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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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BCG Autumn Meeting

Live Animal Displays in Museums - the Lower Vertebrates

25 September 1987 at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry.

Programme

- 10.00am Museum opens
- 10.30am Coffee
- 11.00am "Legislation Relating to Live Animal Displays" What are the implications of the various Acts? Zoo Licensing; Wildlife and Countryside; CITES etc Gordon Reid (Horniman Museum, London) will tell you!
- 11.45am "Freshwater Aquaria and Developments at Bolton" Bolton aquarium will, by September, be undergoing major refurbishment. Tim Henshaw (Bolton Museum) will discuss approaches and problems.
- 12.45pm Lunch
- 1.45pm "Marine Aquaria" Denis Murphy (Liverpool Museum) will talk on "The management of temperate and exotic marine fish and invertebrates in closed systems", including discussion of some new display techniques based on field observations made on the Great Barrier Reef.
- 2.30pm "Vivarium Design for Public Display" Nigel Platt (Cotswold Wildlife Park). Confused by the Tru-lite/Black light controversy (or never heard of it)? Want to know how to provide a vivarium where your animals feel secure but can still be seen? Trade secrets from Nigel ...
- 3.15pm "Sexing and Breeding Reptiles and Amphibians" Adam Wright (Coventry Museum). Everything you wanted to know about reptile sexing but were afraid to ask! Also information on egg incubation and how to elicit a mating response (in reptiles and amphibians anyway!)
- 4.00pm Tea and biscuits
- 4.30pm Discussion
- 5.15pm Depart

Booking forms available now from Adam Wright, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry CV1 5RW. There will be a fee of £3 for the seminar to cover costs of speakers' travel and producing a set of transcripts for each delegate (these will be available on the day).

AGM 87

For those members unable to attend the 1987 AGM, the officers' reports are published below.

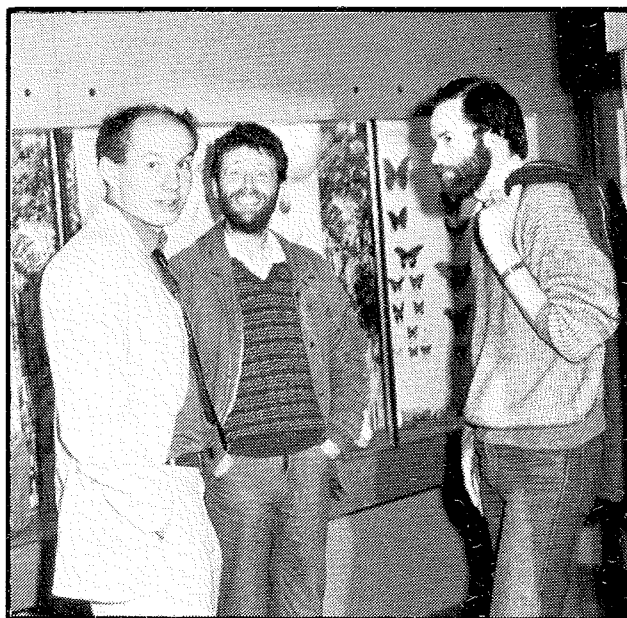
Chairman's report

This report is written as Acting Chairman due to the recent resignation of Tony Irwin. He was elected at our 1986 AGM and has worked hard for the Group throughout the year. However, due to the pressure of other commitments, he felt obliged to resign in February of this year. I thank him for all he has done for the Group, both as Chairman and as a Committee member.

This past year has seen some important events. The National Federation for Biological Recording was launched last April, a body spawned by the BCG; and in July the Museums Association Conference was treated to an excellent address by Peter Davis discussing the role of the BCG (you will all have read this in the last Newsletter).

In recent years the BCG has probably been a little lacking in certain areas. We suffered from poor attendances at meetings and many members seemed reluctant to become involved in activities of the Group by joining the Committee or by contributing to the Newsletter.

We now have an enthusiastic Committee, an excellent new Newsletter with a distinct professional touch, a new journal on the way and today our best attended meeting ever! Even the Museums Association, under its new Director General, seems to be taking a more positive attitude towards us!



AGM 87: Steve Garland and Ray Barnett with Howard Mendel.