

Administrator's Monthly Report to Council for September 2022

In the three weeks since the last Council, my and GPI focus has been on the following priorities:

- driving forward the prioritised list of Operations Projects endorsed at the last Council, including completing the Science Base to roof level and building new toilets for distribution around the island. Additionally, a huge number of roads have been graded and repaired, with extensive efforts to tidy walkways and clear access to all key tourist sites, all ahead of the upcoming Aranui visit;
- Implementing all recommendations from the annual internal Store audit, including ahead of an external audit of the Store and Treasury at the end of September;
- Revitalising work on our Settler Programme, including working with PIO to simplify shipping of personal effects and introducing on-island briefings and inductions, now borders are again open and we have a new settler;
- Securing \$30,000 funding from FCDO Blue Belt programme to develop a public information film on Pitcairn and the marine protected area and for a marine litter expedition to Henderson Islands; and preparations for a science mission in early 2023, including to inaugurate the Science Base;
- Final preparations for the arrival of booster Covid vaccines on the Silver Supporter next week, including a comms plan of video and press release with Crown Agents;
- Full details of wider work is below in the DM updates.

Looking ahead, the next month is focussed on supporting the return of tourism and cruiseships, from the provision of further facilities to rolling out the vaccine boosters. Our Doctor rotates at the end of September, replaced by Dr Dixon and his wife Julie (returning to Pitcairn), and our Police rotates at the start of October, replaced by William Paniora (and wife Shelley). Family & Community Adviser interviews have also taken place this month, and we hope to announce the results and start date imminently.

It was fantastic to have an early Town Hall with the new Governor Iona Thomas, who really appreciated her first (virtual) face to face engagement with the community. She aims to visit in January 2023, dependant on tweaking the Silver Supporter's schedule.

Finally I am sure you will join me in thanking Councillor Leslie Jacques for his committed service to Pitcairn in various roles and as a longstanding member of the community, and wishing him well for his retirement in New Zealand from October.



The following sections cover divisional updates:

DM Communities

- Advertised Library and Museum position, held interviews and have filled the role:
- Had government auction at remand centre which brought in \$5,276.50, paid into the Treasury;
- Worked with policy review group on Health policy and related papers;
- Introductory meetings and orientation briefing held with new settler;
- School term 3 finished and term 4 started 6th September.

DM Environment/ Nature

- MPA Officer continues to work with Blue Belt on various activities and liaises with DM when required.
- The Operational plan has been reviewed and feedback has been provided to Blue belt. Blue Belt are still waiting on further information to be included into the operational plan.
- Blue Belt are in the process of developing comms material on the coastal regulations and as material comes through we are reviewing and providing feedback.
 Once the whole comms package has been received the aim is to hold a community information night.
- Land Management Officer continues to consult with land holders in reviewing existing holdings this ensures land records are up to date and recorded.
- Copies of existing land holder files have come to a standstill, a list has been provided to the Land Court Registrar.
- The HoD of Bio Security is currently carrying out any quarantine documentation until the temp Quarantine officer returns in 2 weeks.
- The Department has provided people barriers to the Store and will be replaced by the F&E Division.
- Zoom call with SPREP and Invasive Species Consultant around further information on Pitcairns invasive plants.
- Zoom call with St. Andrews around phone app fish catch monitoring. Further information has been provided and is ongoing.
- Funds have been approved for a plastics clean up
- Funds have been approved for a short film on the MPA.

Following agreement of the MPA Conservation Regulations at the last Council, comments from the AG's office to bring the <u>Fisheries Management Plan into line with the MPA Regulations</u> need to be considered by Council and agreed so that the plan can be approved and implemented. These limited suggested tweaks will be shared on Monday 5 September.



Finance and Economics Division

The Store

Hopefully stock on order will arrive on the next supply ship, there have been supply problems from NZ. There is concern with inflation and increasing prices from NZ but it was agreed not to adjust store mark-ups.

All of the recommendations from the recent Internal Audit have been actioned. Meetings have been held with relevant personal and store staff. External Auditors arrive later this month and shall focus on the Store and GT.

The end of August Debtors Ledger shows outstanding debtors are now below \$100K. All customers with store debt above \$ 1K must pay cash for all purchases.

Miscellany

Nadine Faulkner has produced an excellent Miscellany which has been well received. She shall continue in this role until Simon Young returns in December. The publication now included "Pulau News" with Pitcairn's children showcasing their achievements.

The Post Office

The team are looking forward to visitors for the first time since early 2020.

We are awaiting a response from FCDO with regard to Pitcairn's request to join UPS which will hopefully allow the introduction of a mail tracking system in line with the rest of the world.

Hopefully too, a series of First Day Covers and new stamp issues will arrive on the upcoming supply ship.

Tourism

The Tourism team and the Community are looking forward to the return of cruise ships from September and onwards. Pathways and walkways have been cleared and tidied and signs around the Island cleaned and repaired.

Pitcairn's first home stay tourists since early 2020 arrive on the supply ship on 8 September.

General

- Passenger Service Relaunch initiated July 2022.
- o Tourism website migration to Squarespace continues. Live by Oct 2022.
- Aug 9th Cruise Call Schedule updated and circulated
- Tourism Refresh Public Meeting on 14th Aug and Services Coordination Public Meeting on 21st Aug
- Review of Dark Sky Sanctuary web content continues and branding and merchandise launch in review



- Silver Supporter Passenger Service: Sales to date: NZ\$39,000
- On-line Pitkern Artisan Gallery Sales & Marketing: Sales to Aug 31st 2022: NZ\$56.991.82

Actions for Sept

- o Create fee-for-service contract for Aranui Fisher Coordinator.
- Install previously purchased ice machine for landed pax (DM)
- o Create Banners/Flyers x 4 for On-island Service provision
- General overview of Tourism related Policy
- Set up remote monthly meeting schedule with incoming DM

Artisan Gallery

The Gallery continues to record good sales and is running a Christmas promotion. Sales for August \$ 1828.97

Loan Issues

Following the decision of a family not to return to Pitcairn steps are being taken to disburse the assets purchased under their GPI Loan Scheme to recover outstanding funds to GPI.

General

Simon Young took over as Divisional Manager on 1 September 2022, initially working remotely.

Operations Division

C.A.C DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly Grounds maintenance and cleaning was carried out during the month.
- Eco Trail received extra attention
- Square, Museum and School buildings and surrounds water blasted.

COMTECH DEPARTMENT

Repair mains generator control panel.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

- Power meter reading.
- Repair electrical sockets and lighting.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- Service and maintenance work on power generators fuel.
- Service and maintenance to longboats.
- Repairs to saw mill.



LANDING DEPARTMENT

Repair harbour and longboats fenders.

R.A.M DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly road maintenance was carried out during the month.
- Roads have been graded and ruts filled in at various locations including Highest Point, St Pauls etc.

WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Repair and service all stairs, rails and walk ways at scenic locations.
- Repair roof at the Square.
- Replace walk way decking at the museum.

PROJECTS

- Complete walls and roof structure for Marine Science Base.
- Install roofing on the Marine Science Base.
- Start building Public toilet buildings.

Tim Moody Administrator of the Pitcairn Islands

4 September 2022