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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

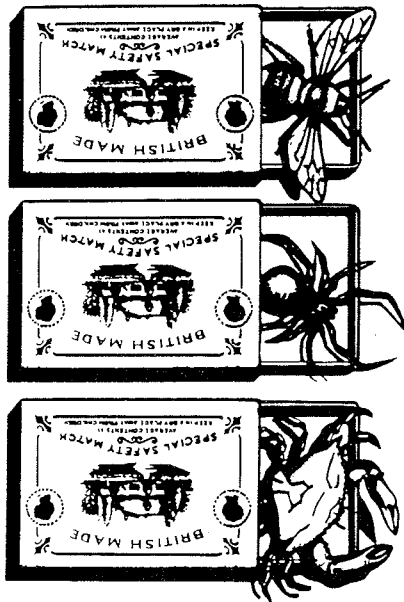
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'CREEPY-CRAWLIES'
THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY
Natural History Museum

the major invertebrate groups - quote 'Insects, Arachnids (spiders & co.), Crustaceans and Centipedes and Millipedes' treated in a lively and novel way using '14 video shows, hundreds of interactive models and specimens'. There is a six metre high termite mound and a giant model of a swallowtail butterfly. The centrepiece is a full size house within the exhibition, 1 Crawley Place, which illustrates the invertebrates that live in association with Man.

Despite the unfortunate title this seems to be a fun exhibition aimed at introducing visitors to the less well-known animal groups. If any BCG members get the chance to see it in the next few months, perhaps they would like to write down their impressions for the next Newsletter.

John Mathias
Editor

Letters

Dear Sir,

I am working on the life of William Robson, 1805-1865.

Amongst many other outstanding hobbies William Robson had a collection of birds eggs which was so good that many naturalists went to see it.

On his death in 1865 this wonderful collection was passed to a museum. The Natural History Museum, Tring, has recommended I write to you as you are compiling records of collections.

Along with all Robson's other great works it is probable the egg collection was not marked with his name.

I realise this is worse than looking for a needle in a haystack, but I would be grateful if any of your members could tell me if they have any knowledge of Robson's collection.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J M Ross
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In the Press

THE LIVING WATERS OF KORUP RAINFOREST

The World Wide Fund for Nature have just published THE LIVING WATERS OF KORUP RAINFOREST by BCG Committee member Dr Gordon Reid of the Horniman Museum, London. This is a preliminary account of the results of a tough, three-month-long, scientific expedition to the steaming jungle of Korup National Park, Cameroon, West Africa. The expedition, organised by the Museum in conjunction with the Cameroonian and British Armies, has drawn a lot of media publicity and there have been colourful articles in a recent issue of GEOGRAPHICAL MAGAZINE and in the latest edition of WWF NEWS. The fact that twenty expedition members contracted a particularly severe form of malaria has also produced comment in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL!

Reid's formal report, now out, is a hydrobiological survey, with an emphasis on the fish and fisheries of the rivers and streams which flow through the rainforest. As well as highlighting problems in conservation and development, there are interesting accounts of rare and scientifically undescribed species and a wealth of original observations on the complex and unsuspected ecological interrelationships between the rainforest and the life in the rivers which drain it.

The report is called THE LIVING WATERS OF KORUP RAINFOREST, WWF Report 3206/A8:1, 70 pages, 29 colour plates, cost £10, available from The Korup Project Office, WWF (UK), Weyside Park, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1XR.