



## **AGS Travel Award and E F Hendry Bequest – Guidance Notes**

### **AGS Travel Award**

Originally funded by a Cheshire Member of the Society, Murray Bartlett, who was conscious that he and his family had been privileged to travel to Europe to see alpine flowers. He felt that by setting up a modest fund the Society could assist a young person travelling to see alpine flowers. Over the years, the Society started channelling in funds from its Tours Company, AGS Expeditions Ltd, to allow more applications to be supported.

In recent years the terms of the Award have been extended to include students or employees joining scientific expeditions, if it is felt appropriate to support such an application.

The panel of selectors is mainly drawn from members of the Society Trustee Board and external experts may be consulted for advice on a particular application if necessary.

### **E F Hendry Bequest Award**

This award was established from fund made available as a result of a legacy from a previous member of the Society, the late Evelyn F Hendry.

Type of project that might be supported from this fund - research on any aspect of alpine plants in the wild or in cultivation. Topics could include: work on plant systematics, physiology, ecology, cultivation and propagation. This could involve field work but the fund is not intended primarily for travel costs. In addition, the fund can support the development of alpine plant gardens and educational projects on alpine plants, including the support of specific lectures. Applications are firstly considered by the Committee of the East Surrey Group and then verified by a panel of officers of the Alpine Garden Society.

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### **ELIGIBILITY**

Only those who have shown a serious interest in alpinism through membership of the AGS or similar body or through their profession or occupation will be considered.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Applications must be received by the Director of the Alpine Garden Society by 31st January each year – forms are available on the website or by contacting AGS Centre at Pershore. Applications **must** be accompanied by **two** suitable references and applicants must state if applications are being made elsewhere for other grants.

### **ALLOCATIONS**

The selectors will consider all applications in February/March each year and applicants will be informed by the end of April at the latest, sooner if possible.

All applications are taken on merit.

In judging the merits of each application, the selection panel shall take account of the commitment of the applicant to alpine plants, the benefits of the field experience proposed, any wider botanical or horticultural benefit or benefit to the Society's objectives. The selectors shall also take account of the quality of the groundwork undertaken in relation to the project and the preparation of the application.

When the Society so decides, the income from the Travel Award Fund may be used to provide places on the Society's own expeditions/tours. An expedition, through its nature and leadership, must be seen as an exceptional opportunity to provide field experience and the places being funded in this way shall be filled from those eligible.

#### **REQUIREMENTS OF ACCEPTING A TRAVEL AWARD OR HENDRY AWARD**

On completion of the trip the Society will require a written report detailing the applicant's use of the Award and their experiences. The report must be produced within six months of completion of the trip. The AGS reserves the right to use material contained in the report for publicity purposes, either in the Society Journal, website/social media.

Recipients of a Hendry Award may be asked to give a talk to the East Surrey Group of the Alpine Garden Society at a future date (travel expenses would be discussed separately).

The granting of an Award conveys no responsibility for the welfare of the travel award applicant. Applicants must comply with legal restrictions IN relation to collection of plant material and seeds in line with CITES regulations and the Nagoya Protocol requirements.

Any unspent funds must be returned to the AGS upon completion of the trip. If the trip does not go ahead the full amount of any award must be returned to the AGS.

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#### **More information on producing your Report**

Reports are not only useful to the Selection Committee but they are an invaluable source of information for future applicants. The Society reserves the right to publish reports on the Society's Website. In addition, candidates who are judged to have submitted the best report may be invited to write an article for the Society Journal for which a fee will be offered. The following notes set a standard format, whilst still allowing room for individuality.

The report should be at the most 3000 words and accompanied by a maximum of 50 images and include the following:

- original aims of the project/trip
- outline of the activity
- what was achieved
- details of any problems encountered
- summary of the final budget breakdown
- maps/photographs, where relevant
- overall summary and conclusion
- future plans generated from the project/trip

Long day by day travelogues are not required. Appropriate diagrams can be included while additional relevant information may be attached as an Appendix.

The report should be submitted to the AGS Centre within 6 months of the recipient's return. You can send your report electronically via e-mail or on a disc.

Reports should be sent to: AGS Centre, Avonbank, Pershore WR10 3JP or e-mail:

[ags@alpinegardensociety.net](mailto:ags@alpinegardensociety.net)