



### **CNN Visit Coral Cay Conservation!**

Coral Cay Conservation's [Philippines site](#) were recently approached by CNN regarding a documentary they are filming in the Philippines. With the incredible diversity that the underwater world of the Philippines has to offer, they knew they had to include a feature on coral reef conservation. After speaking to CCC HQ in Surrey their interest was piqued by our scholarship programme and the opportunities that CCC offers to local people in the Philippines!

CNN joined the team on site for three days, and during this time interviewed the CCC staff, volunteers and scholars, and explored their reasons for joining Coral Cay. Former scholar, Grace Quiton, also returned to discuss her time on site and her current goals with her new NGO, the Ocean Action Resource Centre (ORC).

After having learnt all about Coral Cay's work on site, and the beauties beneath the surface it was only right that the presenter, Andrew, got the opportunity to check out our house reef for himself. With Paul, the camera man expertly manning a drone to film from above Andrew got the chance to do just that. The 3 days were heralded a great success, and CNN enjoyed their time as much as we loved having them. You can find the full story on the [CCC Blog](#). If you'd like to see the article and CCC's section of the documentary just click [here](#).



The team at CCC HO are always excited to attend the annual Birmingham DIVE event.



English teacher, Shita, plays a game with the students in the bamboo classroom.

### **Coral Cay Conservation**

### **Recent Events**

Those of you who came up to say hello at the recent Birmingham dive show will remember signing up for the chance to win a free 4 week expedition to one of our expedition sites. We promised to keep you updated with the outcome and we are thrilled to be able to announce that the winner has been chosen. Congratulations to... Aminah Faizah Kaharuddin!

Mina was 'super thrilled' to be chosen: "It has always been a childhood dream of mine to explore the intriguing beauty of the big blue. As an aspiring oceanographer and an avid PADI Divemaster, I have a growing concern on the multiplying threats faced by the ocean. I wish to do my part for conserving this precious habitat and to help spread awareness. I look forward to volunteering alongside the dedicated CCC team and hopefully I could apply the experience gained to my homeland, Brunei."

We can't wait to welcome Mina to one of our sites. Make sure to check out CCC's stand at the next dive show for your chance to enter the prize draw!

The Lifesigns Group's Training Director, Ian Forbes, recently undertook a recce to Nepal to compile an update on how the country was faring after the recent earthquake in April. Nepal has always been one of our most popular expedition destinations, and we are very eager to get our teams back into the field as soon as it is safe and logistically possible to do so, so that we can help provide much needed funds to aid the final steps in restoration.

Ian's first job was to check the local infrastructure and view the world heritage sites to ensure that an expedition was safe to go ahead. Next, the most gratifying part of a recce: investigating potential community project sites! Ian found the perfect building project in Panchkhal, at a school that has been relying on a temporary bamboo classroom to house their students. We can't wait to get our first group out to site to start helping, in the very worthy course of assisting in the construction of a new permanent school site. If you would like to get involved in a similar project, or maybe even trek to Everest Base Camp check out the possible destinations [here](#).

### Future Events



It doesn't take long for the staff at Lifesigns to get itchy feet, eager to find new places to introduce to our explorers. We are happy to announce that we are now able to offer expeditions to the beautiful Azores! A group of 9 volcanic islands approximately 850 miles west of Portugal situated in the North Atlantic Ocean. The Azores are perhaps best known for being a fantastic location for cetacean watching.

Lesser known is that they are home to natural hot water pools, some wonderful trekking routes and the last European tea plantation. Our Head of Operations, Tristan Brown, was the lucky chap who got to undertake the recce and suffice to say it wasn't a bad day at the office! As can be seen from the photo above the view from Little Pico, on Mount Pico (the highest point in the Azores) was the cherry on the cake of a fantastic expedition location.

If you would like to visit the Azores and spend your days kayaking Lagoa Azul, challenging yourself on Mount Pico or spotting pilot whales why not give us a call on 01483 810785 and we'll be happy to adapt an expedition to suit your needs?

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### Offer of the month!

If you are anything like us by the time the new year swings round and the weather gets colder you'll be chomping at the bit to get out of England in search of warmer climes. But before you go off into the wilderness, trekking through the Amazon or climbing the Himalayas, why not

spare a minute for preparation and join us on our upcoming **Expedition Care Program** (ECP)? This first aid course is available in durations of either one or two days, and is specially designed for expedition situations.

The Lifesigns Group's next course will be run from our Head Office in Surrey on the **16th & 17th January**. Just come for the first day or stay the whole two. To book onto the course or for further information contact Pauline Lodge on [ukoperations@lifesignsgroup.co.uk](mailto:ukoperations@lifesignsgroup.co.uk). Just mention 'Christmas Newsletter' and we will be happy to gift you a **10% discount** off the course fee.  
Merry Christmas!

Terms & Conditions: Offer applies to the ECP course scheduled for the 16th & 17th January only. Discount is applicable to course fee, pre-VAT. Redeemable on both the one and two day course. Offer is subject to availability and can only be redeemed at time of booking. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. This offer has no monetary value and no cash or product alternative will be offered.