

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

Wet St Helena Day 2019



St Helena



Problems With Army Worm Again



FROM THE SHINE SHOW.....



Britain left isolated as the nations of the world condemn UK treatment of Overseas Territory



"Beginners Luck"



Opportunity to 'talk up' St Helena



On Monday this week the **ACCESS**.SPACE Alliance announced its formation. The announcement explained **ACCESS**.SPACE aims to create a space industry organisation for the small satellite manufactures and operators in Europe and beyond. It is considered a good time to form an alliance for the small satellite industry because in recent years the increasing use of small satellites has lowered the start-up costs considerably. This in turn has generated more activity and private investment in space communications. One forecast estimates the space economy will grow to about £865,000,000 by 2040 with much of the investment being in small satellite networks.

Meanwhile back in St Helena a St Helena Government employee who is close to the fibre-optic cable project expressed full confidence that the financial package to fund the South Africa-South America cable link will be signed off and the cable will be available by 2021. The St Helena connection to the cable has already been funded by the European Union.

The cable link is the basic infrastructure which will be available for use by satellite communications companies. One broadband communications equipment manufacturer explains, "The distribution of satellite signals via fibre optic cables allows the distribution of signals easily over very large distances with few losses." The satellite and fibre-optic cable combination offers the most efficient and reliable link for St Helena and the rest of the world. But cables are not free of problems, especially near the coast. For example, the anchor of a ship harbouring in the port of Mombasa, Kenya, severed a submarine cable. As a consequence, large parts of East Africa were cut off from the internet. Sea quakes, currents and sandbanks can also create disturbances. The risk of cable damage from ships, vandalism or terrorism is reduced to next to nothing around St Helena's shores; this makes it attractive to investors routing submarine cables across the South Atlantic. The Island and its people also make St Helena a good proposition for companies looking for a global communications hub. All this has been said before but the sales message needs to be repeated repeatedly, it always does.

One of the three co-founders of the **ACCESS**.SPACE Alliance has been selling the St Helena global communications message for many years and continues to do so. Christian von der Ropp told the *Independent* this week that while the **ACCESS**.SPACE Alliance is headquartered in London and the first geographical area to be targeted is Europe, Christian still has St Helena in mind and looking for ways to help keep the momentum going with the submarine cable project. He says he has offered the St Helena Government free membership of the **ACCESS**.SPACE Alliance so it will be possible for representatives to meet and build connections with space industry leaders and attract satellite ground station providers and others in the space industry.

ACCESS.SPACE Alliance will be holding its inaugural conference at The European Centre for Space Applications and Telecommunications (ECSAT), part of the European Space Agency at Harwell, Didcot, UK on 4th July. An opportunity here to 'talk up' St Helena; I'm sure if Bermuda had the opportunity they would grab it with both hands.

THANK YOU

Wife Milly, Sons Brian & Colin, daughters Carol & Wendy, In Laws Helene & Dennis. Gran children and Creat gran children. Brethere, Sisters and their

Great gran children. Brothers, Sisters and their families of the late Tommy Benjamin would like to express a special thank you to the doctors and nursing staff for their care given to Tommy during his short stay in hospital.

It was Tommy's wish to be at home with his family but sadly after just 1-week Tommy passed away at home at 19.45 hours on the 6th May surrounded by his family. A massive Thank you to Nurse Nikki for her daily visits and support to all of us and to Mrs Linda on the night.

Thank you to Bishop Dale and Father Jack and everyone involved with the funeral service. Darrin for reading the scripture and to Father Jack for the lovely eulogy and his support as a long-time friend of Tommy. Thank you to Roy Williams and his team, Solomon's for the service sheets. Fiona, Davina & Colin for making the lovely wreaths.

And now to the rest of our family and friends Thank you **all** for the heartfelt support we have received before and after Tommy's passing, it is a great comfort to us all. Thank you for the calls, emails, sympathy cards and your on-going concern for Lucas. To Shandy for always making sure we all had our meals and especially to Fiyanna & Derek for taking care of everything at the wake.

We know Tommy's character was loved by so many who knew him.

Tommy was taken so quickly from our lives but he will forever remain in our hearts and thoughts and he will be greatly missed by all of us.

Army worm Contributed by Joe Hollins

Another spell of hot dry weather has brought a second dose of army worm to our pastures. Not only does it waste precious acreage of grazing, but it has a rather surprising sting in the tail: it can kill full grown cattle. But what is it – and how does it kill?

The caterpillars march as an army, devouring the succulent grass stems as they travel and resulting in well delineated patches of dead pasture - in effect hay. The caterpillar requires temperatures of 24-32°C to develop, the whole moth life cycle taking 40-45 days. In favourable years the moth can reach plague proportions in Africa destroying vast acreages of grass and crops, so it is of major economic significance. In St Helena some years do see extensive pasture damage, depending on climatic conditions, and it will always be a threat should conditions conspire to be perfect for mass proliferation. With global warming, this may be more frequent.

But how can a moth kill a 500kg beast?! It depends on the type of grass, and the widespread Kikuyu grass – scientifically known as *Pennisetum clandestinum* – has a cunning and somewhat surprising defensive mechanism against insect attack. It has been known for some time that Kikuyu grass affected by army worm can cause Kikuyu poisoning in cattle, sometimes in Africa quite spectacularly whole herds, but the reason remained unclear until the late 1990s. It is now known that a natural response of Kikuyu grass to insect attack is to produce that good old fashioned poison beloved by writers of corny detective novels: cyanide. Cyanide apparently tastes and smells of almonds – in fact almonds and related 'nuts' like the kernels of peach stones do all contain tiny amounts.

If Kikuyu grass reacts to damage by producing cyanide, why then doesn't it kill cattle normally? The peripatetic (intermittent and wandering) grazing of the green grass tips by cattle does not induce this response to any significant degree as it doesn't threaten the plant, but the severing of stems by the hungry mandibles of the army worm caterpillars does. For the farmer then it is important to know that the apparent tasty looking hay which remains is laden with cyanide, and should not be used as feed. Given a choice, cattle will eat green grass, but fenced in and with no choice, they'll eat the army worm grass and become poisoned, so it's important that the farmer does his best to ensure alternative grazing is available while the pasture recovers. Fortunately, Kikuyu grass poisoning seems rare here, although I have seen one case. The animal appeared manic and deranged. Cyanide paralyses muscles so that it was also uncoordinated and unable to swallow, drooling copious quantities of saliva. Inevitably, it died. Poisoned animals are also desperate to drink and will hang over drinking troughs with their lips in the water, so-called 'sham drinking'. There may also be a high-stepping gait, and twitching. But prevention is better than cure – as there is no cure. So the moral of this story is: avoid army worm grass.

And gents, if you've angered your wife and she serves you up a nice almond tart - just be careful!



Army worm is not a worm at all. Rather, it is the term coined for the mass colonisation of pasture by the eggs, pupae and caterpillars of the rather dull-looking Spodoptera moth – among others.



Thank You

The family of the late Mr Douglas Arnold Peters affectionately known as Tartsie of Longwood Hangings, would like to express their sincere thanks to the doctors and nurses at the General Hospital for their care and attention during Douglas' illness Special thanks to Stedson Stroud for all his support. To Fr. Allan Williams for conducting the funeral service, and Mrs Pat Musk for playing the organ at the service Special thanks also to Cheryl Anthony for organising the Memorial Service on Ascension Island. Thanks also go to Roy Williams and his team, to Sandra Leo for making the wreaths and

Cecily Bateman for making the cross. To anyone and everyone who in anyway helped during this very difficult time, we appreciate the love



and support you all gave to us. Douglas has gone from this world but not from our hearts May he rest in peace



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far. After weeks of blues skies and sunshine something very suspicious and perverse happened to make St Helena's Day wet, wet, wet.

The cows knew all about it of course. On Monday evening, as dusk approached, they were all sitting together in the field at Prospect keeping their own patch of ground warm and dry. "Surely it's not going to rain tomorrow" I said to one of the dogs. The expression on the face of one of the cows looking at me told me, "Yes it will". And it did.

On Wednesday it was more or less business as usual as far as the weather was concerned. The sun showed itself frequently as the clouds gave way to show large areas of blue sky. The cows at Prospect were not convinced. They were gathered together once more keeping their patch of ground warm and dry. Looking across Rural Retreat Gut to Woodlands I checked out the cows over there. They were all on their feet and chewing grass with such eagerness it seemed Nick Thorpe had got them on some sort of bonus scheme. So, there was a spit decision; on one side the cows expected rain, on the other the cows were trying to get every blade of grass inside them before the army worm beat them to it.

On Thursday morning I thought I would check the UK Meteorological Office website to get another opinion on the weather prospects. The St Helena weather, it said, would be sunshine all day with some cloud and not much chance of rain right through from 8am to 6pm. I was checking the website at 8:30am and it was raining, very cloudy and a chill wind. When it comes to checking the weather prospects for the following day I think I will stick with the cows at Prospect.

Watching the behaviour of cows is far more interesting these

Europeans denied the right to vote in Breakaway Britain

European Union citizens have the right to vote in any member country for elections to the European Parliament. In the continuing chaos dominating the UK Government's decision on Brexit the European election was called at short notice, giving very little time for European Union citizens of other countries to complete the special voter registration process. A campaign group working in the interests of Europeans living and working in Britain said thousands of people have been affected by the slowness of the registration process. The UK Electoral Commission said the very short notice from the UK Government about Britain's participation in the elections had an impact on the process.

The European election in Britain is widely seen as an unofficial referendum on whether Britain should leave the European Union. Many citizens of other European countries who live in Britain are assumed to support political parties who want Britain to remain in the European Union, simply because Britain leaving the European Union will cause complications for them. The denial of the right to vote in yesterday's European election will cause even more friction between the Leave and Remain camps in British politics.



Coming soon to a place near you! The African White Spotted Fruit Chafer – more next week.

days than watching or listening too much to the news that comes at us in torrents from TV and radio. People make mistakes, mutter something about lessons learnt and then make bigger, more original and more imaginative mistakes. To err is human, it is said, but to forgive is divine. My advice is, if you want to stay sane practice divinity until the cows come home. The time seems to be fast approaching when everyone will need to live up to the name 'Saint' in every sense of the word.

Vince

Despite the short notice in calling the election the UK was the first country to hold the European Elections together with the Netherlands. EU member states will hold the elections up to and including Sunday. On Sunday evening the results start to be announced. The latest Prediction Poll for the UK was taken just hours before the real election day voting started. The predicted result was:-

Brexit Party 35% Liberal Democrats 20% Labour 15% Green 10% Conservative 9% **UKIP 3%** Change UK 3% Others 6%

Leave Remain confused Remain confused Leave Remain unknown



St Helena Day 2019 - Nick Stevens

On Tuesday New Horizons host the 2019 St Helena's Day celebrations. Despite the frequent showers of rain between 1100 and 1200 people came into the grand parade to join in with the festivities.

There were a lot of stalls again this year selling produce throughout the day. Unfortunately there were only 3 floats; but despite this these 3 groups did add to a fun atmosphere which was evident throughout the day. The floats we had was: the standard on tour; Africa and the St Helena International team whose floated had the logos of all who sponsor them since fund raising started in September.

The people present were kept entertained by the excellent bands that played from 12.30 to closing time.

At 7pm there was a short firework display that was kindly done for us by the St Helena Fire Service. We Saints do like our fireworks.

We at New Horizons would like to say a big thank you to Enterprise St Helena; Connect St Helena and the Bank of St Helena for their kind donations to us to help us organised our national day

Below is extracts from my opening speech:

"Today we come together to celebrate our national day with the theme connecting the Commonwealth Connecting our Community. With our multi-racial society this is quite an appropriate theme for today. St Helena can teach the world how people of all colours can live together in perfect harmony.

For New Horizons we have been organising St Helena's day for the past 13 years....this one has been the most difficult to put together with our limited resources. Despite this we hope that the community will come together and have a great time. New Horizons has always been mainly sports orientated. Looking back over the past 13 years we have used St Helena day to fund raise; with a lot of the monies raised going to creating opportunities for young people to experience playing sport abroad. We managed to send 6 teams of young people of too Ascension in 2007; 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017. We have supported international teams going off to Commonwealth games; Commonwealth Youth Games and Island Games.

This year we stand to be part of sporting history as our club and staff have played a supporting role in getting our first ever International Football team of too Anglesey in Wales...leaving St Helena next week.

It is pleasing to see that a huge percentage of those players who are part of the St Helena squad were former members of New Horizons.

At the end of this service you will see 4 teenage Athletes receive their kit as they too will shortly leave St Helena to participate in the 2019 Natwest Island Games in Gibraltar. We wish them all well.

In terms of New Horizons organising today; we are in debt to our faithful staff; Tina, Kim, Kyle, Gareth, Delrae and Martin and our excellent committee some of who have been supporting our efforts for the past 13 years.... Chairman Larry Thomas; Johnny Isaac, Anita Legg, Donna Crowie and Leigh Richards... MANY Thanks to Bishop Dale for organising the service; Terry Richards and the scout band for leading the parade and for all uniformed contingents who marched this morning. Big thanks to Ivy Ellick for providing us with the music



St Helena Day 2019 - Nick Stevens

today.....many thanks also to all the volunteers who have join with us to help make this an enjoyable day."

Despite a lot of people finding another entrance into the Grand Parade we managed to collect £945 on the gate. Together with our stall and raffles we have deposit £1453.30 so far. The St Helena International Football team collected £312 during the parade and made £302.50 of the raffle; with £200 prize money £814.50 was deposit into the SHFA account.





HE GOVERNOR DR PHILIP RUSHBROOK ST HELENA DAY 2019 ADDRESS

What a marvellous turnout for St Helena Day. This year Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has agreed the theme for this family should be the 'Connected Commonwealth'. Building connections between people and, in particular, with our Commonwealth partners.

This year we mark the 70th anniversary of the modern Commonwealth. The Commonwealth is the largest worldwide partnership of countries after the UN, made up of 53 nations, and increasingly the overseas territories. Quite simply a family of friendly nations that have a wish to maintain a connection to the United Kingdom and amongst themselves.

People, governments and organisations across the Commonwealth connect through youth events, cultural networks and educational exchanges. We connect and work together to protect our natural environment and the oceans we share. We connect and cooperate amongst our businesses to encourage economic development. We connect and share in



St Helena Day 2019 - Nick Stevens

friendly rivalry on track and pitch and encourage our young people to participate in sport to develop achievement and generosity of spirit. This year at St Helena Day we honour the friendship of the Commonwealth to help us in being better citizens.

This year, Her Majesty has written:

"We are able to look to the future with greater confidence and optimism as a result of the links that we share, and thanks to the networks of cooperation and mutual support to which we contribute, and on which we draw. With enduring commitment through times of great change, successive generations have demonstrated that whilst the goodwill for which the Commonwealth is renowned may be hard to define, its impact is very real. We continue to find new ways of expressing through action the value of belonging in a connected Commonwealth."

Her message of connection and goodwill echoes here today on St Helena. There will be contests and challenges, winners and the not so successful, excitement and surprises. But amongst the personal hopes and actions, remember we are stronger when we work together as a society, connected in a common spirit of friendship.

Let us also offer our support to the Saints who will be participating in the forthcoming Island Games. Thousands of athletes will come together in June to compete in Gibraltar and Wales. It is another example of young people connecting across islands with similar hopes and desires as ourselves. St Helena can be proud we will be competing and flying the flag for our territory.

Growing up in small communities surrounded and shaped by the sea instils in us a resilient spirit, a pride in our heritage and a determination to defy the odds to be successful.

I am privileged to be here at the start of the St Helena Day 2019 celebrations.



Photographs: Ed Thorpe & Saint FM





21st May is also the day when . . .

1904 – FIFA was established in Paris as football's international body

1956 – The first hydrogen bomb was exploded by the United States over Bikini Atoll in the Pacific

1982 - British troops attack Argentine-held Falkland Islands, with British military saying it has established a beachhead at Port San Carlos

2009 - The Gurkhas, formidable Nepalese warriors who have served in the British military for two centuries, win the automatic right to settle in Britain.

1471 - King Henry VI of England is murdered in the Tower of London. King Edward IV retakes the throne.

1927 - First solo aeroplane flight across the Atlantic Ocean as Charles Lindbergh lands at Le Bourget near Paris after taking off from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, New York, 33 hours, 30 minutes and 30 seconds earlier.

1932 – First woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean solo, Amelia Earhart, landed at Culmore, Near Derry, Northern Ireland after taking off from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland 14 hours and 56 minutes previously.

1950 – A tornado rips through Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire in Central England as it causes a 66 mile trail of destruction. Two people died and many were injured.

1961 – Governor of Alabama declares martial law in an attempt to restore order after a series of race riots.

1994 – Seven week civil war in Yemen as Saudi Arabia backed Democratic Republic of Yemen splits from the Republic of Yemen.

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MODERATE WATER SHORTAGE ON ST HELENA

- St Helena is currently experiencing a Moderate Water Shortage
- The raw water stock at the current consumption and replenishment rate will last for 36 days
- Reservoir levels currently at 40% and getting lower by the day
- SHG are aware of the situation and with Connect Saint Helena are monitoring water levels on a weekly basis
- Residents should look to reduce water consumption and use water responsibly

As a result of exceptionally dry weather conditions, St Helena is currently experiencing a moderate water shortage with around 36 days of raw water level stock available on the Island and reservoir levels at 40% capacity.

The St Helena Resilience Forum (SHRF) has been made aware of the situation and Connect Saint Helena Ltd (CSH) will continue to provide the SHRF with weekly data to monitor the

shortage.

At the moment, reservoir levels are getting lower. This is because we are consuming more water than we are collecting coupled with the lack of consistent rainfall which is needed to recover the reservoir levels.

On average we are consuming 280,000 litres more than we are collecting from our raw water stocks each day. St Helena residents are reminded that we are experiencing an Islandwide water shortage and it is everyone's responsibility to take great care in using this precious resource. Consumers are urged to reduce consumption wherever possible.

To replenish water stocks, at Hutts Gate CSH are continuing to pump water from Fishers Valley pump main to Willow Bank and at Red Hill pumping water from the Chubbs Spring water system.

CSH monitors water and collection daily and will continue to keep the public updated of the situation on a regular basis. *SHG, 23 May 2019*

Update on Inquiry into Invasive Species

On 3rd May the *Independent* carried a story about an Inquiry into Invasive Species by the House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee. We used a few acerbic words to describe how this committee said their inquiry covered the UK and the Overseas Territories and then proceeded to ask for submissions of written evidence based on questions which concerned only the UK.

At the time (3rd May) just two submissions of written evidence had been published on the Environmental Audit Committee's website but it was early days as the closing date for written submissions was just a few days before, 30th April. Since then fifty-eight written submissions have been accepted by the committee and published, twelve of them are from Overseas Territories or organisations that represent the Overseas Territories. Also the closing date for written submissions has been extended to 21st May but this has not been widely publicised.

Others who speak up for us

The **Centre for Ecology and Hydrology** point out. "While large-scale restoration may not be applicable or practical for much of the UK, there are places where such approaches could be beneficial. This is particularly the case across many of the UK overseas territories (the cloud forests of St Helena provide an excellent example of ongoing restoration)."

The **RSPB** says "We recommend that the MoD should use its position on the Ascension airport runway resurfacing project board to ensure that all best practice industry bio-security standards are adopted by the project contractor so as to prevent a repeat of the St Helena airport construction bio-security infractions."





The **UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum** (UKOTCF) state, "We are still far from understanding baselines of insect-groups in many UKOTs. We must know this before we can understand how animal and plant assemblages interact and how they are likely to be impacted by changing climate. Some UKOTs, e.g. St Helena, are making great strides but others lack capacity to progress this. Pest-species are important components of surveys, and on-going monitoring is important in understanding how well bio-security is working."

Another part of the UKOTCF submission clearly indicates our sister South Atlantic Overseas Territories are strongly represented by them. "That is also why HMG, RSPB and others (including UKOTCF) shared costs of removing feral cats from Ascension Island as part of the Seabird Restoration Programme. It is also why one of the most critical eradication projects (as identified by a prioritisation exercise and years of study1), still to be fully funded, but expected to take place soon will attempt to remove giant mice which are systematically destroying colonies of albatrosses and other seabirds on Gough Island, part of the Gough and Inaccessible Island World Heritage Site, in the **Tristan da Cunha** archipelago. There are many more examples, e.g. the flax introduced to areas on St Helena to supply the ties in Royal Mail postbags; mesquite bush introduced to Ascension by BBC engineers to dry out the soil during the construction of the shortwave relay station; the water-capturing plants on Ascension's Green Mountain introduced by Joseph Hooker in the 19th century. Whether these introductions provided human benefits for the UK at the time, they certainly displaced native fauna and changed the landscapes forever and are still having an impact."

There are other submissions from other organisations offering views on how well, or otherwise, invasive species in the Overseas Territories are controlled. None of the submissions are from St Helena. On 21st May, at the first Oral Evidence Session, the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds will be defending St Helena's corner face to face with the Environmental Audit Committee.

Update on Inquiry into Invasive Species

The report on the April meeting of SHG's Environment and Natural Resources Committee referred to the Invasive Plant Specialist and the work the Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Directorate are doing to control invasives. This is welcome news but, using the various consultative procedures made available by the UK Government are opportunities which should not be overlooked. UK Government departments frequently send written submission and give oral evidence when a House of Commons Committee launches an Inquiry.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) issues a Call for Evidence on Future Support for Nature in UK Overseas Territories

Recently Defra announced a call for evidence on future support for nature in UK Overseas Territories. This is surely one opportunity which is not to be missed. Defra Secretary of State Michael Gove said, "The recent IPBES (The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services) report drives home the message that we must increase our efforts to protect our environment as the effects of biodiversity decline and climate change are felt around the world. This is why it's crucial to ensure that precious species and landscapes in our Overseas Territories continue to be supported. This Call for Evidence will provide us with the evidence to help determine the best way to do so." The Call for Evidence closes on 19th July.



The call for evidence was originally announced by the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Spring Statement in March this year. The Chancellor said, "Britain's Overseas Territories contain some of the world's most important and fragile ecosystems. As I said in the recent Spring Statement, there is a clear link between biodiversity and economic growth, so acting now to protect and nurture the biodiversity of the Overseas Territories is not only a down payment on our pledge to leave the environment in a better condition than we found it, but also supports sustainable economic growth in these island territories." The Independent reported at the time of the Spring Statement this is the strongest demonstration yet that the UK Government recognises the economic worth of natural capital. This comes in the wake of St Helena's own international conference on natural capital and is another reason why this call for evidence should not be ignored.

The Defra announcement also includes. "In January 2019, Ministers announced the seventh round of funding under Darwin Plus, worth around £3.75m, was shared amongst 17 projects around the globe including world-leading scientific investigation projects such as the British Antarctic Survey's 'bird-borne' radar tracking system for albatrosses. Scientists will be able to track the movement of this giant bird of the South Atlantic Ocean and to build-up a data picture of how albatrosses can be better protected from fishing tackle on boats. The Darwin Plus initiative has already successfully supported 30 biodiversity projects in the Overseas Territories since the start of 2018." St Helena needs to defend and promote its Darwin Plus funding and this is a great opportunity to do just that.

The seventh round of Darwin Plus funding allocates £294,309 to invasive plant management in St Helena and Ascension cloud forests, £38,090 to developing Ascension's bio-security and £146,766 to Tristan and Pitcairn bio-security. These are significant sums of money and become more important as the prospect of losing EU funding gets ever closer. The Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Directorate and non-governmental organisations need to bang the drum for St Helena.

Britain and the British Overseas Territories – Resetting the Relationship

In February the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee published the report of its inquiry, with recommendations, on what changes the committee though might improve relations between the UK Government and the Overseas Territories. The UK Government has now given its official responses to the committee's recommendations. About six written submissions were sent directly from St Helena; three of them from SHG sources. Derek Thomas attended a session of the Inquiry to give oral evidence. Various statements made by Derek are quoted in the committee's report.



The Chamber of Commerce was one of three non-governmental organisations submitting evidence. The other two were the Equality and Human Rights Commission and the St Helena Tourism Association

As a result of this participation in the UK Government consultative process where the interests of the Overseas Territories are concerned, St Helena is specifically mentioned in two of the five committee recommendations and very much involved with the other three. The government responses need to be followed up through other channels of communication however it may be the case that submissions to and discussion at the Foreign Affairs Committee Inquiry helped to highlight the need for a revitalised St Helena's Capital Programme (now called the Economic Development Investment Programme). In the UK Government responses to the Inquiry recommendations it was mentioned that Montserrat is to receive £30 million over five years for their Capital Investment Programme for Resilient Economic Growth (CIPREG). This of course is exactly what St Helena is now receiving. The message must be, It's Good to Communicate.

Britain left isolated as the nations of the world condemn UK treatment of Overseas Territory

Britain's international reputation sunk to a new low on St Helena's Day when 116 nations voted against Britain, 56 countries abstained and just Hungary, Israel, Australia and the Maldives backed the US/UK position on the US Military Base at Diego Garcia and the continuing refusal to allow former residents and their descendents to return to their homeland. In the days before the vote newspapers had headlines speculating how bad the defeat would be. "UK and US face thrashing in UN vote" was one of them in the UK Guardian. The South China Morning Post echoed that headline. France24 was more moderate with "Britain faces UN defeat over Chagos Islands", but the Malay Mail forecast "Britain faces crushing UN defeat over Chagos islands". The Cyprus Mail headlined, "UN blow to UK over military bases on ex-colony". This is seen as a thinly veiled reference to the UK military bases at Akrotiri and Dhekelia in Cyprus. The Cypriot representative at the UN said his country supported the motion, pointing out that removal of "parcels of land" in the process of decolonisation usually involved an element of coercion. The UK military bases in Cyprus are called Sovereign Base Areas and are listed as British Overseas Territories. The whole world was watching and the vote turned out to be worse for Britain than even Mauritius anticipated.

Matthew Parris in the London Times described the situation very well when he wrote on the day of the vote, "Islands of shame - Seven years ago this month, I wrote in *The Times*: .

... a bomb is ticking beneath one of the Chagos archipelago of tiny islands ... far away in the central Indian Ocean. Now we're about to be humiliated in a United Nations vote after an excoriating judgment by the International Court of Justice. We haven't a leg to stand on in our stewardship of these islands, which were used as a slaving post after we nicked them off the French.

"Disgracefully Britain then cleared out the inhabitants (now stewing in Mauritius) because the Americans wanted to lease the island of Diego Garcia as a massive military base. We're not really in control there anymore. The lease was up for renewal in 2016 and I recommended ceding sovereignty to the United States for a massive sum and sharing the proceeds with Mauritius. But we missed our chance to get shot of this deeply dubious military base. We deserve the international thrashing we're about to get."

The situation was much like the UK Prime Minister's attempts to get a resolution through the House of Commons for the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. Everyone knows the Prime Minister will fail; all eyes are on the margin of her failure. Theresa May's first of four attempts to get a resolution through the House of Commons failed by the biggest number of votes ever in a UK Government defeat. The defeat for Britain at the United Nations could hardly have been more overwhelming.

At the United Nations a resolution supporting the claim made by Mauritius for the Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean to be reunified with neighbouring Mauritius was the reason for Britain's crushing humiliation. Mauritius was split from the Chagos Islands in the 1960's when the United States wanted Diego Garcia, the biggest island in the Chagos Archipelago, as a military base. Britain split the island of Mauritius from the Chagos Islands, keeping Chagos under direct British control,



Diego Garcia, the largest island in the Chagos Archipelago; now separated from Mauritius and called the British Indian Ocean Territory to facilitate the United States' ambition to have a military base there.

in order to make the military ambitions of the United States a reality. Worse than that, the entire population of the Chagos islands were evicted and shipped out (mainly to Mauritius) so the United States had a free hand. More recently the United Nations voted in favour of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) giving a legal opinion on the legality of Britain's handling of this the most infamous episode of the post-colonial era. The ICJ concluded that Britain acted illegally and recommended the Chagos Islands be returned to Mauritius as soon as possible. The ICJ legal opinion was only an opinion, not a binding decision which Britain had to act upon. Britain soon announced they intended to ignore the ICJ advisory opinion.

On St Helena's Day, as with Brexit, all eyes were on by how much Britain would lose the vote. The Mauritian ambassador to the UN told the UK's Guardian newspaper, "Even we didn't expect support for the UK to go into single figures. More importantly, this has happened despite the huge, huge, pressure on national capitals and at the UN." Before the day of the vote Britain and the United States had launched a big campaign to gain support from many countries for the UK/US position to keep the Indian Ocean islands separated and maintain a military presence on Diego Garcia in the interests of global security. As it turned out, the vast majority of the 193 member nations voted in favour of Britain handing the Chagos Islands to Mauritius within the next 6 months.

The devastating political defeat for Britain has certainly diminished its reputation and influence on the international stage. The effect of the defeat may be temporary but at present the humiliation caused will assist those countries who are against Britain having a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council and Mauritius now intends to challenge UK membership of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

It can also be argued Britain's mishandling of this situation for over half a century does nothing to help the Falkland Islanders in their annual fight with the United Nations Decolonisation Committee (C24) when they maintain the future of the Falklands is in the hands of the Falklanders. It is so easy for C24 representatives from Syria, Venezuela, Russia and, or Iran to claim the Falklands will only be able to decide what Britain allows them to decide. The Chagossians have repeatedly been denied their 'right' (?) to self-determination. In the present political climate the military similarities between Diego Garcia and Ascension Island is a reason for Ascension Islanders to be wary.



Vacancy: Paralegal/Legal Assistant

The Public Solicitors Office is looking to recruit a Paralegal/Legal Assistant to join its team of lawyers. The Public Solicitors Office provides legal advice and representation to the residents and businesses of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha. As part of its commitment to the 10 year plan to up skill St Helenians the Public Solicitors Office intends to employ a suitable candidate to work on St Helena as a Paralegal/Legal Assistant while at the same time training with the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx).

CILEx is an organisation based in the UK that trains lawyers to a very high standard and will allow a graduate to practice as a lawyer on St Helena. The academic aspect of CILEx training is undertaken on St Helena by distance learning and will be funded by the Public Solicitors Office. At the same time the recruit will work in the Public Solicitors Office assisting the lawyers and receiving on the job training.

The candidate must have a proven academic record to 'A' Level standard or higher and be able to demonstrate a commitment to a training programme lasting up to five years. The salary will reflect the applicant's experience and abilities and is in the range of £10,000 to £14,000 p.a.. All training costs are paid for with a contribution to the cost of home internet access. The terms of reference, which contains information on how to apply, can be obtained by calling the Public Solicitors Office on tel 23008 or emailing papublicsolicitor@helanta.co.sh The deadline for applications is Thursday, 6th June 2019.





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Centre



Bertrand's Cottage Limited is seeking to employ a suitable and experienced individual to fill the role of Operations Assistant.

The successful person will be responsible for supporting the Operations Supervisor in the day-to-day operations of the cottage.

A copy of the Terms of Reference and an application form can be collected from Enterprise St Helena reception and formal applications should be submitted to the Human Resources and Administration Assistant at Enterprise St Helena, Ladder Hill by no later than Friday 7th June 2019 at 12 noon.

telephone 25200 or via email

bertrandscottage@helanta.co.sh





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For further information please contact Elvis Hercules

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) is updating its register of persons who are interested in serving on its Board of Directors or its Subcommittees (Tourism, Business Development and Investment and Finance, Governance and Audit), should a vacancy arise.

The function of the Board, is to promote and facilitate economic development on St Helena in line with the Island's Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP), with input from and liaison with its Subcommittees.

A copy of the Terms of Reference for Board and individual Subcommittees, together with a form to register an interest can be requested via email: natasha.bargo@esh.co.sh or collected from the ESH Office, Ladder Hill Business Park. It should be noted that registering an interest does not guarantee an appointment to Board or a Subcommittee as this is subject to requirements and person's knowledge, skills and experience.

Expressions of Interest must be made using the form available from ESH and should be submitted, along with a current Curriculum Vitae to the Board Secretary by Wednesday 05 June 2019.



For further information please contact the Board Secretary on telephone No. 22920 or email: natasha.bargo@esh.co.sh

Head Office | ESH Business Park | Ladder Hill | Tel: +290 22920 | Email: <u>info@esh.co.sh</u>

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



Two Boats School is looking for a Design Technology Teacher on Ascension Island (Package up to c.£40k)

Two Boats School is looking for a successor to our Design Technology teacher who leaves us after 23 years of dedicated service. Two Boats School is the only school on Ascension Island and caters for around 100 children ranging from aged 3 to 16 years. The school follows the English National Curriculum and offers a range of IGCSE's to our students. Due to the unique nature of the school each secondary teacher is required to teach at least two subjects. We are looking for a Design Technology teacher with an additional experience to teach Humanities, PE or Modern Foreign Language to IGCSE level.

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). Ascension is part of the wider overseas territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha. It is situated some 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and it is 800 miles from its nearest neighbour, the island of Saint Helena. This is a unique opportunity to contribute to our future success and to be part of a welcoming and friendly island community.

If successful, you would be expected to:

- Teach Design Technology across years 7-11, up to IGCSE, following the Cambridge syllabus.
- Preferably have the ability to teach an additional subject (eg Humanities, PE, or Modern Foreign Language).

We are offering a two year contract with a salary between £16,539 and £20,000 per year (taxable in Ascension Island) dependent on qualifications and experience. You will also receive benefits worth up to $\pm 20,000$ per year (dependent upon single or accompanied status):

- Rent free accommodation (with electricity and water allowances)
- Free primary medical and dental care
- Food allowance (£6,175 or £3,089 dependant on accompanied status)
- Relocation package at start and completion of contract (personal effects and vehicle)
- One mid-tour return flight for you and your family
- End of contract bonus on completion of 2 years

This appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory Employment References
- Enhanced Criminal Records Check and Prohibition from teaching checks
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance (Ascension Island has limited medical facilities. If you believe that you have a medical condition that may be difficult to treat here please contact our Senior Medical Officer for a confidential discussion via <u>smo.hospital@ascension.gov.ac</u>)

The start date for this role is flexible; however, we would need the successful applicant to start no later than the 10th of January 2020 but could start as early as the 7th of August 2019.

Closing Date:16th of June 2019Interviews:Week commencing 24th of June 2019

For more information and to apply visit: www.ascension-island.gov.ac/working-here/

Interviews may be carried out via Skype or teleconference



Encompass Digital Media Services Ltd BBC Atlantic Relay Station English Bay Ascension Island, ASCN 1ZZ South Atlantic Ocean

Vacancy for Communications Engineer/Technician - Transmitting Station

Encompass Digital Media Services has a vacancy for a full-time **Communications Engineer** at the BBC Atlantic Relay Station on Ascension Island.

The post holder will form part of the team that is primarily responsible for transmitting programmes for the BBC and other customers.

Duties will include maintenance and fault-finding on the transmitters and associated equipment.

This post will be offered either on a single or accompanied status contract, depending on personal circumstance, and with bungalow accommodation.

Any offer of employment will be conditional on passing a medical examination.

Qualifications & Experience

Required:-

- Engineer qualified to BTEC National Certificate Level or equivalent in a relevant subject
- Comprehensive knowledge of safe working practices and safety procedures
- Able to demonstrate standard knowledge of HF propagation and transmission, Electronic, Electrical, Data, RF and Power Engineering
- Ability to analyse technical problems and undertake standard fault finding
- Workshop skills including hand and power tools
- Ability to communicate well, both verbally and in writing with both internal and external customers
- Ability to maintain accurate technical and administrative records
- Strong self-motivation and ability to work with minimum supervision
- Driving licence
- IT Competent
- Ability and willingness to work flexible hours and be available for call-outs and faults outside of normal working hours.

Desirable Qualifications/Experience

- Consistent & developed practical experience of a transmitter station's operation and maintenance work
- Experience of antenna systems
- HV Authorisation

Further Qualifications/Experience requirements are detailed in the job description.

Please contact the Administrative Officer on +247 66800 (Extn 102) or email <u>Glen.Yon@babcock.co.ac</u>, for a **Job Application Form**, **Job Description** and for further information regarding the post.

Applications to be sent to:

Administrative Officer BBC Atlantic Relay Station English Bay Ascension Island (or email <u>Glen.Yon@babcock.co.ac</u>)

or Fax direct to : +247 66117

Closing date for applications for this post has now been extended to **Friday 7th June 2019** and should be submitted on our job application form.

610 Chiswick High Road, London, UK, W4 5RU | www.encompass.tv

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Ronald Coleman, Grocery Manager (The Star & Butchery) on telephone number: 22683 or via email address: grocerymanager@helanta.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomon's 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 Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer Solomon's Office, Jamestown by 27 May 2019 has a vacancy for a

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Pic

Since 1790

Butchery Assistant

Job Outline

To assist with the day-to-day Butchery operations

Interested Persons Should:

- Possess knowledge of jointing and preparing meats
 - Be proficient in the use of a bandsaw
 - Be literate in Maths & English
- Have a good understanding of food safety, hygiene and housekeeping requirements and practices

Salary for the post will be (£7407.84 per annum) £617.32 per month



For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Ronald Coleman, Grocery Manager (The Star & Butchery) on telephone number: 22683 or via email address: grocerymanager@helanta.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 Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer Solomons Office, Jamestown, by 27 May 2019. Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for a

Frocery Sales Assistant

Within The Star

<u>Job Outline</u> To provide a high standard of customer service and to assist with the day-to-day running of the shop.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent Customer Service skills
- Be competent in Maths, English & IT
- Have knowledge & experience in Food Handling
- Have experience in Cash Handling

Salary for the post will be £7260.60 per annum (£605.05) per month

VACANCY FOR INTERNAL AUDIT ASSOCIATE (APPRENTICE)

Applications are invited for an Internal Audit Associate within the Internal Audit Service of St Helena Government (SHG). The post will include studies and training towards the SHG Internal Audit Scheme of Service and will involve carrying out internal audit assurance and consulting work within SHG under the direction of Internal Audit management.

Applicants should be versatile and highly motivated and will receive on the job training on performing internal audit engagements towards the achievement of the annual internal audit plan. Required skills and attributes of potential candidates are:

- IT skills especially use of Microsoft Applications;
- Good people management and interpersonal skills;
- Time management and organisational skills;
- Analytical, eager to learn and motivated by challenge; and
- Excellent interpersonal and verbal communication skills.



Essential qualifications for this role are GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above.

The starting salary for the post will be £8,067 per annum and will be reviewed on the achievement of training goals in line with the Internal Audit Scheme of Service.

For further details regarding the duties of the post and for a copy of the job profile, interested persons can contact Blessing Gurure on 22692 or on email: blessing.gurure@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/ vacancies and should be submitted to Clare O'Dean - Corporate Human Resources, The Castle or e-mail clare.odean@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 30 May 2019.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check 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.

Corporate Services May 2019



CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Friday 7th June @ 16:00 GMT

VACANCY FOR A TEACHING ASSISTANT

The Education & Employment Directorate is seeking to employ a suitable person who enjoys working with young people to join a committed team of teachers within the Secondary Sector of the Directorate.

Applicants must have GCSEs in English and Maths at Grade C or above or equivalent qualification. Recent and relevant work experience would be desirable. The ideal candidate must be self-motivated, have good interpersonal skills and a sense of humour.

The successful candidate will be expected to provide assistance to the class teacher by supporting teaching and learning in the school/classroom environment. Plan and prepare programmes of work under the direction of the class teacher to cater for the learning needs of groups of pupils and or individuals.

Salary payable will be from Grades TA1- TA2, ranging from £7,226 to £7,562 per annum.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Mrs Penelope Bowers, Headteacher, Prince Andrew School, on telephone number 24290 or e-mail penelope.bowers@princeandrew.edu.sh

Application forms which are available from Education & Employment Directorate and Corporate Human Resources should be completed and submitted, through Directors where applicable, to the Acting Administration Officer at the Education Learning Centre or e-mail santana.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm, on Monday 3 June 2019.

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.

Mrs. Wendy Benjamin

Director of Education & Employment, 20 May 2019

WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES PUBLIC HOLIDAY SERVICES Waste Management Services (WMS) would like to advise the public that there will be no changes to existing services during the upcoming Public Holidays: Monday 10 June - Whit Monday Monday 17 June - In lieu of HM the Queen's Birthday Residents are requested to have their waste ready for collection by 6am on their normal collection day. Late placement of bins may result in missed collection. Public areas and toilet cleaning services also remain unchanged. Horse Point Landfill Site remains open to the public 24/7, including Public Holidays. Users are encouraged to recycle as much of their waste as possible prior to any disposal in the Bulky Waste Cell. When in recreational areas, do not litter. To protect the environment, please ensure that all litter is properly disposed of in the public litter bins provided (recycling as much litter as possible), with larger volumes of litter bagged accordingly. WMS would like to thank the public for their continued cooperation. Waste Management Services - 'working in partnership with customers for a cleaner and greener St Helena'. SHG, 20 May 2019



VACANCY FOR A BUSINESS SUPPORT MANAGER, CORPORATE FINANCE

An opportunity has become available for a Business Support Manager within Corporate Finance. The post holder will be responsible for the day to day efficient operations of the Business Support Unit delivering a customer focused service and supporting Corporate Finance in meeting its statutory responsibilities.

Applicants should have the following qualifications and experience:

- ACCA Diploma in Accounting and Business (RFQ Level 4)
- 3 years working in an Accountancy, Finance or Business Support Role
- · 2 years management experience

St Helena Government

Salary for this post ranges from £11,034 - £18,114 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.

Corporate Finance provides an environment for professional development in the field of finance and accountancy. The salary range for this position reflects the pathways designed to reward professional development and technical competence. For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Nicholas Yon, Deputy Financial Secretary on telephone number 22470 or e-mail: nicholas.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Application forms can be obtained from Corporate Human Resources and Corporate Finance and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Tina Sim, Corporate Human Resources, The Castle or e-mail tina.sim@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Friday, 7 June 2019.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check 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. **Corporate Services**

23 May 2019



A meeting of the Enterprise St Helena Board of Directors' will take place on Wednesday 29 May 2019 at 9:00am at the Head Office of Enterprise St Helena, Ladder Hill Business Park.

Specific items that will be discussed which are open to the public:

- Policy and Governance Document Updates;
- ESH DfID Projects Budget for 2020 and 2021;
- Proposed Retail Consultancy Update;
- Bradt Travel Guide;
- Review of the Grants Policy;

Enterprise St Helena

St Helena

Enabling Tourism and Economic Growth

It Helena Island

- Policy for Open Enterprise St Helena Board of Directors' Meetings;
- Board and Subcommittee Succession Planning.

A copy of the Agenda and Papers open to public can be obtained from the Board Secretary via email: natasha.bargo@esh.co.sh or alternatively from the ESH website: www.investinsthelena.com

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APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Application has been received in respect of the following proposal:

 Application 2019/43: FULL Planning Application for Installation of Solar Panel, 200 litre Water Tank & Internal Alterations to Existing House, White (Lodge) House – main entrance to Plantation Estate on Parcel 0314 Scotland, adjacent to Crown Land. Applicant: Property Division

Copies of the Application and Plans may be inspected by prior appointment with the Planning Section, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown, Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 4pm. Appointments can be made with the Secretary on Telephone 22270 or email <u>Karen.Isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh</u> stating the Application Reference Number they wish to inspect.

Any person who wishes to make Representations on the above Application should make them <u>in writing within 14</u> <u>days</u>, to the Planning Office, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown or Email <u>Karen.Isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh</u>

Public Review Commencement Date Public Review Closing Date : 24 May 2019 : 7 June 2019

Shane Williams Planning Officer

NOTIFICATION MEETING OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AUTHORITY

The Land Development Control Authority will hold its monthly meeting on **Wednesday, 5th June 2019, at 9 am at the St Helena Community College, Jamestown**.

Meetings of the Authority are open to members of the public, applicants and objectors. Should you require a copy of the Agenda, please contact the Secretary of the Land Development Control Authority on telephone number 22270. Agendas will be available on **Monday, 3rd June 2019**.

Applicants and objectors may speak at the meeting providing that a summary of the points to be raised has been submitted to the Secretary at least 24 hours before the meeting.





Uproar over being overlooked

The Social and Community Development Committee (S&CDC) has made a U-turn on one of nine items reported to the Committee in a Safeguarding Directorate update on 10th April. The ninth and last item in the update appeared as a one-liner in the committee report published on 26th April; it simply stated "Employment of up to 15 staff from overseas is now going ahead". This item was 'nodded through' by the Social and Community Development Committee along with the other eight.

On Thursday this week another announcement was made about S&CDC endorsing the recruitment of staff from overseas. An SHG press release stated, "Following feedback from Elected Members and the public, St Helena Government (SHG) advises the public that this recruitment will no longer proceed. Instead, the directorate will look to locally increase staffing through a recruitment drive and overall review of terms and conditions across the directorate."

A private sector representative contacted the *Independent* to say, "we jump through hoops to recruit from overseas. We need to advertise locally and convince the ICB (Immigration Control Board) that there is no suitable local candidate. If SHG had to go through the same process they would never have been allowed to attempt the overseas recruitment until this was proven." The contact added, this is "another example of SHG making rules for others to follow when they don't need to because they do not apply to them."

The SHG announcement refers to feedback from elected members and the public however, it was elected members who allowed the recruitment to go ahead in the first place without a word of disagreement. From information received it appears the feedback from the 'public' was in large part from their own members of staff who saw this decision as denying them the opportunity to gain promotion and improved salaries. A key part of Succession Planning (which is supposedly high on SHG's agenda) is providing the maximum opportunity for local staff to progress through the grades, gain experience and have access to training opportunities. Only in this way will local staff become first tier government officers. Going over the heads of local employees and recruiting people from overseas to fill higher graded posts is the opposite of Succession Planning. This week's SHG announcement conceded that starting the recruitment process locally and then going overseas only when absolutely necessary will "enable existing staff within the Community Care Centre (CCC) the opportunity to progress in their profession alongside increased flexibility in shift patterns and leave requirements." This statement appears to indicate the uproar this decision has caused has also won some improvement to the conditions of service for Community Care Centre staff.

> How To Get A Promotion At Work Fast (Without Working Long Hours)



See https://youworktoomuch.com/

Tristan represented at US Emergency Planning Workshop Report and photos from Tristan Government UK Representative Chris Carnegy

In May 2019, Public Health England invited Tristan da Cunha to participate in a workshop designed to help UK Overseas Territories develop their plans for coping with emergencies. I represented the island at the two-day event in Miami, alongside delegates from territories in the North Atlantic and Caribbean. The sessions focused on practical ways to fine-tune existing systems, by learning from disaster exercises and real incidents. My report back to Tristan includes ideas for recording each emergency worker's role, and techniques for capturing feedback that will help improve future preparedness.







Workshop participants gather on 16th May 2019, Chris Carnegy is in the back row in front of the screen.

Rodney Brathwaite of the British Virgin Islands' Health Authority described BVI's response to the 2017 hurricanes Irma and Maria, with event hosts Steve North and Dave McQuirk of Public Health England.

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

With just the Champions League Final to go this is my last article until the new season starts on the 10th August.

Last week I know that, as a neutral I was extremely disappointed in the one sidedness of the FA Cup Final. Credit to Man City as they made history becoming the first English team to win the domestic treble; it was City's sixth FA Cup triumph and their first under Guardiola, who has now won six trophies since taking over at Etihad Stadium in 2016.

Sterling and Gabriel Jesus both scored twice for Guardiola's team

They confirmed their position as this season's dominant force as Watford were soundly beaten, City achieving the biggest FA Cup final win since Bury beat Derby 6-0 in 1903.

Watford's best chance of over-turning the odds came early on when City keeper Ederson saved at the feel of Pereyra and they were furious when referee Kevin Friend waved away penalty claims after Vincent Kompany blocked Doucoure's shot with his arm

The match was effectively over from the moment David Silva finished from close range after 26 minutes, Jesus doubling the advantage before half-time after Bernardo Silva's s pass. Watford briefly came into the game after the break but was always wide open to the counter attack.

They were brutally punished by an domineering City side, as substitute Kevin de Bruyne scored from Jesus's pass just after the hour before the Brazilian raced clear for another goal shortly afterwards.

Sterling scored twice in the final 10 minutes - turning in Bernardo Silva's perfect cross before bundling in the final goal of a memorable display from Guardiola's side.

DISTRICT CRICKET RESULTS

Saturday 18th May 2019 13.30pm Longwood 140/6 Patrick Crowie 35 Alan Thomas 27

Jordi Henry 3/29

St Pauls 145/4

Jordi Henry 76*

Mark Williams 17

Joey Thomas 2/47

Performance Points



Sunday 19th May 2019 10.00am Jamestown 180/5 Scott Crowie 83 Gavin George 47 Chedwin Lawrence 1/18 Matthew Benjamin 1/23 Sandy Bay 106/10 Matthew Benjamin 43 Brett Isaac 17 Scott Crowie 4/14 Nick Aldridge 2/18 Damien O'Bey 2/26 **Performance Points**



2019

Leaving out the playoff final between Aston Villa and Derby and the Europa Final between Chelsea and Arsenal the most significant match left is the Champions League Final between Liverpool and Spurs kicking off at 7pm on Saturday 1st June



13.30pm Levelwood 152/8 Sanjay Clingham 37 Ross Henry 26 Andrew Yon 4/25 Dennis Leo 2/28 Half Tree Hollow 153/6 Andrew Yon 43 Chris Owen 37 Greg Coleman 4/18 Association Brendan Leo 1/19 Performance Points Andrew Yon 3, Greg Coleman 2, Chris Owen 1



DISTRICT CRICKET FIXTURES

DISTRICT LEAGUE Saturday 25th May 2019

13.30am – Half Tree Hollow Vs Sandy Bay Umpires: (Levelwood/Jamestown)

Sunday 26th May 2019 10.00am - Longwood Vs Jamestown Umpires: (Sandy Bay) 13.30am - St Pauls Vs Levelwood Umpires: (Half Tree Hollow)



Scott Crowie 3, Gavin George 2, Matthew Benjamin 1

Jordi Henry 3, Mark Williams 2, Patrick Crowie 1

The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 25, Friday 24th May 2019

SHFA and Junior Football Meetings

On Wednesday 29th the SHFA will have a General meeting at New Horizons at 6pm for the purpose of entering of teams for the upcoming season and to draw up fixtures for the league which is due to start on the 29th June. All committee members and Captains or at least one representative from the teams are asked to be in attendance.

There will also be a meeting on Friday 31st May at the New Horizons centre from 6pm for Junior Footballers and their parents to discuss the upcoming Junior League Season.





The Women's Sports Association invites members to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Date: Wednesday 5th June 2019 Time: 6 pm Location: Rosie's Taste 4 Life



St Helena Golf Report - Contributed

Eighteen players took part in the 18 hole stroke play on Sunday 19th May 2019. Furrows were marked where players were penalised for hitting their shots onto another fairway which was challenging for some. Larry Legg emerged as the winner with a net score of 68, three players returned with a net score of 73 – Donald Bowers, Paddo Johnson and Ray Yon. After a count back, Paddo claimed 2nd prize and Donald 3rd. The nearest to the pin on 5th was awarded to Peter Johnson and Larry Legg won the longest drive on 17th. There was only one two ball winner – Neil Joshua. Congratulations to all winners. A huge thank you to Jeff and Helena Stevens for their valuable sponsorship.

Don't forget to register for the Monthly Medal scheduled for Sunday 26th May 19. You may place your name on the signup sheet at the Golf Club or leave a voice mail on telephone 24421.

The golfer was having a terrible time. He hooked and sliced and spent most of his time hacking his way out of the rough. He became more and more irate and every stroke was cause for a swear word and advice from his caddie was greeted with a snarl. So the caddie remained quiet and allowed himself a little smile. "If you smirk again," growled the golfer "I'll hit you with a club." "I doubt it", chuckled the caddie "You wouldn't know which club to use!"



St Paul's Primary School PTA would like to extend thanks and appreciation to our parents and members of the school community for supporting us at the various events held in the past few weeks. The takings raised at these events will be used to further extend our learners' educational opportunities.

Takings for events.

Coffee Morning£89.89Marine Open Day£280.80Science Fair£557.34Marine Disco£628.26

A huge thanks go to those of you from school, PTA helpers and organizations who worked hard to make these events happen, thank you!



The Ex-RMS at Birkenhead, Liverpool

The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 25, Friday 24th May 2019

SAFEGUARDING DIRECTORATE RECRUITMENT

In the Social & Community Development Committee (SCDC) meeting summary of 26 April 2019 it was reported that employment of up to 15 overseas staff for the Safeguarding Directorate would be going ahead.

Following feedback from Elected Members and the public, St Helena Government (SHG) advises the public that this recruitment will no longer proceed. Instead, the directorate will look to locally increase staffing through a recruitment drive and overall review of terms and conditions across the directorate.

This would also enable existing staff within the Community Care Centre (CCC) the opportunity to progress in their profession alongside increased flexibility in shift patterns and leave requirements.

SHG has considered all options and reached what is hoped to be the most appropriate decision to support the most vulnerable members of society residing within the CCC.

The Safeguarding Director and the SCDC Chairman, Councillor Tony Green, will be on radio today providing further details on this decision.

SHG 23 May 2019

POLICE INVESTIGATION – STOLEN VEHICLE UPDATE

St Helena Police are still actively investigating the theft of a silver ford fiesta car, registration number 2969, belonging to Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc which occurred on Thursday, 18 April 2019 (Maundy Thursday), in the Rock Rose area.

Within the car was a substantial amount of cash which was contained in two cash tins, one red and one black, both were stolen. If these are found by a member of the public please call the Police immediately on tel: 22626.

A number of persons were arrested on Thursday, 16, and Friday, 17 May 2019, in connection with the incident and have been released on police bail. Enquiries are ongoing.

If any member of the public has any information at all about this incident, no matter how minor it may seem, please contact Police Headquarters.

A reward of £1000 is being offered by Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc to anyone providing information that leads to the conviction of those responsible for this crime.

SHG 20 May 2019



NEW SENIOR ECONOMIST FOR ST HELENA

St Helena Government's (SHG) new Senior Economist, Amanda Curry Brown, took up her post on St Helena on Monday, 20 May 2019.

Amanda has been appointed on a two-year contract and will work alongside the Chief Economist Nicole Shamier. Amanda's main duties will include developing a revised Labour Market Strategy and providing analytical support to the Economic Development Investment Programme.

Amanda said:

"I am excited to be joining the team at SHG and am deeply appreciative of the warm welcome my husband and I have received. I'm looking forward to working with my new colleagues and stakeholders across the Island to help advance the important work that is already happening."

Nicole added:

"I'm really pleased Amanda has come to join us from North Carolina; she will assist the Project Management Unit who will be making recommendations on how the Economic Development Investment Programme budget should be spent, and will also be leading on the development of a Labour Market Strategy. So lots of work to do, lots of people to meet and consult with. Amanda and her husband Dave have mentioned the very warm welcome they have received since they arrived on 18 May and I'm very thankful to the community for helping them to settle into their home away from home."

Before taking up her post on St Helena, Amanda lived in Durham, North Carolina, USA. Amanda has 14 years' experience with the US Government as both a contractor and civil servant. Amanda comes to St Helena from the US Environmental Protection Agency where she led a variety of international air quality and climate programmes. She has a Master of Public Policy (MPP) Degree from the College of William & Mary and recently completed a Certificate in Development Studies at the University of Melbourne. **SHG**

23 May 2019



The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 25, Friday 24th May 2019

Beginners Luck – By Megan Peters (20)



On Sunday 19th May 2019, I took part in a beauty pageant for charity. I saw the advertisement on a website last month and decided to go for it. This was my first pageant and I did not expect to win the Queen title and best personality.

There were children, teens and adults who took part and everyone looked astonishing. It was not about being beautiful and having the perfect dress, it was about taking part and having the confidence to show your true colours. Self-confidence is a super power, once you start believing in yourself magic starts happening!

My advice to all the ladies and gentlemen out there is not to fear what other people think, beauty begins the moment you decide to be your true self.

I want to thank my mum Debra Rose and dad Colin Peters for always supporting me in everything and Ron Knipe for being my amazing photographer during the day.



The Chairperson and Members of the Blue Hill Community Association Committee would like to extend their warm thanks and appreciation to everyone who supported the Fun Day on Sunday, 12 May. A special thank you to those who made generous donations for the stalls and prizes and to those who assisted with the various activities on the day. Winners of the multi raffle were as follows:

Iced Cake Sandwich Toaster Toaster **Bottle White Lion** Bottle Monis Sherry Large Bottle Honev **Bottle Red Wine** Bottle Red Wine **Bottle Four Cousins Wine Bottle White Wine** Bottle Sally's Shiraz wine Men's Perfume set Women's Perfume set Small Bottle Honev Bathroom mat set Cake Decorating set Chocolate biscuits Mug Tea Bag Holder Vegetable Hamper

Kurt Plato, Longwood Colt Sheds Trent Dillon, Half Tree Hollow Earl Williams, Blue Hill Jerry Thomas, Bell Stone Leroy M Thomas, Two Gun Saddle Qui Sim-Green. Deadwood Donald Thomas. Blue Hill Edna Richards, Blue Hill Patricia Benjamin, No 2 Botanical Gardens Inez Richards, Half Tree Hollow Darren Duncan, St Paul's Stephanie Williams, Hutts Gate Colby Richards, Barracks Square Aine Hurley, Jamestown Colby Richards, Barracks Square Gloria Leo, Ben Masons Zoe Movce, Longwood Road Leslie Richards, Blue Hill Peter Thomas, Sandy Bay Aine Hurley, Jamestown

BROWNIES ON THE MOVE – GIRLS CAN DO!

The Jamestown Brownies, along with leaders, parents and siblings did a 'Glow in the Dark' Stroll' on Saturday 13th April 2019. The route was Gordon's Post through to Rural Retreat and return. The Stroll started at around 7:15pm.

A lively and vibrant crowd, decorated with 'glow in the dark' accessories, torches and reflective strips, under favourable weather and a warm and pleasant atmosphere, completed the stroll in just an hour. Girls were very enthusiastic and the excitement grew on route. Under an almost non starry sky, the colourful rays and movement of lights almost depict a mini creation of the 'Festival of Lights'.

This was a two-fold event, a fund-raiser as well as girls taking on a challenge of going outside of their comfort zone and experiencing an evening stroll in a rural area. This was a first time for most if not all of them. Well done girls!

With a very good representation of parents support, it contributed to making this event a great success. Thank you to all for your valuable support. The amount raised was a healthy £270.31 which will go towards resources for the functioning of the Unit. It is anticipated to make this another annual event. Little treats were served after the stroll and happy faces who were energetic enough to trot another mile, departed Gordon's Post around 8:30pm. Tuesday 7th May 2019, Brownies had a 'Holiday Fun Day' on Longwood Green. The playground equipment energised the girls and leaders alike. After a delicious 'Bring and Share' mid-morning break, girls opted for a stroll. We headed off enroute to the back of Longwood Old House, through the higher part of the Golf Course where a photo shoot was taken on the 'old gum tree' then proceeded on to the main road from the ex-Longwood Primary School. With restored energy after lunch, out came the bat and ball. In teams of two, a miniature game of Rounders was played. Joining the teams were Longwood Brownie, Jada Crowie and Guide Chantelle Youde. Again much energy was omitted where girls and leaders competitively enjoyed the game. Thanks to Mrs Sandra Crowie for being the referee. Brownies relished the change of environment.

As Brownie leaders we encourage girls to build confidence, take on challenges and opportunities, develop their own identity, have a voice, explore and look after their community, learn new skills and make new friends. This will aid them to discover and become aware of the world around them.

A Brownie's age is from 7 to 10 years. If any girls are interested in joining the Jamestown Brownie Unit, regardless of faith or, if you yourself are interested in becoming involved in Guiding, please feel free to contact leaders Deborah Knipe on 24929 or Justine Joshua on 25094 or in person. We are happy to be volunteers within our community and to work together with girls in a safe and happy environment.

By mistake this article was omitted from publication last week, our apologies

NEW APPOINTMENTS IN THE EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

The Education Directorate has recently made three new appointments within their team.

Angela Benjamin is the new Assistant Director for Lifelong Learning and will oversee the sectors under Lifelong Learning including the Public Library, the St Helena Community College, the St Helena Research Institute, and the Scholarship scheme.

Angela said:

"To be successful for the role of Assistant Director for Lifelong Learning is a major accomplishment for me and I am proud to accept the position. The role is a diverse and challenging one, but also rewarding. This is a big step in my career and I am looking forward to it. As a team within the Education Directorate, together we will continue to strive to develop the provision of adult learning for the community of St Helena."

The second new appointment will see Kerry Lawrence take on the post of Assistant Director of Schools.

In her new role, Kerry will provide a professional advisory and support role to the Director of Education to ensure that the key areas of focus in Primary and Secondary Education -Standards and Achievement, School Improvement, School Organisation, Admissions, Behaviours and Attendance - are maintained.

Kerry said:

"I am delighted with this opportunity and look forward to working closely with colleagues across all schools to continue enhancing the teaching and learning experience and learner progress. Leaving Prince Andrew School will be bittersweet as I will certainly miss the student interaction and being at the chalk face, but more significantly the working relationships formed with a fantastic team. However, I anticipate supporting them further in a slightly different capacity as Assistant Director of Schools."

Lastly, Teacher Training Advisor, Garry Cameron, will depart the Island at the end of June 2019. Frazer Stone, currently teaching at Prince Andrew School, will succeed Garry and take on the role as the new Teacher Training Advisor for the Education Directorate.

Frazer said:

"It is a huge privilege to be involved in the training and development of St Helena's teachers. Garry Cameron has done an outstanding job and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his hard work and dedication. Following such an outstanding individual really inspires me and he has set the gold standard for my personal expectations as the new Teacher Training Advisor."

The newly appointed officers will now continue working hard to achieve the goals of the Education Directorate with their focus being to educate and upskill the children and adults of St Helena now and into the future.

Director of Education, Wendy Benjamin, concluded:

"I would like to extend my congratulations to all three officers and wish them well as they undertake their new roles within the Education Directorate."

SHG 17 May 2019



FROM THE SHINE SHOW

.....WITH SHARON WADE!

In contact with Mr Nigel Kirby, the Shine Show was notified of a new song posted to YouTube on the Internet. The song, written by Nigel is entitled 'Through The Clouds Above' and the lyrics reflect the feelings, sights and sounds that grew on Nigel and his wife Ginny through their long association with St Helena – Nigel with the Airport Project since 2002 and Ginny through her posting as Financial Secretary for 2 years, and for both of them - countless visits to the Island on the RMS St Helena, and just last month, flying in via Airlink for the first time.

Nigel's song about flying into St Helena, made possible by the opening of the airport in May 2016, is dedicated to Sharon Wainwright, a good friend of Nigel's and St Helena Access Manager from 2004 until her untimely death in 2011. The song is also dedicated to all those in St Helena, South Africa, the UK and elsewhere who worked so hard to make air access to our beautiful remote island a reality.

In a message received from Nigel and Ginny they said of their recent stay...

"Of course the time was far too short. One day, probably after we retire which isn't all that far away now, we will plan a much longer visit to St Helena. We know so many people there that it is almost a second home. It was wonderful to catch up with so many old friends. I think it took us around three hours to walk up Main Street, stopping all the way up to talk with people and hear their news. I know that it is hard times for many at the moment now that the employment that came with the airport construction is over, and that visitor numbers have yet to pick up, but Saints will prevail as they always have and I hope the future will be brighter in the long term".

To hear or download the song – log on to the YouTube website and type 'Nigel Kirby Through The Clouds Above' into the search engine and the song window should appear, playing to superb photography that Nigel and Ginny prepared to accompany the haunting music and lyrics.

......grateful if you have a pic of them to use please – a great one is with the song but I don't think you can take it off YouTube.



Ginny with Sharon Wade

DON'T FORGET.....

If you have beef with the STH Police, now is your chance to write in about your concern, question or issue to tessa.peters@sainthelena.gov.sh and it will be discussed in a new Police program that is set to take the airwaves next month.

All children attending Primary Schools on St. Helena are also invited to dream up a name for the new Police program....you could win an exciting prize that is being devised by St Helena Police Officers and it is one not to be missed! AND FINALLY.....

Take part in the Red Cross Quiz at the Jamestown Community Centre tonight or just go along to be a spectator/consultant! It is all about St. Helena, it is for a good cause and will certainly test the memory banks with a flashy picture round! Interview repeats coming up......Councillor Tony Green and Ms Tracy Poole-Nandy speaking about the Safeguarding Directorate who are hoping to increase staffing locally through a recruitment drive and perform an overall review of terms and conditions across the Directorate.

Recording of the Week.....still in planning stages!

PRIMARY SECTOR EMAIL ACCESS

The following is a Public Announcement from the Education & Employment Directorate:

The Primary Sector of the Education & Employment Directorate would like to advise the public that they are currently experiencing difficulties in sending and receiving emails on a regular basis.

This issue is currently being addressed, however, until fully resolved, the public might experience delays in emails being responded to by school staff.

The Education & Employment Directorate would therefore appreciate if matters of an urgent nature could be communicated to the relevant staff member by telephone so that they can receive immediate attention.

The telephone numbers for the Primary Schools are as follows:

Harford: 24719 Pilling: 22540 St Paul's: 24737



The Education & Employment Directorate will advise when this problem has been resolved, and would like to thank the public in advance for their support and patience. *SHG, 23 May 2019*



Entertainment at Silver Hill Bar for this Weekend

Friday open from 4.30pm till late mix tunes from the bar.

Saturday open from 5.00pm to 8.00pm Country tunes from the bar 8.00pm till late mix sounds by DJ Wayne Boom Bang.

Sunday open from 5.00 to 8.00pm.





Join Pilling Primary School for their monthly car boot on **Saturday**, 25th May 2018

Time: 10am – 12 noon

Venue: Pilling Primary School playground



Book a table for £3 by calling the school on 22540 or just turn up on the day.





The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 25, Friday 24th May 2019