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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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AGM 89

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT DUNDEE MUSEUM ON FRIDAY 19 MAY
1989 at 4.30pm

1 Apologies were received from Adam Wright, Tim Riley, Gordon Reid, Peter Davis, Paul Harding, Geoff Stansfield, Margaret Hartley, Jerry Lee, Willie Milne, Ray Mahoney.

2 Minutes of the 1988 AGM were approved, proposed by Derek Lott, seconded by Geoff Hancock.

3 Chairman's Report. Steve Garland read a report on the Group's activities (to be published in the Newsletter).

4 Secretary's Report. Derek Whiteley read a report on the Committee's activities (to be published in the Newsletter).

5 Editor's Report. John Mathias read the Editor's Report (to be published in the Newsletter).

6 Treasurer's Report. Adam Wright sent copies of the accounts for 1987/88 and 1988/89 for circulation and comments. AGM endorsed the Committee's decision to hold subscriptions at the present rates for a further year. Acceptance proposed by Steve Moran, seconded Paul Richards.

7 Election of Officers and Committee

Officers

Chairman: Steve Garland
Secretary: Derek Whiteley
Treasurer: Adam Wright
Editor: John Mathias

Special Publications

Editor: Gordon Reid
Committee members: Clem Fisher, Kathie Way, Jerry Lee, Willie Milne, Colin Plant, Rosina Down were re-elected unopposed.
Membership Secretary: Kathie Way, proposed by Clem Fisher, seconded by Rosina Down.

Committee

Phil Collins, Steve Moran and Howard Mendel have served three years and retire.

Richard Sutcliffe (Glasgow) proposed Steve Moran, seconded Willie Milne.
Alec Coles (Sunderland) proposed Derek Whiteley seconded Steve Garland were duly elected unopposed.

8 Date and place of next AGM.
Manx Museum, Douglas, Isle of Man early May 1990 (date to be announced in the Newsletter).

9 There was no other business and the meeting closed at 5pm.

Derek Whiteley
BCG Secretary

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It has been another busy year for BCG. On the publications front you will soon receive the first issue of our JOURNAL and two special leaflets on Animal Rights Groups and Collection Disposals. In addition, the Manual of Biological Curatorship is moving forward at last.

Our meetings programme is fairly well filled for the next year or two, although if anyone is keen to organise any others, or has ideas for themes, let the Committee know.

In addition to our previous monitoring of collections at risk this year we have kept detailed records of biology posts lost or created. Please inform the Committee if you hear of any such losses or gains.

Since the publication of the Museums Association's Report, BIOLOGY COLLECTIONS - UK, there has not exactly been a leap in the good fortunes of natural history collections. However, some Area Museum Councils are seriously pursuing the idea of peripatatic biology curators and some money, albeit limited at present, has been forthcoming from the Museums and Galleries Commission. BCG's Sunflower Campaign starts at this AGM.

The Museums Association has organised a meeting of relevant bodies in June to discuss the way forward; BCG will be present and will be pushing hard for resources. We will also be presenting a session at the MA Conference in York in September. However, as always, the final success or failure of this campaign will depend mostly on the support and activity of BCG's membership. The success of the 'Beetle Down ...' campaign is now a matter of record and the Secretary will report further on this.

Steve Garland
Chairman

SECRETARY'S REPORT

It has been an exceptionally busy year for your Committee. We met five times; once at Sheffield Museum, three times at University College, London, and yesterday here in Dundee. Once again, our sincere thanks go to these