

NORTHERN UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2002, Issue 5

Editor: Tony Gilbert, e-mail: NoDecoWarrior@hotmail.com

NUPG Web Site: www.nupg.org.uk

Winner of the March Slide Competition - Bottom Dwelling Fish, Jason Gregory, with "Sand Diver" - here's lookin at you kid...



This Issue:

- Meeting Dates & Forthcoming Meetings
- Meeting Reviews and AGM (May2002)
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- Penrhyn Castle 2003
- The 2002 Summer Splash In

- Reports and Articles
 - Report, Winter 2002 Splash In.
 - Article, Photography and Nitrox.
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Date for your Diary: NEXT NUPG MEETING: Monday July 8th, Windmill Pub J19 M6, Knutsford at 1930 prompt.

MEETING DATES for your diary

A nice flyer has been produced by Jason Gregory which includes all the meeting dates and where. Pass on to your friends & colleagues who may fancy joining the club.

Please note the VENUE CHANGE.

The Northern Underwater Photography Group

Contact information, meetings & events - July '02 to March '03.

The NUPG meets regularly throughout the year to increase experience and knowledge of underwater photography.
It's fun, informal, informative and fishy!

Date	Meeting place	Time
July 8th 2002	Windmill Pub (M6 motorway J19)	7.30pm
August 31st 2002	Summer Splash-In!	
September 23rd 2002	Windmill Pub (M6 motorway J19)	7.30pm
November 11th 2002	Windmill Pub (M6 motorway J19)	7.30pm
December 9th 2002	Windmill Pub (M6 motorway J19)	7.30pm
January 13th 2003	Windmill Pub (M6 motorway J19)	7.30pm
March 10th 2003	Windmill Pub (M6 motorway J19)	7.30pm
May 12th 2003	Windmill Pub (M6 motorway J19)	7.30pm

Xmas

To find the venue please use an A-Z or road map

For further information contact 01248 681361 or 01274 852361 or 01253 395746 and our web site
www.nupg.org.uk

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

8th JULY 2002

Speaker : tba
Competition Theme : Crabs and their relatives (crabs, lobbies, crawfish, shrimps & prawns)
Technical Talk : Paul Kay, "What Film?, What Print?", making the most of your images.
My 5 Slides : Who will be the lucky volunteer to show their 5 of the best? **DEREK HASLAM!**

23rd SEPTEMBER 2002

Speaker : Tony Gilbert, "Getting the Best out of the MotorMarine IIEx Systems", delve into the world of MMII Wet Cameras
Competition Theme : Open Competition, for Images taken ONLY with non-housed cameras (Motormarine, Nikonos V, etc.)
Technical Talk : Steve Smithson, "Wide Angle Lighting"
My 5 Slides : Top 5 Slides, will you be showing yours?

11th NOVEMBER 2002

Speaker : Brendan O' Brien
Competition Theme : The Colour **GREEN**
Technical Talk : Mark Walker, "How to avoid floods", protect your camera systems against the deadly camera killer - water.
My 5 Slides : The Desert Island Discs of NUPG, present your best 5 slides, which one of us will it be this time?

DECEMBER 2002

Speaker : Members Evening, 5-6 members doing a 10-15 minute slot showing their slides.
Competition Theme : Best of 2002, with 2 Categories (2 slides per person, per category)
a) UK Shots taken within the last 12 months.
b) Tropical Shots taken within the last 12 months.
Technical Talk : None, this meeting.
My 5 Slides : A volunteer to show maybe a turkeyfish this festive time, or just their 5-alive shots.

MEETING REVIEWS

Since the last newsletter we've had 3 meetings.

28th JANUARY 2002

Speaker : Ken Sullivan, "Customising your kit"

The first meeting of 2002 gave everyone present a good chance to think about their camera kit and how they might want to develop / modify / upgrade this for the coming year. The guest speaker was Ken Sullivan who described some of the ways he has modified his camera kit, and different set-ups he has used to improve his photographic results and try out different photographic techniques. For many years Ken has designed and built his own camera equipment and accessories and his talk gave an inspiring insight into how he has identified and worked to overcome problems and limitations in underwater photographic equipment. Some of the equipment he showed demonstrated how simple, but ingenious accessories can drastically improve the operation of underwater camera kit and, hopefully, the results!

Slide Competition Theme : Underwater Relationships

1st place awarded to Mark Walker: Moray eel and cleaner shrimp

2nd place awarded to Mark Walker: Clownfish in an anemone

3rd place (joint) awarded to Charles Wolstenholme: Parrotfish

3rd place (joint) awarded to Jason Gregory: Shrimp on an anemone

Technical Talk: None this meeting, replaced by Special Kit Meeting.

Special Kit Meeting:

Instead of a technical talk at this meeting, NUPG members had brought along their own underwater cameras, housings and flash guns and had an opportunity to see what other members were using and discuss different set ups.

18th MARCH 2002

Speaker: Gordon Fletcher, "Listening Voices"

An interesting talk on underwater sculpture by Gordon Fletcher of the MCS. The talk began with a series of slides which resembled land based structures, however as we delved deeper, some turned out to be terrestrial representations of undersea smokers! More bizarre shots were to come, with sand sculptures, and linking texts from famous poems. Where was all this activity leading to you might well ask? Gordon then produced some really abstract shots of undersea marine creatures, such as anemones, which inspired him to create images within images. These have been shown in various galleries. The image creations were mounted on green glass, the transparent text added to describe the mood and feeling, but not the actual physical image. This was indeed a completely different slant on the traditional underwater photography and quite successful, so much so, there were many questions afterwards. Thanks to Gordon.

Slide Competition Theme: Bottom Dwelling Fish

Quite a good turnout this evening, and many slides were submitted. Its nice to see within the winning group, a wet camera placing!

1st Place awarded to Jason Gregory "Sand Diver", a lizardfish taken in Bonaire.

Taken in 12m of water with Subal Housed F90X 105mm Lens, Fuji Velvia ASA50, F11/16, single YS90 strobe.

2nd Place awarded to Fiona Black with "Nose to Nose", a close up shot of a dogfish snout taken in the UK.

3rd Place awarded to Steve Smithson with "Eye of the Flatfish", a flat fish taken in Manado.

Technical Talk: None this meeting, replaced by Winter Splash In Voting.

Winter Splash In Voting:

The Winter Splash In was held in early March at Stoney Cove. Ken Byrne, the organiser, arranged for the slides to be processed, and the competitors had a chance to select two slides for judging at this meeting. Thankfully Ken had the returning slides all mounted so no cutting was necessary, and numerous light boxes & lupes were available for them to select the winning shot! See the Winter Splash In Report for full details of the splash in and the results.

27th MAY 2002 (AGM)

Slide Competition Theme: Cephalopoda (Squid, octopus's & cuttlefish)

16 slides turned out to do battle against each other, and we had some interesting shots of sepia & pulpo, from around the world, a good turn out of varied images.

1st Place awarded to Paul Kay's "cuttlefish", a great shot of a friendly Lanzarotian cuttlefish nonchalantly gliding over the sand, taken in about 8m of water.

2nd JOINT Place awarded to the following...

- Antonio Sanchez-Cappucino with a vibrantly colourful extreme close up shot of an open octopus eye.
- Derek Haslam representing the UK, with a shot of a cuttlefish in Plymouth.
- Jason Gregory went to Bonaire to obtain this scintillating image of a reef squid on a blue background.

3rd Place awarded to Keith Lloyd with an underbelly shot of a colourful squid taken in Plymouth.

My 5 Slides:

To start this theme various members "volunteered", to show their 5 favourite underwater slides, a sort of "Desert Island Discs" of NUPG!!

The willing volunteers (or maybe just show offs) were (in alpha order): Tony Gilbert, Jason Gregory, Lucy Kay, Paul Kay, and Mark Walker. This was a great success, and many people asked questions of the images, I for one have some new ideas!

Tony started the viewing with a selection of recent shots of diver photography techniques he's been working on, including St Abbs Glanmire propellers, odd angle on Glen Strathallen boiler with diver, wreck, reef, sun and divers all in one shot from Lanzarote, and finally a bright clear image from Stoney Cove (Winter Splash In), all taken with a wet camera system!

Lucy went next into the breach with a selection of favourites that included an interesting one of a school of fish close to the surface, two from Lanzarote - a red spindly legged Arrow Crab, followed by a nice shoal of bream off Mala, spoilt only by the lack of a nudist swimmer in the background – a common sight at certain times of the year, apparently!

Paul then gave us 5 of the best, started with an IOM plumose gully, followed by an interesting rear shot of a gurnard, a full side shot of a filefish from Lanzarote, and a magical wide-angle shot of a kelp forest swaying gently in the sunlit breeze.

Mark jumped in, first with a wall off Manado depicting soft gorgonian corals, closely followed by a shallow coral scene bathed in glowing shafts of evening sunlight, ending with a delightful moving image of a fish shoal skirting a reef wall and man made structure, taken with a long exposure to capture the track of the fish.

Jason rounded off the desert-island swarre with some really imaginative images of natural life in the UK, mainly Scottish shore-based, a glassy-eyed long armed squat lobster from a Loch night dive, a small red sunstar chilling in an horse mussel shell, and a look through the keyhole - of the Cathedral at St. Abbs, with his wife as model.

Strangely enough, this show started an interesting discussion on what background to use with what lenses/subject and so on - perhaps this should be a future technical talk! Any takers guys and girls?

The idea each meeting, is that a member shows their 5 slides, and talks about the composition and what they like about the images, etc., nothing too formal.

Remember, you may have images and ideas, which inspire the rest of us, so it's a knowledge sharing experience!

And, the "volunteer" has the honour of selecting the next "victim" for the succeeding meeting, preferably somebody who hasn't done it previously.

Derek Haslam was duly awarded the desert island mantle for the next NUPG outing, to show his Top 5, which I am sure will give us all some ideas for the future.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Replacing the technical talk, it was that time again, NUPG's 2nd birthday and AGM. Mark Walker was the master of ceremonies for this. The May meeting had a smaller attendance than usual. Briefly detailed below are the items, discussed...

1) The committee members were mentioned: -

Membership Secretary : Lucy Kay
Treasurer : Lucy Kay
General Secretary : Mark Walker
Newsletter Editor : Tony Gilbert
Advertising & Promotional : Jason Gregory, Colin Samuels

It was agreed that the chairpersonship would be a rotating one, between the committee members, as Steve has asked to stand down as chairperson. Many thanks to Steve for his valued contribution to date. Tony Gilbert has taken over from Mark Walker as the producer of the newsletter, many thanks to Mark from all of us, for the many hours spent in front of a computer producing the colourful and informative newsletter.

Anybody who feels they would like to contribute in any way, whether organising events, submitting ideas or just helping out etc., are more than welcome, just let one of the committee know. We look forward to hearing from you - and remember - it's your club as well - and you get out what you put in.

2) An annual review of meetings.

It's been a very busy year for the committee members and helpers alike, and a successful year for NUPG itself. The year started in July and saw Paul talking on his book "The Shallow Seas of Wales" and Steve about Night Photography. The Summer Splash-In and Print Competition was a roaring success with a superb turnout and evening attendance, thanks goes to all the organisers of both. Speakers included Kirk Mottershead with underwater video, Colin Doeg showing many images, including some black & white ones of old. Antonio talked on macro lighting and frogfish, whilst Pat Cash gave us a delightful tour of the Southern Red Sea, in the December meet, along with several other members at this open meeting, including Tony Gilbert talking on the British Isles. Our first NUPG Exhibition organised by Ken and Tony made a great impact on the audience at Shell, and another is being organised. We had our own equipment show and Ken Sullivan was on hand here, in January. The March Winter Splash-In was the last event of the year (see the report by Ken, below). Slide competitions had many varied subjects and included bottom dwelling fish, sand dwellers and just to keep you on your toes and your skills upwardly mobile, we've come up with even more challenging and diverse competition subjects (you will not escape)!

3) Statement of Accounts

Lucy outlined the statement of accounts, and provided an MS-Excel Spreadsheet of expenditure and income. This showed we were in the black, and setup to organise our year of photo-diving events and meets. If you would like a copy of this document, please contact Lucy.

4) NEW Meeting Venue & Time

A caveat to the statement of accounts is the meeting venue. Until further notice, the new meeting venue will be THE WINDMILL PUB, near Junction 19 roundabout off the M6 at Knutsford (see dates from the flyer and website). This was felt to be a good place and provided the same facilities at a considerable saving to NUPG, with the added bonus of pub-grub and easier accessibility. Please make sure you arrive at the NUPG meetings by 1930 (preferably just before), this will assist those who have to travel long distances. Any queries, contact the club secretary.

5) Membership

It was noted within the last year, the membership had risen from 32 to 38. Four people did not renew their membership into year two, but several other people joined including the two most recent new faces: Mark Wakerly & Mark Thomas, welcome the Mark's.

We are trying to keep the members contact list up to date, for your benefit as well as ours. If you have changed phone numbers / e-mail addresses / equipment or anything relevant, please let Jason Gregory know. The current style of membership cards have nearly ran out, so any suggestions for the next would be most welcome.

1st May is the date for NUPG membership renewal. A reminder of the membership fees:

- i. Single annual membership: £20
- ii. Family annual membership (i.e. two people at the same address): £30
- iii. New members joining after 1st December: Single £10; Family £15.

Non-members fee on the door for NUPG meetings: £3.50

Please send your membership fees to Lucy Kay (cheques payable to 'Northern Underwater Photography Group').

6) Brief Outline of this coming years activities

Lucy gave us a quick description of forthcoming events, speakers and activities, **and Paul had a few ideas to put forward, so please consider these for the next meeting....**

Firstly, the change of venue/time for the meetings, see above.

Several guest speakers have already confirmed, and these include Brendan o' Brien and Alan Mildren. Technical talks include Paul Kay on "which film - imaging", Steve Smithson on "wide angle lighting" and Mark Walker on "avoiding floods". The September meeting is devoted in the main to Wet Cameras, and as a special treat Tony Gilbert is going to talk on "Getting the best out of Motormarine II's" until his 20 minutes are up! The December meeting is billed as a Members Evening. The summer splash in and print competition organisation is fervently underway (see exhibitions below), along with another Shell Exhibition later on in the year (see details below) so get your prints ready for both of these events, whether you are able attend or not.

If you know of anyone who you feel could be considered for Guest Speaker, or if you would like to do a technical talk, or any talk, please let one of the committee know ASAP. Remember, it's your support that keeps us all going!

7) Other Suggestions

Suggestions in the pipeline, voice your opinion at the next meeting! Two suggestions for 2003...

- Penrhyn Castle Exhibition -see exhibitions, below.

- NUPG Dive Trip in 2003. It was suggested that we consider organising a dive trip for NUPG members with an emphasis on the photographic side of diving. This would be in 2003, as most people tend to organise a year in advance. A UK destination would be likely, liveaboard, shore-based, hardboat, RIB who knows!). If you have any venue ideas/suggestions and would like to consider going on this trip, e-mail Paul Kay in the first, or mention it at the next meeting, or e-mail one of the committee members.

- Paul also suggested a photo critique of the slides of the year, for the overall winner. This would be critiqued by an independent body, suggested Bristol Underwater Photography Group. We could then use this image to produce our next slug of membership cards!

EXHIBITIONS

1. Shell Offices, Wythenshawe, October/November 2002

As you may remember, the previous exhibition last year at the Shell offices proved extremely popular for ourselves as well as the viewing Shell staff. 3 pictures were sold last time, and a small donation made to charity. The artists showing images in other shows range from students to semi/professionals, abstract works, paintings and photographs. The buildings are normally able to house about 40 images, which are seen on a daily basis along the corridors, by several hundred people.

Ken Byrne has kindly arranged another slot with the Shell Representative, Bernie Doeser, for this coming October/November 2002. Images should be suitably framed in a stout wooden frame, minus the mountings, which Bernie will attach. Each frame must have a label on the back, detailing Photographer, Image Title, Sale Price if for sale otherwise NFS. Normally, around 2-3 images (A3/A4 approx sizes) per person are submitted (depending on #persons and wall availability), Ken will supply further details. Consider thinking about your images NOW, this is a chance to show your hard work as a group.

If you are interested, please contact Ken Byrne email: Ken.K.Byrne@is.shell.com

2. Penrhyn Castle, 2003

A new additional exhibition "site" for us, is being put forward, which is Penrhyn Castle, one of the North's premier places for showing images to the public. Paul Kay outlined the details of this prestigious place - this could be our/your chance to shine, with an image that would capture the hearts of some of the 25000 visitors a year!!!

A large room is available, which is in effect, a blank canvas for us to experiment and show on. The image framing must be of good/excellent quality, and sized at preferably A3/20x16" or they will be lost in the room! This means each individual image would cost you around £50 to produce and frame, and we would mount them as well. The March meeting show of hands indicated a willingness to follow this further, and several indicated same at the May meeting. We are looking for around 40-60 images (depending on size), so that's about 2-3 images per person.

So, lets get moving with this, and if you are interested in showing here, let Paul know now, or the next meeting.

SUMMER 2002 SPLASH IN

The previous edition of the newsletter, Jan 2002 #4 detailed the forthcoming splash in, here are the summary details to date....

When: Saturday 31st August 2002, collecting film early (0745-0800) times to be finalised, and return by 1230.

Where: Anglesey (location of meeting / return of films / evening venue all tbc).

Cost: £15

Entry: Open to NUPG members & non-members, deposit £5, payable to Northern Underwater Photography Group, and sent to Lucy Kay.

ALSO Splash In print competition – prints of maximum A4 size. Two categories: tropical & temperate. Exciting trophies are for the winning. Winning prints will be selected by those present at the Splash In judging. Entry fee £1/print. If you are interested, please contact Lucy Kay. If you cannot attend, prints can be sent in beforehand. Competition is open to members & non-members.

ARTICLES AND REPORTS

WINTER SPLASH IN MARCH 2002

A report by the organiser Ken Byrne...

That's a great idea, can you organise it was the overwhelming response, when suggesting a winter splash in, in the newsletter. It was disappointing that the enthusiasm for actually turning out and getting wet was less overwhelming. A hardy 4 photographers (Ken Byrne, Dirk Haslem, Tony Gilbert and Jason Gregory) along with 2 non photographers, ready to act as models for the wide angle shots, turned out on a bright and sunny early March day at Stoney Cove. Conditions were good at the start of the day with a wintry sun shining through. At 6 degrees the water was marginally warmer than expected. All in all far better conditions than experienced during the summer splash in, although admittedly, by the close of the competition, conditions had deteriorated somewhat as wind created white crested waves, and whipped spray 5metres into the air.

Stoney Cove was it's usual busy self with the water surface resembling a glass of soda water, the car parks full of divers in an array of dry suits and a few semi-drys, now they are hardy souls. Given the number of divers already in the water you would expect poor visibility but if you are prepared to move off the 6metre shelf the conditions generally improve, and on the day, were around 15m in parts.

The bright conditions presented a choice; 2 photographers chose to try wide angle and 2 went for macro. Stoney offers a range of subjects for either category; the Stanegarth makes a good wide angle subject as do the other objects deposited in the quarry for divers to explore. The quarry itself presents interesting opportunities; the rock wall formations, green water and divers are some of the possibilities. For the macro photographer there are pike, tench, perch, crayfish and mussel beds.

Given the final results it's difficult to say what was the best choice on the day. Third was a wide angle shot of a diver taken inside the Stanegarth by Jason Gregory, Second was another wide angle diver shot taken in ambient light by Tony Gilbert, First place was a macro shot of a resting Pike by Ken Byrne.

Maybe next year we can try again and who knows we might even get enough competitors to have two categories.

And, here are the images, congratulations and a big well done to you all in the brrrhhh conditions ..

1st Place: Ken "The Pikeman" Byrne, what a monster fish!



...
2nd Place: Tony "Sunbursts" Gilbert



3rd Place: Jason "Wreck Penetration" Gregory



Dont forget, there will probably be another Winter Splash In, it's your club, so support it, and come on down, the water is magnificent.

ARTICLES

If you have a small piece you would like to see included in the Newsletter, please send it in .rtf format to the Editor. It can be humorous, something about underwater photography, an interesting slant on diving, whatever really. Here are this Newsletter's contributions...

ARTICLE ONE

Perhaps many of you have considered using Nitrox but thought, nah it's not for photographers. Tony Gilbert explains why it can prove very useful for photographers.

The Photographers Guide to Nitrox, by Tony Gilbert

Once upon a time in days of old, when knights were bold, somebody invented the long bow, much to the chagrin of the French mounted nobles, who were on the receiving end of this deadly weapon, and learnt of this piece of progress the hard way. Some divers (also myself), like these knights, or the Luddites of a few hundred years ago, prefer to keep their equipment configuration the same. Underwater photographers can be set in their ways much in the same way, and it makes good sense, since a stable photographic platform, and good air consumption, is essential for composing perfect shots. Many recreational divers over the years, have come to regard using air in their bottles as the defacto standard. The mere mention of a gas mix with the letters 'OX' starts nightmares of dark, deep diving, techi-black gear, Satanic worships and dancing naked around the fires of Hell!

In recent years, the dive market has seen many changes, particularly in the faster routes to training qualifications, which has perhaps enabled many more people to rapidly mix their diving skills. Not so long ago, I remember hearing the familiar beep of the computer indicating that "your are running out of time mate, start to ascend now", just as you were relaxing into the perfect award-winning shot, you may have taken, if you had more time to do so.

Enter the use of Nitrox, perhaps overlooked within some of the photographic community as another technical add-on, although I am sure, there are many photographers already using this brew of gas to their satisfaction. The technical use of the gas is one thing, which should be reserved for the course, the practical use and its benefits within areas of the diving community is another. For those who are not aware, Nitrox gas is essentially air, which has had oxygen added, using one of a variety of blending methods available today, to produce an Enriched Air mix. Normal air contains 21% oxygen, whereas Nitrox contains (for recreational diving) between 21-40% oxygen content. Depending on your planned depth and time, will determine what mix you require.

Ok, I've mentioned that word again "depth", and most photographers like to shoot in waters above 35m. I like many others, previously air diving, were under the mis-conception Nitrox is a deep gas reserved for the heavy bottle brigade, and how wrong I was! Nitrox is best suited for depths between 20 and 30m (although it can be used safely at other depths). After diving on a Red Sea liveaboard in early 2001, it became obvious the middle depths, with their tantalising soft corals were all too soon left behind, so my friends and I decided to embark upon a Nitrox course on our return, in readiness for the succeeding diving season.

What is Nitrox going to give me as a photographer?

Well, I am still keeping you in suspense for a while, until you have first considered the following scenarios ...

The UK on a dive to the wreck of the James Eagan Layne, buddy and I on Nitrox, another buddy pair on Air. Both pairs dived for 60 minutes - no time difference I hear you say. Well, profile-wise, other buddy pair, descended 22m to the bottom, did one and a half slow circuits at this depth, until no-deco limits were almost reached, so had to come up, to a shallower depth, where they remained almost above the wreck. Our profile, well we did 3 slow circuits at the bottom, marvelling at the life on the hull, before going through the interior. We then decided to start our ascent, safety, and exit.

The Akka in the Clyde is a great photogenic wreck, covered in marine life. Descending to 32m, where huge red bolocera anemones have affixed themselves to the hull sides. The sheer wall of the hull at this depth is also home to large colonies of delicately coloured peacock worms, dangling precariously into the abyss of blackness below. This is where we stayed for a long time, making careful photographs. Two other air divers using decompression, may have stayed down with us, however, the second "half" of their dive would have been spent decompressing at shallow depths above the wreck watching bits of peat fly by!

Lastly, in the Red Sea, a reef 25-27m, has a coral outcrop covered in glassfish, sweepers, and numerous other photogenic subjects. This is the 12th dive of the trip, and there is a queue to take shots because everybody knows about it. What do you do, wait or ascend? On air, your deco limits, given your residual nitrogen loading, will come swiftly, on Nitrox, you have time to wait, compose the shot, and potter around, and wait for all the fins to go out of shot.

For users of Nitrox, it allows us to stay down longer (as is our bent - hah!), particularly at depths of 20-35m, and these scenarios illustrate this. As a photographer, it enables you to relax, compose your shots at depth, without running out of time mid-shoot, assuming you are still monitoring your gauges anyway, and have planned your time accordingly. Photo-divers who decompress on Air, have to make mandatory stops, perhaps in the blue, with a half empty camera. If using Nitrox instead, adequate planning would allow you to spend more time on your subject, with no decompression. Quite often you find the gas supply is the limiting factor, and not the no-deco limits.

... and what do I need to do to dive on Nitrox? Well, apart from the course (for you and your buddies - both you and buddy need to dive on Nitrox to get the benefit), a Nitrox computer is a good idea, and these are priced at around most other types of computers on the market. If you have your own tanks, consider having these O2 cleaned for a small price, and these would be serviced once a year.

With many UK centres, and a number of popular overseas dive centers (and boats), like the Red Sea, now equipped with Nitrox, what are you waiting for, switch on to this 21st Century gas!

LINKS

If you have any photo-type web links you wish to share, let us know... (also see previous issue(s) for many others).

- Bernard Picton website: www.pictonb.freeserve.co.uk/index.html. Contains many a good photographic image of Nudibranchs, some great shots, and great for identification purposes.
- John Liddiard Website: www.liddiard.demon.co.uk. Plenty of wreck & scenic tours along with many great images to look at. Many places John has visited, both UK and abroad are covered here, including the congers of Rathlin. Great site packed full of information for divers and diver-photographers alike.
- Sergio Hanquet website: www.sergioshanquet.com. Sergio recently produced an excellent book on "Diving in Canaries", containing many shore/boat sites on all of the major and some of the minor islands in the Canaries. It also includes some excellent underwater images, and a species list. He is resident in the Canaries and is an avid underwater/sea surface photographer, producing some of the most stunning images I've seen of whales and dolphins which frequent the islands. I was privileged to be able to view some of his images in Teneriffe a few years ago.
- Underwater Publications: www.uwpmag.co.uk. The Web Magazine (April/May 2002) features tons of information suited to photography, and includes pieces on Manado (Mark Webster), El Hierro-Canaries (John Collins) and product reviews, techniques, classifieds on 2nd hand kit etc. Next issue due out shortly.

ADVERTS

None this issue.