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SHG Press Office

St Helena Airport



British Aerospace 146 Avro RJ85 Aircraft at St Helena Airport

Many St Helena residents gathered at St Helena Airport on Wednesday, 3 May 2017, to witness the arrival of a British Aerospace 146 Avro RJ85 aircraft, bringing 60 people back to the Island. The aircraft touched down smoothly at 1.55pm. St Helena Airport opened to the public at 10am, with crowds of family members, friends and Island residents taking advantage of the opportunity to witness the flight's arrival and departure. Air Partner, a commercial organisation that sources charter flights around the world, had been contracted to source an aircraft to transport from Cape Town to St Helena passengers affected by the cancellation of RMS voyages 255 and 256. Air Partner then entered into an agreement with SA Airlink to carry out the charter flight.

The aircraft approached St Helena from the north and touched down smoothly on Runway 20. Passengers disembarking the aircraft were met by a packed Arrivals Hall, all eager to welcome everyone to St Helena. The aircraft departed at 3.20pm with 48 passengers on-board travelling to Cape Town via Windhoek in Namibia. The Airport operational staff turned the aircraft around in one hour. This process entails disembarking and embarking passengers, offloading and loading luggage, refuelling, cleaning the aircraft and finalising the necessary paperwork.

Accountable Manager & Head of Operations for St Helena Airport, Gwyneth Howell, said:
"This was a huge achievement for all as this was the first passenger aircraft the Airport has handled."

A passenger on the flight, Island resident Tracey Corker, commented:
"I found the flight very good. It was just like landing at any other airport. Saying that, we had good weather and everything was calm."



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Gantry Construction at Rupert's



Construction of the fuel uploading gantry in Rupert's Bay started on Tuesday, 23 May 2017. The gantry is required for the ship-to-shore transfer of St Helena's fuel supply and will replace the existing structure.

It is intended that Rupert's Beach will remain open to the public during the period of works but this will be assessed on an ongoing basis and updates will be provided via the local media. In the interest of Health & Safety, members of the public are asked to please adhere to signage in the area and to the guidelines below:

- No unauthorised persons are to access the construction site via the beach or through the existing fuel facility
- The access (under the existing gantry) to the fishermen's grounds at Birddown will be temporarily closed during the Gantry construction
- Access to the 'Banks' Post Box Walk will remain open, via the back of the Bayside BFI fence-line
- No swimmers/sea-craft (boats, canoes, jet-skis, etc) are allowed to access the construction footprint at any time

Any queries can be directed to either the Environmental Officer, Annina Hayes, or Site Manager, Deon Robbertse, at the Basil Read Office in Longwood on tel: 24026.

Reception Held to Recognise Those Involved in the First Passenger Flight

A special reception hosted by HE Governor Lisa Phillips was held at Plantation House on Tuesday, 16 May 2017, to formally thank all who played a big part in getting stranded passengers in Cape Town, back to St Helena. The reception was attended by SHG officials, Councillors and the stranded passengers themselves.

'Thank you' and 'Congratulations' cards were presented to all involved, including passengers that arrived on the Island via the 146 Avro RJ85 Aircraft and on the Ocean Observer.

