



The Living Reef March 2005 - Special Raffle

Picnic / Snorkel Day

3rd April

See the [Social Pages](#) for more Information

From The New ED!

Hi everyone. It's that time again. This month has been very busy for the ED, with the installation of a new computer at home, MASWA Committee meeting and general goings on, I have found myself running around in circles.

This Month's meeting was great in the sense that everyone seemed busy chatting away on various subjects. One of the discussions was about DIY Calcium Reactors. I have put in a few links this Month for people looking for information, so if you are interested please follow the links. If there is anything you would like to know more about please let me know and I'll do my best to put it the newsletter.

At the February meeting 3 new members joined Chris Murphy, Heath Boucher and Paul Callesa. We extend a warm welcome and members please be sure to say hello at the next meeting. [MASWA](#) would like to thank Denis's Water Supply in sponsoring them and it's always great to see new faces.

A greater ratio of people have marine tanks at home now than a decade ago. This is mainly due to the ease of accessible information, from the Internet, to your local aquarium shops, there is also a great selection of expertise books available and of course the easy access of other peoples experiences on forums. You can by using a few or all of these tools, research just about anything to do with salt-water aquariums. Between precedence and the discovery of new techniques, reef keeping is much easier today.

Some of our members may not know this, but [MASA](#) (Marine Associations of Australia) provide a forum called [RTAW](#) (Reefing The Australian Way) and personally I would be lost without this great informational tool. I contribute a lot of my knowledge to the discussions, help and research done on this forum. Being a member of MASWA you are entitled to free membership and gives you a few perks too. So if you haven't already - check it out, it's worth it.

ED

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MASWA Meeting Calendar....

March 30th 2005 – Elmer Ellison
15 Balwarra Ave
Dianella
Special Raffle
Meetings start promptly at 7.30pm!

Sunday April 24th 2005 – Brendan Chua
Unit 21/1 Henry Lawson Walk
East Perth
Guest Speaker

May 25th 2005 – Matt Weis
9 L'Estere Way
Port Kennedy
FRAGFEST VII

June 29th 2005 - ?
Special Raffle

July 27th 2005 - ?
Guest Speaker

August 31st - ?
FRAGFEST VIII

As you can see we are looking for Meeting Venues so please don't be shy!!!

MASWA Contact Information....

COMMITTEE – 2005

President – General Enquiries
Tony Fiorentino - 0413 153 518
fioren@iinet.net.au

Vice President – General Enquiries
Stuart Hoskin - 0413 315 059
stuartnruth@optusnet.com.au

Treasurer – Treasury/Payment Enquiries
Paul Tayler - 0419 908 264
paul@pmtco.com.au

Secretary
Mark Shewell – 9479 7224
markus@iinet.net.au

Newsletter Editor – Newsletter Submissions and Membership Enquiries
Chris Sutton – 0419 858 108
csut2134@bigpond.net.au

Web Editor – Web Page Enquiries
Michael Olivero –
oliveromichael@yahoo.com.au

Social Coordinator – Meeting Venues Advertising Enquiries, Even "just to be sociable"
Maria White – 0416 206 647
n1venus@bigpond.com.au

Frag Fest Co-ordinator –
Matt Weis-
asha01@iinet.net.au

WEB ADDRESS
www.masa.asn.au/maswa/

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

MASWA Message Board....

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to make a contribution to the newsletter please don't hesitate to contact the new Newsletter Editor, Chris Sutton on the phone number or email address listed above. Contributions to the newsletter need to be received no later than 7 days prior to the next meeting date.

MASWA 2005 ARTICLE PRIZE!



Yes this could be yours.

To try and encourage members to get actively involved we have decided to offer a \$100 prize to the person who has contributed the most hobby related articles, cartoons or jokes etc to the MASWA 2005 newsletters. The content must be suitable for general.

The winner will be announced at the **December 2005 CHRISTMAS** meeting.

MASWA DOOR PRIZE!

From now on, we will be having door prizes at every meeting. In order to be in the draw to win the prize, all you have to do is make sure you **write down your name** (and the name of any partner/guest you have brought with you) **on the meeting registration sheet** and then **put on your name badge** (ensure that partners/guests have one too). Once you've done that, see Maria White (Social Coordinator) for your free door prize ticket.

RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS

If anyone has any books, hardware, livestock or any bits and pieces they wish to get rid of, how about donating them to the raffle table? All the monies raised in the raffles go back into MASWA, so the better the prizes the better the raffle and the more we can do during the year.

MASWA Sponsors....

It's official; MASWA now has two 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.



Marine West has generously donated \$50 worth of gift vouchers each month to MASWA.

Address:

Unit 1, 29 McIntyre Way, Kenwick, WA 6107
Tue-Sun 10:00am- 5:00pm
Tel/Fax: (08) 9493-0966

Email: pjwdrw@bigpond.com

Web: www.marinewest.com.au



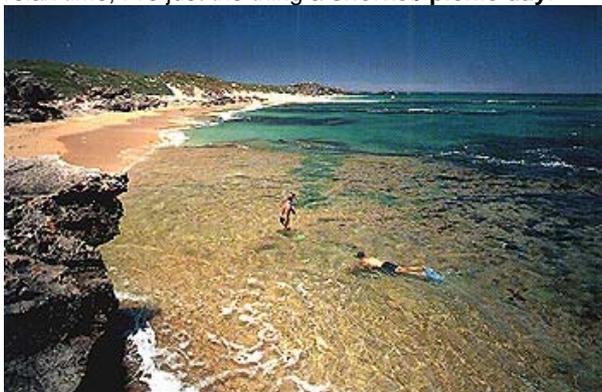
Ocean Water Supply has generously donated a water change to the value of **\$50** every month to the MASWA raffle!

Contact Number: 1300 550 171

MASWA Social Pages

Hi guys,

It's been a huge month, and were all looking for a little relax time, I've just the thing a **snorkel/ picnic day**.



Chris and I went out to Penguin Island on recommendation from Tony. It gorgeous there. So we've decided to have a social day. **3rd April 2005**
The cost is \$10.00, which covers your ferry ride 10am –3pm (there and back on the hour, you can walk if the tide is right) bring your **bathers, picnic/drinks, snorkel gear** and of course a **smile**.

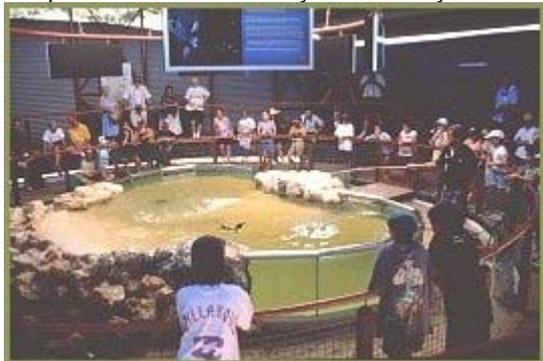
Snorkel gear is available to hire on the main land,

Cost

-All day \$15

After 12pm \$8.

Heaps to do and see and if you want they run tours.



(Feeding penguins, glass bottom boats ECT)

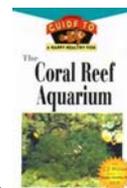
For further information check out

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

It will be a great day!

Special Raffle This Month

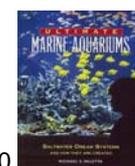
A little closer to home, at the March meeting we have our special raffle. There are vouchers from some of our sponsors as well as some great books for prizes too:



"The Coral Reef Aquarium" valued \$40.00



"Reef Secrets " valued \$ 70.00



"Ultimate Marine Aquarium" valued \$ 60.00



"Reef Invertebrates" valued \$ 80.00
(I wouldn't mind keeping this one.)

We also have our door prize.

So come along, bring a guest if you wish, you'll have a fishy time and you might even take home a prize!

See you there

MARIA

REEFING TIP

Simply brushing algae off from the rockwork causes the absorbed nutrients to be reintroduced to the water column, which may start a new algae cycle. By removing the algae from the system, the likely hood of refuelling its return is reduced.

Attaching a standard toothbrush to a siphon hose allows the targeted undesirables stuck to the rockwork to be drawn through the bristles, which removes from the water column. Use it during water changes to drain tank water into a waste bucket.

Hair algae is usually the primary target, and though it may grow back do to root establishment, the clean up crew has a easier time at removing stubble rather than long strands. [\[More\]](#)



February's Meeting Rundown....

The turnout was very impressive at this month meeting. With 19 members and 3 newbies that attended. It's always great to see a few new faces and all three signed up. Being the first meeting for the new committee, It went pretty much to plan(considering there was no plan). Tony did a great job as the new President, and Maria was selling raffle ticket like they were hot potato's, Matt with his frag tank held up the corner and it all went of without a hitch.

The prize's for February meeting when to: Heath Boucher who won the door prize and a voucher and Elmer Ellison and Chris (Ed.) also won vouchers.



Claudia's tank was very impressive and she has done a great job setting it up. The inhabitants being well looked after, each fish having it's own name! Lighting consists of 2x Heto double fluoro's, skimmer being a Aquamedic and also a Enheim filter the system looks in good shape.

REEFING TIP

Boil some water and allow your venturi skimmer to suck it all up via the air intake. Do this once a week and you'll never have any salt build-up.



Claudia states" the beauty of both the fish and corals in her patch of reef aquarium makes all the effort worthwhile". With some great aqua scaping and healthy inhabitants I think most members would have agreed. Well-done Claudia on a successful meet



The Fragfest was also on last month's agenda. Matt had a hive of activity happening in his corner, he did a great job and kept it under control. Fragfest always creates great interest and I can see bigger and better things happening at future meetings.

March Meeting Information....

We are all off to Elmer's this month. Elmer's tank, one of the larger tanks in our society, boasting 3000ltr and 360* viewing and a skylight is always a delight to see. Being a reef tank with hard and soft corals and a large array of assorted fish it is always a pleasure to see. Since our visit last year, Elmer he has changed the fish stock, getting rid of the larger Angels as they were demolishing the corals and the larger Tangs as they were eating too much and replacing them with smaller fish. Elmer's address is **15 Balwarra Ave Dianella and the meeting starts at 7.30pm sharp.**

Formalities to the meeting will be:
President address
Introduce new members
Door prize
Host talk on tank
Raffle drawn
General discussion
Wind-up

This meeting also brings the Special Raffle. There are some great books and prizes up for grabs so this meeting is defiantly not to be missed.

See you all there!!

MASWA FRAGFEST VI REPORT

The February Fragfest was quite successful with many different families of corals being donated and received. Acropora, Euphyllia, Corallimorphs, Faviid's and Lobophyllia were all donated with many making their way home with new members.

Thankyou to all the members who donated frags. Both the Society and the reef appreciate your support.

The next Fragfest is in May and will be held at my home in Rockingham. The more corals we get donated the better Fragfest will work and remember that for every coral you bring in you will get at least one back. Hows that for incentive!!

Matt Weis

Fishy Links And News

March to May is Coral Spawning and Whale Sharks.



One night each March, under the silver light of a full moon, the waters of Ningaloo Reef in the Coral Coast region literally come alive as more than 200 species of corals spawn. The drifting waters are filled with brightly coloured polyps, laying the foundations for a dramatic change in the reef life over the following months.

The coral spawn is the first stage in a remarkable chain of events that sees the reef rejuvenated for another season, as nature unfolds its annual undersea drama. Over the following months, krill and other tiny sealife swarm on the reef to feast on the corals, drawing in larger fish including the graceful and gentle giants of the sea - whale sharks

More><http://www.westernaustralia.com/en/Travel/Events/Natures+Calendar/Coral+spawning+and+whale+sharks.htm>

The International Marine Conference

Just Imagine...

...a weekend where you can see live presentations by the most widely known, well-respected authors and lecturers in the marine aquarium hobby.

At the International Marine Aquarium Conference the speakers will be covering all the latest information and research on marine aquarium fish, corals and invertebrates. Meet with them socially, see exhibits by some of the foremost manufacturers and dealers in the aquarium hobby, and get some great deals on conference specials.

IMAC is open to ALL hobbyists. Whether you are a seasoned aquarist or just a beginner, IMAC is something you need to take in.

IMAC 2005 will take place in **Chicago, Illinois, USA - June 24th, 25th and 26th.** Click [here](#) for more information. For now, we'll see you in Boston at MACNA.

More> <http://www.theimac.org/>

Post-tsunami coral reef assessment done in Thailand

Bangkok, Thailand – Two new surveys of Thailand's coral reefs show the impact of the Asian tsunami was highly varied, but with most damage identified within the country's national marine parks.

More>http://www.panda.org/news_facts/newsroom/news.cfm?uNewsID=18650

The Secret to Longevity in Tubeworms

With an incredible lifespan of up to 250 years, the deep-sea tube worm, *Lamellibrachia luymesii*, is among the longest-lived of all animals, but how it obtains sufficient nutrients -- in the form of sulfide -- to keep going for this long has been a mystery. In a paper just published in the online journal *PLoS Biology*, a team of biologists now provide a solution: by releasing its waste sulfate not up into the ocean but down into the sediments, *L. luymesii* stimulates the growth of sulfide-producing microbes, thus ensuring its own long-term survival

More><http://www.science.psu.edu/alert/Fisher2-2005-2.htm>

Ancient Mangrove Forests Found Under Reef

North Queensland marine researchers have opened a window into the past by exposing ancient mangrove forests entombed beneath the Great Barrier Reef.

More><http://www.abc.net.au/tropic/news/200502/s1308849.htm>

Australia's Barrier Reef May Disappear in 20 Years

By 2025, rising sea temperatures fuelled by global warming could cause the Great Barrier Reef to disappear. Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, of the University of Queensland, told *The Age* newspaper, "We may see a complete devastation of coral communities on the reef and a major change to the pristine values, which at the moment are our pride and joy."

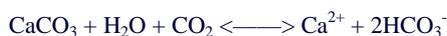
More> <http://english.epochtimes.com/news/5-2-18/26467.html>

Building Your Own Calcium Carbonate Reactor

[Building Your Own Calcium Carbonate Reactor](http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/s/b/sbj4/aquarium/articles/DIYCalciumReactor.htm)

<http://www.personal.psu.edu/faculty/s/b/sbj4/aquarium/articles/DIYCalciumReactor.htm>

Before I get into the details of building a calcium carbonate reactor, let us first take a very brief look at the basic principle behind it. The easiest way to view the functioning of the reactor is as a reverse calcification process. The idea is to dissolve a calcareous media in such a manner that it provides both bicarbonates HCO_3^- (alkalinity) and calcium (Ca^{++}) ions in the same ratio as they are consumed during calcification. Effective dissolution of the calcareous media requires that the solute be at an acidic pH. Because saltwater is usually at a pH of 8.0 and higher, we need some way of reducing the pH in the reactor to aid the dissolution of the media. Carbon dioxide (CO_2) is used to help lower the pH in the reactor, and the general reaction form is as follows:



So, the calcium carbonate reactor is basically a device that brings the three ingredients — water, CO_2 and calcium carbonate — together in a manner so as to allow efficient production of HCO_3^- and Ca^{++} ions. All reactor designs basically follow the same principle, but differ in the techniques to create the circulation loop, the manner in which CO_2 is injected, how the water is input to the reactor, and how the effluent is drawn off. We will just stick to the basic principles and look at building your own reactor.

The most common reactor design that is currently used is the closed recirculating reactor. In a recirculating type of reactor (also called the Lobbbecke reactor, described by Hebbinghaus 1994), the mixture of CO_2 and H_2O is continuously circulated in the chamber through the calcareous media in a closed circulation loop. Water from the tank/sump enters the reactor through an inlet and exits through an outlet, both of which are connected to the main recirculation loop. Typical recirculation rates are in several hundred gallons per hour, while typical input/output rates are in few litres per hour (L/hr). Water entering the reactor comes in at tank alkalinity

levels and effluent leaving the reactor has a much higher alkalinity (depending on the settings).

[WWW.MELEVSREEF.COM](http://www.melevsreef.com)

<http://www.melevsreef.com/dj88.html>

DJ88 came up with a very nice dual-chambered Calcium Reactor for all you Do It Yourself-ers out there.

Click here for the [original discussion](#) in the DIY Forum on RC.

The purpose of a Calcium Reactor is to create a constant supply of calcium in the reef environment. Numerous corals and invertebrates use calcium to build their skeletal structure, which depletes this element from the water column. Using a two part solution once a day is an alternative, but on larger set-ups it is more cost effective and efficient to set up a reactor instead. Below is the latest design I came up with which has worked quite nicely. It is easier to build than typical round reactors, and hopefully you can build one for yourself as well.

This page is not designed to provide you with a model that you can copy for the purpose of reselling. It is intended for a guide for DIY'ers everywhere, to help save them a few dollars and give them the satisfaction of a job well done.

[A GUIDE USING CALCIUM REACTORS](http://www.reefkeeping.com/issues/2002-05/sh/feature/index.htm)

<http://www.reefkeeping.com/issues/2002-05/sh/feature/index.htm>

[CHEMISTRY AND THE AQUARIUM by RANDY HOLMES-FARLEY](http://www.advancedaquarist.com/issues/nov2002/chem.htm)

<http://www.advancedaquarist.com/issues/nov2002/chem.htm>

[CALCIUM CARBONATE REACTOR BY DR. DBW](http://ozreef.org/content/view/61/29/)

<http://ozreef.org/content/view/61/29/>

Buy, Sell, Swap and Wanted?....

Wanted

To other club Members

If you have coral morphs besides Red or Purple that you don't need anymore. Please contact me. I want to introduce a few more colours into my tank.

Thankyou

Michael Olivero –

oliveromichael@yahoo.com.au

For Sale

I have assorted Corallimorphs mainly blue or green. Some are singles on small rocks others are groups on larger rocks. Will bring them to the meeting. Selling them from \$3 to \$30 depending on size and number.

David Bloch-

fishnut@optusnet.com.au



Membership Application / Change of Details Form 2005

Office Use Only		
* Membership No.	* Application Date: / /	
* Annual Membership (pro-rata for remaining months of the calendar year @ \$2 per meeting):		
General - \$24	Country/Associate - \$12	Pro-rata - \$

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 (no Hotmail addresses):	
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.

Where did you first hear about MASWA? _____

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 feel you need help with/more info. on?

What are you hoping to gain by joining MASWA?

Date*:	Signature*:
---------------	--------------------

Payment can be made by:

CHEQUE - make cheques payable to the MASWA treasurer, **Paul Tayler**

EFT - BSB 086 217, A/C # 69355 1664 (please include your name on all EFT transfers!).

Send applications to:

MASWA Membership Applications
C/o Paul Tayler
PO Box 7185
Shenton Park WA 6008