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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

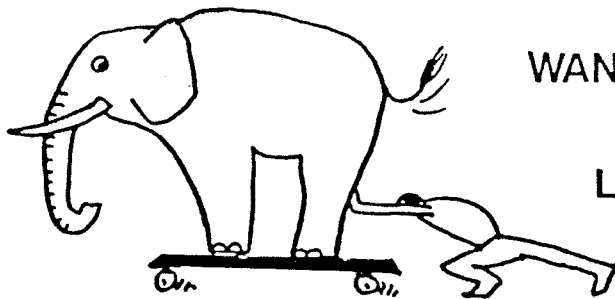
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WANTS, EXCHANGES,

LOST & FOUND



Dear Sir or Madam,

I trust this letter is not too much out of turn. For the past fifteen years I have been researching into the natural history of the English freshwater crayfish, and am currently attempting to gather together all records of its occurrence throughout Great Britain. It would be most helpful and kind if you could let me know of any records of crayfish kept in your natural history collections.

Many thanks in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

Wyn Thomas,
Lecturer in Zoology,
Goldsmiths' College,
University of London,
New Cross,
London.
SE14 6NW

Species Recording Cards.

Once again, many thanks to all members for examples of species recording cards and general information about species recording at local B.R.C's. It seems that techniques, cards and maps vary quite considerably to suit local needs and hopefully there should be something in the review article to interest all of us. Trouble is, Steve reckons there isn't enough room in the current issue for the article, so it should appear next time. Meanwhile, there is still an opportunity for more contributions, so don't miss the boat!

Derek Whiteley

TICKS WANTED

K. P. Martyn is presently compiling distribution data on ticks for the Biological Records Centre, Monks Wood. He has asked if it would be possible for members of B.C.G. to send records or specimens, to be included in his data. (All specimens would be returned.)

Contact: K. P. Martyn, Arachnida & Myriapoda Section, Dept. of Zoology, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD.

FREE FORMALIN

Recent advice from the National Union of Teachers has resulted in a number of schools in South Yorkshire discarding what appears to be perfectly good quality formalin. South Yorkshire County Council, through the operation of its chemical collection service, has been involved in the disposal of this chemical. The Council's policy is to recycle waste materials wherever possible and is therefore willing to offer the formalin it collects free, to any non-commercial body i.e. Museum, University etc. specially within South Yorkshire, which is willing to arrange the transportation. The quantities involved are small i.e. 1-10 litres and it arrives intermittently. However, the approaching school holidays may result in an increase in the amount collected.

Anyone interested in receiving some formalin (the quality of which cannot be guaranteed, but that which is obviously contaminated or defective will not be included) should contact my colleague S. Stonbra 0226 41484 Ext. 3080, or write, for his attention, to the Chief Environment Office, Environment Department, County Offices, County Way, Barnsley, South Yorkshire.

Peter Lingwood

Museum Association Conference Swansea 1983
Specialist Groups Meetings - Tuesday 20th September

Dr. Michael Isaac, of the University College of Swansea and Royal Institution of South Wales Museum, has arranged the following informal programme for BCG members attending the 1983 Museums Association Conference at Swansea.

- 11.00 Assemble at the University College of Swansea and Royal Institution of South Wales Museum, Victoria Road for COFFEE
- 11.30 - 12.30 Visit displays at the above Museum
- 12.30 - 2.00 Lunch on the campus
- 3.00 - 4.00 Visit campus museums. Reconvene at 2.00pm at the Zoology Department Museum, Ground Floor, East Wing of the Natural Science building (East). Dr. Isaac will lead a tour of the Zoology and Geology Museum, Herbarium, Marine Aquarium and Botanic Gardens (with snake pit!)

Contact Dr. M. Isaac (address as above) tel. 0792 53763.

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Don't delay - book NOW for the

HARRISON ZOOLOGICAL MUSEUM VISIT ON 25TH JUNE

There are still some places available for the BCG visit to the Harrison Zoological Museum in Sevenoaks, Kent. (See your last newsletter for full details). This is a rare opportunity to visit an important private zoological Museum, and BCG were very pleased to receive Dr. Harrison's invitation to the Museum and Wildfowl Reserve founded by members of his family.

So check your diaries and then send £1.10 (for lunch) to Penny Wheatcroft, who will also attempt to coordinate transport. Booking should be completed by 20th June 1983 - telephone reservations accepted.

Contact: Penny Wheatcroft
Keeper of Natural History
London Road
Forest Hill
London SE23 3PQ

Tel: 01 699 2339.