

# THE ST HELENA INDEPENDENT



VOLUME XV ISSUE 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2020, PRICE £1

## *Christmas Festivities*

**Festival of Lights 20<sup>th</sup>  
December 2019**  
Pictures: Ed Thorpe



### *Christmas Eve in St Helena*



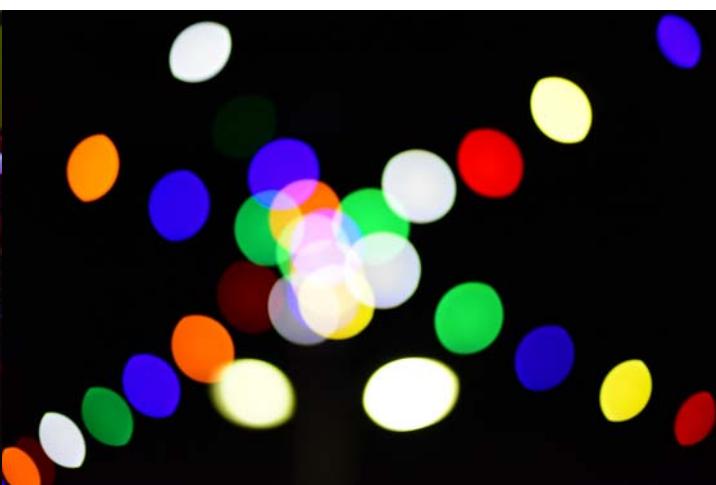
-Message from the Governor  
-The Year in Review  
-Cable Contract Signed  
-Still No Water

### *Traditional Sports on Boxing Day*



## **More Pictures from Festival of Lights**

*Ed Thorpe*



Thanks to Elaine Benjamin and all the other organisers and participants of the Festival of Light which, once again, proved to be a spectacular event

## **NEW YEAR HONOURS 2020**

His Excellency Governor Dr Philip Rushbrook is pleased to announce the following New Year Honours 2020:

**British Empire Medal (BEM)**

Cecil (Lars) Repetto and Edward (Eddie) Rogers were both nominated for Services to the Community in Tristan da Cunha and have been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM):

### **Lars Repetto**

Lars Repetto was born on 7 December 1937. In 1963 he became part of the Tristan resettlement survey party that was established following the volcanic eruption on Tristan when the community was evacuated to the UK in 1961. The successful survey paved the way for the islanders to return home in November of the same year.

Lars worked at the fish factory as the accountant for the majority of his working life and also took on the unpaid role of island councillor from 1973-1976 and 1979-1982.

Lars has also served the community of Tristan da Cunha for 47 years as a voluntary lay minister in St Marys Anglican Church.

Lars is highly regarded within the community and revels in talking about the Island's history. He is known as a friendly, thoughtful and knowledgeable man who is proud to be an islander.

### **Edward Rogers**

Edward Patrick Rogers was born on 6 September 1945. Following the eruption of the volcano in 1961 when the community was evacuated to the UK, Eddie worked on ships of the Union-Castle line between Southampton and South Africa.

After his return to Tristan in 1963 Eddie worked in the fish factory as a welder to support the fishermen and the island's

lobster market. He was also a fisherman himself and he remained a loyal employee of the factory until his retirement in 2011.

Eddie also served the community in the unpaid role of island councillor from 1989 to 1991.

Eddie served the community of Tristan da Cunha in his 47 years of voluntary work as a lay minister in St Marys Anglican Church.

Eddie is well respected by the Island community for his long-standing service to the Island and its people.

Administrator of Tristan da Cunha, Sean Burns, said: "Both men have served the Tristan community, through their lay ministry duties (and much more besides) for many years. Both the Anglican and Catholic churches on Tristan are embedded into Island life. The recruitment of full-time vicars and priests has been historically very difficult so the duties have invariably fallen to the lay ministers. The church plays an important part of island life providing much needed support to families in times of need."

### **Nominate someone for an honour**

Honours are awarded to recognise outstanding achievements and service to the community. For example, long-term voluntary service, innovation and entrepreneurship, and improving life for people less able to help themselves.

Anyone can nominate someone for an honour. To find out how you can nominate please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/honours> or contact the Secretary to the Honours Committee, Linda Benjamin, via: [linda.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:linda.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh)

**SHG**

**30 December 2019**

# **ST HELENA GOVERNMENT SIGNS CONTRACT WITH GOOGLE TO LAND SUBSEA CABLE**

St Helena Government (SHG) is pleased to announce the signing of a contract with Google, to connect St Helena to Phase 1 of the Equiano Subsea Cable Project. This is one step closer to providing the first fibre optic connectivity from St Helena to the outside world through both Europe and South Africa. Today's announcement follows the signing of the Letter of Intent in July this year to secure a Branch in Phase 1 of the Equiano Project.

Connecting to Equiano meets SHG's timing and budgetary requirements for the European Development Fund and supports the Digital ICT Strategy for St Helena.

Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, Councillor Lawson Henry, said:

"This is a huge positive step for St Helena, and one of a number of progressive steps that shall be announced over the next two years relating to development of digital opportunities on St Helena. I'd like to thank the team within St Helena Government Corporate Services, Pelagian and Keystone Law, and of course Google, for meeting this milestone."

SHG's Financial Secretary, Dax Richards, added:

"This is great news for the Island. Significant additional economic development on St Helena is conditional on improved connectivity and accessibility, and therefore the delivery of the Fibre Project is crucial to economic growth. We are pleased to reach an agreement with Google and look forward to working with them on this Project."

"The delivery of the Fibre Project is a key action in the Sustainable Economic Development Plan - in order to develop the satellite ground stations, financial services, work from home, academia research and conferences, film location and tourism sectors."

Global Network Infrastructure Strategy, Submarine, Google, Jayne Stowell, concluded:

"We are excited to collaborate with SHG to announce the Equiano branch into St Helena. We are deeply committed to boosting the world's connectivity as well as ensuring countries and communities benefit from the Equiano cable."

The branch between the main trunk of the Equiano cable and the Island will be 1140km long. The target is to deliver the cable and associated high speed internet to St Helena by early 2022; providing the cable laying, landing station and associated planning permissions and works to start the service proceed on time.

This cable will be capable of providing the Island with scalable connectivity, ranging from a few hundred gigabits up to multiple terabits, as demand varies. On that basis it allows for the most cost effective growth of bandwidth needs for the Island.

**SHG**

**24 December 2019**



## **JOB VACANCY**

### **THORPE'S JAMESTOWN SHOPS**



#### **Storeman**

##### **PART TIME / FULL TIME**

This role involves picking orders.

- Free home to duty transport
- Attractive leave and sick leave package
- Salary to start at £3.30 per hour (£508.20 per month)
- Salary to increase considerably with proficiency in the job role and further increases with time spent in the company.
- Opportunity to progress to higher position at a higher pay rate

Contact: Henry Thorpe or Carol Yon Tel: 22781, email: [admin@thorpes.sh](mailto:admin@thorpes.sh) or come and see us in our office above Thorpe's grocery shop

## **Connect SAINT HELENA LTD**

### **TIP OF THE WEEK**

If it takes a long time for the hot water to reach the shower, use it as an opportunity to collect water for other uses, such as watering houseplants.



# Editorial



The Governor, in his Christmas message echoes Her Majesty in her Christmas message and refers to 2019 being a 'bumpy ride' for St Helena and Ascension and Tristan as well as for Brexit Britain. Bumpy rides are surely just part of normality and can be expected in the general run of things. The basic overall situation for most small, remote islands is fragility; we get buffeted by price inflation, recessions, climate change and limited access to financial resources much more than larger countries on the continental mainland.

Despite always starting from an unavoidably weak position St Helena has managed to make changes to the basic, overall situation over the last two years or so. Writing the review of 2019 for this issue of the *Independent* emphasised for me the much wider horizons this Island has now got used to working within. Internationalism appears to be becoming the new normal rather than the previous remote island 'home-alone' view of things which not so long ago was the popular assessment of St Helena's position in the world.

The contract recently signed with Google for the fibre-optic cable comes immediately to mind. Who among us imagined just a few years ago that St Helena would be making deals with Google? Hard on the heels of this deal is the renewable energy project to be financed by PASH Global, an international energy investor who expects to invest £1 billion in projects over the next five years. The contract with PASH is on the verge of completion, and should really have been signed by now.

But there is more. The opening of the airport has meant St Helena has been the venue for an international conference in 2018, 2019 and will be again in 2020. St Helena also established a Research Institute which joins a network from the Falklands to the Caribbean. The St Helena Research Institute will, in itself, be a magnet for international interest on a variety of wide-ranging subjects from geology and sociology to astronomy, historiography, entomology and ecology. And of course there is St Helena's first, potentially, large overseas investor who will want to raise about £30 million to finance tourist developments at Horse Pasture and Broad Bottom. We have also had visits from the Vice-President of Angola, and the Belgian Ambassador for most of southern Africa. We also get higher ranking officials from the UK Government paying a visit; this includes a recent heightened interest in St Helena from Foreign and Commonwealth Office officials. One main reason for all of this is simply that it is now possible to get to St Helena by plane. The airport has not hit the jackpot for us, yet, but it is helping warming things up in various, but not always obvious, ways.

Visits from overseas journalists and film crews are now so frequent we hardly bother to mention when more media people arrive. Write-ups in the international press and broad-

casts are much more frequent than they used to be. It seems clear St Helena is more familiar to more people than used to be the case. Despite this, some people in tourism and related pursuits bemoan the fact that so many people still do not know where in the world St Helena is. If you asked one hundred Brits exactly where Afghanistan is in this world many would not be able to say much more than it is somewhere south of Dover. This is despite the fact that Afghanistan features prominently on the television news almost every week. Afghanistan welcomes 20,000 tourists a year; ten times what we can manage at the moment and we do not leave IEDs lying about the streets. It is possible more people can point to St Helena on the map than can find Turkmenistan but that country claims 6,000 tourists arrived at their borders, asking to enter, in 2016. Tajikistan is equally unknown to most people, you would think; however figures from the World Bank show 430,000 people found themselves either by accident or design visiting the sights on offer in Tajikstan in 2017. Even the spell-check on my computer has not heard of Tajikstan. I think we need to look harder at the possible reasons why tourists are not arriving here in the numbers we would like to see.

Looking closer to home over the next twelve months we will still find bumps in the road both actually and figuratively. As far as the pound in the pocket is concerned I'm sure many Saints will say that exchanging the subsidy for the RMS for a weekly flight to Jo'burg was not a good deal. In my own experience, cold meats that cost about £2.85 in November shot up to £3.88 in December. That's just one example. In one shop in town where the products on shelves are well arranged with prices properly displayed is it so easy to see that prices have increased across the board – and not just by a few pence. We want a deal where it's just the planes that go up and the prices stay on the ground.



Vince

# 2019 – A Quick Look Back

**January** was busy in James Bay as The St Helena Yacht Club and St Helena Tourism welcomed the arrival of ocean racers in the Cape to St Helena yacht race. Fifteen yacht crews started, twelve finished. Already there are sixteen entries for the 2020 Cape to St Helena which starts in just over eleven months time. It is hoped the number of entries will double, making it the biggest race in history of the Cape to St Helena. Race finishers were closely followed by participants in the Oyster Rally and then the World ARC Rally. We will see the World ARC Rally again in January next year but the next Oyster Rally is not scheduled to call at St Helena until 2023.

January also saw the first same-sex marriage in St Helena and the opening of the Born Free exhibition at the museum to commemorate 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation from slavery for children born of slaves. For many it was a sad goodbye to Dr Rhys Cottle and a ‘hello’ to the first single propeller powered plane to land at St Helena airport.

In **February** there was news that the RMS had gained a new future. Instead of being a floating armoury and support vessel for a private army she was bought by the owners of Extreme E racing. High powered electric SUVs are to race in remote and environmentally threatened part of the world to raise awareness of the damage being caused by climate change. The RMS, renamed ‘St Helena’ will be the floating paddock, workshop and communications centre for the Extreme E racing circuit. Also in February people were invited to suggest a name for the seamount discovered during the marine survey by the RRS James Clark Ross.



*The RMS back in London once more as the floating paddock for Extreme E*

**March** saw the second international conference to be in St Helena. It was held at Anne’s Place for the second time; the venue provided a refreshingly different atmosphere and ambience which proved popular with conference attendees. The rejuvenation of Rock Rose by the Thorpe Family was completed in March and marked by an opening ceremony. The SHG budget for the 2019-20 financial year was a little easier than in recent times with DFID increasing aid by £5million. The RRS Discovery arrived in **April** to continue research and survey work started by the RRS James Clark Ross the previous year. She had on board Tristan potatoes as St Helena was once again experiencing a potato shortage. Cardno seamount was found to be shown in the wrong place on navi-

gational charts. The new prison at Bottom Woods was given the green light by the Land Development Control Committee; as did Paul Scipio’s proposal for a Fun Park at Merriman’s. Another attempt to find a buyer for SHFC ended in failure. Fish processing, storage and selling remained one of SHG’s two big problem children. Elizabeth Peters of Half Tree Hollow, ‘Muma Lizzie’, reached 100 years old.



*Elizabeth Peters*

**May** saw some changes at the top. Governor Lisa Honan left. Governor Philip Rushbrook arrived. Rory Stewart took over from Penny Mordaunt as the Secretary of State for International Development. Penny Mordaunt was the third political head of DFID in three years and Rory Stewart took on the job on 1<sup>st</sup> May and left it on 24<sup>th</sup> July. St Helena Police added tasers to their equipment and St Helena climbed ten places in the United Nations Human Development Index. This index purports to measure standards of health, wealth and education. While Edward Baldwin MBE was proclaimed as “very likely the biggest contributor to the conservation of St Helena’s heritage in modern times”, Exco considered the “Review of the current and future legislative, policy and operational provisions for the conservation and enhancement of St Helena’s historic environment.” Described as a report of reports, the review goes back over 45 years of nothing much being done and nothing more has been heard of it since.

Despite a wet St Helena’s Day the lack of rainfall and low levels in reservoirs started to become a regular feature in the news. The army worm made a brief comeback and the African White Spotted Fruit Chafer broke through the Bio-security cordon. Meanwhile, in HM Prison Jamestown, a cat is introduced to the inmates as a form of pet therapy. It was reported the cat was well received by the prisoners. At the other end of the animal scale, Beth Taylor and Kenickie Andrews represented St Helena for the first time at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Whale Shark Conference – and made quite an impression.

In **June** the Haul Road was officially opened and the long running saga of the development application for the new prison at Bottom Woods took a step sideways and then backwards. The prison sounding names given to residential areas at the Princess Royal Community Care Centre were changed from A or F Block and Blue and Green Block to more homely Arum, Honey, Sunny and Golden Ville. In Pretoria three Saints were mugged at gunpoint outside their accommodation Pretoria where they were staying while accompanying patients referred to the Netcare hospital for medical treatment.

The St Helena Fisheries Corporation was in the news again, for the wrong reasons. There was trouble with a fork-lift so

*Continued on NEXT PAGE*

# 2019 – A Quick Look Back

the whole operation had to close down. SHG put in a very late application for an extension to the Dungeon cemetery. Water restrictions are imposed due to low levels of stored water.

Google's Equiano fibre-optic cable and the importance it could have for St Helena finally surfaced from rumour and quiet, confidential whispers in **July**. All the bits of information picked up from various sources crystallised in a phrase used by the Financial Secretary and supported by the Chief Economist. They felt "confident and comfortable" arrangements for the cable connection would be finalised "soon".



SHG announced the adoption of a Climate Change Policy and separately, the first steps were taken in planning to introduce electric cars to St Helena. Bradley Crowie was presented with the French Foreign Office medal in recognition of his 21 years of service to the French Properties in St Helena and the successes of a succession Saints going overseas for university or other tertiary education started to get recognised and reported. The weekly bulletin on water storage levels stated there was 26 days supply left in the reservoirs with no prospect of rainfall in the forthcoming days.

**August** saw the first report of storm damage in Tristan da Cunha as hurricane force winds and heavy rain caused widespread damage to buildings and livestock. The St Helena Red Cross set up a Tristan Appeal to help with the repair bill. Meanwhile in St Helena, at the Castle entrance, it rained fresh but redundant raw eggs, as Roddie Yon expressed his displeasure at the increased Island-wide egg production and consequential drop in the price of a dozen eggs. A review of the Mantis Hotel; how it is operated and what the demand for beds might be in the near future was handed to SHG by consultants called BDO. No announcement was made by SHG and no intention initially expressed to publish the BDO findings. Eventually selective extracts from the report were published. Nothing in the public version gave a true picture of the

current and continuing financial situation at Mantis. Despite this, SHG continue to keep the heavily subsidised St Helena Hotel Development Ltd afloat with public money.

A survey ship arrived to find a route for landing the fibre-optic cable and Paul O'Sullivan went public on plans for a Trade Winds Ocean Village at Horse Pasture. He also has plans for direct flights from Europe to St Helena via Cape Verde. In August an official statement from HMG reported the contract for resurfacing the runway at Wideawake should be awarded between October and December 2019. The US Department of Defense publishes contracts worth \$7million and above on a daily basis but there is nothing shown for Ascension Island. The *Independent* published a report informing that the Crown Agents no longer has any UK Government connections. It is privately owned and now based in Nigeria.

The Crown Agents still act for the St Helena Currency Fund and Bank of St Helena. They also act as Company Secretaries for Solomon & Co.

**September** kicked off with a draft Labour Market Strategy for public consultation. This particular strategy caught widespread public interest and the questions asked were well reasoned and showed good knowledge of what was proposed. The process for giving St Helena Status was the issue discussed most. Another issue to surface was, is it time to sell the Bank of St Helena? Surprisingly, it was mentioned during a radio interview on Saint FM that this is under active consideration.

The Vice-President of Angola visited St Helena with his family on what was described as a personal visit. Bornito de Sousa spent a lot of time talking to government officials and councillors for someone on a personal visit and the chat with the media did not reveal very much. Angola has an unenviable history of corruption and civil strife. Just this week the daughter of the previous president was on the receiving end of a court order to seize all her assets and bank accounts. Isabel dos Santos lives overseas, is described as Africa's richest woman. Her brother, José Filomeno dos Santos, is on trial in Angola facing corruption charges. The current Angolan President is aiming to seize back £760million from Isabel dos Santos' assets and bank accounts.

The governor started a public debate on how we should be governed. His thinking is condensed to three words, accountable, responsive and quick decisions. The governor's remarks paved the way for professor Jeremy Sarkin who arrived later in September on a fact finding mission before writing a report with suggestions on what could be changed and how. Professor Sarkin is due back here tomorrow to continue this work.

The Fisheries were in trouble again with a gigantic freezer they don't want but have to use breaking down and closing the whole operation.

**November** saw Executive Council finally face the inevitable and dig their heels in on how fish should be processed and sold. In true government-speak they asked for an alternative business model put together by the Fisheries Task Group to

# 2019 – A Quick Look Back

be taken forward and developed by any interested parties willing to take over fish processing and sales. The alternative business model basically meant no frozen fish and lots more fresh premium fish.

An application for funding to the World Monuments Fund to make the Liberated African burial grounds respectable and provide suitable memorials did not succeed. The main reason for failure was that a funding opportunity provided by the WMF in 2012, primarily for High Knoll Fort, was completely ignored at the time. More funding opportunities for the Rupert's burial sites are in the pipeline.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> November Tristan was hit by a second storm similar to the first one three months earlier. Some recently replaced roofs were ripped off once more by the hurricane force winds. Repairs were completed faster on the second occasion as building materials had been imported after the first storm and were readily to hand. A handful of specialist workers were also still on Tristan.

The St Helena Research Institute was officially launched with simultaneous events in Jamestown and London. The Research Institute is likely to become the catalyst and focus for a range of high quality and globally important work as it develops.

On 11<sup>th</sup> November Governor Rushbrook introduced a new commemorative service to remember and respect the memory of those fallen in military service. The short, simple but moving service gave pride of place to all on the Island who had served in the armed forces. It is certain to be repeated next year.

After a bye-election Jeffrey Ellick replaced Kylie Hercules on Legislative Council. Ian Davies of the UK Hydrographic Office visited St Helena again to display and explain the results of last year's inshore marine survey. The results contain much

information which will be very useful to a wide range people and for any purposes.

**December** was the month Paul O'Sullivan chose to publicise details of his plans for Trade Winds Ocean Village at Horse Pasture. Pre-development application public consultation is scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> January; details not yet available.

New anti-smoking legislation will be processed through Legislative Council shortly. Exco gave it the go-ahead at their December meeting. The Bill contains several measures aimed at tightening the screws on smokers and making it a bit more difficult to buy tobacco and cigarettes.

After the Angolan Vice-Presidential visit in September, December saw the Belgian Ambassador arrive here from South Africa. Another visitor was Paul Smith, Commercial Director for PASH Global. He said he was here to finalise the renewable energy contract but there has been no official confirmation of this, but there was confirmation of the other big contract. SHG issued a press release on Christmas Eve announcing the contract had been signed with Google for the cable link to St Helena to be part of the Equiano cable project, phase one. The announcement included, "The branch between the main trunk of the Equiano cable and the Island will be 1140km long. The target is to deliver the cable and associated high speed internet to St Helena by early 2022; providing the cable laying, landing station and associated planning permissions and works to start the service proceed on time." More business visitors will arrive for another international conference in March. This time it will be the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation.

Lastly, the Fisheries Corporation heard the bell toll and will depart this world on 31<sup>st</sup> January. If no business interest can take over by that date fishermen will be allowed to sell their catches direct from their boats.

## JAMESTOWN SWIMMING POOL

Executive Council and the Governor on Friday re-examined the reasons for the closure of the Jamestown Swimming Pool. Members recognised it had been seven weeks since the pool was closed by Public Health and there was concern from the general public. They were very concerned at the delay in re-opening this important facility for public use, especially during the present warm period. Members were informed that in spite of various interventions by the operator and Health officials it has not yet been possible to re-store the quality of the water in the pool to the required standards of clarity, chlorine content and pH level.

Medical specialists from the Health Directorate advised they have a genuine concern some members of the public may be susceptible to communicable illnesses if the general public used the pool in its present condition. ExCo Members present at the meeting questioned the findings and options in detail and concluded they had little choice but to accept the recommendations of the Health Directorate's personnel. The Jamestown Swimming Pool will remain closed until a specialist engineer can get to the Island.

An exception is being made for diver training where divers would be in wet suits and use breathing apparatus, so should have far less direct physical contact with the water. The Health Directorate is satisfied this purpose would not constitute an unacceptable risk to individual health.

A Commissioning Engineer to service the pool and plant room, as well as to provide additional plant room training, to the Pool Operator and SHG Staff will arrive in early-January. Additional swimming pool chemicals have also been ordered and are awaiting air freight delivery via the Airlink flight.

SHG will issue further information when available. The Pool has been closed to the public since Friday, 1 November 2019.

Since then, the Environmental Health team has been carrying out regular inspections of the pool. These tests found that water continues to appear cloudy, with water parameters still not meeting operational standards.

**SHG, 23 December 2019**





### MV Artania

**Date:** 8 January 2020

**Estimated time of arrival:** 8:00am

**Estimated time of departure:** 8:00pm

**Maximum Capacity:** 1260 passengers and 520 crew



### MS Marco Polo

**Date:** 21 January 2020

**Estimated time of arrival:** 2:30pm

**Estimated time of departure:** 8:00pm

**Maximum Capacity:** 906 passengers and 360 crew



### MV Astor

**Date:** 31 March 2020

**Estimated time of arrival:** 7:00am

**Estimated time of departure:** 2:00pm

**Maximum Capacity:** 578 passengers and 260 crew



### MV Pacific Princess

**Date:** 11 April 2020

**Estimated time of arrival:** 8:00am

**Estimated time of departure:** 6:00pm

**Maximum Capacity:** 772 passengers and 379 crew



### MV Plancius

**Date:** 19-22 April 2020

**Estimated time of arrival:** TBC

**Maximum Capacity:** 117 passengers and 47 crew



### MS Amsterdam

**Date:** 28 April 2020

**Estimated time of arrival:** 10:00am

**Estimated time of departure:** 6:00pm

**Maximum Capacity:** 1380 passengers and 620 crew



### MV Boudicca

**Date:** 02 December 2020

**Estimated time of arrival:** 8:00am

**Estimated time of departure:** 6:00pm

**Maximum Capacity:** 820 passengers and 354 crew



Please note that actual number of passengers and crew on board all vessels will be confirmed nearer the arrival dates.



For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Andrew Plato, Manager, BFI on telephone number: 22332 or via email address: [BFI@helanta.co.sh](mailto: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: [hadmin@solomons.co.sh](mailto:hadmin@solomons.co.sh) and should be completed and returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, By 09 January 2020.

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

# Watchkeeper

within the Bulk Fuel Installation

#### Job Outline

To regularly check Bulk Fuel Installation complex and equipment, and perform maintenance work when necessary.

#### Interested Persons Should:

- Have Health & Safety Awareness
- Be Willing to work unsociable hours
- Knowledge & experience of undertaking maintenance work
  - Preferably have a clean, valid drivers' license

Salary for the position is £8,889.48 per annum, (£171.08 per week)



Enterprise St Helena is seeking to employ a suitably qualified and experienced person to work with the Marketing and Communications Team.

Reporting to the Marketing and Communications Manager, the successful applicant will be responsible for supporting the team with co-ordinating Enterprise St Helena's marketing and public relations activities, both locally and internationally, with a key focus on promoting St Helena Tourism.

The successful candidate must have:

- A related qualification (Public Relations, Marketing, Communications or Journalism)
- Previous experience of working in a marketing or communications role
- Excellent communication skills including a high standard of written communication, grammar and spelling
- Information management skills including a high level of accuracy and attention to detail

A copy of the Terms of Reference and an application form can be obtained via email or collected from the Enterprise St Helena Office at Ladder Hill Business Park. Completed application forms should be submitted to the HR and Administration Manager, Ladder Hill Business Park, by no later than close of business Friday, 17th January 2020.

For further information please contact Justine Green, Marketing and Communications Manager, on telephone 22920 or email [justine.green@esh.co.sh](mailto:justine.green@esh.co.sh)



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### VACANCIES SEA RESCUE SERVICES CREW

The Sea Rescue Services of the St Helena Police Directorate has an opportunity for a self-motivated and enthusiastic individual to join their team as Sea Rescue Services Crew (Coxswain). This post will be on a permanent contract.

The purpose of the post is to protect and save life at Sea. Some of the key tasks and responsibilities are:

1. Carry out directions from the Officer in Charge when at sea rescue incidents ensuring work is completed within the standard operating procedures.
2. Support the wider Police Directorate through deployment when required within limitation of training given, as a Special Police Constable.
3. Under the direction of the Sea Rescue Service Deputy Manager, responsible for ensuring the maintenance and proper use of all Sea Rescue facilities, boats and equipment ensuring it is in a state of readiness at all times.
4. Make safety critical decisions during sea rescue operations and other deployments, ensuring the safety of the public, other agencies and the sea rescue crews.

Applicants should be 18 years of age or over and be a confident swimmer with the ability to pass a swim fitness test.

Prospective candidates should have:

- . GCSE Math and English at Grade C or above or equivalent. If applicants do not have these qualifications they will be required to successfully pass a Functional Skills assessment in English and/or Maths.
- . First Aid Qualification - First Responder would be an advantage
- . Valid and clean driving licence in Class A.
- . Experience /Qualifications in the Maritime field.

Hours of work will be 35 per week and the successful applicant will be required to be on-call for emergencies and will be required some weekends as per an on-call and Aircraft cover rota.

Salary for the post is at Grade C commencing at £9,053 per annum.

For further details regarding the full role and a copy of the job profile, interested persons can contact Mr Simon Wade, Sea Rescue Manager on telephone number 25052 or e-mail [simonwade@helanta.co.sh](mailto:simonwade@helanta.co.sh) or Mr Craig Scipio, Deputy Sea Rescue Manager Tel 25215, email: [craigscipio@helanta.co.sh](mailto:craigscipio@helanta.co.sh). Deputy Sea Rescue Manager Leeroy Caswell Tel 25215, Email: [leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh](mailto:leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh)

Applications should be completed and submitted, through Directors, where applicable, to Anya Richards, Human Resources Officer at Coleman House, Police HQ, Jamestown (or email [anya.richards@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:anya.richards@sainthelena.gov.sh)) by no later than 16.00 on Tuesday 14th January 2020.

Events  
Co-Ordinator  
Service  
Provider



Enterprise St Helena is seeking to procure the services of an Events Co-Ordinator to assist with the organising and co-ordinating of local investment-related events and/or conferences. The role will involve working with a wide range of stakeholders and requires dedication and energy. Reporting to the Director of Investment, the successful service provider will be responsible for providing a high level of events management, administration and communication support. It is anticipated that the contract will be offered on a part-time basis with 20 flexible hours per week in the first instance for a fixed-period of 6 months.

The successful business/individual must have:

- Events co-ordination experience
- Events management experience
- A track record of developing and co-ordinating stakeholder relationships
- Strong administration skills
- Excellent writing and verbal communication skills

A copy of the Terms of Reference and an application form can be obtained via email or collected from the Enterprise St Helena Office at Ladder Hill Business Park. Expressions of interest should be submitted to the Director of Investment by 16:00 GMT Monday 06 January 2020.

For further information please contact Martin George on telephone 22920 or email [Martin.George@esh.co.sh](mailto:Martin.George@esh.co.sh)



*St Helena Island*

Secret of the South Atlantic

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## ADVERTISEMENT OF VEHICLE FOR SALE BY SEALED BID

Notice is hereby given of the sale of Mitsubishi Pajero, Registration number 535

Viewing of the vehicle can be arranged at Colin's Garage, Farm Buildings Rosemary Plain – please telephone the Bank of St Helena to arrange a viewing.

Offers should be made in writing in a sealed envelope and should be received by the Public Solicitor Office, The Fort, Ladder Hill no later than 4pm on Friday 31 January 2020. The sealed bid envelopes should be clearly marked 'Mitsubishi Pajero Offer – DO NOT OPEN' and addressed to Helen Scott.

The reserve is set at £1,000.00. Full payment and completion of the sale is to be made within 14 days of the notification of acceptance of the bid.

# JOB VACANCY THORPE'S JAMESTOWN SHOPS



## TILL/SHOP ASSISTANT

### PART TIME / FULL TIME

This role involves shelf stocking, using an epos till and dealing with customers.

- Free home to duty transport
- Attractive leave and sick leave package
- Starting salary at £3.50 per hour (£539.00 per month)
- Salary to increase considerably with proficiency in the job role and further increases with time spent in the company.
- Opportunity to progress to higher position at a higher pay rate

Contact: Henry Thorpe or Carol Yon Tel: 22781, email: [admin@thorpes.sh](mailto:admin@thorpes.sh) or come and see us in our office above Thorpe's grocery shop



## Corporate Human Resources Vacancies

Would you like to pursue a Career in Human Resources or interested in a Career change?

If you are, then Corporate Human Resources has two exciting opportunities available for individuals who are self-motivated, flexible and willing to learn and develop within their team. This is your opportunity to contribute towards the development of the team in this exciting time of HR change within SHG.

These two roles are key in supporting the recruitment team in delivering an efficient recruitment and selection service to the St Helena Government.

### Human Resources Assistant (Recruitment)

Key tasks include:

- Prepare documentation (adverts and overseas vacancy information) in readiness for advertising, ensuring information included is in line with role specifications and terms and conditions of service;
- Confirm short-listing and interviewing panel members and prepare short-listing/interviewing criteria in accordance with job specifications. Distribute packs to members in a timely manner;
- Prepare draft offer letters and follow up on clearances (references, medical/dental and DBS/police checks);
- Check and process payments/reimbursements in line with contracts and TACOS, including diversity travel invoices and liaising with relevant parties to confirm any areas for clarification.

Prospective Candidates should have GCSE in Mathematics (or similar qualification in Accounts) and English Language at Grade C or above or equivalent, (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). Candidates should also possess at least 1 years' experience of working in an administrative support role.

The post requires strong communication and excellent organisational skills with a keen eye for detail. The post holder should be proficient in IT skills including Microsoft applications and should have the ability to work under pressure to be able to meet tight timescales.

Salary for this post is at £6,722 per annum.

### Human Resources Apprentice (Recruitment)

Key tasks include:

- Maintain and monitor the recruitment mailbox; receiving emails/applications, reverting on incomplete submissions/sending general responses where required;
- Log applications throughout the advertising period keeping in view closing dates. Liaising closely with relevant Human Resources Officer in terms of responses and completion;
- Receive, save and log contractual documents in relevant Personal File. Track deadlines for follow-up action/receipt of end of contract reports and the logging of exit interviews.

Prospective Candidates should have Functional Skills Level 2 in Maths and English; or equivalent, Previous work experience in an administrative or customer focused environment is desirable.

The post requires strong communication and excellent organisational skills with a keen eye for detail. The post holder should be proficient in IT skills including Microsoft applications and should have the ability to work under pressure to be able to meet tight timescales.

Salary for this post is at £5,713 per annum.

For further details about these post, interested persons should contact Mrs Meliza Lawrence, Human Resources Advisor on telephone number 22470 or e-mail: [meliza.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:meliza.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: [www.sainthelena.gov.sh/](http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/) vacancies and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, on telephone number 22470 or e-mail [madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than 4pm on Friday, 10 January 2020.

# Governor's Christmas Message, December 2019

In Her Majesty's Christmas message she spoke of 2019 as a 'bumpy' year. It is true the UK has had its ups and downs over various public and social issues. Here in the South Atlantic the past year has been bumpy too, though for different reasons. On St Helena the year has had its share of uncertainty with its economy and personal prosperity. The weather has not blessed the island with sufficient rain and the need to move away from the unsustainable losses in the fishing business is unsettling to all affected.

On Ascension, the community has had to live with a continuing delay in progressing the repairs at Wideawake. This has made planning for the future difficult. One high point, which deservedly received international acclaim, was the designation of a 100% Marine Protected Area around the island. The bumps in the road for Tristan da Cunha were equally large. Two storms led to destruction of buildings on a scale not seen for decades.

Her Majesty also mentioned that changes and improvements, no matter how small or seemingly unconnected, can build better prospects for the future. We should take this advice to heart in the year ahead. On our islands there are many changes and improvements starting to emerge that one hopes should see new opportunities for people in 2020 and beyond.

This year not one flight into St Helena airport has been cancelled or unduly delayed. We can enter 2020 looking to maintain this level of reliability. Tourist numbers are rising. A trend upwards no matter how modest provides encouragement that St Helena is appealing to more travellers looking for adventure. This week a contract was signed with Equiano cementing the arrangements for the arrival of the fibre optic cable and another for a major rockfall protection project at Rupert's Valley and around the hospital will start in January. More land is earmarked for new housing. Various building developments are in preparation and separately, an overseas investment has been announced. The much awaited PASH renewable energy scheme is reportedly, barring last minute hitches, only a short time away from being agreed too. All of these bring prospects of job and business opportunities during the coming year. Politically, the governance review will be completed early in 2020 and then islanders will be asked if they want to change the method of government and public accountability or retain the current one.

Ascension awaits better news next year. The signs are looking much brighter for a resurfacing contract to be agreed. Whilst the work will be lengthy and complex it should give clarity on when the Falkland flights could resume and correspondingly prosperity in the local economy restored. A recent capital programme to tackle some of the infrastructure backlog was also a welcome commitment to maintaining the quality of life on the territory. Progress in updating the outdated employment laws will be a priority for the island government.

The community on Tristan da Cunha has pulled together wonderfully, with outside help and funds from the UK, to get back on its feet. Next year should see repairs completed to its school and a project at the harbour started. A final decision



on designating protected areas in the seas around the island will complement the arrangements in place for St Helena and Ascension. On Gough Island too, intensive work to eradicate mice will dominate the entire year and offers the only prospect of saving endangered birds.

I encourage us all to put the bumps of 2019 behind us. Wherever you are treasure the time you have this Christmas with family and friends. Spare a thought for those who may be working or alone. Extend your goodwill whenever you can. And above all, we should resolve to enter 2020 with a refreshed view on the changes and opportunities on the horizon. By working together, building skills and being positive about our abilities we can find better, smoother futures for our islands.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Philip Rushbrook**  
**Governor of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha**  
**25<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

## ST HELENA WATER SITUATION REMAINS SERIOUS

Despite a few recent spells of rainfall, the water situation on St Helena remains serious, and consumption must remain as low as possible to help preserve and replenish Island water stocks.

**With the increase in visitors and returning residents over this busy period on St Helena, it is important to ensure everyone is aware of our water shortage. The public is encouraged to spread the word to visiting family and friends and ensure they keep water use to essential needs only.**

Connect Saint Helena will continue to pump water from Chubb's Spring and Hutt's Gate as well as from Fisher's Valley and Warren's Gut in the interim.

The public is thanked for their efforts in reducing consumption thus far and are wished a very Happy New Year.

**Every drop counts, every action counts – save water now to be safe later**

**St Helena Resilience Forum**  
**31 December 2019**



St Helena  
Government



ST HELENA  
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# **HEALTH DIRECTORATE TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND WEBINAR**

The St Helena Health Directorate is participating in a webinar organised by Public Health England (PHE) to take place on Tuesday, 28 January 2020. This webinar aims to share learning on implementing evidence-based health promotion approaches in a UK Overseas Territory.

Public Health representatives from all UK Overseas Territories (UKOTs) are invited to participate in the webinar.

This event is specifically arranged so that St Helena shares its experience in developing a Health Promotion Strategic Framework (HPSF) detailing the process of developing the strategy, enabling factors and challenges faced during implementation and St Helena's approach to tackle them.

During the webinar, St Helena will also share the pillars of the HPSF and give an overview of its results and costs. The talk will be given by Dr Angela Jackson-Morris, who was the first health promotion lead on St Helena. Besides professionals from other UKOTs, the DFID Health Advisor will be in attendance.

Acting Director of Health, Dr Kamar Tanyan, commented: "We are very pleased to share our experience with other Islands and to be a model to follow. We look forward to strengthening our relationship with UKOTs for continuous learning and experience sharing."

In 2018 a HPSF was developed to set new direction in pre-

ventive health for the community of St Helena, particularly focused on reducing the prevalence and age of onset of non-communicable diseases (NCD) such as cardiovascular disease (heart attacks and stroke), respiratory disease, type 2 diabetes and cancer. The focus was the two leading modifiable risk factors: smoking and obesity (diet, physical activity) and the emphasis was on creating a more supportive environment - putting in place policies, and structures, products or services to enable people to undertake healthier behaviours more, and unhealthy behaviours less. A campaign was used to create awareness and understanding and motivate community members to take advantage of some of the created opportunities to enhance their health and reduce their risk of chronic conditions.

**SHG**

**20 December 2019**



## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE (FIXED PENALTY NOTICE) BILL, 2019 PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The Social & Community Development Committee will be conducting Public Consultation Meetings on the new Criminal Justice (Fixed Penalty Notice) Bill, 2019 from 9 January 2020.

This legislation will create a Fixed Penalty Notice regime. At present most offences are dealt with by way of a criminal prosecution or a police caution. Fixed Penalty Notices will provide for minor offences to be treated as civil penalties and can be used to avoid a criminal record for the offender.

Please see below planned Public Consultation meetings:

Thursday, 9 January	HTH Community Centre	7pm
Monday, 13 January	Jamestown Community Centre	7pm
Tuesday, 14 January	Levelwood, Silver Hill Bar	7pm
Wednesday, 15 January	Harford Community Centre	7pm
Thursday, 16 January	Blue Hill Community Centre	7pm
Monday, 20 January	Kingshurst Community Centre	7pm
Tuesday, 21 January	Sandy Bay Community Centre	7pm

Anyone wishing to make any comment on the new Criminal Justice (Fixed Penalty Notice) Bill, 2019 may do so in writing to the Secretary, Nicole Plato, Social & Community Development Committee at the Castle, Jamestown or via [nicole.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:nicole.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than **Friday, 21 February 2020**.



The draft legislation is available in hard copy at the Customer Service Centre and the Public Library in Jamestown and is also available on the SHG Website via the following link: <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-consultation/>

**Social & Community Development Committee**  
**20 December 2019**

# VACANCY FOR ADMINISTRATION & ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Corporate Support is seeking to recruit a versatile and experienced individual to join their team to undertake the role of Administration & Accounts Manager.

Responsible to the Head of Corporate Support, the post holder will be responsible for ensuring efficient and effective accounting and administration management in the Corporate Support, Policy and Planning section of Corporate Services.

Some of the main duties of the post will include:

- Perform the duties of sub Accounting Officer for the Corporate Support, Policy and Planning section of Corporate Services in accordance with Financial Regulations to include monitoring of expenditure and revenue in close liaison with Heads of Sections, deciding when budget lines have to be adjusted by the application of virement warrants; and in the absence of the Accounting Officer make decisions regarding unplanned expenditure/calls on the budget.
- Responsible for compiling and monitoring expenditure against phased budgets and providing financial forecasts for Corporate Support, Policy and Planning.
- Responsible for induction for all new recruits in the Corporate Support, Policy and Planning section of Corporate Services in accordance with induction procedures set by Corporate Human Resources
- Member of the Corporate Support, Policy and Planning Management Team to set the strategic direction of the section.
- Arrange Annual Remembrance Day Service, Swearing in Ceremonies and other special events on behalf of Corporate Support, Policy and Planning and the Governor.
- Manage re-payments to the Governor's Emergency Fund, reconciling the bank account.

Applicants should have the following qualifications and experience:

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

The post holder should ideally have:

- experience in drafting and preparing budgets
- Intermediate IT skills in Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Databases and advanced skills in Access Dimensions or equivalent.
- the ability to work under pressure and prioritise workloads to meet tight deadlines, with good organisational skills and attention to detail



Applicants should be highly motivated and an effective team player.

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

For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Mrs Carol George, Head of Corporate Support on telephone number 22470 or e-mail: carol.george@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: [www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies](http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies) and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail [madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than 4pm on Friday 17 January 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**

**02 January 2020**

# *Christmas Eve and Boxing Day in St Helena 2019*



***Thanks to all the organisers -  
Emerald, Tina, Eddie and all  
the other ones helping in  
making a St Helena Christmas  
so special***