

THE ST HELENA INDEPENDENT

Est. 2005

VOLUME XV ISSUE 39, 4th SEPTEMBER 2020, PRICE £1

Two Views on Schooling on St Helena

*ompared to UK, St Helena
Schools are Failing*
Vince Thompson

Lessons in learning
Tammy Williams



Rupert's Drainage



'White Elephant' Under New Management

*Puma Energy Takes Over
Bulk Fuel Installation*



Constitutional Reform Part 3

**Governance
Commission
Report**


**THE
BUCK
STOPS
HERE**

Football Fundraising



Lessons in learning

Tammy Williams

I meant to write last week, parents at Prince Andrew Schools results day said I should, I'm glad I waited, the arrival of the audit report for education on St Helena landed unapologetic, business as usual, I bristled, I'm sure other parents did too including teachers and students.

Chief Auditor Phil Sharman said *"The future of St Helena depends on SHG's effective investment in its young people. Today's report highlights that our schools are not delivering the results they should be. In light of the performance highlighted in this report policy makers should objectively consider whether the education system is adequately serving the young people of St Helena as the future human resource capital of the island."*

I'm a journalist, we have to present all sides but reports, numbers and statistics are simply markers, they do not define the goalpost.

On Friday 21st August I accompanied my daughter Katie as did many other parents to Prince Andrew school; we sat in the Lecture Theatre, eager and nervous.

In her welcome address the Head teacher Penny Bowers highlighted something that few people may know, the headache and heartache caused by the Corona Virus. It would appear that while we remain Covid19 free we are not *completely* free from the complexities it leaves in its' trail.

Prince Andrew School did not escape the shambolic manner of the UK's exam results system and examination boards applied the same illogical method resulting in disappointed students and teachers. Let me explain, some students who had been grade an 'A' by PAS teachers were downgraded to a 'C' by UK examination boards.

It's not hard to imagine the effect this had on teachers and



many I spoke to after the ceremony talked about their stunned disbelief and the failure they felt for their students, hours and hours of effort and working to tight deadlines ended up in smoke, the setback emotionally frustrating for all involved.

Nevertheless the morning of Results day broke bright and cheerful as just before the ceremony, one hour to be exact; a new official set of results was received. Students affected by the Covid-19 examinations disaster were

given sweet relief as 'A' grades were joyously handed back, acquittal for all. All parents felt this story should be told, the knock-on effect of Covid-19 not just on the tourism industry, flights and life in general but also on our education system and our children. I am told that this September the number of students going back to do 'A' levels exceeds the previous year, a promising start on the back of the Chief Auditor's report.

My story is not just about PAS though, it's about all schools on St Helena, having had two children track through the system we understand the problems in retaining teachers, continuity, lack of appropriate resources at times and trying to ensure every child has access to all opportunities while striving to attain higher standards each year are all part of a complex situation that the department for education faces. This year the government has highlighted education as a top priority, yet there are still discussions to be had around the Apprenticeship Scheme and University Scholarships. There is no doubt that investing in our children and their futures will bring many economic benefits to St Helena whatever they chose to do.

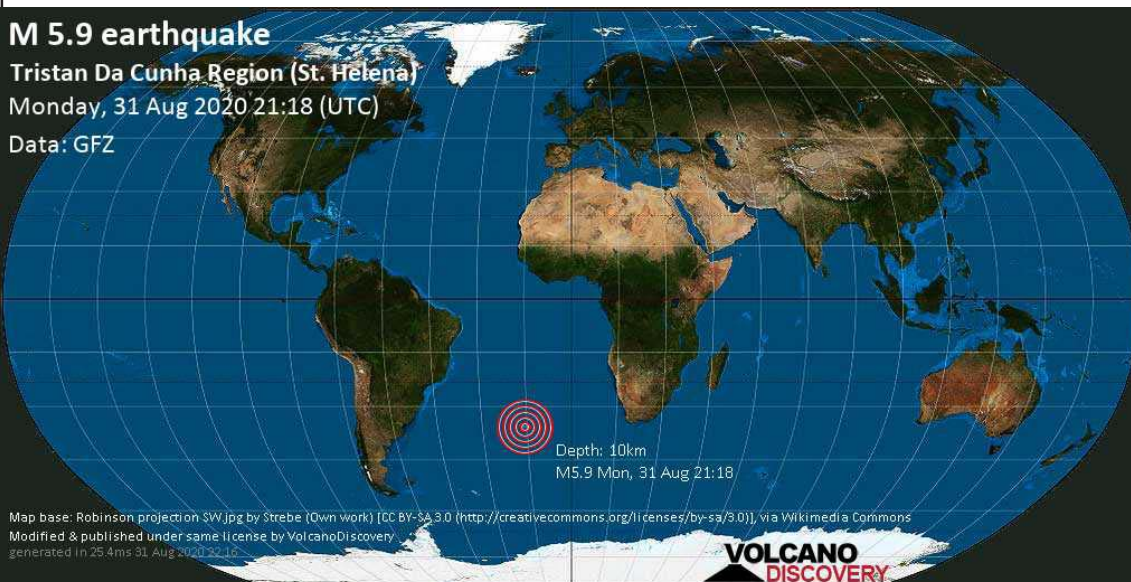
The primary schools are dear to the heart of this community, it's where our children learn many of life's skills of sharing, co-operation and listening (sometimes), many of us enjoy

M 5.9 earthquake

Tristan Da Cunha Region (St. Helena)

Monday, 31 Aug 2020 21:18 (UTC)

Data: GFZ



**Eartquake
near
Tristan
da Cunha
on 31st
August**

Map base: Robinson projection SW.jpg by Strebe (Own work) [CC-BY-SA 3.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons
Modified & published under same license by VolcanoDiscovery
generated in 25.4ms 31 Aug 2020 22:12

Lessons in learning

Tammy Williams

that part of school life that includes musical entertainment, mom's tea towels as a head dress for 'would be *Shepherds*' during church nativity plays, school fetes and Easter parades equally highlighting the value of community life and not just academia.

Perhaps it is time to focus more on that "*Human resource*" as stated by the Chief Auditor, not just on our children but on those that are every day moulding them to be future leaders, a demanding and difficult task that also requires the community's input.

Climate change is a global problem that requires collective participation, it's not just for Governments or Scientists to enforce positive change, and likewise education requires joint accountability. Sometimes we forget, we drop our children off at school or they travel there via school bus and for the rest of the day they become the teacher's 'child'. I think I may have mentioned this already but it's worth repeating, many teachers talk about students who coped well with school life, they always saw their parents and then there were parents they *needed* to see and never did. Students who go on to succeed are also a part of a struggling education system, they also endure a bumpy ride along the way, they are not exempt, and so what's the difference? Teachers say it's parental support, parents say it's teaching support, I think it's both.

As harsh as the Chief Auditor's report may be, finger pointing does not help; collectively the island needs to take a hand in

education. It's not just the teachers responsibility to educate our children but parents, grandparents, families, churches, organisations and businesses too, retirees can take a load of teachers by offering to read to children or help those that are struggling to read.

There is something else we can do and that's champion our children, highlight every success and achievement as the building blocks of our community, bit by bit, piece by piece, and then, let's be grateful for the resources we do have, my sister often talks about under resourced schools in South Africa, every text book and pencil had to be bought, PE kits had to be identical and bought, some schools even asked for financial support for loo rolls and soap.

Here on St Helena we are fortunate enough to have access to resources that are still considered '*luxury*' in other countries including a network of inspirational teachers across all our schools, teachers who are not giving up despite what the Audit report says.

On behalf of all parents we extend sincere gratitude to all our teachers and especially teachers at PAS for their courage in piloting through the stormy seas that arose as a result of the Corona Virus – thank you for your faith in our children and steadfast determination to succeed.

(To Liam Yon from SHG's press office, thanks for allowing me to use your photo of Thomas Fowler, Ethan Johnson and Patrick Peters, proud students on results day)

Puma Energy New Fuel Farm Managers

The Bulk Fuel Farm in Rupert's Valley is a frequently discussed topic, mainly for the disastrous construction of the new installation but there has also been speculations about who will take over the facility when Penspen leaves the role as managers at the end of this month.

As far as we are aware, Penspen has been very critical to the design and construction of the new fuel farm at the top of the Valley. According to a predecessor to the current Manager Dave Dunne there are books of construction flaws and irregularities to address before the facility can open, all this after already spending £83m on the project is dazzling. There are records of rusty pipes, lack of expansion joints, weak foundations, poor painting, and much more. The errors recorded by Penspen were not of their making, it was the doing of poor management by Basil Read aided by lack of funds and knowledge of how a bulk fuel installation should be built.

Warnings from Halcrow, the Project Managers of the Airport and Fuel Installation, were ignored and DfID were signing cheques to Basil Read for work which had not been completed, just to keep the South African company afloat. However, Penspen got handsome reward for their work, £15m for five years of handling fuel with an import value of about

£9m over the same time sounds very 'top heavy', to say the least. This was in no way Penspen's fault, it is the people in SHG and DfID who should be accountable in both the case of the construction and the Penspen contract.

After frequent enquiries it has now come to light that Puma Energy is taking over the management of the BFI after Penspen is leaving. Puma Energy is a multi-national company from Singapore involved in fuel trading all over the world. Puma has a hefty turnover of \$13 Billion and with about 8,000 employees. It will be interesting to know what they think about the facilities on the Island.

SHG has not confirmed the appointment of Puma Energy as new fuel managers at this stage but an announcement will be made in the near future

Mike





Tel: [+290] 22327
Email: independent@helanta.co.sh
[http: www.saint.fm](http://www.saint.fm)

Editorial

The weather last weekend was as filthy as promised – scruffy is too kind a word. My memory is a blur of wind and rain but I recall the wind dying away over Monday night with dawn on Tuesday being as pleasant as anyone can reasonably expect for this time of year. So that, ladies and gentlemen, is another August bank holiday flushed down the toilet. I've said it before and I'll say it again; PLEASE move the winter bank holidays to another season of the year.

Over the next week or so you are spoilt for choice by the clash of consultation meetings. On the one hand you could choose to go to one of the meetings lined up to explain and discuss what is proposed in changes to the way we are governed. On the other hand you could go to a meeting to find out what improvements the engineers have in mind (I hope it's the engineers) for Field Road and Side Path. Next Tuesday, 8th September, a Governance meeting is lined up for Jamestown Community Centre starting at 7pm. At exactly the same time, in the next valley, there will be a meeting in St Michael's Church about Field Road and Side Path. Moving on to Thursday 10th September it's a meeting on a new governance system at Harford Community Centre or go to Kingshurst Community Centre if you want to know what's going to happen with Field Road and Side Path; both starting at 7pm. And finally, on Monday 14th September the two roads will be the subject of discussion at the Museum in Jamestown while just along Side Path, at St Mary's Church in the Briars another public meeting on governance is scheduled. Again, 7pm is the start time for both. Who says there is nothing to do on a winter week-day evening?

Another one of those documents has turned up about Vision and Strategy, Plan and Programme. This one is dated 12th May 2020 but it has only just been made public – about 12 hours ago as I write this. What caught my eye was Section 4 called "St Helena's Future". Somebody knows about this! I read it. It's priceless. It's so good I'm going to copy it here, the complete thing. Here goes.

"The 10-Year Plan, the SEDP and the IER together describe a Vision for St Helena in 2030 as having achieved a lot in terms of being a healthy, safe and prosperous place for families to work and live. St Helena will be an attractive destination for tourists, businesses and inward investors. The tourism product will be well developed and marketing of the island will have succeeded in St Helena being a well known and go-to green and blue destination for a variety of visitor types: those interested in the island purely from curiosity, those interested in cultural and military history, bird-watcher and ecological interest groups, adventure tourists (hill-walking, climbing/abseiling, diving, game-fishing, mountain-biking, etc), and those who just want a quiet faraway place for relaxation, wellness and "finding themselves".

Reliable and affordable digital services will have transformed lives and businesses. The freight port at Rupert's and logistics corridor will be combined with affordable shipping to support cost-effective import/export activities.

There will be a tangible sense of achievement among Saints; a contagious sense of well-being that will continue to attract more

inward investment and more residents. St Helena in 2030 will be on a sustainable development path towards its 2050 goals with an active economy led by a well-developed tourism product, supported by adequate, reliable and affordable infrastructure."

The next section goes on to list what needs to be done to achieve this heavenly vision. It's more realistic and includes an endless list of gargantuan tasks, One bit that caught my eye (again) was:- "A new "Compact" could be signed in the near future that would shift the SHG-DFID relationship from donor-recipient to a development partnership, leading to greater and more efficient collaboration between SHG and the wider UK government ".

A new partnership with FCDO (was DFID) is certainly needed for a variety of very good reasons. The proposed new governance structure will not work unless many changes are made to the way FCDO (Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office) both in the way it works with us and the culture of the UK relationship with this Island.

The author of the new 'vision thing', John Cox, is well known to many. He has worked in St Helena on a number of occasions and strikes me as a very able man. He has just departed once more and left his pearls of wisdom for us to contemplate, absorb and understand. I did have a couple of conversations with him during his recent visit. I recalled when speaking to him an infrastructure strategy document of many years ago which he was responsible for. I can't remember exactly when it was published but I did get my copy of his report from the dear departed Sharon Wainwright. Unlike Mr Cox's 2020 vision, back then the document he wrote on infrastructure was not made generally available. When I mentioned this historical document we exchanged wry smiles. Very little envisioned in his writing at that time actually saw the light of day. So, it looks like we are going to have another go!

**Enjoy your weekend
Vince**



Shift the SHG-DFID relationship from donor-recipient to a development partnership



Panel Session:
Innovation and Sustainable Development in the South Atlantic

Sign up for free: www.virtualislandsummit.com



Enterprise St Helena



"We're really excited to be participating in the Virtual Summit which gives us an unparalleled opportunity to participate in an international summit, with over 150 speakers and connecting people from over 500 Islands around the world. Bringing us together with people finding creative solutions to many of the common challenges islands face, enabling knowledge exchange and creating new networking opportunities to support sustainable island development".

Rebecca Cairns-Wicks, Coordinator, St Helena Research Institute

What will the sessions include?

Education's Role in Enabling Sustainable Development

Director of Education & Employment, Wendy Benjamin, will be speaking about the role of education in enabling sustainable development on St Helena. Wendy, whose experience in the education field on St Helena spans over 31 years, will be reflecting on where education has come from, current trends and attainment, including achieving ambitious goals for lifelong learning

St Helena's Achievements and Ambitious Renewable Energy Strategy and Targets

The Honourable Russell Yon, Member of Legislative Council, will be speaking about St Helena's ambitious target to become 100% self-sufficient on the national grid through renewable energy by 2022 and how this is being achieved. St Helena currently produces about 25% of electricity for the national grid from renewable energy

Growing the Digital Economy

Darrin Henry, Entrepreneur and Co-founder of the Inside St Helena Digital App will be speaking about challenges and opportunities in growing the digital economy in the lead up to the introduction of the fibre optic cable next year

Panel Session: Shining to the Future: Islands as Lighthouses of Innovation

SHAPE - an Example of Island Innovation

St Helena's Active Participation in Enterprise (SHAPE) Board of Directors Chairperson, Lolly Young, will be speaking about SHAPE and their mission to guide and support disabled and vulnerable people towards independence and self-reliance

HOT TOPIC

Which way for St Helena?

A public consultation for the two alternate systems of governance for St Helena either a revised Committee system or a Ministerial form of government is taking place during September.

Saint FM will have regular radio discussions each Tuesday at 11.15am with members of the Governance Commission, the interview will be repeated each Wednesday at 6pm and an on-line podcast will also be available each Wednesday, simply go to WWW.saint.fm and our Listen Again page, Saint FM helps you stay connected to hot topics the quick and easy way.



Connect SAINT HELENA LTD TIP OF THE WEEK

When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your non-edible plants.

Governance Commission Report



This is the 3rd in a series of articles summarising the main points in the Governance Commission Report. The first article gave the reasons why the present committee system of government is generally agreed to be inadequate and gave an overview of what changes can be made to improve the system of government. Last week the 2nd article looked in more detail at how the committee system could be improved. This week we give more information on what the Governance Commission report says about changing to a ministerial system of government. An improved committee system and a ministerial system are judged against how they can best provide better political responsibility and accountability as well as quicker and more effective decision-making.

The opening pages of the Governance Commission Report explain what is being looked for in an improved system of government. The three basic criteria are:-

- **Political responsibility** - Ensure someone is ultimately responsible and identifiable for making a political decision
- **Political accountability** - Ensure someone is accountable politically for delivering result
- **Timeliness in decision-making and implementation** - Ensure decisions and results should be achieved more promptly.

The Governance Commission referred to the first and second reports by Professor Sarkin; the report from the Governance Commission suggests how the Sarkin recommendations can be made to work best in St Helena. Responsibility and accountability is seen to be more effective when the fewest number of people are held responsible or accountable. Full accountability can only be achieved if one person is held accountable or responsible for any specific area of government. The Governance Commission thought full and effective accountability should work well with a ministerial system of government.

What would a ministerial system look like?

For St Helena the Governance Commission thought a team of five ministers leading the government would be sufficient. Each minister would be responsible for one of five directorates in a re-organised government administration. A minister being responsible for a directorate means that person would be answerable for the decisions taken and the service provided by the directorate. The service provided includes how well decisions are put into practice as well as any delays or cost overruns. The minister would also be answerable for the overall quality of the day-to-day service offered by the directorate.

One of the five ministers would be the Chief Minister. This person would be elected by all Elected Members. After being elected the Chief Minister would choose the other four ministers from the other Elected Members. The Chief Minister would be individually responsible for government finance,

economic development and the overall government spending budget. The Chief Minister would also be responsible for the overall performance of the government. When appointing the other four ministers the Chief Minister will allocate their individual responsibilities. This would make an individual minister responsible specifically for a defined government service such as public health, education, natural resources or infrastructure.

Political Responsibility

Each minister would be personally responsible to the Chief Minister for the decisions, policies and legislation either proposed or already in place for the directorate he or she leads. Each minister would be expected to explain new policies, proposed legislation, achievements, delays and the financial performance of the directorate. These explanations will need to be made to the ministerial team, other Elected Members and publicly. The ministerial system includes a system of scrutiny which runs alongside. Elected Members who are not ministers will lead the scrutiny process. Ministers will be required to explain proposals, new decision and policies to a scrutiny committee comprising Elected Members who do not have a ministerial role. The improvement in political accountability is expected to be significant.

Political Accountability

Each minister would work closely with the director who is head of that part of the government administration for which the minister holds responsibility. The director and the senior officials in the directorate will offer professional and technical advice to the minister and the minister, in turn, can obtain specific information from the government administration. The minister may want additional information before making a decision or finalising a new policy. The director and the rest of the government administration can advise and support the minister who leads the directorate but the minister takes the responsibility for decisions made. The directorates will implement the decisions, policies and legislation put in place by ministers whether or not the advice of the director and the senior officials has been followed. In order to make progress on difficult or contentious issues, it is up to the minister to explain, inform and persuade other ministers and Elected Members that the proposed course of action is the best one to follow. Public consultations will be included in these processes as prescribed. The improvement in political accountability is also expected to be significant.

Timeliness of Decision-making

Decisions will be made by the ministerial team made up of the Chief Minister and his four ministers. However, major decisions will normally need to be made with the support of the majority of Elected Members. Legislative Council would have a majority of non-ministerial members. Routine day-to-day decisions which do not need to go to Legislative Council can be made quickly. This means the ministers will need to persuade the majority of Elected Members their course of action is the best way forward when new policies or major changes are proposed. Legislative Council will be able to question and scrutinise the proposals. This arrangement is expected to result in a reasonable improvement in the timeliness of decision-making.

Governance Commission Report



The role of Non-Ministerial Elected Members

If five Elected Members take ministerial roles, there would be seven other Elected Members who would have other duties to fulfil.

The Governance Commission suggested changing the name of Councillors to 'Legislators'. There should continue to be 12 Legislators forming Legco. The Commission put forward the following roles and functions for Legislators without ministerial responsibilities:-

Legislator's Functions

7 Legislators in Legco would not hold ministerial portfolios. These Legislators would continue to:

- Review and approve proposed legislation
- Lobby for action on personally important issues
- Examine and approve the government's budget and expenditures
- Debate and question policies presented by the Chief Minister/Ministers
- Scrutinise Ministers' actions and performance of their ministry
- Represent constituents concerns
- Comment externally since not necessarily bound to the Chief Minister by collective responsibility

There could be two Scrutiny Committees (SCs) made up of Legislators without ministerial portfolios.

- 'Committee 1' should scrutinise the two larger ministries and 'Committee 2', the other three ministries
- In addition, Legislators without ministerial portfolios

should participate in the Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

- Both the SCs and PAC should be permitted to co-opt specialists to provide specific additional expertise
- Legco proceedings should be re-organised to have a weekly Chief Minister Questions period, where Legislators can address the Chief Minister directly.
- Ministers Questions periods for the other Ministers should be arranged on say, a monthly basis
- Legislators without ministerial portfolios should be given time in Legco to hold debates on subjects of personal importance to a Legislator and the opportunity to present private members' bills. These should be in addition to the time permitted in Legco for the Chief Minister and Ministers to hold debates on their own topics
- Legislators without ministerial portfolios should each have assigned post-election a geographical district on St Helena and will become the sole Legislator representing the constituents within their district. The constituency districts should be agreed in advance of a general election.
- The Speaker should preside over which Legislator goes to each constituency.
- Legco should become a purely political forum. No public official (e.g. Chief Secretary, Financial Secretary) should be a member of Legco. [Note: The Attorney General may need to remain as a non-voting member to ensure appropriate legal advice is available.]
- Legislators without ministerial portfolios should collectively have clerical support and/or funded secretarial support.

Next week the Independent will report more details on the Governance Commission's view on how the proposals, decisions, budget management and administrative performance of ministers can be scrutinised.

'BOOZE IT, YOU LOSE IT' DRINK-DRIVE CAMPAIGN - FINAL WEEK

Message from the St Helena Police Service

The final week of our 'Booze It, You Lose It' Drink-Drive Awareness Campaign resulted in a variety of reports received.

One person was arrested on suspicion of driving whilst over the prescribed limit and failing to report a road traffic collision. Police are carrying out further enquiries into the matter.

One vehicle was being driven without insurance, this matter is still being investigated.

Two reports of obstruction were received and dealt with. Parking is a concern that is being raised on a regular basis and it is unfortunate the difficult situation we have with there being minimal parking spaces in Jamestown. It is however still an offence to cause an obstruction and drivers are reminded to be considerate when parking.

A vehicle was observed to be without a front number plate, the driver was stopped and the matter dealt with.

Members of the public reported a concern that a person was continuously driving well under the speed limit. Appropriate advice was given on the matter. Driving under the speed limit is not an offence but drivers who decide to drive under the speed limit are advised to please safely allow other drivers, who are driving to the limit, to pass.

In conclusion, although this campaign has come to an end, St Helena Police will continue to be proactive in their approach to drink-driving. It is clear that a change in mind-sets is needed to work towards a safer, drink-drive-free St Helena.

Campaign statistics will be published next week.

The message is clear and out there - **Don't drink and drive!** Keep safe always.



St Helena
Government



QUARANTINE FACILITY CHARGING POLICY

St Helena Government



St Helena
Government

• SHG revises Quarantine
Facility Charging Policy

• All fees reduced by one third

• All persons with St Helenian Status
regardless of their normal place of abode
to be charged at the same rate as those
ordinarily resident on St Helena

REVISED QUARANTINE FACILITY CHARGING POLICY

Following feedback from the public, St Helena Government (SHG) has revised the Quarantine Facility Charging Policy which sets out the charges for the use of quarantine facilities on St Helena during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The revised Policy can be found on the SHG website at:
<https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/>.

The revised fees to be charged for persons required by the Public Health (Prevention of formidable diseases)(Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 to enter quarantine at SHG's Quarantine Facility at Bradley's Complex or a satellite site are:

1. Persons aged 17 or older will be charged £20 per day for every day they are required to quarantine, providing:

- a) They have St Helenian status or are ordinarily resident on the Island
- b) Their arrival on St Helena is to fulfil a contract of employment of at least one year and they can provide proof of contract of employment, or with a bona fide intention to live on St Helena for at least one year from the date of arrival providing evidence of this intention.

2. Every person under the age of 17 will be charged £10 per day for every day they are required to quarantine

3. All other persons not eligible under 1 (a) or (b), or 2 above will be charged £40 per day for every day they are required to quarantine

- a) Persons in this category who are returning to the Island on compassionate grounds where they are returning to visit a terminally ill relative or following the death of a relative may apply for a 50% reduction in the fee providing they can provide evidence to support their request.

The total fees payable shall be charged at the end of a person's period of quarantine and shall become immediately payable to the Government.

Medical Fees & Charges Chargeable While in Quarantine

If a person requires medical treatment while in quarantine the published Health Fees & Charges will apply.

Exemptions

The following persons are exempted from paying the fees chargeable:

- a) A patient returning from overseas medical treatment arranged by the St Helena Government Health Directorate
- b) A person returning with a patient under (a) above and who was approved by the St Helena Government Health Directorate to be the official carer of the person referred for overseas medical treatment
- c) A dependent who for family reasons was required to accompany a carer under (b) above. A dependent person in this case refers to a child under the age of 17 years.

SHG, 2 September 2020

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: www.sainthelena.gov.sh



GOVERNANCE COMMISSION: PROGRAMME OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

On Friday, 28 August 2020, Legislative Council agreed to commence public engagement during September on the two alternate systems of governance for St Helena (either a revised Committee system or a Ministerial form of government). These have been developed through the work of Professor Sarkin when he visited the Island during last summer and most recently, the Governance Commission. They offer the opportunity to achieve the three major improvements asked for by the community: clearer political responsibility for decisions, clearer political accountability for services, and swifter decision-making.

A programme of events, which members of the Governance Commission have kindly offered to facilitate, has been scheduled for the coming weeks. These will consist of public meetings in each community centre, radio discussions, media articles and a planned Youth Parliament debate. The present schedule for September can be found below. Other events may be added in the coming weeks.

Tuesday, 8 September	Jamestown Community Centre, 7pm
Thursday, 10 September	Harford Community Centre, 7pm
Monday, 14 September	St Mary's Church, The Briars, 7pm
Tuesday, 15 September	Guinea Grass Community Centre, 7pm
Thursday, 17 September	Kinghurst Community Centre, 7pm
Monday, 21 September	Sandy Bay Community Centre, 7pm
Wednesday, 23 September	Blue Hill Community Centre, 7pm
Thursday, 24 September	Half Tree Hollow Community Centre, 7pm
Monday, 28 September	Silver Hill Bar, Levelwood, 7pm



Governor's Office
St Helena, Ascension and
Tristan da Cunha

Following the conclusion of the public engagement events, feedback on the views and enthusiasm for a change in the governance system will be reported to the Legislative Council. Thereafter, they would be approached to decide on either a Formal Consultation or Consultative Poll as the means for the public to decide which of the two systems of governance should be adopted.

The Governance Commission report and summary presentation, as well as Professor Sarkin's reports, are available on the Public Information, Reports, and Policies page of the SHG website: <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/>

Governor's Office, St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
2 September 2020

THE NEW FOREIGN, COMMONWEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (FCDO)

The new UK Government Department, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) is officially launched on Wednesday, 2 September.

The FCDO will unite development and diplomacy that brings together the best of Britain's international effort into one government department. It will continue to demonstrate the UK's role to act as a force for good in the world.

The UK is acknowledged as a world leader in international development, helping overcome extreme poverty in developing countries by tackling medical challenges including coronavirus, saving lives in humanitarian crises and promoting education and sustainability.

The objectives of the new overseas department and a reset of the UK's international priorities will be shaped by the outcome of a major assessment underway across the UK Government, known as the Integrated Review. It is expected the Review will conclude before the end of 2020 and represents the biggest review of foreign, defence and development policy since the Cold War. The British Overseas Territories will remain an important component of the UK's international interests.

Priorities for the new Department in St Helena include continuing to promote good governance, supporting essential public services, and delivering capital investment and encouraging economic opportunities through the continuing Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP).

Governor Dr Philip Rushbrook said:

"The FCO and DFID had a long history of working together to deliver, amongst other things, important projects such as the Airport, technical cooperation support and environmental improvements for St Helena. I welcome the creation of FCDO as an opportunity to unify the UK Government's efforts to increase St Helena's capacity to build a sustainable and prosperous future for itself."

You can continue to contact the Governor's Office through existing email addresses and telephone numbers. FCDO members of the Governor's Office will also be contactable through a new email address from 2 September: first.surname@fcdo.gov.uk

Governor's Office, St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
2 September 2020



Governor's Office
St Helena, Ascension and
Tristan da Cunha

More on Dick's good behaviour

Last week we reported on one of the medals exhibited in the museum which was awarded to slaves who showed consistent good behaviour. The medal shown last week from the museum exhibits was awarded to 'Dick'; he received the good behaviour award three times. Edward Baldwin, best known for his renovation of the Island's cannon, is involved with many things associated with the museum; he contacted the *Independent* to add further information to last week's report.

Apart from receiving the medal, slaves who were awarded the medal also received a cash award of two guineas, which amounts to about £400 at today's money values. Dick received the award three times between 1802 and 1806 and therefore received about £1,200. Between 1802 and 1806, 98 awards were made to slaves showing consistent good behaviour. As with Dick, some other slaves received the award on more than one occasion. The cash awards were funded by the slave-owners. There were three classes of award. The highest class received a medal and two guineas. Those who received the 2nd or 3rd class award received smaller amounts of cash and no medal.

The museum has three exhibits of good behaviour medals awarded to slaves. Two are photo exhibits but the medal awarded to Samuel Caesar is the real thing. Samuel received his medal in 1824. The good behaviour incentive scheme was first introduced by Governor Patton in 1802, but when he departed in 1807 the incentive scheme was not continued until 1823. Governor Walker, who held office from 1823 to 1828, re-introduced the scheme during his first year.



The medal awarded to Samuel Caesar in 1824, now on display in the museum

Edward Baldwin also points out the 1807 Act of Parliament abolished the Transatlantic Slave Trade but it was not until 1833 that enslavement itself was abolished with the Slavery Abolition Act. This Act freed some slaves in the British Empire but in the Caribbean they were still forced to work for a period of 4 years by their former slave owners on low wages; it was called an apprenticeship. The ties between slave and slave-owner were not cut until 1838.

The 1833 Act did not apply to East India Company possessions where full emancipation of slaves also dragged on to 1838. In St Helena the importation of slaves was banned in 1792 and the last slaves were freed in 1834.

The first slaves brought to St Helena came with the first settlers in 1659. They were captured from the Cape Verde Is-



APPLICATIONS FOR CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS 2021-2022 OPEN FROM 3 SEPTEMBER

Applications for the 2021-2022 Chevening Scholarship Awards will open this year from **3 September to 3 November**.

Fully funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Chevening Scholarships are aimed at those with leadership potential needed to create a better future within their respective countries. The programme is open to over 160 eligible countries around the world which includes St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha. The programme allows candidates to study for a Master's degree in the UK for a period of one year, with the next round of studies commencing in September/October 2021.

Is there certain criteria that must be met before I can apply?

- Yes, you must be a citizen of St Helena, Ascension or Tristan da Cunha
- You must have completed all components of an undergraduate degree to gain entry at postgraduate level
- You must have at least two years' work experience
- You must **not** have studied in the UK previously with funding from a UK government-funded scholarship
- You must return to your country after your study in the UK for a minimum period of two years.

Further information on Chevening can be found by visiting www.chevening.org which includes how to find eligible courses, the online application system and the application timetable.

You may also contact Chevening Officer, Kerry Lane, at the Governor's Office on +290 22308 or email Kerry.Lane@fco.gov.uk who will be able to assist with your queries.

**Governor's Office, St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
25 August 2020**

More on Dick's good behaviour

lands. Most other people enslaved by the East India Company came from India and South East Asia together with a small number from Madagascar. Dick, the multiple medal winner came from Bengal.

Edward Baldwin also points out, "St Helena was never part of the notorious "Triangular Trade" moving slaves from Africa to the Americas and the Caribbean, returning to Europe with sugar and tobacco." St Helena's involvement with the Triangular or Trans-Atlantic slave trade started when the Royal Navy West Africa Squadron released slaves they had liberated from slaves ships at the shores of St Helena. The number of Liberated

Africans who made St Helena their home is small compared with the Cape Verde, India and South East Asia people brought here during the East India Company era of slavery. Few Africans were brought to St Helena as slaves. The legacy left by the indented Chinese labour is also probably greater. Mr Baldwin also refers to the often quoted '400 years of slavery' and emphasises this refers to Jamestown in Virginia USA where the first slaves were traded and put ashore in 1619. Slavery in St Helena spanned 1659 to 1834 (approx) a period of 175 years.

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

A memorial of global importance

In the lower part of Ruperts Valley there is a memorial of global importance in the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade. That memorial is No 1 building in the Records and locally called the Hospital, built to accommodate liberated African slaves brought to St Helena by the Royal Navy, rescued from slave ships. Over a period of almost three decades 26, 000 were brought to the island. Because of how badly they were treated in the slave trade, 8,000 died before, on or shortly after arrival. Most are buried in Ruperts Valley. Islanders dealt with the freed slaves on arrival, rehabilitated and cared for those who survived.

To give some idea of the appalling conditions and diseases slaves were subjected to can be seen in the memorial in the Castle gardens to the sailors who died on one of the British Navy ships, the Waterwitch. Inscribed on the memorial is *"To the memory of their shipmates who died while serving on the coast of Africa....the greatest number died while in captured slave vessels. The crew of such vessels were brought to St Helena to face trial in the Vice-Admiralty Court here. The inscription goes on to say "This island is selected for the record because three lie buried here and because the deceased as well as the surviving comrades, ever met the warmest welcome from the inhabitants".*

It is the right setting in the public gardens in Jamestown to show respect for those seamen who died liberating Africans in the transatlantic slave trade with an acknowledgement that St Helena was the place chosen to erect the memorial because of the welcome given to the officers and crew by the people. That monument was erected in 1843.

What is being done today to recognise

the Africans rescued by the Royal Navy who died and are buried in Ruperts Valley.? There is a memorial there in the stone building erected at the time to accommodate the Liberated Africans, the only building left standing. It is a memorial of global importance to the many freed slaves who are buried in the valley. Currently, this building is within the site of a plan to have a container handling facility in the lower part of Ruperts Valley. The plan does not provide the setting and give importance to the building as a memorial to the thousands of Liberated Africans who died. .

The building also stands as a monument to the role St Helena played in the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade and the role Islanders played in the rehabilitation and care of Liberated Africans brought to St. Helena.

What message is being given to the outside world if this building and the setting in Ruperts Valley connected with the Liberated Africans are not given the respect, prominence and global recognition they deserve?

Basil George

PROPOSED REHABILITATION OF SIDE PATH AND FIELD ROAD PROJECT PUBLIC MEETINGS

The SHG Programme Management Unit (PMU) will be holding a series of Public Meetings to discuss the proposed Rehabilitation of Side Path and Field Road Project.

This project was approved by Executive Council in May 2020 as a priority project for 2020-2022, to be funded from the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) and is intended to upgrade both Field Road and Side Path Road.

The Public Meetings are scheduled to take place as follows:

Venue	Date	Time
Harford Community Centre	7 September 2020	7pm
St Michaels Church, Rupert's	8 September 2020	7pm
Kingshurst Community Centre	10 September 2020	7pm
The Museum, Jamestown	14 September 2020	7pm



Members of the public are encouraged to attend to discuss and provide their views and comments on the proposed rehabilitation works. **SHG, 2 September 2020**

FROM ST HELENA MAGISTRATES' COURT

18th June 2020

Julian Riccardo Thomas (27) of Bottom Woods, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle whilst the proportion of alcohol in his breath exceeded the prescribed limit. Mr Thomas was sentenced to a Community Service Order of 60 hours and disqualified from driving for the extended period of 3 years. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

24th June 2020

Gareth Scott Hudson (25) of Ladder Hill, pleaded guilty to abduction of a child and burglary. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Hudson was sentenced to a total of 18 months imprisonment.

25th June 2020

Paul Rex Crowie (47) of New Ground, pleaded guilty to cultivation of cannabis and threatening to destroy or damage property. Mr Crowie was fined £50.00 and ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

2nd July 2020

Maxcene Vidal (20) of Half Tree Hollow, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle whilst the proportion of alcohol in his breath exceeded the prescribed limit and careless driving. Mr Vidal was fined £320.00 and disqualified from driving for a period of 20 months. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

Andy Stuart Williams (38) of New Ground, pleaded guilty to common assault. Mr Williams was fined £75.00 and ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

8th July 2020

Jay Lee Marc Thomas (30) of Bottom Woods, pleaded guilty to failing to stop, dangerous driving, failing to supply a specimen of breath and resisting arrest. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Thomas was placed on a Probation Order for a period of 12 months with a requirement to perform 40 hours of unpaid work. He was disqualified from driving for the extended period of 3 years. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

Murray Clifton Henry (29) of Thompsons Hill, pleaded guilty to inciting a child under the age of 16 years to engage in sexual activity. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Henry was placed on a Probation Order for a period of 2 years with a requirement to perform 140 hours of unpaid work. He was also made the subject of a Sexual Offences Prevention Order and Notification Requirements. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

9th July 2020

Samantha Jane Yon (47) of Longwood, pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly. She was sentenced to a Conditional Discharge of 12 months and ordered to pay costs of £15.00.



Shagayeo Andrews (21) of Half Tree Hollow, pleaded guilty to theft, using a motor vehicle without 3rd party insurance, driving without a valid driving licence, driving whilst over the prescribed limit, dangerous driving and making a false statement to the police. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Andrews was sentenced to a total of 9 months imprisonment.

20th July 2020

Brian Anthony Joshua (53) of Bottom Woods, pleaded guilty to sending a misleading message. He was sentenced to a Community Service Order of 180 hours. He was also ordered to pay costs.

30th July 2020

Austin Hopkins (37) of Longwood, pleaded guilty to affray, common assault, having a bladed article in a public place and having assaulted, obstructed and resisted a police officer. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Hopkins was sentenced to a total of 18 months imprisonment.

6th August 2020

Jaylee Marc Thomas (32) of Ladder Hill, pleaded guilty to offences of assault occasioning actual bodily harm and affray. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Thomas was sentenced to a Community Service Order of 100 hours. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

7th August 2020

Michael Joshua (20) of Alarm Forest, pleaded guilty to inciting a child under the age of 16 years to engage in sexual activity. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr Joshua was placed on a Probation Order for a period of 18 months. He was also made the subject of a Sexual Offences Prevention Order and Notification Requirements. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

Richard John (35) of Sapper Way, pleaded guilty to assault of a child. Sentence had been adjourned for a Pre-Sentence Report. Mr John was sentenced to a Community Service Order of 40 hours.

13th August 2020

Brett Isaac (18) of Sandy Bay, pleaded guilty to careless driving. Mr Isaac was fined £60.00 and ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

David Alan Leo (42) of Jamestown, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle whilst the proportion of alcohol in his breath exceeded the prescribed limit. Mr Leo was fined £115.00 and disqualified from driving for a period of 18 months. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

20th August 2020

Andrew Glen Osborne (36) of Jamestown, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle whilst the proportion of alcohol in his breath exceeded the prescribed limit. Mr Osborne was fined £40.00 and disqualified from driving for a period of 18 months. He was also ordered to pay costs of £15.00.

ST HELENA POLICE ISSUES WEEKLY REPORT

WEEK OF 17-23 AUGUST 2020

St Helena Police will be providing regular updates to the community on reports that are dealt with on a weekly basis. The reestablishment of Weekly Police Reports were requested by members of the public during the 2019 Public Opinion Survey. The purpose of these updates is to ensure that the community is aware of what is happening on-Island to ensure we are 'Altogether Safer'. Reports of a sensitive nature, such as sexual offences and domestic incidents, will not contain any details of the allegation(s).

Reports, which are recorded, evidences the type of incidents that St Helena Police are deployed to. In addition to dealing with these reports, Police have a number of regular ongoing operations including the current 'Booze It, You Lose It' Drink-Drive Campaign, community engagement and surgeries. Police resources are also used to deliver court summonses.

Police Inspector, Julianne Stevens, said:

"Despite our small Policing team, we aim to always deal with reports that are made and we treat each report as importantly as the other. There will be times when there is a delay, however we will still do what we can to serve you as best and as quickly as possible."

During the week of Monday, 17, to Sunday, 23 August 2020, Police dealt with a total of 43 reports, resulting in three arrests.

There were two coronial investigations undertaken on behalf of the Coroner.

Two reports of theft were made, with both under investigation. The public is reminded that permanently depriving another of their belongings is an offence. All reports of thefts should be reported to Police as soon as possible in order to be able to capture evidence quickly and ensure a more favourable outcome for the victim.

A report of underage drinking was made, however no details were provided to support the allegation. Police will therefore include this concern in their Policing Plan to ensure this is looked into on a regular basis.

Two road traffic collisions occurred, resulting in both persons being arrested. While one of the incidents remain under investigation, the other resulted in a person being charged with driving whilst over the prescribed limit as well as failing to stop.

As a result of a road traffic collision, an offence of behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace was committed and dealt with.

Two reports were made of inconsiderate driving. The persons responsible were given appropriate advice, however should their behaviour continue following this decision, a different course of action will be taken.

A report of loud music was made and dealt with.



Criminal damage was committed whereby graffiti was daubed in the Duke of Edinburgh Playground toilets, this matter is still under investigation.

A report of verbal harassment was reported and dealt with.

A separate report of harassment was made, resulting in a person being arrested and bailed, with conditions, to return to the Police Station whilst further enquiries were made.

A concern was reported for a member of the public who appeared to have been assaulted however no disclosure was given. The public should know that no person has the right to assault anyone and, should they do so, reporting this to the Police is the best course of action.

A report was made of a person being drunk in a public place. Two separate reports of fallen trees were made. The Agriculture & Natural Resources Division was contacted and the areas in question were made safe.

Further to the reports for the week, there are ongoing community concerns around use of bus shelters, loud music, abandoned disused vehicles around the Island, neighbour disputes, parking, and licensed premises. All of these concerns will be addressed adopting a multi-agency approach, with Police working in partnership with other organisations on-Island.

Upcoming community events during this long weekend include the 12-Hour Music Extravaganza, Scouts Sports Day, and a Sponsored Walk, all of which will require Police presence, organised during Safety Advisory Group meetings.

Should you have a report please call our Police Headquarters on tel: 22626. Our controllers will take your report details and make an assessment, which will then be followed up by a Police Officer. Details are pertinent, therefore please be patient and understanding when you are asked for information.

Until next week - Stay Safe!
SHG 28 August 2020



St Helena
Government



BERTRANDS COTTAGE AVAILABLE FOR FIXED TERM RENTAL

Bertrands Cottage is currently available for fixed term rental for either commercial or residential use. The Cottage comes fully furnished and is 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 Wednesday 16th September 2020.

Terms and Conditions will apply.



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



BANK OF ST HELENA OPENING HOURS - SEPTEMBER 2020

Main Branch - Banking Hall

Monday to Friday	08:45 – 15:00
Saturday	08:30 – 12:30

Wharf Kiosk

Thursday and Friday		09:00 – 14:30
Saturday	19 September	08:45 – 12:30
Saturday	26 September	08:45 – 12:30

Remote Banking

ANRD, Scotland	Monday	21 September	09:30 – 13:00
HTH Supermarket	Thursday	24 September	10:00 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Tuesday	29 September	09:30 – 14:00

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

T. +290 22390 · F. +290 22553 · email: info@sainthelenabank.com · web www.sainthelenabank.com

Established and regulated under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017 and the Company Ordinance, 2004



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



@sainthelenabank



Bank of St Helena Ltd



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

Fuel Attendant

Within the Jamestown Fuel Station

Job Outline

To assist with the day-to-day operations of the Jamestown Fuel Station ensuring maximum performance and quality service is delivered on a safe, consistent and timely basis.

Interested Persons Should:

- Be customer focused and target driven
- Ideally have Cash Handling experience
 - Have Health & Safety awareness
- Have the ability to undertake physical and manual handling duties
 - Be competent in Maths, English and IT
- Be self motivated, flexible with a positive attitude, and able to work well in a team environment

Salary for the position is £7,463 per annum, (£621.87 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 15 September 2020



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc
Is seeking part-time

Coffee Pickers

Within the Coffee Plantations

Interested applicants should:

- Be able to undertake physically demanding duties and walk up and down slopes without aid
 - Be able to perform manual handling duties & lift weights up to 20kg
 - Be comfortable working outside in varying weather conditions
 - Be flexible to work outside of normal working hours if required

As a Coffee-picker, you will be paid according to the amount of coffee you are able to pick, at the rate of £1.65 per kilogram.

If interested, please submit your
Name, Address and Telephone
Number

to the Human Resources

Department on either

Telephone Number: 22380

Email:

hradmin@solomons.co.sh; or

Fax Number: 22423



CARE CAMPAIGN

The Children & Adult Social Care Directorate will once again be hosting a **CARE CAMPAIGN** to recruit Care Assistants and Support Workers to work within the different sections across their directorate.

Date 16 and 18 September 2020
Venues Community Care Centre and Brick House
Time 10am to 3pm

Interested persons are invited to go along to either of the two venues to:

- Meet with members of the Children & Adult Social Care team —this is an exciting opportunity to learn more about working in social care and to get answers to any practice-related queries you may have
- Take advantage of assistance with completing application forms and attend 'on the spot' interviews

Potential appointments are subject to satisfactory clearances, such as a police vetting certificate, completion of a medical declaration form and references.

Salary for these posts is in Grade B, commencing at £6,890 per annum.



If you are interested, please contact any of the following:

Section	Name	Telephone No.	E-mail
Community Care Centre	Rosalie Brown	23090	rosalie.brown@sainthelena.gov.sh
Piccolo Hill	Nicole Hercules	25119	nicole.hercules@sainthelena.gov.sh
Ebony View	Deborah Baldwin	23312	deborah.baldwin@sainthelena.gov.sh
Cape Villa & Deasons Centre	Gillian Brooks	22713	gillian.brooks@sainthelena.gov.sh



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

SHAPE is inviting Expressions of Interest from suitably experienced persons to carry out the works listed below:

SHAPE (St Helena's Active Participation in Enterprise) was established in 2008. We are a social enterprise providing training and work opportunities, in a supportive environment, for vulnerable adults who need help to develop skills to enable them to become employed. We believe that we are the face of business enterprise, employment and engagement of people with disabilities in St Helena and we are proving to be a pioneer of 'green' business initiatives. We are a developing organisation in all aspects, not just in our business ventures but in our advocacy for people with disabilities.

To provide such services our facilities will need upgrading for safety and regulation purposes. This project forms part of SHAPE's vision and planning for the future. We are always striving to improve the services offered.

As the only social enterprise and the only organisation providing work opportunities for disabled people, we hold a unique position within the island's community.

This is a crucial service supporting St. Helena Government's Adults and Children's Social and Education and Social Care in their provision for people with disabilities.

Tender for the upgrade and rewiring of SHAPE complex.

1. INSTALLATION AND UPGRADE OF ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
2. INSTALLATION AND UPGRADE OF FIRE PROTECTION INFRASTRUCTURE

The submitted expressions of interest should include company name, name of responsible person, title, address, telephone number and email address (if applicable).

Expressions of Interest should be hand delivered in writing to SHAPE Manager or Projects Manager at Connect before 12:00 noon on Friday the 11th September 2020.

For further information please contact the Projects Manager, Ronald de Reuck on telephone number 22255 or SHAPE Manager, Marianne Young-Crowie on telephone number 24690 or email ronald.dereuck@connect.co.sh or shape@helanta.co.sh

25 August 2020



Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Last weekend we saw the curtain raiser for the English top flight when the League Champions Liverpool play FA Cup Winners Arsenal in the Community Shield at Wembley Stadium.

It was Arsenal who emerges as the winners beating Liverpool 5-4 on penalties after the match ended 1-1 at full time.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored a superb goal and netted the winning penalty in a shootout as

Liverpool striker Rhian Brewster, brought on in stoppage time, hit the crossbar with his penalty - the only one not converted in the shootout.

Aubameyang's curling strike gave FA Cup winners Arsenal the lead in the first half before Liverpool substitute Takumi Minamino equalised after the break.

It is the second time in 2 years Liverpool has lost the shield on penalties.



Arsenal Community Shield Winners 2020

Traditionally the Community Shield hales the start of the Premier League season; however this will not be so this season as we have to endure UEFA Nations League matches this week so the Premier League won't begin until Saturday the 12th September when Arsenal travel to Craven Cottage to play Fulham 11.30 BST.

2pm matches will see Crystal Palace face Southampton and West ham will play Newcastle. Liverpool will start the defence of their title against Leeds at 4.30pm. On Sunday West Brom play Leicester at 1pm and Spurs host Everton at 3.30pm. Monday Brighton will play Chelsea and Sheffield United play Wolves at 7pm.

Junior Football Fixtures

Sat 5th Sept

9.15am Primary 6-11 Super Strikers v Yellow Devils
Ref: Nick Stevens
10am Primary 6-11 Ranglers v Predators
Ref: Owen Richards

9.15am 11-15 Galacticos v Rastabouts
Ref: Aiden Yon-Stevens
10am 11-15 Gladiators v Allstars
Ref: Gareth Johnson

SHFA Fixtures

Sat 5th September

1pm Crystal Rangers v Lakers Ref: Rovers
3pm Saints v Axis Ref: Harts

Sun 6th September

1pm Wirebirds v Rovers Ref: Saints
3pm Harts v Bellboys Ref: Lakers



Premier League Fixtures 2020/2021

Burnley v Man Utd (Postpone)

Man City v Aston Villa (Postpone)

Saturday 12 September

11.30am Fulham v Arsenal
2pm Crystal Palace v Southampton
2pm West Ham v Newcastle United
4.30pm Liverpool v Leeds United

Sunday 13th September

1pm West Brom v Leicester City
3.30pm Spurs v Everton

Monday 14 September

7pm Brighton v Chelsea
7pm Sheffield United v Wolves

Saturday 19 September

11.30pm Everton v West Brom
2pm Leeds United v Fulham
2pm Leicester City v Burnley
4.30pm Man Utd v Crystal Palace

Sunday 20th September

11am Southampton v Spurs
1pm Arsenal v West Ham
1pm Aston Villa v Sheffield United
1pm Newcastle United v Brighton
3.30pm Chelsea v Liverpool

Monday 21st September

7pm Wolves v Man City

Saturday 26 September

12.30pm Brighton v Man Utd
2pm Burnley v Southampton
2pm Crystal Palace v Everton
2pm Spurs v Newcastle United
2pm West Ham v Wolves
4.30pm West Brom v Chelsea

Sunday 27th September

11am Sheffield United v Leeds United
1pm Fulham v Aston Villa
3.30pm Man City v Leicester City

Monday 28th September

7pm Liverpool v Arsenal

The Premiership Fixtures will be published in full as soon as they have been finalised



Premier League

Update on the SHFA Fund Raising Events

Despite the really bad weather on the weekend the St Helena Football Association was pleased with how successful their Fundraising events were.

On Friday the 12 hour music Extravaganza took place at the bottom of the Wharf. 400 to 500 people attended this event; enjoying music provide by the Three Ss; Good Vibes and the Mountain Man, Big Easy, Beverly Thrills and DJ Dustin.

Everyone seems to have enjoyed themselves and the brave few dance in the rain until 6am Saturday morning.

We the SHFA would like to thank the public for their support and was extremely pleased that the event was attended in good spirit and free from any adverse incidents.

We would like to thank the Harbour Master Steve Kirk and his staff for accommodating us; we would also like to thank the Police for their support; all the stall holders who turn up to provide the refreshments, Connect St Helena, Isaac's Contractors, Johnny Dillon, James Fantom, Rodney O'Dean, New Horizons staff. Thanks also to all the businesses who made donations.

Because of this success the St Helena Football Association is planning to have a similar event in the summer during the Christmas Block Leave.

We took in £1274 on the gate; bar profits £568.17, Donations: Coffee Shop £50; Zena Peters £20, Tammy £10, Blue Lantern £25.

On Monday 52 brave persons took part in the Port to Port Sponsored walk; walking from the St Helena Airport to Ruperts Beach a total of 14.6km.

Although this wasn't a race we did had a running clock going for those who wanted to know their times.

Riley Yon was the first to finish; followed by Colin Bargo. Natasha Bargo was the first lady in followed by Tiffany Plato. 100 meals of Fish and Chips were sold after the walk making a profit of £372.61. Thanks to Peter Benjamin for donation the fish and Blue Lantern who donated the fries and salad and who also cooked the meals.

So far we have collected and banked £1830.40 in sponsor money. Tina Yon-Stevens raised the most money collecting £660.



The Brave Walkers



Riley Yon first male in



Sasha Bargo first female in



Tina raised the most sponsor money



Blue Lantern Staff providing the fish and Chips



Once again the SHFA would like to thank the public for their continued support.

Total monies banked so far from the two events are: £4150.18

WHITE HORSE TAVERN & STANDARD BAR

We would appreciate it if our drinking glasses that you might have in your possession could be **RETURNED**. Otherwise it will be strictly plastics used.

It is more enjoyable having a drink from a glass rather than a plastic. If you are leaving the premises then please ask for a plastic.

We have a slogan which says **"IF YOU NEED GLASSES THEN SEE THE OPTICIAN, PLEASE DON'T STEAL OURS."** Glasses can be dropped off by the door.

Thank you, much appreciated.

Diana & Sally

Golf Report for Sunday 31st August 2020



The last competition of the month got underway at 12:00 last Sunday. The weather wasn't as bad. Just an occasional light drizzle and patches of fog with winds picking up from time to time. In terms of August weather, it was fair conditions. A good number of golfers called in to cancel their registration fearing for adverse weather conditions, that left 13 players on the field. Returning an impressive gross 3 over par and net 67 was Mr Scott Crowie who won the August Monthly medal and 1st prize. In second place with net 68 was Mr Bramwell Lumukwana who won the second prize. There were no two ball pool winners. The prizes were presented by the ladies' captain Mrs Helena Stevens. Congratulations to the winners. Back on our competition calendar after a long break is the Galway Cup Sponsored by HE Governor Dr Philip Rushbrook which will take place on Saturday and Sunday 5th and 6th September respectively. Plenty of prizes to be won. Tee off will be 12:00. Registration closes on Friday 4th September at 15:00.

For more information check out our Facebook page @shgc.org.sh

Happy swinging.....!
Contributed by: SHGC



JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE SKITTLES SEASON – 2020/21 RESULTS

DATE: 24 August			
Strugglers -478		Bt	Young Alcoholics - 486
Lady's H Sc	Sally HICKLING	66	Anisa MOYCE 47
Gent's H Sc	David THOMAS	60	Kyle YON 51
Lady's H Sp	Sally HICKLING	14	
Gent's H Sp	Stuart ISAAC	10	Steven BROOKS 10

DATE: 26 August			
Parttimers - 508		Bt	Never Readys - 479
Lady's H Sc	Stacey WILLIAMS	67	
Gent's H Sc	David REYNOLDS	68	Andrew YON 67
Lady's H Sp	Stacey WILLIAMS	12	
Gent's H Sp	David REYNOLDS	16	Andrew YON 15

Up-coming fixtures:

Monday - 14 September: STRUGGLERS V PARTTIMERS
Wednesday - 16 September: YOUNG ALCOHOLICS V SUPER SHOTS



ST. HELENA DIVE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

Date: Monday 14th September 2020

Time: 7.00pm

Where: The Dive Club, the wharf

Join us at the dive club for our 2020 AGM.

Members and non-members welcome.

Refreshments will be provided.

Membership is due on the night or can be paid in advance at the BoSH.

Please let us know in advance of nominations for the committee.

If you have any matters you wish to discuss, please let us know. If you need to get in touch, email us on

shdiveclub@gmail.com

STERLING CHEQUES FOR NEXT FLIGHT

Bank of St Helena Ltd is accepting Sterling Cheques to be sent on the next charter flight from St Helena. Please be advised the Cheques will be sent for clearance before funds are released.

Closing date to submit cheques is 3pm on Wednesday 09 September.

For further information please contact us on customerservices@sainthelenabank.com or 22390.



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



@sainthelenabank



Bank of St Helena Ltd

Head Office: Market Street · Jamestown · St Helena Island · STHL 12Z

T. +290 22390 · F. +290 22553 · email. info@sainthelenabank.com ·

web www.sainthelenabank.com

Established and regulated under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017 and the Company Ordinance, 2004

Microplastic endangers plants and animals as well as marine life

The scary amount of plastic that is in every part of all the oceans has received wide publicity for a long time. Now, the Royal Society in the UK has produced a report which claims 6,300 million tonnes of plastic waste has been produced since 1950 and 79% of it is in landfills or discarded in the natural environment. Scientific tests revealed that oils in plastics and other refuse are responsible for reducing the populations of nematodes and other micro-organisms such as fungi and bacteria. Most of these micro-species help to keep the soil healthy by killing soil pests and insects. The continued discarding of plastics onto the natural environment or the seepage of oils from plastics in landfill could cause the balance of nature to be disrupted and have severe consequence for food production.

Where the Money Goes

The most recent edition of the SHG Contract Register was published this week. The most eye-catching contract is the Penspen contract valued at £15 million for managing the storage of aviation fuel for a period which is two months short of five years. It is reported the fuel stored over that period is valued at about £9 million, which means it is 40% more expensive to store fuel than to buy it.

A three year telecommunications contact with Sure is valued at £1.471 million. Sure also have an emergency radio five year contract with SHG valued at £265,000. A 'Utilities Service Provision' contract with Connect (government subsidy) is set at £548,666 over three years. The public transport contract costs SHG £324,000 for the five year contract and port security £28,000 for two years. The weather forecast from Oclaw Marine Services is £22,265 over two years while the ferry service three year contract costs £106,858. Grounds maintenance and handyman services at the primary schools amounts to more than £15,000 with two contracts awarded for two and three years. The National Trust receives £480,000 over three years for continuing with the LEMP project (planting endemics along the Haul Road and airport). The new streetlights in Jamestown were supplied in exchange for £18,708.40. The e-visa system introduced by Immigration costs £58,000 over five years and the cost of cleaning government premises is £828,000 over three years.



I can do that, you only have to walk straight,
I can walk straight, go on gizza job, gizza go

Liverpudlian Yosser Hughes has his own job recruitment campaign in a famous TV series in set in 1978 – a time of mass unemployment in the UK.

Argentina sticking pins in Falklands Once Again

Three recent reports in the UK's Daily Express newspaper follow one or two other reports about how Argentina is trying to make life difficult for the Falklanders again. The recently departed Argentine president had adopted a policy of co-operating with the UK on matters of mutual concern.

The present Argentine government took power last year and relations with the UK soured almost immediately. Recent anti-Falklands moves by Argentina include:-

- Successfully persuading the European Union to negotiate not to include the Falklands among the British Overseas Territories as the faltering Brexit negotiations continue.
- Repeating legal threats against oil companies involved in oil exploration in Falkland waters.
- Arguing that the Falkland fisheries is illegal and unregulated fishing because it is governed by the Falkland Island Government which is not recognised by Argentina. Argentina claim up to 400,000 tonnes of fish valued at £750 million does not go into the pocket of the Argentine Government. The Argentine national debt stood at £206,000,000,000 (260 thousand million) at the end of the first quarter of this year. Any transfusions of money from the Falklands would be grabbed with both hands.

At the same time there are arguments within Argentina about the incompetence of their government and the possibility of a military coup if things don't improve. A comment from one Argentine journalist on live TV increased the temperature of this bad tempered debate. The journalist observed that a successful military coup is unlikely because Argentine forces surrendered in a cowardly way in 1982 when trying to keep control of the Falklands after the Brits arrived to take it back.

HARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Multi Raffle in aid of the above Centre were drawn at our Tea Dance on Saturday, 29th August 2020 which raised £201, and the winners were:

- 1st Kirk Lawrence, Sapper Way – Sandwich Maker
- 2nd Muriel Leo, White Wall – Hair Dryer
- 3rd Pamela Thomas, Longwood Avenue – Baileys & Tumbler Set
- 4th Margaret Duncan, Longwood Avenue – Digital Kitchen Scale
- 5th Freda Heward, Sunberry – Canister Set
- 6th Skyler Plato McDainiel, Cleugh's Plain – Lynx Wash Set
- 7th Doris Mittens, Deadwood – Bayview White Wine
- 8th Aunty Lawrence, Cleugh's Plain – Grape Chamdor

The Committee thank everyone for their support.

Thank You

Thanks and Appreciation are extended to ALL who helped in any way, donated and attended the Afternoon Tea at Blue Hill Community Centre on 3rd August -20 in aid of Church/Parish Funds.

The amount raised was £396.00

Compared to UK, St Helena Schools are Failing

St Helena Audit, the external auditors who assess various aspects of government services, completed a report on St Helena's primary schools and Prince Andrew School in July this year. SHG released it for publication last Friday. The report looks at where each school spends its share of the education budget and the overall educational achievements of pupils in each school. Only the 2018-19 financial year was assessed by St Helena Audit and the results for this one year do not show long term trends in budget expenditure or educational achievement. Despite that, the results are not encouraging.

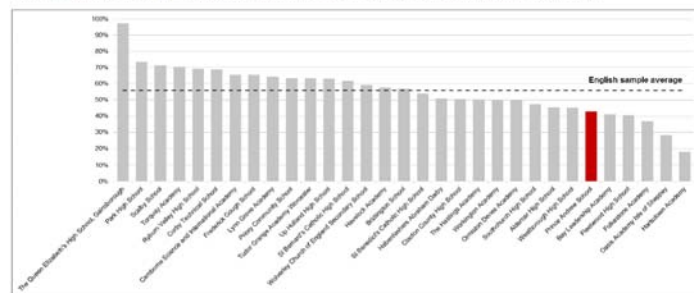
In primary schools the cost of using computers amounted to £6,314 per month per school. The bill for the year was more than £200,000 in 2018-19 and is 22% of the total budget for primary education. At Prince Andrew School the cost of recruiting teachers from overseas added £500,000 to the total school budget which accounted for 43p out of every £1 spent on teaching staff. There were 33 teachers at Prince Andrew School in 2018-19. The budget expenditure on teaching staff totalled £978,000; £424,000 of this total was for teaching staff recruited overseas. The cost of overseas staff is paid for by the UK Government and not included in the education budget. However, St Helena Audit point out the cost should be included in their assessment in order to get a true picture of the cost of education. Education accounted for 11.4% of SHG's total operating expenditure in the 2018-19 financial year.

The cost of computer usage in Prince Andrew School was much lower than in the primary schools. The total cost represented 5% of the secondary school budget compared to 22% in the primary schools. St Helena Schools follow many of the educational standards and measures of achievement used in the UK. Comparisons were also made between St Helena schools and similar secondary schools in the UK. Prince Andrew School, with just 214 pupils is much smaller than any similar school in the UK where each school has around 1,000 or more pupils. The classes in St Helena are therefore smaller with just 6 or 7 pupils per teacher. This means each pupil can be afforded more personal attention. The SHG school budget also allows more money to be spent per pupil than in the UK; £6,500 per pupil compared to an average of £6,050 across the sample of UK schools used by Audit St Helena. Despite these advantages, Prince Andrew School is likely to be considered a failing school if it were in the UK.

Using the number, or percentage, of pupils achieving pass grades in five GCSEs including English and Maths, Prince Andrew School achieved 22% in 2015-16, 45% in 2016-17 and 37% in 2017-18. One of the performance measures in place at Prince Andrew School sets 45% as the minimum for the number of pupils achieving five GCSE pass grades. Only once in the three years mentioned did Prince Andrew School meet the minimum target set. In UK schools, if the pass rate falls below 40% in any school, that school is judged to be failing and special measures could be imposed where the head teacher could be replaced or the school is either taken over or closed.

When compared with a sample of similar UK secondary schools Prince Andrew School is below the dotted line which

FIGURE 10: PERCENTAGE OF YEAR 11 STUDENTS ACHIEVING A PASS GRADE OF C/4 OR BETTER ON BOTH ENGLISH AND MATHS GCSES

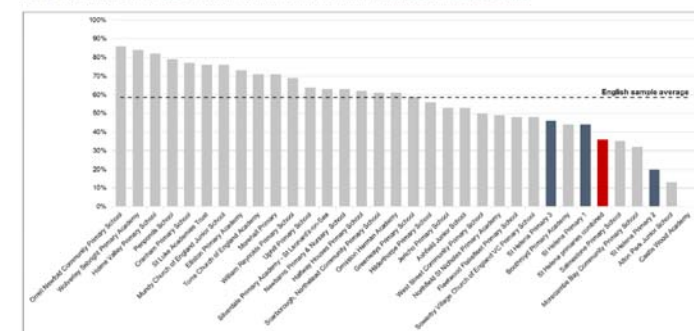


Source: Audit St Helena analysis of SHQ and English school data.

indicates average achievement and is sixth from 'bottom of the class'.

When compared with similar primary schools in England, St Helena is no better than Prince Andrew School. The schools are numbered rather than named with primary school three being the second worst school in the sample shown in the chart. The sample measures year 6 pupils meeting expectations in English and Maths. The percentage of pupils who succeeded in meeting expectations is used as the performance measure.

FIGURE 8. PERCENTAGE OF YEAR 6 STUDENTS MEETING AGE-RELATED EXPECTATIONS IN BOTH ENGLISH AND MATHS



Primary school number one is fifth from bottom in the sample and school number two is seventh from bottom. All primary schools are well below the sample average. If all St Helena primary schools are combined as one the bad performance of primary school two would bring the combined position to one below school number one. The chart shows the positions of St Helena primary schools in dark grey.

The three St Helena primary schools had a total of 379 pupils in 2018-19 with between 16 and 22 pupils per teacher. The average number of pupils in England is 379 in the primary school sample used by Audit St Helena. The pupil numbers in the three St Helena primary schools in 2018-19 was 115, 134 and 109. The number of pupils per teacher in the English sample averaged out at twenty-two.

Audit St Helena make five recommendations in their report. Two of them suggest ways to improve the way the performance indicators are measured and a further two suggest how the performance results could be better presented. The final recommendation is to, “Urgently prioritise an analysis investigating the potential benefits and costs of consolidating primary provision at a single site”. The audit report gives examples of how teaching between 300 and 400 primary school children is more expensive when split between three schools and shows the big difference in educational achievement between the schools. Combining the three primary schools would give every child an equal chance and the opportunity to receive an improved education.

JUDICIAL RELOCATION PROJECT - PHASE ONE UPDATE



The Judicial Relocation Project will see the former Police Headquarters renovated to allow the Chief Magistrate and the administrative offices of the Judicial Services Section (JSS), currently based at the Castle Courtyard, to relocate next to the Courthouse.

Refurbishment works on Phase One of the Project have commenced, as per the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) Update issued on 30 July 2020.

Works began on-site in June 2020, following an open procurement exercise conducted in March, from which St Helena Government entered into a contract with Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc to undertake the works for the sum of £59,714.51.

Despite the delays being experienced with regards to obtaining and receiving goods from overseas due to the COVID-19 pandemic, works have been progressing well on-site with a completion date set for later this year.

Members of the public will be updated as works continue to progress.

SHG 3 September 2020



THE ROCK

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON
SUNDAY 6th September @ 11 am
FOR
PRAISE AND WORSHIP
Sermon Focus The Three Crosses
At No 3 Unit Longwood Enterprise
Park**

Transport is available from
Jamaatstown, MHM
Contact 23249

PRAISE & WORSHIP

UPPER RUPERT'S DRAINAGE CHANNEL AND CULVERT PROJECT UPDATE



Construction works on the Drainage Channel and Culvert in Upper Rupert's Valley have been ongoing since the start of July 2020 by AMD Engineering, who was successfully awarded the contract following an open procurement process.

This area in Upper Rupert's Valley has been identified as a suitable location to relocate existing businesses from Lower Rupert's Valley as part of the overall Rupert's Development Project.

The location in Upper Rupert's however is prone to flooding due to a lack of drainage measures in place and would be unsuitable to use as a direct relocation in its current state.

The Channel and Culvert will allow for surface water from the associated catchment area to be intercepted and channelled around the site, linking into the existing earth channel constructed by Basil Read during the Airport Project.

The Channel and Culvert is currently being constructed out of reinforced concrete being poured in a continuously moving form; or slip form. The overall size of the finished structure will be approximately 211 metres in length.

Despite recent unfavourable weather conditions, works are progressing ahead of schedule.

**SHG
3 September 2020**



Annual General Meeting of the Blue Hill Community Association

The Annual General Meeting of the Blue Hill Community Association will be held at the Blue Hill Community Centre on Wednesday, 9 September at 7 pm.

All residents of the Blue Hill district are encouraged to attend.

Discussion Point

Have You Got the Right to Your Own Life?

We should have an honest discussion about whether assisted dying law at present is working as intended

Andrew Mitchell MP

Many MPs, like me, believe the current assisted dying laws lack transparency and are no longer fit for purpose.

Assisted dying is an issue that seems to unite the country and is beginning to unite colleagues in Parliament. It is the view of many that something must change, and change soon. Having recently taken up the position of co-chair of the APPG on Choice at the End of Life, I have been struck by the renewed interest in assisted dying amongst fellow MPs.

Many, like me, were once ardently opposed to assisted dying, but are beginning to see the need for a new debate on the subject. When we look around the world at places that have grasped this nettle, we begin to understand why.

There is no reason why ten States in the USA – some for more than twenty years – should be able to give dying people choice over the ends of their lives but we cannot do this in the UK.

Since assisted dying was last debated in the Commons, six new US States have legalised assisted dying as well as two States in Australia, the whole of Canada and New Zealand. A third Australian state, Tasmania, will begin its debate on a new Bill today (Thursday).

Last year the New Zealand Parliament gave its approval to assisted dying legislation, subject to a national referendum later this year. As I expect would be the case in the UK, that referendum is very likely to pass due to the overwhelming support for a change in the law amongst the people of New Zealand.

So then, we must ask ourselves: If it is possible in those countries, why not our own?

While other English-speaking liberal democracies are grasping this nettle and giving their citizens the right to die on their own terms, we are increasingly being left behind.

What we are calling for is a very tightly drafted, limited change in the law that would give dying people huge relief and peace of mind.

We would like terminally ill people, in their last six months of life, to be given the option of requesting medication to end their life.

They would have to be mentally competent, of sound mind and have a clear and settled intention to die. Doctors would assess them for their condition. Those who conscientiously objected to participating would, of course, not be obliged to do so.

These proposals are based on laws that are demonstrably already working in other countries. Are we to accept that there is something different about the UK that would mean they could not work here?



My colleagues sometimes fear that this could be the thin end of the wedge or some sort of slippery slope. But the laws we propose would be carefully considered and tightly drawn so that there can be no move beyond this point.

We should also have an honest discussion about whether the law at present is working as intended, whether it truly protects the vulnerable and what harm it causes to dying people and their families.

Many of my colleagues, like me believe the current state of play is lacking in transparency, has gross inadvertent consequences and is no longer fit for purpose.

Whenever a scaremongering story talks about the more liberal euthanasia laws of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, they neglect to mention that those laws started out from a point far beyond what we are proposing for this country.

Just like Canada, another Commonwealth nation that has changed the law, they never intended for assisted dying to be permitted solely for those who are terminally ill. We do.

We should look to Oregon, where an assisted dying law has been in place for more than two decades, with no extension of its strict parameters, that is working well and that has provided the basis for assisted dying laws across the USA.

One in five Americans now live in jurisdictions where choice at the end of life is permitted. If Oregon's laws were working so poorly, then why are so many States following their example? And why have their laws formed the basis of change in Australia and New Zealand?

While other English-speaking liberal democracies are grasping this nettle and giving their citizens the right to die on their own terms, we are increasingly being left behind.

This Parliament has the opportunity to make dying better and I hope we may be able to take this opportunity forwards.

Andrew Mitchell is the Conservative MP for Sutton Coldfield and the co-chair of the appg on choice at the end.