



## Rupert's Wharf



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As part of the stakeholder engagement process under the Airport Project, on Saturday 18 June Basil Read invited Rupert's residents to the newly constructed Permanent Wharf to view current works. Rupert's residents have been supportive throughout the construction and in recognition of the impact construction has had on the community, residents were offered a tour of the Wharf and presented with specially grown plants from the LEMP team. Those in attendance included Rupert's residents, private businesses based in



Invited Guests

the Valley and individuals who have both assisted and led on the development of Rupert's Permanent Wharf. Basil Read Liaison Officer, Jeremy Johns, said: *"Looking back one can almost not believe how far we have come. Let's take a quick look right to the beginning where all the focus was directed on temporary works to enable the construction of St Helena Airport and the Temporary Jetty built for the docking of the NP Glory 4."* Headlines from the Valley over the last few years include the uncovering of



Production Manager  
Gideon Niemand

human remains, the 'sighting' of the infamous 'Monkcat' and the long-reach excavator taking a midnight swim. Special acknowledgment was given to Eileen Wallace, the St Helena Diocese and Adrian Duncan for their assistance to Basil Read during the project. Production Manager Gideon Niemand, and Logistics Manager Ravi Michael were also mentioned for their supervision of the Permanent Wharf and Slipway works. Acting Basil Read Island Director, Deon Robbertse, spoke of the support given by Gideon and his wife Sonia: *"Without the support of Sonia, Gideon might have not been able to dedicate his long hours to the project. I would like to thank them on behalf of the company and wish them well in their future endeavours."* Gideon went on to thank Rupert's residents for their patience during the construction of over 400 hollow blocks, and the casting of 1600 Core-locs requiring 6500 cubic metres of concrete. Gideon commented: *"I think the Wharf looks spectacular and is a great facility for the Island. I hope it will bring a lot of joy and good memories for all those involved and all those using it in the future."* **The site remains a construction area and is closed to the public.**



Visit to the Wharf for Rupert's Residents

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## Accountable Manager & Head of Operations



Gwyneth Howell

Accountable Manager & Head of Operations at St Helena Airport, Gwyneth Howell initially joined the Airport Project in June 2015 as the Aviation Safety Representative for Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS). Gwyneth's role was to set up the Air Traffic Services for St Helena Airport ensuring compliance with all Overseas Territories Aviation regulations and Air Safety Support International guidelines. Gwyneth also arranged Air Traffic Control training with the ATNS Aviation Training Academy. She soon became the link between Basil Read, ASSI & ATNS and subsequently on 1 April 2016 joined Basil Read as the Accountable Manager & Head of Operations. Gwyneth explained a typical day: *"My daily duties and responsibilities are to ensure the efficient-day-to-day running of all Airport operations, implementing regulatory requirements and ensuring the highest possible standards of safety and security. All of this has to be done within a dynamic, commercial environment."*

Gwyneth has a wealth of experience in her field. She is a qualified Air Traffic Controller and has managed various Air Traffic Service Units, as well working closely with the Airport Team and Basil Read in implementing the regulations and requirements that govern the aviation sector. Gwyneth works closely with Basil Read, SHG, DFID, ASSI, ATNS, Tourism, and potential operators wishing to fly to St Helena Airport. Gwyneth added: *"When I drive to work in the morning - where the sunrises are amazing - and reach Bottom Woods, I see the Airport. This is when the JET A1 fuel in my veins starts to energise and the excitement of the day begins. The facilities and equipment installed are world class and I am proud to be part of an awesome Airport team putting St Helena on the map and becoming an integral part of the aviation sector within the South Atlantic. St Helena and the Saints played a vital role in achieving this and can be very proud of their own world class Airport."*

## LEMP Update

Over the next five years, the Landscape & Ecology Mitigation Programme (LEMP) is tasked with restoring or compensating for 1.5 times the area impacted or lost through the construction of St Helena Airport.

This is a mammoth task involving approximately 150 hectares and St Helena's Airport Project LEMP field teams have been working towards this since early 2014, busy undertaking land clearance and installing fencing and irrigation. The team has also been planting endemics specifically grown by LEMP in the Nursery at Half Tree Hollow, as well as plants supplied by partners in EMD, SHNT and the private sector. The most visible rehabilitation site (pictured) is along the road from Reggie's Takeaway to the Millennium Forest, where many will have seen the thousands of endemics that have been planted along the right-hand side of the road. This, along with other sites at Dry Gut and Cook's Bridge, is the result of months of hard work by the LEMP field teams to get plants into the ground in time for this winter.



Rehabilitation Site/Bottom Woods



LEMP staff L-R: Antonio Green, Ross Hudson, Hensil Thomas, Rhianna Henry, Kimberley Francis, Justine Francis, Travoy Stevens, Adrian Bowers, Michelle Francis, Belinda Thomas, Alena Scott, Dyola Legg, David Francis, Robert Mittens, Jack Brady & Cedric Williams. Not present: Nicole Francis

## Update on Air Access

SHG, St Helena Airport and DFID are working hard to identify an interim flight solution using our second runway, 02, from the south. There is no significant wind shear on this approach, but there is a tailwind. We have identified aircraft types which can land in these conditions, and airlines that have such planes - and we are now exploring the specific availability of aircraft with these operators. Comair and SHG are working in partnership in order to put in place the necessary arrangements for a long term solution for scheduled flights. Wind shear is a factor at many airports around the world, where safe landings happen every day.