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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

Title: Book Reviews: Geology in Museums

Author(s): Not Listed.

Source: Not Listed. (1984). Book Reviews: Geology in Museums. *Biology Curators Group Newsletter*, Vol 3 No 8, 475.

URL: <http://www.natsca.org/article/1343>

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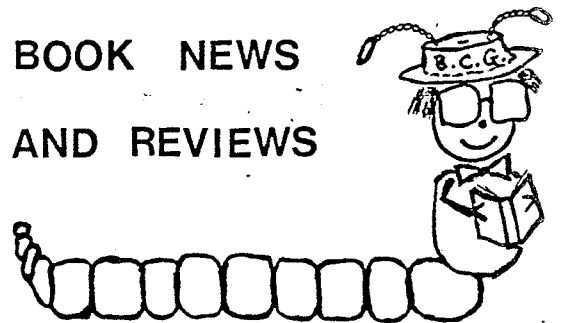
in The Lichenologist, while a subscription to SEaweEDS OF THE BRITISH ISLES (not strictly a journal, but published in parts at irregular intervals by the B.M.N.H.) will assist in the curation of a collection of marine algae.

Thankfully, seaweeds have escaped the clutches of the vice-county system. I wonder sometimes what the term 'vice-county' conveys to a non-biologist - misunderstandings might arise, as in the case of a book incautiously entitled "The Hookers of Kew" which attracted a number of orders from Adult bookshops in the United States.

Turning to journals with a regional bias, one finds that most cover natural history as a whole rather than just botany, and thus fall outside the scope of this article. The TRANSACTIONS OF THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH, however, is strictly botanical though by no means confined to the region of Edinburgh. Its editors are fortunate, perhaps, that Scotland provides nearly half the land area of Great Britain and well above half its most interesting habitats; the Transactions are very broad-minded when publishing ecological or pollen-historical papers. Also worth looking out for is GLASRA, appearing annually from the National Botanic Garden at Glasnevin, Dublin, which is available on exchange and carries articles of interest to curators with significant Irish collections. (See also the IRISH NATURALISTS JOURNAL, and NATURE IN WALES.) Readers will be far more familiar than I on the characteristics of their local natural history or botany journal, so I propose to omit any further reference to these.

Lastly, we turn to the dregs. Chief among these is the X.X.X. N.....r (I dare not mention its name in full !) whose chief value is in lulling the reader to sleep. There are, it is alleged, still a few adherents to a W... F..... Society who as botanical "twitchers" pursue obscure Norse Mythological targets such as Valhalla. If I might end on a serious note, we are fortunate to have a wealth of botanical journals in Britain whose future increasingly depends on sustaining a viable print run. As curators, we can assist their survival by collectively ensuring that our institution's subscriptions are maintained.

BOOK NEWS AND REVIEWS



Geology in Museums: a bibliography and index
by Tom Sharpe
1983

National Museum of Wales, Cardiff; 128pp. Price £2.50 (£3.70 by post)

Over one thousand references relating to geology in museums have been listed by computer with the assistance of the Museums Documentation Association. A keyword index has also been produced which includes cross references to institutions, techniques and museological references. The characteristics associated with machine processing are evident. For example the "anon" papers appear between Messrs. Annenkova and Aprodov rather than at the front as is more traditional. This method has reduced costs to a very reasonable level but without loss of quality in production. The type face is clear and the whole is stitched in eight sections so should withstand average use. It would be worthwhile getting this book bound to last longer. It clearly has a place in every museum library and at its exceptionally reasonable price should be popular with individual curators, trainees and students of natural history in general.