



The Living Reef

August 2005 - Frag Feast VIII

Hi everyone

This month has been a full on month for us in our house, with a move coming up and Maria, Josh and I have just got back from holidaying in Queensland. We visited Sea World while we were there and WOW, It was fantastic. Would recommend to go and see it if you ever get the chance. The Shark Bay exhibit was amazing and just made you envious of the staff that work there.

Also in this issue you will notice Alf J. Nilsen sent a letter to me asking for some submissions for a German magazine "Koralle". Sound like a great opportunity for MASWA members to show some WA marine tanks to the rest of the world.

Also Dallas (MASA President) has asked for the MASA President's Report to be put in the newsletter. There is some great stuff happening in MASA and RTAW so that would be worth a look to.

I also would like to thank Maria for a great Quiz Nite last month. She organised the whole night (with the help of Tony on the night) and I personally had a great time and some good laughs, even after our group come last. Must have been the crowd I was hanging with!!! I look forward to the next one and wouldn't miss it for quids

Enjoy
Ed

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MASWA Meeting Calendar....

August 31st – **Brendan Chua**
32 Tully Rd
East Perth
FRAGFEST VIII

September 28th - **Ross Coghill**
Special Raffle

November 30th - ???
FRAG FEST IIX

October 26th – ???
Guest Speaker

December
Christmas Meeting

We need hosts for October and November so don't be shy

MASWA Contact Information....

COMMITTEE – 2005

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

Web Editor – Web Page Enquiries
Ronald Tan - 9304 7890
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Vice President – General Enquiries
Stuart Hoskin - 0413 315 059
stuartnruth@optusnet.com.au

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Top Ten Competition

Top Ten "Ways To Save A Buck When It Comes To A Reef Tank"

The winner of last Months Competition is

- <1> **"Join MASWA"**
By Ross Coghill
- <2> **"Run your grey water through your RO Unit"**
By MARIA WHITE
- <3> **"Do not enter a fish shop"**
By Claudia
- <4> **"Don't waste money on your own tank, find the address of the MASWA member whose tank you like best and break in while they are asleep. Sit their quietly watching their tank and pretend that it's yours. To make the illusion all the more real, you may want to help yourself to the contents of their fridge."**
By Nathan Cope
- <5> **"Use cardboard cut out for fish"**
By Stuart Hoskins
- <6> **"KISS- Keep It Simple Stupid"**
By Daniel Roworth
- <7> **"Stop buying the gadgets to save time and work"**
By Paul Tayler
- <8> **"Don't have one"**
By Daniel Roworth
- <9> **"Making your own base rock from cement and coral rubble, collected from Quabba."**
By Lee McIntyre

<10> **"Baby-sit a friends tank and steal his Arco's while he is on holidays"**
By Matt Wies

Well-done Ross with that great advice there and don't forget to grab your 6 free raffle tickets at the next meeting

Think you're funny?

[Email](#) or Post an entry on our MASWA Forum for the

MASWA's next month's competition is

Top Ten "Things Your Fish Would Say To You If They Could Talk!"

Then before the next newsletter goes to publish we will pick the 10 entries to be published in the Newsletter. The winner of Number 1 position will win **6 FREE Raffle Tickets** for the that Monthly Meeting. You can check progress of the entries on our MASWA own Forum but you have to be a registered [MASWA/RTAW Forum Member](#) to do this. It's free and easy to do

This is a fun competition that will be ran every month **So come on Email/post your entries and have a go**

MASWA Social Pages

Hi guys,
What a night, I am pleased with the feedback from the quiz night. Thanks for your help Tony; you got me out of a couple of tight spots. It was a great nights entertainment, with loads of laughs and only a little confusion. I'll have to get use to Taff's accent. It was nice to see a good crowd.



The winners were: Ronald, Claudia, Paul, Stuart and Matt

For those who missed out make sure the next one is on your agenda. Some great prizes were won and a few people won a couple of times. Kudos to the Blowfish, you did well.

Maria



Join us online

June Meeting Rundown...

This month we ventured up to Tony's place for our monthly meeting with a good turn out of 19 members and 2 guess'. The main focus on the night was the quiz night and I must say I had a great time and some good laughs as well. We did get time to check out Tony's tank and it was looking great as usual.



With corals like Brains, Fungii, Bubble Coral, Coralmorphs, Xenia, Euphyllia and many more hard and softies the tank was beaming. A good tank to take a look at if you are just starting out in the hobby. His double glazed glass skylight created some interest with people always looking for those cheaper alternatives to keep those high costs down. As Tony

had mentioned his corals seem "brighter in colour" and generally in better health so something to think about.



We also had our monthly raffles with Stuart taking home a book for the door prize and Lee, Claudia, Taff and Alex taking home vouchers and congratulations to the blowfish's for winning the quiz night. I think they cheated myself but hey I'm no judge!!! HaHa Thanks Tony for a great display and for hosting the meeting

Chris

Fact:

There is more than 1360 billion cubic kilometres of water on Earth,
Most of it is in the oceans and seas

August Meet Information....

This month we are off to Brendan's Chua's place. He has recently upgraded to a 4ft tank "The Dream" as Brendan calls it. To a 4' x 18" x 18" with a 3' x 16" x 18" sump. The tank has been running for about 3 months and he has collected some great corals. Brendan has also started a breeding facility in his dad's garage consisting of 6x 2ft tanks and 2x 4ft tanks. You can view Brendan's tanks in his [Tank Journal on RTAW](#) or at his web page. I think he has even changed it since again so should be interesting to see what he has done.

Brendan's address is 32 Tully Rd East Perth the meeting will start at **7.30 pm sharp**.

Formalities to the meeting will be:

President address

Introduce new members

Door prize

Host talk on tank

Raffle drawn

Frag Feast

General discussion

Wind-up

Don't forget that it is Frag Fest Number 8 and time to take out the wire cutters and chisels and smash up all of our prized corals in the name of the MASWA FRAGFEST. For all the new members or old members that have not participated in a Fragfest, Fragfest is conducted in the interest of captive coral propagation and reducing the impact of our hobby on the reefs. Remember that Fragfest is not limited to corals. It also includes livestock as well. In the past we have even had young clownfish brought along to meetings!!

The general idea is that the fraggers receive one coral back for each frag donated and any frags left over at the end go to new members. There is usually quite a few left over so for all those newbies this is a great month to get involved. There is an **Award at the end of the year** for the most productive fragger. So get fragging!!

Hope to see you all there

Chris

Fishy Links And News

Florida coral reef off the Keys has scientists perplexed

OFF THE FLORIDA KEYS- A small craft hovers over a slimy purplish red creature feeding on small organisms as a diver combs the dark terrain, scooping up a spineless creature that looks so bizarre, it couldn't possibly be from Earth.

The vessel and explorer drift off into the cobalt blue abyss in search of more species.

"We've got worms," a voice from the vessel radios to the mother ship, as the sub crosses a field of tubular white invertebrates.

A small red grouper swims by, reminding the diver that he's not on Mars or the moon, but exploring a coral reef hundreds of feet deep in the Gulf of Mexico. The reef offers as many questions for scientists as space, but is, to some degree, less explored.

Few people have made the 250-foot descent to Pulley Ridge, the deepest coral reef in the continental United States. Fishermen knew it was a grouper and tilefish habitat and that there were sponges, but it was not until recently that it was really visited.

A submersible vessel made the journey in the late 1990s, allowing scientists to see it. Recently, a few brave souls dove the reef and for the first time man was able to touch it. The trip also led to the most profound research of the area ever, scientists said.

More><http://www.tcpalm.com/tcp/home/article/0.1651.TCP.996.4018752.00.html>

Cyclone damaged 10% of reef

One of the most severe cyclones to lash Australia damaged at least 10% of the world heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef, scientists said yesterday.

Cyclone Ingrid, even more powerful than Cyclone Tracy that devastated the northern city of Darwin on Christmas Day 1974, cut a swath through a third of the

region's 260 coral reefs when it hit Queensland's far north coast in March.

The category four cyclone packed winds of more than 155mph and whipped up waves as high as 10 metres (33ft), according to the Australian bureau of meteorology.

More><http://www.guardian.co.uk/australia/story/0,12070,1551275,00.html>

Scientists believe they have discovered proof that global warming has altered Tasmania's marine environment.

A group of biologists from the Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute has found a shallow reef extensively covered by coral at the Kent Group Marine Protected Area near Flinders Island off the north-east of Tasmania.

Shallow water coral reefs only survive in warmer waters and are usually found in tropical areas such as Queensland.

The senior biologist who discovered the reef, Neville Barrett, believes it is evidence that rising water temperatures are having an impact on the marine environment.

"A lot of these corals are occasionally found in very small clumps in Bass Strait," Dr Barrett said.

"It's exceptionally rare to find very extensive, pretty much 100 per cent cover areas of it south of Sydney, so it's something completely unexpected."

The CSIRO has noticed other changes, including the invasion of about 30 species of fish from warmer areas to Tasmanian waters.

CSIRO senior scientist Ron Thresher says local marine species are also moving further south.

"There's no doubt [there have been] major changes in the community and ecosystems down here because of these species coming down," Dr Thresher said.

There is also speculation the changes have contributed to the decline of Tasmania's kelp forests over the past few decades.

August 2005 MASA President's Report

Firstly, let's make a quick introduction for those that don't know me. My name is Dallas Warren and I have recently been elected to the position of President of the Marine Aquarium Societies of Australia. I thought it would be a good idea to let everyone know out there what has been happening with MASA recently and what is coming in the future. This will become a regular report, to keep all members of MASA out there up to date with what is going on.

You might be wondering, who is MASA and what does it have to do with me? Well, MASA, as the name actually suggests, represents all of the marine aquarium societies that currently exist within Australia. Basically, it is an umbrella organization that was formed to help further the hobby within Australia. MASA is NOT here to run those individual societies, it is to provide support, open up the communication channels between those that exist, and assist those looking to set up a new society. What MASA is looking to do is best summarised in it's mission;

1. To act as an information resource for all Australian marine aquarists, whether part of a MAS or not.
2. To bring the marine aquarium hobby together within Australia, to allow growth and sharing of knowledge and expertise.
3. To work with all relevant organisations, both national and international, in order to:
4. Educate, inform, and support best practises for sustainability, and
5. Encourage captive propagation and thereby encourage advances in marine aquarium husbandry and further reduce collection impact on the environment, via Environmental Policy.
6. To offer assistance to hobbyists in the establishment and ongoing administration of local marine aquarium societies.
7. To actively promote sustainable practices in the hobby, including, but not limited to:
8. captive propagation, both recreationally and commercially, and
9. drastic reductions in mortality rates during collection, handling and holding of animals within the commercial sphere of the hobby.
10. To act as a political voice at both a state and federal level on issues pertaining to marine aquarium keeping.
11. To provide common online resources to enhance the feeling of community amongst reef keepers

With the beginning of the financial year again, this heralds the vacation of positions and subsequent election of the MASA committee for 2005-2006. The MASA committee is built up by a maximum of 2 representatives from each of the existing societies. It is from this pool of representatives that the various committee positions are filled, with a nomination and election processed utilised. Currently, MASA represents;

- Marine Aquarium Societies of Australia Orphans Group, MASAOG
- Marine Aquarium Society of Sydney, MASS
- Marine Aquarium Society of Queensland, MASQ
- Marine Aquarium Society of Victoria, MASOV

- Marine Aquarium Society of Western Australia, MASWA

The new committee for 2005-2006 is as follows, with a listing of the people in each position, their society that they represent and their username on Reefing the Australian Way. Congratulations to those elected to the various positions and thank you for volunteering your time to assist in the running of MASA. Without your time there would not be a MASA.

- President
Dallas Warren (MASOV aka Dr DBW)
- Vice President
David Macnamara (MASQ aka Maquaman)
- Secretary
Jamie Newman (MASOV aka Bandit)
- Treasurer
Matthew Searles (MASS aka searlesy)
- Partner Coordinator
Matthew Searles (MASS aka searlesy)
- Media Liaison
Dallas Warren (MASOV aka Dr DBW)
- Online Resource Manager
Caevan Sachinwalla (MASS aka caevan)
- General Committee Member –
Jimmy Anderson (MASAOG aka Jimmy A)
Joel Willis (MASAOG aka JDub)
Chris Sutton (MASWA aka venus)
Brett Parnell (MASQ aka Spooky)

It is sad to announce that the Marine Aquarium Society of South Australia (MASSA) decided to disbanded and be absorbed into MASAOG. There was insufficient interest and people with time to keep things going. Hopefully in the future enough interest will return in South Australia to revive MASSA. But in the mean time, the good news is that MASAOG has gotten an injection of new members which is helping to get things rolling along further there. Thanks to those within MASAOG who are organising events and providing resources for those that don't have access to a local society. This is exactly the idea behind the formation of the orphans group.

If you are active online and visit the [MASA website](#), then you may have noticed the recent move to a new server and new discussion board software. This means that the server issues that we have been suffering for some time have been solved, finally. At this point I must thank Caevan for the immense work and time he put into moving to the new server. It was not a trivial task and there were a number of problems that had to be overcome to make the move as seamless as it was for the users of the website. Also, I would like to thank Jack Finn for the donation of the web server for the site to be hosted on. There are further changes in the pipeline for the MASA website, which I will have more details on in my next report, so stay tuned. If you can't wait that long, then you can ask your societies MASA representative and they will be able to fill you in.

Till next time.
Dallas Warren
MASA President
dbw@ozreef.org

Dear Australian Aquarium Friends!

My name is Alf Jacob Nilsen. I live in southern Norway and am the co-author of The Modern Coral Reefs Aquariums. You can read more about this book by following the link to "books" at this page:

<http://home.online.no/~ajnilsen/index.htm>

In July-August 2004 I visited Australia for my third time and spent a lot of time along the Qld. coast. I visited Reef HQ, AIMS and of course the GBR. This all lead to material for articles on "Australia" to be presented in a special edition of the German magazine "Koralle" published at Natur & Tier Verlag, Germany (www.ms-verlag.de), a magazine that is also published in English.

The magazine is actually an aquarium magazine and we are seeking contact with Australian marine enthusiasts that want to present their aquariums, write about their club or about special events they have experienced with respect to the marine aquarium or about other topic related to the marine hobby down under.

Needless to say that this will be a unique possibility to present the Australian marine hobby in Europe and in USA!

What we are looking for are in principle private aquarium features including a little story that introduces the aquarium as well as the aquarist, e. g. by reporting a little "behind-the-scenes-story". It should be a coral reef aquarium with at least some SPS

corals in it, and we should also be able to see the technical set-up. So what we need from each aquarist is about five nice photographs, or more, so we have some choice (one showing the whole tank, one showing the technical set-up, plus some nice detail shots, and one of the photographs could also show the aquarist, e. g. feeding the animals), plus a little "story", reporting on how he has entered the hobby, or how he set up his tank, or what was his greatest success or his biggest failure.

We hope that some of you will take up the idea and contribute with txt and pictures. Please contact Daniel Knop at Daniel@Knop.de who is the editor of this unique, special magazine. If you need more information in this matter or have general questions, please do not hesitate to contact me either by replying to this message or at my private e-mail at ajnilsen@online.no.

We hope for your response....

Best wishes
Alf J. Nilsen

Bioquatic Photo

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The Tao of Marine Aquaria

Tips for Our Hobby and Life

Lessons One to Seven

1997 Adam H. Whitlock

Edited By Elizabeth M. Lukan 11/25/00

Lesson Three: Relationships Take a Lot of Work

Because our hobby involves living creatures, our involvement in it must entail more than ownership; we must foster a relationship. As with any relationship, it will take a lot of work to make it successful. From the beginning, you owe a debt to your aquatic pets. They have been removed from their natural environment, roughly handled, subjected to the rigors of transport, and stressed by introduction to new surroundings (e.g., aquascaping, water parameters, and tank mates) a number of times before they are netted a final time to be brought to your house. If we, as humans, were subjected to the same treatment, few of us would probably survive (read about the African slave trade for proof). And for what purpose? Our enjoyment. Ouch.

Is this an indictment of our hobby and a call for its ban? No. It is a wake-up call to all hobbyists to acknowledge the dark side of the hobby and to understand that responsible care of our fish and invertebrates is a serious responsibility and that our relationship as caretaker should not be taken lightly. This is a hands-on hobby that requires true dedication and an ambition to succeed. It also demands that we learn enough about our animals that we can work with them to maintain their health. If we are successful at keeping them happy and also succeed in learning about their lives and requirements, perhaps contributing to the body of knowledge that will help mankind protect and preserve their species in their natural environment, then maybe we can consider our debt to them repaid. Don't be a welsher. Put in the amount of work required or get out of the hobby.

Fact:

Soft corals avoid being overgrown by algae or sponges by producing special chemicals. Medical researches are investigating these as possible anti-cancer drugs for human use

MASWA Sponsors....

It's official; MASWA now has four 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

OCEANARIUM

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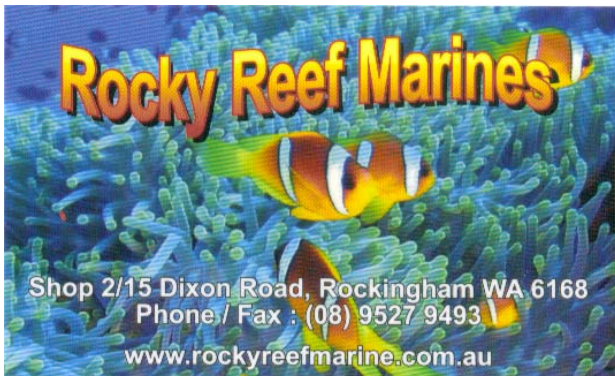
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