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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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Editor's Report 1980-81

With this, the third issue for which I have been responsible for obtaining copy, pasting up, etc., the production has also become transferred to Bolton. Although this means more work it is more satisfying to be able to be in complete control from the manuscript stage to posting the complete printed newsletter. Astute readers have noticed that we have decided on three newsletters per year but that about the same numbers of pages are produced in that time. This saves on labour and postage, envelopes, etc., an important consideration. Similarly, attempts at obtaining advertising revenue and selling offprints are decreasing the costs of production, albeit marginally.

The last editor's report appealed for more membership comment on the newsletter in the realms of philosophy or practicality but none has been received. In the absence of any such criticism (or even praise) we can only carry on in the same vein and format. Initiating such ventures as "Featured Institution", "Collections and Information Sought and Found" and "Handwriting" relies on the members sending in material to keep these sections going. Little snippets of interest to fill up the bottom halves of pages are also difficult to find single-handed. Many thanks to those who have responded to requests for material or even sent in copy completely unsolicited over the last year. Keep up the good work!

E. Geoffrey Hancock
27 January 1981.

SURREY BIOLOGICAL RECORD CENTRE

The Surrey Biological Records Centre (covering the whole of v.c.17) has recently been established as an independent unit of the County Library Service at Leatherhead and we are at present attempting to compile a list of existing material and records in our county establishments so that the record can be as complete as possible.

We would be grateful to hear from curators of biological collections who have any relevant Surrey material in their care or have during the course of their investigations come across material or records in other collections or institutions.

This coverage should ideally state:-

- 1) Nature, range and dates of collection of the material or records (if known).
- 2) Condition and degree of risk they would attach to it (i.e. seen in garage or loft, unlikely to survive more than five years, or whatever).
- 3) We are especially interested in tracing manuscript notes of unpublished work. The area includes much of the present Greater London area south of the Thames and it would be invaluable to know of old records from this area which is now largely built over.

Telephone calls are welcome: J. A. Keefe, Surrey Biological Records Centre, Biology Centre, Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon, Surrey. Tel: 633-8881 or Caterham 43727).