

Alpine news

Big ideas for small plants!

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society

Another year is almost over and it has certainly been a busy one for the Society. Inside this issue are a few pictures of some of the Award recipients at the Society's AGM this year. More pictures are on the AGS website. Pictured here is Professor John Good, OBE who was presented with the Society's most prestigious award – The Lyttel Trophy. A profile of John will appear in a future edition of The alpine Gardener. Congratulations John!



Book Offers

The 20% Book Discount for Members is to continue next year. It is now possible to purchase AGS Gift Vouchers that can be redeemed against any purchase of books, merchandise, seed or membership subscription.

Pre-publication Book offers – Update

We are still awaiting receipt from the publishers of 'Growing Hardy Orchids' – now due out mid-December and the 'Encyclopaedia of Flowering Shrubs' – delayed until February. These are the latest expected delivery dates we have received from the publishers. We are hopeful that 'Mountain Flower Walks' by Jim Jermyn will be out before Christmas.

Seed Exchange - On-line Seed Ordering

By the time you read this the list will have been posted out and if anyone has not received a copy, please contact the Centre (see back page for details). If you have access to a computer do try the On-line ordering system– it really is very simple and easy to use.

Volunteers needed to help with the seed distribution. In particular, to organise the rota of helpers to fill orders at AGS Centre in Pershore. If you are interested in helping, please contact Diane Clement at diane.clement@agsgroups.org or telephone AGS Centre 01386 554790.

On behalf of the Society may I wish all our members around the world a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Christine McGregor – Society Director

New AGS Gift Vouchers

ORDER YOURS NOW



Gift Vouchers are available as £5, £10, £20 and £50 vouchers

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Images of some Award recipients at the Society's AGM held in Stratford on 12 November 2011

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



Ray Cobb receiving his Award of Honour from Val Lee, accompanied by his wife Sylvia



Dr Evelyn Stevens from Dunblane receiving the Kath Dryden Award in recognition of her work on the genus *Meconopsis*



Harry Jans travelled over from the Netherlands to receive the Christopher Grey-Wilson Award for the best feature article in *The Alpine Gardener*



Vic Aspland receiving the Lionel and Joyce Bacon Award for the best Practical article in *The Alpine Gardener*

Noticeboard

AGS CENTRE OFFICE CLOSURE

CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR 2011 – 2012

The office at the AGS Centre, Pershore will be closed from 5.00 pm on Thursday, 22 December 2011 and will re-open at 9.00 am on Tuesday, 3 January 2012

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR A DIRECTOR OF TOURS

The Society is seeking a new Director of Tours to assume responsibility for the organisation of its tours programme run by AGS Expeditions Ltd. AGS tours visit a variety of destinations and offer members the opportunity to see alpine plants growing in their natural habitat. The Director is responsible for the day to day running of AGS Expeditions Ltd, but the company operates in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the appropriate committees of the Society. There is an Assistant Director of Tours who currently provides support with some aspects of the role and AGS Centre deals with bookings and payments. The role is non stipendiary.

If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Christine McGregor, Society Director (Tel: 01386 554790) in the first instance. The deadline for expressions of interest is 31 January 2012.



Items for the Newsletter and Copy Dates

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

Deadline for the March 2012 issue is 16th January 2012



NEW AGS 2012 CALENDAR

SPECIAL PRICE £2 EACH

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Noticeboard

AGS AWARDS AND GRANTS 2012

The Society considers applications for AGS Travel Awards annually and applications for these awards must be received by 31st 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: Jackie Cooper c/o AGS Centre or email: jackie@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 31st 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 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 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 M Everson, Rock Garden Team Leader, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3AB. Email: j.everson@kew.org Tel: 0208 3325585.

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

DERBY GROUP SALE

Snowdrop, Bulb and Alpine Plant - Sunday 5 February 2012

The Derby Group of the AGS is holding a Snowdrop, Bulb and Alpine Plant Sale in the Breadsall Memorial Hall, Brookside Road, Breadsall, Derby, DE21 5LF. (Venue access from the A38 and is about 20 minutes from the M1 – Junction 25 and 28). Doors open at 11.00 am. Entry is £1 including refreshments. Specialist Nurseries in attendance, including 2 snowdrop suppliers and members' plant stall.

For more information call David Charlton on 01332 668915 or email: david.charlton41@btinternet.com. - David Charlton, Local Group Secretary

BLACKPOOL SHOW 17TH MARCH 2012

Collegiate High School, Blackpool Old Road, Blackpool, FY3 7LS

Diane Clement will give the afternoon lecture entitled 'Hepaticas – A Growing Obsession'.

Everyone is welcome and it will hopefully give non-members a taste of the type of lecture we have at our local group meetings. Breakfast, lunches and afternoon teas will also be available at reasonable cost, including bacon barmes, cook's famous hot pot and a selection of cakes. Several of the top alpine nurseries will bring along a selection of plants to buy. If you have any spare plants why not bring them along for the member's plant sales.

The North Lancashire Group would also like to invite anybody staying in the northwest for the weekend to their lecture evening on the Thursday prior to the show. Peter Sheasby will be giving his lecture entitled 'Spring in Western Australia'. Everything kicks off at 7.30 pm at The Methodist Church, Greaves, Lancaster. I hope you will all be able to join us for what will be a great weekend for alpine plants and growers. - Lionel Clarkson, Show Secretary

What's On

FRITILLARIA GROUP OF THE ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY SPRING SHOW AND DISPLAY - SUNDAY 18 MARCH 2012

To be held at Hillside Events Centre ,RHS Garden, Wisley Surrey.

FRITILLARIA BULB CULTIVATION DAY PROGRAMME

9.00 - Doors open and Coffee. Plants and Bulbs will be on sale during the day

10.00 - Speaker: Paul Cumbleton
– Tips, Tricks and Technology

12.30 - Lunch Break

10.00 - Speaker: Rannveig Wallis
– Maintaining a Bulb Collection

15.30 - Raffle

16.00 - End of Show

Photographic displays on view in Main Hall and Garden Room

All times are approximate. For more information please see our website: www.fritillaria.org.uk

**DIARY DATE : Autumn Meeting & AGM- 23 September 2012
at RHS Garden, Wisley, Surrey.**

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.Philip.Blyth@agsgroups.org

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
Nottingham – Christine Foster (from Alwyn Foster)

LIST OF AGS LOCAL GROUPS

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

BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT: Hon. Sec: Mrs Sonia Morris, 55 Grange Road, Stourbridge, DY9 7LH. Tel: 01384 378609. Meetings: The Unitarian New Meeting Church, 31 Ryland Street, Five Ways, Birmingham, B16 8BL, every 2nd Friday, January to April; September; October and December. Birmingham Botanic Gardens Lecture, 3rd Thursday in August. Roy Elliott Memorial Lecture 3rd Saturday in November. Garden visits March to August. Subscription: £6.00, Family £10.00. Visitors welcome.

BRISTOL: Hon. Sec: Mrs Marion Monahan, 90 Brentry Lane, Brentry, Bristol, BS10 6RQ. Tel: 0117 9503422. Email: marion.monahan@agsgroups.org. Meetings: The Methodist Hall, Westbury-on-Trym, 3rd Friday 7.30 pm., September to May. Subscription: £10 per person; Visitors £2.

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

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

7.15 pm. Subscription: £5.00. Visitors welcome.

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

CHILTERN: Hon. Secs: Dr John Noakes, Old Church Cottage, Chapel Lane, Long Marston, Tring, HP23 4QT. Tel: 01296 660072. Email: john.noakes@btinternet.com Meetings: Great Kingshill Village Hall, Nr. High Wycombe, at 7.30 pm., 2nd Friday each month, except June, July & August. Visitors very welcome. Subscription: £6.00; Family £9.00.

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

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

COTSWOLD & MALVERN: Hon. Sec: Mrs Pam Turner, Bramblegarth, Forge Lane, Upleadon, Newent, GL18 1EF. Tel: 01531 820666. Meetings: 1st Wednesday, Redmarley Village Hall, Redmarley, Gloucestershire, 7.30pm., September to April,

Local Group News

exc. January. Garden visits May to July. Spring Show, Maisemore Village Hall, near Gloucester. Subscription: £8.00; Family £11.00; Visitors & Non-Members £1.50.

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

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

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

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

EPPING FOREST: Hon. Sec: Ms Kit Strange, 5A Hartham Road, Bruce Grove, London, N17 6RZ. Email: Kit.Strange@agsgroups.org. Meetings: Theydon Bois Village Hall, Theydon Bois, Nr

Epping, Essex, CM16 7ER, on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from September to May [except in 2010, the December meeting is Wednesday, 15th]. Subscription: £5.00 plus £2.00 a meeting.

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

HAMPSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mrs Sylvia Marshall, Brookside, 84 Granada Road, Hedge End Southampton, SO30 4AQ. Tel: 01489 782952. Email: sylvia.marshall@agsgroups.org Meetings: Chilworth Hall, Chilworth, Southampton, at 7.15 pm. 4th Tuesday, Sept. to May; (excl. 3rd Tuesday in December). Summer outings. Subscription: AGS Member £6.00; AGS Family Member £8.00; Single £7.00; Family £10.00; Visitors £2.50.

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

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

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

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IRELAND-ULSTER: Hon. Sec: Mr William McKelvey, 7 Mount Charles North, Bessbrook, Newry, BT35 7DW. Tel: 028 3083 8006. E-mail: william.mckelvey01@btinternet.com. Website: www.alpinegarden-ulster.org.uk Meetings: Main Hall, St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast, at 2.30 pm. Saturdays, September to March. Summer garden visits. Subscription: £9.00; Family £14.00.

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

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

KENT-TUNBRIDGE WELLS: Hon. Sec: Mrs Anne Hill, Hamptons, Blackhurst Lane, Tunbridge Wells, TW2 4QG. Tel: 01892 824813. Meetings: Main Hall, King Charles the Martyr Church, Warwick Park, Tunbridge Wells, 7.30 for 8.00 pm. 1st Monday of the month, unless it falls on a Bank Holiday, then the 2nd Monday, September to May, with Group BBQ in June/July. Subscription: £5.00; Visitors £1.00.

KENT-WEST: Hon. Sec: Mr Rodney Starmer, Strathmore, Tan House Road, Oxted, Surrey, RH0 9PE. Tel: 01883 713043. Meetings: Crofton Halls, Orpington (adjacent to Orpington Station) second Tuesday in the month [unless a Public Holiday when it is the next day, the Tuesday] at 7.30 pm. Subscription: £10.00.

LANCASHIRE-EAST: Hon. Sec: Cliff Booker, 11 Horsefield Avenue, Whitworth, Rochdale, OL12 8SW. Tel: 01706 356385. Email: bookcliffo@aol.com. Meetings: Ramsbottom Civic Hall, Nr the junction Bolton St. & Bridge St., Ramsbottom, Nr Bury, usually on Mondays at 7.45 pm., September to June. Summer outings. Subscription: £1.00 plus room charge at each meeting. Lecture programme sent on request, SAE please. Visitors welcome.

LANCASHIRE-NORTH: Hon. Sec: Mrs Liz Walsh, 3 Thirk Road, Bowerham, Lancaster, LA1 4NF. Tel: 01524 36627. Meetings: Lancaster Methodist Church, Scotforth Road, Greaves, Lancaster, LA1 4TE on 3rd Thursday, Sept to April 7.30 pm. Summer outings. Subscription: £5.00; Family £7.00; Visitors £2.00. [There is a charge of 50p per lecture at meetings].

LANCASHIRE-SOUTH: Hon. Sec: Joan Vincent, 34 Burden Road, Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside, CH46 6BQ. Tel: 0151 678 1621. Meetings: in the Emmanuel Church Hall, Cambridge Road, Southport. (north on A565). Usually 2nd Saturday of month Sept. to April. 2.00 for 2.30 pm. Subscription: £2.00; Family £3.50.

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

LINCOLNSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mr Mark Childerhouse, The Gardens, 12 Vicarage Lane, Grasby, Barnetby, DN38 6AU. Tel: 01652 629122. Email: hen.chouse@btinternet.com Meetings: New Waltham Village Hall, Station Road, New Waltham, Grimsby, last Wednesday in most months, 7.30 pm. Group's website: <http://www.alpinegardeners.co.uk>

LONDON-CENTRAL: Hon. Sec: Ms Sue Morris, 23 Allison Road, London, N8 0AN. Tel: 020 8341 3262. E-mail: suemorris33@hotmail.com

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Meetings: Royal Horticultural Society, New Hall, Greycourt Street, London SW1, on 1st day of RHS Shows, September to June 6.15 pm. Programme on request. Visitors welcome.

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

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

MID-ANGLIA: Hon. Sec: Mrs Veronica Munson, The Priory, Flowton, Ipswich, IP8 4LH. Tel: 01473 658425. Meetings: Community House, Birdbrook, usually the 2nd Saturday each month. Garden meetings in Summer. Subscription: £2.00.

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

NORTHAMPTON: Hon. Sec: Richard Jeffery, 39 Ridgeway, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, NN8 4RU. Tel: 01933 673938. Email: richard.jeffery@btconnect.com Meetings: Weston Favell Parish Hall, Northampton, 3rd Wednesday each

month, (exc August) at 7.30pm. Subscription: £10.00 Family; £7.00 Single. Reduction for AGS Members: £8.00 Family; £6.00 Single.

NORTH EAST ENGLAND:

[Northumberland & Durham] Hon. Sec: Miss Sue Gill, 19 Grangewood Terrace, Stobswood, Morpeth, NE61 5QE. Tel: 01670 790782. Meetings: St Mary's Church Hall, Ponteland, 2nd Monday in the month at 7.30 pm. Garden visits June & July. Subscription: £8.00.

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

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

SHROPSHIRE: Hon. Sec: Mr W L Jones, 26 Wharf Close, St Georges, Telford, TF2 9PX. Tel: 01952 619659. Meetings: 3rd Monday, September to April exc. December & January, 7.30 pm. at the Darwin Community Centre, Frankwell, Shrewsbury.

SOMERSET: Hon. Sec: Sue Horswood, Freshfields, Fenny Bridges, Honiton, Devon, EX14 3BG. Tel: 01404 850868. E-mail: SKRAH@androsace.demon.co.uk Meetings: 4th Wednesday of month at 7.30 pm, The Frank Bond Community Centre, 84 Mountway Road, Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 5DS. Subscription: £6.00; Family £10.00. Visitors £1.00.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Lectures, Outings, Garden Visits, Plant Sales, Tables,
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Secretary: Fermi de Sousa, 24 Old Ford Road, Redesdale 3444, Victoria, Australia.
Email: Fermi.DeSousa@cobaw.vic.gov.au

DENMARK

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

HOLLAND

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

NEW ZEALAND

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

The Dorset Group Local Show and Plant Sale

The Dorset Group Local Show and Plant Sale will be held on Saturday 7th April 2012 at the Allendale Centre Wimborne Dorset. Details from John & Christine Chappell

Phone 01300 320247 or e-mail johnchappell321@btinternet.com

Online Flower Show

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

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

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CLASS



THE ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

List of Officers, Annual Report & Accounts

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MRS V LEE
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B E WARDLEY
R J A LEEDS
D K HASELGROVE
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C GREY-WILSON
J J MCGREGOR

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President
MRS V LEE
Treasurer
PROF J GALLOWAY
Director of Shows
RAY DREW
Director of Tours
M LINDOP
Webmaster
J MCGREGOR
Chair of Committee
VACANCY

COMMITTEE

To retire in 2012
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T TEAL
To retire in 2013
DR G MAWSON
MRS J WALKER
To retire in 2014
MRS D CLEMENT
R HORSWOOD
E C JARRETT

LYTTEL TROPHY HOLDERS

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



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

in the Society's Newsletter and on its website. Any member interested in seeing a full set of the accounts may obtain one by making written application to the Society's Director.

Comments that follow relate to items in the full accounts and their accompanying notes where significant variations occur compared to the previous year or where attention is otherwise drawn to particular noteworthy features. If small differences occur between the comparative figures for 2009/2010 in these accounts and those published previously for that year, these may be due to late submission of information or the re-classification of sums by

category.

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

As this is my last report to the Society as Honorary Treasurer, I would like to thank particularly Christine McGregor and her staff at AGS Centre for their assistance and support over the past seven years.

2. Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2012.1

1.1. Incoming Resources

The total incoming resources for 2010/2011 amounted to £592,905, a slight decrease compared with £639,681 last year. This is largely explained by no large legacies having been received during the year. However, the Society is extremely grateful for those legacies and donations that were received, and thanks most sincerely the members who have assisted the Society in this tangible way.

Income related to the International Conference held in April 2011 came to £150,030 but was more than offset by expenditure (see below).

There has been little change in the income received from subscriptions (£149,419 in 2010/2011; £145,600 in 2009/2010), despite the increase in level of individual membership subscriptions (by approx. 12%) introduced this year; these figures partly mask a further reduction in membership numbers.

Although interest income from investments appears to be up (£71,940 against £61,079), this is mainly attributable to a timing issue in relation to when such income was received into the Society's bank account. Also, due to problems of cash flow and the necessity to sell some investments during the year, the interest received from remaining investments is likely to be reduced during 2011/2012.

Trading income for AGS Expeditions Ltd was £114,813 (£170,617 in 2009/2010) and for AGS Publications Ltd was £49,377 (£45,052 in 2009/2010.) A total of £26,177 was contributed to the Society under deeds of covenant by these subsidiary companies (£8,152 in 2009/2010). This is a commendable outcome, for which the Director of Tours and the Director of Publications are to be congratulated. In addition, it is noteworthy that AGS Expeditions Ltd has managed to repay the outstanding loan it had previously received from the

Society. However, there remains an outstanding loan of £74,306 made by the Society to AGS Publications Ltd.

1.2. Resources Expended

At £682,840, the total resources expended in 2010/2011 showed an increase over the figure of £610,867 for 2009/2010. Although the expenditure attributable to the two trading companies was significantly reduced (£140,307 compared with £204,587 in 2009/2010), the overall increase in expenditure was largely related to the International Conference, either directly (£168,322), or indirectly through the increased size of the Conference Bulletin and awards made to enable attendance by students. Thanks are due particularly to the East Surrey Group for agreeing that contributions could be made from the Hendry Fund towards the Conference Bulletin (£5,000), support for one of the lectures and awards for students.

Historically, the Seed Distribution scheme has usually broken even or thereabouts, as has been the intention. However in this year there was a larger than acceptable discrepancy between receipts (£12,910) and costs (£19,195), the underlying reasons for which will have to be addressed as soon as possible.

Staff costs were down, at £88,135 compared with £106,177 in 2009/2010. This represents a tremendous achievement by the Director in terms of juggling resources to reduce costs and still managing to provide a high level of service to members.

1.3. Net (Outgoing)/Incoming/ Resources for the Year

A deficit of £89,935 has been recorded for this year compared with a surplus of £28,814 last year. The latter occurred only because a large legacy had been received in that year, otherwise the deficit then would have been greater than this year's.

1.4. Other Recognised Gains and Losses

Some further recovery has occurred in the nominal paper value of the Society's investments and a profit was made on investments sold; together these amount to £41,756.

1.5. Net movement in Funds and Fund Balances at 31 August 2011

The value of the Society's assets at the end of the

year has decreased overall by £48,179 (2.08%) and now stands at a total of £2,270,590.

2. Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2011

This shows the make-up of the Society's current assets and liabilities. Tangible fixed assets (£286,409) include the value of the lease on the Society's Headquarters Building, the fixtures and fittings therein, and its trophies, medals and library. The value of the Society's investments has increased by 5.1% over the year.

Of the £85,352 held in stock, most can be attributed to publications. The amount due from debtors (£31,440) includes prepayments and income receivable but not physically received in the bank account. Cash at the bank is a much lower figure compared with last year, which partly reflects the Society's challenges over cash flow.

The amount falling due to creditors (£82,723) is less than last year (£117,698), though that was abnormally high because of advance receipts from delegates intending to attend the International Conference.

The section on Income Funds shows the breakdown between Restricted and Unrestricted Funds. The latter category includes the General Fund and some Designated Funds, the names and number of which have been rationalised to reflect more closely the key activities of the Society. Restricted Funds can be used only for the objects of the charity within conditions specified by the donor. The Revaluation Reserve is the result of the successive annual revaluations of

investments, trophies, etc.

3. Commentary

When the effects of the International Conference are stripped out of this year's accounts, a deficit of approximately £50,000 still remains. It would take the recruitment of nearly 2,000 new members (without any losses) to cover such a deficit. Looked at another way, it could be covered by increasing subscriptions for existing members by about £8 a year! As that would probably be self-defeating, it emphasises the point made on several previous occasions that an exceptional effort is required of all existing members to recruit new, and preferably youngish, members. There is no doubt that one-to-one recruitment is a proven method for increasing membership numbers. Although further reductions in costs can doubtless be made, and there is a determination to do so, it seems unlikely that these could be achieved without some diminution in the services and benefits provided for members.

4. Conclusion

Overall, the accounts show that the Society is in a relatively healthy state, though the inherent imbalance between regular income and levels of expenditure is not sustainable other than in the short-term. If the quality and volume of services and activities enjoyed by members is to be maintained, there would appear to be few solutions other than to overcome the lack of commitment by the current membership as a whole to the recruitment of new members.

**Colin Smith, Hon. Treasurer, AGS,
November 2011**

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

Independent Auditor's Statement to the Trustees of Alpine Garden Society

We have examined the summarised financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2011 which are comprised of the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Auditor

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

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial

statements with the full annual financial statements and Trustees' Annual Report.

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

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of Alpine Garden Society for the year ended 31 August 2011.

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

27 Sansome Walk
Worcester
WR1 1NU
12 November 2011

Alpine Garden Society



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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2011 £	Total 2010 £
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary income				
Subscriptions	149,419	-	149,419	145,600
Legacies receivable	10,880	3,640	14,520	164,268
Other voluntary income	8,675	-	8,675	19,804
Activities for generating funds				
Advertising income - Bulletins	11,468	-	11,468	10,832
Sponsors for major exhibits	-	-	-	-
Seed distributions	12,910	-	12,910	15,455
Other activities for generating funds income	9,753	-	9,753	6,974
Conference income	150,030	-	150,030	-
Trading income from subsidiary companies	164,190	-	164,190	215,669
Investment income	57,665	14,275	71,940	61,079
Total incoming resources	574,990	17,915	592,905	639,681
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>				
Charitable activities				
Cost of generating funds				
Staff costs	88,135	-	88,135	106,177
Bulletins	122,991	-	122,991	111,394
Costs of major exhibits	8,807	-	8,807	10,802
Seed distribution costs	19,195	-	19,195	15,340
Other direct costs	63,447	10,960	74,407	91,044
Other support costs	49,983	-	49,983	61,893
Conference costs	168,322	-	168,322	-
Expenditure of subsidiary companies	140,307	-	140,307	204,587
Governance costs	10,643	50	10,693	9,630
Total resources expended	671,830	11,010	682,840	610,867
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	(96,840)	6,905	(89,935)	28,814
Other recognised gains and losses				
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	32,363
Gains on investments	41,756	-	41,756	39,965
Net movement in funds	(55,084)	6,905	(48,179)	101,142
Funds balances at 1 September 2010	2,170,622	148,147	2,318,769	2,217,627
Fund balances at 31 August 2011	2,115,538	155,052	2,270,590	2,318,769

Summarised consolidated balance sheet as at 31 August 2010

	2011		2010	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible assets	286,409		290,578	
Investments	1,881,930		1,790,173	
		2,168,339		2,080,751
Current Assets				
Stocks	85,352		78,591	
Debtors	31,440		41,569	
Cash at bank and in ha	68,182		235,556	
		184,974		355,716
Creditors: amounts falling due v	(82,723)		(117,698)	
Net Current Assets		102,251		238,018
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		2,270,590		2,318,769
Income Funds				
Restricted Funds:				
E F Hendry Bequest Fu	137,936		132,127	
Wilsher Fund	17,116		16,020	
		155,052		148,147
Unrestricted Funds:				
Designated Funds	293,248		1,432,501	
Other charitable funds				
General Funds	1,148,368		35,899	
Revaluation Reserve	673,922		702,222	
		2,115,538		2,170,622
		2,270,590		2,318,769

Trustees Statement

The summarised accounts contained in this report are extracted from the financial statements prepared by the Society and approved by the Trustees on 12 November 2011. The full financial statements were externally scrutinised by Kendall Wadley LLP the Society's statutory auditors, and give an unqualified opinion. The full financial statements will be submitted to the Charity Commission in due course.

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

A G S Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcestershire, WR10 3JP
Christine McGregor (Director)

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].



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]



Mountain Flower Walks - The Eastern Alps incl.

The Dolomites by Jim Jermyn

This is the second volume in the series on Mountain Flower Walks published by the society. This book provides the reader with a guide to many hills and valleys where the mountain flowers of Europe bloom [No. 809 on list]

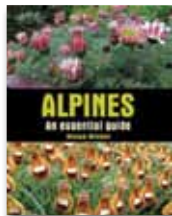
Due out in December



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]



Alpines ~ An essential guide

By Michael Mitchell

Alpines have been a favourite plant for generations of gardeners and are as popular now as ever. Historically they were used in rockeries, but they offer far more potential for today's gardens, which are generally becoming smaller. Whether planted in troughs, window boxes, raised beds or between paving, alpines offer fantastic versatility and colour for nearly every month of the year.

Aimed at both the beginner and the more experienced enthusiast, this essential guide contains a wealth of beautifully illustrated information.

Topics covered include:

Traditional and contemporary settings for growing plants - Ideas for incorporating alpine plants into a new or existing garden plot - Advice on planting and maintenance - Information on propagation methods and facilities - An A-Z of over 180 of the best alpine plants, with a useful table of flowering times

144 pages, Hardback 246 x 189mm, 217 colour photographs, (RRP: £19.95 plus postage and packing)

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...copy/copies of Alpines ~ An essential guide	Overseas EU @ £19.49
...copy/copies of Alpines ~ An essential guide	RoW (surface) @ £19.99

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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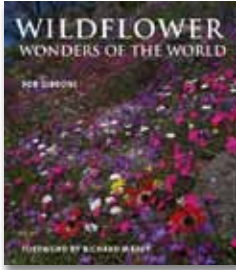
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Please note that no orders will be accepted at the discounted price after 31st January 2012



Wildflower Wonders of the World

by Bob Gibbons

From the Mojave Desert in the USA to the Italian Dolomites, and from South Africa's Cape National Park to the Stirling Ranges of Australia, this book showcases the most spectacular displays of wild blooms on the planet. Each site account begins with a locator map and info panel detailing timing, key species, etc. This is followed by an informative and readable account by the expert author (who has personally visited nearly all of the sites covered) accompanied by a handful of stunning images of each location showing the displays of flowers. In addition information on the conservation status of the locations is covered in the book.

About Author:

Bob Gibbons is a renowned botanist based in Dorset who has travelled much of the world in search of wildlife. He has led a number of nature tours and is also a member of the Society.

Hardcover 260 x 220 mm, 192 pages, (RRP £19.99 plus post and packing)

SAVE 25% off RRP. We are able to offer it to Members at a special price of **UK £14.99 plus £2.50 (total £17.49), overseas EU Air £14.99 plus £4.50 (total £19.49), RoW surface £14.99 plus £5.00 postage and packaging (total £19.99).**

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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 discounted price after 31st January 2012

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515	Waterwise Plants For Sustainable Gardens By Lauren Springer Ogden And Scott Ogden	£13.50
621	Dirr's Encyclopedia Of Trees & Shrubs By Michael A Dirr	£40.00
622	Great Gardens of Britain by Helena Attlee	£13.50
804	Growing Hardy Orchids By Philip Seaton Et Al	£12.50
810	Genziane d'Europa By Engidio Anchisi	£35.00
101	In the Footsteps of Augustine Henry By Seamus O'Brien	£32.00
102	RHS Complete Gardeners Manual By Dorling Kindersley	£16.00
300	Orchids and Wildflowers of Kitulo By Rosalind F Salter & Tim R B Davenport	£12.00
301	Close to Paradise By Robert I C Fisher	£24.00
302	Great Gardens of Spain By Anneli Boj Stad & Eduardo Mencos	£24.00
303	Colour in the Garden By Val Bourne	£15.00
340	Joseph Hooker: Botanical Trailblazer By Pat Grigg & Jim Endersby	£8.00
673	Galanthopiles By Clemens Hiedger <i>et al</i>	£28.80
292	Alpines: An Essential Guide By Michael Mitchell	£15.99
	SALE BOOKS & SPECIAL OFFERS	
552a	Supplement of Seed Germination by Norman C. Deno	£7.00
552	Seed Germination Theory & Practice Second Ed.	£25.00
549	Hardy Perennials - The Cultivation of by Richard Bird	£11.00
013	Primulas of Europe & America by G.F.Smith, B.Burrow & D.B.Lowe	£5.00
020	The Woodland Garden - A Guide to Shade loving Plants by Jack Elliott	£3.00
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599	Autumn Bulbs by Rod Leeds	£7.00
585	Kalmia Mountain Laurel	£15.00
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277	Dwarf Campanulas by Graham Nicholls	£16.00
630	Hebes by Lowrie Metcalf	£24.00
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620	Ceanothus by David Fross & Dieter Wilken	£15.00
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809	Mountain Flower Walks - The Eastern Alps Including The Dolomites By Jim Jermyn	£17.60
032	Alpine Gardening for Beginners by John Good	£6.50
033	Portraits of Alpine Plants by Robert Rolfe	£22.00

Members' prices shown reflect a minimum 20% discount on the Recommended Retail Price of most titles.

034	Bulbs of Greece (A Field Guide to the) by C Grey-Wilson	£23.00
024	Alpines in Pots (New Edition) by Kath Dryden	£4.00
031	Mountain Flower Walks – The Greek Mainland by John Richards	£15.00
019	Androsace - The Genus by G.F.Smith & D.B. Lowe	£8.00
025	Consolidated Index 1930 – 2005 (inc free CD version)	£5.00
026	Crevice Gardening by Zdenek Zvolanek	£5.50
027	Bulbous Plants of Turkey and Iran by Peter Sheasby	£27.00
028	Alpine Plants Ecology for Gardeners by John E G Good & David Millward	£20.00
08	Dionysia – The Genus by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£8.00
011	Saxifrages by Winton Harding – New and re-written edition with colour	£5.00
021	Silver Saxifrages by Beryl Bland	£6.00
022	The Smaller Daphnes – Summary of Conference Proceedings 'Daphne 2000'	£3.00
268	Cyclamen by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£4.95
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234	Arisaema - The Genus - by Guy & Liliane Gusman	£40.00
243	Bulbs in Containers by Rod Leeds	£16.00
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Members' prices shown reflect a minimum 20% discount on the Recommended Retail Price of most titles.

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702	Flowers of the Transcaucasus & Adjacent Areas by E.Gabrielian & O.Fragman-Sapir	£60.00
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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 incisa*, *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

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

For further information on these tours please contact AGS Centre.

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

TAURUS MOUNTAINS

April 4th – April 18th 2012

LEADERS: BOB & RANNVEIG WALLIS

Cost = £2350 Land Tour - £1970 Single Supplement - £240

This tour is designed to show the incredible diversity of bulbous species as we criss-cross this scenically inspiring mountain range situated near to the Mediterranean coast of Turkey. New species are still being described from here and one objective of the tour will be to find such recent novelties e.g. *Fritillaria sororum* and *Tulipa cinnabarinum*.

The tour will start in Antalya, journeying north-westward via the Pisidian city of Termessos to see some of the lesser known sites for the serpentine flora (*Fritillaria serpenticola*, *Muscari muscarimi*) south of Denizli. The famous blue *Crocus* (*C baytopiorum*) is also quite common here as is *Cyclamen alpinum*, which should still be in flower at high altitude. We will then travel eastwards via the imposing ancient city of Sagalassos (also Pisidian) to stay by the fabulous lakeside of Eğirdir. From here we will cross the mountains to catch *Crocus* species etc in the snow melt on our way to Beyşehir. A walk on the limestone south of here should yield some good flowers (*Crocus*, *Colchicum*, *Fritillaria* and *Scilla*) before we go eastwards again via numerous high passes to explore the Taşkent, Ermenek, Gülnar and Mut region which is full of rare plants such as *Fritillaria assyriaca* subsp *melanathera*, *F acmopetala* subsp *wendelboi*, *F persica* in its westernmost station, and the glorious blue *Alkanna aucheriana*. Heading north eastwards again, we can get on the north side of Bolkar Dağ, the home of *Iris danfordiae*, *Muscari massayanum* with its striking pink coma over yellow flowers and the most westerly place we know for *Tulipa humilis*. Our final stop over will be near to the imposing Ala Dağ famous for its *Crocus siehianus*, *Fritillaria aurea*, *Scilla ingridae* and *Muscari azureum*. It is here that a kaleidoscope of *Anemone blanda* colours have escaped the woodlands and become alpine plants studding the hillsides amongst the other bulbs. We aim to return from Kayseri.



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**

AUTUMN IN CRETE

Late October/Early November 2012

LEADERS: DAVID AND MARGARET THORNE

Cost = £TBA

After the first October rain has freshened the dusty foliage of summer, the temperature drops and a flush of growth brings new interest to the landscape – the autumn flowering bulbs. This Tour starts in the west of Crete where Cyclamen put on a fine display as does the spectacular *Colchicum macrophyllum*; *Narcissus tazetta* flowers on a few rocky knolls, *N. serotinus* is more frequent and we visit our favourite site for the elusive *Biarum davisii*. We paddle to Elafonisi Island for the last of the *Pancratium maritimum* flowers and some very special coastal plants. During our subsequent travels across the island to its north easterly tip, we expect to find 4 species of *Crocus* (*C. laevigatus*, *C. oreocreticus*, *C. boryi* and *C. tournefortii*) and possibly *C. cartwrightianus*, though we may be too early for this, as it tends to flower much later here than on the mainland. *Colchicum pusillum* and less common *C. cupanii* occur at low altitudes whereas we visit Omalos to see *C. cretense* in the stunning setting of the Lefka Ori (White Mountains) with the option of seeing many other mountain plants in the vicinity of the Kallergi Refuge. We will find *Sternbergias* throughout the island – populations recorded as *S. sicula*, *S. lutea* and *S. greuteriana*; come and enjoy them for their beauty or to study them for their much debated taxonomy.



**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 Benaolan, 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.



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

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 *Muscaris* 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.



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 conorhiza*. *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.



www.greentours.co.uk for further info on these holidays, to receive your detailed tour itinerary, or to book a place.

Slovakia - 7th - 15th July 2012

Cost £1895 (single supplement £165)

Leaders: Martin Hrouzek & Owen Mountford

The White Carpathians, the western edge of the great Carpathian mountain chain, are still clothed in forested hillsides and flower-filled meadows, punctured by jagged rocky peaks and carved by deep gorges. Local meadows rank with the richest in Central Europe and have abundant and colourful Orange and Martagon Lilies, Dense-flowered Orchid, Marsh Gladiolus and Crested Cow-wheat. Subalpine meadows dotted with clumps of endemic pink *Dianthus nitidus* typify the partially limestone Lesser Fatra. Musky Saxifrage, *Campanula serrata*, *Tozzia carpatica*, *Gentianella fatrae*, *Androsace lactea* and Dark Red Helleborine are amongst the notable flora. The geologically diverse High Tatras reach up to over 2500m yet chairlifts and roads provide easy access to the highest regions where we'll find Ciliate Rock-jasmine, Blue Saxifrage, Edelweiss, Styrian, Spotted and Snow Gentians, *Campanula tatrae*, and the rare orchid *Chamorchis alpina*. Least Primrose, *Pulsatilla scherfelii*, *Saxifraga carpatica*, Wahlenberg's Wallflower and *Callianthemum coriandri-folium* are just some of the high alpine gems whilst meadows and forest below host Round-headed Orchid and both Hungarian and Carpathian Snowbells.



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

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(Please tick boxes below as appropriate.)

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