

## Marginellidae of South Africa

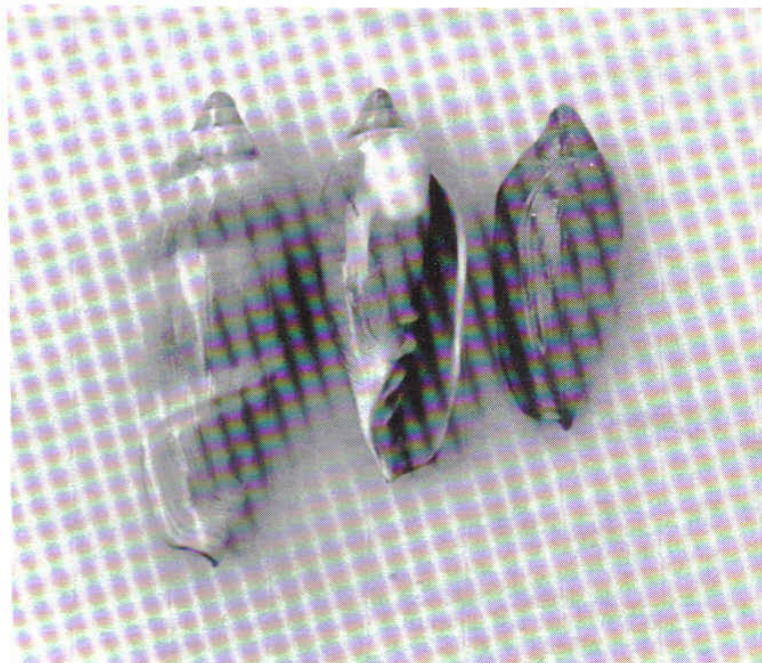
### Part II

by V.G. Millard and illustrations by W.R. Liltved

Thirty of the very small species of our Marginellidae, which were too small to photograph without special equipment, and including several from Plate B of Part I, have been illustrated in large-scale line drawings for this second part of the article.

Mr Liltved used specimens from the S.A. Museum for nine of the drawings, and photographs of Turton and Bartsch and Kilburn for the rest.

As the full bibliography for the whole article has already been published in Part I, we are not repeating it here.



*Aprivoluta pringlei* (Tomlin) 1947

#### DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES

1  
*adela* Thiele 1925  
VOLVARINELLA  
Size: 6,8 x 3 mm  
Pleats: 4 strong  
Range: Agulhas Bank, Mossel Bay to Natal down to 230 m. This shell has four colour bands over white background.  
See also *M. helena* Thiele 1925.

5  
*algoensis* E.A. Smith 1901  
1892 *savignyi* Sowerby non Issel (Barnard 1974)  
1901 *algoensis* E.A. Smith  
CLOSIA  
Size: 4,2 x 3,1 mm  
Pleats: 10  
Range: Jeffreys Bay to Haga Haga and live at Port Elizabeth.  
The shell is bulbous with the outer lip produced at the shoulder and a smooth outer lip. The animal is green. The radula if any is unknown.

6  
*almo* Bartsch 1915  
GIBBERULA  
Size: 5,4 x 3,2 mm (type)  
Pleats: 12 fine folds on a strongly calloused columella.  
Range: Port Alfred to East London.  
Shell ovate, semi-translucent milk white. Spire short and rounded, labrum denticulate.

7  
*amphitrite* Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 2,2 x 1,3 mm  
Pleats: 4  
Range: Named from a single specimen found at Port Alfred by Turton.  
Shell white, spire flat, labrum apparently smooth.

9  
*aphanospira* Tomlin 1913  
CLOSIA  
Size: 3,2 x 2,1 mm  
Pleats: 2 (some reports say 3)  
Range: Still Bay to Natal down to 122 m.  
Four were collected live at Park Rynie, now in the Natal Museum.  
The animal was pure white with a different outline of the foot from the species that Barnard named *nigrocrocea*, with which it is often confused. *Nigrocrocea* has an orange coloured foot and the blue viscera shows through the translucent shell.

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

24

**differens** E.A. Smith 1904.  
1892 **bulbosa** Sowerby non Reeve  
1892 **inconspicua** Sowerby  
1904 **differens** E.A. Smith  
1916 **taylori** Shackelford  
1918 **barnardi** Tomlin  
1959 **eugenes** Barnard (a larger form)  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 4,5 x 3,25 mm.  
Pleats: 4 with a trace of a 5th.  
Range: Jeffreys Bay to Gonubie.

The shell is solid and creamy white with denticles inside the labrum. The paratype of *M. taylori* (= *M. barnardi*) is in the South African Museum.  
Form: **eugenes** Barnard 1959.

Holotype in the South African Museum. Found from Mossel Bay to Natal down to 360 m.  
Size 8,5 mm.

It is pale buff in colour and has 4 whorls and 4 pleats with a trace of 1 to 4 additional pleats posteriorly. Larger and more obese than *differens* but has the same shape.

33

**hera** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 3 x 1,5 mm.  
Pleats: 3. The upper one is weak.  
Range: Port Alfred (Type locality).

This shell was named from a single specimen. The shell is oval and the outer lip is higher than the spire which is flat.

35

**indistincta** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 2,2 x 1,1 mm.  
Pleats: 9, the lower 3 bold and the upper 6 are small and subequal.  
Range: Port Alfred (Type locality).  
Greyish-white, oval, spire rounded and the outer lip edentulate.

37

**innotabilis** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 1,4 x 0,9 mm.  
Pleats: 3, lower one large, 2nd modest and 3rd not noticeable in the plate.  
Range: Port Alfred (Type locality).  
Similar to **whitechurchi**.  
White. Columella bulbous. Outer lip protrudes above the spire and is slightly thickened.

39

**io** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 2 x 1 mm.  
Pleats: 2 (oblique at the base of the columella)  
Range: Port Alfred (Type locality)  
Greyish-white, cylindrical, rounded top, outer lip smooth.

41

**jucunda** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 1,5 x 1 mm.  
Pleats: 3 small oblique folds at the base of the aperture.  
Range: Port Alfred and Cape Recife.  
This is a species inquirenda. It has been reported that they have been taken live at Cape Recife. The animal was reddish and the radula if any is unknown. (Unverified report, Strandloper 146). Shell is broadly conic, spire low but distinct.

44

**lara** Turton 1932.  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 5 x 2,8 mm.  
Pleats: 3 oblique at the base of the columella.  
Range: Port Alfred (Type locality).  
Named from a single specimen. Shiny white, slightly pronounced spire. Outer lip heavy and denticulate, columella moderately bulbous.

45

**lepta** Bartsch 1915  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 4,2 x 2,2 mm (5,1 x 2,6mm type)  
Pleats: 6  
Range: Chalumna near East London and Port Alfred.  
White, semi-translucent. Cylindrical, spire slightly produced. Outer lip not thickened, edentulate. Columella nearly vertical and pleated on the lower two thirds.

50

**munda** E.A. Smith 1904  
1904 **munda** E.A. Smith  
1932 **unifasciata** Turton.  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 6,3 x 3 mm.  
Pleats: 4 strong  
Range: East London to Natal to 55 m.  
Pale pinkish brown with axial lines, thickish shell and a high spire. **Unifasciata** is a variety in which the axial lines are interrupted at mid-whorl.

54

**neptuni** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 1,5 x 0,8 mm  
Pleats: 6  
Range: Port Alfred  
Shell greyish-white, ovate, spire flat.

55

**nereia** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 1,2 x 0,7 mm  
Pleats: 2 bold at the base of the columella.  
Range: Port Alfred (type locality)  
This shell was named from a single specimen.

White slender, spire appears sunken in the plate. Outer lip is thin and edentulate.

56

**nevellana** Kilburn 1977  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 7,6 x 4,5 mm  
Pleats: 4 volumella pleats  
Range: Eastern Cape between Port Elizabeth and East London ex pisce.

The holotype is in the Natal Museum and was donated by S.B. Nevill of Durban. It resembles **mosaica** and **bicatanata** but is smaller. The inner edge of the lip has denticles. Colour greyish-white with spiral rows of black spots with a shallow posterior sinus.

64

**perminima** Sowerby 1894  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 1,8 x 0,8 mm.  
Pleats: 4 pleats and 7 to 8 denticles on the labrum. 3 pleats visible on worn specimens.  
Range: Mossel Bay to Natal down to 230 m.

67

**procrita** Kilburn 1977  
VOLVARINELLA  
Size: 5,4 x 2,8 mm  
Pleats: 4 strong  
Range: Mzamba, Pondoland (Type locality) from where it is only known.  
Dark pink with paler and darker band on the body whorl. Columella white, concave. Spire bluntly conical. Holotype in Natal Museum.

68

**pseustes** E.A. Smith 1904  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 2,1 x 1,4 mm  
Pleats: 3  
Range: Fullers Bay. Common at Port Alfred and live at Algoa Bay.  
It has been suggested that this is conspecific with **alborubida** Barnard 1969. But see description of differences under **alborubida**.

69

**pyrrha** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 2,5 x 1,6 mm  
Pleats: 5 (widely spaced on lower two thirds of columella)  
Range: Port Alfred (Type locality)  
Dull white, broadly ovate, spire rounded. Aperture wide, outer lip thin and edentulate.

70

**quantilla** Turton 1932  
MARGINELLA  
Size: 0,9 x 0,6 mm



Pleats: 2

Range: Port Alfred (Type locality)

This shell was named from a single specimen.

Oval, columella moderately bulbous with 2 strong oblique pleats at the base. Aperture wide. Outer lip not thickened, edentulate.

71

rietensis Turton 1932

MARGINELLA

Size: 3,5 x 1 mm

Pleats: 3 bold, oblique with a trace of fourth.

Range: Port Alfred (Type locality)

Cylindrical, although not in the description, plate shows broad pale columella callous which starts one third the way up the columella and extends upwards obscuring the spire. Greyish-white with 4 reddish bands.

73

rufanensis Turton 1932

MARGINELLA

Size: 3 x 1,8 mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Port Alfred (Type locality)

This shell was named from a single specimen.

76

shepstonensis E.A. Smith 1906

MARGINELLA

Size: 6,2 x 3,8 mm

Pleats: 5 with denticles on the columella.

Range: Nthlonyane to Zululand.

Very much like *burnupi*, but *shepstonensis* has axial wavy dark lines on the body whorl. Spire low and medium brown with streaks radiating from it as seen from above. Across mid body whorl a darker band caused by darkening of the axial lines. Possibly the same as the West Australian *pulchella*?

77

sowerbyi Turton 1932

PRUNUM

Size: 9 x 5 mm

Pleats: 2

Range: Port Alfred and Fullers Bay.

Very close to *electrina*. Outer lip is straight, base of columella darker than body whorl which is off-white, semi-transparent. The teeth, situated at the base of the columella also darker.

81

thalia Turton 1932

MARGINELLA

Size: 3 x 2 mm

Pleats: Number not given in the text but 2 strong pleats and 9 denticles are visible on the plate.

Range: Port Alfred (Type locality)

Inner edge of the labrum appears edentulate. Spire flat. Lip produced above the spire. White.

84

whitechurchi Turton 1932

MARGINELLA

Size: 1,4 x 0,8 mm

Pleats: 3 medium strong on the lower third of the lower columella and oblique.

Range: Port Alfred (Type locality)

This shell is similar to *innotabilis*. White ovate, spire not produced and appears to be overlapped by the body whorl in the plate.

85

youngi Kilburn 1977

GLABELLA

Size: 10,2 x 6,7 mm

Pleats: 4

Range: Central Mozambique.

Resembles *bairstowi*.

\*\*\*\*\*

## POEMS ON CONCHOLOGY AND BOTANY

by Sarah Hoare, London 1831

*With two hand-coloured plates and several engravings of shells referred to in the verses.*

With great determination the author sings the praises of the most unlikely assortment of molluscs, and at a distance of 150 years it is difficult to suppress a smile at the extravagant language, and the liberally sprinkled exclamation marks.

Having just recently frightened my bank manager with the purchase of some elegant cabinets to house my collection, I cannot resist quoting two of the quieter verses.

Spare not your gold – 'twere well exchanged

For cabinet of shells arranged

With conchologic skill,

Not to one lovely feature blind;

In ev'ry touch and tint you find,

To please the scientific mind,

New traits of beauty still.

Amusement innocent and pure,  
Which may from folly's path allure,  
And check the vagrant will;

And may you midst this fair display,  
Should disappointment cloud your way,

Should friends deceive, and foes dismay,

Find peace and pleasure still.

\*\*\*\*\*

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATES

The drawings have not all been done to the exact same scale because, with very small shells such as these, a 4 mm shell would have to be twice as big as a 2 mm shell and there is just not enough space. To give a sense of scale, the actual length of each specimen is indicated by a small vertical line next to each drawing. As with the plates in Part I, the dimensions in millimetres are also given in the descriptions below, in brackets.

## PLATE C

Fig A: *Marginella adela* Thiele 1925

(6,8 x 3) Agulhas Bank to Natal S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig B: *Marginella algoensis* E.A. Smith

1901. (4,2 x 3,1) Jeffreys Bay to Haga Haga. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig C: *Marginella amphitrite* Turton

1932. (2,2 x 1,3) Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig D: *Marginella aphanospira* Tomlin

1913 (3,2 x 2,1). Still Bay to Natal. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig E: *Marginella almo* Bartsch 1915.

(5,4 x 3,2). Port Alfred to East London. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig F: *Marginella differens* E.A. Smith

1904. (forma eugenes Barnard 1959 = 8,5 x 4,9). Agulhas Bank, Mossel Bay to Natal. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig G: *Marginella hera* Turton 1932.

(3 x 1,5). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig H: *Marginella indistincta* Turton

1932. (2,2 x 1,1). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig J: *Marginella innotabilis* Turton

1932. (1,4 x 0,9) Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig K: *Marginella io* Turton 1932.

(2 x 1). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig L: *Marginella jucunda* Turton

1932. (1,5 x 1) Port Alfred and Cape Recife. Turton photo.

Fig M: *Marginella lara* Turton 1932.

(5 x 2,8) Port Alfred. Turton photo.

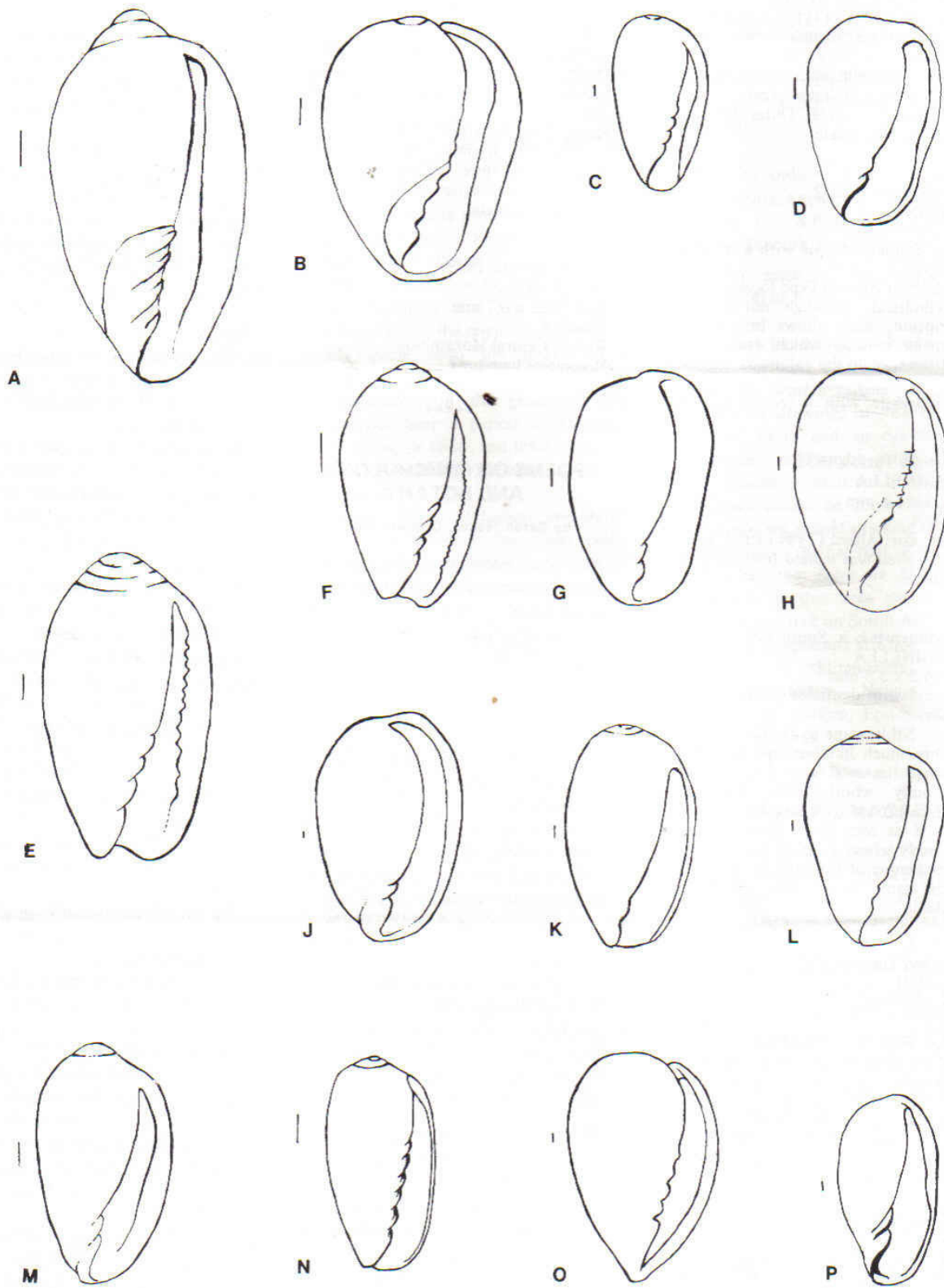
Fig N: *Marginella lepta* Bartsch 1915.

(5,1 x 2,6). Port Alfred and Chaulmna near East London. Bartsch photo.

Fig O: *Marginella neptuni* Turton

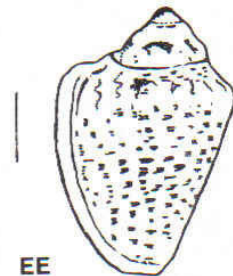
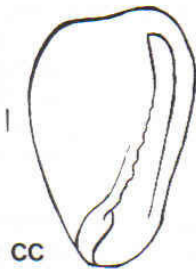
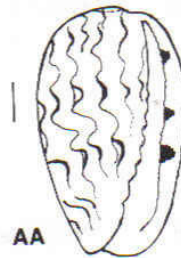
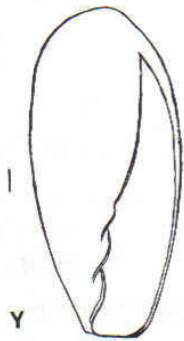
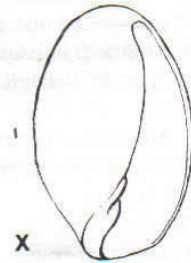
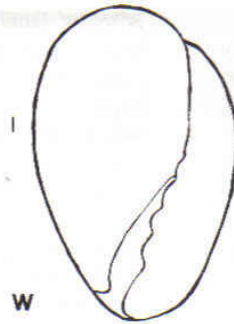
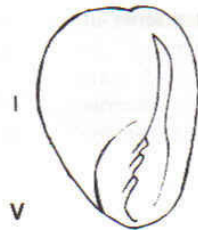
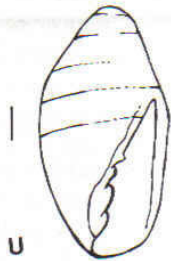
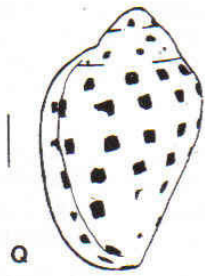
1932. (1,5 x 0,8). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

(Continued on page 6)



MARGINELLIDAE OF SOUTH AFRICA: PART II: PLATE C





(Continued from page 3)

Fig P: *Marginella nereia* Turton 1932. (1,2 x 0,7). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

#### PLATE D

Fig Q: *Marginella nevilleana* Kilburn 1977. (7,6 x 4,5). Ex pisce between Port Elizabeth and East London. Kilburn photo.

Fig R: *Marginella munda* E.A. Smith 1904. (6,3 x 3). East London to Natal. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig S: *Marginella munda* E.A. Smith 1904. (variety *unifasciata* Turton 1932). Turton photo.

Fig T: *Marginella perminima* Sowerby 1894. (1,8 x 0,9). Agulhas Bank, Mossel Bay to Natal. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig U: *Marginella procrita* Kilburn 1977. (5,4 x 2,8). Mzamba, Pondoland. Kilburn photo.

Fig V: *Marginella pseustes* E.A. Smith 1904. (2,1 x 1,4). Algoa Bay, Port Alfred, and Fullers Bay

1904. (2,1 x 1,4). Algoa Bay, Port Alfred, and Fullers Bay to the South of East London. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig W: *Marginella pyrria* Turton 1932. (2,5 x 1,6). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig X: *Marginella quantilla* Turton 1932. (0,9 x 0,6). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig Y: *Marginella rietensis* Turton 1932. (3,5 x 1). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig Z: *Marginella rufanensis* Turton 1932. (3 x 1,8). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig AA: *Marginella shepstonensis* E.A. Smith 1906. (6,2 x 3,8). Nthlonyane to Zululand. S.A. Museum specimen.

Fig BB: *Marginella sowerbyi* Turton 1932. (9 x 5). Port Alfred and Fullers Bay. Turton photo.

Fig CC: *Marginella thalia* Turton 1932. (3 x 2). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig DD: *Marginella whitechurchi* Turton 1932. (1,4 x 0,8). Port Alfred. Turton photo.

Fig EE: *Marginella youngi* Kilburn 1977. (10,2 x 6,7). Central Mozambique. Kilburn photo.

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#### BOOK REVIEW

**MONOGRAPH OF THE GENUS MARGINELLA** by G.B. Sowerby Jun, F.L.S. Reprinted from the *Thesaurus Conchyliorum* of 1847 and published by L.P. Burnay, Lisbon, Price \$9,00 U.S.

This enterprising project gives present-day conchologists access to a part of one of the classics of conchological literature that has become so scarce and expensive that few people can afford to buy the copies that occasionally come onto the market. The Sowerby family compiled a series of monographs on the genera of the mollusca over a period of 45 years beginning in 1846, and these comprise the monumental *Thesaurus Conchyliorum*.

Luis Burnay of Lisbon, and Dr W. Backhuys of Rotterdam, have collaborated in publishing the section on the Marginellidae. The original Latin and English text is reproduced in facsimile, and five separate plates of 108 species are tucked into a pocket at the back of the booklet.

Collectors specialising in this family will be particularly pleased to have this record at a reasonable price, although the family is desperately in need of revision and an up-to-date consolidation is overdue.

\*\*\*\*\*

1932 *nereia* Turton 1932  
1933 *becki* Turton

#### MARGINELLA

Size: Very variable. Refer colour plate.

Pleats: 4

Range: Jeffreys Bay to Zululand. Found live in East London area. (13 x 8mm, 11 x 6mm, 34 x 18,5mm, 21 x 11mm).

*Punctilineata* E.A. Smith (= *cosmia* Bartsch 1915 vide Wagner and Abbot) has been suggested to be *piperata*, but when seen in quantity the *cosmia* can always be distinguished from the rest by the blotch on the lower columella and the horizontal stripes on the lip. *Piperata* has also been found live at Gonubie (July 1965), 5 specimens were taken and are now in the S.A. Museum, 2 were large specimens of the normal *piperata* with no sinus and the other 3 were smaller versions of the same form of *piperata*.

*Piperata* from Macassar Beach (dredged False Bay), found 6 dead shells but the pattern of the shells was like that of *piperata* with no

#### BOOK REVIEW

**Moluscos Marinos de Canarias Y Madera (Gastropoda)** by Fritz Nordsieck and Francisco Garcia-Talavera published by the Aula Cultura de Tenerife (1979).

Can be ordered from the Aula de Cultura; Cabildo Insular de Tenerife Av. Jose A.P. Rivera 2, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands.

The price is 700 Pesetas, about \$9,00 or R7,50.

This is a paperback book of some 208 pages of text and index written in Spanish, with a further 46 plates of coloured drawings of 588 species. A useful book and an eye-opener for anyone who might think that the molluscan population of the Canary Islands would be somewhat limited. Perhaps we should examine the tourist possibilities of that part of the world? The fact that there are 22 species of limpets in that area should have a sobering effect on South Africans who have a complacent attitude about this family of "klipmossels", not to mention Mitres, Naticas, Turrids, Murex, Cymatium, Epitonium, and a score of others.

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#### FATHOMS MAGAZINE

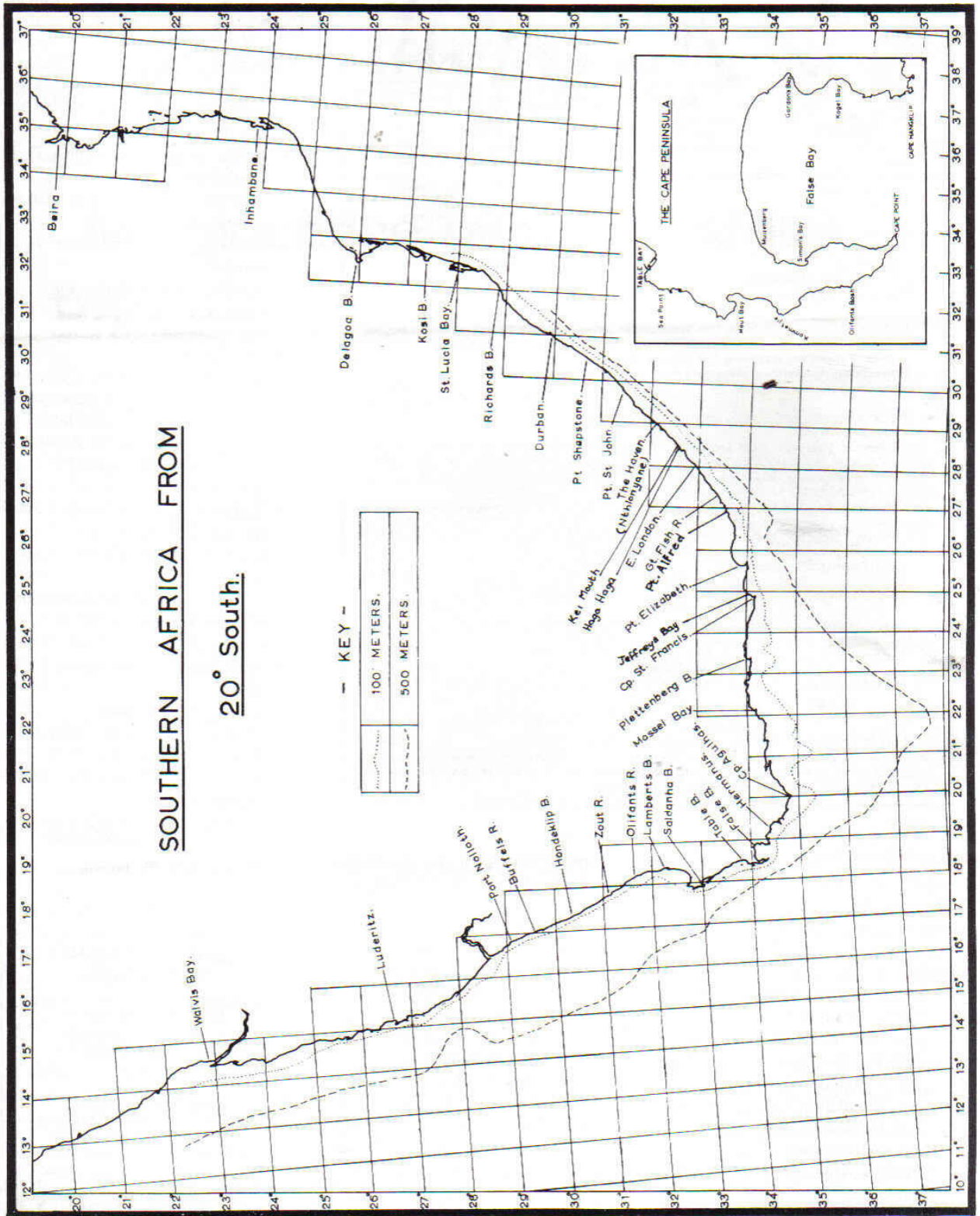
Through the initiative of Terry Murray of Durban, our Society was given good publicity in the divers' magazine FATHOMS, in their issue for November/December 1980. This excellent periodical is available through the C.N.A. and selected sport and dive shops, or direct from the Durban-based publishers at R9 for six issues. There are plenty of interesting articles and splendid illustrations with general appeal even to non-divers. A special feature is the column "Shell Talk" by Les Whatmore. A worth-while periodical and strongly recommended.

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**SOME NAME CHANGES**

Our thanks to Jim Springsteen of Australia for pointing out the following reclassifications. The list should have been published long ago, but better late than never.

- Bullia (Bullia) achatina** (Lamarck 1816). This is the correct name for what we have been calling **Bullia digitalis** Meuschen 1787. Meuschen's Museum Geversianum is a non-binomial work, hence not available for taxonomic purposes, and the first available name is that of Lamarck. Other synonyms for this species are:  
**Buccinum digitale** Dillwyn 1817  
**Leiodomus quoyii** Swainson 1840  
**Bullia semiflammea** Reeve 1846  
**Bullia capensis** Euthyme 1885  
**Bullia almo** Bartsch 1915  
**Bullia dulcis** Sowerby 1921.

- Bullia (Bullia) callosa** (Wood 1828). The authorship of this species has been wrongly credited to Gray and Reeve by Barnard and Kensley. Wood is the author.
- Bullia (Bullia) tenuis** (Reeve 1846). Both Barnard (1959) and Kensley (1974) credit the authorship to Gray. Barnard adds to the confusion by citing both Wood 1828, and Gray 1839. It should be pointed out that Wood's "Buccinum" **tenuis** of 1828 is in fact **Cassia (Cypraeacassis) tenuis** (Wood 1828), a West American helmet shell, while **Buccinum tenuis** Gray 1839 is actually a species of **Volutopsis** Moerch 1857 from subarctic seas. The correct author for our **Bullia** is Reeve.
- Bolma (Bolma) andersoni** (Smith 1902)  
In the Records of the Australian Museum, Vol 32, No 1, of May

1979, Beu and Ponder have reclassified certain Turbinidae including our species previously known in the genus **Astraea**. Refer to the species illustrated in Kensley's Sea-Shells of Southern Africa, Nos 127, 128 and 129. The following are therefore also the revised names:

- Bolma guttata bathyraphis** (E.A. Smith 1899)  
Previously referred to as **Astraea gilchristi** (Sowerby).
- Bolma (Bolma) tayloriana** (E.A. Smith 1880)  
Previously **Astraea tayloriana** (Smith).

The following are the correct forms of the five South African **Architectonicidae** species illustrated in Kensley. For easy reference, we have quoted the number of the illustration in Kensley. Refer also to the Records of the Australian Museum, Vol 31, No 13 by T.A. Garrard.

- Architectonica (Architectonica) maxima** (Philippi 1848)  
Listed by Kensley (248) as **A maximum**.
- Architectonica (Architectonica) perspectiva** (Linnaeus 1758)  
Kensley 249: **A. perspectivum**.
- Heliachus (Claraxis) asperus** (Hinds 1844)  
Kensley 251: **H. asper**.
- Heliachus (Torinista) infundibuliformis** (Gmelin 1791)  
Kensley 252: **H. crenellus**, which is a **nomen dubium**.
- Philippia (Psilaxis) radiata** (Roeding 1798)  
Kensley 258: **Ph. layardi**.

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