

Alpine news

BIG ideas for small plants!

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society

The Society expressed its thanks to Dr Christopher Grey-Wilson for his 21 years as Editor of the Society's journal 'The Alpine Gardener' by hosting a lunch where he was joined by friends and colleagues who had worked closely with him over the years.

We wish him well in his retirement though he intends to continue as a very active member of the Society.



Silver Gilt for the Alpine Garden Society at the Southport Show.

A huge thank you to Brian Russ and all members of the South Lancs Group on staging yet another successful exhibit to help promote the Group and the Society. The South Lancs group may not be a large group but they have consistently staged medal winning exhibits year after year and are to be congratulated on a wonderful achievement.

Thank you from Jill Larner

Jill wishes to thank everyone who generously contributed towards her leaving gift. She was presented with a Tablet Computer that will enable her to keep in touch with all her friends and family, as well as the Society. She will be coming back to help the Society as a volunteer so we look forward to seeing her again at the Centre. Our very best wishes to Jill for a long and happy retirement.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 12 November 2011

Notice is Hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Alpine Garden Society will be held at 11.00 am on Saturday, 12 November 2011 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 6 November 2010.
2. To receive the Report of the Board of Trustees.
3. To receive the Hon. Treasurer's Report.
4. To elect a President and Officers to serve for the ensuing year and to ratify the appointment of Ray Drew as Director of Shows and Professor John Galloway as Hon Treasurer.
5. To elect THREE Members of Committee to serve for THREE years (see note 2 below).
6. To elect Vice Presidents (Dr C Grey-Wilson and Mr J J McGregor)
7. To adopt a new Constitution.
8. 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.
9. Presentation of Society 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 2011/2012: Director of Tours (Martin Lindop); Webmaster (Jim McGregor), Advertisement Manager (Julie Slimm); Image 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.

(2) In accordance with rule 18 of the existing Constitution, 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:

Mrs Diane Clement (Wolverhampton)

Proposed by Jo Walker, seconded by Brian Russ

Diane is active in the Alpine Garden Society at a Local and National level. She has been growing alpine plants for about 15 years and is a keen exhibitor and has gained a gold medal and two gold bars. She has been a show reporter for the last three years and is currently training to be a judge. She regularly lectures to AGS and other groups. She has been heavily involved in the Seed Exchange for the last ten years, during which time she has managed the Seed Reception section of the exchange, and has instigated the computerization of the system. She is now Acting Manager of the Seed Exchange. She has been on the Committee of the Birmingham local group on several occasions, and is presently the Treasurer and Programme Secretary for that group. She is a very keen and active user of computers and the internet and writes the Midland Diary on the AGS website in which she mainly describes practical activities through the year, primarily aiming at beginners. She is also an active participant on the Discussion section of the AGS website.

Mr Richard Horswood (Honiton)

Proposed by Diana Dark, seconded by Lorraine Birchall

Richard works tirelessly for the Exeter and Somerset Groups and Bristol Group. He (and his wife Sue) bring the AGS books to both meetings and he is always willing to help at shows and displays. He lectures on a wide range of subjects, asking no fee but requesting an exchange speaker for both Exeter/Somerset in return. He will step in the breach at the last minute. He and Sue are widely travelled so he is able to answer questions on a wide variety of plants and is always willing to pass on this knowledge. He also grows many plants from seed which he sells at club meetings helping to raise funds as well as spreading plants around. He would make a very valuable addition to the Trustee Board having served as a Secretary and Committee member at Somerset.

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Mr Eric C Jarrett (Stroud)

Proposed by Robert Wallis, seconded by Brian Burrow

Eric joined the AGS 32 years ago following on from a visit to Medway Kent local group. He soon became very interested in exhibiting alpine plants at the local group show and this progressed to national shows where he has gained four gold medals and the same number of Farrer Medals. Eric volunteered to become the local group show secretary and this was to stand him in good stead for the future. He was one of the instigators of the then new national show to be held in Kent. As the show secretary he quickly learned that there is a lot more involved than just putting plants on the table. One has to deal with the public and other members who may not see things as you do. I am pleased to report that he held this position for 10 years during which time the show went from strength to strength, due mainly to the excellent team of helpers he had built up. Unfortunately work commitments forced him to leave Kent for Gloucestershire 10 years ago and here he joined the Cotswold and Malvern Group. After a few years he was elected to serve as their Chairman, a post that he thoroughly enjoyed, as during this period the group saw a significant increase in membership which continues today. His interest in shows has not diminished and he is currently serving as Show Secretary for the Summer Show Mid West (formerly Pershore). He is also on the list of speakers for the AGS and has been very privileged to visit many other groups throughout the country. He would greatly appreciate the opportunity to serve on the Trustee Board and we feel that his experience of meeting and dealing with people will be an asset in this role.

As there are no further nominations, no election will be held at the AGM on Saturday 12 November 2011. The above named will serve for the period 2012 – 2015.

PROGRAMME FOR THE AGM

10.30 Coffee

11.00 Annual General Meeting

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Presentation of Show Awards

14.00 The E. B. Anderson Memorial Lecture, by **Tristan Lafranchis** (experienced tour leader and co-author of the two volume set of 'Flowers of Greece')

15.30 Afternoon Tea and Disperse

Catering - A two course Hot & Cold Buffet lunch will be available served in the Restaurant. (Sample menu: Coronation Chicken/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, 21 October 2011. 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 2011

Lyttel Trophy

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

Professor John E.G. Good OBE

John Good has been a prominent member of the Alpine Garden Society for 40 years or more and it is perhaps surprising that he has not been nominated for this award previously. He has an in-depth knowledge of mountain plants and has travelled widely studying them, especially in the European mountains. He is an acknowledged expert in mountain ecology and this has culminated in his book (written in conjunction with Dr David Millward) 'Alpine Plants, Ecology for Gardeners' published in 2007. He has also written numerous articles in The Alpine Gardener "Bulletin" over the years which well reveal the depth and breadth of his knowledge. John is, in addition, an accomplished lecturer both in his former capacity as a University professor and also to AGS Groups.

John Good served as a practical and accomplished assistant editor of the Bulletin under Roy Elliott for a number of years in the 1970s and early 1980s.

In a more formal role he has served several terms on the Main Committee of the AGS where his contribution has been meaningful and at times persuasive, when persuasion was deemed necessary for the good of the Society. In recent years he has played a very important role as Director of AGS Publications Ltd, pushing through a number of reforms and establishing a healthy and interesting list of publications by various authors which have been well received.

In addition to this role, he has also served for some years now as a member of the Royal Horticultural Society's Joint Rock Garden Plant Committee.

Perhaps more importantly from many Member's point of view is that fact that John Good is a very keen and meticulous gardener and plantsman and has established a fine garden full of interest in his garden at Penmaenmawr in north Wales. His meticulous research and writings on seeds and raising plants from seed has been of great benefit to Members. In addition, he is an authoritative and discerning judge at the Society's shows, a task he has done now over many years.

There can be few candidates more worthy of receiving the Lyttel Trophy and few who have contributed more keenly to the good of the Society.

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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

Ray Cobb – joined the Society over 50 years ago and has been widely influential from the start. It was he who was responsible for persuading a fellow local group member, the hybridist Geoffrey Gould, to make available to Valerie Finnis his remarkable *Saxifraga x anglica* 'Winifred'. He forged links with the Birmingham Group through his exhibits at the Society's Midland shows where he came into contact with Roy Elliott, later helping the Society's then editor in compiling the annual AGS Bulletin Index. He has held every office within the Nottingham Group (several times over in each case) but in particular his chairmanships have been diplomatic and well-judged, while as programme secretary (in which role he has been helped by his wife Sylvia) his choices have been inspired. He has lectured widely to all manner of gardening groups and local naturalist organizations, audience members of which have subsequently joined the AGS.

For many years he was Crocus National Collection Holder, cementing links within the AGS in the process both nationally and internationally through his wide-ranging correspondence and occasional television and newspaper involvement. *Galanthus* is another of his abiding interests, that captured Ray's attention long before the genus was really fashionable. Without fail he brings rarely seen plants to local group meetings and he has also brought along friends and work colleagues.

He has written from time to time on alpinism, his travels (in the French Alps especially), and most notably on various bulbs and corms, contributing to a generous range of specialist horticultural publications, 'The Alpine Gardener' among them. He compiled the authoritative entry on Crocus for the Society's Encyclopaedia of Alpinism (1993). Ray has also served as a member of the RHS Joint Rock Garden Plant Committee for many years. Moreover he has also involved himself in the activities of the adjacent Derby and Leicester groups, standing in as a lecturer at short notice, providing inspired votes of thanks, as well as helping out with the practical elements of running both local and national shows. Ray has demonstrated a high level of involvement and influence over many years and is truly deserving of this award.

The Ferrier Charlton Award

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

Colin Smith – has been the Treasurer of the alpine Garden Society since November 2004. During his seven years in office he has worked tirelessly to manage efficiently the AGS Investments and Budgets. His meticulous presentation of financial information to Committee has enabled the Trustees to make informed decisions about financial issues. An insistence on careful

budgeting under all financial headings has encouraged all the officers to be more aware of the income and costs in their areas of responsibility. He has developed a number of financial policies to clarify the Society's allocation of funds for different projects. Colin Smith is a worthy recipient of 'The Ferrier Charlton Award' for outstanding work for the Society in an administrative capacity.

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

Dr Evelyn Stevens - *Meconopsis* has been a prominent and important genus amongst members of the Alpine Garden Society for many years. Apart from the problems presented by the taxonomy of the species the large perennial blue poppies of gardens have taxed horticulturists for many years, certainly since the 1950s. Evelyn Stevens has taken a great interest in these plants over the past 30 years and has established the finest collection of them in her garden close to Dunblane in Scotland. To see them there in full flower in late May and early June is to wonder at their beauty and variety. It is one thing to gather together a collection of plants, another to make it a meaningful collection.

Evelyn's collection is not only the finest and most comprehensive to be found anywhere in the world, but each entry is carefully recorded. Over the years she has scrupulously photographed, measured and recorded every important detail of more than 200 collections. Herbarium specimens have been prepared for each and the colour of the flowers noted and the differences in leaf development from early to late in the year, details that are vital for accurate determination. Little wonder then that hers is the National Collection. As a result of this work we now have a great deal of well-documented evidence on the Large Blue Perennial Poppies.

In addition, Evelyn was instrumental in setting up the *Meconopsis* Group, a Group that looks at species and cultivars alike, both in the wild and in cultivation. Since its inauguration the Group has thrived and boasts a dynamic membership. Evelyn has written widely on the subject both for the *Meconopsis* Group and for various journals and magazines. As well as this she has been co-opted onto the RHS Trials Panel who are at present running a trial of these poppies at its Harlow Carr garden. There can be few people alive whose meticulous work and knowledge is more deserving of this award.

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.

Richard and Sue Horswood – were founder members of the Somerset Group and have both been its Secretary. They have instigated and arranged outings as well as writing the Somerset Newsletter. Richard does free talks not only to groups to which they belong but also other groups, which encourages speakers in those groups to give free lectures in exchange. They are also very willing to host not only speakers but Judges who come down to the South West Show. Richard and Sue have opened their garden for group garden parties sometimes stepping in at the last minute when others have had to drop out. They are also in charge of book sales at the

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Somerset and Exeter groups as well as at some AGS National Shows - South West, Caerleon and Summer Show South. Richard also puts plants on the sales table at low prices to encourage members to buy and is always very willing to share his knowledge of plants propagation and growing. In addition they also help with exhibits to advertise the Alpine Garden Society, at venues such as the Axe Vale Festival, The National Garden Show at Shepton Mallet and the Taunton Flower Show.

Website Award

To recognise the best contribution to the Society's website during 2010

Diane Clement – Since December 2008, Diane has kept Website Readers entertained with a regular blog from her Midlands Garden. In the year 2010 covered by this award, the 15 entries in her online diary ranged from a discussion in January of her winter flowering gesneriads, through to the early arrival of winter at the end of the year. Diane is an inveterate seed raiser and the intervening diary entries gave us a lot of information about raising plants from seed and how to grow them. Less well known is the fact that behind the scenes, Diane also keeps an eye on the forum area, putting right any problems that arise with members' submissions. Diane Clement is a worthy recipient of our Website Award for 2010.

Literary Awards

The Clarence Elliott Memorial Award

Hardy Orchids on the Rise [Vol. 78, June 2010: pp 181-198] by Phillip Cribb

The Lionel & Joyce Bacon Award

Remaking the Bed [Vol. 78, June and December 2010: pp 142-148 & 409-414] by Vic Aspland

Election of a President

The AGS President's term of office ceases at the November 2012 Annual General Meeting. Your Committee therefore invites Members to submit nominations for the post. Please note that the consent of the nominee must be obtained beforehand. Nominations should be submitted on the official nomination form, copies of which can be obtained from AGS Centre. Nominations must be submitted to Christine McGregor, Director of the Society, AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, WR10 3JP by 31 October 2011.



Items for the Newsletter and Copy Dates

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

Deadline for the December issue is 4 November 2011

NEW CONSTITUTION FOR THE SOCIETY

Summary of the principal changes

Your Committee is recommending the adoption of a new Constitution at the Annual General Meeting on 12 November 2011. The aims of the new Constitution are to make the management of the Society more efficient and effective and to bring us in line with modern charity governance. The full text follows after this summary that lists the principal changes:

- To amend the Objects of the Society to encompass our current activities.
- To introduce a system for the appointment of a President Elect that will enable a President to have a full understanding of the Society's affairs before the commencement of their term of office.
- To provide flexibility in the appointment of Officers to reflect the changing needs of the Society.
- To reduce the size of Committee to the President, Treasurer, four Officers and eight other elected members. Committee members will serve for four years rather than the present three. The present three year term of office has been found to be too short a period to enable members to become fully cognisant with all aspects of the Society. This will bring us in line with other charities that have also reduced the size of their governing body. Such a change will enable the Society to run its affairs more effectively and speed up the decision making process. It will also help to reduce some of our administrative costs.
- To clarify the rules for membership for Local and Specialist Groups which will permit a limited number of non members.
- The role of Custodian Trustees has been clarified with regard to their appointment and the holding of investments on the Society's behalf.

The Society's Committee will henceforth be known as the 'Board of Trustees' to emphasise their role as charity trustees.

Constitution of the Alpine Garden Society

Registered Charity Number: 207478

(Approved by the Society on)

Name

- 1.1 The name of the charity shall be the Alpine Garden Society ("the Society").

Definition

- 2.1 The expression 'alpine plants' shall encompass all plants suitable for a scree, rock garden, frame or alpine house i.e. a generic title covering true alpins and small hardy plants, including perennials, bulbs, ferns, woodland plants, dwarf conifers, shrubs and other plants commonly so regarded to be within the scope and interest of the Society.

Objects

- 3.1 The Objects of the Society shall be to educate the public and its members about the cultivation and conservation of alpine plants. This will include:
 - 3.1.1 To gather and disseminate details of their cultivation and conditions under which they grow in nature by means of a Bulletin - presently entitled The Alpine Gardener - and by other special publications
 - 3.1.2 To hold shows of alpine plants
 - 3.1.3 To give advice on any matters concerning these plants
 - 3.1.4 To organise scientific botanical and horticultural expeditions to study alpinists in native habitats
 - 3.1.5 To promote research into alpinists and their cultivation
 - 3.1.6 To arrange tours and visits
 - 3.1.7 To organise meetings and Conferences
 - 3.1.8 To promote the formation of Local and Special Interest Groups of the Society
 - 3.1.9 To award grants for travel, study or scientific/educational purposes
 - 3.1.10 To undertake any activities that shall be consistent with the purpose for which the Society is constituted.

Powers

- 4.1 The Society shall have the following powers, which may be exercised only in promoting the Objects:
 - 4.1.1 To hold meetings, conferences, shows and events of an educational nature for its Members and for other interested individuals.
 - 4.1.2 To provide advice on any matters concerning alpine plants.
 - 4.1.3 To publish or distribute information.
 - 4.1.4 To promote and carry out research.
 - 4.1.5 To co-operate with other bodies formed for similar purposes and to provide support for Groups of Members meeting together in accordance with constitutional provisions approved in writing by the Society.
 - 4.1.6 To award grants for travel, study or scientific/educational purposes
 - 4.1.7 To raise funds (but not by means of taxable trading).
 - 4.1.8 To borrow money and give security for loans (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the Charities Act 2006).
 - 4.1.9 To acquire or hire property of any kind and to let or dispose of property of any kind (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the Charities Act 2006).
 - 4.1.10 To set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure.
 - 4.1.11 To deposit or invest funds in any lawful manner.
 - 4.1.12 To insure the Society's property against any foreseeable risk and to take out any insurance policies to protect the Society where required.
 - 4.1.13 To employ paid or unpaid agents, staff or advisers.

- 4.1.14 To enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of other bodies.
 - 4.1.15 To pay the costs of forming or amending the structure of the Society.
 - 4.1.16 To do anything else within the law which promotes or helps to promote the Objects
- 4.2 The affairs of the Society shall be managed between Annual General meetings by the Board of Trustees (“Trustees”) established in accordance with this constitution.
- 4.3 The Society may promote the formation of Local Groups and establish sections (known as Specialist Groups) composed primarily of Members of the Society who shall wish to meet together in particular locations or for specific purposes in pursuance of the Objects of the Society. Such Groups shall be organised and operated strictly in accordance with the provisions made from time to time by the Society Board of Trustees.

Membership

- 5.1 The Society shall have the following categories of membership:
- 5.1.1 Full Single Adult membership (for individuals over the age of 18 years).
 - 5.1.2 Junior/Student Membership (for individuals under the age of 18 years or students over the age of 18, either in full-time education or pursuing a horticultural qualification). These members are entitled to all privileges of membership, excluding voting rights. Such membership shall cease at the end of the calendar year in which the Member reaches the age of 18 or at the conclusion of their course of study.
 - 5.1.3 Family (Joint) Membership (which shall entitle two persons at one address to all the privileges of full membership, including two seed applications annually, except that each family shall receive only one copy of all periodical publications during their joint membership).
 - 5.1.4 Life Membership (single or family) receiving all the privileges as indicated below in 5.3.
 - 5.1.5 Honorary Life Membership (not required to pay a subscription but to receive all the privileges of membership except the entitlement to vote at an Annual General Meeting, or Special Meeting, or to serve as a member of the Trustee Board).
 - 5.1.6 Organisation membership (with privileges as indicated in 5.3 and entitled to one vote at an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting).
- In each case the persons or organisations wishing to become Members shall satisfy the Trustees that they are willing to promote the Objects of the Society and shall be enrolled in such manner as the Trustees may from time to time determine.
- 5.2 The Trustees may in addition establish different classes or categories of membership and may admit visitors to meetings and set appropriate rates of subscription and visiting fees.
- 5.3 Members who have paid their subscriptions shall be entitled to share in all privileges and activities of the Society as determined by the Board of Trustees from time to time. Such privileges and activities shall normally include: copies of each edition of the Bulletin/ Newsletter - The Alpine Gardener and other relevant Society publications made available without charge during their membership; advice on alpine plants; free admission to all the Shows of the Society (except those held in association with a larger, major horticultural

event), plus the right to exhibit thereat. Organisations having membership shall be entitled only to one copy of all periodical publications, and to one ticket giving admission to AGS Shows.

- 5.4 Subscriptions shall be payable by new Members upon joining the Society and by existing Members on 1 October preceding the following membership year.
- 5.5 The Society shall keep a register of Members.
- 5.6 Payment of the subscription shall be considered as acceptance by the Member of the rules and regulations of the Society.
- 5.7 A Member may resign by written notice to the Society Director. A Member neglecting to pay his or her subscription for a period of three calendar months after the due date shall be deemed to have resigned from the Society (but may be readmitted on payment of the sum owing).
- 5.8 The Trustees may terminate the membership (including Life Membership) of any individual(s) whose continued membership would in the reasonable view of the Board of Trustees be disadvantageous to the Society (but only after notifying the Member concerned in writing and considering the matter in the light of any written representations which the Member puts forward within 14 clear days after receiving notice). In such circumstances a Life Member would be entitled to a refund of an appropriate proportion of the relevant membership fee.

Annual Special General Meetings

- 6.1 All Members are entitled to attend general meetings of the Society in person. Those entitled to vote are individual Members as defined in 5.1.1 above, both partners having Family (Joint) membership as defined in 5.1.3 and 5.1.4 above, and one representative duly authorised by any organisation having membership under 5.1.6 above shall be entitled to vote. Members who fall into the category of 5.1.2 and 5.1.5 are not entitled to a vote.
- 6.2 The Annual General Meeting shall be held as the Trustees shall determine upon not less than 14 clear days' written notice to Members, within six months after the financial year end, but in any case not later than eighteen months after the previous Annual General Meeting.
- 6.3 Notice of a Special General Meeting shall be sent to all members by the Society Director within 30 days of receipt of a requisition in writing of six members of the Board of Trustees, or of any thirty Members of the Society, or whenever so authorised by the Board of Trustees. The special business for which the Meeting is convened shall be stated in the requisition, and in the notice convening the Meeting, and no other business shall be transacted at such Special General Meetings.
- 6.4 Notice of meetings shall be given by the Society Director to Members at their last known addresses, and shall specify the business to be transacted.

- 6.5 Notice of motions for submission to the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to the Society Director not later than 1 August. Each motion must be proposed and seconded by a Member of the Society as defined in 5.1.1, 5.1.3, and 5.1.4.
- 6.6 The quorum at a general meeting is 75 voting Members personally present or one tenth of the total voting Members of the Society (whichever shall be the smaller number). If, within fifteen minutes of the time appointed for the holding of a General Meeting no quorum is present, the Meeting, if convened by the Society Director or by the Trustees, shall stand adjourned. With the consent of members present, the Chair of the meeting shall determine that the meeting be reconvened at some place, and at some time and date not less than seven nor more than fourteen days later. In the event that no quorum is present for a Special Meeting, convened by requisition of thirty Members of the Society, it shall be dissolved.
- 6.7 At all general meetings of the Society the President shall take the chair, or in his or her absence, any member nominated by the Trustees.
- 6.8 Except where otherwise provided in this Constitution, every issue at a general meeting is to be determined by a simple majority of the votes cast by the Members present in person and entitled under this Constitution to vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands unless otherwise determined by the meeting.
- 6.9 The Chair of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

Business at the Annual General Meeting

- 7.1 At an Annual General Meeting the Members shall:
 - 7.1.1 Receive the accounts of the Society for the previous financial year.
 - 7.1.2 Receive the report of the Trustees on the Society's activities since the previous Annual General Meeting.
 - 7.1.3 Appoint a President, Treasurer and up to four other Officers as the Trustee Board shall recommend. All such Officers shall be fully paid up Members of the Society who shall have signified in writing their willingness to serve in an honorary capacity as follows:
 - 7.1.3.1 The President shall serve for one year, and shall be eligible for re-election in subsequent years. He or she shall not hold office for more than three consecutive years save in exceptional circumstances (for example to cover occasions such as Conferences) when the Meeting may re-elect the President to serve for one further year.
 - 7.1.3.2 Officers shall serve for one year and (save as mentioned in clause 7.1.3.1 above) shall be eligible for re-election in subsequent years, ideally for no more than five years but to an absolute maximum of ten consecutive years.
 - 7.1.4 Elect two Trustee members to replace those retiring from office, each to hold office for a period of four years and to be eligible for re-election, if nominated, for a further term after a break of at least twelve months.
 - 7.1.5 Appoint an auditor or an independent examiner for the Society.
 - 7.1.6 If appropriate, confer on any individual (with his or her consent) honorary titles (such as Vice-President, Honorary Life Member or Patron) in relation to the Society.

7.1.7 Discuss and determine any issues of policy or deal with items of any other business notified in advance by the due date (see 6.5 above) put before them.

The Board of Trustees

- 8.1 The Board of Trustees as charity trustees have control of the Society and its property and funds.
- 8.2 The Board of Trustees shall consist of the President, Treasurer and up to four other Officers and eight individual members (but not paid employees) of the Society. The President Elect will serve for one year immediately before assuming the Presidency. The Secretary to the Board of Trustees shall be the Society's Director.
- 8.3 The Board of Trustees shall have the power to co-opt additional members as they consider fit. Such co-opted members shall at no time exceed three in number and shall serve until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 8.4 A Trustee automatically ceases to be a member of the Board of Trustees if he or she:
- 8.4.1 Is disqualified under the Charities Act 2006 from acting as a charity trustee.
 - 8.4.2 Is incapable, whether mentally or physically, of managing his or her own affairs.
 - 8.4.3 Is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board of Trustees unless such absence is accepted by the Trustees as reasonable.
 - 8.4.4 Ceases to be a Member of the Society.
 - 8.4.5 Resigns by written notice to the Society Director (but only if at least two Trustees will remain in office).
 - 8.4.6 Is removed by a resolution passed by four-fifths of the other Trustees after inviting the views of the Trustee concerned and considering the matter in the light of any such views.
- 8.5 A retiring Trustee is entitled to an indemnity from the continuing Board of Trustees, at the expense of the Society, in respect of any liabilities properly incurred while he or she held office.
- 8.6 Technical defects in the appointment of a Trustee, of which the Board of Trustees was unaware at the time, does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting.

Meetings of the Board of Trustees

- 9.1 The Trustees shall hold at least two meetings each year.
- 9.2 The quorum at a Trustee meeting shall be eight voting members.
- 9.3 At all meetings of the Trustees the President of the Society shall take the chair, or in his or her absence any member of the Board whom the meeting may elect.
- 9.4 Every issue may be determined by a simple majority of the votes cast at a Trustees' meeting but a resolution which is in writing and signed by all members of the Board of Trustees is as valid as a resolution passed at a meeting and for this purpose the resolution may be contained in more than one document and will be treated as passed on the date of the last signature.
- 9.5 Except for the Chair of the meeting, who may have a second or casting vote, every member of the Board of Trustees shall have one vote on each issue.

Powers of the Board of Trustees

10.1 The Trustees shall have the following powers in the administration of the Society:

10.1.1 To delegate any of their functions to sub-committees consisting of two or more persons appointed by them (but at least one member of every sub-committee must be a member of the Board of Trustees and all proceedings of sub-committees shall be reported promptly to the Board of Trustees).

10.1.2 To draw up Standing Orders consistent with this Constitution for the regulation of the Board of Trustees and its sub-committees.

10.1.3 To make regulations consistent with this Constitution that it considers necessary for the well-being of the Society.

10.1.4 To resolve or establish procedures to assist the resolution of disputes within the Society.

10.1.5 To enter into the necessary indemnity for the Society to be the originator in respect of the collection of subscriptions by direct debit and for that purpose to mortgage or otherwise charge the whole or any part of the Society's property or assets.

10.1.6 To make annual appointments to Standing sub-committees, namely: Finance, Shows, Tours, Seed Distribution, Publications, Personnel and Awards. From time to time to appoint such other sub-committees as may be expedient. Failure to make any such appointments shall not invalidate the proceedings of the Board of Trustees or the acts of any Officer concerned.

10.1.7 To nominate persons to serve by invitation on external bodies as representatives of the Society.

10.1.8 To recommend to the Annual General Meeting any distinguished persons for election for life as Vice-Presidents or Honorary Life Members of the Society.

10.1.9 To appoint a paid person to be the Director of the Society, who shall transact the affairs of the Society in accordance with the directions of the Board of Trustees on such terms as it thinks fit and, at its discretion, to terminate such appointment and to appoint a successor. Such an appointment shall be reported to the next Annual General Meeting.

10.1.10 The Board of Trustees may also appoint such other employees and agents (e.g. Editorial and Administrative), paid or unpaid, as it thinks fit.

10.1.11 In the event of any vacancy occurring amongst the Officers, other members of the Board of Trustees, or the President by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, to appoint a Member of the Society to fill such a vacancy. An Officer, Member or President so appointed shall hold office for the remainder of the term and be subject to the other terms of appointment of the person he or she replaces, including eligibility for re-election.

10.1.12 To approve the appointment of Secretaries and Treasurers of Specialist and Local Groups or Sections and, if necessary, terminate such appointments and appoint successors.

Custodians of the Society's Assets

- 11.1 The Society has the power to appoint three individuals who will hold for safekeeping the documentary evidence of the title to property belonging to the charity (eg share certificates, title deeds to land, etc). The title to the charity's property remains vested in the charity custodians, or in their nominee(s) but the beneficial ownership and control of the assets is held by the Trustee Board. Other duties associated with the role of a "Custodian" are detailed below. The "Custodians" have no power to manage the Society's property and no role in the administration of the charity.
- 11.2 The investments and other property of the Society shall be vested in "Custodians" to be appointed by the Board of Trustees or at a General Meeting of the Society. The Board of Trustees shall have power to remove any of the "Custodians" and to fill all vacancies occurring by removal, resignation or death but any "Custodians" appointed by the Board of Trustees to replace one removed by it shall be subject to confirmation at the General Meeting of which notice is given next following such appointment.

Property and Funds

- 12.1 All property and funds of the Society must be used only for furthering the objects. The rights of all property and funds are vested in the "Custodians" and do not belong to the Members of the Society or to the Board of Trustees.
- 12.2 Banking accounts in the name of the Society shall be held at a bank or building society approved in writing by the Board of Trustees and all monies receivable for the purposes of the Society shall be paid into such an account. Cheques on the Society's general account shall be signed by the Treasurer or the President plus a second person as designated. Cheques on special accounts shall be signed by such person or persons as the Board of Trustees shall from time to time authorise.
- 12.3 No Member of the Board of Trustees may receive any payment of money or other material benefit (whether direct or indirect) from the Society except:
 - 12.3.1 Reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (including hotel and travel costs) actually incurred undertaking official business on behalf of the Society.
 - 12.3.2 A reasonable rent or hiring fee for property let or hired to the Society.
 - 12.3.3 In exceptional cases, other payments or material benefits after the Society has received prior written approval from the Charity Commissioners.
- 12.4 Whenever a Trustee has a personal interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting, the Trustee must:
 - 12.4.1 Declare an interest before discussion begins on the matter.
 - 12.4.2 Withdraw from that part of the meeting unless expressly invited to remain in order to provide information.
 - 12.4.3 Not be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting.
 - 12.4.4 Withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter.

- 12.5 Funds which are not required for immediate use or which will be required for use at a future date must be placed on deposit in an account in the name of the Society or invested in accordance with this Constitution until needed.
- 12.6 With the authority or consent of the Trustees (but not otherwise) investments and other property of the Society may be held in the name of or on behalf of the Society. The Board of Trustees may authorise and instruct the “Custodians” to vest the title to the Society’s investments in a nominee company or companies selected by the Board of Trustees and approved by the “Custodians”; any land owned by the Society must be vested in at least two “Custodians”. The “Custodians” concerned shall stand possessed of such investments and other property in trust for the benefit of the Society and shall deal with the same in such manner as the Board of Trustees shall from time to time direct.
- 12.7 The Board of Trustees shall have power to direct the “Custodians” to vary or transpose the Society’s investments. The “Custodians” may also enter into arrangements for the provision of investment management services by stockbrokers, merchant banks and/or suitably qualified investment managers (which may include power for such managers to make specific investment decisions under general policy guidelines laid down from time to time by the Board of Trustees) to vary or change such arrangements and to pay any reasonable charges for such services out of the Society’s income.
- 12.8 The Society may procure the promotion of, or the transfer to, wholly owned subsidiary companies with limited liability any profit-making activity which it considers may benefit the Society’s charitable objects and on such other terms (if any) as the Board of Trustees may determine. The Directors of each such company shall be the President, Treasurer and relevant Officer for the time being.
- 12.9 The “Custodians” shall be effectively indemnified by the Society from and against any liability, costs, expenses and payments whatsoever which may be properly incurred or made by them in relation to the trusts of the property and investments of the Society, or in relation to any legal proceedings.

Records and Accounts

- 13.1 The Board of Trustees must comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2006 as to the keeping of financial records, the audit or independent examination of accounts and the preparation and transmission to the Commission of:

- 13.1.1 Annual reports

- 13.1.2 Annual returns

- 13.1.3 Annual statements of account

and in particular a qualified Auditor or a firm of qualified Auditors shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting to audit or examine the Annual Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet, and to certify them before they are placed before the next Annual General Meeting. The election of the Auditors shall be moved and seconded by Members of the Society not holding office.

- 13.2 The Board of Trustees must keep proper records of:
 - 13.2.1 All proceedings at general meetings
 - 13.2.2 All proceedings at Board of Trustees meetings
 - 13.2.3 All reports of Sub-Committees
 - 13.2.4 All professional advice obtained
- 13.3 Annual reports and statements of account relating to the Society shall be made available for inspection by any Member of the Society.
- 13.4 A copy of the latest available statement of account must be supplied to any person who shall make a written request and pay the Society's reasonable costs (as required by the Charities Act 2006).

Notices

- 14.1 Notices under this Constitution may be sent by hand, or by post or by suitable electronic means or (where applicable to Members generally) may be published in a newsletter distributed by the Society.
- 14.2 The address at which a Member is entitled to receive notices is the address noted in the register of Members (or, if none, the last known address).
- 14.3 Any notice given in accordance with this constitution is to be treated for all purposes as having been received:
 - 14.3.1 Twenty-four hours after being sent by electronic means or delivered by hand to the relevant address.
 - 14.3.2 Two clear days after being sent by first class post to that address.
 - 14.3.3 Three clear days after being sent by second class post to that address.
 - 14.3.4 One week after the date of distribution of a newsletter containing the notice.
 - 14.3.5 On being handed to the Member personally or, if earlier, as soon as the Member acknowledges actual receipt.
- 14.4 Technical defects in the giving of notice of which the Member or the Trustee is unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting.

Amendments

- 15.1 This Constitution may be amended at a general meeting by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, but:
 - 15.1.1 The Members must be given twenty-one clear days notice of the proposed amendments.
 - 15.1.2 No amendment may be made to clauses 1, 3, 12.3, 16 or this clause without the prior written consent of the Charity Commission on the recommendation of the Society.

- 15.2 No amendment may be made which would have the effect of making the Society cease to be a charity at law.
- 15.3 The Board of Trustees shall promptly send to the Charity Commissioners a copy of any amendment made under this clause.

Dissolution

- 16.1 If at any time the Members at a general meeting decide to dissolve the Society, the members of the Board of Trustees will remain in office as charity trustees and will be responsible for the orderly winding-up of the Society's affairs.
- 16.2 After making provision for all outstanding liabilities of the Society, the Board of Trustees may transfer the remaining property and funds to such other charity which in their view has similar purposes and Objects as those of the Society as they shall think fit.
- 16.3 A final report and statement of account relating to the Society must be sent to the Charity Commissioners.

Online Flower Show

- Start taking your pictures now!

The Show is open for entries and you can post these anytime up until **24 December 2011**.

**MEMBERS
CHOICE
IN THIS
CLASS**

2010 1ST PRIZE - South facing raised bed

Enjoying full sun until well after noon and getting the shade of the house later on, this bed allows for a diverse planting scheme with : Delosperma congesta in the front - further Dianthus "La Bourboule", Polygala calcarea lillet, Oxalis adenophylla and O. Ute, Iberis candoleana, Campanula aucheri and C. chamissonis major. The lawn and the border with Pieris, Azalea's and Rhododendrons provide the background.

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



Noticeboard

AGS AWARDS AND GRANTS 2012

The Society considers applications for AGS Travel Awards annually and applications for these awards must be received by 31 January 2012 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: Alpine Garden Society, AGS Centre or email: ags@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 2012.

MERLIN TRUST - ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

Travel Scholarships - TOUR AWARDS for 2012

In 1990 The Merlin Trust was founded by the late Valerie Finnis VMH to provide travel grants for young horticulturists. In 2012 the Merlin Trust is offering jointly with the Alpine Garden Society six fully paid travel scholarships on AGS organised plant tours.

Two places will be available on tours - the destinations of which are yet to be decided but will probably include the Eastern Cape and Turkey. 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 alpinism. 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.

BRISTOL GROUP CONFERENCE

30th One Day Conference – Saturday, 8 October 2011

The Bristol One-Day Conference will be held at Red Maids' School, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3AW. Speakers include: John Massey who will give a talk on Hepaticas and Tim Walker will speak about the Oxford Botanical Garden. There will be various Plant Stalls and the Bristol Group AGS Members plant stall. Refreshments throughout the day from the School Chef. For further information please contact Mike Taylor, 96 Reedley Road, Bristol BS9 3TA. Tel: 0117 9686654.

NORFOLK GROUP ONE DAY CONFERENCE

8 SEPTEMBER 2012

HOME AND AWAY ~ Cultivation and Exploration

At the Abbey Conference Centre, Norwich. Speakers include Harry Jans, Ian Young, Kit Strange (Kew). Cost £25 to include lunch and refreshments. More Details from Tony Goode 01603 409074 Email: thealpinehouse@hotmail.co.uk or Diane Blyth 01508 494277 Email: Diane.Phipp.Blyth@agsgroups.org

WILTSHIRE GROUP

Mary Bing Lecture - 14 October 2011

This Annual Lecture will be held at Westbury Leigh Community Hall, Westbury Leigh Village, Westbury BA13 3SQ. Martin Sheader will be speaking on 'Northern Patagonia and the Volcanic Region'. Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. There will also be a Plant Sale at 9.00pm, with Refreshments being served at the same time. Entrance for AGS members £1, Non-members £2. For further information contact: Cliff Herbert, 14, Meadway, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. BA14 9TF. Tel: 01225 775729

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT GROUP

21st Annual Roy Elliott Memorial Lecture - 19 November 2011

The 21st Annual Roy Elliott Memorial Lecture will be held at 2.00pm on Saturday, 19 November 2011 at the Holy Name Parish Hall, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 6LN. (Five minutes from Junction 7 of the M6). Doors will open at 1.00 pm for refreshments, plant sales, etc. Lectures begin at 2.00pm. Lectures for this year are Peter Korn from Sweden on 'Building for Growing' and Cliff Booker 'Alpines in Focus'. Entrance is free to all. Further information available from Sonia Morris on 01384 378609 or sn.morris@talktalk.net

What's On

The Birmingham Group One Day Conference 28 January 2012: "A Day in the Southern Hemisphere"

The Conference will take place at the Holy Name Parish Centre, Walsall Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 6LN (Five minutes from Junction 7 of the M6). Speakers will be:

Hilary Little "Australasian Alpines",

Ger van der Beuken "Northern Patagonia, land of Rosulate Violas",

Terry Smale "Winter-growing bulbs from South Africa"

Martin and Anna Sheader "Botanical Hotspots in Patagonia"

Cost £15 including light refreshments, optional buffet lunch available for £6.50. Full details and booking form available from Sonia Morris on 01384 378609 or sn.morris@talktalk.net

FORTHCOMING AGS SHOWS – 2011

AGS Autumn Show-South, 24 September 2011 -

Rainham School for Girls, Highfield Road, Rainham,
Gillingham, ME8 0BX. Tel: 01303 862913

AGS Newcastle Show, 8 October 2011

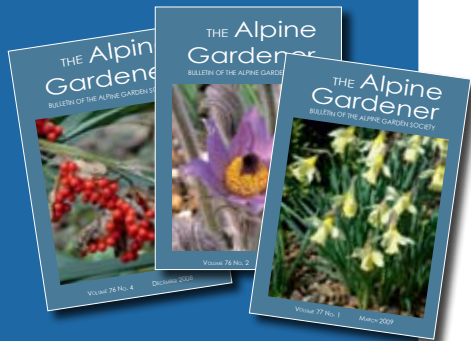
The Memorial Hall, Darras Road, Ponteland, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
NE20 9NX. Tel: 01661 871974

SPECIAL OFFER of ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY BULLETINS

10 Bulletins (pre 2007 issues) for £16.00 (post free)
One Special Offer per member.

We have a large number of back issues available. The choice of issues we send you is ours, but if you have any copies already please state which they are.

Please send your written request to: AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, WR10 3JP. Cheques to be made payable to "Alpine Garden Society" or a card number with expiry date MM/YY and 3 digit security code. If Switch Card please add the issue number or start date.



FRITILLARIA GROUP OF THE ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

Autumn Meeting and AGM - Sunday 23 October 2011

To be held at Loughborough Community College, Thorpe Hill, Loughborough, LE11 4SQ

PROGRAMME

- 8.00 – 10.00** - Setting up and Coffee. Sales table will be open during this time
- 10.00- 11.00** - Annual General Meeting
Coffee Break
- 11.30-13.00** - Presentation by Susan Band from Pitcairn Alpines
– ‘Growing Frits Commercially in Scotland’
Lunch Break
- 14.00-15.30** - Presentation by Jim Almond ‘Fritillarias from A-Z’
- 15.30-16.00** - Raffle and Close of Meeting

All times are approximate. Refreshments available will be tea, coffee and biscuits only. You may like to take your lunch at the following pubs in the locality - ‘Maxwells’ on Maxwell Drive, Loughborough, LE11 4RZ, ‘The Warwick Arms’ on Warwick Way, Loughborough, LE11 4UG or alternatively, we suggest you bring your own food for the day.

Sales tables are available throughout the day. For any other information please see our website: www.fritillaria.org.uk

Change of Date

NEW ZEALAND ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

Study Weekend now to be held in FEBRUARY 2013

Due to the major earthquake in Christchurch on Monday 13 June and the resultant damage a decision has been taken to reschedule the event and hold it at a later date. The programme will be as previously planned but now to be held a year later in February 2013. It is a huge disappointment to all concerned, as at times like these Cantabrians in particular very much need something to look forward to, but financial considerations aside, safety and security must come first, as we are sure you will understand. We very much look forward to welcoming you in February 2013! Doreen Mear, Ann Cartman (Joint Convenors)

Local Group News

Changes to Local Group Secretaries

Chiltern – John Noakes (from Alan & Freda Payne)

Kent-Tunbridge Wells – Anne Hill (from Kay Cox)

Lincolnshire – Mark Childerhouse (from Vernon Hancock)

North Lancashire – Liz Walsh (from Syd Cumbus)

North-East England – Sue Gill (from Terry Teal)

Seed Exchange 2011/2012

Due to personal reasons, Colin Dolding has decided to step down as Manager of the AGS Seed Exchange. Diane Clement, who has been deputy for the last ten years, will become Acting Manager of the Seed Exchange this year and sends the following request:

I hope you are all in the process of collecting and cleaning seed ready to donate to the Seed Exchange, as without donors, there would be no Seed Exchange. Can I please remind you to follow all the instructions, get your seed in on time, and clean your seed of chaff – all this helps our already hard-working volunteers.

I would like to add a reminder that the Seed Exchange only happens through the goodwill and generosity of many volunteers. We always need new helpers and I am grateful for all help that can be given in any capacity. Can you help in any way? We need volunteers to do the following jobs in the autumn:

- Filing and numbering seed in Culcheth (near Warrington) in late October or packing a box of seed in their own home at the beginning of November.
- Racking up seed at Pershore towards the end of November
- Making up seed orders at Pershore during December and January – perhaps you can make up a car load from your group and come over to Pershore for a day to help?
- Help to sell seed at shows from March to June.
- I would also welcome help with admin jobs at various times between August and March at my home in Wolverhampton.

If you think you are able to help with any of these jobs, please contact me on diane.clement@agsgroups.org or on 01902 426024.

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.

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 have previously ordered seed, please check your permit is still valid into 2012 to allow time for postage of your seed order.

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 the 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.

If you prefer, you can construct and submit your order online, but you still need to post the other documents.

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. There are also useful lists of banned species on the NARGS site under Seed Exchange.

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. Our Seed 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.



Order from book List



Planting the Dry Shade Garden by Graham Rice

Planting the Dry Shade Garden features more than 130 plants that are best able to cope with reduced light and moisture levels. [No 510 on list].



Waterwise Plants for Sustainable Gardens

by Scott Ogden and Lauren Springer Ogden

Waterwise Plants for Sustainable Gardens is a practical guide to the best 200 plants guaranteed to thrive in low-water gardens. Plant entries provide the common and botanical name, the regions where the plant is best adapted, growth and care information, and notes on pests and disease. [No 515 on list].



Flowers of Western China by Christopher Grey-Wilson

This book is the most comprehensive single volume publication on plants of Western China and contains a large collection of photographs and a wealth of information for gardeners, horticulturists, commercial nurseries and botanists. [No 808 on list].



Genziane d'Europa

(as reviewed in *The Alpine Gardener* June 2011)

The text in this book is both detailed and informative, with lavish illustrations of good quality photographs. This book is written in Italian/Latin but don't let that put you off. [No 810 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]

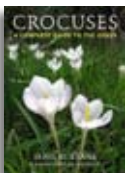


Bulbs of Greece (A Field Guide to the)

by C Grey-Wilson

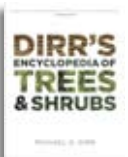
A comprehensive guide to the bulbous plants of Greece, including all the islands. Simple descriptions and identifications keys to aid the reader.

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



Crocuses by Jānis Rukšāns

Winsome, charming, and brilliant are just three of the adjectives that crocuses typically elicit from grateful, color-starved gardeners. [No. 798 on list]

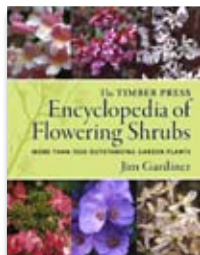


Dirr's Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs

by Michael A Dirr

With Dirr's *Hardy Trees and Shrubs* and *Dirr's Trees and Shrubs for Warm Climates*, Michael Dirr set the gold standard for horticultural reference. This season, Timber Press is proud to publish his seminal work, *Dirr's Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs*, the most comprehensive visual reference on this important subject. [No. 621 on list]

PRE PUBLICATION BOOK OFFER • PRE PUBLICATION BOOK OFFER



The Timber Press Encyclopedia Of Flowering Shrubs: More Than 1700 Outstanding Garden Plants by Jim Gardiner

Flowering shrubs, such as the iconic hydrangea and the treasured azalea, are a cornerstone in every garden, and professional designers and experienced gardeners grapple with which to choose when planting. Jim Gardiner makes this decision easier with his rigorous plant selection in The Timber Press Encyclopedia of Flowering Shrubs.

The plant selection includes flowering shrubs that grow particularly well in the world's temperate zones. While most of the plants thrive without much extra care, there are some more demanding choices will reward the experienced gardener. The introductory section provides valuable horticultural advice on how to give the plants the best possible start and ongoing care so that they flourish in the longer term.

This highly illustrated guide features 1500 plants in more than 345 genera organized alphabetically by botanical name and readily accessed using the common name index. Gardiner has chosen the best flowering shrubs for gardeners, from the Abelia, Buddleja, and Camellia to the Xanthoceras, Yucca, and Zanthoxylum. Essential horticultural notes accompany each entry and include expected height and spread after 10 years, season of flowering, preferred position, soil and pruning requirements, and USDA hardiness zone rating.

About Author: Jim Gardiner is Director of Horticulture and Chief Curator for all the Royal Horticultural Society gardens in the United Kingdom. Previously he was (Chief) Curator at RHS Garden Wisley for 22 years, Curator at the Hillier Gardens and Arboretum, and held a variety of position at other botanic gardens.

Hardback 280 x 215 mm, 436 pages, RRP £35.00 plus post and packing

We are able to offer it to Members at a pre-publication price of UK £26.00, Overseas £38.00

ORDER FORM FOR PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER

Please supply the following :

...copy/copies of **Encyclopedia Of Flowering Shrubs** **UK @ £26.00**

...copy/copies of **Encyclopedia Of Flowering Shrubs** **EU RoW (surface) £38.00**
(for Airmail to RoW £48.00)

Please find enclosed my cheque for £ made payable to AGS Publications Ltd for the above Special Offer. Payment can also be made by credit card. The address to which your credit card statement is despatched must be stated in the right hand panel below.

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'Please note that no orders will be accepted at the pre-publication price after 31 October 2011



The Timber Press Guide to Succulent Plants of the World: A Comprehensive Reference to More than 2000 Species by Fred Dortort

The Timber Press Guide to Succulent Plants of the World is a comprehensive guide to more than 2000 succulents. This groundbreaking book begins with an overview of where succulents are found and how they live, along with information on growing and caring for succulents. The remaining chapters consist of comprehensive, richly illustrated descriptions of more than 2000 succulents, including both familiar species like *Sedum morganianum*, *Aloe variegata*, and *Agave victoriae-reginae* as well as less common, more exotic plants like *Kalanchoe nyikae*, *Othonna euphorbioides*, *Cephalopentandra echirrhosa*, and *Adenia puehuelii*.

Each entry includes information on the plant's native habitat, its cultivation requirements, and its horticultural potential, with more than 750 colour photos for identification. As useful to growers as to collectors, this comprehensive, accessible volume will be the standard reference for years to come.

About Author: Fred Dortort lectures widely on succulent plants, has taught classes at the University of California Botanical Garden, and has written numerous articles for the Cactus and Succulent Journal, as well as publications such as Pacific Horticulture and Garden.

Hardback 280 x 215 mm, 344 pages, RRP £35.00 plus post and packing

We are able to offer it to Members at a special price of **UK £26.00 plus £4.25 (total £30.25)** and **Overseas £26.00 plus £7.95 postage and packaging (total £33.95)**.

ORDER FORM FOR NEW BOOK OFFER

Please supply the following :

- ...copy/copies of **Succulent Plants of the World** **UK @ £30.25**
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SAMOS SPRING

Mid April 2012

LEADERS: MARGARET & DAVID THORNE

Cost: circa £1,200

Residents of mountainous Samos have fought hard over several centuries to remain Greek, but the island's flora has much in common with Turkey which lies barely 2 kilometres away. The combination of European and Asian floristic elements and a wide altitudinal range, on a beautiful and culturally rich Aegean Island, make Samos an irresistible destination for an AGS Tour. Our base will be a comfortable hotel in a fishing village on the sunny south coast. From here we will explore the length and breadth of the island: the peaks of the Ambelos range at its centre, down through wooded slopes (some now sadly depleted by fire) and meadows, to lakes and salt pans at sea level. We may have to search to find *Galanthus elwesii*, *G. gracilis*, *Crocus balansae* and *C. nubigena* in flower, but *Iris suaveolens*, *Fritillaria bithynica*, *F. carica*, *Gladiolus italica*, *G. illyricus* and the beautiful yellow grape hyacinth, *Muscari macrocarpum* should all be at their best. *Paeonia mascula* brightens forest clearings, *Campanula hagielia* covers limestone rock faces, local endemics *Aristolochia incisiva*, *Lithodora hispidula* and *Erodium vetteri* are special finds, and the cheerful colours of *Anemone pavonina*, *Chrysanthemum coronarium* and *Anthemis chia* are widespread. As ever in Greece, we should see plenty of orchids. No less than 58 species have been recorded from the island, but more importantly there will be a good selection close to the hotel for those who enjoy a pre-breakfast walk. The island is also an excellent place for birds, butterflies, reptiles and marine animals.



FORTH COMING AGS TOURS

Turkey – April 2012 (Leaders: Rannveig & Bob Wallis)

Greece (Samos) – *April (Leaders: David & Margaret Thorne)

Western Australia – August/September (Leader: Mark Hangar)

Crete – October (Leaders: David & Margaret thorne)

For further information on these tours please contact AGS Centre.

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

SOUTH AFRICA – THE EASTERN CAPE

February 2012

(Leader: CAMERON MCMASTER)

DATES AND COSTS TO BE CONFIRMED

This will be a repeat of the Tour that ran in January of this year. South Africa is justifiably famous for the spring flowers of the Cape and Namaqualand. But it has many other botanically interesting areas waiting to be explored and this tour gives the opportunity to see the flora of the summer rainfall regions in the East of the country. Cameron and Rhoda McMaster have led a number of botanical tours to the Eastern Cape. Cameron also wrote the article on this region that appeared in the September 2006 South African Special Edition of the Alpine Gardener. This tour will coincide with the peak flowering time in mid-January. The exact dates have yet to be fixed, but the tour is likely to commence in Port Elizabeth on or about 10th January.



The maximum size of the group will be 10 people. This will allow the party to visit many special destinations well off the usual tourist routes, staying mostly on farms and in small villages so as to be right in the countryside. Each day hikes or 4X4 excursions to areas that would not normally be accessible to ordinary tourists form part of the itinerary. Visits to San Rock Shelters and rock art sites as well as game viewing in private reserves form important additions to the botanical experience. There are a number of major vegetation types in the East Cape from Valley Thicket and Karroo/Namib vegetation to Alpine grassland and Sub-Tropical coastal flora.

The tours comprise a round trip of 14 days, starting and ending in Port Elizabeth. During this time all the vegetation types are sampled and clients are shown all the specialities in the Eastern Cape, including many rare endemics. Succulents, Geophytes including the Clivias and Cycads are some of the more interesting flora to be seen. Guided hikes through Alpine flora, Afromontane forest and Subtropical coastal bush are highlights. The East Cape not only has spectacular flowers but a wide variety of habitats and magnificent scenery.

For further information on this tour please contact AGS Centre.

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

GARDENS AROUND GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN

May 25th – June 1st 2012

TOUR LEADER – GERBEN TJEERDSMAN (GOTHENBURG BOTANIC GARDENS)

Cost – in the region of £1170 per person to include flights from London to Gothenburg. Single Supplement £215.

The tour will be based at a hotel in central Gothenburg and travel within Sweden will be by private coach to each of the gardens. Accommodation will be on a bed and breakfast basis, with members free to arrange their own lunches and evening meals.

Gardens to be visited include many private gardens not normally open to visitors around Uddevall, Varberg, and Kinnekulle as well as the Gerbianska Gardens, Peter Korn's garden at Eskilsby and, of course, the Gothenburg Botanic Garden where the tour will be led by Henrik Zetterlund and his staff. The tour will be rounded off by a 'Potting Shed' Party at the Botanic Gardens.

The rock garden at Gothenburg Botanic Garden

If you wish to register interest in this Tour please contact AGS Centre, Tel: 01386 554790 or email: ags@alpinegardensociety.net.

If you would like more information on the proposed itinerary, please contact Sandra Rice, Deputy Director of Tours on sandra.rice@agsgroups.org



The rock garden at Gothenburg Botanic Garden

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



Narcissi of Iberia

2 weeks in February/March 2012

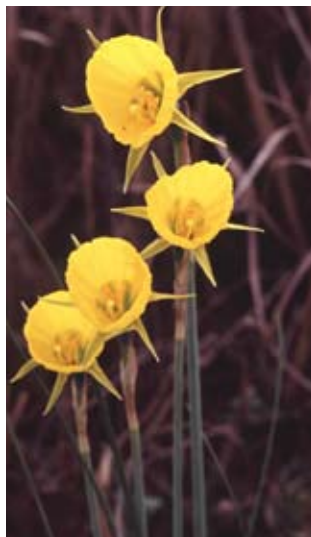
Cost **£TBA**

Leaders: Ian Bennallick and Paul Green

This tour takes us to the Narcissus hotspot of Iberia, the centre of evolution and diversity of these wonderful flowers. We'll explore the most important locales for the early-flowering species, starting in Andalusia where we'll encounter *Narcissus assoanus* and endemic *Narcissus cuatrecasasii*. *Narcissus hispanicus* is plentiful in Spanish Fir forests and in the Sierra de Alcaparain is ghostly *Narcissus cantabricus*. *Narcissus bulbocodium*, *Narcissus cordubensis* and *Narcissus jonquilla* adorn meadows dotted with cork oaks.



Based in one of Andalusia's most beautiful 'white villages', peaceful Benaojan, we'll also find plentiful Orchids, Fritillaries and *Linarias* in rich limestone turf, while cliffs hold a plethora of charming saxifrages and elegant *Ornithogalum reverchonii*. Next we explore Central Portugal where drifts of *Narcissus asturiensis* and *Crocus carpetanus* colour the mountains of the Serra da Estrela. *Narcissus calcicola* and *Narcissus obesus* prefer the rugged limestone of the Serra de Porto de Mos while the in the coastal Serra da Arrabida, *Narcissus bulbocodium* is abundant amongst *Tulipa sylvestris*, Two-leaved Gennaria, *Arisarum simmorhinum* and *Anemone palmata*. Distinctive *Narcissus triandrus* (and some fine hybrids with the rare *Narcissus scaberulus*) and sweetly-scented *Narcissus papyraceus* enjoy loamy banks in the Tejo drainage, an area home to several early flowering orchids.



Iran - Dionysias of Kerman and Shiraz - March 2012

Cost £TBA

Leaders: Ian Green and Mehran Etemadi

Dionysia enthusiasts will already know that so many of this choice genus originate in Iran and in particular the great arc of the Zagros Mountains that stretch from the Turkish border almost to the Persian Gulf. In the far south and east of these great mountains are isolated many little known and beautiful species. Pink mounds of *Dionysia curvifolia* adorn the slopes of Kerman's impressive Schir Kuh range whilst nearby mountains hold the fantastic *Dionysia janthina* whose silvery mounds are covered in tight masses of pink often yellow-eyed blooms. Back near Shiraz we'll find a third pink species, lovely *bryoides* flowering above slopes dotted with tulips, both red *Tulipa systola* and the rare yellow form of the same plant. Here too are *Gentiana olivieri*, all manner of *Astragalus*, and fine pink *Fritillaria gibbosa*. The wilds of Dasht-e Arjan to the west of Shiraz hold plentiful wild Crown Imperials as well as *Muscari* and orchids. There are orange and yellow *Dionysias* too, rare *Dionysia sarvestanica*, bushy *Dionysia revolute* and amid the Zagrosian oak forest colonies of tight flowered *Dionysia zagrica* and *Dionysia khusestanica*. Iran's fabulous historical and architectural heritage cannot be ignored and by a happy co-incidence we are able to start the tour in the ancient majesty of Persepolis and finish amid the sparkling blue-tiled mosques and palaces of Isfahan.



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The Russian Caucasus

2 weeks in June/July 2012

Cost = £TBA

Leaders: Ian Green and Pavel Krivka

The Russian Western Caucasus is peaceful, hopeful that the 2014 Winter Olympics, to be held in this 'Russian Switzerland' will see many more visitors to a little-known yet stunningly beautiful part of the world. We start at the Olympic site at Krasnaja Poljana above the Black Sea town of Sochi. Meadows support colonies of *Fritillaria latifolia* and valleys harbour *Centaurea fischeri* and the strange *Sredinskya grandis*, a type of primula.

On the Lagonaki plateau we'll find flowers from spring and summer all flowering at once in the karstic scenery. The yellow spring gentian *Gentiana oshtenica* is a common plant here and we'll find *Primula amoena*, yellow *Fritillaria collina*, and blue *Corydalis conorrhiza*. *Daphne circassica* and endemic *Campanula dzaaku* require a little more walking. In Teberda *Primula renifolia* blooms by waterfalls and lovely large-flowered *Delphinium caucasicum* holds its beautiful flowers above the screes. A spectacular show of *Lilium keselringianum* thrive in lower meadows and higher we'll find true alpine splendour with *Campanula biebersteiniana*, *Omphalodes lojkae*, *Eritrichium caucasicum* and the yellow form of *Pedicularis nordmanniana*. Massed displays of the lovely *Pulsatilla aurea* take the breath away.

