



Bulb Gardening



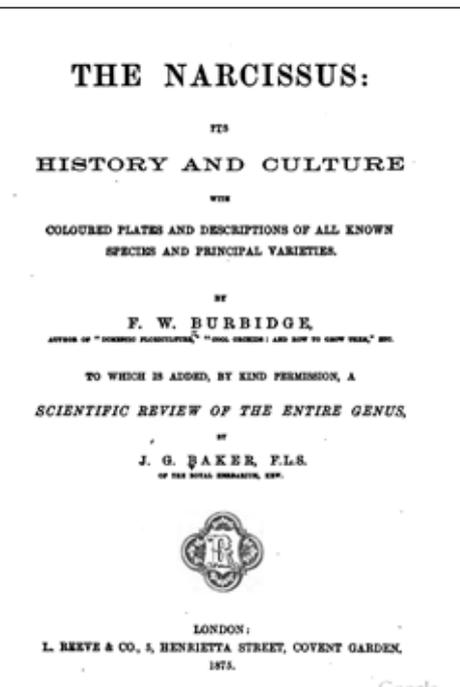
News and advice for better gardening

Newsletter no. 18

SOME DAFFODIL RESOURCES

A while ago we mentioned to you a wonderful resource for daffodil enthusiasts provided online by the American Daffodil Society (ADS). That website is at www.daffseek.org where you can look up the names of daffodils and find out information about them and in many cases pictures also.

Not content with this, the ADS have made available online a wide range of associated daffodil literature. It can be found at www.dafflibrary.org



On this site we found an electronic copy of a book I had been long searching for for our library as it was the first comprehensive treatise on Daffodils by Burbridge and Baker in 1875.

The introduction to the website says; "You'll find a large compilation of daffodil catalogues from growers around the world, some dating back to the late 1800's.

There is a wide range of articles: some scientific, some about miniature daffodils, some about the health of daffodils, and some about daffodils growing in their native habitats written by those who have searched for them over the years.

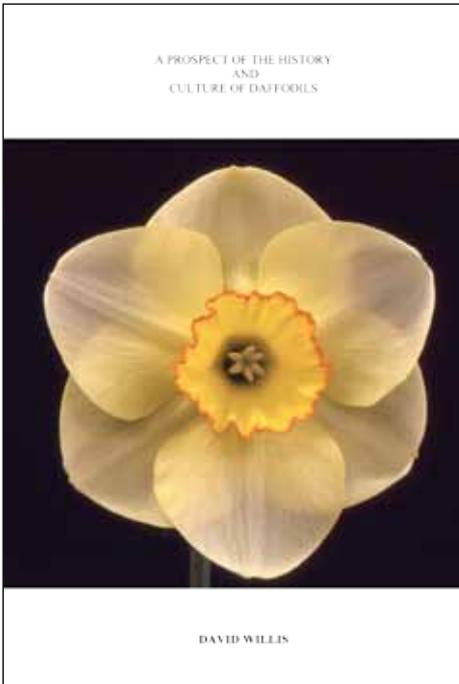
Within the library are links to downloadable PDF files of older books which have been digitized by Google and others. There are also links to websites with digitized books and materials.

Our own (ADS) Daffodil Journal is also available, from 1964 through 2007."

We also found there the latest comprehensive treatise on daffodils by David Willis. It is a learned tome of 300 pages. Although biased towards the UK, there is comprehensive information about everything to do with daffodils.

Published by Christine & Will Ashburner
© J.N. Hancock & Co. 2013

Find us on **facebook.** For show and general information on Hancock's.



CENTENARY COMING

In just over three years it will be 100 years since our founding by H.A. (Harry) Brown. It seems amazing how quickly this has come up. It is an exciting time for us. We have been careful with our rotation plans and will have the main plant in our front paddock which should give a special show for visitors in spring. It will be a time to put together our records and historical objects.

2014 SHOW DATES

To see our living display next spring, please note the following dates:



- Farm Display (Menziess Creek)**
Friday 22nd Aug. to Sunday 28th Sep.
- Royal Adelaide Show**
Friday 5th Sep. to Saturday 13th Sep.
- Royal Melbourne Show**
Saturday 20th Sep. to Wednesday 1st Oct.
- Other shows**
To be announced.

Gamblers Pot Luck



At the end of the dispatch season in April we often have small quantities of bulbs packaged up. We offer these bulbs at half-price to people who are happy to take 'pot-luck.'

We make up packages of bulbs to the value of at least \$100 worth. These are available for \$49 post free. The packages generally contain a wide variety of bulbs as well as some daffodils.

To order, simply add to your order;
Gamblers Pot-Luck \$49

DRUG PLANTS

According to an article in Greenworld Magazine (Vol. 31 no. 5, p 11):

"The introduction of a new law in Australia to control the availability of synthetic drugs could impact on the legality of growing some garden plants. Legislation just passed in NSW Parliament to ban psychoactive and other substances may have the unwelcome side effect of banning the growing of some plants. Many common garden plants including wattles, cactus, passionfruit, brugmansia and yellow oleander contain psychotropic and other substances. Growers and gardeners are asking if the new law criminalises cacti and calling for greater consultation in drug reform."

A classic case of how Government and bureaucracy have gone crazy creating rules that have greater consequences than planned. Will this affect daffodils and will gardeners become criminals?

FAMILY AFFAIRS

Jessica & Simon, our children, helped out at the shows again this spring. We appreciate their help during this busy time, as we do that of our part-time staff who increase their hours and help us in numerous ways.

Jessica, as part of her Agriculture studies has been resident at Dookie College this year. Her industry project was working with sheep nutrition and rye grass staggers. She is considering doing an honours year next year. Simon has completed his first year studying photography at RMIT. He has photographed a wide range of subjects this year. He has discovered a number of old rusty things in our shed that have proved useful for studio projects.

Will briefly managed to be in the news headlines with a party of Venturer Scouts he was leading on a cross-country skiing trip on the Bogong High Plains. Extreme blizzard conditions hit, and after seeking advice, the party received assistance from Emergency Services as a couple of the younger members were struggling. The media got a bit excited but it was well controlled and Will took his duty of care to be more important than saving face. Many of our customers commented on seeing him on the evening news.