

Alpine news

BIG ideas for small plants!

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society

Inside this issue you will find the usual information on the Society and its activities, plus some images from the AGM – more of which are available on our website. There you will find pictures of members and exhibitors receiving their awards and medals.

New offer - 20% Book Discount for Members

Members will now be able to enjoy an enhanced discount of 20% on the majority of titles sold by AGS Publications Ltd – see book pages for details.

Seed Exchange - On-line Seed Ordering

By the time you read this the list will have been posted out and if anyone has not received a copy, please contact the Centre (see back page for details). On-line ordering was introduced last year with great success and we would encourage those members who have a computer to try this method of ordering – it really is very simple.

New Director of Shows

Jim McGregor has retired as Director of Shows after 10 years in the role. The various duties previously carried out by Jim have been split into separate tasks. Ray Drew is to succeed Jim as Director of Shows, with Dave Riley becoming Assistant Director of Shows. Don Peace is taking responsibility for dealing with Show Schedules and producing the Shows Handbook. Geoff Mawson, Rannveig Wallis and Jim Almond are to be Judging Co-ordinators and continue to organise the judging at shows.



NFU Mutual – Sponsorship Arrangement

The Society is pleased to announce that NFU Mutual have kindly agreed to enter into a sponsorship arrangement with the Society to support some of our activities. You will see their advert in the Society's journal and they will also have a presence at the 2011 International Conference.

On behalf of the Society may I thank all our members from around the world for their continued support and wish you a very Happy Christmas.
Christine McGregor – Society Director

New AGS 2011 Calendar

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW

See back page for details



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Images from the Society's AGM at Stratford

More images can be found on the AGS website:
www.alpinegardensociety.net



Vojtech Holubec, pictured with his wife Lenka, receiving The Lyttel Trophy.



Helen Dillon about to give the E B Anderson Memorial Lecture.

ord-upon-Avon on 6 November 2010



A relaxed moment in the official proceedings. The President, Val Lee, (centre) pictured with the Treasurer, Colin Smith and the Society Director, Christine McGregor.



Doreen and Eric Webster receiving their Award of Honour from the President.

Noticeboard

AGS CENTRE OFFICE CLOSURE

CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR 2010 – 2011

The office at the AGS Centre, Pershore will be closed from 5.00 pm on Thursday, 23 December 2010 and will re-open at 9.00 am on Tuesday, 4 January 2011

AGS AWARDS AND GRANTS 2011

The Society considers applications for AGS Travel Awards annually and applications for these awards must be received by 31 January 2011 at the latest.

Travel Awards

Each year the Society gives a limited 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. Application forms and further details are available from: Jill Larner, c/o AGS Centre or email: jill@alpinegardensociety.net

Hendry Fund Grants

In addition, grants for specific alpine-related projects are available financed by the E F Hendry Fund. Details from Meg Smith (meg.smith@agsgroups.org), The Hendry Bequest Fund, 23 Richmond Road, Leighton Buzzards, LU7 4RF. The closing date for applications in respect of the Hendry Fund Grants is 31 January 2011.

MERLIN TRUST - ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

Travel Scholarships - TOUR AWARDS for 2011

In 1990 The Merlin Trust was founded by the late Valerie Finnis VMH to provide travel grants for young horticulturists. In 2011 the Merlin Trust is offering jointly with the Alpine Garden Society four fully paid travel scholarships on AGS organised plant tours.

Two places will be available on each of two tours, the destination of which are yet to be decided. If you would like to receive this information and an application form, when it becomes available, please send your contact details.

Applicants should be enthusiastic about plants with a particular interest in alpinines. They must be 18 to 35 years of age, or in their first five years of a career in horticulture, and have British or Irish citizenship. Students belonging to other nationalities are eligible only if they are currently studying at a UK horticultural training establishment.

For details and more information contact: Joanne M Everson, Rock Garden Team Leader, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3AB. Email: j.everson@kew.org
Tel: 0208 3325585

SALE OF SEED ENVELOPES

The AGS is selling seed envelopes as part of the Seed Distribution System.

The envelopes are of the glassine type (as used in the AGS distribution) and are available in two sizes at the following prices.

50 packets 73 x 41mm (2.8 x 1.6in) for £2.00 (self-seal)

50 packets 98 x 64mm (3.8 x 2.5in) for £2.50 (gummed)

They can be purchased from the AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore Worcs, WR10 3JP

Postage is FREE to UK members.

Overseas members should contact AGS Centre regarding postage costs, which will depend on the quantity ordered.



Items for the Newsletter and Copy Dates

Please note that any copy for the Newsletter should be sent to Jill Lerner, AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcs, WR10 3JP or email: jill@alpinegardensociety.net

Deadline for the March 2011 issue is 17 January 2011

OBITUARIES - The Society is sad to report the passing of the prominent nurseryman, John Lawson, who took over from Jack Drake at the Farmhouse Inshriach Nursery at Aviemore.

Joyce Carruthers, the partner of Zdenek Zvolanek, died in a tragic road accident in Canada on 25 September 2010. Condolences from the Society were sent to Zdenek and all family members.

The Society is also sad to report the death of Mike Baker (Treasurer of the Chiltern Group), who died suddenly whilst on holiday in the Dolomites. Our sincere condolences to all Mike's family.

END OF AN ERA

Paul Ingwersen presents Roy Metcalf with the "Sussex Salver" in recognition of Roy's services to the Central Sussex Group, which earlier this year decided to close. Roy was Secretary from 1973 to 1998 and again from 2008-10. Also in the picture are members Clive and Audrey Dart.



Photographic Display Boards

Some of you will already have seen these display boards at the AGM in Stratford. They feature flowers from different regions around the world and have been prepared with the objective of being used for publicity purposes at events such as local conferences and shows (local and national).

At present there are 7 sets of photographs comprising - plants in the AGS Garden, plants in the wild from the Swiss Alps, the Georgian Caucasus, Iran, South Africa (2 sets) and Yunnan. We plan to prepare other display sets from areas such as Greece and Turkey.

Each set consists of 18 (9" x 6") photographs (three sets of 6) designed to fit on a folding display board. The sets of photographs are kept at Pershore and are available for loan, with or without the display boards. They are ideal for a table top display and can be used as part of another display or in their own right. Relevant books and other promotional literature can be displayed alongside the boards.

Peter Sheasby
Image Library Manager



Anyone wishing to borrow these displays should contact AGS Centre (01386 554790) or e-mail ags@alpinegardensociety.net



8th International Rock Garden Conference

Alpines without Frontiers

This international event takes place once every ten years and in 2011 will be held at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham University. This is a joint Conference involving the Alpine Garden Society and the Scottish Rock Garden Club. Booking is through the Alpine Garden Society. You can complete the booking form on page 32 or alternatively book on-line:

www.alpinegardensociety.net

AMENDED PROGRAMME

Thursday 14 April 2011

15.00 - 16.00: Registration

16.00 - 16.30: TEA

16.30 - 17.30: Welcome & Opening Lecture - Brian Mathew; provisional title 'Ever-changing Frontiers: of all sorts!'

Friday 15 April 2011

09.00 - 10.00: Harry Jans 'Plant Hunting on the Roof of the World'

10.00 - 11.00: John Richards 'Asiatic Primulas Old and New'

11.00 - 11.30: COFFEE

11.30 - 12.30: Martin Walsh 'The High and Low in the Himalaya'

12.50 - 14.15: LUNCH

Saturday 16 April 2011

09.00 - 10.00: Keith Wiley 'An Holistic Approach to Alpines in the Garden'

10.00 - 11.00: Todd Boland 'Alpine Plants of Newfoundland through to the Appalachians'

11.00 - 11.30: COFFEE

11.30 - 12.30: Bob Wallis 'Fritillaries on four Continents'

Sunday 17 April 2011

09.00 - 10.00: Ian Young 'Highland Gathering'

10.00 - 11.00: Michael Kammerlander 'Juno Iris - the Persica Group and some others'

11.00 - 11.30: COFFEE

11.30 - 12.30: John Grimshaw 'Giants and Dwarfs: the Alpines of Africa'

19.30: onwards DINNER

David Haselgrove 'Southern Hemisphere Treats'

13.30 - 15.00: WORKSHOPS

15.00 - 16.00: Toshio Yoshida 'Endemism in Sino-Himalayan Alpines'

16.00 - 16.30: TEA

16.30 - 17.30: Henrik Zetterlund 'Beyond the Last Frontiers' (In memory of Jim Archibald)

19.30 onwards: DINNER

Robert Rolfe 'Location, Location: Alpines Near and Far, Narrowly Endemic and Nationalistic'

12.50 - 14.15: LUNCH

13.30 - 15.00: Free Time (to allow opportunity to see Show)

15.00 - 16.00: John Good 'Alpines in a changing world'

16.00 - 16.30: TEA

16.30 - 17.30: John Watson 'Three decades in the Andes'

19.30 onwards: DINNER Roy Lancaster 'My world of Plants'

Plant Auction

12.50 - 14.15: LUNCH

13.30 - 15.00: WORKSHOPS

15.00 - 16.00: Vojtech Holubec 'Central Asia: Plants under burning sun and cooling snow'

16.00 - 16.30:

TEA 16.30 - 17.30: Christopher Grey-Wilson 'A Lifetime of Alpines'

CLOSE

Workshop Sessions – Provisional (titles subject to alteration, plus additional topics may be added)

Practical demonstrations and workshops will be a feature in addition to the formal Programme of talks and lectures. The provisional list of demonstrations and workshops is:

Maintaining Bulb Collections - Rannveig Wallis
Meconopsis & Woodland Plants - Ian Christie
Creative Digital Photography - Jon Evans

Photography in the Garden - Doug Joyce
Alpines in the Electronic Age - Jim McGregor
Crevice Gardening - Alan Furness
Snowdrops

Local Group News

Bedfordshire Group

The Bedfordshire Group's Annual Show will take place on Saturday 12th March 2010 from 12:00pm to 16:00pm in Wilstead Village Hall, 50p entrance fee, children free admittance.

For further details contact Mrs. Elsie Willett, 10 Garner Close, Northill, Biggleswade, Beds, SG18 9AF. Tel: 01767 626 185, or by visiting the website, www.bedfordshirealpines.com mail@bedfordshirealpines.com

Blackpool Show 12 March 2011

The venue of the show will again be Collegiate High School, Blackpool Old Road, Blackpool, FY3 7LS.

Professor John Richards will give the afternoon lecture entitled 'Lake Garda in Spring'. Everybody is of course welcome.

Breakfast, lunches and afternoon teas will be also be available at reasonable cost, including bacon barmes, cooks famous hot pot and a selection of cakes.

Several of the top alpine nurseries will bring along a good selection of plants to buy. If you have any spare plants why not bring them along for the member's plant sales.

The North Lancashire Group would also like to invite anybody staying in the northwest for the weekend to their lecture evening on the Thursday prior to the show. Ann Kitchen will be giving her lecture entitled 'Flowers of the Picos'. Everything kicks off at 7.30 pm at The Methodist Church, Greaves, Lancaster.

I hope you will be able join us for what will be a great weekend for alpine plants and growers. - **Lionel Clarkson, Show Secretary**

Fritillaria Group of the Alpine Garden Society Spring Meeting and Non Competitive Display

Date: **Sunday 20 March 2011** Hillside Events Centre, RHS Garden, Wisley, Surrey

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

08 - 09.30	Setting Up	12.30	Lunch
09.30	Coffee	14.00	Speaker - Andy Byfield - South-west Turkey: Yellow frits and other bulbs
10.00	Extra General Meeting	15.30	Raffle
10.30	Speaker - Diana Everett - Fritillarias & Tulips of Central Asia	16.00	Close of Meeting
11.30	Speaker - Pietro Roseo - A Persian Odyssey		

Admission by ticket only - £3 for Fritillaria Group Members and application forms will be included in the Fritillaria Spring issue of the Journal.

Local Group News

For non-members tickets will be £5. Please apply in advance to Mrs Marcia Paine, 2 Launcestone Close, Earley, Reading. RG6 5RY enclosing a self-addressed envelope. Membership fees to the Fritillaria Group are £6 for individual members and £7 for family members. Membership of the Fritillaria Group is open to any AGS member. For other information please see our website www.fritillaria.org.uk. Bulbs and plants will be on sale during the day. Please come and support the suppliers.

Members

We look forward to seeing your pots of fritillaria for display in the Garden Room. Please bring them along - it would be much appreciated.

Date and Venue for Autumn Meeting - Sunday 25 September 2011 at RHS Garden, Wisley

WEST SUSSEX LOCAL GROUP CONFERENCE 3 SEPTEMBER 2011 Alpines and Bulbs of the Middle East

Date: **3 September 2011** North Mundham Village Hall

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 10.00 - 10.30 Registration, plant sales, coffee | 14.10 - 15.00 Flowers of the Levant & Iran
- Robert Wallis |
| 10.30 - 11.10 Turkish Bulbs – Rannveig Wallis | 15.10 - 16.00 The Caucasus
- Vojtech Holubec |
| 11.20 - 12.00 Turkish Alpines - Robert Rolfe | 16.00 - 16.30 Questions, Tea,
Plant Sales, Depart. |
| 12.10 - 12.40 Jordan - Peter Sheasby | |
| 12.40 - 14.10 Lunch & Plant Sales | |

Admission Price - The cost will be £15 for the conference and £5 for lunch which is exceptional value, **For further details contact:** Peter Liverman. Tel: 01903 722410.

NEW ZEALAND ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY STUDY WEEKEND 2012

The NZAGS is pleased to announce its next Study Weekend "In from the Wild – from the Great Outdoors to Our Gardens", to be held at Lincoln University, Canterbury, South Island, from **3 – 5 February 2012**.

We extend a warm welcome to our two key speakers, Harry Jans from the Netherlands and John Massey from the UK. Harry is well-known for his world travels looking at alpine plants in the wild, particularly in China, photographing them, and growing them superbly well in his garden at home. John is an eminent plantsman and proprietor of Ashwood Nurseries in England, which specialises in hellebores, hepaticas, lewisias and auriculas. He also has a magnificent private garden which is regularly opened to the public for charity.

Harry and John will be supported by a full Programme of events including local experts speaking on a wide range of topics, so there will be something for everyone. Overseas visitors are very welcome to register their interest now and request further details as available by e-mailing Ann Cartman (annandjoe@xtra.co.nz) or Doreen Mear (doreenmear@hotmail.com).

Make a date in your diary!

Local Group News

LIST OF AGS LOCAL GROUPS

BEDFORDSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mrs Elsie Willett, 10 Garner Close, Northill, Biggleswade, SG18 9AF. Tel: 01767 626185. Meetings: Wilstead Village Hall, Nr Bedford, 7.30 pm. on 1st Monday, February to December. Programme on request. <http://www.bedfordshirealpines.com/>

BERKSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mrs Avril Hughes, Holly Hock, North Street, Islip, Kidlington, OX5 2SQ. Tel: 01865 377104. Meetings: Parish Hall, Speen Lane, Newbury, 7.30 pm., 3rd Thursday, September to June, exc. December. Garden visits in Summer. Subscription: £3.00; Family £5.00.

BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT: Hon. Sec [Acting]: Mrs Sonia Morris, 55 Grange Road, Stourbridge, DY9 7LH. Tel: 01384 378609. Meetings: The Octagon, Edgbaston High School for Girls, Westbourne Road, Birmingham, B15 3TS, every 2nd Friday, January to April; September; October and December. Birmingham Botanic Gardens Lecture, 3rd Thursday in August. Roy Elliott Memorial Lecture 3rd Saturday in November. Garden visits March to August. Subscription: £6.00, Family £10.00. Visitors welcome.

BRISTOL: Hon. Sec: Mrs Marion Monahan, 90 Brentry Lane, Brentry, Bristol, BS10 6RQ. Tel: 0117 9503422. Meetings: The Methodist Hall, Westbury-on-Trym, 3rd Friday 7.30 pm., September to May. Subscription: £6.00; Family £8.00.

CHESHIRE-EAST: Hon. Sec: Mrs Liz Maddock, 7 Kingsley Avenue, Wilmslow, SK9 4EN. Tel: 01625 537156. Email: Elizabeth.Maddock@agsgroups.org Meetings: Wilmslow Preparatory School, Grove Avenue, Wilmslow. Usually 2nd Monday, September to April, 7.30 pm. Summer Outings. Subscription: Single £10.00; Family £18.00; Visitors £2.00.

CHESHIRE-WEST & WIRRAL: Hon. Sec: Peter Cunnington, 3 The Quillet, Neston, South Wirral, CH64 9QE. Tel: 0151 336 3407. Email: p.cunnington1@ntlworld.com Meetings: Gladstone Village Hall, The Village, Burton, Neston, South Wirral, CH64 5TH. 2nd Friday, September - May 7.15 pm. Subscription: £5.00. Visitors welcome.

CHESTERFIELD & DISTRICT: Hon. Sec: Mr Mike Harris, 2 Loundsley Court, Ashgate Heights, Chesterfield, S42 7PW. Tel: 01246 568479. Meetings: 2nd Sunday, 3 pm, September-May, in the Schoolroom, United Reformed Church, Cotton Mill Hill, Holymoorside, Chesterfield. Subscription: £3.00.

CHILTERN: Hon. Secs: Freda & Alan Payne, Capleo, Crowbrook Road, Monks Risborough, Aylesbury, HP27 9LW. Tel: 01844 345928. Email: chiltern@agsgroups.org Meetings: Great Kingshill Village Hall, Nr. High Wycombe, at 7.30 pm., 2nd Friday each month, except June, July & August. Visitors very welcome. Subscription: £6.00; Family £9.00.

CLEVELAND: Hon. Sec: Mr Barry Winter, 92 Oxbridge Lane, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 4HN. Tel: 01642 800373. Email: barry.winter@agsgroups.org Monthly winter meetings. Subscription: £4.00 single; £6.00 family; Senior citizens £3.00 single & £5.00 family.

CORNWALL: Hon. Sec: Miss Clethra Matthews, Trenance, Ruan High Lanes, Nr Truro, Cornwall, TR2 5LH. Tel: 01872 501208. Meetings: St Marks Church Hall, Sticker, St Austell, 3rd Wednesday exc. August and December at 7.30 pm. Garden Visit in July. AGS Members visiting Cornwall are very welcome to our Meetings. Subscription: £6.00; Visitors £2.00.

COTSWOLD & MALVERN: Hon. Sec: Mrs Pam Turner, Bramblegarth, Forge Lane, Upleadon, Newent, GL18 1EF. Tel: 01531 820666. Meetings: 1st Wednesday, Redmarley Village Hall, Redmarley, Gloucestershire, 7.30 pm., September to April, exc. January. Garden visits May to July. Spring Show, Maiseamore Village Hall, near Gloucester. Subscription: £8.00; Family £11.00; Visitors & Non-Members £1.50.

DERBYSHIRE: Hon. Sec: David Charlton, 41 Cole Lane, Ockbrook, Derby, DE72 3RD. Tel: 01332 668915. E-mail: david.charlton41@btinternet.com Meetings: 1st Wed. Sept. to May, Breadsall Memorial Hall, Breadsall, Derby, 7.30 pm. Garden visits Feb. to June. Subscription: £5 per member.

Local Group News

DEVON-EXETER: Hon. Sec: Mrs Lorraine Birchall, Barratts Cottage, Clyst Hydon, Cullompton, Devon, EX15 2NQ. Tel: 01884 277614. E-mail: lorraine@talevalleynursery.co.uk Meetings: 3rd Thursday, except July & August, 7.00 pm., Longdown Village Hall (on the Exeter to Moretonhampstead Road) Longdown Road, Nr Ide, Exeter. Excellent car parking. Subscription: AGS Members £5.00; Family £8.00; Non AGS Members £8.00; Visitors £2.00 per meeting.

DEVON-SOUTH: Hon. Sec: David Nicholson, 7 Carter Road, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 0RX. Tel: 01752 896307. David.Nicholson@agsgroups.org Meetings: Dartmoor Lodge, Pear Tree Corss, Ashburton, 1st Wednesday, Sept. to May, 7.15pm for 7.30 pm. Annual Subscriptions: AGS Members £8/£12; non AGS Members £10/£17; £2.00 guests.

DORSET: Hon. Joint Secs: John and Christine Chappell, 3 Church Lane, Frampton, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 9NL. Tel: 01300 320247. E-mail: johnchappell321@btinternet.com Meetings: 1st Thurs, Sept to April; 1st Fri, May, Corfe Mullen Village Hall, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne 7.30 pm. Subscriptions: AGS Members £7.00; Family £12.00; Non-AGS Members £10.00; Family £17.00; Visitors £2.50 per meeting.

EPPING FOREST: Hon. Sec: Ms Kit Strange, 5A Hartham Road, Bruce Grove, London, N17 6RZ. Email: Kit.Strange@agsgroups.org Meetings: Theydon Bois Village Hall, Theydon Bois, Nr Epping, Essex, CM16 7ER, on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from September to May [except in 2010, the December meeting is Wednesday, 15th]. Subscription: £5.00 plus £2.00 a meeting.

ESSEX: Hon. Sec: Paul Nice, 162 Parklands, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1SY. Tel: 01702 540443. Meetings: New Village Hall, Church Road, Rawreth, Nr Wickford, 7.30pm last Thursday of month, exc. December. Subscription: £3.00; Partners £3.50; Guests £1.00

HAMPSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mrs Sylvia Marshall, Brookside, 84 Granada Road, Hedge End Southampton, SO30 4AQ. Tel: 01489 782952. Email: sylvia.marshall@agsgroups.org Meetings: Chilworth Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, at 7.15

pm. 4th Tuesday, Sept. to May; (excl. 3rd Tuesday in December). Summer outings. Subscription: AGS Member £6.00; AGS Family Member £8.00; Single £7.00; Family £10.00; Visitors £2.50.

HERTFORDSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mr Bernard Gane, 65 Ox Lane, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 4PH. Hertfordshire Group AGS Website <http://www.hertsags.co.uk/> Tel: . Meetings: Frogmore Parish Centre, Holy Trinity Church, Frogmore, St. Albans. Usually 4th Saturday, September to June - 3.00 pm.

IRELAND-CORK: Hon. Sec: Mrs Hester Forde, Coosheen, 15 Johnstown Park, Glounthaune, Co Cork, Ireland. Tel: 021 4353855. E-mail: hesterforde@hotmail.com

IRELAND-DUBLIN: Hon Sec: Ms Mary O'Neill Byrne, Larch House, 44 Northumberland Avenue, Dun Ladghaire, Dublin, Irish Republic. E-mail: mary.onb@agsgroups.org Meetings at National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Co Dublin, usually 3rd Thursday, September to May at 8.00pm. See Local Website: <http://www.alpinegardensociety.ie/> for programme of activities. Subscription: 12 Euros (£7.00); Family 18 Euros; Student 5 Euros.

IRELAND-ULSTER: Hon. Sec: Mr William McKelvey, 7 Mount Charles North, Bessbrook, Newry, BT35 7DW. Tel: 028 3083 8006. E-mail: wmckelvey@tiscali.co.uk Website: www.alpinegarden-ulster.org.uk Meetings: Main Hall, St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast, at 2.30 pm. Saturdays, September to March. Summer garden visits. Subscription: £9.00; Family £14.00.

KENT-EAST: Hon. Sec: Dr Gillian Regan, Frith Old Farmhouse, Otterden, Faversham, ME13 0DD. Tel: 01795 890556. Email: gillian.regan@agsgroups.org Meetings: Lower Hardres & Nackington Village Hall, Street End, Canterbury, CT4 5NP, 7.00pm for 7.30pm, 2nd Friday of the month, except for October and November when they will be on the 3rd Friday. Subscription: £7.00. Visitors £2.00.

Local Group News

MID-KENT: Hon. Secs: John & Carolyn Millen, Spring Platt, Boyton Court Road, Sutton Valence, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 3BY. Tel: 01622 843383. E-mail: john.millen1@btinternet.com Meetings: Madginford Village Hall, off Willington Street, Bearsted, 1st Friday at 8.00 pm., September to May. Garden visit in June. Subscription: £6.00; Visitors £2.00.

KENT-TUNBRIDGE WELLS: Hon. Sec: Mrs Kay Cox, 19 Warwick Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 5TA. Tel: 01892 534139. Meetings: Main Hall, King Charles the Martyr Church, Warwick Park, Tunbridge Wells, 7.30 for 8.00 pm. 1st Monday of the month, unless it falls on a Bank Holiday, then the 2nd Monday, September to May, with Group BBQ in June/July. Subscription: £5.00; Visitors £1.00.

KENT-WEST: Hon. Sec: Mr Rodney Starmer, Strathmore, Tan House Road, Oxted, Surrey, RH0 9PE. Tel: 01883 713043. Meetings: Crofton Halls, Orpington (adjacent to Orpington Station) first Monday in the month [unless a Public Holiday when it is the next day, the Tuesday] at 7.30 pm. Subscription: £3.00.

LANCASHIRE-EAST: Hon. Sec: Mrs Shelagh Smethurst, 117 Newington Drive, Seddons Farm, Bury, BL8 2EG. Tel: 0161 761 7891. Email: s_smethurst@o2.co.uk Meetings: Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Nr. the junction Bolton St. & Bridge St., Ramsbottom, Nr. Bury, usually on Mondays at 7.45 pm., September to June. Summer outings. Subscription: £1.00 plus room charge at each meeting. Lecture programme sent on request, SAE please. Visitors welcome.

LANCASHIRE-NORTH: Hon. Sec: Mr Syd Cumbus, 65 Parkfield Drive, Bowerham, Lancaster, LA1 4BT. Tel: 01524 67888. Meetings: Lancaster Methodist Church, Scotforth Road, Greaves, Lancaster, LA1 4TE on 3rd Thursday, Sept to April 7.30 pm. Summer outings. Subscription: £5.00; Family £7.00; Visitors £2.00. [There is a charge of 50p per lecture at meetings].

LANCASHIRE-SOUTH: Hon. Sec: Joan Vincent, 34 Burden Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside, CH46 6BQ. Tel: 0151 678 1621. Meetings: in the Emmanuel Church Hall, Cambridge

Road, Southport. (north on A565). Usually 2nd Saturday of month Sept. to April. 2.00 for 2.30 pm. Subscription: £2.00; Family £3.50.

LEICESTERSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mr Eric Webster, 25 Highfields Drive, Loughborough, Leics., LE11 3JS. Tel: 01509 261626. E-mail: dozzer.lobro@tiscali.co.uk Meetings: Braunstone Civic Centre, Kingsway, Braunstone, Leicester, 4th Wednesday, September to May, 7.30 pm. Subscription: £5.00 per member.

LINCOLNSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mr Vernon Hancock, 79 Windermere Avenue, Scartho, Grimsby, Lincs, DN33 3DB. Tel: 01472 827861. Meetings: New Waltham Village Hall, Station Road, New Waltham, Grimsby, last Wednesday in most months, 7.30 pm. Group's website: <http://www.alpinegardeners.co.uk>

LONDON-CENTRAL: Hon. Sec: Ms Sue Morris, 23 Allison Road, London, N8 0AN. Tel: 020 8341 3262. E-mail: suemorris33@hotmail.com Meetings: Royal Horticultural Society, New Hall, Greycourt Street, London SW1, on 1st day of RHS Shows, September to June 6.15 pm. Programme on request. Visitors welcome.

LONDON-NORTH: Hon. Sec: Miss Valerie Holman, 26 Mayfield Avenue, Southgate, London, N14 6DU. Tel: 0208 886 1175. Meetings: September to April (excluding January), 1st Monday, (2nd if 1st is a Bank Holiday) 7.30 pm. at the Methodist Church Hall, Westpole Avenue, (Bramley Road end), Oakwood, near Oakwood Tube Station. May to July:- Sunday garden visits. Subscription: £10.00 per person, due on 1st January. Visitors £2.00 per meeting.

LONDON-WEST: Hon. Sec: John Humphries, Lodore, Star Hill, Hartley Wintney, RG27 8AQ. Tel: 01252 844078. E-mail: john.humphries@bull.co.uk Meetings: Horsenden Hall, Perivale Community Centre, Horsenden Lane South, Perivale, Middlesex, UB6 7NP, 8.00 for 8.15 pm., 4th Thursday, Sept. to Nov./January to June inclusive. [No meetings Dec., July or August]. Summer visits. Subscription:- £6.00; additional Family Member £3.50; Visitors £2.00.

MID-ANGLIA: Hon. Sec: Mrs Veronica Munson, The Priory, Flowton, Ipswich, IP8 4LH. Tel: 01473

Local Group News

658425. Meetings: Community House, Birdbrook, usually the 2nd Saturday each month. Garden meetings in Summer. Subscription: £2.00.

NORFOLK: Hon.Sec: Mrs Diane Blyth, 33 Stoke Road, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7NJ. Tel: 01508 494277. Meetings: Hetterset New Village Hall, Hetterset, Norwich, 3rd Wed at 7.30 pm., except January, July & August when meetings are held at different times and places. Subscription £5.00; Visitors £1.00.

NORTHAMPTON: Hon. Sec: Miss Sandra Adkins, 29 Tabard Gardens, Newport Pagnell, MK16 0LX. E-mail: sandra@sadkins.co.uk Meetings: Weston Favell Parish Hall, Northampton, 3rd Wednesday each month, (exc August) at 7.30pm. Subscription: £10.00 Family; £7.00 Single. Reduction for AGS Members: £8.00 Family; £6.00 Single.

NORTH EAST ENGLAND:

[Northumberland & Durham] Hon. Sec: Terry L Teal, Copse End, Ryton Village, Ryton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE40 3PZ. Tel: 0191 4132574. E-mail: t.teal@btinternet.com Meetings: St Mary's Church Hall, Ponteland, 2nd Monday in the month at 7.30 pm. Garden visits June & July. Subscription: £8.00.

NOTTINGHAM: Hon. Sec: Mr Alwyn Foster, Otterpool, 4 Hillcrest Gardens, Burton Joyce, Nottingham, NG14 5DD. Tel: 0115 9312571. Meetings: Wollaton Park Community Association, Community Centre, Harrow Road, Wollaton Park, Nottingham, NG8 1FG. 2nd Wednesday of month September to May at 7.30 pm. Subscription: £6.00; Family £9.00 plus a meeting charge of 50p per attendee. Visitors £1.00.

OXFORD & DISTRICT: Hon. Sec: Dr John Grimshaw, Sycamore Cottage, Colesbourne, Cheltenham, GL53 9NP. Tel: 01242 870567. Email: j.grimshaw@virgin.net Meetings: Exeter Hall, Kidlington, 2nd Wednesday of the month from October to March at 7.30pm. Garden visits in summer. Subscription: £5.00. Visitors most welcome.

SHROPSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Robert Llewelyn, 36 Wordsworth Way, Priorslee, Telford, TF2 9RW Tel: 01952 292442. Meetings: 3rd Monday, September to April exc. December & January, 7.30 pm. at the Darwin Community Centre, Frankwell, Shrewsbury.

SOMERSET: Hon. Sec: Sue Horswood, Freshfields, Fenny Bridges, Honiton, Devon, EX14 3BG. Tel: 01404 850868. E-mail: SKRAH@androsace.demon.co.uk Meetings: 4th Wednesday of month at 7.30 pm, The Frank Bond Community Centre, 84 Mountway Road, Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset, TAI 5DS. Subscription: £6.00; Family £10.00. Visitors £1.00.

SUFFOLK-IPSWICH: Hon. Sec: Mr J J R Pratt, 11 Priory Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 7NE. Tel/ Fax: 01394 286649. Email: jemanpratt@btinternet.com Meetings: Oddfellows Hall, High St., Ipswich, IP3 0QJ, last Wednesday, 7.15 pm., September to June, exc. December.

SURREY-EAST: Hon. Sec: Mr Mike P Morton, Cedarhurst, Kettlewell Hill, Horsell, Woking, Surrey, GU21 4JA. Tel: 01483 768047. Meetings: Christ Church Hall, Christ Church Road, Stamford Green, Epsom, KT19 8NE (¾ mile from Epsom Station, car park next to the Church), 1st Tuesday of every month 7.30 pm. Occasional garden visits and field trips. Subscription: £8.00.

WOKING-WEST SURREY: Hon. Sec: Mr Mike P Morton, Cedarhurst, Kettlewell Hill, Horsell, Woking, Surrey, GU21 4JA. Tel: 01483 768047. Meetings: Mayford Village Hall, Mayford, GU22 0NN. 1st Thursday, 7.30 pm., except June, July & August. Subscription: £5.00 Single; £8.00 Double or Family.

SUSSEX-WEALD: Hon. Sec: Temporary Contact: Ms Ailna Martin. Tel: AGS Centre, Pershore: 01386 554790. Meetings: 2nd Monday, 7.30 pm, September to May at the Village Hall, Hailsham Road, Herstmonceux, E. Sussex. Subscription: £7.50.

SUSSEX-WEST: Hon. Sec: Diann M Berry, 5 Balmoral Close, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 7XQ. Tel: 01243 786254. Meetings: Donnington Parish Hall, Donnington, Chichester, 7.30 pm., 2nd Monday, Sept. to April. Subscription: Single £6.00. Family £11.00.

Local Group News

WALES-NORTH: Hon. Sec: Mrs Pam Boardman, Bryn Llwyd, Rhosgadfan, Caernarfon, LL54 7LB. Tel: 01286 831194. Meetings: Held at the English Methodist Church, Llanfairfechan, normally 3rd Friday in month. [Note Venue: 11 March ~ The Len Beer Memorial Lecture, The Main Arts Lecture Theatre, College Road, Bangor]. Subscription: £4.00. Family £6.00.

WALES-SOUTH: Hon. Sec: Mrs R Wallis, Llwyn Ifan, Porthyrhyd, Carmarthen, SA32 8BP. Tel: 01267 275205. Meetings: Pencoed College, Nr Bridgend. Usually 2nd or 3rd Wed. or Fri. of Autumn & Spring months, 7.00 pm. Tel. for exact dates. Summer garden visits. Subscription: £3.00; Family £5.00; Visitors £1.00.

WARWICKSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mrs Jo Walker, 9 Bellamy Farm Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 3DH. Tel: 0121 744 3129. Meetings: Bishopton School, Drayton Avenue, Stratford-on-Avon, 7.30 pm., usually on 4th Tuesday, Sept. to May.

WILTSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mr Cliff Herbert 14 Meadway, Walwayne Court, Trowbridge, BA14 9TF. Email: cliff.herbert@agsgroups.org Meetings: Westbury Leigh Community Hall, on the main road through Westbury Leigh Village 7.00 for 7.30 pm, 2nd Friday of each month, September - May. Subscriptions: Single £5.00; Family £8.00; plus £1.00 per meeting when there is a speaker. New Members very welcome.

YORKSHIRE-WEST: Hon. Sec: Miss Liz Barber, 68 Eden Close, Woodthorpe, York, YO24 2RD. Tel: 01904 704459. Meetings: St Chad's Parish Centre, Otley Road, Leeds 16, 2nd Saturday, September to May at 2.30 pm. Subscription: £6.50; Family £10.00; Visitors £1.00.

Join Your Local Group This Year!

Lectures, Outings, Garden Visits, Plant Sales, Tables,
Help, Advice And Above All Friendship

OVERSEAS AGS GROUPS

AUSTRALIA

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

DENMARK

The contact for the Danish Group is Lis Nielsen, The Alpine Garden Society Denmark, Parkvej 168, DK-6710 Esbjerg. Email: lisbent@esenet.dk

HOLLAND

Secretary: Mr Aalt Musch, Nieuwendaal 47, 3985 AC Werkhoven, Netherlands.

NEW ZEALAND

President: Adrian Bliss, P O Box 2984, Christchurch, New Zealand. Fax 0064 3 3126696.
Email: janandadrianbliss@xtra.co.nz

ASSISTANCE FOR GROUPS

I have reproduced below a summary of the various forms of support available to groups from the main Society. If any groups wants more information about any of the items listed, please contact the Centre at Pershore.

- Publicity Posters – either pre-printed blanks for groups to overprint or if a Group supplies the text we can copy at the Centre.
- Publicity Boards & Photographs – available for loan to groups
- Free website hosting for groups and content management facility
- Handouts – help available with the design and copying of 'flyers'
- Local Group Flyers/Programmes – included in packs sent to new members (dependent upon groups providing information to the Centre)
- Speakers List – updated annually at the moment
- Advertising of local group events in 'Alpine News' and publication of group events on website
- Insurance cover – includes Group property and activities
- Group Stationery – Medals, Award Cards, Show Cards, Prize stickers, headed paper
- Mail Shots – mailing to selected post codes to publicise group activities
- Local Group Voucher Scheme – all new members receive a voucher from the Centre offering free membership of a local group for one year. The Centre reimburses the Group upon return of vouchers.
- AGS Centre & Garden open for group visits

Financial assistance is also be made available when funding permits:

Development Fund – from time to time the Society may open up the Fund for applications from groups and in the past funds have been provided to help groups with special projects as well as the purchase of equipment.

Hardship Fund – is designed to assist low income groups with the cost of a speaker.

Promotional Displays – small grants to assist with costs of displays mounted by groups aimed at promoting the group and the main Society.

Online Flower Show

The Online Flower Show for 2010 is currently accepting entries. You can submit pictures of your plants at Shows or in your garden. Plants exhibited must have been cultivated by the exhibitor and photographed during the last growing season. Details of how to participate in this event are posted on our website.



For more information please visit our website:
www.alpinegardensociety.net

THE ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

Annual Report & Accounts

OTHER OFFICERS 2010/2011

Director of the Society: MRS C J MCGREGOR

Editor: DR C GREY-WILSON VMH {Retiring in April 2011 [J FITZPATRICK with effect from June 2011 issue]}

Assistant Editor: R G ROLFE

Holding Trustees: CAPT P J ERSKINE CBE, RN, VMH, R J A LEEDS, DR L JOYCE.

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Treasurer: PROF C J SMITH CBE

Director of Publications: PROF J E G GOOD OBE

Director of Shows: R Drew (appointment to be ratified)

Director of Tours: M LINDOP

Image Library Manager: P G SHEASBY

Advertisement Manager: MRS J SLIMM

Chair of Committee: Vacancy

To retire in 2011: MRS L BIRCHALL, D K HASELGROVE, D MOUNTFORT, J NOAKES, B RUSS

To retire in 2012: MRS C SEYMOUR, T TEAL

To retire in 2013: DR G MAWSON, MRS J WALKER

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S STATEMENT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY



Independent auditor's statement to the Trustees of the Alpine Garden Society

We have examined the summary financial statement which comprises of the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 August 2010.

Respective responsibilities of the directors and the auditor

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees Annual Report.

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees Report of Alpine Garden Society for the year ended 31 August 2010.

J T Marston FCA
Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of
Kendall Wadley LLP

27 Sansome Walk
Worcester
WRI 1NU
25 October 2010

TREASURER'S REPORT ON THE SOCIETY'S CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR 2009-2010



General

The Consolidated Accounts include the combined income and expenditure accounts of the parent Society (the Alpine Garden Society) and its two subsidiary companies (AGS Publications Ltd and AGS Expeditions Ltd.) The full version of the Consolidated Accounts has been approved by Main Committee and will be sent to the Charity Commission in fulfilment of the Society's statutory obligations. In line with a previous decision made by the Society's Annual General Meeting (AGM), only a summarised version comprising the Statement of Financial Activities and the Consolidated Balance Sheet is presented to the AGM but will also be made more widely available in the Society's Newsletter and on its website. Any member interested in seeing a full set of the accounts may obtain one by making written application to the Society's Director.

Comments that follow relate to items in the full accounts and their accompanying notes where significant variations occur compared to the previous year or where attention is otherwise drawn to particular noteworthy features. If small differences occur between the comparative figures for 2008/2009 in these accounts and those published previously for that year, these may be due to late submission of information or the re-classification of sums by category.

The Society is grateful to its independent auditors, Messrs Kendall Wadley LLP, for preparation of the accounts and for advice.

2.Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2010

2.1 Incoming Resources

The total incoming resources for 2009/2010 amounted to £639,681, a significant increase over £474,258 last year. This is largely explained by legacies received (£164,268 compared with none in 2008/2009.) One of the legacies received has been placed in a restricted fund due to the terms of the bequest. The Society is immensely grateful to those individuals who have made donations or have remembered the AGS in their wills.

There has been little change in the income received from subscriptions (£145,600 in 2009/2010; £146,500 in 2008/2009.)

Income from investments is down (£61,079 against £81,462), which is partly due to the fact that some investments were sold during the year and legacies received were not available for investment until recently.

Trading income for AGS Expeditions Ltd was £170,617 (£136,041 in 2008/2009) and for AGS Publications Ltd was £45,052 (£48,861 in 2008/2009.) A total of £8,152 was contributed to the Society under deeds of covenant by these subsidiary companies (£17,107 in 2008/2009.)

2.2 Resources Expended

At £610,867, the total resources expended in 2009/2010 showed an increase over the figure of £536,507 for 2008/2009. Part of this increase is accounted for by the expenditure of the two trading companies (£204,587 compared with £167,796 in 2008/2009.) Other parts are spread over a variety of activities, for example covering the loss on a conference and making more awards and prizes. Staff costs were £106,177 compared with £104,251 in 2008/2009.

2.3 Net (Outgoing)/Incoming/ Resources for the Year

An excess of £28,814 has been recorded for this year compared with a deficit of £62,249 last year. This is mainly due to the legacies received.

2.4 Other Recognised Gains and Losses

A revaluation of trophies and medals during this year has identified an increase in their value by £32,363.

Some recovery has occurred in the nominal paper value of the Society's investments and a profit was made on investments sold; together these amount to £39,965

2.5 Net movement in Funds and Fund Balances at 31 August 2010

The value of the Society's assets increased by £101,142 (4.56%) over the year and now stands at a total of £2,318,769.

3. Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2010

This shows the make-up of the Society's current assets and liabilities. Fixed assets (£290,578) include the value of the lease on the Society's Headquarters Building, the fixtures and fittings therein, and its trophies, medals and library. A very small increase (0.56%) is shown in the value of the Society's investments.

Of the £78,591 held in stock, most can be attributed to publications. The amount due from debtors (£41,569) includes prepayments and income receivable but not physically received in the bank account (£17,500 of investment income held by the brokers falls into the latter category.) Cash at the bank is a high figure compared with last year because it includes legacy income waiting to be invested – simply a matter of timing!

The amount falling due to creditors (£117,698) is significantly larger than last year (£45,401) because approximately £75,000 has been received from delegates towards the 2011 Conference; this will appear as income in next year's accounts - after the Conference has been held.

The section on Income Funds shows the breakdown between Restricted, Designated and Other Funds.

4. Financial Strategy

As indicated in last year's report, it had become apparent that, as membership numbers were falling, current members' subscriptions have been subsidised by Society income that should more properly be spent on the Society's charitable objectives. An analysis was therefore undertaken, involving several long-standing AGS members, into the most appropriate apportionment of categories of expenditure according to the proportion to which they could be said to be of benefit primarily to current members or were more clearly supporting the longer term health and sustainability of the Society. This analysis has resulted in the decision to increase membership subscriptions by £3.00 per annum for most categories with effect from 1 January 2011. Unless membership numbers also increase, however, that will solve only half of the problem. In addition, expenditure needs to be re-balanced according to sources of income. To give but one example, too often in the past legacies have simply

been absorbed into the general running costs of the Society. This has led to successive deficits on the annual income and expenditure account being tolerated too readily. However, it is questionable whether those who make bequests really intended the funds to dribble away in this fashion rather than be put to a more concrete purpose. Also, the unpredictable timing and quantity of legacies should preclude them being relied upon to contribute to balancing the budget. Consequently, approval has been given to the establishment of a Major Projects Fund, into which will be channelled all legacies of more than £5000 (unless there are specific stipulations in the terms of the bequest.)

The Major Projects Fund will supplement the existing Development Fund, though the latter will in future receive its money from current income when this can be afforded. Past allocations from the Development Fund have included sums for the re-design of the Society's database, development of the website, additional pages in the Bulletin, digitisation of the slide collection and items of equipment for some Local Groups.

The two subsidiary companies form an important part of the Society's activities and, as can be seen from these and previous annual accounts, are often able to covenant money from their profits back to the AGS. However, from time to time they are dependent upon loans from the Society to facilitate their various projects before receiving income from sales or tours. Hitherto, these loans have been free of interest but our understanding is that this is no longer permissible and a rate of interest akin to the prevailing market rate will in future have to be charged.

5. Conclusion

Overall, the accounts show that the Society is in a healthy state, though the inherent imbalance between regular income and levels of expenditure has been masked, as often in the past, by an unusual (and most welcome) influx of legacies. If the quality and volume of services and activities enjoyed by members is to be sustained, particularly in the longer term, there would appear to be few solutions other than to overcome the lack of commitment by the current membership as a whole to the recruitment of new members.

**Colin Smith, Hon. Treasurer, AGS
November 2010**

Alpine Garden Society



Summarised statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 August 2010

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2010 £	Total 2009 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary income				
Subscriptions	145,600	-	145,600	146,500
Legacies receivable	148,248	16,020	164,268	-
Other voluntary income	19,804	-	19,804	24,513
Activities for generating funds				
Advertising income - Bulletins	10,832	-	10,832	13,775
Sponsors for major exhibits	-	-	-	-
Seed distributions	15,455	-	15,455	13,171
Other activities for generating funds income	6,974	-	6,974	9,935
Trading income from subsidiary companies	215,669	-	215,669	184,902
Investment income	61,079	-	61,079	81,462
Total incoming resources	623,661	16,020	639,681	474,258
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable activities				
Cost of generating funds				
Staff costs	106,177	-	106,177	104,251
Bulletins	111,394	-	111,394	109,274
Costs of major exhibits	10,802	-	10,802	16,812
Seed distribution costs	15,340	-	15,340	12,942
Other direct costs	80,032	11,012	91,044	68,771
Other support costs	61,893	-	61,893	50,590
Expenditure of subsidiary companies	204,587	-	204,587	167,796
Governance costs	9,580	50	9,630	6,071
Total resources expended	599,805	11,062	610,867	536,507
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	23,856	4,958	28,814	(62,249)
Other recognised gains and losses				
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets	32,363	-	32,363	-
Gains on investments	39,965	-	39,965	(189,403)
Net movement in funds	96,184	4,958	101,142	(251,652)
Funds balances at 1 September 2009	2,074,438	143,189	2,217,627	2,469,279
Fund balances at 31 August 2010	2,170,622	148,147	2,318,769	2,217,627

Alpine Garden Society



Summarised statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 August 2010

	2010		2009	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible assets	290,578		263,355	
Investments	1,790,173		1,780,208	
	<u>2,080,751</u>		<u>2,043,563</u>	
Current Assets				
Stocks	78,591		64,873	
Debtors	41,569		34,278	
Cash at bank and in hand	235,556		120,314	
	<u>355,716</u>		<u>219,465</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(117,698)</u>		<u>(45,401)</u>	
Net Current Assets		<u>238,018</u>		<u>174,064</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		<u><u>2,318,769</u></u>		<u><u>2,217,627</u></u>
Income Funds				
Restricted Funds:				
E F Hendry Bequest Fund	132,127		143,189	
Wilsher Fund	16,020		-	
	<u>148,147</u>		<u>143,189</u>	
Unrestricted Funds:				
Designated Funds	1,432,501		1,436,529	
Other charitable funds				
General Funds	35,899		3,817	
Revaluation Reserve	702,222		634,092	
	<u>2,170,622</u>		<u>2,074,438</u>	
		<u><u>2,318,769</u></u>		<u><u>2,217,627</u></u>

Trustees Statement

The summarised accounts contained in this report are extracted from the financial statements prepared by the Society and approved by the Trustees on 23 October 2010. The full financial statements were externally scrutinised by Kendall Wadley LLP the Society's statutory auditors, and given an unqualified opinion. The full financial statements will be submitted to the Charity Commission in due course.

The summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Society. For further information the Trustees Report, the full financial statements and the statutory auditors' report on those financial statements should be consulted. Copies can be obtained from:

A G S Centre
Avon Bank
Pershore
Worcestershire
WR10 3JP

Christine McGregor
(Director)

Post Conference Tour to Parnassos and the northern Greek Peloponnese

29th April-May 9th 2011

We are delighted to offer this eleven-day tour to Parnassos and the northern Greek Peloponnese, to be led by John Richards, former President of the Alpine Garden Society and author of *Mountain Flower Walks – The Greek Mainland*, published by the AGS.

The tour starts on April 29th 2011 at the magical town of Delphi, 'navel of the world', on the lower slopes of Parnassos. Beautiful plants occur on walls throughout the town, and we shall visit *Daphne jasminea* in its most accessible site. Driving up the mountain on good roads we shall see *Tulipa australis*, *Bellevalia ciliata*, *Iris attica*, three crocuses, three *corydalis*, two fritillaries and quantities of other bulbs. Delphi is a good orchid site and we will visit the ruins.

Driving to the Peloponnese, we aim to stay in the small town of Kalyvritia, and then move on to a superb hotel at Zarouchia, close to the source of the Styx. In this region, *Cyclamen peloponnesianum* and *Asperula arcadiensis* are widespread, and many rare alpine plants are washed down the Styx onto river gravels. Bulbs and alpine plants high on Chelmos are rich, and we will see *Crocus sieberi* 'tricolor', *C. olivieri*, *Colchicum triphyllum*, *Gymnospermum albertii* and much else. One excursion will take us to see the almost mythical *Adonis cyllenea* and we will visit the lake and ancient monastery of Pheneos. On the way to our last stop in the beautiful Venetian port of Nafplio we shall take in the little-known and superb ancient site of Nemea, full of orchids, and visit a site for the little-known *Biarum sprunerii*.

Cost of Tour – expected to be in the region of £1100. Single Supplement £150

Please contact AGS Centre, +44 (0)1386 554 790 or www.alpinegardensociety.net for more detailed information.



This tour is now open to all members

Order from book List



Dear Christo by Memories of Christopher Lloyd at Great Dixter

In Dear Christo, leading garden writers, visitors, photographers and friends share what Dixter means to them using words and images. This collection encapsulates what makes time in all gardens so irreplaceable [No 779 on list].



The Book of Little Hostas

by Kathy Guest Shadrack & Michael Shadrack

The Book of Little Hostas features a handpicked selection of diminutive hostas to help steer collectors toward the right plant for their needs [No 778 on list].



New Trees by John Grimshaw & Ross Bayton

This book documents the discovery of over 800 new introductions, supported by beautiful original photographs and line drawings. [No. 732 on list]

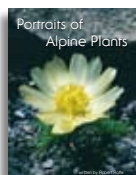


Flowers of Greece (set of 2 with DVD)

Volume 1 contains 2000 species, with 1700 colour photos

Volume 2 contains 2200 species with 1800 colour photos

The DVD ROM includes more than 13000 photos. [No. 733 on list]



Portraits of Alpine Plants by Robert Rolfe

This publication aims to illustrate this rich diversity, and contains plants from mountain ranges around the world. [No.33 on list]

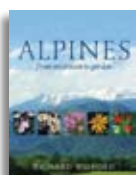


Bulbs of Greece (A Field Guide to the)

by C Grey-Wilson

A comprehensive guide to the bulbous plants of Greece, including all the islands. Simple descriptions and identifications keys to aid the reader.

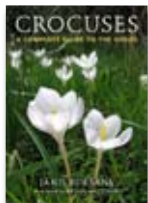
Profusely illustrated with numerous colour photographs. [No. 34 on list]



Alpines, from Mountain to Garden

by Richard Wilford

This new book takes a refreshing new perspective on these irresistible mountain dwellers by looking at their discovery and introduction into cultivation, the regions of the world they come from and how this needs to be taken into account when you plant them [No 772 on list]



Crocuses: A Complete Guide to the Genus by Jānis Rukšāns

Winsome, charming, and brilliant are just three of the adjectives that crocuses typically elicit from grateful, color-starved gardeners. Indeed, few flowers can rival crocuses for the cheer they bring to the barren, late-winter garden and for the affection in which they are held by millions of gardeners. But though they're viewed as an icon of early spring, crocuses aren't just one-season wonders: there are also dozens of striking autumn-blooming species that appear just when they're most needed, as summer's flowers wind down. And because many species originate in the Mediterranean basin, they're ideal for gardens in which summer irrigation has been reduced or eliminated.

In this comprehensive, up-to-date volume, bulb expert Jānis Rukšāns surveys all the known species in this remarkable genus, including those that have been discovered since the appearance of Brian Mathew's 1982 monograph. A seasoned plant explorer, Rukšāns has observed many species in the wild, and so is able to offer valuable insights into how they may best be grown. He also discusses their use in the garden, their botanical characteristics, and classification—all in nonspecialist language so that even readers without a botanical background can profit by his knowledge and broad experience.

Illustrated with 300 stunning photographs, this book will be indispensable for all those with a serious interest in crocuses, from collectors and bulb enthusiasts to nursery professionals and garden designers.

Hardcover 265mm x 185mm - 280 pages with 307 colour and 10 b/w photographs, and 4 drawings.

RRP £30.00 plus post and packaging.

We are able to offer it to: Members at a pre-publication price of UK £25.00

Overseas £29.00 (these prices includes post & packaging)

Jānis Rukšāns has been growing bulbs since age twelve and since 1991 has operated his own bulb nursery in his native Latvia, specializing in rare and unusual bulbs. He has taken part in several expeditions searching for new bulbs throughout Europe and Central Asia.

ORDER FORM FOR NEW BOOK OFFER

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INDIAN HIMALAYAS

**Saturday 2nd July – Sunday
24th July 2011 (23 days)**

**LEADERS: MARGARET
& DAVID THORNE**

Cost: circa £2,950

This Tour comprises two treks, both in scenically stunning and botanically rewarding locations in the Indian Himalayas. After 8 days exploring the Rupin and Nalgan Passes above the Baspa Valley, north-east of Shimla, we drive via the Jalori Pass to a comfortable hotel in Manali. From here we visit the Rohtang Pass by Land Cruiser, then trek for 4 days over the Hampta Pass. We follow in the footsteps of Henry and Margaret Taylor who have thoroughly explored all these areas, documented them well in past AGS and SRGC Journals and provided much valuable advice before we reconnoitred the Tour.

We expect to see all the exciting species described in the Taylors' articles which include *Androsace*, *Arenaria*, *Cardiocrinum*, *Corydalis*, *Cremanthodium*, *Iris*, *Lilium*, *Pedicularis*, *Potentilla*, *Primula*, *Rhodiola*, *Rhododendron*, *Saussurea*, *Saxifraga*, *Waldheimia* and a good selection of orchids.

The Tour will be limited to 20 members including leaders and should only be contemplated by the adventurous and fit, as it involves some long walking days to a maximum altitude of 5030m, and camping above 4000m.

The cost of the Tour includes all flights, land transportation by train (including the 'Toy Train' from Kolka to Shimla), coach and 4 wheel drive vehicles, the two treks, accommodation, and food apart from lunches and dinners in Delhi and Manali. A 2-day sightseeing extension, for visits to the Red Fort and Taj Mahal will be arranged at extra cost if there are sufficient members interested in this.



AGS TOUR TO SWITZERLAND - BERNESE OBERLAND

9-16 July 2011

TOUR LEADERS: JACKIE AND PETE MURRAY

Price: in the region of £1350 per person (London – London)

Single supplement: £ 215

Land tour price: £ to be confirmed (Zurich - Zurich)



Adelboden is a picturesque, traditional, Swiss mountain village in the heart of the Bernese Oberland, and is an ideal centre for a relaxed summer alpine wild flower holiday.

This is an excellent venue for a first visit to the Alps, but will also appeal to those who enjoy visiting the mountains. We will experience the full range of alpine habitats including woodlands, wet and dry alpine pastures, screes and snowmelts. The walking will be at a relaxed pace, with plenty of opportunity to stop and look at the flora, and for those who wish, to photograph the flowers or scenery.

Included in the holiday is a “Wanderpass” which offers unlimited access to the excellent local network of cable cars and buses in the Adelboden area, taking us up to the upper alpine pastures and screes without the need for very long walks uphill.

All of our previous trips to this area have proved very enjoyable, with wonderful wild flowers and beautiful views, with plenty of butterflies and birds which will appeal to those with a broader natural history interest. We have found the Hotel Bristol welcoming, comfortable, and with good food. The hotel is very conveniently near to the village

centre, with the bus and cable car stations within 150 metres

We think you will enjoy this holiday if you like gentle day walks exploring for plants, particularly alpine, and would like to visit one of the lesser-known areas in this beautiful part of Switzerland, or have an interest in photography - but not necessarily all three!

Each evening we will have the opportunity to discuss the finds of the day. Pete will also offer some informal photography sessions, and will share his photographic expertise, whatever your camera or experience.

Leaders and guides

Jackie and Pete Murray have a wealth of botanical knowledge and travel experience between them. They have led holidays for over 15 years.

Jackie is a keen alpine and snowdrop grower and shows alpine plants. She has been awarded an AGS Farrer Medal, and AGS Silver Medals in the growing and artistic (photographic) sections.

Pete is skilled in botanical photography and has gained AGS (artistic) and RHS gold medals for his photographs of alpine. He runs photographic courses for digital and film photographers at and near his home in west Lincolnshire.

Pete and Jackie have been visiting the Adelboden area for over 20 years, and have an extensive knowledge of the plant and photographic locations in these mountains.

About the holiday

We will begin our holiday by flying from London to Zurich and then transfer by coach to Adelboden.

The first plants will be seen having taken a short cable car ride to the alpine ridge behind the village. This offers panoramic views and a glimpse of many of the places we will visit during the week. The meadows are a patchwork of summer alpine flowers at this time, studded with *Campanula barbata* (in blue and white forms), and vivid blue *Gentians*. The track along the ridge has a botanical trail which is an ideal introduction to the flora, and on another day we will visit to the small mountainside botanic garden at Horeli. As we make use of the way-marked lanes and paths back to Adelboden, we will have fine views and can enjoy the summer pastoral scenes, the butterflies and birds, and look for the woodland orchids such as *Epipactis* and *Neottia*.

We will also venture higher to the screes and snowmelt areas. A short bus trip up the Boden valley and a cable car takes us to the upland basin of Engstligenalp, where we



will follow the tracks through the meadows ascending towards the Ammertepass. Accompanied by the sound of cow bells we should find *Primula farinosa*, black-vanilla orchid, *Nigretella nigra*, *Gentiana verna* in the orchid rich meadows. Higher we will find *Soldanella alpina* and *Ranunculus alpestris*, *R. aconitifolius* and *R. montanus* around the snowmelts with a backdrop the snow capped Wildstrubel. There will be a chance to see *Geum reptans* and *Thlaspe rotundifolium* on the stabilised screes.

Our valley walks will also take us into the damper wooded areas where we should find *Listera ovata* and *Parnassia palustris* amongst many others. There will be time to botanise, take photographs of the spectacular waterfalls or just admire the wonderful scenery. Refreshment stops at 'mountain huts' may be taken when available.

Local transport

Transfers from and to the airport will be by coach (about 1 and a half hours each way). We will use our Wanderpass (included in the holiday price) to make full use of the excellent local transport, by cable car or bus, for our daily excursions.

Accommodation & meals

We stay at the excellent 3-star Hotel Bristol, situated in a quiet position but conveniently close to the centre of the traditional Swiss settlement of Adelboden. The hotel is renowned for its convivial atmosphere good food, with English speaking staff. Rooms have en-suite facilities with bath and/or shower. We will be staying on a half board basis which includes breakfast and evening meals at the hotel. Picnic lunches, for which items can be purchased in the town, will be taken on most days.

Fitness and health

We shall take full day excursions after a short cable car and or bus rides.

Our walks will be at a gentle pace, to enjoy and photograph the flowers or scenery. We shall use cable cars to reach most of the higher areas avoiding the need for long and arduous uphill climbs at the start of the day.

Walks will usually be on paths or areas adjacent to paths. You need to be reasonably sure-footed as it is necessary to walk on rougher ground to see the best of the flowers. The length of time spent walking will depend on the interests and wishes of the group, but most walks are circular or there and back. Walks are always adjusted according to the group and the prevailing weather conditions. Lengths of walks will differ from day to day, with cable car return options, and a length up to 5 to 6 miles maximum. Full waterproofs (Gortex/breathable) and walking boots will be required for our mountain excursions.

Please note that we shall be at high altitude. Adelboden is at 4500' and our excursions are up to 10,000'. While most people will experience no problem at all with this, those with any breathing or heart conditions must consult their doctor before making a booking.

You will need a day rucksack to carry full waterproofs/warm clothing, lunch and water, and for any personal items needed for the day.

For further information on this tour please contact AGS Centre.

Tel: 01386 554790 or email: ags@alpinegardensociety.net

Trilliums of Ontario

9th - 23rd May 2011

Cost= £3195, Toronto to Toronto £2745, Single Supplement = £290

Leaders: Owen Mountford & Terry Underhill

Between winter snows and summer leaf-burst there's a magical time in Ontario's woodlands - the great spring flower show. The Provincial flower, *Trillium grandiflorum*, blooms throughout in magnificent stands of white and green, with dark red *Trillium erectum*, and plentiful yellow *Erythroniums*. The Bruce Peninsula's limestone alvars are home to Goldthread, *Clintonia*, Striped Coralroot and Dwarf Lake Irises, whilst exquisite Calypso Orchids nestle amongst the mosses of Flowerpot Island. Tom Thomson's evocative Algonquian landscapes captured what for many is the perfect tranquillity of the Canadian Backwoods, and in these very woods we'll encounter Pitcher Plants, *Dicentras*, *Gaywings*, *Trailing Arbutus*, and fantastic shows of Painted Trilliums. Further south, the waters' tumultuous descent over Niagara Falls is hardly calmed through the deep gorge below. Here forests of the Carolinian realm thrive on the warm slopes and are rich in spring ephemerals such as abundant Trilliums, *Twisted-Stalks/Uvularia's* and *Cucumber-roots*, and there's *Jack-in-the-Pulpits*, all sorts of *Violets*, *Foamflowers* and stands of lovely *Aquilegias*. Fauna will include Black Bears and Moose, and everywhere colourful warblers sing amongst some of the finest flowery woodlands in North America.



If you are interested in joining any of the joint tours and would like further information and a detailed itinerary please contact Greentours – T: **01298 83563** or E: enquiries@greentours.co.uk

Oncocyclus Irises of Turkey & Lebanon

3rd - 17th May 2011

Cost from UK = £2695, Cost Beirut to Van = £2485, Single Supplement = £225

Leaders: Ian Green, Kate Clow & Seda Soylu

Irises are amongst the world's most beautiful plants and for many the *crème de la crème* of this genus are the fabulous *Oncocyclus*. Their improbably large blooms are a feature of some of the Middle-East's finest botanical areas. This tour takes us to strikingly beautiful Lebanon, now again welcoming tourists, where the cedar forests host fantastic purple-lined *Iris cedretii*, stunning pale *Iris lortetii* and impressive *Iris westii*. Elegant *Iris sofarana* is found on the alpine slopes of ten thousand foot Qurnat as-Sawda and Mount Hermon. Between cedars and maquis on the slopes of Ehden are Komper's Orchid, whilst on the edge of the Great Rift at Yammouneh are *Allium libani* and *Himantoglossum affine*.

Moving into Turkey we'll find shapely *Iris sprengeri* near Nigde before spending nine days moving steadily eastwards visiting populations of variable *Iris sari*, local *Iris kirkwoodii* and some magnificent stands of one of the finest of them all, silken *Iris gatesii*. We finish around gorgeous Lake Van where magnificent *Iris iberica* is joined by blue *Iris barnumae* and furry-falled *Iris paradoxa*. An abundance of superb bulbs en route!



Pyrenees

10th - 23rd June 2011

Cost=£2565, Toulouse to Toulouse £2365, Single Supplement = £225

Leaders: Paul Cardy & Tristan Lafranchis

We start our exploration of the wild and craggy Pyrenees in verdant Tor, close to the Andorran border, and in the magnificent 'enchanted mountains' of Aigues Tortes, one of Spain's most beautiful National Parks. Apollos float over carpets of yellow *Vitaliana*, *Viola cornuta*, and elegant Snowbells. The two large trumpet gentians/*Gentiana acaulis* and *Gentiana alpina* offer their magnificent blue trumpets in abundance and we'll see plenty of smaller *Gentiana*s too. Four pink *Primula* species make a fine show along with *Polygalas* and several fine *Sempervivums*. Lammergeiers cruise the blue skies while white Pyrenean *Saxifrages* erupt from cliffs like miniature waterfalls and lovely blue *Ramonda myconi* forms pretty gardens on wet rockfaces. On the French side we'll explore the magical Cirque de Gavarnie and the Neouvielle, a land of alpine grasslands, crystal clear lakes, forests of Beech and Silver Fir and snow-capped mountains. Ptarmigan and Alpine Accentors inhabit passes where *Androsaces* and *Saxifrages* cling tightly to rocks, the former including *chamaejasme/villosa/pyrenaica* and *carnea/subspecies/laggeri/Nigritella austriaca* is abundant in meadows with *Pulsatillas*, *Aconitums*, *Globeflowers* and white *Ranunculus* species.



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Autumn Bulbs of Jordan

24th November 2011 - 3rd December 2011

Cost= £2195, Amman to Amman £1795, Single Supplement = £165

Leaders: Oron Peri & Ian Bennialick

Forming the eastern margin of the deep rift that descends to over a thousand feet below sea level on the shores of the Dead Sea are the mountains of Western Jordan, an area with a rich and distinctive flora set amid stunning landscapes. Surrounding the hilltop villages are terraces which in the cool of the desert winter host abundant bulbous species, most notably Crocuses. We'll see elegant *Crocus aleppicus*, lots of *Crocus hyemalis*, newly described *Crocus naqabensis* and the lovely *Crocus moabiticus*. We'll visit a number of Jordan's archaeological sites, most of them excellent areas for flowers, and in particular magnificent Petra, one of the world's most superlative historical sites. The beautiful sandstone mountains surrounding Petra are peppered with *Biarums* as well as *Colchicum ritchii* and *Colchicum heirosolymitana*. Delicate *Bellevalia desertorum* blooms with *Androcymbium palaestinum* and we'll look for rare *Iris postii* whilst much commoner are both *Crocus cancellatus* and *Colchicum brachyphyllum*.



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Conference 2011 The 8th International Rock Garden Conference

Alpines without Frontiers

BOOKING FORM

Will take place in Nottingham at the East Midlands Conference Centre from **Thursday, 14 April to Sunday, 17 April 2011**. The Conference Centre has excellent facilities with regard to both space, as well as audio and projection equipment.

You may book by completing this form or alternatively book on-line through the AGS website (www.alpinegardensociety.net)

Residential Rates: £599 per person

(The above price is inclusive of 3 nights accommodation. The costs include morning and afternoon refreshments, plus breakfast on Friday, Saturday & Sunday mornings, lunch on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, together with evening meal on Thursday and Friday. A formal Conference Dinner will be held on Saturday evening, after which Roy Lancaster will take to the stage. (All included in Residential Rate.)

Day Delegate Rate £125 per person

(Day Delegate rates include lunch, morning and afternoon refreshments but not dinner.)

Tick relevant box:

- Friday
 Saturday
 Sunday

Please apply to AGS Centre for details. If you are interested in booking an additional nights' accommodation, or if you would like information about alternative hotel accommodation in the area, please contact AGS Centre for details.

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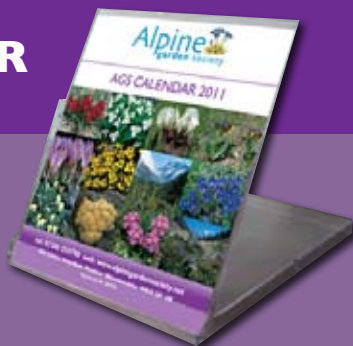
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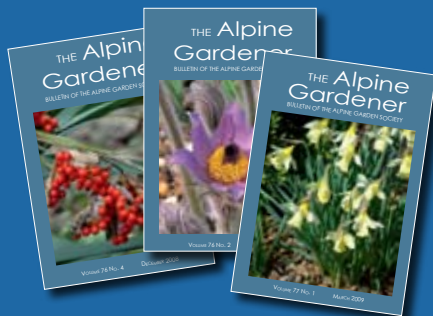
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