



<http://www.natsca.org>

## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

---

Title: Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Biology Curators Group held at the British Museum (Natural History) on Tuesday 22nd February 1983

Author(s): Stansfield, G.

Source: Stansfield, G. (1983). Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Biology Curators Group held at the British Museum (Natural History) on Tuesday 22nd February 1983. *Biology Curators Group Newsletter, Vol 3 No 6*, 270 - 271.

URL: <http://www.natsca.org/article/1380>

---

NatSCA supports open access publication as part of its mission is to promote and support natural science collections. NatSCA uses the Creative Commons Attribution License (CCAL) <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/> for all works we publish. Under CCAL authors retain ownership of the copyright for their article, but authors allow anyone to download, reuse, reprint, modify, distribute, and/or copy articles in NatSCA publications, so long as the original authors and source are cited.

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Biology Curators Group held at the British Museum (Natural History) on Tuesday 22nd February 1983.

1 Apologies were received from Mike Hounsome, Peter Morgan, Peter Davis, and Charles Steele.

Members present Eric Greenwood (chair), G.Stansfield, P.Lambley, G.Hancock. M.Brendell, S.Garland, J.Mathias and J.Cooper (representing GCG).

2 Minutes of the meeting held 30th November 1982 were approved and signed.

3 Matters arising

- a) Chester Museum The Chairman reported that an MSC post was to be created to assist with the dispersal of collections. A meeting of interested museums and representatives of the BCG and GCG would take place in Chester.
- b) Tax allowance John Mathias reported that application had been made and some further details supplied.
- c) Howie article The Secretary reported that Mr Howie had been reminded and was still prepared to write the article.
- d) CoEnCo The Secretary reported that he had written again to the Secretary of the Museums Association. He had also asked Charles Steele to pursue the matter but no response had been received. In the circumstances, it was agreed to pay the subscription but to pursue the matter with the Museums Association.
- e) Wildlife and Countryside Act seminar report. Copy for this had been sent to the Editor in January. It was agreed to publish the report as a Special Publication. John Mathias agreed to arrange for a cover to be designed incorporating the BCG logo. Material would be sent to Geoff Hancock for printing. It was agreed to print 300 and to distribute as many as possible at the AGM, sending the remainder by post.
- f) H.M.Customs The Secretary reported that the subject was covered in part by Mike Hounsome's article. It was clear that more guidance was needed and it was agreed to pursue the matter.
- g) Burton on Trent The Chairman had written to the Recreation Officer with copies of the letter to the East Midlands Area Museum Service and to the Museums Association.
- h) Cardiff Conference Report Peter Morgan had reported that papers were almost ready to go to press.
- i) Reg Harris bibliography John Mathias reported that he had arranged for this to be typed in Leicester and that he was in touch with Reg Harris.

4 Future Programme

- a) AGM 1983 Details of the programme and the Agenda for the AGM were included in the current Newsletter (tabled). As far as officers and committee were concerned, the Chairman would approach Penny Wheatcroft to stand as Secretary, and Geoff Stansfield would approach Charles Copp.
- b) ICOM Natural History Committee meeting The Secretary gave details of the excursion which was to leave London on the evening of Thursday 28th July to Edinburgh, the Farne Islands and Newcastle returning to London on Sunday 31st. Members wishing to participate were asked to contact Tony Tynan.

4 Future Programme (continued)

- c) Harrison Museum Details and booking procedure were included in the current Newsletter.
- d) Museums Association Conference - Swansea The Secretary reported that he had spoken to Dr Isaac who was heavily involved in general conference arrangements. He had offered to put together a programme starting with coffee and followed by visits to the Swansea Institute, to various University Museums and to the Botanic Garden, leaving time for a general discussion. It was agreed to accept this offer.
- e) Other Members were asked to suggest possible venues for the 1984 AGM at the next meeting. A seminar on the identification of labels, handwriting etc. was discussed.

5 Museums Association Matters

- a) Working Party on Natural Science Collections Resources The Chairman reported on the last meeting. In the absence of a nomination from the Museums Association, Janet Chamberlain had taken the chair. An anonymous grant of £4,000 had been made and applications for further grant aid were under consideration. It was hoped that it might be possible to advertise a one year post by Easter.
- b) Natural Sciences Diploma Course The Secretary reported on the two meetings which had been held in Leicester. A detailed programme for the two week course would be available within the next few weeks. It was agreed that this should be circulated to members together with the Department of Museum Studies Learning Goals and an explanatory paper - subject to Geoff Tresise's approval. The Museums Association were considering a request that the course be made an official Diploma Course.
- c) Registration of Museums No further information had been received.

6 Review of Area Museum Services

It was noted that an announcement of the review had appeared in the most recent Museums Association Bulletin with an invitation to submit comments by the end of February. It was agreed that the Secretary should write drawing attention to those areas which were of concern to BCG and offering to send more detailed comments at a later date.

7 Officers reports

- a) Editor Steve Garland reported that material was accumulating for the next two issues of the Newsletter.
- b) Treasurer John Mathias reported a balance of £675 in the deposit account and £764 in the current account. There were some subscriptions still to come in. There were 170 personal members, 47 institutional members and 4 complementary
- c) Secretary The Secretary reported on correspondence

A.O.B.

- a) John Burton of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society had enquired whether it would be possible to produce a list of museum holdings of endangered species.
- b) Biological Record Centres The Chairman spoke of the need to take a further initiative with regard to ERC's.

Next Meeting

This was arranged to take place at the British Museum (Natural History) on Tuesday 26th April.

G. STANFIELD

HON. SEC.