

Alpine news

BIG ideas for small plants!

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society

2011 8th International Rock Garden Conference - Additional Speakers

This month's issue of *The Alpine Gardener* contains a number of tributes to Jim Archibald, whom we had been very much looking forward to hear delivering his lecture, 'Beyond the Last Frontiers', next April in Nottingham. Very sadly, this is not to be. It was Jim's express wish that Henrik Zetterlund, of Goteborg Botanic Garden, Sweden, take his place. Henrik is an inspirational speaker and a man whose wide-ranging botanical travels have been inspired by his late friend Jim. Toshio Yoshida will be travelling from much further afield (Japan) to give an equally exciting lecture on the flora of the Himalaya. He has unrivalled experience of the whole range, having ventured to rarely-visited parts on many occasions, covering their whole length in sum. 'Endemism in Sino-Himalayan Alpines' will now appear in the programme on Friday, 15 April. This is a rare opportunity to hear Toshio speak about high alpine genera such as *Meconopsis*, *Primula* and *Androsace*: his photographs frequently draw superlatives, and his presence underlines the international complexion of this gathering.



New AGS 2011 Calendar

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW
See inside for details on pg 8



'The Alpine Gardener'

Society Appoints New Editorial Team

Our current Editor, Dr Christopher Grey-Wilson, retires in April 2011. The Society has appointed a new Editorial Team – our new Editor is John Fitzpatrick who has 35 years experience as a journalist and editor working for national publications. Robert Rolfe is taking on the new role of Associate Editor. Robert is well known in the Society, having been Assistant Editor for a number of years.



Local Group Successes - Congratulations to the South Lancashire Group who have staged yet another Gold Medal winning exhibit at the Southport Flower Show. In addition the Shropshire Group put together a very successful first time exhibit at the Shrewsbury Flower Show and received a 'Highly Commended'. Our Somerset Group also staged a display at the Taunton Flower show, attracting a large amount of interest. Well done to all of these groups who have helped promote the Society and attract new members.

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Noticeboard

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 6 November 2010

Notice is Hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Alpine Garden Society will be held at 11.00 am on Saturday, 6 November 2010 at the Stratford Manor Hotel, Warwick Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 0PY.

(The Hotel is situated M40, Junction 15 the A46 to Stratford, 1st roundabout take A439 to Town Centre. Stratford Manor 1 mile on left).

[See Map]



AGENDA

1. To receive and confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on 7 November 2009.
2. To receive the Report of the Board of Trustees.
3. To receive the Hon. Treasurer's Report.
4. To elect the President and Officers to serve for the ensuing year, there being no other nominations for these posts (see note 1 below).
5. To elect **THREE** Members of Committee to serve for **THREE** years (see note 2 below).
6. To declare the appointment of Messrs Kendall Wadley of Worcester, as the Society's Auditors for the ensuing year, there being no other nominations for this appointment.
7. Any other items of business as notified to the President/Society Director – in writing, no later than two weeks prior to the meeting.
8. Presentation of Awards: to present Society Literary Awards, Local Group Awards, Website Award, The Ferrier Charlton Award, Awards of Honour, and The Lyttel Trophy.

Notes on Election of Officers and Members of the Trustee Board

(1) All the Officers retire annually but are eligible for re-election, where stated, the following are willing to serve in 2010/2011: Treasurer (Professor Colin J Smith, CBE); Director of Publications (Professor John E Good, OBE); Director of Tours (Martin Lindop); Webmaster (Jim McGregor); Advertisement Manager (Julie Slimm); Slide Librarian (Peter G Sheasby); All Honorary Officers listed have agreed to stand for re-election en bloc at the Annual General Meeting. As no further nominations have been received, no election will be held.

Director of shows vacancy. At the time of going to press there are no nominations for the director of shows.

(2) In accordance with rule 18, five Members of the Committee retire annually and are not eligible for re-election for one year. Three nominations have been received for new members of the Trustee Board and these are:

Dr Geoff Mawson, OBE (Dronfield)

Proposed by Peter Erskine, seconded by Geoff Rollinson

Geoff's interest in alpine plants has stretched over thirty years, strongly fostered by numerous visits to various alpine regions, and (since the early 1980's) through exhibiting at AGS Shows. He is deeply involved in the latter, as an exhibitor, as a judge and as an Assistant Director of Shows, and is a National Collection holder for the genus *Lewisia*. Geoff was appointed head teacher of a sizeable Sheffield school in 1982 and has worked in education all his professional life. Latterly he was a consultant head teacher, specializing in the education of young children, and those in mainstream schools with special educational needs. He was proud to receive an OBE for this work in 2005. Although recently retired, Geoff carries out bird and plant inspections for DEFRA, and also does voluntary work. He feels that his long experience of leadership, his knowledge of science and nature and his long association with the Alpine Garden society equips him to make a worthwhile contribution as a member of the main Committee.

Mrs Jo Walker (Solihull)

Proposed by Peter Erskine, seconded by Brian Mathew

Jo is a longstanding member of the AGS who has been active locally, in the Birmingham area, and nationally as a past Member of Committee. She successfully established and then ran our Malvern Show for a number of years, but is also very familiar with the affairs of Local Groups and with the wider responsibilities that fall on Committee members. She understands the duties of being a Trustee of the Society and has given careful consideration to the time and commitments involved. She would bring to the Committee a wide range of practical experience.

As there are no further nominations, no election will be held at the AGM on Saturday 6 November 2010, and the above named will serve for the period 2010 – 2013.

Noticeboard

PROGRAMME FOR THE AGM

10.30	Coffee	14.00	The E. B. Anderson Memorial Lecture, by Helen Dillon, entitled 'Dig it Up and Throw it Away'
11.00	Annual General Meeting	15.30	Afternoon Tea and Disperse
12.30	Lunch		
13.30	Presentation of Show Awards		

Catering - A two course Hot & Cold Buffet lunch will be available served in the Restaurant. (Sample menu: Chicken A-La-King/Oriental Vegetable Stir Fry, also cold meats, fish and vegetarian options, selection of salads and desserts). The cost will be £15.00 per head (including VAT). Bookings must be accompanied by a cheque payable to the "Alpine Garden Society" and should be sent to the AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore WR10 3JP by Friday 15 October 2010. Your pre-booked lunch tickets will be available for collection from the AGS Book Sales stand on the day. Morning coffee and afternoon tea are provided free of charge.

Plant Sales – Members plant sales table will be available.

Car Parking – The hotel has car parking for approximately 200 cars.

ANNUAL AWARDS FOR 2010

Lyttel Trophy

The Society's premier award to those who have made an outstanding contribution to the world of alpine plants.

Dr Vojtěch Holubec

Vojtěch Holubec has been at the forefront of Czech alpine gardening for some years, but he is moreover a figure of international renown whose acclaimed lectures are very fluently delivered to audiences far and wide. (His ability to speak several languages has given him access to important floras not intelligible to most rock gardeners. This has greatly benefited our collective knowledge of the mountain plants of the Tien Shan, Kamchatka and the Caucasus – on which he has co-authored an important work, 'The Caucasus and its Flowers').

The seedlist that he issues annually is a prime source of high alpine, and unfailingly offers an exciting, diverse range of species. His work as an agricultural botanist, and his apparent yen to visit every single one of the world's mountain ranges, have taken him repeatedly to places little visited by his contemporaries, and he has made many important plant introductions from seed. Some of these – the Caucasian *Saxifraga x dinninaris* for example – are new to science, and he has described them himself. Various Chinese provinces, Tibet, Sikkim, Uzbekistan through to Kyrgyzstan, much of Turkey, Iran, the Caucasus, mountain ranges through Europe, the Rocky Mts, Patagonia: his energetic travels have taken him to the highest parts, as his writing, lectures and photographs (his mountainscapes in particular are exemplary) attest.

His garden on the outskirts of Prague is remarkable, and intelligently planted throughout; here is the most eclectic collection of dwarf, hardy plants imaginable – an immaculate grouping of witches' broom conifers (an early enthusiasm), Tibetan gentians growing on damp, shaded, near-vertical banks, and rarities aplenty thriving and in character atop carefully constructed pinnacles and colonizing seemingly natural screes. It is a model of how a rock garden should look.

In 2004 he was elected President of the Prague Rock Garden Club and he also helped to mastermind the very successful First International Czech Alpine Plant Conference, held at Beroun. Vojtěch is a distinguished, very knowledgeable, persuasive ambassador on all matters relating to alpine plants.

Sir William & Lady Lawrence Award

An international Award given to someone under 35 years of age who has made a contribution to work with alpinism - cultivation, research etc. - Not Awarded

Award of Honour

This award recognizes sterling work undertaken on behalf of the Society, not necessarily during the year, but over a period of time

Jon Evans – works tirelessly on behalf of the Society. He is best-known to most members for his superlative photographic displays at AGS Shows in various parts of the country. These are well thought out and highly instructive and his recent display of 'Alpines in Close-up' exemplified this. His advice to the Director of Shows on the development of the Photography Classes at shows has been invaluable. Jon has also recently taken on the task of Show Secretary at the notoriously difficult London Show.

Jon's most important contribution by far to the work of the Society has been to take on the responsibility for organizing the Society's rapidly growing collection of digital images, initially concentrating on the images taken at shows. This has involved the development of systems for cataloguing and indexing these images (by no means an easy task). Jon's work in this area has greatly assisted the lives of the Show Report Co-ordinator, the Webmaster, and the Editor and Assistant Editor of The Alpine Gardener.

Doreen & Eric Webster – Doreen and Eric instigated the Loughborough Spring Show nearly 20 years ago, in 1991, and have run it meticulously ever since. In 1995 they pioneered the Society's first non-competitive display at the same venue but a month earlier. In 2005 they uniquely took on the challenge of a third event, the Loughborough Autumn Show, which replaced the show previously held in the Wirral.

Doreen has been a very active member of the Derby, Nottingham and Leicestershire local groups for almost 30 years and has taken on the roles of Chair, Programme Secretary and Treasurer, sometimes simultaneously between two groups. Eric Webster's professional background has benefitted the Society in the photographic competition (which he has frequently judged) and as an occasional show photographer. Few have served the Society so actively and so sustainably.

Noticeboard

The Ferrier Charlton Award

This award recognises outstanding work for the Society in an administrative or managerial capacity.

Jeremy Pratt held the post of Advertisements Manager in the Society for nine years. He was responsible for all the administrative work associated with the advertisements featured in The Alpine Gardener. This involved liaising directly with clients regarding their requirements and ensuring that all adverts were compiled promptly and accurately ready for publication each quarter. This necessitated working to tight deadlines, together with an eye for detail and also maintaining good relationships with our advertisers. Jeremy was extremely dedicated in his work and made sure that the operation ran smoothly throughout the time he was in post.

The Kath Dryden Award

*This award recognises meritorious work and expertise in advancing our knowledge and understanding of the cultivation of a genus or group of alpine plants - **Not Awarded***

Local Group Awards

These awards 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.

Roger Beecham – has been a member for over 20 years and Chairman of the South Lancs Group for three years. For the last ten years he has been Show Secretary for the AGS national Show at Southport, which he has run extremely efficiently. He is also a regular exhibitor at AGS Shows and obtained two Farrer Medals and a Gold Merit Medal. As part of his enthusiasm for showing Roger has introduced a successful 'Mini-Show' to encourage local group members to gain experience in showing. He opens up the hall for the regular monthly group meetings, clears up afterwards, provides plants for the sales table and takes responsibility for the group projector.

Outside the Group he opens his own garden to the general public on a regular basis. He makes a valuable contribution to the display staged by the Group at the Southport Flower Show each year, as well as speaking to the visitors and dealing with publicity.

Margaret Glynn – has been an outstanding Group Officer for many decades having served as both Chair and Treasurer. She has diligently and with great efficiency looked after the group investments and finances, as well as instigating travel awards and prizes to students at Greenmount Horticultural College. Margaret has kindly extended the greatest possible hospitality to AGS visitors, including Presidents, judges and on two occasions entertained the entire Joint Rock Garden Plant Committee. For many years Margaret has organized an annual 4/5 day gardening trip for members to the ROI, Scotland, England and on two occasions the Czech Republic. Margaret has encouraged group members and the public to extend their knowledge and interest in new ways and methods of growing alpinists, having invited a Czech expert to visit Northern Ireland and construct several crevice gardens (including one at Greenmount College). She has an extensive well planted garden which is a Mecca to gardeners from around the world and has kindly allowed her garden to be used for AGS group visits, gardening demonstrations and Group fund raising activities.

Noticeboard

Elsie Willett – Elsie and her husband Ivan joined the AGS Bedfordshire Group in the late eighties, soon after it started. She has supported the Group through a number of minor roles and volunteered to join the Group Committee in 1995 where she took on the roles of Secretary and Show Secretary. She has had responsibility for arranging group meetings and running eleven Group shows. In addition she has also written over 130 newsletters for the group.

Elsie's activities are not confined to the Bedfordshire Group. She has given a number of alpine talks to other local gardening groups, advocating the benefits of the Society. On a national level she has supported the Society with many of its activities. At the many AGS national shows she attends Elsie has been a steward and helped with the AGS publicity stand. In recent years she has also helped on the Society's stand at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show selling books and more importantly helping to recruit new members. Elsie does everything she can to help support her fellow alpine growers and promote the Society.

Website Award to recognise the best contribution to the Society's website during 2010

Professor John Richards – Since his retirement as President in 2006, Jon has continued to serve the Society by keeping Website Readers entertained with a weekly blog from his Northumberland Garden. In the year 2009 covered by this award, the 35 entries in the Blog ranged from the first flowers of *Primula irregularis* appearing on 4 January, though to spectacular pictures of his garden under a blanket of snow on 29 December. In between, we were presented with a superb range of alpines and information about how he grows them. John has also contributed to other areas on the website by answering questions put forward by other members. He is fully deserving of this award in recognition of the tremendous amount of time and energy he has devoted to his articles on our website.

LITERARY AWARDS

The Clarence Elliott Memorial Award

Riding the Storm [Vol. 77 June 2009: pp 227-238] by John Watson

The Lionel & Joyce Bacon Award

Success with Seed [Vol. 77 September 2009: pp 299-311] by Tim Ingram



Items for the Newsletter and Copy Dates

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

Deadline for the December issue is 5 November 2010

Noticeboard

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 2010 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 Everson, Rock Garden Team Leader, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond TW9 3AB, Email: j.everson@kew.org Tel: 0208 3325585.

New AGS 2011 Calendar - Order your copy now

The 13 page calendar comes in a neat CD style case which will look great on your table or desk. £4.99 each or two for £8.00. For more details visit the website or contact AGS centre.



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

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.

OBITUARIES

The Society has been informed of the sad death of the following members:

Carol McCutcheon - Farrer/Forest Medalist from the Ulster Group who died in July. Carol was a superb plants woman, a fine artist and excellent needlewoman. The Society's condolences are sent to her husband, family and all friends.

Judy Macalister-Passauer - A Past President and Life member of the AGS Victorian Group. She was very knowledgeable about plants but most importantly was the way she encouraged new members to participate in the Group. Judy will be greatly missed.

Philip Wood - previous Manager and Director of the former Slieve Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down. N. Ireland died aged 91 on 21 June after a long illness. The Society's condolences are sent to Philip's family and friends.

Seed Exchange 2010/2011

Exciting News for this Year's Seed Exchange Distribution

No 59 2010/2011

This year members will have a choice of either ordering their seed on-line or by the usual postal system. Details are as follows:

On-Line Ordering - New system introduced last year will enable you to order and pay for your seed on-line. This system worked well and was very well received with 1/3 of orders coming in this way.

Seed List

Ordering by Post - If you wish to order by post, as in the past, simply complete and return your form as indicated. Everyone who donates seed this year (2010/2011) and all those who ordered seed last year (2009/2010) will automatically receive a Seed List, anyone else, including Overseas and UK members, who wish to receive a copy of the Seed List in November 2010 must apply to: Alpine Garden Society, AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcestershire, WR10 3JP. Email: ags@alpinegardensociety.net before 9th November 2010. No envelope, label or stamp is required.

To ensure fairness

- All Orders will be picked in strict rotation with **day one email orders** and **day one postal orders** being grouped together so you are in no way disadvantaged if you choose to order by post in the usual way.

Donors

- As usual, donors will get priority over non-donors and will receive an increased allocation at ordering time.
- To qualify for donor status you will need to send in at least **7 different species** preferably suitable for the rock garden or alpine house before **11 October 2010**.
- Details of how to donate and where to send your donation were included in the June newsletter and the information is also available on the AGS website.

Please consider donating, even small quantities, as you may be the only person sending that particular species in!

Volunteer Help Required

Packing Seed - Volunteers are needed to help with packing of seed. The seed will be posted to you with full instructions on how to complete the job. You will be able to pack seed in your own home during the last week of October and through November.

Making up/filling of seed orders - Volunteers are also needed to help with the making up of seed orders received from members. This takes place at AGS Centre during December and the first two weeks of January. You may like to make up a car load of helpers from your local group and come over to Pershore for a day to help? Drinks (non-alcoholic) are provided, plus excellent cake!

Regulations for US Members wishing to order seed through the Seed Distribution

US members who wish to order seed from the AGS seed distribution must send in an Import Permit with their order. If you did not order seed last year, you will need to apply for a new permit and send this in with their order. The permits are available from the US Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and this means that we no longer need to send seed out with a phytosanitary certificate.

Permits are free and will be valid for 3 years. Details about the permit can be found at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_imports/smalllots_seed.shtml

To apply for a permit on-line, go to

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/permits/ppq_epermits.shtml

and click on PPQ 587 – Application to import plants and plant products – where you will be then able to register and then apply on-line for a permit. Or you can download PPQ Form 587, print and fill it out. The completed and signed application needs to be sent to the address at the end of the instructions. You will then be sent a permit to import small lots of seed and several green and yellow mailing labels, with the address of the Inspection Station already printed on them.

To order seeds from the AGS seed exchange, you will need to send with your seed order a photocopy of your import permit and one green and yellow label for every 50 packets or less that you order (50 - 100 packets will require 2 permits and 2 green and yellow labels, etc). You do not need to provide an address label. Please consult the lists of seeds that are not permitted under the permit by referring to the lists on the website. AGS Seed distribution team will not send banned seed and will substitute another seed from your order, so it would be helpful if you refer to the lists in advance.

The AGS Seed Distribution team will place inside the package with your seeds: a list of your seed order according to the requirements on the permit, the copy of your permit and a printed label with your name and address. The Distribution team will paste the green and yellow label on the outside, to direct the package to the Inspection Station. At the Station, your seeds will be checked and then resealed, and the mailing label will be pasted on the outside of the shipment. The whole thing will be returned to the mail system, and forwarded to you.

Details of these arrangements will also be provided with the seed list, but bear in mind that when you receive the list you will not have time to apply for your permit, you need to do this **now**.

If you are interested in helping with either packing or filling of seed orders, have any questions regarding the seed exchange or on-line ordering, please contact Colin Dolding on 01684 594204 or email on colin.dolding@agsgroups.org



What's On

BRISTOL GROUP CONFERENCE

30th One Day Conference – Saturday 9th October 2010

The venue Red Maids' School, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3AW. The Speakers will be Joanne Everson (Kew), John Grimshaw, Tim Lever (Aberconwy) and Martin Sheader. Plant Stalls include Aberconwy, Kevin Hughes (Heale Plant Centre), Parham Bungalow Plants and the Bristol Group implemented by AGS Members. Refreshments throughout the day from the School Chef. For further information please contact Mike Taylor, 96 Reedley Road, Bristol BS9 3TA. Tel. 0117 9686654.

WILTSHIRE GROUP

Mary Bing Lecture - Friday 8th October 2010

This Annual Lecture will be held at Westbury Leigh Community Hall, Westbury Leigh Village, Westbury. BA13 3SQ. Vic Aspland will be speaking on 'Flora of the Swiss Alps'.

Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. There will also be a Plant Sale at 9.00pm with a raffle and tombola during the evening with Refreshments. An on the door charge of £1 per person. For further information contact: Cliff Herbert, 14, Meadway, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. BA14 9TF. Tel. 01225 775729

Birmingham and District Group

20th Annual Roy Elliott Memorial Lecture - 20 November 2010

The 20th Annual Roy Elliott Memorial Lecture will be held at 2.00pm on Saturday 20 November 2010 at the Holy Name Parish Hall, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 6LN.

The main lecture will be by Vojtěch Holubec: 'My Rock Garden and Plants'. This will be preceded by the photographic lecture, this year by Diane Clement: 'Digital Tips and Tricks'. Doors will open at 1.00 pm for the sale of plants. All are welcome, entrance is free.

FORTHCOMING AGS SHOWS - 2010

AGS Autumn Show-South, 25 September 2010 - Rainham School for Girls, Highfield Road, Rainham, Gillingham, ME8 0BX. Tel: 01303 862913

AGS Newcastle Show, 9 October 2010 - The Memorial Hall, Darras Road, Ponteland, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE20 9NX. Tel: 01670 787714

What's On

FRITILLARIA GROUP OF THE ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

Autumn Meeting and AGM

Sunday 26 September 2010 (Please note new date) at RHS Garden, Wisley, Surrey

9.00 - 9.30 - Coffee

10.00 - Annual General Meeting

11.00 - Lecture - Jon Evans - "Taking better Photos of Flowers"

12.30 - Lunch Break

14.00 - Lecture - Kit Strange - "Growing Frits at Kew"

15.30 - Raffle

16.00 - Close

For any other information please see our website: www.fritillaria.org.uk

ANDROSACE GROUP SEED DISTRIBUTION 2010

Would members of the Androsace group please send seed, in sealed packets, as soon as it is ready to: Mr R Lambert, 24 Church Way, Weston Favell, Northampton, NN3 3BT.

Timetable

October 2nd - Deadline for Seed to be sent in, or given to me at the Scottish Rock Garden Discussion weekend.

November 13th - Seed list distributed and displayed on the web site.

November 27th - Seed requests to be received by me (especially forms from seed Donors.)

December 5th - Donor Distribution followed by Main Distribution and then Surplus Distribution which is fairly informal.

ANDROSACE GROUP

AUTUMN MEETING 21 NOVEMBER 2010

The venue for this Meeting is St Peter's Church Hall, High Street, Weston Favell, Northampton, NN3 3JX (opposite St Peters Church) on 21 November from 1.30 to 4.00 pm. Speaker will be **Vojtěch Holubec** whose talk is entitled Plant hunting in Asia - with special reference to Androsace.

For a route and map please send an SAE to Rick Lambert, 24 Church Way, Weston Favell, Northampton, NN3 3BT or by email (rick.lambert1@btopenworld.com)

Plants sales, Book Sales, Refreshments, Raffle. Small quantities of Pumice and Perlite etc may be available for sale.



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 - **Book before 31st October and save £50**

PROVISIONAL 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

Eighth International Rock Garden Conference



English Gardens – Pre Conference Tours

Two Pre Conference tours are being offered, both will be led by Chris Bailes, Curator of the RHS Garden Rosemoor.

Tour 1 - Gardens in the South West from **Monday April 4th – Sunday April 10th**

Itinerary includes, RHS Rosemoor, Marwood Hill Garden, The Garden House, Wildside Garden and Nursery, Tregrehan, Trewithen, Trellissick(NT), Glendurgan(NT), and RHS Wisley.

Cost £600. Single Supplement £25 per night

Tour 2- Gardens of the South East and East Anglia from **Sunday April 10th – Thursday April 14th**

Itinerary includes, RHS Wisley, Robin & Sue White's Daphnetum & garden, Peter Erskine's Vale Cottage garden, Davis Hazelgrove's Pelham House garden, Rod and Jane Leeds' Chestnuts garden, Beth Chatto's garden and nursery, Kit Grey Wilson's Red Lion House garden, AGS Pershore and John Massey's garden and Nursery at Ashwoods.

Cost £440. Single Supplement £25 per night

For persons wishing to book both tours the cost will be - £1000



Sue & Robin White's garden

Scottish Gardens – Post Conference Tours

Tour 1 - The Western tour from **Monday April 18th – Saturday April 23rd**

Itinerary includes, Glenarn, Crarae, Torosay Castle on the Isle of Mull, Arduaine, An Cala, Benmore and Eckford. It is also hoped to visit one or two alpine nurseries in the Borders en route from Nottingham to Edinburgh

Cost £620. Single Supplement £25 per night.

Tour 2 -The Eastern tour is from **Saturday April 23rd – Thursday April 28th**

Itinerary includes, Cluny, the Explorers Garden, Glendoick, Margaret and Henry Taylor's garden, Cambo, Evelyn Stevens' garden, Sandy and Anne Leven's garden, Cyril Lafong's garden, Branklyn and Kevock Garden and Nursery. It is also hoped to drop in at the smallest whisky distillery in Scotland, Edradour to sample a wee dram.

Cost £615. Single Supplement £25 per night.

For people taking both tours, the cost will be £1190



Cyril Lafong's Garden

**Reserve your
Place Now!
Book by
30th September**

Contact for further details email: sandra.rice@agsgroups.org

Bookings AGS Centre call: +44 (0)1386 554790 email: kim@alpinegardensociety.net

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 spruneri*.

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.



These tours are now open to all members

Order from book List



Swiss Plant Life by Ewald Weber

This richly illustrated and readily comprehensible book gives an overview on the diversity of Switzerland's plant life in words and pictures. [No. 730 on list]



Bloom's Best Perennials and Grasses

by Adrian Bloom

There are thousands of perennials and grasses available to gardeners — how can they know whether or not they're making the right choice? In Bloom's Best Perennials and Grasses, Adrian Bloom distills his years of experience as a nurseryman and gardener into 250 reliable choices that are beautiful, easy to maintain, and provide year-round interest. [No. 748 on the list]



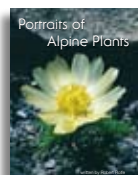
New Trees by John Grimshaw & Ross Bayton

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

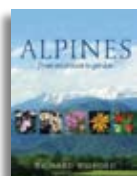
This publication aims to illustrate this rich diversity, and contains plants from mountain ranges around the world. [No.33 on list]



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]



Dear Christo
Memories of Christopher Lloyd at Great Dixter
 Foreword by Beth Chatto; introduced by
 Fergus Garrett & Rosemary Alexander

Great Dixter is a place of pilgrimage for gardeners from all over the world. Its exuberant plantings have drawn legions of green-fingered visitors for decades. But Great Dixter’s influence extends way beyond the gardening

world and affects all who pass through it in a very particular way.

In Dear Christo leading garden writers, visitors, photographers and friends share what Dixter means to them using words and images. A description of the garden enshrouded in early morning fog jostles with memories of sweet-scented plants, freshly landed turbot and a memorable “Magnolia dinner”.

The collection encapsulates what makes time spent in all gardens, so irreplaceable.

Hardcover 230mm x 180mm - 192 pages with over 150 colour photographs, 31 colour botanical paintings and 8 maps .

RRP £18.99 plus post and packaging.

We are able to offer it to: Members at a pre-publication price of **UK £15.00**
EU - £19.00 RoW (surface) £19.00 RoW (air) £24.00 (post and packing free)

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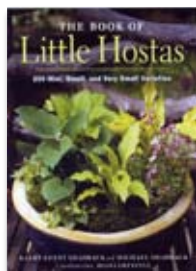
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The Book of Little Hostas
 Kathy Guest Shadrack & Michael Shadrack

Hostas are irresistible. Their sculptural leaves and appealing textures make it difficult to buy just one, and it is easy to fill your garden with them. Luckily, hosta collectors now have access to new small hostas that are ideal for containers, patios, porches, windowsills and other small spaces. The Book of Little Hostas features a handpicked selection of diminutive hostas to help steer collectors toward the right plant for their needs. Beautifully illustrated and highly informative, The Book of Little Hostas will inspire hobbyists and gardeners alike.

Hardcover 230mm x 180mm - 220 pages RRP £17.99 plus post and packaging.

We are able to offer it to: **Members at a pre-publication price of UK £14.00**
EU - £18.00 RoW (surface) £18.00 RoW (air) £23.00 (post and packing free)

Kathy has gardened passionately in Western New York for over 25 years and has maintained collections of hostas, irises and day lilies. A former secretary of the American Iris Society, she is currently

the secretary of the American Hosta Society. Michael has been a member of the American Hosta Society and is Vice-President of Publications.

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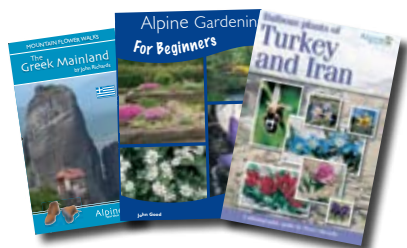
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Cost: circa £1350

Alpine Flowers and Photography 2011

This tour will be based in Adelboden, a typically picturesque alpine village in the Bernese Oberland. The tour will start with a flight to Zurich. We will then transfer by rail to Adelboden and our comfortable hotel in the village. Using the extensive rail and cable-car network in the area to gain access to the mountains, the tour will consist of a number of day walks to see the plants of the Alps at their best. Full details of this tour will be available from the AGS Centre shortly and will also be published on the website.



Adelboden, in a beautiful part of the Bernese Oberland, offers an excellent base for exploring the summer alpine flowers against a backdrop of stunning mountain scenery. We will make use of a local "Wanderpass" which gives us unlimited use of the local buses and cable cars, offering easy access to the rich flora of the area, including woodland and wetland habitats, as well as the high meadows, screes and snowmelts without the need for arduous long uphill walks to start the day!. Walking will be at a relaxed pace, with an opportunity to enjoy the mountain flora and for those who wish, plenty of time to photograph the alpine flowers or scenery.

The Hotel Bristol is welcoming, very comfortable, and with good food and conveniently near to the village centre. It is an excellent introduction to alpine flowers and wildlife and with experienced leaders will ensure you get the most from your visit to this beautiful and quiet traditional part of the Swiss Alps.

Included: Flight UK to Switzerland;
Transfers Airport to Adleboden;
Breakfast, Evening meal and
accommodation Hotel Bristol;
Wanderpass

Not Included: Lunches (packed
lunch materials can be purchased in
the village approx 200yds); Holiday
insurance; Hotel drinks; Tips
gratuities; If required, additional travel
out of valley on the "free day".



For further information on this tour please contact AGS Centre.

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

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, and provided much valuable.

Some of the exciting species we expect to see include: *Androsace*, *Arenaria*, *Cardiocrinum*, *Corydalis*, *Cremathodium*, *Iris*, *Lilium*, *Pedicularis*, *Potentilla*, *Primula*, *Rhodiola*, *Rhodode-ndron*, *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.





Turkey & Lebanon

3rd - 17th May 2011

Cost circa £2695

Leaders: Chris Gardner and Başak Gardner

Iris 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!



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

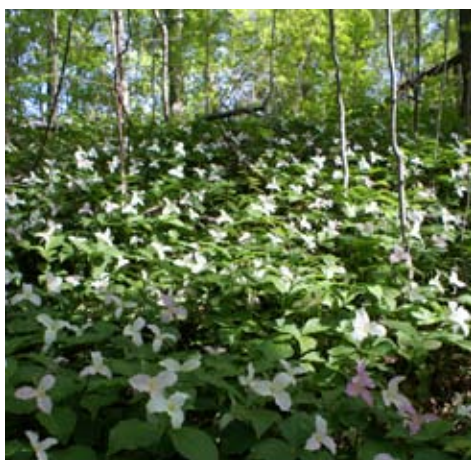
Trilliums of Ontario

9th - 23rd May 2011

Cost circa £3195 10-23 June 2011

Leaders: Chris Gardner and Başak Gardner

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.



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Pyrenees

10th - 23rd June 2011

Cost circa **£2565**

Leaders: Chris Gardner and Başak Gardner

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 Gentians 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 2010 - 3rd December 2010

Cost circa £2195

Leaders: Chris Gardner and Başak Gardner

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)

Due to the inclusion of an additional speaker we are offering a Special Discounted Booking rate until 31 October 2010 - Residential delegates can save £50 by booking now!

Residential Rates: 'Special Discounted Booking Rate - now £549 if booked by 31 October 2010 Full Residential rate £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 £150 per person

Early Bird Day Delegate Rate £125 per person - booking deadline extended to 31 October 2010 (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.

Surname/Family Name:

First Name(s):.....

Address:.....

.....

Post/Zip Code:.....

Tel No:.....

E-mail:

Cheque Payment:

I/We enclose a remittance of £..... made payable to 'The Alpine Garden Society'

Credit Card Payment:

Please debit my - VISA / SWITCH / American Express / MasterCard for £.....

Card No: / / /

Valid From: / Expires end: / Issue No: (Switch Only)

Security Code (last 3 digits)

Name on card:

Signature: Date:

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