

The Meconopsis Group

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Newsletter September 2012

Dear Member,

We hope that many members will be able to join us at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh on **November 3rd 2012**, for our next Group meeting.

Christopher Grey-Wilson will be giving a survey of his forthcoming monograph on the species in the genus *Meconopsis*. There will be three full length talks, plus time allocated after each for questions.

The Program and arrangements are on page 2.

Species Questionnaire (September/October 2012)

For his forthcoming monograph, it would be very helpful for Christopher Grey-Wilson to know what **species** of *Meconopsis* are in cultivation, both at the present time, and in the past.

We would therefore be very grateful if you would complete the enclosed/attached questionnaire and return it to me **by November 3rd 2012** (Group meeting date). The return address is on the Questionnaire.

Spring Group meeting - March 2nd 2013

The Spring 2013 Group meeting and AGM will be held at the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh on Saturday 2nd March 2013. Program details in January.

Membership Renewal 2013 / Membership Contact List

This is a reminder only that Subscription Rates, agreed at the AGM in March 2012, will be £8 for UK members and £10 for non UK members.

A Membership Contact List is to be prepared.

I hope to have it ongoing with the new Membership Renewals and Applications for next year (but you have the option to opt out). This will help put members in touch with other members.

Amended Renewal Forms for 2013 will be sent out later.

PayPal

The PayPal account to enable subscriptions to be paid on line has proved very popular with members, especially from outwith the UK. Cheques (and cash at meetings only) will continue to be accepted.

Seed Exchange

The current Seed Exchange letter for 20112 -2013 is enclosed /attached. The seed list is sent only on request. Please read the letter for details.

New Fact-sheets

Two new Fact-sheets are now available, thanks to the generosity of one of our members.

Fact-sheet 5 has information on *M.* 'Willie Duncan' and *M.* 'Marit'.

Fact-sheet 6 has information on *M.* 'P.C. Abildgaard' and *M.* 'Mop-head'.

Copies will be available at the Group meeting, or on request, enclosing a LARGE stamp.

Program for the Group meeting on November 3rd 2012

Conference Room, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 10.00 – 15.15

Meeting Chairman: John Mitchell

Guest Speaker: Christopher Grey-Wilson

10.00 - 10.30	Arrival - Complimentary Teas and Coffees
10.30 - 11.45	1. Introduction and classification of <i>Meconopsis</i> (an update) 2. The Monocarpic Evergreens: subgenus <i>Meconopsis</i>
11.45 - 13.00	3. The Discoid Poppies: subgenus <i>Discogyne</i> , <i>M. discigera</i> and its allies 4. Big blue Poppy Species and their Allies: subgenus <i>Grandes</i>
13.00 - 14.00	Bring your own picnic Lunch - Complimentary Teas and Coffees
14.00 - 15.15	5. The Small Blue and Prickly Poppies: subgenus <i>Aculeatae</i> , plus Miscellaneous

Time will be allocated for questions.

Meeting Arrangements

Venue The Conference Room of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh is accessed at 20a Inverleith Row Edinburgh EH3 5LR. If you require directions please access the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh website, or contact me. There is also a regular bus service from Central Edinburgh if you are coming by public transport.

Meeting Charge There will be a nominal charge of £1 to attend this meeting, but this will include a numbered ticket. (Plants or seeds for lucky numbers). Additional tickets can be purchased to help defray costs.

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. *Meconopsis* and other plants are welcome. Please be aware that some hardwood species are banned from the RBGE. This includes rhododendrons. Please check for the latest information.

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

Guests will be made very welcome.

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

Items enclosed / attached

I enclose /attach a number of items.

- Newsletter September 2012
- Seed Exchange letter
- Questionnaire
- Reply slip for November meeting

If you do not receive any of them, please let me know.

If you have any problems with this mailing please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Norma McDowall (Secretary)