

Tobago beaches get clean-up

SIX Tobago beaches have gotten a much needed shot in the arm for environmental cleanliness from the Green Seas Trust which has been operational in Tobago for just seven weeks.

Trustee Fazilette Khan said 16 garbage bins have been placed at these popular beaches: five at Swallows; three at Grafton; one at Turtle Beach; one at Buccoo; three at Grange Bay; and three at Lowlands Beach.

These beaches, Khan said, were chosen because of their popularity with locals and visitors.

Green Seas Trust was established in memory of the late distinguished writer and poet, Haida Khan, who had a passion for the beauty of all forms of nature.

The trustee of Green Seas contended that the Green Seas campaign was a unique initiative from a co-ordinated and sustained level of garbage disposal from its public beaches, having instead to rely on the sporadic service of cleaning gangs.

As a result, she said, much of the litter left on the beaches is swept into the sea or gets stuck in rocks, crevices and coves along the coast.

She felt that the impact of this pollution was not simply in aesthetic terms but it was also causing the demise of both coral and marine life.

Khan, who spoke with a deep sense of emotion about the importance of keeping the beaches clean, revealed that GreenSeas got permission from the THA Public Health Division and



FAZILETTE KHAN

Environment Tobago to place the bins on the beaches and in return the Public Health Division has pledged to empty the bins regularly.

Commenting on the future plans of Green Seas, Khan noted that although we have been operational in Tobago for a very short time, we are already involved with an educational programme in schools to make students aware of the detrimental effects of litter to the marine environment.

She added, we believe that by addressing young people and drawing their attention to the importance of marine life preservation, we can achieve efficient support in combating the problems associated with pollution and the litter which are affecting the coral reefs. Now is the time to save our beaches, was her parting comment.