

SYDNEY SHELLER

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

Next Meeting:

23rd July 2005

(normally 4th Saturday)

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

1.30 for 2.00pm

**Note: Field trip the week
before our normal meeting 16th
July 11.30am Long Reef Hut**

View these newsletters with more
pictures, plus references, and club
information at
www.sydneyshellclub.net

Contributions:

Please send contributions to:

Steve Dean

PO Box 316, Mona Vale, NSW 1660

Text by disk or email only. Photos, and
disks by mail, or preferably by email to
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:

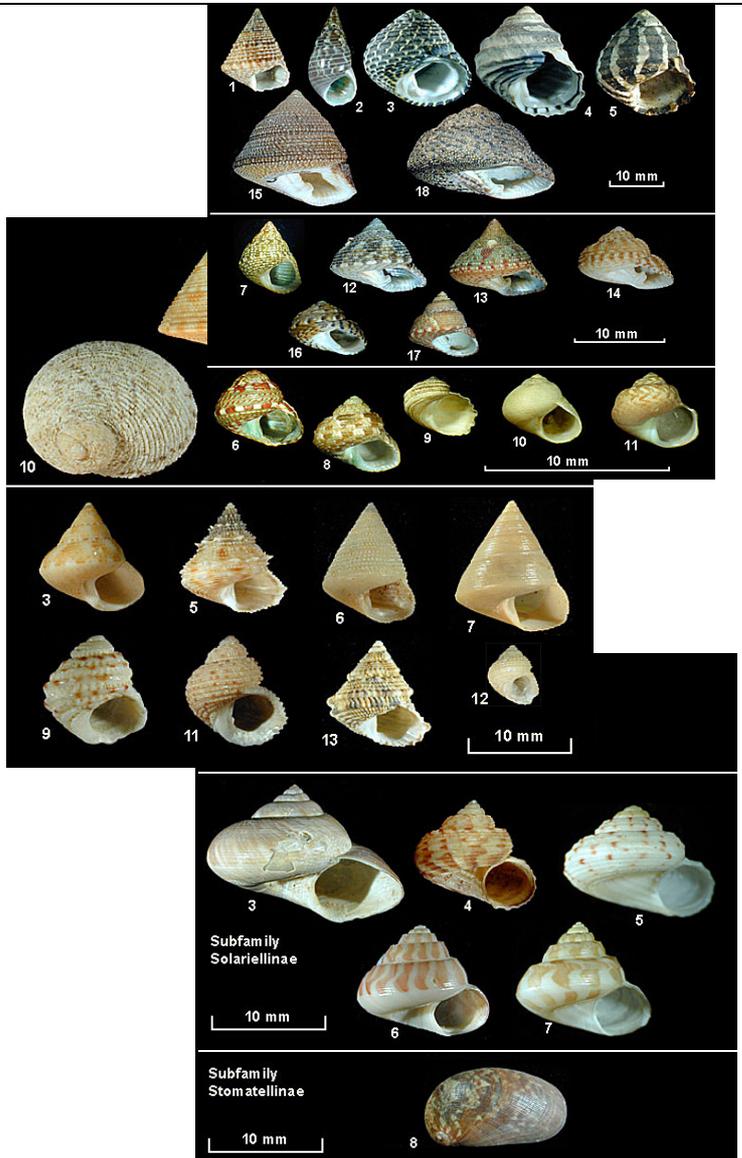
Office bearers:

President: John Franklin
Vice Pres: Maureen Anderson
Treasurer: John Dunkerley
Secretary: TBA
Raffles: Maureen Anderson
Sheller Editor: Steve Dean
Librarian: John Franklin
Annual Shell Show Mgr: Steve Dean
Special Projects Mgr: John Dunkerley

Shell Club of Sydney

Mission Statement:

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



Some of the NSW Trochidae from Des Beechey's web site.
Cypraeidae and Trochidae from Long Bay are in this Sheller.

Some of the topics inside:

- Long Bay continued
- AGM & President's Report
- Conchological Circles
- Australian Invasive Species
- Various Minutes

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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

Des@phm.gov.au

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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:





President's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2005

Members, Visitors, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Over the last 12 months we have seen a gradual increase in the tempo of activity as we move closer to the Sydney based 6th National Shell Show and Conference to be held in March 2006.

There were several highlights throughout the year and the Annual Shell Show 2004 was one of them.

The categories for display were designed so as to give junior members an opportunity to exhibit material according to specified age groups. For the first time ever, there was a total of 60 exhibits including nine different children exhibiting.

The largest number of entries were submitted in the "favourite shell" category surpassing the number of entries in the Volutidae and Cypraeidae families.

Another outstanding feature of the show was the children's program which was conducted with the assistance of The Coastal Environmental Centre from Narrabeen. The program consisted of a hands-on approach, with lots of marine material available, colouring in and games. Our idea was to attempt to stimulate interest in the marine environment and in that regard there was a very good response from the children.

Another highlight was the decision to hold a field trip at Long Reef and combine the trip with a Club meeting. Notwithstanding the fact that Long Reef is a Reserve area members observed many species which have been formally recorded in the Sydney Sheller. Both the weather and the tide were perfect for our purpose and the meeting concluded with a talk by Phillip Colman, who has conducted research in the area for many years.

Throughout the year members were entertained at the conclusion of every meeting by a guest speaker. We have indeed been fortunate in the quality of the presentation and the contribution made by those people to our knowledge of Molluscs.

In recent times the Club has developed its own website which displays information about the club, the library and other details. It was indeed fortunate that we were able to use the site to give information about the forthcoming National Shell Show.

In relation to membership, our numbers have slightly increased to thirty. In addition, a most welcoming feature is that there are three junior members enrolled. It is interesting to note that when our club represented the old Conchology Section of the R.Z.S.N.S.W. in 1996 the membership figures were approximately the same. With the forthcoming National Shell Show there will be an opportunity to promote membership.

The "Sydney Sheller" under the guidance of Steve Dean, the Editor, continues in its eminent position in Australian Molluscan literature. In recent times the Editor has excelled in producing wonderful pictures of molluscs to illustrate particular articles, and has received wide recognition for his efforts. To those who have contributed articles, let me say thanks and keep up the good work. New contributors are always welcome.

On a financial note, Peter Pienaar our Treasurer has done a great job in maintaining the Club's accounts. Our income is generated by membership subscriptions and supplemented by raffles. In a normal year our expenses are relatively low, with the publication "The Sydney Sheller" representing the main cost to produce. However with the National Shell Show just around the corner, we have and will incur considerable expense until income can be generated by the receipt of fees and membership.

Our Vice President Maureen Anderson has been responsible for the conduct of the raffles which she has done with the utmost efficiency.

To both Peter and Maureen my sincere thanks for your efforts.

Conclusion

I would like to thank Maureen Anderson, Vice President for the great effort she has made and the assistance she has given me over the last twelve months. To Chris Barnes thank you for the great work you have done as Secretary and to Karen whom I know has assisted. Chris has been Secretary for over nine years and has been unfailing in his dedication and support to the Club. Once again thanks.

The 2006 6th Australian National Shell Show, Steering Committee comprises Maureen Anderson (VP), Steve Dean (Show Manager), Patty Jansen (Past President), John Dunkerley (Special Projects Manager), and myself. Fortunately I must say that the Steering Committee members are a special group of people, hard working and dedicated. Whilst I take this opportunity to thank members of the Committee for their efforts to date, there is still a huge amount of work to be done prior to the 11th March 2006.





It has been said before each year "The Sydney Sheller" gets better. Well last year was no exception. Thank you Steve Dean for your great efforts. Your efforts in selecting material and reproducing the "copy" are greatly appreciated by us all.

Finally, last year was challenging but the next nine months will involve us all in a huge effort in order to make the 6th National Shell Show an outstanding success.

In the meantime, we need to continue to strive to improve our membership base, by not only seeking adult membership but also we should attempt to encourage the younger generations, because ultimately the future of Conchology in Australia will rest in their hands.

In closing, I wish to take this opportunity to say thank you to each and everyone for your contribution and assistance.

John A. Franklin

President
Shell Club of Sydney
N.S.W. Branch
Malacological Society of Australasia
22nd June 2005

Conchological Circles in New South Wales

John Franklin

The Background

In 1861 a Society for Acclimatisation was formed but by 1869, the members had lost interest and the affairs of that Society did not continue.

At about the same time a Mr Bill Beaumont had several animals which were kept at the Sir Joseph Banks Pleasure Grounds at Botany. However it appears the New South Wales Zoological Society did not derive from that establishment, rather at a meeting held on the 31st March 1879 it was proposed that the Society be formed. This motion was carried.

The purpose of the Society was at that stage simple "the introduction and acclimatisation of song birds and game". Billy Goat Swamp reserve, Moore Park (the present site of the Sydney Boys' High School) was the site granted to the Society. It was not until 1884 when Zoological Gardens were added that the premises were open to the public.

In 1909 by Royal Charter the name of the Society changed to The Royal Zoological Society of New South Wales. Overcrowding led to a change of site to Bradley's Head, known as Aston Park, and because the Society's Constitution did not provide for the trust of the site Taronga, a new Trust had to be formed. This Trust took over the construction and administration of the zoo.

The Society thus had no further responsibility for the Zoological Gardens and thus had the opportunity of reorganising. Two of the main objects of the reorganised Society were to:-

- "promote and advance the science of Zoology; and
- to protect, preserve and study indigenous and introduced animals of Australia."

The first president of the new Society was elected in 1917 and a publication known as the "Australian Zoologist" continued its popularity on a world-wide basis.

The "Sections" of the Society

The Council of the Society recognising the need to encourage students in certain fields of zoology established sections, the oldest being the Avicultural and Ornithological Sections. It was not until 1926 that the Marine Zoological Section was established featuring a lecture programme delivered by such famous people as Mr Tom Iredale, Miss Joyce Allan and Mr Melbourne Ward. The clear intention of establishing the Section was to encourage observation, promote discussion and disseminate knowledge. In the early years and by 1935, the Marine Section held its meetings in the evening at the Society rooms, Third Floor, Bull's Chambers, 28 Martin Place, Sydney.

The 1937 Ordinary List of members shows the name of Mr Charles Laseron whom, together with his son John, exhibited to members of the Section shells that had not been previously recorded from this State.

By the late thirties the Section was conducting regular field trips and on the 2nd November 1939 the Section organised a "Marine Life Exhibition", held at the Art Gallery Manly.



Miss Gertrude Thornley joined the Society/Marine Section in 1942 and thereafter became a prominent member.

At the conclusion of the Second World War the interests of the Marine Section were still diverse, in that live snakes and lizards were often exhibited at meetings.

However it became clear that Conchology was proving to be the most popular amongst members and it was decided to purchase a cabinet for the purpose of displaying a type collection of the New South Wales shells to be located in the rooms of the Society.

Although the Marine Section incorporated the Snake and Lizard Section, clearly by June 1947 the Conchology Group within the Section had many shell enthusiasts who were now undertaking a systematic study of various shell families. The next year saw not only meetings of the special conchology study group but the number of field excursions were increased. To this end a special committee was set up to arrange field trips for the ensuing twelve months. Mr Frank McCamley, who joined the Society in 1946, was a member of this committee.

Working under the Marine Zoological Section by the end of June 1953 the conchology group pursued its policy of intensive study and thirteen mollusc families were studied. At the same time, the Section procured its first publication entitled "Marine Zoologist" which primarily dealt with molluscs. It was intended to publish work on other marine branches for the purpose of giving a wide picture of marine life in New South Wales.

In 1955 another Group was added to the Marine Zoological Section and it was called the Junior Members' Study Group. Because the Marine Section could not cope with so many members in different stages of learning and because of the special problems juniors encountered with terminology etc. it was decided to create a junior group, who would meet separately under the supervision of Mrs Harford, the then Secretary of the RZS. Sets of papers were prepared in simple language on Molluscs. Mr Michael Keats joined the RZS as a junior member in 1951 and no doubt attended these junior group meetings.

The Conchology Section of the RZS

It was within the financial year of 1956-57 that the Conchology Group formerly a part of the Marine Zoological Section, became a full Section. It has been said that the reason for this move was because of a change by the Society of the Lecture Programme, but no doubt there were other factors such as the increasing popularity of group meetings, the work involved in setting up the junior group and further, the contribution by the group's members towards the publication of the "Marine Zoologist".

Because of the close association between the Conchological and the Marine Sections, in October 1957, a joint exhibition of marine specimens and shells took place at the Sydney Town Hall.

In 1958 the Sections' meeting place changed from Bull Chambers to Anzac House. In 1962 John Franklin and his mother joined the Conchology Section when meetings were held in the lecture hall of the Australian Museum in College Street, Sydney. Subsequently meetings were transferred to the Royal Zoological Society rooms located at Taronga Zoo. The last meeting of the Shell Club of Sydney was held at Taronga Zoo on the 28th November 1998 and at that meeting it was decided to meet in future on the fourth Saturday of each month at the premises of the Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, West Ryde.

The Sydney Sheller: - Publication

At a meeting in June 1979 the then members of the Conchological Section of the Royal Zoological Society of Australia decided to produce a regular Newsletter designed for the purpose of publishing details of Field Trips, research articles and new book reviews.

The newsletter was known as "Con's Conchology" and the first issue was introduced and distributed to the members of the July meeting of 1979, held at the Royal Zoological Society's premises, located at Taronga Park Zoo, Sydney. The last edition of "Con's Conchology" appeared in March 1983, and from thereafter the publication became known as "The Sydney Sheller". In January 1994 "The Sydney Sheller" became a joint publication of the Conchology Section, Royal Zoological Society of NSW and the NSW Branch of the Malacological Society of Australasia. Subscriptions were introduced for non members. February 1994 saw the introduction of regular colour photographs. On 1st January 1996 the Club parted company with RZS of NSW with the newsletter becoming the publication of the NSW Branch of the MSA. The January/February 1997 edition of "the Sydney Sheller" was a special edition to acknowledge Frank McCamley's outstanding dedication to Conchology in Australia.

Establishment of Sydney/New South Wales Branch of Malacological Society of Australia, MSA.

Following the introduction of the Conchology Group becoming a fully fledged Section of the RZS in 1956-57, it was not until the 16th November 1959 when Dr McMichael established formally a Sydney Branch of MSA.

"Sydney Branch Established:

"Until now Sydney Conchologists have had one society catering for their interests, this being the Conchology Section of the Royal Zoological Society of New South Wales. Recently the Sections meetings were cut back to one per month, so the Sydney members of the Malacological Society of Australia (only four of us then) decided the time was ripe to establish a Sydney branch of the society. Dr McMichael was able to make the facilities of the Museum available for a preliminary meeting on November 16th, at which some thirty people indicated their desire to form a branch with regular meetings. Dr McMichael acted as



Chairman and Mrs Helen McMichael as secretary pro tem. After the branch has got on its feet properly, a local committee will be elected. It was agreed that meetings should be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, commencing January 24th, 1960." (*Australian Newsletter M.S.A. vol. 8 No. 32 – 31.1.1961*)

Re-establishment of the Branch

The MSA on 26th May 1993 gave approval for the reconstitution of the NSW Branch. This action was predicated on a number of earlier negotiations, the principal negotiation being with the RZS OF NSW who gave its blessing to the convening and holding of joint meetings of the Conchology Section of the RZS with the proposed re-established NSW Branch of the MSA. (*The Sydney Sheller Dec. 1993/Jan. 1994*)

Members of MSA in NSW met on 20th June 1993 and elected interim office bearers until formal notification of the Branch re-establishment was agreed to at the MSA AGM.

On 21 July 1993 the Council of MSA approved the formation of a NSW Branch, whose meetings were in the future to be held in conjunction with the RZS Conchology Section at Taronga Park Zoo.

Shell Club of Sydney: Business Name

Following internal discussions in June 1997 it was felt that the Society's name was not an indicator to potential members and the public at large, that there was a shell club in Sydney.

Accordingly, an application was made to the Registrar of Business Names, following approval of MSA National, to register the Sydney Shell Club as a trading name. However the Registrar rejected the name and finally the Registrar approved the name Shell Club of Sydney in December 1997.

Journal of the Malacological Society of Australia

The first journal of the Malacological Society of Australia was published on the 13th September 1957. Mr Bernard Cotton said in the Foreword of the first edition:

"For half a century enthusiastic Conchologists have met together as kindred spirits, in societies, sections, clubs or informal gatherings in most Australian States to discuss their mutual interest. It is these internationally famous pioneers, Charles Hedley, Tom Iredale, Joyce Allan, John Brazier, Charles Gabriel, William Lewis May, Julian Edmund Tenison-Woods, William Tomson Bednall, Sir Joseph Verco, mentioning just a few, to whom the Conchological world, and particularly Australia, is deeply indebted."

"On the 23rd of October 1953 a band of seven enthusiasts founded in Melbourne The Malacological Club of Victoria, which enjoyed four successful years, and has the honour of being the forerunner of the Malacological Society of Australia, which held its first Annual Meeting in December 1956, an important milestone in Conchological history."

(*Journal of the Malacological Society of Australia No. 1 – 13.9.1957*)

On the 31st October 1994 a publication appeared replacing the former Journal as abovementioned entitled "Molluscan Research" published by the Malacological Society of Australasia. That publication stated:

"The aim of the Society is to promote the study of Recent and fossil Mollusca and their associated invertebrates. Molluscan Research, previously the Journal of the Malacological Society of Australia, is an annual publication (becoming semiannual in the near future) for authoritative scientific papers dealing with Mollusca and related topics. General and theoretical papers relating to molluscs are welcome. Papers concerning specific geographical areas or new taxa should be restricted to the Indo-West Pacific region, as well as Australasia and the southern oceans."

(*Molluscan Research Vol. 15 – 31.10.1994*)

Australian Newsletter/Australasian Shell News

Whilst the Journal and then the "Molluscan Research" publications represent the professional interests, a newsletter then called the "Australian Newsletter" soon appeared after 1957 to cater for the Conchological interests. By the 30th April 1961 the Newsletter was up to Volume 9 Number 33.

Some years ago, the publishing format was changed, displacing the old Newsletter and the Australasian Shell News came into being.

Note: General reference to the R.Z.S. Annual Reports and Proceedings



Long Bay Species, continued – Part 2

As typical pictures of each observed species are obtained, more of the list is then published. However most pictures are not of the actual specimens from Long Bay. (If actual specimens are use the name underneath will be in blue)

Families that are well known, such as Cypraeidae will simply be listed without pictures.
The article on the 12-month study, and the start of this list is in the April-May Issue 2005

Trochidae



Herpetopoma aspersa
(Philippi, 1846)



Euchelus ampullus
(Tate, 1893)



Granata imbricata
(Lamarck, 1822)



Clanculus brunneus
A.Adams, 1853



Clanculus clangulus
(Wood, 1828)



Clanculus floridus
(Philippi, 1848)



Clanculus maugeri
(Wood, 1828)



Clanculus plebejus
(Philippi, 1851)



Austrocochlea porcata
(A. Adams, 1853)



Nanula tasmanica
(Petterd, 1879)



Eurotrochus strangei
(A. Adams, 1853)



Cantharidella picturata
(A. Adams & Angas,
1864)



Notogibbula bicarinata
(A. Adams, 1854)



Fossarina patula
A. Adams & Angas, 1863



Phasianotrochus eximius
(Perry, 1811)



Calthalotia fragum
(Philippi, 1848)



Stomatella impertusa
(Burrows, 1815)



Astele scitulum
(A. Adams, 1855)



Calliostoma comptum
(A. Adams, 1854)



Ethminolia probabilis
Iredale, 1924



The Sydney Sheller



Monilea callifera (juvenile)
(Lamarck, 1822)

Talopena gloriola
Iredale, 1929

Bankivia fasciata
(Menke, 1830)

Leiopyrga lineolaris
(Gould, 1861)

Spectamen bellulum
(Angas, 1869)

Cypraeidae

<i>Cypraea annulus</i>	Linnaeus, 1758	<i>Cypraea kieneri</i>	(Hidalgo, 1906)
<i>Cypraea caputserpentis</i>	Linnaeus, 1758	<i>Cypraea asellus</i>	Linnaeus, 1758
<i>Cypraea clandestina</i>	Linnaeus, 1767	<i>Cypraea felina</i>	(Gmelin, 1791)
<i>Cypraea fimbriata</i>	Gmelin, 1791	<i>Cypraea helvola</i>	Linnaeus, 1758
<i>Cypraea erosa</i>	Linnaeus, 1758	<i>Cypraea erroneus</i>	Linnaeus, 1758
<i>Cypraea vitellus</i>	Linnaeus, 1758	<i>Cypraea gracilis</i>	(Gaskoin, 1849)
<i>Cypraea ursellus</i>	(Gmelin, 1791)	<i>Cypraea poraria</i>	Linnaeus, 1758
<i>Cypraea lutea</i>	(Gmelin, 1791)	<i>Cypraea flaveola</i>	Linnaeus, 1758

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting – 25/6/05

The Chairman opened the meeting at 2pm and called for nominations of the various positions.

It was moved and seconded:-

- that John Franklin be the President
- that Maureen Anderson be the Vice President
- that there be no nomination for Secretary
- that Maureen Anderson conduct Raffles
- that John Dunkerley be the Treasurer
- that Sheller Editor be Steve Dean
- that Librarian be John Franklin
- that National and Annual Show Manager be Steve Dean
- that Special Projects Manager be John Dunkerley.

The President presented his report of events over the last twelve months and Peter Pienaar as the previous Treasurer presented his report on the financial and membership status of the Club. The Treasurer advised that \$4,500.00 to date had been spent on the 6th National Shell Show preparation including the purchase of boxes and deposit on room hire fees.

The President noted the retirement of Chris Barnes who had been the Club Secretary for over nine years. During that time he had made a great contribution to the administration of the Club and members expressed their appreciation of his outstanding contribution over the years.

The Treasurer presented Annual Accounts which were duly approved and the President on behalf of members thanked him for his efforts over the last twelve months.



Shell Club Minutes - 25/6/05

Following the Annual General Meeting the President opened the meeting welcoming visitors and the guest speaker, Ms Cathy Hemery.

1. 6th National Shell Show

It was reported that the structure for the conduct of the National Shell Show was now in place and that the President had written to the Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club seeking sponsorship, additional space and concessions as to lighting arrangements.

A letter from Celebrating Pty Ltd dated 21 June 2005 was circulated and it was **resolved** that the tables only be hired at \$8.00 each for the weekend at this stage. Ron Moylan will make further enquiries as to the covering to be used in front and on top of the tables.

2. **The President** produced a trophy which was presented at the Adelaide Shell Show and it was **resolved** that Maureen Anderson write to the source to check on price and delivery time-frame. In the meantime members will consider an appropriate emblem for the trophy and present same at the next meeting.
3. The matter of the use of a second box for display was discussed and it was **resolved** that a further flyer go out in November 2005 advising potential registrants that if required a second box could be used provided that an additional four dollar fee was paid and strictly on a first come first served basis. Concern was expressed about space for the displays and the fact that space will largely be an unknown factor up until the close of registration.
4. Members were reminded that the next field trip will be to Long Reef on Saturday 20th August 2005 at 11:30am.
5. The President welcomed Ms Cathy Hemery, the guest speaker, who is associated with the Coastal Environment Centre Narrabeen. Cathy produced a wonderful display of slides extracted from the collection of Ms Isobel Bennett, the great environmentalist who is presently ninety six years of age. The slides represented photographs taken by Ms Bennett many years ago and were both interesting and informative.

On behalf of members, the President thanked Ms Hemery for her contribution.

The meeting closed at 4:00pm.

Senate Report on Invasive Species

Tim Allen, Marine and Coastal Community Network

The Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References and Legislation Committees of the Australian Senate have released their report concerning invasive species in Australia.

The report, *Turning Back the tide – The Invasive Species Challenge*, covers the regulation, control and management of invasive species in Australia and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002*.

Some of the report's specific recommendations include that the Commonwealth Government:

- take a lead role in Ministerial Councils and other appropriate forums to accelerate progress on the development, implementation and funding of a national system to deal with marine invasive species;
- as a matter of urgency, develop programs to minimize the threat of invasive marine species entering Australia's waters via hull fouling or as a result of the mariculture industries;
- provide long-term funding for research to identify and combat marine invasive species, particularly those which may threaten marine parks such as the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and those that are in the ports of Australia's trading partners and could be translocated to Australia.

The report can be downloaded from www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ecita_ctte/completed_inquiries/index.htm



Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains Endangered Ecological Community Listing

The NSW Scientific Committee has made a Final Determination to list Freshwater Wetlands on Coastal Floodplains of the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner bioregions as an Endangered Ecological Community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the *Endangered Ecological Communities Act*.

Further information: *Department of Environment and Conservation (NPWS) (02) 9585 6444*

Shell Club Minutes – 28/5/05

The meeting was opened by J. Franklin at 2.08pm.

General Business

The AGM is to be held in conjunction with next months meeting

J. Franklin informed the group of a cultural centre down south at Balwarra near Corrimal that Chris Ilert was involved with. Memberships are due on the 1st July 2005-06-24.

S. Dean made a request for more input to the Sydney "Sheller", particularly in the form of photos as that, is what people generally want to see. Steve stated that there had been more interest from international dealers to advertise, so he was not going to publish until he got some images to use.

Guest Speaker

Sol Bannura from Fisheries/ Department of Primary Industries.



NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES | FISHERIES

Sol spoke to the group on his role as a Fisheries officer, the day to day issues and some of the more comical events he had witnessed. Sol answered many questions from the group, particularly on shelling issues. In conclusion shells are basically viewed as shell fish, so a current recreational fishing licence was a good thing for a sheller to have to stay within the law. Knowing the boundaries of marine protected environments was also a good idea. Sol discussed bag limits and fines for actions outside the guidelines, so if you are unsure about anything contact the department of Primary Industries and inquire.

Meeting closed at 3.24pm.