



**THE HEATHER SOCIETY**  
charity registered in England and Wales no. 261407

Hon. Secretary, 84 Kinross Road, Rushington Manor, Totton, Southampton SO40 9BN

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8 August 2019

Dear Member(s)

You will be aware that at the 2017 THS AGM there was an amended proposal that the Society would cease to be a registered charity within three years (*Within three years it is the proposal of Council that The Heather Society will cease to be a registered charity in England and Wales*). The proposal was accepted by the floor of the AGM. Consequently, it is proposed by Council that members should not renew their membership to THS after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, however members will remain on the THS membership database until de-registration unless you request otherwise. Monies received in 2020, to THS, will be treated as donations to THS and will be included in the dispersal of funds as defined within rule 2 (*The Society is instituted to assist the advancement of horticulture and in particular the improvement of and research into the growing of Heaths and Heathers and allied plants*) and within rule 21 (*In the event of the Society being wound up, after payment of all debts and liabilities, the assets of the Society shall pass to a Charity with similar objects, or to be used for similar charitable purposes*). No new members will be allowed to join THS after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

De-registration of THS is the closure of the Society. In order to maintain the legacy of the Society, a not for profit Unincorporated Association is being formed to provide information and cultural advice on heathers. The Association, to be known simply as Heather Society (HS), will operate via a website and will be open to all. HS will not have members, but will accept voluntary donations to meet expenses, with any excess monies being used to fund heather related projects the details of which will be disclosed.

As with all organizations, HS will need to operate under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and therefore will not be able to solicit individual donators directly. Any potential donators will need to give permission for their contact details to be kept by HS, if they wish to receive ongoing newsletters, etc. It is not to be assumed that members of THS will be donators to HS. Donations to a new bank account will be made via standing order, bank transfer or cheque. Credit/debit card donations will be available via PayPal from the website. No financial details on donators will be stored. The existing website, which is not owned by THS, will be the point of contact and will be modified accordingly to reflect the status of HS. Access to the previous members only data area will become freely available together with other modifications to keep the website current and reflect the work of the ongoing HS. Details for the HS bank account will be provided on request.

It is with regret that THS is being wound up but without volunteers willing to become Trustees and manage an organization within the constraints required by being a registered charity then Council has no choice but to de-register the Society. If you wish to become involved in the administration of HS then please express your interest using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Phil Joyner  
Hon. Secretary  
The Heather Society