



Rural Action

Administration building, Loughry Campus,
76 Dungannon Road,
Cookstown, Co Tyrone,
(028) 8648 0900



Pomeroy Woollen Woods Event – Crafters Newsletter 4 – Blooms

Dear Woollen Woods Crafter,

Thank you for your interest and participation in producing artwork for the Woollen Woods event. Following discussion with Mid Ulster District Council the decision has been taken to postpone the Woollen Woods event until 2021 (subject to Covid -19 restrictions), we will continue however to encourage crafters to produce items so we have an even better display next year.

Continuing with our theme of Bees, Butterflies and Blooms, we look at blooms and focus on the county flower for Tyrone the Bog Rosemary in this newsletter.



Bog Rosemary



Bog Rosemary (*Andromeda polifolia*) a beautiful relative of heather, with delicate pink bell-shaped flowers. The rosemary-like foliage is how it has got its common name. The upper sides of the leaves are a similar grey- dark green and the undersides are silver. It is a short woody undershrub associated with lowland raised bogs and is found growing in very wet bogs and peaty heathland amongst Sphagnum moss. Bog rosemary generally flowers from late April to June.

It is one of the special plants of the central Irish peat-bogs, but it is a scarce and declining species within Northern Ireland and is listed as a Priority Species but occurs in Mid Ulster. It is also found in central Britain, from mid-Wales to southern Scotland.

Its decline is mainly due to loss of habitat loss as Bog rosemary only grows on lowland raised bogs which have suffered great loss and damage over the past few hundred years, mainly caused by their use as a fuel source, or by drainage, or exploitation for horticultural peat.



Map showing distribution of Bog rosemary

All species of plants and animals have a Latin Name. The genus – *Andromeda* was named by Carl Linnaeus who compared the plant to Andromeda from Greek mythology

when he observed it during his 1732 expedition to Lapland and *polifolia* means "grey-leaved".

If you would like to find out more information about our plants visit the following website

[Flora of Northern Ireland](#)

I have included some further knitting and crocheting patterns associated with blooms.

Finally, thanks to Pomeroy Resource Centre (Phyllis) and The Rowan Tree Centre (Caroline) they will collection point for items you have completed, so we can store them until next year. Please keep sending me your photos of the wonderful items that you all have been crafting and I would hope to feature these in our next Newsletter. Also, please feel free to contact me if you require any additional materials – wool, felt etc or indeed require any further help or support.

All the best and happy crafting!

Rosemary Hunter

Programme Officer

Connecting Pomeroy - Community Engagement Programme

Email: rosemary@ruralaction.co

Rural Action office (028) 8648 0900