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EDITORIAL

In this 15th instalment of the CMS Newsletter we highlight the tributes made to Dr Warner who departed Jamaica for cooler climes at the beginning of August. We all wish him well as he embarks on a new phase in his life. In addition, Dr Jeremy Woodley was kind enough to provide us with an update on his activities since leaving CMS.

You will also notice that staff members have been heavily involved in making presentations to a variety of audiences, on the work of the Centre as we continue to collaborate with agencies and organizations in pursuit of our research objectives.

I hope you find the content of this newsletter interesting and informative and as always your comments and suggestions are welcomed.

Marcia Creary,
Editor

Staff Matters

Tribute paid to Dr George Warner at special CAS meeting



Presentation to Dr Warner at CAS meeting

Dr George Warner retired from CMS at the end of July after 5 years as Director. On June 30 the *Caribbean Academy of Sciences – Jamaica Chapter* paid tribute to him at their 6th General Meeting. Dr Warner gave the Keynote Address entitled “*The Status of Coral Reefs in Jamaica and the Caribbean*”. The subject matter captivated the audience and generated lively discussions afterwards. Prof Ivan Goodbody, who was Dr Warner’s PhD supervisor, introduced Dr Warner and Marcia Creary made the tribute and presentation on behalf of the staff of CMS. Prof Ronald Young gave the opening and closing remarks.

Send-off Function for Dr Warner



Malden Miller has the undivided attention of Dr Warner and Prof Good body

An informal send-off function was held on July 30, after numerous re-scheduling brought about by Hurricanes Dennis and

Emily. Colleagues, friends and well wishers from UWI and other organizations gathered at the home of Marcia Creary to wish Dr Warner and his wife Monica a safe passage back to the UK and a productive and enjoyable retirement.

Where are they now?

Dr Jeremy Woodley

The following is an update submitted by Dr Woodley

I retired in early 2000 after 33 years at UWI; 18 of them as Head of the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory and 7 as Director of the Centre for Marine Sciences. Catherine and I returned briefly to England and then settled in southern Ontario, near McMaster University. One reason for that choice was that we are on the same meridian as Jamaica, and it is easy to return without jet lag. I have been back several times and hope to keep some research going there. I’ve also been to meetings of CARICOMP and GCFI. Meanwhile, as readers of earlier newsletters know, I have published (with others) papers on artisanal fisheries in Jamaica, corals and coral reefs, and brief biographies of a 17th century naturalist, one of my ancestors, and the daughters who illustrated his catalogue of all known shells. There are, I hope, more to come: on the behaviour of brittle-stars and sea-urchins, on some old reef surveys, and on the microanatomy and hydraulics of brittle-star tube-feet.

Research and publication is what I most want to do, but there are distractions! Since we bought a house in Canada, we spend more time than we would like working on it and the garden. Moreover, we both like to travel and because Catherine’s daughter works for Air Canada we can fly cheaply. Earlier

this year, we spent more than a month in Peru, and were fascinated by the history, culture and environments, while studying textiles, birds and butterflies. Also, we have bought a small flat in Oxford, and spend two months there in the summer every year; I'm writing from it now. Here is another distraction from research and writing: the long task of rebuilding my 1971 MGB, the golden-yellow sports car that I shipped back from Jamaica. I am sure that many of my readers will remember it, and I'm glad to say that by next week it will be registered and licensed to run on British roads for the first time!



Dr Woodley and his wife Catherine

CMS Research Projects

Coral Reef Assessment at Pedro Bank 18-26 April

A 5-person dive team led by Dr. Phil Kramer (Director, TNC – Caribbean Marine Program) and included Peter Edwards (University of Delaware/CMS), Sean Green (NEPA), Brandon Hay (C-CAM) and Nathalie Zenny (Pedro Bank Project Manager, TNC Jamaica) conducted the first coral reef assessment on the Pedro Bank. Also included in the team were 6 fishermen. The objective of the assessment was to collect much-needed information about the status and condition of Pedro Bank's coral reefs specifically to inform a management plan for the Pedro Cays. Benthic and fish surveys were conducted at a total of 20 sites using the AGGRA methodology. The work was documented (both above and underwater) and representative photographs and video footage of reef habitats and organisms were taken. Scuba tanks and other equipment were provided by CMS.

Collaborative research between CMS and Israel's National Institute of Oceanography

A grant of US\$200,000 over four years starting July 1st 2005 has been awarded by USAID under their CDR program for this project entitled "*Restoration of coral reefs in Jamaica: Practicing novel measures for reef management*". The study will be in two parts: development of pattern in the growth of coral "nubbins" - use in re-planting damaged reefs, and the relationship between heat-shock proteins and stress in corals - use of these biochemical markers as early indicators of stress. The project will involve exchanges, training of students and strengthening in molecular biology and coral growth techniques. Dr Buki Rinkevich is the Israeli Principal Investigator.

DBML News

Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory DBML on PBS television.

DBML featured as the coral reef research site in the National Geographic TV series "*Strange Days on Planet Earth*" on April 27th. The research by two American scientists involved collecting cores of coral sediments from reefs within Discovery Bay and trying to interpret the recent death of corals revealed in the cores at a site which had previously experienced continuous growth of corals over thousands of years. It was argued that the fishing of top predators (e.g. large fish) from coral reefs had led to deleterious environmental changes. In Jamaica, overfishing is so intense that herbivores (e.g. parrot fish) as well as predators have been removed. It was suggested that this had resulted in overgrowth of the reef by algae and the consequent death of corals.

Visitors to DBML

Cowie, Gregg, Sandy Tudhope & Bryne Ngwenya, University of Edinburgh. Led a course in Geoscience and Geology and Physical Geography.

Donovan, Steve, British Natural History Museum. Exploring extinct and

extant reef corals coexisting on a fossil reef tract from northern Jamaica.

De Ridder Chantal, Marine Laboratory Universite Libre de Brussels – Research on the biology and evolutionary significance of symbioses.

Ereskovski Alexander, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences – Research on sclerosponge biology.

Schnitzler Hans Ulrich & Annette Denzinger, Zoological Institute, University of Tübingen - Research of the echolocation behavior of Jamaican Bats.

Stemann, Thomas, UWI, Geography Department Exploring extinct and extant reef corals coexisting on a fossil reef tract from northern Jamaica.

Willenz, Philippe, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Biology of sclerosponges.

Prof. **James Crabbe** from Reading University led his 4th Earthwatch team to DBML

EcoCamps 2005

EcoCamps 2005 had 3 successful sessions during July. This year USAID assistance permitted the expansion of the camp to include upland youth and permitted them to stay overnight at DBML. EcoCamps is in its 4th year and is being assisted this year by Peace Corps volunteer Chris Rhoades.

CCDC News

Caribbean Coastal Data Centre Grant received from MACC project

The CCDC received US\$8,000 from the CARICOM Secretariat through the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change (MACC) Project to assist with analyzing the backlog of data from the coral monitoring programme under CPACC as well as to review the CPACC monitoring methodologies as provided under the MOU between CMS and CARICOM. Mr. Leslie Walling, Technical Coordinator of the MACC Project, presented the cheque to Dr Warner on June 29, 2005.

CMS Seminar Series

The Undersea Rainforest

Malcolm Bath, CEO of Applied Coral Technologies Inc, presented a seminar entitled *The Undersea Rainforest* on April 28th. Mr. Bath highlighted the work of his company in the area of coral gardening techniques. He is hoping to establish a commercial coral nursery in Jamaica to supply the international aquarist trade and also to supply local coral reef restoration needs. The seminar was jointly organized by CMS and USAID/CWIP.

Conferences, Workshops and Meetings

Presentations

Bowden-Kerby, A., Quinn, N.J., Stennet, M. and Mejia, A. *Acropora cervicornis* restoration to support coral reef conservation in the Caribbean. Coastal Zone '05, USA.

Hibbert M., Edwards P.E., Warner G.F., Creary, M.C., McNaught, M. and Jones, L. *Monitoring of Relocated Corals After Bleaching and Hurricane.* FPAS Conference May 17-19

Quinn N. J. and Kojis B. L. *Is There Evidence for Natural Recovery of Acropora Populations Around Discovery Bay?* FPAS Conference May 17-19

Quinn N.J., Yee T., Gallimore W., Gochfeld D., Slattery M., Hamann M and Walker L. *Exploring Jamaica's Marine Biodiversity While Searching for Pharmacologically Interesting Natural Products from Jamaican Coral Reefs.* The Jamaican International Cooperative

Biodiversity Groups Project. (Poster) FPAS Conference May 17-19

Warner, G.F. *Status of Jamaica Coral Reefs.* Seminar, Natural History Society of Jamaica, May 26

Gayle, P.M.H. and Charpentier, B. *A different perspective on the status of Jamaica's north coast reefs – Is there a silver lining?* AMLC Meeting, June 13-17, Curacao.

Jones, L., Warner G.F., Creary, M.C., Edwards P.E., Hibbert M. and McNaught, M. *Monitoring of relocated corals at Rackham's Cay – was it worth it?* Jamaica Institute of Environmental Professionals 2nd National Conference on the Environment, June 15-16.



L. Jones giving presentation on Rackhams Cay at the JIEP conference, June 2005

Quinn N. J. Stennett, M. and Kojis B. L. *Evaluating the potential of natural reproduction and artificial means to increase Acropora populations in Jamaica.* AMLC Meeting, June 13-17, Curacao.

Warner G.F., Creary, M.C., Edwards P.E., Hibbert M., Jones, L. and McNaught, M. *Monitoring of relocated corals after bleaching and hurricane.* AMLC Meeting, June 13-17, Curacao.



Warner, G.F. *Status of coral reefs in Jamaica and the Caribbean.* Caribbean Academy of Science Meeting, June 30, 2005

Up Coming Events

COAST 2005

Sustainable Coastal Development, COAST 2005. SIDA Advance International Training Programme September 12 –October 14, 2005 Gothenburg, Sweden. Marcia Creary will join 24 other international participant selected to a part of this programme.

Publications

Publications

Warner, G.F. & Goodbody, I. 2005. Marine Biodiversity in Jamaica. pp 57-70 in Miloslavich, P. (ed). Caribbean marine biodiversity: the known and the unknown. DESTech Publications, Inc., Lancaster, PA.

Warner, G.F. & Linton, D.M. 2005. The Caribbean Coastal Marine Productivity Program (CARICOMP). Summary in Miloslavich, P. (ed). Caribbean marine biodiversity: the known and the unknown. DESTech Publications, Inc., Lancaster, PA.

Quinn, NJ & BL Kojis 2005. Patterns of sexual recruitment of acroporid coral populations on the West Fore Reef at Discovery Bay, Jamaica. International Journal of Tropical Biology & Conservation / Revista de Biología Tropica 53(1):83-90.

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