

Issue No: 3
21 March 2012
Access Office, SHG

St Helena Airport



Works Continue in Rupert's

Basil Read are continuing works at Rupert's on the Temporary Jetty adjacent the Shears in readiness for the arrival of their ship and the Temporary Fuel Storage Facility behind St Michaels Church. A blast was carried out on the 5th March 2012 at the Quarry in Rupert's, but unfortunately the stones produced were too small to use into the stone fill of the Temporary Jetty. They have therefore sourced stone from local business operator William Clingham.

The pictures below show progress to date.



Temporary Jetty February 2012



Temporary Jetty March 2012

We frequently get asked how many Saints are Basil Read employing and what type of jobs they are doing. Basil Read are currently employing nearly 70 Saints and close to 100 people in total.

This week we spoke to three of the Basil Read employees actually involved in the works at Rupert's. Their profiles are overleaf.

Basil Read Management has decided that construction activities will cease at 1200 noon on Thursday 5 April 2012 and resume on Tuesday 10 April 2012 in order to allow employees the opportunity to spend time with family and friends over the Easter period.

The weekend of 30 March 2012 will therefore be a normal working period.

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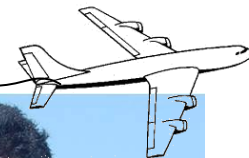
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• Job Profiles



Name: Mario Green
Job Title: Crane/Truck Driver
Employer: Basil Read (Pty)
Date of Employment:
 6th January 2012 – present
Hours of work:
 Monday – Friday 07:00 to 16:00
 Saturday 07:00 to 14:00
 Overtime is also offered as and when required.

Job Role/Typical day

As a Crane/Truck Driver I am involved in all current works and am responsible for transporting equipment. This can range from basic construction equipment/material to containers.

I come into work every day and do something new. I get to work with different organisations and because Basil Read offers opportunities that were not previously offered to me on St Helena this allows me to explore new things. New opportunities will also come as the project progresses.

Reasons for joining Basil Read

I joined the company to be a part of the airport project and to be a part of St Helena's history. I thought it a good experience to further build on my skills and learn new ones; the higher wages were also an added bonus.

Previous work history

Before being employed by Basil Read I was doing freelance landscaping contracts on St Helena.

Prior to this I worked on the Falkland Islands for Neil McKay Limited and my job there involved stevedoring duties such as driving heavy vehicles. I also worked as a Trainee Operator for Interserve Defence operating plant equipment.

Thoughts about the Airport Project

To be honest I was very sceptical about the Island having an airport, I wondered what it would do to living costs and to the Island in general. Now I can say that the positives outweigh the negatives. Like I said Basil Read offers opportunities that were not previously offered to me on St Helena.



Name: Michael Araujo
Job Title: Site Agent – Concrete Works
Employer: Basil Read (Pty)
Date of Employment:
 2009 – present
Hours of work:
 Monday – Friday 07:00 to 16:00
 Saturday 07:00 to 14:00
 Overtime is also offered as and when required.

Job Role/Typical Day

I am involved in any concrete works and responsible for three personnel. At the moment we are working in the Temporary Jetty and Temporary Fuel Farm. I also liaise with AMD Engineering Limited regarding steel bending.

Previous work history

This is my third year with Basil Read, which I joined after graduating from the University of Johannesburg as a Civil Engineer. I was selected to come to St Helena and arrived here on 1 February 2012, this will be my first international job with the company although I have spent two years in Namibia previously.

Thoughts about the Airport Project

In South Africa this project is regarded as one of the biggest projects ever undertaken by Basil Read. I find it is most beneficial to work with the Saints as they have experience in everything and I think we've had it easy. Even skills such as being used to navigating the narrow roads give Saints an advantage and helps us a lot with the project. I can find nothing negative about St Helena as yet. What people on the Island need to be aware of is that we are the contractors, here for a limited time to build the airport. There are lots of opportunities both during construction and afterwards and we want the island to make the most of these. Saints need to build on what they want and have a vision for the island.



Name: Melvyn Henry
Job Title: Surveyor
Employer: Basil Read (Pty)
Date of Employment:
 20 February 2012 – present
Hours of work:
 Monday – Friday 07:00 to 16:00
 Saturday 07:00 to 14:00
 Overtime is also offered as and when required.

Job Role/Typical day

I work with the Senior Surveyor, Andries Bischoff setting in Survey Controls around the Airport Development Area which includes surveying for a Dam, the Camp near Bradley's, the Temporary Fuel Farm area near St Michaels Church and the new Bulk Fuel Installation in Rupert's Valley.

Reasons for joining Basil Read

I would like to further improve my skills as a surveyor, which I plan to use in the future when continuing with my own surveying business. The benefits to me at the moment are not financial but are in terms of where the experience and training I am gaining will get me in the future. Before this project, there was not the opportunity to access the technology I am using. For example, I have already learnt to use a new piece of GPS equipment since joining the company.

Previous work history

From 1989 – 2000 I worked as a Draftsman/Surveyor for St Helena Government. In 2000 I joined Solomon & Company as Works Manager until 2005 when I set up my own business, Mel's Technical Services.

Thoughts about the Airport Project

I am not a supporter of the airport because I don't think that it is the answer to St Helena's problems. But I do feel that during the Construction Phase the island will benefit.

Basil Read has helped me to purchase my own additional surveying equipment, which I will use for the project and retain on completion. The company is a good one to work for and I feel that the benefits are twofold. The experience I am gaining now will only benefit me and my business in future.