



Paragliding has been David Wootton's passport to adventure travel photography and work with national magazines, newspapers and television channels. This image, preparing to fly, Hong Kong. Facing page top: Chamonix above clouds (David shot from a paraglider following the one seen). This page: top right, self-portrait with the camera fixed to the tip of a ski when sky-glidering at Chamonix. Below: Verbier valley, taken with hands off the glider controls, something David only does in perfectly safe conditions. Bottom of facing page: Donal MacIntyre, the investigative TV reporter David has worked with on many assignments – see story.



Glacier and iceface images taken while shooting at Argentiere, Chamonix, with Donal MacIntyre

Right: MacIntyre's Underworld led to this picture taken in Manchester – Dominic 'Lattlay Fottlo' Noonan and associates



had a high quality gloss card printed and approached local businesses, and found that he got the work. Though he has no pilot's licence himself, his paragliding put him in contact with local flying instructors and commercial pilots, and he was already known to publishers for his Alpine 'extreme sport' photos. He became an expert aerial photographer handling commercial contracts.

Along the way, high profile TV programmes and magazines wanted his images, which reflect today's obsession with what he calls "independent adventure travel". From many assignments, he has been able to build up the photo library to specialist in this field, and this month he says he has new agents in Poland

and New York taking on his collection. The interest keeps growing.

His collaboration with TV's investigative journalist Donal MacIntyre has been particularly fruitful, because as a stunt co-ordinator (yet another string to a bow which few could manage to pull!) David has been responsible for accompanying Donal to many dangerous situations, shooting the stunts in the process.

"David Wootton is a dangerous man – at least that's my experience", Donal has said of him. "It was his job to fly me and film me paragliding in the monsoon in Goa, to snap me falling from an ice wall on a glacier in the French Alps and to photograph billions of gallons of water being unleashed on me from