



I am writing to you to give you some news about European catfish, after my article in UWP.

A Scientific publication about the gathering of European catfish has been published. It is the result of a study, in collaboration with the searcher Frédéric Santoul (Laboratory of Functional and Environment, CNRS, University Paul Sabatier, Toulouse, France).

Due to the heavy weight reached by this freshwater giant, this is the heaviest biomass of freshwater fish ever seen in the world.

Link to the publication:

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0025732>

Happy reading!

Rémi Masson

www.remimasson.com

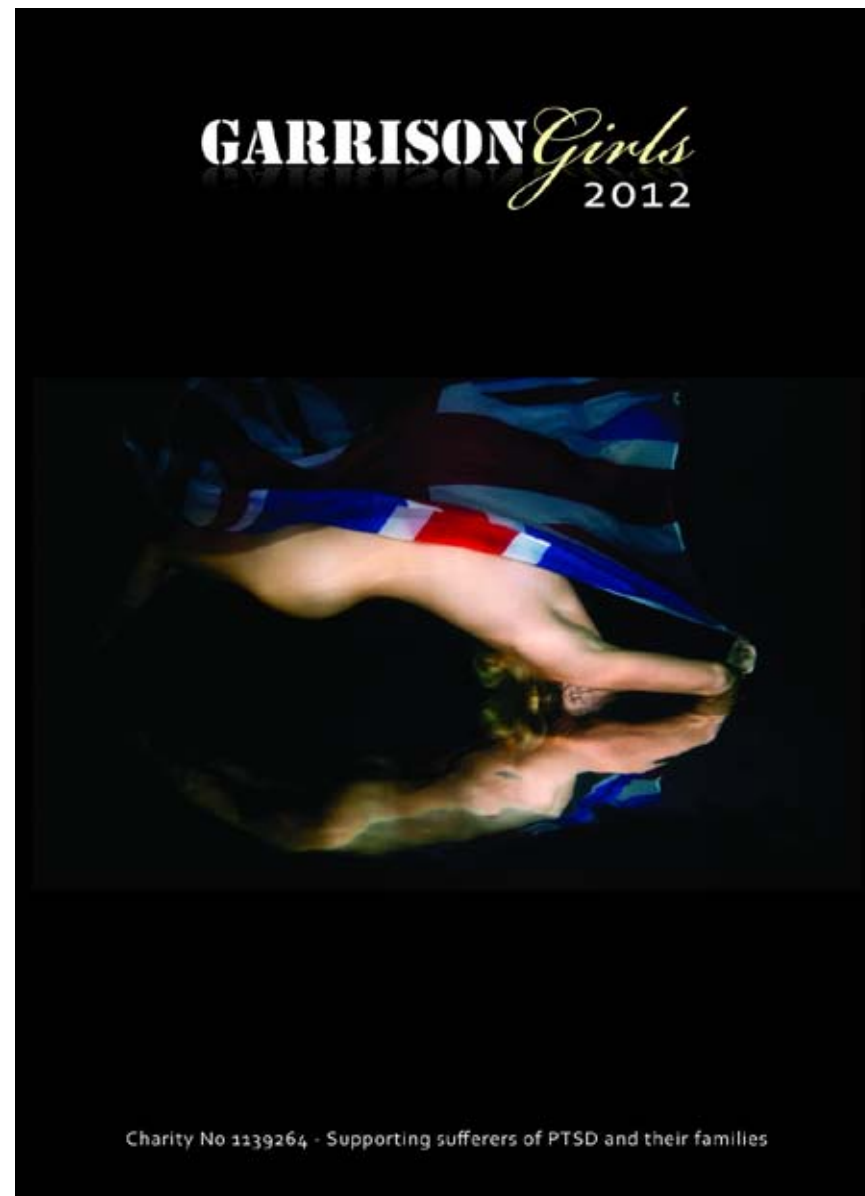
News, Travel & Events

Garrison Girls Calendar 2012

Nick Robertson-Brown, of Frogfish Photography, was recently asked to complete a particularly interesting project. He was asked to lead an underwater photo shoot of nude ladies for a charity calendar, raising money for servicemen, and their families, suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Without hesitation Nick offered his support for free to help this cause. PTSD is a topic close to his heart, as his brother has recently been diagnosed with the illness, nearly 30 years after both he and Nick served in the Falklands War. The charity, Garrison Girls, decided to take the plunge with their fourth fund raising calendar. Intrepid wives of serving soldiers, sailors and airmen posed in the nude, underwater, for this 2012 edition.

Caroline, Nick's wife and business partner, and also an underwater photographer, was delighted to be able to help out, making sure the photo-shoot ran smoothly over two days. Her father served in the RAF for over 40 years, so for both the owners of Frogfish Photography this is a charity they instantly knew they wanted to help. Caroline said "We are best known for our images of underwater wildlife and have just returned from a month in Indonesia taking images of Manta Rays, Sharks and other marine life. This was a real challenge for us and we are delighted with the results. We are sure that the images and calendar will do a great job raising money and awareness for PTSD."

The Manchester Aquatics Centre kindly allowed the team to use their downstairs pool,





providing the privacy needed for a nude shoot and to keep the project a secret until the launch date. The Frogfish & Garrison Girls teams tried out various poses and props, finally deciding to go with the 3 forces flags, along with the union flag, to make the most of the reflections on the surface of the water. The photographer and models benefited from the weightlessness of working underwater, allowing the girls to move freely and create the appearance of dancing in the water. Over 2 day-long shoots, 12 servicemen's wives braved the water and bared their all to help the cause. Nick completed the shoot using breath holding, rather than scuba, to reduce the bubbles and ripples on the surface of the water. . In addition to the photographers, Frogfish Photography also provided medical support and assistance with brother and sister team Dr Alex and Teri Blythe.

Nick said "It was a great opportunity for me

to join forces with the Garrison Girls and produce these beautiful images for the 2012 calendar. Having served in the RAF for 22 years, this is a charity close to my heart. The team of wives that I met during this shoot are brave and inspirational characters and it was a wonderful experience."

The girls, ranging from young Mums to Grand Mums, stripped off once again to help raise money for their cause. They want to raise £5 million to help set up a retreat which will offer treatment and support for servicemen and women suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The aim will be to treat individual sufferers and whole family units.

Hopes are high that this unusual set of calendar images will inspire people to put their hands in their pockets, as well as to raise the profile of the charity. The beautiful underwater images will be available within the 2012 calendar and also later as poster

prints.

"I am often asked if the girls find it difficult stripping off and posing for a calendar. It's certainly not the usual behaviour for the wives, but any stress we feel is nothing when compared to what our husbands try to cope with every day when out on operations," said Sarah.

Copies will be available from The Forces Store

www.theforcesstore.co.uk

www.garrionsgirls.com

www.frogfishphotography.com

New Oonasdivers Brochure out now!



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Alex Tattersall wins the photo competition featured on the front and back cover and receives a diving holiday to the Red Sea!

www.oonasdivers.com

South Africa Photo Safari and Photography Workshop with Gregory Sweeney



Realize your dream of a wildlife photography tour in Africa. Combine the thrill of an African safari with your passion for photography for an exciting and satisfying adventure.

Photographers have a special approach to viewing wildlife and they will benefit by traveling with a group and guide who will cater to their needs rather than one that is geared for the average tourist. With Africa Wild Safaris, our photo safari is all about maximizing time with the wildlife. Our groups of 4 - 6 will explore the best private reserves and Kruger National Park through the lens. Photographers of all skill levels are welcome; anyone who is interested in learning, practicing, and loves wildlife is right for this trip. You will stay at our very own tree house lodge on a private game reserve right

near Kruger National Park.

Africa Wild Safaris is owned by photographer Gregory Sweeney and his wife Karen. They own a small lodge on a nature conservancy which becomes the home base for their photography safaris. Gregory also leads guests on underwater photography tours to photograph sharks, manatees, sailfish, and whale sharks.

Gregory Sweeney is a professional underwater and wildlife photographer, avid traveler, teacher, and conservationist whose photography celebrates the wonders of the natural world. You can see Greg's other photo tours, see image galleries, and purchase his images on his website:

www.gregorysweeney.com
www.africawildsafaris.net

Underwater Photography Adventures

visit www.GregorySweeney.com for more details

Manatee Workshop

22 -28th January 2012

Private charter boat, 8 guests,
photography instruction

Whale Sharks

in Isla Mujeres Mexico

31 July -5th Aug 2012

Huge aggregation, private charter
7 Guests

Cayman Photoquest with Martin and Sylvia Edge

5th - 15th May 2012

Martin and Sylvia have worked with Divequest from the earliest days of its inception and have many years of experience on which to draw to develop the most stimulating, rewarding and enjoyable trips. Your photography skills will be propelled in leaps and bounds towards that ultimate, perfect underwater image. Martin is a great underwater photographer, for sure, but what really drives him and stimulates his interest more than anything else is teaching others. Little wonder that Martin's students refer to him as their 'guru'!

www.divequest.co.uk



Ultimate Papua New Guinea

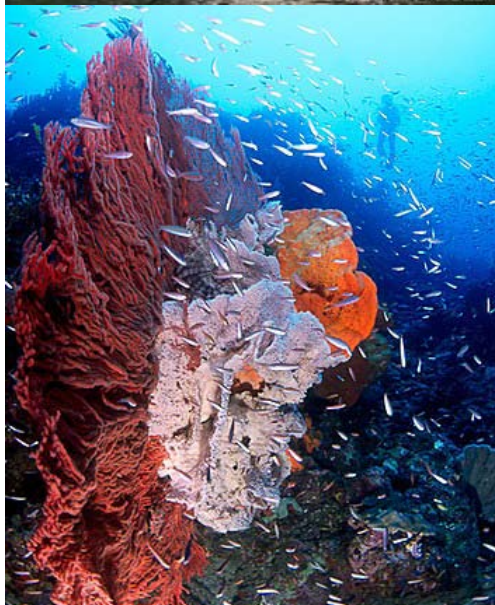
Original Image Making with Michele Westmorland

19th - 30th October 2012

Michele Westmorland is a well respected and highly regarded freelance photographer, adventurer and explorer. She has extensive experience of photography above and below the waves but her underwater photography skills are what set Michele apart from the ordinary travelling photo journalist. In the early 1990s, Michele made her first trip to Papua New Guinea and made her first foray into photographing underwater life and scenery. Since then Michele has notched up over 25 visits to Papua New Guinea and is widely acknowledged as something of an authority on this mysterious destination.

For her inaugural Divequest expedition, Michele has chosen to charter the liveaboard FeBrina for a 9 night cruise of its 'Signature Itinerary' taking in Walindi, Kimbe Bay, Witu and Father's Reef. This particular itinerary has long been acknowledged of something of a 'Best of the Best' diving on offer in Papua New Guinea and with someone of Michele's experience at your side, you'll never have a better opportunity to get more

www.uwpmag.com



*Busy reefs of Kimbe Bay
(Michele Westmorland)*

out of a trip to one of the world's top dive destinations. Papua New Guinea stands totally apart from the usual travel destination. Those divers with a spirit of adventure and a yearning for discovery should look no farther than Papua New Guinea and in particular the island of New Britain.

www.divequest.co.uk

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Photo: Rachel Lee Horsfield



www.divequest-travel.com

The Cayman Photoquest with Martin Edge 5-15th May 2012

Ultimate Papua New Guinea with Michele Westmorland 9-30th October 2012

Bali: The Art of Underwater Photography with Shannon Conway 21 November - 1st December 2012

Galapagos: The Art of Underwater Photography with Shannon Conway 11-24th June 2013

The Fiji Photoquest with Martin Edge 4-15th October 2013

Palau: The Art of Underwater Photography with Shannon Conway 1-11th March 2014

Truk: The Art of Underwater Photography with Shannon Conway 4-11th May 2014



DivePhotoGuide.com Triton Bay/Raja Ampat Expedition

This December, from the 6th to the 20th, DPG Expeditions will be headed to a remote area of Eastern Indonesia known for prolific and biodiverse reefs. We will combine one week in Triton Bay, and one week in Raja Ampat, one of the hottest destinations for underwater photographers today. Both of these areas are a hot bed for biodiversity. Very few divers have had the chance to get to Triton Bay

We will board one of the only live aboard vessels that goes to Triton Bay, the MSY Seahorse, on Dec 6th, and dive and shoot Triton Bay for 4 or 5 days before the crossing to Misool in Raja Ampat. We will arrive in Misool on the 13th and will disembark the Seahorse and stay in the luxurious on-water bungalows of Misool Eco Resort. The resort is in the heart of the best diving of Raja Ampat, and a nice break from being on a live aboard for a week. We will depart to Sorong airport on Dec 20th.

The trip normally costs close



Photo: Jason Heller

to \$6000, but due to last minute cancellations, we have two spots that we are offering for \$4500 each!

www.divephotoguide.com

Andaman Islands with Mark Strickland / Chris Huss February & March 2012



There are just a few remaining places on the Mark Strickland / Chris Huss photography expeditions to the Andaman Islands in February & March 2012.

Mark & Chris have led several highly successful expeditions with the Siren Fleet in both the Andaman Islands, Thailand & the Philippines over the past years and we look forward to many more!

Join them and benefit from their expertise not only in photography but as marine life specialists.

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Cozumel Photo Shootout

November 15 - 20, 2011



The pristine beaches of Cozumel and its Caribbean blue waters teeming with sea life provide the ideal backdrop for professional photographers seeking the Best Picture in the “Cozumel Photo Shootout” hosted by the Presidente InterContinental Cozumel Resort & Spa, November 15 – 20, 2011.

Registration for the five-day event is US\$264 per person per night which includes deluxe accommodations at the Presidente InterContinental Cozumel Resort & Spa, Shootout registration fee, three days of land or diving tours, breakfast, a welcome reception, farewell dinner, taxes and resort service fee. Double occupancy rates are US\$176 per person per night.

A total of US\$15,000 will be awarded for the top three photos: Best Overall Picture, Best Land Picture and Best Underwater Picture.

www.uwpmag.com



Judges for this year's competition include award-winning photographers Ty Sawyer and Michele Benoy-Westmorland.

“Shootout” participants may choose land or scuba diving tours or a combination of both included in the registration fee. Experience private reef tours led by resident underwater photography experts Jose Luis Aragon and Nacho Gil where participants will enjoy capturing colorful corals, turtles, octopus, and fish on camera.

In addition to photographic expeditions, participants will enjoy workshops, presentations and expositions. To cap off the four-day event, a slide show of photo entries will be presented at the awards dinner.

www.cozumelphotoshootout.com

Uw photo workshop with Sue Daly in Sark

June 16th - 23rd, July 14th - 21st 2012
Aug 11th - 18th, Aug 25th - Sept 1st 2012



With its wealth of colourful marine life and clear waters, Sark is one of the best dive destinations for underwater photographers in the British Isles. These week long workshops are perfect for those just starting out in underwater photography as well as improvers with informal, one to one tuition from award-winning wildlife photographer and film-maker Sue Daly.

There will also be an introduction to what you can do with your images in Photoshop. Underwater videographers are also welcome with advice offered on putting together a storyline and editing your footage as well as filming and lighting underwater. The workshop includes six days boat diving around the reefs of Sark and, weather permitting, a wreck dive or two off Jersey or Guernsey. The dive sites will be chosen specifically with



underwater photography in mind. Our boat for the week will be the ten metre Starfish of Sark run by Andy Leaman of Sark Diving Services who has more than 20 years experience as a diver and skipper in Channel Island waters. Starfish now has a lift fitted to the stern for easy diver pickups.

The workshop fee of £595 includes two dives a day for six days (including tanks, weights and air) and self catering accommodation in a shared thatched cottage.

www.suedalyproductions.com

Scubazoo Maldives safari 10-20th May 2012



Having just launched their coffee table book “Maldives - The Underwater Kingdom”, the Scubazoo team have decided to return to the Maldives to share their photographic expertise with the Siren Fleet and their guests. Join Jason Isley for a 10 night liveaboard safari in the Maldives, following our central itinerary from Male to Khadhoo on Laamu Atoll from 10th-20th May 2012.

The trip is open to just 12 divers, so the groups will be kept small and you will have the flexibility to remain at certain sites in order to practice with your u/w camera &

perfect techniques. We welcome photographers of all experience levels and the trip is as much about sharing ideas as it is about creating fantastic images.

Jason himself has been photographing the underwater world for over 15 years, has scooped many international awards and had his work published in magazines and books worldwide.

www.worldwidediveandsail.com
www.scubazoo.com

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Oasis Photo Contest - 30,000 euros in prizes

My name is Gianfranco Corino and I'm writing on behalf of Italian magazine of nature and photography 'Oasis.'

We are organizing the second edition of the International competition of Nature Photography "Oasis PhotoContest" with a total of more than 30,000 euros in prizes divided in 10 sections. The deadline for entries is November 30, 2011, and we wanted to know if you would be interested in promoting our photo contest among your partner. If you would like to know more about us, you can visit our website at www.oasisweb.it

In case you're interested in our proposal, we send you a short text that you could either put on your website

More than € 30,000 in prizes will be given in the international contest of nature photography OASIS PHOTO CONTEST 2011.

And more than 100 awards in cash, trips and photographic equipments will go to the winners.

Ten winners will be selected from each category.

As the competition is indeed divided in 10 different sections:

- A) LANDSCAPE
- B) MAMMALS
- C) BIRDS
- D) OTHER ANIMALS
- E) PORTFOLIO: PHOTOGRAPHS THAT TELL A STORY
- F) UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY
- G) PEOPLE & POPULATIONS
- H) THE PLANT WORLD
- I) HOME FRIENDS
- L) SHOOTING TECHNIQUES

For each section, 10 prizes, including trips for couples and \$ 500 checks, SLR cameras and photographic equipment.

Entries will close on November 30, 2011.

www.oasisphotocontest.com

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