



Tales from the Deep Blue

Oct., 2002

One Down, More To Go...

Unless you were participating in a media blackout during September, most of you know that Hurricane Isidore, or as we affectionately called it 'Izzy', brushed by Playa Del Carmen and eventually landed in Merida, Holbox and Progreso. The wave of Izzy's hand generated very little damage to the reef and thankfully even less to the community. We wish we could say the same for our neighbours, Merida and Holbox who were destroyed in the wake of Isidore and are working hard to recover.

The five days of Isidore's threat in mid-September left a somber mood over the shop, customers and the community. Fortunately, email access remained, so we were glued to the internet watching the path of this growing weather mass. By Day Two, all boats were pulled out of the water and ocean front businesses boarded up windows. On the fifth day, we just wanted it all to end. The winds were fast and furious with residents stating that the gusts seemed worse than Roxanne in 1997. All we could do was sit and wait.

The result. Everyone is still nursing their sore arms after digging the shop out of two feet of sand and reminiscing about our snowfalls in Canada. As Mitch said, this is the heaviest snow he had ever moved. We moved to Playa to get away from that... So on this loving October day, Izzy is now only a memory. Diving has resumed, the sun shines each day and we are checking the reefs to see if damage occurred. We find ourselves pleasantly surprised and are excited about the new additions to the reefs and the sea life. This experience has made our jobs even more interesting than before the storm.



But two other storms may come our way. Lilli is expected to pass by us October 3rd and Kyle is becoming

more and more unpredictable in its path. As we glue ourselves once more to the internet, we hope that the shop will not have to be shoved out again.

Thank you to all our friends who emailed us lending their support throughout the storm. Your thoughts and encouragement was deeply appreciated. We will send more news as events unfold.

Who's Murielle?

This is our latest addition to The Abyss, a 52 foot sailing boat ready for 3 to 7 day live aboard trips... seafaring along the coast from Isla Mujeres to Tulum. Dave found this ocean



queen in August and has built some great diving trips that are featured on the website. Maximum capacity is 6 people per trip with a **personal chef and divemaster included**. The 3 day trip travels from Puerto Aventuras to Tulum with a stop in Akumal. The 7 day trip starts in Puerto Aventuras with stops in Cozumel, Isla Mujeres, Isla Contoy and Puerto Morelos. Though smaller excursions have been packaged, longer trips to Belize and Honduras can be arranged upon request.

The boat is equipped with two double and one single cabin, crew quarters, two showers, twin voltage electric generator (US/Euro standards), fully computerized charting and navigation, RADAR, GPS, SONAR, EPIRB, SSB HF satellite radio, VHF, underwater video and computers for

editing, onboard compressor for tank fills, TV & VCR, refrigerator, microwave, 17ft. Zodiac, kayaks and fishing gear. Visit the website to view more pictures of Murielle and to book your trip.

Introducing... Dave and Carlos

Doubtful you have missed these two while diving with The Abyss, but in case you have not met this man and his dog, let us introduce the shop owner David Tomlinson and his sidekick Carlos. This is the face behind The Abyss.

David traveled from Revelstoke, British Columbia, Canada as an ex-ski instructor to pursue his dream, owning and operating a dive center in the Mexican Caribbean. That dream was realized in 1997 and Dave has not seen the snow since. Quietly, he has grown The Abyss with his friends into a full service open water, cavern and technical diving center that has won the hearts of divers internationally. Next time you are in Playa, just stop in to say hello to the man and mutt who are devoted to the ocean, diving and Mexico.



The Abyss Dive Shop and Training Centre

Calle 12 and the Beach
Playa Del Carmen, QR. Mexico
www.abysssdiveshop.com
info@abysssdiveshop.com