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Author(s): Garland, S.

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EDITORIAL

The Biological Recording Seminar at Leicester was attended by over 80 people and can be regarded as a resounding success. Everyone we spoke to at the meeting seemed to enjoy the talks and all seemed to feel that the subject of biological recording needed critical discussion. We heard about many problems of both small and titanic (sorry Charlie) proportions and, although answers were not found to them all, the idea of a national forum seemed well received.

We hope to bring you the products of the seminar in printed form in the near future.* Meanwhile, we have already received a couple of last minute contributions which are squeezed into this issue.

We are particularly delighted to be able to include a report on the Cornish Biological Records Unit. The mystery surrounding how this remote part of England functions as a centre based in a non-museum institution is at last revealed! How refreshing it is to read Stella Turk's report; full of enthusiasm and positive thinking - a credit to all concerned and a reminder to the rest of us.

This issue also contains a fair amount of material for those biologists in museums not involved with running a records centre. We would like to hear a lot more about collections, technical matters, books, legislation, displays, exhibitions, storage, research and enquiries during 1985 so that the Newsletter doesn't become too one-sided!

Reading back through some past issues, we noticed that Peter Davis, in his editor's report for 1978/9, had a few good ideas about subject themes for future editions. One suggested topic "current research in provincial museums" seems to have received little coverage in recent years. Are provincial museums still active in other research fields, apart from collection research and local wildlife research? Let's hear from you in 1985.. Short notes, abstracts, summaries of research activities, researchers using your museum etc... etc...

Finally, as we approach the end of Volume 3, and incidentally our tenth birthday, we would like to thank all contributors to this volume. Our personal editorial aim, to break the 600 page barrier has been achieved (just) without too much provocation. Now is the time to start writing for Volume 4. Everyone could and should, at least, support the 'Museum News' bit. Do remember that we are a true newsletter, not a high-flying biological journal.

Thank you for your support this year;
Keep your pens writing
and
have a nice Christmas.

* This will be in the form of a supplement to the next Newsletter.