



Interceptor News

Open for business!



At the official opening celebration of the White River Fish Sanctuary on 25th January 2018, it was not about cutting the ribbon but tying the knot. The knot between the Sanctuary and local community; the White River Fishermen Association and White River Marine Association (stakeholders) who operate it in an equal partnership; and between the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries.

Cdr Paul Wright, CEO Fisheries Division, did the honours and gave a speech, after Ian Isaacs, Councillor for the Exchange Division and marine biologist Dr Dayne Buddo, CEO of the Alligator Head Foundation. Founding stakeholders were presented with plaques and everyone enjoyed rum punch and lunch, talking reef conservation and sustainable fishing.

Back row l-r: Wardens Raymond Taylor, Bluntly Brown, Rorie Bennett, Everton Simpson, Sheldon Gardener, Mark Lobban, Elvis Bailey, Delroy Earle (hidden), Lipton Bailey, Debra Korver and Kyle Mais, WRMA directors. *Front row l-r:* Wardens Gifton Allen, Noel Francis and Donald Anderson, with Belinda Morrow, WRMA director, and Cdr Paul Wright.

A BIG THANK YOU to Shaw Park for the venue. This hotel has been very generous in allowing our Sanctuary Manager Dalelan Anderson to hold weekly wardens' meetings here since August last year, and it is perfectly located being at the mouth of the White River from which the fishing community and Sanctuary takes its name. Thank you too to Stanly Leung and Allsignsolutions for printing services.



MEET THE TEAMS

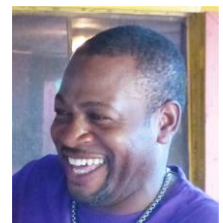


Last issue we introduced four of the 12 wardens, all members of the White River Fishermen Association. This issue, above: Mark Lobban (left) and Everton Simpson were both divers, Mark a free diver, Everton a PADI dive instructor. Both are now coral gardeners for the Sanctuary, as well as wardens.



Father and son: Gifton Allen and Allistear Allen whose mother / grandmother is the lady behind Ms Merle's Fish Joint, unofficial HQ for the Sanctuary until we can build a proper office for meetings and outreach work. Ms Merle received a plaque at the celebration as an honorary founding stakeholder!

New appointment: We are pleased to announce that Rorie Bennett, below, WRFA President, has been appointed Warden Supervisor.



24/7 patrols since 1st Nov 2017

Before patrols started, up to 10 shallow-reef shooters and fishermen stringing nets across patches of reef, could be seen daily within, what is now, the Sanctuary. Today there are few, with those still fishing being educated as to its benefits. In this photo, wardens are moving a fish pot that was too close to the boundary.



Above left: I-r Jonathan Hernould, Sandals Foundation Environmental Officer; Debra Korver, Hermosa Cove; Heidi Clarke, CEO Sandals Foundation; Ray Taylor, WRFS Warden. **Above right:** Cdr Wright, CEO Fisheries Division, ties rope.



Above left: I-r Kyle Mais, WRMA Director; Malgorzata Wasilewska, European Union Ambassador; John Bailey, WRMA board member. **Centre:** Ian Isaacs, Councillor Exchange Division. **Right:** Dr Dayne Buddo, CEO Alligator Head Foundation.



Left: Lt Omar Cover, Jamaica Defence Force (coast guard) & Pastor Nathan-James Taylor who offered a prayer (r). **Right:** Pierre Battaglia, General Manager (r) and Michael Walters, Watersports Manager, Couples Sans Souci.



Above left: Robert O'Brien, member of Jamaica Conservation Partners, with his wife Amelia, and Charlie and Margie Vail. **Above right:** Rorie Bennett, President WRFA presents the plaque to Eric Morrow, Jamaica Inn Foundation.



Above left: Big smiles as Belinda Morrow, Jamaica Inn Foundation (I), presents the founding stakeholder plaque to Debra Korver, co-owner of Hermosa Cove, both are directors of the White River Marine Association. **Above right:** John Bailey, WRMA board member presents a plaque to Ms Merle’s son, Gifton Allen.



A big thank you for all the advice and passion from our consultants, the Oracabessa Bay Fish Sanctuary. **Left:** Jonathan Gosse, Executive Director; Debra Korver with ‘Turtle Whisperer’ Mel Tennant; **Right:** Inilek Wilmot, OBFS Manager.



Kyle Mais, a WRMA Director, being interviewed by TVJ Intense.

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