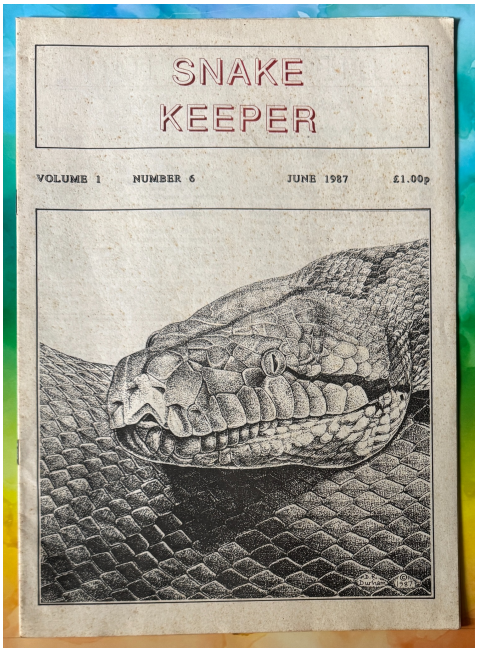
Snake Keeper

Magazine Research Record



Volume 1, Number 6, June 1987. Representative issue from the collection.

Publication Identification

Field	Information
Country	United Kingdom
Publisher	Michael Connolley
Publisher address	159 Stanley Hill, Amersham, Bucks HP7 9EY
Magazine title	Snake Keeper
Publication status	Historical publication; final publication status: Pending research update
Publication run	Documented from January 1987 through at least 1989; final issue: Pending research update
Editor	Michael Connolley
Printer	Pyramid Press, Bristol, England
ISSN	Pending research update
Language	English
Publication type	Specialist snake keeping, husbandry, breeding and herpetology magazine
Publication frequency	Monthly; 12 issues per year
Collection coverage	Five issues represented from June 1987 through May 1988
Earliest issue represented	Volume 1, Number 6, June 1987
Latest issue represented	Volume 2, Number 5, May 1988
Years represented in the collection	1987 and 1988

Preservation Significance

Snake Keeper has preservation significance as a scarce British specialist magazine devoted to snake keeping, captive husbandry, breeding and herpetology. The physical issues preserve primary source evidence for a publication about which relatively little information survives online, including publisher and printer information, subscription details, issue numbering, cover prices, article contents and artwork credits. The surviving numbering also helps reconstruct the publication sequence, while independent bibliographic references show that the magazine continued beyond the 1987 and 1988 issues represented in the collection and into at least 1989. Preserving these copies therefore retains both specialist husbandry material and bibliographic evidence that may otherwise be difficult to reconstruct.

Publication Metadata and Masthead Documentation

Field	Information
Publication	Snake Keeper
Country	United Kingdom
Place of publication	Amersham, Buckinghamshire, England
Editor	Michael Connolley
Publisher	Michael Connolley
Publisher address	159 Stanley Hill, Amersham, Bucks HP7 9EY
Printer	Pyramid Press
Printing location	Bristol, England
Frequency	Monthly: 12 issues per year
Language	English
Subject	Snake keeping, captive husbandry, breeding and herpetology
Original UK price	£1.00 per issue on the examples shown
Annual UK subscription	£12
Annual European subscription	£16 sterling

The June 1987 publisher page explicitly states “Edited and published by Michael Connolley,” provides the Amersham address, states “One year (12 issues),” and identifies Pyramid Press in Bristol as the printer.

Independent contemporary corroboration also survives. A 1989 Virginia Herpetological Society publication describes Snake Keeper as a new British magazine devoted to snake husbandry and propagation, gives the same 159 Stanley Hill, Amersham address, and advertises a 12 issue subscription.

Bibliographic databases independently contain citations to articles published in Snake Keeper in 1987 and 1988. RepFocus, for example, records Snake Keeper Vol. 1 No. 1 (1987) and articles in later issues.

International Distribution

The documented subscription rates were £12 annually in the United Kingdom and £16 sterling for Europe. The May 1988 cover also shows a USA price of $3. Named overseas distributors and circulation totals: Pending research update.

Issues Represented in the Collection

Issue	Date	Cover price
Vol. 1 No. 6	June 1987	£1.00
Vol. 1 No. 11	November 1987	£1.00
Vol. 2 No. 2	February 1988	£1.00
Vol. 2 No. 3	March 1988	£1.00
Vol. 2 No. 5	May 1988	£1.00 / USA $3

Publication Sequence and Numbering

The surviving issues provide useful evidence for reconstructing the publication sequence. Since Vol. 1 No. 6 is June 1987, the numbering indicates:

- Vol. 1 No. 1 = January 1987
- Vol. 1 No. 12 = December 1987
- Vol. 2 No. 1 = January 1988

This is not merely an inference based on six issues per year. The publisher page states that there were 12 issues annually, and the surviving issue numbers line up month for month.

Additional Evidence from the Physical Pages

The June 1987 issue preserves detailed contents information. It includes:

“Potential Growth Rate of Pythons and Boas,” Kevin J. Hingley; “Fond Memories of Egg-Eaters”; “The Day of the Anaconda”; “Our Success and Failure with Indian Pythons”; “Life with Snakes”; “Breeding Snakes is as Easy as ABC?”; “Live Food and the Law”; “The Substrate Debate”; and “Junior Snake Keeper.”

The cover is identified inside the issue as a reticulated python (Python reticulatus), with the cover artwork credited to David Durham.

The photographed article also establishes Kevin J. Hingley's article directly rather than relying on a later bibliography.

Independent Evidence for the Publication Run

Independent research found evidence that the magazine continued beyond the physical copies represented in the collection. Bibliographic databases cite:

- a 1988 Snake Keeper article as 2(7), pages 12–15, indicating at least a July 1988 issue;
- another 1988 article as Snake Keeper 26, pages 6–8, which appears to represent Vol. 2 No. 6 under compressed bibliographic notation;
- a later article as Snake Keeper 35, pages 14–17, apparently Vol. 3 No. 5, which would place the publication into 1989 if the numbering continued normally.

A later bibliography specifically cites an article as “Snake Keeper, May 1988, p. 4–6.” This matches a physical issue in the collection, Vol. 2 No. 5, May 1988, and independently supports the interpretation of the numbering.

The collection therefore should not imply that the magazine itself existed only from 1987 to 1988. The physical copies represent 1987 and 1988, while available evidence indicates that publication continued into at least 1989. The final publication date has not yet been verified.

Website Category Placement

Field	Information
Primary website section	Magazine Preservation
Publication Identification	Country, title, years represented, publisher / organization, and frequency
Issue Metadata	Volume, number, date, cover price, and issue contents where documented
Publication History	Editor and publisher, printing information, publication sequence, and evidence for continuation into at least 1989
Preservation Significance	Importance of the physical issues as scarce primary source and bibliographic evidence

Source Notes

Source	Use in this record
The physical copies	Primary evidence for issue designations, dates, cover prices, publisher and printer information, subscription details, contents, cover subject, and artwork credit.
Virginia Herpetological Society, 1989	Independent contemporary corroboration of the magazine, publisher address, subject focus, and 12 issue subscription.
RepFocus	Independent bibliographic evidence for Vol. 1 No. 1 and later Snake Keeper articles, including evidence for a 1988 2(7) issue.
EurekaMag	Bibliographic evidence for later issue notation, including records interpreted as Vol. 2 No. 6 and Vol. 3 No. 5.
Later bibliography / BHS reference	Independent citation to a May 1988 Snake Keeper article matching Vol. 2 No. 5 in the collection.

Research caution: The publication end date has not yet been verified. The evidence supports a first volume in 1987 and continuation into at least 1989, but the complete run should remain open until stronger documentary evidence establishes the final issue.