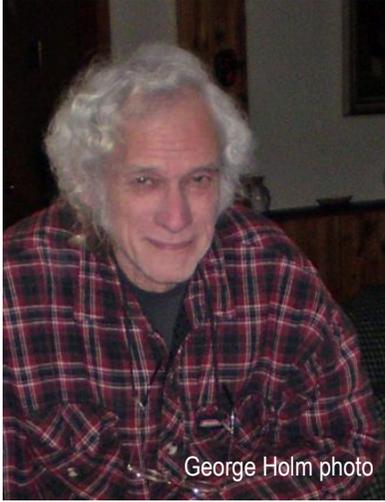


In Memoriam – Graham Jeffery
by George Holm

Club member Graham Jeffrey passed away on April 23 after a lengthy illness. He leaves behind his wife Sue, and two sons, Roman, and Spencer. Their home in Port Hardy is at the northern tip of Vancouver Island, and those among us who ventured there to collect enjoyed their friendship and warm hospitality.



Graham had a real passion for shells and his collection contains beautiful specimens from around the world. I first met Graham and Sue in the 1970's at meetings of the Vancouver Shell Club, which had just formed. Local species did not interest them, that is, until I presented a talk on collecting and preserving chitons. They came to my home to see my collection, and from then on their focus changed to become enthusiastic collectors of local shells. I showed them where to collect and we took numerous trips together after that.

Chitons became their primary interest, especially for Graham, and they became experts in preparing and preserving them. Graham traded chitons for shells with other collectors and dealers, and his specimens are found in collections around the world.

They also joined the PNWSC, and were along on our field trips. Their own exploring for new locations to collect took them to beaches in Washington and around Vancouver Island. They were the first to go to Port Hardy to collect, just after the road to the town was built. They returned from that first trip full of enthusiasm about a place named Tsulquate Beach. They described it as a flat beach, a short walk out from the road, where chitons and other shells could be found on and under almost every stone. When I went there, I discovered for myself what they meant, and it became a favorite destination for me and also for Seattle club members. The Jeffreys were so taken by the place that they moved to Port Hardy.

Always gracious hosts when someone came to visit or to collect, our club members recently got a fine taste of that hospitality on our field trip there in 2011. On that trip Graham showed us a particular place where we could find Trophons.

Sincere condolences to Sue, Roman, Spencer and to their families. We have lost a dear friend with Graham's passing and he will be missed.