

UP CLOSE

with Craig Burt Parks Officer



By Serena Brangman

Serena: What is your job title?

Mr. Burt: I am a Parks officer.

Serena: What are the best and worst things you have to deal with on the job?

Mr. Burt: The best thing about my job is doing tours with kids and people around the world. I enjoy meeting people from all over the place and having the privilege to experience different cultures. I'm a people person.

The worst times have been when we have had to deal with decomposed bodies, people dying, working with police handling sexual offences and when we found a 3 month old baby left in and around the park area to fend for themselves. Other Government Departments assist but that would be the worst position I've been in.

Serena: What is your average day like?

Mr. Burt: It can vary, one week it may be routine then the next can be very spontaneous, crazy situations may occur changing my entire work schedule. I have to deal with people drowning at Horseshoe Bay because lifeguards come under my Department or people may report their child lost so I have to make sure the appropriate help is put in place in order to solve this problem.

Serena: Our edition is focusing on Entertainment and concerts, how do promoters rent public areas for concerts?



From left: Serena Brangman with Parks Officer Craig Burt and fellow team member Chakeya Ottley

"You have to expect the unexpected."

Mr. Burt: Well, back in the 90s we would rent Spanish Point, Clearwater, Horseshoe Bay and Chaplin Bay for public events. We have dropped a couple now, so promoters are able to rent Chaplin Bay and Horseshoe Bay. We tend to work with promoters we know and that have experience. There is a lot that

goes into coordinating an event.

Serena: How many Parks Officers are there?

Mr. Burt: I am the only Park Officer. There are 3 full time park rangers under my supervision. There are lifeguard superintendents that need up to 12-16 lifeguards around the island and I have about 6-10 seasoned park rangers in the summer.

Serena: Visitors to the country remark on how clean Bermuda is. Is it the job of Parks staff to keep the beaches clean?

Mr. Burt: It's the job of the entire Parks Department. We have maintenance crews that have to deal with cars, trucks, bikes and washing machines that have been dumped. The Parks Department deals with that.

Serena: What is your advice for the youth of Bermuda?

Mr. Burt: Be mindful of others.

Serena: Are there poisonous plants in Bermuda?

Mr. Burt: Poison Ivy, they can be recognized by the red spots on the leaves. Pencil tree is another, look out for green leafy leaves which look like fingers.

Check out www.youthnews.com for pictures of the poisonous plants/trees.

Serena: How many railways are there?

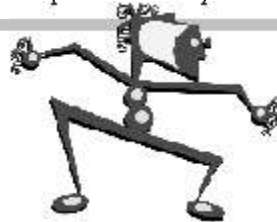
Mr. Burt: There is one railway but it's broken up into different sections.

Serena: I've recently seen men standing along the road with signs asking passers by to assist with rodents? Do we have a problem on island?

Mr. Burt: Yes we do have a problem. There are more rats in Bermuda than people think. When people leave their trash around rats will come. The Ministry of Health is currently working on the issue and are also educating people on the issue.

Serena: What is your advice for any youth that wish to become a Parks Officer?

Mr. Burt: We have a volunteer program. You have to have gone to College or University to be a summer park officer.



Youth News Goes Deep Behind the Scenes of the

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

See More Interviews on page 11



Interview with Kendrick Zuill and his Deep Dale Bouncers

Deep Dale bouncers are a renowned team of bouncers on island, it is usually them that you will meet at the gate of a concert or show. Youth News got up close and personal with Kendrick the owner.

Q. What is it you are looking for at the gate?

A. Anything that can be an offensive weapon or an object that can cause harm, threat or injury to somebody. We even have a female that works on bag searches and two metal detectors in addition to the frisk at the gate. We have an agreement with the promoter which requires we search every person at the show including the deejays and their staff.

Depending on the event, we may also call the police and ask them to do a search of the venue before the gates open. We have a very close working relationship with the police. I have the Police Support Unit telephone number at all time and notify them of all events that we are working on at a club or a show.

Q. What has been the worst case of violence over the last few years?

A. It would be the Elephant Show, two years ago, There was a rivalry between town and country which involved at least 200 people and it exploded at the event. Because of the



mutual respect that Deep Dale has with the rivalry groups they left the premises and upon leaving it started up outside and the police took care of it.

The cruise last year was a case where we had to wait to get to land to get assistance from the police.

Q. What do you think incites the violence?

A. I would say alcohol and the music. The deejays are the ones that control the crowd with the music, they have the power to incite or control.

Q. Do you work with dogs or horses?

A. I've worked events with them but separate firms coordinate that side.

See full interview on www.youthnews.com

Interview with Steve Easton of Just Platinum Studio

"Bermuda could easily have a music and film industry. The game industry is bigger now than the movie industry. Computer animation and gaming is huge. Young people really need to get keyed in. An xbox is really a PC, cell phones and nearly everything we use is a computer chip."

"Necessity is the mother of invention"

Steve Easton is arguably the most experienced audio technician in Bermuda, he owns a studio, Just Platinum. When you are listening to the radio a lot of the time it is Steve's magical wand that you are listening to. Youth News got up close and personal with him...

Q. Are you self taught?

A. From the computer aspect yes, but I did attend college and took a recording engineering course. Back in the day we worked on reel to reel.

CDs are like records, [he chuckles]. Trust me MP3 is around the corner, MP3 is taking over from CDs. For instance look at online stores like itunes.com. You can go online and buy an album and download it on to your IPOD. A lot of new cars have jacks for your IPOD. You should check out this web page: www.numark.com and look at the future for



Deejays. Deejays are now using IPODs.

I hope to see Bermuda College evolve their program as I am watching a lot of students go overseas. For instance get your readers to check out www.fullsail.com in Orlando. That college even came here to do a presentation as they have so many Bermuda students.

Q. Which has been your most memorable recording?

A. I would have to say most album projects, it is a really good feeling to see any album from start to completion.

We are living in a multi tasking society. Youth need to learn to multi-task. In today's life you need to have the ability to multi task effectively. Computer skills are paramount!

See full interview on www.youthnews.com