



AGM 2018

Note 2: 2018 AGM

Dear shell friends,

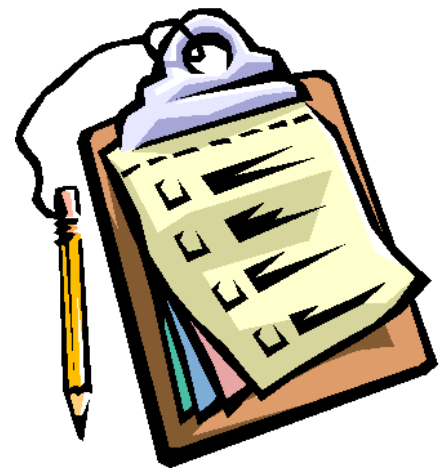
With only 6.5 weeks to go to our Annual General Meeting, we are steaming ahead with preparations for the formalities, as well as the fun. This letter serves as the penultimate “heads-up” for the AGM, and is the introductory document for a whole plethora of accompanying “reading pleasure”, for your attention. Let’s get started with the formalities.

AGM 2018 Agenda

Included with the email that contained this letter is the Agenda for the 2018 AGM. I have revised it a bit from last year’s layout to read better (less clutter) and hopefully avoid any confusion. Please take note of the following important bits of information, as delineated within the Agenda:

- AGM Date: Saturday **02 June 2018**
- AGM Time: **10h00**
- Venue: Pretoria East Netcare Hospital Upper Conference Room

The venue is therefore unchanged from last year’s AGM – thanks to our Secretary, Mr Anton Groenewald, for once again arranging the venue for us. Those attending the AGM should prepare to pay a parking fee this time, probably in the region of R40. This follows appointment of a new Service Provider to manage parking and security at Pretoria East Netcare Hospital, which has made issuing of free parking for special visitors – like us – a bit problematic. However, I do think that it is a small price to pay for the potential amount of fun and enjoyment to be had at this years’ AGM, as well as the benefit of a great venue.



Please also take note that things may go on for a bit longer than usual after lunch, for those wishing to stay for the Auction. We will have many lovely shells up for grabs at rock bottom starting prices, so it could go on for a while – but all for your benefit, so well worth the stay!

AGM 2017 Minutes

Included in the email are the Minutes from the 2017 AGM. You should have received an electronic copy shortly after the last AGM, but in case you did not, or in case you have misplaced it, we include another copy here. Please have a look at it, because we need to have it ratified at the AGM for accuracy and correctness.

Nominations and Proxies

This is a “voting year”, which means time to vote for and appoint a new Committee. Included in this email package is a newly-designed Nomination Form, as well as a newly-designed Proxy Form; both Forms are collocated on the same A4 sheet.

We have also drawn up and included a Memorandum with the names of current Committee Members having expressed willingness to continue serving on the new Committee. Please use this as supporting information when considering people for the various positions, and when drawing up and submitting Nominations:

- Complete and submit a Proxy Voting Form if you cannot be at the AGM in-person, and inform your proxy who they must vote for on your behalf.
- Complete and submit a Nomination Form should you wish to nominate anyone else for a position on the new Committee.



Please note that all Proxies and Nominations must reach the Secretary by the **12th of May 2018** to be eligible for deliberation.

Update to Consitution

We are going to present an update to the Constitution, to be tabled for acceptance or rejection, at the 2018 AGM. The Committee has deliberated and is in support of the update, but we will distribute the formal proposal to all our Members in a separate Letter shortly. What is if immediate importance is the spin-off of the proposal, the details of which can be read in the accompanying Memo concerning Nominations and Proxies, also attached to this email.

AGM Shell Exhibits

Now on to the fun stuff. Yes, preparation of an Exhibit can be hard work, but it remains one of the highlights of all our AGMs, and I am hoping that we will see yet another amazing spread of displays to ogle at this year. In addition, although many of the regular (and upcoming) Exhibitors have those five shiny trophies in their sights, I encourage all attendees to prepare and bring at least one Exhibit, not necessarily for the prizes, but so that attendees can appreciate the hobby, our passion for shells, and see the creativity and



resourcefulness within the Society. Exhibits are often prepared to simply display some of the lovely

shells in our collections, including rare-, sought-after-, or aesthetically pleasing specimens, or simply personal favourites.

Whatever the reasons, please remember the following:

- AGM 2018 Exhibit Theme: “Society 60 Years”
- AGM 2018 Exhibit Categories:
 - *Category 1: Artistic*
 - *Category 2: Scientific*
 - *Category 3: Beginner*
 - *Category 4: Shell Family, Genus or Species*

We will soon be distributing to everyone an Image File of the special Society “60th Anniversary” logo, which you may use in your Exhibit; this is not mandatory, only a suggestion. However, please remember that you must incorporate some element of design in your Exhibit that celebrates or alludes to the Society’s 60th Anniversary *to be eligible for a prize* – this is, after all, the 2018 Exhibit Theme... You may use the special logo, *or anything else* you think will be appropriate. Let your imagination and resourcefulness guide your creativity in this regard.

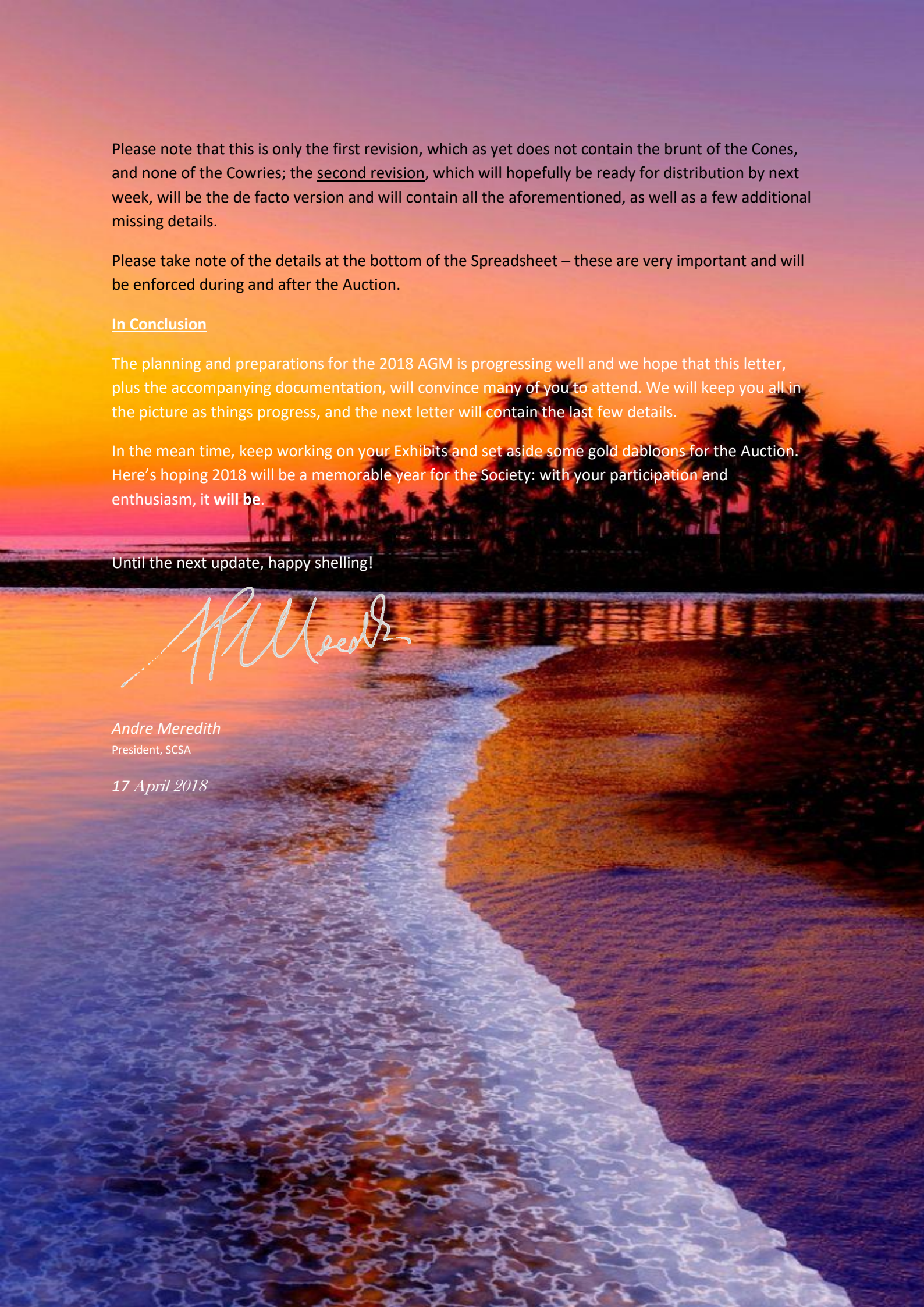
Also included in this email pack is the Exhibit Guideline which was sent to everyone a short while ago. Use this Guideline to design and prepare your Exhibit *towards eligibility for a prize*. These are the aspects the judges will be looking at when scoring your Exhibit.

AGM Auction

The final piece of information included in the email package is probably the one thing everyone will be rushing towards first: we have included the first revision of the Flat List of shells and books entered for the AGM Auction. I have personally selected the best of the best from the Du Preez Collection (I had plenty of help from the Committee in this regard) and, as you may deduce from the Flat List, there are a number of very special items to be auctioned off. Try finding the item marked “Shell of the Auction” – this one shell alone (and its ludicrous starting bid amount) – should be enough to entice a few of you to set aside the time and make your way to the AGM for a splendid time of fun and enjoyment. And, even if you don’t win this one (there can be only one winner, after all...), there are many other items on offer that will bring joy to any collector.

I have tried to select shells from the Collection spanning as many Families as possible to try and cater for a wide audience (even a few land- and tree-snails for the “foliage foragers”). In addition to the shells, we will also be auctioning off some lovely books, as well as three Shell Cabinets formerly belonging to Ms Du Preez.





Please note that this is only the first revision, which as yet does not contain the brunt of the Cones, and none of the Cowries; the second revision, which will hopefully be ready for distribution by next week, will be the de facto version and will contain all the aforementioned, as well as a few additional missing details.

Please take note of the details at the bottom of the Spreadsheet – these are very important and will be enforced during and after the Auction.

In Conclusion

The planning and preparations for the 2018 AGM is progressing well and we hope that this letter, plus the accompanying documentation, will convince many of you to attend. We will keep you all in the picture as things progress, and the next letter will contain the last few details.

In the mean time, keep working on your Exhibits and set aside some gold dabloons for the Auction. Here's hoping 2018 will be a memorable year for the Society: with your participation and enthusiasm, it **will be**.

Until the next update, happy shelling!



Andre Meredith
President, SCSA

17 April 2018