



PITCAIRN ISLAND
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator's Monthly Report to Council for October 2022

Current GPI focus has been on the following priorities:

- The new FCA, Denise Robins will arrive in Pitcairn on 10 November. Denise's recruitment was overseen by Child Matters. Child Matters is confident that Denise is the most suitable applicant in both experience and understanding of what the role requires to engage with the Pitcairn community. I am working with Lea to prepare for Denise's arrival. I am sure the community will join me in ensuring a warm welcome for Denise as she settles in.
- With the agreement of the Governor's Office, SpaceX has sent three Starlink business terminals, which will arrive in Pitcairn on 10 November for an initial trial. The terminals will be installed at the Administrator's House, Police Station, and the Clinic. SpaceX is keen to demonstrate with this exercise that Starlink can benefit remote communities that would otherwise have great difficulty accessing the internet. They are keen to publicise the trial of Starlink on Pitcairn. At the end of the trial period (approx. 6 months), SpaceX will make an announcement on a roll out of residential units for those who wish to pay for them at their domestic properties. There are no plans yet to terminate the Speedcast service.
- I am grateful to the Council for sharing the Health Policy Review recommendations. A deep dive into this policy is important, and Council's attention to this is welcome. With a flat-lined Aid Grant and no new money, there are important financial issues to consider. I have initiated conversation with the Deputy Governor, who will also discuss with policy leads in the UK.
- The latest draft COVID-19 travel and quarantine policy has been shared with Public Health England (PHE) for final comment and approval. I have sought PHE's opinion on maintaining RAT use and vaccination requirement for those passengers travelling from New Zealand to Pitcairn only. The rationale for this being the two-week sea journey and risks of being seriously ill with no medical facilities within several days reach. Any agreed changes would need to be made first to Ordinance before the policy can be implemented, insofar as it relates to travel on the Silver Supporter only. The requirements that relate to travellers on other vessels can be changed by policy without legislative change.
- Governor Iona Thomas will visit Pitcairn between 19-22 January. She will be accompanied by her husband, Matt Thome. This will of course be Iona's first visit to Pitcairn since her appointment. Iona will want to prioritise engaging with the whole Pitcairn community, understand the Council's priorities and expectations, and travel the island. Iona will formally open the Marine Science Base (build due for completion in December 2022).



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- The Deputy Governor is chasing CEFAS/MMO leads for confirmation of their science expedition between 4-16 February. It is appreciated that confirmation of this visit is necessary to confirming the schedule of the Silver Supporter.
- Waiting for report and recommendations following recent external audit of the Store and Treasury;
- Full details of wider work is below in the DM updates.

The following sections cover divisional updates:

Operations

C.A.C DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly Grounds maintenance and cleaning was carried out during the month.

COMTECH DEPARTMENT

- Repair phone and internet service at Dr's and local residence.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

- Power meter reading.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- Service and maintenance work on Duetz tractors.
- Service and maintenance to longboats.

LANDING DEPARTMENT

- Unload Supply ship
- Silver Supporter passenger transfer

R.A.M DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly road maintenance was carried out during the month.

WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Install new kitchen at Police residence



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PROJECTS

- Marine Science Base Electrical and plumbing layout completed
- Work on Ship to Shore concept proposal
- Continued work on public toilet buildings

Community

- Still working with policy review group on health policy and related paper work
- Visit with new CPO and wife and had discussion on house and other needs that may come up while they are on island
- Doctor hand over went smoothly as Dr Dixon has been here before, had a talk with both him and Julie about the house they are staying in
- With students and teacher in agreement, the teacher aide position was stopped end of August
- Museum was opened for both the Aranui 5 and National Geographic Resolution during their visit.

Economic & Finance – Simon Young

Tourism Sales and Marketing Report

General

- Passenger Service Relaunch initiated July 2022. Campaign roll-out continues: Banners/Socials/ PRs/Outbrain/Contacts & Specialist groups/ Agents / Newsletters
- DNS changes agreed with Bill Haigh and implemented
- Tourism website migration to Squarespace launched earlier than anticipated on 29th September.
- Sept Cruise Call Schedule updated and circulated

MPA & Conservation Marketing Activities:

- Review of DSS web content continues
- 1 quarter DSS data collection achieved and equipment functioning well
- DSS branding and merchandise launch Banners/ Socials in review
- MPA page updated for Squarespace migration

Silver Supporter Passenger Service

- All marketing / All first-point-of-contact pax comms
- All Booking & Agent Enquiries, Sales, Pax Scheduling and Ticketing



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- Post July 2022 Sales, to date: NZ\$66,000.

Pitkern Artisan Gallery Sales & Marketing:

- Insta/FB/Web Banners / Weekly Featured Products
- Last Chance Mail Ship promo / GPI and Tourism sites
- Buy now for Christmas / GPI & Tourism sites
- Established Sept 2020: Sales to Sept 30th 2022: NZ\$59,665.

Meetings:

- DM F&E Comms & On-island Services
- Jean-Marc Mocellin, CEO Tahiti Tourisme
- Travel Trade Reps x 2
- PIO – Revised scheduling & on/off adjustments
- Iolanie Roulx – Mangareva / Pitcairn Travel Packaging
- Webmanager / Squarespace/ scheduling and remote work schedule

Actions for Oct

- Establish remote monthly meeting schedule with incoming DM
- Establish remote meeting schedule web manager
- Shipping schedule revisions and associated cancellation activities
- Meet with Mayor and DMs re web manager utilization.

Web Manager

Andrew is departing for medical, but will be working remotely as the Tourism Web Manager.

Tourism Local Service Coordinator

A great deal of work has been carried out in preparation of the commencement of cruise ships visiting the Island again. It is hoped that this workload will reduce over time as the cruise ship industry kick starts. On island services went smoothly and all targets were met successfully and with professionalism.

Post Office

After some staff absences all are now back home on Pitcairn.

Regarding the UPU the Administrator continues to chase it. Currently the application to join is still being considered.

With the return of cruise ships sales of post office items have now increased.

Sales stamps > \$5,000

Miscellaneous sales >\$2,000



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DM Finance will be meeting with Tower Mint in London this month. This will allow an opportunity to engage more closely with our partners and to discuss potential ways to improve our relationship, and service.

External Auditor

Bruce has performed a number of audits examinations and a report will follow.

Island Auditor

The Island Auditor is retiring and a updated J/D has been created and the role has been advertised.

Store Policy

The body of the GPI Policy is ready for Council consideration. Annex B – Store Audit Program is being worked upon. Once drafted it is on its way to council.

Store

Andrew resigned from the Store back in August/September, but this only came to my attention with Andrew's return to Pitcairn. We are exploring options in moving forward with regards to this vacancy. Steve and Emily are now returned from Tahiti and we are one staff member down (Andrew's position).

All Audit recommendations have been completed or in the case of the CCTV it is arriving on the next supply ship.

General

An extremely busy month with well over 100 hours of work, as I rapidly climb the steep learning curve of the job. Wages have been dealt with, meetings with all departments held, checks and balances carried out to ensure GPI Policies are followed and contracts are issued in accordance with council directives, met with the external auditor in Tahiti, met with Store Manager in Tahiti, connected with Pitcairn on many occasions via Teams.

Environment & Natural Resources

MPA Officer

- MPA Officer continues to work with Blue Belt on various activities and liaises with DM when required.
- Funds from an underspend in Blue Belt has been approved for an analysis to be done from 2019-2021 over Oeno to detect any illegal fishing activity as



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concerns have been raised due to low numbers of sharks. Oceanmind will conduct the work and will update Council once we receive the report.

Land Management Officer

- Land Management Officer continues to consult with land holders in reviewing existing holdings this ensures land records are up to date and recorded.
- Land Management Officer/DM sought legal advice as requested by Council around new migrant land applications. The applicant was kept in the loop during this whole process. Legal advice was received and passed onto the Mayor for actioning.

Bio Security [Seeking Council's Approval]

- The situation has changed around the disposal of 12volt batteries, lithium batteries and the disused X-Ray machine. It is no longer viable for the mentioned items to enter NZ for disposal. Based on Wayne Carroll, Shuttle Express he advised it is due to the high cost of import duties/clearance.
- Bio Security HoD recommends the following disposal methods:
 - Encase the X-Ray machine in concrete and bury it.
 - For the batteries, dig a hole in a location where there is little environmental impact and bury it; no concreting required.

Projects

- EDF 11, Regional, SPREP and Invasive Species Consultant draft report has been received for DM's review and input.
- Darwin Plus project - "Enhancing monitoring and prevention of invasive non-native species across UKOTs" is underway and DM has been liaising with the project Lead and team. An Introductory email has been sent to the SPREP team for cross collaboration.
- Funding have been approved for a plastics clean up as well as an environmental/marine short film.
- Darwin Plus RSPB Project planning is underway.
- Darwin Plus RSPB Bio Security project rapid response kit has been received and inventory taken.
- RSPB have appointed a researcher who is coming for a three-month period to study the Pitcairn Reed Warbler and its habitat as there is little known in this area. A bio has been requested.



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- Darwin Plus Whale Project planning is underway.

Simon Bull
Administrator of the Pitcairn Islands

16 October 2022