



PITCAIRN ISLAND
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator's Monthly Report to Council for February 2023

This has been my first month as Administrator on Pitcairn, and I hope the Council have found the transfer between Fiona and me to be fairly seamless.

My priorities for this month have been:

- Getting to know DMs and some Heads of Department, and understanding the functioning of GPI;
- Discussing draft budgets with DMs;
- Supporting work on the 2023-4 MPA Management Plan and planning for Expedition Red Fish;
- Preparation to send the longboat O'Leary off-island for essential maintenance and repair;
- Advising Natural Resources as they prepared for IMPAC5 meeting in Toronto. The award of Platinum status to Pitcairn's MPA is a major triumph for the work of the whole community and in particular Natural Resources and those who have helped them;
- Understanding cruise ship visits, and how the islanders benefit;
- Working with Council on strategic priorities.

Full details of wider work is below in the DM updates.

Looking ahead, the next month will be focussed on agreeing budgets with all DMs and PIO, with a view to getting them to Council as soon as possible. I will also continue to work with the FCA on the future role of the FCA on Pitcairn and what the most effective way would be for them to support the community going forward. I will also be working with Natural Resources on future Blue Belt work programmes, especially taking into account the results from Expedition Red Fish.

I am also liaising with HMG departments in London over a couple of important questions for the island: membership of the UPU so that we are able to speed our post through, and the issue of international recognition of the island's postcode. I will also be following closely the issue of the future of the IT on the island, especially the Starlink trial.

The following sections cover divisional updates:

DM Communities



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- Worked with the Council office on the Tenancy document concerning the renting out of the Hostel
- Sent a 2nd budget draft to Admin with rationale
- Working with I.A on division budgets/spending etc.
- Willie was able to fix leak in the Lodge without destroying the bathroom.

All areas working well and small issues dealt with quickly.

DM Environment/ Nature

MPA

- MPA Officer continues to work with Blue Belt on various activities and liaises with DM when required.
- CEFAS - marine science Expedition Red Fish operational plan was circulated to Council.
- Preparation for the marine science expedition.
- Expressions of Interest for the scientific study into Fishery life cycles was advertised. There was a good response from the community, we received 3 interested persons for the dissection part and numerous fishers to fulfil the fish catch samples for dissection.
- Expressions of Interest for the marine science Red Fish expedition was advertised. There was a good response from the community, we received 7 interested persons. A meeting was held with all interested persons, a copy of the operation plan was provided giving each individual an idea of the objectives of the expedition. All interested persons were given 24hrs to read through the document and re-confirm their interest and from there the team was chosen.
- The announcement at Impac5 in Vancouver of the Platinum Blue Park Award to Pitcairn's MPA was well received, Kylie Bamford from FCDO accepted the award on our behalf. We are hoping the award will be on the April ship. Special thanks also to Kylie Bamford.

A lot of prep work went into the acceptance and a special thank you goes to Protect Blue (Luke Hosty and Linzi) for assisting us at extremely short notice and on a tight deadline.

- CRIOBE Moorea will be arriving on the Aranui 23-24th Feb to renew coral and fish surveys and to replace temperature and wave-sea level probes. This is their first visit since the Claymore contract ceased and COVID border closures. Just to refresh you on CRIOBE, GPI signed an MOU back in 2009, SB 26 logger implemented at 36 m. depth on Pitcairn shore (25



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03.361 S 130 07.596 W) to record wave data (height and period).

Division Budget

- draft Division budget has been provided to the Administrator for review.

Land Management

- Land Management officer continues to liaise and assist when required with the Island Secretary around land files/documents and Land Court sittings.
- Work continues with land holder files, scanning of files etc.

Bio Security

- Department vacancy has been filled and in the meantime the HoD will be fulfilling quarantine requirements.
- Bio Security legislation review will take place in Feb.

Projects

- **Protect Blue Film** - next steps is a community questionnaire. Protect Blue will be providing a one off fee to those who participate in the questionnaire, funds have been received into PIO's account. Timeline of when the questionnaire is to commence is unknown at this stage.
- **Darwin Plus RSPB project:** Andy Schofield conducted private discussions in a house to house survey as part of the consultation process. The aim is to capture the communities feelings around a potential rat eradication for Pitcairn and any concerns people may have. Planning is underway for an end of year visit to Pitcairn/Henderson with 2 of the operational leads for the Henderson rat eradication project
- **RSPB Pitcairn Reed Warbler Study** - Nik Aspey has provided an information sheet of his work, in short the Reed Warbler community is 1600 Sparrows on the island, 4 is the average Sparrow family size (2 adults and 2 chicks), 400 Sparrow pairs on the island ($1600 \div 4$). Information sheet will go on the community noticeboard at the Store. I have a copy of all Nik's work.
- **Darwin Plus Whale project:** final planning is underway - Terry Dawson has recruited a PhD student, Katy McCoy who will be leading on the Darwin humpback whale research on Pitcairn Island over the next couple of years. Terry and team



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have secured their travel to Pitcairn arriving in July and Katy will be staying for 2-3 months.

- **Invasives Species project** - planning is underway for a SPREP team visit to Pitcairn (final numbers and participants are not confirmed yet). A meeting will be arranged for Feb to discuss.

Attached Documents

- Reed Warbler Study Information Sheet.

Finance and Economics Division

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
- Jan 2023 Cruise Call Schedules updated and circulated
- Accommodation provider data base active & maintained
- Marketing revised 2023/24, passengers shipping initiated and continuing
- Sales & Marketing Travel Coordinator departed PI Jan 29th for March 2023 Seatrade Cruise Global
- Management Travel Trade Reps
- Refresh of GPI Immigration Website underway & on-track for completion Feb 2023
- Miscellany on-line presence migrated to Squarespace suite, refreshed and request to re-cost to NZ\$30 for on-line subs initiated. Request to eliminate new hardcopy subscribers initiated, refreshed look, subscription management and change notification copy provided to Editor.
- Sales liaison for Billing PIO
- On/Off Passenger schedule active and maintained

MPA & Conservation Marketing Activities:

- IDA Annual Report submitted 13th Jan 2023
- Request for copy and images submitted to DM ECNR for new PI Conservation Identity Page on refreshed Immigration site

Silver Supporter Passenger Service

- All marketing / All first-point-of-contact pax comms
- All Booking & Agent Enquiries, Sales, Pax Scheduling and Ticketing
- All accommodation bookings & support for PI Registered Accom providers



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- SS Pax List submissions
- Post relaunch Sales, from 1st July 2022, to 31st Jan 2023: \$230,749.99
Note this count will zero and restart at end of 22/23 financial year.

Pitkern Artisan Gallery Sales & Marketing:

- Insta/FB/Web Banners / Weekly Featured Products
- Last Chance Mail Ship promo / GPI and Tourism sites
- GPI & Tourism site campaigns
- Bounty Day Jan 2023 Sales campaign
- Data base management
- Monthly Artisan Payment Summary and Individual statements
- Established Sept 2020: Sales to Jan 31st 2022: NZ\$70,818.72
Note this count will zero and restart at end of 22/23 financial year.

External Meetings:

- Travel Trade Reps x 2
- PI Web Management x 1
- SPCA – Seatrade 2023

Tourism Local Services

All going fine. Cruise ships beginning, and this involves significant work interacting and preparing for the smooth operation of the day both on island and on the vessels.

Gallery is going well, which results in significant sales for folk on island during lull periods.

Post Office

Summary of sales

Total Sales \$2,931.40

11th Definitive \$1,922.20

Guide to Pitcairn \$440.00

Postcards approx. \$150.00

Guides \$75.00

Coat of Arms \$87.00

Plus other smaller amounts

Surplus \$12.95

Staff – Charlene is off island. Jay only applicant and stepped in



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UPU – Still awaiting information on potentially joining this organization

Recording and Tracking parcels – Post master still gathering more information on a solution to purchase bar codes which can be sold and track parcels once they reach NZ. Still exploring this and exactly how it works. Some tests are being conducted on this supply ship to see if parcels given the tracking information and barcodes can be successfully tracked to destination without incurring any fees at the destination point of arrival.

Operations Division

C.A.C DEPARTMENT

- Regular monthly Grounds maintenance and cleaning was carried out during the month. Trails cleared at St Pauls and Tedside, and some of the scenic lookouts

COMTECH DEPARTMENT

- Received remaining Telrad units for installation.
- Telecommunications Satellite dish BUC unit still working well with air conditioning unit fitted. New fan arrived on Silver Supporter, and will be fitted.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT

- Power meter reading.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- Stripped down and steam-cleaned longboat O'Leary for shipment to New Zealand (hopefully on Silver Supporter).
- Service and maintenance work on Power generators.
- Maintenance work on plant machinery.

LANDING DEPARTMENT

- Unload Supply ship
- Silver Supporter passenger transfer
- Local ship to shore service for visiting cruise ship Seabourn Sojourn.

R.A.M DEPARTMENT

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

WORKS DEPARTMENT

- Maintenance work at Doctor's residence.



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PROJECTS

- Marine Science Base: next job to install internal wall and ceiling linings.
- Awaiting costing from New Zealand Boat and Crane Company to finalise Marine Infrastructure proposal.

Stephen Townsend

Stephen Townsend
Administrator of the Pitcairn Islands

18 February 2023