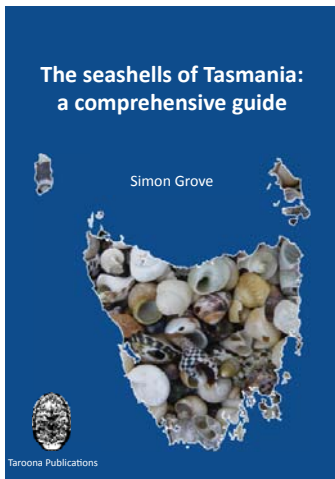
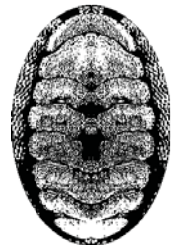


New book –
available May 2011

The seashells of Tasmania: a comprehensive guide

by Simon Grove



Tarooma Publications
ISBN 9780646551173

How often has a casual stroll along a Tasmanian beach resulted in a pocketful of shells that you wish you knew more about? How many species of cowrie have you got sitting in that jar of holiday treasures? How different are winkles and whelks, scallops and oysters, cockles and mussels? Are all those limpets on the rocks the same species? Is that screw-shell native? Are all abalones the same? What shell species went into making that necklace? This book will help you find out - and much more besides.

- Tailored for Tasmania, but relevant for all of southern Australia
- Comprehensive and authoritative coverage of all species likely to be encountered on the shore
- 30 full-colour plates by the author illustrate the commonest 350 species
- Facing text describes these and a further 100 species
- Accessible and attractive format
- A5 format, 82 pages, card cover
- Ideal companion for beachcombers, naturalists and biologists
- Perfect for the shack, holiday-home or guest-house



Dr Simon Grove is a professional conservation biologist with a lifelong passion for seashells, marine life and natural history – and a shell collection to match. He lives with his wife and two sons near the sea in southern Tasmania.

Contents

Introduction.....	1
Naming shells	1
Identifying shells	2
Mollusc lifestyles and habitats	3
Mollusc status	3
Mollusc distributions.....	3
Conservation	5
Developing a shell collection	5
Cephalopods (nautilus, squid and cuttlefishes).....	6–7
Polyplacophorans (chitons)	6–7
Bivalves.....	8–25
Gastropods	26–63
Micromolluscs	64–65
Species index	66–80

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True top-shells (family Trochidae)

1. *Notagibbula bicarinata* (A. Adams, 1854). **Cox's top-shell.** 9 mm. Lives subtidally among seaweeds in sheltered environments. Uncommon in Tas., and confined to the N coast and Bass Strait islands. QLD, NSW, TAS, VIC and SA.

2. *Notagibbula lehmanni* (Menke, 1843). **Lehmann's top-shell.** 9 mm. Lives subtidally among seaweeds in sheltered environments. Uncommon in Tas., and confined to the N coast and Bass Strait islands. TAS, VIC, SA and WA. *Cantharidella picturata* (8 mm, not illustrated) and *C. tiberiana* (7 mm, not illustrated) are small, colourful top-shells with taller spires; can be found in shell-grit on exposed shores, the former only in NE Tas.

3. *Phasianotrochus bellulus* (Dunker, 1845). **Beautiful kelp-shell.** 20 mm. Lives subtidally among seaweeds and seagrass in moderately sheltered environments. Rare in Tas., and largely confined to the NE coast and Flinders Island. TAS, VIC and SA.

4. *Phasianotrochus irisodontes* (Quoy and Gaimard, 1834). **Rainbow kelp-shell.** 12 mm. Shells of live animals often washed with iridescent-green or violet, but pigmentation is very superficial and easily worn off, exposing the nacreous basal layer. Lives subtidally among seaweeds and seagrass. Widespread and common. TAS, VIC, SA and WA.

5. *Phasianotrochus rutilis* (A. Adams, 1853). **Pink-tipped kelp-shell.** 18 mm. Worn specimens are difficult to distinguish from *P. irisodontes*, though this species grows significantly larger. Lives subtidally among seaweeds and seagrass. Widespread, although confirmed records in Tas. are relatively few. TAS, VIC and SA.

6. *Phasianotrochus eximus* (Perry, 1811). **Choice kelp-shell.** 35 mm. Shells of fresh specimens may be brick-red or olive-green,

sometimes with paler wavy, concentric and/or axial lines. Worn specimens are nacreous, often with a greenish tinge. Lives subtidally among seaweeds and seagrass, especially in moderately exposed environments. Widespread and quite common. NSW, TAS, VIC, SA and WA. *P. apicinus* (20 mm, not illustrated) is a smaller species that may possibly occur on the N coast.

7. *Thalotia conica* (Gray, 1827). **Conical kelp-shell.** 20 mm. Lives intertidally and subtidally among seaweeds and seagrass, especially in moderately sheltered environments. Common on the N coast and around the Bass Strait islands; rare or absent to S. TAS, VIC, SA and WA. *Prothalotia lehmanni* (20 mm, not illustrated) is a smaller species that has been recorded on at least one occasion on the NW coast.

8. *Bankivia fasciata* (Menke, 1830). **Banded kelp-shell.** 20 mm. Shells come in a wide range of basal colours and overlaid patterns. Lives subtidally on sand, particularly in moderately exposed environments. Widespread and locally abundant. NSW, TAS, VIC and SA. *Leiopyrga lineolaris* (9 mm, not illustrated) and *L. octona* (12 mm, not illustrated) are two smaller species that have been recorded very occasionally in NE Tas.

9. *Ethminolia vitiliginea* (Menke, 1843). **Blotchy top-shell.** 10 mm. Very similar to *E. probabialis*, but umbilicus relatively narrow. Lives subtidally among seaweeds and seagrass. Rare in Tas., and confined to the N coast and Bass Strait islands; most likely to be found towards the NW, TAS, VIC, SA and WA.

10. *Ethminolia probabialis* Iredale, 1924 **May's top-shell.** 10 mm. Very similar to *E. vitiliginea*, but umbilicus relatively broad. Lives subtidally among seaweeds and seagrass. Rare in Tas., and largely confined to the N coast and Bass Strait islands; most likely to be found towards the NE. NSW, TAS and VIC.

Plate 15 – Top-shells (part c)

