

Newsletter

DIARY

Bon Voyage?
250 Years Exploring
the Natural World

SHNH summer meeting
and AGM in association
with the BOC

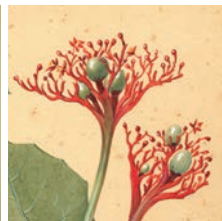
World Museum
Liverpool

14-15 June 2018
See page 10

Remembering James
Petiver (1665-1718)

Linnean Society of
London

26 April 2018
See page 12



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CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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Libri Picturati A 31.29 *Cistus albidus* with *Cytinus ruber* from A 20.044v, and of two *Cyclamen* species from A 22.044 (reproduced by courtesy of Biblioteka Jagiellońska, Kraków). See Item 9.



Francis Willughby (1635–1672) (from Jardine 1843).
See Item 9.



Belon's (1555) "Buse" (Common Buzzard). See Item 9.



No. 11, Rhubarb, Ruibarbo blanco, Cedros [*Jatropha podagrica* Hooker, Euphorbiaceae], watercolour on paper by Charles Dorat (?1806–ca.1870), 30 × 23.5 cm, HI Art accession no. 5683.11.
See Item 12.

1. President's Message

Last year's Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition has just closed. Next to the impressive viewing figures for *Blue Planet*, the annual competition presents one of the most striking affirmations of society's continuing appetite for engagement with the natural world. Some 50,000 entrants came face-to-face with their subjects, varying in scale from icebergs to lobster larvae; some results were gained at extreme personal risk, while others – notably the winning 'Memorial to a Species' featuring a black rhino, collapsed where it had been shot to death and with its horns crudely hacked off – recorded the potentially lethal consequences of human impact on wild nature. For many in our heavily urbanized society, these aspects of the natural world are more comfortably encountered at long distance through the lenses of others.

The recent issuing by Taschen of *The Art and Science of Ernst Haeckel*, by Rainer Willman and Julia Voss, taps into a similar dimension of the human psyche. While the scholarly input of the two editors, like that of Haeckel himself, will find an admiring audience amongst academic readers, most of those non-specialists attracted to 'the nineteenth-century artist-biologist who found beauty in even the most unlikely of creatures', to quote the blurb, will be content to respond to the extraordinary beauty lavished on the myriad marine and other creatures that lived and died largely unremarked until Haeckel's stunning drawings brought them into the living room as well as the laboratory.

Natural history collections have long trodden a narrow line between science

and aesthetics. Many of the earliest representations of museums are dominated by dramatic arrangements of animals suspended from the ceiling, while pioneer shell collectors could seldom resist the temptation to arrange the specimens in their cabinet drawers (and the illustrations in the catalogues that accompanied them) to form swags, human faces or abstract patterns. Owners recognized that in order to attract public attention (and patronage from wealthy backers), they had to make the materials of their researches as readily accessible as possible.

Even today, those of us with a taste for the history of natural history have good reason to be grateful for the wider pool of public enthusiasm that lends indirect support to our unarguably minority interest. (I've always thought that whoever decided to do away with our earlier title, the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History, did us a great favour in retrieving us from an even more obscure corner of public consciousness). *Archives of Natural History* does a terrific job in bringing into the public domain some wonderful records of human endeavour and achievement that might, without the oxygen of publicity, have perished unappreciated like Haeckel's radiolarians and calcareous sponges. We're never going to have a membership list to rival the audiences attracted by the high-profile popularisers of natural history, but we should never hesitate to affirm the importance of the Society's work. As the journal approaches its forty-fifth year of publication, it has come to constitute quite literally an invaluable archive in its own right, but it's pleasing to see too the success of more recent initiatives to bring the Society to wider notice through the media of Twitter and Facebook. History

has left us in no doubt of the essential importance of keeping the wider public on board while continuing to pursue our private passions.

Arthur MacGregor
SHNH President

2. From the Editor

Our exciting news is that in 2018, the anniversary of Captain James Cook's first voyage to the Pacific, SHNH and the British Ornithologists' Club are organising an international meeting in Liverpool, UK. The title is "Bon Voyage? 250 Years Exploring the Natural World" and will be held at the World Museum Liverpool 14-15 June. Additionally, there will be a tour of Knowsley Hall, the ancestral home of the Stanley family, the Earls of Derby. Edward, the thirteenth Earl, was an eminent natural historian who maintained a menagerie in Knowsley Park. The registration form can be found at the end of the newsletter.

It is time to be thinking about the Thackray Medal which was instituted in 2000 to commemorate the life and work of John Thackray, Past President. It is awarded for a significant achievement in the preceding three years in the history of those areas of interest to the Society, that is the biological and earth sciences in the broadest sense. For more information and to see past medal winners, please see the SHNH website under "awards" or complete the form at the end of the newsletter.

Students please note that we are also inviting submissions for the 2018 William T. Stearn Student Essay Prize Competition. The prize will be awarded to the best original, unpublished, essay in the field of history of natural history. For more information and to see past winners, please see the SHNH website under "awards".

We are sad to have lost our good friends and colleagues Nina Root and David Norman Robinson OBE. Our thoughts are with their families at this time.

I should like to thank everyone for their contributions to *Newsletter* which I have very much enjoyed receiving. Our events are regularly posted on the website, so do check so you can be aware of future activities.

I wish you all an enjoyable Spring and look forward to catching up with a number of you at our meeting in Liverpool.

Elaine

Elaine Shaughnessy

Society News & Announcements

3. Founders' Medal 2017

Many congratulations to Edward Dickinson for being awarded the SHNH Founders' Medal by Arthur MacGregor. Thanking the Society for its award Edward expressed his great pleasure that Council had debated his earlier suggestion (see *Newsletter* 112, p. 3) that a project for 'a visual archive of

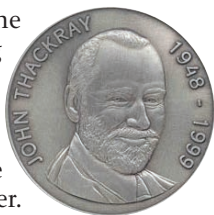


“wrappers” from books that were part works and from journals’ be pursued. Thanks to the Council’s discussion an initial exploratory contact with the Biodiversity Heritage Library has been made. It is hoped that this can lead to the joint definition of the project – which will substantially depend on the voluntary help of all those interested in the bibliography of botany and zoology. A centralisation of records of parts wrappers will help with finding more definitive dates of publication, but it will also help establish a common understanding of part content. Often parts wrappers defined the content of each part.

4. John Thackray Medal 2018

Nominations are now invited for the 2018 award, from SHNH members in good standing, for work completed during the three years preceding the closing date of 31 July 2018. A nomination form may be found at the end of this newsletter.

The rules governing the award of The John Thackray Medal may be accessed on our website at <http://shnh.org.uk/awards-honours-medals/john-thackray-medal/>.



5. William T. Stearn Student Essay Prize

We are inviting submissions for the 2018 William T. Stearn Student Essay Prize, awarded to the best original, unpublished essay in the field of history of natural history. The competition is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students in full or part-time education. Entry is not limited to members of SHNH. The winner will receive £300 and

be offered membership of the Society for one year. The winning essay will normally be published in the Society’s journal *Archives of natural history*. Submission deadline is 30 June 2018. For full details and to download the application form, please visit the society’s website.

6. News from our Representatives

Our Representative’s Coordinator, Malgosia Nowak-Kemp, reported on news received from our Representatives to Council and some highlights are included below.

Christa Riedl-Dorn (Austria).

Christa has recently finished her PhD Thesis about Stephan Ladislaus Endlicher (1804 – 1849) and the scientists he was in contact with. The thesis also includes transcriptions of correspondence Endlicher had with British scientists like John Lindley, Bentham, Fox-Strangways and Nathaniel Wallich, and some new information about the natural history painter Ferdinand Lucas Bauer.

On November 6th the Natural History Museum in Vienna and the Brazilian Embassy held a symposium about the Austrian Brazil Expedition 1817 (sometimes unjustly referred to as Spix and Martius Expedition). The



Piranha painted by Johann Natterer the Zoologist and Taxidermist of the Expedition as well as the image of a female Jaguar, see page 4.



The Jaguar that was used as the model for the image was a gift by the Empress Leopoldina to her Father for the Menagerie at Schoenbrunn.

bicentennial of the expedition has received considerable of attention from the Austrian and German media and Christa gave several interviews.

As usual Christa has answered requests and questions by SHNH members and promoted the Society to visitors, at lectures and symposia.

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Carlo Violani (Italy).

E-mail: mutilla46@libero.it

Carlo reports that a conference was held at the University of Pavia in May this year that celebrated the Zoology professors who taught at the University over the past few hundred years. Another important event taking place in Pavia is the closure of the Zoology Museum for the long overdue restoration and renovation works. It is hoped that the closure will last no longer than two years. All the specimens that were on display for so many years have been moved from their original glass cabinets to a new storage space. These unique circumstances will allow for a thorough cleaning, conservation and a close study of the specimens. Paulo has been busy researching the history of the acquisition of some of the stuffed specimens dating from the 18th and 19th centuries.

It is now possible to examine closely some of the oldest specimens and to check their ancient preparation as in the case of the polar bear, the reindeer and some of the fish. A stuffed mountain zebra received from the Imperial Gardens in Schonbrunn is particularly interesting: according to a



handwritten bill receipt, which Carlo has recently discovered, it was restored in 1788 and some of the zebra's stripes on its damaged rump were repainted at the request of Professor Spallanzani, the first director of the Museum. The restored skin patch is still noticeable today and the document was instrumental in establishing the date of the specimen's acquisition.

Elizabethanne Boran (Ireland).

Elizabethanne, our newest representative, organised a conference on 'Botany in Early Modern Ireland'. The conference took place at the Edward Worth Library on Friday 17 November 2017.

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eaboran@tcd.ie



Alicja Zemanek (Poland).

Alicja reports that the meeting of the History of Botany Section of the Polish Botanical Society was held in the W. Szafer Institute of Botany, Polish Academy of Sciences in Cracow on 25 May. Two lectures were presented. Geographers Sławomir Dorocki and

Paweł Brzegowy from the Pedagogical University in Cracow talked about popular publications of Antoni Rehman (1840-1917) – Polish botanist and geographer, traveller and plant collector in the South Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, and Western Asia. Jacek Drobnik from Medical University of Silesia in Katowice presented botanical and pharmaceutical methods of identification of some rare medicinal plants described in pre-Linnean literature.

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Leslie Overstreet (North America).

In May, Leslie travelled to Charleston, South Carolina, to give a talk at the Gibbes Museum at the opening of an exhibition of Catesby's original watercolors from the Royal Collection at Windsor. Henrietta McBurney Ryan (independent researcher), Kate Heard (Royal Collection Trust), and others also spoke; we were treated to several days of historic-plantation tours and kayaking in the Black River Cypress Preserve. Unforgettable!

In June, despite missing the annual meeting at Ambleside due to a scheduling conflict, I was grateful to be able to visit briefly with Gina Douglas while doing research in London, catch up a



Henrietta McBurney Ryan (centre), Martin Clayton, Kate Heard, and Carter Hudgins, Director, touring Drayton Hall in Charleston, South Carolina.

bit with Elaine Shaughnessy in Cambridge, enjoy the gracious hospitality of Malgosia Nowak-Kemp while attending a conference in Oxford, and keep in touch with several members at other conferences and workshops through the month.

Back at the Smithsonian Libraries I'm still (always) encouraging researchers to become members and to submit articles to the "Archives of natural history." I received a batch of the latest newsletter and have been giving them out to interested staff, researchers, and other visitors; I took some with me to the Caxton Club in Chicago (a prominent book-collectors society) in September, and every last one was taken – I'm hoping that some of the people at the talk will become new members!

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7. Those we have lost

We are sad to announce the loss of the following members and friends: Nina J. Root and David Norman Robinson OBE

Nina J. Root

Nina was formerly the Director and Chair, Department of Library Services at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Nina was an active member of the Society for the History of Natural History from 1977 until her retirement, was the North American representative of the group from 1977-



1985, and received the Society's Founders' Medal in 1997.

Nina was a native New Yorker, a graduate of Hunter college and the Library School of Pratt Institute. Prior to joining the Museum in 1970, her career took her to CUNY, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, the Library of Congress and the American Institute of Aerospace and Aeronautics. She served on the advisory council for the NY State Board of Regents, the boards of the Metro library association, the Mercantile Library, and the Hampden-Booth Library. Throughout her career, Nina was involved in numerous professional organizations, including the American Library Association, the Special Libraries Association and the Society for the History of Natural History and the New York Academy of Sciences.

Nina made many strides in bolstering the Library's holdings and reach, much of which prepared the Library well for its current work. Under Nina's tenure the Photographic Collection, Archives, Art, Memorabilia and Film Collections were consolidated: she saw the great potential of the Library's special collections and rare books and strove to support the preservation of and access to these important materials. Nina valued the preservation of collections and championed the world-class conservation lab the Museum benefits from today. Nina also secured the funding for the retrospective conversion of the card catalogue into its first iteration as an online library catalogue. She authored many journal articles during her 27-year tenure at the Museum, mostly focusing on the Library collections and the Museum's history. In the years leading up to her retirement from the AMNH in 1997, Nina worked to

fundraise for a new library building, including leading a round-the-world, month long tour by private jet, and proudly saw the Library collections moved into its new facility in 1993.

David Norman Robinson OBE

David Norman Robinson OBE MSc was born in Croft Street Horncastle on 29 August 1927 the first of two sons of Lillian and Arthur Balding Robinson.

He attended Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Horncastle and went on to graduate from Nottingham University with an honours degree in Geography. He gained his MSc with a thesis on the coastal evolution of north-east Lincolnshire. His teaching career began in schools in Immingham and Grimsby. After 12 years he moved into adult education beginning as Workers' Educational Association Tutor Organiser, in South Lindsey. Ten years later he joined the staff of the University of Nottingham, becoming resident tutor for North Lincolnshire, retiring in 1990. However, up until very recently, he has continued to lecture all over the county on a wide variety of Lincolnshire related subjects.

He has become a household name in Lincolnshire through his writing and editing. Having edited his college magazine, he began editing the 'Lincolnshire Poacher' magazine in the 1950s, subsequently becoming editor of 'Lincolnshire Life' magazine until 1989. For many years thereafter he contributed his 'Poachings' column each month in the magazine. He also served on the editorial team of the magazine 'Natural World'.

Another 'spare time' pursuit has been writing over 20 books on various aspects of the county of his birth. These include 'The Book of the Lincolnshire

Seaside', 'The Book of Horncastle and Woodhall Spa' and 'The Great Storm Flood of 1953'. After David and his family moved to Louth in 1965 he became increasingly fascinated and involved in that town, writing, amongst other titles, 'The Book of Louth', 'The Louth Flood' and 'William Brown and the Louth Panorama', which he undertook to complete for his cousin Christopher Sturman, who tragically passed away from cancer in 1997.

The many voluntary responsibilities David undertook included the position of Honorary Secretary for the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, whose magazine he also edited for over thirty years; the Presidency of the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology; President of Louth Naturalists', Antiquarian and Literary Society; President of Louth Civic Trust of which he was a founder member in 1967; Life President of the Sir Joseph Banks Society and Chairman of Governors of Horncastle College. In all of these roles he took a very active part and in 1997 he was awarded an OBE for services to journalism and the community in Lincolnshire.

His home in Louth housed an astonishing library the use of which he generously shared with anyone researching any aspect of the county. His own knowledge was prodigious and he had a keen memory: if he didn't know the answer to your question he probably knew where and how to find it. His support and enthusiasm has encouraged many other historians into print. Their appreciation was shown ten years ago when, under the editorship of his friends Jean Howard and David Start, 'All Things Lincolnshire' was published, a collection of papers to celebrate his 80th birthday.

8. Book Reviews

The following have been reviewed for the Spring 2018 issue of SHNH *Archives of natural history*. Reviews received for the Autumn 2018 issue of ANH will be announced in the next newsletter.

BENNETT, Jackie. *Shakespeare's gardens* (photographs by Andrew Lawson). Frances Lincoln, London: 2016. Pp 192; illustrated. £25. ISBN: 978-0711237261.

BIRKHEAD, Tim (editor). *Virtuoso by nature: the scientific worlds of Francis Willughby FRS (1635-1672)*. Brill, Leiden: [2016]. Price €150 (hardback, ebook). ISBN: 978-9004285316 (hardback), 978-9004285323 (ebook).

BRENT, Elliott, with GUERRINI, Luigi, and PEGLER, David Norman. *Flora: Federico Cesi's botanical manuscripts*. Royal Collection Trust in association with Harvey Miller Publishers, London: 2015. The Paper Museum of Cassiano dal Pozzo Series B, Part 7. 3 vols. Pp. 1328; illustrated. Price €260. ISBN 978-1905375783 (cloth).

BRUCE, Gary. *Through the Lion Gate: a history of the Berlin Zoo*. Oxford University Press, New York: 2017. Pp xii + 303, ill. Price US\$34.95, £22.99 (hardback). ISBN: 978-0190234980.

DAWSON, Gowan. *Show me the bone: Reconstructing prehistoric monsters in nineteenth-century Britain and America*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London: 2016. Pp 476; illustrated. Price US\$50 or £37.50 (hardback). ISBN: 978-0226332734.

EGMOND, Florike. *Eye for detail, images of plants and animals in art and science 1500-1630*. Reaktion Books, Chicago: 2017. Pp 280, illustrated. Price £35 (hardback). ISBN: 978-1780236407.

GRANDE, Lance. *Curators. Behind the scenes of natural history museums*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago/London: 2017. Pp 432; illustrated. Price

- US\$35 (hardback), US\$21.50 (ebook). ISBN 978-0226192758 (hardback), ISBN: 978-0226389431 (ebook).
- KLEIN, Ursula. *Nützliches Wissen. Die Erfindung der Technikwissenschaften*. Wallstein Verlag, Göttingen: 2016. Pp 216. Price €22 (hardcover). ISBN: 978-3835319585.
- MAHOOD, Molly M. *A John Clare Flora*. Trent Editions, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham. 2016. Pp. xvi + 224, illustrated. Price £15 (soft cover) from: onlinestore.ntu.ac.uk/product-catalogue. ISBN: 978-1842331590.
- MOHNHAUPT, Jan. *Der Zoo der Anderen – als die Stasi ihr Herz für Brillenbären entdeckte & Helmut Schmidt mit Pandas nachrüstete*. Carl Hanser, Munich: 2017. Pp 300, ill. Price €20 (hardback). ISBN: 978-3446255043.
- PIETCH, Theodore W. (ed.), *Cuvier's History of the natural sciences, twenty four lessons from antiquity to the renaissance*, translated by Abby J. Simpson, Beatrix D Marx and Eric Andret. Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris: 2012. Pp 734; illustrated. Price €49 (paperback). ISBN: 978-2856536841.
- PIETCH, Theodore W. (ed.), *Cuvier's History of the natural sciences, nineteen lessons on the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries*, translated by Beatrix D. Marx. Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris: 2015. Price €59 (paperback). ISBN: 978-2856537664.
- QUEALY, Gerit and HASEGAWA-COLLIN, Sumié. *Botanical Shakespeare. An illustrated compendium of all the flowers, fruits, herbs, trees, seeds, and grasses cited by the world's greatest playwright*. Harper Design, New York: 2016. Pp 208; illustrated. US\$22.99, £17.99. ISBN: 978-0062469892.
- REDMAN, Samuel J. *Bone rooms: from scientific racism to human prehistory in museums*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts/London: 2016. Pp 373; illustrated. Price £23.95 (hardback). ISBN: 978-0674660410.
- STRONG, Roy. *The quest for Shakespeare's garden*. Thames & Hudson Ltd, London: 2016. Pp 112; illustrated. £14.95. ISBN: 978-0500252246.
- TWYMAN, Michael (editor). *John Phillips's lithographic notebook. Reproduced in facsimile from the original at Oxford University Museum of Natural History*. The Printing Historical Society, London: 2016. Pp 103; illustrated. Price £30 (hardback). ISBN: 978-0900003165.
- VETTER, Jeremy. *Field life: science in the American West during the railroad era*. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh: 2016. Pp 504; illustrated. Price \$49.95 (hardback). ISBN: 978-0822944539.
- WILLES, Margaret. 2015 *A Shakespearean botanical*. The Bodleian Library, Oxford: 2015. Pp [viii], 200; illustrated. £ 12.99. ISBN: 978-1851244379.
- YALE, Elizabeth. *Sociable knowledge: natural history and the nation in early modern Britain*. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia: 2016. Pp 360; illustrated. Price £60 / \$69.95 (hardback), £45.50, \$69.95 (ebook). ISBN: 978-0812247817 (hardback) ISBN: 978-0812292251 (ebook).

Felicity Roberts

Book Reviews Editor

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9. Archives News

The following papers and short notes have been accepted for publication in *Archives of natural history* 45 (1) due to be published in April 2018.

C. E. JACKSON: The Ward family of taxidermists.

C. E. JACKSON: Henry Ward and John James Audubon, 1831–1837.

J. W. WILEY: Gerald H. Thayer's ornithological work in St Vincent and

the Grenadines, Lesser Antilles.

G. SIMONINI: Daniel Weiman and Libri Picturati A 16–31.

L. J. KINLEN: Eliot Howard's "law of territory" in birds: the influence of Charles Moffat and Edmund Selous.

T. R. BIRKHEAD & R. MONTGOMERIE: Rare red eggs of the Common Guillemot (*Uria aalge*): birds, biology and people at Bampton, Yorkshire, in the early 1900s.

T. R. BIRKHEAD, I. CHARMANTIER, P. J. SMITH & R. MONTGOMERIE: Willughby's Buzzard: names and misnomers of the European Honey-buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*).

A. MENEZ: The Gibraltar Skull: early history, 1848–1868.

R. L. FRANCE: Illustration of an 1857 "sea-serpent" sighting re-interpreted as an early depiction of cetacean entanglement in maritime debris.

M. R. HALLEY: Audubon's famous banding experiment: fact or fiction?

S. B. CAHALAN & J. W. DEAN: The manuscript works of S. Fred Prince (1857–1949).

G. THIJSSE: A contribution to the history of the herbaria of George Clifford III (1685–1760).

E. C. NELSON: Tracking Antoni Gaymans's seventeenth-century *horti sicci*.

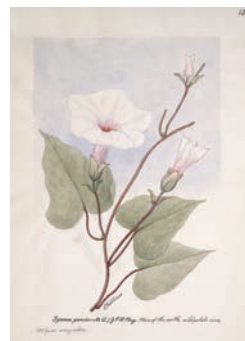
Short notes

P. G. MOORE: Dorothy Constance Gibb (1907–2006), Aberdonian algologist.

H. PIHLSTRÖM & T. LANKINEN: A nineteenth-century specimen of *Simias concolor* and an early twentieth-century specimen of *Allenopithecus nigroviridis* in the Finnish Museum of Natural History, Helsinki.

B. F. RONALDS: Elizabeth (Betsey) Ronalds (1788–1854): horticultural illustrator.

R. B. WILLIAMS: Bibliographical notes



Ipomoea pandurata, from "Rainbow in the Grass ..." by S. Fred Prince. ©: image courtesy of Oak Spring Garden Library.

on variant cloth-cases and issues of Philip Henry Gosse's *The aquarium*.

A. LARSSON: A Swedish natural history collection lost at sea in 1774.

H. FUNK: Thomas Penny and Conrad Gessner: a revision of some long-established chronological particulars.

Obituary

H. S. TORRENS: Ronald James Cleevely (1934–2017).

10. Accessing Archives of Natural History online

The full content of *Archives of Natural History* dating back to 1936 is available to SHNH members freely online. Electronic copies of new issues are available in advance of the printed version. To activate your free access, please activate the 2017/2018 token, even if you have previously registered. If you have any queries, please contact EUP by email: Journals@eup.ed.ac.uk. For more information see the SHNH website.

Society Events News

Bon Voyage? 250 Years Exploring the Natural World **World Museum Liverpool** 14-15 June 2018

SHNH summer meeting and AGM in association with the British Ornithologists' Club (Lunch and tour of Knowsley Hall, Wednesday 13th June)



Joseph Smit portrait of The Spotted Green Pigeon (AKA The Liverpool Pigeon) *Caloenas maculata*. Courtesy of National Museums Liverpool.

2018 marks the 250th anniversary of Captain James Cook's first voyage to the Pacific. A pivotal moment in the history of exploration, Cook's voyages influenced many areas of science and endeavour - from astronomy and geology to natural history and anthropology.

This international meeting, held in association with the British Ornithologists' Club, will focus on the lives, encounters, contributions and legacies of many of those involved in the history of natural history exploration around the world, from land to sea - the risks they took, the discoveries made, their contributions to science, and the ingenuity and endeavour involved in the process. It will also examine some of the complexities and controversies surrounding many centuries of natural history exploration and discovery.

Papers will include the following or

related topics from any era covering any area of natural history - botany, zoology and geology:

- Early expeditions and pioneers (whether famous, infamous or less well known)
- Expeditions on land
- Exploring the oceans
- First encounters / new discoveries
- Perilous journeys and risky encounters / retracing footsteps
- Techniques for collecting, recording, preserving and transporting material back home
- The role of local knowledge and development of relationships in the field
- Long term legacies

To register, please see the registration form at the end of the newsletter. Accommodation details are on the website under "events".

Members' News

11. Catesby Commemorative Trust

Several SHNH members were actively involved in this past summer's exhibition of 35 of Mark Catesby's original watercolours from the Royal Library at the Gibbes Museum of Art in Charleston, South Carolina. Henrietta McBurney Ryan (Curator, Newnham College, Cambridge and formerly Deputy Keeper of the Print Room at the Royal Library) and Leslie Overstreet, (Curator, Natural History Rare Books, Smithsonian Libraries, Washington DC) were keynote speakers at the symposium opening the exhibition in May.

Charles Nelson and David Elliott were keynote speakers at the September event at the close of the exhibition organized by the Catesby

Commemorative Trust.

This is believed to be only the third time any meaningful number of these watercolours have been off Royal premises since they were acquired by King George III in 1768. There was an exhibition of them in the US in 1997 at the Huntington in California, Houston Fine Arts in Texas, the Telfair in Georgia and Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. And they were exhibited at the Gainsborough House in Sudbury about four years ago.

Other Events

**12. Dr. Charles Dorat and His
Unrealized Central American
Medicinal Flora
Hunt Institute for Botanical
Documentation
Pittsburgh, USA
2 April-29 June 2018**

This exhibition includes watercolours by the European physician and naturalist Charles Dorat (?1806–ca.1870) of medicinal plants that he found in the vicinity of the municipality of Cedros, Honduras. Strands of information from disparate sources were uncovered to create a biographical sketch of this little-known artist. This exhibition features the 42 Dorat watercolours in the collection along with Institute archival materials relating to other parties in his circle, such as the American shipping agent, steamer captain and naturalist John Melmoth Dow (1827–1892), the American physician and professor of materia medica Joseph Carson (1808–1876) and the English botanist and pharmacologist Daniel Hanbury (1825–1875).

Dr. Dorat lived in El Salvador and

travelled in Honduras between 1850 and around 1870—states that had gained independence in 1838 but continued to experience revolution. Dorat's situation and interests have been partially fleshed out through publications and correspondence to and from naturalists, botanists and pharmacologists in England and the United States. He spoke several languages and was acquainted with Central American medical professionals, government officials and clergy and with European and American individuals and companies interested in materia medica and shipping raw materials and consumer goods from the region. Since Dorat was quite knowledgeable about mining operations and economic plants, these companies likely employed him. As was common in the 19th century, Dorat found time to pursue his other passions as a naturalist and an artist. Through his travels in these two states he became interested and knowledgeable about the culture of the indigenous people, the flora and its medicinal uses and the fauna, geography and history of the region. He also avidly photographed natural occurrences, such as volcanic eruptions, and urban and rural architecture. By 1860 Dorat had created 150 botanical watercolours of useful plants, and it was his desire to eventually publish in a series a flora of all of the states of Central America. A medicinal flora was never realized, and to date any traces of his being alive after 1870 have not surfaced. While not scientific illustrations, the watercolours by Charles Dorat are assured and informative and include details of flowers, seeds and roots and handwritten notes on their medicinal uses and their local names.

13. Collecting in the Clouds

RHS Lindley Library

London, UK

Through 2 March 2018

Plant collecting is a practice almost as old as exploration itself, however, as recently as a century ago there were still vast regions of the world whose botanical potential had yet to be seriously investigated. The mountainous interior of Western China was one such region. The explorations of individuals had provided tantalising glimpses of the botanical richness of this area, and when access opened up in the early 1900s there was great excitement across the plant collecting community.

This exhibition tells the story of four key collectors who were exploring the eastern-most edge of the Himalayas 100 years ago; George Forrest, Reginald Farrer, William Purdom and Frank Kingdon-Ward. During their expeditions into uncharted terrain, they faced delight and danger in equal measure.

This exhibition, presenting publications and photographs from their trips and herbarium specimens from RHS Garden Wisley, will explore the significance of their work and the lasting impact of their contributions to our gardens.

For more information see:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/viewevent?EFID=680&ESRC=CMS> and <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-42239463>.

14. Disappearing Legacies

The World as Forest

Center for Natural History

Hamburg, Germany

Through 29 March 2018

The exhibition is an invitation to reflect on changing images of nature and

draws connections between the expeditions of 19th century naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace and current land use transformation and habitat loss in Southeast Asia and Amazonia—the regions Wallace explored extensively 150 years ago.

In addition to works of contemporary art, the exhibition will also present specimens and objects from the scientific collections of the CeNak, as well as of the University's Herbarium Hamburgense and the Useful Plant Museum. Through this unique combination and display, *Disappearing Legacies* questions inherited concepts of the natural world in the context of mass extinction, deforestation, and climate change.

The exhibition, which is accompanied by a free guide book in German and English language, will also host an extensive events program comprised of guided tours, readings, film screenings, and other evening events. At the end of March 2018 there will also be a closing symposium. The entry is free. For more information see:

<https://www.cenak.uni-hamburg.de/en/ausstellungen/museum-zoologie/verschwindende-vermaechtnisse.html>.

Meetings News

**Remembering James Petiver
(1665-1718)**

Linnean Society of London

26 April 2018

This day meeting marks the tercentenary of the death of James Petiver FRS, an important but often overlooked professional apothecary and compulsive natural historian in 18th century London. Petiver made significant contributions to multiple fields of natural

history, above all botany and entomology. An assiduous correspondent and collector, he successfully cultivated sources of natural historical intelligence and material from the Americas to the East Indies.

Speakers will assess Petiver's life and legacy by deploying a range of historical and scientific disciplinary perspectives. On the 300th anniversary of his death, the meeting will set out to remember James Petiver as a:

- practising natural historian of substantial abilities and merit collector and cataloguer of natural historical specimens with enduring significance
- writer of both manuscript correspondence and published natural historical texts
- as an apothecary whose professional and private scientific interests mutually informed each other
- social networker both within London and across the globe
- historical figure whose legacy has been contested and which is ripe for reconsideration.

The meeting is organised by Dr Richard Coulton and speakers include: Dr Arnold Hunt, Dr Charles E Jarvis, Sebastian Kroupa, Dr Alice Marples, Katrina Maydom, Professor Kathleen S Murphy, Dr Victoria Pickering, and Professor Richard Vane-Wright. Respondent: Dr Emma Spary.

For more information and to register, please see:

<https://www.linnean.org/meetings-and-events/events/remembering-james-petiver-1665-1718>.

16. Maritime Animals Telling stories of animals at sea Call for Papers

**National Maritime Museum
Greenwich, London, UK**

26-27 April 2019

In maritime narratives of humans, ships and the sea, animals are too often absent, or marginalised in passing references, despite the fact that ships once carried, and were populated by, all kinds of animals. Horses, mules and other 'military' animals crossed the sea to their battlefields, while livestock were brought on-board to be killed and eaten. Sailors and passengers kept animal companions, ranging widely from cats and parrots to ferrets and monkeys. Animal stowaways, such as rats, termites and shipworms, did tremendous damage to ships' structures and stores, especially during the age of sail. Rats also emerge from the archives as seafarers, 'colonisers' and explorers alongside their human counterparts. Moreover, countless animals – seabirds, dolphins, porpoises, etc. – would visit and accompany ships, filling many sea narratives with the wonder of oceanic animal encounters.

The conference seeks to shed fresh light on maritime history by placing animals centre stage. Papers are sought which uncover all aspects of animals' involvements (and entanglements) with ships and their activities. For instance, what roles did animals play in famous maritime episodes? What were the experiences of animals on board ships, and to what extent is it possible to recover them? In what ways were managing, sharing with, and caring for, animals important concerns of ships' crews? What were the policies and procedures regarding keeping animals on

board, and how did the presence of animals affect maritime practices? Moreover, the conference will explore the impact of sea-faring animals – whether political, economic, cultural, or environmental – as maritime activities have knitted the world ever more closely together. What roles have animals played in colonial encounters and voyages of discovery, for instance? And how have animals functioned as cultural agents as well as commodities?

Liza Verity's *Animals at Sea* (2004), a collection of animal photographs from the National Maritime Museum, has demonstrated that pets and animal mascots, affectionately regarded as ship-mates, played a significant role in bringing a ship's human community together. The conference will build on this book, while also going beyond a focus on the role of animals in mediating human shipboard communities to explore animal and human relationships at sea more widely. We call upon the power of story-telling to repopulate maritime history with animals, by telling, and listening to, surprising stories about them.

Please send a short abstract (200-300 words) for a 20 minute paper to Kaori Nagai (K.Nagai@kent.ac.uk) by May 15, 2018.

Call for stories

In relation to this conference, we are soliciting maritime stories and anecdotes from members of the public, as well as from writers, artists and scholars. If you have any interesting stories of animal encounters on ships or other memorable maritime animal stories, from oral history, the archives, or elsewhere, please drop a line to Dr Kaori Nagai. We would be excited to hear from you. Also, we'd be grateful if you

could forward this call for stories to those of your friends who have experience of life at sea. We are hoping to create an online forum to share your stories.

Conference Organiser:

Dr. Kaori Nagai

School of English

University of Kent

CT2 7NX, UK

E-mail: K.Nagai @kent.ac.uk

News & Information

17. The John Gould Hill House folio facsimiles (1988-2001) and Bernard D'Abrera

Bernard D'Abrera, who died on 13 January 2017 in Melbourne, was an Australian entomologist. He wrote and published a monumental 'Butterflies of the world' series illustrated with his own superb colour photographs.

Bernard was born in London on 28 August 1940. He graduated from the University of New South Wales with a BA in 1965. Shortly afterwards he began his global research on butterflies and moths and frequently returned to London to consult the specimen collections in the Department of Entomology of the Natural History Museum to supplement his field work.

In the 1980s Bernard embarked on two new enterprises. The first was to establish in 1982, with his wife Lucilla, Hill House Publishers, based in Melbourne, which published most of his entomological books. By then Bernard had become truly inspired by the British ornithologist John Gould (1804-1881). Gould was famous for a series of folio-size books on the birds of the world in which every species was illustrated by an exquisite hand-

coloured lithograph. Gould visited Australia in 1838-40 and afterwards wrote the first comprehensive avian and mammalian faunas of Australia : *Birds of Australia* in seven volumes and supplement (1840-1848; 1851-1869) and *Mammals of Australia* (1845-63) in three volumes. This passion for Gould led Bernard to embark on his second enterprise which was to publish full-size facsimiles of Gould's books to make them accessible to a wider audience.

In 1987 Hill House Publishers was awarded an exclusive licence by the British Museum (Natural History) - as the Natural History Museum was then known - to reproduce from the libraries the works of John Gould and other documents in authentic facsimile. Bernard was a perfectionist. He personally selected and examined every Gould volume, and he stipulated that his printers in Singapore copy each page of the original exactly for colours and with all manuscript annotations, library stamps and even the brown foxing marks present to produce copy specific facsimiles.

Publication of the Gould facsimiles (20 out of a total of 50 volumes) was spread over 14 years (1988-2001) when there was a revival of interest in Gould. In 1987 the Natural History Museum hosted a major Gould exhibition for The Royal Society for Nature Conservation accompanied by the first biography of Gould by Maureen Lambourne, 1987, *John Gould - bird man*, followed by a racy one by Isabella Tree, 1992, *The ruling passion of John Gould*. In the United States the first of several indispensable reference books was published by Gordon C. Sauer, 1982, *John Gould the bird man: a chronology and bibliography*.

When the Natural History Museum in South Kensington opened in 1881 all

the British Museum's natural history collections had been transferred there and its official name was British Museum (Natural History). In 1992 a new name, the Natural History Museum, was acquired. Bernard could not be reconciled to the name change, whereby evidence of the Natural History Museum's historic link to the British Museum was removed, and he continued to use the old name throughout publication of the Gould facsimiles.

The Natural History Museum derived much positive publicity from the marketing of the Gould facsimiles by Hill House which coincided with new goals for income generation at the Museum in response to cuts in government funding in the 1980-90s. The glossy Hill House prospectuses of Gould folios photographed in the Museum libraries provide an invaluable record of a private enterprise that chimed well with the beginning of the Museum's own commercial outreach. Hill House, 1990, 2000, *Authentic facsimiles from the Libraries of the British Museum (Natural History) in London* (prospectuses).

Hill House Gould facsimiles (in title order: facsimile date in parenthesis)

The Birds of Asia Vol. 7 (1992)

The Birds of Australia 7 vols + Suppl. (1989-1996)

The Birds of Great Britain Vols 1, 4 (1990, 1995)

The Birds of New Guinea Vols I, 2, 5 (1988-1993)

The Mammals of Australia Vols 1,2 (1999, 2001)

Monograph of the Pittidae (1989)

A Monograph of the Ramphastidae, or family of Toucans. 2nd ed. (1988)

A Monograph of the Trochilidae, or family of Humming-birds Vols 2, 5 (1994, 1996)

Acknowledgements

I thank Paul Martyn Cooper, NHM, for his valuable comments.

Ann Datta

18. Old master paintings given to National Gallery by Dutch aristocrat

Four old master paintings left to the National Gallery by a Dutch aristocrat who died in 2015 have gone on public display. The gallery described Baron Willem van Dedem's bequest as a "Christmas present to the nation". Not only are they beautiful works of art, but they fill gaps in the collection.

The four Dutch and Flemish paintings are by David Teniers the Younger, Adriaen Coorte, and two by Jan van Kessel the Elder. Coorte's work is titled "Still Life with a Bowl of Strawberries, a Spray of Gooseberries, Asparagus and a Plum" and is the first by the artist to be in the National Gallery collection. Similarly, the two works by Van Kessel, best known for his depictions of flowers, insects and animals, fill a gap in that he was not previously represented. The Teniers work, Christ Crowned with Thorns, is a scene from the Passion of Christ interpreted as a contemporary event in 17th-century Flanders.

Van Dedem, who died aged 86 two years ago, was a London-based businessman and collector who was president of the the European fine art fair from 1997.

For more information see: <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2017/dec/12/old-master-paintings-given-national-gallery-dutch-aristocrat-baron-willem-van-dedem>

19. Hist-Nat-Hist discussion list

HIST-NAT-HIST is the SHNHs discussion list, hosted by Jiscmail. It is designed to

promote enquiries and discussion relating to any aspect of the history of natural history. As well as requests for information or answers to other people's enquiries, the list welcomes notices and reviews of conferences, meetings, publications and exhibitions.

There is more information about the list and an archive of postings on the list homepage at: <http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/hist-nat-hist.html>

Notes & Queries

20. How did Canadian fleabane cross the water?



Woodcut of Canadian Fleabane from Boccone's *Icones et descriptiones rariorum plantarum Siciliae, Melitae, Galliae, et Italiae* (1674).

In *Newsletter 111*, Dr Pat Morris posed this question, wondering whether there was a reliable source providing actual evidence that this plant arrived in Britain inside some preserved bird skins. I cannot offer any evidence about the method by which *Conyza canadensis* (syn. *Erigeron canadensis*) crossed the Atlantic Ocean, but the plant's prodigious capacity to spread is surely demonstrated by the fact that Carl Linnaeus, in *Species plantarum* (1753)

reported that its habitats were Canada and Virginia, and “*nunc in Europa australi*” (now it grows in southern Europe). In *Hortus Cliffortianus*, published in 1737, he had been even more emphatic: “*nunc vulgaris per magnam partem Europæ, præsertim in Hollandia*” (now common through a great part of Europe, especially Holland). John Ray noticed this American annual in the first edition of *Synopsis stirpium Britannicarum* (1690), saying it was certainly not indigenous to Britain, although it occurred frequently about London. Back further, in Professor Robert Morison’s edition of the Sicilian botanist Paulo Boccone’s *Icones et descriptions variorum plantarum ...*, published in Oxford in 1674, this plant was reported “*Ex Creta aut Canada*” (from Crete or Canada). Boccone, like Ray, noted the ease with which the species’s seeds were distributed by the wind. Thus by the mid-1600s Canadian Fleabane (as it is known in English) was already widespread in Europe, especially in Mediterranean lands. Its arrival in Europe must have taken place decades earlier, and was most probably accidental, perhaps in hay loaded on ships in North America, to provide bedding or fodder, during the Atlantic crossing. The seeds could also have been transported in ships’ ballast, or even on the clothes of sailors or the fur of animals. As a single plant of *Conzya canadensis*, an annual, can produce between 2,000 and 230,000 seeds, its colonization capacity is awesome.

None of these early authors speculate about the European “origins” of the Canadian Fleabane and none links its presence to a “stuffed bird”, just as none suggests the seeds simply wafted across the Atlantic Ocean in westerly winds. Only in the late nineteenth century

does the stuffed-bird means of dispersal surface in printed sources. Tracing the evolution of dispersal by stuffed bird into an urban myth — for that is what it seems to be — may be informative.

Granted that I have only traced it in English and have not consulted French and German texts which might be relevant, it took more than two centuries from Boccone’s account for a stuffed bird to be invoked. The earliest appearance of taxidermal transport seems to be in Edward Step’s *Wayside and woodland blossoms*, the “second series”, issued in 1896: “The story goes that, in the middle of the seventeenth century, a solitary seed of [Canadian Fleabane] came to Europe in a stuffed bird, and was sown. From the progeny of that single seed it has distributed itself throughout Europe with the aid, not of man, but of the wind ...”. Whether Step, a Fellow of the Linnean Society and prolific author of books about natural history for general readers, originated the story or obtained it elsewhere cannot be determined, but after 1896, like the seeds of Canadian fleabane, it took flight.

In a lecture to the Columbus (Ohio) Horticultural Society in February 1899 about “All kinds of weeds”, Professor J. H. Lageman asserted that “*Erigeron canadensis* came in a stuffed bird in 1655, into Paris in France, and spread from there in a few years over [the] whole [of] Europe into Siberia” (*Annual report of the Columbus Horticultural Society for ... 1899*: 29). Like Step, Lageman does not provide a source for his version of the Fleabane story. A scattering of stories in English local newspapers in the early 1900s probably cemented the stuffed-bird story: *The Whitby gazette* in 1903; *The Islington gazette* in 1904; *The Lowestoft journal* in

1907. All the time the story mutates with “new” details added. For example, *The Lowestoft journal* reported that the “first seeds ... are said to have been introduced into England in a stuffed bird, which becoming partially destroyed by moths, was thrown on to a rubbish heap near London. The seeds germinated and the fleabane quickly became a common weed near London.” In 1922, in *The Nation and Athenaeum*, a new version appeared: “Somebody shot a bird in Canada in 1862; stuffed, it arrived in England with moth in it, and was thrown on a London rubbish heap. Within the food-canal were a few seeds of the Canadian fleabane, whose yellow discs and purple rays [*sic*] are now in consequence a vexing problem to the East Anglian farmer.” Oddly, 1862 was the year reported by *The Lowestoft journal* for the first record of Canadian Fleabane “for this district”. There were other variants. One example was in the 1906 edition of *The great world’s farm*, by Selina Gaye, who wrote that “One weed, the Canadian fleabane, made its way to Europe by very singular means. A single seed came over accidentally in a stuffed bird. This was purposely sown, no doubt out of curiosity, and then the deed was done, and the result was beyond control. For the fleabane has downy seeds, and these flew away and spread themselves all over Europe without any further assistance.”

While a few authors were careful to add phrases such as “according to tradition” when telling this tale, others, especially journalists, have not been so cautious. On 1 May 1945, Professor E. J. Salisbury FRS, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, gave a widely reported lecture in the Chapel Royal, Savoy, about the plants found on bomb sites in London: “Another traveller, fifth

in its preference for bombed sites, ... is the Canadian fleabane ... said to have been introduced into Europe in the stuffing of a parrot sent to Germany.” That was the first time the unfortunate stuffed bird was given an identity! No doubt the extra detail about Germany resonated with the topic of a lecture which happened to be delivered a week before VE Day. Salisbury’s lecture was even reported in *The Canadian Bar review*. R. S. R. Fitter, in *London’s natural history* (The New Naturalist: 1945), repeated the story in his chapter about “The influence of the war”, appending this: “An American writer, Marsh, has stated that the plant originated in Europe from a seed which fell from a stuffed bird, but no corroborative evidence has ever been produced.” Fitter’s caution has not often been heeded, and authors have continued to regurgitate the tale of the stuffed bird — Mea Allan, Richard Mabey, Ronald Blythe, all guilty. There is no hiding from Google!

An exception to the uncritical copyists was May Theilgaard Watts (1893-1975) who, in *Reading the landscape of Europe* (1971), recounted looking into one bomb crater in London and seeing Canadian Fleabane. “One American writer suggested that the first plant in England grew from a seed that fell from a stuffed bird”, she noted and admitted “now I have done it” — that is, repeated the story — “... but actually the story raises too many questions.”

Fleabanes, of course, are reputed to have insect-detering properties, and the use of dried fleabane in taxidermy may seem logical, but there is no scientific evidence that *Conzya canadensis* has such properties (see *Canadian journal of plant science* 81: 867–875. 2001).

E. Charles Nelson
(tippitiwitchet@phonecoop.coop)

Publisher's Announcements

21. Painting by Numbers

The life and art of Ferdinand Bauer

David J. Mabberley

NewSouth Publishing, 2017

272pp., illus.

ISBN: 978-1742235226 (hb)

£70.50; AU\$69.99.

Ferdinand Bauer is seen by many as the greatest natural history painter of all time. Hand-picked by Joseph Banks, in 1801-1805 Bauer accompanied Matthew Flinders during his circumnavigation of Australia, and lived in New South Wales and Norfolk Island. Already celebrated in Europe for the precision and beauty of his paintings, it was during this commission that Bauer perfected the technique of sketching and colour-coding in the field, and then colouring later – painting by numbers.

This fascinating new study of Bauer's work includes reproductions of never-before-published works from collections in Europe and Australia. *Painting by Numbers* reveals Bauer's innovative colour-coding technique for the first time.

22. Animal Kingdom

A Natural History in 100 Objects

Jack Ashby

The History Press, 2017

328 pp., 178 colour illustrations

ISBN: 978-0750981521(pb)

£20.

From a single beginning, countless mil-

lions of stories from the animal kingdom have – and continue to – run their course. Museum objects allow us to investigate some of those stories.

Animal Kingdom journeys through both the evolutionary history of animals, and the ways that people have interpreted them in museums. Animals in museums are not only representatives of their entire species, but they also tell us something about the time in which they were collected. They provide windows into the past as well as data for the present. They embody centuries of natural ecosystems and human cultures. Through a selection of 100 objects, telling 100 stories, this beautifully illustrated book explores the diversity of animal life over the past 600 million years, and delves into some of the most exciting mechanisms in evolution. By understanding some of the key stories of how nature operates, we can gain amazing insight into the systems underlying life itself.

23. The Origins of Museums

The Cabinet of Curiosities in Sixteenth and

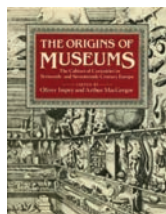
Seventeenth-century Europe

Oliver Impey & Arthur MacGregor
(editors)

Ashmolean Museum, 2017 reprint
352pp., illus.

ISBN: 978-1910807194 (hb)
£32.50.

History Today carried a feature in 2015, describing *The Origin of Museums* as "a cult book [that] spawned a new discipline in the history of collecting". Indeed, the first publication of this book in 1985 undoubtedly marked a



propitious moment in the development of interest, in what has since grown to be a dynamic subject-area in its own right. That an appetite for such matters was already there is confirmed by the fact that the first impression sold out within a few months, a second impression a year or two later, and the third in 1989. There was to be no further printing by the original publishers, Oxford University Press. However in 2001 a new edition appeared with a new publisher. Demand again proved buoyant, but within a few months the company failed; having operated on a print-on-demand basis, it left behind it no unsold stock. *The Origins of Museums* reverted to a scarce (though much sought-after) volume. With original copies now selling for hundreds, if not thousands of pounds, the Ashmolean is proud to make this important volume readily available again.

24. The Plant Hunters

Carolyn Fry

Andre Deutsch, 2017 reprint

160 pp., illus.

ISBN: 978-0233005164 (hb)

£11.31.

The Plant Hunters tells the story of our fascination with plants and the discovery of new species. From ancient times, when Alexander the Great included naturalists in his entourage, this intriguing story moves across the world, as plants such as coconut trees, roses and numerous fruits and vegetables were introduced from one country to another. The book traces the establishment of botanical gardens and the discovery through exploration of plants that made or broke economies, for instance tulips, tea and rubber. Travelling right around the world and throughout history, this is

the tale of the botanical pioneers who changed the face of landscapes.

25. Curators Behind the scenes of Natural History Museums

Lance Grande

Chicago University Press, 2017

432 pp., illus.

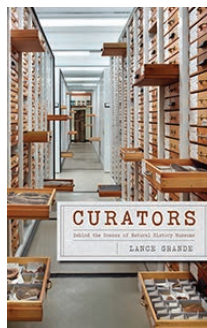
ISBN: 978-022619275 (hb)

\$35; £23.85.

Over the centuries, natural history museums have evolved from being little more than musty repositories of stuffed animals and pinned bugs, to being crucial generators of new scientific knowledge. They have also

become vibrant educational centres, full of engaging exhibits that share those discoveries with students and an enthusiastic general public.

At the heart of it all from the very start have been curators. Yet after three decades as a natural history curator, Lance Grande found that he still had to explain to people what he does. This book is the answer—and, oh, what an answer it is: lively, exciting, up-to-date, it offers a portrait of curators and their research like none we've seen, one that conveys the intellectual excitement and the educational and social value of curation. Grande uses the personal story of his own career—most of it spent at Chicago's storied Field Museum—to structure his account as he explores the value of research and collections, the importance of public engagement, changing ecological and ethical consid-



erations, and the impact of rapidly improving technology. Throughout, we are guided by Grande's keen sense of mission, of a job where the *why* is always as important as the *what*.

This richly illustrated book is a clear-eyed but loving account of natural history museums, their curators, and their ever-expanding roles in the twenty-first century.

26. Gardens of Court and Country English Design 1630-1730

David Jacques

Yale University Press, 2017

416 pp., illus.

ISBN: 978-0300222012 (hb)

£40.50.

Provides the first comprehensive overview of the development of the English formal garden from 1630 to 1730. Often overshadowed by the English landscape garden that became fashionable later in the 18th century, English formal gardens of the 17th century displayed important design innovations that reflected a broad rethinking of how gardens functioned within society. With insights into how the Protestant nobility planned and used their formal gardens, the domestication of the lawn, and the transformation of gardens into large rustic parks, David Jacques explores the ways forecourts, flower gardens, bowling greens, cascades, and more were created and reimagined over time. This handsome volume includes 300 illustrations - including plans, engravings, and paintings - that bring lost and forgotten gardens back to life.

27. Charles Plumier (1646–1704) and His Drawings of French and Caribbean Fishes

Theodore W. Pietsch

Publications Scientifiques du Muséum
Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle,
Paris, 2017

408 pp., 46 figs., 121 pls.

ISBN: 978-2856537947 (hb)

€89.

[*Charles Plumier (1646–1704) et Ses
Dessins de Poissons de France et des
Antilles*].

Never was a man so denied a place in history than French minimalist priest Father Charles Plumier. Craftsman, illustrator, and engraver, but best known for his work as a botanist, Plumier devoted the better part of his life to collecting and illustrating plants and animals. Working nearly a century ahead of the great eighteen-century describers and namers of the myriads of new organisms flooding into Europe at the time, particularly from the New World, the major credit for Plumier's contributions to botany and zoology was given to others.

Born at Marseille in 1646, Plumier, at the age of 16, entered the Order of the Minims, an austere Catholic monastic order founded in Italy in 1453 by Saint Francis of Paula. Initially trained at the convent in mathematics and the physical sciences, he soon turned his attention to natural history, taking on the study of botany with great enthusiasm. He so impressed his superiors at an early age that he was invited to botanize with many of the celebrated naturalists of his day. Word of Plumier's botanical expertise, as well as his extraordinary talents as an illustrator and engraver, began to spread. The course of his life took a turn when in 1689 he was appointed naturalist on an expedition to the French

possessions in the Antilles for the purpose of collecting objects of natural history. The great success of this voyage, followed by two additional expeditions to the West Indies, provided a life-long pension, and earned him the title of "Botaniste du Roy." Often ill and always anxious about the publication of his work, Plumier spent the last years of his life in his cell at the Minim Convent La Place Royale in Paris compiling his notes and drawings and preparing manuscripts for the press. Persuaded in 1704 to travel to Peru to discover and document the tree that produces quinine, he suffered a sudden attack of pleurisy along the way and died on 20 November 1704 at the age of 58.

Despite a frail constitution, Plumier was indefatigable in the field. Despite hardships of every kind, accepted cheerfully without complaint, and denying himself even the smallest of worldly pleasures, his efforts provided the foundation for an enormous body of iconographic material still extant in the collections of the Bibliothèque Centrale du Museum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris. While his botanical contributions have been described in some detail and many of his plant drawings have been published, his influence on zoology has been relatively unexplored and his animal drawings remain uncatalogued and largely unobserved until now. This volume, the first of a series of monographs planned for the near future, designed to bring Plumier's extraordinary work to light, imparts life to images that have been essentially lost from public view for more than three centuries.

28. Beckwith's Birds of Nineteenth Century Shropshire with notes on surrounding districts

John and Peter Tucker

2017

c.375pp, illus

ISBN: 978-0954012236

£30.

William E. Beckwith (1844-1892), son of the Rector of St Mary's church in Eaton Constantine near Cressage, lived most of his life at the Rectory. He was a naturalist specialising in birds and in 1887 began a draft of his book on 'The Birds of Shropshire', putting together all he could find into the first book with that name.



Halfway through the species list and by then living at Radbrook outside Shrewsbury he died, suddenly, on 1 July 1892 aged 47. The information gathering stopped, the work was never completed and the parts which he had written remained unpublished as a book. Had he completed his 'Birds of Shropshire' it would have been published in about 1902.

John, the book's writer, said "*My brother Peter is a book designer and we decided to put together all Beckwith's work in a book and in a way which he would recognise - in black and white with wood engravings as illustrations.*" The engravings are by the famous nineteenth century wood engraver Thomas Bewick (1753-1828) of Northumberland.

'Beckwith' is on sale from John Tucker, and a few bookshops; £30 plus £5 P&P. Contact: John Tucker at Oakerley, Clun Road, Aston on Clun, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 8EW; Tel: 01588 660380; and e-mail: john.tucker@lanius.org.uk.

29. Enlightenment Travel and British Identities

Thomas Pennant's Tours of Scotland and Wales

Mary-Ann Constantine & Nigel Leask
(editors)

Anthem Press, 2017

286pp.

ISBN: 978-1783086535

(hb)

£70.



This is a collection of essays devoted to the influential eighteenth-century travel writer, antiquarian and naturalist, Thomas Pennant. Offering a multidisciplinary range of perspectives, the volume explores the complex networks of informants who helped Pennant undertake and write up the journeys behind his popular Welsh and Scottish Tours. Widely read and much imitated, the Tours indisputably helped bring about a richer, more complex understanding of the multiple histories and cultures of Britain at a time when 'Britishness' was itself a fragile and developing concept. *Enlightenment Travel and British Identities* seeks to address the comparative neglect of Pennant's travel writing by bringing together researchers from literary criticism, art history, Celtic studies, archaeology and natural history. Attentive to the visual as well as textual aspects of Pennant's topographical enquiries, it rehabilitates a neglected aspect of the Enlightenment in relation to questions of British identity, offering a new assessment of an important chapter in the development of domestic travel writing.

30. The Quotable Darwin

Janet Browne (editor)

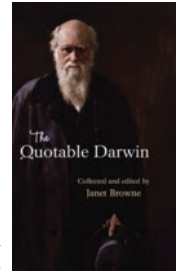
University of Princeton
Press, 2017

384p., illus.

ISBN: 978-0691169354

(hb)

£19.95, \$24.95.



Here is Charles Darwin in his own words—the naturalist, traveller, scientific thinker, and controversial author of *On the Origin of Species*, the book that shook the Victorian world. Featuring hundreds of quotations carefully selected by Darwin biographer Janet Browne, *The Quotable Darwin* draws from Darwin's writings, letters to friends and family, autobiographical reminiscences, and private scientific notebooks. It offers a multifaceted portrait that takes readers through his youth, the famous voyage of the *Beagle*, the development of his thoughts about evolution, his gradual loss of religious faith, and the time spent turning his ideas into a well-articulated theory about the natural origin of all living beings—a theory that dangerously included the origin of humans.

The Quotable Darwin also includes many of the key responses to Darwin's ideas from figures across the social spectrum, scientists and nonscientists alike—and criticism too. We see Darwin as an innovative botanist and geologist, an affectionate husband and father, and a lively correspondent who once told his cousin that he liked to play billiards because "it drives the horrid species out of my head." This book gives us an intimate look at Darwin at work, at home, as a public figure, and on his travels.

Complete with a chronology of Darwin's life, *The Quotable Darwin* provides an engagingly fresh perspective

on a remarkable man who was always thinking deeply about the natural world.

31. Darwin's Backyard How Small Experiments Led to a Big Theory

James T. Costa

W. W. Norton & Company, 2017

464pp.

ISBN: 978-0393239898 (hb)

£19.99.

How Darwin found universal evolutionary truths in simple yet ingenious home-spun experiments.

James T. Costa takes readers on a journey from Charles Darwin's youth and travels on the *HMS Beagle* to Down House, his bustling home of forty years. To test his insights into evolution, Darwin devised experiments using his garden and greenhouse, the surrounding land and his home-turned-field-station. His experiments yielded universal truths about nature and evidence for his revolutionary arguments in *On the Origin of Species* and other watershed works. We accompany Darwin in his myriad pursuits against the backdrop of his enduring marriage, chronic illness, grief at the loss of three children and joy in scientific revelation. At each chapter's end, Costa shows how we can investigate the wonders of nature, with directions on how to re-create Darwin's experiments.

32. Molluscs in archaeology, methods, approaches and applications

Allen, Michael J. (editor)

Oxbow Books, 2017

304 pp.

ISBN: 978-1785706080 (pb)

£25.

The subject of 'Molluscs in Archaeology' has not been dealt with collectively for several decades as most previous volumes in this subject area have been confined to studies of either land or marine molluscs, or mollusc shells as artefacts. The 23 specially commissioned papers address many aspects of molluscs in archaeology. Marine molluscs are a common find on archaeological sites, where they may represent food waste or their shells having been utilised as tools, artefacts and ornaments. Land snails are also found as food waste in middens, but more commonly their microscopic remains are used to examine site environmental and land use histories.

This comprehensive collection will give the reader an overview of the whole topic: methods of analysis and approaches to interpretation. It aims to give readers an insight into how to apply analysis to different present and past landscapes, and how to interpret those landscapes. Contributors present marine, freshwater and land snail studies, and examine topics such as diet, economy, climate, environment and land-use, isotopes and molluscs as artefacts, providing archaeologists and students with the first port of call regarding a) methods and principles, and b) the potential information molluscs can provide.

33. The Art and Science of Ernst Haeckel

Rainer Willman & Julia Voss

Taschen, 2017

600 pp., illus.

ISBN: 978-3836526463 (hb)

£150.

Microbial marvels Ernst Haeckel, the 19th-century pioneer who captured the

artistic beauty of the natural world Ernst Haeckel (1834–1919) was a German-born biologist, naturalist, evolutionist, artist, philosopher, and doctor, who spent his life researching flora and fauna from the highest mountaintops to deepest ocean. A vociferous supporter and developer of Darwin's theories of evolution, he denounced religious dogma, abandoned an early career in medicine, authored philosophical treatises, gained a doctorate in zoology, and coined scientific terms which have passed into common usage, including ecology, phylum, and stem cell. Haeckel's colossal legacy has fascinated, confounded, and polarized generations. But what was at the heart of his extraordinary life's work? Rather like his intellectual forebear, Alexander von Humboldt, Haeckel was motivated not only to discover but also to explain. To do this, he created hundreds of detailed drawings, watercolours, and sketches of his findings which he published in successive volumes during the 20th century, including several marine organism collections and the majestic *Kunstformen der Natur* (Art Forms in Nature), which could serve as the cornerstone of Haeckel's entire life project. Like a meticulous visual encyclopedia of living things, Haeckel's work was as remarkable for its graphic precision and meticulous shading as for its understanding of organic evolution and cellular development. From bats to the box jellyfish, lizards to lichen, and spider legs to sea anemones, he emphasized the essential symmetries and order of nature, and found biological beauty in even the most unlikely of creatures. The prints not only furthered the study of natural history but also influenced generations of 20th-century artists and architects, from the emerging proponents of Art

Nouveau to architects such as Hendrik Petrus Berlage, whose Amsterdam Commodities Exchange was inspired by Haeckel's illustrations. In this book, we celebrate the scientific, artistic, and environmental importance of Haeckel's work, with a collection of prints from several of his most important tomes on marine biology, including *Die Radiolarien*, *Monographie der Medusen*, *Die Kalkschwamme: eine Monographie*, and *Kunstformen der Natur*. Text in English, French, and German.

34. Robert Fortune A Plant Hunter in the Orient

Alistair Watt

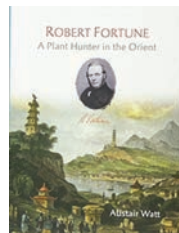
Kew Publishing, 2016

420pp, illus.

ISBN: 978-1842466193

(hb)

£45.



Fortune, from Edrom in Berwickshire, is best known as a plantsman who between 1843 and 1861 made five trips to the Orient, exploring eastern China, Japan and the Philippines. Yet, there was much more to Fortune's trips of the Orient than plant-hunting, as Watt describes. Fortune also collected shells and insects for sale in the London auction-house of J. C. Stevens, and sent bird skins to Lord Derby (Watt was unable to trace any surviving examples). Fish, reptile, amphibian and bat specimens are in the Natural History Museum, London. Therefore, not only are there around a hundred plants bearing the epithet "fortunei", but several insects and molluscs were named after him too. He was also a notable connoisseur of antique porcelain, purchasing choice items for later resale

which undoubtedly contributed to Fortune's wealth; unlike not a few Victorian plant hunters, he did not die in poverty. He also had income from his four travel books.

Watt's *Robert Fortune ...* is well supported with notes and bibliographic sources, and it will undoubtedly be the definitive work about Fortune for many years.

35. Expeditions as Experiments Practising Observation and Documentation

Marianne Klemun & Ulrike Spring
(Editors)
Palgrave Macmillan, 2016
308pp.
ISBN: 978-1137581051 (hb)
€99.99.

This collection focuses on different expeditions and their role in the process of knowledge acquisition from the eighteenth century onwards. It investigates various forms of scientific practice conducted during, after and before expeditions, and it places this discussion into the scientific context of experiments. In treating expeditions as experiments in a heuristic sense, we also propose that the expedition is a variation on the laboratory in which different practices can be conducted and where the transformation of uncertain into certain knowledge is tested. The experimental positioning of the expedition brings together an ensemble of techniques, strategies, material agents and social actors, and illuminates the steps leading from observation to facts and documentation. The chapters show the variety of scientific interests that motivated expeditions with their focus on natural history, geology, ichthyology, botany, zoology, helminthology, speleology, physi-

cal anthropology, oceanography, meteorology and magnetism.

36. The Historical Heroines Coloring Book

Pioneering Women in Science from the 18th and 19th Centuries

Elizabeth Lorayne
White Wave Press, 2017
ISBN: 978-0997909876 (pb)
\$14.95

First started as a Kickstarter funding campaign, the "Historical Heroines Coloring Book" is now published. It celebrates 31 women who passionately pursued their talents in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, often in the face of gender discrimination.

Elizabeth Lorayne of White Wave Press feels passionately about creating platforms that excite children, especially females, and ignites their curiosity in nature, science, art, and writing. She teamed up with artist Kendra Shedenhelm and science historian Michael D. Barton to create *The Historical Heroines Coloring Book*. Kendra's illustrative style is as whimsical as it is fierce – a combination that honours these pioneering women in science. Michael's expertise and help with research and editing made sure that the bios were as accurate as possible. Some of the women included are: Ada Lovelace, Alice Ball, Amalie, Emmy Noether, Anna Atkins, Anna Botsford Comstock, Annie Jump Cannon, Beatrix Potter, Caroline Herschel, Dorothea Bate, Ellen Swallow Richards, and many more. For more information, please visit <https://historical-heroines.com/>.

New & Recent Publications

Many thanks to everyone who contributes material to this section. May I just remind you to forward details of your own publications as well as those of general interest. Please include as many publication details as possible: such as publisher, date and ISBN.

Allen, Michael J. (editor) (2017) *Molluscs in archaeology, methods, approaches and applications*. Oxbow Books. 304 pp. ISBN: 978-1785706080 (pb). £25.

Anderson, C. M. (editor) (2016) *Early Modern Merchants as Collectors*. Routledge. 276pp. ISBN: 978-1472469823 (hb). £110.

Anonymous (2017) Ron Cleevely (1934-2017). *The Geological Curator* 10: 487-488. [Obituary.]

Ashby, J. (2017) *Animal Kingdom: A Natural History in 100 Objects*. The History Press. 328 pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0750981521 (pb). £20.

Ball, P. (2017) Luther's legacy. *New Scientist* 3149: 32-35. [Influence of religious revolutions around 500 years ago on progress in the natural sciences.]

Berkowitz, C. & Lightman, B. (editors) (2017) *Science Museums in Transition: Anglo-American Cultures of Display in the Nineteenth Century*. Pittsburgh UP. 368 pp. ISBN: 978-0822944751 (hb). £46.50.

Brockliss L. (2017) *From Provincial savant to Parisian naturalist: the recollections of Pierre-Joseph Amoreux (1741-1824)*. Voltaire Foundation Vol. No.: 2017:10 456pp. ISBN: 978-0729412032 (pb). £78. [Pierre-Joseph Amoreux of Montpellier was a Linnaean naturalist, agronomist and bibliographer whose adult life spanned the last decades of the ancien régime, the French

Revolution, the age of Napoleon and the Restoration.]

Browne, J. (editor) (2017) *The Quotable Darwin*. University of Princeton Press. 384p., illus. ISBN: 978-0691169354 (hb). £19.95, \$24.95.

Clayton, K. (2017) Women in marine science. *The Marine Biologist* 8: 23.

Constantine, M. & Leask, N. (editors) (2017) *Enlightenment Travel and British Identities: Thomas Pennant's Tours of Scotland and Wales*. Anthem Press. 286pp. ISBN: 978-1783086535 (hb). £70.

Costa, J. T. (2017) *Darwin's Backyard: How Small Experiments Led to a Big Theory*. W. W. Norton & Company. 464pp. ISBN: 978-0393239898 (hb). £19.99.

Dorr, L. J., Stauffer, F.W. & Rodríguez, L. (2017) Albert Mocquerys in Venezuela (1893-1894): A commercial collector of plants, birds, and insects. *Harvard Papers in Botany* 22(1): 17-26. DOI: 10.3100/hpib.v22iss1.2017.n5.

Doyle, H., Callaghan, E. & Reynaud, E.G. (2017) Blaschka invertebrate models in Irish institutions. *J. Hist. Collections* 29 (3): 439-50.

Dunn, R. & Higgitt, R. (editors) (2015) *Navigational Enterprises in Europe and its Empires, 1730-1850*. Palgrave Macmillan. 272pp. ISBN: 978-1137520630 (hb). \$100.

Edgington, J. A. (2017): Agrarian practices and the flora of London in the eighteenth century. *Lond. Nat.* 96: 54 – 62

Engel, M.S. (2016) Charles D. Michener (1918-2015): The compleat melittologist. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 89 (1): 1-44. [A biographical account of a leading naturalist of the 20th Century on wild bees.]

Farjon, A. (2017) *Ancient oaks in the English Landscape*. Kew Publishing. 348 pp. Illust. 190 colour photographs, 6

- maps. ISBN: 978-184246 640 7 (hb). £30; \$50.
- Finnegan, R.** (2015) The travels and curious collections of Richard Pococke, Bishop of Meath. *J. Hist. Collections* 27 (1): 33–4. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhc/fhu030>.
- Fry, C.** (2017 reprint) *The Plant Hunters*. Andre Deutsch, 160 pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0233005164 (hb). £11.31.
- Ganias, K. and Voultsiadou, E.** (2017) On Aristotle's observations of fish reproduction. *The Marine Biologist* 9: 19–20.
- Goodchild, J. G., Taylor, M. A. and Anderson, L. I.** (2017) J. G. Goodchild's Guide to the Geological Collections in the Hugh Miller Cottage, Cromarty of 1902. *The Geological Curator* 10: 447–454.
- Gomes, I.** (2017) The natural history collection at the Lisbon Military College: tracing the history of a teaching collection. *J. Hist. Collections* 29 (3): 409–22.
- Grande, L.** (2017) *Curators. Behind the scenes of Natural History Museums*. Chicago UP. 432 pp. illustr. ISBN: 978-022619275 (hb). £23.85; \$35.
- Holmes, M.** (2017) The Sparrow Question: Social and Scientific Accord in Britain, 1850–1900, *Journal of the History of Biology* (2017) 50: 645–671.
- Hume, J. P. & Taylor, C.** (2017) A gift from Mauritius: William Curtis, George Clark and the Dodo. *J. Hist. Collections* 29 (3): 467–79.
- Impey, O. & MacGregor, A.** (Editors) (2017 reprint) *The Origins of Museums: The Cabinet of Curiosities in Sixteenth and Seventeenth-century Europe*. Ashmolean Museum. 352pp., illus. ISBN: 978-1910807194 (hb). £32.50.
- Ings, S.** (2017) The bourgeois biologist and the revolution. *New Scientist* 3148: 40–41. [The genetic research of Nikolai Koltsov in Russia from 1916 to 1940.]
- Jackson, P. W. & Parkes, M.** (2017) Burial place and headstone of William Hellier Bailly (1819–1888). *The Geological Curator* 10: 468.
- Jacques, D.** (2017) *Gardens of Court and Country: English Design 1630–1730*. Yale UP, 416 pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0300222012 (hb). £40.50.
- Kemp, C.** (2017) Behind the scenes at the museum. *New Scientist* 3148: 36–39. [How new species are still being discovered in old collections, for instance an Argentinian beetle collected by Darwin in 1832.]
- Klemun, M. & Huhnel, H.** (2017) *Nikolaus Joseph Jacquin (1727–1817) : ein Naturforscher (er)findet sich. [Nikolaus Joseph Jacquin (1727–1817): a naturalist (himself) finds himself]*. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht. 650pp. ISBN: 978-3847107101 (hb). €40.
- Klemun, M. & Spring, U.** (editors) (2016) *Expeditions as Experiments: Practising Observation and Documentation*. Palgrave Macmillan. 308pp. ISBN: 978-1137581051 (hb). €99.99.
- Anna Laurent, A.** (2016) *Botanical Art from the Golden Age of Scientific Discovery*. Chicago UP. 224pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0226321073 (hb). \$60.
- Lloyd, S.** (editor) (2016) *Art, animals and politics: Knowsley and the Earls of Derby*. Unicorn Press. 288pp. ISBN 978-1910065822 (hb). £60.
- Lorayne, E.** (2017) *The Historical Heroines Coloring Book: Pioneering Women in Science from the 18th and 19th Centuries*. White Wave Press. ISBN: 978-0997909876 (pb). \$14.95
- Mabberley, D. J.** (2017) *Painting by Numbers: The life and art of Ferdinand Bauer*. NewSouth Publishing. 272pp., illus. ISBN: 978-1742235226 (hb). £70.50; AU\$69.99.
- MacGregor, A.** (2015) *The Cobbe*

- Cabinet of Curiosities: An Anglo-Irish Country House Museum.* Yale UP. 400pp. ISBN: 978-0300204353 (hb). £66.29.
- Mayer, W., Clary, R. M., Azuela, L. F., Mota, T. S., & Wołkowicz, S.** (editors) (2017) *History of Geoscience: Celebrating 50 years of INHIGEO.* GSL Special Publications 442. 456pp. ISBN: 978-1786202697 (hb). £120.
- Moore, P. G. & Chisolm, A. J.** (2017) Plankologist Sheina Macalister Marshall (1896- 1977), Scotland's radium works and the Cathedral of the Isles. *Ayrshire Notes* 2017/1: 12-17.
- Palmer, D.** (2017) Women in geology – past and present. *GeoCam* 14: 6-7.
- Parmenter, J.** (2017) A history of the exploitation of the Broadland flood-plains: peat extraction in the Broadland Fens. *Transactions of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society* 49 (part 1 for 2016): 46-65.
- Parsons, E.** (2017) The lady and the argonauts. *New Scientist* 233 (3114): 40-41. [Jeanne Villepreux-Power – 1830s octopus expert.]
- Peach, B. N., Traquair, R. H., Anderson, L. I. and Taylor, M. A.** (2017) Guide to the Hugh Miller Collection in the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, c. 1920. *The Geological Curator* 10: 375-428.
- Pietsch, T. W.** (2017) *Charles Plumier (1646–1704) and His Drawings of French and Caribbean Fishes* [Charles Plumier (1646–1704) et Ses Dessins de Poissons de France et des Antilles]. Publications Scientifiques du Muséum. Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris. 408 pp., 46 figs., 121 pls. ISBN: 978-2856537947(hb). €89.
- Porter, D. M. & Graham, P. W.** (2016) *Darwin's Sciences: How Charles Darwin voyaged from rocks to worms in his search for facts to explain how the earth, its geological features, and its inhabitants evolved.* Wiley Blackwell, xii + 249 pp.; illus. ISBN: 978-1444330359 (pb). \$45.
- Preston, C. D.** (2017) An early record of Grape Vine (*Vitis vinifera*) as a food refuse casual in King's Lynn, West Norfolk. *Transactions of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society* 49 (part 1 for 2016): 27-28.
- Priebe, J.** (2016) The artist as collector: François Boucher (1703–1770). *J. Hist. Collections* 28 (1): 27–4. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhc/fhu063>. [This article aims to bring to light Boucher's activities as a collector, in particular his interest in natural objects for which he was especially well known. It also considers the extent to which Boucher's passion for collectable objects had an impact on his practice as an artist.]
- Rasmussen, C.** (2016) J. C. Bradley's narrative of the Cornell Entomological Expedition to South America (1919–1920): collecting localities and entomological travel details. *J. Hist. Collections* 28 (1): 137–147. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhc/fhu074>
- Rookmaaker, K.** (2016): The zoological contributions of Andrew Smith (1797-1872) with an annotated bibliography and a numerical analysis of newly described animal species, *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa*, DOI: 10.1080/0035919X.2016.1230078. [Andrew Smith was a surgeon from Scotland who went to South Africa with the army. He was interested in the fauna of the region and was chosen as the first superintendent of the South African Museum in Capetown.]
- Roos, A.M.** (2017) 'Only meer Love to Learning': a rediscovered travel diary of naturalist and collector James Petiver (c.1665-1718). *J. Hist. Collections* 29 (3): 381-94.

- Southward, E.** (2017) The 50th anniversary of an environmental disaster. *The Marine Biologist* **8**: 16-17. [Account of the *Torrey Canyon* oil-spill.]
- Stevenson, S.** (2017) Hugh Miller and the Gravestone, 1843-4. *The Geological Curator* **10**: 455-461.
- Taylor, M. A.** (2017) The Victorian Sunday, daylight and naturalists. *Newsletter of the Society for the History of Natural History* **112**: 21-22.
- Taylor, M. A. and Anderson, L. I.** (2017) The museums of a local, national and supranational hero: Hugh Miller's collections over the decades. *The Geological Curator* **10**: 285-368.
- Taylor, M. A. and Anderson, L. I.** (2017) The appeal circular for the purchase of Hugh Miller's collection, 1858. *The Geological Curator* **10**: 369-373.
- Taylor, M. A. and Morrison-Low, A. D.** (2017). The first known stereophotographs of Hugh Miller's Cottage, and the building of the Hugh Miller Monument, Cromarty, 1859. *The Geological Curator* **10**: 429-445.
- Taylor, M. A. and Torrens, H. S.** (2017) 19th Century plaster casts of Lower Jurassic ichthyosaurs and plesiosaurs in the Bristol Institution for the Advancement of Science, Literature and the Arts, and the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. *The Geological Curator* **10**: 489-492.
- Taylor, M. A. and Torrens, H. S.** (2017) Henry Riley M.D. (1797-1848) of Bristol. *The Geological Curator* **10**: 493-498.
- Tucker, J. & Tucker, P.** (2017) *Beckwith's Birds of Nineteenth Century Shropshire with notes on surrounding districts*. c.375pp, illus. ISBN: 978-0954012236. £30.
- Watt, A.** (2016) *Robert Fortune: A Plant Hunter in the Orient*. Kew Publishing, 2016
420pp, illus. ISBN: 978-1842466193 (hb). £45.
- Williams, R. B.** (2017) T. V. Wollaston's Coleoptera Hesperidum: correction of its spurious 1867 publication date to 1868. *Zoological Bibliography* **4**: 89-92.
- Williams, R. B.** (2017) The publication dates of the parts-issue of Richard Thomas Lowe's *A Manual Flora of Madeira* (1857-1872), with a publishing history. *Boletim do Museu de História Natural do Funchal* **67** (347): 5-23.
- Williams, R. B.** (2017) The palaeontologist William Hellier Baily (1819-1888): new biographical information. *The Geological Curator* **10**: 465-467.
- Willes, M.** (2017) *The Curious World of Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn*. Yale UP. 304pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0300221398 (hb). £16.89, \$27.50.
- Willman, R. & Voss, J.** (2017) *The Art and Science of Ernst Haeckel*. Taschen. 600 pp., illus. ISBN: 978-3836526463 (hb). £150.

Museums, Collections and Conflict, 1500-2010

MGHG Biennial Conference 2018

Call for papers

National Maritime Museum

Greenwich, London, UK

13-14 July 2018

Keynote speaker: Annie Coombes, Professor of Material and Visual Culture, Birkbeck, University of London

Museums have been profoundly shaped by war and armed conflict, and have also played a significant part in shaping understandings and memories about them. Yet there has been little sustained examination of the way museums in war and war in museums has played out. Since Gaynor Kavanagh's foundational study *Museums and the First World War* in 1994, and with the publication this year of Catherine Pearson's similarly ground-breaking *Museums in the Second World War*, it is clear that museums have played and can play an important role in helping society address such crisis situations. On the home front, for example, museums have helped society prepare for war and armed conflict. In leading commemoration in the aftermath of war and armed conflict, museums have helped society come to terms with what happened, understand why it happened, and remember sacrifices. Yet museums have equally served as arenas where issues such as commemoration have been contested and negotiated, and where particular narratives legitimising war and conflict have been developed. This conference hopes to address a broad range of questions, including on collecting (in) war and armed conflict, on the deliberate targeting and destruction or safeguarding of museums and cultural property, and the broader range of institutions brought forth or which are strongly influenced by war and armed conflict.

We seek papers which particularly address but are not restricted to the following questions over a period from the Early Modern to the end of the 20th century:

- What have museums done during periods of conflict and what has happened to them? Have they been responsible for morale, have they been targets of attack, have they physically moved and how has their staffing been affected?
- How have museums and collections acted to commemorate conflict?
- In what ways have wars and other conflicts affected museums' and collectors' collecting activities, positively or negatively? How have wars and conflicts been collected, and by whom?
- How have museums represented war, civil war and other conflicts such as rebellions? Have museums promoted peace by interpreting war?
- How have museums of conflict, of the armed forces and of weaponry/armouries developed historically?

We welcome proposals for papers which deal with the history of museums and collecting in a British, European or wider context or which address the relationships between different geographical areas.

Paper proposals should be for papers of 20 minutes' length. Proposals should be 250 words max and include the name, contact details and affiliation (if applicable) of the speaker.

Panel proposals are strongly encouraged and should consist of a panel title, proposals for 3 papers, along with a rationale for the panel theme, and contact details and affiliations (if applicable) of all participants. Please indicate whether you will provide a chair for your session or not (it does not matter which).

Poster proposals are also welcomed. Please contact Kate Hill (khill@lincoln.ac.uk) for more information.

All the above proposals should be sent to contact@mghg.info by **1 March 2018**. Please note all speakers and poster presenters will be expected to pay the conference registration fee.

For more information see <http://www.mghg.info/museums-collections-conflict-15002010/>.

**Annual Meeting of the INHIGEO Mexico
International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences
43rd Conference, 2018**

**Palace of Mining
Mexico City
12-22 November 2018**

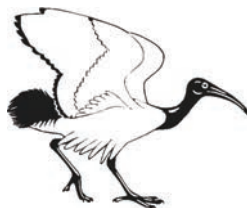
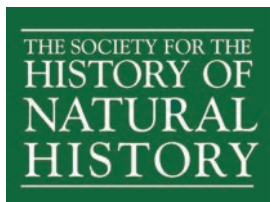
Conference Themes

- History of vulcanological studies
- Humboldt's influence in earth sciences
- Werner's neptunists in America
- History of mining and oil research
- General contributions on the history of Geology

Important Dates

- 15 April 2018, deadline for abstract submission
- 18 May 2018, notification of acceptance and 2nd Circular
- 15 July 2018, closure of early bird registration for Conference, Post- Meeting trip, and accompanying participant s registration

Registration fees for Conference and Post-Conference trip after 15 July will be US\$450 dollars, and US\$ 300 for accompanying participants. For more information contact inhigeo@igg.unam.mx and see <http://www.inhigeo.com/symposia.htm>



Bon Voyage? 250 Years Exploring the Natural World
SHNH summer meeting and AGM in association with the BOC
World Museum Liverpool
Thursday 14th and Friday 15th June 2018
(Optional visit to Knowsley Hall, Wednesday 13th June)

2018 marks the 250th anniversary of Captain James Cook's first voyage to the Pacific. A pivotal moment in the history of exploration. Cook's voyages influenced many areas of science and endeavour - from astronomy and geology to natural history and anthropology.

This international meeting, held in association with the British Ornithologists' Club, will focus on the lives, encounters, contributions and legacies of many of those involved in the history of natural history exploration around the world, from land to sea - the risks they took, the discoveries made, their contributions to science, and the ingenuity and endeavour involved in the process. It will also examine some of the complexities and controversies surrounding many centuries of natural history exploration and discovery.

Participants can register for either one or two days. A guided tour of Knowsley Hall has also been arranged for Wednesday 13th June.

The Society's AGM will take place on the afternoon of Thursday 14th June.

Participants are encouraged to book their own accommodation. A list of hotels close to the World Museum is available on the Society's website:

<http://shnh.org.uk>

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return this form, with payment, to G. Douglas, Meetings Secretary, 23 Jeffreys Road, London SW4 6QU, UK. Cheques should be made payable to **The Society for the History of Natural History**.

For alternative ways to pay (Paypal or BACS), please contact G. Douglas at the address above or using meetings@shnh.org.uk.

The closing date for registration will be Friday 1st June 2018
Conference fees include tea/coffee breaks, & lunch both days*



I/we wish to register to attend **both days** of the meeting (costs per person)

£ 60 SHNH and BOC members and friends* £ _____

£ 50 Student members £ _____

£ 80 Non-members £ _____

One day rate: I /we wish to attend on Thursday 14th June ☐ Friday 15th June ☐

£ 35 SHNH and BOC members and friends** £ _____

£ 25 Student members £ _____

£ 50 Non-members £ _____

*Includes spouses/partners of members and affiliated organisations eg. NatSCA, BSHS, GCG.

I wish to join a visit to Knowsley Hall on Wednesday 13th June (includes transport and lunch) add £13 per person

Yes ☐ (Number of people _____) No ☐

I enclose a cheque for £ _____

If you wish to stay for dinner on Thursday 14th June please indicate below (cost to be confirmed but likely to be around £25 per person):

Yes ☐ (Number of people _____) No ☐

Please let us know if you have special dietary requirements:

Name(s)(Prof/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Country _____

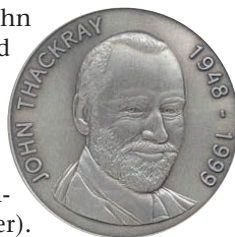
Contact _____

Telephone number _____

E-mail address _____

John Thackray Medal 2018

Instituted in 2000 to commemorate the life and work of John Thackray, Past President of the Society, this medal is awarded for a significant achievement in the preceding three years in the history of those areas of interest to the Society, that is the biological and earth sciences in the broadest sense.



All SHNH members in good standing are invited to make nominations for the 2018 award using the form (see over). Nominations should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, with an accompanying letter.

Nominations must indicate the item and the producer to be nominated and include the name and contact details of the person submitting the nomination. Please include a brief statement on the nature of the significant achievement involved and describe how the Prize Committee can obtain supporting evidence, such as publication details or photographs of exhibitions, etc. The Committee may ask for the loan of such evidence to support the Committee in its discussions.

The rules governing the award of The John Thackray Medal may be accessed on our website at <http://shnh.org.uk/awards-honours-medals/john-thackray-medal/>

The deadline for submissions is 31 July 2018.



The SHNH Thackray Medal 2018 Nomination Form

I wish to
nominate

For

My name

My address

My phone no.

My email

Signed

Date

Please print out this form and return it to:

Society for the History of Natural History (Thackray Medal)
c/o The Natural History Museum
Cromwell Road
London SW7 5BD UK

Please also submit an electronic copy (available on SHNH website www.shnh.or.uk) to the Honorary Secretary at secretary@shnh.org.uk



SHNH SMALL RESEARCH-FUND

The SHNH Small Research Fund is to provide financial support to non-professional members of the SHNH in all fields covered by the society's charitable purpose in carrying out research to benefit the scholarly community. A "non-professional" is regarded as having no gainful specific employment as a historian or bibliographer for the specific purpose of the proposed research.

Application must be made (before incurring the expense requested) using the pro-forma in the newsletter or on the SHNH website. This must be sent to the SHNH Secretary, who will then forward it to the Small Research-Fund Co-ordinator for assessment by the Sub-committee.

Qualifying expenses for funding

Examples are:

- Charges made for use of privately-owned or professional-association libraries or museums by non-subscribers.
- Charges made by libraries or museums for new scanning, photographing or photocopying essential materials.
- Charges made by photographic agencies, libraries or museums for providing pre-existing digital copies.
- Fees for image-publication rights.
- Cost of travel by public transport for an essential visit to a unique location of essential material.

How to apply

- As long as you are not a professional historian or bibliographer (for the purpose of a specific research project), any member of the SHNH may apply for a Small Research-Fund grant, up to £100 (or non-Sterling currency equivalent). Please download the pro-forma application form, complete it and send to the SHNH Secretary at secretary@shnh.org.uk.

Eligibility

- There is no upper age limit; no academic qualification is required; nor is any academic affiliation necessary. But no more than one application per person may be made in any financial year of the SHNH.

- Non-professional researcher applicants must not already be in receipt of any grant, as a student or otherwise, that would cover the expenses applied for. Application must be made before the requested expense is incurred.

Further conditions

- This funding is a "last-resort" grant. Alternative "free-of-charge" sources of images or information must already have been investigated; if none can be identified, all reasonable efforts must also have been made to obtain funding elsewhere before applying to the SHNH.
- It must be the applicant's intention to publish in the scholarly press or on a website any images or information obtained through an award; the SHNH Secretary must be informed of publication when completed.
- Dated receipts must be obtained for expenses.
- Costs involved in attendance at conferences do not qualify.
- Costs of coloured illustrations in the printed *Archives of Natural History* do not qualify.
- The decision of the SHNH on an application for a Small Research-Fund grant shall be final.





**SHNH SMALL RESEARCH-FUND
APPLICATION FORM**

Please complete and send to SHNH Secretary at secretary@shnh.org.uk or post to
The Secretary, The Society for the History of Natural History,
c/o the Natural History Museum, London SW7 5BD, UK.

Name and title: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Telephone: _____

Member of SHNH? Yes ☐ No ☐

Employed as historian/ Yes ☐ No ☐

bibliographer for purposes of this research? Yes ☐ No ☐

Already receiving a grant covering requested expense? Yes ☐ No ☐

Has this expense already been incurred? Yes ☐ No ☐

Nature of expense for which funding sought:

Are there any free-of-charge alternatives? Yes ☐ No ☐

What other sources of funding have been investigated?

Amount (£) requested: _____

Have you made any previous application to *SHNH* for this purpose? If yes please give date of application: Yes ☐ No ☐

Proposed place of publication of research: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Become a member of SHNH

Patron

Sir David Attenborough OM CH FRS

“Anyone who loves the history of natural history will find a warm welcome.”

Professor Janet Browne

Harvard University

SHNH – The Society for the History of Natural History welcomes as members everyone with an interest in the history of natural history, natural history collections, exploration, art and bibliography, for all period and cultures.

The Society publishes an internationally respected journal *Archives of natural history*. It is published for the Society by Edinburgh University Press, a highly respected, independent voice. Members have free online access to all issues of *Archives* published since 1936.

The Society also produces an informative newsletter which announces forthcoming events, provides a forum for notes and queries, offers notice of new publications, and much more.

We design meetings for wide audiences and provide time for discussion, social events and ‘behind the scenes’ visits. Venues include Cumbria (2017), Norwich (2016), Oxford (2014), Exeter (2013), North America, (2013), London and Cambridge (2012). We also co-sponsor special conferences.

Our international network of representatives connects the Society with local events and provides regional contacts. Their contact details are provided on our website.

How to join

SHNH has three categories of membership: Individual, Dual and Associate. Subscriptions are managed by Edinburgh University Press. Institutions and Libraries are invited to enquire about print and online subscriptions from EUP.

- **Individual:** receives the printed copy of *Archives* and the *Newsletter* as well as free online access to all issues of *Archives*. UK: £34; Europe: £41.50; ROW £46; North America US\$78.
- **Dual:** for two people at the same address who receive one printed copy of *Archives* and the *Newsletter* as well as free online access to all issues of *Archives*. UK: £44; Europe: £51.50; ROW £56; North America US\$95.
- **Associate:** for full or part-time students (under 30) who receive free online access to all issues of *Archives* and the *Newsletter*. UK: £11; Europe £18.50; ROW £23; North America US\$39.

To join the Society, please

- call the EUP Subscriptions Department on +44 (0)131 650 6207, or
- email journals@eup.ed.ac.uk. We do not recommend sending credit card details by email.

www.shnh.org.uk

Society for the History of Natural History

The Society for the History of Natural History is a friendly international society for everyone who is interested in natural history in the broadest sense. This includes botany, zoology and geology as well as natural history collections, exploration, art and bibliography. Everyone with an interest in these subjects – professional or amateur – is welcome to join.

The Society was founded in 1936 by a small group of scientists, librarians and bibliographers centred on the British Museum (Natural History) in London. The Society is still closely associated with the Museum, now the Natural History Museum, which contains the national collections of natural history specimens and has a strong tradition in the historical study of these collections.

Since its modest beginnings, the Society has grown in membership and international standing. It is known for its friendliness and provides a focal point for the history of all aspects of natural history. The Society also has a thriving international membership and representatives in North America, Europe, Asia and the Antipodes organise local meetings. An International Meeting is held at regular intervals, the most recent being in the United States in November, 2012.

The Society's main publication is *Archives of natural history*, produced twice a year, and distributed free to all members. It contains refereed, illustrated papers and book reviews and is published for the Society by Edinburgh University Press. All volumes published since 1936 are now available online. A more informal *Newsletter* is published two or three times a year.

For more information contact the Secretary, Society for the History of Natural History, c/o the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK or search on www.shnh.org.uk.

All subscription matters are handled for the Society by Edinburgh University Press. For subscription enquiries, including payment methods, please contact the Subscription Administrators at Edinburgh University Press. E-mail: journals@eup.ed.ac.uk or telephone +44 (0)1316 506207.

Newsletter 113 January 2018

Editor: Elaine Shaughnessy

Email: webmaster@shnh.org.uk

COPY DATE

The copy date for the next *Newsletter* is 1 May 2018.

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ANIMAL KINGDOM

A NATURAL HISTORY
IN 100 OBJECTS

JACK ASHBY

