

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity

Issue: 7 May 2013

St Helena's Day 2013

Memorable events on St Helena, is the theme of the float parade for this year's St Helena's Day Celebrations. The event has been organised by New Horizons since 2007 and has become a popular annual event where hundreds gather and celebrate the discovery of the Island in 1502.

On this Bank Holiday, Jamestown becomes a hive of activity for families and visitors alike. Nicky Stevens Youth Leader and Chairperson commented:

"Using Jamestown has allowed for a much bigger programme."

In order for New Horizons to organise and host such varied activities, donations have been generously made from the St Helena Government and private sector organisations. Last year was one of the more impressive celebrations as it was the first time in ten years that a fireworks display was held. Nicky commented that the turnout was immense with spectators gathering in their vehicles to watch the display, at Sea View. Fireworks will this year continue, although the location is yet to be determined.

To help promote the event, posters (funded by Enterprise St Helena and designed by Lupa Designs) have been displayed around Jamestown as well as advertising in the local media. St Helena's day begins with a formal march which includes the Scouts and Girl Guides. A sponsored mini marathon will then commence from the Mule Yard, up Side Path Road, down Constitution Road, past the Hospital and ending at the Mule Yard. Novelty sports which Nicky explained were a hit last year will also take place again. Groups must enter in a team of 8 and there is still time to get your teams together to enter with a chance of winning the Cup and medals. This year New Horizons, Basil Read and the Environmental Management Division have so far entered, with more to come.

Members of New Horizons, along with parents, are to run 5 a side football, volleyball, a tuck shop and bouncy castle. Several food stalls will also be open including



Mike's Munchies and Cyril's and Leo's Planet. The float parade is set for 3:30pm with participants from New Horizons, Harford

School, Prince Andrew School, Corona Society, Pilling Primary's May Queen and the Environmental Management Directorate. Nicky urged those interested in contributing a float to contact him - there is also an option to simply show up on the day with your themed float.

Entertainment is set to continue well into the night for all ages, with cartoons for kids on the big screen, and live folk music by Barren Three, the Big Easy and guest singers. Activities that are new this year include, sailing with the Herne's, kayaking and Tram Lines.

Nicky welcomes additional stalls, so those interested should contact him as soon as possible on telephone number 2034.

To kick-start the event, the opening ceremony will begin with a speech from Nicky as well as Miss St Helena 2012 runner up Ashton Yon.



Arrivals

Kedell Worboys MBE, St Helena

Government UK Representative, began her career on Island as Head of Development and Economic Planning. Kedell



embarked on a life in the UK and saw the post of SHG Rep advertised and decided to apply for the job. She hasn't stopped since. Over the years, Kedell explained that her role has changed significantly and developed due to changes in circumstances. Kedell said:

'When saints didn't have citizenship prior to 2002 there was a lot more paperwork and visa applications to allow people to enter the UK.'

The job includes representing St Helena Government in Parliament, Whitehall, the Foreign Office and DfID. Kedell deals with International recruitment, and has also taken on the responsibilities of medical recruitment and assisting medivacs. Kedell said her most enjoyable role is looking after and advising scholarship students. Kedell commented: '

I am so proud of them when they achieve their degrees and I get a real buzz seeing young Saint students progress.'

Kedell has close contact with students on training schemes in the UK and is able to assist in many ways. Kedell also represents the St Helena Government's interests in organisations such as the Overseas Countries and Territories section of the European Union. There she chairs on environmental issues and is involved with the Darwin Plus Committee. Recently she has attended formal events, such as Margaret Thatcher's funeral. During this visit to the Island, her programme is packed with meetings and briefings to get a feel for the changes that are happening on St Helena to assist her role in the UK.

Andrew Neill has been appointed as the new Chief

Auditor at the St Helena Audit Service for a three year term. Andy is a Chartered Accountant with private and public sector experience. He



worked for the Audit Commission (National Health and Local Government external audits), and then the Further Education Funding Council and its successor bodies, where he conducted quality inspections, and high level reviews of governance and financial management in FE colleges. His last assignment before joining the Island was improving the systems and records of two private sector companies. Andy had seen the job of Chief Auditor advertised several times throughout his career and felt it was now the right time to apply. Andrew will be working with his deputy, Connie Stevens Audit Manager, on the St Helena Government accounts and a range of other assignments. Andrew emphasised the importance of ensuring value for money during a period of significant change and he will be working closely with the Public Accounts Committee. The Audit Team structure will be reviewed and a vacancy is likely to arise. He commented:

'It is a long learning road but extremely rewarding ... for example, in the future the Island's businesses will benefit from professional, independent advice and the services of accountants.'

Andy expects someone will jump at the chance to pursue a challenging and rewarding career. He explains:

'It is not just about numbers, but understanding how business works, and advising and assisting organisations to achieve their ambitions'.

The Audit Service is independent of SHG.

Disaster Management Executive, Kevin Hornett has recently arrived on Island. Kevin works within the Police Directorate, and his aim is to draw together a National Disaster

Management Plan. Kevin says that the term 'Disaster' is misleading and prefers to use Risk and Resilience. A risk is anything that can affect the whole community, such as rock falls, fuel leakage and water shortages. Kevin said:

'I hope to involve all services and organisations on Island as it is up to all of us to mitigate risk and protect the community.' There will also be practical testing of recommendations, and scenarios will be set up where those involved are able to test if procedures are in place and actually work.

Kevin mentioned that the plan can only work if directorates can manage the procedures and there is involvement from all sides to get it right and workable. There



are many individual plans in place and Kevin's job is to collate all of them into a community plan, to lessen the potential overall risk on Island. Kevin said: '

It is the responsibility of Government to deal with risk and help the Island recover' - that is the purpose of the Disaster Management Plan.



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Additional Funding for Rupert's Jetty

Gillian Francis (SHG Deputy Chief Secretary), currently working and on leave in the United Kingdom, recently attended the Overseas Countries and Territories Association of the European Union bureau in Brussels for a familiarisation visit, supported by Kedell Worboys (St Helena Government UK Representative). Meetings were held with the UK Representative, Priti Priyapati, Theo Saramandis, Head of the OCTA Task Force and Paul Schilderkamp, OCTA Programme Manager, who advised that the rider submitted to transfer St Helena's allocation under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) originally for the safer landing facility and improved sea defences in Jamestown – was approved—to transfer to Rupert's Bay, for the Jetty Project. This means that this allocation will now be used to contribute towards a permanent Jetty at Rupert's Bay.

BACKGROUND - When the Single Programming Document in respect of the 10th EDF Territorial Allocation to St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha was prepared, there was considerable uncertainty regarding whether, or not, the British Government would fund construction of an airport, although the urgent need for improved physical access to the Island to enable sustainable development was fully recognised. Consequently a major component for which EU funding was sought was the construction of a breakwater associated sheltered landing at Jamestown Wharf. The lowest tender bid received for this project was in excess of the funding available from the 10th EDF. Therefore, given the urgency with which action is



Pierre Berthelot, OCTA Technical Assistance, Gillian Francis (Deputy Chief Secretary), Fanny Leclaire, OCTA Communication, Aurelie Ghysels, OCTA Environment, Hugues Legros PhD, OCTA Technical Assistance Research.

required to improve sea access, Executive Council advised the Governor, and he agreed that SHG should seriously consider Rupert's Bay Jetty as the priority project and permission be sought to amend the EDF Financing Agreement - to target the construction of a permanent Jetty at Rupert's Bay.

As part of the original DfID airport contract, a financial provision was made for the

construction of a Jetty at Rupert's Bay as part of the air access package. Whilst this structure's function would be primarily for cargo discharge, it was further intended



that it might enable cruise passengers to land safely when sea conditions prevent this occurring at Jamestown. However, preliminary designs suggested that the cost of

this structure at Rupert's Bay would exceed the provisional sum made available by DFID.

When the RMS St Helena is withdrawn from service, it is important that vessels discharging cargo can do so alongside a permanent structure without the use of barges. The proposed breakwater facility at Jamestown did not provide for this, while the Jetty at Rupert's Bay could accommodate such vessels.

Joy of Stats



A 'Joy of Stats' programme will be broadcast on local television commencing Monday 13 May at 7:30pm, repeating on Wednesday 15 and Friday 17, both at 7:30pm. Joy of Stats is a highly engaging, informative, enjoyable programme - perhaps not what you would imagine of a programme about numbers!

Waste Wheel

Solid waste from commercial premises and households on St Helena is managed at the Horse Point Landfill Site, locally named 'The Dump'. Mike Durnford, Climate Change & Pollution Officer at the Environment and Natural Resources Directorate explained:

'If not properly managed, waste can become a real problem, leading to a reduction of landfill space, and creation of greenhouse gases, contributing to climate change. Such pollution creates a problem for future generations.'

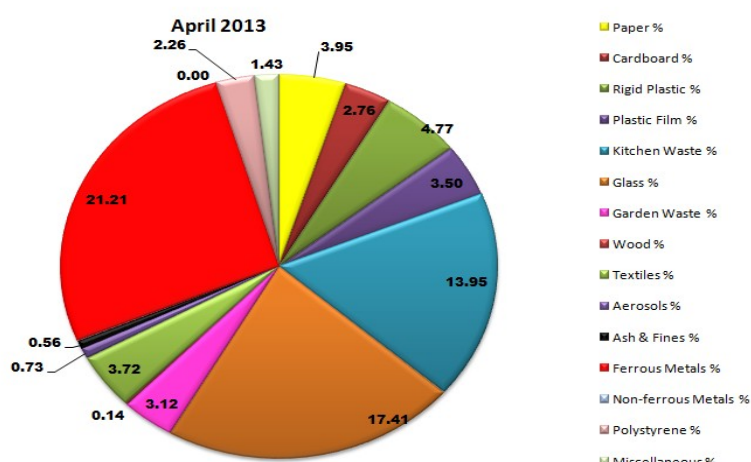
However Mike continues that there are things that can be done about it:

'Such as reusing clothes and furniture, collecting materials like paper, cardboard and glass so they can be recycled into new products, and treating organic waste.'

In order to gauge the amount of waste being managed at the site, a waste compositional analysis called the 'Waste Wheel' was first carried out in 2002. In 2002 the total amount of waste disposed of was estimated at 1600 tonnes. The total waste estimated for 2012 is approximately 1450 tonnes. This slight decrease is likely to be due to the decline in population which occurred between 2002 and 2012, a trend which is expected to reverse in future years.

To collect information for the Waste Wheel, research is undertaken one week every three months. These calculations are compiled as follows - The Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) is weighed. Five representative black bags are removed from the RCV (giving a manageable amount of waste for analysis). Bags of waste are weighed individually to give average sack weight and then opened and sorted into fourteen waste streams.

Waste Wheel – April 2013



These individual streams are then weighed to give percentages of bag contents. The RCV is re-weighed after depositing its load to confirm un-laden weight. The Waste Wheel is designed to provide information on changes in percentages of waste streams, evidence of the success of recycling activities on the Island, and to assess to the potential benefits of future recycling initiatives - such as kitchen and green waste for composting. The noticeable reduction of some waste percentages since 2002 may be attributed to successful initiatives started on St Helena, mainly that of paper and cardboard through SHAPE. Mike Dunford explained:

'SHAPES's sustainability and continued success, and the success of new initiatives, depends on active participation by all residents to be more conscious of the need to recycle and the benefits from doing it.'

General Election 2013 - Date

Acting Governor Owen O'Sullivan has now set a date for the General Election 2013, which will take place on **Wednesday 17 July 2013**.

In order to vote, or stand as a Candidate, your name must be on the Register of Electors.

The Provisional Register of Electors was published on Wednesday 8 May 2013, and during a two week period it will be available for inspection and amendment by contacting the Assistant Registration Officer, Gina Benjamin, at 1 Main Street, (tel: 2314). Copies will also be available at the Customer Service Centre, Library and the rural sub post offices. If you are temporarily absent from St Helena for employment, education or medical reasons, but are otherwise eligible, you can still have your name registered (a special form is available from the contact given above).



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