

Cameron Catalogue update, 27 June 2024

Lots already bought have been deleted; the Society will get more than £300!

Special Items

These lie outside the general lists.

Lot 1. A set of 16 library card index drawers, modified to house shell collections. Each drawer has been modified to hold a second shelf (see pictures); These are hand made and robust. Each drawer has thin card open-top boxes made to fit, so that segregation of species is easy. As a tower eight drawers high, it reaches a little under 1 metre. It has 4 sets of 4 drawers. Well-made and ornamental. £100 secures the lot automatically, but bids of £50 and upwards will be considered. I am not parting with these for nothing!

Lot 2. A set of drawers in a stack made up of the drawer parts of cheap office desks (picture). These have a home-made top. 7 drawers, standing just over a metre high. A bit scruffy, but have held a lot of samples. £20 secures them, bids of £10 or over considered.

Trays as Storage Items

Lots 5-9. Tough cardboard trays each c. 8cm x 5 cm, walls c. 2cm (Picture). Five lots of c.52 trays in each. £3 secures a lot.

These trays were sold by the Rock Shop in Sheffield for storing/displaying rock and mineral samples by amateur geologists. They housed most of my European, American and Australian samples in the x-ray drawers listed earlier,

Lot 12. 36 hand-made trays in strong cardboard, in various sizes and colours (picture). £2 secures. (made before I discovered the Rock Shop.)

Lot 13. A set of 10 plastic trays with lids, each c. 17 x 17.5 cm divided into 12 compartments (picture). Good for small tubes 5 cm tall. £10 secures.

Lot 14. A set of 5 plastic trays, no lid, each 34 x 21 cm divided into 15 compartments (picture). £6 secures.

Trays for sorting/processing

Lots 17-18. Plastic Petri Dishes (with lids), successively with 42 and 36 dishes in each lot £2, and £1.50. Many well used, and a bit opaque, but not all; some are "virgin". (Lots determined by the sizes of cardboard boxes available!)

Lots 19 & 20. Each 30 of 10 x 10 x 2cm plastic boxes divided into 25 compartments (750 compartments in each lot) (picture). £ 5 each secures. I used these to get tiny *Caseolus* species from Porto Santo adjacent to each other from different sites. Put on the right way, the lid prevents stuff moving compartments.

An aside: Because most of lots 15 to 20 have been used, I have learnt two lessons. Adhesive tape (no trade names, no litigation) does not last forever, but when it decays, the tape parts from the adhesive, but the adhesive does NOT part from the plastic, and is remarkably difficult to remove. Surgical spirit is

some use, but white spirit causes seams in the plastic to come apart. Further, different makes of permanent marker differ in the ease with which they can be removed. Some are literally permanent, unless you use an abrasive. Others will come off with surgical spirit, but not with 70% ethanol (I had a little, from working in museums abroad). You will find faint relics of past use on some. More to say when we come to plastic lunch boxes for live material.

In the Field (or for storage)

Lot 23. 100 standard plastic sample pots with screw top lids (Picture). 8 cm tall inside, c 2.8 cm diam. Well-used. £6 secures.

Lots 24 & 25. Two sets of 40 coated metal pots, 10 cm tall, diam c.7.3 cm, with screw top lids and a good seal (picture). Mostly unused. £10 each lot secures. These pots were for the University of Dundee Greenland expedition many years ago. I was not involved, but happy to accept their unused items. Too happy, since few have been used.

Lot 29. 27 large plastic sample pots with various lids. Roughly 7 cm deep, diameter at base c 5cm. The standard medical specimen pots, mostly bought in Poland. Not as robust as lot 26, but serviceable and with the advantage that they taper, and can be stacked for storage. Lids tend to be brand-specific, so they are not stacked here. £4 secures.

Lot 37. Total plastic ragbag of c. 40 items, many without lids. BUT: includes 3 cylindrical collecting pots with pull-off lids, each c. 11 cm tall and diam c. 7.2 cm. If you have romance in your soul, these have seen many Greek islands, passed down many field trips. £1 secures. Go on, add this to your order!

Glassware

All glassware has gone, but there will be a second, smaller catalogue later in the year

Display/storage boxes

These have all gone. I am unlikely to have any more to dispose of.

Transparent plastic lunch boxes (bought to keep live animals for crowding experiments)

Lots 63 & 64. Each with 40 small square boxes (10 x 10 cm, 7 cm deep, slightly tapered so can stack) and 16 large rectangular boxes (22 x 12 cm, 8 cm deep). Also tapered, and can stack. £15 secures each. Some have indelible marks

Oddities (I am not sure they would be wanted, but just in case!)

Lot 66. 39 Old fashioned, waxed card pill boxes (picture). Useful for material alive or with bodies, because not airtight, so everything dries out rather than smelling. £2 secures.

Sometime, much later in the year, there will another lot, much smaller and less varied, as I sort a few samples not fully dealt with.