



## The Living Reef

January 2007

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> 7:30pm

Hi everyone, and welcome to 2007!

Firstly I would like to extend a big thanks to last years committee members for a great year at MASWA. Secondly, hello to this years new committee. We have fresh blood on the committee this year with Heath Boucher stepping up as Vice President and Shona Whaite our new web editor. Stuart Hoskin is trying his hand at the President position, Ronald Tan has picked up Frag Fest Coordinator, Chris Sutton is now the Secretary and Maria White is hanging on as Social Coordinator for another year. As usual Paul Tayler is the numbers man ( Treasurer ), and I have the joy of

putting this newsletter together. A big thanks to Chris for ironing out a few kinks for me!

If anyone has any idea's/articles/submissions for the newsletter, please email me at least one week before the following meeting.

See you at the next 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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## MASWA Meeting Calendar....

**January 31<sup>st</sup> – Paul Tayler**  
**Guest Speaker: Fran Stephens**  
Venue: Paul Taylers  
333 A Railway Road, Shenton Park

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

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

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

**May 23<sup>rd</sup> ????**

## MASWA Contact Information....

### COMMITTEE – 2007

**President – General Enquiries**  
Stuart Hoskin - 0413 315 059  
[stuartnruth@optusnet.com.au](mailto:stuartnruth@optusnet.com.au)

**Web Editor – Web Page Enquiries**  
Shona Whaite - 0428 746 620  
[me@shona.org](mailto:me@shona.org)

**Vice President – General Enquiries**  
Heath Boucher - 0416 240 115  
[boucherh@dodo.com.au](mailto:boucherh@dodo.com.au)

**Social Coordinator – Meeting Venues**  
Advertising Enquiries, raffle donations,  
Even "just to be sociable"  
Maria White – 0416 206 647  
[n1venus@bigpond.com.au](mailto:n1venus@bigpond.com.au)

**Treasurer – Treasury/Payment Enquiries**  
Paul Tayler - 0419 908 264  
[paul@pmtco.com.au](mailto:paul@pmtco.com.au)

**Frag Fest Coordinator –**  
Ronald Tan - 9304 7890  
[cyberon@westnet.com.au](mailto:cyberon@westnet.com.au)

**Secretary – Membership Enquiries**  
Chris Sutton – 0419 858 108  
[chris@aussiereef.com.au](mailto:chris@aussiereef.com.au)

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

**Newsletter Editor – Newsletter Submissions**  
Warren Taylor – 0414 486 999  
[warrenroytaylor@iinet.net.au](mailto:warrenroytaylor@iinet.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



Join us online

## MASWA Message Board...

### MASWA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2007 DUE!

Just a reminder people 2006 is now over and it's time to pay your membership subscription for 2007. MASWA is a non profit organisation and cannot carry unfinancial members for months at a time like in previous years. If your membership dues are not paid by the March 2006 meeting you will be taken off the membership register and receive no more newsletters and unable to attend any monthly meetings! For payment options please see the "MASWA Contact Info" on page 2.

### MASWA Incorporation

MASWA incorporation was finalised on the 22nd Dec 2006. The rules of the incorporation can be found [here](#).

### MASWA Test Kits (Free Testing)

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. Chris will also be bringing along his Phosphate Light Meter and MASWA now has a Refractometer to test salinity of your water.

### Penguin Island Day Trip

There is a day trip planned on Feb 26<sup>th</sup> to Penguin Island. Last year it was about \$10 a ticket and a great day was had by all. For more info talk to Maria at the meeting!

## Last Months Meeting Rundown...

Last months meeting was at Joe's in Atwell where We were treated to not one, but two reef aquariums to ogle at! Joe's first tank is a stylish in wall setup.



The second tank was setup to house Joe's rapidly growing Emperor Angel, and is an impressively sized reef at 7x2x2.



It was also the end of year wrap-up/AGM where we voted on the committee positions, and there were a huge amount of prizes raffled with nearly everyone taking home something. Prizes ranged from pH pens and refractometers, the usual vouchers from our sponsors and some excellent books. Congratulations to Paul, Heath, Tony, Maria, Shona, Ron, Lee, Alex, Chris, Daniel, Paul and Matt on their wins.



Santa also made a brief visit and was a hit with the little ones!

## Up & Coming Meet Information....

**Shenton Park @ Paul's Taylor's 7:30 pm  
Wednesday 31st January**

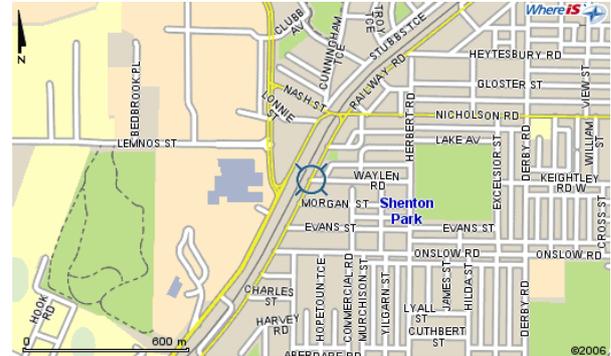
Paul has had some recent additions to his tank in the way of corals and also after a mishap now boasts a new chiller. Paul's tank is very interesting because being an in wall 6X3X2 viewable from his lounge room, it also opens up out into his courtyard showing the nuts and bolts behind it all.

**There will also be a guess speaker this month, Fran Stephan's from the Western Australian Department of Agriculture, Fish health Group.** Fran is a Fish Pathologist following the completion of a PhD project at Murdoch University, where she investigated health problems of Dhufish. Her talk will be on fish health which may relate to the health of our aquarium friends

There's a bit of a bio on Fran:

<http://agspsrv38.agric.wa.gov.au/pls/portal30/docs/FOLDER/IKMP/PW/AH/200306.PDF>

So don't miss this meeting!



## Feature Articles

### Stomatopoda

From the RTAW [Reefpedia](#).

Order Stomatopoda includes the mantis shrimp so named for their similarity in appearance to the insects preying mantis (to which they are only very remotely related). Interestingly, the mode of prey capture in many mantis shrimp is very similar to that of preying mantis. While they are known as mantis shrimp, they are not actually shrimp. True shrimp are members of a different subclass (Eumalacostraca).



A distinctive characteristic of mantis shrimp is their large claws (second maxillipeds) used for prey capture. There are two different types of claws and these determine whether the mantis shrimp is a "spearer" or a "smasher". The claws of spearers have a series of long (and sharp) teeth which curve backwards and these are used for impaling soft bodied prey such as fish and shrimp

(Ahyong, 2004). The claws of smashers usually only have one tooth which is greatly enlarged at the heel and this is used as a hammer on hard bodied prey like crabs and snails (Ahyong, 2004).

Mantis shrimp have the fastest strike of any known creature - a whopping 23 meters per second, with peak accelerations ranging from 6,300 to 8,000 times that of gravity. [See this article here](#) and this article [on how they do it](#).

Large mantis shrimp (smashers >9cm) can break glass, so you have to be careful.



Mantis shrimp are regarded by many hobbyists as pests, but with the exception of a few species, mainly the spearers, many can live for many years in a aquarium with other organisms and cause no noticeable damage, other than taking a few snails from time to time. Large spearers can be quite beautiful and make great subjects for a dedicated tank.

## Fishy Links And News

### To those that collect their own seawater...

I'm updating the page on [Collecting Natural Seawater](#) in Reefpedia to include [Some Locations](#). Can those people that collect their own seawater please provide the address (or latitude and longitude) of their collection location so I can add it to the Wiki?..

### Best food for fish...

Dear panel I was wondering if you have any input on what the best possible food for marine aquaria fish would be...

### Nitrate reduction...

Ok decided to post this in the advanced forums because I have tried all the simple solutions and nothing seems to help me...

### Discovery age continues

MARINE creatures are thriving by a hot volcanic vent in the Atlantic and in dark waters under thick Antarctic ice, boosting theories that planets other than Earth are suitable for life, scientists said yesterday.

About 150 new types of fish were among 500 new marine species, including furry crabs and a lobster off Madagascar, found this year, according to researchers in the 70-nation Census of Marine Life.

Many species were found in places long thought too hostile for life – including by a vent spewing liquids at 407C and other habitats that were dark, cold or deep. Some places seemed as inhospitable as planets such as Mars or Venus.

"The age of discovery is not over," said Jesse Ausubel, a program manager at the US Sloan Foundation, which is a sponsor of the 10-year census. Finds "are provocative for NASA and for people who are interested in life in places other than Earth".

Among discoveries this year were shrimps, clams and bacteria living by the searing 407-degree vent on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean north of Ascension Island, the hottest sea vent documented and more than hot enough to melt lead. [MORE](#)

### Abalone diver survives shark attack

An abalone diver has survived a terrifying attack by a white pointer shark, which swallowed his head and shoulders before he fought free of the predator.

Eric Nerhus, 41, was diving off the NSW south coast on Tuesday when the three-metre shark seized him head on, crunching on his head, shoulders and chest, he told friends later.

Protected from the worst of the shark's bite by a lead-lined weight vest, the diver stabbed and clubbed at the creature's head and eyes with an abalone chisel until it spat him free.

The shark's bite crushed Mr Nerhus's reinforced face mask, broke his nose, and shredded his wetsuit. [MORE](#)

## Classifieds

4x2x2.5(H) Including- 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 heter 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

400W Metal Halide, 14000k lamp, ballast, control gear and reflector \*Brand New\*Never Used\* \$200

Wanted: Macro algae, sea grasses, Caulerpa etc please bring to next meeting.

Enquiries into all the above ads can be made to Heath at: 0416 240 115 [boucherh@dodo.com.au](mailto:boucherh@dodo.com.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](mailto: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



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



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

Phone 0427 941 126 Fax (08) 9305 9891

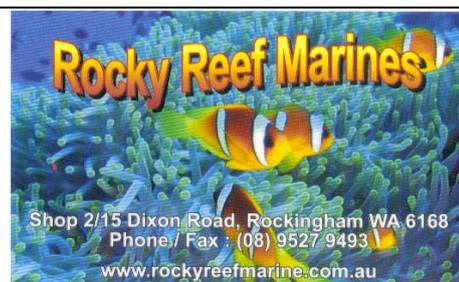
<http://www.oceanarium.com.au>

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



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

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

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

email: [vebas@vebas.com.au](mailto: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.

## Sponsored Advertisement...



**Specials for Maswa Members!**

**Aqua Macro Protein Skimmers**

<http://aqua-macro.com/skimmer.htm>



AS-150P \$240 inc pump

AS-300P \$350 inc pump

AS-350P \$375 inc pump

All include needlewheel pump, air silencer and bubble catcher.

Less 10% for MASWA members of course...

Also, while stocks last.... Coralife 6.6kg salt (190L) \$30.00ea (again less 10% on presentation of membership card).