



Germans Like St Helena Classic Cars

Bone Shark Festival went "Swimmingly well"

Inside St Helena -Full Story Change or Transformation



Lent Season Begins





Bone Shark Festival went "Swimmingly" well

On Friday February 21st the St Helena Marine Team in collaboration with St Helena Tourism hosted their 2nd Annual Bone Shark Festival at the Mule Yard which started at 5pm.

The Mule Yard was an ocean of blue with the buzzing of a large number of the public in attendance and beautiful décor. Atlantic Outpost were one of many stalls selling special T-shirts and customized desktop LED light featuring St Helena on sale. Simon Henry, owner of the Atlantic Outpost said that a special "bone shark" LED light made for the festival had already been sold.

Abiwans were also present at the festival with Handcrafted knitted items. One of these knitted whale sharks served as a prize for "guess the spots on the Whale sharks" competition. Other items on sale from variety of stalls included jewelery, wooden plaques created skillfully by Rob Benjamin to name a few. Mr Benjamin also made a beautiful wooden bone shark photo frame(recycled) which provided enormous fun for our children.

Adding to the ambience of the evening(and an important part of island culture) local bands entertained the public throughout with an array of music. Blunt and a descendent of the Duke of Wellington – give a speech during the event.

During her speech she mentioned how privileged it is to be on the island with the whale sharks and also wished that her husband James was here to experience this event.

Some of the highlights of the evenings were video clips of speeches from Princess Eugenie who said " All the way from England massive congratulations for all that you're doing for conservation. I'm so proud and honoured to speak to you today. I wish I could be there"

James Blunt(British singer – songwriter) also delivered a short speech and said "I am so jealous that I'm not there to celebrate today with my wife and you all and have heard only wonderful things about your home"

The Marine Team is especially delighted with the support from the public, not forgetting the number of children who assisted with collecting litter at the end of the event. Jackson Benjamin of Alarm Forest won the prize for collecting the most litter.



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Peggy King Jorde still spreading awareness and seeking funds for the Rupert's Burial Grounds

King Jorde ^{Cultural Projects}

Many will remember Peggy King Jorde, a driving force in the establishment of the African Burial Ground in New York and now working vigorously to get international recognition and funding for the Liberated African Burial Grounds in Rupert's Valley. Most recently Peggy has made two trips to London from her home in New Jersey to increase awareness among some of the well-connected who could help attract funding for this globally important part of St Helena's history.

Towards the end of last month Peggy King Jorde was in Westminster meeting with David Lammy MP, a former minister, and other leading UK politicians. Included on the agenda for discussion was developing an international relationship between leading individuals and groups in the UK and US that focus on black culture and history in the developed western world.

Part of the same push for recognition included another meeting with Andrew Young a former US ambassador to the United Nations and now president of his own non-profit Foundation focusing on issues relating to human rights, health and education. Andrew Young was a close associate of Martin Luther King in the 1960s and is also part of the World Justice Project along with other top flight achievers such as Madeline Albright, Cherie Blair, Jimmy Carter, Desmond Tutu and Colin Powell.



From left to right: Coretta Scott King, Andrew Young and Rosa Parks take part in a ceremony on Jan. 15, 1980, honouring the late Martin Luther King, Jr. Young was a guest speaker and Parks received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Nonviolent Peace Prize. (AP Photo)

With Peggy lobbying influencers of that magnitude it must only be a matter of time before a situation is created where she hits the bulls-eye or presses the button for blast-off for a transformational move forward with the Liberated African Burial Grounds project.

King Jorde's trip to London this week focused efforts on meeting with academics and leading thinkers on the African diaspora and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. This series of meetings developed from a previous visit to London when she met UK lawyer and journalist Afua Hirsch who helped Peggy develop a series potentially helpful UK contacts.



Peggy King Jorde with David Lammy MP, in January this year

Thanks are extended to ALL who helped, in any way, donated, and attended the afternoon's tea at Blue Hill Community Centre on 8th February 2020, in aid of church/ parish funds/

The amount raised was £380.

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This time last month we had no rain, no fish and no potatoes. We still have no potatoes in the shops but things are looking up elsewhere. Just let's hope the rain clouds don't decide to go elsewhere. This time last month the coronavirus covid 19 was not as high up the list of subjects which got people talking as it is now. The effect one of these highly infectious and potentially lethal diseases could have on the population of this small island does not bear thinking about, but of course we have to. When the ebola virus was claiming people's lives in West Africa I did wonder what effect giving incoming passengers a questionnaire would have in keeping the disease out of St Helena. Either by luck or judgement we did not get ebola here. Certainly at the time, the risk of ebola reaching these shores was assessed as low. The same assessment has been made for covid 19 (sounds like the name given to a newly discovered large asteroid) that is, a questionnaire is adequate for the low risk assessment given for the spread of the disease to St Helena. The only exception to that is people from Hubei Province in China, who arrive here, will be isolated without exception. The numbers game can be misleading however after China, South Korea, Italy, Iran and Japan are the worst affected countries. But it only takes one infected person to spread the disease and that person could be from any one of a lengthening list of countries.

The global financial crash of 2008-09 brought momentous and prolonged consequences. For the UK it meant a decade of Austerity. Government spending was slashed THE LAPTOP SLITHER in every direction, wages dropped in value, saving money for the long term was pointless as saving plans offered by banks and building societies offered less than 1% interest while price inflation meant every pound in the pocket lost one third of its value during the 10 years after the financial crash. The situation has not improved much in the last year or so. Interest rates are still low but wages are increasing. Chief Police Officers, say the police service is almost at crisis point; with serious understaffing and a high incidence of ill-health due to stress among employees. A host of other services make similar observations.

The underlying consequences of the short-sighted greed that ran amok in the international financial institutions during the first decade of this century are even more serious than the immediate signs which reveal a drop in the standard of living. An organisation called Health Equity in England published a review in 2010 and has recently updated that report 10 years on. The comparisons made between 2010 and 2020 do not make pleasant reading.

Increases in life expectancy in the UK underperform when compared with most European countries and other high income countries. Deprived areas of the

UK have suffered with hardly any increase in life expectancy and a decrease in life expectancy in the most deprived areas. The gap between poor and well-off neighbourhoods has increased. The inequality is more pronounced for women with life expectancy decreasing in all regions apart from London, the West Midland and the North West.

It is also bad news with mortality rates. More people per thousand now die between the ages of 45 – 49 than 10 years ago. For people in their 70s the mortality rate has improved but not for people in their 80s and upwards. The report maintains that 80% of the reason for a slowdown in mortality rate improvement is due to poverty and preventable causes. When it comes to the crunch, Britain is lagging behind the rest of Europe and other developed nations. At the same time the UK prime minister, his governing party and just over half the population think they can do better on their own by cutting ties with the rest of Europe.

It does make me wonder where the St Helena Government and other British Overseas Territories should go to get the best advice. It also makes me wonder if the DFID financial missions who come here every year to tell us how government money should be spent are (unintentionally) not acting in our best interests.





Exco's Cartographic Considerations

Tuesday's Executive Council meeting included another stage in the long process for officially adopting the updated map of St Helena. The information paper to Exco members informed them they were "asked to consider and advise whether the proposed revised map of St Helena should be accepted" and then went on to observe, "several changes have taken place on the Island, most notably the construction of St Helena Airport, the Airport Access Road and developments in Rupert's". Getting back to basics it was explained, "The St Helena map is a useful resource for people wanting to know geographical details about the Island. It is of special interest to tourists in helping them learn about and navigate the Island. Some tourists purchase a map as a souvenir of the island."

The point about some tourists wanting to buy a copy of the new improved map was made a second time; "A revised map will no doubt be an attractive purchase by tourists and generate revenue. Data from the Customer Services Centre indicate that 300 copies of the current map were sold in 2018/19. It is recommended that the map is sold at a cost that at least covers its production, so will have no negative financial implications. Initial copies of the map will be printed by GIS to kick start the sale of the new map. Each map at (1:25,000) will cost £8.00 and maps at (1:25,000) will cost £9.00 per map for a set of 4, to print."

The last bit includes what is assumed to be a deliberate mistake deliberately inserted to check whether Exco members are paying attention. The set of four maps are scaled at 1:10,000 (not 1:25,000 which is the scale for the map with the whole island on one sheet). The tourist theme is repeated a third time when it is pointed out that producing an updated map supports Objective 10 of the Sustainable Development Plan (SEDP): Attracting visitors. Some may consider that claim is stretching reality more than a little bit. The SEDP has a 'vision' with ten 'goals', the tenth and last is about St Helena residents investing more in St Helena and thereby reducing the amount of returns on investment which disappear overseas.

The fixation with tourists who may buy a St Helena map as a souvenir is strange. High quality, accurate and up-to-date maps are a basic and important tool in planning; certainly important to the Planning Department and also indispensible for all other forms of development planning. As such, it is more credible to claim the new map is an aid to economic development than attracting visitors.

If the new map is a bonus for the tourism sector, the obscure benefits for public health could also be added. There are more details of Island walks shown on the new map to help and encourage more people to gain extra fresh air and exercise. Education too can be added to the list. Presumably the school education includes learning how to map-read. The new map will have more information on it which will help with map-reading exercises.

The new map should be available from the Post Office from $1^{\mbox{\scriptsize st}}$ April.

Change or Transformation

The second report on how St Helena governance can be improved is due from Professor Jeremy Sarkin this week. Since the Governor issued a press release in September last year with the headline 'How do we want to govern ourselves?' the appetite for change and improvement in the way we are governed has been well documented. The Governor's press release was issued one week before Jeremy Sarkin's first visit. Since then we have had his first report and his second report should be published soon.

So far there have been two main preferences in the way governance should change. One group prefers to change what we already have; what we have is the committee system. Responsibility and accountability is generally recognised to be somewhere between weak and non-existent. Supporters of keeping the committee system presumably believe responsibility, accountability, transparency and openness can be inserted into what others believe is a broken system.

The other main preference is for a chief minister or similarly named elected leader who takes ultimate responsibility for just about everything. The elected leader would be supported by a team of five or six, each of whom is politically responsible (not administratively responsible) for one of the directorates.

Which one of these two main preferences should we have? A referendum is promised at the end of the discussion process

so the decision belongs to everyone. Is it enough to change the committee system so accountability, openness etc are inserted into the system? Or is it necessary to have a real transformation to guarantee we get what has clearly been shown over the last five months to be what most people want; a better form of governance.

Research into successful changes and/or transformations is widespread, with in-depth studies including closely monitored and measured assessments which are added to with further studies to strengthen previous conclusions. One such study, by coincidence published in the month after Jeremy Sarkin first visited St Helena; gives four basic indicators for successful transformations. This study focuses on transformation rather than change because, they say, when an organisation is failing and drifting the 'T-word' has to be embraced. Most of these studies are concerned with business organisations and a failing or drifting business needs to embrace transformation to survive. Government organisational systems do not have to look down over the precipice but that does not prevent an organisation such as the St Helena Government learning from the approach taken by businesses who want to transform and also learning from the methods used to achieve the desired transformation.

The first of the four indicators is Go Big – Go Broad. The study states, "Successful companies, our findings suggest, typically favour an all-in, enterprise-wide transformation, rather

BOTTOM WOODS WEST COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA

Works have commenced on the Comprehensive Development Area (CDA) at Bottom Woods West, located near Reggie's Takeaway. This follows approval of Plans for the CDA by the Land Development Control Authority (LDCA) in late 2019.

The Bottom Woods CDA site can accommodate 40 plots in total but due to current constraints on the sewerage system, 28 developments will be accommodated at this time. The road edges for part of this site is currently being pegged out.

It is anticipated that some of the plots will be sold to qualifying local residents and others sold at market value. Eligible local residents can qualify for up to 50% discount on the market value price of the plot, depending on their income. It is anticipated that these plots will become available at some point during this year.

It is also planned to construct up to six Government Landlord Houses on this site. Plans are currently being prepared for Building Regulation approval and an advert for Expressions of Interest for contractors to undertake the building works has been issued.

Members of the public should note that access to the Bottom Woods CDA is restricted while construction works are underway.

SHG 21 February 2020

NEW TOBACCO CONTROL LEGISLATION

The Public Health Committee is currently holding a number of Public Consultation meetings to gather people's views on new Tobacco Control Legislation.

Based on world health research, smoking is the world's leading cause of premature death, disability and the loss of 'healthy life years'. On St Helena, 'Non-Communicable Diseases' which include heart attacks, strokes, type two diabetes, lung and kidney disease, and cancer, are the most common causes of people losing their health and quality of life earlier than they should. The number of smokers in our community is higher than elsewhere and it is especially high amongst our young adults.

The aim of the new Tobacco Control Legislation is to help protect the public from the harm tobacco causes and to ensure the wellbeing of our people now and into the future. The new legislation will:

. Prohibit any kind of advertising and marketing of tobacco

. Stop sellers from breaking up cigarette packs and selling 'single' cigarettes, making it difficult for young people to start smoking and help others to stop smoking

. Require sellers of tobacco to request ID to prove that young people are aged over 18 years

. Prohibit smoking in any vehicles with children aged under 18 present, to protect young people from second-hand smoke

. Restrict the availability of e-cigarettes, certain types will be prohibited, and promotion will be prohibited

Any person who wishes to import by any means and sell tobacco or related products must also be registered and all tobacco must be sourced from the UK or South Africa. No individual may import tobacco or any related products. This will allow for secondary legislation in the next two years to ensure that all tobacco sold is in plain packs, without attractive branding and with large graphic health warnings.

The public is reminded of the following upcoming Public Consultation meetings:

Date	Time	Venue
Monday,	7pm	Sandy Bay Community
24 February 2020		Centre
Tuesday,	7pm	Levelwood Community
25 February 2020	-	Centre
Wednesday,	7pm	Harford Community
26 February 2020	-	Centre

Anyone wishing to make any comment on the new Tobacco Control Legislation may do so in writing to Health Promotion Lead, Kate Heneghan, on tel: +290 22500 (ext. 2094) or via email: kate.heneghan@sainthelena.gov.sh.

The draft legislation is available on the SHG Website via the following link: https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-consultation/.

SHG 24 February 2020



HOUSE FOR RENT in Youngs Valley

2 bedrooms, all appliances. Own parking and verandah

Contact Daisy at The Orange Tree 22126 or 23370

Change or Transformation



than constraining the transformation to individual business units or functions." It also includes directly involving a wide cross-section of the employees in implementing the transformation and it is noted that the most successful transformations address a large number and wide range of improvements, the majority of them being small rather than large and dramatic.

The second indicator of a successful transformation is Move Fast – Renew Often. The study states, "Top-quartile transforming companies, our findings suggest, move fast and renew often. In successful transformations, companies typically sprint out of the gates, turning their initial burst of idea generation into an achievable, rigorous plan within a few short months. Execution follows at an equally fast clip. That said, every transformation is unique; some by nature will take longer (for example, significant portfolio changes or major shifts in business models)." Transformation of the St Helena Government probably fits into the category where a major shift is needed and will take longer. Despite the extra time needed for major transformation, the study found that 74% of the businesses analysed which achieved successful transformations implemented initiatives within 12 months. The 'renew often' part of the indicator means companies that had achieved several of their targets and had many of their initiatives in place adopted further initiatives; many of which were 'discovered' when implementing previous initiatives.

The third indicator is Embrace Organisational Health. Health is this case is more about moving the workload through the processes efficiently and achieving the results identified at the start as desirable. It also included a having a workforce which is committed, feels valued and enjoys going to work. The nine factors used in assessing the organisational health of a company include leadership, accountability, and innovation and learning; factors which can be transferred to a government organisation with little difficulty if the desire to make the transformation is readily accepted.

Fourth but by no means least is Stretch Your Aspirations. The study explains, "Normally, you think of starting with aspirations. We close with them, because in our experience companies that achieve the most successful transformations often evolve their performance aspirations, making them more aggressive as the transformation gets rolling and accomplishing more than they thought possible at the outset." An analysis of companies that followed this approach often found they measurably achieved twice or three times what was originally anticipated.

This article uses information from two McKinsey & Co publications; - 'The Numbers Behind Successful Transformations' and 'Transformation with a Capital T'

ST HELENA WATER LEVELS

Spells of recent rainfall are finally starting to make a difference with water levels on St Helena continuing to gradually rise.

Stored water for the Island is now at 47,301 cubic metres, or 41%, representing a rise of 2% from last week and a weekly average of 48 days.

While this is good news, consumption levels must stay below 1000 cubic metres for this trend to continue. Over the past week consumption levels have begun to rise above the targeted rate, something which needs to cease if we are to improve water levels.

The St Helena Resilience Forum Warning & Informing Group has said:

"It is great for the Island that water levels are beginning to rise slowly but surely, we are heading in the right direction. Despite this, we cannot start to relax on our use of water. For levels to improve further we must continue to restrict usage to essential needs only and take advantage of any rainwater that can be caught for personal use. Recycling rainwater at home will contribute to a lower consumption rate, which in turn will help to preserve and improve Island water stocks."

We all must spread the word to continue to preserve as much water as possible to ensure that the situation continues to improve.

Connect Saint Helena Ltd (CSH) is continuing to pump water from Hutt's Gate, Chubb's Spring and Warren's Gut. Regular site visits are carried out by CSH to ensure pumping systems and abstraction catchments are working as efficiently as possible.

Currently, surface flows are sporadic, with spells of gushes being reduced to trickles in short time, probably due to the current inconsistent weather patterns being experienced Island-wide.

Remember, we are currently under an Island-wide hosepipe ban. If you see anyone using water irresponsibly or notice a burst pipe or leak, then please inform CSH immediately.



Inside the 'INSIDE ST HELENA' Business conference Tammy Williams



The drive to Blue Hill is always a wonderful thing, surrounded by the countryside and our natural world, quietly grazing cattle, the wind in the swaying trees, chirping birds, the freedom creates a different sort of life and it was into this environment that Engage 2020, St Helena's first local business conference was born.

Darrin and Sharon Henry are the faces behind the conference, there is that thing about a husband and wife partnership, a formidable relationship whereby you get to say things to each other that are not allowed in the boardroom, I mean, you can really get cross with each other without the fear of ending up in human resources, Darrin and Sharon are also the designers and inventors of the Inside St Helena App

The Engage 2020 program included complimentary WiFi sponsored by SURE and after a warm welcome by Cliff Huxtable we were kitted with 'Social media L plates' presented by Darrin, this was a rude awakening for those of us limping by on little social media activity, the message was clear, an online presence meant the difference between death or survival of a business, tea and cake prepared us for 'Predicting the future is hard', a presentation by Amanda Curry Brown who reminded us of the lessons humanity has learnt from the 'messy science of economics', all the people in the room knew just how messy it can get in these economically grim times. Each of the invited speakers were given a clear remit in that they were to speak sympathetically to the present times, taking into consideration the delicacy surrounding the economic climate and the challenges being faced by the local private sector.



Engage 2020's 'little helpers'



Darrin talking about social media

A delightful presentation was given by the infamous Stedson Stroud and Vanessa Thomas-Williams on Biodiversity which featured on our past, where we are now and plans for the future, we were prompted to accept our responsibility as custodians of the future and to leave a pattern that future generations could aspire to, it was a good time to reflect on our environmental responsibilities as business owners. Vanessa's presentation showed 'glossy magazine' images of our 14 endemic ferns and 33 flowering plants, all with branding possibilities for businesses, a table mat, linen, perhaps a line of jewellery?

Throughout the day attendees were invited to write about one thing we would like to see changed or introduced, a line dubbed the' washing line' was set up at the back of the hall and comments were pegged there which included; customs reductions, tax relief, cheaper flights, agriculture, revised shipping schedules, improved access to capital and business loans, Mantis hotel competing with the private sector, easy and quick access to short-term credit for businesses, more outsourcing from SHG, fairer distribution of contracts, private sector should act as advisors to SHG not the other way around and a rather sassy comment which said that the government probably needed lessons from their own economist on supply and demand.



The famous washing line

A tasty, traditional fish and chips lunch was served by 'Papa' and Jeremy which allowed time for networking, sharing knowledge and simply relaxing, my only regret is that so many private sector individuals for different reasons could not be there who would have benefitted from the day however there was a distinguishing level of interest from certain sectors such as construction, hospitality and retail.

Inside the 'INSIDE ST HELENA' Business conference Tammy Williams



'Papa' and Jeremy cooking up a storm: Ray Benjamin of 'SanRays' enjoys 'being served' for a day

After lunch the next guest speaker was Governor Philip Rushbrook, his address entitled 'A Governor's work is never done' gave an intriguing and at times humorous insight into the life of governor's past and present. The governor's message focussed on St Helena's reliance on aid and little coming from elsewhere, it was a good time to retell the story that the island spent £37 million on imports last year and just £400,000 on exports.

I'll use this part of the story to say those of you who did not attend missed a thoroughly enlightening and informative conversation with the governor, the floor became animated and provided an excellent opportunity for him to see where the gripes were and in return his challenge to us to continue lobbying politicians and SHG.

A long conversation ensured which included the need to review the current flight situation as the number of visitors annually were simply not good enough, cheaper flights, different airlines and routes were discussed, government wasting money was another deep rooted discussion, it was clear that the government require a hard-nosed and simplified approach to many of their activities which could be undertaken by the private sector, the tourist office being a good example of outsourcing, the discussion focussed on what that service could look like a year from now.

It was suggested that the governor needed to lead on change and bend arms, which he insisted that he was 'almost to the point of breaking", it was also pointed out that the private sector had "been banging on doors, to no avail, what else were we to do?

I'm certain that those present found his generous release of substantial information a refreshing change from the usual suppression that we have become accustomed to, maybe it was his way of saying there's enough firepower in this room and within the private sector to trigger a revolution? The final speaker of the day was Joey George from the bank of St Helena, whose talk hinged on 'Today, Tomorrow, Together – the audience were treated to a presentation of products and services coming soon, including a credit card that could be utilised by Saints travelling abroad.



Good to mingle

I attended the Engage 2020 business conference wearing two hats, one as a business owner (which I might describe as a hat worn at Ascot) the other which is media (which I might describe as a baseball cap, worn backwards) I had the unique privilege of having learnt a great deal and also scored a good news story but then isn't the private sector all about dual roles? I recall a radio interview leading up to the event where Darrin gave a grave example of what would happen to St Helena if the private sector were to shut down, marketing and promotion abroad would be rendered useless if there were no one running hotels and guesthouses or operating restaurants and coffee shops, offering boat trips and excursions, creating arts and crafts, the retail sector have had to be imaginative and inventive about what they can sell. Many business owners have had to defy conventional wisdom and business advice to develop their own way of making it work and yet delivered the same results, how is that even possible you ask? Maybe that's why Darrin and Sharon have achieved such success with this conference, they appealed to the heart, knowing full well the implications of taking a risk and running your own business which comes at a 'full-cost recovery' both financially and personally, only another smoker could understand the prolonged agonies of trying to quit. After closing notes every business represented were given a Goodie bag to take home containing business cards, pens, pencils, discount vouchers and chocolate, yes chocolate, as I have previously said, we went looking for inspiration and we found it at Engage 2020



Darrin and Sharon

Everyone I spoke to at the end of the day had nothing but praise for Darrin and Sharon, in these difficult times it's easier to sit back and criticise while licking our wounds but to take the struggles and conflicts that we're facing and turn it into a crusade for hope, to dream the impossible and reach for the stars, to see the promise in tomorrow's future which can often look dark, these are the stripes of a true entrepreneur, quite simply if St Helena is to succeed it is because of people like Darrin and Sharon.

Auto Bild is Germany's most widely read car magazine, selling over 300,000 copies every week. This month they featured the classic cars still in use on the roads in St Helena. Below is a translation of the article together with a selection of the photographs which covered three of four pages of the magazine.

St. Helena is remote in the South Atlantic. Importing new cars is complicated and expensive. So the islanders drive their cars forever



Suddenly the cars face each other in the small alternative bay. Front to front, as if they wanted to duel on Ladder Hill Road on St. Helena, a particularly steep and narrow main street. Traffic rules are taken seriously on the hilly island in the South Atlantic: if you want to go uphill, you have right of way, if you want to go down, you make room - even if the uphill climber has made a precaution in a stopping bay.

Pat Musk knows every curve on the island, which is only 15 kilometers long and 11 kilometers wide, and has a personal precaution for particularly narrow bottlenecks: "Engine off and then listening to see if anyone is coming." And make yourself noticeable with horns! She is particularly careful, after all, she has one of the most beautiful vintage cars on the island in her garage - a MG Midget, built in 1976. "My husband gave it to me for my birthday more than 30 years ago," says Musk. The petrol pump is currently on strike, but otherwise the senior citizen still uses her vintage car regularly - like many Saints, as the residents call themselves.

Classics are part of the Atlantic island such as bananas and Napoleon, who spent his last years of life here in exile between 1815 and 1821. Or Jonathan, the oldest country creature in the world. The giant tortoise has at least 188 years on the armored hump. World record!

Some things can get really old here. Governor Philip Rushbrook also noted this after taking office as permanent representative of Queen Elizabeth II in May 2019. "People are very inventive about preserving things for a long time. The island is a living car museum," he says. The diplomat is the first Queen representative to come to the island by plane. His predecessors had to take the mail ship, which was the only connection to the remote island until the airport opened in autumn 2017, which is 1859 kilometers from Africa and 3286 from South America in the open sea. Because of this remoteness, high import taxes and often low wages, it is still complicated and simply too expensive for many to bring new cars to St. Helena. It is often cheaper to repair them over and over again. Harold Williams, for example, has been driving a 1967 Ford Cortina since 1984. Today mainly to come to the capital Jamestown or for a service on Sundays to St. Paul's Cathedral, which is located in the middle of green hills. He would never sell the dark blue sedan. It used to be a taxi, he drove to meet his later, now deceased wife Lilly. Before the start, Williams refills the cooling water, which spills onto the street a short time later. "Sure, I would like to have a new car. I would then only use the Cortina for special occasions. I can't afford two cars," he says. And adds: "And why should I throw something away that works?"

That's how many Saints see it, including the Corkers. The family owns the oldest still driving car on the island, a Chevrolet Charabanc from 1929. Senior boss Collin Corker drives tourists across the island in it. In total, he has collected more than a dozen older cars, including three first-series Ford escorts and a 1965 Ford Transit. Most of them don't drive. On the one hand, a few thousand pounds of tax would then be due for the entire fleet, on the other hand he would probably need even more spare parts. Getting them can be difficult. "You have to be absolutely sure which part you need," says MG driver Pat Musk. If it doesn't fit, it has to be sent back to the UK. The car then stands still for two to three weeks longer. Stephen Biggs may find it hardest to care for his classic. He drives the island's only Rolls-Royce, a beige Silver Shadow from 1974 with a light brown roof. The paint used to be dark brown, which is why the Saints christened his limousine "chocolate bar". The owner of Biggs' passion is coffee. He harvests 100 kilos each year on his small plantation, processes them into 20 kilos of coffee. Because of the mild island climate and the volcanic soils, this is considered the best in the world, a kilo costs around 80 euros. Barry Hubbard takes a sip of the noble roast. The head of the local energy supplier made a "coffee ride" to the plantations with his Ford Capri.

Unlike many island classics, his first-series coupé is rarely allowed to go out. "I often lie down, especially when it's hot. So I drive very gently." In contrast to Paul Augustus. He also drives Capri - every day! With its chrome wheels and painted flames on its flanks, the carpenter's coupé is perhaps the most striking car on the island. Nowhere can he really accelerate. Only the new road out to the airport allows a little more speed. "Sometimes I want a freeway here," says the 51-yearold.

There is of course not one on Saint Helena, but a junkyard. What can no longer be saved will find its final resting place in the red volcanic sand. If you are looking for a spare part, try it here.

Until a few years ago, car wrecks were still thrown into the sea. There they still serve as an artificial reef. If you are look-ing for taillights here, you have to dive 80 meters deep.

St. Helena is remote in the South Atlantic. Importing new cars is complicated and expensive. So the islanders drive their cars forever



THREE FORD CAPRI ON COFFEE RIDE

The three Capri drivers Paul Augustus, Barry Hubbard and George Stevens meet for the photo-call near the coffee plantation "Rosemary Gate". The narrow, winding roads and the warmth on the way make it difficult for the coupes. "I usually go downhill in second gear," says Barry Hubbard, owner of the red 1970s first-series Capri.



THE ONLY ROLLS-ROYCE OF THE ISLAND

Stephen Biggs runs the Farm Lodge Hotel amidst coffee plantations, palm trees and banana plants. He was at sea until 20 years ago, most recently on the mail ship between St. Helena and South Africa. Biggs has extensively restored the hotel and its 1974 Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow, occasionally picking up guests from the airport in a limousine. Biggs still has a small coffee plantation, harvesting around 100 kilos of beans every year. St. Helena coffee is rare and expensive.



THE OLDEST CAR ON ST. HELENA

In addition to a Ford Transit, Colin Corker (70) owns the oldest still driving car on the island - a Chevrolet Charabanc, built in 1929. He shows tourists the island of volcanic origin. Its guests come by cruise ship or, since late 2017, by plane. On request, it also goes to the classic cars of the island.



ONE AMERICAN AMONG MANY ENGLISHERS

Distant Cottage is the country house of Mark Yon (53). In German this means "Ferne Hütte". and that's the way it is. Anyone who wants to see the 1953 Chevrolet pickup from Mark Yon parked here is on the road for a while. But the route in the extreme southwest of the island is beautiful, leads over a small ridge, past banana plants and the blue sky. The Chevy is not ready to drive. But its owner plans to revive the US oldie.



A FORD CORTINA FULL OF MEMORIES

When Harold Williams met his late wife Lilly, he drove to the date in this Ford Cortina - as a passenger. The car, now 53 years old, was used as a taxi at the time. In order to preserve his fond memories, Williams bought the car in 1984. He drives it to the capital Jamestown or to the church on Sundays. He would like to buy a new second car for everyday driving, but cannot afford it.



ONE CAR, MANY MODEL NAMES

The Hillman Avenger changed its "first name" twice in Europe - in 1976 in Chrysler, in 1979 in Talbot. The car was called Plymouth Cricket in the USA and Sunbeam in Australia and parts of Europe. In Brazil and South Africa it rolled off the assembly line as the Dodge and shortly before production ended in 1990 as the Volkswagen 1500. Tony Johns got his Chrysler from "an old man with bad eyes," he says.

Continued on NEXT PAGE

St. Helena is remote in the South Atlantic. Importing new cars is complicated and expensive. So the islanders drive their cars forever



"THREE WHEELS ARE JUST MORE FUN!"

Gilbert Mendoza (47) came to St. Helena from the Philippines in 2006 to work in his sister's restaurant. She infected him with her passion for the DRK Roadster. "I had never seen a car with three wheels before," says Mendoza. The Renault 5based tricycle is not as old as it looks. It was available as a kit from 1987 to 1998.



FROM THE MUSEUM BACK TO THE STREET

Ever heard of a Humber Super Snipe? The English manufacturer delivered the governor's service limousine in 1966. Then the in-line six-cylinder went to the museum, where the tires were flat for 18 years. Nick Thorpe brought the car back onto the street. The 70-year-old also built an Austin Champ (below). The 67-year-old off-road vehicle with a Rolls-Royce engine came from the British island of Ascension and served as an army vehicle.



he Philippines e infected him never seen a The Renault 5available as a



Pat Musk drives an MG Midget, built in 1976 - a birthday present from her late husband. At the moment the petrol pump is on strike, but otherwise the senior citizen uses her classic car regularly.



78-year-old Harry Legg also has a technical problem: his old Englishman, a Rover SD1 2.6 Vanden Plas from 1984, was a couple weeks out of order - the piston rings. Shortly before New Year's Eve, however, Harry's problem was is in the best hands of mechanic Eric Thomas and is solved.

The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 12, Friday 28th February 2020

St. Helena is remote in the South Atlantic. Importing new cars is complicated and expensive. So the islanders drive their cars forever



Timmy Sim's Austin A30 was built in 1954 - just five years younger than its owner. The small English car is actually unsuitable for the winding island roads: "The engine overheats quickly," says its owner, "but I still like my A30. Unlike new cars, it is uncomplicated and quick to repair."



Pat Musk knows every curve of the island road network; especially in front of narrow bottlenecks. She advises: "Engine off and then listen to see if someone is coming towards you." And make yourself noticeable with horns! Musk is always particularly careful, after all she drives an MG Midget, built in 1976.



Dear Editor,

A response to Saint Cooks' open letter to St Helena Airport and Airlink

Firstly, St Helena Airport Limited (SHAL) would like to express its gratitude to Saint Cooks for publishingtheir experiences and thoughts on their arrival at St Helena Airport. We are pleased to hear that they

found their arrival to be professional and efficient. Nevertheless, SHAL is always open to constructive, positive suggestions on how to make the passenger and visitor experience more charming, memorable and enjoyable.

The CEO and Compliance Manager at SHAL have already had a constructive

conversation with Robinin response to the letter, however we felt it was useful to update the public on what was discussed.

As such this letter will briefly address the points made in the open letter to the airport and Airlink.

Unfortunately, recordings are preprogramed in the aircraft system for safety reasons and therefore the logistics of trying to accommodate a non-safety related recording, dedicated to St Helena, acrossthe Airlink fleet is not operationally practical. However, we did discuss the possibility of having some locally-composed and produced music to welcome visitors in the Arrivals Hall. We will be looking at how that can be progressed so that perhaps a range of songs could be developed, some familiar and perhaps some new ones that capture the essence and character of the Island.

We certainly agree that more could be done in the airport to showcase the Island and its myriad vistas and attractions. Accordingly we have been (and will continue to be) in discussion with St Helena Government and the Tourism Office to see what can be done to enhance the airport by having pictures and information about the Island that can indeed highlight the wonders that await visitors. Unfortunately it is not possible to have planted pots in the secure area of the airport, but we do have an array of endemic plants in the gardens that form part of the car park. We will look to improve the information about those gardens and the Bellstones that can be found in the overflow car park.

With regard to a traditional treat as a welcome to visitors, we are happy to accommodate any concessionaire who wishes to provide such treats to visitors once they have cleared the security area and have arrived in the main concourse. However, this would not be something that SHAL could provide.

SHAL welcomes thoughts about how to improve the experience that visitors receive upon arrival and indeed the general visitor experience at the airport. However, our primary role is to ensure *Continued on NEXT PAGE*

Your Opinion Counts

travel is safe and secure, and therefore these essential elements for air travel take priority in order that the mgateway to the Island (the airport) remains certified and open.

SHAL would once again like to publicly thank Saint Cooks for their letter and as discussed, we will keep you and the public informed of developments.

Regards, St Helena Airport Limited

Dear Constituents,

It is Connect and the Utilities Regulatory Authority, in accordance with legislation, who will decide if there should be an increase in the water tariffs. Accordingly, Connect will just present their intentions to elected representatives for information. Following each presentation, Connect is asked by elected members to go away and find operational efficiencies that will reduce or avoid the need for increasing the water tariffs. Regrettably, once again Connect has no alternative but to increase the water tariff by 20% and the Utilities Regulatory Authority fully endorses Connect's reasons for the year 2020/21 increase.

Elected representatives have been informed by Connect that there is no choice but to increase water tariffs. Elected members have discussed and decided how much of the potential burden to Connect's customers can be absorbed by SHG, from a budgeting perspective, by increasing the SHG subsidy to Connect.

Connect states: 'The tariff increase per cubic meter will be between 2p and 3p per week for domestic and agriculture consumers and 6p for commercial users.'

'Good progress had been made in addressing inefficiencies in water and we had moved from a loss per unit of £5.31 in 2017/18 to the more favourable position of £4.12 loss in 2018/19. However with reduced consumption because of the drought situation and all of our most cost effective water sources dry our November Management Accounts show the cost to supply a cubic meter of water is now a massive £7.16 contributing to YTD loss of £0.57 million for the water side of business. This situation highlights the need to secure additional water at the lowest cost which is why we need to progress with the work to establish that a dam at Fishers Valley will achieve this.'

The UK taxpayers provide 69% of St Helena's recurrent budget. DFID officials insist SHG find more ways of increasing local revenues; within this current economic climate there is very little scope for doing so. Try as we may to secure additional budgetary aid from the UK. DFID insist St Helena must work to a flat line budget for 2020/21. The provision of sufficient raw water storage capacity to protect the community during drought periods must be one of the top priorities. Had UK financial aid in the form of funding for capital projects not have been stopped some four years ago, raw water storage probably wouldn't be our greatest concern today. However, we are where we are, but must now make good progress for improvements.

The United Kingdom has an international obligation to ensure 'the well-being' of the inhabitants of St Helena and that includes the storage of adequate water supplies. Better late than never. substantial funding has now been committed by the UK through the Economic **Development Investment Programme** for further improving raw water storage. In addition to the significant funding required for various other improvements for water storage, the construction of a dam in Fishers Valley is estimated to cost the UK taxpayer some £4 million. It is further estimated that the technical design fees could amount to more than £200,000. DFID would like Connect to fund all the preliminary work including the technical design fees. However, Connect has warned they 'have been looking on alternative funding options but those options will impact on costs to customers'. Accordingly, I have been challenging ExCo elected members to insist that the funding for the preliminary work be allocated from the Economic Development Investment Programme without further delay.

quired to consider the provision of SHG subsidy allocations, there is a wide spectrum of budgeting aspects and related factors which must be given serious consideration. Example: The Mantis Hotel remains a thorn inside the public purse, but there is one other historical mistake that should be addressed with urgency by SHG. Unfortunately significant additional public funding will first be required. If the funding cannot be found in the SHG recurrent budget, this historical mistake will continue to have a direct negative impact on our vulnerable people.

The definition of the 'household' in the Social Security Ordinance was agreed and implemented in 2011. Ever since then, the current definition has proved detrimental to many of our most vulnerable people. The Social Security Review Working Group has calculated that the additional funding required, if the definition is changed to help our vulnerable people, will be some £800,000. DFID has ordained that SHG work from a flat line budget for 2020/21, and raising the required revenue by increasing say customs duty or income tax could be a challenge. St Helena is heavily dependent on UK financial aid, and there is only limited funding for elected representatives to work with. Regardless, the necessary funding must be found within the comprehensive budgeting process if the Social Security Ordinance is to be amended to properly support our vulnerable people.

It is hoped that the reasons provided above will help clarify why I supported the SHG subsidy increase to offset half of Connect's 20% increase in water tariffs for 2020/21. The SHG subsidy to Connect will now total £681,000.

I would like to acknowledge the special effort of the group who enquired if I was one of the councillors who agreed to increase Connect's water tariffs: Please note that elected representatives have no say in the decision to increase the tariffs. I supported increasing the SHG subsidy to Connect for the benefit of Connect's customers.

Please feel free to contact me for further details: ckleo@helanta.co.ac or 24600

Cyril Leo

When elected representatives are re-

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

Team St Helena

The *Inside St Helena* app was conceived around an ethos of inclusion and fairness. Our goal was to create a digital marketing environment which offered equal connecting opportunities for St Helena's various businesses and groups.

Mindful of the leap of faith we were asking people to take with a completely new idea, we have at every juncture tried to keep the system simple, transparent and effective. Regular communication with our members has been established to keep everyone informed of progress, offer marketing advice and build a sense of team.

As membership of *Inside St Helena* and downloads have increased over these first eight months, so has our own awareness of a responsibility to fair management of the service. We now receive direct requests for recommendations from visitors, for example, those interested in accommodation or tour services. The policy of *Inside St Helena* requires that we redirect such enquiries to the listings on the app, which is what we do. Promoting favourites would undermine the faith our members have placed in us for fairness.

The Engage 2020 Business Conference last week, sponsored by the Bank of St Helena, was organised by *Inside St Helena* exclusively for our app members. This idea came about during one-to-one pitch meetings, back in May 2019, before the app even launched. It was clear much of the business sector on St Helena felt isolated and nervous. Engage 2020 was therefore organised as a teambuilding exercise as much as it was a business conference.

We carefully considered both the expertise but also the anxieties of our members to guide us in shaping the conference format. Overall we are extremely pleased with how it went and the response from members. One of the most touching comments on the feedback slips from the day was:

"Today I really felt like I was a member of the private sector."

In the same week that Engage 2020 brought great joy, we were also deeply saddened to learn of yet more young Saint families who have decided to leave for a life elsewhere.

I am not convinced that higher wages is the main reason for this seemingly growing trend. In fact, in all conversations I've had with those leaving, 'disillusionment' is the determining sentiment that comes across strongest.

Bleak as the outlook often seems, our experience in launching *Inside St Helena* through to organising Engage 2020, has reaffirmed my long-held belief that two key things must change if we are to achieve any kind of development success for St Helena's current residents. First, the government competing with the private sector must cease. Second, and just as vital, building team spirit within our community has to become a priority. Both these things can only happen when the wellbeing, identity and dignity of local people is placed at the forefront of all decision making.

Sincerely Darrin Henry

Dear Editor,

I am sure that everyone is aware of the Covid-19 virus that is spreading very rapidly around the world and it appears that here on the Island it is not a huge concern. St Helena has been classed as low risk. I don't believe this to be the case. Yes we only now get one flight a week but what does that prove? We have no restrictions on the passengers that are coming in on these flights. If it reaches the Island and spreads we have an aged population as well as a lot of people with underlying medical conditions, the fatality rate would be extremely high.

One person with the virus is all that we on the Island have the capacity to deal with. Would we be so lucky as to just have just one person arrive that presents with the virus.

Health forms are being completed by the passengers to see if they have transited through China. The form has not been updated to include Italy which is now a hot spot. Temperature checks only recently have started at the airport to see if passengers present with a fever. Both these checks together are the Islands only defence against the Virus. As we know from a passenger that was on the cruise ship Westerdam, she undertook both checks and was found to be free of the Virus. She then boarded a plane to Singapore and when checked and then was found to actually have. Covid-19.

There is a resilience group on the island that are working on a contingency plan should we get the 'best' case scenario of one person but this information is not be passed down to the general public, is this not to cause panic?

Maybe someone in the Resilience team could answer the below questions:

Are the health forms assessed and the temperature checks undertaken on the aircraft? Because once everyone is off the plane and in the arrivals hall, there is more chance that the virus could be spread?

If someone does present with a fever or any symptoms they are being isolated, but what happens to the rest of the passengers? On the recent press release the focus was on the air conditioning on the aircraft which is fine if you had literally stayed on the aircraft the whole time, what about the time you have been in contact with the passengers at the airport.

As soon as passengers have disembarked the aircraft the cleaning staff then go on, at this point has it been confirmed that there are no suspected cases? I believe that they are now testing for influenza but the swabs will need to be taken to the hospital, so what happens to the passenger in the meantime while they wait for the results? Also on the above note what is happening to the rest of the passengers of the aircraft, will they be allowed to leave the airport as normal?

St Helena has always had a laid back approach, but maybe now we should be proactive instead of being reactive!

Extremely Concerned Islander



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

ST HELENA PREPAREDNESS – UPDATE

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses found in both animals and humans. The Coronavirus COVID -19 which has been identified in various countries around the world is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans or detected before the outbreak was reported in Wuhan, China, in December 2019.

COVID-19 is a respiratory virus which spreads primarily through contact with an infected person, normally generated through coughs or sneezes or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose.

Infection with COVID-19 can cause mild symptoms similar to other flu-like viruses, for example a runny nose, sore throat, cough and fever. It can be more severe for some persons and can lead to pneumonia or breathing difficulties. Older people and people with pre-existing medical conditions (such as diabetes and heart disease) are more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus.

The Health Directorate is continuing to monitor information from and work closely with Public Health England (PHE) and the World Health Organization on the spread of COVID-19.

The test for COVID-19 is not yet available on St Helena but may be available in three months time. However, the Hospital can now test for flu and therefore persons arriving on Island with flu-like symptons can easily be swabbed to test and confirm whether or not they have the flu.

Precautions

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use antibacterial hand gel if your hands are not visibly dirty
- When coughing and sneezing, cover mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue to prevent the spread of germs and viruses. Discard tissue immediately into a closed bin and clean your hands with antibacterial hand gel or soap and water
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth. If you touch your eyes, nose or mouth with your contaminated hands, you can transfer a virus from the surface to yourself
- If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early.

Travel Advice

The Health Directorate advises anyone intending to travel to a country or an area of a country where COVID-19 has been identified, to take precautions and to be aware that when returning to St Helena they will be screened accordingly.

SHG Press Office | 1st Floor, The Castle | Jamestown | Tel: +290 22470 kerisha.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh | liam.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh | jodie.s-constantine@sainthelena.gov.sh Visit us: <u>www.sainthelena.gov.sh</u> Anyone arriving to the Island having come from *China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and Macau* in the last 14 days with cough, fever, or shortness of breath may be required to be isolated. Anyone arriving from these countries who within 14 days develop symptoms of cough, fever or shortness of breath should immediately:

- Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- Call the Health Directorate to inform them of your symptoms and recent travel to the country

Anyone arriving to the Island who has been to Wuhan or Hubei, China, in the last 14 days will be isolated even if they have no symptoms.

All passengers arriving at St Helena (via air and sea) are asked to complete a questionnaire, this provides an opportunity to screen those passengers who may have recently travelled to high risk areas.

At this time, based on intelligence and information, St Helena is not restricting Chinese nationals from travelling to the Island. The threat posed by <u>ALL</u> Chinese nationals is low. A system has been put in place to gather more information to allow an accurate assessment of threat, harm and risk to be made. The threat assessment is constantly reviewed and, if the threat assessment increases for a specific group, then other options to manage or mitigate the risk will be used.

The public is reassured that if the threat changes, mitigating action will be taken to protect the public.

Keeping up-to-date

The public will be kept abreast of the situation and the preventative measures put in place through a weekly news release and regular radio interviews.

A 'live' Question and Answer page is available on the SHG website at the following link: <u>https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/coronavirus-covid-19-live-qa/</u>. You are encouraged to visit this webpage as a first stop for any questions you have on COVID-19 and St Helena.

Anyone with concerns on a particular issue relating to COVID-19 that is not already covered in the Q&A should contact: <u>marco.yon@helanta.co.sh</u>.

#StHelena #Coronavirus #Covid-19 #AltogetherHealthier

https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/ https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG 26 February 2020

SHG Press Office | 1st Floor, The Castle | Jamestown | Tel: +290 22470

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🚹 Visit us: <u>www.sainthelena.gov.sh</u> 🍤



MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE (MSME) BUSINESS GRANTS







Enterprise St Helena invites proposals from any suitably qualified persons or businesses who would be willing to enter into a multi-activity 'Call Off' contract to offer technical services in the following fields:

- Technical Design
- Procurement of Contractors and Equipment
- Project Management
- Surveying

Interested parties should note that this requirement is only being advertised on St Helena.

For a copy of the Terms Of Reference or if you require further information please contact Robyn Franconi, Finance Manager, on tel 22920 or email <u>robyn.franconi@esh.co.sh</u>.

Proposals should be emailed to the above address or delivered by sealed envelope marked "**Technical services**" to Enterprise St Helena office by no later than 12 Noon GMT **Monday, 09th March 2020** providing full details of the services your business can offer with your rates.



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



Enterprise St Helena invites expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced contractors who wish to be included on the Preferred Contractors List for general maintenance and construction related projects. The Preferred Contractors List will be used as a reference point by Enterprise St Helena when seeking quotations from contractors for general maintenance works and construction related projects, as and when the need arises.

Contractors that should apply include (but is not limited to): General Building; Concreting; Electrical; Fencing; General Engineering; Painting; Plumbing; Construction; Carpentry; Path & Site clearance.

Interested parties should note that this requirement is only being advertised on St Helena.

Interested persons are requested to submit an expression via e-mail to Robyn Franconi, Finance Manager robyn.franconi@esh.co.sh or by sealed envelope to Enterprise St Helena office by no later than 12 Noon GMT **Monday 09th March 2020** providing details of full list of what facilities your business can provide.



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



VACANCY FOR ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

An exciting opportunity exists for an Administration Assistant to provide support to both the Environment, Natural Resources and Planning and Infrastructure and Transport Directorates. The successful candidate will be the first point of contact to all customers by telephone or in person and will be required to work flexibly between Essex House and Scotland Offices.

The successful candidate should have a GCSE at Grade C or above in English and an NVQ L2 in Customer Service or equivalent, or should work towards achieving the award. The candidate should also have at least 1 year experience of working in an administrative or customer focused environment. Proficient IT and Minute taking skills are also essential.

Salary for the post will start at Grade A5 which is £6,237 per annum.

St Helena Government

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Miss Karen Thomas, Human Resources Manager at Essex House; on telephone number 22270 or e-mail karen.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh. Application forms should be submitted to this address by no later than Wednesday 4th March 2020.

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.

VACANCY FOR OFFICE MANAGER

Corporate Support is seeking to recruit a highly motivated and experienced individual to join their team to undertake the role of Office Manager. The post holder will be responsible for managing the day to day operations of the admin and accounts office within the Corporate Support, Policy and Planning section of Corporate Services; ensuring efficient and effective accounting and administration management.

Some of the main duties of the post will include:

The processing of financial transactions (e.g. payroll, payments and journals).

Perform the duties of sub Accounting Officer to include monitoring of expenditure and revenue, providing financial forecasts, deciding when budget lines have to be adjusted by the application of virement warrants. In the absence of the Accounting Officer, make decisions regarding unplanned expenditure/calls on the budget.

- Member of the Corporate Support, Policy and Planning Management Team to set the strategic direction.
- Arrange Annual Remembrance Day Service, Swearing in Ceremonies and other special events.
- Responsible for the security, fire safety and maintenance of the Castle premises.

Applicants should have the following qualifications and experience:

- GCSE in English, Maths and Accounting at Grade C or above, or an equivalent qualification
- Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) qualification, or equivalent
- A minimum of 3 years' experience in an accounts environment
- Experience in applying accounting best practice

The post holder should ideally have:

experience in drafting and preparing budgets

Intermediate IT skills in Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Databases and advanced skills in Access Dimensions or equivalent.

• the ability to work under pressure and prioritise workloads to meet tight deadlines, with good organisational skills and attention to detail

Salary for this post is at £11,034 per annum.

For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Mrs Carol George, Head of Corporate Support on telephone number 22470 or e-mail: carol.george@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 through Directors, where applicable, to Dianne Venning, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Friday, 13 March 2020.

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.



TEMPORARY STOCK TAKERS REQUIRED

Audit St Helena requires temporary personnel to assist with year-end stock verification

Audit St Helena is interested to engage suitably competent candidates on St Helena to assist with year-end stock verification at various local entities on the Island. Candidates must be numerate and computer literate and ideally have some working experience in performing stock taking procedures. This position will be paid at a rate of **£35 per day** on an as and when required basis. On the job training will be provided to the successful candidates.

The stock takes will generally take place from 9 March 2020 and through to 13 April 2020, actual dates will be confirmed to successful candidates.

For more information please contact Cassidy Beard on email: cassidy.beard@sainthelena.gov.sh or Tel: 22111. Applicants can submit a copy of their CV to Cassidy Beard on the above email or at the Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown by 4 pm on Friday, 6 March 2020. Recycle your washing up water to water your garden.





Vacancy - Water Treatment Team Leader

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is seeking a suitably experienced person to fill the position of Water Treatment Team Leader in their Water Division.

The successful candidate will work as part of a team responsible for the day to day management and maintenance of the Island's water treatment plants, processes and systems. Other tasks include being responsible for the collection of water samples for laboratory testing, this is critical duty and must be carried out with diligence and accuracy through following the correct procedures.

Interested persons should have a minimum of 2 years supervisory skills, excellent communication skills, be computer literate, have a sound knowledge of Health and Safety in the workplace, have a 'can do' approach to problem solving and possess a valid drivers' licence. Experience with water treatment plant operating systems is desirable.

Salary for the post will depend on skills and experience. For further information, a full job description and further details on the Company's benefits package please contact Annalisa Young on 22255 or email <u>annalisa.young@connect.co.sh</u>

Completed application forms should be emailed to Annalisa Young at the above email address or handed in to the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown by 12:00 noon, Monday, 16 March 2020.





COMMONWEALTH DIGITAL ECONOMY FORUM 2020 WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT AND WHY SHOULD I ATTEND?

The Commonwealth Digital Economy Forum 2020 (CDEF), hosted by St Helena Government (SHG), Enterprise St Helena (ESH) and the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO) is taking place on St Helena between 23 and 27 March 2020 at Rosie's Taste for Life, Ladder Hill.

This internationally recognised Forum, and the first of its kind to be held on St Helena, is an opportunity for us as a small Island to bridge the digital divide.

With the arrival of the subsea cable by 2022 which will bring with it high speed internet and a number of other technological opportunities, the Forum is the right time to be speaking and learning about how digital transformation is helping other isolated countries adopt new methods of delivering information on education, health, agriculture, environment, tourism and above all improving the standard of living.

The theme for the Forum is 'Shifting landscapes and trends', so what can attendees expect to learn about at the Forum?

Key topics

. **Fibre optic connectivity** – What does faster internet connectivity mean for St Helena and the benefits it will have for the Island

. **Digital Economy** – The rise in business, economic, social and cultural activities supported by the web and other digital communication technologies. Why a Digital Economy is important and what policies and frameworks do we need to achieve one

. **Innovation** – How can our local businesses, products and services benefit from innovative activities in a Digital Economy

. Universal Access – How can anyone at all ages and levels of society be included in digital services and activities

. **E-Governance** – Making public services available over the internet, improving access to and quality of health care and education

. **E-Commerce** – Growing St Helena's economy through buying and selling of goods, products, or services over the internet

. **Data Protection and Privacy** – What is General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)? How companies should be complying to GDPR in collecting and using personal information from individuals, developing Privacy and Data

Protection policies

. **Cybersecurity** – Protecting systems connected by the internet from unauthorised attacks, developing and implementing strategies

. Social Media and Online Safety – Online safety laws and keeping safe online.

Attendees can expect to hear talks from and participate in discussions with international leaders in the Information Communication Technology (ICT) field as well as understanding the work and challenges of local specialists.

A full copy of the agenda is available here: https://cto.int/events/upcoming-events/commonwealth-digitaleconomy-forum-2020/. As we generate more interest in the Forum the agenda is being updated. A final agenda will be published once finalised.

Registration for the event is still open and tickets are available via: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ commonwealth-digital-economy-forum-2020-tickets-88677967187

On-Island registration is £35 per day. If you're interested but cannot attend for a full day and would like to attend a particular session, individual session attendance is available at £10 per person. Due to space availability, interested persons should register their interest with Event Co-ordinator, Matthew Joshua, via email: mattjoshua2780@hotmail.co.uk or call Enterprise St Helena on tel: 22920 during office hours for further information.

Keep up-to-date with news on the Forum through weekly newspaper adverts and press releases and also via local radio interviews every Friday morning.

Be part of something exciting. We hope to see you there!



2x2 seater settees Large cushions Ideal for patio £200 for both or nearest offer.

If interested, please call 22885



It is widely recognised that entrepreneurs wishing to carry out an approved business development project or activity often need financial and professional assistance not only in their early stages but during the development of the project.

Enterprise St Helena supports the development of potential new business start-ups and existing businesses that target key sectors as defined within the Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP).







VACANCY - SMALL MACHINERY OPERATOR

The Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Directorate has a vacancy for a Small Machinery Operator within the Forestry Section's Silviculture team.

The role will include all aspects of forest husbandry (felling, thinning, pruning, and tree planting and establishment) as well as a significant level of chemical and mechanised invasive weed clearing throughout the forest estate. It will also be necessary to undertake tree surgery works when required, working at various heights above ground level.

The candidate will require a certificate in Basic numeracy and literacy and have experience in tree surgery operations; safe operation and maintenance of petrol driven small machinery is also required. A Basic First Aid certificate and local certification in the safe transportation, handling and application of herbicide is essential, as is a clean drivers licence.

Salary for the post is at Grade B4 which is £7,226 per annum.

If you are interested in finding out more about this post please speak with the Forestry Services Officer, Mr Larry Stevens or Forestry Assistant, Mr Rickie Thomas; who can be contacted via the following email e-mail larry.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh or rickie.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms and Job Profiles are available from the Receptionist at Scotland Office and Essex House. Completed application forms should be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, Essex House or email karen-thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Wednesday 4th March 2020.

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.



St Helena Government

APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

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

1. Application 2020/18: FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Access Road**, Alarm Forest on Parcels 0416 and 0445 Alarm Forest, adjacent to the property of Mr Simon Francis. Applicant: Sandie Coates.

Copy of the Application and Plan 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 Karen.Isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh stating the Application Reference Number they wish to inspect.

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

Public Representation Closing Date: 4pm – 13th March 2020

Shane Williams Planning Officer



Mapping the deep: conserving Earth's largest ecosystem



The deep sea is the largest and yet most poorly understood ecosystem on the planet. Join Amelia Bridges from Plymouth University and SNCG as we take a look at some of the unique habitats in St. Helena's deep water, and the challenges associated with both studying and conserving this ecosystem.

SNCG will be hosting this talk at the Museum on Tuesday 3rd March at 5pm.

There will be food and drink available and the talk will be followed by our monthly meeting, hope to see you all there!!



Bertrands Cottage - Available for fixed term rental

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) has Bertrands Cottage available for fixed term rental to the private sector or individuals interested in this Historical Building. The Cottage comes fully furnished and equipped with a Commercial Kitchen.

If interested parties would like to view the premises, they can contact Michielle Yon, Director of Resources, via email Michielle.yon@esh.co.sh or on telephone (00290) 22920.

Expression of interest together with a short overview of the plans for operating should be submitted to Robyn Franconi, Finance Manager, via email Robyn.Franconi@esh.co.sh by no later than 1200 hours (GMT) on Monday 23th March 2020.

Terms and Conditions will apply.

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 Head Office | ESH Business Park | Ladder Hill | Tel: +290 22920 | Email: Into@esn.co.su

 Enterprise St Helena
 Visit us online Business and Investment: www.investinsthelena.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com
Head Office | ESH Business Park | Ladder Hill | Tel: +290 22920 | Email: info@esh.co.sh

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Golf Report for Sunday 23rd February 2020

The turnout was impressive for a monthly medal. The weather was great. Scattered clouds punctuated with blue skies provided great conditions for golf. 29 golfers turned up to tee off for February's monthly medal stroke play competition. At the end of the 18 holes top on the leader board with a whooping nett 4 under par (64) was Mr. John Colclough playing off handicap 14. Second place playing off 6 handicap was Mr Leon Crowie with nett 68 relegating Mr. Peter Johnson also nett 68 playing off 18 handicap to third place on a count back. Mr. Leon Crowie also had the lowest gross score of 74. Mr. Donald Bowers scored the only birdie on a par 3-hole number 7 to claim all the balls in the two-ball pool. The prizes were presented by Mr. Lawson Henry who has been games manager for February. Congratulations to all the winners. You deserve those special prizes.

March 2020	Competition	Sponsor	Games Manager
Sunday 1 st	Round 1 of 36 Hole Stableford Charles Dun- can Challenge Cup	The Duncan Family	Lawson
Sunday 8 th	Charles Duncan Chal- lenge Cup Final round	The Duncan Family	Lawson
Saturday 14th	Flagg Challenge Cup Round 1 of 36 Hole Strokeplay	Flagg Family	Bramwell
Sunday 15 th	Flagg Challenge Cup Fi- nal Round	Flagg Family	Bramwell
Sunday 22 nd	Texas Scramble fol- lowed by AGM Tee Off 10:00	John Colclough	Lawson/Bramwel

Next competition is 36 Hole Charles Duncan Challenge cup which will be played in a stable ford format. Tee off time for both round one and the final round will be 12:00 noon on the coming two consecutive Sundays. Registration is ongoing through the usual channels.

The committee of management wishes to extend their gratitude to all the guests who turned up for our annual dinner and dance. You made the event special. The AGM will take place on Sunday 22nd March 2020 preceded by a 10:00am tee off Texas scramble competition. This competition will be sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. John Colclough. See below a schedule of the remaining events for March 2020. Tee off times will be at 12:00 except on the date of the AGM.

We wish you all a great weekend ...!



Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

For a moment we all thought Liverpool was going to drop points against relegation threaten West Ham United. The Hammers came to Anfield and performed well and when they went 2-1 up midway through the second half it look like David Moyes was going to pick up an unlikely victory against the League leaders.

Liverpool who were far below their best and rode their luck at times, but with the crowd roaring them on they attack and attack and mistakes from West Ham's keeper Fabianski saw the 'Reds' score 2 goals and move with 4 wins of picking up the Premier League title.

Victory means Liverpool equal the English top-flight record of 18 successive wins, set by Manchester City from August to December 2017, with Jurgen Klopp's side last dropping points in a 1-1 draw with Manchester United in October.



Once again Mane was behind all that was good for Liverpool. He is certainly in pole position to pick up the player of the season award.

. West Ham manager David Moyes remains without an away win against Liverpool in all competitions, failing in 16 attempts (D7, L9) and losing the last four in a row with Man Utd, Sunderland and West Ham.

Liverpool have won their last 21 home Premier League games, equalling the English top-flight record for consecutive home wins, set by the Reds themselves between January and December 1972 under Bill Shankly.

They have scored 14 headed goals in the Premier League this season, more than any other side.

. Only Cesc Fabregas (20y 134d) and Wayne Rooney (21y 63d) have reached 25 Premier League assists at a younger age than Liverpool's Trent Alexander-Arnold (21y 140d).

. Since making his debut for West Ham in February 2017, Robert Snodgrass has registered 12 assists in the Premier League for the Hammers, more than any other player.

. Mohamed Salah has been directly involved in eight goals in six Premier League appearances against West Ham (6 goals, 2 assists).

Since his Premier League debut in August 2014, Liverpool's Andrew Robertson has registered 27 assists in the competition, more than any other defender in that time.

. Sadio Mane has been directly involved in eight goals in his last six Premier League appearances against West *Continued on NEXT PAGE*

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Ham (5 goals, 3 assists), scoring in each of his last four against the Hammers. (from BBC)

In other matches on a weekend that was marred by the unpopular VAR system; Manchester City overcame Leicester City in a hard fought contest at the Kings Power Stadium. Leicester was denied two penalty appeals by VAR and the Man City was awarded one similar to one that was denied to Leicester. Justice was done however as Kasper Schmiechel save Aquero's spot kick. Kasper has now made one more penalty save than his dad Peter.

Gabriel Jesus came on in the 77th minute for City; scored the winner and picked up the man of the match award.



Man of the Match: Jesus saves Man City

Manchester United fans have a new hero in Bruno Fernandes as the Portuguese player has shown his quality since joining us from Sport Lisbon.

Against Watford Bruno had a hand in all 3 goals; scoring his first from the penalty spot; and then had parts to play in good goals from Martial and Greenwood.

Prior to the game, there was an impeccably observed minute's silence for former United keeper Harry Gregg, who died on 16 February, aged 87.

In addition to a the silence, a banner was pulled across the Stretford End, proclaiming Gregg's name with a picture of the man who will forever be remembered for pulling survivors out of the wreckage following the Munich air crash in 1958, in which eight of his team-mates were killed.

Harry Gregg rescued fellow players Bobby Charlton; Dennis Violett and Jackie Blanchflower from the burning plane as well as other passengers including a pregnant lady and her 2 year old daughter.

Amazingly Gregg played for Manchester United days later in the FA Cup. Months later he was named Goal Keeper of the tournament in the 1958 FIFA world cup finals.

Harry played 247 times for Manchester United and picked up 25 caps for Northern Ireland

Arsenal picked up another 3 points as they defeated Everton 3-2 in a thrilling match.



Harry Gregg the hero of Munich

The win means Arsenal remain unbeaten in 2020 and give them back-to-back league victories for the first time since the opening two matches of the season.

Attack wise Arsenal is well equipped to defeat any team in the EPL; they just look a bit shaky at the back. This win moves Arsenal potentially just 4 points outside off the Champions League places, that's if Man City's ban is upheld.

Another team in contention for the Champions League places is Wolves who defeated the bottom side Norwich 3-0. Diogo Jota scored twice; he has now scored 5 goals in his last two games.

Chelsea bounces back from their defeat against Manchester United to beat Spurs 2-1 in a match they fully deserved to win. Chelsea remains in 4th place 3 points ahead of United. Spurs' day could have been even worse as Giovani lo Celso should have been sent off for a dreadful second-half challenge on Chelsea captain Cesar Azpilicueta. The video assistant referee decided against punishment, although officials in Stockley Park later admitted a mistake had been made and he should have been sent off.

Burnley defeated Bournemouth 3-0; Crystal Palace beat Newcastle 1-0, Sheffield United drew 1-1 with Brighton and Southampton beat Aston Villa 2-0 at St Mary's.

Match week 28 will start on Friday night when Norwich hosts Leicester at Carrow Road. Saturday's early match will see Brighton play Crystal Palace at 12.30. The 3pm matches on Saturday will see Bournemouth play Chelsea at the Vitality Stadium; Newcastle host Burnley and West Ham play Southampton.



VAR admitted they got this decision wrong and Lo Celso should have been sent off.

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

The late match will see Watford play league leaders Liverpool at 5.30pm.

The EPL matches on Sunday will start at 2pm. Everton play Manchester United and Spurs play Wolves.

The first piece of domestic silverware will be decided on Sunday when the holders Man City play Aston Villa in the league cup final.

The 5th round of the FA Cup will take place next week. Monday Portsmouth plays Arsenal at 7.45pm. Tuesday nights'



Aston Villa v Man City League Cup Final 2020

matches will see Chelsea play Liverpool ay 7.45pm; Reading host Sheffield United and West Brom play Newcastle at 8pm. On Wednesday Leicester play Birmingham; Sheffield Wednesday play Man City and Spurs host Norwich all at 7.45pm.

On Thursday Wayne Rooney's Derby County will play Manchester United at 7.45pm

What's happening at New Horizons?

The Youth games Basketball and Pool Tournaments will conclude this Friday afternoon at New Horizons.

Join us at 8am on Saturday morning for the first St Helena Park Run. The run/walk will start and finish at White gate. The route is via Bates Branch; Sandy Bay Ridges, Lemon Tree Gut, W road, Knollcombes and back to White Gate. The route is 6.5km and should take an hour and 15 minutes if you walking and under an hour if running.

Your Run; Your Pace, Your Moment, Come and Join US. Our Holiday Programme will start on Monday with the centre open from 9amfor members.

The centre will be open Monday- Thursday 9am-3pm.



Research Your Island Ancestry

Anyone researching their St Helena ancestral origins will be interested to know that the UK charity, Friends of St Helena, has just launched a new search facility on its re-vamped website. St Helena Ancestors can be found on https:// www.friendsofsthelena.com/ancestors and allows a simultaneous search to be made of 24 separate databases that contain about 120,000 names of people who were born at St Helena or arrived there to live and work. Given that the population of the island has averaged only 3,000-4,000 this is thought to be an almost total capture of names over the past 350 years. The data have been collected on the island by Chris Hillman over a number of years.

Searches can be run for names across either just a few years or the entire period. Account has needed to be taken of the wide variety of name spellings, especially in the church records. For example anyone searching for the Isaacs family will find the name has been spelt in sixteen different ways -Isaacs, Isacke, Isaacke, Isaack, Issac, Isaake, Isake, Isack, Isacc, Iacks, Iaaac, Isaacks, Isaak, Isaaky, Isackes and Isacks!

Another problem is caused by the local dialect when names were written phonetically. For example, it is suspected that people giving their surname as Alexander may sometimes have been entered as Allick or Ellick. Even if they could read and write, parishioners had no opportunity to correct these mistakes in the church records.

Some of the databases have multiple indexes. For example, over 24,000 baptisms were recorded since 1680 but that database has been indexed in three ways – by the baptisee (normally a child), the mother and the father. Likewise, marriages and marriage banns have been indexed twice, by the name of the bride and of the groom. To preserve privacy, a 100-year rule is being applied to the data to exclude anyone born or married after 1920. On the first day of next year, data from 1921 will be released, and so forth.

All visitors to the Society's website can run a search for names and time periods. This generates a list of "hits", each having a link that supplies full details of each person. Only members of Friends of St Helena can see these details, membership being available for a nominal fee. For example, anyone living at St Helena can become a member for £10 a year. Full details are on the website.

Further information about the activities of the Friends of St Helena can be found on the website by following the above link.

Mamma Mia!

Teeny Lucy



Rehearsals are continuing for the Mamma Mia Musical show that Creative Saint Helena is planning for April this year.

There have been a couple of necessary cast replacements due to actors leaving the island for new jobs, and so this has meant that the date has had to be postponed while the new actors get to grips with their parts.

The show is directed and choreographed by Teeny Lucy and the cast includes:

Debbie Knipe and **Lisa Joshua** as the Mother and Daughter parts played in the movie by Meryl Streep and Amanda Seyfried, **Nicholas Yon** and **Joe Phippard** playing Sam and Harry originally played by Piece Brosnan and Colin Firth.

Debbie has said that it is her life's dream come true to play this part as she is St Helena's biggest Abba fan!

Other cast members include Lynval Thompson, Sheri Curzon, Jenni Ratcliffe, Raphael Ellick, Johnny Carter, Jo Barclay, Karan Garcha, Joe Hollins and Gavin (Jack) Thomas.

Elaine Benjamin is also taking part singing one of Donna's

iconic numbers *Slipping through my fingers* which describes Donna's realisation that her almost married daughter is growing up and leaving home

There are also other local enthusiasts playing villagers, hen party guests etc. Jody Balme, who is an experienced dancer, is also involved in choreographing a dance number which describes a dream sequence.

Teeny has thrown a few local references into the script such as replacing the reference to a rum and black with Shipwreck (of course!) and also Main Street instead of the London underground!

A show like this requires a mammoth amount of preparation, not just in rehearsal to learn songs and script for 16 scenes, but also in the planning of everything from sound to lighting, staging, props, audience seating, costumes, wigs, makeup, tickets and advertising, refreshments catering, transport and policing requirements and portaloos!

The show will be staged at High Knoll Fort (fingers crossed for dry weather!) on Saturday April 18th with 2 performances on one day, which will be at 2pm and 7pm so that children and families can attend earlier if they wish.

Tickets will be available later in March.

The cast would like to produce a commemorative programme of Mamma Mia and are seeking interest from local businesses who would like to sponsor a page or even half a page.

Contact details: creativesainthelena@gmail.com for details or call 23988



World Thinking Day 2020 Betty Joshua

Saturday, 22nd February was a very special day in the International Girlguiding calendar- a day when all Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, 10 million in number, came together in friendship to be of one voice and to speak in various ways of the issues affecting girls and women in their daily lives all over the world.

Here on St Helena, the majority of our Girlguiding (GG) members gathered at Kingshurst Community Centre in celebration of World Thinking Day, which this year was organised and hosted by the St Pauls and Sandy Bay combined Girlguiding Units.

The theme for WTD 2020, and the rest of the guiding year, is **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**, and although such powerful words might not have meant much to everyone at the beginning of the Day, all members, whose ages ranged from

5 years to '**over 21**' years of age, were certainly aware of the connection between them at the end. Why?... because the activities and games, which the host units engaged and involved members in, had challenged them to '**feel the threads**' and understand the concepts of them to whatever level they were capable of going to. This World Thinking Day, and every day, has and will continue to give all of us opportunities to recognise the importance of working to build a world where this is true for everyone, wherever they live.

Girlguiding St Helena congratulate and thank the St Pauls and Sandy Bay Units for their hard work and effort they put in to give us a Day that was special and enjoyable, and where the delights of fun, food and friendship were mere, but important, factors intertwined with the threads of diversity, inclusion and equity – skills of which we all need to develop to greater lengths, and work hard to apply to our everyday life.

The Sure Customer Satisfaction Survey 2-31 March 2020

Sure will be launching its 2020 Customer Satisfaction Survey on Monday 2 March, which will continue through to 31 March.

The aim of our survey is to gain our customer's views of our products and services, and where possible to improve your overall customer experience with us. Our survey is designed to take no more than 5 minutes of your time. To support our national goal of 'Altogether Greener' and the use of digital platforms, we will be launching our survey via our website only. For those customers who do not have access to the Internet and our website; facilities will be available at our Customer Care Centre in Jamestown during normal working hours, and staff will also be present throughout Jamestown during the period with facilities on-the-go to allow all customers to complete the survey.

All Broadband Customers will receive an additional 100 Mb with their inclusive allowances for the month of March to ensure they are able to access the survey without having to utilise their monthly allowance to do so. We also have a Prize Draw at the end of the survey for anyone wishing to enter.

Sure will be sharing the results of the customer satisfaction survey as well as its plans to address the outcomes of the survey with our Customers and the Community throughout the month of May 2020.

We thank you for participating in our online survey and for your valuable feedback which will be used to inform our Customer Experience Programme.

Please visit our website to complete the survey:

www.sure.co.sh

Sure Customer Satisfaction Survey 2 – 31 March 2020 We want to hear from YOU!

Please take 5 minutes to let us know what you think about our products and services.

www.sure.co.sh

Additional 100MB for all Broadband customers to complete the survey! SULE



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

We are looking for a

Facilities Operative

We're looking for a new member of staff to join our busy Waste Management and Facilities Support team at Ascension Island Government.

Our Waste and Facilities team provides a vital support service to the island. This is a varied role covering aspects such as: collection and disposal of refuse and other hazardous waste; maintaining accurate records of fuel levels and completing inspections; maintenance, health and safety checks at the fuel station, and preparing vehicles for, and crushing them in, the car baler. Further details can be found in the job description via the link below.

We are offering a two year, single status, contract with a salary of £7,321 (pending review April 2020) per year (taxable in Ascension). You will also receive the following benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (with electricity and water allowances)
- A food allowance of £3,089 per year
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including the shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2 year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care

This appointment will be subject to satisfactory:

- DBS Check
- Employment References
- Medical Clearance

We are looking for the successful applicant to start in April/May 2020

Closing Date: Monday 16 March 2020, 12 midday Interviews: Later in the week commencing Monday 16 March 2020 – exact date tbc

Interviews will be carried out at the AIG Operations Building or via Skype or teleconference For more information (including detailed job description) and to apply visit: <u>www.ascension.gov.ac/working-here/</u>or email: <u>recruitment@ascension.gov.ac</u>



ROAD CLOSURE IN HALF TREE HOLLOW

Connect Saint Helena Ltd are continuing to upgrade the water network in Half Tree Hollow. As a result, the road from the junction near the Godfathers Rock Club up to the Half Tree Hollow main road junction will be closed to the public from Thursday, 27th February 2020 to Friday, 27th March 2020.

Residents who live along this road will still have access to and from their properties either via the bottom or upper junction, depending on the section of road that the Connect team are working on.

Below is a diagram of the road that will be closed, pictured in black. The diversion route is pictured in white.



Signage will be in place to notify pedestrians and vehicular traffic of the road closure and the diversion route. Only emergency vehicles will be granted access during this time.

Connect Saint Helena Ltd thanks the public for their cooperation during this road closure and will be kept updated.



The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 12, Friday 28th February 2020





RUPERT'S JETTY OFFICIALLY OPENS

HE Governor Dr Philip Rushbrook and the Acting Head of Unit, within the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development from the European Commission, Mr Eric Beaum, officially opened Rupert's Jetty on Tuesday, 18 February 2020, with a special 'ribbon cutting' ceremony.

Eric who is visiting the Island for a holiday offered to officiate his presence on behalf of the European Commission and emphasise the European Commission's ongoing support and dedication particularly in co-funding the construction of the Jetty. Also attending the event were Elected Members, various SHG Officials, and members of Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc and AW Ship Management Ltd.

In HE's welcome remarks, Governor Rushbrook said: "It cannot be over-stated how vital this new port is to St Helena. This facility and the investment in it from the European Union (EU) have been the catalyst that has spurred on the wider development of Rupert's Valley to become the industrial and mercantile heart of our Island. Without this jetty the MV Helena would not have access to easier off-loading of cargo. Without this jetty the wider development of cargo handling would not be possible in the near future, that is once the rock face has been protected. Without this jetty the potential for Jamestown to develop its local businesses and tourism offerings along the foreshore would remain just ideas in a written report. We all know the development of a modern economy for St Helena is still a work-in-progress but today, with the formal opening of this port facility, that work is given new impetus and encouragement."





Eric also gave a short speech where he remarked on the admiration and pleasure which colleagues in the European Commission have, of working with St Helena.

This was followed by a Blessing from Father Allan Williams.

Governor Rushbrook and Eric then declared the Jetty open with the cutting of the ribbon.

Governor Rushbrook concluded:

"I wish to thank all in the EU, in SHG, the UK and the wider community of St Helena who worked on getting this facility built and commissioned. Looking around at what has been achieved is a credit to all who were involved in the project. This is an example of money well spent on a vital piece of infrastructure for our future."

A full copy of Governor Rushbrook's speech is annexed to this release.

GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS OFFICIAL OPENING OF RUPERT'S JETTY

I extend my sincere welcome to everyone attending today this formal opening of the jetty and related facilities in Rupert's Bay. This is without doubt an extremely important, purpose-built facility for St Helena. In the same way the new Airport represents our air transport lifeline, this new seaport represents our marine lifeline for our economy and almost all of our daily needs.

It gives me great pleasure on this day to welcome Mr Eric Baume from the European Union's Directorate-General responsible for international development (DEVCO). Without the long-standing and dedicated support from DEVCO and funding from the European Union's development funds where we are standing today would not have become a reality. It is therefore fitting that he should be here today to participate in this formal opening ceremony.

I also welcome Councillors, those who work at this new facility, SHG officials and members of the public.

It cannot be over-stated how vital this new port is to St Helena. This facility completed in 2016, and the investment in it from

the EU under the EDF10 funding round, have been the catalyst that spurred on the wider development of Rupert's Valley to become the industrial and mercantile heart of our Island. It is now our collective responsibility on St Helena to finish the job in the next year or so.

Without this jetty the MV Helena would not have access to easier off-loading of cargo. Without this jetty the wider development of cargo handling would not be possible in the near future, that is once the rock face has been protected. Without this jetty the potential for Jamestown to develop its local businesses and tourism offerings along the foreshore would remain just ideas in a written report.

We all know the development of a modern economy for St Helena is still a work-in-progress but today, with the formal opening of this port facility, that work is given new impetus and encouragement.

I wish to thank all in the EU, in SHG, the UK and the wider community of St Helena who worked on getting this facility built and commissioned. Looking around at what has been achieved is a credit to all who were involved in the project. This is an example of money well spent on a vital piece of infrastructure for our future.

Thank you.

HE Governor Dr Philip Rushbrook 18 February 2020









St Helena Government

The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 12, Friday 28th February 2020



Ash Wednesday celebrated in School. Wednesday February 26 saw the start of the Lent Season.

As per tradition, school children go to their district church for their "Ash Wednesday" Service.

At 9:30am on Wednesday Pilling Primary School Students walked down the street as per tradition towards St James Church for the service at 10am.

During the service students sung hymns and a few short readings was read. Soon after was the symbol of ashes (Ash cross on students foreheads) followed by closing remarks by Father Clyde.





The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 12, Friday 28th February 2020