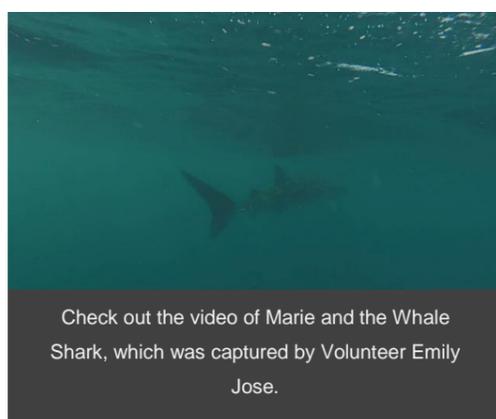


CCC Help out Dive against Debris!

This month Coral Cay Conservation (CCC) volunteers have completed a Dive Against Debris in collaboration with PADI [Project Aware](#). Project AWARE is a "global underwater survey of rubbish" which encourages divers to remove rubbish from the water whilst gathering data on the items collected. The data is important because it allows Project AWARE to direct their campaign at the waste management policies specifically at fault.

The pollution of our reefs is a major issue, and unfortunately CCC's home site of Napantao is not immune. So, this month CCC volunteers tackled the problem head on and spent the day collecting debris directly off of the reef whilst Scuba Diving. The rubbish collected included rubber, plastic, tin, cardboard and a fishing line wrapped around a coral. We are proud to say that the rubbish that was removed can no longer harm marine life in Napantao. The data that was reported is now recorded on the Project Aware website and will hopefully help drive real change in marine debris research and waste management.

If you would like to dive for a cause, check out [Dive Against Debris](#) and play your part in saving our oceans!



Coral Cay Conservation

CCC Philippines Project Scientist Marie Seraphim, and volunteers Jack Walton and



The team take a well-earned rest at Hindhead, Surrey.

Recent Events

Emily Jose, were in for a real treat during their last survey dive in Barangay Estella, Liloan when they had a close encounter with a juvenile whale shark!

The CCC team has been surveying the waters of Barangay Estela for several weeks to determine its suitability as a potential location for a Marine Protected Area. Marie was in for a surprise whilst snorkelling in between dives minding her own business a shark passed right by her side! Of course everyone jumped in the water and swam with this beautiful fish. Whale sharks are the biggest fish on Earth but this one must have been a juvenile as it was only approximately 3 or 4 meters long. This lucky encounter was made even more special by the fact that it is not currently whale shark season in Southern Leyte, which usually takes place between November and March. In addition none of the team had seen any sharks since January. Definitely a story to remember for many years to come!

For your chance at spotting a Whale Shark check out the Philippines site [here](#).

This week saw a number of the Lifesigns staff and external clients venturing out to the Surrey hills to undertake their Basic Expedition Leader (BEL) level 3. This 120 hr course involves learning about group management, risk assessment, navigation, camp craft, the environment and weather through a combination of classroom based lessons and practical sessions.

The first test for each of the group was to give a lesson to the other students on a topic that had been learnt about during the week, and then draw up a 20 kilometre route card of a hiking trail from Stonehills Farm (Nr Tilford) to the Devil's Punch Bowl. Once complete one of the cards was selected and then it was time to strap on the hiking boots and pack up their tents ready for the final navigation practise and overnight camp. This involved hiking the trail on the route card, with each member of the group leading and navigating one leg. A few first aid scenarios were also thrown in to keep the team on their toes!

The group have returned tired but elated after a job well done. Click [here](#) if you are interested in getting your BEL.

Future Events

The team at Head Office said farewell to our first [Marine Expedition Management Intern](#) today, as he heads off to undertake the in country section of his training in the Philippines. This 6 month internship is designed to give individuals all of the training they need to become Expedition Leaders/Field Base Managers. Over the last few months Gareth has been taken through an intensive course of training including First Aid, risk assessment and management, Scuba Pro maintenance, emergency communications, navigation and a whole lot more besides. During his first month on our Philippines site Gareth will be able to concentrate on our skills development program learning how to identify the survey species and how to survey, before moving on to shadowing the Field Base Manager. We can't wait to see how he does on site. If you are interested in joining us as an intern check out [our website](#) for more info.

Offer of the month!

This month we would like to offer free Reef Check certification to anyone who signs up for at least 4 weeks on a CCC marine expedition! Reef Check is a globally recognised Reef Surveying method, and the methodology that our surveys are based on. Anyone who wishes to go into marine biology as a career, or undertake further marine surveys should consider getting this card to prove their knowledge and experience. Just mention 'Newsletter 16/05' 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 13th June 2016. Offer is only redeemable through mention of 'Newsletter 16/05' 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