No. 209

**APRIL 1982** 

Page 1

# 23rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting was held on Monday, 14th December 1981, in the lecture hall of the S.A. Museum, Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town, at 8.00 p.m.

The notice convening the meeting was read by John Davidson and the minutes of the previous (22nd) annual general meeting

were read and confirmed.

In the absence of the President, Professor Branch, who was away on leave, Mr Freeman took the chair. A special welcome was extended to two regional council members who happened to be visiting the mother city at the time, namely Mrs Doris Smith from Margate, Natal, and Mr Fred Graeve from Port Elizabeth.

The agenda is published as presented, and can be regarded as the official minutes of the meeting.

- Notice convening the meeting, and apologies for absence. 1
- 2. Minutes of the 22nd Annual General Meeting.
- Matters arising from those minutes.
- 4. Presentation of secretarial/financial report.
- Adoption of the report. 5.
- Election of Council Member 6.
- Any other business.

# Secretarial/Financial Report for the year ended 30th June 1981

As the Society has been operating without a secretary or treasurer since July 1980, this report is being made by the Vice-President.

Business and family commitments prevented members of the Society in Cape Town from coming forward in sufficient numbers to fill the vacancies of the national council in addition to the needs of the local Cape Town regional committee.

Consequently, and because it is our policy not to have the national council made up mostly of local committee members, the duties of secretary, treasurer, and editor of the Strandloper were taken over by the Vice-President with help, on an ad hoc basis, from other Council members.

This has been only partly successful and could not be allowed to continue. Members of the Society in areas

served by regional committees, and participating in local group activities, have not been adversely affected by the shortage of office-bearers, other than the hiatus in the publication of the Strandloper.

Continued on page 7

# TROCHIDAE OF SOUTH AFRICA

PART II: GIBBULA

by Jim Springsteen

This concludes the summary of the Trochidae of South Africa. The first part in STRANDLOPER No. 208 discussed the genera Monilea, Calliostoma, Clanculus and Monodenta. In the introduction, Jim mentioned that the Cape forms of the various species are difficult to separate on conchological grounds, especially in the juvenile forms. Consequently variations are not described, but what appears to be the typical forms of each species.

During his research, Jim found that the identification by certain authors, notably Bartsch and Turton, remains obscure, and the illustrations too inaccurate to permit positive identification or relegation to synonymy with other known species. Until actual examination of all the species has been done, this problem will not be resolved.

Millard 1982

The reference numbers below continue where we left off with part I in the previous issue.

Sub-family: GIBBULINAE Stoliczka

Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826 Species: cicer (Menke 1844) Type Locality: Unable to trace

Distribution: Luderitzbucht (South-West-Africa) to Natal

Synonyms:

Trochus cicer Menke 1844 Trochus zeyheri Krauss 1848 Gibbula musiva Gould 1861 Gibbula fulgens Gould 1861

Gibbula thalia Bartsch 1915 Description: Shell with four whorls plus

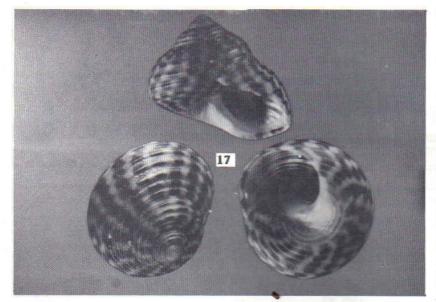
protoconch nucleus. The first whorl has two spiral lirae of equal length. Umbilicus slightly open along the columella callous.

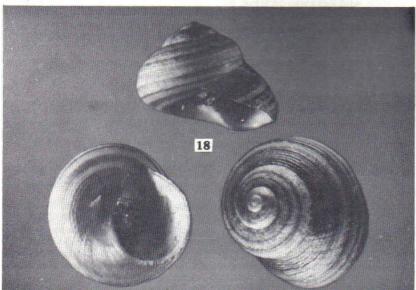
Aperture elongately ovate. Interior a rich green nacreous colour. The normal colour of the shell is yellowish grey with a series of elongate reddish spots on the lirae. The pattern formed by these spots gives the shell an overall appearance of being crossed by axial saggital streaks. This pattern continues on the base. This species is consistently confused with rosea but when seen is unmistakable. Coloration and structure are almost constant, though there may be some slight variation between East and West Cape forms. The form fulgens Gould 1861 is nothing more than a high spired form of the typical species. It is possible to find transitional forms, so the use of the name

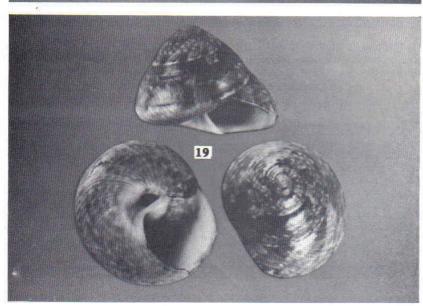
fulgens seems unnecessary.

Size: 7 to 9mm (alt.) x 8 to 10mm (diam.)

Continued page 2 column 3







Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868 Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826 Species: zonata (Wood 1828) Type Locality: Not available Distribution: Luderitzbucht to False Bay

Sunonums:

Trochus cingulatus von Muhlberg 1818 Trochus menkeatus Philippi 1844 Gibbula leaensis Watson 1880 Gibbula zonata (Wood 1828) Oxystele zonata (Wood 1828) Description: Shell consists of protoconch plus four whorls. First whorl smooth with

evidence of one spiral lira. The umbilicus in mature speciments is closed, but may be slightly open in some juveniles. Columella callous smooth and projecting slightly across the umbilicus. Aperture subquadrate.

Colour: The species may be monocoloured buff or greyish purple or, as is more commonly seen, buff coloured with dark purple lirae. Some specimens may even show axial streaks, though I

have not seen this variation.

Size: 8 x9mm (high form) and 7 x 10mm (low form)

Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868 Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826 Sub-genus: cf. Phorcus Risso 1826 Species: tryoni Pilsbury 1889 Type Locality: Not available Synonyms:

Gibbula indistincta Sowerby 1894 Gibbula indistincta Sowerby 1897 Gibbula aglaia Bartsch 1915 Gibbula medusa Bartsch 1915

Distribution: Cape of Good Hope to

Tongaat (Natal)

Description: Shell with five or six whorls including the protoconch. First two whorls usually eroded. Base moderately smooth, but showing some evidence of lirae which appear to originate from the umbilicus opening. Umbilicus open, though partially occluded, and forming a strong ridge on the outer periphery. Aperture subquadrate.

Colour: The colour is usually deep brown with irregular yellowish subsutural spots. The base is usually suffused with brown, yellow and pink, forming a nebulous appearance and occasionally showing 2 or 3 bands of black lines.

Size: up to 19mm x 20mm

Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868 Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826 Species: beckeri Sowerby 1901 Type Locality: Cited by Sowerby as Port Alfred, which is almost certainly incorrect. The true locality is probably Cape Town.

Distribution: Port Nolloth (Atlantic Cape Coast) to Knysna. The latter locality is suspect. It is doubtful that this species extends further eastwards than Cape Agulhas.

Description: Shell with 5 whorls including protoconch. The first two usually eroded. The base has 8 to 10 lirae, all somewhat thickened and all appearing the same size. In some specimens the base is relatively smooth, save for the outer two. All the lirae on whorls and base are traversed by minute wavy lines. Umbilicus partially open, but tends to close on larger specimens.

Colour: Is fairly constant, the base being dark brown to black and crossed by yellow saggital markings. In some speciments these markings are reduced to subsutural blotches extending only half way down the whorls. The base is only slightly mottled with yellowish blotches, sometimes very indistinctly. Aperture elongately ovate and nacreous within. Operculum horny with a central nucleus and several concentric rings, which enlarge towards the periphery.

Size: Diameter always exceeds the altitude: 8 x 10mm

Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868 Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826 Species: capensis (Gmelin 1791) Type Locality: Unable to locate Distribution: St Helena Bay (Atlantic Cape Coast) to Natal

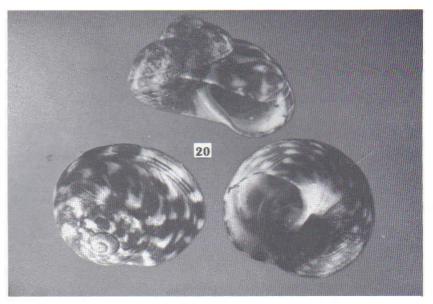
Sunonums:

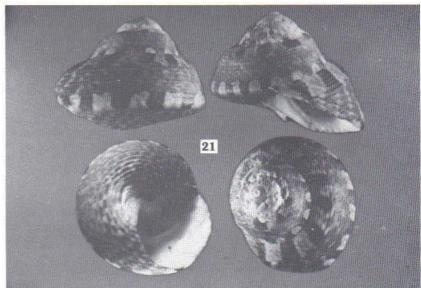
Trochus capensis Gmelin in Krauss 1848 Trochus capensis Gmelin in Wood 1856 Description: Shell with five whorls plus protoconch. Whorls mainly convex, showing a slight shoulder on the earlier whorls and developing a sharp keel on the body whorl. The base has between 12 and 18 lirae, with some of the inner lirae enlarged on some specimens. Umbilicus open in most specimens. Aperture elongately ovate. There are 'high' and 'low' forms but the diameter always exceeds the altitude. Once seen, this

species is easily recognised.

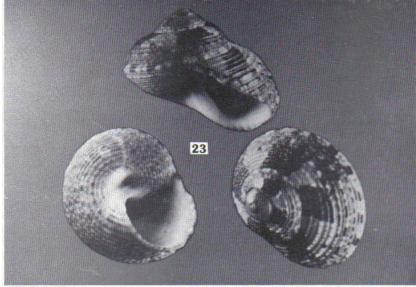
Colour: Very variable. The first two whorls are usually eroded and show a yellowish or pink tinge. The remaining whorls show a variable ground colour ranging from pale orange to deep red or chocolate brown. From about the second or third whorl, there are a number of yellowish subsutural spots which develop on later whorls into axial streaks extending to lower whorls. The keel on the body whorl always seems to have a series of these axial streaks around its periphery. They do not seem to extend to the base. The axial streaks are frequently tinged with green and the base is usually coloured with alternating red and green spots on the lirae.

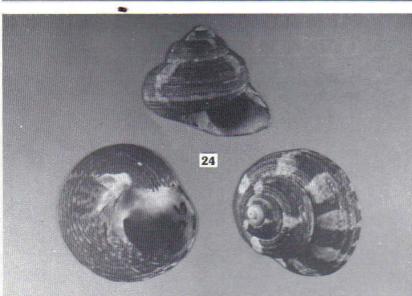
Size: From 2,5 x 4,5mm to 11,5 x 15mm

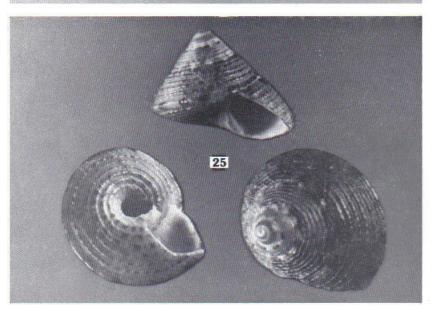












22
Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868
Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826
Species: multicolor (Krauss 1848)
Type Locality: Table Bay
Distribution: Table Bay to Natal
Synonyms:
Trochus multicolor Krauss 1848
Gibbula fucata Gould 1861
Gibbula lauta Turton 1932
Gibbula distincta Turton 1932
Gibbula pulchella Turton 1932
Gibbula polychroma Turton 1932
Gibbula polychroma Turton 1932
Gibbula ornata Turton 1932
Stomatella biporcata Adams 1850
Gibbula bifurcata (lap. cal.) Sowerby 1889
Gibbula fucata Sowerby 1894

Gibbula fucata Sowerby 1894 Gibbula fucata variety sowerbyi Turton 1932

Gibbula hera Turton 1932 Description: As can be gathered from the many synonyms this species is variable. The typical shell has 3 whorls and a prominent protoconch. The first whorl is initially smooth but develops two spiral lirae which become evident on the second whorl. The base is encircled with numerous (from 8 to 17) spiral striae, some being stronger than others, closer together at the periphery than near the umbilicus, which is open, and partially covered with a white callous. Aperture subcircular.

Size: Diameter usually exceeds altitude.

5 x 5,6mm to 7 x 7,5mm.

Colour: Variable. Base colour usually brick red but can be bright pink on beach shells. Some pale pink specimens can be mistaken for juvenile Gibbula zonata. (Gibbula rosea). White and brown stripes extend from the first whorl, usually right to the base. Where these stripes cross the lirae, there can be seen alternating red and blue green spots. This spotted pattern can also be seen on every third or fourth basal lira. The red spots may sometimes be replaced by orange or yellow spots.

Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868 Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826 Species: benzi (Krauss 1848) Type Locality: Cape (presumably Cape Point?) Distribution: Saldanha Bay to East London Synonyms: Trochus benzi Krauss 1848 Trochus ludwigi Krauss 1848 Gibbula loculosa Gould 1861 (refer No. 24) Gibbula pintado Gould 1861 Gibbula kowiensis Turton 1932 Gibbula benzi var. affini Turton 1932 Description: Protoconch plus five whorls. Whorls convex but may be almost straight in some squat specimens. Base with 12 to 16 lirae which may be slightly granulate. In younger shells the umbilicus

is open and shows a series of radiating lines. In older shells the umbilicus is closed. Aperture subcircular. Interior nacreous.

Colour: Variable brown red to orange, either uniformly colured or with pale rariating streaks, mainly on the fourth and fifth whorls. In some specimens the streaks may be replaced by alternating red and white markings on the lirae.

Size: 9 x 12mm

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Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868 Genus: Gibbula Risso 1826 Species: loculosa Gould 1861 Type Locality: Cape of Good Hope Distribution: Present information limits this species to the False Bay area of the Cape. As the species has been synonymised with Gibbula benzi (Krauss 1848) it is possible that it remains in collections under this name and, consequently, its distribution might extend further afield than the above areas.

Description: (Taken from Bartsch) Shell helicoid, light brown, with three large white spots between the suture and the periphery of each whorl, dividing the whorl into equal areas. There are also darker spots, darker than the general coloration which are especially apparent on the stronger spiral cords, which they divide into equal alternating dark and light areas. These small markings give the base a checker-board appearance. Nuclear whorls small, well rounded, the first smooth, the second provided with four feeble spiral threads. Postnuclear whorls have markedly strong sublamellar spiral keels, of which four occur upon the first, and five upon the second. In addition to the spiral sculpture, the whorls are marked on the spire by numerous closely spaced, decidedly retractively slanting, thin, lamellar axial riblets. Suture strongly impressed. Periphery rendered strongly angulated by spiral keel, between which, and the first supraperipheral keel, two slender cords are presented. Base well rounded, narrowly umbilicated, marked by a series of more or less regularly alternating strong, and less strong, spiral cords of which there are twenty-six in all. Aperture subcircular, outer lip thin, showing the external sculpture within, somewhat wavy at the edge. Columella short, stout, strongly curved. Parietal wall covered with a thin callous.

Size: Altitude greater than diameter; from 7,2 x 8,5mm to 11,6 x 12,4mm Discussion: In comparison with Gibbula benzi, loculosa tends to be more elongate, the whorls more rounded, and the sutures more markedly impressed. Microscopic investigation shows that the

the sutures more markedly impressed. Microscopic investigation shows that the lirae of **G. benzi** are for the most part reasonably regular with occasional interstitial lirae observed between the main

FIG. 18. Profiles of Gibbula: a-d, multicolour (Krss.); e, forma biporcata A. Adams; f, multicolor aberration (no. A8267); g. rosea (Gmelin), low form; h, fulgens Gould; i, cicer (Menke); j, rosea, high form; k, beckeri Sow.; l, benzi (Krss.); m, tryoni Pilsbry; n, capensis (Gmelin); o, perspectiva Sow.

ones. G. loculosa shows considerable variation in the number and strength of the lirae. In G. benzi, the axial striae are finer and much more numerous and rarely seem to form any cancellate appearance at all.

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Sub-family: Gibbulinae Stoliczka 1868 Genus; Gibbula Risso 1826 Sub-genus: Enida A. Adams 1860 Species: perspectiva Sowerby 1900 Type Locality: Pondoland Distribution: Nthlonyane (Transkei) to Durban

Synonyms: Gibbula townsendi (non Sowerby) Smith 1903

Description: This species is quite distinct from all the other South African Gibbulas in that it is distinctly trochiform in shape. Six whorls plus protoconch. Whorls convex but showing a slight concavity at the sutures. Starting at about the third whorl, the presutural lirae tend to enlarge slightly and form a keel. This is most pronounced on the body whorl. In some specimens this tendency to form a keel is reduced. Where the shell tends to form a keel, the contour becomes somewhat coronate if viewed from the apical aspect. The whole of the shell surface is crossed by oblique wavy growth lines which are raised above the shell surface. Where these growth lines cross the lirae, a crispate structure is formed. The aperture is subquadrate.

Colour: The ground colour is mostly a pale yellow brown with a mottled pattern of white and brown areas superimposed, The mottling is most conspicuous on the lirae. The base is not conspicuously marked, although the lirae carry the same brown and white markings as seen on the earlier whorls.

Size: 9 x 10mm

### PROFILES OF THE GIBBULINAE

As a further aid in identifying the species and varieties in the Gibbulinae, we are reproducing drawings of the profiles of Gibbula as published in the Annals of the S.A. Museum, Vol XLVII, PART II, December 1963, by Dr K.H. Barnard, p 273

# SPURIOUS SPECIES OF GIBBULA

The following is a partial list of supposed **Gibbula** species which are either unidentificable or have been synonymised:

- (A) Gibbula fulvocincta Turton 1932
  At first glance one might suspect the specimen to be a small benzi but the size (3,3 x 2,5mm) and the colour (yellowish brown with a row of yellow dots below the suture and on the spiral cords) suggest more probably a juvenile cicer.
- (B) Gibbula globulosa Turton 1932 Only a lateral view is given but the shell is almost certainly a globose form of cicer
- (C) Gibbula ludwigi Krauss 1848 Krauss says this is near benzi but rose coloured all over and not so pointed. It has fine cords which are very granular. Probably a beach specimen of benzi
- (D) Gibbula margaritaria A. Adams in Turton?? Unidentifiable
- (E) Gibbula rifaca Bartsch 1915 Bartsch's description and well illustrated figures suggest that this is a young benzi
- (F) Gibbula ventricosa Turton 1932 This is almost certainly Gibbula multicolor

Continued on page 6 column 1

- (G) Gibbula whitechurchi Turton 1932 This is possibly not a Gibbula but a Solariella
- (H) Gibbula rosea (Gmelin 1791) There has been considerable argument and confusion between this and Gibbula zonata (Wood 1828). Briefly the type specimen on which Gmelin based his description is so poorly figured and described that it must be considered a 'nomen dubium'. The type has, to my knowledge, been seen, and so Trochus zonata Wood 1828 must now be regarded as the type description and figure for this species, despite the prior date of the Gmelin name. Refer to number 18, above.

# **BOOK REVIEWS**

1. The Living Shores of Southern Africa

by Margo & George Branch published by C. Struik, Cape Town, price about R25

For once, I can wholeheartedly endorse the publisher's blurb and quote in full from the leaflet:

For the first time the excitement of southern African marine biology and the adventure of recent discoveries are revealed. George and Margo Branch write with vitality of the coastline that has for generations intrigued scientists, and the magical world that they unveil is brought vividly to life by Anthony Bannister, one of South Africa's finest nature photographers.

Illustrated with breath-taking underwater photography in full colour, and by more than 380 black and white photographs and line drawings, their book is aimed at the widest audience—schoolchildren and their parents as well as biologists and anglers. Everyone will find this wonderful volume easy to read and to refer to.

In Part 1 Prof. Branch explains:

- the interplay between marine life forms and their environment
- the forces that influence them, and
   the ways in which they adapt to rocky shores, open seas, sandy beaches, kelp beds or fragile estuaries.

In a perceptive and entrancing account he probes man's many-faceted relationship with the sea: from seal culling to pollution, from Strandloper middens to nuclear waste.

Part 2 deals in detail with the major groups of plants and invertebrates inhabiting our shores. Each of these 15 chapters is devoted to the characteristics and biology of a particular group. In addition:

 Margo Branch's exquisite watercolours of algae add a special dimension to the lavish illustrations

 A scientific and general index, together with useful appendices and reference lists round off the book.

Reversed negatives are a serious nuisance in shell photography and it is a great pity that the designer of the dust jacket should have perpetrated such a spectacular error, presumably in order to get a well-balanced composition. Eagle-eyed conchologists will find one other 'sinistral' shell in the book. The aerial photograph of Richards Bay harbour also has incorrect lettering which makes nonsense of the explanatory caption.

Considering he scope of the book, however, these are insignificant errors. Get yourself a copy.

2. The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Seashells

by Harald A. Rehder published by Alfred Knopf, New York, price about \$13.00

Some 700 full-colour photos fill the first 300 pages of this remarkable small book, followed by about 550 pages of text. The author very bravely arranged the illustrations according to shell shape rather than the strictly scientific sequence of class and family. This revolutionary approach works very well and the text is satisfyingly full, even to an explanation of the meaning of the Latin names. Which makes one wonder why on earth Dr Rehder had to

use Tucker Abbott's laboriously manufactured 'English' names as captions to all the photos.

When you get a tiny shell like Halistylus pupoides, it really doesn't help to call the poor thing a 'Pupoid Halistyle'; nor does it serve any purpose to translate the Latin Mangelia stellata into 'Stellate Mangelia'. However, you can ignore the silly names under each picture and turn to the text for sanity and consolation.

The photographs are brilliant and the book deserves a place in your library.

#### 3. Spotter's Guide to Shells

by Graham D. Saunders, Mike Freeman & Andy Martin published by Usborne London, price under R2.00.

This little 64 page paperback follows very closely the format of R. Tucker Abbott's best seller published by the Golden Press. Representatives of all the best known families are well illustrated in colour, with explanatory captions supplemented by informative notes. It makes an excellent introduction to shells and makes some useful suggestions about further reading, how to collect and organise ones shells,

There are about a dozen other Spotter's Guides on birds, fishes, rocks & minerals, flowers, butterflies, trees, insects, and even on the night sky.

Any one of these would be a welcome gift for someone who is just getting started in a particular field of natural history and needs to get an idea of the scope of the subject.

# **MARINE WORLD**

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20% discount to club members (rare shells excluded)

# Wanted urgently: Cypraea fultoni

In exchange I can offer: Cypraea leucodon, valentia, porteri, katsue, musumea, guttata, hirasei, cruickshanki and aurantium. Also Conus excelsus, dusaveli, hirasei, and gloriamaris.

#### Telephone

Ray Cruickshank or Mrs Goldman at Gordon's Bay, (024)-41555/418030/41345 or A/h 41772. Or write to Box 123, Gordon's Bay 7150

The majority of members, however, do not have the benefit of group activities, and these must have become aware of a falling off in the secretarial service to which they are entitled.

I can only apologise and thank everyone for their patience in putting up with this situation. Happily, the problem is about to be solved.

# Membership =

With subscriptions overlapping from year to year, and some fees not being paid on time, it is difficult to give a precise figure of our paid-up membership as at the 30th June.

However, our mailing list at present, i.e. December 1981, shows a total membership of some 450 compared to about 420 in June 1980.

Reminders have been sent to 140 members that their fees for the current 1981/2 year are overdue. This is a perennial problem causing unnecessary secretarial work, not to mention the uncertainty about our financial position. The total fees involved, allowing for a proportion of junior and family members is somewhere between R800 and R1200. A fair amount of this should be recovered by March 1982.

Our membership is spread as follows:

S.W. Cape	102
Oudtshoorn to P.E	67
Border & Transkei	24
Natal	84
Transvaal	99
O.F.S., N. Cape & S.W.A	11
Foreign: Africa	10
America	8
Europe	
Australia	7
Far East	7

In addition, we send the Strandloper either by donation or exchange to 24 clubs and institutions here and overseas.

#### The Strandloper

Our bulletin this year again achieved recognition with its very successful issues on the Marginellidae by Victor Millard. Extra copies of the two issues have been in demand and there seems to have been a revival of interest also in the issue on the S.A. Conidae.

The sale of these and other publications has brought in some R340 compared to R190 in the previous year.

This is very encouraging, and with the installation of the new Secretary and Treasurer, more time will now be available for the production of the bulletin at more regular intervals.

We have decided not to reprint back numbers of the early circulars but will instead rewrite and update interesting articles that have appeared in past issues, especially those that featured specific shell families and which originally appeared without illustrations.

# The Library

This has been built up over the years mainly by donations from members, but also through purchase of books from the Society's funds.

Our Branches have recently begun to acquire their own collections of the more popular and useful handbooks and we have considered distributing surplus books from the central library among the branches. Before a final decision is taken, we must consider the needs of those members who are not attached to branches.

## Finances:

We do not yet have a formal audited balance sheet or financial statement.

However, Claude Seha who has accepted nomination as Treasurer, has drawn up a provisional summary of our situation and I am happy to report that we have, in the year under review, kept our expenditure below our income to the extent of some R1500. And even if we deduct membership fees paid in advance, we still have a credit balance of

over R300 compared to a deficit of R20 at the end of the previous year.

There is no doubt that the increased fees have kept us solvent and we will have to continue to watch rising costs.

Cutting down on the number of Strandlopers per annum is not a solution. We must maintain our service to members.

In any case, fewer and bigger Strandlopers cost as much for printing and posting as more frequent smaller ones.

I want particularly to mention the efforts of the local fund raising committee who were very disappointed at the apparent lack of response to their countrywide appeal. Although this took place in the current financial year I must mention that we have in the past week or so received a donation of over R60 from the Pretoria Branch and I was informed that a larger donation can shortly be expected from another area.

With this, and the Government grant of R350 that has been offered, another double spread of colour in the Strandloper in 1982 is assured.

Continued on page 8 column 1

# **SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

For the year ended 30th June 1981

INCOME:	1	980/81	1979/80
Entrance fees	F	R 53,00	R 53,00
Subscriptions 1980/81 R1759,	.00		
(in advance) 1981/82 1165,	.00		
	.00	2960,00	1644,00
Sale of Publications		340.00	190,00
Donations/sale of shells		78.00	36.00
Advertising		45.00	11.00
Interest		62,00	68,00
Government grant		250,00	3
Total incom	ne F	R3788,00	2002,00
EXPENDITURE:	-		
Strandloper printing costs		1534,00	1634,00
Secretarial/postages		346,00	114,00
Printing and stationery		237,00	104,00
Bank charges		81,00	22,00
Addressograph		30,00	14.00
Library (new books purchased)		-	134,00
Members' handbook grant to East London		50,00	- Committee of the Comm
Total expenditu	re F	R2278,00	2022,00
Income over expenditure	4	R1510,00	20,00
(If we deduct subscriptions paid in advance		(R1210,00)	
we still have a profit this year of		R 309,00	
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AS AT 30th HINE	100	1.	

#### ACCUMULATED FUNDS AS AT 30th JUNE 1981:

Standard Bank Current Account R 920,00
Natal Building Society Savings Account R1448,00

# Regional Activities:

Following the annual general meetings of the Society's Branches, there have been a few changes in the regional committees and consequently also in the regional representatives on the national council.

A special word of thanks is due to the outgoing regional committee members who have served the cause of conchology in South Africa for many years: Jack Scheepers and Val Neill of Amanimtoti; Eva Roscoe in East London; Granville Hyatt in Port Shepstone.

The new line-up of office-bearers will appear in due course in the Strandloper.

There is still a great deal to do towards completing the Society's handbook for members which was initiated by the East London Branch. More attention will be given to it in 1982 with the central council now at full strength.

This ends the secretarial report and we can proceed to the following item on the agenda.

# Election of Council Members:

The following have been nominated:

President: Professor G.M. Branch Vice-President: D. Freeman Secretary: D.E. Wilson

Treasurer: C.A. Seha Members: R.O. Carlsson; J. Davidson; Mrs C. Davison; Mrs S. Hawes; V.G. Millard.

All vacancies on the Council are thus accounted for and, in the absence of objections or additional nominations, these members may be declared elected.

Regional members of the Council (ex officio as chairmen/women of the regional committees) are as follows:

Cape Town: Mrs R. Botes Port Elizabeth: Mr F. Graeve East London: Mrs N.E. Russell

# I WANT TO BUY

Marginella rosea (pink variety) Conus simplex and Conus algoensis.

Live taken specimens please.

Contact R Botes

Farthings, Uitsig Crescent, Durbanville 7550 Port Shepstone: Mrs D. Smith Durban: Mr T.A. Murray Pretoria: Mr L.J. Smith

I also acknowledge the help given by Mr & Mrs W.P. Breytenbach who, although not council members, have spent a lot of time checking records for us and have offered further assistance.

# OTHER BUSINESS:

# Conferring of Life Membership on Richard and Thelma Carlsson

Our President, Professor Branch, has proposed, and it has been agreed by the whole Council including the regional members, that Honorary Life Membership be conferred on two members for long service and many personal sacrifices on behalf of the Society. One of them joined the Council in 1968, i.e. 13 years ago, and the other served for 11 years.

This is a big slice of anybody's life and

deserves to be recognised.

We have great pleasure in conferring this recognition on Richard and Thelma Carlsson and I am sure you will all join me in offering our congratulations and thanks.

## The Council

As a postscript to the minutes of the Annual General Meeting it must be mentioned that Dennis Wilson has been unable to take up the post of Secretary, due to business commitments. Arrangements will therefore have to be made to deal with the correspondence until the vacancy can be filled. The other positions on the Council are as published.

# INTERTIDAL TALK

#### List of Members

A new members' list, giving the position as at the end of December 1981, has been printed and is available on request at 50c per copy, post free in South Africa. Write to the Secretary. New members will receive copies with their documentation at no extra charge.

#### Special publications

Our 'Preliminary' and 'Additional' lists of shells from the Natal and Zululand Coasts, which were compiled many years ago by the late Les Cock, are now out of print. They have been popular special publications but have become obsolete with the passage of time. We do not intend reprinting them in their present form. A more up to date check list is needed and we hope it will eventually be incorporated into the members' handbook which is still being developed. We would like your comments.

# Cymatiidae of South Africa

Victor Millard asks for help with the article being drafted for the STRANDLOPER. Any information on locality, range, size records, unusual specimens, etc., on this family may be sent to the Editor.

#### Back Numbers of the STRANDLOPER

We are rapidly running out of copies of the numbers prior to 171. Of the first series of circulars from number 1 to 120 we have many gaps, while there are about 20 missing from the second series between 121 to 170. Those that are left are still full of interesting paragraphs and are well worth the low price of 15c per copy. Rather than reprint the old numbers, which we would in any case not be able to sell at the low price any more, we have decided to revise some of the articles in the missing issues, and put them in future STRANDLOPERS.

#### Shell motifs

Those who like to see shells decorating everyday objects might be happy to know that the Baumann's Biscuit Company will shortly produce a biscuit tin decorated with pictures of shells.

#### What's in a name?

Mrs Cynthia Harris of Anerley, on the Natal South Coast, writes: seeing a man in the usual shell collector's pose of 'bottoms up' I approached him and asked 'are you a conchologist?' He replied, 'No, I am a holidaymaker; I am just looking for shells.' The reaction of Mrs Harris has not been reported.

#### Members' generosity

Port Elizabeth's reputation as the Friendly City was further reinforced by our members there, who have sent us a donation of R200 towards the cost of colour illustrations in the STRANDLOPER. This was in response to the appeal of the fund-raising committee in Cape Town who approached our Branches during 1981. The Council is duly grateful for this splendid gesture by our 60 "Algoenses". Other donations from Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria and Port Shepstone have already been acknowledged but we mention them here again with the confirmation that a colour issue this year is now assured.



# CONCHOLOGY A WORLD-WIDE FELLOWSHIP

One of the most valuable fringe benefits of collecting shells must be the friends you make and the individuals and clubs you get to

know in other countries.

Articles in the STRANDLOPER have caught the attention of overseas readers and put us in touch with a number of clubs with which we are now exchanging copies of our bulletins. To repay the benefit of the publicity given to our Society, we are going to feature overseas clubs and journals in a series of articles in the STRANDLOPER. We can recommend to members that they consider subscribing to an overseas club or journal and so widen their horizons.

To repay a particular debt of gratitude for the very favourable publicity given to the special Marginella articles in our bulletin in 1981, we are featuring as the first journal in our series the Bulletin of the Conchologists of America.

In the U.S.A. the size of the country and the size of the population have tended to encourage independent regional clubs but, in 1972, a group of shell collectors saw the need for a national organisation and formed Conchologists of America. They welcome novices, shell dealers, advanced collectors and scientists as members, and they hold an annual convention each year in a different centre. Their Bulletin is published quarterly and always carries some articles that have an international appeal, in addition to purely domestic items. The editor, Richard Goldberg has a light touch that ensures readability, while art director Marc Goldberg's influence no doubt contributes to the visual impact of this journal.

A regular feature is Shells in Print, giving news and reviews of books, bulletins (including a nice one on the STRANDLOPER), even one on a shell calendar.

Overseas (airmail) membership at present costs \$10.00 per annum and you may send your subscription to the Treasurer, Clair Stahl, 3235, North East 61st Avenue, Portland, Oregon, 97213, U.S.A.

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# ROUND THE GROUPS

Border & Transkei: At the October meeting, Peter Roscoe had a display of valuable shells from overseas obtained in exchange for local shells. There was also an interesting competition on naming the parts of a shell. In November, the outings for 1982 were discussed and an interesting talk was given by Ms Coetzee with the aid of an epidiascope, on shells of Australia.

Eastern Cape: The family Siphonariidae were discussed and Wayne Clausen showed some fossil shells from Northern Transkei. There was also a field day at Jeffreys Bay.

Natal Group: The Christmas meeting took the form of a braai and shelling day. The prize shell found was a 70mm Cypraea vitellus, among the 48 different species found. The group held their annual general meeting in October and the new committee was elected: Chairman, Terry Murray; Secretary/Treasurer, Denise Murray; Vice Chairman, Colin Hanneman. Maureen Quickelberge continues as Scientific Officer.

Southern Natal: This group also held their A.G.M. in October, with the following office-bearers being elected: Chairman, Mrs Doris Smith; Secretary, Mrs M. Borland; Treasurer, Mrs F. Lennon. Shell families continue to be discussed at meetings. Interesting finds at an outing to 'Oslo Beach have been Cypraea teres. Cypraea vitellus, Mayena australasia gemmifera, Conus lividus, Conus cornatus, and plentiful Morula granulata.

Cape Town: The local committee was elected at the A.G.M. in October, as follows: Chairman, Mrs Bobby Botes; Secretary, Mrs Carole Bootsma; Treasurer, John Coquillon.

During 1982 meetings will continue to be held in the lecture hall of the S.A. Museum in Queen Victoria Street on the second Mondays of each month. A provisional programme has already been circulated to local members in the newsletter, Cape Tidings, and it is hoped that the number of distinguished guest speakers on many interesting subjects

related to shells and shelling will find enthusiastic audiences throughout the year. The shells for display should also help members to get acquainted with a good cross section of families and genera.

Pretoria Group: The group can report very favourably on the activities of the first six months of our financial year seven meetings took place and the average attendance of members were 86%. We also gained 3 new members for the group. Talks were given by members at 5 of the meetings viz Lizeke Vandenberg, John Hoffman, and Laurie Smith. The highlight of our activities were the meeting where our group hosted the Pretoria Branch of the S.A. Biological Teachers Association - attendance at this meeting was 75 people. The shell club members exhibited their South African Shells on a show standard basis and the visitors were duly impressed. At the meeting the Chairman gave a lecture with colour slides on the ecology of the shells. After the meeting the members served tea and refreshments to the teachers.

Our monthly competition for the first half year was won by Lizeke Vandenberg - 50% of the members participated per meeting. To assist the Society financially - a good shell will be available at every meeting on a competition basis and further contributions were made as follows: Hiring of our tea cups for other societies and a book donated. Shells were also sold. We endeavour to sell a shell at every future meeting on a competition basis to favour the proceeds to the society. On the social side three 'bring and braais' were held at the homes of the Mullen's, Slingerlands and Vandenbergs. Laurie Smith

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#### THE CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (Founded 1958) OFFICE BEARERS President. Prof. G.M. Branch Vice-President Mr D. Freeman Secretary. Treasurer Mr C.A. Seha Mr D. Freeman Mr V. Millard Assist Editor Council Members. Mr R.O. Carlsson Mr J. Davidson Mrs J. Davidson Mrs S.M. Hawes Regional Council Members: Mr F. Graeve Eastern Cape. Mrs N. Russell Border. Durban and District. Mr T.A. Murray Southern Natal. Mrs D. Smith Mr L. Smith Cape Town.. Mrs R. Botes All enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary: P.O. Box 1200, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa Subscriptions: Per Year Ordinary Members receiving The Strandloper R8,00 Ordinary Members not receiving The Strandloper (Applies to husbands or wives of members receiving The Strandloper...... R2.00 Corresponding Members (Members are not resident in South Africa or adjoining territories) R8.00 or U.S.A. \$12,00 Student Members (Members attending full time educational institutions R5.00 in South Africa). The Financial Year runs from 1st July to 30th June, and members joining after December need only pay one half the subscription to ensure membership to 30th June. Members joining after March are expected to pay a full subscription which will be carried forward to the following year. An Entrance Fee of R2,00 (U.S.A. \$3,00) is payable by all applicants except Student members. The Society's Bulletin, The Strandloper, is issued free to members. The Society has active groups in the following areas:-Cape Town: Secretary: Mrs C. Bootsma, P.O. Box 211 Durbanville 7550 Tel.: 96-4882 Secretary: Mrs Janet Hope, 3 Van Eck Street, Lorraine, Port Elizabeth 6065 Port Elizabeth: Tel.: 32-2303 Secretary: Mr N.E.M. Newman, 42 Irvine Road Bonnie Doon, East London 5241 East London: Tel.: 5-6274 Secretary: Mrs Denise Murray, 20 Blackwood Place, Tel.: 83-9892 Durban North 4051 Pietermaritzburg: Secretary: Mrs M.I. Armstrong, 195 Boom Street Pietermaritzburg 3201 Secretary: Mr T.R. Duncan, 131 Burger Ave., Tel.: 2-5553 Verwoerdburg 0140 Port Shepstone: Mrs M. Borland, P.O. Sea Park 4241 Tel.: 62-1548 Tel.: 5-0543 Advertisements are accepted for publication in The Strandioper. Advertising rates supplied on

application. The Society accepts no responsibility for any transaction arising from advertisement

# **NEW MEMBERS:**

published in good faith.

#### January/February 1982

Miss H.L. Brümmerhoff (S), 282 The Hillside, Lynwood, 0081. Pretoria. Louisville Conchological Socy, 1123 Hathaway, Louisville KY 40215, United States of America.

Mrs M.J. Swingburn, Badenock, P.O. Komgha, 4950.

Mrs D. Brink, 2 Highfield Drive, Westville, 3630.

Mrs B.A. Fouché, 9 Cheviot Court, 676 Musgrave Road, 4001. Durban. Miss D.C. van der Walt, 40 Madeline

Road, Morningside, 4001. Durban. Mrs V.E. van der Walt, 40 Madeline

Mrs V.E. van der Walt, 40 Madeline Road, Morningside, 4001. Durban. Mr D. Tooch, P.O. Box 37507, Overport, 4067.

Miss N. Wiggelinkhuizen (S), 17 Southway, Pinelands, 7405.

Mrs A.H. van der Westhuizen, 13 Douglas Road, Bedfordview, 2008.

Mr Frank Nolf, Nieuwpoortsteenweg 56, B-8400, Oostende, Belgium.

Mr D.P. Clifford, 14 Shirley Road, Winklespruit, 4125.

Mr & Mrs H.P. Mendelsohn, P.O. Box 1496, Port Shepstone, 4240.

Mr & Mrs P.W. Keyter, P.O. Box 1341, Mbabane, Swaziland.

Mrs A. Marlow, 18 Salerno Road, Montroux, 2195. Johannesburg.

Mrs B.E. Cunliff, 36 Jan K Marais Avenue, Malanshof, 2194. Randburg. Mr & Mrs S.J. McLaren, P.O. Box 95, Franschhoek, 7690.

# EXCHANGES WANTED

Sigurd D. Hamscher, Friedenstrasse 33, D4600 Dortmund 1, West Germany, would like to exchange especially Cypraea, Conus, Pectinacea and Spondylus.

Mrs P. Sydie, 16 Vaal Road, Farrarmere, Benoni 1500, offers Cypraea caputserpentis, felina and erosa from Mozambique, and shells from Australia and Italy, in exchange for Marginella epipolia, and nebulosa, and Conus mozambicus.

Kev Lamprell, Narangba Road, Kallangur, Queensland 4503, Australia, offers good quality Australian shells in exchange for S.A. Conus and Murex.

Mr M.C. Cadeé, Braambes 1, 2318 Al Leiden, Netherlands, offers shells from the Dutch coast, Atlantic and Mediterranean in exchange for S.A. shells especially the family Arcoidea.

S. Gorman, 4 Shuna Terrace, Oban PA34 4YE, Scotland, is a young collector interested in collecting S.A. shells. Yolanda Johnson, 706 North Bradley Street, McKinney, Texas 75069 U.S.A., wants to contact S.A. collectors.

Murray Verrall, 4 Bridge Street, North Booval, Ipswich, Queensland 4304, Australia, is a beginner interested in exchanges.

Roland Houart, St Jobstraat 8, B-3330 Landen (Ezemaal), Belgium, writes: In order to make a revision of the Genus Chicoreus from the Indo-Pacific area, including the Red Sea, I would like to borrow, to receive or to exchange or buy specimens from any locality of the area under study. Borrowed specimens will be returned after a maximum of 9 months. The main point is the locality data and even if it is not complete, the most important thing is to be sure of it. If you can help please contact Mr Houart.

Dr P. Gillis, Dorpstraat 1, 9209 Serskamp (Wichelen), Belgium, would like to obtain most of the specimens of S.A. Conidae illustrated in Strandloper 195, also Conus typhon and lohri.

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