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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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A special invitation goes out to members and friends in Ulster and the Republic of Ireland, who we hope will meet us half-way. The Committee would particularly welcome speakers, visitors and news from both areas.

Please contact BCG Secretary with offers and suggestions for both of these meetings:

Derek Whiteley
Sheffield Museum, S10 2TP

NEW TREASURER

Adam Wright has resigned as BCG Treasurer in mid-term owing to pressure of work at Coventry Museum. On behalf of BCG, Committee moved a vote of thanks to Adam for his hard work over many years. We are pleased that he wishes to remain on Committee.

Kathie Way (address on the back page) is Acting Treasurer and all subscriptions and payments should now be forwarded to her.

BCG WATCHDOG



BIOLOGY POSTS LOST AND CREATED

These are the losses and gains which have come to the attention of the Committee during the past two years.

Posts lost

Gilbert White Museum - curator post lost
Tyne and Wear - two posts deleted (see below)
Liverpool - one trainee post lost (in Vertebrate Zoology) (see below)
Middlesbrough - one post apparently not re-appointed
BM(NH) - Bat specialist lost (ex-Bat News)
Sheffield - two Ecology Unit posts threatened, then rerieved
Passmore Edwards Museum - Principal Assistant Curator (Natural Sciences) frozen
Passmore Edwards Museum - Biology Technician post frozen

Posts created

Leicestershire - Assistant Keeper (Botany) unfrozen after eight years
- Assistant County Ecologist
- Ecological Assistant
Chester - Natural History Assistant (re-appointed after delay)
Ipswich - Assistant Curator (Biological Records)
Liverpool - two 'Curator G' posts
Kirkleatham - one natural history post
North Devon - Assistant Curator
Horniman - Museum Assistant (Natural History) unfrozen
RMS - New taxidermy post
Tyne and Wear - Museums Officer (Natural Sciences) re-established
Buckinghamshire - Environmental Records Assistant
Dorchester - Biologist has replaced geologist

Compiled by Derek Whiteley from Committee minutes.

BEWARE!

A Dr Nicholls has been contacting some museums in the UK offering to buy herbarium sheets from the collections, particularly items or collections of British origin dated before 1920.

Members should be aware that BCG fully endorses the Museums Association code of conduct for the disposal of museum artefacts, and would not normally condone the sale of public material to private collectors. Should the situation arise, BCG will intervene on behalf of any member, collection or museum if pressure is applied from any source for disposal to private collectors.

John Mathias (on behalf of the Committee)

NEW SOURCE FOR SKELETAL PREPS AND MUSEUM MOUNTS

Griffin and George are closing down their Biological Production Unit at East Preston in Sussex and will cease to supply real animal (as opposed to plastic) skeletal preps and museum mounts. J R Dunlop, the production manager at Griffin and George who specialises in these items, intends to carry on with that part of the business himself. He has been involved in this field for 25 years and will be producing top quality specimens.

All enquiries should be addressed to:
J R Dunlop, 12 Tideway, Littlehampton,
West Sussex, BN17 6QT. Tel 0903 724983.