

Marshall's Mysteries 10

Do you know what these animals are, or what they are doing? Have a guess – answers on page 68

A

© Colin Marshall / Adea



Lembeh, Sulawesi, Indonesia

image about 5 cm across

B

© Colin Marshall / FLPA / Minden



Lembeh, Sulawesi, Indonesia

image about 6 cm across

C

© Colin Marshall / Adea



Lembeh, Sulawesi, Indonesia

image about 1 cm across

D

© Colin Marshall / FLPA / Minden



Lembeh, Sulawesi, Indonesia

image about 1 cm across

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Marshall's Mysteries 10 - Answers

A



Coconut Octopus (*Amphioctopus marginatus*) eggs. The octopus has laid its eggs in a glass jar, which was partially buried in the black sand.

The female octopus can lay up to 100,000 eggs, protecting them until they hatch.

This glass jar would provide the octopus with both an excellent home to protect her brood as well as a transparent lookout base to watch out for prey.



© Colin Marshall

B



Marbled Stargazer (*Uranoscopus bicinctus*) exposing its internal worm-like respiratory organs as it forcibly buries itself into the soft sand by taking large gulps of water.

The fish uses the worm-like tentacle as a lure once it is buried fully in the sand, with only the eyes and mouth just barely above the surface, as shown in the classic portrait of this ambush predator below.



© Colin Marshall / FLPA / Minden

C



Female parasitic Rough Copepod (*Cardiodectes asper*) with pair of spiral egg sacs.

Full size image below, showing the parasite on the Large Whipgoby (*Bryaninops amplus*) host, in turn living symbiotically on a Whip Coral.



The relative size of the copepod compared to the host suggests the parasite could be detrimental to the goby, even if just exposing it to infection.

The goby is unlikely to leave the safety of the whip coral to find a cleaning station with cleaner shrimp or wrasse, ie this will likely be a long-term relationship.

D



Bunch of possibilities – Worm? Anemone? Part of the coral?

It's actually a Coral-dwelling Barnacle (*Nobia* sp), part of the Pyrgomatidae Family. It is a Crustacean, closely related to shrimps and crabs (not snails or molluscs).

The Barnacle has wedged itself into this coral, becoming sessile (non-mobile). This is a segue to the image shown in MM #3 in UWP 126 (May / June 2022), which is likely the exuvia from a barnacle moult (previously thought it was a free-swimming barnacle larva).



© Colin Marshall

More detail on this Copepod and Barnacle can be found on pages 142 and 146 respectively in "Coral Reef Crustaceans from Red Sea to Papua" by Andrey Ryanskiy.

If you think any of the identifications or information above is wrong, please let me know at colintrmarshall@yahoo.com. Feel free to send me any images of anything you'd like some help in identifying – any particularly interesting mysteries may be included in future Underwater Photography issues.

Guidelines for contributors

The response to UwP has been nothing short of fantastic. We are looking for interesting, well illustrated articles about underwater photography. We are looking for work from existing names but would also like to discover some of the new talent out there and that could be you! UwP is the perfect publication for you to increase your profile in the underwater photography community.

The type of articles we're looking for fall into five main categories:

Uw photo techniques - Balanced light, composition, etc

Locations - Photo friendly dive sites, countries or liveaboards,

Subjects -, Anything from whale sharks to nudibranchs in full detail

Equipment reviews - Detailed appraisals of the latest equipment

Personalities - Interviews/features about leading underwater photographers

**If you have an idea for an article,
contact me first before putting pen to paper.
E mail peter@uwpmag.com**

How to submit articles

To keep UwP simple and financially viable, we can only accept submissions by e mail and they need to be done in the following way:

1. The text should be saved as a TEXT file and attached to the e mail

2. Images must be attached to the e mail and they need to be 150dpi

Size - Maximum length 20cm i.e. horizontal pictures would be 20 cm wide and verticals would be 20cm high.

File type - Save your image as a JPG file and set the compression to "Medium" quality. This should result in images no larger than about 120k which can be transmitted quickly. If we want larger sizes we will contact you.

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