



Edited by
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POINT & CLICK
ON BOLD LINKS



Spring Dive Fashion

Bottom Crawlers
100% cotton Tribal Shark Men's T
Bold oriental brush strokes on mocha t-shirt.
Price: US\$16.95 www.bottomcrawlers.com



Stylin' Togs for Your Tank

Have a little fun with your gear and
get 'em grinning with this polyethylene air tank
shirt inspired by Lifesavers hard candies.
Price: US\$21.97 www.divingtoysfromdivetonight.com



Stylish Jewelry from the Sea

A piece of dyed mother of pearl or shell is cut and set by hand in each of these
stainless steel pendants. Other designs by the Canadian based husband-and-wife
design team Eric Jean-Louis and Vivian Cheng come in bamboo, coconut, coral,
ox bone, steel, Mah Jong and Washi styles. Price: US\$75.00 Blendcreations.com



Swimming with the Fishes

100% organic cotton t-shirt designs
for divers by ZooZoo2. Price: GB£25.00
www.zoozoo2.com

Patagonia

beach foot-
wear fad: Cloud
Walker for WaterGirls.
Full-grain leather upper,
pigskin lining and suede
footbed. Five colors. Price:
US\$80.00 www.patagonia.com



Patagonia

Be comfortable.
Wear this Sea Grass
flip-flop sandal for men
on the beach. Rice fiber foot-
bed. Four colors. Price: US\$50.00
www.patagonia.com



Blue or Yellow
Jacket, \$29.95
Pant, \$20.99

O2 Rainwear

Lightweight, breath-
able, waterproof cover
for sea bound divers
O2rainwear.com



Sea Inspired Style The fashion label Kawayan
(Philippino for 'bamboo') was created by two sisters,
Anna Frances and Anna Mae Dioso. Both born on
Midanao in the south Philippines, they are now based
in Wein, Austria. Influenced by diversity in people and
countries, the designers have invented a new eclectic
style which suits all occasions and trends. This sea foam
beach cover-up is from their 'mamuschka beneath the
sea' collection. See www.ichiban.at/kawayan



Dive Fashion



Girls4Sport Neoprene Rashguard has the same cut as their long sleeve rashguard, but with 1 mm neoprene panels front and back for extra warmth and a front half-zip. The built-in shelf bra provides support; the extra length in the torso keeps it from riding up. It features sleeves in cool prints and colors that can be mixed and matched with coordinating bottoms and board shorts. Can be worn alone or layered under a wetsuit. Price: US\$73. www.girls4sport.com



Chammyz

Manufactured from 100% natural fibers, Chammyz are extremely soft yet durable garments, designed to provide the utmost in warmth and comfort, offering the highest level of protection against rapidly changing weather conditions. Unique design promotes maximum water absorption from the body and immediate processing through a unique moisture management system. (Left) Aussie Top in Deep Purple, US\$62.00. Body Parts, Inc. Visit Chammyz.com



Wear Scuba

T-shirts from down under for the diving dudes and divas in your life. All tees by this Australian maker are made from 100% cotton with high quality screen printed graphics. Scubagear.com.au



Women's Deep Down T, AU\$27.00
LEFT. Men's Rust in Peace T, AU\$15.00

Dive Republic

Dive Republic is a scuba themed T-Shirt design and production company aiming to bridge the gap between street fashion and the often 'in-joke' nature of diving shirts. The T-shirts retail at £20 (inclusive of p&p) and you can purchase them at: www.dive-republic.co.uk



ScubaDoRag™

Be seen above and below the sea by dive buddies, students, instructors and boat crew in a stylish way! Patented for working out, running, cycling, styling, protecting your scalp and/or hair color, snorkeling and scuba. The SecretCompartment is for stowing your ponytail to keep it from tangling in your tank valve, or for hiding small valuables or your room key. US\$35



ScubaTubeSocks are getting rave reviews for funky style and function, which lets you get into your wetsuit more easily and prevents blisters. Make your dive buddies smile with HappyFeet! Can also be worn with clogs and sandals. Made from the same yummy fabric as the ScubaDoRag™. US\$13



FashGuards 'cause who wants to talk about a rash? Shoods (or shirts with hoods) are suitable for all SuperHeroes who travel beneath the waves, and Shoodn'ts (shirts without hoods) are in very limited quantities, so order soon. Get down and funky with these innovative ways to add long sleeves and extra room (thanks to print gussets). Brighten up your everyday courageous, stylish life. Scubadorag.com



TOP TO BOTTOM:
ChromaMomSea
PurpleJoker
ScubaTubeSocks
SeaBra

FashGuards
US\$60-110





Dive Fashion

So many t-shirts,
so little closet space...

Deep Down Dive Apparel

Let 'em know you dive by wearing quality apparel paired with hardcore dive designs like "Skull Flag" and "Last Great Act". Featuring over 30 designs, Deep Down is the latest in alternative dive apparel. Check out all of Deep Down's cutting edge designs at: DeepDownDive.com



Mad Mermaids

Scuba is a dive wear brand that gives a damn! So we have our say about stuff that make us mad, Shark Finning, Killing Whales, Climate Change, Water Pollution...We believe that wearing MadMermaid Scuba Dive Wear is a great way of getting the messages out there. www.madmermaids.com



UWAHU = underwater human

Original and high quality out of the water divewear for scuba divers, freedivers and aquanauts. Distributed in Europe, Australia and the USA. Secure online shop available. For more information please check our website at: www.uwahu.com or email: info@uwahu.com



Dive Junkie

is a fast growing specialty retailer of Scuba Diving casual apparel. Their range of clothing are constantly revitalize by regular additions of new designs and clothing styles. The latest collection of Polo shirts to join their wide range of T-shirts is refreshing and stylish. Made using a cotton and polyester blend, the soft and comfy honey-comb Polos are casual yet smart and are perfect for work as well as play. www.divejunkie.com.sg

Wetsuit for your wine? Now your spirit or wine bottles can be scuba-cool too, in these fashionable neoprene jackets by

French designer Thomas Renaud Combhard.com



Scuba Punk

Unleash your imagination and slip into a new skin with Scubapunk T-shirt as it expresses your passions about scuba-diving in a wholly different depth. Adorned with street graphics, revolving around scuba diving, that go beyond your conventional designs found on the market, Scubapunk adds a layer of distinctive spunkiness to the current diving apparel arena. Scubapunk.com



Rubber Radio

Totally waterproof, this fully rubber made radio makes listening possible in the bathroom or by the dive pool. Has a simple control panel, which relies upon the material elasticity as does the loudspeaker membrane. Eliumstudio.com



Dive Fashion

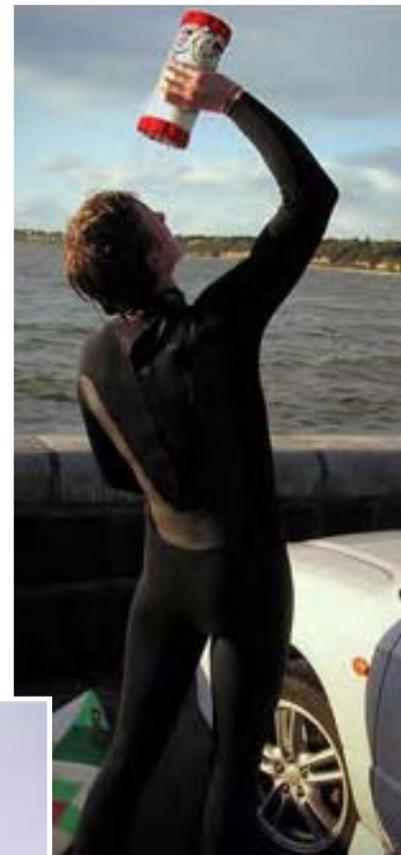
Superlative Skins



Dive Goddess

Tired of dark dreary black? Why not try something with a bit of pattern and color? The makers of these zany dive togs call their high quality skins, "visually-distinctive active-wear for serious divers who don't take themselves too seriously". They are supposed to be the answer to how to look 'hot' even while you struggle

to put on a cold, wet and pungent wetsuit on a crowded boat rocking on the waves. Finally, your buddy can spot you easily out of a slew of divers dressed in black. Left to right: Abyss, Hot Pursuit and Leaping Leopard. Price: US\$65-95. www.divegoddess.com



Terrapin Wetsuits

constructs truly custom fitted wetsuits from highest-quality neoprene or neutrally-buoyant Polartec where you choose the colors and style. Since sometimes you grow (or shrink) and your wetsuit doesn't, we provide expert alterations, including customization for Technical and Handicapped Divers. We also produce fun, colorful accessories...especially our famous Minihoods. www.terrapinwetsuits.com



Hot Shower in a Can

Get rid of all that salt with a soothing hot water rinse heated by the cigarette lighter in your car! Cleverly designed by Büro North, this handy portable surf shower goes with you anywhere. Buronorth.com



Shoulder Bags with Fins

As the makers, Reef and Reed, say, "It's not just a bag... it's a fish" This new collection, which highlights fish from the Great Barrier Reef, includes favorites such as the Shark, Orca, Clownfish, Purple Tang and Cutthroat Trout. Price: US\$35.95

www.reefandreed.com

Exceed Wetsuits

Step up to a new fashion wetsuit by EXCEED. Their suits feature the highest quality neoprene available with a new E-Plush interior, which keeps you warmer and dries quicker. All seams are glued and blind stitched to keep water out. www.exceedwetsuits.com

Ember Women's Long Wetsuit

Detail of Execute Men's Long Wetsuit by Exceed



Dive Deep T-Shirt

Get the word out with this straight forward scuba shirt by Island Image. Price: US\$19.95.

www.islandimagedesign.com





Dive Fashion



UZZI

Amphibious Gear uses innovative and high tech fabrics in their exclusive designs. Uzzi says their divewear line is more than a fashion trend or a lifestyle, "it's also a mindset".

LEFT TO RIGHT: Tahoe Nylon Clear Sail Women's Half-Zip Pullover, €52. Women's Dive Halter and Swim Shorts, €95. Wilderness Men's Cargo Shorts, €47. Tahoe Nylon Men's Classic Cargo Shorts, €47. www.uzzi-europe.com



Body Glove Girl

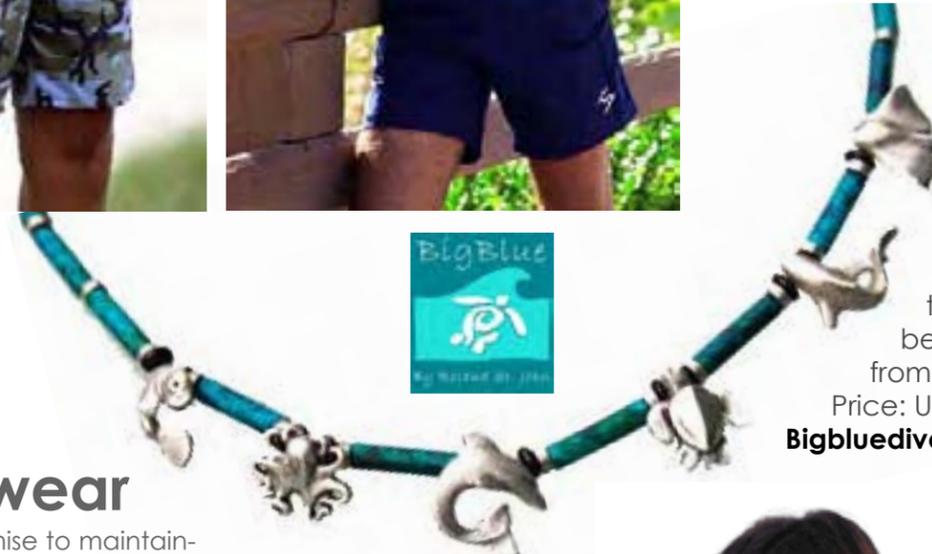
A new crop of fresh swimwear for the diving diva. Browse through their online gallery at: Bodylovegirl.com



Dolphin Swimwear

keeps its promise to maintaining the highest standards of innovation, quality and value. High leg and modest leg models available. Try this Planetary Blue Women's tank swimsuit. 80% Nylon/20% Spandex, fully lined. Uglier Papillon Rash T. 100% Polyester, UV (50+) protection.

Dolfinswimwear.com



Charming

New Sea-life Charm Necklace with sculpted silver forms of manatee, octopus, dolphin, sea turtle, shark, ray plus Caribbean-colored ceramic beads from Mykonos.

Price: US\$24.00

Bigbluedive.com

Moonfish

chic divewear from France is designed to prolong the inspiring sensations we experience in the underwater world, its sense of freedom and abundance of life.

Glamour hooded black cotton-lycra women's long sleeve shirt, €78.

Jessy Navy women's shorts, €54. Sirius men's board shorts, €60.

www.moonfish.fr



Black & White

Wolford's new Sunset Boulevard collection features a cosmopolitan look. Beach Dress, £99. Swim-bra Triangle, £75. Swimtanga £42.

www.wolfordboutiquelondon.com

Diva Style Swimsuits for Diving

Text by Cindy Ross. Photos courtesy of the manufacturers

LEFT TO RIGHT: UZZI 2pc, TYR 2pc and 1pc, Speedo Tankini & Boy Shorts, plus size 1pc Swimsuit by Delta Burke®, Wolford 2pc, Maru Dodge 1pc, Nike Shortini



Under the waves, the mermaids play—blissful and carefree... because they've never had to shop for a swimsuit.

One-piece, two-piece, bikini, tankini, shortini, swimtanga? It's sometimes too much for a girl to decide. But like shoes and handbags, one suit is not enough for the diving girl, so we will look at the benefits of each to assure that our wardrobe is adequately stocked.

The swimsuit, for divers, is usually a base layer to be worn under garments designed for protection from the elements. Water temperatures dictate coverings, ranging from lightweight dive skins to 7mm wetsuits, for thermal protection. Stinging jellies, underwater wasps, burning coral—our underwater world is not always friendly to the touch. Add the surface interval, with the sun's UV, and our skin needs more protection than a small bathing suit can handle.

Form Follows Function

Comfort is crucial when descending for an hour-long dive beneath the waves. No room here for wedgies or ill-fitting tops. Whatever swimwear you choose, you'll want to make sure that it is free of added ornamentation that can dig into your skin with the weight of the BCD and tank on it. Your skin or dive suit will also rub on the swimwear, so minimal clasps and knots are advised.

After the dive, you'll want to remove your dive garment, and modesty will prevail (...or not) depending on the type of

suit that you have. The plain black one-piece is always a great choice for assuring full coverage and no shifting. Just like the plain black evening dress, it's a must-have for every diver's swim drawer. A two-piece can look great while sunning on the deck, however be careful with choosing a teeny bikini for your dive suit. It's the peeling off of the top half of the wetsuit that usually wreaks havoc with our coverage, and where the tiny two-piece often shifts shamelessly.

A two-piece does work well at shore sites for changing, as a large beach towel or oversized shirt will eliminate the trek into the bush when transforming back to our land clothing. The one piece, while shiftless, is more limiting in the changing areas.

To pee or not to pee? At some point, we need to use the head while diving. There are two schools of thought on this. First, a two-piece would be the easiest to lower the bottoms for use in the head. However, the second idea is that a simple tug to the side, and even a one-piece can work in the washroom situation.

Fit for Form

If the thought of fluorescent lights, small changing rooms and facing your cellulite in a three way mirror sends shivers down your spine, join women all over the world

who, according to a California study, would rather clean the lavatory than try on swimsuits.

For most of us, the image of our pasty body in a swimsuit is a far cry from the supermodels on the front of Sports Illustrated. However, with a few tips, you can find a suit that will make the most of what "real bathing beauties" have to offer.

Go up one size

While trying on swimsuits, remember to go up one size, as they're made small. Don't get caught up in the number, after all, it's the fit that counts. Move around in the fitting room; bend over, sit down. The movement will assure that the suit will stay where you want it. Try on as many as possible, to find the ones that look best. And don't be afraid to ask the sales associate for help. They're usually very knowledgeable about enhancing or detracting for different body types.

Tight fit

We want a suit that fits tight, so it won't shift or rub on our wetsuit. While the flowing tankini top does conceal a bit of belly, it may also fall victim to disappearing in the wetsuit as we change after our dive. A well fit tankini gives the advantages of a two-piece and the coverage of a one-piece.

Say no to padding

Stay away from excessive padding. When diving, the padding in a swimsuit is going to absorb the salt

water like a sponge, resulting in sagging, and even with a thorough wash after, the smells are tough to get out.

Flattering your figure

Simple tips can enhance and flatter your natural looks. The right silhouette can disguise figure problems.

Small busts can be overcome by emphasizing contours. Bold prints or colors flatter, while straight lines across the chest will flatten further. For larger chests, pay attention to support, comfort and coverage. Wide straps and crossover straps can offer additional support, without adding the underwire that may be uncomfortable under pressure.

To mask the tummy, fool the eye with fabric that pulls the eye away from the stomach area. Large hips are overcome by choosing a bright color on top to pull the eyes upward. Choose styles with bust detailing, stripes or dark colors.

Fabric Freshness

How to keep the stink from your suit? Swimsuits are made from man-made fabrics that absorb and retain odors. In addition to the microorganisms that we swim through in the water, we've added our own body oils to the fabric. Mix in suntan lotions and body crèmes, and we've got the recipe for serious stinkiness.

Keeping your suits fresh isn't hard, but timing counts. Suits should be rinsed within two hours of use. This allows the sunscreens, salt water, chlorine and body

oils to be removed before they're absorbed into the fabrics. Use an approved swimsuit cleaner, avoiding Woolite or chlorine bleach detergents. No machine washing or drying—simply hand wash and lay the suit flat to dry.

For those divers who have frequent pool sessions, a simple mixture of water, liquid laundry detergent and

aquarium de-chlorinator (found in pet stores—1:4 ratio with water/detergent mix in spray bottle) will help keep your suit bright and colorful.

For your liveaboard vacations, be sure to pack as many suits as you have dives per day. It's considered poor form to traipse about the cabin area in a wet suit. For laundering purposes, you'll want to change your suit between each dive. Cleanse the used suit and lay flat to dry for the next day's diving.

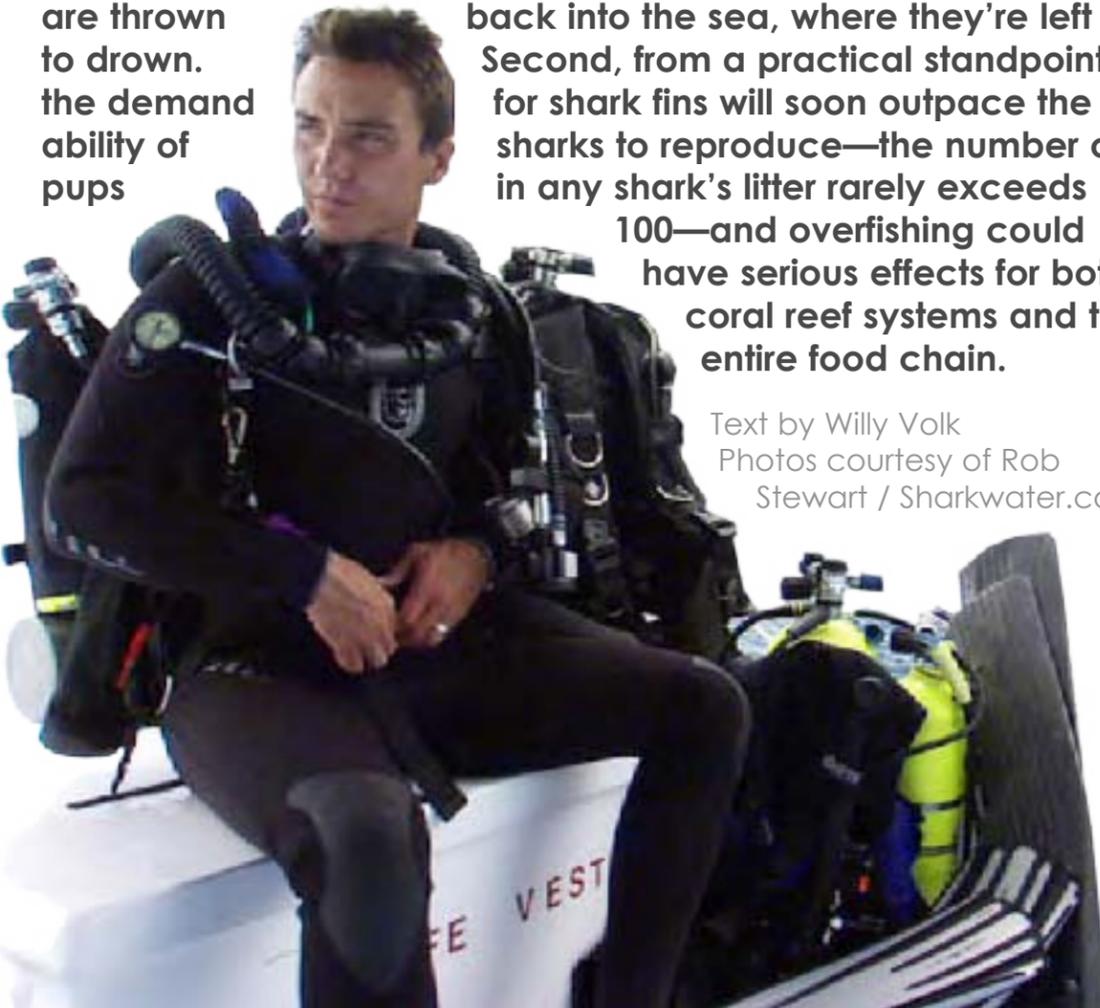
For diving divas, thankfully, the swimsuit serves a different purpose than bathing beauties. Remember, our reason for wearing a suit is not to "be seen", but rather "to see".

Cindy Ross is a dive instructor and writer dedicated to promoting the scuba lifestyle for women of all ages worldwide. For more information, please visit: Girdiver.com ■



SHARKWATER

Depending on who you ask, humans are responsible for removing between 20 million and 100 million sharks per year from the oceans. Considered a delicacy in many parts of the world, shark fins are served at Chinese weddings and business dinners throughout Southeast Asia and the Pacific Rim. The problem with finning is two-fold. First, from a humanitarian aspect, sharks are still alive when their fins are sliced off; the animals are thrown back into the sea, where they're left to drown. Second, from a practical standpoint, for shark fins will soon outpace the sharks to reproduce—the number of pups in any shark's litter rarely exceeds 100—and overfishing could have serious effects for both coral reef systems and the entire food chain.



Text by Willy Volk
Photos courtesy of Rob Stewart / Sharkwater.com



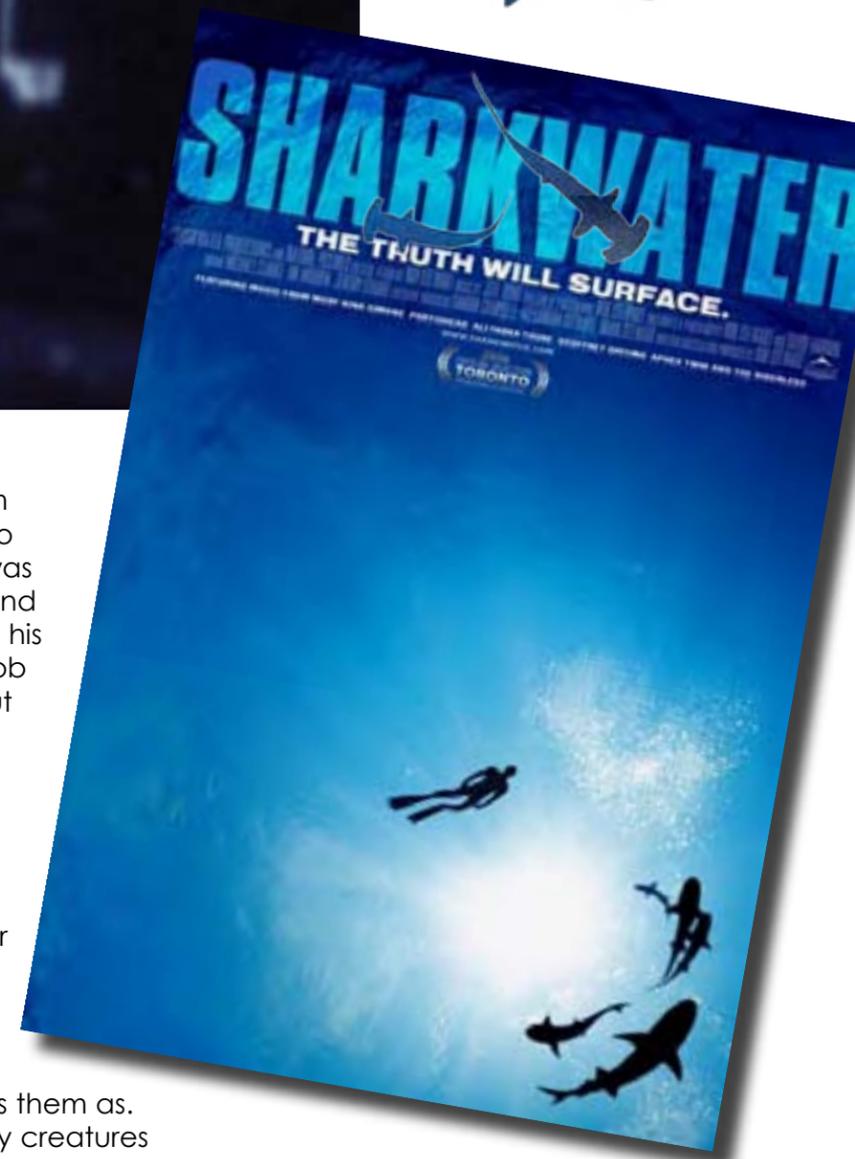
Underwater photographer Rob Stewart decided he needed to do something about the problem of finning, so he chose to make a movie about sharks, showing the world how beautiful, graceful and essential the animals are to the oceans' ecosystems. Never having shot a feature film before, Rob picked up a book on how to shoot movies and began his journey. The end result is *Sharkwater*, an 89-minute high-def extravaganza of a movie, which has already won a slew of awards, including Best Documentary (Ft. Lauderdale International Film Festival); the Jury Award (Hawaii International Film Festival); Best of the Festival (Palm Springs International Film Festival); Prix Planete (Antibes); and more.

Recently, *X-Ray Magazine* got the chance to talk to Rob about *Sharkwater*

and his experience filming it. Despite all the awards his film has won, he hasn't let it go to his head. Impressively, Rob was down-to-earth, accessible, and interesting. Passionate about his subject and full of energy, Rob spoke with us at length about *Sharkwater*.

X-Ray: What is *Sharkwater* about?

Rob: Originally, I wanted to make a beautiful underwater film about humanity's relationship with sharks. I wanted to show people that sharks are not the mindless killers that the media portrays them as. They're actually beautiful, shy creatures



Rob Stewart



who avoid humans. So, I went down to Costa Rica to film them. However, it didn't work out that way. After about four months, I realized I wasn't getting the underwater footage I had been hoping for, because we were busy outrunning pirate boats, being charged with attempted murder and uncovering an underground shark finning operation in Costa Rica. In order to protect ourselves, I turned the cameras on us. Although I wasn't getting the shark footage, all this human drama was unfolding all around me. It was a crazy experience that covered 15 countries and

four and a half years. *Sharkwater* is not like any movie out there. It's not really a documentary. It's not really a film. It's more of a "reality journey."

X-Ray: Did you head to Costa Rica with the intent of uncovering the shark finning operations, or did you just stumble upon it?

Rob: I went to Costa Rica to film sharks off Cocos Island with Sea Shepard, which had been invited by the President of Costa Rica to help monitor sharks in the area. I wanted to work with Sea Shepard's conser-

vation initiative and get underwater with the sharks. But I had no idea of the extent of the corruption in the area. The Taiwan Mafia has established a huge shark finning operation there.

X-Ray: I thought Costa Rica was known for being very eco-minded.

Rob: Costa Rica is known for being very eco-minded, but in reality, Costa Rica's sharks are just protected on paper.

There's lots of shark finning going on. It's a multi-billion dollar operation.

X-Ray: Could anyone heading to Costa Rica see the shark finning operations? Or are they well-hidden?

Rob: You couldn't just go down there and see them. The Taiwan Mafia is extremely well-hidden. The shark finning operations have their own private bay in Puntarenas and their own private docks. They're down long dirt roads, and you can't go down there.

X-Ray: If they have their own bay and docks, doesn't the government have to know about it? Are they just ignoring it?

Rob: Exactly, the Costa Rican government is turning a blind eye to finning. But now the public has learned about it, and a local non-profit, PRETOMA, is suing the government for letting

"An eye-opening film...visually stunning... this movie will change the way you see our oceans."

— *Bonnie Laufer*
Tribute Magazine

finning occur and for allowing the depletion of the country's resources. After all, the natural resources of Costa Rica are owned by its citizens.

X-Ray: You've said that sharks are "the most misunderstood animals in the world." What is the biggest misunderstanding about sharks?

Rob: Probably the biggest misunderstanding is that they're primitive eating machines. That's not the case. They're very sophisticated animals that have survived on the earth for hundreds of millions of years. Over the course of their evolution, they've evolved to become sleeker. Like electronics,

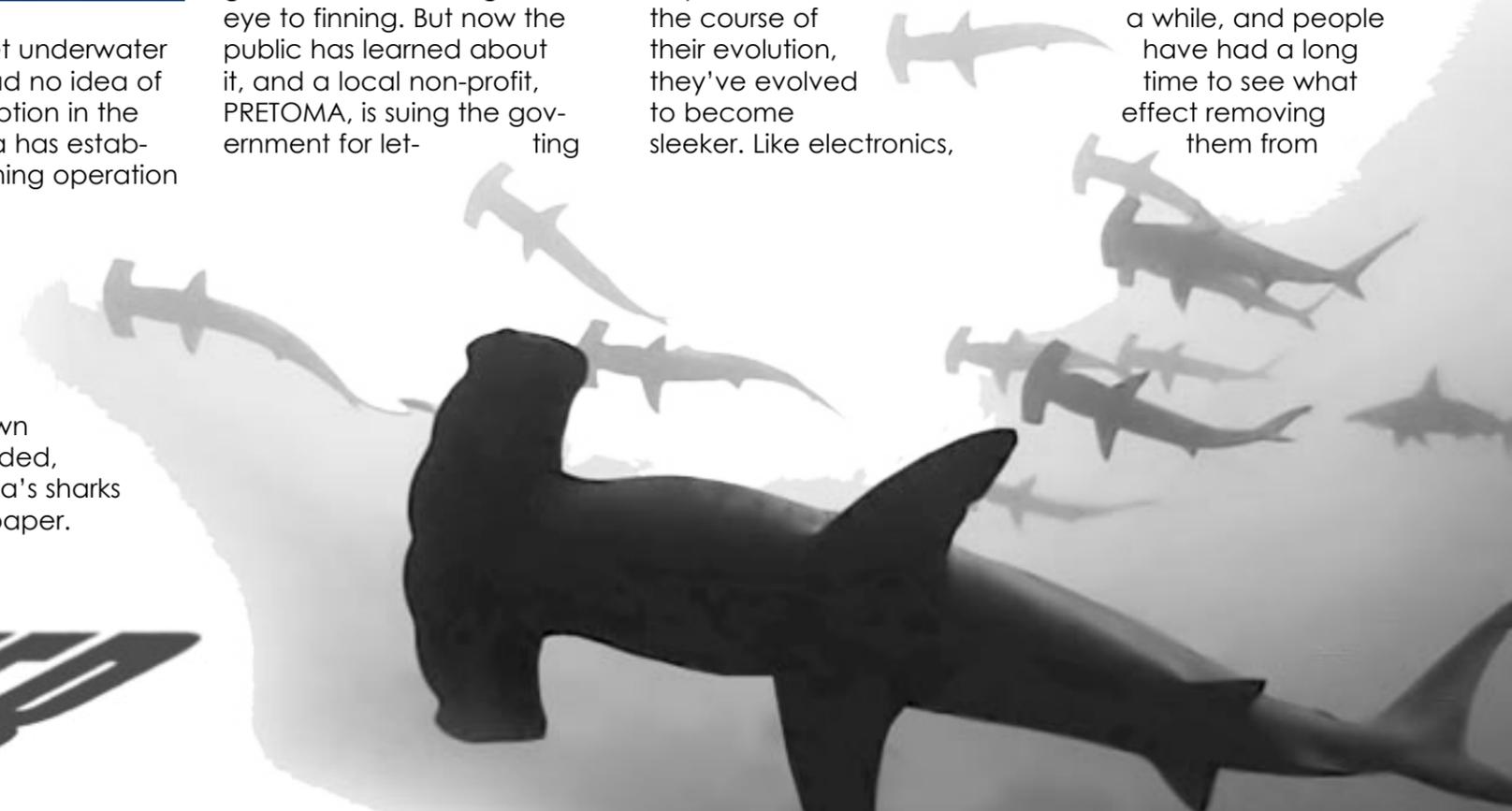
Rob Stewart

they've become smaller and more efficient. They're amazing animals. Another misunderstanding about sharks is that they want to eat humans. They don't. In fact, most shark attacks aren't attacks at all. They're "mistakes." However, newspapers sell more if they run stories about shark attacks splashed across their pages.

X-Ray: Other than divers and conservationists, it seems very few people are trying to protect sharks. Why do you think there are no "Save the Sharks" campaigns like there are "Save the Whales" campaigns?

Rob: First of all, sharks are a relatively new fishery. People only started fishing for sharks in the late-80s. On the other hand, whales have been fished for a while, and people have had a long time to see what effect removing them from

SHARKWATER



profile

Rob Stewart



chain. So, we have to look at the next best thing: the sea otter, an animal that nobody thought was very important. In the 70s, the sea otter was an endangered species. Sea otters eat sea urchins, and urchins eat kelp, which is a prime habitat for the Pacific herring. So, when we nearly wiped out sea otters, there was nothing there to eat sea urchins. The urchins ate the kelp, kelp populations dropped dramatically and the Pacific

herring lost its habitat and nearly vanished. This animal that no one thought was very important in the big picture actually created a huge imbalance. So imagine the problems associated with removing the ocean's top predator. It could create a framework for declining oxygen populations, declining fish populations, and declining plankton populations, plankton being responsible for creating 70% of the Earth's oxygen. It could be a disaster for all of humanity.

about them. I wanted to show them not to be afraid of sharks. This movie has the potential to do so much good—because if sharks survive, people survive. And the response from non-divers has been amazing! We've received thousands of emails from people who have seen the movie and said that, after seeing it, they wanted to go see sharks and swim with them. And so far, only about 10,000 people have actually seen the film, so we're hoping the response is going to be similar after it opens.

most surprising thing you learned while shooting the film?
Rob: The most surprising thing I learned while shooting the film... is how hard it is to shoot a film. It's totally different from shooting photos, because the post-production work is so difficult. We've got over 400 hours of footage in every kind of format, from high-def to 16mm. Putting it all together is so difficult. If you were just directing the film, I guess it would be easier, but when you're crafting the story on so many levels—when you're writing, directing, producing and editing the film—you have a lot to think about.

had. a long time to see the dangers associated with removing them from the ocean. Since sharks are a new build-up, there hasn't been that same understanding. Suddenly, we're understanding how many sharks are being removed from the oceans and what effect this is going to have. Also, whales are...

X-Ray: ...cute?

Rob: Right, whales are cute and sharks aren't, so there's been no public support for a save-the-sharks campaign.

X-Ray: I watched the trailer of your film and was amazed by the guy who said that sharks are "the scourge of the ocean and everyone should catch one." What would be the result if that happened?

Rob: Never in the history of humanity have we wiped out such a critical animal, the top predator in the food



X-Ray: It opens this month in Canada, right?

Rob: Right. On March 23rd.

X-Ray: When does it open in the US?

Rob: In the fall.

X-Ray: I can't wait. What was the

X-Ray: Yes, but that'll serve you well on your next film. You won't have to start from scratch.

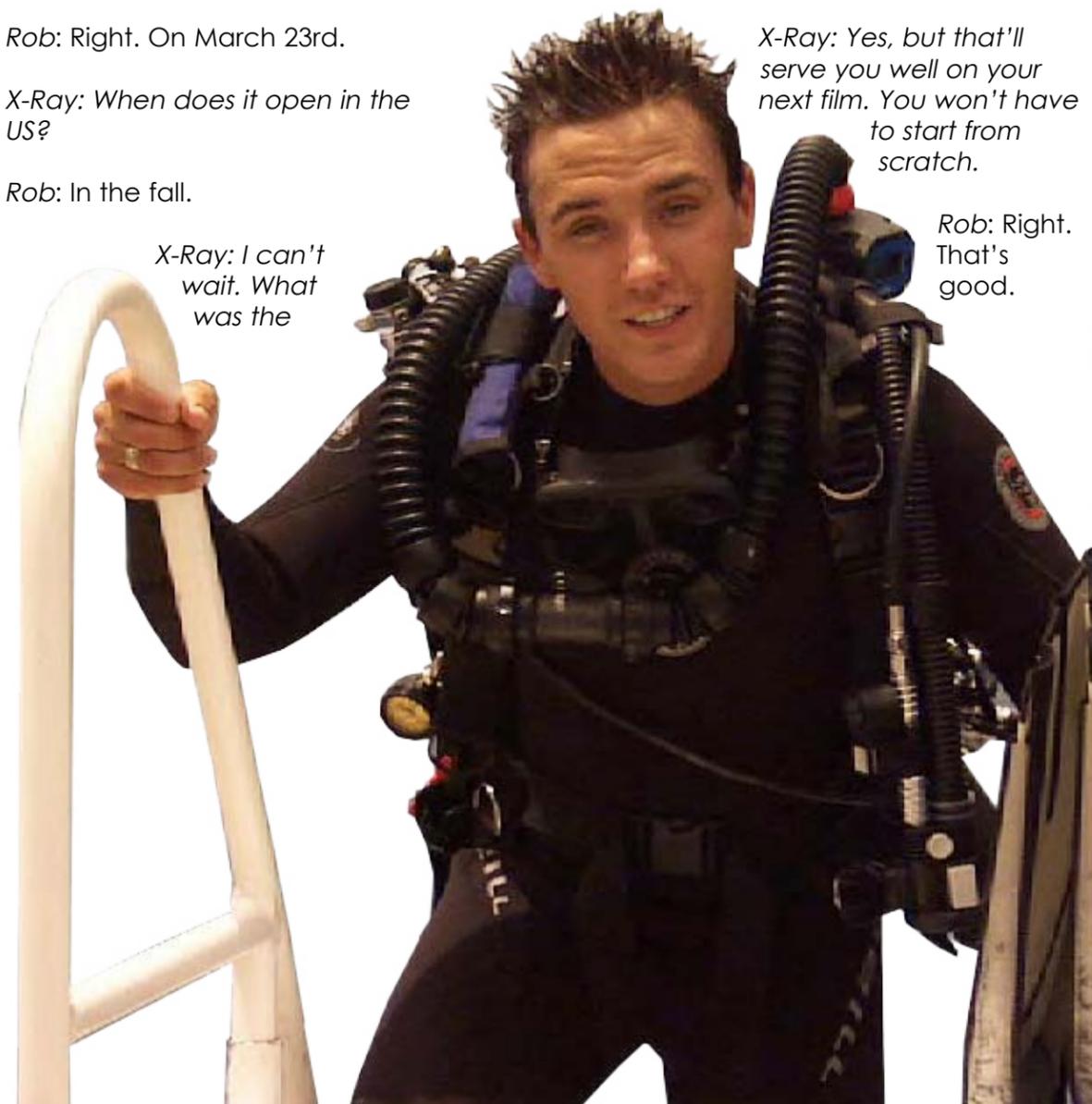
Rob: Right. That's good.

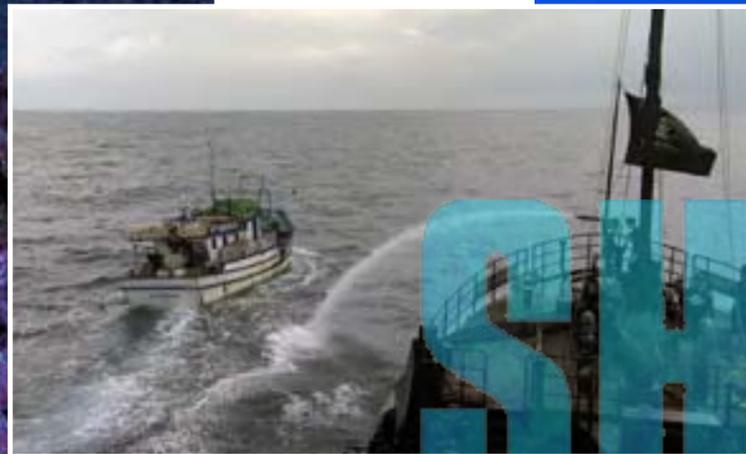


create a framework for declining oxygen populations, declining fish populations, and declining plankton populations, plankton being responsible for creating 70% of the Earth's oxygen. It could be a disaster for all of humanity.

X-Ray: It seems divers are aware of how beautiful and important sharks are to the world's ecosystems. But what about non-divers? How do we convey this important message to people who think sharks are the "scourge of the ocean"?

Rob: That's why I made this movie. I wanted to show non-divers how beautiful and important sharks are. As long as people fear sharks, they won't want to learn





SHARKWATER

Something else that surprised me was how much money is being put into the shark finning industry. I had no idea. When you see that the corruption extends along multiple governments, you realize that there's a lot of money at stake. Another thing that surprised me is how difficult it's going to be to work against finning. It's going to be very hard.

X-Ray: Speaking of your next film, can you tell us about what you're going to be working on next?

Rob: I have several other documentary projects I'm working on. All of them are eco-minded and try to teach that "conservation is cool." I think that conservation should be taught in schools before Shakespeare or geometry. The future of our planet depends on it. Anyway, one of my projects is a feature documentary that

deals with ocean issues. Another one is the story of human evolution told through Africa. It's amazing to me that Africa is the place humans learned to stand upright and, yet, with all the civil war, it almost seems there's a de-evolution going on. Finally, I'm also working on a reality television show. Like any reality show, it'll involve lots of young, beautiful people, drinking, sleeping with each other and stabbing each other in the back. But these people will all be on a ship sailing through the South Pacific, and they'll stop off at various islands and pick up local biologists and give them the tools they need to carry out effective conservation issues on their home islands.

X-Ray: Are the young, beautiful people on the boat biologists, too?

Rob: Yes.

X-Ray: So, you need to find people who are young, beautiful AND smart?

Rob: Yeah, it'll be kind of hard to cast, but I think we can do it.

X-Ray: Good luck with that. What do you want to leave X-Ray's readers with?

Rob: I want to remind people of the issues at stake here. Our survival is in jeopardy. We need six Earths to provide us with the resources that we use every day. The earth can not sustain us. Moreover, as we use more resources, the number of large predators on our planet goes down, and that will have terrible results down the road. We need to keep in mind that conservation is critical to the success of our planet. The ocean is not a toxic waste dump. Trees are not for decoration. We need to make decisions now that will affect our future. ■



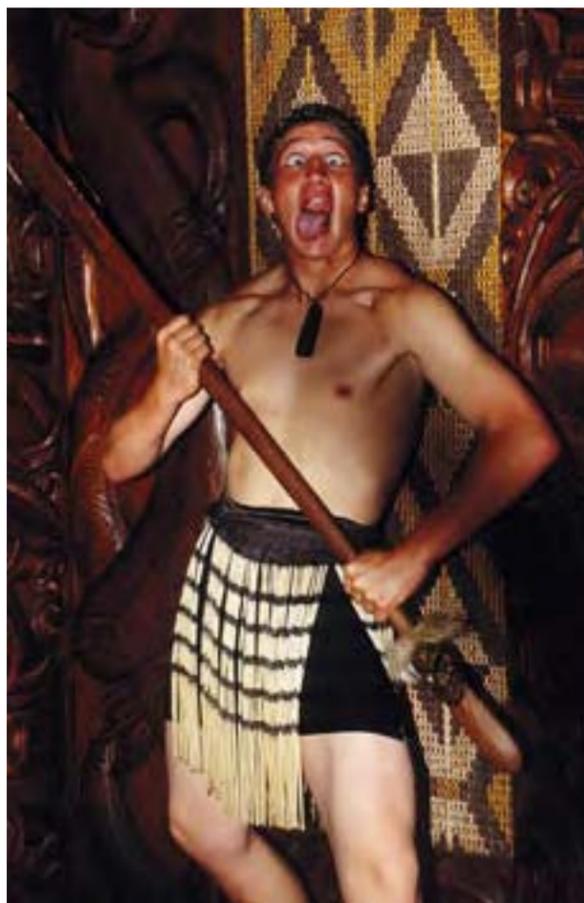
New Zealand

Diving & Kayaking in Kiwi Country

Text and photos by Barb Roy

Kaikoura albatross

The Maori warrior cautiously moved towards us. His face was painted and body adorned in traditional combatant attire. He yelled words I did not understand and pounded the ground with his spear-like weapon to challenge us. More warriors appeared out of the darkness behind him, each taking defensive positions with wide eyes and tongues out to intimidate. Like the other visitors around me, I froze with excitement, waiting for their next move.



Our guide spoke their language and understood their ways as he coached the leader we selected on what to say and do. His advice proved to be invaluable, as we soon found ourselves invited into their theater for a cultural evening experience of unforgettable measure, preformed by local youth at the Treaty of

Waitangi Sound and Light Show, located on the northern tip of the North Island.

This was just one of the many entertaining activities I found to do when visiting New Zealand, a land of limitless opportunities and unforgettable memories. I guess it was New Zealand's remoteness that initially attracted me to this extremely diverse place. Or perhaps it was the country's lush green valleys, massive evergreen forests and jagged snow peaked mountains I saw in the movie, *Lord of the Rings*, which was filmed on the South Island.

As a diver and avid paddler, I was pleased to also find an assortment of dive sites and kayaking options on both islands. Curious to learn more, I researched the Internet, and was soon on my way down under aboard an Air New Zealand's 12-hour flight from Los Angeles to Auckland, on the North Island, in March (which is the beginning of their winter).

On the world map, New Zealand can be



found east of Sidney, Australia, in the South Pacific Ocean between latitude 34'S and 47'S; 266,200 square kilometers (103,735 sq miles) covers two islands resting in a north to south direction with a vast mountain range running almost the countries full length. While North Island is considered mostly sub-tropical, South Island is temperate. In perspective, New Zealand is about the size of Japan or the state of California. Aside from the Maori people arriving more than 1000 years ago, the country's first documented discovery by a European was in 1642 when the Dutch navigator Abel Tasman came upon it while searching for the southern continent. In 1769, Captain James Cook claimed the country for Britain and proceeded to map out the area.

Diving The Poor Knights

Upon arrival, I rented a car and headed towards a country-style B & B near



Warrior dancer in Waitangi show

Cave at Poor Nights on North Island, NZ





New Zealand

Wangarei for some diving around The Poor Knights. The constant hum of Cicadas filled the air as I navigated the narrow winding country roads, past pastures with lamas and cattle. New Zealanders consider this southeastern part of the North Island subtropic, meaning many of the tropical plant and fish species flourish, without the usual muggy humid climates normally associated with islands closer to the equator. I was just glad I could wear my shorts, T-shirt and sandals.

After repacking my dive and underwater camera gear the following morning, I headed for the Tutukaka Marina for my first day at the Poor Knights, with Dive Tutukaka. The shop was teeming with excited divers picking up rental gear, buying souvenirs and getting air fills. Totally unexpected, I met up with two fellow Canadian residents, originally from New Zealand, Ian and Julia Hass, who arranged to joined me.

The shop had plenty of room for everyone on their seven dive charter boats, with tasty sack lunches from a nearby restaurant (offered as an option). During the 45-minute ride out, the boat captain told us we could expect a water temperature of 21°C (70-72°F), with a visibility of 17-24 meters (60-80 feet). He also added that the water temps drop to 15°C (59°F) during the winter months. I was the only diver in a dry suit; everyone else wore a full 5-6mm wet suit.

Two large islands and several smaller pinnacles, islets and rock stacks make up

the Poor Knights, volcanic in origin, which are located about 15 miles (24 kilometers) off the northeastern coast. In 1981, this area was established as a Marine Reserve. Today, hundreds of divers from around the world enjoy the areas rich abundance of marine life found in the clear waters of this unique archipelago. The unusual name Poor Knights was actually given by Captain Cook when he sailed past the islands. Thinking they resembled a popular breakfast dish in Europe, 'Poor Knights Pudding' (known today as French Toast), and the fact the red flowering lilies in October look a bit like strawberry topping, it's easy to understand why.

Upon arrival, we tied up next to a sheer rock wall in front of the massive Rico Rico Cave, so big a whole marina would fit inside if they ever decide to build one! Leaving my hood and gloves behind, I donned my DUI shell dry suit with a 300 gram polartec undergarment and joined the others entering the water. Ian and Julia followed me in, and we descended next to fronds of kelp, swaying gently in a mild surge.

Next to the cave entrance, we followed a wall stretching from the surface to over 27 meters (90 feet). A rich blend of invertebrate life covered everything. Stingrays, over two feet across, kept swimming past, almost close enough to touch. Ian and Julia were happy to play models for me, without really knowing they were. Huge

boulders below the cave entrance resemble a canvas of art with a colorful collage of marine critters painted upon it. Scorpion fish and other camouflaged sculpins also hid in cracks and crevasses around the rocky pinnacle. A few white squid eggs

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: *Apterix haastii*, by John G. Keulemans, 1842-1912, Adult Kiwi and juvenile; Jewel anemone; Whale Bay of North Island, Entering Poor Knights cave; Kukutauwhao Island





New Zealand

ABOVE: Snapper. LEFT: Northern Scorpionfish; Diver at Poor Knights



were clustered together on the bottom and more colorful fish than I could keep track of.

Our second dive was at a site called 'Magic Wall' and the third dive at a location beneath an archway called 'Middle Arch.' Within 20 minutes at Magic Wall, I lost count of how many different species of moray eels we saw. One was actually next to a scorpion fish and stayed there for the longest time as if they were friends. Sponge, tunicates, crabs, nudibranchs and pink gorgonian fans flourished on a kelp-covered reef, between 12-18 meters (40-60 feet) at Middle Arch. Sandy patches separated the rocky terrain, where I found tiny slender fish, starfish and more stingrays. Like everything else, the wall beneath the archway was covered with macro life, creating awesome wide-angle, close-up or macro image opportunities.

In all, I did four dives over two days at the Poor Knights, with each dive quite different in appearance, yet still didn't see it all. Talking with the crew and other

divers, there are over ten choice dive sites in the area to choose from.

On one of our excursions, our boat joined several other boats from the mainland for a jazz jam in the big cave. The acoustics were incredible from the live music being played by the bands!

Overall, the diving was easy, service exceptional and price reasonable. While diving is available year round, the seas are the calmest during the summer months (our winter) and the visibility best during their autumn and early winter months (March-July).

If wreck diving is your pleasure, there are two retired Navy ships scuttled for divers, north of the Tutukaka Heads. The *HMNZS Tui* is a 62-meter (203 foot) long US Navy ship was put down in 1999 in 30 meters (98 feet) of water. The 113-meter (370 foot) long *HMNZS Waikato* went down in the year 2000, in 28 meters (92 feet) of water.

Kayaking Poor Knights
Before I left the area, I arranged

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New Zealand



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Divers explore a cave at Poor Nights; Dive boats moored at the cave; Divers on Dive Tutukakas' big boat; North Island kayaking gives adventurers an opportunity to take in the stunning natural beauty of New Zealand



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a day of paddling along the shoreline with Kea Spill and Shane Orchard, from Paradise Coast Kayaking (now called Pacific Coast Kayaks). We launched our boats just south of the marina, in a secluded bay. The day was fairly sunny and the water calm, just how I like it. A dry bag kept my camera safe and a spray skirt kept the bottom half of me dry, as it pulled over the lip of the boat. Kea also packed a lunch, water, sun block and snorkeling gear before we headed north.

Our journey led us through tight passageways and across water that resembled washing machine agitation. Kea and I were in a two-person kayak and Shane joined us later with his single person kayak. At times, I was sure our boat was attracted to white water. Having Kea as a chauffeur (steering from the back) was great, especially when I needed to photograph something or steady my camera. We landed at Kukutauwhao Island for a lunch and hiked through thick brush to the top of a steep hill.

Once again, the cicadas song was in the air, and I actually found one of the little critters squeaking away. Looking around at the breathtaking view, I was amazed at the grandeur of such a stunning place.

Once back in our boat, we continued north past weather beaten cliffs, sparse patches of trees and secluded beaches. After Shane joined us, we headed for Whale Bay for a snorkel dive. Shane said many of his clients enjoy coastal snorkeling during the summer months, and some even camp along the way during multi-day journeys.

Diving Paihia

Paihia was my next destination, located at the top of the North Island, for some diving at The Bay of Islands. The town was hopping with activities like wind surfing, whale watching boats, kayaks, diving and more outdoor enthusiasts. I located Paihia Dive for a day of diving on the *Rainbow Warrior*, an old Greenpeace boat with a very colorful history.

Apparently, the French Secret

Service placed charges on the vessel in July 1985, because of protests conducted by Greenpeace over nuclear testing in the Pacific by the French government. The detonation sent the *Rainbow Warrior* to the bottom of the Auckland Harbour. In 1987, the ship was re-floated and relocated to the Cavalli Islands where it rests today in Matauri Bay.

I was in photographic heaven to find so many different shades of jeweled anemones clinging to the rails and hull as I perused the *Rainbow Warrior* underwater. The wreck was sitting upright with the stern at 22 meters (70 feet), but didn't look safe to penetrate. A thick growth of kelp covered the deck while the most color and life was found on the starboard side. Clusters of sponge clung to the rail and tiny sculpins danced about the deck. I reached a maximum depth of 26 meters (85 feet) where sand surrounded the hull.

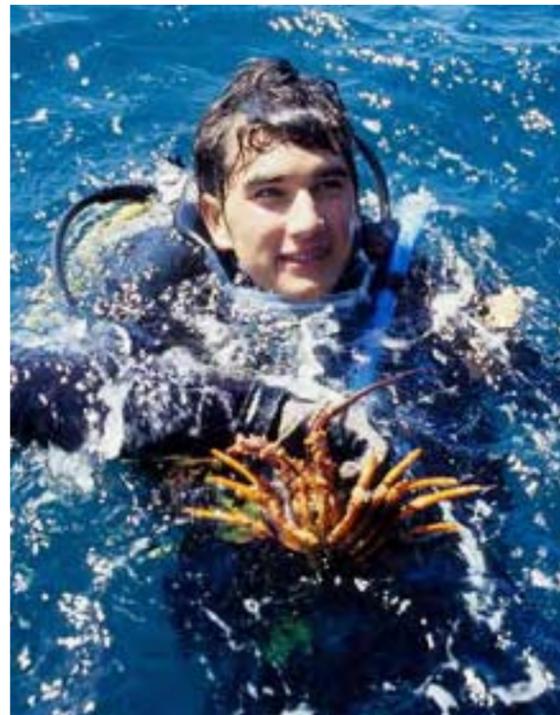
We explored Lion Point next, within the Bay of Islands group. Upon descent I could see the fin-gering reefs suggested a volcanic





ABOVE: Detail of the wreck of the *Rainbow Warrior*
RIGHT: Poor Knights Wall

BELOW: Jewel anemones on *Rainbow* wreck



Diver with giant lobster

past in its design. Sea urchins, lobster, crabs and shrimp used a ground cover of kelp to veil their presence. Steep walls supported a healthy invertebrate environment and the fish population seemed

to be bountiful. At one point, our dive-master managed to grab a lobster, so we could see it up close!

Later that night, I was treated to an evening of Maori history during a performance sponsored by Culture North, Treaty of Waitangi Sound and Light Show (as explained in the opening paragraph). The areas youth told a 1000-year-old story about Kupe the first Maori chief to discover New Zealand, splendidly perform this live drama involving audience participation. Even the theater was adorned in traditional Maori carvings.

Before leaving North Island, I made my way to the Mangingina Kauri walk in the Puketū Forest to see the giant trees, which once covered these northern lands. An easy accessible eco-friendly boardwalk has been placed there to lead the way through most of forest, creating a wonderful short or long walk.

New Zealand

Kayaking Queen Charlotte Sound

From Auckland, I caught a flight to Blenheim, at the northern tip of the South Island and picked up another rental car. Within a few hours, I was kayaking in the Queen Charlotte Sound with Marlborough Sound Adventure Company out of Picton. The setting sun gave the Tea trees lining the banks a golden hue. Paddling clear of a huge passenger/auto ferry, connecting the two islands, we headed for a blue penguin nesting area. Unfortunately, the tiny birds were still out fishing.

We made it back to town as the sun was setting. My new paddling friends joined me for a plate of green-lipped mussels and some tasty local wine, two items the area is famous for.

General information:

- Tourism New Zealand
www.tourisminfo.govt.nz
310-395-7480 or 866-639-9325 (US/Canada)
- Air New Zealand
www.airnewzealand.com,
310-648-7000, 800-262-1234 (Canada 800-663-5494)

Diving in New Zealand:

- Dive Tutukaka
www.diving.co.nz
0800-288-882
- Blenheim Dive Centre
www.blenheimdive.co.nz
or 0064 3 5780331
- Dive Kaikoura
www.scubadive.co.nz
0800 SCUBADIVE
- Rainbow Warrior Information
matauribay.co.nz/diving.html

Activities in New Zealand:

- Pacific Coast Kayaks
www.nzseakayaking.co.nz
09 4344262
- Marlborough Sounds Adventure Company
Marlboroughsounds.co.nz
03-573-6078
- Whale Watching Kaikoura
www.whalewatch.co.nz
0800-655-121
- Dolphin Encounter
www.dolphin.co.nz
0800 733 365
- Albatross Encounter
www.oceanwings.co.nz
0800-733-365

Books about New Zealand:

- Lonely Planet guide books
Tramping in New Zealand & New Zealand Guide Book
www.lonleyplanet.com
- *New Zealand Adventures In Nature* by Sally McKinney, John Muir Publications
- *Coastal Fishes of New Zealand* by M. Francis

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ABOVE: Wildlife watching boats moored at a bay on the North Island

LEFT: The Manginglina Kauri walk in the Puketi Forest, North Island

BELOW: Diver explores the *Levertov* wreck

Diving a Russian cruise liner

Kevin Bailey from Blenheim Dive Centre picked me up at my B & B the next day for a dive on the 176 meter (578 foot) Russian cruise liner, *Mikhail Lermontov*, in Marlborough Sound. Kevin explained the \$45-million ship unsuccessfully tried to pass at night between the shallow turbid waters of Cape Jackson and the Cape Lighthouse in 1986. Barely making it to Port Gore, the ship sank with the port bridge wing just 12 meters (39 feet) below the surface, on its side. Only one crew member was lost of the 408 passengers. Not bad, considering it went down in about ten minutes!

Kevin and I entered the murky water (October has the best visibility) and descended to the wreck. I made sure to don my hood and gloves this time, since the water on South Island was 10 degrees colder! No way would we be able to see everything, so we cruised along the top and outer edge of the deck.

Fish of every size and color flourished in small

to large groups. Sea cucumbers, sponge, bryozoans, orange and white anemones and hydroids were among the *Lermontov's* residents. I was able to get some good shots of the ghostly looking bridge and mast, also covered in life. Ken went in and out several openings. Our maximum depth was 35 meters (114 feet) with the bow at 25 meters (85 feet) and the upper deck at 18 meters (58 feet).

The second dive was on a pinnacle rising out of the water next to Long Island Marine Preserve. The underwater terrain was filled with nudibranchs, fish, lobster and large sea stars. An inquisitive black sea lion buzzed us several times while we checked out numerous small valleys between the reefs. Sea stars with long rays, urchins, sea cucumbers fish and wary crabs were also observed.

After the diving we stopped at Motuara Island Reserve for an afternoon hike to see the scenic views of the Sound. I thought it to be more of a birders' paradise, counting over six different species and dozens of penguin houses positioned on both sides of the path up the hill. Once at the top, the view was breathtaking.

Kaikoura

Kaikoura, on the eastern side of



Travel Info:

- Airlines Servicing New Zealand – Air New Zealand, Quantas, Air Pacific, Air Tahiti. International Airports: Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch
- Money matters – All major credit cards are accepted, ATMs available and travelers checks can be cashed at banks, hotels and in some stores.
- Time – 12 hours ahead of GMT
- Driving – Driving is on the left side of the road
- Drinking Water – The water is fresh and safe to drink
- Electricity – 230/240 volts (50 hertz)
- Entry Into the Country – A passport is required to enter the country and must be valid for three months after your scheduled departure date.
- Climate – North Island is subtropical and the South Island is temperate. The warmest time to visit is usually December through February, 20-30C (68-86F)
- Thermal Protection for Diving – 5 or 6mm wetsuit or a dry suit for both islands. On South Island a neoprene hood and gloves is needed. ■

South Island, was my final New Zealand destination. This bustling seaside town is located on a peninsula flanked by mountains on one side and a breathtaking coastline on the other. Kaikoura business operators cater to visiting tourist by offering a wide range of marine mammal activities. Before my scheduled day of diving, I signed up for several of these excursions.

The Whale watching trip offered by Whale Watching Kaikoura took the group to a favorite place frequented by sperm whales for hunting. Throughout the four hour tour, we learned all about these illusive giant-toothed creatures

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Snorkeling field trip at Kaikoura; Albatross encounter; Pink Jewel anemone; Furs seal hunting



and observed them in the wild as they rested at the surface, while doing their deep 120-360 meter (400-1200 foot) feeding dives. We were also told that most of the whales in the area are males, who seem to tolerate the cooler water for better hunting grounds. Females are known to prefer warmer climates like Fiji and Hawaii.

On my next tour, I was able to snorkel with dusky dolphins. It took several in and out of the water tries, but our persistence soon rewarded us with a large pod of 30 animals. They were all around us at one point then minutes later were gone! All snorkeling equipment and suits were provided by the operator, Dolphin Encounter Kaikoura.

On another excursion, Albatross Encounter took me out to open ocean where we found some local fisherman feeding gulls scraps of leftover bait. These were no ordinary gulls though they were one of the five varieties of the ocean-going great albatross who frequent the Kaikoura area. Normal gulls were clearly dwarfed by these beautiful gargantuans. Their wings were so long they had to double fold them on their back for management. Up to eight varieties of the smaller albatross can also be found along with petrels, shearwater, prions and shags.

I next came across a group of kids during a school field trip, who were snorkeling with resident seals. What a treat to be able to learn about your marine neigh-

bors as the classroom is brought to the ocean! It was also fun to watch young kids get their first cold water experience and encounter groups of young playful pups at the same time. I couldn't tell who was having more fun!

Dive Kaikoura who took me out for a dive in the kelp in a cove not far from the harbor. During the ride out (all of about ten minutes) the dive master explained they use about ten regular sites in the area, all within an hours ride. Most of their customers are divers who want to do one to three dives in a day and if they fly in, all of the equipment is provided, including wetsuits.

Upon entering the water in a sheltered cove, a gentle surge pulled at me, but disappeared around eight meters (25 feet). Wide-eyed fur seals curiously watched from the distance and submerged when I did. The boulders below were draped with lavender and purple algae and speckled most of the base structures under the kelp. Glimpses of col-

orful invertebrate life appeared as the surge revealed its treasure of life. Several fur seals zoomed by to check out my buddy and I.

became more noticeable.

The bottom quickly dropped to 18 meters (50 feet) and continued down. My buddy, the seals and I just peered down the bank into the dark abyss and decided this wasn't the day to push our luck. Perhaps another day with double tanks and trimix...

Afterthoughts

Soon it was time for me to depart this wonderland in the Southern Hemisphere. I

found New Zealand to be a place requiring several two to four-week visits to gather enough experiences of what this land was all about. I still want to paddle some coastal lands, see volcanoes, traverse a few mountains, go rock climbing, try sand surfing on the dunes and explore the southern part of South Island. Rafting through ice caves, exploring fresh water crystal springs and visiting Milford Sound are also on my list for a return holiday one day...

Barb Roy is a dive writer and underwater photographer based in Canada. Visit: www.barbroyphotography.com ■



Before long we were both enthralled with the wreckage of an old sailboat. Realizing the seals had lost their hide-and-go-seek partners, they both began to follow us, becoming our shadows. The four of us stayed together for most of the dive and even ventured over to the deeper parts of the cove where the current



fact file

New Zealand



SOURCE: WWW.CIA.GOV



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: North Island; Map of New Zealand; New Zealand Kiwifruit was once called Chinese gooseberry until growers changed it in the 70s, so it would sell well in the West



History In about A.D. 800, the Polynesian Maori reached New Zealand. Their chieftains signed a compact with Britain. In 1840, the Treaty of Waitangi, in which they ceded sovereignty to Queen Victoria while keeping territorial rights. The British started the first organized colonial settlement in that same year. Between 1843 and 1872, a series of land wars resolved with the defeat of the native peoples. In 1907, the British colony of New Zealand became an independent dominion and supported the British military in World War I and II. By the 1980s, New Zealand's full participation in a number of defense alliances ended. Recently, the government has looked into addressing longstanding Maori grievances. Government: parliamentary democracy. Capital: Wellington

Geography New Zealand is made up of several islands located in

Oceania, in the South Pacific Ocean southeast of Australia. Coastline: 15,134 km. Terrain: New Zealand is predominately mountainous with some expanses of coastal plains. Lowest point: Pacific Ocean 0 m. Highest point: Aoraki-Mount Cook 3,754 m. Natural resources: natural gas, iron ore, sand, coal, timber, hydropower, gold, limestone. Natural hazards: mild earthquakes and volcanic activity. Environmental issues: invasive species have hit native flora and fauna hard; deforestation; soil erosion; New Zealand is party to international agreements such as Antarctic-Environmental Protocol, Antarctic-Marine Living Resources, Antarctic Treaty, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species, Environmental Modification, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Tropical Timber 83, Tropical Timber 94, Wetlands, Whaling. Agreements which New Zealand has signed but are not yet ratified include Antarctic Seals, Marine Life Conservation.

Economy Over the past 20 years, the New Zealand government has helped the nation move from an agrarian economy dependent on concessionary British market access to a more industrialized, free market economy that is able to compete globally. As a result, real incomes have been boosted while leaving behind many at the bottom of the barrel; technologi-

cal capabilities of the industrial sector have broadened and deepened; and inflationary pressures have been contained. For eight consecutive years, per capita income has risen and was more than \$25,500 in 2006 in purchasing power parity terms. In recent years, consumer and government spending have driven growth, and in 2006, exports picked up. 28% of GDP are exports. With a heretofore resilient economy, the Labor Government promises increased expenditures on health, education, and pensions which will be proportionate to output. Agriculture: wheat, barley, potatoes, pulses, fruits, vegetables; wool, beef, lamb and mutton, dairy products; fish. Industry: food processing, wood and paper products, textiles, machinery, transportation equipment, banking and insurance, tourism, mining.

Climate New Zealand climate is temperate. There are sharp contrasts within regions.

Population 4,076,140 (July 2006 est.). Cities hold about 80% of the population; Wellington is the most southern national capital in the world. Ethnic groups: European 69.8%, Maori 7.9%, Asian 5.7%, Pacific islander 4.4%, other groups 0.5%,

mixed ethnicity 7.8%, unspecified ethnicity 3.8% (2001 census). Religion: Anglican 14.9%, Roman Catholic 12.4%, Presbyterian 10.9%, Methodist 2.9%, Pentecostal 1.7%, Baptist 1.3%, other Christian religions 9.4%, other religions 3.3% (2001 census)

Currency New Zealand dollar (NZD). Exchange rates: 1 USD= 1.43 NZD, 1 EUR=1.89 NZD, 1 GBP= 2.8 NZD, 1 SGD=.94 NZD, 1 AUD=1.13 NZD

Language English (official), Maori (official), Sign Language (official). Anglican 14.9%, Roman Catholic 12.4%, Presbyterian 10.9%, Methodist 2.9%, Pentecostal 1.7%, Baptist 1.3%, other Christian 9.4%, other 3.3%, unspecified 17.2%, none 26% (2001 census)

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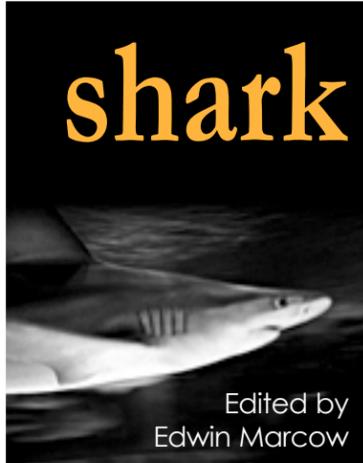
Christchurch Hyperbaric Medicine Unit Private Bag 4710, Christchurch, New Zealand (03) 364 0045, Fax: (03) 364 0187

Web sites New Zealand Tourism www.newzealand.com/travel Dive Tutukaka www.diving.co.nz Blenheim Dive Centre www.blenheimdive.co.nz Pacific Coast Kayaks www.nzseakayaking.co.nz

ANDRÉ KARWATH, CREATIVE COMMONS



shark tales



Blacktip reef shark held in an aquarium

PETER SYMES

Shark Sinks Boat

In what can only be described as a scene from *Jaws*, a shrimping boat operating off the west coast of Florida was attacked and sunk by a pack of Bull sharks.

The shrimp boat's captain, Rodger Schmall, said that for four days they came under sustained attack by the Bull sharks who repeatedly rammed his ship's hull before one very large 14-foot individual disabled the boat's tail shaft, leaving his ship, the *Christy Nichole*, disabled and adrift 100 miles off the Florida coast.

Schmall radioed in for help and some two hours later his crew were picked up, though Schmall remained on board to pump water out while another vessel towed him back to land. All went

well for the first two hours, but unfortunately for Schmall, the high seas got the better of him, and his ship the *Christy Nichole* sunk to the sea floor.

Sharks and shrimping boats regularly cross paths in the open ocean as the shrimpers cull their unwanted by-catch and throw them back into the ocean. The sharks then move in for an easy meal. For sharks to bump and investigate a fishing boat, its metal running gears, or any metal object near or within the water is common, and any investigations are short lived. To have a boat the size of the *Christy Nichole* damaged to the point of sinking is a very rare occurrence. ■

Cupid, Sweet Pea and Sam, Gil and Scooter

Cupid's on overtime at the "Swimming with Sharks" exhibit at the Newport Aquarium, and looks like he is going to be busy. Newport Aquarium has acquired a very rare male Shark Ray and hope that its resident female Shark Ray, aptly named Sweet Pea, will mate producing offspring for this nearly endangered species. "We're hoping for a love connection right here in the tank," said Jill Isaacs, the aquarium's spokeswoman.

A competition, "Name the Shark", to be held, will determine the new arrival's name, which will be 'Sam', 'Gil', or 'Scooter'.

On-going concern for this species' survival has meant an unfortunate listing on the World Conservation Union's Red List of Threatened Species, so no pressure on the new chap to perform! Mating is still a mystery due to the horn-like ridges on their neck, back, and dorsal fin. Scientists believe the fish copulate with the female carrying any offspring inside, unlike most fish who lay eggs for the male to swim past and fertilise. The program is scheduled to last 12 years so

One of classic scene from the first *Jaws* movie from 1975,

good luck Sweet Pea, Sam, Gil, and Scooter!

Meanwhile the Monterey Bay Aquarium has done it again. A male Great White Shark measuring in at six feet five inches and weighing in at 171 pounds was successfully housed at the centre for 137 days in the Outer Bay exhibit. Living alongside sea turtles, tunas and other sharks prior to being released back into the open ocean.

Since 2002 the aquarium has received ten Great White Sharks, five died, two were released from a holding facility and one escaped.

These ambassador sharks have helped increase attendance numbers at the aquarium by up to 30%. The aquarium has said that displaying the sharks has helped raise interest in their education, awareness and conservation programs. Increased attendance figures have also helped fund the aquarium's tag and release programs too. ■

Call to Cull Bull Sharks

In a world of climate change, destruction of the oceans ecosystems and all the animals that reside within its realm, the further depletion of natural non-renewable energy is faster than we can come up with clean alternatives.

Bull sharks are subject to a distasteful fishing tournament

You just would not think man could fall any lower or be more arrogant and obtuse. I regret we have reached that point.

The Bull shark fishing "Classic Tournament" will be held as an annual tourist attraction on Australia's Gold Coast. The aim is to lure tourists to this area and help clean out these so-called man-eaters from the canals and waterways that ring this coastline.

This shark hunt will be held annually. Ms Bristow said she would target recreational fisherman from the U.S. and Japan. "There is a big market out there," she stated. "We will be tagging the sharks. There will no doubt be some that die from the struggle". The tournament will be run from behind the Marriot Resort and follow the Nerang River.

Ms Bristow said she hoped the competition would be up and running by March 2007. "Hopefully in four weeks it will be confirmed. There are way too many Bull sharks in the water and this concept will help to monitor how bad the problem is," she said in an interview in February 2007.

This competition is even more

distasteful in light of a recent press release from IUCN. Their latest findings reflect that even the fastest, widest ranging sharks are now threatened by over fishing as yet more species are added to the IUVN Red List of Threatened Species. With an estimated 100 million sharks killed each year, either deliberately or as by-catch, and with confirmed shark attacks on man at an all time low according to George Burgess director at the International Shark Attack file at the University of Florida.

This would make the fatality ratio one human to every 10 million sharks, according to some conservationists. That is for every tragic loss of human life in the oceans due to a shark attack, 10 million sharks will die by our actions.

If only more people could follow Toomey's cartoon sticker which featured a kindly looking shark saying, "Please help protect my pal, the endangered Sawfish," the unprecedented response was so overwhelming that this helped list the Sawfish as endangered in 2003. ■



UNIVERSAL STUDIOS



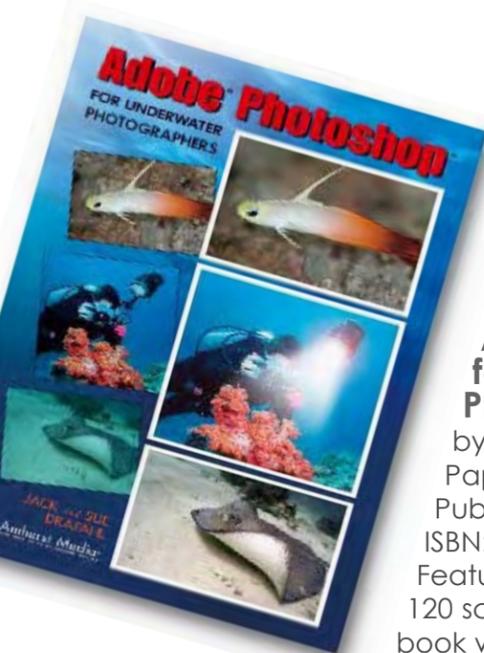
MICHAEL AW



Books Film DVDs CDs

Edited by Peter Symes
& Michael Symes

**POINT & CLICK
ON BOLD LINKS**



Adobe Photoshop for Underwater Photographers

by Jack and Sue Drafa
Paperback: 224 pages
Publisher: Amhurst Media, US
ISBN: 1584281898

Featuring 100 photos and 120 screenshots, this hand-book walks users through the steps of correcting imperfect

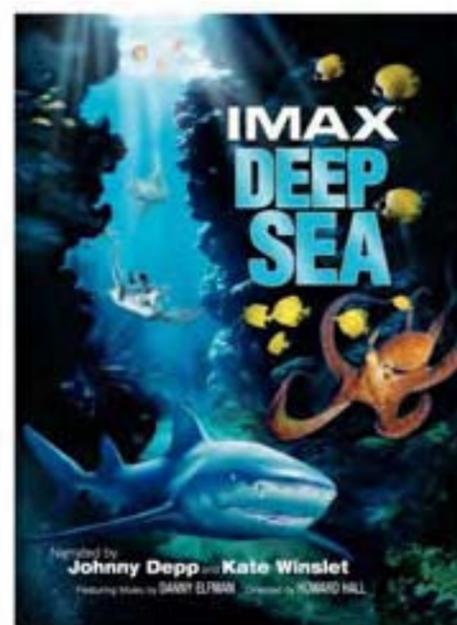
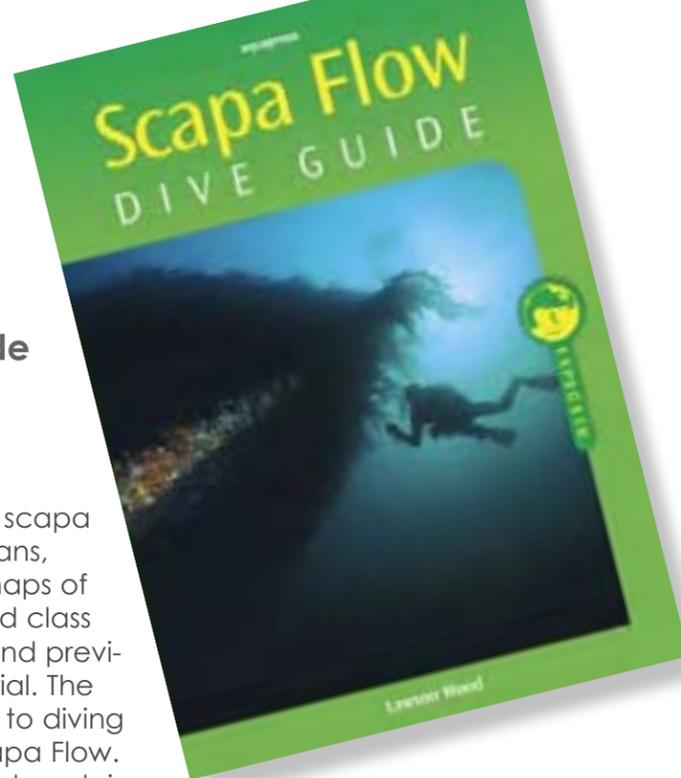
under-water images. Featuring tips on hardware, monitor calibration, and room lighting, the guide also offers step-by-step instructions on how to group underwater images for editing; approach corrections for images that require a multi-step enhancement process; and choose the right output options for printed images, video, slide shows, and Web viewing. The book isn't a Photoshop tutorial, though, so if you're completely unfamiliar with that software, you may need to obtain a primer on that first. The book is available through the Drafa's website www.jackandsuedrafa.com for \$35 (signed). Also at Amazon.com for \$26.37 or Amazon.co.uk for £16.49

Scapa Flow Dive Guide

by Lawson. Wood
Paperback: 176 pages
Publisher: AquaPress
ISBN: 1905492049

A brand new dive guide to scapa flow, featuring 3D wreck scans, highly detailed full colour maps of all locations, full colour world class photography throughout, and previously unseen archive material. The most comprehensive guide to diving the reefs and wrecks of Scapa Flow. Scapa Flow has international acclaim as one of the top five wreck diving

locations in the world and has more diveable wreckage than any other area in Europe. The shipwrecks are a mixture of battleships, cruisers and destroyers from the German high seas battle fleet scuttled towards the end of WWI and the direct actions of the British Admiralty which sank a further 43 ships during both world conflicts to block the entrances to Scapa Flow. Available from Amazon.co.uk for £15.99



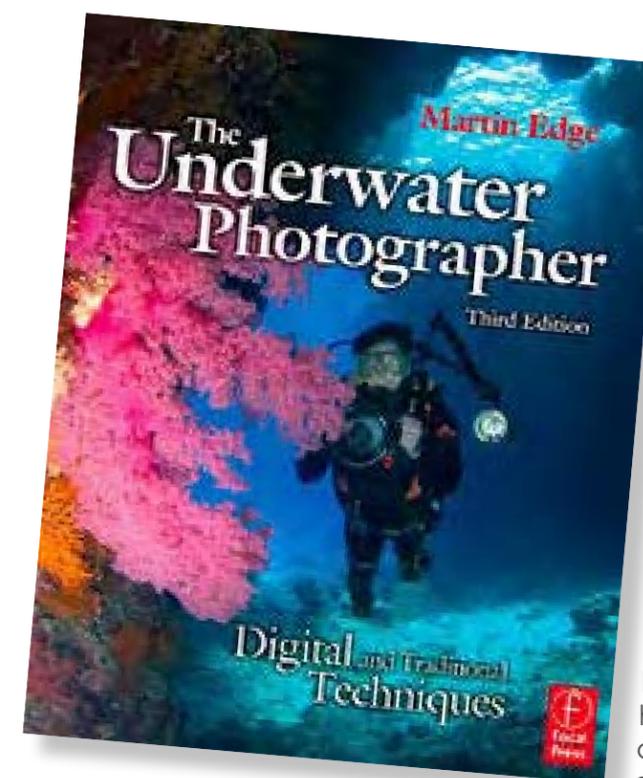
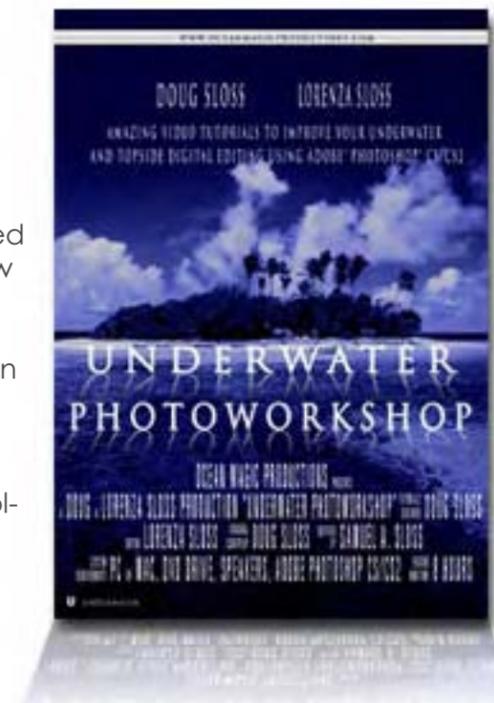
Deep Sea

New IMAX film

Octopuses and squids, 14-foot sharks and 10-inch shrimp swim across the screen in this new IMAX film. The movie gives viewers an intimate look at the life of exotic, colourful and dangerous creatures of the deep. Deep Sea, narrated by Kate Winslet and Johnny Depp, brings viewers to the bottom of the world's oceans to observe the lives and habits of many aquatic species. The movie shows how the species interact with and depend on each other. Many scenes, for instance, show small fish "cleaning" the skin of bigger fish with their mouths, and one scene shows reef fish nibbling algae off a sea turtle's shell. Amazon.com \$20.99

Underwater Photoworkshop

Adobe Photoshop CS/CS2
Over seven hours of detailed video tutorials that will allow you to master the art of digital editing with Adobe Photoshop CS/CS2. You can throw away all your heavy manuals because this is all you will need. Play this disc anywhere you want and follow along correcting your own images at the same time. More information at: www.uwphotoshop.com



The Underwater Photographer Digital and Traditional Techniques

by Martin Edge
Paperback: 408 pages
Publisher: Focal Press
ISBN: 0240519884

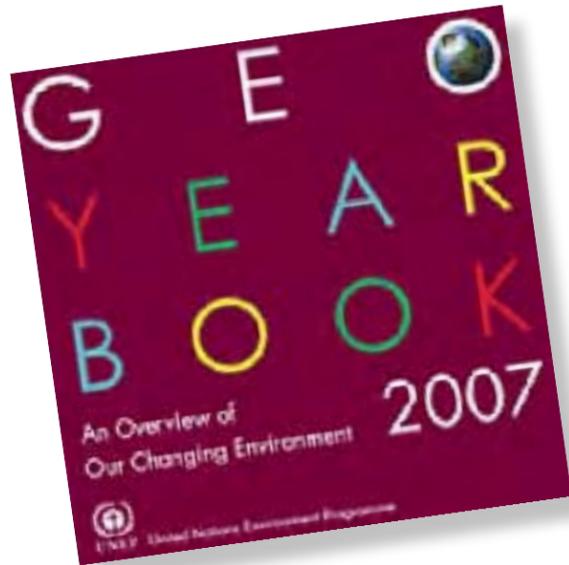
Martin Edge has produced the third edition of his classic book. While he provides the basics for beginning photographers, he delves deeply into the digital revolution, helping even the skilled underwater shooter better use his LCD

screen, read histograms, or, if one wants to shoot manually, use exposure modes and solve metering, focusing and TTL issues. Edge accompanies hundreds of his own issues with description of his technique and mechanics. A great teaching tool. Amazon.com \$26.37 or Amazon.co.uk at £23.74

JUST FOR KIDS!

Deep-Sea Books

—recommendations for children



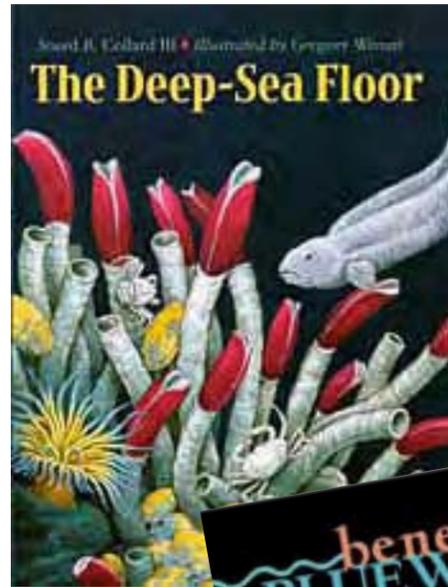
GEO (Global Environmental Outlook) Year Book 2007

New United Nations Report
Paperback: 88 pages
ISBN: 978-92-807-2786-9

The new GEO Year Book notes that climate change may aggravate the fishery situation by increasing the acidity of oceans and seas and bleaching coral reefs, important nurseries for fish, and one management technique for countering the collapse includes a dramatic expansion of marine protected areas.

Written to inform the debate being held by Environment Ministers attending UNEP's 24th Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Nairobi, Kenya, it stresses that the pace at which new marine reserves are being listed means the goal will be achieved three decades after the collapse of today's commercial fisheries.

The Year Book outlines a range of options to steer globalization onto a more intelligent, environmentally, economically responsible and sustainable course if more widely deployed, and acknowledges the importance of responsible business and the power of consumerism to direct globalization. Price: USD 20.00. Can be ordered from Earthprint.com



The Deep-Sea Floor

by Sneed B., III Collard
Paperback: 32 pages
Publisher: Charlesbridge Publishing
ISBN: 1570914036A

Text that is accessible for even young children. The illustrations by Wenzel help children visualise the environment.

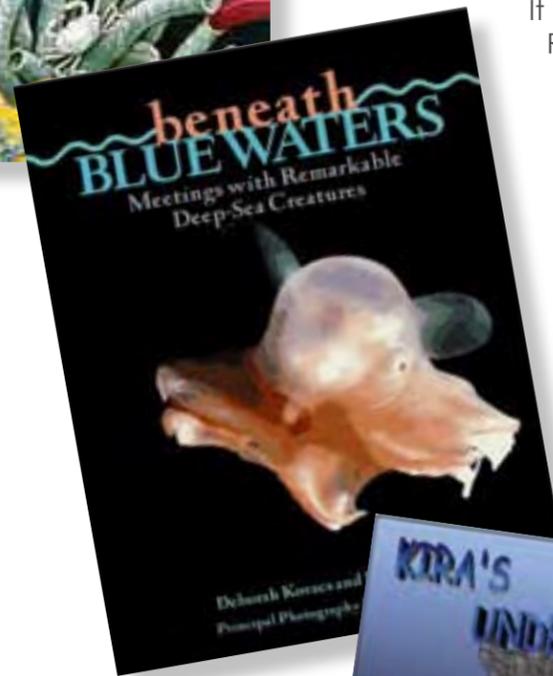
Amazon.com \$7.95, **Amazon.co.uk** £3.60

Diving To A Deep-Sea Volcano

by Kenneth Mallory.
Hardcover: 60 pages
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Company
ISBN: 0618332057

It has great photographs and follows Richard Lutz, a deep-sea biologist, as he explores hydrothermal vents.

Amazon.com \$13.26 or **Amazon.co.uk** £7.79



Beneath Blue Waters

by Deborah et al Kovacs
Hardcover: 64 pages
Publisher: Viking Children's Books
ISBN: 0670856533

It has excellent photographs several of organisms not yet named.

Amazon.com or **Amazon.co.uk** £2.57

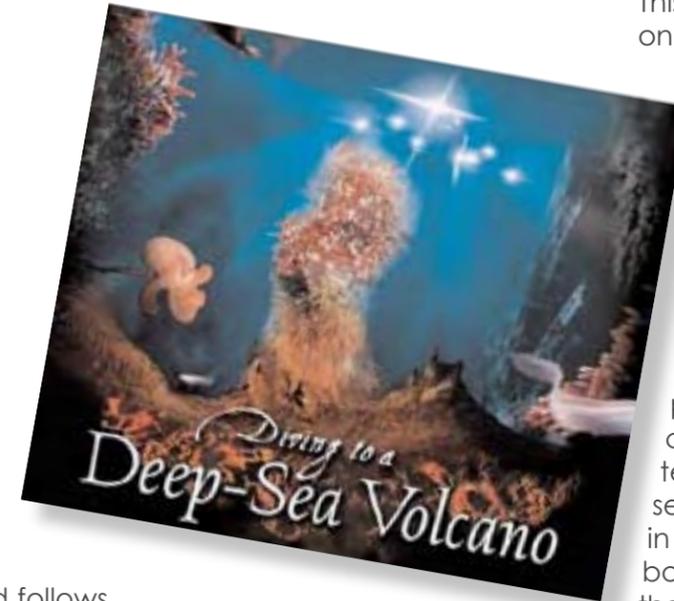


Kira's Undersea Garden

By Verena Tunncliffe
Paperback: 28 pages
Publisher: Trafford Publishing
ISBN: 1412014999

This is about a spider crab that lives at hydrothermal.

Available at **Amazon.co.uk** at £9.49



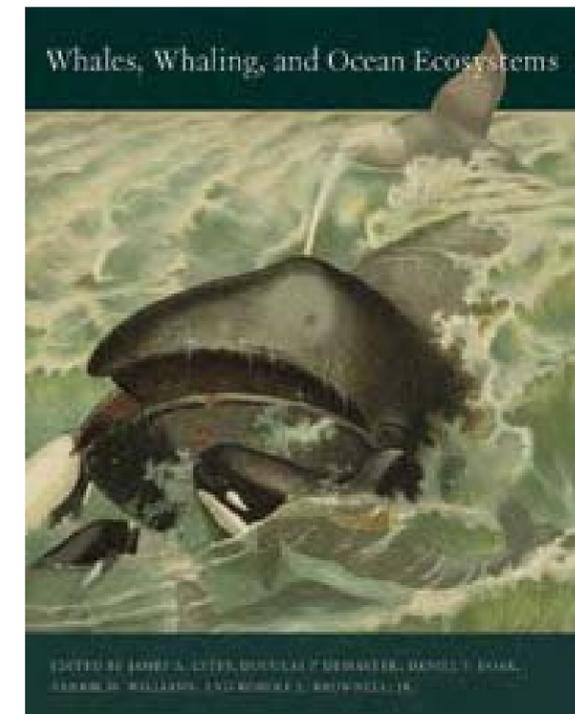
Whales, Whaling, and Ocean Ecosystems

By James A Estes, Editor, and others
Hardcover: 418 pages
Publisher: University of California Press
ISBN: 0520248848

This new book resulted from a workshop on whaling and whale ecology organized by Estes and his co-editors and held in Santa Cruz in 2003. It explores an aspect of whale ecology that until now has received surprisingly little attention. Focusing on the role of whales in ocean ecosystems, the book looks at the effects of industrial whaling in terms of its ecological impact on the world's oceans.

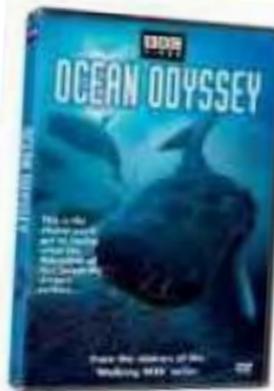
Whales are the largest animals on the planet, and they are such impressive creatures that our interest in them has tended to focus on the whales themselves rather than on the roles they play in the marine environment. But their large body sizes and high metabolic rates make them important players in ocean food webs, and they are found throughout the world's oceans.

This question has important implications for the conservation and management of the great whales. Management strategies must be considered not only in terms of their effects on the sustainability of whale populations, but also in terms of how they



will affect the broader ocean ecosystems in which whales are key players. Many of the questions raised at the workshop remain unresolved, but the book provides a wealth of information for anyone interested in these issues. Estes can be contacted at (831) 459-2820 or jestes@ucsc.edu. **Amazon.com** or **Amazon.co.uk** £34.15

Books, Film, DVDs, CDs



Ocean Odyssey

—The life of an 80-year-old 45-ton bull sperm whale

Format: PAL

Region: This DVD may not be viewable outside Europe

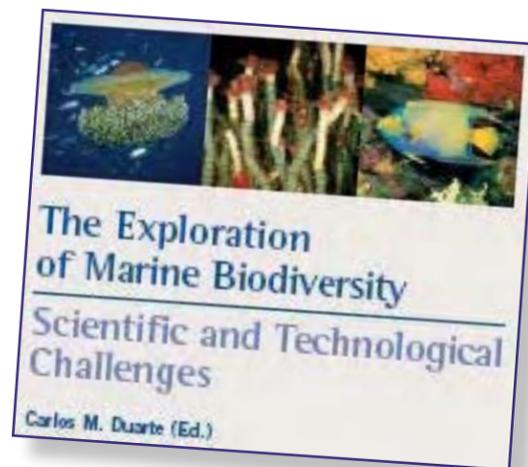
Run Time: 116 minutes

From the BBC makers of the Walking With... series comes an enthralling exploration of Earth's final frontier seen through the eyes of its greatest inhabitant and the world's largest predator, the sperm whale. Following a young male from infancy to old age, the marinescape comes viv-

idly to life: the impossibly deep canyons, the underwater volcanoes, and the spectacular mountain ranges. This DVD, which is divided into two episodes, takes the audience from the time the whale is born until it reaches the end of its adulthood. Along the way, the audience is able to see the other creatures that make up the world beneath the waves; learn about what a struggle it is for the bull sperm whale to survive; and explore the ocean's floor as the whale travels on a never ending quest for food. **Amazon.com** \$16.99 or **Amazon.co.uk** £10.48

Census of Marine Life in Print

CREefs researcher Philippe Bouchet of the French National Museum of Natural History authored a chapter in The Exploration of Marine Biodiversity, published by Fundación BBVA (www.fbbva.es). Philippe reviews the global magnitude of marine biodiversity, including the current accelerated rate of species discovery. ChEss researchers Eva Ramirez-Llodra and David Billett also authored a chapter in this book about deep-sea ecosystems, which featured the innovative work being done by the Census' projects ChEss, COMARGE, MAR-ECO, CeDAMar and OBIS. Scientific Steering Committee member Victor Gallardo also was the author of a chapter on marine biodiversity, which is in The Biodiversity of Chile, released by the Chilean publisher Conama. For further information go to **www.conama.cl**



Say no to shark-fin soup

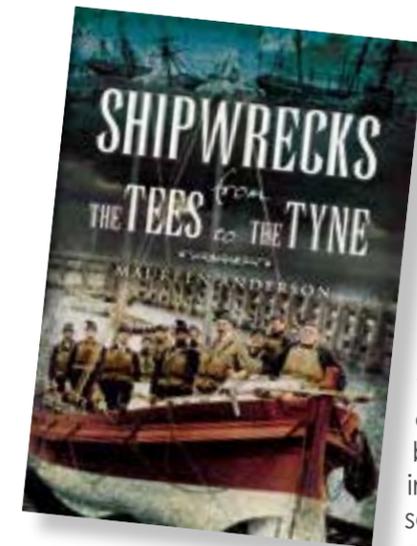
South Africa's Great White Shark

by Tom Peschak

ISBN: 1770073825

Tom Peschak, marine biologist, author and award-winning underwater photographer, hopes his photography will help protect sharks. His most recent book is South Africa's Great White Shark, co-authored with Michael Scholl. He is now working on another shark book with local marine biologist Alison Kock and Scotland's Jenna Cains. This one entails photographing all 50 species of shark off the coast of Africa. The book will be aimed at a wide audience, at researchers, shark enthusiasts, surfers, and the tourism industry. There has been a lot of really good science done on sharks by South African scientists, but very little of it is behavioural work, because obviously it is very difficult to observe sharks.

These won't be scientific papers, but will be in a very accessible style, that will be of as much interest to scientists as to surfers. This is 96 page paperback is available from **Amazon.co.uk** at £7.25



Shipwrecks from the Tees to the Tyne

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Wharncliffe Books

ISBN: 1845630203

A local writer, Hartlepool woman Maureen

Anderson, has delved into the past to explore the shipwrecks on the North East coast of England. Her new book recalls many harrowing stories of lives that were saved and lost in areas such as Hartlepool, Seaton Carew

and Blackhall. There were thousands of shipwrecks in this area, but many of them weren't recorded. The book covers some of the better known wrecks and some not so well known. **Amazon.com** \$25.05 or **Amazon.co.uk** £12.99

New downloadable game

Diver: Deep Water Adventures - Trial-Version

Free high-speed download! Go to **www.4players.de** and then just click on Diver: Deep Water Adventures installation executable and follow onscreen instructions. The game is a bright mixture of 3-dimensional strategy and first person adventure drive. But first you'll need to pass a training course to obtain the professional diver certificate. A great experience is waiting for you along with the captivating assignments, which won't let you be distracted even for a single minute. Did you dream of photographing the mysterious Loch Ness monster? Or to fight a gigantic white shark in a deadly battle and become the winner? The underwater world is full of danger. It's very easy to lose your life. Minimal recommended system requirements: Operational system Windows 98/ME/2000/XP, CPU PIII 800 MHz Pentium IV 1600MHz, RAM 128MB 256MB, DVD-ROM drive 8X speed 8X speed



Deep

—Fishlabs' latest 3D Mobile Game, the beta version of Deep

In Deep, players immerse into a world of a remote water planet with exotic submarine life forms. In service of the Colonial Navy the player makes his or her way under-

water with various tasks like exploitation of resources and production of new goods but also military missions. While exploring the vivid and fascinating underwater world in a high-tech submarine the player will meet other parties with different interests on the water planet. The ongoing conflicts between the Colonial Navy, rebels, pirates and a mysterious marine species will pull the gamer between the lines. Deep is based on Fishlabs' mobile games engine ABYSS 2.0 and is scheduled for Q2 this year supporting a broad range of 3D Java handsets. For more information visit **www.fishlabs.net**.

FREE DOWNLOAD