



The Living Reef

November 2006

Wednesday 22nd 7.30pm

Hi Guy's

We are just starting to feel the beginnings of the summer heat. The summer brings with it a new set of problems with trying to keep your marine tank under that 30°- 31° mark. So here are some ways to help you do this. Preparing for the heat now, can save a potential disaster later. Have a read through our [feature article](#).

I would like to welcome a few new members this month. Welcome to Rhys Johnson, Chris Parfit, Luke Wheat, Peter Bensley, Ryan Ellis and Janey Pagels. Please make them feel welcome at the meeting guy's

See you at the meeting guy's.

Chris

[RTAW Reefpedia](#)

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

Inside this Issue....

[MASWA Meeting Calendar....](#)
[MASWA Contact Information....](#)
[MASWA Message Board](#)
[Social Pages](#)
[Last Months Meeting Rundown](#)
[This Months Meeting Information](#)

[Fishy Links and News](#)
[Feature Article](#)
[For Sale, Swap or Wanted](#)
[Commercial Sponsors](#)

MASWA Meeting Calendar....

November 22th – Chris Parfitt
7.30pm Sharp
2 Schofield St
Hamilton Hill
Frag Fest XII

December Saturday 16th – Joe Francis
Xmas Meeting and AGM

February 28th ???
Frag Fest XIII

January 31st ???
Guess Speaker

March 28th ????
Special Raffle

MASWA Contact Information....

COMMITTEE – 2006

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
mailto: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
chris@aussiereef.com.au

Web Editor – Web Page Enquiries

Ronald Tan - 9304 7890
cyberon@westnet.com.au

Social Coordinator – Meeting Venues

Advertising Enquiries, raffle donations,
Even "just to be sociable"
Maria White – 0416 206 647
n1venus@bigpond.com.au

Frag Fest Co-ordinator –

Brendan Chua
nani87@gmail.com

WEB ADDRESS

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

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

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 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

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

MASWA Swap Meet

MASWA trialled having a marine aquarium related Garage Sale at our last month's meet which was held at Warren's in Wattle Grove.

We were encouraging members to bring their unwanted equipment as well as equipment that wasn't working as there were people wanting parts et. The only conditions that were imposed was that the Garage Sale was related to the aquarium hobby, no livestock and that MASWA would not take any responsibility regarding buying/selling and it will be buyer beware.

The Committee would appreciate some feedback to see what sort of success it was and if members would like to make the event regular.

Feedback can be emailed to chris@aussiereef.com.au or post here [Garage Sale](#)

Quick Words of Advice

Quarantine Tank

An invaluable way of avoiding adding a diseased fish to your system. If a disease is discovered while the fish is in the quarantine tank the options and ability to treat the disease is much greater. Additionally, any fish already in the tank are not exposed to the disease. It does not have to be anything fancy, just a small tank, pump, heater and some biological filtration.

Research

Probably the most important thing that you can do, to ensure that you are making the "correct" decision about anything to do with the reef aquarium. Then do some more research, read a few websites, buy a good book or two, then do some more research.

A great place to get a feel for the type of set up that is possible, look through the [Tank Journals](#) forum on [RTAW Forums](#).

By doing research, you expose yourself to a significant amount of information from different resources. Then you are able to take that information on board, start to understand what is going on, then make your own logical conclusion.

Last Months Meeting Rundown...

Last month we all dropped into Warren and Rebecca's home to check out this massive tank we all here so much about. We weren't disappointed that's for sure.



Warrens tank boast a whopping 1800ltrs for a display tank 305cm x 76cm x 76cm (10'x2.5'x2.5') Also with 4 Solar Tubes installed above and 4 x 150w MH lighting was a interesting subject at the meet. Even though it was a cloudy day , it was certainly impressive the light that was going into the tank.

The fish room was just as impressive with an unusual but cool looking glass skimmer(Foam Fury), an automatic RO top up system, Ozone, refugium and lots more.



This meet was also a trial for the MASWA Swap Meet. There was some wheeling and dealing going on and it will be interesting to here back some comments from the members on how it all went and if anyone can suggest improvement etc. Would be nice to make this a annual or bi-annual event.

All in all everyone had a good time with Maria White taking the door prize and Chris Wt, Lee, Ross., Bill B and Minh taking procession of the raffle prizes.

Thanks Warren and Rebecca for having us over and thanks for a the great hospitality

Chris

Up & Coming Meet Information....

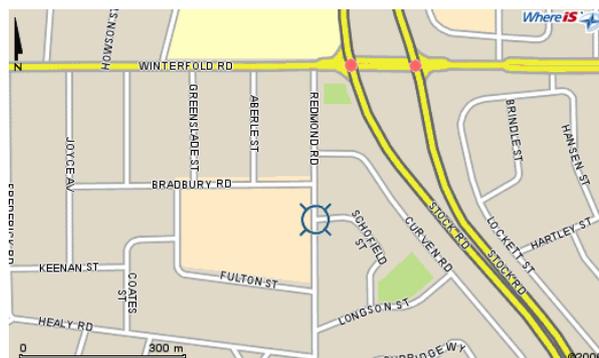
This moth we are off to Luke Wheat and Christine Parfitt at 2 Schofield Street Hamilton Hill, about 2minutes south of Heaths place down Stock road. They have a reef tank 4x2x2.5 ft, aged 4-5 months. Inhabitants include Percula Clowns, Sebae Clown, Yellow Tang, Marine Betta, Lemon Peel Angel, Chromis, Cupid the Zebra eel, and PJ cardinals. Corals include a mix of SPS and softies and One clam (a new addition).

The equipment list includes 2x 30w Fluoro plus 400w halide 14k, Refugium, Skimmer, a DSB, and for circulation is with 2x Tunze 6060 and controller. From what I been told Chris and Luke also have about 20 other tanks that they use for breeding.

Coming up this month is the Frag Fest as well. After the success of the last Frag Fest it is sure to draw a crowd. For those of you who are not sure what a Frag Fest is, The general idea is that the fraggers receive one coral back for each frag brought to the meeting and if 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 more info here [November meeting Frag Fest](#)

The meeting starts at 7.30 sharp at 2 Schofield Street Hamilton Hill, about 2minutes south of Heaths place down stock road.



whereis.com

Hope to see you all there
Chris

Feature Article

Heating & Cooling From RTAW Reefpedia

Heating

Heating a tank is a fairly simple affair in Aquariums, a simple Aquarium heater is all that is required. These can be purchased at any Aquarium store as well as online resources. You can however opt for more accurate methods like temperature controllers etc. Titanium heaters are quite popular with larger tanks. If you can afford to it is good practice to use 2 lower powered heaters instead of 1 full power in case of a heater failure. ie if your tank requires a 300W heater, use 2 150W heaters instead. If one fails the other one will struggle to keep the temperature up enough to alert you to a problem but it will not drop enough to lose any livestock.

Cooling

There are a few ways you can cool a tank:

Chillers

The simplest & most expensive is to buy a [chiller](#) & leave on a tank at the set temp.

Air conditioning

The tank can be cooled by ensuring that the room temperature is lower than the temperature at which the aquarium is to be kept. Use of air conditioners can be just as energy efficient as using chillers, and has the added advantage of this is it keeps you cool as well.

Extraction Fans

Adding Fans to hoods will also go a long way to keeping tanks cool, by extracting hot air from light fittings before it can influence tank temperature. These are also linked to the next method, evaporative cooling, by assisting in the removal of humid air, therefore increasing the capacity for more evaporation to take place.

Evaporative Cooling

Placing a desk or pedestal fan blowing on the surface of the water promotes evaporation which is extremely effective in providing a cooling effect. Bathroom exhaust

fans are a very cheap option for a quiet fan that moves a large amount of air. Be aware however that this will increase the required replacement rate for freshwater [top off](#). The effectiveness of fans for evaporative cooling should not be underestimated in its usefulness. Be aware also, that under humid environmental conditions (eg Tropical Northern Australia) evaporative cooling is considerably less effective and other methods of cooling will need to be employed.

Ice

If the tank is small, large blocks of frozen RO water, or frozen plastic bottles filled with water placed in the tank can help in small amounts to cool the tank down. Given that this relies on human intervention, this is to be considered as an emergency measure only. It is ineffective for larger tanks due to the large amounts of ice required. As a rule of thumb 1kg (L) of ice can provide a cooling effect of around 1°C in 100 litres of aquarium water. Consequently reducing a 400L tank by 4°C (say from 32°C to 28°C) would require around 16 kg of ice. Cooling a 60L tank by the same amount would require a much more practical 2.4 kg of ice.

Prevention is Better than Cure

Even better than implementing cooling measures is to prevent the tank from heating up to start with. Most organisms will be fine for a few days without the lights turned on. This will have a huge difference if you have large lights. Locating the tank on an internal wall, away from a West-facing walls or windows, and good room ventilation will all assist in keeping the tank cool.

Insulation

What is also important is reducing the amount of heat getting into the tank from its surrounding environment. This is particularly important for systems that are situation in buildings that have poor insulation, such as tin sheds, or the sump is located externally.

[Insulation Case Studies](#)

Fishy Links And New

Expert: Oceans Turning More Acidic; 'A Major Threat to Marine Organisms'

Nairobi, Kenya (Nov 9, 2006 18:30 EST) The world's oceans are becoming more acidic, which poses a threat to sea life and Earth's fragile food chain, a climate expert said Thursday.

"The oceans are rapidly changing," said professor Stefan Rahmstorf on the sidelines of a U.N. conference on climate change that has drawn delegates from more than 100 countries to Kenya. "Ocean acidification is a major threat to marine organisms."

In a study titled "The Future Oceans — Warming Up, Rising High, Turning Sour," Rahmstorf and eight other scientists warned that the world is witnessing, on a global scale, problems similar to the acid rain phenomenon of the 1970s and 1980s

More>

http://www.underwatertimes.com/news.php?article_id=80361295410

Want a reef named after you? Then pony up money

KEY WEST - (AP) -- Want to leave your mark on the planet? Have an artificial reef named after you. But it will cost you.

A weeklong online auction started Wednesday for naming rights to an artificial reef project organizers hope to establish off the Florida Keys.

The artificial reef is to be created by sinking the retired 524-foot U.S. Air Force missile-tracking ship General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, which monitored NASA space launches from 1963 to 1983.

Since 1984, the ship has been amid other decommissioned vessels at the James River Naval Reserve Fleet in Fort Eustis, Va.

Bidding on the online auction site eBay Inc. begins at \$900,000, with a reserve price of \$1.3 million, said Joe Weatherby, a project organizer with Artificial Reefs of the Keys.

It's the last piece of a funding puzzle required for the \$5.7 million project. ARK has already gathered \$3 million, but needs to come up with remaining funds to avoid losing the ship to scrapyard.

"This is for someone who is looking for a legacy," Weatherby said. "It's something for an individual or a company that is permanent and positive for the environment."

The proposed artificial reef is expected to attract marine life, provide an ongoing impact to the tourism-based economy and benefit the underwater environment by taking pressure off natural coral reefs.

Shadecloth may cover Barrier Reef

VAST areas of shadecloth could soon cover parts the Great Barrier Reef to prevent the future bleaching of coral.

The shadecloth is one option being developing by marine researchers in Queensland, who say the cloth would be held in place by floating pontoons.

Another option to protect important areas of coral is to spray the water's surface, breaking the surface tension of the water thus increasing the protection of the coral beneath from the sun.

Tourism Minister Fran Bailey has welcomed the shadecloth idea today, saying it would help protect some of the most vulnerable areas of the reef.

"We're very concerned because this is a \$5.8 billion tourist industry on the reef employing 33,000 people," Ms Bailey told ABC radio today.

More>

<http://www.news.com.au/perthnow/story/0,21598,20693156-5005361,00.html>

For Sale, Swap or Wanted

Hi Everyone,

I just thought I would make everyone aware of a bulk buy of Lumenarc III and Lumenarc mini reflectors going on at the moment on the RTAW forum at

<http://www.masa.asn.au/phpBB2/viewtopic.php?t=171029>

For anyone who is not aware these reflectors are considered to be the best reflectors available worldwide. They use a unique multi-faceted shape that maximises the light directed to the aquarium and can increase the PAR that reaches your corals drastically, resulting in brighter and healthier corals as well as much more economical use of power.

At this stage these reflectors are not available in Australia and as such will be imported from the USA.

More information and pictures of the reflectors can be viewed at

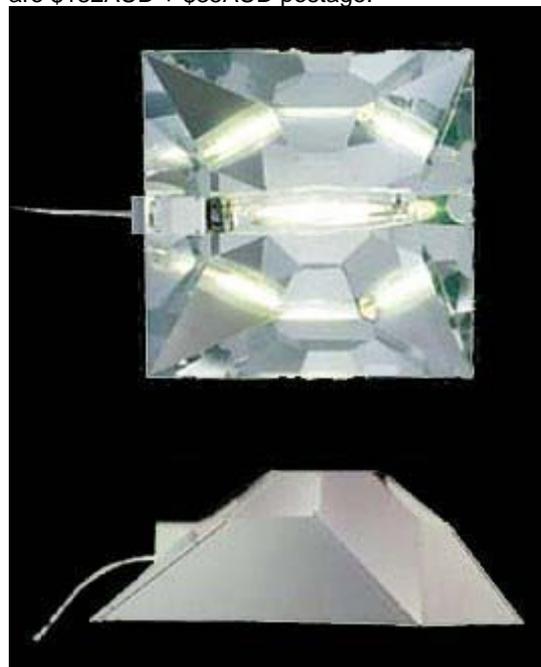
<http://www.reefexotics.com/lumenarc.htm>

which incidentally is the business that is being dealt with by the group buy organiser.

If you are interested in the above reflectors please place your order at the above link for RTAW or alternatively if you are not a member of the forum please feel free to contact me and I will place the order under my name.

The more reflectors we order the cheaper they will be

on both unit price and freight. At the moment the Lumenarc III are \$145 AUD + \$35AUD, Lumenarc Mini are \$132AUD + \$35AUD postage.



Matt
0430052209

asha01@inet.net.au

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.



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

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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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ph: (08) 9314 7630

web: <http://www.vebas.com.au/>

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



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

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

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.