



AGM 2018

Note 1: 2018 AGM

Dear shell friends,

We are already halfway through March, which means it is only 3 months to go until the 2018 Annual General Meeting. This letter serves to highlight a few important matters regarding the upcoming AGM, specifically concerning the *Exhibits*. The Committee recently decided on a Theme and also the Exhibit Categories and we need you to know this so that you can prepare. We had an excellent turnout last year, and we are hoping to eclipse this with even greater participation.

Exhibit Theme

2018 is a very special year for the Society, since it coincides with the Society's 60th Anniversary. So, as part of the celebrations – and to show solidarity with this event – we have decided to entitle the 2018 Theme simply “**Society 60 Years**”. The idea is that each Exhibit should somehow encapsulate the 60-year anniversary – perhaps by including the to-be-revealed 60-year Logo, or by incorporating a “60” somewhere in the design, or any other creative (or scientific) method you can come up with.

Exhibit Categories

The Committee decided to continue with the four Exhibit Categories from 2017, which therefore means the following:

- *Category 1: Artistic*
- *Category 2: Scientific*
- *Category 3: Beginner*
- *Category 4: Shell Family, Genus or Species*

An award (trophy) will be issued within each Category.

As in 2017, you may enter into *as many Categories as you wish*, but any *one* particular Exhibit may only be entered into any *one* particular Category (Exhibits cannot “span” multiple Categories). An additional requirement for 2018 is that you must indicate into which Category your Exhibit has been entered by making a label, plaque or notice of sorts and placing it somewhere in front of, or onto, your Exhibit. This will make it easier for the Judges to determine and simplify the adjudication process.



Exhibit Guidelines

We will be circulating the new Exhibit Guidelines with this Letter. This will help those wishing to prepare Exhibits for the AGM to design them so as to meet the minimum requirements and get things right – and hopefully increase the chances of winning an award. The Guidelines have been tailored *per Category*, indicating which primary aspects the judges will be focussing on.

Voting Year

This is a Voting Year, which means time to appoint a new Committee! The Society needs your vote, and if you can't be there (great pity, for sure...) you will be requested to send in a Proxy Vote. We will be distributing the Proxy Voting forms closer to the time.

**AGM Auction**

Our first “Du Preez Shell Auction” is taking place this coming Monday evening (19th March), but there are so many shells to redistribute that we have decided to hold another Du Preez Auction on the day of the AGM. As usual, the Auction will follow the formalities of the AGM. More details to follow closer to the time.

AGM Date, Time and Venue

You may think it strange to close off the first AGM Letter with this vital information, but I have opted to slot it in at the end simply because we still have not finalised this little sliver of detail. All I can say at this stage is that it will be in **June 2018**, but we still need to allocate an exact date, choose the starting time and book a venue. Closing time is easy: when the auction has ended, the socialising has run dry and exhaustion from shelly matters has overtaken the shelly matters...

In Conclusion

We hope to see many of our shell friends and Society Members at the 2018 AGM. Coinciding with the 60th Anniversary of the Society I am sure it will be a joyous, fun-filled, memorable event.

Until then, happy shelling!

Andre Meredith
President, SCSA

16 March 2018

