

See something unusual? Dob in a fish



Sue Spence

Web Content Liason Officer,
Australian Maritime College

My role at AMC:

Marketing Officer (Web and Print)
Although I began the job at AMC in 2008 helping to re-write content for the new AMC website, my position description grew rapidly and I'm now involved in the design and production of marketing material.

To have fun:

I am passionate about many things including movies, food, music and art. I try to learn something new every day and I try to make sure I laugh every day. Sometimes it's as simple as watching a TV show like *Black Books* or *Blackadder*. Life is too short to be unhappy!

Reading:

A series by Diana Gabaldon about a young British woman during WWII who travels back in time to a period of Scottish history where she once lived. Sounds complicated but it's a cracking great read. Am also reading Eckhart Tolle's *A New Earth* and James Ray's *Harmonic Wealth*.

Listening to:

An iPod crammed with Journey, Chicago, Def Leppard, Bon Jovi, Kate Bush, TaTu, ABBA (yes I admit it), Lifehouse, Jars of Clay and so many more.

Before AMC:

I worked for two years in the Department of Health and Human Services, spent four years living and working in the United States where I met my hubby and also spent a couple of years living and working in the United Kingdom. I've still got unpacked boxes!

Looking forward to:

A trip at the end of this year to spend Christmas in Scotland with family and friends and then next year a trip around the world on the *Queen Mary II*.



The REDMAP project encourages fishers and divers to report unusual catches.

► ENVIRONMENT

People who dive and fish in Tasmanian waters are urged to contact researchers when they see new and unusual sea life.

The Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute (TAFI) is mapping the movement of sea life reacting to the warming of coastal waters through REDMAP, a database and mapping project.

REDMAP will use the knowledge and experience of fishers and divers to create a network of keen observers who can help identify how the waters they enjoy are changing.

TAFI marine biologist and REDMAP designer Dr Gretta Pecl said the project was specific to Tasmanian waters and incorpo-

rated an extensive marine species database and interactive website aimed at linking fishing, science and education in a unique way.

"Recent research and anecdotal evidence has indicated particular marine species are shifting their ranges further south along the Tasmanian coast, and some species are newcomers to our waters from Victoria and New South Wales," she said.

"While there may be many reasons for habitat expansion,

it is suspected that the effects of climate change, in particular rising sea temperatures, are creating the greatest impact."

REDMAP will use the knowledge and experience of fishers and divers to create a network of keen observers who can help identify how the waters they enjoy are changing.

This information will be immediately available to the public through the REDMAP website, and will be available for use in teaching in primary and high schools.

The educational resources for teachers to download will include fact sheets and lesson plans on climate change and the marine environment, ecological changes occurring in Tasmanian waters, and information on local research projects into the impacts of climate change.

Dr Pecl said, based on the principles of citizen science, REDMAP research would extend science beyond the realms of the laboratories.

The success of the REDMAP website will depend entirely on the data collected and provided by the Tasmanian community.

For more information contact the REDMAP team: (03) 6227 7262.

Research into easements

► COMMUNITY, PLACE & CHANGE

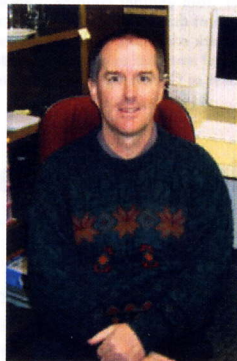
BY SARAH NICOL

Neighbourly disputes over right of way can cause serious emotional, personal and financial costs. To address this issue, the Tasmania Law Reform Institute is seeking community input on whether there is a need to improve the law of easements.

The institute, based at University of Tasmania, recently released an issues paper titled *Law of Easements in Tasmania*.

An easement is a right exercisable by one landowner over the land of a neighbour. A common example is a right of way.

Senior Lecturer Lynden Griggs said while there are no figures to indicate the exact number of easements in Tasmania, it is assumed many properties either benefit or are burdened by such an arrangement.



Lynden Griggs is seeking community input on any disputes to do with right of way or other easements.

The institute began investigating easements after a disgruntled landowner described the emo-

tional, personal and financial costs involved.

"Underlying this dispute was a stark reminder of the need for rights attaching to land to be easily identifiable and clearly understood," Mr Griggs said.

Now the researchers are calling for more public input on the law in Tasmania.

Mr Griggs said they are interested to hear whether the law on access to easement by the dominant owner should be clarified, and whether an inexpensive dispute resolution mechanism should be formalised within the legislation.

The institute also wants to know whether new easements should be recognised such as the right to a view, or wind or solar easements.

Mr Griggs said there is also the question of whether a landowner should be able to burden their own land with an easement

to preserve conservation or heritage values rather than to benefit a neighbour.

Any group or person is invited to respond to this issues paper. Following consideration of all responses it is intended that a final report containing recommendations will be published.

The institute invites responses to the issues paper by 29 May 2009.

The full report can be downloaded from www.law.utas.edu.au/reform/

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