

Welcome to UltraMarine



Greetings to you,
UltraMarine reader!

So here we are again folks, and although things are looking a lot more positive than last year, there are still clearly challenges ahead for all of us.

As I keep my eye on quite a few social media outlets and forums I do sometimes notice that people can get a little disillusioned with the hobby from time to time, and yes, there's been quite a bit to grumble about lately hasn't there!? With all this negative news though, I think it's important to sometimes take a moment to really appreciate the positive aspects of reef-keeping and stay supportive of our hobby and wider industry. I'll admit that, even as Editor of this magazine, my interest and enthusiasm in my reef does wax and wane... and I don't think there's anything wrong with this provided livestock remains cared for of course. At the end of the day, I still consider myself extremely privileged to have the means to be involved this hobby... financially, intellectually, physically etc. In itself, I think that's something we can all "fall back" on if the wider world starts to get too much. The beauty, innocence and wonder of a living reef really can be a perfect antidote.

John

Research Information Ltd,
Grenville Court, Britwell Road,
Burnham SL1 8DF, England

Tel: 01628 600499

Website: www.ultramarinemagazine.co.uk

>Editor & Designer: **John Clipperton**
editor@ultramarinemagazine.co.uk

>Publisher: **Kumar Patel**
kumarpatel@researchinformation.co.uk

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VAT no: GB 639 8321 11



Cover: *Acanthurus leucosternon* - J. Clipperton



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Richard Aspinall counters the lockdown blues with some fond memories of his days spent "clowning around" on the reef, and reminds us how there's often more than meets the eye with these iconic fishes.

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