

## FROM THE EDITOR

*Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise Daoibh* to all Irish Orchid Society members, their families and friends.

Should you be looking for suitable Christmas gifts for family or friends who are interested in orchids, a year's membership, (renewal extension or new) to the **Irish Orchid Society** is the ideal present (and also for anniversaries, birthdays, etc.)

Please use the Membership page on our website (<http://irishorchidsociety.org/membership.php>), and pay through PayPal, or contact the Secretary directly to ensure your gift will be arranged in time. E-mail: [info@irishorchidsociety.org](mailto:info@irishorchidsociety.org)

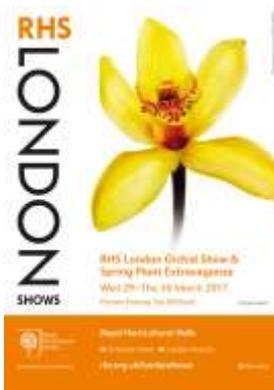
The Society regrets that our Secretary Deirdre McGrane has had to resign. Members who are interested in the position please contact Brendan Sayers.

A member mindful of the 1916 centennial has written to ask that I change wordings in *Pollinia*. In standard English usage, the toponym "the British Isles" refers to a European archipelago consisting of Great Britain, Ireland and adjacent islands. However, the word "British" is also an adjective and demonym referring to the United Kingdom. For this reason, she writes, the name British Isles is avoided in Hiberno-English as such usage could be construed to imply continued territorial claims or political overlordship of the Republic of Ireland by the United Kingdom.

To some, the dispute is partly semantic and the term is a value-free geographic one while, to others, it is a value-laden political one. Proposed alternatives to renaming the British Isles to something more neutral include "Britain and Ireland", "Atlantic Archipelago," "Anglo-Celtic Isles", the "British-Irish Isles" and the "Islands of the North Atlantic." The Government of Ireland does not recognise or use the term and its embassy in London discourages its use. As a result, Britain and Ireland is used as an alternative description, and Atlantic Archipelago has had limited use among a minority in academia, while British Isles is still commonly employed.

I would appreciate comments from other members by e-mail or post before I make any changes, or simply continue as usual. I prefer "Atlantic Archipelago" myself, post-Brexit. *Dearscaitheach*

RIP: Scott Simons, Currabaha, Dungarvan, Co Waterford, an old friend of the Editor and of *Pollinia*, died 5 May 2016.  
*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.* ■



### THE JAPAN GRAND PRIX INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL

will be held from Saturday, February 11th to Friday, February 17th 2017 at the Tokyo Dome, Tokyo Japan. The Festival began in 1991 and this will be our 27th year. We plan to exhibit roughly 100,000 orchids; we expect exhibitors and vendors from about twenty countries and you will see many variety of orchids. In addition to orchids, non-orchid plants will also be available in the sales area.

We look forward to seeing you at our orchid festival.  
Schedule 2017: <http://pollinia.org/schedule.pdf>  
Festival Guide: <http://pollinia.org/guide.pdf>

