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Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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Author(s): Mathias, J.

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Report of the Treasurer and Membership Secretary

I am pleased to be able to report that 1981 was a satisfactory year for the Group financially. Our bank balance remains in credit although it is fair to say there have been few financial commitments apart from the production and mailing of the Newsletter. Paper and printing costs for the three issues were £352.75 and mailing cost £131.50 (this figure was kept low by extensive hand delivery) giving a total of £484.25. We can expect this to increase in 1982 but the new membership rates (£4.00 personal, £7.00 institutional from January 1st 1982) should be adequate to finance the Newsletter and one or two other items which have been undertaken by the committee. These include the printing of a leaflet outlining the aims and objectives of the Group, expenses for the Cardiff Conference, and a possible reprint of volume 1 of the Newsletter.

The only grant received in 1981 was £25.00 from the Museums Association to cover the cost of BCG observer membership of the Council for Environmental Conservation. There was an increase in advertising revenue during the year, but the Newsletter could easily carry more advertisements than it does and we should look to increased income from this source in 1982.

Membership went up during the year to 205 (38 institutional and 167 personal) although there remains a handful of members who are two years in arrears with their subscriptions and will be deleted from the membership list at the next review.

The full balance sheet will be submitted to the AGM for approval at the end of the financial year.

John Mathias
18.1.1982

£90,000 FOR NATURE FOUNDATION

Daily Telegraph Reporter

NATURALIST Dr David Bellamy said yesterday that he had been given £90,000 of industrial sponsorship to use for conservation purposes with which he intended to start a Conservation Foundation that would help with "conservation in the broadest sense from artifacts to natural history."

He was speaking at the re-opening of the Kendal Museum, which has been modernised at a cost of £44,000 with substantial help from the English Tourist Board and the North West Museums Advisory service.

Dr Bellamy said: "The £90,000 has come as a result of my saying on the radio that big industry should come forward with sponsorship for conservation."

10 October 1981

'TV extravaganza'

"When the offer was made I said I just had ideas and was not an organiser. But then I decided to take it and think of some way to use it, and the Conservation Foundation is the result."

"It will have an office in London and will be launched officially next year," he added.

He hoped that his foundation would be able to promote conservation awards similar to academy awards given for film acting and so on.

He said: "I want to see a two-hour extravaganza on television celebrating conservation ideas, with Conservation Foundation awards given for museums and natural history."