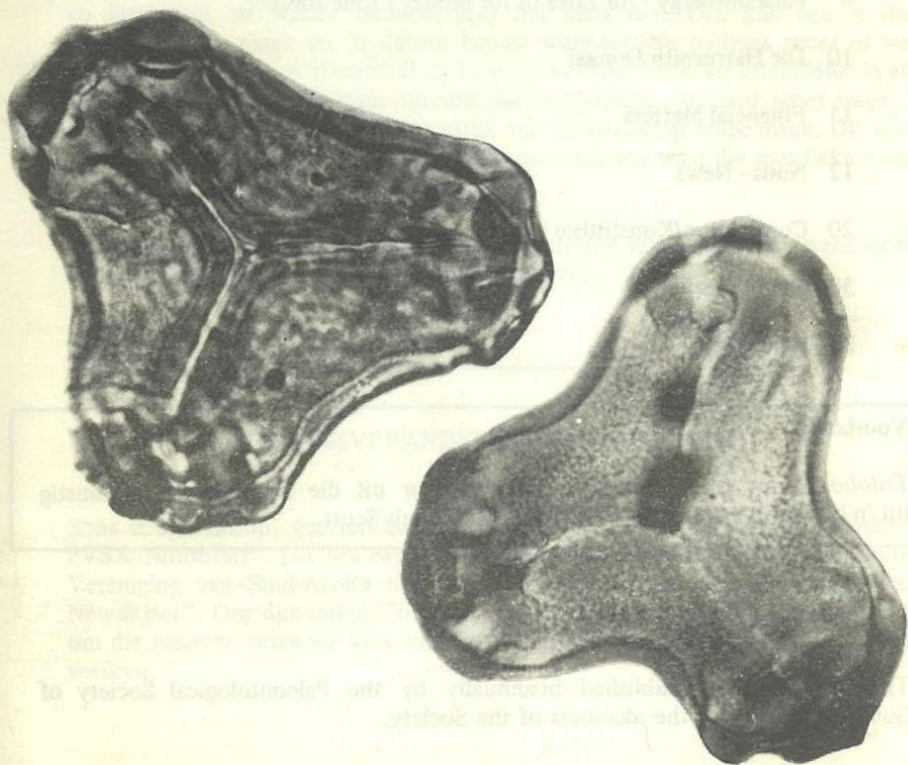


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Voorblad:

Trilobosporites trioreticulosus, 'n varingspoor uit die Krytperiode, afkomstig uit 'n boorkern van die Agulhasbank. Foto: Louis Scott.

This Newsletter is published bi-annually by the Paleontological Society of Southern Africa for the members of the Society.

PALEONTOLOGIE IN SUID-AFRIKA

Dit is verstommend dat, terwyl fossiele reeds bykans anderhalfeeu in Suid-Afrika versamel word, die algemene publiek nog so onkundig is daaromtrent. Die skuld lê enersyds by ons onderwysstelsel, want kinders word nie reeds op skool bewus gemaak van ons land se groot fossieleskat nie. Ten minste 'n deel van die skuld moet egter ook die professionele paleontoloë ten laste gelê word, want baie min van hulle het nog iets oor fossiele in populêre trant geskryf. Daar is wel 'n paar uitsonderings, soos die artikels van L D Boonstra in die Afrikaanse Kinderensiklopedie, Mike Cluver s'n in die Kennis-reeks en Bob Brain het ook 'n goeie algemene inleiding gegee in sy "How life arose in South Africa." Die probleem met hierdie artikels is dat hulle nie altyd beskikbaar is nie, en nie almal saamgevat is in 'n enkele volume nie.

So, kom ons skryf 'n boek oor die fossiele in Suid-Afrika! As ons al ons kundiges hierby kan betrek, sal dit voorwaar iets wees wat ons met trots op ons rak kan hou en vir amateurs gee om te lees. Hierdie handleiding kan ook by museums te koop aangebied word en die wins, of 'n deel daarvan, aan die PVSA betaal word.

Diegene wat belangstel, en ek hoop dit is ALMAL, moet asseblief vir my skryf en laat weet vir watter onderwerp(e) hul kans sien. Dan kan ons 'n finale werksverdeling maak en 'n datum bepaal wanneer die bydraes moet in wees. U bydrae kan óf in Afrikaans óf in Engels wees (die boek sal uiteindelik in albei tale gepubliseer word), maar onthou dat dit populêr van aard moet wees. Vir hierdie doel moet u soveel as moontlik van illustrasies gebruik maak. Dit is ook goed om in die bydrae melding te maak van museums waar die spesifieke fossiele gesien kan word.

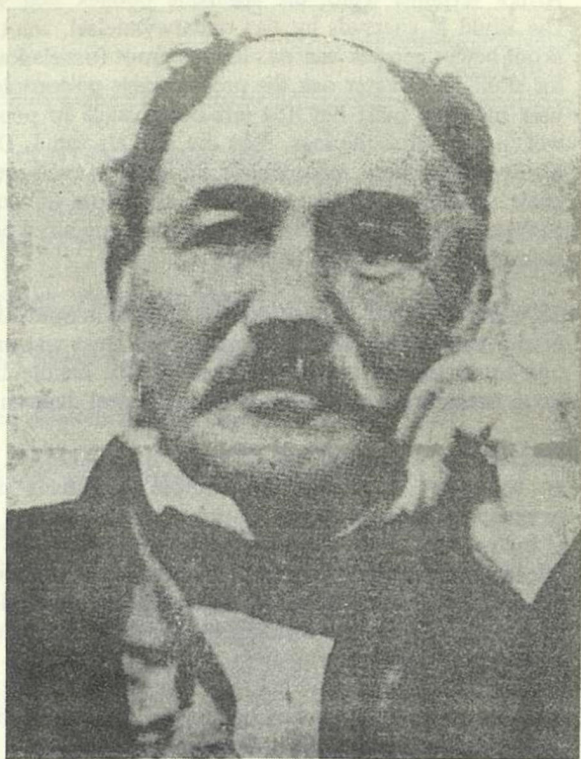
Ons kan ook iets insluit oor beroemde paleontoloë van die jare her, want vir baie mense sal dit 'n belangrike aanknopingspunt wees.

NAAMSVERANDERING VAN NUUSBRIEF

Soos u sal onthou, was ons eerste nuusbrieff bekend as die "PSSA Newsletter/PVSA Nuusbrieff". Dit het egter onder ons aandag gekom dat die Fotografiese Vereniging van Suid-Afrika lank reeds 'n blad uitgee met die naam "PSSA Newsletter". Om dus moontlike verwarring te voorkom, het die Komitee besluit om die naam te verander soos wat dit nou in die Konstitusie en op die voorblad verskyn.

GREAT NAMES IN SOUTH AFRICAN PALAEOLOGY

ANDREW GEDDES BAIN



On the summit of Bain's Kloof Pass, Wellington, there is a plaque in memory of the untrained engineer who laid out the Pass. There is also a memorial to the same man on top of the Ecce Pass, the man who also supervised, inter alia, the construction of the Van Ryneveld's Pass near Graaf-Reinet and the Katberg Pass near Fort Beaufort. It is a tribute to Bain's genius that these passes are still virtually the same as originally laid out.

But Bain was not only a competent engineer. In 1851 he sent his *Geology of South Africa* to the Geological Society of London. This was illustrated with a large coloured map and brought him worldwide recognition as a geologist.

Even before that, in 1844, Bain sent a number of fossils from the Beaufort series to England. The strange fossil animals intrigued the world and Owen named one of these, *Dicynodon bainii*, after their discoverer. Although it has recently come to light that a Mr. Pope of the Cape of Good Hope had sent

Dicynodon remains to India 9 years previously, (see below) Bain deserves credit for his unfailing enthusiasm.

Andrew Geddes Bain was born in Scotland in 1797 and died in Cape Town on 20 October 1864. He was educated in Edinburgh, where he also worked as a saddler. In 1816 he went to Cape Town, married Maria Elizabeth von Backstrom in 1818, and had 3 sons and 7 daughters. In 1822 he started a saddlery in Graaf-Reinet. Later he went on trading/exploration trips to the presentday Botswana, served in the Sixth Frontier War (1834 - 5), was a writer of popular verse and the author of *Kaatjie Kekkelbek, or Life among the Hottentots* (1838).

THE VERY FIRST FOSSIL COLLECTOR IN SOUTH AFRICA?

A G Bain is usually credited with being the first one to collect fossils in South Africa. This assumption is, however, incorrect, as shown by the following clip sent in by Mike Cluver. We are curious to know whether Pope was indeed the very first collector - is there perhaps any record of fossils collected in South Africa before 1836?

H. Falconer & H. Walker, 1859, *Descriptive catalogue of the fossil remains of Vertebrata in the museum of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*. Calcutta, pp. 261.

"The foreign collections are of less importance. They consist 3rd, a very interesting series of Reptilian remains from the older secondary strata of the Cape of Good Hope, consisting chiefly of bones of Dicynodon. It is worthy of remark that these remains were presented to the Asiatic Society in 1836 by Mr Pope, of the Cape of Good Hope, through Mr J. Trotter, nine years before Mr Bains was rewarded in 1845, for their supposed first discovery by the award of the proceeds of the Wollaston Fund, by the Geological Society of London. It is stated in the proceedings of the Society that Mr Pope "the modest discoverer of this new fossil deposit" found them in the bed of the Ganka River in the district between the Zwarteberg and the Nienwbergen the Central part of the Cape Colony Lat. 33° S and 22° - 23° W Long. being the district where Mr Bain, several years afterwards, met with his specimens (Journ. A.S. Vol.V.P.518)"

'n Spesialis is iemand wat al meer en meer van al minder en minder weet totdat hy naderhand alles van niks weet.

C J Langenhoven

FOSSIL COLLECTING AND AMATEURS

by

Chris Gow

(Bernard Price Institute for Palaeontological Research, Johannesburg)

In these notes I speak only for Mesozoic vertebrate palaeontology. I would like to preface my remarks by expressing the view that legislation, while often necessary, is an inconvenience and should always be kept simple and to a minimum.

Kitching and I were the only people to express reservations regarding article 2.2 of the PSSA Constitution. May I point out that we are the most experienced collectors in the country? Our reservations are based on the rumour that there are a couple of collectors (who have permits) whose activities in the field are a source of grave concern to us. We gather that these people were sponsored and are encouraged to collect by the professional staff of other Institutions. I would like to take this opportunity to state why I am opposed to this practice.

In the past, to palaeontologists with a narrow training in Zoology only, who have concerned themselves with descriptive morphology and classical taxonomy, it has not mattered much where a fossil has come from, or who collected it, or even how well it was collected, as long as it could be placed within one of the currently accepted biozones.

These days there is talk of Palaeoecology. To those of us (the majority, I hope) with some understanding of live animal ecology and sedimentary processes, this is an extremely pretentious term. If Palaeoecology is to have any sort of respectability then it is necessary to collect as much information in the field as possible - taphonomic and stratigraphic data, sedimentological data bearing on past environments, etc., and most importantly, the selective collecting and head hunting of the past must be avoided. Palaeoecology is the study of past animal communities and we want to know not only what the rocks contain, but also such things as any selective bias there may have been in the preservation of communities. We want to know something of the degree of contemporaneity of the members of assemblages. In this sort of work it is necessary not only to be able to find and *competently* excavate fossils, but also to be able to read the history of the rocks. (It is a matter of concern to some of us that it is no longer possible to combine Biology and Geology majors here at Wits.)

The only way we will move in this direction is by getting competent people into the field. One doesn't want completely to discourage keen and responsible amateurs who may turn up some very valuable finds, but they should not be used as a substitute for professional competence in the field.

Bain and Broom made huge contributions to South African Palaeontology. Their time is past. If our science is to progress we should aim to produce Bakkers and Behrensmeyers, thinkers and doers who extract so much more from the fossil record.

Incidentally, we know of no instance where the National Monuments Act has been successfully invoked against reckless and irresponsible collectors.

In reply

Dr Gow is quite correct in stressing the importance of the fossil environment and non-selective collecting. These points were also made in my article in the first newsletter. But it is a fallacy to think that *all* professionals collect in this way, while amateurs are totally incapable of doing so. I have myself collected on a number of sites where an eminent palaeontologist had been before me (no names, no pack-drill!); not only was the collecting highly selective, but in some cases the skulls were taken out but the rest of the virtually complete skeletons were left behind.

It remains a matter of training, both for the professional and the amateur.

The Secretary of the Society has already been approached by the National Munuments Council, the idea being that Society members will be asked to screen permit applications. It is suggested that we go one step further and request Council to stipulate that, in the case of a first application, the applicant should first undergo at least one moth of intensive field training by a permit-holding, professional palaeontologist. At the same time we, as professionals, should decide on

- *the best way to record fossil localities, and

- *what information about the environment should be noted.

In this way the Society can contribute immensely to the science of Palaeontology and the contribution of each member and each permit-holder will be worthwhile.

Finally, I would like to state that the Committee is adamant to enforce rule 3.6 of the Constitution (see p. 00). Dr Gow is therefore invited to lay his case regarding those amateurs whose activities are a matter of concern before the Committee, citing names and instances. We will investigate all complaints.

Editor

Life is like an ice-cream cone - you have to learn to lick it. *Charlie (Peanuts) Brown.*

PALAEONTOLOGY - FOR LOVE OR FOR MONEY?

by

Ione Rudner

(*South African Museum, Cape Town*)

It is as well that this young society decides once and for all what is to be its attitude towards those who pursue palaeontology for love (*amare*) out of their own funds, as opposed to those who are paid for their interest in the subject.

In his article Jacques van Heerden (1977) has clearly and fairly distinguished between 'amateur' and 'amateurish', while Michael Cluver (1977) has pleaded the cause of the serious amateur. It is as well for 'professionals' of various disciplines to remember that the unpaid work of amateurs in the past led to the establishment of professional posts and that amateurs are still making meaningful contributions. In palaeontology many of the most spectacular and important fossil discoveries have been made by 'amateurs' and 'technicians' - and are the latter not 'professionals' too? When one considers the enormous depths of fossil deposits and that there are more fossils eroding out and disintegrating in the veld than can be collected by all the professional palaeontologists together, it seems most strange that men should fear (as Caesar said) the loss of a fractional amount picked up by the inquisitive and the acquisitive. (Collecting by the sackful is extremely rare and must naturally be curbed.) The losses should be weighed against the gains - a number of very important fossil sites have been discovered and reported by members of the public - in the south-western Cape the Hopefield (Elandsfontein) fossil site was brought to the attention of scientists by a medical student, and the Melkbosch site was reported to the South African Museum by an amateur archaeologist.

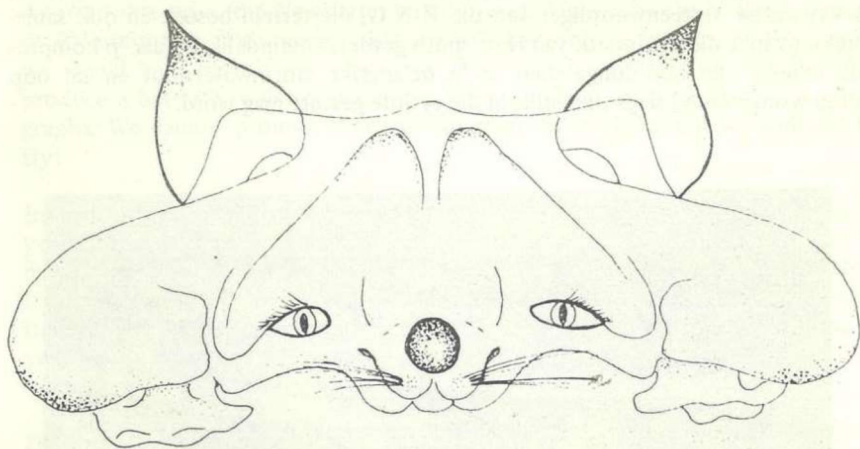
And are there not potential type specimens - unrecognized - among the thousands of fossil specimens already on museum shelves, enough to occupy many palaeontologist?

In archaeology, even more than in palaeontology, amateurs have played, and are still playing, a leading role; in fact, nearly all the archaeologists concerned with the preservation and study of rock art are amateurs, some of whom have devoted entire lifetimes and large sums of their own money to their researches. The South African Archaeological Society and its publications - of world-wide repute - are funded almost entirely from the subscriptions of amateur members; archaeology and the handful of paid archaeologists can only benefit by it. So, too, can the Palaeontological Society, by encouraging and informally (or even formally) training amateurs as helpers of 'auxiliaries', further the cause of palaeontology.

'Professional' is not always an indication of quality, nor is 'amateur' necessarily an indication of mediocrity. A palaeontologist is one who pursues the subject of palaeontology - anyone who approaches the subject diligently and responsibly, whether paid or not, has the right to call himself a palaeontologist if he so wishes. The pursuit of knowledge is a universal right, professionals do not have the sole rights, nor do they have the right to deny others the acquisition of first-hand knowledge of past life on earth.

CLUVER, M.A. 1977. The museum palaeontologist and the National Monuments Council. *Samab* 12: 265-270.

VAN HEERDEN, J. 1977. Amateur- en professionele paleontologie. *Palaeont. Soc. sth. Afr. Newsl.*, 1 (1): 25-28.



Okittypuss blinki Anonimouse 19footsec
(Drawing by Pamela Prowse, Geological Survey,
Pretoria, based on the occiput of *Gorgonops torvus* Owen.)

DIE HARRISMITH DONGAS

Die dongas rondom Harrismith, en veral dié aan die suidekant van die dorp, is baie lank reeds 'n bekende fossielvindplek. In die twintiger- en dertigerjare het A W Putterill 'n groot aantal vertebraatfossiele hier versamel. Baie hiervan is later verkoop aan die Transvaal Museum en die Nasionale Museum in Bloemfontein. Vandag nog neem die Bernard Price Instituut hul studente en oorsese besoekers daarheen met die spesifieke doel om aan hulle te wys hoe en waar fossiele in die Beaufort voorkom.

Die Karoo-paleontoloe het in die jongste tyd met 'n groot mate van onsteltenis kennis geneem van die feit dat hierdie dongas met allerhande afval opgevol word. Die munisipaliteit van Harrismith het gevoel dat hulle iets moet doen om die erosie te keer, veral aangesien die aangrensende gebied opsygesit is vir toekomstige dorpsuitbreiding. Daar het egter 'n misverstand gekom met die tipe vullis wat in die erosieslote gestort mag word.

In 1976 het Dr Arthur Cruickshank van die B P I die saak by die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede ahangig gemaak. Vroeg in 1977 het J C Look, as Vrystaatse verteenwoordiger van die R N G, die terrein besoek en ook same-sprekings met die stadsklerk van Harrismith gevoer. Uiteindelik is daar 'n kompromis bereik: Die hoofdonga dien as 'n belangrike stormwatersloot en sal oop gehou word, terwyl slegs tuinvullis in die syslote gestort mag word.



Die hoofdonga by Harrismith. (Foto: J C Look)

Ons het verneem dat die dorpsgronde van Thaba 'Nchu en Aliwal-Noord ook in die verlede probleme opgelewer het. Die eersgenoemde val nie meer onder die jurisdiksie van die R N G nie, aangesien dit nou deel vorm van 'n onafhanklike staat. Ons sal egter graag nadere besonderhede wil he van die besondere probleem by Aliwal-Noord, mits dit nog van toepassing is. Lede is ook baie welkom om enige ander probleemgebiede by ons aan te meld. Deur gesamentlik op te tree, het ons 'n baie beter kans op sukses.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Today we have good news and bad news. First the bad news: In order to meet the expected expenditures of the book year 1978/79, we will have to increase the membership fee. Now for the good news: The Committee has decided to increase it with only R2-00 to R5-00, which still makes it probably the lowest membership fee for a society of this kind. Furthermore, *student members* (i.e. all those without a fixed income) *will still only pay R3-00.*

As from this issue, the Newsletter will be printed in full by the National Museum in Bloemfontein. This means that we will pay only a fraction of the amount we would have had to pay elsewhere. For the same amount we can, therefore, produce a better Newsletter and all correspondents are invited to send in photographs. We cannot promise that we will print all of them, but we will give it a try!

In April each member will receive a copy of the Society's balance sheet for the year ending 31 March. It might be noted that stamps and envelopes account for quite a substantial amount on the expenditure side. Members can contribute to lessen this amount by sending in their contributions (i.e. membership fees and items for the Newsletter) without being first reminded to do so. Thank you for your co-operation in this respect!

Definitions:

Lecture: Something that can make you feel numb on one end and dumb on the other.

Experience: What causes a person to make new mistakes instead of the same old ones.

Committee: A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.

Mixed Feelings: When your mother-in-law drives your expensive new car over the precipice.

NOUS - NEWS

SALISBURY:

All effort in the palaeontology department at the Queen Victoria Museum has recently been focussed on the completion of two major projects. One was finalising my dissertation on *Syntarsus*, literally hours before leaping into camo gear to spend six weeks in the Army (Christmas out in the sticks! What *else* could one wish for!!). I am now in the "twilight zone" - that mixture of relief that it is all over, and nail-biting over the outcome. The small bone bearing bed in the Forest Sandstone (U. Trias) of the Chitake River has given us a minimum of 26 individuals of *Syntarsus* from a volume of rock of only about 0,18m³. They range in age from babies to old adults, and the preservation could hardly be better. I've had fun putting it together and trying to make sense of it.

The second major project (which ran concurrently with the final hectic stages of the dissertation drama) was the completion of a compact public gallery in the Museum dealing with Rhodesian fossils. We have confined it to the period between our Precambrian stromatolites and the outpourings of the Karoo lavas in the Trias/Jurassic. Not unexpectedly, there is fairly heavy emphasis on vertebrates and the feature display is (you guessed it!) *Syntarsus*. One display shows a group of scale-model *Syntarsus* (x 0,3) in a habitat scene. The main display is a life-size free-standing reconstruction of an adult, showing the reassembled skeleton on one side and a flesh restoration on the other.

Anyone who was at the Palaeo Symposium at the B.P.I. in June 1977, and who managed to stay awake, will possibly remember that I argued for feathers on *Syntarsus*. The fact that the reconstruction and other scale models on display in the Q.V.M. are naked does *not* represent a radical change of opinion on my part. The problem is to find feathers of a suitable size range and colour pattern amongst modern birds, or to devise some alternative means of showing them. So far on this point we have been snookered by lack of staff and time. In the meantime, therefore, *Syntarsus* will have to remain plucked. If you really want to see one properly dressed, all you have to do is pop in at the National Museum, Bulawayo, where we have a couple clad in penguin feathers (which don't look *quite* right, in my opinion). One of these specimens features in the new Rhodesia National Tourist Board calendar for 1978. Get hold of a copy and have a look, and you'll see what I mean.

Lance Penny, "Bee" van Blomestein and Jake Taylor were towers of strength and industry in the completion of the Q.V.M. fossil gallery, and I salute their diligence and craftsmanship (or should that be "craftpersonship"?).

Once Jake Taylor was through with the endless casting of *Syntarsus* bones he

turned his attention to other field trip backlogs, including a nagging bit of matrix that has been hanging around for some time. This is a bit of Middle Madumabisa Mudstone (or "Mid Mad Mud" as it is affectionately known hereabouts). It is ? L - M Beaufort, contains parts of at least two skulls of Heaven-knows-what, and is as hard as whatnot to prepare. However, Jake is starting to make sense of it, and bone is beginning to emerge in a rather pretty state. For news of further developments (in both senses), watch this space.

Next on the cards is a look in some detail at the sauropod remains in our collections. Dr. John McIntosh of Wesleyan College, Connecticut, has been waiting (patiently?) for ever so long for me to send him some pix of these bones. Maybe now I'll be able to get around to it.

I end with a plea for assistance. In our new gallery we have some scrappy, but recognisable, remains of "endothiodonts" and the tapinoceph *Criocephalus*. We would like to show reconstructions of the skeletons of both. Can anyone help with a reference to good figures to represent these two groups? Better still, copies of any drawings held would be very greatly appreciated. A line to me at P.O. Box 8540, Causeway, Salisbury, will earn my deepest thanks.

Mike Raath.

CAPE TOWN:

The Geological Survey office in Cape Town has moved to Bellville. Their new address is:

P O Box 572
7530 BELVILLE.

Norton Hiller moved even farther, to become a lecturer at Rhodes University, in order to be a little closer to his field of interest, the brachiopods.

D A Salmon is now the only palaeontologist left in the Bellville office. He reports as follows:

At present we are engaged on a multidisciplinary project on the Tertiary to Recent formations of the Cape Flats and western coastal belt, loosely called the West Coast Project. People involved in this project include Geological Survey geophysicists and Dept of Water Affairs geohydrologists, but our main stratigraphic working unit is engaged on various aspects of borehole studies and includes myself studying benthonic foraminifera, Dr Coetzee (Bloemfontein, on contract to the Geological Survey), studying peat samples for palynological data, and Dr J Rogers, sedimentologist. Dr Coetzee has presented some of her results at the Birmingham SASQUA conference in August 1977, and has another paper in preparation for publication early this year. Details of the other micropalaeon-

tological and sedimentological features of these deposits should be in press later this year.

Plant and fish fossils from the Bokkeveld Group have been collected by staff of this office during previous years and studied by Dr B G Plumstead, Prof W Chaloner and Dr B G Gardiner. Various papers are at the moment in press and the studies are still continuing.

SUID-AFRIKAANSE MUSEUM

Mike Cluver is tans besig om goed na die bekende Eccafossiele te kyk met die oog op 'n publikasie. Hy gaan ook die eersvolgende konferensie van die Suider-Afrikaanse Museumsvereniging bywoon, waar hy 'n referaat sal lewer oor: "The collecting and preparation of fossils."

Herbie Klinger is besig met die sistematiek van die ammoniet-familie Collingnonceratidae asook iets oor die ekologie en die dryfvermoe van heteromorfe ammoniete. Hy het intussen vyf publikasies die lig laat sien. Een handel oor die genus *Flickia*, 'n ander oor *Jouberticerus*, 'n derde oor die Lytoceratidae, 'n vierde oor Kryt-afsettings by Bogenfels in Suidwes-Afrika (oftewel Namibië) en, les bes, een saam met W J Kennedy oor die Krytfloras van Zululand en suidelike Mosambiek.

Juri van den Heever doet voort met die anatomie van die therocephaliërs.

Intussen gaan die preparering van dicynodontiërs en therocephaliërs voort. **Annelise Crean** is besig met 'n *Diictodon* vir navorsingsdoeleindes, terwyl **Kathy Rial** 'n *Lystrosaurus* vir uitstalling voorberei; verder werk sy ook aan materiaal van Graaff-Reinet.

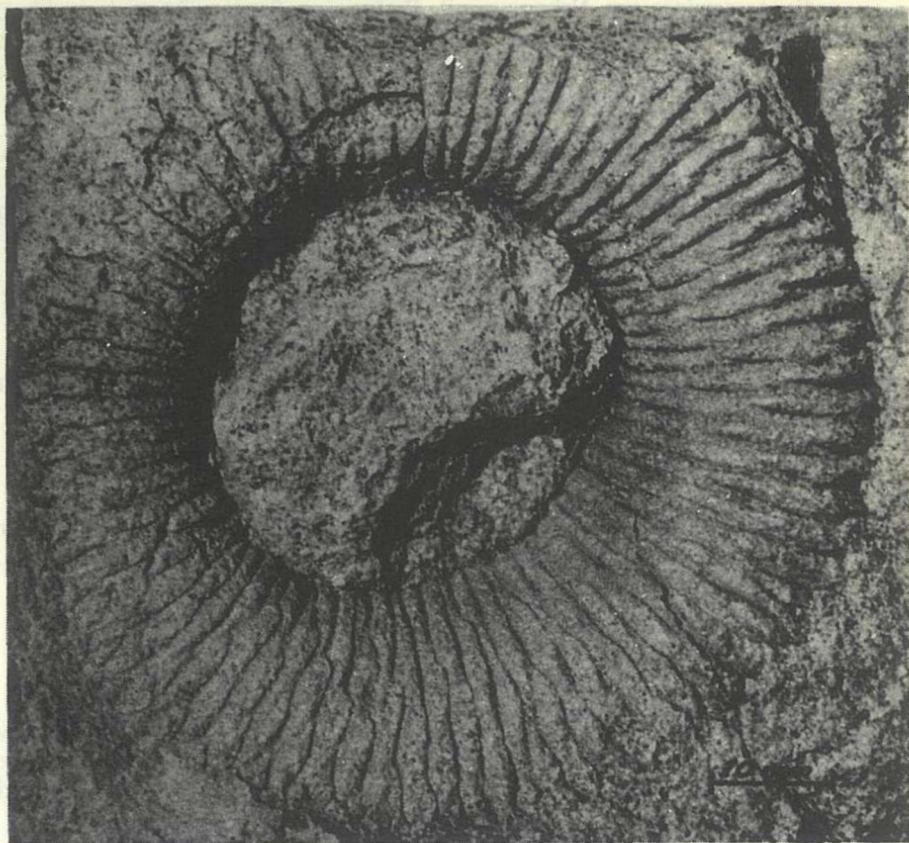
Neville Eden hou hom deesdae besig om ammoniete vir Herbie te fotografeer (voorwaar 'n lewenstaak!)

Tony Tankard is besig met die paleoekologie van die Neogeen-afsettings by Langebaanweg. Hy vertrek binnekort na die VSA, waar hy vir 2 jaar lank navorsing sal doen oor steenkoolafsettings.

J.v.d.H.

BLOEMFONTEIN:

J C (Oubaas) Looek hardloop nog steeds rond tussen sy vele verpligtinge, met die gevolg dat dit maar stadig vorder aan die skryf van sy tesis. Enkele jare gelede het hy egter 'n enigmatiese fossiel by 'n boer gekry. Hierdie fossiel vertoon met die eerste oogopslag soos 'n koraal, maar 'n oorsese kenner van korale het gesê



dit is nie een nie. 'n Foto van die fossiel word hier afgebeeld. Dit is afkomstig uit die rooi kwartsiet van die Witteberg en is Laat Devoon of Vroeë Karboon. J C sal kommentaar verwelkom.

J C en Burger Oelofsen (U. Stell.) is ook besig om 'n baie interessante ietsie uit die Dwyka te beskryf, maar tans geskied alles nog in die grootste geheim...

Jacques van Heerden se tesis oor die morfologie en verwantskappe van die Melanorosauridae is in Desember voltooi en hy het reeds die uitslag ontvang. 'n Deel van die resultate sal eersdaags in die *South African Journal of Science* verskyn, en is getitel: "*Herrerasaurus* and the origin of the sauropod dinosaurs."

Louis Scott: palinoloog aan die U.O.V.S., berig as volg oor sy studieprojekte:

1. Pollenanalise van die Transvaal en Noordwes-Kaap: Ek is besig met die studie van fossielstuifmeel uit veenafsettings van die Laat Kwaternêr uit

die omgewings van Naboomspruit, Pretoria en Soutpansberg vir 'n Ph D aan die U O V S . Die resultate werp lig op klimaats- en vegetasietoestande gedurende die laaste 25 000 jaar. Die radiokoolstofouderdomsbepalings word deur Dr J C Vogel van die W N N R gedoen.

In samewerking met Professor K W Butzer van Chicago (Geologie en Argeologie) en Dr R Stuckenrath van Washington (isotoopstudies) word ook 'n paleoekologiese studie van die Laat Kwaternêre afsettings in die omgewing van Kimberley uitgevoer.

2. Palinologie van die Onder-Kryt in Suid-Afrika:

Hierdie projek word in medewerking met Ian McLachlan van Soekor uitgevoer. Dit behels die beskrywing en studie van die verspreiding van stuifmeel en spore uit Krytsettings.

Louis het ook 'n publikasie in die pers, nl.

"Pollen analyses from the thermal spring deposit at Wonderkrater near Naboomspruit (Northern Transvaal)," wat in *Palaeoecology of Africa*, Vol. 10, sal verskyn.

JOHANNESBURG

Arthur Cruickshank and Jacques van Heerden will collaborate on a new classification of the Saurischia. This is a direct result of Arthur's study on the evolution of the ankle joint in Triassic archosaurs (which will be published shortly) and Jacques' revision of the Melanorosauridae.

Chris Gow is immersed in cynodont postcranial skeletons. He is struggling with the drawing of a nearly complete *Diademodon* skeleton, while anxiously watching the progress of the preparation of a complete galesaurid - the only known cynodont with intact wrists and ankles.

Fred Grine has recently returned from a highly productive trip to Europe, where he measured every *Diademodon** in situ. He also got his hands on some nice (fossil*) hominids.

C.G.

*?

Education is everything. What is cauliflower but cabbage with a college education? - Mark Twain.

PORT ELIZABETH:

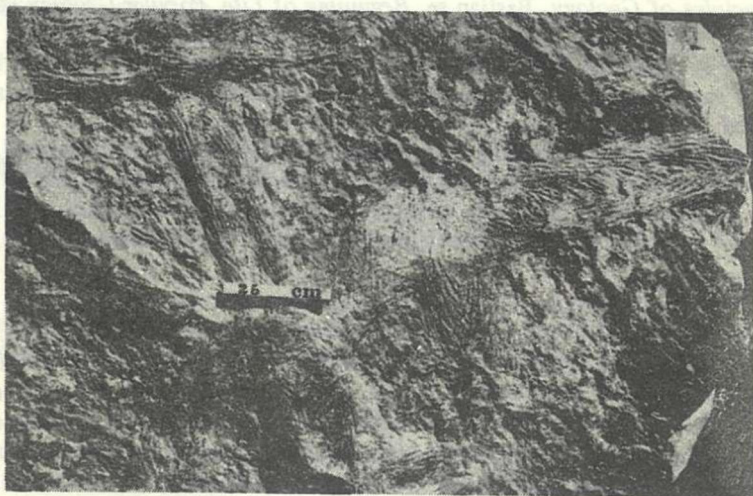
I.C. Rust: 'n Verskeidenheid fossiele invertebrate en plantmateriaal is onlangs in die Robbergformasie te Plettenbergbaai gevind. Benewens *Trigonia* (= *Iotrigonia*) *stowi* en *Trigonia* (= *Megatrigonia*) *conocardiformis*, is 'n enkele swak afdruk van 'n klein ammoniet, moontlik lid van die Neocomitidae, tesame met *Trigonia* en 'n tot dusver ongeidentifiseerde tweekleppige (*Bivalvia*) gevind.

Herbie Klinger het afdrukke van hierdie materiaal vlugtig ondersoek; hy reken die Robbergformasie is ongeveer dieselfde ouderdom as die Sondagrivierformasie (*Hauterivies* - *Valanginies*).

Heidi Anderson het na die plantmateriaal gekyk. Die afgietsels was ongelukkig nie baie goed nie, maar sy kon nietemin *Cycadophyta*, *Cycadales*, *Pterophyllum* sp., ? *Ptilophyllum*, *Pteridophyta*, *Neocalamites* en sade of skubbe van *Coniferophyta* herken.

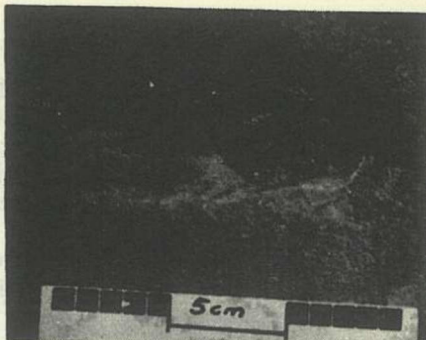
Die Robbergformasie is plek-plek deurtrek met 'n groot verskeidenheid sleepsels en boorsels, waarvan ? *Rhizocorallium*, *Gyrochorte* en ? *Skolithos* opvallend is.

Russel Shone recently collected an ophiurid (brittle star) from the Sundays River formation in the Swartkops area. Even more interesting are some arthropod tracks from the Beaufort group in the Burgersdorp district (see photograph). Detailed descriptions of both are at present in preparation.



MIDDELBURG, K.P.

Louis Botha het onlangs 'n interessante reeks spore van 'n werweldier in die Beaufort ontdek. Daar is altesaam 17, waarvan een hier afgebeeld word. Volgens vasgestel kon word, was daar vroeër spore langs die Middelburg-Noupoort pad, maar dié is vernietig deur die padbouers. Weet iemand dalk van nog spore in die Beaufort?



ALIWAL-NOORD

Die plaaslike Museum is maar betreklik onlangs eers begin, maar beskik reeds oor 'n mooi versameling fossiele. Die fossiele, asook 'n aantal klipwerktuie, kom uit die lae wat rondom Aliwal gevind word. Daar is o.a. 'n skelet van *Lystrosaurus* en 'n feitlik volledige een van *Procolophon*, 'n skedel van *Cynognathus* en 'n afgietsel van die onderkaak van die reuse-amfibie, *Paracyclotosaurus*. Onlangs het ek ook 'n interessante skedel, vermoedelik die van 'n kameelperd, in die omgewing gevind. Dit word tans voorberei vir uitstalling in die Museum.

Met die opruiming van die ou biblioteek, waarin die Museum gehuisves word, is daar ou dokumente en tydskrifte gevind wat van onskatbare waarde is. Daar is bv. 'n hele aantal Geologie-boeke, waaronder die volledige stel van Lyell se *Principles of Geology*, Bastian se *Beginning of Life*, *Popular Geology* van Hugh Miller, en *Reptiles, Amphibians and Fishes* van Lydekker en andere. Hierdie boeke is moontlik reeds in die vorige eeu deur Gogga Brown, eertydse bibliotekaris van Aliwal-Noord en kranige, alhoewel eksentrieke, fossielversamelaar, aangeskaf.

Boet du Plooy

PRETORIA:

André Keyser and Roger Smith are presently writing up work done so far on the biostratigraphy of the Beaufort Group. A division into seven reptile zones has been effected of which five are confined to the Lower Beaufort succession (Adelaide subgroup). A detailed report with a biozone distribution map will be placed on open file very shortly.

Roger Smith is also conducting research into the sedimentology and taphonomy

of some of the Lower Beaufort vertebrate assemblages. Emphasis is placed on the flood plain deposits and the recognition of depositional sub-environments from the taphonomic study of embedded fossils.

André and Roger are planning a collecting trip to South West Africa for the near future. Later in the year more fieldwork will be conducted in the Karoo in an attempt to refine the present broad biozonation with concurrent range zones and acme zones. Efforts will also be made to supplement the Geological Survey collection of dinocephalians.

A.S. Brink is forging ahead with the new catalogue of Karoo Reptilia, being ably assisted with the drawing by our resident artist, Mrs Pamela Prowse.

Gva Kovacs-Endrody has recently completed a script on her past five years of *Glossopteris* studies. In this paper she proposes a new approach to the problems of glossopterid venation and classification with a revised description using "non-angiosperm" terminology and a synthesis of the contributions to the present state of taxonomic chaos. Some interesting palaeoenvironmental observations of glossopterid life habits are also included.

Colin MacRae is a recent, and welcome, new addition to the staff of the Geological Survey in Pretoria. He has already become involved in palynological investigations of Karoo sediments in the northeastern Transvaal. It is hoped that a palynological zonation will enable correlation within and between the Permian basins of southern Africa.

R.S.

Chris Potgieter: Vir die huidige is ek besig met 'n projek wat miskien bykomstige inligting kan verskaf aangaande die metamorfe komponent van die brongebied van die Moltenoformasie. 'n Ander projek waarmee alreeds 'n end gevorderd is, is die voorkoms van eoliete in die Elliot- en Clarensformasies in die omgewing van Lady Grey.

Wat langtermynnavorsing betref, is ek besig met 'n sedimentologies-stratigrafiese studie van die Waterberggroep in die Cullinan-Middelburgkom.

Our President, Dr Bob Brain, is giving a lecture at the April conference of the Southern African Museums Association on "The narrative concept in museum displays: its possible application in the Swaziland context." In between he is also writing a book, on which we hope to have more information in the next issue.

CONSTITUTION OF THE PALAEOONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

1. NAME

- 1.1 The Society will be known as "The Palaeontological Society of Southern Africa" (PSSA), hereafter referred to as the *Society* in this constitution.
- 1.2 The official circular of the Society will be called the "Palaeontological News/Paleontologiese Nuus", hereafter referred to as the *Newsletter* in this constitution.

2. AIMS:

- 2.1 To promote and co-ordinate scientific research in all fields of Palaeontology
- 2.2 To co-ordinate the activities of amateur palaeontologists with those of professionals.
- 2.3 To preserve important fossil localities, where possible in collaboration with the National Monuments Council and/or other bodies.
- 2.4 When practicable, the Society shall establish a formal publication to print professional papers.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

- 3.1 Any person living in Southern Africa and who is interested in Palaeontology will qualify for membership.
- 3.2 The Chairman and Vice-Chairman (Director and Assistant Director) of the National Monuments Council are honorary members of the Society. They shall not pay membership fees and shall not have voting rights.
- 3.3 The Committee will have power to grant membership to any person outside southern Africa on condition that such a person has direct interest in palaeontological research in southern Africa and provided that application is made according to rule 3.4.

KONSTITUSIE VAN DIE PALEONTOLOGIESE VERENIGING VAN SUIDER-AFRIKA

1. NAAM:

- 1.1 Die Vereniging sal bekend staan as "Die Paleontologiese Vereniging van Suider-Afrika", oftewel PVSA, hierna in hierdie konstitusie die *Vereniging* genoem.
- 1.2 Die Amptelike monstuk van die Vereniging sal bekend wees as die "Palaeontological News/Paleontologiese Nuus", hierna in hierdie konstitusie die *Nuusbrief* genoem.

2. DOELSTELLINGS

- 2.1 Die bevordering en koördinering van wetenskaplike navorsing op alle gebiede van die Paleontologie.
- 2.2 Die koördinering van die werksaamhede van amateur-paleontoloë met dié van professionele paleontoloë.
- 2.3 Die bewaring van belangrike fossielvindplekke, waar moontlik in samewerking met die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede en/of ander instansies.
- 2.4 Wanneer dit prakties moontlik word, sal die Vereniging 'n formele publikasie daarstel vir die publisering van vakkundige bydraes.

3. LIDMAATSKAP:

- 3.1 Enige persoon wat in Suider-Afrika woonagtig is en in die Paleontologie belangstel, sal kwalifiseer vir lidmaatskap.
- 3.2 Die Direkteur en Assistent-Direkteur van die Raad van Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede sal ere-lede van die Vereniging wees. Hulle sal geen ledegelde betaal nie en sal ook nie stemreg hê nie.
- 3.3 Die Komitee sal ook die reg hê om lidmaatskap toe te ken aan 'n persoon buite Suider-Afrika wat direkte belang het by paleontologiese navorsing in Suider-Afrika, mits aansoek gedoen word om lidmaatskap ooreenkomstig reël 3.4.

- 3.4 As from July 1, 1977, each new applicant for membership must enclose a letter of nomination by a paid-up member with his application form to the Secretary, who will submit it to the Committee for final approval.
- 3.5 Membership can be terminated by a written resignation to the Secretary.
- 3.6 Any member who acts contrary to the aims of the Society can be expelled by the Committee.

4. MEMBERSHIP FEES:

- 4.1 The Committee will determine the annual membership fee each year in accordance with the financial requirements of the Society.
- 4.2 Membership fees are payable each year in April. If the fee has not been paid by the end of July membership will be suspended automatically until all fees due have been paid. A suspended member is not eligible to vote and cannot be nominated for office.
- 4.3 If a person fails to pay membership fees for three consecutive years, he/she will automatically cease to be a member. Re-application for membership must then be made according to rule 3.4.
- 4.4 No money will be refunded to any person whose membership has been terminated.

5. OFFICE BEARERS:

- 5.1 **THE COMMITTEE:** The management of the Society will be vested in a Committee of four elected members, viz.
 - 5.1.1 A President who will act as Chairman at all meetings of the Committee and the Society which he attends. The President will have an ordinary as well as a casting vote.
 - 5.1.2 A Vice-President, who will act as Chairman at any meetings of the Committee or the Society when the President is absent. In such cases the Vice-President will have an ordinary vote as well as a casting vote.

- 3.4 Vanaf 1 Julie 1977 moet elke aansoeker om lidmaatskap sy aansoek, tesame met 'n nominasiebrief van 'n bestaande lid wat volle stemreg het, aan die Sekretaris stuur, wat dit aan die Komitee sal voorlê vir finale goedkeuring.
- 3.5 'n Persoon kan sy/haar lidmaatskap beëindig deur 'n skriftelike bedanking by die Sekretaris in te dien.
- 3.6 Enige lid wat die doelstellings van die Vereniging dwarsboom kan deur die Komitee as lid geskors word.

4. LEDEGELDE:

- 4.1 Die Komitee bepaal jaarliks die ledegelde wat betaalbaar is ooreenkomstig die finansiële behoeftes van die Vereniging.
- 4.2 Ledegelde is jaarliks in April betaalbaar. Enige lid wat aan die einde van Julie van die betrokke jaar nog nie sy/haar ledegelde betaal het nie, se lidmaatskap word outomaties opgeskort tot tyd en wyl alle agterstallige gelde betaal is. 'n Lid wie se lidmaatskap opgeskort is, sal nie stemreg hê nie en sal nie kwalifiseer vir verkiesing op die Komitee nie.
- 4.3 Indien 'n lid vir drie agtereenvolgende jare in gebreke bly om ledegeld te betaal, word sy/haar naam outomaties van die ledelys geskrap. Aansoek om hertoelating moet dan geskied ooreenkomstig reël 3.4.
- 4.4 Onder geen omstandighede sal enige gelde terugbetaal word aan 'n persoon wie se lidmaatskap beëindig is nie.

5. AMPSDRAERS:

5.1 DIE KOMITEE: Die bestuur van die Vereniging berus by 'n Komitee van vier verkose lede, naamlik:-

5.1.1 'n President, wat as Voorsitter sal optree by alle vergaderings van die Komitee en die Vereniging waar hy teenwoordig mag wees. Die President sal 'n gewone stem en 'n beslissende stem hê.

5.1.2 'n Vise-President, wat as Voorsitter sal optree by enige vergadering wat die President nie kan bywoon nie. In sulke gevalle sal hy oor 'n gewone stem en 'n beslissende stem beskik.

5.1.3 A Secretary who will handle all correspondence on behalf of the Committee and who will keep the minutes of all meetings. If the Secretary is unable to attend, the meeting will appoint a temporary Secretary.

5.1.4 An Editor of the Newsletter, who will see to it that the Newsletter is published and distributed according to the conditions set forth in the Constitution and the decisions of the Committee. The Editor will also edit the other publications of the Society unless the Committee decides otherwise.

5.1.5 At Committee meetings three elected members will constitute a quorum.

5.2 ELECTION:

5.2.1 All Committee members are chosen for a term of two years, starting on July 1 and ending on June 30 of the second year following. The Vice-President shall become President automatically after two years.

5.2.2 A Committee member can be re-elected but no member may serve more than 3 consecutive terms (6 years) on the Committee. This rule shall not apply to parts of a term.

5.2.3 The election will take place by means of circulars and voting forms sent to all members. The procedure will be as follows:

5.2.3.1 In February the Secretary shall inform members that nominations are awaited, the closing date for nominations to be 31 March.

5.2.3.2 The Secretary will draw up a voting form with the nominations for each vacancy, which will be sent to members as soon as possible after 31 March. The closing date of the election will not be later than 15 June.

5.2.3.3 The Secretary shall place all returned voting forms in safe-keeping should there be any queries regarding or investigations into the election.

5.2.4 If the President should resign during his term of office the Vice-President automatically becomes President for the remainder of

5.1.3 'n Sekretaris, wat alle korrespondensie namens die Komitee sal behartig en notule sal hou van alle vergaderings. Indien die Sekretaris 'n vergadering nie kan bywoon nie, kies die vergadering 'n tydelike sekretaris in sy plek.

5.1.4 'n Redakteur van die Nuusbrief wat sal toesien dat die Nuusbrief ooreenkomstig die bepalings van die Konstitusie en die besluite van die Komitee gedruk en versprei word. Die Redakteur sal ook redakteur wees van ander publikasies deur die Vereniging uitgegee, tensy die Komitee anders besluit.

5.1.5 By Komiteevergaderings sal enige drie van die verkose lede 'n kworum vorm.

5.2 VERKIESING:

5.2.1 Alle Komiteelede word verkies vir 'n tydperk van twee jaar, beginnende op 1 Julie en eindigende op 30 Junie van die tweede jaar wat daarop volg. Die President tree na een dienstermyn uit en word opgevolg deur die dienende Vise-President.

5.2.2 Komiteelede is herkiesbaar, maar geeneen mag vir meer as drie agtereenvolgende termynne (d.w.s. ses jaar) op die Komitee dien nie. Vir hierdie doel sal gedeeltes van 'n termyn nie in berekening gebring word nie.

5.2.3 Die verkiesing van ampsdraers sal by wyse van omsend- en stembriewe geskied. Die prosedure sal as volg wees:

5.2.3.1 Die Sekretaris sal in Februarie kennis gee dat nominasies vir ampsdraers ingewag word. Die sluitingsdatum vir nominasies sal 31 Maart wees. Slegs volopbetaalde lede sal stemreg hê en genomineer mag word.

5.2.3.2 Die Sekretaris sal 'n stembrief opstel met die nominasies wat vir elke vakature ontvang is en dit so gou moontlik ná 31 Maart aan lede stuur. Die sluitingsdatum vir stemming sal nie later as 15 Junie wees nie.

5.2.3.3 Die Sekretaris sal alle stembriewe wat terugontvang word, in veilige bewaring hou, vir geval daar enige navrae of ondersoeke in verband met die stemming is.

5.2.4 Indien die President gedurende die loop van sy termyn sou bedank, word die Vise-President die President van die Ver-

the term as well as for the following term. Should the Vice-President resign or become President, a new Vice-President must be elected by the members of the Society, except when this is shortly before a general election.

- 5.2.5 If the Secretary or Editor should resign during his term of office the Vacancy must be filled by means of an election by all members if the remaining term is more than one year. If less than one year, the Committee can appoint a person for the vacancy.

5.3 CO-OPTING

- 5.3.1 A treasurer is appointed annually by the Committee. The Treasurer need not be a member of the Society and will not have the vote at Committee meetings. The Treasurer shall keep proper account of all income and expenditure of the Society.

- 5.3.2 The Committee will also have the power to co-opt additional Committee members for specific purposes, e.g. for assistance for organizing congresses. The elected members of the Committee will determine whether these co-opted members will have the vote at Committee meetings.

6. FINANCES:

- 6.1 The financial year of the Society will commence on 1 April and end on 31 March of the following year.
- 6.2 The Treasurer will open a savings account in name of the Society and he/she and one other Committee member must sign all withdrawal slips. Should the Treasurer not be available, any two (permanent) Committee members may sign the withdrawal slip.
- 6.3 Each year during the first two weeks of April the Treasurer will submit a balance sheet of the Society's assets and liabilities, with supporting documents, to the Committee. The Committee will then appoint an auditor and the balance sheet and the auditor's report will be sent to all members as soon as possible for approval.
- 6.4 The Treasurer will make sufficient funds available to the Secretary and the Editor for running costs. These officials must give full account of all expenditures.
- 6.5 The Committee will have full control over the investment and spending

eniging vir die res van die termyn asook vir die daaropvolgende termyn. Indien die Vise-President sou bedank of President sou word, word 'n nuwe Vise-President verkies deur die lede, behalwe waar dit kort voor 'n algemene verkiesing is.

- 5.2.5 Indien die Sekretaris of Redakteur in die loop van 'n termyn sou bedank, moet die vakature deur 'n verkiesing deur lede gevul word indien die oorblywende deel van die termyn meer as een jaar is. In ander gevalle kan die Komitee 'n persoon in die vakature aanstel vir die res van die termyn.

5.3 KOÖPTERING:

- 5.3.1 Die Komitee stel jaarliks 'n Tesourier/e aan wat nie 'n lid van die Vereniging hoef te wees nie en wat nie stemreg op Komiteevergaderings sal hê nie. Die Tesourier/e moet behoorlik boekhou van alle inkomstes en uitgawes van die Vereniging.

- 5.3.2 Die Komitee sal die reg hê om lede van die Vereniging vir spesifieke doeleindes te koöpteer, bv. om behulpsaam te wees met die reël van Kongresse. Die vaste Komiteeledes sal besluit of hierdie gekoöpteerde lede stemreg op Komiteevergaderings sal hê of nie.

6. FINANSIES

- 6.1 Die finansiële jaar van die Vereniging strek vanaf 1 April tot 31 Maart van die daaropvolgende jaar.

- 6.2 Die Tesourier/e sal 'n spaarrekening in naam van die Vereniging open en hy/sy en enige ander Komiteelid moet alle onttrekkingstrookies teken. In geval die Tesourier/e nie beskikbaar is nie, kan enige twee verkose Komiteeledes die strookies teken.

- 6.3 Die Tesourier/e sal jaarliks binne die eerste twee weke van April 'n balanstaat met stawende dokumente van al die Vereniging se bates en laste aan die Komitee voorlê. Die Komitee benoem dan 'n ouditeur en die balanstaat en die ouditeursverslag moet so gou moontlik aan lede gestuur word vir goedkeuring.

- 6.4 Die Tesourier/e sal genoegsame fondse aan die Sekretaris en Redakteur beskikbaar stel vir lopende koste. Hierdie ampsdraers moet weer volledig verslag doen van die besteding van sodanige fondse.

- 6.5 Die Komitee sal beheer hê oor die belegging en besteding van alle

of all funds of the Society, with the provision that it must be done in the best interests of the Society.

- 6.6 Each year the Committee will determine the amount payable by non-members as a subscription fee for the Newsletter and other Society publications and will also determine the enrolment fee, if any, for Congress.

7. NEWSLETTER:

- 7.1 The Newsletter will appear at least twice a year.
- 7.2 The Editor can request specific members to act as correspondents. In addition any member can make contributions of a palaeontological nature, but the Editor will have the right to decline or to edit any such contributions.
- 7.3 Where a member signs a contribution, he/she accepts full legal responsibilities for it. In all other cases the Editor will accept all legal responsibilities. The Society takes no responsibility for the scientific opinions expressed by members.

8. CONGRESSES:

- 8.1 If practicable and financially possible, it will be the aim to hold a Palaeontological Congress every second year. When necessary, time will be set aside for a business meeting, i.e. the discussion of motions and proposals by members.
- 8.2 The Secretary shall give at least 120 days advance notice of the time and venue of the Congress. Members will be allowed to submit motions, proposals or titles of papers to be read up to 60 days before the start of the Congress. A complete agenda will be sent to members as soon as possible thereafter.

9. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION:

- 9.1 An amendment to the Constitution can only be considered if the proposed amendment is given to the Secretary in writing, with the signatures of the mover and one seconder. Both must be paid-up members of the Society. The Secretary will notify all members of the proposed amendment within 30 days of receiving it. The closing date for voting will not be less than 90 days and not more than 120 days after the pu-

fondse van die Vereniging met dien verstande dat dit in die beste belang van die Vereniging moet wees.

- 6.6 Die Komitee bepaal jaarliks die subskripsiegelde betaalbaar deur nie-lede vir die Vereniging se publikasies. Die Komitee bepaal ook die inskrywingsfooi, indien enige, vir die bywoning van Kongresse.

7. NUUSBRIEF

- 7.1 Die Nuusbriëf sal minstens twee keer per jaar verskyn.
- 7.2 Die Redakteur kan spesifieke lede versoek om as korrespondente op te tree, en hierbenewens kan enige lid enige bydrae van paleontologiese aard instuur, maar die Redakteur sal die reg hê om sodanige bydraes te weier, te wysig of te verkort.
- 7.3 Waar lede bydraes onderteken, aanvaar die betrokke lid of lede die volle regs aanspreeklikheid daarvoor. In alle ander gevalle sal die Redakteur regs aanspreeklikheid aanvaar. Die Vereniging neem geen verantwoordelikheid vir enige wetenskaplike opinies wat deur lede uitgespreek mag word nie.

8. KONGRESSE

- 8.1 Vir sover dit prakties en finansiële moontlik is, sal daar gepoog word om elke tweede jaar 'n Paleontologiese Kongres te hou. Indien nodig, sal tyd ook afgestaan word aan 'n besigheidsvergadering, d.w.s. die bespreking van mosies en voorstelle deur lede.
- 8.2 Die Sekretaris sal ten minste 120 dae voor die aanvang van die Kongres kennis gee van die tyd en plek waar dit gehou sal word. Lede sal tyd gegun word tot hoogstens 60 dae voor die aanvang van die Kongres om kennis te gee van enige mosies of voorstelle, of om die titels van referate voor te lê. 'n Volledige agenda sal so spoedig moontlik daarna aan alle lede gestuur word.

9. WYSIGING VAN DIE KONSTITUSIE

- 9.1 'n Konstitusiewysiging kan slegs oorweeg word indien die mosie skriftelik aan die Sekretaris besorg word, met die handtekening van die voorsteller en minstens een sekondant. Beide die voorsteller en die sekondant moet volopbetaalde lede van die Vereniging wees. Die Sekretaris sal alle lede in kennis stel van die konsep-wysiging binne

lishing of the motion. At least two-thirds of the paid-up members of the Society must be in favour of the amendment before it becomes valid.

- 9.2 The result of the vote must be made known as soon as possible and any valid amendment comes in to effect immediately.
- 9.3 No single rule can be changed more than once in one financial year (viz. from 1 April to 31 March) unless the Committee recommends that the rule be reconsidered.
- 9.4 Any member will have the right to draw the attention of any Committee member, but preferably the Secretary, to any matter that might need the attention of the Committee and/or the Society.

10. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY:

A proposal that the Society should be dissolved is made in the same manner as an amendment to the Constitution, except that there must be two seconders for the motion. Should two-thirds of the paid-up members be in favour of the proposal, the Committee shall sell all assets and settle all outstanding accounts. The balance shall be divided equally among the paid-up members.

STOP PRESS

Too late for classification.

John and Heidi Anderson have moved to Pretoria. Their new addresses are as follows:

Drs J & H Anderson
Botanical Research Institute
Private Bag X101
PRETORIA 0001

171 Hartley St
Weavind Park
Pretoria 0002

Heidi has been made regional representative for Southern Africa for the International Organization of Palaeobotany. Her paper on Vereeniging fossil flora was published in *Palaeont. afr.* 20. John's magnum opus on spores was published last year as no. 41 of the Memoirs of the Botanical Survey of South Africa.

30 dae nadat hy dit ontvang het. Die sluitingsdatum van stemming sal nie minder as 90 dae en nie meer as 120 dae ná die bekendmaking van die mosie wees nie. Ten minste twee-derdes van die volopbetaalde lede van die Vereniging moet ten gunste van die bepaling wees voordat dit in die Konstitusie opgeneem kan word.

- 9.2 Die uitslag van die stemming moet so spoedig moontlik bekend gemaak word en nadat 'n wysiging of toevoeging tot die Konstitusie goedgekeur is, word dit onmiddellik van krag.
- 9.3 Geen enkele reël mag in een finansiële jaar (d.w.s. van 1 April tot 31 Maart) meer as een keer gewysig word nie, tensy die Komitee by die lede aanbeveel dat die reël heroorweeg moet word.
- 9.4 Afgesien van konstitusionele aangeleenthede, sal enige lid die reg hê om te enige tyd by enige Komiteelid, maar verkieslik die Sekretaris, sake aanhangig te maak wat die aandag van die Komitee en/of die Vereniging vereis.

10. ONTBINDING VAN DIE VERENIGING

'n Voorstel dat die Vereniging moet ontbind geskied ooreenkomstig die reëls neergelê vir 'n Konstitusiewysiging, behalwe dat daar in hierdie geval twee sekondante moet wees.

Indien twee-derdes van die volopbetaalde lede van die Vereniging ten gunste van die voorstel is, moet die Komitee alle vaste eiendom van die Vereniging verkoop en alle uitstaande skulde vereffen. Die restant sal gelykop onder al die volopbetaalde lede verdeel word.

When a man is married to one woman, it is called *monotony*.

When a man has more than one wife, he is called a *pigamist*.

Married men may have better halves, but bachelors have various quarters.

A mother takes twenty years to make a man of her boy, and another woman makes a fool of him in twenty minutes. - *Frost*

Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil - and you'll never be a success at a tea party.

Sign in cemetery: Persons are prohibited from picking flowers from any but their own graves.

REMINDERS

1. Membership fees for 1978/79 are now payable. For ordinary members the membership fee is R5-00, while student members still pay only R3-00. Please send yours as soon as possible to:

The PSSA Treasurer
c/o National Museum
P O Box 266
9300 BLOEMFONTEIN

*Receipts will be sent only to those members who include a self-addressed, pre-paid envelope. All payments received till the end of June will be acknowledged in the next issue.

2. Make a note to send in your report for the next Newsletter early in August. The Editor will leave at the end of that month for a 50-day visit to Europe and would like to finalize the Newsletter before he leaves.
3. All professional members as well as amateur members who are permit holders must please send in, as soon as possible, a report on the way in which they collect fossils. The report should include the following:
 - (a) The type of fossils you usually collect, as well as their age.
 - (b) The means by which you determine the exact locality.
 - (c) What reference system is used to re-locate the fossil site?
 - (d) What would be the ideal way, in your opinion, in which to do (b) and (c) above?
 - (e) Any other suggestions?

This is NOT a police investigation and nobody will be penalized or, heaven forbid, locked up because he or she has been doing it the wrong way. But it is necessary that we standardize our techniques and methods as far as possible in order to derive the maximum information from the fossils collected as well as from the site.

