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## NSCG Newsletter

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Title: Another Glittering Prize for The Conservation Centre!

Author(s): Not Listed.

Source: Not Listed. (1999). Another Glittering Prize for The Conservation Centre!. *NSCG Newsletter*, Issue 10, 5.

URL: <http://www.natsca.org/article/689>

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study of pesticide residues present on herbarium sheets from the NMGW collection. The judges were impressed with her enthusiasm and courage in dealing with a subject area which has barely been touched. Her study has proved that there is a genuine risk of mercury contamination to those working with herbarium specimens and has successfully changed working practices within NMGW to increase protection for those working on these collections. They said, "This is a student who has asked difficult questions, found the answers and followed them through. An innovative and ground-breaking project which has changed the approach and working practices in this field." Vicky will receive a prize of £3,500 and intends to use this to continue her research and undertake a part-time PhD at De Montford University (who also will receive a prize of £1,000).

Vicky intends to present the results of the project later this year. Watch this space for publication details.

*Donna Young  
Liverpool Museum*

## **Another Glittering Prize for The Conservation Centre!**

The Conservation Centre, Liverpool, has been accumulating a growing collection of awards since its opening in October 1996. Latest badge of honour, awarded in Dublin in September 1998, is the Keck Award, which brings with it a prize of £1,000. The Centre also won a £1,000 prize with the Gulbenkian Award in 1997; that money has been used to commission seating, in the form of a stone bench, for the public area.

List of Conservation Centre Awards to date:

### **IIC Keck Award, 1998**

The International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works  
*For the promotion of public understanding and appreciation of the accomplishments of the conservation profession.*

### **European Museum of the Year Award, 1998**

Awarded by the Museum Forum

### **Interpret Britain Award, 1998**

for the Public Programme,

The Society for the Interpretation of Britain's Heritage

*In recognition of excellent interpretive practice contributing to greater awareness and understanding of Britain's Heritage*

### **Interpret Britain Award, A Special Judge's Award, 1998**

for the Public Programme,

The Society for the Interpretation of Britain's Heritage

*In recognition of excellent interpretive practice contributing to greater awareness and understanding of Britain's Heritage*

### **The Conservation Awards, Special Award, 1997**

For The Conservation Centre Public Programmes for Outstanding Contribution to Conservation

Sponsored by the Jerwood Foundation

### **The Gulbenkian Prize, 1997**

Awarded from The Gulbenkian Awards for Museums and Galleries

### **United Utilities North West Tourism Award, 1997**