Editors' Report

This issue marks the end of one era and the beginning of a new one. Angie Hibbert, after over two years in the hot seat, has decided to direct her talents toward other areas and has handed the responsibility of editing Imprint over to us. We thank her for all her hard work in the past and for keeping Imprint in such good order.

We hope to maintain the high standards, set by all previous editorial staff, and to produce a newsletter which accurately informs and reflects the membership of the YMG.

We do not expect to make any drastic changes, however we realise that this issue is different to its predecessors in that it contains an unusually long article on badgers and their persecution. This problem is one that the Mammal Group could perhaps address in the future.

We heartily thank all of this issue's contributors and we look forward to receiving material for future issues of Imprint. We are especially enthusiastic about including information and results from the new and exciting field projects the Group is starting this year. We would like to thank Kate Fuller for the illustrations.

Dean and Nicola Wise

Chairman's Report

1987 has encompassed a great deal of change within the Yorkshire Mammal Group. At the beginning of the year the state of our finances was poor and the group was in danger of not being able to buy equipment to carry out fieldwork. However several group members volunteered to speak to the group and at four indoor meetings this year members talked about their special fields of study and interest, this kept the cost of speakers' expenses lower and membership again increased. The method of application for membership also changed and the insistence on proven field work before membership was relaxed. Therefore we end the year in a slightly more solvent state than we started it.

Fieldwork again centred on a series of trapping programmes at several local sites, more of which is in the field studies report, and other new projects were started. These include:- badger watching, a Dormouse Survey, the survey of nine 10 kilometre squares covering the York area for the Mammal Atlas of the UK, and possibly a water shrew survey: these will continue throughout 1988.

There was a very enjoyable trip to the Otter Haven at Bungay in Suffolk earlier in the year and several members made the trip to the Mammmal Society conference in Hereford. Next year the Mammal Society Conference will again be held at Ripon and Y.M.G. will be responsible for the organisation of field trips.

There was a change of editorial management for Imprint with Angie Hibbert relinquishing the post to Nicola and Dean Wise- many thanks for all your hard work over the last two years Angie. I myself will have to sign off now as I have to step down as chairman after three years as an executive committee member, I hope that Y.M.G. members will enjoy next year's programme and wish all our readers a very happy and prosperous 1988.

Helen Ellerker