
Water Column

August 2014 ISSUE 3

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



Muck delights in Ambon

Away with WAPF
Ferguson Valley

Member profile

Grain terminal



PIXELS winners

Rottneest Day Dive

Creature feature: Angler fish



Bert de Wit

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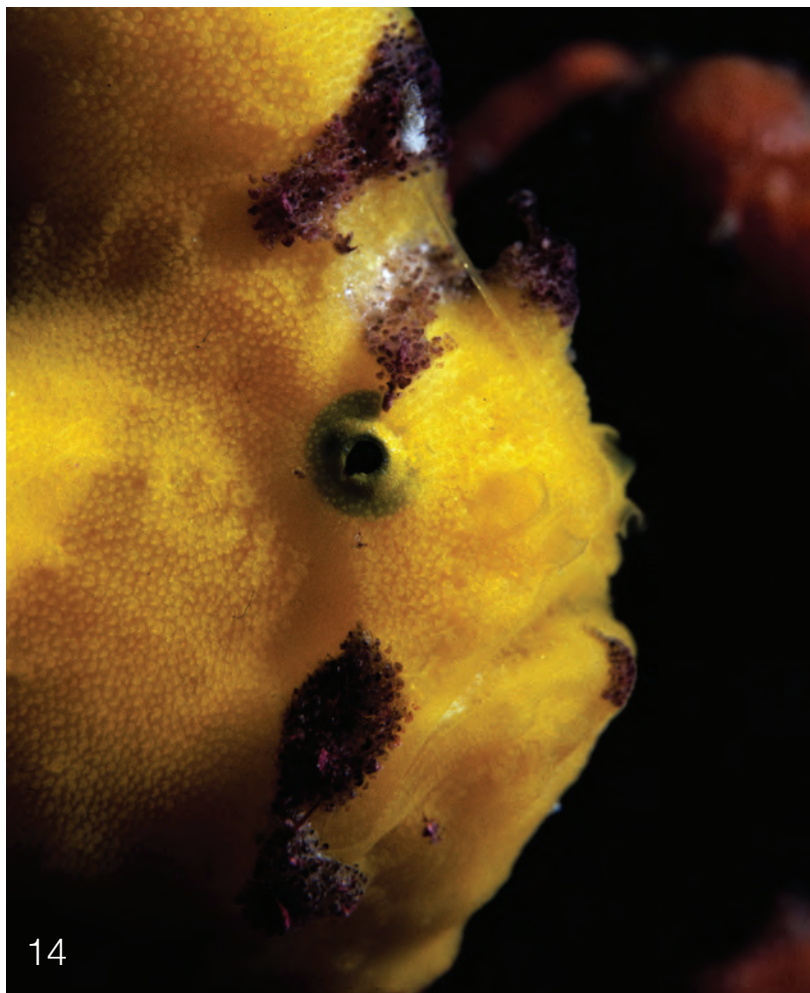
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WaterColumn

August 2014 ISSUE 3



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Cover shot by Bert de Wit

EDITOR'S BUBBLES

The AGM has come and gone, and we are now bunkering down for winter. Many of you have or are about to head overseas for warmer climes. We look forward to seeing some of those dive trip images during our monthly show & tell sessions, or as entries in the various photographic competitions coming up.

Our 30th Anniversary Dinner was well attended. A great time was had by all and gave many of us the chance to catch up with folk we had not seen for years. Our guest speakers, founding club members Ann Storrie and Patrick Baker, certainly kept us entertained while photographic images of past and present members, dive events, photography competition winners, etc scrolled over in the background.

There have been a couple of things going on locally that warrant mention. Some of you have images on display on signage at a snorkelling site called Gannet Rock near Dunsborough. A part of the Meelup Regional Park project these images are being used for educational purposes providing information

about some of the more common flora and fauna encountered there. In March a few members were lucky enough to get tickets to the Ocean Film Festival of Australia when it came to Perth. Those short films were stunning and really highlighted our beautiful oceans worldwide.

The PIXELS photographic competition has well and truly passed the halfway mark for 2014. The standard of images has certainly lifted since it began in 2011. For those of you yet to renew your club membership please do so to ensure you can continue participating in that competition.

Other local photographic competitions in this sector were the Open Portfolio, Rottnest Day Dive, Best Image of the Year, and the inaugural Wayne Storrie's Underwater World of Humour Award. Congratulations to all those who won a place, your images are up on the WAUPS web page for all to view, and a huge thank you to all our sponsors.

The Underwater Festival this year has a new format which is a little kinder on those who don't

have tropical water temperatures to dive in all year round. Another competition to have a slight change in their rules is the ANZANG Nature Photography competition – they announced there was no longer an Underwater category section. You can still submit those types of images in one of the other categories. A little bird tells me one or two WAUPS members made the shortlist, but we have to wait till October to hear who the overall winners may be.

A couple of competitions on the horizon are the WAPF Underwater Photographic Competition – with the theme Western Australian Coastline – which closes on August the 31st, and the OZ Tek 2015 Underwater Imagery Competition which closes on January the 31st. The winners for the latter will be announced during the OZ Tek Conference & Dive Expo and as I am working there as a volunteer I can bring your prizes home with me

KEEP BLOWIN BUBBLES

Viv

Contributors

Mick Lee

Mick has been diving for 20 years but only got into underwater photography in the last 5 years or so. Since then it's very rare that he dives without a camera. He has travelled a bit, diving and plans to do a whole lots more, especially ticking Raja Ampat off his bucket list in November. Currently using a Canon G12 in a Recsea Housing with twin INON D2000 Strobes, looking at a dSLR upgrade soon.

Leanne Thompson

Leanne first learned to dive in Townsville in 1998 - and only because the white water rafting trip was cancelled. She purchased a ridiculously small compact for a ridiculously large amount of money not that much later and spent the next few years badly photographing the Great Barrier Reef. She's since been diving all around the world in out of the way places like Mexico, Tanzania and Belize as well more local sites in Indonesia and Malaysian Borneo. Leanne is a WAUPS committee member.

Maryann Evetts

Maryann started diving in 1999. She did a try dive at Airlie Beach and that was it, totally hooked. She joined WAUPS after doing a course on Underwater photography with Ann Storrie and joined to go on dive trips but got sucked into photography, starting with wet film and now digital. She's been on many dive trips with WAUPS from Bremer Bay to the South China Seas, made wonderful friends and done some memorable diving.

A date with Doubilet

There are several names that are synonymous with underwater photography. Without doubt, one of those is David Doubilet.

David was in Perth recently, bringing his Coral, Fire and Ice show to the WA State Theatre Centre.

David's stunning images were projected onto the massive screen as he shared the story behind each shot.

He took us to the deep blue waters of Kimbe Bay in Papua New Guinea where David and his wife and photography partner Jennifer Hayes had a trip where nothing more could have gone wrong! With exploding batteries causing a camera-melting fire, flooded cameras and strobes, skin bends, monsoonal rains and mosquito illnesses malaria and chikengunya, against the odds they still got the shots they needed.

We then dropped below the icy waters of Antarctica, with amazing split shots of icebergs (including some with penguins on top) and views right down the throat of a leopard seal.

David then took us to the cold waters of his home, the Gulf of St Lawrence in New York. We were treated to images of beluga whales, harp seals, Atlantic salmon and wolf fish plus frames full of hundreds of snow geese.

David's passion for the sea and underwater photography began as

a child, putting a brownie hawk eye camera into a rubber bag to capture the amazing things he was seeing. Now almost 70, David's decades of images have inspired and captivated.



The Underwater Project evolution

After 7 years of evolution, the Underwater Festival team has launched "The Underwater Project", a new concept and the world's first perpetual underwater shootout competition.

The Underwater Festival has evolved into a continuous event allowing you to enter photos each month that were taken in the previous month. For us over here in WA, it means we can enter photos taken throughout the year, and throughout Australasia, not just those taken during the month of September.

Rather than paying for individual image or video uploads, there's an annual membership fee of \$50 to join the Underwater Project, giving you 5 photo or 2 video uploads per month (or twice that for Premium membership of \$100). Images will still be judged annually by the established Underwater Project judging panel and there will again be \$100,000 in prizes up for grabs.



More info at underwaterproject.org

Member Profile – Bert de Wit

I was travelling around Australia in 1995 and spent some time in Coral Bay where some English friends introduced me to the underwater beauty with snorkelling.

I'd spent days doing it and got frustrated that I couldn't spend more

time down there, so the seed was planted, I knew what I had to do!

It stayed at the back of my mind for years while sorting out my life in Australia and as luck has it I befriended Frank, a German guy, who was a dive instructor and in 2001 I did

my Open Water and soon after my Advanced Open Water.

The Nitrox course followed a few years later. Since then I've been diving both north and south of Western Australia, Queensland, Sipadan, Thailand, The Philippines, Fiji, all over Bali, the Lembah Straight, Lombok and the Gili Islands.

I wasn't really diving that much any more, all my buddy and I used to do was look for crayfish and lot of times I used to finish a dive and say to my wife "I wish I had a camera so I could show you what's going on down there".

I think I said it so many times that she got sick of it and bought me a camera for my 40th birthday. The camera was a Sea&Sea 8000G and very hard to work with, but it still took some of my favourite photos.

I had some experience in land photography and soon worked out that the normal rules don't really apply underwater, so I bought *The Underwater Photographer* by





Martin Edge and experimented and improved some.

By talking and listening to experienced UW photographers I got a better understanding and improved some more.

There is nothing easy about this hobby but if there were I would have given up a long time ago and if you get it right it is so rewarding!

At the moment I'm using a Canon G12 with a Recsea housing and Sea&Sea YS-27 and YS-110 Strobes.

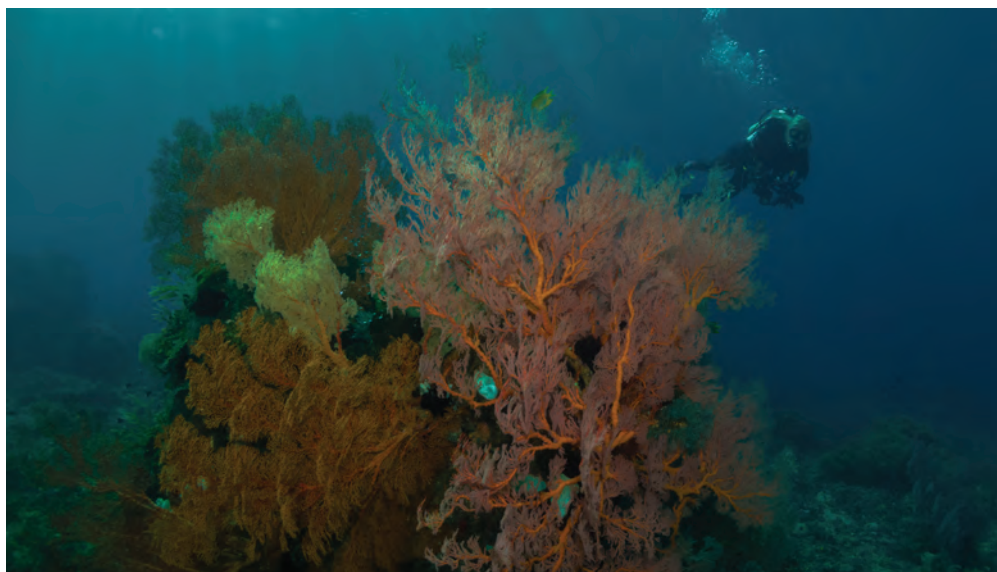
I use the Idas super wide angle dome and for macro a Dyron+7 and a GoSo +20 diopter as well as a Dyron macro wide angle lens.

For a little fine tuning of the images I use Lightroom 5.

I had heaps of fun with my mate Ron out on his boat in the early morning looking for crays behind Garden Island and Carnac.

My wife Chandy started diving two years ago and now we do dive holidays as before they were holidays with the occasional dive.

My favourite local sites would be the wreck trail as lunch and coffee is close at hand and the shark cave at Rotto but we just don't get there enough.



Exmouth was amazing for all the big stuff, the Navy pier is fantastic.

Tulamben is a bit of a hit, we have made some good friends there and it is so laid back.

I think all dives are special and we are very privileged to experience this peace away from the hectic world we live in.

Two dives stand out though, the Turtle Tomb in Sipadan which was an experience and a half and the Shark Cave at Rottnest where we sat for 40 minutes making photos and video of ten grey nurses coming around and around! You really feel like you are intruding in their world.

One of the best things of diving and photography is that it crosses all borders of religion and racial backgrounds. Some of the most interesting people I have met on dive trips, while all the madness in the world continues day after day, we sit on a boat and discuss where to find the best subjects and how to shoot them properly!

So I keep on diving and practising and hopefully improve some more.



Muck delights in

Passing up the harbour, in appearance like a fine river, the clearness of the water afforded me one of the most astonishing and beautiful sights. The bottom was absolutely hidden by a continuous series of corals, sponges, actinate and other marine productions, of magnificent dimensions, varied forms and brilliant colours. – Alfred Russel Wallace *The Malay Archipelago*

The above quote could be used to quite easily describe many islands across Indonesia. Here, Alfred Russel Wallace in this natural history classic, is describing the island of Ambon.

However much has changed since Wallace made his journey of discovery through the Spice Islands but one thing is for certain, whilst it may have changed, the marine life is still wonderful which can only mean one thing: amazing diving!

Most of the diving in Ambon is conducted within the vast natural harbour. This allows for relatively calm conditions which are best suited to the diving of the area. I should clarify something, Ambon is predominantly a 'muck' diving location. Muck diving gets its name from the sediment that settles on the bottom and over the reefs. In Ambon,

it's a fine talc-like substance which when disturbed, causes instant chaos and 'brown out'. Also, one should be made aware of the amount of floating and sunken rubbish. To say there is lots would be an understatement. Instead of shaking your head, be open minded and enjoy how the marine world is adapting to living in bottles, cans and well, nappies even. We can sort the rubbish out for another day.

Being a muck diving location, Ambon is macro heaven. It pays to play close attention to your dive guide as you will be sure to miss most of the critters and marine life if you don't, especially if you're a photographer.



Ambon

By Mick Lee



From frogfish to nudibranchs, crabs, octopus and what everyone wants to see Rhinopias or scorpion fish, they are all here.

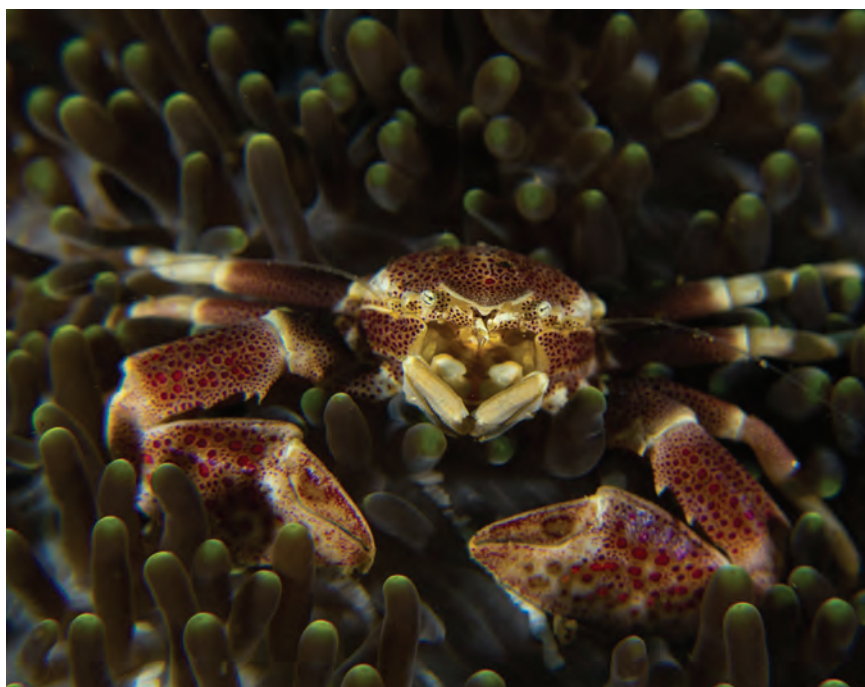
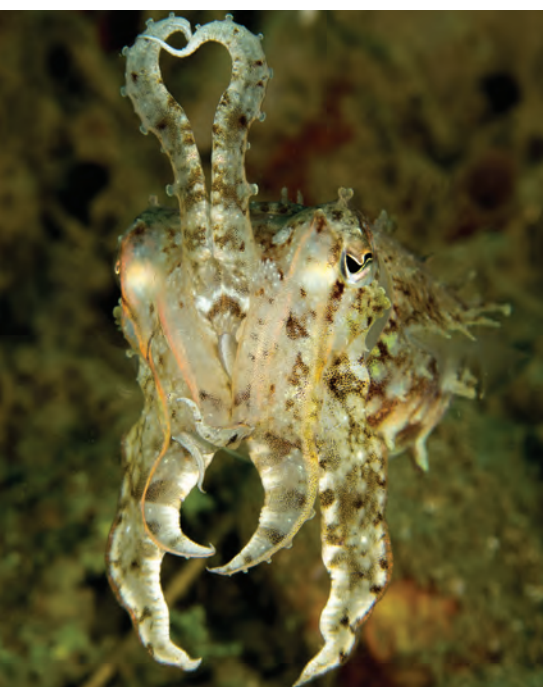
They say that all good holidays start with a journey and getting to Ambon is truly that. After departing Perth, we overnighted in Bali and then took what seemed like the Ambon Milk Run through Surabaya to Makassar and then finally after a couple of plane changes and prayers that luggage would arrive, we landed in Ambon (with luggage).

Arriving at the airport, Maluku Divers had arranged the transport

for the short drive and escape from the chaos and madness of any Indonesian regional airport, to our slice of Spice Island heaven. The resort itself is designed and built for divers. The bungalows are huge with probably the biggest beds ever built, with well thought-out bathrooms. Every bungalow has a view over the ocean so the first thing you see when you wake is the paradise you will be diving that day. Dive photographers are looked after with a dedicated desks (x2) and 12 power points (I counted) in each room and a specialised climate controlled room near the dive lounge.

Your day will start with a hearty fresh cooked breakfast before you get your cameras and personal dive gear ready. All your other kit will be on the boat waiting for you. The night before your dive guide will update the board so you know what dive site and a little of what to expect. You will hear 'Sandy Slope' a lot.

Like anywhere in Indonesia, the dive guides have unbelievable eyesight. On more than one occasion, I will admit taking photos of something I had no idea what it was and waited until I got onshore to identify the Skeleton Shrimp or other critter. As I said macro is the order of the day.



After a couple of dives, it's back to the resort for a fresh cooked lunch and rest. This gives you time to unwind, reset the camera or just have a quick sleep before the afternoon dive.

If you feel that three dives is not enough, the resort's house reef offers a lovely night dive which can be taken guided or unguided. I myself was more than satisfied with the three day dives and enjoyed having a Bintang or two whilst watching the dive lights dance off the reef.

Ambon is a very special dive location and one that should be enjoyed if you are a keen macro/muck

diving enthusiast. Long visibility is not the norm and wide angle is a rarity especially on those dives within the harbour.

Yes it is mucky, yes the power does go out on occasion and sure there is rubbish in the water. However, as divers we adapt and enjoy what is presented. If you go to Ambon expecting different, you will be disappointed. But if you are going to get mucked then you will love every second above and below the water.

Some may wonder how Ambon seems to have changed since Wallace described it. This insight from the

book written by Lawrence Blair, *Ring of Fire: An Indonesian Odyssey* may help.

Finally we limped into Ambon, former jewel of the Spice Islands, written of so glowingly by Wallace, but now all but denuded of trees. In the harbour lay enormous foreign freighters for carrying the timber away, exuding oil over the graves of what had once been the most famous coral gardens in the Far East.

Well the trees are back, and the coral reefs are coming back bringing the famously diverse marine life and I for one will be returning.



PIXELS winners

January to June

Yet another great result for the first half of the year with PIXELS, as judged by WAUPS members and guest judges. Congratulations to all the winners.



March – Plants *Peter Nicholas*



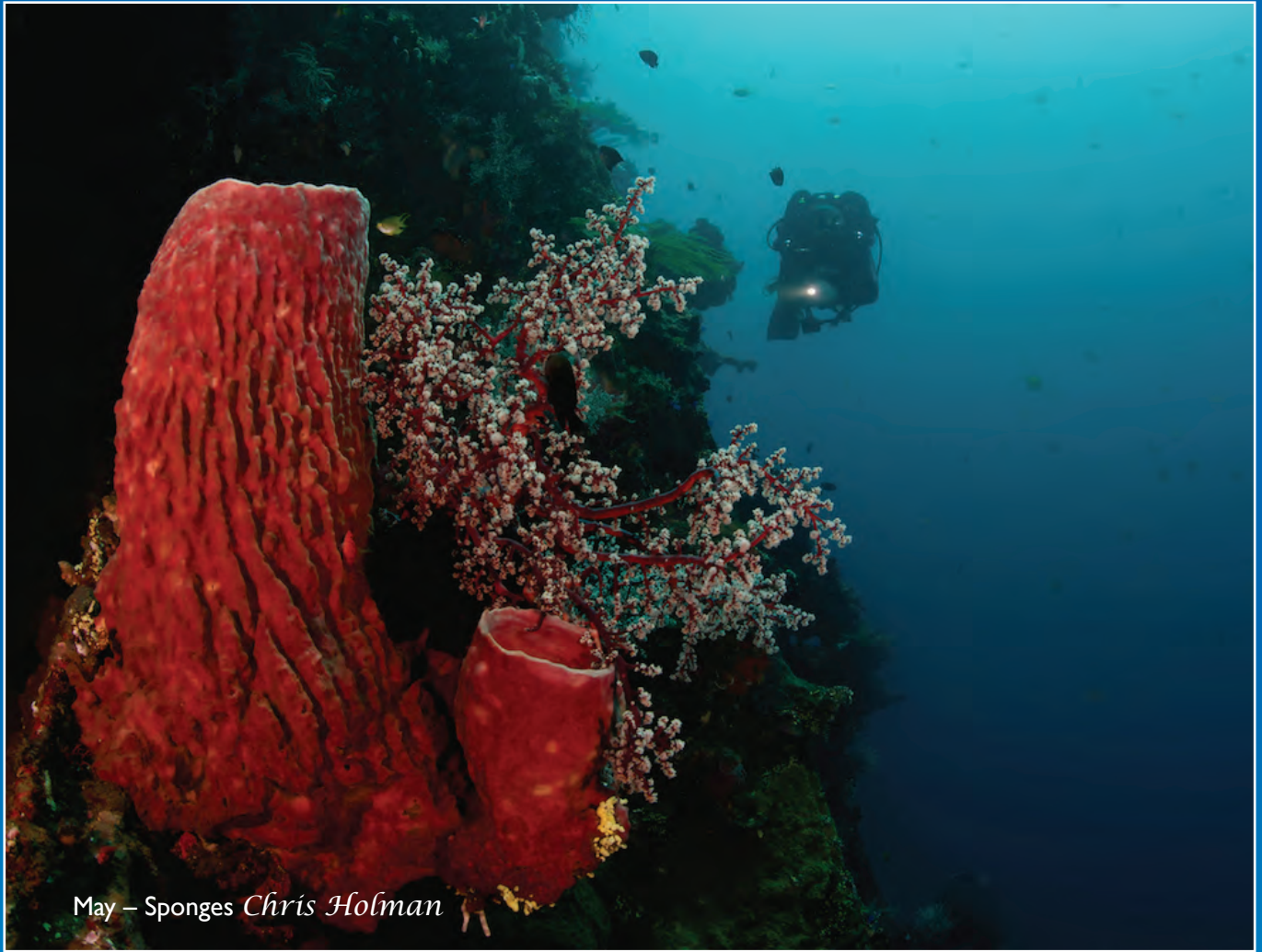
June – Lobster *Brad Prude*



February – In the Muck *Ian Griffiths*



January – Anemonefish *Ken Strickland*



May – Sponges *Chris Holman*




April – Primary colour *Bert de Wit*

Creature Feature

by Sue Morrison



Anglerfish, Frogfish or Toadfish?



The names Anglerfish, Frogfish and Toadfish generally apply to three families of fishes. However these common names lead to much confusion, because Anglerfish and Frogfish are interchangeable, as are Toadfish and Frogfish, depending on which book you are referring to! In an attempt to overcome confusion, CSIRO produced a list of standard common names for Australian fishes, and I shall follow this as much as possible.

© Brad Pryde



Frogs or Toads?

The names 'Frogfish' and 'Toadfish' are both used for the family Batrachoididae, and are probably derived from the similarity of the fish's face to a toad or frog. CSIRO uses the name 'Frogfish' for this family. Frogfishes live on the seabed or in reef crevices and are mainly seen in tropical regions. All that is usually visible is the wide, flattened head peering out from the reef, but the hidden body is elongate and tapered. They can be recognised by numerous fleshy flaps around the mouth and bushy 'eyebrows' above the large eyes. They are usually a mottled brown and whitish colour (see image). CSIRO uses the name 'Toadfish' for the family Tetraodontidae (Pufferfish or Tobys).

True Anglers

Unfortunately many books call this group of fishes both Anglerfish and Frogfish! However, the common names of the individual species usually contain the word 'Angler'. Anglerfishes (family Antennariidae) have a rounded, globular shape with leg-like pectoral fins and possess a 'fishing lure'. They are truly strange-looking fishes! They can be extremely variable in colour even within one species, for example, the Striped Anglerfish *Antennarius striatus* can range from black to a cream or peachy colour (see images), and other species are known to have well over 10 different colour forms. Some species can change colour within seconds,



Painted Anglerfish ©Sue Morrison



© Sue Morrison



© Fran O'Dwyer



and others, over a few weeks to match their environment. In most species the skin is covered in tiny spines (dermal spinules), giving them a rough, matt appearance. Some individuals also have abundant skin flaps, but this can vary even within species. The colour pattern and skin texture provides excellent camouflage, and divers can easily mistake them for pieces of sponge or algae.

Speedy fishers

The first dorsal fin spine has become modified into an elongate, flexible structure (*illicium*-Latin term for lure), and most species have a fleshy tip (*esca*-Latin term for bait) on it. The esca lures in small fishes and crustaceans, which are the usual prey items. There are three ways in which this fishing rod can be deployed: elevating the rod above the head and wriggling the esca, folding the rod forward and holding it still over the mouth, or flicking it back and forth (like fly-fishing). Anglerfish mainly lie in wait for prey to pass by, and once within range, strike with incredible speed. They can open their huge jaws and suck in prey in six milliseconds (0.006 seconds). Their expandable jaws can engulf prey larger than themselves and fit them in to a very stretchy abdomen! They can also creep up on prey by 'walking' along

the seabed on their unusual pectoral fins, relying on their camouflage to avoid detection. Surprisingly, they can also use jet propulsion by squirting water through the small gill openings hidden behind the leg-like fin bases.

Egg rafts or parental care

Externally male and female anglerfish appear identical, although obviously the anglerfish can tell who is who! Courtship can last several hours, and once the female has decided the male is the one for her, they rise up together releasing eggs and sperm. An unusual, rolled up ribbon of up to 280,000 eggs is produced. These ribbons unroll, expand and float near the surface and can be over 2.5 metres long in some species! The eggs hatch

after a few days, and the larvae remain in the plankton for a month or two, before settling on the seabed. In this way they can disperse widely among the reefs.

Some anglerfish (*Histiophryne* and *Lophiocharon* species), however, care for their eggs. The egg mass is not brooded in the mouth as in cardinalfish or catfish, but the eggs are held against the side of the body with the fins, with the tail also curled around them. This parental care increases the chances of the young surviving, so fewer eggs need to be produced (around 100-700).

Australian species

To date 42 species have been described worldwide, with around 25 species in Australian waters, ranging in size from about 3 to 45 cm in length. Most live on the seabed, but an exception is the Sargassum Fish, *Histrio histrio*, that clings to floating Sargassum weed.

Take time to look carefully among the sponge and weed on your dives, there could be a new species of anglerfish lying in wait. A most unusual species the Psychedelic Anglerfish, *Histiophryne psychedelica*, was only described in 2009.

Strange Deepsea Relatives

Just to add to the family confusion, there are several families of bizarre-looking deepsea anglerfishes, including Footballfishes (see image), Double Whipnose Anglerfishes and Leftvent Anglerfishes, but I think we'll leave those for another day!



Prickly Footballfish © Sue Morrison

ROTTNEST DAY DIVE

By Tammy Gibbs

On March 23, in near perfect conditions, a crew from WAUPS boarded Dolphin Dive's 'Blue Destiny' vessel for a day's photo shooting at Rottneest.

The idea behind the WAUPS Annual Rottneest Day Dive is that we are all taking photos on the same day, at the same site, in the same conditions. It's still pretty amazing to see the diversity of images that we take and the way in which we each interpret the themes.

To help us all 'get into the zone', a pre-shootout workshop was held the day before with Peter Nicholas and Karl Fehlauer sharing their wide angle and macro tips.

With this advice in the back of our minds, we were trying hard to shoot to the three themes of Fish, Sponge and Light.

We were fortunate to have an incredibly calm day and clear conditions over at Rotto.

On our first dive we jumped in at The Colander, an unusual site where large holes in the reef (like those of a colander) have you dropping into sheltered caves and overhangs. On the surface swim back to the boat, tiny seahorses could be spotted clinging to weed floating in the current.

After a BBQ lunch, our second dive was at Crystal Palace. This site is renowned for its colourful cave system which provided plenty of subjects for us to shoot. It was our last chance to get our themed images for entering into the competition.

Entrants submitted one image for each theme which were judged at the April meeting. And the winners were:

Fish – Amanda Blanksby,
Runner-up – Janet O'Brien

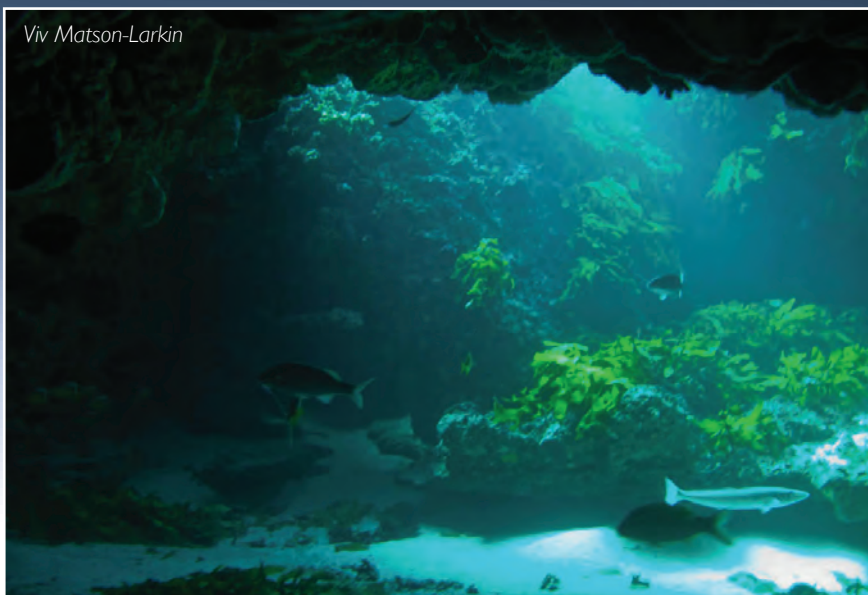
Sponge – Amanda Blanksby,
Runner-up – Mick Lee

Light – Viv Matson-Larkin,
Runner-up – Janet O'Brien

Overall Portfolio Winner of three images – Amanda Blanksby

Overall Novice Winner of three images – Mick Lee

Congrats to all the winners, we look forward to seeing you all at next year's day dive shootout.

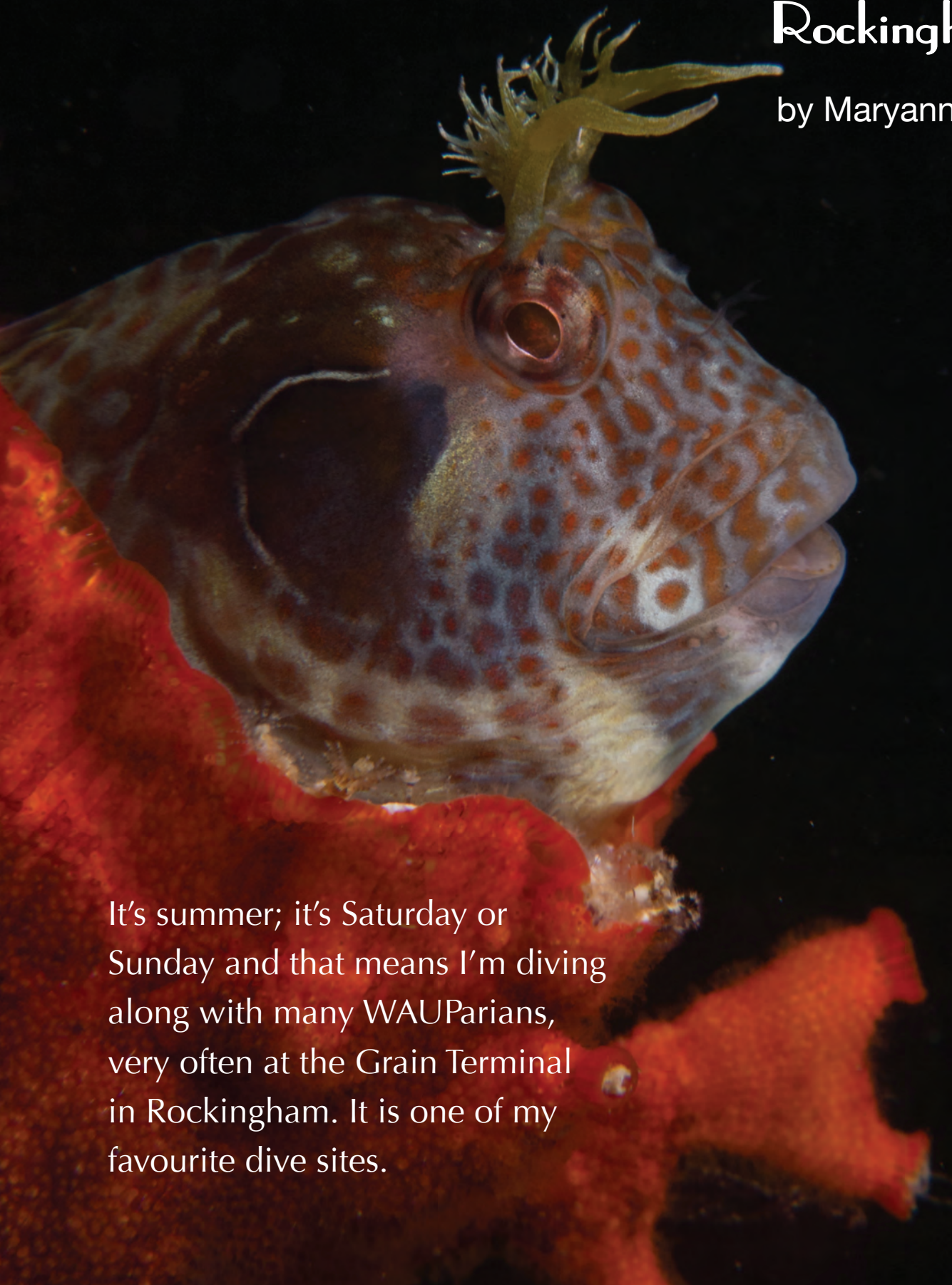


Dive sites

Grain terminal

Rockingham

by Maryann Evetts



It's summer; it's Saturday or Sunday and that means I'm diving along with many WAUParians, very often at the Grain Terminal in Rockingham. It is one of my favourite dive sites.

Harriet and /or Viv and I are not part of the early birders. We rock up when everyone else is in the water. The sun is shining, the water is warm and the viz is.... well the viz is indifferent, as it often is, shore diving around Perth. But that's ok! We're getting wet and enjoying all the treasures under the Grain Terminal for the next 2 or 3 hours. We promise each other we will motor straight out, by pass the others and not get way laid by anything and go and explore further out.

Then Harriet will spot something that really needs to be photographed, like the blennie in the plastic pipe. He pops out to greet us at the beginning of each dive. Flash! There are always lots of nudibranchs of all colours shapes and sizes, chromodoridae, *mexachromus macropus*, Flash! yellow and orange jelly bean ones, rice bubble nudis, Flash! the red spotted ones with yellow edge... you know the one. I can't remember the names. Licorice all sorts of nudis. Yellow, white and pink egg spirals everywhere.



Viv spends time playing with the occies, teasing them out of their holes and tickling their heads between the eyes. Flash! You should try it sometime - they get mesmerized! Not me though; too chicken!

There is often a pair or trio of cuttlefish, oblivious to us; the male deeply involved in the mating ritual, shielding his partner from rivals and seeking out suitable spots for laying eggs. Flash!

I spend a lot of time photographing the tunicates, anenomes, feather duster worms and orifices of all varieties. Flash! Flash! There are so many textures, colours, shapes and patterns it's mind-blowing.

I wonder if that golden scorpion fish is in his usual place. He has been there most of the summer, pretending that we can't see him and giving us that grumpy look. Flash! The first time Viv and I saw him he followed us around presenting his favoured side for photographing.



Very comical and delightful. He really is very beautiful.

Oh Woops!! Air is getting low, better scoot. Come on Viv, time to turn around. We didn't get as far as we wished, but that's not unusual. Wow! Look, there is a huge ray we have disturbed, lifting himself off the floor and gliding effortlessly off into the distance.

Did you see anyone on the way out? Was that Danny? I am sure I saw Fran. There's the cuttlefish, and the rice bubble nudi we saw on the way out. See ya next time little blennie in the tube.

Lovely dive! Lovely day! Capped off with a drench of hot water to warm up; milo, cheese and bikkies and fruit. Bliss! Oh, and the bag of horsey pooh for my garden! Thanks ladies.



Ferguson Valley – a WAPF event

One of the great things about being a member of WAUPS is that you also have membership of the WA Photographic Federation (WAPF), which allows you to attend inter-club events hosted by other affiliated clubs.

The WAPF exists to promote photography, assist and coordinate the activities of WA photography clubs, in addition to providing blanket personal liability insurance to affiliated clubs such as WAUPS.

A couple of months ago I had decided that this was the year, the year where I would become more involved in photography; groups, expeditions and perhaps even taking photos that didn't involve holidays or being underwater. I had come to the unfortunate realisation that wishing I was better wasn't making a massive difference to my photography skills. The time had therefore arrived and I was off to the Ferguson Valley

to attend my first WAPF interclub event, hosted by the Photography Group of Bunbury.

It was a wet and blustery weekend which began with some afternoon snaps on the Friday before a casual get together that night for pizza at the picturesque Evedon Park Bush Resort. An early start the next morning and a short drive later and we were in Wellington National Park, taking photos of the Wellington Dam,

the rapids and Long Pool. Our next stop for the day was Premier Coal Mine near Collie, where we were escorted around the mine pit and the workshops. While not everyone's cup of tea, this was my pick for the day's activities – along the premise of 'it's something a bit different'. A stop at St Aidan's winery for lunch and a wander through the vineyards in between the showers and then some free time until the sunset shoot





by Leanne Thompson

at Bunbury's back beach. The day concluded with dinner, prize draws and a talk from Sam Harris, a really interesting photographer who started his photographic life in the music industry in London but now calls Margaret River home.

Unfortunately the Sunday sunrise shoot was cancelled due the poor weather. Sunday's event, which was food photography, offered a great insight into composition and differing lighting techniques.

The WAPF weekends away are a great opportunity to meet and spend some time with like-minded nutcases who (maybe not enjoy) but make the effort to get out of bed before dawn in the hopes of that perfect light. After the experience in the Ferguson Valley I'm definitely looking forward to the next two WAPF events on my social calendar, Ninghan Station in the Wheatbelt in August and the Nikon event in Mandurah this October.





PARTING SHOT

by Leanne Thompson



Do a google search and invariably Sipidan, an hours boat ride off the coast of Malaysian Borneo, comes up in the whatever website's list of top places in the world to dive. This tiny tropical island is famous for a number of reasons; the great wall and drift dives, the large schools of big eye trevally and barracuda found along said walls and the turtles, lots and lots of turtles. The other thing Sipidan is famous for is the turtle tomb, an intricate limestone cavern that dead ends nearly 200 metres from the entrance. As the name implies the cavern contains the remains of numerous turtles that drown after becoming disorientated, and the cavern floor is littered with skeletons.

Being Malaysia, I probably could have found myself a dive guide willing to take me into the cavern with little more than a 'stick close and don't kick up the silt' briefing. However, admittedly through more luck than planning, I was staying at one of the three resorts at Mabul that teaches technical diving. So after one training dive on the house reef and one evening of annoying the kitchen staff by tying all the dining room chairs together so I could practice laying the lines, I ventured into the gloom.

Most of the first two dives were spent doing the remaining skills; laying lines and practicing the

'what if' emergency scenarios, including the 'what if my instructor knocks my reg out of my mouth' scenario. Finally, two and half days after I started the training I could take my camera with me. The experience is surreal, and the lack of currents and inexperienced divers means that these skeletons remain relatively undisturbed; many of my photos are eerily similar to those taken well over a decade ago. It was a fabulous experience and I'll say this, nothing is better for buoyancy control than the thought you could share the same fate as the turtles if your control and/or concentration slips.



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.



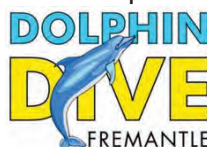
Fitzgerald Photo Imaging generously provides prizes for competitions and discounts for members (with your current membership card).



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.

Albany Dive generously provided prizes for competitions.

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 competition



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.**

www.waups.org.au

