

Summer 2010

12 Home Farm
Loseley Park

NewsLines

THE NEWSLETTER FROM THE PLANT HERITAGE NATIONAL OFFICE

The AGM took place in the North East this year at Longhirst Hall, near Morpeth. The entertainment and the garden and nursery visits were undoubtedly some of the best we have been treated to recently, although the weather could have been sunnier!

Highlights were the visit to Howick Hall, David Rae's talk and the Northumbrian Piper. Congratulations to all involved, and thank you for a lovely weekend. We look forward to visiting Sussex-by-the-Sea for Whitsun next year!

Mercy Morris

Collection Holders sweep the board at Chelsea

The RHS's judges awarded nearly a quarter of the Gold Medals in the Great Pavilion to Plant Heritage Collection Holders, a fitting tribute to their skill and dedication. The total medal tally for Collection Holders at Chelsea this year was 23 - 14 Gold, 5 Silver Gilt, 1 Silver and 3 Bronze.

Special congratulations go to Winchester Growers who were also singled out as one of the Daily Telegraph's 'Unmissable stands' and Plantagogo.com, one of the newest collections to join Plant Heritage.

The Gold Medallists were:

Hosta: Bowden Hostas

Bearded Irises: Clare Austin Hardy Plants

Roses: David Austin Roses and Peter Beale Roses

Streptocarpus: Dibleys Nurseries

Sempervivum: Fernwood Nursery

Drosera: Hewitt-Cooper Carnivorous Plants

Peonies: Kelways Plants

Trees, shrubs, climbers, herbaceous: Hillier Nurseries

Ornamental grasses: Knoll Gardens

Heuchera & *x Heucherella*: Plantagogo.com

Begonia: Rhodes & Rockliffe

Lupins: Westcountry Nurseries

Dahlias: Winchester Growers



Fundraising and shows

The cloakroom at Chelsea Flower Show broke all records this year and raised a staggering **£4,600** in donations. This is £400 up on last year.

It really should be called :

**PLANT HERITAGE -
'PICNIC PARKING, LEFT LUGGAGE STORAGE & SHOPPING DROP'**
- the word 'cloakroom' just doesn't do us justice!!

Helen Moorcraft and I do thank the hard working team of about 100 helpers who not only arrived on time, but worked extremely hard with great enthusiasm! Let's see if we can hold on to this prestigious area in 2011!



Joanna Jones
Fundraising



Everyone received a FREE pair of Showa gloves – thanks to **Globus!**

2010 Advertising Revenue so far

We thank our wonderful advertisers. Its thanks to them that our advertising revenue from the Directory and Spring Plant Heritage Journal totals **£9,100 this year.**

Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

The Volunteer rota is almost complete, but we are calling for helpers on Saturday 10th July. The marquee (sponsored by the **New Covent Garden Food Company**) will be opened by James Wong (*Grow Your Own Drugs*) on Monday 5th July with our new President, Alan Titchmarsh joining us also.

New this year to the marquee will be a Collection Holder workshop area – demonstrations from the experts, showing how to divide *Agapanthus*, prune roses, clip box into spirals, and propagation techniques from Barry Clarke, Collection Holder & Hillier Gardens chief propagator.

Returning through popular demand will be the SEED SHOP, Janet Wright and June James are grateful for the thousands of seeds they have been sent by everyone. **Keep them coming!**



£15,000 Legacy Donation

We have recently received a substantial legacy of £15,000 which is a huge boost to our core funds

Do remember us please when making or changing your will.



National AGM 2010 - Morpeth



A great weekend was had by all! It was especially good to see Mike Kelly from **Brother UK Ltd**, Susan Barley from **NFU Mutual** and Pat Cooke from **Hatts Quality Travel** at the AGM in Morpeth. Many thanks for the prizes and sponsorship they donated towards this excellent weekend with our North East Group.



Mobile phones

Growing tired of your old mobile ? Thinking of throwing it away?
For every mobile, Plant Heritage receives a donation of £2.00.

Send your mobile to:

Greener Solutions, FREEPOST, LON17592, Mitcham, CR4 3UZ
marking envelope 'PLANT HERITAGE'



Membership

Day out at Loseley Park

We held a very successful day at Loseley Park this month for our Friends and Life Members, where they enjoyed a guided tour of the house and gardens with an opportunity to meet each other over lunch in our office. We appreciate the additional support from all our Friends.



Gillian Spencer Gill Groombridge
Membership

If you would like to become a Friend or a Life Member of Plant Heritage please ring 01483 447540, Friends pay an extra £100 a year towards our conservation work, and Life Membership cost £1000/£1250 Individual/Joint.



Gardening gloves to buy

You can now buy Globus Showa 370 gardening gloves through our website shop for £6.99 (Including p&p). These gloves are lightweight, flexible yet durable, and washable!. They are available in a range of colours and sizes. Please visit our [shop](#) and click on **Merchandise**.



Out and About

At National Office we love visiting local Group plant fairs, come rain or shine!



A visit to Rosemoor



At Surrey Fair

RHS Membership Offer

Bring your garden to life with RHS Membership

RHS membership gives you endless opportunities to get out, enjoy fresh air and exercise with free year-round garden visits, as well as the knowledge to nurture your own green space with one-to-one gardening advice and much, much more!

Join the RHS by **Direct Debit** by 31 July 2010 and save £5 off the membership fee - you'll only pay £44!

As an RHS member you'll enjoy:

- Free days out at **RHS gardens** with a family guest at RHS Garden Wisley, Harlow Carr, Hyde Hall and Rosemoor
- Access to more than **140 RHS Recommended Gardens** during selected periods, for Member one (cardholder one) only
- Free monthly magazine **The Garden** (worth £51 a year)
- **Special Members' or Preview days** at RHS Shows including the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, Hampton Court Palace Show and RHS Show Tatton Park
- Free and friendly one-to-one **gardening advice**.



And what's more, when you join the RHS, you'll be helping Britain's gardens, schools and communities to flourish too.

Join today or call 0845 130 4646 quoting 3143

www.rhs.org.uk/ecommerce/redirecter.aspx?pcode=3143



Terms & Conditions

RHS Individual Membership is £49 (yearly) and includes a one-off £5 enrolment fee. £5 discount offer is valid until 31/07/2010 on Direct Debit and is available in the first year of membership only. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other current promotion. Please allow 28 days to receive your membership card and handbook.



Calling all photographers!

'My Favourite Plant' is the subject for the 2011 Plant Heritage National Photographic Competition organised by the Surrey Group.

An entry form will be published in the autumn edition of Plant Heritage. The closing date for entries will be in March 2011.

For more details visit

www.nccpg.com/News/National-Photographic-Competition-2011.aspx.

Last year's winner was Margaret Thorpe, Chairman of the Suffolk Group. Her photograph was taken at Bridge End Garden, Saffron Walden. Margaret won a crystal bowl and £50 of garden gift vouchers. All winners can be seen at: www.nccpg.com/News/Photographic-winners.aspx

Remember to take your camera when visiting gardens this summer..



Public Relations

New Service exclusively for Members - Free Website Links

The latest development on the website is the Specialist Nurseries page where Plant Heritage Members can advertise their nursery with a link to their own website.



Nicola Savage
PR Officer

Listings are based on the 2010 Directory and you will find the first section (A –C) at www.nccpg.com/Info-centre/Find-a-rare-plant/Specialist-Nurseries.aspx . It is very time consuming to load up the entries and create the links, and my time is limited, so for those of you towards the end of the alphabet, please bear with me! If you do not wish your nursery to be listed, please let me know.

Many people have asked me about creating a database of plants in the website and forums for discussions and sharing of expert knowledge. We don't have the resources to build or manage this ourselves but I am exploring affiliations with gardening websites which will provide such features for our members for free or at a discount to their standard charges – more about this in the next issue of Newslines!

TPP Co-ordinator

Please join us in welcoming Sarah Barton as our TPP (Threatened Plant Project) Co-ordinator! Sarah, a keen plantswoman herself, and Merrist Wood Student of the Year in 2008, is a very experienced manager with a strong background in the not for profit sector and has previously worked for Barnardo's and Action for Children in senior positions.



Sarah Barton
TPP Co-ordinator

Sarah says "The Threatened Plant Project is the first major, structured investigation of the state of our garden plant heritage. There's a daunting amount of work to do, but at the end of the Project we will have identified the plants most in danger of extinction and most worthy of saving. For me, that's a very exciting prospect - we have a real chance of achieving something that will be of incalculable benefit for ourselves and future generations."

Sarah joined us in April and has already been busy - read her first Newslines report below.

Threatened Plant Project

My recent communications about the Threatened Plant Project have created much interest and produced an excellent response. I am consolidating the information returned and finalizing some dates for the workshops requested. This is still at the very early stages of course and any offers to assist are most welcome.

The summer months are already overflowing with activities, horticultural or otherwise and most people are quite understandably outside enjoying the good weather whenever possible; or indeed following one or other epic sporting activity on the television! However as the year progresses and the evenings draw in, the opportunity to contribute to our plant heritage by spending some time on this project may sound more appealing. How much time? is a frequently asked question. It might be as little as a couple of hours but it can become absorbing and in next to no time an entire genus is listed and ready for the final part of stage 1 i.e.: categorizing the plants and establishing which of them are threatened.

Another interesting aspect of the research I've undertaken so far is the discovery of some weird and wonderful plant names. When I say weird and wonderful I really do mean it. More on this next time!

Conservation



Mercy Morris
Plant Conservation Officer

In case you hadn't noticed 2010 has been declared the International Year of Biodiversity by the UN (<http://www.cbd.int/2010/welcome/>). While all this may seem very far away from our plant fairs and AGMs it is important to remember that we are part of a much bigger movement. In supporting plant conservation via Plant Heritage, you are helping preserve the biodiversity of our planet.

One of the products of the Convention on Biological Diversity was the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), which sets an agenda for all organisations dedicated to saving plants from extinction. Many of the targets of the GSPC are far removed from what we do, but if you have a look through them all you will be able to see where we fit in. (to discover what is being discussed for post-2010 visit the CBD website)

- Target 1:** A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.
- Target 2:** A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.
- Target 3:** Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.
- Target 4:** At least 10% of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.
- Target 5:** Protection of 50% of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.
- Target 6:** At least 30% of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity
- Target 7:** 60% of the world's threatened species conserved in situ.
- Target 8:** 60% of threatened plant species in accessible ex-situ collections, preferably in the country of origin and 10% of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.
- Target 9:** 70% of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.
- Target 10:** Management plans in place of at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.
- Target 11:** No species of wild flora endangered by international trade
- Target 12:** 30% of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.
- Target 13:** The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.
- Target 14:** The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.
- Target 15:** The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this strategy.
- Target 16:** Networks for plants conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.

This is vitally important work, not just for scientists and politicians and botanic gardens but for all of us. Visit <http://www.plantsfortheplanet.com/> and pledge your support!