

News, Travel & Events

New Dive Shop And Underwater Photography Centre opening On London's Strand

A new dive shop and underwater photography centre is opening towards the end of March 2005 on London's Strand. Mavericks is a new name from a familiar face. Owner Steve Warren has worked in the diving industry since 1984 as an instructor, retailer and journalist. Since 1994 he has owned the specialist underwater photography company Ocean Optics. "Mavericks is a natural development to create a one stop dive centre. It brings the finest underwater camera equipment and best sport diving equipment to one easily reached central London location".

Steve emphasises that this is an expansion for Ocean Optics. "We'll have more space to properly display our main ranges from Subal, Nexus, Inon and Subtronic. We'll be running occasional presentations from groundbreaking underwater photographers and providing in water tuition for beginners using radiophones to help us instruct". Warren promises more to come. "We'll be introducing diver training with an emphasis on small classes, greater pool time for practising skills and an open approach towards risk and risk avoidance." Mavericks Diving Limited and Ocean Optics are located at 7 and 8 Bush House, Aldwych, a short walk from Temple, Covent Garden, and Holborn Underground Stations. Tel 0207 930 8408.

www.mavericksdiving.co.uk

Underwater Digital Photography Workshops

at Kungkungan Bay Resort

August 6-27, 2005

Whether a beginner or digital pro, take your digital photography to the next level with Rod Klein, Digital Editor of Fathoms Magazine and Kungkungan Bay Resort for a series of underwater digital workshops August 6-27, 2005 in what is arguably one of the best destinations on the planet for macro photography - Lembeh Strait.

Rod will conduct workshops throughout the period with schedules arranged to meet guests' individual needs. Normal workshop length will be 6 days.

Topics to be covered include: digital vs film, proper camera set-up and preparation, exposure of digital cameras, media cards, file types, underwater lighting and composition, and photo retouching. Photoshop seminars will also be given.

Lembeh Strait is home to some of the most fascinating creatures in the world including the pygmy seahorse, mimic octopus and Ambon scorpionfish.

www.eco-divers.com



Guam's Fish Eye Marine Park photography gallery



Marine photographer and Micronesia resident Tim Rock stands in front of spinner dolphin images at the new Fish Eye ocean photo gallery.

Going to Micronesia? Guam's Fish Eye Marine Park has opened a new ocean photography gallery. This small gallery hosts photographic images from the underwater world around Guam, Micronesia and Indo-Pacific by internationally published photojournalist and UwP contributor Tim Rock.

The gallery is open daily free to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Signed prints will be on sale of selected images. As an added bonus, Guam's Fish Eye Marine Park Logo Shop has a new display of Palauan storyboard carving that is open free to the public. This display features the work of Palau's master storyboard carver Francisco Sbal. The late Mr. Sbal was the first student of this artform in the 1930s in Palau and is recognized as a master carver.

For information, contact the Fish Eye Logo Gift Shop at 477-3343. The Fish Eye Marine Park gallery facility is located across from the Fish Eye Undersea Observatory in Piti, Guam.

Dive Chronicles' Digital Jam Report

The last week of January attracted more than 30 underwater photographers from around the world to take part in the inaugural Dive Chronicles' Digital Jam. Digital Jam is a combined digital photography workshop and competition, offering \$20,000 worth of prizes. Two dive centres were involved in this inaugural year: Ocean Frontiers at the East End of the island and Dive Tech based in West Bay. Each centre laid on a week of special photographer friendly diving, combined with lectures and workshops, with on hand advice from resident host photographers. The Dive Tech group was lead by Geri Murphy, one of the world's most successful underwater photojournalists, and the Ocean Frontiers group by UWP contributor, Alex Mustard.

"It really was a special week; great company, great diving and great photography," Alex told UWP. "It was very refreshing to be teaching pure digital - the technology means that you can teach underwater photography in a completely different way. My course wouldn't even have worked for film! I was also able to take the gang to some of my special sites, including a dawn dive with a school of 80 stingrays at the Sandbar.



The Digital Jam sign, with host Alex Mustard.

Top right. The Digital Jam group at Ocean Frontiers.

Right. Schooling stingrays at dawn at the Sandbar. The whole school numbered 80. Photo by Alex Mustard.

"Dive Chronicles and the other sponsors laid on all sorts of diving gadgets for us to try throughout the week: Sealife digital cameras, Oceanic MP3 players and dive computers, DUI BCs and Amphibico video cameras.

"The climax of the week was the Dive Chronicles Awards Party with





Turks & Caicos photo course with

Mauricio Handler

27 Aug- 03 Sept 2005

From US\$ 1,995.00

Once again the beautiful turquoise waters of the Turks and Caicos Islands will be the backdrop to this acclaimed week of underwater photography now in its fourth year. The course is geared for film and digital housed SLR owners who want to expand their knowledge of underwater image making and learn new advanced techniques to achieve award winning images as well as to those who have just acquired a new housed system and want to learn how to use, maintain and make the most of their investment.

In a time of point and shoot and generic imagery, this week brings a refreshing look at the craft of underwater photography.

Subjects covered include natural light, single strobe, multi strobe and mixed lighting photography, wide, macro and extreme macro image making in addition to splits (half above/ half under).

Marine life found in the area include large schools of Horse-eyed Jacks, Caribbean Reef Sharks, Eagle Rays, stunning vertical walls, and a multitude of macro life on the edge



Julia Handler photo

of abysmal drops. There is unlimited Nitrox diving all week with just a few restrictions.

You will be required to spend some five hours of underwater working time every day. This is not a vacation, so come prepared to work hard. The results will take your work to new heights simply not possible in other workshops.

Daily image critiques, evening slide and digital presentation and portfolio reviews.

www.reefrainforest.com

This classic and natural Caribbean Reef Shark portrait won the wide angle for SLRs category. Taken by Ingvar Eliasson.

the week's images judged by Cathy Church, with Geri and me. I am very proud to report that my group won 6 of the 7 categories, with prizes including trips to Papua New Guinea, Wakatobi Indonesia and the Bahamas and kit including a dive computer and an underwater metal detector! The week was about far more than prizes. It was first and foremost a fantastic week of photographic diving with like-minded people. But maybe I am just saying that because I didn't win a prize!"

You can see all the winning images from Digital Jam 2005 on the Dive Chronicles website www.divechronicles.com. Next year's Digital Jam is already scheduled for January 2006. Contact lesley@oceanfrontiers.com for more details.

www.divechronicles.com

A full service
dive travel agency
specializing in
photography
trips

Travel with the Pros:
Clay Wiseman, Jack & Sue Drafa, Denise & Larry Tackett, Stuart & Michelle Westmoreland

Reef Rainforest
DIVE & ADVENTURE TRAVEL

or
Venture on your own to the premiere
underwater landscapes of the world

photos © Doug Richardson

Let our Experience be your Guide
Toll free(US & Canada) 1 800 794 9767
International +001 415 289 1760
California USA
photo@reefrainforest.com
www.ReefRainforest.com

Beneath The Sea 2005 Presents Ernie Brooks II

When Beneath the Seas 29th annual Ocean Exposition, Adventure and Dive Travel Show convenes at New Jersey's Meadowlands Exposition Center in Secaucus, New Jersey March 18th, 19th and 20th, 2005, Ringmaster for the Film Festival will be the notable photographer, emcee, raconteur, and Master-of-Ceremonies: Ernie Brooks.

If there is anyone who understands photography and the magic that creates an exceptional photograph it is Ernie Brooks. Until recently Ernie was President of the internationally renowned Brooks Institute of Photography. Today in his book, "Silver Seas," he has produced a magnificent collection of images celebrating his view of the underwater world and the creatures that live in it.

At Beneath the Sea, as the master-of-Ceremonies of the Saturday Night Film Festival, Ernie Brooks will bring this sensitive love of the ocean and underwater photography to the people who, in Ernie's words, "are a special people with a common bond ... love of the ocean and the creatures in it."

Ernie Brooks is a gentleman of the sea, a teacher who is also a scholar, a photographer as visionary whose collected work makes him an environmental philosopher. Ernie Brooks's insights into the world beneath the sea are not merely interesting, they are inspiring, exciting photographs that make you want to pick up a camera and rush to the sea.

Ernie Brooks at Beneath the Sea at the Meadowlands Exposition Center in Secaucus, New Jersey March 18, 19, 20, 2005. For directions go to WWW: Mecexpo.com – for more information about Beneath the Sea go to:

WWW.BeneaththeSea.org



DIVEQUEST

The Ultimate in Diving

Bahamas
Turks & Caicos
Tobago, Dominica
Bonaire, Venezuela
Little Cayman, Cozumel, Belize
Honduras, South Africa &
Mozambique
Thailand, Sipadan, Mabul
Layang Layang
Derawan & Sangalaki
Bali, Komodo, Wakatobi,
Manado, Kungkungan Bay

Palau, Yap, Truk
Bikini Atoll
Australia's Coral Sea
Papua New Guinea, Solomons
French Polynesia
Fiji, Hawaii,
Sea of Cortez
Revillagigedo Islands
Cocos & Malpelo Islands
The Galapagos
Wrecks of Palau

Plus Underwater Photography Group Trips and Courses with leading photographers: Martin Edge, Linda Dunk, Malcolm Hey, Charles Hood, Gavin Anderson and Alex Mustard.

The Ultimate in
DIVEQUEST *Underwater Photography Adventures*
ATOL Protected 2937 Telephone: 01254-826322
e-mail divers@divequest.co.uk website: www.divequest.co.uk

Sulawesi photoquest with Martin Edge 2nd-16th October 2005



The combination of reef vistas and coral seascapes in the Bunaken Marine Park with unique 'creature encounters' in Lembeh Strait offers an

amazing series of photo-opportunities for the underwater photographer. Combine this with easy air travel on excellent airlines, very comfortable accommodations, lots of diving and Martin Edge and you have the ideal trip for those wanting to further their underwater photography skills.

Martin Edge has been leading underwater photo expeditions and courses for the last fifteen years and leading groups with Divequest since its inception in 1996. Working with aspiring underwater photographers is a great inspiration to Martin. Channelling enthusiasm, encouraging experimentation, calming those equipment mishaps is all in a day's work for him. Nothing gives him more satisfaction than the seeing those

expectations met with delight at the end of the day when the slide films return from processing!

But things are changing in the world of photography. The digital photographic revolution is gaining momentum and there is no going back. Instant feedback of underwater pictures via the camera LCD screen takes no more than one second! (Remember the time when one thought that having a processed roll of E6 slide film returned before the end of a days diving was quite an achievement?) Martin finds digital underwater photography a welcome challenge.

www.divequest.co.uk

WETPIXEL.COM
digital imaging for divers

Wetpixel Redesigns Site, Adds Features

Wetpixel.com, one of the web's premiere information and community sites for digital underwater photography, has gone live with a ground-up redesign. In addition to streamlining the presentation of data, Wetpixel has

added many new features, including easy-to-access article archives, RSS and Atom feeds, member galleries, and hosted weblog space.

Also improved is the administration area of the site, which will serve to increase accessibility to a larger group of content contributors. "As we adapt to the new system, you can expect a lot more content on the front page," said Eric Cheng,

Wetpixel's owner and editor. "Our goal is to harness and organize the knowledge of our community of more than 3,000 registered members."

Membership is free.

You can access Wetpixel at

www.wetpixel.com

Cathy Church's Underwater Photo Centre & Gallery The World's Best ~ Cayman Islands



NEW!
Cathy's coffee
table book
"My Underwater
Photo Journey"
US\$39.95
plus s/h



■ Check web for summer 2005 week-long digital and film SuperCourse dates! Sign up now.

■ **Private** classes with Cathy — in Grand Cayman or by phone — we'll call you!

■ Fabulous photo trips to Fiji and Komodo in 2005 - sign up now, spots go quickly!

■ Enjoy personalized classes with **any** digital system.

■ **FREE** instruction with every purchase — in Grand Cayman or by phone — we'll call you!

Teaching U/W Photography since 1967

www.cathychurch.com

cathy@cathychurch.com

345-949-7415

at the Sunset House Hotel, Grand Cayman

Ikelite SLR-DC Housings offer *eTTL* Compatibility.

To extend the capabilities of the digital SLR cameras Ikelite designed the SLR-DC underwater housing. This housing is injection molded of clear polycarbonate for strength, visual access to the camera, LCD screens and camera controls. The ergonomic design places camera functionality at your fingertips for the ultimate in creative control. The interchangeable port system accommodates a wide variety of lenses from macro to wide-angle to zoom. The rubber handles offer excellent grip and a quick release system for Ikelite's new SA-100 Arm system. An external Ikelite connector is provided to connect single or dual Ikelite Substrobes.

Think Digital

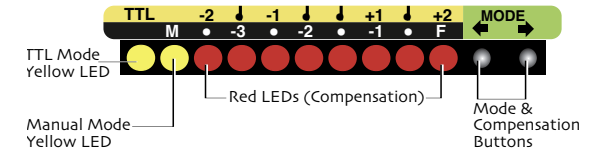
SLR-DC Housing Features:

- Clear Molded Polycarbonate
- Corrosion Free
- Interchangeable Port System
- Clear View of Info Window
- Clear View of LCD screen
- Most Camera Functions Available
- Weighted for Neutral Buoyancy
- Quick-Release Strobe Mounts
- Rubber Hand Grips
- External Connector for Substrobes
- Super-eye Magnifier for Enhanced Viewing with a Dive Mask.
- Weight 6.6lbs. (2.9k)
- Dimensions 7.5"L x 4.75"W x 7.25"H
(19cm x 12cm x 18cm)



For • **Canon EOS Rebel** • **Canon EOS 300D**
• **Canon EOS 10D** • **Canon EOS 20D**

These Ikelite SLR-DC housings for Canon have Conversion Circuitry built into the camera tray. When used with an Ikelite DS Substrobes; the Conversion Circuitry provides real Canon eTTL flash exposure with over and under-exposure compensation of two f-stops in half-stop increments. At the push of a button, switch to Manual Exposure Mode which provides eight power settings in one-half stop increments. All exposure compensation is done with 2 buttons on the back of the housing, no accessing complicated camera menus.



ikelite

Underwater Systems
50 W 33rd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208
317-923-4523

*Ikelite SLR-DC Housings
also Available for*

• **Nikon D70** • **Nikon D100**
• **Olympus E-1 (TTL)**

www.ikelite.com