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## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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and expectation that someone more able and experienced is elected, with the ability to command respect in the upper orbits of museums and biology. I do hope, however, to stand as Secretary and give time to supporting the endeavours of Chairman and Committee. Perhaps the one aspect of the BCG I would like to emphasise is that there is a danger that the executive could become too remote from the members and the aims of the group. The way members can ensure that this does not happen is by making their views known at every opportunity.

Finally I would like to place on record my thanks to the Committee for their support in the last fifteen months and pass on my best wishes to the new Chairman.

Stephen Flood  
St. Albans Museums

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#### TREASURERS REPORT 1978/79

The financial year for BCG closed on 9th January 1979, on this day the group had assets of £306.01. A detailed breakdown of the accounts is shown below. A few points may need explanation. The large surplus is a result of a subscription rise for 1978 and the unfortunate delay in publication of the Collections survey, for which this sum is earmarked.

Sales of the BRC/BCG Handbook have been going well with a return so far of £60.20.

I have agreed a deposit account for the Liverpool Conference surplus of £68.38. This account is to be kept in reserve for financing similar activities, while at the same time securing a little interest.

This year's major items of expenditure are the BRC/BCG Handbook and Newsletters.

The question of back issues of the Newsletter had been raised by many people and costs of production are being examined.

Payment of subscriptions for 1978 started very slowly and reminders were repeatedly sent out. Out of a total membership of 180 there are still 31 subscriptions outstanding. It is hoped that the introduction of Standing Orders will speed up the paying process and negate the need for a memory. New members continue to drift in.

A positive drive by members to encourage new recruits would prove of great advantage to the group.

Three members have resigned from the group during the year and some others have disappeared. These disappearances are normally due to changes of address. If you change your address please let me know immediately.

Finally, I would like to thank on behalf of BCG Stephen Locke (Director of Exeter Museums) for allowing me the time and facilities to carry out my duties as Treasurer/Membership Secretary. Also Clive Fisher (Admin. Assistant, Exmus) for checking my figures and Sue Challacome for patiently typing many address labels, reports, letters etc.

Kelvin Boot  
Exeter Museum.

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BIOLOGY CURATORS GROUP

Income and Expenditure Account for the period 1st January 1978 to 9th January 1979

<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Cost of Producing:		Subscriptions	472.00
i) Handbook	104.50	Sale of i) Handbooks	60.20
ii) Newsletters	175.14	ii) Newsletters	5.00
Stationery	13.90	Surplus in respect of	
Postage	51.36	Liverpool Conference	68.38
Surplus carried to Members Fund in Balance Sheet	<u>260.68</u>		
	<u>£605.58</u>		<u>£605.58</u>

## BIOLOGY CURATORS GROUP

### Balance Sheet as at 9th January 1979

<u>Members Funds @ 1/1/78</u>	45.33	<u>Cash at Bank</u>	
Add surplus from Income		Current Account	233.26
Expenditure a/c	<u>260.68</u>	Deposit Account	68.38
Balance at 9.1.79	306.01	Cash in Hand	11.00
Amount due to P. Morgan	<u>6.63</u>		
	<u>£312.64</u>		<u>£312.64</u>

K. J. Boot  
Hon. Treasurer  
1.3.79.

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### EDITOR'S REPORT 1978/79

My principal aim as Editor has been to raise the standard of the Newsletter - to make it larger, more entertaining and with as broad a range of articles as possible. I hope that the issues produced this year have succeeded to some degree, although I would be the first to admit that there is still room for improvement. The success achieved has been in large part due to the regional structure of BCG, and my being able to contact members via a regional representative. Unfortunately few submissions for the Newsletter arrive spontaneously, the majority of articles being the result of relentless pressure from myself and the regional contact on unsuspecting biology curators! To those authors who have suffered in this way go my sympathy and thanks for producing the goods (usually) on time. Any member not contacted to date - be forewarned!

What of the future? The regional themes will no doubt be pursued as they give a broad range of interesting articles within the geographical framework. However, it would be useful to occasionally produce an issue on a subject theme - a technical issue, a biological recording issue, or an issue dealing with current research in provincial museums. This requires an effort on behalf of the membership to write an article without unsubtle hints from myself - content of the Newsletter is ultimately dependent on members, and the more scripts I receive the greater the