



The Living Reef

June 2007

Wednesday 27th 7:30pm

Hi everyone,

This time of year is great for buying good quality stock. The main reason for this is the cooler temperatures. As most people probably know, fish and coral are transported in white 'fish eskies'. What a lot of people don't know is how long some animals spend inside these boxes. If something goes wrong with the shipping, and it often does, the fish or corals can be in their boxes for more than 12 hours. The bags that fish are packed in are really small, with just enough water for them to turn around in and hopefully topped up with pure oxygen. In summer, the eskies can heat up pretty quickly if not kept inside or in the shade, and this in turn warms the water the fish are kept in. Warmer water

means faster metabolic rates and more stress on the fish, and generally increases the ammonia level in the bags of the fish. This can quickly kill livestock before it even get to the store. Winter however is much easier to deal with. If the fish get a bit chilly during transport it is no where near as traumatic on the animal (it can lead to death in extremes still) as they tend to slow down and the amount of waste produced is lessened. The quality of fish and coral is definitely on the rise with some really nice specimens appearing on a regular basis, and winter is the perfect time to acclimatise them to your home aquarium!

See you at the meeting!
Warren

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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The Marine Aquarists Society of WA Inc 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.

MASWA Meeting Calendar....

June 27th - Halszka Antoszezwska
7a Dane Place, Willetton.
Special Raffle!

July 25th Swap Meet!

Lee McIntyre

August 29th

Warren Taylor

September 26th

???

October 31st

???

MASWA Contact Information....

COMMITTEE – 2007

President – General Enquiries

Stuart Hoskin - 0413 315 059

stuartnruth@optusnet.com.au

Vice President – General Enquiries

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boucherh@dodo.com.au

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paul@pmtco.com.au

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warrenroytaylor@inet.net.au

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me@shona.org

Social Coordinator – Meeting Venues

Advertising Enquiries, raffle donations,

Even "just to be sociable"

Maria White – 0416 206 647

n1venus@bigpond.com.au

Frag Fest Coordinator –

Ronald Tan - 9304 7890

cyberon@westnet.com.au

WEB ADDRESS

<http://www.masa.asn.au/maswa.php>

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

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

EFT: MASWA Inc BSB 086-136 A/c 872473681 (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



MASWA Message Board....

MASWA Test Kits (Free Testing)

MASWA's members are able to bring along water samples to any meeting and test their water. This is handy to verify your own test kits, or to try a kit you don't have at home. The kits are mainly Salifert Tests and include PH, Calcium, Carbonate Hardness/ Alkalinity, Nitrate and Silicate. Chris will also be bringing along his Phosphate Light Meter and MASWA now has a Refractometer to test the salinity of your water. This is a great free resource so make sure to take advantage of it. If you are unsure of how to test your water, bring along about 100ml and ask for help, its free!

Membership Cards



MASWA will be introducing a Membership Card this month. The cards has been introduced so members can increase their social prestige, showing them off to your mates at the Sunday BBQ's and also to show your partners and families there's a reason why you keep disappearing the last Wednesday of each month.

But more importantly, the card has been introduced to help raise awareness that MASWA is a society of Marine Aquarist's in WA and it will help members to be easily identified to our Sponsors and other marine stores that you may shop at.

So don't be afraid to flash them around and

who knows you may even get a discount from your local fish shop.

Yearly Photo Competition!

We will be running a yearly photo competition. Photo's can be submitted at the meeting or via email. The topic is obviously your aquarium, but it can be a single fish, a prized coral, or a full tank shot.

Prizes will be as follows:

1st place: A reefing book.

2nd place: LFS voucher

3rd place: One years MASWA Membership

Photos have to be submitted by the November meeting, and the judge's decision will be announced at the Christmas Meeting.

Email your entries to a committee member!

New Members.

Allan Whitehead
Andrew Jabs
Michael Parkinson

MASWA now has its own bank account.

Please update your banking details for when you are making your membership payments.

The new account details are listed on the second page of the newsletter, but just in case here they are again:

MASWA Inc
BSB 086-136
A/c 872473681

Last Months Meeting Rundown...

Last months meeting was at Gavin's in Halls head. He has a great aquarium that is part in-wall and can be view on both sides.



His system is very clean, and surprisingly doesn't use a protein skimmer at all. Instead the nutrients are taken up by a huge clump of xenia that is harvested often.



It was also Frag fest and there was plenty of frags to go around. Frag Master Ron did a small demonstration with MASWA's new fantastic frag tools generously donated by Oceanarium.



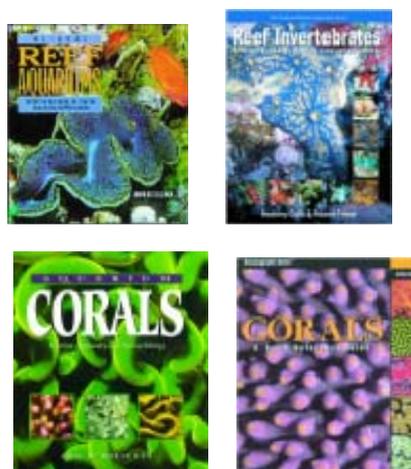
Raffle winners:

Door Prize, Aragamight: Gavin
 \$20 PADC voucher: Nick
 \$20 Rocky Reef Voucher: Leeroy
 Frem.Ocean farm voucher: Mihn
 Frem.Ocean farm voucher: Brendan
 Oceanarium Coral: Warren
 Oceanarium Coral: Neil
 Coral goby: Chris

Up & Coming Meet Information....



This months meeting is at Halszka's in Willetton (**7a Dane Place, Willetton.**). It is also Special Raffle night with a huge amount of raffle prizes:



Feature Articles

Part Three of Ross's Reef Guide...

What type of system would suit me?

Deciding what type of marine system sets the trend for any further decisions so it's a critical decision to start with. Some of the systems available could include:

- Fish only
- Seahorse
- Reef with fish
- Biotypical
- Tropical
- Temperate

Temperate.

Temperate marine aquaria are those that maintain temperatures below those of tropical but above cold water. It is possible to source temperate water corals however they are really not common at all. Temperate fish are common though and can be sourced locally for folks located in temperate zones. The main issue with these systems is keeping the aquaria at the correct temperature over the Aussie summers and would require a chiller to keep temperatures low. None the less they can be interesting systems and a prime example would be some of the Seahorse systems.

- Sub types
 - Temperate fish only
 - Temperate Biotypical
 - Temperate reef (rare)

Tropical.

By far the most common marine aquaria (in my experience anyway). Tropical tanks maintain temperatures between 25°C and 27°C and therefore are another system that could require a chiller to maintain the temperature over summer, depending on your locale. Ditto for heaters.

- Sub types
 - Tropical fish only
 - Tropical biotype
 - Tropical reef

Fish only.

Fish only (FO) systems are a common starting point for marine aquarists. Some fish are known coral eaters and a FO system is the only way to have these types of fish in aquaria. FO systems are also less touchy about the water quality and therefore easier to set up and maintain.

- Sub types

- Fish Only With Live Rock (FOWLR) is a FO system that uses the active biological filtration supplied by rock harvested from reefs.

Reef.

For our purposes a reef can be defined as having living coral. Arguably one of the most challenging of hobbies and yet phenomenally popular due to the amazing array of corals nature gives us to display. Coral are very susceptible to the quality of the water they live in, pollutants can have adverse affects on them in a myriad of ways and it is the challenge of having fish and corals in the same aquaria and keeping the coral thriving. The knowledge base for keeping these systems is growing all the time and technology is also progressing to be both better and cheaper. Water quality and stability is the key to maintaining a spectacular reef.

- Sub types
 - Temperate reef (rare)
 - Tropical reef
 - Biotypical reef

Biotypical.

A biotypical or biotype system is one targeted towards a specific environment from a specific area or zone.

- Sub types
 - Temperate fish only
 - Tropical fish only
 - Temperate reef
 - Tropical reef zone (difficult as coral families have diverse habitats)

Seahorse.

An example of a Biotypical system. Seahorses have specific feeding, habitat and husbandry requirements. For these reasons they are usually housed in their own system.

- Sub types
 - Temperate seahorse
 - Tropical seahorse

Healthy reefing to you
Ross Coghill
(aka *Kranky*)

Fishy Links And News

[Donating Photos to Reefpedia - Prizes!!](#)

To assist in encouraging people to donate material for the RTAW Reefpedia, [DB ReefTech](#) have generously offered to give people who have donated a number of images a fish trap.

The offer is as follows:

Offer starts from today. Images already uploaded do not count towards the number required by the offer.

Offer only available to MAS# Members.

A user that has donated **and had 30 images accepted** for use in the RTAW Reefpedia will be given a DB ReefTech [FT-S \(small fish trap\)](#). The user gets it for no charge, only having to cover shipping.

A user that has donated **and had 60 images accepted** for use in the RTAW Reefpedia can have a DB ReefTech [FT-M \(medium fish trap\)](#). They get it at no charge, only having to cover shipping.

Each user is eligible to only a single unit. Therefore, if they have donated 60 images, that does not mean they get 2 x FT-S. They can opt to have either 1 x FT-S or 1 x FT-M.

DB ReefTech reserve the right to stop the offer at any time.

You can donate your images here: [Donate Photos for RTAW Reefpedia](#).

[Budget ideas](#)

guys i need all your budget ideas to keep fish, corals etc. for instance instead going to LFS to buy \$30 calcium supplement u can use builders lime. Anyway i need as much info as i can get (links, suggestions etc) All of that info i will be put together and we will have separate section on this website like reffpedia. So people who does not know about alternatives can read about it.

Thanks guys for your time and effort

[Partners of MASA therefore MASWA members get discounts also](#)

MASA has a partner program with Australian businesses involved with the marine aquaria hobby. If interested in partnering with MASA, then see: [Partnering with MASA](#).

Classifieds

4 x 2 x 2.5 (H) - Incl. -- all live rock, corals, fish, zebra eel, refugium, berlin protein skimmer, 400w metal halide, 300w jager heater, cabinet & open hood. \$2500

Breeding system - 2 tier stand with ten 18 inch square tanks, all connected to main sump. Incl. pumps, heaters and lights.. ... \$500

Breeding system - will suit marine or f/w. Incl 10x 120L tanks, 3x 80L tanks, all connected to main sump and two separate sumps for remote deep sand bed and refugium use. also c/w heaters lights and pumps.\$1500

breeding colony of bristlenose catfish - (1 male and 5 females) comes with 3 4ft tanks on 3 tier stand all lights gravel pumps heaters plants etc included\$400

Brand new tank - 1200 x 450 x 800 H - comes with 150w metal halide, black cabinet and hood, sump. Currently f/w set up with fish but will sell fish separately if tank is wanted for marine purposes. Tank has over flow box and is done with black silicone. Also comes with heater and pump.\$1000

Brand new tank - unused black silicone with over flow box and hole for return 1200 x 350 x 800 H\$400

Contact Heath on 0416 240 115

Your stuff for sale here!

Please try to keep it aquarium related.

It can be equipment, fish, corals etc!

Email a committee member to get your ad shown!

MASWA Sponsors....

It's official; MASWA now has Seven 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.



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



has kindly donated a door prize for the MASWA Meetings

Available from:
Midland Pet Aquarium Center
205 Great Eastern Highway Midland
[Aquaria Australia Warehouse
www.aquaria.com.au](http://www.aquaria.com.au)
Perth Aquarium & Display Centre
1234 Albany Hwy, Cannington
<http://www.perthaquarium.com.au/>
Pisces
Unit 3/11 Augusta st., Willetton



P.O. Box 283, Quinn's Rocks, Western Australia, 6030.

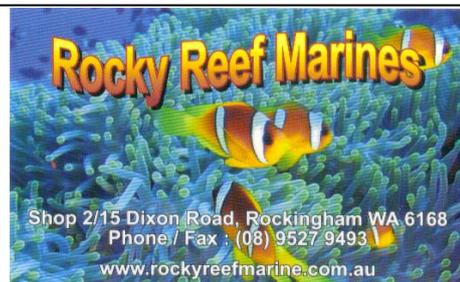
Phone 0427 941 126 Fax (08) 9305 9891

Fish@oceanarium.com.au

Suppliers of marine aquarium specimens and accessories throughout Australia.

Our mission statement is to supply you with quality specimens you can confidently order over the Internet knowing they will arrive in a healthy condition.

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



info@rockyreefmarine.com.au

Suppliers of quality net caught fish from Vanuatu and the Fiji Islands. Also a Large selection of corals and Inverts 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

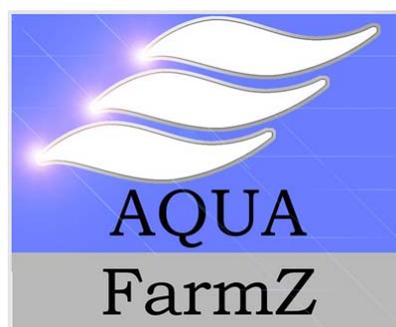


Cnr Carrington & Forsyth St O'Connor WA 6163

ph: (08) 9314 7630 email: vebas@vebas.com.au

Open 7 Days 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM (Thursdays 8:00 AM - 8:30 PM)

Veba's generously donates prizes for the MASWA raffles



Aqua FarmZ Supplies High End Quality Equipment such as BubbleKing and ZeoVit. Aqua FarmZ has generously donated raffle prizes



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

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

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