

Autumn Conference booking form

PRICES

2-day residential delegates:

£199 per person for one night's B&B in a shared room at Stratford Manor Hotel, two hot buffet lunches and three-course Conference Dinner

£238 per person for one night's B&B in a single room at Stratford Manor Hotel, two hot buffet lunches and three-course Conference Dinner

Day delegates:

£55 for Saturday including lunch; £65 for Sunday including lunch

The four-star Stratford Manor Hotel is just five minutes from the M40 and set in 21 acres of landscaped grounds. It offers a range of spa and leisure facilities.

Please tick as applicable or book on our website

- We would like to reserve two residential places in a shared room (total cost £398)
- I would like to reserve a residential place in a single room (total cost £238)
- I/we would like to reserve day delegate places for Saturday including lunch (£55 each)
- I/we would like to reserve day delegate places for Sunday including lunch (£65 each)
- I/we would like to reserve day delegate places for Saturday excluding lunch (£40 each)
- I/we would like to reserve day delegate places for Sunday excluding lunch (£50 each)

YOUR DETAILS (block capitals please):

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

County/country: _____

Post/Zip code: _____

CHEQUE PAYMENT

I/we enclose a remittance of £ _____ made payable to the Alpine Garden Society.

CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD (Visa/MasterCard/American Express/Switch)

Please charge my card £ _____

Name on card _____

Card number Security code

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

Signature _____ Date _____

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.

AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 3JP, UK
Phone: 01386 554790 Fax: 01386 554801 email: ags@alpinegardensociety.net

AGS news

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society

Book your place now for our autumn Conference

The AGS Conference on November 9 and 10 will feature an impressive programme of speakers, including three from overseas, giving members access to a wealth of knowledge and experience.

The Conference, entitled From Spain to Turkey: A Celebration of European Alpines, will follow the Society's annual general meeting at the four-star Stratford Manor Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

Vojtěch Holubec from the Czech Republic will speak on Eastern European Mountains, Harry Jans from the Netherlands will give a talk on Greece, and Christopher Grey-Wilson will share his extensive knowledge of the Picos de Europa.

In addition, Phillip Cribb from RBG Kew will speak about Hardy European Orchids, while Peter Erskine's subject will be the Western Alps and Apennines.

There will also be talks by Tim Lever from Aberconwy Nursery, Jo Everson and Katie



Ranunculus glacialis photographed in Switzerland by Peter Maguire

Price from RBG Kew, and primula expert Syd Clark. Practical workshops will be led by Brian Burrow and Tim and Keith Lever.

Before the conference, Oron Peri from

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NEW AGS SNOWDROP DAY: SEE PAGE 4

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WIN CASH PRIZES BY PLANTING A CONTAINER: 11

www.alpinegardensociety.net



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Worcestershire, WR10 3JP, UK

Phone: +44(0)1386 554790

Fax: +44(0)1386 554801

Email:
ags@alpinegardensociety.net

Registered charity No. 207478

Annual subscriptions:

Single (UK and Ireland) £28*

Family (two at same address) £32*

Junior (under 18/student) £10

Overseas single US\$54 £30

Overseas family US\$60 £33

* £2 deduction for direct debit
subscribers

For details of life membership apply to
AGS Centre.

AGS CENTRE EASTER CLOSURE

AGS Centre will close at
5pm on Thursday,
March 28, and will not
reopen until 9am on
Wednesday, April 3. It will
also be closed on Bank
Holiday Mondays,
May 6 and 27

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Send items for the June 2013 issue
of AGS News to Jackie Cooper at the
address above or email
jackie@alpinegardensociety.net.
The deadline is April 31, 2013.

NOTICEBOARD

AGS Shows

March 16: Blackpool Show

March 16: Kent Show

March 23: East Lancashire Show

March 26 & 27: London Show

March 30: Cleveland Show

April 6: North Midland Show

April 6: Dublin Show

April 13: Northumberland Show

April 13: South West Show

April 20: Midland Show

April 27: Ulster Show

May 4: East Anglia Show

May 11: Malvern Show

May 18: Southport Show

June 1: Summer Show South

June 15: Summer Show North

July 13: Summer Show Mid West

September 28: Autumn Show South

October 5: Loughborough Autumn Show

October 12: Newcastle Show

Full details for each show are in the
AGS Shows Handbook, on the AGS
website and in the shows pull-out that
was included with the December 2012
issue of AGS News.

LOCAL GROUP CHANGES

Wiltshire: Grahame Fowkes, Secretary
(from Cliff Herbert)

Ulster: Priscilla Dodd, Secretary (from
William McKelvey).

Central London: Roy Barker, Secretary
(from Sue Morris).

Nottingham: Sue Miles, Treasurer (from
Peter Noon). Alwyn Foster, Secretary
(from Christine Foster).

Continued from page 1

Israel has chosen Turkey as his subject for
the E B Anderson Memorial Lecture, which
is part of the AGM and free to all members.

The Stratford Manor Hotel is set in 21
acres of landscaped grounds and is located
just five minutes from the M40. There is a

spa offering a range of treatments plus a
leisure club with pool and gymnasium.

**Conference numbers are limited, so it is
advisable to reserve your place by using
the booking form on the back page of this
issue of AGS News or book on our website.**

The full Conference programme is below.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

AGM and E B Anderson Memorial Lecture – free to all AGS members

9.30am Registration & Coffee

10.45am Annual General Meeting & Presentation of Society Awards

12 noon Presentation of Show Awards

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm Late Conference Registration

1.45pm E B Anderson Memorial Lecture: Oron Peri, Turkey

2.45am Close of AGM

BEGINNING OF CONFERENCE

2.50pm Opening remarks and lecture: Christopher Grey-Wilson, Picos de
Europa

3.50pm Practical Workshops

4.20pm Coffee

4.45pm Lecture: Phillip Cribb, Hardy European Orchids

5.45pm Mini lectures (Tim Lever & Jo Everson)

6.15pm Finish

7.30pm Conference Dinner & Plant Auction

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

9.30am Registration

10am Lecture: Peter Erskine, Western Alps and Apennines

11am Practical Workshops

11.30am Coffee

12 noon Lecture: Vojtěch Holubec, Eastern European Mountains

1pm Lunch

2pm Mini lectures (Katie Price & Syd Clark)

3pm Lecture: Harry Jans, Greece

4pm Closing remarks by David Haselgrove & coffee

NOTICEBOARD

SPECIAL OFFER

ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY BULLETINS

10 AGS Bulletins (pre 2010 issues) for £16 (post free).
One Special Offer per member.

Please send your written request to: AGS Centre,
Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 3JP.

Cheques should be made payable to 'Alpine Garden Society', or give a credit/debit card number with expiry date MM/YY and three-digit security code. If using a Switch card please add the issue number or start date.



AGS SNOWDROP DAY

Saturday, February 1, 2014

In the grounds of the NFU headquarters
at Tiddington, Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire.

Plants sales plus lectures.

Lunches available. Ample parking.

This promises to be a great day out for
galanthophiles. Put the date in your diary
now – more details will be given in the next
issue of AGS News.



SEED ENVELOPES FOR SALE

Glassine-type envelopes, as used in the
AGS seed distribution, are available in
two sizes at the following prices:

73x41mm (2.8x1.6in) self-seal **£2 for 50**

98x64mm (3.8x2.5in) gummed **£2.50 for 50**

Order from the AGS Centre (details on page 2)

Postage is free to UK members

Overseas members should contact AGS Centre for postage quotes



Membership survey will help to guide Society's development

Thank you to all those who took time
to complete the membership survey
published in the June 2012 issue of
the newsletter and on the AGS website.
There were 630 replies, representing
nine per cent of the membership.

The replies have been collated and
the results will help to guide the Society
in developing benefits and services for
members.

Over 90 per cent of respondents rated
their AGS membership overall as either
good or excellent, with more than half
opting for excellent.

The most popular types of plants
grown by members were bulbs (89 per
cent), followed by easy alpiners (88),
herbaceous plants (79) and woodland
plants (66). The least popular were
dwarf conifers (34) and hardy cacti (14).

We were keen to find out whether
members felt that the Society's name
could put off potential new members
who were not aware of the wide range
of plants in which we take an interest.
Seventy-two per cent of respondents
felt the Society's name properly
reflected its interests, while 32 per cent
did not. Given the majority, it has been
decided not to change the name of the
Society.

The print quality and standard of
photographs in The Alpine Gardener
were rated as excellent by more than
90 per cent of respondents. The



most popular articles were those
offering practical and cultivation
advice, followed by plant profiles and
interviews with expert growers and
nurserymen. The least popular were
show reports and photography/artistic
articles. Over 95 per cent were happy
with the current size and format of the
journal.

More than 90 per cent of users were
satisfied with the website, with over
50 per cent rating it as excellent. With
the addition of the AGS Encyclopaedia
of Alpines and the AGS Image Library,
use of the website is growing and it
will play an increasingly important role
in the future. As such, a redesign and
restructuring of the site plus other
improvements are now under way and
will be unveiled later this year.

AGS LOCAL GROUP SHOWS

Bedfordshire Group Annual Show

Saturday, March 23, at Wilstead Village Hall,
Cotton End Road, Wilstead, MK45 3BX.

Doors open to the public at 12 noon. Entrance £1. For more information contact Robert Amos on 01767 627487, or visit www.bedfordshirealpines.com



Dorset Group Show and Plant Sale

Saturday, March 30, at the Allendale Centre, Wimborne, BH21 1AS, from 11.30am to 3pm. Admission £1, AGS members free.

Contact johnchappell321@btinternet.com for further information.



Cotswold and Malvern Group Show and Plant Sale

Easter Monday, April 1, at Maisemore Village Hall,
Maisemore, near Gloucester, GL2 8JE.

Open to the public from 12 noon to 4pm. Admission £3.
AGS members free.

Entries to the Show Secretary John Fitzpatrick by Saturday, March 30.

Please call 01981 580134. Show schedules also available.

Refreshments will be served all day.



Essex Group Annual Show

Saturday, April 27, at the New Village Hall, Church Road, Rawreth,
near Rayleigh, Essex. SS11 8SH (opposite The Forge Nurseries).

Open to the public from 12 noon until 4pm. Free entry.

Classes for all AGS members; non-competitive displays; plant sales; tombola; ample parking and refreshments.

For full details please contact the Show Secretary Mike Sullivan on 01277 203481.

Please support your Local Group events

Meconopsis Open Day

June 3, 2013, at RHS Garden Harlow Carr, Crag Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 1QB.

This open day follows the Meconopsis trial at Harlow Carr. Ian Christie will demonstrate how to propagate and grow the plants. Dr Evelyn Stevens will give a talk on the results of the work of The Meconopsis Group in clarifying the identities and names of plants in cultivation. Andrew Willocks and Amy Browning will provide a talk on Harlow Carr's experience and use of Meconopsis in the garden, and there will be guided tours of Harlow Carr's alpinas and Meconopsis.

AGS members £20. Non-members £25.

To book call 0845 612 1253



TAKE PART IN THE AGS ONLINE SHOW



The 2013 AGS Online Show is open for entries. This is a great opportunity for members who can't normally get to shows – particularly those who live outside the UK and Ireland – to show off their plants and gardens.

There are almost 90 classes to enter, ranging from alpine beds in a garden setting to orchids and cut flowers.

Visit the AGS website (address on the front page) where you can also view the online shows of the past seven years. GOOD LUCK!

OVERSEAS AGS GROUP CONTACTS

AUSTRALIA Secretary: Fermi de Sousa, 24 Old Ford Road, Redesdale 3444, Victoria, Australia. Email: Fermi.DeSousa@cobaw.vic.gov.au

DENMARK Lis Nielsen, Parkvej 168, DK-6710 Esbjerg. Email: lisbent@esenet.dk

NETHERLANDS Secretary: Aalt Musch, Nievwendaal 47, 3985 AC Werkhoven, Netherlands.

NEW ZEALAND President: Adrian Bliss, PO Box 2984, Christchurch, New Zealand.
email: janandadrianbliss@xtra.co.nz Fax: 00643 3126696.



Part of the AGS garden at Chelsea in 2011

Visit our garden at Chelsea

The Alpine Garden Society is constructing a garden at this year's Chelsea Flower Show. The garden will be built in the Great Pavilion and will promote the AGS to the show's 157,000 visitors from May 21-25.

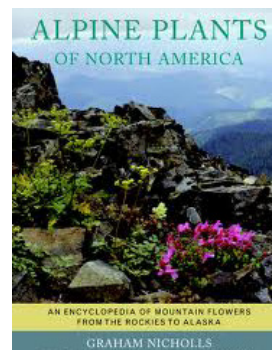
The garden, which will be open on all four sides, has been designed by Ray Drew, the Society's Director of Shows. It will include a pool and waterfall leading to a bog garden,

a paved area with troughs and pots, and steps down into a sunken garden featuring a raised bed and seating area.

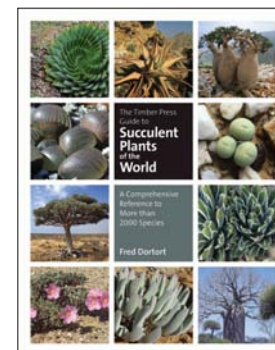
There will also be a crevice garden, other areas of alpine planting and a terraced woodland. The entire site will be intersected by a path.

The garden has been partly sponsored by Choice Landscapes, the alpine plant nursery based in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

Great books at big discounts!

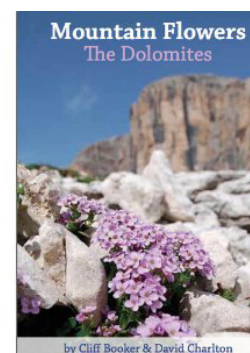


SAVE £17!
 Alpine Plants of North America by Graham Nicholls
 Cover price £35
AGS price £18

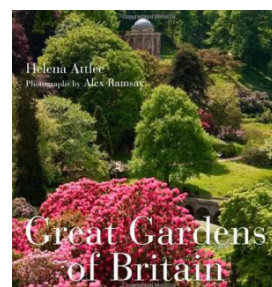


SAVE £7!
 Succulent Plants of the World by Fred Dortort
 Cover price £35
AGS price £28

Mountain Flowers: The Dolomites by Cliff Booker and David Charlton
 Cover price £9.95
AGS price £7.95



The Complete Guide to Saving Seeds by R & C Gough
 Cover price £16.99
AGS price £13.50



Great Gardens of Britain by Helena Attlee
 Cover price £16.99
AGS price £13.50



Hardy Succulents by Gwen Kelaidis
 Cover price £14.99
AGS price £12

To order use the form on page 18 or visit our online bookshop at www.alpinegardensociety.net

AGS ANNUAL AWARDS

NOMINATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE FOLLOWING AGS AWARDS:

- ✂ **Lyttel Trophy** for meritorious work with alpiners.
- ✂ **The Sir William & Lady Lawrence Award** for an outstanding contribution to work with alpiners from those new to horticulture in the last five years.
- ✂ **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 on basic cultivation and/or new plant introduction within a single 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 2012.

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 of the 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 80 (2012) for the following awards:

- ✂ **The Clarence Elliott Memorial Award** for the best article published in The Alpine Gardener in 2012 (Vol. 80).
- ✂ **The Lionel & Joyce Bacon Award** for the best practical alpine gardening article published in The Alpine Gardener in 2012 (Vol. 80).
- ✂ **The Christopher Grey-Wilson Award** to recognise photographic excellence in The Alpine Gardener in 2012 (Vol. 80) for the best 'feature' article that must contain a minimum of ten photographs.

All nominations must be submitted on the appropriate form (available from AGS Centre) and sent to Christine McGregor, Director, AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, WR10 3JP by July 31, 2013.

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL GROUPS: JOIN IN THE FUN AT MALVERN

At the Malvern Spring Gardening Show from May 9 to 12 the AGS is staging an exhibit of planted containers, giving you the chance to win cash prizes! You can plant alpiners into any sort of container – old boots, hats, kettles. In fact the wackier, the better. The only stipulations are that they must fit on the show bench and can be easily moved.

There will be three classes to enter:

- 1. Alpiners planted in the most innovative container by an individual.**
First prize £50 Second prize £25
- 2. A Local Group exhibit in any container, from troughs to tin baths.**
First prize £100 Second prize £50
- 3. The best planted small trough or miniature garden by an individual.**
First prize £50 Second prize £25

So come on, let's have some fun. The AGS will help to arrange the transport of your exhibits to Pershore in the week before the show and will take care of them.

To enter, call the AGS Centre on 01386 554790

Good planting and good luck!



The Fritillaria Group of the Alpine Garden Society Spring Meeting and Annual Show

March 17, 2013, at the Hillside Events Centre,
RHS Garden Wisley, Surrey, from 9am to 4pm.

All visitors welcome. Photographic display in
the main hall. Spring Show in the garden room.

More information on our website: www.fritillaria.org.uk



NEW BOOK OFFERS

SAVE 20%

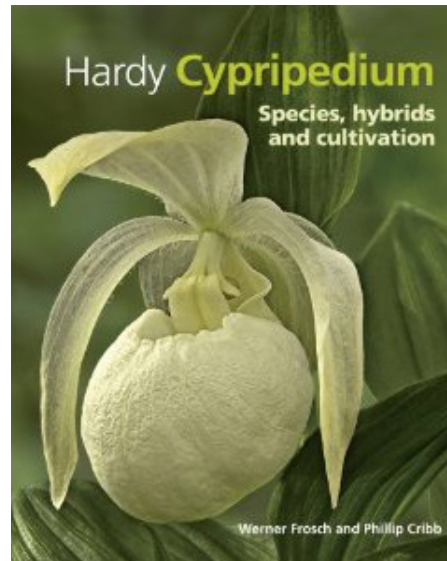
Hardy Cypripedium: Species, Hybrids and Cultivation by Werner Froesch and Phillip Cribb

A superb photographic account of the species and hybrids of the much-admired slipper orchids, featuring 427 beautiful images. Written by two of the leading authorities on the genus, it covers the plants' discovery, biology, distribution, ecology, conservation and cultivation.

Cover price £45

AGS price **£36**

[Order code 846]



SAVE 20%

Snowdrops by Gunter Waldorf

First published in German, this little gem of a book has now been translated into English. It features photographs of more than 300 of the best varieties of snowdrops.

Cover price £14.99

AGS price **£12**

[Order code 848]



TO ORDER COMPLETE THE FORM ON PAGE 18 OR VISIT THE AGS BOOKSHOP AT WWW.ALPINEGARDENSOCIETY.NET

Order code	Title and author	Members' price
GENERAL ALPINE TITLES		
032	Alpine Gardening for Beginners by John Good	£6.50
772	Alpines from Mountain to Garden by Richard Wilford	£23.20
028	Alpine Plants: Ecology for Gardeners by John E G Good & David Millward	£12.00
244	Alpine Plants of Europe by Jim Jermyn	£20.00
457	Alpine Plants of North America by Graham Nicholls	£18.00
292	Alpines: An Essential Guide by Michael Mitchell	£15.00
024	Alpines in Pots (New Edition) by Kath Dryden	£4.00
026	Crevice Gardening by Zdenek Zvolanek	£5.50
033	Portraits of Alpine Plants by Robert Rolfe **NEW LOW PRICE**	£15.00
729	The Rock Garden Plant Primer by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£16.00
SPECIFIC GENERA		
019	Androsace: The Genus by G.F.Smith & D.B. Lowe	£8.00
694	Bleeding Hearts, Corydalis & Their Relatives by Mark C Tebbitt et al	£20.00
277	Dwarf Campanulas by Graham Nicholls	£12.00
	Clematis (The Gardener's Guide to Growing) by Raymond Evison	£10.50
643	Clematis (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Mary Toomey	£12.00
263	Daphnes: A Practical Guide for Gardeners by Robin White	£20.00
669	The Daylily by John P Peat & Ted L Petit	£18.00
008	Dionysia: The Genus by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£8.00
374	Epimedium: The Genus by William T Stearn	£34.00
745	Geum by Sue Martin	£6.00
271	Hellebores: A Comprehensive Guide by C. Colston Burrell and J. Knott Tyler	£20.00
248	Heucheras & Heucherellas by Dan Heims & Grahame Ware	£16.00
288	Hostas (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Diana Grenfell & Michael Shadrack	£12.00
753	New Encyclopedia of Hostas by Diana Grenfell and Michael Shadrack	£28.00
778	The Book of Little Hostas by Kathy Guest Shadrack & Michael Shadrack	£14.50
380	Lavandula: The Genus by Tim Upson & Susyn Andrews	£22.00
283	Peony Rockii and Gansu Mudan by Will McLewin and Dezhong Chen	£25.00
799	Phlox: A Natural History and Gardener's Guide by James H Locklear	£28.00
706	Hardy Rhododendron Species: A Guide to Identification by James Cullen	£25.00
282	The Genus Roscoea by Jill Cowley	£30.00

Order code	Title and author	Members' price
021	Silver Saxifrages by Beryl Bland	£3.00
766	Thyme Handbook by Margaret Easter and Susie White	£8.00
700	Saxifrages (A Definitive Guide to the 2,000 species) by Malcolm McGregor	£28.00
	BULBOUS PLANTS	
860	**NEW** A Gardener's Guide to Bulbs by Christine Skelmersdale	£20.00
234	Arisaema: The Genus by Guy & Liliane Gusman	£40.00
599	Autumn Bulbs by Rod Leeds	£8.00
027	Bulbous Plants of Turkey and Iran by Peter Sheasby	£25.00
243	Bulbs in Containers by Rod Leeds	£16.00
034	Bulbs of Greece (A Field Guide to the) by C Grey-Wilson	£23.00
280	Buried Treasures by Janis Ruksans	£24.00
653	Calochortus: Mariposa Lilies & their Relatives	£8.00
798	Crocuses: A Complete Guide to the Genus by Janis Ruksans	£24.00
268	Cyclamen by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£2.50
795	Galanthomania by Hanneke van Dijk	£23.00
673	For Galanthophiles by Clemens Heidger	£28.80
241	Kirstenbosch Gardening Series - Grow Agapanthus by Graham Duncan	£4.50
861	**NEW** The Genus Lachenalia by Graham Duncan	£96.00
608	Pocket Guide to Bulbs by John E Bryan	£12.00
232	Snowdrops: A Monograph of Cultivated Galanthus by Mat Bishop et al	£48.00
246	Snowdrops Booklet by Jackie Murray (second edition, 2011)	£3.50
266	Tulips (Species & Hybrids for the Gardener) by Richard Wilford	£10.00
	ORCHIDS	
265	Growing Hardy Orchids by John Tullock	£16.00
804	Growing Hardy Orchids by Philip Seaton et al	£10.00
698	Ophrys: The Bee Orchids of Europe by H Aerenlund Pedersen & N Faurholdt	£27.00
274	Orchids of Britain & Ireland (A Field & Site Guide) by Anne & Simon Harrap	£24.00
658	Orchids of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East by Pierre Delforge	£24.00
597	Orchids of the British Isles by Michael Foley & Sidney Clarke	£36.00
349	The Genus Cypripedium by Phillip Cribb	£48.00
	SUCCULENTS AND CACTI	
741	Cacti and Succulents for Cold Climates by Leo J Chance	£20.00

Order code	Title and author	Members' price
817	Hardy Succulents by Gwen M Kelaidis	£12.00
740	Gymnocalycium in habitat & Culture by Graham Charles	£48.00
749	Succulent Container Gardens by Debra Lee Baldwin	£16.00
264	Timber Press Guide to Succulent Plants of the World by Fred Dortort	£28.00
	PERENNIALS	
588	Ornamental Grasses (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Rick Darke	£12.00
691	Perennials: The Gardener's Reference by S Carter, C Becker and B Lilly	£28.00
589	Shade Perennials (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by W George Schmid	£12.00
725	Tall Perennials by Roger Turner	£20.00
649	The Well-Tended Perennial Garden by Tracy DiSabato-Aust	£20.00
791	When Perennials Bloom by Tomasz Anisko	£25.00
	TREES & SHRUBS	
840	A Natural History of Conifers by Aljos Farjon	£24.00
786	Buddlejas by David D Stuart	£20.00
736	Best Hardy Shrubs (The Gossler Guide to the) by R, E & M Gossler	£20.00
775	Conifers (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Richard L. Bitner	£12.00
652	Conifers for Gardens by Richard L Bitner	£32.00
621	Dirr's Encyclopedia Of Trees & Shrubs by Michael A Dirr	£40.00
630	Hebes by Lawrie Metcalf	£15.00
660	Japanese Maples (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by P Gregory & J C Vertrem	£12.00
761	Palms (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Robert Lee Riffle	£12.00
751	Planting and Maintaining a Tree Collection by Simon Toomer	£16.00
316	Shrubs: A Gardener's Handbook by Ian Cooke	£8.00
267	The Genus Sorbus (Mountain Ash & other Rowans) by Hugh McAllister	£30.00
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
712	Trees for All Seasons by Sean Hogan	£20.00
286	Viburnums by Michael A Dirr	£20.00
661	Winter-Flowering Shrubs by Michael W Buffin	£20.00
	FLORAS AND FIELD GUIDES	
278	Alpine & Sub-Alpine Flora of Mount Jaya (A Guide to the) by R J Johns et al	£75.00
687	Crossbill Guide to Extremadura	£16.00

Order code	Title and author	Members' price
793	Crossbill Guide to France (Cevennes and Grand Causses)	£16.00
285	Crete: A Unique Paradise of Flowers by Johannes Flohe	£18.00
425	Easy Ways to the Plants of the Bernese Oberland by Philip & Jean Talboys	£6.00
680	Endemic Plants of the Altai Mountain Country by A I Pyak et al	£25.00
245	Flowers of Crete by John Fielding and Nicholas Turland	£52.50
733	Flowers of Greece (set of 2 with DVD) by T Lafranchis & G Sfikas	£95.00
808	Flowers of Western China by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£56.00
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SPECIAL OFFER FOR AGS MEMBERS: SAVE 25% ON ACCESS COLD FRAMES

Access Garden Products are offering AGS members an exclusive 25% off their range of cold frames and bases until April 30, 2013. The popular cold frames are ideal for alpine growers because they offer large amounts of space with excellent ventilation. The glass panels on the top and sides slide away for easy access and ventilation. For safety, only toughened safety glass is used. It is much stronger than standard horticultural glass – the roof glass will withstand 2ft (60cm) of snow on it. If the glass does break, it shatters into tiny pieces.



The sturdy architectural aluminium framework comes with a 25-year guarantee. Access has been producing these frames for 35 years and original examples are still going strong! For a really special finish, the cold frames are available with an optional colour coating. This hard-wearing finish is available in six colours. Please call for samples and prices. The cold frames are 4ft wide and are available in four lengths: 4ft, 6ft, 8ft and 10ft.

Also available are sturdy, pressure-treated bases for the cold frames, raising the frame up to reduce bending. The bases are constructed from 1 1/4in deck board which is mitred at the ends for a neat appearance. Stainless steel screws ensure a long life. The base can be filled with soil for direct planting, or a very sturdy timber floor can be added to allow Alpines to be placed either directly on the boards or on a couple of inches of grit. A useful option is the louvre vent. This replaces one of the 2ft x 2ft sheets of glass at the end of the frame, providing additional ventilation. The louvre aids winter ventilation as the slats prevent rain ingress. A vent can be fitted at either or both ends and is available as a manual or fully automatic vent.



To order, or for a free copy of the Access 40-page catalogue, call 0800 298 6284 and quote 'AGS-13 offer'.

PRICES AND DIMENSIONS						
Code	Length	List price	AGS price	3-tier base	Timber floor	Delivery
FF3	4ft/1.21m	£209	£167	£93.60	£48	£24
SF3	6ft/1.83m	£264	£211	£116.10	£74.25	£34
EF3	7ft 9in/2.36m	£314	£251	£152.10	£93	£39
TF3	9ft 11in/3m	£349	£279	£161.10	£115.50	£44

Width: 4ft (1.21m) Height: 2ft 8in (0.82m) Base height: 15in (36cm)
 Bases are approx. 3in/6cm wider and longer than the frame.
 Manual louvre vent: £59 Automatic vent: £79

Access Garden Products, Crick, Northampton, NN6 7XS
 www.garden-products.co.uk sales@garden-products.co.uk



View above Fuente Dé and *Saxifraga felineri*

A rich flora and splendid views

May 24 to June 2, 2013

Leader: Christopher Grey-Wilson

Cost: £550 (excluding flights & car hire)

After the highly successful self-catering tour led by Christopher (Kit) Grey-Wilson to the Picos de Europa in 2010, we have decided to repeat the tour in 2013.

The Picos de Europa, shared between the provinces of Cantabria and Asturias, is one of the great scenic delights of northern Spain. The Picos are very different from the mountains of central and southern Spain due to their proximity to the Atlantic Ocean. The scenery is splendid: the high mountains are rugged limestone in the main with wooded slopes and valleys. Wild bear, lynx and boar still roam and the area is renowned for its birds and butterflies. The flora is rich and includes a good number of endemic species such as *Aquilegia discolor*, *Asperula hirta* and *Genista legionensis*.

In spring (April to early June) the high meadows are full of colour, particularly with *Narcissus* and orchids.

The tour will be centred on the mountain hamlet of Tudes and we will stay in beautifully converted self-catering farm buildings, which are fully equipped and English-owned. The charming medieval market town of Potes is close by and has excellent restaurants and shops.

Day excursions (by car) from Tudes will include Puerto de San Gloria, the cable-car ascent at Fuente Dé, the Picos de Macondiu and Somaniezo. There will also be plenty of time for local walks and visits to ancient mountain towns. Couples and singles can share apartments, which range from two to four-person. Transport will be by hired car (not coach) as the latter restricts the places that can be visited. If any participants wish to stay longer, this can be arranged.

Christopher Grey-Wilson is an experienced tour leader and has visited the Picos several times. The Picos is very accessible from the UK with flights from Stansted and elsewhere to either Bilbao or Santander.

For further information on this tour please contact AGS Centre
Phone 01386 554790 or email ags@alpinegardensociety.net



CORSICA

April 14-21, 2013

Leaders: Paul Cardy and Tristan Lafranchis

Cost: £1,595.

Brick pink cliffs sweep down to the sea draped with lime-green *Euphorbia dendroides* and pretty *Erodium corsicum*. Limestone intrusions at Bonifacio host endemic *Morisia monanthos* and orchids such as *Orchis pauciflora*, *Ophrys morissi*, *Ophrys eleonora* and *Ophrys aprilia*. Large-flowered *Serapias cordigera* is joined by *Serapias neglecta*, *lingua*, *vomeracea* and local *nurrica*, as well as plenty of gorgeous *Orchis*

longicornu. *Narcissus tazetta* decorates rocky crevices almost to the high tide line on the Pointe de la Parata. Moving inland we'll find *Brimeura fastigata* and *Pancreatium illyricum*, whilst Chestnut woods are full of *Corydalis solida*. *Cyclamen repandum* blooms at all altitudes and higher up we'll see pretty lilac *Crocus corsicus* (pictured). *Helleborus argutifolius* flowers amid fresh green birch woods where we can find red-marked yellow *Dactylorhiza insularis* and intense purple *Romulea requienii*.

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TAIWAN

April 20 to May 7, 2013

Leaders: Owen Mountford and Richard Foster

Cost: £3,995

The breathtaking Taroko Gorge cuts like a knife through Formosa's untouched mountains. Here are elegant *Arisaema formosanum* and huge *Amorphophallus* flowers emerge with blue *Iris formosana* and exotic Gesneriads. We'll see yellow *Disporum shimodes*, the toad lily *Tricyrtis formosana*, and stands of *Lilium formosanum* and *Lilium longiflorum* while woodlands

harbour *Cypripedium debile*, *C. macranthos* and stunning pink *C. formosanum*. Mount Hehuan, at 13,000ft with a road almost to the top, will be covered in the pink *Rhododendron taiwanalpinum* and *Rhododendron pseudochrysanthum*. The Taiwanese rate *Rhododendron formosanum* as their most beautiful species, but we think it might be scarlet *Rhododendron noriakianum* or perhaps *Rhododendron kanehirai*, which sets the peaks ablaze with blooms from fuschia to red-violet. In Mingchin's deep emerald mossy forests are *Trillium tschonoskii*, gaultherias, begonias and strange *Boschniakia himalaica* among an amazing variety of ferns.

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ARARAT: NAKHCHIVAN & TURKEY

May 14-26, 2013

Leaders: Ian Green & Başak Gardner

Cost: £2,565

Ararat forms the centre of the heartland of the *Oncocylus* irises. To the east we'll explore tiny Nakhchivan, a beautiful Azerbaijani enclave that has recently opened its 1km-wide border with Turkey. Arid slopes in the Aras River drainage host rare *Iris grossheimii* (pictured) and the dark flowers of *Iris lycotis* as well as unusual forms of *Iris paradoxa*. Mountain meadows have the rarely seen yellow Juno *Iris atropatana* while the valleys below have hundreds of thousands of impressive *Iris imbricata*. In the Kars Highlands we'll find *Fritillaria*



alburyana and, around Van, golden *Fritillaria minima* and *Tulipa koyuncii*. On the slopes of Ararat we'll see some magnificent shows of *Iris elegantissima* while Van's steppes host *Iris barnumae* and populations of *Iris sari*, including one that has hybridised with *Iris paradoxa* to produce a wonderful variety of different colours and forms. We'll finish with the ghostly flowers of rare *Iris gatesii*.

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