

Starting the collapse

Bashing a brick off the top of a tall chimney stack will make virtually no difference to its performance but remove just a few from the base layer and you will almost certainly make the whole structure collapse.

A similar situation is taking place in Antarctica where 14 supertrawler factory ships are hoovering up krill to sell them as Omega-3 supplements and feed for salmon farming. These small crustacea are a vital food source for many marine animals, including whales, penguins, and seals. They also play a crucial role in nutrient cycling and carbon sequestration within the Southern Ocean.

Sure, the Antarctic waters are a huge area but krill concentrate in smaller defined areas and, if they are targeted and removed, the very building blocks of life in the ocean will be severely affected.

The result could lead to a collapse of the delicately balanced marine eco system and, as we have seen from the brick chimney scenario, the food chain will collapse affecting each and everything in its wake.

Sea Shepherd are fighting a vital campaign to highlight and cease this pointless plunder and they need all the support they can get.

www.seashepherd.com



Issue 144/4

Editorial

Voted Best Magazine on Inside Scuba website

I was delighted to read recently that UwP has been highlighted as the best magazine 'For Increasing Your Underwater Photography Knowledge' and one particular comment rang true - 'The magazine's commitment to showcasing reader submissions also fosters a sense of community, allowing aspiring photographers to gain recognition and learn through constructive comparison.'

Link

I'm pleased they picked up on that because, right from the off, that was always a significant intention. It started with Parting Shot - images with a story within a story, followed by My Shot - a much wider net aimed at showcasing individual images which meant a great deal.

The whole point of these two sections was to encourage new talent to see their work published without having to write a lengthy essay and so have their work appreciated by a much wider audience.

There have been Parting Shots and My shot(s) in almost every issue but they have fallen away recently for some reason in terms of the number of contributions. Maybe it's too

intimidating for a newcomer to submit their image and text for scrutiny? All I can say is that every contribution is welcome and that very, very few, if any, get turned down. Tweaked a little, maybe, but rarely thrown out.

I'll never forget the thrill of having my first images and article on Anglerfish published in Diver Magazine. It was a huge boost to my confidence and there was even a modest cheque in the post a few weeks later.

Money is always good but it paled in comparison to the sheer thrill of seeing my work reproduced in a magazine. The money side has faded away sadly but that thrill will always remain.

I actively welcome Parting Shots and My Shot(s) submissions and successful examples of what we are looking for are in each and every issue together with details of how simple it is to submit them.

I really do look forward to hearing from you.

Peter Rowlands
peter@uwpmag.com

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