

THE ST HELENA Est. 2005 INDEPENDENT

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An independent newspaper in association with Saint FM and St Helena Online

St Helena - It's Time To Wake Up!



Lord Ashcroft's Views About St Helena

*"We fear a future where
the people of St Helena are
plunged back into severe
poverty"*



Christmas Is Coming



ENTERTAINMENT NEWSFEED IN BRIEF.....

Saint FM Roving Reporters



BASIL READ wishes to CONGRATULATE its **Design, Construction, Operations & Support Teams** on their major contributions to the success of the St Helena Airport Project and achievement of recent awards:

1. International Airports Review Awards
 - a. Winner - **'Design Project of the Year'**
 - b. Runner up - **'Airport of the Year'**
2. SAICE (South African Institute for Civil Engineering)
 - a. Winner – **'International Projects'**
 - b. Winner – **'Construction and Project Management'**
 - c. Award - **'Technical Excellence'**



A special mention and thanks to:

- WorleyParsons (IX Engineers) – Landside designs
- Delta BEC – Airside designs
- KMH Architects
- Thales ATM – Navigational Aids, AGL and ATC
- Virtual Consulting Engineers – AFF designs
- Lanseria Airport Management Systems – designs, RFFS, security, apron, operations & regulatory compliance
- LYT Architects
- SAIEA – Environmental management and compliance
- Atkins – Independent Certifier – Airside designs
- Cross EPC – Bulk Fuel Installation designs
- PRDW – Marine designs

Our sincere appreciation for contributing to this unique project and overcoming the tremendous challenges that the entire design, build, operation and support teams were exposed to, in assisting to positively change the history of the Island and to open up increased opportunities for tourism, industry, the economy and the future of each and every Saint.

ENTERTAINMENT NEWSFEED IN BRIEF.....

Saint FM Roving Reporters

Reports on the week's events begin with last Fridays's Jukebox Dance Night at Donnyz on the Seafront to celebrate their 20th Anniversary, which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

On Saturday 8th December during the day, the St Helena Football Association hosted their Presentation day on Francis Plain for the junior and adult football leagues. More on this event can be read in a report from Nick Stevens.

On the evening of the 8th, Rosie's Taste 4 Life hosted their 1-year anniversary. This was a ticket only function from 7:30-10pm. Those lucky enough to obtain a ticket were met at the entrance and presented with a ticket for a lucky draw, a complimentary drink and invited to view a slideshow showing events at Rosie's over the last year. A guest singer from the UK accompanied by Gareth Drabble performed a few well-known songs before the divine canapés were served by the amazing staff. The Manager Rosie Bargo, then gave a speech highlighting her achievements, successes and obstacles that the establishment has faced over the past year in business. She also paid tribute and thanked all who have made the year a success, namely current and past Staff, Customers and Johnny Isaac & his team to name a few. Shortly after, an amazing and spectacular firework display was enjoyed by all. The Grand Prize draw also took place where lucky winners received £100, two complimentary tickets to Rosie's New Year's Eve Party & 20% discount on meals at Rosie's for 6 months. Rosie's opened to the public at 10pm and the celebrations continued with DJ Kimmy Boombang providing the dance tunes.

On Sunday morning, 9th December visitors to Jamestown could hear the sounds of a group of musicians playing a selection of music in front of the Canister. This certainly brought a lively atmosphere to the streets of Jamestown which only increased with the arrival of MV 'The World'. This luxury cruise liner is the largest residential Ship in the world, with 165 apartments onboard and passengers & crew enjoyed a full two days taking in the sights of St Helena by travelling back and forth in the Ship's tenders from their anchorage off Breakneck Valley, to the landing steps.

At 10 am on Sunday 9th, the Bank of St Helena Youth Games continued with the Swimming competition sponsored by Rose & Crown Ltd. It was reported that all participants showed great team spirit battling it out for their district and Half Tree Hollow emerged as winners. Again, Nick Stevens is providing more details in his report.

On the evening of Monday 10th December, Island residents and visitors from 'The World' were treated to live entertainment at the Mule Yards by local bands Island Politics and The Big Easy. The event was organized by the St Helena Tourist Office and a crowd of approximately 300+ people attended. At 9pm a band from the cruise ship, 'Fabulous Fossils' took to the stage, along with Johnny Dillon from The Big Easy and they performed several well-known tracks in the usual smooth, classic and well-balanced style that cruise ship bands are known for. Many took to the dance floor and others were content to enjoy looking-on and singing along. When the band

completed their performance, the crowd shouted for more and Island Politics stepped back into the spotlight accompanied by 2 members from The Fabulous Fossils and the live entertainment lasted until almost midnight. It was an enjoyable, lively night that brought the Christmas Spirit to Jamestown.

On Tuesday 11th December, a gathering of pupils and teachers from Pilling Primary School performed well-known Christmas Carols outside of the Canister. Headteacher Ms Elaine Benjamin provided musical accompaniment on her keyboard and the children, covering a range of ages, showed off their singing skills through the words and tunes we are all very familiar with.

That evening, St Matthew's Church at Hutt's Gate provided the setting for Harford Primary School's Christmas Advent Service. Headteacher Mrs Carlean Crowie welcomed everyone to the Service which began with a resounding rendition of 'While Shepherds Watched Their Flock' with the congregation.

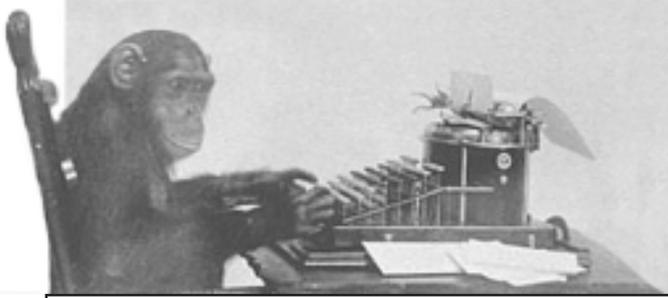
Pupils from Harford Primary ranging from Reception age upwards, then presented their Musical Drama entitled 'Bethlehem'. This was a wonderful play which told the Nativity story of Mary & Joseph and the baby Jesus through humour and song. Modern terms such as health & safety, pizza and the importation of tea towels from China, helped to portray the age-old story of the travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a light-hearted manner which was well-received by all attending. Performing pupils are to be commended for their range of vocabulary and for remembering their lines like seasoned actors and actresses. Outstanding performances came from 7-year old Jaemi Green who sang a solo which touched the hearts of everyone and caused goosebumps to ripple along the arms, and a well-read Bible lesson from Head Girl Bobbi Clingham. Headteacher Mrs Crowie, on breathing a sigh of relief after such a successful presentation, said that it was a long haul but they got there with superb team-work from all involved.

On Wednesday 12th December, Prince Andrew School hosted their annual Certificate and Awards Ceremony at the school. The event began with a very inspirational speech by Headteacher Mrs Penny Bowers followed by various presentations for GCSE, GCE, VRQ Awards, the Jean Beadon Award, HE the Governor's Award, Bishop Houghton's Award, Janette Williams' Math's Award, the Prince Andrew School PTA Award for Years 11 & 13 and the Joy George Award.

Following this, a vote of thanks was given by Head Boy Isaac Greentree and closing remarks came from the Acting Director of Education & Employment, Mrs Wendy Benjamin.

To conclude the ceremony, all were invited to join in with singing the Prince Andrew School song and to enjoy refreshments in the schools foyer. Congratulations are extended to all recipients of Certificates and Awards, which is a culmination of all they have worked towards in their school lives.

Next week, we hope to begin our Entertainment Newsfeed with a report on St Paul's Primary School and their annual parade through Jamestown.



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Editorial

The members of the governing party in the UK appear intent on ripping themselves apart but it probably will not happen as opinion polling shows the British public appear to be as fractious, contradictory and confused as their elected representatives in Parliament. Anyway, the Conservative Party have been split down the middle on closer working with Europe ever since Britain joined the then Common Market back in the 1970s. 37% of The UK Prime Minister's own MPs told her they have no confidence in her. As it turned out, those with no confidence were 42 votes short of getting Theresa May turned out of office.

I could go on but I think the picture is emerging. How on earth can we deal sensibly with a UK Government which cannot resist stabbing itself in the back and at the same time shooting itself in the foot? They are making a real spectacle of themselves in the eyes of the rest of the world, especially Europe and making Britain a laughing stock which rivals Trumps efforts in the United States. How, I have to ask, can we in St Helena get any sense out of them when they show no signs of having any. It is these same people and others very like them who have made decisions on our behalves and got us into the mess we are in now.

The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee looks as if it is trying to make some sense of Britain's messy relationship with its Overseas Territories. After three meetings over the last two months to discuss the Future of the Overseas Territories it seems the committee is starting to favour more representation, of a sort, within the UK Parliament. This does not mean we will be voting for an MP to go to the House of Commons and that is OK by me. What can one person do among 650 other elected representatives who all appear obsessed with ripping each other's eyes, tongues and/or hair out? The emerging favoured option is to create one more House of Commons Committee and this one would be for, and only for, the Overseas Territories. The committees act as watchdogs for what UK government departments do and don't do. The Foreign Affairs Committee exists to "examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), other bodies associated with the Foreign Office". An Overseas Territories Committee would need to examine DFID as well, and Defra and several other UK government departments. There are already House of Commons committees set up to examine each of these departments so where an Overseas Territory Committee would fit in to all of that could well be problematic.

Nevertheless, full marks to Cllr Derek Thomas for telling the Foreign Affairs Committee that DFID and others treat us as if we were still at the high point of the colonial era and the sun ever set on the British Empire. Well, he did not quite put it that way but if he had anyone of the 650 Members of Parliament may have understood the more colourful language a

little better.

Ian Lavarello, Chief Islander for Tristan had a trying time with a certain member of the Foreign Affairs Committee about Tristan's Calshot Harbour. Royston Smith, an MP who represents part of Southampton started by saying he did not know much about Overseas Territories and then asked about Tristan's "harbour issue".

Chief Islander Lavarello explained, "I actually thought that the UK Government had decided to wish away this problem that we have. Our harbour is our only link to the outside world for about 51 weeks of each year when we are not visited by a ship with a helicopter. It is vital for trade, transport and healthcare, and it is really not strong enough to cope with the huge south Atlantic storms.

The current UK policy is to patch and mend, but a reliable harbour is vital for our existence, so I would be grateful if the Committee could recommend taking a fresh look at this." After knowing nothing Royston Smith suddenly became Mr Know-it-all. "I do not know if we can do that" was the immediate reply. This was followed by Royston asking, "If it were to be replaced in the way that, say, St Helena's runway was, what would that cost?" Since when did we have a runway replaced here? Who IS this man from Southampton? After being told the latest but now out of date estimate for a new harbour was between £80 and £90million Royston was quiet. Maybe he was thinking he needs that money for a by-pass in his own constituency.



Congratulations to Mr Douglas Augustus of Sapper Way who was the lucky winner of a £500 cash prize in the SHELCO competition for the re-naming of the proposed development at Broad Bottom Douglas winning submission of *Trade Winds Golf Course and Hotel* was selected out of 1339 entries

CONGRATULATIONS!

EXCO REPORT – TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2018

Executive Council met today with two items on the open agenda.

For the first item, members were asked to endorse a report from the Liberated African Advisory Committee outlining options and recommendations for the reburial of the Excavated Liberated African Remains. The Advisory Committee was established by Executive Council in October 2017, with the primary objective to explore options to provide a peaceful and final resting place for the disturbed Liberated African Remains which are currently being housed in the former Pipe Store. The main recommendations in the report are that the reinterment should take place within Rupert's Valley, that a memorial should be created at the site and that an interpretation centre should be developed in Rupert's. Other recommendations are that in the interim period prior to reburial, the remains will continue to be housed in the Pipe Store and that every effort should be made to encourage people to engage with the display of the materials returned from the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool. Members were happy to endorse the report and the recommendations and took the opportunity to thank the Advisory Committee for their excellent work. The Committee will now go on to explore funding options to take the recommendations forward.

Members were then asked to advise whether the Medical, Dentistry and Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill should be printed, published and presented as Government Business at the next formal meeting of the Legislative Council. It was noted that the Public Health Committee had reviewed the current provision and as a result recommended that amendments were necessary as follows:

Practitioner qualifications are reviewed internally within the Health Directorate by the Director of Health or Delegated Officers before recommendation to the Governor;

Evidence of Good Standing from a previous Registration Authority is obtained before practitioners are recommended for registration by the Governor; and

That the fines and sanctions for non-registration as a practitioner before undertaking such role on the island are reviewed upwards.

The Bill will amend the Medical Practitioners Ordinance 1910, the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance 1937 and the Dentists Ordinance 1955.

Members debated the draft Bill and raised concerns in relation to the level of qualifications, the internal processes and the on-island practice and control. Members were reassured that these concerns will be addressed in the supporting policies which would sit behind the Bill. On that basis Members were content to approve the Bill as Government Business for the next formal meeting of Legislative Council.

ExCo
11 December 2018

I would like to pass on my sincerest Condolences to the Family of Patrick Crowie,
Although I never got to meet you, you will always have a place in my heart Uncle Patrick.
May You now find peace as you are now reunited with your Brothers and Sisters.
With all my love, Angie and family in UK

RESPONSE TO THE ST HELENA EQUALITY & HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION REPORT ON THE CONDITIONS OF DETENTION AT HM PRISON, JAMESTOWN

St Helena Government (SHG) would like to take the opportunity to thank the Equality & Human Rights Commission of St Helena for their Inquiry Report into the Conditions of Detention at HMP Jamestown. SHG would also like to thank the Commission for the positive comments regarding the Staff, prisoner relationships, Education and Medical Provisions within the Prison.

SHG recognises that the current building and facilities in HMP Jamestown are unsatisfactory in a number of respects and has been working hard to secure funding for a new prison. Work has also continued in parallel to identify a new site and to start the planning process so that work may commence as quickly as possible once funding has been made available. The Recommendations made by the Commission with regards to the new prison have been noted, and the Government would like to assure the Commission that all these are already covered under the plans for the new build.

SHG fully supports and welcomes the first recommendation of the Inquiry, that "the current prison be replaced with a new, fit for purpose facility which meets international human rights standards and fire safety standards". It also recognises that a measured and balanced report underpinned by solid evidence could play a valuable role in raising awareness of the need for a new prison.

SHG and senior management within the Police Directorate and HMP Jamestown have taken the time to review all the Findings and the Recommendations made by the Commission, and they would like to point out that significant progress has already been made within the current prison before the publication of the report. Of the 38 Recommendations, 26 were already being worked on or had been completed. Of the remaining 12, 10 have had work on them carried out to reduce the risk of harm, and 2 will need changes in Legislation and are currently under review.

SHG is however concerned that there may be a number of inaccuracies in the report and has concerns about the evidential basis for several of the claims made. These are being reviewed in detail and a comprehensive response will be issued to the Commission in due course.

SHG
11 December 2018

A sponsored skittle match in aid of
St Matthew's church was held in early
November by the St Matthew's Angels
The sum of £342.50 was raised
A big thank you to all who
supported the event

“if you have a system of bureaucracy that just means eventually you lose the will to live, St Helena at the moment does not have a major investor that is able to talk for St Helena”

In his direct and to-the-point interview on Saint FM Lord Ashcroft pointed to the slowness of bureaucracy. The Shelco story which, after years of trying came to nothing, reports of friction developing between St Helena Government and Mantis Hotels and the lack of success so far in attracting investment into fish processing and marketing at Rupert's are examples of government people living on a different planet to people in business.

As Ashcroft points out, we do not have even one significant overseas investor. Many potential investors have come here to take a look at what St Helena can offer, they have not all been investors in tourism and many of them have been and gone without a word being said about why they were here.

The point is they have gone; all of them gone and none have put their hand in their pocket and pulled out a plan for a commercial venture and the finance to go with it. There can be many reasons for this. Transport links, telecoms, and electricity are all either slow, expensive or both. They are major hindrances and the cost of them is a big burden for any business. But that is not the whole story, not by a long way.

Lord Ashcroft refers to the “slowness of the bureaucracy” and he definitely has a very valid point. The *Independent* has from time to time been drawn into the negotiations, or lack of them, (as a spectator) between potential overseas investors and the St Helena Government. Some of the investors who had an interest in St Helena have world-wide reputations for establishing solid and successful businesses but from the attention and treatment they appear to have received from SHG anyone would be excused for thinking these investors had less promise than the barrow-boys at a fresh vegetable market.

One such email received from a potential investor read:-

“It's a scandal they cannot even issue a polite holding response. There is no chance of any private investment ever for St Helena on this evidence. What a wasted opportunity for the Saints as it would have been a big big boost to the economy average wages and their future. Such is life with SHG.

Another equally depressing emailed comment was:-

“Thank you for this but frankly it's of little interest as it seems as though SHG is incapable of making any decisions regarding inward investment or is even capable of responding. They appear like rabbits frozen in the headlights unable to decide what to do next.”

Another message describing a situation where absolutely no interest was shown by SHG in a possible investment proposal was:-

“We have heard nothing re [redacted] proposal to fly to St Helena on 26th of this month and if this date passes without meaningful engagement I suspect his interest in investing will end. How sad for the people of St Helena and their children.”

The name of the person referred to has been blanked out.

And finally, this extract from another email indicates that SHG

is very much the same as, or following orders given by their masters; UK Government Departments.

“I had quite a long call with [redacted] on Monday. It was the first time that I had spoken to him but he seems to be a sensible person, not particularly either on the side of DFID or the Foreign Office as clearly politics on the Island between these Government departments is one of the reasons that nothing happens.”

While prospective investors can get impatient, irritable and say some extravagant things when delays stop them making the progress they want to make, there are too many comments such as these for the problems they raise to be just brushed under the carpet. As SHG and others encourage all of us to be less negative and more positive, is it SHG and their bureaucratic bosses in London who are the most negative of all?

The people concerned should look very closely at themselves when having a shave in the morning or putting on make-up. A new policy document (Investment Strategy December 2018) is no substitute for key individuals acting professionally, efficiently and honestly. **Vince**



**CHRISTMAS
SONGS OF PRAISE**



AT

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

ON FRIDAY 28TH DECEMBER 2018

AT 7 P.M.

**PLEASE DO COME ALONG AND JOIN IN WITH
A SERVICE OF WORSHIP WITH A NUMBER OF
GREAT CHRISTMAS**

CAROLS & SONGS!

LIVE MUSIC BY

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL GOSPEL GROUP

ALL ARE WELCOME.



St Helena Airport wins design award and is runner-up for airport of the year

St Helena Airport won the Design Project of the Year Award for 2018 organised by International Airport Review.

DESIGN PROJECT OF THE YEAR



Winner: St Helena Airport

The commendation which accompanied the award read:- As one of the most remote airports in the world, the construction of the St Helena Airport faced some very distinct challenges. Not only did the airport project need to construct an airport and associated infrastructure to meet international aviation standards, it needed to do so in an environmentally friendly way. The only place on the Island that could accommodate the airport is also the most environmentally sensitive.

St Helena takes joint-runner-up spot in the International Airport Review 2018 awards

St Helena airport was on a shortlist of three for the International Airport of the Year award for 2018. The winner was Hong Kong International Airport with Bristol (UK) and St Helena airports joint runners-up.

St Helena airport was selected from more than 80 submissions for the award and placed on the short list with Hong Kong and Bristol after a public vote among 12,000 aviation professionals.

The winner, from the short list of three was decided by a panel of aviation industry experts.

The description for St Helena airport which helped to get it on the short list included:-

Built at 1000ft above sea level, with the relentless South Atlantic Ocean abutting three sides of the airfield, the engineering marvel that is St Helena Airport has been constructed on St Helena, a British Overseas Territory in the middle of South Atlantic Ocean. Despite its remote location and the huge logistical challenges that faced the contractor (Basil Read), the airport was built from scratch in just 4½ years. And it did not just involve the construction of the airport; the project also called for additional infrastructure to be built in support of the airport as well as its construction. This included a new jetty to land construction equipment, vehicles and materials, all of which had been transported by sea from South Africa and Namibia. 14km of new road then needed to be constructed to get the construction vehicles and materials to the airport construction site. Temporary accommodation needed to be constructed to provide for the influx of workers. Not only did the airport project need to construct an airport and associated infrastructure to meet international aviation standards, it needed to do so in an environmentally friendly way. The only place on Island that could accommodate the airport is also the most environmentally sensitive, containing many

endemic species, some of whom were only discovered in recent years.

Also this week – St Helena is placed in Top Five Emerging Destinations by travel trade



The Travel Lemming website included St Helena in its Top Five hottest emerging travel destinations for 2019 “on the African continent”.

Travel Lemming describe St Helena as: - This remote volcanic tropical island is so far off the coast of Africa that we could almost include it in our South America awards instead. But that isolated location has made for some fascinating history, including Napoleon’s exile here by the British government (the island remains an Overseas Territory to this day). And it’s hard to feel too sorry for Mr. Bonaparte considering he enjoyed the same striking rugged coastlines, breath-taking natural wonders, and lush interior that await visitors to this day. Getting here is part of the adventure, of course: unless you’ve got a boat, you’re going to need to snag a spot on the only weekly flight from Johannesburg.

CHRISTMAS 2019 STAMP ISSUE

The following is a Public Announcement from the Post & Customer Services Centre:

The Post & Customer Services Centre (P&CSC) plan to use images of local properties, decorated with Christmas lights for the festive season, in their Christmas 2019 stamp issue.

The P&CSC would like to appeal to the public to submit digital images of their decorated properties for consideration. The best images will be used for the Christmas 2019 stamp issue.

Images must be in a digital format and should be submitted by the end of February 2019.

Submissions can be sent to the Assistant Customer Services Manager, Alan Bennett, via e-mail: alan.bennett@sainthelena.gov.sh, or can be dropped off at the P&CSC in Jamestown. Please submit names and addresses with images.

SHG

12 December 2018

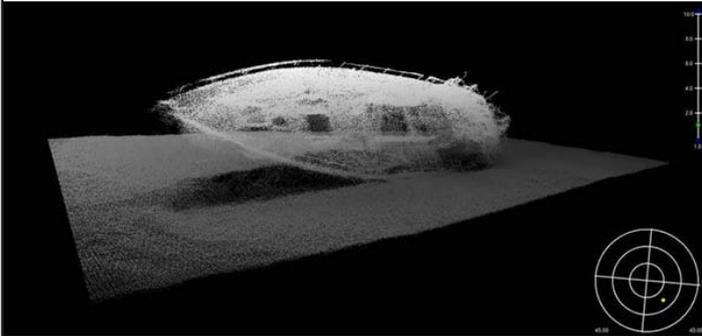
<http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh>



Marine Survey Data will be available in St Helena

The data collected by the marine survey now being undertaken in the coastal waters around the Island will be available for local use when the data has been processed and validated.

David Parker, Hydrographic Programme Manager for the UK Hydrographic Office told the Independent the primary use of the data is to update the official charts for St Helena, meeting international obligations, encouraging access for shipping and helping to protect lives and the environment. Other uses are considered secondary in the eyes of the funding body. However there is no reason why any individual or organisation should not have access to the marine survey data; fishing, tourism and education are three of the more immediately obvious secondary uses.

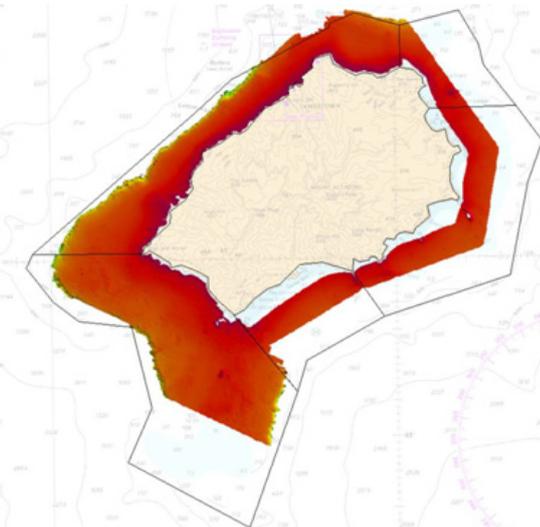


Atlantic Rose Wreck

The UK Hydrographic Office will normally pass the completed and validated data over in full, along with some easier to handle derived products, to the local National Government and encourage all government departments to share and also make available to non-government agencies where appropriate.

After completion of the marine survey the data now being collected it will require extensive processing which takes several months. After that all the data needs to be validated which can take a further two months. The UK Hydrographic Office runs workshops to demonstrate use of the data. If such a workshop would be welcomed in St Helena it would need to be proposed for the next financial year.

The data can be used or visualised with free software such as CARIS Easyview or other professional Geographic Information Systems which SHG probably already has.



Screen Shot of completed field work to date

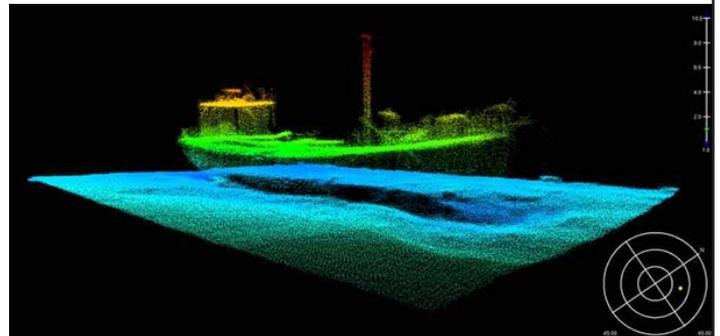
The UK Hydrographic Office has a formidable reputation and access to significant resources. As reported earlier this year

following a commitment to ocean science at a G7 Summit, **“the UK’s Hydrographic Office (UKHO) has announced that it intends to spearhead action on pledges with its marine geospatial specialists and scientists.**

Signed into existence at the G7 summit, the *Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities* sets out seven commitments to aimed at fostering sustainable oceanic activities, aimed at tackling issues such as ocean plastics, coastal resilience and the ‘blue economy’.

The UKHO is the primary charting authority for 71 states globally, and provides nautical charts, publications and services to over 90 percent of ships trading internationally.

According to a statement, the UKHO is already working with partners on two programmes across the globe to support emergency preparedness and recovery, support the management of coastal zones, expand ocean data observation and seabed mapping, and manage fisheries and marine protected areas (MPAs) – all initiatives identified by the Blueprint as priorities for healthy oceans and economies globally.



Bedgellet wreck

Invitation to Tender

The Saint Helena Government wishes to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract-

Consultancy Service for the Recommendation and Installation of Suitable Solutions for Anaerobic Digestion of Piggery Manure

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from

Miss Tiffany Lawrence

Procurement Officer

Essex House

Jamestown

Telephone No: 22270 or

email tiffany-lawrence@enrd.gov.sh

If you require any further details, please contact the Project Support Officer, Miss Sasha Bargo, on telephone number 24724 or

email sasha.bargo@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box at Essex House by 12noon on Thursday, 20 December 2018.



St Helena
Government

Lord Michael Ashcroft Is Talking

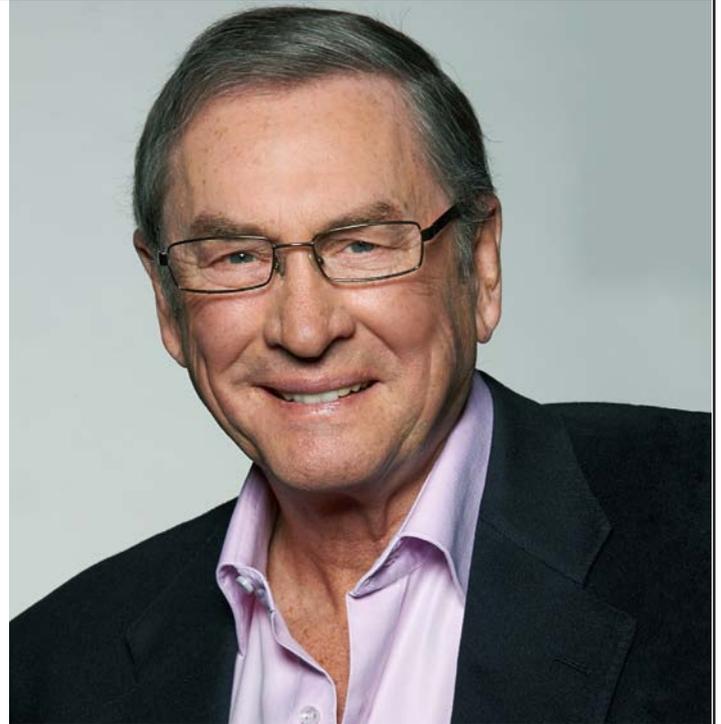
On Saturday 8th December Lord Michael Ashcroft was interviewed exclusively at Saint FM, for the benefit of our readership the editors of the Independent decided to publish the transcript in it's entirety.

Progress in St Helena in the last two years

Two years ago when I came here, before the airport was getting underway; I was one of the first flights in, there was quite a degree of optimism here as to what the future may hold and the difference this time around has been quite stark, people are a little depressed at the progress that has been made, depressed a little bit about where the future is now and the great optimism and hope that everyone thought the airport would bring appears to all but evaporated and you will, of course, have those that will spin this to the extent that everything takes time and I regard it as roughly along the lines of, don't worry about anything, you know, perhaps by 2063 it will all come together, I won't be here in 2063. So there's been negativity and I've been trying to have a look at the causes behind that and where does the future of St Helena go from here"

The people's champion

"St Helena has always been something that's been in my head since I was about seven or eight years old and I think it's important to reflect that when I first came here in 1948 with my parents on the Athlon Castle, my father had just retired from being a young officer after World War II, very fit man, carried me without a pause up Jacob's Ladder and into Longwood House where fully clothed I fell into that concrete Goldfish Pond at the back, so I was told that story as a kid, that, you know, what a little nuisance I was, and so the name St Helena had always been there because of that story and that was always on my bucket list that one day I would like to come and when the airport opened first time around we couldn't land, it had to be second time in, and so there's the natural affection towards St Helena because of that historical background. I don't come to St Helena with any particular view to invest, I think that would create a conflict and so I'm here because I think that by increasing the publicity for St Helena, identifying some of the issues, doing a short film about it, which I intend to do, will assist in finding some of the solutions which appear a little insoluble at this particular juncture and I wouldn't go so far as to say champion because that means that you're on the case the whole time and I just like



to be able as far as I can to contribute to the debate about the future of St Helena as a completely independent person with an affection for the island"

Where are we heading

"Let me divide that into a number of issues; let's clear the airport one out of the way at this particular juncture. The two things about the airport is the project should not have started without everyone understanding the longer term cost and implications of that expenditure, you cannot just build a modern airport on a small island with no thought or thinking as to how the capital comes in afterwards for which the purpose of the airport is built, so that didn't happen. Secondly, the whole debate as to should it have been situated where it is and the problems that have come from that and building an airport at £285m of British Taxpayers money there has to be a realisation that it becomes a political matter so therefore every time there's an incident the political opponents in the United Kingdom are making a lot of each incident which blows it up for negativity towards the island. So we have three issues – we have the wind shear issue, crosswind issue and low cloud. I think we can get through the first two and the problem is low cloud. The problem then is can aircraft come in on instrument landing and we're told effectively that because of the mountains it's difficult. I think extreme energy needs to be put into finding the technical issue to resolve that problem whatever the cost and the United Kingdom should be there, they built it, they took the advice, they knew from a long time ago that there were going to be some issues but nonetheless went forward, so that has to be done.

The access to St Helena needs to be strategically reviewed. Is Johannesburg the right place, why can't people get on at Windhoek and what has the British Government done about changing that, is Cape Town a better place? As far as tourism is concerned, it does seem apparent that unless you can get a direct link from the United Kingdom or Europe or Paris

Continued on NEXT PAGE

Lord Michael Ashcroft Is Talking

or Germany or wherever it may be, it's going to be extremely difficult so to come down to St Helena as an isolated island in the middle of the South Atlantic it is essential that Ascension becomes the ultimate airport for planes coming down. Now I'm told at the moment that Ascension has the Americans being able to veto who uses that particular airport so there's obviously a transit point at Accra in Ghana that could be used, but for direct flights Ascension has to come into it. There may well be discussions as to whether the airport is long enough for long haul flight, but that has to happen.

There is a lot of complaint from people that come here about the slowness of the bureaucracy to be able to get anything done. I spoke to a business person yesterday who is now in their seventh year over negotiating over a piece of land and this whole process, international investment is mobile, it can go anywhere in the world and if you have a system of bureaucracy that just means eventually you lose the will to live, St Helena at the moment does not have a major investor that is able to talk for St Helena. We've had all the saga of Sir Nigel on SHELCO, we have Paul O Sullivan who's now come in, Paul O Sullivan has not come here as an, he might not like me saying this, but I think he's done well, he's come more or as a speculator than as an investor, he's been able at a reasonable price to what he can afford to even lose or write off with the hope that things turn out sometime in the future. You have Adrian Gardiner who's put up the Mantis Hotel who first came here wanting to invest in other things. I had a conversation with him a few days ago, he hasn't even been paid for four months from managing it and I think he's lost the will to live in wanting to look at anything else, so when you have the mixture of a number of locals who say the bureaucracy here is killing them this is not a positive message for investors and they say, well, even if I do invest how am I going to be tied up and tied up in red tape. I think there's a case also where the Governor here is concerned, it's no disrespect to either the current Governor or the future one that has just brought in, but I believe and Jeremy Hunt, the Foreign Secretary said recently they want to bring businessmen into diplomatic posts, this, I believe, could have been the first example of bringing a businessman with a brief that he is not just doing what UK Government policy wants him to do, but will also equally stand up for the rights of the islanders. I do believe that there should be serious consideration here for a completely independent, strategic review with nothing off the table and that may well mean that even the Saints have to give on certain issues. I hit bureaucracy yesterday when I came in that I needed to show that I had Health Insurance. I'm a Brit, I actually pay for, I can afford to pay for my health insur-



ance, but I had to go through a system yesterday, given the e-mail address to the Immigration Officer and I was told by yesterday afternoon I had to go and get a copy of whatever health insurance and send it, I had to clearly demonstrate that I was leaving the island, my team with me had to go down to Immigration yesterday for the second time to show they were actually booked on the flight tomorrow to leave, so this is the first impression of this welcome as you come in. In South Africa we don't have to fill up any forms, we just present our passport with a big smile, so the bureaucracy needs to change"

Responsibility and accountability

"Well, I don't know the full detail of where the balance of authority is between your local Council and the British, but the problem that you are experiencing is the fact that whenever the European Union makes a rule or regulation or a recommendation it comes into where it may not even be appropriate here and the problem with advisers who give recommendations is that it's very difficult for people who don't then have the knowledge of alternates to go against these recommendations. Now, when I ask an adviser for help I rarely include within that a recommendation, I don't want them giving me a recommendation, because I know that they will protect themselves and give the most conservative answer which may not be in my interest but may put me in difficulty if I reject that recommendation, so I ask them to give me all the pros and cons of a certain path and then I will use my judgement as to which path I want to go around, so, in fact, you have this small island is layered with a bureaucracy of not only the UK, but the European Union and that's why I made the point of an independent review that could have a close look at the relationship between yourselves. For example, in Gibraltar, for the European Parliament elections they have a right to vote and they are twinned with the South-West of England for voting purposes, so there's a greater integration. I'm a Brit, you're Brit, and you can come to the United Kingdom and



Lord Michael Ashcroft Is Talking

take advantage of all the services of the United Kingdom. I'm a Brit, I can't when I come to St Helena, so there needs to be give and take as well as we go through this process and that's why I come back to the strategic review"

The Relationship between the UK government and St Helena

I think that the whole relationship needs to be looked at between the two. The old British Empire has gone, Britain is left with a number of overseas territories and therefore what is Britain's role to these territories? On one hand Britain is not claiming longevity of sovereignty, to every overseas territory Britain says if you want independence vote for it. Now, clearly St Helena cannot economically stand on its own which prohibits that, but technically that could happen. I believe there can be a closer relationship if the Saints wanted to do it and that's the freedom of democratic choice of the Saints. For example, the French Islands in the Caribbean is regarded as an integral part of France, they have representation in the French Parliament and French people can come and invest and you've got a lot of French citizens come down to these islands, open cafes, restaurants, little guesthouses and so on and so forth and so the Saints themselves have got to decide what they would like to see as the give and take relationship between the two and that's nothing that can be imposed, it's what you want to do. I came across a case of somebody who's from the United Kingdom yesterday, been here for years and years and years, spends around five months of the year here, contributes into the local economy, applied to become a full Saint, got rejected and when I saw him two years ago he was an enthusiast for everything that St Helena offered. Yesterday when I saw him it was as though he'd been punched in the face.

The one thing is, it's when I write books on analysing why my Party lost the General Election, I write the facts of the matter. That's objective, facts are objective. When you start to come on to recommendations, it's subjective, because there are many ways to solve those issues and therefore all that I would want to do is try to lay out the facts to anybody that's interested in the articles that I will write. I will say things like, perhaps a businessman as Governor may be something. I will not move say it should happen, the Saints may not want that type of thing, Saints may be happy that it's a constant stream of bureaucratic Governors that come here. I'm an entrepreneur so I balance risk and reward and sometimes a risk, everything in life is risk, reward and consequence. In any country, you know, political agitation is sometimes necessary, even in a democracy, you have to choose your Councillors, you have to decide the path that you would wish to go. The Bank of St Helena sits on £60m of your deposits but only lends probably less than a fifth to the local community, there is some funds around where locals could get a bit more involved rather than sit back and say, well, let's wait and see and that's not a criticism, just an observation that the Saints too have an obligation to push the way and not just accept where things are at the moment. I can remember when I visited the Falklands they have a very good standard of living, very good wages, discovering oil is that the locals were resistant to wanting to share that with the United Kingdom, but at the same time wanted the United Kingdom to pay for their



defence. There has to be a certain amount of give and take"

Thank you and goodbye, for now

"It's always a delight to come to the studio here, I always enjoy the time, the limited time that I spend here, I'll be writing up this visit, it'll be on my website, conservativehome.com I hope that one or two people will take notice of it"

Connect
SAINT HELENA LTD

TIP OF THE WEEK

Don't run the tap when washing vegetables.

Fill the sink or a bowl instead and save water.

A running tap uses around 10 litres per minute.

VolkerFitzpatrick have worked on Ascension Island in 2015 and are currently bidding for the job of repairing the Ascension Island runway. If we are successful in our bid would you like to work with us on the Ascension Island in any of the following roles?

Drivers

- Tipper trucks - £25k
- Road Tankers - £25k

Plant operators

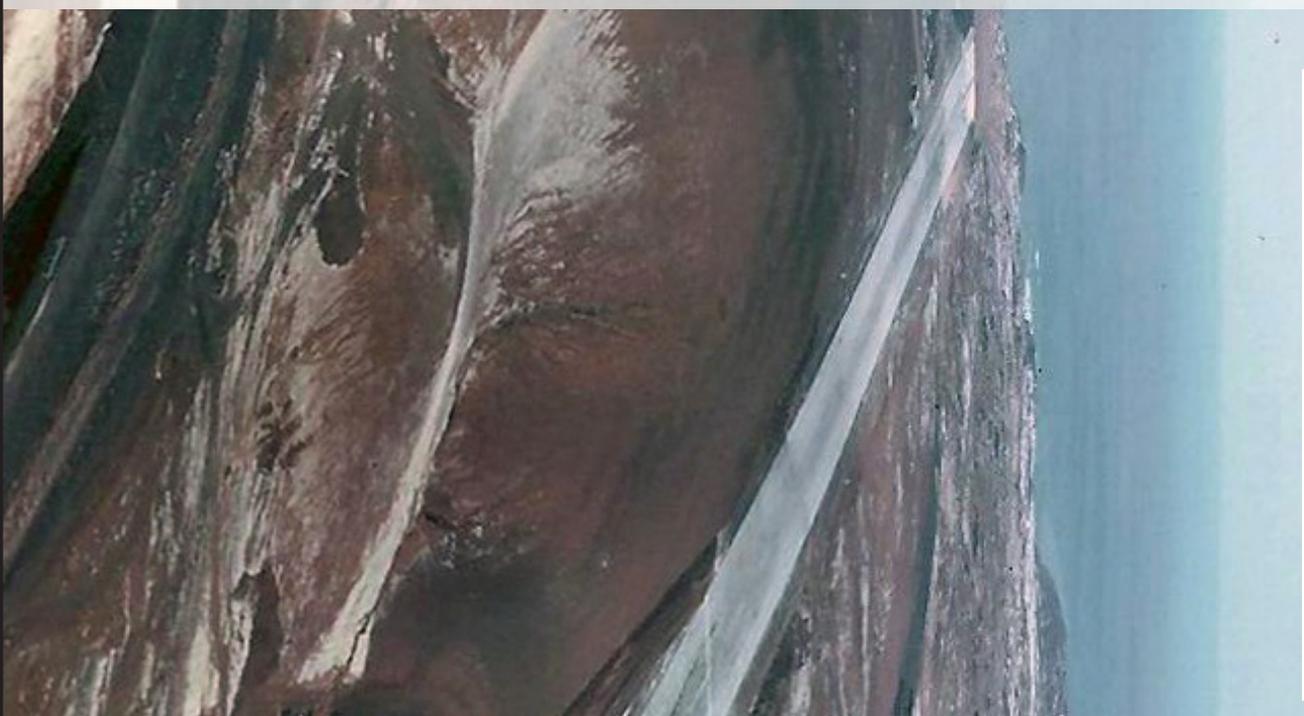
- Excavator driver (20-35t) £25k
- Dump truck driver (20-30t) £25k
- Dumpers (up to 6ft) £25k
- Telehandler £25k
- Forklift £25k
- Roller £25k
- Dozer D6 £25k
- Loading Shovel £25k
- Road Planer £25k
- Concrete Mixer Truck £25k

Other Positions

- Slinger banksman £23k
- Drainage works £25k
- RC concrete works £25k
- General labour £19k
- Office admin £16k
- Fitter £25k

If you would like to work on the project please call Mike Olsson on telephone number +290-22327 or e-mail: olsson@helanta.co.sh (Office hours 7.30-11.00 and 13.00 to 18.00) to tell us which roles you would be interested in and outline your relevant experience, training and certification. We anticipate the bulk of the work would start in the last quarter of 2019 with some activity beforehand. It is anticipated that the contract will be for 52 weeks, one year.

Expenses such as travel to and from Ascension Island, lodging and food would be included. Closing date is Friday 21st December 2018.



Derek Thomas meets with House of Commons Committee of Inquiry

“We fear a future where the people of St Helena are plunged back into severe poverty”

Cllr Derek Thomas, while in London last week for the Overseas Territories Joint Ministerial Council, also went to the House of Commons to give evidence to a committee of MPs.

Cllr Thomas told the Foreign Affairs Committee, “We do not always feel that we are treated as partners by the British Government. We are in receipt of foreign aid from the UK through DFID, but we are British, not a foreign country. Decisions are made by DFID on our future funding, yet we are not involved in that process”. He also told the committee St Helena would like to be fully involved in decision-making process on budgetary aid for St Helena.

Cllr Thomas continued his evidence to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee by expressing concern that St Helena is, “close to reaching the threshold where we will no longer be eligible for overseas development aid” and this is despite St Helena being neither self-sufficient— nor likely to be for some time.” Derek Thomas added, “We fear a future where the people of St Helena are plunged back into severe poverty, but we lack the means to safeguard against that. We do not have access to key institutions that could support us, such as the Commonwealth Development Corporation, because we are an Overseas Territory, yet we do not have access to many international institutions or funding streams either.”

Cllr Thomas told the Foreign Affairs Committee, “We advocate for a new approach to the Overseas Territories that operates as a true partnership. We would like the Overseas Territories’ relationship with the UK to be considered as part of the UK’s own strategic global Britain ambitions. We would like to be not treated as foreigners, but recognised and acknowledged as British citizens, with a shared history that spans more than 400 years.”

Derek Thomas was giving evidence together with Kitty George for Ascension, Ian Lavarello for Tristan and Leslie Jacques for Pitcairn. All representatives expressed concern that European Union funding will soon come to an end and no assurances have been given by the UK Government that the funding gap will be filled from other sources. Cllr Thomas pointed out it was difficult enough trying to negotiate a capital programme of funding for essential infrastructure renewals.

There was general agreement among the Overseas Territory representatives that representation and communication could be improved if there was a House of Commons Select Committee, similar to the Foreign Affairs Committee, with was devoted only to issues affecting and arising from the British Overseas Territories. It was felt that such a committee would help the Overseas Territories get their voices heard amongst the constant clamour of parliamentary business and political priorities.

Members of the Foreign Affairs Committee appeared to accept this suggestion as reasonable. The chairman of the committee suggested it might be a Grand Committee rather than

a Select Committee. Such a committee would operate in a similar way as the Welsh, Scottish and Northern Ireland Grand Committees.

The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee continues to take evidence from a large number of witnesses on the subject of The Future of the Overseas Territories and is not expected to complete their investigations and issue their report for some time.

The House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee is holding an inquiry into the Future of the Overseas Territories. The committee will hear Oral Evidence from witnesses who attend sessions of the inquiry in person. There have so far been three such sessions. A common theme in the views expressed and questions asked is finding a new and better way for the UK Government to work with the Overseas Territories. In addition to Oral Evidence, any organisation or individual can submit Written Evidence for consideration. Written Evidence is published and available for anyone interested to read on the Foreign Affairs Committee pages of the Parliament website. The written submission have been published in batches with most be available on 6th November. So far, almost 90 written submissions are publicly available after being submitted to the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Written Evidence to the committee has been submitted by the St Helena Government, Elected Members of the St Helena Legislative Council, St Helena Chamber of Commerce, St Helena Tourism Association and Mr John Turner. Government representatives and NGOs in most other Overseas Territories have submitted written evidence in order to make their views known to the Foreign Affairs Committee. Other submission have been made by non-governmental organisations such as the UK Overseas Territories Association, RSPB, UKOTCF, UK Chagos Support Association, Oxfam and Transparency International.

The next Oral Evidence session is scheduled for next Tuesday 18th December. It is expected several more sessions will be arranged to accommodate the greater than usual interest in the business of this particular select committee. The date for the publication of the Foreign Affairs Committee Report into the Future of the Overseas Territories is yet to be confirmed.

“Britain’s diplomats and Foreign Office have been among the best in the world and one of the jewels in the crown of the British civil service. Recently, the Committee has had cause to question that.”

Tom Tugendhat MP



House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee



Tom Tugendhat, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee



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CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS 2018

	Grocery Shop	Tinkers	Wholesale Store	Emporium	Sandy Bay Shop
Saturday 15 th	9 am - 8 pm	9 am - 8 pm	9 am - 4 pm	9 am - 8 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Sunday 16 th	10 am - 1 pm	CLOSED			
Monday 17 th	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Tuesday 18 th	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Wednesday 19 th	8 am - 8 pm	9 am - 5 pm	9 am - 1 pm	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 1 pm
Thursday 20 th	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm	8 am - 5 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Friday 21 st	8 am - 8 pm	9 am - 8 pm	9 am - 5 pm	8 am - 8 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Saturday 22 nd	9 am - 8 pm	9 am - 8 pm	9 am - 4 pm	9 am - 8 pm	9 am - 5 pm
Sunday 23 rd	9 am - 1 pm	CLOSED			
Monday 24 th	9 am - 4 pm	9 am - 4 pm	9 am - 4 pm	9 am - 4 pm	9 am - 4 pm
Christmas Eve	7 pm - 9 pm	7 pm - 9 pm		7 pm - 9 pm	
Thursday 27 th	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm
Saturday 29 th	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm
Sunday 30 th	CLOSED				
Monday 31 st	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm	9 am - 1 pm
2 nd January 2019	Back to normal				

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our customers

A Very Merry Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year. Happy Holidays!



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

www.sainthelenabank.com

WITHDRAWAL OF ACCOUNT TRANSFERS WITH EFFECT FROM 01 JANUARY 2019

Customers are reminded that with effect from Tuesday, 01 January 2019, Bank of St Helena will no longer process Account Transfers which are accepted as a payment method **outside of the Bank.**

Account Transfer Forms **used within Bank Branches and Kiosks**, to transfer funds to other accounts, or to make bill payments, will remain in effect.

Head Office: Market Street · Jamestown · St Helena Island · STHL 1ZZ

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- St Helena Growers
- Get Carters
- SydneRay's
- Shanicar's
- The Inkwell
- Phillip John's Shop
- Mantis St Helena
- Cutting Edge
- Bertrands Cottage
- SHG Customs - Freight Terminal, the Wharf
- SHG Customs - Arrivals Terminal, St Helena Airport
- SHG Post & Customer Service Centre
- Essence Beauty Salon
- Dovers St Helena Ltd - Little Saints Shop
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CONNECT SAINT HELENA LTD VEHICLES

Our assets are spread far and wide so it is important that we can deal with any issues effectively. Having a reliable and well stocked vehicle fleet is a significant step forward in achieving this.



Inside one of our Water maintenance vehicle toolboxes

Our staff need the necessary resources with them at all times so that they are ready for many types of call outs when in the field. Our maintenance vehicles are therefore kitted out with specially made toolboxes, designed to hold tools, equipment and fittings needed to complete a variety of jobs, rather than having to go back to the Depot to collect things.

This initiative has improved response times, saved time and fuel and ultimately releases funds that can be used for further long-term preventative maintenance measures. The pictures show what the inside of our land rovers look like.



Maintenance vehicle toolbox



Fully equipped Electricity Maintenance vehicle toolbox



Stocked side section of toolbox

As a reminder, if you wish to report an electricity or water fault please call us on 22255 during normal working hours. Faults reported outside of these hours can be made using the following telephone numbers:

- Electricity fault: 22602 – Power Station
- Water fault: 22522 or 61307 – David Constantine

11 December 2018





REMOTE BANKING DECEMBER 2018

Bank of St Helena would like to advise the public that Remote Banking for December will take place as follows:

Location	Date	Time
Scotland	Friday, 14 December	09:30 – 12:30
HTH Supermarket	Monday, 17 December	09:30 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Tuesday, 18 December	09:30 – 14:30
HTH Supermarket	Wednesday, 19 December	09:30 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Friday, 21 December	09:30 – 14:30

Save yourself the trip into Jamestown

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Established and regulated in St. Helena under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008 the Company Ordinance, 2004 and the Company Regulations, 2004

The Falkland Islands Company



Panel Beater/ Paint Sprayer Turbo Tim @ Falklands 4x4

We have an immediate need for an experienced panel beater/ paint sprayer to join the team with Turbo Tim @ Falklands 4x4, this will include weekend work and overtime.

The successful candidate must be able to work as part of a team but also be able to undertake tasks unsupervised and to deadlines.

Benefits include an annual bonus scheme, membership of the Falkland Islands Pension Scheme with a Company contribution paid for you.

Rates of pay shall be based on qualifications and experience.

Applicant must be of clean sober habits.

Timmy Francis Manager Turbo Tim @ Falklands 4x4 will be on St Helena from the 8th December 2018 and can be contacted on 00290 22124. He will be happy to meet with anyone interested in the above post.



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc
has a Vacancy for a

Stack Controller

Within the Finance Department

Job Outline

To provide and maintain an efficient and accurate stock control system for the company, including the effective processing and monitoring of all relevant documentation and reporting.

Interested Persons Should:-

- Have Grade C or above in GCSE Maths & English
- Be computer literate in the use of Microsoft Office applications
 - Have the ability to work to deadlines
 - Have some supervisory experience
 - Have experience in stock management
- Desirably have experience in using Access Dimensions

Salary will start at **£915.69** per month, (£10,988.28 per annum) depending on qualifications and experience

For further information,
including the Company's
attractive benefits package,
please contact
Jolene Stevens,
Finance Manager
on telephone number: 22380
or via email address:
financemanager@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be
collected from Solomons Reception
Desk, in the Main Office Building,
Jamestown or alternatively an
electronic copy can be requested
via e-mail address:
hradmin@solomons.co.sh and
should be completed and returned
to Nicola Essex, Human Resources
Manager,
Solomons Office, Jamestown,
By 21 December 2018



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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Join Our Customer Satisfaction Survey - January 2019

At Bank of St Helena Ltd it is our mission to provide you with the best possible service experience. To help us achieve this goal we urge customers to take part in our Customer Satisfaction Survey which will run from January to February 2019.

Have your say on how we meet your banking requirements



WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

OPERATIONS OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD



The following is a public announcement from Waste Management Services:

Waste Management Services (WMS) will continue their operations over the festive period as follows:

Domestic & Commercial Waste Collection:

All domestic and commercial waste collection services throughout December and January will remain mostly unchanged except for the following:

There will be no domestic or commercial waste collection on Tuesday, 25 December 2018 (Christmas Day) and on Tuesday, 1 January 2019 (New Year's Day).

Customers who ordinarily have their waste collected on a Tuesday will instead have it collected on the preceding day - Monday, 24 December 2018 (Christmas Eve) and Monday, 31 December 2018 (New Year's Eve), respectively.

Customers are asked to ensure their bins are ready for emptying by 6am. Late placement of bins may result in bins not being emptied.

Safe and Efficient Waste Storage and Collection:

All cardboard boxes must be flattened prior to waste collection, with large volumes of cardboard tied in bundles for safe handling. WMS will not collect cardboard boxes that have not been suitably prepared. All other waste must be bagged and not placed loose into bins. Where possible, please sanitise your wheelie bins regularly to prevent the formation of maggots. WMS is not responsible for sanitising commercial or individual domestic wheelie bins.

Horse Point Landfill Site:

The site will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The public is encouraged to recycle as much of their waste prior to any disposal into the bulky waste cell. The Public Recycling Facility can receive plastics, glass, cans, scrap metal, wood, cooking & motor oil, tyres, cardboard, vehicle & domestic batteries, white goods, small electrical appliances, furniture, textiles and clothing.

The public is advised not to use the Landfill Site during the hours of darkness due to the obvious hazards that exist.

Bulky Waste:

The public is reminded that the free bulky waste collection service previously offered by WMS has been cancelled. Members of the public are advised to make private arrangements for the collection and disposal of any bulky waste.

Public Area Sanitation:

All public area sanitation services throughout December and January will remain unchanged. Please dispose of your litter in the bins provided for the protection of the environment.

Wheelie Bins:

WMS will have a limited stock of 240Litre black wheelie bins available for households and businesses for their waste management from February 2019. Residents and businesses requiring wheelie bins are asked to contact the Environmental Risk Manager, Mike Durnford, on tel: 24724 or via email: mike-durnford@enrd.gov.sh

Waste Management Enquiries:

With effect from Friday, 7 December 2018, through to Tuesday, 2 January 2019, all Waste Management Services' enquiries should be directed to the Landfill Manager, Patrick Crowie, on tel: 23655 or via email:

landfill.manager@helanta.co.sh. This includes the following enquiries:

- Domestic & commercial waste collection
- Hazardous waste disposal
- Incineration Service
- Secure Data Disposal Service
- Any waste management issues



Waste Management Services are committed to 'working with customers for a cleaner and greener St Helena'.

SHG

11 December 2018

<http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh>

VACANCY FOR TRAINEE ROCK GUARD

The Environment and Natural Resources Directorate has an opportunity for someone who is looking to start or change their career to work in the Rockfall Section as a Trainee Rock Guard.

The successful candidate will be required to be available for on-call duties, to assist with mountain rescue operations, have a valid drivers' licence in Classes A, B and C and have an awareness of Health and Safety techniques.

Candidates will be required to undertake an assessment to determine their physical fitness and ability to work from heights.

The successful candidate will be trained in current international abseiling and rope techniques, hillside inspections and will have the opportunity to obtain a certificate for safe working from ropes.

The salary for this post is at Grade B7 which is £7,730 per annum.



If you are interested in finding out more about this post please speak with the Maintenance Supervisor, Mr Darin Francis or e-mail roads.supervisor2@helanta.co.sh

Application forms and Job Profiles are available from the Maintenance Supervisor or from Receptionist at Essex House. Completed application forms should be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, Essex House or email karen-thomas@enrd.gov.sh by no later than Tuesday 18th December 2018.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical declaration and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.

Derek Henry, Director, Environment and Natural Resources, 4 December 2018

VACANCY - MARINE CONSERVATION OFFICER



Do you have a passion for and knowledge of the island's marine world and a willingness to keep up to date with current marine information, if so the Environment and Natural Resources Directorate is looking for applications from suitably qualified persons to fill the post of Marine Conservation Officer.

The applicant will be responsible to the Director and provide a management role to the marine team in relation to field work, communications, data and project management.

Applicants should as a start have an A level in Maths, English and Science however they must be willing to obtain further qualifications to meet the developing needs of the section. The applicant should also have at least 1 years work experience of data collection and management activities, be proficient in computer literacy in Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point and Access and a Grade A and C driving license.

Salary for the post is at Grade D1 commencing at £11,034 per annum.

For further details on the duties of the above posts, please contact the Acting Marine Conservation Officer, Mrs Samantha Cherrett on telephone No.22270 or e-mail samantha.cherrett@enrd.gov.sh

Application forms are available from the Receptionist at Essex House and should be completed and submitted to the Human Resources Manager, Essex House or e-mail karen-thomas@enrd.gov.sh by no later than Monday 17 December 2018.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical declaration and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.

Mr Derek Henry

Director, Environment and Natural Resources, 4 December 2018



SHFC Opening Hours Holiday Period 2018

Date	SHFC Cold Store	Offices
Monday 24th Dec	8.30am – 2.30pm (Boats to be in by 12pm – No Ground Fish)	8.30am – 12pm
Tuesday 25th Dec	Closed	
Wednesday 26th Dec	Closed	
Thursday 27th Dec	10am - 11am Issue Requirements Only	Closed
Friday 28th Dec	8.30am - 5pm	8.30am – 5pm
Saturday 29th Dec	8.30am - 5pm	Closed
Sunday 30th Dec	Closed	
Monday 31st Dec	8.30am – 2.30pm (Boats to be in by 12pm – No Ground Fish)	Closed
Tuesday 1st Jan	Closed	
Wednesday 2nd Jan	Open as normal	

Note to Fishermen - Disbursements will be issued on Friday 21st December as normal, and will resume Friday 4th January 2019

SHFC Operations Manager – Miss Terri Clingham – 12th December 2018



**Enterprise St Helena and
Tourism Office
Festive Period
Opening Hours**



Date	Tourist Office Tel: 22158	ESH Office Tel: 22920
Monday 24th December 2018	8.30 am - 12 noon	
Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th December 2018	Closed	
Thursday 27th & Friday 28th December 2018	9.00 am — 3.00 pm	Closed
Monday 31st December 2018	8.30 am — 12 noon	Closed
Tuesday 1st January 2019	Closed	
Wednesday 2nd January 2019	Open as normal	

Please be advised that a member of the business development team will be available at the Tourist Office on the days in which the office at Ladder Hill is closed.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone

A Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous 2019,

We extend thanks to all who supported our activities throughout the year and gave valuable feed back.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead and being of service to you.



Enabling Tourism and Economic Growth

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Visit us online Business and Investment: www.investinsthelenas.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com

INITIAL POLICE TRAINING WEEK SEVEN

This was the final week of the St Helena Police Initial Police Training seven-week course.

The students took their final examinations and were tested against the entire course content in a final summative exercise. This consisted of having to deal with six practical scenarios. These included dealing with a violent domestic incident, a suspected drunk driver, a disturbance in the street, a vulnerable person, a male with an offensive weapon, and a suspect in custody.

This was a challenging practical examination, but the students dealt with each incident in a measured and professional manner. As a result, they all passed this final test.

During the week, they also received additional law training, including how to deal with a breach of the peace. The Health Directorate also delivered First Aid Training to the officers.

This now completes their Initial Police Training. The successful officers will now be out on patrol, in company with other Police Officers. They will return for further post foundation training over the next twelve months to build on their initial training.

Tutor, Sgt Mike Miskell, said:

“They will now need the support of the community to



help them keep people safe and make St Helena an even better place to live and work. I wish all of them well for the future.”

Tutor, Learning & Development Sergeant, Mark Coombe, said:

“The students have now successfully completed their initial training and I would like to thank the public for the support that has been shown during the past seven weeks. It has been a pleasure to assist in the development of these new officers and I wish them every success for the future.”

Their course culminated in a Police Passing-Out Parade at Plantation house on Thursday, 6 December, in front of the Governor, Senior Officers, family and friends.

SHG

10 December 2018



**St Helena
Government**

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Round 16 of the EPL started with Liverpool's 4-0 win over Bournemouth which sent them to the top of the table. Mo Salah's scored a hat trick. This is the Egyptian second hat trick for the club. James Milner also became the 13th player to reach 500 EPL appearances. He is also the third Liverpool player to reach this milestone as Gerrard and Carragher also completed 500+ appearances.

Man City's played Chelsea in the 5.30pm game on Saturday and loss 2-0. Chelsea bounced back from the disappointment of losing at Wolves in midweek to end City's 21-game unbeaten league run.

The champions paid for a lack of ruthlessness as they dominated the first half, only to be struck by a smash-and-grab right on half-time as N'Golo Kante fired high past Ederson from Eden Hazard's pass.

Chelsea gained confidence and momentum and improved after the break, securing the win with 12 minutes left when David Luiz's glancing header following a corner bounced in off the far post.

Lucas Torreira brilliant bicycle secure a 1-0 win against a stubborn Huddersfield side. The winning goal came in the 83rd minute.

Manchester United recorded their biggest Premier League win of the season as they brushed aside Fulham at Old Trafford. The victory - United's first in five league matches - moved them up to sixth, while bottom-of-the-table Fulham have now conceded 40 goals in 16 matches.

Paul Pogba was left on the bench in a match which saw Rashford shine and young 19 year old right back Dalot picked up the EPL man of the match.

Tottenham retained third place in the Premier League with a comfortable victory over Leicester at the King Power Stadium. Spurs rested both Harry Kane and Christian Eriksen and initially struggled to break down the hosts until Son Heung-min's superb strike just before the break. Dele Allie completed the victory heading in Sons cross.

In other matches West ham defeated Crystal Palace 3-2 in an entertaining game; Burnley beat Brighton 1-0 and Cardiff picked up all the points against Southampton with a 1-0 win. A late goal saw Wolves defeated 10 men Newcastle 2-1. A late free kick saw Everton salvage a point against Watford on Monday night.

In the Champions League Liverpool defeated Napoli and progress through to the Knock Out stages. Spurs also are through to the last 16 as they drew 1-1 away at Barcelona.

On Wednesday's Manchester United missed out on an opportunity to finished top of their group but they loss 2-1 away at Valencia. City came from behind to win at home against Hoffenheim.

This weekend stand out fixture in the Premier League is the match at Anfield on Sunday when Liverpool play arch rivals Manchester United.

On Saturday City play Everton at 12.30; Crystal Palace host

Leicester, Huddersfield play Newcastle, Spurs play Burnley, Watford host Cardiff and Wolves play Bournemouth at home. In the late game on Saturday Fulham will play West Ham at Craven Cottage.

Other matches on Sunday will see Brighton host Chelsea t 1.30pm and Southampton play Arsenal at the same time.

SHFA International Football Squad

Fund raising is ongoing. Tickets for the Raffle with the star Prize being a Ford Focus ST will be on sale outside of the Canister on Saturday 15th December from 9.30am-12 noon and on Wednesday 19th December from 10am-1pm. Over a third of the tickets have been sold. MISS IT MISS OUT!

So far we have 60 persons taking part in the Port to Port Sponsored walk which will take place on Thursday 27th December starting from the Airport at 9.30am and finishing at Rupert's Jetty via the Haul road.

Sponsor Papers can be picked up from New Horizons.

Last Saturday saw the SHFA and Junior Knock out Cup finals take place. This was followed by the presentation of Trophies. The Junior Football trophies were awarded to the junior footballers by the Sponsors Julie Lawrence (Solomons); Nigel George and Ian Williams (Colin's Garage). We the organisers of the Junior Football and the Junior Footballers themselves wished to say a big thank you to the sponsors; coaches and officials who made this season another enjoyable one. Miss St Helena presented the trophies for the SHFA.

This has concluded the League and Cup competitions. The district matches will take place on Sunday 23rd; Sunday the 30th and Tuesday 1st January.

Fixtures:

7-11 Years Knock Out Futsal final

Dream team 7 v Young Harts 3

G/S Dream team: Dominic Richards 3; Blake Peters 4

G/S Young Harts OG; Micaden Crowley 1 & Jadee Caswell 1

POM: Blake Peters

11-15 Years Knock Out Futsal final

Allstars 20 v Chop Shop Boys 0

G/S Allstars: Joey Thomas 12; Aiden Yon-Stevens 5, Joey

Bacon 1, Kyron Anthony 2

POM: Joey Thomas

SHFA Knock Out Cup Final

Rovers 4 v Harts 2

G/S Rovers: Rico Benjamin 1; Ronan Legg 2 & Tyler Benjamin

1

G/S Harts: Andrew Yon 1 & Simon Scipio 1

Mom: Rico Benjamin

Presentation Day 2018

Medals were awarded by New Horizons staff to Beginners League teams Shooting Stars and Dolphins. Medals were also awarded to PPS Dolphins; Yellow Devils and Jungle Rangers.

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Solomons Futsal League 7-11 years

League Runners Up: Dream team
League Winners: Young Harts
Best Goal Keeper: Ephren Stroud Yellow Devils
Top Goal Scorer: Micadean Crowley

Solomons Futsal League 11-15 year olds

League Runners Up: Chop Shop Boys
League Winners: Allstars
Best Goal Keeper: Blaine Joshua
Top Goal Scorer: Joey Thomas

7-11 years

Knock Out Cup Runners Up: Young Harts
Knock Out Cup Winners: Dream team
POM: Blake Peters



Beginners League Players



Golf Report for Sunday 9th December 2018

On Sunday the Richard James International Challenged Cup was fiercely contested and the winner was the Captain, Bramwell Lumukwana. Two player's scores were tied, and in second place was Alistair Norrie and third place was Peter Johnson on count back. Nearest to the pin on No. 7 for Ladies was Anne George and for Men on No. 5 was Gerald George. The longest drive on No. 4 for the Ladies was Anne George and for the Men on No. 8 was Bramwell Lumukwana. Winners of the 2 ball pool was Larry Legg with 2 on the 7th & 16th, Anne George on the 7th & Tony Green on the 5th. Congratulations to all the winners.

Thanks to Honorary Members Joan Thomas for presenting the prizes to the winners and to Daphne Francis, who so generously provided the refreshments, and for her continued support to the Club.

The Committee of Management & Members wish to express their thanks and appreciation to Richard James International Ltd for their continued support to the Club.

On Sunday 16th December they will be a Texas Scramble Competition (choose your partner). Tee off times start at mid-day. Sign-up sheet are displayed on the Club Notice Board or you can leave your name on the Club answering service on 24421.

Members were also forewarned on Sunday 30th December 2019 there will be a Novelty Competition starting at 9am, where Members bring a wrapped gift in exchange for a gift. This will be followed by a "Bring & Share" BBQ. Further details will be displayed on the Club Notice Board shortly.

Members are reminded their 2019 Annual Membership Subscription is due by the 31st January 2019, and Locker Room Annual Fees is due by this date also.

Keep on swinging.

**Contributed by: Tony Duncan,
Hon. Secretary.**



Naafi on the Falklands have vacancies for customer services assistants to start work in Feb 19.

Any persons interested can contact Delemarie Hopkins on Island, on telephone number 22956 or email dhopkins@naafi.co.uk

THE ROCK

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON SUNDAY 16th December 2018 @ 11:00 FOR PRAISE AND WORSHIP At No 3 Unit Longwood Enterprise Park

Transport is available from Jamestown, HTH Contact 23249

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Serena's Gift Shop



Phone :22792
SGS@helanta.co.sh

An Exciting New Range of Lights

**A NEW Range of Christmas Lights...300 Iccles lights £29.50
180 multi Iccle lights £22.95, 30mtr 380 LED £32.50,
Spinning Light £29.80,LED Star £27.50
Lightup Rings , Earrings, Bracelets, Necklaces, Beads,
Hats, Handheld Lightup Toys,
Battery Operated strings of Lights 20 £2.75, 50 £4.70& 100 £6.95
Head spinners, Windmills, Tinsel and Garlands for the Car and You!**



ROAD CLOSURE SEALES CORNER TO THE GUIDE HALL

The following is a public announcement from the Roads Section:

The Highways Authority has given approval for the road to be closed from Seales Corner to the Guide Hall, between 9am and 3pm, on Monday, 17 and Tuesday, 18 December 2018. This closure is to enable the Roads Section to carry out line painting works.

For the duration of the works, all residents and workers in the Seales Corner area, including the Carnarvon Court Complex, Connect Saint Helena Ltd, Harris' Flats, Matron's Quarters, Parish Block, and the Guide Hall, are asked to vacate these car parks by 8.30am to allow works to commence. For the closure, residents and workers may use Pilling Primary School playground to park their vehicles.

The Roads Section would like to thank the public in advance for their continued understanding and cooperation.

SHG
10 December 2018



Hire Drive

Renault Scenic Car, Registration No 3800 will be available for Hire Drive as from Monday 18th December 2018. If interested and for further information call Stedson on Tel No 24270.

Mystery Solved

In last week's Independent we ran a story about four Governor's Cup trophies that were missing and remained missing despite sustained efforts to find them. Soon after the Independent went on sale last Friday the mystery was solved. A reader contacted the Independent to say, "I know where the trophies are, I've got them."

From last Friday's Independent

Adam Sizeland, Curator of the St Helena Museum contacted us to say it is not just the Governor's Cup itself he was looking after, it is all of them. Organisers of this year's race, the Royal Cape Yacht Club have been trying to locate the missing trophies since they accepted the role of race organiser earlier this year. Hilary Ackerman, Sailing Events Manager at the Royal Cape said after hearing the trophies had been found, "Wow fantastic thank you. I have been trying to find them from the beginning of us organising this event... We have made another plan but good to know where they are, lots of history there. John Levin, Chairman of the Cape to St Helena Race Committee told the Independent, "This is good news indeed. It is too late for this event but at least we know now where they are for the next."

The trophies were found last Friday but the Royal Cape Yacht

Club issued the Sailing Instructions for the Cape to St Helena race just two days before. Included in the Sailing Instructions are the prizes to be awarded and how they can be won. It is therefore too late for the new found trophies to be used this year but they will be back for the 2020 race.

Adam Sizeland said he had not been asked about any of the other trophies, although it is generally known the museum is in possession of the Governor's Cup. He was unaware of the search that had been going on for the trophies until he read the report in the Independent last Friday. The St Helena Yacht Club had asked the museum to look after all the trophies but with frequent changes in the committee membership and with no yacht race organised in 2016 the current members active at the Yacht Club did not know a previous committee had arranged for the museum to hold the trophies for safe keeping. This vital bit of information fell through the cracks as new committees were formed.



CHRISTMAS & CELEBRATION EVENTS AT DONNY'S

WEDNESDAY 19 DECEMBER
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Saturday 22nd, December
Christmas Ladies NIGHT
SNOWFLAKE FANTASY
 Mingle Fun Dance Photo Shoot
 & Snow Much More
 LADIES enjoy a FUN PARTY CHRISTMAS THEME
 From 7.30 to 11.p.m
 Complimentary Party Drinks
 Ticket Only Function - Cost £3.00
 Bar re-opens for LATE NIGHT DISCO from 11.p.m

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY NIGHT
CHRISTMAS in CANDYLAND
 BRINGING JOY TO THE CHILDREN
 FREE CANDY & MINI DISCO 7- 11 PM
 for Children up to 13 years of age
 + BIG SCREEN CHRISTMAS MUSIC VIDEO CLIPS
 FOLLOWED BY
CHRISTMAS DANCE PARTY
 ADULTS ONLY—11 pm TILL LATE

NYE 2019 - TICKET ONLY FUNCTION-
 Ticket cost £5. Purchase in advance and receive a £5 Voucher for buying drinks of your choice from the bar. LIMITED TICKETS WILL NOW BE AVAILABLE FROM TUESDAY 18 DEC. CALL DONNY'S TEL 22947 TO RESERVE YOUR TICKET/S

“I HAVE A VOICE.....!”

Sharon Wade

Monday 3rd December is known as the United Nations' International Day of Persons with Disabilities (Disability Awareness Day). This year, the day was marked with the aim to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society and development, and to increase awareness.

In light of this day on St Helena, Saint FM/Independent was honoured to visit the SHAPE Centre at Sandy Bay and speak to staff and clients about their active participation in the program. SHAPE (St Helena's Active Participation in Enterprise) was established in 2008 as a social enterprise providing training opportunities for disabled and vulnerable people. As the only establishment of its kind on the island, SHAPE holds a unique position within the Island's community, and is a crucial service supporting SHG's Safeguarding and Education Directories in their provision for people with disabilities.

SHAPE's 10-year plan, implemented this year has the objective to “continue to make St Helena a wonderful place to live, work, raise children and do business.” Their core services are achieved through the provision of training in traditionally-inspired crafts with strong, green initiatives, and as far as possible they use local, organic materials geared towards environmental sustainability. SHAPE has also taken the huge leap of being the first 'real' recyclers on St. Helena.

Clients attending SHAPE have a healthy requirement for materials, work-spaces and other resources, including work at the recycling center at Donkey Plain, to be able to produce a variety of items which can be purchased at the SHAPE Shop in the Jamestown Market. Such items include soaps, beads, lotions and hand-made toys & accessories and clients are to be commended for their diligent commitment to their various tasks of producing goods for sale. During the visit, a common thread seemed to emerge amongst clients where they emphasized the fact that whilst they might suffer from various disabilities and illnesses, they still have a voice through which they can express their thoughts, emotions and opinions. Saint FM radio was able to broadcast recorded excerpts from SHAPE clients Rosedale, Nikita, Trish and Venetia along with her daughter Danielle, which is being repeated this afternoon on the 'Shine Show'. The initial broadcast was made on Monday of this week, 10th December to coincide with SHAPE and the Equality & Human Rights Commission (EHRC) visiting various retail stores and local businesses in Jamestown to assess their accessibility as well as customer services, for disabled people. It was reported that once establishments have been assessed, the EHRC will issue certificates ranging from Bronze-Silver-Gold, according to the level of access and customer care provided. More information will follow once the assessments have been completed.

In 2013 SHAPE partnered with the internationally-recognised Carraresi Foundation to allow access to people with more complex disabilities to enjoy the facilities provided by SHAPE. There are 12 clients on the Carraresi Program and their disabilities include Cerebral Palsy, Autism and Down's Syndrome. At SHAPE, they are able to socialise with Trainers, Trainees and Clients and are provided with wholesome rec-



“I HAVE A VOICE.....!”

Sharon Wade

recreation and enrichment activities as well as basic life skills. SHAPE is a developing organisation in all aspects, not just in their business ventures but in their advocacy for people with disabilities. It is believed that they are an excellent representation of business enterprise, employment and engagement of people with disabilities on St Helena and they are proving to be a pioneer of ‘green’ business initiatives.

Stories from clients”I left Prince Andrew School in 2012 and started working at SHAPE as a Trainee. I was involved with Creative Crafts and continued studying as well as attended work experience with Thorpes, where I have been successfully employed as a Till Operator for 2 years. I continue to come to SHAPE because they are like a family to me and I feel safe and happy there. SHAPE helped me gain independence to find full-time work and I am grateful for this.” *Trish Leo*

“I have multiple sclerosis and in 2014 I was medically boarded from work. I came to SHAPE through the Carraresi Program in 2016 and although unsure at first, I am enjoying my time here. I have made new friends and have started doing some basic plumbing work around the Centre, which is really good for me as I was a plumber before I stopped work. I know that SHAPE will help provide opportunities for me and I am glad that I have taken the opportunity to come here.” *Peter Beard*

“I am totally blind in my right eye and have severe visual impairment in the left eye, which technically makes me a blind lady. This had a high impact on my entire life as I had suddenly lost my independence. I was made redundant in 2011 after a long career in administration services and have been coming to SHAPE since 2012. The positivity in this for me is that although I am blind, I am able to showcase my creative skills. Because of my disability, people often underestimate what I am capable of doing. Seven years later, I still wonder what I could aspire to, as I feel that opportunities in respect of technological aids for disabled people are limited. However, I am making my own products for sale in the local Arts & Crafts Shop and SHAPE has given me the opportunity to meet many different people who visit St Helena.” *Wendy Essex*

In conclusion, the Manager Mrs Marianne Young-Crowie said that there is still so much to achieve and they look forward to delivering the strategic plan for SHAPE which sets a clear and compelling vision for the future. She said they hope to have continued financial support from SHG, their external donor the Carraresi Foundation in the UK and our Island community through fund-raising, to sustain the delivery of an important and excellent service in relieving poverty and distress in adults with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups on St Helena.

Saint FM/Independent encourages you as a member of this wonderful community we call home, to make a visit to the SHAPE Centre at Sandy Bay, their Shop at the Market in Jamestown and the Recycling Centre at Donkey Plain where you could be pleasantly surprised at all that is quietly going on to enrich the life of someone who might be slightly less fortunate than you. You might be able to supplement the activities just through your presence, a kind word or material donations and nothing tops the gift of giving, especially this close to Christmastime.



COYOTE UGLY CHRISTMAS

COYOTE DANCERS

ROSIE'S COYOTE SINGER

HELL NO 2 H2O!



FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER 18 | 9:30PM | 18 YEAR +



CELEBRATIONS

GOODBYE 2018 HELLO 2019

CHECK OUT OUR TICKET DEALS
& GRAB YOUR TICKETS **NOW**

CONTACT US ON 25507

LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE

Rosie's Festive Season:

Friday 14th December 2018- Coyote Ugly Christmas

Bar: 11am - 1:30am
Restaurant: 11am - 9pm

Saturday 15th December 2018- Jamestown Rifle Club Christmas Ball - everyone welcomed

Bar: 11am - 1:30am
Restaurant: 11am - 9pm

Sunday 16th December 2018

Bar: 6pm until Late
Restaurant: 6pm - 9pm

Monday 17th December 2018- Rosie's Kids Christmas Party

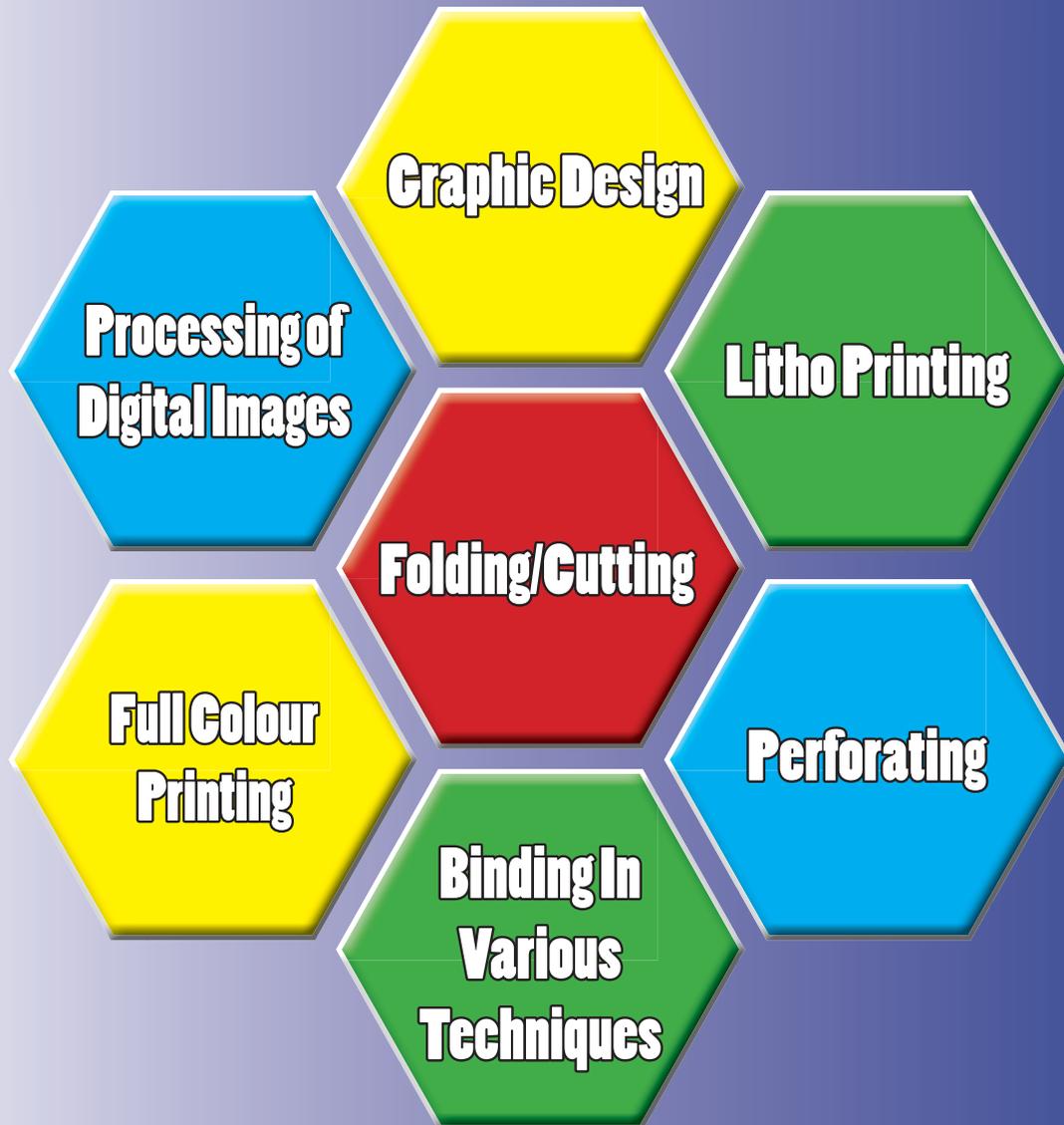
Bar: 11am - 4pm & Re-opens to the public at 8pm
Restaurant: Opens to the public at 4.30pm

Thursday 20th December 2018- Xmas Carols with Gavin Jack & Friends

Bar: 11am until late
Restaurant: 11am - 9pm

Friday 21st through to Christmas Eve the Bar and Restaurant will be operating normal hours with entertainment in the evenings

GET IT DONE!!



These are just some of the services we offer...
Enquire to find out more

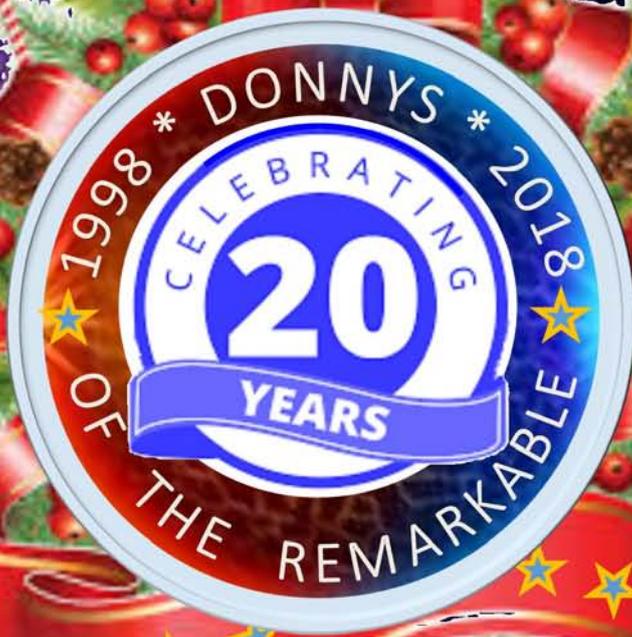


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Printech
St Helena Ltd



FRIDAY, 14th DEC- 9.pm Till' Late

Fire & Ice

AWESOME HOURS Theme
NEW SPECTACULAR EFFECTS

WEDNESDAY, 19th DECEMBER - 9.00 pm

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS DANCE PARTY

SATURDAY, 22nd DECEMBER - 7.30 pm

LADIES NIGHT

Ticket Only Function

See inside for more information on these & other events at Donny's

Your Opinion Counts

**Dear Editor,
Without Prejudice**

My partner and I would like to relocate to St Helena (she is a saint) to settle down after 32 years away. Can someone through this newspaper tell us the procedure for purchasing land from the Government?

We have a few people on Island looking on our behalf, for some reason they cannot get a sensible answer from the Lands Department.

First there is Land, you go back to be told sorry no land available. Then you get told if you can "identify" a piece we will look at it. This is what happened below.

Land was identified in the lower High Knoll area, we found out that a few other people was also interested in this said land (6/7) but was told by the lady at the Lands Department "this land is not for sale". Imagine our surprise when we heard a few months ago that this piece of land had been bought by "the husband "!!, Surely one of the 6/7 could have owned that plot.

On social media the house that is now been built on this land has been advertised to be sold in the new year.

Apparently few more plots are in the Upper Sapperway area over looking Half Tree Hollow, if rumours are correct it is said that this land can ONLY be bought by "Another Family member" after which it will be sold. WHY??? Come on is this fair, is anyone in Government getting a cut out of this? People are in desperate need of houses; this is not the way to help the public.

This is not an attack on anyone just looking for answers.

Happy Christmas Everyone when it comes.

**Yours Sincerely
AI**

Dear Mike,

I read in the "Independent" an article by Vince- my brother, and really do think that longer stays might work for St. Helena.

Many from Canada go South in the Win-

ter to Florida, but I would think St. Helena could be a very attractive alternative. Someone should write an article about the benefits of St. Helena for our newspapers to get the ball rolling. Maybe Vince?

Lots of history, hiking, whale watching, fishing. Is there a sandy beach?

Also many senior citizens would have time for the travelling to St Helena and back, probably breaking up their journey. Just writing to encourage you because the air travel has proved to be such a disappointment.

**Sincerely,
Tish Moreau**

Dear Editor,

May I express my disappointment in not being able to secure a positive outcome to the many constituents who have raised concerns in having the grass cut and the trees trimmed on the Longwood Green. Many requests were made to various officials and questioned in formal Legislative Council, Environment and Natural Rescoring Directorate and Enterprise St Helena to have this work undertaken but no one appears to be responsible for the Green and no budget has been appropriated following budget cuts in ENRD.

Longwood Green is the gate way to Longwood House, The Airport and Bertram's Cottage. The area is popular when there are visiting tourist ships where voluntary organisation sets up small stalls to sell local crafts and refreshments. This did not happen following the visits of the last four tourist ships because of the dilapidated state of the Green. The children's play area needs some upgrading and again no budget is allocated for this.

I recall from previous years that over the holiday season the Longwood Green attracts many people from all walks of life as a central picnic area and also used for fund raising events by voluntary groups but sadly I see the current state of the Green is most off putting. But there are various other picnic areas around the Island that are well kept by SHG and to name a few, Rosemary Plain, Casons and Woody Ridge.

Tourist roadshows have been a popular event over the last two year where Tourism staff and officials promote Tourism overseas. But sadly we need to get our house in order before we open our doors

to our visitors and that our local culture and people of the Island are not left out of the loop.

From inquires made it would cost in the region of £150 -200 for the grass to be cut and the trees to be trimmed. Also a one off payment of £500 to upgrade the children's play area to make it safe.

I will endeavour to see the Longwood Green be brought back to an area that residents of Longwood can feel proud off and is safe for our children to use.

Brian Isaac MLC.



THE CONSTITUENT

Dear Editor,

Work has been ongoing in preparation to secure the next financial aid package from the United Kingdom for St Helena. The discussion and negotiation process takes place between the St Helena Government (SHG) and the Department for International Development (DfID). Hopefully the following will help inform the electorate of the degree of direct input all twelve of their elected representatives will have into that discussion and negotiation process: All twelve elected representatives serve on Legislative Council (LegCo); five of those twelve elected representatives currently serve on Executive Council (ExCo). The five ExCo members are an integral part of SHG, whereas the other seven elected representatives are not. From a constitutional perspective, 'The term 'SHG' refers to ExCo and the administration, and excludes LegCo.' Accordingly, the people's seven LegCo elected representatives have been excluded from directly participating in the financial aid discussion and negotiation process between DfID and the St Helena Government. All twelve elected members cannot expect to lead and speak at such crucial discussions and negotiations, but it is in the best interests of the people of St Helena if all twelve of their elected representatives are present and thereby fully informed. This inclusive approach will maximise collective thinking and working by all elected members on UK financial aid matters that will im-

Continued on NEXT PAGE

Your Opinion Counts

Continued...

pact social, economic and infrastructure development. It is unacceptable to have seven elected representatives left in the dark, not properly informed and yet expected by the electorate to be working in the best interests of the island.

At some stage in a *formal* Legislative Council meeting, each one of the twelve elected members will be expected to formally accept (or refuse to accept) a financial aid package already worked out between DfID and SHG. Yes, some constituents may feel, that is where the seven LegCo members, the majority, who were denied a say in the financial aid discussion and negotiation process with DfID, will have the option of rejecting the aid settlement between DfID and SHG. Let us pause for a moment and seriously consider if such an option will really be in the best interests of the island at such a late stage. Refusing to accept what has already been decided through negotiation between DfID and SHG and prolonging the process could result in yet another unwanted roll-over budget or even the failure by SHG to deliver public services from the beginning of the next financial year.

Unlike the inadequate financial aid settlement for the 2018/19 financial year, adequate financial assistance will be required from the United Kingdom to satisfy the reasonable needs of the people of St Helena whether for the next year or for the next three years. Each elected representative has a responsibility to ensure the United Kingdom honour its obligations to the people of St Helena – especially for those already struggling to make ends meet.

With all of the above in mind, we have to question if this current exclusion and marginalising approach towards the seven elected representatives is in the very best interests of the people of St Helena and supports good governance. Consequently, a request has been made to have the matter discussed in an informal Legislative Council meeting once all elected members are back on-island. As a result of the above concerns, the following email was sent on 19 Novem-

ber, 2018, to the Governor and Chief Secretary, and copied to the other eleven members of the Legislative Council:

‘Once again I feel it is necessary to make you aware of the importance of ensuring that all twelve elected members are fully involved in discussions and negotiations with DFID officials on financial aid from the United Kingdom. The electorate would expect all twelve of their elected representatives to be fully involved and fully informed with matters relating to UK financial aid as such meetings are critical to the future development of the island for which all twelve councillors have a responsibility. Each one of the twelve elected members will be required, at some stage, to formally accept and work with the financial aid provided by the United Kingdom. It is therefore of paramount importance that all twelve elected representatives are properly involved in each step of the process and thereby be fully informed. With respect, it is short-sighted of SHG officials to exclude seven elected representatives from any of the discussions and negotiations with DFID officials on financial aid matters. There is also the possibility that some of the seven members of LegCo, who are being excluded from crucial aid discussions, may well be serving on ExCo over the next few years.

I cannot understand the thinking behind the decisions that are taken by SHG officers to exclude seven elected representatives from crucial financial aid discussions and negotiations with DFID officials, when it is in the best interests of the people of St Helena to include all twelve. According to the programme, for the DFID VISIT 17 – 24 November, 2018, on Tuesday 20th only the five ExCo elected members have been selected to meet with the DFID visiting team and take part in a teleconference with other DFID Advisors.

It is of paramount importance that DFID and SHG officials work with all elected representatives in the very best interests of the people of St Helena. To do otherwise has proved detrimental in the past, therefore such a negative approach must not be allowed to continue in any form.

An administrative system that allows SHG officials to decide, at will, that seven elected representatives cannot attend important financial aid discussions and negotiations with DFID officials must be questioned and addressed for improvement. As far as members of the electorate are concerned, the buck stops with

each one of their councillors, the island holds each councillor fully responsible and accountable for good governance. Therefore all elected representatives must be fully informed on council business.

With reference to all of the above concerns, I would appreciate if you will provide the necessary feedback and the reasons for the decisions in question. Accordingly, please will you kindly agree to attend the next informal LegCo meeting.’

C Leo (Cllr)



THE CONSTITUENT

Dear Editor,

Just for a moment stop and digest the following: ‘The heartbreaking effects of human waste were discovered when post-mortems were conducted on 13 beached sperm whales. The plastics we discard into the ocean often make their way into the mouths and stomachs of sea creatures. Post-mortems on thirteen dead sperm whales found their stomachs full of plastic.’



Elected Members were given various presentations of the ongoing valuable work of the ENRD (Environment & Natural Resources Department) Marine Conservation by five members of their team. L-R : Alexandria Thomas, Samantha Cherrett, Alison Small, Joachim Naulaerts and Ralf Bublitz.

Plastic pollution is a serious problem throughout the world, the impact on marine life is devastating and the problem is fast getting worse. With the help of external support and funding from international organisations, Marine Conservation is taking the lead with St Helena’s contribution towards stopping the harmful pollution of the world’s oceans. “The Plastics Project” will make a special effort to focus public attention on the importance of managing plastic waste on St Helena. Crucial to the success of the work of Marine

Your Opinion Counts

Conservation will be local support and the willingness of all the people of St Helena to adopt and maintain practices that will ensure sustainable use and protection of our environment. Some of the department's strategic priorities for 2018-2021 are improving capacity to sustainably manage our natural resources for food production, protecting the natural environment and conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of St Helena.

St Helena's geographical isolation has to a certain degree helped to protect and preserve our natural environment and resources over the years. As St Helena continues to develop tourism, progress will impact the natural environment and resources. Marine Conservation is playing a vital role in minimising and limiting the potential impact. Sustainability and responsible management of our natural environment and resources will be essential to the long-term success of tourism in St Helena. We will decide what future generations will inherit.

It is sobering to consider that nearly 90% of the world's marine fish stocks are now fully exploited, over-exploited or depleted. Communities around the world which once enjoyed having an abundance of fish at their disposal are now suffering the consequences of unsustainable fishing. St Helena's Marine Conservation is carrying out crucial research and collecting critical data to provide the island with evidenced based advice to sustainably manage our marine resources.

The presentations covered just some of the essential ongoing project work that is being carried out by the staff of Marine Conservation. Alexandria Thomas (Plastics); Joachim Naulaerts (Blue Belt/Grouper Tagging); Ralf Bubltz (Darwin Plus Lobster Project) Alison Small (Darwin Plus Pelagic Project). All residents are encouraged to support the project work; it is in our best interests. If you are interested in further information on the work of Marine Conservation, please contact Samantha Cherrett at Essex House.

C Leo (Cllr)

St Matthew's Parish Council will be having a Fun Afternoon on Friday 28th December, Starting at 3pm.

There will be various stalls on the day: Bottle & Can, Vegetable, Miscellaneous, Teas & Hot Food. Sports for the Children and the ever popular Donkey Rides.

A Bingo Session will also take place. So do come along and enjoy the afternoon.



LISA JOSHUA ACHIEVES B.ED (HONS) DEGREE IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

The Education and Employment Directorate is pleased to announce that Lisa Joshua has graduated with a Bachelor of Education (Hons) degree in Primary Education.

Lisa, daughter of Lionel and Veronica Joshua, started her teaching career in St Helena as an Initial Teacher Trainee in 2014. She departed the Island to pursue her studies in August 2015. Lisa studied a B.Ed in Primary Education (5-11), with a Music specialism, at the University of Winchester for three years.

Elements of her studies included looking at the development and leadership of Music within primary schools and undertaking work placements in various primary and junior schools in Hampshire, UK.

Lisa undertook three core placements during her degree programme, teaching 80% of a class timetable. In addition, Lisa undertook various volunteer and course placements throughout university. She was privileged to be able to visit schools in Denmark and Latvia and presented a research project - Outdoor learning in Early Years - at The International Conference in Riga, Latvia.

Lisa successfully completed her studies in July 2018 and graduated on 18 October 2018. Lisa is now working through her Induction Year as a newly qualified Teacher and is currently teaching a Year Three class in a school in Eastleigh, Hampshire.

Lisa commented:



"The past three years have definitely been a challenge, particularly being away from home and family. However, it has only made me grow as a person and as a teacher. I have learnt so much throughout the course which I will be able to bring to St Helena and which I am already using with my current class. I am loving having my own class so far, especially leading up to Christmas.

"I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who made this possible and to those who helped make this experience a memorable and positive one."

SHG

10 December 2018





Seed Potatoes

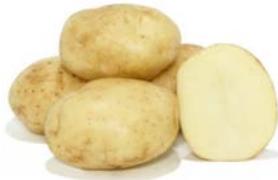
Thorpes

**Mondial brand
Generation 4**

25kg (aprox 400 tubers)

**Contact Doreen Peters in Thorpe's
Wholesale store on 22393 or
wholesale@thorpes.sh**

**Estimated arrival V013 arriving 12th
of February 2019**



£34.95 per 25kg bag

PROCEEDS GO TO MAKING ENDS MEET

**PLANTATION
HOUSE
CHRISTMAS
MARKET**

Back in the Paddock
15 December : 1pm

Commercial stalls £5
Adults entry £1 children free
Charity stalls free
No dogs or cars in the paddock
Call Debbie to book a stall

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – ST HELENA GOVERNMENT FISHERIES INVESTMENT

Reference: CS-0150-SHG

St Helena Government invite Investors to submit their ideas and/or proposal to help shape the future of St Helena's fishing industry.

This is a unique opportunity to be a part of a world leading sustainable one-by-one tuna fishery, by developing a business operation in St Helena to process and retail fish and take over core services currently provided by the government owned St Helena Fisheries Corporation.

This is the next step after the Expression of Interest stage, where we invited suppliers to register their interest.

A copy of the St Helena Government Fisheries Investment Prospectus (November 2018) can be found on the St Helena Government e-procurement system which can be accessed via <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena> following registration on the system.

User guides are available via the "Supplier Information" tab to assist prospective suppliers registering on the e-Procurement system.

Any questions in the interim should be addressed to Procurement Services for the attention of Christy Joshua, Procurement Officer on telephone number (00 290) 22470 or alternatively email address - christy.joshua@sainthelena.gov.sh

The deadline for submissions is 16.00 GMT on Friday, 15 February 2019, **SHG**

Annie's Launderette. Closure for the Christmas/ New Year Holiday.

**Last day of business will be on
Friday 21st December.**

**We will Re-open on
Thursday 3rd January 2019
at 8 a.m.**

**Wishing all our customers a
Happy Christmas and
A Happy & Prosperous 2019.
We Thank you for all your
Continued Custom and Support.**

