

TOKORIKI SURFACE INTERVAL

Earth Day Monuriki "Cast Away" Island Clean up.

A trip to magical Monuriki Island, location of the movie 'Cast Away', is a favourite of many of Tokoriki's guests. But even this uninhabited jewel is not immune to modern times. For the past 4 years Dive Tropex Tokoriki has run biannual clean ups, enlisting the help of Yanuya Island school kids to clean beach and bush of rubbish.

We were a little late this year in conducting the clean up at Monuriki Island. But eventually in May we picked up 12 excited school children for a morning of beach cleaning.

Monuriki Island has recently been declared a land and marine sanctuary and the local landowners are going to great effort to regularly clean up. Nevertheless the volunteers still collected 12 bags of rubbish. Most of this was made up of plastic items—bottles, bags, noodle packets and a never ending supply of flip-flops!



At the end of the clean up, the children were given goodie bags filled with school stationery.

Tokoriki starts Coral Planting

At the end of May, marine coral experts were invited to spend the weekend at Tokoriki to teach Tokoriki's dive crew how to plant coral.



First mesh tables on legs are placed underwater. Next, coral clumps are collected and form brood coral stock.

Its from this stock that coral cuttings are taken.



These cuttings are then glued to cement plugs. Once secured, the coral cutting plugs or 'frags' are then taken underwater to their temporary new home—the mesh table.



Each frag plug fits into the table mesh and stays there until the coral has grown over the base of each plug.

Once this has taken place the plugs are removed and planted on the reef and the process of coral planting begins again.



We have been advised to wait a month or so to make sure the coral is happy before going into full production.

Our plan is to eventually have 6 production line tables growing and be able to offer PADI Coral Planting Courses to Tokoriki's diving guests.

Dive, Boating and Activities Staff attend Reef Awareness Refresher Workshop

The Mamanuca Environmental Society (MES) conducted a half day workshop with key staff members on the subject of Reef Awareness and Conservation. For most staff this served as a reminder as to how best to protect the Reef Ecosystem.

Tokoriki runs daily excursions for snorkelers and scuba divers. On all trips guests are made aware of how to behave responsibly and so best protect the coral reef. By attending such workshops Tokoriki staff are able to pass on their knowledge to guests and put into action responsible boating practices.

