

2020: Year of the Saint





Issues of Transparency and Accountability not Mentioned in the Sarkin Report



At last! Department of Defense start work on Wideawake

SHG Lose Legal Tussle with the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council





Sure Open Letter to the Community of St Helena Island

sure



The History Man Hits the Ground Running for Five Days in St Helena

2020: Year of the Saint



"I am invincible, unbreakable, unstoppable, unshakeable, they knock me down, I get up again, I am the champion, you're gonna' know my name" (The Champion performed by Carrie Underwood & Ludacris)

We might begin our story by declaring 2019 as 'bumpy' the Pessimists say 2020 will be worse, if we are in for white water rafting then I say 'brace', one thing is for sure, we cannot be predictable, it's the challenge we placed upon ourselves as a media organisation, we simply cannot go into 2020 with the same obvious, tired eyed approach to life on St Helena, things have to change, I suggest we proclaim 2020 as the year of the Saint.

I've spent many minutes talking to families on the threshold of making that decision to leave, some have left, and the stories of seeking economic benefits elsewhere are fast appearing. Some people are not bothered by the exodus because they believe most of these people will return with their experiences which may help to shape our futures, the truth on the other hand has always shone brightly, many of these people will not return and the hope of a sustainable future deeply rooted in strong family ties, culture and tradition is at risk of dissipating forever.

St Helena should have declared a state of emergency a long time ago but we were too lax, too busy and pre-occupied to see that we were losing and have lost our number one asset, the building blocks of our future – our people and those that remain need salvation fast.

Sir Simon Macdonald, Under Secretary and head of the Diplomatic service remarked that "Four thousand, three hundred people on St Helena have a bigger voice in FCO than any other group in the UK" So why does it seem that our pleas for acknowledgement appear to fall on deaf ears? Consequently DFID have remained stubborn and mule headed surrounding the issue of technical corporation posts, valued over eight million pounds per year, a 'look' but you 'can't touch' approach prevails. This budget offers an attractive option to our own scientists, environmentalists, business advisors, technicians, engineers and consultants, there is that unique class of people on St Helena called the family unit which is being threatened with extinction and if we are not careful we will continue to see them depart, we may not be able to stop people from leaving but let's at least make it difficult.

In 2019 we got better at complaining, experts at finding fault and finger-pointing, we moaned about the same things, public meetings echo remnant discussions we were having decades ago, would you take your children to a public meeting? Would they draw inspiration from it? Would our children come away remarking that the adults were arguing for a better future or they were just arguing with each other? A word to the wise, some of our returning Saints who come home on holiday only to proceed to tell us remaining what a 'dung hole' we're living in when we'd really prefer a slap on the back and a beer in the pub. Closing shop is not an option for most of us, we get knocked back but we've also developed several layers of thick skin.

Last Thursday I attended the Pitch to Plantation finale as one of the judges; two young men stayed the course, from application to boot camp, to business plans and finally presentations to the Governor and four other judges. I highlight this because I see a growing leniency at times among us to step back and leave it to others, this year should be about 'kicking butt' and moving forward, Dalton George and Colby Thomas represent the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs, learn from them



Dalton George

Twenty three year old Dalton George told the Independent this week "I believe strongly in the youth, after all we are the future, we might not be seen or speaking about doing things but there are many out there working hard and I absolutely hate it when people down grade the youth, because when they do this they class all the youths as one, they might not mean to do so but words chosen makes it sound this way. There are some who would like to expand and start businesses of their own but it's hard sometimes, there is always the one person who will deter others, I think it's because

2020: Year of the Saint

they see the potential of a threat, but shouldn't we invite these kinds of friendly rivalry to encourage us and others to do even better? Here's how I look at life, if you get knocked down, come back stronger and progress will be made, I do think there's a lot of opportunity on island to help develop ideas or even improve them depending on what kind of business we want to start. There are no failures only learning curbs and accomplishments. The pitch to plantation was a brilliant way for young people to bring forth ideas and express themselves and if the competition was to come again in the following years I hope more people will join..... I know I will be there"

Seventeen year student Colby Thomas said "I think St Helena should focus on its young people because we are the future of our island. Whether it be a police officer, construction workers, farmers or as members of the younger community of St Helena, we have the responsibility to fulfil the roles of our successors whilst maintaining or improving society for the people of the island. However, we cannot do this alone which is why I believe that St Helena as an island has the responsibility to ensure that every person has a purposeful reason to live here and fulfil these roles, but above all is given an opportunity to reach their aspirations"

Well, that's what young people are telling us, will we step aside for a revolution? Can we be humble enough to admit that Saints have not always been at the heart of our decisionmaking? Will we look inward instead of outward? Will 2020 be the year that we leave no stone unturned to allow the people of this incredible community first chance?

To achieve a fraction of success government must recognise



Colby Thomas, 17 years old

the worth of its own people building around the risk takers, innovators and creators, the same people that will challenge the way their government is spending money, this year the government needs to ask itself just two basic questions; What must I do? And what can be done by others? Unsuspectingly the future is upon us and we don't have a handle on it, we hover between two extremes of not making a decision or making a bad one, the formalities of bureaucracy have cost us time and money, we need to put this right in 2020.

DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a revised amended plan has been received in respect of the following proposal:

 Application 2019/111: Revised plan for the Fibre Cable Route in respect of the Modular Cable Landing Station, Manholes and Ducting application, Rupert's Beach on Parcels 0031, 0033, 0075 and 0085 Rupert's Valley. Applicant: St Helena Government.

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

Any person who wishes to make Representations on the above should make them in writing <u>within 7 days</u> to the Planning Office, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown or Email <u>karen.isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh</u>

Public Representation Closing Date:

4pm – 31st January 2020



Shane Williams Planning Officer Tel: [+290] 22327 Email: independent@helanta.co.sh http: www.saint.fm Ecological

In the same week SHG lose their legal battle to get compensation claims amounting to £265,000 reduced to one third of that amount the BBC report that the National Health Service in England faces paying out £4.3billion in legal fees to settle outstanding claims of clinical negligence and that 10,000 new compensation claims are lodged each year. If the legal costs have not frightened you to death, the total cost of outstanding compensation, should all the claims be successful, is put at £129billion.

The culture of litigation is a two-edged sword. We can all sympathise with the patients who were on the receiving end of Du Toit's actions dating back to 2015 and wish them well with their compensation award. But the boot can easily be on the other foot. In the case which has just completed its journey through to the highest possible court of appeal we may not be particularly concerned that SHG have to find £265,000 because they appointed a health professional who fell far short of expectations. But, if you or me were taken to court and sued for compensation due to some error or accident which caused someone pain and suffering the idea that we should pay the same amount of compensation which is paid in the UK is less than appealing.

We have a quite lengthy bit on Professor Dr Sarkins' arrival tomorrow for his second round of public discussions on how we are governed and how this can be improved. The details of each of the suggested changes could be discussed forever and a day; and some of the chat would even be fascinating. The idea of a Chief Islander or whatever such a person might be called is basically a good idea in my view but how much power do we want to give to one person. Not too long ago the UK prime minister was called the 'first among equals'. The equals he was among were the other ministers in the Cabinet. Now the prime minister is more of a presidential figure and the ministers and secretaries of state do what the prime minister tells them to do – otherwise they are out the door. This week Boris Johnson took the centralising of power to one person (himself) a little further. It was reported this week that Britain's latest prime minister has arranged for letters to be sent to his friends and colleagues in the Cabinet telling them to toe the line and speak with one voice. Anyone being interviewed on radio or TV who is promoting themselves (and not Johnson) or selling their own agenda will certainly get the sack and there is a cabinet re-shuffle coming soon anyway. In St Helena we need to have checks in the system which makes it impossible for a Chief Islander to behave like that.



ST HELENA BEAT SURGERIES

St Helena Police Officers will be holding 'Beat Surgeries' in various places around the Island over the coming months. These surgeries are designed to take place in busy areas where it is easier for more people to attend. Members of the public are encouraged to use these surgeries to raise any concerns or issues affecting them, or to report crimes or give information on any offences or offenders. Police will also be available for community engagement, consultation, help and advice.

Please see below the dates, times and locations for the upcoming surgeries.

	Date	Time	Location
	Wednesday, 22 January	1pm-3pm	Blue Hill
	Tuesday, 28 January	5pm-7pm	Levelwood
	Friday, 31 January	11.30am-1.30pm	The Market, Jamestown
*	Saturday, 1 February	3pm-5pm	Ladder Hill
St Helena	Thursday, 6 February	1pm-3pm	Longwood
Government	Saturday, 15 February	3pm-5pm	Sandy Bay
	Friday, 21 February	4pm-6pm	Rupert's Valley
	Saturday, 22 February	3pm-5pm	Thompsons Hill
	Saturday, 7 March	3pm-5pm	Deadwood
	Thursday, 12 March	9am-11am	Post Office, Jamestown
	Saturday, 14 March	1pm-3pm	Half Tree Hollow
	Tuesday, 24 March	5.30pm-7pm	The Briars

High Sheriff of Gwent 2019-2020

Declaration Ceremony, Sessions House, UsK High Sheriff of Gwent, 2019-2020, Dame Claire Clancy DCB DL



The new High Sheriff of Gwent, Dame Claire Clancy, began her year in office with a formal Declaration Ceremony at the Sessions House in Usk, continuing a tradition which stretches back for more than 1,000 years. Claire takes over from Sharon Linnard who served as High Sheriff of Gwent for the last year. The ceremony was a short, legal occasion during which Claire made a statutory Declaration of Office before a Justice of the Peace. In front of over 90 invited guests, she also made her own promise for her year as High Sheriff, pledging to listen and learn from the work of all those she encounters and to nurture and encourage them in order to support the work of those who help make Gwent a caring, safe and inclusive place to live.

The Office of High Sheriff is an independent non-political royal appointment for a single year. It is the oldest secular office in the country, dating back to the times of Ethelred the Unready and King Canute. The duties associated with the role have evolved over time and involve playing an active role promoting the interests of criminal justice agencies and voluntary organizations that work to prevent crime, promote community safety and offer support and development to young people and vulnerable adults. It is a mix of ceremonial, charitable and community functions. The role is voluntary, unfunded and non-political. Gwent is fortunate in having an established Gwent High Sheriffs' Community Fund. The Fund aims to provide a safer and better quality of life for the people of Gwent by supporting community-based initiatives which mentor and inspire young people in order to help reduce crime and enhance community safety. Current, past and future High Sheriffs steer the Fund's Panel, working alongside the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent and the Community Foundation in Wales, who manage the Fund. Recently, the annual grant-making event, 'Your Voice, Your Choice' was held, and £75,000 was awarded from the Gwent High Sheriffs' Community Fund to a diverse range of organizations from right across Gwent. During her year, Claire will be visiting all the projects supported by the Fund. Already, in

her links with these projects, she has been hugely impressed by the unsung heroes within the small charity and voluntary groups who give so freely of their time, energy and resources. Speaking at her Declaration Ceremony, Claire said: "It's usual for each High Sheriff to choose their own special focus for the time they spend in Office. I want to celebrate and recognize the achievements of people who give so much to their communities and offer crucial support to young people and vulnerable adults. It is no exaggeration to say that these individuals make our world a better place and we should all be profoundly grateful to them."

Claire was born in Essex in 1958 and moved to Wales in the 1980s. She was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the Bath (DCB) in the 2017 Birthday Honours for public service in Wales and is a Deputy Lieutenant of Gwent. Claire spent her career in public service and was Chief Executive and Clerk to the National Assembly for Wales for ten years until 2017 when she retired. Before joining the Assembly, Claire was Chief Executive of Companies House and Registrar of Companies - the first woman to hold this position in over 150 years.

Claire also spent time on the tiny island of St Helena when her late husband, Mike, was Chief Secretary and later Governor; here she did some teaching and other voluntary work.



G-Unique Manager & Designer

Looking for a highly motivated & creative individual to fill this varied job role. Involves working 2 days at G-Unique Studio making jewellery (training given) & working 3 days at the G-Unique Boutique. Financial reporting based on sales data will also be required.

Applicants must be 18 years & over. Interested? Contact Giselle on 23935 or 63545 or email: <u>g-uniquedesigns@hotmail.co.uk</u> for further information.

urther information.



Equality & Human Rights Commission

Press Release 20th January 2020



<u>Attorney General of St Helena (Appellant) vs AB and other</u> <u>(Respondents) (St Helena)</u> <u>Lady Hale, Lord Wilson, Lord Briggs, Lady Arden, Lord Sales</u>

The Privy Council today handed down its judgement in the above case, which centred on whether people on St Helena who had suffered pain, suffering and/or loss of amenity after personal injury were entitled to the same compensation as our fellow British Citizens.

In the case in question the Chief Justice and later the three judges in St Helena Appeal Court had awarded damages at the same level as the UK. However, the Attorney General on behalf of SHG argued to the Privy Council Board (the highest Appeal Court in the UK) that as wages on St Helena are lower, the damages should be at one third of the rate awarded in England & Wales.

This case has in implications for everyone on St Helena. The Equality and Human Rights Commission was generously granted permission to act as Intervener in the Privy Council making both written and oral submissions as regards the expectation of Saints to be treated like other full British Citizens. The Privy Council Board expressed their gratitude to the EHRC for their intervention.

The Privy Council has dismissed the Attorney General's appeal and concluded that the current difference in average earnings between St Helena and the UK was in effect cancelled out by the higher cost of living. This coupled with Saints likely expectation of being treated equally meant that there was no good reason to apply a different approach to the assessment of personal injury damages to that taken in England & Wales.

The EHRC is delighted with this outcome and would like to thank the Privy Council Board for allowing the intervention and our wonderful legal team: Caoilfhionn Gallagher QC, Fiona Murphy and Susie Alegre.

EHRC CEO and Commissioner, Catherine Turner, said, "This is a landmark decision for Saints not only does it mean that that we will get compensation in line with those of our fellow British Citizens in England & Wales, it accepts the principle that Saints have a reasonable expectation of being treated equally in general."

The full judgement can be read here: <u>https://www.jcpc.uk/cases/docs/jcpc-</u> 2018-0034-judgement-pdf

ST HELENA WATER LEVELS

Despite recent spells of rain, especially in the mornings, surface flows to the Island's reservoirs continue to decline. This is largely due to the ground being so dry that rain water is absorbed before it can filter through to the reservoirs.

The Island's water stocks remain dangerously low at 40,000 cubic metres or 35%. This is still a serious situation and, with very little surface flows, the Island has become reliant on water extracted from bore holes. Average daily consumption over the past week has been 973 cubic metres, which falls within the target level of below 1,000 cubic metres. This is a credit to the efforts of everyone on St Helena - well done to all! This type of water preservation must continue to improve our current situation.

Councillor Cruyff Buckley commented:

"The community should be commended for their efforts so far in conserving our precious resource. This situation has shown me that, in times of hardship, this community can pull together for the greater good. In addition to the collection and storage of water is the need to use it resourcefully. I have no doubt these last few years have been an eye-opener for us all to take stock of our life-giving necessity and to utilise it in the most efficient ways possible." (see CIIr Buckley's full statement annexed below)

With mostly dry weather being experienced around the Island, it would still take at least a few weeks of heavy rainfall for surface flows to increase and stocks to replenish. In the interim, with surface flows still declining, Connect Saint Helena Ltd (CSH) will continue pumping water to Island reservoirs to ensure stocks do not run dry.

"

St Helena, like many countries across the globe is experiencing the adverse effects of Climate Change.

This threat is internationally recognised and action is being taken to combat these effects.

On St Helena, these effects are being shown through the delay in the rainy season and lack of rainfall.

This is not the first time St Helena has suffered water shortages and the continuing pattern demonstrates the need to take action.

SHG in conjunction with Connect Saint Helena Ltd is in the process of developing additional storage that will secure and increase water storage levels significantly to cope with increased productivity over the coming years.

The community should be commended for their efforts thus far in saving our precious resource.

This exercise has shown me that in times of hardship this community can pull together for the greater good.

In addition to the collection and storage of water is the need to use it resourcefully. I have no doubt these last few years have been an eye-opener for us all to take stock of our life-giving necessity and to utilise it in the most efficient ways possible.

'when you have carried your own water, you will realise the value of every drop'



St Helena Resilience Forum 22 January 2020









Councillor Cruyff Buckley

Extra detail on new map for St Helena

A new map for St Helena is on public display at Essex House. It shows some changes due to more accurate digital measuring techniques which were not available when the Ordnance Survey map, now in use, was produced in 1990. The new map will be available to see and comment on until 14th February and will replace the 1990 Ordnance Survey map when officially adopted.

More precise measuring means the positions of the three Peaks has changed slightly, as has the height of Diana's Peak. There is also more accuracy in the routes and detail shown for roads, tracks and paths. Contour lines shown at 10 and 50 metre intervals are also more complete and accurate to within 1 metre.

More information is also available on the new map. Bus stops and public toilets are shown, as are the locations of new buildings. More ruins are also recorded. National Conservation Areas are also included. The airport is also shown and the Haul Road together with the different names given for six or seven sections of the road from Rupert's Valley to the airport.

The other main change is the previous six maps of St Helena at the 1:10,000 scale has been reduced to four.

Poetry for the masses

Roger Robinson, the British-Trinidadian dub poet, has won the prestigious TS Eliot prize on his first nomination for his collection A Portable Paradise.

Robinson, who splits his time between London and Trinidad, is a long time performer of dub poetry – a form of spoken word with West Indian roots.

From A Portable Paradise

And if I speak of Paradise, then I'm speaking of my grandmother who told me to carry it always on my person, concealed, so no one else would know but me. That way they can't steal it, she'd say. And if life puts you under pressure, trace its ridges in your pocket, smell its piney scent on your handkerchief, hum its anthem under your breath. And if your stresses are sustained and daily, get yourself to an empty room – be it hotel, hostel or hovel – find a lamp and empty your paradise onto a desk: your white sands, green hills and fresh fish. Shine the lamp on it like the fresh hope of morning, and keep staring at it till you sleep. • *From A Portable Paradise by Roger Robinson (Peepal Tree, £9.99)*



The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 7, Friday 24th January 2020

Issues of transparency and accountability not mentioned in the Sarkin Report

The Sarkin Report looks at the organisation of the Saint Helena Government and the processes used (or not used) to fulfil the required democratic and administrative functions. However there is a powerful external influence which certainly affects the main St Helena Government decisions and the effects of this influence trickle down to everyday life making it noticeably better or worse. The external influence is the UK Government and the aid given to St Helena so it can continue to exist as a populated island. UK aid runs to about 60% of all the revenue received by SHG, including the tax and duty we pay. Without UK aid none of us would be here. This is a powerful influence and in any sensible debate on responsibility, transparency and accountability in the way St Helena is governed, the UK influence cannot be ignored.

Outside Forces

Every year DFID sends a 'Mission' to St Helena to discuss St Helena Government expenditure for the year ahead and often a year or two after that. In the 2019-20 financial year the UK funded £32million of the SHG budget while the £14million we paid in tax and duty made up the rest of the total SHG expenditure of £46million for one financial year. The annual DFID 'Mission' (its full name has varied over the years) negotiates with SHG officials on levels of government expenditure and areas of government expenditure. It can be the case that the political will of the elected representatives is to spend more in a certain area government activity or services. It could also be the case that DFID oppose this proposal for expenditure and because they hold the whip hand, DFID wins. The capital programme came to a halt for two or three years recently. It is only now grinding through the gears to get back in motion. It came to a halt because DFID said SHG could not have the money. A new programme is now struggling to get back on its feet again because DFID said SHG can have some money so long as they demonstrate to DFID it is being spent wisely and efficiently.

The annual discussions are held behind closed doors and the DFID Mission departs without making a public statement on what the general position might be for SHG government funding in the immediate years ahead. No transparency there in any shape or form. Allegedly it is the Secretary of State for International Development who is accountable; but the last one came and went within three months, shrugging off any accountability as he went through the front door.

Limitations on the Responsibility of the Chief Islander

Where does the influence of DFID fit with responsibilities envisaged for the shoulders of the Chief Islander, or Chief Councillor? The political heads of directorates and the Chief Islander may have, and should have, hammered out a costed list of priorities for government expenditure. It may include building a few new Government Landlord Houses, buying new medical equipment for the hospital, rolling out a five year maintenance programme for all the school buildings and combining the library and the archives with the museum PWD Store extension. The Chief Islander and his political team have been returned at a general election on the basis of this spending, and costed, programme. When the next DFID Mission negotiations start it is announced on DFID's side that belts are being tightened and money has to be trimmed from the aid DFID hands out to St Helena. Immediately the new Government Landlord Houses are struck off the list, orders for medical equipment are cancelled and leaky roofs reign in academia.

An angry crowd gathers at the entrance to the Castle and jeers at the Chief islander and his elected political team, pelting them with eggs as they pass through. This political team is at the centre of St Helena government and were elected on the strength of the promises they made. After the DFID Mission left, the Chief Islander was left with the task of explaining that the promises made before the election will now have to be broken. Responsibility, accountability, transparency for St Helena is now thoroughly discredited and the people of St Helena do not trust the St Helena Government any further than they can throw them.

More Accountability and Transparency Needed from DFID

Is the description given about how the new, revitalised version of SHG can go wrong far-fetched? Maybe, but not by much. Because DFID are the major partner in the finances of SHG and therefore inextricably involved with the policies and promises of SHG they are also inextricably linked with any new efforts to improve the governance of St Helena.

Accountability and transparency will extend to the DFID Mission. The Mission team are administrators not politicians but with a big push for more responsibility from St Helena's politicians in the execution of government business the visit of the DFID Mission will need to take this into account. The general situation prevailing at the time the Mission arrives here should be explained in radio interviews together with what and why the main points of discussion are intended to be. At the end of the Mission visit an explanation of what transpired will be not just desirable but imperative. After converting St Helena's voters, residents and politicians to a new and better way of conducting government business, the administrators in the DFID Mission cannot come and go as if nothing has happened. Responsibility, Accountability and Transparency will apply as equally to DFID as it does to SHG, otherwise the whole new structure of good governance could, and probably will, come tumbling down. It may be that the DFID Mission will in future need to include a junior minister to handle the political aspects of the negotiations and their consequences.

Before and above all that it would be advantageous to have a publicly available set of rules, methods and intents which encapsulates the relationship between DFID and SHG and what the boundaries are for discussions, negotiations and instructions.

Good Governance: how can it be achieved?

Good governance in St Helena is top of the agenda next week as Professor Dr Jeremy Sarkin returns tomorrow to continue his investigation into how St Helena is governed and how it can be improved. In his first report, "St Helena Political Governance Review" Dr Sarkin suggests ways our system of government could be reformed and intends during his visit to discuss how these improvements might be made. He has organised two hour-long public discussion sessions; the first will be at Half Tree Hollow Community Centre on Monday 27th January from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. The second is at Harford Community Centre on Wednesday 29th January, also from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Also, on Tuesday 28th January there will be a drop-in session at Anne's Place from 3:30pm to 5pm where anyone can go along to have a one-to-one chat with Dr Sarkin on any good governance matter.

Here, the *Independent* discusses the main points Jeremy Sarkin outlines in his report where he is keen to have further public discussion. Any observations and opinions included with the main points are not necessarily those of Dr Sarkin; nor are they those of the *Independent*. They are included only as points for discussion or explanation.

More public involvement

Jeremy Sarkin states in his report that good governance also means more public participation in the issues government face, initiatives being introduced by government and the reasons why changes are being made. New ways can be found to encourage more public involvement and includes using "appropriate technology". Using appropriate technology depends on the majority of people having access to the internet. In St Helena the extent of access to the internet is not as great as in most other countries. The Independent tried to find out from Sure South Atlantic (St Helena) how many of their customer accounts include access to the internet and email; this would give a good indication of the extent technology can be relied upon, on its own, as a public consultation tool. Sure said they could not give that information. The culture of secrecy and obfuscation in St Helena extends beyond government.

In September 2017 SHG published a new consultation policy. In the seven page document eleven ways to be used to consult with the public are listed, including user satisfaction surveys, questionnaires, social media and various ways to obtain views from small groups of people. Appropriate technology can be used to help with public consultation using most of the eleven consultation methods listed in the SHG Consultation Policy. Some methods have been used to differing extents; an independent assessment of the effectiveness and application of the new policy would be useful to support Jeremy Sarkin's work in St Helena.

Leadership from elected members of Legislative Council

Leadership in government, by those elected by the people to govern, is at the heart of every democracy. St Helena does not have that with the present system of government and probably never has. If the changes suggested are realised it will be a gigantic and transformative step from a post-colonial bureaucratic mish-mash to something approaching the systems of government prevailing in most democracy based independent countries.

Leadership goes hand-in-hand with responsibility and accountability. Handling government business in a transparent way is also part of the package. Transparency includes letting everyone know what the government intends to achieve during its term of office. In the UK this is done through the Queen's Speech at the State Opening of Parliament. In St Helena there is nothing like that. The Queen's Speech is mostly a list of legislation to be presented to Parliament; called the legislative programme. In August last year Executive Council discussed the legislative programme for St Helena; it become obvious it is in a mess. The Exco Report stated, "Council discussed the current draft Legislative Programme presented by the Acting Attorney General. It was noted that there was a mismatch in what was being produced by Council Committees and what was required by Chambers to draft legislation. It was agreed that Chambers should issue to Council Committees a revised set of instructions to underpin legislative drafting. This item would be brought back to Executive Council once a revised set of instructions had been received from Chambers." It is an excellent example of the confusion lack of leadership can lead to. While the Exco Report typically lacks detail on the reasons for the confusion it is very telling the report states the senior elected representatives on Executive Council are passively waiting for revised instructions from the Attorney General rather than taking a proactive part in sorting out the confused situation.

A Chief Islander or Chief Councillor

The Sarkin Report stated, "Individual leadership is also needed; in conjunction with greater accountability and transparency more vision is needed." Certainly vision by the truckload is essential but much more will be required to move the system of government from where it is now to where it is envisaged to be. Transforming a government which not only does not list its legislative priorities at the start of a new term but finds its legislative programme is in disarray halfway through the term is a gigantic task which will take some considerable time. A clear plan to get the government administration from where it is now to where it should be needs individual leadership; it is certainly preferable that the leader is an elected representative and therefore accountable the next time a general election comes around to those who are governed.

Political Heads of Directorates

The individual leader, be it a prime minister, chief minister, chief islander or whoever, will always need help from all sides in achieving whatever the aims may be for the term of the Legislative Council. The first line of support is the councillors appointed by the leader to be the political heads of each of the directorates. Normally, when there is no political party system, elected representatives will elect a leader from among themselves soon after a general election. The person elected as leader will then appoint political heads for each of the directorates from among the other elected representatives. The leader gets some of his authority from being able to appoint or replace political heads of directorates.

Good Governance: how can it be achieved?

The leader, together with the directorates political heads, are the centre of an elected government.

A political head of a directorate is responsible for pushing through the policies adopted by the elected government. Political directorate heads are also responsible for the directorate's budget and ultimately responsible for the administration of the directorate.

The political head works alongside the administrative head of a directorate. While the political head is concerned with policies and priorities, the administrative head is concerned with putting the policy into practice; leading on the feasibility of a policy, the technical and planning organisation and keeping costs under control. In a good working relationship a political head of a directorate will rely on the administrative head for good advice based on years of experience and training.

For example, the political head of the Health Directorate may return from a meeting of the elected leader with the political directorate heads and say to the administrative head of the Health Directorate it is intended to pursue the policy of continuous improvement in the standard of healthcare by making it a top priority for the provision of a wider range of health treatments on-island. The administrative head of the directorate will be charged with identifying what additional clinical equipment and professional personnel will offer the best options in terms of the number of patients that will benefit and the number of medical referrals that can be avoided. Value for money will come into it with each additional piece of equipment being costed for purchase, importation and installation and so on. The political head will want regular updates on progress from the administrative head and will be ready to help clear any blockages or showstoppers in the progress made with implementing this top priority. Failure may mean the elected leader finding a new political head for the Health Directorate.

While the advice given by the administrative head of a directorate to the political head may be invaluable, neutral and completely devoid of hidden agendas the political leaders will need independent, alternative advice, often of a very specialist nature, to help guide the decisions they make. As is the case the world over, training will be necessary on a more or less permanent basis in new developments across a wide range of issues and in developing personal skills. It is almost inevitable the new way of doings things will be more expensive.

One Constituency, Two, or More

The Sarkin Report also raises the question of how many constituencies there should be in St Helena. Should we keep the one island-wide constituency or go back to having a councillor being elected by and representing the people of one of the eight districts. Four districts had two councillors, making a total of twelve in Legislative Council.

The representation by district was found to be less than satisfactory as the uneven spread of the population meant some councillors representing country districts had far fewer voters on the electoral register than in Half Tree Hollow or Longwood. It didn't take that many votes to get elected. If a candidate's extended family voted in his or her favour that could be just about enough. It also meant there could be difficulties finding candidates to stand for Legislative Council in the thinly populated districts. With the one island-wide constituency none of these issues arose.

However, with the link between a councillor and a specific district or area lost, it is thought by some that a link between the people and government is also lost. To bring the electors closer to the elected it is now being discussed again that councillors should represent a specific part of the island and that the local councillor should be the first point of contact for residents on matters involving the government.



The combined population of the Blue Hill, Sandy Bay and Levelwood Districts in the 2016 census was 720. Jamestown District was 629 and Longwood 790. Half Tree Hollow is the most populated district with 984 residents at the 2016 census. A Blue Hill councillor would represent just 158 residents and would win election to Legislative Council on a handful of votes. The 984 residents of Half Tree Hollow could claim to be under-represented by comparison.

A compromise which may or may not find favour could be for councillors who are not appointed to be a political head of directorate by a chief islander could be allocated areas of the island to represent and be the first point of contact for people in the area they represent. With five or six directorates envisaged there would be a roughly equal number of councillors not appointed by the chief islander to directorates as are appointed. Those councillors with no appointment to political office could represent during Legislative Council debates the views expressed to them by residents in the areas allocated to them.

A Stronger Public Accounts Committee

Dr Sarkin points out the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) perform an important role in holding to account those entrusted with managing public funds. The report suggests the PAC should have a more independent membership and have stronger powers. It is argued the PAC should have the power to examine all public sector assets, liabilities, income and expenditure. And the PAC should be able to examine all public sector assets owned by SHG and other entities where SHG has an interest.



Sure SA Ltd Open Letter to the community of St Helena Island

In recent times there have been newspaper articles and letters, radio interviews and various stories featured throughout social media platforms relating to the sub-sea cable's arrival to St Helena and the future of telecommunications services to the island.

The purpose of this open letter is to give readers and our valued customers the opportunity of understanding the island's current telecommunications service provision, the current process for the review of the Telecommunications Licence and Sure's role in preparing the island for the arrival of the sub-sea cable.

Review of the current Telecommunications Licence

The current Telecommunications Licence is an exclusive licence granted by the St Helena Government to Sure SA Ltd and it is due to expire at the end of December 2022. It grants Sure the right to provide telecommunications services to St Helena on an exclusive basis – that is, no other company may provide such services on a commercial basis. In this respect Sure is referred to as a monopoly as there are effectively no telecommunications competitors.

This is not uncommon in small markets such as St Helena where the customer base is limited and cannot support multiple suppliers. This is especially the case with telecommunications, which requires significant and ongoing investments. Sure is a specialist provider in this respect and serves the communities of not only St Helena but also Ascension, Falkland Islands and Diego Garcia on a similar basis.

However, unlike some recent suggestions, the Licence does not grant Sure the freedom to price and deliver services as it may wish. In fact, Sure operates within strict controls which are an integral part of the Licence and these include the need for proper authorisation from the Governor in Council for any price changes. In other words, there are strong checks and balances in place within Sure's exclusive Licence that have been agreed with the Government.

All price changes and significant changes to service must first be approved by the Electronic Communications Consultative Committee (ECCC) which is chaired by an SHG official and represented by two further SHG members. Sure has representation of two members, one of which is the current on island Chief Executive (namely myself) and the other is Sure's Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs. Additionally, the ECCC Chair must seek approval from the Executive Council before any decisions are made regarding telecommunications services. Therefore, despite recent suggestions, Sure is not able to make any changes to services, including pricing, without this authorisation.

The role of the ECCC is therefore a very important one and its role in regulating the industry should act as assurance to the community that the way in which Sure operates is done so in a fair manner as determined and approved by the St Helena Government and in full compliance with the obligations contained in Sure's Licence.

The current licence renewal process, as provided for by the current licence, started during 2019 and continues into this year. At this point in time Sure remains committed to being St Helena's telecommunications provider and is interested in providing telecommunications services beyond



2022. This has been communicated to the St Helena Government and we continue our discussions with the expectation of confirming our position within the near future.

Sure's continued investments in St Helena

A recently published article suggested that Sure does not have any incentive to invest in St Helena due to the potential effect on the financial position of the company and the risk of not being able to pass on the cost to customers. Most commercial businesses operate on the premise that their success depends heavily on the customer base, unless their operations are being subsidised by other means, for example, through Government funding. In the case of Sure, we have invested in excess of £3 million over the past 7 years and intend to spend a further £2 million in the coming three years in order to continue enhancing telecommunications to the island. Additionally, Sure spends close to £2 million annually on the running costs associated with providing telecommunications services, which includes the costs of employing a team of 23 locally-based, skilled and professional employees who are committed to providing high quality services to our customers. We also contribute directly to the St Helena's treasury by way of taxation.

Unlike other entities on the island which provide exclusive services, Sure does not receive any subsidy from the Government; nor does Sure receive any tax reliefs other than those available to all other companies within St Helena.

Sure has continued to invest despite the environment of a depressed economy and a decreasing customer base. The introduction of mobile phone services in 2015 is an example whereby approximately £2 million was spent, only to find that visitor numbers did not meet forecasts and have yet to reach levels sufficient to support such a significant project. Despite this, and to ensure we could meet all of our licence requirements, Sure implemented the mobile network, far surpassing the specifications of the licence despite the risk of delayed return on investment. This network also serves our sister island Ascension and demonstrates Sure's commitment to the licence and serving the community.

Supporting St Helena in preparing for the arrival of the sub-sea cable

The new sub-sea cable is an exciting development and Sure considers its arrival at the end of 2021 as having the potential to bring about a step change not only in the economy but also in the improvement of everyone's broadband services and connection to the rest of the world. We want to work in partnership and support SHG to realise the cable's full potential on the economy and the community.

Today, as many readers will know, Sure connects St Helena to the rest of the world via satellite networks. Satellite networks are extremely costly and therefore there is only limited capacity and speeds that Sure can provide to our customers. The advent of sub-sea cable means that effectively the bottleneck of satellite capacity is released which enables far faster speeds to be offered.

As has been pointed out, in order to realise the full potential of the new cable, the local island broadband infrastructure may have to be upgraded further. With our investment track record in St Helena, Sure is confident that by continuing to invest in local network upgrades, the new faster speeds that the subsea cable brings would be realised. Connecting Sure's St Helena network to the sub-sea cable has the potential to transform broadband speeds to those seen in mainland countries.



The sub-sea cable should also bring about economic development in the form of growth in the digital economy and Sure intends to work in partnership with the St Helena Government to develop opportunities such as Ground Stations operators. Sure has experience in other jurisdictions of successfully working with these types of operators and has already been meeting with a number of interested parties in St Helena.

Sure's continued contribution to St Helena

Sure employs 23 talented, skilled and professional islanders who will continue to provide a high level of service to our customers. We will continue to contribute significantly to the island's treasury through taxation and in investing in the local economy. We will continue to provide sponsorship and support to various events and organisations as well as the sponsorship of internet services to both Health and Education functions to support the island's community.

We have a great desire to develop home grown talent and to that end we have and will continue to operate our own apprenticeship scheme which supports local youths on island and also gives those attending university overseas, the opportunity to observe and work in the telecommunications industry.

In summary

Whilst there has been much commentary in recent times about Sure's current operations on St Helena and speculations as to our motives; we trust this letter outlines our current position; our motivation to improve upon our services and our desire to support the local Government and islanders in realising the benefits of the arrival of the sub-sea cable. We want to assure islanders of our commitment to our workforce and our support to the local community in meeting our Ten Year Plan National Goals; the objective of which is to 'continue to make St Helena a wonderful place to work, live, raise children, visit and to do business'.

Whilst others may comment on what they assume to be the position of Sure and criticise our services and motives; the local community should be aware that in addition to some parties doing so from a basic rights perspective for access to Internet services for all; there are also commercial motives present which are not necessarily in the interest of St Helena.

Sure continues to be committed to serving the St Helena community, providing the island with the best possible telecommunications services and delivering on the terms of our licence agreement. Sure looks forward to both the future licence discussions in 2020 and in parallel developing a framework of partnership with SHG to fully realise the benefits that the sub-sea cable can bring to our customers and to the wider economy.

Christine Thomas Chief Executive, Sure St Helena & Ascension Island



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc

Main Street, Jamestown, Island of St Helena, STHL 1ZZ Tel: 290 22380, Fax: 290 22423, Email: <u>generalenquiries@solomons.co.sh</u> Web: www.solomons-sthelena.com Prosperity Through Partnership

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has for "sale by tender" the following vehicles.

FORD FOCUS

Formerly registered as 3117 Damaged as a result of a road traffic accident and can only be used for spare parts.

FORD FOCUS

Formerly registered as 4627 Damaged as a result of a road traffic accident and can only be used for spare parts.

VOLKSWAGON POLO Formerly registered as 1892 Damaged as a result of a road traffic accident.

NISSAN BAKKIE PICKUP

Formerly registered as 233 Damaged as a result of a fire and can only be used for spare parts

Viewing has been set for Monday 27 January 2020 at 10am and persons interested in viewing should, in the first instance, contact Solomon's Insurance Office on telephone number 22860.

Offers should be made in writing to the Tender Board Secretary, clearly stating the registration number on the envelope and placed in the Company's Tender Box in their Main Office Foyer by no later than 4pm on Wednesday 29 January 2020.

21 January 2020



JOB VACANCY WITHIN ST HELENA AIRPORT LIMITED

St Helena Airport Limited is seeking to recruit an appropriate individual to fill the post of **Finance Officer** that has arisen within the company.

We are seeking a detail-orientated, thorough, and organized individual to providing financial support to colleagues, clients and stakeholders of the company. The incumbent will also be tasked with maintaining all financial records and files as per the company policies and procedures.

All applicants will be viewed with preferred experiences and knowledge in the following:

- . Work experience as a Finance Officer or similar role
- . Good knowledge of accounting and bookkeeping procedures
- . Advanced MS Excel skills (creating spreadsheets and using financial functions)
- . Familiarity with accounting software (e.g. Sage Accounting and Payroll)
- . Organizational and time-management skills
- . Attention to detail, with an ability to spot numerical errors
- . Excellent organisational and time management skills
- . Strong team player
- . Great awareness of deadlines

Applicants must be of a professional manner and also be able to provide the following:

. A full medical assessment

. A 5 year verifiable employment history check and be able to show proof for periods of unemployment in accordance with the Overseas Territories Aviation Requirement (OTAR) 178.

- . Pass a Narcotic and Alcohol test
- . A Criminal Background Check.

If you think you have the relevant experience, qualifications and skills to suit this role, or you would like more information or to receive the job description and application form please contact Elaine Hopkins at the St Helena Airport on Telephone number 25180 Ext 0 or email address **recruitment@sthelenaairport.aero**

Should we not find suitable candidates, we will take into consideration developmental areas to fill this role if the candidate has the willingness to work towards gaining the necessary qualifications.

The closing date for this position is Friday 7th February 2020. Interviews will take place between 10th and 12th February 2020 and the successful persons will commence work on 1st March 2020. Should we not contact you by 10th February 2020 you can consider your application not successful on this occasion.



We would like to thank everyone who supported SHAPE during our parade to celebrate International Day for Persons with Disabilities

> on 3rd December 2019.



We raised a total of £687.94

A massive thank you to all those who helped or contributed in any way – we really appreciate your support!

THANK YOU!



The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 7, Friday 24th January 2020



VACANCY - PAINTER/DECORATOR

The Infrastructure and Transport Directorate has a vacancy within their Building Maintenance section for a Decorator/Painter. The key tasks of the role will involve the execution of all painting and decorating related to Crown Estate and SHG Buildings using a variety of paints, varnishes and emulsions.

The candidate should have at least 3 years' experience in painting and decorating, a valid Drivers License in Classes A and C and an awareness of the importance of Health and Safety practices in the workplace.

The salary for the Painter/Decorator is at Grade B1 commencing at £6,722 per annum.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Mr Gilbert Young on telephone number 22054 (e-mail Gibby. Young@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Application forms and Job profiles are available from Essex House and should be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, ENRD, Essex House or e-mail karen.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Wednesday 29th 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.



VACANCY TEMPORARY COOK-PLANTATION HOUSE

Do you have an active interest in cooking and catering? If so, why not consider joining the small but busy team at Plantation House as Cook.

Corporate Services has an opportunity for a suitably qualified and experienced individual to provide cover for the post of Cook at Plantation House for a fixed-term period of six months.

The successful applicant will be directly responsible to the Plantation House Residence Manager for all matters relating to the supply and preparation of food at Plantation House.

Salary for this post is Grade C commencing at £8,613 per annum.

For further details about the post and a copy of the Job Profile, interested persons should contact Mrs Deborah Yon, Residence Manager on telephone number 24453 or e-mail: ph.resmanager@helanta.co.sh

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/ vacancies and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Monday, 27 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.



The Bicentenary Steering Group would like to announce the following meetings led by David Thompson OBE, International Co-ordinator for the St Helena Napoleonic Bicentenary commemorations.

David will be offering workshops for local artists, crafters, and the local tourism industry service providers and well as meeting with various delegates, stakeholders and organisations on his initial visit to St Helena. The workshops aim to provide an overview of expectations of what will be required of St Helena for the Bicentenary commemorations in 2021.

Meeting dates are as follows:

Helena Island

Secret of the South Atlantic

Workshop with local tourism industry service providers, Wednesday 29th January 9:00-11:00 am at the Tourist Office, Jamestown.

Public meeting, Wednesday 29th January 18:00—19:00 pm at the Jamestown Community Centre. **Workshop with local crafters**, Thursday 30th January 9:00—11:00 am at the Tourist Office, Jamestown.

If you offer a local tourism service or have an interest in the Bicentenary planning and would like to join the above meetings, please come along on the respective dates.

For further information please contact Sophia Joshua on telephone 22158, or via email Sophia.Joshua@tourism.co.sh



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Storeman Driver in Wholesale Store £554.40 p/m £3.60 p/h

> Storeman in Tinkers £508.20 p/m £3.30 p/h

Please note these are starting salaries and will increase with proficiency in job role. Part time option also available.

Interested persons can contact Henry Thorpe or Carol Yon Tel: 22781, email: admin@thorpes.sh or come and see us in our office above Thorpe's grocery shop.





ST HELENA BICENTENNARY STEERING GROUP TO WELCOME DAVID THOMPSON OBE



David Thompson OBE, International Co-ordinator for the St Helena Napoleonic Bicentenary will arrive to St Helena on the 25th January for his initial visit.

David will assist the Bicentenary Steering and Working Group with the delivery of the visions and goals and he will also provide support for the high-profile events.

Among his duties David will also work and liaise with St Helena Tourism's Public Relations Agencies in the UK and France with regards to potential media and PR coverage of the Bicentenary. He will develop networks and relationships with relevant international contacts including high profile parties that will add value to the Bicentenary programme.

In his initial visit he will assess the Island's capability in delivering high-profile events and assist with the production of a resilience work plan in preparation for the events. This will include assisting with training for the Steering and Working group and training and enhancement of the local businesses and infrastructure.

Recently retired from the UK Civil Service after a career spanning over 40 years, David's experience includes

work with the UK Department of Culture, Media and Sports, leading on the UK Governments First World War Centenary programme and state level commemorative events marking key anniversaries like the D Day commemoration.

David's week itinerary on island will include meetings with various officials, establishments and key stakeholders. He will also have the opportunity to visit the Napoleonic Sites, around which most of the commemorations will be centred.

Whilst St Helena will be in world focus on the 2021 Bicentenary of Napoleon's death, this historical occasion will also mark an opportunity for other aspects of the local tourism offering to be showcased.

Businesses, industries and stakeholders are encouraged to attend meetings and workshops where possible.

For further information please contact Sophia.Joshua@tourism.co.sh.





'GREEN LIGHT' FOR JUDICIAL SERVICE SECTION RELOCATION AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROJECT

ExCo approves relocation of Judicial Service Section and Access to Justice Project

Project to be funded from Economic Development Investment Programme

• Project provides a number of benefits to St Helena including protecting individuals living and working on-Island as they interact with the legal system

The relocation of the Judicial Service Section and Access to Justice Project, to be funded from the Economic Development Investment Programme, was approved by Executive Council at their meeting on Tuesday, 14 January 2020.

This Project will include the internal refurbishment of the ex-Police Headquarters to provide office space colocated with the Court House for the Judicial Services Section, appropriate facilities for all witnesses, including vulnerable witnesses in particular, a dedicated jury room, and access to the building for persons with a disability.

Relocating the Judicial Service Section has a number of benefits for St Helena including:

- · Protecting individuals living and working on St Helena, in particular the most vulnerable members of
- society, as they interact with the legal system
- Preserving the sanctity of the legal system
- Increasing efficiency and effectiveness of the Judicial Service Section.

The Project itself will also present direct benefits to the local community as it is expected for local contractors to undertake the works which will provide small but welcome economic stimulus.

The Judicial Service Section Relocation and Access to Justice Project is the final phase in the previously completed Police Service Relocation to Coleman House Project.

Ageways Charity would like to thank everyone supporting during 2019 and look forward to your continued support throughout 2020.

Congratulations to the winners of our Multi Raffles during November & December 2019!

Multi- Raffle drawn at Winter Wonderland, Longwood Green 23 November

Ice Cream Maker Mavis George Half Way Wine Hamper Natalie Crowie Nr. Longwood Gate Food Hamper Loretta Coleman Thompson's Wood Gift Bag Half Tree Hollow Patra Duncan Bath Set Anna Yon Half Tree Hollow Clock Delia Carter Half Tree Hollow Bed Set Karen Joshua Fiddler's Green Curling Tongs Wonda O'bev Half Tree Hollow Tin of Roses Chocolates Melvin Benjamin Half Tree Hollow

Multi Raffle drawn at the Christmas Extravaganza , Mule Yard on 23 December

Pumpkin Guess The Number Of Sweets Booze Hamper Case Beer Meal for 2 @ Blue Lantern Gel Nails Vase and Necklace Sarah Thomas Lillian Peters Nicola Young Terence Richards Connie Johnson Zena Peters Kathleen Yon Longwood Hangings Plantation Square Putty Hill Barracks Square Half Tree Hollow New Bridge Mulberry Gut



Enterprise St Helena is seeking to employ an experienced administrator to work within the Investment Team.

Reporting to the Investment Manager, the successful applicant will be responsible for providing a high level of administration support with all day to day activities carried out within the Investment function.

The successful candidate must have:

- Advanced general administrative skills/knowledge
- Strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office packages
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, and the ability to work well as part of a team

Completed application forms should be submitted to the HR and Administration Manager, Ladder Hill Business Park by no later than close of business Monday, 27th January 2020.

For further information please contact Martin George on telephone 22920, or via email martin.george@esh.co.sh



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ROAD CLOSURE

ROSEMARY PLAIN TO BLUEMANS FIELD

The following is a Public Announcement from the Infrastructure & Transport Directorate:

The Highways Authority has given approval for the road from Rosemary Plain to Bluemans Field to be closed from 9am to 3pm on Tuesday, 28, and Wednesday, 29 January 2020.



This closure is to allow the Roads Section to continue with slurry works in this area.

During this closure, only emergency services will be granted access.

The public is thanked in advance for their continued support and understanding.



SIDE PATH ROAD CLOSURE

WEDNESDAY, 29 JANUARY 2020

The following is a Public Announcement from the Infrastructure & Transport Directorate:

The Highways Authority has given approval for Side Path Road to be closed from 9am to 3pm on Wednesday, 29 January 2020.

This closure is to allow the Roads Section to carry out repairs to the retaining wall on Side Path Road.

During this closure, appropriate signage will be in place and only emergency services will be granted access.

For the duration of this closure, the diversion route will be via Constitution Hill Road.

The Roads Section would like to thank the public in advance for their continued understanding and cooperation.



A meeting of the Enterprise St Helena Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday 29 January 2020 at 9:00am at the Head Office , Ladder Hill Business Park.

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

- 1. Delegated Powers of Executive Management Team and Managers;
- 2. Policy on Local Business Promotion;
- Review of Six-Month Pilot Programme of Quarterly Meetings of the ESH Board of Directors;
- 4. Update on ESH Board Chairmanship;
- 5. Travel Shows attended for Quarter 3 2019/20;

A copy of the Agenda and Papers open to public will be available from Monday 27 January 2020 from the Board Secretary via email: natasha.bargo@esh.co.sh or telephone No. 22920



St Helena Island Secret of the South Atlantic

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Daniel (Dan) Robert Snow MBE, an English popular historian and television presenter will be visiting St Helena from the 21 January to 25 January 2020.

Dan is the president of Council for British Archaeology and a member of the Royal Historical Society in the United Kingdom and has won several awards for his role in British Television, including BAFTA for Battlefield Britain and the 2011 History Maker Award. On St Helena, Dan will be collecting material for his programme History Hits. A fascinating programme offering historical content through video, podcasts and articles.

Join Dan at the Museum on the 24 January at 4:30 pm to hear about his past work and his future programme featuring St Helena.



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Enterprise St Helena



The public will be aware that the CAN France team is on-island and will be carrying out rockfall protection measures in the Mundens and Rupert's areas.

In the interest of Public Safety, the trails from Sisters walk through to Minden's and Ruperts will be closed to the Public with effect from Monday 20 January until the end of July 2020.



The CAN France team apologises for any inconvenience caused, and thanks you for your cooperation.



Professional Development Opportunities

Always wondered about fulfilling your true potential?

Enterprise St Helena is here to assist you with achieving just that!

Skills Development Grants are potentially available to assist with the costs of an accredited course and/or a structured training programme, both local or offshore, with the intention of upskilling the Private Sector, Non-Government Organisations and Social Enterprises with business related skills. ESH will grant fund at 75% of total cost of course up to a maximum of £7,500.00.

This grants is subject to eligibility criteria. Policy, terms and conditions apply.

For further information contact a member of the Business Development Team on tel: 22920, or email: delia.dupreez@esh.co.sh & mandy.obey@esh.co.sh



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AGING INNOVATION

ATEGIC MANAGING OF

arketing Manage

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Enterprise St Helena is offering funding to support Social Enterprises. Grants will be offered up to 75% of an aggregate project cost or a combined proposal to a maximum grant value of £7,500 to assist with new and existing social enterprise projects.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Social Enterprises, Non-government Organisations, Associations and Charitable Organisations with a business approach and a social aim, or provide products and services that deliver social, economic and environmental benefits to the local community and generally have difficulties in accessing appropriate investment funding.

Strategic plan preparation	Planning application requirements (e.g. design plans)
Business financial and administration systems	Equipment, fixtures and fittings, technology hardware and software
Technical and Legal Advice	Website design and implementation including promotional video development
Marketing advice including packaging and branding	Skills Development*

SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Grants are subject to eligibility criteria. Terms and conditions apply.

*Skills Development Grants are offered at 75% of the total cost of an accredited training course / and or structured training programme up to a maximum of £7,500 to develop the skills of the organisations.

For more information please contact Mandy O'Bey on telephone 22920 or e-mail mandy.obey@esh.co.sh



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AUDIT ST HELENA invites applications for the following job vacancies

External Auditors

AUDIT ST HELENA

ASSISTANT AUDITOR

Salary range £8,067 to £9,904 per annum

Established position

The Assistant Auditor will assist with financial and performance audits across the public sector and will support other business processes.

Candidates are required to have good GCSE grades in English and Mathematics. As an entry level career position candidates will study the ACCA Foundations in Accountancy programme leading to Certified Accounting Technician.

Key skills include efficiency in business processes, good communication skills, and an aptitude for figures. IT proficiency including Excel, Word and Outlook is also essential.

PERFORMANCE AUDIT MANAGER

Salary range £28,430 to £34,392 per annum

24 month fixed-term contract commencing April 2020

The Audit Manager will plan and manage the delivery of performance audits to report on value for money in the use of public resources.

Candidates will be educated to degree level and hold a professional or master's qualification appropriate to the role. A minimum of five years experience in performance audit, ideally in a public audit office, and three years managerial experience is required.

We are looking for a team manager with excellent people management skills who can plan, prioritise and project manage workflow and develop their team. In addition to subject matter expertise candidates will have effective stakeholder management and communication skills.

BUSINESS SUPPORT OFFICER

Salary range £8,613 to £10,765 per annum

Established positon

The Support Officer will provide the administrative and business support services necessary for the effective functioning of Audit St Helena and supporting the Office of the Chief Auditor.

Candidates are required to have good GCSE grades in English and Mathematics, with proven experience in administrative support including routine financial transactions. An NVQ level 3 or equivalent qualification in business and administration would be desirable.

Key skills include efficiency in business processes with good communication and organisation skills necessary to support a busy professional office. IT proficiency including Excel, Word and Outlook is also essential.

PRINCIPAL AUDITOR

Salary range £21,737 to £26,690 per annum

24 month fixed-term contract commencing April 2020

The Principal Auditor will lead the planning and delivery of financial audit engagements across SHG and other public entities in accordance with auditing standards.

Candidates must be a qualified accountant with a minimum of three years experience in financial audit, and at least one year in a supervisory capacity in an audit environment, together with knowledge of recognised financial reporting frameworks. We are looking for a team leader with good communication and people management skills who is able plan, prioritise and project manage workflow and use their own judgement. Excellent analytical abilities and IT skills are also required. Working knowledge of CaseWare is desirable.

Job Profiles and Application Forms are available by calling 22111 or emailing cassidy.beard@sainthelena.gov.sh Applications should be submitted by hand or by email to Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown no later than 4pm on Friday, 14 February 2020.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and police clearance. St Helena Government 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.



Enterprise St Helena (ESH), invites Expressions of Interest from persons in the Private Sector to serve as Chair of its Board of Directors. ESH is the lead body for promoting and facilitating economic development on St Helena, in line with the Island's Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP). The Chair is appointed by the Governor and is a part-time role; in addition to quarterly Board Meetings, the Chair is expected to attend occasional stakeholder engagements and public events as a key representative of the Organisation.

The Main Responsibilities of the Chair are:

- Provide strategic leadership of the Board and ensure its overall effectiveness in implementing the Organisation's Strategy;
- In consultation with the Chief Executive for Economic Development, set the Board's agenda, ensuring that the Board meets regularly, and receives high quality, accurate and timely information;
- Ensure that policies and actions support ESH's objectives, and that the Board's affairs are conducted with probity;
- Ensure that new Board Directors are briefed on their terms of appointment, duties and responsibilities, and that the annual performance review of the Board and its Subcommittee is implemented and actioned;
- Support the Chief Executive for Economic Development in managing the affairs of the Organisation.

Specific Knowledge, Skills and Experience:

- Previous Chair experience, preferably of a Private Company/Organisation;
- Knowledge and understanding of Strategic Planning, Corporate Governance, Quality and Performance Management, and Investment;
- Skilled in supporting and encouraging open discussion, allowing the whole Board to contribute to decision making.

Expressions of Interest, along with a current Curriculum Vitae, should be submitted to the Board Secretary by Monday 27 January 2020 via email: <u>natasha.bargo@esh.co.sh</u> or at the Enterprise St Helena Office, Ladder Hill Business Park.

For further information please contact the Director of Resources, Michielle Yon on telephone: 22920 or email: michiellle.yon@esh.co.sh



Head Office | ESH Business Park | Ladder Hill | Tel: +290 22920 | Email: <u>info@esh.co.sh</u> Visit us online Business and Investment: www.investinsthelena.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com Thank you to everyone who responded to my adverts and provided me with stories or photos of

AUNTIE LOU

(Louisa Hawker)

Who lived in a caravan on the Run in Upper Jamestown from 1967 until 1981.

Sadly, my visit to St Helena is now at an end. However, my research into Auntie Lou's husband's wider family and ancestors in the UK is continuing. I would therefore still be very grateful for any further information or stories about Auntie Lou, however seemingly trivial.

I also believe that some documents relating to Auntie Lou's husband's grandfather, Colonel Peter Hawker, may at one time have been in Auntie Lou's caravan and may still be on St Helena. In particular, I am looking for a small brown leather diary (about 3 inches by 5 inches) with a brass clasp which the Colonel carried and wrote in the Peninsula War in 1809.

My name is John Bishop and my contact details are as follows:

john@auntielou.com, or jrmbishop@icloud.com

Langley House, 24 Hendford, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1TG

Telephone 44-750-169-1466 (UK mobile) or 44-1935-479122 (UK landline)



CONSTITUENCY MEETINGS

The public is advised that Elected Members will be holding a round of constituency meetings, scheduled to commence on Monday, 3 February 2020.

As per public request, it has been agreed that all twelve councillors will attend each constituency meeting to discuss matters arising with the community of St Helena.

Dates and venues will be announced shortly.



COUNCILLORS ESSEX AND SCIPIO TO AT-TEND OVERSEAS CONFERENCES

Councillor Dr Corinda Essex will depart the Island on Tuesday, 21 January, to attend the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Small Branches Sustainable Economic Development Workshop in Malta from 28 January – 1 February 2020.

The programme for this Conference includes workshops focusing on Economic Empowerment; trade opportunities and the development of the tourism sector, Social Progress; integration and equality and the value of education, and Environmental Governance; renewable energy, energy independence, climate action changes impacting food security and ocean management.

Councillor Christine Scipio departs the Island on Saturday, 1 February, to attend the CPA 7th British Islands and Mediterranean Region Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Conference to be held on the Falkland Islands from 16 - 21February 2020.

The theme of this Conference is 'Combating Stereotypes in Small Communities' and the aim is to look at combatting stereotyping, building roles, and creating opportunities for women in the future and encouraging women to stand for public office. Alongside of the Conference, Councillor Scipio will also be meeting with the Saint Diaspora currently residing on the Falkland Islands.



VACANCY FOR STAFF NURSE – GENERAL HOSPITAL

The Health Directorate has a vacancy for a Staff Nurse to join their dedicated, hardworking nursing team. A preceptorship programme for newly qualified or returning nurses is available. This includes supernumerary shifts, training and education. Competency books are available to guide your return to work which are linked to pay enhancements.

Shift work is required but we offer some flexibility within our shift allocation. There is ongoing training and support to ensure best practice. We have a large and engaging team, who work together and support each other every day.

The post holder will be responsible to the Hospital Nursing Officer for the provision of high quality nursing patient care. A full job description and responsibilities are available on request. Essential qualifications for this post are:

. St Helena Nursing Certificate or equivalent and an Up to date Nurse Registration.

Salary for the post commences at £11,034 per annum. With the competency framework this role is eligible for enhancement to **Preceptorship Staff Nurse level 2a £11,586** and then **Staff Nurse level 2b £12,690**.

Enhancement is applicable when able to successfully and consistently demonstrate competency at the required level. The competency based salary enhancement is pensionable. There is the potential for career progression to Senior Staff Nurse and or Sister/Charge Nurse.

For further information and a copy of the job profile, contact Mrs Daniella Marlow, Hospital Nursing Officer on telephone No 22500 or email: daniella.marlow@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms which are available from the Health Directorate should be completed and submitted through Directors where applicable, to Brenda Thomas, Human Resources Officer, Health Directorate on telephone no 22500 or email: brenda.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by Friday, 07 February 2020.

All appointees are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting or DBS Disclosure and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.



VACANCY Medical StoreKeeper/Dispenser

The Pharmacy Section of the Health Directorate is looking to recruit a highly motivated candidate to fill the post of Medical Storekeeper/Dispenser. This position has the combined responsibilities of a Medical Storekeeper and Dispenser and as a Medical Storekeeper, the successful applicant will be responsible for stock management in the medical store, ensuring that stock is issued and that stock records are updated in accordance with the agreed procedures. As a Dispenser, he/she will be responsible for the preparation of medications and healthcare devices for supply to both in- and out-patients under the supervision of the Pharmacist and as directed in the relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Some of the **key duties** of the post are:

. to organise the transportation of medical goods from the wharf or airport to the Medical Store in a timely manner and to submit customs documentation to HM Customs for all overseas orders received as soon as receipt of all overseas orders have been verified and ensuring that invoices sent match the goods received; taking appropriate action to rectify any discrepancies;.

. to prepare and issue internal and external stock orders against requests; ensuring that the correct records are made and any variances are communicated to the relevant parties;

. to accurately prepare prescriptions from doctors and other healthcare professionals and to ensure that all prescriptions are valid as per legal requirements and local standards;

. to refer all prescriptions requiring checking by the Pharmacist as instructed and to maintain a record of free prescriptions issued and, any levy due is collected;

. to work remotely at Country Clinics in accordance with operational needs;

. to ensure that all procedures related to the recording, handling and dispensing of Controlled Drugs (CDs) are adhered too and to ensure that medication and healthcare devices are stored appropriately at all times.

The salary for the post is at Grade C commencing at £8,613 per annum.

The successful candidate should have good IT skills with the ability to use the Medical Information System (MIS) computer programme to retrieve and check the details of prescriptions, be able to maintain confidentiality and to be in possession of GCSE or equivalent in Maths and English at Grade C or above, a Level 2 (NVQ equivalent) Dispensing Assistant qualification or a L2 Medicines Counter Assistant qualification.

He/she should have previously worked in a pharmacy or medical environment and have good organisational skills with attention to detail, together with excellent written and good verbal communication skills to communicate at all levels. Interested persons requiring further details regarding this post can contact Mr Vlad Cucuiu, Pharmacist on telephone no 22500, Email: vlad.dorin.cucuiu@sainthelena.gov.sh.



RESEARCH ASSISTANT (Part-time)

We are seeking a research assistant to help carry out an innovative research project designed to understand mental health and resilience in young people on Saint Helena.

Salary for the post is banded at Band B (£6,722 pa) and the successful applicant will be required to work 25 hours per week for the period February to November 2020.

The key requirements of the post are to support the identification and recruitment of participants into the study; to verbally explain and outline the research project to potential students and their families; and to ensure that research records are accurate and up to date.

Other duties will include:

. To be trained to use a standardised research protocol for assessing psychological wellbeing in secondary school aged children

. To receive regular supervision

. Preparing and entering data into a large Excel spreadsheet file

. Organisation of appointments in the study (making and receiving telephone calls, reviewing timetables etc)

. Interviewing teenagers using a standardised interview at Prince Andrew School

. Following rules around confidentiality

Applicants should ideally have GCSEs in English and Maths at Grade C or above or equivalent qualification. Relevant work experience as a teaching assistant or proficiency in using Microsoft Word and Excel programs is needed. Experience in research is desirable but not mandatory. The ideal candidate must be self-motivated, good at problem-solving and have excellent interpersonal skills.

For further details regarding the duties of the post and for a copy of the job profile, you can contact Dr Tara Murphy, Consultant Psychologist, Tara.Murphy@sainthelena.gov.sh / 22593



HEALTH DIRECTORATE VACANCY FOR HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT – GENERAL HOSPITAL

The Health Directorate is seeking to recruit a Healthcare Assistant to work at the General Hospital.

The successful applicant will be responsible for assisting in the provision of care in the hospital nursing service. He/she should have GCSE Math's and English at Grade C or above or an equivalent qualification (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).

Salary for the post is at Grade B1 commencing at £6,722 per annum. However, staff will qualify for a competency based salary enhancement when they are able to successfully and consistently demonstrate competency in accordance with the competency levels relevant to their post.

The competency based salary enhancement is pensionable and the post of Health Care Assistant has been mapped to competency level 1a, £8,067 per annum.

Interested persons requiring further details regarding this post can contact Mrs Daniella Marlow, Hospital Nursing Officer on telephone no 22500 or email daniella.marlow@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms and a job profile, which are available from the Health Directorate should be completed and submitted through Directors where applicable to Brenda Thomas, Human Resources Officer, Health Directorate or email brenda.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Friday, 07 February 2020.

All appointees 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.

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St Helena Golf Report Contributed by SHGC

The 18-hole stable ford competition played on Sunday 19th January 2020 attracted 18 very enthusiastic golfers. Decent prizes awaited on the table for first and second place. Even though the competition took place in cloudy conditions there was no risk of rain. But perhaps considering the current water challenge on the island I should say there was no "blessing of rainfall". As the cards started streaming into the 19th it appeared almost certain that the winning score in stable ford points will be in the upper thirties. That was until scores of the last group arrived. Smashing the field with 40 points and taking the first prize was handicap 18 Mr. Sean Nugent. After only one par and one birdie in the first nine with the rest being bogey or double bogey with 18 points, he got fired up in the second nine and scored a total of 3 birdies to finish the second nine with 22 points. The Club President Mr. Ron De Reuck and the Captain Bramwell tied for second with 39 points each. Bramwell beat Mr. Ron De Reuck on a countback and took the second prize.

There were three 2 ball pool winners Mr. Ron De Reuck eagle 2 on the 10^{th} , Mr Lawson Henry birdie on the 14th and Mr. Peter Johnson birdie on the 5^{th} . Congratulations to all the winners.

Bringing the month to a close on Sunday the 26th January 2020 will be the Monthly Medal Strokeplay competition. Registration is ongoing. To register, add your name to the list in the club house, leave your name on the club voice

machine 24421 or let us know through our Facebook page @SHGC.org.sh Members are hereby reminded to pay their annual subscription by the end of this month. Payments can be made to the Club's Bank of St Helena Account or in cash at the club house during open hours.

We wish you all a great weekend ...!



Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

We the Manchester United fans had to endure the taunts on social media from the Liverpool fans last weekend after suffering a 2-0 loss at Anfield. We had to admit that although Manchester United manages to stay in the match up until the last minute we had to ride our luck as Liverpool was far superior for most of the match.

It is amazing to see the gulf between the two sides since United last won the title in 2013.

It is really hard for us to take as Liverpool seems to be going from strength to strength whilst our team is on a downward spiral especially after Wednesday home defeat against Burnley.

Jurgen Klopp has certainly got his team brilliantly both individually and collectively. Average players, the like of Jordan Henderson has developed into brilliant footballers.

For Ole Solskjaer as a manager is needs to be worried as it look is like time is running out for him at Manchester United. We have to get the club right really soon; we can't do a repeat of what Liverpool did after they won the title in 1990 as they went 30 years with lifting another league title. Me and my friends most off who are Liverpool fans were still teenagers when Liverpool last won the league. A whole generation of Liverpool fans has yet to see their team being crown league champions. I waited 14 years as a United fan and then was able to celebrate 13 league titles. When will we get to see another one is certainly a worry for us.

United is now into their 7th season since Sir Alex's Ferguson final title was won; even then the signs were there that United form wasn't great.

Manchester United will need to spend and spend big. The problem the board got is do they trust Ole Gunnar with this big investment or move onto their 5th manager in 7 seasons. Liverpool has finally got it right after 30 seasons; 9 managers and a spend of over £450 million.

The last time the Reds won the league – then branded as the First Division – was in 1990 season. Eleven of the First Division wins came during the club's most illustrious period of the 1970s and 80s, under the management of Bob Paisley, Joe Fagan and Kenny Dalglish.

The Merseysiders have come close to winning the Premier League most notably on three occasions. Under Rafael Benitez in the 2008-09 season, Liverpool finished four points behind champions Manchester United despite beating the Mancunian side both home and away.

They came close again five years later when Brendan Rodgers lead Liverpool again to a second-placed finish after dominating most of the season as title challengers, though eventually finishing two points adrift of Manchester City after a disastrous collapse towards the end of their campaign.

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

In 2018-19, Liverpool narrowly finished second to Manchester City despite losing just one game all season.

Bill Shankly's reign as manager starting from 1959 began a 15-year spell that brought three league titles, two FA Cups and a first European Cup back to Anfield. Shankly is hailed for turning Liverpool into a modern club great, and is known for his establishment of the Anfield Boot Room.

When Shankly retired in 1974, he was replaced by his assistant Paisley (the first cycle of the Boot Room), and during the next nine years, Paisley was hugely successful – winning six league titles and three European Cups to earn his status as the club's most successful coach.

Shankly was replaced by his assistant Joe Fagan to continue with the Boot Room tradition in 1983, winning the League, European Cup and League Cup treble in his first season.

The likes of iconic player-manager Kenny Dalglish took over from Joe Fagan and were followed by Ronnie Moran, Graeme Souness and Roy Evans.

Gerard Houllier won the FA Cup, League Cup and UEFA Cup treble in 2001 before he was replaced by Rafael Benitez in 2004, who won the Champions League in his first season in charge. He was then succeeded by Roy Hodgson, brief whose tenure at Anfield was a failure, and spent the opening stages of the 2010-11 season in the relegation zone.

Dalglish, known for his contributions as player and manager as well as club ambassador, remains popular with Liverpool supporters to this day. Having scored 169 goals in 502 appearances for the Reds, the Scot sits seventh in the club's all-time top-scorers list. He has also clinched six First Division titles and three European Cups, making him one of the most decorated and celebrated Liverpool players in history.

Daglish was the last Liverpool manager to oversee a league success.



Former striker Ian Rush has also lodged himself permanently into Liverpool folklore alongside the likes of Alan Hansen and Graeme Souness, who were part of the great Liverpool side in the 1980s. He tops Liverpool's all-time goal-scorers list, followed by Roger Hunt, Gordon Hodgson and Billy Liddell. Steven Gerrard remains a favourite amongst modern Reds supporters, a born and bred Liverpool fan who stayed at Anfield for the entirety of his footballing career in England. Having broken through the Liverpool academy, Gerrard became the club's youngest captain at aged 23 and is still hailed as one of England's most prolific and talented midfielders.

Unlike a handful of former Liverpool greats such as Michael Owen, Jamie Carragher and Steve McManaman who supported Everton in childhood, Gerrard grew up a boyhood Liverpool supporter. Gerrard, however, has never lifted a Premier League title.

Liverpool is one of the most successful clubs in England alongside Manchester United. They have won the most Champions League clubs than any other English side, winning their sixth trophy in June 2019 following after defeating Tottenham 2-0 in the final in Madrid, 14 years after they last won the competition.

In addition to their 18 top-flight titles, they have won the League Cup a record eight times, last winning the trophy in 2012 after beating Cardiff City through penalty shootout. The Reds have won the FA Cup on six occasions and were last tournament victors in 2006 against West Ham, where Gerrard scored a memorable long-range strike in stoppage time at 3-2 to send the game into penalties.

They have also won three UEFA Super Cups and 15 Community Shields, and one Football League Super Cup

Liverpool is on the verge of dominating the EPL for the next few seasons, they will certainly pick up their 19th league title in a few months time. Manchester City is in transition; Chelsea, Spurs and Arsenal is also rebuilding.

Next season the only stumbling block for Liverpool is the African Cup of Nations when they will lose key players for up to 5 weeks.

I think Klopp will attract attention from other big European clubs but I think it is in his nature to remain loyal to Liverpool. Whether the Liverpool players can show the same loyalty remains to be seen.

Mo Salah seals the win for Liverpool with the last kick of the game against Manchester United.







Heat took early wickets during the run-chase and heaped pressure on Pirates batting line up and eventually bowled pirates for 163 in 30.4 overs. Brett Isaac was left stranded on 35*.

On Sunday afternoon Andrew Yon smashed 114 while leading Challengers to 303 in 33.5 overs against Woodpeckers.

Jamie Ellick was the stand out bowler for Woodpeckers, taking 3/13 from 3.5. Apart from an innings of 42 from Gary Benjamin Woodpeckers didn't put up much of a fight during the run chase. Andrew Yon tore through their line-up taking 3/19 from 3 and Woodpeckers were bowled for 142.



of514/4 in 35 overs. Ross Henry

struck 209, Clayton Leo 84, Shavonne

Leo 82*, and Darrell Leo 65*. All of

Lions' bowlers received a bit of a tap

however, Ted was able return figures

Allstarz wrapped up the match, bowling Lions for 75. Frazer Stones

43 was the only score of note. David

In other matches on the weekend.

Francis took 3/3 from 3 for Allstarz.

of 2/82 from 7.

CRICKET Results

2019/20 35 Over League Sat 18 Jan 2020

Heat 190/7 (35) Damien O'Bey 51 Gavin George 28 Keanon Bailey 3/17 Damien O'Bey 3/46

SHCA

morning.

Levelwood Allstarz brushed aside the challenge of an 8-man Lions

team in their penultimate fixture of

the 35-over cricket league on Sunday

Allstarz are the only team who has remained unbeaten in this years

tournament. They chose to bat first

after winning the toss and were quick

to pile on the runs in an attempt to

up their run rate and secure another league title. They put on a total

Performance Points

D O'Bey 3, B Isaac 2, K Bailey 1



Sun 19 Jan 2020

Allstarz 514/4 (35) Lions 75 (15.5) Ross Henry 209 Frazer Stone 43 Martin Cranfield 6 Clayton Leo 84 Ted 2/82 David Francis 3/3 Dan Marlow 2/82 Clayton Leo 2/1 **Performance Points** R Henry 3, C Leo 2, D Francis 1 Challengers 303 (33.5) Woodpeckers 142 (24) Andrew Yon 114 Gary Benjamin 42 S-L Thomas 44 Anthony George 25 Andrew Yon 3/19 Jamie Ellick 3/13 Joey Thomas 2/23 Chris Owen 2/41 **Performance Points** A Yon 3, S-L Thomas 2, G Benjamin 1

CRICKET Fixtures

Sat 25 Jan 2020 2019/20 3	35 Over L	eague
8.45 am Challengers Umpires: Heat	V	Pirates
Sun 26 Jan 2020	0	
8.45 am		
Pirates Umpires: Woodp	Allstarz	
1.30pm		
Mustangs Umpires: Challer	V ngers	Heat

The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 7, Friday 24th January 2020

Pirates 163 (30.4)

Brett Isaac 35*

David Young 25

Brett Isaac 2/35

Darren Isaac 2/26

At last! Department of Defense start work on Wideawake

It's almost three years since RAF airbridge flights between Brize Norton and the Falklands via Ascension were stopped due to the runway becoming unsafe for larger planes. Flights stopped on 14th April 2017; at that time it was anticipated in one of the very few official announcements on the consequences of stopping the airbridge flights that the runway repair would be completed sometime in 2019-20. Information on progress with the runway repair remained noticeably absent as the months rolled by. Questions in the UK Parliament merely drew responses stating the UK and the US are working hard to get the repair project underway. Unofficial sources hinted that it was difficult to attract construction companies to tender for the work due to the remoteness of Ascension and the problems involved in getting equipment and materials to the worksite. In July last year another question raised by Andrew Rosindell (MP for Romford) asking "what progress has been made in the resurfacing of the runway on Ascension Island" drew a response from Mark Lancaster the then MOD minister stating, "The US Air Force Civil Engineering Centre are expecting tender returns in August 2019 from which the contract will be awarded in the final quarter of 2019." Christmas arrived and there was still no sign of an official announcement from the US Department of Defense about a contract being signed and work on the runway repair due to get underway.

On Tuesday this week a media statement from the USAF 45th Space Wing Public Affairs Office opened with, "The project to replace the runway at Ascension Auxiliary Airfield has, at long last, been awarded. The herculean [*extra special*] effort was brought to pass by a partnership of the UK Ministry of Defence and the US Department of Defense, assisted by the Ascension Island Government (AIG). The contract was let by the US Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC) and the US Air Force Installation Contracting Center (AFICC) under the Air Force Contract Augmentation Program (AFCAP). AFCEC will provide overall project management for the duration of the contract. "

The contract has been awarded to *Fluor*, a Texas engineering and construction firm "that transforms the world by building prosperity and empowering progress," as their own press release on the contract award informs us. The contract started officially on 10th January however USAF 45th Space Wing point out, "the Island can expect to see the first slew of con-





After referring for the third time to the difficulties arising from the remoteness of Ascension Island the media statement outlines the work involved in the £130million project. The repair will be a "full-depth reconstruction" of the full length of the runway and includes removing the existing surface, sub-surfaces and base together with several feet of aggregate material below. The result will be a "far more robust operating platform for aircraft operations." Other work included in the contract is replacing the airfield lighting and improving water drainage. The runway shoulder will also be doubled in width to reduce the risk of objects on the runway during take-off and landing. The runway will be extended in length by 500 feet (152 metres) to allow use by large volume passenger planes both during construction and for civilian access on a continuing basis.

Space Wing add, "Regular communications will be provided

to the local community as the project progresses."

In true Haul Road style, the road from the pier head in Georgetown to Wideawake will be reconstructed so heavy construction vehicles can use the road without causing damage. For the same reason roads around Wideawake will also be strengthened.



Fluor Corporation Headquarters

The St Helena Independent Volume XV, Issue 7, Friday 24th January 2020

SHG lose legal tussle with the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council

Legal arguments over compensation awarded for medical negligence by Dr du Toit in 2012 finally came to a conclusion on Monday when the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (also known as the 'Board') dismissed the appeal by SHG against the level of compensation awarded. The appeal was heard in November last year. The Chief Justice of St Helena found in favour of the plaintiffs in February 2017 however twothirds of the compensation awarded for pain, suffering and loss of amenity has been withheld while the appeals against the award were heard. First the Court of Appeal for St Helena heard the appeal and upheld the compensation award, although for different reasons from those used by the Chief Justice. Taking the opportunity to appeal to a higher authority, SHG appealed to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the highest appeal court for the Overseas Territories. Once more the compensation awarded by the Chief Justice of St Helena was upheld.

The point at issue throughout the appeals was not whether or not compensation should be paid but how much should be paid. Chief Justice Charles Ekins marked a significant episode in St Helena's legal history when he awarded compensation on the same scale as would be paid in the UK. One plaintiff was award £130,000 and the second, £120,000. A third person, closely involved with one the plaintiffs was awarded £15,000.

The February 2017 judgement in the St Helena Supreme Court was the first occasion when UK compensation levels were used in St Helena without discounting them to take account of the lower earnings paid in St Helena. The Chief Justice argued that while St Helena wages are lower, the cost of living is higher and the cost of living in St Helena cancels out any discounting calculation that might otherwise have been made. The SHG appeals were based on maintaining the status quo and continuing to use the lower earnings levels in St Helena as the main reference in the calculation of compensation awards.

The judgement given on Monday recorded the judgement given by Chief Justice Charles Ekins in February 2017 which included:-

Relying on expert evidence about comparative average wages, the Attorney General invited the Chief Justice to award PSLA* damages at one third the rate to be derived from the JC Guidelines. The Chief Justice was having none of it. In his judgment delivered in February 2017 he concluded in summary as follows:

i) Differences in earnings were in principle irrelevant to compensation for PSLA. A poor person suffered from personal injuries no less, and no more, than a rich person.

ii) English law made no such distinction, awarding PSLA damages based on the JC Guidelines as much to claimants living in the North East of England as in Belgravia.

iii) Cost of living might be a better benchmark, and appeared to be 25% higher in St Helena than in the UK.

iv) The wages rule had no foundation in principle and ought not to be followed.

v) Now that residents of St Helena had full British citizen-



ship, it would be discriminatory to quantify their PSLA damages on any different basis than was done in England and Wales.

Accordingly he applied the JC** Guidelines without any discount.

**Judicial College Guidelines for the Assessment of General Damages in Personal Injury Cases

* Pain, suffering and loss of amenity

As the judgement continues various points made by Caroline Harrison QC, acting on behalf of the Attorney General St Helena were found to be weak or in some way at fault. In the final paragraphs the judgement states:-

49. In summary, the Court of Appeal concluded, on the evidence available to it, that a current disparity in average earnings was in effect cancelled out by the higher cost of living in St Helena (itself established by cross-examination of the Attorney General's expert) and that, coupled with the likely expectation of equal treatment, there was therefore no case for concluding that a downward adjustment of the JC Guidelines for use in St Helena was rendered necessary by local circumstances.

50. The Board cannot fault that conclusion, made by the appropriate local court when upholding, although for different reasons, the same conclusion by the experienced Chief Justice, as having been vitiated by any error of law or wrong turning which would make it appropriate for the Board to advise that it be set aside on a second appeal.

51. Accordingly the Board will humbly advise Her Majesty that this appeal should be dismissed.

Marc Willems QC and Stefanie Cochrane Successful in the Privy Council



Marc Willems QC and Stefanie Cochrane have been successful in an appeal before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council with judgment handed down today.

SHG lose legal tussle with the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council

The appeal, heard in November by five Supreme Court Justices, related to an attempt by the Attorney General of Saint Helena to limit General Damages for Pain, Suffering and Loss of Amenity to a proportion of the awards given in the Courts of England and Wales based upon a comparison of relevant wages in both Jurisdictions. The Attorney General had argued that a previous Privy Council authority had suggested that awards should be fair to a Defendant as well as a Claimant. The Judicial Board of the Privy Council rejected that argument and a comprehensive Judgment has clarified that awards should be tailored to a Claimant's circumstances and should only objectively consider what society considers is just and reasonable for a defendant to pay.

The cases could not have involved more serious allegations. The claims involved two women who had been sterilised without consent by the Chief Medical officer on island employed by the Saint Helena Government. The negligence of the Chief Medical Officer also caused the death of a child during the Caesarean Section.

This appeal brings to a close Marc's involvement in these 3 case which began in 2015 including the First instance trials on St Helena in 2017.

Marc Willems QC Joins the Roll of Advocates of Saint Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha



Marc Willems QC has been instructed to represent a number of Plaintiffs who live on St. Helena, a British Government Protected Territory, who bring claims against the St. Helena Government for Medical Negligence.

Charles Ekins - Chief Justice of St. Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha - today added Marc's name to the official roll and signed a Certificate under the Court's (*Rights of Audience & Enrolment Rules 1992*)

The History Man hits the ground running for five days in St Helena

Dan Snow landed at the airport on Tuesday this week and by Wednesday morning had seen most of the notable places and sights in St Helena and was ready to go with his cameraman / producer to film footage for his HistoryHits website; first about Napoleon and then to Rupert's Valley to record video of the Liberated Africans story. "Time spent in the hotel room is time wasted", Dan told Saint FM listeners during an 8am radio interview on Wednesday morning.

Dan Snow can truly be described as a chip off the old block. His father, Peter Snow, now 82, was a television presenter of current affairs programmes and an historian, among many other things. Peter Snow was still working on television projects last year. Dan is also related to Jon Snow, who is one of his father's cousins. Jon Snow made his mark in broadcasting as a long established news reporter and presenter for a main TV evening news programme.

Like other members of his family Dan is a fast talker who does not waste words and exudes high octane energy from every pore. By 8:20am the radio interview at Saint FM was finished; all that could be said had been said and it was time to start wringing every drop of visual record out of Napoleon's exile in St Helena.

Dan Snow has presented several television history programmes, some of them with his father Peter Snow. Nowadays Dan has moved with the techno-changes and become independent of the bureaucracy of large television companies. Instead of making an appointment with a TV big-wig at the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and others to sell his brilliant idea and persuade a TV channel to pay for its production, Dan just goes ahead and converts his idea into an on-line video and posts it on his very popular HistoryHit website. His website also has podcasts which are audio only. More than two million people log on to his website for a HistoryHit every month. Dan will be producing three St Helena on-line videos for his HistoryHit website



Lady Edwina Grosvenor with husband Dan Snow and one longer podcast. There are also plans to use his St Helena material on other broadcasting platforms.

While Dan could tell us during his radio interview what he was doing that day, it is by no means certain final plans had been set in stone for the next day's filming or the day after that. As Dan explained during his radio interview, "We just follow where the story leads. We have not been told what to do by a big committee in London".

Dan Snow and his cameraman/producer leave on Saturday. Dan wishes he had just two more days to give extra time for more filming but, as he said, he has three young children and cannot be away for too long. Dan is married to Lady Edwina Grosvenor, daughter of the 6th Duke of Westminster who died in 2016. Her godmother was Diana, Princess of Wales. Lady Edwina is described as a philanthropist and prison reformer. Among her various involvements with prisoners and prison reform, she founded The Clink charity which supports female offenders finding work when they have served their prison sentence.



Friday open from 4.00pm till late mix tunes by Kimmy Boom Bang

Saturday open from 5.00pm till late mix tunes Shavon

Sunday open from 3.30pm till late mix tunes and Karaoke by Colin Peters



Entertainment this weekend at Moonshines :

On Friday 25th January Prudy Joshua will keep you entertained with mix music from 8:30pm.

Saturday 26th open from 8:30pm with tunes from the bar.

Sunday 27th open from 3pm



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