

HIMALAYAN WEEKEND

A David Boyd Event

22nd–23rd June 2019, 9 am to 4 pm

Organised by the SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB in partnership with the MECONOPSIS GROUP, the ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, EDINBURGH, the ROYAL CALEDONIAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY and the SCOTTISH RHODODENDRON SOCIETY

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VENUE: Lockerbie Town Hall, High Street, Lockerbie, DG11 2ES

LOCATION: From the north, exit the M74 at Junction 17, or from the south at Junction 18, and follow the signs to the town centre. The town hall is on the junction of the B723 and B7068. Unloading is permitted outside the hall, and free car parking is available opposite the main entrance to the town hall in McJerrow Park and at the railway station nearby. Lockerbie is well served by rail and the town hall is a short walk from the station.

RHS JOINT ROCK GARDEN PLANT COMMITTEE will meet at 12.30 pm on Saturday
Plants for consideration must be registered by 11 am

The SRGC David Boyd events promote and encourage the cultivation of rock garden and woodland plants. This event is open to all members and non-members.

We are delighted that several other societies are joining us to further our understanding of Himalayan plants. There will be talks about mountain ecology and the conditions plants enjoy in their Himalayan habitats, and how we can best provide suitable conditions in our gardens to ensure success in cultivation. In the past there has been a regular supply of new plant material from the wild as live plants, cuttings, bulbs and seeds. This situation will not continue for ever. The wild areas of the world are under constant pressure from human development and governments are introducing protections. The Club realises that with the increased restriction on collecting all over the world, gardeners must ensure that those species already in cultivation are maintained and that any new introductions are raised and grown successfully.

Talks

The programme will include plant hunters who have travelled to the Himalaya and marvelled at the flowers in nature. Some collect plant material under licence while others collect images and memories. There will also be contributions from experienced gardeners and nurserymen who maintain these species in cultivation and propagate them for us.

Speakers on Saturday:

David Knott (RBG, Edinburgh) *'The Himalayas'*

Willie Campbell (Doune) and **John Roy** (Ballachulish) *'Rhododendrons in the wild'*

Margaret Thorne (Blyth Bridge) *'Meconopsis in the wild'*

Speakers on Sunday:

Tim Roberts (Thornton-Cleveleys) '*Androsaces and Saxifragas in the wild and how to grow them*'

Tim Lever (Aberconwy) '*High Himalayan Alpines in the wild*'

Ian Christie (Kirriemuir) '*Meconopsis, Ericaceae and Cypripediums in the wild and how to grow them*'

Mike Thornley (Glenarn) '*Argyll gardens and the history of the Rhododendron*'

Plant, flower and photographic displays

Bring your plants and bulbs in pots, and cut flowers and shrubs in vases to form a display. These should not be restricted to Himalayan plants, but any that are native to that region should be marked with special labels. Also, bring photographs of plants and their habitats in the Himalaya as well as plants in gardens. We encourage everyone to participate by bringing a few entries to share with other members. If everyone who attends contributes to the display it will be outstanding.

This meeting will be at a new venue and time of year in Scotland for the Royal Horticultural Society's Joint Rock Garden Plant Committee. So many plants which flower in late June in northern gardens will not have been seen by the committee previously. All members are encouraged to bring plants for consideration for awards; see page 10 for further information.

Plant Fair

Several specialist nurseries will be offering a wide selection of plants for sale.

There will be a 50:50 plant sale. Please contribute to this by bringing your own plants. These need not be Himalayan plants. Pots should be double labelled with name of plant, price and name of the seller.

Garden visits

Several choice private gardens will be open for us on Saturday and Sunday after the talks. There are many excellent public gardens and nurseries in the area which you can visit at your leisure, before or after the event. Garden entrance fees where applicable are not included in the conference cost.

Tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes will be on sale, but you are asked to bring your own picnic lunch. There is a Tesco store nearby.

For accommodation we recommend that you look at the local tourist board site <https://www.visitscotland.com/info/towns-villages/lockerbie-p239131>

A contribution of £10 is payable at the event to offset expenses.

We hope you and your friends will come along to enjoy our weekend of talks, demonstrations and garden visits where you can share your ideas with fellow gardeners in the south-west of Scotland.