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Diving To Mind Your Mindset for Merdeka!



Total photo(s) : 2



[<<Back](#) [Next>>](#)

Subang Jaya, 28 July 2008 – Merdeka is our shout of independence 51 years ago. It also shouts the need to conserve and protect our marine environment with volunteers who would come together to lay artificial reefs in Pulau Redang come 20 – 22 August 2008. The local rock band, Wings, will be getting wet and wild, laying the reef with the volunteers in conjunction with International Year of the Reef (IYOR) 2008 and our nation's Independence Day, closing the 50th Year of Independence.

The Merdeka Conservation Dive 2008 as it's aptly named, will have a series of talks, dialogue sessions apart from the laying of reefs for the divers and non-divers during the 3-day event in Terengganu. The Project Director, Azlan Zain stated, "This event is to expand the knowledge and increase the awareness, especially of scuba divers and of the public with regards to the conservation of reefs and the restoration of the marine ecosystem in Malaysia." There will be a cleaning up of the surrounding areas of the beach and fringing forest too.

The project is a collaboration of three companies involved in scuba activities, Ed Scuba, Dolphin Sport Adventure 'House of Scuba' and Trexx Travels, converging to make this happen. The first time that two scuba shops and a travel agency, whose directors are divers too, got together to organise an event of this scale and to fund the laying of the reefs in the sea of their choice. The Marine Park Department of Malaysia as well as Sahabat Laut Malaysia, an NGO are supporting the event together with Dorken Reef Corporation as the reef builder and deployment consultant.

"The involvement of professionals including artistes like Wings to get down and dirty with us as citizens of Malaysia regardless of race, religion and creed to lend support in an effort like this (getting the artificial reefs into the water) really minds our mindset to Merdeka!" Azlan added.

Scuba divers with valid certification are invited to participate in this exercise. For more information, please contact the Merdeka Conservation Dive 2008 Secretariat at +603-62037666. Non-divers would have other activities to join in the fun of the celebration too.

By : Pamela Lim

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ya i want to join.

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