



SRGC

Bulb Log Diary

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BULB LOG 23.....5th June 2019



Haberlea rhodopensis



Last year, around this time, I divided the **Haberlea rhodopensis** in the rock garden bed and after replanting some back into their original position I planted the divisions out across the face of this wall where they have settled in extremely well and are now flowering.



A few weeks ago, [Bulb Log 2019](#), I shared images of *Ramonda nathaliae* flowering in this crevice area and trough which form part of the new bed by the pond now it is the turn of a pink form of **Ramonda myconi** to put on a flowering display.



Ramonda myconi

Now the wall that is populated by *Haberlea rhodopensis* is partially veiled by a mass planting of *Corydalis* 'Craigton Blue'.





Corydalis 'Craigton Blue'

Many years have passed since I first observed a population of Corydalis seedlings growing in the gravel and after careful study I decided that these were hybrids between *Corydalis omieana* and *Corydalis flexuosa*.



It became obvious after a short trial that these hybrids were great garden plants and so I named and distributed **Corydalis 'Craigton Blue'** which is now widely grown and available in many countries.



Corydalis 'Craigton Blue'



Corydalis capitata

A few years after introducing *Corydalis capitata* to the garden I started to notice unusual seedlings appearing around the plants that were different from *Corydalis capitata* on comparing the different plants they appeared intermediate between *Corydalis capitata* and *Corydalis 'Craigton Blue'*.

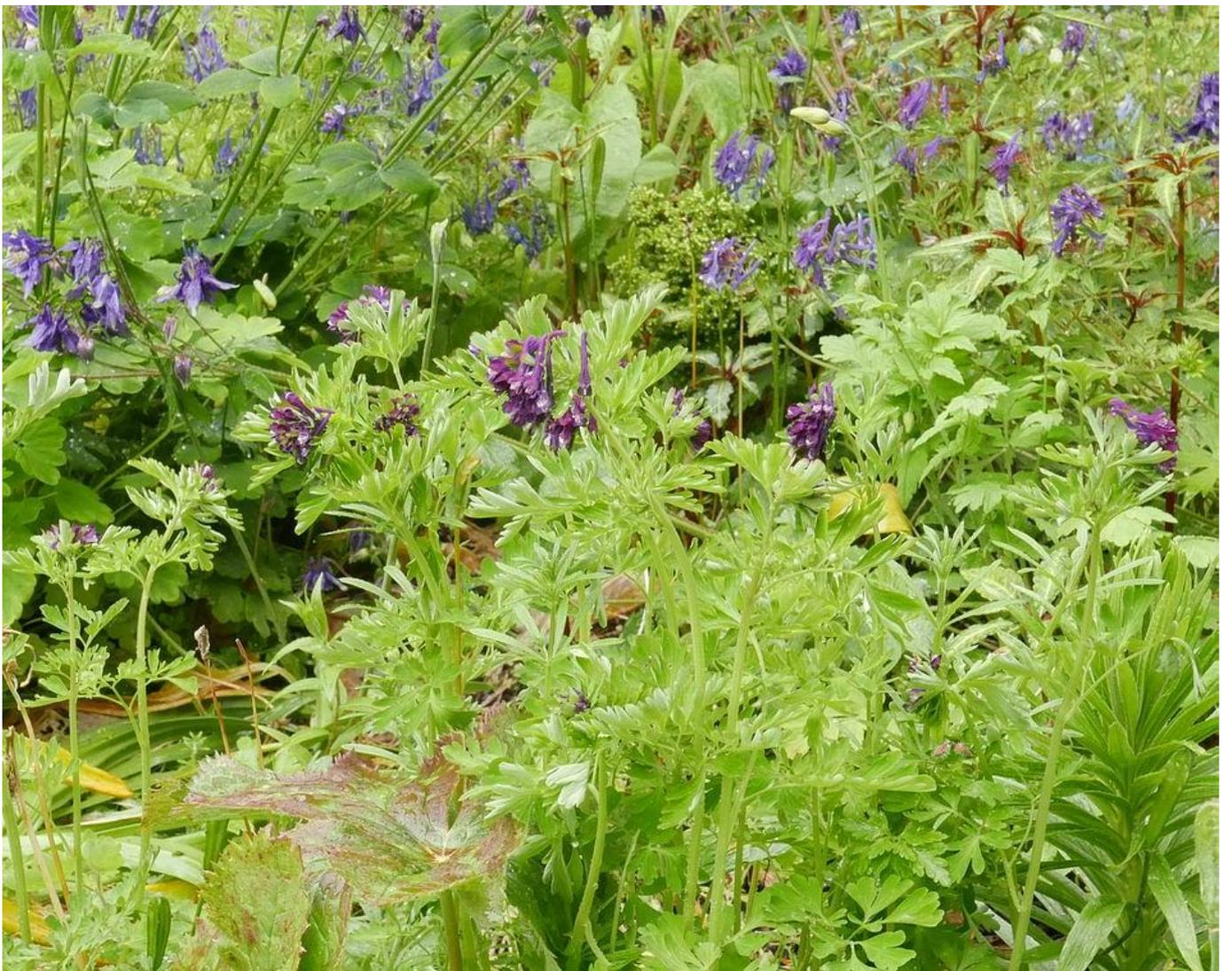


Corydalis 'Craigton Purple' and a second



Corydalis capitata x 'Craigton Blue' seedling

Over several years I assessed a number of forms of *Corydalis capitata* crossed with *Corydalis 'Craigton Blue'* before deciding on the one on the left as the best to name and distribute as **Corydalis 'Craigton Purple'**. The one on the right comes in as a very close second but I am not sure that it is sufficiently different to justify giving it a name. The precise colour of the flowers cannot be judged from pictures as they vary slightly through the season.



Corydalis capitata is an interesting plant but not the most decorative in the garden – the flowers, which are a good dark purple, open in a bunch or a cap on the top of the stem which is not the most attractive of features - as the seed pods ripen the stem between them extends so the individual capsules are better spaced out.



You can hardly notice the plants of *Corydalis capitata* in the foreground instead the eye is drawn to the more showy flowers of my second choice hybrid seedling and some *Aquilegia*.



Garden view



As part of my trials and selection process I have grown **Corydalis 'Craigton Purple'** in a number of situations.



Corydalis 'Craigton Purple'

I started distributing Corydalis 'Craigton Purple' to a number of nurseries a few years ago and I know that some of them have been offering it for sale for a few seasons now and I hope, given time and by distributing more each year, that it will also become widely available.



A yellow *Fritillaria affinis* goes well with a clump of the second choice of *Corydalis capitata* hybrid seedlings.



Tropaeolum tricolorum is escaping through the gaps in one of the bulb houses and flowering well in the open air.



The reverse view shows the bulk of the **Tropaeolum tricolorum** growth and flowers climbing up the inside of a bulb house and along the roof light.



Tropaeolum tricolorum tubers

The majority of this growth of *Tropaeolum tricolorum* comes from a number of pots of tubers placed in the plunge next to the glass. The tubers started off covered in compost but some, as they grew, have forced themselves to the surface.



I unintentionally let one box of **Tropaeolum tricolorum** tubers dry out a bit too much which caused the growth to retreat so I have taken the opportunity to replant them and remove these extra tubers that have formed.



As well as increasing by forming additional tubers **Tropaeolum tricolorum** also sets seeds.



It is always interesting to observe how the roots of the seedlings around the outside have plunged deep down and grown all the way to the bottom of the compost.

Below you can see the seeds in their new home ready to be watered to ensure there is good contact between the composts and no air gaps surrounding the exposed roots.





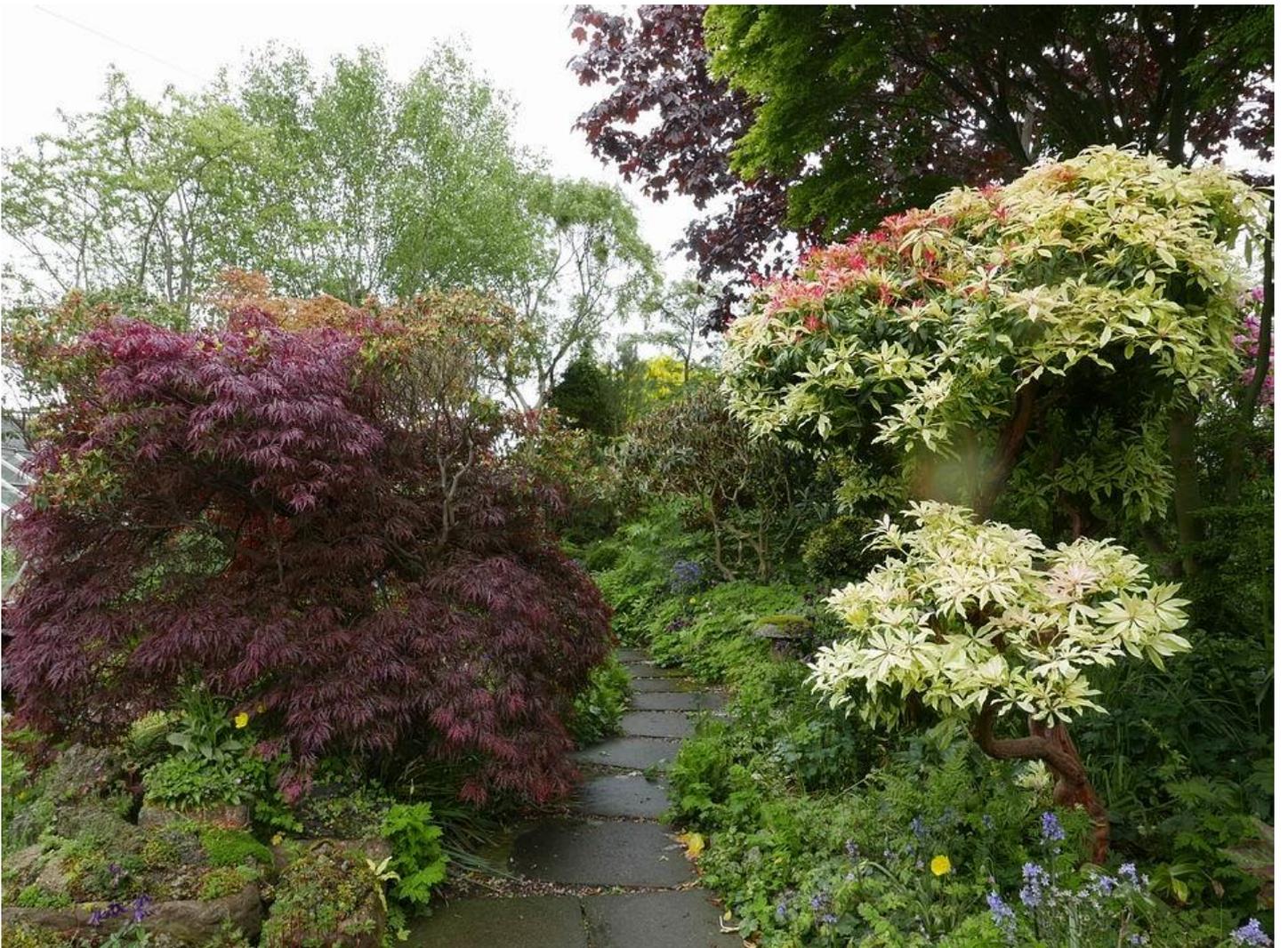
A week on and the seedlings have settled in to the bigger pot.



Arisaema wilsonii



Arisaema nepenthoides



The leaf canopy has grown well now modifying the look and atmosphere within parts of the garden.



Rhododendron flowers add to the colourful canopy of leaves above our heads.



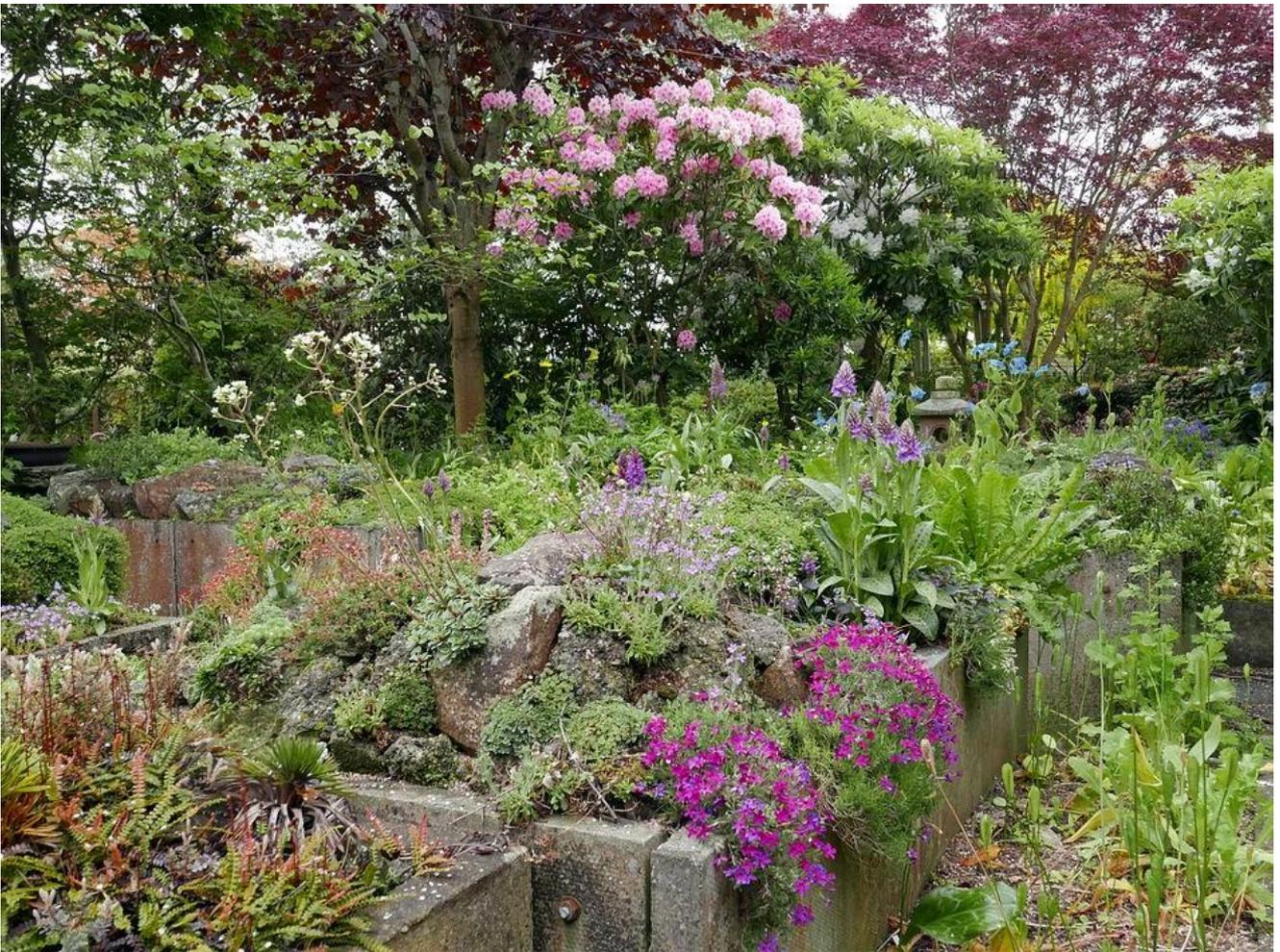
Meconopsis are now flowering in the Erythronium plunge beds.



Attractive combinations are formed when the various contrasting colours are joined.



Meconopsis baileyi



Turning around I head into the area of the raised slab beds and troughs, where the alpines that are in flower such as the Phloxes are not finding our Scottish weather entirely to their liking, it is a bit too cold and wet for them.





Slab beds and troughs





The white spots that cover the ground are not hail or snow but the petals falling from the many flowers of the Sorbus above our heads, you can just see its trunk on the right hand side.



Molly chooses to ignore rule two and sunbathe on one of the plunge beds: she says there are no flowers and that the bulbs are going dormant.....