



The Hardy Plant Society was formed to foster interest in hardy herbaceous plants. It aims to give information about the wealth of both well- and little-known plants, and to ensure that all worthy plants remain in cultivation and have the widest possible distribution.

President: Roy Lancaster
Vice Presidents: Dilys Davies, Tony Lord and Brian Mitchell

All communications, including membership enquiries, should be sent to:

Sally Broome, The Administrator
 15 Basepoint Business Centre
 Crab Apple Way
 Evesham WR11 1GP
 01386 710317
 admin@hardy-plant.org.uk

Advertising enquiries to
 The Administrator

The editor reserves the right to edit contributions as necessary. The opinions expressed by authors and advertisers are not specifically endorsed by the HPS. Illustrations as acknowledged. Although all reasonable care is taken, the HPS cannot accept responsibility for unsolicited material.

Collection and editorial matter
 ©The Hardy Plant Society 2017

ISSN: 0969-1901
 Charity No. 208080

Typeset and printed by
 Vale Press, Broadway

Contents

The best plants for pots	3	'The hills are alive...'	50
Bob chooses plants with year-round all-star quality		(with perennial meadows)	
Bob Brown		Several ways to make a perennial wildflower meadow given sun and low-fertility soil	
Beth Chatto	12	Souren Ala	
Our favourite plants for brightening up summer shade	14	Looking at plants by the sea	55
Shade can be inviting with such a wide range of good doers		The wide range of plants on the beaches, cliff tops, salt marshes and heaths in southern Portugal	
Shade and Woodland Plants Group committee members		Ruth Baumberg	
Under the apples	21	Winners and losers	61
Changing the way their orchard is managed has made it the loveliest part of the garden in winter and spring		Travelling to see plants in their wild habitats and in gardens has led to some success in spotting what will be winners in cultivation in the UK	
Tim Ingram		Keith & Lorna Ferguson	
Adopting orphans	26	Can the benefits of using soil microbes be seen?	67
It's deeply satisfying to rescue the overlooked or abandoned and introduce them to the world		The evidence so far; and with records of careful observation there will be more	
Alex Pankhurst		David Way	
Planting bulbs for colour next year	31	A recognised name – at last!	70
Some of the very best bulbs, and there's still time to choose and plant them		A proper moniker for one of the Conservation Scheme's most beautiful plants	
Rob Cole		Helen Mount	
Lessons from India	37	Clematis in Mediterranean and temperate zones - drought, myth & facts	72
Studying plants in one of the wettest places on earth means greater success in raising them in the UK		Mary Toomey	
Richard Holman		The learning curve	74
Incarceration, liberation and sex change in <i>Arisaema</i>	43	Val Bourne	
An unusual strategy to produce the next generation		Letters	77
Peter Williams			
Idle thoughts in autumn rain	47		
Musings on plants, and gardens, and others' thoughts about them			
Martin Spray			

All submissions to the editor
Pam Ratcliffe
 editor@hardy-plant.org.uk

01668 281380
 Rowan Lodge
 17 Queens Road
 Wooler, Northumberland NE71 6DR

Front Cover: *Paeonia mlokosewitschii* under a Cox's Orange Pippin at Copton Ash, Faversham, Kent. ©Tim Ingram

Back Cover: *Zantedeschia aethiopica* 'Glencoe', a much-admired winner of a plant. © Keith & Lorna Ferguson