



LAGON BLEU NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2013

THIS EDITION'S QUOTE

"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired in value." - Theodore Roosevelt

ECO VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

In January 2013, an Eco Volunteer Programme took place. Six students from Australia participated in this programme to help Lagon Bleu with its activities, mainly in monitoring the lagoon. With the data gathered by the Eco Volunteers, the database of Lagon Bleu will be expanded. The evaluation of the data will facilitate an appropriate strategy of protection and surveillance. This year's programme turned out to be a big success, considering the satisfaction among the Eco Volunteers themselves and the members of Lagon Bleu.



INTRODUCING: NEW PROJECT MANAGERS

As from February 2013, Lagon Bleu has 2 new Project Managers. Martijn Groenbroek and Dennis van der Burgh, 2 Dutch students, are now running the project. Both of them are International Facility Management students and will be at Lagon Bleu until the end of June 2013.



NEWS ITEMS

Coral Farming

Lagon Bleu is currently working on the implementation of an artificial coral reef in the lagoon. The method used to achieve this is called Coral Farming. Coral Farming is the cultivation of corals for coral reef restoration. Coral Farming is showing promise as a potentially effective tool for restoring coral reefs, which have been declining around the world. The process bypasses the early growth stages of corals when they are most at risk of dying. Coral seeds are grown in nurseries then replanted on the reef. Coral is farmed by coral farmers and other volunteers affili-

ated with Lagon Bleu, lead by a scientific team leader. Coral farming is going to be an essential asset in preserving the reef in the long run. At the moment, the frame for the Coral Farming structure is ready to be collected, so Lagon Bleu hopes to put the structure in the water on short notice.

Nottingham Trent University

From 24 March 2013, lecturer Graham Shelbourne and his students from Nottingham Trent University will be in Mauritius to do research about numerous aspects of the Mauritian marine life. They will be cooper-

ating with Lagon Bleu during their stay and both parties will support each other where possible.

New Fishing Format on Website

A new Fishing Format will be published on the website soon. When you sight inappropriate fishing in the lagoon, please use this format to inform Lagon Bleu about the activities. With this information, we want to keep a database of lagoon use.

BEACH CLEANING CANCELLED



Unfortunately, the beach cleaning of 30 March had to be cancelled because of bad weather conditions. Lagon Bleu is trying to organize another beach cleaning as soon as possible, so be sure to check the updates on Facebook (www.facebook.com/lagonbleuMU) and the website for more information.

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