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 X THE CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA X
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CIRCULAR NO. 58 OCTOBER, 1964. PAGE 1.

Edited by Leila Kerr.

MEETING:

The next meeting of the Society will be held in the Lecture Hall of the S.A. Museum on Tuesday, 20th October at 8.15 p.m. Mr. Percy Elston, our Vice-President, will give a talk on the shells of Mauritius and others, illustrated with coloured slides. The shells for display will be Turban and Top shells, (Turbinidae and Trochidae, Barnard pages 112 - 117) both S.A. and Foreign. Please bring your shells for exchange.

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THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

This will take place in November, at the request of our Student Members, who are busy with revision.

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MEETING AT THE S.A. MUSEUM, 22.9.1964.

Mr. Elston in the Chair spoke shortly about and paid tribute to the late Dr. Barnard whose sudden death that morning had been such a shock to us all. Those present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Apologies were received from Miss Kempthorne, Mrs. Lowry, Mrs. Prior, Mr. Fincham and Mr. Ivy.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

Mrs. A. Gillmer, 16 Pompei's Pillar Rd., Rosemount, East London, was elected as a member of the Society.

The following were proposed as new members:-

Name	Proposed by:-	Seconded by:-
1. Mrs. M. Adam	H. Jefferies	L. Kerr
2. Master S. Cairns	B. Wakeham	"
3. Mr. P. de Broglis	M. Pinkham	P. Elston
4. Mr. H. Fincham	G. Ivy	L. Kerr
5. Master B. Naus	S. Horne	P. Elston
6. Mr. P. Pickford	L. Kerr	P. Pickstone
7. Mrs. M. Smith	A. Gillmer	L. Kerr
8. Miss V. Spencer	L. Kerr	P. Pickstone
9. Miss B. v.d. Velde	M. Bustin	L. Kerr
10. Mrs. C. v.d. Velde	"	"

The Chairman reported that he had written to the Natal Museum and that they had agreed to give the Society first choice in the matter of spare copies of books and monographs.

Mrs. Pinkham brought up the matter of the length of time required to obtain a permit to shell in Natal waters. Mr. Elston replied that it was advisable to apply several months in advance. Write to the Secretary Natal Parks, Gardens and Fish Preservation Dept., Pietermaritzburg.

Before

Before and during the tea interval, members viewed and discussed the rare and beautiful shells on display.

Mrs. Helen Duffett then gave an interesting and amusing account of her trip to Europe via the East Coast, showing her beautiful and unusual colour slides.

This meeting was exceptionally well attended and the many new members most gratifying.

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COUNCIL.

At a recent Council meeting, Mr. Percy Elston was elected as Vice-President of the Society in place of Dr Talbot. This will be for the period ending at the A.G.M. 1965.

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REPRINT AVAILABLE.

A reprint of a portion of the Annals of the Natal Museum Vol.16 pages 9-29 of June 1964 giving the work of the S.S. Pieter Faure in Natal waters, with special reference to the Crustacea and Mollusca; with descriptions of new species of Mollusca from Natal by the late Dr. K.H. Barnard can be obtained from Natal Museum, Loop St. Pietermaritzburg for 45 cents, post free, 20 black and white illustrations.

There is one copy available in the Society library No. 147, kindly presented by Mr. P. Elston.

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DR. KEPPEL HARCOURT BARNARD BY JOHN GRINDLEY.

Dr. K.H. Barnard died suddenly at his home in Cape Town on September 22nd, 1964. With his death the Society has lost one of its greatest and yet kindest and most modest members.

Dr. Barnard was born in London on March 31, 1887, educated at a private school in England and also at the Realgymnasium, Mannheim, Germany, in order to learn German to help him with his studies. He went to Christ's College, Cambridge in 1905 where he took the Natural Science Tripos in Botany, Geology and Zoology, and obtained his B.A. three years later. He also attended the new, and then rather unusual courses, on Anthropology, Ethnology and Geography. After that he proceeded to study law, and was called to the Bar (Middle Temple) in 1911. He obtained his M.A. (Cantab) in absentia in 1913. Science interested him more than law however and he returned to zoology. He worked for 53 years at the South African Museum in Cape Town from 1911 up to the time of his death. He obtained the degree of D.Sc. from the University of Cape Town in 1924 for his work on the distribution of Crustacea, and in 1956 the University of Stellenbosch conferred on him the degree of D.Sc. Honoris Causa.

Prior to taking up his appointment at the South African Museum in 1911 he was Honorary Naturalist at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Plymouth.

At the South African Museum he took charge of the Marine collections, including the large collection amassed by the Cape Government trawler s.s. Pieter Faure.

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Based largely on a study of these collections in the South African Museum he published many important works including monographs on South African marine fishes (1925-27) and South African crabs and prawns (1950). He made studies of the collections of Amphipoda and other crustacea from many expeditions including the Discovery expedition. He also published reports for the British Museum, the Indian Museum, Transvaal Museum, Natal Museum and Durban Museum. His work has added greatly to the knowledge of the fauna of the seas around South Africa and further afield.

Dr. Barnard published three popular books on Fishes (1947) Shells (1951) and Shore Life (1954).

In 1921 he was appointed Assistant Director of the South African Museum. He was acting director from 1924 to 1925 and again from 1942 during the war years until 1946. In 1946 he was appointed director, in which capacity he served until his retirement in 1956.

Dr. Barnard was a prominent and active member of the Mountain Club of South Africa and served as Honorary Secretary from 1918 until 1945. In 1924 he was awarded the club's gold badge. His interest in mountaineering, and the discovery of a primitive crustacean on Table Mountain led to an intensive study of the mountain fauna of the South-west Cape mountain ranges. Evidence of a relict fauna were investigated and studied in relation to the geology and topography.

He made extensive collecting expeditions to the coast of Portuguese East Africa in 1912, the Natal coast in 1913 and many inland areas.

He published many important papers on the fauna of the mountains and rivers of South Africa based largely on his own collections.

Dr. Barnard was accorded many honours during his lifetime, including being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa in 1920 and a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London in 1921. He received a number of medals and grants.

Dr. Barnard is best known for his work on Crustacea and Fishes and his great studies on Mollusca were made in his early life. Some short articles referring to Mollusca were published in his early years. In 1913 he published a note on the feeding track of Oxysteles impervia Menke (J. Conch. 14: 80) and in 1918 he reported on some Namaqualand shells (Trans. roy. Soc. S. Afr. 6: vii). In 1927 he published a report on South African nudibranch Mollusca (Ann. S. Afr. Mus. 25: 171-215) and during the next seven years five short papers in the Annals of the S.A. Museum and the Journal of Conchology. It was not however until after the publication of his Beginners' Guide to South African Shells in 1951 that he really concentrated his studies on Mollusca. Dr. Barnard joked about biologists working on microscopic structures in their early life, changing over to big things like sea shells which are easier to see in their old age. His eye-sight however was excellent and he would dissect out the radula of the tiniest mollusc with the most primitive of instruments.

During the last ten years of his life Dr. Barnard published twenty-six papers and articles on Mollusca. During this period he was working as honorary curator of mollusca at the South African Museum, aided by a Senior Eversary from the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. His main works were the five Contributions to the knowledge of the South African

Marine Mollusca published in the Annals of the South African Museum between 1958 and 1964. Other mollusc papers also appeared in the Annals and in the Journal of Conchology, Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London, Annals of the Natal Museum, Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa, Investigational Reports of the Division of Sea Fisheries and the Circulars of the Conchological Society of Southern Africa.

Dr. Barnard was interested in the Conchological Society from its inception in 1958, and he was elected an Honorary Member at the inaugural meeting. He served as President of the Society from 1962 to 1963. He was always willing to help members with the identification of shells despite his many other duties. His passing has left a sad gap and is deeply mourned by the members of the Society. We extend our sympathy to his widow and children, Mrs. Rosemary Frehse and Mr. James Barnard.

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GENERAL NOTES.

Cymatium Pileare, Linn. in South Africa by D.H. Kennelly.

Literature available to the writer records this species as taken alive at Delagoa Bay, and that it also occurs at Isipingo (Natal).

In 1960, Mr. Percy Elston, who was then living in Durban, gave the writer a specimen of pileare which had been taken alive at Salisbury Island, Port Natal. This shell is now in the collection at the East London Museum.

Macnae & Kalk (1958) list C. pileare as occurring at Inhaca Island, Portuguese East Africa.

J.F. Spry (Sea Shells of Dar-es-Salaam) lists C. acquitile, Reeve, 1844, from three localities in Tanganyika, and states the species is uncommon.

According to L. Reeve, Conch. Icon. Monograph of the Family Triton, his description of acquitilis is quite different to Spry's description, and the latter seems to have pileare in Tanganyika, as his shell fits that described by Reeve as pileare.

This note has been written for the benefit of one or two of our Members, who are lucky enough to obtain shells from the African coast.

It will be interesting to learn if any further specimens have been obtained, and the locality

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Three days Shelling on the Natal South Coast by Hazel Jefferies.

On the afternoon of the 19th August my daughter, her husband and I set off in my matchbox of a Morris Mini Minor to shell and visit friends on the South Coast. We stayed the first night at Mount Frere, where we picked up a "Daily Dispatch", to find the write up on Mr. Kennelly and his book "Marine Shells of Southern Africa", there was great excitement!

Thursday we took the Bizanan road to Port Edward, which is at the moment very bad indeed. We lunched at Manaba Beach, where we visited our good friends Les and Rene Cock. We spent the whole afternoon seeing, exchanging and talking shells, and

made

made arrangements to meet on Saturday and Sunday. We went on to Hibberdene, and stayed at the Carousel Holiday Motel which we made our headquarters. Mrs. Vera Kauffman runs the Motel, and is also a shell collector and proud possessor of a perfect Pleurotomaria africana; her son Rex is a member of the Society, and a very keen skindiver. Unfortunately he is unable to do anything in diving just now, owing to having been accidentally shot in the leg. We were very comfortable at the Motel, and much too well fed.

On Friday we visited ex Kenya friends at Mzumba. We shelled there, but found very little, a few small Thais panama, and some halves of Tivela. I would very much like to get whole.

Saturday my young people visited a nearby sugar farm, which they found very interesting. Les and Rene Cook and I went shelling at Park Rynie where I found a small live Conus lividus, and some large Thais panama also Bucca pusilla. In the evening two car loads of us went to Margate to a very good cinema.

Sunday we all went to Park Rynie again, and were met there by Mr. Edward Dee, his son Tony and three young friends from Durban. They could not skindive as the sea was too rough, so we combed the rocks. I found a lovely Cypraea arabica immanis, could not believe my own eyes, it is very dark, and measures 9 X 5 cms. I was given four beauties from Hibberdene and Park Rynie, and two from Durban Bay. I understand the Durban Bay ones are always much smaller than the South Coast ones. Everyone was very kind, and kept putting their finds into my bag. I ended up with a live Pinna I do not recognise, Cypraea felina, caputserpentis, and annulus, Conus minimus, and ceylanensis, Pyrene turturina, Peristernia leucothoea, Cymatium durbanensis, Urosalpinx heptagonalis, Drupa recina, granulata and two others, Cymatium durbanensis, and Mitra literata. I was given a lovely specimen of Cypraea arabica maculifera, a new one on me.

Sunday afternoon we watched a small plane, due to fly to Johannesburg, get bogged down on the runway in front of the Motel. As it taxied to turn and take off, it struck a soft patch, the wheels dug in over the axles, and it had to be dug out. We could not wait to see what happened after that, as we had to leave for home.

This time we took the Harding road, which is a little longer, but very much better than the Bizana road, quite a lot of it being tarred. We stayed the night at Kokstad, where it was bitterly cold; we felt it more because the weather on the South Coast had been very mild, and quite delightful.

Altogether this was a most satisfactory trip, no smelly shells this time!!! I had one mishap. In one of my suitcases I had packed a plastic bottle of Nomisol, which leaked over a cherry-red dressing gown, my, oh my!

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CYPRAEA Article 2 by P. Elston

HOW TO MOUNT A RADULA.

EQUIPMENT. Microscope (x100)
 Hand lens (x10)
 Glass slides (Can be home cut from thin glass)
 Cover glasses-circular, 1/2 inch diameter, 1/8 oz.
 Sodium Hydroxide (commercial caustic soda)
 Make up a solution of one part by weight in 20 parts of water.

Mounting

Mounting solution. Euparal, made by Messrs. Flatters & Garnett, 309 Oxford Street, Manchester, 13, England. (One of our members at the South African Museum will probably be able to tell where it can be purchased locally).
Test tubes.

Procedure. 1. Remove the animal from the shell. If you are going to sacrifice the shell, cut it with a hacksaw from end to end low down on the left side (as seen from the top).

If you want to keep the shell, use a thin wire hook, and remove as much of the animal as you can, taking care to break it as little as possible. If the animal has dried in the shell, soak the shell in water for a day before removing the animal.

2. Dissect the buccal bulb from the animal. For small cowries this can be omitted.
3. Put the buccal bulb, or the whole animal, in a test tube, add about half an inch of caustic soda solution, and bring it to the boil by holding the tube above the flame of a candle. Hold the tube in a piece of paper folded six inches long and half an inch wide, and looped round the top of the tube. Do not put the tube actually in the flame. Move gently to and fro while heating and do not point the tube over polished furniture or towards anyone - it sometimes spits.
4. Boil for about 30 seconds, then tip the contents of the tube a plain white saucer. Look for the radula with the hand lens. The radula is not easy to find, and you may have to examine every piece of the animal carefully. If you cannot find the radula, repeat the boiling procedure until you do.
5. Once you have found the radula, remove all material from it with two needles or by further boiling. Then put it in a clean test tube, add half an inch of water and boil for 20 seconds to remove the caustic soda.
6. Put the radula in a shallow dish, such as a watch glass, and pour in a little alcohol or methylated spirits. This will remove the water.
7. While the radula is still wet with the spirit, put it on a clean glass slide. Check with the microscope that the teeth are face up.
8. When the radula is dry, put on two drops of the mounting solution by means of a glass rod. Make sure all the radula is in the liquid. Put the glass cover over the radula, and press it gently down until the film of mounting solution is as thin as possible.
9. Examine under the microscope. If air bubbles are trapped in the radula they can be removed by heating the slide very slightly over the candle flame.
10. Put the slides away for two or three days until the mounting solution hardens. The radula is now ready for study.
11. Lastly do not despair if things go wrong. The technique needs practice.

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With acknowledgements to Lt. Col. R.J Griffiths Vol. 1. No 2 "The Cowry" April, 1961.

Note: A full description of the animal will be given in the next Circular.

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NOTES ON "TONNA VARIEGATA", LAMARCK By D.H Kennelly.

This is a shell well known to our Members, and examples are to be found in a fresh dead state - unbroken - on many of our beaches.

In Europe and the U.S.A. all species of Tonna are referred to as "Tun shells". In South Africa (Jeffreys Bay) they are called "Boxing glove" shells.

The usual ground colour of variegata is a light brown, with some of the encircling ridges more or less variegated with white patches.

Colouration varies to a certain extent, which is noticed when a number of specimens from widely separated localities are examined. but the light brown ground colour seems to be constant.

This applies to living specimens, as well as fresh dead shells.

Recently the East London Museum received a specimen found at Bonza Bay, which exhibits an unusual dark brown ground colour. This shell is quite undamaged - presumably fresh dead - and measures 70 X 55 m.m.

The writer would be glad if members would keep a look out for more specimens with this dark brown ground colour, and advise the East London Museum of their discoveries.

If possible please bring or send the shells for examination, or advise if the specimen was (a) taken alive, (b) a fresh dead shell, found in a rock pool on a reef, or (c) found on the beach.

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LETTER FROM MR. E. DEE OF DURBAN

"This year, in about 10 ft. of water, on soft coral, I collected three beautiful live specimens of Cypraea oweni sow. Last year at Salt Rock I found 4 C.moneta ethnographica Roch, 2 C.nucleus Linn at Munster and a wonderful specimen of C.arabica depressa Gray at Vetch's Pier last April.

As far

As far as conus are concerned, I have found conus canon-
icus Brug and conus arenatus Hwass both identified by Helen Boswell.
My son, while on a trip to Kosi Bay, Zululand, found what I believe
to be the "grand-daddy" of conus vexillum. It is a monster, and
the measurements are as follows:-

Length - 126 mm, width at base - 76 mm.

In the July circular, Mr. Kennelly refers to Atrina
vexillum as being rare. Several of our skin-divers, including
myself, have found this shell under rocks on Vetch's Pier, very
much alive in 10 - 20 ft. of water.

In reply to Mr. Haywood's notes on Cypraea helvola, at
Munster I found two specimens of C. helvola which are not argella
or meridionalis. I have a specimen of C. helvola mascarena col-
lected at Diego Suaris, Northern Madagascar, which is a long shell
with a broad aperture, light brown base with brown and white spots
on the dorsum. Length of shell - 23 mm, width - 14 mm.
Extremities, lilac.

The measurements of the Munster shells are as follows:-

1. Length - 29 mm, Width - 17 mm. Height of dorsum - 14 mm.
2. " - 26 mm, " - 15 mm " " " - 11 mm.

C. helvola argella which we find here on Vetch's Pier,
are shaped not unlike C. caputserpentis and I list the measurements
of both meridionalis which is ovate in shape, and that of the
largest argella for comparison.

C. helvola argella - Length - 25 mm. Width - 20 mm. Height of dorsum,
C. helvola meridionalis " - 27 mm. " - 18 " " /12mm 15mm
(All these measurements have been taken with a pair of calipers.)

In November I will be going to Mauritius for a six
weeks' stay, skindiving and collecting shells. My friends on
Mauritius have a 40 ft. sea-going motor boat, so I hope to do some
trawling and visit the outlying islands.

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Owing to the untimely death of Dr. Barnard, we have been
unable to check Mr. Dee's notes. Editor.

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CAPE NOTES by L. Kerr.

Our member, Mrs. Iris Cohen, of Fish Hoek, has had the
distinction of finding two new cowries at Jeffreys Bay. These
will be described and illustrated by C.M. Burgess in his new book
on Cypraea to be published shortly in America. One has been
named Cypraea cohense nomenindum after Iris and the other, Cypraea
gondwanalandensis. Congratulations!

Talking of cypraea, Joan Weakley reports the finding
of a perfect specimen of Cypraea fusciorubra on Muizenberg beach,
recently. This has much more colour than those found at Jeffreys
Bay.

While taking my usual walk along Muizenberg beach the
other day, I picked up one valve of a large mussel. To my surprise
and joy, I found a live "Chinaman's Hat" (Trechita capensis)
adhering to it. This was the first live specimen I had found

NOTICE

NOTICE is given by Mrs. C.M. Connolly that her offer is still open. Western Province shells will be given in exchange for donations to the reference collection cupboard until the end of June 1965. Within a month or so this collection will be housed at the S.A. Museum in a cupboard belonging to the Conchological Society. We hope to have suitable trays made for each family with a working card index. Cards 6" x 4" are needed for index.

Further help has come from Mrs. du Preez with R4.00, and Mrs. Ritter with R1.00. Both received shells for their donations. Mrs. Cock has sent three additions to our collection - Astraea andersoni (juvenile), Turbo splendidulus and Cheilea bicatricosa. Very many thanks.

Fish Hoek storm news. C.M. Connolly.

Quite a few residents suffered backaches collecting shells after the winter storms recently. Regardless of bleak weather and rough seas we were out with our buckets collecting shells washed up with piles of smelly redbait Fusus verruculatus, and plenty of small Tritonalia puncturata in such exciting colours, Argobuccinum argus - young shells but extremely lovely, lots of dead Nassa speciosa, Nassa kockiana, and quite a good variety of bivalves. My most exciting find was a Gibbula pintada - a beautiful shell with a very active animal. This shell measures 12mm x 14mm - my first - and the first live one taken. There are a few dead ones in the S A Museum. Though near to benzi they are larger with more convex sides. Another addition to our False Bay check list.

A cutting from a Durban paper 27/9/64. Mr. Richard Gerber found a live Conus geographus while skin-diving off Salisbury Island. (In the picture the shell measures 5½" but the paper does not give size. ø Very definitely a geographus.)

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CASSIS RUFA, LINN. By D.H. Kennelly

Within the last couple of weeks an immature specimen of the above was found on the reef at Gonubie Springs, some ten miles from East London. The shell is undamaged but is a little water stained, and measures 90 x 55 m.m.

As far as may be ascertained this appears to be the first record of C. rufa from the vicinity of East London.

The shell was found by one of the children attending a picnic, and is now in the collection of Miss Jackson, Berea, East London.

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