



Coral Cay Conservation and Depththerapy Triumph in Hurghada!

In May, [Coral Cay Conservation](#)'s Head of Science, Tom Dallison, headed out to Hurghada, Egypt, to take a team from the UK charity, [Depththerapy](#), through a challenging but hugely important science programme. Depththerapy are a UK based charity specialising in the "rehabilitation of UK armed service personnel, who have suffered life changing mental or physical injuries, through the medium of scuba diving". The expedition was part of Depththerapy's '[Protecting Our Oceans](#)' campaign, which aims to focus the attention of the diving community and wider population towards the threats to our oceans.

Tom had a challenge ahead, to take a team of seven veterans, none of whom had a science background, through a Skills in Tropical Reef Ecology Course. This is so that when they head to Truk Lagoon in August, they will be able to conduct basic scientific surveys, analysing the presence and absence of fauna and flora on the wreck of the former Naval Tanker, the Shinkoku Maru. Tom was absolutely blown away by their progress, "My time spent with Depththerapy was an amazing experience for myself, and also a great opportunity to introduce members of the Depththerapy team (Ben, Andy, Jon, Dan, Steve, Chris & Jason) to coral reef ecology and conservation. Witnessing the 7-man strong team in the water first hand was an incredible experience, especially considering that the team consisted of two double amputees, one single amputee (nicknamed Nemo), those suffering from serious back injuries and mental health issues". Navigating these issues required a small amount of adaptation and a large amount of team work; skills that the group excelled at.

Despite much ribbing at Tom's expense (including claiming that Tom had ruined wrecks forever as they would now be too focused on identifying the corals attached to them :)), the team triumphed and the Protecting our Oceans campaign can now boast 7 newly trained ambassadors. Check out [CCC's Blog](#) for Tom's full article on his week with Depththerapy.



The Philippines staff, volunteer and scholar team ready and raring to go!



One of the stunning views on the Fimmvörðuháls trek.

Coral Cay Conservation

For CCC the month of June is synonymous with [World Ocean's Day](#). An annual event which draws the worlds' attention to the plight of plastic pollution, and the health of our oceans. This year was no exception, and we were excited to partner again with [4Ocean](#) to carry out a large scale beach clean with the help of our local community.

The event brought together approx. 280 people from the surrounding communities, and included presentations, a cross-barangay synchronised coastal clean-up, a prize-draw and photo-competition. In keeping with the theme, the Municipality of Liloan joined in on provincial government efforts to name June as 'Environment Month', and officially launched their 'rice from garbage' programme. The programme acts as an incentive for communities to partake in the making of eco-bricks (building blocks made from reused plastic waste) to trade in for a given amount of rice.

With 4Ocean's t-shirts and bracelets acting as great incentives to those who took part, the participants spread out across the coastline of Liloan to collect trash along beaches, piers and waterways. A Discover Scuba Diving Package for two was also available to the winner of CCC's "Take a Selfie" competition, which inspired the community to share their best photos with [#CoralCayConservation](#), and spread the aims and message of World Ocean's Day.

4Ocean had also provided bags, gloves and weighing scales so that the collection could be properly documented before disposal, and added to 4Ocean's swiftly growing collection total. We are very proud to announce that a fantastic **646 kg** of rubbish was collected! Thank you to all those who took part!

Check out the [CCC Blog](#) for the full story.

Recent Events

In June, [Adventure Lifesigns](#)', Head of Operations, Tristan Brown, set off for Iceland to undertake the final recce before one of our school groups head there this Summer. Although the official time for sunset was just after midnight, sun rise was then at 3 am and it never really got dark, perfect for recces as Tristan had all the time in the world to explore!

Tristan started with a trek of the headland at Vik, a location known for its expansive black sand beach and sightings of puffins returning to nest in the evenings. Next up was the Fimmvörðuháls Trek, as can be seen in the photo above the views of the waterfalls were awesome. Unfortunately, after five hours of trekking Tristan was forced to turn back amidst knee high snow and low visibility. This can be frustrating but finding out what potentially can't be achieved is just as important, and the changes that were made in the route will be a great assistance to the leaders when running their dynamic risk assessments during the future expedition.

Although only a week long the itinerary was packed with visits to all the tourist hot-spots - the plane wreck at Solheimsandur, Natural Pool at Seljavellir and the Strokkur geyser, amongst checks of transport, camp sites and costs.

The item in the itinerary that proved a favourite was Hvergerdi, the hot springs at Reykjadalur. Forget scenes of light mist coming off water this was proper boiling pools, with the added bonus of some of the most stunning landscapes that Tristan has ever seen. We can't wait for the school group to see it! Check out the [Adventure Lifesigns Facebook Page](#) to get all the latest news on this Summer's trips.



We've partnered with easyfundraising! Raise FREE funds for your expedition

Great news! We've partnered with easyfundraising to help make fundraising for your expedition a breeze. There's never been a better time to register as a cause with easyfundraising. Simply sign-up and shop with easyfundraising before July 31st with over 3,300 leading UK retailers such as Amazon, eBay & John Lewis, for a chance to win £50 towards your expedition costs. Whatever the result, you're always a winner with easyfundraising, [sign-up now](#).

You can even get friends and family to shop in support of your expedition – it won't cost anyone an extra penny. Interested?

[Register your expedition](#)

Future Events



If the above view looks familiar it might be because you are one of our Montserrat alumni. We are excited to announce that the Montserrat final report is being completed and will be distributed next quarter. Our partners were of course given all the raw data and recommendations before we left the island, but this report will pull together all of the data and conclusions from the 4-year project, and will act as a reference guide for future organisations both on and off island, who want to continue to contribute to the sustainable management of Montserrat's beautiful ecosystems. We'll be sure to shout about it on [Facebook](#) once complete!

Offer of the Quarter

We've got an offer for you and a friend this quarter! [Book on](#) for a stay of at least 4 weeks on Coral Cay Conservation's Philippines expedition site and if a friend joins you, you can both get 20% off the expedition fee! Just make sure that you both mention 'July 2018 Newsletter' in the comments, in addition to your friend's name. We can't wait to welcome you on site!

Terms & Conditions: Offer applies to Coral Cay Conservation Philippine expeditions only. Expedition start date must take place within 2018. Offer can only be redeemed until the 28th September 2018. Offer is only redeemable through the mention of 'July 2018 Newsletter' on the booking form. Offer redeemable on bookings of at least 4 weeks only. Offer applies to expedition fee only. Offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Offer subject to availability. This offer has no monetary value and no cash or product alternative will be offered. Usual CCC expedition [Terms and Conditions](#) apply.