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X THE CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA X
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CIRCULAR NO. 37

NOVEMBER, 1962

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Edited by Leila Kerr.

MEETING.

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting and will be held in the Lecture Room of the S.A. Museum on Tuesday, 20th November at 8.15 p.m. sharp. Please bring this Agenda with you. Will all members make a special effort to attend. There will be a film too. The shell family for display will be the S.A. Nassariidae - Barnard p.70.

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A G E N D A

1. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
3. Election of new members.
4. Proposal " " "
5. Brief reports by the Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian.
6. Proposal of Prof. J.H. Day as an Honorary Member. At the Council meeting held on the 2nd October, 1962, the full Council agreed unanimously to propose Prof. J.H. Day as an Honorary Member, in recognition of his contribution to conchology in South Africa and his services to the Society. Prof. Day has been our President since the founding of the Society in 1958 and has compiled the two special publications on False Bay Shells and Families and Genera of Molluscs. This proposal must be confirmed by a two-thirds majority of members present at the Annual General Meeting.
7. Any other business.
8. The new Council.
9. Tea Interval (10 cents)
10. Film.

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CHRISTMAS PARTY.

As our annual party last year was such a success, we are again holding it at the Round House, Camps Bay, on Thursday evening, 13th December, from 7.30 p.m. onwards. There will be a "braai", dancing and lots of surprises ! Tickets will be 75c (special price for us) and

may/...

may be bought at the next meeting or on the night of the party. As the Round House is not licensed, will members please bring their own party spirit! Friends are very welcome. Please phone the Secretary, 77-5369, and not, repeat not, the Round House if you are coming, so that we can let Mrs. Ackermann know the numbers by December 10th, for catering purposes. It must be clearly understood that if you book for the party, the tickets must be paid for, whether you come or not, as we cannot allow Mrs. Ackermann to be out of pocket.

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It is with regret we record the death of Mr. Charles Thorn on 27th October. Mr. Thorn was Technician at the S.A. Museum and was responsible for obtaining films for our meetings. He was always very cheerful and helpful and will be sadly missed. We tender our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Thorn and his son.

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ABOUT MEMBERS:

FIELD DAY at KOMMETJIE. 14.10.1962

Unfortunately, although the tide was low, the rain came down in buckets, and only a few hardy souls braved the elements. Their zeal was rewarded, however, by finding Chaetopleura pustulata, Callochiton castaneus, Conus elongatus, Gibbula capensis, Gibbula beckeri, Marginella rosea and very colourful Patella granatina, not to mention one sore foot!

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MEETING AT THE S.A. MUSEUM. 30.10.1962.

Apologies were received from Miss M. Kempthorne and Mr. J. Walker.

The following were elected as members of the Society:-

Mrs. D. Jeffes, 19 Chester Road, Parkwood, Johannesburg.
Dr. C. Vivier, 67 Marsh Street, Mossel Bay.

The following was proposed as a new member:-

Mr. Tom Walters, proposed by N. Prior, seconded by M. Kuttel.

The Xmas Party was discussed and it was agreed to have it at the Round House - see above.

Mrs. Connolly appealed for a small tank suitable for a sea-water aquarium, as the one she has on loan is badly overcrowded. Mary Kuttel offered to find one for her.

Mrs. Pinkham, newly returned from her trip to the Wild Coast, was asked to tell us about the shells she had brought for display. She, also, had brought some "spares" for members, which were gratefully accepted.

After tea, two excellent films were shown - "Enchanted City" (Petra) and "Linnaeus". After seeing the life and works of the great naturalist, one is better able to appreciate the word "Linn." after the scientific name of so many of our shells. Thank you, John Grindley, for obtaining and

showing/...

- b. Shell thin or moderately thick, never solid, aperture as a rule wide open, no gap on inner lip 2
- 2. a. Shell 30-80 mm long, body whorl moderately ventricose, aperture not very large, columella straight Eudolium
- b. Shell usually large, up to 280 mm., body whorl very much ventricose, aperture very large, columella spirally twisted Tonna s.s.

T. (M.) pomum (Linnaeus, 1758) is the only South African representative of the subgenus Malea; it has been recorded from Mozambique and Natal.

The two species of Eudolium can be distinguished as follows:

- Body whorl with about 36 spiral ribs crosseana
- Body whorl with about 17 spiral ribs aulacodes

T. (E.) aulacodes (Tomlin, 1927) is only known from deep water off Cape Point and T. (E.) crosseana (Monterosato, 1869) from off the Buffalo River, East London.

The seven species of Tonna s.s. may be distinguished as follows:

- 1. a. Space in between major spiral ribs wider than spiral ribs . . 2
- b. Space in between spiral ribs narrower than or at the most equal to the spiral ribs 3
- 2. a. Outer lip thickly incrassate and crenulate, body whorl with 13-15 spiral ribs (41-90 mm.) dolium
- b. Outer lip hardly to moderately incrassate, body whorl with 12-13 spiral ribs (42-100 mm.) costata
- 3. a. Spiral folds (although sometimes quite small) in between spiral ribs 4
- b. No spiral folds in between spiral ribs, large shells 5
- 4. a. Shell small, 35-60 mm., body whorl with 17-18 spiral ribs dunkeri
- b. Shell large, 80-150 mm., body whorl with 18-20 spiral ribs cepa
- 5. a. Shell large, 80-180 mm., body whorl with 15-17 spiral ribs . . 6
- b. Shell very large, up to 205 mm., body whorl with 19-24 spiral ribs galea
- 6. a. Body whorl with 15-16 spiral ribs, penultimate whorl with 3 spiral ribs (90-180 mm.) luteostoma
- b. Body whorl with 16-17 spiral ribs, penultimate whorl with 5 spiral ribs (80-150 mm.) variegata

Kilian gives the following South African distribution records:

- T. (T.) cepa (Röding, 1798) - Cape of Good Hope;
- T. (T.) costata (Menke, 1830) - Ponto do Ouro, Portuguese East Africa;
- T. (T.) dolium (Linnaeus, 1758) - Durban (also var. natalensis (Smith 1906));
- T. (T.) dunkeri (Hanley, 1859) - Durban, Jeffery's Bay;
- T. (T.) galea (Linnaeus, 1758) - Algoa Bay;
- T. (T.) luteostoma/..

- T. (T.) luteostoma (Küster, 1875) - Cove Rock, East London,
var. procellara (Euthyme, 1885) - Bazaruto Id., Magaruque Id., Inhaca Id.,
East London, Port Elizabeth, Jeffrey's Bay;
- T. (T.) variegata (Lamarck, 1822) - Algoa Bay.

As can be seen from this list, our knowledge of the distribution of the South African representatives of the genus Tonna is rather incomplete. It would be interesting to compile a more complete list of records for our Circulars; it is suggested that everybody who has additional records, should send these to the writer at the Natal Museum, Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg, so that eventually (depending on your co-operation) a list of localities of South African Tonna species can be drawn up.

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SOUTH AFRICAN MARINE MOLLUSCA - NEW SPECIES. by D.H. Kennelly.

The attention of members is directed to "Annals Natal Museum", Vo. XV, Part 19, August 1962, for details of new species and records of our marine shells.

There is no doubt that all readers will greatly appreciate the action of Dr. K.H. Barnard in naming one shell Latiaxis elstoni, for our enthusiastic and hard-working member, Percy Elston of Durban.

When Mr. Elston obtained the specimen he considered it might prove to be new, and being desirous of furthering the interests of our Society, forwarded the shell to Dr. Barnard.

His action has been well rewarded by having his name incorporated in the scientific name of the new species as mentioned above.

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CAPE NOTES. by L. Kerr.

We have been enduring a prolonged South-easter down this way, so very little shelling could be done at the last spring tides. Mrs. Connolly reports that she has found the following shells at Glencairn: Tapes corrugatus living in the sand. These had smooth shells and were brightly coloured when found, though they faded a little, afterwards. Donax burnupi rarely found alive, Pssammobia costulata, Lutraria in the earlier stages, Musculus cuneatus, Kellya rotunda, Mactra adansoni and Philine aperta.

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