill Poë, who still resided at Riverston, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary (see *Galanthus* 'Hill Poë'). The first letter is dated 7 May 1900:

Your enquiry re *Cineraria* is rather a puzzle - you had begun the letter to Captain Poë. He is now with me, & the subject of your letter related to him more than to me. The only cross-bred cineraria I ever had at Riverston [Nenagh] was one I brought some of to England, gave to Watson at Kew, from whom you had it, he told me. It is a cross between *Heritieri* & a greenhouse variety. I saw the one rather like the bloom you sent, 5 years ago at Riverston with my brother. My recollection of it is that it is one he got abroad (Italy or Switzerland) but now he says he had only my hybrid. I believe it is the same cross as mine but took after the garden form in bloom. Traces of the other parent were in the foliage. ...

On 18 May, Bennett-Poë wrote again, evidently in reply to Moore's persistent enquiries.

The *Cineraria* must, I fear, remain a mystery. You & I, 1897 from your note, & my memory quite agree. But Captain Poë says he cannot at all say about it, & he says he thinks it must have been a seedling that came up in some pot. Certainly I heard five years ago it came from — (I think still, Italy). He cannot remember being given one - so it must rest, I think. ...

To this he added a postscript

"*C[ineraria] aurita*" was the name at the Riviera of C. L. Heritieri, whence I brought it home.

Could this have been 'Purple Picotee', I wonder?



c. 1900

*Pernettya* - see *Gaultheria*



### *Philadelphus*

Philadelphaceae. Mock orange.

### *P. coulteri*

Flowers white, flower stalks and calyx densely covered with white hairs; leaves with blunt to acute apices, not elongated as in *P. mexicanus*.

**Origin:** this species is native in Mexico and was collected by Dr Thomas Coulter (1793-1843) of Dundalk, after whom it was named.

This is very rare in cultivation, and plants previously named *Philadelphus coulteri*, or *Philadelphus mexicanus*

*coulteri* were probably the cultivar named 'Rose Syringa' (see below).

**refs:** Bean, *Trees & shrubs III* (1976, 8<sup>th</sup> ed), 136; (Nelson & Probert, 'A man who can speak of plants' (1993)).

#### 'Rose Syringa'

syn: *P. coulteri* [misapplied] ad *P. mexicanus* [misapplied] of gardens

Flowers with 4 broad creamy-white petals, with a dark maroon patch at the base of each one.

**Origin:** known from Irish gardens, especially the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, since the early 1890s when Frederick Burbidge made it known.

A plant of this cultivar is still in the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, grown as a wall-trained shrub on the 'Vine Border'. 'Here is a treasure to be nursed.' (Thomas, *The garden 114* (1989)).

**refs:** Bean, *Trees & shrubs III* (1976, 8<sup>th</sup> ed), 135-136; *The garden 49* (27 June 1898): 478-479; *The garden 114* (1989): 382.



### Phlox

Polemoniaceae.

#### *P. decussata* 'Mrs Sam McGredy'

Flowers 'soft rosy mauve, with white edge'.

**Origin:** from McGredy's Nursery, Portadown, Co. Armagh.

**ref:** *McGredy Nursery catalogue 1932*.

#### *P. douglasii* 'McConnell's Variety'

No description traced.

**Origin:** presumably introduced by Mrs. McConnell, Shankill, Co. Dublin.

**ref:** *McConnell's catalogue*.

#### *P. drummondii*

Annual herb, with softly hairy foliage; flowers brightly coloured.

**Origin:** from Texas, named after Thomas Drummond, one-time curator of Belfast Botanic Garden. It was introduced by Drummond from Texas, and flowered in Belfast Botanic Garden, 1835.

**refs:** Nelson, *An Irish flower garden* (1984), 92-93; Walsh & Nelson, *A prospect of Irish flowers* (1990), plate 9.

**illusts:** *An Irish flower garden* (1984), plate 9, p. 91 (monochrome); *A prospect of Irish flowers* (1990), plate 9.

#### *P. maculatum* 'Mount Usher Variety'

syn: *P. maculatum* 'Alba', 'Miss Lingard'

Early, long-flowering, flowers pure white.

**Origin:** I include this because of the association mentioned by David Shackleton, whose aunt, Miss Christine Shackleton, obtained the plant from Edward Walpole of Mount Usher, Ashford, Co. Wicklow, 'easily a hundred years ago' (i.e. c. 1890). It may be the same as 'Miss Lingard'.

**ref:** D. Shackleton, in Connolly & Dillon, *In an Irish garden* (1986), 145

#### *P. nana* 'Bob Gordon'

Hardy perennial, flowers rich red with a yellow eye, fading to magenta; leaves narrow, almost linear.

**Origin:** a deliberate hybrid produced by Bob Gordon, Tyane, near Portlengone, Co. Londonderry, who crossed *Phlox nana* subsp. *ensifolia* with *P. nana* 'Mary Maslin'. This seedling was cultivated in Dr Keith Lamb's garden, Woodfield, Clara, Co. Offaly. A cultivar name had not hitherto been published, and while the plant resembles *P. nana* 'Arroya' (as illustrated in *The RHS A-Z encyclopedia of garden plants*) it may be distinct and hardy.

**refs:** R. Gordon (*in litt.* 18 April 1998); Dr J. G. D. Lamb (pers. comm.).

#### *P. subulata*

Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down, specialized in cultivars of this dwarf, rock-garden phlox. The following are cultivars that were introduced from Newry, a few of which still survive in commerce.

#### 'Annulata'

Flowers 'bluish white, with purple ring; very pretty'.

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman 4* (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 129.

#### 'Atro-lilacina'

'Deeper in colour than 'Lilacina'.'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman 4* (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 129.

#### 'Bridesmaid'

'A very compact grower. The flowers are bluish white, and have a distinct blue centre'.

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 129.

#### 'Brightness'

Flowers 'bright rose; scarlet eye; very free and telling sort'.

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman 4* (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 129.

#### 'Compacta'

Flowers 'clear rose; one of the dwarfest and most compact' 1835

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman 4* (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 129.

#### 'Daisy Hill'

'A very large flowering kind; deep rose with broad bright crimson zone; one of the best; really a large flowered free growing 'Vivid'.'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. Still in cultivation.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman 4* (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 129-130.

#### 'Eventide'

Flowers 'bluish white self colour; lovely'.

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman 4* (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 130.

#### 'G. F. Wilson' – see under 'Lilacina'

c. 1990

#### 'Kathleen'

Flowers 'rosy lilac, crimson eye; flowers in a most profuse manner'.

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman 4* (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 130.

#### 'Leila'

Flowers 'a distinct shade of pale rosy grey, with purple eye; one of the most distinct.'

**Origin:** Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.  
**refs:** *Alpine plants... catalogue* 56: 43; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 130.

#### 'Lilacina'

syn: 'G. F. Wilson' (see below)  
 'One of the most charming in colour of this race ... the colour is a delightful shade of starch blue.'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

Evidently this was an excellent plant – and it is still in cultivation! – and it soon acquired other names.

Now well known ... This fine plant has been rechristened, and is known as 'G. F. Wilson', and by one or two other names.

Given that 'G. F. Wilson' is the name in common use, reverting to its correct name, 'Lilacina', is not required.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 130.

#### 'Little Dot'

'Of compact growth, with small round white flowers, with blue centres, dainty'.

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 130.

#### 'Mabel'

'Pale rosy lilac, distinct shade.'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 130.

#### 'Newry Seedling'

Flowers 'paler in colour and of more starry shape [than 'Lilacina']'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. The parent of 'Lilacina'.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 130-131.

#### 'Rosea Major'

Flowers 'very large pale rose, crimson eye'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 131.

#### 'Seraph'

Flowers 'white, blue eye, distinct.'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 131.

#### 'Sprite'

Flowers 'bright rose pink, with carmine eye; one of the brightest and most effective.'

**Origin:** raised and selected at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 131.



### Phormium

Phormiaceae. New Zealand or Norfolk Island flax.

There are two species, *P. tenax* and *P. cookianum* (syn. *P. colensoi*) but this name was also used for *P. tenax*.

#### *P. cookianum* 'Vera Compacta'

syn: *P. colensoi* 'Vera Compacta' c. 1900  
 'A charming little close habited variety.'

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down: 'originated here'.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 131.

#### *P. tenax* 'Nobilis'

Leaves very broad and long.

**Origin:** uncertain, but it is mentioned in a note by K (*Ir. gardening*), where the Powerscourt *Phormium* is described. The author then refers to another *Phormium*

the noblest of them all which we have not been able to identify, nor was it recognised by the late Mr. F. W. Burbidge. While less pendulous than *tenax* it has in nowise the stiffness of *Colensoi*, but the magnificent leaves far exceed in length and width either species. We have met with but three specimens, by far the finest 1900 clump of which is in the old garden of the Loreto Convent, Bray, and this we understand has not been known to flower. We have ventured previously to describe this under the provisional name *nobilis*, and which we may add has thus far escaped criticism. By comparison with the well known *tenax* and *Colensoi* the latter, if we dare say so, are but poor things.

c. 1900

I do not know where the original description of 'Nobilis' was published.

**ref:** *Ir. gardening* 8 (1913), 104-105.

#### *P. tenax* 'Powerscourt'

syn: *P. colensoi* 'Powerscourt Form'; 'Powerscourtii'  
 'P. colensoi, the so-called Powerscourt form, in its stiff, upright growth, appears to flower annually' [contrasting with *P. tenax* with 'more graceful semi-pendulous habit ... flowers but occasionally ...']

**Origin:** this must have been grown at Powerscourt, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow. Commercially available from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 131; *Ir. gardening* 8 (1913), 104.

c. 1900

**illust:** *Ir. gardening* 8 (1913), 104.

#### 'Ballyrogan Variegated'

Leaves with fine yellow striations in the central half.

**Origin:** a sport from a green-leaved plant raised from the cultivar 'Cream Delight', propagated, named and introduced by Gary Dunlop, Ballyrogan Nurseries, Newtownards, Co. Down.

**refs:** G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 25 January 1998); *Ballyrogan Nurseries plant lists 1997* [without description]; *The RHS plant finder 1997-1998*.

#### 'Black Edge'

A low-growing plant, leaves with black margins and white. 1900 central vein.

**Origin:** a sport from a green-leaved plant raised from the cultivar 'Cream Delight', propagated, named and introduced by Gary Dunlop, Ballyrogan Nurseries, Newtownards, Co. Down.

**refs:** G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 25 January 1998); *Ballyrogan Nurseries 1998 plant additions* [without description]; *The RHS plant finder 1997-1998*.



### Photinia

Rosaceae.

***P. davidiana* 'Fructulutea'**

syn: *Stranvaesia davidiana* 'Fructu Luteo'; *S. undulata* var. *fructu-luteo*

Tree bearing butter-yellow fruits in autumn.

**Origin:** from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

Raised by James Coey – he had three yellow-fruited seedlings.

**award:** AM RHS (1986)

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 94-95; *The garden* **112** (1987): 561.

**illust:** Phillips & Rix (1989), 262.

***Phragmipedium***

Orchidaceae.

**'Mrs. F. W. Moore'**

syn: *Cypripedium* 'Mrs F. W. Moore'

Flowers white and yellow; dorsal petal yellow with broad white margin, irregularly undulates, dotted purple and greenish-brown; later sepals yellow, with crinkled margins, lip plain yellow.

**Origin:** not certain. There is an original watercolour by Miss Lydia Shackleton (dated December 1896) in the archives of the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin.

**ref:** National Botanic Gardens: Lydia Shackleton watercolours collection.

**illust:** *Irish arts review yearbook* **14**: 42 (1998).

***Phyllitis***

Aspleniaceae. Hart's-tongue fern.

See sub-section **Ferns**

The single species is sometimes placed in *Asplenium*, as *Asplenium scolopendrium*.

***P. scolopendrium* 'Cristatum O'Kelly'**

syn: 'Cristatum Proliferum', 'Cristato Viviparum O'Kelly', 'Viviparum'

Fronds with 'symmetrical cristation, and somewhat singular semi-sagittate base ... [and] thickly studded with young plants ... in linear groups on the upper surface, along the lines which the sori (absent in the plant ...) would follow on the under surface ...'.

**Origin:** found in The Burren, Co. Clare, and introduced by Patrick B. O'Kelly, Ballyvaghan, Co. Clare; it was stated merely to have come from the west of Ireland.

**refs:** *Gard. chron.* **21** (new series) (1884): 57; Nelson, 'A gem of the first water', *The Kew magazine* **7** (1990): 31-47.

**illust:** *Gard. chron.* **21** (new series) (1884): 57.

***P. scolopendrium* 'Concavo-capitatum'**

Fronds concave and tasselled; character became more marked in cultivation, 'so much so that sometimes the frond is creased and doubled exactly like a sheet of notepaper, the heads are large and luxurious, very finely carved and subdivided.'

**Origin:** from near Schull, Co. Cork, found by the Revd H. Kingsmill Moore in January 1911.

A fern hunt in the neighbourhood of Schull ... gave me this ... Owing to the steepness of many of the old roads in West Cork, it is not uncommon to find that the roadside streams have carved out deep beds for themselves. Where this occurs ferns abound. This was the case with the cutting, where I got my [fern] ... I obtained quite a number of interesting forms [in] the little ravine ... [including] quite a colony of tasselled

Hartstongues ...

Moore removed 'perhaps a dozen specimens, leading to a much larger number *in situ*'. A 'terrific and unprecedented' flood removed all but one of the remaining plants before Moore returned to the site in January 1912.

**award:** Prize (RHS) 1912.

**refs:** *Br. fern gaz.* **2** (December 1912): 49-50; Moore, 'My native ferns' *Br. fern gaz.* **2** (1914): 175-179.

***Picea***

Pinaceae. Spruces.

***P. abies* 'Abbeyleixensis'**

Dwarf, very slow growing; 'its chief claims to distinction are its foliage and side branchlets [which] are all 'curled over' giving each little branchlet the appearance of an ostrich feather.'

**Origin:** 'This is a seedling form that I [Hornibrook] found a plantation of common spruce at Abbeyleix ... in 1916; it was then about twenty years old.' The plant was a domed cushion 8 inches tall and 20 inches across. The original plant went to Aldenham House, and then to a Mr Reeve.

**refs:** *Gard. chron.* **85** (ser. 3) (19 January 1929): 49;

Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 161-162.

**illust:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), opp. p. 161.

***P. abies* 'Clanbrassiliana'**

Compact, very slow-growing (less than 6cm per year) bushy tree, with short green needles, c. 1cm long; young leaves and shoots bright green.

**Origin:** a 'witch's broom'. Lord Clanbrassil (d. 1798) noticed the sport whilst out hunting and had it propagated; the date sometimes given is about 1750 (see e.g. *Gard. illust.* **73** (1956): 40). Loudon stated that it was 'said to have been found on the estate of Moira, near Belfast, probably about the end of the last [eighteenth] century.' And, he continued

It appears to use very doubtful whether such a stunted variety as this was ever found in a bed of seedlings: we think it much more probable that it is a continuation of cuttings of one of those bird-nest-like monstrosities that are occasionally found on all trees ...

What is reputed to be the original tree is still growing at Tollymore Forest Park; in 1956 it was 16 ft 8 inches tall.

**refs:** Loudon, *Arboretum & fruticetum* (1844), 2294-2295; *Gard. illust.* **73** (February 1956): 40; Nelson, *An Irish flower garden* (1984), 51-52.

**illust:** *Gard. illust.* **73** (February 1956): 40.

***P. abies* 'Clanbrassiliana Stricta'**

syn: *Abies excelsa* *Clanbrassiliana stricta*

'The bush has a clear stem of about 1 ft. in height; the head is of a narrow ovate conical form; and the shoots are of upright rapid growth; forming ... a very beautiful shrub for a lawn.'

**Origin:** recorded by Loudon as having come from Florencecourt, Co. Fermanagh:

This variety was found in the park at Florence Court, by Mr. Young, gardener there, who sent us a drawing of the bush, and a specimen, in 1834.

Hornibrook could not trace the original Florencecourt plant, but this cultivar is still in cultivation – there was a plant among the dwarf conifers donated by Hornibrook to Glasnevin (October 1922), and one was recorded at Glasnevin in 1990.

**refs:** Loudon, *Arboretum & fruticetum* (1838), 2295; Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 155; *Moorea* **8** (1990): 26, 28.

***P. abies* 'Hornibrookii'**

Low, spreading variant, reaching 1m high; branches horizontal 'heaping up'; buds light yellow-brown.

**Origin:** sent by Murray Hornibrook to Ouden; differs only slightly from 'Pygmaea', mainly in bud colour.

**ref:** Ouden & Boom, *Manual of cultivated conifers* (1965), 239.

***P. abies* 'Knaptonensis'**

syn: *P. excelsa knaptonensis*

A witch's broom, making a flat, cushion-shaped shrub.

**Origin:** introduced by Murray Hornibrook who had found it 'growing as a "witches' broom" on a common spruce in Queen's Co. [Offaly] ... it was a flattish pie-crust-like growth on the side of an old branch, and evidently of considerable age.' Hornibrook propagated this, luckily because the old tree was later cut down. He recorded three plants; one with Ouden in Boskoop, Netherlands, one with Vicary Gibbs at Aldenham House (Hertfordshire), and the third 'fortunately doing well, ... in the Botanic Gardens at Glasnevin, Dublin.' Hornibrook gave the plant to Glasnevin in October 1922, but it was not recorded there in 1990

**refs:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 174; *Moorea* 8 (1990): 26, 28.

***P. mariana* var. *nana***

syn: *Abies nigra nana*, *Picea mariana* var. *nana*, *P. nigra* var. *nana*

Very slow-growing conifer, with light blue-green foliage, forming a globe-shaped bush.

**Origin:** Hornibrook (1939) reported that this had been 'reintroduced into cultivation' by Messrs T. Smith, Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**award:** AGM.

**refs:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf & slow-growing conifers* (1939 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 187; Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 132.

***P. rubra* 'Crista-gallii'**

'Very distinct, every branchlet being fan or comb shaped', slow-growing, dwarf.

**Origin:** introduced by Murray Hornibrook: 'A curious seedling form which I found, and at ten to twelve years old a tiny bush, 7 by 5½ inches, and inclined to make a perfectly shaped cockscomb-like head.'

**ref:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 192.

***P. sitchensis* var. *microphylla***

A stunted, narrow, upright little tree ... leaves few, very fine and heath-like.

**Origin:** Murray Hornibrook found this growing in a plantation of 'normal *P. sitchensis* ... The little tree went to Blandsfort, Abbeyleix, in 1925, and was not propagated.'

**ref:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 193-194.

***Pieris***

Ericaceae. Lily-of-the-valley bush.

***P. formosa* var. *forrestii* 'Balls of Fire'**

syn: 'Ball of Fire'.

Young foliage brilliant translucent scarlet.

**Origin:** from Fota, Co. Cork. Patricia Cox has informed me that the name was used by Mrs Bell, the last member of the family to live at Fota, but she never published it. The name was first published, and the plants was introduced commercially by Peter Cox, Glendoick Gardens Ltd, Scotland

**ref:** P. Cox (*in litt.* 8 February 1998).

***P. formosa* var. *forrestii* 'Rowallane'**

New leaves clear creamy-yellow.

**Origin:** the original shrub still grows in the Rowallane, Saintfield, Co. Down.

**refs:** Thomas, *Gardens of the National Trust* (1979), [51]; —, *Complete flower paintings* (1987), 157; *The plantsman* 4 (1982): 71; *The garden* 121 (1996): 284.

**illust:** Thomas, *Gardens of the National Trust* (1979), plate 5; —, *Complete flower paintings* (1987), [44].

***P. formosa* 'Daisy Hill'**

syn: *Andromeda japonica*; *Pieris japonica* Daisy Hill Form.

'A wonderful form with neat habit exhibiting coloured young growth, chocolate-stemmed white flowers and maturing seed heads all at the same time\*'; 'One of the most beautiful of early flowering shrubs. Its trusses of pendulous white flowers are freely produced in the early months of the year and are succeeded by young brightly coloured foliage. A self-sown bush in the Nursery is 7ft. high by 5ft. through.'

**Origin:** A self-sown bush in Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. While marketed for many years as "Daisy Hill Form" no name was formally published for this excellent cultivar. It has elegant trusses of pearly white flowers, and red new leaves; it holds its fruits for a long time and these provide additional contrast.

Alan Grills described, and thereby named, the cultivar in 1993.

This may be the same as a plant offered by Gary Dunlop, Ballyrogan Nurseries, Newtownards, Co. Down, as *Pieris japonica* Rowallane Best Form.

**refs:** Grills, 'A famous Irish nursery, Daisy Hill Nurseries, Newry', *Moorea* 10 (1993): 7\*; Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 132.

**illusts:** *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 108; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), pl. 4.

***P. japonica* Rowallane Best Form [not a valid name]**

Flower buds set in autumn, plants carry 'attractive brown panicle through the winter'; no published description traced.

**Origin:** this plant is offered by Gary Dunlop, Ballyrogan Nurseries, Newtownards, Co. Down, and he obtained it from Dr Bill Lennon, Holywood, Co. Down. Dr Lennon frequently obtained plants from John Hanvey sen., head gardener at Rowallane, and this was evidently one of the plants he obtained.

**refs:** G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 3 April 1998); *Ballyrogan Nurseries plant list 1997* [without description].

[unnamed] Forrest No. 27578

'Unlike most other *Pieris*, the young growth is green, but the flowers are more freely produced in large panicles, while the individual flowers is the biggest of any *Pieris*.'

**Origin:** from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

\*"This splendid variety is so far unnamed..." - could it be the same as the earlier unnamed Forrest dual-numbered one? Is this the plant which Archie Bingham said came from Rowallane, in the *Pieris* collection (just inside the gate)?

**ref:** Nelson & Deane, *'Glory of Donard'* (1993), 94.

**'Rowallane Pearl'**

syn: *Pieris* Forrest No. 27518-27401

1900s

'It is a remarkably fine flowering plant and quite distinct from any other *Pieris*. It bears large clusters of pure white flowers and the individual blooms are the largest of any *Pieris* we have seen.'

**Origin:** George Forrest's seed was sown at Rowallane, and this was one of the seedlings. Propagation material was obtained from Rowallane by Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down, before 1942, and the plant was released under the strange number quoted above.

Since acquiring stock of this plant some years ago 1990s

have endeavoured to trace its origins without success. We cannot guarantee the correctness of this number, but we strongly recommend the plant.

**ref:** Nelson & Deane, *'Glory of Donard'* (1993), 93-94.

#### 'Fota Pink'

Young growth coral-pink.

**Origin:** from Fota House, Co. Cork. This is cultivated in Mount Congreve (MC 3003) and was perhaps introduced by Mount Congreve Nursery.

**ref:** *The RHS plant finder 1997-98*.

#### 'Mount Congreve Carmine'

No description published.

**Origin:** from Mount Congreve, Waterford, Co. Waterford. This was a seedling raised at Mount Congreve. The name has not been validly published.

**ref:** *Hort. week* (21 July 1989): 42 [name only, as "Pueris"].

#### 'Mount Congreve Coral'

No description published.

**Origin:** a seedling, selected and named at, and introduced from Mount Congreve, Waterford, Co. Waterford. The name has not been validly published.

**ref:** *Hort. week* (21 July 1989): 42 [name only, as "Pueris"].

#### 'Mount Congreve Mahogany'

No description published.

**Origin:** from Mount Congreve, Waterford, Co. Waterford. Another seedling raised at Mount Congreve. The name has not been validly published.

**ref:** *Hort. week* (21 July 1989): 42 [name only, as "Pueris"].

#### 'Mount Congreve Scarlet'

No description published.

**Origin:** from Mount Congreve, Waterford, Co. Waterford. This was a seedling raised at Mount Congreve. The name has not been validly published.

**ref:** *Hort. week* (21 July 1989): 42 [name only, as "Pueris"].

#### 'Murdo Mackenzie'

No previously published description; tall shrub to 5m in height, young foliage tinged bronze; leaves to 8 x 3cm, elliptical, with acute apex, margins minutely toothed; 2-3 branched inflorescences, to 20cm long in bud, clustered at tip of every shoot, with conspicuously deep bronze-pink stems and buds, opening in late Winter (February), producing snow-white flowers which are carried alongside fruits from the previous year.

**Origin:** there are several plants, all belonging to a single clone, growing on Innacullin (Garinish Island), Glengarriff, Co. Cork, which flower and fruit profusely. They are quite distinct and for many years we have debated whether the clone should be named. This is now done, and the plant is named after the late head gardener, Murdo Mackenzie (see also *Callistemon*).



#### *Pinus*

Pinaceae. Pines.

#### *P. cembroides* 'Blandsfortiana'

syn: *P. cembroides* dwarf seedling

Slow-growing, dwarf bush, dense, upright.

**Origin:** a 'strangely abnormal form' from Blandsfort, Abbeyleix. The original plant went to Vicary Gibbs, Aldenham House, Hertfordshire, and thence to Mr Cuthbert, Little Gaddesden, in the same county. Perhaps never propagated.

**ref:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 196.

*Pinus nordmaniana pygmaea* = *Abies nordmanniana* 'Pygmaea'

#### *P. pinaster* var. *nana*

Slow-growing, dwarf bush, cushion-shaped tree, branches very dense, leaves short, to 1.5cm long.

**Origin:** from France; found and introduced by Murray Hornibrook.

I found this old specimen in a wood of normal *P. pinaster* near Mandelieu, Alpes Maritimes, France. It is a semi-globular form, rather flatter on top ... It is obviously of considerable age ...

c. 1985

**ref:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 204

#### *P. sylvestris* f. *monophylla*

syn: *P. sylvestris* var. *monophylla*

Leaves (normally in pairs) fused to form a 'single' leaf; a shrubby tree,

**Origin:** this was a plant from the Hodgins' nursery atc. 1985 Dunganstown, Co. Wicklow; introduced by Edward Hodgins.

**refs:** Loudon, *Encyclopaedia of gardening* (1838), 2158; Elwes & Henry, *Trees of Great Britain & Ireland* (1906), 575; Nelson & Walsh, *Trees of Ireland* (1993), 149, 234.

#### *P. sylvestris* 'Hibernia'

c. 1985

syn: *P. sylvestris* 'Nana Hibernica' [invalid]

A witch's broom; mother plant 1.25m tall in 1973; wide branching habit; leaves 1.5cm long, blue-grey, twisted.

**Origin:** found by J. zu Jeddelloh in 1960 on a tree at Glendalough, Co. Wicklow, and introduced by him in the early 1970s.

**refs:** Welch, *Manual of dwarf conifers* (1979), 326; Nelson & Walsh, *Trees of Ireland* (1993), 149, 234.

**illust:** Welch, *Manual of dwarf conifers* (1979), plate 384, p. 457.

#### *P. sylvestris* [not named]

'A good yellow variegated' Scot's pine.

**Origin:** found as a sport on the Duke of Abercorn's estate, Baronscourt, Co. Tyrone, and 'a few grafts' were made in 1900s by Geoffrey Allen, who was propagator at Baronscourt.

I do not know if this was named, nor the fate of the grafted plants.

It may be noted that sometimes golden-foliaged Scot's pines are encountered; these are named *P. sylvestris* 'Aurea'. Seed from such a tree will produce some golden-foliaged seedlings - for an account of seedlings raised by Dr B. J. Ireland, Brookhill, Co. Armagh, see *The garden* **115** (1990): 386)

**ref:** G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 25 January 1998).



#### *Pittosporum*

Pittosporaceae.

#### *P. tenuifolium* 'Aurea'

syn: *P. mayi* aurea

'A new seedling, which takes on a deep yellow hue in winter.'

**Origin:** from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down; presumed to have arisen in the nursery. There is no other golden form noted in standard works. before 1923

**refs:** *Gold medal shrubs* [c.1934]; Nelson & Deane, *'Glory of Donard'* (1993), 95.

#### *P. tenuifolium* 'Kilkeran Silver'

Dwarf shrub; foliage variegated with a 'brilliant silvery whiteness ... so much lighter and vivid that 'Silver Queen'; stems black aging to grey; leaves 2.5 x 1 cm at most, margins cream and often very markedly wavy.

**Origin:** a seedling that arose spontaneously at Kilkieran, Castlefreke, Co. Cork, from a plant of *P. tenuifolium* 'Silver Queen'.

A 6-year old plant, 1m tall, was donated to the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, by George Carey-Foster, in 1983.

George Carey-Foster recorded the history as follows:

Seeds and cuttings were taken in 1970 or '71 from a *Pittosporum* Silver Queen in the gardens of Mr Peter Harold Barry of Creagh near Baltimore. One of the cuttings is now [1983] 12' or more in my garden. The seeds germinated but I found them difficult to raise mainly due to damping off. One of the survivors was particularly slow but developed into a strong little plant. This was planted out in the second year and thrived although it remained very small. Its leaves still are much smaller and much paler than those of a *Pittosporum* 'Silver Queen'. The largest leaves are up to 1¼" undulate with irregular white margins and black stalks. The bush in 1983 is a little over 3' tall, very dense and furnished to the ground. The whole appearance is a very pale silvery white. It has proved hardy and withstood the winter of [19]78/79 without damage when *Pittosporum* 'Warnham Gold' and *Rhaphiolepis* near by suffered severely.

It has not flowered but I have propagated from cuttings which have developed well. ... I took a 4 yr. old plant to Wisley in 1979, and there is one other in the garden of Charles Lyte in Sussex.

**refs:** G. A. Carey-Foster (undated ms., *in litt.* 29 November 1985); *Moorea* 4 (1985): 43; *Ir. garden* 4 (6) (November-December 1995): 18.

#### *P. tenuifolium* 'Lustre'

Shrub with 'dark green shining leaves and is especially beautiful during the winter months.'

**Origin:** Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down: 'We think highly of this seedling'.

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 95; *Journ. Roy. Hort. Soc.* 80 (1956): 16.

#### *P. tenuifolium* 'Nutt's Leprechaun'

syn: *P.* 'Fred's Dwarf' was used on nursery labels  
New leaves green, darkening to purple in Autumn, very glossy with a pale mid-ribs; 3- 4 x 1.5 cm, margins undulate to weakly recurved; shrub slow-growing, reaching about 1m in height after 15 years.

**Origin:** Fred Nutty, Malahide, obtained a supply of seeds from *P. tenuifolium* 'Purpureum' from Malahide Castle about 1977. He sowed these seeds and from the hundreds of seedling he selected this most compact, purple-foliaged one. The original plant was just 2½ft tall after 15 years. At first Malahide Nurseries Ltd. sold this plant as 'Fred's Dwarf', but that name was not established, and was replaced by 'Nutt's Leprechaun'.  
The original plant was growing at Malahide Nurseries in 1992.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* 44 (1992): 13.

#### *P. tenuifolium* 'Silver Queen'

syn: *P. mayi* 'Silver Queen'

Variegated; 'the silver-grey foliage is margined with white.'

**Origin:** Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down: 'this splendid variety is totally different from Mayi, from which it sported.'

**refs:** Walsh, Ross & Nelson, *An Irish florilegium* (1983), 150-151; Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 95-95; *Ir. garden* 4 (6) (November-December 1995): 18.

**illust:** *An Irish florilegium* (1983), plate 30.

#### *P. tenuifolium* 'Tricolor'

'The grey-green leaves are suffused with tints of red and silver... in winter'; a new variety, variegated silver and pink'

**Origin:** from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

I assumed this to be a new Donard cultivar, but is it just possible that this is the same as 'Garnettii'.

**ref:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 96.

#### 'John Flanagan'

syn: 'Margaret Turnbull';

Leaves marbled; outer edge bright green with inner portion paler (darkening slightly with age), with creamy-white mid-ribs and pale green stalks, oval, margins wavy, about 3 x 2 cm.

**Origin:** from Regional Nurseries, Rockfield House, Dundrum, Co. Dublin; introduced by Dr Neil Murray. A sport from *Pittosporum* 'Garnettii' which was propagated in Ireland and New Zealand about the same time. While the Irish cultivar name was published first, it is now considered to be a synonym of 'Margaret Turnbull'.

'John Flanagan' has yielded a dwarf 'sport', named 'Little John'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* 28 (April 1988): 14; — 30 (1988): 10; *Moorea* 3 (1985): 42-43; *Ir. garden* 4 (6) (November-December 1995): 18.

#### 'Little John'

Foliage delicate; leaves less than 3 cm long, rarely as much as 4 cm long, c. 1.5 cm broad; petiole c. 0.5 cm long; margins of leaves markedly undulate, irregularly dark green; veins translucent, creamy green; centre of leaves irregularly lighter green; undersurface very pale green; shoots almost fastigate.

**Origin:** a sport from 'John Flanagan' when that cultivar was propagated about 1987. This dwarf cultivar was noticed by Dr Neil Murray, Regional Nurseries Rockfield House, Dundrum, Co. Dublin, and was introduced by him.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* 44 (1992): 12. before 1949



#### *Plantago*

Plantaginaceae. Plantain.

#### *P. lanceolata* 'Ballydowling Variegated'

Leaves variegated with white like 'Streaker', but losing variegation in Summer; comes 'more or less true from seed.'

**Origin:** found by Maurice O'Sullivan, Ballydowling, Glenealy, Co. Wicklow, about 1995.

**refs:** M. Cragg-Barber (*in litt.* 1998); *The sport* 19 (Winter 1997): 10.

#### *P. lanceolata* 'Burren Rose'

'Leaves subtending a number of flowers in an otherwise normal inflorescence'; 'Like the rose plantain with wonderful leafy bracts about the flowers'

**Origin:** found in The Burren, Co. Clare, during the late 1980s by Ray Woods:

The original was growing just below the road at the end of Black Head. There were two or three all growing in a grassy bit of limestone pavement. As I'd started a collection of bizarre & garden-worthy forms of native plants, I took a cutting. ... [Later] I gave [Martin c. 1910 Cragg-Barber] a piece. As you might guess the "rose" bit comes from the "rose" of the rose plantain *Plantago major* 'Rosularis' It is not really appropriate to the 'Burren Rose' as its oddly placed leaves are in no way rose-petal shaped. Lotus might have been better - but equally fanciful. ... it's a sedate well mannered plant which produces interesting inflorescences for the flower arranger and if I had some I'd have given you some with a clear conscience.

Propagated and commercially available from Martin Cragg-Barber, Natural Selection, Chippenham, Wiltshire. A similar plant was known to botanists and gardeners, including the English herbalist John Gerard, and the Flemish botanist Charles de l'Écluse (Clusius). It is illustrated in the revised (1633) edition of Gerard's herbal from an illustration originally published by Clusius.

**refs:** *That plant's odd* 2 (April 1994): 3; – 3 (1994): 8; *Natural Selection plant list* January 1998, [4]; R. Woods (*in litt.* 1998).

**illust:** *That plant's odd* 3 (1994): 8

***P. lanceolata*** [not named]

Leaves 'boldly edged and streaked with creamy yellow, which even predominated in some of the leaves, while the green part of the leaves is a mixture of dark green and a greyer green. The flower stem is paler ... and the immature flower-head has a more speckled appearance.'

**Origin:** found by Ann Martha Rowan on waste ground on the campus of University College, Dublin, near the Stillorgan Road during 1985, and brought into her garden in Dublin.

**ref:** *IGPS newsletter* 25 (July 1987): 9-10.



***Platanus***

Platanaceae. Plane.

**'Augustine Henry'**

syn: *P. californica* of gardens, *P. racemosa* of gardens, *P.*

*hispanica* sensu A. Henry.

Large tree, resembling the London plane (*P. x hispanica*), but the lower branches droop, and the bark on the trunk is more flaky; leaves large, with 5 lobes.

**Origin:** this plane tree is probably a hybrid, and for many years was incorrectly named *P. californica*. It was Dr Henry who first drew attention to its merits and distinct characters. The "type" specimen is in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, near the Iron Drinking Fountain. The cultivar name, given by Desmond Clarke (in Bean (1976)), commemorates Professor Henry.

**refs:** Bean, *Trees & shrubs III* (1976, 8<sup>th</sup> ed), 270-271; Nelson in Pim, *The wood & the trees* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1984), 233; Henry, in *Proc. Roy. Irish Acad.* 35 B: 18-19.



***Platycodon***

Campanulaceae. Balloon flower.

***P. mariesii* 'Major'**

'Fine'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; tagged (T.S.) in catalogue

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 132-133.



***Podophyllum***

Berberidaceae. May-apple.

***P. pleianthum***

syn: *Dysosma pleiantha*

Perennial herb, with creeping rootstock, dying down in winter, to 0.5m tall; leaves peltate, round, with 6-8 triangular lobes; lobes shallow, with toothed margins and slender tips. Flowers rich purple, hanging, in clusters. Fruit green becoming purple.

**Origin:** I am including this splendid plant because it was first collected on Formosa (Taiwan) by the Irish diplomat Thomas Watters (c.1840-1904), who was British Consul

on the island at the time. He found it in 1881, and it was in cultivation in England by 1890 when a coloured illustration was published in *Curtis's botanical magazine*.

**refs:** *Curtis's bot. mag.* (1890): tab. 7098; *The garden* 105 (1980): 287 (see correction in — 111 (1986): 395).

**illust:** *Curtis's bot. mag.* (1890): tab. 7098.



***Polygonatum***

Convallariaceae. Solomon's seal.

***P. odoratum*** [not named]

c. 1986

'Small dwarf variegated'

**Origin:** a sport on *P. odoratum* 'Variegatum' that occurred at Ishlan, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim, the garden of Dr Molly Sanderson. This was very slow to increase 'probably because of the shortage of chlorophyll'. Molly detached this from the parent plant, and had been growing it for about 5 years when she mentioned it to me. She indicated that at the time (February 1986) it had not been distributed, and by that date she had left Ishlan and moved to a smaller house with a brand new garden.

**ref:** Dr Molly Sanderson (*in litt.* 14 February 1986).



***Polypodium***

Polypodiaceae. Polypody fern.

See sub-section **Ferns**

1800s

These were grown very successfully by the Rev. Dr. H. Kingsmill Moore in hollowed-out logs (*Journ. Roy. Hort. Soc.* 26 (1910): 112-114).

***P. australe* 'Cristatum'**

Frond with pinnae twisted into small terminal crest, frond to 45cm long, c. 15cm across, wider than crest.

**Origin:** collected in Co. Cork, by H. S. Perry, but the form in cultivation today may not be the Irish one (see Rickard 1992).

**ref:** Rickard, 'Variation in the European *Polypodium vulgare* complex', in *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 206-230.

***P. australe* 'Grandiceps Foster'**

syn: 'Cristatum Clewarth'

Cristatum Group; frond with crest broader than span of pinnae, to 35cm long.

**Origin:** as 'Cristatum Clewarth' this was gathered in Co. Clare in 1876.

**ref:** Rickard, 'Variation in the European *Polypodium vulgare* complex', in *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 206-230.

**illust:** *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 222.

***P. australe* 'Macrostachyon'**

Fronds with prolonged apical lobe, otherwise regular and broad, to 30 x 15cm.

**Origin:** collected by Patrick B. O'Kelly, about 1890, in The Burren, Co. Clare.

**ref:** Rickard, 'Variation in the European *Polypodium vulgare* complex', in *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 206-230.

***P. australe* 'Semilacerum Falcatum O'Kelly'**

Fronds narrow, to 45cm long, pinnae curved forwards.

**Origin:** the so-called Irish polypody, from Patrick Bernard O'Kelly, introduced by him and probably collected in The Burren, Co. Clare. This is still in cultivation having been cared for by Robert Bolton and his family (see Rickard

1992).

A 'lovely variety of the common polypody' fern variously named 'Hibernicum', 'Semilacerum', 'Pseudocambrium' etc., was reported by J. R. Kinahan from the cliff on the western side of Lough Inchiquin, south-central Clare, in 1861. This place still has a fern of this description (J. Robson, pers. comm.) The same variety of polypody was also seen by Robert Kinahan at Edenvale, Ennis, Co. Clare.

**refs:** Kinahan, 'Three days among the bats in Clare', *Proc. Nat. Hist. Soc. Dublin* **3** (1863): 94-99; — *Zoologist* **19** (1861): 7617-7624; Nelson, 'A gem of the first water', *The Kew magazine* **7** (1990): 31-47; —, 'Ferns in Ireland, wild and cultivated, through the ages', in *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 57-86; Rickard, 'Variation in the European *Polypodium vulgare* complex', in *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 209-230.

**illust:** *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 220.

#### ***P. australe* 'Semilacerum Grande'**

Fronds almost circular in outline being widest in the middle.

**Origin:** collected in Co. Wicklow by a Mr Hankey (presumably John Alexander Hankey (c.1810-1882)) in 1862, but now believed to be extinct.

**ref:** Rickard, 'Variation in the European *Polypodium vulgare* complex', in *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 206-230.

#### **'Semilacerum Loweii'**

Fronds to 40cm long, pinnae broad, overlapping, pointed.

**Origin:** collected at Athlone by Colonel A. S. H. Lowe in the mid-1800s. Perhaps the original one is not in cultivation any more.

**ref:** Rickard, 'Variation in the European *Polypodium vulgare* complex', in *Fern horticulture: past, present and future perspectives* (1992), 206-230.



#### ***Polystichum***

Dryopteridaceae. Shield ferns.

See sub-section **Ferns**

#### ***P. setiferum* 'Divisilobum Bland'**

syn: *P. angulare* 'Divisilobum Bland'

'It grows up to 2 feet, out-spreading, with large pinnae resembling small fronds, triangular in shape and overlapping. The pinnules are very long, more so on the lower side of the pinnae, with narrow well-spaced pinnulets like small pinnules and themselves divided. It has a hardish crisp texture, and a very open and airy graceful habit.'<sup>1</sup>

**Origin:** found growing in the wild on Carnmoney Hill, during 1910 by John H. Bland, Tobarcorran, Carnmoney, Co. Antrim (cf *Hebe* 'Tobarcorranensis'). Propagation by bulbils although these are 'stubborn to propagate'.

In 1914 the original plant was sent by Bland to Mr Bensted of Detling, near Maidstone in Kent, and after various other owners it ended up with Dr F. W. Stansfield who named it. J. W. Dyce commented that this fern is

Not only the best *divisilobum* ever found wild but it, undoubtedly, the finest pure *divisilobe* in cultivation.

**refs:** Dyce, 'Another twelve of the best fern varieties', *The pteridologist* **1** (1984): 38-40<sup>1</sup>; — '*Polystichum setiferum* 'Divisilobum Bland'', *The pteridologist* **2** (1) (1990): 15-17.

**illusts:** *Br. fern gaz.* **6** (1930) reproduced in *The pteridologist* **2** (1) (1990): 15.

#### ***P. setiferum* 'Divisilobum Crawfordae'**

syn: *P. angulare* 'Proliferum Crawfordianum, Stansfield'

Frond 'tripinnate with well spaced, lobed ultimate segments' [spec. ex W. H. Ferguson].

**Origin:** this is the famous – 'celebrated' – Crawfordsburn fern found at Crawfordsburn, Co. Down. The version of its discovery given by W. H. Phillips and R. Ll. Praeger in their work on the ferns of Ulster, may be quoted.

This is the celebrated Crawfordsburn fern, one of the most beautiful of a beautiful class, which was found near Crawfordsburn in 1861 by a labourer of Miss Crawford, only a single plant being discovered at the time, and in spite of frequent search it has never been found since. The plants usually sold as Crawfordsburn Ferns in the market are a far commoner form, viz. – *divisilobum Alchinii*. The genuine plant is found in very few collections; it is easily recognized by the very broad and overlapping character of the pinnae, and the extreme breadth of the fronds.

And by that hangs a very long tail!

A pressed specimen, collected in 1864 by W. H. Ferguson at curator of the Belfast Botanic Garden, is in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. There are also pressed specimens in The Ulster Museum, Belfast (see Fig. X).

**refs:** F. M. Jarrett (*in litt.* to J. W. Dyce 27 October 1966; in National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin); Phillips & Praeger, 'The ferns of Ulster', *Proc. Belfast Nat. Field Club* **2** (1885-1886): appendix I, 15.



c. 1850

#### ***Populus***

Salicaceae. Poplars.

Dr Augustine Henry created artificial hybrids of various poplars. While most of this work was carried out in England, some hybrids were grown at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin. Pollen from some of the Glasnevin poplars was used in crossing experiments in Kew, and at Glasnevin Henry even attempted to cross *Populus* and *Fraxinus* (see e.g. Nelson & McCracken, *The brightest jewel* (1987), 205).

#### ***P. x canadensis* 'Henryana'**

syn: *P. x henryana* 1910

Tree with spreading, rounded crown, attaining 30m in height, shoots hairless; buds downy; leaves to 12cm long, ovate-triangular with pointed, prolonged tips; male clone, catkins about 4cm long.

**Origin:** a hybrid between *P. nigra* and *P. deltoides*, of unknown origin, named after Dr Augustine Henry.

**refs:** Elwes & Henry, *Trees of GB & Ireland VII* (1913), 1829; *Hillier's manual* (1991), 316.

#### ***P. x generosa***

Leaves very large, 'sometimes 9 to 10 inches across, which turn a brilliant yellow in Autumn. It grows fast in youth ... starting ... as tiny plants in good soil at Glasnevin, they grew with amazing vigour ... and ... attained 7½ to 10 feet in height' (in two growing seasons).

**Origin:** artificially created by cross-pollination of a black poplar (♀ *P. angulata*) with pollen from a balsam poplar (♂ *P. trichocarpa*), at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England; hand-pollinated in March 1912.

Dr Augustine Henry collected seed in June 1912 and had them sown at Cambridge; by October 1912 the four seedling were 2 inches high. In 1913 they were transferred to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, and by the end of 1914 they ranged in height from 7½ to 10 feet.

Introduced commercially by Hillier's Nursery, Hampshire. **refs:** *Ir. gardening* **16** (1921): 61; *Gard. chron.* **56** (ser. 3) (1961 October 1914): 257; *Hillier manual of trees & shrubs* (1991,

6<sup>th</sup> ed.), 317-318.

**illusts:** *Gard. chron.* **56** (ser. 3)(1914), figs. 102, 103; *Ir. gardening* **16** (1921): 62-63.

*P. x henryana* – see *P. x canadensis* ‘Henryana’



Potato – see under *Solanum*



### *Potentilla*

Rosaceae. Cinquefoils.

#### *P. aurea* f. *plena* ‘Rathbourne’s Variety’

‘Dwarf habit with double, golden flowers throughout the Summer.’ 3 inches.

**Origin:** introduced by Ballawley Park Nursery, Dundrum, Co. Dublin; ‘we were the first to offer this plant and it still maintains popularity’.

**refs:** *Ballawley Nurseries catalogues* Spring 1940, 32; — Autumn 1952-Spring 1953, back cover.

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Daisy Hill’

syn: ‘Daisy Hill Variety’ [invalid]

A shrub ‘with brassy yellow flowers’, very late coming into leaf.

**Origin:** this plant was obtained from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down, by Dr Bill Lennon of Holywood, Co. Down, and he grew it in his garden. Gary Dunlop (1997) obtained material and passed the plant to Michael Wickenden, Cally Gardens, Castle of Fleet, Scotland.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 133; *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 191-192.

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Daydawn’

‘Flowers peach-pink suffused with cream’.

**Origin:** a sport from ‘Tangerine’ which Mrs Turnbull, of Chipping, near Preston, Lancashire, gave to the Slieve Donard Nursery; introduced by Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, ‘*Glory of Donard*’ (1993), 96; *Dendroflora* **19** (1982): 37.

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘deep orange’

Flowers ‘deep orange’

**Origin:** this was in the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin, whence it was distributed in February 1927 to F. Millard and to R. D. Trotter. No other information is available.

**ref:** Ms register of donations from the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin.

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Dodona Cameo’

No previously published description; flowers ‘from late May until October, two heavy bloom periods, one in early Spring and one around July. Flowers show more pink in semi-shade and during cool weather’; shrubs to 22ins tall, to 5ft wide after 5 years.

**Origin:** a seedling in Mrs Lynn Mitchell’s garden, Dodona, Malahide, Co. Dublin; the seed parent was ‘Snowflake’ and the pollen parent ‘Royal Flush’.

A plant is in the National Collection of *P. fruticosa* at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.

**ref:** Lynn Mitchell (pers. comm.)

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Donard Gold’

syn: *P. fruticosa* ‘Rowallane Seedling’ [? not unpublished]

‘This new introduction promises to grow about 2 ft. in height and 3 - 4 ft. in diameter and bears its large golden yellow flowers profusely. At times its flowers have a definite

orange-red colouration which has excited all those who have seen it’

**Origin:** Harry Bryce informed me that this was originally named ‘Rowallane Seedling’; from Rowallane House, Saintfield, Co. Down; introduced by Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

**refs:** H. Bryce (pers. comm.); Nelson & Deane, ‘*Glory of Donard*’ (1993), 97-98; *Dendroflora* **4** (1967): 44; — **19** (1982): 37.

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Donard Orange’

Shrub to 75cm tall (2 ft 6ins); flowers ‘pale orange’.

**Origin:** this may have come from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down, but it was not listed in any Donard catalogue. It has been offered for sale since the late 1980s by Northumbria Nurseries, Ford, Berwick-on-Tweed (see also the dubious *Escallonia* ‘Donard Surprise’).

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, ‘*Glory of Donard*’ (1993), 98; Northumbria Nurseries, *The quality plant buyers guide* [not dated, 1998].

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Farreri Improved’

‘A splendid variety attaining about 2½ feet and bearing large golden yellow flowers’

**Origin:** from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down; ‘ultimately we will give this plant a more suitable name.’

The name, being in Latin form, at least in part, is not perhaps valid, but as the cultivar is probably no longer recognisable, a new name may not be needed.

**refs:** *Slieve Donard Nursery catalogue* January-April 1966; Nelson & Deane, ‘*Glory of Donard*’ (1993), 98.

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Longacre Variety’

syn: *P. fruticosa* ‘Longacre’ (the name should not be shortened.)

‘Low spreading bush; large soft yellow flowers’

**Origin:** a seedling in a garden named Longacre, Newcastle, Co. Down, whence also came a *Hebe* (qv.); introduced by Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down. before 1968

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, ‘*Glory of Donard*’ (1993), 98; *Dendroflora* **19** (1982): 34; *Ir. garden* **2** (4 (July-August 1993): 14-16.

**illust:** *The Irish garden* **2** (4) (1993): 14.

#### *P. fruticosa* ‘Marrob’

syn: *P. fruticosa* MARIAN RED ROBIN, RED ROBIN [trade designations].

Flowers deep red, not fading except in intense sun or wet; shrub to 60 cm tall, to 80 cm wide.

**Origin:** a chance seedling, perhaps from ‘Red Ace’, found by Laddi de Jong in his nursery, Marian Nursery, Lusk, Co. Dublin.

Plant Breeders Right were granted (no 4147), and the cultivar was marketed by Blooms of Bressingham – the printed label accompanying some plants bore the disingenuous statement that this was an ‘Outstanding Bressingham-raised variety ...’.

‘Marrob’ is the valid cultivar name although it is not used by nurseries. MARIAN RED ROBIN is a trade designation and as such is not recognized as valid under the *ICNCP 1995*.

**refs:** *Ir. garden* **5** (5) (September-October 1996): 26; *The RHS plant finder 1998-99*.

**illust:** *Ir. garden* **5** (5) (September-October 1996): 26.

[*P. fruticosa* ‘Miss Wynne’s Variety’

syn: ‘Miss Winnie’ on label in National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin.

**Origin:** this plants was reported in the *IGPS newsl.* **25**, but it is not a cultivar. Miss Winifred Wynne, of Avoce, Co. Wicklow, gave seedlings to the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, and as occasionally (frequently!) happens, the donor’s name became confused and was transmogrified into a cultivar name.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* **25** (July 1987): 11.]

*P. fruticosa* 'Pink Panther' [invalid name] = 'Princess'

Plants marketed in Ireland under the name 'Pink Panther' were the cultivar 'Princess' which was protected by Plant Breeders Rights (*Moorea* 8 (1990): 48).

***P. fruticosa* 'Sophie's Blush'**

Flowers in clusters, appearing shell-pink, with five rounded petals 1 x 1.2cm, overlapping, Empire Rose (RHS CC 48C) shading to shell pink (37C) or salmon (27A), the paler colours in the centre of each petal; outside of petals salmon (27B); anthers orange; leaves usually with 3 leaflets, to 1.2 cm long. blooms in May and again in July and August.

**Origin:** a seedling found in the formal garden at Baronscourt by the late Dowager Duchess of Abercorn, and probably the progeny of 'Daydawn' crossed with 'Manchu'. This handsome pink-flowered shrubby cinquefoil was introduced by Abercorn Nursery, Baronscourt, Co. Tyrone. The shrub was named after the grand-daughter of the late Dowager Duchess of Abercorn. The original plant was still in the formal garden in the mid-1980s.

**refs:** Walsh, Ross & Nelson, *An Irish florilegium* (1983) 134-135; *IGPS newsl.* 9 (July 1983): 4; — 42 (1991): 7.

**illustr:** *An Irish florilegium* (1983), plate 26.

***P. fruticosa* 'Tangerine'**

A 'new break in colour. The flowers are tangerine-orange and the colour is near brick-red when the flower is young. A low bushy plant which we do not expect to grow more than 1 ft tall.'

**Origin:** from Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 98; *Dendroflora* 4 (1967): 48; — 19 (1982): 36.

***P. fruticosa* 'Tilford Cream'**

Shrub to 0.5m tall; flowers creamy white.

**Origin:** Between 1969 and 1971, Kevin Lawrence of Tilford, near Farnham, Surrey, England, purchased liners of shrubby cinquefoil from the Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down. In one batch (perhaps of 'Sunset') this plant was noticed, propagated and then introduced.

**refs:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 99; *Dendroflora* 19 (1982): 40.

*P. fruticosa* 'Tilgate White' / 'Tiltgate White'

This may be an error for 'Tilford Cream'; it is not an Irish, and specifically not a Slieve Donard Nursery, introduction.

**ref:** Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 99.

***P. nitida* 'Alannah'**

**syn:** originally marketed as "*P. nitida* No. 2" 'A fine thing, larger all over'.

**Origin:** from Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo. Bloom suggested that neither 'Alannah' nor 'Lissadell' were 'startling improvements' on the species, which may be the case.

**refs:** Bloom (1991); *Lissadell price list* 1930, 5, 27.

***P. nitida* 'Lissadell Variety'**

**syn:** originally marketed as "*P. nitida* No. 1"

'Deep rose-pink flowers, each petal veined with darker rose ... shining silvery carpet of neat little leaves'; 'very like foregoing differs in colour of flower.'

**Origin:** Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo. This was distributed from the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, in August 1932.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1930, 5, 27; *McConnell's catalogue*; *IGPS newsl.* 9 (July 1983): 6; Dillon, *Garden artistry* (1995), 75.



**Primula**

Primulaceae. Primroses, polyanthus & auricula.

Primroses have a close association with Irish gardens and there are many reference to older cultivars surviving here

when they had become extinct elsewhere. It is noteworthy that cultivars of polyanthus and auriculas were perhaps the first ornamental plants deliberately raised, selected and named in Ireland. As early as 1736, seedling auriculas explicitly of Irish origin were grown in the Earl of Meath's garden, Kilruddery, Co. Wicklow. A list of these exists, and is published here for the first time. In the 1750s the Friendly Florist Society advertised premiums 'to encourage the propagating and cultivating flowers' and specifically for 'the person who shall raise the best polyanthus from seed ... [and] the best auricula' (E. C. Nelson, 'The Dublin Florists' Club in the mid-eighteenth century', *Garden history* 10 (1982): 142-148). And at the same period, Samuel Dixon, a Dublin artist, was producing his embossed pictures of birds and garden flowers, several of which included the fashionable auricula (Longfield 1975).

Much later, in the late nineteenth century the image of the old Irish garden, tended by a "little old lady", who was guardian of long-lost primroses, became well-established. Rather than raising new cultivars, Irish gardeners were seen as unwitting custodians of old ones.

My late father (T. Smith) in his early days in Ireland in the early [eighteen] seventies, when he was manager of the Newry Nurseries of Messrs. Rodger McClelland and Co. (now a cemetery), in his peregrination throughout Ireland found many an old Irish garden, generally gardened by an elderly lady, in which he picked up many old-fashioned plants, Double Primroses amongst them. Now one would travel the Provinces and perhaps not find one garden where the old favourites are now existent. "Modern life," with its golfing, jazzing, motoring, and other pleasures, has scrapped the personal gardening which occupied the time of the ladies during fine weather, and the knitting, sewing, and other indoor industries during wet and inclement weather when gardening was impossible. (G. N. Smith, )

Why, I wonder, have these little beauties [primroses!] been so neglected? Here in Ireland they grow with almost astonishing freedom. (Cecil J. Monson, *Gard. illust.* 53 (30 May 1931))

***P. anisodora* x *helodoxa***

Very vigorous, flowers insignificant of different shades, sterile; 'very tall and late'.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Co. Sligo; 'For some years in 1930 we have flowered different seedlings of *Primula anisodora* x *helodoxa*. More curious than beautiful'

**refs:** *Lissadell catalogue* Autumn 1930, 5; — 1931-1932, 4, 23.

***P. x bartoniana***

No description traced.

**Origin:** a hybrid stated as being between *P. involucrata* x *wardii* (= *P. yargongensis*) raised by Harry D. M. Barton, 1930 Bush, Antrim, Co. Antrim. These plants are now regarded as belonging to the same species, *P. involucrata*, so the hybrid binomial is superfluous.

**ref:** not recorded.

***P. beesiana* x 'Lissadell Hybrid'**

Flowers magenta and purple'.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; a hybrid swarm.

**ref:** *Lissadell catalogue* Spring 1920: 5.

***P. beesiana* x 'Red Hugh'**

fertile seedlings; large flowered strong plants, petals purple and reddish-purple to crimson'.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; a hybrid swarm of various colours.

**ref:** *Lissadell catalogue* Spring 1920: 5.

***P. bulleyana* x 'Red Hugh'**

'Strong tall plants, flowers large intense orange-red'.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; a hybrid swarm.  
**ref:** *Lissadell catalogue* Spring 1920: 5.

***P. burmanicum* 'Glasnevin Hybrid'**

**syn:** Glasnevin Hybrids [plural]

'Flowers large, in whorls on strong stems ... rose overlaid orange, giving an almost scarlet effect in the distance, golden eye'.

**Origin:** raised at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin. These were being sold at Ballawley Park Nursery in the late 1940s.

**ref:** *Ballawley Park Nursery catalogue* 1950, 23.

***P. buryana***

Leaves less than 5cm long, in rosette, oblong; covered with shaggy white hairs. Flowers white or purple, without stalks, so held horizontally at tips of erect, hairy stalks, in a cluster.

**Origin:** from the Himalaya, collected during an expedition to attempt the ascent of Mount Everest, and named after Lieut-Colonel Charles Howard-Bury, who inherited the estate of Belvedere, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

**refs:** *Ir. garden* 1 (3) (June-July 1992): 9; (Keaney, *Mountains of Heaven. Travels in the Tian Shan Mountains, 1913.* (1990)); *Bull. misc. inf. Kew* 1922: 151.

**illustr:** Richards, *Primula* (1993), plate 19.

***P. capitata* subsp. *mooreana***

**syn:** *P. mooreana*

Autumn flowering, 'large-leaved, large-flowered plant which flowers in late summer ... leaves with coarsely reticulate, almost honeycombed, snow-white under surface and ... bright green upper surface which ... never becomes white'; 'larger in size, more perennial in habit, and with fine heads of deep violet-coloured flowers in late summer and autumn.'

**Origin:** I am slightly puzzled by this plant, and there is no explicit account of the etymology in the protologue, but it was (according to J. W. Besant\*) named after Sir Frederick Moore, by Isaac Bayley Balfour and W. W. Smith. It is described as 'one of the few genuine autumn-flowering plants in the genus', and had been 'grown at Glasnevin for many years, at first as *P. capitata*'.

Balfour and Smith (1916) noted that the plant was native in the eastern Himalaya.

**refs:** *Notes Roy. Bot. Gard., Edin.*, 9 (1916): 183-185; *Trans. Bot. Soc. Edin.* 34 (1948): 154-155; *Ir. gardening* 14 (1919): 63, 76\*; *Gard. illust.* 52 (9 August 1930): 521; Smith (1964); Richards, *Primula* (1993), 17.

***P. chungensis* [unnamed "sport"]**

'Twice as tall as *P. chungensis*, is very mealy, and produced five whorls of flowers, half as large again as those of *P. chungensis*, of an intense flaming orange. ... The largest plant has sent up ten spikes, and another has produced nine.'

**Origin:** this "sport" was described by Frank Kingdon Ward in *The gardeners' chronicle*, and he indicated that it was raised by H. D. M. Barton, The Bush, Antrim. I cannot find any trace of a name for it.

**ref:** *Gard. chron.* 88 (ser. 3) (26 July 1930): 70.

***P. x chunglenta***

A candelabra primrose, reaching over 1m in height, with 6-7 whorls per stem. Flowers c. 1 inch across, deep bright red when open first fading to salmon-pink or coral-pink, 'eye always dark'; petals usually not overlapping, orange at base, with brownish velvet-like ring at mouth.

**Origin:** raised by Brian Mulligan at his family garden at Knock, near Belfast, through cross-pollination of *P. chungensis* and *P. pulverulenta*; the hybrid was created in 1927 and flowered for the first time in June 1929.

**refs:** *Curtis's bot. mag.* (1951), t. 158 ns; *Gard. chron.* 88 (ser. 3) (5 July 1930): 11-12, 70-71; — 98 (ser. 3) (24 August. 1920 1935), 514; Fenderson, *A synoptic guide to the genus Primula* (1986), 33.

**illusts:** *Gard. chron.* 88 (1930): fig 6; *The garden* 122 (July 1997): 499

c. 1930

***P. denticulata* 'Lissadell Rubens'**

**syn:** *P. denticulata cashmeriana* 'Lissadell Rubens'

Flowers 'rich vinous mauve'.

**Origin:** 'Quite distinct from any we have seen'; selected at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo.

**ref:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 42.

***P. denticulata* 'Variegata'**

Leaves variegated 'broadly margined with creamy white'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. ~~before 1922~~ only instance of fixed variegation amongst the Primulas; it was obtained here.' A plant was donated by the Daisy Hill Nursery to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin in October 1890.

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 133.

*P. edgeworthii* = *P. nana*

***P. gracilipes* 'Rowallane'**

Flowers 'a lovely pink'.

**Origin:** evidently this came from Rowallane House, Saintfield, Co. Down, and was described by Cecil Monson, who sold plants at 5 shillings each, as 'the only ~~last for a~~ 1916 primula that is easy to grow.'

**ref:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], 'Some plants available in small supply' [c. late 1960s].

***P. helodoxa* x *japonica***

No description traced.

**Origin:** from H. D. M. Barton, The Bush, Antrim. Frank Kingdon Ward made the following reference to this plant:

Then Mr. H. D. M. Barton crossed *P. japonica* with *P. helodoxa*. But the result was so frightful that we may charitably draw a veil over it. He is now busy trying to rid his garden of the Calibanistic offspring.

**ref:** *Gard. chron.* 88 (ser. 3) (26 July 1930): 70.

***P. japonica* 'Fiery Red'**

Candelabra; leaves fresh green; flowers rich velvety crimson.

**Origin:** a selected form of *Primula japonica* introduced by Lissadell Nursery, Sligo, Co. Sligo, about 1930.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* 14 (October 1984): supplement part 2.

c. 1930

***P. juliae* 'Ballawley Purple'**

Flowers 'very deep purple [with] practically no eye. Larger than 'Wanda' and later to flower.'

**Origin:** from Ballawley Alpine Nursery, Dundrum, Co. Dublin.

**ref:** *Ballawley Alpine & Herbaceous Nurseries catalogue* 1950, 24.

***P. malacoides* double flowered form**

Flower double – no further description traced.

**Origin:** from Castleborough, Wexford, Co. Wexford, raised by C. Cooper who was head-gardener to Lord Carew at Castleborough. This primrose, it was reported, was sent to Messrs Bees presumably for commercial introduction.

**award:** AM (RHSI) November 1913.

**ref:** *Ir. gardening* 8 (December 1913), ix.

***P. marginata* 'Glasnevin'**

Flowers rich mauve, large; no published description traced.

**Origin:** from the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin,

Dublin.

I grew this, having received a plant from Dr Molly Sanderson, but I have never found any mention of it in print.

***P. marginata* 'Mrs Hall Walker'**

'of the *margurata* [*sic*] tribe, but has a sweet fragrance which is always pleasing, and the colour is a soft lavender with a large flower and strong habit.'

**Origin:** shown by Tully Japanese Garden, Kildare, at the Spring Show in Ballsbridge during May 1910, and most probably named after the wife of the owner, William Hall Walker MP (later Lord Wavertree). No history can be traced but a later report stated that 'Mrs Hall Walker' seems to be identical with *P. marginata* 'Linda Pope'.

**refs:** *Ir. gardening* 5 (May 1910), 72, 99; — 14 (1919): 57; Lamb & Bowe (1995): 201.

***P. microdonta***

Flowers a 'beautiful crushed-strawberry'.

**Origin:** seen in H. D. M. Barton's garden, The Bush, Antrim, by Frank Kingdon Ward who described it as 'an intermediate colour form' between *P. microdonta* var *alpicola violacea* and 'the purple form'. Ward remarked that 'it may be the result of a cross with the *microdonta* clan. But it is only one among thousands.'

**ref:** *Gard. chron.* 88 (ser. 3) (26 July 1930): 70.

***P. nana***

syn: *P. edgeworthii*

Herbaceous perennial; flowers solitary, stems and buds covered with white floury meal; throat yellow, spreading lobes irregularly toothed, mauve fading to white near throat; leaves in a rosette in winter, covered with golden-white, floury meal.

**Origin:** from the woods and hill-slopes of the Himalaya between 2,000 and 4,000 metres above sea-level. This was named after Michael Pakenham Edgeworth, but the name *P. nana* being earlier has priority now. Edgeworth was not the first to collect it. Edward Madden gathered it about 1844 in the valley below the Pindari Glacier, and gave specimens to Edgeworth who decided that it was a new species and proposed (but never published) the name "*Primula pulverulenta*" for it. Edgeworth gathered specimens by the River Alakanda about the same time.

**refs:** Walsh & Nelson, *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), 82-84; Nelson, *An Irish flower garden replanted* (1997), 67; *The plantsman* 7 (4) (1986): 225-226.

**illusts:** *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), plate 17; *The plantsman* 7 (4) (1986): 226.

*P. pulverulenta* 'Lady Clanwilliam' – see '**Lady Clanwilliam**' below.

*P. pulverulenta* 'Lady Dufferin' – see '**Lady Dufferin**' below.

***P. rosea* 'Splendens'**

'The deepest and brightest of all'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down.

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 133.

***P. veris* 'Christopher'**

Hose-in-hose (corolla duplicated), yellow petals.

**Origin:** this remarkable cowslip was found somewhere in Ireland by three children about 1883, and was named after a character in Juliana Ewing's famous book *Mary's meadow*. Hose-in-hose cowslips are very occasionally found, but this particular one is probably extinct.

**refs:** Nelson, 'Once upon a time ...', *The garden* 109 (1984): 38-40; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.)* Yb. (1984), 56-63.

***P. veris* 'Danesfort Golden Yellow'**

A cowslip hose-in-hose, flowers rich golden trusses highly perfumed.

**Origin:** listed by William Baylor Hartland, Ard Cairn, Cork. I do not know the history of this and two other Danesfort hose-in-hose "oxlips" that Hartland listed, 'Danesfort Sulphur Yellow' and 'Danesfort White'. They may not be Irish.

**ref:** Hartland, *Ye original booke of daffodils* 1886.

***P. vulgaris* 'Ballrogan Cream Edge'**

Leaves with cream margins, a 'perennial chimera'.

**Origin:** from Gary Dunlop, Ballyrogan Nurseries, Newtownards, Co. Down.

**refs:** G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 25 January 1998); *Ballyrogan Nurseries plant lists 1996, 1997* [without description]; *The RHS plant finder 1997-1998*.

***P. vulgaris* 'Boyne Valley'**

A wild double-flowered primrose.

**Origin:** reported as found by Dr Molly Sanderson in the Boyne valley. Now evidently extinct.

**ref:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1991), 16.

***P. vulgaris* 'Elizabeth Dickey'**

syn: 'Elizabeth Dickie'.

A double flowered form of the wild primrose; acaulis type, petals primrose yellow.

**Origin:** Dr Molly Sanderson related the history of this wild primrose. 1840s

Over 50 years ago a young 8-year old girl brought some primroses in to her mother who noticed that there were some doubles in the bunch. The daughter was able to bring her mother to the hedge bank about 2 miles outside Ballymoney & the plant was established in a labourer's cottage garden. Both the daughter and her mother were Elizabeth Dickey, & it was the mother who tended the plant for nearly 40 years before I heard about it & exchanged a 'Red Paddy' for one of her plants.

Dr Molly Sanderson obtained an offshoot about 1970, and Cecil Monson announced that it 'may be available later, or can be booked' in a typed sale-list he issued in the late 1960s. It was also sold by David Chalmers, Stonehaven, Scotland in the 1970s.

**refs:** Dr M. Sanderson (*in litt.* not dated [1984]); C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson] 'Some plants available in small supply' [late 1960s]; *An Irish florilegium II* (1968), 78; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.)* Yb. (1984), 56-63; Hyatt, *Primroses & auriculas* (1989), 29.

**illust:** *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), plate 16.

***P. vulgaris* 'Greenwood Pim'**

'A form of the common primrose (and the most remarkable 1896 form existing here). The petals are frilled in the most remarkable manner, giving the flowers the appearance of being double.'

**Origin:** this was marketed by Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down, but did not originate there. It was 'found growing wild by Mr. Greenwood Pim, and sent here [Newry] to be nursed. The position of the stamens and style would lead to the possibility of self-fertilization, but all the seedlings from it so far have been simple reversions to the type.'

**refs:** *Alpine plants, catalogue* 71: 7 (c. 1906); *Gard. chron.* 39 (ser.3) (1906): 297; Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 133-134.

**illust:** *Gard. chron.* 39 (ser.3) (1906): 276, fig 115 (reproduced in Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 133).

[not named]

c. 1886

Flowers pink, hose-in-hose.

**Origin:** Sitwell (1939) recorded this as a plant, without a name, found in a farm garden in Co. Kerry.

**ref:** Sitwell, *Old fashioned flowers* (1939), 55.

#### 'Abundance'

No description traced.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) there is a list of primroses which is prefaced by the following note:

Primrose single kinds – the following have been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful.

I have therefore included these below – they are 'Columbus', 'Crimson Queen', 'Jubilee', 'Lady Bountiful', 'Mont Blanc', 'Negro', 'Scott Wilson', 'Sepoy', 'Snowdon' and 'Spangle'.

**refs:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 134; *Hardy plants* no. 6: 56 (1891).

#### 'Aileen Chapman'

Single, acaulis-type; flowers pale yellow, similar habit to 'Lady Greer'.

**Origin:** raised by Cecil Monson, Annaghloy House, Boyle, Co. Roscommon; he introduced it, selling plants at five shillings each, in the late 1960s. Monson described 'Aileen Chapman' as 'the only strong growing yellow' *P. x juliana*. It was named by Cecil Monson after his sister.

**refs:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson] 'Some plants available in small supply' [late 1960s]; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Society (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Ailin Aroon'

syn: 'Aileen Aroon'

Candelabra; foliage dull green; flowers light scarlet in tiers, stems to 50 cm tall.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Co. Sligo, in Sir Josslyn Gore-Booth's nursery; a selected seedling of 'Lissadell Hybrid' either self-pollinated or crossed with *P. pulverulenta*.

**award:** AM (RHS) 1920.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 6, 42; *Journ. Roy Hort. Society* 46 (1920): lxii; *Gard. illust.* 57 (24 August 1935): 514; *IGPS newsletter* 14 (October 1984): supplement part 2, 1; Fenderson, *A synoptic guide to the genus Primula* (1986), 33.

#### 'Alannah'

Candelabra; flowers are bright coppery red shading deeper to eye, which are of rich yellow<sup>1</sup>.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; a hybrid between *P. bulleyana* and *P. beesiana*, shown in 1914 when it and 'Asthore' created a great sensation<sup>1</sup>.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 6, 41; *IGPS newsl.* 14 (October 1984): supplement part 2.

#### 'Altac'

syn: *Primula altaica x acaulis*

Flowers 'washy-coloured ... between the colours of the parents'; very early, masses of huge flowers pale in colour<sup>1</sup>.

**Origin:** a hybrid (*P. altaica x acaulis*) raised at Lissadell, Co. Sligo.

**refs:** *Lissadell catalogue* Autumn 1930, 5; *Price list of fresh Lissadell seed* (1937-1938).

#### 'Altmun'

syn: *P. altaica x 'Munstead'*

'Not so large as ['Altac'] but more pronounced colours<sup>1</sup>.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; a hybrid between *P. altaica* and 'Munstead', hence the name which was used in the mid-1930s.

**ref:** *Lissadell price list* 1931-1932, 22 [as *P. altaica x 'Munstead'*].

1891

#### 'Altpol'

No description traced.

**Origin:** a hybrid raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo, between *P. altaica* and an unnamed "polyanthus", hence the name.

**ref:** *Price list of fresh Lissadell seed* (1937-1938).

#### Annesgrove Hybrids

Candelabra; no further description traced.

**Origin:** my only source for this stated that '... the Annesgrove Hybrids ... are usually given as [*P. pulverulenta*] hybrids, but it appears that the exact origin of these ... is undecided<sup>1</sup>.

**ref:** *Gard. illust.* 57 (24 August 1935): 514.

#### 'Anoxa'

Leaves and flowers intermediate between parent (*P. anisodora x helodoxa*), 'very tall and late<sup>1</sup>.

**Origin:** from Lissadell, Co. Sligo; a hybrid offered before 1960

**ref:** *Price list of fresh Lissadell seed* (1937-1938).

#### 'Apple Blossom' (Acaulis)

[NB 'Apple Blossom' (Polyanthus) below]

Flowers single, 'its colour and the curl of the petals exactly like an opening apple blossom', acaulis type.

**Origin:** Miss Eda Hume, Prospect House, Bushy Park Road, Dublin, wrote the following note regarding Juliae primroses:

Of Juliae Hybrid Singles there are a great number but I can find now nothing about the first very charming ones I knew raised by Mr. Richardson. I can only c. 1914 remember two of the names, 'Apple Blossom' and 'Glamour', but they were mostly delicate colours. He died a good many years ago ... [and] his widow sold the stock. 'Apple Blossom' [is] not to be confounded with Polyanthus of the same name.

According to Miss Hume, this primrose grew in gardens in Co. Meath at the beginning of this century, and it 'opens exactly like the blossom of the Apple (and grows well under an Apple tree)'. E. A. [see under 'Old Irish Single Blue'] also stated that it came from Co. Meath (see 'Apple Blossom' (Polyanthus) below).

**refs:** E. D. Hume, Primroses (unpublished typescript with sketches); — 'The double green primroses', *Gard. illust.* 57 (16 March 1935): 149; E. A., 'Coloured primroses before 1914 polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* 9 (1936): 233-240; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**note:** there is a primrose circulating in North America named 'Appleblossom'; it is usually stated to be a cultivar of *P. x juliana* (see e.g. *Primroses* 42 (Winter 1984): 13). I do not know its history.

#### 'Apple Blossom' (Polyanthus)

before 1930

syn: 'Garryard Appleblossom'; NB 'Apple Blossom' (Acaulis) above.

'Dark bronzy-green leaves with large flowers opening pink and paling to cream. Polyanthus. Striking<sup>1</sup>.

**Origin:** There is confusion about the name 'Apple Blossom'. Cecil Monson used 'Garryard Appleblossom' as the name for the original of the "Garryard" family of primroses, a polyanthus type, while Miss Hume used the name for an acaulis-type. I have decided to follow Monson's ~~notation in 1930~~ work although elsewhere<sup>1</sup> I referred to the primrose from Garryard simply as 'Appleblossom<sup>1</sup>.

The description above is quoted from the 1937 catalogue of Ballawley Park Nursery, when the same catalogue also included 'Garryard' as a separate cultivar – 'olive bronze foliage, crushed strawberry flowers carried in polyanthus form'. The latter certainly fits 'Garryard Appleblossom' (qv).

**refs:** Monson, 'Time to call a Garryarde a Garryard', *Primroses* 35 (4) (Fall 1977): 3-55; Nelson, 'Primroses', *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1<sup>1</sup>; *Ballawley Nursery catalogue* 1937.

#### 'Arthur du Moulin'

syn: 'Arthur Desmoulins'.

Flowers double, polyanthus type; pale purple-lilac, very free flowering and early to bloom.

**Origin:** a plant of more obscure origin would be hard to find! This is evidently an ancient primrose, but supposed – mainly on account of its name – to be connected with Ireland. One version of its origins links 'Arthur du Moulin' with the Huguenots, while another story suggests that because the earls of Ventry once spelled their surname de Moleyns, the primrose came from. The latter I consider improbable.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Yb Roy. Hort. Society Ireland* 1965: 67; Sitwell, *Old fashioned flowers* (1939), 51.

**illustr:** E. D. Hume, Primroses (unpublished typescript with sketches).

#### 'Asthore'

Candelabra; dull green leaves; flowers 'coppery old rose ... tinged with heliotrope and shading deeper to the yellow eye'; 'of vigorous growth, producing tall spikes of charming soft pink flowers borne in tiers.'<sup>2</sup>

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo. This was a sibling of 'Alannah', raised by the cross-pollination of *P. bulleyana* and *P. beesiana*; it was fertile but seedlings were not true to the parental colour. A. C. B. Ker stated that 'Asthore' was late flowering, not coming into bloom until the end of June.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 6, 41 *Ir. gardening* 11 (1916): 117<sup>2</sup>; *Trans Bot. Society Edin.* 33 (1941): 140; *IGPS newsl.* 14 (October 1984): supplement part 2, 1; Fenderson, *A synoptic guide to the genus Primula* (1986), 33.

#### Asthore Hybrids

syn: *Primula x bulleesiana* 'Asthore Hybrids'

**Origin:** 'A selected strain' of the cross between *P. beesiana* and *P. bulleyana*, but perhaps now of more complicated parentage. This name is used in current (1997) publications, including Griffiths (1994).

#### Asthore Seedlings

syn: 'Asthore' (e.g. Ker, *Gard. illust.* 52 (7 June 1930): 370). Candelabra; flowers varying from khaki to deep orange, light pink and deep crimson.

**Origin:** this name may be assumed to apply to seedlings from 'Asthore' (qv) which was fertile and produced seed. It may also have been used for a mixed batch of seedlings, which had the same parentage as 'Asthore' but were not selected.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1931-1932, 23; *IGPS newsl.* 14 (October 1984): supplement part 2; *The Gardens, Ballinamore House ... Trade price list.*

#### 'Asthore' x 'Red Hugh'

Strong plants, flowers in shade of red to pink'.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; a hybrid swarm of various colours.

**ref:** *Lissadell catalogue* Spring 1920: 5.

#### 'Avoca Apricot'

Double-flowered auricula; no further description traced.

**Origin:** one of a series of double-blossomed auricula raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow. Miss Wynne, in a letter to another Irish primrose enthusiast, Mrs Elison Spence, wrote that she was "very keen on auriculas, & have some good doubles."

**refs:** W. Wynne to E. Spence (*in litt.* 16 May 1952); Wynne, 'Old Irish double auriculas', *Quart. American Primrose Soc.* 15 (1) (Winter 1957): 6; Moreton, *The auricula* (1964), 89 (J. Sherwood, *in litt.* 2 February 1985); Baker & Ward, *Auriculas* (1995), 58. c. 1884

#### 'Avoca Crimson'

Double-flowered auricula; no further description traced.

**Origin:** one of a series of double-blossomed auricula raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow.

**ref:** Wynne, 'Old Irish double auriculas', *Quart. American Primrose Soc.* 15 (1) (Winter 1957): 6.

#### 'Avoca Green'

syn: 'Green'

No description traced; a double-flowered cultivar.

**Origin:** one of a series of plants raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow. This was in cultivation by the early 1960s; W. L. Smith obtained it from Mrs Cicely Hall of Primrose Hill, Lucan, Co. Dublin.

**ref:** Smith (1964).

#### 'Avoca Nell'

c. 1914

Double flowered auricula; no further description traced.

**Origin:** one of a series of plants raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow. This was in cultivation, but very rare, by the early 1960s.

**ref:** Dr C. Jones (*in litt.* 16 March 1985).

#### 'Avoca Red-Brown'

Double-flowered auricula, flowers red-brown.

**Origin:** one of a series of double-blossomed auricula raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow.

**refs:** Wynne, 'Old Irish double auriculas', *Quart. American Primrose Soc.* 15 (1) (Winter 1957): 6; Baker & Ward, *Auriculas* (1995), 58.

#### 'Avoca Striped'

syn: 'Striped'

No description traced; a double-flowered cultivar.

**Origin:** one of a series of plants raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow. This was in cultivation by the early 1960s; W. L. Smith obtained it from Mrs Cicely Hall of Primrose Hill, Lucan, Co. Dublin.

**ref:** Smith (1964).

#### 'Avoca Tabby'

Double flowered auricula; no further description traced.

**Origin:** one of a series of plants raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow. This was obtained by Dr Cecil Jones from Miss Wynne, about 1960.

**ref:** Dr C. Jones (*in litt.* 16 March 1985).

#### 'Avoca Tawny'

syn: 'Tawny'

Double-flowered auricula; no further description traced.

**Origin:** one of a series of plants raised and named by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow. This was obtained by W. L. Smith from Mrs Cicely Hall, Primrose Hill, Lucan, Co. Dublin. This auricula was in circulation in the mid-1960s. Dr Cecil Jones also obtained it, directly from Miss Wynne. Baker & Ward recently said of this that it was a 'very rare earlier double'.

**refs:** Wynne, 'Old Irish double auriculas', *Quart. American Primrose Soc.* **15** (1) (Winter 1957): 6; J. Sherwood (*in litt.* 2 February 1985); Moreton, *The auricula* (1964), 89; Baker & Ward, *Auriculas* (1995), 58, 68; Smith (1964).

#### **Ballinful Mixed Hybrids**

Candelabra; flowers purple and orange on stems 30 cm tall; fertile.

**Origin:** these were offered by Lissadell Nursery in the 1930s but records of their parentage were lost 'during the troubles here' (presumably during the Irish civil war). Only one selection was made, 'Ballinfull Orange'. 'Still more or less under trial. They are distinct and promising, and appear to be fairly free seeders'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2; *Lissadell catalogue* Autumn 1930, 5; — 1931-1932, 23.

#### **'Ballinful Orange'**

**syn:** Ballinful mixed hybrids Orange No. 1.

Candelabra; flowers orange on stems 30 cm tall; fertile.

**Origin:** a seedling selected at Lissadell Nursery, Sligo, Co. Sligo, in the 1930s, from 'Ballinful Mixed Hybrids'. The pedigree is not known (see above).

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2.

#### **'Beltony Orange'**

Polyanthus type, flowers single; no further description traced.

**Origin:** 'Several excellent varieties [of single polyanthus primroses] have been raised by a lady in the North of Ireland, 'Beltony [*sic*] Orange, named after her home, and 'Sunset' among them.'

**ref:** E. A., 'Coloured primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* **9** (1936): 233-240.

#### **'Beltony Red'**

Flowers single, polyanthus type; 'tangerine with a green centre and a fine lace of gold around each petal'; 'rather short stocky stems carry the terracotta red flowers, which are noteworthy by the fact that the petals show considerable overlapping.'<sup>2</sup>

**Origin:** raised by Miss Campbell and Miss Pottinger at Beltony Lodge, Omagh; Mrs Margaret Holmes, Knockmoyle Lodge, Omagh, informed me that she knew these ladies and 'certainly 'Beltony Red' came from their garden – quite a showy gay plant'.<sup>3</sup> Cecil Monson also described 'Beltony Red' as a showy plant.

**refs:** M. Holmes (*in litt.* 1 March 1984<sup>3</sup>); Champernowne, *Old-world and modern primroses* (1954), 10<sup>2</sup>; *Primroses* **26** (1) (Winter 1968): 221<sup>1</sup>; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### **'Blue Beard'**

No description traced.

**Origin:** no history has been traced; the only record is in the archives of the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland.

**award:** Cultural Certificate (RHSI) 16 January 1935, Miss Hume.

**ref:** RHSI cuttings book.

#### **'Brian Boru'**

Candelabra; flowers blood red.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo, a seedling of 'Lissadell Hybrid' either self-pollinated or pollinated with *P. pulverulenta*.

**ref:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 6, 42

#### **'Bridget'**

Candelabra; flowers orange.

**Origin:** offered in 1931 by Lissadell Nursery, Sligo, Co. Sligo; 'Bridget' was a selection from 'Connaught Mixed Hybrids' which in turn were raised from seed produced after cross-pollination of 'Asthore' and 'Red Hugh'.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2.

#### **'Captain Jones'**

Flowers single, polyanthus type; the very dark petals are almost black, rimmed with gold.

**Origin:** Sitwell (1939) claimed that this was an Irish gold-laced polyanthus, but Miss Eda Hume's comments<sup>1980</sup> are ambiguous. If it came from Ireland, its history if not recorded.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; Sitwell, *Old fashioned flowers* (1939), 66.

#### **'Carncairn Beauty'**

Hose-in-hose; corolla yellow.

**Origin:** from Kate Reade, Carncairn, Broughshane, which is also the raiser of many daffodils.

Joe Kennedy obtained this from Dr Molly Sanderson, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim. According to Kate Reade (pers 1930 comm.), Carncairn, Broughshane, Co. Antrim, this hose-in-hose was a cross between 'Lady Lettice' and 'Prince Silverwings'.

**refs:** J. Kennedy (*in litt.* 1 April 1984); Dr D. Willis (*in litt.* 1 December 1981).

#### **'Castleberg'**

**syn:** 'Castleberg Gem' before 1936  
Flowers double, polyanthus type; 'yellow with pink splashings'; very large double flowers, mixture of pink and sulphur; 'a very delicate plant, the flowers dusty pink with a beige fringe'.

**Origin:** raised in Castleberg, Co. Tyrone, a chance seedling in the garden of Mrs Rebecca Scott, about 1930 (another source dates it 1926<sup>1</sup>); the primrose was offered for sale by David Chalmers of Stonehaven. This was a 'very delicate plant, the flowers dusty pink with beige fringe'; Mrs Scott sold plants at 10 shillings and 6 pence each. before 1936 Rebecca Mayne Gamble was born on 14 October 1877, and married Adrian Scott on 19 November 1902. Mrs Scott died on 11 November 1956.

**refs:** Mrs J. M. Cairns (*in litt.* 7 May 1984); Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Glazeley catalogue*.

#### **'Castle Howard'**

Hose-in-hose primrose; corolla yellow.

**Origin:** listed within a letter from Miss Winifred Wynne to Mrs Alison Spence. I do not know its history, but it should be remembered that there is a house named Castle Howard in Co. Wicklow, not far from Tigrooney, Avoca, where Miss Wynne lived.

It is most likely that this is the plant mentioned by WcL1935 Smith (1964) as '... Hose in hose yellow (something-castle), can somebody help with this name? ...'.

In her letter to Mrs Spence, Winifred Wynne wrote: 'I am very fond of the old doubles, Hose-in-Hose, Jack-in-the-Greens, and have a good many varieties, some got by crossing; I am also very keen on auriculas, & have some good doubles. ...' c. 1915

**refs:** W. F. Wynne to E. Spence (*in litt.* 16 May 1952); Smith (1964).

#### **'Cathal'**

Flowers 'deep amaranth red with dark velvety eye'; candelabra primrose.

**Origin:** from Lissadell, Co. Sligo.

**ref:** *Lissadell price list* 1914, 7.

c. 1930

#### **'Celtic King'**

Auricula; flowers heavily scented, yellow with fringed petals, pin-eyed.

**Origin:** possibly from Ireland, but its origins are not reported.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Chevithorne Pink'

syn: 'Orchid Pink'.

Flowers double, orchid pink; polyanthus type; flowers late. Plant vigorous and long-lasting.

**Origin:** raised in the 1930s by Mrs Elison Spence, Stewartstown, Co. Tyrone, and then was passed to Mrs Gladys Emmerson (d. 1977), The Leeke, Limavady, Co. Londonderry. Mrs Emmerson named the primrose 'Chevithorne Pink', because it resembled 'Chevithorne Purple', although the two plants are not connected in any other way. Mrs Spence was not pleased with the name.<sup>1</sup> This fine primrose is still in cultivation. Glazeley Gardens sold this as 'Orchid Pink' in the early 1950s, commenting that

This variety was offered to us as 'Chevithorne Purple', which it most certainly is not. Since our protest about its name it now seems to be called 'Chevithorne Pink' by some. Orchid pink is its colour from the RHS Colour Chart.<sup>2</sup>

**award:** 'won an award at the RHSI Spring Show two years ago'<sup>1</sup>

**refs:** Dr Molly Sanderson (*in litt.* not dated [1984]<sup>1</sup>); Glazeley Gardens, *A book about double primroses* (3rd edition, 1954-1955), 10<sup>2</sup>; Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Primroses* 26 (1) (Winter 1968): 30; — 41(4) (1983): 17; *The garden* **123** (3) (March 1998): 161.

**illustr:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 19.

#### 'Cloonagh'

Candelabra; no description traced.

**Origin:** this name was used in 1937 by Lissadell Nursery, Sligo, for seed that was offered. I have not found any record of cloned plants. This was 'probably' a hybrid between *P. pulverulenta* and *P. japonica*.

**refs:** *Price list of fresh Lissadell seed* (1937-1938); *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2.

#### 'Cloth of Gold'

Flowers very large; foliage 'dark, handsome'; the best ('best of the double yellows'\*).

**Origin:** 'Another 'Cloth of Gold' came out in Ireland in 1880'.

**ref:** Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63\*.

#### 'College Garden Seedling'

Flowers single, polyanthus type; 'a rampant grower with a coarse truss'.

**Origin:** a chance seedling in the Trinity College Botanic Gardens, Ballsbridge, Dublin, described glowingly as 'one of the numerous beautiful accidents almost sure to happen, sooner or later, in all gardens wherever many seedlings are reared year after year.' Yet the same person who wrote about this polyanthus in *The garden* pointed out it was

not a florist's flower by any means, since it is not only a rampant grower with a coarse truss, but it actually produces a pin-eyed flower, *i.e.*, a flower in which the style overtops the stamens. This, from a florist's point of view, is a fatal defect, and one that has consigned many lovely primroses to the rubbish heap or the fire.

**ref:** *The garden* **36** (31 August 1889): 198-199.

**illustr:** *The garden* **36** (31 August 1889): plate 716 (by H. G. Moon).

#### 'Columbus'

Flowers 'creamy white with red centre, very free flowering'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) ~~1930~~ is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 134.

#### Connacht Mixed Hybrids

syn: Connaught Mixed Hybrids

Candelabra: flowers in shades of rose, crimson and orange, very fine and free flowering.

**Origin:** a series of seedlings from Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo, produced by cross-pollinating 'Asthor' and 'Red Hugh'. Several were selected for clonal propagation and were named – 'Bridget', 'Dunfore', 'Gabrielle', 'Rosaleen' – while the rest were marketed under the "grex" name.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2; *Lissadell price list* Autumn 1930, 5.

#### 'Crimson King'

Flowers double, bright rosy crimson.

**Origin:** the true, original was introduced by Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down, in 1897, although I have not traced a copy of the catalogue in which it was originally listed. It is unlikely that the Daisy Hill clone is extant, being replaced by a plant also called 'Old Scottish Red'. Miss Wynne attributed this to Thomas Smith, while other sources (e.g. *Primroses* **41**(4) - 'the old Scots double red') imply another origin.

**refs:** Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Primroses* **41**(3) (Fall 1983): 28; — **41**(4) (Winter 1983): 17; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 134.

#### 'Crimson Paddy' = 'Paddy'

#### 'Crimson Queen'

Flowers 'deep crimson, very large'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) ~~1880~~ is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 134.

#### 'Danesfort Sulphur Yellow'

Flowers hose-in-hose, 'large noble trusses of highly perfumed sulphur yellow'.

**Origin:** listed by William Baylor Hartland, Ard Cairn, Co. Wick, 1880 as an oxlip (*i.e.* *P. elatior*). I do not know the history of this and two other Danesfort hose-in-hose primroses that Hartland listed, 'Danesfort Golden Yellow' (a cowslip, see under *P. veris*) and 'Danesfort White' (see below). They may not be Irish, and I suspect this was a polyanthus (*i.e.* hybrid), rather than a true oxlip.

**ref:** Hartland, *Ye original booke of daffodils* 1886.

#### 'Danesfort White'

Flowers hose-in-hose, 'really very distinct with the most peculiarly delicate perfume of violets.'

**Origin:** listed by William Baylor Hartland, Ard Cairn, Cork as an oxlip (*i.e.* *P. elatior*). I do not know the history of this and two other Danesfort hose-in-hose primroses that Hartland listed, 'Danesfort Golden Yellow' (a cowslip, see under *P. veris*) and 'Danesfort Sulphur Yellow' (see above). They may not be Irish, and I suspect this was a polyanthus (*i.e.* hybrid), rather than a true oxlip.

**ref:** Hartland, *Ye original booke of daffodils* 1886.

**'Dark Beauty'**

Polyanthus type, flowers hose-in-hose, small, deep mahogany red, on 6 inch stem.

**Origin:** came to Champernowne's Nursery from Northern Ireland in 1954, but it may be an old hose-in-hose polyanthus from another country.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; E. B. Champernowne, *Old-world and modern primroses* (1954), 5.

**'Dark Rosaleen'**

Foliage bronze; polyanthus-type, flowers single, red with yellow eye, and an irregular white to pink stipe down centre of each petal.

**Origin:** raised by Joe Kennedy, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim; one of its parents was 'Kinlough Beauty' (qv).

**ref:** *The garden* **123** (3) (March 1998): 160-161.

**illust:** *The garden* **123** (3) (March 1998): 160.

**'Derryleen'**

Flowers semi-double.

**Origin:** unknown but the name suggests it is Irish; listed by Mrs Gladys Emmerson in 1960.

**ref:** Mrs G. Emmerson *List of primroses*.

**'Dr Lennon's White'**

**syn:** perhaps not published, 'Lennon's White'.

'A very good [*Primula*] pubescens hybrid', flowers white.

**Origin:** Joe Kennedy drew my attention to this plant and reported that Archie Graham, curator of Belfast Botanic Gardens Park, found this primrose growing in a small garden near The Queen's University, Belfast, and gave it to Dr Bill Lennon, Holywood, Co. Down.

On the other hand, Gary Dunlop informed me that 'it was found as a sport or seedling by Gretta Lennon well over 3 decades ago. It is a dwarf plant ...'.

**refs:** J. Kennedy (*in litt.* 22 February 1984, 21 March 1984); G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 25 January 1998).

**'Doctor Molly'**

Flowers single, acaulis type; 'deep red over dark leaves'; petals red 'with a touch of cerise', eye orange, with small white dot at base of the nick at the apex of each petal.

**Origin:** raised by Cecil Monson in 1966 and named by him after Dr Molly Sanderson; he listed it for sale at 5 shillings per plant, in 'Some plants available in small supply' evidently issued in the late 1960s.

**refs:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson] 'Some plants available in small supply' [late 1960s]; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**illust:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 52.

**'Donard Gem'**

Candelabra; bright fiery orange flowers; 1 to 2 feet tall.

**Origin:** raised at Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down; described as a perennial form of *P. cockburniana*.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2; Nelson & Deane, 'Glory of Donard' (1993), 99.

**'Donegal Danny'**

Hose-in-hose; flowers dull pink.

**Origin:** a primrose that once was well known, but it is probably extinct now, and its history has not been discovered. The name suggests it originated in Co. Donegal. Cecil Monson, Annaghloy House, Boyle, Co. Roscommon, sold it in the 1960s.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson] 'Some plants available in small supply' [late 1960s].

**'Dottie Monson'**

before 1954

Flowers single, lemon-yellow; leaves bronze.

**Origin:** I have found only two references to this. I assume that it was raised and introduced by Cecil Monson.

**refs:** Hecker, *Primroses & auriculas* (1971), 153; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1967): 46-47; — (1984): 56-63.

**'Double Cream'**

Flowers double, the colour of Jersey cream, excellent form.

**Origin:** Miss Winifred Wynne recounted that this came from Co. Londonderry; she described 'Double Cream' as 'one of the best doers'.

**refs:** Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**'Double Old Irish Light Blue'**

Flowers double, pale blue.

**Origin:** Miss Eda Hume wrote that this was 'another ... many remember it but have failed after extensive search to trace it; yet in Scotland these is a 'Marine Blue' ... very like it from the description'.

**refs:** Hume, 'The nomenclature of old primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & silva* **7** (1934): 228-229; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**'Double Shirley'**

Auricula, double flowered.

**Origin:** one of Miss Winifred Wynne's introductions; I have not traced a description and this name may be a synonym of 'Shirley Brown', a double-flowered auricula that she obtained from a Mr Shirley.

**refs:** Moreton, *The auricula* (1964), 89; J Sherwood (*in litt.* 2 February 1985).

**'Duke of Edinburgh'**

Auricula. No further description traced.

**Origin:** reputed to be Irish and over a century old. 1966

**refs:** *American Primrose Soc Quart.* **14** (3) (July 1956); G. Nicolle (*in litt.* 4 November 1984).

**'Dunfore'**

Candelabra; flowers magenta-pink.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo, in the 1930s; one of the named selection from 'Connaught Mixed Hybrids', the progeny of 'Asthore' crossed with 'Red Hugh'.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2.

**'Early Irish Yellow'**

No description traced.

**Origin:** I have not been able to discover the history of this plant which was being sold in the 1990s by Mrs Margaret Davidson, Abriachan Garden Nursery, Inverness, who had obtained it from another Scottish gardener - 'I do not have her name now - but it came with some other old cultivars so I suspect it was genuine.' (Mrs M. Davidson (*in litt.* March 1998)).

**ref:** *The RHS plant finder 1995-1996*.

before 1960

**'Easter King'**

No description traced.

**Origin:** said to be an Irish primrose. Noted by A. G. Hearne who lived for many years in Bushmills, Co. Antrim. He was evidently a radio operator involved with air traffic control.

**ref:** A. G. Hearne (*vide*). Sherwood *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. Yb.* [not traced].

'Elizabeth Dickey' = *P. vulgaris* 'Elizabeth Dickey'

**'Empress of India'**

Auricula with large indigo blue flowers.

**Origin:** raised by William Baylor Hartland, Ard Cairn, Cork.  
**ref:** Hartland, *Key to Hartland's floral album*  
Autumn 1890-Spring 1891.

**'Eric Breakey'**

Low compact plant, flowers single, usually acaulis type (occasionally polyanthus type); foliage dark green turning almost entirely purple in summer; each petal deeply notched, rich dark purple (darker than 'Wanda' or 'Purple Splendour', shading to black near centre, with a white or pale purple spot at base of notch; eye yellow; pin-eyed.

**Origin:** a sport of 'Wanda' that arose about 1955 in John Gillespie's garden at Comber, Co. Down. It was originally sold by Gillespie's nursery, but was not distinguished by a different name. In 1985 Clarke Enterprises of Rush, Co. Dublin, propagated the plant and distributed it to garden centres and nurseries under the name 'Eric Breakey'. Eric Breakey is a cousin of Tony and Geraldine Clarke.  
**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* 15 (1985): 5.

**'Erin's Gem'**

Hose-in-hose; central corolla cream with an outer 'saucer striped in green as if dressed up for St Patrick's Day'; 'a creamy yellow, the saucers of the duplex blossom splashed with green'.

**Origin:** possibly of Irish origin, simply because of its name, but this particular mutation, known as "pantaloon", was known to Elizabethan gardeners. Miss Hume grew this primrose, and there is a sketch of it among her primrose illustrations. H. G. Moore<sup>1</sup> described it as 'small yellow, sweet-scented'.

**refs:** E. D. Hume, Primroses (unpublished typescript with sketches); —, 'Old varieties of primrose', *Gard. illust.* 53 (30 May 1931): 344; — 52 (9 March 1935): 134; — 64 (May-June 1947): 1064; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**illustr:** E. D. Hume, Primroses (unpublished typescript with sketches), no 29.

**'Erin's Yellow'**

No description traced.

**Origin:** W. N. Lawfield of Cambridge stated that this was in cultivation in 1935. He also listed 'Danesfort Yellow' which I have hesitantly included as Irish, although Danesfort is a well-known house on the Hill of Howth, but it was listed by Hartland.

**ref:** Lawfield, 'Primroses', *Gard. illust.* 57 (16 March 1935): 149.

Fiery Red' = *P. japonica* 'Fiery Red'

**'Gabrielle'**

Candelabra; flowers pinky-orange.

**Origin:** raised at Lissadell Nursery, Sligo, Co. Sligo; another of the named plants selected from 'Connaught Mixed Hybrid' which arose from 'Asthoré' x 'Red Hugh'.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* 14 (October 1984): supplement part 2.

**'Garryard'**

syn: perhaps 'Guinivere' (see below)

'A mauve-pink polyanthus with yellow eye, red stemmed, and floriferous'<sup>1</sup>; 'olive bronze foliage, crushed strawberry flowers carried in polyanthus form'.

**Origin:** a primrose named 'Garryard' [sic] was shown at the Alpine Garden Society's show on 2 and 3 April 1935, and a black-and-white photograph was published. I believe this is the plant that we now call 'Guinivere'. It was listed for sale by Ballawley Park Nursery, Dundrum, Dublin, in 1937. The name Garryard is widely abused in primrose circles, not to mention frequently misspelled, Garryarde being the most frequent (there is no final e). I have even seen it used,

invalidly, as a pseudospecific epithet (*Primula garryarde* 1986). The name comes from Garryard House situated near Naas in Co. Kildare. Whether this particular primrose came from that house is not certain.

Garryard (or Garryarde) has been prefixed to the name of any primrose with bronze foliage – that is any primrose thought to resemble the original Garryard primrose, c. 1955 namely 'Garryard Appleblossom', in foliage. The whole group is miscellaneous and of diverse origins, although most cultivars are perhaps hybrids between *P. juliae* and the common primrose *P. vulgaris*.

**refs:** *Gard. illust.* 57 (9 March 1935): 134; — (6 April 1935): 198; E. A., 'Coloured primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* 9 (1936): 233-240; Monson, 'Time to call a Garryarde a Garryard', *Primroses* 35 (4) (Fall 1977): 3-5; Nelson, 'The primrose from Garryard, Ireland', *Primroses* 42 (1) (Winter 1984): 12-13; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Ballawley Nursery catalogue* 1937.

**illustr:** *Gard. illust.* 57 (6 April 1935): 198.

**'Garryard Appleblossom'**

Single, polyanthus-type; flowers looking like a bunch of blossom, pink and white; stems red, to 10 cm tall; foliage deep bronze.

**Origin:** There is as much confusion about the primrose named 'Apple Blossom', as about one (or many) named 'Garryard'. Cecil Monson used 'Garryard Appleblossom' as the name for the original of the Garryard family of primroses. He described it as follows:

It had splendid bronze leaves exactly like those of a wild primrose in shape and texture. The plant also behaved in all respects like a wild thing – it grew and increased and multiplied. Over these lovely leaves was carried a huge head of splendid pink and white blossoms exactly like a cluster of appleblossom. This was carried on a strong, sturdy, red, almost hairy stem about five inches long. ... I can almost certainly say that that was the one and only true Garryard.

This primrose was 'somehow ... produced' at Garryard, 1935 Johnstown, Naas, Co. Kildare by J. Whiteside-Dane about 1910, according to Cecil Monson. James Whiteside Dane's address is not given as Garryard until 1912, and by 1922 he was living in Co. Monaghan, so the date of 'Appleblossom' has to be between those years. A plant listed as "Dane's primrose" was distributed from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, to Sir C. Barrington at Glenstal, Co. Limerick in March 1920, and it is interesting to note that ten months before, in May 1919, James Whiteside Dane was given four different plants from Glasnevin – it is not too fanciful to suggest that he received these in exchange for his primroses, although the Glasnevin records do not mention a donation from him.

Miss Eda Hume, another Irish primrose enthusiast, described a cultivar named 'Apple Blossom' that was an acaulis-type primrose (see above).

**refs:** Monson, 'Time to call a Garryarde a Garryard', *Primroses* 35 (4) (Fall 1977): 3-5; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Primroses* 42 (Winter 1984): 12-13; *Ballawley Nursery catalogue* 1937.

**'G. E. Emmerson'**

Jackanapes; corolla bright purple with white stripe.

**Origin:** Cecil Monson was selling this in the 1960s; he may have raised it himself, or it may have been raised by Mrs Gladys E. Emmerson, The Leeke, Limavady, Co. Londonderry, after whom it is named.

**ref:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], 'Some plants available in small supply' [c. 1960].

**Glasnevin Hybrids**

Candelabra; no further description traced.

**Origin:** Lissadell Nursery listed "Glasnevin Hybrids" without giving any descriptions, in the catalogues that I have examined. Presumably the original plants came from the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.

**refs:** *Lissadell Nursery catalogue*; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 4.

**'Glasnevin Orange'**

Polyanthus; no further description traced.

**Origin:** marketed as "Polyanthus Glasnevin Orange" by Lissadell Nursery, Sligo, without giving a description; again, presumably the original plants came from the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.

Lissadell Nursery also sold "Polyanthus Glasnevin Coloured", a name which could mean anything; no description of this has been discovered.

**refs:** *Price list of fresh Lissadell seed* (1937-1938); *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 4.

**'Glenshesk'**

Flowers double, acaulis type; petals sapphire-blue with white flecks and margins.

**Origin:** Joe Kennedy, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim, raised, named and introduced this double primrose. 'Glenshesk' was the progeny of a single-flowered Barnhaven seedling.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **3** (February 1982): 6; — **4** (May 1982): 3; — **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Home gardening* **1** (9) (January 1987): 41.

**illustr:** *Home gardening* **1** (9) (January 1987): 41.

**'Glaslanna'**

syn: 'Glos Lanna', 'Glaslenna' 'Glasanna' (misspellings), 'Green Child' (translation)

Auricula; 'small, neat robust, very floriferous and very double, a mixture of yellow-green, brown and lilac\*'; 'a very full ... double of indescribable colour compounded of deep brown and purple, besides green'.

**Origin:** an old double green auricula was the parent of 'Glos Lanna' which means "green child". This was raised by Miss Winifred Wynne, Avoca, Co. Wicklow.

The old double green auricula, the parent plant, was shown at the Auricula Show in April 1984, and a photograph was subsequently published in the *National Auricula and Primula Society (Southern section) Yb* (1984).

Dr Cecil Jones, from whom Geoffrey Nicolle acquired the show plant, kindly provided its history:

The "old double green" auricula featured in the ... Yearbook was acquired by me of Miss Wynne under that name about 1960. ... At the same time she sent me a plant of 'Gloslanna' ... This had a darker flower - more like a blackbird's egg.<sup>1</sup>

**refs:** Wynne, 'Old Irish double auriculas', *Quart. American Primrose Soc.* **15** (1) (Winter 1957): 6\*; C. Jones (*in litt.* 2 November 1985<sup>1</sup>); *Yb. RHSI* (1965), 25; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (1984): supplement part 1; — **25** (1987): 5; Sherwood, 'Old Double Green Auricula', *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 20; — (1984): 56-63; Smith (1964); Baker & Ward, *Auriculas* (1995), 58.

**illustr:** *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 20.

**'Guinivere'**

**syn:** frequently this plant is named 'Garryard Guinivere' (or even 'Garryarde Guinivere', both of which are incorrect (see e.g. *The garden* **123** (3) (March 1998): 161); note my comments under 'Garryard' above!

Flowers single, polyanthus type; foliage bronze or purple; petals pink-mauve with yellow eye. unknown

**Origin:** according to Cecil Monson, this excellent plant was one of the primrose cultivars produced by Mrs Johnson, Kinlough, Co. Leitrim; and Monson is the only source that records this history. 'Guinivere' was shown in Dublin during 1935 by Mrs Page-Croft.

'Guinivere' may be identical with the primrose noted under the name 'Garryard' (above), but it is not correct to preface the cultivar name 'Guinivere' with "Garryard".

**award:** AGM (RHS). c. 1930s

**refs:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], 'Juliae primroses', *Primroses* **25** (4) (Winter 1967): 90-91, 95; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; — **25** (July 1985): 5; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *The garden* **123** (3) (March 1998): 161.

**illusts:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 27; Hyatt, *Primroses & auriculas* (1989), 28.

**'Irish Blue'**

A name occasionally used in articles about old primroses, but nothing can be traced about the plant - see also 'Old Irish Blue'. 1978

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**'Irish Double Blue'**

Flowers double, blue.

**Origin:** this was a progenitor of the Bon Accord primroses, with 'Arthur du Moulin', according to Miss Eda Hume.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**'Irish Galligaskin'**

Flowers single, acaulis type; calyx enlarged like a ball before and ridged but not protruding beyond the petals. before 1957

**Origin:** Galligaskin primroses have been reported for many centuries. This name was used, without any history, by Merivale Nursery, Chelmsford, Essex, in 1939.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**'Irish Gem'**

No description traced.

**Origin:** a listed name, but an obscure one; my only source is *Primroses* (Winter 1980), where it is implied that this is a hybrid between *P. vulgaris* and *P. juliae*.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**'Irish Green'**

syn 'Old Irish Green'

Flower single, acaulis type; petals absent or green.

**Origin:** this name may have been coined for a green primrose, simply because everything green is Irish! 'Old Irish Green' is also used in at least one article.

Green primroses, either with an inflated calyx and no corolla, or with green, leaf-like petals, have been recorded frequently. Miss Hume reported that one was collected near her home in Rathfarnham, Co. Dublin. In the early part of this century, three different green-flowered primroses were grown in Ireland and these were listed by Miss Eda Hume.

single flowered, petals very pointed  
single flowers, petals rounded ('ordinary')  
single flowers with welted calyx

before 1935

Several green-flowered primroses are cultivated still, but none is specially named 'Irish Green', as far as I can discover.

One must never give away a green Primrose; that would make "The Shee" (Irish for fairies) angry and they would take the rest. Still Fairies must be commercially minded, for they do not object to one selling them. (E. D. Hume, 'Four green primroses', *Gard. illust.* **64** (May-June 1947): 1064)

**refs:** *Gard. illust.* **57** (9 March 1935): 134; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

Irish Mollie' = 'Irish Molly'

#### 'Irish Molly'

Flowers double, acaulis type; cherry red.

**Origin:** 'Irish Molly' was recorded by Miss Winifred Wynne – 'the colour is quite unique, being almost cherry-red – but is probably now This primrose was a double-flowered red, similar in shade to "Tiny Tim", not a hose-in-hose – this latter 'Molly' is 'Lady Molly'.

**refs:** Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Irish Paddy'

Flowers 'a good red'.

**Origin:** Miss Winifred Wynne noted this and said it was introduced in 1897. I suspect that she used this name for the primrose variously called 'Crimson Paddy', 'Paddy' and 'Red Paddy'.

**refs:** Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1.

Irish Polly' = 'Kinlough Beauty'

#### 'Irish Sparkler'

Flowers small, hose-in-hose, cherry-red overlain with purple; polyanthus type.

**Origin:** reported as resembling a Scottish cultivar named 'Old Vivid', but they were distinct. I cannot trace any history. Miss Hume sketched this primrose but she called it 'Sparkler', 'the very old dwarf ... scarlet-crimson, a lovely and complete little thing'.

**refs:** Hume, 'Old varieties of primrose', *Gard. illust.* **53** (30 May 1931): 344; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

'Irish Sulphur' = 'Old Irish Sulphur'

#### 'Jean Monson'

No description traced.

**Origin:** presumably this was one of Cecil Monson's primroses; but I wonder if the name is a mistake for 'Lady Jean Kingston' (Mrs Cecil Monson).

**ref:** Vandervelde, 'Top twenty juliaes and Garryardes', *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1967): 46.

#### 'Jubilee'

Flowers 'rich claret crimson, ... in great profusion'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. **6**) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 134.

#### 'Julius Caesar'

'One of the first to bloom and one of the best ... large red-leaved, claret coloured' flowers; single, flowers deep claret, bronzy-green foliage.

**Origin:** raised by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow. This very fine cultivar was said to have been a seedling of 'Miss Massey'. In 1967 Cecil Monson reported that although 'Julius Caesar' was 'a strong grower with me it seems to be very rare', and now it is probably extinct.

**refs:** *Primroses* **25** (4) (Winter 1967): 90; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Champernowne catalogue*.

#### 'Jupol'

No description traced.

**Origin:** a hybrid (*P. juliae* x "polyanthus") from Lissadell, Sligo, hence its name. unknown

**ref:** *Price list of fresh Lissadell seed* (1937-1938).

#### 'Killarkin Blue'

No description traced.

**Origin:** known only from the award of a cultural certificate to Mrs Lindsay Fitzpatrick on 13 April 1933 by the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland.

**award:** Cultural Certificate (RHSI) 13 April 1933

**ref:** RHSI archives.

#### 'Kinlough Beauty'

syn: 'Kinlock Beauty', 'Irish Polly' c. 1897

Single, polyanthus-type; a neat plant with rose pink<sup>1</sup> (or warm salmony pink<sup>2</sup>) flowers with a creamy-white stripe (candy stripe) down the middle of each petal; very free flowering.

**Origin:** 'I do know', wrote Cecil Monson (*alias* C. S. Marsh), 'that when the late Mrs Johnson came back to her home at Kinlough in Co Leitrim she found several seedlings had appeared from her [*Primula juliae*]. Amongst them was the lovely pink polyanthus type 'Kinlough Beauty', while another was the creamy yellow 'Lady Greer'. 'Kinlough Beauty' was a chance seedling, 'neat and small and covered with blooms'.<sup>2</sup> before 1930

Miss Eda Hume also recorded that the primrose was 'raised by a great old lady who lived at Kinlough', Co. Leitrim. In a letter to J. S. Harrison dated 3 August 1976, Mrs Gladys Emmerson of Limavady, Co. Londonderry, stated that 'Kinlough Beauty' was 'raised by Colonel Johnson of Kinlough, Co. Donegal. [*sic*] I never met him but his cousin was an intimate friend of mine.'

**refs:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], '*Juliae* primroses', *Primroses* **25** (4) (Winter 1967): 90<sup>1</sup>; — **26** (1) (Winter 1968): 21; — **41**(3) (1983): 28; *Gard. illust.* **57** (9 March 1935): 134; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; J. S. Harrison (*in litt.* 2 November 1985).

**illusts:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 42; Hyatt, *Primroses & auriculas* (1989), 28. ? 1960s

#### 'Knocklayde'

syn: 'Knocklayd'

Flowers single, pin-eyed, acaulis type; petals wine-purple; foliage olive-green, crinkled, the plant has a creeping habit.

**Origin:** from Ballycastle, Co. Antrim; raised, named and introduced by Joe Kennedy. 'Knocklayde' is a hybrid of *Primula juliae* x *vulgaris*. The name is that of a local 1891 mountain.

**refs:** J. Kennedy (*in litt.* 29 March 1998); *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Lady Bountiful'

Flowers 'creamy white, orange centre, very dwarf'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. **6**) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

ref: Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 135.

#### 'Lady Clanwilliam'

syn: *P. pulverulenta* 'Lady Clanwilliam'  
Candelabra; flowers bright clear pink.

**Origin:** a chance seedling selected and named by Harry D. M. Barton, The Bush, Antrim, before 1920. It was reported to have been a cultivar of *P. pulverulenta*, but may have been a hybrid between that species and *P. cockburniana*.

refs: Moore, 'The Bush, Antrim', *Ir. gardening* **15** (1920): 97-99; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 2.

#### 'Lady Dufferin'

syn: *P. pulverulenta* 'Lady Dufferin'  
Candelabra; flowers rich wine with dark brown eye.

**Origin:** raised and named by Harry D. M. Barton, and had the same origin as 'Lady Clanwilliam'.

refs: Moore, 'The Bush, Antrim', *Ir. gardening* **15** (1920): 97-99; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 2.

#### 'Lady Greer'

Polyanthus-type, flowers single, fragrant; 'almost a miniature with long stems. The foliage is bottle green and the tiny flowers are creamy-yellow in colour'.<sup>2</sup>

**Origin:** this superb primrose is still in cultivation. It was another one raised in Co. Leitrim, at Kinlough, by Mrs Johnson. The name was a tribute to Lady Greer who was a prominent member of the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland, and one of the earliest women members of its council; she lived at Curragh Grange, Co. Kildare. Cecil Monson reported that this primrose had been 'excellent as a seed parent in experimental breeding'.

award: AGM (RHS).

refs: C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], '*Juliae* primroses', *Primroses* **25** (4) (Winter 1967): 90<sup>1</sup>; — **26** (1) (Winter 1968): 21; — **41**(3) (1983): 28; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984), 56-63.

illusts: Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 43; Hyatt, *Primroses & auriculas* (1989), 28.

#### 'Lady Jean Kingston'

Flowers single, deep blue, eye yellow with red rim; very hardy and blooms for a long time.

**Origin:** raised by Cecil Monson using 'Bunty' as one parent. He described the plant's origins thus.

'Bunty' was the most famous of the pure deep blue, but sad to say it had a very weak constitution and has almost faded away. Before it left me I was able to cross it with an ordinary blue Primrose, and got a very good, clean deep blue hybrid ... It blooms early and for a long time and is very hardy. Unfortunately, it does not increase as quickly as I would like. I call it 'Lady Jean Kingston'.<sup>1</sup>

Lady Jean Kingston (widow of Lord Kingston) was Cecil Monson's wife. She died about 1984 (see *Primroses* **42** (1) (Winter 1984): 35). The couple married late in life and had no children.\*

refs: C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], '*Juliae* primroses', *Primroses* **25** (4) (Winter 1967): 91<sup>1</sup>; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; \*P. Reilly (*in litt.* 12 August 1996).

#### 'Lady Lettice'

Hose-in-hose, polyanthus type; flowers cream tinted pink, above a neat rosette of green smallest leaves.

**Origin:** found, and rescued, by Capt. Carmichael Ferrall RN, from a field at Augher Castle, Augher, Co. Tyrone, sometime after 1864 (the year that Ferrall moved to Augher; see *Gard. illust* 6 April 1935). The field situated behind the castle

garden had at one time been an overflow garden. He named it after his wife's niece.

Miss Hume grew this primrose, 'an apricot yellow before the lip with pink', in the 1930s, and sketched it. 'Lady Lettice' was remarkable because it remained in bloom for most of the year.

refs: Hume, 'Old varieties of primrose', *Gard. illust.* **53** (30 May 1931): 344; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

illusts: *Gard. illust.* **63** (July 1946): 852; E. D. Hume, Primroses (unpublished typescript with sketches), no. 2.

before 1920

#### 'Lady Molly'

syn: 'Irish Molly' (erroneously 'Irish Mollie', or 'Lady Mollie'). Hose-in-hose, dwarf polyanthus type; petals magenta pink, sometimes with a paler, pink edge.

**Origin:** given the synonymy, this may have originated in Ireland, but no history has been traced.

refs: *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63

illust: E. D. Hume, Primroses (unpublished typescript with sketches), no. 14.

#### 'Lady Moore'

syn: 'W. P. Moore'.

Candelabra; no further description traced

**Origin:** another of H. D. M. Barton's chance hybrid seedlings, from *P. cockburniana* x *pulverulenta*. It was named after Phylis, Lady Moore, wife of Sir Frederick Moore, of Glasnevin, after whom another candelabra primrose was named.

refs: *Gard. illust.* **52** (7 June 1930): 373; — **57** (24 August 1935): 514; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2; *Ir. garden* **6** (8) (October 1997): 36-38

#### 'Large Cream of Dundalk'

'It had enormous flower heads, size of a penny piece'.

**Origin:** Mrs G. E. Emmerson asked whether this 'wonderful' plant was still being cultivated in 1960s. Miss Winifred Wynne had found it in Dundalk 'long ago'.

ref: *Nat. Auricula & primula Soc. (Southern) Yb.* 1967. c. 1960

#### 'Lissadell'

Polyanthus type; no further description traced.

**Origin:** listed in the catalogue of Lissadell Nursery, Sligo, Co. Sligo, but nothing else is known about it.

refs: *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Lissadell Beauty'

Candelabra; flowers 'salmon orange', the plant was a 'true perennial'.

**Origin:** a perennial candelabra primrose sold by the Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down, as recently as 1969, and presumably the plant came from Lissadell House, Sligo, Co. Sligo, but I cannot trace it in Lissadell Nursery catalogues.

refs: *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 2; Nelson & Deane, '*Glory of Donard*' (1993), 100.

#### 'Lissadell Hybrid'

Candelabra; 'seems to be perfectly perennial, is quite hardy, very vigorous and floriferous; the flowers are of a beautiful soft orange red colour; ... 2ft; 'soft vermillion'<sup>1</sup>; 'a curious mahogany colour lit with salmon and extraordinarily beautiful in c. 1864 sunlight'<sup>1</sup>.

**Origin:** a hybrid between *P. pulverulenta* and *P. cockburniana*, similar in habit to *P. pulverulenta* but not so tall, raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo. The 1911 catalogue included the comment that 'we believe this to be identical' to 'Unique Improved'; 'the colour of the flower is very

pleasing and quite unique among primroses.' It is, however, not entirely clear if the Lissadell nursery was selling a clone or a set of seedlings; from the 1922 reference it evidently was regarded as a single clone, not a miscellany.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1911, 6, 25; *The garden* **86** (25 November 1922): 587-589<sup>1</sup>; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 2.

**illust:** *Lissadell price list* 1912.

#### Lissadell Hybrids

syn: 'Lissadale Hybrids' (*Nat. Primula & Auricula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* 1965: 15).

A collective name used in some accounts for Lissadell's swarm of seedlings from *P. pulverulenta* crossed with *P. cockburniana*. The named cultivars included 'Ailin Aroon', 'Red Hugh' and 'Unique'. The name is occasionally seen in catalogues even today.

In the Autumn 1930 the nursery announced that 'the original named forms of **Primula Lissadell Hybrids** and **P. pulverulenta** have been reselected'.

**refs:** *Gard. illust.* **52** (7 June 1930): 373; — **57** (24 August 1935): 514; *Lissadell catalogue* Autumn 1930, 5.

#### 'Lissadell Pink'

Candelabra; flowers pale blush with striking crimson eye (quite distinct from 'Mrs R. V. Berkeley'); 'An old friend'.

**Origin:** a handsome plant that was offered as seed in 1941, and which has been grown in gardens in counties Meath and Dublin for the past twenty years, and more.

**refs:** Reynolds, 'Butterstream', *Moorea* **12** (1996): 4; *Lissadell price list* 1931-1932, 24; — Autumn 1941-Spring 1942.

#### 'Lissadell Rubens'

Flowers 'rich vinous mauve'; candelabra primrose.

**Origin:** from Lissadell, Co. Sligo; 'worked up from one plant' according to the 1914 catalogue.

**ref:** *Lissadell price list* 1914, 7.

#### 'Maeve'

Candelabra; flowers raspberry-pink with saffron eye.

**Origin:** selected from a batch of seedlings of 'Lissadell Hybrid', raised at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo. This was a sibling of 'Brian Boru' and 'Ailin Aroon'.

Reselected in 1930 - 'Maeve' is being offered again this year, and so far it has come absolutely true from seed.'

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 6, 42; — Autumn 1930, 5; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2.

#### 'Marina'

No description traced.

**Origin:** the only report of this primrose is the record of an Award of Merit to Lady Brook, Celbridge, Co. Kildare, during March 1935.

**award:** AM (RHSI) March 1935.

**ref:** RHSI archives.

#### 'Maureen'

Hose-in-hose; flowers creamy white, 'just like milk just into the dairy', or 'butter yellow'.

**Origin:** could this be Irish? The cultivar name suggests that it is. Miss Eda Hume sketched this in the 1930s, but I can trace no record of its history. She described it as 'coming first on a short stem, and then falling over in shower of single stems, each vase-like blossom growing out of another'<sup>1</sup>.

**refs:** E. D. Hume, 'The rare primroses and polyanthus', *Gard. illust.* **50** (12 May 1928): 287; —, 'Old varieties of primrose', *Gard. illust.* **53** (30 May 1931): 344<sup>1</sup>; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**illust:** E. D. Hume, Primroses (unpublished typescript with sketches), no. 16.

#### 'Molly Malone'

Candelabra; stems dark; flowers very rich deep crimson with an almost black eye; 'A very rich deep crimson flower, almost black in centre; no farina; the most striking yet raised.'

**Origin:** 'Molly Malone' was a chance seedling in a bed of 'Red Hugh' at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; introduced by Lissadell Nursery about 1930.

'The one outstanding event of the year [1931] was the flowering for the second time of *Primula* 'Molly Malone'. It has seeded also two years, and the coming season ought to show what some of the seedlings are like. To get an idea of the flower imagine the real, true, flaming Lissadell Hybrid 'Red Hugh', crossed by *japonica* 'Fiery Red'. In the result you have a larger deeper coloured 'Fiery Red', on a dark coloured stem devoid of farina, but more graceful than *japonica*, and promising to throw as many flower stems as 'Red Hugh'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2; *Lissadell price list* 1931-1932, 4, 24.

c. 1940

#### 'Mont Blanc'

Flowers 'snow white'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 135.

c. 1914

#### 'Mount Stewart'

Candelabra; flowers red, like 'Red Hugh'; no other description traced.

**Origin:** I only know about this cultivar from information included in a manuscript catalogue of Lady Moore's garden, Willbrook House, Rathfarnham. 'Mount Stewart' was given to her by Brian Mulligan (see *P. x chunglenta*) in the 1930s. Presumably Mulligan obtained it from Lady Londonderry.

**refs:** Lady Moore ms (by courtesy of the late David Shackleton); *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2.

#### 'Moyné Rose'

No description traced.

**Origin:** I have only one record for this: in Lady Moore's garden notebook she recorded receiving a primrose called 'Moyné Rose' from Mrs Willis, Moyné Rectory, Ballinacorney Co. Wicklow.

**refs:** Lady Moore ms (by courtesy of the late David Shackleton); *Ir. garden* **6** (8) (October 1997): 36-38.

#### 'Mrs Dargan'

Double flowered auricula; 'striped red and white ... when properly grown, the blossom is double and the leaves so powdered as to give a silvery white effect, but regretfully in 1930 often blossoms single or with only one or two double flowers in the truss.'

**Origin:** Miss Winifred Wynne mentioned this auricula as 'very rare old striped red and white ... thought to be the last survivor of a one greatly admired section of the striped auriculas'. D. A. Duthie noted that 'Mrs Dargan' was 'a very old plant as some 20 years ago [i.e. c. 1955] Miss Wynne of Avoca, then about 90 years old, said it had been given her when she was a small child by an old lady whose mother had grown it for many years.'

It may be a coincidence, but Cecil Monson's aunt's name was Mrs Dargan, and she was not only a great primrose enthusiast but also a contemporary of Winifred Wynne (see *Primroses* 35 (4) (Fall 1977), 5).

**refs:** Wynne, 'Old Irish double auriculas', *Am. Primrose Soc.*

*Quart* 15 (1) (Winter 1957): 6; —, 'Double auriculas', *RHSI Yb* 1965: 25; Jones, 'Striped auriculas', *Nat. Primrose & Auricula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* 1964: 23-24; Baker & Ward, *Auriculas* (1995), 58.

#### 'Mrs K. S. Monson'

Flowers yellow; no further description traced.

**Origin:** listed by Cecil Monson, Annaghloy House, Boyle, Co. Roscommon, along with 'Elizabeth Dickey' (qv), as distinct and he sold it at 25 shillings per plant in the 1960s. It was most probably raised by him.

**ref:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], 'Some plants available in small supply' [c. 1960].

#### 'Negro'

Flowers 'nearly black, distinct and fine'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 135.

#### 'Nora McConnell'

No description traced.

**Origin:** raised and named by Cecil Monson, Boyle, Co. Roscommon. Mrs McConnell, a well known gardener, was responsible for introducing *Rosmarinus officinalis* 'McConnell's Blue'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Old China Blue' = 'The Quaker'

#### 'Old Dublin Single'

Flowers crimson.

**Origin:** a form of *P. x juliana* prevalent about Dublin with crimson flowers; John Martin received this from Joe Kennedy.

**ref:** J. W. Martin (*in litt.* 4 March 1984).

#### Old Irish ...

This tribe of primroses is a motley miscellany, usually of quite unknown origins, which have been dubbed 'Old Irish ... whatever' for no good reason at all, except perhaps the old and very persistent myth that antique primroses survive in neglected Irish gardens. Some of the names prefixed by 'Old Irish' are used with wild, reckless abandon in books and even on the labels attached to plants on the show benches of reputable societies. Some of the 'Old Irish' primroses are noted below.

#### 'Old Irish Blue'

At least three distinct bear this name; and none has any recorded history. They are as follows –

#### 'Old Irish Blue' (Auricula)

Flowers full, deep blue; foliage pale, mealy green; hardy.

**Origin:** not known, but assumed to be of Irish origin. Seed is sometimes offered under the name "*Primula auricula* Genuine Old Irish Blue" – it is most unlikely that seedlings raised from this seed will be true to the original.

**refs:** *An Irish florilegium* (1983), 110-111; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

**illustr:** *An Irish florilegium* (1983), plate 20.

#### 'Old Irish Blue' (Polyanthus)

Flowers pale blue with white rim to petals; polyanthus type.

**Origin:** this may be 'The Quaker'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Old Irish Blue' (Polyanthus)

Flowers blue; petals without white rim; polyanthus type.

**Origin:** not known.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Old Irish China Blue' = 'The Quaker'

'Most difficult of all to find is the Old Irish China Blue polyanthus which had been known to collectors for several centuries.'

**Origin:** This name is used by Annette Barlee in an article which is illustrated with a photograph of a single polyanthus type primrose with white-rimmed petals; 'now little more than a memory' was the caption on the 1891 photograph!

**ref:** *Gard. illust.* 63 (July 1946): 853.

**illustr:** *Gard. illust.* 63 (July 1946): 852.

#### 'Old Irish Green' = 'Irish Green'

#### 'Old Irish Jack'

Jack-in-the-green.

**Origin:** Mr John Martin had this from Joe Kennedy. c. 1960

**ref:** J. W. Martin (*in litt.* 4 March 1984).

#### 'Old Irish Light Blue'

Flowers double.

**Origin:** this name is used by Miss Eda Hume and Sacheverell Sitwell (1939), and probably refers to 'The Quaker', although an alternative suggestion made by the Revd W. Murdoch was that the primrose was 'Marine Blue'.

**refs:** Hume, 'The nomenclature of old primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* 7 (1934): 228-229; Murdoch, 'Older types of primrose', *Gard. illust.* 57 (2 March 1935): 116; Sitwell, *Old fashioned flowers* (1939), 59; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Old Irish Mauve'

Flowers single, polyanthus type; mauve with silver margins.

**Origin:** the description matches that for 'The Quakeress', but there two primroses may have been distinct. This is also sometime referred to as 'Old Irish Mauve and Silver', for example by Sacheverell Sitwell (1939).

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Old Irish Mauve and Silver' = 'Old Irish Mauve'

**refs:** Sitwell, *Old fashioned flowers* (1939), 59; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Old Irish Red'

Flowers double, deep red.

**Origin:** Miss Winifred Wynne recorded this plant, and said that it came from Co. Tyrone, while Sacheverell Sitwell (1939) stated only that the best form of 'Old Irish Red' came from Co. Tyrone – in other words there was more than one primrose dubbed 'Old Irish Red'.

**refs:** Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 63; Sitwell, *Old fashioned flowers* (1939), 52; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984), 56-63.

#### 'Old Irish Rose'

Flowers single, acaulis type; bright rose.

**Origin:** listed by H. G. Moore, but without any history.

**refs:** *Gard. illust.* 57 (9 March 1935): 134; *IGPS newsl.* 12 (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.



the current stock of silver-margined 'Paddy' can be traced back to Mrs Gladys Emmerson of Limavady. I prefer to call this white and red primrose 'Red Paddy'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), 82; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 135-136.

#### 'Padrig'

Flowers 'amaranth red shading light red'; candelabra primrose.

**Origin:** from Lissadell, Co. Sligo.

**ref:** *Lissadell price list* 1914, 7.

#### 'Patricia Mary Rose'

'A delicate Shrimp Pink with a pale yellow eye. ... Not as large nor as striking as 'Penelope Anne', but a most charming and much admired colour; very free blooming.'

**Origin:** 'Another hybrid from the popular [*P.*] *bulleyana* group that has produced so many good things. Raised at Ballinamore House, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo. In the Ballinamore catalogue it was pointed out that neither 'Penelope Anne' nor 'Patricia Mary Rose' came true from seed; 'they can only be propagated by division.'

**ref:** *The Gardens, Ballinamore House ... Trade price list*, [8].

#### 'Penelope Ann'

Candelabra; flowers 'soft rosy red with a deep golden eye. ... of strong vigorous habit... The foliage stands up well and the flowers rise in whorls on stalks running up to 30 inches and over. In many cases, 10 or 11 whorls of flowers have been counted on a single stem.'

**Origin:** raised at Ballinamore House, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo; a hybrid of *P. burmanicum*. William McHugh was the head gardener and may have been responsible for showing this primrose at Chelsea Show in 1936, after which it was noticed in *Gardening illustrated*. The hybrid was listed in a catalogue issued by McHugh about 1937, and later also by Merivale Nursery, Chelmsford, Essex, about 1939.

A group of these primulas makes a wonderful mass of colour; it does well in ordinary garden soil, and also makes a handsome pot plant for house or conservatory.

**refs:** *The Gardens, Ballinamore House ... Trade price list*, [8]; *Gard. illust.* **57** (9 March 1935): 134; — **58** (23 May 1936): 311; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2: 3.

#### 'Pink'

Candelabra; flowers pale blush with crimson eye.

**Origin:** in the 1931 Lissadell Nursery catalogue, this cultivar was described as 'an old friend'. It probably had the same parentage as 'Ailin Aroon', and may possibly survive as 'Lissadell Pink' (qv) which is a sterile perennial.

**ref:** *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2.

#### 'Pompadour Hose-in-hose'

Hose-in-hose, petals the same colour of 'Pompadour' (crimson).

**Origin:** a chance find at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co.

Down; named and introduced by G. N. Smith, who recorded its discovery.

Another find [the first being 'Our Pat'] was a true Hose-in-Hose Primrose of Pompadour colour and called 'Pompadour Hose-in-Hose'. This was found growing at the base of a hedge of *Berberis jamiesonii*, away from any other Primroses. It was propagated and a few plants were distributed, but alas! an accident caused the loss of the stock.

**refs:** *Gard. illust.* **57** (1935): Ap 6<sup>1</sup>; Nelson, *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 136.

#### 'Pride of Erin'

Flowers double, petals snow-white, whiter than 'Alba Plena', but when in bud they have a beautiful faint pink-blush.

**Origin:** from Ireland; introduced by W. G. Holt, according to whom this was bred by a titled Irish lady but never named by her.

'Pride of Erin' ... all letters answered take it back to ~~Erin~~

**refs:** W. G. Holt (*in litt.* 8 March 1984, 18 December 1984); Holt, 'Double primroses', *Primroses* **41** (4) (Fall 1983): 17-18; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63

#### 'Prince Silverwings'

syn: 'Prince Silver Wings'.

Flowers variably double (sometimes quite single), polyanthus type; petals lilac with silver edging; 'a blue-purple ... always silver-laced'; 'a silver laced Polyanthus of great merit, of which a proportion of the blooms is single, other duplex, others again quite double.'

**Origin:** a very famous primrose from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. I believed that this primrose was extinct but Barbara Shaw claims that it is extant.

c. 1935

This is a very rare primrose; I searched for it for many years before finding it at East Lambrook Manor. After having seen some so-called 'Prince Silverwings' - which clearly were not - it was a pleasure to find the true plant. Not only does it fit all descriptions, in colour and in having the orange spot at the base of the petal, but its provenance clinched the matter. It had come from Ledbury, the garden of the late Percy Picton who certainly had it there.

'Prince Silverwings' was a remarkable plant; not being consistently a double, flowers sometimes contained anthers that yielded pollen, so pollen could be obtained for breeding.

**refs:** *The garden* **54** (10 September 1898): 202-203; Hume, 'The rare primroses and polyanthus', *Gard. illust.* **50** (12 May 1928): 287; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), 81; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 136.

**illust:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 34.

c. 1930

#### 'Purple Paddy'

syn: 'Burgundy Paddy'

Flowers the 'deepest shade' of purple; 'there is the faintest touch of carmine in its handsome flowers which are very slightly and irregularly marked with white'.

**Origin:** this is mentioned only by E. A. (Miss Ethel Adams) and is probably the same plant as 'Paddy'. Miss Eda Hume commented that 'some say that 'Purple Paddy' is the ~~Dark~~ Blue of [Thomas] Cocker [the great Aberdeen raiser of doubles]. If so it must have sojourned for a long time in the Emerald Isle to change its name so completely.'

**refs:** Hume, 'The nomenclature of old primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* **7** (1934): 228-229; E. A., 'Coloured primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* **9** (1936): 233-240

#### 'Queen Alexandra'

Auricula with clear primrose yellow flowers, beautifully waved petals, strong fragrance.

**Origin:** reputed to be from Northern Ireland, and a 'new introduction' for 1954, according to E. B. Champernowne.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; E. B. Champernowne, *Old-world and modern primroses*

(1954), 5.

### 'Red Hugh'

syn: *P. japonica* 'Red Hugh' (misprinted 'Red Hug', *Index hortensis*).

Candelabra; flowers 'intense fiery red', 'intense fiery-orange flowers'.

**Origin:** from Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo; a seedling resulting from either self-pollination of 'Lissadell Hybrid' or crossing it with *P. pulverulenta*. Of 'Ailin Aroon' and 'Red Hugh' the original catalogue entry stated that 'quite a large percentage seems to come true from seed'. Mulligan (1930) commented that 'Red Hugh' and 'Unique' are sorely lacking in stamina, in many gardens succumbing to a winter which their stouter brethren face unflinchingly.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 6, 43; — 1931-1932, 24; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 3; *Gard. chron.* **88** (ser. 3) (5 July 1930): 12; *The garden* **88** (1924): 454; Fenderson, *A synoptic guide to the genus Primula* (1986), 33.

### 'Red Indian'

Flowers single, polyanthus type; petals very frilled, 'a gay mixture of red and yellow'; 'a frilled red and yellow with a double row of petals'.

**Origin:** perhaps from Ireland; at least that, according to Sacheverell Sitwell (1939), was the source of a plant received 'under another name, [that] more resembles the description of this than its own supposed identity'.

**refs:** E. D. Hume, 'The double green primroses', *Gard. illust.* **57** (16 March 1935): 149<sup>2</sup>; Sitwell, *Old fashioned flowers* (1939), 59; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

### 'Red Paddy'

syn: 'Paddy'

Flowers double, small, red with a yellow eye at first but this is obscured as flowers become fuller; 'The real 'Red Paddy' is a polyanthus type, with a thin wire edge of white'<sup>1</sup>; 'very free flowering, flowers smaller than usual, double, salmon-red colour with conspicuous yellow eye'<sup>2</sup>; 'with distinct lacing on the edge, rather brick red'<sup>3</sup>; 'a hearty little plant of bright red colour with petals evenly edged with cream'<sup>4</sup>.

**Origin:** reputed to be an Irish primrose, but one of the most confused names, and thus confused primroses.

The critical character is the white (or silver) margins of the petals. The Revd W. Murdoch of Cluny, a primrose enthusiast, declared that 'I have no doubt about the white edge on 'Red Paddy', and I am content to follow as plantsman of the calibre of Mr Smith, of Newry. If I sin, I sin in good company.'<sup>1</sup> Taylor and Genders added that 'Red Paddy' has a flatter flower than other doubles, and was sweetly scented.

Miss Wynne stated it was raised in 1935, while earlier dates are implied elsewhere.

**refs:** *Gard. illust.* **57** (2 March 1935): 116<sup>1</sup>; *Bull. Roy. Hort. & Arbor. Soc. Ireland* **1**(4) (1936): 67<sup>3</sup>; E. A., 'Coloured primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* **9** (1936): 233-240<sup>4</sup>; Wynne, 'Double primroses', *Yb Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* 1965: 65; Champernowne (1952), 1<sup>2</sup>; *Primroses* **41**(4) (1983): 17.

**illust:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 40 (as silver-margined 'Paddy').

### 'Robin'

No description traced.

**Origin:** raised by Cecil Monson, and named by Monson after a neighbour's child. Dr Molly Sanderson grew this primrose at one time, and she was the source of my information.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat.*

*Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

### 'Rockview Appleblossom'

c. 1914

Polyanthus; no further description traced.

**Origin:** my only information about this primrose is that Mrs Fetherstonhaugh showed it in April 1933 and obtained a cultural certificate.

**award:** Cultural cert. (RHSI) 13 April 1933.

**ref:** RHSI archives.

### 'Rosaleen'

Candelabra; stems to 1 m tall; flowers deep crimson.

**Origin:** 'Rosaleen' was the fourth of the cultivars selected at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo, from the 'Asthor' x 'Red Hugh' cross which gave rise to the 'Connaught Mixed Hybrids'. It was a very fine and free flowering primrose.

**refs:** *Lissadell price list* 1930, 28; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 3.

### 'Rowallane Rose'

Candelabra; flowers pink with a conspicuous yellow eye.

**Origin:** a chance seedling from Rowallane, Saintfield, Co. Down; a 'true perennial which does not bear seeds but will increase by division'. This superb primrose, which is still grown, was introduced by Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down.

This cultivar was depicted on a stamp issued in Ireland in 1990.

**refs:** Smith (1964); *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), 174-175; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 3; Nelson & Deane, 'Glory of Donard' (1993), 100; *Moorea* **10** (1993): 35-40.

**illusts:** *An Irish florilegium II* (1988), plate 40; *Moorea* **12** (1996): 10; Irish postage stamp 30 August 1990 (see *The Irish stamp year book 1990-1991*)

c. 1900, or 1935\*

### 'Royal Jubilee'

Candelabra; flowers bright cherry red.; 'rich velvety crimson, small golden eye, strong grower, free-flowering ...'

**Origin:** raised at Ballinamore House, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo (see 'Penelope Anne'), and subsequently shown 'by a well-known Scotch [sic] firm' at Chelsea show in May 1936, and 'much admired'. It was included in Merivale Nursery's 1939 catalogue.

**refs:** *The Gardens, Ballinamore House ... Trade price list*, [8]; *Gard. illust.* **58** (23 May 1936): 311; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2, 3

### 'Ruddigore'

Hose-in-hose, a strong plant; corolla clear crimson red.

**Origin:** from Co. Tyrone, according to Taylor and Genders, but no other information can be traced.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

### 'Rufus'

Auricula; flowers single, crushed strawberry.

**Origin:** in Champernowne's 1954 catalogue this is described as 'recently obtained from a private grower in Ireland, nearly extinct'. It is still in cultivation; I grew it for several years in the 1980s, but lost it.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; Champernowne, *Old-world and modern primroses* (1954).

### 'Scott Wilson'

before 1970

Flowers 'distinct blue shade'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

ref: Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 137.

#### 'Sepoy'

Flowers 'dark velvety crimson'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

ref: Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 137.

#### 'Shirley Brown'

Double flowered auricula; no further description traced.

**Origin:** Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow, named and sold this cultivar, but she did not raise it as it was found in an Irish cottage garden belonging to a Mr Shirley. Dr Cecil Jones obtained it from Miss Wynne about 1960.

refs: Dr C. Jones (*in litt.* 16 March 1985); Wynne, 'Old Irish double auriculas', *Am. Primrose Soc. Quart* **15** (1) (Winter 1957): 6.

#### 'Silver Annie'

Polyanthus, flower mulberry coloured with silver lace.

**Origin:** said to be an old Irish polyanthus from Co. Louth.

ref: *Nat. Auricula & Primrose Soc. (Southern) Yb* 1959: 25-27.

#### 'Sir Frederick Moore'

Candelabra; flowers similar to 'Red Hugh', but a brighter fiery red.

**Origin:** a hybrid of *P. cockburniana* x *pulverulenta* raised at The Bush, Antrim, by H. D. M. Barton, before 1920, and named after The Keeper of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin.

refs: *Gard. illust.* **52** (7 June 1930): 373; — **57** (24 August 1935), 514; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2; *Ir. garden* **6** (8) (October 1997): 36-38.

#### 'Snowdon'

Flowers 'pure white'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

ref: Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 137.

#### 'Spangle'

Flowers 'magenta crimson with white markings'.

**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; in the first catalogue that I have traced (*Hardy plants* no. 6) there is a list of primroses which had 'been selected from a vast number of seedlings and are very beautiful' (see 'Abundance' above for the list).

ref: Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 137.

#### 'Sunset'

No description traced.

**Origin:** E. A. (Miss Ethel Adams) said that this was raised by the same lady who produced 'Beltany [*sic*] Red', so 'Sunset' was from the Misses Campbell and Pottinger at Beltony Lodge, near Omagh.

refs: E. A., 'Coloured primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* **9** (1936): 233-240; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Tawny Port'

syn: *P. juliae* "Tawney Port"

Polyanthus-type, flowers single; 'the dainty polyanthus flowers are quite the darkest of all kinds – a really dusty port wine colour – the leaves are smallish too and almost maroon.'<sup>1</sup>

**Origin:** there is confusion about the history of 'Tawny Port'.

Several sources indicated that this primrose came from Castlesize, Sallins, Co. Kildare the home of Colonel and Mrs Graham. Mrs Graham obtained the First Class Certificate for it from the Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland, which suggests this history may be accurate.

Mrs Gladys Emmerson, writing to J. S. Harrison about 'Tawny Port', also mentioned 'a Colonel Graham of somewhere in Eire' adding that she knew his late niece. Cecil Monson, however, reported that this primrose – its name was incorrectly printed as 'Tawney Port' – was raised by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigroney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow.<sup>1</sup> 'Tawny Port', according to Monson, 'stays in bloom before 1957 months'.<sup>1</sup>

awards: AM (RHSI) 1934; FCC & Cultural Cert. (RHSI) 8 April 1937.

refs: C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], '*Primula juliae*', *Primroses* **26** (1) (Winter 1968): 21<sup>1</sup>; — **41**(3) (1983): 28; *Bull. Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* **1** (1934): 28; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984), 56-63; J. S. Harrison (*in litt.* 2 November 1985).

illusts: Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 43; Hyatt, *Primroses & auriculas* (1989), 28. unknown

#### 'The Clown'

Hose-in-hose, polyanthus type; corolla red flecked with white.

**Origin:** raised, according to E. A. (Miss Ethel Adams) by an Irish lady who lived in Hampshire, England, but no further information can be traced. Miss Hume remarked that the name 'Clown' was applied to any hose-in-hose primrose with a white-splashed corolla.

refs: E. A., 'Coloured primroses and polyanthus', *New flora & sylvia* **9** (1936): 233-240; E. D. Hume, *Primroses* (unpublished typescript with sketches); *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'The Quaker'

syn: 'Old China Blue', 'Old Irish Blue', 'Old Irish China Blue' 1891 'A lovely pale grey blue which on first opening shows its Irish origin with a faint shade of green. It is edged and eyed with white'<sup>1</sup>; polyanthus type, flowers single. 'In contrast to these lovely worldlings come 'The Quaker', purest of pale blue and white like Ming chine without its stolidity. 'The Quaker' is a single primrose and is sometimes called "The Lady of the Lake".<sup>2</sup>

**Origin:** this wonderful polyanthus is of unknown origin, but said by most writers to have come from Ireland. It has evidently received many names including 'Old Irish Blue' and 'Old China Blue'. This is supposed to be in cultivation still; certainly plants bearing this name appear at primrose societies' shows.

Miss Eda Hume, rather lyrically, wrote that of the old single polyanthus a few survived, and 'chief of them the pet of "Shee" (Irish for the fairies Lady Allen speaks of), the old chine-blue polyanthus 'The Quaker' – I fear most before 1936 offend the "Little People", for it is hard to keep.'

refs: Monson, 'Old-fashioned flowers', *My garden* **2** (June 1934): 246-247; Hume, 'The double green primroses', *Gard. illust.* **57** (16 March 1935): 149; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984), 56-63.

illusts: E. D. Hume, *Primroses* (unpublished typescript with sketches), no. 19; *Gard. illust.* **63** (July 1946): 852;

#### 'The Quakeress'

Polyanthus type, flowers single, like 'The Quaker' but the petals are mauve instead of blue, rimmed with white.

**Origin:** 'The Quaker' and 'The Quakeress' are paired, not only nominally, but also in terms of their untraceable history. Sacheverell Sitwell (1939), among others, claimed this as an Irish primrose, while Miss Eda Hume's

statements are somewhat difficult to interpret.

Glazeley stated that 'The Quakeress' has double flowers, adding some confusion to its identity. There is also the question whether this is the same as 'Old Irish Mauve'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'Tipperary Purple'

syn: 'Grandmother' (*vide* Hume); 'Tipperary' Jack-in-the-green, with light purple corollas; 'very distinct light purple flowers set in an enlarged green calyx'.<sup>1</sup>

**Origin:** a famous jack-in-the-green, which at one time must have come from Co. Tipperary; whether it originated there remains a mystery.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984), 56-63; *Primroses* **41**(3) (1983): 28; Champernowne, *Old-world and modern primroses* (1954), 11.

**illustr:** Shaw, *The book of primroses* (1990), plate 10.

#### 'Tyrone Gem'

Hose-in-hose; corolla yellow.

**Origin:** I found this listed in two places; in Mrs Rebecca Scott's list of primroses for sale (at 5 pence per plant), and in Merivale Nursery's 1939 catalogue, but can trace no other information about it. It is not the same as 'Erin's Gem'.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

'Tyrone Purple' – a mistake for 'Tyrian Purple'

#### 'Una'

Candelabra; flowers 'russet orange'.

**Origin:** one of the seedlings of 'Lissadell Hybrid', either self-pollinated or crossed with *P. pulverulenta*, raised and selected at Lissadell, Sligo, Co. Sligo.

**ref:** *Lissadell price list* 1915, 6, 43

#### 'Victory'

syn: 'Garryard Victory'

Flowers single, deep peony-purple; leaves cucumber green.

**Origin:** this so-called Garryard primrose (it is not a Garryard!) was raised by Miss Winifred Wynne, Tigrooney, Avoca, Co. Wicklow.

It may be a polyanthus type; while still in cultivation I have not seen it and descriptions are not exact.

**refs:** *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63; *Primroses* **41**(3) (1983): 28.

#### White polyanthus

**Origin:** In the late 1890s the Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down, claimed that their 'new [white] polyanthus' are said to be the best in the world', but no cultivar name seems to have been chosen for these plants.

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 137.

#### 'Willbrook Seedling'

syn: 'Wilbrook Seedling'

Candelabra; 18ins tall; flowers 'orange flame'.\*

**Origin:** this selection, perhaps a hybrid, of *P. pulverulenta* was shown by Sir Frederick Moore at the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea show on 25 May 1937; from Willbrook, Rathfarnham, Co. Dublin. Released commercially; available, for example, in 1951, from Jack Drake, Inshriarch Nursery, Aviemore, Scotland (as 'Willbrook Seedling').

**refs:** J. Drake, Inshriarch Nursery catalogue (Autumn supplement 1951)\*; *IGPS newsl.* **14** (October 1984): supplement part 2: 4; *Ir. garden* **6** (8) (October 1997): 36-38.

#### 'William of Orange'

Polyanthus, with fasciated stems and enormous flower-heads, fragrant, flowers 'richest golden yellow'.

**Origin:** from William Baylor Hartland, Ard-Cairn, Cork; he sent flowers to *The garden* in late April 1886 describing this as a "Giant Oxlip" (i.e. *Primula elatior*). The powerful fragrance of Mr. Hartland's Cowslips and Oxlips is remarkable; in this respect they are superior to unknown Polyanthus.

The same bouquet contained a hose-in-hose polyanthus 'of a delicate sulphur-yellow', but no name was given for it.

**refs:** *The garden* **29** (1 May 1886): 412; Hartland, *Ye original little booke* 1886.

#### 'Wingfield Gem'

Flowers single; polyanthus type; no further description traced.

**Origin:** raised by Mrs D'Olier, Wingfield, Bray, Co. Wicklow, and included in the catalogue issued during 1939 by Merivale Nursery.

**award:** AM (RHSI) April 1934; Mrs D'Olier

**refs:** *Bull. Roy. Hort. Soc. Ireland* **1** (1934): 28; *IGPS newsl.* **12** (April 1984): supplement part 1; *Nat. Auricula & Primula Soc. (Southern sect.) Yb.* (1984): 56-63.

#### 'W. F. Wynne'

Jackanapes; corolla orange-scarlet with white stripe.

**Origin:** this jackanapes was named after Miss Winifred Wynne of Avoca, Co. Wicklow, who herself raised numerous fine primroses. I suspect this was raised by Cecil Monson, Annaghloy House, Boyle, Count Roscommon – he listed it for sale in the 1960s and the white stripe on the corolla matches that on another jackanapes which he sold, 'G.E. 914 Emmerson'.

**ref:** C. S. Marsh [i.e. Monson], 'Some plants available in small supply' [c. 1960].



#### *Prunus*

Rosaceae. Cherries.

c. 1950

#### *P. cerasifera* 'Roebuck Castle Variety'

A very free flowering form; foliage purple.

**Origin:** evidently from Roebuck Castle in Dundrum, Co. Dublin, home of the Westby family, and then propagated and introduced by Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. This purple-leaved cherry-plum was acquired by the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, in October 1925, and now the only known example is the tree growing in the Glasnevin Botanic Gardens.

**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 137; *IGPS newsl.* **44** (1992), 12; Jacobsen, *Purpleleaf plums* (1992), 94, 128; *Fruit var. & hortic. digest* **16** (4) (July 1962), 63-72.

**illustr:** *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 112; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), pl. 8.

#### *P. cerasus* 'Drumreaske'

c. 1937

syn: *Cerasus rhexii flore pleno* (Drumreaske).

A double flowered form of the wild dwarf cherry – called Morello cherry in the Daisy Hill nursery's catalogue – that was 'on its own roots, which makes suckers and runs about like a Raspberry.'

**Origin:** from Co. Monaghan. I have not seen this listed in catalogues other than those of the Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. The catalogue entry implied that this was different from the usual *P. cerasus* 'Rhexii' ('Flore Pleno'). Drumreaske is a demesne with a Tudor-style (19<sup>th</sup> century) house, situated west of Monaghan town, Co. Monaghan that belonged to the Kane family.

**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 137.

***P. laurocerasus* 'Castlewellan'**syn: *Prunus laurocerasus* 'Marbled White'

Evergreen shrub reaching 6m high and 5m broad, although relatively slow-growing; foliage variegated, marbled with white, dark green and grey-green above, c. 15 x 3.5 cm, margins ragged.

**Origin:** assumed to have been acquired by Sir Harold Hillier from Castlewellan, Co. Down, and when marketed by Hillier's Nursery, it was named 'Marbled White', but as this was contrary to the wishes of the originator, the name was changed to 'Castlewellan'.

The original shrub still thrives in the Annesley (Walled) Garden at the National Arboretum, Castlewellan, Co. Down.

**award:** AM RHS 1987.

**refs:** Harrison & Nelson, '*Prunus laurocerasus* cv. Castlewellan not Marbled White', *Moorea* **10** (1993): 44-45; *The garden* **112** (1987): 561; — **113** (1988): 343; *IGPS newsl.* **28** (April 1988): 14.

**illusts:** *The garden* **113** (1988): 343; *Moorea* **10** (1993): 45.

***P. laurocerasus* 'Strangford Gold'**

Leaves 'golden variegated'; with 'greeny gold variegation aging yellow'.

**Origin:** originated at Mount Stewart, Greyabbey, Co. Down, and has been propagated for distribution by the head gardener, Nigel Marshall. It is being propagated by Ballyrogan Nurseries, Newtownards, Co. Down.

**refs:** J. Sharman (*in litt.* 22 January 1998); G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 25 January 1998); *The sport* **8** (1992): 9.

***P. subhirtella* 'Autumnalis'**syn: *Prunus miqueliana*; *P. microlepis* var. *smithii*

The flowers are 'generally white with a faint blush tinge which deepens slightly if the weather is kind enough to let the blooms keep perfect for a time. If branches of flowers and buds are cut and placed in water in a room, they will remain in beauty for several weeks; they have a delicate fragrance.'<sup>1</sup>

**Origin:** from Japan; a Japanese cultivar introduced by, and distributed from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down, about 1901, under the name *P. miqueliana*, and later as *P. microlepis* var. *smithii*.

With reference to Mr. A. C. Downe's note on this Cherry [*Prunus subhirtella* var. *autumnalis*], ... I beg to state that it was in the spring of 1901 that this variety was first received here in a consignment of plants from Japan, under the name *P. miqueliana*. A few plants were distributed immediately afterwards. Late it was named *P. microlepis* var. *smithii*, and subsequently its name was decided to be *P. subhirtella* var. *autumnalis*.<sup>1</sup>

**refs:** Smith, '*Prunus subhirtella* var. *autumnalis*', *Gard. chron.* **91** (1932): 67<sup>1</sup>; Walsh & Nelson, *An Irish florilegium* II (1988), 202; Nelson, *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 138; *The garden* **122** (1997): 805.

**illusts:** *An Irish florilegium* II (1988), plate 47; *The new plantsman* **4** (1997): 112; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), pl. 1.

**'Woodfield Cluster'**

Tree, about 7m tall with broad, spreading crown; leaves hairless, toothed; flowers in early Spring, single, in pairs on short stalks, rose-pink in bud opening pure white, petals notched at apex.

**Origin:** Dr Keith Lamb raised a seedling from seed collected below a tree of *P. incisa* that grew in the grounds of the Albert Agricultural College, Glasnevin, Co. Dublin – it had obviously been cross-pollinated. The original tree of 'Woodfield Cluster' still grows at Woodfield, Clara, Co. Offaly, and its has been propagated by Jan Ravensberg of Clara, Co. Offaly, and Schupper Nurseries, Hazerwoude,

Netherlands.

before 1970

**ref:** *Moorea* **6** (1987): 27.

**illust:** *Moorea* **6** (1987): 27.

***Pseudolarix***

Pinaceae

***P. kaempferi* 'Annesleyana'**syn: *P. amabilis* var. *annesleyana*

Low bush with horizontal branches; branchlets pendulous, densely covered with leaves.

**Origin:** a plant at Castlewellan, Co. Down, was reported by Murray Hornibrook as being 10ft high and 96ft in circumference in 1939. He noted that the plant was 'very old; it is said to be one of the first distributed' after the species was introduced by Robert Fortune.

**ref:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 218.



before 1992

***Pseudophegopteris***

Thelypteridaceae

***P. levingei***syn: *Gymnogramma aurita* var. *levingei*, *Dryopteris levingei*

Fern with creeping underground rhizome; fronds deciduous, to 40cm long, erect, soft, pale green, pinnate, pinnae deeply pinnatifid.

**Origin:** native in temperate parts of Asia, from Kashmir to Japan, including China whence it was recently introduced. I first saw it in Graham Thomas' garden at Horsell, Surrey, whence it gradually was spread to Irish gardeners.

This was named after H. C. Levinge of Knockdrin, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

**ref:** Nelson & Synnott, *Curtis's bot. mag.* **12** (1995), 195-197.

**illust:** *Curtis's bot. mag.* **12** (1995), plate 279.

***Pseudotsuga***

Pinaceae

***P. menziesii* 'Candida'**

syn: *P. douglasii* var. *candida*, *P. taxifolia* var. *candida*  
Foliage silvery-white, shining, the colour being most conspicuous on current year's growth.

**Origin:** a seedling tree found in a shelter-belt at Waterford, Co. Waterford, and originally described by Dr Augustine Henry.

**ref:** Dallimore & Jackson, *Manual* (1966, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.), 565.

***P. menziesii* 'Leptophylla'**

Small fastigate shrub, branches ascending, leaves very slender and heath-like, to ½ inch long.

**Origin:** found by Murray Hornibrook, and transferred to Blandsfort, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois, but it did not necessarily arise in Ireland.

**ref:** Hornibrook, *Dwarf conifers* (1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), 223.

mid-1900s

***Pteridium***

Dennstaedtiaceae. Bracken.

See sub-section **Ferns*****Pulmonaria***

Boraginaceae. Lungworts.

***P. saccharata* 'Plas Merdyn'**syn: *P. officinalis* 'Plas Merdyn'

Flowers pink 'with virtually no blue'; leaves spotted with white.

**Origin:** this was a chance seedling in a path in the garden of Drs Bill and Gretta Lennon, Hollywood, Co. Down. Gary Dunlop rescued the plant when the Lennons decided to sell their property, and he has named and introduced it.**refs:** G. Dunlop (*in litt.* 25 January 1998); *Ballyrogan Nurseries 1997 plant list* [without description, as *P. officinalis*].

c. 1995

***Pulsatilla***

Ranunculaceae. Pasque flower.

***P. vulgaris* 'Semi-plena'**syn: *Anemone pulsatilla* semi plena.**Origin:** from Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down; tagged 'T.S.', and offered as a 'very scarce plant' costing five shillings each.**ref:** Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 138.

c. 1895

***P. vulgaris* [not named]**syn: *Anemone pulsatilla* (montanum)

'The dark rich form'...

**Origin:** introduced into Ireland from Royat, by the Hon. Mrs Barton of Straffan, Co. Kildare. Frederick Burbidge referred to the plant on one occasion:

It is to the Hon. Mrs. Barton, for example, that we are indebted for the original living bulbs of *Narcissus Bernardi*, from the slopes of Gavarnie; *Asplenium fontanum*, and a very distinct white *Hepatica* also from the Pyrenees; ... the dark, rich form of *Anemone Pulsatilla* (montanum) from Royat, and others, are a few of the personal introductions to Straffan.

before 1900

**ref:** *Gard chron.* 19 (ser. 3)(30 May 1896): 680.***Pyracantha***

Rosaceae.

**'Tabulaeformis'**

'A unique plant, when it attains a height of 3 feet or so it spreads its branches out in a perfectly horizontal manner ...'.

**Origin:** vicinity of Newry, Co. Down; introduced by Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, Co. Down. 'There is a plant in this neighbourhood probably over 100 years of age, and it covers a superficial area of 40 square years - an extraordinary lawn shrub.'**refs:** Nelson, *The new plantsman* 4 (1997): 98-114; Nelson & Grills, *Daisy Hill Nursery* (1998), 138.

c. 1810

