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Natural Sciences Collections Association

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## NSCG Newsletter

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### **A Future for Fossils, Cardiff**

14th - 15th October 98. A two day symposium on the sustainable management of our fossil heritage.

Organised by English Nature, National Museums & Galleries of Wales and Cardiff University.

Papers and presentations on any aspect of fossil site conservation and management are invited. Early registration is advisable. Costs: £20, registration after 10th July is £30. For further information and registration details contact: Mrs Liesbeth Diaz, Department of Earth Sciences, Cardiff University, PO Box 914, Cardiff CF1 3YE.

Tel: 01222 874830,

Email: diaz@cardiff.ac.uk

### **ICOM-CC: WOAM Working Group Interim Meeting, 19th - 23rd October 98, Grenoble, France.**

The Regional Conservation Workshop-Nucléart (ARC - Nucléart) will host the ICOM-CC West Organic Archaeological Materials conference. This will consist of four days of papers followed by a one-day excursion. Official languages: French and English. For further information contact: Céline Bonnot, Conference Administrator, ARC-Nucléart, CEA/Grenoble, 17 rue des Martyrs, 38054 Grenoble cedex 9, France.

Fax: 33 (0)4 76 88 50 89

**Restoration 98, 10th - 12th December 98, Amsterdam RAI;** the international exhibition of techniques for the restoration and conservation of cultural heritage. The programme will include providers of services and methods for restoration and conservation and suppliers of materials. It will also feature service providers such as contractors and laboratories, together with foundations, government bodies and educational institutions. For further information contact: Loes Roos or Claartje van Mol  
Tel: +31 205491212

## **New Publication**

### **Levels of Collection Care**

The MGC published this book on the 20th May. The publication offers clear and realistic benchmarks to enable museums and related organisations to evaluate how well they are caring for their collections. The book gives an indication of improvements which might be needed and provides a benchmark against which future progress can be measured.

*Levels of Collection Care* follows the framework set out by MGC Registration and uses three levels of care, 'Basic', 'Good' and 'Best' practice, to provide museums with a self-assessment checklist. The outcome of this assessment can be used in a number of ways, in the development of a Forward Plan or as part of the preparation for an application for Registration or a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Peter Winsor, MGC Collection Care Officer, commented: "The general approach used in the (this publication) is to identify the

current situation in order to raise awareness, then outline action to be taken and, finally, implementation and review. It is an essential tool for everyone concerned with the care of museum collections."

*Levels of Collection Care* is available from MGC Publications priced £6.00 plus £1.25 p&p (UK), £2.50 (overseas). Cheques should be made payable to the Museums and Galleries Commission and all orders should be sent to MGC Publications, 16 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AA. Tel: 0171 233 4200, alternatively, email: n.poole@mgcuk.co.uk

#### *Note from NSCG Editor:*

*The report given on this publication has come from the MGC themselves. If any of our membership have obtained this publication and would like to review and comment on its practical application the Editor would be most grateful.*

*Reviews of any new publications concerning the care and conservation in any area of natural science collections are invited.*