

Alpine news

Issue 37 • March 2012

BIG ideas for small plants!

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society

NEW in 2012 - A chance to win £100 for the best planted container/trough or miniature garden at the Malvern Spring Gardening Show - see *inside on page 4* for more details.

On all four days of the show the Society will also be staging a display of photographs and artwork, as well as practical demonstrations, together with the usual book sales and promotion stand. The AGS National Competitive Plant Show will be on the Saturday only.

ONLINE ENCYCLOPAEDIA

The AGS Encyclopaedia of Alpines was published in 1993 and was heralded as "the standard reference in its field for many, many years to come". We are pleased to announce the online version of the encyclopaedia which is now live on the AGS website. The original text has been scanned and converted into an



online version that can now be continually updated and extended. Members can also make contributions (text or images) about their favourite genera and species and we hope that many of you will do this. Work is progressing on improving the range of images used to illustrate the encyclopaedia and on rectifying omissions in the original volumes. This will be an ongoing project for the foreseeable future.

STAFFING CHANGES AT AGS CENTRE, PERSHORE

Staffing at the Centre has undergone a number of changes in the last few months. Kim Matthews is no longer with us and her post is not to be replaced at the present time. This has inevitably necessitated a restructuring of the workload for the remaining staff. Jackie Cooper (who replaced Jill Larnar) has taken over responsibility for tour bookings and membership and Dawn Kennedy (book sales) is also dealing with the processing of invoice payments and accounts. Both Dawn and Jackie work approximately 4 days per week but spread over five days. As you can see we now have fewer staff to deal with all the demands placed upon us but we will continue to do our utmost to serve the membership.

- Chris McGregor, Society Director

IN THIS ISSUE

Volunteer to help with
Book Sales
page 2

Chance to Win £100
page 4

New Books
page 10

Tours
page 17

Regular Features.....

Local Group News
Whats on

Bookstore
Noticeboard



Noticeboard

AGS CENTRE OFFICE CLOSURE - EASTER 2012

The office at the AGS Centre, Pershore will be closed from 5.00 pm
on Thursday, 5 April and will re-open at 9.00 am
on Wednesday, 11 April 2012

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY

The office at the AGS Centre, Pershore will be closed
On Monday, 7 May 2012

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE HOLIDAY

The office at the AGS Centre, Pershore will be closed from 5.00 pm
On Friday, 1 June and will re-open at 9.00 am
On Wednesday, 6 June 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 June 2012 issue is 27 April 2012

Help with Book Sales at Shows – Person Wanted

We are looking for someone who would be willing to
travel to a selection of AGS shows, particularly those in the
North, to help with book sales. You would be required to
transport books to the shows and deal with sales on the
day. The Society is able to pay a mileage allowance.

If you are interested,
please contact **Christine McGregor, Society Director**
[Tel:01386 554790 or e-mail ags@alpinegardensociety.net].



AGS Annual & Literary Awards: **Nominations are invited for the following AGS AWARDS**

- **Lyttel Trophy** for meritorious work with alpines
- **The Sir William & Lady Lawrence Award** for an outstanding contribution to work with alpines from those new to horticulture in the last five years
- **The Award of Honour** for sterling work on behalf of the AGS, not necessarily during the previous year, but over a period of time
- **The Ferrier Charlton Award** for outstanding work for the Society in an administrative capacity
- **The Kath Dryden Award** to recognise meritorious work on basic cultivation/new plant introduction within a single genus or group of alpine plants
- **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. (Nominations for this award must come from the Local Group concerned)
- **Website Award** to recognise the best contribution to the Society's website during 2011

AGS LITERARY AWARDS

The Alpine Gardener sets extremely high standards in horticultural journalism and photography, and every year the Society seeks to honour the very best of the contributions. We do this by appealing to the judgement of the most discriminating and informed critics - you, the readership. Members are invited to nominate *The Alpine Gardener Volume 79* 2011 contributors for the following awards:

1. **The Clarence Elliott Memorial Award** for the best article published in *The Alpine Gardener* in 2011 (Vol 79).
2. **The Lionel & Joyce Bacon Award** for the best practical alpine gardening article published in *The Alpine Gardener* in 2011 (Vol 79).
3. **The Christopher Grey-Wilson Award** to recognise photographic excellence in *The Alpine Gardener* for the best 'feature' article that must contain a minimum of ten photographs.

[All nominations must be submitted on the appropriate form (available from AGS Centre) and sent to Christine McGregor, Director, AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, WR10 3JP by 31 July 2012]

Noticeboard

MALVERN SPRING GARDENING SHOW

10 – 13 May 2012

PLANT A TROUGH/CONTAINER AND WIN £100!

We are delighted to be able to offer AGS members a chance to win cash prizes by planting up a trough/container or miniature garden.

The Society has been given a great opportunity to promote itself at this year's Malvern Spring Gardening Show in Worcestershire from May 10-13. As usual, our own Malvern show will take place on the Saturday of the four-day event, but this year we have been allocated a more central area in which to stage the show. A condition attached to this is that we should also put on a display on the Thursday, Friday and Sunday of this prestigious event.

To this end we will have a mini-theatre where members will give demonstrations of cultivation techniques, and there will be extensive photographic and artistic displays.

However, we would like as many members as possible to accept the challenge to plant up a trough or miniature garden to be displayed over the three days. To encourage you, the troughs and gardens will be judged and we are offering cash prizes of £100 for first place, £50 for second and £25 for third. We would prefer you to use the lightweight resin troughs that are widely available, since we have to be mindful of the weight that tables can take. If a local group or groups get together to plant up a number of troughs, we would be able to help with their transport to and from Malvern.

It is important for the Society to engage with the public at large in an effort to encourage a wider interest in alpinism and hopefully to encourage more people to join us. The Malvern Spring Gardening Show attracts many thousands of visitors and therefore offers a perfect opportunity to do this.

AGS members will once again be eligible for concessionary ticket prices (no booking fee charged) for the Malvern Show on any show day. Please contact AGS Centre for details of price and allocation entitlement. The deadline for ticket requests will be **Friday, 27 April 2012**.

If you have any queries about this project, please call the AGS Centre at Pershore. We hope you will want to take part.

OBITUARIES

Francis Tingey – joined the AGS at the Chelsea Flower Show in 1961 and the Essex Group later that same year. He became the Secretary of the local group around 1965/6, a post he held until 1987, possibly the longest serving Group Secretary at the time. On his retirement he was awarded the Certificate of Honour in recognition of his services to the AGS.

Frank loved alpinism right to the end of his life and always followed with interest the activities of the group even when he was too frail to attend the meetings. Sadly he died on the 24th January 2012 at the age of 94. He will be fondly remembered by many of the longer serving members of the group

- Margaret Gillison-Todd, Kim Blaxland

Photographic Display Boards

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

The new sets cover the following areas:

- Turkey
- Peloponnese
- Northern Greece

Existing sets comprise:

- Plants in the AGS garden
- Iran
- Yunnan
- The Georgian Caucasus
- South Africa (2 sets)
- Swiss Alps



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

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.**

BEDFORDSHIRE GROUP 25TH ANNUAL SHOW SATURDAY, 24 MARCH 2012

The show will take place at Wilstead Village Hall, Cotton End Road, Wilstead, MK45 3BX on Saturday 24th March from 12.00 noon until 4.00 pm. For further details please contact Mrs Elsie Willett Tel: 01767 626185 or visit the website: www.bedfordshirealpines.com

ESSEX GROUP SHOW SATURDAY, 28 APRIL 2012

The Essex Group is holding its annual show at the New Village Hall, Church Road, Rawreth, Nr Rayleigh, Essex (opposite the Forge Nursery). Open to the public from 12.00 noon until 4.00 pm. Free entry. Classes for all AGS members, non-competitive displays, plant sales, tombola, ample parking and refreshments available. For further details contact Show Secretary Diane Nice Tel: 01702 540443.

NORFOLK GROUP ONE DAY CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2012

HOME AND AWAY - Cultivation and Exploration

To be held at the Abbey Conference Centre, Norwich (Five minutes from the A47).

PROGRAMME

- Using Every Square Inch – Harry Jans
- Practical Propagation Techniques – Kit Strange (from Kew)
- Nature, the Gardeners Tutor – Ian Young
- A World of Alpines (Across the Globe in search of Alpines) – Harry Jans

Admission cost £25.00 to include lunch and refreshments.

For further details contact: Tony Goode

Tel: 01603 409074 or E-mail: thealpinehouse@hotmail.co.uk

Tickets available from Diane Blyth

Tel: 01508 494277 or E-mail: Diane.Philip.Blyth@agsgroups.org

WEST YORKSHIRE GROUP CONFERENCE

EUROPEAN ALPINES – 22 SEPTEMBER 2012

To be held at St Chad's Parish Centre, Otley Road, Far Headingley, Leeds LS16 5JT

PROGRAMME

- Scandinavian Alpines – John and Hilary Birks
- The Maritime Alps – Peter Erskine
- Mount Olympus and Northern Greece – John Richards
- The Eastern Alps and Slovenia – Jim Jermyn

Nurseries present will be – Slack Top, Aberconwy, Potterton's, plus the group plant sales stall.

Admission cost is £15.00

For further details contact: Liz Barber

Tel: 01904 704459 or E-mail: elizabethbarber2@gmail.com

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 2 sizes:

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, dependant on order quantity.

What's On

BRISTOL GROUP ONE DAY CONFERENCE SATURDAY 6 OCTOBER 2012

The Bristol Group One Day Conference will be held at Red Maids School, Westbury-on-Trym, BS9 3AV. Speakers: Chris Lovell, Peter Cunnington, Robert Rolfe and John Page. Refreshments and Plant and Seed Sales. For further details contact Mike Taylor, 96 Reedley Road, Bristol, BS9 3TA. Tel: 0117 9686654 or e-mail: annofreedley@google.com.

FORTHCOMING AGS SHOWS - 2012

AGS Northumberland AGS/SRGC Show, 31 March 2012 – The Wentworth Leisure Centre, Hexham, NE46 3PN. Show Secretary Peter Maguire – 0191 2840385

AGS South West Show, 31 March 2012 – St Luke's Science & Sports College, Harts Lane, Exeter, EX1 3RD. Show Secretaries Bob and Di Dark – 01404 881213

AGS Ulster Show, 31 March 2012 – Greenmount Agricultural and Horticultural College, Muckamore, Co. Antrim, BT41 4PU. Show Secretary Pat Crossley – 028 2074 1288

AGS Cleveland Show, 7 April 2012 – Ian Ramsey Church of England School, Green's Lane, Fairfield Road, Fairfield, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 5AJ. Show Secretary Norma Pagdin – 01429 268416

AGS London Show, 10/11 April 2012 – RHS Lindley Hall, Vincent Square, London, SW1P 2PE. Show Secretary Jon Evans – 01252 724416

AGS North Midlands Show, 14 April 2012 – Brookfield School, Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield, S40 3NS. Show Secretary John Savage – 01623 845123

AGS Midlands Show, 21 April 2012 – Arden School, Station Road, Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands, B93 0PT. Show Secretary John Harrison – 0121 556 7937

AGS Dublin Show, 28 April 2012 – Cabinteely Community School, Cabinteely, Co. Dublin. Show Secretary Michael Higgins – 00353 87 6309141

AGS East Anglia Show, 5 May 2012 – Wymondham High School, Folly Road, Wymondham, South Norfolk, NR18 0QT. Show Secretary John Foster - 01502 575298

AGS Malvern Show, 12 May 2012 – Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire. Show Secretaries Susan & Richard Clements – 01386 750839.

AGS Southport Show, 19 May 2012 – Stanley High School, Fleetwood Road, Southport, PR9 9TF. Show Secretary Roger Beecham – 01704 211749

AGS Summer Show-South, 26 May 2012 – Queen Elizabeth School, Pamphill, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 4DT. Show Secretary Bill Squire – 01202 387107

(Visitors to this show may like to take the opportunity to visit Kinsington Lacy House and Gardens and also see the wild flowers on Maiden Castle whilst in the area.)

AGS Summer Show-North, 16 June 2012 – The Chesneys Centre, Regent Street, Featherstone, Pontefract, WF7 5EW. Show Secretary Eric Rainford – 01757 702646

Online Flower Show 2011 and 2012



Many thanks to all our members who entered the on-line show last year. You provided all of us with some entertaining viewing over the dark winter months.

Looking ahead the 2012 show will soon open for entries so we hope that many of you will again show your support and start posting entries.

If you have never participated before now is the time to give it a go!

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



Local Group News

Change of Local Group Secretaries

North East England

(Northumberland and Durham)

Sue Gill to **Terry Teal**

Essex

Paul Nice to **Ruth Jones**

AMENDMENTS

HERTFORDSHIRE – The Group has a new Venue -

Homewood Road United Reform Church Hall, Homewood Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4BH (junction of Homewood Road and Sandpit Lane). Meeting on the 4th Saturday of each month starting at 3pm with a good programme of nationally known speakers, a local nursery stall and refreshments. For programme details see our website www.hertsags.co.uk or contact Secretary Bernard Gane Tel: 01582 761416.

Order from book List



£11.99

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].



£28.00

Timber Press Encyclopedia of Flowering Shrubs by Jim Gardner

The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Flowering Shrubs is unique in its comprehensive photographic coverage of hardy flowering shrubs that excel in garden situations. Over 2,000 plants are featured in this authoritative reference that is organised alphabetically by botanical name and can also be readily accessed using the common name index. [No. 250 on list]



£7.95

Mountain Flowers The Dolomites by Cliff Booker & David Charlton

Book Format: A6 size (146mm x 105mm), 192 pages, wire bound in white on the long edge. This book is intended to be a field guide that will fit easily into a coat pocket. It illustrates and describes about 150 species. [No. 569 on list]



£10.35

Designing and Planting Borders by Roger Harvey

Beds and borders provide the framework for a garden, but it can be a daunting task to design and plant them. This book provides exciting planting ideas and schemes for borders that are full of shrubs and perennials, and burst with colour and vitality throughout the year. [No. 565 on list]



£17.60

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]

This book will be in stock on 26 March 2012 and all pre-orders will be despatched immediately. Our apologies for the long delay!



£40.00

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]

Ref.	Titles	Members Price
NEW BOOKS		
292	Alpines: An Essential Guide by Michael Mitchell	£14.99
301	Close to Paradise: The Gardens of Naples, Capri and the Amalfi Coast by Robert I C Fisher	£24.00
303	Colour in the Garden by Val Bourne	£15.00
272	Complete Guide to Saving Seed by Robert Gough	£13.50
565	Designing and Planting Borders by Roger Harvey (Foreword by Roy Lancaster)	£10.35
103	Designing Small Gardens by Ian Cooke	£7.99
621	Dirr's Encyclopedia Of Trees & Shrubs By Michael A Dirr	£40.00
808	Flowers Of Western China By Christopher Grey-Wilson	£56.00
673	Galanthophiles by Clemens Heidger et al.	£28.80
622	Great Gardens of Britain by Helena Attlee	£13.50
302	Great Gardens of Spain by Anneli Boj Stad & Eduardo Mencos	£24.00
804	Growing Hardy Orchids By Philip Seaton Et Al	£10.00
810	Genziane d'Europa By Engidio Anchisi	£35.00
101	In the Footsteps of Augustine Henry by Seamus O'Brien	£32.00
340	Joseph Hooker: Botanical Trailblazer by Pat Grigg & Jim Endersby	£8.00
569	Mountain Flowers: The Dolomites by Cliff Booker & David Charlton	£7.95
559	Native Plants of Britain & Ireland by Rosemary Fitzgerald	£11.99
300	Orchids & Wild Flowers of Kitulu by Rosalind F Salter & Tim R B Davenport	£12.00
104	Organic Gardener's Handbook by Michael Littlewood	£13.50
510	Planting the Dry Shade Garden By Graham Rice	£11.99
102	RHS Complete Gardeners Manual (Dorling Kindersley)	£16.00
536	RHS The Plantfinder 2012 (due out April 2012)	£12.75
316	Shrubs: A Gardener's Handbook by Ian Cooke	£7.99
246	Snowdrops Booklet by Jackie Murray (Second edition, 2011)	£3.50
250	Timber Press Encyclopedia of Flowering Shrubs by Jim Gardner	£28.00
264	Timber Press Guide to Succulent Plants of the World by Fred Dortort	£28.00
515	Waterwise Plants For Sustainable Gardens by Lauren Springer Ogden & Scott Ogden	£13.50
222	Wildflower Wonders of the World by Bob Gibbons	£14.99
SALE BOOKS & SPECIAL OFFERS		
692	African Violets by Reinhild Raistrick	£16.00
599	Autumn Bulbs by Rod Leeds	£7.00

653	Calochortus Mariposa Lilies & their relatives	£12.00
620	Ceanothus by David Fross & Dieter Wilken **NEW LOWER PRICE**	£10.00
277	Dwarf Campanulas by Graham Nicholls **NEW LOWER PRICE**	£12.00
549	Hardy Perennials - The Cultivation of by Richard Bird	£11.00
630	Hebes by Lowrie Metcalf	£24.00
585	Kalmia Mountain Laurel **NEW LOWER PRICE**	£10.00
013	Primulas of Europe & America by G F Smith et al.	£5.00
552	Seed Germination Theory & Practice Second Ed.	£25.00
552a	Supplement of Seed Germination by Norman C. Deno	£7.00
020	The Woodland Garden - A Guide to Shade loving Plants by Jack Elliott	£3.00
266	Tulips (Species & Hybrids for the Gardeners) by Richard Wilford **NEW LOW PRICE**	£10.00
TITLES PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY		
032	Alpine Gardening for Beginners by John Good	£6.50
028	Alpine Plants Ecology for Gardeners by John E G Good & David Millward **NEW LOW PRICE**	£15.00
024	Alpines in Pots (New Edition) by Kath Dryden	£4.00
019	Androsace - The Genus by G.F.Smith & D.B. Lowe	£8.00
027	Bulbous Plants of Turkey and Iran by Peter Sheasby	£25.00
034	Bulbs of Greece (A Field Guide to the) by C Grey-Wilson	£23.00
026	Crevice Gardening by Zdenek Zvolanek	£5.50
268	Cyclamen by Christopher Grey-Wilson **NEW LOW PRICE**	£2.50
008	Dionysia - The Genus by Christopher Grey-Wilson	£8.00
031	Mountain Flower Walks - The Greek Mainland by John Richards **NEW LOW PRICE**	£10.00
809	Mountain Flower Walks - The Eastern Alps Including The Dolomites by Jim Jermy	£17.60
033	Portraits of Alpine Plants by Robert Rolfe **NEW LOW PRICE**	£20.00
011	Saxifrages by Winton Harding **NEW LOW PRICE**	£3.00
021	Silver Saxifrages by Beryl Bland **NEW LOWER PRICE**	£3.00
BULBOUS PLANTS		
234	Arisaema - The Genus - by Guy & Liliane Gusman	£40.00
243	Bulbs in Containers by Rod Leeds	£16.00
280	Buried Treasures by Janis Ruksans	£24.00
274	Orchids of Britain & Ireland (A Field & Site Guide) by Anne & Simon Harrap	£24.00
597	Orchids of the British Isles by Michael Foley & Sidney Clarke	£36.00
608	Pocket Guide to Bulbs by John E Bryan	£12.00
232	Snowdrops - A Monograph of Cultivated Galanthus by Mat Bishop et al.	£48.00
SPECIFIC GENERA		
758	Bamboos (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Ted Jordan Meredith	£12.00
694	Bleeding Hearts, Corydalis & their Relatives by Mark C Tebbitt et al.	£20.00

760	Book of Salvias by Betsy Clebsch	£12.00
651	Bromeliads for the Contemporary Garden by Andrew Steens	£18.00
584	Clematis - An Illustrated Encyclopedia of - by Mary Toomey & Everett Leeds	£36.00
643	Clematis (Pocket Guide to) by Mary Toomey	£12.00
652	Conifers for Gardens (An illustrated Encyclopedia) by Richard L Bitner	£32.00
775	Conifers (Timber Press Pocket Guide to) by Richard L. Bitner	£12.00
727	Cotoneasters by Jeanette Fryer & Bertil Hylmo	£24.00
798	Crocuses - A Complete Guide to the Genus by Janis Ruksans	£24.00
263	Daphnes (A Practical Guide for Gardeners) by Robin White	£20.00
669	Daylily (A Guide for Gardeners) by John P Peat & Ted L Petit	£18.00
807	Designing With Conifers By Richard L Bitner	£16.00
797	Designing with Grasses by Neil Lucas	£16.00
259	Dogwoods (The Genus Cornus) by Paul Cappiello & Don Shadow	£20.00
374	Epimedium - The Genus by William T Stearn	£34.00
670	Ferns (Gardening with) by Martin Rickard	£11.00
795	Galanthomania by Hanneke van Dijk	£23.00
745	Geum by Sue Martin	£6.00
265	Growing Hardy Orchids by John Tullock	£16.00
740	Gymnocalycium in habitat & Culture by Graham Charles	£48.00
257	Hardy Bamboos (Taming the Dragon) by) Paul Whittaker	£20.00
699	Hardy Heathers (Gardening with) by Martin Rickard ***NEW LOW PRICE**	£20.00
271	Hellebores (A Comprehensive Guide) by C Colston Burrell & Judith Knott Tyler	£20.00
596	Hellebores - The Gardener's Guide - by Graham Rice & Elizabeth Strangman	£11.00
248	Heucheras & Heucherellas (Coral Bells & Foamy Bells) by Dan Heims & Grahame Ware	£16.00
288	Hostas (Timber Press Pocket Guide to) by Diana Grenfell & Michael Shadrack	£12.00
705	The Iris Family by Peter Goldblatt & John C Manning	£32.00
604	Iris (A Gardener's Encyclopaedia) by Claire Austin	£28.00
755	Japanese Maples (Fourth Edition) by J.D. Vertrees and Peter Gregory	£28.00
660	Japanese Maples (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Peter Gregory & J C Vertrem	£12.00
380	Lavandula - The Genus - by Tim Upson & Susyn Andrews	£30.00
753	New Encyclopedia of Hostas by Diana Grenfell and Michael Shadrack	£28.00
698	Ophrys - The bee orchids of Europe by Henrik Aerenlund Pedersen & Niels Faurholdt	£27.00
761	Palms (Timber Press Pocket Guide) by Robert Lee Riffle	£12.00
799	Phlox - A Natural History and Gardener's Guide by James H. Locklear	£28.00
777	Practical Bamboos by Paul Whittaker	£12.00

282	The Genus Roscoea by Jill Cowley	£30.00
700	Saxifrages (A Definitive Guide to the 2000 species) by Malcolm McGregor	£28.00
267	The Genus Sorbus (Mountain Ash & other Rowans) by Hugh McAllister	£30.00
778	The Book of Little Hostas by Kathy Guest Shadrack & Michael Shadrack	£14.50
766	Thyme Handbook by Margaret Easter and Susie White	£8.00
806	Waterlillies And Lotuses By Percy D. Slocum	£20.00
FLORAS & GUIDES TO CONTINENTS & COUNTRIES		
278	Alpine & Sub-Alpine Flora of Mount Jaya (A Guide to the) by R J Johns et al.	£75.00
244	Alpine Plants of Europe by Jim Jermyn	£20.00
794	Britain's Orchids – Wild Guide by David Lang	£12.00
793	Crossbill Guide to France (Cevennes and Grand Causses)	£16.00
684	Crossbill Guide to France (The Camargue, La Crau & Alpilles)	£16.00
685	Crossbill Guide to Spain (Andalusian Sierras from Malaga to Gibraltar)	£16.00
686	Crossbill Guide to Spain – Coto Donana	£14.00
687	Crossbill Guide to Spain (Extremadura)	£16.00
285	Crete 'A Unique Paradise of Flowers' by Johannes Flohe	£18.00
425	Easy Ways to the Plants of the Bernese Oberland by Philip & Jean Tallboys	£6.00
680	Endemic Plants of the Altai Mountain Country by A L Pyak & S C Shaw	£25.00
733	Flowers of Greece (set of 2 with DVD) by T Lafranchis & G Sfikas	£95.00
702	Flowers of the Transcaucasus & Adjacent Areas by E. Gabrielian & O. Fragner	£60.00
454	Frank Kingdon Ward's Riddle of the Tsangpo Gorges	£28.00
656	Japan (Garden Plants of) by Ran Levy-Yamamori & Gerard Taaffe	£36.00
737	Picos de Europa (car tours & walks) by Teresa Farino	£11.00
696	Plantsman's Paradise – Travels in China by Roy Lancaster	£32.00
697	Seeds of Adventure – In Search of plants by Peter Cox & Peter Hutchinson	£28.00
730	Swiss Plant Life by Ewald Weber	£20.00
478	The Caucasus and its Flowers by Vojtech Holubec & Pavel Krivka	£45.00
453	The Himalayan Garden-Growing Plants from the Roof of the World by J Jermyn	£20.00
460	Walks With Crete's Spring Flowers By Jeff Collman	£12.50
262	Wild Orchids of North America by Philip E Keenan (paperback)	£16.00
GENERAL TITLES		
772	Alpines, from Mountain to Garden by Richard Wilford	£23.20
774	Bees, Wasps and Ants (The Indispensable Role of Hymenoptera in Gardens)	£15.00
736	Best Hardy Shrubs (The Gossler Guide to the) by Roger, Eric & Marjory Gossler	£20.00
747	Big Gardens in Small Spaces by Martyn Cox	£16.00
655	Botanic Gardens (A Living History)	£32.00
773	Container Plants (The Encyclopaedia of) by Ray Rogers & Rob Cardillo	£20.00
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AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 3JP UK

We can also deliver books to AGS Shows post free for collection.

TAURUS MOUNTAINS

April 4th – April 18th 2012

LEADERS: BOB & RANNVEIG WALLIS

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

FEW
PLACES STILL
AVAILABLE

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

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

September 8th - September 25th 2012

LEADER: MARK HANGER

Cost = £3,220 Single Room Supplement - £650

Upon arrival in Perth you will meet Mark Hanger, an experienced naturalist and botanist, who has led a number of AGS tours in Australia and New Zealand. Throughout the duration you will visit many of the naturally beautiful places Western Australia has to offer, including Lesueur National Park. Lesueur National Park covers 27,000 hectares and is the third largest of Western Australia's National Parks. Amongst over nine hundred flower species are rare *Banksia tricuspis* (Lesueur Banksia) and *Banksia attenuata* (Slender Banksia). We will look for the diminutive Flying Duck Orchid and *Xanthesia tomentosa* (Southern Cross) and spiny *Synaphea spinulosa*. Other delights include *Hakea costata* (ribbed hakea), the fox banksias (*Banksia sphaerocarpa*), cone flowers such as *Isopogon linearis*, and beautiful Darwinias like *Darwinia speciosa*.

Early into your second week you will have a free day to explore Perth take a Swan River excursion, visit renowned Rocknest Island, take in historic Fremantle, or explore Perth's famed Kings Park Gardens and the annual Wildflower Festival.



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 Elaфонisi 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

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 scree. 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.



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.



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

Cold Frames and Raised Base Offer - Save up to 25%

Access Garden Products are offering AGS members an exclusive offer on their range of cold frames and bases until **30th April 2012**.

Their popular cold frames are ideal for Alpine growers, as they offer large amounts of space along with **excellent ventilation**. Both the top glass and the side glass can be slid for easy access and ventilation, and in Summer the side glass can easily be removed to allow maximum air flow.

For safety, all of the glass supplied is **toughened safety glass**, making it much stronger than standard horticultural glass - the roof glass will stand 2' (0.6m) of snow on it. If the glass does break, it shatters into tiny pieces.



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For a really special finish, the cold frames are available with an **optional colour coating**. This hard wearing finish is available in 6 colours. Please call for samples and prices.

The Cold Frames are 4' wide

and are **available in 4 lengths**: 4', 6', 8' and 10' long.

A recent addition to the range has been a **sturdy, pressure treated base** for the Cold Frames, raising the frame up to reduce bending. The bases are constructed from 1 1/2" deck board which is mitred at the ends for a neat appearance. The base is constructed using stainless steel screws for a long life. The base can be filled with soil for direct planting, or a very sturdy false floor can be added to allow Alpines to be placed either directly on the boards, or on a couple of inches of grit.

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ventilation as the slats prevent rain ingress. A vent can be fitted at either or both ends and is available as a **manual** or fully automatic vent.



Prices and Dimensions

Code	Length	List Price	AGS Price	3 tier Base	Slated Floor	Delivery
FF3	3' 11" / 1.21m	£199	£149	£93.60	£60.80	£24
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EF3	7' 9" / 2.36m	£294	£239	£138.60	£117.80	£34
TF3	9' 11" / 3.00m	£339	£269	£161.10	£141.55	£44
Width: 3' 11" (1.21m) Height: 2' 8" (0.82m) Base height: 15" (36cm) Bases are approx 3" / 6cm wider and longer than the frame dimensions. Manual louvre vent £65.55 Automatic vent £84.55						

To order, or for a copy of their free 40 page catalogue, contact Access on **0800 298 6284** quoting 'AGS-12 offer'

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

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Membership Form

Simply complete your personal details, together with either the direct debit form overleaf or payment instructions below and return to the address on the back. A reduced subscription rate is offered to those paying by Direct Debit. (Please allow 28 days for processing your membership application.)

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