

Erysimum 'Parish's'

Keeping track of changes in plant names is never easy, but this cultivar may hold the record. In the mid 1990s a customer walked into Hannay's nursery, Bath, with an *erysimum* which had appeared in his garden. He was happy to give it to Hannay's free, provided they named it after his mother – Mrs Parrish. They agreed and called it 'Parrish's Variety', but did not put it into their catalogue immediately. Another nursery bought the cultivar from Hannay's and put it in their own catalogue, misspelled as 'Parish's'. Because this was the first printed reference, it has to be the official name, despite the fact that they understand it was originally called 'Parrish's'.



It's a lovely cultivar, with strong colours and the excellent habit of shooting from old wood (which most *erysimums* don't do). Sadly, it has never become widely available, and is only propagated by one or two nurseries.