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## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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Title: Booklet Review: "I am beginning my research; what shall I do with my geological specimens?" A not of advice

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"I am beginning my research; what shall I do with my geological specimens?" A note of advice.

S. P. Tunnicliff, 1983 (NERC)

This 16 page booklet, available through G.C.G. has now been produced. The guide lines are in order to assist researchers in deciding how to go about ensuring that the products of their work are permanently preserved (where appropriate). The suggestions are common sense and clearly laid out. The whole is necessary in order to have relatively formal procedures for the deposition and/or transfer of these collections to museums. Then, in theory, they are safe from the vagaries of changing departmental policy in those universities which do not have their own museum provision.

An interesting idea is for museums, having been contacted in advance of the proposed study, to give the research student an accession number which they can put on each specimen and label and use for cataloguing. This obviously reduces the work load of the recipient curator. Belabouring the necessity for full and proper labelling is obviously productive. Too many times it is not stressed and even today most geological collections omit the collector's name from labelling apparently as a matter of no interest.

Now that NERC/SERC have agreed in principle to the concept of collections which have been acquired during work granted by them finding a permanent home in museums, there is clearly a need for similar sets of instructions and advice aimed at botanists and zoologists as well.

E. G. Hancock