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## EDITORIAL POLICY

From 1993 the annual report of the Marine Biological Association will no longer be included in the final issue of each volume of the *JMBA*. This will allow the publication of about six extra papers. The annual report will be sent to all subscribers as a separate item with part 4 each year so that libraries can bind it with the volume.

The *JMBA* publishes papers on all aspects of marine biology and oceanography. Papers should report the results of original research and must not have been published, or be under consideration for publication, elsewhere. Short communications, which may also report on new methods or techniques, should not exceed four printed pages, including tables and illustrations. These papers will be published more rapidly than full-length papers and if there is a particular reason why rapid publication is required this should be stated with the submission. Papers will be accepted only after receiving a satisfactory report from at least two independent reviewers, drawn from an international panel of referees.

Papers describing work involving experimental procedures on living animals will be published only if they comply with the legal requirements of the UK Home Office. In the case of species not covered by the current law, papers will be published only if it is judged that the experiments have been conducted in a humane manner and adequate precautions taken to minimize stress.

## THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Association is a registered charity and was founded in 1884 to promote accurate researches leading to the advancement of zoological and botanical science and to an increase in our knowledge of the food, life, conditions and habits of British fishes. The work of the Association is controlled by a Council elected annually by its subscribing members.

The Plymouth Laboratory was opened in June 1888, and, since that date, considerable additions have been made to the buildings, including a library, lecture-hall, and extensive laboratory accommodation with up-to-date equipment. Additional sea-water reservoirs have also been built, and an aquarium which is open to the public.

The Marine Biological Association, under the direction of its Council, has undertaken research in all branches of marine science and many of the results have been published in this Journal. An account of the history of the first hundred years of the Association and Journal may be found in Volume 67 (pp. 463 and 465). Summaries of the activities and research of the Association are given annually in the Report of the Council, sent to members in April, and to other subscribers with the November issue of the *JMBA*.

Since its foundation the Association has been supported by grants from Research Councils and by subscriptions and donations from private members, universities, learned societies, the Fishmongers' Company and other public bodies. The main financial support for the work of the Plymouth Laboratory is grant-aided through the Natural Environment Research Council.

In 1988 an agreement was reached between the MBA Council and the Natural Environment Research Council to merge a large part of the Plymouth Laboratory with the NERC's Institute for Marine Environmental Research, which had been in Plymouth since 1971. The new laboratory is known as the Plymouth Marine Laboratory and consists of the staff of the two laboratories housed in both buildings.

The Marine Biological Association retains the lease of the building on Citadel Hill and continues as a very active scientific society with a large international membership. The MBA manages a research programme carried out by research fellows and scientific visitors, publishes an International Journal, runs a public Aquarium, and organizes scientific meetings.

### TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

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Annual members, receiving the Journal per annum	25.00
Annual members, without the Journal per annum	10.00
Student members, with the Journal per annum	10.00

Annual subscriptions become due on 1 January, student subscriptions on 1 November.

Members of the Association have the following rights and privileges: they elect annually the Officers and Council; they are entitled to receive the Journal of the Association at the Members' rate; they are admitted to view the laboratory at Plymouth; they have the first claim to rent a place in the laboratory for research, with use of tanks, boats, etc.; they have the opportunity of occupying a table for one week in each year free of charge; and they have access to the books in the library at Plymouth during working hours.

The Commissioners of Inland Revenue have approved the Association for the purposes of Section 16, Finance Act, 1958, and that the whole of the annual subscriptions paid by a member who qualifies for relief under the section will be allowable as a deduction from his emoluments assessable to income tax under Schedule E.

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