

News, Travel & Events

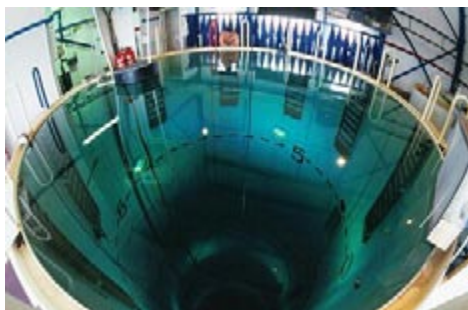
The World's First Underwater Photography and Freediving Course

9/10 May 2009, Gosport, UK

DeeperBlue, the world's premier provider of Freediving courses are delighted to bring the world's first underwater photography and Freediving course in association with Ocean Optics!

Freedivers are more likely to get good shots of underwater life as without blowing bubbles, fish aren't scared away and come and check you out! Plus, there are many situations where it is not possible or allowed to use tanks. Our two day certification course takes place at the stunning 30m Submarine Escape Training Tank (S.E.T.T), where you can dive in 34 Celsius / 94 Fahrenheit warm water all day!

Over the weekend there are two Freediving and two Photography theory sessions and then four tank sessions where you can put what you have learnt into practice. Ocean Optics will be bringing down all the latest equipment for you to try out so you'll get hands on with the best gear and find out how to turn even



the smallest underwater camera into a masterpiece creator! There are no minimum performance requirements for entry onto the course and it is perfect for those new to underwater photography as well as those with plenty of experience as the experienced instructors will tailor make what they teach to your level.

Tuition, all equipment, manuals, certification, delicious lunch and dinner are included and spaces are limited to 10 participants. There is only one date scheduled for 2009 so early booking is essential.

www.deeperblue.com

2009 Workshop with Mauricio Handler

Borneo, Malaysia

Oct 1-8, 2009

This years Pacific workshop will take place once again on Mabul Island, Malaysia. This will be my third workshop to this part of the world. It's that good!

The workshop will cover wide-angle natural and mixed-lighting, macro and extreme macro, composition and telling a story as well as Digital workflow. Evening image critiques and one on one reviews with me are an essential part of this week.

We will be staying at Sipadan Water Village Resort while we dive the waters off Mabul, Kapalai and Sipadan. There is amazing macro on each and every dive. In addition wide-angle subjects abound including Green Turtles, schooling Barracuda, Bumphead Parrotfish, Batfish and much more. Exotic and rare tropical fish surround us everywhere.

This workshop will give you the knowledge needed to create professional looking images that go far beyond fish ID pictures.

Non workshop companions welcome.

www.handlerphoto.com



Sea Lady UW Photo Competition

UWH s.r.o. and the Sea Lady proudly presents an underwater photo contest. The competition takes place at Komodo and Nusa Penida, Indonesia from 26th of September till 10th of October 2009. The competition is international, open to amateurs and professionals. Maximum 20 (twenty) participants ONLY!

Prizes include:

- two week stay for two persons on the expedition boat Sea Lady in Indonesia. Value: 3580 EUR
- one week stay including diving for two persons on the MM Diving base on the Nusa Penida island in Indonesia. Value: 1500 EUR
- A one week stay for 4 persons in an Acistav apartment in Harrachov Mountain. Value: 600 EUR

Other prizes were donated by UWH, Sony, Ikelite, Seamaster, Anhinga, Divetravel and Waterproof companies and the Ocean magazine. Total value: 2500 EUR

www.sealady.eu

www.uwpmag.com

Solomon Islands / Bilikiki Charter

Led by: Rod Klein

October 6-20, 2009

Join Photo Pro and Diving Adventure Magazine Senior Writer Rod Klein on a “diving adventure” of a lifetime in the fantastic Solomon Islands October 6-20, 2009. Visit Rod’s Solomon Island photo gallery to see for yourself what great diving is in store <http://www.rhkuw.com/gallery/solomons08/index.html>

This 15-day itinerary was developed with renowned photographers Chris Newbert and Bret Gilliam to offer some of the most exciting and varied diving to be found. The 130-ft. Bilikiki has earned the reputation as one of the world’s best liveaboards and her 20 years of servicing the most discriminating customers has refined the operation to a science.

Unlimited diving aboard this ship means anywhere from 4-10 dives per day and night are common. Visibility can exceed 200 feet and each day offers a new adventure with giant fish schools, pygmy seahorses and other macro subjects, an unending variety of tropical fish in dazzling colorations, and the world’s most perfect reef structures and soft corals. This is where mantas and whale sharks share



the sites with orcas and saltwater crocodiles. And don’t miss the WWII ship and aircraft wrecks. Visit several villages for a unique cultural experience and the chance to acquire their legendary carved hardwood bowls, masks, art and craft designs. This is at the top of every diver’s list. Onboard photo seminars.

All prices are per person, 15 days/14 nights all-inclusive except drinks. Stateroom (queen bed, extra upper berth, private bathroom & shower) \$4999

www.rhkuw.com

www.uwpmag.com



Ocean Optics

Specialists in Underwater Photography

Special Underwater Photography Trip to the Philippines

5-21 June 2009

2 weeks - £2499.00 incl flights
(1 week Puerto Galera, 1 week Dumaguete)

Ocean Optics & Mavericks Diving Ltd,
Archers Fields, Burnt Mills Industrial Estate,
Basildon, Essex SS13 1DL Tel: 01268 523786

www.oceanoptics.co.uk

Maria Munn Photo Trip Nuweiba 22nd June 2009

Come and join me for a fabulous week at the spectacular resort of the Coral Hilton Beach in Nuweiba, Egypt with Emperor Divers where you can really hone those underwater photographic skills to perfection.

Whether beginner or advanced this really is the most spectacular location to practice both wide angle and macro photography on the beautiful house reef in front of the hotel. Dawn dives and night dives are an absolute must for gorgeous shots of Nuweiba's beautiful pier as well as its' resident lionfish.

One of my guests, David Kittos, has already been featured in Sport Diver for his beautiful photo of a lionfish taken on the house reef and I've just won my first Underwater Photography Medal for a photograph taken at Nuweiba's gorgeous pier.

Photos are reviewed between dives or underwater and there are numerous chances to repeat photographing the same subjects. These include Spanish Dancers, Lionfish, Sea Moths, Stargazers, Big Eyes, Fish Schools around the pier, octopus, moray and peppered eels, the chance of seeing turtles,



gorgeous coral formations and lots of gorgeous anemonefish.

Personal dives, presentations, photoshop evenings as well as a good old round of Championship Crazy Golf for an Ocean Visions Trophy are just the beginning of what this week awaits you at Emperor Diver's friendly and professional Dive Centre in Nuweiba. The Dive Centre Team are very good friends of mine and a warm welcome and the personal touch are guaranteed for a fantastic week of diving.

www.oceanvisions.co.uk

www.underwaterphotography.com 2008/9 World Champion - Michel Lonfat

Every January a panel of judges select the best images entered in our online photo contest from the previous year. Gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded for the top three from each category in order of merit.

The judges comprise of industry professionals, previous year's World Champions, our site moderators - anyone we can rope in!

Michel only joined the contest at the end of March 2008 but managed 179 entries to the photo contest in that time!

The quantity is never as important as the quality, which has been of the highest standard in Michel's case. It is the mark of a great photographer that they don't just enter strong images - they never enter weak ones. In this respect his consistency alone made him stand out head and shoulders above the crowd.

One judge said "This year world champ has to be Michel Lonfat. His entries are to a high standard, the split level's are superb. I know he has only been in the comp for a short while but he seems always to come up with the goods.."

The range of Michel's work is impressive, both cold and warm



water, and all categories. Much of Michel's diving is done in his native Switzerland in the gin-clear, but cold, Verzasca River near Tessin. His warm water material is every bit as noteworthy. He has dived the Caribbean, Celebes sea, the Indian Ocean, Mediterranean, and Red Sea. He has entered something in ALL our categories with numerous 'hotshot' placings in our monthly contests.

www.underwaterphotography.com

Tony White Kima Bajo & Kungkungan Bay workshop

3rd - 15th July 2009



Tony White will be hosting an underwater photographic workshop in collaboration with Eco Divers, Manado.

Aimed at all levels of experience, it addresses the specific needs of each guest who will spend five days at Eco Divers' Kima Bajo Resort & Spa, just 15 minutes from the famous Bunaken Marine reserve. Here Tony will concentrate on all aspects of wide-angle photography before moving on to one of the world's top muck diving resorts, Eco Divers' Kungkungan Bay Resort.

Perfectly situated in the Lembah Strait, the group will again spend five days with the focus now on the

www.uwpmag.com



many varied techniques involved in successful Macro photography.

The workshop is limited to eight guests to ensure full individual attention.

"The emphasis is on flexibility and encouragement whilst capturing great shots of the stunning underwater vistas of Bunaken's 'wall and wreck diving delights' and Lembeh's 'magical macro muck diving'," says Tony.

www.eco-divers.com

"It is always a joy to return. Hard to improve on perfection!"



Heather & Bud Sellick, USA, September 2007 (4th visit)



Kungkungan Bay Resort

Lembeh Strait, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

T. 62-431-817347, divekbr.com



ECO-DIVERS.COM

2009 Underwater Images Photo-Video Competition

April 1, 2009 is the deadline for entries in the 12th annual Underwater Images Photo/Video Competition. The Underwater Images competition is a non-profit corporation registered in the State of Ohio with all proceeds from this competition going to marine conservation, educational, and scholarship purposes..

Although based in Ohio, this competition is international and the prizes reflect an international flare. Included among the prizes is the Best of Show prize sponsored for the 12th year in a row by the MV FeBrina and Walindi Plantation in Papua New Guinea. First Prize awards also include dive trips to other resorts in Papua New Guinea, Honduras, the Solomon Islands, the Cayman Islands, Bonaire, Hawaii and Indonesia. In addition there are numerous awards of diving equipment and gift certificates from sponsors.

The major international charities that the Underwater Images Competition has supported for over a decade include Mahonia Na Dari and Pro Peninsula. At DEMA 2008 Roger Roth and Carol Kender presented a check for \$4000 to Mahonia Na Dari. Max Benjamin accepted the check on behalf of the non-profit group.



Mahonia Na Dari (“Guardians of the Sea”) is a Nature Conservancy program, which has been working to protect Papua New Guinea’s abundant biodiversity by teaching their own instructors and students the importance of sustainability of their own natural resources through hands-on experiences. Pro Peninsula is a conservation organization dedicated to empowering communities in Baja California, Mexico to protect and preserve their environment, with their main focuses being on a Sea Turtle Conservation Network which has gained international attention. Since 1998 Underwater Images has contributed significantly to each of these organizations. The third beneficiary for 2008 is DiveHeart, a not-for-profit organization that facilitates scuba training for physically challenged children and adults.

www.uwimages.org

Photo: Martin Edge

DIVEQUEST

Everything under the sea...
Tailor-made world-wide diving holidays



For more information call:
01254 826322

www.divequest.co.uk



Orca Divers Underwater Photography Competition 2008

Orca Divers, a PADI Scuba Diving School based in Chorlton, UK recently held their 2nd Annual Underwater Photography Competition. The prizes for this annual event, totaling over £2300, included an Inon Wide-Angle Lens and Adapter, Suunto D6 metal diving computer; a diving holiday with Emperor Divers, 4th Element Proteus 5mm Wetsuit; Mares Origin Sport Airtrim BCD; Tusa Mask Fins and Snorkel; Atomic Mask and Snorkel; PADI Family Gold Diving Society Membership and Fleece and a canvass print of the Capernwray Shoot Out winning entry donated by Cameras Underwater.

72 entries were displayed under 2 categories: Warm Water and Cold Water. The judges, Kirk Mottershead from Benchmark Photography, Paul Duxfield (Duxy) and Dave Glanfield from Cameras Underwater, chose an overall best in show, and then 1st to 3rd place in each category. There were also prizes for the top photograph as chosen by the Orca Divers Club members who attended the event and for the best photo taken at our Shoot-



Out at Capernwray. The Shoot Out was held in January diving in 5 degree water and the best photo taken on the day received a prize.

Bill Watson won the top prize of the Overall Best in Show with his superb Tompot Blenny Portrait taken on an Orca Divers workshop at Trefor Pier in North Wales

Matt Hudson won 1st prize for a photograph taken in Cold Water with a wonderful shot of a seal nibbling on a diver's fin. Matt also won 2nd place in the Warm Water category with a Porcelain Crab on Anemone. Bill



Kenyon won the 1st prize in Warm Water with a great shot of Flounder Eyes taken in Indonesia.

The standard of the competition was even higher than last year. Nick Robertson-Brown, owner of Orca Divers, who teaches underwater photography said "We had some top quality entries and the 3 judges found it really difficult to pick out the best photographs. Entries were taken from all over the world including Madagascar, Australia, USA, Maldives, Tanzania, Lanzarote, Egypt, Caribbean, Indonesia and, of course,

from our own UK waters as well." Orca Divers received over twice as many entries as in the previous year and hope that this interest in underwater photography will continue to grow.

Later this year Orca Divers will be hosting a major underwater photography event – watch this space....

www.orcadivers.com

Celebrate the Sea Festival 2009 Philippines

12-14 June 2009

Her Excellency, Gloria Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines, declared the month of June to be the Celebrate the Sea month and the second Saturday in every June to be the Celebrate the Sea Day.

Celebrate the Sea has seen the greatest increase in competitors since its inception in 2002 with over 5500 entries from 38 countries in 2008. The 2009 festival is destined to be bigger and bolder than ever before. The main venue for the 3 days festival from 12 to 14 June is once again the landmark at Manila Bay foreshore, the Manila Ocean Park, the Philippines' first state-of-the-art Oceanarium comprising of open water marine habitat, boutique mall, and restaurants.

Confirmed to attend for the 2009 festival, are international luminaries and underwater photography legends from National Geographic David Doubilet and Jennifer Hayes, BBC's Blue Planet & Planet Earth Cinematographer Peter Scoones, deep sea explorer and inventor Phil Nyutten PhD, coral spawning discoverer Carden Wallace PhD and many more associates of the Ocean Geographic Society.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Photographers and films makers, send in your entries now to compete in Asia Pacific's most prestigious international underwater imagery competition where the premier prize is the conferred title of 'President, Grand Award of Highest Achievement 2008' with US\$2000 as prize money. It gets even better. If you are visiting the Philippines any time from 15 Feb to 15 May; stay or dive with one of the participating resorts / operators and you will be eligible to enter your pictures in the WOW Philippines Imagery competition.

The Celebrate the Sea Festival is a non-profit event funded and produced by OceanNEEnvironment Australia and for 2009 the partner and principal sponsors are the Department of Tourism Philippines and PCSSD. From the first to the current Festival, Rolex has been supportive as a major sponsor.

www.celebratethesea.com

DivePhotoGuide.com



THE
**UNDERWATER
PHOTO & VIDEO
PORTAL**



DivePhotoGuide Wetpixel Competition

DivePhotoGuide.com and Wetpixel.com are proud to announce the winners of their 4th annual underwater photography & video competition in association with Our World Underwater.

The competition is part of a joint series often referred to as the “Super Bowl” of international underwater imagery competitions, collectively the competitions boasts over \$80,000 in world-class prizes, esteemed celebrity judges, significant media support, and the reputation to attract some of the planet’s best underwater imagery.

The competition is truly an international event. Entries were received from all corners of the globe. Winners alone represented 22 countries.

Photographers & videographers of all levels, from novices to the top pros in the world, competed in eight still-image categories and two video categories. Prizes include scuba diving trips to some of the top photo destinations in the world, including Socorro Islands, Wakatobi-Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, the Red Sea, Grand Cayman, the Solomon Islands and Vietnam. Other prizes including camera housings and strobes, focus lights, dive equipment and other valuable items were awarded to the winners and announced during the

www.uwpmag.com



***Best of Show
by Justin Gilligan***

film festival at the 39th annual Our World Underwater show in Chicago.

The unique competition series was founded by professional underwater photographers Jason Heller & Eric Cheng and hosted by popular websites DivePhotoGuide.com and Wetpixel.com and in association with Our World Underwater, one of the largest consumer scuba diving expos in the US.

Winning images from this and past year’s competitions can be found at

www.underwatercompetition.com

Muck and Macro in Lembah Strait Photo Workshop with Mark Webster 31 October to 7 November 2009



**Details: www.photec.co.uk
markwebster@photec.co.uk**

"Aphrodite" the Cyprus Experience Competition

Larnaka, Cyprus June 1-6, 2009



Aphrodite, goddess of romance and passion, of fashion, beauty and art, has captivated poets and painters for centuries. Known for her numerous affairs of the heart, both playful and sophisticated, stories of Aphrodite make our world a livelier place. This is the inspiration for "Aphrodite", the Cyprus Experience competition - making the diving world a livelier place by combining diving with hi tech, photography and extreme sports, tourism, conservation and even new categories for beginners and video clip, produced during the event in Cyprus.

The "Aphrodite" Underwater Photography Competition is open to both amateur and professional photographers, shooting with film or digital cameras.

"Aphrodite" 2009 is produced by David Pilosof, renowned underwater photographer and the producer of Epson Red Sea competition.

We'll meet on Saturday night



June 6, 2009 20:30 at Larnaka promenade, the winners of the competition will go back home with checks in the amount of 20,000 euro, 3 weeks diving trip to Papua New Guinea including air fare Singapore/Papua New Guinea/Singapore, Subal housing, BS Kinetics housing and other valuable prizes.

www.aphroditecyprus.com

Play with Wild DOLPHINS in the Bahamas

Join Photojournalist Tim Rock
in Bimini May 10-17 for
wild spotted dolphins,
stingrays, sharks and shipwrecks



Program runs Sunday through Saturday,
and includes room, most meals, boat,
weights, guides, seminars

Water activities:

1 day - Rays & Wreck
1 Day Sharks and Dolphins
1 Day Bimini Rd & Dolphins
1 Day Three Sisters & Dolphins
1 - Day - All Dolphins
2 Days Bimini Beach
and Land exploration
All Snorkeling... Families Welcome



Just a short flight
from Fort Lauderdale

\$2250 based on Dbl occ

Contact:
timrock@doubleblue.com

海中遊泳
~ Into the Sea ~



Discover UNDERWATER Photography



SLR-DC Housings

The Ikelite SLR-DC housing takes full advantage of the digital SLR camera's innovative features. The housing is injection molded of clear, lightweight polycarbonate for strength, visual access to the camera, LCD screens and camera controls. The housing provides controls for most camera functions. Most Ikelite SLR-DC housings include conversion circuitry that provide TTL compatibility with the latest Ikelite DS Substrobes. Many housings also include a Flash Compensation Module which provides over and under-exposure compensation in the TTL mode and easily allow you to switch to Manual Exposure Mode which provides eight power settings. All exposure compensation is done on the back of the housing. There is no need to access complicated camera menus.

Canon

EOS 5D
EOS 5D MKII
EOS 20D
EOS 30D
EOS 40D
EOS 50D
EOS 350D, Rebel XT
EOS 400D, Rebel XTi
EOS 450D, Rebel XSi
EOS 1000D Rebel XS

Nikon

D40, D40x
D60
D70, 70s
D80
D90
D200
D300
D700

Olympus

E3
E330
E-400, E410
E420
E510, E520

Sony

A-200
A-300
A-350
A-700

Substrobe DS160

From its first introduction in 2001, the Substrobe DS125 became the overwhelming choice of professionals and discerning photographers the world-over. Now the best is even better. Introducing the new and improved Substrobe DS160.

The Substrobe DS160 is compatible with all Ikelite TTL systems and current digital cameras, as well as all older TTL film cameras including the Nikonos system. A variety of sync cords, sensors, and TTL adapters are available to connect to almost any camera system currently on the market.

Compact Digital Housings for

- Canon • Fuji • Nikon
- Olympus • Sony

Ikelite offers housings for more than fifty different digital still camera models to meet the diverse demands of the underwater photographic community. Ikelite's Compact and ULTRACompact Digital Still Housings are molded of clear polycarbonate. Dive while knowing your system is safe and have complete visual access to the camera, LCD, monitor and control functions. Most housings are rated to 60m (200').

