

When I started UwP it never occurred to me that I would have to write an obituary but news of the death of Jim Church has saddened the underwater photography community and led to many glowing tributes to the master teacher.

It will always be a regret of mine that I never got to meet Jim in person but we corresponded occasionally via e mail and I read his various postings on the UWPhoto forum.

Jim was a natural teacher and I doubt if there's an underwater photographer of my generation who didn't read and learn from his excellent books on underwater photography. He had a way of explaining even the most complicated theory in terms which were easy to grasp. I think his book on Composition is a classic example.

Nearly all of the tributes mention the warmth of the man, always willing to impart his vast knowledge for the good of others and to take time to listen and respond helpfully to questions he must have heard hundreds of times before.

Jim may no longer be with us but his wisdom and spirit will live on in our lives.

Last year he posted his latest list of "Churchisms" on the UWPhoto forum and I reprint it on the next page in his dear memory.

Editorial

Hyperlink help needed!

I am reliably informed that I can build "hyperlinks" into UwP so that, if you are on line, you can click on the link and it will take you to the web site or create an e mail message.

Now I may be reliably informed but, on this one, I'm also mentally challenged as I can't seem to get hyperlinks to work so would any good UwP reader who knows how to set up hyperlinks using Adobe Pagemaker on an Apple Mac please get in touch?

The reason why I'm keen to set up these links is because it would then be possible for advertisers to monitor the number of times their site is visited from a UwP link and so give them an indication of how successful their advert is in creating a positive response.

Advertisers in conventional magazines often include a reference code which tells them where the customer saw the advert but UwP should be able to go much further than that and provide advertisers with much more information.

So, please, if there is anyone out there who can help, I'd love to hear from you.

Digital dilemma

I'm sure there's a lot of underwater photographers contemplating a leap into the digital age and they will learn a lot from Alex Mustard's excellent review of the Nikon D100 and the Subal D10 housing in this issue.

Comparing 35mm film performance to digital is not yet on an equal footing but it is getting very close. When a "full frame" 35mm chip is available at a reasonable price we will have a similar depth of field but with a much improved white balance performance and that has to be worth the wait.

In the meantime the imminent arrival of the Nikkor 12-24mm lens will give the equivalent of an 18-36mm zoom with the Nikon D100 which has a smaller chip than the 35mm format. This will be a very attractive lens to underwater photographers who tend to use much wider lenses than land photographers and will help to justify the D100 format as sufficient for the majority of underwater photographers needs.

The file sizes the D100 can produce will easily reproduce up to A4 in a quality magazine and probably larger so, as such, it already provides the quality needed but the advent of the 35mm full frame chip is still the light at the end of the digital tunnel.

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Underwater Photography magazine

is published by
PR Productions

13 Langley Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 6QN
Tel & fax 00 44 (0)208 399 5709

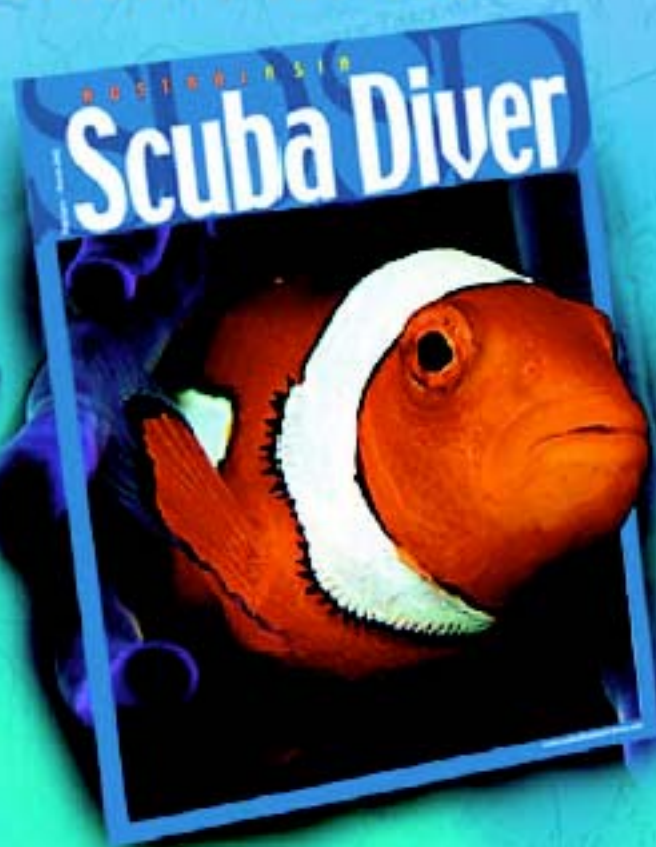
THE RULES OF CHURCHISM

(in random order)



01. Go potty every chance you get.
02. Stay out of the sun.
03. Avoid making promises.
04. Never give undeserved gifts or praise.
05. Beware of undeserved gifts or praise.
06. Winning an argument may lose a friend.
07. Never argue if you have nothing to gain.
08. If you must do battle, fight with someone else's troops.
09. Nothing is what it seems to be, and nothing turns out as expected.
10. It's easier to change a plan than to have no plan.
11. People don't change, they get older.
12. Nobody can predict the future.
13. What's here today is gone tomorrow, but nothing really changes.
14. Don't say what you don't want repeated.
15. An erect penis has no conscience.
16. Never loan what you can't do without.
17. Never borrow what you can't pay for.
18. Have a check list and follow it.
19. Never dive in water below 80 degrees F.
20. Always pee in your dive suit. (There's no such thing as a dry suit.)
21. A fish moves faster than a camera shutter.
22. Don't piss off the golden goose.
23. There's no problem you can hide from.
24. Imaginative minds can always find a new problem or complaint.
25. Rules are made to be wondered about.
26. When asking a group to assemble, no time is a good time.
27. There's no such thing as a water-proof camera, strobe or housing.
28. If you were smart enough to hide your stupidity, you wouldn't have to.
29. The reason you dive is to get away from meaningless conversation.
30. Always drink upstream from the herd.
31. If you can't have a good time, be a good time.
32. If someone else will do a dirty job, let them.
33. Don't ask for it -- you just might get it.
34. Whatever lens you choose, it won't fit your subject.
35. Always hang your dripping wetsuit over someone else's locker.
36. Don't shoot in the ocean what you can shoot in a pool.
37. "Good enough" depends on whether your position resembles William Tell's or that of his son.
38. Never fart if you are the first person to take a seat in first class.
39. Heed George Washington's advice: avoid entangling alliances.
40. Avoid diving in Russian submarines unless you have a pony bottle.
41. No matter what happens, somebody will find a way to take it too seriously.
42. A person who is nice to you, but is rude to the waiter, isn't a nice person.
43. Trust everyone, but cut the cards.
44. If at first you don't succeed, try viagra.
45. Never give yourself a haircut after three margaritas.
46. Work is good, but it's not that important.
47. Be nice to your friends. You never know when you will need them to empty your bedpan.
48. Nap whenever possible.
49. It's better to have something and not need it, than to need something and not have it.
50. Famous last words: "Oh, don't worry about that; it'll never happen."
51. When all is said and done, much more will have been said than done.
52. If you can't take good photos, go to Church and pray.
53. Establish the location and supply of TP before the need arises
54. Another person's lack of preparation or reading of directions isn't your immediate emergency.
55. To start endless conversations, ask any group about o-ring grease.
56. Exercise daily, and you will live five months longer--in a \$5,000 a month nursing home.

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