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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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BIOLOGICAL RECORDING FORUM

Chelsea College, University of London

17-18 April 1985

The Biological Records Centre (ITE, Monks Wood) and the Biology Curators' Group are collaborating to organise a forum to discuss the practical aspects of biological recording. The Forum will follow on from the seminar, *Biological recording and the use of site based biological information*, organised by the Biology Curators' Group at Leicester, in September 1984.

Structure of the Forum

The Forum is intended to allow those concerned with the practical aspects of biological recording to discuss methods and problems, and to exchange views. The Forum will be structured in 7 sessions, each devoted to a single theme. Each theme will be introduced briefly by the theme leader, who will then chair the open discussion. The theme leaders will also summarise the discussion, and if relevant, draw up a set of conclusions. It is hoped that all participants will take an active part in the discussions.

Pre-prints and publication

Pre-prints, introducing the 7 themes, will be circulated to all participants before the Forum. Written summaries of discussions and conclusions will be prepared by theme leaders for publication after the Forum.

Accommodation and facilities (NB BOOKING CLOSES 23 JANUARY 1985)

Residential accommodation will be single study/bedrooms in the Lightfoot Hall of Chelsea College in Manresa Road, off Kings Road, London SW3. All meals can be provided for those who book. The discussion sessions will also be held at Chelsea College. A licenced bar will be available at lunchtimes and in the evenings. NB Car parking is not available at the College, although there is on street parking on metres.

Discount travel

British Rail offers discounts of up to 30% on fares for conference delegates. If you intend to travel by train please indicate this on the booking form. Details of how to obtain this discount will then be sent to you.

Participants

It is hoped that participants will be drawn from the following organisations and groups

- Local records centres
- Biology Curators' Group
- County naturalists' trusts
- Royal Society for Nature Conservation
- Nature Conservancy Council
- Institute of Terrestrial Ecology
- National Trust Biological Survey
- Museum Documentation Association
- National biological recording scheme organisers.

If there is anyone who you think may be interested in the Forum, but may not be contacted as a result of mailing to the above, please let the organisers know as soon as possible.

Organisers

Paul Harding (BRC)
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17-18 April 1985

P R O G R A M M E

Wednesday 17 April

- 10.00 am Assemble and coffee
- 10.30 am Introduction by Charles Copp and Paul Harding
- 10.45 am THEME I (Leader: Paul Harding)
- What is a biological record?
The minimum standards for a record.
- 12.30-1.45 pm Lunch
- 1.45 pm THEME II (Leader: Tony Irwin)
- Validation of records
The status of records, the need for voucher material
and taxonomic vetting.
- 3.30-4.00 pm Tea
- 4.00 pm THEME III (Leader: Sue Cross)
- Networking
How records can be acquired.
- 6.00 pm Theme III ends
- 6.30 pm Dinner

Thursday 18 April

9.00 am THEME IV (Leader: Lawrence Way)

 Data Storage
 Form, access and security.

10.30-11.00 am Coffee

11.00 am THEME V (Leader: Charles Copp)

 Computing
 A review of the present situation and a forward look.

12.30-1.45 pm Lunch

1.45 pm THEME VI (Leader: Pam Copson)

 Uses and users
 The rationale of recording.

3.30-4.00 pm Tea

4.00 pm THEME VII (Leader: Geoff Stansfield)

 The problems being faced
 Possibilities for future developments in recording.

6.00 pm Forum ends

6.30 pm Dinner

CONFERENCE ON SAFETY IN MUSEUMS

16th-17th September 1985

Organised by ; B.M.(N.H.) & Museums Association & U.K.I.C.

To be held at Flett Lecture Theatre, Geological Museum.

Numbers limited to 200

Contact the Museums Association for details.