THE REVIEW: Underwater Photography Art and Techniques

Sport Diver takes a look at regular contributor Nick Robertson-Brown’s new book

A brand-new book for budding underwater photographers has just hit the shelves. Written by regular Sport Diver contributor, and Associate of the Royal Photographic Society, Nick Robertson-Brown, the book is a soft-back, full colour, 176-page guide on how to get the best from your underwater camera system, be it a compact, a mirrorless or an SLR. With 200-plus images and over 20 diagrams to illustrate the topics, there are plenty of visual aids to help you understand the techniques and principles described. This easy-to-read book is primarily aimed at beginner to intermediate underwater photographers looking to improve their images of marine life, wrecks and divers - it is packed with useful information and tips on how to improve. Nick’s relaxed yet informative style makes absorbing the text simple, which makes a great deal of sense given his back-ground in teaching secondary science to teenagers with learning difficulties.

Underwater Photography - Art and Techniques has chapters on how the camera works and the settings that can be altered to create the image you are hoping for, the equipment involved, composition, lighting, wreck photography, animal behaviour and habitats, taking photos in low visibility, the underwater environment and its effects on light, exposure, advice on being a responsible underwater photographer and post dive image manipulation. The book introduces the reader to the camera settings, how they interact and what effect these different settings have in creating the image you take. Nick then takes you forward with advice on a whole range of techniques for improvement, or just to change the style or mood of your composition. As well as being a long-term regular in Sport Diver, Nick teaches an expanded version of the INON underwater photography course. His teaching skills jump out at you throughout the book, with easy-to-understand explanations of settings such as f-stop and aperture. Nick’s passion for marine life and underwater photography certainly comes across throughout the book as well.

Whatever your next day of diving is, be it wide angle, macro or low light conditions, this book makes for a superb reference to help you to get the best from your camera. It’s well worth sticking it in your dive bag. And if you’re more of a ‘tabletter’, the e-book is due out in a couple of months.

Underwater Photography - Art and Techniques can be bought in dive shops, Waterstones and Amazon, as well as from Frogfish Photography directly, for your own personally signed copy. The RRP is £16.99, which is great value for money for a modern, up-to-date book packed with information to help take your photography to the next level.

2014 DIVING DREAMS CALENDAR OUT NOW

Photographers, photojournalists and Sport Diver contributors Jeremy and Amanda Cuff have published a new 2014 calendar titled “Diving Dreams”. Jeremy said: “The Diving Dreams 2014 Calendar features a variety of images, mostly from our dive travels over recent times, and includes destinations such as Galapagos, Bali, Egypt and the Maldives.” The 2014 calendar can be obtained from Jeremy & Amanda at a cost of £9 including postage (within the UK). For further information, visit Jeremy & Amanda’s website at www.ja-universe.com.