



NatSCA

Natural Sciences Collections Association

<http://www.natsca.org>

Biology Curators Group Newsletter

Title: Group News

Author(s): Not Listed.

Source: Not Listed. (1976). Group News. *Biology Curators Group Newsletter, Vol 1 No 3*, 17 - 18.

URL: <http://www.natsca.org/article/1494>

NatSCA supports open access publication as part of its mission is to promote and support natural science collections. NatSCA uses the Creative Commons Attribution License (CCAL) <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/> for all works we publish. Under CCAL authors retain ownership of the copyright for their article, but authors allow anyone to download, reuse, reprint, modify, distribute, and/or copy articles in NatSCA publications, so long as the original authors and source are cited.

GROUP NEWS

A.G.M. - Preliminary Notice

The Annual General Meeting of the B.C.G. will be held in BOLTON ON DECEMBER 3rd.

It has been suggested that half a day be devoted to the subject of live specimens in museums. Further information will be given in the September Newsletter, in the meantime any enquiries should be referred to Geoff Hancock at Bolton Museum.

Newsletter No. 4 - Collecting Policies

At the meeting the B.C.G. held in Cardiff there was a lively discussion in the afternoon on Collecting Policies. In view of this it has been decided to devote the September Newsletter to this subject. Contributions will be invited from the Cardiff speakers, but any other member with views to express, or any published policies, would be welcome.

To whet the appetite, the following is an extract from the Written Statement of Acquisition Policy 1975-1980 produced by Leicestershire Museums, Art Galleries and Records Service:

Museums Art Galleries and Record Offices have a very distinctive role in collecting, preserving researching and communicating to the general public and to students and scholars, original evidence of the environment and culture, environmental history, cultural history and artistic history.

A County Museum Service or Record Office has a special, indeed over-riding, responsibility to preserve and deploy material evidence of the history and natural history of the County, and any collecting policy must recognise this as the primary responsibility.

Local Material. Subject to nature conservation interests, including any conservation laws and by-laws, the Service will continue to collect all kinds of evidence of local geology, flora and fauna for display, study, reference and educational purposes. It is expected that the primary source of such material will be controlled and properly documented field collecting by the Museum staff and voluntary supporters (e.g. the Leicestershire Flora Committee). However, the acquisition (by purchase if necessary) of important private or historic collection of Leicestershire natural sciences material of all kinds (including records) is of equal importance.

Non-local British Material. So far as the acquisition of individual specimens or groups of specimens for reference, special display or educational purposes are concerned, the biology and earth sciences collections should be regarded as national in scope. The only major difference between the 'local' and 'British' acquisition policy will be that in general large specialised collections of particular significance to other parts of Britain will not, as a general rule, be acquired unless (a) it is clear that more appropriate local museum

services are unwilling or unable to acquire the collection (see para. 8 of the Policy on Additions to the Collections : Ethical Considerations, May 1975) and (b) the Leicestershire Service is capable of providing the accommodation, staff, facilities or supporting services that may be required for the proper preservation and deployment of the collection.

International Collections. For specific display or educational purposes a wide range of geological, botanical or zoological specimens may be acquired, although in most cases only single specimens or small groups of specimens will be acquired. Exceptions in this general policy are those fields in which the Service already serves as a regional reference centre for European or world-wide collections as follows :- birds and butterflies (European), and bryophytes, lichens and minerals (world-wide). Within the limits of the accommodation, staff and financial resources available from time to time, and of the Policy on Additions to the Collections : Ethical Considerations, May, 1975, further additions to these reference collections will be made, normally by gift, collection or exchange.

New Members to June 1976

Ms F. Le Seur	The Museum, Societe Jersiaise, Jersey
Mr J. C. Metcalf	76 Broadway Road, Leicester
Mr A. B. Ritchie	Dundee Museum
Mr D. J. Clarke	Carlisle Museum
Mr R. J. Cleevely	Department of Palaeontology, British Museum
Mr J. R. Laundon	Department of Botany, British Museum
Dr. J. G. Dony	9 Stanton Road, Luton
Ms M. J. Morgan	Dept. of Applied Zoology, University College Bangor
Ms V. Field	Newbury Museum
Mr T. A. Hose	Chester Museum
Mr C. E. Palmar	Glasgow Museum
Dr. D. L. Burkel	Glasgow Museum
Ms G. L. Jones	Glasgow Museum
Mr S. J. Trodd	Area Museums Service for S.E. England
Dr. G. Legg	Booth Museum of Natural History, Brighton
Mr I. G. Robertson	Passmore Edwards Museum, London
Mr R. C. Garner	Manchester Museum
Mr S. E. Okeke	Dept. of Botany, University of Reading.

Institutional Members

Department of Natural History, Glasgow Museum;
The Library, National Museums of Canada, Ottawa;
Natural History Department, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.