

# AGS news

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society

## Book now for two great AGS events this autumn

Don't miss out on two excellent events being organised for AGS members this autumn.

First, our Autumn Bulb Day will take place at Pershore College, Worcestershire, on Sunday, September 24. This is situated next to the AGS Centre and garden. This event is now in its third year and has proved very popular with members. Full details are on page 3.

Second, the AGS Annual Conference will again be held alongside our annual general meeting on Saturday and Sunday, November 11 and 12.

The line-up of speakers will include Jim Jermyn, Property Manager/Head Gardener at the National Trust for Scotland's Branklyn Garden in Perth; the AGS Associate Editor Robert Rolfe; Johan Nilson from Gothenburg Botanical Garden; and Paul Cumbleton, former head of the alpine section at RHS Wisley. More speakers will be announced soon.

The conference will be held at the four-star Crowne Plaza Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, and will



*Colchicum autumnale* 'Album'

follow the AGM on the Saturday morning. The E.B. Anderson Memorial Lecture, which is part of the AGM programme and open to all members, will be given by Christopher Bailes, who will be appointed as AGS President at the meeting. Christopher, the former Curator of RHS Rosemoor and the Chelsea Physic Garden, will talk about woodland and shade plants.

To book, call the AGS Centre, visit our website or use the form on the back page of this issue of AGS News.

**SPECIAL DISCOUNT ON NEW  
MECONOPSIS BOOK – PAGE 11**

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Worcestershire, WR10 3JP, UK

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Email:  
ags@alpinegardensociety.net

Registered charity No. 207478

Annual subscriptions:

Single (UK and Ireland) £35\*

Family (two at same address) £38\*

Junior (under 18/student) £15

Overseas single £37

Overseas family £39

\* £3 deduction for direct debit  
subscribers

## AGS CENTRE AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The AGS Centre will close at  
5pm on Friday, August 25,  
and will not reopen until  
Wednesday, August 30. The  
AGS garden is open every day.

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Send items for the September 2017  
issue of AGS News to Jackie Cooper  
at the address above or email  
jackie@alpinegardensociety.net.  
The deadline is July 30, 2017.

## NOTICEBOARD

### AGS shows and plant sales



July 1: Pershore Show

Sept 30: Loughborough Autumn Show

October 7: Newcastle Show

October 14: Harlow Carr Show

October 21: Kent Autumn Show

Full details for each show are in the  
AGS Shows Handbook, on the AGS  
website and in the shows calendar that  
was included with the December 2016  
issue of The Alpine Gardener.



## BOOK NOW! A GREAT DAY OUT FOR GARDENERS

### AGS Autumn Bulb Day

Sunday, September 24, 2017, 9.30am to 3.30pm

**Admission is by advance ticket only**

At the Frank Parkinson Lecture Theatre, Pershore College,  
Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcestershire. Ample parking.  
The College is next to the AGS Centre and garden.

Tickets for lectures, plant sales, lunch, tea and coffee:  
AGS members £32, non-members £42

Tickets can be obtained from the AGS Centre.

AGS members will be given priority booking.

Non-members may reserve tickets after June 1, 2017.

### SPEAKERS

**Martin & Anna-Liisa Sheader:**

Patagonian Bulbs – Amaryllids and  
Orchids

**Diana Everett:** To Central Asia for Tulips  
**Bob & Rannveig Wallis:** Growing Bulbs  
in the Wild West

**David Haselgrove:** Western Australia  
with the AGS

**Christopher Grey-Wilson:** Climbing  
bellflowers and their relatives (the  
genus Codonopsis)



**DEMAND FOR THIS EVENT IS LIKELY TO BE HIGH  
AND NUMBERS ARE LIMITED, SO BOOK NOW  
TO BE SURE OF YOUR PLACE**

### News from the AGS Trustee Board

**New Local Group Reward Scheme:** A new scheme aimed at promoting recruitment and also assisting local groups is to be introduced from September 2017. Under the scheme, local groups will receive a reimbursement of £5 for every new member recruited to the parent Society. The previous local group voucher scheme will cease at the end of August. The AGS Centre will continue to insert local group information into all Welcome Packs for new members to encourage them to join their local group. We urge local groups to send in up-to-date information about their contacts and meetings so that the AGS Centre can help in this way as currently information from many groups is missing or out of date.

**Online Plant Encyclopaedia:** Work is ongoing to add additional information to the Encyclopaedia.

**Website:** Work on a new website is under way and it is envisaged that building the site will take almost a year to complete. This is a large project that will involve consultation with members and non-members as the site is constructed, so that we can achieve the best possible interaction and access to information on the new site. Links to social media will feature as part of the re-design.

**Local Group Co-ordinators:** The co-ordinators have been busy contacting groups and giving talks. Concerns expressed by groups are also being reported back to the Trustee Board for consideration.

**Lake District Conservation Project:** This project, with the RSPB, is now well under way following the official launch in March. A planting day has taken place and more are planned. The next phase will be to assist with propagation of appropriate seed collected locally to provide a stock of plants for future re-planting. A report on progress to date is included in the issue of The Alpine Gardener that accompanies this newsletter.

#### Seed Envelopes

Glassine envelopes, as used in the AGS Seed Exchange, are available in two sizes:

Small 73 x 41mm self-adhesive: 50 for £2.50 inc. UK postage

Large 98 x 64mm ungummed: 50 for £3.50 inc. UK postage

Special price for larger orders (please enquire)

**Order from the AGS Centre on 01386 554790**



### AGS ANNUAL AWARDS

#### NOMINATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING AGS AWARDS

- ✂ **Lyttel Trophy** for meritorious work with alpine.
- ✂ **The Sir William & Lady Lawrence Award** for a person who works in professional horticulture and who has made a significant contribution in their work with alpine (cultivation, research etc).
- ✂ **The Award of Honour** for sterling work on behalf of the AGS, not necessarily during the previous year, but over a period of time.
- ✂ **The Ferrier Charlton Award** for outstanding work for the Society in an administrative capacity.
- ✂ **The Kath Dryden Award** to recognise meritorious work and expertise in advancing our knowledge and understanding of the cultivation of a genus or group of alpine plants.
- ✂ **Local Group Awards** to recognise outstanding service within a Local Group over a number of years, the impact of which is felt more widely than just the local area. Nominations for this award must come from the Local Group concerned.
- ✂ **Website Award** to recognise the best contribution to the Society's website during 2016.

### AGS LITERARY AWARDS

The Alpine Gardener sets extremely high standards in horticultural journalism and photography and every year the Society seeks to honour the very best contributions. We do this by appealing to the judgement of the most discriminating and informed critics – you, the readership. Members are invited to nominate contributors to The Alpine Gardener, Volume 84 (2016), for the following awards:

- ✂ **The Clarence Elliott Memorial Award** for the best article published in The Alpine Gardener in 2016 (Volume 84).
- ✂ **The Lionel & Joyce Bacon Award** for the best practical alpine gardening article published in The Alpine Gardener in 2016 (Volume 84).
- ✂ **The Christopher Grey-Wilson Award** to recognise photographic excellence in The Alpine Gardener in 2016 (Volume 84) for the best 'feature' article that must contain a minimum of ten photographs.

**All nominations must be submitted on the appropriate form (available from the AGS Centre) and sent to Christine McGregor, Director, AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, WR10 3JP by July 31, 2017.**

## NOTICEBOARD

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday, November 11, 2017**

The Annual General Meeting of the Alpine Garden Society will take place on **Saturday, November 11, 2017**, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Bridgefoot, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6YR.

The hotel is situated in the centre of Stratford-upon-Avon. There is plenty of parking at the venue. Full details of the event will appear in the next issue of AGS News.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following Officers are eligible for reappointment and are prepared to continue to serve the AGS (see Note 1 below): Director of Seed Distribution (Mrs Diane Clement), Director of Shows (Mr Martin Rogerson), Treasurer (Professor John Galloway).

### NOMINATIONS FOR TRUSTEE BOARD MEMBERS

Nominations, with supporting statements/citations, are invited from members for the following posts:

Two Trustees to serve for four years (see Note 2 below).

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. To receive and confirm the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on November 12, 2016.
2. To receive the report of the Board of Trustees.
3. To receive the Honorary Treasurer's report and accounts.
4. To declare the election of Christopher Baines as President.
5. To elect a Treasurer and Officers to serve for the ensuing year.
6. To elect two Trustees to serve for four years (see Note 2 below).
7. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year.
8. Any Other Items of Business as notified to the Society Director in writing, no later than August 1, 2017.

Notes on the election of Officers and members of the Trustee Board:

(1) Officers retire annually and are eligible for re-election as per rule 7.1.3.1 of the Constitution. All Honorary Officers listed have agreed to stand for re-election.

(2) In accordance with rule 7.1.4, two Trustees retire annually and are not eligible for re-election for one year. The deadline for Trustee nominations is July 31, 2017, and these should be sent to the AGS Director Christine McGregor at the AGS Centre (address on page 2).

### AGS Snowdrop Day **BOOK NOW**

**Saturday, February 3, 2018**

**Admission is by advance ticket only**

At Ford Hall, Lilleshall National Conferencing Centre, Newport, Shropshire TF10 9AT. Ample parking.

**Tickets for lectures, plant sales, tea and coffee, two-course lunch:**

**AGS members £35, non-members £45**

**Tickets can be obtained from the AGS Centre.**

**Tickets are restricted to AGS members until October 31, 2017.**

### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

- 8.30 Registration, plant sales & coffee
- 10.30 Welcome by the AGS President
- 10.35 Andy Byfield – title of lecture to be confirmed
- 11.30 David MacLennan – Holding a National Snowdrop Collection
- 12.30 Plant sales and lunch
- 14.00 Wim Boens – title of lecture to be confirmed
- 14.55 Snowdrop question & answer session with the panel of speakers
- 16.00 Close of session and coffee
- 16.30 Event closes

Nurseries attending include: Monksilver, Glen Chantry, Woodchippings, Ivycroft, Matt Bishop and Edulis Nursery

There will also be an AGS stand with a selection of gardening books and merchandise for sale.

**This event is always a sell-out so book now to be sure of your place**



## AGS subscription rates for 2018

The AGS Trustee Board discusses the issue of subscription rates every year and is always reluctant to increase them unless absolutely necessary. Last year rates were held at the previous level but for 2018 it is felt that a small increase is needed. Since 2013 there has been a steady rise in costs, particularly a persistent rise in postal charges for the mailing of our journal. Small increases in subscription rates of £1 or £2 will help to offset these rising costs, but members who pay by Direct Debit will now enjoy a £3 discount.

It is important to remember that the Alpine Garden Society is a charity with education, cultivation and conservation as core objectives. Over the years the Society has been fortunate to be the recipient of legacies and donations from members and these funds are used in support of our charitable aims and objectives.

Some members may feel that the Society should not raise subscriptions while it has a very healthy cash reserve. But under Charity Commission rules the reserve should not be used to subsidise the costs of membership but should be spent on 'charitable' activities. The subscription rate should cover the costs of the benefits received by members, which include the Society's journal (regarded by many as the finest of its kind in the world), free entry to AGS shows, discounts on publications and access to the world's largest seed exchange, all of which represents great value.

The Society's reserve is used in many ways, such as the recent substantial grant in support of a conservation project in the Lake District jointly with the RSPB, subsidising young horticulturists who wish to attend our annual conference and other educational events, education and travel grants for other members, developing the AGS garden, and the building of our new website to increase our ability to educate people about alpine plants. None of this is paid for from members' annual subscriptions.

We would encourage all UK members to pay by Direct Debit, since this saves you money and saves the Society much time in administration and bank charges. Overseas members may only pay by Direct Debit from a sterling bank account.

The new rates for 2018 are as follows:

### UK & Ireland

Single: Direct Debit £32; non-Direct Debit £35.

Double (two at same address): Direct Debit £35; non-Direct Debit £38.

### Overseas

Single: Direct Debit £34; non-Direct Debit £37.

Double (two at same address): Direct Debit £36; non-Direct Debit £39.

**Student/Junior (under 18): £15**

## £600 in cash prizes to be won in the AGS Photographic Competition

Enter the AGS Photographic Competition for the chance to win cash prizes and points towards AGS Artistic Medals.

There are prizes in each class of £40 for first place, £20 for second and £10 for third. The overall winner will receive a bonus prize of £40.

In addition, the winner of each class will be awarded five points towards AGS Medals. Two first places (ten points) will qualify for a Bronze Medal, five first places (25 points) for a Silver Medal and ten first places (50 points) for a Gold Medal.

The deadline for entries is December 1, 2017. Only digital images can be entered (we regret we can no longer accept transparencies or prints). The eight classes are as follows:

- ① An alpine plant in its natural habitat with both plant(s) and landscape featured.
- ② A portrait of an alpine plant in its natural habitat, featuring the entire plant as the main subject.
- ③ A close-up or detail of an alpine plant in its natural habitat, perhaps concentrating on a flower, foliage or seed head.
- ④ An alpine plant in cultivation in a garden setting. It can be in your garden or a garden you have visited.
- ⑤ An alpine garden or part of a garden showing features used to grow alpine plants such as troughs, raised beds, crevice gardens, pots, screes, alpine houses and so on.



⑥ Alpine fauna in the wild, either in the landscape or in association with plants. Insects have been popular subjects in the past, as have birds and mammals.

⑦ An alpine landscape not necessarily showing specific plants but concentrating on the scenic beauty and/or geology of the setting.

⑧ A quirky, amusing or unusual image featuring alpine plants. Digital manipulation is allowed in this class. In fact anything goes!

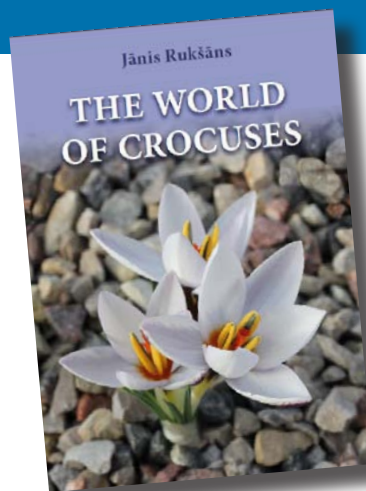
All entries must be previously unpublished photographs. The complete rules and details of how to enter can be seen on the AGS website by clicking on the 'Images' button and then 'Photographic Competition'.

All members, whether in the UK or elsewhere, are encouraged to enter at least one image in this year's competition.

## NEW BOOKS

### The World of Crocuses by Jānis Rukšāns

This monograph is the result of the author's more than 50 years' experience of growing crocuses. It includes descriptions of 235 species, which are accompanied by distribution maps and colour photographs. In total the 568-page book has more than 1,700 colour pictures. It also includes information about the cultivation of crocuses and a key for all the species included in the book.

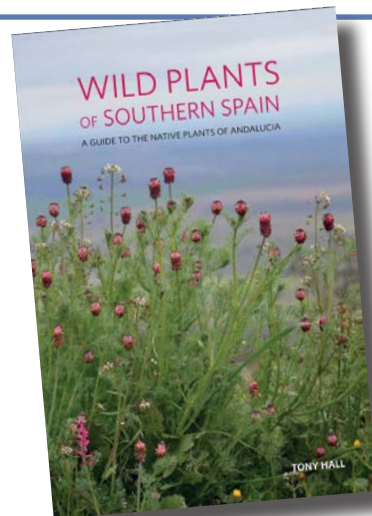


Cover price **£52**  
**AGS members' price £41**  
 Order code 937

### Wild Plants of Southern Spain: A guide to the native plants of Andalucia by Tony Hall

Southern Spain, and Andalucia in particular, is home to many common garden plants including daffodils and lavenders. It is also one of the most florally diverse regions in the world. This book will help you identify plants that range from the familiar to the very rare.

Author Tony Hall is manager of the Arboretum and Gardens at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, where he has worked for 16 years. He has visited Andalucia numerous times, building his understanding of its flora and ecosystems. In this book Tony shares his detailed knowledge of the wild plants of the region, from species of the sandy Mediterranean and Atlantic beaches to some of the highest mountains in Europe. Over 500 species



are beautifully illustrated with more than 600 photographs and distribution maps. This is an essential guide for anyone who wants to learn more about the flora of this region.

Cover price **£30**  
**AGS members' price £24**  
 Order code 938

## SPECIAL LIMITED-TIME DISCOUNT ON NEW AGS MECONOPSIS BOOK

Meconopsis for Gardeners: The Lure of the Blue Poppy; editor-in-chief, Christopher Grey-Wilson.

Cover price **£52**  
**Offer price £38**  
**until August 31 only**  
 Order code 933

Meconopsis are the most beguiling of garden plants, captivating all who encounter them. In this lavishly illustrated, large format, 384-page book, published by the Alpine Garden Society in collaboration with The Meconopsis Group, the world's leading growers explain how to select the best cultivars and species for your garden and how to grow these beautiful plants successfully.

Today there is a wide selection of plants available, not only with blue flowers but also purple, white, yellow and red. The book gives detailed information on all of them and there are also chapters on Meconopsis in



the wild, the intrepid plant collectors who brought them into cultivation and their history in gardens. This is an essential reference work for all who are interested in this wonderful genus.

The book is being offered to AGS and Meconopsis Group members at a special introductory price of £38, a £14 discount on the cover price. Order now to take advantage of this offer, which will end on August 31, 2017.

**NOTE: Special overseas postage rates apply to this heavy book: EU £14; rest of the world, £21; rest of the world airmail, £36.**




Order on our website or use the form on page 17.



Order code	Title and author	Members' price
	 <b>Denotes AGS publications</b>	
	<b>GENERAL ALPINE TITLES</b>	
032	 <b>Alpine Gardening for Beginners by John Good</b>	£6.50
772	Alpines from Mountain to Garden by Richard Wilford	£23.00
028	Alpine Plants: Ecology for Gardeners by John Good & David Millward	£12.00
292	Alpines: An Essential Guide by Michael Mitchell	£15.00
857	 <b>Growing Alpines in Containers by John Good</b>	£5.00
033	 <b>Portraits of Alpine Plants by Robert Rolfe</b> **LOW PRICE**	£8.00
026	 <b>The Crevice Garden and its Plants by Zdenek Zvolanek</b>	£6.50
921	Rock Gardening by Joseph Tychonievich **NEW**	£20.00
	<b>SPECIFIC GENERA</b>	
890	The Plant Lover's Guide to Asters by Paul and Helen Picton	£14.50
374	Epimedium: The Genus by William T Stearn	£36.50
891	The Plant Lover's Guide to Epimediums by Sally Gregson	£14.50
271	Hellebores: A Comprehensive Guide by C. Colston Burrell and J. Knott Tyler	£20.00
916	Kniphofia: The Complete Guide by Christopher Whitehouse	£32.00
881	Meconopsis by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£54.50
283	Peony Rockii and Gansu Mudan by W McLewin and D Chen **LOW PRICE**	£20.00
282	The Genus Roscoea by Jill Cowley	£33.50
913	The Plant Lover's Guide to Clematis by Linda Beutler	£14.50
887	The Plant Lover's Guide to Dahlias by Andy Vernon	£14.50
914	The Plant Lover's Guide to Hardy Geraniums by Robin Parer	£14.50
915	The Plant Lover's Guide to Primulas by J Mitchell and L Lawson	£14.50
911	The Plant Lover's Guide to Salvias by John Whittlesey	£14.50
700	Saxifrages: A Definitive Guide by Malcolm McGregor	£28.00
021	 <b>Silver Saxifrages by Beryl Bland</b> **LOW PRICE**	£3.00
	<b>BULBOUS PLANTS</b>	
843	A Gardener's Guide to Bulbs by Christine Skelmersdale	£20.00
866	A Gardener's Guide to Snowdrops by Freda Cox	£28.00
599	Autumn Bulbs by Rod Leeds	£8.00
904	 <b>Bulbs of the Eastern Mediterranean by Oron Peri</b>	£30.00
027	 <b>Bulbous Plants of Turkey and Iran by Peter Sheasby</b>	£20.00

Order code	Title and author	Members' price
034	 <b>Bulbs of Greece (A Field Guide to the) by Christopher Grey-Wilson</b>	£12.00
280	Buried Treasures by Janis Ruksans	£24.00
653	Calochortus: Mariposa Lilies & their Relatives **LOW PRICE**	£3.00
798	Crocuses: A Complete Guide to the Genus by Janis Ruksans	£24.00
268	 <b>Cyclamen by Christopher Grey-Wilson (booklet)</b> **LOW PRICE**	£2.50
864	Daffodil by Noel Kingsbury **LOW PRICE**	£9.00
852	Genus Cyclamen edited by Brian Mathew	£72.00
	Special postage rates: UK £13.50; EU £16; rest of the world £19 (airmail £31)	
880	The Genus Erythronium by Chris Clennett	£40.00
882	The Plant Lover's Guide to Snowdrops by Naomi Slade	£14.50
860	Growing Garden Bulbs by Richard Wilford	£5.50
266	Tulips (Species & Hybrids for the Gardener) by Richard Wilford **LOW PRICE**	£6.00
892	The Plant Lover's Guide to Tulips by Richard Wilford **LOW PRICE**	£10.50
868	Wild Flowers of Turkey: Bulbous Plants by Yasemin Konuralp	£25.00
	<b>ORCHIDS</b>	
931	A Pocket Guide to the Orchids of Britain and Ireland by Simon Harrap	£12.00
265	Growing Hardy Orchids by John Tullock	£16.00
804	Growing Hardy Orchids by Philip Seaton et al	£10.00
642	Growing Orchids from Seed	£7.50
698	Ophrys: The Bee Orchids of Europe by H Aerenlund Pedersen & N Faurholdt	£27.00
349	The Genus Cypripedium by Phillip Cribb	£58.50
	<b>SUCCULENTS AND CACTI</b>	
741	Cacti and Succulents for Cold Climates by Leo J Chance	£20.00
749	Succulent Container Gardens by Debra Lee Baldwin	£16.00
883	The Plant Lover's Guide to Sedums by Brent Horvath	£14.50
264	Timber Press Guide to Succulent Plants of the World by Fred Dortort	£28.00
	<b>TREES &amp; SHRUBS</b>	
840	A Natural History of Conifers by Aljos Farjon	£24.00
652	Conifers for Gardens by Richard L Bitner	£32.00
621	Dirr's Encyclopedia Of Trees & Shrubs by Michael A Dirr	£40.00
926	Essential Pruning Techniques: Trees, Shrubs, Conifers by Tony Kirkham	£28.00
746	Hardy Heathers from the Northern Hemisphere by E Charles Nelson	£48.00



Order code	Title and author	Members' price
755	Japanese Maples by JD Vertrees & Peter Gregory	£28.00
908	RHS Encyclopedia of Conifers (2 vols.) by Aris G. Auders & Derek P. Spicer	£85.00
	<b>MEMBERS OUTSIDE UK: Please email the AGS for postage cost before ordering</b>	
267	The Genus Sorbus (Mountain Ash & other Rowans) by Hugh McAllister	£30.00
858	The Genus Betula by K Ashburner & Hugh McAllister	£54.40
912	The Plant Lover's Guide to Magnolias by Andrew Bunting	£14.50
735	The Pruning of Trees, Shrubs and Conifers by George Brown	£12.00
250	Timber Press Encyclopedia of Flowering Shrubs by Jim Gardiner	£28.00
	<b>FLORAS, FIELD GUIDES AND PLANT EXPLORATION</b>	
904	 <b>Bulbs of the Eastern Mediterranean by Oron Peri</b>	£30.00
680	Endemic Plants of the Altai Mountain Country by A I Pyak et al	£25.00
885	Fathers of Botany by Jane Kilpatrick	£32.00
888	Flora of the Silk Road by Christopher and Basak Gardner	£28.00
245	Flowers of Crete by John Fielding and Nicholas Turland	£56.00
733	Flowers of Greece (2 vols. with DVD) by T Lafranchis & G Sfikas	£95.00
867	 <b>Flowers of the Patagonian Mountains by Martin Sheader</b>	£32.00
808	Flowers of Western China by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£56.00
873	Harrap's Wild Flowers by Simon Harrap	£13.50
101	In the Footsteps of Augustine Henry by Seamus O'Brien	£32.00
929	Mountain Flowers: Pyrenees and Picos by Cliff Booker and David Charlton	£8.00
569	Mountain Flowers: The Dolomites by Cliff Booker & David Charlton	£7.00
922	Mountain Flowers by Michael Scott <b>**NEW**</b>	£28.00
809	 <b>Mountain Flower Walks: Eastern Alps &amp; Dolomites by Jim Jermyn</b>	£5.00
031	 <b>Mountain Flower Walks: Greek Mainland by John Richards</b>	£5.00
454	Frank Kingdon Ward's Riddle of the Tsangpo Gorges	£28.00
871	 <b>Patagonian Mountain Flower Holidays by Hilary Little</b>	£24.00
697	Seeds of Adventure – In Search of plants by Peter Cox & Peter Hutchinson	£28.00
478	The Caucasus and its Flowers by Vojtech Holubec & Pavel Krivka	£45.00
884	Wild Flowers of Ordesa and Monte Perdido National Park by J Alonso	£12.50
905	Wild Flowers of Mainland Greece by Johannes Flohe <b>**NEW**</b>	£20.00
902	Wild Flowers of New England by Ted Elliman <b>**NEW**</b>	£15.00
874	Wild Flowers of the Algarve by C. Thorogood and S. Hiscock	£28.00

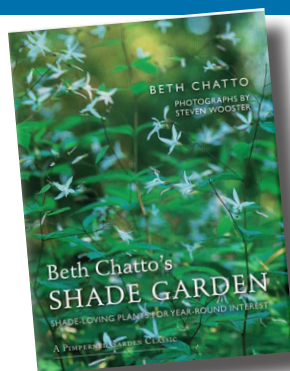
Order code	Title and author	Members' price
917	Wild Flowers of the Western Mediterranean by Chris Thorogood <b>**NEW**</b>	£32.00
	<b>SUNFLOWER TRAVEL GUIDES</b>	
894	Lake Geneva & Western Switzerland	£12.00
895	Madeira	£10.00
896	Northern Portugal	£10.00
737	Picos de Europa	£10.00
897	Pyrenees	£10.00
898	Sicily	£10.00
899	Southern Peloponnese	£10.00
900	Turkish Coast: Antalya to Demre	£12.00
901	Western Crete	£10.00
	<b>GARDEN DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION</b>	
565	Designing and Planting Borders by Roger Harvey	£10.00
103	Designing Small Gardens by Ian Cooke	£8.00
807	Designing With Conifers by Richard L. Bitner	£16.00
838	Rock Landscapes: The Pulham Legacy by Claude Hitching	£28.00
854	Planting: A New Perspective by Piet Oudolf & Noel Kingsbury	£24.00
	<b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b>	
631	Digital Photography (A-Z of Creative) by Lee Frost	£12.00
925	The Garden Photography Workshop by Andrea Jones <b>**NEW**</b>	£14.00
	<b>OTHER TITLES</b>	
918	A Botanist's Vocabulary by Susan K. Pell and Bobbi Angell <b>**NEW**</b>	£14.50
774	Bees, Wasps and Ants (The Indispensable Role of Hymenoptera in Gardens)	£15.00
924	Breckland Wild Flowers: Heaths and Grasslands, the Icenis Artists	£12.50
909	Carnivorous Plants by Nigel Hewitt-Cooper	£14.50
773	Container Plants (The Encyclopaedia of) by Ray Rogers & Rob Cardillo	£20.00
886	Designing and Planting a Woodland Garden by Keith Wiley	£20.00
336	Encyclopedia of Garden Ferns by Sue Olsen	£32.00
855	Encyclopedia of Exotic Plants by Will Giles	£28.00
910	Gardening for Butterflies by The Xerces Society	£14.50
930	Gardening With Foliage First by K. Chapman & C. Salwitz <b>**NEW**</b>	£14.50
610	Gardening with Woodland Plants by Karan Junker	£24.00



## Beth Chatto's Shade Garden

In this revision of her classic book, the accomplished plantswoman Beth Chatto shows how the problem of shade in a garden can be turned to advantage. She describes how she transformed a dark, derelict site into a garden that is tranquil and serene yet full of life and interest in every season. And she offers a palette of more than five hundred plants that will flourish in shade.


Cover price **£30** AGS price **£24** Order code 934



## Glorious Shade

Glorious Shade by Jenny Rose Carey celebrates the benefits of shade and shows you how to determine what type of shade you have and how to choose the right plants for the space. The book also shares the techniques, design and maintenance tips that are key to a successful shade garden. Superb photographs offer design inspiration and reveal the beauty of shade-loving plants.

Cover price **£17.99** AGS price **£14.50** Order code 936

Order code	Title and author	Members' price
240	Kirstenbosch Gardening Series – Grow Fynbos Plants by N. Brown & G. Duncan	<b>£15.00</b>
849	Marianne North: A Very Intrepid Painter by Michelle Payne	<b>£9.50</b>
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907	The Art of Gardening by the Chanticleer Gardeners and R. William Thomas	<b>£20.00</b>
841	The A to Z of Plant Names by Allen J Coombes	<b>£10.50</b>
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**We can also deliver books post-free for collection at AGS shows.**

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**Send this form to AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 3JP, UK.**

## AGS TRAVEL AWARDS AND GRANTS Applications for 2018

The Alpine Garden Society considers applications for AGS Travel Awards annually. Applications for these awards must be received by January 31, 2018, at the latest.

### TRAVEL AWARDS

Each year the Society gives a number of Travel Awards to enthusiasts wishing to gain field experience in the serious study of alpine plants in native habitats. Applications should be for clearly defined projects, though awards have been made to those wishing to participate in an AGS tour if it complements a particular area of interest.

### HENDRY FUND GRANTS

In addition, grants for specific alpine-related projects are available financed by the E. F. Hendry Fund. Application forms and further details for Travel Awards and Hendry Fund grants are available on the AGS website or by contacting Jackie Cooper, c/o AGS Centre, or email: jackie@alpinegardensociety.net

### Successful applicants in 2017 are:

- Kathryn Braithwaite: £1,250 towards the cost of a study of New Zealand flora and the effects of climate change.
- Gary Mentanko: £300 towards the cost of a study of Icelandic flora (AGS John McWhirter Award).
- Hanna Lindh: £1,012 towards the cost of study of ethnobotanical zones in the High Atlas including their management and conservation of the alpine flora.
- Leon Charalambous: £655 to study Cypriot endemic flora.
- Daniel Montesinos-Tubee: £912 for the collection of herbarium material (under approved permit) of a potentially new *Gentianella* taxa (Hendry award).
- Lindengate Alpine Garden: £900 for the establishment of an alpine area within the Lindengate garden, Buckinghamshire, a therapeutic project aimed to assist people recovering from mental or physical problems (Hendry award).

## Looking ahead: forthcoming AGS tours

**Gothenburg** (3 nights) led by Ray Drew – May/June 2018

**Sikkim** led by Harry Jans – June/July 2018

**Western Cape** led by Callan Cohen – September 2018

Details will appear in the September issue of AGS News.

To express an interest in joining any of these tours  
please contact the AGS Centre.

## CENTRAL PATAGONIA

Approximate dates: November 27  
to December 18, 2017 (flight days  
included)

Leader: Harry Jans

Cost: to be confirmed

Provisional itinerary:

Day 1 – Arrive Buenos Aires.  
Transfer to Jorge Newbery Airport for  
flight to Bariloche.

Day 2 – Drive south to Esquel. Should  
arrive early afternoon in time for a short  
trip to Trevelin to visit the Welsh tea shop  
and museum. Botanising where possible  
en route.

Day 3 – Drive short distance to La  
Hoya. Botanise at ski resort.

Day 4 – Drive to Esquel. Botanise on  
steppe towards Piedra Parada. Lots of  
plants here.

Day 5 – Los Alerces National Park.  
Guided tour boat trip from Puerto  
Limonoa or Puerto Chucac and walk  
through temperate rainforest.

Day 6 – Drive to El Bolson. Early start  
would allow visit to Cerro Pilitritiquitron  
on the same day.

Day 7 – Drive to Bariloche. Afternoon  
relaxing in Bariloche.

Day 8 – Drive to Mirador de Nirihuau.  
We will walk up to Mirador de Nirihuau  
or even higher if time permits.

Day 9 – Drive to Bariloche steppe.  
Drive towards Pilcaniyeu, stopping to  
look at plants along the way.

Day 10 – Drive to Cerro Catedral and  
take cable car/chairlift. Botanise on  
mountain all day.

Day 11 – Boat excursion to Puerto Blest



Volcán Lanín

and walk to Cascada Los Cantaras and  
forest to see forest plants.

Day 12 – Cerro Bayo ski resort with  
chairlift. This is a late mountain so you  
may find plants here that were flowered  
out elsewhere. Good walks at various  
levels.

Day 13 – Drive to San Martin de los  
Andes via the Paso Cordoba, botanising  
en route.

Day 14 – Drive to Cerro Chapelco and  
spend day on mountain.

Day 15 – Visit Cerro Colorado.

Day 16 – Drive to Junin de los  
Andes and L'Escorial on Lagunas  
Epulafquen.

Day 17 – Cerro Colu Huincal.

Day 18 – Volcán Lanín.

Day 19 – Drive to Bariloche and catch  
flight to Buenos Aires.

Day 20 – Fly BA to UK.

For further information on these tours please contact the AGS Centre.  
Phone 01386 554790 or email ags@alpinegardensociety.net



## TASMANIA AND SE VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

December 30, 2017, to January  
15, 2018, departing from Hobart,  
Tasmania, ending in Melbourne.

Leader: Mark Hanger

Cost: in the region of £5,350 including  
flights from UK or £4,150 excluding  
flights. Single supplement £580.

This tour, led by one of Australasia's  
leading naturalists, will spend  
ten days visiting some of Tasmania's  
finest botanical sites before flying on  
to Melbourne for six days of exploring  
south-east Victoria.

Tasmanian highlights will include a  
visit to Mount Field National Park, with  
alpine moorlands, spectacular mountain  
scenery and an excellent diversity of  
alpines including several endemic  
*Richea*, *Ewartia* and *Celmisia*.

In the central highlands, we will drive  
through the pass between the Cradle  
Mountain region and the Franklin-  
Gordon River National Park, looking for  
*Billardiera*, *Callistemon*, *Diplarrena* and  
other sub-alpine herbs such as *Milligania*.

In the vicinity of Lake Dove we will  
hike to Crater Lake and Cradle Mountain,  
with a wide array of subalpine shrubs  
and, above them, cushion flora.

On a day excursion to Ben Lomond  
National Park we'll use the ski-field  
access road to reach a plateau at 1,500m  
to make the most of magnificent scenery  
and unsurpassed alpine flora.

We will travel to the fascinating and



*Blandfordia punicea*

scenic Freycinet National Park, staying  
in the oceanside Freycinet Lodge for  
two nights, where you will see granite  
outcrops, rugged peaks, crystal clear  
water, beautiful orchids, wonderfully  
barked local *Eucalyptus* trees and Oyster  
Bay pines (*Callitris rhomboidea*).

From Melbourne we will visit the high  
peaks of the central section of Alpine  
National Park as well as several other  
fabulous sites.

During the tour there will be a host  
of wildlife to see, including platypus,  
wallabies, ospreys, snakes and wombats.

An air-conditioned coach will be used  
throughout with microphone, ample  
luggage storage in a trailer, and tea and  
coffee provisions. All accommodation  
is of a very comfortable standard and  
all rooms have private facilities. In  
most locations it is of 3-star equivalent,  
although better than this on occasion.



*Iris acutiloba* subsp. *longitepala* and *Iris meda*

## IRAN

Departing mid to late April 2018  
for 15 days

Leaders: Bob & Rannveig Wallis

Cost: to be confirmed

With its snowy winters and dry  
summers, the climate of Iran has  
seen the evolution of a huge diversity of  
bulbs and tuberous-rooted plants. The  
north-west of the country is an area of  
high plateau punctuated by enormous  
peaks, mainly of volcanic origin, and  
fertile slopes covered in *Allium*, *Iris*,  
*Tulipa*, *Corydalis*, *Fritillaria*, *Colchicum*  
and *Crocus* which flower in, or soon after,  
the snow melts.

We will take in arid steppes where,  
for example, *Iris meda* and *Fritillaria*  
*gibbosa* can be found; moister woodlands  
where many orchids abound; and rocky  
hillsides which are the home of, among  
others, *Fritillaria imperialis*, *Tulipa*  
*biflora* and *Anemone biflora*.

Particular highlights will include:

- 'Eight-Frit Mountain', which is really  
a high pass over the Avroman mountains,

where not only are there eight species of  
*Fritillaria* but also the recently described  
*Iris zagrica*, alliums and red tulips  
(possibly *Tulipa systola*).

- Kuh-e-Sabalan, a volcano (4,811m)  
which is readily accessible and boasts  
a kaleidoscope of *Iris reticulata* (*I.*  
*hyrcana*) and *Tulipa humilis* colour forms.

- A pass over the Talysh mountains,  
travelling from the dry high plateau side  
to the misty Caspian forests on the east  
side to see the newly described *Paeonia*  
*wendelboi*, *P. cf. tomentosa*, *Anemone*  
*caucasica*, *Corydalis angustifolia*,  
*Fritillaria kotschyana*, *Iris imbricata* and  
a host of other choice taxa. There is even  
a snowdrop (*Galanthus transcaucasicus*).

- Another new *Iris* has been described  
near to Zanzan, so we aim to go to  
the misty hillsides where *I. acutiloba*  
subsp. *longitepala* grows among pink  
*Aethionema*. This pass is also the home  
of colourful *Tulipa humilis* forms and  
*Fritillaria olivieri*.

- And we may take in the wonderful  
rock carvings of Taq-e Bostan.

The tour will start and finish in Tehran's  
Imam Khomeini International Airport.

For further information on this tour please contact the AGS Centre.  
Phone 01386 554790 or email [ags@alpinegardensociety.net](mailto:ags@alpinegardensociety.net)

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Phone 01386 554790 or email [ags@alpinegardensociety.net](mailto:ags@alpinegardensociety.net)



## ECUADOR AND THE NORTH PERUVIAN ANDES

21 days from March 19 to April 9, 2018 (dates may alter slightly)

Leader: Harry Jans

Botanical guide: Daniel Montesinos (Peru)

Cost: to be confirmed

Ecuador and Peru, two neighbouring countries, feature a diversity of microclimates that make for a fascinating high-altitude flora.

Our tour will start in Quito, the capital of Ecuador, at an altitude of 2,850m on a horizontal strip of land running north to south between beautiful volcanoes. The splendour of the city's natural setting, combined with its attractive squares, parks and monuments, make it a great place to become acclimatised to the altitude and the Latin way of life. Our first day will start at the 30m high Mitad del Mundo monument marking the Equator, from which the country derives its name. After three weeks of botanising in the paramos, lake shores and volcano slopes, we will finish in Lima, the Peruvian capital.

Highlights will include El Angel Ecological Reserve in the north of Ecuador; the Avenue of Volcanoes, which you will experience as soon as you arrive in Quito, with the perfect ice-covered volcanic cone of Cotopaxi (at 5,897m), Ecuador's highest active volcano; the inactive stratovolcano Chimborazo, on whose slopes we will botanise a couple of days later; and the Cordillera Blanca,



*Gentianella luteomarginata*

in Peru, known worldwide as the hiking paradise of the Andes.

Expect to see the most fantastic landscapes and plant communities such as cushions, ground rosettes such as *Espeletia schultzii*, giant bromeliads like *Puya raimondii*, colourful gentianellas in boglands and plenty of other plants of varied forms, colours and sizes.

The tour will combine nature and the cultural elements of both countries. Almost every day an exploration of several hours is scheduled into remote areas. Most of the roads are sealed but in places like El Angel Ecological Reserve,



Cushions of *Azorella diapensioides*

the paramo of Papallacta and Huascarán National Park we will travel on some bumpy gravel roads. Travellers should be in good health to enjoy the tour.

The main focus will be on alpine highland flora, mostly above 3,600m in the central Ecuadorian Andes and North Andes of Peru. After acclimatising in Quito we will travel gradually to higher places to prevent altitude sickness.

The tour will be led by Harry Jans, a well-known experienced plant explorer and tour leader for the AGS. He has been on many expeditions and botanical tours to China, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Iran,

Kenya, Ethiopia and Peru.

In Peru Daniel Montesinos will be our botanical guide. He is a botanist, taxonomist and ecologist who studies in Peru and is editor of books about the Peruvian flora. He has described five new species of alpine plants in Peru and is experienced in botanical tours in the Andes. In Ecuador, a local botanist will join the group during our exploration.

Accommodation is mostly three-star hotels, with warm showers, and includes breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Travel will be by four-wheel drive vehicles, mini-buses and plane.

For further information please contact the AGS Centre.  
Phone 01386 554790 or email [ags@alpinegardensociety.net](mailto:ags@alpinegardensociety.net)

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## Autumn Conference booking form

**AT THE CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL, STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, NOVEMBER 11-12, 2017**

## Two-day residential delegates:

£199 per person for one night with breakfast in a shared room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon, two hot buffet lunches and three-course Conference Dinner

£230 per person for one night with breakfast in a single room at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon, two hot buffet lunches and three-course Conference Dinner

Day delegates:

£53 for Saturday including lunch; £68 for Sunday including lunch

The four-star Holiday Inn is situated on the riverside in the centre of Stratford-upon-Avon. The hotel is set in landscaped gardens and has parking for 350 cars. Stratford train station is one mile from the hotel.

Please tick as applicable or book on our website

- ☐ We would like to reserve two residential places in a shared room (total £398)
- ☐ I would like to reserve a residential place in a single room (total £230)
- ☐ I/we would like to reserve ..... day delegate places for Saturday including lunch (£53 each)
- ☐ I/we would like to reserve ..... day delegate places for Sunday including lunch (£68 each)

A non-refundable deposit of £50 per person for residential delegates is payable at the time of booking.

YOUR DETAILS (block capitals please):

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County/country

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Please charge my card £

Name on card

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Start date                      Expiry date                      Issue No. (some debit cards)

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All information is protected by the Data Protection Act. Your information will not be disclosed to a third party. However, the AGS may wish to pass your details to our local groups. If you do not wish to receive information from our local groups then please tick this box. ☐