

Ocean Optics News, travel & events

Optics helps HDS with LIDS Exhibition

Last summer Andrew (AJ) Pugsley and Steve Warren were lucky enough to be invited to dive in standard or heavy gear by Peter Wingett and Cheryl Hugil. Peter and Cheryl have long been clients of Ocean Optics and arranged for the boys to dive under the auspices of the Historical Diving Society in the Atlantic Tank at London Aquarium. At the London Dive Show they were able to put something back by supplying camera and diving equipment for the HDS stand which took underwater photography as its theme. Many of Britain's pioneers contributed equipment and their presence to the show.

Optics took along a selection of cameras from the 1970s as well as a rare Calypsophot and bulb flash obtained just 72 hours prior to the show. The lads also displayed several twin hose regulators and diving accessories from their personal collections.



South African wildlife photographer Edwin Marcow, HDS officer John Salsbury and AJ Pugsley from Ocean Optics at LIDS

Visions in the Sea 2002 - November 16/17th 2002

Visions in the Sea began after Steve made a throw away comment during a wine soaked Optics event.

Colin Doeg took the comment seriously and all attempts to put the genie back in the bottle failed.

In 1997, unsure as to whether anybody would even turn up, we threw our first Visions conference at the London Aquarium. Our top speaker was the Ikan marine life guide publisher and renowned underwater photographer Helmut Debelius. And making his debut presentation was a little known Greek by the name of Constantinos Petrinos.

The conference was a sell out and the rest, as they say, is history.



Discussing the latest developments in strobe lighting with Gary Clarke.



Delegate Jukka Nurminen and speaker Alex Mustard from the Young Underwater Photographers Group during a slide clinic.



Checking out entries for the print competition. Tony White won the grand prize of a Nikon digital camera presented by London Camera Exchange.



Constantinos Petrinos (left) at Visions 2001

Since then presenters have included Martin Edge, Mark Webster, Donald Tipton, Douglas David Seifert, Kurt Amsler and Peter Scoones.

This year's conference is expected once again to be a sell out. The event takes place at Imperial College, London November 16th and 17th. At the time of writing speakers had yet to be confirmed.

It is known that a special evening one man show will be presented by top underwater cameraman Peter Scoones.

SLR pool Intros in London



Ocean Optics new SLR Course will provide clients with the opportunity to use state of the art equipment like this Nikon F100 under experienced supervision.

Ocean Optics is set to begin running pool based introductions to underwater SLR photography. Recognising that potential underwater SLR owners find it difficult to try equipment before making purchasing decisions, the Optics team hope the hands on experience will help clients better understand the pros and cons of different equipment combinations. Workshops will take place in central London in cooperation with City Divers and diving equipment rental is available.

To maximise the learning experience Optics has invested in Ocean Technology System radiophones to enable instructors to coach students under the water.

The full day program will include classroom sessions and will cover the benefits of SLRs underwater, lens selection, strobe choices and will be illustrated with images by some of the finest underwater photographers. Students will get to shoot with the latest Nikon camera bodies and lenses including the F100 and F80.

According to company owner Steve Warren “this is one more indication of Ocean Optics intention to be much more than just an ordinary retailer. We’ve already invested heavily in staff training, sending members of the team to the Red Sea to observe video taping for Blue Planet, to South Africa to shoot sharks and on courses run by Kurt Amsler and Martin Edge. We’ve organised workshops for clients with Kurt, Linda Dunk and Constantinos Petrinis and we run the annual Visions in the Sea conference. We’ve recently launched UWP and the new pool events continue our drive to offer the best all around support to our clients”.

Please contact Ocean Optics on 020 7930 8408 or e mail optics@oceanoptics.co.uk

Help!



This American made housing for a 16mm Eclair movie camera seems to date from the early eighties. Recently added to our housing collection we’d be delighted to hear from anyone with information about it. We’re particularly keen to find out which productions these fully professional outfits might have been used on.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Ocean Optics on 020 7930 8408 or e mail optics@oceanoptics.co.uk

Computer Concerns with strobes

Dive computers that monitor gas pressure via a radio link can be affected by underwater flashunits. Sometimes the transmission of this information is briefly interrupted when the strobes fire and then the units reconnect. However in some cases they do not and all gas pressure information is lost for the remainder of the dive. There are no hard and fast rules about which computers and which strobes are likely to be affected. Caution is advised.

**For further details about the news, travel or events on these pages
please contact Ocean Optics on 020 7930 8408
or e mail optics@oceanoptics.co.uk**

Buoyancy Clinics in London

Optics owner Steve Warren has been penning safety features for British diving magazines for some years now. Steve (A former BSAC instructor and Branch Training officer and a PADI MSDT) is particularly concerned with buoyancy training.

Poor buoyancy control has long been identified as a major contributing cause to diving fatalities and accidents. It's also a cause of damage to dive sites. However it is often glossed over during entry level training - all the buoyancy instruction most divers ever receive.

Now Ocean Optics is to offer buoyancy control clinics in London. These will help divers to better understand the many factors that affect both buoyancy and trim. For underwater photographers whose diving skills need to be virtually subliminal in order that they can concentrate on photography near perfect buoyancy control is essential. The clinics will include both informal classroom discussions and pool work where students will be personally coached underwater using our Ocean Technology Systems radiophones.

Optics will use Buoyancy Training Systems Incorporated's Diamond Reef program for the courses. The underwater assault course was developed by NAUI and PADI instructor and commercial diver Peter Wallingford over a decade ago and has received considerable praise from dive safety experts and approval from NOAA. Steve was the first instructor to work with this system in Europe, back in 1992. Along with using the program to train new divers, he also used it to evaluate BCD performance when running equipment testing for Dive International Magazine.

For details call Steve on 0207 930 8408.

Kurt Amsler Workshop



Kurt Amsler is one of very few people in the world to make a living from underwater photography and reportage. The Swiss photographers images and words appear internationally and his features have been translated time and again. Kurt is the author of numerous books including several of the popular Swan Hill dive guides and a major coffee table book on the Maldives.

It's important to understand that a workshop with Kurt is a very serious matter. You'll work your ass off. There is absolutely no point in attending unless you are unwavering in your intention to dramatically improve on the images you've taken before.

The annual English language Kurt Amsler workshop will take place at Les Lecques on the French Riviera in September. The five day course costs £695.00 including shared room in a country guest house with breakfast and evening meal, boat diving, film and processing. Transport is not included.

This is a rare opportunity to learn from a master photographer who holds nothing back. For more details call Andrew Bell on 0207 930 8408.

Ocean Optics Chooses Ocean Technology Radiophones

The radiophones selected by Ocean Optics to teach it's new courses were provided by Ocean Technology Systems.

O.T.S. are a long established American company. Their systems are used by the military, search and rescue teams and by commercial divers.

Voice communication comes into it's own anytime complex tasks have to be accomplished or when sign language becomes inadequate to get the message across. O.T.S. clients include many film makers, including Howard Hall. They've also been used on the Flipper and Bond sets.

Optics will use them to coach clients through using underwater cameras. This will be much more efficient than constantly surfacing to explain a point or technique and faster than using slates. The company has invested in two professional voice activated multi channel units for crew and four receivers for students.

Using receivers will avoid students having to master the use of mouth masks.

O.T.S. units were selected after Steve Warren and Sid Thaker had worked with sports versions in the Red Sea four years ago.

Divequest underwater photography trips

Bonaire

**underwater photography
course with Linda Dunk**

Sunday 17th November - Monday
25th November 2002

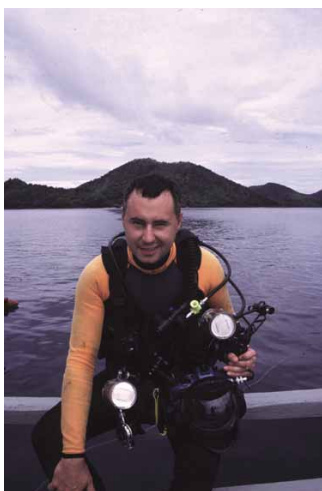


As always, Linda will be on hand to review films when they come back from processing, and will be encouraging participants to 'share your shots' with the group!

Charles Hood

**The Channel Islands of
Southern California**

Saturday 14th September - Sunday
22nd September 2002

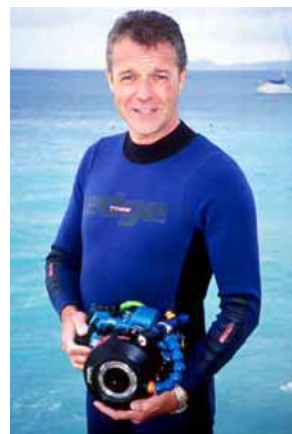


6 days diving including both boat diving around Catalina itself and all day shark diving trips out into the Pacific Ocean.

Martin Edge

**Travels with my camera:
Kungkungan bay**

Friday 27th September - Sunday 6th
October 2002.



Join the Master Craftsman of underwater photography on a trip to the world famous home of weird and wonderful creatures: Kungkungan Bay

Bahamas
Turks & Caicos
Tobago
Bonaire, Venezuela
Little Cayman, Belize
Honduras, Thailand
Sipadan, Mabul
Layang Layang
Derawan & Sangalaki
Bali, Komodo, Wakatobi,
Manado, Kungkungan Bay
Palau, Yap, Truk
Australia's Coral Sea
Papua New Guinea, Solomons
Fiji, Hawaii, Sea of Cortez
Revillagigedo Islands
Cocos Island, The Galapagos
Kelp Forests of California

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

DIVEQUEST

Telephone: 01254-826322 or e-mail divers@divequest.co.uk website: www.divequest.co.uk

The Ultimate in Underwater Photography Adventures

ATOL Protected 2937