



SYDNEY SHELLER

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

Next Meetings:

24th April Collect SA-WA
Ashley Miskelly

22nd May Land Snails
Steve, Des, Maureen

26th June Urchins
Ashley Miskelly

24th July
General discussions

(1.30pm for 2pm – 4pm)
(normally 4th Saturday, except for clashes with long weekends, and shell events – call to check)

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



View old shell newsletters on line
www.sydneyshellclub.net

Submit articles or ads:

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



Interesting specimens observed during a club field trip to Toowoona Bay, North of Sydney. Photographs by Jack Hannan

Club Executive:

Office bearers:

President: Steve Dean
Vice Pres: Maureen Anderson
Treasurer: Peter Pienaar
Secretary: Kim Bishop
Raffles: Maureen Anderson
Sheller Editor: Steve Dean
Librarian: Steve Dean
Annual Shell Show Mgr: Steve Dean
Special Projects Mgr: Vacant
MSA Delegate: Chris Barnes

Shell Club of Sydney Mission Statement:

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

Some of the topics inside:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ➤ | Field Trip to Toowoona Bay (Cover photo) |
| ➤ | Australian National Show - Freemantle |
| ➤ | Vale - Sandra |
| ➤ | Club Minutes |
| ➤ | |



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Andrew Edinger – *Golden Rosseli*

Some of Andrew's Zoila (see article next page)



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PO Box 901
Campbelltown, NSW
Australia 2560

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

desbee@optushome.com.au

26 Malga Ave, Roseville Chase NSW 2069





Report on the National Shell Show – Fremantle 2010

Maureen Anderson

Noel and I decided to drive to W.A. to see as much of the Australian coastline as we could.

Along the way we visited friends, divers and dealers. The scenic drive along the Great Ocean Road was breathtaking. We stayed in Adelaide for 2 days before moving on to Port Lincoln where we had the day with Adrian and Mary Bishop for lunch and to view their beautiful collection.

We crossed the Nullarbor Plain which took us two days driving 1,200km on a very straight road.

We loved Esperance and Albany and had a couple of days at each place. We drove down to Margaret River then across to Mandurah where we spent three days at Andrew and Cheryl Edinger's home with their lovely family. Andrew caught us fresh rock lobster and crabs each day to eat - delicious. His shell collection was fabulous.



We then headed for Perth for the Shell Show. Perth is a beautiful city, and Fremantle is bustling with restaurants and markets. In particular we had local breakfasts in an open air café where the locals ate – and evening meals each at a superb Italian restaurant. These dinners and breakfasts were shared with Marguerite & Trevor Young

All competitors and dealers arrived on the Friday to set up their exhibits and tables. The hall looked stunning with all the beautiful shells on display. Judging took place on Friday afternoon, which was then followed by supper for the judges. Saturday was very well attended by the public, where people seemed to flow into the hall all day. Saturday night dinner was enjoyed by all and the table decorations were quite unique. The centre piece being a large *Syrinx aruanus* in a black stand supporting a large blue candle which was alight.

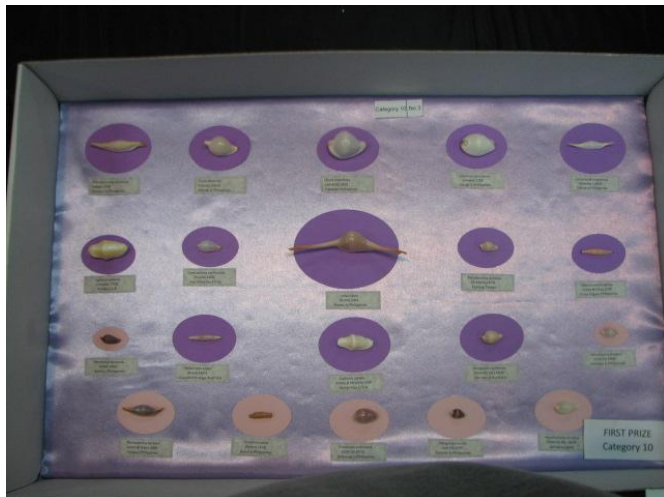
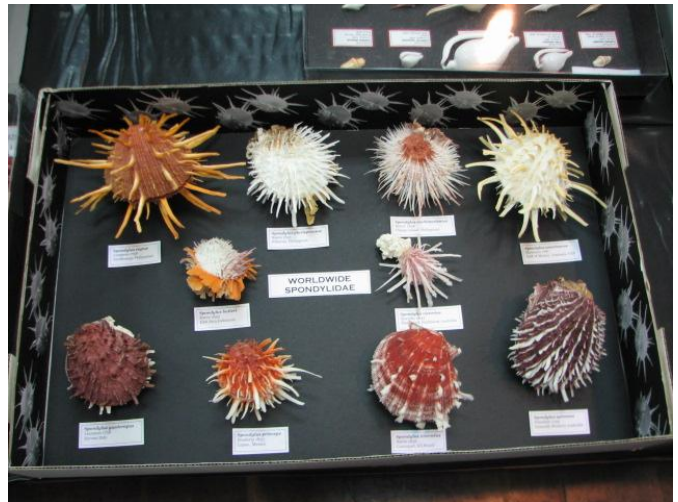


A lucky chair on each table could claim the centre piece. Trophies and prizes were handed out during the dinner. Sunday was also a very busy day with the public still coming through the door. Shell dealers seemed to be very busy selling their shells. There was endless tea and coffee with fresh sandwiches and home-made cake supplied all weekend. Over the weekend we had guest speakers, book auction and a silent auction on Sunday. On Sunday we also had buy, swap and sell. By Sunday afternoon we were beginning to pack up after a very successful Shell Show. On Monday we were invited to Merv's BBQ at Crazy Crabs, which was enjoyed by all.

Finally we would like to thank Merv Cooper for hosting the National Shell Show in Fremantle WA. Thanks also go to Paula who works hard along side Merv for the success in running of the Shell Show. Thanks also go to the members of WA Shell Club. Also we would like to thank Simon Barbour and Wayne Rumball for their supportive rolls in helping to make the National Shell Show a success.



More of Maureen's pictures from the Freemantle National





The Sydney Sheller





The Sydney Sheller



The Sydney Shell Club members were sorry to hear of Malcolm and Joy Ford re the car accidents he and his wife, (and their shells) encountered on the road travelling home from the National Show. Our members send our best wishes.



Passing of Sandra Montague

By Kim Bishop

Sandra, one of our active and well-loved members passed away on 7 January 2010. Shell collecting was just one of Sandra's interests which provided her with competition, challenge and achievement throughout her life. Our attendance records indicate that Sandra first joined the Shell Club in February 2002. Sandra had a special interest in collecting Micro shells but also enjoyed accumulating various shell families including Epitoniidae, Strombidae and Triphoridae. Sandra was very successful at collecting beach specimens so much so that she won the First Prize for beach collected shells at our Annual Shell Show in 2006.

Sandra achieved numerous awards for her exhibits at both State and National level of competition. Highlights included the prestigious Conchologist of America Award for her Strombidae, Lambis educational exhibit at the Sydney Annual Shell Show in October 2007, a Perpetual Award for her winning exhibit of Gastropod not listed at the National Shell Show 2008 in Brisbane and Shell of The Show Award at the Sydney Annual Shell Show in October 2008 for her Muricidae palmarosae.

Sandra was always willing to share her knowledge with club members and in recent years provided a number of interesting presentations including the family Strombidae, Marine Toxins and Cone poisons. As a judge Sandra was highly regarded and will be missed by her friends at the Club.

Sandra left the following note to her friends:

"I have been blessed with a wonderful life- I have lived, known a wonderful family, shared friendship, loyalty and love.

Every opportunity has been opened to me: adventure, challenge, travel, competition and achievement. Throughout my life I have felt the presence of the Lord, nudging me, supporting me, and chiding me for my hedonistic ways. I go forward, confident that, with my mother by my side, even the toughest crosswords in Heaven will not be insurmountable.

I still marvel at the love and support of so many very special people in my life. Know always that you have my enduring love and gratitude. Without you all, my life would have been empty. Know also, Margaret, June and Mark, how much I admire and cherish you.

I have no doubt that moving to 55 Pacific Highway was no coincidence. I didn't just buy a unit, but moved into a community of supportive, loving souls, who have shared my journey.

Chris and Nett, my patient, warm, generous, enduring and loving friends shared their joys and sorrows with me, their children and their dogs. Peter and Yvette were my links to the future.

Mona Vale beach became a special place of beauty and serenity, when shared with my rock and support. There, Nett and I shared so much happiness as well as pain as we watched the whales migrate, collected shells and sea dragons, and talked for hours without ever running out of things to say.

Lawn bowls gave me challenge and companionship, then, when my health ruled that out, bridge helped fill the gap. The Sydney Shell Club also gave me a focus and, with members' support, new challenges and achievements. And, almost to the end, Nett's book club also did likewise.

To leave this life having done everything I could have wished for, and experienced every challenge, all that is left to say, I guess, is that I love you and thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for making such a life with friends like you possible. God bless you all."



Meeting Minutes - 28 November 2009.

The President, Steve Dean, opened the meeting at 2.22 pm.

Attendance Steve Dean, Maureen Anderson, Peter Pienaar, Steve Jones, Bob Snedic, Ashley Miskelly and Kim Bishop.

Apologies were received from Keith Dean, Chris Barnes and Michael Keats.

Correspondence A letter dated 29 October 2009 from Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club Ltd enclosing a cheque for \$65.00 being donation to offset room hire for 26 September 2009 was tabled by Kim Bishop.

A Certificate of Registration of Business Name received from NSW Government Fair Trading renewing the Business Name "The Shell Club of Sydney" until 2 December 2012 was tabled by Kim Bishop. An email from a person in the United States of



America wanting to buy bulk micro shells smaller than 5mm for craft work was tabled by Steve Dean. An email from Toni Cummings of Ryleston NSW offering a collection of Australian and overseas shells for sale was tabled by Steve Dean. The shells were collected over 60 years ago. Details have been provided to Ashley Miskelly to follow up. An email dated 18 November 2009 from Meron Waller enquiring about our Annual Shell Show was tabled by Steve Dean. Steve Dean to reply to this email. Steve Dean tabled an email received in October 2009 from Shirley Burke, Burnett Heads Qld offering second hand shell books for sale. If interested in making an offer Steve Dean has the details.

Finance Bank account balance was reported by Treasurer, Peter Pienaar.

Library A current list of books available in the Library is listed in the September- November 2009 "Sheller" magazine. Anyone requiring books from overseas please let Steve Dean know your requirements.

Field Trips Ashley Miskelly reported on a snorkelling trip to Jibbon Beach, near Bundeena where he noted a number of Cymatiidae *Charonia rubicunda* and a night dive at Clifton Gardens. A field trip to Toowoona Bay is scheduled for 31 January 2010 and another possibly to Jibbon Beach on 28 February 2010. Two land snail collecting trips are also being planned for April and June 2010.

General Business After discussion it was agreed to cancel our regular monthly meeting in January 2010. Steve Dean to contact members and Kim Bishop to write to Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club reminding them that no meeting is held in December 2009 and that January 2010 meeting is cancelled.

Cake Roster for 2010

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| February | Bob Snedic |
| March | Ron Moylan |
| April | Maureen Anderson |
| May | Peter Pienaar |
| June | Chris Barnes |
| July | Steve Dean |
| August | Kim Bishop |
| September | Bob Snedic |
| October | Everyone |
| November | Ron Moylan |
| December | No meeting scheduled. |

Presentations 2010

| | | |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| February | Ron Moylan | Trip to New Caledonia |
| March | Discussion | National Shell Show |
| April | Ashley Miskelly | Echinoderms |

Raffle First Prize: Steve Jones. Second Prize: Steve Dean

The meeting closed at 2.22pm.

Presentation: Following the meeting Steve Dean gave an interesting talk on the family Architectonicidae supported by a number of fine examples.

Kim Bishop, Secretary

Meeting Minutes – 27th February 2010

The President, Steve Dean, opened the meeting at 2.08pm.

Attendance Steve Dean, Keith Dean, Peter Pienaar, Chris Barnes, Steve Jones, Bob Snedic and Kim Bishop.

Apologies were received from Maureen Anderson, Chris Crellin, Ron Moylan, Jack Hannan and Michael Keats.

Correspondence Kim Bishop tabled 2 letters dated 30 November 2009 addressed to Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club Ltd one requesting use of meeting rooms for our 2010 program and the other requesting that the Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club consider making a donation to offset our October and November 2009 room hire fees. Kim also tabled a letter dated 29 December 2009 received from Ryde- Eastwood Leagues Club enclosing a cheque for \$245 covering room hire for October and November 2009. Steve Dean tabled a copy of a Tax Invoice from Rowland House Insurance Brokers (Aust) Pty Ltd dated 27/10/2009 addressed to the Malacological Society of Australasia Ltd, Melbourne covering renewal of Public and Products Liability. Steve has been advised by Des Beechey that this is paid by the Malacological Society of Australasia Ltd and the copy is for our records and has been retained by the Secretary.



The Sydney Sheller



Finance Bank account balance was reported by Treasurer, Peter Pienaar.

Coming Events Field Trip tomorrow 28 February 2010 to Jibbon Beach. Land Snail trips to be confirmed possibly towards the end of April and May 2010.

Library A number of regular publications have been received and circulated at today's meeting.

Field Trips, Shell Shows and Club Visits Bob Snedic reported on a visit to Fairy Meadow two weeks ago and noted a number of sea urchins washed up on the beach. Bob Snedic and Steve Dean reported on the field trip to Toowoan Bay on 31st January 2010 that they and Jack's family went on. Steve showed an excellent example of a *Turbo militaris* and *Conus anemone*. It was noted that there was no evidence of cowries currently at this location. Steve reported that Maureen Anderson, Ron Moylan and Ashley Miskelly attended the National Shell Show in Fremantle last weekend.

The meeting closed at 3.27pm.

Kim Bishop, Secretary

Toowoan Bay Field Trip – 31st January 2010



At Toowoan Bay there was a good size rock platform, a sheltered lagoon with a loose rock weed bottom and a very very low tide.

Jack, Steve and Bob split up and covered all areas. After we played with the shark, Bob gained a following of children to see what else he would show them. One young girl of around 11 told us she had always planned to become a marine biologist when she grows up

While there was a lot of marine life (photos here and on front cover), there were very few species of shells, primarily *Turbo militaris* and *Conus anemone* and *Thais orbita*.

There was no evidence of Cypraea at all – not even remnants.



Meeting Minutes - 27 March 2010

The President, Steve Dean, opened the meeting at 2.21pm.

Attendance Steve Dean, Maureen Anderson, Keith Dean, Ron Moylan, Chris Barnes, Des Beechey and Kim Bishop.

Visitors Bernice Beechey.

Apologies were received from Bob Snedic.

Finance Treasurer, Peter Pienaar absent, no report available.

Coming Events Land Snail trip to be confirmed later.

Field Trips, Shell Shows and Club Visits Steve Dean reported on the Club field trip to Jibbon Beach on 28 February 2010 attended by himself and Jack Hannan. Steve showed several colour variations of *Charonia lampas rubicunda*, a *Tonna perdix* and *Conus aplustre*. Steve noted that a number of the smooth form *Turbo militaris* were located at this sight. Ron Moylan provided a report on the Paris Shell Show he attended at the Bourse de Commerce on 6-7 March 2010 supported by photographs of the event.

Acquisitions Ron Moylan showed an impressive display of shells mainly of the Zoila family but also an excellent example of a *Strombus vomer kermadecensis*. Maureen Anderson displayed a number of Zoila from her winning display at the National Shell Show in Fremantle including new additions *Zoila venusta sorrentensis*, *Zoila venusta roseopunctata* and *Zoila venusta "grisea" form* and the very rare *Zoila perlae perlae*. An unusual Xenophoridae which was trawled off Taiwan with a bottle top attached was also displayed by Maureen Anderson.

General Business The Conchologists of America Award won by Trevor Appleton at our Annual Shell Show 2009 for his exhibit "Variation within a Species- Volutidae" has been received and handed to the Secretary for mailing to Trevor. COA have advised that we will be required to cover the cost of mailing the award from America in future, currently around USD44.

Steve Dean advised that he continues to receive a number of email enquiries from people wanting shells identified and collections for sale. Any enquiries generated from interstate are being forwarded to the appropriate interstate shell clubs for response.

A number of members have shown interest in collecting land snails and it has been requested that those members who have land snails in their collection bring some to the next meeting.

Raffle First Prize: Maureen Anderson, Second Prize: Chris Barnes.

The meeting closed at 3.10pm.

Presentation: Following the meeting Maureen Anderson provided feedback on the National Shell Show Fremantle.

Kim Bishop, Secretary

Irish Boy's Confession

'Bless me Father, for I have sinned. I have been with a loose girl'.

The priest asks, 'Is that you, Dicky?' 'Yes, Father, it is.'

'And who was the girl you were with?' 'I can't tell you, Father, I don't want to ruin her reputation.'

'Well, Dicky, I'm sure to find out her name sooner or later, so you may as well tell me now.

Was it Mary Walsh?' 'I cannot say.'

Was it Teresa Brown?' 'I'll never tell.'

'Was it Margaret Doyle?' 'I'm sorry, but I cannot name her.'

'Was it Anne O' Neil?' 'My lips are sealed.'

'Was it Catherine O' Toole, then?' 'Please, Father, I cannot tell you.'

The priest sighs in frustration. 'You're very tight lipped Dicky, and I admire that. But you've sinned and have to atone. You cannot be an altar boy now for four months. Now you go and behave yourself.'

Dicky walks back to his pew, and his friend Tommy slides over and whispers, 'What'd you get?'

'Four months holiday and five good leads'.