

LIST OF SHELLS FOUND ON PAPAY BY CHRISTINE STREET

This is an impressive list of shells found in Papay, including some very small species. I began collecting shells, when my son was three. We had a family competition. Who could find the biggest / prettiest shell? I then had to find out what we had got.

Molluscs are divided into three main groups –

1. Gastropods e.g. limpets and winkles etc. (My numbers 52 to 805) Shell snail-like, whorled in varying degrees. Growth starts at the apex, often a noticeable point as the juvenile shell form may be quite different from the rest of the shell, and is built up whorl by whorl around the perimeter of the aperture. Compare these points (protoconchs), which differ from species to species, (if they haven't been worn away).

The order Neogastropoda (nos. 350 to 467) includes all that have a siphonal canal at the aperture, showing as a notch, to enable them to suck in and scent the water by an extendable siphon, e.g. whelks so they can smell out their prey. This is a way to further separate gastropods for identification.

2. Bivalves e.g. cockles, mussels, scallops. (My numbers 891 to 1151) Shell consists of two usually fairly similar valves linked by a hinge called the ligament. To identify the bivalve look at the outside and inside of the valve. To help the valves articulate, is a varying system of interlocking teeth, so see how they fit. The remains of the 'rubbery' ligament may still be present. Inside each valve may also be seen pitted scars where muscles were attached. This is how the animal hangs on to its shell and they can be differently arranged from species to species. The oldest point of a bivalve (the juvenile shell) can be seen at the site of the hinge, a perhaps triangular miniature shell, new growth forming around the perimeter (ventral margin) and so the tiny shell grows.

3. Cephalopods e.g. Cuttle fish, octopus etc. (no. 1186.)

The animals are adapted to living in various habitats, such as rocks and weeds, some mostly submerged and others at the highest tidal point, also at varying depths of the sea, but can still be washed up on the tideline of the beach, when the living animal dies.

Small shells (juveniles of larger species) may be found, before they have put on much growth. They are built up by the animal while it lives, using any calcium carbonate available, to enlarge its size of accommodation. (It is difficult to identify worn specimens, so find the newest looking ones.)

The list is arranged in order of related molluscs i.e. systematically. From time to time names are changed by taxonomic experts. The first time a name is ever published is the one which should hold good, but new discoveries of older naming are always coming to light. Modern research also changes previously held views of molluscan relationships. Many books use different names, some discarded many years ago, which is why names in Latin are preferable. The order in which I have arranged the list follows the grouping used by S. Smith and D. Heppel in their book "Checklist of British Marine Mollusca" which gives some of many names given to each shell over the years. I added the numbers to their sequence to find my way about more easily. (Published by the National Museums of Scotland.)

Many of the shells are very small e.g.. 487 *Ammonicerina rota* "The smallest shell in the world" and can only be found by sifting through sand picked up at the tide's edge or alive in washings of fine weeds.

The common names given to some of the more frequently found bigger species are given at the end of the main list.

		Beach Number	Beach Number	Beach Number	Beach Number	Beach Number	Beach Number
SSno	SS Catalogue Name	1	2	3	4	5	6
31	<i>Leptochiton cancellatus</i>	01.					
44	<i>Lepidochitona cinereus</i>	01v. 04v			01.	01.v. 04v	04.valve
46	<i>Tonicella rubra</i>	01.valve.					
47	<i>Acanthochitona crinitus</i>						01.valve
52	<i>Emarginula fissura</i>				01.juv	?lost	01.
57	<i>Tectura testudinalis</i>	01.juv.					
58	<i>Tectura virginea</i>	01. 04.		01.	01.	93. 01.04	01. 04
60	<i>Patella ulyssiponensis</i>		01.		93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01. 04
61	<i>Patella vulgata</i>	01. 04.	01.	01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01. 04
62	<i>Helcion pellucidum</i>	01. 04.	01.	01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01.04
71	<i>Margarites helycinus</i>	01. 04			93. 01.	01.04	01. 04
73	<i>Margarites striatus</i>	01.				04	
84	<i>Gibbula magus</i>		01.		01. 04	01.04	01.
85	<i>Gibbula tumida</i>	01. 04				04	
86	<i>Gibbula cineraria</i>	01jv.04	01.	01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01.04
90	<i>Calliostoma zizyphinum</i>	01jv04fr.	01.brk'n	01.brk'n	9301w04	93. 01.04f	01brk'n.04
94	<i>Dikoleps nitens</i>	01dm.04					
121	<i>Tricolia pullus</i>					01wn.04f	
130	<i>Bittium reticulatum</i>					04juv	
135	<i>Lacuna pallidula</i>	01.04			01.	01. 04	01. 04

136	<i>Lacuna parva</i>	01. 04			01.	04	01. 04
137	<i>Lacuna vincta</i>	01. 04				01. 04	01.
138	<i>Littorina littorea</i>	01j04jv			93.01.04	93. 01.04	04juv
141	<i>Littorina neglecta</i>	01. 04			01.	01. 04	01.
143	<i>Littorina obtusata</i>	01. 04.		01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01. 04
144	<i>Littorina saxatilis</i>	01.04			93. 01.	93. 01.04	01. 04
144.1	<i>L. saxatilis</i> var. <i>tenebrosa</i>						01.
145	<i>Melarhappe neritoides</i>	01.			01.		
146	<i>Skeneopsis planorbis</i>	01. 04			93. 01.	01. 04	01. 04
147	<i>Cingulopsis fulgida</i>	04.					04.
152.1	<i>Rissoa lilacina</i>				01.		
154	<i>Rissoa parva</i>	01. 04			01.wrn	01wrn.04	04
156	<i>Alvania beanii</i>						01.wrn
161	<i>Alvania punctura</i>	01. 04				01. 04	01. 04
163	<i>Alvania semistriata</i>	01.			93. 01.		
171	<i>Cingula trifasciata</i>	01. 04			93. 01.	01. 04	01. 04
172	<i>Manzonia crassa</i>				93.	01.	
173	<i>Manzonia zetlandica</i>					01.	
174	<i>Obtusella alderi</i>	01. 04					
176	<i>Onoba aculeus</i>	01. 04				04	
179	<i>Onoba semicostata</i>	01. 04			93. 01.	01. 04	01. 04
180	<i>Pusillina inconspicua</i>	01. 04					
197	<i>Caecum glabrum</i>	01. 04				04	

210	<i>Trivia arctica</i>					?04wrn	01.
212	<i>Trivia monacha</i>			01.	01.	93. 04	01. 04
222	<i>Velutina velutina</i>	01.juv					
259	<i>Marshallora adversa</i>					04frag	
294	<i>Cima minima</i>	01.					
344	<i>Vitreolina philippi</i>	0104dg				04	
350	<i>Boreotrophon truncatus</i>					01wrn	
362	<i>Nucella lapillus</i>	01. 04	01.	01.	93. 01.04	93.01.04	01.04.
370	<i>Buccinum undatum</i>	04.fr.	01.		93. 01.04	93. 01.04j	01.
373	<i>Colus gracilis</i>				93.frag		
396	<i>Hinia incassata</i>	01.04j		01.	01.	93. 01.04	01. 04
434	<i>Oenopota rufa</i>					01.wrn.04	
467	<i>Raphitoma linearis</i>	01.04			93. 01.	01.wrn.04	01.
482	<i>Rissoella diaphana</i>	01.04					04
484	<i>Rissoella opalina</i>	01.04					
485	<i>Omalogyra atomus</i>	01. 04					
487	<i>Ammonicerina rota</i>	01. 04					
496	<i>Odostomia unidentata</i>	01.				04	
497	<i>Brachystomia carrozzai</i>	01.04				04	
507	<i>Chrysallida indistincta</i>	04					
527	<i>Ondina warreni</i>	01.					
546	<i>Ebala nitidissima</i>	01.04					04.
570	<i>Philine punctata</i>	01.04					

587	<i>Retusa obtusa</i>	01.04			01.	01.04	01.04.
588 617	<i>Retusa truncatula</i>	01. 04. 04				04 04	01.
617	<i>Aplysia punctata</i>	04.				04.	
624	<i>Limacina retroversa</i>	01. 04				04	
805	<i>Leucophytia bidentata</i>	01.04					
891	<i>Arca tetragona</i>	01.				01. 04	
904	<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	01. 04		01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01. 04
908	<i>Modiolus modiolus</i>	04.juv			93. 04	93. 01.04	01.04
913	<i>Modiolula phaseolina</i>	01. 04			01.	04	01.04
914	<i>Crenella decussata</i>	01. 04				04	04
918	<i>Modiolarca tumida</i>	01. 04				04	01.04.
921	<i>Musculus discors</i>	. 04			01.	01. 04	01.04
931	<i>Limatula subauriculata</i>	01. 04					04.
940	<i>Chlamys distorta</i>	01.lost			93.01.04	93.01.04	01. 04.
944	<i>Chlamys varia</i>	01.					
945	<i>Pecten maximus</i>	01.04.ju			93.		
946	<i>Aequipecten opercularis</i>	01.04juv					04.
949	<i>Delectopecten vitreus</i>						04 Ivalve
955	<i>Palliolum tigrinum</i>	01. 04fr valve				04fr	04.
962	<i>Heteranomia squamula</i>	01. 04.			93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01.04
964	<i>Pododesmus patelliformis</i>	04.lost			.04	04	04
964.1	<i>P. patelliformis</i> ?Monia squama					93.	

968	<i>Lucinoma borealis</i>	01.04j			93. 01.	93. 01.04	04juv
992	<i>Kellia suborbicularis</i>	01.04				01.04	01.04.
995	<i>Lasaea adansoni</i>	01.04			01.	01.04	01.04
1009	<i>Mysella bidentata</i>	01.04				04	04.
1020	<i>Goodallia triangularis</i>	01.					
1026	<i>Acanthocardia echinata</i>				93.		
1034	<i>Parvicardium scabrum</i>	04juv.					
1036	<i>Laevicardium crassum</i>			01.frag	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01.04
1037	<i>Cerastoderma edule</i>	04.		01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01lost.
1045	<i>Spisula solida</i>				93. 01.04	01.04	01.
1046	<i>Spisula subtruncata</i>	04juv			93.	01.	
1049	<i>Lutraria lutraria</i>	01.04			93.	01.04lost	
1050	<i>Lutraria angustior</i>				01.	01. 04	
1054	<i>Ensis arcuatus</i>	01. 04fr	01.	01.frag	01.	01. 04	01.
1055	<i>Ensis ensis</i>	01frags	01frags				
1057	<i>Ensis siliqua</i>	04.					
1060	<i>Angulus tenuis</i>	01. 04.			93.	04	
1061	<i>Arcopagia crassa</i>	01.			93.	04	
1066	<i>Moerella pygmaea</i>	04juv.					
1083	<i>Abra alba</i>	0104.lost					
1091	<i>Artica islandica</i>	01.			93.frag		
1097	<i>Circomphalus casina</i>			01.	93.01.04f	93. 01.04	
1099	<i>Chamelea gallina</i>				93. 01.	. 01.04	

1100	<i>Clausinella fasciata</i>			01.	93. 01.	93. 01.04	
1102	<i>Timoclea ovata</i>				93.	01.04	04
1105	<i>Tapes rhomboides</i>	04		01.	93. 01.	93. 01.04	
1110	<i>Venerupis senegalensis</i>	01. 04.		01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01.04
1110.1	Variety <i>saxatilis</i>				93.		
1111	<i>Dosinia lupinus</i>	04worn			93. 01.	93. 01.04	04
1112	<i>Dosinia exoleta</i>			01.	93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01.04lost
1113	<i>Turtonia minuta</i>	01.04			93. 01.	01.04	01.04
1118	<i>Mya truncata</i>	01. 04.			93. 01.04	93. 01.04	04
1123	<i>Hiatella arctica</i>	01. 04.			93. 01.04	93. 01.04	01.04
1149	<i>Thracia phaseolina</i>	?01lost					
1151	<i>Thracia villosiuscula</i>	01. 04				93.	
1186	<i>Sepia elegans</i>	01.					

J.Light said that two worn chiton valves possibly could be Leptochiton asellus.(30)

“ *A sinistral fragment probably Marshallora adversa(259)*

The dates refer to my visits to Papa Westray – two day trips in 1993, three weeks in 2001 and one week in June2004.

As room is rather limited I have had to abbreviate various words, such as worn, fragment, damaged, valve, juvenile and broken.

Some Common Names

Here is a list of common names given to the more frequently found larger species

-----Gastropods-----

- 61. *Patella vulgata* - Common limpet
- 62. *Helcion pellucidum* - Blue rayed limpet
- 86. *Gibbula cineraria* - Grey top shell
- 90. *Calliostoma zizyphinum* - Painted top shell

130. *Bittium reticulatum* - Needle shell
 137. *Lacuna vineta* - Banded chink shell
 138. *Littorina littorea* - Edible winkle
 143. *Littorina obtusata* - Flat periwinkle
 144. *Littorina saxatilis* - Rough periwinkle
 212. *Trivia monacha* - European Cowrie
 362. *Nucella lapillus* - Dog Whelk
 370. *Buccinum undatum* - Common whelk, Buckie
 396. *Hinia incrassata* - Thick lipped dog whelk.

-----**Bivalves**-----

891. *Arca tetragona* - Cornered ark shell
 904. *Mytilus edulis* - Common or Edible mussel
 908. *Modiolus modiolus* - Horse Mussel
 913. *Modiolula phasiolina* - Bean horse mussel
 914. *Crenella decussata* - Cross cut crenella
 921. *Musculus discors* - Green crenella
 931. *Limatula subauriculata* - Heart file shell
 940. *Chlamys distorta* - Distorted or humpback scallop
 944. *Chlamys varia* - Variegated scallop
 946. *Aequipecten opercularis* - Queen scallop
 955. *Palliolum tigrinum* - Tiger scallop
 968. *Lucinoma borealis* - Northern lucine
 1026. *Acanthocardia echinata* - Prickly cockle
 1036. *Laevicardium crassum* - Smooth cockle
 1037. *Cerastoderma edule* - Edible or common cockle
 1045. *Spisula solida* - Thick trough shell
 1046. *Spisula subtruncata* - Cut trough shell
 1049. *Lutraria lutraria* - Common otter shell
 1050. *Lutraria angustior* - Oblong Otter shell
 1055. *Ensis ensis* - Sword razor
 1057. *Ensis siliqua* - Pod razor or Spout
 1060. *Angulus tenuis* - Thin tellin
 1061. *Arcopagia crassa* - Blunt tellin
 1066. *Moerella pygmaea* - Little tellin
 1091. *Arctica islandica* - Iceland Cyprina
 1097. *Circomphalus casina* - Pale venus
 1099. *Chamelea gallina* - Striped venus
 1100. *Clausinella fasciata* - Banded venus
 1102. *Timoclea ovata* - Oval venus
 1105. *Tapes rhomboides* - Banded carpet shell
 1110. *Venerupis senegalensis* - Pullet carpet shell
 1111. *Dosinia lupinus* - Smooth artemis
 1112. *Dosinia exoleta* - Rayed artemis
 1118. *Mya truncata* - Blunt Gaper

Useful Books.

Due to the price of illustration very few books are comprehensive and many favourites may now be out of print.

For a beginner, the following have quite a lot of pictures.

British Shells by Norah F. McMillan First Publ. Warne 1968. (Since reprinted.)

Shell Life by Edward Step Publ. Warne Reprinted many times.

British Bivalve Seashells by Norman Tebble Publ. British Museum Natural History.

Reprinted many times. Overdue for replacement.

The Hamlyn Guide to the Seashore and Shallow Seas of Britain and Europe

by A.C.Campbell 1976 Often Reprinted.

These are likely to be found in reference libraries or second hand.

The Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland of which I am a member has a helpful web site at: <http://www.conchsoc.org/>. As well as the main website which is accessible to all it has a special online subscription rate, a discussion forum to which questions can be addressed, and other helpful pages for beginners and experienced conchologists alike.

Christine Street.