

FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

We are pleased to bring this special issue in conjunction with our sister publication **Scuba Diver**. This special PHOTO ANNUAL will be published each year and will be especially devoted to photography. Look for new photography departments in each issue of **ASIAN GEOGRAPHIC** from next year. For 2004 we will follow a FOUR plus ONE publishing schedule. Your FOUR issues of **ASIAN GEOGRAPHIC** will be bigger and better and will feature more of what you love about **ASIAN GEOGRAPHIC**. We have some great stories lined up for next year. Look for your next issue of **ASIAN GEOGRAPHIC** in mid January 2004. The plus ONE will be the yearly PHOTO ANNUAL published in conjunction with Scuba Diver.

In this our first PHOTO ANNUAL, we have a special feature on Phil Greco, the Indiana Jones of the Sea. We first heard about the exploits of Phil from Emory Kristof during Celebrate the Sea. Emory reckoned that he made Lara Croft look like an amateur. On the way home from the Galapagos Michael AW managed to meet and interview Phil at his home in Los Angeles. The first of many stories is here to read for yourself. We will be joining Phil on some his exploits in the coming year.

We have worked with many photographers in Asia and elsewhere to bring the stories of Asia into the pages of **ASIAN GEOGRAPHIC**. In this issue we have three mini portfolios from some our Asian contributors. Landscape master Yuan Li has been a regular contributor to these pages and we are happy to share some of his vision. Nature photographer Julian W learnt his craft volunteering and photographing at Singapore Zoo, now travelling the region seeking his subjects he hopes to educate and help conservation through his photography. Tay Kay Chin has been a long time supporter of this magazine, his unique panoramic images shot with XPan saw him awarded one of Hasselblad's Master awards in 2002. Here he shares some of his special images.

Africa's unique wildlife has long been a draw to photographers after the big cats and other "picture postcard" animals. Stephen Frink shares his secrets, after numerous safaris in Botswana. Dipping into the water he also shares his Great White shark shots. For publisher Michael AW, his fourth trip to Galapagos this year marked the first time he shot digital only, no film. While he has embraced the digital world, he still prefers to keep film handy for the extended dynamic range and eye-popping slides that only film can produce, for now anyway!

Scuba Diver's portfolio series has attempted to expose the shooting techniques of top photographers, we have drawn from photographers all over the world, and we are pleased to show you some of our favourites. Along with some of the Best Photo Dive Sites to find that elusive shot.

Rather than just report on new equipment with a press release, we have taken some products out into the field for testing to give you honest results from our photographers and editorial staff. The new Olympus E1 looks like being a strong competitor to the big guns of Nikon & Canon in the digital SLR marketplace. We have been long time users of Epson inkjet printers, from the early Photo EX to a large format 7500. We were excited to hear about the new Stylus Pro 4000 which we managed to test two days before printing, which should prove a popular printer for photographers entering the digital darkroom. The mysterious requirements of colour management are slowly being demystified with equipment that is now so affordable that nobody should be without it. We review the Colorvision Spyder for monitor calibration and PrintFix their low cost profile maker.

I hope you enjoy this issue. Get out and start taking photographs!

Chris Lee



Publisher

MICHAEL AW

michael@asiangeographic.org

Managing Editor & Associate Publisher

CHRISTOPHER LEE

chris@asiangeographic.org

Creative Director

JOHN THET

thet@asiangeographic.org

Editorial Support

JODIE LEE

jodie@asiangeographic.org

Advertisement & Promotions Manager

(Asia) **CASSANDRA DRAGON**

cassandra@asiangeographic.org

Advertisement & Promotions Manager

(Pacific-Rim) **JAYNE JENKINS**

jayne@asiangeographic.org

Public Relations

(Asia) **LUCIA SUTRISNA**

lucia@asiangeographic.org

Subscriptions – Australia

JULIE SUTHERLAND

julie@asiangeographic.org

Editor at Large

STAN WATERMAN

Field Editors

STEPHEN BURROWS

YUAN LI

BARBARA LAYTON

DOUG PERRINE

Scientific Advisors

DOUG FENNER

NICOLAS PILCHER

CARDEN WALLACE

DIONYSIUS SHARMA

Exploration and Conservation Partners

CHINA EXPLORATION AND

RESEARCH SOCIETY



NEWSSTAND DISTRIBUTION

AUSTRALIA GORDON & GOTCH LTD Tel: 61-2-9789-6444,

SINGAPORE STP DISTRIBUTORS PTE LTD Tel: 65-6276-7767,

MALAYSIA STP DISTRIBUTIONS (M) SDN BHD Tel: 60-3-735-1511,

HONG KONG FOREIGN MEDIA DISTRIBUTION SERVICES

Tel: 852-2789-1836

SUBSCRIPTIONS

SINGAPORE EDUCATION & CORPORATE SUBSCRIPTION AGENTS

MAGAZINES EXPRESS PTE LTD Tel: 65-6841 2286

RIGHTEOUS INTERNATIONAL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES PTE LTD

Tel: 65-6323 1833

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE

MONGOOSE PACIFIC (M) SDN BHD 33.04, Level 33, Plaza MBF, 08

Jalan Yap Kwan Seng, 50450 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Tel: +603 2166

6650, Fax: +603 2166 6651 Email: mongoose@mongoose.com.my