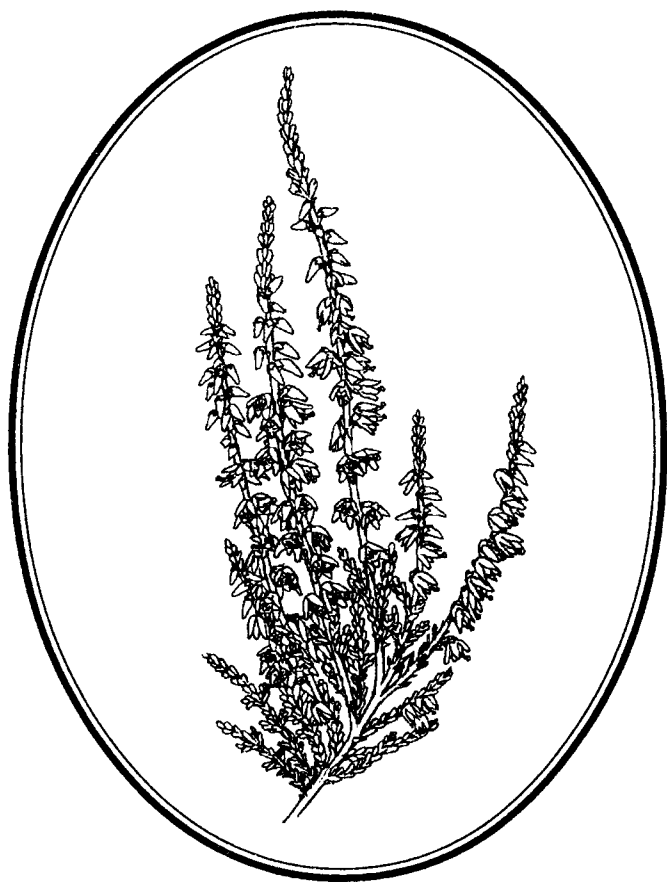


*Bulletin of The
Heather Society*



Vol. 6 No. 1

Autumn 2000

DIARY OF EVENTS

2001

15 January CLOSING DATE FOR SPRING *BULLETIN*

10 March East Midlands Visit to Kingfisher Heather Nursery

24 March Home Counties Talk on Heather Propagation at the Royal
National Rose Society, Chiswell Green, Nr. St.
Albans, Hertfordshire

24 March South West Group Annual Indoor Meeting, and talk Lytchett
Matravers

15 May CLOSING DATE FOR SUMMER *BULLETIN*



A Registered Charity No. 261407

Editor: Daphne Everett, The Bannut, Bringsty, Herefordshire, WR6 5TA.

Telephone/Fax: 01885 482206 e-mail: everettbannut@zetnet.co.uk

Cover illustration *Calluna vulgaris* by Brita Johannson

The year 2000 has been an exciting one for our heather knot-garden. Having seen ours, Sir Roy Strong, who is having terrible trouble with box-blight, has decided to try heather hedges in a similar way in his formal garden (they say that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery). A fairly early photograph of our knot garden appeared quite unexpectedly in the September edition of the RHS 'Garden' magazine and, along with other parts of the garden, it will be seen on Belgian TV in November. We have quite enjoyed the attention too!

30th Annual Conference September 7th - 10th, 2001

The Society's 30th Annual Conference will be held in the historic Cathedral City of Hereford, close to the Welsh borders. Accommodation, dining and lecture facilities have been arranged at the Three Counties Hotel, which is set in 3 acres of landscaped grounds alongside the road to Abergavenny (A465) and about 1 mile from the centre of the city. The accommodation is limited to 20 twin rooms and 8 double rooms. The twin rooms have been reserved for single occupancy but, depending on the booking pattern, some may be used for twin occupancy. A programme consisting of lectures, a garden visit, a field visit and a nursery visit is being prepared and will be announced in the Spring *Bulletin* together with the cost of the weekend.

The approximate cost for the whole weekend will be £205. Bookings may now be made by sending £2 per mailing to: Phil Joyner, 84 Kinross Road, Rushington Manor, Totton, Southampton, SO40 9BN. Cheques should be made payable to *The Heather Society*, the booking fee is non-returnable and is not a deposit on the cost of the Conference. If all available rooms are taken then subsequent bookings will be accepted as day visitors and those persons will be asked to arrange their own bed and breakfast accommodation. In this case a telephone number for the Hereford Tourist Information office will be provided to aid bed and breakfast enquires.

I shall be pleased to answer any queries relating to the 2001 Conference by telephone (Tel: Phil Joyner on 023 8086 4336 evenings and weekends).

Report on the 37th Annual General Meeting, 30th September, Portland Hotel, Buxton

The Chairman, David Small, reported that a sad goodbye had had to be said to several well-known members of the Society; Vice President Dorothy Metheney and Art Dome, both from the United States, Phyllis Kennedy from the South West Group and, very recently, our Auditor, Ron Wing. David said that falling membership (now down to 568) was putting a financial strain on the Society and, in order to keep expenditure down, the new booklet series was being printed 'in house', on demand.

The Secretary, Ron Cleevely, told the meeting that, with the retirement from Council of David Small and Allen Hall at this AGM, the Society had come to the end of an important era and a great debt of gratitude was owed to them both, as well as to our Administrator, Anne Small.

Ron said that much of the work of the Steering Committee was now done by e-mail, cutting out the need for regular meetings. Part 1 of the long-awaited International Register is now in print form and will eventually consist of 4 parts plus a CD ROM. The recent International Conference, held in Germany was both successful and interesting. Meetings had been held with other specialist societies, most of whom are suffering from falling membership. It was hoped that an umbrella group of specialist societies could maybe share ideas and attract members. The Society is gradually becoming more and more international, with 70% of recent new members coming via the Internet. Two of the Society's long-awaited series of booklets are now in print, with more in the pipeline.

For his very last time as Hon. Treasurer, Allen Hall presented the Society's accounts to the meeting in his customary clear and concise fashion. He said that strict control of expenditure had been the main reason that the Society was still in the black.

With this part of the Agenda completed it was time for the election of Officers.

President: David McClintock having earlier expressed a wish to retire from this position, it was unanimously decided that no one deserved this honour more than David Small. David was duly elected as our new President. In his absence, the Meeting expressed its sincere thanks to David McClintock for the many years he has given the Society, as both Registrar and President.

Arnold Stow was unanimously elected as the new Chairman. After taking the Chair, Arnold told us that it served him right for having missed a vital Council Meeting [when he was nominated in his absence], one of only a handful he had missed over the years. [Arnold has been a member of the Society for around thirty years. He was editor of the *Yearbook* from 1973 - 1978 and Advertising Manager until his election as Chairman].

Hon. Secretary: Ron Cleevely remains as our very hard-working Secretary.

Hon. Treasurer. Allen Hall welcomed Tony Princep as the new Treasurer. [Tony came along as a fairly last-minute saviour, as no one in the Society could be persuaded to take on this position. Tony admitted to knowing

nothing about heathers, but, as an accountant he knows a lot about money which is much more important, and he is now a fully paid-up member of the Society].

Allen Hall was presented with a painting of *Erica umbellata* 'David Small', which was very apt, as Allen had been responsible for the naming of *Erica umbellata* 'David Small' and *E. umbellata* 'Anne Small', and for their presentations, as plants, to Anne and David the previous year!

Following the sad death of Ron Wing, there will also be the need to find a new Auditor.

A beautiful painting of a Cape Heather, *Erica cerinthoides*, was then presented to David Small. Ron Clevely had gone to some considerable trouble to arrange with Cape heather expert, Ted Oliver, to have it painted by an artist in South Africa, and it arrived in this country in the nick of time for the AGM. Apparently the request had been made at the wrong time of year to find that particular heather in flower, but by great good fortune [for us], after a fire in the area the heather regenerated and flowered and the artist was able to paint it.

David and Allen were also presented with framed prints of Cape Heaths, which Ron had prudently bought as back-ups in case the paintings failed to arrive in time.

Ron read out a message from our retiring President, David McClintock, who was unable to be with us as he was hosting a meeting of the Bamboo Society. In his absence Members expressed their thanks to David for his years as President and sent him all good wishes for the future.

The Secretary pointed out the need to publicise David McClintock's retirement in the press, as well as in the *Bulletin* and *Yearbook*. An idea had been put forward for a meeting at David McClintock's home in Kent some time next year, when a suitable presentation could be made to him. [Further details in the Spring Bulletin].

Conference Organiser, Phil Joyner reported that the 2001 Conference which is to be held in Hereford, is expected to cost approximately £205. Full details will be in the Spring Bulletin.

This was a momentous Annual General Meeting and it was a great pity that there was such a select group to take part in it (27 members). Many thanks are due to Ron Clevely for all the headaches he endured in order to ensure a fitting send-off for our former Chairman and Treasurer. If any member would like to make a donation towards these and/or the future presentation to David McClintock, I am sure that Ron will be very pleased to hear from you. Ed.

Ron Wing

It is with regret that I have to announce that Ron Wing passed away suddenly on 10th September. Ron held the post of Auditor of the Heather Society for several years and was a stalwart member of the former Southern Group and subsequently a member of the South West Group. Our thoughts are with his widow Jean and the family.

Phil Joyner

[Arnold Stow and David Small attended the funeral on behalf of the Society].

Quorum for the Annual General Meeting.

Notice from RJC - Hon. Secretary: (September 26th 2000)

In order that decisions can be made at an Annual General Meeting and also that Officers, or other members can be validly elected to executive, administrative, or honorary positions in this Society, it is necessary that 25 members of the Society are present.

It has been proposed by Allen Hall that the figure given in the Rules for the quorum at the AGM **should be reduced to 20**. Members are given notice of this proposal and the intention that it will be presented for consideration and agreement at the next AGM to be held in Hereford in September 2001.

However, I should point out that: **RULE 6 - CONDUCT OF THE SOCIETY'S AFFAIRS** states that.

'... Management of the Society shall be the responsibility of the Council consisting of NOT LESS than TWELVE and NOT MORE than TWENTY members, including the CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY & TREASURER'.

The Reason that the QUORUM for the AGM is fixed at 25 is to ensure that **some other members**, apart from those on Council, participate in the Decisions that are made at the AGM. Incidentally, after the AGM in 2000, the total of Council members, if all those elected are present at a meeting, would only be FIFTEEN

It might be better to revise this rule to state that the Quorum for the AGM should exceed the number of Council members who attend the AGM by either 20% or perhaps 30%? This would prevent Council conducting the Society to their own interests without the approval of the general membership.

The Council would be extremely pleased to hear from anyone who has the time to participate in the running of the Society

The Royal Horticultural Society Show - August 22nd To 24th 2000

This year for the first time the Heather Competition was held at Wisley. Because of the building and re-decorating works being carried out at the RHS Hall in London, the usual August Flower Show was held in a marquee in the grounds at Wisley. The three exhibitors staged 55 entries and the judges' awards are given below.

Class 1 - Three Distinct Heather Species Or Variants In Bloom, one vase/ bowl of each:

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *Erica cinerea* 'Snow Cream', 'Eden Valley' and 'Pentreath';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *Erica cinerea* 'Champs Hill', 'Purple Beauty' and 'Heatherbank';

3rd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *Erica cinerea* 'Pink Foam', var *rendlei* and 'Alfred Bowerman'.

Class 2 - *Erica vagans*, any variant, one vase:

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Viridiflora';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Hookstone Rosea';

3rd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Ida M. Britten'.

Class 3 - *Calluna vulgaris*, a single-flowered coloured variant, one vase:

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Carmen';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Allegro';

3rd Mr. William Dyson, 'Sir John Charrington'.

Class 4 - *Calluna vulgaris*, double-flowered coloured variant, one vase:

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Red Favorit';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'County Wicklow';

3rd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'H.E. Beale'.

Class 5 - *Calluna Vulgaris*, single or double-flowered white variant, one vase:

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'White Coral';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'My Dream';

3rd Mr. William Dyson, 'Whiteness'.

Class 6 - *Calluna Vulgaris*, any variant in which the corollas never open, 'Bud Bloomers':

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Alexandra';

2nd Mrs. P.B. Lee, 'Arabeila';

3rd Mrs. P.B. Lee, 'Amethyst'.

Class 7 - *Erica cinerea*, any variant, one vase:

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Margaret Bowerman';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, 'Champs Hill';

3rd Mr. William Dyson, Cultivar Unknown.

Class 8 - *Daboecia*, any species, hybrid or variant:

1st Mr. William Dyson, *Dab. cantabrica*, Cultivar Unknown;

2nd Mrs. P.B. Lee, *Dab. cantabrica* 'Praegerae';

3rd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *Dab. cantabrica* 'Cupido'.

Class 9 - Any heather species or hybrid not specified above:

1st Mr. William Dyson, *Erica mackaiana* 'Shining Light';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *Erica manipuliiflora*;

3rd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *E. x griffithsii* 'Valerie Griffiths';

Highly Commended, Mrs. P.B. Lee, *E. x watsonii* 'Cherry Turpin'.

Class 10 - Any heather, one vase or bowl, to be judged for foliage effect:

1st Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *Erica arborea* 'Albert's Gold';

2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman, *Calluna vulgaris* 'Alison Yates';

3rd Mrs. P.B. Lee, *Erica arborea* 'Albert's Gold'.

Class 11 - Decorative Class - An arrangement of heathers in a basket.

Other natural plant material may be used but heathers must predominate:

1st Mrs. P.B. Lee 2nd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman 3rd Mrs. C.M. Bowerman

I wish you could have heard some of the appreciative remarks from members of the public attending the Show as they admired the exhibits. I can only emphasise Council's repeated appeal for more members to take part in the R.H.S. shows to ensure that the heather competitions are kept alive.

Pamela Lee

Mrs. Bowerman, Mr. Dyson and Pamela Lee deserve the Society's sincere thanks for their sterling work in keeping the RHS Heather Competitions going. It would be wonderful if a few more of our Southern Members would have a go. There is really no need to be intimidated, it is only a bit of fun, and I am sure that Pamela would be very willing to give a few words of advice and encouragement to anyone who is thinking of entering for the first time. Her telephone number is: 01428 604947. Ed.

The 1st International Conference on Heathers, August 2000 & the Homeward Tour.

Ron Cleevly.

The U.K. party gathered in by mini-buses began to aggregate at an evening meal near Ipswich. The following morning they caught the ferry at Harwich, together with assorted vintage three-wheeler vehicles driving to their own conference somewhere in Europe (we never discovered where!).

On leaving the Hook of Holland, both mini-buses & a car joined the columns of slow moving traffic, until 'Denbeigh' David turned off left to Schipol, and joined an even bigger jam, to collect assorted air passengers to complete the party travelling on to Germany. David Edge, with the southern contingent, managed to wend their way through to find the hotel. Over dinner at Gouda old friendships were renewed and introductions made whilst we learnt the correct pronunciation 'howdah' for the town.

Inevitably, next morning, luggage and passengers were re-distributed and as a substitute delegate (standing in for David McClintock) I seemed to be surplus to requirements, but sought sanctuary with David & Pam Millis who were travelling by car. Fortunately, we had Denbeigh David's detailed itinerary, and duly noted (as instructed) the abundant areas of *Calluna* (that had been the source of several cultivars) alongside the motorway when nearing Arnhem. Traffic was still thick, especially waiting to go through the long Elbe tunnel (due to a bank holiday weekend), but drivers seemed to be far more disciplined and responsible, even though driving faster than in the U.K. Jürgen Schröder & other Heidefreunde were waiting to welcome everyone, before we were dispersed to accommodation in the various conglomeration of buildings belonging to the hotel.

At dinner, after a formal welcome, David Small, announced that our Society's 1st Award of Honour would be presented during the Conference. That evening ended with an enjoyable energetic performance by the colourfully costumed Ueterst-End Folk Dance group of intricate routines involving foot-stamping, hand-clapping and partner-swinging - it was tiring just to watch!

A prompt 8.00 am start had everyone in the coach to arrive at the first private garden on the itinerary at 8.45. Hans & Inge Ochs in the village of Moorrege were waiting at that early hour to show us all around their garden, full of heathers (including semi-standard plants) and interesting trees and shrubs. Kurt Kramer also added to the botanical interest (or to ensure we were awake) by finding both male and female flowers of hops in the hedgerow. The large rhododendron specialist breeder nursery of H. Hachmann at Barmstedt, also grew a range of the more popular heather cultivars and whilst wandering along these beds and past the extensive propagating houses, the particular problems and working practices of their nursery were explained. That tour ended with most of the party wandering around their attractive heather garden, whilst others eagerly sought particular cultivars, particularly *Erica tetralix* 'Riko', a very dark coloured form.

Although they had provided 'elevenesses', lunch at a nearby restaurant was next on the programme, but easily coped with whilst chatting about what we had seen. During the afternoon, the group was split into two in order to see

the quite different private gardens of Jürgen & Dorie Schröder and Manfred & Helene Hundt. Both gardens had various interesting features in addition to their heathers, in particular the association of various ornamental grasses in Jürgen's e.g. *Molinia caerulea* 'Variegata', *Festuca glauca*, & *Miscanthes sinensis* varieties & others, while roses, paths, trees and patio features added to the attraction of the other garden. Jürgen is also proud of his collection of *Cassiope*s and *Phyllodoce*s all adding to the 'controlled nature garden' he has aimed to achieve.

A slightly later breakfast permitted a more leisurely Sunday. Kurt Kramer opened proceedings with an illustrated talk explaining the large variety of European heather species, their hybrids and cultivars. His macro-photography slides depicted the diversity that can be found at all levels. The variation of form & colour that can be found in the growth, flowers and leaves of both species and cultivars was intriguing. To see such ranges together for comparison, if only fleetingly, was very instructive [now we can only hope for the illustrated book!]. The morning ended with Ian Small's talk encompassing an explanation of botanical classification, the origin of plants and his admirable exposition of the basis of DNA sequencing and its use to establish the relationship of the taxa placed in the Ericaceae. The initial results have produced a very interesting scenario that contrasts with existing ideas on the evolution of ericaceous plants, but clarify some relationships within the family.

Off again on the coach after lunch, we joined many others enjoying the trees, plants and colourful flowers at the Arboretum Ellerhoop-Thiessen at Pinneberg. Several significant nurserymen as well as the arboriculturists Gerhard Krüssmann have been associated with its development. In addition to a heather garden, among its thematic landscapes was a replica of a wet heathland moor. My own geological background also appreciated the different attempts to use relevant plants to indicate the vegetation of various environments occurring during the Carboniferous, Lower Cretaceous and Tertiary periods, especially the use of *Dicksonia*, *Ginkgo*, and *Taxodium* (the Swamp Cypress) where appropriate. Our President would have remarked on the bamboo thickets on another site. The visit was the occasion for the naming of the new *C. v.* 'Bonita' by the President of the Landwirtschaftskammer Schleswig-Holstein that was produced by the Marohn and H'ger nursery.

Prior to dinner that evening, Dick de Bruijn gave an illustrated talk of his various trips over the years to the British Isles to see wild heathers as well as to visit nurseries and gardens. Fortunately, there was time before dinner, for several formal 'thank you' speeches. These were preceded by the presentation of the Heather Society's first Award of Honour Certificate to Kurt Kramer. In my role as Secretary, I explained that this was primarily in recognition of Kurt's pioneering work in hybridising heathers, but that it also recognised the contribution he had made by producing many other cultivars. It was emphasized that this award would only be given for notable contributions to either heather horticulture or research. Hopefully its significance within the field might approach that of a Nobel prize, but given far less often. Standing in for the President, I reported that the decision had been made after considerable deliberation by all the Society's officers and councillors (six of

whom were present), but that I knew David McClintock had been particularly keen that Kurt should be the first person to receive such an award.

After travelling to Bisingen, the coach party once again was split into two groups; one going on further to visit the Westermann nursery and the other alighting to be taken through the porcelain factory of A.H. Warnecke and see stages of producing the unique '*Calluna*' tableware used by many local hotels. After welcoming the party to his nursery, Hermann Westermann recounted its history and explained that he preferred to grow a wide range of selected cultivars directly in the ground, since he believed that this produced better plants. His own keen interest in trees was reflected by the fine specimens around the property, notably those planted in 1948 when starting the nursery, and the large number of species present. At our departure he very kindly presented everyone with a decorated specimen of his cultivar C.v. 'Bisingen'. On returning to the factory site and exchanging places with the other group, we all soon solved our souvenir and present problems by purchasing some of the fine '*Calluna*' china available.

Restored by an excellent lunch in a local restaurant, and with a fine afternoon, we were taken to the Lüneburger Heide to get some exercise by wandering over part of the Osteheide. This area had until quite recently been used for military purposes which had ensured that its natural environment had been preserved. *Calluna* predominated, with pines and juniper and areas of *Molinia*, but little evidence of gorse. Jürgen rashly offered a bottle of champagne to anyone finding a white *Calluna*, which was duly won by the sharp eyes of Eileen Petterssen. The coach then drove on to the Schneverdingen Visitor centre to see a circular colourful display of heather cultivars in perfect condition and many were pleased to see a bed of the new C.v. 'Larissa' in full bloom. After a welcome by the Manager, Frau Siebenbrot delegates were given an information brochure in their native language. That proved to be the day's finale, for our walk to Höpen to see the moorland sheep driven in for the night was unsuccessful.

After a farewell buffet that evening and toasts of thanks to our hosts and their fellow organisers, the Liedertafel Elmshorn v. 1866 Mens Choir entertained us with a programme of sea-shanties & national songs. Their 'Rolling Home' & 'Goodnight Ladies' were rather apt before we made our farewells to heather friends and expressed our appreciation to our hosts. Undoubtedly, this Conference, organised by our sister society in Germany, *Gesellschaft der Heidefreunde e. V.*, at Elmshorn in Schleswig Holstein, was a very successful occasion. Unusually for such involved meetings, everything went very smoothly and Jürgen Schröder and his colleagues in both the German and Dutch Societies have to be congratulated on their organisation. It will be a very difficult task to match their efforts at the next Conference. Over four days we had seen heathers in private gardens, visited a wide range of nurseries with differing methods of production and ranges of stock, had been entertained and extremely well fed wherever we went. By the end of the Conference members of all three European societies and those from the U.S.A [a total of 55 resident delegates and various daily participants] had established a friendly rapport through heathers and their various languages. At the end everyone was looking forward to the next Conference and thought it should be in Scotland in 4 to 5 years time.

I should also mention that Dee Daneri and Ella May Wuiff, past & present Presidents of the NAHS, made significant contributions to both the International Conference and participated in the subsequent tour. A major element of Dee's incoming luggage were parcels of the entire run of the NAHS publications that she presented to the Chairmen of each of the other participating Heather Societies, while Ella May expressed the support and appreciation of the American Society, she represented & diligently recorded everything that occurred. They were the centre of the day's events and humour in one of the mini-buses on tour (as an occasional passenger I was only partly aware of this) - but if the un-expurgated account of the journey should ever materialize we will all be highly entertained.

"A smooth Voyage - But No Coffee, No Baths, & No Towels! once on land"

David Small together with Kurt Kramer & Dick De Bruijn organised an additional tour of other nurseries for the U.K. & U.S.A groups (= 21) to obtain an even broader understanding of the diversity of heather and plant production in the two countries. Having seen several of the smaller and medium sized nurseries in Germany, we were taken to the mammoth establishment of the Folkerts Pflanzgut with millions of *Calluna* cuttings being grown in pots outside but nurtured by mechanised systems. Moving on to the long established family business of the Jeddelloh Pflanzenhandels Gmb. We could appreciate the extent of the next stage of distribution of the plants, including the currently popular basket of heather 'Garden Girls'. Yet, the most memorable event for everyone has to be the tour conducted by Kurt Kramer of his own garden during which he recounted the history of the various cultivars growing there. Then to whet our appetites further, after providing a glass of champagne in appreciation of the Society's Award to him, a slow walk around his beds of stock and newly-bred plants had everyone coveting one or more of his new cultivars. Many of us departed with a gift of C.v. 'Anne's Zwerg' [= Anne's Dwarf] a trailing cultivar suitable for a hanging basket. Fittingly, that day ended with a dinner in Kurt's honour at Bad Zwischenahn.

Moving on to Holland, we saw the source of many plants that have been supplied to Denbeigh Heathers at the family nursery of G. Van Hoef at Barneveld. Eventually making our way to Boskoop we reached the Esveld Nursery and, on a brief tour conducted by Dick de Bruijn, began to gain some idea of the extent of plant growing in that region. The following morning a tour by boat along the dykes around part of the area revealed the diversity of the plants produced by the many different general and specialist nurseries established there, as well as giving some indication of their problems. To demonstrate that not everything is so materialistic, the tour ended with a visit to the 'Viking ship' heather garden constructed from an island at Hazerwoude. This ship was 'crewed' by various topiary figures in revealing naturalistic shapes. Following a typical Dutch lunch, the contented party dispersed its various ways; one bus going straight to the Hook and the other getting there via Schipol Airport in time to embark on the third ship of the day. During this phase of the trip, the various drivers (including Judy Wiksten in a hired car)

perfected the art of synchronised overtaking on the motorways in order to stay together - the rearward vehicles moving out first to hold the lane so that the others could come out whenever possible. Occasionally there were disadvantages with this 'convoy driving' for its consequent automatic response to signals ahead once almost had the following vehicles turning off through reacting to signals from another interloping vehicle.

This tour too was well organised, but in order to travel considerable distances and meet schedules, 'morning coffee stops' on this tour were not permitted. Inevitably the hotels used catered for short-stay travellers for whom they provided showers rather than baths. Further, at our final stop the lack of towels in all rooms ensured that even these amenities could not be enjoyed. Yet, these were all minor problems when considered against the success of both the conference and the tour that yielded our 'booty' of plants, memories and knowledge.

Congratulations

Below is part of a message to David Small from Barbara Wanis (marketing @the goodwebguide.com):

"Congratulations! *The Heather Society* website has been included in *The Good Web Guide to Gardening*.

The Good Web Guide is the ultimate guide to sourcing information on the internet. We produce books, as well as keeping people up-to-date on the top rating sites through our website at www.thegoodwebguide.co.uk.

I am pleased to inform you that your site was chosen to be reviewed in *The Good Web Guide to Gardening* and was given a five star rating. You can also purchase copies of the book. *The Good Web Guide to Gardening*, through our website or by contacting us via email or snailmail at Broadwall House, 21 Broadwall, London, SE1 9PL, UK. Once again, congratulations on being a recommended and five star site".

The Society's own congratulations for this achievement are surely due to David Small (our Past-Chairman / Database Manager / Website Manager / Handy Guide Publisher / Technical Liaison Officer AND new President), and also to his son Ian, who gave a great deal of help. I understand that the website contains 365 pages and 345 images. Ed.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Congratulations to Kurt Kramer, who was presented with the first 'Heather Society Award of Honour' at the recent International Conference in Germany. With his work on heather hybridization, Kurt has greatly extended the range of superb heathers available to us all.

Profile of Council Member - Phil Joyner

For most of my life I have lived in Totton just to the west of Southampton and adjacent to the eastern edge of the New Forest but, as I was born in the "capital of the New Forest", Lyndhurst, I regard myself as a "New Forestonian". I started work at a chemical company adjacent to the Fawley Refinery on

Southampton Water and when Lin and I were married we lived for 8 years in Holbury, which is some 7 miles south of Totton but was close to my work and it was here that my interest in Heathers began.

Both my parents were interested in gardening, but prior to my marriage I had not inherited that interest and my only involvement was the arduous task of trimming a dusty *Lonicera nitida* hedge to earn pocket money. Getting married, and moving into a house with a small garden, provided the incentive to start gardening but at that time only to keep things tidy. Various plants were donated by parents and friends and my first introduction to plant cultivation was the growing of bedding plants, *Dahlias* and *Fuchsias*. I remember the first plants that we ever paid for as being dwarf conifers but that was enough to kindle my real interest in gardening and having bought a couple of gardening magazines and reading the adverts I joined a garden-book club. The memory of what happened then is rather hazy but I remember being given two winter flowering heathers by a friend and at about the same time receiving Terry Underhill's book on heathers via the book club and at that point my interest in growing heathers started.

The information on *The Heather Society* was in Underhill's book. I joined the Society in 1972 and a couple of years later joined the newly-formed South West Local Group at the invitation of Bert and Diane Jones. In 1978 I showed some interest in being involved in the organising of the Group and became the organiser for the Group shortly after that and have been involved in that job ever since. At the Society AGM of 1984 I was voted onto the Council of *The Heather Society* and between then and now I have had various responsibilities within the Council, my current one being the Conference Organiser for the conferences held in the UK.

In 1975 I changed jobs and started on a career with computers at a location



close to Totton and then in 1977 Lin and I and our two daughters moved to Totton and we started the creation of the garden that has hosted several Local Group meetings over the years. Since those early days of being interested in gardening my interest in other plant groups has grown and apart from being interested in horticulture generally I have interests in *Cyclamen*, *Primulas*, *Fuchsias* and hardy *Geraniums*. I am involved with local horticultural societies serving on the committees of the Totton and District Horticultural Society and the New Forest Fuchsia Society. In recent years my childhood interests in steam locomotives has been rekindled and steam railway preservation and railway modelling are now included in my pastimes.

Members of horticultural societies come

from all walks of life but our common interest brings us all together and Lin and I have made many good friends through The Heather Society. That opportunity alone would have been a good recommendation for joining the Society those many years ago.

"Garden Girls".

Ron Cleevely

No, this doesn't refer to a contingent of Charlie Dimmock, Anne Swithinbank, and Pippa Greenwood, or any other feminine gardening celebrity. Instead it is a marketing slogan for groups of newly introduced bud-bloomers produced in Germany that are distributed for Autumn planting. The currently advertised sextet consists of 'Alexandra', 'Amethyst', 'Fritz Kircher', 'Melanie', 'Alicia' & 'Anette'. - a couple of these names not exactly complying with the logo -, but the earlier introduced cultivars 'Marleen' and 'Marlies' complete the batch. This slogan has been used on the Continent for some years and in July 1999 Kurt Kramer registered it as a trademark in the U.K.

If a grower in the U.K. or Ireland wishes to propagate any of the 'Garden Girls' they need to obtain a licence from David Small at Denbeigh, who acts for Kurt. Any Licence Holder can then use this logo on promotional material. However, no licence is required in the UK or Ireland for 'Melanie', 'Marleen', or 'Marlies' and these are excluded from the "Garden Girls" UK package. For growers in other countries contact David Small.

A rough translation of the colourful leaflet advertising these heathers in Germany reads:

Colour splendour [and] Heather beauty. The new bud-bloomers for your Autumn planting.

Garden Girls are a collection of newly bred bud-bloomers with distinguishing characteristics':

Bright, large bud blooms; long-lasting flowers through into Winter;

Easily cared for, frost-hardy, perennial.

Garden Girls ideally suited for all Autumn planting:

For Balconies & Terraces;

For ornamenting Graves;

For permanent planting in Garden lay-outs such as heather gardens.

Garden Girls is a registered trade-mark of the famous heather-breeder Kurt Kramer from Edeweicht.

You get these Plants only from special dealers, there you [can] also obtain further plants and advice.

It ends with the statement: Observe the progress in cultivation by this Fine heather collection!

On page 6 in his own illustrated catalogue 'Heidepflanzen' Kurt Kramer explains the characteristics and occurrence of bud bloomers [but in German].



With acknowledgements to 'Natural World' – the national magazine of the Wildlife Trusts Sent in by Barry Sellers

Of all the hills in Shropshire's Welsh Marches, the Stiperstones is the most enigmatic. This 10-kilometre windswept ridge, topped with strange, shattered quartzite rock and craggy tors, has an awesome wildness. Through centuries of myth and legend, it has held a unique grip on local consciousness, inspiring both love and fear. And at its heart stands the dark outcrop called the Devil's Chair, 'a mass of quartzite, blackened and hardened by uncountable ages,' wrote Romantic novelist Mary Webb, in her 1920s novel, *The Golden Arrow*.

Apart from the dramatic scenery, interwoven with folklore and literary connections, and centuries of human intervention through mining and farming, the Stiperstones is home to a unique 588-hectare Site of Special Scientific Interest, 481 hectares of which became a National Nature Reserve in 1981. It is also a candidate Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under the European Habitats Directive.

Yet for all its claim as a sanctuary for 'wild nature', the Stiperstones is also an industrial site, riddled with old lead mines, spoil heaps and derelict buildings. One area is even called the Land of Dereliction. Magdalene Weale, a 19th-century historian, said of it, it is not so much an unsightly blot on Nature, as subservient to her mood here, accentuating [her] desolate beauty.'

Life for the people who lived here was harsh and the mood can certainly be desolate, but its strange beauty is a result of centuries of that relationship between the labours of people and the wild spirit of the hill. It is this relationship which created the heather heathland now being revived by the Shropshire Wildlife Trust. Colin Preston, the Trust's director, says, 'Heathland restoration is our most ambitious project and stands as a flagship for conservation in this country. This partnership for the future, a blend of environmental, landowner and local community interests, is an example of the value of a shared vision.'

That vision is the purple flush of common heather, or ling, which dominates the Stiperstones along with other heathland species according to altitude and aspect. South-facing slopes support bell heather and western gorse. On north-facing slopes, ling gives some ground to whinberry (called bilberry in other parts of the country). On higher ground, common heather grows with cowberry and crowberry. But in wetter places, cross-leaved heath - another kind of heather - grows with another berry, cranberry, and bog mosses, cotton grass, bog asphodel and marsh violet. Pasture, carved out of the heather by early settlers, heaves with heath speedwell, bedstraw and mountain pansy. There are hay meadows with yellow rattle and common spotted orchid, plus oak coppices, fragments of birch and rowan woods, and remnants of ancient holly groves.

Of prime importance, and the reason why the Stiperstones is a candidate SAC, is the fact that it is a rare form of 'dry heath'; one of only nine to be designated in the UK. It supports red grouse, stonechat and nesting curlew, and is visited by buzzards and ravens. Insects such as emperor moth, green-

hairstreak butterfly and upland wood ant are species of national conservation significance here. Although the Devil's Chair remains inviolable, Webb's 'armies of heather' and the 'venturesome cranberries' have not fared so well. In the last 50 years, much of the heather and whinberry has been lost. Plantations of conifers, pasture 'improved' with fertilizers and ploughing have bitten out chunks of ancient heathland. Little remains of the 'field after field washed pale with mountain pansies', described by renowned local botanist, Charles Sinker. Turning this loss around is where the Wildlife Trust comes in.

On the western flank below the Devil's Chair, and behind a new sign proclaiming the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund, lies a battlefield: hectares of tree stumps, burnt branches and bare ground. This is not the Devil's work, but the result of removing a commercial forestry plantation. Already, scattered in the debris, are tiny specks of purple flower on regenerating sprigs of heather. These struggling seedlings are the advance guard for the Trust's 'Back to Purple' project. Purple is the colour of the bell heather and ling which flower here in summer. It is also the colour of the juice of whinberries, which people have picked for pies and preserves for centuries. In a courageous attempt to reverse 50 years of attrition, Shropshire Wildlife Trust aims to conserve and restore heather-dominated heathland for 10 solid kilometres, surrounding the ridge of the Stiperstones. It's been difficult. The conifer needles were laid so thick that natural heather regeneration was impossible. Horses were used on the steep slope to break the mulch down, but their harrows got snagged on the stumps, so a hawthorn tree was cut and dragged behind the horses. This worked so well that a mechanical version of a hawthorn was devised to do the job. But for some jobs, such as removing invasive trees from around the rocks, neither horses nor machinery are any use. This sort of work needs conservation volunteers.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust has had a dozen forays onto the Stiperstones to pull seedling trees, cut scrub and treat stumps. The Trust has a six-strong group of volunteers working three days a week and 10 on Sundays on its reserves throughout the county, so they're spread thinly. Ian Cheeseborough, volunteer coordinator, says, 'Without volunteers we would not be able to undertake this five-year restoration and management plan. Even with one day a month it's amazing how much work can be done.' The future success of this project will depend on the next generation, and this is where education comes in. Adrian Pickles' students from the Blessed Robert Johnson Catholic College, a comprehensive in Wellington, have been pulling seedling rowan, birch and pine from the Stiperstones, and taking them back to their tree nursery for planting out in school grounds. 'Being involved in the Back to Purple project,' says Pickles, 'is a great opportunity for our students. It's a great day out and it involves them in subjects across the curriculum. But more than that, it helps them see the bigger picture and gets them involved in trying to make the world a better place.' To speed up the heathland regeneration and involve the local community, 10,000 heather cuttings have been grown on in nurseries. These will be placed on the Stiperstones this May in a millennial planting bash for local kids. Seeds will also be scattered.

Martin Hazel of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust assures me that this work has now been carried out and the project is doing well. Ed.

Be a Brute

D A Richards, Eskdale, Cumberland.

Reproduced from the 1970 Summer Bulletin

We learn from our mistakes only if we worry enough about them until we get the answer. On the hillside facing our windows is a dry rocky slope that, when I cleared it, I felt sure nobody had touched since some ancient glacier had dropped the rocks. The site seemed ideal for *Erica cinerea* to give banks of colour from our windows.

Casualties were heavy, despite peat mulch and most diligent spraying and watering whenever they were blasted by drying winds. (Do your neighbours think you a bit odd, scrambling among the rocks with a watering can in the dead of winter?) I persisted and replanted, but with little reward. I agreed with the experts that *cinereas* are difficult to get established but

A few yards away is a mass of bed-rock (granite) fissured and smoothed by the same glacier. In October I took a rooted layer of *E. cinerea*. 'P.S,Patrick' pegged down in the previous April and pushed it into a crack with my thumb. That crack is so narrow that nothing more than moss had ever grown in it. This spring I noticed that sheep had eaten the heart out of it (mine enemy is very persistent) but it looked very healthy indeed. Why? Exposed on the top of a bare rock it had suffered a foul winter with no help from me and come through smiling. Why did those coddled, nursery plants fail?

Although it seemed ridiculous, I carefully picked away between the rocks and took a number of soil samples from 3 to 6 inches down. I was amazed to find that some were alkaline. Really getting down to it with a crowbar, I found lumps of mortar and brick-ends in the crevices. During the last war the house was damaged by a bomb and some clot wheeled the rubbish right out there to lose it.

Many of us have lost *cinereas* in drought and I know the cause is not often quite the same, but you water and spray them assiduously and the wind continues to dry them. All tap water has some hardness, there has to be. As that water dries, the calcium content becomes more concentrated, alkalinity builds up and your kindness is killing them. In future I shall trim new plants hard back, plant them deeply in tested soil and let them get on with it. Nature shows us that *cinereas* are tough, in fact, they can grow where nothing else will.

As many Conference attendees will know, 30 years on, Don is still busy cultivating his lovely Eskdale garden, where Erica cinerea now grows and seeds and absolutely thrives. Ed.

Group News

North East

Our planned Car Outing to Bill and Margaret Crow's Nursery at Scots Gap on July 19th had, unfortunately, to be cancelled due to a spell of ill-health that Bill was going through at that time. I am pleased to say he is now very much better.

We had a good day weather-wise for our next Car Outing to Raby Castle on August 5th, but were very disappointed to find on arrival that they do not open to the public on Saturdays! Seems strange, but that is the way they do it. As only three cars turned up we decided to go on to another garden at Eggleston and spent

a pleasant afternoon browsing, and then finishing with a cream tea before we left. **Saturday, September 9th** was our Annual Show and seven exhibitors put in a total of 85 exhibits for competition. The show bench looked good, and the *Erica vagans* class alone attracted 20 entries! Generally, it has been a difficult summer for heathers, and the Judge said this was reflected on the show bench. However, we ourselves were pleased with the effort everyone made for the show and thanks are due to all.

Memorial To Doug And Joan Lister.

The following extract appeared in the Newcastle "Journal" and Hexham Courant. "Belsay Hall Gardens were the setting recently when a seat was given in memory of Doug and Joan Lister of Fawdon, who were long-standing members of the North East Group of *The Heather Society*. They died within 6 months of each other in 1997, and the Group's members felt that this was a fitting tribute to Doug and Joan who were frequent visitors to the garden. As well as donating the seat to English Heritage's Belsay Hall Gardens, the Group are also renewing three of the heather beds in memory of the couple, and are greatly indebted to Paul Harrigan, Head Gardener at Belsay Hall, who has done the replanting, and also to Caroline Chaytor, Area Manager of English Heritage."

Dorothy M. Warner.

Yorkshire

The Yorkshire Heather group meeting on Saturday, 10th June 2000 took the form of a round table conference with members reminiscing on their experiences of the 1970 – 75 Harlow Carr heather trials. The meeting was opened by Peter Vickers, who took a leading part in the organisation of the trials, with contributions from Geoffrey Smith, supported by Geoffrey Yates and Dorothy Boyd. Slides at various stages in the development of the trials were presented.

Members gathered at Stillingfleet Lodge, which was open in aid of the National Gardens Scheme, on Sunday, 25th June for their annual outing. Despite the lack of heathers it was an enjoyable afternoon as the garden is so unusual with so many rare plants. The visit was followed by tea at the home of the Julians in Askham Richard.

On Saturday, 16th September 2000, thirteen members of the Heather Group attended the Study Centre at Harlow Carr to listen to a most interesting talk by David Mayne on "The Making of a Heather Garden". He described the plans, design and hopes for his mountain stream garden together with the difficulties involved and illustrated the whole with slides. Although attendance was low we were pleased that members were able to attend the meeting in view of the fuel crisis.

Plans are in hand for 2001 to involve a talk on heather honey and another to display some of the slides from our library

Jean Julian

East Midlands

A meeting of the East Midlands Group took place on August 12th 2000 at 10 Upper Green, Nanpantan, Loughborough. 11 members attended.

August had been miserable before the meeting and it rained for days afterwards. But the day itself was hot and sunny and had members scrambling for shade. It was a golden day to look back on in this otherwise wet millennium year.

Josey and Arnold Stow attended and Arnold's illustrated talk "Heather, Plants and People" was the feature of the day. Arnold had us reminiscing about old times and filled in many gaps in our knowledge of the people who had built the Society. The company wished Josey and Arnold well, as Arnold prepares to lead the

Society as our new Chairman.

As always, at any rate for me, meeting old friends and new was a highlight of the Group meeting. I talked myself hoarse! What better way to spend a sunny Saturday afternoon than to talk heathers with fellow enthusiasts?

I invited members to help themselves to heathers in pots and they did. Among the varieties they liked were *Erica australis* 'Mr. Robert' and 'Holebird', *E. arborea* *baccans*, *E. andevalensis*, pink and white forms, *Erica carnea* 'Nathalie', and 'December Red' (one of my favourites) *E. x darleyensis* 'Silberschmelze' (another favourite) *Calluna vulgaris* 'Dirry' and 'Angela Wain', *E. cinerea* 'P S Patrick' and *E. terminalis* 'Thelma Woolner'.

Others which found favour were *E. erigena* 'Thing Nee', a fine golden foliage heather introduced by Barry Sellers, and *E. ciliaris* 'Fada des Serras' – a plant introduced by John Tucker of Worthing who named it after the place in Portugal where he found it. Its heliotrope (H12) bells are twice as long as those of 'Corfe Castle' and a clump in my garden stands 28 inches (0.7m) high. I seem to recall that it grew higher in John's garden. This plant did not prove hardy in my former garden in Surrey but is growing well outside here. This may be because the winters have been milder since we came to Loughborough almost four years ago or (and I suspect more likely) because my last garden was a frost pocket. The tips of stems suffer some damage in frosts but so far the plants have recovered and done well in the following spring.

My thanks go to those members who attended and made the day enjoyable.

March 10th 2001 - Visit to Kingfisher Heather Nursery: Peter Bingham invites us to visit the Kingfisher nursery, Gedney Hill, Spalding, on Saturday, March 10th 2001. We meet at the Nursery for coffee at 12.30 for a 1 pm start.

Peter proposes to start the event with a conducted tour around this large, modern heather nursery. He tells me that the nursery is at its most colourful in early March. Those who have visited before know that there is a lot to see and much to learn. Following the tour Mr. Bingham will give his illustrated talk "South African Study Tour". This includes 100 slides and gives his perspective on last year's Heather Society visit to South Africa when the party saw more than 150 species of Cape Heaths.

I intend to write to members of the East Midlands Group about the event early in the New Year and will include a sketch of the routes to the Nursery. Members of other groups are welcome to join the tour and are invited to write to me for a copy of the sketch. My address, telephone number and e-mail address are on the inside back cover of the Bulletin.

This is a marvellous opportunity to visit a top class heather nursery and I trust that there will be a good response. It would be a help if you would let me know by February 28th 2001 if you propose to come.

Please note that the visit will take place before the Spring Bulletin is published so there will be no other general notification. Make a note in your diaries!

Allen Hall

Home Counties

The spring meeting of the Group will be held on **24 March 2001** at the Royal National Rose Society, Chiswell Green, Nr St. Albans, Hertfordshire. The meeting will commence at 2.0 p.m. and our President, David Small, has kindly agreed to give a talk on heather propagation. This will enable our green-fingered members to pick up some useful tips prior to the forthcoming season. Further details may be obtained from Derek Millis (Tel: 01442 254880). A newsletter will be circulated in the New Year.

Derek Millis

Pamela Lee

Earlier this year you will have received a letter outlining details of the new group and mentioning the worthy efforts of previous Southern Group organisers. Unfortunately this letter omitted to mention the founder and organiser for over ten years of this group, namely Vice President Pamela Lee. This omission was obviously very regrettable and apologies to Pamela for overlooking her part in the early days of the Southern Group.

Arnold Stow.

South West

On a potentially showery afternoon on Saturday 29th July members met at the Forest Edge Nursery. The nursery is wholesale and belongs to David Edge. David has been growing heathers for the local garden centre trade and indeed garden centres along the south coast for many years and produces a good quality plant. David grows the most popular cultivars making a selection of 100 but is always on the look out for new introductions with distinctive features. David opened the afternoon by offering everybody a glass of wine and by introducing us to Trish and Bianca two of his staff who were to accompany us around the nursery. After the opening introduction we continued by being taken onto the nursery and shown the propagation area where the cuttings are taken and placed under polythene. This technique has been used by David ever since he started in the heather business and from the condition of the plants we observed the method is obviously very successful. A source of amusement was when we were shown how the cutting material was taken with David using battery powered shears to give a stock plant a "short back and sides" so guess what every would-be propagator wants for Xmas. After the cutting demonstration we were shown the automatic potting facilities and the standing out areas some of which are now capillary beds so as to reduce the maintenance. An interesting afternoon was rounded off with David and his staff providing us with refreshment and then allowing us to purchase plants of our choice. My sincere thanks goes to David and the nursery staff for entertaining us on that afternoon and I must also thank the members for their support as they numbered 35 on that afternoon.

A Date for your Diary

Saturday 24th March 2001 - This will be the annual indoor meeting at the Lytchett Matravers Village Hall in Dorset. Members should meet in the hall by 2.00 p.m. where Daphne Everett, *The Bulletin* Editor, will give a talk on the history of heather growing which will start with the interest in the Cape Heaths in Victorian times and continue on to the hardy heathers, their uses and the heather garden throughout the year. This will be a talk not to be missed. There will also be the two-class Table Show:

Class 1. A vase or bowl of heathers in bloom.

Class 2 A vase or bowl of heathers shown for foliage effect.

Prizes will be awarded and the Burfitt Bowl (currently held by Maureen Clark) will be awarded to the exhibitor with the most points overall. Lytchett Matravers is situated six miles from Poole and one mile west of the Poole-Blandford road. The Village Hall is on the west side of the High Street, just north of the Rose and Crown Inn. Ample parking is available close to the hall and a charge will be made to cover expenses. There will be refreshment supplied after the talk.

Further information on the meeting above and the rest of the meetings to be planned for 2001 can be obtained by sending me two SAEs by the end of January 2001. I finish this report by thanking you all for your support during this year and I hope for your continued support during 2001.

Phil Joyner

A TASTE OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR GARDENING ENTHUSIASTS

A new specialist tour package, aimed at gardeners and plant lovers; experience the botanical, private gardens and fynbos highlights of Cape Town, the Garden Route and Klein Karoo.

This very unique tour caters for those interested in personalised attention and visiting attractions not accessible to large tour groups.

See the spectacular flora of the Western Cape; Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, one of the most beautiful floral kingdoms in the world; exclusive private gardens;

Karoo National Botanical Gardens; the Swartberg Mountains boasting over 600 indigenous plant species, including protea and ericas; visit to a fern farm housing 40 different species of indigenous ferns; a protea farm; a cycad nursery; aloë ferox factory, augmented by informative talks by specialists.

Exclusive to our tour is a visit to a 'Private Butterfly Garden', situated in the Klein Karoo, home to many indigenous butterflies, plants and birds.

Delight in the natural bonsai, carved by the elements, in the Robberg Nature Reserve.

Relax on a ferry trip around the estuary with its world renowned 'Knysna Heads'.

The tour ends by meeting the tribal people and observing their traditions.

September to March is when the indigenous flora is at its best.

Package prices start at R 7600 per person sharing.

Further information is available from:

Susan & Cedric Cornforth (SATOUR Accredited Tourist Guides)

email: contactus@cosy-corner.co.za <http://www.cosy-corner.co.za>

Fax/Tel: +27 44 874 0710

OKELL'S NURSERIES

Specialist wholesale heather growers, with an annual production of over 1.5 million quality plants in nearly 200 varieties.

Regular deliveries throughout the U.K. to garden centres and nurseries.

Nursery open 7 days a week 9.00 - 5.30



More information from:-

OKELL'S NURSERIES, Duddon Heath, Nr. Tarporley, Cheshire

Tel: 01829 741512 Fax: 01829 741587

HIGHLAND HEATHERS

Comrie Muirend, South Crieff Road, Comrie, Perthshire PH6 2JA
Tel: 01764 670440

Proprietors: Elaine C. Davidson and John S. Davidson, BA Hons, LA

Come and visit our traditional Heather Nursery deep in the beautiful Perthshire countryside.

A family run business established over 20 years ago serving the wholesale and retail market and producing a quality plant at a very competitive price.

** Browse through the heather garden*

** Walk around the Nursery*

** Over 140 different varieties available*

Open 7 days - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

glynwern heather nurseries

Wholesale growers of
heathers, alpine and conifers

Catalogue and further information from:
NEVILLE & JEAN CROFT
Glynwern, Cilcennin, Nr Lampeter, Ceredigion SA48 8RJ
Telephone & Fax: 01570 470063

*Your Nursery could have had its
name JUST HERE*

It still can for the next Bulletin

*Write for special members rates
to Arnold Stow Widmour, Limmer Lane,
High Wycombe HP12 4QR*

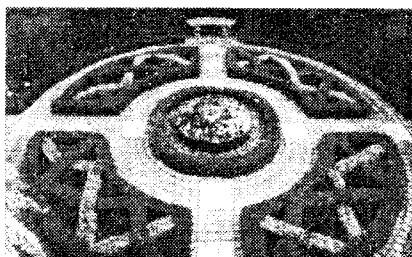
The Garden at The Bannut

2½ acres of formal & informal gardens, set in the beautiful Herefordshire countryside, with trees and shrubs, lawns and borders. Manicured hedges surround colour-themed garden rooms.

Of special interest to Heather Society members are two colourful heather gardens, covering around half an acre in all, and a heather knot garden with water feature (pictured on right).

Open (2000) Wednesdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays 2-5 pm, from Easter until the end of September. Adult £2.00p, Child £1.00. Heather Society members welcome at other times by appointment.

Afternoon teas available. Plants, including heathers, for sale. For further details about the garden and directions send SAE for leaflet, or see our entry under 'Gardens to Visit' on the Heather Society web-site.



Maurice & Daphne Everett Tel & Fax 01885 482206

E-mail: everettbannut@zetnet.co.uk

The Bannut, Bringsty, Herefordshire WR6 5TA

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Society's Website: www.heathersociety.org.uk

- | | |
|--|---|
| Chairman & Steering Committee | <i>Policy matters, major events etc.</i>
Mr. A. J. Stow, Widmour, Limmer Lane, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP12 4QR.
<i>e-mail:</i> ajs@widmour.freemove.co.uk <i>Tel:</i> (01494) 449397 |
| Secretary & Press Officer | <i>Council matters</i>
Mr. R. Cleveley, High Croft, Gunswell Lane, South Molton, Devon EX36 4DH.
<i>e-mail:</i> sec-hsoc@eclipse.co.uk <i>Tel:</i> (01769) 573833 |
| Treasurer | Mr. A. Princep, 22, Hornby Drive, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6JP
<i>e-mail:</i> Anthony.Princep@sourceuk.net
<i>Tel:</i> (01270) 639432 |
| Registrar & Slide Librarian | <i>Naming of heathers/Hire of slides</i>
Mrs. J. Julian, "Matchams", Main Street, Askham Richard, York, YO23 3PT.
<i>e-mail:</i> registrar@zetnet.co.uk <i>Tel:</i> (01904) 707316 |
| Yearbook Editor | <i>Articles for the Yearbook</i>
Dr. E.C. Nelson, Tippitiwitchet Cottage, Hall Road, Outwell, Wisbech PE14 8PE.
<i>e-mail:</i> tippitiwitchet@zetnet.co.uk
<i>Tel:</i> (01945) 773057 <i>FAX:</i> (01945) 774077 |
| Bulletin Editor & Technical Committee | <i>Notes, articles for the Bulletin</i>
Mrs. D. Everett, The Bannut, Bringsty, Herefordshire, WR6 5TA.
<i>e-mail:</i> everettbannut@zetnet.co.uk
<i>Tel:</i> (01885) 482206 <i>FAX:</i> (01885) 482206 |
| Advertising | <i>Adverts, advertising rates etc. for the Bulletin</i>
(Bulletin) Mr. A.J. Stow - see Chairman
(Website) Mr. D.J. Small - see Plant Sales |
| Administrator | <i>Membership, Subscriptions, Orders for publications etc.</i>
Mrs. A. Small, Denbeigh, All Saints Road, Creeting St. Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 8PJ.
<i>e-mail:</i> heathers@zetnet.co.uk
<i>Tel:</i> (01449) 711220 <i>FAX:</i> (01449) 711220 |
| Conference Manager | Mr. P.L. Joyner, 84 Kinross Road, Rushington, Totton, Southampton, Hampshire, SO4 4BN.
<i>e-mail:</i> pjoyner@supanet.com <i>Tel:</i> (01703) 864336 |
| Plant Sales Franchise Database & Website | Mr. D. Small, Denbeigh, All Saints Road, Creeting St. Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 8PJ.
<i>e-mail:</i> heathers@zetnet.co.uk
<i>Tel:</i> (01449) 711220 <i>FAX:</i> (01449) 711220 |
|
Group Organisers (<i>Remember, you will be very welcome at any local meeting or visit!</i>) | |
| East Midlands | Allen Hall, 10, Upper Green, Nanpantan, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 3SG.
<i>e-mail:</i> allen.hall@zetnet.co.uk <i>Tel:</i> 01509 238923 |
| North East | Mrs. D. M. Warner, Littlecroft, Click-em-in, Ponteland, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE20 9BQ.
<i>Tel:</i> (01661) 823299 |
| Home Counties | Derek Millis, 18, The Horseshoe, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 8QW
<i>e-mail:</i> Derek.Millis@care4free.net <i>Tel:</i> (01442) 254880 |
| South West | Mr. P.L. Joyner, 84 Kinross Road, Rushington, Totton, Southampton, Hampshire, SO4 4BN.
<i>e-mail:</i> pjoyner@supanet.com <i>Tel:</i> (01703) 864336 |
| Yorkshire | Dr. J. Griffiths, 9, Ashlea Close, Leeds, West Yorkshire. LS25 1JX.
<i>Tel:</i> (01132) 863349 |