

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity



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Touchdown!



History was once again made on St Helena on

Monday 18 April 2016, as the first large passenger jet aircraft, a Boeing 737-800 (ZS-ZWG), touched down at St Helena's new Airport (pictured). This is the actual aircraft which will serve the St Helena/Johannesburg route.

After appearing as a small glinting object in the distance, the Boeing 737-800 aircraft (ZS-ZWG) made her approach under blue skies and carried out two passes, before finally landing safely.



The moment everyone had been waiting for had finally arrived, and hundreds of spectators gathered at the Millennium Forest and other vantage points applauded as they witnessed the plane land on our newly built runway.

In preparation for the commencement of scheduled air services, the objectives of the Implementation Flight included route assessment, airside operations, passenger and cargo handling, training and various aspects of safety at St Helena Airport.

A week earlier - Sunday 10 April 2016 - crowds had also gathered at good vantage points to watch the first ever business jet arrive at St Helena. The business jet was chartered by Basil Read to bring Air Safety Support International's (ASSI) team of five personnel to St Helena to assess St Helena Airport for certification.



Pat Reynolds (left in the photo below), who has worked on the RMS St Helena for 23 years, came out with her family to see the jet land. Pat said:

"For me I have always wanted to see the Island progress and having a plane land on St Helena is a big part of that. For the calibration flights, I was onboard the RMS, so I couldn't miss out on this special occasion."

Another spectator, Jennifer Andrews, thought that this was indeed a special moment and is excited about the prospect of travelling by air to and from the Island.



Reception for Brazilian Navy



Captain of the Araguari

The BNS Araguari, a Brazilian Navy offshore patrol vessel, arrived in James Bay on Friday 1 April 2016 (pictured).



The Araguari had a very brief stop-over at St Helena, and departed at 10am on Saturday morning.

Acting Governor, Sean Burns and Mrs Burns hosted a reception for the crew at the Briars Pavilion on Friday evening (pictured) which all who attended enjoyed very much.

Taking Flight - Art on St Helena

Friday 20 May this year will be marked by traditional St Helena Day activities - and the official opening of 'Taking Flight', an art exhibition organised by St Helena Art & Craft Association.

The Association is encouraging artists of all ages to submit artwork of all forms - including paintings, collages, sculptures, printing, photography, graphic design and much more.

The organisers say that artwork will need to be of a good standard, but that the age of the artist will be taken into account.

Those who wish to take part are invited to collect an application form, available from the Arts & Craft centre at the Canister, as well as at the Museum. Completed forms should be dropped of at the Arts & Craft centre or the Museum, or passed to Aine O'Keeffe or Cathy Hopkins - or sent by e-mail to: poppins@helenta.co.sh

The organisers will begin looking at the exhibition layout from the first week in May - and will let artists know when to bring in their pieces.

Cathy said:

"We hope that the Taking Flight Exhibition will attract artists of all ages working in all genres.

"We've already had an entry from a Saint living in the UK and, for example, a lot is going on at the Community Care Complex. Just today a group got together to

discuss and work on their various projects."



Taking Flight
Art on Saint Helena

Antiques Road Show

St Helena's first ever 'Antiques Road Show' took place on Saturday 2 April 2016 at the Grand Parade, Jamestown. Tim Wonnacott - an antiques expert and TV personality - examined over 100 objects from excited owners - ranging from pendants, to pictures, to furniture.

Joan Flagg (known as Patsy Flagg), was one of the people who had her antiques examined. Patsy, who met Tim 12 years ago on his first visit to the Island, spoke of the experience of seeing him again today:

"I thoroughly enjoyed it. I often watch him on his television show, Bargain Hunt."



"I think he is a very interesting, learned person and it's great to talk to him as he is very 'down to earth' and it's marvellous that he is here on St Helena."

The day was enjoyed by adults and children alike, and vendors selling hot food and refreshments were available for all to enjoy.





Last month, St Helena celebrated marine life by 'Making March Marine' - including a fun-day at the Wharf, plus hikes on Post Box walks, dolphin trips and so much more.

Marine Conservation Officer, Elizabeth Clingham, said:

"We came up with the idea of Making March Marine to focus attention on the importance of the marine habitat, and to try to look for more creative ways to bring St Helena's marine environment to the forefront of children's minds."

A competition was held, in which all three Primary Schools created impressive and colourful displays.



Elizabeth added:

"The efforts from all schools were equal in terms of creating fantastic displays - so each school was awarded £100 for its PTA - and the winning school, Pilling Primary, had the added bonus of a marine themed cake."

Also throughout the month pupils had lessons that revolved around marine life as well as homework projects, where their parents could assist them.



Harford Primary teacher, Christy Bedwell, spoke of some of the activities that the children did during Making March Marine:

"In maths, they had maths worksheets where they could colour by number and see what the picture would be by the end, which was a sea creature or a fish. They also coloured fish using circles to create patterns. The class also made jellyfish from paper plates using different materials for the tentacles."

"The children really enjoyed Making March Marine."



roxanne.green@sainthelena.gov.sh



+ 290 22470



www.sainthelena.gov.sh