Contents

REGULARS

Contents 139

From the Editor 140

Plant Focus 141–145

Book Reviews 192–193

Letters 200–202

FEATURES

White-barked birches
As well as the many good cultivars derived from Betula utilis var. Jacquemontii, there are other superb white-barked birches
Paul Bartlett 146–151

Climate change and plant disease
Which garden plant diseases can we expect to see more of as a result of climate change?
Geoff Dixon 152–157

RHS trial of Mexican Salvia
A recent trial of shrubby Mexican Salvia cultivars revealed the best
William Dyson 158–164

Three large-flowered hoyas
Some hoyas have particularly large flowers; here are three of the best
Rob Stirling 165–169

Chelsea Plant of the Year
The stories behind the new plants and what makes them better than their predecessors
Graham Rice 170–177

John Hoog, pioneering bulb dealer
An influential Dutch nurseryman who employed experienced plant hunters to help him gain major commercial advantages
Carel Hoog 178–181

A new Tropaeolum in cultivation
The origin and cultivation of a beautiful yellow-flowered species from Argentina
Jean-Patrick Agier 182–183

Woodwardia in cultivation
A major survey of chain ferns, mostly large and spectacular species. Some are confused in cultivation and ways of identifying them accurately are outlined
Tim Pyner 184–191

Alan Bloom
Biography of a plantsman who founded an influential nursery and raised more than 200 cultivars, many still favourites today. He also invented the island bed concept and collected steam engines
Jaime Blake 194–199

Front Cover Photograph
Salvia microphylla ‘Cerro Potosi’
This selection was collected at high altitude in Mexico and has not undergone any hybridization. However, it holds its own against the hybrids and gained an Award of Garden Merit in the recent RHS trial
Photograph: Marcus Harpur

Notes for Contributors
The Editor welcomes suggestions for articles, but please contact him first with a synopsis of your idea. Features will preferably be accompanied by high quality transparencies, colour prints or digital photographs. The latter must be high resolution – at least 300dpi.

News items to Jean Stowe,
tel: 01733 294637;
email: news@rhspublications.co.uk