

Silicified Eocene molluscs from the Lower Murchison district, Southern Carnarvon Basin, Western Australia

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Abstract – Silicified Middle to Late Eocene shallow water sandstones outcropping in the Lower Murchison District near Kalbarri township contain a silicified fossil fauna including foraminifera, sponges, bryozoans, solitary corals, brachiopods, echinoids and molluscs. The known molluscan fauna consists of 51 species, comprising 2 cephalopods, 14 bivalves, 1 scaphopod and 34 gastropods. Of these taxa three are newly described, *Cerithium wilya*, *Zeacolpus bartoni*, and *Lyria lamellatoplicata*. 25 of these molluscs are identical to or closely comparable with taxa from the southern Australian Eocene. The occurrence of this fauna extends the Southeast Australian Province during the Eocene from southwest Western Australia along the west coast north to at least 27° present day south latitude; consequently the province is here renamed the Southern Australian Province.

Keywords: siliceous fossils, Eocene, Kalbarri, molluscs, new taxa, Carnarvon Basin, biogeography, Southern Australian Province.

INTRODUCTION

Eocene marine molluscan assemblages from coastal sedimentary basins in southern Australia have been reviewed recently by Darragh and Kendrick (2000, Table 1, Figure 1), with descriptions of new species and other records from the Bass, Port Phillip, Otway, Murray, St Vincent and Bremer Basins. In contrast, Eocene molluscs from the Carnarvon Basin (Giralia Calcarene, Merlinleigh Sandstone) have received little attention and, to the time of writing, remain largely unknown. The recent discovery in the lower Murchison District near Kalbarri township of silicified, marine Eocene sediments (Haig and Mory 2003), containing a diversity of well-preserved molluscan material, presents an opportunity to extend the study of these groups, erstwhile essentially southern in distribution, westward and northward into the Southern Carnarvon Basin.

The Kalbarri deposit, source of the present study material, was discovered by Mr David Barton of Kalbarri (see Material, below). Situated within the Kalbarri National Park, the locality lies some 19.5 km ESE from Kalbarri township, striking south and west for about 2 km near Junga Dam, south of the Ajana–Kalbarri road. A central map reference on the Kalbarri 1:100,000 topographic sheet (1742) is 397260, at an elevation close to 220m above AHD.

The source deposit, a pallid to ferruginous silicified sandstone, forms a weakly defined, low breakaway trending N–S and sloping gently westward. Its lithology and stratigraphic relationships have been described by Haig and Mory (2003).

Invertebrate marine fossils, predominantly sponges and invariably silicified, lie on the weathered surface of and downslope from the breakaway. Eocene fossils collected to date from this source comprise foraminifers, sponges, bryozoans, solitary corals, brachiopods, echinoids and mollusc shells, the latter comprising a scaphopod, bivalves, gastropods and nautiloids. Further down slope occur fragments of pale, silicified porcellanite and belemnite guards (*Peratobolus* sp.), derived from the unconformably underlying Aptian Windalia Radiolarite (Haig and Mory 2003: 107).

MATERIAL

Three separate collections, all from the same source area, constitute the study material.

1. Collection of Mr David Barton, acquired over the period 2000–2001 and presented to the Western Australian Museum in 2005. The Barton Collection is registered in the Museum's catalogue numerical sequence 05.182 to 05.212 inclusive.

2. Collection of K.J., K.A. and J.P. McNamara and S.P. Radford, during April 2004 and bearing catalogue numerical sequence 04.206 to 04.240 inclusive.
3. Collection of T.A. Darragh and G.W. Kendrick, October 2005 and catalogue numerical sequence 06.178–06.191, 07.1–07.30; also Museum Victoria numbers NMV P313978–P313989, P314038–314040.
4. Nautiloids collected by D.W. Haig, School of Earth and Geographical Sciences, University of Western Australia, UWA 130880-1.

The specimens for this study are lodged in the following institutions: Museum Victoria, Melbourne (NMV); University of Western Australia, Nedlands (UWA); Western Australian Museum, Perth (WAM).

AGE AND CORRELATION

Planktonic foraminiferal determinations presented by Haig and Mory (2003) have established an age for the Kalbarri deposit within the interval P13-16 (P-zonation of Berggren and Miller 1988), Bartonian-Priabonian (= Johannian–Aldingan Australian Stages) of the Middle to Late Eocene. The absence of tropical and subtropical species of foraminifers suggests a cooling trend over this interval, comparable with that noted for southern Australian waters by McGowran *et al.* (2000).

Mollusc species from the Kalbarri Eocene show substantial direct affinities with those of the Bremer and other coastal basins of southern Australia, the assemblage overall being essentially temperate in character, though including some possible tropical or subtropical elements. Thus, of the 51 mollusc species recognised below in the study material, 25 are identical to or closely comparable with taxa from the southern Australian Eocene (Darragh and Kendrick 2000, Table 1).

COMPARISON WITH THE MERLINLEIGH SANDSTONE

The Middle to Late Eocene Merlinleigh Sandstone (Cockbain 1981) comprises thin (to 15m) erosional remnants of a transgressive, shallow water, near shore deposit, located along the western flank of the Kennedy Range, eastern Central Carnarvon Basin and some 350–400 km NNE from the Kalbarri deposit. The Merlinleigh Sandstone comprises mainly quartz sandstone with minor siltstone and conglomerate. Fossil material, invariably silicified, occurs as surface float below an erosion scarp and comprises foraminifera, colonial corals, bryozoans, hydrozoans, molluscs, fossil wood (some teredine-bored) and other terrestrial plant material (Condon 1968, McNamara and Scott 1983, Haig and Mory 2003).

Other than the nautiloid *Aturia clarkei* Teichert (Teichert 1944), molluscs from the Merlinleigh Sandstone have thus far remained unrecorded. We here list (Table 2) provisional determinations of these from the collections of Museum Victoria and the Western Australian Museum, pending more detailed consideration in a future paper. None of these taxa seems to have affinity with those of the Eocene faunas of either southern Australia or Kalbarri. Haig *et al.* (1993) considered the Merlinleigh Sandstone and Giralia Calcarenite to be probably coeval and located within zones P11 – P13 of the Middle Eocene and hence older than the present Kalbarri deposit. This, together with marked facies contrasts and latitudinal discrepancies are consistent with the substantial differences here noted between the Kalbarri and Merlinleigh mollusc assemblages.

FAUNAL CONTRASTS AND DEPOSITIONAL ENVIRONMENTS

Mollusca from the Merlinleigh Sandstone, compared with those from the Kalbarri Eocene, differ mostly in generic identity and also in being much larger and more robust. No species of the genus *Periglypta* Jukes-Brown, 1914 has been recorded from any Tertiary deposit in southern Australia nor is it present at Kalbarri. Corals from the two sources contrast strongly; those from Merlinleigh being colonial in character, common and robust whereas in the Kalbarri Eocene, corals are rare and to date are confined to specimens of the solitary, azooxanthellate genus *Flabellum* Lesson. Modern records of this genus from southern and Western Australia (Cairns and Parker 1992, Cairns 1998) are associated with water depths usually in excess of 100m and indicate habitats of the middle to outer continental shelf and slope. Sponges, unknown from the Merlinleigh Sandstone, are common and conspicuous at Kalbarri, consistent with a deeper water, perhaps middle shelf environment of deposition, although the rolled and broken nature of all the fossils and the coarse sediment in which they are found may indicate that the material had been washed into shallower water.

Post-mortem transportation of the study material is supported by the markedly disproportionate numerical representation of the various species. Thus *Zeacolpus bartoni* sp. nov. with 577 specimens and *Cerithium wilya* sp. nov. (53 specimens) contrast with 35 other species in the assemblage, represented by only one or two specimens.

PALAEOGEOGRAPHY

The Southeastern Australian Province supports a temperate marine mollusc fauna, hitherto recognised in Eocene time as extending along the

Table 1 Mollusc determinations in the study material from Eocene beds, Kalbarri.

CEPHALOPODA

1. *Eutrephoceras* sp.
2. *Aturia clarkei* Teichert

BIVALVIA

3. *Sarepta planiuscula* (Tate)
4. *Limopsis chapmani* Singleton
5. *Tucezona lenticularis* (Tate)
6. *Solamen (Exosiperna)* sp. aff. *S.(E.) globularis* (Tate)
7. *Vulsella* sp. cf. *V. laevigata* Tate
8. cf. *Talochlamys eyrei* (Tate)
9. *Plicacosta?* sp.
10. *Chama* sp.
11. *Epicodakia* sp.
12. *Glyptoactis (Fasciculicardia)* sp. cf. *G.(F.) latissima* (Tate)
13. *Pratulium hemimeris* (Tate)
14. *Dosina (Dosina) multilamellata* (Tate)
15. cf. *Fossacallista tatei* (Cossmann)
16. *Caryocorbula pixidata* (Tate)

SCAPHOPODA

17. *Dentalium (Fissidentalium) mawsoni* Ludbrook

GASTROPODA

18. *Emarginula* sp.
19. *Micrelenchus (Plumbelenchus) armulatus* Darragh & Kendrick
20. *Calliostoma* sp. aff. *C. (Fautor) numapum* Darragh & Kendrick
21. *Cerithium wilya* sp. nov.
22. *Zeacolpus bartoni* sp. nov.
23. *Tenagodus* sp.
24. *Xenophora* sp. aff. *X. tatei* Harris
25. Naticid sp.
26. *Euspirocrommium* sp.
27. *Galeodea* sp.
28. *Notoseila* sp.
29. *Cerithiella* sp.
30. *Cirsotrema* sp. aff. *C. pleiophylla* Tate
31. *Margineulima* sp.
32. Turbinellid? sp.
33. *Murexsul* sp.
34. *Brocchitas?* sp.
35. *Dennantia aldingensis* (Tate)
36. *Alcithoe (Waihaioia) pagodoides* (Tate)
37. *Notovoluta capitonica* Darragh
38. *Notopeplum protorhysum* (Tate)
39. *Lyria lamellatoplicata* sp. nov.
40. *Gemmoliva* sp. cf. *G. adelaidae* (Tate)
41. *Gracilispira* sp. cf. *G. ligata* (Tate)
42. *Cochlespira* sp.
43. *Parasyngenchilus* sp. cf. *P. angustior* Long
44. *Gemmula?* sp.
45. *Mauidrillia* sp. cf. *M. aldingensis* Powell
46. *Marginella* sp. A
47. *Marginella* sp. B
48. Mitrid sp. A
49. Mitrid sp. B
50. *Conus?* sp.
51. *Conorbis* sp.

Table 2 Molluscs from the Merlinleigh Sandstone in the collections of Museum Victoria and the Western Australian Museum.

Cephalopod	
1.	<i>Aturia clarkei</i> Teichert
Bivalves	
2.	<i>Cucullaea</i> sp.
3.	<i>Glycymeris</i> sp.
4.	<i>Spondylus</i> sp.
5.	<i>Chama</i> sp.
6.	<i>Glans?</i> sp.
7.	<i>Periglypta</i> sp.
8.	<i>Dosina (Hina)</i> sp.
9.	<i>Dosinia (Austrodosinia)</i> sp.
Gastropod	
10.	<i>Tugali?</i> sp.
11.	<i>Turbo</i> sp.

south coast of Australia from the Gippsland Basin in the east to the Bremer Basin in the west (Darragh 1985, figure 3). The Austral Indo-Pacific Province, in essence an extension of the tropical Indo-Pacific Province, in Eocene time was thought to be confined to the Carnarvon Basin on the west coast of Australia. The results of the current work show this to be so, but in addition, that the Southeastern Australian Province extended at least to the southern part of the Southern Carnarvon Basin as far north as approximately present day 27° south latitude. The Province may have extended further north, but if so, any evidence for this has probably been removed by erosion.

Of the molluscs present in the Kalbarri fauna, all genera are typically represented in the Southeastern Australian Province. All the bivalve and scaphopod genera are represented in the Eocene. Most of the gastropod genera are also known from the Eocene, with the exception of *Zeacolpus* and *Lyria*, the taxon here referred as *Turbinellid?* sp. and possibly *Notoseila* and *Cerithiella*. Of the cephalopods, *Aturia* is represented in the Eocene, but in Australia, *Eutrephoceras* has hitherto only been recorded from the Paleocene and the Miocene.

Inclusion of the Bremer and southern Carnarvon Basins in the Southeastern Australian Province makes the name of the province inappropriate. Consequently the province is renamed here the Southern Australian Province.

SYSTEMATIC PALAEOLOGY

Class Cephalopoda

Family Nautilidae

Genus *Eutrephoceras* Hyatt, 1894

Eutrephoceras sp.
Figures 1.14, 1.24, 1.25

Nautiloid indet.: Haig and Mory, 2003: figures 3 S, T.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 18 specimens (WAM 05.202); 10 specimens (NMV P313985); 1 specimen (UWA 130881). Total 29 specimens.

Description

Shell broadly lenticular. Siphuncle small, situated close to venter and slightly offset to the right. Hyponomic sinus broad and shallow. Small umbilicus closed by callus, but visible on some specimens. Sculpture of fine, close-set equal spiral lirae visible on early whorls and beaded where crossed by growth lines.

Dimensions

	Height	Width
WAM 05.202a	33	19
WAM 05.202b	11	7.5

Discussion

All specimens are juveniles consisting of one or two whorls, with the possible exception of the largest specimen (figured), which seems to consist of two or possibly three whorls. Though poorly visible, the suture line appears to be straight. Most of the shells are infilled with silica and are transparent, but there is no sign of a siphuncle within the shell nor are there signs of chambers in the better preserved specimens, so no suture lines are visible. The sculpture preserved on some of the smaller specimens is very similar to that figured by Landman *et al.* (1983, figure 4a) on *Eutrephoceras dekayi* (Morton, 1834), Late Cretaceous, North America.

Eutrephoceras species have been recorded from the Paleocene of Victoria by Teichert (1947) and by McGowran (1959) from the Early and Middle Miocene of South Australia and from the Middle Miocene of Victoria. If the genus is correctly identified, this is the first record from the Eocene of Australia.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle–Late Eocene.

Family Aturiidae

Genus *Aturia* Bronn, 1838

Aturia clarkei Teichert, 1944

Figures 1.18, 1.19

Aturia clarkei Teichert, 1944: 79, plate 15, figures 1–4; plate 16, figures 1, 2; text figure 2.

Aturia sp. Haig and Mory 2003: figures 3, Q, R.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (UWA 130880).

Description

Shell slightly flattened, but flanks originally slightly convex, of small size; no umbilicus; venter broadly rounded; growth lines not visible. Siphuncle large, partly obscured by matrix.

Dimensions

	Height	Width
UWA 130880	31.8	13.3

Discussion

The saddle of the suture on the Kalbarri specimen seems rounded, rather than slightly flattened, as in specimens of *Aturia clarkei* from the type locality near the Merlinleigh homestead site in the Kennedy Range. This slight difference could be a result of difficulty in tracing accurately the suture on this particular specimen, or perhaps because of some intra-specific or ontogenic variation, the Kennedy Range specimens being much larger (40 – > 100mm).

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Clifton Formation, reworked specimens. **St Vincent Basin:** Tortachilla Limestone. **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** Merlinleigh Sandstone (type); unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Class Bivalvia**Family Sareptidae****Genus Sarepta A. Adams, 1860*****Sarepta planiuscula* (Tate, 1886)**

Figure 1.4

Leda planiuscula Tate, 1886: 130, plate 5, figure 2.

Ovaleda planiuscula (Tate): Ludbrook 1961: 61, plate 3, figures 3, 4.

Sarepta planiuscula (Tate): Darragh and Kendrick 2000: 18, 22, figure 21.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: conjoined valves (WAM 06.179); 1 fragment (NMV P313980).

Description

The better of the two Kalbarri specimens is a small, roundly subquadrate, conjoined pair, of which the left valve is substantially intact, right valve somewhat corroded and pitted. Slightly produced

and rounded posteriorly, umbo weakly inflated, beaks slightly projecting and anterior of centre. Sculpture (LV) of faint, commarginal growth striae, scarcely discernible on umbo. Internal characters and those of dorsal margin concealed (described by Ludbrook 1961 from the type material).

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.179 (pair)	5.4	4.1	2.3

Discussion

The present specimens compare well with others from the Pallinup Formation and from the type locality. The species combines a wide distribution with rarity in collections.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Glen Aire Clay, Oligocene. **St Vincent Basin:** "Adelaide Bore", Kent Town (type), Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene. **Bremer Basin:** North Walpole, Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Limopsidae**Genus *Limopsis* Sassi, 1827*****Limopsis chapmani* Singleton, 1932**

Figure 1.21

Limopsis chapmani Singleton, 1932: 296–299, plate 24, figures 12–14, plate 25, figure 16.

Limopsis (*Limopsis*) *chapmani* (Singleton): Darragh and Kendrick, 1980: 13, figures 2 O–R; Darragh and Kendrick 2000: 24.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: conjoined valves (WAM 06.181).

Description

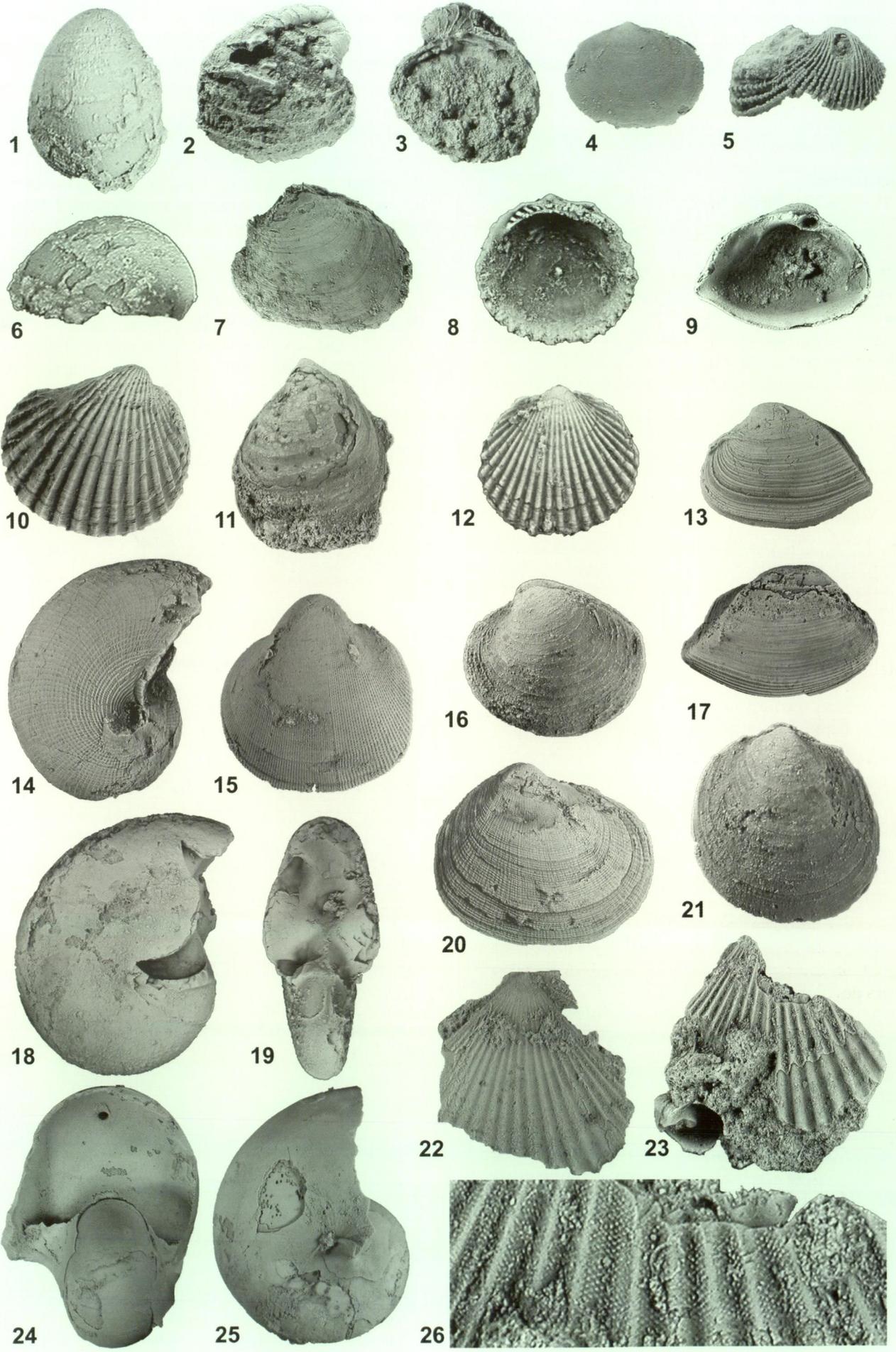
Conjoined valves, small for the species, RV somewhat corroded dorsally, LV substantially intact; obliquely sub-ovate, slightly produced posteriorly, umbones slightly prosogyrate, beaks slightly projecting, dorsal margin partly obscured, probably straight and less than half shell length. Sculpture of weak, spaced, commarginal striae.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.181	4.6	5.0	2.7

Remarks

The Kalbarri specimen, probably a juvenile,



compares closely with conspecific material from Browns Creek and also North Walpole, where it occurs commonly and occasionally as a conjoined pair (Darragh and Kendrick 1980). Its abundance at the latter locality contrasts markedly with its rarity at Kalbarri.

Occurrence

Port Phillip Basin: Jan Juc Formation (type), Late Oligocene-Early Miocene. **Otway Basin:** Lower and upper Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene. Lower Glen Aire Clay, Early Oligocene. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene. **Bremer Basin:** Werillup Formation, Middle Eocene. **Pallinup Formation,** Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Glycymeridae

Genus *Tucetona* Iredale, 1931

Tucetona lenticularis (Tate, 1886)

Figures 1.8, 1.12

Pectunculus lenticularis Tate, 1886: 138, plate 11, figure 1.

Tucetona lenticularis (Tate): Darragh and Kendrick 2000: 24, figure 2J.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 2 specimens (WAM 04.206); 1 specimen (WAM 06.180); 2 specimens (NMV P313981). Total of four complete valves and one fragment.

Description

Single valves, all juveniles, some fragmentary. Orbicular, slightly longer than high, compressed, umbones low, orthogyrate, beaks small, located slightly posterior of centre, ligamental area narrow, costae numbering (present material) 21–26, about equal to interspaces, margins abraded, adductor scars not sighted.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 04.206 (RV)	6.3	5.9	1.7

Remarks

The limited material to hand from Kalbarri, from rib counts and other general characters, compares well with specimens of similar size from both Browns Creek and Pallinup Formations (WAM 05.29). Valve orientation of juveniles of this species requires care and preferably from access to the adductor muscle scars (Ludbrook 1965: 93). The specimen figured herein appears to be a RV, assuming that the beak is located slightly posterior of centre. Adult valves of this species may attain a length of up to 37mm.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene. Lower Glen Aire Clay, Early Oligocene. **St Vincent Basin:** South Maslin Sand, Middle Eocene. Blanche Point Formation (type), Late Eocene. **Bremer Basin:** Werrilup Formation, Middle Eocene. Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Mytilidae

Genus *Solamen* Iredale, 1924

Subgenus *Exosiperna* Iredale, 1929

Solamen (Exosiperna) sp. aff. globularis (Tate, 1886)

Figures 1.1, 1.6

Crenella globularis Tate, 1886: 126, plate 10, figure 3a, b.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 right valve (WAM 06.182).

◀ **Figure 1** *Solamen (Exosiperna) sp. aff. S. (E.) globularis* (Tate), 1, 6 WAM 06.182, RV x 8. *Chama sp.*, 2, 3 WAM 06.187, RV external, internal x 3.7. *Sarepta planiuscula* (Tate), 4 WAM 06.179, LV x 5.0. *Glyptoactis (Fasciculicardia) sp. cf. G. (F.) latissima* (Tate), 5 WAM 06.188, LV x 4.4. cf. *Fossacallista tatei* (Cossmann), 7 WAM 06.189, LV x 3.0. *Tucetona lenticularis* (Tate), 8, 12 WAM 04.206, RV x 4.8. *Caryocorbula pixidata* (Tate), 9 WAM 06.190, LV internal x 3.9; 13 WAM 06.190, LV external x 3.9; 17 WAM 05.183 RV external x 3.9. *Plicacea? sp.*, 10 WAM 05.202, LV x 3.8. *Vulsella sp. cf. V. laevigata* Tate, 11 WAM 06.183, LV x 3.7. *Eutrephoceras sp.*, 14 WAM 05.202b x 4.2; 24, 25 WAM 05.202a x 1.5. *Pratulium hemimeris* (Tate), 15 WAM 04.208, LV x 3.0. *Dosina (Dosina) multilamellata* (Tate), 16 WAM 04.209, LV x 5.7. *Aturia clarkei* Teichert, 18, 19 UWA 130880 x 1.7 (18), x 1.6 (19). *Epicodakia sp.*, 20 WAM 05.182, RV x 4.0. *Limopsis chapmani* Singleton, 21 WAM 06.181, LV x 6.6. cf. *Talochlamys eyrei* (Tate), 22 WAM 06.184, RV x 2.8; 23 WAM 06.185, RV? x 2.6; 26 WAM 06.185, RV? x 9.6.

Description

Small, higher than long, inflated, beak incurved, slightly anterior of centre. Sculpture mostly obscured by secondary silica but some very faint commarginal and finer, radial sculpture discernible in part.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.182	2.9	3.7	2.7

Remarks

The discovery of what may prove to be Tate's rather uncommon species at Kalbarri, hitherto known only from the Late Eocene of the St Vincent Basin, suggests a possible substantial extension of range for the species. The Kalbarri specimen is about half the size of Tate's type and is in part decorticated and also overlain by secondary silica; however traces of light, cancellate sculpture are discernible.

Occurrence

St Vincent Basin: Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene (type). **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Malleidae**Genus *Vulsella* Röding, 1798*****Vulsella* sp. cf. *V.laevigata* Tate, 1886**

Figure 1.11

Vulsella laevigata Tate, 1886: 122, plate 3, figure 3a, b; Darragh and Kendrick 1980: 15, figures 3D–H.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 left valve (WAM 06.183).

Description

Higher than long, moderately inflated, umbo elevated, beak projecting, opisthogyrate, margin posteriorly excavate below beak, slightly convex anteriorly. Sculpture part-corroded, part-obscured but some weak, spaced, commarginal costae visible. Internal characters obscured.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.183, LV	8.0 (est.)	9.5	–

Remarks

The single valve to hand from Kalbarri appears to be of greater length relative to height than examples of Tate's species from the Pallinup Formation of

North Walpole and has a thicker shell than any known specimen from there. These apparent differences and their significance, if any, need to be clarified by the collection of further material from the present locality.

Occurrence

St Vincent Basin: Glauconitic limestone at the base of Witton Bluff, near mouth of the River Onkaparinga, South Australia. Tortachilla Limestone, Late Eocene (type). **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Pectinidae**Genus *Talochlamys* Iredale, 1929****cf. *Talochlamys eyrei* (Tate, 1886)**

Figures 1.22, 1.23, 1.26

Pecten eyrei Tate, 1886: 107, plate 8, figures 3a, b, 6.

Talochlamys eyrei (Tate): Beu and Darragh 2001: 101–106, figures 31B, C, E, G, I; 32G; 33A–E; 34A–G.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 right valve, fragment (WAM 06.184); 1 right valve?, fragment (WAM 06.185). Total of two specimens.

Description

Two fragmentary, immature specimens are consistent with and probably referable to Tate's species. The better of the two retains portion of the anterior auricle and byssal notch. Shagreen sculpture is well developed on each but neither shows any trace of commarginal sculpture on the costae or elsewhere. So far as can be observed, the sculpture of these specimens corresponds to that of the *peroni* form of *T.eyrei* (Beu and Darragh 2001).

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.184	ca 14	–	–

Remarks

The genus and its fossil component from the Tertiary of southern Australia have been reviewed by Beu and Darragh (2001), with most occurrences from Victorian and South Australian sources. Additional to these are a few records from the Eucla (Eocene-Miocene) and Bremer (Eocene) Basins.

Talochlamys eyrei is a common and widely distributed species from the Aldingan to Longfordian variously in the St Vincent, Murray

and Otway Basins. Confirmed records for the species from Western Australia are few and to date are confined to the Wilson Bluff and Abrakurrie Limestones of the Eucla Basin.

Two species of *Talochlamys*, approximately coeval with but distinct from the study material, are recorded from the Pallinup Formation of the Bremer Basin (Beu and Darragh 2001). Specimens are few and of inferior preservation. Clarification of their identities is subject to the collection of further, well-preserved material.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Limidae

Genus *Plicacosta* Vokes, 1963

Plicacosta? sp.

Figure 1.10

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: conjoined valves (WAM 06.186).

Description

Conjoined equal valves, obliquely sub-orbicular, slightly inflated, extended anteriorly. Posterior auricles very small, antero-dorsal area somewhat corroded, anterior gape obscured. Sculpture of 20 radial costae, about as wide as interspaces, the anterior seven and posterior eight narrower than median five and with weakly angulate divergent crests. Costae and interspaces bear low, crowded, commarginal lamellae. Ventral margin crenulate. Internal characters not seen.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.186	8.9	8.5	4.7

Remarks

Unlike any known fossil taxon from southern and south eastern Australia, the specimen is assigned provisionally to *Plicacosta* with regard to the broader ribs on the median area of each valve. Compared with *Plicacosta smithi* (G.B. Sowerby, 1888), type species of *Plicacosta*, from the Recent of Japan, the present species has fewer, more spaced ribs, smaller posterior auricles and lesser size.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Chamidae

Genus *Chama* Linnaeus, 1758

Chama sp.

Figures 1.2, 1.3

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 right valve (WAM 06.187).

Description

A small, probably immature and transposed tumid RV, umbo strongly prosocline, beak incurved. Sculpture of about 14 thin, irregular, spaced commarginal lamellae with faint traces of radial sculpture forming a frill on the edge of the lamellae. Hinge corroded, with traces of poorly preserved cardinals and possible laterals. No lunule or escutcheon apparent. Groove present on umbo, extending onto disc – a possible attachment area. Exterior partly corroded, interior obscured by matrix.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.187	7.9	8.2	5.5

Remarks

Chama shells are markedly inequivalve and usually attach to firm substrates by cementation of part of the cup-shaped LV. In this "normal" form, the RV is more-or-less flattened and discoidal. Sculpture of the valves is irregularly discrepant, with commarginal elements predominant.

Recent studies (e.g., Matsukuma 1996, Matsukuma *et al.* 1997) have reported instances of both "normal" and transposed or "inverse" forms of shell within a single species of the genus. In the latter case, valve transposition affecting shell and/or hinge occurs with attachment by the RV. Though poorly preserved, the present specimen from Kalbarri retains probable remnants of a juvenile, pre-settlement form of dentition, such as that noted by Matsukuma (1996: 24). However, in a discussion on the synonymy of the genus *Chama* and the significance of valve transposition, Beu (2006: 215–221) concluded that valve cementation was of little, if any taxonomic significance.

Chama lamellifera Tenison Woods, 1877 represents the genus from the Late Eocene to Middle Miocene of south-eastern Australia (Harris 1897, Darragh 1985). Examination of all specimens of that species in the collections of Museum Victoria and Western Australian Museum has found no example of valve transposition. Clarification of the relationship of that species to the Kalbarri specimen is deferred until further, better preserved material eventuates.

A species of *Chama*, clearly distinct from *C. lamellifera*, is represented in collections (Table 2) from the Middle–Late Eocene Merlinleigh Sandstone of the eastern Central Carnarvon Basin. These large, robust shells, unlike the single Kalbarri *Chama*, all have “normal” hinge and valve–attachment orientation. The relationship of the two populations remains to be clarified, subject to the collection of further material from Kalbarri.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Lucinidae

Genus *Epicodakia* Iredale, 1930

Epicodakia sp. Figure 1.20

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: fragmentary right valve (WAM 04.207); conjoined valves (WAM 05.182); conjoined valves (NMV P313982). Total of two pairs of valves and one fragmentary right valve.

Description

The bivalve is transversely sub-elliptical, extended anteriorly, a little inflated, umbones orthogyrate, beaks proximate and located posterior of centre. Antero-dorsal area excavate, ligament externally visible. Sculpture of radial and commarginal elements, absent from the beaks. Fine, close radials cover the disc, stronger and slightly antimarginal on flanks, fading dorsally. Very fine, close commarginals extend across the disc. Fragmentary RV 04.207 retains hinge, comprising a small, thin, anterior cardinal (3a), a strong, grooved posterior cardinal (3b) and prominent, single laterals (AIII and PIII), both remote from cardinals.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 05.182	10.4	8.7	5.0

Remarks

The Kalbarri specimens are not unlike the Recent type species of the genus, *Epicodakia tatei* (Angas, 1879), differing in its slightly greater anterior extension and finer, more dense sculpture, both radial and commarginal. Comparison with a congener from the Pallinup Formation at North Walpole (Darragh and Kendrick 1980) shows the Kalbarri specimen to have greater anterior extension and more crowded, persistent sculpture.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Carditidae

Genus *Glyptoactis* Stewart, 1930

Subgenus *Fasciculocardia* Maxwell, 1969

Glyptoactis (Fasciculocardia) sp. cf. G.(F.) latissima (Tate, 1886) Figure 1.5

Cardita latissima Tate, 1886: 153, plate 2, figure 5.

Cardium arcaeiformis Chapman and Crespín, 1934: 121, plate 11, figures 25–27.

Venericardia (Fasciculocardia) latissima (Tate): Maxwell 1969: 173–4.

Glans latissima (Tate): Ludbrook 1973: 247, plate 24, figures 11, 12.

Glans (Fasciculocardia) latissima (Tate): Darragh and Kendrick 1980: 17, figures 4G–L.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 fragmentary left valve (WAM 06.188).

Description

About 24 radial costellae, about as wide as or narrower than the interspaces, are visible on this incomplete LV. Ribs bear transverse scales on crests, more prominent on anterior and posterior areas.

Dimensions

The size of the specimen cannot be measured but the estimated length is 6.5mm.

Remarks

As far as can be seen, the sculpture of this specimen compares well with others of Tate’s species from Brown’s Creek, Aldinga and North Walpole.

Ranking *Fasciculocardia* as a subgenus of *Glyptoactis* follows the conclusions of Maxwell (in Beu and Maxwell 1990: 102) and Beu (2006: 224), recognising a close relationship between the two.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Lower and Upper Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene (type). **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Cardiidae

Genus *Pratulium* Iredale, 1924*Pratulium hemimeris* (Tate, 1887)

Figure 1.15

Cardium hemimeris Tate, 1887: 153, plate 14, figures 2a-c.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 conjoined pair (WAM 04.208).

Description

Small, conjoined valves, inflated, about as high as long, with prominent, raised median umbones and incurved beaks. Sculpture of very fine, close, simple, radial costellae extending over about the anterior 60% of shell. Posteriorly, costellae and interspaces widen, with weak transverse scales extending anteriorly from each radial across the adjacent (anterior) interspace. Sculpture appears to be worn, with or without some imperfection in the silica replication of the original aragonitic shell.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 04.208	12.4	12.7	9.9

Remarks

The single specimen to hand from Kalbarri, of this uncommon species, compares well in size and morphology with others from the Blanche Point Formation at Aldinga, South Australia. Three small silicified shell fragments (WAM 83.2605) from the Pallinup Formation at North Walpole, bear cardiid-type sculpture not unlike that of the present species, suggesting a possible presence at that much-collected locality.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene (type). **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation,?, Late Eocene, **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Veneridae

Genus *Dosina* Gray, 1835Subgenus *Dosina* s.str.*Dosina (Dosina) multilamellata* (Tate, 1887)

Figure 1.16

Chione multilamellata Tate, 1887: 154, 155, plate 15, figures 6a, b.

Dosina (Dosina) multitaeniata (Tate): Ludbrook, 1973: plate 24, figures 18, 19 (invalid replacement name for *multilamellata*).

Dosina (Dosina) multilamellata (Tate): Darragh and Kendrick 1980: 19.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: conjoined valves (WAM 04.209); 1 fragment (NMV P313983).

Description

Small, transversely ovate, inflated, with low umbones and prosogyrate beaks. Lunule shallow, broad, bordered by incised line, escutcheon elongate, weakly defined. Sculpture of thin, spaced, commarginal costellae, ca 17 in height of 5.3mm, beaks smooth.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 04.209 (pair)	6.2	5.3	3.8

Remarks

The confused taxonomy of Tate's species has been discussed by Darragh and Kendrick (1980). The present single, well-preserved specimen from Kalbarri closely resembles others of similar size from the Blanche Point Formation at Aldinga.

Occurrence

Bass Basin: Freestone Cove Sandstone, Early Miocene. **Port Phillip Basin:** Jan Juc Formation, Late Oligocene-Early Miocene. **Otway Basin:** Upper Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene (type). **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Fossacallista* Marwick, 1938cf. *Fossacallista tatei* (Cossmann, 1920)

Figure 1.7

Cytherea tenuis Tate, 1886: 159, plate 14, figure 16 (junior homonym). *non* Hall and Meek, 1854.

Cytherea tatei Cossmann, 1920: 37. nom. nov. for *C. tenuis* Tate, *non* Hall and Meek, 1854.

Notocallista (Fossacallista) tatei (Cossmann): Marwick 1938: 77, plate 14, figures 1-3; Ludbrook, 1973: plate 24, figure 13.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: conjoined valves (WAM 06.189).

Description

Conjoined valves, of which RV is deformed by compaction and somewhat corroded, LV corroded anteriorly and dorsally, otherwise intact. Length exceeds height, anteriorly short, posteriorly extended, umbo (LV) low, beaks prosogyrate. Sculpture of fine, close-set, incised commarginal lines, lunule excavate, small.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 06.189 (deformed pair)	11.3	9.1	4.3

Remarks

The present specimen is very close to others from the Blanche Point Formation in the Kent Town (Adelaide) bore, South Australia, the type locality.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene, Glen Aire Clay, Early Oligocene. Jan-Juc Formation, Late Oligocene-Early Miocene. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene (type). **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Corbulidae**Genus *Caryocorbula* Gardner, 1926*****Caryocorbula pixidata* (Tate, 1887)**

Figures 1.9, 1.13, 1.17

Corbula pixidata Tate, 1887: 177, plate 17, figures 12a, b.

Corbula (Caryocorbula) pixidata (Tate): Darragh and Kendrick 1980: 19, figures 5D-H.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: conjoined pair (WAM 05.183); 1 left valve (WAM 06.190); conjoined pair (NMV P313984).

Description

Small, longer than high, inequivalve, LV the more inflated, umbones and beaks prosogyrate, beaks at anterior third, anteriorly rounded, short, posteriorly extended, truncate, posterior area offset by well-defined angulation. Chondrophore (LV) large.

Dimensions

	Length	Height	Inflation
WAM 05.183 (pair)	9.4	6.4	4.4
WAM 06.190 (LV)	8.4	6.0	2.4

Remarks

Kalbarri specimens compare closely with

topotypes of Tate's species from the Blanche Point Formation at Aldinga, South Australia.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Lower and upper Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene. Lower Glen Aire Clay, Early Oligocene. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation (type), Late Eocene. **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Class Scaphopoda**Family Dentaliidae****Genus *Dentalium* Linnaeus, 1758****Subgenus *Fissidentalium* Fischer, 1885*****Dentalium (Fissidentalium) mawsoni* Ludbrook, 1956**

Figures 2.1, 2.2

Dentalium (Fissidentalium) mawsoni Ludbrook, 1956: 2, 3, plate 1, figures 5, 6.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 3 specimens (WAM 04.227); 2 specimens (WAM 05.201); 15 specimens (WAM 06.178); 13 specimens (NMV P313978); 3 specimens (WAM P313979). Total of 36 specimens.

Description

Medium sized, robust, circular to slightly oval in cross-section, almost straight, curvature slight, where visible, tending toward apex. Ribs fine to very fine, of irregular size and spacing, numbering ca 30 (apex) to ca 50 (aperture), increasing by intercalation. No specimen in the study material is intact, none retaining either apical slit or aperture.

Dimensions

	Length	Max. diameter
WAM 05.201a	27	5.0
WAM 05.201b	18	3.5

Remarks

This is one of the LV more common, widely distributed and long-ranging dentaliid species from the Tertiary of southern Australia, here extended into the later Eocene of the southern Carnarvon Basin. Kalbarri specimens have been compared with topotypes from the Middle Miocene Cadell Marl (Murray Basin) and with Late Eocene material from the Browns Creek Formation (Otway Basin) and are closely comparable.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Browns Creek Formation, Late Eocene. Glen Aire Clay, Oligocene. Jan Juc Formation, Oligo-Miocene. Puebla Formation, Early Miocene. Muddy Creek Formation, Middle Miocene. Fyansford Formation, Early-Middle Miocene. **Bass Basin:** Freestone Cove Sandstone, Early Miocene. **Murray Basin:** Cadell Marl Member, Morgan Limestone, Middle Miocene (type). **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation, Late Eocene. Dry Creek Sands, Late Miocene. **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Class Gastropoda**Family Fissurellidae****Genus *Emarginula* Lamarck, 1801*****Emarginula* sp.**

Figures 2.1, 2.2, 2.6

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.210).

Description

Small, probably immature, longer than wide, width and height about equal, margin mostly abraded, in particular on right posterior flank. Apex acute, strongly incurved, close to posterior extremity. Selenizone infilled by raised, tuberculate, median rib, slit absent due to abrasion. Radial ribs ten or eleven, alternating in width and prominence, some very fine, the larger generating tubercles at intersections with fine, near-lamellate concentric ribs. Interior obscured.

Dimensions

	Length	Width	Height
WAM 04.210	5.0	2.8	2.7

Remarks

The genus appears to be widespread but sparsely represented in the later Eocene of southern Australia. A species of *Emarginula*, very similar to that from Kalbarri, is known from a single specimen (NMV P302258) from the Browns Creek Formation. Fragments attributed to *Emarginula* from the Plantagenet Group of the Bremer Basin (Darragh and Kendrick 2000: 30, 31, figures 4, K, M) appear to be specifically distinct from the present species. The margins of the Kalbarri specimen appear to have sustained crab damage.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Trochidae**Genus *Micrelenchus* Finlay, 1926****Subgenus *Plumbelenchus* Finlay, 1926*****Micrelenchus (Plumbelenchus) armulatus***

Darragh and Kendrick, 2000

Figure 2.3

Micrelenchus (Plumbelenchus) armulatus Darragh and Kendrick 2000: 46, figures 6J, K

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.212).

Description

Small, turbiniform, height and diameter about equal, whorls shouldered with distinct subsutural shelf, sculpture of light spiral striae.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 04.212	4.2	4.5	ca 4.5

Remarks

Minor variation in the whorl profile and in the strength and persistence of the sculpture was noted in the type material (Darragh and Kendrick 2000) and the Kalbarri specimen generally compares well with topotypes. In the latter, shell height consistently exceeds maximum diameter, possibly due to the greater size of the North Walpole specimens. Crab damage is evident on the aperture of the present specimen.

Occurrence

St Vincent Basin: Blanche Point Formation. **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation (type). **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

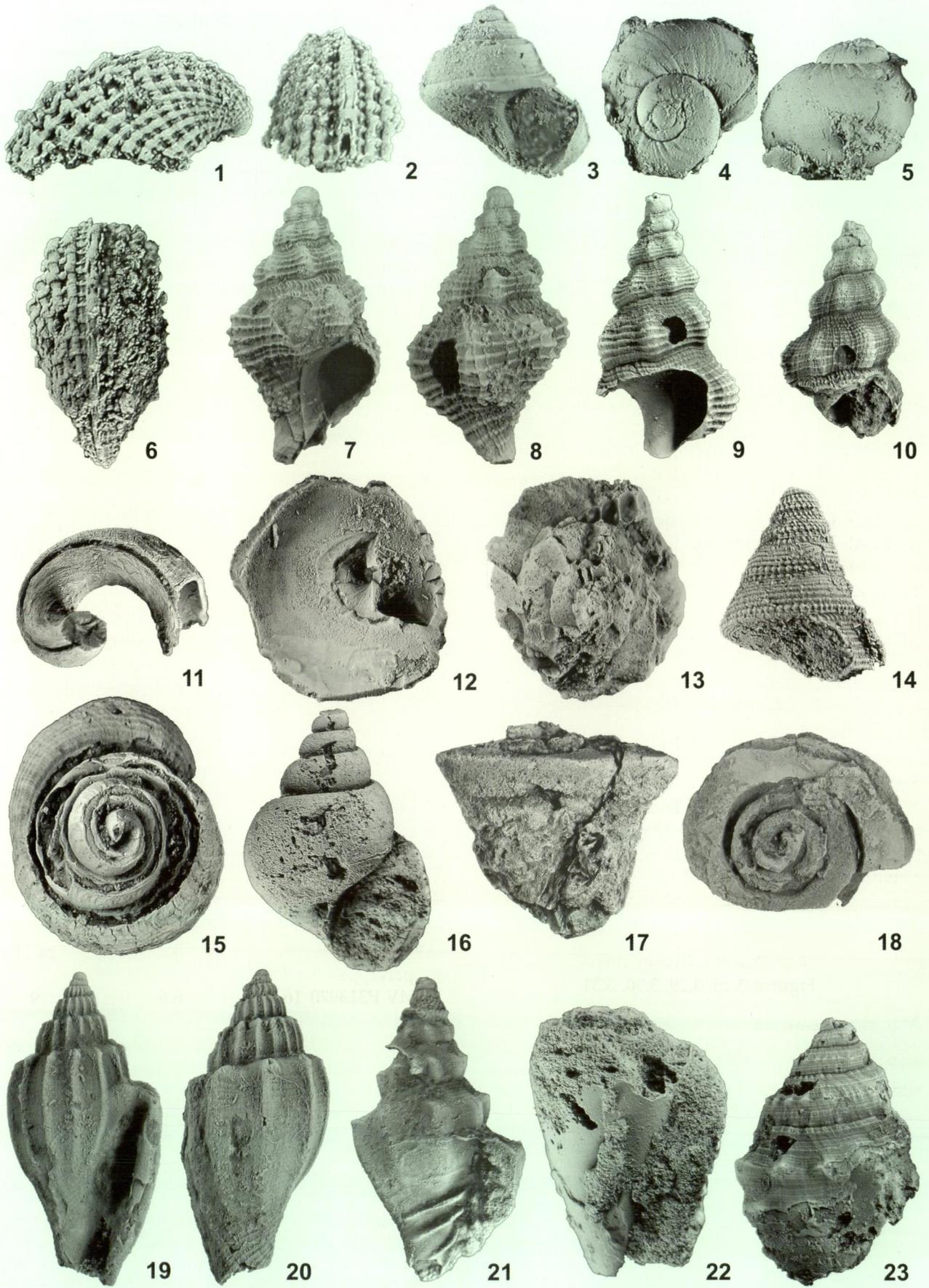
Genus *Calliostoma* Swainson, 1840**Subgenus *Fautor* Iredale, 1924*****Calliostoma (Fautor) sp. aff. numapum* Darragh and Kendrick, 2000**

Figure 2.14

Calliostoma (Fautor) numapum Darragh and Kendrick, 2000: 48, figure 7A

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.211).



Description

Small, juvenile, trochiform, higher than wide, spire angle 46°, lacking apical extremity, part of aperture and columella; whorls six, the last incomplete, initially slightly convex, becoming flattened with growth; sutures slightly channelled; sculpture of six narrow spiral threads per whorl, the basal two (i.e. above suture) rather more granose than others; two apical whorls show more radially aligned granulation than subsequently; basal sculpture of fine, close spiral threads.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 04.211	4.5	3.3	ca 6

Remarks

The single juvenile specimen to hand, lacking the full range of adult characters, nevertheless recalls *Calliostoma (Fautor) numapum* Darragh and Kendrick from the Pallinup Formation (Darragh and Kendrick 2000), to which it is clearly related. In comparison, the present species has a more acute spire and, as far as can be observed, a more granulate micro-sculpture.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Cerithiidae**Genus *Cerithium* Bruguière, 1789****Type species**

Cerithium adansonii Bruguière, 1792, by subsequent designation of Melville (1978, ICZN Opinion 1109) = *Cerithium erythraeonense* Lamarck, 1822 = *Cerithium nodulosum*. Bruguière, 1792 (= senior synonym, Houbrick, 1992).

***Cerithium wilya* sp. nov.**

Figures 3.28, 3.29, 3.30, 3.31

Material examined**Holotype**

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National

Park, 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri; ca. 1 km W of Junga Dam, surface float downslope and west of low ridge, map reference Kalbarri (1:100,000 series) 397260, 14–17 October 2005, T.A. Darragh and G.W. Kendrick (WAM 07.1).

Paratypes

Australia: Western Australia: 2 specimens, collected with holotype (WAM 04.218a, 07.2); 1 specimen, collected with holotype (NMV P313970).

Other material examined

Australia: Western Australia: all collected with holotype: 14 specimens (WAM 04.218); 5 specimens (WAM 05.189); 34 specimens (WAM 07.3); 36 specimens (NMV P313971). Total of 89 specimens.

Description

Small for genus, possibly immature; spire narrowly acuminate, subtending angle of 22°–25°; whorls of moderate convexity with well-defined sutures; whorls bear persistent varices, ten visible in about eight whorls. Sculpture of narrow, intervariceal radials, numbering seven to twelve between varices and overlain by up to 13 (on last whorl) narrow spirals of uneven spacing and prominence, of which the adapical seven are nodose at the rib intersections; spirals continuous over varices. Aperture invariably broken (crab predation), lacking anal canal; columella rounded, the margin (where retained) forming callus bordering parietal area; remnants of anterior siphonal canal occasionally retained (paratype 04.218a).

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.1	15.7	6.2	9
holotype			
WAM 07.2	14.2	5.0	8.3
paratype			
WAM 04.218a	17.8	5.3	ca 11
paratype			
NMV P313970	16.9	6.6	9
paratype			

These are actual shell measurements and counts. All are diminished due to loss of apices and damage to apertures (refer figures).

◀ **Figure 2** *Emarginula* sp., 1, 2, 6 WAM 04.210 all x 9.0. *Microelenchus (Plumbelenchus) armulatus* Darragh and Kendrick, 3 WAM 04.212 x 7.7. *Naticid* sp., 4, 5 WAM 04.219 x 7.0. *Murexsul* sp., 7, 8 WAM 07.13 x 3.8. *Dennantia aldingensis* (Tate), 9 WAM 04.223 x 3.0; 10 WAM 05.192 x 2.8. *Tenagodus* sp., 11 WAM 05.191a x 2.4; 15 WAM 07.9 x 4.3. *Xenophora* sp. cf. *X. tatei* Harris, 12, 13 WAM 05.200a x 2.5. *Calliostoma (Fautor)* sp. aff. *C.(F.) numapum* Darragh and Kendrick, 14 WAM 04.211 x 8.0. *Euspirocrommium* sp., 16 WAM 05.185 x 3.0. *Turbinellid?* sp., 17, 18 WAM 07.133 x 1.0. *Lyria lamellatoplicata* sp. nov., 19, 20 WAM 07.18 x 2.8, holotype. *Alcithoe (Waihaeia) pagodoides* (Tate), 21 WAM 07.16 x 2.0. *Conus?* sp., 22 WAM 05.199 x 3.0. *Galeodea* sp., 23 WAM 07.11 x 1.8.

Remarks

In form and sculpture, though not size, the present species somewhat recalls *Cerithium torresi* E.A. Smith, 1884, an extant species, without known fossil record, from the Indo-SW Pacific (Houbrick 1992: 185–189, figures 135–137). Species somewhat resembling this taxon, are recorded under the generic name *Ptychocerithium* Sacco, 1895, in the Tertiary of Europe (Cossmann 1906). We follow Houbrick (1992), who synonymised *Ptychocerithium* with *Cerithium*. *C. wilya* sp. nov. is one of the more common and characteristic species of the Kalbarri assemblage, inferior in numerical abundance only to a species of *Zeacolpus* (see below). Most specimens of both species are fragmentary and the apertures on most specimens have been peeled away, possibly by crabs. This appears to be the first record of this tropical-subtropical genus from the Eocene of Australia.

Etymology

The specific name is from the indigenous Nhandu vocabulary of the Lower Murchison district: *wilya*, a shell (Blevins 2001).

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Turritellidae

Genus *Zeacolpus* Finlay, 1926

Zeacolpus bartoni sp. nov.

Figures 3.8, 3.9, 3.10, 3.32

Material examined

Holotype

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri; ca. 1 km W of Junga Dam, surface float downslope and west of low ridge, map reference Kalbarri (1:100,000 series) 397260, 14–17 October 2005, T.A. Darragh and G.W. Kendrick (WAM 07.4).

Paratypes

Australia: Western Australia: 2 specimens, collected with holotype (WAM 07.5); 1 specimen (NMV P313972).

Other material examined

Australia: Western Australia: all collected with holotype: 30 specimens (WAM 04.213); 1 specimen (WAM 04.214); 198 specimens (WAM 04.215); 17 specimens (WAM 05.186); 173 specimens (WAM 07.6); 158 specimens (NMV P313973). Total of 577 specimens.

Description

Shell of average size for genus; whorls slightly rounded, tending to flatten anteriorly on larger specimens. Sutures linear, slightly impressed, in particular on early whorls, becoming shallowly recessed with growth; spire angle of 20°. Sculpture of 9–13 fine spiral lirae, becoming stronger anteriorly, about as wide as interspaces, some weakly granose where crossed by sinuate, colabral growth striae and increasing by intercalation; second spiral adapical to suture usually the most prominent. Larger specimens develop up to 18 spiral lirae per whorl.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.4 holotype	20.8	7.1	7
WAM 07.5a paratype	15.8	5.5	10
NMV P313972 paratype	24.6	6.9	9

None of the above retains either apex or intact aperture.

Remarks

Zeacolpus bartoni is by far the most common mollusc species recovered from the Kalbarri Eocene but, despite this, no intact, undamaged specimen is known. Apices have been retained on several specimens but no aperture has survived, probably as a consequence of crab predation. Abrasion is a feature of early whorls where present.

Spiracolpus aldingae (Tate, 1882), the only other large turritellid known from the Australian Eocene (Darragh 1985), has fewer lirae than the present species, including a prominent, beaded lira at mid-whorl. The genus *Zeacolpus* is well represented (Eocene-Recent) in New Zealand (Marwick 1971). Of the congener species from there, *Z. bartoni* most resembles the Late Eocene *Z. lornensis* (Marwick) but has more and finer lirae.

Eleven specimens (WAM 04.217, 05.188, 07.8, NMV P314040) in the study material are, for the present, distinguished from *Zeacolpus bartoni* because of their flattened whorls and reduced spire angle (14°) (Figure 3.10). Though rather worn, the sculpture is similar to that of *Z. bartoni*, of which they may prove to be an extreme variant.

Etymology

This species is named for Mr David Barton of Kalbarri in recognition of his discovery of the fossils and his generosity in presenting his collection to the Western Australian Museum.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Siliquariidae

Genus *Tenagodus* Guettard, 1770*Tenagodus* sp.

Figures 2.11, 2.15

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 3 specimens (WAM 04.220); 5 specimen (WAM 05.191); 1 specimen (WAM 07.9); 9 specimens (WAM 07.10); 9 specimens (NMV P313974). Total of 27 specimens.

Description

Shell tubular, loosely dextrally coiled, early whorls somewhat planispiral, becoming irregularly twisted; sculptured with irregular, close-set, longitudinal, weakly beaded ribs, crossed in places by very fine commarginal growth striae. Longitudinal slit present with series of holes along length, often infilled with secondary silica.

Dimensions

WAM 05.191a.

Maximum diameter is 3.5–4.4 mm.

WAM 07.9.

Maximum diameter is 10.4 mm. Height 11 mm. Whorls 3.5.

Remarks

All specimens in the study material are fragmentary and some remain enclosed within sponges, as all probably were in life. Very similar, if not identical, specimens of *Tenagodus*, often preserved within sponges, are common in the Pallinup Formation of North Walpole (Darragh and Kendrick 1980, 2000) and await detailed study. This material from Western Australia is very similar to specimens of *Tenagodus* from the Early Miocene Freestone Cove Sandstone at Wynyard, Tasmania. *T. oclusus* (Tenison Woods, 1877) from the latter locality was stated not to have a punctured slit and it is unclear as to whether this was because of the poor preservation of the type specimen or because of a valid difference from specimens commonly occurring there, which do have a series of holes along the slit. Because the status of *Tenagodus oclusus* remains in need of clarification, we prefer to utilise open nomenclature for the present species.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene. **Bremer Basin?:** Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene.

Family Xenophoridae

Genus *Xenophora* Fischer, 1807*Xenophora* sp. cf. *tatei* Harris, 1897

Figures 2.12, 2.13

Xenophora (Tugurium) tatei Harris, 1897, p. 254, plate 7, figures 7a, b.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 2 specimens (WAM 05.200).

Description

Shell small, possibly juvenile, trochiform, wider than high, whorls convex, few, enlarging rapidly, stepped and scalloped where not overlain by attached and other detritus; spire angle ca 90°; periphery extended, abraded; base concave, shallowly perforate, umbilical depression finely radially striate within incised circumbilical groove.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 05.200a	10.0	16.7	5+

Remarks

Occurrences of species of *Xenophora* from the Australian Eocene are very rare, none having been recorded from the long-studied assemblages of that age in Victoria and South Australia. However the present species is very similar to a single specimen from the Pallinup Formation at North Walpole, which bears a close resemblance to the common Middle Miocene *Xenophora tatei*. This material is to be the subject of a future study.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene. **Bremer Basin?:** Pallinup Formation, Late Eocene.

Family Naticidae

Naticid, genus and species undetermined

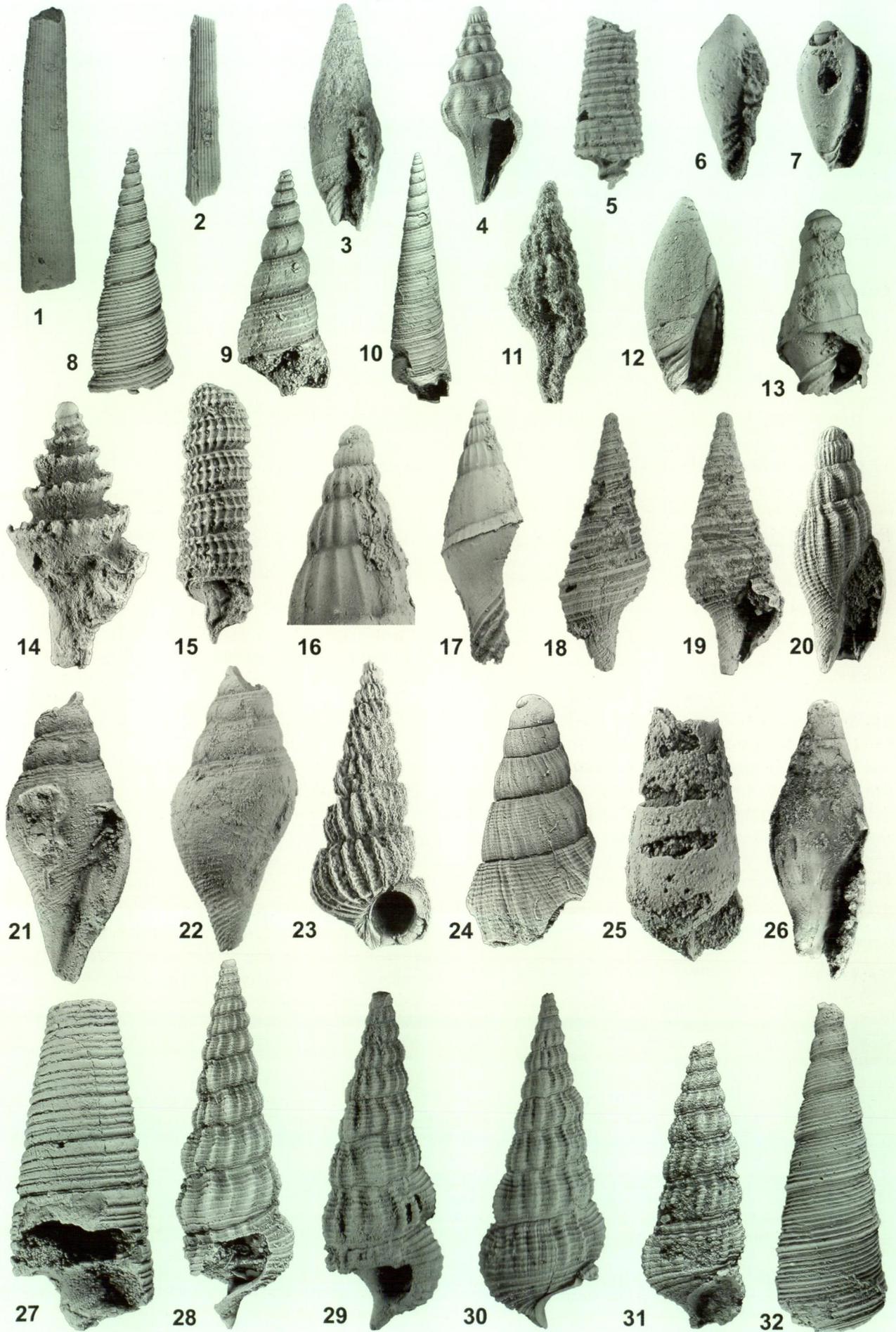
Figures 2.4, 2.5

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.219).

Description

Shell small, probably juvenile, with aperture and base obscured by matrix. Low spired, globose, wider than high, with convexly rounded whorls, smooth apart from short, colabral, axial costellae below the suture.



Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 04.219	3.3	4.1	3.3

Remarks

What can be seen of this small specimen bears a close resemblance to *Friginatica aldingensis* (Tate, 1893) from the Late Eocene Blanche Point Formation (Ludbrook 1973, plate 25, figures 57, 58) and also common in the Pallinup Formation of North Walpole (WAM collection).

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Euspirocrommium* Sacco, 1890***Euspirocrommium* sp.**

Figure 2.16

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 05.185).

Description

Small for genus, with elevated, gradate spire, evenly and convexly rounded whorls and incised, channelled sutures; apex missing, spire angle of 60°. Base narrowly perforate with shallow umbilicus; aperture higher than wide, outer lip broken, as is narrow extension of columella over part of umbilicus. Whorls appear to be smooth but under magnification, seen to bear very fine, crowded colabral and spiral micro-striae, extending to the umbilical area.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 05.185	16.3	11.5	4.6+

Remarks

This unique specimen from Kalbarri presents a

more gradate spire, slightly stronger sculpture and more widely channelled suture when compared with its only known Australian congener—*Euspirocrommium effusa* (Tate, 1893)—from the Late Eocene Blanche Point and Browns Creek Formations of the St Vincent and Otway Basins respectively. It somewhat resembles *E. levesquei* (d'Orbigny) from the Eocene of the Paris Basin.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Cassidae**Genus *Galeodea* Link, 1807*****Galeodea* sp.**

Figure 2.23

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (poorly preserved) (WAM 07.11).

Description

Spire moderately elevated with convex, sub-gradate whorls; sculpture of numerous, mostly narrow, spiral threads of variable width and spacing, with prominent axial plicae at a weak mid-whorl shoulder; subordinate sculpture of very fine, close, axial striae between and overlying the spirals. Apex and aperture missing.

Dimensions

	Height	Width	No. whorls
WAM 07.11	25	16	4+

Remarks

From what remains, the specimen bears a close resemblance to those of an undescribed species from the Late Eocene Browns Creek Formation and Early Oligocene Glen Aire Clay of the Otway Basin (Museum Victoria collection).

- ◀ **Figure 3** *Dentalium* (*Fissidentalium*) *mawsoni* Ludbrook, 1 WAM 05.201a, fragment x 2.0; 2 WAM 05.201b, fragment x 2.0. *Gemmoliva adelaidae* (Tate), 3 WAM 07.135 x 4. *Mauidrillia* sp. cf. *M. aldingensis* Powell, 4 WAM 07.30 x 5.0. *Notoseila* sp., 5 WAM 04.216 x 1.8; 27 WAM 05.187 x 4.1. *Marginella* sp. A, 6 WAM 04.224 x 4.7. *Marginella* sp. B, 7 WAM 05.195 x 5.0. *Zeacolpus bartoni* sp. nov., 8 WAM 07.5 x 3.0, paratype; 9 WAM 04.215 x 7.7, paratype; 32 WAM 07.4 x 3.0, holotype, *Zeacolpus* sp. 10 WAM 07.8 x 3.0. *Broccchitas?* sp., 11 WAM 07.15 x 5.5. *Gracilispira* sp. cf. *G. ligata* (Tate), 12 WAM 07.22 x 4.0. *Notovoluta capitonica* Darragh, 13 WAM 05.198 x 2.6. *Cochlespira* sp., 14 WAM 07.23 x 5.0. *Cerithiella* sp., 15 WAM 05.190 x 4.8. *Notopeplum prorhysum* (Tate), WAM 05.193 x 3.0; 16 x 3.0, 17 x 2.0. *Gemmula?* sp., 18, 19 WAM 06.191 x 3.0. *Parasyngenchilus* sp. cf. *P. angustior* Long, 20 WAM 07.24 x 5.0. *Conorbis* sp., 21, 22 WAM 07.29 x 3.0. *Cirsotrema* sp. aff. *C. pleiophylla* (Tate), 23 WAM 04.221 x 4.0. Mitrid sp. A, 24 WAM 05.194 x 5.7. *Margineulima?* sp., 25 WAM 07.134 x 7.0. Mitrid sp. B, 26 WAM 07.28 x 1.5. *Cerithium wilya* sp. nov., 28 WAM 04.218a x 4.0, paratype; 29, 30 WAM 07.1 x 4.5, holotype; 31 WAM 07.2 x 3.9, paratype.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Cerithiopsidae**Genus *Notoseila* Finlay, 1926**

Notoseila sp.
Figures 3.5, 3.27

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.216); 2 specimens (WAM 05.187). Total of three specimens, all fragmentary.

Description

Spire whorls flat. Sculpture of spiral lirae, number increasing by intercalation with growth; early whorls with four broad lirae, some crenulated; at diameter of three mm, two lirae adjacent to sutures are widest, others (two) narrower, ribbon-like; at diameter six mm, lirae adjacent sutures are widest, others (four) narrower. Aperture with one strong columellar plait, otherwise not retained; apex missing.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter
WAM 04.216	8.8	3.3
WAM 05.187	16.2	7.2

All specimens are fragmentary.

Remarks

Meaningful comparison with other taxa awaits the collection of better preserved specimens from Kalbarri.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Cerithiella* Verrill, 1882

Cerithiella sp.
Figure 3.15

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 2 specimens (WAM 04.219); 1 specimen (WAM 05.190); 1 specimen (NMV P313975). Total of four specimens.

Description

All specimens are fragmentary. Sculpture comprises three prominent, well spaced spiral lirae, crossed by about 27 thin axial costae, which form

small tubercles at the intersection with the spirals. Base with one thin spiral below plane of sutural attachment, within which are about eight, faint, close radial costellae. Siphonal canal twisted. Apex and most of aperture missing.

Dimensions

	Height	Max.diameter
WAM 05.190	10.2	3.2

This, the figured specimen, retains five whorls.

Remarks

No specimen known from the Pallinup Formation, Bremer Basin, resembles this species, which may be new.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Epitoniidae**Genus *Cirsotrema* Mörch, 1852*****Cirsotrema* sp. aff. *pleiophylla* (Tate, 1890)**

Scalaria (*Cirsotrema*) *pleiophylla* Tate, 1890: 231; Tate, 1892, plate 12, figure 1.
Figure 3.23

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.221).

Description

Shell of normal size for genus with 17 lamellate, frilled, axial costae on last whorl and about nine very fine, intercostal spirals on the spire whorls and about 12+ on the last whorl. Base with a spiral rib at the plane of sutural attachment; aperture sub-circular, slightly higher than wide; columella expanded, merging with a low, weak, spiral rib. Apical whorls missing.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 04.221	14.1	5.5	8+

Remarks

Intercostal sculpture on the single specimen to hand is partly obscured so that counts of the spiral lirae are approximate only. It is similar to specimens of *Cirsotrema pleiophylla* from the Late Eocene Blanche Point Formation (St Vincent Basin) and Browns Creek Clay (Otway Basin) but seems to have more numerous and finer lirae and slightly fewer costae per whorl. At the time of writing, no

congenor species is known from the Pallinup Formation (Bremer Basin).

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Eulimidae

Genus *Margineulima* Cossmann, 1888

Margineulima? sp.

Figure 3.25

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.134).

Description

The specimen retains less than three whorls, which are flat and probably smooth; base imperforate; aperture poorly preserved, columella slightly curved with a small reflexed callus.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.134	6.9	3.0	<3

Remarks

This poorly preserved, single specimen does little more than establish the presence of the family in the study material.

Confirmation of its generic identity awaits the collection of better preserved specimens. It differs from the widely distributed (geographical and stratigraphical) *Margineulima danae* (Tenison Woods, 1879) from southern Australia in its narrower spire angle and imperforate base.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Turbinellidae

Turbinellid, genus and species undetermined

Figures 2.17, 2.18

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.133).

Description

The single specimen to hand is a much weathered, internal mould, retaining a few shell remnants. It

indicates a shell of possible turbinellid form with low, flattened spire, angulate shoulder and extended, tapering last whorl; aperture narrow, the columella bearing (from moulds) two strong plaits on anterior half; base possibly narrowly imperforate.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.133	39.5	43.6	4.5+

Remarks

Despite its conoid shape, a location for this unique specimen in the family Conidae seems most unlikely, due to the apparent presence of two columellar plaits. A tudicine or vasinine affinity for the species seems likely, subject to the collection of further specimens. Neither of these subfamilies is presently known from the Australian Eocene.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Muricidae

Genus *Murexsul* Iredale, 1915

Murexsul sp.

Figures 2.7, 2.8

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: One complete specimen and one fragment (WAM 07.13); 1 specimen (NMV P313976). Total of three specimens.

Description

Small for genus, fusiform, spire equal to half height. Protoconch large, rounded, smooth, of about 1.5 whorls. Spire whorls convex, gradate, bearing broad axial costae, six on last whorl, seven on penultimate whorl; costae overlain with scaled spiral lirae, 12 on last whorl and five on penultimate whorl; scales present where lirae crossed by prominent growth lines. Outer lip broken; canal short, strongly twisted.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.13a	13.3	7.6	5.5

Remarks

The species bears some resemblance to *Murexsul prionotus* (Tate, 1888) from the Late Eocene Blanche Point Formation (St Vincent Basin) but lacks the foliaceous costae of that species. A congenor, somewhat similar but possibly of a distinct species,

occurs in the Pallinup Formation at North Walpole (WAM collection).

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Brocchitas* Finlay, 1927

Brocchitas? sp.

Figure 3.11

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.15).

Description

Shell small, probably less than fully mature, fusiform. Protoconch acute, smooth, of about 1.5 whorls. Teleoconch of three whorls with prominent axial costae, about ten per whorl and 20 spiral lirae on last whorl; canal long, slightly twisted. Aperture broken.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.15	7.4	2.7*	ca 5

*probably larger on intact aperture

Remarks

The genus *Brocchitas* has been recorded hitherto only from the Middle Miocene of South Australia and Victoria (Tate, 1888, and Museum Victoria Collection) and the specimen from Kalbarri, which is less than well-preserved is referred to that genus with some reservations. Compared with *B. exilis* (Tate, 1888), type species of *Brocchitas*, the present species has a smaller, more acute protoconch, more axial costae and more spiral lirae on the last whorl. An ancestral relationship to *B. exilis* seems possible, to be clarified from the collection of further material.

No comparable specimen is known from the Pallinup Formation, Bremer Basin.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Fascioliariidae

Genus *Dennantia* Tate, 1888

Dennantia aldingensis (Tate, 1888)

Figures 2.9, 2.10

Peristernia aldingensis Tate, 1888: 156, plate 8, figure 8a-b.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 3 specimens (WAM 04.222); 1 specimen (WAM 04.223); 1 specimen (WAM 05.192); 4 specimens (WAM 07.14); 3 specimens (NMV P313977). Total of 12 specimens.

Description

Size average for genus, fusiform with strongly convex whorls. Protoconch of two smooth whorls, the first deviated from shell axis. Axial sculpture of prominent, broad costae, six to eight on last whorl, crossed by 18-20 fine, spiral lirae (last whorl). Inner lip finely liriate.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 04.222	16.0	9.4	6+
WAM 05.192	14.1	13.3	5+

Remarks

All specimens in the study material are broken, either apically or at the aperture or both but taken together they agree in morphology with topotypes of *Dennantia aldingensis*. The species is not uncommon in the Pallinup Formation at North Walpole and elsewhere (WAM Collection). Specimen WAM 05.192 has what appears to be a circular, naticiform?, borehole on the last whorl (Figure 2.10).

Occurrence

Late Eocene of **Otway Basin, St Vincent Basin** (type), **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Volutidae

Genus *Alcithoe* H. and A. Adams, 1853

Subgenus *Waihaoia* Marwick, 1926

Alcithoe (Waihaoia) pagodoides (Tate, 1888)

Figure 2.21

Voluta pagodoides Tate, 1888: 176, plate 13, figure 7; Tate, 1889: 132.

Alcithoe (Waihaoia) pagodoides (Tate): Darragh 1989: 239, plate 12, figures 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 17.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.225); 3 specimens (WAM 05.197); 1 specimen (WAM 07.16); 8 specimens (WAM 07.17); 8 specimens (NMV P313986). Total of 21 specimens, mostly fragmentary.

Description

Shell of less than mature size, fusiform, with turreted, gradate spire; anterior fifth missing. Protoconch smooth, of two whorls, aligned with shell axis; first teleoconch whorl with ca 12 axial costellae and thin, spiral lirae; axials subsequently form sharp tubercles on angulate shoulders of whorls; tubercles number eight on last whorl; spirals weaken with growth, absent after ca 6.5 whorls. Columella with four strong plaits and one weaker, posterior plait.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.16	28.0	15.5*	7

* aperture broken

Remarks

Alcithoe (Waihaoia) pagodoides is extremely variable in morphology, both geographically and stratigraphically (Darragh 1989), the present specimens from Kalbarri being of comparatively squat form, compared with those from the eastern extremity of its range, i.e., Victoria.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Browns Creek Formation. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation (type). **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation. **South Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene. Late Eocene – Late Oligocene.

Genus *Notovoluta* Cotton, 1946***Notovoluta capitonica* Darragh, 1989**
Figure 3.13

Notovoluta capitonica Darragh, 1989: 218, plate 3, figures 8, 11, 12, 15; plate 27, figures 1, 4.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 05.198).

Description

Specimen comprises the adapical part of a probable juvenile or immature shell. Protoconch turbinata, of about three convex whorls, slightly wider than first teleoconch whorl. About 2½ slender teleoconch whorls, gradually forming low axial costae, on which weak plicae develop at a little above mid-whorl; spire profile almost straight; by fourth whorl, fine, close, spiral lirae extend between sutures, passing over axial costae and plicae. Four columella plaits present. Aperture missing.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 05.198	13.0	6.5	5 ½

Remarks

Though comprising only the protoconch and several early whorls of the teleoconch, sufficient characters remain on this specimen to make comparison with topotypes of *Notovoluta capitonica*, which it matches very closely.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Browns Creek Formation (type). **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation. Late Eocene. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Notopeplum* Finlay, 1927***Notopeplum prorhysum* (Tate, 1889)**
Figures 3.16, 3.17

Voluta prorhysa Tate, 1889: 126, plate 2, figures 6a, b.

Notopeplum prorhysum (Tate): Darragh 1989: 256, 257, plate 25, figures 7, 10, 11, figure 31.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 05.193).

Description

Shell small, immature, without last whorl and anterior extremity as if from crab peeling. Protoconch worn; first teleoconch whorl bears numerous, fine, close, axial costellae, persisting and becoming spaced on subsequent three whorls, then fading. Columella with four strong and one thin plaits, with several faint spirals, fading adapically.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 05.193	25.4	8.3	ca 6

All dimensions are less than the original

Remarks

The single specimen is very close in morphology to Tate's figured specimen from the Kent Town Bore, Adelaide.

Occurrence

Otway Basin: Browns Creek Formation. **St Vincent Basin:** Blanche Point Formation (type). **Bremer Basin:** Pallinup Formation. **Southern Carnarvon Basin:** unnamed sandstone. Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Lyria* Gray, 1847*Lyria lamellatoplicata* sp. nov.

Figures 2.19, 2.20

Material examined

Holotype

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri; ca. 1 km W of Junga Dam, surface float downslope and west of low ridge, map reference Kalbarri (1:100,000 series) 397260, 14–17 October 2005, T.A. Darragh and G.W. Kendrick (WAM 07.18).

Paratypes

Australia: Western Australia: 1 specimen, collected with holotype (WAM 07.19); 1 specimen, collected with holotype (NMV P313987).

Other material examined

Australia: Western Australia: all collected with holotype: 1 specimen (WAM 05.196); 3 specimens (WAM 07.20); 4 specimens (NMV P313988). Total of 11 specimens.

Description

Shell small for the genus, possibly immature. Protoconch of 1.5 whorls, the first deviated about 45° from shell axis. Teleoconch of about five gradate whorls with high, narrow whorl shoulder. Axial sculpture of thin, sharp, almost plate-like costae extending from suture to suture, 14 on penultimate whorl, 11 on last whorl, interspaces much wider than costae. Spiral sculpture of numerous, weak threads extending over all teleoconch whorls. Aperture narrow, elongate, outer lip thickened; columella with two to five strong plaits with occasionally one or two weaker plaits present.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.18 holotype	19.9	9.8	6
WAM 07.19 paratype	18.8	9.4	3.5+
NMV P313987 paratype	18.2	8.2	5

All specimens are broken

Remarks

The species bears no close resemblance to any other known congener from Australia. It bears a superficial similarity to *Lyria branderi* (Deshayes, 1835) from the Eocene of the Paris Basin but differs in that the costae of the last whorl are much more widely spaced and much narrower than on the latter. No species of *Lyria* is as yet

known from the Eocene strata of southeastern Australia but an undescribed congener is present in the Pallinup Formation of the Bremer Basin (WAM Collection).

Etymology

The specific name is from the Latin *lamellata*, and *plica*, a fold, referring to the lamella-like costae.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Olividae

Genus *Gemmoliva* Iredale, 1924*Gemmoliva* sp. cf. *G. adelaidae* (Tate, 1889)

Figure 3.3

Olivia adelaidae Tate, 1889: 145, plate 8, figure 6.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.135).

Description

Shell small, of average size for species, spire and aperture partly obscured by matrix. Spire whorls flattened, sutures narrowly channelled, spire half total height, spire angle 30°, narrowly elongate; columella with three strong plaits set on callus; last whorl with anteriorly located spiral band bordered by narrow, incised lines, which extend onto parietal area as two narrow, spaced threads. Apex rounded, smooth.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.135	10.9	3.6	6

Remarks

The single specimen from Kalbarri is more elongate and has a more narrowly channelled suture than those of *Gemmoliva adelaidae* from the Browns Creek and Blanche Point Formations.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Gracilispira* Olson, 1956*Gracilispira* sp. cf. *G. ligata* (Tate, 1889)

Figure 3.12

Ancillaria ligata Tate, 1889: 147, plate 7, figure 6.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.22).

Description

Shell small for species, immature. Spire flattened, equal to half total height, sutures weakly apparent; apex bluntly rounded. Columella with four close plaits; broad spiral band at anterior extremity enters aperture adapical to plaits.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.22	9.5	3.7	6

Remarks

The single specimen is close to Tate's species but is more tumid than others of similar size from the Blanche Point (type) and Browns Creek Formations.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Turridae**Genus *Cochlespira* Conrad, 1865*****Cochlespira* sp.**

Figure 3.14

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.23).

Description

Shell fusiform with strongly gradate spire, whorls channelled below sutures and with a strong peripheral rim, bearing low, subspinose plicae, numbering ca 20 on last whorl. Aperture concealed by matrix, anterior canal broken, remnant with six close, spiral lirae; several weak spirals on parietal area of last whorl. Protoconch smooth, worn, of 1+ whorls, first teleoconch whorl with fine, close axial costellae.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.23	10.3	5.5	ca 7

Remarks

The single Kalbarri specimen is slightly larger than those of *Cochlespira semiplana* (Powell, 1944) from the Browns Creek and Blanche Point (type) Formations. It is also more gradate and lacks the prominent lira present on the last whorl of the latter species.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Parasyngenchilus* Long, 1981***Parasyngenchilus* sp. cf. *P. angustior* Long, 1981**

Figure 3.20

Parasyngenchilus angustior Long, 1981: 50, plate 7, figure.17.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.24); 1 specimen (NMV P313989). Total of two specimens.

Description

Shell elongate-fusiform with blunt apex. Protoconch smooth, paucispiral, of about 1.5 whorls. First teleoconch whorl with fine, close, axial costellae, subsequently becoming more spaced and overlain by fine, close spiral lirae, extending from suture to suture and continuous over axials; one stronger, composite spiral formed anterior of suture and is bordered by a shallow spiral depression; last whorl with 18 low axial costae of unequal strength and spacing, some composite; spiral lirae continuous over last whorl and extending onto anterior canal, tip of which is broken. Columella slightly callused with several faint, ascending spiral lirae.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.24	9.3	3.4	5

Remarks

The figured specimen is well-preserved apart from a broken anterior canal and infilled aperture; the second specimen to hand, though of inferior preservation, attains a height of 12.5 mm. Of the species of *Parasyngenchilus* recorded from the Late Eocene-Early Oligocene of the Otway and St Vincent Basins, the present species, most resembles *P. angustior*, differing in its more ill-defined shoulder and fewer, more regular and more evenly spaced lirae. The genus also occurs in the Late Eocene to Late Oligocene of New Zealand (Long, 1981: 50). No congener is as yet known from the Pallinup Formation, Bremer Basin.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Gemmula* Weinkauff, 1876*Gemmula?* sp.

Figures 3.18, 3.19

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 06.191); 1 fragmentary specimen (NMV P314038). Total of two specimens.

Description

Shell somewhat worn, acuminate-fusiform, spire ca two thirds total height. Protoconch of ca 1.5 whorls, slightly deviated; teleoconch whorls spirally lirated throughout with a weakly gemmulate peripheral keel at about mid-whorl; between keel and adapical suture are one relatively prominent and three or four very fine spiral lirae; anterior of keel are two relatively prominent lirae on spire whorls and three on last whorl, with additional very fine lirae between them; fine spirals continue across base and onto anterior canal, the extremity of which is missing. Outer lip of aperture broken, with remnant of posterior canal present.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 06.191	16.5*	6.1	ca 8

*anterior canal broken

Remarks

No congener similar to this specimen from Kalbarri is known from the Eocene of southern Australia. The species has some resemblance to some Recent Indo-Southwest Pacific species of *Gemmula* such as *G. speciosa* (Reeve, 1833) and *G. kieneri* (Doumet, 1840).

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Mauadrillia* Powell, 1942*Mauadrillia* sp. cf. *M. aldingensis* Powell, 1944

Figure 3.4

Mauadrillia aldingensis Powell, 1944: 36, plate 4, figure 6.

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.30).

Description

Shell small, fusiform with convex, weakly shouldered whorls; protoconch domed, smooth, of

1.5 whorls, slightly deviated; first teleoconch whorl with close, axial costellae, gradually becoming spaced to form low, rounded, axial costae of unequal prominence and confined to abapical portion of whorl; aperture with stronger varix; axials overlain by fine spiral lirae, ca 10 on penultimate whorl and extending (last whorl) onto anterior canal; a weak, subsutural spiral present between costae and adapical suture; aperture broken, columella smooth with weak parietal callosity; tip of anterior canal broken.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.30	7.4	3.1	6.3

Remarks

The single specimen in the study material has somewhat more tumid whorls and a more elongate canal, compared with topotypes of *Mauadrillia aldingensis* from the Blanche Point Formation of the St Vincent Basin. No congener is as yet known from the Pallinup Formation of the Bremer Basin.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Marginellidae

Genus *Marginella* Lamarck, 1799

Remarks

The few specimens of this family and genus and their inferior preservation inhibit detailed comparison with taxa from other Australian Eocene sources, except to observe that somewhat similar specimens, all awaiting study, have been collected from the Pallinup Formation, Bremer Basin.

Marginella sp. A

Figure 3.6

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 04.224); 1 specimen (WAM 07.136); 1 specimen (NMV P314039). Total of three specimens.

Description

Shell biconic, spire elevated, tapered anteriorly; four strong, oblique, columellar plaits. Aperture and much of last whorl missing.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter
WAM 04.224	6.6	2.7

Remarks

Specimen WAM 07.136 has four oblique, columellar plaits and a small, fifth horizontal plait. This species is rather more ventricose than *Marginella* sp. B.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed silicified sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

***Marginella* sp. B**

Figure 3.7

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 05.195).

Description

Shell subcylindrical with short spire and bluntly rounded apex; two strong, anteriorly located, oblique columellar plaits; inner lip (aperture) finely denticulate.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter
WAM 05.195	5.7	2.3

Remarks

This species is relatively elongate and subcylindrical compared with *Marginella* sp. A.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Mitridae**Remarks**

No generic assignment is attempted for two species of this family represented in the study material, pending the collection of further specimens.

Mitrid, sp. A

Figure 3.24

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 fragmentary specimen (WAM 05.194).

Description

A fragmentary shell of mitrid form, retaining the apical five whorls and part of the sixth. Protoconch large, paucispiral, of 1.1 whorls, the tip immersed.

First teleoconch whorl convex, smooth, developing weak, low, axial costellae and subsequently fine, close, spiral threads extending from suture to suture; axial threads remain low, weak, of irregular strength and spacing; columella with four strong spiral plaits, ascending within.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 05.194	9.8	6.1	6
Specimen fragmentary			

Remarks

What remains of this otherwise well-preserved specimen suggests a superficial resemblance to species of the genus *Eumitra* Tate, 1889. There are no known taxa elsewhere in the Australian Eocene similar to the present species. Differs from the associated *Mitrid* sp. B in its narrower spire, sculptured whorls and stronger plaits.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Mitrid, sp. B

Figure 3.26

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.28).

Description

Shell missing apical portion and apertural part of last whorl, including anterior canal; partially encrusted with secondary silica. Spire about equal to half height, whorls slightly convex and slightly stepped at suture, without evident axial or spiral sculpture; columella with four weak, spaced, low, rounded plaits, callosity low, weak.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter
WAM 07.28	36.3	13.3
Specimen broken		

Remarks

Differs from the associated *Mitrid* sp. A in its greater diameter relative to height, absence of sculpture and weak, spaced columellar plaits. There is no taxon at present known similar to this from the Australian Eocene.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Family Conidae

Genus *Conus* Linnaeus, 1758*Conus?* sp.

Figure 2.22

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 05.199).

Description

Internal mould of a low-spired, biconic shell retaining a few shell remnants of last whorl, partly overlain by secondary silica; columella smooth; apparent low spiral sculpture visible on last whorl through silica overlay.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter
WAM 05.199	16.4	12.0

Remarks

Generic identity of this specimen derives from the biconic shape of the internal mould and the absence of any trace of columellar plaits. An unidentified species of *Conus*, currently awaiting study, has been collected from the Pallinup Formation (Bremer Basin). Its relationship to the present species is unclear. No species of *Conus* is known from the Eocene of southeastern Australia.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

Genus *Conorbis* Swainson, 1840*Conorbis* sp.

Figures 3.21, 3.22

Material examined

Australia: Western Australia: Kalbarri National Park, ca. 19.5 km ESE. of Kalbarri: 1 specimen (WAM 07.29).

Description

Shell of medium size for genus, lacking apical and anterior extremities and apertural outer lip. Biconic, whorls slightly convex, weakly shouldered at mid-whorl and slightly recessed sutures; anterior canal (broken) probably a little attenuated. Sculpture fine, spiral only, concentrated below sutures; on last whorl, mostly on anterior half, continuous onto canal and across columella and parietal area. Aperture elongate, outer lip broken.

Dimensions

	Height	Max. diameter	No. whorls
WAM 07.29	18.5	8.1	3+

Specimen broken

Remarks

Species of *Conorbis* are known from the Late Eocene of Victoria and South Australia (Long, 1981). The present specimen, though poorly preserved, is unlike these, having a slightly attenuated canal and a slight shoulder to the whorls. No congener is as yet known from the Pallinup Formation.

Occurrence

Southern Carnarvon Basin: unnamed sandstone, Middle-Late Eocene.

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