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We hope all readers have printed out the 2017 calendar provided by the IRG for 2017 to enjoy the photos from Fred Carrie throughout the year. Your IRG Team hopes to bring you an interesting mixture of subjects over the year to enthuse and perhaps educate you in the ways of the plants which form the basis of our shared growing interest. In this issue, a number of Saxifraga hybrids, recently registered with Adrian Young (a national collection holder and associate of Waterperry Garden who is also the registrar of the Saxifraga Society) are formally introduced from the acclaimed breeder David Walkey who, sadly, died earlier this month. Adrian also provides a short introduction to David Walkey's porophyllum saxifraga hybrids. We send our sincere condolences to David's family.

In conjunction with the printed journal of the SRGC, The Rock Garden (TRG), we are delighted to feature another contribution from Matt Topsfield to supplement his article in TRG 138 of January 2017 with a photo essay of narcissus found on his trip in the footsteps of John Blanchard, who will, we hope, be pleased to see how his previous travels still inspire plantsmen today.

Matt's article, on some of the plants other than narcissus which he saw during his trip, was published here in the IRG 81 (International Rock Gardener e-magazine).

Cover photo: *Narcissus* x *susannae* with *Narcissus triandrus cernuus*, photo Matt Topsfield

Saxifraga cultivars raised by David Walkey, a selection by Adrian Young

65 Porophyllum Cultivars: 1988 – 2012

David started his selective plant-breeding campaign in the Warwickshire village of Tysoe in 1988 when he produced S.'Whatcote'. Between 1988 and 1991 he introduced 17 new cultivars. All of the seventeen contained *S.poluniniana* as one of the parents, 'Harlow Car' or 'Winifred' was used for the other parent for 13 of them.

In 2001 he released 3 new cultivars Gaydon-Love, Crimscote-Love and Halford-Love (Love me Hybrids) all using S.'Miluj Mne' (Love Me), a *x poluanglica* cultivar from Jan Burgel.

In 2004 David started releasing his Tysoe series with S.'Tysoe Star', so far there have been 45 cultivars, the latest batch include some crosses using *S. ludlowii*, this is the first time this Tibetan rarity has been used in hybridisation, David has named one of the new cultivars after Vojtech Holubec, the Czech Botanist who first introduced the plant. (S. Tysoe Holubec) Picking out favourites is always a difficult task; I have given it some thought and chosen:

S. 'Tysoe'	*ferdinandi-coburgi x poluniniana*	1989
S. 'Kineton'	*poluniniana* x 'Harlow Car'	1991
S. 'Halford-Love'	'Honington' x 'Miluj Mne'	2001
S. 'Tysoe Splendour'	'Gaydon-Love' x 'Louis Armstrong'	2005
S. 'Tysoe Pink-Perfection'	'Tysoe Splendour' x 'Kineton'	2010
S. 'Tysoe Burgundy'	'Tysoe Splendour' x 'Kineton'	2010
S. 'Tysoe Pink-Gem'	'Gaydon-Love' x 'Tysoe Splendour'	2010
S. 'Tysoe Sunrise'	'Gaydon-Love' x 'Tysoe Splendour'	2010
S. 'Tysoe Makalu'	'Gaydon-Love' x *burseriana* 'Snowden'	2011
S. 'Tysoe Robin'	'Coolock Kate' x 'Halford-Love'	2012
S. 'Tysoe Love'	*marginata* x 'Halford-Love'	2012
S. 'Tysoe Annapurna'	'Gaydon-Love' x 'Snowden'	2015
S. 'Tysoe Violet Gem'	'Edgehill' x *ludlowii*	2016
S. 'Tysoe Cardinal'	'Nancye' x 'Tysoe Splendour'	2016

The 65 named cultivars is a small percentage from the thousands of hybrids that David has produced over the years, many of which have been written up for the journal of the Saxifraga Society.
The time and effort that goes into the parent selection, the pollination process, the collection of ripe seeds, the sowing of the seeds, the potting up of seedlings and finally the selection of worthy cultivars, can take five years, so a huge amount of time and patience is essential. David was a hugely successful saxifrage hybridiser and several new hybrids are being assessed at the moment, so even with David's tragic death, we can still expect another batch of wonderful cultivars from David Walkey.

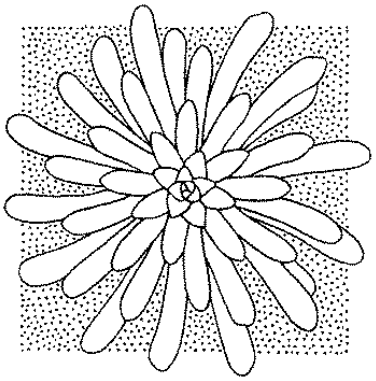
Adrian Young.

---New Plant Descriptions---

18 New Saxifraga Cultivars Raised by David Walkey – 2016

Saxifraga 'Tysoe Flamingo'

Detailed by **Adrian Young – Registrar**
International Cultivar Registration Authority for



THE SAXIFRAGE SOCIETY

The IRG Team is pleased to be able to co-operate with the Saxifrage Society in the publication of these interesting new hybrids and to dedicate this article to the memory of David Walkey. We hope this will serve as a small tribute to David's work - already well-recognised in the world of Saxifrages - for a wider audience.

_S_.'Tysoe Heather-Rowland'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Nancye' (female) x *S*. 'Tysoe Blush' (male)
Grandparents*: S.* 'Nancye' = *S.* 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*
S. 'Tysoe Blush' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion: compact**.** Rosettes: open with slightly convex leaves, lime secretion from apical, plus two pairs of lower lateral pores.
Flowers: single, large up to 20mm diameter, cup shaped, deep purple-pink, 68A in bud and retaining the colour until the flower is fully open, fades a little to 68B at maturity**.** Petals**:** roundly obovate, 8mm wide at maturity; petal edge almost entire, but has the remnants of about 6 blunt lobes, slightly darker veins run down the petals in 'valleys', given the flower an attractive appearance. The petals overlap by up to 20% at flower maturity. Flower Stem: stems up to 22mm at maturity**.** Stem leaves**:** alternate, obliquely patent. There are numerous glandular hairs on flower stems and stem leaves**.**
Stigma**:** two, fringed, pale purple; Style**:** pale purple; Anther**:** mid purple; Filament**:** pale purple; Pollen**:** mid-yellow; Nectary ring**:** pale purple.
Sepals**:** green with a tinge of pink, covered on the back and lateral edge by glandular hairs with purple spheres.
Comments: an excellent compact cushion, typical of *S*. 'Nancye' hybrids. It is well covered with attractive flowers on medium length stems. It is not unlike a short stemmed 'Nancye' plant. Flowers mid-season.

S. 'Tysoe Rick Lambert'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S.* 'Nancye' (female) x *S.* 'Tysoe Blush' (male)
Grandparents: *S.* 'Nancye' = *S.* 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*
S. 'Tysoe Blush' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion**:** compact. Rosettes**:** relatively large dark green up to 15mm diameter. Distinct lime secretion from apical, and 2 pairs (3) of lower lateral pores.
Flowers**:** single, vase shaped, up to 17mm diameter, on medium-short, red-purple coloured stems about 8-9mm long at flower maturity. 68A in bud, 68B when flower first fully open, fading to 68C at flower maturity**.**
Petals**:** just overlapping by 5% at maturity. Stem leaves**:** alternate, obliquely patent, green with a purple base covered in glandular hairs. Sepals**:** purple-green. The back of the sepal and flower stem is also covered in glandular hairs.
Stigmas**:** two, fringed, mid-purple; Styles**:** pale purple; Anthers**:** mid-purple; Filaments**:** pale purple; Pollen**:** mid-yellow.
Comments**:** Excellent cushion of large rosettes; well covered with short stemmed flowers.

S. 'Tysoe Salsa'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Tysoe Sunrise' (female) x *S*. 'Nancye' (Male)
Grandparents: *S.* 'Tysoe Sunrise' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Tysoe Splendour'
S. 'Nancye' = *S*. 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*

Cushion**:** compact, mid-green in colour. Rosettes**:** 13mm diameter, minimal lime secretion from an apical and 4 pairs of lower lateral pores.
Flowers**:** initially very pale pink in bud, but creamy white when fully open, single, on 12mm long stems at maturity. Flower vase shaped, relatively small 12mm in diameter. Petals**:** roundly obovate, with 6-7 blunt lobes, folds run down petal from each lobe carrying veins.
Stigmas: two, fringed, colourless**;** Styles**:** pale purple or green**;** Anthers**:** mid-purple; Filaments**:** green; Pollen**:** golden-yellow; Nectary ring**:** green.
Sepals**:** green with distinctive purple tips. There are numerous glandular hairs with purple spheres, on the backs of the sepals.
Flower stems**:** green tinged with purple. Stem leaves**:** alternate, obliquely patent.
Comments: Early flowering, with an excellent cushion inherited from its *S. cinerea* genes. It has attractive creamy-white flowers which offset the distinct mid-purple colour of the anthers. The purple colouration on the sepals also adds to the appeal of the white flowers.

S. 'Tysoe Samba'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents*: S.* 'Tysoe Sunrise' (female) x *S*. 'Nancye' (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Tysoe Sunrise' = *S.* 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Tysoe Splendour'
S. 'Nancye' = *S*. 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*

Cushion**:** compact dark green. Rosettes**:** open with slightly convex leaves, large, up to 15-16mm diameter. Lime secretion from apical and 3 pairs of lower lateral pores.
Flowers**:** single on short stems 5-6mm long when flower is fully open. 66A in bud and when the flower is first fully open; fades to 66B at flower maturity.
Stem leaves: sparse, alternate, obliquely patent, have glandular hairs with purple spheres.
Petals**:** roundly obovate, with very flat, blunt lobes along upper edge.
Petal veins slightly darker than petals. Very shallow 'valleys' run down petal from each lobe, petals slightly re-flexed, just overlapping at maturity.
Stigmas**:** two, fringed, pale purple**;** Styles**:** mid-purple; Anthers**:** dark purple; Filaments**:** pale purple; Pollen**:** golden-yellow; Nectary ring**:** dark purple.
Sepals: green with a purple tinge; glandular hairs with purple spheres on back of sepals and flower stem.
Comments: A well flowered early hybrid with excellent cushion. Exceptional dark purple-pink colour, in complete contrast to its white flowered sibling, 'Tysoe Salsa'.

S. 'Tysoe Polka'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Nancye (female) x *S*. 'Tysoe Sunrise' (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Nancye' = *S.* 'Winifred' x S*. cinerea*
S. 'Tysoe Sunrise' = S. 'Gaydon-Love x *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion**:** compact, dark green. Rosettes**:** small circa 10mm diameter; rosettes open, leaves slightly convex, with lime secretion from apical and two pairs of lower lateral pores.
Flowers**:** dish-shaped to flat, up to 15mm diameter; 63A in bud and 63A when fully open. Single flower on short stems up to 6mm long at maturity. Stem leaves**:** alternate, obliquely patent. Stigmas**:** two, fringed, mid-purple in colour; Styles**:** pale purple; Anthers**:** dark purple; Filaments**:** mid-purple; Nectary ring**:** mid-purple.
Sepals**:** green at base but dark purple towards apex, glandular hairs with purple spheres, on back of sepal and on stem leaves.
Comments: This cross of 'Nancye' x 'Tysoe Sunrise' has a very distinct red colour, which is quite different to the reciprocal crosses of 'Tysoe Sunset' x 'Nancye'. A very attractive flower.

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_S_. 'Tysoe Kangchenjunga'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S.* 'Tysoe Annapurna' (female) x *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour' (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Tysoe Annapurna' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S. burseriana* 'Snowden'
S. 'Tysoe Splendour' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Louis Armstrong'

Cushion**:** tight. Rosettes**:** robust, typical of *S. burseriana.*
Flowers**:** creamy white with a very slight tinge of pink; single on 10mm long stems. Flower structure uniform with attractive flat flowers; Petals**:** edge is slightly crenate resulting from the 6-7 blunt lobes. Shallow 'valleys' run down each petal. Stigmas**:** two, fringed, colourless; Styles**:** green; Anthers**:** orange-brown; Filaments**:** green; Nectary ring**:** pale orange-brown. Sepals**:** purple towards apex, green at base; Stem leaves alternate, obliquely patent.
Comments: In contrast to the other burseriana hybrids such as 'Tysoe Everest' and 'Tysoe ‘Annapurna'. 'Tysoe Kangchenjunga' has short flower stems. It has a uniform and attractive flower.

S. 'Tysoe Easter-Joy'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S.* 'Tysoe Burgundy' (female) x Tysoe hybrid 12-41-2 (male)
Grandparents: *S.* 'Tysoe Burgundy' = *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour' x *S.* 'Kineton'
Tysoe hybrid 12-41-2 = *S.* 'Nancye' x *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion**:** compact, dark green with a little purple colouration, resembling that of' Tysoe Burgundy'.
Rosettes**:** large, up to 15mm diameter, open with leaves straight to convex. Distinct lime secretion around pores.
Flowers**:** cup-shaped, 17mm in diameter when fully open, single on short stems, up to 12mm long when flower is fully open. Pale pink in colour, 62A in bud, 62D when flower is fully open, flushed with 62B pink. Some refractive 'crystalline' cells on petal surface.
Petals**:** obovate to cuneate in shape, with 5 blunt lobes. Petal veins darker, but become less obvious as flower matures. Petals 7mm wide at widest point.
Stigmas: two, fringed, colourless; Styles**:** colourless**;** Anthers**:** dark purple**;** Filaments**:** pale purple; Nectary ring**:** brownish-orange. Stem leaves**:** alternate, obliquely patent. Numerous glandular hairs with purple spheres on flower stems and base of sepals. Hairs on stem leaf margins lack the purple spheres.
Comments: A very beautiful pale pink flower on a solid cushion. Early flowering.

S. 'Tysoe Whitethroat'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Tysoe Jubilee' (female) x *S*. 'Tysoe Robin' (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Tysoe Jubilee' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Tysoe Splendour'
S. 'Tysoe Robin' = *S.* 'Coolock Kate' x *S*. 'Halford-Love'

Cushion**:** compact but has very vigorous growth.
Rosettes**:** mid-green in colour, open with slightly convex leaves.
Moderate lime secretion from an apical and lower lateral pair of pores.
Flowers**:** white in bud with just a tinge of pink at the bud tip.
Flowers single on a short stem.
The creamy white flowers are vase shaped; they may have a slight tinge of pink, which is only visible at the tip of the back of the petal.
Petal**:** edge has 5 distinctly pointed lobes. Shallow 'valleys' run down the petal from each lobe carrying the veins, which are the same colour as the petal.
Stigmas**:** two, fringed, colourless:
Styles**:** green; Anthers brownish-red; Filaments**:** green; Pollen**:** mid-yellow; Nectary ring**:** green.
Comments: An attractive, late flowering hybrid with distinct, rather pointed, vase-shaped flowers.

S. 'Tysoe Linnet'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Tysoe Jubilee' (female) x *S*. 'Tysoe Robin' (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Tysoe Jubilee' = *S.* 'Gaydon-Love' x *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour'
S. 'Tysoe Robin' = *S*. 'Coolock Kate' x *S*. 'Halford-Love'

Cushion**:** very compact, but quite vigorous in growth. Rosettes**:** small, open, leaves convex. Lime secretion from apical and a lower pair of lateral pores.
Flower**:** buds flushed with pink, opening to give white flowers flushed with pink when they first open, but becoming much whiter as they mature. Flowers flat, small, attractive 12mm diameter, single flowers on medium-short stems, up to 11mm in length at flower maturity. Flower structure uniform. Petals**:** overlap by 10-15% at flower maturity. Petals**:** roundly obovate, up to 6mm wide;
Petal edge**:** 5 bluntly pointed lobes, with 'valley' folds running from apex to base.
Stigmas**:**two, fringed, colourless; Styles**:** pale purple**;** Anthers**:** pale purple; Filaments**:** pale purple;
Pollen**:** mid-yellow; Nectary ring**:** green. Sepals**:** green with purple upper half, numerous glandular hairs on back of Sepals, and on flower stems. Stem leaves purple green, alternate, obliquely patent.
Comments: An attractive well flowered plant on a tight cushion. Its parent S. 'Coolock Kate' is of interest, as it introduces the genes of S*. georgei* into the Tysoe breeding programme.

S. 'Tysoe Ptarmigan'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S.* 'Jubilee' (female) x *S.* 'Tysoe Robin' (male)
Grandparents*: S.* 'Tysoe Jubilee' = *S.* 'Gaydon-Love' x *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour'
S. 'Tysoe Robin' = *S.* 'Coolock Kate' x *S.* 'Halford-Love'

Cushion**:** tight, grey-green with vigorous growth. Rosettes**:** relatively small 11-12mm diameter, open with convex leaves. Heavily marked with lime secretion from an apical and lower pair of lateral pores. Flower**:** buds pink tipped, but flowers open to be ivory-white, with only a slight tinge of pink on the rear of petal edge of some flowers. Flowers single, on very short stems up to about 6mm at flower maturity; dish shaped to flat, 14mm in diameter. Petals**:** roundly obovate, c 6mm wide with 5 distinctly pointed lobes giving the petal edge a crenate appearance. Shallow 'valleys' run down the petal from each lobe point, and the petal surface has some refractive cells, giving it a slight 'crystalline' appearance. Stigmas**:** two, fringed, colourless; Styles**:** colourless**;** Anthers**:** mid-purple; Filaments**:** pale green to colourless; Pollen**:** pale yellow; Nectary ring**:** pale yellow-green. Sepals**:** green tinged with purple, with numerous glandular hairs with purple spheres, on back of sepal. Stem leaves**:** alternate, obliquely patent. There are numerous glandular hairs on flower stem.
Comments: A very well-flowered early flowering hybrid. It has much shorter flower stems and has noticeably less pink colour on its petals than 'Tysoe Linnet'.

S. 'Tysoe Dream'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'George Gershwin'(female) x *S*. 'Tysoe Jubilee' (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'George Gershwin' = *S*. *lowndesii* x *S*. 'Tvuj Uspech'
S. 'Tysoe Jubilee' = *S*.'Gaydon-Love' x 'Tysoe-Splendour'

Cushion**:** tight, mid-green in colour. Rosettes**:** open, leaves slightly convex, moderate lime secretion from an apical and a lower pair of lateral pores.
Flowers**:** very pale pink, bright pink in bud 62A, but pale 62D when flower fully opens; single on very short stems. Flower flat, with uniform, overlapping petals.
Petal**:** edge has 5 blunt lobes. Stigmas**:** two, fringed, colourless; Styles**:** pale green; Filaments**:** pale purple or pale green; Pollen**:** pale yellow. Sepals**:** purple-green.

Comments: 'Tysoe Dream' inherits *S. lowndesii* genes from its 'George Gershwin' parent. The attractive flower is carried on a very short stem, and is very similar to the flowers of *S. lowndesii*. 'Tysoe Dream' has a tight cushion which appears to be more adapted to UK wet winters, than its grandparent *S. lowndesii*.

S. 'Tysoe Radiance'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Tysoe Pink-Gem' (female) x *S. lowndesii* (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Tysoe Pink-Gem' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion: reasonably tight, but not solid.
Rosettes: small 8mm diameter; open, with leaves almost straight; lime secretion from an apical and sometimes a lower pair of lateral pores. Flower: single, stemless, flat, with petal tips slightly reflexed at flower maturity. Colour RHS 62D when fully open, basal part of petal tinged with 62C at flower maturity. Petal surface very refractive with 'crystalline' cells. Flowers relatively large up to 16mm in diameter at maturity, petals widely cuneate, up to 9mm at widest point. Petal edge has 5 very blunt lobes, with shallow 'valleys' running down petal from each lobe, giving the petal a slight wavy appearance. Sepals: green and red, with a few glandular cilia with purple spheres along lateral edge and base of sepal. Stigma: two, fringed, pale purple; styles: green. Anthers: mid-purple, filaments: purple. Nectary ring: orange.

Comments: A beautiful pale pink flower, enhanced by the 'crystalline' surface of the petals. Flowers mid-season. As with most *S. lowndesii* crosses, cushions need protection from winter rain.

S. 'Tysoe Magenta'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S.* 'Tysoe Pink-Gem' (female) x *S. ludlowii* (male)
Grandparents: *S.* 'Tysoe Pink-Gem' = *S.* 'Gaydon- Love' x *S.* 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion: tight. Rosettes: medium-small up to 7mm in diameter, a little lime secretion from apical, and one or two pairs of lower lateral pores. Flower: very short stemmed; deep purple-pink in colour, 74A in bud, 74B when flower is first fully open, fading to 74C; large up to 20mm diameter. Petals: 'wavy', 10-11mm in width with seven blunt lobes. Shallow 'valleys' run down petal from each lobe. Sepals: There are numerous glandular hairs with purple spheres, towards the base and on flower stem. Stigmas: two, fringed and colourless; Styles: mid-purple; Anthers: mid-purple; Filaments: mid-purple; Pollen: mid-yellow.

Comments: It has a striking, almost stemless, dark purple flower with crinkled petals. Relatively late flowering. It is another exciting hybrid from a cross involving *S. ludlowii'* from a collection made in China by Voljech Holubec.

S. 'Tysoe Joe Elliott'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S.* 'Nancye' (female) x *S*. 'Tysoe Blush' (male)
Grandparents*:* *S.* 'Nancye' = *S*. 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*
S. 'Tysoe Blush' = *S*. 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion: tight.
Flowers: dark pink, 15mm in diameter; Dark rose-red, 58B before they open; flowers 65A when fully open with distinctly darker pink petal veins.
Petal: edge almost straight with the slightest of blunt lobes.
Flower stem: short, 11mm in length at flower maturity, red in colour; Sepals: red. Stigmas: 2, occasionally three, fringed, pale purple; Styles: mid purple; Anthers: dark purple, filaments: mid purple; Pollen: dark yellow.

Comments: an attractive plant flowering mid-season; cushion well covered with short stemmed flowers. Rather like a very short stemmed S. 'Nancye'. It has also inherited a good hard cushion of rosettes from its grandparent *S. cinerea.*

S. 'Tysoe Adrian'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Nancye' (female) x *S*. 'Tysoe Blush' (male)
Grandparents: S. 'Nancye' = S. 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*
S. 'Tysoe Blush' = *S.* 'Gaydon-Love' x *S*. 'Tysoe Splendour'

Cushion: compact; Rosettes: 7-8mm in diameter, lime secretion from apical, and one or two pairs of lower lateral pores.
Flowers: dark pink 68a in full flower and it maintains this colour from bud to maturity. Flowers are stemless at first, but the flower stem is 8mm long at flower maturity; flowers are long lasting.
Petals: distinctive in having a slightly reflexed outer edge.
Stigmas: two, fringed, very pale purple or colourless; Styles: pale purple; Anthers: mid purple, filaments: pale purple; Pollen: golden yellow.

Comments: A superb plant with particularly attractive flowers, which are distinct from those of its sibling 'Tysoe Joe Elliott'. Flowers Mid-season. Robust, compact cushion.

S. 'Tysoe David'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S.* 'Nancye' (female) x *S. lowndesii* (male)
Grandparents: *S.* 'Nancye' = *S.* 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*

Cushion: compact, grey-green in colour. Rosettes: large, 15mm diameter, open, leaves slightly convex towards the tip; copious lime secretion from apical, and 3, or sometimes 4 pairs of lower lateral pores. Flowers: about 16mm in diameter, a deep burgundy-red colour 61A in bud, 61B when first open, 61C at flower maturity, flowers single on short stem, up to 5mm long at maturity.
Petals: wide, 10mm, roundly obovate, overlapping by up to 30%. Petal usually partially folded, with outer edge slightly re-flexed when fully open, petal edge has about six blunt lobes, with folds running down from each petal lobe. There are refractive 'crystalline' cells on petal surface.
Sepals: green tinged with purple, glandular hairs on the rear. Flower stem: red, with numerous glandular hairs ending in purple spheres. Stem leaves: alternate, obliquely patent, green, with just a few glandular hairs at their base, colourless, non-glandular hairs on lateral edges. Stigma: two, fringed, slightly purple; Styles: pale purple; Anthers: very faintly purple; Filaments: almost colourless.

Comments: an excellent plant with a very beautiful flower, inheriting some of the best features of *S. cinerea* and *S. lowndesii*. Appears easier to grow than *lowndesii*.

S. 'Tysoe Ralph Haywood'

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S*. 'Nancye' (female) x S. *lowndesii* (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Nancye' = *S*. 'Winifred' x *S. cinerea*

Cushion: tight; Rosettes: grey-green up to 14mm diameter, with moderate lime secretion from apical and two pairs of lower lateral pores. Flowers: stemless at first, a dark red-purple, 71A in bud, colour remains 71A until flower is fully open. Flowers vase to cup shape, single, up to 16mm in diameter. Petals: distinctly overlapping, by up to 50%, 'wavy' and a little 'twisted', given the petal surface a slight corrugated appearance; up to 9mm wide, petal edge mainly entire with just remnants of flattened lobes. Petal surface very dark in colour with some refractive, 'crystalline' cells.
Sepals: green tinged purple, with sparse glandular hairs. Stigmas: two, fringed, almost colourless; Styles: mid purple; Anthers: dark purple; Filaments: dark purple; Nectary ring: dark purple.

Comments: a superb, early flowering plant with unusual colour. Flowers early March in Tysoe, Warwickshire, UK. Distinct from its sibling 'Tysoe David'.

***S*. 'Tysoe Elegance'**

Raiser: David G A Walkey

Parents: *S. marginata* (female) x *S.* 'Crimscote-Love' (male)
Grandparents: *S*. 'Crimscote-Love' = *S*. 'Miluj Mne' x *S.* 'Edgehill'

Cushion: compact with dark green *'S.marginata'* rosettes. Rosettes: large 14mm diameter, heavily covered with lime secretion from apical, plus two pairs of lower lateral pores. Open with convex leaves. Flowers: single, large up to 21mm diameter. Buds pale pink 62C-D, with darker pink veins visible. Petals: roundly obovate 10mm wide with 5 bluntly pointed lobes. Shallow 'valleys' run from petal apex to base carrying the very faintly pink veins. These are more easily seen from the under-surface of the petal, creamy-white, with darker 62B pink just at their base. Flowers flat; petal tips slightly re-flexed at flower maturity, overlap by up to 20% at flower maturity.
Flower stem: Short at first, but elongating to 20mm at flower maturity. Stem leaves: alternate, obliquely patent. There are a few glandular hairs with purple spheres on the back and lateral edges of the stem leaves.
Sepals: green, sparsely covered with glandular hairs with purple spheres. Hairs are more numerous on the flower stem. Stigmas: two, fringed, almost colourless; Styles: pale purple; Anthers: orange-brown; Filaments colourless; Nectary ring: pale orange-green.

Comments: This hybrid has the typical robust, lime encrusted rosettes of its *S.marginata* parent and very attractive pale flowers tinged with pink. Flowers mid-season.

NARCISSUS: VARIATION AND HYBRIDS IN THE WILD, Matt Topsfield.

This photo-essay supplements my article *In the Footsteps of John W. Blanchard* published in The Rock Gardener 138, January 2017. (Matt's preliminary article on other plants appeared in IRG 81)

A noticeable feature of many wild *Narcissus* populations found during my research trip to south-eastern Spain in March 2016 was their extreme variability. Historically this has created problems for botanists, with individual plants within any one population often being put into a range of several taxa (subspecies, varieties etc.) Taxonomic debates abound with 'splitters' and 'lumpers' on either side.

As gardeners it is often easy for us to identify cultivated forms of plants based on a set of distinctive characteristics. However, we are often growing plants from a small original collection showing only a limited range of the overall variation possible within the population, a single clone judged to be the 'best' form by the collector or even subsequent generations of seedling offspring of wild collected plants that may show reduced variability or the effects of hybridisation. I do wonder at my own obsessive collecting of named forms when I might be hard pushed to correctly identify them if all the labels were removed from their pots.

Having observed a number of species and populations in the wild, I will admit that my view is generally more inclined towards that of the lumpers; that many *Narcissus* species are polymorphic in their natural state. Furthermore, some populations may show extreme variability where they arise from hybridisation. Here I will highlight, through presenting additional photographs to supplement those in TRG 138, the variation I found within three species of *Narcissus* found at some of the locations I visited. I will also show the naturally occurring intersectional hybrids that I found during my travels.

Narcissus bulbocodium

Only one population of *Narcissus bulbocodium* was found, to the south of the Sierra Madrona. However, it was one that showed extreme variability, ranging from just a few to 15cm / 6" in height they had narrow to widely flared coronas with varying degrees of ruffling and fluting. There is no reason to suspect that they are anything other than the type plant *N. b.* subsp. *bulbocodium* var. *bulbocodium*.

Roadside population of variable *Narcissus bulbocodium.*

Narcissus bulbocodium with a tiny trumpet

Robust *Narcissus bulbocodium* with a flared and fluted corona

Left: Range of variation within *Narcissus bulbocodium*

Below: *Narcissus bulbocodium* with ten perianth segments

A ‘typical’ *Narcissus hedraeanthus*

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***Narcissus hedraeanthus* hybrids**

These plants are hybrids of *Narcissus hedraeanthus*, with the other other parent unknown but probably *Narcissus cantabricus*. I suggest that they might best be regarded as *Narcissus* x *blancoi* **/** *N*. 'luteolentus' (Hort.) (see discussion in TRG 138). Here I will highlight the differences between these plants and typical *N. hedraeanthus* and the variability within the population.

A tiny specimen of *Narcissus hedraeanthus*

The key characteristics of *N. hedraeanthus,* based upon my observation of populations in the field are:

Flowers - softest yellow and small (often tiny)

Perianth segments - large in relation to the corona (compared to other species in Section Bulbocodium)

Corona - narrow, only weakly flared, longer that wide

Scape - short, approximately 5cm / 2" and held at 45^{o}

Leaves - dark green, stiff, broad in relation to their length, sharply tapering at their tips, typically semi-prostrate, lying at or near horizontal towards their base and erect towards the tips, making the leaves strongly curved along their length .

Left: *Narcissus hedraeanthus* hybrid with a very long scape.

Plants in the *N*. *hedraeanthus* hybrid population in the Sierra de Alcaraz differed from typical plants of *N. hedraeanthus* in many respects:

Flowers - deeper, more acid / primrose yellow and larger

Perianth segments - of similar proportions

Corona - extremely variable, more or less widely flared, wider than long, some almost petunioid or with a laciniate margin

Scape - long, up to 15cm / 6” in some specimens and erect

Leaves - not so dark green, typically thinner, linear rather than curved and erect

Presented here is a further selection of the variation, in addition to that depicted in TRG 138.

Above left: *N. hedraeanthus* hybrid with a beautifully flared corona. Above right: *N. hedraeanthus* hybrid with a narrow corona. Below left: *N.hedraeanthus* hybrid with a fringed corona margin. Below right: A petunioid *Narcissus hedraeanthus* hybrid in side profile.

Narcissus longispathus

A few specimens of *Narcissus longispathus* were found bearing twin flowers, which is unusual in the trumpet daffodils of Section Pseudonarcissus but a common trait in this species and one shared with *Narcissus nevadensis*. Whilst plants superficially appeared to be uniform, closer examination revealed that the coronas might be narrow or flared, and with an entire, crenate, lobed or laciniate margin and some plants had twisted petals, looking like a propeller. Significantly, the flowers were found to be larger than the ranges given in Blanchard's *Narcissus: a Guide to Wild Daffodils* (1990).

Narcissus longispathus with a lobed corona margin

Narcissus longispathus with a narrow corona.

Narcissus longispathus with a flared and laciniate corona

Narcissus longispathus with twisted petals

Intersectional Hybrids

Narcissus triandrus was frequent and widespread throughout the regions visited, often in mixed populations with other species. The naturally-occurring intersectional hybrids I found were almost invariably growing close to *N. triandrus*, a species that appears to commonly be the seed parent in such pairings. Hybrids often show characteristics that are intermediate between the two parents, but may be closer to one parent or produce offspring quite unlike either and of great beauty.

Narcissus* x *fosteri

With a hoop petticoat in its make-up, *Narcissus* x *fosteri* (syn. *Narcissus* x *rozeirae*) results from a similar crossing to the previous plant, but in this case it is *Narcissus bulbocodium* as the pollen parent. There were very few *N. bulbocodium* in flower during my visit, but many *N. triandrus* were in bloom. These hybrids showed some variation in their form, mainly the shape of the corona as well as their hybrid vigour. Some plants were especially robust, with one particularly strong growing plant with three blooms on a tall scape and of a very thick texture. *Narcissus* 'Solveig's Song' is a similar, cultivated hybrid created by Rannveig Wallis, which is an exceptionally strong growing and pretty plant.

Narcissus x *fosteri* and its seed parent *Narcissus triandrus cernuus*

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Narcissus x *fosteri* with a delicate flower

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A robust plant of *Narcissus* x *fosteri* with a scape bearing three flowers of thick substance

Narcissus* x *maginae

Whilst most hybrids are beautiful plants, I'm not sure I can say the same for *Narcissus* x *maginae* (*Narcissus triandrus* x *Narcissus cuatrecasasii*). I failed to identify this plant during my field work, searching through a large population of *N. cuatrecasasii*. However, it was identified from photographs subsequent to the trip. It is an interesting plant, but not likely to set the horticultural world on fire.

The elusive *Narcissus* x *maginae*

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Narcissus* x *rupidulus
Growing in a mixed population of its parents, *N. triandrus* (seed) x *N. rupicola* (pollen) was a single specimen of *Narcissus* x *rupidulus*, intermediate in colour between its parents and with the perianth segments only slightly reflexed. This was an exciting discovery at the first *Narcissus* population I located.

Narcissus x *rupidulus*

Narcissus x *susannae* and *Narcissus triandrus cernuus*

Narcissus* x *susannae
Narcissus x *susannae* (syn. *Narcissus* x *litigiosus*) is a hybrid of exceptional elegance and grace, surpassing both parents (*Narcissus triandrus* x *Narcissus cantabricus*) in its beauty. Those plants I found varied little in their form. Collected forms and hybrids of the same parentage that have been created in cultivation are some of the most sought after plants. It is worth travelling to Spain to see this plant alone.

I recommend a trip to find *Narcissus* in the wild for anyone interested in these plants, and further details can be found in TRG 138, also on the SRGC Forum **here** and the technical report is available from the author by emailing: mtopsfield@icloud.com

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