



SRGC

----- Bulb Log Diary -----

Pictures and text © Ian Young

BULB LOG 14.....5<sup>th</sup> April 2017





**Trillium  
hibbersonii**

Trillium  
hibbersonii is  
among the  
smallest of the  
Trilliums so it  
needs careful  
placing in the  
garden so it  
can be seen  
but also so it  
does not get  
overgrown by  
larger plants  
while it is in  
growth.

I have planted  
this group out  
under the pine  
tree on the  
raised wall  
where I am  
encouraging it  
to self-sow.



**Trillium hibbersonii** with a group of seedlings towards the bottom right of the image





There are plenty Trilliums now in flower around the garden many are of them are of the Trillium chloropetalum / kurubayashii persuasion. I have tried many times to key out the many plants we have raised without any definitive success and I now suspect that what we have in cultivation is likely to be garden hybrids. Whatever you want to call them, with their attractive leaves and flowers they are a welcome addition to any garden.





*Trillium chloropetalum* / kurubayashii



*Scoliopus bigelovii*





**Scoliopis hallii**

Along with *Scoliopis bigelovii*, *Scoliopis hallii* is one of those special plants for the dedicated, often described as a 'connoisseurs' plant which often means that it does not stand out and you could easily walk by without even noticing it was there. I am one of those who enjoy growing these curious plants and have it planted out in raised beds where we can enjoy its subtle beauty.



**Scoliopis hallii**





**Anemone × lipsiensis with Erythronium dens-canis**



**Erythronium dens-canis** self-seeding down the wall of the central raised bed.





The tall white elegant flowers of **Erythronium oregonum** stand proud in this mixed planting with the warmer colour provided by forms of *Corydalis solida*.



This grouping is mostly of self-seeded subjects including the *Paeonia lutea* one of many seedlings of various ages spreading out from the large old parent plant which fits in with my desire to mimic nature by having plants of all ages and not just mature specimens. The *Erythronium oregonum* and *Corydalis* also arrived by self-seeding and in the foreground you will observe this process continues.





Looking up into the **Erythronium oregonum** flowers reveals more of their beauty.



**Erythronium  
'White Beauty'  
with more  
Anemone x  
lipsiensis**

It is interesting how the exact same clone flowers at different times around the garden – this group of Erythronium 'White Beauty' is flowering well ahead of other clumps around the garden, showing how it is not down to weather alone - the very local conditions within a garden can have a big effect on flowering times.





**Erythronium revolutum**

The first of the **Erythronium revolutum** flowers are also now open. It never ceases to amaze me how quickly the spring growth appears and this year it seems to have come up even faster. We have enjoyed more than our average hours of sunshine this March and that warmth along with the ample moisture from the periods of rain have helped fuel this rapid spring growth.







Colour is also starting to appear above our heads with the Rhododendron flowers and the first signs of the leaves emerging on the trees.



Self-sown subjects flowering in the gravel include *Corydalis solidus*, *Erythronium revolutum* and *Narcissus bulbocodium*.



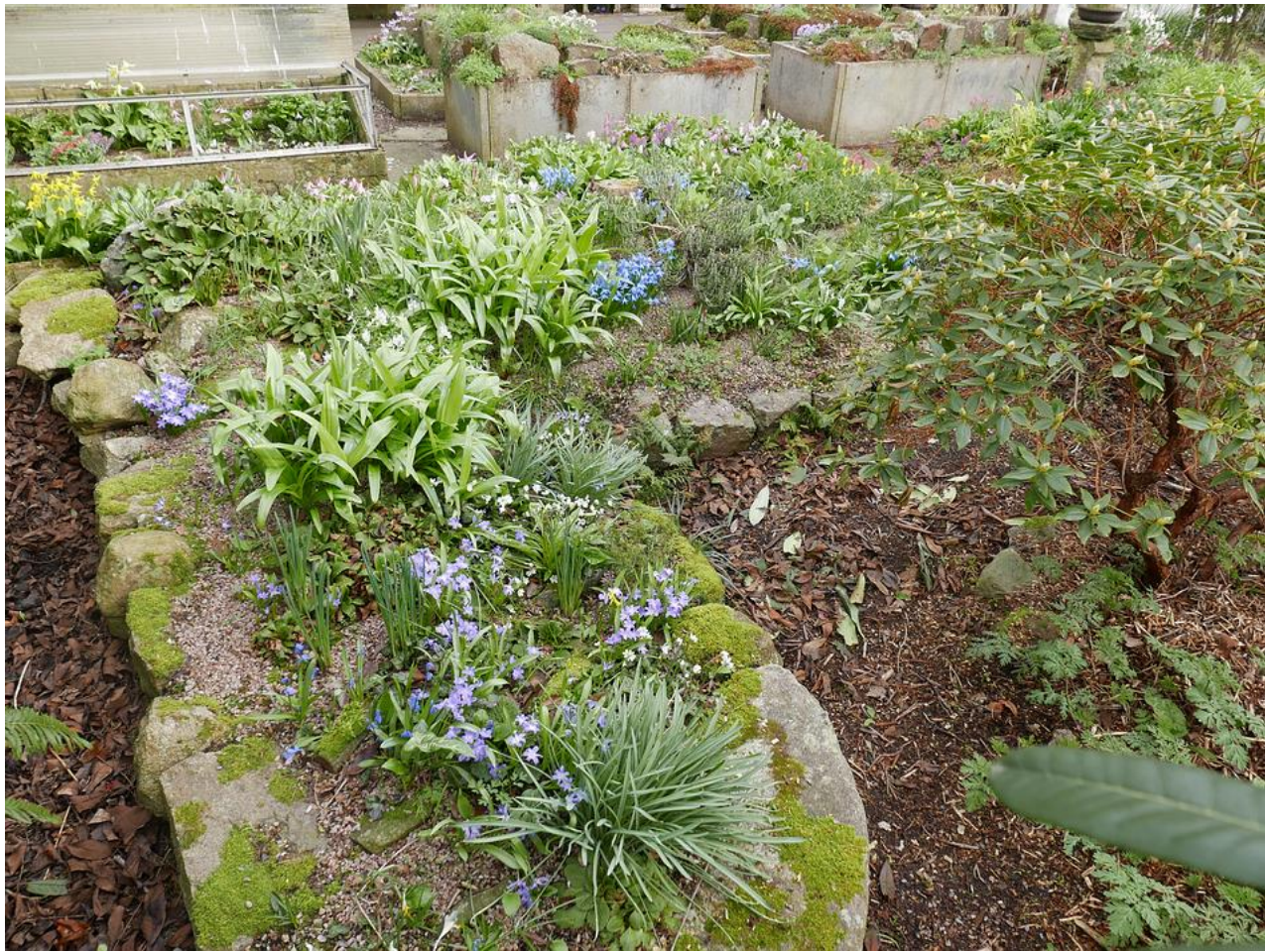


Looking carefully you will see the mass of thin seed leaves of **Narcissus bulbocodium** seedlings germinating along with 2<sup>nd</sup> year and flowering groups – they start to flower in their third year of growth in the gravel.



**Narcissus cyclamineus** flowering in the rock garden where we allow it to self-sow.





The facing leg of the 'L' shaped rock garden is more shaded so we grow many *Ranunculus* and *Haberlea* which at this time of year are surrounded by the early bulbs with *Hepatica pyrenaica* seeding all around.







**Scilla rosenii**

I regularly lift and split the *Scilla rosenii*, growing here in the rock garden, spreading them out when I replant them to prevent them from forming dense clumps – this group is growing beside the leaves of *Colchicum aggrinum* which I will lift and thin out in the late summer when the leaves have gone down and before it flowers.



**Rock garden**





***Fritillaria imperialis***



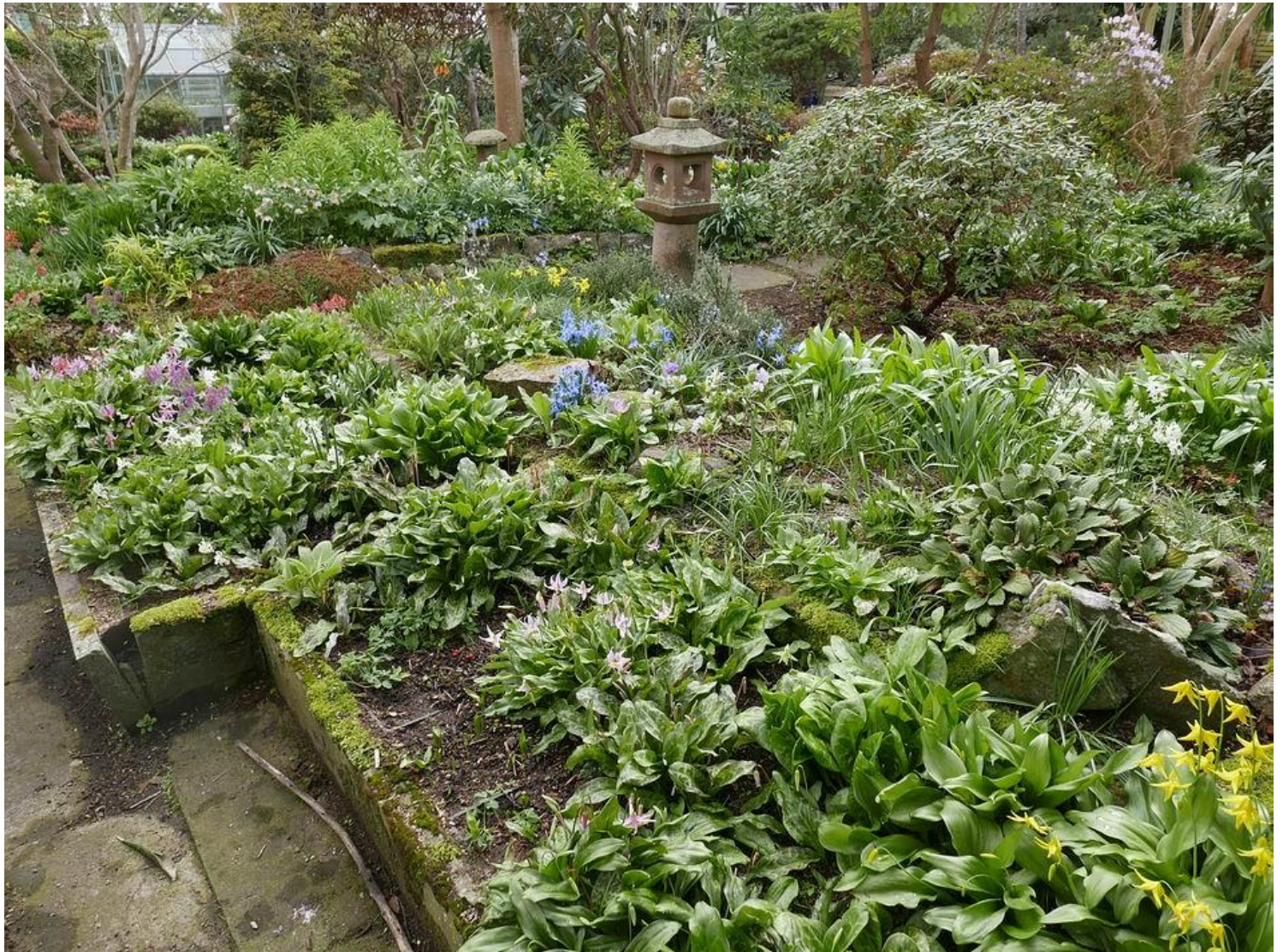
I am often asked how I get *Fritillaria imperialis* to flower. It is a big bulb and I find that in our garden conditions it often takes two or three years to build back up after flowering. As you will see from the foliage we have a number of plants that increase well but only flower intermittently however we nearly always have some that flower. I hope that with so many not flowering this year we will see a better display next year and to help this I am now applying some potassium rich fertiliser around the base of the plants. I have been told that even in the wild where they have a hot

climate there is still only a mass flowering every so often.



**Corydalis  
solida**

Corydalis solida brings so much colour to the early garden that it deserves to be much more widely grown than it is.



The Erythronium plunges backed by the rock garden to the right will soon be a blaze of colour.





The view of the Erythronium plunge beds with the rock garden and the narrow bed planted with Corydalis and Hepatica nearest the path.



Even in the plunge where the Erythroniums are planted in mesh baskets self-seeding occurs – in this image you can see *Meconopsis* as well as *Corydalis malkensis* and *solida* that have seeded in to add to the colour.





This view looking up the garden was taken in between some of the rain showers some of which lasted several hours.



Troughs are an important part of our garden and we have many of different sizes from tiny ones up the the large slab beds which are effectively giant troughs.





*Saxifraga marginata* is one species that takes our weather conditions in its stride – I simply scattered some seed

across some limestone marl several years ago and now we have a lovely colony.



Some of the other Saxifrages are not so tolerant of our weather – some have grown well through cold winters when they spend long periods under snow or frozen but struggle through wet winters like we have had these past two years. You can see the ones that are

more tolerant flowering in the trough and these are the ones that I will propagate to grow on.





Looking closer Saxifraga 'Martin Luther' and 'Exhibit' are both flowering well.



More successes in this slab bed where these saxifrages have grown well over a number of years.





You can join me in a walk around the garden in this latest [Bulb Log Video Dairy Supplement](#).

Or if you like Erythronium why not come to one of the most beautiful parts of Scotland and take part in the Erythronium Festival at Inverewe Garden where I will be speaking on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April and at the Dinner on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>. The event continues for the week and you

will see more details in the leaflet below or follow this link [Erythronium Festival at Inverewe Garden](#).





ERYTHRONIUM  
INVEREWE



## ERYTHRONIUMS the 'Woodland Glories' of Inverewe

Inverewe Garden invites you to its first Erythronium Festival.

During the Festival, Inverewe will host talks and guided walks by two specialists keen to share their passion and love for this genus. We hope this will prove to be an exciting, educational experience for all those wishing to learn more about the origins, cultivation and the woodland context of these plants.

A feature for 2017's Erythronium Festival will be a three-day workshop to learn the skills of botanical painting. You will join two accomplished botanical illustrators in Inverewe House who will reveal the process of botanical painting step by step. There will be an opportunity for advanced students to go further in their learning.

The Garden team will be on hand to guide you to the best flowering spots and answer any questions you may have. Please also take the time to have a look at our specialist Erythronium plant sale, available only during the Festival week.



Erythronium, Inverewe

## PROGRAMME

Date	Activity
17 April Mon	<b>Ian Young - Talk and Walk</b> to see Erythroniums at Inverewe 14:00 Introduction and talk in Osgoods 15:00-16:30 Walk in the Garden
18 April Tue	<b>Gala Dinner</b> in Osgood's with national Erythronium experts and the Inverewe Garden team. Go to website for ticket details
19 April Wed	<b>Kevin Ball, Head Gardener</b> - Guided walk on woodland gardening focusing on Erythroniums at Inverewe
20-22 April Thu-Sat	<b>Botanical Illustration Course</b> with Jacqui Pestell, MBE and Sarah Roberts from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (£150 pp booking essential)
21 April Fri	<b>Chris Clennett - Talk and Walk</b> with the world expert on Erythroniums 14:00 Introduction and talk in Osgoods 15:00-16:30 Walk in the Garden



WELCOMING THE WORLD  
INVEREWE  
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the National Trust  
for Scotland

100%  
COUNTRYVILLE  
NATIONAL TRUST  
GARDEN OF THE YEAR



Mahogany fawn lily  
(*Erythronium revolutum*)



Sarah Roberts: Sea buckthorn  
(*Hippophae rhamnoides*)



"The dainty bell shaped flowers of Erythronium are rarely, if ever, seen in the UK in such profusion as they are here at Inverewe"

**Kevin Ball**  
Head Gardener  
Inverewe

In mid-April the flowering of Erythronium revolutum, commonly known as the 'trout lily', creates a unique experience. These woodland glories bring elegance and colour to the spring succession of Rhododendron, Azalea and flowering bulbs. The right conditions at Inverewe mean they grow in abundance, producing large naturalistic colonies with a flowering time from 10 days to 3 weeks depending on the spring temperatures.

Want to know an easy way to brighten up your garden when little else is in flower? - this is your opportunity to take home a memory of your visit to Inverewe. A fascinating range of Spring-flowering bulbs and plants will be available to buy from our Bothy for the beginner and connoisseur during the Festival. For a limited time there will be a unique opportunity to acquire Erythronium, Corydalis, Fritillaria and Trillium and many other plants.

Get your Erythronium Map  
of Inverewe Garden on arrival  
available from Visitor Centre Reception



For further information visit [www.nts.org.uk/Inverewe](http://www.nts.org.uk/Inverewe)

## OUR EXPERTS



**Jacqui Pestell** MBE is an internationally renowned Botanical Artist known for her pioneering work as Artist in Residence at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh since 1997. She has pioneered and led the Diploma in Botanical Illustration at RBGE.



**Sarah Roberts** is a visual artist and teacher at RBGE with a practice centred around painting and illustration. Sarah has produced paintings for exhibitions and publications, travelling to attend artists' residences and workshops in Nepal and Finland.



**Dr. Chris Clennett** is the author of the monograph on 'The Genus Erythronium'. Recognised as the world expert on the genus he is the Garden Manager at Wakehurst Place the rural satellite garden for the Royal Botanic Garden Kew.



**Ian Young** is recognised as one of the leading experts in the cultivation of Erythroniums in the UK. He is an active member of the Scottish Rock garden Club and has maintained a weekly bulb blog which is internationally followed since 2003.

## Where in the world...



Inverewe is on the A832 only 90 minutes drive from Inverness and 60 minutes from Ullapool

Café  
Shop  
Parking  
WiFi

Events  
Plant sales  
Guided walks  
♿

**Admission**  
Member (NTS/NT): FOC  
Children under 5: FOC  
Adult: £10.50  
Concession: £7.50  
Family Ticket: £24.50  
Single Parent: £18.00  
Free entry to RHS members on Wednesdays

**Opening Times**  
1-30 April  
10:30-17:00  
1 May-31 August  
10:00-18:00  
1-30 September  
10:30-17:00  
1-31 October  
10:30-16:00

Inverewe  
Poolwee  
Wester Ross  
IV22 2LG

DISCOVER  
SCOTTISH GARDENS

[www.nts.org.uk/Inverewe](http://www.nts.org.uk/Inverewe)

WELCOMING THE WORLD  
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Since 1842

the National Trust  
for Scotland