

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Introduction

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Institutional and Societal Abbreviations

ANSP: Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, USA

BAMZ: Bermuda Aquarium, Museum & Zoo, Bermuda

BMAG: Buxton Museum & Art Gallery, Buxton, UK

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

CSGBI: Conchological Society of Great Britain & Ireland

HUJ: Hebrew University Museum, Jerusalem, Israel

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

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

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

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

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

Materials & Methods: Conservation, documentation and transcription

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

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

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

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

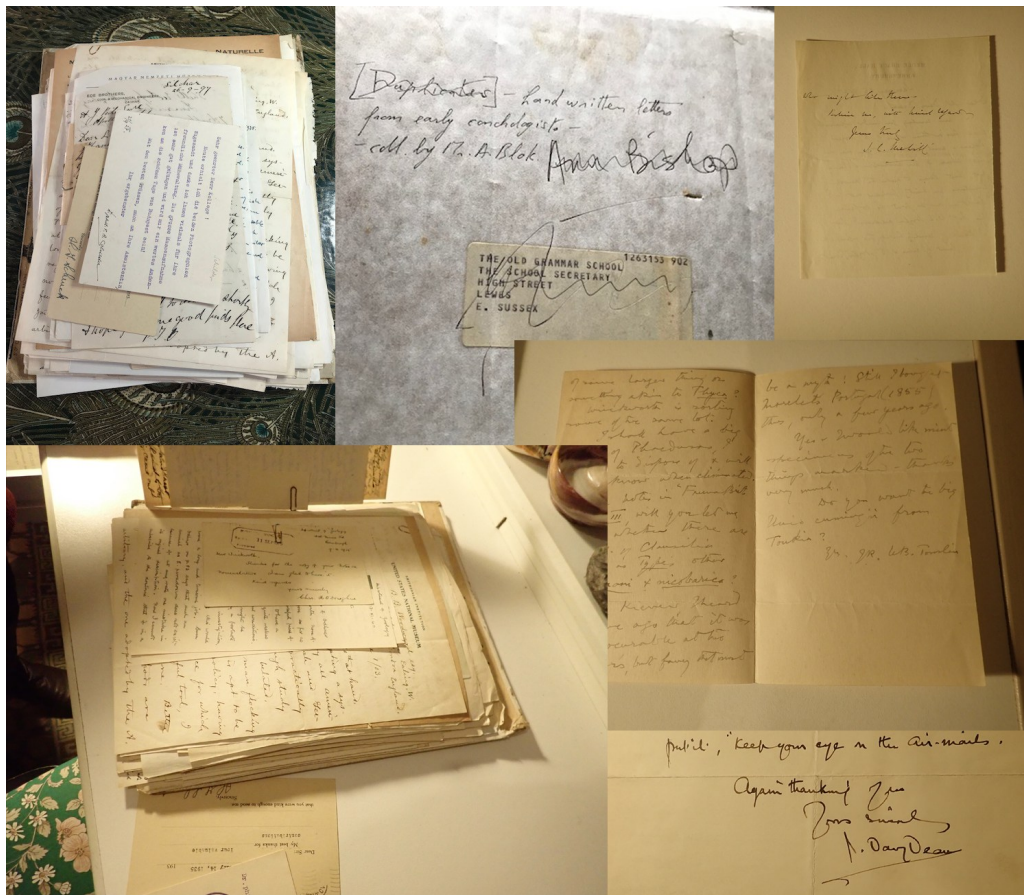


Fig. 2. The NMW Blok archive in its original state when located in Edward Bishop's house in Woodingdean, East Sussex, UK.



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

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

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

Archive overview

Media

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

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

Geography and language

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

Timespan

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

Receivers

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

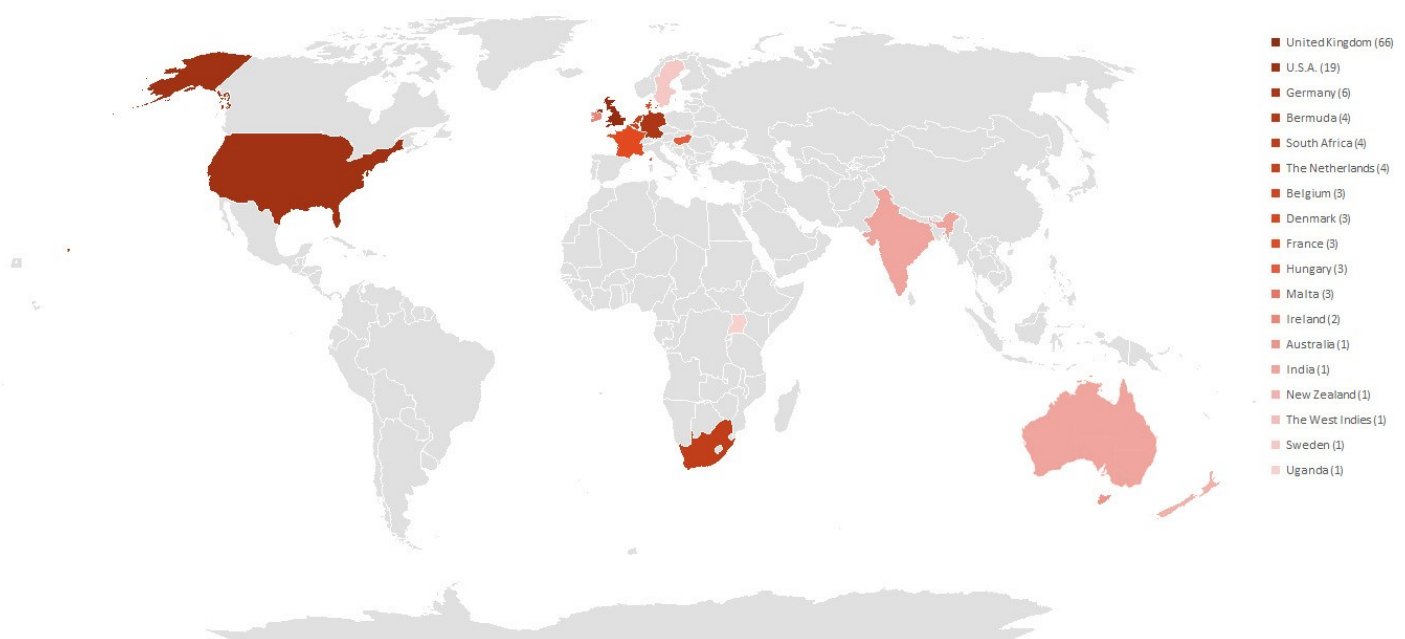


Fig. 4. Distribution map of the locations the letters were sent from in the NMW Blok archive.

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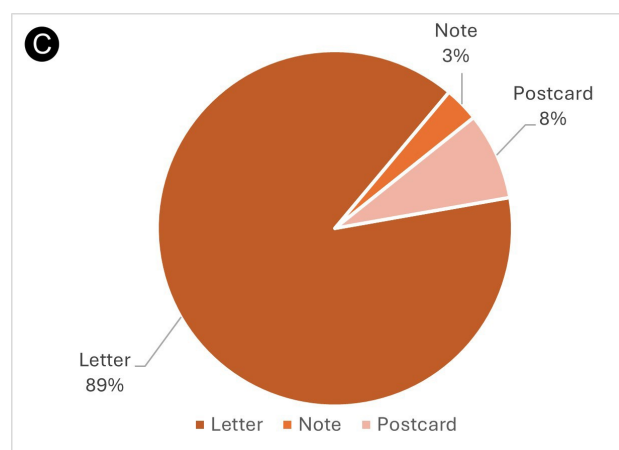
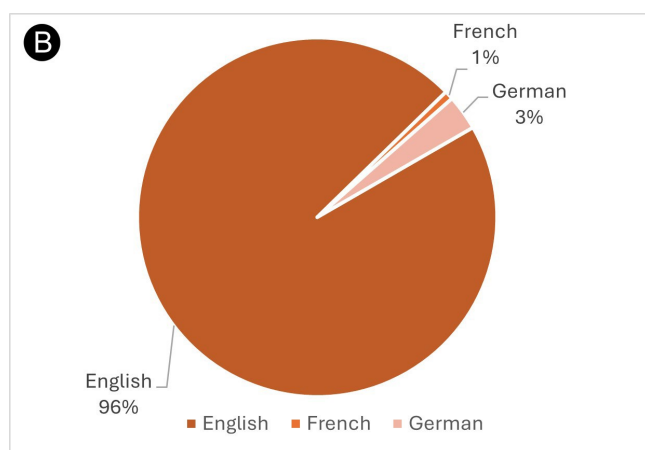
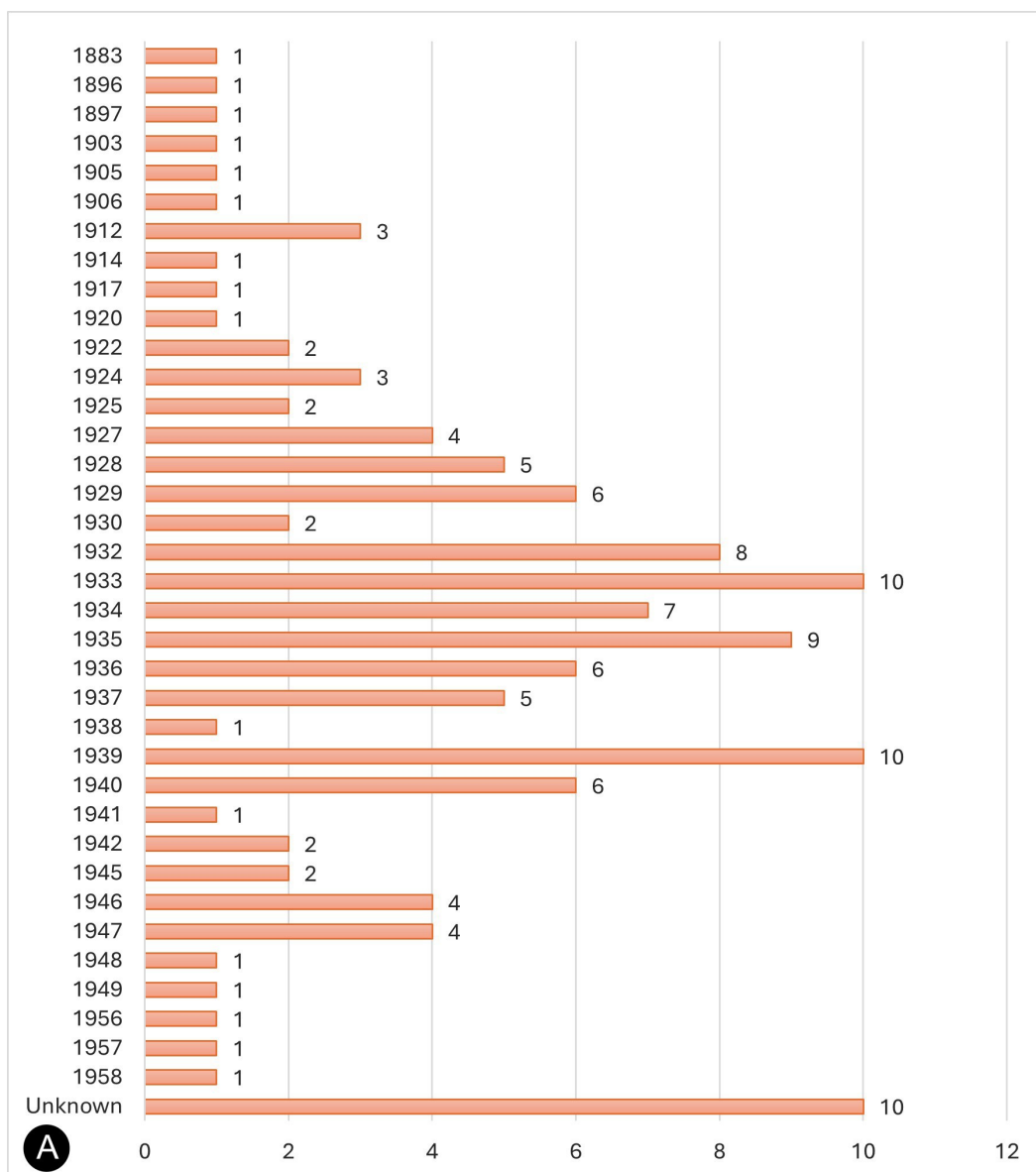
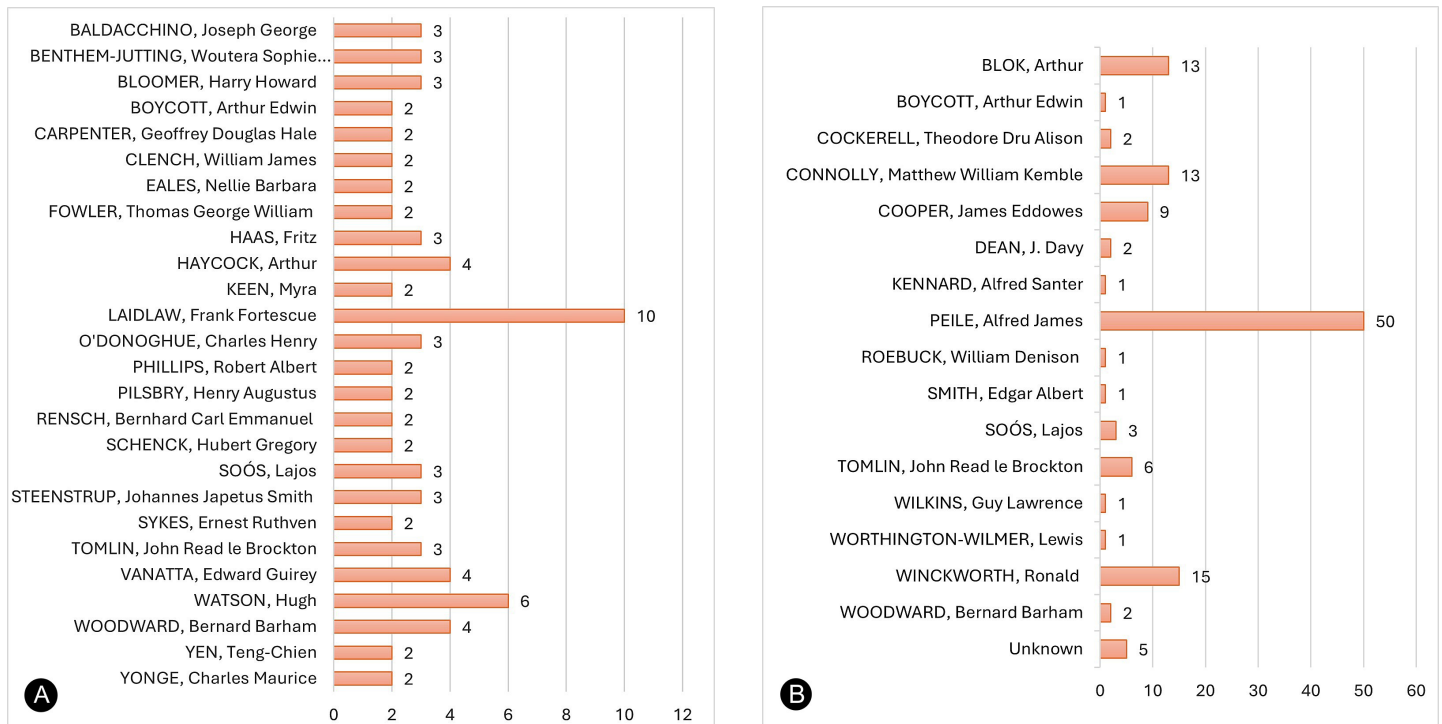


Fig. 5. a. The temporal spread of letters, ranging from 1883-1958; b. The languages used by the senders; c. The document types and proportions, in the NMW Blok archive.



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

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

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

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



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

Senders

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

Who was Arthur Blok?

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dear Mr. Blok:

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

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

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

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

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

Blok and Bishop – mentor and friend

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

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

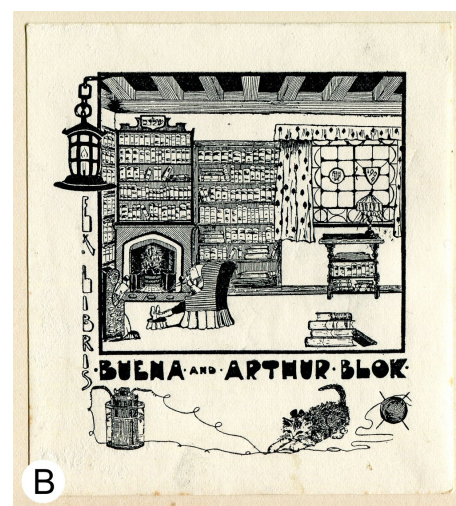


Fig. 10. a. Edward Bishop, undated. Courtesy of Anne Bishop; b. Buena and Arthur Blok's Ex Libris book plate. Taken from a catalogue of bookplates compiled by Peter Dance at NMW.

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

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

The Blok Archive

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Exploring the archive

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

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

The Cardiff Connection

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

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

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

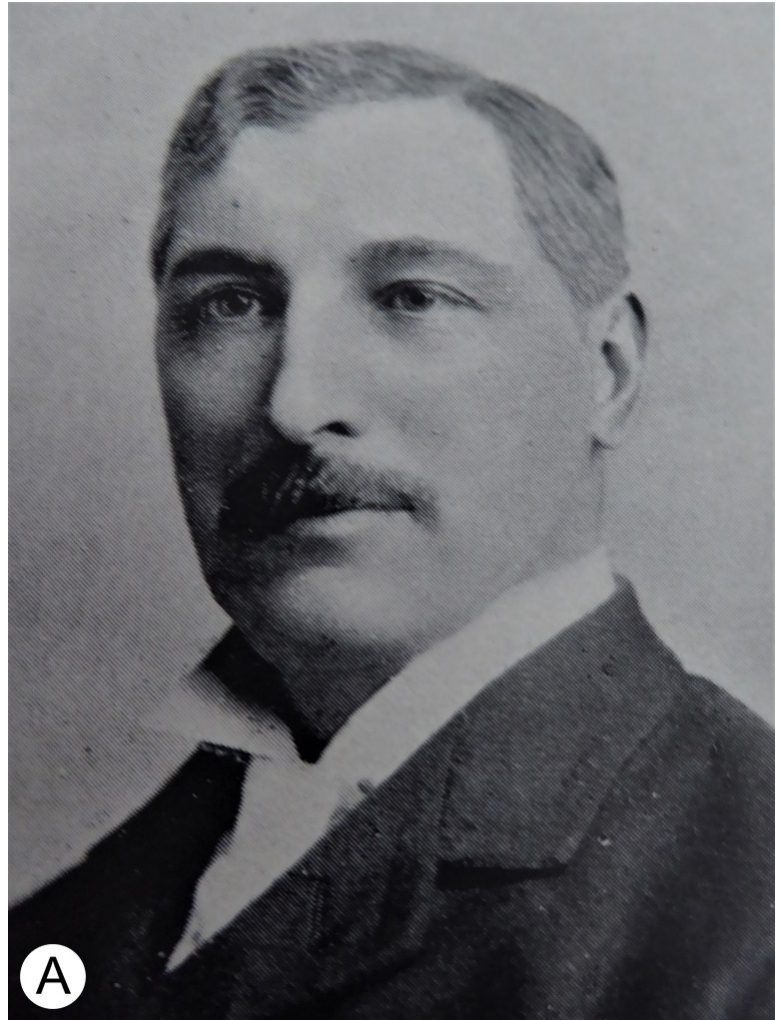


Fig. 11. a. James Cosmo Melville (1845-1929). Public domain, Ardferrn; b. John Wilfrid Jackson (1880-1978) at Manchester Museum. BMAG archive



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

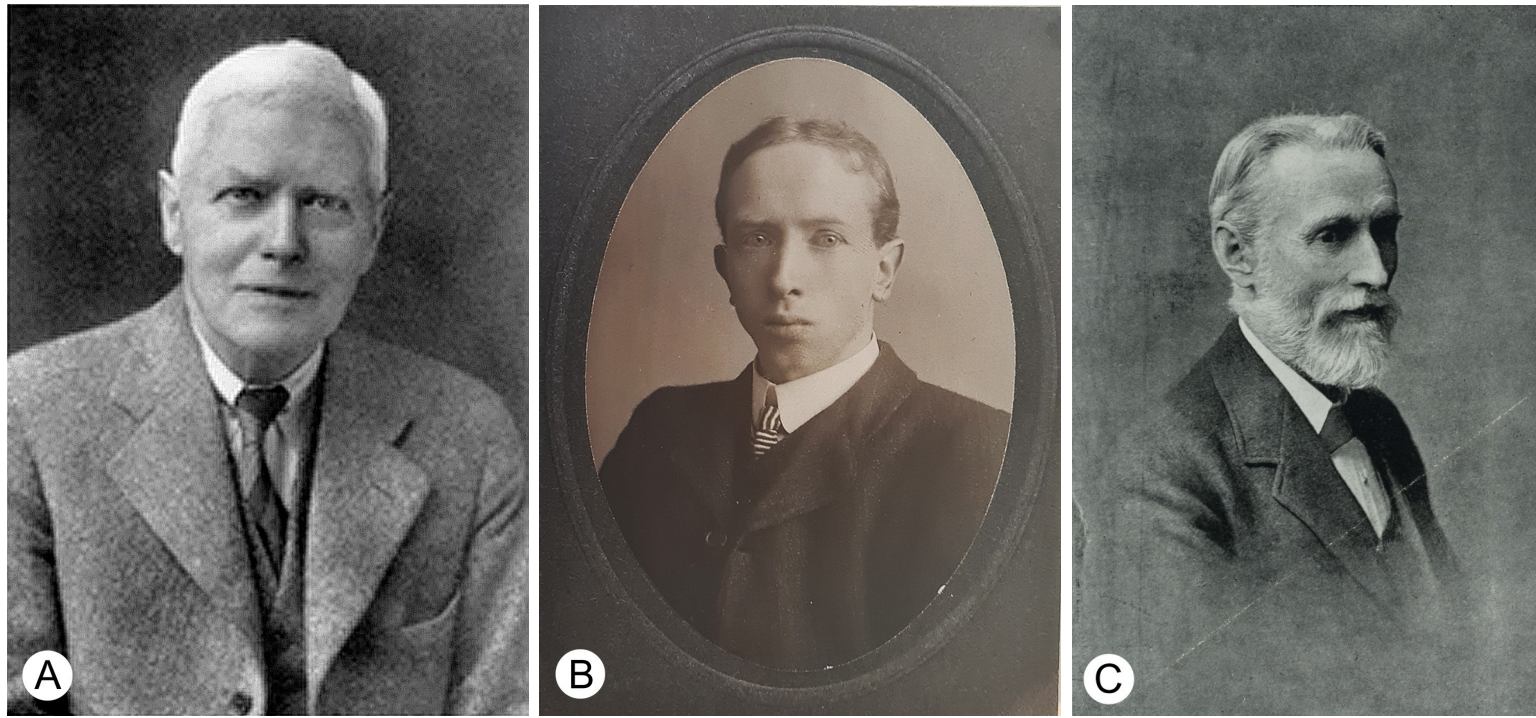


Fig. 12. a. John Read le Brockton Tomlin (1864-1954) (Salisbury, 1955);
b. John Davy Dean (1876-1937). Mollusca sectional archives, NHMUK; c. Robert Standen (1854-1925). CSGBI archive.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

The War years

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



ALTERATIONS IN LIST OF MEMBERS

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

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

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

B

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

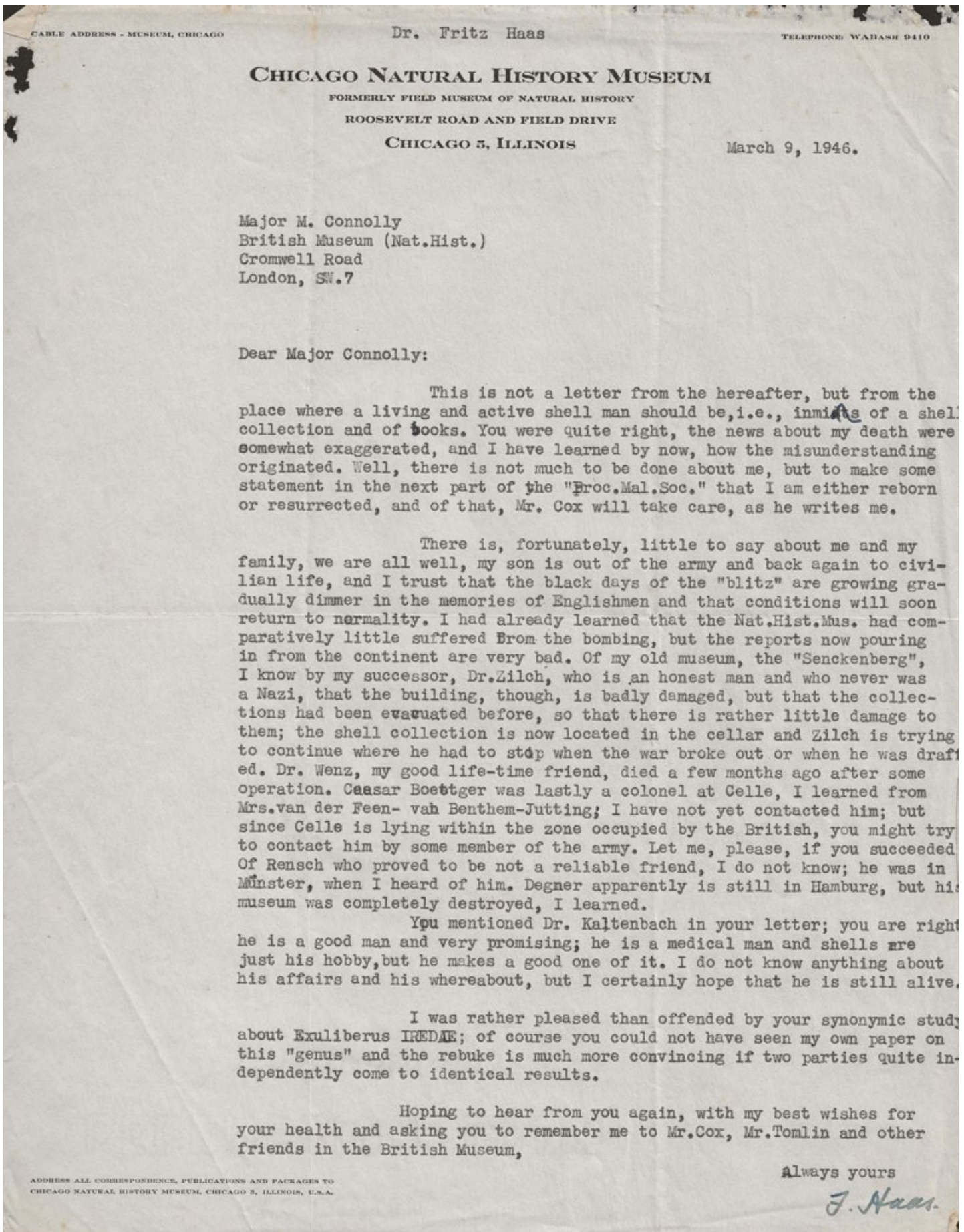


Fig. 16. Letter from Fritz Haas (1886-1969) to Major Matthew William Kemble Connolly, (1872-1947). NMW Blok archive.

ZOOLOGIE

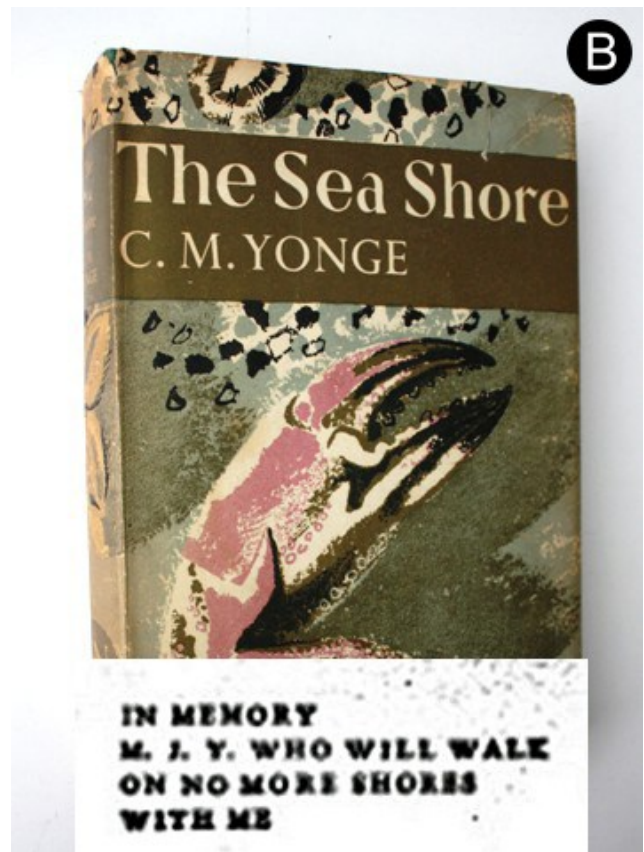


Fig. 17. a. Charles Maurice Yonge (1899-1986). *Malacological Review* (1986) 19: 127;
b. first edition of *The Sea Shore* (1949) and dedication to his wife, Mattie. Public domain.

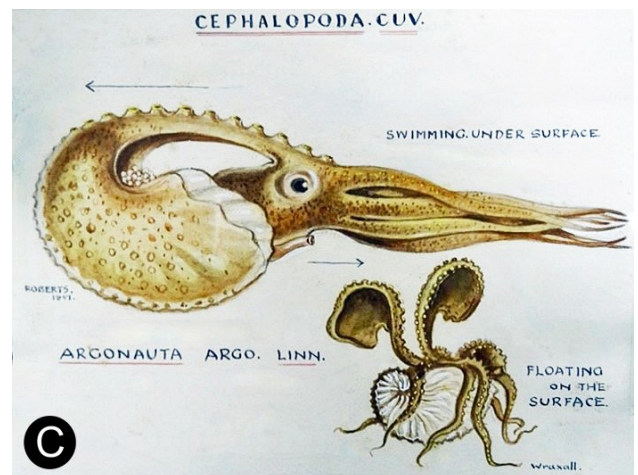
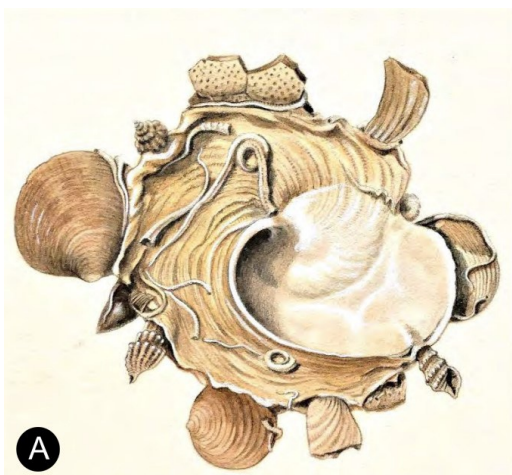


Fig. 18. Examples of Guy Wilkins' artistic talents: a. watercolour of a *Xenophora*. CSGBI archive;
b. Wilkin's *Placostylus* line drawing (Topley, 2019); c. *Argonauta argo* watercolour. CSGBI archive.

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

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

Taxonomic debate

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Taxonomists over time – Peile and Haycock

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fig.	measures	Actual meas.
(6) <i>molnensis</i> 28 x 24.8	Alt. } 9.3 (axis) }	" x 1.5" d: 45
(1) <i>lusanensis</i> 19 x 17.2	" 6.4	EASTFIELD d: 52 UPPGULME, DEVON. TELEPHONE CRADDOCK 12.

Actual dimensions of type shells:

molnensis 28 x 23 (X) Alt. } 12½ Alt. axis 10

lusanensis 21.5 x 19 Alt. } 12½ " 10

* Note in tablet " ? = Sarawakana, Dohru.

Dear Peile,

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

$$\frac{52}{28} = \frac{13}{7} = 1.9$$

$$\frac{44}{19} = 2.3$$

$$\frac{19}{44} = 0.43$$

$$\frac{38}{60} = 0.63$$

$$\frac{57}{100} = 0.57$$

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

Arthur Haycock						Fruit Grower
Marjory E						
Phyllis M						

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

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

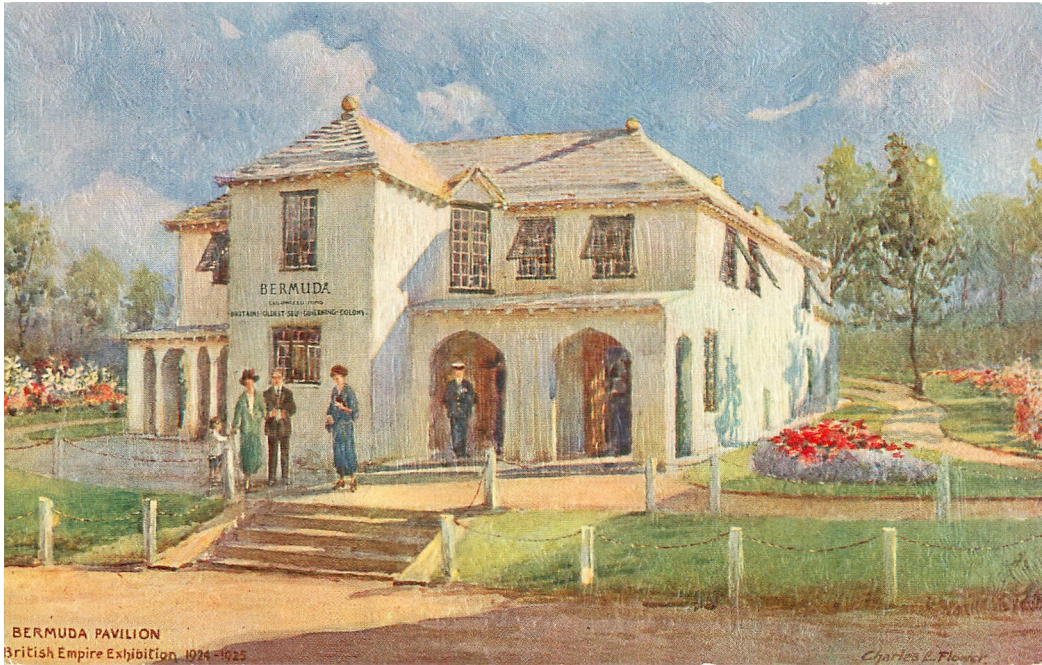


Fig. 21. Oil painting of the Bermuda Pavilion at the 1924 British Empire Exhibition in Wembley, UK. Public domain, CC0 1.0, TuckerDB Postcards (artist Charles E. Flower).

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

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

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

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

1. Some sources use the spelling “Marjory”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

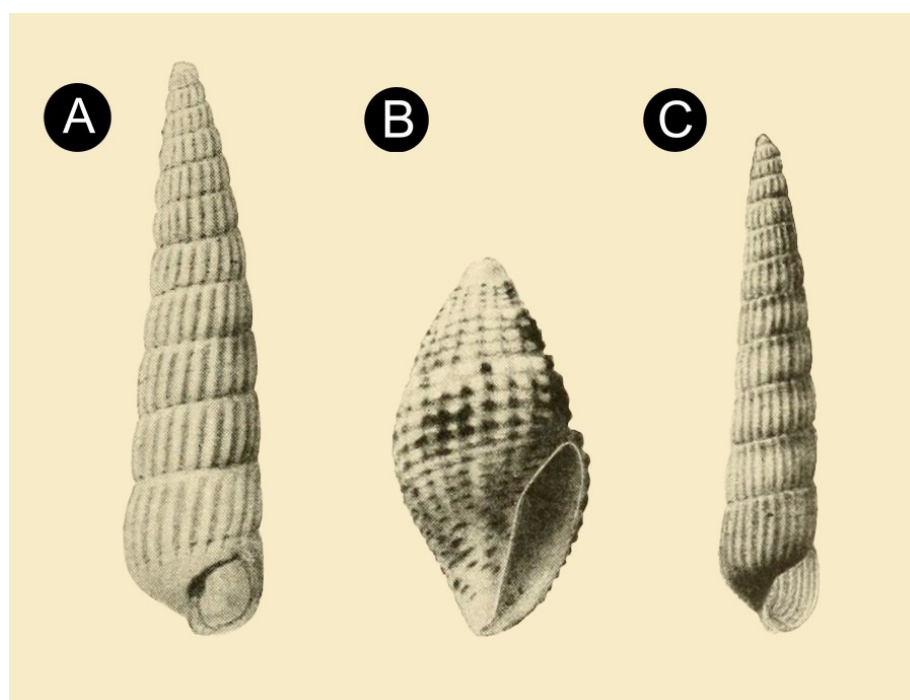


Fig. 25. Species named after Haycock and Peile in Dall & Bartsch, 1911: a. *Turbonilla haycocki*; b. *Mitromorpha haycocki*; c. *Turbonilla peilei*.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Read 14th December, 1923.

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

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

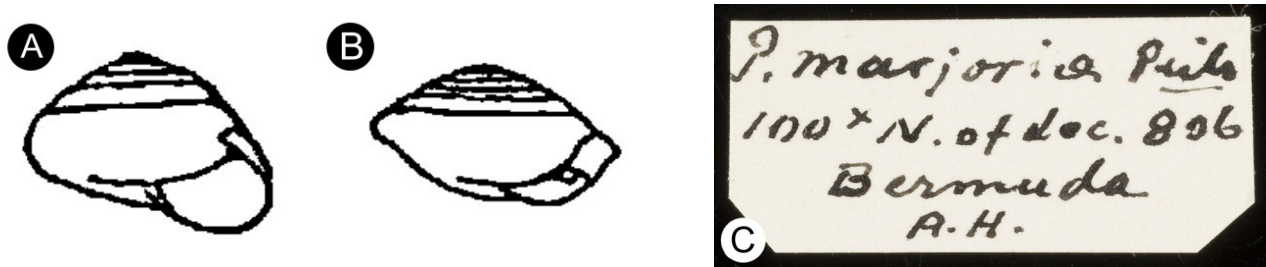


Fig. 28. The original illustrations of: a. *Poecilozonites haycocki* and, b. *P. marjorae*, from Peile's 1924 paper; c. Peile's label for Bermudian specimens of *P. marjorae* collected by Arthur Haycock in the Melvill-Tomlin collection, NMW.

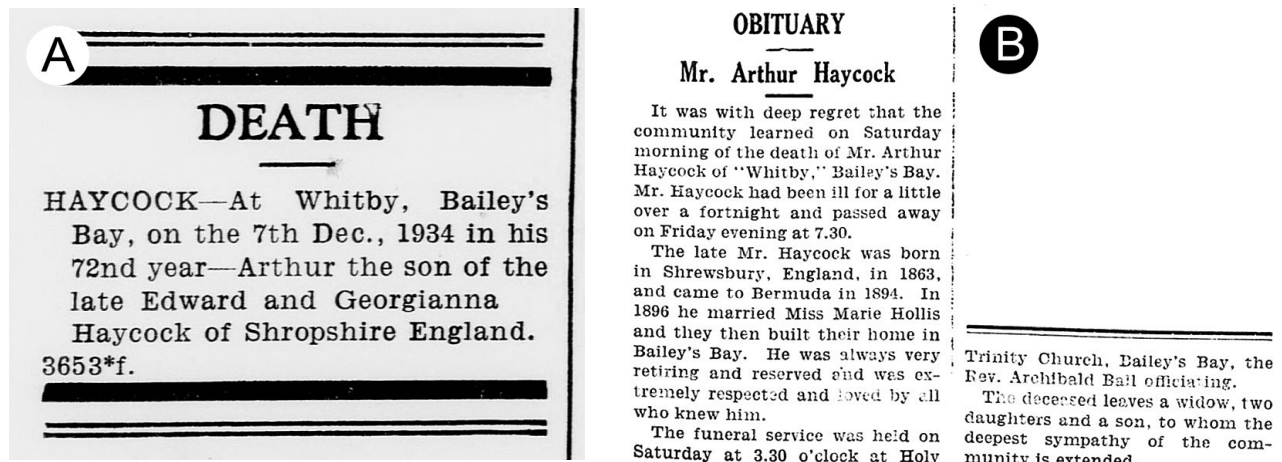


Fig. 29. Arthur Haycock's a. death notice and, b. obituary in *The Royal Gazette*.

Haycock Collection

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

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

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

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

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

Humour

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

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

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

Conclusion

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

Acknowledgments

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

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BLOK A., 1973b. Dr Arthur Blok 2 (audio recording) - Dr Arthur Blok interviewed by David Clitheroe about his inventions related to changing of matter - change of uranium into lead (nuclear energy). Shelfmark / Call: UTK006/99 C2. Credit: Brighton & Hove Museums and the BBC - digitised as part of the British Library's *Unlocking Our Sound Heritage* project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Cast of Characters and associated references

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

ZOOLOGIE

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

Sender (birth-death)	Sender summary	Letter sent from	Letter date	Receiver
Haas Fritz (1886-1969)	German born malacologist who settled in Chicago after being removed from his position at the Senckenberg Museum by the Nazis. ^{53, 54, 55}	Germany	22 10 1922	Soós Lajos
		U.S.A.	09 01 1940	Connolly Matthew William
		U.S.A.	09 03 1946	Connolly Matthew William
Haughton Sidney Henry (1888-1982)	English-born South African palaeontologist and geologist. ⁵⁶	South Africa	15 02 1927	Tomlin John Read le Brockton
Haycock Arthur (1863-1934)	Haycock was a British-born fruit grower who lived in Bermuda. He was an 'amateur' conchologist who collected the local shells and supplied them to scientists in the UK and the USA. He was sufficiently well-connected in the conchological world to have had several species named after him (in this study).	Bermuda	10 07 1924	Soós Lajos
		Bermuda	14 12 1924	Peile Alfred James
		Bermuda	28 12 1933	Peile Alfred James
		Bermuda	31 03 1934	Peile Alfred James
Hermitte Louis Constant Daniel (1894-1961)	A clinical pathologist who spent time working in the Seychelles, and who was interested in the poison of Conidae. The outcome of the correspondence with Peile seems to have been the following paper: <i>Venomous Marine Molluscs of the Genus Conus</i> (1946). ^{57, 58}	England, U.K.	07 02 1945	Peile Alfred James
Jones Kenneth Hurlstone (1873-1938)	Jones was a British naval surgeon with an interest in ornithology and conchology. He was a member of both the CSGBI and the Malacological Society, as well as F.Z.S., R.S.P.B. (Council member) and M.B.O.U. In later years he became interested in archaeology. N.B. - the portrait currently on the <i>Shellers from the Past and Present</i> website is actually of Kenneth Hurlstone Jackson	England, U.K.	29 05 1936	Blok Arthur
Jones Samuel Benjamin (1874-1949)	Dr. Samuel Benjamin Jones was a medical doctor and magistrate, who improved healthcare in the Caribbean in the early 1920s: notably the eradication of smallpox from Anguilla, and extensive research on syphilis and Schistosomiasis. ⁶⁰	West Indies	14 01 1929	Peile Alfred James
Jukes-Browne Alfred John	British invertebrate palaeontologist and stratigrapher. ⁶¹	England, U.K.	14 04 1905	Cooper James Eddowes
Keen (Angeline) Myra (1905-1986)	Keen was called the "First Lady of Malacology". She went from being a volunteer, having no formal training in biology or geology, to being one of the world's foremost malacologists, specialising in the evolution of marine molluscs. ^{62, 63}	U.S.A.	13 12 1939	Winckworth Ronald
		U.S.A.	28 12 1956	Blok Arthur
Kennard Alfred Santer (1870-1948)	Geologist and malacologist, Kennard was mainly interested in the British non-marine Mollusca. He was a somewhat prickly and opinionated character, and had a running feud with Hugh Watson. An important work, with B.B. Woodward, was the <i>Synonymy of the British Non-marine Mollusca</i> (1926). ^{64, 65}	England, U.K.	28 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
		England, U.K.	12 12 1939	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Laidlaw Frank Fortescue (1876-1963)	Collector. Main collection in the Chicago Natural History Museum, Illinois, USA. Nearly all types in the NHMUK. Some material in the Melvill-Tomlin collection, NMW. ^{51, 66}	England, U.K.		Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.		Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.		Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	03 10 1925	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	20 05 1930	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	17 05 1932	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	22 09 1932	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	29 10 1932	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	02 11 1932	Peile Alfred James
		England, U.K.	20 11 1932	Peile Alfred James
Lebour Marie Victoire (1876-	Naturalist who worked on plankton and marine larvae at the	England, U.K.	10 10 1939	Peile Alfred James
Martens Carl Eduard von	German malacologist and prolific author. ⁶⁸	Germany	10 11 1896	Smith Edgar Albert
Melvill James Cosmo (1845-	Botanist and malacologist. The combined Melvill-Tomlin collec-	England, U.K.	25 01 1927	Dean John Davy
Mestayer Marjorie Katherine	A (UK-born) New Zealand curator and conchologist. ⁷⁰	New Zealand	05 05 1929	Peile Alfred James
O'Donoghue Charles Henry (1885-1961)	American nudibranch expert, with a collection of books, etc., at Reading University. His Canadian wife, Elsie, also worked on nudibranchs. ^{71, 72}	Scotland, U.K.	09 09 1935	Winckworth Ronald
		England, U.K.	13 11 1940	Winckworth Ronald
		England, U.K.	16 01 1941	Winckworth Ronald
Odhner Nils Hjalmar (1884-1973)	Swedish zoologist specialising in opisthobranchs. His main collection is in Rijksmuseum, Stockholm, and there is some material in	Sweden	03 01 1940	Connolly Matthew William Kemble
Peile Alfred James (1868-1948)	Honorary curator in the BM(NH). His interests included molluscan radulae and the shells of Bermuda. J. R. le B. Tomlin's collection of radula slides in the NMW contains many of Peile's slides. His collection was distributed amongst his friends and Blok received his entire collection of Clausiliidae and Pupillidae. All type specimens are in the NHM (London), and his main radula collection is in the National Museums of Scotland (Edinburgh) with a	England, U.K.	18 12 1925	Blok Arthur

ZOOLOGIE

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

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

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

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

ZOOLOGIE

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

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Appendix 2: Chronology of Blok's life and bibliography

Chronological biography

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

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

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

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

1902-1916: Worked at the British Patent Office.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Blok bibliography

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

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Appendix 3: Table of correspondents in the NHMUK Blok archive

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

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

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

ZOOLOGIE

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

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