

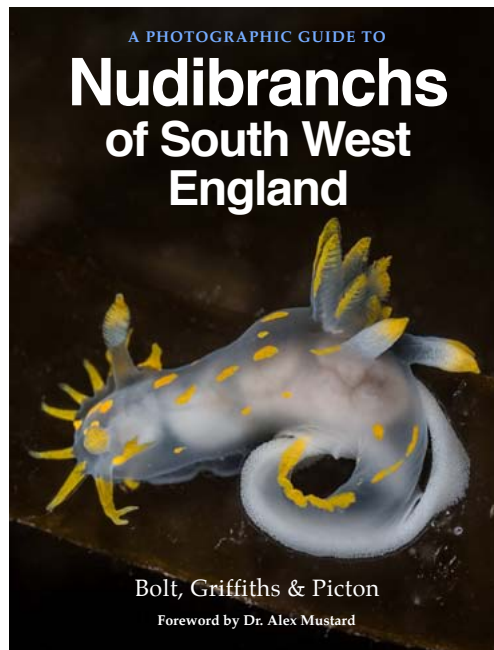
iBook Review

Nudibranchs of South West England by Bolt, Griffiths & Picton by Peter Rowlands

There can be no doubt that nudibranchs are the current 'cool'. Their seemingly endless variety and amazing colours and shapes make them the perfect macro subject. They also inhabit temperate and warm waters so they are available to shoot wherever you are!

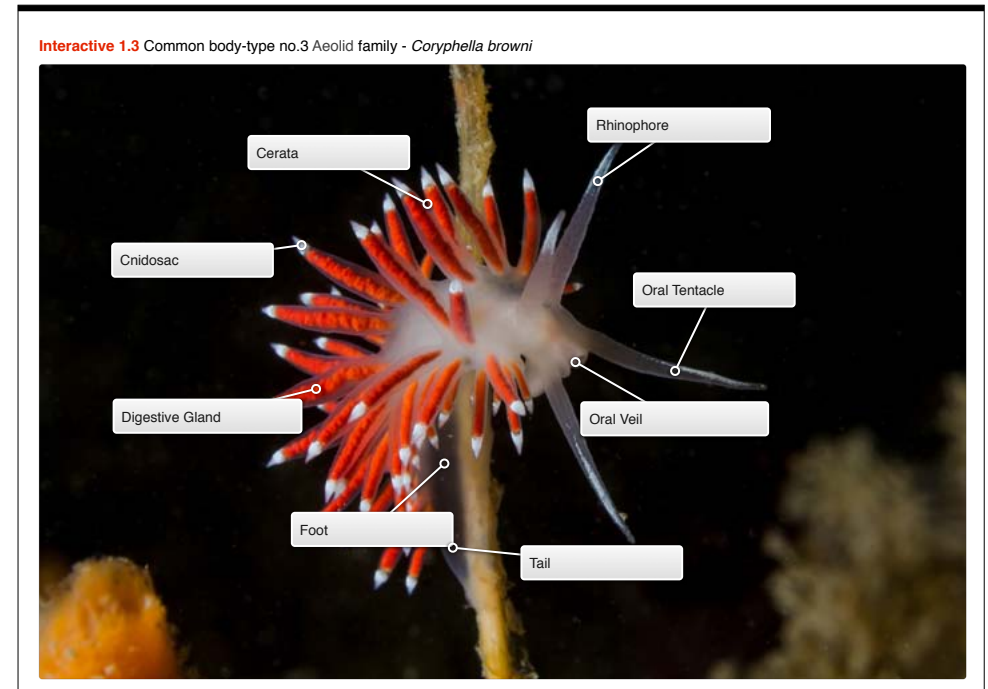
Nudibranchs of South West England (SWN) is an iBook and is an excellent example of how this format is revolutionising the specialist subject publishing industry. It is secure and allows for updates as well as providing space for hundreds of high res images.

Nudibranch expert Bernard Picton has teamed up with nudibranch enthusiasts and underwater photographers Terry Griffiths and Dan Bolt. Making use of Bernard's unsurpassed knowledge and Terry & Dan's 50 years of diving in the south west is a powerful combination which has created a completely new and up-to-date reference guide.



SWN is a very well paced iBook and feels very inclusive. It would have been easy to blind the reader with Latin science but it still manages to impart that important information without a feeling of having to learn so much before getting anywhere. The 114 page iBook describes more than 60 of the species which inhabit these temperate waters

SWN is also a very helpful iBook in that early on it tells you how, when and where to find these small creatures – very useful information to get you off to a productive start. Then to be even more helpful they offer detailed hints on how to photograph them!



Flabellina pedata**ID Guide:**

Size: Small, up to 30mm but occasionally larger.

Main Body Colour: Purple, red or pink.

Rhinophores: Rugose.

Gills:

Habitat: Found in all areas in the south west.

Similar Species: None.

Flabellina pedata (Montagu, 1815)

This species is one of the most distinctive you can see due to the obvious purple-pink colouration of the body, rhinophores and oral tentacles.

The head and rhinophores have a wrinkled appearance and are tipped white. Similarly the oral tentacles and the cerata are also tipped white.

The digestive glands are usually red-purple but can be orange in colour and can clearly be seen running through the numerous thin but densely packed cerata.

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The bulk of the iBook is then taken up with detailed descriptions of the species and to aid identification each page has several images to make accurate identification a breeze. With authors such as these it goes without saying that the quality of the images is consistently excellent.

There is a powerful search facility but, personally, the images were the best form of quick ID. Finally there is a neat chapter describing similar species such as sea slugs and sea hares several of which look like they should be nudibranchs but actually aren't!

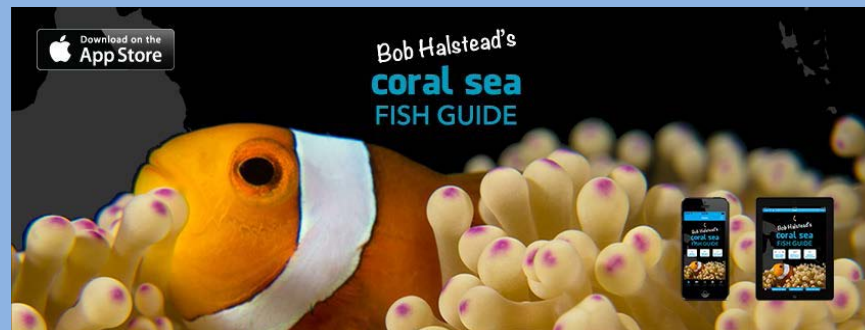
Finally a nice touch is the My

Nudi Checklist which allows you to tick off the species you have seen and photographed

Currently you can only read SWN on Apple iPads and all Apple computers running OS X Mavericks. Nudibranchs of South West England costs \$15.99 or £9.99 which, for such a helpful and informative publication, is an absolute steal.

www.southwestnudis.co.uk

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**BOB HALSTEAD'S CORAL SEA FISH GUIDE APP**

NEW RELEASE! With more than 850 marine species featured and over 2000 high quality colour photographs, **Bob Halstead's Coral Sea Fish Guide App** provides the easiest and most interesting way for reef lovers, snorkelers and scuba divers to identify and learn about the diverse and amazing fish life of the Coral Sea area – The Great Barrier Reef, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia - and often beyond. For convenience, the guide also includes some common reptiles, mammals and mysterious invertebrates.

Simple navigation for both iPad and iPhone using images allows users to quickly browse different species whether you know what you are looking for, or need a name for the fish you have just seen. You can also search for species under their "Common", "Scientific" or "Group" name. Once loaded the app does not require an Internet connection so can be used on boats at sea.

You can add your own notes to each species and create your own personal list of favourite marine animals, or animals seen on a dive, with the "My Reef" facility, and make personal notes/logs. Save, display and edit your list whenever you like. Distribution maps are provided with the opportunity to add to our knowledge by reporting your discoveries. A Rogue's Gallery provides images and references for unusual marine creatures that might otherwise be difficult to find.

Bob Halstead has dived and photographed the Coral Sea for over 40 years and in 2008 was inducted into the **International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame**. He has led innumerable dive tours in the Coral Sea area and this app aims not only to identify the marine life seen but also answer the many questions that his guests have asked him over the years. He recalls many personal encounters with Coral Sea creatures.

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Developer/IT Adam Purdy