



# *The Meconopsis Group*

## Subscriptions secretary's Report 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017

Total paid up membership at December 2016 was 205 members compared to 183 in 2015.

Of those, payments were made mostly by PayPal, some by cheque and by cash at meetings. Some of those who paid by cheque or cash have paid for two years' subscriptions and those who joined for the Gardening Scotland offer were subscribed for 2017 as well as the remainder of 2016. Payments by PayPal are rising each year as payments can also be made using a Credit or Debit card via PayPal. Members do not actually require a PayPal account to make a payment with their card.

2016 Members come from.

Scotland	78	Norway	7	Netherlands	2	Canada	7	China	6	
England	66	Sweden	5	France	1	USA	7	Japan	2	
Wales	2	Denmark	3	Russia	1			N.Z.	2	
Ireland	7			Switzerland	1			Australia	2	
Jersey	1			Germany	3			Korea	1	
				Belgium	1					
	154		15		9		14		13	<b>205</b>

Although members make payments throughout the year, membership for the purposes of the AGM is only recorded as exact at the end of the year in December to compare to the same time the previous year. Renewals for the next year are not included as they will be in the following year's figures. By the end of 2016, 38 members were also fully paid for the 2017 subscription.

Membership of the Group is from January to December. It would really be beneficial for the administration of the Group if members who have not already paid could pay subscriptions by the end of February or before the AGM. This would mean that the administration could be done at one time instead of the almost weekly way as is happening at the moment. Members who paid their 2016 subscription at the time of the seed exchange are asked if they can now also make the payment for their 2017 subscriptions to keep all in line as it does cause a lot of extra work for the seed exchange manager when members are looking for seed have not paid that year's subscription.

This year members who have email addresses will receive their receipt letter and membership card with log in details for 2017 by email. This can be printed off and the card cut out should they wish. Postal members will still receive their letter and card by post and we would ask should they have an email address by then to let us

know. All subscriptions require to be paid for the year or access to the 2017 seed exchange will not be available.

In 2016 there were 38 new members compared to 29 in 2015. Of that 26 were male, 12 were female.

These were made up from

Scotland	9	USA	1	Germany	1	Canada	1
England	12	Australia	1	Norway	2	Holland	1
Sweden	2	N. Zealand	1	China	2	Belgium	1
S. Korea	1	Alaska	1				

In 2016 there were 9 honorary members, 11 complimentary members and no student members. If any member is aware of any students of Horticulture, Botany or a related subject who may be interested in our student membership please let them know of the Group's student membership which is available for free.

As at 1.2.17, 112 Members have paid their subscriptions for 2017.

Members who have not already paid will be able to pay their subscriptions at the AGM on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Sharon Bradley February 2017