



L. *Tellina (Eurytellina) alfredensis* Bartsch 1915.

R: *Tellina madagascariensis* Gmelin 1791.

TWO TROUBLESOME TELLINAS

For many years the bright pink *Tellina* found along our shores in small numbers after storms was wrongly identified, first as *Tellina rosea* and later as *T. madagascariensis* Gmelin. In 1969, Dr K.J. Boss published a paper on South African Tellinidae in the bulletin of the Museum of Comparative Zoology (Vol. 138, No. 4). He reclassified a large number of species, indicating the correct subgenera where applicable, and he pointed out that the true *Tellina madagascariensis* is restricted to Luanda, Angola, and that the species we know is really *T. alfredensis* Bartsch 1915. This is obviously another instance where incorrect locality data has caused confusion for the best part of two centuries.

Our photographs show these two species which are very similar. In

colour they are identical, being bright pink inside and with the external surface colour somewhat overlaid with a white glaze which might be the effect of fine concentric growth lines causing layers of shell material to overlap. In size the two species are also similar (45mm x 75mm; 50mm x 80mm). But you can see that *T. madagascariensis* is more convex, while *T. alfredensis* has a more angular and more pointed posterior (lower) end which is also turned more to the right, and has a more deeply cut excutcheon, i.e. the hollow groove behind the hinge.

Betty Giles has supplied the extract from Dr Boss' paper; Clarice Connolly lent the specimens of *Tellina madagascariensis* and *T. alfredensis*; and Wessel Dreyer took the pictures.

A short and probably incomplete list of *Tellina* species follows:—

Tellina (Eurytellina) alfredensis Bartsch 1915 (not *madagascariensis* "Gmelin" Barnard 1964).

Tellina (Homalina) trilatera Gmelin 1791 syn: *triangularis* Röding 1798.

Tellina (Moerella) gilchristi Sowerby 1904 syn: *becki* Turton 1932

vidalensis Bartsch 1915 (non Sowerby)

vidalensis Jaeckel 1931 (non Sowerby)

Tellina (Moerella) vidalensis Sowerby 1904.

Tellina (Moerella) analogica Sowerby 1904.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Tellina (*Angulus*) *canonica* Salisbury 1934.

Tellina (*Pharaonella*) *perna* Spengler 1798 syn: *venusta* Deshayes 1854.

Tellina (*Tellinella*) *rastellum* Hanley 1844.

Tellina (*Cadula*) *semen* Hanley 1844 syn: *europisthus* Barnard 1964.

Tellina (*Tellinides*) *opalina* Gmelin 1791 incorrectly referred to as *Tellina* (*Angulus*) *immaculata* Philippi by Barnard in 1964.

Tellina (*Tellinella*) *staurella* Lamarck 1818 syn: *acropsithus* Barnard 1964

Tellina (*Arcopagia*) *ponsonbyi* Sowerby 1889 syn: *kraussi* Turton 1932.

Tellina (*Quidnipagus*) *palatam* Iredale 1929 syn: *rugosa* Born 1778 (name preoccupied).

Names incorrectly placed in the *Tellinidae*:

Macoma (*Scissulina*) *dispar* (Conrad) 1837

syn: *Tellina dispar* Conrad 1837
Tellina fabula var. *major* Krauss 1848

Tellina fabula (non Gmelin) Turton 1932.

Heterodonax ludwigii (Krauss) 1848
syn: *Tellina ludwigii* Krauss 1848

Tellina queketti Sowerby 1897
Tellina queketti var. *radiata* Sowerby.

SHELL SHOW IN PRETORIA

Due to space restrictions this report had to be held over and we regret not being able to publish the names of the many prizewinners.

The shell show held by the Pretoria Group at Barclay Square from 3rd to 5th May 1979 was a resounding success. Many of the visitors returned with friends and families for another look at the 4 000 shells making up some 300 separate exhibits. A spectacular display by any standards. As it was the Society's twenty-first anniversary, there were several exhibits on the theme of 21.



L: *Tellina madagascariensis* Gmelin 1791.

R: *Tellina* (*Eurytellina*) *alfredensis* Bartsch 1915.

The three judges of the show were Dr Helmuth van Hoepen, Ralph Isaacs and Arie Jooste. Helene Boswell presented the prizes. Han Vandenberg did the display work and donated the fine posters and certificates.

All concerned must have felt that the hard work that went into setting up the show was amply rewarded by the tremendous response from exhibitors and public alike. There is no doubt that a well-organised exhibition is one of the most effective ways of attracting new recruits to conchology as well as revitalising an existing group.

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CAPENSIS SPECIES

When I recently asked a botanist friend to help me identify a species of *Asclepias*, she laughingly replied that it was probably *capensis*, the joke being, of course, that there are so many of our plant species with that name that you stand a fair chance of being right if you use it. As it turned out, the plant was *Asclepias physocarpa*, but it set me thinking about the many South African molluscs that also share the specific name *capensis*, meaning, "of the Cape".

Barnard's *Beginner's Guide* contains some two dozen of these names and, while a number of them have been reduced to synonyms, it might be interesting to list them in the Orders to which they belong. Readers are invited to send in missing names.

GASTROPODA:

Afrocominella
Cellana
Cypraea
Diala
Gibbula
Marginella
Nassarius
Philbertia
Philine
Thais
Tricolia
Trochita
Turritella
Vexillum

CEPHALOPODA:

Sepia

PELECYPODA:

Lutraria
Modiolus
Pinctada
Solen

NUDIBRANCHS:

Glossodoris
Janolus
Nembrotha
Onchidella

TERRESTRIAL MOLLUSCS:

Burnupia
Fauxulus
Trachycystis

CONIDAE OF SOUTH AFRICA

The authors of the article in issue No. 195 have been gratified by the favourable comments received from local and overseas readers.

As we go to press, a letter from Jerry G. Walls, author of the new Cone book (refer pages 2 and 3 of issue No. 196) confirms that our illustration of *Conus algoensis algoensis* is correct and that the specimen shown in his book is not this species.

He stands by his selection of the name *Conus guineensis guineensis* for the species we know as *C. mozambicus*. He explains that *C. guineensis* Gmelin 1791 and the later *C. elongatus* Dillwyn are both based on a figure by Chemnitz which is pretty obviously our S.A. cone. Furthermore, *C. mozambicus* Hwass 1792 seems to be based on the same type of shell and, since the name *guineensis* has a year's priority over *mozambicus*, *guineensis* ought to be used.

Readers' comments on this question would be very welcome.

Regarding *Conus mozambicus lautus* as illustrated by us, this does seem to be a consistent and recognisably distinct form of *C. mozambicus* which might qualify to be classed as sub-species. Whether it was advisable to allocate the name *lautus* to it is another matter but, for the time being, we are using Mr R.N. Kilburn's classification. As Mr Kilburn himself pointed out in his paper in the Annals of the Natal Museum, it is almost impossible to allocate this name *lautus* with certainty to any specific shell, and he applied it with some hesitation to the sub-species as described.

It would need someone who is thoroughly familiar with all the variations in our South African Conidae, and who has seen large quantities of material in all stages of freshness and abrasion, to examine the type material in the British Museum (Natural History) and study the type description and illustrations in all the old literature, before we are likely to get near to a solution to the *lautus* problem.

We also thank Dr Dieter Röckel of Germany for pointing out that *Conus eucoronatus* is not an endemic South

African species as it occurs as far north as Tanzania.

In issue No. 196 we omitted to mention that the author of the name *Conus orbigny elokismenos* was Kilburn 1975. Please also note the correct spelling as used here and not *orbygni* as we had it.

It has also been suggested that we publish the pictures of the two endemic cones *altispiratus* and *lohri* as not many members will be able to afford the new cone book. As soon as space permits we shall do so. The colour plates were very expensive and we are forced to economise for a few months.

Finally, we again thank Mr Walls for his comments and repeat our recommendation of his book as a major contribution to conchological literature.

CYPRAEA ZICZAC Linnaeus

by Eric T. Haywood, Umkomaas

In my collection of *Cypraea* I have 15 specimens of *Cypraea ziczac* and while studying them recently I came across one which has two broad bands of the distinctive white zigzag lines instead of the normal three bands. This unusual specimen was collected alive at Zanzibar.

Turning to Vo. 2, No. 1 of the publication "The Cowry", at page 13 Mrs Markham records finding 11 specimens of *C. ziczac*, two of which had only two white bands. Hers were collected at Mtwara which, at the time I left Tanganyika Territory, now Tanzania, in 1957, was a port being newly developed in the Southern part of the country not very far from the Mozambique border.

It would seem therefore that the two-banded variety is uncommon. In fact, the description of this shell in various books I have consulted does not, in most cases, refer to two bands at all.

WILLIAM JOHN BRODERIP 1789 - 1859

The eldest son of a Bristol surgeon, he was born on 21st November 1789. He was educated at the Rev. Samuel Seyer's school in Bristol and matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford and graduated with a B.A. in 1812.

After completing his university education he entered the Inner Temple and commenced studying in the chambers of the well-known Godfrey Sykes, where he had as contemporaries Sir John Pattenon and Sir John Taylor Coleridge. He was called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn on 12th May 1817 when he joined the western circuit, and shortly after, in conjunction with Peregrine Bingham, began reporting in the court of common pleas.

Broderip throughout his life was an enthusiastic collector of natural objects. His conchological cabinet was unrivalled and many foreign professors inspected the treasures which were accumulated in his chambers at Gray's Inn. This collection was ultimately bought by the British Museum.

He was elected a Fellow of the Linnean Society in 1824, of the Geological Society in 1825 and the Royal Society on 14th February 1828. In co-operation with Sir Stamford Raffles he aided, in 1826, in the formation of the Zoological Society of which he was one of the Fellows.

He contributed numerous papers to the "Transactions" of the Geological Society but the chief part of his original writings on Malacology are to be found in the "Proceedings and Transactions of the Zoological Society".

He died in his chambers, 2 Raymond Buildings, Grey's Inn, London from an attack of apoplexy on 27th February 1859.

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ROUND THE GROUPS

EAST LONDON: Richard and Thelma Carlsson from Cape Town attended this group's meeting in July and showed slides and Cape shells. The programme for August and September covered the Turbinidae and Trochidae, with slides of the Moçambique islands shown by Eva Roscoe.

PORT ELIZABETH: The friendly city reports on an invitation from the University through Dr McLachlan to hold a meeting at the new biology block of U.P.E. Also the offer by the Museum of a show case for an exhibit of shells. Evening meetings are being held at members' homes to identify and classify shells, and members are assisting the University to rearrange its shell collection following the recent move to the new premises.

PRETORIA: Daar is besluit om R25 aan die redaksie van die Strandloper te stuur as bydrae tot die koste van die druk van die kleurfoto's. Die afgelope skou het 'n wins van R428 getoon en 'n verdere uitstalling is by die Arcadia Sentrum in Julie gereël. Verskeie nuwe lede is verwelkom en lede het vertel van onlangse besoeke met vakansie na ons kusgebiede en oorsee. Dr van Hoepen het 'n skyfievertoning van korale, skulpe en visse van Mosambiek aangebied en 'n praatjie oor Muricidae is vir September gereël.

PORT SHEPSTONE: Full group status having been acquired by this group, their chairman, Granville Hyatt, becomes ex officio Regional Council Member, and Mrs Borland secretary of the group's committee. Monthly reports of the group's activities are appearing in the South Coast Herald and meetings have discussed shells of the families Cassidae, Fasciolaridae and Naticidae. Visitors are warned that heavy fines are imposed for violating the Transkei border. Future annual general meetings of the group will be held in August to avoid school holidays. Copies of the Strandloper are being bound and, with other shell literature, are being handed to the Port Shepstone library for safe keeping for the benefit of group members. Procedure for the conduct of the group's affairs in terms of the Society's Constitution and by-laws was clarified.

DURBAN: The local committee has changed, with Mr C.D. Hanneman taking over as chairman and hence becoming ex officio Regional Council Member for the Durban and Districts group. Maureen Quickelberge is acting as secretary of the group for the present.

CAPE TOWN: This committee has also changed, with Mrs R. Botes as chairman and secretary Mrs Pat Coles. Talks have been given on South African Cones and on the classification of shells and, as the Society's Annual General Meeting coincided with a group meeting, members here were also privileged to attend an illustrated talk by our President, Professor Branch, on his investigation into aspects of the behaviour of Limpets.

Duikerprint

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