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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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Report of the Treasurer and Membership Secretary

I am pleased to report that 1982-83 was a satisfactory financial year for the Group. There was a small trading surplus of £271.77 and this, added to the funds remaining at the end of the previous financial year, accounts for the Group's total assets of £1422.19. The details of expenditure are given on the account sheet.

During the course of the 1983-84 financial year I anticipate Newsletter production and mailing costs to be about £800 with a further £160 committed to the production of the BCG special report no.2 (on the Wildlife and Countryside Act seminar) which will be distributed free to members. On this basis I can foresee expenditure remaining slightly less than income so there should be no pressure to increase subscription rates next year.

The Group's revenue is drawn almost entirely from subscriptions (£967.00 last year). Advertising brought in a further £61.70 but I am sure we can improve on this. I have therefore asked the committee to make one of its incoming members responsible for finding and liaising with potential advertisers in an effort to increase revenue from this source.

On the membership side we have seen an increase of 15 to 220 overall (50 institutional and 170 personal).

John Mathias
23.3.1983

BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS INVESTIGATION

The Museums Association Working Party on Natural Science Collections Resources has approved the final details of the appointments and duties of a full-time investigator. The hard work of the Museums Association secretary, Miss Brenda Capstick, has resulted in the acquisition of grant aid to cover the costs of one year's salary and associated expenses. The person to be appointed (probably to start work late August) will be responsible for gathering data on the facilities and level of curation of biological collections to match the work of the Geological Curators' Group. This resulted in Phil Doughty's Report published by the Geological Society, Misc. Paper No. 13 "The state and Status of Geology in U.K. Museums".

The Museums Association

BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS INVESTIGATOR

Salary: £5,520-£7,700 plus 1983 pay award pending

Applications are invited for a full-time Investigator to undertake a survey of the state and status of biological collections in the United Kingdom and to prepare a report of the findings. The person appointed will be responsible to the Museums Association's Working Party on Natural Science Collection Resources. The project has been initiated as an essential prerequisite to the formulation of national policy and the determination of standards of curatorial care for such collections.

The post will be tenable for a period of one year and will be located in the Department of Zoology, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. Conditions of service will be related to those operating in this institution.

Candidates should possess a degree in biological sciences, and some experience of museum work is desirable. Applications, with the names and addresses of two referees, should be addressed to the Secretary, The Museums Association, 34 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SF, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

Closing date for applications: 17 June 1983.