

Comments on the editorial, April 1989.

I would like to add a few remarks in regard to the printing and distribution of Trichoptera Newsletter in Australia and New Zealand.

From the editorial, April 1989, can be assumed that the distribution of the Newsletter is all done from Lunz (see top of p.5). It actually is not so. Only a single copy of each edition is mailed to Australia, which is then used as a master copy to reproduce the required 25 copies for distribution in Australia and New Zealand. This has been done for all issues except the very first in 1975. So far all the costs - paper, printing and postage has been met by the Museum of Victoria as part of the reprint distribution scheme. The latter issues were sent to 23 addresses, which included four libraries. To my information, only six complete sets may be in existence in this region - a very small number indeed for a very large area and numerous institutions.

From discussions with colleagues it was found that the Newsletter is not regarded as the right medium for publishing descriptions of new taxa, actually quite a few had very strong objections. The Newsletter is seen as an outlet for short observations, personal notes and information on literature.

Arturs Neboiss

OBITUARY

The musical lepidopterist

ONE of Britain's foremost entomologists, Edward (Teddy, or Ted) Pelham-Clinton, who succeeded his cousin as the 10th Duke of Newcastle only last November, died on Christmas Day at the age of 68. He knew from a relatively youthful age that his life's work was to be the collection and study of insects; indeed, it was impossible to separate his professional career from his out-of-work pursuits. Even his garden, so very important to him, was planted with shrubs which encouraged insect life.

That is not to suggest that he was narrow in outlook and had no other interests. On the contrary he had various deep concerns and was keenly interested in music. He frequently mounted his insect specimens to the sound of highly amplified choral works, especially those of English composers from Byrd to Vaughan Williams. He sang with the Edinburgh University Musical Society, and when he entertained like-minded friends, he persuaded them to bring their music scores for an after-dinner singalong to the accompaniment of his favourite recordings.

Ted began to collect insects while at Eton. During the second world war he served as a Captain

in the Royal Artillery and was involved in mine disposal work in Italy. He then went up to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he read zoology before moving to his first post with the Agricultural Research Council ectoparasites unit at Edinburgh University, moving later to the Moredun Research Institute. In 1960 he was recruited by the eminent entomologist A. Rodger Waterston to a curatorial

By R. G. W. Anderson

post at the Royal Scottish Museum (now part of the National Museums of Scotland), and here his responsibilities broadened to include most insect groups. The Museum's collection had originated early in the 19th century at Edinburgh University and was already a rich resource.

Ted's work was to add substantially to this material, and through his connections several fine collections were given over the next 21 years. At the same time he privately developed his own collection of British lepidoptera with the intention that this would be left to the Museum on his death.

His techniques were exceptional - systematic, his collection being

accompanied by meticulous documentation in dozens of indexed notebooks. He discovered several new species, and a moth, a fly and a beetle were named in his honour. He retired from the Museum in 1981, settling in Axminster, working on a new garden and continuing his researches.

Ted was the kindest and most thoughtful of colleagues, going to considerable lengths to assist young scientists and likewise taking time and care to answer in simple terms problems brought to him by the public. His enthusiasm was proved infectious when curators of entirely different disciplines were readily drafted into service when they travelled away from Edinburgh, being provided with the portable paraphernalia for insect hunting. A lasting memory is of Ted's Morris Traveller (how annoyed he was when production of the model ceased!) packed with light trap, generator, boxes, bottles and net ready to set off to some remote spot in the British Isles to add further to the knowledge of our native natural history.

Edward Charles Pelham-Clinton, 10th Duke of Newcastle, born August 18, 1920; died December 25.

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