



# COPROLITE

DROPPINGS  
FROM THE  
GEOLOGICAL  
CURATORS  
GROUP

*Coprolite* is compiled by Tom Sharpe, 49 Kelston Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff CF4 2AG and produced by Monica Price, University Museum, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PW. It is published three times a year in February, May and November. Any material for inclusion should be sent to Tom Sharpe by the first of the previous month, i.e. by 1 January, 1 April or 1 October.

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Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Andy Newman, Hancock Museum, Barras  
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## From the retiring Chairman

My third and final year as Chairman comes to a close with something of a bang. One of my objectives when I took over as Chairman was to press for the scope of the Group's interests to widen into Europe where so many opportunities for collaborative ventures were appearing. Coincidentally, the Madrid meeting this year took some edge off this initiative, but nonetheless I was able to suggest in my last report that a meeting of European geological curators, organised by this Group would be held in Brussels. Sadly, our putative hosts in Belgium could not oblige. However, just last week, it was confirmed that the Senckenberg Museum in Frankfurt, Germany are able and willing to host such a meeting in 1994. Thus, your new Chairman and Committee will have plenty to do in this regard, so watch out for further reports in *Coprolite*.

This year saw the inauguration of the Brighton Medal, with the presentation in March of Founder's Medals to Mrs Edith Brighton and posthumously to David Price, received by his widow, Mrs Valerie Price. At today's meeting we have made the presentation of the first award to Dr Charles Waterston. I am proud to have been associated with this marvellous initiative of the Group, conceived by David Price.

A number of meetings and seminars were successfully held throughout the year, but sadly, one had to be cancelled. This is a rare event but it is one which we hope will not be repeated. Committee has decided to explore the practicalities of a Meetings Secretary's post during the coming year, and pending a successful outcome of this trial, next year's AGM will be asked to ratify a new Committee Officer post. This move will, I hope, ease the burden of meeting organisation.

Your Committee discussed the various suggestions concerning the possibilities of a new British group for museum natural historians which emerged from the Madrid meeting on the preservation and conservation of natural history collections. One suggestion was a merger with our friends in the Biology Curators Group; another, that there should be a UK branch of the USA organisation, the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections. Both suggestions found no support within Committee but we were pleased to endorse the feeling among others that a new group for natural history conservators, including geology, was required. A meeting took place at the Natural History Museum in November where the interested parties present agreed with this conclusion and further agreed that such a group should emerge under the umbrella of United Kingdom Institute for Conservation. The GCG will be happy to co-operate in every way with this fledgling organisation and we wish it success.

Two further items are worthy of note in a busy year. John Nudds, our Recorder has been busy finalising the text for a *Directory of British Geological Museums*, an initiative of mine three years ago, which with John's hard work will bear fruit next year. The preparation is virtually complete and the Geological Society's Publishing House in Bath has agreed to publish the *Directory* on our behalf. My thanks to John for his remarkable effort. Secondly, we have advanced the Group's new publicity leaflet almost to completion, with only a few alterations to text, plates and cover design needed before printing commences. We hope that this will encourage new members to join and will spread knowledge of our activities far and wide, especially in Europe.

In noting some of these more obvious Group successes, I should not fail to mention the continuing progress in many other areas of our endeavours - the *Geological Curator*, *Coprolite*, and the National Scheme for Site Documentation. In particular, several members of the Group assisted in the preparation of the Museums and Galleries Commission's *Standards in the Care of Geological Collections* which will appear next year under the capable care of Crispin Paine.

On a negative note, I regret that in the end, my initiative on terminology failed to get off the ground. I had hoped to advance this particular cause during this, my last year, but local factors conspired against me. The Group will continue to seek progress in this area. I must thank not only all my fellow committee members for their hard work this year, but also their predecessors over the last three years for their great support and encouragement. I know that I will be leaving the Group in

very capable hands and wish Paul Ensom good luck for the next three years. I trust that I have been able to add a few more bricks to the wall.

John Cooper, Booth Museum, Brighton  
27 November 1992

### From the incoming Chairman

I am conscious, as I begin my term of office, that we live in very uncertain times. The evolution of species has been stimulated by environmental pressures and I tell myself, and others from time to time, that we should be excited by the challenges and changes brought about by the upheavals in all the various orders which regulate our lives. One can be pessimistic and point out the irrefutable truth that species have not always survived such upheavals! When we see university geology departments and the Natural History Museum restructured, local government reorganisation, competitive tendering, charge capping, frozen posts, and, worse still, redundancies, we could well ask whether the pressures will prove too great for us.

Every museum service should be the jewel in the crown of its funding authority. Here, GCG can play a role. A high profile keeps the proverbial jewel sparkling and may be the difference between cuts, the *status quo* - and, dare I say, even growth. The last few years have seen an increasing number of geological events aimed at the public, Rocky Roadshows, Fossils Roadshows, Geoevents, Irish Geology Days, Welsh Geology Week, Yorkshire Geology Month and, very recently, the Dudley Rock and Fossil Fair. I hope that we will be able to build on these successes. The first GCG Seminar of 1992, 'Marketing Geology in Museums' at Bristol will allow us to explore this theme. We have become increasingly aware of the value of good press coverage and we must continue to develop this aspect. The geological collections which we care for are the past, present and future of our science. By heightening public awareness of the existence of these collections, and of the work of the geological curator, we will be in a stronger position to serve the public and the collections as the close of this century approaches.

Closer ties with Europe at the political level will, I hope, find parallels in the world of geological curation when John Cooper's brain-child of a GCG Seminar with European colleagues (perhaps 5 days with field trips) at the Senckenberg in Frankfurt comes to fruition in 1994. Perhaps by then we will have a better idea of what Maastrichtian really means!

Setting out on my term as Chairman of GCG I am aware of the tremendous loyalty and hard work that John Cooper and previous Chairmen have given, along with other officers and committee members, to the principal objective of the group, namely '... to advance the education of the public in geology in particular by improving the standard of geological curation and by improving displays and information in public museums and other institutions.' [from the Constitution of the GCG]. I am confident that we can maintain the high standards set by our predecessors and, on

assuming office, I would like on behalf of us all, to thank John Cooper for his dedication to the Group during his three-year chairmanship.

Paul Ensom, Yorkshire Museum  
December 1992.

### **New Officers and Committee 1993**

**Chairman:** Paul Ensom, Yorkshire Museum, Museum Gardens, York YO1 2DR  
Tel. 0904 629745 Fax 0904 651221

Paul Ensom BSc AMA FGS, Keeper of Geology at the Yorkshire Museum, was elected Chairman of the Group for the next three years at the AGM held in Scunthorpe on 3 December 1992. Paul graduated in Combined Studies from the University of Leicester in 1977 and, after completing the Museum Studies course at Leicester, was appointed Assistant Curator at Dorset County Museum in Dorchester. In 1989, he moved to his present post at the Yorkshire Museum. He has been a member of GCG since 1976 and served on Committee from 1983 to 1985 and from 1991 to 1992.

**Secretary:** Simon Knell, Department of Museum Studies, 105 Princess Road East, Leicester LE1 7LG Tel. 0533 523976 Fax 0533 523960

**Treasurer/Membership Secretary:** Andy Newman, Hancock Museum, Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 4PT Tel. 091 222 7418

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**Public Relations Officer:** Phil Doughty, Ulster Museum, Botanic Gardens, Belfast BT9 5AB Tel. 0232 381251 Fax 0232 665510

**Minutes Secretary:** Diana Hawkes, Haslemere Educational Museum, High Street, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2LA Tel. 0428 642112

**Committee:** Roy Clements, Department of Geology, University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH Tel. 0533 522522 Fax 0533 523918

Chris Collins, Geological Conservation Unit, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road, Cambridge, CB3 0EZ Tel. 0223 62522 Fax 0223 60779

Colin Reid, Dudley Museum, St James' Road, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 1HU Tel. 0384 453574 Fax 0384 453576

Kate Pontin, Cultural Activities and Libraries Unit, Central Library, High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1HD Tel. 0895 250702 Fax 0985 239794

### New members

GCG is pleased to welcome the following new members: **David Green**, The Manchester Museum; **Ian Jackson**, Berkeley, California; Luton College of Higher Education.

### Musical Curators

**Roger Vaughan** has been appointed Bristol City Museum's Assistant Geologist (Area Museum Council for the South West Geological Conservator) and took up his post on 4 January. **Mick Cooper**, formerly Documentation Assistant, took up his post as Registrar for Nottingham City Museums in July 1992. Mick is also European Correspondent for the *Mineralogical Record*.

### Archivist required!

The GCG Committee would be very pleased to hear from any archivist in the Group who would be willing to get the Group's archives into order. If you can help, please contact Simon Knell at the Department of Museum Studies (address above).

### Forthcoming meetings and seminars

**4 February 1993 The Gateway Education and Arts Centre, Shrewsbury**  
**Joint BCG/TEG meeting: Touring Natural History**

Fee: £10 (£7.50 to members of GCG, BCG, and TEG)

Contact: Jane Mee, Ludlow Museum, Old Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1NW Tel. 0584 873857

**11 February 1993 First meeting of the UKIC Natural Sciences Group.**  
**The Yorkshire Museum, Museum Gardens, York YO1 2DR**

See page 10!

Contact: Chris Collins, Geological Conservation Unit, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ. Tel. 0223 62522, Fax 0223 60779.

**11 February 1993 Geological Conservation Unit, Cambridge.**

**GCU Workshop: Treatment of sulphide oxidation of fossils and minerals.**

Contact: Chris Collins, Geological Conservation Unit, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ. Tel. 0223 62522, Fax 0223 60779. (Workshop fee: £15)

**15 April 1993 Geological Conservation Unit, Cambridge.**

**GCU Workshop: Cleaning of fossils and minerals.**

Contact: Chris Collins, Geological Conservation Unit, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ. Tel. 0223 62522, Fax 0223 60779. (Workshop fee: £15)

**18-23 April 1993 Earnshaw Hall, University of Sheffield**  
**BCG/GCG Natural Sciences Curatorial Course.**

Contact: Bob Toynton, Division of Continuing Education, University of Sheffield, 85 Wilkinson Street, Sheffield S10 2GJ. Tel. 0742 768555 ext. 4932.

**21-25 April 1993 University of Southampton**

**Association of Geoscientists for International Development and the Commission on Geoscience Education and Training of the International Union of Geological Sciences: International Conference on Geoscience Education and Training.**

The main aim of the meeting is to provide a forum for international exchange of ideas, methods and data, and to stimulate a continuing dialogue between participants. There will be four main themes each supported by a range of separate workshops: 1. Geoscience education in schools; 2. Higher education; 3. Geoscience training for business, industry and public service; 4. Public understanding of geoscience.

Contact: Dr Dorrik A.V. Stow, GEOED Conference Convenor or Mrs Esther Johnson, GEOED Conference Secretariat, Department of Geology, University of Southampton, Southampton SO9 5NH. Tel. 0703 593049 Fax. 0703 593052.

**22 April 1993 Geology Lecture Theatre G25, Department of Geology, University of Bristol, Wills Building, Queen's Road, Bristol**  
**GCG Seminar: Marketing geology in museums.**

The need to market our subject effectively demands that museum geologists develop close links with the media. Programme producers and presenters (including Anna Grayson of the Radio 5 series *Rock Solid*), journalists and press officers will review their experience of presenting geology to the public and suggest strategies for museum staff. Case studies of marketing events will be described (including 'Yorkshire Geology Month' by Paul Ensom, Dudley's 'Rock and Fossil Fair' by Colin Reid, and Bristol's 'Rocky Road Show' by Peter Crowther). The meeting starts at 11.00 (arrival and coffee from 10.30) and ends at 16.00 (tea until 16.30), with lunch from 13.00 to 14.00.

There will be a small charge of £1 to cover coffee/tea on the day. Please complete the booking form on the centre page and return it to Dr P.R. Crowther, City Museum and Art Gallery, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1RL. Tel 0272 223592 by 8 April 1993.

**22 June 1993 University Museum, Parks Road, Oxford**  
**GCG Workshop: Getting to grips with your mineral collection.**

Assessing mineral collections and developing an action plan.

Contact: Monica Price, University Museum, Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PW  
Tel. 0865 272967 Fax 0865 272970.

**15 July 1993 Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London**  
**GCG Seminar: Fossil and mineral fakes and forgeries.**

Contact: John Cooper, Booth Museum of Natural History, 194 Dyke Road, Brighton BN1 5AA Tel. 0273 552586.

**17-24 July 1993 Great Malvern**

**Joint Nature Conservation Committee: The Malvern International Conference on Geological and Landscape Conservation.**

Contact: Margaret Phillips, MIC'93, The Company, St.John's Innovation Centre, Cowley Road, Cambridge CB4 4WS. Tel. 0223 421124 Fax 0223 421158.

**5 August 1993 Geological Conservation Unit, Cambridge.**

**GCU Workshop: Microenvironmental control and monitoring for geological collections.**

Contact: Chris Collins, Geological Conservation Unit, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ. Tel. 0223 62522, Fax 0223 60779. (Workshop fee: £15)

**mid-September 1993 Cambridge**

**2nd Symposium for palaeontological preparators and conservators.**

Contact: Eric Milsom, Lamont Cottage, Norton Green, Freshwater, Isle of Wight PO40 9RY Tel. 0983 753192.

**21 September 1993 Sedgwick Museum, Downing Street, Cambridge**

**GCG Seminar: Building stones: are collections relevant today?**

A review of building stone collections, their importance and use, including a discussion on the development of a national building stone collection.

Contact: Mike Dorling, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3EQ. Tel. 0223 333456.

**7 October 1993 Geological Conservation Unit, Cambridge.**

**GCU Workshop: Storage and environmental monitoring for geological materials.**

Contact: Chris Collins, Geological Conservation Unit, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ. Tel. 0223 62522, Fax 0223 60779. (Workshop fee: £15)

**18 November 1993 Geological Conservation Unit, Cambridge.**

**GCU Workshop: Conservation and care of sub-fossil bone.**

Contact: Chris Collins, Geological Conservation Unit, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Rise, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0EZ. Tel. 0223 62522, Fax 0223 60779. (Workshop fee: £15)

**8 December 1993 Hunterian Museum, The University, Glasgow**

**GCG Seminar and AGM: True confessions - learning by our mistakes.**

Talks or poster displays are sought on great curatorial disasters, obscure and dreadful storage or numbering systems, lost data, fire, flood, pestilence and the like. If you would like to make a confession please contact Dr John Faithfull by 1 August 1993.

Contact: Dr J.W. Faithfull, Hunterian Museum, The University, Glasgow G12 8QQ.

## Exhibitions

### Prehistoric Sea Monsters

National Museum of Wales, Cardiff 13 Feb 1993 - 27 Feb 1994

### Seeds of Change

Royal Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh until 7 March 1993

### Dinosaur Mania

Dudley Museum until 6 Feb 1993

### Fossils: fact and fiction

Margrove Heritage Centre, Guisborough 14 Mar-16 May 1993

### *Seeds of Change at the Royal Museum of Scotland*

Over 1200 rocks collected by HM Geological Survey in the last century, together with fossil fish from Hugh Miller's collection and a *Diplodocus* dinosaur model, can be seen unusually displayed in the Main Hall of the Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, until 7 March 1993. They form part of an exhibition celebrating Scottish inventiveness, mounted to mark the Edinburgh Summit meeting of the European Community Council of Ministers.

### *Fossils: fact and fiction*

This new, small exhibition at Margrove Heritage Centre near Guisborough seeks to demystify fossils and give people a clearer understanding of what they are, how they are formed, and how they are interpreted. The exhibition includes examples from around the world, with items to touch, and fossils to examine under microscopes and close-up video camera. There will be activities for children, a special dinosaur quiz, and a competition for schools.

The exhibition is designed for a space 30 feet by 30 feet, and most of it could be made available for touring.

For further information, contact Ken Sedman, Geology and Environmental Resources, Libraries and Leisure, PO Box 41, Southlands Centre, Ormesby Road, Middlesborough, Cleveland TS3 0YZ Tel. 0642 327583 ext. 220 Fax 0642 326983.

## Mineral shows

The eleventh Essex Mineral and Gem Show organised by the Essex Rock and Mineral Society will be held on Saturday 20 February 1993 at North Romford Community Centre, Clockhouse Lane, Collier Row, Romford, Essex. The show will be open from 10am to 4pm and admission will be 50p. For further information, contact Stuart Adams, 69 Westbury Lane, Buckhurst Hill, Essex IG9 5PH, tel. 081 504 9422.



The first Oxford Mineral show will take place on Sunday 14 March 1993 at the '333' Oxford Conference Centre at 333 Banbury Road, Oxford from 10.00 to 16.00. The University Museum is to have a special Sunday opening (from 12.00 to 16.00) for show-goers and a free bus service will run regularly between the two venues. A combined show/museum admission ticket will cost £1.50, and the Museum's share of the proceeds will go towards its 'Facilities for the disabled' appeal and the mineral purchase fund. Further details can be obtained from Paul Lowe, 'Endsleigh', 50 Daniell Road, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 2DA Tel. or Fax. 0872 223227.

### Newish publications

*Pleistocene environments in the British Isles* by R.L. Jones and D.H. Keen. Chapman & Hall, 1992, 368pp. ISBN 0 412 44190 X, £24.95.

*Trilobites* by H.B. Whittington. The Boydell Press, 1992, 145pp, 120 plates. ISBN 0 85115 311 9, £39.95.

*Messel. An insight into the history of life and of the Earth* edited by Stephan Schaal and Willi Ziegler. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1992, 322pp. ISBN 0 19 854654 8, £50.00.

*The preparation of thin sections of rocks, minerals and ceramics* by D.W. Humphries. Oxford University Press and Royal Microscopical Society Microscopy Handbooks 24, 1992, vii + 83pp. ISBN 0 19 856431 7, £11.95.

*Understanding the Earth. A new synthesis* edited by G.C. Brown, C.J. Hawkesworth and R.C.L. Wilson. Cambridge University Press, 1992, 563pp. ISBN 0 521 37020 5, £70.00 (hardback), ISBN 0 521 42740 1, £24.95 (paperback).

*An introduction to the rock-forming minerals* by W.A. Deer, R.A. Howie and J. Zussman. Longman Scientific & Technical, 1992, 696pp, 2nd edition. ISBN 0-582-30094-0, £21.99.

### Geologists and the History of Geology

Professor W.A.S. Sarjeant is in the process of preparing a second supplement to his epic 7 volume bibliography *Geologists and the History of Geology* and would like to hear from GCG members of any relevant papers that should be given mention. Histories of museums and local societies are included, as are works on naturalists who numbered geology among their concerns, though undertaking their principal work in, say, botany or zoology.

Please send copies (or where unavailable, notices) of such papers to Professor W.A.S. Sarjeant, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada S7N 0W0, Tel. (306) 966-5683, Fax (306) 966-8593.

## Decorative rocks at Oxford

Decorative rocks - 'marbles' in the trade sense - are of interest to a very diverse audience from archaeologists to artists, architects to antique restorers, even sometimes to geologists! At the University Museum we have the historic Corsi collection of decorative stones purchased for the University in 1827, and several hundred more samples acquired subsequently. The Corsi collection arrived ready-catalogued (bliss), and we are now doing a retrospective cataloguing of the rest of the collection. We would like to hear from other museums with similar material to know how they have tackled those small problems of terminology, classification and description. We would also be interested to hear from any institutions actively acquiring decorative rocks to learn about their acquisition policies for this material.

If you can help, please contact Monica Price or Lisa Cooke at the University Museum, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW Tel. 0865 272967/272950 Fax. 0865 272970.

## A UKIC Natural History Group in the making

The World Congress on the Preservation and Conservation of Natural History Collections held in Madrid last year was organised by the American group, The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC), which has had noted success in raising awareness of natural history collections through its enthusiastic annual conferences, including international ones as in Madrid. A particular feature of this US initiative is that it enabled so many European curators and conservators to meet each other for the first time!

Not surprisingly, UK delegates were left evaluating the successes and limitations of their various professional groups, and noting in particular the lack of coordination between groups. Suggestions for the formation of a more unified group similar to SPNHC, that could improve the financial and political support for natural history collections and posts in the UK, were paralleled by urgent calls from geological conservators, biological conservators and taxidermists (for example, at the well-attended United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) meeting 'Life after death') for an independent group or forum to improve the promotion and exchange of information on natural science conservation.

From these sources, three ideas in particular were the basis for discussion among individuals and interested groups:

- a. Establishing a UK or European version of SPNHC.
- b. The merging of GCG and BCG into a body representing the broader interests of natural sciences in the UK.
- c. The development of a group or forum whose role would be to improve the exchange of information and the development of the professional interests of

natural science conservation either under the auspices of BCG, GCG, ICOM, UKIC or some other existing body.

A meeting held at the Natural History Museum on 4 November 1992 provided a forum where those interested could discuss the options. Seven speakers addressed the meeting.

Steve Garland (Chairman, BCG) said BCG would support a merger of groups to represent the interests of natural sciences as a whole which could lobby to raise funding and support for UK natural sciences, and which could become the basis of a major European group. If this was not supported by other groups, he said BCG would support the formation of a natural sciences conservation group.

Dick Hendry (Conservator, Glasgow Museum) pointed out the need to improve the availability of information in natural science conservation and for the formation of a professional forum of natural science conservators in the UK.

Dave Hill (Conservation Manager, AMCSW), in a paper read to the meeting, pointed out the desirability of natural science representation on UKIC, especially in the fields of training and professional qualifications. Involvement in professional conservation groups was essential if natural science conservation was to be taken seriously by the conservation community.

John Cooper (Chairman, GCG) stated that GCG would fully support a forum for natural science conservators but would not support a merger into a new natural science curatorial group. GCG represented the needs of museum geologists at present, and it felt a merged group would not be to the advantage of its members. He did suggest that a forum for the chairs and secretaries of BCG and GCG to meet and discuss mutually relevant matters of interest would be useful for both groups.

Peter Winsor (Information Officer, The Conservation Unit, MGC) said the Conservation Unit would fully support the development of a natural sciences conservation group, and that they would prefer dealing with a unified body on this subject than with the number of different interested groups currently in existence.

Kate Andrew (SPNHC) presented the views of the Society which would support the creation of, and maintain links with a unified natural sciences group in the UK. They could not under their own regulations, assist in the formation of a UK branch of SPNHC.

Victoria Todd (UKIC), representing the leading professional body for conservators, recommended the formation of a natural sciences sub-group of UKIC and listed the facilities which UKIC could offer, including a well-established and regularly published journal.

Tea and discussion followed. The idea of a GCG/BCG merger was dropped, but it was agreed that a new group representing conservation needs should be formed

under the auspices of UKIC. This new group would maintain links with interested bodies especially GCG, BCG, and SPNHC, and would promote conservation issues through their journals. It would deal with all matters relating to conservation in the natural sciences, and enable all interested people to meet, publish and discuss the field. A steering group was then elected to set up the Natural Sciences Group of UKIC.

Anyone interested in joining or helping to run the group should write to Chris Collins at the Geological Conservation Unit, Dept. of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Madingley Rise, Cambridge CB3 0EZ or attend the first meeting to be held at the Yorkshire Museum on 11 February 1993 (see 'Forthcoming Meetings').

Chris Collins

### Leicester Theft

A Blue John goblet and an Ashford Black Marble pendant inlaid with shell flowers and Florentine green marble leaves were stolen from a house in Leicester just before Christmas. Any museum offered these objects or any member who sees such items for sale is asked to contact Dr T.D. Ford, 21 Elizabeth Drive, Oadby, Leicester LE2 4RD.

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