



## Alpine Garden Society Ulster Group

Plant of the Month, January 2019

**Daphne bholua 'Jacqueline Postill'** - by Liam and Joan McCaughey



As the year turns, Jacqueline Postill is in flower in our garden (closeup image), and last year we saw it in Eileen Collins Dublin garden (above left and below). *Daphne bholua* grows at moderate altitude in the Himalayas – its name *bholua* derives from its Nepali name, *bhulu swa*.



It was described in 1825, and Seamus O'Brien in his recent book mentions that it was included in the list of seeds sent in the 1840s by M Pakenham Edgeworth to David Moore in Glasnevin.

'Jacqueline Postill' was raised in Hilliers Nursery in 1982 by their propagator Alan Postill, as a seedling from a high altitude form, 'Ghurka' and named for his wife.

This shrub gives very welcome colour but even more fragrance to the winter garden. It is not easily pleased in cultivation in our northern climate, this being the second attempt. It makes a lovely background to hellebores, cyclamens, and snowdrops.