

Dear Friends,

It's time to bring you up to date with the latest happenings here at Kuredu Prodivers! It has been an eventful winter season...

**Tsunami** On 26<sup>th</sup> December 2004 much of South East Asia was hit by the tsunami disaster. Fortunately, here on Kuredu, we were very lucky and suffered only minor flood damage. Diving resumed the very next day and except for a couple of coral blocks in new places no damage was found on the reefs. The island is now as full and busy as usual.

**Frogfish** On a recent night dive to 'The Wall' two Clown Frogfish were found. They are now getting used to being stars with all the paparazzi around! As you can see from the picture they are very camouflaged...can you spot them?



**Digital Cameras** We now have Sony 'Cybershot' digital cameras for rental and they are proving to be a great success. After the dive the divers or snorkellers can view their masterpieces on a screen in the dive centre before having them downloaded on to a CD, A downloading service is also available for guests who have their own digital cameras – memory space is no longer a problem! We can also print any pictures in a choice of 3 sizes.

**New Lamps** Our old rental torches have been replaced with new Hartenberger 'Mini Compacts'. They have a range of power settings from 50% to 125% making them excellent for night and day dives. As many of you know, lots of our dive sites, such as 'Latheef' and 'Caves', have overhangs which have ceilings covered with soft corals and these look even more spectacular when lit up with a torch.

**IDC** Five candidates currently working very hard whilst taking part in the Instructor Development Course including Eric and Sandy from our Snorkel Centre. For many years we have had a 100% success rate here on Kuredu and we are sure they will do well.

**Early Birds** Early morning dives have been very popular recently – 3 in one week in April! Dolphins have been seen regularly on the way to the dive sites and on one special dive over 100 of them were seen by the divers whilst underwater!

**Back Again!** During the winter season we welcomed back 5 repeaters for the 10<sup>th</sup> time – and they all enjoyed diving with us free of charge! They were: Waldemar Strobel, Roland Friedrich, Wolfgang Rasch & Michael Pauls – all from Germany, and Andy Tschann from Austria. We look forward to seeing them all again in the future!

**Komandoo Refurb** Refurbishment has begun on Komandoo island – 15 new water bungalows will be built. Of the Komandoo Prodivers team, Tom & Barbara are enjoying a holiday and Darren & Sabine are here working with us on Kuredu.

**Coffee & Cake!** We will soon be enjoying coffee and cake on the morning and afternoon dive boats. Mmmmm!

**Dive Shows** During the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in January Prodivers attended the Boot Show in Dusseldorf, Germany. A total of 294 repeater guests visited the stand! At the beginning of March it was time to attend the London International Dive Show and get cold again! Thanks to everyone who came along to say hello.

**Computers** Our old Aladin rental dive computers have been replaced with Suunto 'Vyper' computers. They are Nitrox compatible and even count down the safety stop for you.

**Decompression Chamber** Construction has been underway for our very own chamber here on Kuredu. Even though treatment is rarely needed it will be reassuring for our guests to have the facility here on Kuredu as the closest chamber is currently on Bandos Island in North Male Atoll. The opening is scheduled for Summer 2005.