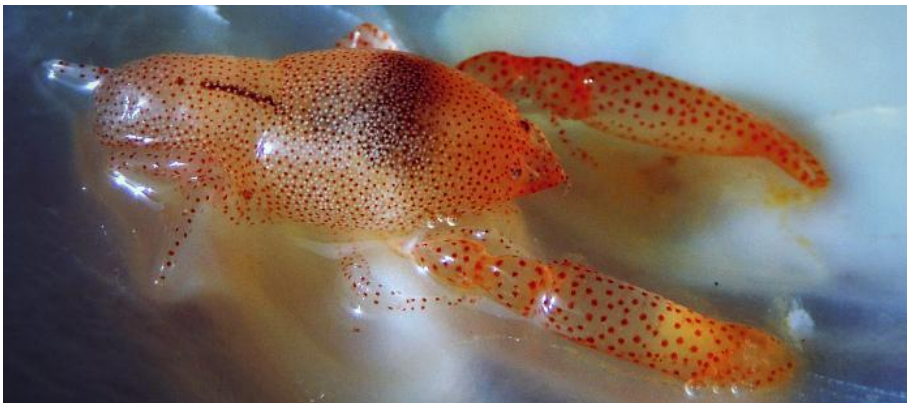




# GAZELLE

مجموعة دبي للتاريخ والطبيعي



A male Musandam Pearl Oyster Shrimp

## An Unsolved Reproductive Mystery

DNHG members who have taken part in an overnight dhow cruise off the Musandam Peninsula may have encountered an unusual shrimp species that makes its home inside the shells of live pearl oysters.

These little shrimp, about 1-2 cm long as adults with carapaces that are mainly transparent but speckled with orange pigment spots, are usually seen when local fishermen deliver a load of large oysters to the dhow, which crewmen then open and prepare for the stew pot. In the

course of two dhow trips, I observed that each oyster opened aboard our dhows contained precisely one shrimp, either a slender-tailed male or a fat-bodied female, with the latter often carrying a mass of yellow-brown eggs under her abdomen.

These distinctive decapod shrimp belong to the genus *Conchodytes* of the family Palaemonidae. This predominantly warm-water marine genus contains a number of species, all characterized by having obligate commensal relationships with various bivalve molluscs including pearl oysters, scallops, pen shells and giant clams. At least two species, *C. meleagrinae* and *C. biunguiculatus*, have been recorded in the westernmost reaches of the Indian Ocean including the Red Sea and Persian Gulf, both in association with pearl oyster species, especially the Black-lipped Pearl Oyster, *Pinctada margaritifera*.

However, in *C. biunguiculatus*, which can also live commensally with giant clams, adults attain

lengths of up to 4 cm and have pigment spots ranging in colour from opaque white or pale yellow in juveniles to dull reddish brown in adults. *C. meleagrinae*, on the other hand, is smaller and has orange or red spots. It therefore seems likely that *C. meleagrinae* is the species typically associated with pearl oysters in waters off Musandam. The species is in fact widespread throughout the Indo-Pacific region, and has been misleadingly named the Hawaiian Pearl Oyster Shrimp by the American Fisheries Society.

In our region, *C. meleagrinae* has been noted by researchers studying Persian Gulf pearl oysters, with one author in 1996 classifying it as a fouling organism. That conclusion may not have been warranted as other studies of *Conchodytes* species have generally found that the adult shrimp stay almost exclusively inside the shells of their hosts, near their gills, but do no discernible harm. Underwater video footage has shown shrimp using anterior appendages to waft plankton into their mouths, possibly stealing food that otherwise would have been consumed by the host mollusc. But as each bivalve contained at most two small shrimp, such losses were deemed unlikely to be material. At present it is unknown whether the host gets any-

(Continued on page 6)

### Inside this month

Shell-shock! Part 2

New UAE butterfly  
*Chilades pandava*

DNHG Field Trip: Georgia

### Contributors

The Editor would like to thank the following for their reports and contributions:

Tamsin Carlisle, Vicky Dobson  
and Gary Feulner



A fat bodied female Musandam Pearl Oyster Shrimp

## Announcements

### New DNHG Bird Recorder

The DNHG are pleased to welcome Tamsin Carlisle as our new bird recorder.

Many *Gazelle* readers will already know Tamsin from her many valuable contributions to the newsletter, particularly in the field of birds.

She is an active bird watcher within the UAE birding circles and has in the past conducted research in the behaviour of the Arabian Babbler in the Negev Desert. She is also familiar with UAE's resident and migrant bird species and we are honoured to have her join the team of DNHG recorders.

The DNHG Recorders are intended to be a resource for members as well as a clearinghouse for information about their respective areas of UAE natural history. They are generally not professional experts but interested and enthusiastic amateurs. Members are encouraged to contact the concerned DNHG Recorders with questions or information about their specialities.

### Calling for *Field Trip Coordinators and Field Trip Leaders*

If you would like to join the 'Field Trip Coordination Team' or are interested in leading your very own field trip then we would like to hear from you!

Field trip leaders do not need to be professional experts, just be generally interested and enthusiastic. We have a number of field trips to choose from or if you have somewhere specific in mind, our field trip coordinators are here to help.

#### Field Trip Coordinators:

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### Next Month's Speaker

*DNHG are delighted to welcome Dr. Timothy Powers who will be giving a talk titled:*

#### **"The Islamic Centuries in Al-Ain and the Buraimi Oasis"**

The historic Buraimi Oasis lies about 150km south of Dubai, situated between the Mahadha plain and Abu Dhabi dunes, with Jebel Hafit and the Hajar Mountains looming on the near horizon. The Omani chroniclers and British explorers of the eighteenth to mid-twentieth centuries describe a landscape of nine discrete date-palm oases scattered across a sparse savannah of acacia and ghaff trees.

The area was settled in the Bronze and Iron Ages, as visitors to the Hili Archaeological Park and Al-Ain National Museum will know, but the Islamic centuries have long remained mysterious. This lecture will draw upon the author's archaeological fieldwork and historical research in Al-Ain and Buraimi, undertaken in collaboration with the Abu Dhabi TCA and Sultan Qaboos University, to present an account of the principal monuments and archaeological sites of the Islamic centuries.

**Dr. Timothy Powers** is an archaeologist and occasional historian specialising in Arabia and the Islamic world. His interest in Islamic civilization began in 2001 when he moved to Cairo, from where he worked on a historical guidebook to Alexandria and dug in the Eastern Desert of Egypt, before travelling extensively in the Islamic world between Seville and Samarkand.

Dr. Timothy Powers went on to study Islamic art and archaeology at the University of Oxford, and completed his doctorate on the Red Sea basin from Byzantium to the Caliphate, now published as a book by the AUC Press. He has been based in the Arabian Gulf since 2009.

He was first a consultant to the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority before becoming a lecturer at the new UCL campus in Qatar, and is presently an assistant professor at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi. His archaeological fieldwork these past six years has focused on the Al-Ain/Buraimi Oases, on the border between the UAE and Oman. In 2014 he set up the Buraimi Oasis Landscape Archaeology Project, a collaboration between Zayed University, Sultan Qaboos University and the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority, which aims to explore the historic unity and shared heritage of the Buraimi Oasis.

### DNHG now on Facebook

You can now *'Like'* and *'Follow'* us on Facebook to receive regular updates on upcoming regional events, reminders for monthly lectures and field trips, as well as general information on the natural history of the UAE.

[www.facebook.com/DNHG.UAE](http://www.facebook.com/DNHG.UAE)

You do not need to sign up to Facebook to view the page.

### Are You a Techie with Time?

The website sub-committee would like to find volunteers who can help with maintenance of the on-line newsletter, and to upload the wealth of information and photographs from past *Gazelles*.

Full training will be given.

Please contact any Committee person - we will be very pleased to hear from you!



## Shell-Shock 2

### *The second step into the challenging world of beach-find identification*

During Eid 2014, a journey to Masirah and Southern Oman uncovered a whole wealth of new finds in the quest for re-visiting Bosch's identifications.

As it was Khareef season, the weather was very different on Masirah, with tempestuous, crashing seas on the Eastern side of the island sweeping any shoreline debris back into the undertow. One small, protected beach inlet gave me my first samples of perfect, small *Haliotis mariae* and some beautiful juvenile *Cypraea* specimens. Elsewhere on the East coast, beaches were devoid of any tideline specimens but finding large *Tutufa bard-eyi* where violent seas had thrown debris beyond the shoreline exceeded expectations. Having 4x4 off-road capabilities was a bonus as many of the places accessed were completely isolated.

After Masirah, the route was to Salalah via Duqm, visiting some of the beaches between Duqm and Ras Al Madrakh. The power of the ocean is all too visible along this coastline, and there are many remote and lonely places where life must be very hard. Not many shell finds, but learning by experience, I suspect the winter months may prove more fruitful for shell hunting.

Onwards to the south, long empty roads lead through gas and oil fields, remote settlements and small

roadside mosques for the traveller. It's a gravel plain environment with harsh landscapes, roaming camel herds and endless shimmering heat hazes rising from the tarmac.

Ascending onto the Salalah ridge before the descent down to sea level, a thick wet cloud enveloped the landscape, bringing visibility down to a few feet. Glances of emerald green vegetation on the way down gave a small glimpse of how the monsoon cloud, that appears to be permanent during the summer months, changes the landscape within a few miles from the arid plateau above.

Onwards to Mirbat, the beach off the Salalah Marriot proved to be an excellent finding ground for small *Persicula brinkae* and *masirana*. *Haliotis mariae*, much larger than the Masirah finds, were abundant. The seas were permanently rough and stormy with low visibility, but the nature of the shoreline allowed some respite from the battering waves, leaving an interesting tideline to be picked through.

Further up the coast, on beaches and inlets, which, owing to their protected outlying rocks and cove shapes, proved excellent hunting grounds for wonderful examples of *Volvarina cf obscura*. One specimen, sadly damaged, gave an insight into a size double the 9mm

recorded in Bosch, and the ones collected are all bigger than 9mm too. I found many with hues from light pink to deep cerise, each find becoming better than the last.

Another find along this stretch of coast, was an odd little 10mm round shell, seemingly *Persicula* in form, but larger and heftier than any others found. (Main picture).

All my specimens were worn and calloused, but the pattern was still visible. These became a mystery, nothing in Bosch matched, so after photographing the samples, they were posted on a Facebook group for Seashell collectors. Many comments and suggestions over these interesting shells resulted; some informed and erudite people obviously belong to this group. Within 48 hours of the post, my answer arrived, matched to *Persicula vanpeli* Moolenbeek & Van der Bijl, 2008.

Not in Bosch and a fairly recently identified species, it was an excellent moment of discovery and I was left astounded at the power of information accessible via the internet. From the other side of the world an avid collector, whose love of *Marginellinae* had enabled me to find out the name of my little battered shells.

Report and photos by  
Vicky Dobson

34.  
*Persicula vanpeli*  
Moolenbeek & Van der  
Bijl, 2008. Sultanate of  
Oman, province of Dhofar,  
Knobby Point, 16°57.026'  
N 54°49.109' E, 10-15 m.  
Holotype, 12.8 mm.



Unidentified shells matched to *Persicula vanpeli*, Moolenbeek & Van der Bijl, 2008



Examples of the collected *Volvarina cf obscura* measuring over 9mm



## Gazelle Report Reveals New UAE Butterfly

Helga Meyer, in the July/August 2014 *Gazelle*, reported a "mating frenzy" of little blue butterflies on a cycad plant in her garden in June. Not long after, at the Madinat Jumeirah resort, the DNHG's "Animal" team noticed a similar phenomenon during their maiden survey visit, at a lone ornamental cycad. And Tamsin Carlisle has mentioned seeing such mating frenzies several times in late summer, on cycads near her apartment at Jumeirah Beach Residence. Tamsin also found small numbers of eggs and caterpillars.

The butterfly in question was identified by all concerned as the Small Cupid *Chilades parrhasius*, a common species in diverse environments in the UAE, but also a variable species and one which, in the wild, is active throughout the summer. However . . .

Among the vigilant readers of *Gazelle* is celebrated lepidopterist Torben Larsen, the author of both scholarly and popular works on the butterflies of Arabia, Oman, the Levant, West Africa and elsewhere. He immediately appreciated the greater significance of Helga's observations and wrote to comment. What we were seeing was not unusual behavior by a familiar butterfly; we were seeing a *different* butterfly.

What the DNHG authors had treated as the Small Cupid, Larsen suggested, was in fact another, very similar butterfly – the Cycad Cupid *Chilades pandava* – an Indian and Southeast Asian species that has recently extended its range as far as Egypt. It is distinctive, he explained, in that its larvae (caterpillars) "feed exclusively in cycads."

The appearance and behaviour of the butterfly, and the circumstances of its occurrence, leave no doubt that Larsen's inference is correct and that *C. pandava* has reached Dubai. Moreover, there can be little doubt that it will also be found at other landscaped sites in Dubai, and perhaps at other sites in the

UAE and elsewhere in Arabia, where ornamental cycads are present. It may yet prove to have been present in the UAE for several years already.

In the past 15 years, traveling with cycads in the horticultural trade, the Cycad Cupid has reached temperate East Asia (Korea and Japan), islands of the western Pacific (Guam and Rota), islands in the Indian Ocean (Mauritius, Réunion and Madagascar) and Mediterranean North Africa (the Nile delta). Unfortunately, in areas where it is not native, it is considered a serious invasive pest of indigenous cycad species, many of which are on the IUCN Red List.

There are no native cycads in the UAE, or in Arabia, so *C. pandava* almost certainly arrived with, and must continue to subsist on, ornamental cycads, the most common of which is *Cycas revoluta*, the so-called sago or sago palm. Unfortunately, that species has proven to be especially susceptible to leaf damage by Cycad Cupid caterpillars. The butterfly's record of successful establishment elsewhere suggests that it is unlikely to disappear from the UAE unless the larval host plants themselves are



A cycad plant, the sago *Cycas revoluta*, at Madinat Jumeirah

eliminated, which seems unlikely given current fashion in real estate development and landscaping.

Butterfly enthusiasts should be alert to the presence of this new species and should be prepared to distinguish it from the familiar Small Cupid. A more complete report, including identification criteria, will be published in the upcoming *Tribulus*, vol. 22.

We are especially pleased that the DNHG played a critical role in the recognition of this new butterfly, since observing, recording and sharing information are at the core of the group's *raison d'être*. So congratulations to Helga; for DNHG other members, keep in mind the U.S. anti-terrorism slogan: "If you see something, say something."

Contribution by Gary Feulner



The newly recognized Cycad Cupid, *Chilades pandava*, mating on an ornamental cycad

© Tamsin Carlisle



### DNHG field trip to the Republic of Georgia, 23-29 May, 2014

The DNHG May 2014 trip to the Republic of Georgia was my second to this beautiful country located between the Black Sea and Caucasus Mountains and famed for its wine and diverse flora and fauna.

Georgia lies within the Caucasus biodiversity hot-spot, one of 200 regions recognized worldwide as priority sites for environmental protection on the basis of species diversity and endemism, among other criteria. However, the Georgian Ministry of Environment notes that the region's biodiversity has declined in recent decades due to loss, fragmentation and degradation of habitats, poaching, the introduction of invasive non-native species and non-sustainable use of natural resources.

Commendably, the government in 2005 formulated a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action plan including a 10-year strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of the country's biodiversity. Thus, as Georgia continues to reshape its economy in the post-Soviet era, it has started to value its biodiversity as a resource. Hunting, for centuries an economic and cultural mainstay of mountain and woodland regions, has been severely restricted although enforcement remains problematic, while national parks and protected areas have been set



The Burning Bush (*Dictamnus albus*)

aside. Meanwhile, ecotourism is in its infancy but will no doubt contribute to the country's economic future.

Our ecotourism adventure started in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, in a hotel overlooking the Mtkvari River which, even in the heart of the city, appears to support sizeable populations of gulls and herons.

More than 300 species of birds have been recorded in Georgia, most of which are migratory. The country also has about 100 mammalian and 50 reptilian species, including many that are endemic to the region or country. But these figures pale in relation to the country's more than 4,000 recorded species of vascular plants, many of which were in full spring bloom during our visit. Roadside Broom bushes (tentatively *Cytisus scoparius*; Fabaceae) outside Tbilisi exploded with masses of yellow blossoms, while many fields were stained red with poppies (*Papaver rhoeas*).

More notable floral sightings in the central Georgian region around Tbilisi included patches of a brilliant golden yarrow species, *Achillea pilipendulina*, native to the Caucasus region; and, on a Tbilisi hillside, a stand of the very striking *Dictamnus albus*, also known variously as Burning Bush, Gas Plant,

False Ditanny or Dictam. This plant species is so distinctive that it has been placed in its own genus. Its leaves resemble those of an ash tree while its large, purple-veined flowers, arranged on prominent spikes, are superficially similar to the long-stamened, five-petaled blossoms of tropical "orchid trees". However, it has been placed in the citrus family, Rutaceae. Like other citrus-related species, Dictamn produces a characteristic aromatic oil. At times, the flower

spikes become coated with a resinous, intensely lemon-scented secretion which is also extremely volatile. During hot summer months, the exuded oil is liable to catch fire, no doubt giving rise to some of the plant's more colourful local tales. Thanks go to DNHG's Martina Fella for help with identification.



The Nine-spotted Moth (*Amata phegea*)

Associated with the exuberant local flora is a large and varied arthropod population, including bush crickets, plant bugs, beetles, butterflies, moths, bees, spiders and many others. My favorite arthropod photographic capture from this part of the trip was of a Nine-spotted Moth (*Amata phegea*), a handsome Arctiid species active by day.

Next we spent a day in one of Georgia's mountain regions, travelling the country's Military Road to the High Caucasus as far as Mount Kazbek (locally, Kazbegi) near the Russian border. At 5,034 meters, this is the seventh highest Caucasus peak. Kazbek is associated in Georgian folklore with Amirani, the Georgian version of Prometheus, who according to legend was chained on the mountain as punishment for stealing fire from the gods and giving it to humans. In fact, the cone-shaped mountain is a potentially active volcano with fertile lower slopes covered by birch forest.

As we climbed the rough track through the forest in a convoy of 4WD vehicles it was hard not to notice the carpet of brilliant purple spring blooms beneath the trees. The flowers turned out to be *Primula woronia*, which was also present in the high mountain meadow below

(Continued on page 6)



## Field Trips



The remarkable Glass Lizard or Sheltopusik, (*Pseudopus apodus*)

### Georgia cont.

(Continued from page 5)

the picturesque Gergeti Trinity Church, onto which we eventually emerged.

The final habitat grouping we explored was in Georgia's southeastern Kakheti region, which produces much of the country's grain and has its most extensive vineyards. The climate is drier here, especially near the border with Azerbaijan, where it becomes semi-arid. However, the main agricultural area within the broad Alazani river valley is well supplied by surface water, resulting in localized riparian micro-habitats in which moisture-loving plant species, such as the Pyramidal Orchid (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*), are able to flourish. It was on the margins of this area's extensive wheat and barley fields that two of the region's typical bird species, the Black-headed Bunting (*Emberiza melanocephala*) and Corn Bunting (*Miliaria calandra*), made prominent appearances. As we headed eastwards into the drier area, arable land gave way to pasture. Ultimately we reached a steep escarpment leading into a canyon that superficially resembled an Arabian mountain wadi.

This canyon, unique in Georgia, is one of the country's protected natural regions. Even here there was surface water in the form of a permanent stream, supporting a large colony of house martins with nests established under an overhang on a nearby cliff. Other vertebrate animal sightings in the canyon included at least three reptile species: the locally abundant Caucasian Agama (*Laudakia caucasica*), a rock lizard provisionally identified as belonging

to the much speciated *Darevskia* genus, which is endemic to the Caucasus region, and the Mediterranean Tortoise (*Testudo graeca*).

The canyon flora was dominated by deep-rooted dryland shrubs and small trees including Jerusalem Thorn (*Paliurus spina-christi*; Rhamnaceae), Wild Pistachio (*Pistacia mutica*; Anacardiaceae) and Smoke Tree (*Cotinus coggygria*; Anacardiaceae). Two species of Tamarisk, or Salt Cedar, were also present, one of which, identified tentatively as *Tamarix aphylla*, had abundant feathery white inflorescences. These acted as a magnet to various flying insects including at least two butterfly species: the Southern White Admiral (*Limenitis reducta*) and Cyprus Greyling (*Hipparchia pellucida*).

Back on the steppe, we proceeded to a protected area watered by a small river where the natural grassland was dotted with pistachio trees. Here we discovered the remarkable Glass Lizard, or Sheltopusik (*Pseudopus apodus*), a legless lizard that resembles and moves like a snake. Sheltopusiks can reach lengths of 1.4 meters and have a distinctive fold of skin down each side forming lateral grooves. They hunt and feed on small mammals, arthropods, snails and slugs but are entirely harmless to humans, remaining calm when handled as our park guide demonstrated.

Distressingly, we discovered that many of the region's pistachio trees were beginning to suffer severe leaf damage from a rapacious caterpillar, possibly the larva of the Pistachio Leaf Borer moth, *Ocneria terebinthina*, an economically significant pistachio pest in Iran. The good news is that a parasitic wasp has been used successfully as a bio-control agent in Iran.

Destruction of southeastern Georgia's pistachio forests would quite possibly further endanger a number of medium-to-large sized mammalian carnivores that have been recorded in the region, including leopards, striped hyaenas, brown bears, wolves and golden jackals. We weren't fortunate

enough to spot any of these during our visit, but tracks of jackals, foxes and a large wolf were among those left in soft mud by nocturnal visitors to the local river.

Special thanks are due to trip organizer Christine Verreydt and to our wonderful local guide, Marina Javakhishvili.

Report and photos by  
Tamsin Carlisle

### An Unsolved Reproductive Mystery cont.

(Continued from page 1)

thing out of the relationship, but it is possible that commensal shrimp may clean debris off the host's gills.

One big mystery in connection with the Musandam *C. meleagrinae* population is how, with just one shrimp per oyster, reproduction is accomplished. Various studies of *Conchodytes* species in other parts of the world, including an Australian study of *C. meleagrinae* commensal with *P. margaritifera*, have reported each occupied bivalve host containing a male/female shrimp pair, clearly an arrangement that would facilitate egg fertilization.

It has to be said that very little is known about any aspect of the behaviour of *Conchodytes* species or the species of several other shrimp genera that establish commensal relationships with reef organisms. No doubt the reproduction conundrum is one of many mysteries that will emerge as these commensal shrimp become better studied.

Report and photos by  
Tamsin Carlisle



A gravid female

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**Madinat Jumeriah Survey**

If you would like to partake in the 'Madinat Jumeriah Survey of flora and fauna' please contact the appropriate team leader for details:

- (1) Animals (Gary Feulner): [grfeulner@gmail.com](mailto:grfeulner@gmail.com)
- (2) Plants (Val Chalmers): [valeriechalmers@gmail.com](mailto:valeriechalmers@gmail.com)
- (3) Marine (Lamjed El-Kefi): [lamjedk@hotmail.com](mailto:lamjedk@hotmail.com)
- (4) Seashells (temporarily Gary Feulner): [grfeulner@gmail.com](mailto:grfeulner@gmail.com)

**In Memoriam: Michael D. Gallagher**

Michael Gallagher died recently in England at the age of almost 93. He was small of stature, modest and self-effacing, but he was a giant in the study of the natural history of Eastern Arabia, a region to which he was first introduced during his 37-year military career. Recognized as a talented naturalist in his own right, even while in military service, he organized and/or participated in most of the major enterprises of what might be called the golden age of natural history in the UAE and Oman – the early studies of the marine molluscs of the UAE (with Kathleen Smythe), the Oman flora and fauna survey of the Musandam in 1975, the Oman flora and fauna survey of Dhofar in 1977, and the Wahiba Sands project in 1985. In 1980 he co-authored *The Birds of Oman*. In later years, he facilitated and often accompanied field visits by researchers in many disciplines.

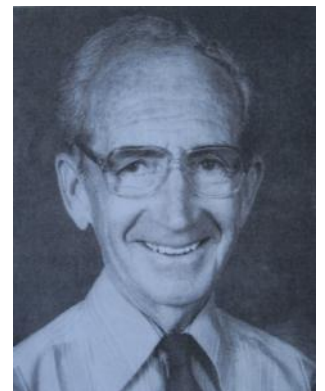
Recruited in 1982 to help set up Oman's Natural History Museum, he began the development of the still growing National Herbarium of Oman and its associated Botanic Garden, the shell and coral collections, and the insect, fossil, osteological, whale and other collections. A bibliography of his publications runs nearly six lengthy pages and the subject matter is a testament to the diversity of his interests – birds of all kinds, whales and dolphins, snails, reptiles and amphibians, ticks, weather, lichens and more. His assistance to taxonomic researchers is reflected in the 30+ organisms that have been given the species or sub-species epithet *gallagheri*, in his honor.

Almost everyone who knew Michael spoke of his tireless energy and his passion for natural history. He was also known as a stickler for detail, but he practiced what he preached. He maintained meticulous records of his extensive travels and research in Oman, and he would always fastidiously consult these when attempting to respond to inquiring researchers, which he continued to do from his cottage on the south coast of England, even after retiring from Oman in 1998, until just a few years before his death.

Among the honors he received were appointment as a Member of the British Empire, election to the Royal Geographical Society and the Linnean Society of London, and the Zoological Society of London's Stamford Raffles Award.

All of us who are interested in the study of the flora and fauna of the UAE and Oman are in his debt.

*Contribution by Gary Feulner*



Rhino Revolution Dubai and The South African Consulate General, Dubai  
would be honoured by your presence at the

## Rhino Revolution Ball

To launch the Rhino Revolution Orphanage in Hoedspruit, South Africa for orphaned rhino calves and rehabilitation from poaching in Kruger Park and surrounding Reserves.

Friday, November 14th, 2014  
8pm to late  
Dubai Polo and Equestrian Club  
Dubai, UAE

Dress: Black & white formal  
(in honour of our black and white African rhinos)

Donation of 500 AED to include full international buffet and drinks, The Abu Dhabi Big Band to dance the night away, introductions from His Excellency Mr M. Shogole, Consul-General of R.S.A. and from Chris Martin CEO of Rhino Revolution and guest speaker Julian Rademeyer award winning investigative journalist and author of "Killing for Profit" from South Africa.

Please contact your Rhino Revolution Dubai representative for RSVP information OR email [rhinorevolutiondubai@gmail.com](mailto:rhinorevolutiondubai@gmail.com)

## Dubai Natural History Group Programme

Lectures at Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management, 7.30 for 8.00pm

November 02: Dr. Timothy Powers: The Islamic Centuries in Al-Ain and the Buraimi Oasis

December 07: Members' night! Steve Raynor: Discovering Iceland, Jean-Paul Berger: Geology of Djibouti & Binish Roobas: An introduction to some memorable UAE spiders.

### Field Trips (Members Only)

November 15: Dawn bird watching at Al-Qudra lake and Dubai Pivot fields

November 28: Wadi walk with Liz Maley-Craig

*Further field trips, details or changes to trips will be announced/confirmed by email circular*

## DNHG COMMITTEE 2014

When possible, please contact committee members outside office hours

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## Contributions

Do you have a field report, unusual finding, interesting news article, book review, amazing photograph, or community news to share?

If so, email your contributions to: [gazelleeditor@gmail.com](mailto:gazelleeditor@gmail.com)

*(Arial 10 justified).*

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