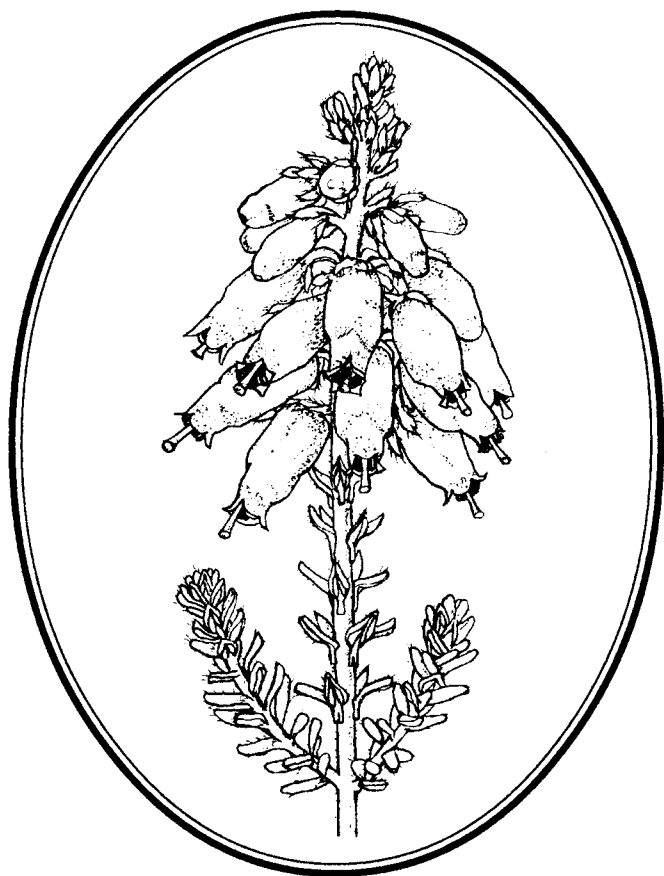


*Bulletin of The
Heather Society*



Vol. 6 No. 15

Summer 2005

DIARY OF EVENTS

July 6 North East Group Bide-a-Wee Garden near Morpeth

SEPT 9 -12 ANNUAL CONFERENCE BOURNEMOUTH

September 10 North East Group Annual Show, Ponteland,

September 15 CLOSING DATE FOR AUTUMN BULLETIN

September 17 Yorkshire Group Talk at Harlow Carr

September 17 East Midlands Group Garden Visit - Ravenshead

October 1 Home Counties Group Talk & Competitions Wisley

October 28 North East Group A.G.M at Ponteland, 2.30pm



A Registered Charity No. 261407

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Cover illustration *Erica ciliaris* by Brita Johansson

This Autumn we shall be planting a new heather bed in part of our garden. The plants (which have been supplied by the Society) will be set out ornamentally in groups of three and will be a display of the Society's recommended 100 Best Heathers. Interested Members will be very welcome to call and see the bed once it is planted, but please telephone in advance.

**The 2005 Annual Gathering of The Heather Society
34th Annual Conference, September 9th - 12th 2005
Russell Court Hotel, Bournemouth**

It's not long now to the Conference in Bournemouth, we think we have a good programme for you, so hurry up and make your reservation if you have not already done so. It will be a great weekend with lots to see and do and lots to enjoy. Bournemouth is a vibrant, bustling city as well as a traditional holiday resort.

Good shopping is a short walk from the hotel and there are many other attractions within the city and its environs. Bournemouth has good rail links and an international airport, both with easy access to the hotel.

The Conference gives you the opportunity to see *Erica ciliaris* in the wild. And very importantly the chance to catch up with old friends and hopefully make new ones, discuss all aspects of our *Erica* world and find the solution to that problem that has been niggling you for a long time.

If you have never been to the Conference before, why not join us, meet some of the names you see in the bulletin and take a more active part in your Society. You will be very welcome.

Programme

Friday, 9th September

- 4.00 p.m. Registration & afternoon tea.
- 6.15 p.m. Bar open.
- 7.00 p.m. Dinner.
- 8.30 p.m. Conference opened by our Chairman, Arnold Stow, followed by a talk from Professor, Nigel Webb on the "Ecology of Heathlands".
- 9.30 p.m. Bar open

Saturday 10th September

8.00 a.m. Breakfast.

9.15 a.m. Leave by coach for the Arne Peninsular. Professor Nigel Webb will lead us on a short ramble across the heathland in a search for *E. ciliaris*.

On arrival at Arne, coffee will be available from flasks.

12.30 p.m. Picnic Lunch and travel to Compton Acres via "The Sandbanks Ferry" across the entrance to Poole Harbour.

2 p.m. Arrive at 'Compton Acres' - a 10 acre garden, overlooking Poole Harbour. The garden is laid out in a series of "rooms", each presenting a different style and includes a Scottish Heather Dell.

The visit will be lead by the Curator, starting with an introductory talk.

There are two motorised buggies available for hire.

Refreshments available at café, own costs

5. p.m. Coach returns to Russell Court Hotel.

6.15 p.m. Bar open.

7.00 p.m. Dinner.

8.30 p.m. David Edge, newly re-elected to Council and a heather nurseryman, will give a talk on his 'Top Twenty Heathers for the Garden'.

David will also be available to answer questions.

Sunday 11th September

8.00 a.m. Breakfast.

9.00 a.m. The A.G.M.

10.00 a.m. Coffee.

10.30 a.m. Leave by coach for Forest Edge Nurseries. Situated near Ringwood, Hampshire

David Edge will give all members the opportunity for propagation of some of the cultivars available on his extensive list. You will be able to wander around David's tunnels and see his collection of Cape Heaths.

Picnic lunch.

1.00 p.m. Leave by coach for the world famous 'Hillier's Gardens', at Romsey, Hampshire.

2.00 p.m. These gardens hold the greatest collection of trees and shrubs in the world, more than 12,500 different types.

We will be welcomed by a member of staff and after an introductory talk, we shall tour the gardens. Wheelchairs and buggies are available. Refreshments available at café, own costs

5.00 p.m. Depart by coach for the Russell Court Hotel.

6.15 p.m. Bar open.

7.00 p.m. Dinner.

8.30 p.m. Open Forum and Plant sale. Your chance to discuss any problems or queries you may have associated with heathers and *The Heather Society* and to perhaps get hold of plants not easily found in the garden centres.

9.30 p.m. Bar Open.

Monday 12th September

8.00 a.m. Breakfast.

9.30 a.m. Depart the Russell Court Hotel.

The times in the above programme may be subject to amendment and the timing of the group photograph will be announced during the conference.

Cost of the Conference

Resident, for the whole weekend.	£218 (per person sharing)
Resident, leaving Sunday afternoon	£168 (per person sharing)
Resident, leaving after Sunday dinner	£187 (per person sharing)
There is a single person supplement of	£7.50 per night
Non-Resident, Friday evening	£26
Saturday: all day	£54
excluding dinner	£34
Sunday: all day	£54
excluding dinner	£34

For non-residents, Friday evening includes afternoon tea and dinner. The Saturday and Sunday rate includes the visits, lunch and dinner.

Accommodation has been arranged at the Russell Court Hotel. The hotel is in the centre of Bournemouth. All the rooms have TV's, telephones, radio alarms and hospitality trays. A lift serves all floors and the hotel is patrolled by a night porter.

Bookings may be made by sending £2.00 (per mailing) to Mrs. Anne Small, at Denbeigh, All Saints Road, Creeting St. Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 8PJ.

Cheques for the booking fee and the Conference 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. Please note that the latest date for full payment is 7th July 2005.

Members are reminded that payment by VISA or MASTERCARD credit/debit cards is acceptable. Please indicate when paying your fee to Anne Small whether you wish to have a double, twin or single room.

Preliminary reservations have been made for 8 double en-suite rooms, 8 twin en-suite rooms and 9 single en-suite rooms. If all these rooms are taken, then there may be the possibility of booking more rooms, otherwise subsequent bookings will be accepted as day visitors and those persons will be asked to make their own bed & breakfast accommodation arrangements. In this case the telephone number of the area's Tourist Information Office will be given to aid Bed & Breakfast enquiries. A cost per night for the use of the hotel around the conference week-end may be obtained from Susie Kay, who will be pleased to answer any queries relating to the 2005 Conference (Tel: 00353 95 43575, e-mail: susiek@gofree.indigo.ie)

This year we are running a mini plant sale. The theme being:

- Something old: have you plants of an old cultivar, which is no longer available in garden centres?
- Something new: have you a new cultivar which is not yet available in garden centres?
- Something borrowed: did a friend pass you a cutting and have you rooted cuttings available to bring?
- Never something blue: i.e. not painted heathers, but any rooted cuttings that are surplus to your requirements.

Please be nurturing one or two plants to bring with you (9cm pots

preferred)

Proceeds to Heather Society Funds.

This year our Conference is being held in Bournemouth - a vibrant, bustling city as well as a traditional holiday resort. Good shopping is a short walk from the hotel and there are many other attractions within the city and its environs. Bournemouth has good rail links and an international airport, both with easy access to the hotel.

The Conference gives you the opportunity to see *Erica ciliaris* and *Erica x watsonii* in the wild. Also, very importantly, it gives members the chance to catch up with old friends and hopefully make new ones, discuss all aspects of our Erica world, and find the solution to that problem that has been niggling you for a long time.

If you have never been to the Conference before, why not join us, meet some of the names you see in the *Bulletin* and take a more active part in your Society. You will be very welcome.

Planting Designs **Arnold Stow (Chairman)**

I was very interested in the article in the *2005 Year Book* by Colin Rogers, on planting designs.

We all start with an idea of what plants and what effect we want to create and my own experience mirrors that of the incumbent of Ebenezer Chapel. Apart from year round colour one has to take into account that, say for instance you plant *Calluna* with *Erica carnea* in the same bed, the effect of the *carnea* in flower suffers from the mostly drab foliage of the *Calluna*. I know there are exceptions, but one only has to visit the Wisley collection in the winter to see what I mean. Fortunately it does not happen in reverse, as in the summer the collection is a joy to behold, the fresh foliage and the emerging *carnea* buds setting off the flowers of the *Calluna* and *cinerea*. After many years I now lean towards single season beds and one reason is that of pruning - so much easier to prune this way.

I usually prune the summer flowers in February, but it is so easy to decapitate the winter flowerers if, as is normally the case, the plants intermingle. Then in late April/May it is time to prune off the fading winter flowers and you invariably nip off some young shoots of the summer plants. Not a tragedy I hasten to add, but you see my point.

On one occasion whilst pruning in the spring I completely removed every single flower of a prized *E. umbellata*, just as it was about to regale me with its normally delightful display! It was growing adjacent to an *erigena* plant - it still is - but every year the garden shears are put aside when this bed is pruned and the fiddly job is carried out with secateurs.

By all means design your heather beds to your own satisfaction, after all gardening is a very personal thing, but bear in mind the potential pruning problems that might occur.

The most rewarded heathers

Charles Nelson

Now that a searchable index ¹ is available for issues of the *Bulletin* since its beginnings in the Spring of 1967, extracting interesting information from it is a rather simple matter. The *Bulletin* regularly reported on the prizes awarded to heather cultivars at the Royal Horticultural Society's shows, and taking those lists, adding and extracting, yields a league table of the most rewarded heathers.

It is always difficult to interpret league tables like these, but as long as you bear in mind that the prizes were awarded for sprigs of heathers displayed in vases on a show-bench, and not for heathers growing in gardens or trial beds, some information of value may be obtained. Remember also that these shows were held in London, at the Royal Horticultural Society's headquarters in Westminster, and thus the principal exhibitors were almost invariably members of the Society who lived within easy reach of Westminster. Another factor to bear in mind is that the competitions for heathers were held twice a year only, on designated dates which did not vary much from year to year, for more than 30 years, usually in mid-February and mid-August. Therefore the heathers shown tended to be the same ones because they were always in prime bloom at those times. Because shows were not held between March and July, June-blooming heathers do not feature at all; likewise those in the prime between September and January tend to be overlooked. Most prizes were awarded for *flowering* specimens, but the competitions did include groups judged for foliage colour foliage as well.

Not all the prizes recorded in the *Bulletin* were for the specially-arranged heather competition; some prizes were awarded at other shows when heathers might be entered as shrubs, for example.

So what is revealed by the *Bulletin*? Extracting the names of every heather that gained a prize – from first to fourth or highly commended – yielded a list of 370 *different* heathers; 147 were *Calluna*; 22 were *Daboecia*; 201 were *Erica*. 159 of these gained one or more first prizes; 183 gained at least a second prize; 161 attained at least third prize while 54 gained a fourth. "Highly Commended" was given to 18 cultivars.

The top five heathers on the show bench

The cultivar which gained more prizes than any other in RHS shows was *Calluna vulgaris* 'Tib': with 16 firsts, 13 seconds, 8 thirds and 1 fourth, all attained between 1972 and 1996, it is the undisputed overall winner! In fact 'Tib' gained the most firsts and the most seconds, as well as the highest total number of prizes. It is one of the earliest double-flowered *Calluna* to bloom, and tends to have an open, spreading habit, characteristics which must have made it well-suited for cutting and showing in a vase in August. A wild-collected plant, it came from the Pentland Hills, Scotland, where it was found by Miss Isobel ("Tib") Young. Introduced in 1938 by Maxwell and Beale, it is

¹ The index as a database (which can be read using Access 2000) may be obtained from *The Heather Society*; the CD-ROM costs £7.50.

still widely cultivated and readily available, and has retained its RHS AGM (Award of Garden Merit).

The next most rewarded heather gained 10 fewer prizes than 'Tib'; it was *Daboecia cantabrica* 'Praegerae' which is about the same vintage as 'Tib'. 'Praegerae' came from Connemara and was collected by Mrs Hedi Praeger in 1938; it was distributed from the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, in 1941. It was granted an Award of Merit by the RHS in 1970, but has never held the AGM. 'Praegerae' won 11 firsts and 10 seconds, and a grand total of 28 prizes between 1969 and 2000 – that's a "winning streak" lasting 31 years, compared with a mere 24 years for 'Tib'.

Indeed, the only other heather to have as long as record of prizewinning as 'Praegerae' is another Irish wilding, *Calluna vulgaris* 'County Wicklow' which came fifth in the overall league, gaining 21 prizes in 32 years. Its staying-power on the show bench is mirrored in the garden; like 'Tib' it holds the RHS AGM.

With only 11 first prizes each, neither *Daboecia cantabrica* 'Praegerae' nor *Calluna vulgaris* 'County Wicklow' gained as many firsts as *Erica cinerea* 'Champ's Hill' (13 firsts) or *Erica arborea* 'Albert's Gold' (12 firsts).

So the very best heathers on the show benches at the RHS in Westminster between 1967 and the present are, in order, *Calluna vulgaris* 'Tib', *Daboecia cantabrica* 'Praegerae', *Erica cinerea* 'Champ's Hill', *Erica arborea* 'Albert's Gold' and *Calluna vulgaris* 'County Wicklow'.

To underline the effect of the participation of two generations of Bowermans in the RHS heather competition, it is noteworthy that the top three bell heathers on the show bench were *Erica cinerea* 'Champ's Hill', 'Alfred Bowerman' (7 firsts) and 'Margaret Bowerman' (7 firsts). The latter is not commercially available any more (according to *Handy guide*, 3rd edition), and none of these cultivars has ever received an AGM. They arose, and were selected, at Champs Hill, the Bowermans' garden in Surrey.

More top-notch heathers

Teasing out the league table a bit more, I have combined the lists of those heathers that (a) gained 10 or more prizes, (b) 5 or more firsts, and (c) 4 or more seconds. This gives a combined total of 39 different heathers (see below), including 11 different species and 2 hybrids, and 32 cultivars. Of these 6 cultivars of *Calluna*, 1 of *Daboecia*, and 10 of *Erica* (all marked ?) are among the "100 best heathers" selected by The Heather Society (see *The Heather Society's guide to recommended heathers*).

***Calluna vulgaris* (9 cultivars)**

Double-flowered: 'Alba Plena' (white); 'County Wicklow'; J H Hamilton; 'Tib' ?.

Coloured-foliage: 'Beoley Gold' ?; 'Fred J. Chapple'; 'Golden Feather'.

White-flowered: 'Elegant Pearl'; 'Mair's Variety'; 'Serlei'.

Grey foliage: 'Silver Knight'; 'Silver Queen'.

***Daboecia cantabrica* (2 cultivars)**

white-flowered: f. *alba*.

red-flowered: 'Praegerae' ?.

Erica (9 species; 2 hybrids; 21 cultivars)*E. arborea* 'Albert's Gold'.*E. canaliculata*.*E. carnea* 'December Red'; 'Myretoun Ruby'; 'Snow Queen'.*E. cinerea* 'Alfred Bowerman'; 'Appleblossom'; 'Atrorubens'; 'Champs Hill'; 'Eden Valley'; 'Hookstone White'; 'Margaret Bowerman'; 'P. S. Patrick'; 'Snow Cream'; 'White Dale'.*E. +darleyensis* 'Arthur Johnson'; 'Silberschmelze' ?.*E. erigena* 'Golden Lady'.*E. lusitanica* ?.*E. manipuliflora*.*E. terminalis* ?.*E. vagans* 'Mrs D. F. Maxwell'; 'Rubra'; 'Valerie Proudley'.*E. +watsonii* 'Dawn' ?.**Conclusion**

One lesson that can safely be drawn from the list above is that if you are interested in growing heathers for showing (prize-winning!), you certainly should have *Calluna vulgaris* 'Tib' in your garden. And, it seems that any of the 39 heathers listed above should perform well as cut-flowers in vases and flower arrangements: after all they were judged the best after they had been cut and arranged in vases.

Top 25 heathers at RHS shows; the cultivars with the highest number of prizes.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	HC	Total
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Tib'	16	13	8	1		38
<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i> 'Praegerae'	11	10	6	1		28
<i>Erica vagans</i> 'Mrs D. F. Maxwell'	10	8	7	2		27
<i>Erica arborea</i> 'Albert's Gold'	12	2	6	1	1	22
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'County Wicklow'	11	6	4			21
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Silver Queen'	8	4	5	2		19
<i>Erica lusitanica</i>	5	5	5	1		16
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Champs Hill'	13	2				15
<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i> f. <i>alba</i>	6	4	4			14
<i>Erica erigena</i> 'Golden Lady'	5	7	2			14
<i>Erica carnea</i> 'Myretoun Ruby'	4	3	3	4		14
<i>Erica xdarleyensis</i> 'Arthur Johnson'	6	1	4	1	1	13
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Atrorubens'	6	6	1			13
<i>Erica xdarleyensis</i> 'Silberschmelze'	4	5	3			12
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Alba Plena'	1	10	1			12
<i>Erica canaliculata</i>	6	4	1			11
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Silver Knight'	5	3	3			11
<i>Erica manipuliflora</i>	5	2	4			11
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Mair's Variety'	5	5	1			11
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'P. S. Patrick'	2	2	6	1		11

<i>Erica carnea</i> 'Snow Queen'		11			11
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Alfred Bowerman'	7	1	2		10
<i>Erica terminalis</i>	6	3	1		10
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Hookstone White'	4	3	2	1	10
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'J. H. Hamilton'	3	3	4		10

Top 25 heathers as judged at RHS shows: the winners of most first prizes.

<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Tib'	16
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Champs Hill'	13
<i>Erica arborea</i> 'Albert's Gold'	12
<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i> 'Praegerae'	11
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'County Wicklow'	11
<i>Erica vagans</i> 'Mrs D. F. Maxwell'	10
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Silver Queen'	8
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Alfred Bowerman'	7
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Margaret Bowerman'	7
<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i> f. <i>alba</i>	6
<i>Erica x darleyensis</i> 'Arthur Johnson'	6
<i>Erica canaliculata</i>	6
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Atrorubens'	6
<i>Erica terminalis</i>	6
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Elegant Pearl'	6
<i>Erica lusitanica</i>	5
<i>Erica erigena</i> 'Golden Lady'	5
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Mair's Variety'	5
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Silver Knight'	5
<i>Erica manipuliflora</i>	5
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Golden Feather'	5
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'White Dale'	5
<i>Erica x watsonii</i> 'Dawn'	5
<i>Erica vagans</i> 'Valerie Proudley'	5
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Serlei'	5

**Top 21 heathers as judged at RHS shows: the winners of seconds
(other cultivars gained fewer than 4 seconds)**

<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Tib'	13
<i>Erica carnea</i> 'Snow Queen'	11
<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i> 'Praegerae'	10
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Alba Plena'	10
<i>Erica vagans</i> 'Mrs D. F. Maxwell'	8
<i>Erica erigena</i> 'Golden Lady'	7
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'County Wicklow'	6
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Atrorubens'	6
<i>Erica lusitanica</i>	5
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Mair's Variety'	5

<i>Erica xdarleyensis</i> 'Silberschmelze'	5
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Eden Valley'	5
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Snow Cream'	5
<i>Erica cinerea</i> 'Apple Blossom'	5
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Silver Queen'	4
<i>Daboecia cantabrica</i> f. <i>alba</i>	4
<i>Erica canaliculata</i>	4
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Beoley Gold'	4
<i>Erica carnea</i> 'December Red'	4
<i>Erica vagans</i> 'Rubra'	4
<i>Calluna vulgaris</i> 'Fred. J. Chapple'	4

Ericas in southern Africa,

by H. A. Baker and E.G. H. Oliver (1967): an autographed copy

As I have two copies of this book, a classic of heather literature beautifully illustrated with watercolours, I am offering one copy for sale. It contains descriptions and illustrations of 167 Cape heaths. The book itself is in excellent condition although the dust-jacket is a little soiled and there are small tears in it but these do not affect the appearance and can be easily and "invisibly" repaired. The copy has the inscription "K. C. Morgan 1973" on the fly-leaf and it is autographed on the title-page by E. G. H. (Ted) Oliver. (As a bonus, I will also include a copy of Colonel H. A. Baker's paper in which he named *Erica oliveri* after Ted; this was illustrated by Ted himself (he is no mean artist!))

If any member is interested please contact me directly. The copy is on offer for £75 (which includes the cost of next-day delivery by Royal Mail).

E. C. Nelson (registrar@zetnet.co.uk)

Tippitiwichee Cottage, Hall Road, Outwell, Wisbech PE14 8PE.

Heathers 2 (2005): corrigenda

E. Charles Nelson (Hon. Editor, *Yearbook of the Heather Society*).

Despite the best endeavours of everyone concerned with the production of the present yearbook, there are several regrettable errors in Richard Canovan's article. Please note the following corrections.

p. 3: the final sentence of the middle paragraph should read: These trends since 1989 are vividly illustrated in Figure 2.

p. 9: the caption to Figure 6 is incorrect. It should read: One of the unnamed Dalmatian clones of *Erica manipuliiflora* (AWJ5) in full bloom as *E. vagans* 'Birch Glow' fades; *E. erigena* 'Glaucia' is in the background and golden-foliaged *E. carnea* 'Golden Starlet' is just visible (left) (© R. Canovan).

p. 9: insert a reference to Figure 6 in the second sentence of the first paragraph, after the phrase "unnamed Dalmatian clones".

p. 10: delete the reference to Figure 6 in the first sentence of the second paragraph.

I should also make clear that while Figure 6 shows plants growing in Richard Canovan's garden at Toothill, the plants in Figure 3, 4 and 5 were not photographed there; those illustrations were selected from The Heather Society's slide library.

p. 57 the heading should read © E. C. Nelson & E. G. H. Oliver.
I apologise for these errors and omissions.

Offprints about Cape heaths

Recently I was asked to find "homes" for a set of offprints (papers extracted from scientific periodicals). Having extracted a set for *The Heather Society*, I find there are duplicates of some papers and any member of the Heather Society interested in them is welcome to have these copies. The papers are by Colonel H. A. Baker (co-author with Ted Oliver of *Ericas in southern Africa*), and were published in the *Journal of South African botany* between 1962 and 1973; species named in them include (for example) *E. altevovens* (illustrated with line drawings by Ted Oliver), *E. kougabergensis*, *E. obconica*, *E. turrisbabylonica* and *E. oliveri* (1962; there is only one copy of this particular offprint).

The "full set" comprises 8 papers. As there were up to three copies of some papers, there is also a set of 4 papers (including the one of *E. altevovens*). I will distribute the two sets on a first-come, first-served basis.

E. C. Nelson (registrar@zetnet.co.uk)

Tippitiwichee Cottage, Hall Road, Outwell, Wisbech PE14 8PE.

Members' gardens: response to the survey.

E C Nelson

I am very grateful to those members who have responded to the survey. As of 15 April (when I am writing this), I have received 14 replies from UK members, and 9 from overseas' members (Sweden, Norway, Denmark, France, USA, Germany, Holland). Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

According to the 2004 membership list there are some 380 gardens in the care of our members, around 290 in the UK and 80 elsewhere in the world. There is still plenty of time to fill in your form - it has no closing date on it - and send it. It would be good to have a 50% rate of reply, rather than 6%! 100% would be even better!!

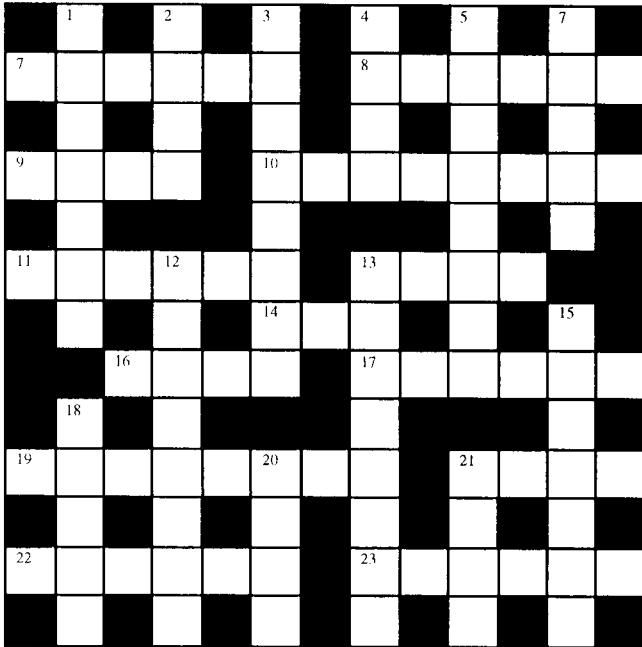
An Invitation to Call

Our administrator, Anne Small recently received a letter from a French member of the Society, Sylvie Kirsch. She and her husband are artists.

Sylvia extends an invitation to any Heather Society members who should be travelling near Meymac, to call and visit her garden. Her address is: Le Domaine du Lac 19250 Meymac, France. www.domainedulac.net

A Heathery Crossword

Member, Colin Rogers, has sent the following crossword and our Registrar, Charles Nelson has offered prizes for the winner and runner-up. I had a go at it before I knew the answers and couldn't get very far at all (not that that means a lot!) so it's up to all you crossword buffs to see how well you can do. (Ed).



ACROSS

- 7. Tan her often to look brown (6)
- 8. They're not arcane in *my* garden (6)
- 9. Flower of eleven heathers (4)
- 10. *E. vag.* (e.g.) flowering in spring (8)
- 11. No heather has this colour (6)
- 13. 4 down will feel at home here (4)
- 14. No saint, in *E. vag.* 'St Keveme'! (3)
- 16. Most *E. tetralix* foliage (4)
- 17. Mr. Attlee hid his favourite heather (5)
- 19. Common twice! (7)
- 21. Urn is to AGM (4)
- 22. For example, Kurt Kramer rang me, very excited! (6)
- 23. This *Calluna* is prostrate, but surrounded by energy. (6)

DOWN

- 1. Is Ann able to be a *Calluna*?
- 2. Young grouse eating heather should not be (4)
- 3. Val's yellow (8)
- 4. Heather's nationality, according to some (4)
- 5. Heard that the sailor was in Birmingham for a long time (8)
- 6. Yet some would give this a gold star (5)
- 12. These heathers can result in an awful gyro mess! (4, 4)
- 13. Darn! Bees buzzing around this heather (8)
- 15. Used for heather in the greenhouse but not in the garden (7)
- 18. One heather losing a degree is still excellent (5)
- 20. Some consider *E. carnea*. 'Springwood White's growth! (4)
- 21. Dark rodents move backwards! (4)

A practical way of dispensing sulphur

Jens Kjaerbol, pharmacist.

Vellingvej 5, 8654 Bryrup, Denmark.

In the *Yearbook* 2004, p. 24, Jean Julian writes about dispensing flowers of sulphur with the aim of lowering the pH of the soil for heathers. "This was a thankless job, because it could only be done wearing protective clothing on a dry, windless day, and so it was never completed because insufficient suitable days occurred."

I have experiences with dispensing flowers of sulphur (powdered sulphur), because during the last twenty years I have several times spread sulphur over my heather beds with more than 4.000 heathers.

Take a bucket of twenty litres. Add a volume of coarse sand corresponding to the volume/weight you have calculated for sulphur to your heather bed. Coarse sand is better than fine sand, if normal wind is blowing. Mix with for example a garden trowel. Add twice as much of sand and mix again. Add water a little a little at a time until the mixture doesn't raise dust, but not so much that the mixture becomes mushy. The difference in addition of water from appropriate to mushy is little. But don't be afraid if the mixture becomes mushy, add more sand until the appropriate consistency is reached. In fact you can add much more sand, it doesn't matter - spread over the bed the amount of sulphur is still the same. The sulphur-sand mixture can easily be spread, even if some wind is blowing. The flowers of sulphur stick to the wet sand. The quickest and deepest acidifying is achieved when the sulphur-sand is mixed into the earth before planting.

From my theoretical knowledge with sulphur and especially my practical use, I can say, sulphur is harmless to the skin. I have spread the mixture each time with hands without gloves. But a larger amount can wear out a little on your fingertips because of the sand. With respect to the clothes, sulphur is not more harmful than earth.

Using flowers of sulphur you should pay attention on the quality. The very pure is rather expensive but hardly better for acidifying a heather bed. The lower quality is so cheap, that acidifying the soil no way should be a question about money.

From Thirty Years Ago - (but still relevant today)

Small Bulbs in the Heather

Lord Skelmersdale, Taunton, Somerset

(Reproduced from the 1975 *Yearbook*)

I have no doubt that members of *The Heather Society* have no need to be reminded that heaths and heathers provide, through the choice of species and varieties, flower on practically every day of the year. You may, however, be surprised to learn that another group of flowers have the same characteristic.

In the last two and a half years, since I took over Broadleigh Gardens and moved it to Taunton, there has been at least one small bulb in flower on every day of the year. The importance of this similarity between the two groups of plants may have escaped you in the past, but I hope to show that the heather bed can be enhanced by the addition of a few small bulbs.

The first point to consider is that it is possible to prolong the flowering season in certain parts of the heather bed, using the out-of-flower heathers as a foil for the widely differing colours provided by a broad field of small flowering bulbs. You may be worried that the heathers will swamp the bulbs, but this is very often an asset rather than a liability. One thinks immediately of *Alliums* grown through a tight wedge of some of the *Erica carnea* varieties, giving an unexpected splash of colour in June and July. *A. neapolitanum* with heads of white lace-like flowers on 18 in. stems looks particularly stunning when grown through the dark green background of the *Ericas*.

Another example is the dramatic effect given by underplanting *Allium moly*, commonly called the Golden Garlic. Please don't be put off by the name; the plant only smells when the leaves or stems are bruised or picked. Another genus of bulbs in this context would be the summer-flowering *Triteleias*. These again produce small heads of masses of star-shaped flowers, in various shades of blue, or, more rarely, white *t. hyacinthia* (24 inches, white); *t. laxa* (18 inches deep blue) which looks especially fine amongst the variegated heaths, and *t. Tubergenii* (15 inches, pale blue with a deeper exterior) should all be considered.

A quick look through any bulb catalogue will give you endless combinations to try, bearing in mind that the bulbs chosen for under-planting must be tidy growers and tall enough to hold their flowers above the shrubs. Unfortunately this precludes the many species and varieties of narcissi and tulip which look ridiculously out of place. My own choice of spring bulbs amongst the summer-flowering *Daboecia cantabrica* and *Calluna vulgaris* would be the Snakes Head Iris (*I. tuberosa*), which has very sweetly scented green flowers with a fur-like black blotch and 12 inch stem and which is outstanding against a variegated background. Against a dark background I would choose *Ornithogalum nutans*, which has 12 inch tall stems on the top third of which hang masses of silvery-white bells with a broad white stripe on the outside of the petals, giving the impression of a vivid glistening jade. But my piece de resistance would be a complementary planting of *Erica carnea* 'Winter Beauty' with the silvery lavender *Crocus tomasinianus*, this to my way of thinking is quite superb.

Although to some people the ideal heather bed consists of a solid planting of different kinds of heathers, with the interest being given by a choice of varieties having different heights, shapes, flowering times, leaf form and colour, my own preference is to have sudden pockets of different plants. I find that this is not only restful to the eye, but provides me with the ideal conditions to grow some of my favourite bulbs. Inevitably any bed must have a front edge and I would have the occasional bay cut out. If these were in full sun I would grow the true autumn crocuses (not *Colchicums* which are barred

because of their two-foot high leaves). A sudden splash of autumn colour would be given by the yellow *Sternbergia lutea* which likes a dry, sunny position. In the spring *Scilla* 'Spring Beauty' with its dark blue bells would stand out against *Calluna vulgaris* 'Golden Feather' and the delightful *Puschkinia libanotica* with its 4 in. stems or tiny upturned silvery-blue star-shaped flowers against *E.carnea* 'Springwood Pink'.

Should the bays be shady, I would immediately think towards the winter-flowering *Cyclamen coum* with its shiny round leaves and its choice of colours, either white, carmine or pink. In a damper spot what could look nicer than the wild English Snakes Head Fritillary, *Fritillaria meleagris* or the Canadian wood lily, *Trillium grandiflorum*, with its large white flowers. A sudden patch of snowdrops looks quite stunning against a dark background on a cold February day. Indeed the list is endless and depends entirely on personal preferences. I do hope though that, among the more specialist articles in this *Yearbook*, I have given you food for thought and perhaps both your reading and your gardening (dare I say it?) some light relief.

Dwarf Heathers & Old Sinks

E.M.B

(Reproduced from the 1975 Summer Bulletin)

It is often difficult to find a suitable spot in the main heather garden to plant the very smallest heaths and heathers. Old stone troughs make very attractive containers for dwarf plants, but not many of us are lucky enough to have a supply of these. Here is a method of disguising the old white glazed sink.

First scrub and thoroughly clean the sink. When it is quite dry, coat it with a thin film of *Unibond* or any of the modern bonding adhesives. Leave until tacky. The covering material or 'Hypertufa' is made in the following manner: Two parts by bulk of sifted peat, one part coarse sand, one part cement. Mix ingredients thoroughly while dry. Add water and continue mixing until consistency is such that the mixture can be applied to the sides of the sink without sliding off. Apply a half-inch thick layer to the outside of the sink and down inside the top edge for a few inches so that no white glazing will be visible when the sink is filled. Leave drainage hole clear. Let the finish be fairly rough in imitation of real stone. As the material hardens, further tool marks may be added. Leave for about a week to thoroughly set.

If possible raise the container up off the ground about 18" on a couple of brick or stone pillars. Tilt one end slightly so that excess water will run towards the drainage hole. Cover hole with large piece of crock. Cover bottom of trough with thin layer of drainage material - lime free chippings-or broken crocks - over this spread a thin layer of peat to help stop compost trickling down into drainage material. Fill trough to within an inch of top with compost, John Innes potting (lime free) with extra damp peat added; or if you prefer to make up your own mixture - 2 parts sieved lime-free loam, 2 parts damp peat and 1 part sharp sand. If you wish to put any rocks in the trough now is the

time to do so. A few well-placed matching pieces will help to keep the roots of the plants cool. Leave the prepared trough for-a day or two to allow the compost to settle.

Plants for large and medium troughs - **this is a selection - choice and arrangement is up to the individual.**

Calluna vulgaris 'Californian Midge', 'Foxii Nana', 'Multicolor', 'Mousehole', 'Sister Anne', 'Mrs. Ronald Gray'.

Erica cinerea 'Mrs.Dill', 'Honeymoon', 'Golden Drop'.

Erica carnea 'Eileen Porter', 'Rosy Gem', 'Praecox Rubra', 'Myretoun Ruby'.

Dwarf conifer - ***Picea mariana* 'Nana' or *Cryptomeria japonica* 'Vilmoriniana'.**

Plants for small troughs

Calluna vulgaris 'Minima', 'Pygmaea', 'Humpty Dumpty', 'Dainty Bess', 'Velvet Dome'

Erica cinerea 'Honeymoon', 'Mrs.Dill'.

Dwarf trees: ***Juniperus communis* 'Compressa'. *Salix* 'Boydii'. *Sorbus reducta*.**

When planting is finished, cover all bare soil with stone chippings. This will help to conserve moisture and protect the small plants from mud splashes. Most of the plants except the dwarfest *Callunas* will need a certain amount of trimming from time to time. Attention to watering will have to be given in dry weather, otherwise upkeep is of the minimum.

OBITUARIES

Peter Hancock

It was with great regret that I learnt of the death of Mr Peter Hancock in April 2005.

He was 95 and I understand had remained bright and alert in his final months, despite failing eyesight. Peter was a very capable man with a practical bent.

I got to know Peter and his charming wife Joan well during my time as Organiser of the Southern Group. Peter and Joan were long standing members of the Group and attended most of the meetings. The Group was occasionally invited to visit their lovely home in a leafy road off Kingston Hill. I have wonderful memories of their splendid heather garden and warm hospitality.

The garden was situated in a long-disused sand quarry, ideal for growing heather, which formed a delightful dell. It was planted with mature trees and rhododendrons as well as a good collection of heathers.

Joan and Peter were among the 9 people who ventured out on a rainy Wednesday in August 1992 for the one and only "Playboys and Pensioners" outing. My wife Joan and I were the only persons present who were neither playboys nor pensioners and it was mainly pressure of work that prevented me organising another outing in the series. As it was we had a wonderful day

together and the event triggered some warm personal friendships, not least between Joan and Peter and my wife and myself.

I know that many members of the old Southern Group will remember Peter with affection and respect and will join me in expressing condolences to Joan.

Allen Hall

Syd Courtney

It is with regret that I report the death of Syd Courtney who died on March 5th, 2005. He had been in poor health for some time and passed away shortly after his 96th birthday.

Syd was a founder member of the North East Group and put a lot of time and effort into establishing a firm foundation. He was an enthusiastic member and always supported events wholeheartedly. He will be missed and we send our condolences to his family.

Dorothy Warner.

Letters to the Editor

Erica carnea Seedlings

I see that Brita is still interested in *Erica carnea* seedlings. Some years ago General Turpin asked me (rhetorically, I think) if I had ever seen a *carnea* seedling and I had to confess that I had not. I still cannot say that I have seen *carnea* seedlings in the open garden, though we do get seedlings of other species such as *Calluna*, *vagans*, *Daboecia* and *arborea*.

However a number of years ago I produced about 20 *carnea* plants selected from many more seedlings. In our last house heathers including *carnea* grew over a boundary curb onto the adjacent public footpath. I used to sweep up dust and other debris from under these plants and on one occasion I gathered some of the dust and spread it over compost in a seed tray because there were many dead flower heads in the debris. I covered the seed tray with clear plastic and left it in a shady spot under a north wall and forgot about it. Some weeks later, I discovered innumerable seedlings growing in the tray. I pricked out some of the more interesting ones (I certainly had no room for them all) mainly selecting those with golden or deep green foliage.

The plants were growing into plantable size when we moved here 8 years ago and they went into our present garden. One turned into a splendid white the equal, and probably a seedling of 'Springwood White'. Several resembled 'Westwood Yellow'. One was a shade paler than 'Myretoun Ruby' and another looked like 'Vivellii'. Most of these plants still do well for me and have the habit of *E. carnea*, i.e. they do not appear to be *Ex darleyensis*. Since none of these seedlings surpass named varieties, I have not thought of naming them. One plant however has flowers that look like 'Bells Extra Special' but has foliage not dissimilar to 'Jack H Brummage'. It might be worth propagating. I enjoyed the experiment and now enjoy the flowers.

I think my experiment demonstrates that climate, or at any rate ambient temperature, is not a factor in the apparent lack of germination of *E. carnea*

in England. It could be that in crowded domestic gardens, the parent plants smother their would-be offspring but I have no answer to the question Brita poses. I will however keep my eyes open for *carnea* seedlings this year.

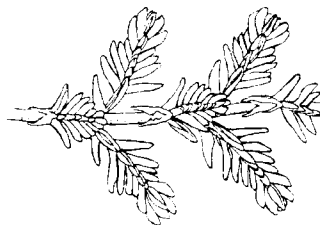
Allen Hall

A Great Analogy!

At a recent computer expo (COMDEX), Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If GM had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25.00 cars that did 1,000 miles to the gallon."

In response to Bill's comments, General Motors issued a press release stating; If CM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.
4. Occasionally, executing a manoeuvre such as a left turn, would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive – but would run on only five percent of the roads.
6. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light.
7. The airbag system would ask "Are you sure?" before deploying.
8. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
9. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
10. You'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off.



Group News

Yorkshire

The Yorkshire Heather Group met on Saturday, 5th March 2005 at Harlow Carr study Centre for a talk by Michael Myers on "Winter Colour". This was mostly about colour from various plants, shrubs in the garden with a sprinkling of heather.

We intend to visit the new Walled Garden at Scampston Hall near Malton, hopefully on **Saturday, 2nd July**, followed by a talk at Harlow Carr on **Saturday, 17th September**. This will probably be on "National Collections in the Yorkshire Area" but the arrangements have to be finalised.

Jean Julian

North East

Members and their friends of the Heather Society, numbering 48 enjoyed a wonderful day out to Newby Hall in North Yorkshire on May 8th. The added attraction that day was the Annual Plant Sale and many took advantage of this, even a Berberis travelling home on the coach — but safely on the back seat!



Dorothy Warner (left) enjoying a joke with Beryl and David Mayne

Our next outing by cars will be to Bide-a-Wee Garden near Morpeth on **July 6th**. We will meet for lunch at Heighly Gate Garden Centre and then go on to the garden in the afternoon. Schedules will be sent later for the Annual Show to be held in the Memorial Hall, Ponteland, on **Saturday, September 10th**. Staging will take place between 9.00 and 11.00a.m, when Judging commences, then it will be open to the Public from 1.00 to 4.00 pm. Do please support this, as the signs are there that we are beginning to struggle to make a show. The public enjoy looking at the heathers but, sadly, have no wish to join us.

The A.G.M. is on **Friday October 28th, at 2.30pm. Please note the new time.** This is to save everyone turning out in the dark and, more importantly, to help those who travel a distance. It will be held as usual in St Matthew's Church Hall, Ponteland, with slides and tea and biscuits after the business.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Dorothy M Warner

East Midlands

The long awaited visit of the East Midlands Group to Kingfisher Nursery took place on 12th March 2005. Regrettably I was not part of it because I was laid low by a vicious attack of the 'flu. However, I compile this report with help from some of those who did attend.

In fact the event attracted the attendance of some eminent members of the Society namely the President, David Small, the Chairman Arnold Stow and Josey Stow, the Editor of *Heathers*, Dr E Charles Nelson and, perhaps most importantly, Mr and Mrs Peter Bingham, our hosts, the Proprietors of the Nursery, themselves members of *The Heather Society*, and indeed of the East Midlands Group. On this occasion, the East Midlands Group was joined by members of the Home Counties Group. There were 17 *Heather Society* members and friends present altogether. The day was cold but dry and the refreshments Mr & Mrs Bingham provided were welcome.

Mr & Mrs Bingham began growing heathers in a small way at the Kingfisher site in 1973. Kingfisher became a solely wholesale heather nursery 10 years later and the site that began modestly in 1973 has now expanded to over 4 hectares and produces more than 900,000 plants annually. The Kingfisher nursery can claim to be a specialist heather nursery not only because heathers are its chief product but also because of the wide range of heathers grown and the caring way in which they are grown. Moreover the Nursery offers a good selection of heathers in the popular varieties, from old favourites to new introductions.

Kingfisher ensures that hardy heathers are healthy when sold by using generous pot sizes to produce strong, well-branched plants. These are grown from specially selected stock plants to ensure trueness to type and the heathers are grown outdoors to ensure hardiness. In windswept Lincolnshire, plants grown outdoors will certainly be hardy.

The Nursery is also careful to offer advice on cultivation of heathers, and, in particular, on which species are lime tolerant and which are not. This is why the Nursery has developed its exclusive range of colour-coded point of sale material. The plants are delivered in green trays for lime tolerant plants and red trays for acid lovers, with matching picture labels in each pot. They also supply weatherproof posters to explain and emphasise the coding system. This has been well received in the trade and has helped to boost heather sales on many outlets

Kingfisher Nursery is the only heather grower accredited by the British Ornamental Plant Producers (B.O.P.P.) - the leading accreditation body for ornamentals. This demonstrates their commitment to doing the job properly, not only in terms of plant quality and customer service, but also with regard to employment conditions, health and safety, care for the environment, and overall traceability.

At the end of an interesting tour, Mr Bingham, who had arrived home from South Africa only the previous evening, showed some pictures of his visit there.

Appreciation for this excellent tour was expressed by Mr Arnold Stow, our Chairman and particular thanks were due to Mr Bingham for taking time from his very busy schedule to spend with members of the East Midlands and Home Counties Groups.

Summer 2005

Mr Bob Rope invites us to see his garden at 38, Vernon Crescent, Ravenshead, Nottingham on **17 September**. The meeting is scheduled for a 2 pm start. Bob has a lovely heather garden that is well worth visiting.

Ravenshead is about 12 miles north of Nottingham and lies just east of the A60 Nottingham - Mansfield road. Newstead Abbey is a good land mark. The entrance to the Abbey Park is on the west of the A60. Almost opposite this entrance is a turn into Longdale Lane. Drive south down Longdale Lane and where the houses end on the right hand (east) side, turn left into Longdale Avenue. Longdale Avenue leads into Vernon Crescent. Turn left into the Crescent and No 38 is the second bungalow on the left. Incidentally, the nearest junction on the M1 motorway is No 27.

I hope that is clear but I will as usual circulate a sketch of the route nearer the date to members of the Group. Members of other groups may obtain one by sending me a stamped addressed envelope or by e-mailing me (halla32@tiscali.co.uk).

Our Host intends to provide light refreshments and, in order to enable him to cater, it would be helpful if those intending to come would let me know, preferably by August 31st. Have a good Summer!

Allen Hall

Home Counties

The annual Wisley Meeting of the Home Counties Group will take place on **Saturday 1st October**. We shall meet outside the RHS shop at 11.00 am for our customary inspection of the Heather Gardens, the afternoon meeting at 2.00 pm, with speaker and tea will be in the Garden Hall of the Hillside Events Centre which is alongside the main greenhouse. There will of course be the usual table show, the classes for which are as follows:

- 1) Best flower arrangement in which heathers predominate - (Turpin Trophy)
- 2) Best vase of hardy heather in flower, single variety
- 3) Best vase of heather chosen for foliage

Please let me know by Saturday 24th September if you will be attending.

Derek Millis

South West

As you are all already aware the meeting reported on below was the last organised meeting of the South West Group with myself as organiser. However, so that we don't lose touch with each other, I will put a casual arrangement into place. I will announce via the Bulletin only, that Lin and I will attend a public garden(s) on a certain date and you, the members, will be welcome to join us for the walk around that garden. However for this year there is another opportunity to get together and that is at the 2005 *Heather Society* Conference being held in Bournemouth, please see below.

So, to the report on the last meeting: On Saturday 12th March, South West Group members met at the Lytchett Matravers Village Hall in Dorset for a talk with slides and the annual Table Show. The weather was bright and breezy and from the Village Hall there was a magnificent view over Poole Harbour and the Purbeck Hills, so different to last year when drizzly rain obscured the view altogether. I was pleased to have some of our regular members present giving a total of 19 persons including Lin and myself. The talk for the first part of the afternoon took the form of a compilation of slides of past meetings and Conferences and we were able to reminisce over the many memories from those years. We all enjoyed seeing again those gardens and nurseries we have visited and of course were reminded of those good friends that have passed by the wayside. After the talk the members enjoyed the social part of the afternoon taking refreshment and chatting on our favourite topic. The Table Show was then judged and the results were as follows:

Class 1 A vase or bowl of heathers in bloom

1st Phil Joyner 2nd Anne Pringle

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

1st Anne Pringle 2nd Phil Joyner

Anne Pringle and I were joint winners of the Burfitt Bowl for the most points overall. My thanks go to my wife Lin for providing the refreshments and to her

and several of the members for their work in the kitchen. Thanks are also due to Lorna Farrow for judging the Table Show. Finally I must mention the late Joyce Burfitt whose idea it was to have an annual indoor meeting in Lytchett Matravers and to introduce the Table Show as part of the afternoon's programme and to whose memory the Burfitt Bowl was dedicated.

Friday 9th - Monday 12th September

The 2005 *Heather Society* gathering, incorporating the Annual Conference and the AGM, will be held on SW Group territory, in Bournemouth. I hope that SW Group members will take the opportunity to get involved either as residential or day visitors or even as visitors at a particular event. Please see details elsewhere in this *Bulletin*

I will announce the garden(s) that Lin and I intend to visit in 2006 in either the next Autumn or Spring *Bulletin*. I finish this report by thanking you all for your support and friendship during the many years that I have organised the programme of the events.

Phil Joyner

An Appreciation

Arnold Stow - Chairman

I would very much like to place on record the excellent work carried out by Phil Joyner for the South West Group over a period of over 25 years. I know that he has had to step down, reluctantly, due to the demanding pressures of being treasurer, a vital position in the Society's workings.

Many members, both local and farther afield have benefited from the many meetings and garden visits that he arranged and the absence of these in the *Heather Society* calendar is a regrettable loss. Whilst thanking Phil for his endeavours may I make a plea for another member to take up the reins and follow in his footsteps. It need only be one indoor meeting at Lytchett Matravers in the spring with one garden visit later on. I am sure that the local members will not want to lose touch with each other as I found myself what a friendly group they are.

Nurseryman members

W = wholesale nursery only. Retail customers are reminded that wholesale nurseries are strictly that and will not welcome retail enquiries.

R = retail nursery

MO = nursery will supply by mail order

Zone 1 - Scotland

W R MO

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Yes Yes Yes | Mr & Mrs J Davidson, Highland Heathers, Muirend, COMRIE, PERTHSHIRE, PH6 2JA. |
| Yes No No | Mr. & Mrs. G Gow, Perthshire Heathers, The Farl, Forgandenny, PERTH, PH2 9DB. |
| Yes Yes Yes | Mr. D.A. Lambie, Speyside Heather Centre, West End, Skye of Curr, DULNAIN BRIDGE, INVERNESS-SHIRE, PH26 3PA. |
| Yes Yes No | Mr. D. Sturrock, Angus Plants & Crafts, Crosston Farm, by Letham, FORFAR, ANGUS, DD8 2NZ. |

Zone 2 - Ireland

W R MO

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Yes Yes No | Mr. & Mrs. D. Kerins, Fernhurst Garden Nurseries, Killowen, KENMARE, CO. KERRY, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND. |
| No Yes No | Mr. G. Willis, Kiltarnan Nurseries, Old Post Office, KILTARNAN, |

CO. DUBLIN, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND.

Zone 4 – England: Northwest

W R MO

Yes No No Mr. T. Foden, Foden Nurseries, Rowley House, Kermincham, HOLMES CHAPEL, CHESHIRE, CW4 8DX.

Yes Yes Yes Mr. T.J. Okell, Okell's Nurseries, Duddon Heath, Nr. TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE, CW6 0EP.

Zone 7 – England: West Midlands

W R MO

No Yes Yes Mr. L.J. Coates, 64a Church Street, Charlton Kings, CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GL53 8AS.

Yes Yes No Mr. & Mrs. R. Warner, Barncroft Nurseries, Dunwood Lane, Longsdon, STOKES-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE, ST9 9QW.

Zone 11 – England: Southern

W R MO

Yes Yes Yes Mr. J. Fitz-Earle, 78 Woodland Way, WEST WICKHAM, KENT, BR4 9LR.

Yes Yes Yes Mr. J. Martin, Hillway Nursery, Felbridge, EAST GRINSTEAD, W. SUSSEX RH19 2PS.

No Yes No Mr. S. Moody, 2 Chiltern Cottages, Vicarage Lane, Burwash Common, ETCHINGHAM, E. SUSSEX, TN19 7LN.

Zone 12 – England: Southwest

W R MO

Yes No No Mr D. M. Edge, Forest Edge Nursery, Verwood Road, Woodlands, WIMBORNE, DORSET, BH21 6LJ.

Yes No No Mr. M.C.C. Skinner, Combe Florey Nursery, Combe Florey, TAUNTON, SOMERSET, TA4 3JE.

Zone 13 – England: Far West

W R MO

Yes No Yes Mr. A. Powell, Talaton Plants, 1 Ivy Cottages, Talaton, EXETER, DEVON, EX5 2SD.

Zone 14.1 – Australasia

W R MO

Yes Yes No Mrs. M.L. Hughes, Blue Mountain Nurseries, 99 Bushy Hill Street, Tapanui, WEST OTAGO, NEW ZEALAND.

Yes No No Mr. & Mrs. D.A. Phillips, Ericaflora, P.O. Box 206, MONBULK, VICTORIA 3793, AUSTRALIA.

Zone 14.2 – Canada

W R MO

No Yes Yes Mr. D. Wilson, 6605 Hopedale Road, CHILLIWACK, BRITISH COLUMBIA, V2R 4L4, CANADA.

Zone 14.3 – Europe

W R MO

Yes Yes No Mr. G. van Hoef, Esweg 15, 3771 BARNEVELD, NEDERLAND.

Yes No No Mr. K. Kramer, Edammer Straße 26, 26188 EDEWECHT, GERMANY.

Yes No No Mr. J. van Leuven, Ilmenweg 39, 47608 Geldern, GERMANY.

Yes No No Hr. O. Søndergaard, GL. Sunds Planteskole, Gl. Sundsvej 15, DK-7451 SUNDS, DENMARK.

Yes Yes No Mr. & Mrs. J. Stadler, 32 rue du Pont Noir, 74100 AMBILLY, FRANCE.

No Yes No Mr. H. Westermann, Baumschulenweg 2, 29646 BISPINGEN, GERMANY.

Yes No No Mr. R. Wolski, Kwalifikowane Szkołki Owocowe i Róż. ul. Srebrna Dabrowa 18, Konstanytown Łódzki 95-050, POLAND.

Zone 14.6 – U.S.A.

W R MO

No Yes No Mr. W.T. Dowley, New England Heather, 28 Hurricane Road, KEENE, NH 03431, U.S.A.

No Yes No Mrs. G. Couch-Carlberg, Glenmar Heather Nursery Inc., P.O. Box 479, BAYSIDE, CA 95524-0479, U.S.A.

Yes Yes No Mr. A.H. Pilch, Log House Heathers, 70 Ajuga Drive, SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA 28779, U.S.A.

Yes Yes No Mrs. S.D. Ewalt, Woodville Nursery, 2850 Sykes Creek Road, ROGUE RIVER, OREGON 97537, U.S.A.

The British Conifer Society

Why not join **The British Conifer Society** – a newly formed group bringing together people with an interest in conifers.

Contact:

BCS Secretary
Bedgebury National Pinetum
Goudhurst
Kent
TN17 1SL
Tel: 01580211044 ext 231
E-mail: daniel.luscombe@forestry.gsi.gov.uk



Or download a membership application from our web site:
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- Group Organisers** *(Remember, you will be very welcome at any local meeting or visit!)*
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