

## Long Eaton and District Horticultural Society

October meeting and Chrysanthemum, Pot Plant and Apple member's show

What a packed evening this was –starting with an announcement of the results of Erewash in Bloom together with a reminder for members to get tickets for the Xmas party (complete with the Salvation Army).

Gardeners are definitely an optimistic crowd, along with the Autumn newsletter came the schedule for the open spring show on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019. After the notices there was another reminder of Spring – a talk by John Gibson on growing and showing Daffodils. John has a wealth of knowledge and explained that all these plants are actually Narcissi, although most people call them Daffodils as well. These have been around for a long time, evidence being found at first around the Meditteranean and spreading out along the old silk road towards the far east.

There are about 100 individual species and about 150 hybrids all including different forms, miniature and some alpine types and most flower between Xmas and Easter. Selection for showing is important, bulbs should be built up by feeding in July and August. John finished with pictures of some good cultivars which consistently win, and showed varieties he had bred himself; if you want to try hybridization there is a 7yearcycle of seed to flower, so it is a bit of a slow process. Care needs to be taken to keep plants separate so rogues don't appear!

There were selections of bulbs for sale and the evening ended with announcements of the results of the show with trophies and cups. Before the raffle the produce from the show was auctioned. Next two meetings are 20<sup>th</sup> November and 18<sup>th</sup> December (Party)