

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

BULB LOG 52......29th December 2021



SEASON'S GREETINGS



Before I write a Bulb Log I like to capture a cover picture that will attract attention as well as suggesting what is contained in the following pages and this week I went on a search around the garden to see what inspiration I could find. This process of both looking and seeing is an important lesson that we should all learn and even though this is not the most colourful season in the garden I found lots of possible subjects until I decided to put on my artist's hat and make a still life image featuring the few small flowers that were blooming, which could represent both the garden and the festive season. The Narcissus were picked to represent the hundreds of flowers in the bulb house, these will feature extensively in the coming weeks, the Holly and the Ivy add the festive touch although the birds had eaten all the Holly berries so in their place I used some Cotoneaster ones. The Feverfew (Tanacetum parthenium) is summer flowering but can produce a few flowers any time of the year while Jasmine nudiflorum and Viburnum x bodnantense are both hardy winter flowering shrubs that bring flowers and fragrance to the winter. It is at time like this that we must learn to look at detail appreciating the little things and not just the big mass displays of spring and summer.

The last Bulb Log of a year is always a time to reflect back on what sort of growing season we experienced and it was mixed one. Our seasons are never clearly defined but in recent years we have seen even more divergent patterns with a mild start to the year followed by cruel, icy winds that were like a blast freezer cutting down a lot of newly emerged growth: the true damage of which we will only discover in spring when we see whether the plants that had their growth frozen off survived underground. In the summer we had the longest dry period we can remember which also stressed a lot of the plants we grow but it was interesting to see that some seemed to benefit from the warmer, drier period. I was relieved however, when the rain came back heralding a relatively normal autumn with the exception of the arrival of unusually powerful storms that did little damage in our garden but brought down hundreds of trees in the area. As has become a tradition, below I include every cover picture from 2021, each picture has an active link so if you want to read a particular Bulb Log all you have to do is click on the picture to open the PDF.

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the SRGC this year - like the IRG and Forum, the Bulb Log is open access and free to all but if you would like to make a donation to help with the ongoing costs of running the website just click on this link to Donate.







































































































