



NatSCA

Natural Sciences Collections Association

<http://www.natsca.org>

Biology Curators Group Newsletter

Title: The Sunflower Campaign: Our Decaying Natural Heritage

Author(s): Mathias, J.

Source: Mathias, J. (1989). The Sunflower Campaign: Our Decaying Natural Heritage. *Biology Curators Group Newsletter*, Vol 5 No 3, 25.

URL: <http://www.natsca.org/article/894>

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.



NEWSLETTER



September 1989

Vol 5 No 3

The Sunflower Campaign

OUR DECAYING NATURAL HERITAGE



Biology Curators Group
**SUNFLOWER
CAMPAIGN**

THE SUNFLOWER CAMPAIGN OUR DECAYING NATURAL HERITAGE

The SUNFLOWER CAMPAIGN is part of BCG's response to the Museums Association report BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS UK. It is designed to highlight the inadequacy of funding for biological collections and, by calling on statistics published in the report, to stress the fact that

many unique collections have been lost, are decaying or are at risk through understaffing, poor storage and general neglect.

Two SUNFLOWER CAMPAIGN leaflets are enclosed with this Newsletter. More are available from Derek Whiteley at Sheffield Museum. The campaign is being launched by Derek at the Museums Association Conference in York on September 19th; we hope to have a good audience of councillors and museum directors. We are asking all our members to send a copy of the SUNFLOWER CAMPAIGN leaflet to their governing bodies and museum managers, preferably in time for the Conference launch, but if not as soon after the 19th as possible.

Why a sunflower? Well, in 1987 a vase of them, painted by Van Gogh, fetched 25 million pounds at auction. Our point is that a small bunch of sunflowers, perhaps only two or three, represents sufficient funds to cure the present ills affecting biological collections in provincial museums. We have the will and the expertise to save our natural heritage; what we need now is a sunflower or two to provide the wherewithal - by Van Gogh of course!

John Mathias
Editor

