

May 2009  
Issue 5



# ReefComm

*A bi-monthly bulletin of the Community-based Coral Reef Monitoring and Management project*

## *Project Notices:*

*Adopt-the-reserve initiative to be implemented*

*More People and Coral workbooks being distributed*

*Partnership agreements with private sector*

## *In this issue:*

<i>Welcome.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>JCRAs educated about marine pollution.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Summer camp at Folkestone...2</i>	
<i>BADASS'n helps out.....2</i>	
<i>Reef Watchers dive cancelled..2</i>	

## Welcome

Welcome to the fifth issue of the ReefComm newsletter. The project has been further extended until August 2009 and we are therefore looking forward to sharing more project news with you.

## JCRAs educated about marine pollution

The problem of marine pollution became one of the focal points for the Junior Coral Reef Ambassadors' (JCRA) workshop held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at the Folkestone Marine Reserve.

Marine Pollution Officers of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), Ms. Tonia Williams and Mr. Carlon Worrell, introduced the ambassadors to the marine pollution



*JCRAs preparing for field trip*

protocols and associated penalties, types of pollutants and the negative impacts of these pollutants on our island.

During the field sessions, the students walked along the coast at Hometown to observe the various sources of pollution and activities in the area that would negatively impact the marine environment.



*The JCRA members*

## Summer camp at Folkestone

This year the Folkestone Marine Reserve will be hosting a summer camp programme that will allow primary school students to have a greater appreciation for coral reefs

and the marine environment. Further details of the camp will be forwarded to the primary schools in mid-June.

## BADASS'n helps out

The Barbados Divers Association is a recreational scuba diving club catering to all levels of certified divers. Way back in 1990, the club was originally founded to serve members of the American Embassy and was then called the Barbados American Divers Association (hence BADASS'n). Nowadays the club welcomes anyone resident in Barbados with a love for diving, a respect of the island and its marine life.



*BADASS'n members diving*

BADASS'n aims to make diving affordable and safe and there's an emphasis on having fun for sure, but like most divers that have experienced the beauty of our marine environment, the club's divers have become acutely aware of the sensitive marine environment with some of the 41 club members having witnessed for themselves the deterioration of the corals, sea grasses and their inhabitants over many years.

As a corporate member of the Barbados Marine Trust, BADASS'n does what it can to help. They take part in the vitally important Reef Watchers Programme at the Folkestone

## Reef Watchers dive cancelled

While we anticipated the completion of the baseline dataset for the coral reef surveys around Folkestone, the two dives at Sandy Lane Fringing Reef and Sandy Lane Patch Reef were

Marine Reserve, which scientifically monitors the health of our marine environment to provide those who make funding decisions with the supporting evidence they need to help protect our marine environment from further stress from land based activity.

BADASS'n has also arranged or taken part in beach and underwater cleanups, to remove the myriad discarded plastic cups, bottles, bags and other junk that gets washed out to sea from our drainage systems. There's a lot to do, and the Barbados Dive Association has shown their willingness to volunteer the time to make a difference, and have fun doing it!

cancelled on Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> 2009 due to bad sea conditions and poor visibility. If weather permits the dive will be rescheduled to take place in May/June 2009.

## Visit our Website

<http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/folkestone.html>



### ReefComm newsletter

The Community-based Coral Reef Monitoring and Management is a project of the Caribbean Conservation Association in collaboration with: National Conservation Commission and Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies



The project has been funded by GEF/SGP UNDP.

