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Public Relations Office, SHG

# St Helena Airport

## Dry Gut Fill Update

Dry Gut ( November 2011)



Dry Gut ( June 2014)



Dry Gut is scheduled to be completely filled by September 2014. Work on the Open Channel is complete and 603,839m<sup>3</sup> of material has been excavated, taken to Dry Gut and used as fill material.

Basil Read Island Director, Deon De Jager reports:

*“Work started in full earnest on the Dry Gut fill in January 2013 and in February all four production units were working 24 hours a day, six days a week. As a result of the commitment, dedication and perseverance of the Earthworks Team grinding away for 15 months, we are well on course to complete the Dry Gut fill before the programmed date of 8 September 2014 – well done to all involved!!”*

### Dry Gut Fill Statistics

Total number of loads tipped into Dry Gut - 401,851

Total volume - 6,424,532m<sup>3</sup>

Volume still needing to be filled - 1,187,723m<sup>3</sup>

Percentage Complete - 84%

## Air Service Procurement Underway

The St Helena Airport project is a significant undertaking, pushing at the boundaries of airport engineering. SHG is now seeking to award a contract to a suitably qualified organisation to provide air services to the Island, on a contract period of up to five years.

The requirement is for a minimum weekly flight to a recognised international hub airport operating throughout the year. Services will commence when St Helena’s Airport opens in February 2016.

The process for procuring an air service provider for the Island commenced on Thursday 12 June 2014 with the launch of a dedicated website [FlytoStHelena.com](http://FlytoStHelena.com) hosted by AviaSolutions. This website is the main portal for potential air service providers to find out more information on the Airport and the procurement process.

The first stage of the procurement process is for potential air service providers to complete a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) - the PQQ will allow SHG to obtain sufficient information from potential organisations interested in supplying these air services and to make an assessment of their suitability to be invited to continue in the tendering process. Only organisations that are successful at this stage will be invited to participate in the next stage of the procurement process.

To find out more about this opportunity please visit the *Fly to St Helena* website [www.flytosthelena.com](http://www.flytosthelena.com) or <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/air-access/> to download the PQQ and Information Memorandum.

**The closing date for responses to the PQQ is 12 noon GMT on Thursday 17 July 2014.**

SHG expects to award the final contract for an air service provider in February or March 2015.

## Commemorative Stone Ceremony

To mark the construction of the Terminal Building at the Airport, the Laying of a Commemorative Stone, Blessing of the Building and Burial of a Time Capsule will take place at the Airport site on Saturday 28 June 2014. Invited guests from the community, charitable and non-Government organisations, the schools, the private sector, the local media, St Helena Government and Basil Read will witness the event - the first of many to mark significant milestones in the Airport project .

### Contact Details

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Helena-Government/292300047580382>

## Environmental Mitigation at the Airport

Asteiid Fly Habitat - North West Fill of the Runway (June 2014)



The area at the North West Fill of the Airport site, which is more than 10 metres below the level of the northern end of the runway, needs to be filled with material to create a flat area for the runway to be constructed. The impact of this construction work means that existing ground conditions will be buried with more than 10 metres of material and existing habitats lost in the process.

During an ecological survey of the area, commissioned by the SHG Access Office through the Landscape and Ecology Mitigation Programme (LEMP) - and completed by the St Helena National Trust a rare endemic Asteiid Fly (*Anarista vittata*) was discovered. At present, very little is known about this fly which only exists in a few locations on the Island. It is therefore important that as part of the Island's natural heritage the species is protected to ensure its existence for the future.

The fly was found on a small patch of vegetation, including tropical finger grass and fishbone grass. As these plants would be lost to construction, environmental workers from the LEMP and Basil Read mobilised to excavate the plants and translocate them into a new area nearby which would be safe from future works.

Once construction has been completed, the LEMP and Basil Read will replicate the previous habitat as best as possible through the application of stockpiled surface materials and the planting of appropriate flora on top of areas adjacent to the runway. This will provide habitats for endemic and native flora and fauna.

This new 'safe' location will be monitored over the coming months and years to ascertain whether the plants are surviving and if the flies continue to reside on them.

Before - Translocation Site (June 2014)



After - Translocation Site (June 2014)



## Meet Basil Read's New Community Liaison Officer

Jeremy Johns has been newly appointed as the Community Liaison Officer for Basil Read, taking over from previous post-holder Julie George.

Jeremy commenced employment with Basil Read in June 2013 as a Warehouse & Administration Clerk at Bradley's Workshop, before being appointed to Community Liaison Officer in May 2014.

Jeremy commented on his appointment:

*"Although apprehensive, I am delighted to be given this opportunity and to be part of this historic project. I am looking forward to the challenges that come with the job, as I strongly believe that without obstacles of challenge one cannot test our limits of ability. The main challenge is to find a balance between the community interest and at the same time ensure construction of the Airport is completed on time. I will adopt a proactive approach and act rather than sit and wait for problems to arise.*

*"I greatly anticipate working closely with a vast array of people and I look forward to becoming actively involved in the most significant project in the Island's long and proud history."*

Jeremy can be contacted at the Basil Read Office, Longwood, on telephone number 24026 or via email: [jjohns@brshap.co.za](mailto:jjohns@brshap.co.za)

Another  
legacy  
from  
Basil Read.

Jeremy Johns, Basil Read Community Liaison Officer

