



December 2002



ATTENTION

This month's **MASWA** meeting is on
Wednesday, 18th December 2002



THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Ho ho ho, Merry Christmas to all you fishy MASWA members out there. Welcome to our December Christmas issue of the MASWA newsletter. This month we will be having our Christmas meeting at its usual location, the home of Nathan, Nilufar and Cameron Cope. Being a very busy time of the year, the meeting has been brought forward a week to give all you fishy folk some breathing space between our meeting and Christmas.

We have a jam packed agenda on this month with lots of exciting things happening. We not only have the usual sausage sizzle – as cooked by your committee members in their most seductive French maid attire, but to top last year we are going to have **TROPHIES** as well as the humorous “niche” awards (wow!!) Plus as a bonus we will be having a **door prize worth over \$100!!**

The “niche” awards will be fun awards won by individuals who have demonstrated the ability to do something that will entertain everyone else at their expense! The MASWA trophies will be serious awards and will be awarded for the following:

"I Did It My Way" Trophy - for coming up with the best hobby idea or inventing the most useful piece of aquarium equipment during the year.

"Slice and Dice" Trophy - for the member who has been the most successful in propagating invertebrates during the year.

"Fecund Fish" Trophy - for the member who has been the most successful in breeding and rearing marine fish during the year.

No meeting at Nathan's place would be complete without the tall tale that is written to describe his aquarium. As usual I will try not to disappoint! Nathan's tank has changed much from last year. Back then it was extremely large and required SCUBA gear to clean. It has shrunk considerably and is now less than 20cm long, 10cm wide and 50cm tall. Being of such strange dimensions it's quite bizarre that Nathan has a dolphin in his tank! Perhaps his aquarium is reminiscent of the “tardis” in Dr Who. Cleaning Nathan's beast of a tank has taken on a whole new way of thinking. Medical instruments used for keyhole surgery are used exclusively as are crews of trained trochus and hermit crabs. Enough of this crap!

Hope to see everyone at the meeting and wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

The meeting commences from **7.30pm SHARP** and the address is xxxxxxxx (Email for address).



LAST MONTH'S MEETING

By: Nathan Cope

Last month's meeting was at Ocean Reef Marine Aquariums, which is run by Simon and Rose Hawke. It was a very large turnout with over 30 members attending. This meeting location would have to take the prize for most aquariums, as there were tanks everywhere choc full of corals and quite a few nice fish, too. Simon gave a very informative explanation of how the fish and invert systems are filtered and maintained. Ocean Reef Marine Aquariums also keeps hospital tanks for any sick fish... in fact, it is the only store that I know of that actively checks the health of its stock and attempts to nurse any ill fish back to health! Simon has a commercial collectors licence, so he also gave a quick rundown on how all the animals are collected with some funny stories about annoying seals and turtles that seem hell-bent on making his job as difficult as possible.

It was great to see two new members join MASWA last month, namely Elmer Ellison and Marc Quaid. Both have already offered to host future MASWA meetings, so we will look forward to those. Please make Elmer and Marc welcome and introduce yourselves when you next see them at a MASWA meeting.

Lastly, I reminded all members present at the meeting how important it is that we each write a letter to WA Fisheries to let them know of our feelings about the options they have presented for recreational coral and live rock collection. A few members said that they had already written letters, which is encouraging, but we need as many members as we can get to write letters to Fisheries before the December 31 deadline. Most members indicated that they do indeed intend to write letters, so please make sure they get there before the deadline. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! If you are having any difficulties with writing your letter, please contact one of the MASWA Committee Members for help.



MASWA Message Board

• **MASWA MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW DUE FOR 2003**

Enclosed with this newsletter is a membership form to resubscribe to MASWA for 2003. Please fill in all the information so we can make sure our records are up to date. Memberships for MASWA are now due for 2003. We will not be carrying unfinancial members for months at a time like in previous years. Membership dues cost \$24 for "general membership" (includes partner or child) and \$12 for "associate/country membership" (for those not attending meetings). If your membership dues are not paid by the January 2003 meeting you will be struck off the membership register and receive no more newsletters!

• **AGM January 2003**

The end of the 2002 is here which brings us to the most important event – the beginning of 2003 and our inaugural Annual General Meeting (AGM). This is a very important meeting as it sculptures the future of MASWA for another year. If you think you would like to join the committee and take an active role in the life and times of MASWA please think about this carefully and don't forget to nominate yourself for a position in January 2003.

• **Meeting Venues WANTED!**

Now that 2003 is almost upon us we will be in need of meeting venues for our monthly general meetings. If you would like to host a meeting, whether it is to show off your setup, or get a bunch of heads together to solve your problems, **WE WANT YOU!** Please speak to any of the committee members if you would like to volunteer your home to us!!!!

• **Excursions Anyone?**

Carrying on from the success of excursions held in previous years, MASWA is keen to get the this exciting idea up and running again now that the warmth of spring has returned. If you have any ideas for a MASWA gathering be it for a night dive, a snorkel, a reef walk at low tide, trip to the museum or whatever it may be please speak up and make yourself heard.



MASWA Buy, Sell, Swap

- Science Officer Groves (Paul) is getting rid of his aquarium and would like to sell the following corals:
2X Plerogyra (bubble corals)
6X E. quadricolour anemones
3X Brown softcorals (??sp.)
1X 20cm green brain coral (Favia??)
1 5cm fungia (mushroom coral)
2X corallimorphs
Paul is open to any offers (be them monetary or sexual!) and he can be contacted via email on paul@nw.com.au
- Editor Bloch (me!) is selling his SCUBA unit.
The unit includes;
95CF aluminium cylinder (tested this month), medium BC (Paragon), 1st stage and occy (Paragon) and Sunto Favor dive computer/pressure gauge combo
The asking price for the whole lot is **\$700 ONO**. David can be contacted on 0412 079 886 or on email fishnut@optusnet.com.au

Editor Bloch (me!) is selling some Metal halide lights. On offer are a 150W - **remote ballast and bulb holder (no bulb)** and a **400W - remote ballast (no bulb or bulb holder)**. The asking price is **\$125 each**. David can be contacted on 0412 079 886 or on email fishnut@optusnet.com.au



Reefy Hints and Tips

When building a new reef aquarium setup from scratch, its not only the neat and tidy look of the tank and cabinet that is important but also the filtration and plumbing behind and underneath. Nothing is worse than seeing a great aquarium being spoilt by untidy messy plumbing with green or blue PVC glue marks and pink priming fluid stains all over the pipe work. This untidiness does not cause any problems with the running of the equipment but looks like "a dog's breakfast!" The solution is to use clear PVC glue and Acetone as a priming fluid. This "clear" solution will leave you with pipe work that looks the part in a modern day sophisticated marine setup.



Upcoming Meetings

December	Nathan Cope
Jan 2003	?
Feb 2003	?
Mar 2003	?
Apr 2003	?
May 2003	?

MASWA's World Wide Web address

The web address:
<http://www.auscyber.net/maswa/>

General Inquiries

To Nathan Cope
E-mail address: nathan@ingeniousresources.com.au
Phone: (08) 9367 9251 a/h or 0416 092 000 b/h

Membership and Newsletter Inquiries

To David Bloch
E-mail address: fishnut@optusnet.com.au
Phone: (08) 9375 2438 a/h or 0412 079 886 b/h

Treasury Inquiries

To Paul Tayler
E-mail address: pmtayler@p085.aone.net.au
Phone on (08) 9381 7827 a/h or 0419 908 264 b/h

MASWA Membership

Currently MASWA membership costs \$24 for a full year and included in this is your partner or child. Country/Associate membership costs \$12. The membership fees cover the cost of newsletters, drinks, nibbles, raffle prizes and other costs associated with the society. Members will receive information sheets and discounts on some products.

Members List

Warren and Valaria Schmitt, *Terry and Valerie Peake, Jan Anderson, Craig and Lissa Beaufond, David Bloch, Royce Bond, Jason Booth and Jane Thom, Darren & Raqual Collins, Nathan Cope, Darren and Tracey Dalton*; Tom Devilee; *Andy Dolphin, Phillippe Dor, Elmer Ellison*; Tony Fiorentino, *Drew Gately, Paul Groves, Sid Harrison, Robert Harwood, Simon Hawke and Rose, Frank & Ben Krause, Aden Leinman and Jeni Beassy*; Grant Magill, *Wayne Mothershaw, Victor O'Driscoll, Phil Searle, Mark Shewell, Paul Tayler, Steve Tofts, Ronald Tan, Greg Weryk, David Lee, Glenn Fletcher, Keith Walters, Mal and Steve Hearne, Ross Hernandez, Trish & Izzy, Ray Davis, Chris Kolzan, Richard Stephenson and Loren Bywaters*

If you are a member and your name is not on the members list please tell the editor David Bloch as soon as possible. Names in italics indicate that the member receives an E-Newsletter (emailed newsletter).

If there is anything you would like to know more about or anything you would like to add to the newsletter, call or send comments to the editor, David Bloch. Remember, this is your newsletter. Additions to the newsletter need to be received by the editor no later than one week prior to the next meeting.



Membership Renewal

Office Use Only	
* Membership No.	* Application Date: / /
* Annual Membership (pro-rata for remaining months of the calendar year):-	
General - \$24 <input type="checkbox"/>	Country/Associate - \$12 <input type="checkbox"/>

Items below marked with a * are mandatory.

Name (Family Name must be included)*:	
Address*:	
	Postcode*:
Telephone No. (H)*:	Telephone No. (W):
Mobile No.:	
Email Address:	
I wish to receive the MASWA Newsletter via*: Email <input type="checkbox"/> Post <input type="checkbox"/>	

Answering the following questions is not mandatory, but it does help the society in preparing articles, presentations and tours for future newsletters and meetings.

How many marine aquariums do you have? _____

Would you like one of the experienced MASWA members to guide you in setting up/improving your aquarium? Yes No

Is there a particular area of marine aquaria that you really feel you need help with/more info. on?

What are you hoping to gain by joining MASWA?

Date*:	Signature*:
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Please make cheques payable to the MASWA treasurer, **Paul Tayler**.
 Send applications to: **MASWA Membership Applications**
 C/o Paul Tayler
 333A Railway Road
 Shenton Park WA 6008

The Marine Aquarists Society of WA is a name that we, as a group of friends with like interests have applied to ourselves for the purpose of information exchange. No one person, nor the group as a whole, can be held responsible for liabilities, injuries or other that may result either directly or indirectly as a result of our gatherings or the information exchange therein. The same applies to the information contained in this newsletter.