

Meconopsis Group

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Newsletter January 2009

Notice of 6th AGM

Dear Member

Programme for the meeting on 28th February 2009 in the Conference Room

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh 10.00 – 15.30

Meeting Chairman: John Mitchell

10.00 - 10.30	Arrival - Complimentary Teas and Coffees	
10.30 - 11.00	AGM	
11.00 - 11.15	'Plants for naming'	Evelyn Stevens
11.15 - 12.15	'The Call of the Wild'	Margaret Thorne
12.15 - 13.15	Lunch - Complimentary Teas and Coffees	
13.15 - 13.45	' <i>Meconopsis</i> intragenus relationships'	Prof. Adam Curtis
13.45 - 14.15	' <i>Meconopsis sherriffii</i> and others'	Alan Furness
14.15 - 14.45	' <i>Meconopsis</i> : Seed viability testing, seed coat characteristics and phylogenetics relationships'	Alan Elliott
14.45 - 15.30	'Members' Questions.... and answers'	Ian Christie

Agenda for 6th AGM to be held on February 28th 2009

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8th March 2008
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's report
7. Seed Exchange Manager's Report
8. Web-site Manager's Report
9. Appointment of Office-bearers and Management Committee
10. Appointment of Trials and Assessment Subcommittee
11. Appointment of Auditor
12. Membership Subscription Rates 2010
13. Any Other Business

Arrangements for the Meeting

Meeting Charge There will be a nominal charge of £1 to attend this meeting, but this will include a lucky numbered ticket.

50:50 Plant Sale Please bring plants for a 50:50 plant sale (2 labels per pot, one for your name and the price, the other for the plant name). This is an important part of our day as the sale of plants will help to distribute the plants more widely among members and will boost our funds. Both *Meconopsis* and other plants are welcome.

Picnic lunch Please bring your own lunch to the meeting. Tea and coffee will be provided at 10.00am and at lunchtime.

Guests will be made very welcome.

Note for New Members If you are unsure of the arrangements please contact Norma McDowall.

Meeting on November 15th 2008

A well attended meeting of about fifty members enjoyed a variety of speakers. Our thanks are gratefully given for all the hard work which goes into the preparation of the presentations. Apologies were received from:- Ann Armstrong, Bob Armstrong, Vicky Aspin, J.W. Bell, G. Bristow, M. Buss, C. Buss, William Campbell, Cyril Cooper, Anne Cooper, Ian J Douglas, Sadie Flanagan, Robert Fleming, Keith Folwell, Roz Folwell, Alan Formon, Patrick Fox, Martyn Furzer, Alison S. Goldie, Valerie Hannah, Mark Hutson, Christopher Jones, K.G. Lever, Nicola Macnee, Maxine Magan, John D. Main, Marissa Main, H.C.A. McBride, Steve McNamara, Thomas R. Melrose, Les Newby, Richard Oliver, Ian D. Scott, Maggie Sharp, M. Shirley, Charles Tanner, Peter J. Taylor, Richard Thornton, Susan Tindal, Terence J. Vince, Jenny Wainwright-Klein, David Walkinshaw and Liz Young

The following reports have been included with this mailing

- 'By their fruits you shall know them' by David Rankin
- 'Plants for naming' by Evelyn Stevens
- 'An investigation into the ecology and ethnobotany of some *Meconopsis* species of Nepal' by Paul Egan
- 'Plant portraits' by Geoff Hill
- 'A Baker's dozen: the best perennial poppies for a conventional garden' by Jim Jermyn
- 'An eye on Inverewe's future' by Kevin Ball

A4 Fact-sheets

The Management Committee agreed to give copies of the four Fact-sheets prepared by the *Meconopsis* Group to all members. Fact-sheet 1 was prepared in 2003; Fact-sheets 2, 3 and 4 were prepared in 2008. This has involved a mailing to all members who did not receive them at the meeting on November 15th 2008 or are not 'new' members. Reports etc have been sent as usual by email, or requested printed copies have been included with the fact-sheets where appropriate.

If you do not receive the fact-sheets, or would like additional copies for publicity, please get in touch.

Web-site Our Group Co-ordinator, Evelyn Stevens, and web-site manager, Peter Taylor, now have the "Species in the wild" section of the web-site well underway. They would be very pleased to receive further contributions of photographs of *Meconopsis* growing in the wild (both close-ups of the plants and habitat shots) to consider for adding to the site. These could either be sent electronically (to plantmatters@thelinns.org.uk or as loaned prints or slides (the latter would be treated with great care and returned immediately after scanning) to Dr. Evelyn Stevens, The Linns, Sheriffmuir, Dunblane, Perthshire, FK15 0LP, Scotland, U.K. Photographers will be acknowledged on the site, and for copyright protection - see existing entries: www.meconopsis.org and go to Plant Portraits, then to Species growing in the wild.

Summer meeting 6th and 7th June 2009

A summer meeting based at Holehird, the Garden of Lakeland Horticultural Society, has been arranged for Saturday, June 6th 2009. There will also be visits to local *Meconopsis* -rich Gardens on Sunday 7th June.

If you are interested in joining the meeting (on either, or both, days) please let me know no later than the next meeting on February 28th.

Further details will be available at the meeting on February 28th.

Membership 2009 Renewal

Thanks for your good wishes and the avalanche of subscriptions received over the festive period.

Just a reminder.....Membership subscriptions for 2009 should be paid by February 28th (the meeting date).

If you wish another renewal form please contact me.

Attendance/ Apologies Slip for the meeting

It would be helpful if you could complete and return the enclosed/attached attendance/apologies slip to me.

Best wishes for 2009

Norma McDowall (Secretary)