

Raisers and Introducers of Sweet Pea epithets – updated 11 October 2023

John Adie (d.c. 2008) of Callander, Stirling, Scotland. An amateur grower who raised 2 novelties, both introduced by Kerton in 2008 and 2010.

James Agate of Havant, Hampshire. Raised at least 15 cultivars introduced between 1908 and 1915. A firm named Agate and Conway were trading as florists, fruiterers and seedsmen at East Street, Havant in 1890.

George Aitkens. Name also frequently found as Aitken and Aitkin. Head gardener at Erddig Park, Wrexham, Denbighshire until 1911. Went into partnership with **S Faulkner and Co**, trading as Faulkner & Aitkens. Raised about 10 cultivars introduced between 1912 and 1916.

Harvey Albutt (d.1994), Hamilton Close, Mickleover, Derby. Amateur raiser of at least 25 novelties, introduced by various seedsmen between 1987 and 2014. These include the non-tendrill 'Astronaut'. After his death, his stock went to Eagle Sweet Peas.

Hugh Aldersey of Aldersey Hall, Chester. Raiser of over 40 novelties introduced between 1906 and 1914. Some were introduced by other seedsmen. In partnership with **Marsden Jones** from 1913.

Dr M K Alexander, Warwick. Amateur raiser of 'Alastair' introduced by Unwins in 1988.

Donald Allan (d.c.1956) was employed by **Dobbies** to manage their seed farm at Marks Tey, Essex from 1919 to 1953. He raised many Spencer cultivars including 'Gleneagles', 'Springtime' and 'Reconniassance'. He was made an Associate of Honour of the RHS in 1934.

J Allan, Toowong, Queensland, Australia. Raiser of three cultivars receiving awards at the 1920 South Australian Trials.

Wilhelm Emil Alsen (1879-1931), Denmead Nursery, Waterlooville, Hampshire. Introduced 4 novelties between 1910 and 1913. Of Danish / Scottish extraction, he set up the nursery in 1906 but the business folded in late 1912.

Anderson & Co, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Introduced 16 novelties in 1916, mostly Early Spencer type.

Angus. Credited with introducing 'British Queen' in 1898 but no other information is to hand.

Rev. **Edwyn Arkwright** (1839–1922) of Télemy, Algiers, raised a strain of winter-flowering cultivars. He found the summers too hot for summer-flowering cultivars. He was presumably in Algiers as a Christian missionary. None of the Télemy cultivars were named.

Avondale Nursery, Mill Hill, Baginton, Coventry. Owned by Brian Ellis. Introduced L. vernus 'Sky' in 2019.

Ron Bailey (d.1993) of Mardy, Abergavenny 1980-82, then of Preston Wynne, Hereford. An amateur turned seedsman, he introduced at least 6 novelties.

Thomas Baines (1887-1950) Worked for Dobbies until 1934 and had nurseries at different locations until 1946 when he moved to South House Farm Nurseries, Billingshurst, West Sussex. In 1948, the NSPS trials were held there. Traded as T. Baines & Sons.

Thomas Campbell Baines (1920–1985). Son of **Thomas Baines** (1887-1950). Managed T. Baines & Sons on his father's death but by 1954 had succeeded **George Burt** at E W King & Co. In 1955, he went to work for **Atlee Burpee Seed Co.** at Lompoc, California. Baines later joined **Charles Sharpe & Co. Ltd.** of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, and **Denholm Seed Co.** before taking charge at **Suttons Seeds** in 1970. The family business continued throughout his career.

Messrs **Bakers**, Codsall, Wolverhampton. Introduced at least 13 novelties between 1906 and 1910. J S Baker a Vice President of NSPS at this time.

George Jacob Ball (1874–1949) of Chicago formed George J. Ball Inc. in 1905. Ball specialised in cut flower production and introduced at least 8 novelties between 1918 and 1928, all Early Spencer type. After his death, the company was managed by his four sons. There had been a long-standing relationship with **W. Atlee Burpee & Co.** and in 1991 the two merged. In 1995, Ball's granddaughter, Anna Caroline Ball, became president and divided the business into Ball Horticultural and W. Atlee Burpee & Co, run by her brother, George Ball Jr.

J W Barker, Windsor, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Raiser of 'Fred Matthews' c.1918.

Thomas Barnes of Leeds was a gardener c.1758. In 1773, he announced a new seed business from Park Lane, Leeds. He sold seeds in 1782 of scarlet, white, 'Painted Lady' and purple to Edwin Lascelles of Harewood House. Shortly after, he entered into partnership with Ebenezer Romain Callender. Barnes & Callender produced a catalogue c.1785-90 from The Orange Tree, Briggate, Leeds and were still there in 1795.

Bateman, Australia. Presumed raiser of 'Bateman Scarlet'.

R H Bath Ltd, Floral Farms, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. Introduced over 20 cultivars between 1908 and 1913. Their manager, G W Leak, was awarded the VMH in 1930 and was President of NSPS in 1937.

R. Bathurst of Dean Lodge, Iron Acton, Gloucestershire 1904-5, and of Lawell House, Chudleigh, Devon 1906 onwards. Raised 2 cultivars introduced by Mackereth: 'Devonshire Cream' in 1906 and 'Finetta Bathurst' in 1908.

Edward John Beale (1835–1902) FLS, VMH, was a partner of **James Carter & Co.** and a vice-president of the bicentenary committee.

Harold Beale. He was President of the National Sweet Pea Society in 1929 and in 1937 was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal. See **James Carter & Co.**

Charles Andrew Beane, Kippax, Leeds, an amateur raiser who is still active. Has raised around 50 novelties introduced by various seedsmen since 1989. He has specialised in bringing Spencer cultivars with fancy colour patterns up to exhibition quality. He is also a raiser of dwarf cultivars.

Carl Beck & Co. Quedlinburg, Germany. Founded in 1894.

Bees Ltd. Sealand, Chester, UK. Established in 1903 by Arthur Kilpin Bulley (1861-1942) at Ness, Wirral, before moving to Chester in 1911. In the 1960s, the business merged with **Edward Webb & Sons**. The Bees name re-emerged as a trading name in 2017.

F H Belham. Raised at least 3 novelties around 1973. 'Hanslope Gem' may be the only one to come into commerce.

Karen Bell (d.2023) Liverpool. Raiser of 'Cilla', introduced in 2020.

Bell & Bieberstedt, Leith, Scotland. Raised 'Mrs Bieberstedt' introduced in 1908 and 'Northumbrian Crimson' in 1910. David Bell and August Bieberstedt were partners until 1914. The latter was a German who moved to the Netherlands in September 1914. David Bell's business may have been wound up following prosecution by the Inland Revenue in 1930. There was an August Bieberstedt living in London in the 1930s.

Ernst Benary (1819–1893) of Erfurt, Germany, had served his apprenticeship at **Haage & Schmidt** and began his business in 1843. Benary raised a dwarf Sweet Pea named 'Tom Thumb White', which was either identical to 'Cupid' or a little taller, according to different reports. Both 'Cupid' and 'Tom Thumb White' bred true from the start but Burpee published his name first so 'Cupid' was established as the name for the dwarf type. Introduced 'Dunkelroth' (= Dark Red) before 1893 and 'Mont Blanc' in 1900. Frederick (Fritz) Benary entered the business in 1880 and was an NSPS Vice President 1899-1914. The business was moved to Hann, Munden, Lower Saxony, in 1946 and continues trading in the 6th generation of the family.

Richard F (Dick) Bennett, Australia. Raiser of Piralilla cultivars and 'Plum Bob'

S Bide & Sons, Alma Nurseries, Farnham, Surrey. Introduced about 25 novelties between 1909 and 1915. H E Bide of Guildford Road, Farnham was an NSPS member at this time.

August Bieberstedt. See Bell & Bieberstedt.

Sir **Rowland Biffen** (1874–1949) became the first Professor of Agricultural Botany at Cambridge in 1908 and was an early proponent of using genetics to improve crop plants. Biffen is credited with at least 7 new sweet peas during the Edwardian era, all introduced by his sister-in-law, Miss Hemus. Mary Biffen, Rowland's wife and sister to Miss Hemus, is known to have made his crosses but it is not clear whether this was under his direction or using her own initiative.

E W Birtles, Frodsham, Warrington, Cheshire. Raiser of 'Cottage Rose' (c.1922).

Frank A Bishop, Windsor, Berkshire. Raised at least 3 novelties around 1915.

John Roland Frank Bishop (1932-2019), Stokenchurch, Buckinghamshire. Finder of *L. latifolius* 'Bishop's Pink' as feral material. He received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1998. Was president of NSPS from 1998 to 2015.

A F Blades, Rookfield, Reigate, Surrey. Raiser of 'Yvonne' (c.1909).

James Allan Bland, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Introduced at least 8 novelties between 1911 and 1951. Secretary of the Victoria Hort. Soc. 1906, later a seedsman.

Blomstersafari, Brantevik, Sweden. Owned by Celia Wingard. Introduced 'HKH Kronprinsessan Victoria' for the 2023 season.

Arthur T Boddington, West 14th Street, New York, USA. Seedsman. Introduced some Zvolanek cultivars 1906 to 1912.

Bodger Seeds Ltd, El Monte, California, USA. John Bodger (1846-1924) was an Englishman who moved to California in 1891 to set up a plant nursery, trading as John Bodger & Sons. He handed over to his sons in 1909 and following his death the business bought land at Lompoc in 1924 to produce, among other things, sweet pea seeds. Walter Bodger (1876-1931) succeeded his father as president in 1924. In 1930 the business became Bodger Seeds Ltd. with Walter's brother John Charles (Jack) Bodger (1880-1950) in charge. Walter's son, John Francis Bodger (1905-1970), next took control in 1950 and was succeeded in 1970 by Jack's son, Howard Stanton Bodger (1921–2003). Although the world's largest producer of Sweet Pea seeds, they only started to breed new cultivars in 1984 when **David Lemon** joined them. They introduced Explorer series and Winter Elegance series in 1992. In 2009 the part of their business including sweet pea seed production was sold to **Hem Zaden** of the Netherlands.

Robert Bolton and Sons of Birdbrook, Halstead, Essex. The Bolton family saw several generations of sweet pea specialists. **Robert Bolton** (1871–1949) was originally based at Warton, Carnforth, Lancashire and in 1909 the business advertised its 75th year. Around 1908 they bought land at Birdbrook, Essex, for better seed production and moved the business there in 1916. His son, **Tom Bolton** (1899–1972), joined the business in 1921 (Curtis 1922) and was well-known and respected. Tom's son **Robert Bleasdale Bolton** (1924–2001) joined the business in 1949 and maintained the family's keen passion for raising new cultivars (Bishop 2002). All three received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal at different times for their achievements. Robert Bolton and Sons was bought out by **Unwins** in 2001-2. Countless introductions of their own and other people's raising during more than 100 years.

Albert (Bert) Boucher (d.1987) Newport, Isle of Wight. Raised 'Ellen Mary' (c.1982).

George Bowness, Scotland. Raised 'Saint Mungo' (c.1932).

James Box, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, West Sussex. Raiser of at least 12 cultivars introduced between 1911 and 1914.

Norman Peter Thomas Brackley (1926–2016) of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, was active between 1974 and 2001. Raiser of at least 26 novelties. After his retirement, his stock went to **E W King & Co.**

Jeff Brande (1925-2018), Shalford, Guildford, Surrey. Raiser of 'Peerless Pink', introduced by Unwins in 1974. Received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1994.

Major Charles W Breadmore (1869-1960). A corn merchant with offices at Winchester, Hampshire, with a nursery and trial grounds at Sutton Scotney, Hampshire. Raised at least 70 cultivars introduced between 1901 and 1913. **George Herbert** did the hybridising for 11 years. Also introduced 2 cultivars raised by Lumley. Breadmore served in the Army throughout WW1.

Joseph Breck & Co, later Joseph Breck and Sons, of Boston, Massachusetts, USA. Founded in 1818 by Joseph Breck (1794-1873). Introduced 'Blushing Bride' in 1891, 'Harvard' in 1894 and 'Snowflake' in 1897. The business still trades as an importer of Dutch bulbs.

Frank Brewer, Richmond, Surrey. Raiser of 'Mrs F Brewer', introduced in 1901.

Keith Brewer, Ventnor, Isle of Wight. Raised at least 17 cultivars, introduced by various seedsmen.

Walter Brewster, Byrnie Estate, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Raiser of 'Flamingo' at the 1920 South Australian Trials.

Chris Brown. Raiser of L. vernus 'Indigo Eyes' (2001-2)

Steven Brown of Sudbury raised the cultivar 'Scarlet Invincible'. In 1867, 'Scarlet Invincible' became the first to be recognised for an award, receiving an FCC from the RHS. It was introduced by **Carters**.

Dodwell Francis Browne (1841-1921) of Co. Mayo, Ireland appears to be the raiser of 'Dodwell F Browne', introduced by Eckfords in 1909.

F H Brunning Pty. Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. Raiser of 'Radiance'(3) (pre 1939). In 1874, Frederick Hamilton Brunning acquired William Adamson's seed store in Elizabeth Street. The retail business was in 1926 transferred to two former employees, **Gill and Searle**, while the Brunning family retained the wholesale business.

The **Buckman, Denholm & Holden** Seed Co, Lompoc, California, USA, was formed in 1939 by Harry Buckman (1879–1947), who had worked for **Burpees** at Lompoc since 1910, and **David S Denholm.**, who became sole owner of the company in 1945. **Ted Holden** was their hybridiser, having previously worked for Bodger Seeds. See **Denholm**.

William Bull & Sons, King's Road, Chelsea, London. Introduced the first cultivar raised by **Eckford**, 'Bronze Prince' in 1882. William Bull (1818-c.1902)) acquired the nursery of John Weeks in 1861. On his death, he left the business to his sons but it had ceased trading by 1920.

G A Bunting & Co, Bucknall Street, London. Introduced 'Mrs Walter Carter' in 1909 and 'Waterwitch' in 1911.

Washington Atlee **Burpee** (1858–1915) of Philadelphia started his business in 1875 and introduced his first sweet pea novelty in 1896. The business went on to raise and introduce hundreds of new cultivars. In 1909, W. Atlee Burpee & Co. bought land at Lompoc, California, for seed production. Following Atlee's death, the business was continued by his son, David Burpee (1893–1980), responsible for introducing Ruffled Series, Galaxy Series and Bijou Series (Davis 1965). David Burpee received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1964. Much of the breeding work for Burpee was done by **George W Kerr** (1865–1930), a Scot who migrated to the USA in about 1908 and was President of the short-lived American Sweet Pea Society. See also **George J Ball**.

George Henry Burt (1886–1949) had worked for **Unwins** and then spent a period in the USA. In 1912, he moved to **E.W. King and Co.** where he was an active raiser of new Spencer cultivars. He was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1930. In the 1930s and 1940s he raised an improved series of tall non-tendrill cultivars with Spencer flower form. These did not prove popular,

possibly because for garden decoration they are not self-supporting and perhaps because the flowers were still not as good as tendril cultivars.

L F Burton, Wolverhampton. Amateur raiser of 'Blue Mist' (c.1978).

Howard S Button, Northwood, Middlesex. Raiser of 'Palestine', introduced in 1918.

In 1823, Mrs John **Busby** brought 'Painted Lady' into New South Wales, Australia, although the species may have been introduced into Australia earlier. The Busby family maintained this stock through many generations so that it remains in cultivation today (Pockley 1983).

H Cannell & Sons, The Nurseries, Swanley, Kent. Introduced at least 5 cultivars around 1908. Henry Rumsby Cannell (1834-1914) started a nursery in Woolwich c.1864 but moved to Swanley in 1880.

Michael (Mike) George Trevor Carr (d.2009), Cury, Helston, Cornwall. See **Tremewan**.

Eric C A Carter, trading in 1947-8 as Carter Brothers of Woodville, South Australia and in 1955 as Eric Carter of Broadview, South Australia.

James Carter & Co. of High Holborn, London until 1910, then Raynes Park, London till 1970. James Carter (1797–1855) opened his first shop selling seeds in 1834 but around 1838 he bought the older business of Dunnett & Beale and formed James Carter & Co. Between 1845 and 1849, he introduced 'New Striped' and 'New Large Purple' suggesting seedsmen had started to consciously improve the flower form, size and plant vigour. The firm continued to thrive after Carter's death, run by the Dunnett and Beale families. Edward John Beale (1835–1902) was a partner and vice-president of the bicentenary committee. In 1860, H N Dunnett also became a partner in the business which had two distinct sides. The wholesale side was known as Carter, Dunnett and Beale while the retail side became Carters Tested Seeds. Dunnett had three children, Norman, Jack and Daisy, and in the last quarter of the 19th century, William Herbert Dunnett was a partner with three brothers, Gilbert Charles, Reginald and **Harold Beale** (Taylor 2014). Harold was in charge and is the one remembered in the sweet pea world. In 1927 or 1929, the firm appointed **John Ness** (1877–1955), Ness's novelties for Carters included 'Carlotta', which remains popular, 'Swan Lake', 'Cream Delight' and other influential Spencer cultivars of their day. In 1966, both Carters' wholesale and retail businesses were absorbed into the R & G Cuthbert Group, having introduced at least 140 Sweet Pea cultivars. The firm's archives dating from the 1830s are deposited at Lewisham Local History and Archives centre ref. A/78/28.

F R Castle, Foxcombe Hill, Oxford. Raiser of 'F R Castle', introduced in 1907.

Cattell of Westerham, Kent. The nursery started in 1799. John Cattell (1786/7-1860) florist, nurseryman and seedsman, is in the 1851 census. His son is John Cattell (1819/20-1869) florist, nurseryman and seedsman. John James Cattell (1853/4-1920) nurseryman and seedsman, is in the 1881 census. Introduced 'The Queen' prior to 1881. Supplied seeds to Charles Darwin for his experimental hybridising work. The nursery may have closed soon after 1883.

W H Cautley, Mary Tavy, Devon. Introduced at least 7 cultivars between 1910 and 1914.

Alec Cave of Markeaton, Derby. Raiser of at least 4 cultivars, including the semi-dwarf 'Teresa Maureen', named for his wife.

Allen Chandler, Haslemere, Surrey. Raiser of 3 cultivars introduced around 1908.

Frederick Herbert Chapman (b.1863), Rye, East Sussex. Raiser of 6 cultivars introduced between 1908 and 1915. Traded as Herbert Chapman Ltd.

Chigasaki, Japan. Presumed raiser of at least 2 cultivars known to pre-date 1984. As one is named 'Chigasaki no.11', perhaps there were more.

Robert (Bob) Chisholm, MBE (c.1922-2008), Shieldhill, Falkirk, Scotland. Raiser of over 20 cultivars introduced between 1994 and 2014, mostly by Kerton. Awarded MBE in 1980.

Gerald T Chivers, Chippenham, Wiltshire. Raiser of 'Bowden Hill' introduced in 1975.

Lady Ursula Cholmeley, Easton Walled Gardens, Grantham Lincolnshire. Raiser of 'Toffee Apple'.

Philip Christmas, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent (d.c.2010-2013) Raiser of Invicta (2), Kentish Maiden. Last entry was in the 2011 trials.

H W Churchman, Sawston, Cambridge. Raiser of at least 5 cultivars around 1911.

Henry Clark (c.1702-1778) of Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire. In 1750 he supplied "2 sorts santed pease" and in 1751 "two sorts sweet pease" to Powell Snell of Guiting Grange, Glos.

G & A Clark Ltd, Maison Dieu Nursery, Dover, Kent. Introduced at least 16 cultivars between 1906 and 1910.

In 1860, Major **Trevor Clarke** (1813–1897) of Daventry, Northamptonshire, claimed the origin of his sweet pea 'Blue Edged' was by crossing a white sweet pea with *Lathyrus nervosus*.

Silas Cole (1866–1939), head gardener to Earl Spencer at Althorp, Northamptonshire, until 1911. Raiser of at least 24 cultivars introduced between 1902 and 1912. Most famously, he raised 'Countess Spencer'.

C Coleman, Deal, Kent. Raiser of 'Sunny Jim' (2005 Annual) but it does not appear to have gone on general sale.

Rev. T Kenneth Colledge (1911-1990), of Leamington Spa (to 1960), of Southbourne, Bournemouth (1961-1977), of Christchurch, Dorset (from 1978). Raiser of at least 26 cultivars introduced between 1961 and 1994.

Cooltonagh Sweet Peas, see **Sydney Harrod**

Cooper, Taber & Co. Ltd. of Southwark Street, London. Trial grounds at Witham, Essex. Wholesale seed producer, formed in 1887 and very active pre 1914. H T Huggins and H Simpson were both prominent at this time. Introduced 'Witham Blaze' in 1951 and 'Pink Champagne' 1957. See **Hurst & Son** from 1962.

Ron Cordery, East Clandon, Guildford, Surrey. Raised several cultivars around 1995 but none have yet entered commerce.

Cotswold Garden Flowers, Badsey, Evesham, Worcs. Owned by Bob Brown. Introduced L. tuberosus 'Baby Pink'.

Thomas Cross, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. Raiser of 5 cultivars introduced in 1913.

John Crossling, Penarth Nurseries, Penarth, Glamorgan, Wales. Raiser of 3 cultivars introduced before 1915 and introduced those raised by **H A Gerhold**.

Thomas Cullen & Sons of Witham, Essex. Introduced at least 50 cultivars between 1921 and 1966. Employed **John Ness** (1877–1955), who raised their Sweet Peas before moving to Carters in 1927 or 29. The business was started around 1894 by Thomas Cullen (1846-1935). Older son Frank Cullen took control in 1909 and in 1921 they employed **Hugh Dickson**. The business later became part of ASMER Seeds.

Franciscus Cupani (d.1711) of Panormi, Sicily. First described the Sweet pea in 1696 when included it in his *Hortus Catholicus* as *Lathyrus distoplatyphylus, hirsutus, mollis, magno et peramoena, flore odoro*. In 1699, Cupani sent seeds to **Robert Uvedale** at Enfield and Casper Commellin at Amsterdam.

Charles Henry Curtis OBE (1870-1958), Brentford, Middlesex. Introduced 2 novelties in 1922. A founder of NSPS who held every office. Among his many positions, he was Editor of the Gardeners Chronicle from 1919-1950. Awards include Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal 1923, President of NSPS 1932, VMH 1933, OBE 1950. A man of very many achievements in the world of horticulture.

S F Curtis, Fairfield, Lancaster. Introduced at least 4 cultivars around 1918.

In 1788, **William Curtis** (1746-1799) botanist, seedsman, and publisher, of Lambeth, London, said: 'There is scarcely a plant more generally cultivated than the sweet pea.... Several varieties of this plant are enumerated by authors, but general cultivation extends to two only. The one with blossoms perfectly white and the other white and rose-coloured, commonly called the Painted Lady Pea'.

Frank Goodwin Cuthbertson (d.1973), step-son of **William Cuthbertson**, joined **C.C. Morse & Co.** in 1911. He quickly began to breed sweet peas but worked on many other genera during his career. His major achievements include the Spring-flowering Cuthbertson and Cuthbertson Floribunda Series and the Dwarf Cuthbertson Cupid Series. He retired from Ferry Morse in 1956 and received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1964.

William Cuthbertson (1859-1934) of Rothesay, Bute, Scotland till 1908, then of Edinburgh. Bought **Dobbie & Co.** in 1887. President of NSPS 1907. Victoria Medal of Honour 1914. Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal 1926.

Henry J Damerum (d.c.1956), Hayling Island, Hampshire. In 1910, joined **W Lumley** before becoming independent in 1912. Introduced over 30 cultivars between 1914 and 1939.

Darbishire. Raiser of 'Dorothy Darbishire' c.1906. Nothing further is known.

Thomas W Darlington, Warton, Carnforth, Lancashire. Raiser of 3 cultivars introduced in 1909-10.

Patrick Terence (Terry) Davey (1944-2022) Bolton-le-Sands, Carnforth, Lancs. Raiser of 'Terry Davey', named following his death.

Frederick Seymour Davies, Farnham, Surrey. Raiser of 3 cultivars introduced around 1910-12.

A J Davis, Seven Kings, Redbridge, Essex. Raised 3 cultivars introduced in 1916.

F G Davis, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset. Raiser of five cultivars introduced between 1987 and 1991 initially by **Marchant** and later by **Kerton**.

Day. Raiser of 'Bride of Niagara', introduced by Vick in 1895. This was possibly the earliest cultivar with duplex blooms. Nothing further on the raiser is known.

Bertrand William Deal (d.c.1920), Brooklands, Kelvedon, Essex. Introduced over 20 cultivars between 1907 and 1914. William Deal and Sons, seed producers, was established at Inworth, Essex in 1892 by William Deal, snr. (1832-1905). He retired in 1901 and was succeeded by 2nd son, John . Older son William Deal, jnr. (d.c.1911) set up a business at Brooklands specialising in Sweet Peas and was succeeded after his death by his son Bertrand.

David S Denholm was a Scot who worked for Dobbie & Co, in 1924, then joined C.C. Morse & Co. working at their trial grounds in Salinas, California. In 1937, Denholm had moved to **Bodger** Seeds. Ted Holden was their hybridiser, having previously worked for Bodger Seeds, and they formed **Buckman, Denholm and Holden** at Lompoc, California, USA. David Denholm became sole owner of the company in 1945. In 1973, Denholm Seeds became part of the **Ball** Group (Pan American Seeds). Notable introductions include Early Multiflora Gigantea series in 1960, Mammoth series in 1982, Supersnoop series around 1983 and Bouquet series in 1998.

Peter Clifford Denney established Seed N Grow Ltd in 2008 and for a short time retailed Sweet Pea seeds online. He now specialises in Sunflowers.

Hedley Dew, Gawler, South Australia, Australia. Active by 1926, he raised at least 4 Early Spencer cultivars from the mid 1920s to the mid 1940s. Those from around 1945-46 were introduced by **Tunia Service**.

Alex Dickson & Sons, Newtownards, Down. Offices at Belfast. Introduced at least 45 cultivars between 1908 and 1926, including their Hawlmark series. By 1913, had bought land at Marks Tey, Essex, for seed production. A family business, the hybridiser was Hugh Dickson. In 1914, Hugh was President of NSPS. He left Northern Ireland in 1921 and joined **Thomas Cullen & Sons** of Witham until his retirement in 1945. Hugh was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1929.

Thomas Heath Dipnall (d.1925), Hadleigh, Suffolk. Introduced more than ten cultivars between 1911 and 1916.

Dobbie & Co, Rothesay, Bute, Scotland till 1908, then Edinburgh, Scotland. Between 1900 and 1967 they introduced over 160 cultivars. Their seed ground at this time was at Marks Tey, Essex. James Dobbie (1817–1905) founded the business in 1865. He retired in 1887 and sold the business to his assistant **William Cuthbertson** (1859–1934). They employed **Donald Allan** (d.c.1956) from 1919 to 1953 and he raised many Spencer cultivars. In 1969, Dobbies was acquired by Waterers and the business lives on as Dobbies Garden Centres.

Samuel Dobie & Sons Ltd of Chester was founded in 1894 and introduced Galaxy series in the UK around 1960. Other introductions include 'Edd Fincham' in 1994. Dobies is now part of the same group as Suttons Seeds.

Henry Augustus Dreer (1818-1873), Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA. The son of a German immigrant, he started his seed business in 1838. His son, William F Dreer (1849-1918) joined the business at an early age and worked in Germany with Benary in 1868-9. William took control on his father's death. The business was incorporated in 1892 and in 1924 moved to Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia. Their nurseries closed in 1944. They were general nurserymen and retailers whose interest in *Lathyrus* was purely as retailers.

Dubovkis, Riga, Latvia. Raiser of 'Riga 800'. Business partner of Martins Maltenieks and may have raised all their cultivars.

Eagle Sweet Peas, Stowe-by-Chartley, Stafford was formed by **Derek Heathcote** (b.1947) in c.1993 and continues in partnership with his son, Andrew. Eagle Sweet Peas introduced many cultivars raised by **Harvey Albutt** as well as their own and other raisers' novelties.

Henry Eckford (1823–1905) of Wem, Shropshire, is remembered as the father of the sweet pea. A Scot by birth, a detailed biography of Eckford has been recently published (Martin 2017). His name more than others is associated with the development of the sweet pea in the 1880s and 1890s, raising at least 190 cultivars. Henry was 65 when he started his Sweet Pea business and most of the running of the business fell to his son, **John Stainer Eckford**, who continued trading until around 1939. John was no longer raising new sweet peas after his father's death and by 1906 he was assisted by a John Jones of Soulton Road, Wem.

John Stainer Eckford (1864-1944) see Henry Eckford.

H G Edds. Raiser of 'Dolphin' introduced in 1963.

Edwards. Raiser of 'Gladys Edwards' introduced in 1910. Possibly G M Edwards of Addlestone, Surrey.

H P Edwards, Overton Bridge, Wrexham. Raised at least 3 cultivars around 1949-1953.

Charles Elliott, Park Ridge, Illinois, USA. Introduced at least 20 Spencer cultivars between 1921 and 1927.

Jack R Ellis (d.c.2016), Wenhaston, Halesworth, Suffolk. Raiser of 'Jack Ellis' introduced by Parsons in 2018. Worked with S C Harland at Manchester University in the 1950s.

George Elsom (d.1957), Spalding, Lincolnshire. Isaac Elsom had established a family seed business by 1885, which was handed over to son George (c.1860-1901) in 1886. His eldest son George (b.c.1887) started working at the company in 1901 and raised 'Lady Exeter' around 1912. The business continues as Elsoms Seeds Ltd.

Carl Gustav Engelmann (1874-1941) Saffron Walden, Essex. Engelmann was a cut flower grower most active with sweet peas between 1906 and 1913. He claimed his Winter-flowering material had arisen from a sport in 'Captain of the Blues'. A German by birth, his business began in 1897 and was

most noted for breeding Pansies. C Engelmann Ltd. was continued by his son Eric Engelmann until 1975.

Ron Entwistle (c.1912-c.1996) of Holymoorside, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Raised about 12 cultivars introduced between 1992 and 2001. Most were introduced after his death by **Grayson**.

George J Errington (1878–1960) of Dunedin, New Zealand. Born in London, he was an active breeder of new cultivars from 1907 until his death.

Neil Evans (1937-2023) Rhuddlan, Rhyl, Denbighshire. Raiser of 'Misty Mountain' introduced by Matthewman in 2004.

Darren Everest, Cranmore, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight. Launched 2 cultivars in May 2023 which had been raised by **Frank Verge**.

L Joe Everitt (1903-1996), Little Clacton, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. Cut flower grower and seedsman. He introduced at least 7 cultivars between 1954 and 1976. Born at Chappel, Essex, he worked at Dobbies, Marks Tey, and then another nursery before starting his own nursery in 1928.

Thomas Fairchild (1667-1729) of Hoxton, London reported in July 1722 he had flowers of "Sweet Peas, Scarlet and Common" as well as "Everlasting Pease". He started his London nursery c.1691. Best known for his pioneering work, making the first known deliberate hybridization. His 'Mule Pink' of 1717 was a result of crossing Carnation and Sweet William. In later years, his nursery was run by his nephew Stephen Bacon (1709-1734) who inherited the nursery on Fairchild's death. It was then owned by John Simpson (d.1740) but ceased on Simpson's death.

Charles Fallick (c.1907-1993), Newport, Isle of Wight. An amateur raiser of 'Fair Charm' introduced in 1973 as 'Sally Unwin'.

Farmen of Naples, Italy introduced Fantasia series of Dwarf cultivars around 2002.

R & J Farquar & Co, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. Introduced 'Nellie Janes' in 1892. Robert Farquar established the business in 1884. It was still trading in 1924, perhaps later.

Stuart Farrer, Cambridge, England. Raiser of 'Geoff Hughes' introduced by Eagle in 2010.

S Faulkner & Co, Tarvin, Chester. Raised at least 20 cultivars introduced between 1910 and 1914. In partnership with **George Aitkens** from 1912 and trading as Faulkner & Aitkens.

D.M. Ferry & Co, Detroit, Michigan, USA, was formed by Dexter Mason Ferry (1833–1907) in 1879 as a seed merchant. W W Tracy snr was responsible for introducing 'Blanche Ferry' in 1889. The business does not appear to have introduced new sweet peas after 1907 and merged with **Morse** in 1930.

Ferry Morse Seed Co. of San Francisco, California, USA. This was formed in 1930 as a merger of **D.M. Ferry & Co.** and **C.C. Morse & Co.** Their raiser was **Frank G. Cuthbertson** who joined C C Morse & Co. in 1911 and retired in 1956. He was succeeded by **Harry Joy** from 1956 to 1968, then Elmer Twedt (d.1976) till 1972, then **David Lemon**.

S Fisher. Raiser of 'Snowflake', introduced by Breck in 1897.

Floragran B.V. Lochem, The Netherlands. Founded in 1977 as a wholesale supplier of F1 seeds.

Fogwills Ltd, Guidford, Surrey. Retailers of Sweet Pea seeds who were active during the 1920s to 1960s, possibly longer.

Ron J Forward (1915-2000), St Albans, Hertfordshire. Raiser of 'Fergie' (1986)

F G Foster, Brockhampton Nurseries, Havant, Hampshire. Raiser of two introductions: 'Aurora' (2) in 1898 and 'Cream of Brockhampton' in 1902.

Mr. Fothergills Seeds Ltd, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk, have become more active in introducing new cultivars in the 21st century. The business was founded in 1978.

Fragrant Garden Nursery, Brookings, Oregon, USA. Were the source of 2 Winter Elegance colours but unlikely to have raised them.

Roy W Francis (c.1921-1992), New Milton, Hampshire. Active in the 1980s and raised at least two cultivars in commerce.

John Henry Franklin (1880–1934) of the Waller-Franklin Seed Co. See **Lionel D Waller**

Ernest Lewis Fidge (d.1925) of Pedlers Creek, Aldinga, South Australia. Active from 1913. Developed the Elfin Series of Early Spencers, the name being derived from his initials.

Fujisawa, Japan. Raiser of 'Oyama Millennium'

Akira Fukuda (Fukuda Hikari), Miyazaki, Japan. Raised Kitago Pink, introduced 2008.

Robert Furber (c.1674-1756) of Kensington Gore, London. Founded a nursery c. 1700. A claim he listed purple, white and 'variegated or Painted Lady sweet-scented pea' in a 1730s seed catalogue is in error and refers to the 1780s. On his death, Furber's nursery was left to his assistant, John Williamson, and continued under a succession of owners until the mid 19th century.

S E Gaisford & Sons, Colerne, Wiltshire. Specialist retailers of young plants and cut flowers. They invariably offered all the new season's novelties. In 1911, Ernest George Gaisford (1868-1911) was a "mason journeyman" at Elm Cottage, Colerne and had 3 children including Samuel Ernest b.1903. By 1939, E G Gaisford and Son were at West End nurseries. Ceased trading in 1987.

George L Gallatly of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, sold cultivars raised by **W Steward** c.1933-1961.

Arthur George Gentle, Little Gaddesden, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. Gardener to Mrs Denison. Raiser of 'Mrs E H Denison' pre 1916.

H A Gerhold, Penarth, Glamorgan, Wales. Raiser of 2 cultivars introduced in 1909 by Crossling. There remains today a pharmacy at his address trading as H A Gerhold Ltd.

Gibbs. Raiser of 'White Queen' (3).

J T Gilbert & Son, Dyke, Bourne, Lincs. Introduced at least 17 cultivars between 1907 and 1911.

Gill & Searle, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. See **Searle**.

W J Godfrey, Exmouth. Raiser of 'Mrs W J Godfrey', introduced in 1908.

Thomas Gould, California, USA. Raiser of 2 Early-flowering cultivars introduced by Burpee in 1902 and 1906.

A W Gower (d.1958), Calcot Grange, Reading. Raiser of 'Joan Krabbé', introduced by Boltons in 1951. A professional gardener in private service, becoming head gardener to Colonel Krabbé of Calcot Grange for 48 years. Received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1938 and in 1948 became an Associate of Honour of the RHS.

Peter Grayson (d.2013) of Chesterfield. Peter was successful in bringing *Lathyrus* species and Grandiflora sweet peas to a wider audience. Introduced at least 46 cultivars of his own raising between 1992 and 2013 plus others from **Entwistle**. He caused confusion, however, when he found or produced something new and gave it the name of an Old-fashioned cultivar which he imagined might have looked the same. He then sold it as a re-discovery of the old original.

Dr. Robert M Greig, Stevenston, Ayrshire. Raiser of 'Katherine Margaret' c.1934 but there is no evidence it ever entered commerce.

Den Gubb, Kenfig Hill, Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan. Raised at least 4 cultivars introduced between 1983 and 1995. 'Jill Walton' has been the most successful.

Haage & Schmidt of Erfurt, Germany was founded in 1823 to specialise in vegetable seeds. They raised new cultivars including 'Kronprinzessin von Preussen' (Crown Princess of Prussia) in 1868, 'Feenkönigin' (Fairy Queen) in 1873 and 'Bronze King' in 1894. Carl Schmidt represented the business in 1899.

E & W Hackett Ltd of Adelaide, South Australia, sold the Karkoo strain in the 1930s, raised by **F A Joyner** of Bridgewater, South Australia by 1918.

F E Hallam, Moseley, Birmingham. Raiser of 'Kitty Lea' introduced in 1908.

Hallawell Seed Co, San Francisco, California, USA. Gardening retailers active at least 1910s-1960s, possibly longer.

Hamayu, Japan. Raiser of at least 3 cultivars pre-2010.

Dr. Keith Richard William Hammett, Massey, Auckland, New Zealand. Worked for the New Zealand Dept. of Scientific and Industrial Research, Auckland, but is now an independent plant breeder in Auckland. Hammett has a global reputation for his work, not just on *Lathyrus* but on other genera including *Dahlia*, *Clivia* and *Dianthus*. He was raised in Surrey, England, but moved to New Zealand in 1967 to work as a plant pathologist. He has had a life-long passion for *Lathyrus* and remains the most innovative of plant breeders. More than anyone else, he has worked to diversify the gene pool in sweet peas. In 1996 he received the NSPS Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal, in 2008 the Queen's Service Medal and in 2013 the RHS Gold Veitch Memorial Medal, among other honours. Responsible for at least 68 new cultivars.

Hammond. Raiser of 2 or 3 cultivars introduced around 1910. Probably W R Hammond of Burgess Hill, West Sussex.

Charles Hanmer (d.c.1991), Butterbusk, Conisbrough, South Yorkshire. Raiser of 'Charlie's Angel' introduced by Unwins in 1990.

Alfred Derrick Hannam (1920-1997) of Freshwater, Isle of Wight. Raiser of 'Mrs E Hannam' introduced in 1970.

Noriyasu Harada, Okayama, Japan. Raiser of 'Kurione' introduced in 2001.

Hardys Cottage Garden Plants, Freefolk Priors, Whitchurch, Hampshire. Introduced *L. vernus* 'Pendulous', claimed as a more pendulous form of *L. vernus* var. *variegatus*., and stocks a wide range of *L. vernus* selections. Business started by Rosy Hardy in 1988.

Michael (Mike) Hargreaves (1930-2023) Guiseley, Leeds. Raiser of 'Parsifal', introduced by Myers in 2015.

James Harkness of Willaston, South Australia, was among leading growers from the Adelaide area from 1919. Was working for **Harris Scarfe Ltd** by 1928. Advertised as an independent seedsman in 1948-63. In a letter of 1980 to Keith Hammett, Dick Bennett of Willaston, South Australia explained the extreme frilliness of the Gawler strain was developed by a **Mr Pengilly** who took 13 years to produce this character in 'Athol Pearl Pink'. This cultivar was then used by J Harkness in his breeding work. 'Elfin White' was used by J Harkness, when producing his first cultivar in 1926. He raised over 20 cultivars including 'Alberta' introduced in 1963.

Stephen Cross Harland (1891–1982) was Professor of Botany at Manchester University from 1950 to 1958. He collected and introduced to cultivation wild sweet peas from Sicily and feral sweet peas from South America, such as 'Matucana', 'Quito' and 'Sicilian Pink'.

Harris Scarfe Ltd of Adelaide, South Australia, sold "Invincible varieties raised by **J. Harkness**, well-known exhibitor" under the heading Gawler Sweet Peas in 1935. These included 'Gladys Harkness'. Started as an ironmongery store in 1849, the business is now a large chain of department stores.

Arthur Harrison (c.1916-c.2001), Hinckley, Leicestershire. Raiser of 'Claire' introduced in 1980.

F J Harrison, Rosedene, Ulverston. Raiser of 2 cultivars before 1916: 'Mrs F J Harrison' and 'G H Mackereth'.

Fred C Harriss (d.c.1987), Christchurch, Dorset. Raised at least 20 cultivars. Active from 1980.

Sydney Harrod of Londonderry, Northern Ireland, had been raising new cultivars since the 1960s but has been most active in the 21st century. He started trading as Cooltonagh Irish Sweet Peas in 2005 but has now retired. He has won many awards for his cultivars and in recent years has been working with **Chris McAleer** and Thomas Butterly, both of Rush, Co. Dublin, Ireland. His seeds are now sold through Roger Parsons Sweet Peas of Chichester, West Sussex.

Charles Hatcher was the son of W H Hatcher and a leading exhibitor around Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, in 1930s.

W H Hatcher of Brookvale, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, developed the Zyris strain. Has raised at least 8 cultivars, initially selling through **Anderson** from 1916.

L H Hatting, Hornchurch, Essex. Raiser of 'Mrs A Hatting', introduced in 1905.

Derek Heathcote, see **Eagle**

Friedrich Carl Heinemann (1819-1875) Erfurt, Germany. A contemporary of Ernst Benary, Heinemann started trading in 1848. The business remained in the family until it was nationalised by the East German government in 1972.

Hem Zaden see Bodger. Introduced the Bounce, Matchmaker and Villa Roma series in 2012.

Miss **Hilda Hemus** (1874–1954) of Upton-on-Severn, Worcestershire, was the sister-in-law of pioneer geneticist Sir **Rowland Biffen**. Biffen produced a few new sweet peas himself during the Edwardian era but Miss Hemus was the sweet pea specialist. Raised at least 138 cultivars, introduced between 1906 and 1914, but none of her introductions have survived. The Hemus business struggled with labour during the First World War so Hilda sold it to **Samuel Ryder** (1858–1936) of St Albans.

Peter Henderson & Co, New York, USA. Introduced at least 10 cultivars between 1888 and 1910. Founded by Peter Henderson (1822-1890) in 1871. The business was continued after his death by his son, Alfred Henderson, and Charles Henderson.

George Herbert (d.1954). At Colden Common, Hampshire, while working for **Breadmore** at Winchester, probably 1901-1912. Then went to **John Piper & Son**. Introduced three cultivars in his own name in 1919, when at Northwood, Middlesex. Raised over 40 cultivars in total but these usually credited to his employer.

W S Heslington, Ripon, North Yorkshire. Introduced three cultivars in 1910-11.

Vernon T Hill, Langford, Bristol. Raiser of 'White Hercules' (c.1915).

Hinton Brothers, Guys Cliffe, Warwick. Raiser of 3 cultivars between 1895 and 1904. Hinton's Nursery still exists at this site.

Dr H T Hinton, Heytesbury, Wiltshire. Raiser of 4 or more cultivars c.1912-15, including 'Constance Hinton' introduced by **Wheeler**.

Arnold Hitchcock (1874-1933), Tiptree, Essex. Raiser of 3 cultivars in the 1916 to 1921 period. Then went into partnership with **Andrew Ireland**, trading as Ireland and Hitchcock.

Hobbies Ltd, Norfolk Nurseries, Dereham. Introduced at least 17 cultivars between 1907 and 1916. John Green represented them in 1905.

Allan Hodgson (1937-2014), Merrybent, Darlington. Raiser of 'Phyllis Elizabeth' at the 1996 Wisley Trials.

Victor C Hodson (c.1919-1993), Coventry. Raiser of 'Coombe Park' introduced by Malin in 1972 and 'Tom Bufton' introduced by Marchant in 1988.

Ted Holden previously worked for Bodger Seeds. Joined the **Buckman, Denholm & Holden Seed Co**, formed in 1939 as their hybridiser. The company went into the sole ownership of **David Denholm** in 1945.

Holden. The raiser of 'Lord Aberconway' introduced in 1914. Presumably a gardener at Bodnant.

Robert Holmes, Norwich. Raiser of at least 30 cultivars introduced between 1908 and 1915. Some appear to be introduced by him and some by other seedsmen, mostly Sydenham.

Isaac House & Son of Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, introduced at least 19 cultivars between 1902 and 1912. James C House represented in 1907.

L H Howell, Mount Victoria, New South Wales, Australia. Advertised as a seedsman in 1905.

Andrew A Hubbuck, Somersall, Chesterfield. Raised at least 5 cultivars and still active.

John Hughes, Gresford, Wrexham, Denbighshire. Raiser of 'Hillbury' introduced in 1959.

Humphrey. Raiser of 'Susan Hawes' introduced in 1909. Possibly E W Humphrey of Greenford, Ealing, Essex.

Humphreys Bros, Coggeshall, Essex. R H Humphreys worked for over 7 years under George Burt at E W King & Co. before joining this firm. Raiser of at least 3 cultivars introduced between 1949 and 1954.

J H Hunt, Harpenden, Hertfordshire. Raiser of 'Lynda Jane' (1986).

R A (Toby) Hunt, Birdbrook, Halstead, Essex. Raiser of at least 6 cultivars introduced between 1985 and 2019.

Hurst & Son, Houndsditch, London, had land at Kelvedon, Essex for trials and seed production from about 1890. Introduced at least 10 cultivars. William Hurst snr. (d.1864) formed Hurst & McMullen in 1843. In 1857, W G McMullen left so Hurst's son, William Hurst jnr (d.1871) joined to form Hurst and Son. Nathaniel Newman Sherwood, VMH (1846-1916) had married into the family and took charge of the business in 1871. In 1895, his sons William Henry Charles Sherwood and John Edward Newman Sherwood (1876-1939) became partners. After 1939, the business continued under a succession of managers, becoming a limited company in 1944. Following a merger, they became Hurst Gunson from 1954-1962. They then merged with **Cooper Taber** to become from 1962-1986 Hurst, Gunson, Cooper, Taber. In 1984, the business became a division of Booker McConnell plc and were joined by **Charles Sharpe** plc in 1985. The Booker group merged with Tesco in 2018.

Rev. William Tucker Hutchins (1849-1917) of Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, USA. Best known as a writer and lecturer, he is credited more than anyone in the early popularity of the Sweet Pea in the USA. Raised at least 2 cultivars introduced by Burpee: 'Daybreak' in 1895 and 'Columbia' in 1897.

G Hutt, Eynsford, Kent. Raiser of 'Lady Emily Dyke' (1912).

IAANAAFRC (Incorporated Administrative Agency, National Agriculture and Food Research Organisation), Ibaraki, Japan. Registered 2 cultivars in 2005. Breeders listed are Kyosuke Yamamoto and Yoshimi Yagashita (see **Kanagawa**).

Dr. Tomoaki Inoue, Japan. Leading Japanese researcher at the University of Tokyo. Raiser of at least 3 cultivars.

Andrew Ireland, Marks Tey, Essex. Working for Dobbies from pre- 1901 until 1918. He was then in partnership with **Arnold Hitchcock**, trading as Ireland and Hitchcock. Awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1925. Was living in St. Albans in 1934 so may have moved to **Ryders Seeds**.

Ireland & Hitchcock, Marks Tey, Essex. Raised over 20 cultivars introduced between 1921 and 1931. See Arnold Hitchcock and Andrew Ireland.

Anthony J James, Oxford. Raised at least 3 cultivars c.1986-1993.

Chris F James (c.1906-c.1995), Batheaston, Bath. Raised at least 3 cultivars introduced in 1983 and 1991.

Edward W (Ted) James (d.1997). Raiser of 'Lynn Davey', introduced by Sewell in 1998.

Edwin Ridgeway Janes (c.1884/5-1958), Portsmouth. Submitted his varieties to Wisley Trials and won awards but there is no evidence of their names or if any entered commerce. Awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1936.

Jarman & Co, Chard, Somerset. Raised at least 12 cultivars between 1908 and 1915.

Jellito Staudensamen GmbH, Schwarmstedt, Germany. Wholesale suppliers of hardy perennial seeds. Started trading in 1957 and now with offices in the UK, USA and Japan.

P G Jenkins of Newport, Isle of Wight. Raised 'Queen Eira', introduced by Emily **Parsons** in 1912. He may have been her gardener.

Philip Johnson of Sittingbourne, Kent. Introduced 'Invicta' (2) in 2015. Bought **Seedlynx** in 2017 but still also trades as Johnson Sweet Peas.

W W Johnson & Sons Ltd, Boston, Lincolnshire. Introduced 9 cultivars between 1904 and 1911.

Johnstone. Raiser of 'Mrs E J Johnstone' introduced in 1910. Possibly V B Johnstone of Stamford, Lincolnshire.

Bernard Rees Jones (1906–1996) of Warwick whose influence was enormous. A pharmacist by profession, he was a prolific writer and breeder of many successful Spencer cultivars, known to all as "The Maestro". In 1959, he was awarded the NSPS Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal. Raised at least 24 novelties introduced by various seedsmen between 1951 and 2009.

D H Jones, St. Osyth, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. Raiser of 'Alison Elizabeth' (1986).

David Morlais Jones (d.1998), Waters Upton, Telford, Shropshire. Raised at least 3 cultivars but only 'Millennium', introduced by Unwins, appears to have come into commerce.

Eric Marsden Jones (1887-1960) of Tilston, Malpas, Cheshire. In partnership with **Hugh Aldersey** 1913, trading as Aldersey & Marsden Jones. Crossed *Lathyrus rotundifolius* x *L. tuberosus* around 1918. He exhibited a plant from this cross at an RHS show in July 1957 where it won an award. It has the

form of *L. rotundifolius* but with paler flower colour. This remains in cultivation under the name *L. 'Tubro'*, and DNA testing supports its hybrid origin.

G Jones. Raiser of 'Dorothy Tapscott' c.1915. Possibly George Jones of Heswall, Wirral, Cheshire.

Jones & Sons, Shoplatch, Shrewsbury. Trading by 1900. Introduced 5 or more cultivars between 1901 and 1911. Herbert Jones represented in 1905.

H J Jones, Hither Green, Lewisham. Trading by 1900. Introduced at least 18 cultivars between 1907 and 1909.

Harry Joy, who worked for **Ferry Morse Seed Co.** from 1930 until 1968, succeeded **Frank G Cuthbertson** when he retired. Joy moved to **Denholm** Seeds from 1968 until 1972.

F A Joyner of Bridgewater, South Australia, Australia, raised the Karkoo strain sold by **Hackett**. No cultivars names have been identified to date. Ext.1918

Just Sweet Peas. A short-lived online business which introduced 'Polyanna' in 2011.

Kanagawa prefecture, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa, Japan. Registered 9 new cultivars between 2002 and 2017. Breeders are listed as Kyosuke Yamamoto 1994-2003, Yoshimi Yagashita 2001-17, Tomoko Hisatsune 2017. See also **IAANAAFRC**

Susan Keating, Surry, Maine, USA. Retailer of Sweet Pea seeds. In 2015, the business was sold to Rebecca Bell.

Kelway and Son, Langport, Somerset. Best known nowadays for their Delphiniums and tuberous Begonias, this business introduced at least 4 cultivars in 1910-12.

George W Kerr (1865–1930), a Scot who migrated to the USA in about 1908 and worked for **Burpee**. He was President of the short-lived American Sweet Pea Society.

Edwin Kershaw (d.c.2001), Scarisbrick, Southport, Lancashire, later of the Isle of Man. Raised at least three cultivars introduced between 1972 and 1980.

Kerton Sweet Peas started trading in 1990, following the death of **Les Marchant** of Bridgewater in 1989. It was formed by Phil Kerton of Bridgewater, Somerset, with his wife Joyce. Kertons introduced many cultivars raised by amateur exhibitors as well as over 30 of their own raisings and is still very active.

Dr. M Sadiq Khan, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Raiser of 'Yasmin Khan', introduced by Boltons in 1992.

E.W. King & Co. of Coggeshall, Essex, was formed by Ernest William King (1869–1930) in 1888, initially retailing seeds but later he bought land and started to produce his own seeds, mostly vegetables, for which they remain well known. His father William King was an illegitimate son of John Kemp King. EWK was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1928. Although he introduced cultivars, it is not clear that EW King raised any himself in the early days. In 1912, **George H Burt** (1886–1959) moved to Kings and was an active raiser of new cultivars. He had previously worked for **Unwins** and then spent a period in the USA. Burt was succeeded by **Thomas Campbell**

Baines (1920–1985). In 1955, **Jim Tandy** (1914–1989) replaced Baines who went to work for **Atlee Burpee Seed Co.** at Lompoc, California. Jim Tandy is perhaps best remembered for developing the Snoopea Series.

J K King & Sons of Coggeshall, Essex. Introduced at least 8 cultivars between 1907 and 1916. John King founded the business in 1793. His descendant John Kemp King (d. pre1895) had retired by 1885 handing over the business to his sons Herbert T King (1865-1918) and Leonard G King (d.c.1903). There was acrimonious rivalry with **E W King & Co.** but following several misadventures, including Herbert's death in London from a German bomb, Ernest William King (1869–1930) took control in 1920 and in 1925 J K King & Sons stopped selling Sweet Pea seeds.

Graham King (d.2022) Holbeach, Plymouth, Devon. Amateur raiser of several good cultivars.

Peter King. See Somerset Sweet Peas.

Ron D King, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Raiser of 'Memorial Flight' introduced by Kerton in 1998.

Shigenobu Kinoshita, Kishima-gun, Saga, Japan. Raiser of 'Yurika' in 1991.

Knight. Raiser of 'Joan Knight' pre 1971.

Akiyoshi Kosuga, Kanagawa, Japan. Raiser of 4 cultivars registered between 1991 and 1999.

William (Bill) Laidlaw, Bournemouth, Dorset (d.1983). Raiser of 'Eclipse' (3) introduced by Unwins in 1975.

Robert Lanchbury, Gotherington, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Was retailing Sweet Pea seeds in the 1970s.

Law Somner Pty Ltd. Elizabeth Street, Melbourne. Seedsmen and nurserymen since 1850, originally at Swanston Street, Melbourne.

Thomas Laxton (1830–1893) of Bedford received an FCC in 1883 for his 'Invincible Carmine', introduced in 1877. He raised at least 10 excellent cultivars but is barely remembered among sweet pea enthusiasts because he came up against Henry Eckford. As Henry Eckford's son, **John Stainer Eckford**, reported:

'Mr Laxton was too good a florist to create confusion by distributing similar varieties under different names and so his work was to a large extent discounted'

His last introduction was 'Princess May' in 1893. Two sons, William and Edward went into partnership in 1888 to form Laxton Brothers who, between 1895 and 1900 raised a series of Cupid cultivars.

H H Lees, Warblington, Havant, Hampshire. Raised at least 3 cultivars introduced between 1913 and 1917.

Cecil Leese (c.1926-2011), Tittensor, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. Raised 2 cultivars introduced by Eagle in 2008.

W Legutko, Smolice, Poland to 2008, then Jutrosin, Poland. General seed business established in 1992.

David Lemon. Born in Dublin, Ireland, and started with **Watkins and Simpson**, London, from 1955-1964. This included 2 years training at RHS Wisley from 1956-8. He spent a year at **Denholm Seeds** before joining **Ferry Morse** from 1965-1973, where he worked on producing Jet-set series. In 1973, he returned to **Denholm Seeds** where he produced the Supersnoop series. He also worked on the Early Multiflora type, creating the Mammoth Series introduced in 1982. These are more early spring-flowering rather than winter-flowering but in 1984, David moved to **Bodger Seeds** where he created the Winter Elegance Series introduced in 1992. He also produced the Explorer series, as an improved Supersnoop. After leaving Bodgers in 1994, David continued to work on Early Multifloras at Oglevee Ltd, producing for **Pan American** (Waller) material which was refined for the UK by Mark Rowland and introduced by **Owls Acre** as part of the Winter Sunshine Series. His final evolution of the type is Solstice Series, introduced in 2009. From 2007 to 2015, he worked for Floranova as an independent breeder but has now retired. David worked on many other genera and is perhaps best known for Marigolds.

Gennadiy Levko, Vniissok, Lesnoy Gorodok, Russia. Raised at least 7 cultivars.

C U Liggitt, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. A plant, seed and bulb broker active in the 1920s and 30s.

Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) listed the pink/white bicoloured form of Sweet Pea in 1737 as *Lathyrus zeylanica* (Linnaeus 1753). It is better known by the name 'Painted Lady'. It may predate the white form, since it is only one mutation removed from the wild type where it takes two mutations to produce a pure white flower.

Chr. Lorenz, Erfut, Germany. Introduced 'Celestial' in 1896 and 'Striped Celestial' in 1897.

Jane C Loudon (1807-1858) Her 1840 *Ladies' Flower Garden of Ornamental Plants* includes the purple wild type, New Painted Lady, Old Painted Lady, blue ('which has the wings and keel a pale blue and the standard dark bluish-purple') and violet ('which has the keel a pale violet, the wings a deep violet and the standard a dark reddish-purple'). Violet appears to be the old black or black-purple.

Lowe. Raiser of 'Mrs H Lowe' introduced in 1910. Possibly W Lowe of Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

W Lumley, Hayling Island, Hampshire. Raised at least 19 cultivars, introduced between 1908 and 1912. His first two were introduced by **Breadmore**. His business was possibly transferred to **Damerum** in 1912.

James T Lynch, Menlo Park, California, USA. Raised 3 cultivars introduced in 1897.

In 1921, **William Macdonald** (1883–1955) joined **L D Waller Seed Co.** and later formed the Macdonald Seed Co. at Bonita near San Diego. This company introduced at least 98 cultivars between 1929 and 1951. Macdonald is most noted in sweet pea terms for his Early-flowering varieties. His three children continued the business after his death but it was dissolved in 1963.

G H Mackereth, Ulverston, Cumbria. Introduced about 10 cultivars for himself and other people between 1906 and 1914. Appears to have traded as H W Mackereth. Henry Whittaker Mackereth of Ulverston appears in the 1881 census.

Madeleines Floral Farms, Johannesburg, South Africa. Raised 'Harlequin' (3) pre 1942.

Alf. Maher, Fairfield West, New South Wales, Australia. Advertised as a seedsman in 1935. H. Maher exhibited at the RHSNSW show in 1933.

William (Bill) Maishman (1913–1995) of Leigh, Reigate, Surrey until 1983, then of Cotton, Stowmarket, Suffolk. Introduced 3 cultivars for **Kershaw** 1972-80 and others for **Hammett**. His business was sold in 1988 by **Diane Sewell**

Alexander Malcolm, Duns, Scotland. Raised at least 38 cultivars introduced between 1909 and 1921.

Charles Malin (d.1993), Brunswick Street, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. Introduced at least 8 cultivars, including some for other raisers, between 1969 and 1976.

Martins Maltenieks, Riga, Latvia. See Dubovkis.

Herman Mamitsch, New York, USA. Raiser of 'Jeanne Mamitsch' introduced in 1926.

Jack T Manning (d.2001), New Haw, Weybridge, Surrey. Raised at least 4 cultivars introduced between 1977 and 1987.

David Manston, Sande Heath, Fordingbridge, Hampshire. Introduced 3 cultivars between 2006 and 2009.

Les Marchant (d.1989) of North Petherton, Bridgwater, Somerset. Raised five cultivars, introduced between 1983 and 1985, and introduced those from other amateur raisers. Was succeeded by **Kerton** following his death.

Marple. Raiser of 'Herbert Marple', introduced in 1907. Possibly William Marple of Summer House, Penkridge, Stafford.

Viv Marsh, Walford Heath, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. Raiser of *L. vernus* 'Lamorna's Love'.

Leonard F Marshall, Addiscombe, Surrey. Raiser of 'Vivienne Corfield' introduced in 1915.

S E Marshall & Co. Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. Now a division of Westlands, along with Unwins. Primarily known for vegetable seeds but introduced 'Ethel Marshall' and 'Wisbech Fairy' in 1975, 'Blue Ice' (2) in 1994 and 'Sunset' (8) in 2002 when based at Wisbech.

Fred C. Martin (b.c.1921- post 1980) of Gawler South, South Australia, Australia. Introduced his first variety in 1956.

Thomas Martyn (1735-1825). Professor of botany at Cambridge University. In 1807 he described the New Painted Lady pea, with red standards and pink wings.

In 1793, a seedsman named **John Mason** at the sign of the Orange Tree, Fleet Street, London, listed five: black, purple, scarlet, white and 'Painted Lady'. A black-purple is mentioned in 1800, presumably the same as Mason's black. 'Black' may be the colour we now see in 'Purple Prince'. Mason was trading from 1781-1827 and following many changes of ownership the business became part of **Cooper Taber** in 1887.

David Matthewman of Pontefract, West Yorkshire, started trading in 1993. His first novelty of his own raising came in 2000. Still actively raising novelties but Matthewman Sweet Peas are now sold from Solihull, West Midlands.

L L May & Co, St Paul, Minnesota, USA. Introduced 12 cultivars in 1894 and 1895.

Chris McAleer of Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Raiser of 'Bridget McAleer' introduced by Cooltonagh in 2013, and Josie (4).

William Wilson McCardle (1844-1922) Wellington, New Zealand. Born in Scotland and emigrated to New Zealand in 1863. General nurseryman and seedsman.

D J (Jim) McDonald of Stockbridge, Hampshire, with his wife Mary, has recently introduced several late Spencer cultivars. Raiser of 'Mary Mac' (2015) and 'Serendipity' (2018).

Gawler sweet peas have been maintained by the **McDougall family**: Malcolm McDougall (d.2018) of Meadows, South Australia, Australia, his brother Barry McDougall of Gawler South, South Australia, together with Barry & Bronwyn's son, Brad McDougall of Evanston, South Australia. The family have raised many cultivars between them. The unique characteristics of this strain are a great resource for plant breeders.

An 1804 seed list from **Bernard McMahon** (c.1775-1816) of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA includes purple, white, 'Painted Lady', blue and scarlet. The blue is *Lathyrus sativus* var. *azureus*.

S Miller, Maycroft, Newport, Isle of Wight. Raised 4 cultivars introduced between 1908 and 1916.

William T Milne (c.1921-1987) latterly of Swindon, Wiltshire, but spent most of his life in Scotland. Raiser of 'Willie's Red', introduced by Boltons in 1989.

Miyazaki prefecture, Miyazaki-shi, Miyazaki, Japan. Employ Kaoru Nakamura who has developed since 2004 at least 25 distinct early-flowering cultivars. These include winter-flowering, multiflora, non-tendrill cultivars, known as Musica Series. Miyazaki cultivars are guarded to prevent growers elsewhere from obtaining them. Breeders listed are Hiroshi Tominaga 2002-7, Hirotooshi Hino 2002-7, Sadao Gunji 2002-21, Toshio Murata 2002-7, Kazumi Shibata 2002-3, Norio Hattanda 2003-12, Kaoru Nakamura 2003-2i, Hideo Tagahashi 2003-5, Hiroaki Nagatomo 2004-21, Koichi Fukumoto 2007-12, Naoshi Nakaoka 2011-20, Toru Nakamura 2012-3, Yasuyo Kuranaga 2015-20, Hiroshi Nakamura 2021

Moa Seed Farm, Dumbarton, Otago, New Zealand. Founded in 1918 and operated between 1922 and 1966. Raiser of 'His Majesty', introduced by Burpee in 1939. The manager was J W Hadfield.

J W Moles, Stanway, Colchester, Essex. Wholesale seed supplier. Became Moles Seeds (UK) Ltd in 2007 as part of a management buyout from Michael Moles.

Leslie John Moody (d.c.2012), Twyford, Reading. Raiser of 'Jeanne' introduced in 1981.

Wilfred J Moon (1903-1976), Braunton, Devon. Raiser of 'Marion Moon' (1954) and 'Lorna Doone' (2) (1961).

A Moring, Goring-on-Thames. Raiser of at least 4 cultivars introduced around 1914.

Tom Morris (1913-1998), Marston Green, Birmingham. Raiser of 'Lily Morris' introduced in 1975 and 'Blue Danube' (3) introduced in 1981.

Charles Copeland Morse (1842–1900) moved to Santa Clara, California, and was a successful businessman, not a plantsman, founding the firm of C C Morse & Co. He had five children including **Lester L Morse** who succeeded him.

Lester L Morse (1871–1953). Lester was a horticulturist and noted in 1884 that sweet peas were the newest vogue, adding them to the list of his father's firm, C C Morse & Co. Initially, cultivars raised by the firm were generally introduced by other seedsmen, such as Burpee and Vaughan. The firm had moved to San Francisco before 1906 and was devastated by the earthquake of that year but recovered and rebuilt. From 1911, they employed **Frank G Cuthbertson** as their hybridiser. In 1930 C C Morse & Co. merged with D M Ferry & Co. to form the **Ferry Morse Seed Co.** Lester was succeeded by his own son, Charles Pierce Morse (1907–1970).

Hamilton Charnock Mott (1871–1963) of Albury, New South Wales, Australia, a newspaper proprietor, was among amateur raisers of Early-flowering cultivars in early decades of the 20thC. Raised at least 16 cultivars mostly introduced by **Anderson**.

Mount Iris Nursery, Dee Why, New South Wales, Australia. Introduced at least 4 cultivars prior to 1949.

Murakami, Japan. Possibly raised at least 4 cultivars.

Jack Murray, Glasgow, Scotland. Raiser of 'Sheila Murray', introduced by Roger Parsons in 2013.

Muskett & Sons. Raiser of 'Carmine Rose', introduced by Hurst in 1883.

Darren Myers, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire. Introduced 'Parsifal' and 'Just William', 2015-16.

John Ness (1877–1955) raised sweet peas for **Thomas Cullen & Sons** of Witham, Essex. In 1927 or 1929, he moved to **Carters**. He was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1954.

Noble, Cooper & Bolton. Introduced 'Dark' in 1850. This may simply have been an improved form of the earlier 'Black' or 'Black / Purple' (see **John Mason**). The firm later became **Cooper, Taber & Co.**

Tomomitzu Nozaki, Miyazaki, Japan. Nurseryman. Supplier of at least 6 Early Multiflora cultivars.

Okayama prefecture, Okayama-shi, Okayama, Japan. Have registered at least 6 Early Multiflora cultivars. Breeders are listed as Norihide Doi 1992-2017, Shinsuke Kono 1992, Takao Kawai 1992, Hideaki Kimoto 1992, Yasuhiro Okamoto 1992, Shintaro Fujii 1992, Yoshio Mori 2008-17, Katsuhiko Kishida 2008, Yasushi Morimoto 2017.

Osuzu, Japan. Raiser of 'Grace' (2) and 'Rosé' before 2010.

Otter. Raiser of 2 cultivars introduced in 1910. No details are known.

Owls Acre Sweet Peas was begun by **Mark Rowland** and his wife Maggie Goodsell at Spalding, Lincolnshire. They were initially cut flower producers but produced Winter Sunshine, Spring

Sunshine, Cherub and Sprite Series of Sweet Peas. They have now transferred the retail seed business to Elizabeth Crawford at Drifffield, East Yorkshire, and their wholesale Sweet Pea production to Econseeds BV of Eindhoven, the Netherlands.

Yukimitsu Oyama, Kanagawa, Japan. Raiser of at least 7 Early Multiflora cultivars.

William Bridgewater Page (1818) lists white, scarlet 'Painted Lady', purple, black and striped all grown at Southampton Botanic Garden. Nineteenth century references to striped colouring describe what we now call flaked colouring. Modern use of the term 'striped' refers to a mutation first seen in the 1925 cultivar 'Lady Gay'.

Pan American Seeds, West Chicago, Illinois, USA. Employed David Lemon to produce a series of Early Multiflora cultivars introduced in 1997.

Sidney A Parker (d.2002), West Portishead, Bristol. Raiser of 'Rosie'(5) introduced by Kerton in 1992.

Mrs Emily Parsons. Channel View, Hope Road, Shanklin, Isle of Wight. Introduced 'Queen Eira' 1912, raised by **Jenkins**. The address is a hotel but "Parsons' Sweet Peas" were being traded by her in the 1930s, when her gardener was A J Price.

Roger Parsons, Bracklesham Bay, Chichester, West Sussex, Started a seedbank in 1998 to conserve *Lathyrus* species and cultivars and holds the Scientific National Collection. Started trading in 2005 as Roger Parsons Sweet Peas. Has raised at least 40 cultivars. In 2012 he received the NSPS Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal.

R G Parsons, Stanbridge, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire. Raiser of 'Nimrod' introduced in 1975.

R F M Pauling, Bradfield, Reading, Berkshire. Raiser of 'Susan Bristow', introduced in 1970.

JR Pearson & Sons, Lowdham, Notts. Raiser of 'T S Dodd' (1909) and 'Elfrida Pearson' (1911).

Pengilly see J Harkness.

H A Perkin, Reigate, Surrey. Raiser of 'Biddy Perkin' (1905) and 'Nancy Perkin' (1910).

Petit, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. Raiser of 'Rose Queen' (2) introduced in 1918.

Frank Pettipher (c.1920-2003), Radford, Coventry. Raiser of 'Margaret' (4) introduced by Eagle in 2004.

Wilhelm Pfitzer (1821-1905), Militarstrasse, Stuttgart, Germany. Founded his nursery in 1844. A general nursery business also trading in seeds and bulbs. It achieved enormous success breeding a wide range of genera but has been a small general nursery since World War 2.

John Piper & Son Ltd, Bayswater, London. Introducer of at least 3 cultivars around 1915-17. Their raiser was **George Herbert**.

Mrs J Pitcher, Christchurch, Dorset. Raiser of 'Beauty of Dorset' c.1990. This may be a cultivar raised by **F C Harriss** and submitted for trial by a family member.

Pitts. Raiser of 'Ellen' c.1975

Joseph Dickson Place (1929–2007) of Blennerhasset, Wigton, Cumbria was an amateur raiser of more than 35 cultivars introduced since 1999. He produced semi-dwarf cultivars which often have a 'Solway' prefix in their name. Some of these have Old-fashioned flower form and some have Spencer form. They have good fragrance but the racemes are quite short compared with earlier Series from Ferry Morse. The Spencer cultivars are very frilly and many of these have a 'Minuet' prefix in their name. His tall cultivars include many non-tendrill cultivars, introduced by E W King.

Richard Place, Aspatria, Wigton, Cumbria. Son of **J D Place**. Raiser of 3 non-tendrill cultivars introduced by Parsons in 2016.

Plants of Distinction, Needham Market, Suffolk, have introduced at least 15 cultivars since 1998, including the dwarf Pinnocchio series. Founded in 1987 as a partnership between David Tostevin (1934-1986) and Sarah Missing. Both had previously worked together at **Thompson & Morgan**.

George Pope. Raiser of at least 6 cultivars introduced in 1915.

Dr. Russell Tony Maskell Poulter (1944-2021), University of Otago, New Zealand. A geneticist who created a series of Sweet Peas resistant to Powdery Mildew by re-creating the *L. x hammettii* cross. Among other work, he patented a chocolate Cosmos in 1996 named *Cosmos atrosanguineus* 'Pinot Noir'.

E John Pratt, Knowle, Solihull. Raiser of 'Samantha Jane' c.1994. Was NSPS treasurer for over 40 years and received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1989.

George Priestley (1926-2001), Haxey, Doncaster. Raiser of 'Dusty Springfield' introduced by Unwins in 2002 and 'Mary Priestley' introduced by Myers in 2015.

J I & T H Queale, Mount Dandenong, Victoria, Australia. Advertised as seedsmen 1955.

Rawnsley. Raiser of 'Alice Goodman' introduced in 1909.

Tom Reeve (1922-1983), Ravensthorpe, Northants. Raiser of 'Karen Reeve' introduced by Marchant in 1985.

Renee's Garden, Felton, California, USA. Introduced at least 2 new cultivars but these may simply be other cultivars renamed. Business started by Renee Shepherd.

A W Richards (c.1878-c.1961), Swainston, Isle of Wight. Raiser of 'Island Queen' introduced in 1953.

John Richards & Co, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Raiser of 'Giant Maroon' (2) introduced c.1915.

Bridget Richardson, Gisborne, New Zealand. Grand-daughter of Charles William John Unwin. Raiser of 'Queen Mother' (2), introduced by **Unwins** in 1991.

F B Richardson & son, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, Wales. Seedsmen in the 1980s. Co-introduced 'Roy Phillips' in 1986.

Rev. F Page Roberts (d.1927), Mortimer, Berkshire. Raiser of 'Audrey' introduced in 1915.

A Fleming Robertson, Scone, Perthshire, Scotland has raised at least 8 novelties since 1996, all introduced by Kerton. The son of **A. Ford Robertson**.

A Ford Robertson, Scone, Perthshire, Scotland, An amateur raiser of 'Dynasty', introduced by Unwins in 1986.

John M Robson, Castle Douglas, Dumfries, Scotland. Raiser of at least 3 cultivars and still active.

David Rollinson, Offenham, Evesham, Worcestershire. Raiser of 'Dave R' introduced in 2020.

T Rothera & Co. of Burton Joyce, Nottinghamshire, 1907. H Rothera was the raiser of 'Mrs Rothera' introduced by Suttons in 1908.

Rev. Louis (Lewis) C Rutzahn (1859-1936) of Arroyo Grande, California, USA, was a wholesale seed producer and the raiser of several cultivars introduced around 1910. These seem to be re-selections from his production of existing cultivars. His business began in 1893.

Mark Rowland, see **Owls Acre Sweet Peas**.

W F Rowles, Ellisfield Manor Gardens, Basingstoke, Hampshire. Raiser of 'Lady Geraldine Hoare' introduced c.1915. She and her husband owned the manor so we presume Rowles was their gardener.

Rowntree Seeds, St. Albans, Herts. Little can be found about this business or their relationship with **Ryders**. Credited with at least 30 cultivars but may simply be re-naming. Undated catalogues are from the 1930s.

Heinrich Bernhard Rupp (1688-1719), writing in 1718, says of the sweet pea: 'Sometimes it varies with a white flower', the earliest reference to white flowers.

Roger Russell. Raiser of 'Heartbeat', introduced by Kerton for 2022.

Samuel Ryder (1858–1936) of St Albans. Traded as Ryders Seeds and is credited with introducing 70 or more cultivars. Some may be re-selection or re-naming of existing cultivars. Active in the mid 20th century.

Sakata Seed co, Kanagawa, Japan. Raiser of at least 10 cultivars including the Ceremony series of non-tendrill early multiflora cultivars. Breeders are listed as Takao Nakamura 1990, Akira Moriyama 1990-4, Masahiro Nakagawa 1994-7, Hitoshi Kojima 1997.

W E Sands, Lisburn, Northern Ireland. Raiser of at least 4 cultivars c.1930.

Savage. Raiser of at least 14 cultivars introduced 1909-1914. Several cultivars have the names Boleyn, Manor Park and Plashet as prefixes, suggesting a connection with Newham, London, but nothing is known of this grower.

W R Sayers, Neutral Bay, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Raiser of 'Loge' at the 1920 South Australian Trials.

J C Schmidt. Raiser of 'Vesuvius' introduced in 1886. May have a connection to Haage & Schmidt.

J F Scobie, New Lambton, New South Wales, Australia. Raiser of 'Gawler Warrior' pre 1948, 'Una Scobie' introduced in 1948 and 'Margaret Scobie'.

Alec W Searle introduced at least 19 cultivars in 1915-16. He had previously worked for **Brunnings** and in 1926 formed **Gill & Searle** of Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, Victoria with Herbert Fitzmaurice Gill (c.1871-1957), who had been a director of Brunnings since 1906.

Seedlynx, Woodham Mortimer, Maldon, Essex. Raised at least 4 cultivars and still very active. Wholesale seed producers supplying major packet seed retail companies. Their retail arm is English Sweet Peas. Founded by John Macefield in 2000 as a division of Agrifusion Ltd. and sold to **Philip Johnson** in 2017.

Semences Davy, France. Seed wholesalers active in the 1930s.

Diane Sewell of Over, Cambridge. Took over the business of **Bill Maishman** on his retirement in 1988. Introduced at least 6 cultivars raised by her husband, Terry. Diane retired following Terry's death in 2003, when the business ceased.

Joe Sharman, Cottenham, Cambridge. Introduced *L. vernus* cultivars selected by Sylvia Norton from material in general circulation.

Charles Sharpe & Co, Sleaford, Lincolnshire. Introduced 4 Bolton novelties in 1908 and **Bolton** introduced a Sharpe novelty in 1908. This suggests Sharpe may have been Bolton's seed producer until Boltons bought their own land c.1908. Raised and introduced new Sweet Peas in the early 1960s when Thomas Campbell Baines worked for them. The business was started by Charles Sharpe (d.1897) in 1888 and in 1986 was acquired by Advanta seeds.

Roy Silvester, Longford Turning, Market Drayton, Shropshire (c.1934-2009). Raiser of 'Sheila Roy' introduced by Roger Parsons in 2013.

J Simmonds, Turners Hill, Crawley, West Sussex. Raiser of 'Fay Simmonds' (c.1975).

Philip Simons (1903-1968), Ardleigh, Colchester, Essex. Raised over 80 cultivars introduced between 1933 and 1968. He received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1966.

Simply Sweet Peas. A partnership between Geoff Freeman and Richard Massey. Primarily a producer of young plants for retail sales who introduced at least 5 cultivars between 2006 and 2012 via online sales.

W H Simpson & Sons, Birmingham, West Midlands. Raiser of 'Doris Palmer' introduced by 1916.

J E Slater. Raiser of at least 2 cultivars 1978-1981.

J Smellie, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire, Scotland. Raiser of at least 2 cultivars c.1918-1932.

E J Smith. Raiser of multiflora spencer 'Sextet Queen' introduced by Suttons in 1931.

Lewis Smith, Shotesham Park, Norwich until 1911, then Cadland, Southampton from 1912. Raiser of 8 cultivars introduced c.1912. Is this the same Smith listed as raiser of a further 5 cultivars in this era?

R S Smith, Burbage, Hinckley, Leicestershire. Submitted 'Bill Truslove' to the 2003 Trials but it is sure to be a cultivar raised by **Truslove**.

Somerset Sweet Peas, Minehead, Somerset. Trading name of Peter King. Introduced at least 3 cultivars 2011-2014.

Adam Somerville, Fleetwood, Lancashire. Raiser of 'Fleetwood Blue' c.1968.

Southfield Nurseries. Raiser of 'Michael' c.1930. There are currently nurseries with this name at Bourne, Lincolnshire (Cactus Land) and Broughton Gifford, Wiltshire.

James Sproule, San Francisco, California, USA. Raiser of 'Navy Blue' introduced by Burpees in 1899.

G Stark & Son at Great Ryburgh, Norfolk, until c.1926, then Fakenham, Norfolk. Arthur George Stark (c.1870-c.1956) raised at least 120 cultivars introduced between 1905 and 1964. In 1935 he was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal.

Joseph Stevenson (1874-1940), Poole Road, Wimborne, Dorset. Raiser of at least 83 cultivars introduced between 1907 and 1938. Awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1930. Head gardener at Merley House, Wimborne, before setting up his nursery in 1907. Son of John Briggs Stevenson (1847-1931) best known as Parks Superintendent at Bournemouth where he created the Chine Gardens and many of the outdoor sporting facilities.

Thomas Stevenson (1873-1938), Woburn Place, Addlestone, Surrey. Brother of **Joseph Stevenson**. Raiser of 'Rosie Adams' introduced by **H J Wright** in 1908. Head gardener at Woburn Place until 1917, when he became a nurseryman at Cowley, Middlesex. In 1934 was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal.

W Steward, New South Wales, Australia. Raised at least 8 cultivars introduced by **Gellatly** c.1933-1961.

W J Stokes & Son, Hilperton, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. Produced L. Latifolius 'Her Majesty' in 1897, assessed to be a synonym of 'Delicata'.

Strong. Raiser of 'Blue Bird' (3) pre 1914. No details are known.

In 1897, the **Sunset Seed and Plant Co.** of San Francisco, California, USA, introduced 'Red Riding Hood', the first of a type known as Snapdragon type because of their alleged similarity to a Snapdragon, or *Antirrhinum*. The standard petal is undeveloped and folds down to form a hood over the wings. Further introductions followed over the following five years but the type was never popular and died out within ten years. Prior to 1895, the business was named the Sherwood Hall Nursery. They were still trading c.1937.

Suttons Seeds of Reading, now Paignton, Devon, Introduced 'Butterfly' in 1878. Were very active in sweet peas in the early 20th century, introducing at least 115 cultivars. In recent decades continued to introduce new cultivars from amateur raisers, such as **Alan Williams** of Leamington, Warwickshire. John Sutton (1777-1863) founded an agricultural seed shop in Reading in 1806 and ownership remained in the family for generations. Was part of Vilmorin Clause & co, until a management buyout in 2014.

William (Bill) Sutton (d.2015) of Southport, Lancashire, raised 'Patricia Anne', named for his wife.

The **Sweet Pea Co**, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk. A short-lived marketing vehicle for **Fothergill's** Seeds used around 2006 to 2009.

Robert Sydenham Ltd of Birmingham, West Midlands. Robert Sydenham (1848-1913) was a diamond merchant who started Sydenham Bros. in 1875. That business ceased in 1930. He became a seed and bulb merchant by 1885. Introduced 4 Aldersey novelties in 1909 and at least 17 for Robert Holmes between 1908 and 1915. Introduced at least 6 other cultivars during this period. Sydenham was succeeded as head of the company by Herbert Smith (d.1938) and the seed business still appeared in the NSPS Annuals up to 1932.

Katherine Charlotte Synge (1885-1972). Supplied 'Cheshire Dark Blue' to **Turrall** pre-1964. The cultivar's original name was lost. Her son shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1952.

Takachiho, Japan. Raiser of 'Spring Fair'.

Tadakazu Takeda, Date-shi, Hokkaido, Japan. Raiser of 'Takedanosakurako'.

Tadayuki Takeda, Date-shi, Hokkaido, Japan. Raiser of 'Takedanoayaka' and 'Takedanoharukaze'.

Jim Tandy (1914–1989) in 1955 replaced T C Baines at **E W King & Co**. Jim Tandy is perhaps best remembered for developing the Snoopea Series.

Doug Tasker, Mowhills, Harrold, Bedford. Raiser of at least 4 cultivars introduced by him 1983-86. Only 'Annie Good' has endured.

George Morrison Taylor, Midlothian. Wrote to the Gardeners Chronicle in 1916 claiming to have crossed *L. odoratus* with *L. pratensis*. Better known as an author of several books on garden flowers.

J H Taylor (d.1950), Cambridge. Raiser of 'Elizabeth Taylor' introduced by Unwins in 1951. It was named for his daughter but, to his irritation, the general public assumed it was named for the actress.

Reginald G Taylor, Market Lavington, Wiltshire. Raiser of 'Olive Dunn' c.1956. He started working for Suttons in 1917 and retired to Jersey in 1968.

Raymond (Ray) Edgar Tebby (1936-2002), Winton, Eccles, Manchester. Raised 3 cultivars introduced by Marchant in 1985-86.

Tesselaar, Sylvan, Victoria, Australia. Business established in 1945 by Cees and Johanna Tesselaar. Introduced 8 cultivars in 2019 but these are existing Early Multiflora cultivars renamed.

Rev. D Gourlay Thomas (c.1896-1962), Thornton Hill, Exeter, Devon. Writer and amateur hybridist. Raiser of at least 5 cultivars introduced in 1938-1951.

William (Bill) Thomas, Farncombe, Surrey. Raiser of at least 10 cultivars introduced in 1976-1989.

Thompson & Morgan of Ipswich, Suffolk, were not active in sweet peas until recent years but have introduced some interesting cultivars. The business was founded in 1855 by William Thompson

(1833–1903), later to be joined by John Morgan (d.1921). Introduced 3 cultivars from Bill Thomas in 1988-9, then 17 introductions from 1993, including two in 2002 under the “Beautiful Gardens” brand. They later employed Charles Valin as their plant breeder who raised L. x hammettii ‘Three Times As Sweet’.

W G Thomson of Dover, Kent. Raiser of ‘Margaret Thomson’ introduced c.1946-48.

J E Tibbets, Suffolk. Raiser of at least 2 named cultivars c.1985 but no evidence these became commercially available.

Peter Tierney, Coventry, West Midlands. Raiser of 2 cultivars introduced by Eagle in 2007-8.

Mrs A Tigwell, Greenford, Southall. Raiser of ‘Dorothy Tigwell’ (1907) and ‘Mrs H D Tigwell’ (1911).

H R Tilby. Submitted ‘Vair Roas’ to the 1954 Trials. Nothing further is known.

Toogood & Sons, Southampton. Raiser of ‘Minnie Toogood’ introduced in 1909. The business was acquired by Finneys Seeds Ltd. in 1955.

Pip Tremewan (1919–1994) of St Austell, Cornwall, was a raiser turned seedsman. Raised at least 14 cultivars introduced between 1984 and 1999. These were initially introduced by Marchant but later he retailed directly to the public. On his death, his F2 material was passed to Mike Carr who raised a further 3 cultivars.

Charles Trevethick (1854–1928) of Lower Hutt, Wellington, New Zealand, was a notable exhibitor, breeder and seedsman. Raised at least 5 cultivars introduced into the UK in 1911 by Mackereth.

William (Bill) Truslove, Burbage, Hinckley, Leicestershire. Raiser of at least 13 cultivars introduced between 1980 and 2011.

Roy Tullett, Northgate, Crawley. Now lives in Lincolnshire. Raiser of at least 6 cultivars introduced between 1995 and 2006.

Tunia Service, Adelaide, South Australia, Australia. Introduced ‘Our Elizabeth’ and 2 cultivars from R Veale in 1948

Major **John F Turrall** (d.1967) of Farnley, Otley, West Yorkshire. Originator of at least 2 old-fashioned cultivars in the early 1960s.

Tuttle. Raiser of ‘Coral Gem’ introduced by Vaughan in 1907. No details are available.

Unwins Seeds, Histon, Cambridge. Sweet Peas were the mainstay for William James Unwin (1872–1947) to develop his general seed business. He was a general cut flower grower at Histon, Cambridge, who was a friend of pioneer geneticist Sir **Rowland Biffen** and had access to the findings of early geneticists. His son Charles William James Unwin (1895–1986) produced very many cultivars and Unwins Seeds remained as raisers of new cultivars until the family sold the business to Westlands in 2004. In 2001 to 2002, they had bought out **Robert Bolton and Sons** of Birdbrook, Halstead, Essex. Raised at least 322 cultivars and introduced others from amateur raisers. Father and sons were both Henry Eckford medallists.

Uprising Seeds, Bellingham, Washington, USA. Raiser of 'Lunar Blue', introduced in 2019.

Usher. Raiser of 'Bertie Usher' (1910) and 'Doris Usher' (1911). Probably A E Usher of Blandford, Dorset, gardener to Sir Randolph Baker Bt.

Rev. Dr. Robert Uvedale (1642-1722) of Enfield, Middlesex, where he was Master of the grammar school. He received seeds of wild sweet pea in 1699 from **Franciscus Cupani** and from there distributed it to other plantsmen. James Petiver said in 1713: "This elegant sweet-flowered plant I first observed with Dr Plukenet in Dr Uvedale's most curious garden at Enfield, and since at Chelsea and elsewhere". The colour was described as "purple" but we can be certain this refers to the maroon/violet bicolour we know as the type species. Uvedale is even better known for having stolen, as a schoolboy, the satin coat-of-arms from Oliver Cromwell's funeral procession.

Vaughan Seed Store, Chicago, Illinois, USA, founded in 1876 by John Charles Vaughan (1851-1924) and now part of Novartis Seeds. Between 1896 and 1904, Vaughan's introduced 9 cultivars raised by Morse.

C R Veale, Australia. Raiser of at least 2 cultivars introduced by Tunia Service in 1948.

Frank Verge (c.1927-2023) Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Kent. Raiser of at least 3 cultivars c.1985 and 2 more introduced by **Darren Everest** in 2023.

By 1870, **James Vick** (1818-1882) of Rochester, New York, was offering 9 colours. 'Black' is described as "very dark, brownish purple". His list includes 'black with light blue', described as "brownish purple and light blue". Introduced 'Bride of Niagara' in 1895 and 'Dorothy Vick' in 1897. The seed business was established in 1855 and continued by his sons who changed the name in 1891 to James Vick's Sons, including Charles Vick (1858-1952). It was sold to **Burpees** early in the 20th century.

Vickers. Raiser of 2 cultivars c.1909-10. Possibly T Vickers of Well Vale, Alford, Lincolnshire.

Vilmorin-Andrieux & Cie., Quai de la Megisserie, Paris, France. Founded in 1743 by Claude Geoffrey and her husband Pierre Andrieux, botanist to King Louis XV. In 1774, their daughter married Philippe-Victoire Leveque de Vilmorin (1746-1804) who revived the business. Vilmorin-Andrieux & Cie was later formed by their son Philippe Andre de Vilmorin (1776-1862). The first seed catalogue was produced in 1766. Generations of descendants maintained the business. In 1975 it was sold to Groupe Limagrain who in 1986 changed the name to Vilmorin S.A.

Wakayama prefecture, Wakayama-shi, Wakayama, Japan. Raised at least 7 cultivars since 1999. Breeders listed are Kazundo Kato 1995, Yoshiki Miyamoto 1995-2003, Tadashi Fujioki 1995-2007, Hiromi Hanada 1995-2007, Masayoshi Fujita 1995, Yoshinari Ito 1995, Masaaki Fukui 1995, Akitsugu Shiba 1995, Hidenobu Fujiwara 1995, Masamich Okada 1995, Yutaka Mori 2002-4, Toshiteru Kabata 2002-3, Ayaka Yamamoto 2002-3, Satoshi Nakanishi 2004, Takahiro Marakami 2007, Takayuki Furuya 2007

Victoria Wakefield, Bramdean, Alresford, Hampshire. Raiser of 'Bramdean' introduced by Roger Parsons in 2007.

S T Walker, Forest Grove, Oregon, USA. Raiser of at least 10 cultivars introduced 1894-99.

Wilfred E Walker (1921-2001), Pawlett, Bridgwater, Somerset. Raiser of at least 12 cultivars introduced between 1983 and 2004.

In 1912–1913, **Lionel D Waller** (1882–1940) and John Henry Franklin (1880–1934) established the L.D. Waller Seed Co. at Guadelupe, California. Waller had learned his trade working for **Louis Routzahn** at Arroyo Grande and was reckoned to have an aggressive management style. Dr Franklin served in the medical department during the First World War but returned to the company in 1919 and took charge of the plant breeding work. In 1926, they became the Waller-Franklin Seed Co. Raised around 80 cultivars among which the Early-flowering type dominate. Later they became the Waller Flowerseed Co. which became part of the **Ball Group (Pan American Seeds)**.

Waller Franklin. See **Lionel D Waller**

Howard E Ward, Vicar's Cross, Chester. Raiser of at least 9 cultivars introduced between 1907 and 1916.

Fred W Ward. Raiser of 2 cultivars introduced by Woodcock 1996 and 2004.

Hiroaki **Watanabe**, Nichinan-shi, Miyazaki, Japan. Raiser of 'Nichinan Natural Green'.

Percy Waterer, Fawkham, Kent. President of NSPS 1905. Raiser of 'Begorra' introduced by 1905.

Watkins & Simpson, Covent Garden, London. Between 1905 and 1916, introduced at least 18 cultivars. Alfred Watkins was president of NSPS in 1906 and was awarded the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal in 1927. Trial ground was at Twickenham, Middlesex.

J Watson, Ham Common, Richmond-upon-Thames, Surrey. Raiser of 'Helen Lewis', introduced by Breadmore in 1904.

F M Weardon, Mawdesley, Ormskirk, Lancashire. Raiser of 'Alicia' (1972), Nora (1975) and 'Ella' (1975).

Edward Webb & Sons, Wordsley, Stourbridge. Raiser of 'Giant Lavender' (2) (1925). Edward Webb started his business c.1850 and by 1910 his grandson Colonel William G Webb, MP was running the business. The business merged with Bees Seeds in the 1960s and is now part of **Unwins**. Edward was in at the foundation of NSPS

C W Welch, Carbrooke, Thetford, Norfolk. Raiser of at least 3 cultivars c.1999-2005.

Francis Wellesley, Westfield, Woking, Surrey. Raiser of 'Mrs F Wellesley' introduced in 1910. Employed W Hopkins as his gardener.

Graham Wells BEM, Didcot, Oxfordshire; later at Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon. Raiser of at least 12 cultivars introduced 1979 to 2015.

Richard Weston (1733-1806) Produced vol.1 of *Flora Anglicana* of 1775 which includes for the first time *Lathyrus odoratus coccineus*, the scarlet sweet pea.

H J Wheeler, Warminster, Wiltshire. Introduced 'Constance Hinton' for Hinton in 1914. Apparent raiser of 2 other cultivars c.1915 though the prefix of 'Wenvoe Beauty' suggests it may have been raised by **Gerhold**.

Whitelegg & Page, Chislehurst, Kent. Introduced at least 5 cultivars in 1910-11. George G Whitelegg (1877-1957) was in partnership with Mr. Page until 1915.

Chris Wiley, Sow Successful Ltd, Harkstead, Ipswich, Suffolk. Sold 'Charlies Angel' in 2022 under the trade name "Peter Seabrook".

Wilkinson's Seeds, Leamington, Warwickshire. Introduced 'Herald' for **Colledge** in 1962. Alexander (d.1978) and May Wilkinson (1900-1991) ran a floristry shop from 1946 to 1983.

Alan J Williams of Leamington, Warwickshire. An amateur who raised at least 3 cultivars c.1983-86.

Ronald Francis Morey Wiltshire (1901-1981) at Netley Abbey, Hampshire till 1942, then Fawley, Hampshire from 1943, then Eastleigh, Hampshire from 1975. Raiser, among others, of 'Kathleen Wiltshire' (c.1932) and 'Wiltshire Ripple' (c.1982).

George H Winn, Eaton Bank, Duffield, Derby. Raiser of 'Mrs George Winn' at the 1921 trials.

Woodcock, Walmer, Deal, Kent. Over three generations, the family raised and introduced at least 50 cultivars between 1910 and 2003. Frederick C Woodcock established the nursery in 1892, succeeded by his son Austin Frederick Woodcock (1902-1988), finally his daughter Frances Woodcock (1939-2018).

Henry Woodman (c.1698-1758) of Strand-on-the Green, Chiswick, London. Son of Henry & Esther Woodman of Chiswick. Nursery established by 1727. In 1729 he supplied 2oz of "Sweet sented Pease" to Henry Ellison of Gateshead Park, Co. Durham. On his death, the nursery continued under his wife, Eleanor, until her death in 1780.

Jacob Wrench & Sons, London Bridge, London. Raiser of 'Princess Mary' c.1894. Business begun in 1750 by Jacob Wrench. Trading as Jacob Wrench and Sons by 1830 and taken over by Howcroft Watkins in 1905, which became part of **Cooper Taber** in 1912.

A V Wright, Gloucester. Raiser of 'Mrs B W Price' introduced in 1916.

Horace John Wright (1868-1925) of Wandsworth, London. Seedsman 1906-10, perhaps longer. Introduced 'Rosie Adams' in 1908, raised by **T Stevenson**.

Robert Wright, Formby, Liverpool. Raiser of at least 7 cultivars introduced 1913-15.

Kyosuke Yamamoto, Kanagawa, Japan. Raiser of 'Artemis' (1994) and 'Shonan Orion' (2002). In 2008, he registered 2 cultivars raised with Yagashita Yoshimi.

Yagashita Yoshimi. See Kyosuke Yamamoto

Arthur Yates & Co. Arthur Yates (d.1926) emigrated in 1879 from England to New Zealand and set up a seed business in Auckland in 1883. In 1887, he set up in Sydney, Australia, leaving his brother Ernest to run the New Zealand business. He started to specialise in Early-flowering sweet peas from

1908 but this interest in novel cultivars did not continue after the founder's death. His firm remains one of the most notable names in Australian and New Zealand gardening and revived some interest in the 1990s by introducing innovative late Spencers bred by Keith Hammett. Introduced at least 35 Winter-flowering cultivars between 1912 and 1922.

James Young or William Henry Young of Summer Hill, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. It was in his garden that 'Yarrowa' had arisen in 1908. This was introduced in 1912 by Arthur Yates & Co. and was used extensively in the USA and Australia to improve the quality of Early Spencer cut flower cultivars.

Anton Zvolanek (1878–1958), Bound Brook, New Jersey, USA. Moved to Lompoc, California c.1912-5. Was a sole trader until c.1918 when son William joined him to form A Zvolanek & Son. In 1920, Edward joined them to form A Zvolanek & Sons. Anton retired in 1929 and William started his own business but the original business reverted to A Zvolanek & Son and continued trading. Edward ran the business but did no hybridising, relying on his retired father for new cultivars.

William Zvolanek (1892-1979), Lompoc, California, USA. Started working for his father after 1918 when the business became Anton Zvolanek & Son. Traded as William Zvolanek and Co after his father retired. He was a pioneer developer of the Duplex and Early Multiflora types and also did considerable innovation on semi-dwarf types. In 1971, he received the Henry Eckford Gold Memorial Medal and retired in 1975, when he sold the business to **Denholm** Seeds. Father and son raised at least 410 cultivars introduced between 1902 and 1977 but it is not easy to distinguish which Zvolanek raised which cultivars. Many were simply reselections of existing cultivars.