



Celebrating The 3rd Anniversary of The Airport Project



Members of the Air Access Team

3 November 2014, marked the 3rd anniversary of the Airport Project. To celebrate the occasion a reception was held at Plantation, hosted by HE Governor Capes. Photo timelines were on display to show Airport Project progress as well as showcasing achievements in business on St Helena. Governor Capes, Deon de Jager (Basil Read Island Director), and Niall O’Keeffe (ESH Chief Executive for Economic Development) gave their speeches. Governor Capes said: “Many of you will recall that 3 years ago today, I was standing outside the Court House

to announce the signing of the Airport contract. That was just 5 days after my first arrival; I could not have hoped for a better start to my appointment as Governor. Since then, working with some outstanding people, it has been a fascinating and rewarding time.” The Governor continued, expressing that the Airport is not just about reducing the time it takes to get somewhere but about giving St Helena the chance to have a better future - an economy in which all can earn a decent wage from a good range of employment options, an economy that provides affordable housing, good education and healthcare. HE went on to say: “To Deon and his colleagues; to all those Saints and workers from further afield who have worked so well to build our Airport, to our Councillors and colleagues in SHG, Janet and the Air Access team - with a special mention to Clare Harris who has been here since the beginning, Andreas Huber and colleagues at Halcrow, our partners in DFID, and to all those, too many to mention who have helped, or are helping bring air access closer to a reality, and to all those who are helping to grow our economy - thank you.”



Governor & Invited Guests



Governor visits Airport site on 3 November 2014



L to R: Deon de Jager, Governor Capes, Andreas Huber

Deon de Jager reflected on his journey and thanked all who put their trust in him. Deon commented: “I couldn’t have done this without team work and the support of my managers, we are all looking forward to a common goal and we are close to handing over the keys.” Niall O’Keeffe said that those present in the room have the responsibility to bring certainty and confidence to the community. The completion and certification of the Airport, the provision of air services, the completion of Rupert’s Bay and the announcement of a shipping service provider will present this certainty and confidence to those in the community and those looking to invest.

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St Helena Airport

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Where We Are Going



EXTRACTOR loading bagged ice for inaugural voyage under new owners St. Marine Resources Ltd.
© ZD7VC Maritime Photo Collection 2014.

On 3 November 2011 the Airport contract was signed catapulting St Helena into a future of hope and opportunities. Former Councillor, Rodney Buckley said at the time: *"It was established from the outset that leadership was needed to take forward economic growth, hence the establishment of Enterprise St Helena."*

25% of applicants are in Agriculture, and promoting local productions and self-sufficiency remains one of the Island's top priorities.

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) has been operating for 2 years with a primary role to support the growth of the private sector through tourism led activities. Although ESH's activities are wide ranging, the 6 key areas that ESH focuses on are, training and up-skilling the people of St Helena, growing and funding local businesses, attracting investment, fisheries development,

attracting back Saints who are living abroad and providing a world class visitor experience. The ESH Business Development Team has advised and assisted over 70 businesses this financial year including assisting 1 youth start-up and 4 non-youth start-up businesses.

ESH has approved over 30 applications for financial assistance via Grants and Loans – 47% of these applications are in Tourism.

Upcoming new projects from 2015 onwards will include refurbishment of the Jamestown Market, an iconic historical asset built in the mid 1800s, and also bringing life back to No. 1,2 and 3 buildings on Main street into a 30 bed 4 star hotel in partnership with St Helena Government. In terms of making sure that both locals and tourists are happy with customer service, ESH is working with



international accreditors to make sure St Helena implements a robust food safety management system. St Helena has achieved a 100% pass rate from the Royal Society of Public Health Accredited Food Safety Courses - to date 120 people have received this accreditation. Saints are now acting on the available business opportunities, but ESH want to ensure that this involves 'opportunities for all'.

There are now 648 businesses compared to the 520 noted in 2012.