"LICHENS OF MAN-MADE SURFACES" LEAFLET

One of the most frequent requests from the general public is for more information either on encouraging lichens to grow on new surfaces, or on how to remove them from stonework. The Society has produced the enclosed leaflet, the latest in an advisory series, to respond to this need.

There is much anecdotal evidence relating to encouragement of growth of lichens by the use of slurry etc., but very little documented research has been undertaken. Such information as is available is incorporated in this leaflet and it is hoped that this will prove helpful to enquirers. To give overall disapproval of the removal of lichens would not inhibit the use of unnecessarily destructive methods. It is therefore better to adopt a considered attitude to the situation and to suggest non-destructive methods of reading inscriptions. When no alternative method is possible, advice on the removal of lichens is given, together with appropriate qualification.

The Society is grateful to Alan Orange for providing the illustrations which so much improve the appearance of this leaflet and make it much more acceptable to a non-lichenologist. If you would like additional copies please send your request, together with a SAE, to the Assistant Treasurer (address on the cover of this Bulletin).

Frank Dobson

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor

This is in the nature of a comment on the cartoon characters by Miądikowska & Skakuj on p34 of the Winter 1996 Bulletin 79. The camels portrayed are one-humped, dromedary, whilst the camels of Mongolia are two-humped bactrian. As for the latin, I have often regretted my lack of a classical education, but one can’t have everything!

Ken Hill

[I have consulted latin scholars who advise me that a loose translation (of what is rather loose latin) might be: “Worldwide lichen illustrations: pictures of new species” - Ed]