



### Trekking in the Dead of Night for Charlton Chase!

The South Downs were a hive of activity on the night of the 30th January, when 340 young people strapped on their hiking boots and joined the [Lifesigns Group](#) for the annual Charlton Chase event. This is an overnight navigation trek for teams of 15 to 21 year olds, with various challenges thrown in along the way to test their team work, brains and tenacity!

Volunteers from the Lifesigns Group and beyond arrived from 15:00 on Saturday ready to man their challenges. Throughout the night we were then joined by groups of 4, eager to undertake the challenge and head on to the next orienteering point. The length of each group's route was dependant on age with a minimum of 18 km all the way up to 30 km! The work 'day' may not have finished until 6:30 in the morning but it was such a pleasure to meet so many enthusiastic young people that weren't afraid of a challenge.

We want to take this opportunity to say well done to everyone who took part, particular congratulations go to the winning teams Sackville School's 'Team A' for the Premier Event, and Ditcham Park's '420 Squad' for the Standard Event. Last but definitely not least, a huge thank you to the 120 odd volunteers (many of whom have pledged to return next year) who gave their time freely to help make this event possible. This event is open to everyone so why not check out [Charlton Chase](#) and start training for next years' event?!



The beautiful shores of Barangay Himayangan



The Coral Cay Conservation stand at LIDS 2016

### Coral Cay Conservation

In September 2015, [CCC](#) Philippines completed a full survey of the waters of Barangay Himayangan in the Municipality of Liloan. The purpose of this survey was to find the best location for a new MPA. Our survey found that the coral reefs in the Northern part of Himayangan would greatly benefit from protection and that there is great potential for a thriving ecosystem.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of February Project Scientist Marie, Community Liaison Officer Jesse and Research Scientist Joshua travelled to Himayangan to meet with Barangay Captain Eugene and members of the local fishing community to present our findings. The group paid close attention and were fascinated to see pictures of life on the reef, they whole-heartedly agreed that an MPA would be a great addition to the Barangay of Himayangan. There is a lot more work to do but when the time comes CCC will assist in the installation of marker buoys for the final step in establishing the Marine Sanctuary. We are very proud to be involved in this endeavour!

### Recent Events

On the Valentine's weekend CCC headed to the London Excel for the London International Dive Show ([LIDS](#)) 2016. This event takes place annually, but it was all change this year as it has now been combined with the Telegraph Outdoor Adventure & Travel Show (TOATS), the London Bike Show and the Triathlon Show, making it the biggest sport and leisure event in Europe!

The show is always a great opportunity to catch up with fellow conservation and diving organisations but we have to admit that when possible we did take the opportunity to check out the rest of the show, with lots of camping gear, bicycles and a rock climbing wall it was rather too tempting.

Similarly to the last 2 years anyone who signed up for our monthly newsletter was entered into a prize draw to win a free 4 week expedition. (T&C's apply). We will announce the winner in April's newsletter so cross your fingers everybody!

### Future Events

On the 18th March [Adventure Lifesigns'](#) Expeditions Manager, Kensa Cooper, will be braving the elements and sleeping rough for a night as part of YMCA DownsLink group Sleep Easy Sleepout campaign. Raising funds and awareness for positive placements.

Kensa set up the 'Positive Placements' youth mentoring project just over a year ago, whilst she was working for YMCA. The project supports 16-25 year olds who are not in education, employment or training to reengage with the support of a volunteer mentor. Many have experienced homelessness, family breakdown, mental health problems and much more. This project works, aiding young people to find full or part time education, employment and volunteering, all whilst building confidence and self esteem, and helping them to gain the skills they need to turn their lives around.

If you would like to donate to this worthwhile project check out Kensa's [Just Giving](#) page or if you would be interested in becoming a mentor for young people check out the [Positive Placements](#) website.

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### Offer of the month!

This offer proved to be so popular we've decided what the heck, let's continue it for another month! Anyone who books on and joins a CCC marine expedition for at least 4 weeks can get their **PADI Rescue Diver course, manual and certification for FREE!** This offer will save you a massive £268.50! Just mention 'RescueFeb2016' in the messages section of the [booking form](#).

Terms & Conditions: Offer applies to marine expeditions only. Expedition duration must be four weeks or longer. Offer expires 21st March 2016. Offer is only redeemable through use of code on the booking form. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer. This offer has no monetary value and no cash or product alternative will be offered. Usual expedition Terms and Conditions apply.