

## Dr Tony Underwood

Tony was born in Essex (England) and, at a very early age, developed a strong commitment to becoming a zoologist. He went to school, with famous people (e.g. Douglas Adams of Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy and Jack Straw, now Minister for Foreign Affairs in the U.K. Government). He chose to go to the University of Bristol to study Zoology (partly because the to-be-famous people went to Oxford or Cambridge to study esoteric things). He got his Honours B.Sc. in 1968. He stayed on to do a Ph.D. (completed in 1971). It was a disastrous study of reproduction and larval development of prosobranch gastropods - disastrous because they would not breed and because his supervisor (T.E. Thompson) had stopped being an embryologist.



After the usual period of unemployment, he accepted a postdoctoral position in the University of Sydney, to work on some embryological/reproductive projects with Professor D.T. Anderson (who also stopped being an embryologist and developed a second, equally excellent career in functional morphology of crustaceans). This appointment was not disastrous - it allowed redoing of the Ph.D. and learning how to be an ecologist.

Subsequently, he was appointed lecturer (1975), Senior Lecturer (1977), Reader (1981), Professor of Experimental Ecology (Personal Chair, 1991) and University Professor (2004) at the University of Sydney. He gained a D.Sc. in 1994. En route, he has received numerous awards (Eureka Prize; Distinguished Statistical Ecologist (Intecol); Honorary Member, Ecological Society of America; David Syme Research Prize, University of Melbourne; Clarke Medal, Royal Society of NSW and, of course, the Jubilee Award of AMSA). He was awarded a Centennial Medal (2003), a Fellowship of the Linnean Society of London and was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science in 1995.

For various periods, he was Director of the Marine Studies Centre and the Institute of Marine Ecology in the University of Sydney and, since 1997, has been the Director of the Australian Research Council's Centre for Research on Ecological Impacts of Coastal Cities.

His research on rocky intertidal shores spans ecology, behaviour, competition, predation, responses to disturbances, harvesting, marine reserves, etc. He has published extensively on macrofauna in soft-sediments, estuarine ecology and mangroves. He has also published numerous reviews about various ecological topics, including environmental impacts, management of environmental issues, experimental design, intertidal ecology, etc. Some of his important contributions include development of conceptual models about supply-side ecology (the role of variable recruitment in the structure of assemblages) and beyond-BACI procedures (substantially improved designs of sampling to detect and quantify environmental impacts).

He is regularly invited (with his partner, Dr Gee Chapman) to teach courses on experimental design in overseas institutions. These include, in the last 15 years, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Great Britain, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine.

He has published around 230 papers, book-chapters, etc., including 5 books (Experiments in Ecology (1997), Cambridge University Press is a major book widely used by ecologists). His work

has been cited thousands of times, resulting in his recognition as a Highly Cited Researcher, by the Science Citation Index. He has served as Editor of the Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology, Marine Ecology Progress Series, Ecotoxicology, Biodiversity and Conservation and refereed enormous numbers of papers for about 70 other journals. He was Deputy Chairman of the United Nations Environment Program Group of Experts on Effects of Pollution (including workshops in Bermuda, Italy, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom). He has supervised about 60 Ph.D. students and 20 M.Sc. students.

Details of his research can be found at [www.eicc.bio.usyd.edu.au](http://www.eicc.bio.usyd.edu.au)