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## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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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.