



# SYDNEY SHELLER

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

## Next Meeting:

**27<sup>th</sup> March 2004**

(normally 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday)

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

1.30 for 2.00pm

**Presentation:**  
**Ashley Miskelly**

## Contributions:

Please send contributions to:

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

Text by disk or email only. Photos, and  
disks by mail, or preferably by email to  
[steve@dean.as](mailto:steve@dean.as)

If you cannot get your text onto disk,  
then **Karen Barnes** may be prepared  
to type it for you - send material to:  
**1/7-9 Severn St Maroubra NSW  
2035**

## Club Executive:

### Office bearers:

President: Patty Jansen  
Vice Pres: Maureen Anderson  
Secretary: Chris Barnes

### Honorary:

Raffles: Maureen Anderson  
Treasurer: Peter Pienaar  
Sheller Editor: Steve Dean

## Shell Club of Sydney Mission Statement:

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



Mature *Cypraea tigris* Northern NSW 2004 98.4mm  
The shell colouring is quite dark, except for the three striking  
and unusual wavy yellow lines across the dorsum.  
See inside for more details of this and other melanistic tiger  
cowries observed at the same location.

## Some of the topics inside:

- Northern NSW Field Trip (cover photo)
- Library Reminder
- Shell Club Library
- Triphoridae
- Kay Rutland Eulogy

VISITING – PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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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

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Stock includes representatives of  
most families. No lists at present.

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## Shells to Swap:

If you have spare shells and would like to find someone to swap with, try listing some of them here:

### Some of the attendees at our Club Christmas Dinner - December



Our treasurer advises that some members have still not paid their membership fees. They were due in June 2003. Details are as follows:  
Adult AU\$40  
Junior AU\$15 (This includes Shellers and their postage)  
Send payment to:  
Peter Pienaar  
9/13-15 Chisholm Cres  
Bradbury, NSW, 2560



## Northern NSW Shell Field Trip January 2004

### Steve Dean (Sheller Editor)

For the last week of the school holidays three generations of Deans, Keith, Steve and Peter (age 11) went on a field trip to Northern NSW to look at a rock platforms. We went to a different platform each daytime low tide. Between low tides we filled in time with fishing, swimming and sight seeing. We stayed in my camper van, usually in camping grounds. All three are keen shell collectors, and the older two wanted to show Peter some of the spots where they collected when they were young, and to see if the same sorts of shells were still present.

The good news is that even though we were there at the very end of the six week summer holiday period when all platforms had been picked over by others, shells were as abundant as they were 30 years ago. As in Sydney there are a lot more **Turbo imperialis** on the rock platforms than there used to be. We visited David Tarrant who reported that in the dead shell rubble area at Woolgoolga one teenage girl had collected over 30 cowries in good condition almost every day of her holiday there. David therefore took his children and us to a less known rubble area to look for washed in dead shells.

The water between Coffs Harbour Main Beach and its Island was too deep for the holidaymakers to wade out. However on the last day of the holidays, just before dusk, there was no waves or wind and a very low tide, so we braved it and waded out for a look for 30 minutes. In the middle of one large rock pool above high tide (water stays hot in this pool) there was a **Tridacna squamosa** (Clam) over 210mm in length, attached to a rock and very visible in the middle of the pool 0.5m deep. I felt around it and it had no growths on it and quite large flutes on the ribs. (If anyone wants to view it I can provide details of the location of the pool where it is growing).

We saw one dead **Nodopelagia brazieri** at Woolgoolga, and as we headed north we observed many more live and dead, some with very dark colouring. When looking for shells different people are good at spotting different things. Pete spotted more than 80% of these, no matter how hard I tried to find them.



We saw a few species of cone, one of which I cannot identify. To help anyone who may be able to let me know what it is: The step in the spire at the suture of the last whorl may just be unusual growth as sometimes happens in cones. The spiral lines are grooves, otherwise the outer shell is smooth. There is no darkening at the anterior end, inside or out. The dark blotches between each shoulder turret is actually made up of several fine radiating fine brown lines running only the width of the turret at the shoulder. (25.7mm)

The **Conus Papiliferus** below was more elongated than the Sydney ones and had much straighter sides and sharper shoulder.





# The Sydney Sheller



Keith and Pete were very pleased to observe *Conus ebraeus* both alive and dead. They have not found these before.



Sundials *Heliacus variegates* are still to be found in the same pool on Sawtell Island where they have previously been.



At Angourie we found *Natica gualtieriana* in the sand. I have not seen these in NSW before.





# The Sydney Sheller



The *Nassarius glans particeps* from Northern NSW has quite different patterning to the Sydney form. These wash up dead on the beaches in quantity at Woolgoolga, the same as in Sydney.



I have yet to identify this *Nassarius* species (15.6mm). It is not *particeps* or *spiratus*



This *Nassarius conoidalis* was in gem condition even though it had a hermit crab.



This *Mitra aurantia* was living on an exposed part of a rock platform amongst shell rubble and small shells with hermit crabs.



## The Sydney Sheller



We saw several species of cowrie. On a rock platform near Yamba our best find was a colony of *Cypraea tigris*. They were fully mature, gem, and had extremely dark dorsums, one being almost completely black over the top of the dorsum.

Photos of melanistic cowries do not print well so I used a flash up close, which artificially lightens the pictures below but at least makes the patterns visible. I also included up to three conventional Queensland tiger cowries in some of the shots for colour and lightness comparison. As can be seen the flash makes them look pale.

All five Yamba specimens were white underneath per normal *Cypraea tigris*. On the dorsum the base colour is yellow. They then have a grey layer over most of this, and then very dark spots on top of that. This makes for interesting overall colouration. In the picture below the bottom five shells are the Yamba cowries. (The top three are from QLD GBR for comparison.)



Two of the five Yamba specimens pictured (#2 105.9mm and #5 94.5mm) are only slightly darker than some Great Barrier Reef tiger cowries although the colouring is different. The other three Yamba shells are stunning specimens.

#3 above had a unique pattern of three yellow wavy stripes (front cover) This is caused by the grey layer running in 5 separate bands across the shell with the yellow showing through between, then the spots on top making the stripes look wavy. (The picture below is lighter than the actual shell so you can see the grey bands)





# The Sydney Sheller



#1 is quite large (104.9mm) and spectacularly dark all over (the picture cannot do justice to its rich golden brown colouring)



#4 is smaller (98.6mm) but is almost black over the top of the dorsum.



Note better quality, and more pictures are available on the shell club web site:  
[www.sydneyshellclub.net](http://www.sydneyshellclub.net)

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## Shell Club Library Corner

As a part of our Mission Statement the purpose of the library is not only to increase awareness and understanding but also to encourage research and to assist those pursuing their endeavours.

Please note that all books and materials have to date been donated to the Club. In the event that you have any books, articles and periodicals that have ceased to be of use, perhaps you could donate them to the Club to assist with research.

Your gift/donation would be greatly appreciated. Alternatively you may be able to offer them at a reduced price.

For a list of books/materials we have available in the library please refer to recent editions of the Sheller.

Acquisitions now include:

Coleman, N., 2001. *1001 Nudibranchs – catalogue of Indo-Pacific slugs*, Neville Coleman's Underwater Geographic Pty Ltd

Hinton, A., 1978. *Guide to shells of Papua New Guinea*, Robert Brown & Associates Pty Ltd, Port Moresby

Macpherson, J.H. and Gabriel, C.J., 1962. *Marine molluscs of Victoria*, Melbourne University Press, National Museum of Victoria

Lamprell, K. and Healy, J., 1998. *Bivalves of Australia Vol 2*, Backbuys Publishers, Leiden

Cemohorsky, W.O., 1991. *Monographs of marine mollusca, the mitridae of the world Part 2 of the subfamilies Imbricariinae and Cylindromitriinae*

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## TRIPHORIDAE – New South Wales

### John Franklin

How many of us over the years have acquired minute shells where the aperture is located on the left-hand side?

Further, how many of us have put these sinistral shells in a box with a label describing the family name "Triphoroidea" and the locality but with no other distinguishing features?

Once having acquired the shell the difficulty has been for the researcher/collector to differentiate between each species. Some reasons for this difficulty are that the shells are small, there is a large number of species and the difference between each shell is superficially slight. No doubt these problems are not new to minute shell research generally, but members of the Triphoridae family present the investigator with complexity.

In the historic background early researchers dealing with this family of shells from New South Wales such as Tenison-Woods 1876, Henn-Brazier 1894, Hedley 1903 and Laseron 1954 had little better than a large magnifying glass with which to identify species and allot them to their respective genus. In the early days it would have been almost impossible to determine protoconch characteristics.

It was to be many years later with the adoption of the scanning electron microscope/micrograph SEM that scientists have been able to make a more accurate determination of species.

In 1983 Marshall revised the family and defined a specific region of study, being south of Geraldton Western Australia and south of the New South Wales border with Queensland.

Marshall found that triphorid fauna distribution and larval development differ between east and west of Bass Strait. As between northern tropical and southern warm temperate faunas, species that are located in Queensland are rarely found in New South Wales. The fact that some Queensland species are located in New South Wales can be accounted for in the transportation of larvae by the south bound water masses.

In attempting to determine species particularly for this family and in general other minute shell families it is essential to look for the following shell characteristics:-

- (i) colour pattern, shape, size, teleoconch, protoconch, operculum and radula;
- (ii) it cannot be too strongly emphasised that the key to classification of triphorids is the study of the protoconch. Therefore worn, drilled or broken shells are almost useless for study.

In recent times there has been a rekindling of interest in triphorids from New South Wales, which has promoted further research. Such interest has been triggered by the relative frequency of species being available in shell sand, increasing knowledge and awareness of what to look for and the availability of sophisticated equipment as an aid in species determination. Clearly distribution analysis shows that triphorids exist almost the entire length of the New South Wales coastline from Eden to Tweed Heads.

A research monitoring program has now been developed and emanating from this program will be an increased knowledge of the numerous species that constitute the family, and a better understanding of the location/habitat of the taxa generally.

What follows are tables of the general characteristics of triphorids and a distribution analysis of those shells particularly in New South Wales but also including the other states of Australia.

#### References:

- Allan, T., 1950 *Australian shells*, Georgian House, Melbourne at pp. 90-91
- Laseron, C., 1954 *Rec. Aust. mus.*, 3, pp. 139-158, figs. 1-30 and Laseron, 1958, *Aust. J. Mar. Freshw. Res.*, 9, pp. 569-658, figs 1-255.
- Iredale, T. and McMichael, D.F., 1962 *A reference list of the marine mollusca of New South Wales*, The Australian Museum Sydney at pp. 46-47.
- Marshall, B.A., 1983 *A revision of the recent Triphoridae of Southern Australia (mollusca: gastropoda)* Records of the Australian Museum, Supplement 2, 119 pp.



**Superfamily TRIPHOROIDEA  
Family TRIPHORIDAE**

**Shell Characteristics**

SINISTRALITY	DEXTRALITY	NUMBERS	HABITAT	ANATOMICAL LAYOUT	SPECIES IDENTIFICATION
<p>Definitions:</p> <p>(a) Of or pertaining to the left side.</p> <p>(b) As a consequence of the sinistral coiling of the shell the aperture is always "on the left side of the central axis" Allan 1953</p> <p>(c) "In other words most triphorids are effectively mirror images of their dextral counterparts and most other dextral gastropods in shell coiling direction and anatomical layout." Marshall 1983</p> <p>(d) Members of the Subfamily Triphorinae are sinistral.</p>	<p>Definitions:</p> <p>(a) Coiling from the left to the right.</p> <p>(b) Pertaining to or on the right hand side.</p> <p>(c) Opposed to sinistral.</p> <p>(d) Members of the Subfamilies Adelacerithiinae and Metaxiinae are dextral.</p>	<p>In excess of 1,000 species and probably more.</p>	<p>(a) Lives on sponges, eg porifera.</p> <p>(b) Occur in both arctic and tropical seas (worldwide).</p> <p>(c) "The family has its maximum diversity on clean, hard substrates in tropical and temperate seas, from the inter-tidal zone to about 200m." Marshall 1983.</p>	<p>(a) Triphorids "are characterised by a combination of cerithioid shape and very distinctive radular morphology and anatomy, notably the presence of a peculiar glandular pouch that opens into the posterior oesophagus." Marshall, 1983.</p>	<p>(a) Both protoconch and radular characteristics are extremely important indicators.</p> <p>(b) Other aides to determination are colour/patterns, teleconch, facies, size, shape and operculum.</p>



## Superfamily TRIPHOROIDEA Family TRIPHORIDAE

### DISTRIBUTION ANALYSIS

		GENERAL COMMENTS	NSW	VIC	QLD	NT	WA	SA	TAS
<b>Subfamily METAXIINAE Marshall, 1977</b>									
<b>Genus <i>Metaxia</i> Monterosato</b>									
<i>Metaxia fuscoapicata</i>	Thiele, 1930								✓
<i>Metaxia protolineata</i>	(Laseron)	Manly Beach; shell sand, NSW Cape Byron NSW	✓						
<b>Genus <i>Seilarex</i> Iredale</b>									
<i>Seilarex turritelliformis</i>	(Angus, 1877)	Port Jackson, Sydney Sow & Pigs Reef, Sydney Twofold Bay, NSW	✓	✓					
<i>Seilarex verconis</i>	Cotton, 1951				✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Subfamily TRIPHORINAE Gray, 1847</b>									
<b>Genus <i>Inella</i> Bayle</b>									
<i>Inella obliqua</i>	(May, 1915)						✓	✓	✓
<i>Inella spina</i>	(Verco, 1909)							✓	
<i>Inella obtusa</i>	N. sp.	Off North Head, NSW Reef off Avalon, NSW	✓						
<i>Inella kimblae</i>	N. sp.	Off Sydney, NSW	✓						
<i>Inella carinata</i>	N. sp.								✓
<i>Inella intercalaris</i>	N. sp.						✓		
<b>Genus <i>Hypotriphora</i> Cotton &amp; Godfrey</b>									
<i>Hypotriphora subula</i>	(Verco, 1909)								✓
<b>Genus <i>Subulophorn</i> Laseron</b>									
<i>Subulophora rutilans</i>	(Hervier, 1897)				✓				
<b>Genus <i>Magnosinister</i> Laseron</b>									
<i>Magnosinister hedleyi</i>	Laseron, 1954	Clarence River, NSW Catherine Hill Bay Palm Beach Shelly Bay S. of Angourie Woolgoolga E. of Long Bay Twofold Bay	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓						
<b>Genus <i>Monophorus</i> Grillo</b>									
<i>Monophorus australica</i>	N. sp.								✓
<i>Monophorus angasi</i>	(Crosse & Fischer, 1865)	Long Reef, Sydney Off North Head, Sydney Port Stephens Off Chinaman's Beach Middle Harbour, Sydney Kurnell	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓			✓	✓	✓



		GENERAL COMMENTS	NSW	VIC	QLD	NT	WA	SA	TAS
<i>Monophorus nigrofusca</i>	(A. Adams, 1851)	1km E. of Little Bay	✓						
		Off Sow & Pigs Reef,	✓						
		Sydney	✓						
		Shell Harbour	✓						
		Twofold Bay							
		Woolgoolga	✓	✓				✓	✓
		Port Stephens	✓						
		Ulladulla (shell, sand)	✓						
		Eden Harbour	✓						
		Twofold Bay	✓						
		Shelley Bay, S. of Angourie	✓						
		Clarence River	✓						
Sydney area	✓								
Disaster Bay	✓								
<b>Sagenotriphora N. Gen.</b>									
<i>Sagenotriphora ampulla</i>	(Hedley, 1903)	Little Coogee Bay	✓	✓				✓	
		Off Sow & Pigs Reef, P. Jackson	✓						
		Middle Harbour, Sydney	✓						
		Woolgoolga	✓						
		Ocean Beach, Kurnell	✓						
		On coralline algae on exposed rocks, Blackhead Nadgee	✓						
		Ulladulla, shell sand							
<b>Genus <i>Tetrphora</i> Laseron</b>									
<i>Tetrphora granifera</i>	(Brazier, 1894)	Common beach shell sand	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
<i>Tetrphora mcgilpi</i>	(Cotton, 1952)							✓	
<i>Tetrphora iniqua</i>	(Jousseume, 1898)				✓				
<b>Genus <i>Teretriphora</i> Finlay</b>									
<i>Teretriphora gemmegens</i>	(Verco, 1909)							✓	?
<i>Teretriphora spica</i>	(Verco, 1909)						✓	✓	✓
<i>Teretriphora ponderorum</i>	N. sp.						✓		
<i>Teretriphora novapostrema</i>	(Verco, 1910)							✓	
<b>Genus <i>Hedleytriphora</i> N. Gen.</b>									
<i>Hedleytriphora fasciata</i>	(T. Woods, 1879)	Cronulla Beach	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
		Disaster Bay	✓						
		15 miles off Twofold Bay	✓						
		Sow & Pigs Reef, Sydney	✓						
		Sydney Harbour	✓						
<i>Hedley triphora scitula</i>	(A. Adams, 1851)							✓	
<i>Hedley triphora innotabilis</i>	(Hedley, 1903)	Clarence River, Yamba	✓						
		Algae washings, Coffs Harbour	✓						
		Long Reef	✓						
		Off North Head, Sydney	✓						
		Harbour	✓						
		Little Coogee Bay	✓						



		GENERAL COMMENTS	NSW	VIC	QLD	NT	WA	SA	TAS
		Stone washings Port Hacking Ocean beach, Kurnell							
<i>Hedley triphora</i>	N. sp.							✓	✓
<i>basimacula</i>								✓	✓
<i>Hedleytriphora elata</i>	(Thiele, 1930)	Middle Harbour, Sydney N. of Coffs Harbour	✓ ✓					✓	✓
<b>Latitriphora N. Genus</b>									
<i>Latitriphora latilirata</i>	(Verco, 1909)							✓	✓
<i>Latitriphora conferta</i>	(Laserson, 1958)	Angourie, north NSW	✓						
<i>Latitriphora kesteveni</i>	(Hedley, 1903)	Lady Bay, S Head, Sydney Harbour Cronulla Little Coogee Bay, Sydney	✓ ✓ ✓						
<b>Genus Mosophora Laserson</b>									
<i>Mesophora granosa</i>	(Pease, 1870)	Iluka Bluff Little Coogee Bay Kurnell Botany Bay Ocean Beach, Kurnell Long Reef	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓						
<i>Mesophora fusca</i>	(Dunker, 1860)	Middle Harbour Port Hacking			✓				
<b>Genus Viriola Jousseume</b>									
<i>Viriola cf. corrugate</i>	(Hinds, 1843)				✓				
<i>Viriola truncate</i>	N. sp.								✓
<i>Viriolopsis</i>	N. gen.								✓
<i>Viriolopsis occidua</i>	N. sp.								✓
<b>Genus Euthymella Thiele</b>									
<i>Euthymella elegans</i>	Hinds, 1843	Angourie Clarence River, Grafton Coffs Harbour	✓ ✓ ✓						✓
<i>Euthymella koshgei</i>	N. sp.	Sth Solitary Is. Coffs Harbour	✓						✓
<b>Genus Eutriphora Cotton &amp; Godfrey</b>									
<i>Eutriphora cana</i>	(Verco, 1909)							✓	✓
<i>Eutriphora armillata</i>	(Verco, 1909)						✓	✓	✓
<i>Eutriphora tricolour</i>	(Laserson, 1954)	Crookhaven Heads	✓					✓	✓
<i>Eutriphora pseudocana</i>	N. sp.							✓	✓
<b>Genus Sotriphora Cotton &amp; Godfrey</b>									
<i>Isotriphora tasmanica</i>	(T. Woods, 1875)	Cronulla Beach Shelley Bay S. of Angourie Off Crowdy Head Off Forster Off Sugarloaf Point Long Reef Off Cronulla	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓						



		GENERAL COMMENTS	NSW	VIC	QLD	NT	WA	SA	TAS
		Cronulla Beach	✓						
		E. of Narrabeen	✓						
		E. of Little Bay	✓						
		N. of Montgue Island	✓						
		15m off Twofold Bay	✓						
<i>Isotriphora amethystine</i>	--			✓			✓	✓	✓
<i>Isotriphora disjuncta</i>	(Verco, 1909)							✓	✓
<i>Isotriphora simulate</i>	N. sp.	Rock washings, Long Reef	✓					✓	✓
		Little Coogee Bay	✓						
		Twofold Bay	✓						
<i>Isotriphora vercoi</i>	N. sp.						✓	✓	✓
<i>Isotriphora aureovincta</i>	(Verco, 1910)						✓	✓	
<b><i>Bouchettriphora</i> N. Genus</b>									
<i>Bouchettriphora pallida</i>	(Pease, 1870)	Middle Harbour, Sydney	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
		Off Sow & Pigs Reef, Syd.	✓						
		Harbour	✓						
		Ocean Beach, Manly shell, sand							
<i>Bouchettriphora aspergata</i>	(Laseron, 1958)	Iluka Bluff	✓						
		Woolgoolga	✓						
		S.W. off Solitary Island	✓						
		Long Reef	✓						
		Ocean Beach, Kurnell	✓						
		Sydney Harbour	✓						
<i>Bouchettriphora marrowi</i>	N. sp.	Long Reef, Collaroy	✓						
		Sydney Harbour	✓						
		Middle Harbour	✓						
<b><i>Nototriphora</i> N. Genus</b>									
<i>Nototriphora regina</i>	(Hedley, 1903)	Balmoral Beach	✓				✓	✓	
		Cronulla	✓						
		Off Crookhaven	✓						
<i>Nototriphora vestita</i>	N. sp.						✓	✓	✓
<i>Nototriphora sarcira</i>	(Laseron, 1954)	Off Long Reef	✓						
<i>Nototriphora unicarinata</i>	N. sp.	22 miles E. of Narrabeen	✓						
<b>Genus <i>Triphora</i> Blainville</b>									
<i>Triphora (s.s.) Nivea</i>	(Verco, 1909)						✓	✓	✓
<b>Genus <i>Obesula</i> Jousseume</b>									
<i>Obesula albovittata</i>	(Hedley, 1903)	Balmoral Beach	✓				✓	✓	
		Off Long Reef	✓						
		Shelly Beach, Manly	✓						
		Dolls Point, Georges River	✓						
		Shelley Beach S. of Angourie	✓						
		Port Stevens	✓						
<i>Obesula mamillate</i>	(Verco, 1909)			✓			✓	✓	
<i>Obesula profundior</i>	N. sp.						✓	✓	
<i>Obesula tribulationis</i>	(Hedley, 1909)	S.W. of Solitary Island	✓		✓				



		GENERAL COMMENTS	NSW	VIC	QLD	NT	WA	SA	TAS
<b>Genus <i>Aclophora</i> Laseron</b>									
<i>Aclophora xystica</i>	(Jousseume, 1884)	Woolgoolga	✓		✓				
<i>Aclophora hedleyi</i>	N. sp.						✓	✓	
<b><i>Aclophoropsis</i> N. Genus</b>									
<i>Aclophoropsis festiva</i>	(A. Adams, 1851)			✓			✓	✓	✓
<i>Aclophoropsis maculosa</i>	(Hedley, 1903)	Balmoral Beach	✓						
		Off Sow & Pigs Reef	✓						
		Crookhaven Heads	✓						
		Shellharbour	✓						
		Ulladulla	✓						
		Little Bay	✓						
		Ocean Beach, Kurnell	✓						
		Port Stephens	✓						
		Shelley Beach S. of	✓						
		Angourie	✓						
		Long Reef	✓						
		Cronulla Beach	✓						
		Little Coogee Bay	✓						
<i>Aclophoropsis univitta</i>	(Laseron, 1954)	Off Long Reef	✓						
		33m Balls Head & Goat Is. Syd. H.	✓						
<b>Genus <i>Nanaphora</i> Laseron</b>									
<i>Nanaphora (?) tricolour</i>	(Laseron, 1958)	Angourie, north NSW	✓						
		S. of Solitary Island	✓						
		Little Coogee Bay	✓						
<b><i>Cheirodonta</i> N. Genus</b>									
<i>Cheirodonta labiate</i>	(A. Adams, 1851)	Warriewood Beach, N. of Sydney	✓						
		Long Reef	✓						
		Collaroy Beach	✓						
		Cronulla Beach	✓						
		Middle Harbour	✓						
		Off Doll's Point, Sydney	✓						
		Little Coogee Bay	✓						
		Wimbie Beach, Bateman's Bay	✓						
		Botany Bay	✓						
		Ocean Beach, Kurnell	✓						
		Merimbula Jetty	✓						
		Off Bottle & Glass Rocks, Syd. H.	✓						
		Jervis Bay							
		Ulladulla							
<b>Genus <i>Talophora</i> Grundel</b>									
<i>Talophora subulate</i>	(Laseron, 1958)	Little Coogee Bay	✓		✓				
		Off Green Point, Watson's Bay	✓						



## IMPORTANT DATES

Date and Location	Event	Contact
20-21 March 2004 Adelaide	Fifth National Shell Show Adelaide hosted by the Malacological Society of South Australia Inc.	Wayne Rumball or Peter Hunt at <a href="mailto:hunt.trottk@chariot.net">hunt.trottk@chariot.net</a> or (08) 8381 3987
19-23 April 2004 Hobart	Coast to Coast '04: 'The Second Decade: Coastal Planning and Management in Australia towards 2014' – Australia's national coastal conference	Tel: (03) 6224 3773 Email: <a href="mailto:mail@cdesign.com.au">mail@cdesign.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.cdesign.com.au/coast2coast2004">www.cdesign.com.au/coast2coast2004</a>
20-25 June 2004 Ballina, NSW	'Estuaries and Change' Australia's Southern Cross University will hold the next joint Estuarine and Coastal Sciences Association and Estuarine Research Federation International Conference.	<a href="http://www.scu.edu.au/ecsa37erf2004conference">www.scu.edu.au/ecsa37erf2004conference</a>
11-16 July 2004 The University of Western Australia, Perth, WA	World Congress of Malacology, Perth, Western Australia Molluscan Megadiversity Sea, Land and Freshwater Several major symposia are planned: Phylogeny of Molluscs, Molluscan Aquaculture and Fisheries, Ecology of Molluscs, Medical and Applied Molluscs. Special sessions on particular groups and other topics are also planned or can be included. Those currently planned are: Bivalves, Larval molluscs, Biology of opisthobranch molluscs, Population genetics in the Mollusca, Curators meeting.	For registration forms contact: World Congress Secretariat C/- Congress West Pty Ltd PO Box 1248 West Perth WA 6872 Tel: (08) 9322 6662 or 9322 6906 Fax: (08) 9322 1734 Email: <a href="mailto:conwes@congresswest.com.au">conwes@congresswest.com.au</a>
July 2004 Queensland	Yeppoon Shell Show	Contact Keppel Bay Shell Club Secretary PO Box 5166 Rockhampton MC Qld 4702
July 2004 Queensland	Townsville Shell Show Last year there were 23 sections including land snails and fossil shells, and the program included the display of shells from any family. For something different, try 'Shells on a yellow background'. Dealers' and trade tables were available for a very reasonable cost.	Contact the Club Secretary at 19 Farrell Street Kirwan Qld 4817 or <a href="mailto:sibby@austarnet.com.au">sibby@austarnet.com.au</a>
15-17 October 2004	New Zealand Shell Show, Auckland	Peter Poortman <a href="mailto:poortman@xtra.co.nz">poortman@xtra.co.nz</a>
23 October 2004 Ryde, Sydney, NSW	Annual Shell Show of the NSW Branch The Malacological Society of Australasia	There will be a lecture/discussion program dealing with topics of interest followed by an exhibition of shells taken from some of the finest collections in Australia, featuring many rare shells. Expressions of interest to Steve Dean (02) 9979 9521. <a href="mailto:steve@easy.com.au">steve@easy.com.au</a>
2006 Sydney	Sixth National Shell Show hosted by the NSW Branch of the Malacological Society of Australasia	Information requests to Patty Jansen 27 Winchester Ave Lindfield NSW 2070 02 94158098 <a href="mailto:patty@capricornica.com">patty@capricornica.com</a>



## THE TIDES

### John Franklin

*"Nae man can tether time or tide" – Burns*

In reviewing the tides for the New South Wales coastline between the months of February and September 2004, it appears that February was the only month with tides between 0.10m and 0.20m. Overall the best week for research/observation was the week commencing Monday the 19th January 2004 with most tides under 0.20m. (IE when the Deans went on their field trip) Tides are measured at Fort Denison, Sydney with minor tidal differences throughout the state as follows:-

LATER		EARLIER		ZERO	
8 MIN	JERVIS BAY/HUSKISSON	38 MIN	CRONULLA	BOTANY BAY	
20 MIN	NELSON BAY	5 MIN	LA PEROUSE	KIAMA	
19 MIN	NEWCASTLE	8 MIN	SUSSEX INLET	ULLADULLA HARBOUR	
8 MIN	PORT HACKING			YAMBA	
5 MIN	PORT STEPHENS				
45 MIN	SALAMANDER BAY				

## Kay Rutland Eulogy 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2004

### By M Keats

In late 1946 I was a wide-eyed very young shell collector attending my first meeting of the conchological section of the Royal Zoological Society of NSW. One of the very first warm friendly faces to make me welcome was Kay Rutland. For a 6 year old whose collecting horizons were bounded by Sydney Harbour and the occasional holiday along the coast, Kay and her cohorts represented another world. They tabled self-collected specimens from then exotic places such as Hawaii, the Solomon Islands and even Europe.

Kay and husband 'Rutty' were for the period, widely travelled and great raconteurs, regaling us with stories of finding shells in fish markets, tiny villages and remote places. It was also a time when the professional and amateur conchologists were a close group. Diagnostic tools such as chromosome analysis and DNA were yet to happen. The ease with which professionals such as Bernie Cotton and Joyce Allen mixed with amateurs such as Lee Woolacott, Gertie Thornley, Charles Laseron and Kay Rutland allowed for special relationships to grow and flourish. In many cases the contributions of amateurs were as significant as those of the museum staff. Kay was such a contributor. I was privileged to have Kay and others bring me into that very close group.

I remember Kay as an enthusiastic field collector on club excursions. Trips to places such as Long Reef, Gunnamatta Bay, Shark Island and Kurnell – all today off limits. At the end of a field trip the whole group would go back to a nominated members home and over a simple meal relive the high lights of the day, and more often than not a sharing of material would take place. Kay was a generous mentor, always wanting to encourage the next generation of shell collectors.

When Kay had to downsize and move out of Riley Street to Woolwich House, many treasures from those early days came to light. One item she gave me is a special nozzle for the laundry tap – an item she had specially made by her friendly plumber. It directed a powerful stream of water into difficult long gastropods. The results were dramatic and often very smelly. If you were a fraction out in direction it was out into the garden for a quick hose down.

Most important to me was an item I rescued from the garbage bin on the day of her move. It is a note-book of Kay's in which she recorded information about field trips: - who went, what was found, what sizes, who took pictures and so much more. When I retrieved it she said, "no one will want to know all that rubbish". I thought otherwise and still do. This is a valuable item in my library and one I often refer to when someone says was that ever found here before? Or this is large or small it must be a record. Kay's faithful notes are all there.

While the shell group meet in the Education Centre at Taronga Zoo, Kay used to travel to the meetings by bus, I was there to take her home and see her safely inside the keep at the front door. I was her "chauffer home". This role I continued up to the time when the Shell Section was evicted (as were all the other sections) by a revamped Royal Zoological Society that had lost its way and severed its relationship with the membership at large. At this point Kay stopped going to meetings altogether and relied on club publications to keep in contact.

A special side of Kay's appreciation of shells was in her capacity to create shell art in a very special way. As time went by she refined her artistic skills and in my view the crowning work is her interpretation and translation of the Notre Dame cathedral Rose Window into a shell art replica. At Woolwich House some of her shell art- work is on display. For every visitor it always provided a conversation piece and an opportunity for Kay to talk about her hobby of shell collecting.

Kay's early encouragement has given me, and so many others, a richly rewarding interest in molluscs. Thank you Kay.



## Shell Club Minutes 22/11/03

The meeting was opened by P Jansen at 2.05 pm.

### Field Trips

C. Barnes reported on another trip to Yamba and Angourie in northern NSW. Considering it was a short visit, a number of interesting species were collected, including:- *Cypraea tigris* Linnaeus 1758, *C. mauritiana* Linnaeus 1758, *C. eglantina* Duclos, 1833, and

*C. arabica* Linnaeus 1758. Cowries aside, an unusual Bursa was collected and once home I discovered it was *Bursa rosa* (Perry, 1811). Collecting in waders at 2.00am with breaking waves is bordering on insanity but the number of interesting things you see make it worth the effort, including very large and confident water rats that dive into oncoming swells! Other noteworthy specimens were, *Phrygiomurew sculptilis* (Reeve, 1844)(dead) and *Peristernia incarnata* (Kiener, 1830).

### General Business

A number of issues relating to the Sydney bid for the 2006 NSS were discussed, including having representatives for the delegates meeting at the Adelaide NSS in March 2004. Consideration was also given to approaching past sponsors for possible continued support.

Steve Dean won the Christmas dinner raffle, and the raffle raised \$85.00.

M. Anderson displayed some "sea balls" from Largs Bay, South Australia, to the meeting.

### Presentation

R. Moylan spoke on his recent visit to the Barrier reef and the current draft plan for the new Marine Protected Environments. Ron displayed some zebra volutes demonstrating an amazing range of size and colour forms.

**Next Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> January 2004, at 2.00pm**

Meeting closed at 3.25pm.

C. Barnes, Secretary

## Shell Club Minutes 24/01/04

The meeting was opened by M. Andersen at 1.56 pm.

### Field Trips

R. Moylan reported on a new colour form of *Cymbiola pulchra peristicta* (McMichael, 1963) collected at Reef Queen Lagoon and noted that the area will become part of the Marine Park after March 2004.

J. Franklin reported on a trip to Huskisson, Jervis Bay. John collected some grit but added there was not much about.

### General Business

Group discussion re- venue for proposed NSS Sydney 2006. J. Franklin prepared a report to compare the possible sites for the proposed 2006 NSS Sydney.

The meeting was saddened to hear of the passing of long standing member Kay Rutland.

**Next Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> February 2004, at 2.00pm**

Meeting closed at 3.10pm.

C. Barnes, Secretary

