



# AGM 2017

## Note 2 on the upcoming AGM

Dear shell collectors, dealers and other conchologically-inspired parties,

This is the second note concerning the upcoming 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM). This note is to be read in conjunction with Note 1 on the AGM (SCSA/LET/003 – available for download on the new SCSA Website at [www.scsa.co.za](http://www.scsa.co.za)).

### **New 2017 AGM Date**

Following the distribution of Note 1, the Committee was informed that Mr Alan Seccombe, our speaker for the 2017 AGM, would not be able to attend on the planned date, as he (and Roy – our Society VP) would be in Belgium, flying the SA flag as exhibitors at the Belgian Shell Show. This, of course, prompted us to find a new date for the AGM, to try and accommodate Messrs Seccombe and Aiken.

The new date for the AGM has now been set for Saturday **3 June 2017**, just two weekends later than the original date. The venue (still the Netcare Pretoria East hospital conference room) has been rebooked (thanks to Anton Groenewald), so we are once again set to go! We hope to see many of our shelling friends at the event.



*Alan in his element at the 2016 AGM*

### **2017 AGM Shell Exhibits**

In consideration of the AGM Shell Exhibits, we have decided on the following four categories:

- Best Artistic Exhibit
- Best Scientific Exhibit
- Best Beginner Exhibit
- Best Shell Family Exhibit

In addition, one exhibit will win the “Best Exhibit of the Day” award.

We are hoping that these categories will make it more accessible to a wider range of participants.

A prize (trophy) will be awarded within each category. The Society will undertake to ensure that, where appropriate, winner details are inscribed onto trophy plaques for posterity. In addition, we will be taking photos of all the Exhibits, exhibitors, winners and trophies for inclusion into a news piece in the Sea Bones Newsletter.

The following guidelines are applicable to each of the above mentioned Exhibit categories, in order to be eligible for a prize:

#### Best Artistic Exhibit

- This is arguably the more “fun” type of exhibit, and should be fully accessible to even the most novice of collectors – although everyone is invited to participate.
- The exhibit will be adjudicated primarily on the following aspects:
  - Creativeness – materials used, colours, mounting/display methods, lighting, how many elements are used and integrated into the design of the exhibit, and so on.
  - Originality – has it been done before, and how much of it is your own idea.
  - Written Information – integration of any relevant information (text, a story, written notes, and so on), and how it is prepared and presented in the display.
  - Theme Integration – how the exhibit ties in with the title of your chosen theme.
  - Layout and Presentation – the overall appearance.



#### Best Scientific Exhibit

- In contrast to the above, this is the more advanced type of exhibit, to be attempted by experienced collectors – although anyone is welcome to try!
- The exhibit will be adjudicated primarily on the following aspects:
  - Shell Appearance – use of clean shells (unless you are showcasing Byne’s Disease!), mounting material visibility/intrusion, use of oil (not too much...).
  - Accuracy of Data – accuracy and correctness of shell nomenclature, correct use of shell forms vs species, author, dates and other scientific information.
  - Completeness of Data – inclusion of shell nomenclature, author information, collection date, collection locality information, collection method, collection habitat, shell characteristics, and other pertinent information.
  - Spelling and Grammar – correct use of grammar, use of capitals and italics, and correct spelling of words, including shell nomenclature, author names, place names, and so on.
  - Theme Integration – how the exhibit ties in with the title of your chosen theme.
  - Layout and Presentation – the overall appearance, including the use of lines, shapes, symmetry and overall neatness.



#### Best Beginner Exhibit

- This is an “open” category and is aimed at novice or young collectors, i.e. any exhibit pertaining to one of the following:
  - Created by a Society Member younger than 12 years of age;
  - OR
  - Created by a Society Member who has been collecting shells for fewer than 3 years.



- The exhibit will be adjudicated primarily on the following aspects:
  - Creativeness – materials used, colours, mounting/display methods, lighting, how many elements are used and integrated into the design of the exhibit, and so on
  - Theme Integration – how the exhibit ties in with the title of your chosen theme.
  - Layout and Presentation – the overall appearance.

#### Best Shell Family Exhibit

- The theme and focal point of this exhibit should be shells from a specific Conchological Family (e.g. cowries, cones, strombs, pectens, etc).
- The exhibit should be developed to showcase the selected Family, and could be further reduced to showcase only a specific Genus or Species.
- The exhibit will be adjudicated primarily on the following aspects:
  - Shell Appearance – use of clean shells (unless you are showcasing Byne’s Disease!), mounting material visibility/intrusion, use of oil (not too much...).
  - Completeness of data – inclusion of shell nomenclature, author information, collection date, collection locality information, collection method, collection habitat, shell characteristics, and other pertinent information.
  - Spelling and Grammar – correct use of grammar, use of capitals and italics, and correct spelling of words, including shell nomenclature, author names, place names, and so on.
  - Theme Integration –how the exhibit ties in with the title of your chosen theme (i.e. your selected shell Family, Genus or Species).
  - Layout and presentation – the overall appearance, including the use of lines, shapes, symmetry and overall neatness.



#### Best Exhibit of the Day

- Simply put, the one that has the greatest lasting impression on us and that takes our breath away...
- This “fifth category” is, in fact, not a category in itself – i.e. entrants cannot opt to enter an exhibit into this category.



On a final note, entrants will have to specify within which category an exhibit is entered. The easiest way to do this is to make a label or sign and display it as part of the exhibit. Only one selected category per exhibit will be allowed.

Just as a reminder, the “theme” for the 2017 AGM Shell Exhibition is:

### **Let Your Imagination Run Wild**

We are certain that most AGM attendees will be able to come up with at least one creation, considering the nature and openness of the theme and the number of categories within which to exhibit.

**Updated Society Constitution**

Attached to this Note is the proposed updated Society Constitution. We have reviewed the changes and accepted it as a Committee – thanks to Ken Brown for revamping it for us – but, as per the rules, we need to have it accepted formally by our Members, either at an AGM, or at a Special General Meeting. We would like all our Members to read through it and comment, as we would like to propose to have it accepted at the upcoming 2017 AGM.

Please forward any questions or comments to us before the AGM. We will accept a “no comment” as an acceptance of any changes.

More information will be shared on the AGM as it becomes available.

**And Finally...**

On a side note, some of you reading this may remember the Caption Contest we held last year following the 2016 AGM. Perhaps you are wondering what in the world happened following the contest – who won what. The long and the short of it is we simply received too few entries to establish an outcome. Kudos to the few who ventured to enter, and a big “thank you” to Alan who was prepared to sponsor three great shells; perhaps we will run a repeat following the 2017 AGM, hopefully with stronger participation.

Until then, happy shelling!



*23 March 2017*

