

## Editorial

This Winter number is being printed in time to wish all our subscribers a very Happy Christmas and a successful New Year. Support from you all has placed 'Aquatic Mammals' in a fine position, but I would like to enlarge the reader interest and to do this need more subscribers. The price for Volume 12 will remain the same as for Volume 11. Apart from members of the E.A.A.M., the Journal is received all over Europe, Australia and New Zealand, Hong Kong and Japan, Israel, South Africa, Iceland, Finland, Canada as well as by over twenty-five subscribers in the U.S.A. As you know, it is abstracted, reviewed or indexed in eight international sources, and so can claim to be obtaining world-wide recognition in its sphere. This is not, of course, to decry our 'sister journal'—Marine Mammal Science, which has also published three issues this year. Let us hope both may long continue in tandem on a parallel course.

This time, apart from being larger than usual, also includes two letters in response to Videler and Kamermans paper published last time. A correspondence column always helps in maintaining life in any journal, and the Editor hopes for many more contributions in the future. Mention of the above author's paper on 'Dolphin Swimming Performance' brings an apology to them from the Editor. In his usual haste to get copy printed, he published a premature version in error. Although the main tenor of the article remains correct—a final version is to be published elsewhere later. For his breach of copyright, the Editor offers his sincere apologies, and hopes that no serious offence has been taken.

1986 is the year of the E.A.A.M. Symposium in Barcelona. **Please note the dates have now been changed to 16–19 March.** Dr. Andrew Greenwood has taken over the organisation of the Scientific Programme at short notice, but his usual efficiency will achieve an excellent programme. There are already speakers coming from the States, and among the subjects to be discussed will be the Marine Mammal Skin—a very important subject in the maintenance of the health of our stock.

Also being held next year—from 28th April to 3rd May is the Internationalen Symposium uber die Erkrankungen der Zoo und Wildtiere (International Congress of Diseases of Zoo Animals) organised as usual by Professor Dr. Ippen of East Berlin. The main subject will be Marine Mammals, and readers interested should contact the organiser at Akademie der Wissenschaften der D.D.R., (im Tierpark Berlin), D.D.R.—1136 Berlin-Friedrichsfelde, Am Tierpark 125.

Professor Dr. Kinzelbach of the Technische Hochschule, Darmstadt has published an interesting report in *Zeitschrift fur Säugetierkunde* 50 (1985) 314–316 on the occurrence of Cuvier's beaked whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*) in the eastern Mediterranean together with details of sites and full references.

As readers will recall, the British Government are seeking advice on the keeping of cetacea in captivity, and many interested parties have sent reports to the consultant for consideration. At the same time, visits to establishments holding Marine Mammals are now taking place so a report should be in the Government's hands early in 1986. In the meanwhile, the United Nations is seeking to unite all conservation efforts into a single global programme for marine mammals. The plan, incorporating 38 recommendations, has been endorsed by the U.N.E.P. governing Council and by the I.W.C. The organisers request our help to make the plan a success. Those interested should contact the Director, Oceans and Coastal Areas Programme Activity Centre, United Nations Environmental Programme, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

V. J. A. Manton  
*Editor*