



The Next Generation of Expedition Leaders!

Lifesigns were joined by a group of students from a Farnham school last weekend for the penultimate training session for their Basic Expedition Leader (BEL) course. This year long course teaches individuals the foundation of skills that they will need to work in the expedition industry, such as risk assessment, kit preparation, navigation and camping.

The nights involved camping out in the lowlands of Surrey and the days' leading a navigation walk around the local area. The group were treated to the whole array of weather from frost (as can be seen from trainer, Tristan Brown's, selfie above), rain and thankfully some much deserved sunshine on Sunday. This weekend the rules were a little more relaxed with trainers allowed to offer support and answer questions but come July the group will repeat the weekend accompanied by assessors who will not be able to help at all.

The students had a great weekend and the trainers were delighted with their progress. A few very important lessons were learnt by the students, for instance all the Trangias in the world won't be any use if you don't have any matches, and tomato soup makes for a perfectly acceptable breakfast if the morning is cold enough! We can't wait to see what they get up to for their final assessment, we'll be sure to give you an update! If you would like to become BEL certified check out this [link](#).



The poster designed for PAME, bearing the official seals of the local government environmental branches.



Kensa braves the canopy walk!

Coral Cay Conservation

[CCC](#) Project Scientist, Marie Seraphim, and Community Liaison Officer Jesse Tinapay, recently attended the [Protection Area Management Enhancement meeting and planning workshop](#). The workshop was held at the SLSU Bontoc campus and managed by the Provincial Government Department Head, Ma'am Eva Abad of PENRMO. Attendees included several focal persons of Local Government Units, officials, academic staff and researchers.

The aim of the workshop was to discuss priority conservation areas in Sogod Bay and the implementation of 10 potential MPAs within the next year. The ultimate goal is to protect and conserve the marine biodiversity of the Bay, which has been identified as one of the Key Biodiversity Areas in the Philippines. During the workshop a Technical Working Group as well as several Committees were formed in which CCC will be participating. A project plan was therefore reviewed and targets were set for the effective establishment of new protected areas. CCC looks forward to the collaboration with PAME project partners on Socio-Economic and Habitat Assessments of those proposed areas. See the [BLOG](#) for the full story.

Recent Events

You may remember from last month's newsletter that our Expeditions Manager, Kensa Cooper, recently headed off to Borneo for a 12 day recce to research new project sites for our teams. Kensa had a very successful trip and plans are continuing full steam ahead for 2016' expeditions. This summer's team will be working on a community project with the Penan tribe, creating a sports area (including tarmacking and basketball nets etc.) for local young people who have little to do there, holding English workshops for the local primary school, and working in partnership with the National park and locals to carry out a river clean and replant raffia in the area.

Kensa greatly enjoyed meeting up with our local stakeholders and partners, a great opportunity to strengthen bonds. The trip wouldn't be complete without a visit to some of the National Parks where she spotted Orangutans, macaque monkeys, pigmy squirrels, flying squirrel, bats of many varieties, and even a snake! If you would be interested in joining Adventure Lifesigns on a group trip check out this [link](#).

Future Events

At the beginning of May the Lifesigns Head Office will be welcoming a representative from Scuba Pro who is visiting to teach four of Coral Cay Conservation's future Field Base Managers (FBMs) to be Scuba Pro maintenance technicians. This day long course teaches our staff how to confidently (and legally!) clean and service the scuba diving regulators, rather necessary considering the number that we have out on our sites. Anyone who has been based out in the tropics before knows how quickly kit can be effected by the sun and sea so this gives our FBMs the skills they need to ensure that CCC kit is kept in good working order, ready to take our volunteers and staff through their dive training.

Offer of the month!

Once dive trained Coral Cay volunteers undertake the Skills Development Program, this is based on a much extended version of the globally recognised 'Reef Check' surveying method. CCC have developed a ' CCC Reef Survey Diver PADI Speciality course' for those of you who wish to have those additional skills recognised and add to your PADI course list at the same time! This month's offer gives anyone who signs up for at least 4 weeks on a CCC marine expedition free training and certification in this course! Just mention 'Newsletter 16/04' in the message section of the [booking form](#)!

Terms & Conditions: Offer applies to marine expeditions only. Expedition duration must be four weeks or longer. Expedition must take place within 2016. Offer expires 16th May 2016. Offer is only redeemable through mention of 'Newsletter 16/04' 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. Certification will only be available upon successful completion of the course requirements. Usual expedition Terms and Conditions apply.