

# WaterColumn

February 2014 ISSUE 2

Western Australian Underwater Photographic Society's Bi-annual Underwater Journal



celebrates 30 years  
How things have changed

Member profile

PIXELS winners

1984

2014

Film to digital

Evolution of cameras

WAUPS from the  
beginning and now



# Mike Ball Dive EXPEDITIONS

COD HOLE • CORAL SEA • GREAT BARRIER REEF • AUSTRALIA



Photo by Shae Callaghan

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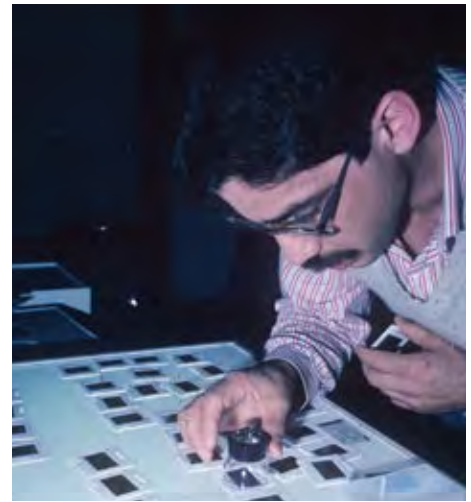


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February 2014 ISSUE 2



## Contents

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 4 Editorial  | 16 WAUPS Timeline                                 |
| Welcome to the Water Column                        | Thirty years of club history                      |
| Wayne's Underwater World of Humour Award           |   |
| 6 Member Profile                                   | 22 PIXELS winners                                 |
| Wayne Storrie                                      | Last six months of results                        |
| 8 WAUPS: the beginning                             | 24 Overall PIXELS winner Chris Holman             |
| Ann Storrie on how it all started                  | Twelve months of persistence pays off             |
| 10 Bob Cotton                                      | 26 Creature Feature                               |
| A look back at a very talented artist              | Sea lions   |
| 11 The WAUPS trophy                                | 28 Not an ugly duckling                           |
| How it came to pass                                | WAUPS involvement in the sinking of the HMAS Swan |
| 12 30...and 120 Years On                           | 30 Parting shot                                   |
| Pat Baker on the history of underwater photography | Maryann Evetts captures a seahorse giving birth   |

Cover by Peter Nicholas, illustrating the changes in 30 years. Additional photo credit for latest housing – Rowan Morrison

# EDITOR'S BUBBLES

This year marks the 30th anniversary of our underwater camera club, a wonderful milestone!

To kick-off the celebrations, members gathered on Sunday the 2nd of February at the Kwinana Grain Terminal for an anniversary dive, followed by a bbq.

Our grand event, where current and former members with partners, friends and club sponsors will enjoy a three course meal will be on the evening of February 22nd at the Swan Yacht Club.

It has been fascinating looking back on the timeline of key events and memories which are part of the club's history.

All the dive excursions, local exhibitions, the who's-who of guest speakers, photographic competitions, and other projects the club has been involved with. Providing images for various educational and not-for-profit groups, books and websites, posters and pamphlets and so on. I'd like to acknowledge the central role that the clubs volunteers - your committee as well as the contributors to the magazines, enews, website and facebook - have played in cultivating and sustaining the society over the years.

Without our core group of helpers from the President down, editors, web managers, those who have mentored

members, organised an excursion, given presentations, run workshops, taken the time to write an article, etc, WAUPS would simply not exist.

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Wayne Storrie and will I hope, serve as a token for the love, respect, and gratitude of his support for WAUPS since its inception. In his honour, Ann is organising a special photographic competition that will be held annually starting this June.

Thank you to everyone who has helped make WAUPS what it is.

*Viv*

## WAYNE'S UNDERWATER WORLD OF HUMOUR AWARD

This annual award represents the fun and love of diving, a passion of one the founding members of WAUPS, Wayne Storrie.

**Topic:** Anything humorous taken underwater or as a split shot. For example – funny fish faces, divers in a humorous position or situation, a composite of arranged subjects, a digitally enhanced image. Let your imagination run wild and make us laugh.

**Date:** Entries close 3rd June each year. Photographs judged and winner announced at the June meeting.

**Prizes:** A Perpetual Trophy plus a small personal trophy. Humorous or other prizes may also be awarded.

**Judges:** One person, or more, who knew and appreciated Wayne's sense of humour. Judges do not necessarily have to be underwater photographers.

**Format:** As per the PIXELS monthly competition with jpeg files no larger than 1MB. Email address TBA.

**Rule:** Marine life is not to be intentionally disturbed or moved when composing or taking the image.

**Note:** These rules may be subject to change annually. The important issue is to get out there and have fun on every dive.





# WAUPS PINBOARD

things to do

- \* fill tanks
- \* light box for Daniel
- \* charge batteries



Oldest  
Underwater  
Photographic  
Club in  
Australia



WAUPS dive  
Sunday  
8am  
bring BBQ food

30th Anniversary  
Dinner 22 Feb  
Ring Sue  
and Tammy



# *Member Profile and Remembrance*

*Wayne  
Storrie*

*1950-2013*



**by Ann Storrie**

Once upon a time (in 1981) I arrived home from work and announced to Wayne that I would like to do a dive course with some friends and would he be interested? Being the most myopic person I've ever known and a rather inactive computer geek at the time, I didn't think Wayne would join us. But, as always, he supported and surprised me. He found an Optician in Perth who had successfully glued lenses into a few dive masks. Within weeks, we were off and racing into some of the most remarkable adventures many could only dream about.

As well as founding and diving with WAUPS, we joined Hugh Morrison and partners at Perth Diving Academy on a roller coaster ride of underwater exploration of Australia and Asia. This was a period that lasted 30 years for us and involved the discovery of several top dive sites, the production of nearly 200 articles and nine books on diving, marine biology and the natural world. Wayne always took the back seat, feeling very embarrassed and accepting little acknowledgment for his role in our achievements. Yet Wayne was the anchor, the lateral thinker, the (usually)

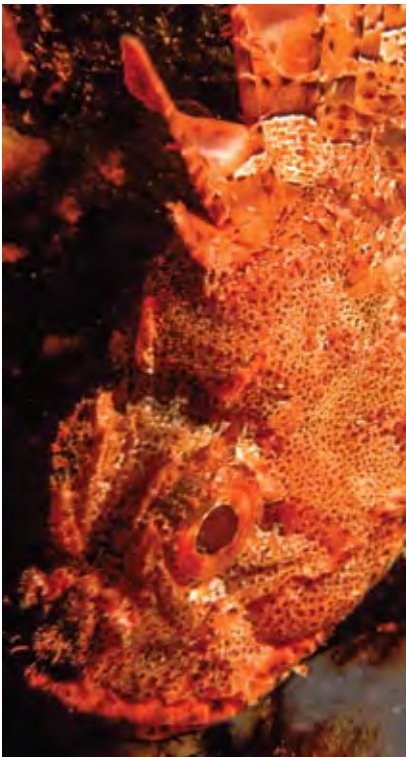
tolerant bystander, the critic, the IT specialist, the camera repairer and the provider of endless amusement that certainly helped to keep our side of the production alive.

Wayne was never as manic about photography as I, often diving without a camera just to enjoy the pleasure of floating about with marine life. Having said that, he still took thousands of photos, producing an absolute cracker every now and again! In 1987, he won the Australian Federation's underwater photography section with the scorpionfish. Yes, you may well laugh now, but in those days, with manual flash, Nikonos IVA camera, slide film, diving alone towing a dive flag, and one hour maximum off Rottnest in terrible vis and conditions, it was no mean feat!

One of Wayne's most loved images was taken in 1993 when, together with Hugh and Bonnie Morrison and Donovan Whitford from Kupang Dive, we reached a little island named Alor, north of Timor. The Pantar Strait runs between the Islands of Alor and Pantar. It is an amazing area with three small inhabited islands within the Strait and drop offs a few hundred metres deep. At the northern end, the water temperature hits around 28 degrees C, while at the southern end, with upwelling currents from the colder Savu Sea, the temperature can suddenly plummet





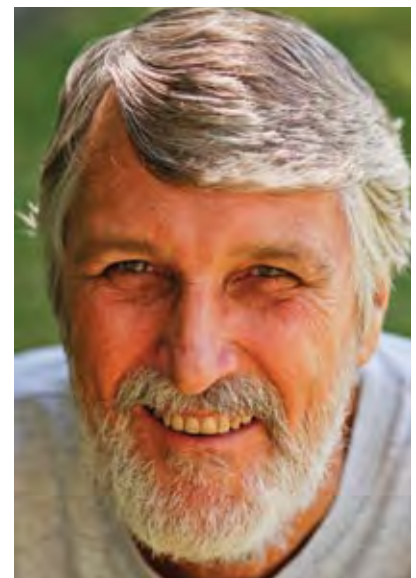


over 10 degrees. As you can imagine, the marine life is diverse and unique. Kelp beds even grow on the southern shores of Alor and Pantar. The Kalabahi Strait that carves its way through the mountains of Alor offers muck diving to rival the Lembah Strait.

We spent nearly two weeks of our nine week backpacking adventure through Eastern Indonesia exploring Alor. The locals said they had never seen divers before. The children and men swam and canoed above us whenever we dived near a village. Wayne looked up and snapped his award winning picture "*The Children of Alor*" (pictured above). Donovan and his father Graham quickly encompassed Alor in their dive business and it was soon reported as one of the top ten dive sites in the world.

Wayne was a great buddy, always ensuring that I was totally independent! He was also a tolerant dive model and, on occasions, a somewhat reluctant photographer of divers. He hated sea snakes. I loved them and often tried to entice him to come close enough to take photos of snakes around me. He managed a couple that I treasure. His humorous stories of these tales and many more (some of almost life-threatening disasters!) provided solid laughter to many people for many years.

Wayne, you will be remembered for far more than your photographs and, my darl, I will always love you.





# WAUPS: THE BEGINNING

SETTING	HIGH SEAS, SMALL BOAT
DATE	SEPTEMBER 1983
PLACE	INDIAN OCEAN, WEST OF BROOME
MAIN PLAYERS	GRAHAM AND INGRID LITTLE ANN AND WAYNE STORRIE
NARRATION	ANN STORRIE



BROOME, ONE HOUR  
BEFORE EMBARKATION (WHILE  
EATING A HUGE BOWL OF  
SPAGHETTI BOLOGNAISE AND  
DRINKING A LARGE CHOCOLATE  
MILKSHAKE):



NO, INGRID, I'M NEVER SEA  
SICK AND I'VE BEEN TO ROTTNEST  
MANY TIMES!



YEH NEVER FELT BETTER.  
BE BACK IN A MINUTE AFTER I GO  
OUTSIDE AND THROW UP!

ARE YOU OK ANN?

HIGH SEAS,  
TWENTY  
MINUTES WEST  
OF BROOME.



EIGHTEEN  
HOURS LATER.



WHY ON EARTH AM I DOING THIS? I'VE BEEN OVER  
THE SIDE EVERY 20 MINUTES FOR THE ENTIRE TRIP AND  
NOW THEY EXPECT ME TO DIVE! HOW ON EARTH COULD  
I HAVE LET WAYNE TALK ME INTO COMING 280KM OFF  
SHORE IN A SMALL BOAT WITH DRINKING WATER ONLY  
FOR OVER A WEEK? NEVER AGAIN!"





**And so began one of the most remarkable and fruitful journeys of our lives.**

We were aboard Perth Diving Academy's 'Lionfish 1' with co-owner and dive master Simon Jones, seven other passengers and John Mangeni at the helm. Included on the passenger list were Graham and Ingrid Little. Graham was armed with a Nikonos II and Nikonos III camera with a manual strobe that flooded after every dive. Ingrid had a Eumig, underwater super 8 movie camera. I had the new Nikonos IVA with a Sunpak manual strobe. Graham and Ingrid also had a couple of ID marine life books and loads of knowledge.

After that first dive I was hooked. For the next week we poured over the books' photos of butterflyfishes, angelfishes, damselfishes, and wrasses. Graham recorded everything he saw and took, even the invertebrates that were, to me, unrecognisable as animals. We argued over species, agonised over the workings of our complex equipment, discussed film types and became best friends.

Wayne was also hooked on diving – though more-so on the tranquillity of being underwater than taking photos. I often wondered about this, as, for Wayne, tranquillity was a dubious title. On that trip alone, he was bitten on the ankle by a potato cod, blew another hose, banged his head on every low structure on the boat (that became mandatory for every dive trip for the next 30 years), got caught in a bad current and, on the last dive, had to come to the aid by buddy breathing with another friend who had run out of air as her husband sat at 25 metres, vomiting

with vertigo. But it was such a different world, being surrounded by amazing creatures that were totally foreign to most land lovers and which whetted our appetites for more knowledge and the ability to record them.

So, after a week of perfect weather, fresh fish daily on the BBQ, pristine reefs and marine life, fun, laughter and great company, I again lay prostrate and sick on the deck of the 'Lionfish'. My mind raced over the past few days, wondering how to learn more about underwater photography and this amazing environment. Then suddenly, WAUPS, over the side again and the Western Australian Underwater Photographic Society was born!

Graham and Ingrid were keen. They gave me the number of underwater photo-journalist, John Butler. He was keen and gave me the number of professional Maritime Museum photographer, Patrick Baker. Pat was keen and said 'Let's do it'.

I spent the next three months distributing pamphlets, ringing those I knew would be interested and organising the venue, helpers, food, etc. In January 1984 on the hottest night of the year at the WA Naturalist's club hall in Nedlands, Patrick spoke on "History under the Sea. A Photographic View". Over 100 underwater photographers, divers and friends attended. It was a wonderful, inspiring evening that culminated in the selection of the first WAUPS committee:

President	Pat Baker
Vice President	John Butler
Secretary	Frits Breuseker
Treasurer	Graham Little
Editor	Ann Storrie
Committee	Sue Owens (Morrison)
	Gerhard Saueracker
	John Brown

The aims of the Society were outlined, a constitution discussed (which was later to be drawn up by Wayne Storrie), meetings and outings were bandied about and of course, membership applications and finances were organised. We had agreed on bi-monthly meetings and by our next meeting which was at the Chelsea Tavern in Nedlands in March, things were rolling along nicely. We welcomed Judy Pitt to fill one last vacancy on the Committee.

Our first outing was to Busselton Jetty. Ingrid, Graham, Terry Mau, Luba Malecki, Wayne and I walked onto piles of 2 metre high seaweed, braced ourselves against the wind and watched the waves crashing on the shore of Geographe Bay. The wineries were a huge success!

Our meetings, on the other hand, were well attended and dry! So much so that by June, it was decided to have monthly meetings at the Chelsea Tavern. Early guest speakers included Pat Baker, John Butler, and Clay Bryce. Workshops on lighting techniques were held, a photo comp for the magazine's cover picture was ripping along and members' photographic efforts were acknowledged in 'show and tell' nights. However, we decided not to organise another dive outing until summer!

And you'd never guess where that was held. Lake Leschenaultia! (Definitely taking no chances on the weather!). Eight dived and the BBQ afterwards ended a pleasant day. Although the dive was not awe inspiring, the marron and minnows were challenging subjects. This successful outing was soon followed by dives at Cockburn Sound, Rottnest, and Busselton Jetty and then on to exotic places far and wide (though we always came back to these 3 as staple dive sites).

The WAUPS Year Book was started and depicts an interesting assortment of activities and history of our industrious group. Although memberships were small compared to other large, general camera clubs, we made up for it with enthusiasm, occasionally attracting nearly all members to a function. During winter, rather than repeat our first disastrous attempt, we took to the bush. Orchid hunting and possum spotting became, for some, as much a part of WAUPS activities as diving.

For Wayne and me, WAUPS was a very big part of our lives. It is wonderful to see how it has prospered and grown. Thank you to all who have contributed, not only on committees, but as members. The Society would not exist without you.





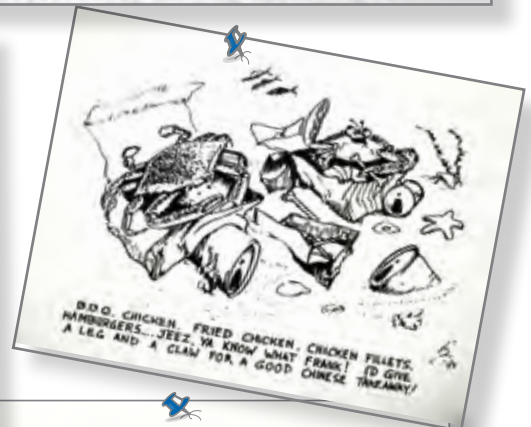
# Bob Cotton

artist extraordinaire

Bob Cotton was a long-serving WAUPS committee member and past president. Sadly he passed away in early 2012 after a brief illness.

Older members have fond memories of Bob, who was a quiet, unassuming person. He was always willing to help, and served many years on the committee in the early 90s. He instigated the infamous local 'Ice-Breaker Dives' and competitions in early spring, to get members back in the water after winter. We'd usually go to the Ammo Jetty in the freezing early hours of the morning and Bob's strict rules entailed being in the water by 7am, or missing out on the competition! We were all surprisingly keen. Of course we had a delicious hot BBQ breakfast afterwards.

Bob could be recognised by his own, unique style of dive and camera gear. Although never having the latest models, he was always enthusiastic about his photography. Another of Bob's skills was his cartoon drawings – many of the newsletters were adorned with his wonderful creations, as seen illustrated here.





# The Olde WAUPS Competition Origins

by Sue Morrison

The Annual Day Dive was the first competition organised within WAUPS, usually held on a charter boat at Rottneest. The idea was to compete under similar conditions on the same day, to make the photographic opportunities as equal and fair as possible.

It was derived from the AUF (Australian Underwater Federation) photo competitions in which competitors had a list of 20 subjects to photograph with slide film, each subject having a certain score e.g. a sealion was worth more points than a sea star. However, points were awarded for photographic merits too! It was 'film fishing' at its extreme, and stalking other competitors with good subjects, hiding rare subjects and even a little stirring up the sediment was rampant! Each competitor dived alone with a safety float – much entanglement of ropes and a real pest when swimming through caves. Eventually everyone realised it was best to hitch your float to a sturdy object near the boat & leave it there, retrieving it on the way back!! Time limits resulted in the hilarious sight of competitors grimly attempting a speedy free style back to the boat with bulky camera gear in tow.

The WAUPS Day Dive competition rules attempted to avoid the cut-throat methods of AUF days. Only 3 topics were chosen as themes, such as 'fish', 'scenery' and 'diver'. In this way you at least had several more shots for each topic (2 rolls of 36 image film), and you could experiment a bit more. Of course you had no idea how your images had turned out on the day – you had to wait about a week to get your film processed! It was incredible to see what different subjects and approaches the various competitors had at the same dive location, and this holds true to the Annual Competition held today. Photographers often see potential subjects in unique ways. For me this is what makes photography, especially underwater, so challenging and interesting.

The committee decided that an appropriate trophy to commemorate this challenging event was needed. After much discussion the threadfin butterflyfish (on the original WAUPS logo) was chosen to go on top of a wooden base. A model was required, but no-one wanted to kill a fish for this purpose. Strangely enough, a dead specimen turned up at an aquarium shop. The owner was not willing to donate the specimen however, he charged a hefty sum of \$20 for it! Realising this was the only one we'd be able to get, the sum was paid. Martin Thompson, a local artist, was contracted to make a cast of the valuable dead fish & construct

a painted model. He did this very skilfully and the model remains in good shape to this day, almost 30 years old. An extra layer was made for the wooden base recently to fit the increasing number of winners' names.

Many other WAUPS competitions have developed since, including:

## **One-off dives**

(e.g. Rockingham wrecks)

## **Trip competitions**

(e.g. Busselton dives)

## **Annual best image**

## **Pixels**

**Portfolio** (novice and open)







# 30...and 120 Years On!

by Patrick Baker  
Inaugural WAUPS President

Never, in a hundred and twenty years of underwater photography, have there been such stunning photographs as we are seeing today, and of such a high technical quality unimaginable to the earlier practitioners. From 1954, I was inspired by pioneer photographers who had begun to reveal the underwater world to an, until then, unsuspecting public. I owe my career to these early influences, all be they in my early years experiences gained only from books, journals, film and TV.

Today, each time opening a magazine such as Ocean Realm, I consistently see images never seen before, images that amaze me with their subject matter, composition and technical prowess. And, in case you wonder, I am still thrilled to be able to experience these images and the work of today's photographers

(although I sometimes do have a tinge of regret that I am unlikely now to share the actuality of "being there").

I recently scrolled through the most recent (#76) of Peter Rowland's excellent on-line (and free) UWP Magazine. It featured such a cornucopia of new underwater camera gear. I even felt a little depressed at just how much gear was available. (Having said that I wonder if I should admit to now owning at least 200 cameras and 50, or more, underwater cameras and housings. Also, one of the largest collections of historic skin diving books in Australia!).

When I came to Australia, forty-one years ago, most publishing - books and magazines and newspapers - was still in black-&-white. I was delighted to discover the well-illustrated publications, Fathom and

Skin Diving in Australia, beautifully published (at times somewhat irregularly) and always with at least 50% colour. These magazines provided an outlet for diver-photographers who were prepared to purchase more ambitious, sometimes very expensive, camera equipment, just to contribute. The Hans Hass Rollei Marine outfit was the item most aspired to, and the common aim was just to see one's work "in print". John Harding's and Barry Andrewartha's magazines provided that outlet. Barry's Sport Diving in Australia and Dive Log continue to do this, a 45-year publishing achievement. And John's 1970's Fathom's can be re-visited, on-line. Dear and respected friends, both.

In 1973 I brought with me to WA a couple of Petri 35mm SLR bodies (for separate monochrome and colour photography) with three



Pat in 1973 with his then entire underwater camera outfit – a Nikonos I with super-wide canon 19mm and bulb flash. Photo: Erik Karlsen





*Pat with his largest and smallest underwater cameras – a video GoPro and film-based Pentax 67 in SeaTite housing.*

lenses, a complete Rollei Marine outfit plus one Nikonos Model 1, and a small tea chest of books. A set of close-up extension tubes and flash-bulb lighting completed the kits, with the exception that....

....my Nikonos had the advantage over every other Nikonos in Australia in 1973, in that it was fitted with a super wide-angle lens, optically corrected for in-water use. This was at a time when such lenses were rare worldwide; usually produced, one at a time, by one or other enthusiastic tinkerer – I like the French word *bricoleur*. Offhand, I know of only a handful of such people who modified existing above-water super-wide lenses from the late 60s onward. Wide-angles suitable for underwater conversion

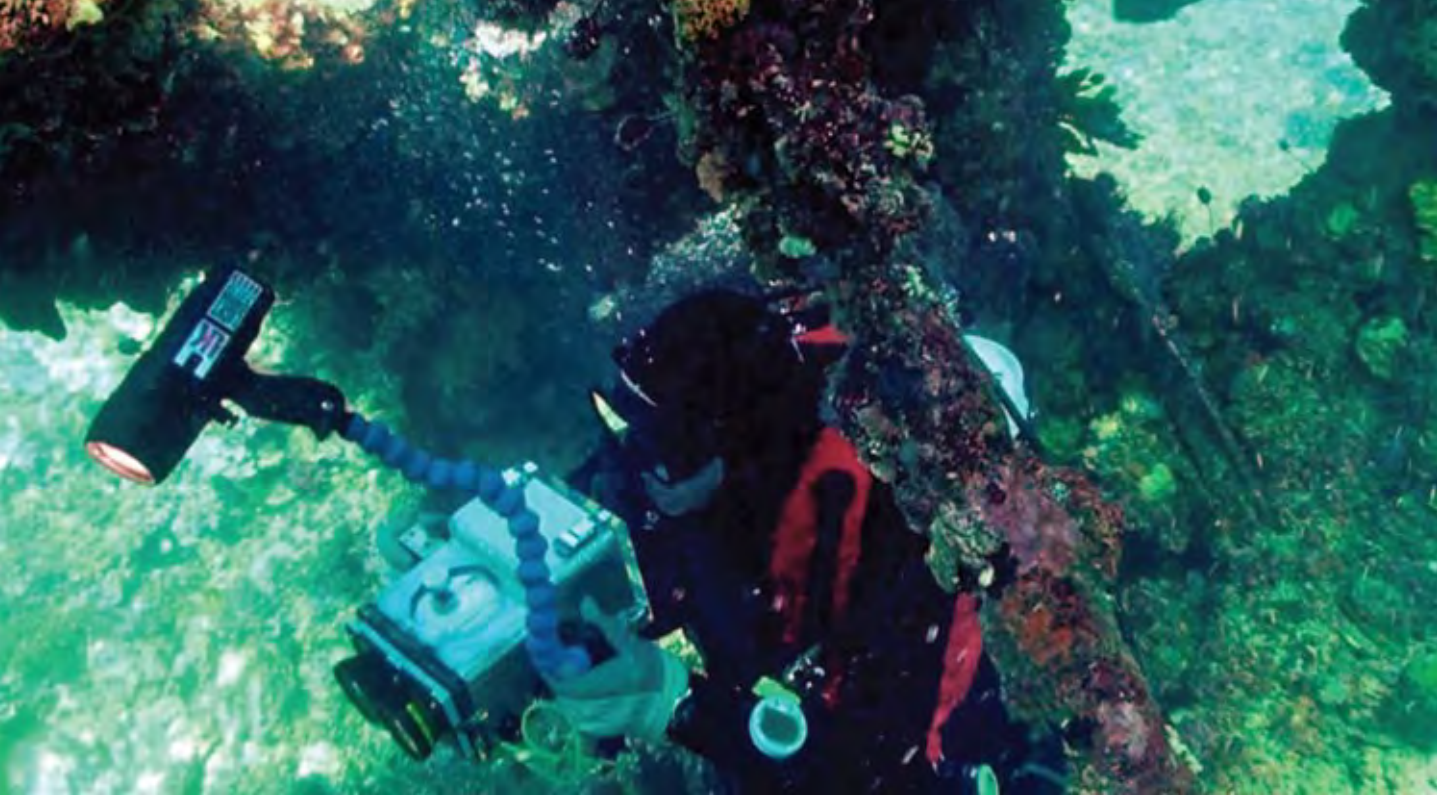
were just not available until then. For me it meant I could get high quality photos, regardless of sea conditions; professionally, a great advantage!

In order to be able to successfully photograph in, usually murky, North European waters I had built my own super-wide using a 19mm Canon lens (angle of view 87°x58°, a full 10% wider than the superb, but not available until 1974, UW-15mm Nikonos lens). Until I dived at the mid-Atlantic Azores for four months in 1972 I did not suspect just how much better clear water photography could be with a “super-wide”. In the Azores I discovered the secret to getting photographs that actually showed the underwater world as we divers imagined it to be...

...and that answer was then, and still is, “Use super-wide-angle lenses”... except that, for the past four, digital, years the answer has been to go even wider, with the lens of choice being the 180° (or thereabouts) Full-frame Fisheye. (Even those lenses are far from new – pioneer underwater photographers Flip Schulke, Walter Starck and Marc Jasinski were using and marketing such lenses for Nikonos in the 1960s)

In late 1983 Ann Storrie contacted local underwater personality John Butler and myself (specialist Maritime Archaeology photographer for the WA Museum) with the idea of forming a local underwater photographic association (I favoured the acronym WASUP (as in Bugs





3 D Filming on the Orizaba – Photo: Pete Ewens

Bunny's "Wa's up, Doc")but found Dick Beilby had already claimed that one for his underwater photo school. So WAUPS we became!)

In 1983 the era of home-made underwater camera equipment was passing and throughout the world there was a growing number of manufacturers. Many people now had Nikonos cameras which had progressed to the electronic Model 4a although the reliable mechanical Model 3 was generally preferred. Nikonos users now lit their subjects with electronic flash (strobe) and used close-up lenses and extension for detailed marine life images. The UW-Nikkor 15mm lens was becoming the lens of choice for

views, shipwrecks and big marine life. The more ambitious photographers began to house their high quality single lens reflex cameras, usually Nikon or Canon and fitted with wide angle and macro lenses, for underwater use.

American Ikelite and Oceanic companies were producing well made housings for 35mm SLR's and the Japanese Sea&Sea had a growing range of innovative equipment for various budgets. In Australia Sea Tite would make housings to order for almost any camera. These included the large format Hasselblad and Pentax 6x7; in my personal collection I have one of the latter, originally commissioned by Rodney

Fox who wanted large format transparencies for his multi-screen Great White Shark extravaganza.

For most of the history of underwater photography film – initially monochrome but by the 1980's almost exclusively colour – was the medium we used. Even when digital cameras started to appear several years passed before the quality and convenience of consumer cameras even approached that of film cameras. Few photographers envisaged the changes that digital was about to bring.

I experimented with a 2 megapixel Nikon and wide angle supplementary lens in a self-made dome-ported housing, but soon discarded it after discovering its slow response and inadequate definition. I do not think I got one successful photo!

I started to use Photoshop to process and print images and did consider that Darkroom work was possibly going to be increasingly irrelevant. In 2003 I bought, and began to enjoy using, my first Digital SLR (a second-hand Fuji S1) but continued to use film cameras for all my underwater photography for several more years. The Fuji SLR was soon replaced by a Nikon D70... then the D80...D200...D90...D300...D7000...it seems never ending! And The Darkroom is a place of the past



19 80's Aquatica housing for a Nikon F3 with motor drive and digital Aquatica housing for a Nikon D90





Left Calypso/Nikor, middle Nikonos 2, right Nikonos 5 along with two types of Sekonic light meters. Photo Peter Nicholas

for all photographers except the “retro” film users (whom I do admire – I just do not want to be there myself).

On Sunday 2nd February 2014 I joined members at Rockingham CBH Jetty for my first WAUPS dive in many years. I already knew from the WAUPS website and the occasional exhibition, publication, competition and lecture how good members’ photography had become. I should not have been surprised to see the quality of camera equipment in use;

Nauticam housings were especially prevalent. I use one myself, the Sony NEX-6 model, fitted with a retro Nikonos water-

corrected lens - either the wonderful Nikonos 15mm or super wide Sea & Sea 13mm Fisheye. The interchangeable lens Sony only covers 66% area of 35mm film cameras but the optical quality of these lenses give the best quality digital images so far available... and the new Sony A7 will allow the use of “full-frame”.

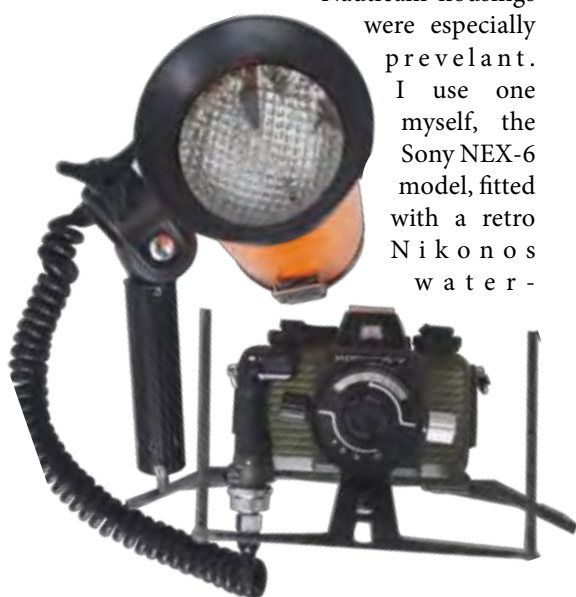
Conditions at the jetty meant that photographers were concentrating on the delightfully rich macro life. For myself the dive was an opportunity to do the opposite (my wife says I am a contrary being) and was shooting super wide-angle movie...in 3D!

Photo-stereoscopy has a history going back to 1839 and the first days of photography, and has frequently been “reinvented” since then. Today, digital TV viewing gives us the best 3-D experience ever and nothing looks better in 3-D than the underwater world. I think Sunday’s jetty divers will be astounded when they get to see themselves in 3-D!

And whilst we are in Retro Mode, digital photography in monochrome (black-and-white) can look pretty good too!



Nikon F2 in Sea-Tite housing and home made flashes. Photo Margy Nicholas





# UNDERWATER AUSTRALIAN

Sunday 2014

\$1.20 incl GST

## WAUPS TIMELINE 1984 - 2013

2014 marks the beginning of a new era for the Western Australian Underwater Photographic Society inc. The digital age has well and truly arrived and more and more people are taking to the water with cameras in hand.

WAUPS looks back at the first thirty years in this special report.



### 1984

Tues 31st Jan 1984 at the WA Naturalists Club Hall, 63 Meriwa St, Nedlands. This inaugural meeting was organised by Ann & Wayne Storrie, Patrick Baker, and Graham & Ingrid Little. Over 100 people attended to watch Patrick's presentation titled "History Under The Sea" a Photographic View.

The WAUPS emblem was designed by John Butler.



Various speakers like Charlie Snow - Hawaii video, Mike Collison - GreenPeace, Ann & Wayne Storrie - Sipadan Island, Patrick Baker - Pericle, Dick Beilby - Creatures colour contre-jour, Pip O'Dell - Advanced lighting techniques, Peter Morrison - Index presentation,

Greg Pobar - Oil spills in WA & cleanup effort, Ingrid Little - UW movies, and Clay Bryce - Marine Biology.

WAUPS first dive trip to Busselton was sidelined by inclement sea conditions so all headed for bush tracks and wineries.

WAUPS first successful dive was at Lake Leschanaultia in December.

### 1985

The year began with a fun dive at Woodman Point in January followed by barbeque at Pat Baker's house.

WAUPS Inaugural Rottnest Island Photographic Competition held in March, winner Gerhard Saueracker.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1985 winner Gerhard Saueracker. This began as a portfolio competition where members submitted five slides taken over the past twelve months.

Speakers and other events included Patrick Baker - Introduction to UW Photography, Joe Ellis & Dennis

Hunt - Underwater housings & slides, a weekend at Rottnest, a coral spawning dive at Hall's Bank, a social evening at the Tai Wah Chinese Restaurant, and Christmas party at Sue Owen's house.

### 1986

Australian UW Federation National Photographic Competition - Overall winner Gerhard Saueracker, Runner-up Wayne Storrie.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1986 winner Ramon Newmann.

*Wildlife Photographer of the Year* Photography Competition - Patrick Baker won 1st Place in

the Dusk to Dawn section with a photo of green turtles coming ashore to lay eggs at Pandora Cay.

### 1987

Activities included Rottnest Island with members staying in the Sargeant's mess in Kingston Barracks, and Busselton Jetty. Day dives at the Stragglers and Marmion Marine Park. A car rally which ended up at Bickley Reservoir followed by bbq.

Formation of the Invertebrate Index co-ordinated by Ramon Newmann. The aim to record as many invertebrate as possible on species south of the Abrolhos Islands to Esperance. A sub committee was formed with





individual members being responsible for identifying and recording animals within their designated groups.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1987 winner Gerhard Saueracker. WAUPS Portfolio Competition - 1st Gerhard Saueracker, 2nd Ann Storrie, 3rd Ramon Newmann, Highest scoring slide - Ann Storrie.

A photographic competition was held during the Busselton Jetty dive trip. Winner Ann Storrie.

## 1988

Activities included dive trips to Horrocks & Port Gregory, Woodman Point, Busselton, Mandurah, Albany, Rottnest, Point Péron, Marmion Marine Park, a North Mole dive followed by lunch at Cicerello's, and a winter walk arranged at Walyunga National Park.

Marine images 1988 was WAUPS first major public presentation. Shows given by Ramon Newmann, Gerhard Saueracker and Ann & Wayne Storrie.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1988 winner Ramon Newmann. WAUPS Portfolio Competition - 1st Ramon Newmann, 2nd Gerhard Saueracker, 3rd Sue Owens, Highest scoring slide - Ramon Newmann.

South Pacific Divers *Australasian UW Photographer of the Year* Competition - Brad Sergeant won a placing in the Novice Section.

## 1989

Dives trips to Hamelin Bay, Busselton Jetty, Mandurah, plus several local day dives.

1989 saw the completion of the WAUPS constitution and the Society became incorporated. WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1989 winner Ramon Newmann.

WAUPS Portfolio Competition - 1st Gerhard Saueracker, 2nd Trevor Lundstrom, 3rd equal Ramon Newmann & Pip O'Dell, Highest scoring slide - Eva Boogaard, Novice - Trevor Lundstrom.

South Pacific Divers *Australasian UW Photographer of the Year* Competition - Novice section won by Ramon Newmann.

Guest speakers included Jiri Lochman - Wildlife photography, Marine biology by Museum staff, Trevor Lundstrom - Judging, Loiset Marsh - Dangerous marine animals, and Greg Pobar - Whales & dolphins.

Marine Images held at Floreat Forum Community Centre featuring audio visuals and talks by Patrick Baker, Pip O'Dell, Heather Falconer and Eva Boogaard. Graham Little was M.C. Attendance of over 200.



# THE NINTIES – A TIME OF CHANGE IN THE WAY DIVERS TOOK PICTURES

## 1990

Ann Storrie organised a 'Like it, lump it, or don't go in' competition at Woodman Point. Winners - Pip O'Dell, Wayne Storrie and Trevor Lundstrom.

Guest speakers included David Budd - SUBAL/Nikon UW camera systems, Duncan Dodd from Maxwell Optical Industries - Nikonos UW camera system, CALM - Whale watching.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1990 winner Jack Drzymulski.

WAUPS Portfolio Competition - 1st prize, Novice & Highest Scoring Slide - Jack Drzymulski, 2nd Ann Storrie, 3rd Brad Sergeant. These images appeared in an issue of Sportdiving magazine.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Pip O'Dell, 2nd Brad Sergeant, 3rd Ramon Newmann.

South Pacific Diver's *Australasian UW Photographer of the Year* Competition - Jack Drzymulski won the Novice section.

## 1991

Guest Speakers included Mike Osmand - Whales, Gerhard Saueracker - lighting with wide-angle and Ramon Newmann - Macro photography

South Pacific Divers *Australasian UW Photographer of the Year* Competition - Pip O'Dell 3rd place in Novice section.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1991 winner Margy Nicholas

WAUPS Annual Photographic Competition - 1st Margy Nicholas, 2nd Pip O'Dell, 3rd Gerhard Saueracker, Novice - Margy Nicholas, Highest Scoring Slide - Pip O'Dell.

## 1992

To start the year off in lieu of the first monthly meet members did a night dive at North Mole followed by finger food. This was the day before Australia Day holiday.

Speakers included Shane Reader & Trevor Lundstrom - Macro photography, Eva Boogaard - Audio visuals, Pip O'Dell - Various uses of negative film, and MAAWA President Ian Warne - Wreck photography.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1992 winner Eva Boogaard.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Wayne Storrie, 2nd Heather, 3rd Pip O'Dell, Highest Scoring Slide - Wayne Storrie, Novice - Heather Falconer.

Maritime Archaeological Association of WA Wreck sponsored a photographic competition in memory of long-time member Richard

McKenna. Winning images to be added to their photographic collection to help enhance their exploration studies. Wrecks they were particularly interested in were the Ulidia, Sepia, Lygnern and Robatina.

Marine Images at Wembley Home Base.

Other activities include Ann Storrie's Like it, Lump it, or don't go in it UW photographic competition at Woodman Point, Winter foray in Dryandra forest, dive trips to Port Gregory, Busselton, Rottnest Island and various local sites with Christmas dinner, a seafood smorgasbord at Fremantle Sailing Club.

South Pacific Divers *Australasian UW Photographer of the Year* Competition. In the top-ten were Lance Adrian 3rd, Pip O'Dell 8th and Peter Nicholas 9th. Geoff Paynter had 3rd highest scoring slide in the Novice section.





## 1993

Guest speakers included Michael Morcombe - Nature photography, Eve Parry - Audio visual show with Eric Leighton talking about sound and producing Audio Visuals.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1993 - winner Lyn Adrian. A change in format accepting entries from anywhere within Western Australia, as well as WAUPS members wherever they resided. A write-up on this competition was published in Dive Log along with photos of Patrick Baker presenting the prizes.

WAUPS Portfolio Competition - 1st Lyn Adrian, 2nd Pip O'Dell, 3rd Peter Nicholas. Novice - Ian Ritchie. Highest scoring slide - Wayne Storrie.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Pip O'Dell, 2nd Margy Nicholas, 3rd Neil Treasure, Novice - Viv Matson-Larkin. There was a change to the format for this years competition by allowing members to dive anywhere within metropolitan area.

Bob's Brutal Before Brekky Photographic Competition - 1st Sue Morrison, Best pylon shot - Sue Morrison.



## 1994

Guest speakers included Dick Beilby - UW videos, Dennis Robinson - Fish farm at Fremantle, and Geoff Paynter - Models.

Busselton Jetty Preservation Society setting up a museum at the start of the jetty so Geoff Paynter organised some weekend dives so members could take photographs specifically for a display in the Jettypoint Tower.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1994 - winner Ian Ritchie. Article on that portfolio competition appeared in the Sportdiving magazine and an edition of Dive Log.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Gerhard Saueracker, 2nd Margy Nicholas, 3rd Peter Nicholas.

## 1995

Speakers included Ann Storrie - Christmas & Cocos islands, Dennis Robinson - Underwater Cinematography, and Viv Matson-Larkin - Sipadan Island.

Busselton Jetty Preservation Society photographic project involving WAUPS appeared in the Busselton-Margaret Times. A photographic record of the corals and other marine life beneath



the jetty as part of the society's bid to secure federal funding for an underwater observatory and eco-museum.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Ann Storrie, 2nd Sue Morrison, 3rd Jenny Ough. Novice - Jenny Ough.

Dive trips to Busselton, Carnac Island, Oceanfarms and Coral Bay. Ann Storrie won a week's accommodation at Coral Bay with an image of Wayne coming around the side of Ayres Rock.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1995 - winner Peter Nicholas

## 1996

Speakers included Duncan Dodd - latest camera equipment, Jenny Ough - Rowley Shoals, Peter & Margy Nicholas - Dusky Sound, Bill Brogan - Kwajalein Lagoon, Marshall Islands, and Pat Baker - WA wrecks.

Various local dives - Ammunition Jetty, Clean up dive with AMCS, Ice breaker dive in October, followed in the next month with a Brutal Before Breakfast Dive at Woodmans Point with brunch at Ammunition Jetty, and Pre-Christmas dive at Carnac Island.

Technical workshop - Wayne Storrie servicing a Nikonos camera with Glen Cowans on how to frame prints.

No Portfolio Competition this year, will run one next year if there is enough interest.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1996 - winner Ann Storrie.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Ann Storrie, 2nd Sue Morrison, 3rd Bill Brogan, Novice - Bill Brogan.

End of year dinner at Anna's Vietnamese Restaurant. The excitement that week was Enrico's restaurant just down the road being held up that night.

Christmas at Albany - several WAUPsians stayed at the Frenchmans Bay caravan park.

## 1997

A compilation of images taken during the 'Snap a Snapper' photographic competition by WAUPS members appeared on the back of the Southern Metropolitan Coastal Waters Study (1991-1994) Summary Report.

Day Dive Competition Winners: 1st Glen Cowans, 2nd Brian Cleaver, 3rd Ann Storrie, Novice - Glen Cowans. Highest scoring image - Ann Storrie.

South Pacific Divers Australasian UW Photographer of the Year Competition - 3rd place Peter Nicholas.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1997 - winner Glen Cowans

Life membership for Sue Morrison passed.

Many WAUPS members popped down to help the HMAS Swan working bee clear and clean the vessel prior to her sinking on the 14th of December.

There were various activities like Abrolhos trip aboard Force Five, Hamelin Bay, Mindarie Keys, Busselton, and Ice breaker dive at Carnac Island. Fundraising bbq at Sue & Pete Morrison's.

WAUPS Photo Gallery images to be used as our basis for display and available to any school or other institution that may wish to borrow it for educational purposes. This year exhibited at



Underwater World, Ocean Care Day at City Beach and during Sea Week at the WA Museum.

CALM Book on Ningaloo Reef and Coral Bay will be written by Ann Storrie & Sue Morrison. CALM will fund the project and pay for photos.

## 1998

Guest speakers included Stefan Eberhard - Cave diving Cocklebidy, Duncan Dodd - Wrecks around the Rockingham area, Pat Baker - Lighting/strobe use, Peter Morrison - Biological monitoring around HMAS Swan wreck site.

Various outings to HMAS Swan & Busselton Jetty, Esperance and Abrolhos Islands, Mindarie, Woodman Point, Wreck of the Orizaba, the 5-fathom bank, and Dryandra Varmint Hunting.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1998 winner Ann Storrie

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Ann Storrie, 2nd Gary Jakovich, 3rd Paul Jelley. Novice - Graham Merrett. Highest scoring image - Ann Storrie

Best of the Swan Photographic Competition winners - 1st Glen Cowans, 2nd Ann Storrie, 3rd Garry Jakovich.

South Pacific Divers Australasian UW Photographer

of the Year Competition. Open section 1st Peter Nicholas, Novice - 1st Glen Cowans, and Creative section - Peter Nicholas.

Pinnacles Full Moon workshop with Nick Djordjevic.

GWN Jurien Marine Expo & Blessing of the Fleet Artwork Competition - winner Peter Nicholas.

Coral Bay Ningaloo reefbook soon to be released. WAUPS members were represented with 86 images.

## 1999

Guest speakers included Duncan Dodd - Closeups & Nikon products, Geordie Claplin - Manado, and Denis Beres from AMSC - Seadragons,.

Various outings to HMAS Swan & Busselton Jetty, snorkel with the seals around Little Island, Jurien Bay aboard Aqua Terra, Coral Bay, Mindarie Keys day dive.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 1999 - winner Glen Cowans

Logue Brook Dam trip at Logue Brook Dam Caravan Park.

Began annual end of year Christmas dinners at the Indian Ocean Hotel.



# A NEW MILLENNIUM AND DIGITAL BECOMES THE NEW MEDIUM



## 2000

To promote the value of the Cottesloe reef system public support was sought for a Fish Habitat Protection Area by the Cottesloe Marine Preservation Society. They sponsored the Cottesloe Beach Photographic Competition which WAUPS member Rowley Goonan organised.

WAUPS hosted the event at the Indian Ocean Hotel. The winners were - 1st Ann Storrie, 2nd Glen Cowans, 3rd Judy Rule. A selection of the images were displayed in the Cottesloe Council offices.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2000 - winner Ann Storrie

End of year Christmas dinner at Indian Ocean Hotel.

## 2001

Guest speakers included Peter Morrison - The Swan Story, and Roger Leithbridge - Marine Biology.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2001 - winner Glen Cowans

Bunbury Aquatic Shoot November 2001 organised by Peter Buzzacott of Reef Diving Bunbury Yamaha. Each contestant picked up pre-marked rolls of print film. Once dives over films dropped off to the camera shop for overnight processing. Next day entrants chose their best - up to two images in each of the six categories.

## 2002

Some WAUPS members volunteered their time as field assistants and accompanied Leslie Newman and Andrew Flowers in a flatworm and nudibranch hunt at Coral Bay. Later on the Book Marine Flatworms, The World of Polyclads went in to print with one of the newly discovered Coral Bay flatworms being named after Bill Brogan Pseudobiceros brogani.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2002 winner Glen Cowans



## 2003

Release of the Book, Beneath the Busselton Jetty, published by CALM was co-authored by Peter and Sue Morrison and Ann Storrie. Ann and Sue have collaborated on two other books for the department The Marine Life of Ningaloo Reef and Coral Bay, and Wonders of Western Waters.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2003 - joint winners Jenny Ough & Ann Storrie

## 2004

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2004 winner David Cook.

WAUPS 20th Anniversary at Indian Ocean Hotel. Jurien Bay-Leeman dive trip. WAMS exhibition. Xmas in July party at Owen Blockley's. Xmas dive & bbq picnic at Bicton Baths.

## 2005

Ammo Jetty cleanup dive for Dive Into Earth Day. Divers - Harriet Davie, Viv, Danny, Jenny, with support crew Sue, Jack and Bess.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2005 winner Ann Storrie.

OZTek Australasian UW Photographic Competition Best Novice Wreck - 1st Viv Matson-Larkin. 3rd equal Viv Matson-Larkin & Robbert Westerdike. Best Novice Open - Special Mention Viv Matson-Larkin.

## 2006

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2006 winner Viv Matson-Larkin

Dragon Search comes to WA. Request for divers and beachcombers to report sightings of Leafy and Weedy Seadragons.

Our 1st FotoFreo exhibition - Kaleidoscope of Colour.



## 2007

Annual Day Dive Competition did not go ahead due to cancellations - 1st cause bad sea conditions, 2nd engine failure.

Clean-up Australia Day dive at Ammunition Jetty.

Best image of the Year 2007 winner Shannon Conway.

Some members participated in the Oceania Seagrass Research & Rehabilitation Planting in Cockburn Sound with Murdoch University.

Upclose and Spineless Photographic Competition - Open Category winner Jenny Ough.

## 2008

Foto Freo - Sealife in Sequence display at Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre for a couple of months.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2008 winner Jenny Ough

Clean-Up Australia Day dive at Ammunition Jetty.

Special presentation by Martin Edge on lighting techniques at Telethon Institute for Child Health Research.

Best image of the Year 2008 winner Shannon Conway.

In celebration of the International Year of the Reef WAUPS had a photographic exhibition at the Rottnest Island Salt Gallery.

## 2009

WAUPS joined forces with the Underwater Explorers Club and a few other non-affiliated divers to clean up around Ammunition Jetty.

Exploratory dive out the back of Rottnest Island originally to check out one of the FADs. As that had drifted away ended up diving off the west-end with the nurse sharks instead.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Ann Storrie, 2nd

Viv Matson-Larkin, 3rd Jenny Ough, Novice - Tammy Gibbs, Highest scoring image - Tammy Gibbs.

The WAUPS Novice Portfolio Competition began in November, won by Emma Hicks. This competition sponsored by Perth Scuba.

Best image of the Year 2009 winner Viv Matson-Larkin.

A fancy dress competition held during the AGM won by Viv Matson-Larkin in her Occy costume.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2009 winner Ann Storrie

Maryann Evett's exhibition on display at City Beach.

Some members went to Lancelin and participated in a Fish Habitat Protection Area Survey organised by Barbara Green from DEC. These images became part of a Marine Photographic Reference Library.

WAUPS Christmas BBQ at the Cockburn Powerboat Club.

## 2010

Guest speakers - Ben from Team Digital - Post-production techniques, James Gray - High Dynamic Range Photography Techniques, Peter Mooney from Scubapix - latest in Photographic equipment, Marketing and pricing your images by the twin brothers Regnard from Tungsten, Patrick Baker - 3D underwater imagery, Jill St John from the Wilderness Society - the Marine Life of the South West, Cave diving by Geoff Paynter and Chris Holman, Kingsley Klau from Photo Coffee - about WAPE.

WAUPS Open Portfolio Competition 2010 winner Mick Tait.

Foto Freo Fringe event - Artificial Reefs: Oases for marine life? display at Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre for three months. This gallery of images later went on display for a few months at the Gravity Discovery Centre in Gagin.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Tammy Gibbs, 2nd Jenny Ough, 3rd Viv Matson-Larkin, Novice - Karl Fehlauer, Highest scoring image - Tammy Gibbs.

Danny Messom's photographic exhibition on display in Rockingham.

Some members participated in a Recreational Diver Survey as part of a post graduate study at Charles Sturt University. There was also a questionnaire as part of the Fremantle Hospital



Diver Research Project by Dr Alex Pullen from the Hyperbaric Unit. Many members who dive with nitrox also participated in a Nitrox Study with Dr Fiona Sharp at the Fremantle Hyperbaric Centre.

Nomination of Wayne Storrie as a Life Member of WAUPS.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2010 - winner Tammy Gibbs

Best image of the Year 2010 winner Chris Holman.

WAUPS Novice Portfolio Competition 2010 winner Ian Robertson sponsored by Scuba Imports

Eva Boogaard was one of the artists featured in the Art N Soul Exhibition at the Wanneroo Library and Cultural Centre.

WAUPS end of year shore dive at CBH Grain Terminal followed by BBQ.



## 2011

Guest speakers Wayne & Pam Osborne - Whales, Alan Pearce - Marine life in the Leeuwin Current, Robyn Benken from Cottesloe Coastcare Association - Weedy Seadragons, Jon Davison from Eye in the Sky Productions - Aerial Photography, Dr Kerry Trayler from Swan River Trust - The Swan & Canning Rivers.

Shannon Conway's exhibition - An Abstract Ocean on display at the Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre at Hillarys.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2011 winner Tammy Gibbs

Participated in Project Aware's Dive Against Debris Clean-Up Dive with Perth Scuba and Dive, Surf & Ski at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour.

WAUPS Open Portfolio Competition 2011 winner Jenny Ough.

365 Day Photography Project which ran from 10/10/10 to 09/10/11. Following the same idea as Project 365, the challenge was to take one picture a day documenting one year of your life. At the end each participant submitted an image per month in a WAUPS Show & Tell at the October monthly meet.

Best image of the Year 2011 winner Joey Paul.

The WAUPS Novice Portfolio Competition for 2011 winner Henrique Kwong.

3rd event - FotoFreo - collection of images with the theme 'Artificial Reefs: oases for marine life?' The exhibition was up for another two months for school activities, Seaweed, and this collection of images then went on display for general public education with Fisheries.

This collection of images then went on display at the Gavity Centre near Gingin for a couple of months.

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Tammy Gibbs, 2nd Maryann Evetts, 3rd Chris Holman, Highest scoring image Eva Boogaard.

WAUPS became affiliated with the WAPF.

Tammy Gibbs came 1st in the Botanical section of the ANZANG Nature Photography Competition.

Underwater Festival 2011 - Shootout & Fringe Events Competition ran for 10 days.

Komodo Island 'Diving 4 Images' workshop and liveboard trip with Shannon Conway.

HMAS Perth 10 Year Anniversary Dive trip staying at Cruise-Inn.

Overall winner of the 2011 PIXELS competition Viv Matson-Larkin.

WAUPS end of year shore dive at Robb Jetty followed by BBQ.

## 2012

Guest speakers included Jorg Imberger from Centre for Water Research - Status of the Swan & Canning River, Alex Cearns of Houndstooth Studio - Wildlife Photography, Dylan Fox - Landscape Photography, Glenn Moore - Seahorses, Gary Jackson from Fisheries - REDMAP, Peter Buzzacott - Scuba Diving Science, Critique night by WAPF judges, Camera Electronics & Perth Scuba - part of Gear Lust and Envy night, and Russell Ord - Surf Photography.

Clean-up dive at Ammunition Jetty with the Underwater Explorers Club.

WAUPS Open Portfolio Competition 2012 winner Ian Robertson.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2012 winner Tammy Gibbs

Day Dive Competition winners: 1st Tammy Gibbs, 2nd Sue Morrison, 3rd Maryann Evetts, Novice - Eleanor Hodgson. Highest scoring image - Viv Matson-Larkin.

Best image of the Year 2012 winner Shannon Conway.

WAUPS Novice Portfolio Competition 2012 winner Marjon Phur.

REDMAP - 'Range Extension Database Mapping Project'. The call has gone out to help document what fish and other marine species are on the move in WA waters.

Underwater Festival 2012 Shootout. Many member's images made the Top 100.

1st Temperate Waters category Brad Pryde, 2nd Still Camera Video section Maryann Evetts.

Perth Scuba UW Festival Photographic Competition: 1st Brad Pryde, 2nd Karl Fehlauer, 3rd Prize Viv Matson-Larkin. Various workshops held at this fringe event including the display of images from WAUPS Cottesloe to Cockburn collection.

Overall winner of the 2012 PIXELS competition Daniel Lloyd.

WAUPS end of year shore dive at Ammunition Jetty.

## 2013

Best Image for the Year 2013 winner Marjon Phur

In April we visited the WA Police Divers Division in North Fremantle.

Coastal Water Dive in Bunbury running an Abrolhos trip with Shannon Conway. In April he gave a presentation on negative space.

WAPF event at Merredin with an interclub photographic competition, one of which is new - an Underwater Category, with another WAPF workshop held at Busselton (Steve Parish & Ann Storrie) and Lake Ballard. Eleanor Hodgson won first prize in the WAPF photographic competition held in Busselton.

WAPF Click West Underwater Competition winners: 2nd Michelle Mann, 3rd Tammy Gibbs. 20 of the shortlisted images displayed at the event in Merriden, then at Camera Electronics.

Underwater Festival 2013 Shootout ran for a month. Many member's images made the Top 100.

1st Sex category Daniel Lloyd. 1st Coral Triangle category Tammy Gibbs. 1st Macro & Supermacro category Tammy Gibbs. 1st & 2nd Freshwater category Pam Sutton. 2nd Behaviour category Sue Myburgh. 2nd Issue category Tammy Gibbs. 2nd Nudis category Yuri Verbaan. 2nd Neville Coleman Award Sue

Myburgh. 2nd Ultra Short video section Viv Matson-Larkin.

Perth Scuba UW Festival Photographic Competition: Local category - 1st Pam Sutton, 2nd Chandy de Wit, 3rd Jenny Ough. International category - 1st Yuri Verbaan, 2nd Sue Myburgh. Video category - 1st Viv Matson-Larkin, 2nd Pam Sutton. WAUPS Open Portfolio Competition 2013 winner Marjon Phur.

WAUPS Perpetual Trophy 2013 - winner Viv Matson-Larkin

Day Dive Competition winners: Overall winner Viv Matson-Larkin, Colour category winner Viv Matson-Larkin, with runner-up Shannon Earnshaw. Nudi category winner Danny Messom, with runner-up Amanda Blanksby. Portrait category winner Eleanor Hodgson, with runner-up Viv Matson-Larkin. Reef winner Amanda Blanksby, with runner-up Fran O'Dwyer. Novice winner Ian Griffiths, with runner-up Fran O'Dwyer.

WAUPS Novice Portfolio Competition 2013 winner Sue Myburgh.

Other activities including Sealion trip with Jurien Charters, Lembeh Strait, Manado UW Photography Tour with Shannon Conway.

Guest Speakers included Clay Bryce - Slimy Encounters, Callum from Dolphin Scuba Welshpool - Rebreaters, Drysuits & Bikini Atoll, Perth Scuba - Fluorescent UW Photography and Dr Lisa Kirkendale - Bivalves.

Overall winner of the 2013 PIXELS competition Chris Holman.

WAUPS end of year shore dive at Robb Jetty followed by BBQ.

## 2014

Guest speaker Liam Allen, 2013 Tech Diver of the Year with a presentation on the Swedish battle ship 'Mars The Magnificent'

New meeting place - Drabble House, on the corner of Stirling Highway and Webster Street.

WAUPS 30TH Anniversary Dive at Kwinana Grain Terminal followed by bbq.



# PIXELS winners

July to December



September – Inches below the surface  
*Emma Holman*



October – Abstract *Yuri Verbaan*



August – Rays *Joey Pool*



The second half of the year has equally shown some nice images in the monthly PIXELS theme contest, as judged by WAUPS members.

December – Most Awesomest Screw Up  
*Peter Nicholas and Mick Lee*



November – My favourite  
*Emma Holman*



November – My favourite *Jenny Ough*



July – Light and dark *Jenny Ough*



November – My favourite *Amanda Blanksby*



# PIXELS 2013

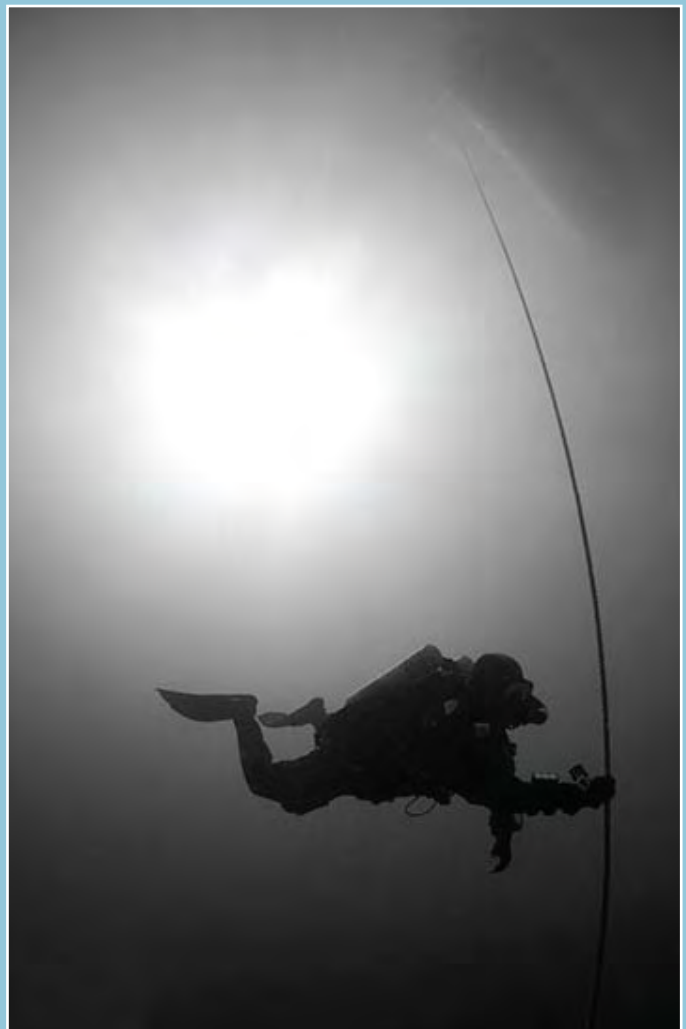
## Overall Winner

### Chris Holman

The overall winner for PIXELS 2013 was Chris Holman. Chris got the year off to a great start with a win in the JETTIES theme and then submitted shots every month to take out the overall prize.



A HUGE thanks to Mike Ball Dive Expeditions who sponsored the 2013 PIXELS competition with an amazing prize – a 3 night/12 dive Fly Dive Cod Hole expedition.











## The Australian Sea Lion

*Neophoca cinerea* (Péron, 1816)

by Ann Storrie and Sue Morrison



The Australian Sea Lion is one of the most endearing marine mammals encountered on the south and western coasts of Australia. Sadly it is one of the rarest species of sea lion in the world.

So is our Australian sea lion a seal, a sea lion or fur seal? All seals, sea lions, fur seals and walrus belong to the order *Pinnipedia*, meaning 'fin-footed', of which there are 33 species world wide. These are divided up into three families, *Otariidae* (eared sea lions and fur seals), *Phocidae* (earless true seals) and the *Odobenidae* (only the walrus). As the family name indicates, the Australian sea lion is actually a kind of fur seal which has a visible ear flap, or pinna, flexible hind limbs and a thick coat of fur. The sea lions, fur seals and walrus have hind limbs that can be flexed under the body and used as hind limbs on land. True seals lack an external ear, cannot flex their hind limbs for locomotion on land and have

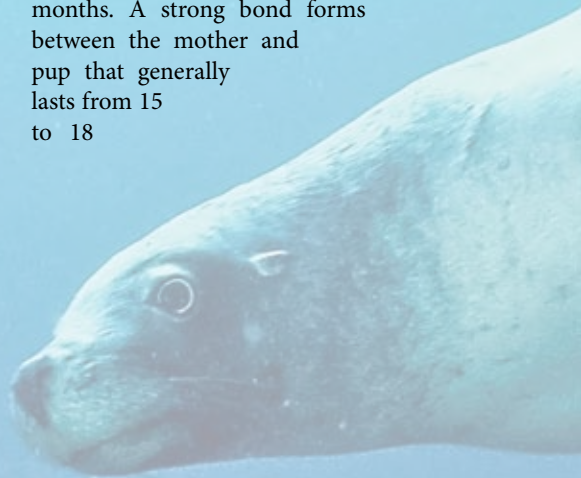
a thinner coat of fur. Examples of true seals are the Southern Elephant Seal, the Leopard Seal and the Crab Eater Seal, none of which inhabit the Western Australian coast although strandings occasionally occur, particularly of the Leopard Seal. The sea lions and fur seals primarily use their fore limbs for swimming underwater, whereas the seals and walrus use their hind limbs more.

To add to the confusion of names, there is also an Australian fur seal. This species, however, does not occur on our Western Australian coast, but only around Bass Strait and adjacent coastal waters of Tasmania and southern New South Wales. We do, however, have the New Zealand fur seal which occurs on the southern coast of Western Australia and in South Australia.

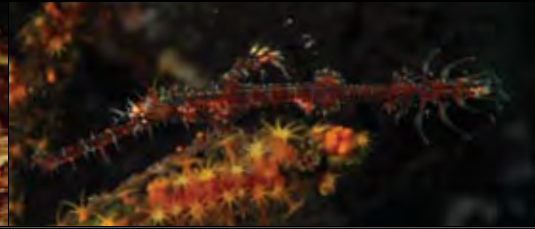
Now, back to the Australian Sea Lion that is scientifically known as *Neophoca*

*cinerea*, which is the only Pinniped endemic to Australia (the fur seals originated elsewhere). Its breeding range is between the Houtman Abrolhos Islands in Western Australia and the Pages Islands, just east of Kangaroo Island in South Australia. It previously occurred in Bass Strait, but was exterminated by sealers in the 19th century. It mainly inhabits offshore islands but also a few very remote parts of the mainland coast.

Male sea lions can weigh up to 250 kg, but females are significantly smaller, only reaching 100 kg in weight. They live on average for 8 to 9 years with a maximum of about 12 years. Females mature at around 4 to 5 years. In denser colonies the males have harems of a few females. Both sexes are strongly territorial and will show aggression towards adults from outside the harem, and even towards stray pups (and divers!). They have a unique breeding cycle of 17.5 months, with a pupping season that can be spread over 5 to 7 months. A strong bond forms between the mother and pup that generally lasts from 15 to 18







months, after which time the pups are weaned. This period can be longer if no pup is conceived the following season. Ten days after giving birth, the females begin the pattern of foraging at sea for up to two days, then spending about one and a half days feeding the pup. This continues until the pup is weaned. Pup mortality is fairly high and has been estimated to be 40-50% in the first two years. This is likely to be affected by food availability and frequency of attacks by males.

The sea lions' diet consists of a variety of fish, rock lobsters and squid found in surface waters. Nursing females have been found to forage down to a maximum of 150 m, only 20 to 30 km offshore, but males are thought to go slightly deeper and travel further. They do not dive as deep, or stay submerged as long as true seals. Females usually remain near their birth site, but males can travel further afield. Males from bachelor colonies near Perth are known to migrate up to 280 km north to breeding colonies at Jurien.

There are estimated to be between approximately 10,000 and 12,500 Australian Sea Lions, with about 30% of the population in WA and 70% in South Australia. The population has remained fairly stable for several years, but there is evidence of a slow population decline, especially in the smaller colonies. Major threats to this species include human disturbance (too much tourism can result in animals leaving sites), entrapment in fishing gear, white shark predation (attracted near colonies for diving tourism), epidemics, climate change and pollution. Elimination of gill net fishing in South Australia is helping to alleviate this problem. It is protected in Western Australia and South Australia, and listed as endangered in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Let us hope this wonderful mammal survives long into the future!

#### References:

Storrie, A. 1989. Scuba Diver Dec 1988-Jan 1989, p. 13-15.

Australian Government Department





# Not an ugly duckling

## WAUPS involvement in the preparation of the former HMAS Swan

by Geoff Paynter

In late 1996, the then Minister for Tourism Norman Moore, announced that the Geographe Bay Artificial Reef Society had won the right to prepare and scuttle the former HMAS Swan as a dive wreck off Meelup in our State's South West.

This announcement followed months of lobbying and research by groups from Busselton and Rockingham, as well as other parties that wanted to utilise Swan for other uses. Some of the alternative ideas proposed at the time included a floating restaurant, a museum,

accommodation for homeless people, and if rumours are to be believed, there was one submission for a floating brothel!

The Geographe Bay Artificial Reef Society took possession of Swan just before Christmas of 1996. Work to prepare her for scuttling began in earnest on Saturday 4th of January 1997 and she was scuttled eleven and a half months later on the 14th of December 1997.

All of the work to prepare Swan for her scuttling was done by volunteers. People from all walks of life gave up

their free time to be part of what was to become one of Australia's iconic dive sites. She was prepared on a "shoe string" budget, the final figure to prepare and scuttle her was just under \$325,000! A far cry from the budgets of more recent dive wreck projects!

As a club, WAUPS organised many weekends to come down and help out and collectively, WAUPS members made a significant contribution to the preparation of Swan for her eventual scuttling.

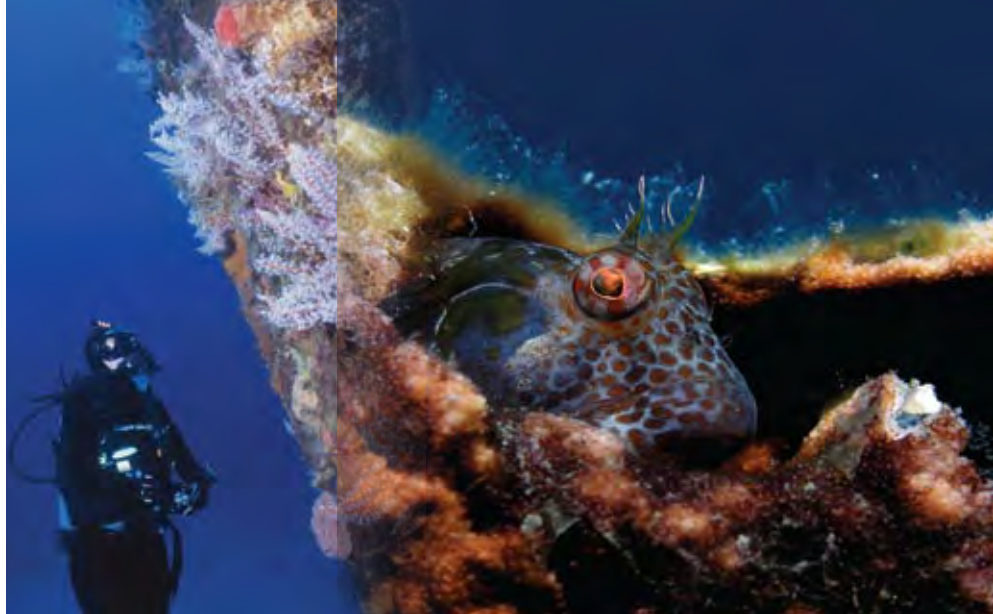
WAUPS involvement with the Swan did not end with her scuttling. Peter and Sue Morrison, ably assisted by Jenny Ough and others, embarked on a 5 year biological study of Swan as an artificial reef. The results of which are still used as a resource to this day.

Swan was an immediate success. Visitor numbers far exceeded all expectations and it wasn't long before communities from all around Australia were lobbying governments for their own "prepared dive wreck".

Swan has now become a successful artificial reef and remains one of Australia's iconic dive sites. WAUPS can rightly, and proudly, lay claim to being actively involved in helping to make Swan the success she is.





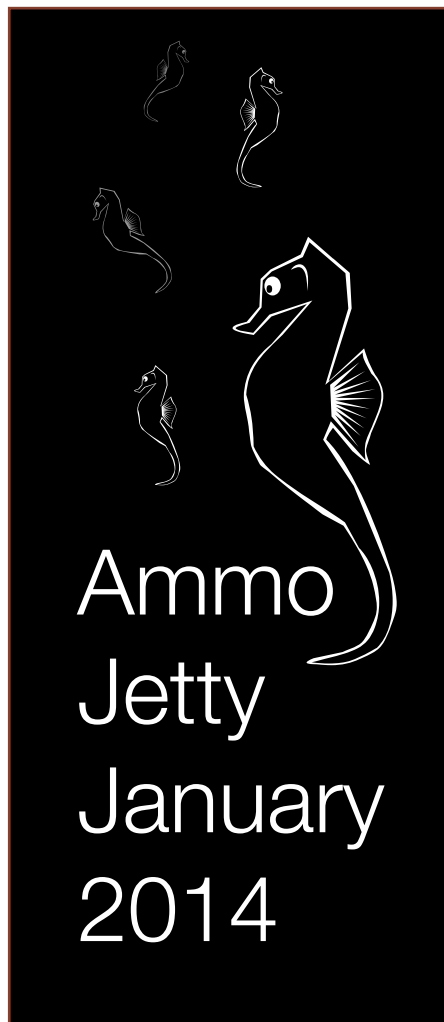






# PARTING SHOT

by Maryann Evetts



It is amazing how different the jetties along the Perth coast line are. The Ammo and BHP have lotsa seahorses, but the Grain Terminal and Robb Jetty have very few. WAUPS members frequent these jetties most weekends in the summer and even in the winter (Brrr).

Seahorses have been abundant at the Ammo Jetty over the last couple of years. Their numbers have increased with the growth of the telesto coral on the pylons. Viv Matson-Larkin, Jenny Ough and I have been smitten with seahorse birthing fever and over the holiday season we spent many evenings at the Ammo Jetty watching the many pregnant males and their female companions.

There are usually a number of heavily pregnant males which we would spend the better part of two hours watching, to no avail, and we would return the next night to find they had dropped their bundle (probably minutes after we had left) and disappeared higher up the pylons.

Despite these disappointments we have been otherwise rewarded with sightings of bubble shells, dumpling squid, blue ringed octopus, telesto nudis, rice bubble nudis, bull rays, and the occasional sea lion and dolphin which appear out of the gloom to scare the bejeesus out of us. Patience is rewarded occasionally and Jenny and I tag-teamed photographing this male giving birth over a period of 10-

15 minutes. The male sat stoically on a piece of telesto coral, ignoring our lights and flashes until he started to twitch.... and twitch and writhe. Then with a violent forward contraction an explosion of tiny seahorse snowflakes shot up into the water column and rained down on us. This occurred 6 or 7 times and then it was all over. Most of these perfectly formed babies will end up as fodder for all the hungry mouths waiting patiently, but with luck the telesto coral will hide some of the babies, so the cycle can continue.

What an amazing privilege to be able to witness such a wonderful sight, and as most women have endorsed "Shame it doesn't happen with humans!!"





# Sponsors

We sincerely thank all of the sponsors who have supported WAUPS over the years. Please remember the WAUPS sponsors below when you are thinking of your next purchase.

**Mike Ball Dive Expeditions**  
generously supporting our 2013 PIXELS monthly theme competition.



**Perth Scuba**  
generously provides prizes for competitions and discounts for members (with your current membership card).



**Scuba Imports/Dive Tub**  
generously provides prizes for competitions and discounts for members (with your current membership card).



**South West Rocks Dive Centre**  
generously supported our 2012 PIXELS monthly theme competition.



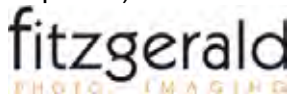
**Tulamben Wreck Divers**  
generously supported our 2011 PIXELS monthly theme competition.



**Scubapix**  
generously provides prizes for competitions and discounts for members.



**Fitzgerald Photo Imaging**  
generously provides prizes for competitions and discounts for members (with your current membership card).



**Breeze Photos Tweed Heads**  
generously provides prizes for competitions and discounts for members. Just email Ross at ross@gudgeon.id.au and let him know you're a WAUPS member.

**Dolphin Dive Fremantle**  
provides a reduced rate for our Rottne day dive and discounts for members with your current membership card.



**Dolphin Scuba**  
generously supported the 2012 and 2013 Rotto day dive competition.



**Perth Diving Academy**  
generously supported the 2013 Rotto day dive competition



**Scuba Symphony**  
generously supported the 2012 Rotto day dive cc



**Doug Sloss from Ocean Magic Productions**  
generously supported our 2012 Novice Portfolio competition.

**UWdigitalcamera.com**  
in Japan generously supported the 2012 Rotto day dive competition.

**Sea Dragon Promo Products**  
Discounts for members with your current membership card.

**Lotterywest**  
provided a grant to enable us to purchase our AV equipment.












## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY INC.

waupsnews@gmail.com

The Western Australian Underwater Photographic Society (WAUPS) is a non-profit organisation, which was established in January 1984.

The aims of the Society are:

-  To promote an improvement of underwater photography amongst its members.
-  To promote underwater photography in the community.
-  To encourage an understanding and preservation of the marine environment.
-  To promote an exchange of skills and ideas from within the society and from external bodies.
-  To have fun and enjoy socialising, diving and photography.

WAUPS holds monthly meetings which include guest presenters on a range of photography and diving topics along with a digital show-and-tell of images from members.

We hold an annual Rottnest day dive shootout, a monthly themed photo competition called PIXELS, monthly photo dives, annual portfolio and image of the year competitions and a range of trips and social events during the year.

WAUPS members also get membership to the WA Photographic Federation and can participate in their events and trips.

Anyone interested in underwater photography is welcome any time including all levels of experience.

**WAUPS meetings are conducted at 7:30pm  
on the FOURTH TUESDAY of every month.**



Find us on Facebook

**[www.waups.org.au](http://www.waups.org.au)**

