

From the editor

After a largely dull, often wet and, here at least, decidedly chilly summer, we start with some colour-full articles featuring excellent plants to cheer our spirits. Then as armchair travellers we go to the Himalayas with Ruth Baumberg to see many of our popular plants in their home territory, learning what conditions suits them best, and all without putting our coats on! Keith and Lorna Ferguson have been botanising in South America many times, but here they concentrate on the Patagonian plants which grow well for us in the UK.

As gardeners we're aware of the importance of insect pollinators. A recent BBKA¹ survey showed that while 63% of adults are aware of the honeybee decline, 67% are unsure of what they can do to help. With this in mind, Tim Riggs' timely article may help us to be even more bee-friendly in our gardens.

We continue with plants of many varieties – sunflowers, sedums, roses et al – but we also take pleasure in meeting some Hardy Planters, confirming what an interestingly diverse group of people we are, and in celebrating the work of Local Groups who have shown off the Society to literally tens of thousands of visitors at horticultural shows.

©Keith Ferguson



The wonderful bark of *Luma apiculata*

On the Autumn Weekend, hosted by the NE Group, Hardy Planters visited Howick Hall Gardens. Most admired were the tactile bark of *Luma apiculata*; a deliciously fragrant lime tree, *Tilia tomentosa*; and the agapanthus, original Headbourne hybrids selected for the northern climate by Lord Howick's great uncle, Lewis Palmer.

Please remember that if you want information or advice, you may find it on the HPS website, in HPS publications, or you can contact the HPS Horticultural Advisory Service.

The HPS office holds an index of plants named in the journal during the period 1957–1994. Also, the names of plants in the titles of articles are listed in another index for 1995–2004. Please contact the administrator to use this material.



Agapanthus at Howick Hall Gardens

On a personal note, my builders have almost done and I'm about to start on my new garden. With so many must-have plants available, the problem, of course, is what NOT to squeeze in! I am re-reading previous editions of this journal, often being inspired and always better informed, thanks as ever to all our contributors.

Pam Ratcliffe 

Errata – names, once again

Bupleurum

One of Val Bourne's Desert Island plants [Spring 2015], a shrubby bupleurum, was *B. fruticosum* (and not *B. griffithii*).

Dactylicapnos

Following my article [Spring 2015], Bob Armstrong has told me that the *Dactylicapnos* I wrote about is *D. ventii* (and not *D. lichiangensis*). It seems that *D. lichiangensis* is an annual and *D. ventii* a perennial, although they are identical in every other respect. Many years ago Bob gave a plant to Ron Davies, from whom I got my original plant. It was during a visit to Crúg that he saw the *D. ventii* name on what he thought to be *D. lichiangensis* and talked to Bleddyn about it.

Pauline Cooper

¹ British Beekeepers Association