

October 2000 - Jan 2001

SYDNEY SHELLER

Newsletter of the Shell Club of Sydney
NSW Branch, The Malacological Society of Australasia Limited ACN 067 894 848

Shell Club of Sydney Mission Statement:

To appreciate, understand and preserve shells and their environment and to share this with others.

Next Meeting:

24th Feb 2000
(Normally 4th Saturday)

**Ryde Eastwood
Leagues Club**
117 Ryedale Rd
West Ryde, Sydney

1.30 for 2.00pm

**Seminar: Ron Moylan
NZ trip, and other topics.**

Contributions:

Please send contributions to:
Steve Dean

**166 Narrabeen Park Parade,
Mona Vale NSW 2103**

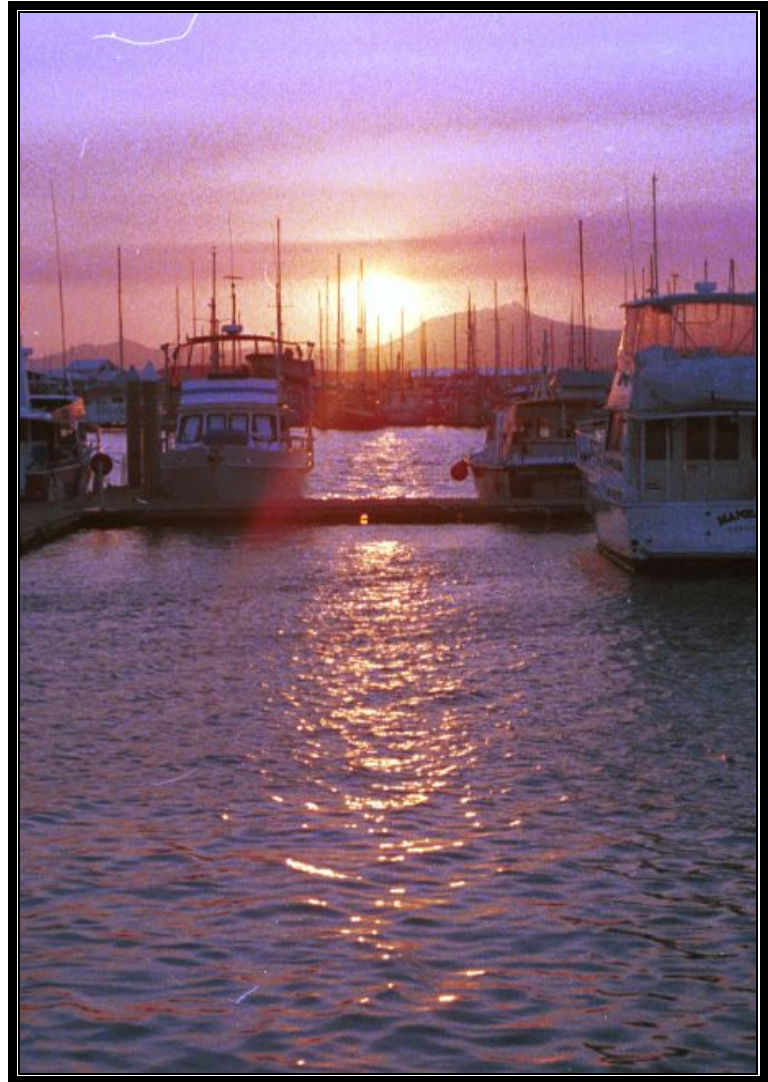
Text in electronic form only. Photos, and discs by mail, or preferably by email to steve@dean.as

If you cannot get your text onto disc, then **Karen Barnes** may be prepared to type it for you - send material to:

**17-9 Severn St
Maroubra NSW 2035**

Office - Bearers:

President: Patty Jansen
Vice Pres: Maureen Anderson
Secretary: Chris & Karen Barnes
Treasurer: Peter Pienaar
Sheller Editor: Steve Dean
Raffles: Maureen Anderson
(*The executive plans the field trips*)



Gladstone Marina from 'The Australiana'

Some of the topics inside:

- News and Classifieds
- Shell List from Swains Trip (cover photo)
- Club Minutes – October, November
- Favourite Spots – Long Reef
- Comprehensive Shell Image web site
- October NSW Shell Show results

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Bradbury NSW 2560

Or to the Sheller Editor, Steve Dean

Note: The Sydney Shell Club is a branch of
the Malacological Society of Australasia
(MSA) It is preferred that you are also a
member of the MSA. MSA membership
can be organised through Des Beechey
Des@phm.gov.au
26 Malga Ave
Roseville Chase NSW 2069

**Members News, &
Buy, Swap & Sell:**

Wanted contributions to this free
classified advertisement and gossip
section of the Sheller. Also articles
wanted. Please get electronic
contributions to Steve Dean, or if typing
is required to Karen Barnes (See front
cover for contact details)

I have been a shell collector for over
twenty five years and I collect all
families, common to uncommon. I have
a large trade surplus that I would like to
exchange. I also buy and sell but prefer
to exchange. If interested please send
me a list of your available shells and I
will forward to you a list of my available
shells. If you prefer to sell shells please
include prices with the list.

I also have common land snails mostly
from the Phillipines and a good supply of
fossil marine shells.

Bob Emory
7937 Amandas Crossing
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VISITING – PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Swains 2000

Steve Dean

I have finally cleaned and labelled all of my shells from the Swains trip (see last sheller for article). The Terebridae took the longest to clean.

I have prepared a list of the species I kept to give readers an idea of the varieties we encountered. As I kept specimens of most species, the list below probably includes 85% of all species collected during the expedition.

I have 8 species that I have not yet identified. The varieties collected that I did not get specimens of were mainly small Mitridae, Turridae and some Terebridae. I have only listed those I am certain of.

I noticed an interesting trend when searching the references for species names and details. Many of the specimens were their less common yellow or golden colour form. This was especially true for the bivalves. Bivalve species described as only yellow at the umbones or yellow internally were often bright yellow all over. Some of the sand shells of the outer Swains tend to be more yellow with brighter colours than is normal for their various species. (At least in the particular reefs we went to)

Bivalves:

Cardita	incrassata	Tellina	chloroleuaca	Pterygia	crenulata
Glycymeris	reevei	Tellina	astrolabei	Neocancilla	clathrus
Arca	ventricosa	Exotica	virgulata	Lophiotoma	acuta
Arca	avellana	Tellina	servicostata	Eucithara	cylindrica
Barbatia	foliata	Macoma	myaeformis	Eucithara	sp
		Tellina	sp like tongana	Pupa	fumata
Tucetona	pectunculus	Anodontia	omissa	Pupa	nitidula
Lima	lima vulgaris	Barbatia	amygdalumtostum	Acteon	virgatus
Comptopallium	radula	Gomphina	undulosa	Diodora	ticaonica
Mimachlamys	lentiginosa	Atrina	vexillum	Diodora	octogona
Chlamys	squamosa	Pinctada	margaritifera	Patella	flexuosa
Lioconcha	castrensis			Capulus	danieli
Lioconcha	annettae			Clanculus	atropurpureus
Lioconcha	ornata			Australium	rhodostomum
Callista	semisulcata			Trochus	maculatus
Pitar	pellucidus			Trochus	hanleyanus
Pitar	sp (515 Biv of Aust)			Trochus	histro
Fimbria	fimbriata			Monilea	belcheri
Acrosterigma	angulata			Turbo	perspicuosus
Acrosterigma	elongata			Chrysostoma	paradoxum
				Ethalia	guamensis
				Pseudostomatella	decolorata
Fragum	fragum			Modus	tectum
Timoclea	marica			Malea	pomum
Fulvia	australe			Casmaria	ponderosa
Dosinia	extranea			Semicassis	angasi
Dosinia	histrio			Pyramidella	acus
Acrosterigma	unicolor			Pyramidella	sulcata
Septifer	excisus			Pyramidella	terebellum
Spondylus	albibarbatus			Otopeura	sp
Spondylus	nicobaricus			Terebra	areolata
Chama	pacifica			Terebra	subulata
Myochama	anomoides			Terebra	maculata
Tellina	robusta			Terebra	guttata
Tellina	virgata			Terebra	crenulata
Tellina	gargadia			Terebra	cerithina
Tellina	minuta			Terebra	laevigata
Tellina	excultata			Terebra	punctatostriata
Exotica	clathrate			Terebra	jenningsi
				Terebra	tricolor
				Terebra	affinis
				Terebra	dimidiata
				Terebra	cingulifera
				Terebra	chlorata

Gastopods & Others:

Oliva	miniacea
Oliva	guttata
Alocospira	rosea
Nassa	serta
Thais	echinata
Thais	armigeria
Drupa	ricinus
Muricopsis	fiscella
Cronia	margariticola
Vasum	ceramicum
Phos	textum
Engina	lineata
Engina	alveolata
Peristernia	fastigium
Nassarius	glans
Nassarius	coronatus
Nassarius	splendidulus
Nassarius	albescens
Nassarius	concinus
Nassarius	sp.
Pyrene	deshayesis
Mitra	mitra
Vexillum	granosum
Vexillum	polygonum
Cancilla	aegra
Vexillum	exasperatum

Conus	textile	Rhinoclavis	fasiata	Cypraea	errones
Conus	mamoreus	Rhinoclavis	aspera	Cypraea	caurica
Conus	striatus	Rhinoclavis	traillii		
Conus	imperialis	Rhinoclavis	vertagus	Murex	queenslandicus
Conus	miles			Murex	kerslake
Conus	ammiralis	Maoricolpus	roseus	Murex	akritos
Conus	tessulatus				
Conus	spectrum	Haliotis	varia	Tudivasum	armigera
Conus	miliaris miliaris	Haliotis	ovina		
Conus	litteratus				
Conus	pulicarius	Strombus	variabilis		
Conus	eburneus	Strombus	gibberulus		
Conus	omaria	Strombus	dilatatus		
Conus	litoglyphus	Strombus	lentiginosus		
Conus	generalis	Strombus	mutabilis		
Conus	arenatus	Strombus	erythrinus		
Conus	capitaneus	Terebellum	terebellum		
Conus	ebraeus				
Conus	coronatus	Natica	gualtieriana	Haliotis	asinina
Conus	flavidus	Natica	vitellus	Lambis	lambis
Conus	virgo	Natica	pseustes	Lambis	truncata
Conus	suturatus	Natica	onca	Strombus	labiatus
Conus	frigidus	Polinices	maurus	Vitularia	crenifer
Conus	ferrugineus	Polinices	melastomus	Vexillum	costatum
Atys	cylindricus	Polinices	aurantius	Mitra	fraga
Atys	naucum	Polinices	mammilla	Cancilla	granatina
Bulla	ampulla	Polinices	peselephanti	Codakia	paytenorum
		Polinices	powisiana	Hytossa	hyotis
Mitrella	ligula	Melo	amphora		
Dentalium	longitrorsum	Cymbiola	pulchra f. peristicta		
		Amoria	maculata		
Psilaxis	radiatus	Amoria	canaliculata		
		Lyria	deliciosa		
Cerithium	tenellum	Trivia	oryza	Spondylus	squamosus
Pseudovertagus	aluco	Cypraea	lynx	Isognomon	isognomon
Pseudovertagus	phylarchus	Cypraea	arabica	Cypraea	annulus
Cerithium	nodulosum	Cypraea	eglantina		

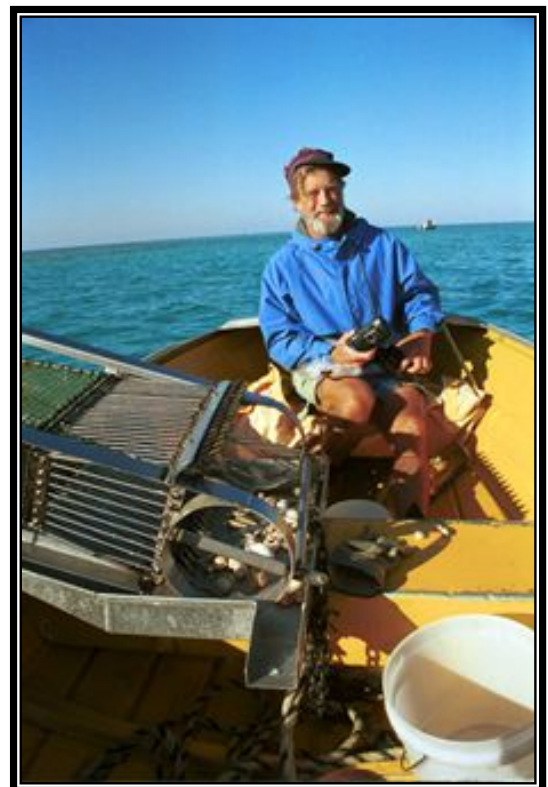
Additional Species kept, but not by me:

Haliotis	asinina
Lambis	lambis
Lambis	truncata
Strombus	labiatus
Vitularia	crenifer
Vexillum	costatum
Mitra	fraga
Cancilla	granatina
Codakia	paytenorum
Hytossa	hyotis

Additional species observed that I think no one kept:

Spondylus	squamosus
Isognomon	isognomon
Cypraea	annulus

Fred with a dredge



October Minutes

Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club on 28/10/2000.

The meeting was opened by M. Anderson at 2:53pm following the annual shell show.

Maureen thanked A. Brown, S. Dean and R. Moylan for their efforts. Ron and our President P. Jansen were in New Zealand attending the Auckland Shell Show.

Maureen welcomed new member Jackie Denistone (transferred from S.A.), plus Angas Hawkes and friend Shanti from the south coast.

Book Reviews Turned into a book auction this month. Angas Hawkes kindly donated "Shells of Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef", which was purchased by D. Woodhouse.

General Business

Note: The Christmas party / field trip to Callala Bay will be held on Sunday November 12th 2000, meeting time 12.00 noon for lunch at Callala Bay (*not* Callala Beach). Followed by a 3.32pm low tide for those interested in exploring the local habitat.

Treasurer, P. Pienaar reported that Ryde Eastwood was charging us for tea, coffee and biscuits and this would entail a \$1.10 charge per person per meeting. It was agreed unanimously

by the meeting to collect this fee via an honour system.

There was discussion about the shell show categories. It was decided that to allow for greater participation from the group, there should be some more general categories representing wider and more varied interests, for the next shell show. It was unanimously agreed that the categories be discussed at the AGM prior to the next annual shell show.

Next Meeting 25th November, at 2.00pm

Meeting closed at 3:25pm.
C. & K. Barnes
Secretary

November Minutes

Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club on 25/11/2000.

The meeting was opened by P. Jansen at 2:00pm.

Field Trip Report

Callala Bay NSW - Christmas Field trip. The trip to Callala Bay was attended by P. Pienaar and family, F. & K. McCamley, N. & M. Anderson, A. Miskelly, C. & K. Barnes. S. & K. Dean arrived later in the afternoon but as bad weather had set in everyone else had already departed.

Cypraea vitellus Linnaeus, 1758 were present, along with a few cones, one live *C. papilliferus* Sowerby, 1834, lots of *Eburnea* Sp on the rocks, *Charonia lampas rubecunda* (Perry, 1811) were quite large and common, a very dead *Mitra solida* Reeve, 1844, but no Epitoniidae.

The day was drizzly, the rocks were muddy and slippery and the rock platform jutted out into the bay about 90 metres at low tide. Lots of marine life was present including, chitons, octopus, a dead volute *Cymbiola magnifica* (Gebauer, 1802) a few *Cabestana spengleri* Pery, 1811 and lots of turbos in crevices close to the water some pectens and collumbellids. Maureen found a very mud encrusted \$10 note. The bay appears to be the local nursery and breeding ground for sharks as egg cases and baby sharks abounded.

Ashley also found a couple of small striped squid apparently named *Sepioloidea lineolata* Quoy & Gaimard, 1832 at the edge of the rock platform among sand and sea grass.

New Zealand Shell Show, Auckland Ron Moylan reported that the show was well attended. There was some material of exceptionally high quality and some exotic pieces, including a large display of endemic material. Ron made a video tape which he will present at the January meeting. Merv Cooper and Ron judged some of the categories. The weather was good and there were lots of shells on the beaches. Wellington will host the next show in three years time. The show was well organised and run. It wasn't quite as big as Melbourne or Sydney but was well attended by the general public.

General Business

According to the CSIRO, the New Zealand *Mauri scalpas* has invaded NSW, covering an area the size of Tasmania. We can only guess at the impact this must be having on the native scallops and screw shells. Ashley has collected them live at Bottle & Glass rocks in Sydney Harbour. Michael Keats reported that Ulrich Knodel has a new book out. The Protecting Wetlands Steering Committee of the Sydney Coastal Council wants volunteers. John Franklin has been nominated as a councillor for the MSA E-council where people from all over the world are connected by e-mail. The existing council of the MSA are not standing

for re election. The Sydney members are pleading exhaustion. A new copy Waves was distributed. It was reported that Ron Evans, a cone collector from Nambour, has passed away.

Raffles

Maureen thanked R. Moylan, F & K. McCamley, M. Keats and P. Pienaar for donations of raffle prizes over the past year. However if we still want to have raffles we will need some prizes in the future.

Ron Moylan has had a cone shell named after him by a Belgian acquaintance in publishing. The Gloria Maris has named the *Conus moylani* originally called polygramus but believed to be a different species.

Chris Barnes reported finding a *Cypraea chinensis* Gmelin, 1791 at Little Bay, Sydney and finding a beached *Cypraea kieneri* Hidalgo, 1906 at Malabar. These shells bring the number of species personally collected from the Sydney region to twenty nine.

Meeting closed at 3:12pm.
Next Meeting 27th January 2001, at 2.00pm C. & K. Barnes, Secretary



Favourite spots around Sydney: Long Reef

Patty Jansen

Long Reef is one of my favourite spots around Sydney. Since it's a marine reserve and you are not allowed to collect, I take only a camera, but it is amazing what you might find on a day when the tide is out. After you have walked across the beach, and, during weekdays, have shooed a few pelicans out of your way, you come to an area where a rocky reef runs almost at a 90 degree angle with the beach. About 50 metres behind this reef, in the middle of the platform that extends at low tide, is a shallow pool filled with lots of smallish loose rocks. This is really the most interesting part in all of the Long Reef area, so unless you are feeling energetic or the sea is particularly calm, there is no need to keep walking on, although the beach around the point is pretty, and there are lots of interesting seabirds at the point.



Sometimes when you're lucky you might find unusual things like *Phalium labiatum*.

As all intertidal areas, Long Reef is strangely temperamental. A few weeks back supposedly at the lowest tide of the year, Steve and I looked furiously but found little else but seastars and millions of chitons. At other times you will find a cowrie under every rock you turn. I prefer autumn and spring low tides to summer ones, because at these times it is not so busy and I feel the 'catch' is better at that time of the year. In winter, it is too windy, so water surfaces, through which you are trying to peer finding animals, are permanently rippled.

One thing you are sure to find at Long Reef when the tide is low: other shells! On two separate occasions I have met Steve Dean there completely by accident. On one of these days, after leaving Steve and Keith on the rock platform, we ran into Phil Coleman in the car park!



The rocks in the pool reveal a multitude of cowries, mostly *C. errones*, *erosa* or *caputserpentis*. They seem to live quite high in the intertidal, and a very low tide can almost be too low for them. In amongst these you will find quite a few *Mitra carbonaria*, and thousands of small shells, such as *Bittium granarium*, *Rissoina angasi* and various *Columbellids*, *Trochids* and *Fissurellids*. *Conus papilliferus* is also quite common there.

Lower down you will find *Scutus anatinus*, *Cabestana spengleri* and *Charonia rubecunda*. *Turbo imperialis* has become very common in this area within the last few years. Whereas they were quite unusual then, now they are absolutely everywhere. Smooth shells, spined shells, and every variety in between. In this zone, sea urchins are very common, as well as all types of sea stars, worms, anemones. Blue-ringed octopus are very common at Long Reef, so you have to mind your fingers when turning rocks.

Only at the very low tide mark you will find *Haliotis coccoradiata* and the occasional specimen of *H. rubra*.

Editor:

Long Reef is an excellent location for introducing people to the wonders of the sea and temperate rocky shores.

Shortly my son's cub pack plans to visit Long Reef.

When I bumped into Patty I was there with my son and one of his friends to make sure it was suitable for eight year olds. The other child was from UK. He had a great time looking at the array of creatures



Rissoina crassi

Upcoming Shell Club Meeting Presentations

January - Member's talks; **February** - Ron Moylan - NZ trip; **March** - Jack Hannan (NSW Dept of Fisheries) ?
April - Ashley Miskelly – Photography; **May** - Adrain Browne - shark's teeth

New Conchology Web Site Debuts

From: Worldwide
worldwide@erols.com

Dear fellow conchologists, malacologists, and shell enthusiasts, As ardent shell collectors and molluscan researchers much like myself, we have seen the Internet grow and open up a whole new world for conchologists. Through interesting and informative Web sites, the world of conchology is providing new information resources never before available to the shell collectors and researchers, all at the click of a mouse button.

A new shell image Web site is now available on-line for your perusal and bookmarking. "Conchology - The Art & Science of Nature" at www.worldwideconchology.com is a spin-off and evolution of the long-standing Worldwide Specimen Shells Web site. It is non-commercial and includes an expanded version of the popular shell image gallery from the old Web site with hundreds of new and high quality shell images, multimedia slide presentations, as

well as some interesting and entertaining multimedia diversions.

The Web site is graphics intensive, so please be patient for the first visit while the images and graphics load onto your monitor. Your subsequent visits will be more streamlined after your Web browser caches the pages from your initial browse through the site.

We have now also revamped the Worldwide Specimen Shells Web site and created a smaller, more easily viewed Web price list of specimen shells for your consideration.

<http://www.erols.com/worldwide>

If you would like to receive update notifications to **worldwideconchology.com**, or the **Worldwide Specimen Shells Price List**, send us a blank email for each with the following Subject Line:

worldwideconchology.com
UPDATE NOTIFICATION
 or
WEB PRICE LIST NOTIFICATION

Example Extracts from the web site:
Blaesospira echinus ("Wright" Pfeiffer, 1864)
 Among the most beautiful examples of the Cuban land shell fauna, or for

that matter any tropical terrestrial mollusk, is **Blaesospira echinus**, found in Piñar del Rio, western Cuba. This small operculate in the Family **Annulariidae** lives on the limestone "mogotes" or haystack knolls in a limited range around Viñales. The shell is no larger than the diameter of a pencil eraser! Some of the outstanding features of the intricately sculptured shell are the relatively long and hollow spines that project from the corkscrew-shaped shell, the fine, closely and evenly spaced axial threads along the shell and the strong multispiral lamella rising from the operculum. The hollow spines most likely act to radiate heat away from the shell. A number of arid environment and tropical terrestrial species exhibit a sculpture of ribs, spines, or other projecting structures which also serve the same purpose; to dissipate heat.



Extract from the shell images section : **The illustrated Buccinidae are from private, or museum collections.**

Click on the thumbnail images for an enlarged view. Images will open up in a separate, resizable window.



Ancistrolepis eucosmius Dall - Alaska, 26mm; trawled in 180 meters of water off Kodiak Island.



Beringius aleuticus Dall - Alaska, 75-76mm.



Beringius crebicostatus Dall - Alaska, 69mm.



Buccinum castaneum Dall - Alaska, 62mm.



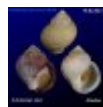
Buccinum sigmatopleura Dall - Alaska, 67mm.



Colus periscelidus Dall - Alaska, 39mm.



Colus periscelidus Dall - Alaska, 38mm; trawled in the Aleutian Islands.



Liomesus nux Dall - Alaska, 24-27mm.



Plicafusus oceanodromae Dall - Alaska, 44-51mm.



Siphonofusus chrysodomoides Schepman - Western Australia, 95-112mm; a deep water species from 450 meters of water.



Volutopsius callhorinus Dall - Alaska, 44-45mm.



Volutopsius regularis Dall - Alaska, 46-51mm.

**NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH
ANNUAL SHELL SHOW RESULTS
Saturday 28th October 2000**

Categories	Position	Winner
Display of 'White Coloured' Shells:	1 st	Adrian Browne
	2 nd	David Woodhouse
	3 rd	Chris & Karen Barnes
Display of Cones: size above 60mm	1 st	Adrian Browne
	2 nd	Steve Dean
Display of Cowries: size above 60mm	1 st	Chris & Karen Barnes
	2 nd	Steve Dean
Display of Cowries: size 30 to 50mm	1 st	Chris & Karen Barnes
	2 nd	Steve Dean
Display of Cowries: size under 28mm	1 st	Chris & Karen Barnes
	2 nd	Peter Pienaar
	3 rd	Steve Dean
Display of Harps:	1 st	Peter Pienaar
	2 nd	Adrian Browne
Display of Endemic Volutes: size above 60mm	1 st	Peter Pienaar
	2 nd	Adrian Browne
Display of Mitres:	1 st	Adrian Browne
Display of Marginella:	1 st	Steve Dean

Some of the Judges comments:

White shells: Lots of imagination – defining “white” is difficult. High standard congratulations to all five entrants.

Cones: Both excellent efforts!

Cowries 30mm – 50mm: Both first rate!

Volutes endemic: Both very fine.

Cowries under 28mm: Quality of shells was very good. Labelling & Display were lacking in some exhibits.