

Bulletin of The Heather Society



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Vol. 5 No. 5

Summer 1995

DIARY OF EVENTS

1995

19 July	North East Group	Bill Crow's Nursery, Scots Gap
15 July	South West Group	Aurelia Gardens
23 July	Southern Group	Springfield
15/16 August	RHS Show & Heather Comp. Vincent Square	
16 August	Heather Society	Council Meeting
8/10 Sept.	25th Annual Conference	
20 September	Closing Date for the Autumn Bulletin	
24 September	North East Group	Annual Show
30 September	Southern Group	RHS Wisley
30 September	South West Group	RHS Wisley
27 October	North East Group	Annual General Meeting



A Registered Charity No. 261407

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Cover illustration *Erica ciliaris* 'Stoborough' by Brita Johannson

EDITORIAL

Earlier this year (on St. Patrick's Day in fact) Dr. Charles Nelson of Dublin (the Editor of the Yearbook) announced his Engagement to Dr. Sue Robinson, of Wisbech. I am sure that you would all wish to join me in sending Charles our Congratulations, and in wishing them both much happiness in the future. The date of the wedding has not yet been announced - but I will keep you posted.

The Dublin Conference seems set to be a bumper one and the Field Trip which precedes it will be more like an invasion than anything else, with large contingents attending from Germany and America, as well as members from Italy, Norway, Holland, and the UK; 62 for the field trip and 74 for the Conference at the last count.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 1995 Annual General Meeting will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday 10th September, at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin. An Agenda for the Meeting is enclosed with this issue of the *Bulletin*.

25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 25th Annual Conference will be held on 8th-10th September at the National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin to mark the bi-centenary of the founding of the Gardens. The programme remains substantially the same as described in the Spring *Bulletin*.

The cost is £130 from 16.00 Friday to 10.00 Monday or £15 per day (09.30 to 21.00, Sunday dinner extra. Irish members can pay in punts at the same rates. Cheques should be made payable to the Heather Society and sent to: Mrs. A. Small, Denbeigh, All Saints Road, Creeting St. Mary, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 8PJ.

Please note - full payment must be made by 31 July

FIELD TRIP TO CONNEMARA

I regret that the field trip to Connemara is fully booked. Those on the trip have been sent details of travel and accommodation arrangements. Should you, by any chance, not have heard, contact Anne on 01449 711 220 or from abroad +44 1449 711 220 either by FAX or telephone.

The popularity of this trip has been a great surprise and prompts the question whether to run others. Possibilities include another trip to Connemara; one to northern Spain to see over 10 species in the wild including *E. australis* and *E. umbellata*; one to visit nurseries in the Netherlands and Germany culminating in a visit to Kurt Kramer; and an ambitious one to South Africa to see some of the vast number of Cape heaths in their native habitat. If anyone is interested in any of these trips or wishes a trip to some other place, please write to me or to Daphne for inclusion in a future *Bulletin*.

David Small, Chairman

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The membership subscription was last raised in 1986 and despite rising costs for printing and postage, the Society has managed, through modern office and publication practices, to contain costs until now.

At present, Administration, insurance etc. take 43% of the present subscription fee; the *Yearbook* a further 35%; *Bulletins* 28%; Council and AGM fees 19%; and other sundry costs 24%; totalling 149%. At present the shortfall is made up from interest received from the Society's deposits in Treasury Stock and other accounts. However, this year, we are likely to eat into these assets for the first time despite the considerable amount of work performed on a voluntary basis by our Officers, Council members and Local Group Organisers.

As a result, the Council, being satisfied that everything has been done to keep costs down, has reluctantly come to the conclusion that an increase in subscription fees is now inevitable. A resolution will therefore be put to the Annual General Meeting proposing an increase in the membership subscription with effect from 1 January 1996.

Careful analysis of trends and likely future inflation indicate new fees of £10 for an individual member, £12 for a couple, family, nurserymen and institutions are appropriate. The Council would like to encourage young members to join the Society and therefore proposes a student rate of £5.

Council believes that some members would like to take advantage of life membership and is proposing to introduce such a scheme from 1 January 1996. In particular, life membership may prove popular with overseas members as it avoids repeated exchange rate charges. If such a concept is agreed at the AGM, full details will be published in the Autumn *Bulletin*.

In an attempt to reduce the administrative burden, Council is also

proposing to introduce a scheme whereby UK members may pay their annual subscription by direct debit. Again, if approved, full details will appear in the *Autumn Bulletin*.

The Resolution covering the new rates, the introduction of student rates, life membership and direct debit together with the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting is circulated with this *Bulletin*.

David Small, Chairman

THANKS FOR THE MEMORY

During 1994, the Society received two generous legacies and the Council wishes to place on record its thanks.

Mrs. Joan Jolley of Leek, Staffordshire, wrote to the President with a gift of £200. She spoke in her letter of the recent death of her husband, the late Mr. John Jolley, and of a severe stroke which he had suffered 12 years earlier. "He never tired of gazing at his heather beds, each in their season", she recalled, "It is therefore with great pleasure, and in accordance with his wishes, that I enclose a donation of £200."

The late Mr. Geoffrey Philip Watts of Norwich, Norfolk also kindly donated £200 in his Will to the society. In later life he lived alone in his bungalow surrounded by his beloved heathers. He was extremely knowledgeable and grew a wide range of cultivars in trial-like conditions. Always the perfectionist, he expected high standards from his plants, from those who supplied them, and from the Society. In making his donation, Geoffrey Watts has clearly shown that the Society passed the test.

These sentiments find echoes in the thoughts of many of us who derive pleasure and indeed peace from growing our heathers. Our sympathy and gratitude go to Mrs. Jolley and the relatives of Mr. Watts. We understand the sentiments which gave rise to these generous gifts which we shall try to use to help others obtain similar enjoyment.

Allen Hall, Treasurer

OBITUARY

Constance MacLeod

Constance MacLeod, a founder member of the Society, died peacefully on the 28th February 1995, in her 91st year. When the Society was founded in 1963, she and her husband, Donald, were invited to become Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Unfortunately, Donald died less than 18 months afterwards and for the next 8 years Constance took on the total administrative responsibility of Treasurer, Secretary, Administrator and *Bulletin* Editor. She finally brought in a Treasurer but continued with the other posts until her retirement in 1977. A full Obituary will be published in the 1995 *Yearbook*.

PROFILE OF OUR REGISTRAR - ALBERT WILLIAM (BERT) JONES

I was born on 2nd November 1934 at Woolwich, SE London, only child of Frederick George Jones, factory labourer and one time merchant seaman, and Alice Jones, nee Reordan.

The family remained in London throughout the war, so I received very little elementary education. In 1946, probably through a mix-up in the exam scripts, I gained entry into Shooters Hill Grammar School. There I was introduced to what was to become one of the lasting passions of my life - Rugby Union Football. My parents took a great interest in my education and encouraged me to work hard. The school encouraged me to play rugby - the school won! Some three or four years later David Small started at the same school and was even put into the same house. However we did not get to know each other at that time. Later, David became School Cross Country Captain, a post I had held during my time in the fifth and sixth forms.

In 1955 I began my National Service with the RAF. The first year was spent waiting around and later training as an aircraft electrical fitter at Melksham, Wiltshire. I was then posted to Singapore, from whence I travelled on duty to Saigon, Hongkong, the Philippines, Japan and North Borneo. I played both rugby and squash in Singapore.

Some months after my discharge, in September 1957, I entered the Honours School of Metallurgy at Manchester University. I knew very little of the subject when I selected the course, but I am a fortunate man. I became and have remained, fascinated by metallurgy.

I met Diane on the 1st of April 1957, one of the many jokes in doubtful taste that I have played on her. When I graduated in 1960 I decided against staying on to work for a PhD, instead, I joined GEC -Simon Calves at Erith, Kent, to work in the civil nuclear industry. In June 1962 I married Diane. We had chosen a house at Meopham, Kent, and intended to move there soon after the wedding. However, a few days before the ceremony, I was told that GEC had sold its nuclear interests to Atomic Power Constructions and that the Erith labs. would be closed in the very near future. I was to move to Heston in Middlesex and so we rented a flat in Ealing.

I had been forced to give up playing rugby due to the work I had been doing at Erith. At the age of 28 the prospect of getting fit again, and travelling right across London each week to play, was not very appealing. Most of my spare time in the 1960's was taken up with preparing and racing the Lotus I had built in 1962, and in speed hill climbs. Diane also drove in many meetings and we only gave up when our first son, Ewan, was born in 1970.

In 1966 we bought our first house at Taplow, which was then in Buckinghamshire. It had a minute private garden and shared communal ownership of about six acres of mainly lawns, with some mature trees and shrubs. Despite its diminutive size, the private garden would have to be kept

tidy. Neither of us was particularly interested in gardening - but that would have to change.

Since I would have to garden, I would have to enjoy it. I knew myself well enough to realise that I could only succeed in that, if I understood the reasons for doing things; as it was clearly impossible to learn about gardening, in the widest sense, from scratch at the age of 33, I would have to specialise, but in what? I was indulging in one of my favourite vices, browsing in a bookshop, when I came across a copy of Fred Chapple's *The Heather Garden*. The 3rd edition had been published in 1964). My normal near-terminal insolvency prevented me from buying it at that time, but from my browsing I learned that I could grow heathers as garden plants. I had always liked them on moors and commons, and Diane's second name was Heather, so, it was, like the selection of my profession, a rather haphazard choice, but heathers could be my speciality.

That was during the Summer of 1967. That same Autumn friends took us to John Letts' garden at Foxhollow, Windlesham and we were bowled over by the range of flower and foliage colour; what had been a casual interest became a subject of great enthusiasm. I was immediately and incurably infected with *Ericaphilia*. I cut out beds in the grass which had covered our private garden and introduced as many heather species and cultivars as I could manage. At that time all John Lett's plants came from the open ground and he would not supply less than three of any cultivar. I was soon looking for places I could grow them in the communal grounds.

I joined the Heather Society in late 1967. I was charmed by the then Secretary, Mrs. MacLeod and by the friendliness with which we were welcomed at the first Meeting we attended at Wisley, shortly after joining. Those impressions were strengthened still further by the first conference we attended at Dartington Hall in 1973.

GEC decided that it did after all want to be involved in the nuclear industry and bought, what had by then become United Power Company. The Heston labs. were closed and as I was unwilling to move to the East Midlands at that time, I was made redundant at the beginning of 1970, just at the time Ewan was born. I got a job with Rolls Royce at Bristol, but it soon became obvious that that was no place to stay. By midsummer I had joined Plessey at Templecombe, where I found the atmosphere much more to my liking.

We started looking for a house in Somerset and soon found Otters' Court. The garden was much larger than at Taplow, but the soil was alkaline, as it was for miles around; this supported a collection of course shrubs and aged orchard trees. It was going to be hard work to transform this into a heather garden. We moved in at the end of November 1970, and I planted the first heathers the following Easter; these had been grown from cuttings taken at Taplow. (Planting work has continued right up to the present, with the first bed having recently been dug up and replanted - by Diane this time). Our second son, Innes, was born in September 1971.

We started the South West local group in 1975 and the first meeting was

held on a snowy 5th April. I was elected to the Technical Committee in 1976 and to the Council on 17th September 1977, at the Norwich Conference. I was asked to become Editor of the *Yearbook*, a job I enjoyed immensely, during the summer of 1978 and I produced my first issue in 1979.

I had become fairly deeply involved with the Society and at that time my professional responsibilities were increasing quite markedly. (I travelled widely in this country and abroad, visiting Australia, France and USA as a metallurgist). We handed over the running of the local group to Phil Joyner in July 1978. It probably benefited from a change of Organiser and Phil continues to make a fine job of it.

In 1979 we were asked to organise the Conference at Weymouth. Fortunately we started with a strong organising committee as, the morning before the Conference, Ewan fell out of our pear tree and broke both bones in his right forearm. This rather disrupted our final preparations for the event and our thoughts were frequently elsewhere during the Conference. However, everything seemed to go off alright and that Conference revealed to Council the sterling qualities of Ken and Beryl Farrah.

As I have already said, the soil at Otters' Court is very alkaline. It is also a heavy clay liberally permeated by the underlying blue lias. We have improved the soil structure with humus and grit, but have made no attempt to use chemicals to reduce the pH. Hence the garden has been made with lime-tolerant plants. We have, however, experimented to find which are truly lime-tolerant, rather than accepting the conventional wisdom contained in the books. We have had some disappointments but we have also had rather more pleasant surprises.

During the late winter of 1983 the garden was filmed by the BBC for possible inclusion in Geoffrey Smith's *World of Flowers*. None of the film was used but, in February 1985, a full half hour programme was made here in Terry Underhill's TSW series, *Gardens for All*. That caused a great deal of interest.

Among my other interests which have not been mentioned so far, are music, photography, fly fishing and rough shooting. In 1991 a duodenal ulcer, that I had nurtured for almost 35 years, burst, and as a result started a rather unfortunate train of events. Since then Diane has nursed me magnificently, whilst maintaining, amongst other things, the garden, her seat on the local Bench of Justices and her sense of humour. However, in 1993, I was forced, with great regret, both to give up work and to relinquish the Editorship of the *Yearbook*. I am now largely recovered but, as the result of the surgery that was necessary after the repair of the ulcer, I have had to give up shooting for good and fishing (I hope) temporarily.

As you know, the society was appointed the International Registration Authority for Heathers in 1970. From that date up until November 1994, David McClintock was the Registrar. David then decided that he would like to relinquish the post and I was paid the very considerable compliment of being asked by Council to take his place. It will be impossible to replace him adequately - but I will try.

AWJ

NAMES EXPLAINED

Fifteen years ago, the gardening press was alive with reviews of a new publication - the second edition of David McClintock's *A Guide to the Naming of Plants* published by the Heather Society. A transcript of one of them, written by Robert Pearson and first published in the Sunday Telegraph on 26th October 1980 is given below.

"The naming of plants is a complex matter, as baffling sometimes to the experienced gardener as to the newcomer. A warm welcome, therefore, for a succinct and masterly exposition of this subject by the botanist David McClintock, which he has compressed into one part of a slim booklet directed primarily at heather enthusiasts.

It is *A Guide to the Naming of Plants* (sub-titled "With special reference to heathers"), first published by the Heather Society 11 years ago and now brought up-to-date. What has relevance to us all is Mr. McClintock's discourse on the principles of plant-naming and his precise definitions of the terms in use - some familiar (like genus, species, sub-species and cultivar), others the reverse (like taxon and the teratological forms). He also explains what is admissible and inadmissible under international rules, and the conditions that must be fulfilled when plants are named. For anybody who wishes to delve into these matters, the booklet could hardly be bettered.

The two other sections are concerned with heather nomenclature and give fascinating details of those species native in the northern hemisphere. The booklet costs £2.50 plus 20p postage from the Heather Society.

This masterly publication is still available from the Society, it still contains the same fascinating details of heather species native in the northern hemisphere, it still can hardly be bettered for those wishing to delve into plant-nomenclature and it still costs only £2.50. The bad news is that post and packing has gone up to 50p.

Allen Hall, Treasurer

DO WE NEED MORE CALLUNA CULTIVARS?

Do I hear your cry of despair :For heavens sake NO! We have a huge number of named cultivars to choose from but, hand on heart, how many of these are *really* good? I remember a discussion I had with our former Chairman, back in 1989, when we agreed that the really good plants probably number about 25. Some of the older cultivars are still going strong, some have never been very interesting and some have definitely been surpassed by better plants of the same type, but this fact has little influence on the nursery lists. I have always found it strange that a good new plant has such a long fight to get over the 'nursery wall' and reach the customers. Do nurserymen have the idea that all that is new is bad? Caution is a virtue, but I can't see any virtue in persisting in offering cultivars which are clearly inferior to newer and better ones. In fact, I believe that the declining interest in heather gardening in England, and the following downward

trend for The Heather Society is due to some extent to the static assortment of heathers in the English nurseries. Don't they have any information about new varieties that appear?

Let me take an example. The spring-tipped *Calluna vulgaris* 'Easter-bonfire' was found in 1980 and introduced by Zwijnenburg in 1982. Thirteen years have passed since it came on the market in Holland. In nurserymen's terms this is probably a 'new' cultivar. I received my first cuttings of 'Easter-bonfire' from David McClintock when he visited Sweden in August 1986 (a big thankyou!). Having observed it for a few years I expected this cultivar to sweep the floor with practically all known plants of the same type. The foliage is never merely green, even in January the red tips sticking up through the snow cover are a pleasing sight.

What has happened? Two English nurseries offer that plant, one of them only on request and I could give further examples. In the 1985 *Yearbook* Jack Platt wrote about it "This good cultivar was found....." It is seldom that Jack gives a value judgment and that is certainly because when he writes he has known the plant only a short time and can usually only give a description. I am personally very grateful to Jack for his articles on New Acquisitions, as it has been practically my only source of information about new cultivars, and it is always the first thing I turn to in the *Yearbook*. However, I have missed having a more long-term surveillance of new heathers. Some outline articles have been printed in the *Yearbook*, like the one on yellow foliated *Erica carnea* cultivars by Bert Jones, in 1988 but, on the whole very little has been printed about NEW cultivars either in the *Yearbook*, or at Conferences. Rightly or wrongly I have taken this as a negative attitude to new cultivars on the part of the Society.

The British Isles have a blessed climate but is not so blessed that growers can ignore hardiness. I saw many heather gardens in Southern England, including Wisley, in April 1987 and it was not a beautiful sight. I can't prove it but I suspect that many of the older plants with red and orange winter colouring suffer from browning, even in England and that people are used to it and don't question it. It is probable that the chemistry and physiology of plants will never allow us to have a fail-safe foliage plant. However, there are considerable differences between cultivars and it is interesting to try some new ones such as C.v. 'Hillbrook Orange', 'Sesam', 'Sirsson', 'Atalanta', and 'Wingates Gem'. Of these 'Sesam' has the advantage of being a good flower plant as well (yes - it is my plant, but it is still true). From where can these good new plants be obtained? Please check your *Handy Guide to Heather*s, but don't expect too much.

I was very pleased to learn that at the Reading Conference, which I sadly could not attend, David Small gave a talk about new cultivars and gave his personal choices; Walter Wornick referred to this talk as the highlight of the meeting. The plants chosen are very attractive but some of them are not hardy enough to be grown in my country (Sweden) and this must be true also of Scotland, Germany and USA. The performance of *Calluna* depends on many factors and that is probably the reason that people hesitate to give value

judgements. Yet I think that value judgements are both possible and necessary and should, as far as possible, include a hardiness rating. No one can tell us the limits for where each cultivar can be grown, but it is usually possible to rate one cultivar's hardiness against another. It is my experience that people who have properly grown a plant long enough to really know it, will also have opinions on its hardiness, and its value related to other plants. Thus I would like to see David's list of 'best red foliage' plants also relating to one another in terms of hardiness. Maybe they all do well in England - but how valuable that sort of information would be for people in other parts of the world; it would have saved me from wasting my time on a lot of tender plants in the past. For example, all the 'H E Beale' complex are practically worthless in Sweden.

Sweden has finally got its first heather producer. On a small scale yet, but he will certainly be followed by others. I have been involved in choosing the cultivars and I have provided cutting material. This will lead to an assortment being available which is quite different from the usual imported selection. Here I would like to thank all my friends in Britain, in the USA and on the Continent, without whose help this would not have been possible.

I believe that we can soon expect an interest in heather-gardening from more countries. In Norway the female owner of a recently started nursery is building up a good heather assortment. Finland's television made a 30 minute programme from our garden, with the stress on the possibilities of growing heathers in Finland. Swedish plantsmen have established an exchange of plant material with people in the Baltic States and that in time should generate a demand for heather cultivars. All this is very gratifying, but we have to remember that these countries have cold winters and it is of great importance that the cultivars coming on to the market there in due course, are the right ones.

The question in the heading would perhaps be better put: Do we have the *Calluna* cultivars we need? English growers may say yes, but for us in the cold the answer is definitely NO. So, let us have an open attitude to new plants and try and sort out the best and the hardiest for the benefit of us all. But especially for the people living in harsh climates who are just taking their first steps in heather-gardening. After all T.H.S. is not **The English** Heather Society, it is **THE** Heather Society and I would like it one day to be the I.H.S. (International Heather Society).

Brita Johansson Sweden

CALLUNA VULGARIS 'VISSER'S FANCY'

At Wisley last Autumn I was much impressed by C.v. 'Visser's Fancy' towering with ghostly inflorescences above the red 'Ginkel's Glorie'. They would have made a fine photograph and should do so again this year. But - is it a bud-bloomer? Kurt Kramer thinks not. It belongs to the forma *cistanthes* which Beijerinck describes as "Flowers remain closed so-

called bud-flowers, or open slightly If the bud-flowers open a little, the surface of the stigma comes free. This deviation is subf. *ferax*". There is a similar deviation in subf. *fertilis* of the bud-bloomers, coming under f. *diplocalyx*, "Bud-bloomers slightly open so that the stigma surface comes free".

One of my specimens of 'Visser's Fancy' showed a very few florets just opening but the scores of others remain closed, and one would not notice the aberration if not looking out especially for it. One or two florets on my specimens of *diplocalyx* are just open. My view is, that the overwhelming impression of the vast majority of the florets on these forms is what matters, and that the presence of one or two exceptions should not deny the whole the name of bud-bloomers or bud-flowerers.

David McClintock - Kent

ERICA CINEREA VAR. RENDLEI

Last September Major General and Mrs. J Dent came across, near Ballater and Aboyne, above the River Dee, a single plant sprawling among the Bell Heathers which puzzled them. It also puzzled them at the British Museum (Natural History). It was in fact that curious aberration, named, 65 years ago, *Erica cinerea* var. *rendlei*. In this, the top tufts of leaves go a rusty red and produce no flowers. It is scarce, cause unknown, but not undecorative, and I hope, still in cultivation; I lost a plant originating with Mrs. Maginess. The Dents sent a colour transparency of theirs, which is now in the Society's slide library.

David McClintock - Kent

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM VISIT - SATURDAY 9TH MARCH 1996

Confirmation of preliminary arrangements to visit the Botany Department and several of the Libraries in the Natural History Museum has now been received. It is expected that those members of the Society taking part in this visit will be shown some of the significant holdings of the Botany Library relating to the Ericaceae, including the beautifully illustrated works on Cape heathers by Andrews, as well as works from the 16th and 19th centuries in which some species of European heathers are depicted. Some of the time will be spent in the General Herbarium, where we hope to see part of the reference collection of Ericaceae, whilst gaining some idea of the extent and problems of such botanical material. In addition, the head of the Library Services and Information Division has agreed that the party will be taken to see a display in the museum's Rare Books Room, that will contain other important natural history books and illustrations. As part of the programme there will be a brief introductory talk on the history of the museum, its libraries and its past and present functions. Another informative talk will be given on the various works dealing with heathers, either whilst the books are around us, or after they have been seen.

Because of the limited accommodation in the area that will be visited, it will be necessary to divide Heather Society visitors into a series of small groups, each of which will rotate from one part of the programme to another. Consequently, because of the time factor, the total numbers able to take part in this visit will be limited. Because the items that will be seen are in different parts of the museum's buildings a certain amount of walking will be involved, although lifts are available for access to the various floors. In transferring from one area to another glimpses of the museum's exhibits will be possible, but it has to be pointed out that participants on special visits are **not** allowed free access to the galleries. A form will be provided in the Autumn edition of the *Bulletin* to establish those members who wish to attend on Saturday 9th March, as well as to learn whether any would be interested in paying for a buffet-style lunch during the course of the visit - if arrangements can be made.

Ron Cleeveley - Assistant Editor Yearbook.

LETTERS FROM MEMBERS

Expert Help With Raising Heathers from Seed

I read with interest the article, 'Growing heathers from Seed' (*Bulletin*, Summer 1994). The enthusiasm that Ben Gardner showed towards the subject of propagation, along with his obvious love of heathers was an inspiration. I offer some guidance for the questions that were put:

'Does anyone have a good system of separating the seeds from the chaff?'

From my time spent cleaning seeds (too many to mention) I have found that, for many subjects, the following procedure can be employed: Prepare a large sheet of blotting paper (or similar textured paper) by folding it over in the centre. Place the seeds (with the chaff) in the crease, towards the top. Place a container between you and the bottom of the paper and lift the top of the paper slightly, tapping gently until all the seeds fall. Collect the seeds in the container and, after cleaning the paper of chaff, repeat the process several times until the seeds *hopefully* become clean. Time and again this method has helped clean many difficult subjects.

'My greatest losses (sometimes over 80%) are in transplantingHow do other people handle their transplanting problems?'

As someone with experience in the weaning of plants, both for amenity and commercial purposes, I would be most interested to hear the methods Mr. Gardner employed and would gladly offer advice should it be helpful. If Ben Gardner (or any other keen members for that matter) should wish to share propagation notes, or co-ordinate some beneficial trials, I would like to offer my help. Can the Society offer any advice?

Roland Whiteman Dip. Hort. (Edinburgh) NCH MI Hort

This sounds too good an opportunity to miss! Anyone wishing to take up Mr. Whiteman's offer should write to him at 76, (1FR) Hawthornvale, Edinburgh, EH6 4JX and please share the results with other members through the Bulletin. Ed.

***Erica carnea* Seedlings**

Our Treasurer, Allen Hall, asks us in the Spring Bulletin if we have ever found an *Erica carnea* seedling coming up in our gardens? My answer is Yes! *E. carnea* seedlings come up regularly here, although not abundantly, and always between stones where it is moist. I have kept some for use in the garden and have certainly, without my knowledge, weeded many out at an early stage. If *E. carnea* seedlings don't appear in English gardens but do in Swedish gardens, I can think of two reasons. One is that, for successful germination, the seeds need a period of lower temperature than the English climate can provide and secondly, that English plants don't get pollinated because they flower in the winter when insect activity is low. Swedish plants flower in the spring, well into May, and my plants are often so crowded by our neighbour's militant bees, that I hesitate to prune my *Callunas* nearby.

Brita Johansson - Sweden

Peter Ponders

Three things happened today which, if taken singly, are not worthy of note but together they make me write.

First - I was clearing up, and the Autumn 1994 *Bulletin* opened up at the page which stated that "*Erica erigena* 'Brightness', *Ex darleyensis* 'Kramer's Rote' and *E. carnea* 'Myretoun Ruby' and 'Challenger' are the deepest winter flowering heathers readily available". That is fact.

Second - I went to Sainsbury's (the long way round) and saw a heather garden in Worksop that I hadn't seen before; a bank of winter flowering heathers. At a guess there was *Ex darleyensis* 'George Rendall' and plenty of *E. carnea* 'Ruby Glow' and 'Pink Spangles'. It looked good but lacked something.

Third - As I drove back into my drive I saw, from a different angle, the bed I had planted up last back-end, using the plants I had put on one side from the York Conference Plant Sale. It looked very good and will look stunning in a couple of years time when the reds of 'Kramer's Rote', 'Myretoun Ruby' 'Challenger' and 'Wintersonne' fill out, and merge with the yellows of *E. carnea* 'Barry Sellers' and 'Foxhollow', the whole thing backed by a plentitude of the golden foliage 'Valerie Griffiths'.

As I sat and looked, I realised that what made it all worthy of note was the splashes of white provided by *Ex darleyensis* 'White Perfection' and *E. carnea* 'Ice Princess', showing off the strong colours and the yellows. I have also got to admit that, at last, dear old *E. carnea* 'Springwood White' and *Ex darleyensis* 'Silberschmelze' have been bettered.

Peter Vickers - Yorkshire

SCRAPBOWL

Snippets of Information from Members

Heath Week - Saturday 2nd September 1995 to Sunday 10th September 1995

The Sussex Downs Conservation Board, together with the RSPB, Sussex Wildlife Trust, English Nature and Wessex County Council are jointly organising a 'Heath Week'. This is intended to be a week of walks, events and lectures that will raise awareness of the importance of lowland heath for wildlife and the need for their conservation and management.

At present (2nd May), the full programme has not been clarified, but information should be available during the summer from the Information offices of the organisations concerned: West Sussex Countryside Services 01243 77999 & 752059; Sussex Downs Conservation Board - 01903 741234 & 01730 817945. The details should also be published in the local press and available at local Tourist Offices.

One of the expected events is a tour of Iping and Stedham Commons, jointly managed by the Sussex Wildlife Trust and the Sussex Downs Conservation Board, a site that is scheduled for a visit by the Heather Society as part of the 1996 Conference programme. The Natural History of this area will also be explained on another guided tour taking place on Sunday 17th September 1995 following the 'Heath Week' but as an event for 'European Conservation Year'.

Ron Cleeveley - Assistant Editor Yearbook

{Should any member wish for a list of references to the various publications available on the management of 'lowland heath' Ron has offered to provide one from his own resources - his telephone number is 01730 815592. Ron would also like to express his thanks to those members who kindly responded to his **Stop Press** appeal for copies of Maxwell & Beale catalogues, in the Spring Issue of the *Bulletin*. As a result it was possible for him to extend his list of those catalogues, obtain information on the illustrations used in them (see the forthcoming '96 issue of the *Yearbook*) and to add to the virtually complete run held by the RHS, Lindley Library.}

From Australia - More about Heathers and Bees

The trouble with us 'oldies' is that we have long (and sometimes inconvenient) memories. These have been stimulated by Norman Graville's article on *Heathers and Bees* in the last *Bulletin*.

During the second World War, my late husband started keeping bees, stimulated by the sugar shortage, and by the fact that he already knew he was largely immune to bee-stings, by his first World War experiences in transporting bees from the South of France to the disaster areas of the north, during the

Quaker Relief Mission. After we discovered that I was far from immune to bee-stings, these were removed from our garden (on a remote hillside in Gwent) to a field below. The sugar allowance for beekeepers was to encourage more beekeeping for orchard pollination and for the bees' winter feeding. There was ready market for honey in the Gwent town of Newport, twelve miles away, at the Women's Institute Market Stall.

In 1946, together with two beekeeping acquaintances, a lorry was hired to transport the hives to Llanthony Valley, on the edge of the Black Mountains, above Abergavenny. This was in order to harvest the later heather honey, after the local clover harvest had finished in our district, near Usk.

After about a month the hives were brought home, with a bumper crop of heather honey for extraction. This was a very laborious process, as pure heather honey is very gelatinous and cannot be extracted in the usual way after uncapping the cells, but only by laborious crushing. The simplest method is to use small frames and to sell the honey in the comb. But the bees resent working the smaller combs because of the obstruction they cause on the surface of the wax sheet. In the end my husband resorted to selling 'chunk' honey in the comb, which is both messy and unsatisfactory. However, a mixture of clover and heather honey which can be centrifugally extracted is delicious. In the end it was less trouble to feed the honey back to the bees and keep the sugar.

The outcome of the trip to the Black Mountains was that several of our hives became infected with American Foul Brood Disease, which was seemingly prevalent in the Llanthony area and had to be destroyed by the Government Beekeeping Inspector.

My own experience of heather cultivation did not begin until after 1965, when our own son and his family emigrated to Australia. As two sad parents wandered up the lane below the steep bank of the house, my husband commented that it would look nice under heathers - a sublimation for our loss, and subsequently an article by Mrs. Macleod introduced me to the Heather Society. My husband had long ago given up beekeeping, so we would never know if these would have been sufficient to flavour our local clover honey.

I could go on - as when perforce, in my husband's absence, I had to collect a swarm, I did get stung - but by a horse fly! Once, my husband was stung in the soft flesh under the eye, and two hours later all that was visible was a little red mark. We aren't all that lucky.

Anne Parris - Victoria, Australia.

In his *Natural History* (c. 70 AD), even Pliny the Elder had something to say on Heather Honey: "A third kind - the least valued honey - is the wild variety called 'heath-honey, it is collected after the first rains of autumn when only the heather is in flower in the woods, and for this reason it is similar to sandy honey".

BOOK REVIEW

England's National Nature Reserves

by Peter Marren

T.A. & D. Poyser Ltd. London in association with English Nature, 1994: xxii, 272 pp.; 62 col. photos by Peter Wakely; vignettes & text illustrations by Ruth Lindsay. Hardback £20; ISBN: 0-85661-083-6

An admirable volume that tells the history of the continual effort of far-sighted conservationists to preserve England's diverse natural heritage and then amplifies the gradual changes in the purpose and philosophy of reserve management obtained through subsequent experience and research.

Rather than adopt the customary gazetteer approach adopted by other books on the subject (e.g. John Wyatt's equally commendable *A Visitor's Guide to The National Parks of England and Wales* (1988)), Peter Marren has tackled his subject as a series of themes. The opening chapter provides the detailed background to the establishment of the country's nature reserves; it also ensures that everyone has a good understanding of the many organisational 'musical chair' changes that have occurred since 1952 and the various types of reserve that have been established. He explains (p. xvii) that nature reserves managed directly by Britain's official nature conservation bodies, or with their approval, are declared to be National Nature Reserves [NNR's]. These form the subject of the book and useful details of 141 are listed in one of the appendices (pp 214-53). Information is also given on other special categories of reserves, including eleven UK 'Biogenetic' wildlife sites - (selected in order to conserve examples of European flora & fauna), six of which are heathland areas.

As a result of recent government dismemberment of the Nature Conservancy Council into national agencies, this book is confined to the sites south of Hadrian's Wall and east of Offa's Dyke. These English reserves total close to 2,000 and are managed by a variety of organisations. But in contrast to the scenically dramatic reserves in Scotland and Wales they might be considered as "softer landscapes" that have resulted from generations of land husbandry, which has been variously described as "controlled wilderness" or 'unostentatious neatness' depending upon an observer's origins. In fact, as the author reveals in the different themes he covers, the conservation of significant habitats and important species is not a mere matter of management and maintenance, but requires a detailed knowledge of natural history to ensure the fine-tuning of the many facets involved in producing such landscapes.

Facts, figures and various aspects of lowland heathland (including the unique Lizard & Breckland heaths) are covered in a chapter dealing with some

common problems in the management of NNR's that aims to provide the best conditions for a habitat and its wildlife. Inevitably, the views of the specialists wishing to favour their interests - botanists, herpetologists, entomologists and ornithologists - result in conflicting ideas on the treatment of heathland (see p. 124). But all have strong reservations against widespread burning and conclude that light grazing, wherever it is practicable, probably offers the most harmonious solution. A detailed account of the devastating fire on Hartland Heath in 1976 underlines the dangers to such a habitat [including those of administrative chance], but also reveals the earnest efforts of those who were involved in its subsequent restoration.

In each of his main themes Peter Marren provides a wealth of information on the diversity of our flora and fauna and the many factors that influence it. You will, undoubtedly, be far more knowledgeable on most aspects of natural history after reading this book. The thematic chapters dealing with individual habitats (e.g. Down & Heath; Wilderness & Wet; Meadows & Woods), or else the various problems associated with the establishment and management of the sites, can be considered as a series of very readable informative essays that are full of insight and anecdotes. Consequently, such a treasure-chest will even satisfy the 'browsers' and "dipper's-in" who prefer their learning in easy stages.

Intriguing accounts of the conflict in purpose when managing these 'outdoor laboratories' colour the book. Should the aim be to conserve all elements of flora, or fauna ?; or else to provide sanctuaries for rare species of birds, or our native orchids - what Marren terms "showcase" flowers ?; or else used for research in order to improve our knowledge of behaviour, or to evaluate the response to management techniques ? At times, this can result in the dilemma of whether to interfere with natural behaviour such as predation and competition, or to let nature take its course? As an answer to this ethical question, in the case of the Little tern colony at Scolt Head, Marren argued (p. 107) 'if terns cannot raise their young on an uninhabited off-shore island, which also happens to be a National Nature Reserve - then where can they find peace ?' In all cases, the answer seems to be that it is necessary to achieve the balance, or relationship that will favour the desired result. This can only be achieved through experience and the book reveals the learning processes, followed by their subsequent evaluation that has led to decisions on the future management of particular reserves.

The reserves described in this book are often the most significant remaining examples of particular habitats in the country. I have to echo Lord Cranbrook's Foreword by heartily commending it to all who have any interest, or concern in the conservation of England's natural history. I am sure you will be referring to it constantly. This was certainly my 'natural history book of 1994, for it is well written, full of information including an extensive list of current references, has excellent illustrations and all presented in a high quality publication that is extremely good value. Perhaps, like me, you will be expecting subsequent volumes on the reserves of Scotland & Wales - if only for the fact that they should deal with the areas of upland heather moorland!

Ron Cleevely (December 1994)

The 'lowland heath' habitat sites selected for priority by the Council of Europe 'Biogenetic' scheme on account of their particular type, or combination of 'dry', 'wet', serpentine, or Breckland heath are: 1) Cavenham Heath, Suffolk; 2) Hartland Moor, Dorset; 3) The Lizard, Cornwall; 4) Morden Bog, Dorset; 5) Studland & Godlingston Heaths, Dorset; 6) Thursley Common, Surrey.

GROUP NEWS

North East Group

At last the long weary winter is over but our heathers at that time were a great joy to us (and also to passers-by!) as they literally glowed with brilliant colour. What other plant can look so good when the rain is pouring down and the wind is trying to tear it out by the roots?

Our Annual Outing on May 6th, to Harlow Carr was a great success. Members and friends, totalling thirty, enjoyed a perfect summer's day. We couldn't have done better if we had hand picked it; very warm, and with a gentle breeze now and again. Naturally, in these conditions the gardens were beautiful. The thousands of trees were decked out in their new finery, in colours ranging from deep magenta, through all the shades of green, to pale lemon and the massed heads of tulips were a sight to see. The daffodils were mostly over but there were some trial beds of new varieties, of obviously later flowering types, which were perfect. The rock garden plants and the Alpines were all blooming, but of course the winter heathers were all finished and we could see that they must have been magnificent. Later on the *Callunas* will come into their own and a return visit will be well worth while.

Among all this 'flora and fauna' a sighting, and meeting with a certain 'Homo Sapiens' by the name of Walter Wornick was made! (*We know you enjoyed the gardens and hope you enjoyed the rest of your trip Walter.*)

The following weekend, on May 13th and 14th, we had our Heather Stand down at Houghall, during their Open Weekend. Sadly, the weather had deteriorated to, some sun, chilly winds, and showers. However, it was good to meet up with our yearly friends and the show in general was a success.

Our next event is the visit to Bill Crow's Nursery at Scots Gap, on Wednesday, July 19th, at 7.30 pm, when we hope to see as many members as possible. Details of how to get there are in the Spring Bulletin, or you can ring me on 01661 823299.

The Annual Show will be held at Kirkley Hall Garden Centre on Sunday, September 24th, 1995 - from 1.00 - 4.00 pm. Staging will be on the Sunday morning from 9.00 - 11.00 am, when judging will commence. Schedules will be sent nearer the time.

The Annual General Meeting is on Friday, October 27th 1995, in St. Matthews Church Hall, at 7.30 pm. We are hoping to arrange an Open Evening in September, but news of this will be sent out with the show schedules

Dorothy M Warner

Southern Group

- * 1995 is the 20th Anniversary of the Southern Group *

THE PROGRAMME FOR 1995

On Saturday March 11th 1995, there was joint visit with the South Western Group to the garden of Diane and Bert Jones. A description of the visit can be found in the South

Western Group report and I am grateful to Phil Joyner for making the arrangements. The weather was not kind to us but we enjoyed seeing Bert and Diane's lovely garden and meeting once more our friends from the deep South West.

"Floraldene" - Sunday April 3rd 1995 - On April 3rd 1995, 26 members gathered at "Floraldene", the home of our member Mr. John Tucker. I am one of those fortunate people who have enjoyed the delights of "Floraldene" before, but never when the winter heathers were in flower. So I walked the familiar paths seeing new vistas and witnessing fresh scenes. The arrangement of the garden at "Floraldene" is distinctive because it is closely planted with tall trees and heather beds with narrow paths and lawns among them. There is therefore a very strong vertical dimension, with plenty of shade. Tree heathers grow under taller cousins, obviously, if surprisingly, happy - full of life and flower. How does he do it we ask? On view on this spring day were fine examples of *E. Alpina* and *E. x veitchii*, and in particular, my favourite, 'Pink Joy'. *E. Australis* 'Riverslea' and 'Mr. Robert', were in splendid flower, as were *E. lusitanica* and collections of *Erica carnea*, *E. erigina* and *E. x darleyensis*.

How strange the weather has been this spring! While much of England enjoyed a warm sunny day, the South coast was cold and cloudy. John took us in for an early tea. A diet-defying tea which made many of us blush at the memory of our New Year's resolutions. Plate followed plate and I am blushing still. Thank you John.

"Springfield" - Sunday July 23rd 1995 2 p.m. - Ron and Jean Wing invite us to visit their home and garden at "Springfield", Hayes Lane, Slinfold, Horsham. We are invited to tea afterwards and as always, it would be a help to know beforehand approximately how many to cater for so, if possible, do let me know if you are coming. From the Horsham by-pass (A24), take the A281 west to join the A 264 and turn south for about half a mile. For Slinfold, turn right into Lyons Road. In the village, turn left into Hayes Lane. "Springfield" is on the left hand side about a quarter of a mile from the turning.

20th Anniversary Joint Meeting with SW Group, at the RHS Garden Wisley Saturday 30th September.

In the morning we have a visit to the Heather Garden in Howards Field, under the RHS scheme for Affiliated Societies. Entrance is free though restricted to 55 members of the Heather Society. I hope that Members from around the country will join us so please bring your RHS membership card, if you have one, to ensure that everyone can get in. Meet at the main entrance at 10.45 am for a prompt 11.00 am start. Mr. John Battye, Superintendent of the Floral, Rock Garden and Battlestone Hill departments, and Mr. Andrew Collins, Council Member and gardener responsible for Howards Field, graciously plan to accompany our visit to the heather garden. Members may like to make use of the excellent Conservatory Cafe when it should be possible for us to have lunch with friends. Otherwise, members might like to picnic outside the grounds.

At 1.45 p.m. for a 2 p.m. start we meet in the Lecture Room (no access from the Garden). Someone will wait outside the main entrance to direct people to the lecture room. Pamela Lee, National Secretary, will give a reminiscence on the Southern Group. Members may like to bring along old photographs and slides of previous Southern Group visits and personalities.

Following Pamela's talk there will be an open forum led by the Chairman of the Heather Society, David Small. Please come armed with questions and contributions which may be on any aspect of heathers or the Heather Society.

There will be a heather competition which will be judged according to the rules of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies of Great Britain. The classes will be:

- i) best flower arrangement in which heathers predominate;
- ii) best vase of hardy heather in flower, single variety;
- iii) best vase of heathers chosen for foliage.

There will be a modest prize for each class, and The Turpin Trophy will be awarded to the person with the best overall display; the Trophy to be held for one year from September 1995. It is currently held by Mrs. Pamela Lee. We conclude with tea.

Of course members from other groups will be welcome and members can choose to come to all the events or just some of them. For this special occasion it would be a help to know in advance who is participating in what - if possible.

Newsletters & Sketches: A newsletter complete with sketch maps of the venues is available. Please send a stamped addressed envelope if you would like a copy. My address is: 18, Albury Avenue, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey. SM2 7JT. Telephone 0181 224 7775.

1996 dates for your diary

Saturday March 9th Council Member Ron Clevely is arranging a visit to the Natural History Museum to see the herbarium, rare books and books on heather. Look out for details.

Saturday March 30th - Our President, David McClintock, invites us to see his garden.

Saturday July 27th - Visit to our Chairman's garden in Suffolk. Let me know if you need help with travelling arrangements.

Saturday August 10th - Joint with the South West - In the morning, a visit to Iping and Stedham Commons led by Mr. John Mycock of the Sussex Downs Conservation Board. In the afternoon, a visit to the Zeneca Garden at Fernhurst, Haslemere, Surrey.

Saturday September 28th - Indoor event, RHS, Wisley

Allen Hall

Southwest

The first Meeting this year was to the nursery/garden of Bert and Diane Jones at West Camel, near Yeovil, on Saturday 11th March. Regretfully the rain started as we approached West Camel, but there were Diane and Bert ready to offer us warm hospitality and shelter, to eat our picnic lunches. During the spells when the rain let up the members were able to wander around the garden. Various new plantings had been recently done, including the complete renewal of an older bed of winter/spring flowering heaths, which we all remembered from a previous visit. Bert and Diane mainly grow winter/spring flowering *Ericas* because their soil is alkaline, but they are able to grow the summer flowering *E. terminalis* and *E. manipuliflora*. They also grow other plants and shrubs, including dwarf conifers, and there was a fine display of *Cyclamen coum* in full flower. Members were of course very interested in purchasing plants and wandering round the sales area, spending plenty of time selecting their requirements. My thanks go to Bert and Diane for their splendid hospitality and for providing us with the opportunity to have a good discussion on our favourite topic, as well as a walk around their garden.

The second Meeting was our Annual Gathering in the Village Hall at Lytchett Matravers. As we were indoors, the sun of course shone brightly, but at least the good weather provided the members with a pleasant journey. The main event of the afternoon was an illustrated talk on *Heathers and other Ericaceous Plants*, by John Horsey. John, with his wife Clare have owned the Rivendell Alpine Nursery, near Wimborne, but now John has taken up full-time lecturing on Horticulture at Yeovil, and they are giving up the nursery and moving west. John's talk and slides were excellent and provoked many questions and plenty of discussion amongst a gathering of some thirty members (that's the sort of attendance I like to see!) After John's talk we had refreshment, followed by the judging of the Two Class Table Show - the results were:

Class 1. A vase or bowl of heathers in bloom

- | | |
|------|----------------|
| 1st. | Phil Joyner. |
| 2nd. | Maureen Clark. |
| 3rd. | Betty Sayers |

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

- | | |
|------|----------------|
| 1st. | Anne Pringle. |
| 2nd. | Jean Burgess. |
| 3rd. | Maureen Clark. |

The joint winners of the Burfitt Bowl, for the most points overall, were Maureen Clark and Anne Pringle. My thanks go to my wife Lin., my Mother, and Val Davis for their help in providing refreshment and running the kitchen. Thanks are also due to John Horsey for the talk, Lorna Furrow for judging the Table Show and to Peter and Maureen Clark for inviting members to their home and garden, prior to the afternoon's events.

The third Meeting of the year, to Stan and Joyce Pitman's garden at Colden Common, near Eastleigh, will have taken place by the time this *Bulletin* reaches you and will be

reported in the next issue. Two more Meetings have been arranged for this year and they are briefly discussed below.

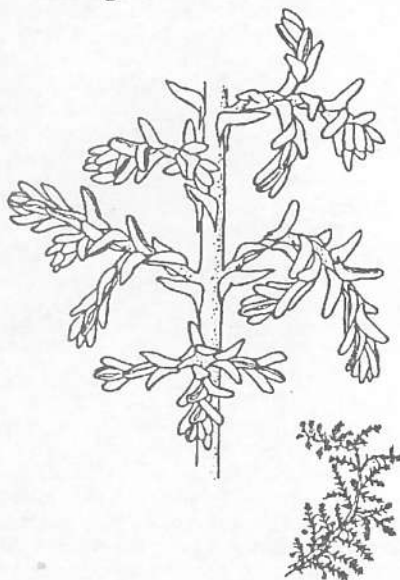
Saturday July 15th - Members should meet at 2.00 pm at 'Aurelia Gardens' in West Moors, Dorset. 'Aurelia Gardens' is a garden for year-round colour and form and contains many heathers. The garden belongs to, and has been created by, Robert and Magdalene Knight who have both joined us at some of our meetings in the past. The garden has grown to five acres in extent and has on display many plants and shrubs with gold and variegated foliage. Adjacent to the garden is a nursery. The garden is situated in Newmans Lane and is approached by leaving the A31, Ferndown by-pass, and travelling north along the B3072 through West Moors. Newmans Lane is the left hand turn on a sharp bend, just after West Moors. The garden is signposted and plenty of parking is available.

Saturday September 30th - This is a joint visit with the Southern Group, to the RHS Garden at Wisley. Allen Hall has kindly arranged this visit and we will help the Southern Group members celebrate their 20th Anniversary. Members should meet at 10.45 am outside the main entrance to the garden, for an 11.00 am start. Entry will be free under the RHS scheme for affiliated Societies but members of the RHS should bring their membership cards. On entry members will make their way to Howards Field. No lunch arrangements have been made, but there is an excellent restaurant in the gardens. During the afternoon members should meet at 1.45 pm outside the Lecture Room, which is outside the garden and close to the Bookshop. At 2.00 pm the Society's Secretary will reminisce on the Southern Group, then the Society's Chairman, David Small, will lead an Open Forum - so please come armed with questions. Further details may be found in the Southern Group News, and I, or Allen Hall, will be able to provide more concise information on request. I would be grateful if Allen Hall could be informed of your attendance, five weeks in advance.

For Your Diary: Saturday, March 30th 1996 - Indoor Meeting and Table Show at Lytchett Matravers Village hall in Dorset.

If further details of this year's Meetings are required, please send me a S.A.E. With the exception of the Wisley visit I would be grateful if you could indicate your attendance ten days in advance (my telephone number is 01703 864336). I look forward to seeing you at the above Meetings.

Phil Joyner



USEFUL ADDRESSES

- Chairman** *Policy matters, major events etc.*
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- Secretary** *Council matters*
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- Registrar** *Naming of heathers*
Mr. A.W. Jones, Otters' Court, Back Street, West Camel, Yeovil,
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- Slide Librarian** *Hire of slides*
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- Finance Committee** *Society's finances*
Mr. A. Hall, 18 Albury Avenue, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 7JT.
Tel: (0181) 224 7775
- General Purposes Committee** *Suggestions for improving the Society*
Mrs. D.H. Jones, Otters' Court, Back Street, West Camel, Yeovil,
Somerset, BA22 7QF. Tel: (01935) 850285
- Publications Committee** *Society's publications - or lack of!*
Mr. P.L. Joyner, 84 Kinross Road, Rushington, Totton, Southampton,
Hampshire, SO4 4BN. Tel: (01703) 864336
- Technical Committee** *Any queries regarding culture of heathers*
Mr. D.J. Small, Denbeigh, All Saints Road, Creeping St. Mary, Ipswich,
Suffolk, IP6 8PJ. Tel: (01449) 711220 FAX: (01449) 711220
- Group Organisers** *(Remember, you will be very welcome at any local meeting or visit!)*
- North East** Mrs. D. M. Warner, Littlecroft, Click-em-in, Ponteland,
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- Southern** Mr. A. Hall, 18 Albury Avenue, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 7JT.
Tel: (0181) 224 7775
- South West** Mr. P.L. Joyner, 84 Kinross Road, Rushington, Totton, Southampton,
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