Bulletin of The Heather Society









Volume 8, number 5.

Summer 2015

	n		

Contents	
Forewords	1
Chairman's piece	1
Society news & events, & Society's business	2-3
Cippitiwitchet Log	4
Treasurer's Corner	5
Group news	5
00 top winter-flowering Erica	6, 12
Connemara chit-chat	8
How green was my 'Eden Valley'	9
Media watch	11

Bulletin of The Heather Society volume 8 number 5

Bulletin Editor: Daphne Everett



charity registered in England & Wales no. 261407

website: www.heathersociety.org.uk email: admin@heathersociety.org



DIARY 2015

3 June	Yorkshire Group, Himalayan Garden, Grewelthorpe
17 June	Council meeting, London

20 – 21 June All about Plants, RHS Garden Wisley
30 June – 5 July RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show
10–14 September Annual Gathering, Leenane, Ireland
15 September Closing date for Autumn 2015 *Bulletin*26 September Yorkshire Group, RHS Garden Harlow Carr
47 September Home Counties Group, RHS Garden Wisley

21 October Council meeting, London

31 October Closing date the *Heathers* **13** (2016 yearbook).

For contact details of the Society's Officers, Editors, Group Organizers, and Administrator, see inside back cover.

© 2015 The Heather Society.

Bulletin of The Heather Society: Spring 2015

IMPORTANT NOTICE

From the Autumn 2015, The Heather Society's *Bulletin* and other documents (such as AGM papers) will be delivered to members by an email notification. Members who do **not** have access to the internet (and email) will continue to receive printed copies.

Forewords

I notice that in his Chairman's Piece, our Chairman, is complaining about the misnaming of heathers. This ties in with my rant, which is that more and more places seem to be selling them with either no names at all - or just white heather, red heather, or pink heather. Not to mention the abominable dyed Calluna being sold as "winter flowering heathers". The trend seemed to start a few years ago in DIY stores, but is now spreading to town centre outlets – greengrocers, florists, etc. It is the same with many lovely house plants, which are now often just labelled "green plant", and it even seems to be spreading to certain shrubs. Sadly it is a situation that many young buyers will come to accept as the norm. Still, it is not all doom and gloom - at the Malvern Spring Festival the aisles were as crammed as ever with eager plantaholics, many pulling behind them lethal trollies loaded with plants - all true to name and well labelled!

Daphne Everett

Please note that our email address is dandmeverett@gmail.com

Chairman's piece

The new Heather Society website is up and running, and the Society is deeply indebted to David Brown, one of our recent Council members, who has brought his considerable expertise and skills in the computer world to the benefit of our Society.

I am optimistic that the facility will encourage viewers to consider, at the click of a button, joining the Society's membership. Recalling JFK saying "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country", I continue to encourage members to bring their skills and knowledge to benefit THS Council.

Visiting my local DIY superstore recently I was disappointed to see a poor display of heathers, with various plants incorrectly labelled, including an Erica erigena as an E. × darleyensis cultivar. Whilst the majority of the gardening public will purchase what they see looking attractive in front of them on the day of their visit, in absolute ignorance of any mis-naming, it is the responsibility of the supplying nursery to ensure correctness. The Heather Society has the responsibility of maintaining a full record of heather and their descriptions, names regularly updated by the Registrar, Dr Charles Nelson, to ensure that an accurate record exists of each cultivar. With this database, the description of each cultivar is defined, against which

comparisons may be made to ensure accuracy of identification.

The Heather Society will be exhibiting again this year at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show (30 June – 5 July 2015). Part of the display will centre round a heather lawn as a novel concept, with companion plants intermingled amongst the heather display.

I hope to see you there, and help with manning the stand is, always, appreciated (see p. 3).

David Edge

Society news & events

Annual Gatherings 10–14 September 2015: The Leenane Hotel, County Galway, Ireland

This year we shall be meeting for 4 nights and 3 full days. Council is delighted that many of you are travelling to the West of Ireland for this year's gathering.

Our speakers and visits are all arranged and will provide an insight into Connemara, which will leave you with good memories. The speakers include Michael Gibbons, Micheline Sheehy-Skeffington and Mike Pirie. You will be transported to Kylemore Abbey, Connemara Smokehouse, and have the opportunity to go heather-hunting on Roundstone Bog for the all-important wild heathers of Connemara. And do not forget the boat trip down the Killary Fjord. Let

us hope the weather is kind and that raincoats will not be needed.

Please ensure that you have paid your final amount of £285 by 31 July either by cheque (UK£ only, payable to The Heather Society) to The Administrator, or see the Treasurer's Corner (p. 5) for details of payment from outside the UK. If you have not yet booked a place, we can still accommodate you, but I would advise you to contact either Charles Nelson (email admin@heathersociety.org) or me (email susiek@gofree.indigo.ie) as soon as possible.

The £285 fee includes four nights' accommodation at the Leenane Hotel, with breakfast and dinner, coach transport and entry to all visits. Lunches and tips are also included.

Susie Kay

2

Walter Wornick 1932–2015

Regular attenders at the Society's conferences and gatherings will no doubt remember Walter Wornick, from New Hampshire, USA, who sadly died of heart failure at his home, on 27 September 2014. Walter was a largerthan-life character, who, once seen, was never forgotten. He loved England and, before illness prevented him from travelling, came over several times a year to visit the friends he had made all around the country and to attend Heather Society conferences. He much enjoyed the Malvern Spring Show and had visited more English gardens than anyone else I knew.

Walter was a thoughtful man who never forgot a birthday or an anniversary. He will be remembered in Evesham for a new bell in the Abbey bell tower, which he commissioned in honour of his father.

Daphne Everett

RHS Veitch Memorial Medal

Many congratulations are due to our distinguished Administrator, Dr Charles Nelson, who, at a ceremony in London, on 25 February 2015, was awarded one of the RHS's most prestigious awards, the Veitch Memorial Medal. This medal, regarded as being among the highest accolades in horticulture, is awarded to its recipients for their outstanding contribution to the advancement of science and the practice of horticulture.

Daphne Everett

Society's business Phil Joyner Hon. Secretary

Notice of the 2015 AGM

Please note that the 2015 AGM of The Heather Society will be held at 9:00am on Sunday, 13 September at the Leenane Hotel, County Galway, Ireland.

An agenda and relevant paperwork will be made available prior to the event in sufficient time for Council nominations to be received.

A request to help at the 2015 RHS Hampton Court Flower Show

The Heather Society has put on a display, with a sales stand, for the last two years at the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show, within the Floral Marquee. The display has been designed and erected by the Society's Chairman, David Edge, and his nursery staff, and run with the support of David, his staff and a handful of members, mainly Council members.

The Society is to put up a stand at the 2015 Hampton Court Flower Show during the period 30 June to 5 July. In order to run the stand and give a break to those members manning it a minimum of three persons are required, two to man the stand at any one time and one person to go off and have a break. The Society is allocated free entry tickets on each of the six days, so this is an opportunity for free entry to the Show and an opportunity for a look-around the site during the breaks. This may be especially appealing to those members within easy travelling distance of Hampton Court. Therefore I request interested members who are willing to put their names forward to contact me, so that a rota can be created to cover the six days. The manning of the stand involves selling heather plants and chatting to members of the public about growing heathers. Don't be put off if you think your knowledge is limited, as you have your own experiences to impart. The opening

times, to the public, are 10am to 7.30pm (4.30pm on Sunday) although those persons manning the stand can enter the site earlier.

Please contact me if you are interested in helping using my contact details printed elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. Please indicate which day(s) you would be able to attend.

Tippitiwitchet Log Charles Nelson

New members

We welcome the following members who have joined since January 2015

Irene **Lang**: Cupar, Scotland Ingegerd **Grönberg**: Kvänum, Sweden Dr John **Buckley**: Telford, Shropshire

'Molly Rose' & RHS Young School Gardener of the Year 2015

Members will have noticed in *Heathers* **12** an article by Molly Hall about finding and propagating a new heather. Molly is the youngest ever contributor to the Society's yearbooks, and she has also just been entered by her school, Collingwood College, Camberley, for the RHS's 2015 Young School Gardener competition. We wish her every success!

Meanwhile, 'Molly Rose' is doing very well. In early May, Molly potted up 72 of the strongest rooted cuttings and may have another 50 to pot on later in the summer.

Website

4

The Society's revamped website went live in February. Members with email addresses received an email inviting them to visit the site and log-in to the members only area. To date fewer than three dozen members have given log-in a go.

2015 yearbook, Heathers 12

The 2015 yearbook was posted by the Society's printer, Page Bros of Norwich, in mid-April. Any member who has not yet received a copy should contact me.

Erica cinerea 'Ann Berry'

John Hall learned recently of the death of Mrs Ann Berry, one-time propagator at G. Underwood & Son's Nursery. A golden bell heather, with bright amethyst flowers (H1), was named after her in the early 1960s. The clone had been wild-collected by Mrs Berry on Chobham Common in Surrey. John is propagating the cultivar and will be happy to hear* from any member who might want to purchase young plants.

*email johnhallplantsltd@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01428-715505

Genome studies on Erica

A group of botanists, including Dr Ana Kuppler and other members of The Heather Society, have just published a paper (online) reporting recent investigations of *Erica lusitanica*: see the Spring *Bulletin* for their request

for assistance with obtaining samples of wild heathers throughout Europe, western Asia and north Africa. (For the abstract see the Society's website.)

2016 yearbook

Contributions in the form of articles, long or short, for next year's yearbook, *Heathers* **13**, will be most welcome. Submission deadline is 31 October.

... and finally

I spent the second half of April in the USA undertaking a "road show" in the cause of a new book about the English naturalist Mark Catesby. It gave me a chance to visit a few gardens and see some eastern US cities that I had not ventured to on previous visits. Flying into Washington DC was amazing because the city was awash with flowering cherries in full bloom. The predominant colour was pure white -I don't think I saw any of the dreadful double pink 'Kanzan' that seems a favourite in the UK. Not many heathers to see, but as the photograph on the back cover shows, there were a few Erica × darleyensis in a raised bed within sight of the Capitol.

Treasurer's Corner Richard Canovan

Bank accounts

Overseas members should note that the details of our Santander account are now: Sort code 09-01-54 Account number 40024005 IBAN: GB23ABBY09015440024005 BIC: ABBYGB2LXXX

UK members please note that only the Lloyds Bank account should be used for subscription, standing orders, and online payments.

Sort code 30-13-35 Account number 60971568.

Gift Aid

Last year, UK members were sent a form for completion if you qualify. For a basic-rate taxpayer this increases the value of subscriptions and donations by 25p in every £1. If any members have not completed their forms, please do so and return to the Administrator. Please note that this is a legal requirement for The Heather Society to reclaim tax on subscriptions and donations. A declaration is needed, even if had a Deed of Covenant in the past.

It is the responsibility of members to update their details. The Administrator needs to be notified of any changes in your tax status. You can go to the new website and log-in to change your gift-aid status.

Investment

As we are unable to make "mainstream" investments in present conditions, we have made a small investment in shares of Bluefield Solar Income, a specialist renewable energy fund. It has very different risks and potential to our other investments, so

diversifies our income. Its dividends should grow when the oil price rises again. Being "green" we had no stamp duty to pay.

New compost

One of my supermarkets has given out sacks of coffee-grounds free, so I have experimented, despite Oregon State University, among others, saying its pH is neutral. Actually it is just on the acid side and mixed in the compost bin seems to be generating some heat. I will also experiment mixing it with coarse un-composted pine bark as a mulch: it should replenish the nitrogen.

What is all this for?

Why all this boring stuff? It is all for heaths and heathers as I pot on some precious *Erica erigena* 'Irish Silver', *Erica vagans* 'Diana Hornibrook' and *Calluna vulgaris* 'Rebecca's Red' among others. It is a break from pruning and weeding. The joys of spring!

Group News

All members are welcome to attend any of the local group events

Yorkshire Group

We had an excellent meeting at RHS Garden Harlow Carr on Saturday 21 March. The weather was rather cool but we had a short walk around the gardens to inspect the heathers. There is an abundance of them, particularly winter-

flowering ones. They are very colourful and looking good (see front cover: photograph by David Plumridge).

On Wednesday 3 June, at 10.45am, we will meet for a talk and tour around the Himalayan Garden at Grewelthorpe. The talk takes 30 minutes, then the tour takes approx. 2 hours, so we should be finished for lunch. There are a lot of steps, so be prepared for fairly tough walking.

The group's funds will pay for the tour but we have to pay an entrance fee as well (£7.50) so I shall need confirmed numbers about two weeks prior to the visit. As we are a very small group extra paying guests are welcome, whether society members or not.

It is possible that we shall have an informal meeting one afternoon in the summer but no date is fixed as yet. Do keep an eye on The Heather Society website for further information.

Our autumn meeting is arranged for 2.30pm on Saturday 26 September at the Learning Centre, RHS Garden Harlow Carr.

Iean Preston

North East Group

With winter behind us we are now looking forward to a, hopefully, good summer, but the winter heathers gave us (and passers-by) a wonderful show. 'Myretoun Ruby' excelled as usual and 'Irish Dusk', which was cut back really hard, three years ago, has rejuvenated and was quite spectacular. A seedling, unknown, found in crazy

paving and allowed to grow, has again given us much pleasure. We've given it the nickname "Lone Ranger" because it is growing on its own away from the rest of our heathers. If only our other "lone rangers" were so welcome.

Details will be sent to members if we are able to arrange a car outing this year.

Dorothy Warner

Home Counties Group

The next meeting will be held at RHS Garden Wisley on Sunday 27 September. Gather at the entrance at 10.45am for 11.00am start. The meeting will begin with a walk around the heather collection, then at 2.00pm at Hillside Event Centre, there will be demonstration, given by myself, on how to grow heathers from seed.

Barry Sellers

Top 100 winter-flowering

Erica – RHS Award of

Garden Merit (AGM) trial

John Hall

Four years ago I walked onto the RHS stand at the HTA Plant Show, Stoneleigh, and spoke with Mark Heath (RHS Trials Manager) and Lesley Whayman (RHS Society Coordinator). I pointed out to them that the RHS had not trialled heathers for many, many years, and that some very good new introductions were being commercially grown, worthy of the

RHS Award of Garden Merit (AGM). Mark and Lesley were very receptive to the idea of running a new trial.

Well, four years down the road the RHS is to run an AGM trial of the top 100 commercially grown winterflowering Erica, cultivars of E. carnea, E. × darleyensis and E. erigena. The trial is to be planted up in September this year, on two sites, in the south, at Whitehall Nursery, Hampshire, and in the north, at Threave Gardens, Dumfries & Galloway, a National Trust property. I visited Threave back in February with Mark Heath and Karen Robbirt (RHS Trial Officer), where we met the staff and inspected the intended heather beds. I have to say I was very impressed with Brian Corr (Threave's Head Gardener) and his team. Their knowledge of heathers was most impressive and their enthusiasm for this trial encouraging. I know we have made a good choice with Threave Gardens as the northern trial site, and that it will be in good hands.

Five 1-year-old plants of each of the 100 cultvars will be planted (500) at each site. Threave will plant up the heathers across five island beds, on an open, sloping, elevated site. The soil is clay with pH 5.5. *Erica* cultivars were successfully grown here previously. Cultivars will be planted depending on flower and foliage colour, eventual height and spread, habit, etc,. as this will remain as a permanent display. At Whitehall Nursery the planting will be purely on a trial basis, A–Z by species,

in separate 1-metre square blocks. The soil here is Bagshot Sand, ideal for heathers. Also at Whitehall Nursery, three plants of each of the 100 cultivars will be grown in 7.5-litre pots, in a proven peat-free growing medium. The reason for growing the range in containers is to allow the flexibility to display the plants at RHS Wisley, when in full flower, or anywhere for that matter, to obtain maximum publicity.

The winter-flowering Erica will be given a year to establish before being judged by a forum of knowledgeable horticulturists in January, February and March 2017, 2018 and 2019. Judging will cover criteria such as hardiness. length of flowering, quality of flowers, habit, resistance to pests and diseases, etc. Student gardeners at Threave will keep records of first flowering, end of flowering, foliage colour, changes in colour, tip-growth colour, height and spread, and photograph all entries. Thirty of the 100 varieties already hold AGMs and have been included to act as a bench mark.

It is my intention to generate maximum publicity from this trial and about winter-flowering heathers in general throughout the media, such as television, websites, social media, publications, etc., in an effort to educate the gardening public of the benefits of planting winter-flowering *Erica* and to raise general awareness.

I have been promised, faithfully, that as soon as the current trial is completed, it will be immediately followed by a trial of the top 100 commercially grown summerflowering heathers.

A list of the "100" (actually 98) winter-flowering *Erica* selected for the trial can be found on p. 12 and also on The Heather Society website.

Connemara chit-chat April 2015 Susie Kay

Spring appeared to be springing over Easter, with cloudless skies for seven days; this was surely a record time without a cloud. But a week later there was snow on the mountains surrounding us. There are many lambs around enjoying their new lives and the cuckoo was heard.

The garden was full of winter heathers, a lot of them showing their first colour back last October. Erica carnea and $E. \times darlyensis$ are beginning to fade away, though E. erigena is still in full bloom. 'Golden Jubilee', an introduction made by Barry Sellers, is a mass of white flowers and it is almost impossible to see the golden foliage. All these heathers really lift the winter garden on to another plane, and, judging by the number of gardens I see here, it appears that quite a few people are realising that winters heathers are a good idea.

A lot of my plants are now quite old. In fact some are positively geriatric but to remove them would leave too many bare patches. I allow them to grow big and tall in order to cover larger areas of ground. Occasionally, I will cut an *E. erigena* right down and then watch the subsequent regeneration. I find that not only do they regenerate well, but also seem to be the easiest to propagate by cuttings.

Surrounded by all this colour, it is time to start the major pruning of the summer heathers. Every year this is when disappointment starts to set in, as I regard the tattered remains of Calluna and Erica cinerea. I pretend to wield the secateurs and a batterypowered trimmer across bare brown twigs looking for some small sign of life. Maybe there is a little bit of green on one side so the plant will be spared the final ignominy of being yanked out and thrown onto a rotting heap. It is not really quite as bad as this, but I do seem to have more than my fair share of death and destruction.

I have re-read the worthy articles by David Wilson and Donald McKay on *Calluna* death, but both speak about excessively low temperature along with very low humidity. This set me thinking about who, or what, are my enemies? I have given up the notion that someone is coming round at night with a watering can full of weed killer. Instead I am concentrating on the elements and lack of gardening skills.

No. 1 Public Enemy must be the WIND. Here in north Connemara, it can come from any direction. Although we have small bits of shelter in the form of trees and bigger shrubs, if we were to provide total shelter, it would mean we would score what is known as "an own goal", i.e. our views would be totally obliterated. Six more trees were removed this last winter as this was happening again.

Winds coming from the west to north-west are the ones that I hate. As they approach us from across the sea, they pick up salt in their gusts which is deposited inland; mainly it would appear on my heathers. I do feel rather paranoid about it, but actually most of the plants show some sort of salt damage, both in other gardens and in the wild. Whilst we were away in late February and early March there were three such storms and the evidence is everywhere, trees and hedging completely burned by salt. Luckily deciduous trees still hadn't opened their buds and were therefore spared. Bog areas show brown and blonde and the wild heathers look very sick.

The WIND also causes plants to rock in the gusts, but this is in conjunction with Public Enemy No. 2. This is the RAIN. Number 1 and Number 2 often come together in this part of the world. Sometimes the RAIN arrives in bucket loads and other times it is the merest drizzle, which can be just as wetting and gives rise to the expression "a soft day". The rain makes

the ground sodden, which allows the wind to blow the plants loose, which weakens the roots and, bingo, there goes another plant. Yes, we do have drains and the ground slopes but the underlying iron pan, coupled with rocks, allows wetness to hang around for a lot longer than it should.

So, there I am concentrating on pruning half dead plants, when I see a line of little stumps poking out of the ground. At one time it would have been a newly planted group of bushy heathers, but is now reduced to a barely visible mound. This is Public Enemy No. 3 the HARE. I presume that should actually be plural. In their favour, they can prune plants to a better shape than humans. If only they would stick to the grass, everybody would be happier!

Finally we have the ethereal. Public Enemy No. 4 has to be the **LEPRECHAUNS**. I swear they are very active in this garden. They have never actually been seen, but their activities can be noticed throughout the plot. Labels are switched on trays of cuttings, or from plants in beds. Sometimes whole plants have gone missing, so I hope the little folk are better gardeners than I am.

It is not quite as black as I make out, as *Erica vagans* and *E. mackayana* grow as well as the winter heathers and can be very big and floriferous.

All this death and destruction makes a mockery of garden design. Back in the last century there was a sort of grand plan for each new area of garden. But as various plants gave up the ghost, spaces had to be filled with whatever was available. Over the years the gaps have been plugged with rooted cuttings. There may be only a couple of one variety, but looking good in the pot, promotes them to be installed along with their cousins. This develops an extremely haphazard garden, which does not fit into any of the rules of heather gardening and would horrify most members of The Heather Society.

10

All this calls to mind the oft repeated phrase present in my school reports – "if only she would try a little harder she would achieve spectacular results". Nothing changes!

How green is my 'Eden Valley' Colin Rogers

Perhaps I should not have succumbed, in a moment of idleness, to wondering how many different greens heather growers have used to describe their plants. The Society's colour chart* (reprinted in *Handy guide to heathers* (3rd edition, 2001, frontispiece)) gives 16 different reds for flowers so that, by referring to a number, H1 to H16, we can more or less tell what colour will emerge during the season, and at least make a start on identifying an unknown cultivar. There is, however, no corresponding chart for green, with

the result that we are presented with forty shades of green describing the foliage of some 450 cultivars.

This difference in approach is not as stark as it first sounds. The red chart does allow the "approved" adjectives "deep" and "pale" to be attached, where appropriate, to each of the 16 shades, making a total of 48 possibilities; and about three-quarters of the greens are simply "dark green", "mid green", "bright green", or "grey green". Nevertheless, there are about a hundred other inventive ways in the Handy guide which leave the reader marvelling at their ingenuity or baffled by their meaning. Some are very specific -"bronze green", "glaucous green" - but others less so - "orange green", "moss green", "clear green", "dull green". Even worse, five are simply "green". Yet it is arguably more important to give some thought to planning the distribution of foliage as, unlike flowers, it is displayed everywhere in the garden all year

Which is more useful - to be guided by a chart which forces the describer into a 16-channel straitjacket, or to encourage a more anarchic freedom? While researching this, I changed my opinion, due to the realization that whenever I take the red chart into the garden and place it next to the flowers themselves, the two never seem to correspond anyway. Maybe I'm just reacting against the concept of having to have adjectives "approved". There remains the feeling that redness has been pseudo-scientifically tabulated whereas greenness remains as free as nature itself.

So, to return to the title, the *Handy guide* has the foliage of my *Erica cinerea* 'Eden Valley' as "mid-green" whereas, to heighten the contrast with its beautiful flowers, I propose for the next edition "nondescript green".

* available on request from the Administrator.

Media Watch

Back in February, James Mackay sent in a colourful little article from the Aberdeen press and journal. It was written by David Lindo, who broadcasts and writes under the name "The Urban Birder". In the article David extolls the many virtues of heathers, especially the winterflowering species. "A great plant for novice or part-time gardeners", he says, "as they can last for years, while their hardy and evergreen nature makes them fantastic for ground cover and weed prevention". Mr Lindo goes on to mention some popular varieties of Erica carnea and some suitable companion plants, such as Hebe ochracea 'James Stirling', Rhododendron praecox and Narcissus 'Tete-a-tete'.

Daphne Everett

Plants selected for RHS AGM trials

Erica carnea

'Adrienne Duncan' 'Ann Sparkes' 'Atrorubra' 'Aurea' 'Aztec Gold' 'Bell's Extra Special' 'Branton Bamford' 'Challenger' 'Claribelle' 'Columbia' 'Corinna' 'December Red' 'Diana Young' 'Dorset Sunshine' 'Eva' 'Foxhollow' 'Foxhollow Fairy' 'Golden Starlet'	'Hilletje' 'Ice Princess' 'Isabell' 'John Pook' 'Kathy' 'King George' 'Lohses Rubin' 'Loughrigg' 'March Seedling' 'Memory' 'Myretoun Ruby' 'Nathalie' 'Pink Spangles' 'R. B. Cooke' 'Pirbright Rose' 'Porter's Red' 'Praecox Rubra' 'Rosalie'	'Rubens Palette' 'Ruby Glow' 'Rubinette' 'Saskia' 'Schneekuppe' 'Snow Queen' 'Springwood Pink' 'Springwood White' 'Startler' 'Tanja' 'Trasure Trove' 'Viking' 'Vivellii' 'Westwood Yellow' 'Whitehall' 'Winter Beauty' 'Winter Rubin'

Erica × darleyensis

'Ada S. Collins'	'Golden Perfect'	'Phoebe'
'Arthur Johnson'	'Jenny Porter'	'Rubina'
'Aurelie Brejeon'	'J. H. Brummage'	'Silberschmelze'
'Bert'	'J. W. Porter'	'Snow Surprise'
'Bing'	'Katia'	'Spring Surprise'
'Darley Dale'	'Kramers Rote'	'Tweety'
'Epe'	'Lena'	'White Glow'
'Eva Gold'	'Lucie'	'White Perfection'
'Furzey'	'Margaret Porter'	'White Spring Surprise'
'George Rendall'	'Mary Helen'	'Winter Surprise'
'Ghost Hills'	'Moonshine'	'Winter Treasure'

Erica erigena

'Brightness'	'Irish Dusk'	'Thing Nee'
'Golden Jubilee'	'Irish Salmon'	'W. T. Rackliff'
'Golden Lady'		

Mr David Edge Chairman

> Forest Edge Nursery, Verwood Road, Woodlands, Wimborne, BH21 8LJ. tel: 01202 824387; fax: 01202 829564; email davidedge@tinyworld.co.uk

Hon. Secretary Mr Phil Joyner

84 Kinross Road, Rushington, Totton, Southampton, SO40 9BN

tel: 02380 864336; email philjoyner@btinternet.com

Hon. Treasurer Mr Richard Canovan

> 10 Queenborough, Toothill, Swindon, SN5 8DU tel: 07818 417855; email canovanra@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor Mrs Daphne Everett

Rosemary House, Edwyn Ralph, Bromyard, Herefordshire HR7 4LX

tel: 01885 482206; email dandmeverett@gmail.com

Conference Mrs Susie Kay

> Manager Lettergesh East, Renvyle, County Galway, IRELAND

> > tel: 00353 95 43575; email susiek@gofree.indigo.ie

Slide Librarian Mrs Jean Preston

> 21 Church Street, Dunnington, York, YO19 9PP tel: 01904 489624; email preston.julian.j@gmail.com

Group Organizers Everyone is very welcome at any local meeting or visit

Home Counties Mr Barry Sellers

> 8 Croft Road, Norbury, London, SW16 3NF tel: 07985 444266; email Sellersbarry@aol.com

North East (UK) Mrs Dorothy Warner

Littlecroft, Click-em-in, Ponteland, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE20 9BQ

tel: 01661 823299

Yorkshire Professor John Griffiths

Preston Lodge, 60 Hall Road, Little Preston, Leeds, LS26 8UR

tel: 01132 863349; email J.Griffiths@leeds.ac.uk

Administrator Dr Charles Nelson

> Hon. Editor Tippitiwitchet Cottage, Hall Road, Outwell, Wisbech PE14 8PE Registrar

tel: 01945 774077;

emails: theheathersociety@phonecoop.coop OR admin@heathersociety.org





Front [from top] Spring-flowering heathers at RHS Garden Harlow Carr, with Jean Preston (David Plumridge); Calluna vulgaris 'Gina' and Hilda the Sheep (Kurt Kramer); Erica × veitchii 'Gold Tips' in Dorset (Dave Brown).

Back: [upper left] Erica × darleyensis on Capitol Hill, Washington DC, USA (E. C. Nelson); recent acquisitions (Sten-Börje Sörensson); Erica erigena 'Golden Jubilee' (white flower upper right) at Lettergesh, May 2015 (Susie & Alan Kay).



Contact information / If undelivered please return to



The Administrator, The Heather Society, c/o Tippitiwitchet Cottage, Hall Road, Outwell, Wisbech, PE14 8PE Cambridgeshire, UK.