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## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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Title: Book Review: Rye's Beetles - A Catalogue of E. C. Rye's Type Specimens in Bolton Museum by E. G. Hancock

Author(s): Lott, D.

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RYE'S BEETLES - A CATALOGUE OF E.C.  
RYE'S TYPE SPECIMENS IN BOLTON MUSEUM  
by E.G. Hancock

Published by Bolton Museum and Art Gallery,  
1985.

This is a 30 page photocopied booklet stapled together in thin card covers. Its primary aim is to catalogue the type specimens of species, which were described by Rye and which are housed at Bolton Museum. This is done with full transcriptions of all labels attached to the specimens and relevant details extracted from the various catalogues associated with the collection. Also included is a list of species, which were described by Rye and whose types are kept elsewhere. Rye's collection arrived at Bolton already incorporated in the large and important collection of P.B. Mason, who acquired many of the outstanding beetle collections of the late 19th Century. Type material associated with other authors is thought to be included in these collections and a list of these authors can be found in the introduction.

Apart from the catalogue of types there is an interesting biographical section, which gives a glimpse of the sense of humour prevalent amongst Victorian coleopterists and includes some useful family details. There are also sections on the history of Rye's collection and a concise introduction to type terminology.

Not all the sections are listed in the contents, which could lead to some confusion, and I would have preferred to see more information on Mason's manuscript catalogue and how it relates to the specimens. However these criticisms are minor when one considers the informative and entertaining manner in which it is written. Undoubtedly this will be a useful publication to researchers wishing to consult Rye's types and all those interested in 19th century entomology.

Derek Lott  
Leicestershire Museums Service

Museums Computer Group

The Museums Computer Group was formed to provide an informal forum for the exchange of information and ideas between people involved in any way with the use of computers in museums.

Forthcoming meetings of the group are provisionally scheduled as follows:

April 10-11 1987	Museum of London
October 1987	Merseyside Museums
April 1988	Nottingham, Wollaton Hall Natural History Museum
October 1988	British Museum (Natural History)/Science Museum

For further information and inclusion on the mailing list, please contact either Charles Pettit (Chairman), Manchester Museum, The University, Manchester M13 9PL or Mary Hider (Secretary), Leicestershire Museums Service, 96 New Walk, Leicester LE1 6TD.

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Subscription rates are £6.00 for individual membership and £10.00 for institutional membership. Contact Adam Wright, Herbert Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry, for application forms.

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