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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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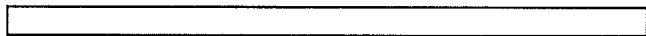
Yorkshire and Humberside, and Scotland. The work being done includes adding a new field to allow entries to be coded according to the period the collection was assembled. Each decade covered is coded, so that now one can select collections containing 'pre-1850 material', or those with specimens from 1909-1919.

In April 1991 a further MGC grant of £5000 has enabled the South West, South East, and, in part, the North of England data to be processed during the current year. The South East data gathering, including input from the BM(NH) and Kew, is almost complete; the South West CRU expect to complete data gathering by January 1992. A grant of £3000 is being requested to complete the North of England data, and to process the Midlands information; the Midlands *Register of Collections* should be available from November 1991.

As the concordance of the data for each region is completed, it is being copied back to the relevant CRU, who then become responsible for any further updating and editing. Periodically each upgraded regional database will be copied back again to the MDA, where it will replace the previous version in the national database. A security copy of the latest version of the national database will still be held at Manchester Museum.

Curators should make use of this information resource, and encourage other workers to do so as well. Search enquiries should be addressed to Kate Jeary. MDA, 347 Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge CB1 4DH,

Charles Pettitt
Manchester Museum



Simon Moore moves to Hampshire

After 23 years of curating at the Natural History Museum Simon Moore has moved to a brand new laboratory at the Hampshire County Museums Service, Winchester, as Conservator of Natural Sciences. He will be available, once again, to answer questions about freeze-drying and fluid preservation of natural history specimens.



Committee News

At the AGM in Liverpool on 5th April 1991 the following Committee was elected (year of election in brackets)

Chairman Steve Garland (1987), Bolton Museum, Greater Manchester

Secretary (Acting)

Mike Graham (1991), Towneley Hall Museum, Burnley, Lancs.

Treasurer/Membership Secretary

Kathie Way (1989), Natural History Museum, London

Newsletter Editor

John Mathias (1986), Leicestershire Museums Service, Leicester

Journal and Special Publications Editor

Bill Pettitt (1991), Manchester Museum, Greater Manchester

Education Officer

Alec Coles (1990), Sunderland Museum, Tyne and Wear

Committee

Steve Judd (1990), Liverpool Museum, Merseyside

Ray Barnett (1990), Bristol Museum, Avon

Richard Sutcliffe (1989), Glasgow Museum, Strathclyde

Steve Hewitt (1990), Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, Cumbria

Mark Simmons (1991), North of England Museums Service, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Rosina Down (1991), UCL, London

Steve Maron (1991), Inverness Museum

Co-opted

Di Hawkes (GCG Rep)

Geoff Stansfield (Manual of Curatorship)

Subscriptions were raised from 1 January 1992 to £8.00 for individual membership and £15 for institutional membership. (Remember that as a museum professional you should be able to reclaim income tax on your subs.) There has been a 10% increase in membership, due totally to the hard work of Kathie Way.

A number of subjects have occupied the Committee this year.

Some museums have had worrying experiences because of the retrospective granting of wildlife import licences. Confiscated items have been