

Arrival of Repatriation Charter Flight and Quarantine Arrangements - the Facts



Do As We Say or There is NO Fresh Fish for Anyone!



Meeting on Rupert's Development Offered no Room for Discussion

It's Official: St Helena will Always be an Anomaly and an Enigma



Do You Know Who These Children Are?



# Equality and Human Rights Commission want to join quest for more openness and accountability

The Equality and Human Rights Committee (EHRC) plan to get involved in the debate for more openness, transparency and accountability in the way government operates. Noting the two reports by Professor Sarkin and the recently completed work of the Governance Commission, EHRC intend to make an entrance into the debate. The Governance Commission discussed how an improved committee system might work and what a shift to a ministerial system will involve. However these systems are just the tip of the iceberg. As the Governance Commission readily accepted, there are several layers of interlocking orders, procedures and guidelines, all of which form part of the system of government.



The EHRC are deciding how they approach their investigation into some of the countless details that lie behind a committee or ministerial system. They already have their eye on the Standing Orders which govern, and limit, how debates at Legislative Council are conducted. One limitation is that debate on the 'conduct' of British Royalty and members of the Judiciary cannot go ahead unless a formal motion for a debate which includes such conduct has been submitted in advance. This will appear to most people as reasonable enough. However the Governor is also included in that list. As chairman of Executive Council, the Governor is involved in all the major decisions made by SHG; ignoring his involvement is difficult; some say indefensible. It is also pointed out that apart from chairing Exco, the Constitution gives the Governor extensive influence and ultimate power and is as politically involved in all aspects of government as any Elected Member of Legislative Council. The question arises, should the Governor be held accountable in the same way Elected Members are told they are.

It is argued that Legco members have agreed the Standing Orders for Legislative Council and therefore have 'signed away' their Right enshrined in Articles 10 and 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states everyone has the right of freedom of expression and opinion without interference by public authority and through any media. It appears to be interpreted that by swearing the Oath of Confidentiality; newly elected councillors have automatically sacrificed some of their human rights.

Another point the EHRC think is worthy of investigation is the convention that all Elected Members and government officials should be present for Prayers, which is the first 'item of business' at all Legco meetings. It is reported that agnostics, atheists and members of any faith other than Christian are subject to 'moral pressure' to remain present for prayers regardless of the belief or conscience of any individual member. Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states



that "Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance." It seems that once you have been elected to serve as a Councillor, your human rights sink with the swearing of the Oath of Confidentiality.

The participation of the EHRC in the debate on how we can strengthen transparency, openness and accountability in the improved system of governance we all hope for will be welcomed, and valued, by many.

While efforts are made on several fronts to force open the Castle doors and let in more openness and transparency, SHG itself is adding more locks of secrecy to keep the doors shut. A recent press release tells us "the Information Bill, originally proposed in 2018, will be discontinued". This is a mild attempt to re-write history. A Freedom of Information Bill was supported by several councillors as far back as at least 2014. It got nowhere, and now the watered down Information Bill has been allowed to follow it. There will be something in its place which bears no relation to what Freedom of Information Code of Practice is to be given legal force.

# TINKERS SUNDAY OPENINGS

We would like to advise our customers that we will open on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July & Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August from 10am to 1pm.



# Meeting on Rupert's Development Offered no Room for Discussion

Last Friday the combined forces of the St Helena and the National Trust met with most, but not all Councillors to talk through the development proposals for Rupert's Valley. The purpose of the meeting was to get answers to a range of questions and express concern about an even wider range of issues. The discussion list was long and the time available short. The absence of an Environmental Impact Assessment was a main concern together with the unmentioned Social Impact assessment. The unknown extent and severity of the fuel leak was another. A further main consideration which remained unconsidered is the treatment to or for the African Burial Grounds. The increasingly limited public access to the beach area and improvements to Field Road, Side Path and Napoleon Street were on the list. A Social Impact Assessment should be completed for all of that too. The list continued with the historic Hospital Building and Haytown as well as the 200 year old Banyan trees. A reference was even made about the Rupert's Development Working Group. A meeting of this Group had not been held for some time. Maybe the Group thinks their work is done.

There are 15 members of this particular Working Group, one is councillor and one has direct experience of port management. The rest? Who knows? One of the councillors attending the meeting last Friday had asked for the Terms of Reference for this Working Group. The person at the other end of the email observed the time-honoured practice of saying nothing. The belief among some government officers is saying nothing appears to be the safest and best thing to do. That's another bit of the dysfunctional culture of government that that needs to go in the brave new world of improved governance.

The Rupert's Development Working Group of 15 has a 'Core Group' made up of a smaller number of people – names unknown. Councillors, the erstwhile passengers on the SHG Meetings Train were happy to admit they had no say and

certainly no control of who should be on this Working Group; and probably every other SHG working group in existence. Worse still, the councillors gave the impression they could give no assistance in changing the membership of the Working Group. See the Financial Secretary was the unanimous response. The opinion of one of those attending is the most alarming thing of all was the total lack of concern that an Environment Impact Assessment was considered unnecessary. The more you try to find out, the worse it gets, was one final summation of an hour's discussion.

One firm bit of information was that Jamestown Wharf was originally the preferred option. The estimated cost of improvements at the time (some years back) was £19 million. The European Union came forward with £10 million in funding and DFID promised a further £5 million on condition the port facilities were transferred to Rupert's. The idea of using the Haul Road to take imported cargo direct to an Inland Port, complete with Customs facilities was instantly discounted with no justification for the immediate rejection of the idea being offered. It was also revealed that if a start is not made by September funding will be withdrawn. Once more we have another time-honoured SHG tradition; talk about making decisions until Hell freezes over and then all of Hell is let loose as the large crowd of people involved rush around in an often vain attempt to meet the 'do or die' deadline.

The most recent minutes published for the Land Control Development Authority – the people who would deal with the Rupert's Development issues if everyone else kept quiet – includes a section on how things stand with regard to strategic planning issues. There are three strategic plans listed; Rupert's Valley Development Plan, "no progress". Conservation Area Management Plan "on hold". Progress on the Review of the Land Control Development Plan, "Owing to the two public holidays in June, no meetings had taken place".



The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 33, Friday 24th July 2020

Et: [+290] 22327 Email: independent@helanta.co.sh http: www.saint.fm Ecological

Last week the Communication Networks and Services Policy seemed to pour cold water on hopes we have had for some time that the Equiano cable will bring us a faster, cheaper internet, email, video communications and much more. This week we have reports on two or three other areas were the winds of change are blowing but the advantage we get becomes increasingly questionable. The problem with questions is that when they are directed at SHG they often do not get answered. For many new developments we are getting what can be called the airport anomaly, a deviation from what was reasonably and normally expected. The Rupert's development is the best example at the moment, the Equiano cable could worryingly follow and hopefully the 'alternative fisheries business model' will not turn out as bad as some fear. Let's hope it does not follow the trend. Also this week there is the Equality and Human Rights Commission digging deep into what needs to change if we really do want to have an improved system of governance. Apart from what I am calling the airport anomaly there is the South Atlantic Anomaly. read all about it inside - if space permits.

Despite all the not so good news and expectations not met there is one bit of news from the UK Government which can in no way be described as an anomaly. On the contrary this tactic is expected and too often accepted. The first thing you have to remember is the UK Government, unlike SHG, cannot keep quiet about something that's happened or some decision they have made. At least, not if they know they will be found out in the end. An announcement has to be made. If it is about something bad or embarrassing for the UK Government the announcement will be timed for when the least number of media people are around or expecting it. If it is not possible to do that the bad or embarrassing news will be hidden among a stream of other announcements which can distract the media.

The corridors around the House of Commons were strangely empty yesterday; that was because the House was starting the summer break. Because no-one is around the Foreign

Secretary (NOT the International Development Secretary) slipped out a press release which announced the UK Aid budget has been cut by almost £3 billion. Those MPs who opposed the cut in aid had no chance to speak out against it. The ingenious reason given for the cut is that the UK economy has shrunk due to Covid-19 and will remain shrunk for some time to come. The amount in the UK Aid budget is set at 0.7% of the UK's gross national income. The national income has shrunk so the UK Aid budget now follows - to the tune of £2.9 billon. There was still a resounding reaction to the announcement in the UK media. Outrage was the main emotion as MPs pointed out that coronavirus had affected the poor and starving in under-developed countries far more than residents in the UK. This is not the time to slash Aid budgets, they said. As they spoke the Foreign Secretary was enjoying a closing of the day sherry with his Permanent Secretary, happy in the knowledge his opponents were haranguing the media instead of shouting at him across the House of Commons Main Chamber. Vince



A hasty exit for Dominic Raab after dropping a 'time bomb' about UK Aid reduction

We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to all who took part in our Mum's, Iona L Thomas, last three months of life, and her return to the island.

To Dr Kamar and staff, Cape Villa staff, friends who stopped us on the streets to offer love and prayers, family and Facebook friends who sent messages and condolences, those who picked up their phones with kind words, family and friends who sent cards, those who gave their beautiful flowers freely, and those at Saint FM who played announcements.

To Bishop Dale and staff, Roy and staff, and family who supported us during this difficult sad time. Thank you to those who attended Iona's funeral on Tuesday, it was comforting to see so many kind and supportive faces.

Your abundant love and kindness on our small island is amazing.



God Bless all

# ARRIVAL OF REPATRIATION CHARTER FLIGHT AND QUARANTINE ARRANGEMENTS

The repatriation charter flight from the UK, operated by Titan Airways utilising their Boeing 757-200 aircraft, will arrive at St Helena Airport on Tuesday, 28 July 2020, following an overnight stop at Ascension Island. Weather permitting, the estimated time of arrival at St Helena is 1pm local time.

While passenger numbers are subject to change an indicative number at this time is approximately 40 passengers arriving from the UK, five from Ascension Island and six passengers from Ascension transiting to the UK.

All passengers arriving on the flight must undergo the 14-day compulsory quarantine requirement and will be transported directly from the Airport to their quarantine accommodation. Transit passengers and aircraft crew overnighting on the Island will also undergo quarantine until their departure the following day.

Quarantine Arrangements

- All passengers required to undertake 14-days of quarantine will be accommodated at the Bradley's Camp Quarantine Facility
- Transit passengers from Ascension Island will also be accommodated at Bradley's Camp for the overnight stay
- As Ascension Island is currently COVID-19 free, Ascension Island passengers including transit passengers will have been segregated from the UK passengers on board the flight and will similarly be segregated and kept at maximum distance from UK passengers while staying at Bradley's Camp
- Food delivery, waste disposal and other services at Bradley's Camp will be kept separate for the Ascension and UK passengers.

The 10 crew members of the Aircraft under regulatory requirements must have a minimum standard of overnight accommodation and cannot stay at Bradley's Camp as the Camp is not regarded by Titan Airways as suitable accommodation for the crew. It has therefore been decided that the Mantis Hotel will be used to accommodate the overnight crew.

A complete risk assessment and infection control review of the Mantis Hotel has been carried out by the Health Directorate. Crew members will be required to quarantine overnight in the Mantis Hotel. This means they will remain in the Hotel overnight, they will be monitored and they will not mix with the community. Mitigation measures include crew members wearing face masks during transport to and from the Mantis, maintaining zero contact with support staff at the Hotel and keeping the recommended physical distancing.

Following the departure of the crew the Hotel will be sealed and rooms will be left for 72 hours before cleaning.

The flight will return to the UK via Accra on Wednesday, 29 July, departing the Island at 8am local time. Approximately 100 passengers will be on the outbound flight.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee Councillor Derek Thomas and Director of Health, Ted Rayment, will talk through these arrangements via local radio tomorrow, Friday 24 July 2020, at the following times:

SAMS Radio 1 - 9am St FM - 9.45am. **SHG, 23 July 2020** 



### 'BOOZE IT, YOU LOSE IT' DRINK-DRIVE CAMPAIGN - WEEK ONE Message from the St Helena Police Service

It is the first week into our campaign where we are passionately educating and raising awareness within the community of the implications of drink-driving.

We have been carrying out road safety observations and are pleased to report that moving traffic offences and vehicle defects have been minimal.

We did however arrest one person involved in a road traffic collision where there was an indication that they were over the drink-drive limit. This matter is still being investigated.

In addition, we are capturing the views on drink-driving from different age groups. So far, we have spoken to a small percentage of 11-17 year olds who have said:

- 'You shouldn't drink and drive as you could have an accident.'
- · 'You are putting yourself and others at risk.'
- · 'I would feel safer knowing people are not drinking and driving.'
- · 'You could cause injury and pose a risk to elderly people using the roads.'
- · 'You could cause death and bring heartache to our small community.'

There have also been some comments that we are only policing one particular area, but this is not the case. Please be assured that Police Officers will be stationed in different districts at different times, even during the early mornings. Our aim is not to catch you - but to educate you on the consequences of drinking and driving.

Together we can all keep our community safe!

SHG,

17 July 2020



## **Do as we say or there is no fresh fish for anyone** The latest in the negotiations that's becoming St Helena's version of Brexit

SHG have threatened local fishermen with the permanent closure of the fish processing factory if they do not join the cooperative led by PQ Trading, the preferred bidder for an 'alternative business model' for St Helena fisheries.

In a recent statement SHG announced they are, "not in the business of fish processing and does not wish to subsidise fish processing on a continued basis. Should the Co-Operative not go ahead, it is likely that the fish processing facility will close since there is no economically viable alternative."

Just one month earlier the Government's Chief Economist commented on the fish processing factory on Facebook. She said, "even if the Co-Op doesn't come to fruition for whatever reason I'm sure that the alternative bidders would be interested to know that SHG is willing to update their own asset so when it is leased out it goes out in a half decent condition."

If the fish processing facility in St Helena is closed it must inevitably lead to PQ Trading taking all the fish they catch in St Helena waters to South Africa for processing; leaving Saints with no readily available supply of fresh fish. The prospect of only having imported frozen fish from South Africa is now a possibility.

Amid accusations of deep disarray among government officers, there are claims that crucial information on the 'alternative business model' for the fisheries was released after the deadline for bids closed. Some maintain this made the tender process flawed. In addition to continual lack of information about what SHG is doing with a local asset which is of increasing importance in terms of food security in view of the increasingly virulent coronavirus pandemic there are further accusations of favouritism about who has been asked to join the fishermen's co-operative. This is another part of the whole process where no procedure is evident. The Commercial Fishermen's Association say there is no information available on what is required from members of the co-operative nor and indication about how to formally express interest in becoming a member of the co-operative.

During Monday's radio interview on Saint FM, Julie Thomas for the Commercial Fishermans Association and Beth Taylor, representing marine conservation interests told listeners that individual fishermen had been asked if they wanted to join the co-operative but no information had been published which informed all stake holders how the co-operative is expected to work, what is required of fishermen should they join the cooperative and how PQ Trading will participate in this new venture. At the moment, it appears participation in the co-operative is by invitation only and no-one knows what they are agreeing to if they would like to join the new venture.

Another point of concern, among many raised during the radio discussion, was the quota for Bigeye catches. New quo-



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## **Do as we say or there is no fresh fish for anyone** The latest in the negotiations that's becoming St Helena's version of Brexit

tas were agreed in secret at a recent Executive Council meeting. Julie Thomas pointed out the average Bigeye catch between 1977 and 2018 was 32 tonnes per year. However one of the many reports on the fisheries for SHG in recent years states the average Bigeye catch over the last 20 years was 26 tonnes. Exco rubber stamped the officers recommendation for the Bigeye quota at the recent meeting, setting the Bigeye quota at 600 tonnes – at least 19 times more than the average catch over recent decades. This decision was made despite Bigeye being classified as a vulnerable species with a declining population in both the Atlantic and Pacific. Another recent report on St Helena Fisheries draws attention to Bigeye having been and continuing to be overfished and that ICCAT has persuaded its 53 member states to reduce quotas by about 5%. The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) is the regional authority which manages fishing quotas applicable across the Atlantic Ocean and adjacent seas. As usual, SHG has not explained why they have decided to increase the Bigeye quota to 600 tonnes per year when ICCAT is intending to reduce quotas to conserve fish stocks. 600 tonnes represents 1% of the entire ICCAT quota which includes all fisheries from the Arctic to the Antarctic and from the Gulf of Mexico to the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. A one hundredth share of the Bigeve quota for the small St Helena fishery in such a large area could be seen as disproportionate.



This decision follows a previous decision to allow fishermen to sell fish from their boats. A decision which had to be rapidly withdrawn as it encouraged fishermen and their customers to ignore public health regulations.

Another of the many questions raised due to SHG not discussing details of the 'alternative business model' for fisheries with stakeholders is the new funding being made available for fish processing amounting to almost £500,000. It is not known whether the present life-expired building which is badly designed and not fit for purpose will be demolished with a smaller, more efficient building taking its place or if the money will be used to prop up the present facility.

During the radio discussion it was made clear there is no confidence in how SHG officers are handling the hoped for modernisation of the fishing industry and want to see a halt to the present situation where no planning and no process is evident.

Repeated attempts have been made to meet with SHG offic-

ers to discuss these important developments. The most recent attempt to organise a meeting was last week; it was met with a refusal to attend from all four officers involved.

The people who work in the fishing industry and marine conservation want to call upon the support of all Saints in this increasingly difficult and rapidly deteriorating situation. They will be organising a petition within a few days asking for support to get the present attempt at an alternative business model stopped to give time for the many difficulties and problems to be sorted out.

After Monday's radio interview with Julie Thomas and Beth Taylor, Saint FM invited SHG to send people involved with fisheries for another radio discussion giving the government's view on how the alternative business model for fisheries is developing. Lawson Henry, Chair of the Economic Development Committee together with government officers will attend the radio discussion which is intended to be scheduled for early next week.





**St Helena Singers** Welcomes old and new singers to join us for:



A concert on September 26<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the composer L. Van Beethoven.

Rehearsals start this Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 5.45 – 7pm

In: the training room, top of Ladder Hill behind the fire station / solicitors offices.

Anyone who likes singing welcome. No experience necessary! Further info from

### <u>creativesainthelena@gmail.com</u> / 23988

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NATIONAL Insect WEEK

### Photography competition results



A big thank you to all those who participated in this competition! The photos indeed did show St Helena's diversity. #insects & #entomology

> Young Bug Photographer - Zyanna Henry Adult competition - Rudolf Pavuza



# SHY ROAD CLOSURE

The Highways Authority has given approval for a section of Shy Road, Jamestown - near Fowlers Town House to the Pipe Store building - to be closed from Monday, 27 July, to Wednesday, 29 July 2020. This closure is to allow the Roads Section to carry out maintenance on the retaining wall in this area.



This section will be closed to pedestrians and emergency services during this period. Ladder Hill Corner and the unaffected section of Shy Road will remain open as normal. The public is thanked in advance for their continued understanding and cooperation. St Helena SHG

23 July 2020



# Under Pressure: Just a thought

What is expected of you? In your work and in your personal life, what is it that is anticipated of you? Certainly we can all experience crippling stress due to what is expected, or what we expect of others. Of course this can be a burden when regarding ourselves, but when we expect things of others we can refuse to understand why something (which in your eyes is compulsory) has been neglected. Sometimes we don't consider what the other person is feeling, as well as all the other things expected of them. Often times our lives are troubled by other opinions and prospects, there are things we simply do not want to do, or feel we can do. Indeed in this way we think of someone completing a task or an everyday obligation. But what about "keeping up a reputation" or societal expectations?

As a young person there are so many notions we "must" abide to. Though some of them are understandable, others are seemingly "unfair". There are of

Estimates of how much money was spent on the Island during the time by CAN France contractors during the six month rock fall protection project indicate overseas contractors spend almost as much per day as tourists.

The SHG Economics Section gathered the information needed to analyse how much of the money in the rockfall protection project budget was spent on the Island, benefitting the local economy. The results of the analysis can be used in future bids for money from overseas funders to support the bid.

The data gathering was based on questionnaires completed by CAN France contractors about where they spent money and how much. SHG Economics calculate that between £255,000 and £273,000 was spent by CAN France during the time they were here. There were two types of spending. The personal spending by CAN France contractors and the money spent on the Island for the rockfall protection project itself. The CAN France team reported personal spending of between £160 and £210 each week, totalling up to £85,000 over the six month life of the rockfall protection project. Food, drink and cigarettes accounted for most of the personal spending with household goods, leisure activities and personal goods and serv-



Katie-Raye Williams

course the pressures of growing up, which we all have or must go through, the pressure of knowing your "purpose" and working towards that. There are the stresses to "be good" at things, to get good grades whether this is our path or not. As well as this, we must also deal with the pressures of appearances and other artificial issues, which those older than us might not acknowledge or know about. These things come from the influence of social media and magazines, but also the offhand comments we say but don't think about. Truly this sounds superficial, but it still plays on our minds. Of course we may never hear anything to feel the pressure, it is something on our minds anyway, and often we put the pressure on ourselves.

Non-surprisingly these pressures take a toll on our mental health. Unfortunately it is not difficult to say that teenagers today suffer from mental illness, whether it is depression, anxiety or stress. Time and again this is not considered enough. A lot of this comes from high expectations in every walk of life. Actually, this is not to say we should not hold ourselves highly or try our very best, but should we worry ourselves over something we won't think twice of a year from now? This doesn't even mention the pressure we feel from the rest of society to be "keeping up appearances". It is clear we all feel pressure; some demands aren't even noticed due to normalisation, maybe it's time to release some of these pressures, or at least think about it.

# Rockfall Brings Windfall

ices accounting for most of the rest.



Project expenditure spent locally included accommodation and car hire, with the largest share of the £127,000 spent going to people employed locally on the project.

SHG Economics concluded that projects such as this can have a significant advantage for the local economy; an advantage which continues as car hire firms, accommodation providers, restaurants, retailers and tour operators spend the money they have earned on other goods and services.

Further analysis of projects sourced from overseas funding can continue with investigations into how project funding attracted by the National Trust is spent. While it is widely recognised that international conferences organised with St Helena as the venue also attract useful sums of money for the local economy, an analysis of how much money is spent by conference delegates and where they spend it would provide useful information and should reinforce the justification for more conferences when the coronavirus pandemic recedes. The St Helena National Trust recently won funding for two Darwin Initiative projects amounting to about £1 million. St Helena has also received almost £1.5 million over the last two years in funding for the Blue Belt Programme from the Centre for Environment and Aquaculture Science and the Marine Management Organisation, both UK Government organisations. Over the years the National Trust has attracted several £ million to St Helena through project funding. There is also potential for the St Helena Research Institute to bring money from overseas into the local economy through scientists and others coming to St Helena to further their research. Project-Level Spending by Category



# It's Official: St Helena will always be an anomaly and an enigma

Saints often say the rules that apply in other parts of the world don't apply here. Recent scientific research has justified this observation. The rule the researchers are investigating is that in this part of the world north and south is different to north and south in the rest of the world.

To explain; you do not have to go too far up in the air before leaving the Earth's atmosphere and getting into dangerous territory. You cannot dive too far down into the ocean without getting into equally serious trouble. Also, if you felt the need to dig down into the Earth you would meet the Earth's liquid outer core at about 1,300 miles down. Well, you would not meet it because you would be fried alive long before that. The liquid outer core is made up mostly of iron and nickel, it spins with the rest of us as we change from day to night and back again. This spinning of the two molten metals in the outer core creates the Earth's magnetic fields. Magnetic north is different from the north shown on all maps. Magnetic north moves around a bit, but very slowly. At the moment it is at Ellesmere Island in northern Canada. But as the researchers say, "the direction of the magnetic field for St. Helena often pointed far from the North pole - as it still does today."



The magnetic fields created by the churning of iron and nickel in the Earth's liquid outer core perform a great service to us; they trap and hold the radiation in the 'solar winds' which blast from the surface of the Sun. The radiation traps are called the Van Allen radiation belts, after the person who discovered them. Without the protection given to us by the Van Allen belts the air we breathe would be destroyed.



agram indicating the van Allen Radiation Beits which protect out atmosphere from destruction

The Van Allen belts change their shape but are usually between 400 and 6,000 miles above the Earth's surface. This general rule does not apply in St Helena. The magnetic field above our heads is weaker than in most other places; this allows the Sun's destructive radiation to come closer to us. The protection provided by the Van Allen belt is just 120 miles above us.

So, the researchers from Liverpool University came to St Helena to take samples of the rock which is between 11 million and 8 million years old. Certain rocks can give evidence of the behaviour of the Earth's magnetic field from millions of years ago.



Project leader, Yael Engbers, gives a rock a good drilling to reveal its secrets

Analysis of the rocks showed the South Atlantic Anomaly is a permanent condition. Yael Engbers, the project leader, reported, "Our study provides the first long term analysis of the magnetic field in this region dating back millions of years. It reveals that the anomaly in the magnetic field in the South Atlantic is not a one-off, similar anomalies existed eight to 11 million years ago," The St Helena research work indicated the Earth's magnetic fields are not due for a major upheaval due to a weakening trend in the strength of the magnetism. We can all go to bed at night confident we will be protected from the Sun's solar winds and will be able to breathe in the morning.

Engbers added, "This is the first time that the irregular behaviour of the geomagnetic field in the South Atlantic region has been shown on such a long timescale. It suggests that the South Atlantic Anomaly is a recurring feature and probably not a sign of an impending reversal."

On the other hand, several hundred tons of oxygen 'leak' from our atmosphere into space every day. This may sound a lot – but it's not. Anyway, photosynthesis helps restore oxygen. The loss of oxygen into space does provoke some scientists to debate whether the Earth's magnetic field is as important as is claimed. But that's another story.

# Your Opinion Counts

### Dear Editor.

The Rupert's Development Project presumably has, at its core, a goal of serving the local and global community. Still, because of competing interests, the project risks falling short of a truly successful outcome.

Stakeholder/Community engagement is about relationships. It is about thoughtful consideration of consensus building and considers traditional practices, heritage and ancestral knowledge, experiences, values, and beliefs within a culture and community.

The Rupert's Development Project leadership must commit to community engagement as a core part of operations and recognize that anything less is to deliberately undermine the integrity of the project and its ability to serve the community at large in a meaningful way. Whether it is the waterfront which has been enjoyed by generations of Saint families, the natural environment, or the preservation of a sacred site with international significance to descendants of enslaved and freed Africans, Rupert's Valley and Saint Helena possess the power of place. Its distinct landscape and features are extraordinary, bearing a culturally rich and transformative history.

The process of Development is the promise of reaching design solutions that satisfy function while prioritizing that which the community holds dear. Development, which threatens to impose, obscure, and disrupt meaningful places, is an assault upon culture and society.

It is my sincerest wish that the Rupert's Development leadership exercise courage.

Community engagement and the needed financial resources for a viable plan must be prioritized to meet and uphold with integrity, the interests/concerns of the stakeholding community and respect the valuable cultural resources in Rupert's Valley for generations to come. Respectfully,

Peggy King Jorde Adviser & Stakeholder, African Burial **Ground Preservation** Middle Passage Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Remembrance

# THE CONSTITUENT

### Dear Electorate.

The outcome of HE Governor Rushbrook' s decision to have your elected representatives investigated for providing confidential informationto a local radio station, has concluded with no criminal or civil action against any elected member. It is most unfortunate that the Governor's concerns were not managed with more respect for all twelve elected representatives and therefore the electorate from the onset; democratic process should have beenmaintained in the best interest of St Helena. Instead, seven of your elected representatives were considered guilty until proven innocent.

Since the police investigation started, council business by democratic process has been seriously undermined. Governor Rushbrook decided to stop the majority of elected representatives from having sight of ExCo closed session documents. The decision meant that seven of your elected representatives had no democratic input on closed session items through the usual caucus procedures involving all twelve elected representatives. Regardless, decisions made in closed sessions of ExCo meetings continued unabated.

Caucus is an important stage of the current local governance system. Indeed, before the five ExCo elected members make their final decisions according to the Constitution, caucusing on open and closed agenda items by all twelve of your elected representatives reallyis democracy at work. There has been no caucus on ExCo closed session agenda items by all twelve elected representatives since the police investigation started.

Governor Rushbrook was made aware of the serious concerns about the constant erosion of democracy caused by his refusal to provide seven elected members with ExCo closed session agenda documents. Eventually, an interim arrangement was provided: the seven elected members were allowed to read ExCo closed session documents under observation but were not permitted to record the contentsor take notes.

On request, Governor Rushbrook agreed to attend the informal Legislative Council meeting on Friday 10 July. The item for discussion was Democratic Governance of St Helena. Elected members took the opportunity to address Governor Rushbrook with their concerns. The Governor was told that he seemed "determined to be an interference and obstruction to democratic process", and a request was made for all ExCo open and closed agenda documents to be provided to all twelve elected representatives for normal democratic procedures to restart.

In his response, Governor Rushbrook first expressed his concerns and his responsibility to ensure the protection of SHG confidential documentation and sensitive information. In the interests of the democratic governance of St Helena, the Governor has however agreed to provide all twelve elected representatives with ExCo open and closed agenda documents.

Information provided in the public domain relating to the investigation would have provided constituents with the opportunity to become more informed and aware on the need to strengthen democracy in St Helena.

Elected members are responsible for ensuring that strategic visions, key messages and plans are communicated to the electorate. They are guided by the seven Nolan Principles of Public Life: 'Openness: Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands it.'

In the interest of more openness and transparency relating to government progress, constituents are encouraged to lobby your five Exco elected representatives to make public the full agenda, open and closed items, of ExCo meetings. It is vital that the people of St Helena know what is happening in local government and are therefore able

to influence decisions. **Councillor Cyril Leo** 



# Your Opinion Counts

### Dear Constituents,

As most of you will be aware that at the last Formal Legislative Council meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020 I responded to a question raised in the house by the Honorable Christine Scipio and I gave an undertaking that I would also publish my response in the media to allow those members who might not have had the opportunity to hear my response via the SAMS broadcast of that Formal Legco session.

### Hon Christine Scipio:

Will the Honourable Chairman of the **Environment and Natural Resources** Committee provide this House with an update on St Helena becoming self-sufficient through the renewable energy strategy?

### Answer:

The St Helena Energy Strategy was approved in 2016 and was written with the intention for the Island to become 100% self-sufficient on the national grid through renewable energy by 1st April 2022. Achieving this will significantly reduce the cost of electricity on the island as a key priority to SHG. This would enhance the social and economic well-being and minimize the impact on the environment, by contributing to the global drive on Climate Change and the reduction on the Island's dependence on fossil fuel use.

Several options were tabled to either work as stand-alone systems or as collective systems to complement each other to produce the required amount of renewable energy for the island from April 2022 and into the foreseeable future.

In 2017 after a procurement process PASH Global was selected as the preferred bidder to provide additional renewable energy through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the Island's utility provider Connect St Helena (Connect). Through this agreement PASH will install 3 Wind Turbines and Photovoltaic panels to support the Island's quest in becoming self-sufficient through renewable energy. This power would be stored

in a battery bank and used when required. Connect will purchase the amount of renewable energy as required.

An application was submitted in 2018 for an extension to the current Photovoltaic farm at Ladder Hill and in 2020 an application was approved for the installation of the 3 wind turbines at Deadwood Plain and a battery storage on the lower side of the airport access road in Deadwood.

As members are well aware, on 29th May 2020, Connect signed the Power Purchase Agreement. It is planned for the first components to arrive on Island this financial year; which will deliver a 3.2MWh/3.5MW Battery and a 568kWp/ 500kW solar farm. Thereafter a 2.7MW wind farm shall be installed made up of three turbines. This will generate at least 9.133 GWh per annum. Currently, Connect provides around 24% of the Island's energy needs from renewable energy and, considering last year's demand of 11.8GWh, with the additional capacity the aim is to have enough renewable energy capacity to meet 100% of current demand. Not only will this lead to St Helena being Altogether Greener, substituting imports of diesel for locally generated renewable energy power, but means the Island will be Altogether Wealthier too.

Councillor Scipio also asked two supplementary questions,

How long will it take for any benefits to be realised by the Consumer to enhance self-sufficiency?

### In light of COVID 19 pandemic, can you say whether the project is on target for start and completion?

In response I informed the house that Connect and PASH would work together to ensure that all the components will be in place before any cost saving benefits will be realised by the consumer to enhance self-sufficiency and that PASH was in the midst of securing the procurement of the first of these components and see no reason why Covid-19 would have any impact of these components arriving on the island in time to meet the target set for the start and completion of the project.

Have a good weekend, Russell Yon, Member of Legislative Council.



### Dear Editor,

At the Legislative Council meeting on 26 June 2020 I gave an undertaking to Councillor Christine Scipio to publish my response to her oral question 'Will the Honourable Chairman of the Social and Community Development Committee say what progress has been made with the review of the Social Security Ordinance?'

### I replied -

'I believe that significant progress has been made.

To put it into context let me take this opportunity to remind ourselves where we started with this, what is happening and what work needs to be done in the months ahead.

The present Social & Community Development Committee, which came into being in September 2017, inherited this piece of work from the previous Social and Community Development Committee

From my own research I found that in their discussions in May 2017, some months before the General Election, it had been suggested on the one hand to bring in a consultant while another thought was that if they could pin down the issue, this work might be done on-Island.

Fast forward to when this present SCDC came together after the 2017 General Election. Once settled in, it noted that one of the outstanding issues brought forward included a proposed review of the Social Security Ordinance. We recognised that this was a complex matter and decided to set up a Working Group to examine how best this work could be taken forward.

That decision was taken on 11 April 2018 and a Social Security Review Working Group, under the Chairmanship of Councillor Cyril Leo, met in May 2018 to begin the process of reviewing the Social Security System.

In their Terms of Reference they were to scrutinise the current Social Security Ordinance and to recommend possible improvements and amendments in relation to Government providing a more appropriate, justified, fair and proportionate financial assistance and support for the vulnerable people of St Helena.

# Your Opinion Counts

The Working Group was able to harness support as and when appropriate from throughout Government bearing in mind that those involved also had their everyday tasks to perform.

In August 2019 the Social Security Review Working Group (SSRWG) was finally able to present their recommendations.

I'd like to say here I am grateful to all those who contributed in any way to this comprehensive piece of work culminating in a 64-page document.

SCDC discussed those recommendations during the latter part of last year and also had a session with all Elected Members.

Our Committee later approved in principle the majority of the recommendations but then due to commitments by those involved including the Working Group members, Elected Members and SCDC, we were only able to finalise all of the recommendations in May this year.

This means that all the recommendations made by the SSRWG have now been approved in principle and work is being undertaken by the Administration to produce policies for consideration.

As the Honourable Member should be aware there is general support from Elected Members to have the detailed proposals worked up and implemented as and when possible.

I'm therefore most grateful to Elected Members for their unwavering support because included in the Budget before the House during this sitting is a provision of £200,000 that would be available to kick-start the recommendations if possible. If you do approve that provision, which I recommend, it will signal a commitment for the future.

So in summary Mr Speaker, good progress has been made with the review of the Social Security Ordinance, the recommendations made following the excellent work of the SSRWG have been approved in principle and policies are being drafted, and some money is included in the draft budget that would enable a start on implementation.'

Tony Green Chairman, Social & Community Development Committee



# THE CONSTITUENT SHG PROJECTPROGRESS - COUNCILLOR CYRIL LEO

Julian Benjamin, Senior Design Draughtsman / Surveyor, SHG Technical Section recently took a group of us on a site visit to the Bottom Woods West Comprehensive Development Area (CDA). The Environmental & Natural Resources Committee (ENRC) was given monthly progress reports and presentations leading up to the site visit. Julian and his team have now progressed work to the practical stage of the residential development of the CDA.

Much of the CDA has now been pegged out, and heavy equipment has started excavation work.

The unfolding transformation of the CDA willeventually show the land accommodating some 39 residential units. The plans include plots for 6 Government landlord housing, 9 affordable housing plots and 24 market value plots. However, due to the current sewerage restrictions in the Bottom Woods area, at present only 28 buildings can be added to the communal sewerage infrastructure.

Project co-operation and support provided by Sure and Connect have been essential to the project's progress. Progress within the Bottom Woods West CDA will make a significant contributiontowards advancing the social and economic development of St Helena.

The Environmental & Natural Resources Committee would like to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge theexcellent work being undertaken from within the SHG Infrastructure and Transport Directorateon the CDA project.





For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Laura Yon, Manager, BFI on telephone number: 22332 or via email address: BFI@helanta.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail address: <u>hradmin@solomons.co.sh</u> and should be completed and returned to Miss Nicola Essex HR & Marketing Manager, Solomons Office, Jamestown, By 04 August 2020 Solomon & Company (St Helena) Pic has a vacancy for an

ssistant Manager

within the Bulk Fuel Installation

<u>Job Outline</u> To assist the Manager with the day to day running of the Bulk Fuel Installation, and to deputise for the Manager in their absence

### Interested Persons Should:

Ideally have GCSE Maths & English or equivalent at Grade C or above
 Have knowledge of bulk fuel storage, distribution and handling and related Health & Safety
 Have good leadership ability with experience in managing a team

- Have strong interpersonal & organisational skills
- Have excellent IT skills and be able to communicate effectively
  - Ability to multi task & work under pressure
  - Be in possession of a valid driver's license

Salary will start at £1,142.70 per month, (£13,712.40 per annum)



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Pic has a vacancy for a

Sales Assistant

Within the DIY Store

<u>Job Outline</u> To assist with the day-to-day running of the store and cargo clearing operations, and to ensure a high standard of customer service.

Interested Persons Should:

- Possess knowledge of DIY and Hardware products
- Ideally have experience with carrying out light DIY projects
  - Possess experience in cash handling
  - Be customer focused and target driven
    - Be competent in Maths, English & IT
- Be self-motivated and able to work well as part of a team

Salary for the post will start at £645.11 per month (£7,741.32 per annum)

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Colin Bargo, DIY Store Manager on telephone number: 22104 or via email address: diy@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, By 07 August 2020.



For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Marilyn Joshua, Grocery Manager (Country Outlets) on telephone number: 23559 or via email address: hth-manager@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, by 07August 2020. Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for a

grocery Sales Assistant

Within the Half Tree Hollow Supermarket

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

**Interested Persons Should:** 

- Possess knowledge & skills of Food Safety
  - Be customer focused and target driven
  - Be competent in Maths, English & IT
  - Possess experience in Cash Handling
- · Be self-motivated and able to work well as part of a team

Salary for the post will be £618.15 per month (£7,417.80 per annum)



upervisor

Within the Jamestown Fuel Station

Job Outline

To be responsible for the day to day operations of the Jamestown Fuel Station ensuring maximum performance and quality service is delivered on a consistent and timely basis

Interested Persons Should:

- Have proven supervisory experience with the ability to lead a team
  - Be competent in Maths, English & IT
  - Have experience in cash management and security
  - Have knowledge of stock management
- Possess Health & Safety awareness including handling substances hazardous to health

Salary will start at £8,937.12 per annum, (£744.76 per month)

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Paul Gasteen, Fuel Stations Manager on telephone number: 22523 or via email address: fuelstations.manager@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomon's Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, by **04 August** 2020



Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas

	rollowing canalaates to ontrol' project. oroject. sbrate control' project.	learn and 'get stuck in'. I be strongly favoured. I our built, cultural, and ur staff are the greatest	; good things happen on tina.peters@trust.org.sh.	n. Alternatively email w you meet the requirements	
*	<ul> <li>Due to our newly awarded Darwin projects, the St Helena National Trust is looking to recruit the following candidates to join our team:</li> <li>1 Project Manager to lead a team for the 'Community supported multispecies vertebrate control' project.</li> <li>2 Field Assistants for the 'Conserving St Helena's endemic invertebrates through invasive invertebrate control' project.</li> </ul>	Applicants must have an interest in conserving St Helena's valuable biodiversity and be willing to learn and 'get stuck in'. Experience of working with, or knowledge of, invasive species or St Helena's endemic species will be strongly favoured. The Trust is an independent non-governmental organisation driven by a passion for St Helena and our built, cultural, and natural heritage. We have a strong emphasis on team-work and collaboration and believe that our staff are the greatest astural heritage. We have a strong emphasis on team-work and collaboration and believe that our staff are the greatest astural heritage. We have a strong emphasis on team-work and collaboration and believe that our staff are the greatest astural heritage.	If you feel you could contribute to the Trust and would like to join a team passionate about seeing good things happen on St Helena then we want to hear from you. For further information on these posts please contact Martina Peters, Head of Conservation on 22307 or email <u>martina.peters@trust.org.sh</u> .	A full job description can be obtained from Amanda Constantine at the Trust office, Broadway House, Jamestown. Alternatively email amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh or call 22190. Applications should be in the form of a CV and Cover letter indicating how you meet the requirements of the job description.	CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Friday, 31 July 2020 @ 16:00
The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 33, Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2020					



# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### VACANCY FOR SENIOR ACCOUNTS EXECUTIVE

Are you a highly motivated individual looking for a career change or to progress in your Finance career? Do you have good leadership skills and a problem-solving attitude?

If so, Corporate Finance has an opportunity for you to join their team as a Senior Accounts Executive.

The Senior Accounts Executive will be responsible for the effective management of the Accounts Payable and Receivable functions of the financial management system, ensuring all Government revenue and expenditure is accurately recorded. You will also be responsible for the supervision of the Accounts Executives.

The post-holder must have the following qualifications and experience:

- GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above (applicants without a Level 2 qualification in Maths and English may still apply and can undertake a functional skills assessment as part of the recruitment process)
- ACCA Certified Accounting Technician level 2 or equivalent
- At least 3 years experience in a similar accounting role
- At least 2 years experience in supervising staff

Prospective candidates should ideally have intermediate IT skills in Access Dimensions and Crystal Reports. The post holder should have good customer service skills and be results-driven to help achieve Corporate Finance business goals.

Salary for the post ranges from £8,613 - £10,765 per annum as per the Finance and Accountancy Cadre Level B.

Corporate Finance provides an environment for professional development in the field of finance and accountancy. The salary ranges for the position reflects the pathways designed to reward professional development and technical competence.

For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Sarah Greentree, Business Support Manager on telephone number 22470 or email: <a href="mailto:sarah.greentree@sainthelena.gov.sh">sarah.greentree@sainthelena.gov.sh</a>

A copy of the job profile can be obtained from Corporate Human Resources.

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: <u>www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies</u> and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Dianne Venning, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail <u>recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh</u> by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 28 July 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.

**Corporate Services** 

14 July 2020

# Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens



The sky turn red around Anfield on Wednesday night when Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson pick up Liverpool's first ever Premier League title and their first League win in 30 years. Liverpool truly deserves to win the League this season as they dominated the rest of the teams virtually from start to finish. Never in the history of the Premier League has a season been so one sided.

Captain Henderson received the trophy from Sir Kenny Daglish who incidentally was the last manager to win the title for Liverpool in 1990.

Congratulations to Liverpool and their fans and to the St Helenian Liverpool fans enjoy your celebration party on Saturday. Sorry I can't join you as I washing my hair.

Sunday will see the last round of League fixtures. Two out of three teams will get into the Champions League alongside Liverpool and Manchester City and two out of three teams will get relegated along with Norwich.

Manchester United currently sits in third place after drawing with West Ham and Chelsea having loss against Liverpool and Leicester losing 3-0 against Spurs.

United play Leicester in their final game which could prove to be a very nervy game for us Man U fans; as following a 19 game unbeaten run Manchester United look tired and has made some individual errors in their FA Cup Semi Final defeat in Chelsea and in the draw with West Ham.

Leicester has dropped a lot of points since lockdown, but in Jamie Vardy has a proven goal scorer who can trouble any team.

Chelsea faces a tricky last game against Wolves. Chelsea showed enough attack prowess against Liverpool but looks a little unsure in defence.

Manchester United and Chelsea need just a point each to get in the Champions League. If Chelsea loses to Wolves a point each for United and Leicester will see them qualify. If Both Chelsea and United loses, United and Leicester will qualify for the Champions League.

No teenager has ever scored more goals in a single season in all competitions for United than Greenwood (17 - level with George Best in 1965-66, Brian Kidd in 1967-68 and Rooney in 2004-05).



Mason Greenwood's equaliser for Manchester United put them 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Premier League

In the relegation battle Aston Villa sits just outside of the relegation zone on goal difference from Watford and 3 points clear of Bournemouth.

If Villa and Watford loses a 1-0 win for Bournemouth will see them survive. If both Watford and Villa win, Bournemouth will be relegated and goal difference will decide their fate.



Leeds were crowned Champions and will be join in the Premier League by West Brom after the Baggies drew with QPR and Brentford lost to Barnsley.

The playoffs for the Premier League will be contested by Brentford, Fulham, Cardiff & Swansea.

### Play-off schedule (all times BST)

- Semi-final first legs
- Sunday, 26 July Swansea v Brentford 18:30
- Monday, 27 July Cardiff v Fulham 19:45

### Semi-final second legs

- Wednesday, 29 July Brentford v Swansea 19:45
- Thursday, 30 July Fulham v Cardiff 19:45

### Final (Wembley Stadium)

- Tuesday, 4 August - Brentford or Swansea v Fulham or Cardiff - 19:45

The FA cup final on the 1<sup>st</sup> August will be between Chelsea and Arsenal. Chelsea defeated Manchester United 3-1 and Arsenal beat Man City 2-0.

JOB VACANCY: HOUSE-KEEPER/ CLEANER Experienced House-Keeper/ Cleaner required for 20 hours work per week in The Briars area. Please phone : 22441 for further details.

# Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens Junior Football

It is good to see great interest in Junior Football this season. 80 plus kids are playing in the Junior league sponsored by Colin's Garage, Nigel George Construction and plant hire and New Horizons. I also had 24 boys and girls attending my training session on Monday with more joining next week.

I think because of the possibility of playing international football every two years has caught the imagination of our junior players.

Match results.

6- 11 years:

Yellow Devils 16 v Ranglers 3.

G/S Yellow Devils: Aden Thomas-Stevens 5, Zac Francis 3, Harry Williams 6 & Ryan Stevens 2.

G/S Ranglers: Dirk Peter's 2 & Ziggy Yon 1.

POM: Harry Williams, Dirk Peter's & Callum O'Dean.

Predators 12 v Blue Arrows 0. G/S Predators: Riley Yon 5, own goal, Edward 1, Tyler Anthony 2 and Hugo Richards 3 POM: Riley Yon & Lucas Robbertson. 11- 15 years:

Rastabouts 8 v Gladiators 0. G/S Rastabouts: Taylon Phillips 3, Kieran Williams 1, McCoy Williams 3 & Shaquille Benjamin-Coleman 1. POM: Jerome Peters & Taye Peter's





Fugees 10 v Allstars 3

GS Fugees: Blake Peters 3, Lars Williams 6 & Dodi Peters 1.

GS Allstars: Toure Osborne 2 & 1 own goal. POM Lars Williams & Toure Osborne



Junior Footballers and Supporters

Fixtures: Sunday 26th July 9.15am Primary 6-11 Ranglers v Predators Referee: Nick Stevens 10am Primary 6-11 Super Strikers v Yellow Devils Referee: Owen Richards

9.15am11-15Gladiators v AllstarsReferee: Aiden Yon-Stevens10am11-15Galacticos v RastaboutsReferee: Gareth Johnson



The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 33, Friday 24th July 2020



Chairperson: Colin P Yon Market Street, Jamestown St Helena Island, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ Tel No (Work) 00 290 23030, (Mobile) 00 290 61114

Secretary – Joy George, Treasurer – Sandra Sim Members: Olive Williams, Marlene Yon, Nicholas Yon Bank of St Helena Account No 22165002

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> AUGUST – COFFEE MORNING @ Jamestown Community Centre From 10.30am to 1pm -Tickets £2 per person - Available from Committee Members

OCTOBER CANCER AWARENESS AND FUNDRAISING MONTH <u>3<sup>rd</sup> Coffee Morning @ Jamestown Community Centre</u> From 10.30am to 1pm 9th Muftí Day - Cancer Colour of Your Choice 15th Cancer Awareness Info & Míscellaneous Stall in Front of Cannister 10.30am to 1pm 16th Old Time Dance with Barry Brooks and the Standard Band @ Jamestown Community Centre 22<sup>nd</sup>Healing Service - All are welcome! - Venue TBA 25th Private Function - Patients Lunch <u>31<sup>st</sup></u> Carníval Parade from Hospital to Seaside Theme-Free Spírít, Cancer Colour of your choice Clubs/Organisations/Offices/Shops etc., are advised that they can organise a FUNDRAISING EVENT in aid of the Cancer Awareness Charity if they so wish, during October. HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD INFORM ANY MEMBER OF THE **CANCER CHARITY OF YOUR INTENTION** 

# THE COMMITTEE UNDERSTANDS THAT THESE EVENTS WILL DEPEND ON ST HELENA BEING COVID-19 FREE DURING THIS PERIOD

### Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens SHFA Results; Fixtures and Stats Match reports by Mike E Williams

### Saturday 4th July

### Back to winning ways

Wirebirds came away with a convincing win on Saturday as they put 8 past the Saints.

The Birds would go 5 goals up in the first half, with goals from Sanjay Clingham, Tyler Benjamin, and a first half hat-trick from Man of the match Shane Stroud. The Saints had a few chances of their own but failed to trouble Rick Zoley in the Wirebirds goal. The second half saw Saints conceded a further 3 goals, with Dane Leo, Shane Stroud picking up his fourth, and captain Alex Osborne also getting among the goals. This would have been a welcoming 3 points for the Wirebirds, who have dropped 6 points behind the league leaders.

### Wirebirds 8 v 0 Saints

### Looking good at THIRTY

Ladies and Gentlemen, this is not Mustangs getting all-out for 30 runs in a cricket match. The second football game on Saturday saw the Crystal Rangers humiliated, and pulverize by the Bellboys 30 goals to nil. The Bellboys took full advantage of a Crystal Rangers side who could only muster 8 players. Bellboys where in total control with even their goalie going forward on some occasion to get in on the fun. At half time the score was 11-nil. Council Cruyff Buckley 'playing in goal for the Crystal Rangers' would conceded 20 of the 30 goals 'OMG'. The second half started with Bellboys scoring a goal in 13 seconds. They would go on to score a further 18. The goals were scored by Man of the match Matthias Young with 8, Andrew Yon 7, Kyle Shoesmith 4, Wayne Crowie 4, Rick Joshua 4, Aiden Duncan 2, and Ryan Benjamin with a single goal. Bellboys 30 v 0 Crystal Rangers. **Bellboys put 30 past Crystal Rangers** 

### Sunday 5th July

### Winning streak

Rovers made it four wins from four games as they won the Harts by a goal to nil. The defending champions got off to a good start in the match, passing the ball quickly; they pushed the Harts deep into their own half. The boys in blue defended well as a unit with stand in goalie Marc Williams making a couple of good savers. Harts where happy to soak up the pressure and try to hit the Rovers on the break. Sean Benjamin of the Rovers however was making life difficult for the Harts strikers. The first half came with Rovers having the majority of the possession but the Harts would have been delighted that they were still in the game. The second half was more like the first with Rovers seeing more of the ball but couldn't find a way though the Harts defence. The best chance Harts had of taking the lead was when a free-kick was swung in by young player of the match Joey Thomas, to find the head of Ryan George, but Rovers Keeper Keith Yon was in the right place to make a fine save. It was looking that a piece of brilliants or a mistake was going to break the two sets of defence, and for the Harts it would be a mistake at the back, which would see man of the match Rico Benjamin run in behind for the first time in the game and score with a spectacular chip over the

goalie. Harts pushed for an equalizer but Rovers defended well to see them across the line to take all 3 points. Rovers 1 v 0 Harts



Rovers top of the table

### Late goal

The Lakers missed a chance to go level on points with Harts and the Wirebirds with also a game in hand as they were held to the first draw of the season by a never die Axis team. The Lakers started the game well with some very good football being played, and were rewarded with a goal from Louis Banikal half-way into the first half. Things went from bad to worse for the boys in pink as Selwyn Stroud was brought down in the penalty box and a spot kick was given. Captain Liam Yon stepped up for the Lakers to take the penalty, but blast his kick well over the bar. Making his debut season in

# THE ANCHOR CLOTHING SHOP

Situated at Kunjie Field, 1<sup>st</sup> building on your right. Car park is available.

Please note that the Anchor shop at Kunjie Field is open for business. The Anchor shop in Jamestown is still closed.

There are no SET opening hours as we continue to practise safe distancing. If you would like to visit the shop, please give us a call on the contact number below.

We have a new stock of Ladies underwear, men's underwear & T shirts, sandals & track shoes, children's pyjamas, warm clothing and shoes.

Come and have a browse!

Contact: Jean Fowler Tel: 24044

### Happy Shopping!!!



# **Armchair Supporters View** by Nick Stevens SHFA Results; Fixtures and Stats Match reports by Mike E Williams

goal for the Axis was young player of the match, Christo Crowie, and already has shown signs that he is going to be a top class keeper, making a handful of outstanding one on one saves. The second half saw Lakers the more likely to score but where struggling to break down the pink wall, with man of the match Deon Maggot and JJ Buckley making some important tackles in the heart of the Axis defence. As the game was coming to an end, some hard tackles where been made in the midfield, with Dion Phillips picking up a yellow card. This is Dion's second yellow card of the first round; one more will see him miss a game. Then deep into injury time Axis broke down the left wing, with young Ethan Johnson playing in his debut season, swung in a dangerous cross that Lakers keeper Anelka Leo can't hold, the ball landed in the path of Ryan Backhouse, who hammered the ball back into the goal to save a well deserve point for the Axis. Lakers 1 v 1 Axis

### **Fixtures**

Sat 11th July 1pm Wirebirds v Axis 3pm Harts v Saints

Sun 12th July 1pm Crystal Rangers v Rovers 3pm Lakers v Bellboys



Referee: Lakers Referee: C Rangers

Referee: Axis Referee: Harts



# Golf Report for Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 19th July 2020

The weather was glorious on both days with a light breeze. The 36-hole Richard James International sponsored Peter Francis Memorial annual competition attracted a packed field of 30 players. Tee off for both days was at 12:00 and it was a shotgun start. The leaderboard for Sunday was completely different to Saturday. Saturday performance was far better than Sunday's with 11 players scoring in the 60s compared to Sundays 8. There was a tie for the first 3 positions which resulted in playoffs. Mr Tony green took on Mr Dax Richards to battle for first and second place havinf tied with net 135 while Mr John Colclough was left to contest for third place with Mr Anthony Thomas both having tied at 136. Mr Dax Richards emerged the winner of the trophy and first prize, Mr Tony Green took second place and Mr John Colclough took 3<sup>rd</sup> prize.

Longest drive ladies as well as nearest to pin for the ladies prize both went to Christine Scipio. Longest drive men was won by Mr Leon Crowie and nearest to pin gents went to Mr Neil Joshua. There were a whopping six twos in the two-ball pool category on Sunday Tony Green on 7<sup>th</sup> and 16th, John Colclough (eagle 2 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>), Jeffrey Stevens and Scott Crowie birdied the 16<sup>th</sup> and Peter Johnson the 11th. On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> the two ball pool winners were Jeffrey Stevens on the 7<sup>th</sup>, Patrick Henry on the 11<sup>™</sup>, Keith Joshua on the 16<sup>th</sup> and Dax Richards on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The top prizes were presented by Mrs Daphne Francis who also sponsored a curry and rice meal for the players after the final round. The club wishes to thank Mrs Francis who was impressed by the turnout of the players and their impressive performance for her continued support and generosity. Congratulations to all the winners Next Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020 competition will be a monthly medal Strokeplay with a shotgun start at 12:00. *Happy swinging......! Contributed by: SHGC* 





# Cricket makes strides in St Helena



### International Cricket Council



The island of St Helena, with a population of around 6,000(*sic*), has not recorded any COVID-19 infections to date. This has allowed cricket to carry on, and thrive.

Despite the limited population, cricket has enjoyed a special place in St Helena, an island in the Atlantic. The senior men's team featured in the ICC T20 World Cup Africa Qualifier C in Gaborone, Botswana, in November 2018. Skippered by Scott Crowie, they put up a decent fight, finishing third out of the seven teams that participated.

They gave the higher-ranked Namibia a scare, having them five down for less than 70 on the board. Superb lower-order batting from the Namibians carried them to 180, a total that proved to be beyond the islanders.

### Celebration of cricket in St Helena

Key players in the qualifier for St Helena were Andrew Yon, a right-arm pace bowler with a Malinga-like action, opener Damien Obey and skipper Crowie. Yon's pace troubled batsmen, while he also chipped in with the bat, smashing a fine 54 against Malawi. He was rewarded with selection for the Africa High Performance camp in 2019, where he further developed his skills.Opener Obey and middle order batsmen Crowie played fine knocks throughout the competition, contributing to wins against Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Lesotho and Malawi.

Cricket on the island is remarkable not just for the remoteness, but for the terrain. The island has almost no flat land: everything is uphill, or downhill, and usually pretty steep. Apart from the airport, for which land had to be flattened to accommodate the airstrip, the only piece of ground of any size that is roughly flat and can be used as a playing field is on top of a 300-foot rock face, which boasts a picturesque heart-shaped waterfall on the right side and is next to the island's secondary school, Prince Andrew School.

Legend has it that in 1885 a sailor lost his life while playing against a local team. When chasing a ball, he could not stop himself and went over the precipice.

Cricket in St Helena has been around since the 1800s, played by the many British soldiers stationed on the island during the Napoleonic era, but it was not formally recognised until a league was founded in 1903 by a local businessman,



Amid the hilly terrain in St Helena, there are few areas flat enough to have a cricket ground

Humphrey Solomon. Today it is one of the two main sports for participation and spectators on the island.

In 1995, Governor David Smallman, a member of the MCC and the Queen's Park Cricket Club in the West Indies, became president of the St Helena Cricket Association (SHCA) and through his efforts, in 2001, SHCA became an Affiliate Member of the ICC.

As all players have full-time jobs, cricket is usually played on the weekends. The St Helena cricket tournaments are restricted to only seven months a year, December to June, as the only playing field is used by footballers during the other six months.



St Helena Cricket Association became an Affiliate Member of the ICC in 2001

Cricketers are restricted to indoor nets and shortened games during the off-season. The national team is currently training for the Africa T20 World Cup Qualifier in South Africa next year.

Just as they did in 2018, St Helena will be looking to cause a few upsets at that qualifier when cricket finally resumes. Watch out for this island nation punching well above their weight!

# Afternoon with Father Clive

It was a beautiful Tuesday afternoon on the 21<sup>st</sup> when Saint Fm was invited to Harlyn in Half Tree Hollow the home of Mrs Patsy Flagg, to receive a donation of gifts towards radio programmes. The gifts were kindly donated by Father Clive Duncan who has made several contributions already to various organizations around the island.

Mrs Flagg always the gracious hostess served a delicious tea of scones with jam and cream, cake and scrumptious sandwiches to Father Clive and Saint FM staff. Father Clive and Patsy regaled Mikhail and Colette with stories of poignant experiences in their own journeys and we both came



### JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE SKITTLES SEASON – 2020

Despite the delay, due to the Corona Virus restrictions, the committee of the Jamestown Community Centre is planning a Skittles Season consisting of the Nine a Side league and team Knock Out competitions.

Depending on the number of teams entering for these competitions, it may be necessary to play two matches on some evenings and teams may have to play twice a week. When two matches are played on an evening, the first match will start at 7.30 p.m. and the second at about 9.15.

Captains should enter their team with the Secretary, Mrs June Lawrence by 31 July to allow the fixtures to be ready so that the season can start on 10 August.

# Tomorrow - Saturday 25th July





away with a feeling of their deep commitment to continue in their service to the people of St Helena.

Father Clive is no stranger to St Helena and has served the island within the Anglican church for many years. In his presentation to Saint FM Father Clive also acknowledge the pivotal role that Patsy played in orchestrating these events and his appreciation for her continued support.

Saint FM takes this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for Father Clive's kind donation and wish him every success in his ministry here on St Helena.

# Sale at Sapperway

this Saturday to the following Saturday, closed Thursday morning only.

We have hand tools, Cement mixers, Cement breakers, table saws, Jigsaws, Angle grinders and much more.

Also available BBQs, planters, citronella candles, Moisture absorbers. DC Fix. *Only at Julia's* (Newpence) Sapperway or call 24259

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Join Pilling Primary School for their monthly car boot on **Saturday**, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Time: **10am – 12noon** Venue: **Pilling Primary School playground** 



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





### To the Editor:

Stranded on St. Helena during the covid-19 outbreak was the best thing that could have happened to the crew of TAO 8 after our 11 1/2 day passage from Luederitz, Namibia and an additional 14 days of quarantine on board.

After being released from isolation on the 19th of April, we were geared up to explore the island and meet the local Saints. We explored the town and rented a car for a couple of days to explore your beautiful island. The residents were friendly and helpful at a time when some food was becoming scarce. Unfortunately, our fun time was cut short as I became out of breath quickly and had trouble walking. On May 22nd I realized I had to see a doctor and went to the hospital. That day, after a blood test, I was diagnosed with leukemia and admitted for immediate treatment including x-rays, ECG and a blood transfusion. And so we left the chapter of our lives that we were on and started a whole new book as we realized life would never be the same for us again. After a bone marrow biopsy, my diagnosis was somewhat worse than expected and so preparations were started to medevac me back to Canada for treatment, which couldn't be done on the island.



The process became a nightmare for our daughter, who had joined us in Cape Town and my hematologist at the hospital, who spent hours trying to relay the seriousness of my illness to our insurance provider. The hospital staff came together to find donors for my rare blood type and the residents and stranded cruisers responded to our plea. The empathy, kindness and professionalism of all at the hospital made my hospital stay easier.

It took five weeks to get me medevaced to Canada where I could receive the treatment I so badly needed. Hazel at the Consulate hotel was kind enough to offer us a room when I could no longer use the ferry to get to our floating home. Sandra made sure I had nourishing meals to strengthen my body. Saints offered sympathy for our plight and kindness to a visitor to your island whom they had never met.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for being so generous and sympathetic. We will never forget you.

Love, Angie, Larry & Celeste s/v TAO 8



# Pushing Boundaries. From The Sidelines

On Saturday July 18<sup>th</sup> Rosies Taste 4 Life Hosted A Fashion show and art exhibition, which saw a lot of people turn up to witness local talent at its finest.

The event, called "Pushing Boundaries", started at 7:30pm. The walls were decorated with art work produced by young artist Tyanne Williams. Arts featured abstract art, realism and digital manipulations, many of which were for sale.

The fashion show started at 9pm, and saw models both male and female strut the catwalk to the music produced by James Fantom, with their outfits collated by Wanda Isaac, Gill & Alasdair Maclean and Model Carmen and choreographed by JJ Dancoisne-Martineau.

The event concluded with the models lining up on the catwalk, followed by a disco with DJ Kimmy Boombang.





























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