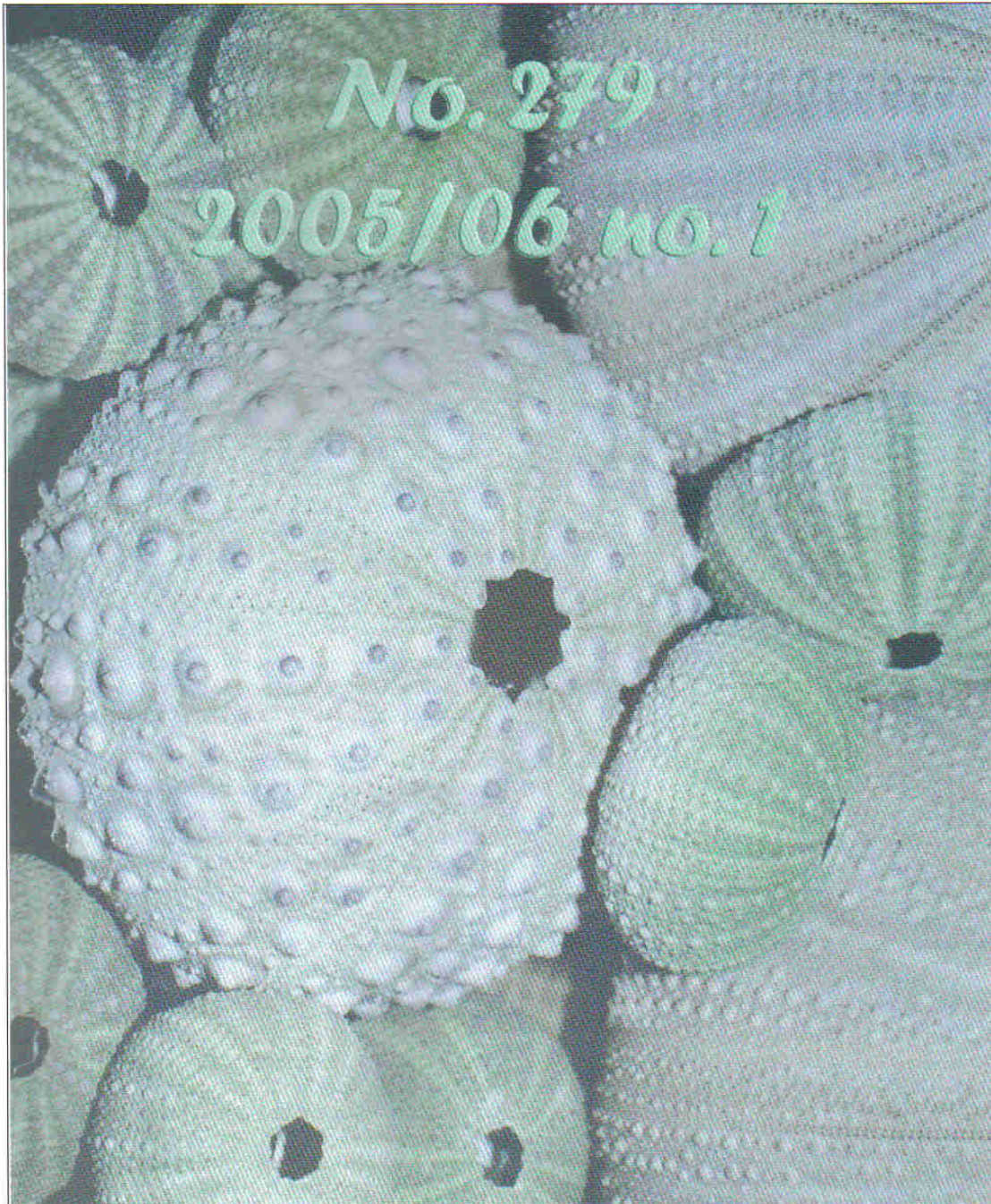


the Strandloper

BULLETIN OF THE CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



Conchological Society of Southern Africa

Founded 1958

Patron : Dr R.N. Kilburn

MEMBERSHIP FEES for 20004/05 (incl. *Strandloper*)

☛ - ordinary	R150-00
☛ - overseas (2 years)	US \$ 75-00
☛ - life before 1999	R100-00
☛ - No Strandloper	R50-00

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The Secretary CSSA, P.O. Box 8760, Sonpark, Nelspruit, 1206,
South Africa
peabrain@global.co.za or cssa@global.co.za

OFFICE BEARERS

- **PRESIDENT:** Dr. Johan Marais. Tel: (033) 3473028
- **VICE-PRESIDENT:** Mrs. Rina Mathee. Tel. H (031)-2661795
- **TREASURER:** Mrs. Christelle Deysel. Tel: H (012)-6550428
- **SECRETARY:** Mrs. Kobie du Preez. Tel: (082)-3726790
- **EDITOR STRANDLOPER:** Mrs. Kobie du Preez.
peabrain@global.co.za Tel: (082)-3726790

REGIONAL CONTACT PERSONS:

BLOEMFONTEIN (Vrystaat Groep) Ds. H. van der Walt, P.O. Box
25913, Langenhoven Park, 9300
(051)-4464244

DURBAN (Group) Mrs. Rina Mathee, 30 Headingley Rd., Westville
3630, South Africa
(031)-2661795

EAST LONDON (Border Group) Miss R.M. Tietz, 408 Kennaway
Court, Inverleith Terrace, East London, 5201, South Africa
(043)-7437818

PIETERMARITZBURG (Group) Mrs. Dawn Brink, 2 Highfield Drive,
Westville, 3630, South Africa
(031)-2661404

PORT ELIZABETH (Group) Mrs. Marie Slabbert, 13 Tilney Place,
Framesby, Port Elizabeth, 6035, South Africa
(041)-3606722

PRETORIA (Group) Mr. Alwyn Marais, P.O. Box 870, Florida Hills,
1716, South Africa
(082)-5547578

SOUTHERN NATAL (Group) Mr. Geoff Wallace, P.O. Box 513, Port
Shepstone 4240, South Africa
(039)-6951100

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Per placement:

Fit in column:	R75-00
Half a page:	R150-00
Full page:	R300-00

Overseas: Devide the above-mentioned prices with 7 for the US \$ price.

Please contact the editor for the correct format of your advertisement. Scans and manipulation of advertisements will be charged for the account of the Society!

Back-issues

R10-00 for black and white issues before 2004

R15-00 for colour issues before 2004

R1-00 = ± US \$ 7-00,

overseas members to add US \$3-50 for postage.

Recent issues - R20-00. Please contact me for a quote. I have an Microsoft Excel spreadsheet with a list of main articles.

Ed.

The Strandloper, official bulletin of the Conchological Society of Southern Africa, is issued as part of membership dues. It is published in March, June, September and December.

Articles in *The Strandloper* are not copyrighted and may be reprinted in other publications provided full credit is given to the author and *The Strandloper* bulletin and two copies of the complete publication in which the reprint appears are mailed to the Editor. We solicit comments, letters and articles of interest to shell collectors, subject to editing. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Conchological Society of Southern Africa. All correspondence pertaining to articles published in *The Strandloper* or reprinted material should be directed to the Editor.

We undertake no responsibility for unsolicited material sent for possible inclusion in the publication. No material submitted will be returned unless return postage is included.

Articles and views expressed are those of the authors and not of the editor or any committee member.

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Please take note of the new membership fees on the left!

We no longer have official e-mail addresses for each committee member and group.

Please direct all e-mail to peabrain@global.co.za until further notice.

Please submit your article or news as soon as possible.

The Editor



People in South African Conchology - Focus on ... Val van der Walt

I was asked to tell how I started shell collecting.

I have always been interested in shells, but never had the opportunity of collecting until 1979, when my daughter Dawn started a Shell craft hobby. So many shells had to be collected for her.

Jeffrey's Bay was the best place for shells the, so she and I went there to collect for her craft. It was an amazing experience, the each was just packed with shells and you could stay in one spot for hours and pick up hundreds of shells. Back home, I helped to wash and sort the shells. I was so fascinated that I started to select the best specimens and kept them aside, and this is how my collection started.

In 1980, when I turned sixty years, I decided to retire from work and concentrate on shell collecting. The same year we met Olive Peel on the beach one day, and were persuaded to join the Natal Shell Society and the Conchological Society of SA.

We heard that some small ships from the Philippines were operating between Nacala, Mozambique and Durban, bringing large loads of shells to sell. We went to the Durban harbour frequently, and acquired beautiful large shells such as *Cassis cornuta*, *Triton tritonis*, many *Murex*, *Bursa* and other wonderful shells in sacks and baskets at a very low cost. I was well on my way to being hooked on this hobby!

In 1982 we had a bonanza when the Addington Beach in Durban was being reclaimed. Tons of sand and hundreds of shells were dredged just off the Bluff and pumped onto this beach. This lasted for six weeks nonstop, so Dawn and I spent two to three hours every weekday collecting. Weekends were a madhouse with many people collecting.

Identification was difficult as very little information was available I was very fortunate, as Dr. Dick Kilburn of the Natal Museum was prepared to help me identify the many shells we found, and in this way we were able to help other collectors to put names to their finds. Over the years Dr. Kilburn has helped and taught me so much, that I

will always be grateful to him. Without his help I would never have been able to achieve what I have done.

In 1984 we had another bit of luck when a dredging programme commenced pumping more sand from off the Bluff onto a site at Durban Bayhead for building proposes. This sand was never utilized and remains there until this day. More marvelous shells were collected after pumping each day, or by digging in the sand afterwards. This we were able to do after pumping has ceased, until grass and other vegetation took over.

Next Dawn and I decided to join other collectors who were getting shells from the fishing trawlers at the Durban wares. Bags full of deep-sea shells were collected by the crew from the fishing nets, or from the line-boats fishermen, who got shells from the fish gutting (*ex pisces*). This was an exciting and very different experience, but very smelly, as most of the shells were uncleaned and had their animals or hermit crabs still inside, in various stages of decomposition, having been kept on the trawler for a number of weeks. Cleaning them was unpleasant, but the rewards were many wonderful shells, some very rare.

We collected shells from most of the Natal beaches, also the Eastern and Western Cape, so that I was able to build up a very comprehensive South African collection. I started exchanging SA shells with collectors and dealers in USA, Australia and other countries as was therefore able to build up a good worldwide collection as well.



A diver friend brought me many samples of dived shells from this coast, and once again Dr. Dick Kilburn helped me to identify them. My entire collection became a useful reference for other collectors who wished to identify their shells.

I was one of the Office Bearers for the Conchological Society, when it was run from Natal. I was Scientific Officer for the Durban Group and when I retired to Ramsgate I became the Scientific Officer for the South Coast Group. Over the years I compiled many lists of shell families including the number of species in each Family/Group, which

the Natal and Pretoria members found very useful, and it was largely due to this that Mr. Laurie Smith nominated me for an Honorary Life Membership of the CSSA.

I donated a comprehensive collection of South African shells to Dr. Tucker Abbot for the Bailey Matthew Museum at Sanibel Island, Florida, USA. I was invited to Sanibel for the opening of this Museum and spent a month on the island, where beach shelling was fantastic.

My daughter Dawn, married Michael Meyer, another member of the CSSA. They built a Seashell Museum and shop at Shelly Beach, Natal. This housed their joint personal collections and also some of mine. They were there for seven years and in the year 2000 immigrated to Australia with all their shells and valuable museum treasures. There they built a new Seashell Museum and shop at Hervey Bay, Queensland. This is a beautiful spot overlooking the Bay and Fraser Island.

After the death of my husband I left Durban and retired to a Retirement Village in Ramsgate, Natal. I set up my entire collection in my garage.

I have donated shells to the Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg, the Durban Museum and some to a Japanese and Chinese Museum. I have also donated a display of shells in the foyer of Hibiscus House at the Village of Happiness and another in the Community Centre of Ramsgate Retirement Village.

I have had three shells described in my name:

Muricidae: *Muricopsis (Murexsul) valae* Houart, 1991

Veneridae: *Tivela valae* Lussi, 1991

Cystiscidae: *Plesiosystiscus valae* Houart, 1999



Top: *Tivela valae* Lussi, 1991

Below: *Muricopsis (Murexsul) valae* Houart, 1991

Left: *Plesiosystiscus valae* Houart, 1999



AGM Minutes

Minutes of the AGM meeting held on the 16th July 2005 at the Pretoria Zoo.

1. Welcome: The president welcomed all members of the Conchological Society of Southern Africa and visitors present at the AGM on behalf of the committee. A quorum was present and the meeting was pronounced open. A moment of silence was held in memory of members that have passed away during the year, Marjorie Courtney-Latimer and TC Lan from Japan.

2. Approval of minutes of the AGM held on 10th July 2004: The wording within paragraph 7, sentence 4 should be changed to "...The winning article were 'The Southern African Cancellariidae' by Markus Lussi, Dawn Brink and Alwyn Marais..."

The minutes was proposed for approval by Alwyn Marais and seconded by Rina Matthee. The minutes were approved by the meeting.

3. Matters arising: Books in Natal Museum – The president reported at the last AGM that the Natal Museum has books belonging to the Society dating back to the early 50's, and they say no one has accessed it in the last 20 years. It is becoming a problem for them to store the books. It was proposed that it is graded and put on a blind auction. It was decided that it point had to be voted on at this meeting. Not all the books are shell related. A list was made and was available at the meeting. Maurice Evans commented that the books are not collectors items and that it might be more beneficial to sell it.

The vice-president read part of the list. Any member is welcome to ask for a book on the list not to be auctioned, but to be put in the UNISA archives.

The vote was done by a hand count and the majority votes were in favour of putting the books on a blind auction at the next AGM against putting them straight into the UNISA archives with our other documents.

4. 25 Year membership certificates – Only two members qualified: JE la Cock from Durbanville and TA Murray from Rondebosch. Certificates to go out with the Strandloper.

5. Presidents Report: (Attachment 1) – Dr. Johan Marais read his President's Report. The President's report was accepted by the meeting.

6. Financial Report: (Attachment 2) - Christelle Deysel read her Financial Report with the new fee structure. The financial report was accepted by the meeting.

Fee Structure for 2005/06 –

South African with Strandloper	R150-00
No Strandloper	R50-00
Life	R110
Honorary Life	R0-00
Overseas	US \$ 75 (for 2 years)
Neighbouring countries	R150-00 + R100 Postage

7. News from the Groups: (Attachment 3) - The secretary read a summarized version of the information received from the different shell groups.

8. Prize for best article in *The Strandloper* – Alwyn Marais is the sponsor for this year's price. The judge was the editor of *Strandloper*. She proposed the winner at a committee meeting where it was approved. The article by Roy Aiken and Alwyn Marais 'The Tribe Lyrini (Volutidae) from the East Coast of Africa' is the winning article, with Ronnie Watt's article 'Forms of *Cribrarula cribraria comma*' as runner-up. First and second prize is a shell from the sponsor.

9. Election of Committee Members: The election of committee members was done in accordance with the Societies constitution, and the following members were elected to serve on the committee:

President – Dr. Johan Marais
Vice-President – Rina Matthee
Secretary – Kobie du Preez
Treasurer – Christelle Deysel
Editor *Strandloper* – Kobie du Preez
Members – Maurice Evans, Alwyn Marais and Damian Kislig

Medea Evans complained about the voting form, she said that it is confusing if all the names and posts are on one form. The secretary replied that it is more convenient but that the committee will discuss it at a committee meeting.

She also asked why a person who was nominated for 'President' couldn't be voted on for 'Vice-President' if the person wasn't voted in as President. The secretary replied that the nomination forms that went out had the option to nominate a person for any position, but that all the nominations received were for specific positions. If a person were nominated for any position, then his/her name would have been on the voting form for all the positions.

10. Exhibition: The theme of the exhibition was the displayer's own choice – it had to display the theme's name with a maximum of 25 shells. As usual the theme was enthusiastically portrayed by several members. An outstanding exhibit from a Pretoria member made the biggest impression on the judges – congratulations to Renata Kruyswijk for her 'Cypraeidae Polkadottidae' display of cowries.

Silver *Afrivoluta pringlei* Best exhibit

Renata Kruyswijk

11. General

11.1. Permits for shell collecting: Carol Broberg requested information about the permits for shell collecting. The president replied that in the past the old Natal Parks Board had a permit for live collecting, but is not issued anymore. The only valid permit is obtainable from any Post Office but that it is at best a very vague document. He had tried to get clarification from the Government but so far didn't get any response. He will make an appointment again to get more information. The editor of *The Strandloper* will put it in the magazine.

It was stressed that no shells are to be taken from any marine reserves. Medea Evans requested that a list of marine reserves made available to members. Someone said that the tide table obtainable at Engen coastal garages contains such a list.

The vice-president told the meeting that local municipalities overrule the permit rules and that collectors should look for signs on beaches.

11.2. Thank You's – Dr. Marais thanked the Pretoria Group for organizing the AGM. As no other matters were brought on the table, the meeting was declared closed.

Annexure 3 - Group - Activities

Border - Very active group with 12 members. Talks about families, have internal exhibits and guest speakers. Give assistance to East London Museum.

Durban - Very active group with 17 members. Talks about families, have internal exhibits and guest speakers.

Pietermaritzburg - No longer exist.

Port Elizabeth - There are still active members. Rina (guardian) reports back that the secretary has been very ill and couldn't respond.

Pretoria - Very active group with 24 members. Talks about families, have internal exhibits and guest speakers.

Southern Natal - Informal meetings. Interweaved with Durban Group

Vrystaat - Nothing received

Presidents Report

The Society had a successful year. Thanks to modern communication technology the Managing Committee could function as an efficient unit despite the fact that its members were spread out over the country. We have largely achieved our main goal of improving the quality of the Strandloper. As in previous years it was difficult to obtain suitable articles for the Journal. Please remember that Management relies heavily on our members to submit articles! The Journal can only be published on time if manuscripts are received in time. Our sincere thanks to those members who have supported us in this respect. Our policy to assist authors with the production of high-quality scans for their articles has indeed simplified the process of preparing manuscripts. Our policy to encourage authors to review whole families or subfamilies has demanded much greater efforts from them. However, it provided our readers with photographs and descriptions of rare shells not often seen by the average collector.

Many countries are becoming more conservation conscious. Attempts are being made worldwide to stamp out the illegal trade in live animals and plants. The collection of live molluscs just for the sake of collecting is also being frowned upon by local nature conservation authorities. It is quite conceivable that collecting permits for live molluscs might one day be issues only to persons conducting scientific research projects. Improving the standard of the Strandloper is an attempt to show the outside world that the accumulation of sound scientific data in the field of Malacology is an important function of our Society and that our members apply conservation ethics in all their activities. A more scientific approach to our hobby is important in the light of the decline in funding and a lack of interest in malacological research in South African museums (See President's Report for 1997/8).

During the past year the long-awaited book on land snails by Herbert and Kilburn entitled, Field guide to the land snails and slugs of eastern South Africa, Interpak Books, Pietermaritzburg, has been published. It is a first ever guide in this field and a must for our members. Our Patron, Dr. R.N Kilburn, now retired from the Natal Museum, is still very actively working on a publication dealing the Red Sea turrids and also on his book describing the turrids of the tropical Indo-Pacific.

It is difficult to establish accurately the number of new South African molluscs described during the past year. (Could members in future please inform Management of such newly described shells for inclusion in our list and possible publication in the Strandloper?). We are aware of the publication of the following new shells:

Bistolida stolidia uvongoensis Massier, 2004. *Schr. Malakozool.* **21**, 35-38
Bostrycapulus odites Collin, 2005. *Zool. J. Linn. Soc.* **144**, 75-101
Cypraeovula volvens Fazzini & Bergonzoni, 2004. *La Conchiglia* **36**(310), 50-56
Engina ignicula Fraussen, 2004. *Visaya* **1** (July), 44-47
Gulella dejae Bursey & Herbert, 2004. *African Invertebrates* **45**, 249-262
Gulella hamerae Bursey & Herbert, 2004. *African Invertebrates* **45**, 249-262
Gulella herberti Van Bruggen, 2004. *Basteria* **68**, 45-50
Gulella latimerae Bursey & Herbert, 2004. *African Invertebrates* **45**, 249-262
Gulella newmani Bursey & Herbert, 2004. *African Invertebrates* **45**, 249-262
Marginella felixi Massier, 2004. *Schr. Malakozool.* **21**, 21-28
Marginella fishhoekensis Massier, 2004. *Schr. Malakozool.* **21**, 21-28
Marginella nebulosa abyssinebulosa Massier, 2004. *Schr. Malakozool.* **21**, 21-28
Tonna berthae Vos, 2005. *Gloria Maris* **44**, 10-17

It is noteworthy that *Nodilittorina natalenses* (Philippi, 1847) is now called *Echinolittorina natalenses*, and *Nodilittorina africana* (Philippi, 1847) and *N. knysnaensis* (Philippi, 1847) have changed to *Afrolittorina africana* and *A. knysnaensis*.

I would like to express a word of sincere thanks to all the members of our Society for their support, and in particular of the Management committee for their hard work and dedication during the past year.

Dr. J.P. Marais



Treasurers Report

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2005

Mr President and Fellow Members,

The books of account have been scrutinised by Francis van Heerden C.A. (S.A) and have been found to be in order. The Financial Statements are tabled.

We end the year with a net income of R3,104.56. Income for the year amounted to R21 547.84, while expenditure totalled R18,443.28.

The printing costs for The Strandloper were R10 888.14. All the publications of The Strandloper were in full colour. Postage and stationary increased by R743.87 to R4 932.51 and will increase in the new financial year. The secretary needed a cabinet and a steel cabinet was purchased for R999.00

Distribution of The Strandloper has been limited to paid up members only. The CSSA have 108 paying members to date and a total of 172 active members. Unfortunately 13 members have not paid their membership fees for this financial year. Accounts were sent to the members instead of The Strandloper.

The committee increased the membership fees to R150.00 per annum for members and R110.00 per annum for Life members. This is to keep up with increases in printing costs and postage. The CSSA is on the path to financial recovery and to keep it that way, it is necessary to increase the subscriptions.

Subscriptions were the main source of income for the past financial year and an amount of R20 290.04 was received. Thanks to every member that contributed.

Virtually no donations were received.

There were a few sales of books and back-issues of The Strandloper for this financial year. An amount of R654.88 was earned through these various sales.

Due to the strengthening of the value of the Rand, an increase in postage and banking fees, the subscriptions for our overseas members will increase to \$75 for 2 years. The overseas members remain a very valuable part of the CSSA.

Our membership figures are as follows:

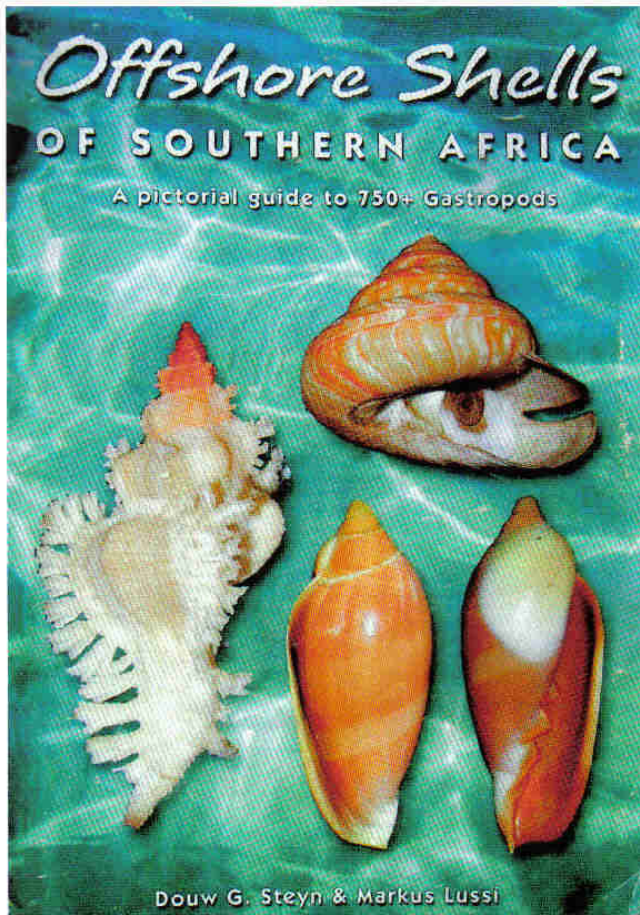
Honorary Life members	5 (1 not receiving The Strandloper)
Life members	16
Full members	108
Payment outstanding	13
Non-Paying	13
Exchange	<u>16</u>
Total	171

2 Members resigned and 2 members passed away.

3 Members joined the CSSA.

The CSSA finances are still fairly healthy due to reserves in the bank. Members are urged to pay their membership fees to enable the editor to continue producing an excellent publication as The Strandloper.

C. M. Deysel
Treasurer



New Book!!

OFFSHORE SHELLS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
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Contact the authors for your copies:

The cost per copy is R200 plus R30 postage (South African residents only). For foreign buyers, please contact the authors.

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M. Lussi at 031-5649739
e-mail dldmail@mweb.co.za
P.O. Box 20194, Durban North, 4016



141
383 *Fusinus rogersi*
Hadorn, 1999
Fam. Fasciolaridae
Shell solid, inner lip lirate, shoulder angular, shoulder slope weakly concave. Weak axial ribs crossed by spiral threads. White throughout, sometimes pale brown between ribs. Southern Mozambique. (110-160m). 90mm. Rare. Endemic.



384 *Fusinus rubrolineatus*
(Sowerby, 1870)
Fam. Fasciolaridae
Shell relatively thin, whorls rounded, suture fairly deep. Axial ribs crossed by spiral threads, inner lip lirate. White to light brown with reddish-brown spiral threads, aperture glossy white. Central KwaZulu-Natal and Mozambique. (150-250m). 42mm. Rare.



385 *Fusinus toreumus*
(Deshayes, 1843)
Fam. Fasciolaridae
Shell solid, parietal shield well developed, inner lip lirate. Spiral cords and tubercles along periphery of whorls, edge of lip with sharp tooth-like projections. Cream tinged with brown, interior glossy white. KwaZulu-Natal and Mozambique. (20-50m). 90mm. Uncommon.



AGM 2004/05

From left: Damian Kistlig, Maurice Evans and Renata Kruswijk, with Lana and Bill Kruger in the background



From left: Stephan and Vellies Veldsman, Ronnie Watt



Rina Mathee (Vice-president) left, in conversation with Sarie and Jan Diederichs on the right



Top: Polkadottiidae
Right: Roy Aiken on the left, President Johan Marais on the right

