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NSCG Newsletter

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View from the Chair

Dear members, our AGM and Conference will be in Leicester on the 22nd and 23rd of June. The last time we met in Leicester was for the Risk Assessment Workshop in 1995. I hope the conference will be as well attended as the workshop.

By now you will have received the programme for the conference and a booking form, and I urge you all to attend. The lectures are of a high standard and cover a varied range of topics which will contain something of interest to all our members. (I am especially interested in the curry lecture at 7pm!).

Our AGM this year is especially important. Donna Young our Editor must unfortunately give up the editorship and we urgently need a replacement. I appeal to any members of the group who have the energy and enthusiasm to put themselves forward and help us in our hour of need. Donna has done splendid work over the last few years and I hope we can maintain her high standards. Please remember that the newsletter is only as good as its contributors, and we need you all to contribute.

We are to lose a number of committee members this year, and I'd like to thank Tracey Seddon and Kirsten Walker for their years of service. They will be missed. Tracey has been involved with the group from the start and helped organise our first Liverpool conference.

For the AGM and conference to be a success we need your support and attendance. Over the past year we have seen the membership of the group grow, and with threats to collections and posts becoming more prevalent, our group is needed more than ever.

Many of your colleagues will soon be receiving our new leaflet through the mail. The committee has put together a marvellous leaflet to advertise ourselves to the natural science world at large, and as a result we expect to increase our membership in the coming months.

The group, and especially Paul Brown and myself, have been active in the dreaded accreditation debate. Through our intervention we have been successful in supporting and progressing member's applications. I hope to see as many natural science conservators as possible applying for accreditation. This cannot but help to raise the profile of natural science conservation.

See you all in Leicester, and I hope you will all buy me a drink!

Bob Entwistle

Conservation Focus

News and Events from the Conservation World

Grants Available from the Museums & Galleries Commission

International Travel Grants

This scheme aims to promote longer-term contacts and mutual co-operation between UK and overseas museums and to enable museum and conservation professionals to maintain and develop their skills and knowledge.

Applicants should be permanent UK residents working in, or primarily for, museums or museum-related bodies. Eligible projects include study tours and attendance at museum and conservation-related conferences held outside the UK. Priority is given to projects which will establish longer-term partnerships with overseas museums and related organisations. Grants will not normally exceed £500 and 50% matching funding is normally required.

Application deadlines are 1 June, 1 September and 1 December 1999.

MGC Conservation Grants

The schemes under this heading are designed to encourage and promote high standards of conservation and collection care to the benefit of UK museums.

- a. **MGC Conservation Grants: Partnership Projects:** These grants support collaborative projects which pool resources and expertise to promote or develop conservation in the UK.

Eligible applicants are partnerships comprising conservation professionals in the public or independent sectors and/or Registered