

My Shot 1

Earlier this year some friends and I were on a nine day dive trip at a resort in Puerto Galera, Mindoro, Philippines. On one of the days, we were scheduled to dive several “muck” sites, so I set up my camera gear for macro shooting. I use an Olympus OM-D E-M5 camera with a Leica Macro-Elmarit 45 mm lens.

I originally purchased the Olympus 60 mm macro lens, and was very happy with it in warm, clear water shooting situations. However I found that I struggled with the Olympus lens in my home waters of the Pacific Northwest, which are normally quite turbid. I purchased the Leica 45 mm lens due to its closer focusing distance, while still maintaining 1:1 magnification, and my cold water macro improved dramatically.

On this occasion in the Philippines, I found that the shorter focal length of the Leica 45 mm lens also offered increased versatility. One of my dive buddies grabbed me and pointed out a mature Broadclub Cuttlefish hovering in the water column.

The Broadclub Cuttlefish is the world’s second largest cuttlefish, reaching 20 inches in length. My first thought was that here I was set up for macro shooting, and this is hardly a macro subject! I decided to try some shots anyway, and since the water was fairly clear was able to back off enough to fill the frame with the cuttlefish and still get enough light from my single strobe.

This is when things got really fun! The Broadclub Cuttlefish is territorial, and proceeded to put on a display of its color changing abilities while hovering in front of me.



Olympus OM-D E-M5, Nauticam Housing, Leica Macro-Elmarit 45mm, Single Sea and Sea YS-D1 ISO 200, f22, 1/160 second shutter speed, TTL strobe exposure

The attached shot is my favorite from the display, and turned out to be one of my favorites of the trip. My takeaway is that you don’t always have to have the ideal gear setup to get some acceptable shots.

James H. Smith

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“My Shot” can be a particular favourite of yours or one which brings back particular memories and deserves to be appreciated by a wider audience.

Images need to be 150dpi, longest length (horizontal or vertical) 20cm saved as medium compression jpeg format, and sent with around 300 words of explanation together with camera details and settings.

E mail them and you could be in the next issue of UwP.

My Shot 2

If you want to see the 'Sardine Run' in the Philippines, then you will most likely visit Moalboal but this year there is an alternative; Panglao, Bohol. Speaking to the locals, this is the first time the sardines have visited in such numbers and have stuck around on the same dive site for all to see.

You can see the Sardine Run diving a site called Napaling on the north coast of Panglao. You can dive this site from the shore, by making your way down a flight of stairs along the cliff's edge to the water or by boat. Diving with SeaQuest Dive Centre, all arrangements for shore diving will be taken care of from transportation to equipment handling. If diving by boat is your preferred option, then I recommend Scotty's Action Sports Network, based in The Bellevue. Napaling is their local site.

Whilst descending down Napaling's steep wall, the first thing I saw was a beautiful Crown Jellyfish (Cephea Cephea), I captured a few photos and then moved on to find the school of Sardines. A minute later, I saw a huge shadow up ahead the light disappearing, getting darker and darker as I approached. I looked up and there they were, thousands of sardines hunched in a tightly packed ball, dancing and escaping the predators. Trevally, Tuna and Rainbow Runners used me as cover as I approached closer to the sardines until suddenly they swooped in for their feast.

As the dive continued, the Cephea Cephea had drifted towards the sardines giving the perfect opportunity for a different background. With this idea in mind, I waited patiently for the sardines to be close enough and to form an attractive shape.



***Jellyfish and Sardines... What a treat! Location: Panglao, Philippines
Canon 7D, Nauticam. Tokina 10-17mm (shot at 10mm). Inon Z240 and D2000 strobes. F9 1/100 ISO200***

I took a handful of photos with the sardines in numerous formations with the jellyfish at different angles and a couple of shots later, this is the result!

James Emery

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Guidelines for contributors

The response to UwP has been nothing short of fantastic. We are looking for interesting, well illustrated articles about underwater photography. We are looking for work from existing names but would also like to discover some of the new talent out there and that could be you! UwP is the perfect publication for you to increase your profile in the underwater photography community.

The type of articles we're looking for fall into five main categories:

Uw photo techniques - Balanced light, composition, etc

Locations - Photo friendly dive sites, countries or liveaboards,

Subjects -, Anything from whale sharks to nudibranchs in full detail

Equipment reviews - Detailed appraisals of the latest equipment

Personalities - Interviews/features about leading underwater photographers

**If you have an idea for an article,
contact me first before putting pen to paper.
E mail peter@uwpmag.com**

How to submit articles

To keep UwP simple and financially viable, we can only accept submissions by e mail and they need to be done in the following way:

1. The text should be saved as a TEXT file and attached to the e mail

2. Images must be attached to the e mail and they need to be 150dpi

Size - Maximum length 20cm i.e. horizontal pictures would be 20 cm wide and verticals would be 20cm high.

File type - Save your image as a JPG file and set the compression to "Medium" quality. This should result in images no larger than about 120k which can be transmitted quickly. If we want larger sizes we will contact you.

3. Captions - **Each and every image MUST have full photographic details** including camera, housing, lens, lighting, film, aperture, shutter speed and exposure mode. These must also be copied and pasted into the body of the e mail.