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Members' diary

London meetings

Wednesday, 1 February 1984 at 6.30 pm

Dr Chris Humphries, botanist at the British Museum (Natural History) and ffPS Council Member, will give an illustrated talk on his recent visit to Panama and Costa Rica, and Paul Goriup, Project Officer of the International Council for Bird Preservation and Co-Chairman of the ICBP Bustard Specialist Group will give an illustrated talk on the work of the Group entitled 'The Bustard Brigade'. Following the buffet supper we will show the film: 'Sexual Encounters of the Floral Kind' (Oxford Scientific Films). (50 mins)

Wednesday, 28 March 1984 at 6.30 pm

Joint ffPS/British Hedgehog Preservation Society meeting. Dr Pat Morris, the well-known hedgehog expert will give an illustrated talk to members of both organisations on the natural history of the hedgehog, with particular reference to the recent studies being carried out in this country, and Major Adrian Coles, founder of the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, will talk on the work of his Society. Following the buffet supper we hope to show the BBC 'Wildlife On One' film: *The Great Hedgehog Mystery*, courtesy of the BBC Natural History Unit. (30 mins)

Saturday, 17 March 1984

Joint ffPS/Mammal Society Bat Group Meeting. See insert with this issue of *Oryx*.

Wednesday, 16 May at 6.30 pm

Where does all the money go?

As members will know, all money raised for the *Oryx* 100% Fund goes directly to conservation and the ffPS Council allocates funds to approved projects related to endangered species and habitats at its meetings held four times a year. We have invited a selection of recent grant recipients to give short illustrated talks on their projects, and invite members to come and see how our conservation funds were spent. Further details will be published in the next issue of *Oryx*.

The above meetings will take place in the Meeting 58

Rooms of the Zoological Society of London on the Outer Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 (nearest tube, Camden Town; bus No. 74 to Primrose Hill). Tickets: £3.50 each*, available from the ffPS Office (a SAE would be appreciated). *Except Saturday meeting—see insert.

Changes in the Society

At the Annual General Meeting of ffPS held on 7 September 1983, three retiring officers, Lord Craigton, PC, CBE, T.A.P. Walker and Mrs Maisie Fitter, and four Council members, R.E. Boote, CVO, J. Hancock, J.M. Knowles and Dr R.D. Martin, were warmly thanked for their invaluable services to the Society.

The following were welcomed to their new posts:

Vice-Presidents

Dr Harold J. Coolidge (re-elected)
Dr E.A.O. Asibey (Ghana)
Lord Craigton, PC CBE
Lt Col J.P. Grant of Rothiemurchus, MBE
T.A.P. Walker

Chairman

Richard Fitter

Vice-Chairman

David M. Jones, MRCVS

Hon. Treasurer

Edward Hoare, FAAI

Council

Mrs Maisie Fitter
John Sparks
Edward Wright

Lord Craigton, Chairman 1980–83

Since the war the wildlife conservation movement in Britain has succeeded in attracting many able people, often originating outside its own ranks, to head its various voluntary organisations. Perhaps the most distinguished of these, who among other posts held the chairmanship of the RSPB and a vice-presidency of the Fauna Preservation Society (as it then was) was Lord Hurcomb, an extremely able former civil servant. His natural successor has proved to be our retiring Chairman, Lord Craigton, a former Government minister, who joined our Council in 1965 and served as Vice-Chairman from 1970 to 1980. His political knowledge and familiarity with the byways of Westminster and Whitehall has been of inestimable value to the

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whole movement, as well as to ffPS. I well remember one of his best initiatives, when there was a subject affecting three or four different government departments. A letter to one Minister with copies to the others produced an effect rather like poking a stick into a wood-ants' nest.

As one who has had the advantage not only of sitting under Jack Craigton's chairmanship at ffPS, but also working with him as a colleague on the World Wildlife Fund and elsewhere, I should like to pay a tribute to him as an extremely able practitioner of the art of chairmanship. We shall miss him in the chair, but not as a colleague, for the Society has elected him to a vice-presidency, and we hope still to be able to call on his wise counsel and experience.

Richard Fitter

Maisie Fitter, Editor of *Oryx* 1963–83

After nearly two decades in the editorial chair, Maisie Fitter retired as Honorary Editor of *Oryx* at the 1983 AGM. She was thereupon elected a member of the ffPS Council so that, from this slightly less exposed position, she can still bring her special talents to bear on the Society's affairs and the cause of conservation.

In the opinion of so many of us, she made *Oryx* into the best of all wildlife journals. This alone would merit the ffPS's enduring gratitude, but there is a greater debt: she was a bonny fighter for conservation and her enthusiasm and her refusal to compromise with her principles were an inspiration to a whole generation.

G. T. Corley Smith

T.A.P. Walker, Treasurer 1980–83

We are very proud that Tim Walker, our Treasurer for the last three years, has been made the new Chairman of the World Wildlife Fund (UK). It is because of the extra work that will be involved that he feels he should reduce his other commitments. Nevertheless, he remains with us as a Vice-President and undoubtedly his new appointment will further strengthen the ties between ourselves and our larger sister organisation. Tim Walker has been treasurer of both ffPS and WWF. He is a well-known figure in the City, having been a founder of both the Hambro

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Life and Abbey Life insurance schemes. During his term of office with ffPS his most outstanding achievement has been persuading Consolidated Goldfields PLC to provide us with a very generous four-year covenant. Tim Walker, who breeds endangered species on his Wiltshire farm, maintains a strong interest in and knowledge of the British countryside and in the conservation movement world-wide. We are very grateful for all his help and wish him well in his new endeavour.

David M. Jones, Vice-Chairman

Gifts and Grants to ffPS

ffPS is most grateful for the gifts of £25 and over listed below, and also for many smaller donations, between 1 July and 31 August 1983.

Oryx 100% Fund	£
A. Coulthard	30.00

Mountain Gorilla Project

Crookhorn School	200.00
Col C.L. Boyle	100.00
Mrs M.J. Hayne	100.00
Mrs McIntosh	50.00
S.W. Schipper	50.00
J. Hogarth	30.00
L. Gombus	25.00

Bat Projects

Edition Leipzig/A.M. Hutson	50.00
R.E. Stebbings	30.00

Birdwatch

Gulf Oil Co	145.00
Methuen and Co	144.00
Dragon Entertainments Ltd	100.00
P.R. Crabb	50.00

Gifts and Legacies

Peter Scott Trust for Education and Research in Conservation	500.00
European Cultural Foundation	300.00
12th Duke of Bedford (Estate of)	132.11
D. Kincaid	50.00
Anonymous	40.00
A.B. Stobart	25.00

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A legacy for wildlife

If you wish to leave money to fFPS without going to the expense of having your Will professionally re-drawn, we suggest the following form. Follow this carefully and if there appear to be any difficulties raised in relation to what you want to do we suggest you consult a solicitor. Keep the Codicil in a fire-proof place, preferably with your Will and we suggest you keep a separate copy in a different place, perhaps with one of the Executors to ensure that the Codicil is not overlooked.

This Codicil dated _____ 198__ is made by me

of

*[formerly of _____]

(insert the address in your original will if different from your present address)

1. I give £ _____ to Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, c/o Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY *[for its 100% Fund] and the receipt of the Treasurer or other proper officer of the Society shall be a complete discharge to my executors.
2. If at my death, Fauna and Flora Preservation Society has ceased to exist or has amalgamated with another Charity or has changed its name, the legacy in Clause 1 shall not fail but my executors shall pay it to the charitable organisation which most nearly fulfils the objects that I intend to benefit.
3. In all other respects I confirm my Will dated _____ (insert date of original Will)

Signed by the Testator/Testatrix X _____ X
in our joint presence and
witnessed by us in his/hers

→ _____ ← (The testator should sign where there is a cross on the sample.)

→ _____ ← Two witnesses who should watch the testator sign should then sign their own names address and occupations where shown by arrows in the example

*Delete as appropriate.