

Book review

SCHULTZ, O., 2005. *Bivalvia neogenica* (Solenoida-Clavagelloidea). *Catalogus Fossilium Austriae* 1(3), pp. i-v, 691-1212, figs. 9-60, 2 maps, pls 96-152. Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wien (ISBN 3-7001-3499-1). Price € 248.-.

Tables of contents and sample pages of all three volumes are freely accessible on the World Wide Web: <http://hw.oeaw.ac.at/3499-1>.

With this third volume, Dr Ortwin Schultz concludes his 'masterpiece' on Austrian Neogene bivalves. In sheer size and weight, this part equals the two earlier parts taken together. It has a similarly attractive cover as the first two volumes.

There is just one page (p. v) with corrections and additional references. The systematic part, started in volume 1, continues from pp. 691 to 1067, and deals with the superfamilies Solenoidea (pp. 691-699), Tellinoidea (pp. 699-757), Dreissenoida (pp. 757-829), Arcticoidea (pp. 829-842), Corbiculoidea (pp. 842-850), Veneroidea (pp. 850-983), Myoidea (pp. 984-1003), Gastrochaenoidea (pp. 1003-1008), Hiatelloidea (pp. 1008-1018), Pholadoidea (pp. 1018-1034), Pholadomyoidea (pp. 1034-1042), Pandoroidea (pp. 1042-1052), Poromyoidea (pp. 1052-1057) and Clavagelloidea (pp. 1057-1060). It concludes with an appendix of various unidentifiable bivalves (pp. 1061-1067).

The 56 plates of black-and-white photographs (taken by Mrs Alice Schuhmacher, of the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien) are of the same excellent quality as in the first two volumes. In particular, the numerous photographs of all type and illustrated specimens of *Dreissena*, *Mytilopsis* and *Congeria*, so typical of central Paratethys assemblages, are really a great help and a prerequisite for anyone working in that area, both at the present day and for many years to come!

An extensive locality register is given on pp. 1069-1126. For more than 2,000 names of sites in sedimentary basins within Austria, Greenwich co-ordinates (in *italics* wherever known in detail) and chronostratigraphic age are given, as well as page numbers where these localities are referred to in the systematic part, inclusive of frequent cross references. Page numbers are underlined in the case of type localities. This makes this register into a never-ending source of information. Two maps of Austrian sedimentary basins and some of the most important localities are given on pp. 1127 and 1128.

This volume concludes with a comprehensive listing of all taxa referred to in the systematic part, as well as all synonyms. A taxon such as *Glans* (*Centrocardita*) *aculeata rhomboidea* can be found under both species group names *aculeata* and *rhomboidea*, but not under the genus group names. For valid taxa and names in headings, the page numbers are given in bold. I checked out a number of names and found no omissions. An indication for the accuracy with which these indices were composed is that in each case not only the page number is given, but even the column (left or right, indicated with /1 or /2) on that page.

Over six kilogrammes of data are available now to the scientific world! My two earlier reviews of parts 1 and 2 ended with an expression of my admiration – here I shall refrain from repeating myself, but ... I can hear him breathe a sigh of relief ... it's done!

So, all I wish to say now is 'Dr Ortwin Schultz: *chapeau* !'

Arie W. Janssen