



## The Living Reef

December 2006  
Sunday 17th @ 1pm

Hi Guy's,

We have made it through another year with MASWA and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Committee and Merlyn for all the work that has been done to help get MASWA to where it is today. There has been some exciting stuff happen over the last year and MASWA now boast having 92 financial members. Without the help of those who are on the committee MASWA would cease to exist. This now brings me to the Committee Nominations and Voting that will take place at the Xmas AGM. If you would like to help on the [committee](#) or are thinking of it please come forward any one of the current committee

members and they can discuss with you what is involved.

I will probably be standing down as Newsletter Ed next year but hopefully I will take another position on the committee, so I won't be going too far.

On behalf of the committee, We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very safe and Happy New Year.

Thank you all for being a great audience,

Chris

## RTAW Reefpedia

This [wiki](#) has been established as an encyclopaedia of reef keeping by the [Marine Aquarium Societies of Australia \(MASA\)](#).

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## MASWA Meeting Calendar....

December Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> 1 PM  
Xmas Meeting and AGM  
Venue: Joe Francis  
11 Jouissance Bend, Atwell

January 31<sup>st</sup> ???  
Guess Speaker

March 28<sup>th</sup> ????  
Special Raffle

February 28<sup>th</sup> - Elmer Ellison  
Dianella  
Frag Fest XIII

April 25<sup>th</sup> ????  
Guess Speaker

## MASWA Contact Information....

### COMMITTEE – 2006

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**Social Coordinator – Meeting Venues**  
Advertising Enquiries, raffle donations,  
Even "just to be sociable"  
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**Treasurer – Treasury/Payment Enquiries**  
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**Frag Fest Co-ordinator –**  
Brendan Chua  
[nani87@gmail.com](mailto:nani87@gmail.com)

**Secretary**  
Mark Shewell – 9479 7224  
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**WEB ADDRESS**  
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Membership Enquiries  
Chris Sutton – 0419 858 108  
[chris@aussiereef.com.au](mailto:chris@aussiereef.com.au)

### MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

**Cheque:** Make all cheques payable to Paul M. Tayler.

**EFT:** Make all EFT transfers to BSB 086 217 A/C # 69355 1664 (please include your name on all EFT transfers!).

**Cash:** Make payment in person only.

### Postal Address:

Paul Tayler (MASWA Treasurer)

PO Box 7185

Shenton Park WA 6008



Join us online

## MASWA Message Board...

### **MASWA Committee Nominations**

Nominations can now be taken for next year Committee. We ran the committee with all positions filled last year and would love to do the same this year too. This year MASWA Committee has decided to vote for position at the December Meeting. The Positions in the MASWA committee are:

**President**

**Vice President**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

**Newsletter Editor**

**Webmaster**

**Social Coordinator**

**Fragfest Coordinator**

What does it mean to be a MASWA committee member? For six days a year (every second month) you get to take an active role in the running of MASWA. You also get to sample the delights of Marilyn's cooking (Paul Taylor's wife). The pay is crap - \$0.0 however the social interaction and "stories" you hear are very entertaining!

To be in the committee you need to be nominated either by yourself or someone else, and if no one else is

nominated for that position you are elected to that position. If there are other nominees then a vote is taken by the members for the successful candidate for the position.

If you think you have what it takes and are keen to help out then please talk to a committee member at the upcoming meeting and make your intentions known or email the **Secretary** Mark Shewell [markus@iinet.net.au](mailto:markus@iinet.net.au)

### **MASWA Test Kits (Free Testing)**

MASWA has recently purchased new test kits for the Society. MASWA's members will be able to bring along water samples to any meeting and test their water. This is also handy to verify your own test kits as well. The kits are mainly Salfert Tests and include PH, Calcium, Carbonate Hardness/ Alkalinity, Nitrate and Silicate. I will also be bringing along my Phosphate Light Meter and Thanks to Peth Aquarium and Display Centre, MASWA now has a Refractometer to test salinity of your water.

So as you can see there is a good assortment of test and the best thing is it is free

## Last Months Meeting Rundown...

Last month we ventured to Hamilton Hill. Chris and Luke gracefully let us into their home to check out their reef tank, a 4x2x2.5 ft. A great set-up consisting of a mixed reef including some SPS and Softies. It was certainly interesting to see the Zebra Eel, Cupid, being feed fresh prawns.



Not only did they have the main reef inside their home, they also had a breeding setup within the garage comprising of a few three tier tanks and stands for breeding Clown Fishes.



The setups were very impressive and look like they have a successful venture going.

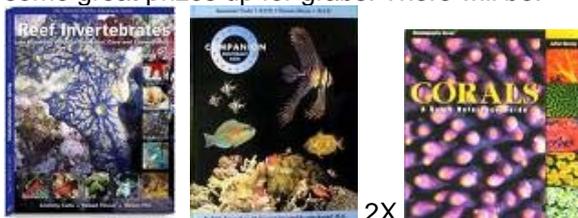
Thanks for the great hospitality guys, even the pet parrot was friendly with me looking like Jake Black with him sitting on my shoulder. I even heard the cappuccino machine gurgling away at few times during the night. We had a few winners for the night too with Chris W picking up the door prize and Lee, Mark, Brendan, Chris & Luke, Chris Wearne, Warren, Paul, Steve, Ryan and myself picking up some great raffle prizes including some corals donated by Pete at Oceanarium (Thanks Pete).

The meeting was also Frag Fest and there was a good trade of corals going in and out of the Frag Tank I hope all enjoyed their night and once again thanks to Chris and Luke for their great hospitality.

Chris

## Up & Coming Meet Information....

Well it's that time of the year guy's, when we celebrate our achievements over the last 12 months. This year Joe Francis and family have gracefully put up their hand to host the Xmas AGM. This year, as always, MASWA is giving back to the members with a **free raffle ticket for all financial members for 2006 and as an incentive for dues paid for next year another free ticket will be given.** So make sure you bring along you renewal monies because we have some great prizes up for grabs. There will be:

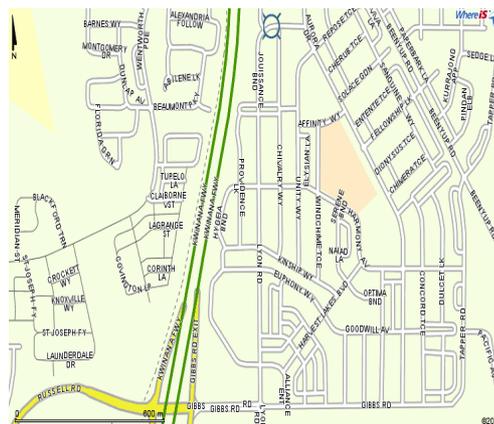


also there will be the usual Gift vouchers from our sponsors and also some Refractometers and PH Pens as prizes. So as you can read this is going to be a big raffle and like I said before **Its free!** Also (boy this is going to be a big meeting) don't forget that this is MASWA's AGM and Committee positions will be revoted, so if you want to help out MASWA and be on the committee please let one of the current committee members know. **MASWA will also be giving out a free sausage sizzle, drinks and snacks during the afternoon**

**and I have it on good authority that Father Christmas may just drop in and say hello.**

So please come and bring the family and kid as this meet is to thank you, the members for your support,

Joe's house is situated at **11 Jouissance Bend, Atwell** and the meeting starts at **1pm Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>**



[whereis.com](http://whereis.com)

Hope to see you there and if not, merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year from Maria and me

## Quick Words of Advice

### Patience

Nothing good happens fast in this hobby. Resist the urge to get things done right now, a fully operational and stocked reef tank within a short time period. In most cases you will end up causing huge problems, including death of your livestock be rushing things. Plus it will cost you money, since you will be spending the next year replacing equipment that simply is not suitable for the tank you want to end up. And then there is all the stress involved due to causing un-necessary livestock deaths.

### Plan

Plan everything to do with the tank will save a lot of problems, time and money in the long term. Simply taking the time to actually decide the goal of the tank, livestock, restrictions due to space and budget, and doing all that in as much detail is invaluable. Then share your plans with others in the hobby. Then you vastly increase the chance of success and ensure that you actually end up with what you want, and the livestock that you keep are suitably looked after.

### Impulse Purchases

*Never* impulse buy. That applies to equipment and, especially, livestock. You have to first be sure that you actually have the ability to keep the livestock happy and healthy. Getting because you like it or it looks good without any consideration of it's requirements is a recipe for disaster.

# Feature Article

## Conservation From RTAW Reefpedia

### Great Barrier Reef

The Great Barrier Reef is undisputed as one of the world's most important natural assets. It is the largest natural feature on earth stretching more than 2,300km along the northeast coast of Australia from the northern tip of Queensland to just north of Bundaberg.

#### Resources

- [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority](#) - The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) is the principal adviser to the Commonwealth Government on the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- [Science for management of the Great Barrier Reef](#) - The Great Barrier Reef off the Queensland coast of Australia is managed with a goal of maintaining and enhancing those qualities which made it the world's first (1981) and largest (348,700 km<sup>2</sup>) marine World Heritage Area while keeping it accessible for multiple uses, notably tourism, fishing and shipping.
- [Surveys of Trochus, Holothuria, Giant Clams and the Coral Communities at Ashmore Reef, Cartier Reef and Mermaid Reef, Northwestern Australia 2003](#)
- [CRC REEF RESEARCH CENTRE TECHNICAL REPORT No. 40](#) The sustainability of Queensland's coral harvest fishery.

### Australian Fisheries

- [Australian Fisheries Statistics 2005](#) - This report contains data on the volume AND value of production from state & Commonwealth fisheries, the volume and value of Australian fisheries trade, by destination, source and product, for the 3 years to 2004-05. Also contains a profile of Commonwealth and state fisheries and state aquaculture for 2004-05, covering selected species, fishing method and number of licence holders.

### Livestock Importation

Due to Australia's quarantine laws, it is not possible to import any invertebrates into the country. This covers corals, shrimp, clams, liverock etc. Fish importation is allowed.

- [Import Risk Analysis on Live Ornamental Finfish](#) - assessment document by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (July 1999). This import risk analysis on live ornamental finfish was conducted in response to findings of the World Trade Organization, in 1997, of inconsistency in the quarantine measures applied by Australia to live and non-viable finfish. As an outcome of this IRA, Australia introduced new policies on the importation of live ornamental finfish. These policies were announced on 19 July 1999.

## Fishy Links And New

### INTERVIEW WITH UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER BILL CURTSINGER

"I've Seen Animals Do Unbelievable Things"

**Bill Curtsinger is one of the world's best known nature photographers and one of the few who dives in the icy cold waters on the poles. SPIEGEL ONLINE spoke with him about sharks, whales and other creatures of the deep.**

**SPIEGEL ONLINE:** Mr. Curtsinger, you are one of the few underwater photographers who work in the sometimes extreme conditions of the Arctic and Antarctic. What is it that fascinates you most about the ice caps?

**Bill Curtsinger:** You have things that are inside you. You don't really know where they come from, but they keep coming up in your head. The two for me are the polar world and the world underwater. Since I was a little kid, I have had a strong interest in the polar regions. When the first opportunity to go there showed up, I took it -- and specialized in polar diving.

Photo Gallery: Pictures from the Icy Deep



Click on a picture to launch the image gallery (9 Photos)

**SPIEGEL ONLINE:** Aside from their aesthetic value, your photos sometimes hold valuable information about exotic species. Do you consider yourself a scientist?

**Curtsinger:** I'm sort of an amateur biologist. In order to work with these animals, I have to learn as much as I can about them. I have to talk to scientists to figure out where those animals are at a given time and how they behave. Often I end up knowing things about a particular species a biologist hasn't ever seen. I've seen animals do unbelievable things.

**More>**

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,452836,00.html>

### Scientists 'to discover new life'

**A TEAM of research scientists is about to get up close and personal with some of the world's most mysterious and misunderstood creatures.** - For the first time in history, researchers from around the world will use manned submersibles to explore Australia's surrounding deep seas in the hope of finding new species living in the murky depths.

As part of the project, known as Deep Australia, scientists will use special submersibles to travel one kilometre beneath the waves.

Previously manned research in Australia has relied on divers using rebreathers which only go down to around 100 metres.

The submersibles have special mechanical arms which can be used to collect specimens, and state-of-the-art cameras will record every detail of the underwater adventure.

Lead researcher Professor Justin Marshall said today that they would be hunting the giant squid and deep sea jellies, which can grow to the size of a bus.

They also expected to discover a range of new species.

**More>**

<http://www.news.com.au/couriermail/story/0,23739,20876073-29277,00.html>

### Scientists: Size and Shape of Corals Key Factor for Survival in Increasingly Angry Oceans; 'Colony Shape Factor'

**Santa Barbara, California (Nov 22, 2006 19:19 EST)**

Size and shape may predict the survival of corals around the world when the weather churns the oceans in the years to come, according to a new model that relies on engineering principles.

The increasing violence of storms associated with global climate change, as well as future [tsunamis](#), will have major effects on coral reefs, according to a paper published this week in the international scientific journal Nature. Shape and size of the corals are key variables, according to the authors.

"Coral reef experts have long had a general sense of which coral shapes are more vulnerable during storms than others," said first author Joshua Madin, a scientist with the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) at the University of California, Santa Barbara. "However, to really predict how these events impact the dynamics of coral reefs we needed a way to quantify these vulnerabilities."

The authors created the world's first engineering model to predict how much damage a reef is likely to suffer when confronted with the might of an angry sea. They used mathematical models to calculate the forces that coral is subjected to — events such as [waves](#), storm surges, or tsunamis — and the probability of the colonies being ripped from the seabed.

**More>**

[http://www.underwatertimes.com/news.php?article\\_id=10263510879](http://www.underwatertimes.com/news.php?article_id=10263510879)

## MASWA Sponsors....

It's official; MASWA now has five commercial sponsors! MASWA sponsors get an advertisement and a banner in the newsletter each month. The advertisement can be used to advertise monthly specials etc. Depending upon what has been agreed with the sponsor they may offer MASWA such things as member discounts, donations of goods, gift vouchers or special offers.

Advertisements in The Living Reef do not necessarily reflect MASWA endorsement of any product, service or advice offered by the advertised business. If you would like to advertise in The Living Reef, please contact Maria White (Social Coordinator) on 0416 206 647 or email: [n1venus@bigpond.com.au](mailto:n1venus@bigpond.com.au).



Fremantle Ocean Farm will generously donated the next water change to all new members who join MASWA and 2 free water changes vouchers for the raffles



Open Saturdays Only 10am to 5pm  
Golden Bay Fish Ponds and Marine Aquarium Centre generously donates prizes for the MASWA raffles



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<http://www.oceanarium.com.au>

[Fish@oceanarium.com.au](mailto:Fish@oceanarium.com.au)

Suppliers of marine aquarium specimens and accessories throughout Australia.

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**Oceanarium has generously donated corals for Frag Feasts, Demonstrations and Raffles**



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[info@rockyreefmarine.com.au](mailto:info@rockyreefmarine.com.au)

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Come and see Martin and Marc and mention you are a MASWA Member and they will give you 10% discount on your purchase.

**Rocky Reef Marine has generously donated gift vouchers and products for the MASWA raffles**



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**Veba's generously donates prizes for the MASWA raffles**



<http://www.perthaquarium.com.au/>

Perth Aquarium and Display Centre has generously donated gift vouchers for the MASWA raffles

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