

THE CONCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

CIRCULAR NO. 100

SEPTEMBER, 1968

PAGE L.

(Re-printed July, 1977)

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, 24th September, 1968 at 8.15 p.m. The shells for display will be on Plate XIX in Barnard's Beginner's Guide, viz Atys cylindrica, Haminea natalensis, Dolabella rumphii, Philine caoensis, Ringicula australis, Umbrella indica, Aplustrum aplustre, Actaeocina smithi, Actaeon albus, Retusa trecatulus, cylichna afriacna, Bullina ziczac, Bulla ampulla, Hydatina physis, Hydatina circulata and Aplysia.

We are showing some very good slides of shells sent to us by Mr. Carlo Tripodi, of Naples, which should have been shown at the A.G.M., but which arrived late. We thank him very much for lending us these slides.

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Minutes of the Meeting held in the S.A. Museum - 27.8.1968:

Mr Freeman welcomed members and friends. Apologies were received from Mr Elston, Miss Gould, Mrs Lowry and Mrs Prior. The minutes of last meeting were adopted.

Mrs D.L. Deneys, P.O. Box Kommetjie, Cape, was elected as a member.

The following were proposed as new members:

Mr K.J. Fuller,	proposed by D. Aiken,	seconded by A. Jenner
Mr E.F. Meerholtz	" " C. Marcham,	" " A. Jenner
Mrs M.J. "atterson	" " K. Kislig,	" " A. Jenner
Mr Carlo Tripodi	" " E. Giles,	" " M. Giles
Mrs V. Wynne,	" " M. Pinkham,	" " M. Ackermann

Mr Freeman told us that Mr Kennelly is presenting our Library with the Journal of Conchology (British Conchological Society) and thanked him. He then formally closed the meeting.

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting - 27.8.1968:

The minutes of the last A.G.M. published in Circular No. 89 were adopted. There were no matters arising. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian were discussed. The Treasurer said that there were 94 members who had not paid their subs yet, but he hoped to have them all in soon. These three reports were adopted.

The votes on the Amendment to the Constitution were counted. All were in favour, with one spoilt paper.

Mrs Pinkham, Mrs Connolly and Mrs Kutell all spoke about the collecting of beach shells, saying that it was justified when live shells were not available. This caused quite a discussion.

The Vice-President, Mr Freeman, then gave his address - published elsewhere

A vote of thanks to the Secretary and Treasurer was proposed by L. Kerr, and seconded by E. Kinloch. A lovely basket of fruit had been presented to Mrs Giles by the Society in appreciation for all her hard work.

A vote of thanks to the Editor was proposed and also to Miss T for duplicating the Circular so promptly and well.

The proposed Council was re-elected.

The two new members will be co-opted at a future Council Meeting.

During/.....

During a delicious tea, the Patella Competition was judged by L. Kerr, Bruce Campbell gaining First Prize with an excellent entry. Graziella Bolza ran him a close second and her brother Denes was third. All these entries were of a high standard and the children are to be congratulated

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 VICE-PRESIDENTS ADDRESS:

27th August, 1968.

Most, if not all, of us here this evening at the Annual General Meeting are local members. There is a danger that we might regard this event as our own local affair and, in fact, there is a danger that members elsewhere might also look on the Annual General Meeting as a matter for Cape members to bother about. It is often said of Capetonians that they are convinced that civilisation begins and ends on this side of the Hottentots Holland Mountains, 35 miles from here, and that beyond that barrier lies the exterior darkness where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. Joking aside, the Annual General Meeting symbolises the fellowship of all the members of the Society and emphasizes the association with our fellow conchologists, not only in other centres in South Africa, but also in other countries all over the world. And so it is to all our members everywhere that I am addressing this talk.

You will have seen the record of your Society's progress set out in the reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian, and in the Presidents review of the past year's activities as published in the June Bulletin. The picture presented in these reports is very satisfactory and your Council thanks you for your continued support. (Needless to say, Further calls are going to be made on your generosity in the future!)

Another record of our progress is the monthly circular. This also keeps us in touch with each other. I hope you are keeping all your copies; they are becoming a valuable source of information. As you know, the one hundredth number is about to be published. It is the Council's intention to maintain the present mixture of technical and non-technical matter, with the emphasis on the non-technical for the benefit of the majority of our members.

I wonder whether our overseas members realise that it is through the medium of our monthly circulars that they can contribute to the Society, in the form of articles, notes, or even "letters to the Editor". It would be a grand idea to have a permanent "news from abroad" section every month, and would make South African members more aware of the extent of our connections.

In April, Circular No. 95 recorded one of the outstanding events of the year, viz. the establishment of the Transvaal Group, which was another milestone for the Society. We congratulate Mr Jenner who represents the interests of this group on the Council.

The passage of time has also brought changes to the Council itself: At headquarters we have lost the services of Mr Elston owing to ill-health. We have in Percy Elston a member completely devoted to the welfare of the Society. Although he is no longer on the Council, he is still actively interested in the Society's progress and I am pleased to have this opportunity of paying tribute to him publicly tonight. We are extremely glad that he has been making a good recovery from his recent serious illness.

Mr R. Carlsson, whom you nominated as one of the candidates for vacancies on the Council a year ago, has been welcomed to fill Mr. Elston's place.

The Border group has nominated Mrs M. Rix as a worthy successor to Mrs H. Jefferies. Mrs Jefferies had been on the Council since 1964, and has helped to put conchology on the map in her part of the world.

Another member to whom thanks are due is Mr Steve Kruger who came to the Council's assistance and took on the job of Librarian for a time. Unfortunately, the demands of his studies and, later on, of his work, forced him to give up the librarianship but we were grateful that he came forward at considerable inconvenience to himself when we needed help.

On/.....

On the subject of the library, country members will no doubt have been pleased to read in the Librarians report (cf Bulletin No. 99) that they are to be given more time to return books borrowed from the library. A well-timed suggestion from one of the members brought about the change.

This year the Council intends to tackle the revision of the Constitution. It has served its purpose well in the last ten years but situations have arisen from time to time that have shown up its shortcomings. It is not our intention to make the Constitution so restrictive that nobody will be allowed to cough without first referring to it, but we must make sure that it can cope with the conditions of today and of the immediate future.

I accordingly ask all our members to let the Secretary have constructive criticism and suggestions in this regard. Members belonging to the Border Natal or Transvaal groups can, if they wish, discuss possible improvements and submit their suggestions via their Council members, but anyone should feel free to write direct to the Secretary about this. Drafts of the proposed revised version will eventually be circulated before any final decisions are made or any voting done. Please bear in mind that the changes may take a long time to finalise.

As the Secretary mentioned in her report, we are considering the possibility of housing the Society's Reference Collection of shells in a cupboard in the lecture hall of the Museum here. As members know, Mrs Connolly has been personally responsible for building up this collection virtually single-handed. She has also collected funds for a suitable cabinet for it. And she has been bringing a substantial section of the collection to our meetings in her car for the benefit of members. This arrangement has its disadvantages, and we are grateful that Dr. Barry, the Director of the Museum, has most cordially agreed that we may have extra space to keep our shells on the premises. This facility will undoubtedly make our meetings here in Cape Town even more instructive than before.

Our very pleasant relations with the Museum authorities are something that we value highly, and do not take for granted. Our annual "thank you" is not just a matter of course. We really mean it, and this year I would like to mention one particular member of their staff to whom we are all indebted. I refer to Manter, who makes our tea, projects our films, and very often has to wait an awful long time for us to clear out of here before he can go home. I sometimes wonder how he has managed to preserve his unflinching courtesy and good humour, but he does, and we appreciate it.

Our tenth year has been a good year, thanks to you all, but don't get complacent about it. We are just at the start of the second decade and we have a long way to go yet.

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CIRCULAR NO. 100 PALMA NON SINE PULVERE

by D.H. Kennelly

Time marches on, and therefore every now and again, some date of importance to the Society is arrived at, or some Anniversary to celebrate.

There is no apology for the latin at the head of this article, except to mention that in writing, it is sometimes easier to use a little latin, rather than a long sentence.

In this instance the translation is:- "No prize without the dust (of the conflict)". This would appear to be rather apt, for there has been plenty of dust raised during the past ten years in getting the Circulars out for members, and now we can - with pride - write No. 100 at the head of this issue.

In browsing through all the issues from the very first, I have come across some items, and names, which will be referred to in this article.

Circular No. 1, issued in May 1958, consisted of two pages, plus a copy of the Constitution as agreed upon at the Inaugural Meeting held on the 6th May 1958. Where this meeting was actually held is not mentioned, but the Circular stated that it was the intention of the Committee (afterwards known as the Council), to issue Circulars at regular intervals.

Owing to school holidays, and the absence of members from town, the next meeting was not held until August. Circular No. 2 appeared during this month, with again two pages only.

Then/.....

Then followed another gap, and Circular No. 3 did not appear until October 1958 with a total of three pages.

From a perusal of the Circulars it is evident that the Editor who also acted as Secretary, and the Vice-President (our Founder), were having a real battle to keep things going. Meetings of the Society were held at regular intervals, and Circular No. 4 was not published until January, 1959. During the year 1959 a fair increase in the number of pages per issue became apparent, and the usual number averaged about five.

Although articles for publication gradually increased, only seven Circulars were published in 1959 - No. 10 appearing in November.

Then followed the fateful year, 1960. For many reasons the Secretary was unable to carry on - no meetings were held - and Circular No. 11 did not appear until April 1960 - a two page effort.

It is evident that the fate of our Society was hanging in the balance, and in danger of folding up and disappearing.

Once again to the rescue came our Founder, who refused to be beaten by advers events. The meetings were resumed, the Council was re-shuffled, and the Vice-President/Founder took up the heavy burden of Secretary/Editor. The day was saved, and during 1960 another six Circulars were published, No. 16 appearing in December.

Another source of worry to our Founder, and the Secretary/Editor, was the lack of response on the part of members, to the constant requests for articles and notes for the Circulars. The great old game of "leave it to the other member", was being played in 1958 and continues to the present time.

In the early days, I decided to send something in - an Article entitled "Hints to collectors". This was published in Circular No. 3 October 1958, and much to my surprise I found I was the only member to have acted in the matter.

Unwittingly I had made my mark as the first member to contribute, and realizing that there was to be no chance of anyone else assisting, I continued my notes etc. At that time it was very essential to give members something of interest to read in the issues, and thereby ensure their continued interest in the progress of the Society.

Two further notes were sent in, and appeared in Circular No. 14, January 1959, when again I found that I was the sole writer.

However assistance did come, for in Circular No. 5, February 1959, an interesting article was published written by a Foundation member - the late John S. Hutt of Port Alfred.

Then in April 1959, two more members contributed, which really did break the ice.

The one article was from Dr A.C. Van Bruggen on the "Netherlands Malacological Society", and the other on "Cleaning Shells" from my old and tried friend - Percy Elston.

There is not much more that can be added, beyond saying that gradually more and more members sent in articles. This certainly eased the burden on the Editor, and it is hoped has added to the interest in our Circulars.

Our Editor specially requested me to write something SPECIAL for No.100, and I considered an insight into the ups and downs which occurred in the early years of the life of our Society, might revive old memories for the older members, and be of a little interest to those who joined us in later years.

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N.B. Early risers please note!

We have just received information from Dick Kilburn of the East London Museum that he has just finished a series of talks on shells for the S.A.B.C. Programme, which will be broadcast every weekday morning at 6.55 a.m. for two weeks from September 23rd.

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Change/.....

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Miss S. Kleynhans is now Mrs S.M. Raymond, P.O. Box 338, Honeydew, Transvaal.
Miss C. Blankenstein, 7799 Lakeside Drive, Riverside, Californis 92509 USA.
Miss M.G. Kempthorne, 9 Ivanhoe, Braeside Road, Kenilworth, Cape Town.

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EXCHANGE WANTED:

Mr Michel Falais, B.P. 312, Diego Suarez, Madagascar
Mr H. Firns, 1 Higgs Street, Bunbury 6230, W. Australia.
Mr W. Ladebusch, 19 Swann Road, Taringa, Brisbane, 24066
Mr C. Guilliams, P.O. Box 503, Antwerp 1, Belgium, Europe.

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BORDER NOTES:

by M. Rix.

Our July meeting was very satisfactory with an attendance of 17. Apologies were received from Miss Latimer. After a long absence, we were delighted to see Daphne Vice - her return to the fold and her great improvement in health caused great excitement. Mrs. Roberts and her son (aged about 10 years) both brought displays of the loveliest East African shells, collected personally, while resident in those parts. Everyone was most interested - and methinks, a little envious, talking for myself for one! Dick Kilburn talked on Marginella - he had a nice variety of specimens for show and demonstration. We were delighted to see Mrs Faulkner from Gonubie, who is joining us as from now. She has some fantastic luck and has lovely and unusual finds from the Gonubie vicinity. I am most interested in the finds by A. Jenner and E. Ralph, of the Cypraea histrio and C. arabica, with barnacles growing on them. About three years ago, I found a caputserpentis at Coffee Bay on the wild coast, also with a barnacle on it and unmovable, covered with the mantle as well. The mantle of the rest of the shell was not damaged or discoloured. I did not think then that this was anything to worry about, except that it spoiled an otherwise perfect shell (live taken). It is interesting to know that this phenomenon does not occur frequently.

Our August meeting, held at the G.C. Smith Hall in the Museum, was as usual, a graet success. Apologies were received from some lucky people who were mostly away on holiday: Miss Benson, Mrs Hulley, Rita Scott, Adeline Gilmer (she was working!), Miss latimer and Mrs Roberts. Dick talked on Cymatium and associated genera, and had some very beautiful specimens on view. The usual pleasant tea-break was enjoyed by all. Arrangements were discussed for a field day on Monday 2nd September, and we are all looking forward to the outing and possible excitement of finding something to write about. The weather has been boisterous lately, so there are high hopes of the sea being kind to us. For a long time it has been very calm and very little has been coming up. The long period of drought has meant that rivers have not come down, and there is no doubt that this does make a difference to how the sea behaves. Nevertheless, like true Conchologists, we live in hopes!

Our next meeting will be held at the same venue on Sunday 29th September.

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by A.B. Jenner

Transvaal Group:

I am pleased to report that no less than 34 people attended our meeting at Shell House on the 16th Instant. Messages of apology were received from 5 members unable to be present. Dr van Hoepen gave a short talk on the Muricidae and the evening was devoted to discussions of the specimens on view, among which was the outstanding exhibit of Mrs Bobby Adam of some 18 Specimens monted on a glass plate in a wooden case on the bottom of which a mirror was placed in such a manner that the underside of the shells could also be viewed. Our next meeting will be held on Friday the 13th September, 1968.

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Natal/.....

NATAL GROUP:

by E. Dee

The Reference Collection: The Conchological Society's Reference collection of shells will be housed in the South African Museum in Cape Town. Mrs Connolly has appealed to our Branch to send Natal shells. Therefore, if you would like to assist Mrs Connolly in this very worthwhile task it has been suggested that you send your specimens with good data as to locality, date, collector's name, etc., and whether found alive or dead, direct to Mr Ed Dee, 312 Florida Road, Durban, or Miss Ann Lambert, Box 383, Durban. If you are uncertain about the correctness of the name, do not worry.

Mr Dee mentioned that the South African Museum recognised shells from Southern Africa as those found off the coast from a demarcation line south of a line running from the Zambesi mouth to the Angola coast (i.e. Zoological line). "South African shells" means only those found off the coast of the Republic of South Africa.

South African Cones: This large family was discussed in detail with exhibits on show from Mr Dee's collection and after a delicious tea following list of cones was made, which should prove an easy reference for members:-

Cape: It was noted that most Cape shells were found dead on the beaches.

Conus patens Sow. 1903 (rare)	Conus scitulus Reeve 1849
dredged approx. 150'	bairstowi Sow. 1889
" gradatulus Weinkauff 1875	" pictus Reeve 1845
" mozambicus Hwass 1792 (syn	" infrenatus Reeve 1845
elongatus Chemn.)	" aurora Lam 1810
" informis Brug. in Hwass 1792	" tinianus Hwass 1792
" Algoensis Sow. 1834	" rosaceus Dillwyn 1817
" Lautus Reeve 1844	" lividus Hwass 1792
" natalis Sow. 1858	" simplex Sow. 1857
" natalis var. gilchristi Sow.	" caffer Krauss 1848
1858	
" coronatus Gmelin 1791	

Natal:

Conus figulinus Linne 1758	Conus virgo Linne 1758
" zeylanicus Gmelin 1791	" tessellatus Hwass 1792
" (?) fulgetrum Sow. 1843	" miles Linne 1758
" textile Linne 1758	" flavidus Lam. 1810
" miliaris Hwass 1792	" vexillum Gmelin 1791
" janus Hwass 1792	" piperatus Reeve 1817
" distans Hwass 1792	" quercinus Solander 1786
" litteratus Linne 1758	" catus Hwass 1792
" leopardus Röding 1798 var.	" ceylanensis Hwass 1792
millepunctatus Lam.	" sponsalis Hwass 1792
" betulinus Linne 1758	" pusillus Lam.
" rattus Hwass 1792	" panniculus Lam. 1810
" chaldeus Röding 1798	" striatus Linne 1758
" ebraeus Linne 1758	" gubernator Hwass 1792
" coronatus Gmel. 1791	" canonicus Hwass 1792
(syn. minimus Born)	" geographus Linne 1758
" pertusus Hwass 1792	" consors Sow. 1833
" marmoreus Linn. 1758	" capitaneus Linne 1758
form bandanus Hwass 1792)	" namocanus Hwass 1792
" augur Solander 1786	" torquatus Röding 1798
" orbigny Audouin 1831 (trawled)	" iodostoma Reeve 1843 (very
" arenatus Hwass 1792	rare and only found
" terebra Born 1778	trawled)

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GENERAL NOTES:The Pelecypod Hinge: Part 1.

by P.H. Boshoff

Illustrated by S.C. Fenwick

The hinge is that part of a bivalve which is held together by special structures or shaping of testaceous parts. It may be MOBILE as in most cases e.g. Venus, (Fig. 4) or SYMPHYNOTIC as in some e.g. Pinna, (Fig.1) Atrina.

The/.....

The hinge plate is that part which is situated on the inner aspect of the valve in the region of the umbones. More specifically, in this region, that part dorsal to the hinge teeth and under the umbo (often having a site for ligamentous attachment) is referred to as the NYMPHAL PLATE.

The hinge area or cardinal area lies between the two umbones (when the valves are in apposition) and may include the lunular and escutcheonal areas. Included under considerations of the cardinal area, the state of the umbo, prodissoconch and nepionic region may receive mention although not strictly hinge structures. The PRODISSOCONCH is the very tip of the umbo which was the first bit of shell laid in embryo. The NEPIONIC REGION is the very early juvenile region surrounding the umbo peripheral to the prodissoconch. Also important here is the shape of the umbo and the direction of its beak (syn. point, apex, prodissoconch) whether it is PROSOGYRATE (forward pointing as in *Solenomya*, *Venus* (Fig. 4)), MESOGYRATE (pointing precisely or nearly toward each other as in *Lutraria* (Fig. 2)) or OPISTHOGYRATE (pointing posteriorly as in *Donax* (Fig. 3)). The cardinal area may be termed "pre-" or "post-umbonal" and may be LANCEOLATE (broad spear), LINEAR or LENTICULAR (end-on of a convex lens) in shape.

The position of the hinge on the dorsal area may be over the middle of the dorsal border as in equivalve species; it may be ANTEPOSED or RETROPOSED; it may be terminal or sub-terminal (always referring relative to the anterior end of the valve).

Ligament:

The hinge ligament may be external, internal, marginal, partial or modified. When the major part of the ligament is visible on the posterior aspect of the apposed valves (i.e. in the cardinal area), it is considered to be external. An internal ligament scarcely shows more than a groove or line on the cardinal area. A marginal ligament may be partially seen from the outside while some of it is on the internal aspect -practically synonymous with "partial hinge ligament". Modified ligaments can vary from total absence of ligamentous tissues, through elastic tissue to a calcified spicule (lithodesma). The mere position of the ligament on the hinge plate, if queer, can also be regarded as a modification of the hinge ligament. The major part of the ligament is rarely positioned anterior to the umbo and if so, it is called a PROSODETTIC position of the ligament. If placed exactly or mostly half either side of umbo, it is considered to be AMPHIDETTIC. If in the main, posterior to the umbo, it is OPISTHODETTIC.

The typical ligament consists of two kinds of tissue:

- a) The membrano-fibrous part, called TENSILLIUM, analogous to, continuous with or consist of unmodified periostracum. This is untouched by the action of caustic potash.
- b) The elastic fibrocartilaginous portion (affected by caustic potash) which is usually the more internal layers of the ligament or may be separated from the tensillum. Due to its more internal position it acts as a cushion which on recoil makes the valve gape. All closure of valves compresses this elastic cushion which is named RESILIUM. Either tensillum or resillum may be present separately or mixed up and fused together. The tensillum is of periostracal origin. It is usually not thick, mostly external, smooth, can be wide or narrow. It may carry markings on it, as in *Arca* (Fig. 7). It may be calcified into the symphyotic fusion of the Family *Pinnidae* (Fig. 1).

The resillum can be wide, narrow or appear as a cushion-like nodule. It is termed a LIGAMENOUS resillum if long, or CHONDROPHORIC if situated in a pit which in its turn is termed a CHONDROPHORE, but a better term for the pit is "resilifer". If it, or part of it, is modified to consist of calcium, this part is called a LITHODESMA and sometimes a certain shape of the lithodesma can be consonant with a certain genus or species as in *Periploma* (Fig. 8) and hence of taxonomic importance. The resillum may be lodged in a special series of pits or in a large single resilifer e.g. *Isognomon* (series) (Fig. 9), *Maleus*, *Ostrea* (both single) (Fig. 5). Or in a spoon-shaped holding bract (apophysis), preferentially called a Chondrophore (*Periploma*, *Gastrochaena*) (Fig. 8). The resillum with its resilifer can alter shape and position with the shell's growth (*Ostrea*, *Pycnodonta*) or when it has to accommodate the stress on the hinge as the valve's size

and/.....

THE PELECYPOD HINGE. Part 1.

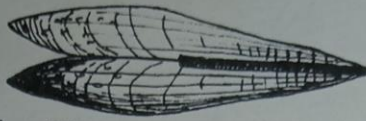


Fig. 1. Pinna muricata Linn.
Dorsal view of pair of valves from Chaka's Rock, Natal. Length 55mm. (Example of a symphyotic hinge)



Fig. 2. Lutraria lutraria (Linn.)
Interior of left valve of juvenile from Table Bay. Length 45mm.

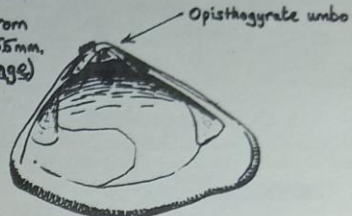


Fig. 3. Donax sordidus Hanley
Interior of left valve from East London. Length 24mm.

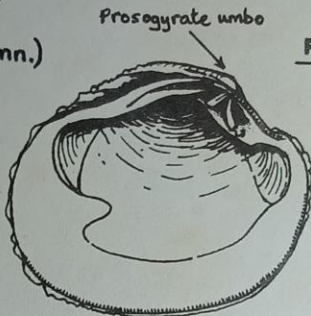


Fig. 4. Venus verrucosa Linn.
Interior of left valve from Gordons Bay, False Bay. Length 34mm. (Example of a "mobile" hinge)

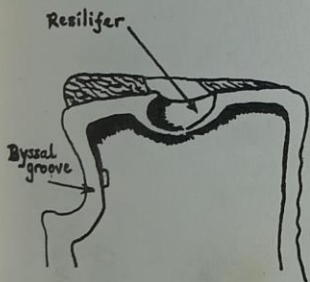


Fig. 5. Malleus regula (Forsk.)
Hinge of valve from Mozambique Is. [After Barnard 1964]

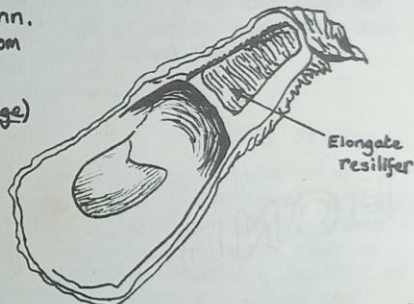


Fig. 6. Crassostrea margaritacea (Lam.)
Cornucopial form of left valve from East London. Altitude 85mm.

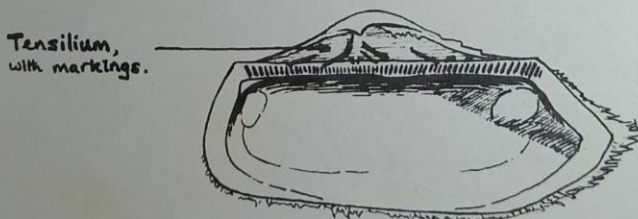


Fig. 7. Arca avellana Lam.
Interior of right valve from Tongaat, Natal. Length 35mm.

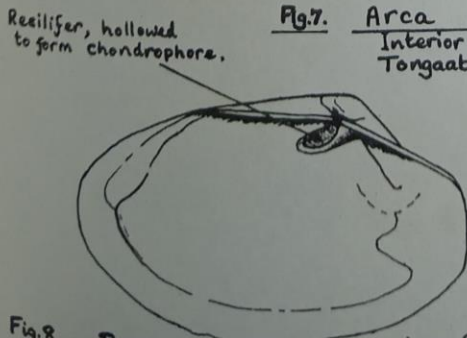


Fig. 8. Periploma planiusculum Sow.
Interior of right valve. Length 50mm. S. California to Peru. [After Keen 1958]

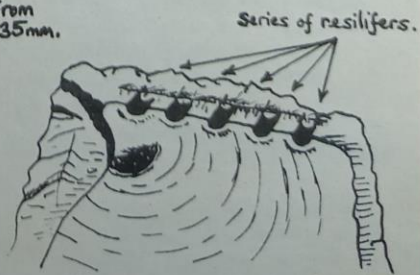


Fig. 9. Isognomon perna (Linn.)
Hinge of right valve from the Pondoland coast. [After Koch 1953]

and shape become changed over the growth period. The resilifer grows by enlarging its size or forming a wider or longer V-form as in the cornucopial growth of Crassostraea (Fig. 6) while in Parviperna and Isognomon additional pits are added to the resilifer series (Fig. 9). Should the valve of the single resilifer type change grossly out of the ordinary, it is not unusual to see the formation of a secondary resilifer pit, the presence of which may confuse the taxonomist. The V-formation of the external ostrea type of resilium starts at the tip of the provinculum. The provinculum is the nepionic region under or medial to the umbo from where the V-shaped resilium starts to form the apex of the V.

(Continued in next Circular)

XX

Something New at Haga Haga, C.P.:

by Hazel Jefferies

Mr Richard Carlsson on visiting Kei Mouth and Haga Haga disclosed to me that among some Trivia taken back to Pinelands by Mrs Thelma Carlsson who visited these parts in April, he noticed that several of the Trivia collected at Haga Haga were different. On examination these Trivia are slightly smaller than Trivia aperta with finer teeth and much finer ribbing. We looked up in Dr. Barnard's Annals of the S.A. Museum Vol. XLVII part I and decided these specimens were Trivia (Triveilla) vesicularis Gaskion 1836. Unfortunately, our specimens are worn, beach, so it is difficult to decide who is correct, Turton 1932 in saying the dorsum is smooth or Joyce Allan and Schilder saying the dorsum is ribbed. The columellar teeth continue across the base of these shells and until a good specimen is found a complete description cannot be given. The colour is the same as Trivia (Triveilla) aperta but the shell is smaller, aperture narrower, and the teeth and ribbing much finer. Has anyone else found them?

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Dead Shells:

by M.M. Pinkham

Owing to illness our shelling trip to Xora Mouth in May came to an abrupt end. During our short stay there I had found 2 exceptional Cypraea, chinensis and marginalis, both of a very dark, excellent colouring, which I thought might be of interest to other members. These were beach shells. The late Dr K.H. Barnard told me how pleased he was to receive a handful of Cerithium rufonadulosum which I had found in a line surface-digging two miles inland from Arniston. I later had an acknowledgement by letter from him on behalf of the museum. He said at the time he had found only one, years ago, on one of his beach-combing days and recommended such searches because one never knew a what rare shell one might find. (In acknowledgement, it was Mrs Rita Joubert's children who made the discovery). Dr Barnard words were, "Keep it until you find a better one".

I have in my possession three dead shells, which have been identified as Cyp. fuscobra, with a pattern of brown on the dorsal area. No one has yet shown me any better specimens, dead or alive. I have even had an offer from a member who wants it for an American friend. Ikona! It stays in South Africa until I know that someone has a live one in their collection.

Lately I received 9 very good, and 2 holed, Cyp. marginalis. All beach! Any offers! Along with these were many other good but dead Cypraea which were sent to me by a friend who took compassion on me at having to quit so soon. And, in addition, on a fishing trip to one of those vague spots which only week-end fishermen seem to know on that coast, the following LIVE Cypraea were found and enclosed in the same parcel: 2 Cyp. erosa, 5 Cyp. vitellus, 1 Cyp. lycina lynx, 4 Cyp. carneola, 30 caputeserpentis, 2 Cyp. helvola and 15, which I hope are Cyp. caputdraconis, and lastly, 1 fine Cyp. lamarki.

In conclusion, I would like to add, that I have always been strictly honest in exchanging and my contacts have always remarked on the excellency of my beach specimens. Mr Burch, indeed, sent me Voluta imperialis and the chambered Nautilus, plus some indigenous Cypraea in exchange for a beach

Cyp./.....

Cyp. marginalis. I, in my turn, have accepted 2 dead Volutes which I have been assured by several contacts have never yet been found alive.

So the obvious maxim is; beach-comb, but let us be honest about it.

Cypraea caputdraconis are only found on Easter Island. Editor.

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ODDS AND ENDS FROM THE BORDER:

by D.H. Kennelly

Cassis rufa Linne. on the Ciskei Coast. With regard to the note published in Circular No. 96, Page 3, the specimen mentioned was sent to Mr E.T. Haywood for examination. The tentative identification has been confirmed, and it is satisfactory to know that C. rufa does occur occasionally at Gouubie. We are very grateful to Mr Haywood for his interest and assistance in this matter.

Miss G. Jackson (Border Group) possesses a second example of this species, measuring about 90 m.m., which was found in the Gouubie area some time ago.

1. BONZA BAY: Recent finds at this locality have been reported by Mrs M.A. Rix, and are detailed as follows:- Haliotis speciosa Reeve, two specimens of which the larger measures 55 m.m.
Harpa armouretta? Roding. A small (22 m.m.) shell, very beach worn, which closely resembles this species. Should further specimens be found in better condition, this tentative identification will be confirmed.
2. GONUBIE: The following note details recent finds at this locality:-
Cypraea vitellus and Cypraea annulus Linne. Two specimens of the first mentioned, and one of the second, taken alive by Mrs Falkner. As far as may be ascertained this constitutes a record of extension of range for the species mentioned.
Turbo coronatus Gmelin. Taken alive by Mrs M.A. Rix.
Clavatula taxus Chemnitz, and Euthria ponsonbyi Sowerby. Good beach specimens of these two species were found by Mrs Faulkner. C. taxus is seldom found on a beach, as it is known to live in deep water.
3. BULUGH: This is a locality rapidly becoming known as a good collecting ground. Mrs P. Ogilie (Transvaal Group) has done very well during July this year, and details of her finds are appended:-
Strombus decorus Roding. A beach specimen in good condition
Dinoplax gigas Gmelin. One beach example with seven valves
Cypraea carneola Linne. Four specimens ex beach in good condition, showing growth from small to adult.
Cypraea citrina Gray and Cypraea marginalis Dillwyn.
In addition to the foregoing, the writer was shown specimens collected by Mrs. Stuart-Smith (Non-member collector) at Gouubie, viz:-
Bursa granularis Bolten. Two good condition beach shells.
Argobuccinum (Gyrineum) pusilla Broderip. One very good beach specimen
This is probably the first record of this species on this part of the coast
Natica simiae Chemnitz. Uncommon on this part of the coast.
The writer also saw the following, collected by a non-member (name unknown) viz:- Volva volva Linne, Cypraea fimbriata Gmelin, and a deep water shell - Sylvanocochlis ancilla Hanley. The last mentioned is very scarce on beaches.
4. PORT ELIZABETH: We record a visit from Mrs C. Watters, a former member of the Border Group, who reported the following finds:-
Dinoplax gigas Gmelin. A seven valve example from Summerstrand, P.E.
Lamellaria perspicua Linne. Taken alive at Summerstrand
Dinoplax validifossus Ashby. A seven valve specimen taken at Cebe, Transkei. This was identified by Mrs Clarice Connolly, and is probably the first recorded with only seven valves.
Volva volva Linne. From Cebe, Transkei.
Cypraea vitellus Linne. Specimen taken alive at Silver Bay, Transkei.

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Shelling/.....

Shelling at Jeffrey's Bay:

by G.C. le Roux

During a shelling trip to Jeffery's Bay, (First week of July, 1968) the following interesting finds were made:-

Rather rare beach shells: Astrarium taylorianum Smith 3 shells, rather beach worn, but quite characteristic in colour and sculpture (33.3 mm., 31.1 mm. 24.8 mm. diameter) were found.

As these shells are regarded as a deep water species, this find is of interest. Drillia fultoni (Sowerby). A good beach shell 26.4 mm. long of this deeper water species was found.

Terebra kowiensis Turton 2 fairly good beach shells 25.0 mm and 29.8 mm. long were found. (See Annals of the S.A. Museum, Vol. XLIV, Part IV - pages 82 and 118 for the Drillia and Terebras shells)

Cymatium klensei (Sowerby) 1 live shell was found about 30 mm long in a heap of shingle and shells. (The pink animal with yellow head is still alive in a jar of sea water). This is believed to be the first find of the living animal.

Possible extension of range: Paulonaria fimbriata durbanensis Schilder & Schilder. 1 beach shell 16.7 mm. long was found.

Calliostoma africanum Bartsch. Several beach shells (e.g. diameter 10.5 m.m., altitude 11.6 mm.) were found.

Obeliscus dolobratus. A rather beach worn shell 18.8 mm. long was collected by a friend.

A Cypraea fuscudentata, Incerta. An unusual beach Cypraea fuscudentata Gray or Luponia angustata Gmelin was found with the following features:-

a) Ratio $\frac{\text{width}}{\text{length}} = \frac{23.2}{36.4} = .64$

In a normal shell this ratio was .58

- b) The teeth on the base were more regular and much finer.
- c) The teeth on the outer lip were much finer - 26 projecting teeth of average spacing 1.4 mm. against 14 projecting teeth of average spacing 2.2 mm. on the normal shell.

A friend who was now been collecting at Jeffrey's Bay for many years, has always been able to distinguish these rare, obese, fine toothed shells from the others right on the beach as intergrading examples are, apparently, not found.

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Extraneous mollusca on Cypraea

by P. Elston.

The writer wishes to thank all members who so kindly furnished information on the above and it now seems that, on the Southern African coast that the most common forms of attachment are the barnacle Tetraclita and the Vermetus worm. This the writer has noticed in the warmer waters of the Indian Ocean, especially Mauritius. All details have been sent to the interested authority with the hope that it may help in his research.

In Circular 98, our Natal member Mr B.J. Young reports, what he thinks is the lower half of a bivalve on a caputserpentis and it has been suggested that he sends this to Mr Kilburn, of the East London Museum for comment.

Evidently Crepidula do attach themselves to shells on our coast, as on the June spring tide two of our members collecting at Muizenberg found a Turbo cidaris with a Crepidula porcellana attached

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