

The 31st annual NIHGT conference will explore the history of bulbs, corms and tuber breeding; the trade in both Ireland and abroad, and the ways in which bulbs were used in gardens from the seventeenth-century onwards.



*Hogg & Robertson, 1901 & 1907*



*'Spellbinder' daffodil (Guy Wilson, 1944)*



*Glenarm, Co. Antrim –  
part of garden during tulip festival*

NORTHERN IRELAND HERITAGE GARDENS TRUST  
[www.nihgc.org](http://www.nihgc.org)

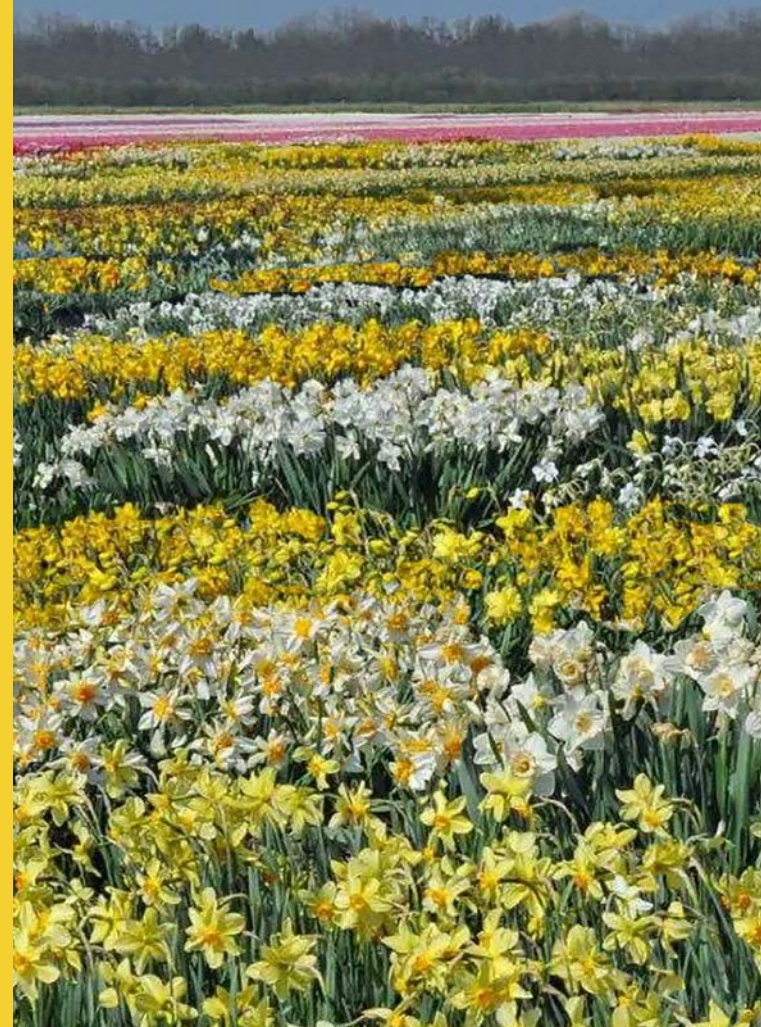
# THE WORLD OF BULBS

**Their history, propagation and use**

## CONFERENCE

WESTVILLE HOTEL, ENNISKILLEN  
COUNTY FERMANAGH

*2nd–4th October 2025*





## THURSDAY 2nd OCTOBER

**6.00pm** Registration, Reception and Refreshment

**7.30pm** Welcome by the Chairman (NIHGT)  
*NIHGT 31<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*

**Terence Reeves-Smyth**  
*The bulb trade in Ireland, 1750–1950*

## FRIDAY 3rd OCTOBER

**9.15am** **Graham Dillamore**  
*Bulb planting at Hampton Court 1700 onwards*

**10.45am** **Polly Nicholson**  
*A sustainable approach to growing species, historical and annual tulips*

**11.30am** **Jim Jermyn**  
*Galanthus, Leucojum and Dwarf Spring Bulbs – their history, native distribution and application in our gardens*

**12.15pm** **Paul Smyth**  
*Bulbs in an Irish Garden*

**1.00pm** Lunch

**2.00pm** Site Visit  
**Florence Court, Co. Fermanagh**  
*Transport will be provided*

**7.30pm** Dinner  
Venue: Westville Hotel  
**Speaker: Christine Skelmersdale**  
*Bulbs in the Tien Mountains*

## SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER

**9.15am** **Carlos van der Veer**  
*The Dutch bulb industry*

**10.45am** **David and Jules Hardy**  
*Demystifying daffodils*

**11.30am** **Duncan and Kate Donald**  
*‘Beauty’ in the eye of the beholder?  
Rescuing heritage daffodils*

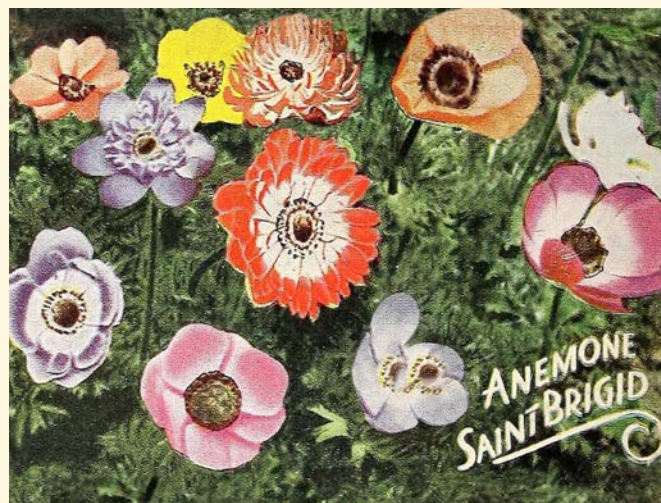
**12.00pm** **Brian Duncan**  
*Fifty years as a hybridizer*

**1.00pm** Lunch

**2.00pm** **Suzie Scott**  
*Bulbs in art and art of floristry*

**2.45pm** **Martin Duncan**  
*Bulbs at Arundel Castle*

**3.00pm** Discussion



## BOOKING FORM

### Conference fee:

Early Bird (before 31st July) – £249 €295

From 1st August – £269 €319

Fee includes coffee/tea, lunches and dinner.

*(Students who can demonstrate they are registered on a full time, approved course in an appropriate discipline may apply to NIHGT via [secretary@nihgc.org](mailto:secretary@nihgc.org) for the reduced rate of £140 €160 which excludes dinner.)*

A finite number of rooms for delegates (special rates) are reserved (until 31st August) at **The Westville Hotel** and **The Belmont Motel**, both on Tempo Road, Enniskillen. Check the internet for other local accommodation if required.

**Payment** to ‘Northern Ireland Heritage Gardens Trust’ can be made via bank transfer, see NIHGT website – [www.nihgc.org](http://www.nihgc.org)). Please ensure we have your name and contact details.

**OR**

Cheque sent to: NIHGT, 11 Raffrey Road, Killinchy, BT23 6SF with this booking form.

Name(s) .....

Address .....

Tel: .....

Email: .....

I enclose: .....

No refunds will be given for cancellations within 3 days of the conference. £70/€80 will be retained on other cancellations.

Please also advise of special dietary needs – contact:  
[secretary@nihgc.org](mailto:secretary@nihgc.org)