



Sea Rescue Service Moves Into New Building



Sea Rescue Facility at Rupert's



On Friday, 15 December 2017, the St Helena Sea Rescue Service made their much anticipated move from their temporary location at the Jamestown Wharf to the purpose-built Sea Rescue Facility in Rupert's.

The provision of the Sea Rescue Facility was an integral part of the Airport Project which funded the facility, the Ribs, and initial staff training.

Sea Rescue Manager, Simon Wade, said:

"It has been a long and challenging time, but we got here in the end. The team and I are very happy to be moving in. I would like to thank all who have helped us get to this point."

Now that the Sea Rescue Service has relocated, the public is asked to refrain from parking in front of the Sea Rescue Facility and the Slipway. Any obstruction to the area could delay the deployment of the Sea Rescue Boats in the event of an emergency.



Members of the Sea Rescue Team

Taking the rescue boat out of the water to its new home at Rupert's



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During a recent trip to the UK, Deputy Airport Contracts Manager, James Kellett, made a two-day visit to Islay Airport on the Isle of Islay in western Scotland. The visit was organised to allow James to see the multi-tasking operations that occur at this small, but busy, airport.

James explained:

"Islay receives two scheduled flights each day during the winter months, but this rapidly increases over the summer months as tourists and private visitors flock to the Island. As a small airport, there are a number of multi-tasking roles for the firefighters to complete - this includes core firefighting duties, as well as sea rescue duties, airport security, the provision of flight information to pilots, refuelling and passenger handling. As such, I spent two days with the firefighters to understand their roles, and to see the opportunities and challenges that such a small operation brings to those who work at this airport."

James hopes his visit to Islay will assist him with future airport resource planning, as well as forging a link with an airport whose operations and remote location are similar to St Helena's.

James concluded:

"Although Islay is only a few minutes flight-time from the mainland, it is still an Island with a small population; this swells during the summer months as visitors come to partake in the various sporting activities on offer and to visit the many famous distilleries on-Island. As such, there are similarities between Islay Airport and St Helena Airport in what they set out to achieve and how they do so with limited resources at their disposal."



James during a runway inspection and security check at Islay Airport



Basil Read's Christmas Operations

Most of Basil Read's operations will cease over the Christmas period to allow staff some time off to enjoy the festivities. Despite this, some staff will continue to work on various sites on certain days.

The public is reminded that the Nearshore Gantry Support and the Airport Access Road will remain out of bounds, but Rupert's Beach will remain open to the public unless communicated otherwise.

Access to the Banks' Post Box Walk will remain open via the back of the Bayside Bulk Fuel Installation fence line whereas access to the fishing grounds at Birddown will remain temporarily closed during the construction of the Gantry.

Commissioning of the Bulk Fuel Installation Pipeline in Rupert's Valley will commence during the break, but will be limited to minor activities such as air pressure testing and ground inspections. The major commissioning activities are scheduled to take place in the New Year.

In other news, the St Helena Airport Project's Annual Environment Report 2016/17 will soon be made available on the St Helena Airport Directorate page of the SHG Website.

If there are any queries, please contact Environmental Officer, Annina Hayes, at Basil Read's Longwood Office on tel: 24026.



Trial fitment of the first tubular section of the Gantry, 8 December 2017