

The Meconopsis Group

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Newsletter January 2011

Notice of 8th AGM

Dear Member

Programme for the meeting on 5th March 2011 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	8 th AGM	
11.00 - 11.10	'Plants for naming'	Jim Jermyn
11.10 - 12.10	'My experiences of <i>Meconopsis</i> in the wild and in cultivation'	Peter Cox
12.10 - 12.30	'Species from seed' #1	
12.30 - 13.30	<i>Bring your own picnic Lunch - Complimentary Teas and Coffees</i>	
13.30 - 14.30	' <i>Meconopsis</i> and botanical illustration'	Janet Watson and Sharon Bradley
14.30 - 15.00	'Introducing two newly described species of <i>Meconopsis</i> '	Paul Egan
15.00 - 15.30	Members Discussion	

Agenda for 8th AGM to be held on 5th March 2011

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6th March 2010
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 2012
13. Any Other Business

Arrangements for the Meeting

Venue Conference Room, Royal Botanic Garden, 20 Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LR Tel.0131 552 7171

Get directions on website www.rbge.org.uk

Minutes Minutes of the 7th AGM are enclosed/ attached.

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. Please be aware that some hardwood species are banned from the RBGE. This includes rhododendrons. Please check if unsure. Someone will be available to help with the offloading of plants outside the entrance door at Inverleith Row.

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 at the lectures.

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

Gardening Scotland 2011 Friday June 3rd, Saturday June 4th and Sunday June 5th

Gardening Scotland is Scotland's national celebration of gardening and outdoor living. The show will take place on Friday June 3rd, Saturday June 4th and Sunday June 5th 2011 at the Royal Highland Centre, Ingliston, near Edinburgh. The Meconopsis Group will have a stand as last year.

Fourth International Perennial Plant Conference

The Fourth International Perennial Plant Conference of the International Hardy Plant Union takes place in February 2011 in Grünberg, Germany.

Dr Evelyn Stevens has been invited to speak on *Meconopsis* at this prestigious event. Her title is 'The genus *Meconopsis*'. Evelyn will concentrate on *Meconopsis* in the wild and in cultivation, with emphasis on the Big Blue Poppies.

***Meconopsis wilsonii* seed**

The taxon yielding the seed recently distributed from Toshio Yoshida as *M. wilsonii* subsp. *wilsonii* from Wu Meng Shan, Yunnan has recently been described by David Rankin (and is in press) with the name *M. wilsonii* subsp. *orientalis*. Please make sure to correct your seed-pot labels if you have this seed.

Autumn Meeting Saturday November 19th 2011

The date has been confirmed for 19th November 2011. Further details of the program will be available in September.

Membership 2011 Renewal

Thanks for your good wishes and the snowstorm of subscriptions received over the festive period and into January. I hope you have received your receipt and Membership Card (with photo of *M. grandis*) and your current Username and Password for the Website.

Just a reminder.....Membership subscriptions for 2011 should be paid by February 28th.

The subscription year runs from January 1st to December 31st - see next item.

PayPal

We are pleased to inform you that The Meconopsis Group has now set up a PayPal account for online payment of subscriptions. This is available to all members, but may be of particular interest to our non UK members. The direct web page is <http://www.meconopsis.org/pages/paysub.html>

If you do not have a PayPal account you can also pay by credit/debit card without the need to set up an account with them.

This payment page can also be accessed from the main membership/contact page and the Members Area page. Details are also given in the recent news section on the Home Page.

We do hope that many of you will find this method of payment of subscriptions helpful. Subscriptions can also be paid by cheque or money order (made out in GBP). Cash is only accepted at meetings.

Attendance/ Apologies Slip for the meeting

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

Reports

I enclose reports from the meeting on November 20th 2010 with this newsletter.

- Minutes of AGM held March 6th 2010.
- 'Taxonomic problems' by James Cobb
- '*Meconopsis* at Holehird' by Pat Murphy
- Attendance/apologies slip for the meeting on March 5th 2011

Best wishes for 2011

Norma McDowall (Secretary)