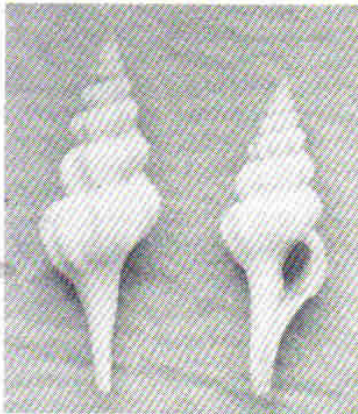


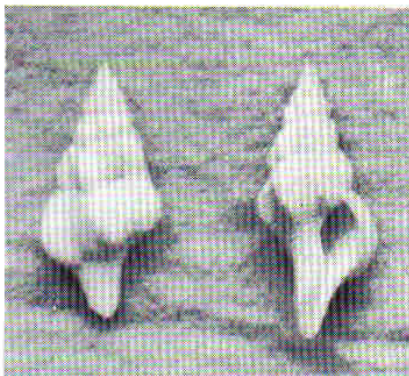


## DOLICHOLATRUS AND PSEUDOLATRUS SPECIES IN SOUTH AFRICAN WATERS

The Genus *Dolicholatrus* Bellardi, 1884 and *Pseudolatrus* Bellardi, 1884, belong to the Fasciolaridae and comprise a small group of shells distributed throughout tropical and sub-tropical seas. *Dolicholatrus* is characterised by a slender body and a small aperture, whereas *Pseudolatrus* has a relatively wide body with a medium aperture.



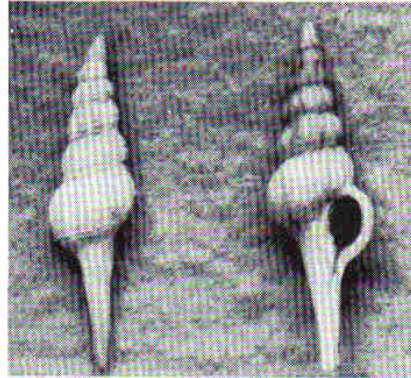
*Pseudolatrus* sp.  
Sizes: 69.4mm & 60.4mm (White in colour, from off Natal)



*Pseudolatrus* sp.  
Sizes: 33.6mm & 31.4mm (White in colour, from off Natal)

by  
Dawn Brink and Markus Lussi

To-date there are two species of *Dolicholatrus*, one recently named: *Dolicholatrus bozzetti* Lussi, 1993 trawled off Natal, and *Dolicholatrus bairstowi* (Sowerby, 1886) which occurs from Jeffrey's Bay to Natal south coast, at depths of 20 - 60 meters. Fresh shells of this species are uncommon although beached specimens can often be found.



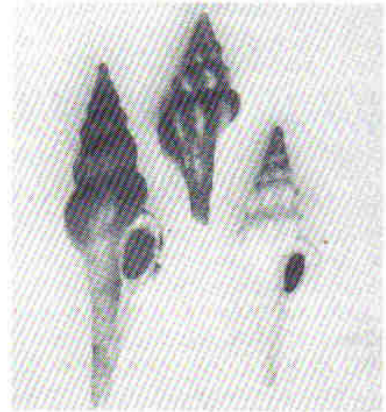
*Dolicholatrus bozzetti*  
(Lussi, 1993) Sizes: 45.5mm & 43.3mm (Whitish colour specimens from off Natal)



*Dolicholatrus bairstowi*  
(Sowerby, 1886) Size: 25.5mm (Dark brown in colour. Dived Algoa Bay)

Regarding *Pseudolatrus*, two are unnamed and have been trawled off the Natal coast, whilst another, *Pseudolatrus clausicaudatus* (Hinds, 1844) has been trawled from the Agulhas Bank to Natal at about 150 metres depth. This is an Indo-Pacific species and is the only one locally to have a thin brown periostracum. All other species mentioned above, have to-date only been found off South Africa, and are rare.

Both *Dolicholatrus* and *Pseudolatrus* possess an operculum, and are active predators.



*Pseudolatrus clausicaudatus*  
(Hinds, 1844)  
Sizes: 61.6mm & 38.0mm  
(Specimens from Agulhas Bank)  
46.5mm (Specimen from Natal)

References:  
Kilburn, R.N. & Rippey, E., 1982. Sea Shells of southern Africa. Kensley, B., 1973. Sea Shells of southern Africa - Gastropods.  
Photography:  
M. Lussi & R. Strzelecki.

## EDITORIAL

The Society headquarters being moved around is a new concept and should prove very interesting. As I believe that change is necessary, I am handing over editorship of *Strandloper* after this issue. I have enjoyed being editor very much but feel that I too need a change!

I leave you with two challenging thoughts, the first by Ben Jonson: *True happiness consists not in the multitude of friends, but in their worth and choice*; and the second one which my friend Barbara Fouché is always quoting to me for re-assurance as Editor: *Those who do nothing, make no mistakes!*

Olive Peel

## Personalia

### LUIGI BOZZETTI



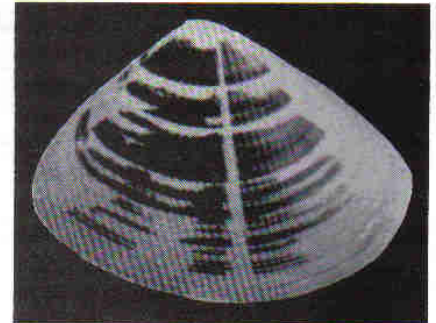
Luigi Bozzetti, member of the "Società Italiana di Malacologia", and other foreign associations, has been acknowledged as an expert of deep water sea shells of north-eastern Somalia. Since 1988 he has described several species from this area, especially belonging to Marginellidae, Muricidae and Cassidae. Of great satisfaction to him was the rediscovery of *Closia princeps* (Sowerby, 1901) in 1989. His works have been published in several journals, such as "La Conchiglia", "Apex" and "Bulletin of the Institute of Malacology of Tokyo". Many species have been named after him and by him, some originating from South Africa.

Born in Milan in 1948, he graduated in Chemistry and currently he works as a computer applications analyst in the scientific/technical field, for an international engineering company. Luigi lives in Milan with his wife Emma and their three daughters: Ilaria, Chiara and Elisa. His interests, besides sea shells and computers, are cookery and travel, particularly to tropical regions of Africa.

## FEATURE SHELL

by M. Lussi

### TIVELA LAMYI



*Tivela lamyi* Dautzenberg, 1929

*Tivela lamyi* belongs to the family Veneridae. There are altogether 8 species of *Tivela* recorded from South Africa. *T. lamyi* is one of the least known species which occurs off Natal. It is distinguished from other *Tivela* species mainly by its valves being asymmetrical and it is also one of the few *Tivela* species which locally inhabits relatively deep waters, approximately 20-40 metres.

*Tivela lamyi* was synonymized with *T. dunkeri* Römer, 1864, by Fisher-Piette et. al. (1942) and was considered to be the adult stage of the latter. The pallial sinus of *Tivela lamyi* is narrowly rounded apically whereas in *T. dunkeri* it is pointed as described by Barnard (1964).

Mature specimens of *T. lamyi* can measure up to 60mm and have also been recorded from Mozambique and Madagascar where they also occur intertidally.

A rather unique feature of *Tivela lamyi* is the chalky deposit on the surface of the valves, not unlike that found on *T. transversa* (Sowerby, 1897). The

deposit is soluble in dilute hydrochloric acid and is therefore not periostracum-like.

The specimen illustrated was dredged in approximately 20 metres off Durban's Bluff and is in the collection of the author.

Reference and literature cited:  
Barnard, K.H., 1964. Contributions to the knowledge of South African Marine Mollusca. Part 5. Lamellibranchiata. *Ann. S.Afr. Mus.* 47: 361-593;  
Fischer-Piette, E & Fischer, P.H., 1942. Revision des espèces vivantes de *Tivela* et *Eutivela* du Museum national d'histoire Naturelle de Paris. *J. Conchyliol.* 85 (1): 5-49;  
Kilburn, R.N. 1974. Taxonomic notes on South African marine Mollusca (4): Bivalvia, with descriptions of new species of Lucinidae. *Ann. Natal Mus.* 22(1): 335-348.

Photographs: R.N. Kilburn (large one), M. Lussi (small one)



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## ABSTRACT FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1992/93

### CHANGE OF NAME

*Columbella* (or *Anachis*) *burnupi* E.A. Smith, 1901 is now *Zafrona trifilosa* (E.A. Smith, 1882)

*Eudolium crosseanum* is now *E. bairdii* Verrill and Smith, 1881

*Harpa ventricosa* Lamarck, 1816 is now *Harpa cabriti* Fischer, 1860

**NEW GENERA** described by R.N. Kilburn, 1992:

*Gingicithara*; *Papillocithara*;  
*Citharomangelia*. (Family - Turridae)

**NEW GENERA** described by D.G. Herbert, 1992:

*Inkaba* and *Pseudominolia*. (Family - Trochidae)

### NEW SPECIES

The following shells have recently been named:

*Colubraria rolli* M. Parth, 1992 spec. nov.

*Bolma massieri* Bozzetti, 1992 (named in honour of Werner Massier). Holotype in Natal Museum.

*Marginella joanmassierae* Bozzetti, 1992 (named in honour of Joan Massier). Holotype in Natal Museum.

*Marginella peelae* Bozzetti, 1993 (named in honour of Olive Peel). Holotype in Natal Museum.

*Marginella werneri* Bozzetti, 1993 (named in honour of Werner Massier).

Mr Bozzetti also named the following

three marginella in 1992 and Werner Massier has placed the holotypes in the Natal Museum:

*Marginella confortinii*; *M. lineofasciata*; *M. pseudornata*.

*Mipus brinkae* Kosuge, 1992 (named in honour of Dawn Brink).

*Cancilla meyeriana* Salisbury, 1992 (named in honour of Dawn and Michael Meyer).

*Gingicithara maraist* Kilburn, 1992 (named in honour of Johan Marais).

**NEW SPECIES** described by R.N. Kilburn, 1992.

*Euclithara macteola*; *E. ubuhle*  
*E. abakcheutos*; *E. marerosa*  
*Papillocithara hebes*; *P. semiplicata*  
*Leiocithara costellarioides*  
*L. pellucidula*; *L. zamula*  
*L. porcellanea*.

**NEW SPECIES** described by D.G. Herbert, 1992:

*Ethalia bysma*; *E. electra*  
*E. gilchristae*; *Inkaba tonga*

**NEW SPECIES** from overseas:

*Persicula brinkae* Bozzetti, 1993, (named in honour of our member Dawn Brink). This shell was trawled off Somalia.

*Comitas peelae* Bozzetti, 1993, spec. nov. from the Philippines (named in honour of Olive Peel). Holotype in Inst. of Malacology, Tokyo.

## A.G.M. & CONFERENCE 1 May 1993

30 members and visitors attended, and were treated to interesting talks by Lizeke van den Berg, Professor Pat Berjak, Darroll Smith and Dr R.N. Kilburn.

At the A.G.M. the Society's affairs were handed over to the Pretoria Group as it was felt that each group should share the responsibilities of running the Society, in turn. The following committee was elected:


**President:** Dr R.N. Kilburn  
**Vice-President:** Mrs Lizeke van den Berg  
**Director:** Dr Mike Cortie  
**Secretary:** Mr Laurie Smith  
**Treasurer:** Mr J. Kruger

The constitution was handed over to Pretoria for finalising and each group Secretary would receive a copy of the final version. Any member wanting a copy should contact the Secretary, sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The DIRECTOR'S AWARD for the most interesting display at the A.G.M. was won by Lizeke van den Berg.

### DENUDING THE COAST

(1) Two men were arrested in Port Elizabeth and charged with: Contravening Reg. 45(1) of the Sea Fisheries Act: - by having: 192 ollycrook, in excess of the daily allowable limit of five per person; 770 white mussels (daily limit per person is 50); 1 048 limpets (the daily limit is 15); 10 126 periwinkles (the daily limit is 50). (2) During a three-week period in December/January 50 000 sand mussels were found dead on the beaches around Port Elizabeth every day.



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## The Sea Shell Museum

When next you visit Natal, pop in to see this new museum, which members Dawn and Michael Meyer hope to open by the 1st December 1993. It is housed at Shelly Beach just before Margate at 995 Marine Drive. You will be able to buy gifts of shells and shellwork as well as collector's items. If you require a special shell, local or overseas, phone them at 03931-75723.

# PTERODPODS

(CAVOLINIIDAE)

compiled by Olive Peel

## INTRODUCTION

The term "Pteropods" includes both shelled (Thecosomata) and non-shelled (Gymnosomata) forms. Only the shelled ones, the family Cavoliniidae are described here. Not discussed are: Limacinidae, Peraclididae, Cymbuliidae and Desmopteridae. These latter families are seldom encountered, hence the fact that they are not discussed here.

There are about 17 genera throughout tropical waters. 20 species of the fascinating "glass shells", "sea butterflies" or "flying snails" live in South African waters. Some species can sometimes be found on the high water line among the debris on the Natal beaches.

Pteropods differ in several anatomical features from typical marine snails. They are hermaphroditic, usually starting as males and then becoming females. They have a simple radula. Some pteropods in adult form are shell-less, although the embryo does have a coiled, limy shell and operculum.

The foot has a pair of winglike flaps, hence the name *ptero*-wing, *poda*-foot, that enables the mollusc to swim. At night they move nearer to the surface to feed on microscopic animals. Whilst the shelled pteropods are for the most part filter feeders, the shell-less ones are active predators, feeding, strangely enough, largely on the shelled pteropods!

## GLOSSARY FOR BEGINNERS

**keel:** prominent, angular ridge

**ventral:** the lower or front surface

**dorsal:** the upper or back surface

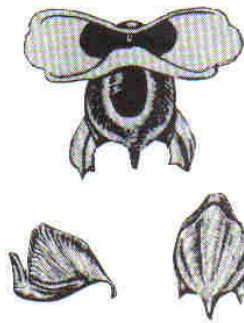
**hermaphrodite:** each individual with both male and female reproductive organs

**lateral:** side

**striations:** fine lines or grooves

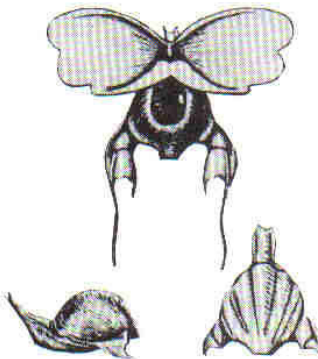
**transverse:** crossing from side to side

1. *Cavolinia gibbosa*  
(d'Orbigny, 1836)



Dorsal lip thinly margined. Ventral lip without lateral points, surface keeled, cf. *C. tridentata*. 10mm.

2. *Cavolinia longirostris*  
(Blainville, 1821)



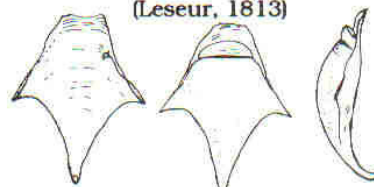
Dorsal lip thinly margined. Ventral lip has strong, lateral projections. 7mm. White.

3. *Cavolinia tridentata*  
(Forsskål, 1836)



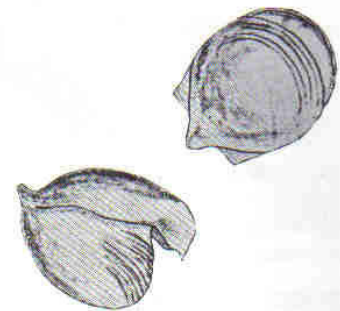
Dorsal lip thinly margined. Ventral lip without lateral points. Ventral surface not keeled. 15mm. Tan coloured.

4. *Cavolinia inflexa*  
(Leseur, 1813)



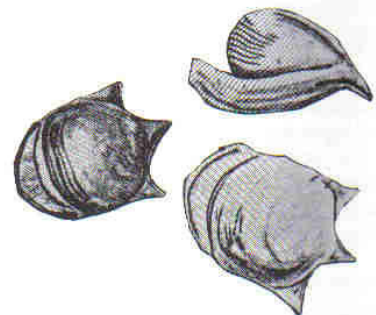
Slim with lip straight forward. 5mm.

5. *Cavolinia globulosa*  
(Gray, 1850)



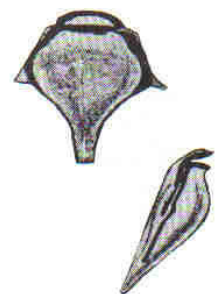
Dorsal lip rounded and non-protruding. Posterior end with 3 short, blunt spines, the central one upturned. 5mm. White.

6. *Cavolinia uncinata*  
(Rang, 1829)



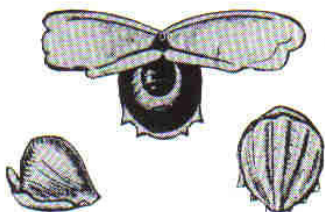
Smaller than *C. tridentata*, dorsal lip rounded. Ventral side swollen. 10mm. White or tan coloured.

7. *Diacra trispinosa*  
(Blainville, 1821)



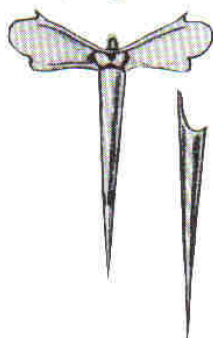
Shell rather compressed; posterior end forms a long tail spine (usually discarded in adults) and a sharp spine on either side. 12mm. Colourless; lips of aperture and edge of shell orange-brown.

**8. *Diacra quadridentata***  
(Blainville, 1821)



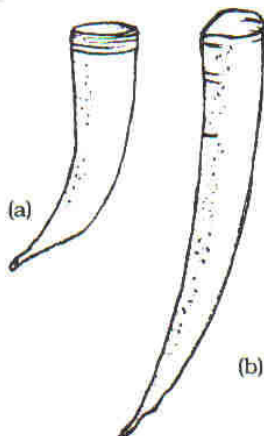
Tiny, with thick brown aperture, lips and four weak angles at the posterior end. Resembles *C. globulosa*. 3mm.

**9. *Creseis acicula***  
(Rang, 1828)



Shell needle-like, almost straight, protoconch swollen with 1-2 rings behind it. 3mm.

**10a. *Creseis virgula conica***  
(Rang, 1828)

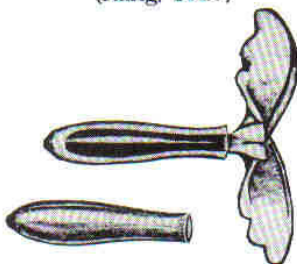


Protoconch lacks bordering rings. Smaller and stubbier than *C. acicula*, less finely tapered, with narrow end curving to one side. 4mm.

**10b. *Creseis virgula virgula***  
(Rang, 1828)

7mm.

**11. *Cuvierina columnella***  
(Rang, 1827)



Cylindrical, but somewhat variably shaped and slightly constricted behind aperture; surface smooth. Resembles a fat cigar. The only species recognised in the genus. 10mm.

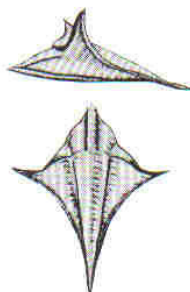
**12. *Clio lanceolata***  
(Lesueur, 1813)

Shell angular, colourless, no lateral spines. This is now thought to be a form of *C. pyramidata*.

**13. *Clio andraea***  
(Boas, 1886)

A very rare species with only two records both in the Atlantic, one of which was off the W. Cape.

**14. *Clio pyramidata***  
(Linné, 1767)

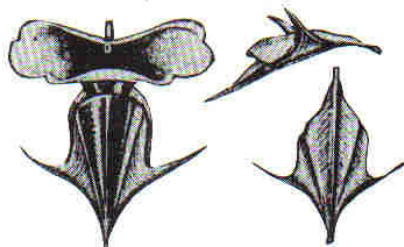


Without lateral spines; considerable variation in form. Dorsal ribs undivided. 16-21mm.

**15. *Clio australis***  
(d'Orbigny, 1836)

A form of *C. pyramidata*.

**16. *Clio cuspidata***  
(Bosc, 1802)



No lateral keels on posterior portion. Lateral spines very long. Dorsal ribs undivided. 18mm.

**17. *Clio capensis***  
(Rang, 1828)

This species was recorded by Tomlin, 1923, from the Agulhas Bank, but there has been no further comment.

**18. *Clio chaptalii***  
(Gray, 1850)

Lateral ribs are sharp and never flattened. Wavy transverse striations on the ventral and dorsal sides. 3 dorsal ribs. Width of aperture three-quarters length of shell. Rare.

**19. *Styliola subula***  
(Quoy and Gaimard, 1827)



Similar to *Creseis*, but with a groove on the dorsal side.

**20. *Hyalocylis striata***  
(Rang, 1828)



Similar to *Creseis*, but with transverse striae.

References:

1. R. Tucker Abbott. Seashells of North America, Illustrations Numbers 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 11, 14, 16, by George F. Sandström.
2. Richard Kilburn and Elizabeth Rippey. Sea shells of southern Africa by Macmillan, 1982.
3. Lalli, C.M. and Gilmer, W., 1989. Pelagic snails. Stanford Univ. Press.

Acknowledgment

My thanks to Dai Herbert for his invaluable help.

# MARINE MOLLUSCS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

by A.C. van Bruggen

The sea offers a variety of environments, such as brackish estuaries, tidal zone, continental shelf, deep-sea and so on. Various factors combine to make up this variety of environments: temperature, depth, salinity, currents, dissolved chemicals, availability of food, etc. Every combination of circumstances has its molluscan inhabitants, of course dependent on these circumstances which all can be limiting factors. For example, it is quite clear that there can be no inhabitants in an environment which is ideal in all requirements, but which lacks an adequate food supply.

The various environments call for adaptations which enable the species to survive and flourish; species not adapted to their environment have either to adapt themselves or disappear.

The littoral environment of the tidal zone calls for special adaptations. Disadvantages are turbulent, sometimes murky water and the tides (exposure to drought and heat as opposed to periods of submersion); an obvious advantage is that the water contains plenty of dissolved oxygen because of the wave action. Adaptations are thick and strong shells, few adornments, presence of an operculum, tolerance of drought and rapid changes of temperature, strong foot to counteract wave action, byssus and so on. Typical examples are *Littorina* and patelliform molluscs (i.e. univalves with limpet-like shells); the limpet shape is a typical adaptation which is also

found in fresh water where there is a strong current such as in mountain streams. It is obvious that in this case an operculum would be superfluous. Many limpet-like shells strongly resemble each other, although the soft anatomy shows them to belong to widely separated groups. This phenomenon, resulting in superficial similarity, occurs throughout the animal and plant kingdoms. The classical examples are of course fish and whales; they look alike, but belong to entirely different groups of vertebrates.

The coral reef is an utterly different environment. Although corals occur throughout the world's seas (even in arctic and antarctic surroundings), reef-building corals have their own special requirements, which consist of a high temperature (about 75°F), shallow water (20 fathoms deep), clear and quiet water (no river mouths in the neighbourhood) and a high salinity. Coral reefs consist of the skeletons of both animal (reef-building corals) and plant species (calcareous algae). This combination of requirements means that suitable sites for coral reefs are only found on the east coast of the world's great continents, for example the Great Barrier Reef (east coast of Australia), African reefs (East Africa as far as Inhaca Island and northern Zululand), American reefs (Bermuda's West Indian Islands, Brazil). The western coasts of the continents are usually exposed to cold currents (e.g. Benguela current) and turbulent waters.

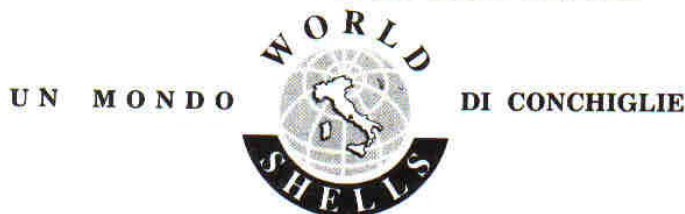
On the coral reef conditions of life for molluscs are optimal, particularly because of the availability of liberal quantities of calcium. All this has resulted in a wealth of species, usually with massive shells, growing to large sizes and full of adornments and striking colour patterns, the number of species directly dependent on the coral is, however, limited; they mostly consist of coral feeders. One of the interesting features of the molluscan fauna of the coral reef is the occurrence of luxury structures, i.e. structures that are not of direct importance to survival in the struggle for life: spines, ridges, cords, colour patterns. These luxury structures only occur in environments like coral reefs and tropical rain forests, where there is an abundance of food, shelter and other relevant factors.

The deep sea environment is in many respects diametrically opposed to that of the coral reef. The water is cold and stagnant, temperatures are very low. There is perpetual darkness and little food is available. Apart from that, there is a terrific water pressure, which was thought to preclude the existence of life in the depths. It appears, however, that the tissues of abyssal animals contain water under the same pressure as that outside the body, so that life can go on unhampered by this factor.

The deep sea environment is reckoned to begin at a depth of 200 fathoms; perpetual darkness makes plant life impossible here. Consequently there is no scope for plant feeders. The only source of food is the rain of corpses from above; apart from the animals that prey upon the others, all have to subsist on this source of food. This explains the large number of filter feeding organisms. A combination of factors makes it difficult to extract the calcium (lime) from the seawater which has resulted in thin shells for many deep sea species. There are few colours in this dark world, most shells are whitish. Colour here is usually black and red, as for instance in many cephalopods. The existence of giant forms in the deep sea is thought to be caused by low temperatures delaying maturity so that growth continues for a much longer period; on the coral reef large size can of course be explained by the abundance of favourable factors.

The deep sea is thus a poor environment which is reflected in the following statistics (after Jaeckel):

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Gastropoda, total of **170** families,  
in deep sea **6** (about 3%)

Bivalvia, total of **73** families,  
in deep sea **4** (5 1/2%)

Cephalopoda, total of **40** families,  
in deep sea **14** (45%).

This clearly shows that proportionally the cephalopods are the most successful group of molluscs in the deep sea. The number of species is also revealing:

Polyplacophora **32**  
(3% of all known species)

Scaphopoda **150**  
(42% of all known species)

Bivalvia **500-600**

Gastropoda **1 200**  
(biggest but relatively smallest group)

Cephalopoda **150**.

This makes for a total of 2032 species or about 1 1/2% of all known species if one accepts the estimate of 128 000 Recent species.

(Ack: Conchological Society of Southern Africa: Circular No. 49).

## BOOK REVIEWS

### European Seashells Vol 1

(Polyplacophora, Caudofoveata, Solenogastrea, Gastropoda) by Guido T. Poppe and Yoshihiro Goto (approx. US\$65.00 and postage, obtainable from Christa Hemmen, Grillparzerstr, 22, D-6200 Wiesbaden, Germany)

Beautifully presented in gloss, this first volume has 40 colour plates and caters not only for the beginner shell collector, but for the more scientific and advanced student as well.

A great amount of thought and research has gone into this work. The book is a comfortable size to handle and the name of all shells illustrated appear opposite the colour plates for easy reference. The shells are described in detail, synonyms are given, as are dimensions, range and variations.

Indeed a treasure for any collector of world-wide shells. Visually it is pleasant to browse through.

### Volutes

by Guido T. Poppe and Yoshihiro Goto (US\$100 and postage obtainable from Mostra Mondiale Malacologia, Via Adriatica Nord, 240, 63012 Cupra Marittima (AP-Italy). Fax 39-735-777232.

Approximately 380 pages with 107 colour plates, many black and white photographs

as well as 18th and 19th century engravings. Size 21-29cm. Hardcover. Gloss.

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## STRANDLOPER EXCHANGES

All Strandloper exchanges and correspondence to: The Editor, Dr Mike Cortie, 28 Francois Ave, Bordeaux, Randburg, 2194, S. Africa.

### IN MEMORIAM

#### Jack Scheepers

Jack joined the society in 1967 and was a life member. He was for many years the Chairman of the Durban group. His favourite families were *Conus*, *Cypraea*, *Strombus* and trawled shells.

#### Henk Slingerland

Henk was an active member of the Pretoria group having served on the committee for four years.

Our sympathies are extended to their families and friends.

#### Hanna Pienaar

Dr Hanna Pienaar died this month at her home in Bethulie in the Orange Free State, aged 82 years of age. She was certainly one of the doyens of conchology in South Africa having started collecting with the late Helene Boswell. She was a much loved member of the Bloemfontein group and will be sadly missed by her friends and family. Although I never met her I shall miss her cheery telephone calls. I shall also miss her exchange parcels of biltong and "Dadelbolletjies" (date balls)! Before she retired she was the doctor for the Railway.

Sweet dreams dear friend.

Olive Peel

### EXOTIC FINDS

The Port Elizabeth group's members certainly come up with some mind-boggling finds:

*Phenacovolva brevitrostris*;  
*Phenacovolva beckeri*;  
*Conus textile* - live;  
*Pseudoliva ancilla*;  
*Ratifusus alfredensis*;  
*Limaria rotundata*;  
*Coralliophila rosacea* - live;  
*Calyptrea barnardi*; *Lippistes cornu*; *Pododesmus squama*; *Prosimnia semper*; *Tomopleura fultoni*

## NEW MEMBERS

The Executive Council would like to welcome all new members to the Society. If you have any conchological queries please contact the secretary.

### Did you know...

Ian Fleming was a keen shell collector and wrote several articles on Caribbean seashells before he became famous as the creator of James Bond. The heroine of Dr. No searched the shore of a Caribbean island for a certain kind of shell. It was a species closely related to the Comb Venus (*Hysteroconcha lupanaria*) that she was after. (Barbara Fouché)

### EXCHANGES

The following would like to exchange with other collectors:

Steve Setzer, 4300 Cinnabar Drive, Prescott Valley, Arizona, 86314, USA. (Land snails - will also buy for cash)

Dr Dario Ferreri, via F.Sco.Trinchera 18, 73100 Lecce, Italy (Cones, Cowries, landsnails).

Jens Hemmen, Grillparzstr. 22, D-6200 Wiesbaden, Germany would like land and freshwater shells.

Antonion Tarruella Ruestes C./Grassot, 26-1<sup>o</sup>-2a, 08025 Barcelona, Spain. Sea, land and freshwater shells.

### WANTED

Has anyone "Sea Shells of the World" by Eisenberg to sell? Contact J. Cunliff, P O Box 1865, Port Shepstone, 4240, South Africa.

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#### SCIENTIFIC CONSULTANTS

Drs. R.N. Kilburn and D.G. Herbert

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