



# AGS NEWS

Newsletter of the Alpine Garden Society



## Securing the long-term future of the AGS

**T**he long-term financial security – and survival – of the AGS was the main talking point at the Society's recent AGM.

For many years, the Treasurer has been pointing out that the Society has not been living within its means. Inflation, Covid and Brexit have compounded this financial situation, and the membership of the AGS is in decline. Cost-saving measures and modernisations were outlined at the AGM, which will ensure

### **AGS News goes digital in 2023**

This is the last printed edition of *AGS News*. Future issues will be available online via the AGS website. Not only will this save the Society money on print and postage, it means AGS members can be kept up to date with the latest news and special offers.

AGS Centre, Avon Bank, Pershore,  
Worcestershire, WR10 3JP, UK

Phone: +44(0)1386 554790  
Email: ags@alpinegardensociety.net  
Registered charity No. 207478

#### Annual subscriptions

Single (UK and Ire) by direct debit	£36
Single (UK and Ireland)	£40
Family (two at same address)	£43
Family by direct debit	£39
Junior (under 18/student)	£20
Overseas single	£46
Overseas family	£50

## AGS CENTRE OPENING HOURS

The AGS Centre will  
close on Thursday  
23 December and  
reopen on Thursday  
5 January

From 5 January 2023,  
opening hours will  
be 10am to 4pm  
Monday to Thursday

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Send items for the March 2023  
issue of AGS News to the address  
above or email  
ags@alpinegardensociety.net.  
The deadline is 31 January 2023.

## NEWS

the long-term survival of the Society and allow it to continue to fulfil its charitable remit.

One of the biggest expenses is the production of the journal, especially as print and postage costs continue to rise. It was announced that, from January 2023, members will be able to opt to have a digital journal – the same as the printed version, but in electronic form. Please note that this is optional, and printed copies of the journal will continue to be available next year.

From 2024, members will be offered a paperless subscription, including a digital version of the journal, with the opportunity to purchase printed editions of *The Alpine Gardener*. As well as saving money, the move towards digital working and a paperless Society will be more efficient and environmentally friendly, as well as helping in recruiting new overseas members.

In other measures, the current subscription price structure will be changed to a single pricing by 2024. Opening hours of the AGS Centre at Pershore will be reduced (see panel, left), and other reductions made in staffing costs. These steps will ensure the financial viability of the AGS by 2024, and give it a firm basis on which it can increase membership numbers.

As well as looking to the future, the past year was reviewed. Many activities – shows, events and tours – have restarted. The renewed AGS Garden opened. Among other achievements, there was success and gold medals for AGS Shropshire Group at Shrewsbury Flower Show and AGS South Lancs Group at Southport Flower Show, as well as the RHS Farrer Medal for the best alpine exhibit at any RHS Show, won by the Northern AGS Groups.

#### SEED EXCHANGE NEWS

Thank you to all donors and helpers who have contributed to the success of this year's Seed Exchange. By the time you read this, the Seed Distribution will be

well under way. There is still time to make an order and the best way to do this is online. Follow the Seed Ordering links from the home page of the AGS website. If you cannot order online and still need a print copy, please contact the AGS Centre and we will post one out to you, but be ready to send your order back quickly as the last date for seed ordering is 6 January 2023.

#### AGS SHOWS UPDATE

At the centre of this issue is a pull-out calendar of Shows for 2023. Some information is provisional, so always check the AGS website for the latest details. Please note that there are some new venues for Shows next year.

#### AGS ZOOM LECTURES

AGS members can attend Zoom lectures and watch recordings of them free of charge. Free tickets can be obtained on the AGS website. Recordings currently available:

*Cultivation of a selection of Patagonian alpines* – Martin Sheader  
*Alpines of the Afromontane Archipelago* – John Grimshaw  
*Vancouver Island Alpines: Planthunting in North America's westernmost mountain ranges* – Paul Spriggs

The focus of this season's AGS Zoom lectures, given by international speakers, is alpine plants from around the world:  
17 January 2023: *Early Summer in the Western Alps* – Razvan Chisu  
22 February: *Alpine Flora of Australia* – Alan Ayton  
21 March: *Dionysias in Iran - travelling with the CIA* – Jiří Papoušek  
18 April: *Botanical tour through the South Island of New Zealand* – Harry Jans

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

# AGS Snowdrop Day

Saturday 4 February 2023  
9.30am to 4.00pm

*Admission by advance ticket only*

At Ford Hall, Lilleshall National Conferencing Centre,  
Newport, Shropshire, TF10 9AT

Tickets for lectures, plant sales, tea and coffee,  
two-course lunch: AGS members £38, non-members £48  
Tickets can be obtained from the AGS Centre

## PROGRAMME

9.30am	Registration, plant sales and coffee
11.00am	Jim Almond: <i>Cultivation of Species Snowdrops</i>
12noon	Joe Sharman: <i>Any Colour but White</i>
1pm	Plant Sales and Lunch
2.30pm	Bob and Rannveig Wallis: <i>Wildings and Foundlings</i>
3.30pm	Question and Answer session with the panel of speakers
3.45pm	Coffee
4.00pm	Close of event

Nurseries attending: Andy Byfield, Avon Bulbs, Edulis Nursery,  
Ivycroft, Jim Almond, Monksilver

There will also be an AGS stand with a selection of books and  
merchandise for sale

*This event has always sold out, so book now  
to be sure of your place*

## List of Officers, and Accounts

### Vice-Presidents

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Dr C Grey-Wilson VMH  
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Prof J E Good OBE  
Prof A J Richards  
H Jans

### Custodian Holding Trustees

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### Director of the Society

A Bryan

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D Morris

### Treasurer

Prof J Galloway

### Director of Seed Exchange

Vacant

### Director of Shows

M Rogerson

### Director of Tours

Vacant

### Managers

#### Office Manager

Mrs J Cooper

#### Editor

Ms D J Parker

#### Associate Editor

R G Rolfe

### Other Trustees

#### To retire in 2023

D K Haselgrove  
Mrs G Devries  
T Freeth (co-opted  
for one year)

#### To retire in 2024

Mrs D Clement  
P Cook

#### To retire in 2025

Dr R Amos  
P Liverman

#### To retire in 2026

B Worsley

### Web & Social Media Manager

R Chisu

### LYTTEL TROPHY HOLDERS

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### Independent auditor's statement to the Trustees of the Alpine Garden Society

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022 and the summary Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of the Alpine Garden Society for the year ended 31 August 2022. We expressed an unqualified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated 29 October 2022. Those financial statements, and the summary of financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on those financial statements. The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective from 1 January 2019). Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of the Alpine Garden Society.

**Trustees' responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements:** The trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the charities SORP.

**Auditor's Responsibility:** Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with International Standard on Auditing (ISA) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements."

**Opinion:** In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of the Alpine Garden Society for the year ended 31 August 2022 are consistent, in all material respects, with those financial statements.

Sarah Morley ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor),  
For and on behalf of Kendall Wadley LLP, Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor  
Merevale House, 27 Sansome Walk, Worcester WR1 1NU, 29 October 2022.

**Summarised Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities including income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 August 2022**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
			£	£
<b>Income from:</b>				
Voluntary income				
Subscriptions		120,563	120,563	123,963
Grants		-	-	8,114
Other voluntary income including legacies		24,116	24,116	40,249
Activities for generating funds				
Advertising income - Bulletins Seed distributions		-6,091	6,091	11,105
Binders, badges and shirts Conferences and events Major exhibits		-9,442	9,442	3,105
Show donations		915	915	291
Bad Debts		-3,377	3,377	183
		286	286	--
		23,209	23,209	-
		-	-	--
Trading income from subsidiary companies		21,774	21,774	29,591
<b>Investment income</b>	<b>46,389</b>	<b>5,572</b>	<b>51,961</b>	<b>41,216</b>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>256,162</b>	<b>5,572</b>	<b>261,734</b>	<b>257,817</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Cost of generating funds				
Staff costs	171,529	-	171,529	184,155
Journal	59,382	-	59,382	66,557
Seed distribution costs	2,529	-	2,529	1,497
Show expenditure	22,169	-	22,169	1,526
Conference expenditure	1,712	2,949	4,661	-
Major exhibits	810	-	810	-
Other direct costs	81,899	5,290	87,189	55,090
Other support costs	63,506	-	63,506	50,310
Expenditure of subsidiary companies	23,928	-	23,928	36,182
<b>Governance costs</b>	<b>11,440</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,440</b>	<b>8,313</b>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>438,904</b>	<b>8,239</b>	<b>447,143</b>	<b>403,630</b>
<b>Net outgoing resources before investment gains</b>	<b>(182,742)</b>	<b>(2,667)</b>	<b>(185,409)</b>	<b>(145,813)</b>
Net (losses)/gains on investments	(113,214)	(13,719)	(126,933)	275,572
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>	<b>(295,956)</b>	<b>(16,386)</b>	<b>(312,342)</b>	<b>129,759</b>
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(295,956)</b>	<b>(16,386)</b>	<b>(312,342)</b>	<b>129,759</b>
Fund balances at 1 September 2021	2,394,888	224,564	2,619,452	2,489,693
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2022</b>	<b>2,098,932</b>	<b>208,178</b>	<b>2,307,110</b>	<b>2,619,452</b>

**Summarised Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022**

	2022	2021
	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Intangible assets	18,949	37,897
Tangible assets	329,681	326,146
Investments	1,846,706	2,151,158
	<b>2,195,336</b>	<b>2,515,201</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Stocks	36,216	32,322
Debtors	174,477	26,964
Cash at bank and in hand	83,828	80,271
	<b>294,521</b>	<b>139,557</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>(182,747)</b>	<b>(35,306)</b>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>111,774</b>	<b>104,251</b>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>2,307,110</b>	<b>2,619,452</b>
<b>Income Funds</b>		
<b>Restricted Funds:</b>		
E F Hendry Bequest Fund	194,195	209,284
Wilscher Fund	5,373	6,260
Alpine House	8,610	9,020
	<b>208,178</b>	<b>224,564</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>		
Designated Funds	331,686	356,972
Other charitable funds General Funds	1,767,246	2,037,916
	<b>2,098,932</b>	<b>2,394,888</b>
	<b>2,307,110</b>	<b>2,619,452</b>
<b>Trustees Statement</b>		

The summarised accounts contained in this report are extracted from the financial statements prepared by the Society and approved by the Trustees on 29 October 2022. 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:



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## LAST CHANCE TO ENTER

# AGS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2022

ENTER THE AGS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION FOR THE CHANCE  
TO WIN CASH PRIZES AND POINTS TOWARDS AGS ARTISTIC MEDALS.

The entry deadline for this year is **24 December 2022**. You can enter three images in each class, but only digital images can be accepted. Images may have been taken this year, but they do not have to be, providing they have not been published and have not been entered previously in this competition.

As a photographic competition, entries will be judged purely on photographic merit. For example, an excellent image of a common plant will rank more highly than a flawed image of a rare plant (even if the rare plant is a superb specimen). The Judging Panel consists of AGS members and non-members with appropriate artistic and/or photographic expertise.



**OVERALL WINNER FOR 2022** : Best photograph from all classes:  
Harry Jans, Kea (*Nestor notabilis*) nr Mt Burns, 820m, Fjordland,  
New Zealand: January 2013.

There are nine classes:

- **CLASS ONE** An alpine plant in its natural habitat with both plant(s) and landscape featured.
- **CLASS TWO** A portrait of an alpine plant in its natural habitat, featuring the entire plant as the main subject.
- **CLASS THREE** A close-up or detail of an alpine plant in its natural habitat or in cultivation. This doesn't have to be a flower; you could focus on foliage or a seedhead.
- **CLASS FOUR** An alpine plant in cultivation in a garden setting. It can be in your garden or a garden you have visited.
- **CLASS FIVE** An alpine plant in cultivation in a pot. This subject allows potentially a great deal more photographic control than plants in the wild: you can control where you take the photo (indoors or outdoors) when you take the photo (when the plant is in perfect condition), and time of day, which gives control over lighting and weather. You can use artificial light sources and backgrounds if you wish.
- **CLASS SIX** Alpine fauna in the wild, either in the landscape or in association with plants. Insects have been popular subjects in the past, as have birds and mammals.
- **CLASS SEVEN** An alpine landscape not necessarily showing specific plants but concentrating on the scenic beauty and/or geology of the setting. You could be inspired by unusual natural beauty, from the small and intimate to the grand panorama.
- **CLASS EIGHT** An imaginative or unusual image featuring alpine plants. Digital manipulation is allowed in this class. In fact, anything goes!
- **CLASS NINE** The Wonder of Wildflowers. This class is intended to celebrate the visual spectacle that alpine plants can create. We want to see spectacular panoramas of flowers, whether a carpet of a single species or a tapestry of different plants, colours and shapes.

For full details of the rules and how to enter, please see the AGS website (choose the 'About Us' menu and then 'Photographic Competition'), or contact the Competition Secretary at [photographiccompetition@agsgroups.org](mailto:photographiccompetition@agsgroups.org)

## **AGS CALENDARS 2023**

### **AGS WALL CALENDAR**

**£6.99 each, or two for £12**



The AGS Wall Calendar features beautiful images taken by winners of the AGS Photographic Competition.

The calendar is A3 size when opened up. Date panels for each month include space to write down appointments.

### **AGS DESK CALENDAR**

**£6.99 each**

New for 2023, our useful self-standing desk calendar measures 20 x 20 cm.



Postage for the wall calendar or desk calendar is free in the UK. Postage to Europe and Rest of the World: price on application. Stock is limited so order now to avoid disappointment.

**TO ORDER  
TEL: 01386  
554790**

## **Leave a lasting gift**

A gift to the AGS in your will enables us to continue our charitable purposes: to support alpine gardening, alpine plants and their conservation.



The Alpine Garden Society is dedicated to the sharing of knowledge of alpine plants, their cultivation and conservation. As well as supporting the development of knowledge of alpine plants and skills in growing them, the AGS funds important conservation projects in the UK and overseas – as the Society has an international reach.

As a registered charity, the Alpine Garden Society does not receive any government funding, so relies on subscriptions and donations from members and alpine enthusiasts. The AGS Centre and AGS Garden both resulted from generous bequests. Your legacy can help conserve alpine plants and inspire their cultivation for generations to come.

To find out more about leaving a legacy to the AGS or making a donation to support the Society's work, contact the AGS Centre on 01386 554790 or email [ags@alpinegardensociety.net](mailto:ags@alpinegardensociety.net)

# AGS Plant Fairs and Shows 2023

Great events for gardeners in  
England, Wales and Ireland

The following four pages form your pull-out  
calendar of shows and events for 2023

## AT EACH SHOW:

Specialist nurseries offer a fantastic selection of plants for sale, many of which are hard to find anywhere else.

Hundreds of specimen plants are exhibited by members of the Alpine Garden Society, with expert advice on how to grow them.

Members of the Alpine Garden Society enjoy FREE admission to ALL our plant fairs and shows – and free admission to an RHS Garden when a National Show is held at that garden.

Visit [www.alpinegardensociety.net/flower-shows-plant-fairs](http://www.alpinegardensociety.net/flower-shows-plant-fairs) for information on each show and show reports from previous Shows.

[www.alpinegardensociety.net](http://www.alpinegardensociety.net)

# AGS SHOWS CALENDAR 2023

**18 February**  
11am-3.30pm

**SOUTH WALES SHOW** Llanwern High School, Hartridge Farm Road, Newport NP18 2YE. (From the A48 (south of the city centre) take the first exit at Hartridge Farm Roundabout (from the east) or third exit if from the west, onto Hartridge Farm Road, then first right after 100m.)

**CONTACT** Bob & Rannveig Wallis Tel: 01267 275205.  
email: [rannveig.bob.wallis@agsgroups.org](mailto:rannveig.bob.wallis@agsgroups.org)

**25 February**  
11am-3.30pm

**PERSHORE SHOW** Pershore High School, Station Road, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 2BX. (M5 Junction 7 for Pershore B4084. In Pershore, at the first traffic lights turn left onto Station Road. The school is on the right after 0.8 miles.)

**CONTACT** Gail Devries. Tel: 07971 065921.  
email: [gail.devries@agsgroups.org](mailto:gail.devries@agsgroups.org)

*Artistic section*

**4 March**  
11am-3.30pm

**EARLY SPRING SHOW** Theydon Bois Village Hall, Coppice Row, Theydon Bois, Essex CM16 7ER (M25 Junction 27 to Epping and Loughton A121. Take second exit (B172) toward Theydon Bois. The village hall is on the left, opposite the green.)

**CONTACT** Anne & Steven Vale. Tel: 01376 330277.  
email: [anne.vale@agsgroups.org](mailto:anne.vale@agsgroups.org)

**11 March**  
11am-3.30pm

**LOUGHBOROUGH SHOW** St Botolph's CE Primary School, Forest Street, Shepshed, Loughborough LE12 9DN. (Exit M1 at Junction 23; follow A512 west towards Ashby; turn right at first traffic lights onto Leicester Road; after 0.7 miles bear right at mini roundabout onto Forest Street. After 500 yards turn right onto college campus, then turn right when opposite Iveshead School.)

NEW VENUE

**CONTACT** Neil Hubbard. Tel: 01509 414427.  
email: [neil.hubbard@agsgroups.org](mailto:neil.hubbard@agsgroups.org)

CHECK DETAILS ON WEBSITE BEFORE TRAVELLING

**18 March**  
10am-3.30pm

**KENDAL SHOW** (AGS/SRGC) Kirkbie Kendal School, Lound Road, Kendal, LA9 7EQ. (From north; M6 Junction 37; A684 towards Kendal; after 5 miles turn left onto Park Side Road (before 40mph signs); after 0.8 miles at T-junction turn left onto Lound Road (A65); school is on left after Shell garage. From south; M6 Junction 36; A590/A591 for 6 miles, then A5 to Kendal South. In Kendal, right at first traffic lights, then left at roundabout and immediately right into school.)  
**CONTACT** Alan Oatway. Tel: 01539 530702.  
email: alan.oatway@agsgroups.org

**25 March**  
11am-4pm

**SOUTH WEST SHOW** RHS Garden Rosemoor, Great Torrington Devon, EX38 8PH. (M5 Junction 27; join A361 to Barnstaple/Bideford; at Barnstaple join A39 to Bideford (Atlantic Highway); at roundabout take B3232 to Great Torrington; Rosemoor is signposted at Great Torrington, 1 mile south on A3124.)  
**CONTACT** Kana and Jonathan Webster. Tel: 01409 281738.  
email: kana.jonathan@agsgroups.org

**1 April**  
11am-3.30pm

**HEXHAM SHOW** (AGS/SGRC) Hexham Auction Market, Tyne Green, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 2SG. (At A69 roundabout, turn towards Hexham; over the river and right at roundabout then left, signposted to Auction Market.)  
Extensive free car parking in close proximity to venue.  
**CONTACT** Angus Thompson Tel: 01661 881240.  
email: angus.thompson@agsgroups.org

**1 April**  
1.30pm-4pm

**DUBLIN SHOW** Cabinteely Community School, Cabinteely, Co. Dublin. (N11 towards Bray. At Cabinteely turn left onto Johnstown Road and then take second right turn.)  
**CONTACT** Gavin Moore. Tel: 00353 86 8235919.  
email: gavin.moore@agsgroups.org

[www.alpinegardensociety.net](http://www.alpinegardensociety.net)

**1 April**  
9am-3.30pm

*Artistic section*

**KENT SHOW** Sutton Valence School, North Street, Sutton Valence, Kent, ME17 3HL. (On the A274 4 miles south of Maidstone. From the north exit Junction 8 M20 and follow signs for Leeds Castle; continue on the B2163 and turn left at crossroads onto the A274, then 0.9 miles and school is on the left. From the south/Headcorn direction, it is on the right, 150 yards from the King's Head pub.)  
**CONTACT** Dr. Adrian Cooper Tel: 07796 446209.  
email: adrian.cooper@agsgroups.org

**8 April**  
11am-3.30pm

**CLEVELAND SHOW** Hurworth Grange Community Centre, 41 Hurworth Road, Hurworth Place, Darlington DL2 2BN.  
GPS co-ordinates (for Sat Navs): 54.4844, -1.5422  
Directions depend on your starting point. Follow Sat Nav or email/phone the Show Secretary for advice.  
**CONTACT** Norma Pagdin. Tel: 01429 268416.  
email: norma.pagdin@agsgroups.org

NEW VENUE

**15 April**  
11am-3.30pm

**NORTH MIDLAND SHOW** The Arkwright Centre, Hardwick Drive, Arkwright Town, Chesterfield S44 5BS. (On the A632, between Chesterfield and the M1, turn at the roundabout towards Arkwright Town; this is Hardwick Drive. Go straight across the next roundabout and the Arkwright Centre is on the next (figure of 8) roundabout.)  
**CONTACT** Chris Lilley. Tel: 01909 566837.  
email: chris.lilley@agsgroups.org

**22 April**  
11.30am-4pm

**ULSTER SHOW** St Bride's Hall, 38 Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast BT9 6FP. GPS coordinates (for Sat Navs): 54.5785, -5.9430  
Directions depend on your starting point. Follow Sat Nav or email/phone the Show Secretary for advice.  
**CONTACT** Patricia Crossley. Tel: 028 2074 1288.  
email: patricia.crossley@agsgroups.org

**22 April**  
11am-3.30pm

**MIDLAND SHOW** Arden School, Station Road, Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands B93 OPT. (M42 Junction 5; A4141 towards Knowle; 1 mile then turn right into Lodge Road, then at T-junction right into Station Road.)  
**CONTACT** Christopher Snelson. Tel: 07817 847786.  
email: Christopher.Snelson@agsgroups.org

**SHOW RESULTS AND REPORTS ON OUR WEBSITE**



**29 April**  
11am-3.30pm

**EAST LANCASHIRE SHOW** The Ashcroft (formerly The Riverside), Whitworth Civic Hall, 661 Market St, Whitworth, Lancashire, OL12 8DP.

**CONTACT** John Dower. Tel: 01928 733419.  
email: john.dower@agsgroups.org

**13 May**  
11am-3.30pm

**EAST ANGLIA SHOW** Morley Village and Sports Hall, Golf Links Road, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 9SU. (A11 junction south of Wymondham onto B1172; continue on London Road; turn north onto Golf Links Road and the venue is on the left.)

NEW VENUE

**CONTACT** Peter Lyle. Tel: 01508 480164.  
email: peter.lyle@agsgroups.org

**3 June**  
10am-3.30pm

**EAST CHESHIRE SHOW** Bramhall Village Club, Melbourne Road, Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire, SK7 1LR. (M60 Junction 3 (A34 Wilmslow/Cheadle). Follow the A34 for about 3 miles. At the third roundabout take the first exit on the A555 (Manchester Airport Eastern Link Road) towards Bramhall. Take the first exit for Bramhall and at the top of the slip road turn left. At the mini roundabout in Bramhall village turn right (second exit) and then take the first right into Lumb Lane, immediately after the pelican crossing. Bramhall Village Club is on the right after about 400 yards.

**CONTACT** Bob Worsley. Tel: 07808 974753.  
email: bob.worsley@agsgroups.org

**30 September**  
11am-3.30pm

**LOUGHBOROUGH AUTUMN SHOW** St Botolph's CE Primary School, Forest Street, Shepshed, Loughborough, LE12 9DN. (Directions as for Loughborough Show on 11 March.)

Artistic section

**CONTACT** Martin Rogerson, Tel: 01332 831564.

**7 October**  
11am-3.30pm

**HEXHAM AUTUMN SHOW** (AGS/SRGC) Hexham Auction Mart Tyne Green, Hexham, Northumberland, NE46 3SG. (Directions as for Hexham Show on 1 April)

**CONTACT** Alan Newton. Tel: 01661 871974.  
email: alan.newton@agsgroups.org

**14 October**  
11am-4pm

**HARLOW CARR AUTUMN SHOW** RHS Garden Harlow Carr, Crag Lane, Harrogate, HG3 1QB. Situated on Crag Lane, off Otley Road (B6162) about 0.5 miles from the centre of Harrogate.

**CONTACT** Ian & Georgina Instone. Tel: 01132 869024.  
email: ian.georgina.instone@agsgroups.org

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**CHECK DETAILS ON WEBSITE BEFORE TRAVELLING**

# AGS BOOKSHOP

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## BOLIVIA

23 March–11 April 2023

**Leader:** Harry Jans

**Cost:** TBC. Check website for updates; please register interest

Do you want to explore the highlands of Bolivia? This is the first AGS tour to explore the High Andes in Bolivia. The tour starts in Cochabamba, the third largest city in the country, a perfect place to acclimatise before the expedition to the highlands. We spend the first four days in Cochabamba exploring the areas near Misicuni Lake and a high pass at Cerro Tunari which is not very often explored by botanists. The tour includes three days at the impressive and famous salt lake Salar de Uyuni, which is a most beautiful landscape full of gigantic cacti, and the very colourful Lago Colorado with many pink flamingos. The second part of the tour is focused in botanizing for seven days around La Paz, the capital city. We explore Paso La Cumbre, the surroundings of Nevado Huayna Potosi, the old ski area



Chacaltaya, Canon de las Animas-Illimani and Khara Khota lake. We will also visit the ruins of Tiahuanaco and the Valle de la Luna with its strange rock formations.

For further information on these tours please contact the AGS Centre.  
Phone 01386 554790 or email [ags@alpinegardensociety.net](mailto:ags@alpinegardensociety.net)



## CRETE

1–8 April 2023

**Leader:** Razvan Chisu

**Cost:** TBC. Check website for updates; please register interest

The Mediterranean region is one of the world's hotspots of plant diversity, and Crete is no exception. The largest Greek island boasts more than 1,600 species of plants, of which ten percent are endemic – a fact reflected by plant names such as *Tulipa cretica*, *Cyclamen creticum*, *Campanula cretica* and *Viola cretica* among others.

The tour will focus on the central and western part of the island with day trips to well-known sites

like the Orchid fields at Spili, the Omalos plateau, Akrotiri peninsula, Cape Kakomouri near Plakias, Imbros gorge and Paleochora.

Spurred on by the winter rains, a cornucopia of annuals, perennials, hardy orchids and various bulbs should be in full flower at the time of our visit. To mention but a few: *Tulipa doerfleri* and *Tulipa saxatilis*, *Ophrys tenthredinifera*, *Anemone coronaria*, *Arum creticum*, and *Ranunculus asiaticus*.



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## EASTERN TURKEY

8–23 May 2023

**Leader:** Chris Gardner

**Cost:** TBC. Check website for updates; please register interest

Asia Minor in eastern Turkey offers the chance to experience a flower-filled journey that features many fritillary and iris species. This tour explores a wide range of alpine habitats – from turf to steppe and meadows to woodlands – and also includes a number of cultural sites en route.

After arriving at Malatya, we travel to Doganşehir for *Fritillaria aurea*, *Aubrieta canescens*, *Corydalis wendelboi* and possibly *Asphodeline tenuior*. Exploration of the Kubbe Pass and the road to Tunceli should reveal *Tulipa julia*, *Iris peshmenii*, *Tchihatchewia isatidea*, and hopefully *Paeonia mascula* will be in bloom.

Moving on, the mountain ridges of the Munzur Dagı offer the iconic, late-flowering *Fritillaria imperialis*. Orchids will be a highlight as we travel to Erzincan; the stark black steppe near Kop Dagı is home to mounds of *Hesperis brevicaulis*. More fritillaries should be in evidence at



the mountain area of Palandoken, then we head east across steppe to Sarikamis, followed by a day at the broad and grassy Cam Pass to view *Corydalis nariniana* and *C. angustifolia*, as well as ice-blue *Scilla*. We head to Tatvan via the bulb-rich Karabel Pass (more frits and tulips). The final day trip to Sason should offer *Iris gatesii* and other alpine delights.

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Phone 01386 554790 or email [ags@alpinegardensociety.net](mailto:ags@alpinegardensociety.net)



## WESTERN ALPS

6–13 June 2023

**Leader:** Razvan Chisu

**Cost:** TBC. Check website for updates; please register interest



Few will remember now, but the first trip abroad organised by the AGS explored the Lautaret pass in the French Alps. In early summer, the alpine meadows are awash with colour; *Campanula thyrsoides*, *Gentiana punctata*, *Narcissus poeticus*, *Anemone narcissiflora* and many other gems adorn the slopes where Lautaret Alpine Botanical Garden is located.

The tour will include day trips

on some of the local mountain peaks in search for classic alpinines such as *Eritrichium nanum*, *Ranunculus glacialis*, *Petrocallis pyrenaica* and a range of *Gentiana* species. Space prevents us from mentioning a long list of species, but we are hoping to see *Viola cenisia* and *Viola calcarata*, *Primula latifolia*, *Soldanella alpina*, *Paradisea liliastrum* and several species of hardy orchids.

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## BULBS OF GALILEE

28 Feb–9 Mar 2023

Leaders: Oron Peri & Kurt Vickery  
Cost: London–London £3,300  
Tel Aviv–Tel Aviv £2,985

Israel has more than two hundred bulbous species. On magical Mount Hermon are *Fritillaria hermonis*, richly-hued *Hyacinthus orientalis*, gorgeous white-topped *Iris hermona* and the beautiful *Iris lortetii*. On Mount Gilboa is purple-pink *Iris haynei* and near Nazareth, the wonderful *Iris bismarckiana*. In the Negev's deserts are clear purple *Iris mariae* and two near



black species, the well-named *Iris atrofusca*, and the recently described *Iris hieruchamensis*.

## TULIPS IN THE TIEN SHAN

8–21 April 2023

Leaders: Kurt Vickery & Vladimir Kolbintsev  
Cost: London–London £4,785 ,  
Almaty–Almaty £3,995

A truly remarkable display of colourful tulips carpets the mountains and valleys of Southern Kazakhstan in spring. The magnificent goblets of Greig's tulip are joined by swathes of multicoloured *Tulipa ostrowskiana* and *T. kolpakowskiana*, waterlily flowers of *T. kaufmanniana*, stunning *Tulipa albertii* and



among 20 species of tulip rarities such as *Tulipa buhseana*, *T. lemmerisii*, *T. tetraphylla* and bicoloured *T. zenaidae*.

Call Greentours on 01298 83563, email [enquiries@greentours.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@greentours.co.uk) or visit [www.greentours.co.uk](http://www.greentours.co.uk)



## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

15–28 May 2023

Leaders: Paul Cardy & Owen Mountford  
Cost: London–London £6,925  
San Francisco–San Francisco £6,275

From the cathedral-like atmosphere of coastal redwood groves to sagebrush-covered hillsides, and from the snowy Cascades Range to the unspoilt Klamath Coast, the Western Seaboard of America is home to a tremendously rich



flora. Paintbrushes, penstemons, phloxes and meadows of blue camassias provide an arena for a multitude of irises and calochortuses. These are the signature plants of this tour.

## LYCIAN TAURUS

3–11 June 2023

Leaders: Chris Gardner & Ian Green  
Cost: London–London £2,250  
Antalya–Antalya £2,000

The diversity of the flora found in the highest ridges of the Lycian Taurus beggar belief. One mountain alone has as many species of plant as the whole of the UK! The wonderful bright blue hedgehogs of *Asyneuma junceum* dot dry ridgetops among *Pedicularis cadmea*, *Muscari bourgaei* and mats of *Androsace villosa*. By snow patches we'll find the stars of



*Merendera attica*, *Eranthis hyemalis*, *Scilla bifolia* and colchicums and gageas.

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## SUMMER IN GEORGIA

30 June–11 July 2023

Leaders: Kurt Vickery, Tolkha Shetekauri and Ana Kvlividze

Cost: London-London £2,995

Tiblisi-Tiblisi £2,645

The Greater Caucasus forms a truly impressive divide between Asia and Europe. Georgia has a breathtaking floral diversity. Elegant, tall *Lilium kesselringianum* produces a tremendous show alongside delphiniums, foxgloves and monkshoods in meadows still cut by hand. *Dianthus raddeanus*



glows pink from rocky outcrops and red *Sedum sempervivoides* blooms with clusters of deeply coloured *Campanula alpigena*.

## AUTUMN BULBS OF SW TURKEY

18–25 October 2023

Leaders: Yasemin Konuralp & Seda Soylu

Cost: London–London £1,950

Antalya–Dalaman £1,750

A magical display of flowers garlands the autumn landscape in the unspoilt Taurus Mountains of Southwestern Turkey. There are the purple-centred ivory flowers of rare *Crocus mathewii*, gorgeous *Crocus wattiorum*, *C. speciosus*, rare *Colchicum sanguicolle*, weird



*Biarum pyrami*, chequered *Colchicum variegatum*, and the golden goblets of *Sternbergia clusiana* among many others.

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