

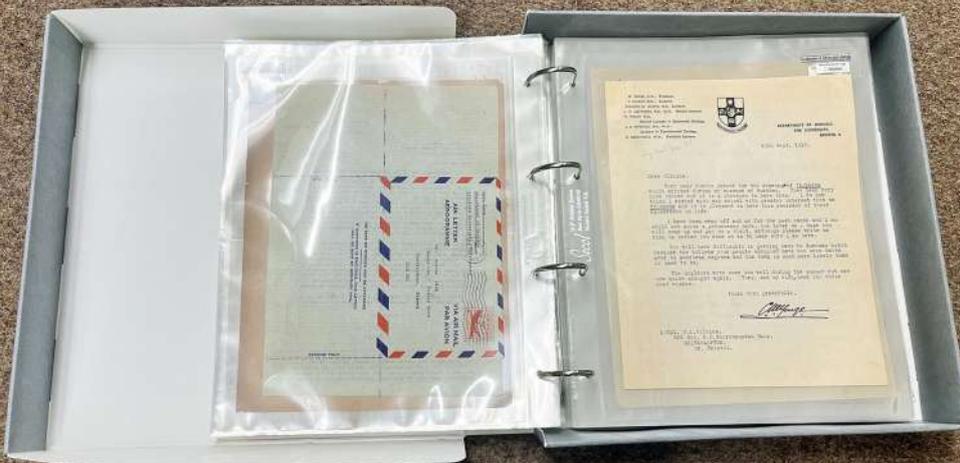
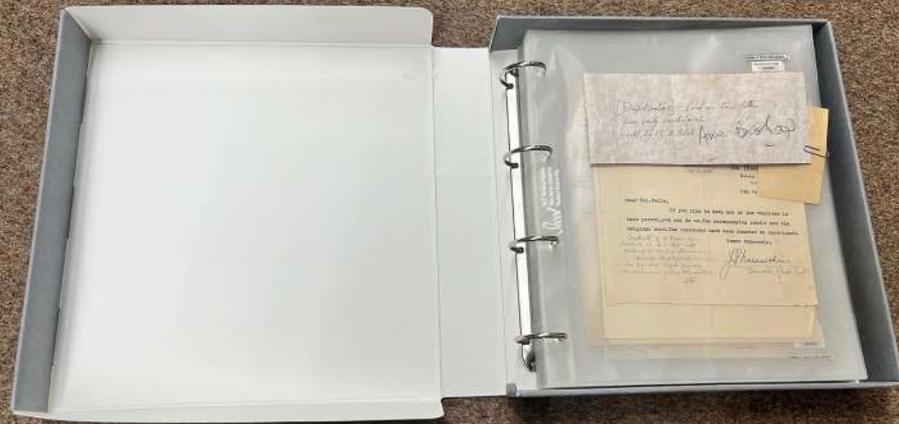
Colligo

Histoire(s) de Collections

COLLIGO 8 (2)

2025

BOTANIQUE - ZOOLOGIE - PALÉONTOLOGIE - ETHNOLOGIE - CONSERVATION/RESTAURATION



A fortunate man – The life and letter collection of Arthur Blok

Harriet WOOD & Brian GOODWIN

P. 3-49

Roger Casement's Butterflies at the National Museum of Ireland – Natural History, Dublin, Ireland

Aidan O'HANLON & Jorge M. GONZÁLEZ

P. 51-59

Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945): from celebrated natural historian to obscurity

Steve O'SHEA, Phil EYDEN, Jonathan D. ABLETT & Amanda L. REID

P. 61-82

SOMMAIRE

ZOOLOGIE

A fortunate man – The life and letter collection of Arthur Blok

Un homme fortuné – La vie et les lettres d'Arthur Blok

Harriet WOOD & Brian GOODWIN

P. 3-49

ZOOLOGIE

Roger Casement's Butterflies at the National Museum of Ireland – Natural History, Dublin, Ireland

Les papillons de Roger Casement au Musée national d'Irlande – Histoire naturelle, Dublin, Irlande

Aidan O'HANLON & Jorge M. GONZÁLEZ

P. 51-59

ZOOLOGIE

Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945): from celebrated natural historian to obscurity

Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945) : d'un naturaliste célèbre à l'obscurité

Steve O'SHEA, Phil EYDEN, Jonathan D. ABLETT & Amanda L. REID

P. 61-82

PLUS D'INFORMATIONS

Le comité de rédaction veille à la qualité des manuscrits en effectuant une première relecture et en mettant en œuvre le processus de relecture par des membres du comité scientifique ou par des membres extérieurs.

La ligne éditoriale et les instructions aux auteurs sont disponibles sur le site internet de la revue : www.revue-colligo.fr
Editorial line and instructions for authors are available on Colligo's website : www.revue-colligo.fr

A fortunate man – The life and letter collection of Arthur Blok

Un homme fortuné – La vie et les lettres d'Arthur Blok

HARRIET WOOD¹ & BRIAN GOODWIN²

¹Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP, UK - harriet.wood@museumwales.ac.uk

²bjgoodwin44@icloud.com

Citation : Wood H. & Goodwin B., 2025. A fortunate man - The life and letter collection of Arthur Blok. *Colligo*, 8(2). <https://revue-colligo.fr/?id=104>.

Summary: An archive containing 126 documents, compiled by Arthur Blok (1882-1974), was acquired by Amgueddfa Cymru-Museum Wales, Cardiff, UK in 2019. It was donated by the family of the British shell collector, Edward Bishop (1936-2018). The process of conservation, digitisation, documentation and transcription of the archive is described, followed by an analysis of the archive in terms of the document types, make-up of the senders and receivers, temporal spread, geographical range and the languages the documents are written in.

A 'cast of characters' is presented in **Appendix 1**, listing the senders, letter dates and recipients, in addition to some significant conchologists mentioned in the letters. Blok's life and character are explored, and a chronological biographical summary of Arthur Blok's life is presented, alongside his short bibliography, in **Appendix 2**; the relationship of Blok and Bishop is also discussed. Blok's passion for collecting letters is evidenced from 1934, with other instances also highlighted.

The donation to Amgueddfa Cymru-Museum Wales is put into context of other known Blok archives, notably a larger collection containing 470 letters residing in the Library and Archives, Natural History Museum, London, UK and a list of the correspondents it contains is presented in **Appendix 3**. The contents of the Cardiff Blok archive and its networks are then reviewed, with a particular focus on connections to Cardiff, the WW2 years and taxonomic debate. A notable relationship, between Lieut.-Col. Alfred James Peile (1868-1948) and Arthur Haycock (1863-1934) is further revealed, forming a short biography of the little-known Bermudian shell collector, Haycock.

KEY-WORDS : *Arthur Blok – Edward Bishop – archive – correspondence – history of conchology – social network – Alfred James Peile – Arthur Haycock – National Museum Wales*

Résumé : Un fonds d'archives contenant 126 documents rassemblés par Arthur Blok (1882-1974) a été acquis par l'Amgueddfa Cymru – Museum Wales, à Cardiff, au Royaume-Uni, en 2019. Il a été donné par la famille du collectionneur britannique de coquillages Edward Bishop (1936-2018). Le processus de conservation, de numérisation, de documentation et de transcription de ce fonds est décrit, suivi d'une analyse des documents selon leur typologie, l'identité des expéditeurs et destinataires, la répartition chronologique et géographique, ainsi que les langues utilisées.

Une liste des personnes est présentée en **annexe 1**, répertoriant les expéditeurs, les dates et les destinataires des lettres, ainsi que certains conchyliologues notables mentionnés dans la correspondance. La vie et la personnalité de Blok sont explorées, et un résumé biographique chronologique de la vie d'Arthur Blok est présenté, accompagné d'une courte bibliographie en **annexe 2** ; la relation entre Blok et Bishop y est également abordée. La passion de Blok pour la collecte de lettres est attestée dès 1934, d'autres exemples sont également mis en lumière.

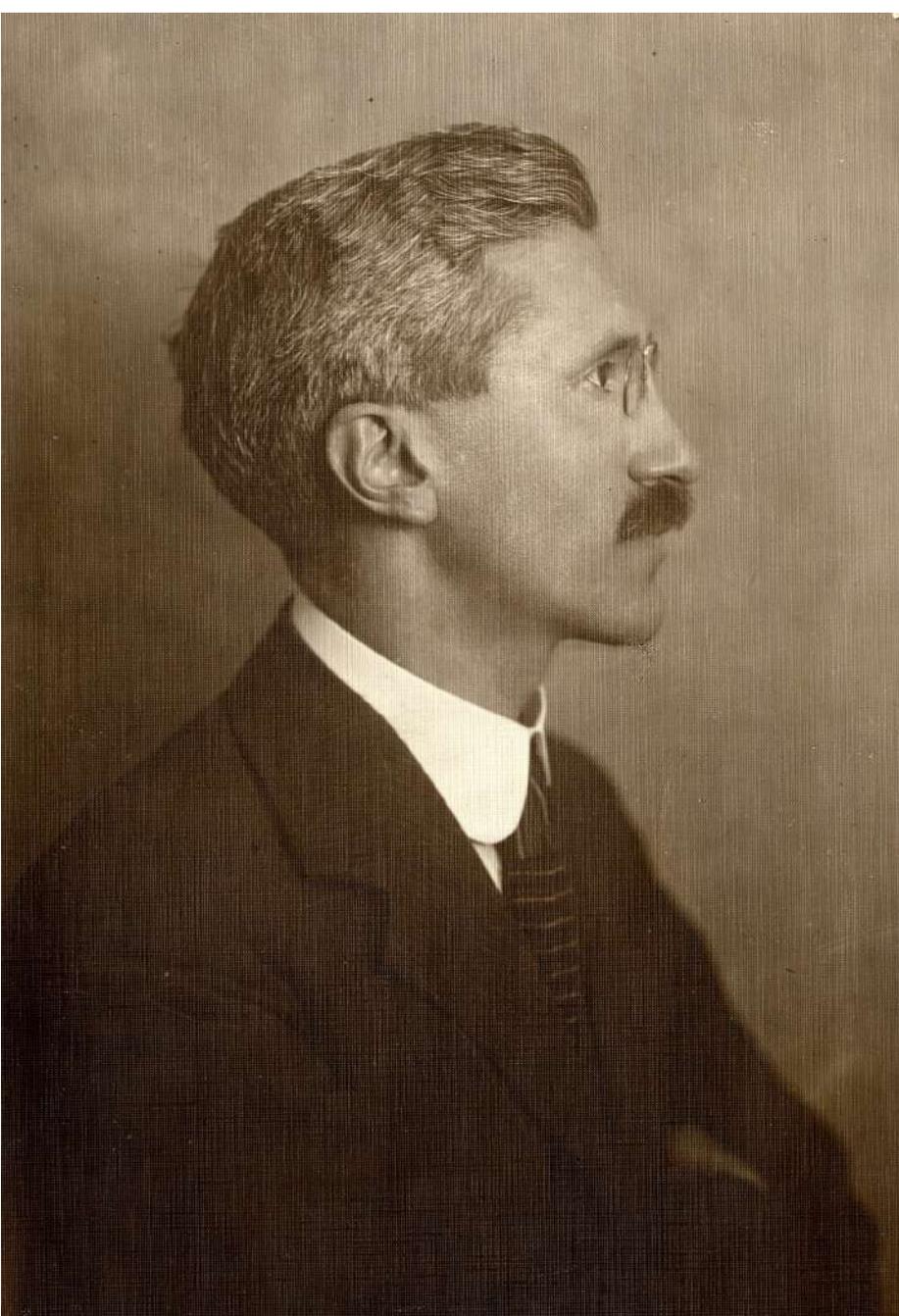
La donation à l'Amgueddfa Cymru-Museum Wales est replacée dans le contexte d'autres archives de Blok connues, notamment une collection plus importante de 470 lettres conservée à la Library and Archives du Natural History Museum de Londres, dont la liste des correspondants est présentée en **annexe 3**. Le contenu du fonds Blok de Cardiff et ses réseaux sont ensuite examinés, avec une attention particulière portée aux liens avec Cardiff, la période de la Seconde Guerre mondiale et aux débats taxinomiques. Une relation notable entre le lieutenant-colonel Alfred James Peile (1868-1948) et Arthur Haycock (1863-1934) est également révélée, donnant lieu à une courte biographie du peu connu collectionneur de coquillages bermudien, Haycock.

MOTS-CLÉS : *Arthur Blok – Edward Bishop – archives – correspondance – histoire de la conchyliologie – réseau de sociabilité – Alfred James Peile – Arthur Haycock – National Museum Wales*

Introduction

Letter archives associated with natural history collections are gateways into the lives and relationships of collectors and taxonomists, offering a glimpse into discussions around identifications, collecting trips and the history and provenance of the specimens themselves. They form a supporting role in enhancing the interpretation of collections and type specimens (Wood & Gallichan, 2008; Breure, 2011 & 2013; Breure & Ablett, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015), acting as handwriting identification aids, whilst feeding into the broader understanding of actor-networks in the field (van der Bijl *et al.*, 2010; Breure, 2015; Breure *et al.*, 2018; Breure *et al.*, 2022).

Fig. 1. Portrait of Arthur Blok (1882-1974). Library and Archives, Natural History Museum, London.



In 2018, a small archive of 126 letters, compiled by Arthur Blok (1882-1974) (Fig. 1), came to light during a review of Edward Bishop's (1936-2018) mollusc collection at his home in Woodingdean, near Brighton, East Sussex, UK (Willing, 2019). The visit was hosted by Edward's wife, Anne Bishop, and the review was undertaken by curators from Amgueddfa Cymru-Museum Wales (Ben Rowson and Harriet Wood); both the Bishop collection and Blok archive were acquired by Amgueddfa Cymru-Museum Wales the following year. The Blok archive has since been scanned, rehoused, documented and transcribed by the authors for accessibility, interpretation and future online access through the *Mollusca Types in Britain and Ireland* website, a project funded by the John Ellerman Foundation and available at <https://gbmolluscatypes.ac.uk> (Ablett *et al.* accessed: 29 May 2025). This will be part of a new strand to the website, forming a hub for information on malacological archives in Britain and Ireland, which is due to be launched in 2025.

Through this work a 'cast of characters' was formed and is presented in **Appendix 1**, illustrating the full list of senders, including a short biographical summary, the dates of all the documents (where known) and the conchologists to whom the letters were sent. In addition, some notable conchologists mentioned in the letters (mainly receivers) are also listed. As this is a collection of letters, rather than correspondence to a specific individual, a network analysis in relation to Blok is not undertaken in this paper.

We consider the provenance of this archive, taking a look at Arthur Blok, his life (**Appendix 2**) and his friendship with Edward Bishop, to understand how it came to be in Bishop's hands and where it sits in the bigger picture of Blok's letter collecting. Undertaking this research revealed another, larger, Blok archive containing 470 letters, which was passed on to S. Peter Dance and then donated to the Library and Archives, British Museum (Natural History), London, UK in 1975, after being further augmented by Dance. The list of correspondents in this second augmented archive is presented in **Appendix 3** and a comparison of the senders in both archives is made.

With the archive spanning 1883 to 1958 we selected themes of particular interest and relevance to research further. The repeated occurrence of conchologists who had ties with

Cardiff became apparent and has been explored, including any relationships with Blok, with a particular look at John R. le B. Tomlin, James Cosmo Melville, William Evans Hoyle, J. Davy Dean and S. Peter Dance. Temporally, the letter occurrence peaks between the 1920s–1940s, therefore it is no surprise that WW2 is mentioned prominently and the stories and context around this have been reviewed. When assessing the archive, it became apparent that Peile was the recipient of a large portion of the letters (c. 40%), most likely given directly to Blok for his growing collection. Blok and Peile were indeed good friends and in 1945 Arthur Blok received his entire collection of Clausiliidae and Pupillidae and bought a huge collection of radulae from him (Mienis, 1975). Peile was known for his passion for Bermudian shells, and this was found to be weaved through many of his letters. His correspondence from amateur conchologist and Bermudian resident, Arthur Haycock, is a highlight in the archive, where four letters from Haycock can be found. It transpired when researching Haycock that little had been written about him and so the authors have expanded this section to compile a biography, including information on his collection in Bermuda.

Institutional and Societal Abbreviations

ANSP: Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, USA

BAMZ: Bermuda Aquarium, Museum & Zoo, Bermuda

BMAG: Buxton Museum & Art Gallery, Buxton, UK

BM(NH): British Museum (Natural History) (pre-1992), now the Natural History Museum, London, UK

CSGBI: Conchological Society of Great Britain & Ireland

HUJ: Hebrew University Museum, Jerusalem, Israel

MSL: Malacological Society of London
NHMUK: Natural History Museum, London, UK (post-1992)

NMNH: National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, USA

NMW: Amgueddfa Cymru–Museum Wales, Cardiff, UK (formerly National Museum Wales)

RBINS: Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium

USNM: United States National Museum, USA (1881–1911)

Materials & Methods: Conservation, documentation and transcription

Bishop's portion of Blok's letter archive was discovered in November 2018 during a visit to Edward Bishop's home to review his shell collection. It was in a desk drawer, in his shell collection room, and the letters were stored in an A4 sized padded Jiffy envelope labelled externally by Bishop, "*handwritten letters from early conchologists – coll. by Mr A. Blok*" (Fig. 2). Within the bag, the letters were bundled together, and many were attached together with metal paperclips showing signs of rust.

When the archive of 126 documents arrived at NMW in 2019, it was augmented into the malacological archive collection in the Natural Sciences department under accession NMW.Z.2019.005, and each document was given a unique registration number. The collection was rehoused, with each page stored in a Secol polyester pocket, with the accession/registration number printed onto Mellotex paper and taped to the outside using L-jar archival tape. The full collection was then stored in a single Timecare archive ring binder (Fig. 3).

In July 2021, Harriet Wood was contacted by Brian Goodwin (Treasurer of the CSGBI, at the time), having heard about the acquisition of the Blok archive, and with an offer to undertake the letter transcription. His keen interest in malaco-history, and repertoire of related *Mollusc World* articles, was very complimentary to such a project and so a remote workflow between the authors began.

Existing archive projects at NMW (namely the Tomlin archive project) meant that there was a pre-existing workflow for documentation of such material, and this was followed. In late-2021 and 2022, each document was scanned and saved as a high-resolution tiff at 300dpi, with copies saved as lower resolution jpgs. Each image had a unique image number, which was also attached to the polyester pocket containing the related document (Fig. 3). Images were shared with Brian Goodwin for transcription and documentation. The NMW Filemaker Pro malaco-archive database, originally created for the Tomlin archive, was used and allows images of the documents and the corresponding data to be viewed side-by-side. Alongside the transcription of the letters and other documents,

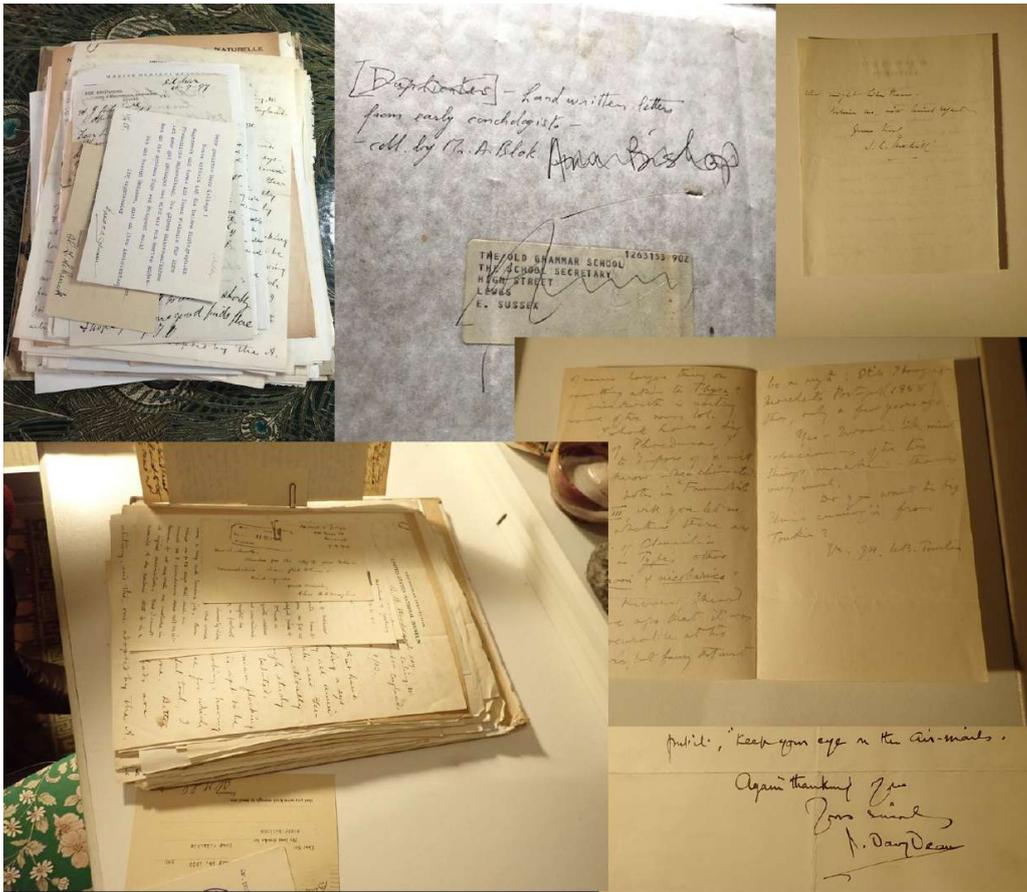


Fig. 2. The NMW Blok archive in its original state when located in Edward Bishop's house in Woodingdean, East Sussex, UK.



Fig. 3. The NMW Blok archive reboxed into archival storage.

information relating to each one was captured, primarily: Sender and receiver details (verbatim name, full name, address, country, gender), document type (letter, envelope, postcard, photograph, sales or collection list, note, drawing etc), folio and page number, content summary and accession details. By the end of 2023, most of the work had been completed and was ready for online publication on the *Mollusca Types in Britain & Ireland* platform; this new section to the website is still undergoing development by NMW staff and is due to be completed before the end of 2025.

Throughout the transcription process a ‘cast of characters’ was created by the authors, which forms the backbone of the list presented in **Appendix 1**. All 126 letters are listed alphabetically by sender surname, including letter date, recipient and a brief biography of the sender. It is further enhanced with some of the notable conchologists and collectors mentioned in the letters, predominantly the receivers.

Archive overview

Media

The media type within Bishop’s Blok collection is limited to just three types. The majority are letters, which make up 89% of the collection; in addition, there are 10 postcards (8%) and 4 notes (3%) (**Fig. 5c**). Seventy five percent of the documents are holographs (handwritten) and 25% are typed and signed. Surprisingly, there

are no photographs or portraits at all, which are often found in similar archives such as Tomlin’s in NMW, Cardiff and Dautzenberg’s in RBINS, Brussels (Breure, 2015). There are also no cards, collections or sales lists, invoices, maps, or other media types.

Geography and language

Although it is clear which country most of the letters originated from (**Fig. 4**), it is not always apparent, without further research, whether the sender was a visitor, expat, or settler. There are only 4 documents where the senders’ country is not clear, either from the address, postmark or from information within the letter. The Steenstrup notes represent 3 of these and have been recorded as Denmark, his country of residence. The other is a letter from Hugh Watson, which has been recorded as the United Kingdom for the same reason. Nearly all correspondents used the English language (96%), with just two letters and two postcards in German, and one letter in French (**Fig. 5b**).

Timespan

The letters cover a 75-year period, ranging from 1883 to 1958. The majority being from the 1920s to 1940s (87%) (**Fig. 5a**), covering the WW2 period.

Receivers

Unsurprisingly, many of Bishop’s letters seem to have been obtained from (and were addressed to) conchological friends who lived

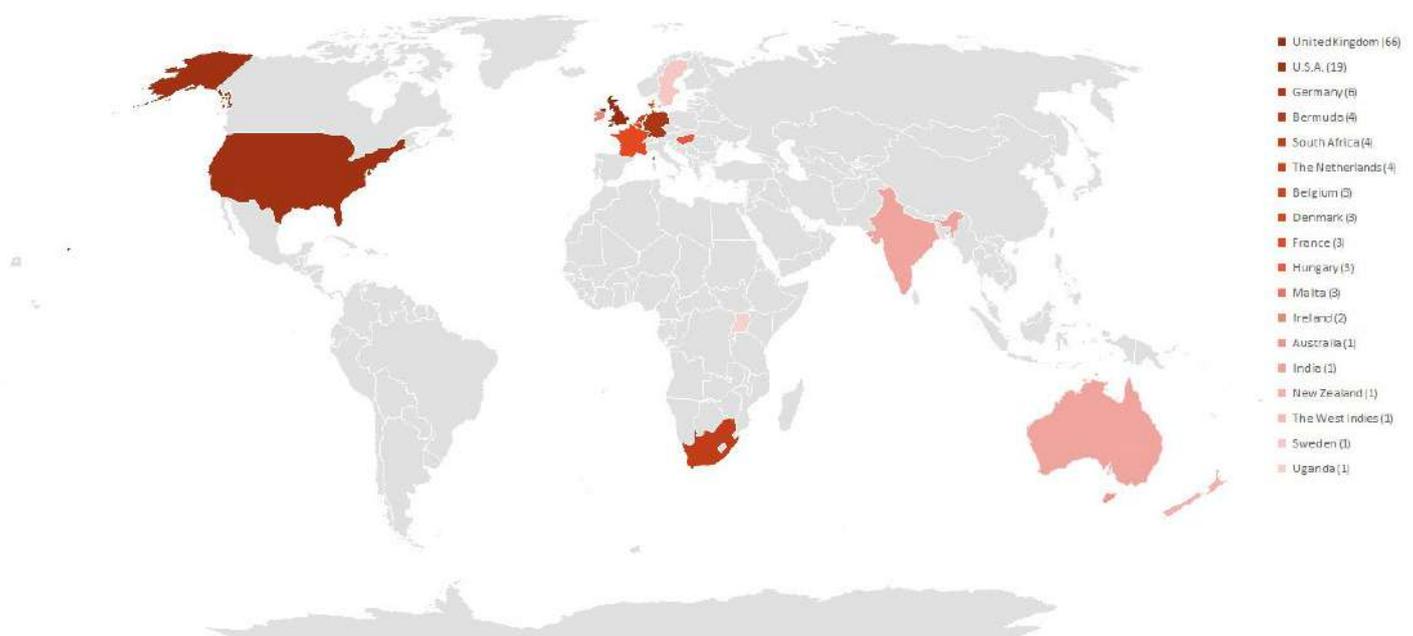


Fig. 4. Distribution map of the locations the letters were sent from in the NMW Blok archive.

ZOOLOGIE

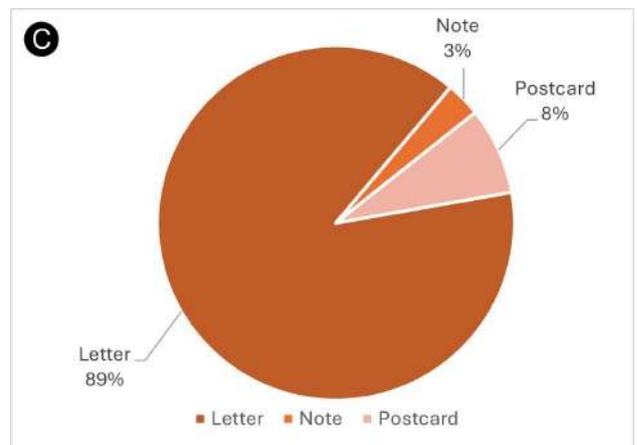
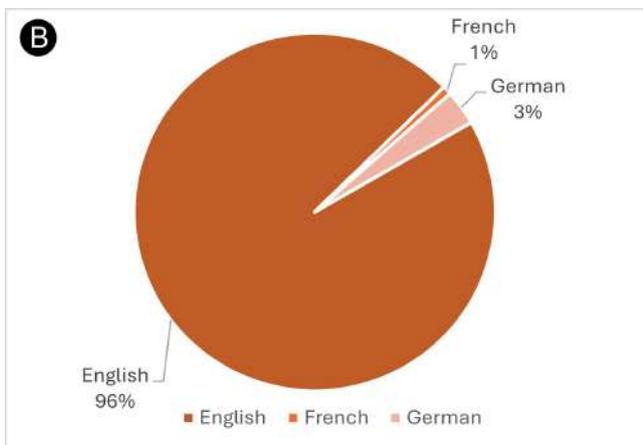
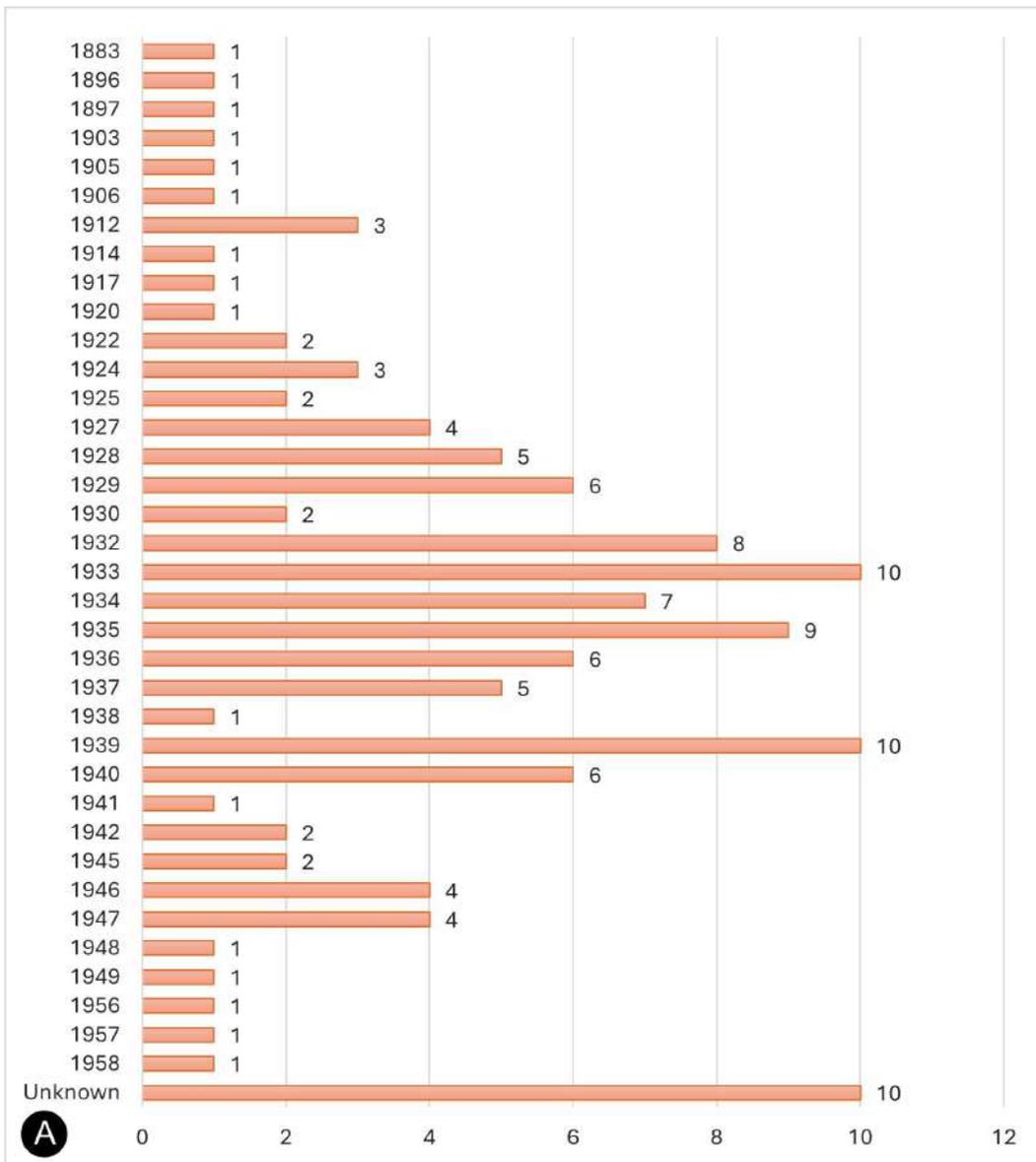
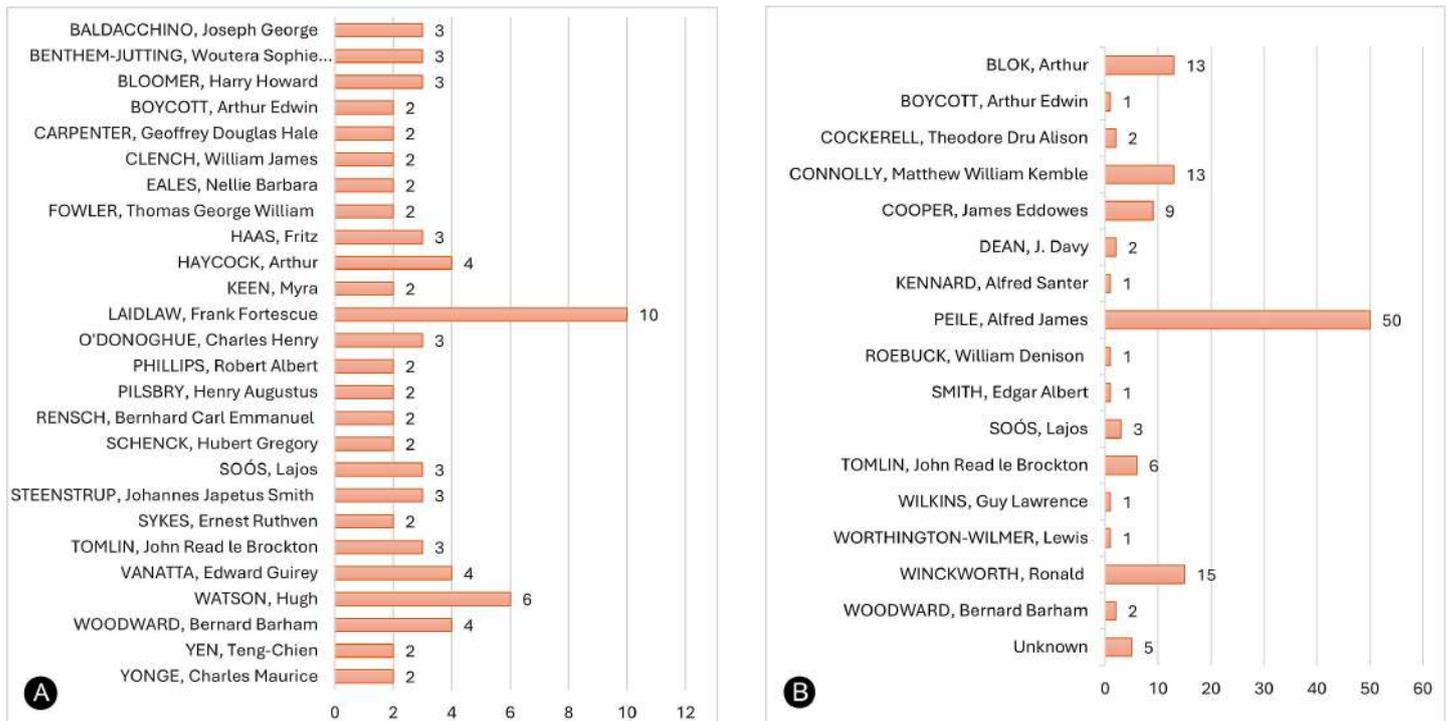


Fig. 5. a. The temporal spread of letters, ranging from 1883-1958; b. The languages used by the senders; c. The document types and proportions, in the NMW Blok archive.



6. a. Number of letters from the senders who are represented by more than one letter in the NMW Blok archive, arranged alphabetically by surname; 48 further senders were represented by a single letter; b. A list of receivers and the number of letters received.

close to Blok in or near London, specifically Lieut.-Col. Alfred Peile (1868-1948), Major Matthew Connolly (1872-1947), Ronald Winckworth (1884-1950) and James Cooper (1864-1952). There are only 16 named recipients in the whole archive. Peile represents the largest portion of receivers with 49 letters, nearly 40% of the whole collection. This is followed by Winckworth (15 letters), Connolly (13 letters) and Cooper (9 letters), and collectively these four make up nearly three quarters of the recipients (Fig. 6b). There are also 11 letters (possibly 13) addressed to Blok himself.

Within the collection there are three manuscript notes written by Johannes Steenstrup (1813-1897), which understandably do not have a receiver, and five letters to unknown people; the latter simply refer to the receiver as "Dear Sir". The content of two of the unknown letters do suggest they could have been to Blok, as they are letters from Ernest Sykes (1867-1954) discussing sending on a batch of Melvill's reprints, and it is known from correspondence between Blok and John Wilfrid Jackson (1880-1978) in the archive at Buxton Museum & Art Gallery (BMAG), that Blok was attempting to obtain a full set, which is discussed in more detail further on. Two other letters to unknown recipients are annotated, and the writing may be that of Peile. It should also be noted that all the receivers are male.

Nearly all the letters were sent to addresses in England (113), with just 3 to Hungary and 2 to the USA. All three letters to Hungary were addressed to Lajos Soós (1879-1972) (Fig. 7a), perhaps the country's most eminent molluscan expert - many conchologists and malacologists are commemorated in species eponyms, but few can boast of having their country's main molluscan journal named in their honour (Fig. 7b).



Fig. 7. a. Lajos Soós (1879-1972). CSGBI archive; b. the cover of the Hungarian malacological journal named in his honour, Soosiana.

Senders

The letter writers represent a much more diverse collection, with 74 different correspondents (Fig. 6a), from 18 different countries (Fig. 4), with more than a dozen different nationalities represented. Of the 74 correspondents, 48 are represented by a single letter and 13 by 2 letters, collectively making up nearly 50% of the whole collection and illustrating the ‘autograph’ nature of the archive, rather than it being a full history of correspondence. Only Frank Laidlaw (1876-1963) reaches 10 letters, with the next highest being 6 from Hugh Watson (1885-1959). Most writers were male, with 68 men represented by 116 documents. The female representation is much lower, with 6 female conchologists sending 10 letters.

Who was Arthur Blok?

Before delving into the archive, it is important to know something about Arthur Blok (Fig. 1, 8) and his life. Judaism was enormously important to him, he was extremely proud of his heritage and a significant figure in his Jewish community, where he advocated for student welfare and education (Emanuel, 1974). He became a Zionist during WW1 (Mienis, 1975) and was involved in several major projects in Palestine (Emanuel, 1974). Through his marriage to Buena Sarah Pool (1881-1949) in 1907, he also became the brother-in-law and friend of Dr David de Sola Pool - Rabbi and world leader in Judaism (Emanuel, 1974).

Fig. 8. Arthur Blok at his home, Downs Cottage, in Rottingdean, England, UK.
Courtesy of Anne Bishop.



Blok's career as an electrical engineer was book-ended by his involvement in two of the most significant areas of scientific development of the 20th century – wireless telegraphy and the atomic bomb.

At the end of 1901, as a young electrical engineer (19 years old) acting as assistant to Sir John Ambrose Fleming, he took part in the first transatlantic relay of a long-range wireless telegraph communication from Poldhu (in Cornwall) to the Italian radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi in Newfoundland. Blok, in fact, actually made some of the apparatus used in the transmission and noted in a radio interview that he also “*had the mortification of seeing some of my apparatus go up in blue flames.*” (Blok, 1973a).

And then in 1903 he was part of a public demonstration of a long-range wireless telegraph transmission from Chelmsford to a gathering at the Royal Institution in London. Blok himself (1954) gave an account of the event (quoted in Hong, 2001) and there is an amusing side-story to proceedings, describing an early instance of ‘hacking’ (Marks, 2011). Blok not only worked with Fleming and Marconi, but also other eminent physicists including Sir Edward Appleton and Enrico Fermi. In an interview, he said of his career “*I’ve been a fortunate man*” (Blok, 1973b).

Then, much later in life when Blok was Principal Examiner at the Patent Office, he played another vital supporting role during WW2. Great secrecy surrounded his involvement at the time, and what was originally a short-term deployment became a lengthy and important contribution. As Blok observed“*I remained about five years out of the three or four weeks!*” (Blok, 1973c). Blok's involvement concerned resolving patent issues on the Manhattan Project, the research program to design an atomic bomb that Britain had initiated in 1941. Eventually the United States took over the lead but with scientists of both countries working together, a common policy regarding patent arrangements was necessary to protect both individual and national rights. This was easier said than done (Jones, 1985 – see pages 247-8). After a great deal of legal wrangling, shuttle diplomacy and many transatlantic crossings (Blok, 1973c; Goodwin, 2013; Goodwin, 2021), Blok and the Americans succeeded in putting together an agreement, without which the development of the atomic bomb would inevitably have been delayed, and

the course of history changed. Blok was rewarded with an O.B.E. and shortly after, in early August 1945, the Americans detonated the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs.

Alongside these career achievements, he built one of the world's greatest shell collections (Emanuel, 1974; Mienis, 1975), which resides in HUJ, Israel, as desired by Blok during his life.

Blok's generous and kind nature is evident throughout all the articles written about him and from conversations with Anne Bishop, who knew him personally through her husband Edward. However, his character is perhaps best captured by Emanuel (1974), who summarises Blok beautifully:

"... I refer to Blok as a wonderful human being, to his outstanding charm, his widespread knowledge and constant desire to improve it yet further, his sense of humour and fun and above all, his humility. Each and every person was important to him. As much time as he had for an old friend, he had no less for the younger generation whose new ideas were so different."

Pain (1976) highlights Blok's innate ability to interest and inspire others in learning about conchology, which can also be seen through his complimented talks at CSGBI meetings (Wilkins, 1935, 1938). His kindness and gene-

rosity are illustrated in the responses to some of his letters in the archive. A 1956 letter from Myra Keen exemplifies this (Fig. 9): she is responding to a letter from Blok complimenting her on her recently published Supplement to *An abridged check list and bibliography of West North American marine Mollusca* (Keen, 1956). She is clearly touched as her response is effusive, even commenting that her mother thinks she should frame his letter!

There is no doubt that Blok was a natural born collector, with an obsessive interest in order and neatness characterising everything he did (Pain, 1976). As a shell collector, Blok seems to have pursued a 'full set' approach – as many of a particular genus or family as he could get his hands on, illustrated by the presence of some 13,000 species in his collection (Blok, 1964; Emanuel, 1974; Mienis, 2012b). He also applied this to collecting reprints, or "separates" as he usually termed individual articles reprinted from journals. In a letter to John Wilfrid Jackson (25 March 1933, BMAG archive), he commented: "you know what it is with separates: one is always ready for more."

As we shall explore, it seems that this also followed through to his letter collecting. Blok's life has been well documented by Emanuel (1974), Mienis (1975, 2012b), Pain (1976) and Goodwin (2013, 2021), and additionally by Blok

Fig. 9. Excerpt from Myra Keen's letter, dated 28 December 1956. NMW Blok archive.

Mr. Arthur Blok
"Downs Cot," Falmer Road
Rottingdean, Sussex

Dear Mr. Blok:

How very thoughtful of you to have written me about the "Abridged Check List!" You don't know how gratifying such words of praise are to an author. We seldom hear it if people are pleased with our work — they take for granted that we know — and if they are not pleased they are too considerate to say so. The "Check List" was my first major undertaking in malacology, and I did work hard on it. I can see defects in it now, but still I'm fond of it, fond enough to be very gratified when someone takes the pains to write about it as you did. My mother thinks I should frame your letter! I am sure that I will keep it in a very special file, to be gotten out and read in moments of despondency as a means of restoring faith in myself.

himself (1964). Mienis (1975, 2012b) also provides an excellent overview of the transfer of Blok's collection from the UK to HUJ, including communications that took place and a detailed summary of the contents of the collection. These resources have been used to produce the chronological summary of Blok's life outlined in **Appendix 2**.

We have seen that Blok was both fastidious in his collecting and generous with his time and knowledge. It is also worth recording that he was both modest and self-deprecating, while his sense of humour has been referred to by Emanuel (1974). To round off this section we present some examples of his ready wit. When, in a radio interview (Blok, 1973b), it was suggested one of his hobbies was gardening, he replied,

“No, gardening is more an occupational disease than a hobby. I do a little because I know it is good for my spare parts and good for the garden but what I'm really waiting for is the Brighton & Hove Weed Show. I shall get the Gold Cup, the Silver Medal, the Belt of Honour, the whole lot for my weeds!”

Questioned on a more serious point, as to whether he had foreseen that wireless transmission would advance so quickly, he swiftly riposted *“My name is Arthur Blok, and not Elijah the Prophet!”* (Blok, 1973a).

Blok and Bishop – mentor and friend

Arthur Blok was a true collector and curator at heart, with a wealth of knowledge that he was happy to share with anyone who was interested (Blok, 1964; Emanuel, 1974; Pain, 1976; Mienis, 2012b). It should not therefore be a surprise that he took a young Edward Oliver Bishop (1936-2018) (**Fig. 10a**) under his wing after semi-retiring to the coastal village of Rottingdean, East Sussex, UK in January 1948 (Pain, 1976). Bishop had been frequenting Rottingdean from a very young age and was an avid shell collector throughout his life; as a boy he often stayed at his aunt's house in the village and is said to have collected his first shells from the local beach, at just two years old (A. Bishop pers. comm.). When Blok retired to Down's Cottage, affectionately referred to as 'Downscot' (**Fig. 8**), he befriended Bishop's aunt. Ed would have been twelve when Blok moved there, and Blok 65. Although we don't know exactly when they first met, it was

probably very shortly afterwards, through the commonality of Edward's aunt and their shared interest in shells. In his archive material at NMW, Bishop refers to Blok as *“My mentor over many years...I knew him since I was a small boy, on holiday”* and Anne Bishop describes them as very good friends, with Edward respectfully referring to his mentor as *“Mr Blok”*, rather than Arthur.

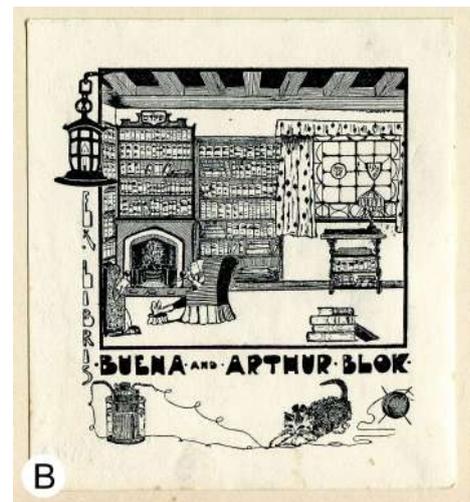


Fig. 10. a. Edward Bishop, undated. Courtesy of Anne Bishop; b. Buena and Arthur Blok's Ex Libris book plate. Taken from a catalogue of bookplates compiled by Peter Dance at NMW.

During the 1960s, when Bishop was in his 20s, he began to purchase duplicates from Blok *“over a long period”* at sixpence (6d) per species (Bishop archive, NMW). Blok stored specimens in his house and at a local convent (Anne Bishop pers. comm.; Bishop archive, NMW).

Anne Bishop describes Blok as having a Victorian-style study with specimens organised in lovely dark wooden cabinets; according to Emanuel (1974) the cottage was beautifully panelled by Blok himself and there is clear pride and love of his home shown on the book plate he created for the library he shared with his wife, Buena (**Fig. 10b**). These are presumably some of the same cabinets pictured by Mienis (2012a) in the HUJ, described as “Victorian cupboards that house the Blok collection”. When Bishop visited Downs Cottage, Arthur would get out stacks of duplicates for him to go through and select those he wanted; on completion the trays were said to be “Bished!” and then put away (A. Bishop pers. comm.). In his notes, Bishop describes some material as being stored in Blok’s garage, whereas “Most of his coll[ection]. was stored in the main assembly room of St Mary’s Convent, a few hundred yards up the road”. So, it would appear that Blok had separated duplicate specimens that he wished to sell and share with others, keeping them at his home, whereas his main collection, destined for Jerusalem, was stored at the local convent.

The Blok Archive

Blok was not only an avid collector of shells but was also interested in the associated conchological literature and ephemera – including, books, reprints, pamphlets and letters. When exactly his interest in letters arose it is not clear, but we know that he was already collecting such material by the mid-1930s.

When Lajos Soós (1879-1972) (**Fig. 7a**), of the Hungarian National Museum, responded to Blok regarding corrections to his English language article on 29 November 1934 (NMW Blok archive), it is apparent that Blok had asked for a supply of letters from him: “You will find enclosed letters of several continental malacologists. I suppose you will find some of them useful.”

The following month, in a letter from John Davy Dean (1876-1937) to Blok he discusses the swapping of stamps, as well as shells, but when signing off it is clear that Blok had also asked him to consider passing on any conchological letters (15 December 1934, NMW Blok archive): “I will certainly remember you with any letters of conchologists or books...”

His following letter from Soós on 7 January 1935 (NMW Blok archive) further mentions the

letters: “I am pleased very much that I could send you several letters of malacologists the manuscripts of whom were unknown to you.”

On the 19 October the same year, Blok attended the 628th meeting of the CSGBI, which was held at the Royal Society, London (Anon, 1935). In addition to being elected as one of the two ‘Scrutineers’, he brought a diverse array of shells and shell-related items. Alongside some of Maynard’s *Cerions*, a colour and size series of *Cypraea tigris*, Victorian mother of pearl thread-winders and counters, and an engraved *Nautilus* collected in the 1850s, he presented several items relating to William Turton’s 1831 *Land and freshwater shells* publication. He had Canon Alfred Merle Norman’s (1831-1918) copy, with manuscript notes and addenda, but also two holograph letters. One was from Turton (1762-1835) himself, dated April 1828, to an unknown recipient, “acknowledging receipt of a parcel of shells and referring to diagnoses of others”; the second was written ten years later in May 1838 by John Edward Gray (1800-1875), writing to Joshua Alder (1792-1867) for information he wanted for his forthcoming revision of Turton’s book, which was published in 1840.

Jumping forward ten years, Blok makes further mention of his holograph collection in 1946, when he writes to the recently retired Secretary of the CSGBI, John Wilfrid Jackson (CSGBI archive):

“I have just had a chance of looking through a file of Mörch’s correspondence with the American conchologists between the ‘60s and ‘80s – most interesting. Letters from Lea, Stimson, G.W. Tryon Jr. and all the Yankee fathers, and I later hope to see the files of his letters from the European men of the same vintage. I shall try to acquire a few for addition to a colln. of conchological holographs which I have put together as a side line over some years.”

It seems that the letters now at NMW, from Edward Bishop, are part of what transpired, but they are certainly not the entirety of the Arthur Blok letter collection. Another, much larger, collection of 470 letters compiled by Blok, found its way to S. Peter Dance (Pain, 1976), who augmented the collection and deposited it at the Library and Archive, BM (NH), London, UK in 1975 (Thackray, 1995). It is described online as six volumes in two boxes spanning 1800-1960:

“Collection of 620 letters, with some specimens of signatures, to and from malacologists and other naturalists, 18th century to circa 1960 / assembled mainly by Arthur Blok, added to by S. P. Dance” (NHMUK, undated).

Slightly more detail is given by Thackray (1995), where some of the receivers, but not senders, are named, “A. Blok, S. P. Dance, O. A. L. Mörch, A. J. Peile, J. R. le B. Tomlin, R. Winckworth and others”, all but Otto Andreas Lowson Mörch (1828-1878) being contemporaries of Blok. Following communications with the Library and Archive, NHMUK, the authors have acquired a seventeen-page list of correspondents in their augmented Blok letter collection. It contains 534 names, and although it does not specifically state that it is a senders list (rather than senders and receivers), the fact that Tomlin is not present but is on the Thackray (1995) list as a receiver, suggests that it most likely is. Research of this additional archive is beyond the scope of this paper, but to aid interested researchers, the list has been reproduced in **Appendix 3** with full interpretation of the names mainly using Coan & Kabat (2025). The names of those that also occur in the NMW Blok archive have been highlighted, showing that it is a near-complete overlap, with only Hadjid Farchad and John R. le B. Tomlin not on the NHMUK senders list. Lewis Worthington-Wilmer, a receiver on the NMW list, is also not mentioned.

In Blok’s obituary written by Pain (1976), it is unclear when the larger letter collection was passed onto Dance, as it could have been a bequest or a gift during life. Personal communication with S. Peter Dance has confirmed that he acquired the collection when visiting Blok at his Rottingdean home, sometime during the late 1950s or early 1960s:

“I had met Arthur Blok once or twice, at meetings of the Malacological Society, but got to know him more personally when he invited me to visit him at his home ... where I stayed overnight ... Apart from examining his well curated shell collection, I particularly remember admiring his fine library of shell books....He asked me if I could be interested in a collection of original letters written by various shell collectors and students of the Mollusca and showed me a drawer full of them. Of course I jumped at the chance and became their new owner. A few years later I purchased, from the book

dealers Wheldon and Wesley, a similar collection that had been accumulated by Ronald Winckworth (1884-1950), a well-known student of the Mollusca. Together with the Blok collection, this constituted a substantial archive that I thought should be preserved in a museum library.”

Delving into the NMW Blok letters gives further detail of when such a visit probably took place. Dance writes to Blok on 6 January 1958, starting to make arrangements:

“Sorry, I should have said first of all that I would love to come down to Rottingdean to see you! I would like that very much. It’s 7 years since I came before. I could manage most week-ends, but I suggest a week-day as I still have some leave left and trains are better then. Next week? What day best? There are many things to discuss.”

This was during the period when Dance was curator at the BM(NH) and writing *Shell collecting, an illustrated history* (Dance, 1966); this extensive Blok archive would have provided an additional source of background information for such research.

There is unfortunately no record of when Blok passed Bishop his batch of 126 conchological letters, but if the date of Dance’s visit is correct, Dance most likely acquired his portion first. Bishop would have only been in his early 20s when Dance is thought to have acquired his letters, and the most recent letter in Bishop’s collection was sent in 1958. It may be that those passed onto Bishop were acquired later by Blok, after this first donation to Dance, but it is perhaps more likely that Blok held back some examples, when passing the larger collection onto Dance, and continued to augment the remainder until it was given to Bishop, which could have happened any time before or after Blok’s death. Given the extent of Blok’s donation to HUU, it seemed possible that further holograph material resided there, but Henk Mienis (pers. comm.) has confirmed that no such archive material was passed onto them:

“No correspondence, like letters from other shell collectors were received. Here and there in his catalogues or in a few books he wrote that the correspondence with a collector or an author went to a museum (or well-known malacologist) ... His catalogues were preceded by information dealing with the persons from which he obtained mate-

rial. That part of the catalogue formed the basis for my article in *Haasiana*.”

Based on the information known to the authors, it can be summarised that Blok’s dispersed letter collection is made up of two major portions: the larger series, passed on from Dance to the BM(NH) in 1975, spanning c.1800-1960 (470 letters, plus 150 augmented by Dance); and the smaller series, passed on from Bishop to NMW by his wife in 2019, spanning 1883-1958 (126 letters).

Exploring the archive

The subject matter of the letters is extremely varied. Aside from a few simple ‘thank-you’ notes, matters molluscan are dealt with to varying degrees of detail and complexity. In some cases, we find ‘chatty gossip’, but there is plenty of serious scientific discussion, together with a few pages that are best described as ‘molluscan notes’. Predominantly, the subject matter concerns non-marine species, reflecting Peile’s and Connolly’s main interest, but also that of senders such as Laidlaw and Watson.

Many are to do with identification matters, but also shells were sent (for identification or for exchange), while quite a few concern radulae. As well as the content of the letters themselves, there is much of interest in how the recipients responded. Peile, in particular, appended extensive notes, comments and lists, in pencil. Clearly, this reflects the stimulation and sense of conchological comradeship that developed among postal correspondents, when this was the primary method of communication.

The Cardiff Connection

The Cardiff connections centre around conchologists who were major donors to the NMW’s shell collection and those who were, or would become, curators at the museum.

As mentioned earlier, one of Blok’s aims was to compile a complete set of papers written by James Cosmo Melvill (1845-1929) (Fig. 11a), whose shell collection now resides at NMW as part of the iconic Melvill-Tomlin collection. Blok referred to these reprints as “*Melvilliana*”, and one of his correspondents who helped him in the quest was the long-serving CSGBI secretary, John Wilfrid Jackson (Fig. 11b), whose father-in-law, Robert Standen (Fig. 12c), had collaborated with Melvill on numerous papers (notably those on the Loyalty Islands,

the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea, the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition and the Falkland Islands). Jackson inherited a good deal of material from Standen and so was in a good position to fill in some of Blok’s “*desiderata*”.

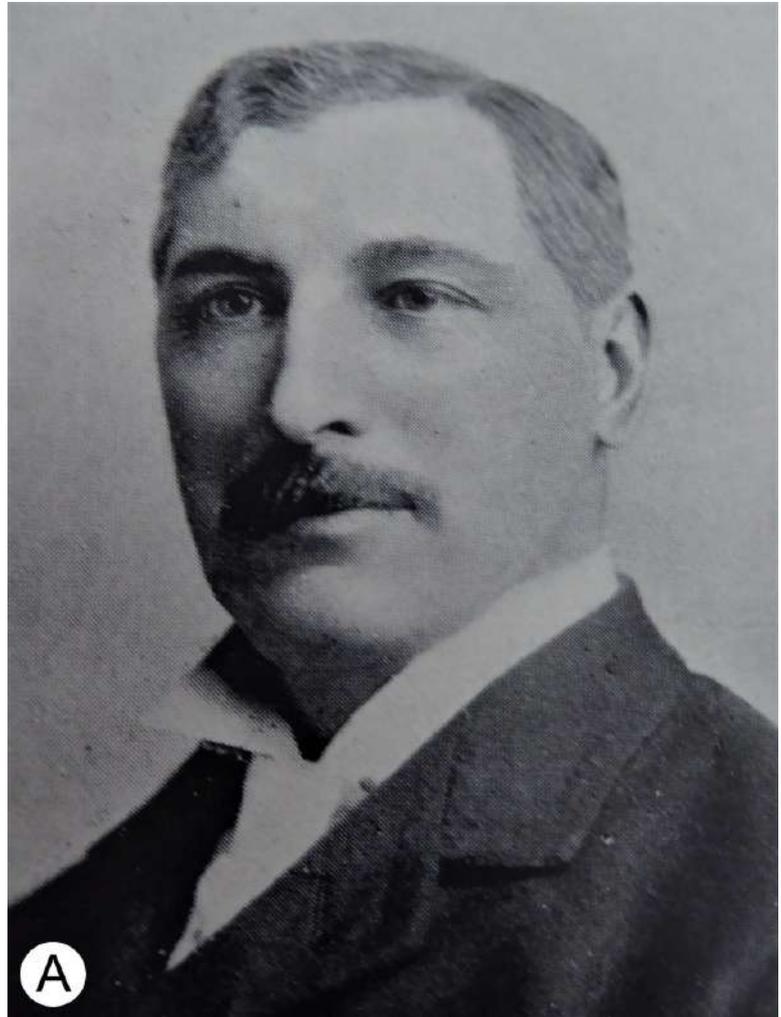


Fig. 11. a. James Cosmo Melvill (1845-1929). Public domain, Ardfern; b. John Wilfrid Jackson (1880-1978) at Manchester Museum. BMAG archive



Fig. 11. c. Melvill's son-in-law, Ernest Ruthven Sykes (1867-1954).
Proc. Malac. Soc. 12(1), frontispiece.

On 11 February 1933, Blok wrote to Jackson (BMAG archive):

"I have been trying to complete – or make less incomplete – my set of Melvill's papers, having acquired with Winckworth the remaining stock of separates which Dawson's of London held. To continue the task, I want some separates from the J. of C. and if by chance you have any stock of these separates, I should be glad to send a list of my desiderata. And in addition, there is one only of the Ann. & Mag. of N.H. papers which tantalisingly I cannot get, (viz. Ser 6, Vol. VI, Dec. 1890) and some of the Memoirs and Mem. & Proc. of the Manchester Lit. & Phil. Society. Do you know if there is any chance of getting these as separates at a reasonable rate? If so, I should be very grateful for any hint or reference which you could give me."

Blok clearly received a positive response from Jackson, although he felt a little conflicted, as he replied:

"You suggest filling in my remaining Melvill gaps (or some of 'em!) from your own library but why? Are you willing to be denuded & if so, what recompense can I make?"

In addition to Jackson, Blok was also contacting others who stood a good chance of being able to help him on this mission. A letter from John Read le Brockton Tomlin (1864-1954), who had purchased Melvill's collection in 1919, written to Blok during the same period, suggests that Blok had asked for such duplicates. It appears that Tomlin was also hoping to fill gaps in his own collection (dated 2 March 1933, NMW Blok archive):

"Yes, it was the last copy of the Melvill list, but why not send it to you as much as to anyone? Very glad indeed that it is of some use.... My gaps in the Melvill series of papers are almost entirely early J. of C.'s with a few P.M.S.'s.... You haven't any dup. papers of his ex J. of C. I fear? Have you that excerpt of his from the Manchester (?) Brit. Ass. Handbook?"

In the same letter Tomlin mentions the death of Melvill's wife, Bertha née Dewhurst (1853-1933), after whom *Mitra berthae* Sowerby III, 1879 and *Ennea berthae* Melvill & Ponsonby, 1901 were named. Finally, there is a letter from Ernest Ruthven Sykes (1867-1954) (Fig. 11c, 13a), Melvill's son-in-law, to an unnamed correspondent, presumed to be Blok, which also refers to Melvill's separates (20 May 1933, NMW Blok archive):

"I don't think I have any separates – all Melvill's were sold after his death: I took some and the family sold the rest."

In the end, Jackson, always hard up, no doubt sold some of his separates to Blok, and both parties ended up satisfied. Blok finally achieved his aim, as he noted in a letter to Jackson (18 August 1945, BMAG archive):

"When I was a bit younger & more enthusiastic, I set out to get all of Melvill's papers & in fact I got them. It took me some years and much sleuthing but at last I completed them with the exception of an early [one] in the J. of C. which I hope to get a la photostat one of these days. The set makes an imposing row of bound vols., which, with a copy



Fig. 12. a. John Read le Brockton Tomlin (1864-1954) (Salisbury, 1955);
b. John Davy Dean (1876-1937). Mollusca sectional archives, NHMUK; c. Robert Standen (1854-1925). CSGBI archive.

of a 60-page index of all M's species from the Indian O. & Persian Gulf which Winckworth made, make a useful working tool."

John Read le Brockton Tomlin (1864-1954) (Fig. 12a) had lived and worked in Cardiff from 1890-1899, teaching at the Llandaff Cathedral School, and this connection led him to bequeath the aforementioned Melvill-Tomlin collection to NMW. He writes to John William Taylor (1845-1931) on 22 January 1926 (CSGBI archive):

"My idea as regards my own collection is to bequeath it to the Nat. Mus. of Wales, with as complete a library as my means will allow to accompany it. Cardiff is becoming a more & more important centre: I have many ties with it & I think that a ref. coll'n not very far behind that in the B.M., and a good library accompanying it, may be in the future an incentive to our hobby."

The arrival of the joint collection at NMW in 1955 completely changed the landscape of the pre-existing museum mollusc collection, containing an estimated one million shells, rich in types and historic material, alongside an exemplary molluscan library and extensive reprint collection.

Tomlin and Blok were friends who corresponded and mixed in the same conchological circles, attending the same CSGBI meetings and

working on the council together. Within the NMW Blok archive there are: 3 letters **from** Tomlin (2 to Blok and 1 to Connolly) and 6 letters **to** Tomlin (from Baden-Powell; Benthem Jutting; Haughton; Péringuey; Rensch; and, Schenck).

In just two letters, the correspondence from Tomlin to Blok covers a great variety of subjects, in addition to the hunt for Melvilliana mentioned previously. There is discussion of Mauritian shell identification, requests of shells and offers of others, enquiry of *Clausilia* 'type' annotations in Blok's copy of *The Fauna of British India* (Gude, 1914), procurement of books and expressions of interest in the malacofauna of oceanic islands, such as Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean, from where Tomlin was at that time identifying specimens.

John Davy Dean (1876-1937) (Fig. 12b, 13a) was another stalwart of the CSGBI, whose paper on the *Conchological Cabinets of the Last Century* (Dean, 1936) remains an important reference in the history of conchology. He was a very important actor in the development of the NMW shell collection, working as Assistant Keeper of Zoology for nearly twenty years, between 1918-1937. There are three letters relating to Dean in the NMW Blok archive, the one mentioned earlier sent to Blok from Dean and two others sent to Dean, one being a mere

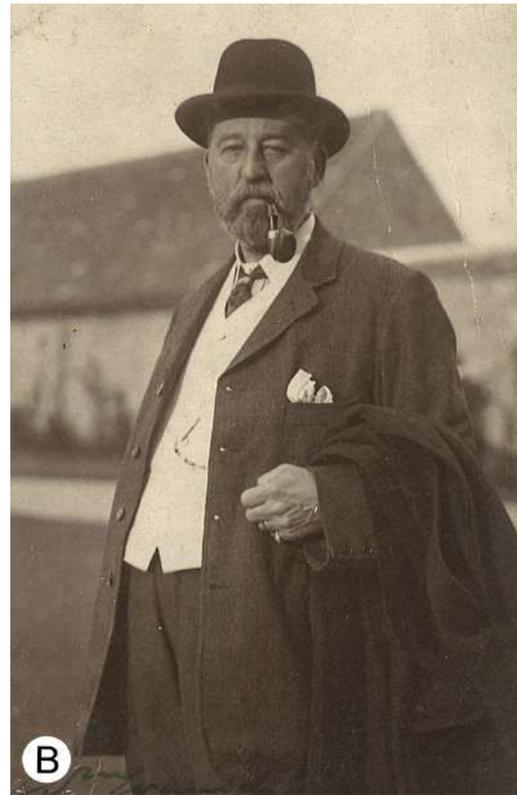
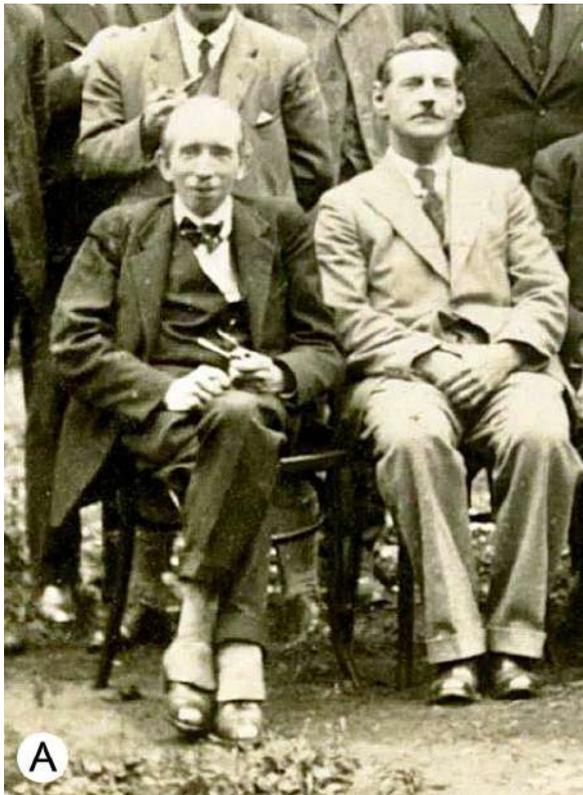


Fig. 13. a. J. Davy Dean and J. Wilfrid Jackson at the 1929 CSGBI Annual Meeting. Jackson Archive, BMAG; b. William Evans Hoyle (1855-1926). NMW archive.

acknowledgement note from Guy Coburn Robson (1888-1945). The second is a letter sent from Melvill to Dean in 1927, which superficially appears to be a simple note about sending a batch of reprints. However, the reprints were the list of William Evans Hoyle's (1855-1926) (Fig. 13b) malacological papers, compiled and published by Melvill (1926), following Hoyle's death the previous year. In his letter, Melvill also asks for Mrs Hoyle's address so that she can have some copies and distribute them amongst his friends. Hoyle was important in the lives of both men and forms another part of the Cardiff connection: he was the first Director of NMW from 1909 and active in the design of the building, where over 450 lots of his fluid-preserved cephalopod collection still reside, including those from major 19th century and early 20th century expeditions (Challenger, Porcupine, Triton, Albatross, Knight Errant, Investigator, Skeat, Virginia, Scottish National Antarctic Expedition, Nora Niven, Siboga, Scotia). It was he who appointed Dean to the Assistant Keeper of Zoology role at NMW, where they worked together between 1918-1924, until Hoyle retired due to ill health.

The final Cardiff connection is that of S. Peter Dance. Dance was another Keeper of Zoology at NMW, but for a much shorter period than Dean; he worked there from the late 1960s to

the early 1970s, having already had curatorial positions at the BM(NH) and Manchester Museum, not to mention publication of his world-renowned book, *Shell collecting. An Illustrated History*, in 1966. There is only one letter in the NMW Blok archive relating to Dance, which has already been referenced in this paper; the one from Dance to Blok on 6 January 1958, where arrangements to visit Blok in Rottingdean are discussed. Dance is excited about Clausiliidae in this letter; Blok appears to have sent him notes from Tomlin on the matter and possibly specimens as well. Dance is keen to bring his own self-collected Cypriot Clausiliids to compare with those in Blok's collection and lists several *Albinaria* species he is particularly interested in seeing.

The War years

As many of the letters were written in and around the time of WW2, it is not surprising that the conflict is frequently mentioned, and the details included amount to a mini social history of the times. The comments are diverse. The immediate horror of the bombing is exemplified by an excerpt from James Eddowes Cooper (1864-1952), a longstanding member of the UK's two main mollusc societies, written to Peile in 1945:

“It is too early yet to be sure, but we do hope that there will be no more V.2’s. The first half of last week was a trying time. My wife had some sleepless nights. One bomb fell into the sea off Chestfield, another smashed up Elham near Canterbury.”

Other references are more obscure. Following the War, in 1947, Wouter Benthem Jutting discusses the postage stamps illustrated by the fascist-leaning Pyke Koch, that circulated The Netherlands during the conflict (Fig. 14), and the relief felt when the Queen’s portrait was returned. She writes:

“The stamps sketched on the accompanying sheet were issued during the German occupation. The horses, swans, trees are Nordic (Germanic) symbols of folklore: tree of life, horses of Wodan [the supreme deity, related to the Scandinavian god, Odin], &c. of which the Nazis “schwärmte” [swarmed] at every possible and impossible occasion. You will certainly have such designs in England too, in old Saxon farms, and objects of arts and crafts.

It is true they were well designed by a Nazi-painter (a Dutchman), named Pyke Koch. But you understand that we were glad when the issue was taken out of circulation and we have the familiar portrait of the Queen again.”

As a British Jew and Zionist, Blok may have felt a particular connection to others who shared his views, such as Fritz Haas (1886-1969) (Fig. 15a) a German-born Jew who narrowly escaped the Nazi regime at the War’s onset and moved to Chicago where he became a naturalized U.S. citizen (Solem, 1970). In a letter to Major Matthew William Kemble Connolly (1872-1947) dated 9 March 1946 (Fig. 16), Haas writes from Chicago:

“I trust that the black days of the “blitz” are growing gradually dimmer in the memories of Englishmen and that conditions will soon return to normality. I had already learned that the Nat. Hist. Mus. had comparatively little suffered from the bombing, but the reports now pouring in from the continent are very bad.”

He goes on to provide much detail about old colleagues from Senckenberg and other German museums caught up in the war, and the fallout from the Nazi persecution:



Fig. 14. Examples of some of Pyke Koch’s stamps. Public domain.

“Of my old museum, the “Senckenberg”, I know by my successor, Dr. Zilch, who is an honest man and who never was a Nazi, that the building, though, is badly damaged, but that the collections had been evacuated before, so there is rather little damage to them; the shell collection is now located in the cellar and Zilch is trying to continue where he had to stop when the war broke out or when he was drafted”.

Of Eduard Degner (1886-1979), he says:

“Degner apparently is still in Hamburg, but his museum was completely destroyed, I learned.”

Haas writes less warmly in reference to Bernhard Carl Emmanuel Rensch (1900-1990), *“who proved not to be a reliable friend”*, although no explanation is given. Ernst Mayr (1992), the famous evolutionary biologist, asserts that Rensch was dismissed from Berlin Museum because he would not join the Nazi Party, and found a position in the Zoological Garden in Münster instead, but his recall to the military from c. 1940-1942 (Rensch, 1980: 297) may be the cause of Haas’s dismay.

Haas, incidentally, was falsely reported to have died in the war and assures Connolly that he is not writing from the grave at the start of his 1946 letter:

“This is not a letter from the hereafter, but from the place where a living and active man should be, i.e., in midst of a shell collection and of books. You were quite right, the news about my death were somewhat exaggerated, and I have learned by now, how the misunderstanding originated.”



ALTERATIONS IN LIST OF MEMBERS

NEW MEMBERS :
 COSWAY, C. A., M.Sc., 20 Maurice Road, King's Heath, Birmingham 14.
 FISKE WARREN, Mrs, 8 Mount Vernon Place, Boston, Mass., U.S.A.
 HARRY, HAROLD W., Route 2, Box 222, Shreveport, Louisiana, U.S.A.
 PORT ELIZABETH MUSEUM & SNAKE PARK, 28 Bird Street, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS :
 BROUGHAM, F. ST. J., Royal Naval College, Eaton, Chester.
 BURCH, JOHN Q., 4206 Halldale Avenue, Los Angeles 37, California, U.S.A.
 YONGE, Professor C. M., Department of Zoology, The University, Glasgow, W. 2.

MEMBERS DECEASED :
 HAAS, F. OKE, A. W.

B

Fig. 15. a. Fritz Haas (1886-1969). CSGBI archive; b. erroneous death notice of Fritz Haas (Anon, 1944).

The misunderstanding that he refers to is in fact a notice in the *Proceedings of the Malacological Society* (Anon, 1944), pronouncing his death (Fig. 15b).

Another war-related letter is from Charles Maurice Yonge (1899-1986) (Fig. 17a) to Guy Lawrence Wilkins (1905-1957), dated 15 September 1942. Yonge was an exemplary researcher with a particular interest in the form, function and evolution of bivalves (Morton, 1992), whereas Wilkins was a talented natural history artist (Fig. 18), model maker and mollusc curator at the BM(NH) (Blok, 1957; Topley, 2019). On the face of it, this is a short, polite thank you for some drawings of *Tridacna* that Wilkins had sent from his address at 828 Company, Shirehampton Camp, near Bristol, UK. Addressed from the Department of Zoology, Bristol University, there was, however, a poignant story about to unfold. With Bristol a target for enemy bombers, the Yonge family (wife Mattie and two youngsters – Elspeth (b.1931) and Robin (b. 1934)) had been evacuated to the small coastal town of Burnham-on-Sea, about 30 miles away, while Yonge himself had also decamped – to the relative safety of the former darkroom, in the Zoology Department basement (Morton, 1992)! Serving army officer Lieut. Corp. G. L. Wilkins had clearly been based at Burnham in the past as Yonge commented:

“You will have trouble getting back to Burnham again because the billets your people occupied have now been taken over by American [soldiers] and the town is much more lively than it used to be.”

While their situation at the time was difficult, the Yonge’s were about to experience a much more challenging problem. Later in 1942, Mattie became seriously ill and this, together with her desire to return to Scotland, led Yonge to accept the Regius Chair at Glasgow in 1944 (Morton, 1992). Sadly, she died shortly after they moved. When Yonge wrote *The Sea Shore* (first published in 1949), he touchingly dedicated the book: *In memory M. J. Y. who will walk on no more shores with me* (Fig. 17b).

Later, in 1958, his daughter Elspeth would assist him by producing many of the illustrations in his co-authored book, *Collins Pocket Guide to the Sea Shore* (Barrett & Yonge, 1958).

As an aside, Blok and Wilkins were clearly friends, both CSGBI council members at the same time; Blok wrote Wilkins’ obituary in 1957, which is full of warmth as he writes:

“His death entails a grievous loss to conchology and to the wide circle of his friends and correspondents alike, for he was well-esteemed by all who knew him. There was nothing “starchy” about him. He was genial,

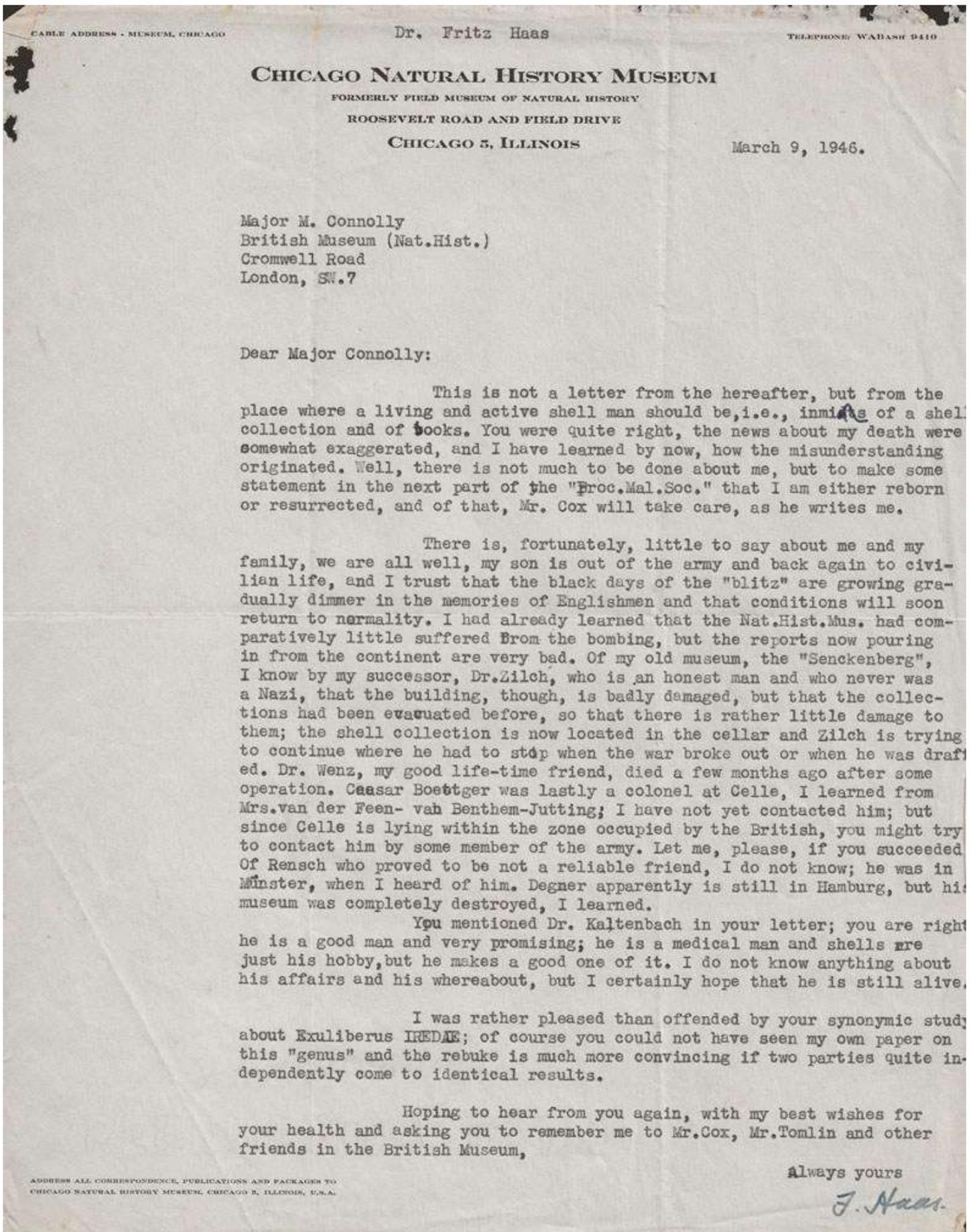


Fig. 16. Letter from Fritz Haas (1886-1969) to Major Matthew William Kemble Connolly, (1872-1947). NMW Blok archive.

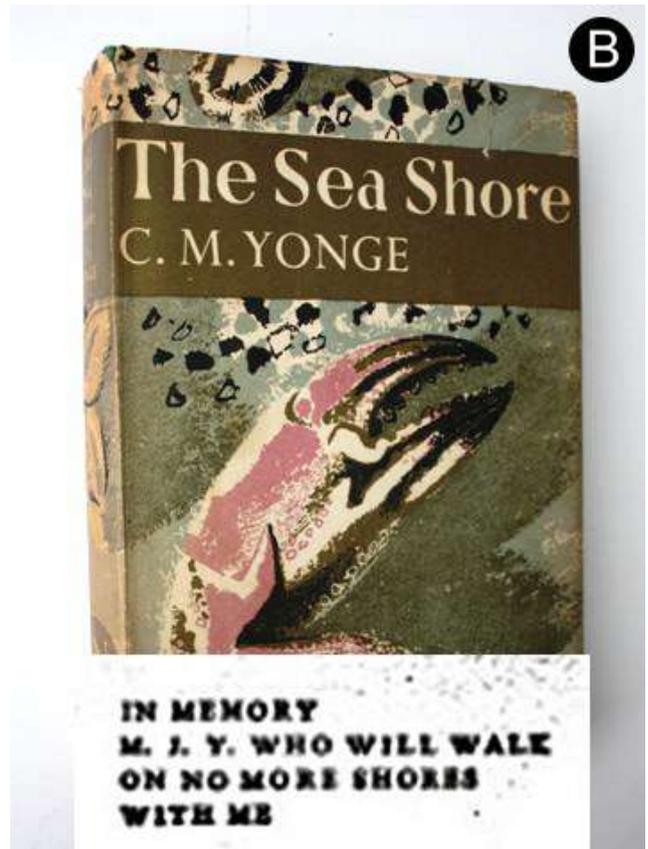


Fig. 17. a. Charles Maurice Yonge (1899-1986). *Malacological Review* (1986) 19: 127; b. first edition of *The Sea Shore* (1949) and dedication to his wife, Mattie. Public domain.

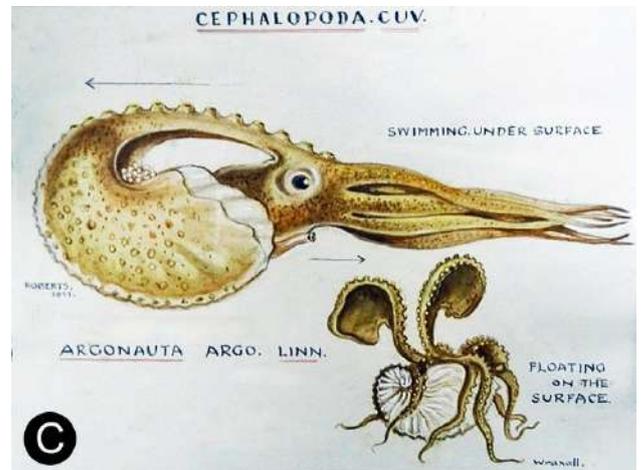
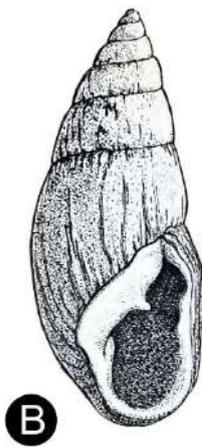
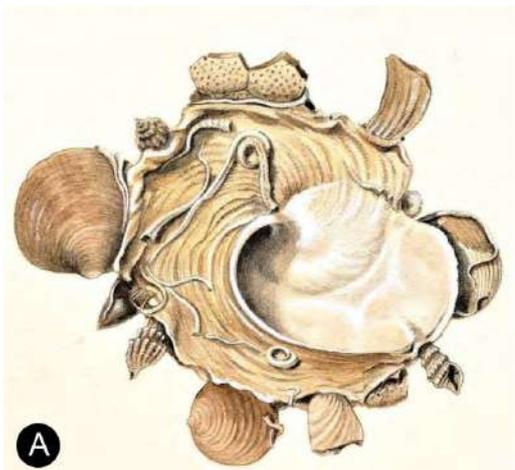


Fig. 18. Examples of Guy Wilkins' artistic talents: a. watercolour of a *Xenophora*. CSGBI archive; b. Wilkin's *Placostylus* line drawing (Topley, 2019); c. *Argonauta argo* watercolour. CSGBI archive.

witty, modest and an excellent mimic, but a thorough, competent and careful worker in his subject withal. He was patiently and willingly at the disposal of anyone who consulted him, and was most generous with his time and his knowledge."

Coincidentally, one of the authors (BJG) taught at Portway School in the 1970/1980s, across the road from the remains of the Nissen huts that made up the Shirehampton Camp where Wilkins was based.

Taxonomic debate

Taxonomic 'to-and-fro' often features in the letters. The 1920s to 1940s was a period when material was becoming more available for study from around the world, and much attention was being given to relationships. The series of letters from Frank Laidlaw are particularly interesting in this respect. Debates raged, opinions were formed (and amended), colleagues were criticised, and eventually something acceptable (to the majority at least)

emerged. It must have been a stimulating environment. A few excerpts from Laidlaw's letters give a flavour:

"I am hoping to revise Dyakia soon. That genus should be reserved for sinistral forms only. I find some of Gude's genera (Asperitas etc.) rather a difficulty."

"I have just got from Boden Kloss the types of Ekendranath Ghosh, n. spp. from the Selang Caves. In my opinion Ghosh has committed a regular howler."

"I have written to Tomlin and sent him one or two puzzles in regard to Everettia."

"By the way I find that friend [Johannes] Thiele has overlooked the genus Sarika altogether in his Handbuch. And it is a perfectly good genus."

"Can you help me over the enclosed Discartemon. It is exactly like Collinge's sykesi, only about half the size. I have seen the type of sykesi and this specimen is much more like the type than it is like the rather poor figure Collinge gives."

"At the risk of boring you badly I am enclosing firstly a rough outline of what I have been able so far to make of the Zonitidae."

"Did G.-A. [Godwin-Austen] transpose the numbers of his figures of Dyakia busanensis and moluensis (PZS 1891) [Proceedings of the Zoological Society]? His accounts fit in much better with the figures if one takes it that way."

Clearly Laidlaw, an amateur, had a huge range of contacts, and was confident in expressing his views. Unfortunately, as is so often the case with archive letters, we only have Laidlaw's side of the story. We can see from numerous penciled annotations on the letters (Fig. 19) that Peile was fully engaged in the debates. How much more might be revealed by Peile's formal responses!

Taxonomists over time – Peile and Haycock

In several cases, relationships can be traced through a combination of letters and publications that together build a bigger picture. The relationship between Lieut. Col. Alfred James Peile (1868-1948), the most represented receiver in this archive, and Arthur Haycock (1863-1934), a British-born fruit grower (Fig. 20) and amateur conchologist who lived in Bermuda, is one example worth mentioning.

Peile was famed for his work on radulae, "in the preparation of which he developed great skill and an almost perfect technique" (Anon, 1948; Winckworth, 1949), and radulae are central to the discussions in most of his letters. However, his other great passion was for the shells of Bermuda, and this is where his connection with Haycock lies. Peile's association with Bermuda began in 1907, when he served there in the Royal Artillery until 1911, and here he compiled "an excellent series of shells" (Winckworth, 1949). In addition to donating some of his best Bermudian specimens to the BM(NH), he prepared a show case for display at the Bermuda Pavillion during the 1924 British Empire Exhibition in Wembley (Fig. 21) and presented on *The Mollusca of Bermuda* to the Malacological Society of London, for his Presidential address in 1926 (Peile, 1926). Interestingly, Haycock also refers to the Bermuda Pavillion in his letter of 10 July 1924, having been asked to send his collection all the way from Bermuda to Wembley! It seems that he declined, saying to Peile, "Glad you are doing what you can for them".

There is very little information available on Arthur Haycock; he is not listed in the Winckworth card index housed at the NHM, London and only a short entry has recently been added to Coan & Kabat (2025). There are no letters to or from him in the NMW Tomlin archive, although there are twelve Bermudian shell lots originating from him in the Melvill-Tomlin collection (NMW), and possibly more that are yet to be discovered. He is, however, named in the NHMUK Blok archive's 'list of correspondents' and no doubt this will contain further direct correspondence between Haycock and Peile.

Glimpses of Haycock's life can be brought together from various sources. His baptismal certificate (Fig. 22) includes a date of birth – given as 9 October 1863.

This is confirmed in his letter of 28 December 1933 (NMW Blok archive), where he shares the celebration of his 70th birthday with Peile:

"Oct 9th I had a birthday celebration. My cake had 70 candles on it which I was supposed to blow out in one breath. It took about three."

Arthur was born in Shrewsbury and baptised at the Anglican parish church of Holy Cross (Shrewsbury Abbey). In 1871, at seven years old, the census shows he was at school in

Fig.	measures	Actual mag.
(6) moluensis 28 x 24.8	Alt. } 9.3 (axis)	1.6
(7) buranensis 19 x 17.2	" } 6.4	2.7

EASTFIELD d=52
UPPERVILLE, DEVON.
TELEPHONE CRADDOCK 12.

Actual dimensions of type shells:

moluensis 28 x 23 (X) Alt. } 12 1/2 Alt. axis 10
total }
buranensis 21.5 x 19 12 1/2 " 10

Note on tablet " ? = sarawakana, Dohrn,

Dear Peile,

Re Judaea butleri, I am sorry I haven't remembered to answer you query sooner. You may recollect that about 3 years ago at Xmas time I sent you a postal packet which was smashed in the post. This contained a specimen of the species, and of course it was unfortunately lost. Apart from that I have seen 4 other specimens, 3 I have returned to the F.N.S. Mus. i. I have kept for reference myself. If I can get hold of any more I will send them on to you, but the museum folk out there do not trouble much about these small things. Here is another query for you. Did G.A. transpose the numbers of his figures of Dyaka buranensis and moluensis (P.Z.S. 1891)? His accounts fit in

52/28 = 1.857 = 1.9
44/19 = 2.3
19/24 = 0.79
38/6.0 = 6.33

Fig. 19. Example of Peile's annotations on Laidlaw's letters. NMW Blok archive.

Arthur Haycock					Fruit Grower
Marjory E					
Phyllis M					

Haycock	Arthur	55	m	m	Fruit Grower
Haycock	Marjory E	22	f	s	none

Fig. 20. Evidence of Arthur Haycock's profession as a fruit grower, as listed on two passenger manifests. Public domain.

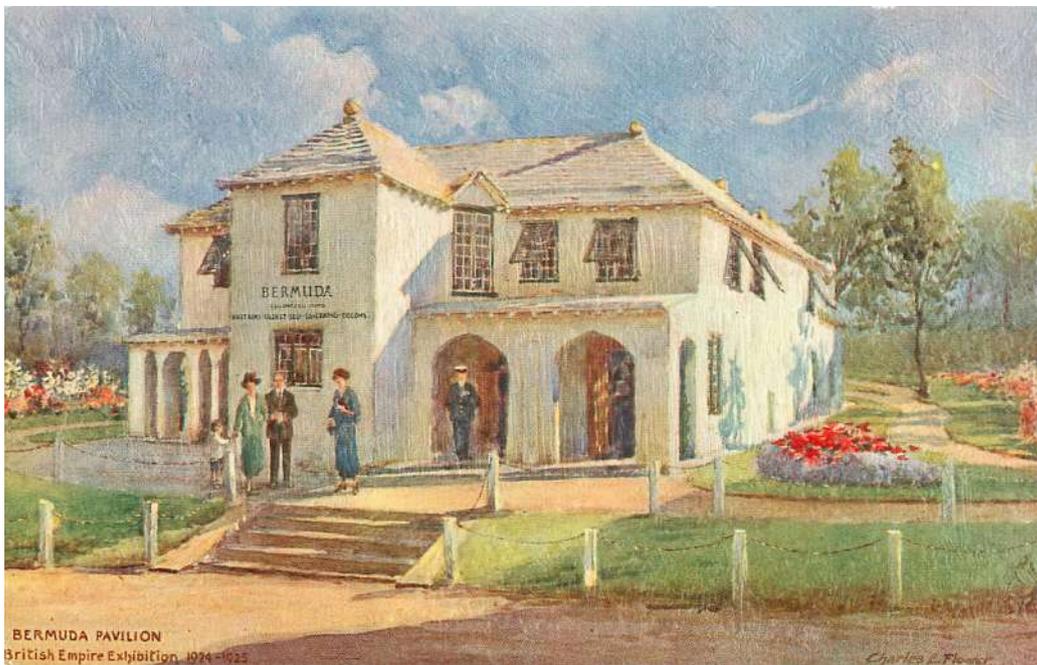


Fig. 21. Oil painting of the Bermuda Pavilion at the 1924 British Empire Exhibition in Wembley, UK. Public domain, CC0 1.0, TuckerDB Postcards (artist Charles E. Flower).

1883.							
Dit. 9 1883.	No. 22 th	Arthur	Edward and Georgiana	Haycock	Monkswell Terrace	Architect	Philip Whitecombe.
	No 349	son of					

Fig. 22. Arthur Haycock's Baptismal Certificate. Public domain.

Shrewsbury, whilst living with his parents (the architect Edward Haycock and his wife, Georgiana) and four siblings (Eleanor (14), Agnes (13), Henry (12) and Mabel (1)) at 3 Monkswell Terrace, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, UK. Ten years on, the 1881 census shows Arthur to have moved to London; he was a boarder at 99 Guilford Street, Bloomsbury and is recorded as an "Army Student". There is

then a gap of thirteen years, where no obvious records can be found, but we know from his obituary (Anon, 1934) that he arrived in Bermuda in 1894 and married resident Mary Logier Hollis on 9 October 1895 (Anon, undated). Mary and Arthur had four children: Marjorie ¹ Eleanor (1896-1950); Hilda Gwendolyn (1900-1906); Phyllis Marianne (1908-1996); and Arthur Elystan (1910-2005).

1. Some sources use the spelling "Marjory".

An obscure article written by Haycock in 1899, helps to fill the gaps a little. Published in *The Gardeners' Chronicle*, he wrote about the Bermuda Juniper but also gives mention to living in Florida for ten years and a visit to the Bahamas (Haycock, 1899). Whether his profession during this period was as a fruit grower is unknown at present:

"I have lived for ten years or so in Florida, and have "hunted" and camped in the great Gulf-hammock. This is where the Cedars are cut for the large pencil-mills at Cedar Keys. We used to burn large branches of these felled trees for our camp-fire, and would have gladly used any other kind of wood because it invariably "spluttered" and sent large pieces of burning coals flying all over our camp, and we had often to get up in our blankets and stamp out the fire....The Bahama Juniper I never noticed, but I brought a stick from there made of the wood, and had a handle made for it, of J. bermudiana. There seems to be no distinguishable difference between the two woods."

We know that Haycock lived at Whitby, Bailey's Bay, Bermuda, where his letters were all sent from. Outside of his malacological interests, Haycock was known in Bermuda, amongst other things, for the discovery of the Wonderland Cave (now called Fantasy Cave) on his own land. Alongside its neighbouring Crystal Cave, it is reportedly still one of the major attractions on the island today, with spectacular stalagmite formations and crystal-clear waters (Fig. 23). In his letter to Peile dated 10 July 1924, he mentions that it was discovered when finding a hole "where air

came out or went in, according to the tide". This discovery was in 1907, and articles in *The Royal Gazette* (Anon, 1907a; Haycock, 1907) give a peek into the early explorations of the caves with only candles for light and fishing lines to secure the explorers. From July to September that year much work was carried out by Haycock's team as, by the September, an article written by "a grateful guest" reveals a cave-scape brilliantly lit by over a hundred lights with a railed staircase leading down 70 feet (Anon, 1907b). The writer is effusive about their visit to this glittering subterranean fairy scene and considers Mr Haycock "the fortunate possessor of this wonderful gift of the Gods". Two years on, the Haycock's opened their home and cave to host a community bazaar to raise money for the building fund of the local church, during which over 300 people visited the cave (Anon, 1909b).

Although Haycock was inviting guests early on, it was five years after its initial discovery that it was officially opened to the public as a show cave (Anon, 1912; Oldham, 2002). Haycock clearly continued to make use of it himself, as shown in the 1924 letter to Peile where he refers to "a cave swimming party we had in our cave". Apparently, this provoked jealousy in one of his friends and neighbours, who went hunting for his own cave and found one! Haycock was not only excited by the find of the caves, but also by the discovery of numerous shells uncovered during their digs (Fig. 24), which he knew from experience were plentiful in the caves and caverns of the island (Vanatta, 1924). The specimens discovered in his own cave in the grounds of his residence are cited from the locality 'Whitby cave', which is the type locality for the fossil *Strobilops pilsbryi* Morrison, 1953 (now synonymised under *Discostrobilops hubbardi* (A. D. Brown, 1861)), posthumously described from Haycock's material, sent by him to USNM during his life.

Haycock was a keen collector of both modern and fossil Mollusca on the island. He had his own catalogued collection, but also shared his material amongst specialists, notably Dall and Bartsch (1911), Vanatta (1912), Peile (1924; 1926) and Gulick (NMW Blok archive). Peile also passed on some of Haycock's 'pickled' material to others such as Hugh Watson (1885 - 1959) - Haycock being described as Peile's Bermudian "standby" in Watson's letter dated 26 September 1928. Pilsbry (1924) also cites him as a collector of Bermudian fossil snails and discusses material from Whitby Cave.

Fig. 23. Fantasy Cave (formerly known as Wonderland Cave), Hamilton, Bermuda. Public domain, CC-BY-SA/3.0, Hoasjoe.



A
 friend & neighbour of mine W B Smith
 lives on top of a hill. He was very
 enthused over a cave swimming
 party we had in our cave and next
 day hunted all over his land to try
 and find a hole where air came out
 or went in, according to the tide. His
 being the way I found my cave. Well
 he did find a hole like the one I
 found and started digging. That was
 nearly a month ago and he has had
 3 men working steadily at it ever since
 they are down 35 ft or so following a
 crack which runs under a sloping
 roof. In most places the crack is
 filled with breccia and loose rocks.
 I go there pretty often. So far nothing
 new but quite similar to the shells
 from my cave.

Fig. 24. Extracts from the first two pages of a letter sent from Haycock to Peile, dated 10 July 1924. NMW Blok archive.

Haycock was clearly an important source for specimens from the island and was well connected with American conchologists: whilst preparing shells to donate to the local museum in Hamilton, Bermuda, Haycock sent specimens to Dall for identification, and many proved to be new to the island or new to science (Dall and Bartsch, 1911). Dall writes:

“There are doubtless numerous other small species at Bermuda still to be obtained which have not yet been recorded, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Haycock’s success in adding to the known fauna may stimulate others to continue exploration in the same line.”

Furthermore, Haycock was sufficiently well-regarded by Dall to have had several species named after him including: *Argyrodonax haycocki* Dall, 1911 – a new genus of bivalve; *Turbonilla haycocki* Dall & Bartsch, 1911 (Fig. 25a); and, *Mitromorpha haycocki* (Dall & Bartsch, 1911) (Fig. 25b), originally *Mitra haycocki*.

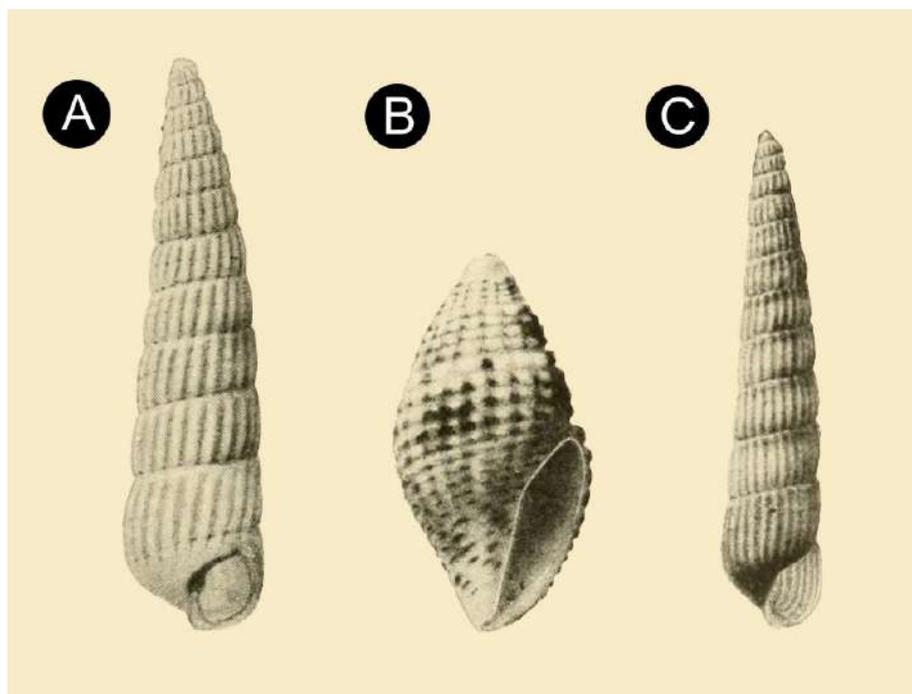


Fig. 25. Species named after Haycock and Peile in Dall & Bartsch, 1911: a. *Turbonilla haycocki*; b. *Mitromorpha haycocki*; c. *Turbonilla peilei*.

Peile (1926) also shows gratitude to Haycock when publishing *The Mollusca of Bermuda*:

“It could not have been completed without the kind help of Mr. A. Haycock of Bermuda, who has not only furnished me with the catalogue of his own collection, but has also been indefatigable in correspondence, sending me invaluable notes and information, as well as specimens”

Although the four letters to Peile in the NMW Blok archive are from Haycock’s later years, spanning from 1924-1934, we know they met much earlier, when Peile was stationed there between 1907-1911. This is first evidenced in 1909 when Major Peile and his wife were listed as guests at the community bazaar hosted by the Haycock family (Anon, 1909b). This was followed by the species description of *Turbonilla peilei* Dall & Bartsch, 1911, which was dedicated to Peile at the request of Haycock (Fig. 25c, 26) *“in recognition of kindly assistance rendered by him”*.

Later, Peile (1924) published on the endemic genus of Bermudian snails called *Poecilozonites*, based on specimens he had received from Haycock (Fig. 27).

The paper appeared in the *Journal of Molluscan Studies* (Peile, 1924) and amongst the new

species were *Poecilozonites haycocki* (Fig. 28a) and *P. marjorae* (Fig. 28b). The former named after Arthur, and the latter named after Arthur’s daughter Marjorie (1896-1950) who *“explored the locality and collected the specimens”*. Haycock in fact mentions two of his daughters in his letter dated 14 December 1924, *“Marjory and I leave here on the 23rd for a trip through the West Indies”* and *“Phyllis has her school report sent to us. She has ‘excellent’ for everything. A bit different to my reports as far as I remember them.”* Nine years on, Haycock writes that Phyllis (1908-1996) had married (to Percy) and had her first child, a *“fine boy”* called Miles Everest Hastings Outerbridge.

Arthur Haycock died on 7 December 1934, having been ill for a fortnight, and a death notice and short obituary notice were published in *The Royal Gazette* (Anon, 1934) (Fig. 29a, b). Although described as retiring and reserved, it is clear from both his correspondence and the articles published during his life that he and his wife were central to a thriving community and that he had a great passion for collecting both modern and fossil shells, making significant contributions to the knowledge of the malacofauna of Bermuda. It is worth noting that the last letter from Haycock to Peile in this archive is from March of the year he died.

The species is named, at the request of Mr. Haycock, for Major Peile, Royal Artillery, of Bermuda, in recognition of kindly assistance rendered by him.

Fig. 26. The dedication of *Turbonilla peilei* Dall & Bartsch, 1911 to Peile at the request of Haycock.

NOTES ON THE GENUS *PŒCILOZONITES*; WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES.

By Lieut.-Col. A. J. PEILE.

Read 14th December, 1923.

THE following paper is based on material collected by Mr. Arthur Haycock, who has entrusted me with the selection of representative sets of the shells, including the types and figured specimens, for presentation to the British Museum (Natural History). Mr. Haycock has collected these fossils in some of the localities recorded by Professor Addison Gulick¹ as well as in other deposits, including those in his own cave and in the grounds of his residence at “Whitby”, Bailey’s Bay, Bermuda.

Fig. 27. Peile’s reference to Haycock’s material in his 1924 *Poecilozonites* paper.

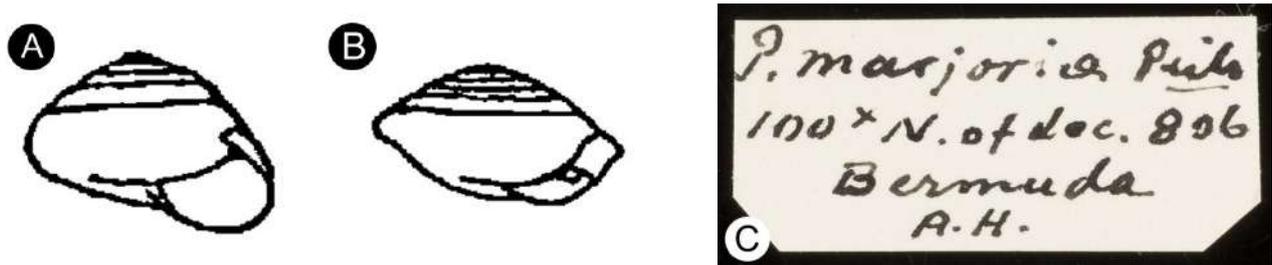


Fig. 28. The original illustrations of: a. *Poecilozonites haycocki* and, b. *P. marjorae*, from Peile's 1924 paper; c. Peile's label for Bermudian specimens of *P. marjorae* collected by Arthur Haycock in the Melvill-Tomlin collection, NMW.

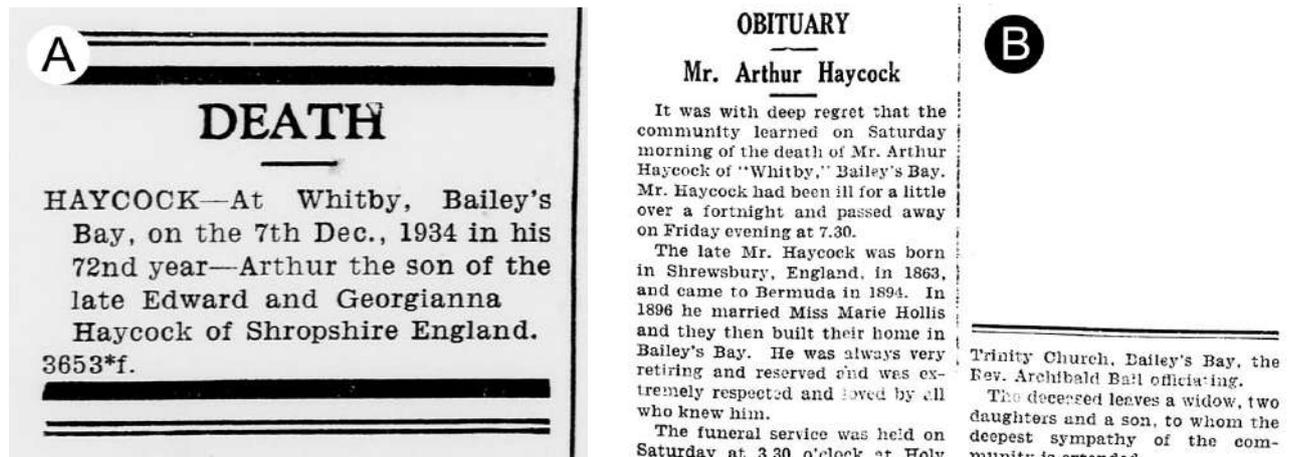


Fig. 29. Arthur Haycock's a. death notice and, b. obituary in *The Royal Gazette*.

Haycock Collection

Published information relating to Haycock's shell collection in Bermuda is rather fragmented. There are mentions in various articles in *The Royal Gazette*, published during his life – in 1909, advertisement for the bazaar describes his collection of marine shells as holding over 180 varieties (Anon, 1909a). By 1913, it is described as containing more than 600 varieties and was pronounced to be “the finest in the entire world” and “a sight that will be long remembered” (Anon, 1913). Around the same period Haycock was sending material to American institutions, in particular ANSP and USNM (Dall & Bartsch, 1911; Vanatta, 1912). Abbott & Jensen (1967) list Haycock's collection in BAMZ as one of the four institutions where there are thousands of representatives of Bermudian shells. There is even a mention of Haycock's collection given by Stephen Jay Gould when he publishes on an unusual Bermudian pond, praising the “availability of abundant comparative material in the magnificent collection of Mr. Arthur Haycock (*Bermuda Museum*)” (Gould, 1968). Later, there is transfer of important type material, when some of Dall

and Bartsch's type specimens were transferred from the BAMZ to NMNH. This is recorded by Rosewater (1984) as they were originally published as being in the Bermuda Museum, or in the collection of Mr. Arthur Haycock, of Bermuda.

Communications with the BAMZ has revealed that there is uncertainty in the location of Haycock's collection between the time of his death in 1934 and its arrival at the museum by 1962. Their records show that it was passed to the museum by Charles (Gussie) Baker and perhaps it is most likely that it remained with the family until that point, although this is not confirmed. Although Arthur's wife died in 1941 (Anon, 1941), two of their children, Phyllis and Arthur Elystan were still alive and living on the island well beyond the 1960s.

The collection is currently undergoing documentation and repackaging into archival storage. Jennifer Gosling has reported (pers. comm.) that it was originally stored in custom-made wooden cabinets with 32 drawers full of shells; they were displayed in shell boxes or loose in drawers with dark blue cotton wool used to cushion the drawers and to keep the

shells in place. As is a common story, there has been some displacement and separation of the shells and labels over time, but work is being undertaken to reconstruct the collection as much as possible, whilst moving it to more appropriate storage and undertaking the inventory process. More detailed information will be available about the collection once this task has been completed.

Humour

Finally, we will end with an amusing inclusion from Wouter van Benthem Jutting in a letter to J. R. le B. Tomlin (16 October 1934, NMW Blok archive). Here she mentions a Dutch colleague who was ...

“... studying the life history of the Loch Ness monster and asked me what the animal's diet could have been. I transmitted the question to Prof. Boycott in his function of Hon. Recorder of the Conch Society, but he could not inform us (or perhaps thought it safer to keep away from such a dangerous question!).”

Tomlin's reply is not recorded, but one might guess that he felt the same way as Boycott!

Conclusion

Arthur Blok demonstrated remarkable persistence and diligence in all areas of his collecting, including in his compilation of conchological letters. He recognised their importance as tools to interpret handwriting in collections and as insights into the history of shell collecting and taxonomic debate. The breadth of stories and themes that can be extrapolated from a relatively small collection of correspondence, such as his archive now in Cardiff, has been illustrated but is not exhaustive. Online publication of this material will offer cross-disciplinary researchers access to an important resource that can be further interrogated and interpreted. Collections of letters such as this one may not provide a detailed correspondence network of a single figure (as can be seen with the Crosse archive (Breure & Audibert, 2017) and Paulucci archive (Talenti *et al.*, 2024)), but each letter enriches our understanding of the actor-networks in the field, gives valuable insight into the personalities involved and contributes incrementally to our knowledge of natural science history.

Acknowledgments

We would firstly like to thank Anne Bishop and her family for making the Arthur Blok archive available and for Anne's time, conversation and hospitality; also, Ben Rowson (NMW) who was an integral part of the visit to Anne's home and the discussions we shared. We thank Henk Mienis for his generosity in sending references relating to Arthur Blok and for answering questions about the Blok donation to the HJ; we thank S. Peter Dance for sharing his memories of the time he spent with Arthur at his home in the 1950/60s; and Andreia Salvador and the Library & Archives at the NHMUK for making the portraits of Blok and Dean available and the list of correspondents in their augmented Blok archive. We are grateful to Dan Robertson at Brighton & Hove Museums for giving us access to the 1973 audio recordings of David Clitheroe interviewing Arthur Blok about his varied career. Relating to the research around Arthur Haycock, we would particularly like to thank Jennifer Gosling for the information she shared about the Haycock collection at the Bermuda Aquarium, Museum and Zoo and about Haycock's life; and Struan Smith, also from BAMZ, and Jane Downing from the National Museum of Bermuda, for their help with information on Arthur Haycock. Finally, we would also like to thank Susan F. Jones for her help with translation.

References

- ABBOTT R. T. & JENSEN R., 1967. Molluscan Faunal Changes around Bermuda. *Science*. AAAS. Washington, D.C., 155(3763): 687-688.
- ABLETT J., BROWN C., GALLICHAN J., GORDON D., HOLMES A. M., HUNTER T., MACHIN R., MORGENROTH H., OLIVER P. G., PETTS R., PYE S., REILLY M., ROWSON B., SALVADOR A., SUTCLIFFE R., TURNER J. A., WOOD H., 2019. *Mollusca Types in Britain and Ireland*. Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales / Natural History Museum. Available at: <https://gbmolluscatypes.ac.uk> (accessed: 12 May 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1907a. Caves at Baileys Bay. *The Royal Gazette*, July 16th, 1907, 80(57): 2. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/34872/rec/3> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1907b. Mr. Haycock's new cave at Bailey's Bay. *The Royal Gazette*, September 7th,

- 1907, 80(72): 1. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/34951/rec/6> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1909a. A bazaar will be held on Thursday August 5th at Whitby, Bailey's Bay, the residence of Mr. Arthur Haycock. *The Royal Gazette*, July 17th, 1909, 82(57): 3. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/36047> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1909b. Grand bazaar at Whitby, Bailey's Bay. A highly successful entertainment. *The Royal Gazette*, August 7th, 1909, 82 (63): 2. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/36080/rec/11> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1912. The new Wonderland Cave. An appreciation. *The Royal Gazette*, Dec 17th, 1912, 85(150): 2. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/37704/rec/230> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1913. Interesting reception at Bailey's Bay. *The Royal Gazette*, March 8th, 1913, 86(28): 2. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/38421/rec/4> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1934. Obituary. Mr Arthur Haycock. *The Royal Gazette*, Dec 10th, 1934, 19(296): 1. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/86304/rec/212> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1935. Proceedings of the Conchological Society of Great Britain & Ireland. *Journal of Conchology*, 20(6): 184-186. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329039#page/232/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1941. Obituary. Mrs. Arthur Haycock. *The Royal Gazette*, June 18th, 1941, 21 (142): 2. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/111474/rec/7> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS, 1944. Members deceased [front matter]. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society*, 26(2-3): ii.
- ANONYMOUS, 1948. A. J. Peile, 1868-1948. *Journal of Conchology*, 23(1): 21. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329929#page/37/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- ANONYMOUS (undated). *Descendants of John Hollis webpage*. Bermuda Genealogy Group. Available at: [Descendants of John Hollis](https://www.bermudagenalogy.com/Descendants_of_John_Hollis) (accessed: 12 May 2025).
- BARRETT J. H. & YONGE C. M., 1958. *Collins Pocket Guide to the Sea Shore*. London, Collins, 272 p.
- BIJL A. N. VAN DER, MOOLENBEEK R. G. & GOUD J. 2010. *Mattheus Marinus Schepman (1847-1919) and his contributions to malacology: a malacological biography and bibliography*. Nederlandse Malacologische Vereniging (Editor Buijse, J), 200 p.
- BLOK A., 1954. Some Personal Recollections of Sir Ambrose Fleming, (The third Fleming Memorial Lecture, Royal Institution, 29 September 1948), published as Appendix II of J.T. MacGregor-Morris, *The Inventor of the Valve: A Biography of Sir Ambrose Fleming*. London: The Television Society, 124-134.
- BLOK A., 1957. Obituary notice. Guy L. Wilkins, 1905-1957. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*, 32(6): 213-214. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064783> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- BLOK A., 1964. Still more autobiography. *The Conchologists' Newsletter*, 11: 63-64. [The Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland](https://www.conchologicalsociety.org/) (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- BLOK A., 1973a. Dr Arthur Blok 1 (audio recording) - Dr Arthur Blok interviewed by David Clitheroe about his work in wireless telegraphy. Shelfmark / Call: UTK006/99 C3. Credit: Brighton & Hove Museums and the BBC - digitised as part of the British Library's *Unlocking Our Sound Heritage* project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- BLOK A., 1973b. Dr Arthur Blok 2 (audio recording) - Dr Arthur Blok interviewed by David Clitheroe about his inventions related to changing of matter - change of uranium into lead (nuclear energy). Shelfmark / Call: UTK006/99 C2. Credit: Brighton & Hove Museums and the BBC - digitised as part of the British Library's *Unlocking Our Sound Heritage* project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- BLOK A., 1973c. Dr Arthur Blok 3 (audio recording) - Dr Arthur Blok interviewed by David Clitheroe about his work at the Department of Atomic Energy. Shelfmark / Call: UTK006/101 C1. Credit: Brighton & Hove Museums and the BBC - digitised as part of the British Library's *Unlocking Our Sound Heritage* project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- BREURE A. S. H., 2011. Annotated type catalogue of the Orthalicoida (Mollusca, Gastropoda) in the Royal Belgian Institute of Sciences, Brussels, with descriptions of two new species. *ZooKeys*, 101: 1-50.

- BREURE A. S. H., 2013. Annotated type catalogue of the Orthalicoidea (Mollusca, Gastropoda) in the Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin. *ZooKeys*, 279: 1-101.
- BREURE A. S. H., 2015. The malacological handwritings in the autograph collection of the Ph. Dautzenberg archives, Brussels. *Folia conchyliologica*, 33: 1-111.
- BREURE A. S. H. & ABLETT J. D., 2011. Annotated type catalogue of the Amphibulimidae (Mollusca, Gastropoda, Orthalicoidea) in the Natural History Museum, London. *ZooKeys*, 138: 1-52.
- BREURE A. S. H. & ABLETT J. D., 2012. Annotated type catalogue of the Bothriembryontidae and Odontostomidae (Mollusca, Gastropoda, Orthalicoidea) in the Natural History Museum, London. *ZooKeys*, 182: 1-70.
- BREURE A. S. H. & ABLETT J. D., 2014. Annotated type catalogue of the Bulimulidae (Mollusca, Gastropoda, Orthalicoidea) in the Natural History Museum, London. *ZooKeys*, 392: 1-367.
- BREURE A. S. H. & ABLETT J. D., 2015. Annotated type catalogue of the Megaspiridae, Orthalicoidea, and Simpulopsidae (Mollusca, Gastropoda, Orthalicoidea) in the Natural History Museum, London. *ZooKeys*, 470: 17-143.
- BREURE A. S. H. & AUDIBERT C., 2017. 'Mon cher Directeur': an inventory of the correspondence addressed to Hippolyte Crosse during his years as director of the 'Journal of conchyliologie'. *Folia conchyliologica*, 44: 3-108. https://www.cernuelle.com/file/Folia_Conchyliologica_39.pdf (accessed: 12 October 2025).
- BREURE A. S. H., AUDIBERT C. & ABLETT J. D., 2018. *Pierre Marie Arthur Morelet (1809-1892) and his contributions to Malacology*. Netherlands Malacological Society, Leiden, The Netherlands, 544 p.
- BREURE A. S. H., AUDIBERT C. & ABLETT J. D. (EDS.), 2022. *Joseph Charles Hippolyte Crosse (1826-1898). 1. Biography, bibliography and new taxa introduced*. Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, 330 p.
- BROWN A. D., 1861. Descriptions of two new species of *Helix*. *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 13: 333. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/84787#page/411/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- COAN E. V. & KABAT A. R., 2025. *2400 Years of Malacology*. Available at: <https://ams.wildapricot.org/2400-Years-of-Malacology> (accessed: 12 May 2025).
- DALL W. H., 1911. A new genus of bivalves from Bermuda. *The Nautilus*, 25(8): 85-86. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/1818274> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- DALL W. H. & BARTSCH P., 1911. New species of shells from Bermuda. *Proceedings of the United States National Museum*, 40: 277-288, pl. 35. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/15845507> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- DANCE S. P., 1966. *Shell collecting, an illustrated history*. London, Faber & Faber, 344 p., 34 pls.
- DEAN J. D., 1936. Conchological Cabinets of the Last Century. *Journal of Conchology*, 20(8): 225-252. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329039#page/285/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- EMANUEL R., 1974. Obituary Arthur Blok. *B'nai B'rith Journal*. Winter 1974: 10.
- GOODWIN B. J., 2013. J. Wilfrid Jackson's conchological correspondence. *Mollusc World*, 32: 26-28. <https://conchsoc.org/MolluscWorld32> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- GOODWIN B. J., 2021. Conchologists in conflict – Part 2. *Mollusc World*, 56: 20-25. <https://conchsoc.org/node/6823> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- GOULD S. J., 1968. The molluscan fauna of an unusual Bermudian pond: a natural experiment in form and composition. *Breviora*, 308: 1-13. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/4294877#page/251/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- GRAY J. E., 1840. *A manual of the land and fresh-water shells of the British Islands, with figures of each of the kinds*. By William Turton, M.D. A new edition, thoroughly revised and much enlarged. London, Longman, Orme, Brown, Green, & Longmans, ix + 1 p. errata + 324 p., pls 1-12. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/18243759> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- GUDE G. K., 1914. *The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Mollusca 2 (Trochomorphidae-Janellidae)*. London: Taylor and Francis, xii + 520 p., 164 figs. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/46617#page/5/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- HAYCOCK A., 1899. The Bermuda juniper. *The Gardeners' Chronicle*, 25(638): 176 (March 18, 1899). <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/83814#page/198/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).

- HAYCOCK A., 1907. Caves at Bailey's Bay. *Supplement to The Royal Gazette*, July 23rd, 1907. 80(59): 5. <https://bnl.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/BermudaNP02/id/34887/rec/4> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- HONG S., 2001. *Wireless: From Marconi's Black-Box to the Audion*. MIT press, 248pp. https://monoskop.org/images/f/f4/Hong_Sungook_Wireless_From_Marconis_Black-Box_to_the_Audion.pdf (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- JONES V. C., 1985. *Manhattan, the Army and the Atomic Bomb*. Pub. Center of Military History, United States Army, 680 p. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GOVPUB-D114-PURL-gpo107791/pdf/GOVPUB-D114-PURL-gpo107791.pdf> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- KEEN M., 1956. *An abridged check list and bibliography of West North American marine Mollusca. Supplement: Papers on west American marine Mollusca, published during the years 1937 to 1956*. Stanford University Press, 13 p.
- LIGHT J., 2003. In conversation with – Tom Pain. *Mollusc World*, 1: 16-17, 20. <https://conchsoc.org/MolluscWorld1> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- MARKS P., 2011. Dot-dash-diss: The gentleman hacker's 1903 lulz. *The New Scientist*, 2844: 24 <https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg21228440-700-dot-dash-diss-the-gentleman-hackers-1903-lulz/> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- MAYR E., 1992. In memoriam: Bernhard Rensch, 1900-1990. *The Auk*, 109(1): 188. <https://academic.oup.com/auk/article/109/1/188/5172821> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- MELVILL J. C., 1926. List of molluscan papers (mostly dealing with the order Cephalopoda) by the late Dr. W. Evans Hoyle, D.Sc., F.R.S.E. *Journal of Conchology*, 18(2): 71-74. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329956#page/93/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- MIENIS H.K., 1975. Arthur Blok. In: Anonymous: *An exhibition of the Arthur Blok Collection and Library on the occasion of the opening of the Zoological Museum*. 5 February 1975: 6 pages, English text and 5 pages, Hebrew text. The Hebrew University, Jerusalem.
- MIENIS H. K., 2012a. The history of the Hebrew University mollusc collection. *Haasiana*, 6: 5-10. https://openscholar.huji.ac.il/sites/default/files/nnhc/files/haasiana_6_2012.pdf (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- MIENIS H. K., 2012b. Arthur Blok (1882–1974), Shell Collection and Library. *Haasiana*, 6: 41-55. https://openscholar.huji.ac.il/sites/default/files/nnhc/files/haasiana_6_2012.pdf (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- MORTON B., 1992. Charles Maurice Yonge, 9 December 1899 - 17 March 1986. *Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society*, 38(38): 377-412. <https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/epdf/10.1098/rsbm.1992.0020> (accessed: 23 June 2025).
- MORRISON J. P. E., 1953. Two new American species of *Strobilops*. *The Nautilus*, 67(2): 53-55. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34842#page/71/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM (no date). Blok, Arthur, and Stanley Peter Dance. *Collection of 620 Letters, with Some Specimens of Signatures, to and from Malacologists and Other Naturalists, 18th Century to circa 1960*. Available at: [Collection of 620 letters, with some specimens of signatures, to and from malacologists and other naturalists, 18th century to circa 1960 - Natural History Museum UK \(NHM\)](https://www.naturalhistorymuseum.com/collections/620-letters) (exlibrisgroup.com) (accessed: 12 May 2025).
- OLDHAM T., 2002. *Fantasy Cave*. Available at: Show Caves of Bermuda: [Fantasy Cave](https://www.showcavesofbermuda.com/fantasy-cave) (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- PAIN T., 1976. Arthur Blok (1882-1974). *Journal of Conchology*, 29(1): 67-68. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329876#page/85/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- PEILE A. J., 1924. Notes on the genus *Poecilozonites*; with descriptions of new species. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*, 16(1): 16-21. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063827> (accessed: 23 June 2025).
- PEILE A. J., 1926. Presidential address: The Mollusca of Bermuda. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*, 17(2-3): 71-98. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063902> (accessed: 23 June 2025).
- PILSBRY H. A., 1924. Recent and Fossil Bermudan Snails of the Genus *Poecilozonites*. *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 76: 1-9.
- RENSCH, B., 1980. Historical development of the present synthetic Neo-Darwinism in Germany: 284-303. In: Mayr, E. & Provine, W. B. (Editors). *The Evolutionary Synthesis: Perspectives on the Unification of Biology*, 487 p.

- ROSEWATER J., 1984. Bermuda marine mollusk type specimens transferred to the Smithsonian. *The Nautilus*, 98(4): 151-153. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34232#page/181/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- SALISBURY A.E., 1955. Obituary. J. R. le B. Tomlin, 1864-1954. *Journal of Conchology*, 24(2): 29-33, pl. 1-2. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/63042780#page/49/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- SOLEM A., 1970. Fritz Haas, 1886-1969. *The Nautilus*, 83(4): 117-120. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34847#page/139/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- TALENTI E., INNOCENTI G., LUSVARDI L. & CIANFANELLI S., 2024. Inventory of the Malacological Epistolary of the Correspondents of Marianna Panciatichi Ximenes d'Aragona Paulucci. *Colligo*, 7(1). <https://revue-colligo.fr/?id=95> (accessed: 12 October 2025).
- THACKRAY JOHN C., 1995. *A Catalogue of Manuscripts and Drawings in the General Library of The Natural History Museum, London*. London: Mansell Publishing Limited. 126 p. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/164684#page/7/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- TOPLEY P., 2019. Some mollusc drawings by Guy Wilkins. *Mollusc World*, 51: 21-23. <https://conchsoc.org/MolluscWorld51> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- TURTON W., 1831. *A manual of the land and fresh-water shells of the British Islands: arranged according to the more modern systems of classification; and described from perfect specimens in the author's cabinet : with coloured plates of every species*. London, Printed for Longman, Rees, Orme, Brown, and Green, 152 p. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/84584#page/11/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- VANATTA E. G., 1912. Notes - Bermuda shells. *The Nautilus*, 26: 12. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17813#page/26/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- VANATTA E. G., 1924. Land shells of Admiral's Cave, Bermuda. *The Nautilus*, 38: 6-7. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34893#page/18/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- VERDCOURT B., WOOD H. & ROWSON B., 2004. Obituary: Thomas Pain (1915-2003). *Journal of Conchology*, 38(2): 179-191. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/327842#page/197/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- WILKINS G. L., 1935. Annual report of the London Branch. *Journal of Conchology*, 20(6): 191. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329039#page/239/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- WILKINS G. L., 1938. Annual report of the London Branch. *Journal of Conchology*, 21(2): 54. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329034#page/86/mode/1up> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- WILLING M., 2019. Conservation Officer Annual Report 2018. 5. Important Mollusc Collection Saved: The Ed Bishop Collection. *Mollusc World*, 50: 22-23. <https://conchsoc.org/MolluscWorld50> (accessed: 7 June 2025).
- WINCKWORTH R., 1949. Obituary: Alfred James Peile, 1868-1948. *Journal of Molluscan Studies*, 28(1): 5-7. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064561> (accessed: 23 June 2025).
- WOOD H. & GALLICHAN J., 2008. The new molluscan names of César-Marie-Felix Ancey including illustrations of type material from the National Museum of Wales. *Studies in Biodiversity and Systematics of Terrestrial Organisms from the National Museum of Wales. Biotir Reports*, 3: i-iv, 1-162 p., 26 pls.
- YONGE C. M., 1949. *The sea shore*. London, Collins, 311 p.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Cast of Characters and associated references

Sender (birth-death)	Sender summary	Letter sent from	Letter date	Receiver
Adam William (1909-1988)	William Adam was a (Dutch born) Belgian malacologist who worked at the Brussels Museum and specialised in cephalopods. ¹	Belgium	17 12 1937	Winckworth Ronald
Altena Carel Octavius van Regteren (1907-1976)	Dutch conchologist. ²	Netherlands	08 03 1933	Soós Lajos
Ashby Edwin (1861-1941)	Australian estate agent and naturalist. Particular interest in chitons. ^{3,4}	Australia	17 04 1928	Peile Alfred James
Baden-Powell Donald Ferly Wilson (1897-1973)	Geologist at the University of Oxford. ⁵	England, U.K.	31 10 1933	Tomlin John Read le Brockton
Baldacchino Joseph George (1894-1974)	Maltese archaeologist. ⁶	Malta	25 03 1935	Peile Alfred James
			17 06 1935	Peile Alfred James
			06 07 1939	Peile Alfred James
Barnard Keppel Harcourt (1887-1964)	South African (London born) zoologist – expert in carcinology, malacology and ichthyology. He was Director of the South African Museum, Cape Town. ⁷	South Africa	04 02 1946	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Bentham Jutting Woutera Sophie Suzanna van (1899-1991)	Dutch malacologist, born in Indonesia. In 1945 she married zoologist Pico van der Feen but continued to publish under her maiden name. Her numerous publications cover the molluscs of the Netherlands, the non-marine molluscs of Indonesia, Malaya and New Guinea, and the history of malacology. ^{8,9}	The Netherlands	16 10 1934	Tomlin John Read le Brockton
		The Netherlands	22 01 1947	Peile Alfred James
		The Netherlands	06 06 1947	Peile Alfred James
Bequaert Joseph Charles (1886-1982)	American naturalist (Belgium-born), interested in botany, entomology and malacology. ¹⁰	U.S.A.	07 11 1946	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Bloomer Harry Howard (1866-1960)	British accountant and amateur malacologist who became especially interested in the Unionidae. ¹¹	England, U.K.	25 10 1924	Cooper James Eddowes
		England, U.K.	02 04 1935	Winckworth Ronald
		England, U.K.	14 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Boycott Arthur Edwin (1877-1938)	British pathologist and naturalist, with an interest in land and freshwater snails. ^{12,13}	England, U.K.	07 02 1920	Cooper James Eddowes
		England, U.K.	28 06 1937	Peile Alfred James
Cadwalader Charles Meigs Biddle (1885-1959)	Managing Director and President of the Academy of Natural Sciences between 1928 and 1951, and the visionary figure largely responsible for transforming the venerable institution into a modern center for research and education. He was particularly interested in ornithology. An avid hunter, he contributed numerous skins to the Academy Museum. ¹⁴	U.S.A.	27 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Carpenter Geoffrey Douglas Hale (1882-1953)	Medical doctor and zoologist, primarily a lepidopterist. ¹⁵	England, U.K.	03 10	Unknown
		Uganda	09 04 1912	Cooper James Eddowes
Cawston Frederick Gordon (1885-1949)	English born doctor who moved to South Africa and researched schistosomiasis and its snail hosts. Studied at St Lawrence College (Ramsgate), Caius College (Cambridge), and St Thomas' Hospital (London) before becoming a Captain in the South African Military Corps during WWI. ¹⁶	South Africa	17 01 1940	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Chaster George William (1863-1910)	English doctor, entomologist and conchologist. Collection in NMW. ^{17,18,19}	England, U.K.	23 05 1906	Woodward Bernard Barham
Clench William (Bill) James (1897-1984)	American malacologist, Professor at Harvard University, and a founder member of the American Malacological Union. ²⁰	U.S.A.	29 03 1932	Peile Alfred James
		U.S.A.	16 01 1940	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Cockerell Theodore Dru Alison (1866-1948)	Zoologist born in Norwood, Greater London who later spent time in Jamaica and the USA. Elder brother of the scholar Sir Sydney Cockerell, he was most known as a hymenopterist. ²¹	England, U.K.	11 05 1883	Taylor John William
		U.S.A.	13 05 1937	Peile Alfred James
Cooper James Eddowes (1864-1952)	Cooper was interested in many areas of natural history, especially conchology and botany. He was a leading light in the London Branch of the Conchological Society, and President of the Society in 1932. ^{22,23}	England, U.K.	03 04 1945	Peile Alfred James
Cribb Charles Theodore (1888-1976)	Amateur conchologist, vicar and later Canon in the Church of England. A close friend of W.S.S. van Bentham Jutting. ²⁴	England, U.K.	10 01 1934	Peile Alfred James

ZOOLOGIE

Sender (birth-death)	Sender summary	Letter sent from	Letter date	Receiver
Dall William Healey (1845-1927)	William H. Dall was for many years America's pre-eminent authority on living and fossil molluscs. He also made contributions in many other branches of natural history including ornithology, palaeontology, anthropology and meteorology. He was artistically gifted and wrote poetry. Dall was a prodigious writer. A complete bibliography was published by Bartsch <i>et al.</i> , (1946). This bibliography lists a little more than 1,600 items, comprising everything that was printed, including poems, other literary compositions, and letters to the editors of newspapers. Almost half of the items may be classified as scientific papers. ^{25, 26, 27}	U.S.A.	01 06 1903	Woodward Bernard Barham
Dance Stanley Peter (1932-20**)	Conchologist and author. Notable works include <i>Shell collecting, an illustrated history</i> (1966) and <i>Rare shells</i> (1969). Worked at many of the major British Museums (London, Cardiff, Manchester). ^{28, 29}	England, U.K.	06 01 1958	Blok Arthur
Dean John Davy (1876-1937)	A curator who worked in the National Museum of Wales from 1915 to 1937. His collection, which he left to the Museum, numbers some 2,000 lots of non-marine Mollusca mainly from Europe and Jamaica and is especially rich in the Clausiliidae. Most of the material Blok obtained from Dean consisted of land snails from Jamaica collected by G.A. Martin. ^{30, 31}	Wales, U.K.	15 12 1934	Blok Arthur
Eales Nellie Barbara (1889-1989)	Zoologist who worked at the Marine Biological Association and later became Reader in Zoology at Reading University. As well as marine biology, she worked on cheese mites and African elephants. In addition to research on <i>Aplysia</i> she published the first edition of <i>The Littoral Fauna of Great Britain: A Handbook for Collectors</i> in 1939. ^{32, 33, 34}	England, U.K.	27 01 1936	Winckworth Ronald
		England, U.K.	08 06 [1936]	Winckworth Ronald
Ede Francis Joseph (1857-1923)	Appears to have been an amateur collector in India. He is not referenced in Coan & Kabat, and gets a cursory entry in <i>Shells from the Past and Present</i> . Francis Joseph Ede from Silchar is listed as a CSGBI and Malacological Society member. ^{35, 36}	India	26 09 1897	Peile Alfred James
Ellis Arthur Erskine (1902-1983)	Among many other publications, he was author of <i>British Snails</i> (1926) and <i>British Freshwater Bivalve Molluscs</i> (1962). He undertook various roles in the CSGBI, including President and Editor. ^{37, 38, 39}	England, U.K.	14 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Farchad Hadjid (****.****)	Little known Iranian/French palaeontologist who studied the Paris Basin fossils and published <i>Étude du Thanétien (Landénien marin) du Bassin de Paris</i> (1936). ⁴⁰	France		Unknown
Fischer-Piette Edouard (1899-1988)	Curator at the Natural History Museum Paris. Much of his work on Mollusca centred on the former French colonies, including Madagascar. ⁴¹	France	11 04 1947	Unknown
Forrest John Eric (1912-1995)	A Scottish zoologist, who was a lecturer at Queen Mary College, and who studied feeding mechanisms in Dorid nudibranchs. ⁴²	England, U.K.	14 01 1949	Winckworth Ronald
Forster-Cooper Clive (1880-1947)	English vertebrate palaeontologist. Director of BM(NH). Elected F.R.S. in 1936 and knighted in 1946. ⁴³	England, U.K.	15 07 1938	Peile Alfred James
Fowler Thomas George William (1880-1967)	Shell collector and authority on Cornish serpentine (McMillan, 1968). ⁴⁴	England, U.K.	28 11 1936	Cooper James Eddowes
		England, U.K.	29 05 1940	Peile Alfred James
Fretter Vera (1905-1992)	Outstanding molluscan functional anatomist, and author (with Alastair Graham) of <i>British Prosobranch Molluscs</i> (1962, revised edition 1994). ^{45, 46, 47}	England, U.K.	22 11 ?	Winckworth Ronald
Fulton Hugh Coomber (1861-1942)	Assistant to G. B. Sowerby II and later was in partnership with G. B. Sowerby III until 1916 from when Fulton carried on the business alone. Fulton arranged the Barclay collection for sale in 1891 and Sowerby and Fulton handled the sale of the de Burgh collection in 1918. Nearly all of his types are in the NHMUK. Some material in the Melvill-Tomlin collection in NMW. ^{48, 49}	England, U.K.	13 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Godwin-Austen Henry Haversham (1834-1923)	Collector and conchologist. His career was in the British Army, with a special interest in Indian and South African non-marine Mollusca. His main collection is in NHMUK. However, some type material from Asia (e.g., India and China) is in the Melvill-Tomlin collection, NMW. The mountain K2 was originally named Mount Godwin-Austen. ^{50, 51}	England, U.K.	26 10 1912	Worthington-Wilmer Lewis
Griffiths Robert John (1915-1986)	It seems very likely that the correspondent 'John Griffiths' was the UK/Australian cowry specialist. ⁵²	England, U.K.	05 05 1957	Blok Arthur

Sender (birth-death)	Sender summary	Letter sent from	Letter date	Receiver
Haas Fritz (1886-1969)	German born malacologist who settled in Chicago after being removed from his position at the Senckenberg Museum by the Nazis. ^{53, 54, 55}	Germany	22 10 1922	Soós Lajos
		U.S.A.	09 01 1940	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
		U.S.A.	09 03 1946	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Haughton Sidney Henry (1888-1982)	English-born South African palaeontologist and geologist. ⁵⁶	South Africa	15 02 1927	Tomlin John Read le Brockton
Haycock Arthur (1863-1934)	Haycock was a British-born fruit grower who lived in Bermuda. He was an 'amateur' conchologist who collected the local shells and supplied them to scientists in the UK and the USA. He was sufficiently well-connected in the conchological world to have had several species named after him (in this study).	Bermuda	10 07 1924	Soós Lajos
		Bermuda	14 12 1924	Peile Alfred James
		Bermuda	28 12 1933	Peile Alfred James
		Bermuda	31 03 1934	Peile Alfred James
Hermitte Louis Constant Daniel (1894-1961)	A clinical pathologist who spent time working in the Seychelles, and who was interested in the poison of Conidae. The outcome of the correspondence with Peile seems to have been the following paper: <i>Venomous Marine Molluscs of the Genus Conus</i> (1946). ^{57, 58}	England, U.K.	07 02 1945	Peile Alfred James
Jones Kenneth Hurlstone (1873-1938)	Jones was a British naval surgeon with an interest in ornithology and conchology. He was a member of both the CSGBI and the Malacological Society, as well as F.Z.S., R.S.P.B. (Council member) and M.B.O.U. In later years he became interested in archaeology. N.B. - the portrait currently on the <i>Shellers from the Past and Present</i> website is actually of Kenneth Hurlstone Jackson (Professor of Celtic Languages), <u>not</u> Jones. ⁵⁹	England, U.K.	29 05 1936	Blok Arthur
Jones Samuel Benjamin (1874-1949)	Dr. Samuel Benjamin Jones was a medical doctor and magistrate, who improved healthcare in the Caribbean in the early 1920s: notably the eradication of smallpox from Anguilla, and extensive research on syphilis and Schistosomiasis. ⁶⁰	West Indies	14 01 1929	Peile Alfred James
Jukes-Browne Alfred John (1851-1914)	British invertebrate palaeontologist and stratigrapher. ⁶¹	England, U.K.	14 04 1905	Cooper James Eddowes
Keen (Angeline) Myra (1905-1986)	Keen was called the "First Lady of Malacology". She went from being a volunteer, having no formal training in biology or geology, to being one of the world's foremost malacologists, specialising in the evolution of marine molluscs. ^{62, 63}	U.S.A.	13 12 1939	Winckworth Ronald
		U.S.A.	28 12 1956	Blok Arthur
Kennard Alfred Santer (1870-1948)	Geologist and malacologist, Kennard was mainly interested in the British non-marine Mollusca. He was a somewhat prickly and opinionated character, and had a running feud with Hugh Watson. An important work, with B.B. Woodward, was the <i>Synonymy of the British Non-marine Mollusca</i> (1926). ^{64, 65}	England, U.K.	28 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
		England, U.K.	12 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Laidlaw Frank Fortescue (1876-1963)	Collector. Main collection in the Chicago Natural History Museum, Illinois, USA. Nearly all types in the NHMUK. Some material in the Melvill-Tomlin collection, NMW. ^{51, 66}	England, U.K.		Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.		Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.		Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	03 10 1925	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	20 05 1930	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	17 05 1932	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	22 09 1932	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	29 10 1932	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	02 11 1932	Peile Alfred James
England, U.K.	20 11 1932	Peile Alfred James		
Lebour Marie Victoire (1876-1971)	Naturalist who worked on plankton and marine larvae at the Marine Biological Association, Plymouth. ⁶⁷	England, U.K.	10 10 1939	Peile Alfred James
Martens Carl Eduard von (1831-1904)	German malacologist and prolific author. ⁶⁸	Germany	10 11 1896	Smith Edgar Albert
Melvill James Cosmo (1845-1929)	Botanist and malacologist. The combined Melvill-Tomlin collections are now deposited in the NMW. ⁶⁹	England, U.K.	25 01 1927	Dean John Davy
Mestayer Marjorie Katherine (1880-1955)	A (UK-born) New Zealand curator and conchologist. ⁷⁰	New Zealand	05 05 1929	Peile Alfred James
O'Donoghue Charles Henry (1885-1961)	American nudibranch expert, with a collection of books, etc., at Reading University. His Canadian wife, Elsie, also worked on nudibranchs. ^{71, 72}	Scotland, U.K.	09 09 1935	Winckworth Ronald
		England, U.K.	13 11 1940	Winckworth Ronald
		England, U.K.	16 01 1941	Winckworth Ronald
Odhner Nils Hjalmar (1884-1973)	Swedish zoologist specialising in opisthobranchs. His main collection is in Rijksmuseum, Stockholm, and there is some material in the Melvill-Tomlin collection, NMW. ^{73, 74}	Sweden	03 01 1940	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Peile Alfred James (1868-1948)	Honorary curator in the BM(NH). His interests included molluscan radulae and the shells of Bermuda. J. R. le B. Tomlin's collection of radula slides in the NMW contains many of Peile's slides. His collection was distributed amongst his friends and Blok received his entire collection of Clausiliidae and Pupillidae. All type specimens are in the NHM (London), and his main radula collection is in the National Museums of Scotland (Edinburgh) with a smaller collection in the NHM. ^{73, 75}	England, U.K.	18 12 1925	Blok Arthur

ZOOLOGIE

Sender (birth-death)	Sender summary	Letter sent from	Letter date	Receiver
Peringuey Louis Albert (1855-1924)	A French-born entomologist who collected for museums in Senegal, Gambia and Madagascar, before settling in South Africa. He became Director of the South African Museum. ⁷⁶	South Africa	16 09 1922	Tomlin John Read le Brockton
Phillips Robert Albert (1866-1945)	Phillips was an ardent field naturalist who began with an interest in flowering plants, but who later developed considerable expertise in Mollusca. He joined the stationery company, Guy & Co. of Cork, at the age of 14 and between the early 1890s and the 1930s he travelled widely in the southern part of Ireland, collecting wherever his work took him. Published mainly in the <i>Irish Naturalist</i> . ^{77, 78}	Ireland	26 09 1917	Roebuck William Denison
		Ireland	02 07 1927	Boycott Arthur Edwin
Pilsbry Henry [Harry] Augustus (1862-1957)	American malacologist and carcinologist. ⁷⁹	U.S.A.	17 03 1933	Cockerell Theodore Dru Alison
		U.S.A.	13 06 1936	Peile Alfred James
Ponsonby John Henry (1848-1916)	Amateur English conchologist who specialized in the study of land and freshwater species. He assumed the surname Ponsonby-Fane when he inherited his father's estates. ^{80, 81}	England, U.K.	02 01 1914	Cooper James Eddowes
Quick Hamilton Ernest (1882-1967)	Medical doctor (ophthalmic surgeon) and amateur expert on slugs. ⁸²	Wales, U.K.	07 08 1933	Cooper James Eddowes
Ranson Gilbert (1899-1972)	French malacologist, with a particular interest in oysters. ^{83, 84}	England, U.K.	15 07 1946	Winckworth Ronald
Rensch Bernhard Carl Emmanuel (1900-1990)	German evolutionary biologist and ornithologist. His spouse, Ilse Rensch (1902-1992), was a botanist and malacologist and described several new species and subspecies of land snails, including the Manus Green Tree Snail (<i>Papustyla pulcherrima</i>). ^{85, 86}	Germany	03 09 1935	Tomlin John Read le Brockton
		Germany	25 09 1937	Winckworth Ronald
Robson Guy Colborn (1888-1945)	Zoologist who worked at the BM(NH), specialising on Cephalopoda. ⁸⁷	England, U.K.	01 11 1932	Dean John Davy
Russell Frederick Stratten (1897-1984)	English marine biologist, with a particular interest in plankton, who became Director of the Marine Biological Association, Plymouth, UK in 1945. ⁸⁸	England, U.K.	02 06 1948	Winckworth Ronald
Schenck Hubert Gregory (1897-1960)	American palaeontologist. ⁸⁹	Belgium	03 08 1934	Winckworth Ronald
		U.S.A.	14 01 1936	Tomlin John Read le Brockton
Schilder Franz Xaver Alfred Johann (1896-1970)	Schilder, together with his wife, Maria, was a prolific molluscan taxonomist – primarily known for his work on cowries. ⁹⁰	Germany	21 01 1927	Soos Lajos
Soós Lajos (1879-1972)	Malacologist and curator of the mollusc collection of the Natural History Museum in Budapest. He published numerous scientific papers, most notably a <i>Monograph of the Mollusca of the Carpathian Basin</i> in 1943. Several species are named after him including <i>Soosia diodontata</i> and <i>Alopiia soosiana</i> . The first Hungarian journal devoted to malacology is called Soosiana. Arthur Blok obtained a complete collection of land and freshwater molluscs from the Carpathian Basin from him. ^{91, 92}	Hungary	03 03 1934	Blok Arthur
		Hungary	29 11 1934	Blok Arthur
		Hungary	07 01 1935	Blok Arthur
Steenstrup Johannes Japetus Smith (1813-1897)	Danish biologist, who studied cephalopods. ⁹³	[Denmark]		
		[Denmark]		
		[Denmark]		
Sykes Ernest Ruthven (1867-1954)	English amateur malacologist who served as President of CSGBI and the Malacological Society. Known to have had an almost 'complete' malacological library. ⁹⁴	England, U.K.	14 05 1933	Unknown
		England, U.K.	25 05 1933	Unknown
Thiele Emil Karl Hermann Johannes (1860-1935)	Published as Johannes. German malacologist whose <i>Handbuch der systematischen Weichtierkunde</i> (English edition published by the Smithsonian under the title <i>Handbook of Systematic Malacology</i>) is a standard work. From 1904 until his retirement in 1925 he was the curator of the malacological collection at the Museum für Naturkunde (Museum of Natural History) in Berlin. ^{95, 96, 97}	Germany	10 12 1928	Peile Alfred James
Tomlin John Read le Brockton (1864-1954)	Long-serving editor of the <i>Journal of Conchology</i> , and twice President of CSGBI. Founding member of the Malacological Society. ⁹⁸	England, U.K.	02 03 1933	Blok Arthur
		England, U.K.	11 02 1935	Blok Arthur
		England, U.K.	13 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Vanatta Edward Guirey (1862-1939)	Edward Guirey Vanatta worked in the Department of Mollusks at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia during the 1890s-1930s. ⁹⁹	U.S.A.		Peile Alfred James
		U.S.A.	22 07 1932	Peile Alfred James
		U.S.A.	24 06 1935	Peile Alfred James
		U.S.A.	18 09 1935	Peile Alfred James
Watson Hugh (1885-1959)	Having gained a First-Class degree in Natural Sciences at Cambridge, and being of independent means, Watson devoted his whole life to the study of molluscs. His insistence on meticulous accuracy, and lack of inhibition in criticising what he thought was inaccurate, resulted in some antagonism with other conchologists. ¹⁰⁰	England, U.K.	26 09 1928	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	24 12 1928	Peile Alfred James
		[England, U.K.]	[1928]	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	24 02 1930	Cooper James Eddowes
		England, U.K.	09 03 1933	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	16 03 1933	Peile Alfred James
Weeks William H. (1970-1957)	Businessman and amateur conchologist. Member of CSGBI. ¹⁰¹	U.S.A.	04 03 1912	Cooper James Eddowes

Sender (birth-death)	Sender summary	Letter sent from	Letter date	Receiver
Woodward Bernard Barham (1853-1930)	British malacologist, and a member of staff at the BM(NH). He was the author of <i>A catalogue of the works of Carl Linnaeus</i> . ^{102, 103}	England, U.K.	19 11 1929	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	26 11 1929	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	01 12 1929	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	05 12 1929	Peile Alfred James
Yen Teng-Chien [John] (1903-1972)	Chinese geologist and malacologist. He was born in Canton, China, on February 15, 1903. He received his B.Sc. at the National University of Nanking, and his Ph.D. from Berlin University in 1939. He published on Chinese mollusks and on Mesozoic and Tertiary invertebrates. Dr. Yen taught geology at Villanova University, Philadelphia, from 1956 to 1966, and died there on February 4, 1972, at the age of 68. He had suffered a stroke a few years previously. ¹⁰⁴	U.S.A.	01 03 1942	Peile Alfred James
		Belgium	30 07 1947	Peile Alfred James
Yonge Charles Maurice (1899-1986)	Sir Charles Maurice Yonge was a highly distinguished marine zoologist whose contribution to marine science, and especially malacology, was long and productive with a publication record spanning 63 years. He led the highly successful Great Barrier Reef Expedition of 1928-1929, which opened up the scientific world to the wonders of the Great Barrier Reef, and laid the foundations of scientific study into modern coral reef biology. ¹⁰⁵	England, U.K.	01 02 1937	Winckworth Ronald
		England, U.K.	15 09 1942	Wilkins Guy Lawrence

Other notable conchologists mentioned in the NMW Blok archive, mainly receivers:

Characters	Summary
Baker Horace Burrington (1889-1971)	American malacologist. Editor of <i>The Nautilus</i> from 1957-1970. ¹⁰⁶
Banks Edward (1903-1988)	Edward (Bill) Banks was a British administrator, amateur naturalist and curator at Sarawak Museum, Kuching from 1925-1945. ¹⁰⁷
Bate Dorothea Minola Alice (1878-1951)	Probably the first woman to be employed by the BM(NH) in a scientific role. She became a pioneer in the field of archaeozoology and undertook several expeditions to the Mediterranean region, from which she described dwarf species of mammal. ^{108, 109}
Bergh Ludwig [Ludvig] Sophus Rudolph [Rudolf] (1824-1909)	Danish physician and malacologist, specialising in nudibranchs. Middle names wrongly transposed by Dall and others; published as Rudolph. ¹¹⁰
Bronn Heinrich Georg (1800-1862)	German geologist and paleontologist. Author of <i>Klassen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs, wissenschaftlich dargestellt in Wort und Bild</i> . ^{111, 112}
Collinge Walter Edward (1867-1947)	A zoologist with a wide range of interests including fish, birds, woodlice and molluscs. He became Keeper at York Museum in 1921. ¹¹³
Connolly Matthew William Kemble (1872-1947)	Connolly became interested in snails while serving in the Army in South Africa, and published some 50 papers on the land and freshwater Mollusca of the region. He served as President of both the Conchological Society and Malacological Society. He was also a wine connoisseur and expert on potted meats. ^{114, 115, 116}
Cooke Jr. Charles Montague (1874-1948)	American malacologist who worked with H.A. Pilsbry on Hawaiian molluscs. ¹¹⁷
Ghosh Ekendranath (c. 1884-1934)	Professor of Biology at the Medical College, Calcutta. He published on various groups including the Solenidae, Ampullariidae, Unionidae and Atopos. ¹¹⁸
Gude Gerard Pierre Laurent Kalshoven (1858-1924)	British malacologist (Dutch-born) with expertise in Indian land snails. Served as Secretary and President of the Malacological Society. ¹¹⁹
Hartmann Johann Daniel Wilhelm (1793-1862)	Swiss painter, engraver and malacologist. Heppell (1966) published on the dates of Hartmann's <i>Erd- und Süßwasser-Gasteropoden</i> . ^{120, 121}
Hedley Charles (1862-1926)	British born malacologist who spent most of his life in Sydney, Australia. ¹²²
Herrmannsen August Nicolai (1807-1854)	Danish-German physician and naturalist. ¹²³
Hoffman Hans (1896-1947)	German zoologist and author of 'Mollusca' in <i>Handbuch der Biologie</i> (1942) and other major works; papers on nudibranchs, land snails, chitons (1920s-1942). Contributed the section on 'Opisthobranchia' in Bronn's work (see above). ^{35, 124}
Howe Sonia Elizabeth (1871-****)	Russian-born essayist. Author of <i>In Quest of Spices</i> , a narrative of the spice trade and routes from ancient times to the late 18th century. ^{125, 126}
Hoyle William Evans (1855-1926)	Cephalopod expert. From 1889 to 1909 he was director of the Manchester Museum, and then became the first director of NMW. ¹²⁷
Johnson Charles Willison (1863-1932)	American zoologist (entomology, malacology) who was Principal Curator at the Boston Society of Natural History from 1903-1932. Mentor of William Clench. ¹²⁸
Kloss Cecil Boden (1877-1949)	Cecil Boden Kloss, an English zoologist of Dutch descent, was Director of the Raffles Museum, Singapore from 1923-1932. ¹²⁹
Linter Juliana Emma (1844-1909)	British conchologist whose shell collection is at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, Exeter. ¹³⁰
Oldham Charles (1868-1942)	Charles Oldham was a long-standing member of the Conchological Society and of the Malacological Society of London. As well as his main interest in molluscs, he was also an expert in birds and other areas of natural history. ¹³¹
Moffett Rev. Lacy Irvine (1878-1957)	Lacy Irvine Moffett was a Presbyterian missionary minister to China. Beginning in 1904, he and his family served until 1940. He was a self-taught expert on the birds of China, and a photographer. He sent hundreds of bird skins, properly prepared and identified, to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. ¹³²

Characters	Summary
Prashad Bains (1894-1969)	An Indian zoologist who specialized chiefly in malacology and ichthyology. He succeeded R.B.S. Sewell as the first Indian Director of the Zoological Survey of India. He was also a scholar of Persian. Prashad was appointed an OBE in the 1942 Birthday Honours. Commemorated in the cephalopod names <i>Octopus prashadi</i> Adam, 1939 and <i>Sepia prashadi</i> Winckworth, 1936. ¹³³
Preston Hugh Berthon (1871-1945)	Originally a tea planter in Ceylon, he later became a professional malacologist in East Africa. A shell dealer and prolific writer of malacological papers. The remaining stock of Preston's commercial shells was bought from him by Arthur Blok when he gave up dealing in 1935. It included numerous syntypes of taxa that he described. Most type species in the NHM, London. ¹³⁴
Reeve Lovell Augustus (1814-1865)	Conchologist. He was the author of <i>Conchologica Iconica</i> . He was also a dealer. In about 1835 he bought the collection of General Ryder in Rotterdam and with the profit he made when he re-sold it set himself up as a dealer and publisher. He was a good friend of Hugh Cuming. Many of his types are in the NHMUK, and the NMW. There is also type material in the Jeffreys collection in the United States National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., USA. ^{49, 135}
Roebuck William Denison (1851-1919)	All-round naturalist and one of the founders of CSGBI. Especially interested in the geographical distribution of British non-marine Mollusca, and variation in slugs. ¹³⁶
Schlesch Hans Andreas (1891-1962)	A rather divisive Danish conchologist. In his obituary, he was described by H. E. J. Biggs as a "colourful, controversial, generous, mean, attractive, difficult person". ¹³⁷
Smith Edgar Albert (1847-1916)	Zoologist who worked at the BM(NH), specialising on molluscs, and to a lesser extent, echinoderms. Among his many works is an account of the bivalves collected by the <i>Challenger</i> expedition. ¹³⁸
Taylor John William (1845-1931)	Leeds born conchologist and co-founder of The Leeds Conchological Club, which became the Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland. His later years were devoted to producing the Monograph of the Land and Freshwater Mollusca of the British Isles, but he died before its completion. ^{139, 140}
Wilkins Guy Lawrence (1905-1957)	Zoologist of the BM(NH). Wilkins had trained as a commercial artist. He had a particular interest in the history of conchology and published on famous collections. After his death, Blok purchased from Mrs. Alison Wilkins part of her husband's private collection. ¹⁴¹
Winckworth Ronald (1884-1950)	After a degree in Mathematics at Oxford, Ronald Winckworth was briefly a teacher, and then during the War, served in the Royal Navy. In 1925 he started work at the Royal Society on publications and as Librarian, becoming Assistant Secretary in 1932 and Assistant Editor in 1937. He retired in 1944 owing to heart trouble. His main interest was in British marine Mollusca and he was intimately involved with both the Conchological Society (marine recorder) and Malacological Society (Proceedings editor). He also served as President in both Societies. ^{142, 143}
Worthington-Wilmer Lewis (1838-1923)	Army officer (Lieutenant Colonel) who amassed a large collection of shells on his travels notably from the Andaman Islands. The Booth Museum of Natural History, have a portion of the Worthington-Wilmer shell collection including specimens from Madeira (ex Lowe), Canary Islands, the Andamans and 28 land snails from Bermuda, ex A. J. Peile. ^{144, 145}

Cast of characters - references:

¹ Van Goethem J. L., 1989. In memoriam William Adam, 1909 - 1988. *Basteria*, 53: 25–27.

<https://archive.org/details/basteria-53-025-027/mode/2up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

² Bruggen A. C. van, 1977. In memoriam Dr. C.O. van Regteren Altena 1907-1976. *Basteria*, 41(1/4): 1–6.

<https://natuurtijdschriften.nl/pub/596667> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

³ Robertson E., 1979. Ashby, Edwin (1861–1941). *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, 7.

<https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/ashby-edwin-5066> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

⁴ State Library Australia.

<https://collections.slsa.sa.gov.au/resource/B+70984> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

⁵ Mosley C. (editor), 1999. *Burke's Peerage and Baronetage, 106th edition*. Crans, Switzerland: Burke's Peerage (Genealogical Books) Ltd. 1:159.

<https://www.thepeerage.com/p6353.htm#i63523> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Baldacchino (Accessed: 7 July 2025)

⁷ Elston P., 1966. Obituary: K. H. Barnard, 1887-1964. *Journal of Conchology*, 25(8): 359–361, plate 29.

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329062#page/453/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

⁸ Coomans H. E., 1991. In memoriam W.S.S. van der Feen-van Benthem Jutting, 1899-1991. *Basteria*, 55(1/3): 55–59.

<https://natuurtijdschriften.nl/pub/596972> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

⁹ Luyt B., 2018. Michael Tweedie, Woutera van Benthem Jutting and the Mollusca of Malaya's limestone hills. *Archives of Natural History*, 45(2): 245–259.

<https://doi.org/10.3366/anh.2018.0517> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

¹⁰ Clench W. J., 1982. Joseph Charles Bequaert 1886-1982. *The Nautilus*, 96(2): 35.

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/8497590#page/45/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

¹¹ Dance S. P., 1960. H. H. Bloomer, 1866-1960. *Journal of Conchology*, 24: 448–449.

<https://conchsoc.org/eminent/Bloomer-HH.php> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

¹² Oldham C., 1938. Arthur Edwin Boycott, D.M., F.R.S. (1877-1938). *Journal of Conchology*, 21: 58–65.

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/63037071#page/94/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

¹³ Diver C., 1939. Obituary of Professor A. E. Boycott, F.R.S. *The Nautilus*, 52(4): 135–138.

<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/8284653#page/167/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

¹⁴ Anon. (undated). Charles Meigs Biddle Cadwalader (1885-1959). The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University.

<https://ansp.org/research/systematics-evolution/ornithology/ornithology-history/charles-meigs-biddle-cadwalader/> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

- ¹⁵ Remington C. L., 1954. Geoffrey Douglas Hale Carpenter. *Lepidopterist's News*, 8: 31–43.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/318565#page/411/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁶ Anonymous, 1949. In Memoriam: Dr. F. Gordon Cawston. *Suid-Afrikaanse tydskrif vir geneeskunde*, 16: 301.
https://journals.co.za/doi/pdf/10.10520/AJA20785135_22964 (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁷ Anonymous, 1910. Obituary [Dr. George William Chaster]. *British Medical Journal*, 1(2578): 1330.
<https://www.bmj.com/content/1/2578/1330.1> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁸ Anonymous, 1910. Obituary [George William Chaster]. *The Entomologist's Monthly Magazine*, 46: 145–146.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/9270793#page/203/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁹ Collier E., 1910. Obituary notice: G. W. Chaster, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. *Journal of Conchology*, 13: 72–74.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/31601374#page/98/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²⁰ Abbot R. T., 1984. A Farewell to Bill Clench. *The Nautilus*, 98(2): 55–58.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/8277080> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²¹ Muhs D. R., 2018. T.D.A. Cockerell (1866–1948) of the University of Colorado: his contributions to the natural history of the California islands and the establishment of Channel Islands National Monument. *Western North American Naturalist*, 78(3): 247–270.
<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2108&context=usgsstaffpub> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²² Salisbury A. E., 1953. Obituary. J. E. Cooper, 1864-1952. *Journal of Conchology*, 23(10): 339–341.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329929#page/409/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²³ Wilkins G. L., 1953. J. E. Cooper (1864-1952). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 29(6): 215.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064624> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²⁴ Woodward F. R., 1978. Obituary Charles Theodore Cribb, 1888-1976. *Journal of Conchology*, 29 (5): 279–280.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329876#page/319/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²⁵ Bartsch P., Rehder H. A. & Shields B. E., 1946. A Bibliography and Short Biographical Sketch of William Healey Dall. *Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections*, 104(15): 96 p.
<https://repository.si.edu/server/api/core/bitstreams/49199374-de30-4423-8378-88142573fb77/content> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²⁶ Desrochers A., 2012. William H. Dall: He had Malacology Down to an Art. Smithsonian Institution Archives.
<https://siarchives.si.edu/blog/william-h-dall-he-had-malacology-down-art> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²⁷ Woodring W. P., 1958. *William Healy Dall 1845-1927*. A Biographical memoir. National Academy of Sciences, Washington D. C., *Biographical Memoirs*, 31: 92–113.
<https://www.nasonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/dall-william.pdf> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ²⁸ Dance S. P., 1966. *Shell collecting, an illustrated history*. Faber & Faber – London, 344 p., 34 pls.
- ²⁹ Dance S. P., 1969. *Rare Shells*. Faber & Faber Limited, London, 128 p.
- ³⁰ Rowson B., 2008. J. Davy Dean's portrait of the Zonitidae. *Mollusc World*, 14: 14–16.
<https://conchsoc.org/MolluscWorld16/10> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ³¹ Matheson C., 1937. Obituary notice: J. Davy Dean, F.R.E.S. *Journal of Conchology*, 20(12): 338-339.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329039#page/418/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ³² Eales N. B., 1939. *The Littoral Fauna of Great Britain: A Handbook for Collectors*. Cambridge University Press, 374 p.
- ³³ Rigby J. E., 1990. Obituary. Nellie B. Eales, D. Sc., 1889-1989. *The Malacological Society of London*, 56(4): 601.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/mollus/56.4.601> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ³⁴ Clough C., 2019. "Guardian Angel" of the Cole Library: Dr Nellie B. Eales. University of Reading.
<https://collections.reading.ac.uk/special-collections/2019/03/08/guardian-angel-of-the-cole-library-dr-nellie-b-eales/> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ³⁵ Coan E. V. & Kabat, A. R., 2025. *2,400 Years of Malacology*.
<https://ams.wildapricot.org/2400-Years-of-Malacology> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ³⁶ Maartense F., 2025. Shellers from the Past and Present.
<https://www.conchology.be/?t=9000> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ³⁷ Ellis A. E., 1926. *British Snails, a guide to the non-marine Gastropoda of Great Britain and Ireland, Pliocene to recent*. Clarendon Press, 275 p.
- ³⁸ Ellis A. E., 1962. *British freshwater bivalve Molluscs with keys and notes for the identification of the species. Synopses of the British fauna*, No. 13, 92 p.
- ³⁹ Ellis A.E., 1983. Arthur Erskine Ellis (1902 - 1983). *Journal of Conchology*, 31(4): 193–199, pl. 15. [N.B. The obituary was drafted by Ellis himself and sent to the Journal Editor for 'later' publication. Also includes an 'Appraisal' by T.E. Crowley.]
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329059#page/239/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁴⁰ Farchad H., 1936. *Étude du Thanétien (Landénien marin) du Bassin de Paris*. Paris, La Société Géologique de France, 103 p.
- ⁴¹ Backhuys W., 1990. *Edouard Fischer-Piette (1899-1988): Biography, Bibliography, New Taxa*. Oegstgeest, Netherlands (Universal Book Services), 48 p.
- ⁴² Forrest J. E., 1953. On the feeding habits and the morphology and mode of functioning of the alimentary canal in some littoral dorid nudibranchiate Mollusca. *Proceedings Linnean Society London*, 164(2): 225–235.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-8312.1953.tb00687.x> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁴³ The British Museum (Natural History): Sir Clive Forster-Cooper, F.R.S. *Nature*, 160: 252 (1947).
<https://doi.org/10.1038/160252b0> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁴⁴ McMillan N. F., 1968. Obituary: Thomas George William Fowler, 1880-1967. *Journal of Conchology*, 26(5): 333, pl. 15.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/63108295#page/383/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁴⁵ Fretter V. & Graham A., 1962. *British Prosobranch Molluscs: Their Functional Anatomy and Ecology*. Ray Society, London, 755 p.
- ⁴⁶ Chatfield J., 1992. Vera Fretter, 1905-1992. *Journal of Conchology*, 34(5): 337–338.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/330060#page/335/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁴⁷ Morse M. P., 2004. In celebration of two outstanding molluscan functional morphologists: Drs. Vera Fretter and Ruth D. Turner. *American Malacological Bulletin*, 18(1): 115–119.
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/45999879#page/573/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

- ⁴⁸ Winckworth R., 1943. Obituary notice of Hugh Coomber Fulton (1861-1942). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 25: 126. <https://academic.oup.com/mollus/article-abstract/25/4/126/1235729?redirectedFrom=PDF> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁴⁹ Dance S. P., 1986. *A History of Shell Collecting*. Brill Academic Pub., i-xv, 1–265, i-xxxii.
- ⁵⁰ Melvill J. C., 1924. Obituary notice: Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen, F.R.S. *Journal of Conchology*, 17: 141–148. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329987#page/169/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵¹ Amgueddfa Cymru. Collection Sources A - L of the Mollusca Collections at the National Museum Wales. <https://museum.wales/curatorial/biosyb/mollusca/collections/sources/a-l/> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵² Cram D., 2016. Lt. Col. Robert John Griffiths (9 Feb 1915 – 31 Oct 1986): the forgotten pioneer. *American Conchologist*, 44(2): 10–14. <https://conchologists.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/44-jun-2016.pdf> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵³ Solem A., 1967. New molluscan taxa and scientific writings of Fritz Haas. *Fieldiana Zoology*, 53(2): 71–144. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/20964#page/11/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵⁴ Solem A., 1967. The two careers of Fritz Haas. *Bulletin of the Field Museum of Natural History*, 38(11): 2–5.
- ⁵⁵ Solem A., 1970. Fritz Haas, 1886-1969. *The Nautilus*, 83(4): 117-120. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/8515341#page/139/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵⁶ Dunham K. C., 1983. Sidney Henry Haughton, 7 May 1888 - 24 May 1982. *Biographical Memoirs of the Fellows of the Royal Society*, 29: 245–267. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsbm.1983.0011> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵⁷ Hermitte L. C. D., 1946. Venomous Marine Molluscs of the Genus *Conus*. *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, 39(6): 485–512. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0035-9203\(46\)90003-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/0035-9203(46)90003-X) (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵⁸ Anonymous, 1961. Obituary: L. C. D. Hermitte, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M.&H. *British Medical Journal*, 1: 508. <https://www.bmi.com/content/1/5224/508.3> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁵⁹ Maartense F., 2025. *Jones, Kenneth Hurlstone (Md). Shellers from the Past and Present*. <https://www.conchology.be/?t=9001&id=83282> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶⁰ Historic St Kitts – Our People. Samuel Benjamin Jones. <https://www.historicstkitts.kn/people/samuel-benjamin-jones> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶¹ J. W. J., 1914. Alfred John Jukes-Browne, F.R.S. *Nature*, 93: 667–668 (1914). <https://doi.org/10.1038/093667b0> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶² Moore E. J., 1986. *Memorial to Angeline Myra Keen 1905-1986*. *The Geological Society of America*, 18: 1–4. <https://rock.geosociety.org/net/documents/gsa/memorials/v18/Keen-AM.pdf> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶³ Chu M. & Nepomuceno A. Untold Stories: A. Myra Keen. <https://www.calacademy.org/scientists/library/untold-stories/a-myra-keen> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶⁴ Kennard A. S. & Woodward B. B., 1926. *Synonymy of the British Non-marine Mollusca (Recent and Post-Tertiary)*. British Museum (Natural History), London, 476 p.
- ⁶⁵ Preece R. C., 1990. Alfred Santer Kennard (1870-1948): his contribution to malacology, Quaternary research and to the Geologists' Association. *Proceedings of the Geological Association*, 101(3): 239-258. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-7878\(08\)80008-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0016-7878(08)80008-9) (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶⁶ Dance S. P., 1964. Obituary: F. F. Laidlaw, 1876-1963. *Journal of Conchology*, 25(7): 288–291, plate 19. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329062#page/364/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶⁷ Russell F. S., 1972. Obituary: Dr Marie V. Lebour. *Journal of the Marine Biological Association U.K.*, 52: 777–788. https://plymsea.ac.uk/id/eprint/1313/1/Obituary_Marie_V.Lebour.pdf (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶⁸ Kabat A. R. & Boss K. J., 1997. *Karl Eduard von Martens (1831-1904): his life and work*. Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, i-vii + 417 p. <https://archive.org/details/karleduardvonmar00kaba/page/n5/mode/2up?ref=ol&view=theater> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁶⁹ Trew A., 1987. *James Cosmo Melvill's New Molluscan Names*. National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, 1–84 p.
- ⁷⁰ Hayward B. W. & Morley M. S., 2011. Marjorie Mestayer (1880-1955) and her Molluscan Studies and Collections. *Poirieria*, 36: 13–19. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/50542095#page/231/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁷¹ Anonymous, 1939. Dr. C. H. O'Donoghue. *Nature*, 143: 510. <https://doi.org/10.1038/143510a0> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁷² Millen S., 2015. The contributions of Charles H. O'Donoghue to opisthobranch research. *Western Society of Malacologists, Annual Report*, 45: 44. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/223832#page/47/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁷³ Amgueddfa Cymru. Collection Sources M-Z of the Mollusca Collections at the National Museum Wales. <https://museum.wales/curatorial/biosyb/mollusca/collections/sources/m-z/> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁷⁴ Waldén H., 1977. Nils Hjalmar Odhner. *Malakologische Abhandlungen*, 5(12): 155–165.
- ⁷⁵ Winckworth R., 1949. Obituary: Alfred James Peile, 1868-1948. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 28(1): 5–7. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064561> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁷⁶ Fuller C., Janse A. J. T. & Faure J. C., 1925. Obituary: Louis Albert Péringuey (1855-1924). *South African Journal of Natural History, Special Péringuey Memorial Edition*, 5: 5–8.
- ⁷⁷ Stelfox A. W., 1946. Obituary: Robert Albert Phillips. 1866-1945. *Irish Naturalists' Journal*, 8(11): 391–394. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25533447> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁷⁸ Stelfox A. W., 1946. Robert Albert Phillips (1866-1945). *Journal of Conchology*, 22: 205. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329075#page/257/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁷⁹ Baker H. B., 1958. Henry Augustus Pilsbry 1862-1957. *The Nautilus*, 71(3): 73–83, plates 7, 8 & 9. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34864#page/99/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁸⁰ Melvill J. C., 1917. Obituary notice: J.H. Ponsonby-Fane, F.Z.S. *Journal of Conchology*, 15 (7): 195–197. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/31904458#page/229/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁸¹ Sykes E. R., 1917. Obituary notices. John Henry Ponsonby-Fane, 1848-1916. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 12(5): 217–218. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063639> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)

- ⁸² Stratton L. W., 1968. Obituary. Hamilton Ernest Quick, 1882-1967. *Journal of Conchology*, 26(4): 275-277. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/330074#page/315/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁸³ Anonymous, 1973. Obituary. Gilbert Ranson (1899-1972). *Nautilus*, 87(1): 27. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34829#page/35/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁸⁴ Fischer-Piette E., 1972. Necrologie: Gilbert Ranson. *Journal de Conchyliologie*, 110(1): 31.
- ⁸⁵ Mayr E., 1992. In memoriam: Bernhard Rensch, 1900-1990. *The Auk*, 109(1): 188. <https://academic.oup.com/auk/article/109/1/188/5172821> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁸⁶ Rensch I., 1931. Beitrag zur Kenntnis der Schneckenfauna der Admiralitätsinseln. *Zoologischer Anzeiger*, 95(5): 186-194.
- ⁸⁷ Hindle E., 1946. Obituary. Guy Colborn Robson 1888-1945. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 26(6): 151-152. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064474> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁸⁸ Denton E. J. & Southward A. J., 1986. Frederick Stratten Russell, 3 November 1897 – 5 June 1984. *Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society*, 32: 461-493. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsbm.1986.0015> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁸⁹ Keen A. M., 1980. Memorial to Hubert Gregory Schenck 1897-1960. *The Geological Society of America*, 10: 5. <https://rock.geosociety.org/net/documents/gsa/memorials/v10/Schenck-HG.pdf> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹⁰ Zeissler H., 1972. Franz Alfred Schilder (13 April 1896 – 11 August 1970). *Journal of Conchology*, 27 (5-6). 429-432. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/63123984#page/483/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹¹ Soós L., 1943. A Kárpát-medence Mollusca-faunája, I-XXX, 1-478, in: Soós, L.: Magyarország természetrajza, I. Állattani rész.
- ⁹² András V., 2013. In Memoriam Soós Lajos (1879 -1972). *Soosiana*, 32: 7-104. <https://mamat.hu/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Soós-Lajos-émlékkötet.pdf> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹³ Science Museum Group. Johannes Japetus Smith Steenstrup 1813 – 1897. <https://collection.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/people/cp168504/steenstrup-johannes-japetus-smith> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹⁴ Rees W. J., 1962. Ernest Ruthven Sykes (1867-1954). *Journal of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History*, 4 (1): 20-27. <https://doi.org/10.3366/jsbnh.1962.4.1.20> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹⁵ Winckworth R., 1938. Obituary: Johannes Thiele, 1860-1935. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 23: 9-11. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064340> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹⁶ Bieler R. & Boss K.J., 1989. Johannes Thiele and his contributions to zoology. Part 1. Biography and bibliography. *Nemouria, Occasional papers of the Delaware Museum of Natural History*, 34: 1-30. https://www.academia.edu/9984396/Johannes_Thiele_and_his_contributions_to_zoology_Part_1_Biography_and_bibliography (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹⁷ Boss K. J. & Bieler R., 1991. Johannes Thiele and his contributions to zoology. Part 2. Genus-group names (Mollusca). *Nemouria, Occasional papers of the Delaware Museum of Natural History*, 39: 1-77. https://www.academia.edu/9984189/Johannes_Thiele_and_his_contributions_to_zoology_Part_2_Genus_group_names_Mollusca (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ⁹⁸ Trew A., 1990. *John R. le B. Tomlin's New Molluscan Names*. National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, 1-101 p.
- ⁹⁹ Anonymous, 1939. Mr. E. G. Vanatta [death notice]. *The Nautilus*, 52: 139. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34259#page/171/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰⁰ Quick H. E., 1959. Obituary: Hugh Watson, 1885-1959. *Journal of Conchology*, 24(10): 359-360. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/63043160#page/429/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰¹ Tobleman F., 1957. In Memoriam, William H. Weeks, 1870-1957. *The Nautilus*, 71: 72-73. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34864#page/94/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰² Woodward B.B. & Wilson W.R., 1907. *A catalogue of the works of Linnaeus (and publications more immediately relating thereto) preserved in the libraries of the British Museum (Bloomsbury) and the British Museum (Natural History) (South Kensington), London*, 27 p. <https://archive.org/details/acatalogueworks00wilsgoog/page/n4/mode/2up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰³ Kennard A. S., 1930. Obituary Notice: B. B. Woodward. *Journal of Conchology*, 19: 112-113. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/332787#page/124/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰⁴ Anonymous, 1972. Notice of Dr. John Teng-Chien Yen's death. *The Nautilus*, 85(4): iii. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34851#page/173/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰⁵ Morton B., 1992. Charles Maurice Yonge, 9 December 1899 – 17 March 1986. *Biographical Memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society*, 38: 377-412. <https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/epdf/10.1098/rsbm.1992.0020> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰⁶ Abbott R. T. & Wurtz C. B., 1971. Horace Burrington Baker, 1889 – 1971. *The Nautilus*, 85(1): 1-4. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/34851#page/17/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰⁷ Anonymous, 2020. Reminiscences of former Sarawak Museum Curator Edward Banks. *Kajomag*. <https://kajomag.com/reminiscences-of-former-sarawak-museum-curator-edward-banks/> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹⁰⁸ Schindler K., 2015. *Discovering Dorothea: The Life of the Pioneering Fossil-Hunter Dorothea Bate*. Harper Collins, 1-390 p.
- ¹⁰⁹ Osterloff E., undated. Dorothea Bate: A Natural History Museum pioneer. Natural History Museum. <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/dorothea-bate-natural-history-museum-pioneer.html> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹¹⁰ Schlesch H., 1946. Rudolph Bergh. *Journal of Conchology*, 22(9): 225-226. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329075#page/277/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹¹¹ Junker T., 1991. Heinrich Georg Bronn and Origin of Species. *Sudhoffs Archive*, 75(2): 180-208. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/1839587/> (Abstract accessed: 7 June 2025)
- ¹¹² Bronn H. G., 1880-1882. *Klassen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs, wissenschaftlich dargestellt in Wort und Bild*. Leipzig & Heidelberg, 616 p. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/44000#page/7/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹¹³ MacDonald R., 1894. Walter Edward Collinge. *Journal of Malacology*, 3(4): 62-64. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/55229#page/82/mode/1up> (Accessed: 20 June 2025)
- ¹¹⁴ Boettger C. R., 1947. Major M. Connolly. *Archiv für Molluskenkunde*, 76(1-3): 79-81.
- ¹¹⁵ Hopwood A. T., 1947. Obituary Major M Connolly. *Nature*, 159: 531-532.

Appendix 2: Chronology of Blok's life and bibliography

Chronological biography

1882: Born in Stoke Newington, London, UK on the 20 March; his father was Dr. Maurice H. Blok, M.D., and his mother, Helena Pool.

1890s: Attended the Brewers Company's School (also known as Owens School), Islington, UK. Blok became the curator of the school's museum, and, with his fellow museum committee members, he would fill his satchel with zoological specimens and go to the British Museum (Natural History), London to identify them on Saturday afternoons. Even at this time, the shells were his favourites.

c. 1899-1902: Studied at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University College, London, UK, receiving a B.Sc. and was a researcher and personal assistant to Prof. Sir John Ambrose Fleming, the inventor of the radio tube.

1901: Responsible for making some of the equipment used in the transmission of the first radio messages and operated the instrument that flashed radio signals for the first time from Poldhu, Cornwall, UK to the inventor Marconi in Newfoundland, Canada.

1902-1916: Worked at the British Patent Office.

1903: Assisted Sir Ambrose Fleming in a demonstration of wireless communication at a Royal Institution lecture.

1907: Married Buena Sarah Pool (1881-1949) and had two children together, Olive Ruth and Geoffrey David Maurice.

1916-1920: Transferred to the Ministry of Munitions and the Board of Trade (Optical Munitions and Potash Production) during WW1.

1920-1942: Returned to the British Patent Office, retiring as a Principal Examiner in 1942.

After WW1: Attended shell sales at the Stevens' Auction Rooms in Hatton Garden, London, UK. The purchase of a box of *Amphidromus* at one such sale rekindled his passion for shells.

1924: Joined the Conchological Society of Great Britain & Ireland (CSGBI), later joining the council and became an Honorary member in 1972. Blok presented lectures and exhibits over the years including topics such as shell structure, shells and ornaments, cameo carving and all aspects of pearls.

1924-1925: By request of Lord Samuel, the first High Commissioner for Palestine, Blok took special leave to work at Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel, becoming its first Principal. He later served on Technion's Board of Governors. He would regularly travel from England to Haifa to attend the annual Board meetings, extending his stays to visit Jerusalem (Mienis, 2012). He also acted as a consultant on electrical work at the first hydro-electric power station on the River Jordan, and for the first Dead Sea potash plant.

1930: Joined the Malacological Society of London (MSL).

1942-1947: Joined the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research at the Ministry of Supply, working on atomic energy.

c. 1942: After the death of Hugh Fulton, Blok tried to help his wife, Weena, continue the shell dealer business, alongside Guy Wilkins, but they were unable to keep it running due to the war (Light, 2003; Verdcourt et al, 2004).

1943: Spoke on shells as money and ornaments at the MSL Jubilee meeting 28 February.

1945: Awarded an O.B.E. in recognition of his service to Britain.

1948: Delivered the Ambrose Fleming Memorial lecture at the Royal Institute, London, UK. Date unknown: Lecturer in Electrical Engineering at Queen Mary College, University of London, UK.

1948: Semi-retired to Downs Cottage in Rottingdean, England, UK.

1948-1954: Remained a consultant for the Ministry of Supply, Department of Atomic Energy, before fully retiring from the Civil Service.

1949: Blok made his first contact with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, proposing the potential bequest of his shell collection.

1950: Prof. Georg Haas, from the Hebrew University, visited Blok at this home in Rottingdean to assess his collection and library.

1964: Published *Still more autobiography* in *The Conchologists' Newsletter*. Here, he describes his collection, "*I now have in 24 cabinets, large and small, nearly 13,000 species (yes, they are all named) and a shell library of some 600 books and more than 3,000 separates*".

1967: Made the welcome speech at the joint CSGBI and MSL meeting, held at the British Museum (Natural History), London.

1971: Blok decided he would like to see his collection in Jerusalem, Israel in his lifetime, rather than after his death.

1972: Awarded an honorary Ph.D. by Technion.

1974: In July, Blok's collection and library were ready for shipment in the port of London; it travelled safely to Haifa, but here there were delays due to Custom's considering the shells to be a commercial import, requiring fees. It was finally released due to government interventions, but sadly Blok suffered from a stroke and died on 14 October the same year, never seeing his collection at its new home in Jerusalem. Pain (1976) incorrectly suggests he supervised the unpacking and installation in Jerusalem.

1975: An exhibition of Blok's collection and library was prepared for the opening of the Zoological Museum in the Zoology Department, Hebrew University of Jerusalem on 5 February.

1979: In June, many of Blok's finest books were exhibited at the Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem.

Blok was active in many Zionist organisations in England, UK, including the formation of a Jewish Community in Croydon (Emanuel, 1974); he showed particular interest in education and student welfare and was involved in setting up a Common Room for Jewish students at Woburn House. He served as a Council Member of the Jews' College (now known as the London School of Jewish Studies) and was elected President of the B'nai B'rith (First Lodge of England). He was also a President of the Brighton Natural History Society, vice Chairman of the Rottingdean Preservation Society and Chairman of the Kemp Town Conservative Association. He was an associate member of the Institution of Electrical Engineers and a member of the Council of the Illuminating Engineering Society.

Blok bibliography

Conchological:

The short list of Blok's shell-related publications was published by Mienis in 2012 and is copied here for ease. No other publications have come to light since.

Blok A., 1943. Shells and ornament. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 25(4): 136–137.

Blok A. & Pain T., 1948. Shell collection of the late Revd. E. G. Alderson, with special reference to the genus *Pila* Röding. *Journal of Conchology*, 22(12): 299–302. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329075#page/363/mode/1up> (accessed: 9 June 2025).

Blok A., 1949. Obituary. R. H. Moses. 1871–1949. *Journal of Conchology*, 23(3): 89. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329929#page/115/mode/1up> (accessed: 9 June 2025).

Blok A., 1950. An attached pearl in a *Tellina*. *Journal of Conchology*, 23(4): 98. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/329929#page/128/mode/1up> (accessed: 9 June 2025).

Blok A., 1957. Obituary Notice. Guy L. Wilkins, 1905–1957. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 32(6): 213–214.

Blok A., 1964. Still more autobiography. *The Conchologists' Newsletter*, 11: 63–64.

Blok A., 1969. Book Review [Dance: Report on the Linnaean Shell Collection.] *Journal of Conchology*, 26(4): 281. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/330074#page/321/mode/1up> (accessed: 9 June 2025).

Blok A. & Crowley, T. E., 1968. The care of the collection. *The Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland (Founded 1876) Papers for Students*, 10: 1–7.

[https://conchsoc.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Papers%20for%20students/Blok%20A%20%26%20Crowley%20TE%20\(1968\)%20Papers%20for%20Students%20No%2010%20Care%20of%20the%20Collection.pdf](https://conchsoc.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Papers%20for%20students/Blok%20A%20%26%20Crowley%20TE%20(1968)%20Papers%20for%20Students%20No%2010%20Care%20of%20the%20Collection.pdf) (accessed: 9 June 2025).

Blok A., 1969. How to cook snails—and other molluscs. *The Conchologists' Newsletter*, 28: 88–89.

Blok A., 1971. Book Review [Dance: Rare Shells]. *Journal of Conchology*, 26(6): 423. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/330074#page/485/mode/1up> (accessed: 9 June 2025).

Non-conchological:

Blok A., 1914. *The elementary principles of illumination and artificial lighting*. Scott Greenwood, London, 235 p.

Appendix 3: Table of correspondents in the NHMUK Blok archive

Senders represented in the NMW Blok archive are represented in **orange**;

Receivers represented in the NMW Blok archive are followed by **[R]**.

ABBOTT, Robert Tucker	BRAMBILLA, Antonietta	DEL PRETE, Raimondo
ADAM, William	BROMEHEAD, Cyril Edward Nowill	DOUGHTY, Chester Goodwin
ADAMS, Arthur	BROOKSBANK, Hugh	DOVER, Cedric
ADAMS, Henry	BROT, Auguste Louis	DROUET, Joseph Henry [Henri]
ADAMS, Lionel Ernest	BRUSINA, Špiridion	DUNKER, Wilhelm Bernard Rudolph [Rudolf] Hadrian
AGUILAR-AMAT, Juan Baptista de	BUCKNILL, Charles Edward Reading	DUPONT, Édouard François
ALDER, Joshua	BULLEN, Robert Ashington	DUPUIS, Dominique [Abbé]
ALDERSON, Ellerton Garside	BURCH, John Quincey	EALLES, Nellie Barbara
ALLAN, Joyce	BURCH, Rose Lenora	EAMES, Frank Evelyn
ALTENA, Carel Octavius van Regteren	BURCHELL, James Percy Tufnell	EDE, Francis
ANCEY, César Marie Felix	BURKILL, J. (Clifford?)	EDLAUER, Aemilian [Ámilian]
ANDREAE, Achilles	BURNE, Richard Higgins	EHRMANN, Hermann Felix Paul
ANNANDALE, Thomas Nelson	BURNUP, Henry Clifden	ELLIOTT, William Thomas
ANTELME, Marie Georges	BUTTON, Fred Lawrence (Senior)	ELLIS, Arthur Erskine
ANTHONY, John Gould	BUTTON, Fred Lawrence (Junior)	ENGEL, H. (Herbert or Hendrik?)
ARKELL, Anthony John	BYNE, Loftus St. George	EYERDAM, Walter Jakob
ASHBY, Edwin	CAIRNS, Robert	FAGOT, Jacques Sébastien François Léonce Marie Paul
ASHFORD, Charles	CALMAN, William Thomas	FALCON, William
ATEN, Dominicus	CARPENTER, Geoffrey Douglas Hale	FARQUHAR, John
BABOR, T. (Josef Florian?)	CARPENTER, P. H. (Unknown)	FAUSTINO, Leopoldo Alcaraz
BADEN-POWELL, Donald Ferlys Wilson	CARPENTER, Philip Pearsall	FAVRE, Jules
BAIRD, William	CARRINGTON, J. P. (John Thomas?)	FERNANDEZ, J. A. (Unknown)
BAKER, Horace Burrington	CASH, William	FERRISS, James Henry
BALDACCHINO, Joseph G.	CASTELL, Cyril Philip	FILATOVA, Zinaida Alekseyevna
BALES, Blenn Rife	CAWSTON, Frederick Gordon	FISCHER, H. (Pierre Marie Henri)
BARNACLE, Glanville Alban Stepney	CAZIOT, Eugène	FISCHER, Louise
BARNARD, Keppel Harcourt	CESSAC, Pierre [Comte de]	FISCHER, Paul-Henri
BARRETT, Charles	CHACE, Emery Perkins	FISCHER, Pierre Marie Henri
BARTSCH, Paul	CHASTER, George William	FISCHER-PIETTE, Edouard
BAVAY, Arthur René Jean Baptiste	CHEATUM, Elmer Philip	FOGERTY, Harry
BECKER, Hermann Francis	CHILDREN, John George	FOLIN, Alexandre Guillaume Léopold de
BEDDOME, Charles Edward	CLENCH, William James	FORBES, Edward
BEDDOME, Richard Henry	CLESSIN, Stefan	FORREST, John Eric
BEESTON, Harry	COCKERELL, Theodore Dru Alison [R]	FORSTER, John Reinhold
BELL, Alfred	COLLIER, Edward	FORSTER-COOPER, Clive
BELL, Francis Jeffrey	COLLINGE, Walter Edward	FOWLER, Thomas George William
BENSON, William Henry	COLLINGWOOD, Cuthbert	FRETTER, Vera
BENTHEM JUTTING, Wouter Sophie Suzanna van (Tera)	CONNOLLY, Matthew William Kemble [R]	FRIEDRICH, Hans
BEQUAERT, Joseph Charles	COOKE, Alfred Hands	FULTON, Hugh Coomber
BERGENHAYN, Johan Richard Melin	COOKE, Charles Montague (Junior)	GABRIEL, Charles John
BERGH, Ludwig [Ludvig] Sophus Rudolph [Rudolf]	COOPER, James Eddowes [R]	GALE, Hoyt Rodney
BÉRILLON, F.	COSSMAN, Alexandre Édouard Maurice	GARDINER, Alan Poole
BERRY, Samuel Stillman	COTTON, Bernard Charles	GARDINER, John Stanley
BEYER, Claus	COX, Leslie Reginald	GARDNER, Elinor Wight
BIELZ, Eduard Albrecht	CRAWFORD, George Ivor	GARSTANG, Walter
BIGGS, Herbert Edwin James	CRIBB, Charles Theodore	GASCHOTT, Otto
BINDER, Eugène E.	CRICHTON, Marshall Dilworth	GASSIES, Jean-Baptiste
BINNEY, William Greene	CROUCH, Walter	GERMAIN, Louis
BLACKBURN, Edward Percy	CROWLEY, Terence Eldon	GESTRO, Raffaello
BLAND, Thomas	CROWTHER, Henry	GEYER, David
BLOK, Arthur [R]	CUVIER, Georges Léopold Chrétien Frédéric Dagobert	GLOYNE, Charles Papps
BLOOMER, Harry Howard	DA COSTA, Solomon Israel [Frederick]	GODWIN-AUSTEN, Henry Haversham
BOETTGER, Caesar Rudolf	DACIE, John Charles	GOODRICH, Calvin
BOFILL Y POCH, Arturo	DALL, William Healey	GOTTSCHICK, Franz
BOLLINGER, Gottfried	DANCE, Stanley Peter	GOURDON, Maurice Marie
BOOTH, Fred	DARBISHIRE, Robert Dukinfield	GRAHAM, Alastair
BORDAZ, Gustave	DARBOIS (Unknown)	GRANT, Ulysses Sherman
BOSCHMA, Hilbrandt	DARTEVELLE-PUISSANT, Edmond	GRAY, John Edward
BOUCHARD-CHANTEREAUX, Nicolas Robert	DAUTZENBERG, Philippe	GRAY, Maria Emma
BOURGIGNAT (Unknown)	DAVIS, Arthur George	GREDLER, Vincenz [Vinzenz] Maria [Ignaz]
BOURGUIGNAT, Jules René	DEAN, John Davy [R]	GRIERSON, Philip Henry
BOURY, Marie Eugène Aubourg de	DEBEAUX, Etienne Odon	GRIFFITHS, J. (Robert John?)
BOWELL, Ernest William	DEGNER, Eduard	GRIMPE, Georg Johann von
BOYCOTT, Arthur Edwin [R]	DEL PRETE, Raimondo	GROSSU, Alexandru Vasile
BRAMBILLA, Antonietta	DESHAYES, Gérard Paul	GUDE, Gerard Pierre Laurent Kalshoven
BRANCSIK, Károly	DESJARDINS, Maurice	GUPPY, A. L. (Robert John Lechmere?)
BRAND, S. (Unknown)	DESPOTT, Giuseppe	GWATKIN, Henry Melvill
BRIDGMAN, Frank G.	DIVER, Cyril Roper Pollock	GYNGELL, Walter John Joseph

ZOOLOGIE

HAAS, Fritz	LANKESTER, Edwin Ray	NOLAN, Edward James
HADDEN, Norman Gavin	LARAMBERGUE, Marc de	NOMURA, Shichihei [Sithiei]
HARGREAVES, John Ashworth	LATCHFORD, Francis Robert	NORMAND, N. A. J. (Unknown)
HARTLEY, Alfred	LAYARD, Edgar Leopold	NUTTALL, Clive Patrick
HATAI, Kotora M.	LAYARD, F. (Frederick Charles or Frederick Peter?)	NYLANDER, Olof Olson
HAUGHTON, Sidney Henry	LAWS, Charles Reed	OBERWIMMER, Alfred
HAWKINS, J. (J. W. or John Sydney?)	LEA, Isaac	ODHNER, Nils Hjalmar
HAYCOCK, Arthur	LEACH, William Elford	O'DONOGHUE, Charles Henry
HAYWARD, John F.	LEBOUR, Marie Victoire	OKLAND, Fridthjof Johannes
HAZAY, Gyula [Julius]	LELOUP, Eugène Henri Joseph	OLDHAM, Charles
HEDLEY, Charles	LESCHKE, Ingo Max Ottokar	OLSSON, Axel Adolf
HEGINBOTHOM, Charles David	LINDHOLM, Wasili [Wilhelm] Adolfovitch	OOSTINGH, Christiaan Hendrik
HELE, Fanny Maria	LINDSAY, Lionel	ORCUTT, Charles Russell
HENRRARD, Jan Theodoor	LINTER, Julianna Emma	ORR, Virginia
HERMITTE, Louis Constant Daniel	LISCHKE, Carl Emil	ORTON, James Herbert
HERRINGTON, Harry Biggar	LOBBECKE, Carl Heinrich Wilhem Theodore	OSTERGAARD, Jens Mathias
HESSE, Paul	LOCARD, Étienne Alexandre Arnould	OZANNE, J. A. F. (Unknown)
HEWITT, John	LODDER, Mary	PACE, Stephan Ion
HEYNEMANN, David Friedrich	LONGSTAFF, Mary Jane [née Donald]	PAETEL, Friedrich [Frédéric]
HIDALGO Y RODRÍGUEZ, Joaquín Gonzáles	LOOSJES, Fredrik [Fritz, Frits] Elisa	PAGET, Oliver Edgar
HIRASE, Shintaro	LOWE, Herbert Nelson	PAIN, Thomas [Tom]
HIRASE, Yoichiro	LOWE, Richard Thomas	PALADILHE, Antoine
HISCOCK, Ian David	LOZEK, Vojen	PALLARY, Paul Maurice
HOFFMAN, William A. (Unknown)	LUCAS, Bernard Richard	PARREYSS, Ludwig
HOLME, Norman Alexander	LUTHER, Alexander Ferdinand	PAULUCCI, Marianna Panciatiichi Ximenes d' Aragona [Marquesa]
HONIGMAN, Hans Leo	MABILLE, Jules François	PEAKE, John Fordyce
HOPWOOD, Arthur Tindell	MACMILLAN, Gordon M. [né Kutchka]	PEILE, Alfred James [R]
HORSLEY, John William	McCLELLAND, Hugh	PELSENEER, Jean Paul Louis
HOWELLS, Herbert	McMILLAN, Eleanor [Nora] [née Fisher]	PEREZ, Charles (Unknown)
HOYLE, William Evans	MADGE, Edward Henri	PÉRINGUEY, Louis Albert
HUBENDICK, Bengt	MAKIYAMA, Jiro	PERRIER [de la Bâthie], Jean Octave Edmond
IJIMA, Isao	MANDAHL-BARTH, Georg	PETIT DE LA SAUSSAYE, Sauveur Abel Aubert
INGLES, Lloyd Glenn	MARGIER, Eugène Joseph	PETTY-FITZMAURICE, Henry William, 6th Marquess of Lansdowne
IREDALE, Tom	MARQUAND, Ernest David	PFEFFER, Georg Johann
JACKSON, John Wilfrid	MARRAT, Frederick Price	PHILLIPS, Robert Albert
JAMES, W. F. Lloyd	MARSHALL, James Thomas	PILSBRY, Henry [Harry] Augustus
JAMESON, Henry Lyster	MARTENS, Karl [Carl] Eduard von	PITCHFORD, George William
JANKOWSKI, Antoni	MARTIN, George Arthur	POLIŃSKI, Wladyslaw Karol Aleksander
JAUME GARCÍA, Miguel Luis	MARTIN, Johann Karl Ludwig	POLLONERA, Carlo
JESPERSON, P. Helveg	MASEFIELD, John Richard Beech	PONSONBY-FANE, John Henry
JETSCHIN, Robert	MASSY, Anne Letitia	POWELL, Arthur William Baden
JOBA, (Auguste Jean Louis Marie or J.?)	MAY, William Lewis	POWER, John Hyacinth
JOHANSEN, Anders Cornelius Jacob	MAYFIELD, Arthur	PRASHAD, Bains
JOHNSTON, George	MAYNARD, Charles Johnson	PRIME, Temple
PRICE-JONES, Cecil	MELVILL, James Cosmo	PUTON, Ernest
JONES, Kenneth Hurlstone	MERMOD, Gaston	PUZEY, Henry John
JONES, Samuel Benjamin Jones	MESSAGER, Louis Gabriel Martin	QUAYLE, Daniel Branch
JOUBIN, Louis Marie Adolphe Olivier Édouard	MESTAYER, Marjorie Katherine	QUICK, Hamilton Ernest
JOUSSEAUME, Félix Pierre	MICHAUD, Louis André Gaspard	RADLEY, Percy Edward
JKES-BROWNE, Alfred John	MICHELOTTI, Giovanni	RAGUSA, Enrico
KEEN, Angeline Myra	MILNE-EDWARDS, Alphonse	RAMASWAMI (Unknown)
KEEP, Josiah	MÖBIUS, Karl August	RANSON, Gilbert
KENDALL, Charles Edmund Yorke	MOLL, Friedrich Rudolf Heinrich Carl	REES, William James
KENNARD, Alfred Santer [R]	MÖLLENDORFF, Otto Franz von	REEVE, Lovell Augustus
KEW, Harry Wallis	MONTEROSATO, Tommaso Allery di Maria [Marquis di]	REHDER, Harald Alfred
KIMAKOWICZ-WINNICKI, Richard Emmanuel von	MOORE, Charles Herbert	REINHART, Philip Wingate
KIMBALL, Day	MOORE, Hilary Brooke	RENDALL, Robert
KISCH, Barthold Schlesinger	MÖRCH, Otto Andreas Lowson	RENSCH, Bernhard
KITCHEN, Joseph Gaskell	MOREHOUSE, Elsie May	REYNELL, Alexander
KLETT, (Bernhard or Gustav Theodor?)	MORTILLET, Louis Laurent Gabriel de	RIDLEY, Henry Nicholas
KOBELT, Wilhelm	MOSES, Robert Henson	RIGBY, Joyce E.
KONDO, Yoshio	MOSS, William	ROBERTS, Sherwood Raymond
KOTO, Adele S.	MOZLEY, Walter Alan	ROBERTSON, Robert
KOUMANS, Frederik Petrus	MURRAY, C. Hay (Unknown)	ROBSON, Guy Coburn
KRÜPER, Theobald	NASH, Ernest Henry	ROCHA, Francisco Dias da
KUIPER, Johannes Gijsbertus Jacobus [Hans]	NATERMANN, Carl	ROEBUCK, William Denison [R]
KURODA, James Tokubei	NELSON, William	ROGERS, Thomas
LAIDLAW, Frank Fortescue	NEVILL, Geoffrey	ROLLE, Herman
LANCASTER, Ernest Le Cronier	NEWTON, Richard Bullen	RÖMER, Eduard
LANGMEAD, Lydstone Bryan	NOBRE, Augusto	ROSEN, Baron von (Otto von)

ROSKOWSKI, Władysław	TAYLOR, Fred	Senders and receivers in the NMW Blok archive that are not on the NHMUK list:
ROTARIDES, Michael [Mihály] F.	TAYLOR, John William	
ROTHSCHILD, Miriam	TERVER, Ange Paulin	
ROWE, Arthur Walter	THAANUM, Ditlev Due	FARCHAD, Hadjid
ROY, William (Unknown)	THIELE, Emil Karl Hermann Johannes	TOMLIN, John Read le Brockton [R]
RUENZI, W. (Unknown)	THOMPSON, D'Arcy Wentworth	WORTHINGTON-WILMER, Lewis [R]
RUSSELL, Frederick Stratten	THORSON, Gunnar Axel Wright	
RUTNOV, D. (Unknown)	THURSTON, Edgar	
RUTSCH, Rolf F.	TOWNSEND, Frederick William	
SALISBURY, Albert Edward	TRECHMANN, Charles Taylor	
SCHARFF, Robert Francis	TREGELLES, George Fox	
SCHENCK, Hubert Gregory	TRISTRAM, Henry Baker	
SCHEPMANN, Mattheus Marinus	TRYON, George Washington, Jr.	*Any errors or incorrect interpretations are the responsibility of the authors. Where a person isn't known with confidence the possible first names have been put in round brackets with a question mark e.g. (John Paul?). Where a person is unknown to the authors this has been indicated.
SCHILDER, Franz Alfred	TURK, Stella Maris	
SCHLESCH, Hans Andraeus	VAN DER SCHALIE, Henry	
SCHMIDT, Friedrich Christian	VANATTA, Edward Guirey	
SCOTT, Hugh	VAUGHAN, John Williams	
SEIDLER, August	VAYSSIÈRE, Albert Jean-Baptiste Marie	
SELENKA, Emil	VENMANS, Leonardus Alphonsus Wilhelmus Cornelis	
SELL, Henrik	VERDCOURT, Bernard	
SESHAIYA, R. V.	VESTY, Wilhelm Von	
SEWELL, Robert Beresford Seymour	VICKERY, John Cecil	
SHACKLEFORD, Lewis John	VILLA, Antonio and Giovanni Battista	
SHADIN (ZHADIN), Vladimir Ivanovich	VIMONT, Anna-Zoé	
SHERBORN, Charles Davies	VINCENT, Émile Gérard	
SHOPLAND, Edwin Rew	WAGNER, Andreas Johann	
SHRUBSOLE, George William	WAGNER, Hans [János]	
SIKES, F. H. (Francis Henry?)	WAKEFIELD, Harry Rowland	
SIMPSON, James	WALKER, Bryant	
SIMROTH, Heinrich Rudolf	WATERSTON, Andrew Roger	
SMITH, Burnett	WATSON, Hugh	
SMITH, Edgar Albert [R]	WEBB, Wilfred Mark	
SOMERVILLE, Alexander	WEBER, Alois	
SOOS, Lajos [R]	WEEKS, William H.	
SPAN, Bartlet	WEINKAUFF, Heinrich Conrad	
SPARKS, Bruce Wilfred	WEINLAND, Christoph <u>David</u> Friedrich	
SPENCE, George Cooper	WELCH, D'Alté Aldridge	
SRINAVASA RAO, H.	WELCH, Robert John	
STAID-STAADT, John L. [Jean Louis Léon]	WENZ, Wilhelm August	
STANDEN, Robert	WESTERLUND, Carl Agardh	
STEARNS, Frederick	WEYMOUTH, A. Allen	
STEENBERG, Carl Marinus	WILKINS, Guy Lawrence [R]	
STEENSTRUP, Johannes Japetus Smith	WILLIAMS, John Michael	
STEFANINI, Giuseppe	WINCKWORTH, Harold Charles	
STELFOX, Arthur Wilson	WINCKWORTH, Ronald [R]	
STEMPELL, Carl Ludwig <u>Walter</u>	WINTLE, William James	
STEPHENSON, Thomas Alan	WOOD, Meta Eileen McKinnon	
STEVENSON, John A. (Unknown)	WOOD, Searles Valentine	
STIMPSON, William	WOODRING, Wendell Phillips	
STRAND, Embrik	WOODS, Roland MacAlpine	
STRATTON, Leonard Walter	WOODWARD, Bernard Barham [R]	
STREBEL, Hermann	WOODWARD, Henry	
STRUBELL, Adolf Bruno	WOODWARD, Martin	
STUBBS, Arthur Goodwin	WOODWARD, Samuel Pickworth	
STURANY, Rudolf	WOTTON, Frederick Walter	
SUNDLER, Berthold	WRIGLEY, Arthur	
SWAINSON, William	YEN, Teng-Chien [John]	
SWANTON, Ernest William Brockton	YONGE, Charles Maurice	
SWIFT, Robert Eaglesfield Griffith	ZEISSLER, B. (Leonore Senta Hildegard?)	
SYKES, Ernest Ruthven	ZILCH, Adolf	
TATTERSALL, Walter Medley		

Roger Casement's Butterflies at the National Museum of Ireland – Natural History, Dublin, Ireland

Les papillons de Roger Casement au Musée national d'Irlande – Histoire naturelle, Dublin, Irlande

AIDAN O'HANLON¹ & JORGE M. GONZÁLEZ²

¹ National Museum of Ireland—Natural History, Merrion Street, Dublin, Ireland - aohanlon@museum.ie - Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8193-6630>

² Austin Achieve Public Schools, Austin, Texas, (Research Associate, McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity), USA - gonzalez.jorge.m@gmail.com - Orcid: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7208-7166> (corresponding author)

Citation : O'Hanlon A. & González Jorge M., 2025. Roger Casement's Butterflies at the National Museum of Ireland – Natural History, Dublin, Ireland. *Colligo*, 8(2). <https://revue-colligo.fr/?id=106>.

KEY-WORDS

Roger David Casement
history
Lepidoptera
Rhopalocera
inventory
National Museum of Ireland
Dublin

MOTS-CLÉS

Roger David Casement
histoire
Lepidoptera
Rhopalocera
inventaire
Muséum national d'Irlande
Dublin

Summary: Roger David Casement's multifaceted legacy transcends his well-documented roles in diplomacy and political activism, revealing significant contributions to the field of natural history. While notable for his exposure of the exploitation faced by indigenous communities in Africa and South America, Casement's work as a naturalist is equally compelling. As a British consul, he meticulously gathered cultural artifacts and samples of local flora and fauna, establishing relationships with leading contemporaneous scientists. Under the guise of naturalism, and utilizing the tools of an entomologist, he scrutinized the egregious actions of the Peruvian Amazon Rubber Company while meticulously documenting the region's biodiversity. Among his findings was a collection of butterflies from the Igaraparana forest in Putumayo, of which only six specimens seem to exist currently. This collection is presented and serves as a lasting testament to Casement's dual commitment as both a humanitarian advocate and a passionate naturalist, intertwining social justice with scientific pursuits.

Résumé : L'héritage varié de Roger David Casement transcende ses rôles, bien documentés, qu'il a occupés dans la diplomatie et l'activisme politique, révélant des contributions significatives dans le domaine de l'histoire naturelle. S'il est surtout connu pour sa dénonciation de l'exploitation des communautés indigènes en Afrique et en Amérique du Sud, le travail de Casement en tant que naturaliste est tout aussi fascinant. En tant que consul britannique, il a méticuleusement rassemblé des artefacts culturels et des échantillons de la flore et de la faune locales, établissant des relations avec des scientifiques contemporains de premier plan. Sous le couvert du naturalisme et en utilisant les outils de l'entomologiste, il a suivi de près les exactions de la Peruvian Amazon Rubber Company tout en documentant méticuleusement la biodiversité de la région. Il a notamment rassemblé une collection de papillons de la forêt d'Igaraparaná, dans le Putumayo, dont il ne semble exister que six spécimens à l'heure actuelle. Cette collection est présentée et sert de testament durable au double engagement de Casement en tant qu'avocat humanitaire et naturaliste passionné, mêlant justice sociale et recherche scientifique.

PALABRAS CLAVES

Roger David Casement
 historia
 Lepidoptera
 Rhopalocera
 inventario
 Museo Nacional de Irlanda
 Dublín

Resumen : El legado multifacético de Roger David Casement trasciende sus bien documentadas funciones en la diplomacia y el activismo político, revelando importantes contribuciones en el campo de la historia natural. Aunque es notable por haber sacado a la luz la explotación a la que fueron sometidas algunas comunidades indígenas de África y Sudamérica, la labor de Casement como naturalista es igualmente fascinante. Como cónsul británico, recopiló meticulosamente artefactos culturales y muestras de la flora y fauna locales, estableciendo relaciones con destacados científicos de la época. Bajo la apariencia del naturalismo y utilizando las herramientas de un entomólogo, examinó las atroces acciones de la Compañía Peruana del Caucho Amazónico, al tiempo que documentaba meticulosamente la biodiversidad de la región. Entre sus hallazgos se encuentra una colección de mariposas obtenidas en el bosque de Igaraparaná, en Putumayo, de la que actualmente solo parecen existir seis ejemplares. Esta colección se presenta y sirve como testimonio del doble compromiso de Casement como defensor humanitario y naturalista apasionado, entrelazando la justicia social con la búsqueda científica.

Introduction

Roger David Casement (*Ruairí Dáithí Mac Easmáinn*; 1864–1916) was a diplomat and an Irish revolutionary executed for high treason in 1916 by the United Kingdom (Ó Síocháin, 2008). Today, Casement is mainly remembered for his investigations into the exploitation of indigenous peoples in colonial Africa and South America. However, Casement could also be defined as a naturalist, based on his collecting of zoological and botanical specimens. Casement's botanical and ethnocultural collections have been examined by Scannell and Snoddy (1968), Wylie (2010), Hart (2017), and O'Hanlon and Mitchell (*submitted*). The latter researchers recently catalogued the full extent of his zoological collections, as well as his links with prominent naturalists in Ireland and Britain during the early 20th Century. Casement's interest in, and collection of, natural history specimens was in many ways typical of a Victorian traveler. Less typical was that Casement employed this stereotype as a form of "entomological espionage," which serves as the basis for the present paper.

Roger Casement initiated his consular career in Africa in 1895, concluding his engagements on the continent by 1904. His thorough investigations into the brutal abuses perpetrated by the rubber industry under King Leopold II of Belgium exposed the horrific treatment of the native population in the so-called Congo Free State. His work in Africa culminated with the well-known Congo Report of 1904, which ultimately forced King Leopold II to sell his

private fiefdom to the Belgian government (Hochschild, 1999; Ó Síocháin, 2008; Mitchell, 2013).

In 1906, Casement was assigned consular duties in Brazil and later in Perú. In 1910, he was instructed to investigate reports of atrocities occurring in rubber plantations in the remote Putumayo region, located in the Colombian Amazon, which was "more or less officially" under the control of Perú (Ingليس, 1973; CAAAP, 2012; Mitchell, 2023; Gerardo Lamas, *personal communication*).

Casement's detailed investigations culminated in two significant reports that documented the abuses of the Peruvian Amazon Company, which was responsible for rubber extraction in the area (Casement, 1997; CAAAP, 2012; Mitchell, 2023). Casement's diaries from the Amazon are filled with details of wildlife encounters, including parrots, toucans, monkeys, capybaras, ocelots, ring-tailed coatis, turtles, alligators, and many others (Casement, 1997). It is clear from these diaries that Casement was captivated by animals; regularly taking them as pets on his journeys along the Amazon River. Casement seems to have had a particular fondness for butterflies. In his writings, Casement more often refers to the artistic quality of butterflies, rather than using scientific terminology. For example, wings are described using adjectives that would better describe a painting ("yellow ochre and burnt sienna" or "magnificent crimson" or "scarlet and black barred") instead of technical entomological language (Casement, 1997).

It is also noteworthy that Casement was familiar with the works of famous biologists Alfred Russell Wallace, Henry Walter Bates, and Richard Spruce, and brought copies of their books about their Amazonian travels with him. Casement's collecting was likely informed by the works of these pioneering naturalists, and it is fitting that Casement's small butterfly collection now shares space in the National Museum of Ireland with some of Wallace and Bates' own Lepidoptera specimens.

Uniquely, Casement used butterfly collecting as a form of entomological espionage. Disguised as a naturalist and even carrying a net and some other entomological tools, Casement collected butterfly specimens while gathering the information that would fill his reports (Casement, 1997; O'Hanlon & Mitchell, *submitted*). Butterfly collecting was used as a cover for investigating humanitarian abuses, as per Casement's diary entry on 3 October 1910:

"We play a part the whole day, and when investigating (as far as we can) a most appalling crime like that told this morning, pretend to be butterfly catching" (Casement, 1997: 162).

Back in Ireland the following year, Casement would present ten butterflies "...from the forests between the Igaraparana and the Japura River" to the National Museum of Science and Art (today National Museum of Ireland – Natural History). It appears that only six of those specimens survive, and these are fully identified and presented herein for the first time.

Material and methods

Roger Casement's butterflies preserved in the Natural History collections of the National Museum of Ireland have been revised, studied, and photographed. Information for each taxon includes original name, author, year, and sex. Their current name is followed by a synonymic list and the type locality for each, providing a general idea of the distribution of each species. Collecting information and labels included with each specimen are indicated by a slash "/". A semi-colon ";" separates the set of labels from one specimen to the next. Any additional information is included in brackets where relevant. Dorsal and ventral views of every specimen, as well as their attached labels, are also figured (**Plates 1 & 2**).

Below are some general observations on each species and subspecies, followed by insights into their habits and preferred plant hosts. The taxa are organized alphabetically by genus, species, and subspecies, following the classification established by Lamas (2004) and Blandin (2007a, 2007b).

All images were taken using a Nikon D3000 camera.

The details of each publication related to the species are discussed in the References section.

Butterfly specimens donated by Roger Casement to the entomological collection of the NMI-NH

Historis odius dious Lamas, 1995 (Male, figs. 1A, 1B)

Historis odius dious Lamas, 1995 (repl. *Papilio danae* Cramer, [1775])

Papilio danae Cramer, [1775] (preocc. Fabricius, 1775); Surinam

Collecting information: ♂, "Igaraparana Forest 1910" [Putumayo, Colombia; the Igará Paraná forest is located along the Igará Paraná River, which is a tributary of the Putumayo River in Colombia. The Putumayo region is known for its dense Amazonian rainforest.], "NMINH: 1911.248.1 Sir R. Casement", "Historis odious AOH Det. 2024".

General comments: Widespread and common throughout its geographical range, the species *H. odius* (Fabricius, 1775) is distributed from Southern USA (occasionally found in southern Texas and Arizona), throughout Central and South America, and some Caribbean islands (Álvarez-Sierra & Álvarez-Corral, 1984; DeVries, 1987; Neild, 1996). Three subspecies are known, the nominal *odius* (Fabricius, 1775) from the Greater Antilles, and *caloucera* Brévignon, 2003, from the Windward and Leeward Islands, in Guadeloupe. The third ssp. *dious* Lamas, 1995, is distributed in the remaining of its geographical range.

Comments on Habits and foodplants: Adults can be seen near human dwellings feeding on filth and rotten fruits, and vegetables. They spend a good deal of time in the forest canopy feeding on ripe and rotten fruits. Several species of Cecropiaceae (*Cecropia insignis*, *C. obtusifolia*, *C. peltata*, *C. obtusa*, *Cecropia* sp.) have been reported as larval foodplants

(Enrico & Pinchon; 1969, Barcant, 1970; Alvarez-Sierra & Alvarez-Corral, 1984; Constantino, 1997, 1998; Wetherbee, 1991; Beccaloni *et al.*, 2008, Janzen & Hallwachs 2009; Gernaat *et al.* 2016). Plants in the Bignoniaceae (*Tabebuia* sp.) and Leguminosae (*Inga vera*) had also been mentioned as hosts (Scott, 1986; Beccaloni *et al.*, 2008).

Morpho menelaus occidentalis

C. Felder & R. Felder, 1862

(Female, figs. 2A, 2B; Males, figs. 2C – 2F)

Morpho menelaus var. *occidentalis* C. & R. Felder, 1862; [= Peru, San Martin]

Morpho melacheilus Staudinger, [1886]; [Brazil, Amazonas]

Morpho menelaus ornata Fruhstorfer, 1913; "Brazil, São Paulo"

Morpho paris Le Cerf, 1926; "French Guiana"

Morpho menelaus niger Weber, 1951; Colombia

Morpho menelaus offenbachi Bryk, 1953; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho menelaus pratorii Fischer, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho (Grasseia) melacheilus canelosana Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Ecuador, "Canelos et Balzapampa"

Morpho (Grasseia) melacheilus juruensis Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho (Grasseia) melacheilus juruensis f. *puruensis* Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho (Grasseia) melacheilus melacheilus f. *nigrocincta* Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Perú

Morpho (Grasseia) melacheilus melacheilus f. *sanguicincta* Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho (Grasseia) melacheilus melacheilus f. *violaceocincta* Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho (Grasseia) melacheilus orientis Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho (Grasseia) menelaus f. *arcuifera* Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; [Brazil, Amazonas]

Morpho (Grasseia) menelaus guyanensis f. *punctata* Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; "French Guiana"

Morpho menelaus amseli Weber, 1963; Brazil, Amazonas

Collecting information: ♀, "Igaraparana Forest 248 1911" [Putumayo, Colombia], "NMINH:

1911.248.2 Sir R. Casement", *Morpho achilles* ♀ AOH Det. 2024"; ♂, "Igaraparana Forest 248 1911" [Putumayo, Colombia], "NMINH: 1911.248.4 Sir R. Casement", "*Morpho menelaus* AOH Det. 2024"; ♂, "Igaraparana Forest 248 1911" [Putumayo, Colombia], "NMINH: 1911.248.5 Sir R. Casement", "*Morpho menelaus* AOH Det. 2024"

General comments: *Morpho menelaus* (Linnaeus, 1758), the blue morpho, is perhaps the most common species in the genus, and it is distributed along many habitats throughout Central and South America (Álvarez-Sierra & Álvarez-Corral, 1984; DeVries, 1987; Neild, 2008; Blandin *et al.*, 2020; Murillo-Hiller, 2025). This particular subspecies (*M. m. occidentalis*) seems to be widely distributed along the rainforests of South America throughout the Amazonian and the Andean regions, extending from Brazil, Bolivia, Perú, Ecuador, and southern Colombia (Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Blandin, 2007a, 2007b; Blandin & Purser, 2013).

Comments on Habits and foodplants: This subspecies boast wings that are largely coated with scales, which create a striking blue appearance through their physical properties. Observations have shown that these butterflies display a clear pattern in their flying habits. Males tend to be most active between 6 and 9 AM on sunny days, often steering clear of direct sunlight. On the other hand, females possess fewer blue-reflective scales and seem to prefer lingering around their larval host plants (Renoux, 2011). Its caterpillars seem to have a diverse diet, with a strong affinity for plants from the Fabaceae family, as well as those from the Erythroxylaceae family (Vasquez Bardales *et al.*, 2017). They have been notably spotted on species from both *Dalbergia* and *Erythroxylum*.

Morpho helenor theodorus

Fruhstorfer, 1907

(Male, figs. 1C, 1D)

Morpho achilles theodorus Fruhstorfer, 1907; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho achilles theodorus f. *micans* Fruhstorfer, 1907; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho achilles michaeli Röber, 1929; Peru

Morpho achilles adelaide Weber, 1944; Bolivia

Morpho achilles roqueensis Bryk, 1953; Peru

Morpho helenor michaeli f. *hannemanni* Le Moulton & Réal, 1962; Peru

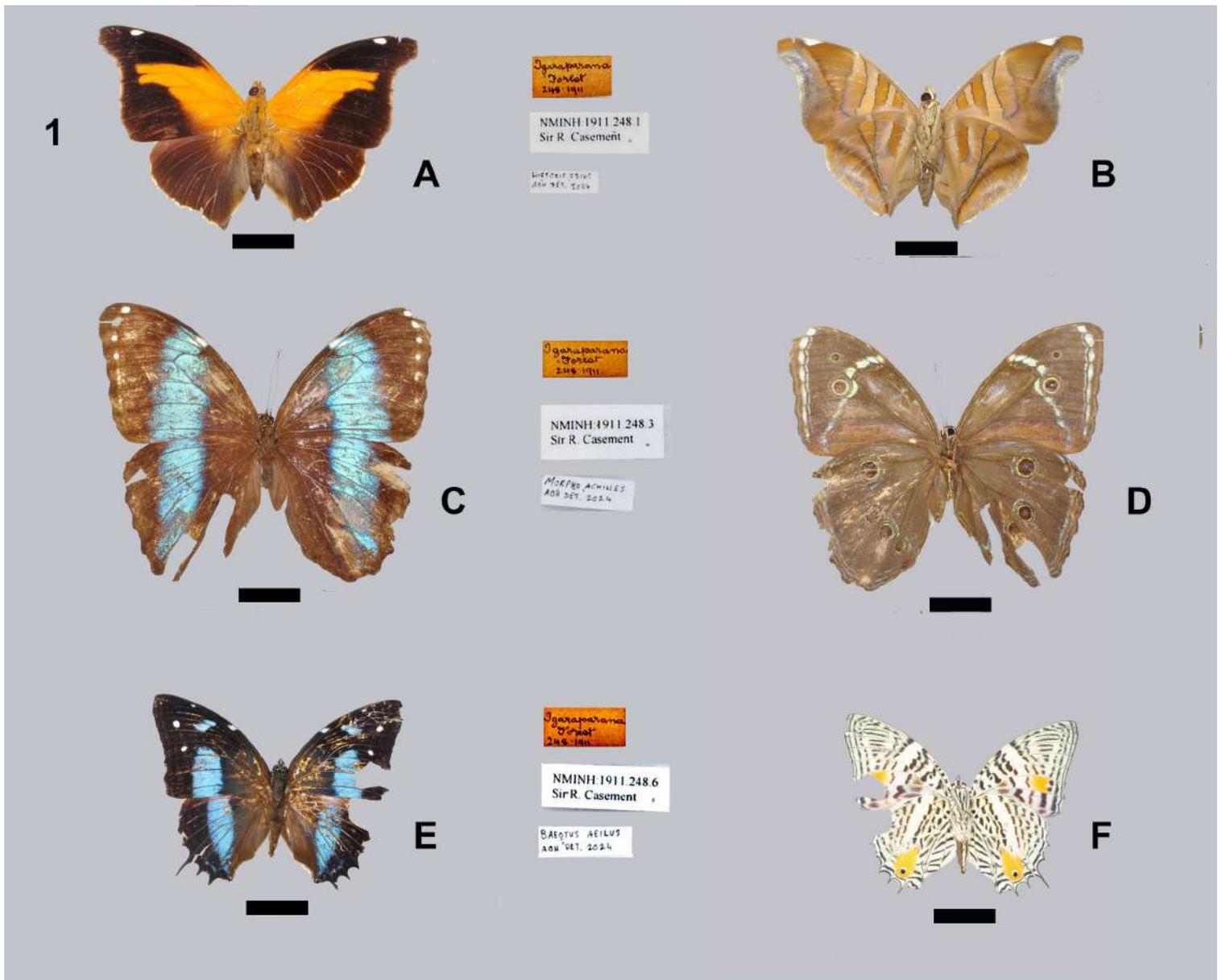


Plate 1. Figs. A & B. ♂, *Historis odius dious*; Figs. C & D. ♂, *Morpho helenor theodorus*; Figs. E & F. ♂, *Baeotus aeilus*. All from Igaraparaná Forest, Putumayo, Colombia. Roger Casement, collector. National Museum of Ireland—Natural History, Dublin, Ireland.

Morpho helenor albertii Le Moult & Réal, 1962; Peru

Morpho helenor albertii f. *indecisa* Le Moult & Réal, 1962; Peru

Morpho helenor basquini Le Moult & Réal, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho helenor maloensis Le Moult & Réal, 1962; Ecuador

Morpho helenor conquistador Le Moult & Réal, 1962; Ecuador

Morpho helenor felipensis Le Moult & Réal, 1962; Brazil, Amazonas

Morpho leontius peripherica Le Moult & Réal, 1962; Peru

Collecting information: ♂, “Igaraparana Forest 248 1911” [Putumayo, Colombia]”, “NMINH:

1911.248.3 Sir R. Casement”, *Morpho achilles*

AOH Det. 2024” General comments: *Morpho*

helenor (Cramer, 1776) is widely distributed

from Mexico and throughout Central to South

America. It is considered a species group and

more than one species might be involved in it

(Le Moult & Réal, 1962). They usually soar near

the forest’s understory and seldom touch the

ground, doing so only occasionally to sip

liquids from decayed fruits. About 30 subspe-

cies have been described so far. Among them,

we find this one from the Putumayo re-

gion. *Morpho helenor theodorus* is distributed

in central and western Amazon, including the

state of Amazonas in Venezuela, the southern

departments of Colombia (including Putuma-

yao), Oriente in Ecuador, and northern depart-

ments of Peru (Blandin, 2007a, 2007b). Blandin

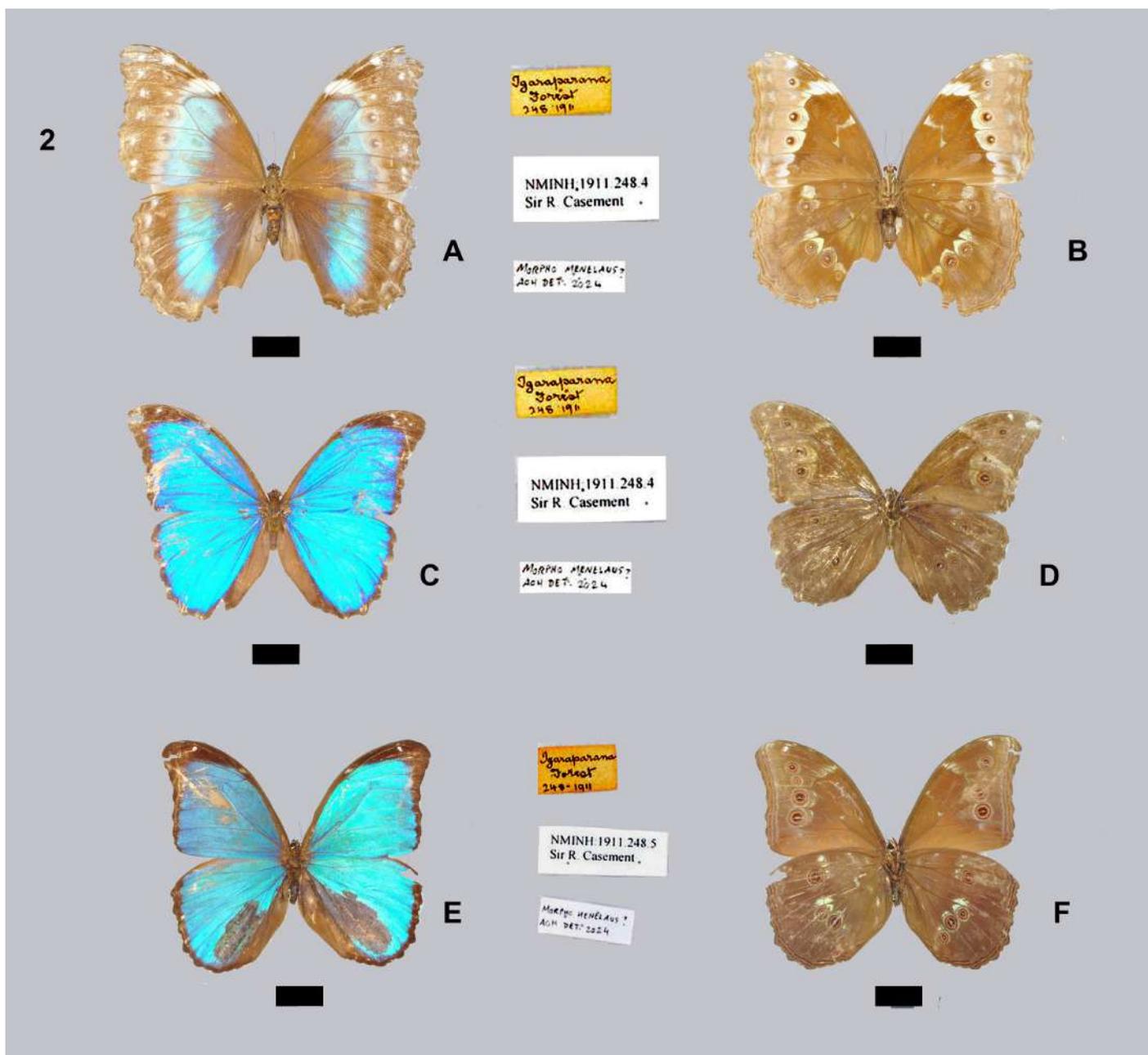


Plate 2. Figs. A & B. ♀, figs. C—F. ♂♂, *Morpho menelaus occidentalis*. All from Igaraparana Forest, Putumayo, Colombia. Roger Casement, collector. National Museum of Ireland—Natural History, Dublin, Ireland.

(2007a) mentions that in the periphery of the Amazon plains, mainly in the Andean piedmont, this subspecies hybridized naturally with other *Morpho* species and subspecies of *M. helenor*.

Comments on Habits and foodplants: primarily feeds on host plants from the Leguminosae (Fabaceae) family, such as *Canavalia*, *Vigna*, *Wisteria*, *Trifolium* (Clover), *Arachis* (Peanut), and *Robinia pseudacacia* (False Acacia) (Vásquez Bardales *et al.*, 2017). Other plants they may feed on include *Dalbergia*, *Lonchocarpus*, *Mucuna*, *Platymiscium*, and *Pterocarpus*.

***Baeotus aeilus* (Stoll, 1780) (Male, figs. 1E, 1F)**

Papilio aeilus Stoll, 1780; "Amboina"

Eriboea aile Hübner, [1819]; (emend.)
Megistanis amazonicus Riley, 1919; Brazil, Amazonas, Manicore

Collecting information: ♂, "Igaraparana Forest 248 1911" [Putumayo, Colombia], "NMINH: 1911.248.6 Sir R. Casement", *Baeotus aeilus* AOH Det. 2024"

General comments: This species is often referred to as the "Amazon beauty" and it is native to the upper Amazon regions spanning Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia, Perú, and Bolivia

(Riley 1919). Adults are sexually dimorphic and are known for their swift flight. Like other species in the genus, they primarily feed on ripe fruits (DeVries, 1987). Four species belong to the genus *Baeotus* (D'Abrera, 1984; Lamas, 2004). Their life cycle has yet to be determined (van den Berghe *et al.*, 2016; Lalonde, 2021).

It bears a striking resemblance to *B. baeotus* (Doubleday, 1849), which ranges from South-eastern Mexico through Central and South America. However, there are notable differences between the two: the Amazon beauty tends to be smaller, with the front end of the blue band on the forewings more smoothly rounded, and the blue band on the hindwings appearing narrower. Also, Riley (1919) mentions that on its underside, the general ground color is pale green, where most black markings are blended with a greenish hue, while in *B. baeotus*, these are brownish. The black patterns of the Amazon beauty are well defined; the pale bands in the transverse discal area are broader and particularly sharper toward the outer edges. Additionally, there's a consistent distinction in the black markings within the hindwing cell, as these markings are longer and narrower, often forming elongated diagonal lines (Riley, 1919).

Comments on Habits and foodplants: Given the close evolutionary relationship they appear to share with the genus *Historis*, some researchers suggest that Moraceae and Urticaceae could potentially serve as their food sources (van den Berghe *et al.*, 2016; Lalonde, 2021).

Conclusion

Although he is best remembered as a humanitarian and revolutionary nationalist, Roger Casement was also an amateur naturalist who made small but important contributions to Irish natural history collections. Among the many ethnographic and natural history specimens he donated to various Irish institutions, a selection of stunning Nymphalidae can still be found in the entomological collection of the National Museum of Ireland. Despite the observable damage to the specimens (see **plates 1 & 2**), their coloration, intricate patterns, and aesthetic appeal continue to engage and attract both enthusiasts and researchers who examine and analyze them. While his butterfly collection may lack significant scientific value, it serves as a powerful and unique lens through which we can explore and understand the complex legacies of

imperialism, exploration, scientific discovery, extractive capitalism, decolonization, cultural nationalism, and humanitarian activism all at once.

Acknowledgements

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Gerardo Lamas (Museo de Historia Natural at Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Peru) and Andrew Neild (Research Associate, McGuire Center for Lepidoptera & Biodiversity). Gerardo verified the butterfly identities and shared valuable insights about the region where the butterflies were collected. Andrew was very kind in sharing information and references that helped us improve the original manuscript.

References

- ÁLVAREZ-SIERRA J. R. & ÁLVAREZ-CORRAL J. R., 1984. *Mariposas diurnas de Venezuela. Introducción a su conocimiento*. Caracas: Editorial Arte, 200 pp.
- BARCANT M., 1970. *Butterflies of Trinidad and Tobago*. London: Collins, 314 pp.
- BECCALONI G.W., VILORIA Á.L., HALL S.K. & ROBINSON G.S. 2008. Catalogue of the hostplants of the Neotropical butterflies. Catálogo de las plantas huésped de las mariposas neotropicales. The Natural History Museum. *Monografías Tercer Milenio*, vol. 8, S.E.A., Zaragoza, 536 pp.
- BLANDIN P., 2007a. *The systematics of the genus Morpho, Fabricius, 1807 (Lepidoptera Nymphalidae, Morphinae)*. Canterbury: Hillside Books, 277 pp.
- BLANDIN P., 2007b. *The genus Morpho. Lepidoptera Nymphalidae. Part 3. Addenda to Part 1 and Part 2 & The Sub-Genera Pessonnia, Grasseia and Morpho*. Canterbury: Hillside Books, xi + 99-237, figs. 11–455.
- BLANDIN P. & PURSER B.H., 2013. Evolution and diversification of Neotropical butterflies: Insights from the biogeography and phylogeny of the genus *Morpho* Fabricius, 1807 (Nymphalidae: Morphinae), with a review of the geodynamics of South America. *Tropical Lepidoptera Research*, 23(2): 62-85, 12 figs.
- BLANDIN P., JOHNSON P., GARCÍA M. & NEILD, A. 2020. *Morpho menelaus* (Linnaeus, 1758), in north-eastern Venezuela: description of a new subspecies. *Tropical Lepidoptera Research*, 30 (2): 58-64, 9 figs.

- CASEMENT R., 1997. *The Amazon Journal* (Edited by Mitchel A.). London: Anaconda Editions, 534 pp.
- CENTRO AMAZÓNICO DE ANTROPOLOGÍA Y APLICACIÓN PRÁCTICA (CAAAP), 2012. *Libro azul británico: informes de Roger Casement y otras cartas sobre las atrocidades en el Putumayo, IWGIA*. Retrieved 23 June 2025, from <https://biblioteca.corteidh.or.cr/adjunto/37162>
- CONSTANTINO L. M., 1997. Natural history, immature stages and hostplants of *Morpho amathonte* from western Colombia (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae: Morphinae). *Tropical Lepidoptera*, 8(2): 75-80.
- CONSTANTINO L. M., 1998. Butterfly life history studies, diversity, ranching and conservation in the Chocó rain forests of Western Colombia (Insecta: Lepidoptera). *SHILAP Revista de Lepidopterología*, 26(101): 19-39.
- D'ABRERA B., 1984. *Butterflies of South America*. London: Hill House, 256 pp.
- DEVRIES P.J., 1987. *The Butterflies of Costa Rica and their natural history. Papilionidae, Pieridae, Nymphalidae*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 327 pp.
- ENRICO P. & PINCHON R., 1969. *Première partie. Les Rhopalocères ou papillons de jour des Petites Antilles : 29-144*. In: Pinchon R. & Enrico P., *Faune des Antilles Françaises. Les Papillons*. Fort-de-France, Authors, 260 pp.
- GERNAAT H.B.P.E., VAN DEN HEUVEL J. & VAN ANDEL H.T., 2016. A New Foodplant for *Historis odius dious* Lamas, 1995 (Nymphalidae: Nymphalinae) with Some Notes on the Life History in Suriname. *Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society*, 70(2): 159-163.
- HART, W. A., 2017. African Art in the National Museum of Ireland. *African Arts*, 28(2): 34-97, 90-91.
- HOCHSCHILD A., 1999. *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa*. London: Houghton Mifflin, 366 pp.
- INGLIS B., 1973. *Roger Casement*. London: Hodder and Stoughton Ltd., 462 pp.
- JANZEN D. H. & HALLWACHS W., 2009. Dynamic database for an inventory of the macrocaterpillar fauna, and its food plants and parasitoids, of Area de Conservacion Guanacaste (ACG), northwestern Costa Rica (nn-SRNP-nnnnnn voucher codes). <http://janzen.sas.upenn.edu>.
- LALONDE M.M.L., 2021. Phylogenetic analysis of the complete mitochondrial genome of the graphic beauty butterfly *Baeotus beotus* (Doubleday 1849) (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae: Nymphalinae: Coeini). *Mitochondrial DNA (B)* 6 (4): 1516-1518, 1 fig.
- LE MOULT E. & RÉAL P. 1962. *Les Morpho d'Amérique du Sud et Centrale*. Published by the authors, Paris. xiv + 296 pp., 116 plates.
- LAMAS G. (ED.), 2004. *Checklist: Part 4A. Hesperioidea - Papilionoidea*. In: Heppner J. B. (Ed.), *Atlas of Neotropical Lepidoptera. Volume 5A*. Gainesville, Association for Tropical Lepidoptera; Scientific Publishers, 439 pp.
- MITCHELL A., 2023. The Putumayo Atrocities. Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History. Retrieved 23 June 2025, from <https://oxfordre.com/latinamericanhistory/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199366439.001.0001/acrefore-9780199366439-e-1111>
- MURILLO-HILLER L.R., 2025. *Butterflies and Moths of Costa Rica*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 316 pp.
- NEILD A., 1996. *The Butterflies of Venezuela. Part 2: Nymphalidae II (Acraeinae, Lybytheinae, Nymphalinae, Ithomiinae, Morphinae)*. A comprehensive guide to the identification of adult Nymphalidae, Papilionidae, and Pieridae. London: Meridian Publications, 276 pp.
- O'HANLON A. & MITCHELL A., (manuscript submitted for review). A Naturalist on the Margins: Roger Casement's Natural History Collection and the Ambivalences of Colonial Knowledge Production. *Archives of Natural History*.
- Ó SÍOCHÁIN S., 2008. *Roger Casement: Imperialist, Rebel, Revolutionary*. Lilliput Press, Dublin, 656 pp.
- RENOUX H., 2011. *The proving of Morpho menelaus occidentalis. Homeopathic links*, 24 (1): 45-47.
- RILEY N.D., 1919. Some new Rhopalocera from Brazil collected by E. H. W. Wickham, *Esq. Entomologist*, 52: 181-186, 200-202.
- SCANNELL J.P. & SNODDY O., 1968. Roger Casement's contribution to the ethnographical and economic botany collections in the National Museum of Ireland. *Éire-Ireland*, 3: 46-54.
- SCOTT J.A. 1986. Distribution of Caribbean butterflies. *Papilio* (New Series), 3: 1-26, 2 tabs.
- VAN DEN BERGHE E., HERNÁNDEZ BAZ F., PÉREZ VASQUEZ M.E., & OROZCO A., 2016. *Baeotus beotus* (Doubleday, 1849) (Lepidoptera: Charaxinae) nuevo para la Fauna de Nicaragua. *Revista Nicaraguense de Entomología*, 102: 3-9.

- VÁSQUEZ BARDALES J., ZÁRATE GÓMEZ R., HUIÑAPI CANAQUIRI P., PINEDO JIMÉNEZ J., RAMÍREZ HERNÁNDEZ J.J., LAMAS G. & VELA GARCÍA P., 2017. Plantas alimenticias de 19 especies de mariposas diurnas (Lepidoptera) en Loreto, Perú / Food Plants of 19 butterfly species (Lepidoptera) from Loreto, Peru. *Revista peruana de biología*, 24(1): 35-42.
- WETHERBEE D. K., 1991. *Seventh contribution on larvae and/or larval host-plants of Hispaniolan butterflies (Rhopalocera), and nocturnal activity of adult Hypanartia paulla (Fabricius) (Nymphalidae)*. Shelburne, Author, 13 pp.
- WYLIE, L., 2010. Rare models: Roger Casement, the Amazon, and the ethnographic picturesque. *Irish Studies Review*, 18(3): 315-330.

Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945): from celebrated natural historian to obscurity

Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945) : d'un naturaliste célèbre à l'obscurité

STEVE O'SHEA¹, PHIL EYDEN², JONATHAN D. ABLETT³ & AMANDA L. REID⁴

¹ DrO-Editing, Paris, France - DrO@DrO-Editing.com - (corresponding author)

² Dover, United Kingdom.

³ Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom, SW7 5BD.

⁴ mandyreid7@gmail.com

Citation : O'Shea S. et al., 2025. Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945): from celebrated natural historian to obscurity. *Colligo*, 8(2). <https://revue-colligo.fr/?id=107>.

KEY-WORDS

British Museum of Natural History
malacology
Cephalopoda
Octopoda
depression
bibliography

MOTS-CLÉS

British Museum of Natural History
malacologie
Cephalopoda
Octopoda
dépression
bibliographie

Summary: Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945), a former Deputy Keeper of Zoology at the British Museum of Natural History, now Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom, passed away of natural causes in a psychiatric hospital at the age of 57. Despite his scientific authority, what little has been published about him is replete with error, or contradictory. By consulting surviving medical and military files, grey and peer-reviewed literature, museum correspondence, and public record documents, we present a more comprehensive picture of this man's adolescence, World War I record, professional career, contribution to the study of natural history, illness that contributed to his admission into various psychiatric institutes, and those that contributed to his death. References to his declining mental health having influenced the quality of his research are critically evaluated and deemed to be untenable. An updated bibliography of his research output is presented, and one surviving and at least three presumed-lost, unpublished manuscripts are identified.

Résumé : Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945), ancien Deputy Keeper of Zoology [conservateur adjoint de zoologie] au British Museum of Natural History est décédé de causes naturelles dans un hôpital psychiatrique à l'âge de 57 ans. Malgré son autorité scientifique, les rares publications le concernant sont entachées d'erreurs ou se contredisent. En consultant les dossiers médicaux et militaires conservés, la littérature grise et évaluée par les pairs, la correspondance muséale et les documents d'archives publiques, nous proposons un portrait plus complet de son adolescence, de son parcours pendant la Première Guerre mondiale, de sa carrière professionnelle, de sa contribution à l'étude de l'histoire naturelle, ainsi que des maladies qui ont conduit à son admission dans divers établissements psychiatriques et, en fin de compte, à son décès. Les hypothèses selon lesquelles la détérioration de sa santé mentale aurait compromis la qualité de ses travaux sont ici examinées de manière critique et jugées non fondées. Une bibliographie actualisée de sa production scientifique est présentée, et des manuscrit inédits – un conservé et au moins trois autres présumés perdus – sont identifiés.

Introduction

Nine days after Germany unconditionally surrendered in World War II, Guy Coburn Robson (1888–1945), a personable and highly regarded malacologist and natural historian, passed away at Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, in the United Kingdom. It was 17 May 1945, he was just 57 years old, and he had lived in institutions for the best part of eight years. Other than his passing having been “sudden” (Anonymous, 1945; Smith, 1945) or “after a long illness” (Hindle, 1945, 1946), of what he died and where his remains had been interred, if they had been, were unreported. Much of what little else has been published about him was similarly contradictory, incorrect, or not supported by evidence. To right an injustice done to his legacy, we build on what is known of this man, and correct inaccuracies in accounts of his life that resulted in the quality of his research being questioned.

Born on 11 February 1888 in South Woodford, Essex, Guy was 5 foot 11.5 inches (~1.82 m) according to a military examination certificate, or 5 foot 9.5 inches (~1.76 m) according to his

military enrolment papers.¹ Other than the frontispiece (plate 1) in vol 22 of the 1936 *Proceedings of the Malacological Society*, and an image of him in Hodgson *et al.* (2021: fig. 2C), few other images of Guy are known; we present one further (Fig. 1). He was evidently slim, wore spectacles, and had thinning hair into his 30s. He had been described as having an agreeable and pleasant temperament, “a characteristic thoughtfulness for dumb animals” and capable draughtsman, watercolourist, and etcher of considerable ability (Smith, 1945), to have had many friends (Anonymous, 1937a), and, according to his brother and only sibling, Selby Robson (1886–1964), to have been, at least as an adolescent, gregarious.² He was also described as being “a most skilled and entertaining lecturer” (Anonymous, 1932).

Guy reputedly began working for the British Museum of Natural History (BMNH), now Natural History Museum (NHM), London, in 1907 (Anonymous, 1945), 1910 (Anonymous, 1910a, b), 1911 (Anonymous, 1937a; NHM employment records), or 1913 (Hindle, 1945, 1946). *The London Gazette* (Anonymous, 1910a)

1. National Archives (UK). War Office, Officer's Services, First World War, personal files ref WO_374_58651.

2. G. C. Robson (hereinafter GCR), Holloway Sanatorium medical records (1944–1945). Male Case Book ref: 7267/3/22. Surrey History Centre, Surrey, UK. Pp. 6.

Fig 1. Guy Coburn Robson, image titled “Mollusca Study, 1924. Basement western galleries” (NHM photograph code PH/1/5/1/10).



announced that he started on 14 November 1910, but NHM employment records indicate this to have been 1 June 1911. His handwriting sample (Fig. 2) reveals that he officially began working for the BMNH in 1911, but that he was appointed to his position in 1910. Fresh from Oxford University, 22 years old, following his appointment to the BMNH and only having been recently conferred his Bachelor of Arts degree, Guy spent five months at the Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn in Naples on an Oxford University Biological Scholarship (Robson, 1911). Upon his return he assumed his role at the BMNH, where he remained through to 1936. His tenure was broken only by service during and convalescence following World War I (WW1), and a period of uncharacteristic but recurring absences between December 1933 and November 1936.

Education (1901–1910)

Both Hindle (1945, 1946) and Smith (1945) maintained that Guy was home-schooled because of “delicacy as a child,” but from what age and what was meant by “delicate” is unknown. His brother indicated that his childhood was “normal.”³ From 13 years age in September 1901 (Smith, 1945) to 18 years in 1906 he attended Forest School, Walthamstow (Anonymous, 1906a). No stranger to academic achievement, he secured a scholarship to attend Forest School (Anonymous, 1902) and thereafter was awarded prizes in classical subjects such as English, Roman and religious histories, general knowledge, poetry, and Latin (Anonymous, 1903; 1904; 1905a, b; 1906a, b). From 1905 to 1906 he was a co-Editor of the *Forest School Magazine*, and was also involved in theatre (Anonymous, 1904, 1906a). In 1905 he was awarded an unspecified Kings College prize (Anonymous, 1905b), and in 1906 received scholarship offers to further his education from each of Hertford, Wadham, Worcester, and New College constituent colleges of Oxford University (Anonymous, 1906a, b).

At Oxford, Guy passed his Moderations (first public exam) in Classics with a 2nd in Lent Term of 1908, and, following a shift in academic interest, in June 1910 (Trinity Term) placed First Class in the Final Honours School of Natural Science and received his BA (Anonymous, 1910b). In early 1922 (Oxford University Hilary term) he was conferred an honorary MA (pers. comm. Michael Stans-

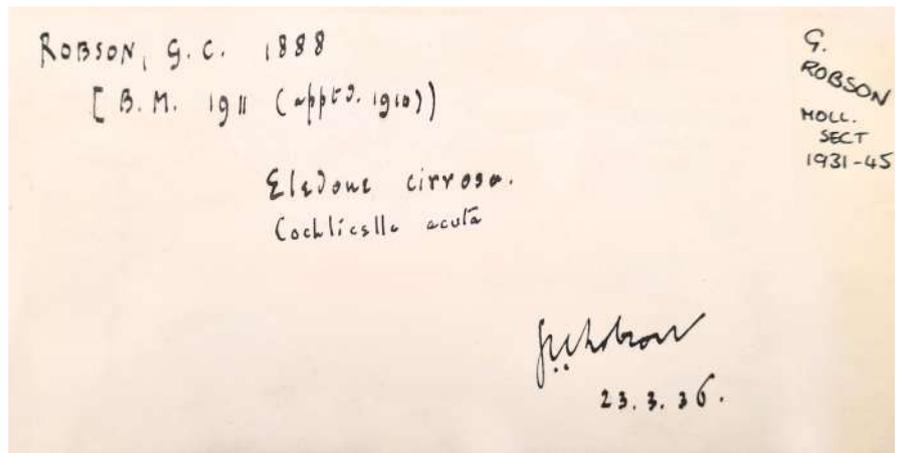


Fig 2. Guy Coburn Robson's, sample handwriting, with employment appointment and commencement dates at the British Museum of Natural History.

field).⁴ However, despite being highly intelligent, articulate, and occasionally referred to as “Dr Robson” by the press, colleagues (Anonymous, 1933), and even in the title of one obituary notice (Hindle, 1945), Guy lacked a PhD. Mathematics was a self-declared academic weakness (Anonymous, 1905).

Research output (1911–1946)

Guy, a prolific writer with diverse research interests, produced at least 116 mostly substantial publications. To teuthologists he rose to prominence for his works on octopuses and squids—a group of molluscs upon which he published no fewer than 55 papers and a seminal monograph in two volumes (Robson, 1929, 1932). To evolutionary biologists he may be better remembered, perhaps unfavourably (Huxley, 1942), for his works on defining species (Robson, 1928) or variation of animals in nature (Robson & Richards, 1936). To other malacologists, he may be known for his contributions to the taxonomy and anatomy of molluscs in general (land, freshwater, and marine; both fossil and Recent). A revised bibliography of his works (excluding *Encyclopedia Britannica* entries) that corrects errors in, and includes omissions from the account of Adam (1946), is presented as **Supplement 1**.

A product of his Naples scholarship, Guy's first paper (Robson, 1911) described how a parasite affected the sexual physiology of a crab. Several further papers followed, primarily on the taxonomy or anatomy of pulmonate gastropods, before he described his first cephalopod—a species of *Sepiadarium* from Australian waters (Robson, 1914) (Fig. 3). His next project, a description of a collection of

3. Idem

4. Michael Stansfield, Archivist and Records Manager, Oxford University, UK.

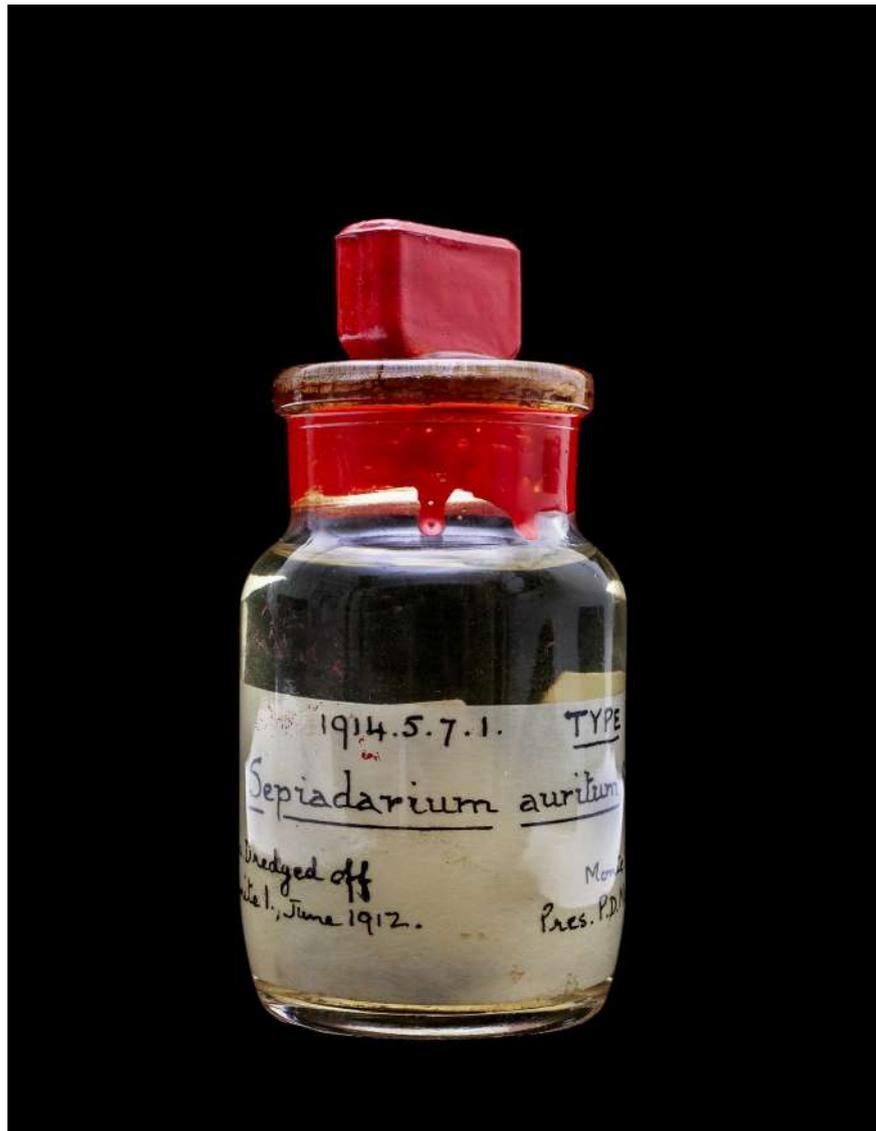


Fig 3. Specimen bottle (*Sepiadarium auritum* Robson, 1914); Guy's first-described cephalopod.

Indian Ocean cephalopods, was completed and read on his behalf by Professor J. Stanley Gardiner (1872–1946) at a Linnean Society meeting on 17 June 1915, but its publication was delayed until after WW1 (Robson, 1921). Therein (*loc. cit.*: 430) Guy wrote “*The author [Guy] has been struck, while in the course of this work, with the necessity for a more intensive study of these animals [cephalopods] for the purposes of systematic zoology.*” From this it is apparent that Guy’s interests in both systematics and cephalopods were piqued from an early stage in his career.

Career, and research-community outreach (1911–1936)

Between 1911 and 1925 Guy was promoted from Second-Class Assistant to Assistant at the BMNH (NHM records do not specify when); then to Assistant Keeper on 1 January 1926, and Deputy Keeper on 1 April 1931

(Anonymous, 1937a; NHM employment record archives). He also served as Secretary of the Challenger Society from 1921–1928 (CS, 1928, NHM archives), was a general committee member of same in 1929 (CS, 1929); was treasurer of the Society of Experimental Biologists from 22 December 1923 to 1926 (SEB, 1974); and from 1923 to 1924 was active in, and served on the editorial board of *The British Journal of Experimental Biology* (Erlingson, 2013). After serving as Editor for the Malacological Society of London from 12 February 1926 to 19 February 1928 he was elected its Vice President (19 February 1928) and then President (14 February 1930). An abridged biography is presented in **Table 1**. His period prominence and involvement in the research community is unquestionable. However, within years and at the pinnacle of his success, he all-but disappeared from the scientific community. We sought to understand why.

Date	Event
11 February 1888	Born
1901–1906	Forest School, Walthamstow
1906–1910	Oxford University, Oxford
1910 (June)	Conferred BA, Oxford University, Oxford
1911 (June)–1936 (November)	British Museum of Natural History
1911–1925	Second Class Assistant, Assistant
1926 (January)	Assistant Keeper of Zoology
1931 (April)	Deputy Keeper of Zoology
1921–1928	Secretary of the Challenger Society
1922	MA (Hon) Oxford University, London
1923–1926	Treasurer, Society of Experimental Biologists
1923–1924	Editorial board of The British Journal of Experimental Biology
1926–1928	Editor, Malacological Society of London
1928–1930	Vice President, Malacological Society of London
1929	Committee member, The Challenger Society
1930–1933	President, Malacological Society of London
1933–1936	Vice President, Malacological Society of London
12 February 1937	Honorary Member, Malacological Society of London
17 May 1945	Passed away, Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, Surrey

Table 1. Abridged biography of Guy Coburn Robson.

Guy's fixed-(three year)-term as President of the Malacological Society ended on 10 February 1933, whereupon he assumed the role of Vice President for three further years (to 14 February 1936). Because the presidency of this Society is a title held for three years only,⁵ this change in status is uninformative. However, from early 1933 to November 1936, Guy's research output also largely ceased, and from about 20 December 1933 to November 1936 he was frequently absent from work. The strain that his recurring and extended absences placed upon his colleagues, his having exhausted all forms of salaried leave, and his lack of productivity forced the museum to terminate his employment on 28 November 1936 on grounds of incapacity and Civil Service sick-leave regulations.⁶ The final indignity to him occurred on 10 December when Martin Hinton

(1883–1961), a newly appointed Keeper of Zoology, contacted his brother Selby, with whom Guy had been staying,⁷ and asked if he could retrieve Guy's remaining personal possessions from the museum, or otherwise advise the museum on how best to dispose of them.⁸ Today, a microscope bearing his name remains (Fig. 4). In the lead-up to Guy's dismissal, the museum acknowledged that his case deserved the utmost of sympathy,⁹ but he had transitioned from being an esteemed staff colleague (Smith, 1945) to someone perceived to be a burden. Four days later, 14 December 1936,¹⁰ Guy checked himself into Bethlem Royal Hospital (hereinafter 'Bethlem'), where he resided until June 1944. On admission, he informed the attending physician that he had tendered his resignation from the museum (contrary to NHM archived correspondence¹¹)

5. <http://malacsoc.org.uk/about/rules/> accessed 3 April 2023.

6. GCR, BNHM personnel file notes, 28 November 1936. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/205/106/131/13.

7. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

8. M.A.C.H/RP (Martin Hinton) to S. Robson, 10 December 1936. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/208/20.

9. GCR, personnel file notes, 24 October 1936. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/205/106/130/14.



Fig 4. Guy Coburn Robson's microscope.

10. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

11. GCR, BNHM personnel file notes, 28 November 1936. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/205/106/131/13.

12. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

13. R. Winckworth to W. Adam, 20 December 1937. Original manuscript in Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium (courtesy Dr Yves Samyn).

and that the museum's acceptance of this had aggravated his depression.¹² The *Kensington News and West London Gazette* reported that Guy had "retired" from the BMNH (Anonymous, 1936b), and Anonymous (1937) wrote that he had "resigned," but having being managed from his position, if this was the case, renders neither account strictly correct. As an aside, Guy's NHM personnel file contains no resignation letter.

At least one of Guy's peers had some understanding of his personal problems, for correspondence between Ronald Winckworth (1884–1950) and William Adam (1909–1988) dated 20 December 1937¹³ reads:

"[Guy] has had a bad time and I am quite sure he will never write another line on cephalopods. During his sane intervals he lives with his brother, but he unfortunately has repeated relapses when he returns to a mental hospital. It has been a very sad affair, originating with shell shock during the war and brought on again by domestic trouble."

Except for being elected an Honorary Member of the Malacological Society of London on 12 February 1937 (Anonymous, 1937b), years would pass before Guy's name reappeared in print, sadly in the form of three brief obituary notices (Hindle, 1945, 1946; Smith, 1945). Adam (1946) delivered a far-more-fitting tribute to Guy's life and contribution to the understanding of cephalopod taxonomy and phylogeny. No detailed biography of Guy has appeared since.

Inaccuracies in obituary notices

In two near-identical obituary notices, Edward Hindle (1886–1973) speculated about Guy's military past and his personal and academic interests (Hindle, 1945, 1946). Both accounts contained inaccuracies, with one (Hindle, 1945) even referring to Guy as "Dr G. C. Robson" in the title, and misspelling his middle name "Colborn." Further errors or allegations therein included Guy having spent a year in Naples when it was five months, that "... in 1935 [Guy] had another nervous breakdown

necessitating his resignation from the museum,” he was bombed during an air attack in WW1 and spent a year in hospital suffering from shell-shock before being invalided out of service, “... it is doubtful whether he [Guy] was entirely happy in his museum life ...,” and that “he [Guy] never seemed to have fully recovered from his illness [referring to shell shock].” To someone unfamiliar with Guy’s research output and history, Hindle’s references to his “delicacy” (mentioned also by Smith (1945)), hospitalization, ongoing issues with shell shock, general unhappiness, the implication that he had multiple nervous breakdowns, and death after a long illness, suggest that Guy was and had been for some time both mentally and physically fragile. We present compelling evidence to the contrary.

Guy’s physical prowess (1903–1916)

In September of 1903 Guy joined the Forest School Militia Volunteer Corps. Before leaving school in August 1906 he had achieved the rank of Second Lieutenant, and was adept with a rifle (Anonymous, 1906b). He also played cricket (Anonymous, 1904) and was a half-back in football, described as a “very energetic tackler,” and someone who excelled at running, hurdles, and the high jump (Anonymous, 1905, 1906b). By 1907 he had taken up soccer and cross-country running (Anonymous, 1907), and tennis by 1910 (Anonymous, 1910c: 221). He also played half-back for his old school as an “Old Forester” from 1910 to 1912 (Anonymous, 1910b, 1911, 1912). His pre-enlisting medical assessment¹⁴ on 21 July 1916 categorised him as fitness level “B1,” meaning “free from serious organic diseases, able to stand service on lines of communication in France, or in garrisons in the tropics,” and “able to march 5 miles, see to shoot with glasses, and hear well” (Epsom & Ewell History Explorer, 2023). Were it not for a reference in his Bethlem medical file (18 December 1936) that at age 9.5 years he had rheumatic fever and “slight valve trouble,” but had no persistent problem with walking or talking,¹⁵ an obscure reference to his health in 1906, that “we hope for greater things yet if Robson’s health holds good” (Anonymous, 1906a: 91), and a strained muscle prior to a running race (Anonymous, 1906b: 56), the many accounts of his school athleticism are inconsistent with any notion of his being physically fragile. His pre-enlistment medical evaluation also noted no major health conditions.

World War I (1914–1918)

Guy delayed enlistment in the military for domestic reasons; he was the only family member left to care for his father, whose health and business had been seriously affected by the war (Shindler, 2018). Serving his country in other ways, in September 1914, with Dr Francis Bather (1863–1934), he was instrumental in establishing First Aid training for BMNH staff under the auspices of the local Red Cross branch. By May 1915 the volunteers, led by Guy, mobilised as a section of the 31st London Voluntary Aid Detachment of the Red Cross Society, acting as stretcher-bearers for the London Ambulance Column, attending the wounded arriving at London railway stations, and unloading men at hospitals. Guy’s section also watched for Zeppelins at night from the museum roof. In October 1915 his application to undertake Red Cross duties in Italy was denied because the museum would not apply to Treasury to fund his wages during his absence (Shindler, 2018).

In April 1916 Guy joined the Officer Training Corps at Oxford University for two months, then applied for an Officer Commission in June, and voluntarily enlisted in the Royal Artillery on 7 June 1916. He was called up to serve shortly afterwards on 17 July, was first posted on 21 July to the Royal Field Artillery at the Officer Cadet Training School at Topsham in Exeter, and then on 18 August was posted to the Cadet school at Trowbridge and trained in siege artillery. Following his graduation on 11 October 1916 he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the 2/1st Essex and Suffolk Royal Garrison Artillery manning the coastal defences at Shoeburyness. It is here where he probably first saw active service, or in January of 1917 when stationed at a siege battery.¹⁶

Physical Health (1917–1918, 1936, 1944)

Our first indication that Guy experienced any health-related issue during WW1 is his reference to “my never very legible writing is now rendered more illegible by a damaged thumb.”¹⁷ This is followed by his 29 January 1917 admission to hospital with bronchitis, contracted after being stationed on an exposed battery and living in a draughty hut.¹⁸ Several months later (June) he was admitted for “acute

14. National Archives (UK). War Office, Officer’s Services, First World War, personal files ref WO_374_58651.

15. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

16. National Archives (UK). War Office, Officer’s Services, First World War, personal files ref WO_374_58651.

17. GCR to S. Harmer, 26 April 1916. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/200/64/39.

18. GCR to S. Harmer (hereinafter SH), 3 February 1917. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/200/66/33/0.

19. GCR to SH, 17 September 1917. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/200/66/33/1-3.

20. GCR to W. T. Calman, 8 July 1917. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/252/1/13/69.

21. GCR to SH, 17 September 1917. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/200/66/33/1-3.

22. National Archives (UK). War Office, Officer's Services, First World War, personal files ref WO_374_58651.

23. GCR to S. Harmer (hereinafter SH), 3 February 1917. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/200/66/33/0.

24. GCR to W. T. Calman, 8 July 1917. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/252/1/13/69.

25. Idem

26. GCR, Holloway Sanatorium medical records (1944–1945). Male Case Book ref: 7267/3/22. Surrey History Centre, Surrey, UK. Pp. 6.

27. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

28. National Archives (UK) ref J 77/3165/7189.

neurasthenia,”¹⁹ and again on or before 8 July 1917 for problems with deep-seated varicose veins.²⁰ By 19 September he was admitted to a hospital for “shell-shocked officers” in Kensington,²¹ where he remained until at least 9 December 1917 and was diagnosed with “peripheral neuritis” (14 November 1917).²² He was discharged on 22 June 1918. Should a comment written to Sidney Harmer (1862–1950),²³ the then Keeper of Zoology, be anything to go by, “I have to confess that I do not find any reward in the Military Life adequate to compensate me for the deprivation of my Zoological work,” Guy did not particularly enjoy his military posting.

“Neurasthenia” is now a seldom-used medical term for conditions characterised by exhaustion, a variety of pains, alterations in the senses, morbid fears, impairments in cognitive functioning, and alterations in mood (Abbey & Garfinkel, 1991). These symptoms were frequently associated with exposure to explosions from artillery shells during WW1, and the term neurasthenia became widely known by the equally ill-defined term “shell shock” (Alexander, 2010). The latter of Guy's two diagnoses (that led to his discharge), peripheral neuritis, is more specifically characterised by damage to nerves outside of the brain and spinal cord (peripheral nerves), and is associated with weakness, numbness, and pain, usually in the hands and feet (Pai, 2023). While never explicitly stated in any medical report, this diagnosis may be related to a pre-existing condition with varicose veins, because on 8 July 1917 Guy wrote to William Calman (1871–1952) at the (then) BMNH to say that his “*deep-seated varicose veins limited his chances of serving his country in a more active capacity,*” and that he could hardly walk.²⁴

We have found no evidence that Guy was ever bombed or directly wounded during the war, nor any evidence that he was “shell shocked,” except that based on an imprecise diagnosis and his admission to a hospital that treated this condition. While in one letter he cryptically refers to doing something “useful and INTERESTING [his emphasis],”²⁵ neither could be construed as being bombed nor wounded. Accordingly, we have found no evidence to support Hindle's allegations that Guy was bombed, or that he spent a year in hospital suffering from shell shock. Notably, the obituary notice of Smith (1945) makes no reference to Guy being shell shocked, but he does

mention that Guy “*for some time was laid up with injury to his feet.*” Despite Guy's claim that he could hardly walk, we are unaware of his experiencing any mobility-related issue after being discharged from hospital through to 1936; in 1936, when admitted to Bethlem, his “state of bodily health” was cited as “very good.” To the contrary, severe oedema in his legs and feet limited his mobility from at least 1944.²⁶

Marriage (1918)

Two days before being discharged from the Officer's hospital in Kensington, on 20 June 1918, Guy married Beryl Sinclair Nicholson (1899–1980). They first met (circumstances unknown) in 1912.²⁷ She was 19 when they married, and he 30, and they had two children—a son, Felix (1921–1999), and a daughter Ursula (1925–1996). Out of respect for the family's privacy we do not delve into their personal lives from 1918 to 1932, but we must mention certain public-record details that are relevant to correcting inaccuracies in commentary regarding Guy (this being our objective). Additionally, while we have reconstructed a diary of Guy's professional and public post-war engagements through to his 1936 departure from the BMNH, for brevity and relevance we do not dwell on those events from 1918–1930 either.

A marriage breakdown (1932–1933)

As president of the Malacological Society of London, Guy typically presided over normal meetings throughout much of 1930 and 1931. However, in 1932 he is infrequently mentioned in Proceedings records, and meetings for the last three meetings of the year were chaired by Alfred Kennard (1870–1948). Then, on 23 January 1933, Guy petitioned for a divorce from Beryl, who had moved out of the family home and taken Ursula (7) and Felix (11) with her to live with a Thomas Chegwidan (1895–1986).²⁸ Later that year (14 October) the *Richmond Herald* (UK) (Anonymous, 1936a) ran a brief summary of court proceedings regarding Guy's divorce application, divulging that Thomas had been a close friend of Guy and Beryl since “1926 or 1927,” that Guy had learned of their affair in August of 1932, and that Guy's “efforts to induce Beryl to leave Thomas” had been unavailing. Guy's absence

from Malacological Society Presidential duties in the latter part of 1932 is perhaps consistent with his investing more time with his family during an understandably difficult time.

In the week preceding Beryl's departure, Guy was busy securing and preserving a giant squid that earlier that month had stranded on Southside Beach, Scarborough (Robson, 1933a). However, following his detailed report on this specimen, and several other brief publications (Robson, 1933b, c; Robson & Bidder, 1933) that comprised six pages in total, he all-but abandoned research and public engagement, excepting (of which we are aware) one 7 September 1933 event at which he spoke on "the limitations of adaptability in the animal kingdom" and the value of coordinated zoological surveys and centralised publication of results to the British Association for the Advancement of Science (Anonymous, 1933). On or around 20 December 1933 Guy voluntarily admitted himself to Woodside Hospital.²⁹

Institutionalisation (1933–1945)

To our knowledge, no medical files remain for Guy between 1933 and 1936, and details of the time he spent in various institutions are limited (**Table 2**). On 20 April 1934 his doctor (Desmond Curran (1903–1985)) at Woodside Hospital had written to the BMNH to request additional leave for Guy, suggesting that he would make a full recovery from "a recent illness." However, other than mentioning that Guy experienced anxiety, the nature of his illness was unspecified.³⁰ Although NHM archives through to 1936 include further correspondence between Guy and BMNH staff, or that otherwise involves him, nothing therein details Guy's ailment(s). It is, however, apparent from these documents that Guy spent

considerable time away from work, and that the museum went to great lengths to accommodate him and his absences, until continuance was no longer viable.

The first page of Guy's admission sheet to Bethlem in December of 1936³¹ specifies "no previous attacks" of depression, for his first attack to have been at age 45, for it to have persisted for "3 to 3.5 years," and for his depression to have been "marked." This suggests that Guy experienced no problems with depression prior to mid- or late 1932.

When admitted, Guy was deemed neither suicidal nor homicidal, but within four days (18 December) he was placed under constant observation. Hereon, and through to his passing, evidence for his being "troubled" is incontrovertible, in that he resided within institutions and was obviously depressed, but other than his making repeated references to a sense of having failed his family and of personal inadequacy, he volunteered few specifics regarding the root cause(s) of his troubles. In December 1936, he revealed that a contract to complete a book had caused him grief. We deduce that he referred to *Variation of Animals in Nature*, a collaboration with Owain Richards (1901–1984), the publication of which was delayed until 1936. While contract documents dated 21 June 1928 between Guy, Owain, and Longmans, Green & Co Ltd³² for delivery of this book (an anticipated 500-page tome) specified no delivery date nor made mention of an advance being paid, Guy and Owain did receive a lump-sum payment of £60 on 1 November 1933 for, we assume, submission of a draft manuscript. Because this book was printed in February 1936, Guy had obviously fulfilled his contract to the publisher and provided a final manuscript before volunteering himself to hospital. Therefore, while

29. Dr D. Curran to W. T. Calman, 20 April 1934. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/208/20.

30. Idem

31. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

32. The Museum of English Rural Life, University of Reading, references MS 1393 3/5532 (Robson and Richards: Variation in Animal Nature (5 pages)), MS 1393 2/247/1047 (Robson and Richards: Variation in Animal Nature (3 pages)).

Year(s)	Institution/Hospital
1933 (December)–1934 (August)	Woodside Hospital, Muswell Hill, London
1934 (October)–1935 (April)	Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London
1935 (December)–1936 (May)	Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London
1936 (December)–1944 (June)	Bethlem Royal Hospital, Croydon
1944 (June)–1944 (August)	St John & Saint Elizabeth Hospital, London
1944 (August)–1945 (17 May)	Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, Surrey

Table 2. Institutions and Hospitals (United Kingdom) at which Guy Coburn Robson stayed from 1933–1945 (exact start-and-end dates of hospital stays between 1933 and 1936 are unknown).

33. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

34. GCR, Holloway Sanatorium medical records (1944–1945). Male Case Book ref: 7267/3/22. Surrey History Centre, Surrey, UK. Pp. 6.

35. Idem

36. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

37. Idem

38. Idem

39. GCR, Holloway Sanatorium medical records (1944–1945). Male Case Book ref: 7267/3/22. Surrey History Centre, Surrey, UK. Pp. 6.

40. Golders Green Crematorium archives, www.thelcc.co.uk, entry for G. C. Robson in ledger, 23 May 1945.

41. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

preparation of this book may have contributed to his anxiety, it is unlikely to have contributed to ongoing problems with depression.

We were most fortunate to secure records of Guy's stays at Bethlem from 1936 through to 1944,³³ and from Holloway Sanatorium from 1944 to his passing in 1945.³⁴ These files contain personal information that is mostly inappropriate to repeat. However, we present representative excerpts from these records where they assist us to correct errors in obituary notices, or explain what next happens to Guy—again, with the objective being to right an injustice that was done to his reputation.

On 15 August 1944 when first admitted to Holloway Sanatorium, Guy's brother Selby maintained that Guy had returned "back to normal life" in 1939, but that he had a "relapse" in 1942.³⁵ These dates are mostly corroborated by doctor's entries in Guy's Bethlem file,³⁶ where routine references to Guy's general state of mental retardation and melancholy are interrupted by references to his making marked improvements. For example, file entries range from "*his whole day is spent in bed in a room with the windows closed*" (30 November 1937) to "*he shows definite improvement and is most interesting to talk to*" (30 December 1938), followed by an inexplicable year-long relapse from January of 1939–1940. In January 1940 his condition again improves, and an entry reads "*at the moment he is better than I have ever seen him*" (30 January 1940); in February an entry reads "*relatively [sic.] to what he has been one could almost call him an extrovert now,*" with notes (26 February 1940) also referring to him playing billiards with his "great friend," another inpatient, the British stage and film actor Owen Roughwood (1876–1947). In May 1940 an entry reads "his retardation has disappeared." This reprieve from depression persisted through to at least June, and quite possibly July 1942; he had even taken to venturing into London alone. Then, between 19 July and 10 August 1942, something triggered him, for on 10 August an entry reads that "*Guy had relapsed for no apparent reason.*" While his doctors suspected that they may have pushed him too hard, we note that this relapse roughly coincides with the release of *Evolution: The Modern Synthesis* by Julian Huxley (1887–1975), the first print of which (Huxley, 1942) appeared in the UK between June and August of 1942, the preface of which was written in

March of that year, and drafts of which almost certainly circulated among Huxley's peers prior to its release. Guy had only to read to page 31 of this tome to be humiliated by the savage critique of his 1936 *The Variation of Animals in Nature*, and 1928 *The Species Problem*, by his apparent friend (according to Erlingson, 2013), which Huxley referred to as an "*undue, belittling of the role of selection in evolution, and an over-emphasis of the origin of species as the key problem in evolutionary biology.*"

Guy's latest bout of depression, which persisted until at least August 1943, was followed by deteriorating physical health.³⁷ On 25 October 1943, he reported abdominal pain, and was jaundiced; a preliminary diagnosis of obstructive jaundice was made. Monthly entries through to April 1944 indicate that his health deteriorated progressively, but that there were continued delays in getting his condition medically assessed. Finally, on 8 June 1944, Guy was transferred to St John & Saint Elizabeth Hospital; days later, 14 June, he was discharged from Bethlem.³⁸ No St John & Saint Elizabeth Hospital medical records for Guy survive, but Holloway Sanatorium files indicate that he was treated there for jaundice from 8 June through to 15 August 1944. Eleven months on, at Holloway Sanatorium, Guy passed away of cardiac arrest, aggravated by biliary cirrhosis.³⁹ In the few days prior to his passing, which medical notes suggest was sudden and "while conversing with relatives," his condition had deteriorated significantly.

On 23 May 1945 the ashes of Guy Coburn Robson were sprinkled across the "crocus lawn" at Golders Crematorium, London.⁴⁰ His father, Thomas Pearson Robson (1857–1930) passed away of Bright's disease (nephritis).⁴¹ He was survived by his mother, Sarah Mary Broodbank (1861–1947), his brother Selby, and his two children, Felix and Ursula. Whether Guy died "suddenly" (*sensu* Anonymous, 1945; Smith, 1945) or after a "long illness" (*sensu* Hindle, 1945, 1946) all depends on whether you separate his protracted battle with depression from his relatively short bout of poor physical health.

Criticism of Guy's research output (1977 onwards)

This is where our abridged biography of Guy Coburn Robson's life could have ended were it

not for statements the preeminent teuthologist Gilbert Voss (1918–1989) made regarding him and his work, specifically referring to his two seminal monograph volumes (Robson 1929, 1932):

“Robson attempted a monumental task, which was doomed to failure before it was started. The number of species was too large and contained too few critical reviews; too many of the species were known only from unique specimens, often female; and he was now suffering from the mental difficulties that shortly forced his retirement from the British Museum” (Voss, 1977: 54).

Over a decade on, Voss continued:

“Unfortunately the systematics of the deep-sea octopods, and in particular the cirrates, have been sadly neglected. Robson’s (1932) monographic study of the cirrates was the last attempt to make order out of the group. It did not succeed, partly because of Robson’s mental decline and partly because of the poor quality and quantity of available collections” (Voss, 1988a: 303).

While collections of cephalopods at Guy’s disposal were unquestionably inferior to those available today, there is no evidence to suggest that Guy experienced any mental problem prior to December 1933 (it is possible for some issues developed in 1932 after learning of his wife’s infidelity). According to the preface in Robson’s second volume on octopuses, the text was completed by 2 November 1931. Ergo, Voss’s allegation that Guy was “*now suffering from the mental difficulties ...*,” or that this affected the quality of his research output, is untenable. Most recently, Hodgson *et al.* (2021) also suggested that Guy stood down from editing the *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London* at the end of 1927 “*we suspect owing to health reasons,*” but it is more probable that he relinquished this role to assume even greater responsibility as the society’s President.

We posit that suspicion prior to and confirmation of Beryl’s suspected infidelity in August of 1932 (Anonymous, 1936a), the departure of his wife and children on 23 January 1933,⁴² his deep sense of personal inadequacy and responsibility for the breakdown in his marriage,⁴³ and his obligation to complete *The Variation of Animals in Nature*,⁴⁴ triggered Guy’s troubles, rather than anything he experienced during WW1 (as intimated by Hindle).

This is supported by Winckworth’s comment to Adam⁴⁵ that his current mental state was “*brought on again by domestic trouble.*” Should this be true then Guy’s mental decline in no way affected the quality of his research output when he was most productive.

We report Guy’s mental state to have improved considerably between 1940 and at least July 1942, and for a relapse in August of 1942 to broadly coincide with Julian Huxley’s harsh critique of two of Guy’s books dealing with evolution. Guy’s last bout of depression was followed by a relatively rapid deterioration in his physical health, leading to his death at 57.

Thiele (1935: 1689) commented “*Robson began a monograph of cephalopods, of which so far the octopods have been completed (1929 and 1932).*” Adam (1946) also concluded his eulogy to Guy with “*In studying it [referring to the two volumes of his octopus memoir] one cannot but regret that Robson had not the opportunity to treat similarly of the Decapoda.*” While our bibliography of Guy’s publications is more complete than that of Adam (1946), it is possible that other manuscripts exist. We have been unable to locate one titled “*Remarks on melanism in land mollusca*” that Guy presented on 9 May 1930 at an ordinary meeting of the Malacological Society of London. Guy also makes mention of his returning a completed manuscript for a new version of the Mollusca section of the BMNH *Collector’s Handbook* in correspondence with Sidney Harmer.^{46, 47} Three (1902, 1904, 1906) of the four editions of the BMNH *Collectors Handbook* predate Guy’s employment at the museum, but in the fourth edition (BMNH, 1921) a chapter on “*soft bodied and other invertebrate animals*” solely attributed to Harmer might rightly have included Guy as a contributing author.

Over and above his published output, further unpublished manuscripts do or did exist. NHM archives contain no draft manuscript on squids, so it appears that Guy had not embarked on any such project yet. However, one largely complete draft in the NHM archives written by Guy is titled “*On the use and modification of the arm-web in the Octopoda.*” A second largely complete draft on decapods of the “Arcturus” expedition was published posthumously (Robson, 1948). A further draft manuscript titled “*Breathing tubes of Cyclophoridae*” that was in Guy’s NHM files until at least 1975 cannot be located. Finally, we draw attention to a manuscript written by

42. National Archives (UK) ref J 77/3165/7189.

43. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

44. The Museum of English Rural Life, University of Reading, references MS 1393 3/5532 (Robson and Richards: Variation in Animal Nature (5 pages)), MS 1393 2/247/1047 (Robson and Richards: Variation in Animal Nature (3 pages)).

45. R. Winckworth to W. Adam, 20 December 1937. Original manuscript in Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium (courtesy Dr Yves Samyn).

46. GCR to SH, 4 May 1916. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/200/64/39.

47. GCR to SH, 14 May 1916. Original manuscript in Natural History Museum, London, Archives DF ZOO/200/64/39.

48. GCR (1936–1944), Bethlem Royal Hospital medical records. Bethlem Art and History Collections Trust, UK. Pp 13.

49. Idem

Guy at Bethlem on “dreams,” or more exactly, a “monograph on the mechanism of dreams from the organic point of view,” as it is referred to in his medical file.⁴⁸ On 22 October 1941 his doctor [initials DW, we assume Dr Duncan Whittaker (1906–1969)] wrote to say that this manuscript was “judicial and well expressed,” before continuing “He still sleeps badly and struggles hard against any reduction in his sedatives.”

We can only imagine what Guy’s broken dreams involved, but we do hope that our contribution in some way helps him rest peacefully. We also hope that this contribution spells an end to any further questioning of the quality of his research. Finally, we note that according to Guy’s Bethlem medical file,⁴⁹ he “was happy” at work (18 August 1936), contrary to Hindle’s speculation otherwise.

Acknowledgements

We extend our gratitude to David Luck, archivist for Bethlem Royal Hospital, Kent, and Julian Pooley, Surrey History Centre, Woking, UK, for their comments on a draft of this manuscript, authorisation to publish it, and information without which we would have been unable to piece together Guy’s life at the Bethlem Royal Hospital and Holloway Sanatorium, respectively. We also thank Michael Stansfield, Archivist and Records Manager, Oxford University, UK, for information regarding Guy at Oxford; Samantha Gautama and Susannah Coates, from Forest School, London, UK, who provided us with access to their archives, without which Guy’s early education would have remained a mystery; Kathryn Rooke, Laura Brown Emma Harrold, and Ceri Pollard, who assisted with the retrieval of information and documentation from the NHM archives, and Kevin Webb, for photographs of Robson’s microscope and specimen bottles, NHM, London, UK. We thank also Dr Yves Samyn, Royal Belgian Institute of Sciences, Belgium, who provided us with communications between Ronald Winckworth and William Adam, and between William Adam and Guy Robson, that enabled us to better understand certain events in Guy’s life; Helena Clarkson and Michele Drisse, The Museum of English Rural Life, University of Reading, Reading, UK, who provided us with access to contracts between the publisher, Guy Robson and Owain Richards regarding the Variation of Animals in Nature; and Julie Evans of Golders

Green Crematorium Administration, UK, for information regarding Guy’s cremation and where his ashes were sprinkled. We further thank the Natural History Museum Archives for access to archived Department of Zoology, Departmental Correspondence (DF ZOO files) (by permission of the Trustees of The Natural History Museum); Dr CC Lu, Melbourne, Australia, for a critical and constructive review of an earlier manuscript draft; and Cyrielle Mallet (the wife of the first author) and Barbara Buge (Museum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris, France) for their translation of the English text of the Abstract of this manuscript into French. For their valued comments on and review of an earlier draft of this manuscript, we thank Drs Yves Samyn and Tristan Verhoeff (Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Collections and Research facility, Rosny, Australia). Finally, we thank Angus Robson, Guy’s great grandson (a son of Felix), for his assistance in this contribution, and for his review and endorsement of this manuscript being submitted for publication.

References

- ABBEE S. E. & GARFINKEL P. E., 1991. Neurasthenia and chronic fatigue syndrome: the role of culture in the making of a diagnosis. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 148(12): 1638–1646.
- ADAM W., 1946. A review of Robson’s work on the Cephalopoda. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society*, 27(3): 131–136.
- ALEXANDER C., 2010. The shock of war. *Smithsonian*. September 2010.
- ANONYMOUS, 1902. *Forest School Magazine*. Trinity Term 1902: 63–93.
- ANONYMOUS, 1903. *Forest School Magazine*. Trinity Term 1903: 165–204.
- ANONYMOUS, 1904. *Forest School Magazine*. Trinity Term 1904: 277–319.
- ANONYMOUS, 1905a. *Forest School Magazine*. Christmas Term 1905: 1–36.
- ANONYMOUS, 1905b. *Forest School Magazine*. Trinity Term 1905: 393–436.
- ANONYMOUS, 1906a. *Forest School Magazine*. Trinity Term 1906: 79–122.
- ANONYMOUS, 1906b. *Forest School Magazine*. Easter Term 1906: 40–77.
- ANONYMOUS, 1907. *Forest School Magazine*. Easter Term 1907: 164–199.
- ANONYMOUS, 1910a. *London Gazette*, 2 December 1910.

- ANONYMOUS, 1910b. *Forest School Magazine*. Christmas Term 1910: 1–40.
- ANONYMOUS, 1910c. *Forest School Magazine*. Trinity Term 1910: 191–230.
- ANONYMOUS, 1911. *Forest School Magazine*. Christmas Term 1911: 120–157.
- ANONYMOUS, 1912. *Forest School Magazine*. Christmas Term 1912: 1–45.
- ANONYMOUS, 1932. *Hampstead News*, p. 6, 6 October 1932.
- ANONYMOUS, 1933. Dr G. C. Robson—The limitations of adaptability in the animal kingdom. *British Association for the Advancement of Science, Report of the Annual Meeting, 1933*: 487–488.
- ANONYMOUS, 1936a. A husband's petition. *Richmond Herald*, p. 3, 14 October 1936.
- ANONYMOUS, 1936b. Retirement from Natural History Museum. *Kensington News and West London Gazette*, p. 3, 25 December 1936.
- ANONYMOUS, 1937a. Untitled announcement of Robson's retirement from the British Museum of Natural History. *The Museums Journal*, 36: 486–487.
- ANONYMOUS, 1937b. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London, 1937, Annual General Meeting*.
- ANONYMOUS, 1945. Mr. G.C. Robson. Authority on Mollusca. *The Times (London)*, May 21, 1945: 6.
- BMNH, 1921. *Handbook of Instructions for Collectors*. British Museum of Natural History. William Clowes and Sons. Pp. 222, pl. 1.
- CS, 1928. Challenger Society. *Annual Report 1928*, 2(i).
- CS, 1929. Challenger Society. *Annual Report 1929*, 2(ii).
- EPSOM & EWELL HISTORY EXPLORER, 2023. <https://eehe.org.uk/?p=25030&fbclid=IwAR19rcBueybfcpM2SyX5TXxFrAkENgxuWL-HK-14VsRF7wO9ap2-3y7TAA>. Accessed 20 February 2023.
- ERLINGSON S. J., 2013. Institutions and innovation: experimental zoology and the creation of the British Journal of Experimental Biology and the Society for Experimental Biology. *The British Journal for the History of Science*, 46: 73–95.
- HINDLE E., 1945. Dr G. C. Robson (obituary notice). *Nature*, 156: 75.
- HINDLE E., 1946. Guy Coburn Robson, 1888–1945 (obituary notice). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 26: 151–152.
- HODGSON A. N., DUSSART G. & RAHEEM D. C., 2021. From print to on-line, a historical review of the Journal of the Malacological Society of London. *The Malacologist*, 76: 30–36.
- HUXLEY J., 1942. *Evolution: The Modern Synthesis*. George Allen & Unwin Ltd. London, 645 pp.
- PAI S. T., 2023. *Peripheral neuropathy*: 118–218 (chapter 14). In: *Integrative Medicine*, 5th Edition, Ed. Rakel D. and Minicheillo VJ. Elsevier.
- ROBSON G. C., 1911. The effect of *Sacculina* upon the fat metabolism of its host. *Journal of Cell Science*, s2-57(226): 267–278.
- ROBSON G. C., 1914. Cephalopods from the Monte Bello Islands. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1814: 677–680.
- ROBSON G. C., 1928. *The Species Problem. An Introduction to the Study of Evolutionary Divergence in Natural Populations*. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, London. 283 + viii pp.
- ROBSON G. C., 1929b. *A monograph of the Recent Cephalopoda. Part 1. Octopodinae*. Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), London. Pp. 236, 7 pls.
- ROBSON G. C., 1932. *A monograph of the Recent Cephalopoda. Part 2. The Octopoda (excluding the Octopodinae)*. Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), London. 359 pp., 6 pls.
- ROBSON G. C., 1933a. On *Architeuthis clarkei*, a new species of giant squid, with observations on the genus. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 103(3): 681–697.
- ROBSON G. C., 1933b. A Roman snail in the museum garden. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 4(27): 105–107.
- ROBSON G. C., 1933c. Importation of the dune snail into Western Australia. *Nature*, 132: 712.
- ROBSON G. C., 1948. The Cephalopoda Decapoda of the “Arcturus” Oceanographic Expedition. *Zoologica*, 33(3): 115–132, 18 figs.
- ROBSON G. C. & BIDDER A., 1933. On the modification of the alimentary canal in abyssal cephalopods. *Proceedings of the Linnean Society*, 145(3): 125–126.
- ROBSON G. C. & RICHARDS O. W., 1936. *The Variation of Animals in Nature*. Longmans, Green and Co., London, New York, Toronto, 425 pp., 2 pls.
- SEB, 1974. *The Society of Experimental Biology. Origins and History*. Thulprint Ltd, Lerwick, Shetland Islands, 36 pp.
- SHINDLER K., 2018. *A Museum at War. Snapshots of Life at the Natural History Museum during World War One*. Natural History Museum, London, UK, 232 pp.

- SOUTHWOOD R., 1987. Owain Westmacott Richards, 31 December 1901–10 November 1984. *Biographical Memoirs of the Royal Society*, 33: 539–571.
- SMITH G. F. H., 1945. Untitled obituary notice for 'Mr Guy Coburn Robson.' *The Museums Journal* 45: 101–102.
- SPIER R., 2002. The history of the peer-review process. *Trends in Biotechnology*, 20: 357–358.
- THIELE J., 1935. *Handbook of Systematic Malacology*, Part 3. English translation by J. S. Bhatti, 1998. Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington.
- Voss G. L., 1977. Present status and new trends in cephalopod systematics. *Symposium of the Zoological Society of London*, 38: 49–60.
- Voss G. L., 1988. The biogeography of the deep-sea Octopoda. *Malacologia*, 29(1): 295–307.

Appendix 1

Supplementary Material 1

Bibliography Guy Coburn Robson. *Omitted from Adam (1946)

- *Robson, G.C., 1911. The effect of *Sacculina* upon the fat metabolism of its host. *Journal of Cell Science*, 57(2): 267–278. [DOI.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-57.226.267](https://doi.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-57.226.267)
- Robson, G.C., 1912. On a case of presumed viviparity in Limicolaria. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 10: 32–33. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063463](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063463)
- 1913. *Helminthochiton aequivoca* n.sp. *Geological Magazine*, 10: 302–304. [DOI.org/10.1017/S0016756800126731](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0016756800126731)
- 1913. Note on *Glyptorhagada silveri* (Angas). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 10: 265. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063498](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063498)
- 1913. On *Aporemodon*, a remarkable new pulmonate genus. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 11: 425–428. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222931308692630](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222931308692630)
- 1913. On some remarkable shell monstrosities. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 10: 274–276. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063500](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063500)
- *Cummings B.F. & Robson G.C., 1914. Taxonomy and Evolution. *The American Naturalist*, 48 (570): 369–382. (Authors identified as ‘X’). [DOI.org/10.1086/279413](https://doi.org/10.1086/279413)
- Robson G.C., 1914. Cephalopods from the Monte Bello Islands. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1814: 677–680.
- 1914. Molluscan rubber pests. *Journal of Conchology*, 14: 225.
- 1914. On a collection of land and freshwater Gastropoda from Madagascar, with descriptions of new genera and new species. *Journal of the Linnean Society*, 32: 375–389, pl. 35. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01462.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01462.x)
- 1914. Report of the Mollusca collected by the British Ornithologists’ Union Expedition and the Wollaston Expedition in Dutch New Guinea. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London*, 20: 287–307.
- 1914. The dentition of *Veronicella nilotica*, Cockerell. Appendix II: 266–268. In: Longstaff J., On a collection of non-marine Mollusca from the southern Sudan. *Journal of the Linnean Society* 32: 233–268, pl 17, 18. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01456.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01456.x)
- *— 1915. Note on “*Katayama nosophora*.” *China Medical Journal*, 29(3): 150–151. [DOI.org/10.3760/cma.j.issn.0366-6999.1915.03.102](https://doi.org/10.3760/cma.j.issn.0366-6999.1915.03.102)
- 1915. Note on *Katayama nosophora*. In: Leiper R.T., Atkinson E.L., Observations on the spread of Asiatic Schistosomiasis. *British Medical Journal* 1(2822): 203. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25312519>
- 1915. On the anatomy of *Marinula tristanensis*. *Annals of the South African Museum*, 15: 109–112.
- 1915. On the extension of the range of the American slipper-limpet on the east coast of England. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 16: 496–499. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222931508693743](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222931508693743)
- 1920. Observations on the succession of the gastropods *Paludestrina ulvae* and *ventrosa* in brackish water. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 6: 525–529. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932008632478](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932008632478)
- 1920. On the anatomy of *Paludestrina jenkinsi*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5: 425–431. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932008632396](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932008632396)
- 1920. Studies in British Hydrobiidae, Part I (abstract). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 14: 1.
- 1921. Is bisexuality in animals a function of motion? *Nature*, 108: 212. [DOI.org/10.1038/108212a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/108212a0)
- 1921. On the anatomy and affinities of *Hypsobia nosophora*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 8: 401–413. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932108632600](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932108632600)
- 1921. On the Cephalopoda obtained by the Percy Sladen Trust Expedition to the Indian Ocean in 1905. *Transactions of the Linnean Society*, 17: 429–442, pl. 65–66. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb00473.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb00473.x)
- 1921. On the molluscan genus *Cochlitoma* and its anatomy with remarks upon the variation of two closely-allied forms. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1921: 249–266. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb03264.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb03264.x)
- 1921. The Mollusca as material for genetic research. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 14: 227–231. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063755](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063755)
- *— 1921. Sex-manifestation and motion in molluscs. *Nature*, 108: 403. [DOI.org/10.1038/108403d0](https://doi.org/10.1038/108403d0)
- 1922. Notes on the respiratory mechanism of the Ampullariidae. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1922: 341–346.

- 1922. On the anatomy and affinities of *Paludestrina ventrosa*, Montague. *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*, 66: 159–185. [DOI.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-66.261.159](https://doi.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-66.261.159)
- 1922. On the connexion between style-sac and intestine in Gastropoda and Lamellibranchia. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 15: 41–46. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063770](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063770)
- *— 1922. Rabaud, Étienne 1921. L'Hérédité. *The Eugenics Review*, 14(3): 196–197. PMID: PMC2942460.
- 1922. Self-fertilization in Mollusca. *Nature*, 109: 12. [DOI.org/10.1038/109012b0](https://doi.org/10.1038/109012b0)
- *Crew FAE, Dakin WJ, Harrison JH, Hogben LT, Huxley JS, Johnstone J, Marshall FHA, Robson GC, Saunders AMC, Thompson JM 1923. The British Journal of Experimental Biology. *Science*, 58: 102. www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.58.1493.102.a
- *Crew FAE, Dakin WJ, Harrison JH, Hogben LT, Johnstone J, Marshall FHA, Robson GC, Saunders AMC, Thompson JM 1923. The British Journal of Experimental Biology. *Nature*, 112: 133–134. [DOI.org/10.1038/112133b0](https://doi.org/10.1038/112133b0)
- Robson GC 1923. A note on the species as a gene-complex. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 11: 111–115. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932308632829](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932308632829)
- 1923. *Guide to the Mollusca Exhibited in the Zoological Department, British Museum (Natural History)*. Oxford University Press, 55 pp.
- 1923. Molluscan life on the south Dogger Bank. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 15: 174–178. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063802](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063802)
- Robson G.C. & Massy A.L., 1923. On a remarkable case of sex-dimorphism in the genus *Sepia*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 12: 435–442. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932308632961](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932308632961)
- Robson G.C., 1923. On the external characters of *Sinum planulatum* (Récl.). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 15: 268–269. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063816](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063816)
- 1923. Parthenogenesis in the mollusc *Paludestrina jenkinsi*: part 1. *British Journal of Experimental Biology*, 1: 65–78. [DOI.org/10.1242/jeb.1.1.65](https://doi.org/10.1242/jeb.1.1.65)
- Carleton H.M. & Robson G.C., 1924. On the histology and function of certain secondary sexual organs in the cuttlefish *Doratosepion confusa*. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London*, 96: 259–271, pl. 3. [DOI.org/10.1098/rspb.1924.0025](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.1924.0025)
- *Robson G.C., 1924. Interpretations of primitive American decorative art. *Nature*, 114: 381–382. [DOI.org/10.1038/114381a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/114381a0)
- 1924. Mollusca. In: *Hutchinson's Animals of All Countries*. London, Hutchinson & Co. Ltd. 4: 2034–2182.
- 1924. On a new *Doratopsis*-stage of *Cheiroteuthis* from S.E. Africa. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 13: 591–594. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932408633086](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932408633086)
- 1924. On new species, &c. of Octopoda from South Africa. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 9(13): 202–210. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932408633028](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932408633028)
- 1924. On the Cephalopoda obtained in South African waters by Dr. J. D. F. Gilchrist in 1920–21. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1924: 589–686, pl. 1–2. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1924.tb01516.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1924.tb01516.x)
- 1924. Preliminary report on the Cephalopoda (Decapoda) procured by the S.S. “Pickle.” *Report of the Fisheries and Marine Biological Survey of the Union of South Africa*, 3: 1–14.
- *— 1925. Book review. ‘The Biological Foundations of Society,’ by Dendy A. London: Constable and Co. 1924. *Eugenics Review*, 16(4): 285–286.
- Robson G.C. & Richards O.W., 1925. Investigations of the origin of insular races of land Mollusca in the Scilly Isles. *Nature*, 116: 641–642. [DOI.org/10.1038/116641a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/116641a0)
- Robson G.C., 1925. On a new species of *Rossia* from South Africa. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 15: 450–454. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932508633233](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932508633233)
- 1925. On a specimen of the rare squid *Stenoteuthis caroli*, stranded on the Yorkshire coast. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1925: 291–301, pl. 1.
- 1925. On *Mesonychoteuthis*, a new genus of oegopsid Cephalopoda. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 9(16): 272–277. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932508633309](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932508633309)
- 1925. On seriation and asymmetry in the cephalopod radula. *Journal of the Linnean Society*, 36: 99–108. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1925.tb01848.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1925.tb01848.x)
- 1925. On the anatomy of an immature zonitoid land mollusc. *Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums Kuala Lumpur*, 8: 168–174, pl. 13–14.
- 1925. The animal life of estuaries. *The Journal of the Quekett Microscopical Club*, 15: 161–168.
- 1926. Cephalopoda from N.W. African waters and the Biscayan region. *Bulletin de la Société des sciences naturelles du Maroc*, 6: 158–195.
- 1926. Editorial notes. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 17: 132–134. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063899](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063899)
- 1926. Light-organs in littoral Cephalopoda. *Nature*, 118: 554–555. [DOI.org/10.1038/118554a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/118554a0)

- 1926. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—I. Descriptions of two new species of *Octopus* from southern India and Ceylon. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 17: 159–167. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932608633384](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932608633384)
- 1926. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—II. A.—On the habits and structure of *Sepiolo atlantica*. B.—On a new species of *Sepioteuthis* from Tobago. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 18: 350–352. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932608633525](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932608633525)
- 1926. On the hectocotylus of the Cephalopoda—a reconsideration. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 17: 117–122. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063896](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063896)
- 1926. Parthenogenesis in the mollusc *Paludestrina jenkinsi*. Part II. *British Journal of Experimental Biology*, 3: 149–160. [DOI.org/10.1242/jeb.3.2.149](https://doi.org/10.1242/jeb.3.2.149)
- 1926. The Cephalopoda obtained by the S.S. Pickle. Supplementary Report. *Report of the Fisheries and Marine Biological Survey of South Africa*, 4(8): 1–6.
- 1926. The deep-sea Octopoda. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 95: 1323–1356. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1925.tb07439.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1925.tb07439.x)
- *Richards O.W. & Robson G.C., 1926. The species problem and evolution (part I). *Nature*, 117: 345–347. [DOI.org/10.1038/117345a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/117345a0)
- *Richards O.W. & Robson G.C., 1926. The species problem and evolution (part II). *Nature*, 117: 382–384. [DOI.org/10.1038/117382a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/117382a0)
- Richards O.W. & Robson G.C., 1926. The land and freshwater Mollusca of the Scilly Isles and West Cornwall. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 92: 1101–1124. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1926.tb02237.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1926.tb02237.x)
- Robson G.C., 1927. Luminous squids and cuttlefish. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 1: 50–52.
- 1927. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—III. On the anatomy and classification of the North Atlantic species of *Bathypolypus* and *Benthoctopus*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 20: 249–263. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932708655596](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932708655596)
- 1927. Report on the Mollusca (Cephalopoda) [of the Cambridge Expedition to the Suez Canal, 1924]. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London*, 22: 321–329. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1927.tb00380.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1927.tb00380.x)
- 1928. Cephalopodes des mers d'Indochine. *Service Océanographique des Pêches de l'Indochine*, 10: 53.
- 1928. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—IV. On *Octopus aegina*, Gray; with remarks on the systematic value of the octopod web. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10(1): 641–646. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932808672833](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932808672833)
- 1928. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—V. On the oviposition of *Octopus rugosus*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 1(5): 646–647. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932808672834](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932808672834)
- 1928. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—VI. On *Grimpella*, a new genus of Octopoda, with remarks on the classification of the Octopodidae. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 2(7): 108–114. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932808672862](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932808672862)
- 1928. On the giant octopus of New Zealand. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1928: 257–264.
- *— 1928. The species problem. *Geological Magazine*, 65(9): 430. [DOI:10.1017/S0016756800108295](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0016756800108295)
- 1928. *The Species Problem. An Introduction to the Study of Evolutionary Divergence in Natural Populations*. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, London, 283 pp. + viii pp.
- Clarke W.J. & Robson G.C., 1929. Notes on the stranding of giant squids on the north-east coast of England. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 18: 154–158. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063962](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063962)
- Joubin L. & Robson G.C., 1929. On a new species of *Macrotritopus* obtained by Dr. J. Schmidt's 'Dana' Expedition, with remarks on the genus. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1929: 89–94. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07689.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07689.x)
- Robson G.C., 1929. A giant squid from the North Sea. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 2: 6–8.
- 1929. *A monograph of the Recent Cephalopoda. Part 1. Octopodinae*. Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), London, 236 pp., 7 pls.
- 1929. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—VII. On *Macrotritopus*, Grimpe, with a description of a new species. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 3(15): 311–313. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932908672975](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932908672975)
- 1929. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—VIII. The genera and subgenera of Octopodinae and Bathypolypodinae. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 3(18): 607–608. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932908673017](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932908673017)
- 1929. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—IX. Remarks on Atlantic Octopoda &c. in the Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 3(18): 609–618. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932908673018](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932908673018)
- 1929. On a case of bilateral hectocotylization in *Octopus rugosus*. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1929: 95–9.
- 1929. On the dispersal of the American slipper limpet in English waters (1915–29). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 18: 272–275. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063989](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063989)
- 1929. On the rare abyssal octopod *Melanoteuthis beebei* (sp.n.): a contribution to the phylogeny of the Octopoda. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1929: 469–486. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07702.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07702.x)
- Aubertin D., Ellis A.E. & Robson G.C., 1930. The natural history and variation of the pointed snail, *Cochlicella acu-*

- ta (Mull). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1930: 1027–1055.
- Robson G.C., 1930. Cephalopoda. I. Octopoda. *Discovery Reports*, 2: 371–402, pl. 3–4.
- 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—10. On *Octopus patatagonicus* Lönnberg. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5 (26): 239–240. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673125](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673125)
- 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—11. On a new species of *Benthoctopus* from Patagonia with remarks on magellanic octopods. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5(27): 330–334. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673141](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673141)
- 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—12. Observations on young octopods obtained by the 'Dana' Expedition. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5: 366–370. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673147](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673147)
- 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 13. The position and affinities of *Palaeoctopus*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 6(34): 544–547. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673246](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673246)
- 1930. On a specimen of *Octopus vulgaris* from Indian seas. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 19: 117–118. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064019](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064019)
- 1930. Slug or horned viper? *Nature*, 125: 893. [DOI.org/10.1038/125893d0](https://doi.org/10.1038/125893d0)
- 1930. Two remarkable cephalopods. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 2: 257–259.
- 1931. Mollusca: 102–147. In: Pycraft W.P. (Ed), *The Standard Natural History: from Amoeba to Man*. Frederick Warne and Co., London.
- 1931. Shells. Appendix M. In: Thomas B., A Camel Journey across the Rub'al Khali. *The Geographical Journal*, 78: 235.
- 1931. The adaptability of the molluscan classes. (Presidential address.) *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 19: 259–266. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064050](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064050)
- 1932. Shells. Appendix: 363–364. In: Thomas B., *Arabia Felix: Across the Empty Quarter of Arabia*. London, 435 pp.
- 1932. *A monograph of the Recent Cephalopoda. Part 2. The Octopoda (excluding the Octopodinae)*. Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), London., 359 pp., 6 pls.
- 1932. Exhibit of a remarkable larval cephalopod. *Proceedings of the Linnean Society*, 144: 102.
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 14. On the shell-vestige of *Cirroteuthis mülleri*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 179. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673487](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673487)
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 15. On an interesting abnormality in *Eledone cirrosa*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 180. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673487](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673487)
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 16. On the variation, eggs, and ovipository habits of Floridan octopods. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 368–374. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673584](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673584)
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 17. On the male of *Benthoteuthis*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 375–378. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673585](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673585)
- 1932. On the phylogeny of the Octopoda. *Archivio Zoologico Italiano*, 16: 1118–1121.
- 1932. Report on the Cephalopoda in the Raffles Museum. *Bulletin of the Raffles Museum*, 7: 21–33.
- 1932. The closure of the mantle-cavity in the Cephalopoda. *Jenaische Zeitschrift für Naturwissenschaft*, 67: 14–18.
- 1932. The morphology of the central nervous system of the *Ctenoglossa* (Cephalopoda). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1932: 287–291. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1932.tb01077.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1932.tb01077.x)
- 1933. A Roman snail in the Museum garden. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 4: 105–107.
- 1933. Importation of the dune snail into Western Australia. *Nature*, 132: 712. [DOI.org/10.1038/132712a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/132712a0)
- *— 1933. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—XVIII. On a remarkable form of radula in the genus *Graneledone*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 12: 622–625. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933308673729](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933308673729)
- 1933. On *Architeuthis clarkei*, a new species of giant squid, with observations on the genus. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1933: 681–697. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1933.tb01614.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1933.tb01614.x)
- Robson G.C. & Bidder B., 1933. On the modification of the alimentary canal in abyssal cephalopods. *Proceedings of the Linnean Society*, 145: 125–126.
- Robson G.C., 1936. Mollusca: 48–64. In: Regan C.T., *Natural History*. Ward, Lock & Co., London. Robson G.C. & Richards O.W., 1936. *The Variation of Animals in Nature*. Longmans, Green and Co., London, New York, Toronto, 425 pp., 2 pls.
- *Robson GC 1948. The Cephalopoda Decapoda of the "Arcturus" Oceanographic Expedition. *Zoologica*, 33(3): 115–132, 18 figs.
- *Robson, G.C., 1911. The effect of *Sacculina* upon the fat metabolism of its host. *Journal of Cell Science*, 57(2): 267–278. [DOI.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-57.226.267](https://doi.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-57.226.267)
- Robson, G.C., 1912. On a case of presumed viviparity in Limicolaria. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 10: 32–33. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063463](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063463)
- 1913. *Helminthochiton aequivoca* n.sp. *Geological Magazine*, 10: 302–304. [DOI.org/10.1017/S0016756800126731](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0016756800126731)

- 1913. Note on *Glyptorhagada silveri* (Angas). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 10: 265. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063498](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063498)
- 1913. On *Aporemodon*, a remarkable new pulmonate genus. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 11: 425–428. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222931308692630](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222931308692630)
- 1913. On some remarkable shell monstrosities. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 10: 274–276. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063500](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063500)
- *Cummings B.F. & Robson G.C., 1914. Taxonomy and Evolution. *The American Naturalist*, 48 (570): 369–382. (Authors identified as 'X'). [DOI.org/10.1086/279413](https://doi.org/10.1086/279413)
- Robson G.C., 1914. Cephalopods from the Monte Bello Islands. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1814: 677–680.
- 1914. Molluscan rubber pests. *Journal of Conchology*, 14: 225.
- 1914. On a collection of land and freshwater Gastropoda from Madagascar, with descriptions of new genera and new species. *Journal of the Linnean Society*, 32: 375–389, pl. 35. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01462.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01462.x)
- 1914. Report of the Mollusca collected by the British Ornithologists' Union Expedition and the Wollaston Expedition in Dutch New Guinea. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London*, 20: 287–307.
- 1914. The dentition of *Veronicella nilotica*, Cockerell. Appendix II: 266–268. In: Longstaff J., On a collection of non-marine Mollusca from the southern Sudan. *Journal of the Linnean Society* 32: 233–268, pl 17, 18. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01456.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1914.tb01456.x)
- *— 1915. Note on “*Katayama nosophora*.” *China Medical Journal*, 29(3): 150–151. [DOI.org/10.3760/cma.j.issn.0366-6999.1915.03.102](https://doi.org/10.3760/cma.j.issn.0366-6999.1915.03.102)
- 1915. Note on *Katayama nosophora*. In: Leiper R.T., Atkinson E.L., Observations on the spread of Asiatic Schistosomiasis. *British Medical Journal* 1(2822): 203. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25312519>
- 1915. On the anatomy of *Marinula tristanensis*. *Annals of the South African Museum*, 15: 109–112.
- 1915. On the extension of the range of the American slipper-limpet on the east coast of England. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 16: 496–499. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222931508693743](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222931508693743)
- 1920. Observations on the succession of the gastropods *Paludestrina ulvae* and *ventrosa* in brackish water. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 6: 525–529. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932008632478](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932008632478)
- 1920. On the anatomy of *Paludestrina jenkinsi*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5: 425–431. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932008632396](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932008632396)
- 1920. Studies in British Hydrobiidae, Part I (abstract). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 14: 1.
- 1921. Is bisexuality in animals a function of motion? *Nature*, 108: 212. [DOI.org/10.1038/108212a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/108212a0)
- 1921. On the anatomy and affinities of *Hypsobia nosophora*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 8: 401–413. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932108632600](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932108632600)
- 1921. On the Cephalopoda obtained by the Percy Sladen Trust Expedition to the Indian Ocean in 1905. *Transactions of the Linnean Society*, 17: 429–442, pl. 65–66. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb00473.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb00473.x)
- 1921. On the molluscan genus *Cochlitoma* and its anatomy with remarks upon the variation of two closely-allied forms. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1921: 249–266. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb03264.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1921.tb03264.x)
- 1921. The Mollusca as material for genetic research. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 14: 227–231. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063755](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063755)
- *— 1921. Sex-manifestation and motion in molluscs. *Nature*, 108: 403. [DOI.org/10.1038/108403d0](https://doi.org/10.1038/108403d0)
- 1922. Notes on the respiratory mechanism of the Ampullariidae. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1922: 341–346.
- 1922. On the anatomy and affinities of *Paludestrina ventrosa*, Montague. *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science*, 66: 159–185. [DOI.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-66.261.159](https://doi.org/10.1242/jcs.s2-66.261.159)
- 1922. On the connexion between style-sac and intestine in Gastropoda and Lamellibranchia. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 15: 41–46. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063770](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063770)
- *— 1922. Rabaud, Étienne 1921. L'Hérédité. *The Eugenics Review*, 14(3): 196–197. PMID: PMC2942460.
- 1922. Self-fertilization in Mollusca. *Nature*, 109: 12. [DOI.org/10.1038/109012b0](https://doi.org/10.1038/109012b0)
- *Crew FAE, Dakin WJ, Harrison JH, Hogben LT, Huxley JS, Johnstone J, Marshall FHA, Robson GC, Saunders AMC, Thompson JM 1923. The British Journal of Experimental Biology. *Science*, 58: 102. www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.58.1493.102.a
- *Crew FAE, Dakin WJ, Harrison JH, Hogben LT, Johnstone J, Marshall FHA, Robson GC, Saunders AMC, Thompson JM 1923. The British Journal of Experimental Biology. *Nature*, 112: 133–134. [DOI.org/10.1038/112133b0](https://doi.org/10.1038/112133b0)
- Robson GC 1923. A note on the species as a gene-complex. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 11: 111–115. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932308632829](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932308632829)

- 1923. *Guide to the Mollusca Exhibited in the Zoological Department, British Museum (Natural History)*. Oxford University Press, 55 pp.
- 1923. Molluscan life on the south Dogger Bank. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 15: 174–178. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063802](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063802)
- Robson G.C. & Massy A.L., 1923. On a remarkable case of sex-dimorphism in the genus *Sepia*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 12: 435–442. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932308632961](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932308632961)
- Robson G.C., 1923. On the external characters of *Sinum planulatum* (Récl.). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 15: 268–269. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063816](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063816)
- 1923. Parthenogenesis in the mollusc *Paludestrina jenkinsi*: part 1. *British Journal of Experimental Biology*, 1: 65–78. [DOI.org/10.1242/jeb.1.1.65](https://doi.org/10.1242/jeb.1.1.65)
- Carleton H.M. & Robson G.C., 1924. On the histology and function of certain secondary sexual organs in the cuttlefish *Doratosepion confusa*. *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London*, 96: 259–271, pl. 3. [DOI.org/10.1098/rspb.1924.0025](https://doi.org/10.1098/rspb.1924.0025)
- *Robson G.C., 1924. Interpretations of primitive American decorative art. *Nature*, 114: 381–382. [DOI.org/10.1038/114381a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/114381a0)
- 1924. Mollusca. In: *Hutchinson's Animals of All Countries*. London, Hutchinson & Co. Ltd. 4: 2034–2182.
- 1924. On a new *Doratopsis*-stage of *Cheiroteuthis* from S.E. Africa. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 13: 591–594. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932408633086](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932408633086)
- 1924. On new species, &c. of Octopoda from South Africa. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 9(13): 202–210. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932408633028](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932408633028)
- 1924. On the Cephalopoda obtained in South African waters by Dr. J. D. F. Gilchrist in 1920–21. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1924: 589–686, pl. 1–2. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1924.tb01516.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1924.tb01516.x)
- 1924. Preliminary report on the Cephalopoda (Decapoda) procured by the S.S. “Pickle.” *Report of the Fisheries and Marine Biological Survey of the Union of South Africa*, 3: 1–14.
- *— 1925. Book review. ‘The Biological Foundations of Society,’ by Dendy A. London: Constable and Co. 1924. *Eugenics Review*, 16(4): 285–286.
- Robson G.C. & Richards O.W., 1925. Investigations of the origin of insular races of land Mollusca in the Scilly Isles. *Nature*, 116: 641–642. [DOI.org/10.1038/116641a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/116641a0)
- Robson G.C., 1925. On a new species of *Rossia* from South Africa. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 15: 450–454. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932508633233](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932508633233)
- 1925. On a specimen of the rare squid *Stenoteuthis caroli*, stranded on the Yorkshire coast. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1925: 291–301, pl. 1.
- 1925. On *Mesonychoteuthis*, a new genus of oegopsid Cephalopoda. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 9(16): 272–277. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932508633309](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932508633309)
- 1925. On seriation and asymmetry in the cephalopod radula. *Journal of the Linnean Society*, 36: 99–108. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1925.tb01848.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1925.tb01848.x)
- 1925. On the anatomy of an immature zonitoid land mollusc. *Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums Kuala Lumpur*, 8: 168–174, pl. 13–14.
- 1925. The animal life of estuaries. *The Journal of the Quekett Microscopical Club*, 15: 161–168.
- 1926. Cephalopoda from N.W. African waters and the Biscayan region. *Bulletin de la Société des sciences naturelles du Maroc*, 6: 158–195.
- 1926. Editorial notes. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 17: 132–134. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063899](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063899)
- 1926. Light-organs in littoral Cephalopoda. *Nature*, 118: 554–555. [DOI.org/10.1038/118554a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/118554a0)
- 1926. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—I. Descriptions of two new species of *Octopus* from southern India and Ceylon. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 17: 159–167. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932608633384](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932608633384)
- 1926. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—II. A.—On the habits and structure of *Sepiola atlantica*. B.—On a new species of *Sepioteuthis* from Tobago. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 18: 350–352. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932608633525](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932608633525)
- 1926. On the hectocotylus of the Cephalopoda—a reconsideration. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 17: 117–122. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063896](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063896)
- 1926. Parthenogenesis in the mollusc *Paludestrina jenkinsi*. Part II. *British Journal of Experimental Biology*, 3: 149–160. [DOI.org/10.1242/jeb.3.2.149](https://doi.org/10.1242/jeb.3.2.149)
- 1926. The Cephalopoda obtained by the S.S. Pickle. Supplementary Report. *Report of the Fisheries and Marine Biological Survey of South Africa*, 4(8): 1–6.
- 1926. The deep-sea Octopoda. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 95: 1323–1356. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1925.tb07439.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1925.tb07439.x)
- *Richards O.W. & Robson G.C., 1926. The species problem and evolution (part I). *Nature*, 117: 345–

347. [DOI.org/10.1038/117345a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/117345a0)

*Richards O.W. & Robson G.C., 1926. The species problem and evolution (part II). *Nature*, 117: 382–384. [DOI.org/10.1038/117382a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/117382a0)

Richards O.W. & Robson G.C., 1926. The land and freshwater Mollusca of the Scilly Isles and West Cornwall. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 92: 1101–1124. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1926.tb02237.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1926.tb02237.x)

Robson G.C., 1927. Luminous squids and cuttlefish. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 1: 50–52.

— 1927. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—III. On the anatomy and classification of the North Atlantic species of *Bathypolypus* and *Benthoctopus*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 20: 249–263. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932708655596](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932708655596)

— 1927. Report on the Mollusca (Cephalopoda) [of the Cambridge Expedition to the Suez Canal, 1924]. *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London*, 22: 321–329. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1927.tb00380.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1927.tb00380.x)

— 1928. Cephalopodes des mers d'Indochine. *Service Océanographique des Pêches de l'Indochine*, 10: 53.

— 1928. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—IV. On *Octopus aegina*, Gray; with remarks on the systematic value of the octopod web. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10(1): 641–646. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932808672833](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932808672833)

— 1928. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—V. On the oviposition of *Octopus rugosus*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 1(5): 646–647. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932808672834](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932808672834)

— 1928. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—VI. On *Grimpella*, a new genus of Octopoda, with remarks on the classification of the Octopodidae. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 2(7): 108–114. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932808672862](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932808672862)

— 1928. On the giant octopus of New Zealand. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1928: 257–264.

*— 1928. The species problem. *Geological Magazine*, 65(9): 430. [DOI:10.1017/S0016756800108295](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0016756800108295)

— 1928. *The Species Problem. An Introduction to the Study of Evolutionary Divergence in Natural Populations*. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh, London, 283 pp. + viii pp.

Clarke W.J. & Robson G.C., 1929. Notes on the stranding of giant squids on the north-east coast of England. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 18: 154–158. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063962](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063962)

Joubin L. & Robson G.C., 1929. On a new species of *Macrotritopus* obtained by Dr. J. Schmidt's 'Dana' Expedition, with remarks on the genus. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1929: 89–94. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07689.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07689.x)

Robson G.C., 1929. A giant squid from the North Sea. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 2: 6–8.

— 1929. *A monograph of the Recent Cephalopoda. Part 1. Octopodinae*. Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), London, 236 pp., 7 pls.

— 1929. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—VII. On *Macrotritopus*, Grimpe, with a description of a new species. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 3(15): 311–313. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932908672975](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932908672975)

— 1929. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—VIII. The genera and subgenera of Octopodinae and Bathypolypodinae. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 3(18): 607–608. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932908673017](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932908673017)

— 1929. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—IX. Remarks on Atlantic Octopoda &c. in the Zoölogisch Museum, Amsterdam. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 3(18): 609–618. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222932908673018](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222932908673018)

— 1929. On a case of bilateral hectocotylization in *Octopus rugosus*. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1929: 95–9.

— 1929. On the dispersal of the American slipper limpet in English waters (1915–29). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 18: 272–275. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063989](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a063989)

— 1929. On the rare abyssal octopod *Melanoteuthis beebei* (sp.n.): a contribution to the phylogeny of the Octopoda. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1929: 469–486. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07702.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1469-7998.1929.tb07702.x)

Aubertin D., Ellis A.E. & Robson G.C., 1930. The natural history and variation of the pointed snail, *Cochlicella acuta* (Mull). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1930: 1027–1055.

Robson G.C., 1930. Cephalopoda. I. Octopoda. *Discovery Reports*, 2: 371–402, pl. 3–4.

— 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—10. On *Octopus patatagonicus* Lönnberg. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5(26): 239–240. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673125](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673125)

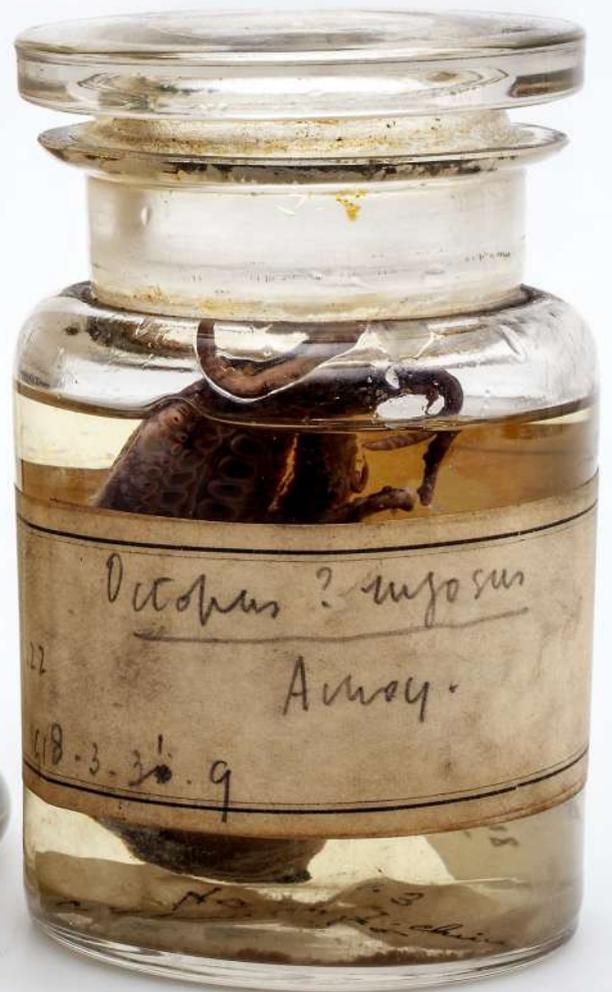
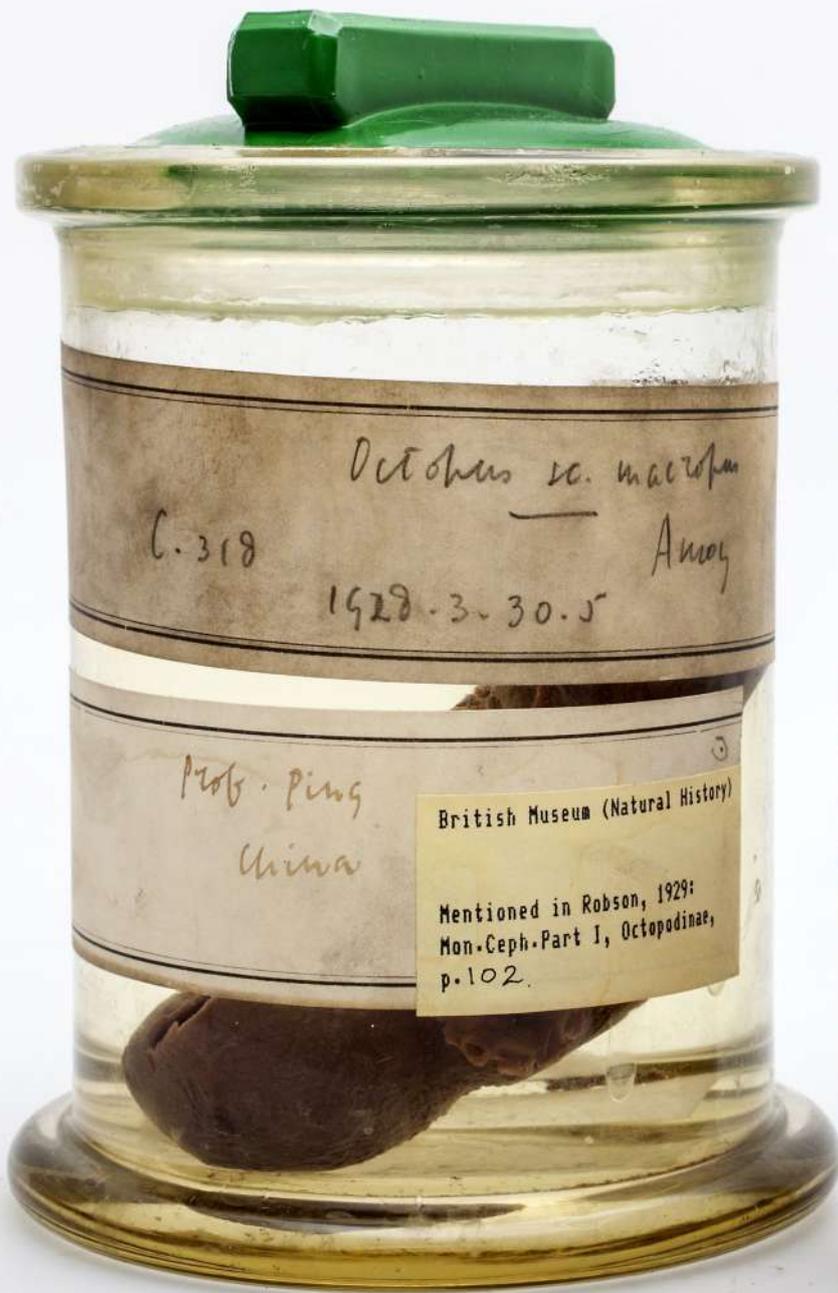
— 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—11. On a new species of *Benthoctopus* from Patagonia with remarks on magellanic octopods. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5(27): 330–334. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673141](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673141)

— 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—12. Observations on young octopods obtained by the 'Dana' Expedition. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 5: 366–370. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673147](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673147)

— 1930. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 13. The position and affinities of *Palaeoctopus*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 6(34): 544–547. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933008673246](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933008673246)

— 1930. On a specimen of *Octopus vulgaris* from Indian seas. *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 19: 117–118. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064019](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064019)

- 1930. Slug or horned viper? *Nature*, 125: 893. [DOI.org/10.1038/125893d0](https://doi.org/10.1038/125893d0)
- 1930. Two remarkable cephalopods. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 2: 257–259.
- 1931. Mollusca: 102–147. In: Pycraft W.P. (Ed), *The Standard Natural History: from Amoeba to Man*. Frederick Warne and Co., London.
- 1931. Shells. Appendix M. In: Thomas B., A Camel Journey across the Rub'al Khali. *The Geographical Journal*, 78: 235.
- 1931. The adaptability of the molluscan classes. (Presidential address.) *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London*, 19: 259–266. [DOI.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064050](https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.mollus.a064050)
- 1932. Shells. Appendix: 363–364. In: Thomas B., *Arabia Felix: Across the Empty Quarter of Arabia*. London, 435 pp.
- 1932. *A monograph of the Recent Cephalopoda. Part 2. The Octopoda (excluding the Octopodinae)*. Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), London., 359 pp., 6 pls.
- 1932. Exhibit of a remarkable larval cephalopod. *Proceedings of the Linnean Society*, 144: 102.
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 14. On the shell-vestige of *Cirroteuthis mülleri*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 179. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673487](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673487)
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 15. On an interesting abnormality in *Eledone cirrosa*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 180. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673487](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673487)
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 16. On the variation, eggs, and ovipository habits of Floridan octopods. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 368–374. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673584](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673584)
- 1932. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—No. 17. On the male of *Benthoteuthis*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 10: 375–378. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933208673585](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933208673585)
- 1932. On the phylogeny of the Octopoda. *Archivio Zoologico Italiano*, 16: 1118–1121.
- 1932. Report on the Cephalopoda in the Raffles Museum. *Bulletin of the Raffles Museum*, 7: 21–33.
- 1932. The closure of the mantle-cavity in the Cephalopoda. *Jenaische Zeitschrift für Naturwissenschaft*, 67: 14–18.
- 1932. The morphology of the central nervous system of the Ctenoglossa (Cephalopoda). *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1932: 287–291. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1932.tb01077.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1932.tb01077.x)
- 1933. A Roman snail in the Museum garden. *Natural History Magazine of the British Museum*, 4: 105–107.
- 1933. Importation of the dune snail into Western Australia. *Nature*, 132: 712. [DOI.org/10.1038/132712a0](https://doi.org/10.1038/132712a0)
- *— 1933. Notes on the Cephalopoda.—XVIII. On a remarkable form of radula in the genus *Graneledone*. *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, 12: 622–625. [DOI.org/10.1080/00222933308673729](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933308673729)
- 1933. On *Architeuthis clarkei*, a new species of giant squid, with observations on the genus. *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, 1933: 681–697. [DOI.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1933.tb01614.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.1933.tb01614.x)
- Robson G.C. & Bidder B., 1933. On the modification of the alimentary canal in abyssal cephalopods. *Proceedings of the Linnean Society*, 145: 125–126.
- Robson G.C., 1936. Mollusca: 48–64. In: Regan C.T., *Natural History*. Ward, Lock & Co., London. Robson G.C. & Richards O.W., 1936. *The Variation of Animals in Nature*. Longmans, Green and Co., London, New York, Toronto, 425 pp., 2 pls.
- *Robson GC 1948. The Cephalopoda Decapoda of the “Arcturus” Oceanographic Expedition. *Zoologica*, 33(3): 115–132, 18 figs.



Colligo

n°8, fascicule 2

Achévé d'imprimer en décembre 2025

ISSN : 2646-3679

www.revue-colligo.fr

RÉDACTEUR EN CHEF

Cédric Audibert

20, rue de la Maladière - 26240 Saint-Vallier

cedric.audibert@gmail.com

La Rédaction n'est pas responsable des documents ou articles qui lui sont adressés ; chaque contribution reste sous la responsabilité de son auteur.

Reproduction interdite des documents ou des photos sans l'accord préalable de la Rédaction.

Images de 1^{er} de couverture : The NMW Blok archive (Fig. 2 & Fig. 3, Wood H. & Goodwin B.)

Image de 4^e de couverture : Flacons de spécimens contenant des pieuvres au Musée d'histoire naturelle de Londres, avec l'écriture de Guy Coburn Robson. © Kevin Webb, NHM, London, UK.