

News, Travel & Events



A stellar cast of international and national leading underwater photographers will be appearing at the “Visions in the Sea” underwater photography festival in London this October. The festival features a balance of spectacular showpiece portfolios to inspire delegates with instructional presentations to help them achieve great results themselves.

Presenters include, from Australia, Michael Aw, founder of Ocean Geographic Magazine, author/photographer of more than 25 books and two guides for digital underwater photographers. Michael will make presentations including one on how to finance and publish your own first book.

Amos Nachoum is flying in

especially from the USA. Amos doesn't do macro. By order of size he starts with leopard seals, then works through polar bears, walruses, white sharks, belugas, orcas, humpbacks and blue whales - all underwater of course.

Tony White is from South Africa and has an image bank from around the globe. From leafy sea dragons to copper sharks on the Sardine Run (one bit him), Tony has captured it all superbly on film.

Arriving from France is Frederic Buyle, the multi award

winning freediver responsible for the captivating images that illustrate the book “One Breath”.

Greece gives us Constantinos Petrinis, the superbly talented behavioural photographer who photographed and authored the definitive guide to the eco system of Lembeh, “Realm of the Pygmy Seahorse”.

And joining us from the USA is Wetpixel mover and shaker, James Wiseman.

Brits bringing their talents to Visions include Charlie Hood, from Dive Magazine, discussing how to shoot wrecks in often appalling conditions,

Andrew Sutton of Nice Studios explaining how to get better colours, Chris Williams from quest Underseas showing how divers can use their cameras to help document and protect the marine environment, and Brendan O'Brien from Diver Magazine talking

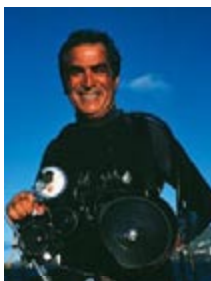
you through how to make money from diving photo journalism.



Special guest is Tom Peschak. The South African based marine biologist is the author of three books including “South Africa's Great White Shark”, “Currents of Contrast” and his new spectacular, launching at Visions, “Wild Seas. Secret Shores”. Tom will present two one man shows. He'll talk through the shooting of “Wild Seas, Secret Shores” and then run a special presentation on how to successfully photograph sharks underwater.

As always, there's a chance to have your own images critiqued during one to one sessions with the speakers, a photo competition and the rowdy Visions Dinner.

www.oceanoptics.co.uk





North Sea Film Festival Netherlands Nov 30 - Dec 2, 2007

The Submarine Foundation is proud to announce the first Dutch festival dedicated specifically to underwater video, the North Sea Film Festival. Scheduled to be held at the Hague in the Netherlands from November 30 to December 2, 2007, the festival is currently accepting underwater-themed entries produced after 2005 in two categories of 60 minutes and 20 minutes maximum lengths.

Entry is free, and the deadline for submission is October 15. This is a great opportunity to showcase your work internationally - be sure to read the rules and registration details to submit your films.

www.northseafilmfestival.com



Smaller dive groups at Tasik Ria

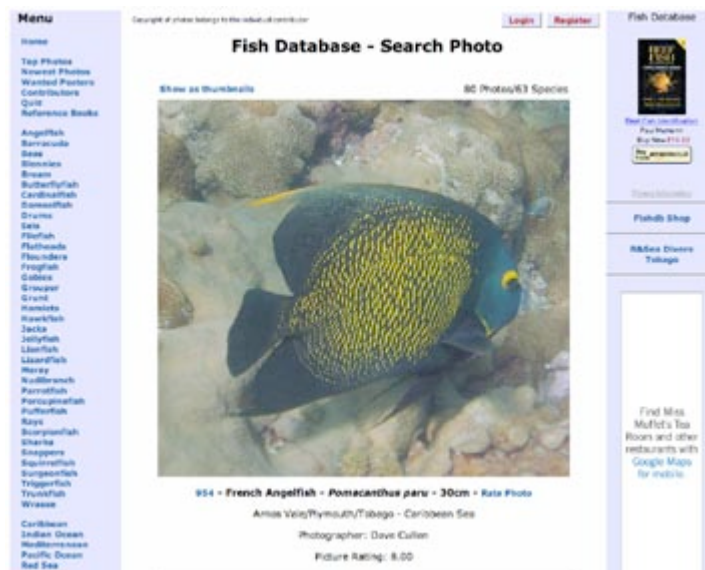
The service at Eco Divers, Tasik Ria Resort, has recently been upgraded by reducing the size of its dive groups to just 4 or fewer guests to one guide. And that means a lot more personal attention and added safety from Eco's friendly, fully trained Divemasters.

"This new level of service really strengthen Eco Divers' exclusive service, with our boats already being the most luxurious in Manado," says Owner, Jim Yanny.

Special trips by road can also be arranged to the Lembeh Strait where guests can now enjoy three dives on its famous 'muck' sites. Here, rare critters include mimic octopus, pygmy seahorses, Rhinopious scorpionfish plus a whole lot more.

www.eco-divers.com

Fishy web site



I was wondering whether you think your readers would be interested in my website. It's a database of underwater photography (the rules are that it's basically any underwater life in it's natural habitat), with easy search facilities and an ID quiz.

I started it back in June 2006, with just a couple of hundred photos of my father's and my own and have been surprised by the speed of growth as more and more people sign up and contribute their own photographs. The site now has 1540 pictures of over 500 different species. It's a hobby of mine, so the site is completely free and since you can browse by contributor, people can use it as a place to put their own photographs to show their friends online.

Registered users can vote for photographs and this scoring is used so that users are shown the best photograph of each species first, though all photographs are reachable. The majority of pictures in the database so far are from the Caribbean, so it would be great to find some more contributors that have photos from the Pacific

and Indian Oceans.

It's still early days yet, but last month the site averaged 70 unique visitors every day, so there is obviously a lot of demand for people to see such photographs. One of our contributors has also informed me that he was discovered through my site and contracted to take several photographs for a new book.

www.fishdb.co.uk



East Midlands Underwater Photographers

Tony White

Tuesday October 16th

Tuesday October 16th sees the first meeting of the East Midlands Underwater Photographers (EMUP). This is a new group which will meet monthly at Stoney Cove in Leicestershire.

Each month we will have an experienced, acclaimed and distinguished invited talker. Our first will be Tony White, who will explain his transition from topside photographer to world-renown underwater photographer. In addition members will be invited to submit photographs into a lighthearted monthly competition, which is then judged on the evening by our invited speaker.

With the advent of digital photography, the number of divers with cameras has greatly increased in the last few years. We aim to offer advice and share knowledge to get the most out of this expensive kit; many people do not know that a few simple

alterations of settings and a couple of simple rules underwater can transform anyone's photographs.

At EMUP we aim to promote underwater photography for all abilities and aim to give talks of interest not only to those interested in underwater photography but non-photographers, topside wildlife photographers and even non-divers.

This is a great opportunity for us in the East Midlands, where nearby diving and photographic opportunities are in short supply to get together to share ideas and experience. The catchment area within 1 hour of Stoney Cove is a considerable diving population, all of whom would have to travel to London for BSoUP, Manchester for the NUPG and Bristol for the BUPG. We will also put on video evenings, so it is not exclusively for stills photography.

The evening will begin at 7:30pm downstairs in Nemo Bar, Stoney Cove's very own pub. There will be a small charge each month based on numbers attending and sponsorship obtained, further details of this charge will be provided nearer the time. For more information on EMUP and details of future meetings please visit

www.emup.org.uk



Upcoming International Photo & Video Competitions

Sept 1
DigiDiver International Photo Contest (USA)

Sept 10
Just Dive 2007 Photo Contest (USA)

Sept 15
Antibes "World Festival of Underwater Pictures" (France)

Sept 15
SanDisk Red Sea 2007 Eilat (Israel)

Sept 21
2007 LAUPS International Competition (USA)

Oct 12
Sea 2007 Competition (USA)

Oct 15
North Sea Film Festival (The Netherlands)

Oct 31
PADI & Outdoor Photographer Aquatic Inspirations Digital Photo Contest (USA)





Photography Recruitment Website

Photography Jobs Finder launches to provide the photography industry with its first dedicated recruitment website for job seekers and employers.

In a recent survey of 78 people working within the photography field 59 stated they had experienced problems when searching online for work and found it a time consuming process.

Responding to this survey the Photography Jobs Finder website (<http://www.photographyjobsfinder.com>) has been launched. Providing an online recruitment service dedicated to employers and jobs seekers from the photography industry, its purpose is to streamline the task of job searching.

Alex Hamer, creator of Photography Jobs Finder, says, "Being a photographer I have always

found it a laborious task when searching for work. Jobs are often scattered over many websites and there is not one dedicated location for the photography industry to visit. With Photography Jobs Finder I am trying to solve these problems and make all our lives easier!"

Photography Jobs Finder already advertises a number of jobs, ranging from freelance photography to picture editors. As well as this it provides job seekers with the ability to build their CV online for potential employers to search from and view.

Photographers can now sign up free to a weekly jobs bulletin delivered straight to their inboxes.

www.photographyjobsfinder.com

11th Open Fotosub Isla de El Hierro 22nd - 28th October 2007

Open Fotosub Isla de El Hierro is organised by the island Government, CABILDO INSULAR DE EL HIERRO and sponsored by several private or public entities with the aim of presenting the underwater of El Hierro and its natural environment.

The competition will take place over three days. Competition timetable, including collection and delivery of memory cards will be fixed by the organization and given to each participant with all the



documentation. Each competition dive won't last no more than 60 minutes.

www.openfotosub.com

LAUPS Photo Competition

The 45th annual LAUPS International Underwater Photo Competition is now open for entries. The deadline is Friday, September 21st.

Highlights of new rules in 2007 are:

No slides. This year we are taking only prints and digital files for still entries. Digital entries should be at least 1400x1050 pixels.

We've added a "behavior" category.

Our old category "West Coast Cold Water" has been expanded

to world- wide temperate water, including the Great Lakes and northern Europe.

We're looking forward to seeing some great images from all you die-hard cold water divers.

Prints must be mounted. In previous years we have been soft on this rule, but unmounted prints are difficult to display and unfair to those who put in the time to follow the rules.

Rules and entry forms are available at our website.

www.laups.org

www.uwpmag.com



Northern California
Underwater Photographic Society

NCUPS 50th anniversary photo competition

The Northern California Underwater Photographic Society (NCUPS.org) proudly presents the 43rd Annual SEA International Underwater Photographic Competition, and the Bob Commer Award of Excellence in Underwater Photography. The “mail-in” underwater digital still and print photography, and underwater videography competition is open to amateur photographers and videographers from around the world.

New for 2007! The Bob Commer Award of Photographic Excellence will be awarded to the SEA International Competition Best of Show! This award is in addition to a prize selection from the prize list. All media, digital still, print and video, are eligible. The winner of the Bob Commer Award receives \$500.00 and a handcrafted glass trophy of an underwater photographer.

SEA2007 will no longer

carry any 35mm slide photography categories. Slides may be scanned and submitted in digital still categories with the same specifications as images taken with a digital still camera.

Also new for 2007 is the Marine Conservation Category. The entries in this category should illustrate a marine conservation issue. Entries should include a maximum 75-word description about where the image was taken, the story behind the image, and why it was important to the photographer to take the image and tell the story.

The entry deadline is October 12, 2007. Winning entries will be announced on the NCUPS.org in November 2007. Download Rules, Regulations, and the Entry Form from the NCUPS website.

www.ncups.org

www.uwpmag.com

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Raja Ampat Declares Seven Marine Protected Areas and Launches New Entry Tag

Following the declaration of a network of seven marine protected areas earlier this year, the Raja Ampat Regency Government in West Papua, Indonesia, is pleased to announce the launch of an annual tag system for visitors. The plastic tag is valid for 13 months from the 1st of each calendar year and will cost Rp500,000 (US\$55) for international visitors and Rp250,000 (US\$22) for Indonesian citizens. 70% of the proceeds from the sale will be managed by a multi-stakeholder team for conservation, enforcement and community programs. 30% of the proceeds will go to the Tourism Department for tourism development. The local government engaged the assistance of three major International NGOs, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy and WWF to help define the most valuable areas for protection. The 7 MPAs protect a total of 45% of Raja Ampat's amazing shallow reefs and coastal habitats.

Raja Ampat and the surrounding Bird's Head Seascape splashed



onto diving headlines over the last few years with the announcement of over 60 new species of fish and invertebrates discovered there during surveys by Indonesian and international scientists. The area comprises about 610 islands spread over 50,000sq km with spectacular scenery and intact primary rainforest. Preserved by isolation and low population pressures the underwater scenery is equally enchanting and diverse. Clear water mangroves front up to pristine coral reefs which pulse with huge schools of multi-colored reef fish and a diversity of marine life unrivalled on the planet – Raja



Ampat has variously been described as “nature’s richest reefs”, “reefs on steroids”, and a “species factory”.

In fact, the area has the highest recorded marine biodiversity for an area this size anywhere in the world. Nearly 1200 species of fish and 540 species of coral have been recorded here – approximately 70% of the world's total number of coral species. Experienced divers will be overwhelmed with the number of fish species which can be seen. Renowned ichthyologist, Dr. Gerry Allen recorded an exceptional 284 species on a single dive here.

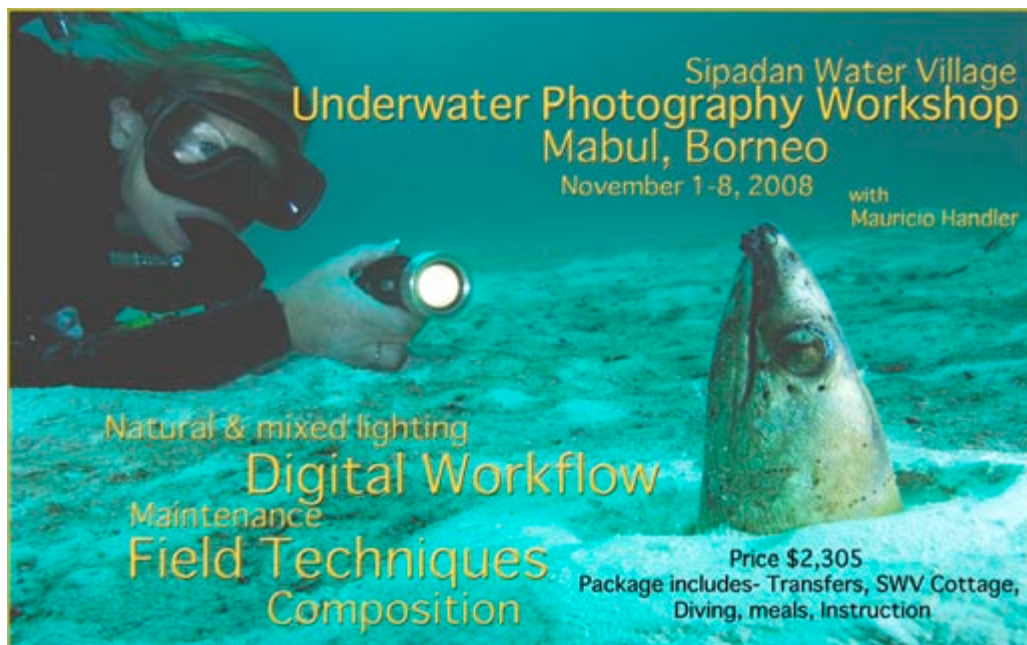
The international NGOs continue



to work together with the Raja Ampat Authorities to develop management plans appropriate for each MPA. The Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL) assisted with the development and socialization of the tag system and continues to assist with its implementation.

www.diverajaampat.org

www.uwpmag.com



2008 Photo Workshop with Mauricio Handler
 Nov 1-8, 2008
 Sipadan Water Village, Borneo

Once again I will be holding my intense week long underwater photography workshop on beautiful Sipadan Water Village on the Island of Mabul, Borneo, Indonesia.

This workshop will focus on wide angle and macro, natural and mixed lighting techniques, image composition, equipment maintenance, digital workflow, and telling a story through images. I will be offering

one-on-one image reviews and photography advice to help guide you and your work in the right direction. The course is open to photographers of all levels owning a Digital SLR system and strobes. Space is limited.

www.handlerphoto.com

www.uwpmag.com

OCEAN ODYSSEY 2007
Digital photo Shoot-out
 (in association with Asian Diver Magazine)

26 Nov - 5 Dec
 North Sulawesi, Indonesia

Tasik Ria Resort & Spa
Manado

Kungkungan Bay Resort
Lembah Strait

Check out www.eco-divers.com/ocean-odyssey to find out how you can be a part of this exciting event!

info@eco-divers.com

eco-divers.com





Underwater photographers from all over the world has begun to send their photos to the “Images of the world” category, (Deadline for receiving entries: September 15, 2007) Participants for the Eilat’s Shoot-Out who will registered before October 15 will receive a free 4 Gigabyte Compact Flash or an SD flash card in Eilat.

SanDisk Red Sea 2007 World of Images Underwater is open to both amateur and professional photographers, shooting with film or digital cameras.

The competition will be opened on November 12-17, 2007, the 3rd year in a row. This year several new categories has been added, such as: Humor, Ecology & Nature care, Wrecks, Video Clip and a special category for beginners.

This year a new category of Video Clip has been added, that will be recorded and edited during the Eilat competition. The keynote guest of the contest will be Christian Patron - the Titanic Cinematographer.

The competition’s prizes are sponsored by several international organizations, and this year’s prizes has reached the total amount of 80,000\$. Among the sponsors there are tourism organization, such as: Paupa New Guinea tourism organizations, Palau, Cocos Islands and the Red Sea, International companies and associations like SanDisk, Padi, Oceanic Products, Seacam, Subal, Quicksoft, and Olympus, who’ll contribute their products as a part of the prizes, given this year’s competition.

The Competition’s main events will take place at Isrotel Ambassador hotel, located at Eilat’s Coral Beach, close to the Underwater Nature Reserve & Observatory.

The competition’s website is available in 9 different languages, with full details, rules and registering forms.

www.sandiskredsea.com

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Divesafari Santorini



A new concept in exploring the natural beauty of the seas is available in the Greek island of Santorini.

A divesafari is a full one or two day charter to remote and unique locations. A divesafari can be combined with a barbeque on a remote beach and a sleep-over at small hotels or campsites of remote islands.

Choosing a location will depend on your interests and preference. We can explore new wall or reef dives.

We can dive wrecks or one of the underwater volcanos around Santorini.

We tailor from four hour to multiple day yacht charter adventures within a 100 mile radius of Santorini island, in the Aegean Sea.

We will take you to locations of unique natural beauty and entertain both divers and non-divers to the highest standard of comfort and luxury.

We offer the opportunity to do a number of sports and activities or indeed to just relax and do very little.

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We can arrange additional services such as waterskiing, inflatable towing or use of underwater scooters. We can also arrange for a great variety of activities off the boat including horseriding, sailing, jetskiing, hiking, kayaking, waterskiing and paragliding.

When you book with our staff or agents we will provide you with a number of suggestions. We will then endeavour to tailor the best package to suit your needs.

www.divesafari.eu

www.uwpmag.com

Digital Underwater Photography & Writer Workshop Atlantis Resort, Puerto Galera, Philippines 8 to 14 March 2008



Michael Aw



Mattieu Meur



Brendan O'Brien

Conceived by the authors of best selling 'Essential Guide to Digital Photography', the New Digital Underwater Photography & Writer Workshop has been developed for divers who want to take their underwater photographic skills to the next level. With a modular course structure, participants will be able to achieve certification and acquire skills that are far beyond just taking a technically correct photograph. The emphasis is to help aspiring photographers to compose and paint' a picture with a camera, using both natural and artificial lighting. Catering for both Novice and Advanced shooters (Prosumer and DSLR), there are two course syllabuses to choose from: the Absolute Essentials and Advanced Essentials.

Some of the principal modules are: Photographic Etiquette &

Conservation issues; Exposure Techniques; Beyond Basic Techniques; Macro / Wide Angle Techniques; Elements of Successful Composition; How to Shoot for Competitions; How to Shoot with Models; How to get Published; Advanced Lighting Techniques; Post Processing; Photoshop & Printing Techniques.

The digital photography workshop modules also include the essentials of post editing using Photoshop and other tested software to create multi-media presentations. The program schedule allows for maximum shooting time. The lesson modules, plus the formal and informal critique sessions will ensure that participants develop the essential techniques to take publishable images.

www.michaelaw.com



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D50
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