

New Species of Deepsea Bivalve Named for David McKay by George Holm



I. mackayi, 15 mm

Club member, David McKay, participated in the recent discovery of two deepsea bivalve species from the North-East Atlantic and one of them, Vesicomidae, *Isorropodon mackayi* Oliver & Drewery, 2013, has been named for him. The other new species is Thyasiridae, *Thyasira scotia* Oliver & Drewery, 2013. They were dredged this past June (2013) in 1187 to 1200 meters [3900 - 3937 feet], at Hatton-Rockall Basin in North-West Scotland.

It is thought that the two species come from a seep where little or no oxygen exists as they are chemosymbiotic, meaning they derive their energy chemically through a bacterium.

Reference:

Oliver, P. G. & Drewery, J. 2013. "New species of chemosymbiotic clams (Bivalvia: Vesicomidae and Thyasiridae) from a putative 'seep' in the Hatton-Rockall Basin, north-east Atlantic". *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*. doi: 10.1017/S0025315413001136; 1-15; figs. 1-12. [3; fig. 2C-F] and [8; fig. 8F, 9 & 10A

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David McKay holding specimen of his shell.