

THE HEATHER SOCIETY

BULLETIN No. 15. Vol. 2.

AUTUMN 1978

Editor: Mrs. Diane H. Jones, Otters' Court, West Camel, nr. Yeovil, Som., BA22 7QF.

On returning from a very enjoyable Annual Conference in Derbyshire, I was delighted to find a letter waiting for me from Mrs. David Metheny in Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., (a Vice-President of our Society), with the news that a Pacific Northwest Heather Society Group has been formed from members living in British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and Northern California. This is good news indeed!

Our links with heather enthusiasts in other countries are becoming stronger all the time. A party of Dutch Heather Society members visited the South West during August when my husband and I met them at Tintinhull House, a National Trust property with a very interesting garden near Yeovil in Somerset. Since then our Chairman, together with his wife, and Mr. McClintock have visited Northern Germany and Holland to meet members of the two Societies.

Scrap Bowl - 'Thank you' to those of you who have sent items to me. I hope to include some of them in each Bulletin.

Diane Jones.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Mr. John Ardron, one of our Vice-Presidents and a founder member of our Society, died suddenly on 27th July. The Society has lost an enthusiastic and dedicated member who loved growing heathers. His death occurred shortly before our Annual Conference at Castleton. He would have been so pleased to know it was one of the happiest and most successful conferences the Society has held. Mrs. MacLeod has written an obituary which will be published in the 1979 Year Book.

A. G. M. LOSEHILL HALL, CASTLETON, ON 16th SEPTEMBER 1978

Election of Officers - Mr. C.D. Brickell, B.Sc. (Hort.), V.M.H., Director of the R.H.S. Garden at Wisley, had accepted nomination as the Society's new President, and was duly elected. The Vice-Presidents and Officers of the Society were all re-elected. Mr. Jack London tendered his resignation as a member of Council, and the Chairman thanked him on behalf of the members for his many years of service to the Society. The three Council members retiring by rotation, Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman and Mrs. M. Boxall, were re-elected.

Secretary's Report - Mrs. Pamela Lee reported on the current situation, the activities of the past year, and aspirations for the future of the Society.

Presentation of the Audited Accounts - The Meeting adopted the accounts presented by the Hon. Treasurer.

Subscriptions for 1979 - The Resolution, recommended by Council, that "the annual subscription from the 1st January 1979 should be £3.00 for a single member and £4.00 for joint husband/wife membership or organisation" was passed unanimously by the assembly.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1979 Conference

Our Annual Conference next year will be held at Milton Abbey School, Milton Abbas, Dorset, from Friday 31st August to Sunday 2nd September. Full details and booking arrangements will be announced in the Spring Bulletin.

Harlow Car and the Reference Collection

In Bulletin No. 13. Vol. 2. (Spring 1978) it was stated that a Reference Collection of Heathers, drawn from the stock plants at Harlow Car, would be established at

Tabramhill Gardens by arrangement with Mr. Geoffrey Yates. Unfortunately this plan has had to be given up, as Mr. Yates has now moved for domestic reasons to Cumbria, where he proposes to set up his own Reference Collection. However, the Heather Society is planning, with the generous assistance of the Director, to establish its Reference Collection at Wisley. It is hoped that when these two collections have been built up, members will be able to see, in the North and the South, authentic growing specimens of most of the heather cultivars which are available.

Deed of Covenant/Bankers Order Forms

I would like to thank those members who have already returned the Bankers Order/Covenant form sent out with the Summer Bulletin and to request anyone else who intends to use this method of payment to kindly complete the form and return it to Harvest House as soon as possible. These are some of the questions I have been asked:

1. What do I do if I already have a Covenant at the old rate?

The new Covenant (for 7 years) automatically replaces the existing one; the Treasurer will advise the Income Tax Authorities.

2. I am retiring and will only be paying tax at the "reduced rate" (25%) not at the standard rate. How does this affect Covenants?

Do not fill in the new form, and if you already covenant your subscription, advise the Treasurer that you wish to terminate the existing covenant on the completion of the 7 years.

3. How much does the Society benefit by a Covenant, and is it really worth the bother?

The reduction in the Standard Rate of Income Tax does mean we get a few pence less per member, but because the authorities calculate on the amount of pre-tax income you have to earn to pay your subscription, we shall still draw about £2 on each joint subscription and £1.50 on each single one. This money is at no cost to our members. I as your Treasurer will only have to fill in one more line on a form to claim the tax rebate on your covenant. So please help the Society's finances in this way.

Des Oliver.

1978 Conference. Group Photograph

Copies of the group photograph taken at Losehill Hall (black and white, 8½ x 6½ in.) may be obtained direct from Mr. F.B. Rice, 16 Winern Glebe, Byfleet, Surrey, price 65p each, including postage and packing.

The Heather Society Rules

It was announced at the Annual General Meeting that the Council is proposing to amend the Rules of the Society in order to bring them up to date. The Rules were first adopted at the A.G.M. on 29th April 1970. The Council will be discussing them at their meeting on 21st November. The Rules and the suggested amendments will be circulated to all members with the Spring 1979 Bulletin. Final proposals will be included as a Resolution in the Agenda for the 1979 A.G.M., which will be circulated to all members with the Summer Bulletin.

Slide Library

Mrs. G.W. Lee of Sheffield has tendered her resignation as our Slide Librarian, and we wish to thank her for the time she has given to caring for, and despatching, the Society's collection of slides. The Council have accepted Mr. Neil Brummage's offer to become our new Slide Librarian and all future requests for slides should be made to him at: Heathwoods Nursery, Fakenham Road, Taverham, Norwich, Norfolk.

The 'Pocket Guide to Heather Gardening'

A bigger, better, improved, expanded; all these adjectives can be used about this 4th edition of the Pocket Guide, which came out in September. Members who had ordered their copy previously should now have received it. The up-to-date lists take your attention first - over 300 more names than in 1973, fully justifying the author's

desperate plea for restraint, though it is still possible to find clearly distinct and worthwhile varieties. The main part of the book describes all the varieties known commercially in Europe. The last seven pages list all the other varieties known to be used. The colours in the Heather Society Chart are quoted throughout the book and the results of the Harlow Car Trials are also included. Order form enclosed.

Des Oliver.

VISIT TO GERMANY AND HOLLAND

During the second half of August Mr. David McClintock and Maj.-Gen. & Mrs. Turpin made a fortnight's visit to Germany and Holland, in order to meet members of the German and Dutch Heather Societies and to see as much as possible of some of the principal heather gardens and nurseries in North Germany and Holland. Among the places visited were the Romberg Park in Dortmund, the Herrenhausen and Berggarten in Hanover, the Luneberg Heath, the new Botanical Garden (not yet open to the public) and the Heidberg Hospital Garden in Hamburg, and the Botanical Garden in Bremen. The Westermann, Hachmann, Schurig and Kramer nurseries were visited and the excellent private gardens of three of their members - Herrn. Schroeder, Harten and Broese, as well as that of Herr Kommer, growing only E. gracilis. In Holland the visit was restricted to Boskoop and Driebergen. Before returning to England the party stayed at M. de Belder's Arboretum at Kalmthout in Belgium. The main impression gained was how well the heathers were being grown in these countries, in spite of the more difficult climatic conditions; what a wide range, old and new, they were growing - and many grown without any form of winter protection recommended in all their books; how carefully the plants were authenticated and labelled; and, above all, what a wonderful spontaneous camaraderie is inspired by heathers, no matter what the nationality or language or age of the grower might be.

MOVING HOUSE AND GARDEN!

Moving house is a big enough business even when the distance is only one mile, but when it also involves moving the entire garden as well, the task is worse. The week we picked for the move was the hottest and driest ten days we have had this year (at the end of May) which only added to our problems. However, we were left with no choice, it was either a matter of lifting the plants then or not taking them at all.

There were over 100 varieties of heather to lift and I placed these in plant pots, lifting about 20 at a time, so that I could then go and re-site them at once. The garden we were moving to had been completely neglected and over grown, so much work was involved in preparing it bed by bed. A number of plants did not survive the ordeal, particularly because of the dry weather, although they were all watered with a hose pipe each evening over this period. Only two species of heather were affected, E. carnea and E. vagans. This might have been because these also happened to be the largest plants, although others of these species did stand the move. The ones I lost were 'Myretoun Ruby', 'Ann Sparkes' and 'Vivellii'; and 'St. Keverne', 'Nana' and 'Grandiflora'. E. carnea 'Foxhollow' certainly struggled, but has made it despite the tips of the plant going a horrible gingery colour, so much so that one poor soul who knew nothing about heathers thought it was a lovely foliage variety! One or two others that I thought had 'given up the ghost' have now made it (probably as a result of all the rain we have had since), these were an unnamed tall Daboecia cantabrica and 'Bicolor' and Calluna 'Sir John Charrington', 'Bonfire Brilliance' and 'Alba Plena'.

With some new additions I have now got over 160 different named varieties of heather plus a further 20 whose names have been lost. So all in all I consider I have been very lucky.

Alan Pickup (Zone 3)

R.H.S. SUMMER FLOWERING HEATH COMPETITIONS, 8/9th AUGUST 1978

- Class 2. Erica vagans, one vase. 5 entries.
 1st. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. Unnamed cultivar.
 2nd. Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. 'Diana Hornibrook'.
 3rd. Mrs. R. Gray. 'Alba'.
- Class 6. Calluna vulgaris, a double-flowered coloured cultivar, one vase. 4 entries.
 1st. Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. 'Tib'.
 2nd. Mr. B.G. London. 'Tib'.
 3rd. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. 'Tib'.
- Class 8. Calluna vulgaris, a single or dble-flowered white cultivar, one vase. 4 entries.
 1st. Mr. D. McClintock. Unnamed cultivar.
 2nd. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. 'Mair's Variety'.
 3rd. Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. 'Gold Haze'.
- Class 9. Erica cinerea, any cultivar, one vase. 16 entries.
 1st. Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. 'C.D. Eason'.
 2nd. Mr. B.G. London. Unnamed Seedling.
 3rd. Mr. B.G. London. 'Atrorubens'.
 4th. Mr. B.G. London. 'Hookstone White'.
- Class 11. Daboecia, any species, hybrid or cultivar, one vase. 5 entries.
 1st. Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. 'Praegeri'.
 2nd. Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. 'Atropurpurea'.
 3rd. Mrs. R. Gray. 'Alba'.
- Class 13. Any heather species or hybrid not specified above, one vase. 7 entries.
 1st. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. E.x watsonii 'H. Maxwell'.
 2nd. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. E. tetralix 'Alba Mollis'.
 3rd. Mr. D. McClintock. E. mackaiana 'Donegal'.
- Class 14. Any heather, one vase, to be judged for foliage effect. 8 entries.
 1st. Mr. & Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. E. ciliaris 'Aurea'.
 2nd. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. E. cinerea 'Windlebrook'.
 3rd. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. Calluna 'Silver Queen'.
- Class 15. Any heather, one plant, to be judged for foliage effect. 3 entries.
 1st. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. Calluna 'Dainty Bess'.
 2nd. Mr. M.G. Frye. Calluna 'Isobel Frye'.
 3rd. Maj.-Gen. P.G. Turpin. Calluna 'Orange Queen'.
- Class 16. A table arrangement of flowers and foliage, heathers to predominate, staged for all-round effect in any container. 5 entries.
 1st. Mrs. P.G. Turpin.
 2nd. Mrs. B. Boxall.
 3rd. Mrs. A.H. Bowerman. (Total number of entries - 57).

An interesting and educational display was staged on our Society's stand at the Show by Maj.-Gen. & Mrs. Turpin. A map of the British Isles with marker pins and ribbons, linked 12 vases of different species of heather to the sites where they may be found in the wild. These were:-

- a) Common species - Calluna vulgaris, E. cinerea, and E. tetralix.
- b) Less common species - E. ciliaris, E. erigena, E. mackaiana, Daboecia cantabrica, and E. vagans.
- c) Naturalised species - E. lusitanica.
- d) Hybrids - E.x watsonii, E.x williamsii, and E.x praegeri.

Note - as you know, E. erigena and E. lusitanica are not in flower in August.

The flowering spikes of these two species had been perfectly preserved by freezing.

We are very grateful to Maj.-Gen. & Mrs. Turpin for such an eye-catching display, and to the members who kindly manned the Stand during the two days of the Show - Maj.-Gen. & Mrs. Turpin, Mrs. Mayne, Mr. Whisker, Mr. London, Mr. Koerper and Mr. Gillespie. We would remind members who wish to exhibit for the first time that they are offered help in staging their exhibits and are entitled to free entry to the Show.

Hon. Secretary.

GROUP NEWS

MIDLANDS

On the 23rd September, 46 people came from North, South, East and West, many of them long distances, when the Group visited Ray and Olwen Warner's new Barncroft heather and shrub nursery near Leek in North Staffordshire. This was our first visit since they moved there 2½ years ago and we were astonished that they have accomplished so much in so short a time. They are on high ground with extensive fine views. So far they have developed 2½ acres with several delightful heather beds, a very well stocked tree and shrub garden and a large area devoted to heather production from which they have 500 varieties for sale. Members took picnic lunches and were grateful to the Warners who kindly provided coffee and, as most of the visitors were still there at tea time, tea as well. A very worthwhile visit was enjoyed by all.

Next Meeting - This will be on Friday 24th November when we meet again in the Friends Meeting House, Bull Street, Birmingham at 7.15 for 7.45 p.m. Robert Cole is to open a discussion on Unusual Heathers and Associated Plants. Time will also be found for other subjects members may wish to raise, and if you have any heather slides please bring them along with you.

Advance Notice - On Saturday 31st March next the Group are holding their second social evening at The Spinney, Little Hay, near Lichfield, Staff., (tel. Shenstone 481183). Members will be welcome to look round the garden from 6 o'clock and there will be a buffet supper for which a small charge will be made. Will you please let our hosts, Mr. & Mrs. A. Dudley, know if you intend to be there.

Harold Street.

NORFOLK

Our Group were invited to hold a meeting on Friday 16th June at the home of Mr. & Mrs. L. Ellis at Beechwoods, Old Catton. Members inundated Mrs. Ellis with questions about the design and variety of plants as she showed them round her beautiful garden. We then adjourned to the conservatory, where after our hosts and friends had kindly served refreshments, David Small explained the merits of some dwarf varieties of heather, as he planted them in a small sink garden. Members endorsed a vote of thanks to our hosts for a most interesting and enjoyable evening.

Only nine members were able to attend our A.G.M. on 23rd August at Mackintosh and Caley's Social Club when Mr. B.G. London and Mr. H. Fulcher were returned as Chairman and Secretary. Mrs. P. Burrell and Mrs. J. Ellis then selected spikes from several varieties of heather supplied by the Chairman and demonstrated how to make attractive flower arrangements both with and without other flowers. We were pleased to greet two visitors who have both decided to enroll as new members of the Society.

During the Open Days at Bressingham Gardens on 2/3rd September, Mr. Adrian Bloom kindly provided a table and chairs near the exit of the 'Plants for Sale' area in his private garden. My wife had arranged a three tier flower stand borrowed from Mrs. North and filled it with spikes of various heather cultivars to attract attention; and we displayed 'JOIN THE HEATHER SOCIETY' posters around the table. Over the weekend we were joined by Ken Gooch, Des Oliver, the Fulchers and David Small, and encouraged the visitors who had bought heathers to join the Society. We were pleased to enlist three single and three joint members from as far afield as Cheshire and Essex.

Jack London.

MID SOUTHERN

On 21st May our Group visited two Surrey gardens. In peaceful seclusion at Seale, Brigadier and Mrs. Smith's garden was full of colour - the azaleas were so profuse in bloom that it was difficult to see the leaves. Despite the cold weather having held back the rhododendrons, the scent from Rho. Loderi 'Superlative' just coming into flower was unmistakeable. The shrubs and trees have been well chosen and of course heathers were everywhere.

With the aid of a good sketch map of the pretty rural route, forty-three of us then drove to a tall house seemingly situated in the midst of a conifer forest. We were surprised to find that we were still only $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the centre of Farnham! Commander and Mrs. Duvall welcomed us to a garden of mature shrubs with some new heather beds around an attractive and well stocked pool. A large Pieris Forestii was at its best and some magnificent camellias were still lovely, despite having caught the frost. The various sink gardens were a joy and attached to each was a thoughtfully provided diagram naming the plants. Mrs. Duvall and Mrs. Addison treated us to a sumptuous tea - there was even a special cake iced with the words 'Heather Society'. Mr. Polovtseff kindly distributed some rooted heather cuttings and Mrs. Lee proposed a vote of thanks to all the hosts and hostesses of the day.

We have now attended meetings in every Zone except Scotland (and we're working on that!) and can assure any other new members who may have the slightest doubt about joining in group activities that they will find a warm welcome wherever they go.

Beryl and David Mayne.

Summer Meeting - It is always a delight to visit Champs Hill, the uniquely situated garden of Alfred and Margaret Bowerman in the heart of Sussex. The house and garden have been planned to take best advantage of splendid views over the South Downs and the development has followed natural features. The Bowermans have been most successful in growing heather and other ericaceous plants which, with an initial addition of peat, will establish themselves in the pure sand of the old quarries at the centre of this 27 acre property. The great drought of 1976 had taken a heavy toll, but when nearly 40 members visited the garden on a sunny August day, we were able to admire many fresh plantings of healthy heathers raised quickly in a neat propagation unit with plenty of protective frames for growing on. In replanting, a memorable effect resembling a necklace of pink pearls had been obtained by outlining a curved peninsular bed with E. vagans 'St. Keverne' all perfectly matching in size. Nature had also lent a hand, as we saw in one particular dell some distance from the house - the area had been mown some years previously and was now a carpet of colour with the bloom of young Cinereas.

The main interest below the long terrace in front of the house is a beautifully landscaped water garden, and a sheltered circular lawn was the ideal setting for a delicious tea provided by Mrs. Bowerman and members of her family. We are indeed grateful to them and for the care and kindness shown by all who entertain the Group in their gardens. Two fine plants of E. cinerea 'Golden Drop' and a variety of young heather plants brought by members were offered for sale and the sum of £5.50 for Group funds was raised in a surprisingly short time.

Next Meeting - Please note that a visit has been arranged for the 3rd December to the Field Heath Nurseries of Messrs. Milton Hutchings at Hillingdon near Uxbridge, Mdx., from 2.00 p.m. Although we have to limit our numbers to 30, these Cape Heath specialists do not usually open their doors to the public, so I would like to extend this invitation to any Heather Society member from other areas who would like to join us. Please telephone me at Hindhead 4947 to book and for detailed directions unless you have already spoken to me.

Pamela Lee.

SOUTH WEST

The Group's 'One Day Conference on Garden Design' held at the pavilion at 'Birchdale', Munster Road, Parkstone, Poole, on Saturday 8th July, began with a welcome cup of coffee and biscuits organised by Diane Jones, and much appreciated on such a dismal day for the month of July!

Members were able to peruse an impressive array of gardening books, old and new kindly brought by Philip Brown from Leicester University Botanic Gardens. Also there was a superb 'Collection' of Hebes, Conifers and a variety of plants for growing in association with heathers - displayed by Diana and Douglas Chalk from Folden Acres Gardens, Edington, near Bridgwater.

We then gathered for the first talk by Philip Brown who interestingly described 'The Principles of Design', and as our Chairman pointed out, 'What-not-to-do-when-designing-one's-own-garden'. Next, David Edge from Forest Edge Nursery, St. Leonards, near Ringwood, a young professional nurseryman and landscape gardener, spoke on the problems of 'Garden Design' for the very much smaller garden on today's modern housing estates. A few interesting comments made by members gave a lively finish to the morning's programme. The detailed and descriptive drawings Douglas C. prepared for his talk on 'Plants for Growing in Association with Heathers' ensured that the second half of the Conference was most interesting, especially with the addition of colour slides. Discussion time went well beyond the time scheduled!

Our Chairman, Bert Jones, then announced that owing to pressure of work and his increasing involvement with the main Society, he wished to hand over the running of the Group to another member. Fortunately he had found a capable successor in Phil Joyner and thanked him for accepting the task of Group Organiser. Phil Joyner replied saying he would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the members, to thank Bert and Diane Jones for the magnificent way in which the local section had been organised during the last three years.

Sylvia Hawkins.

A beautiful garden on a warm Autumn day was the venue on Saturday 23rd September when Mr. & Mrs. Maginess kindly showed Group members around the 2 acres of heath and woodland which is their private garden in Broadstone, Dorset.

A superb lawn was surrounded by old and new plantings of Erica and Calluna, the new plantings replacing those lost in the 1976 drought. Mrs. Maginess has found that burying old clumps of heather up to their tips rejuvenates them - a process well displayed in the garden. Further down a steep slope more large areas of heather, some Mrs. Maginess' own finds, faded into a woodland of pines and rhododendrons. The damper ground within the woodland had been carved into a series of pools by some obvious hard work, and the springs so tapped provided some of the watering for the heathers. As we walked around the garden Mr. & Mrs. Maginess gave a commentary on the flora and distributed cutting material.

An enjoyable ramble was rounded off by excellent refreshments provided by Mrs. Maginess, setting the seal on a memorable occasion.

Phil Joyner.

OVERSEAS - 'PACIFIC NORTHWEST' (U.S.A./CANADA)

A group of heather-growing gardeners, nurserymen and horticultural experts, from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and Northern California, met on Sunday 27th August and decided to form the 'Pacific Northwest Heather Society', for the purposes of improving communications between heather growers, and of making information concerning heathers available to the public.

The Society proposes to draw up a list of the most desirable/available heather varieties, and Mr. J.A. Witt, Curator of Plant Collections at the University of Washington Arboretum, plans to provide at the Arboretum demonstration space for growing a selection of these desirable plants.

The members voted to establish dues of 3.00 dollars per year. They also voted to maintain Group membership of the Heather Society which is centred in Britain. Membership of the Society is open to all who are interested in heathers. Further information may be obtained from the President, Ken Wilson, Supervisor of Operations, University of British Columbia Botanical Garden, 6501 N.W. Marine Drive, Vancouver, B.C. V.6.T. 1W5, Canada; the Secretary-Treasurer, Alice Knight, Heather Acres Nursery, Rte 3, Box 231, Elma, Wa. 98451; or the Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy Metheny, 2810 46th Av. W. Seattle 98199 (tel. 284-9092).

With best wishes to all our friends in Britain.

Dorothy Metheny.

SCRAP BOWL - Titbits of news from members

Pulverised Bark - Whilst the virtues of peat are not disputed, the cost of it discourages any generous application over a large area, so one is tempted to try pulverised bark as a less costly alternative. My own experience, after using it for the first time in 1977, was that it formed a matted layer which did not assist, as does peat, when weeding; nor did it mix easily with the soil around the plant. What are other members' experiences on this subject?

Sidney Bale (Zone 7).

Christmas Gifts - How about arrangements of winter flowering heather sprays to give to local friends? One member uses margarine tubs filled with damp soil and covered with moss; and arrangements thus prepared last for weeks if topped up with water, and are much appreciated!

Companion Plants - Before I planted my heather bed I fallowed it for two years with annuals to ensure that all the perennial weeds were out. One of these annuals, the decorative Linaria maroccana, has continued to sow itself ever since. It is a most welcome persister, coming up in any gaps between the heathers, or even through them, giving bright and appropriate colours in between seasons and being very easily pulled up if there are too many or they are in the wrong place. If it ever died out in my garden I think I should resow it.

DIARY OF EVENTS

- Nov. 21st Council Meeting at the R.H.S. New Hall, Westminster, 1.30 p.m.
Nov. 24th Midlands Group meeting at the Friends Meeting House, Bull Street, Birmingham, 7.15 p.m.
Nov. 30th CLOSING DATE for Year Book material - to the Editor, Bert Jones. (Otters' Court, West Camel, nr. Yeovil, Somerset).
Dec. 3rd Mid Southern Group visit to Pield Heath Nurseries, Hillingdon, Mdx. 2.00 pm.
Jan. 6th CLOSING DATE for Spring Bulletin material.
Jan. 27th Mid Southern: Slides of Visit to Germany & Holland, West Clandon Village Hall, 2.30 p.m.
Feb. 20th Council Meeting & Heather Competitions, at the R.H.S. New Hall, Westminster, 2.00 p.m. (Our Secretary would welcome offers of help on the Society's stand on 20th or 21st).
Feb. 27th Warburg Memorial Lecture, 'Taxonomy of hardy heathers', Halifax House, Oxford.
Mar. 17th Mid Southern Group social with slide show on a travel topic by Mr. Eric Cook, at the Friends Meeting House, Dorking, 2.30 p.m.
Mar. 31st Midlands Group Social Evening at The Spinney, Little Hay, nr. Lichfield, Staffs. 6.00 p.m.
South West Group: Programme details will be published in the Spring Bulletin.