

I chose the cover image because it is an ancient tradition to celebrate the passing of mid-winter with an evergreen tree and last week we passed the winter solstice with the sun being at the lowest point in the sky: now it will slowly rise back up bringing longer days and more warmth to the garden.

The last Bulb Log of the year is a time when I look back both at the passing year and forward towards what next year might hold for the plants and the garden.



Last winter was a long dark cold one. We experienced prolonged periods of freezing temperatures which is not that unusual for us but what made it very different were the gale force winds that accompanied the cold, blasting the plants with freezing temperatures.

The blast freezer type conditions did cause some damage to shrubs such as the **Crinodendron hookerianum** which had all its leaves and newest growths killed off leaving just the older thicker wood surviving. Fortunately we know from previous experiences that new growths will break from the older wood and the plant will recover and it indeed is now covered with new growth and next year's flower buds.

As if the plants had not suffered enough with the winter they then had to deal with the challenging summer conditions when we had the longest period of heat and drought that I can remember in the garden. Most plants starved of moisture, especially the many Rhododendrons we grow, went into survival mode and put on very

little new growth however many have produced plenty of flower buds so we can look forward to a colourful spring display. Any long term damage resulting from these atypical weather patterns may not become evident until the new spring growth emerges.



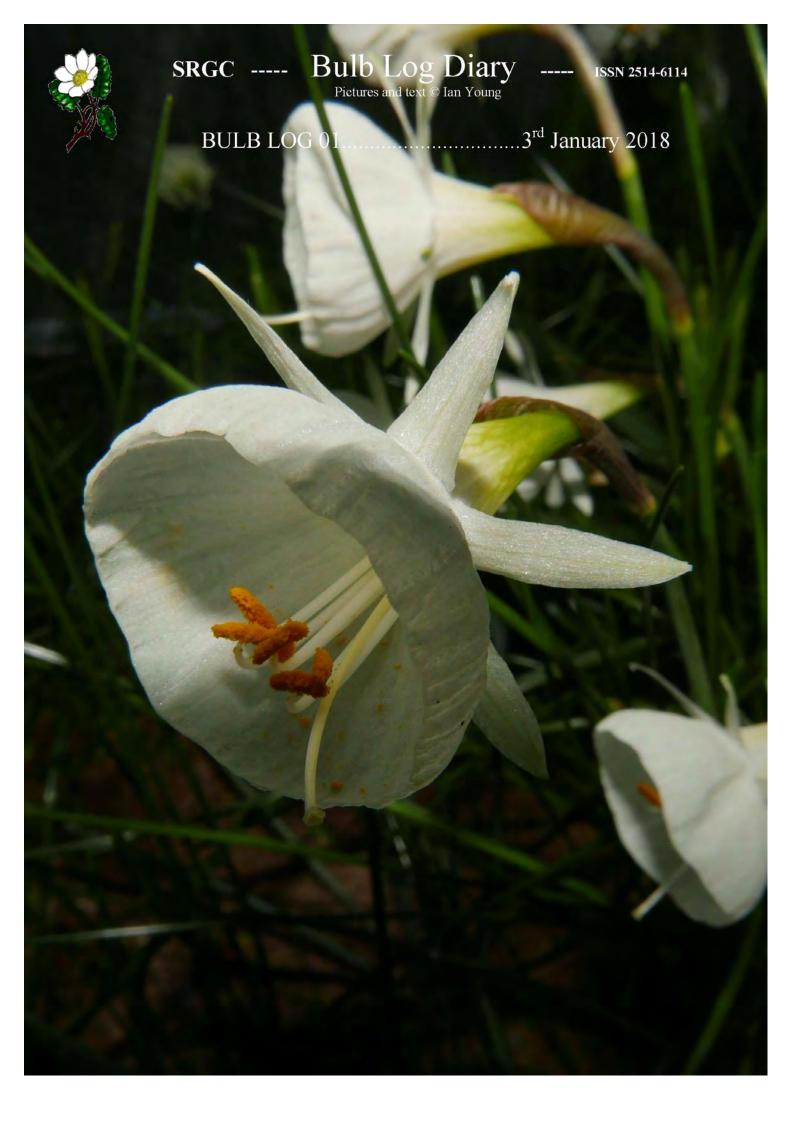
Looking forward I will continue work on the area at the top of the garden where I cut back Rhododendrons and other shrubs opening up a large area of ground space which I have started to plant with bulbs and other plants. Only after I see the growth in the spring will I be able to decide what else to plant and where it should go.



I am especially looking forward to seeing how the new bed I created in the summer 2017 looks in flower in its second spring with the additional plantings I have made including more forms of Erythronium sibiricum. Then there are the three Bulb Houses where the flowers of the Narcissus in pots and planted directly into the sand beds are delighting us through the dark cold days of winter and into spring – more from these next year.



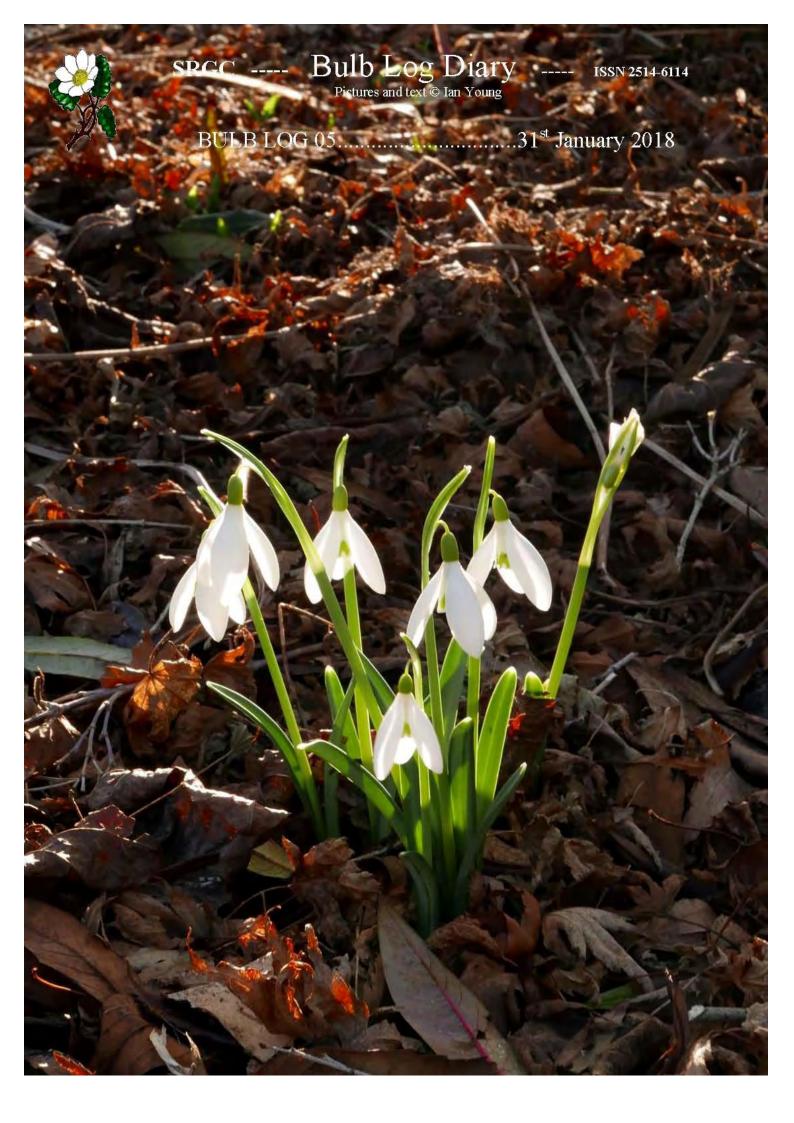
If you want to reflect or review 2018 through the Bulb Log all the front page pictures are displayed below simply click on the relevant picture to link directly and open that Bulb Log.











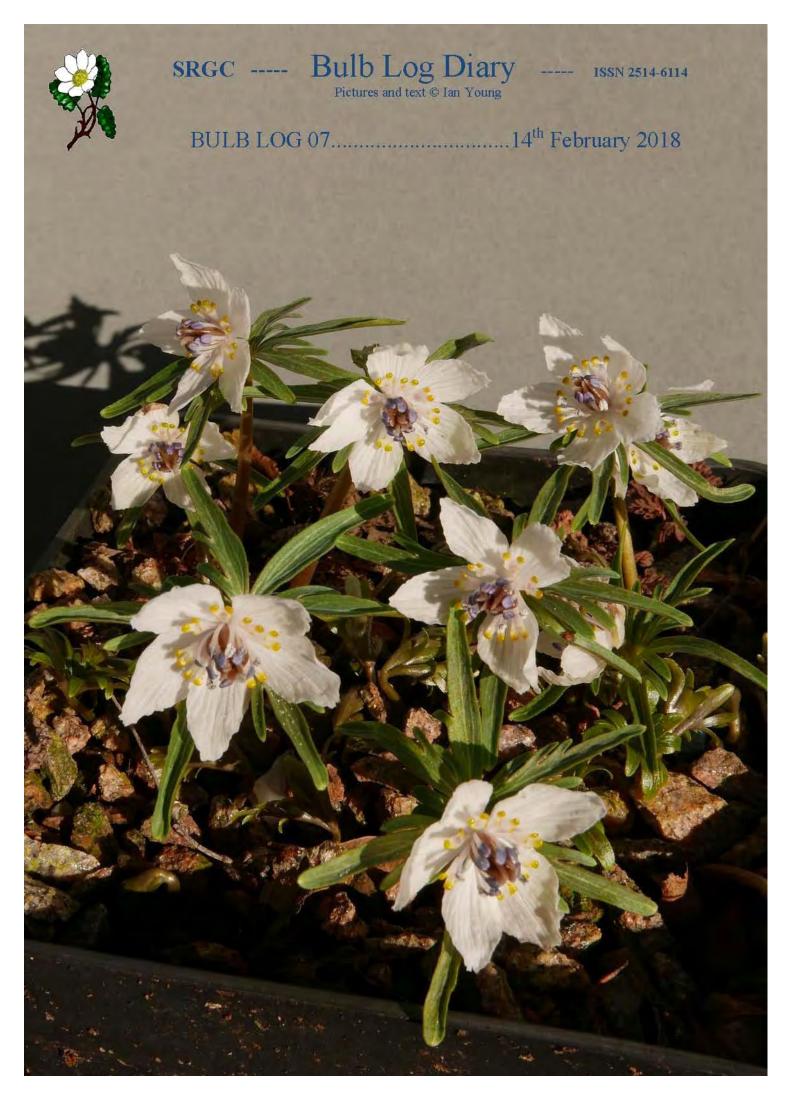


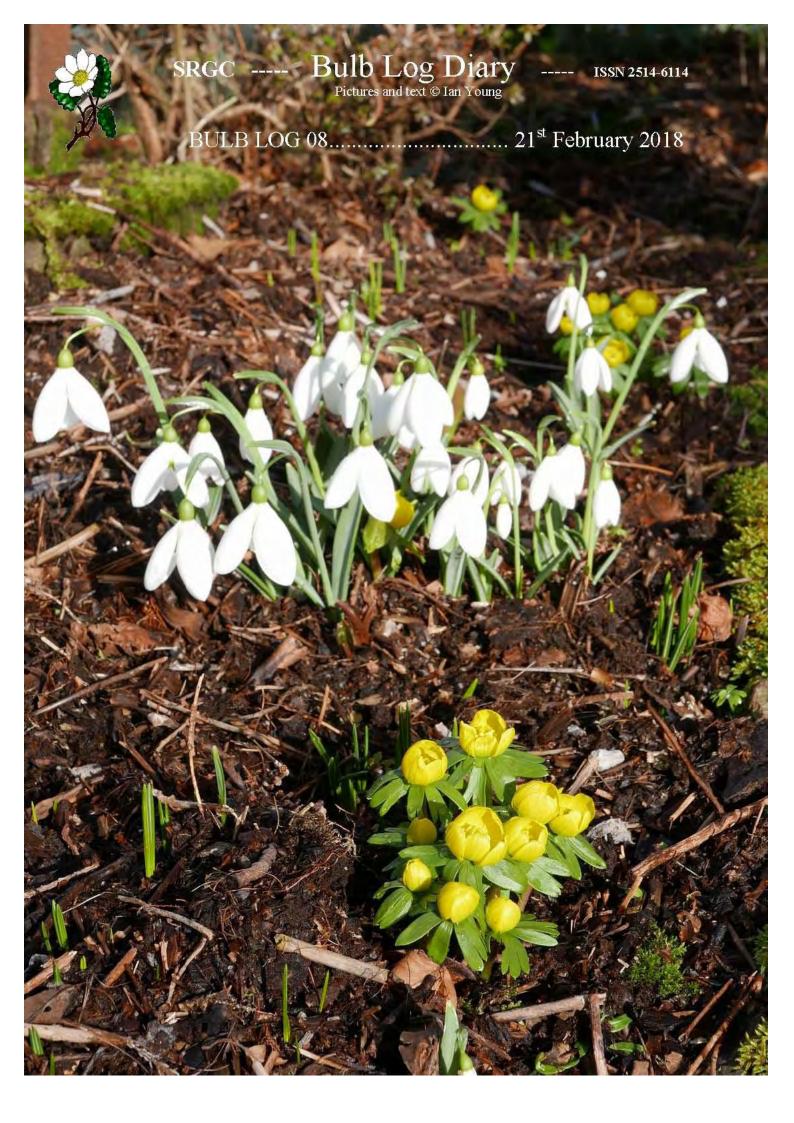
SRGC ---- Bulb Log Drary
Pictures and text © Ian Young

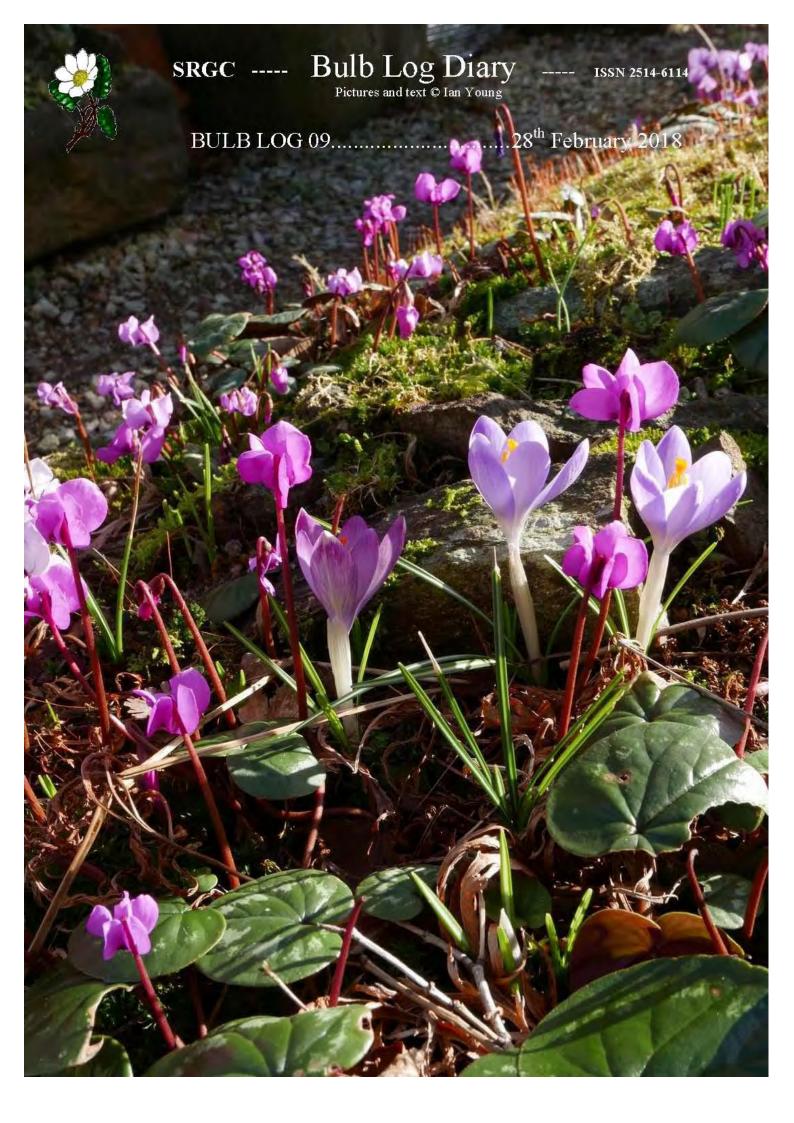
BULB LOG 06......7th February 2018

ISSN 2514-6114

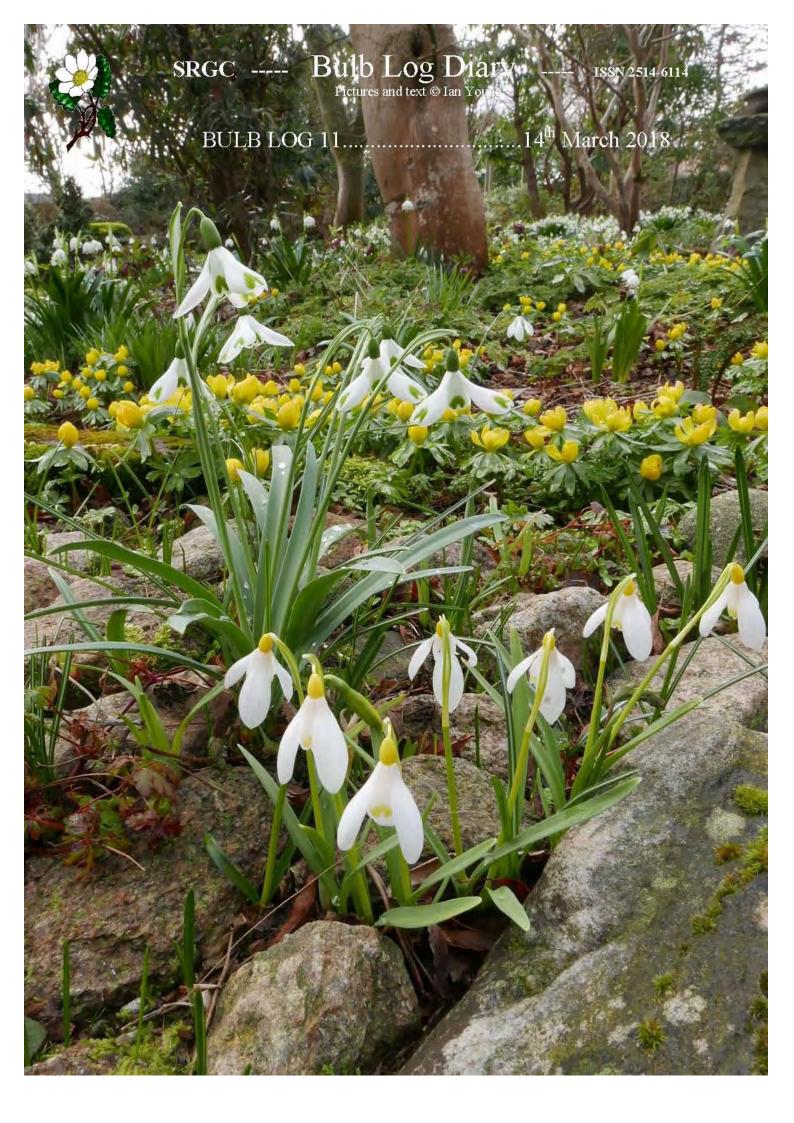


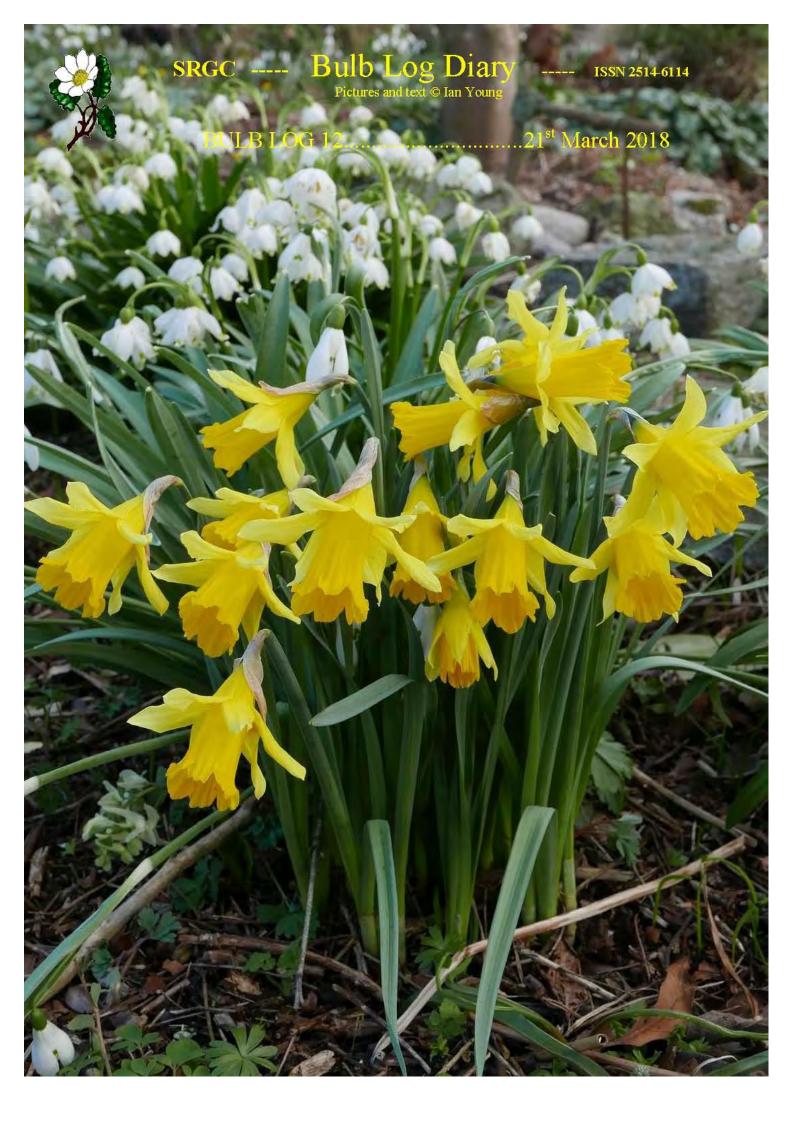


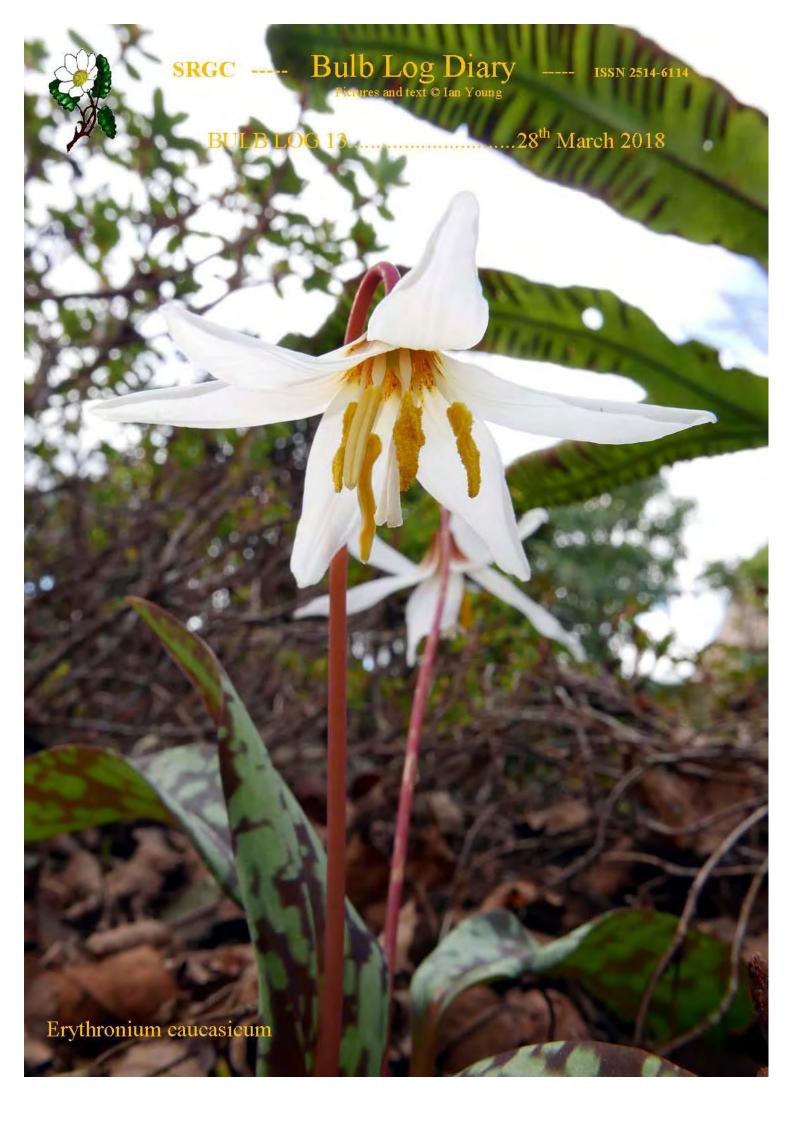






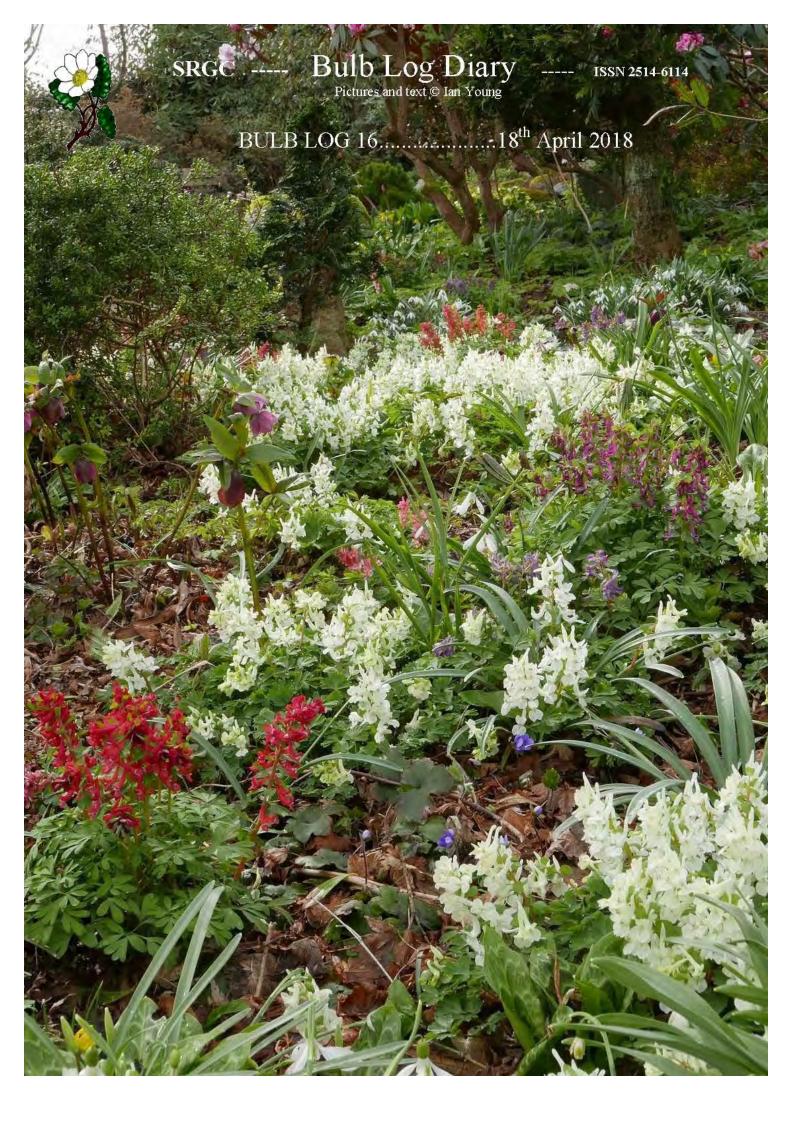




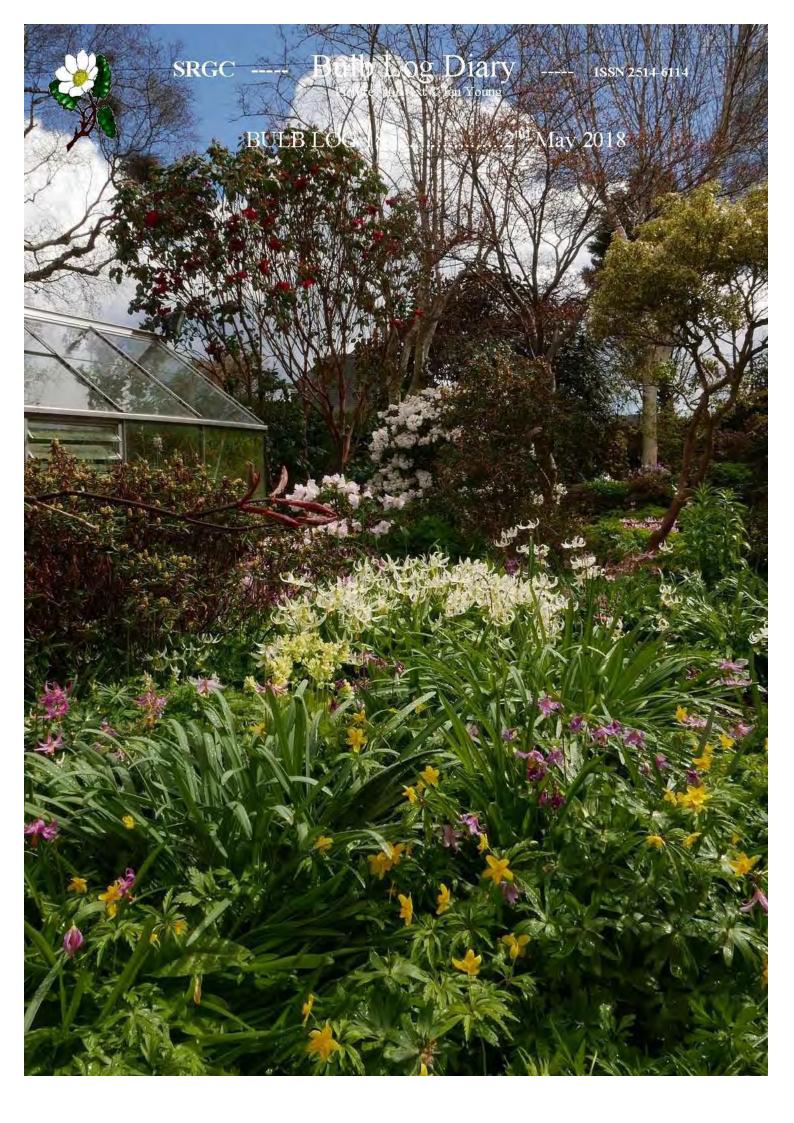




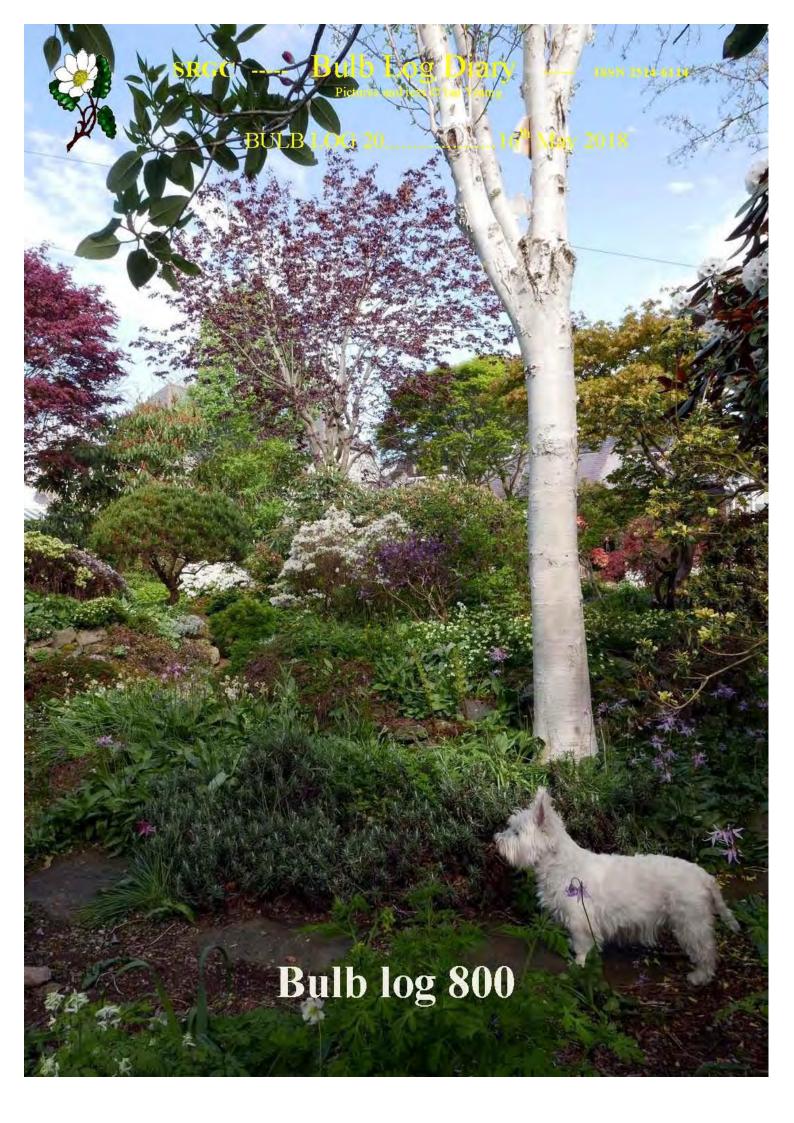






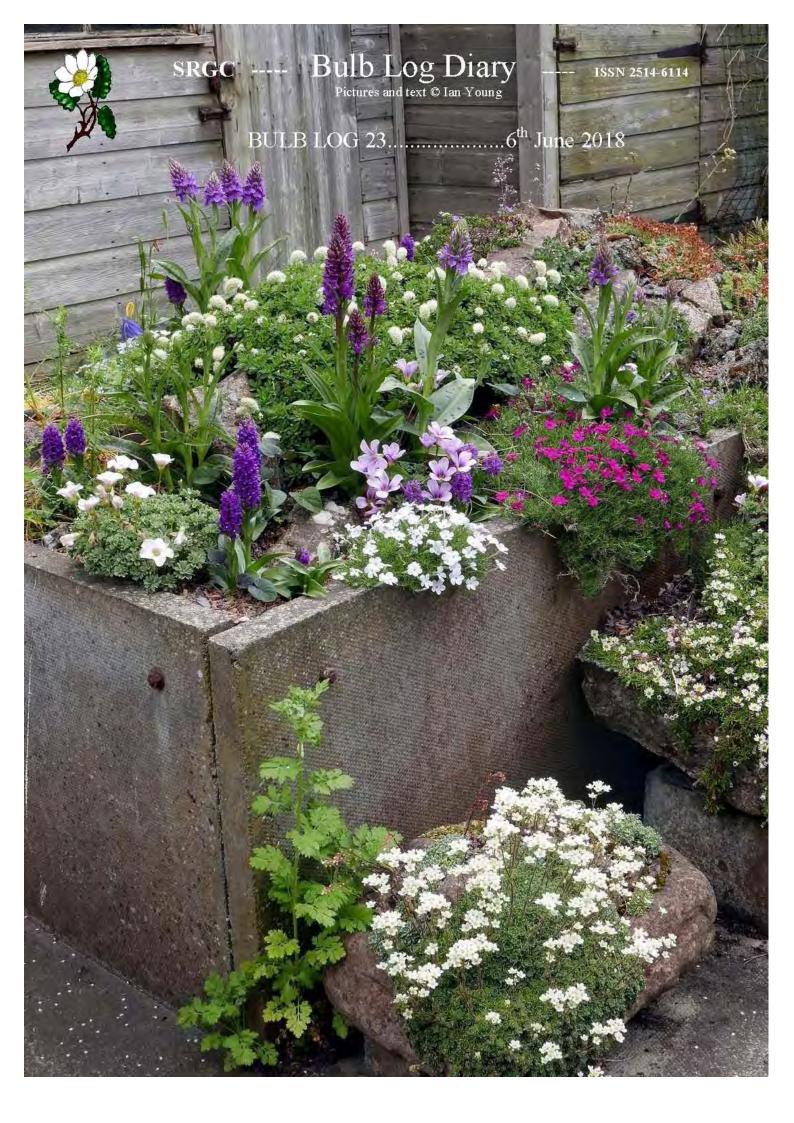


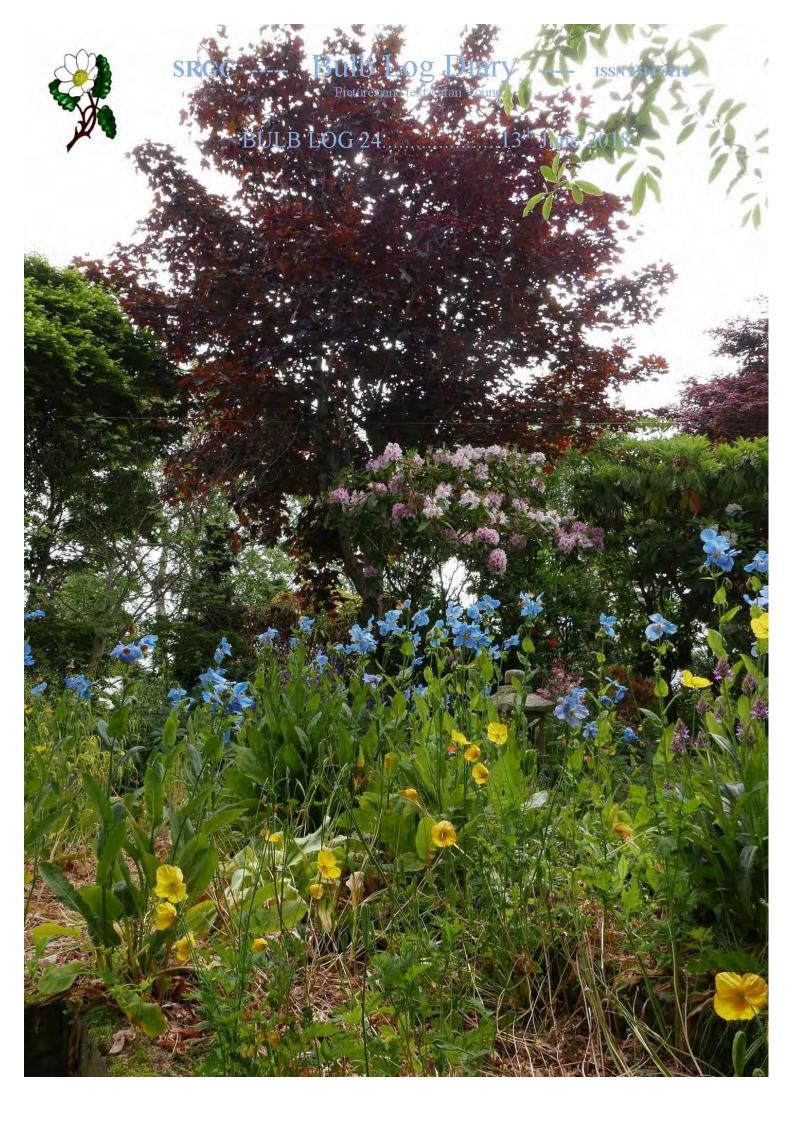






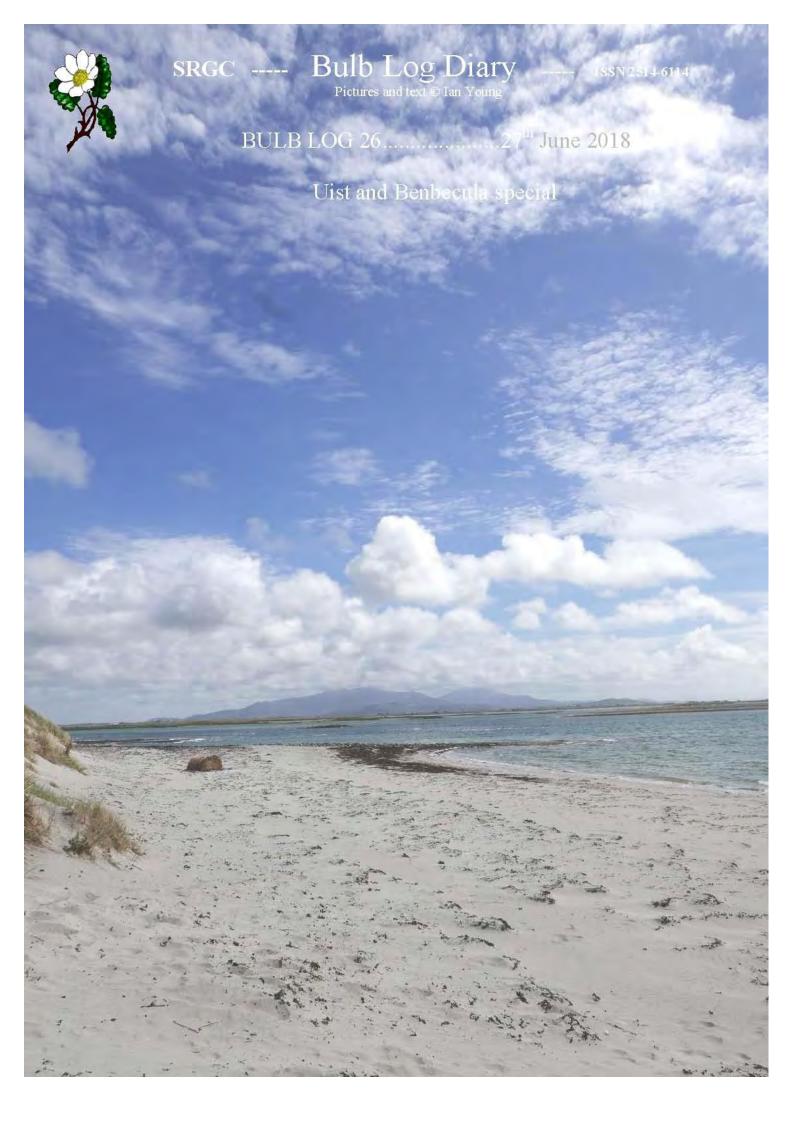


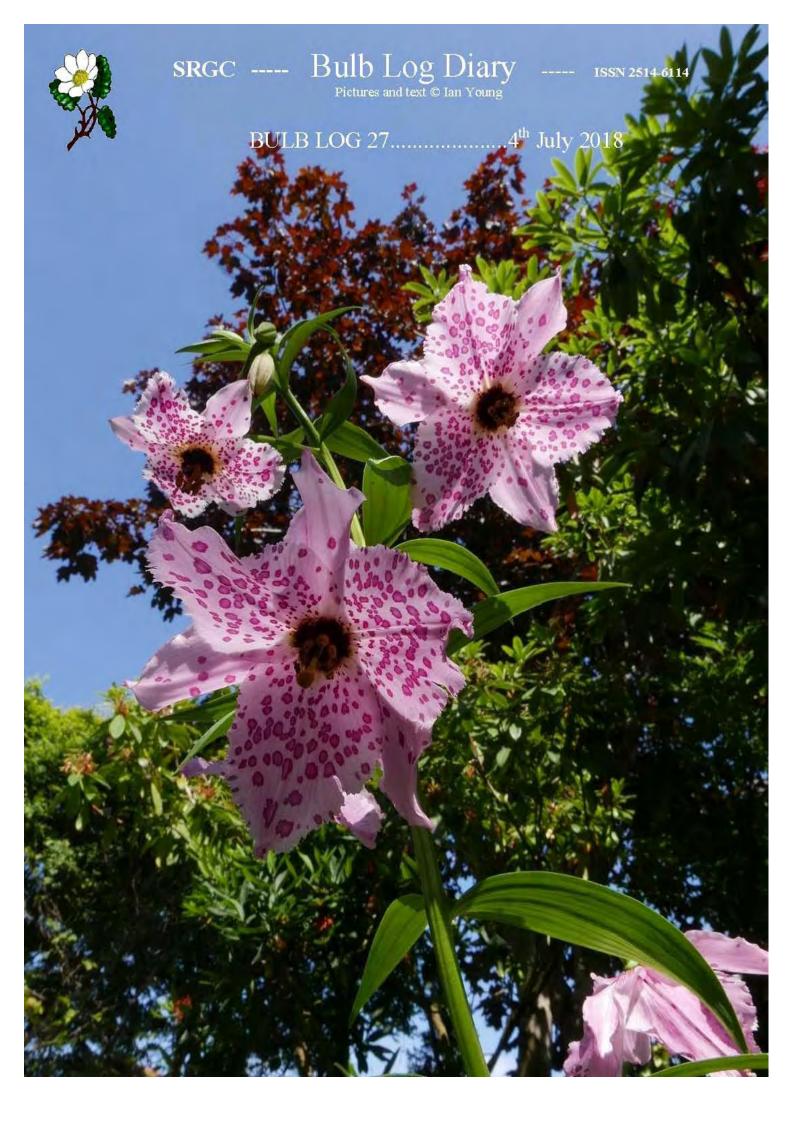


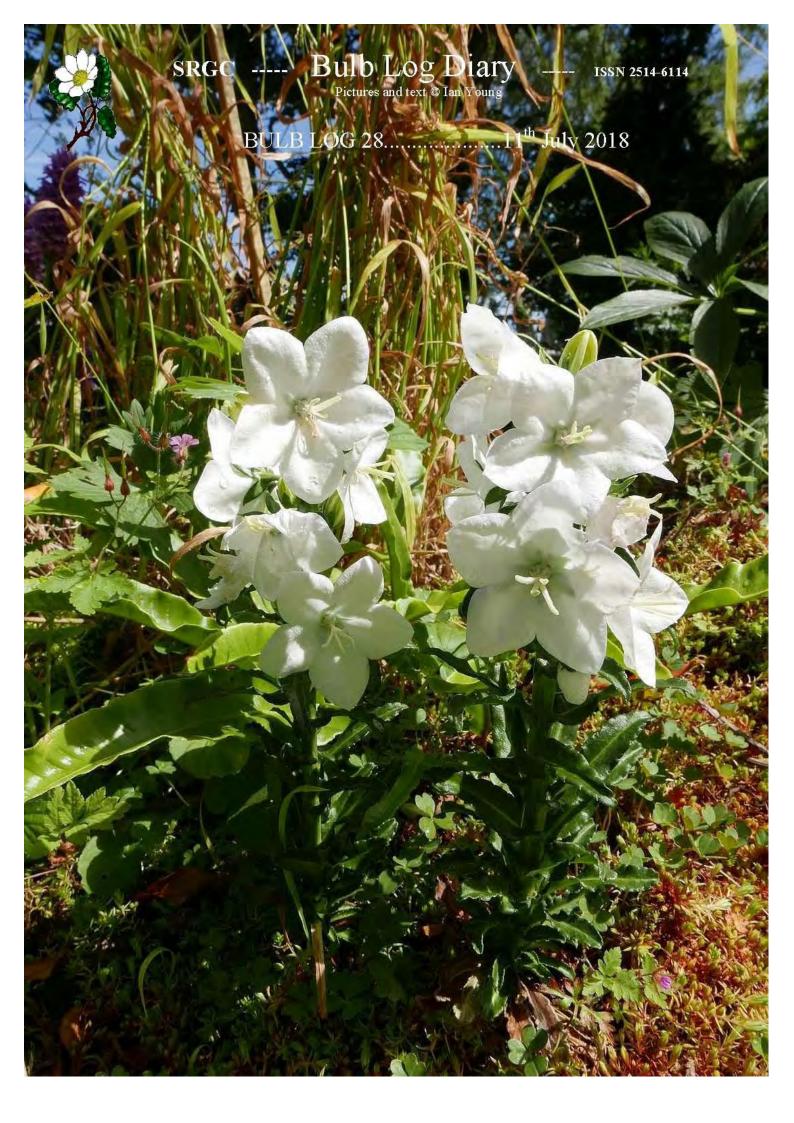










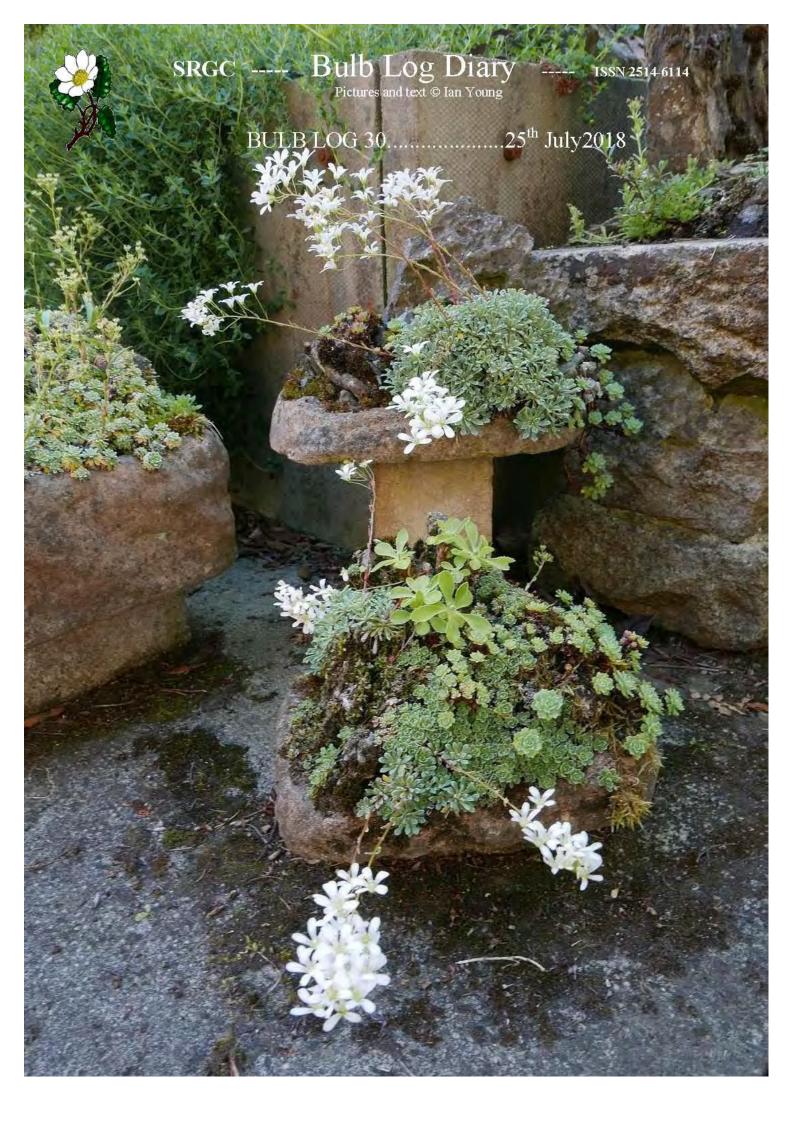


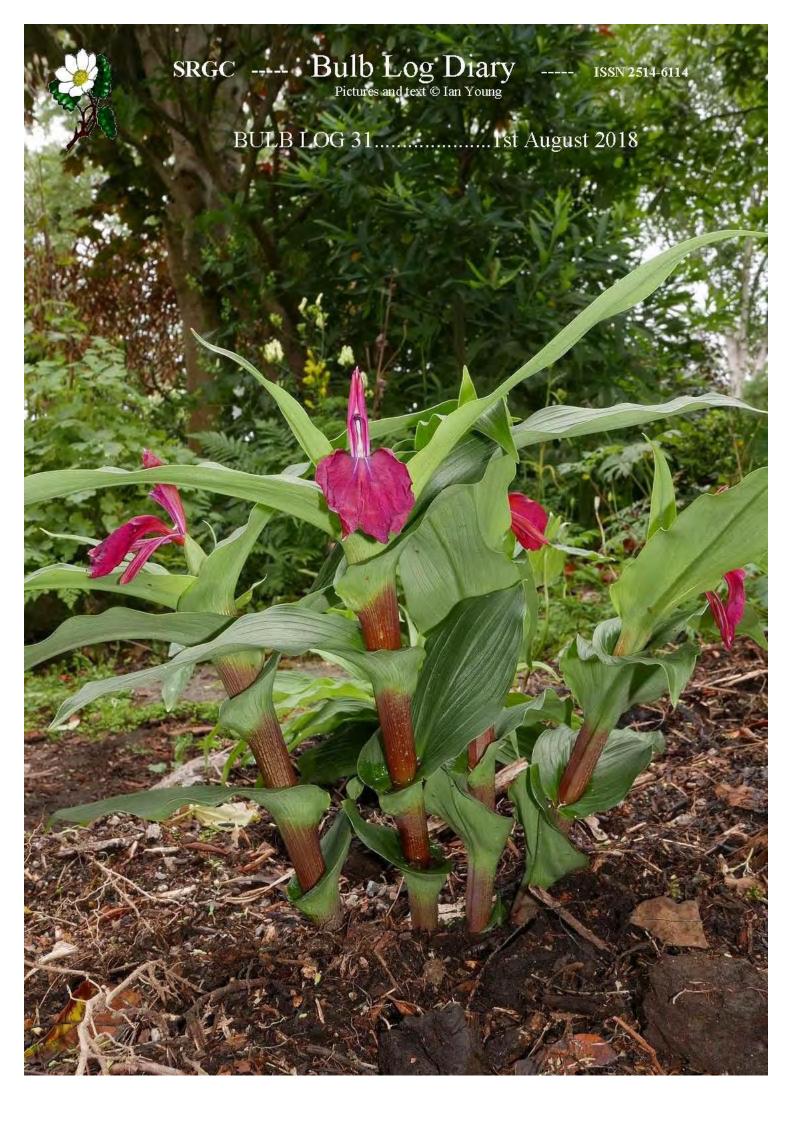


SRGC ---- Bulb Log Diary ---- ISSN 2514-6114 Pictures and text © Ian Young

BULB LOG 29.....18th July 2018



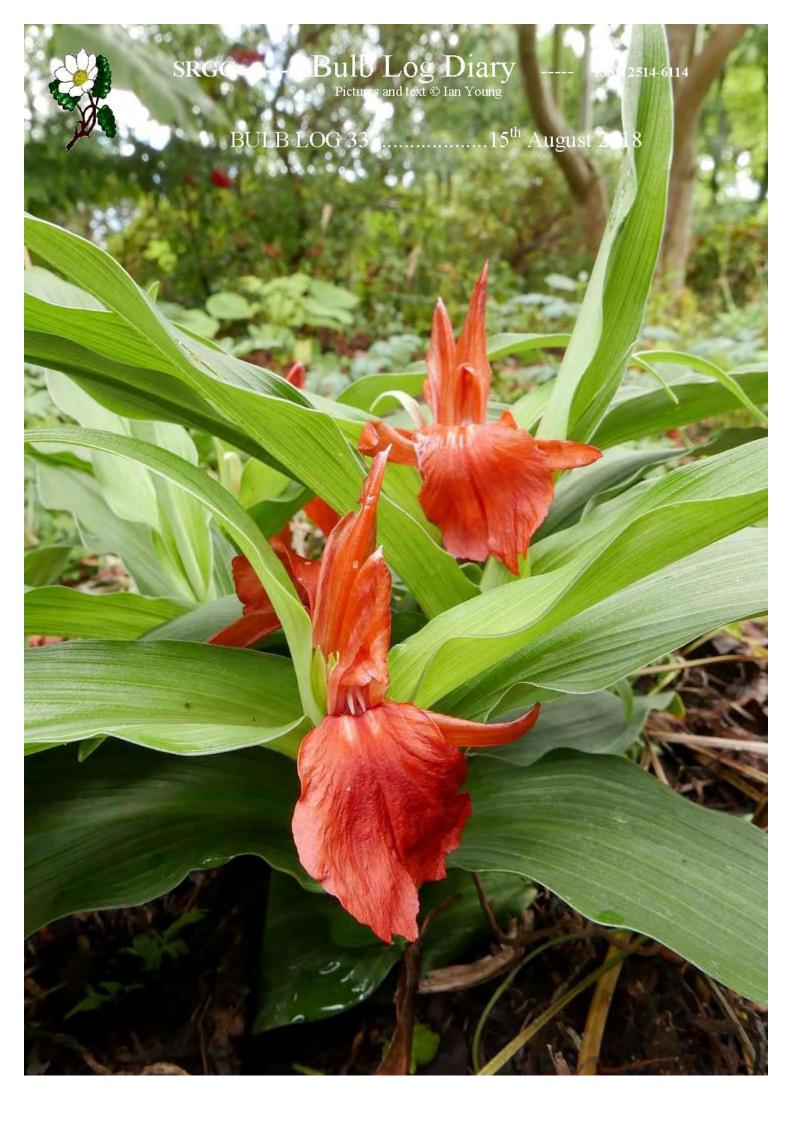






SRGC ---- Bulb Log Diary ---- ISSN 2514-6114 Pictures and text © Ian Young

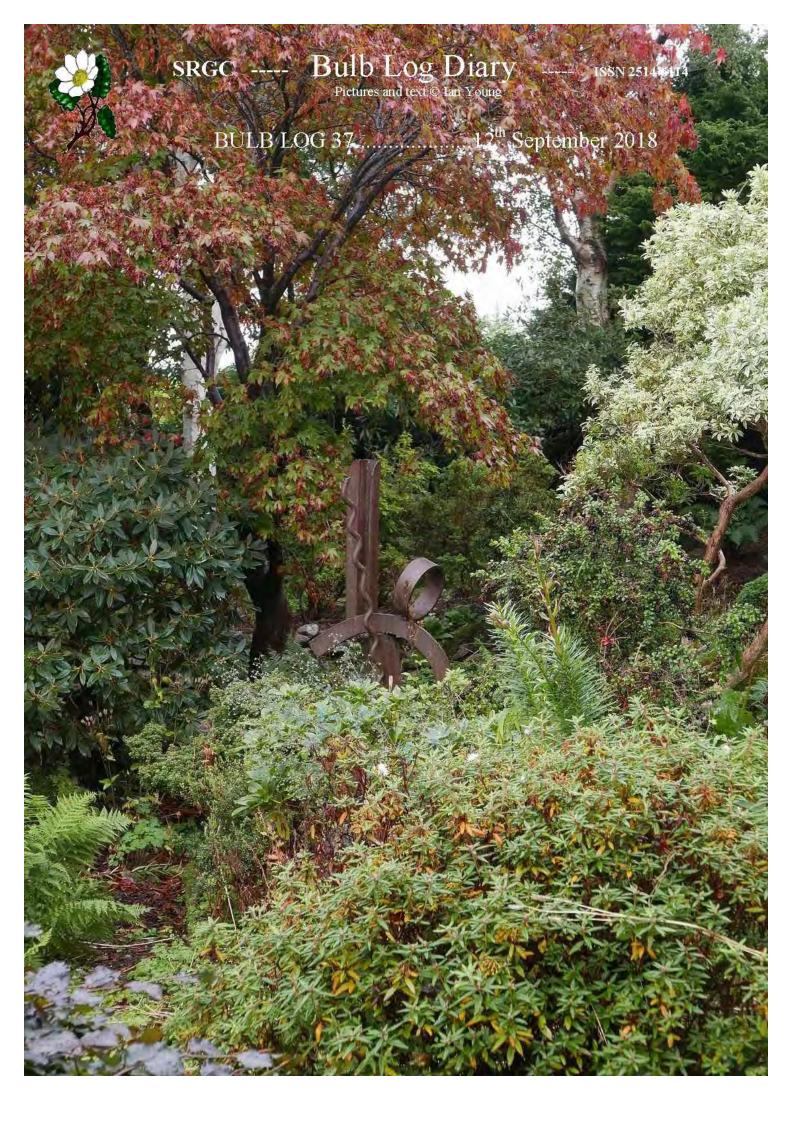












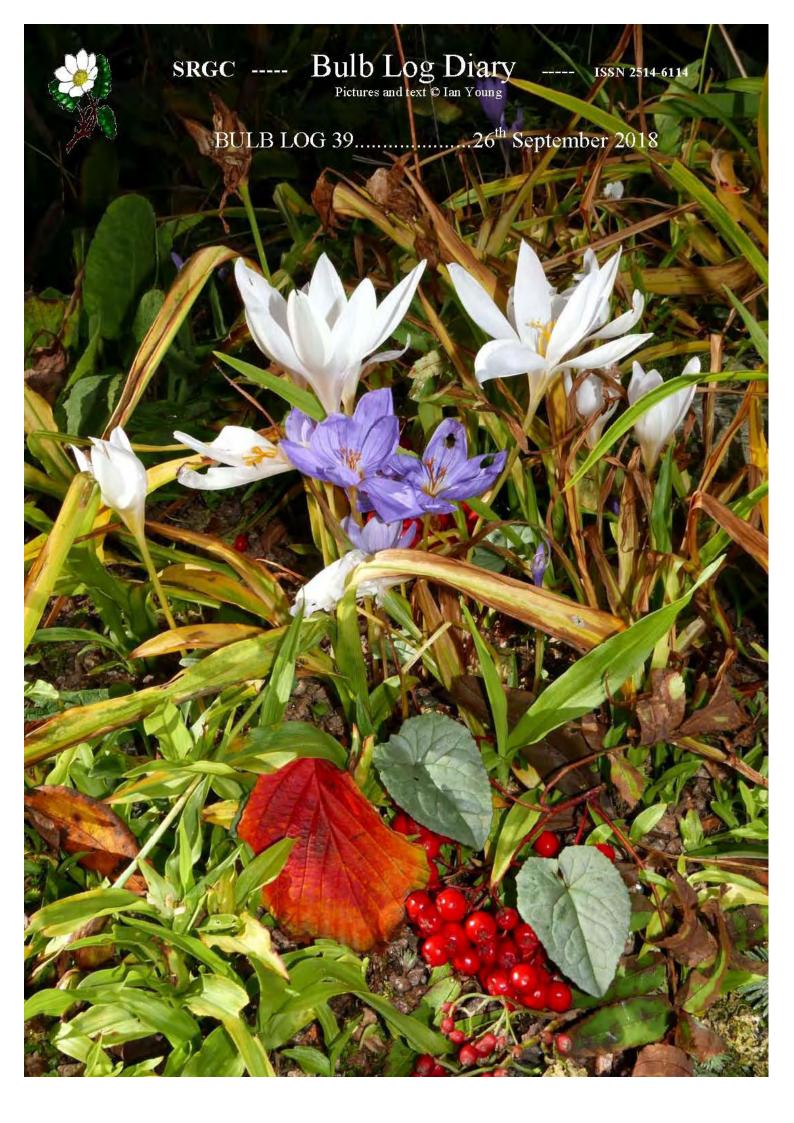


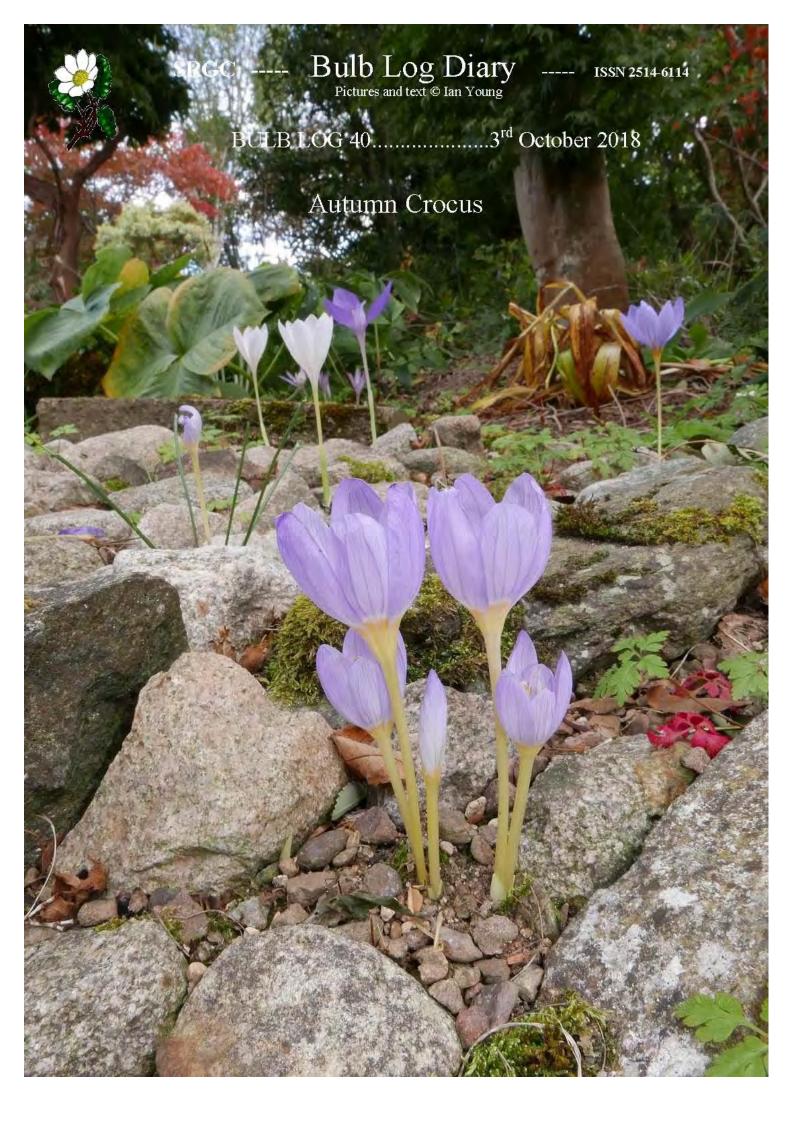
SRGC ---- Bulb Log Diary ---- ISSN 2514-6114 Pictures and text © Ian Young

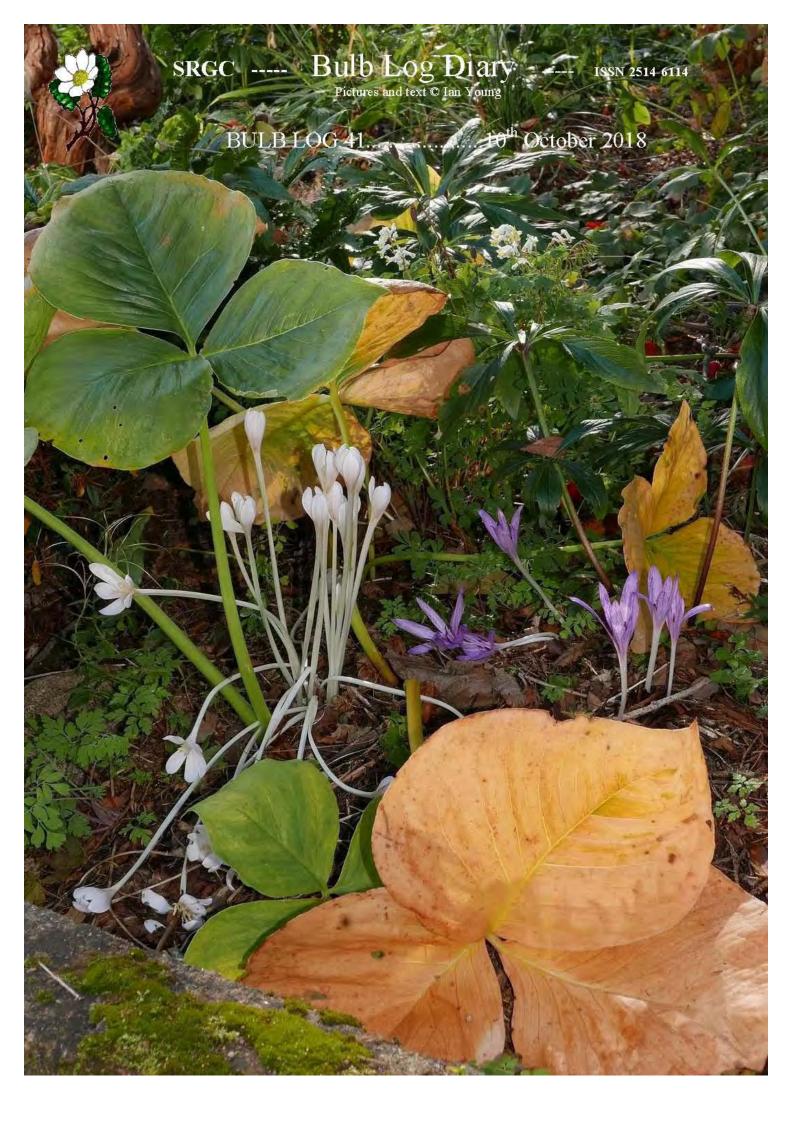
BULB LOG 38.....19th September 2018



Autumn Colchicum



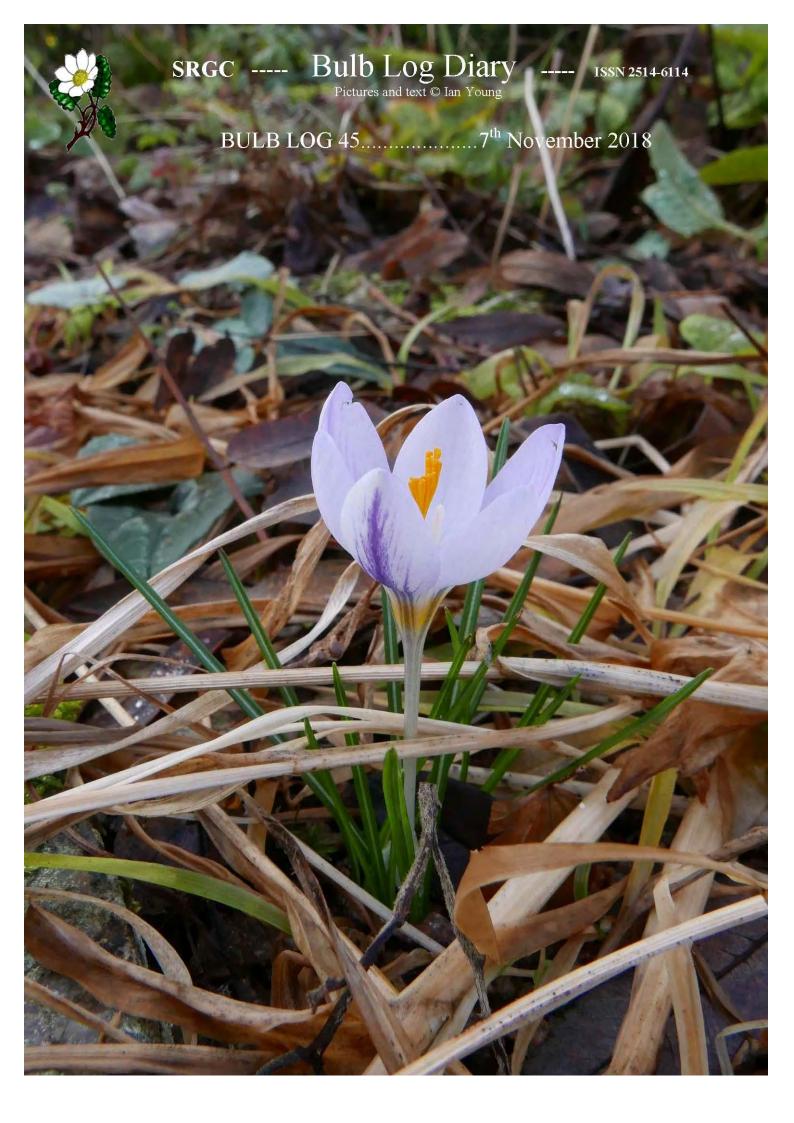


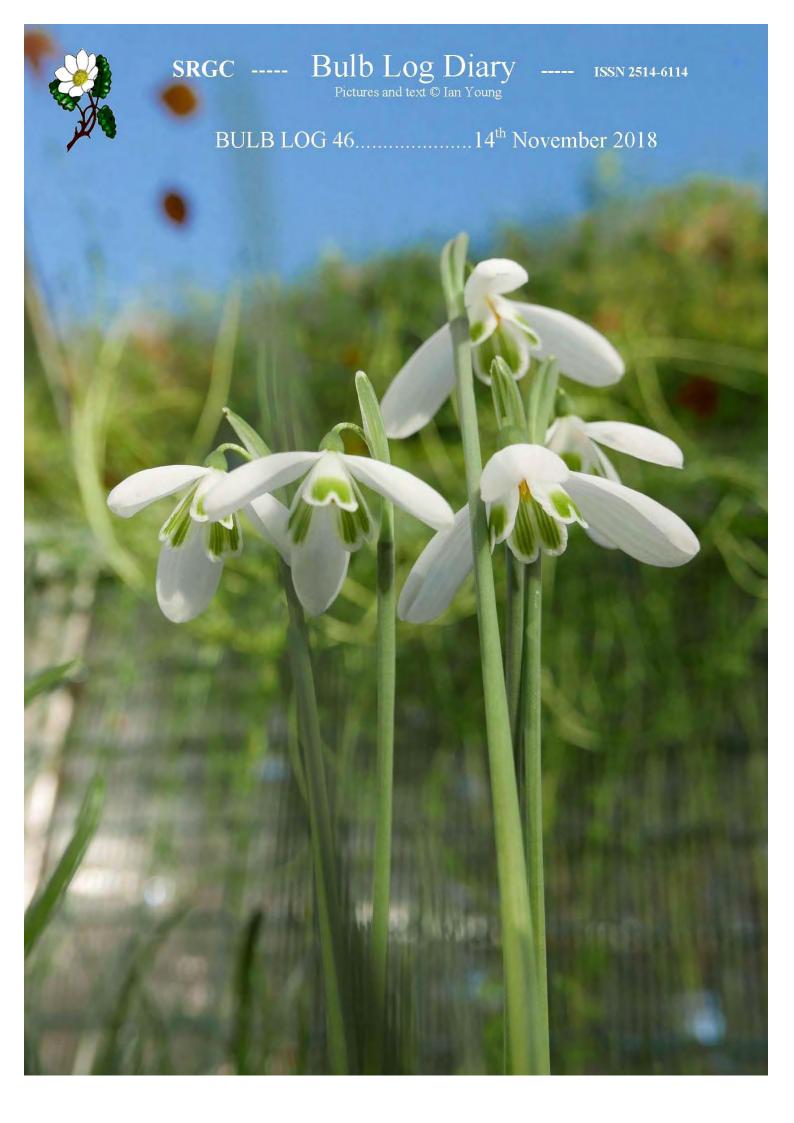




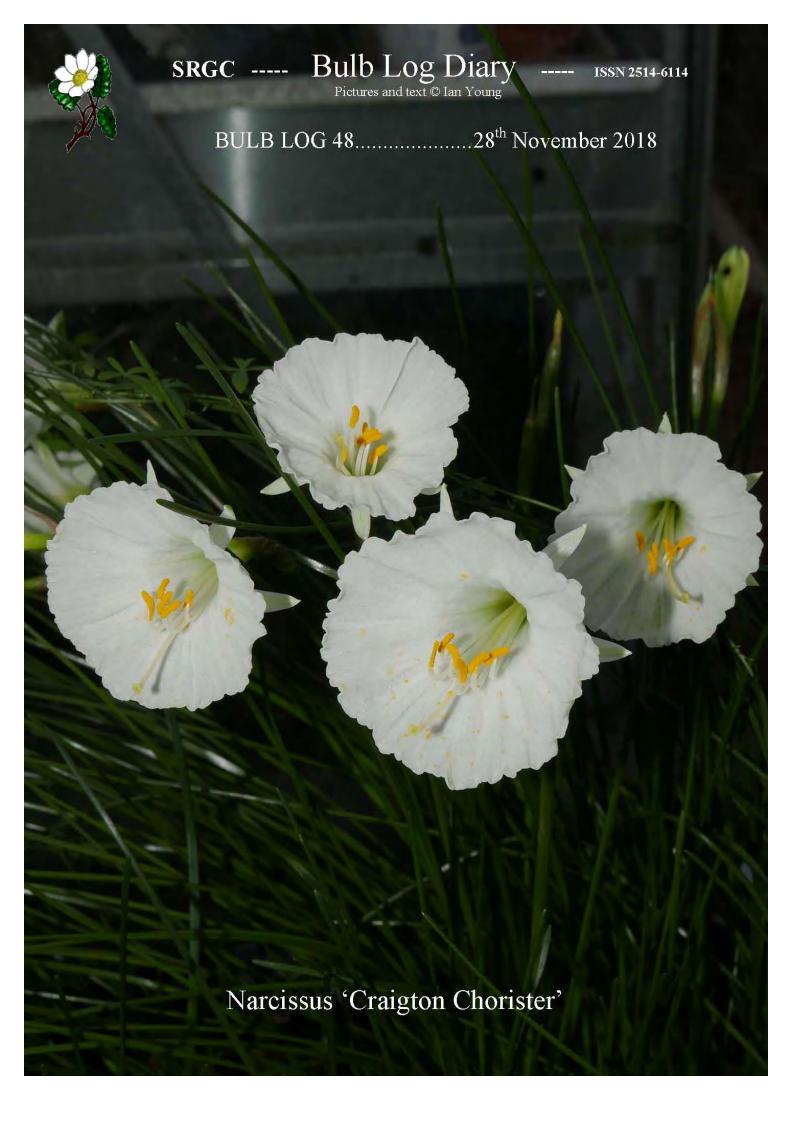


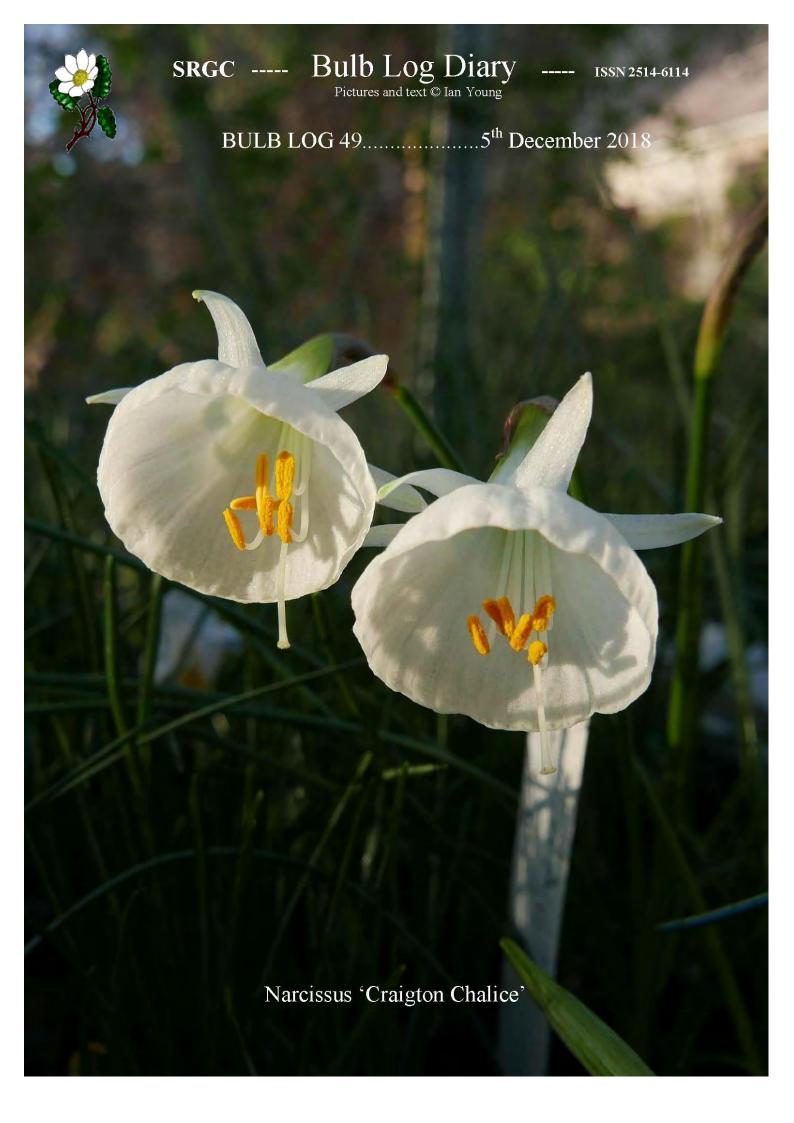














SRGC ---- Bulb Log Diary ---- ISSN 2514-6114 Pictures and text © Ian Young



