

TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

Cliff has travelled to Italy on many occasions and has visited the mountains of Switzerland, Crete, Slovenia and Austria, He has experienced vacations in the Balearics, the Canary Islands, Madeira, Tunisia, St. Lucia and on the Burren in Southern Ireland. 2009 will see early spring visits to Portugal and Turkey and another tour of duty in the Dolomites in early July. Flower hunting visits to Colorado, Utah and California have been interspersed with family breaks in Kentucky and Florida.

Profile Sheet

HORTICULTURAL LECTURER, PHOTOGRAPHER & WRITER

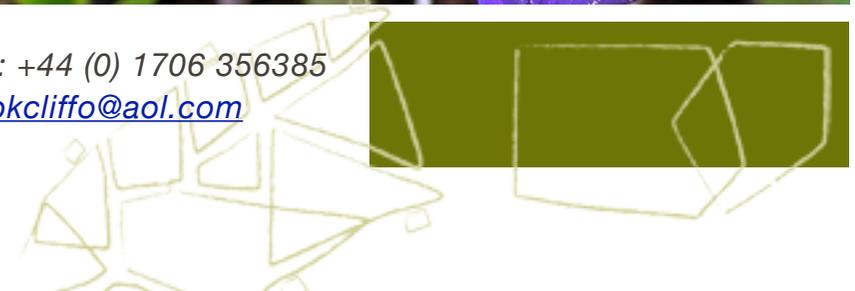
Cliff Booker *Ranunculus*

Cliff specializes in growing and exhibiting members of the family; Ranunculaceae - and, in particular, the beautiful high mountain ranunculus that inhabit the loftiest peaks of Europe, North America and New Zealand. Cliff grows his alpine buttercups and many other species and genera from around the globe in a miniscule garden situated high on the blustery moors above East Lancashire. He has, from necessity, learnt the art of growing practically all his plants in pots and containers, but admits to mastering this difficult art only occasionally.



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Cliff has, with wife and right-arm, Sue, led wildflower walks for U.K. based; Collett's Mountain Holidays in the Dolomites of Northern Italy for nearly ten years. After experiencing the quality and breadth of a Collett's holiday themselves way back in 1998, Cliff and Sue were asked by owner; Tom Collett to return to the Dolomites to lead flower walks for the company in 2000 and have returned every year (bar one) since then. Their remit is to escort groups of interested holiday-makers and alpine enthusiasts (from as few as three to as many as twenty five) into the mountains to discover, identify, enjoy and photograph wild flowers of every persuasion. They have revisited these magnificent mountains for two or three weeks each year and have acquired a huge catalogue of images that cover the complete floral year in this beautiful region. Cliff also presents twice-weekly lectures and musically accompanied displays to guests in resort during their stays.

WHITWORTH, LANCASHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM

Ranunculus



Gold and double Farrer Medal winning exhibitor at Alpine Garden Society Shows.

Founder (in December 1986) of the East Lancashire Group of the Alpine Garden Society.

Current Chairman and former Secretary (for 21 years) of the East Lancashire Group.

Winner of the Lionel Bacon Award of the Alpine Garden Society in 1996 for the 'Best practical alpine gardening article published in the Quarterly Bulletin of the Alpine Garden Society'. Volume 63 No. 3 Page 237 - 'Down Under on the Pennines'.

Winner of the A.G.S. Local Group Award for 2000 for services to the East Lancashire Group.

Cliff was a long-time supporter of AlpenPix and contributed many hundreds of images to this once excellent resource.