

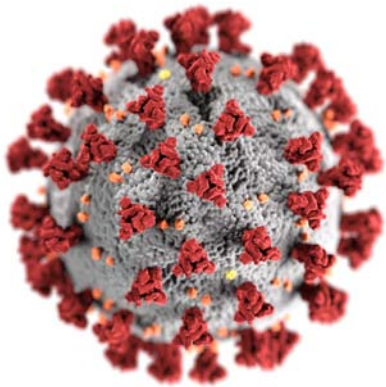
THE ST HELENA Est. 2005 INDEPENDENT

VOLUME XV ISSUE 18, 9th APRIL 2020, PRICE £1

Prime Minister in Intensive Care



Green turtles making nesting attempts at Rupert's Beach



SHG Coronavirus Update, Second Case on Falkland Islands, World Health Day fundraiser

Island-Made Hand Sanitisers for Public Health





**St Helena
Government**

- Repatriation Flight
- Supplies
- Self-isolation

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

ST HELENA PREPAREDNESS UPDATE

St Helena is still in the Prevent Stage and we continue to take precautionary measures to remain in this stage and further protect the Island.

At this time there is no medical evidence to escalate the current preventive measures we have in place on St Helena.

The enhanced Social Distancing measures which came into effect on Tuesday, 31 March, will come to an end on Tuesday, 14 April 2020. We are grateful to the entire community including organisations and businesses for their support during this time and for the measures they have taken to date. We encourage you to continue to take the necessary precautions of social distancing and maintaining good hand hygiene practices.

Repatriation Flight

We are waiting for confirmation of delivery of test kits and medical equipment in the UK, which will be brought to the Island on a charter repatriation flight.

The medical supplies remains our priority and we are awaiting confirmation of delivery. The confirmed date of the repatriation flight will rely on the receipt of medical supplies but is expected that we will be able to announce a confirmed date and flight times shortly.

The flight may also be able to bring people from the UK and will take people back to the UK. The Governor's Office has confirmed with all those who have registered an interest to travel on this flight.

Supplies

The MV Helena arrived last week and departed for Ascension on Sunday. Merchants have advised that they have sufficient supplies and people are encouraged to maintain their normal shopping habits. St Helena Government would like to extend their thanks to all involved for offloading the MV Helena and as a result getting supplies into shops so quickly.

International shipping is continuing around the world and Cape Town port continues to operate, but on a reduced scale. We currently expect the MV Helena to be able to go back to Cape Town and restock and return in May.

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Medical Supplies

In addition to the awaited test kits to arrive on the repatriation flight. Various medical supplies including PPE will arrive from Ascension via the MV Helena expected to arrive on Monday, 13 April.

Pharmacist Vlad-Dorin Cucuiu along with the St Helena Distillery have produced a test pilot of alcoholic hand sanitiser and is hoping to release the samples next week. The product was made in line with World Health Organization guidelines. Once a microbiological assessment is conducted, the hand sanitiser will be released to be tested for tolerability. The ingredients were carefully selected and measured in order to comply with the required standards. This project brought together the private sector and departments within SHG.

Vlad commented: *"I would like to thank Paul from the Distillery and Geoff from the Laboratory for the support with the ingredients and to Sheri and Ian from the mental health team for the idea. It clearly shows to me that united we stand, divided we will fall."*

Self-Isolation

31 of 37 passengers who arrived to St Helena on the flight on Saturday, 21 March 2020, completed their 14-day isolation period without displaying symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and without coming into contact with any individuals who displayed symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

Therefore the 14-day isolation period ended for those 31 passengers at 23.59 on Saturday, 4 April 2020. They are no longer required to isolate and can leave their homes and go about their normal activities.

St Helena Government would like to take this opportunity to thank the individuals who have completed their isolation period for their patience and understanding in what is a difficult time for all across the world.

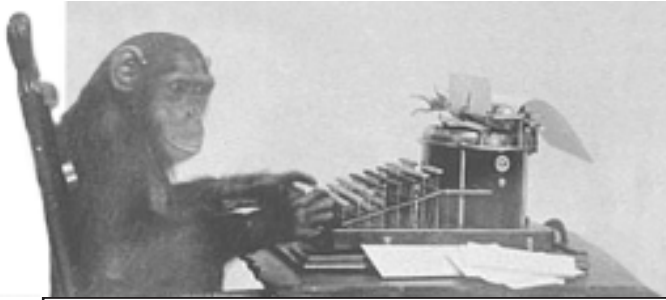
#StHelena #Coronavirus #COVID-19 #AltogetherHealthier

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SHG

8 April 2020



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Editorial

It's been another week when coronavirus has dominated the news both here and across the world. It is easy not to be repetitive as the situation changes day-by-day and sometimes hour-by-hour. The bit of information which really caught my eye this week was an announcement by Public Health England on their website. The information was headlined "Status of Covid-19" and started with, "As of 19 March 2020, COVID-19 is no longer considered to be a high consequence infectious diseases (HCID) in the UK."

Public Health England then went on to explain why they had changed the status of Covid-19 to a lesser category. "The 4 nations (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) public health HCID group made an interim recommendation in January 2020 to classify COVID-19 as an HCID. This was based on consideration of the UK HCID criteria about the virus and the disease with information available during the early stages of the outbreak. Now that more is known about COVID-19, the public health bodies in the UK have reviewed the most up to date information about COVID-19 against the UK HCID criteria. They have determined that several features have now changed; in particular, more information is available about mortality rates (low overall), and there is now greater clinical awareness and a specific and sensitive laboratory test, the availability of which continues to increase. The Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP) is also of the opinion that COVID-19 should no longer be classified as an HCID."

I admit I am mystified as why Covid-19 is not now recognised as an infectious disease with high consequences. The definition is obviously restricted to medical and/or clinical reasons so the financial and economic impact of the spread of this coronavirus can be put to one side for the moment.

The definition of a High Consequence Infectious Disease is given on the same website; the following symptoms qualify a disease to be of high consequence, or not.

1. acute infectious disease
2. typically has a high case-fatality rate
3. may not have effective prophylaxis or treatment
4. often difficult to recognise and detect rapidly
5. ability to spread in the community and within healthcare settings
6. requires an enhanced individual, population and system response to ensure it is managed effectively, efficiently and safely

All the required characteristics of Covid-19 fit with the definitions of a HCID apart from having a high case-fatality rate. Yes indeed, the fatality rate is quite high enough but it can be argued it is not as high as the infectious diseases which are classified as HCID. There is no vaccine yet and the testing

kits still show room for improvement both in reliability and producing quick results. This change of status may only be playing with words; a great deal of effort is being put into the population and system response to manage Covid-19 effectively, whether or not it is classified as HCID or not. But just simply saying this coronavirus is not now an infectious disease of high consequence does fly in the face of all the evidence to the contrary.

That feller Donald Trump is in the news again – inevitably and unfortunately. He is watching the coronavirus spread across that vast country he supposedly leads while Federal and State governments fight over who is responsible for what and who should pay for what. In another incredibly stupid attempt to take the heat off himself he is starting to blame the World Health Organisation for all that has gone wrong in the US due to his incompetence. "They really called, I would say, every aspect of it wrong," Trump said of the World Health Organisation (WHO) this week. The WHO declared a global emergency due to the coronavirus on 30th January. About a month later Trump was still Twittering that "The Coronavirus is very much under control in the USA". He did not declare a national emergency in the United States until 13th March; too little and too late. Precious weeks lost which allowed the coronavirus to spread and endanger the lives of untold thousands of people. Still, they say that in a democracy you get the kind of leaders you deserve.



Stuck in the middle – between two sofa cushions and no way out

Best for the Easter weekend
Vince

A Bundle of Bits and Bobs

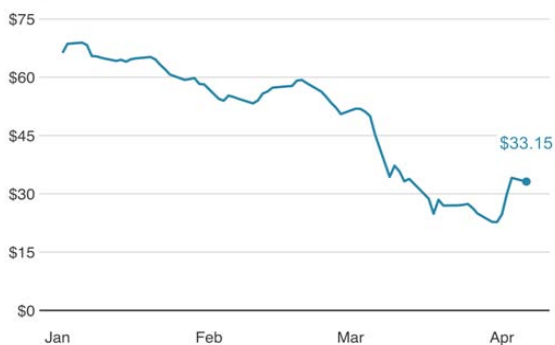
Tristan da Cunha Association to hold AGM On-Line

The UK based Tristan da Cunha Association was due to hold its Annual Gathering as usual at the Southampton Holiday Inn on 18th April. The coronavirus has put an end to those plans with emergency arrangements where voting for a new constitution, voting for the new committee and agreeing the minutes of the last AGM will be by email. The deadline for email votes is 30th April with extra time being allowed for questions and answers which will also be by email and then published on the Association's website. One casualty of the Annual Gathering is the planned fundraiser for the Tristan Education Trust Fund. Members old and new were reminded that now is the time to renew subscription or take up membership of the Tristan Association.

Oil Prices Plummet – will cargo rates take a downward turn? The standard advice for people who make any kind of investment, whether it be in a house, company shares or an investment fund is that prices can go down as well as up. The value of many investments and commodities has turned south-

Oil price in 2020

Brent crude, US dollars per barrel



Source: Bloomberg, 06 April 2020, 11:00 GMT

BBC

wards since the coronavirus spread across the world and the price of oil is no exception.

The price of Brent crude, a leading global indicator of oil prices, is now half what it was at the beginning of the year. An increase in oil prices triggers an increase in freight rates on the MV Helena. Now the opposite is happening to the price of oil is it worth hoping and waiting that the cargo rates will also be revised downwards?

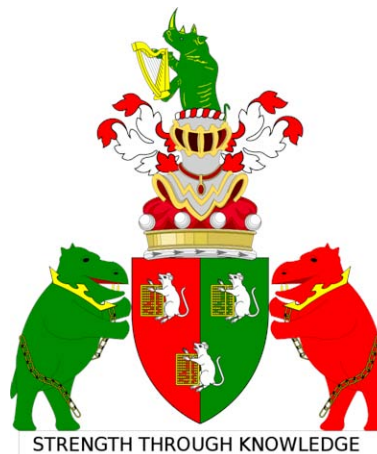


Value of £ against \$

Changes in the value of currencies also affect MV Helena cargo rates. Oil is normally bought in dollars, so changing

pounds to dollars to buy oil when the value of the pound is falling makes oil more expensive. Since the beginning of the year the £ has not as much value against the US dollar as the fall in the value of oil itself. Maybe there is a chance we will at least be spared increases in cargo rates for a while.

One hippopotamus, two rhinos and three mice – all on his Lordship's coat of arms.



Lord Nigel Jones of Cheltenham will be remembered by many as a long-time friend of St Helena, always ready to raise St Helena issues in the House of Lords. The *Independent* recently discovered Lord Jones has his own coat of arms. A most unusual coat of arms it is too.

Big beasts are often used on coats of arms but it usually a lion, leopard, panther or unicorn. These beasts are often shown looking fierce. Lord Nigel had different ideas when he devised his coat of arms. A hippopotamus, two rhinoceroses and three mice, all looking fairly happy and content with life were featured. The reason is the Lord Jones has close links with Botswana and the ideas for his coat of arms sprang from there.

Lord Jones explained to the *Independent* "They are indeed Botswana hippos. Garter, Principal King of Arms tried to give me blue ones which were impossible, so I had a green one and a red one instead. The mice are using abacuses to indicate they are intelligent mice, a reference to my computer background and GCHQ, the largest employer in my constituency. The rhino playing a harp refers to my love of music (I used to be President of the Cheltenham-born Brian Jones of the Rolling Stones fan club). The motto "Strength through Knowledge" is another reference to GCHQ. The hippo and rhino are my two favourite animals."

SHG press on with Sarkin recommendations despite Covid-19 diversion

A press release from the Governor's Office issued last Saturday announced the Governor's Commission, created to examine the key elements of Professor Sarkin's governance review and then to produce a report with recommendations "on the form and way of working for a potential, alternate governance structure for St Helena".

Continued on NEXT PAGE

A Bundle of Bits and Bobs

The Governor's Office announcement states the Governance Commission is expected to have a life of 4 – 6 weeks, the members of the commission will be at the invitation of the governor and the job of the Commission will be:-

1. To determine for each suggested alternative governance system (i.e. Committee or Ministerial) what would be realistic for St Helena, examine perceived weaknesses and strengths and suggest adjustments that may be relevant to incorporate.
2. To consider the appropriate solutions to related governance issues e.g. constituencies and their form of representation; voter registration (noting related work is underway in SCDC); voter age; need for and selection of a Chief Minister; number and role of non-Minister scrutiny committees; constituency roles for non-Ministers; future structure of a St Helena public service to replace SHG and direct alignment with ministerial or committee portfolios
3. To advise on the number of councillors, ministers and portfolios (drawing on the findings of the Sarkin reports), as well as training options necessary for these roles.
4. To set out the role, status and responsibilities of 'Directorate Heads/Permanent Secretaries' in a reformed public administration.
5. To comment upon the present distribution of roles between the Governor and a future governance arrangement.
6. To frame an understandable and straightforward question to be put to the public if a referendum or other consultation process is decided.
7. To work with the Attorney General's Office to draft an example amendment, for consideration in St Helena and the UK, to the governance provisions in the 2009 Constitution.

The announcement continues, "The intention would be for the Commission to present their views and recommendations to

the Executive and Legislative Councils in June/July 2020."

The schedule proposed in the Governance Review Report by Professor Sarkin is for the group appointed by the Governor to complete its work by the **end of April** and then there ought to be a short public consultation process, based on the report the Governance Commission produce, **during May**. Feedback from the public consultation process should then be included in the Governance Commission report which should be presented to Exco **in June**. Following input from Exco, the Chief Secretary is scheduled in the Governance Review Report to draft a policy based on the consultation and reports **during July**. In **August** the recommended schedule in the Sarkin Report moves on to drafting changes to the constitution.

The public consultation period pencilled in for May is not mentioned in the announcement from the Governor's Office. And the drafting of a policy by the Chief Secretary in July based on the public consultation and reports compiled by the Governance Commission and possibly amended after public consultation and Exco discussion also appears to have been either delayed or dropped from the suggested schedule. It is possible the next public involvement in the process will be when a referendum "or other consultation process" if the decision to have the promised referendum goes ahead.

The announcement from the Governor's Office states, "The Commission will comprise between 3 and 5 persons and meet approximately once a week. It will be supported by a legal specialist from the Attorney General's Chambers and secretariat input from the Governor's Office. No member of the Commission should be at the present time an elected member or directly associated with SHG management."

EASTER DRINK DRIVE CAMPAIGN

St Helena Police will be conducting an Easter Drink Drive Campaign during April. The aim of this Campaign is to raise awareness around the offences of drink driving and the possible consequences as well as educate members of the public about the seriousness of drink-driving and to lower the amount of drink-driving incidents on the Island.

Operational & Neighbourhood Police Inspector, Julianne Stevens, commented:

"Although this is an all year round issue, we are focusing on the Easter period as the holidays will soon be upon us and we all will have more time to relax.

"We would like to take this opportunity to remind people that drink-driving is a very serious offence."

The consequences of drink-driving are:

- Mandatory disqualification from driving for at least 12 months
- The maximum penalty is a £2,500 fine and/or up to 18 months imprisonment.

Consequences depend on the circumstances around the incident, such as whether or not this is a first time offence for you.

Inspector Stevens concluded:

"We would like for you, to enjoy yourselves during the holidays, whilst keeping the above in mind. Please everyone let's all stay safe out there and have a happy Easter."

Remember, if you've had a few drinks, then there are other options to choose from instead of driving – you could arrange a lift with family or friends, hire a taxi, use the public transport or nominate a sober driver.



Whale Sharks -

Atomic tests solve age puzzle of world's largest fish

By Matt McGrath BBC Environment correspondent - 6 April 2020

Data from atomic bomb tests conducted during the Cold War have helped scientists accurately age the world's biggest fish.

Whale sharks are large, slow moving and docile creatures that mainly inhabit tropical waters.

They are long-lived but scientists have struggled to work out the exact ages of these endangered creatures.

But using the world's radioactive legacy they now have a workable method that can help the species survival.

Whale sharks are both the biggest fish and the biggest sharks in existence.

Growing up to 18m in length, and weighing on average of about 20 tonnes, their distinctive white spotted colouration makes them easily recognisable.

These filter feeders live on plankton and travel long distances to find food.

They are very popular with tourists in many locations, often allowing divers to swim alongside them.

However, the species is now classified as endangered because of over-fishing in places like Thailand and the Philippines.

Much about the species remains a mystery, especially how to age them correctly.

Researchers say this is fundamental to understanding their growth rates - information that's considered crucial to saving the species in the long term.

To date, scientists have tried to count distinct lines in the vertebrae of dead whale sharks. These act like rings in a tree trunk, increasing as the animal gets older.

But scientists have been unsure about how often these rings can form and the reasons behind them.

Now researchers say they have come up with a much more accurate way of determining the whale sharks' true age.

From the late 1940s, several nations including the US, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France and China conducted atomic bomb tests in different locations.

One side effect of all these explosions was the doubling of an atom type, or isotope, called Carbon-14 in the atmosphere.

Over time, every living thing on the planet has absorbed this extra Carbon-14 which still persists.

But as scientists know the rate at which this isotope decays, it is a very useful marker in determining age.

The older the creature, the less Carbon-14 you'd expect to find.

"So any animal that was alive then incorporated that spike in Carbon-14 into their hard parts," said author Dr Mark Meekan, from the Australian Institute of Marine Science in Perth.

"That means we've got a time marker within the vertebrae that means we can work out the periodicity at which those isotopes decay."

One of the difficulties with ageing these sharks has been in getting access to samples of vertebrae.

This team managed to find two long-dead specimens stored in Pakistan and Taiwan.

The study indicated that these creatures do actually live an incredibly long time.

"The absolute longevity of these animals could be very, very old, possibly as much as 100-150 years old," said Dr Meekan. "This has huge implications for the species. It suggests that these things are probably intensely vulnerable to over-harvesting."

The scientists say their results explain why whale shark numbers have collapsed in locations like Thailand and Taiwan where fishing has taken place.

"They are just not built for humans to exploit," said Dr Meekan. While the species has recently been upgraded from threatened to endangered on the IUCN Red List, the scientists believe that their work will help efforts at conservation.

By being able to accurately estimate the age of whale sharks, the scientists will be able to provide more accurate guidance on how well a population is doing and whether any fishing can be allowed.

In many tropical regions, whale shark tourism is now a major attraction. The researchers say that encouraging co-operation between different countries along the vast routes that whale sharks follow is key to their survival.

"Whale sharks are a fantastic ambassador for marine life and one that has lifted so many people out of poverty," added Dr Meekan.

"This is a good news story - and it shows there is a silver lining to the mushroom cloud after all," he quipped.

The study has been published in the journal *Frontiers in Marine Science*.

From Midnight Mist to Hand Hygiene



Vlad the pharmacist checked his chemistry books, Paul the distiller checked his supplies of ethanol. Then, last Saturday, Vlad and Paul got together and carefully measured proportions of ethanol, glycerol and hydrogen peroxide. All were mixed together in a container provided for the purpose and the result was left for quality control purposes for seven days.

Ethanol can kill many kinds of viruses and cool the skin as well. It is the main active ingredient in some pain relieving gels. Glycerol is also an alcohol and is antiseptic; it is also a moisturiser, drawing moisture from the air and delivering it to the skin. Hydrogen peroxide is a disinfectant which can also be used to clean the skin of dead cells and to treat

minor cuts, burns and bruises. This useful threesome when mixed together makes the hand sanitiser we rub on our hands when soap and water is not readily available.

The ingredients and the precise amounts of each are recommended by the World Health Organisation in their Guide to Local Production of WHO-recommended Handrub Formulations. Vlad Cucuiu, the Pharmacist and Paul Hickling, the distiller will be getting together again on Saturday to make a much larger mix of hand sanitiser for use by the Health Directorate, mainly at the hospital. Hand sanitisers, like several other imported products such as potatoes and blueberries are hard to come by. Hopefully, potatoes and blueberries will be on the next ship but hand sanitisers will be in short supply on a global scale while the Covid-19 hops from one human to another at an alarming rate. Ethanol is a killer too and is recommended for killing Covid-19 in certain circumstances.

The locally produced hand sanitiser should be available for use by the Health Directorate early next week. Vlad Cucuiu told the *Independent* it is being supplied by Paul Hickling to the Health Directorate at no cost. Paul wanted to make a "thank you" gesture to the hospital staff as a token of appreciation for the excellent standard of care he has received over a long period.

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

I am a 77 year old male with underlying health problems and very concerned about Covid -19 (CV) and the effect it could have on the island's population in general and the old and vulnerable people in particular, if/when it gets here if it's not on the island already.

I have for many weeks been sending emails, speaking to people, asking questions, in fact trying, wherever possible, to get detailed information on the procedures and systems in place to prevent the CV getting here and how practically and securely they could be carried out.

I also became concerned at what appeared to be a rather relaxed attitude to self-isolation (SI) for those arriving at SHA. Consequently, more e-mails, questions and comments trying to determine how appropriate and secure the SI procedures were and would they be

adhered to.

Ironically, the answer came as a real personal shock when it became known that, due to my wife's job and working environment and her proximity to a particular person's work area, both she and I could be involved with possible suspected CV infection.

It all began when a member of the public rang my wife, on Saturday night, 28 March, to say she should get herself checked because of where she worked. My wife then called another person who worked at the same location, who was very surprised my wife had not already been contacted. She told my wife to call the police.

After contacting the police they eventually decided we should remain at home and someone will contact us on Sunday. (So far, my wife was doing all the tracing.)

A Doctor rang on Sunday, but due to the fact my wife was quite traumatized, I spoke to the doctor and after answering many questions, the doctor decided my wife and myself didn't need to SI. Also saying we would receive a letter confirming this the next day, Monday. Nine days later and we are still waiting for the letter. However, because of the other sensitive health locations where my wife work, and after speaking to a Councillor, it was de-

cided not to take any risks by returning to work, at least not before the written confirmation was received from the doctor. Consequently, we both remained in SI.

We are currently 9 days into SI and, being quite elderly, after an initial rather traumatic period, each day is getting a little less stressful.

However, due to my current predicament, my overall concerns around CV related local activities have increased, especially of what is being done or not done, said or not said and the general atmosphere of complacency that appear to exist at times. Consequently, if I survive my current ordeal, I know I will not be able to resist asking more questions and making more comments in future, even though I imagine there are those who would prefer for me to shut up and go away. Sorry!! for being a nuisance.

In the end I suppose, if this silent invisible killer does eventually get to me, I would like to think, as a decrepit old man, I did what little I could to try prevent it.

Concerned Old Person

The Tuesday Covid-19 Press Conference

The St Helena Government are in regular (probably daily) communication with Public Health England and in contact with the World Health Organisation to get updates on advice given as clinical evidence develops on the behaviour of the Covid-19 virus and its consequences.

Last week SHG organised a media visit to Bradley's Camp to show the isolation units now being prepared for suspected Covid-19 cases. Between that media visit and Tuesday's press conference the rules changed, this resulted in SHG issuing a public announcement on the morning of the press conference asking for suppliers with the required additional bathroom furnishings to contact the project manager Rhys Hobbs. Items urgently required are electric showers, pedestal sinks and taps, toilets, moisture resistant MDF and PolyFlor safety flooring. The race is on to get these supplies because Public Health England now advises that people suspected of having Covid-19 and in isolation should have sole-use washing facilities. This move reduces the chances of the coronavirus being spread from a suspect who has the virus to another who does not.

The practicalities of all this means the aim is now to complete 24 rooms before the charter flight arrives with Covid-19 testing equipment together with returning healthcare professionals who have been stranded overseas since the South African lock down and some additional healthcare specialists including an anaesthetist and a laboratory technician. The ultimate aim is now to provide 32 rooms for people who need isolating under the prevailing Covid-19 regulations and procedures. This is less than previously planned but is still officially seen as sufficient for expected requirements.

The charter flight is planned to arrive, fingers and legs crossed, on 15th April and depart the following day as a repatriation flight, loaded with people who have been waiting for flight out of here to get them back home. The 15th April is not definite because the delivery date for some of the Covid-19 testing equipment is not definite.

There are two types of testing equipment lined up for the flight. The equipment more definitely available is the blood test equipment. Covid-19 blood tests can show whether a person has had Covid-19 in the past. Having this information will first indicate those who are possibly immune because they have previously been infected with Covid-19 and it will also provide information, through contact-tracing people associated with any island resident who tests positive with the blood test, on the possible extent of infection among the island population.

The testing equipment which is less definite for the 15th April is for the test which shows whether an individual has the virus at the time of the test. Plans were made for testing equipment to be supplied from a manufacturer in the United States but the plans fell apart. The confirmed order that was made by SHG for the testing equipment was not honoured. The Health Director did not explain the situation in this way, and the *Independent* has no wish to put words into the Director's mouth, but it appears the equipment previously destined for St Helena was held back as President Trump insisted all

possible supplies should be used in the United States for the "Great American People".



A Cole Palmer PCR Machine – this one is out of stock

Now, Public Health England is putting together another set of testing kit designed for the Overseas Territories. The biggest consideration is the PCR machine used to analyse the sample and give a positive or negative result. PCR machines are designed to check for DNA similarities between the virus itself and in the person tested. Whether or not the PCR machine with St Helena's number on it comes of the production line in time is the reason for the uncertainty about 15th April being the date for the flight. The number of testing kits supplied is not known but it is expected to be several hundred rather than a few thousand. Tests are not done upon request but rely on certain situations and conditions prevailing.

Together with the 250 Kg of personal protective equipment (PPE) eight additional healthcare staff are planned to board the flight. The Health Director and the Governor were keen to put emphasis on the word 'planned'. In these uncertain times anything can happen and much can go wrong. It is sad but true that one of them may contract Covid-19 (or just get hit by a bus), one person who had previously intended to come has had to delay departure for personal reasons. One of the group of eight is an anaesthetist and another is a laboratory technician. Also on the plane will be returning healthcare professionals from overseas leave who have been waiting for flight since the South African lock down.

Titan Airways will be flying an A318 from a London airport via a technical stop in West Africa and Ascension. Upon arrival all passengers on the charter flight will be isolated for 14 days or until a Covid-19 test clears them as free from the virus.

The local production of a hand sanitiser was also announced at the press conference. The product is expected to be launched early next week and will be featured at one of the regular SHG Covid-19 press conferences – if everything goes to plan. This local advancement adds weight to the notion that adversity breeds innovation.

Green turtles making nesting attempts at Rupert's Beach



Helena nesting turtle population'. Still, these recent turtle activities are very exciting and as you know, only one in a 1000 turtles live to see maturity –so our island is playing her role in the future of the 'Greens' next cycle."

In light of these recent sightings, we are mindful that members of the public and families will be eager to see such a spectacle – however, the Marine Team would kindly like to remind the public of the following key guidelines to ensure that if you do see this wonderful natural event, that these turtles are respected and able to continue their life cycle for generations to come:

- **Please do not approach the turtle head on - if she is making her way onto the beach, a direct approach could startle her, and she will abandon her nesting attempt and make a U-turn back to the water.**
- **Only approach the turtle after she has finished laying her eggs. You can tell she is laying by her being very still for an extended period of time, (not digging, flicking up sand), rocking gently back and forth as her eggs fall into the nest and she is facing upwards.**
- **Avoid any sudden movements, approach slowly from behind her head and avoid casting any large shadows.**
- **Do not touch or ride these turtles – this could cause significant distress in the animal and even lead to death.**
- **Do not take any flash photography at any time - please keep white lights turned off, e.g. car lights, torches. Bright white lights can startle and disorientate the female, which can lead to her abandoning her nesting attempt.**
- **Only use red torch light if absolutely needed, however it is a full moon at the moment, so there should be plenty of natural light.**
- **Please keep noise to a minimum**
- **Please keep pets away from the beach area when females are making these nesting attempts.**

While we understand that Rupert's beach is not the most turtle-friendly location, we are mindful to be aware of their presence. If a suitable nest site is not available, turtles are known to lay their eggs out of desperation; either on top of the sand and or just off shore in the water. This can be fatal to females if they store their eggs for a long period of time, as they can develop infections and we don't want this to happen. If a turtle is seen on the beach laying her eggs without a nest, the team will take action to save any eggs possible and move them to a better and more suitable location. This can only be done by experience members only, as turtle eggs are extremely fragile and the slightest movement of the egg can kill the developing embryo inside.

If anyone from the public sees a turtle making a nesting attempt either at Rupert's beach and /or Sandy bay beach, or sees tracks in the sand; please be mindful of the above advice, try to keep your distance and please do not hesitate to contact the Marine Team immediately on **22569/ 23957**.

St Helena National Trust

On the evening of the 5th April, the Saint Helena National Trust's Marine Team responded to a call regarding a Green turtle attempting to nest on Rupert's beach. It has been a few years since the last nesting attempt of the Green turtle has happened, the last taking place at Sandy bay beach in March 2015. It was also noticed by the Marine team, that during this year's Whale shark monitoring season, there has been numerous sightings of mating 'Greens' around the Island.

When the team arrived at the beach, we found that the turtle had already returned back to sea. On searching the nesting attempt, we noticed that the turtle had in fact, started to dig her nesting chamber. While this was still exciting to witness, we were not certain on what made her attempt unsuccessful. Due to Rupert's being a place of growing infrastructure, a popular recreational area and having a very small and pebbled beach, many factors could have played a part to the failed nesting attempt.

On Monday evening, the team returned to check if any further attempts of nesting would occur. This time, two females made their way onto the beach at Rupert's, both again were sadly unsuccessful, with the pair finding it difficult to dig between the scattered rocks and boulders. The Marine Team will continue to monitor the beach during this week and have plans in place if a successful nesting attempt is made. Sandy bay beach will also be monitored.

Kenickie Andrews, Marine Research Coordinator said: "Firstly we would like to thank the member of public that called us to inform of the first nesting attempt on Sunday. This is a very exciting time for this Island, especially to have some good news during the precautions for the COVID-19 virus. These prehistoric, gentle, yet endangered animals are returning back to the place where they were born to carry on their life cycle. While it is more known for 'Greens' to nest on Ascension Island, the second largest Green turtle rookery in the world, many factors are in play for why these females are trying to nest on our beaches here on St Helena, are they lost on their way to Ascension?, or is it indeed St Helena? Turtles use to nest here many, many years ago, with local ecological knowledge telling us that regular nesting took place right up to the 70's, when our beaches were more 'turtle friendly'. Because Green turtles become sexually mature at 25 – 40 years, a lot has changed since then for these animals; our beaches have declined in sand and size, infrastructure is in place and sea defences have been built up - things a mature turtle as a hatchling then, would not remember seeing at that time, all these factors could have contributed to the decline of the 'St

Easter Message 2020

I greet you all in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

My brothers and sisters in Christ we now live in very challenging times for the entire world with the Covid 19 pandemic. As I keep up to date with the World News, we are reminded how devastating this virus is having on every aspect of life in the countries where it is present and others countries who depend on world trade, travel etc.

I have just finished a Zoom Synod of Bishops Prayer Meeting and I am reminded of the reality of the pandemic that my fellow brother and sister bishops are facing as South Africa is in lockdown with the infections increasing and people dying. Yesterday evening it was revealed that there are two cases of the virus on the Falklands Islands where so many of our St Helenians work. This would cause many of our community here with loved ones on the Falklands to be anxious at this time for their health and safety. Our brothers and sisters on Ascension is practising social distancing and my thoughts are with our church there: Cheryl Anthony, Mervyn Isaac, Alan Nicholls, Clarence Roberts and Dave Wood our Lay ministers, members of the PCC and our community there, you are constantly in my prayers. On a personal note I also have my son Jacob at Reading University, in lockdown in his dormitory, and my sister Cindy in Portsmouth working, and other family members, this is a similar situation as many of us have family in the UK, and one realises that the effects of the virus is closer to us than we sometimes think it is. Not because of our isolation means that they cease to be family members or fellow Christians and friends, they are still very much a real part of our lives. Here on St Helena we are blessed by our isolation but that doesn't mean that we should be complacent, especially during this time that we have no way of testing for the virus, therefore adopting isolation of 14 days for all arriving, social distancing, good hygiene and best safe practise is the best for the good of our people.

Normally as Christians we would travel through Holy Week observing and engaging spiritually in the Passion of Jesus Christ, words and services which we think everybody knows

the meaning of. But unless we know that sin is wrong as it goes against the will of God for us, and the penalty for that sin is death, we will not understand the significance of the Passion of Jesus Christ for us. Once we believe that, we can then as Christians believe that he (that sinless perfect human being) paid the penalty of our sin (we are all sinful) by suffering the penalty of death in our place, and destroying the power of that penalty – death, by rising from the dead, conquering death and restoring eternal life for all of us who believe. In this event we see the hope for all of us because Jesus Christ went the full distance for our salvation.

It means that for love ones who die at this time and as many people of the world face the Coronavirus, and many people will die, because of this event of Good Friday and Easter Sunday there is hope and we commend them to the mercy and love of God. Death has been defeated and has no dominion over those who believe in Jesus as their Lord and saviour.

This eternal life that was won for us in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead also means that we have new life. We are being restored by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us enabling us to live a godly life in the fight against evil, sin and temptation. We see this new life in doctors, nurses and all those who risk their lives in the fight against this disease. We see it is the leadership of the nations to protect their people. We see it in social distancing as out of love for our neighbour we love them from a distance.

So, my friends in Christ, Christ laid down his life so that we can have life to the full both in this physical life and in the life hereafter. I leave you with these wonderful words of hope from St Paul: I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angles, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Have a blessed Easter, stay safe and pray for God's protection. +Dale

Dear all,

As you are aware, funerals attract large congregations who worship and pay their respects to loved ones. This potentially could put people at risk. In order to comply with Social Distancing and best practise, the Diocese of St Helena has restricted those attending funerals to immediate members of the family only. This is for the Church service and for the service at the graveside. Also for member of the family attending funerals we ask that you sit two meters apart and two pews apart please. This procedure will come into force with immediate effect until further notice. We understand that while this may not be our tradition on St Helena, we kindly ask all members of the public to observe this practise in the best interest of everyone.

God bless, stay safe and continue to pray for God's protection

+Dale



**PRESS
RELEASE**



Enterprise St Helena

ESH SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY COVID-19

Protective measures to prevent and limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus have been introduced by the St Helena Government (SHG). While these measures are an important step towards protecting public health, they will also impact upon the local economy. In recognition of this, both SHG and Bank of St Helena (BoSH) have introduced specific business support arrangements to help the island's businesses.

To complement these schemes, and with the aim of ensuring that the economy has the foundations in place for recovery, Enterprise St Helena (ESH) - supported by Department for International Development (DFID) and SHG – is introducing the following two support measures for privately owned small businesses (nine or fewer full-time equivalent staff) on the island, who derive more than 50% of their income from business activity in an eligible sector.

1. Tourism, Hospitality and Retail Sector Small Business Support Scheme

This grant is targeted at the following eligible expenditure:

Contribution towards essential costs for business premises, or business insurance: i.e. utilities, internet costs for business premises, or business insurance. *Small businesses in these specific sectors will be able to claim up to a maximum of £500 for the quarter April-June 2020, to help with these essential business costs.* (Note: Tourism Accommodation means premises that is rented out on a short-term basis – i.e. 30 days or less – and is currently unoccupied.)

2. Small Business Adjustment Scheme

Eligible expenditure includes:

Purchase of supplies or services from local (i.e. St Helena-based) businesses that enable small businesses to adapt their working patterns in the short-term in response to COVID-19. *Small businesses will be able to claim a maximum one-off payment of £500 to support with any of these costs.* This can include:

- ♦ **Small items of equipment to support the adaptation of working methods**, such as answering machines, paper towel dispensers, hand dryers, food packaging to support home delivery schemes, personal protective equipment for employees (PPE)
- ♦ **Items related to staff and customer safety and hygiene**, including for example hand sanitisers, paper towels etc.
- ♦ **Services from other local businesses that will support adaptation** of their business, for example: telephone answering services from other local businesses, local advertising costs to communicate changes to products and services offered.
- ♦ **Purchases that increase the amount of agricultural food produced locally**, for example purchase of seeds and saplings / plants or treatments that will help to increase the amount of local food available to buy on the island.

Each eligible business can make one application per scheme. Where several businesses are under the same ownership, or operating out of one building, the funding is limited to one grant per scheme.

Further details regarding each scheme, along with an application form, may be obtained by contacting a member of the ESH Business Development Team on Telephone 22920, or via info@esh.co.sh. Details and application form are also downloadable via our website at: www.investinsthelena.com



Enterprise St Helena

Head Office | ESH Business Park | Ladder Hill | Tel: +290 22920 | Email: info@esh.co.sh

Visit us online Business and Investment: www.investinsthelena.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com

VACANCY

INTERNAL AUDIT ASSOCIATE (APPRENTICE)

Applications are invited for an Internal Audit Associate (Apprentice) within the Internal Audit Service of St Helena Government (SHG). The post will include studies and training towards the SHG Internal Audit Scheme of Service and will involve carrying out internal audit assurance and consulting work within SHG under the direction of Internal Audit management. Applicants should be versatile and highly motivated and will receive on the job training on performing internal audit engagements towards the achievement of the annual internal audit plan. Required skills and attributes of potential candidates are:

- . IT skills especially use of Microsoft Applications;
- . Good people management and interpersonal skills;
- . Time management and organisational skills;
- . Analytical, eager to learn and motivated by challenge; and
- . Excellent interpersonal and verbal communication skills.



Essential qualifications for this role are GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above.

The starting salary for the post will be £8,067 per annum and will be reviewed on the achievement of training goals in line with the Internal Audit Scheme of Service.

For further details regarding the duties of the post and for a copy of the job profile, interested persons can contact Christy Joshua on 22692 or on email: christy.joshua@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms, which are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies and should be submitted to Dianne Venning, Human Resources Officer, Corporate Human Resources, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Monday 13 April 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.



ROCK ROSE TO GREEN HILL ROAD CLOSURE

The Highways Authority has given approval for the section of road between Rock Rose and Green Hill to be closed between 9am and 3pm on Thursday 16th April 2020. This closure is to allow the felling of a eucalyptus tree.

As normal, only Emergency Service vehicles will be granted access. Other drivers needing to travel to Green Hill during this time must travel via Sandy Bay, or to Rock Rose from Levelwood.

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



CAN France would like to remind the public that Ruperts Wharf, the access road beyond the fish factory and a small section of Ruperts beach is closed due to ongoing rockfall protection works. These areas will remain closed to the public over the Easter weekend.

Pedestrian access to Ruperts beach can be gained through the doorway in Ruperts Lines.

The Ruperts beach BBQ shelters remain accessible to the public.

Vehicle access to Ruperts beach is not available.

The team would like to thank the public for their ongoing patience during these closures as we continue our work to make the island a safer place live and visit.





CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PROCESS FOR NON-COMMERCIAL GOODS

HM Customs & Excise would like to remind customers of the clearance process for non-commercial goods which is as follows:

STEP 1 Please collect a **Non-commercial Declaration Form** from your consolidator (the person shipping goods on your behalf or entities such as Richard James International Ltd, Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc, MS Atlantic Logistics Ltd, Table Bay Marine (Pty) Ltd and Zedcore).

STEP 2 Complete this form as illustrated in Figure 1 (featured on next page). Completion of the form is a declaration made to Customs about the items in your packages. Assistance can be given by Customs Officers to help you complete the form. This declaration should be presented along with a supporting invoice or other supporting documentation.

STEP 3 On arrival at the wharf, locate your consolidator to identify your packages. A Customs Supervisor will be present to determine whether or not your goods will be subject to examination.

STEP 4 The examination of goods - if required - will be done by a Customs Officer.

STEP 5 The payment of Duties on imported goods should be made to the cashier at the Freight Terminal (Customs Shed). Where goods are to be collected by someone other than those identified on the Non-commercial Declaration Form, written authorisation is required before the goods will be released.

THE ROCK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

The Rock Christian Fellowship is pleased to announce that they will be having 2 open air services over the Easter Period on Good Friday & Easter Sunday on Longwood Green both starting at 10:30am.

To ensure all who attend are kept safe we will be following SHG's advice to maintain social distancing at all times, and limit any physical contact. Therefore we encourage attendees of the services to remain in your vehicles and/or maintain a distance of 6 feet (approximately 2 meters) apart from each other at all times. This will allow you to enjoy uplifting praise and worship as well the preaching of a powerful message, which will be broadcast via a PA system, without fear of any viral infection.

Attendees are also advised to bring an umbrella if you do not have a vehicle or wish to stand/sit on the green in case of rain. But most importantly we ask that you please bring a bible either on your smart device or a hard copy. Easter is the most important part of the Christian message and is a message of hope for the future as well as one of comfort during hard times.

Hebrews Chapter 10 verse 23 says *"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful"*

We look forward to seeing you there.



In addition to recent announcements, Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc wishes to advise customers of the following opening hours:

Wednesday 8 April

Grocery Outlets (The Star, Half Tree Hollow Supermarket including Half Tree Hollow Hardware & Silver Hill Shop), The DIY Store & Half Tree Hollow Fuel Station:

10am-5pm

Jamestown Fuel Station

10am-1pm

Saturday 11 April

Grocery Outlets, The DIY Store & Half Tree Hollow and Jamestown Fuel Stations:

9am-4pm

(Fresh bread will also be available in the Grocery Outlets)

All outlets will be closed on Public Holidays; Friday 10 April (Good Friday) and Monday 13 April (Easter Monday) and also on Sunday 12 April 2020.



St Helena
Government

ST HELENA CUSTOMS DECLARATION FOR NON COMMERCIAL GOODS



To be Used For Only Personal Effects and Non Commercial Goods

WARNING: a false declaration can render you liable to prosecution and/or your goods liable to forfeiture

Exporter/Shipper	Waybill Number:	Customs Office:	Registration:	Loading Port:
Consignee/Importer	Date of Departure:	Date of Arrival:	Transport mode:	Voyage:
	Name of Vessel:	Line Number:	WayBill Type:	
No & Type of packages:	Freight charge & values declared			
Gross Mass (kg):	Freight:			
Cubic Measurements:	Customs value:			
Goods location:	Description:			
Particulars of Declaration by Importer / Exporter or Declarant				
Contents of Packages	Customs value	Commodity Code	Weight (kg)	Supl. Qty
I, the undersigned, ----- do hereby declare that the above particulars are true and correct.				
Dated this ----- day of ----- 20 ----- Examination Required: YES / NO				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Importer/Exporter For Collector of Customs </div>				
For Official Use only				
Examination results: Conform / Not conform				
Contents of Packages	Customs value	Commodity Code	Weight (kg)	Supl. Qty
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Examinations Officer For Collector of Customs </div>				

Figure 1 Non-Commercial Declaration Form

CUSTOMER SERVICE – SOCIAL DISTANCING

In line with the St Helena Government's Social Distancing advice Connect Saint Helena Ltd kindly asks members of the public to wherever possible, avoid coming into the Connect properties if you are reporting a fault or have a query. Please can customers call instead on the following telephone numbers.

22255 during normal office hours: 08:30am – 4:00pm Monday to Friday,

or email enquiries@connect.co.sh

All faults on our Water and Electricity networks outside of these hours can be reported to the Power Station on 22602 who will pass on details to our out of hours contractors.

If you do need to see a member of Connect staff, please make an appointment beforehand.

Connect Saint Helena Ltd appreciates your cooperation under the current circumstances.

07 April 2020



UTILITY BILLS

Why not sign up to receive your utility bills by email. Just send us an email on enquiries@connect.co.sh with your name, address and customer reference.

We also offer the option of paying your bill via Direct Debit, now that social distancing is encouraged. It is one of the safest and most reassuring ways of paying bills.

We can email you a Direct Debit Mandate form from our Connect Admin Office or the Billing Section at Seales Corner, Jamestown. This form is also available for downloading on our website www.connect.co.sh.

For further information, please contact Alison Wade on telephone number 22255.

06 April 2020



**St Helena
Government**

St Helena Government (SHG) is urgently seeking the following items to be able to complete the Bradley's Isolation facility and have it operational by mid-April:

- Electric showers or thermostatic mixer showers
- Small Pedestal sinks (no wider than 450mm) and taps
- Toilets (no longer than 600mm)
- Moisture resistant MDF
- PolyFlor safety flooring

These items should be new or unused.

If you are able to assist, please contact Project Manager, Rhys Hobbs, on mobile: 66254.

SENSIBLE WASTE WATER PRACTICE

**Never flush down
the toilet:**



Given the current circumstances on island where we are all encouraged to practise a stricter regime of hygiene, Connect Saint Helena Ltd wishes to advise all people making use of Septic Tanks and Soakaways (French Drains) across Island to refrain from flushing any foreign objects (baby wipes, paper towels, etc.) down your toilets.

Septic Tanks are not designed for the biological treatment (breaking down) of foreign matter. Releasing of solid / undissolved matter into your Soakaway will inevitably result in blockage of the entire system – which will prevent it from functioning properly and will cost money to put it right.



6th April 2020



As part of our Coronavirus (COVID-19) preparedness work we are seeking Health and Social Care Helpers on either a voluntary or casual basis.

You can help now or if you are not immediately available you can sign up to help as and when you can. Shift times are flexible to work around your current employment or other commitments:

Help our Doctors and Nurses...	Help our most vulnerable...
Health Care Helper	Social Care Helper
<p>As a Health Care helper you would support on the frontline at the hospital in a variety of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covering reception and answering phone calls; • Picking up medication from the pharmacy; • Escorting patients around the hospital; • Running tea rounds; • Preparing the ward and patients at meal times and serving meals; • Providing comfort and support and companionship for patients; • Being a ward helper - supporting Nurses and Health Assistants by undertaking non-clinical duties, freeing up their time to prioritise clinical care; • Supporting Nurses and Health Assistants by acting as an extra pair of hands or eyes. <p><i>If you have previous Nursing or Health Care experience these duties can be expanded to match your skill set and pay adjusted to £3.77ph.</i></p>	<p>As a Social Care helper you would not undertake the full role of a Carer or Support worker and would not be required to provide personal care, however duties such as the below will free up Carers and provide them with much needed support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assist Clients getting up in the morning and going to bed at night; • To prepare food and drink for the Client, being aware of the Client's choice, likes/dislikes, nutritional needs and cultural requirements; • To provide light general household domestic duties, including housework and laundry, as detailed in the care plan or instructed by managers; • To provide companionship to the Client, actively talking and listening to them about their interests; • To help the Client to maintain contact with their family and friends; • To ensure as safe as possible the living environment for the Client, whilst respecting the Client's choice and rights.
Would require a police check (funded by SHG), a reference of good character; a self-declaration medical form	Would require a police check (funded by SHG), a reference of good character; a self-declaration medical form
<p><u>Minimum 4 hour block:</u></p> <p>07.00-11.00; 08.00-12.00; 12.30-16.30; 17.00-21.00; 18.00-22.00</p>	<p><u>Minimum 4 hour block:</u></p> <p>Preferred Evenings and Weekends: 07.00-11.00; 08.00-12.00; 12.30-16.30; 17.00-21.00; 18.00-22.00</p>
<p>Volunteer: You may have the ability to undertake this activity unpaid and therefore you would be a volunteer supporting as and when you were available</p>	
<p>Casual Worker: You can undertake this role on a casual basis, as and when required, and would be paid £3.63ph for hours worked/training attended</p>	

This advert is limited to those who are resident on St Helena.

A short Expression of Interest Form is available through Corporate HR on telephone no. 22470 or email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh – this should be returned either via the email above or hard copy dropped in the box at Corporate Human Resources Office, The Castle by **Friday 24th April**.

These roles are available for an immediate start but please express an interest even if you can't help immediately but could help in the future.



THE SALVATION ARMY
SOUTHERN AFRICA TERRITORY
ST. HELENA ISLAND



**EASTER MESSAGE TO ALL THE SALVATION ARMY SOLDIERS,
ADHERENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE ARMY.**

OUR THEME FOR 2020: THE CROSS THE KEY TO ETERNAL LIFE

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it someday for a crown.

It is our prayer as we reflect on Easter that we will remember that through Christ's suffering and His death we have eternal life, even if our flesh can be weak but with Him we have hope through the victory on the cross and the power of His pardon for mankind that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life and that is our sure hope.

We pray that the Lord will heal our land, The Lord will bless us and keep us and give us health at this testing time of our lives, may He remind us that by His stripes we are healed and that NOTHING is IMPSSIBLE with Him.

May you all have a Blessed Easter, remembering that Eternal life is available for each and every one of us.

"I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of heaven, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" 'Matthew 16:19

Majors Nhlanhla & Priscilla Ziqubu.

Tel 00 290 22703 salvationarmy@helanta.co.sh www.salvationarmy.org.za
FOUNDER William Booth GENERAL Brian Peddle TERRITORIAL COMMANDER Daniel Kasuso
Registration 012-787-NPO PBO Number 93009713

Water Ordinance

Water Regulations

Notice of Variation

NOTICE is hereby given by Connect Saint Helena Ltd, the Utility Provider under the Water Ordinance that with effect from 7th April 2020 the water restriction Notice (“the Notice”) dated 18th June 2019 is hereby varied as per Regulation 15(2) to remove certain areas from Schedule I (prescribed areas) effected by the limitations on the Use of Water as per Schedule II of the Notice.

The areas removed from Schedule I (prescribed areas) are the treated water supply to areas served by Hutts Gate and Levelwood and the untreated water supply areas of Sandy Bay, Jamestown, Woody Ridge and Longwood. These areas as of 7th April 2020 are no longer under the restriction prohibiting the use of hosepipes or sprinklers.

Warning

A person who fails to comply with the Notice of 18th June 2019 as varied is guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a maximum fine of £2,000 or imprisonment for up to 6 months or both.

NOTE the restrictions in Schedule II of the Notice, **namely** the prohibition on the use of hosepipes and sprinklers for any purpose, including but not limited to, the watering of gardens and plants; washing of vehicles and washing down of hard-standing areas **continues** to apply to:

- The treated water supply to areas served by Redhill and Chubbs Spring Water Treatment Works; and
- The untreated water supply areas of Blue Hill, Head O’Wain, Burnt Rock, Horse Pasture, Thompsons Hill, Guinea Grass and St Pauls.

Dated this 7th day of April, 2020.



Barry Hubbard
Chief Executive Officer
Connect Saint Helena Ltd



St Helena
Government

SCHOOLS CLOSURE EXTENDED END OF TERM HOLIDAYS BROUGHT FORWARD

Parents and guardians are advised that the Education Committee has made the decision to extend the current Island Schools' closure by bringing forward the End of Term holidays. This means that the term holidays for Term 2 will now start on Tuesday, 14 April, rather than Monday, 27 April 2020. The changes in the term times will support the examination programme to meet the new deadlines for external examinations as advised by Exam Boards.

Term 3 for all schools will therefore run as follows:

- Week commencing Monday, 13 April – End of Term holidays for one week
- Week commencing Monday, 20 April – All schools open for Term 3A
- Week commencing Monday, 8 June – Mid Term holidays for two weeks
- Week commencing Monday, 22 June – All schools open for Term 3B
- Last day of School Year – Wednesday, 5 August 2020.

Parents and guardians are reassured that the Education Directorate will continue to practice and maintain high standards of cleanliness and hygiene. Measures will be in place to minimise the numbers of non-essential visitors to the schools.

The Education Committee would like to thank all parents and guardians for their continued support.

ST HELENA WATER LEVELS UPDATE

The St Helena Resilience Forum would like to thank the public for their cooperation during the ongoing drought. Water consumption is now consistently below 1000 cubic metres per day which is what we appealed to residents to achieve. This reduced consumption, combined with the weeks of rain, has replenished Levelwood, Hutt's Gate and Longwood reservoirs, so from Tuesday, 7 April, restrictions for these areas have been lifted.

Red Hill remains a concern (34% reservoir level) as does the untreated areas to the West of the Island, where supply comes from Frenches Gut and the Iron Pot. The restrictions in these areas remain as does Jamestown treated supply since all water we are able to take from The Run is pumped to Red Hill. A revised Legal Notice has been published in this week's newspapers.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will advise in due course if we are able to safely further relax restrictions.

People will have devised ways of preserving water and we encourage residents to continue doing so as we all recognise the value of this precious resource.

To reiterate, the areas remaining under restrictions are fed from Red Hill and Chubbs Spring Water Treatment Works as well as the untreated areas of Blue Hill, Head O'Wain, Burnt Rock, Horse Pasture, Thompson's Hill, Guinea Grass and St Paul's. Red Hill Water Treatment Works areas include Half Tree Hollow, Ladder Hill and St Paul's. Chubb's Spring Water Treatment Works include Jamestown, The Briars and Rupert's.

**St Helena Resilience Forum
8 April 2020**



St Helena
Government



Connect
SAINT HELENA LTD

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Easter is normally a pivotal part of the Football season. We Manchester United fans will never forget that Easter Weekend when Steve Bruce scored 2 injury time goals to had us a 2-1 win against Sheffield Wednesday which set us on the way to pick up our very first Premier League title.

But for Covid-19 Liverpool should be celebrating their first Premier League title. Will this season ever be completed? It could possibly another few months before things turn back to normal and when Football will recommence nobody seems to know right now.

The Premier League could lose £1bn if the 2019-2020 season cannot finish - and English football faces "the danger of losing clubs and leagues" amid economic challenges "beyond the wildest imagination".

The season has been halted indefinitely amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Premier League chief executive Richard Masters warned of "further losses" if the situation "deepens and extends" beyond this season.

Meanwhile Football Association chairman Greg Clarke said: "Many communities could lose the clubs at their heart with little chance of resurrection."

Amid those projected losses, Masters also defended clubs considering the use of government furlough scheme. However the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport committee responded to tell the Premier League to "stop defending the indefensible".

Some clubs have placed non-playing staff on temporary leave, while talks continue over the salaries of players.

Liverpool have reversed their decision to place some non-playing staff on temporary leave and apologised to fans.

On Saturday, the club said they were going to apply to the government's taxpayer-funded job retention scheme, sparking a fierce backlash.

But in a letter to their fans, chief executive Peter Moore said: "We believe we came to the wrong conclusion last week and are truly sorry for that."

He added that the Reds have "opted to find alternative means" to pay staff.



We have seen so many great seasons since the 1992/93 season; Manchester United first double in 1994; Blackburn win in 1995; Arsenal double in 1998 and United's treble in

1999. The invincibles in 2004 was a feat that seemed impossible although most fans thought Liverpool would do it this year only for Watford to upset that run.



Arsenal Premier League Champions in 2004 without losing a game

The 2003–04 season was the 106th in the history of Arsenal Football Club. It began on 1 July 2003 and concluded on 30 June 2004, with competitive matches played between August and May. The club ended the Premier League campaign as champions without a single defeat – a record of 26 wins and 12 draws. Arsenal did lose in cup competitions, where they were eliminated in the FA Cup and League Cup semi-finals to Manchester United and Middlesbrough respectively, and at the quarter-final stage of the UEFA Champions League to Chelsea. They ended up with 6 losses overall.

The main addition to the first team was goalkeeper Jens Lehmann for £1.5 million; striker José Antonio Reyes was later purchased in the winter transfer window. Arsenal retained their best players and successfully negotiated new contracts for captain Patrick Vieira and midfielder Robert Pires. The stability of the squad meant Arsenal were considered front-runners for the Premier League title, along with Manchester United, and Chelsea who were taken over by Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich.

In November, Arsenal beat Dynamo Kyiv by a single goal and more impressively scored five against Inter Milan at the San Siro – two results which kick-started their Champions League campaign. At the turn of the year, the team won nine league matches in a row to consolidate first position. In the first week of April, they were eliminated from the FA Cup and Champions League, but by the end of the month had secured their status as league champions, with a 2–2 draw against local rivals Tottenham Hotspur.

Arsenal's top goalscorer for the third year running was Thierry Henry, who scored 39 goals in 51 games. The Frenchman was given the accolade of PFA Players' Player of the Year by his fellow peers and the FWA Footballer of the Year by football writers. Although the Arsenal team were unsuccessful in cup competitions, their dominance in the league was regarded by many commentators as a standalone achievement. They acquired the nickname "The Invincibles", much like the Preston North End team that went unbeaten in the inaugural Football League season. The club was awarded a golden replica trophy by the Premier League once the season concluded and they remained unbeaten for 49 games, setting a new record. In 2012, the Arsenal team of 2003–04 won the "Best Team" category in the Premier League 20 Seasons Awards.

WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES OPERATIONS OVER EASTER

Waste Management Services (WMS) will continue their operations over the Easter period:

Domestic & Commercial Waste Collection

All domestic and commercial waste collection services throughout April will remain unchanged. Customers are asked to ensure their bins are ready for emptying by 6am on their collection day. This includes Good Friday and Easter Monday for those residents who ordinarily have their waste collected on Fridays and Mondays. Late placement of bins may result in bins not being emptied.

Customers are reminded that all Easter Egg boxes must be flattened prior to waste collection, with large volumes of cardboard tied in bundles and left next to your bin for safe handling. WMS will not collect cardboard boxes that have not been suitably prepared. All other waste should be bagged and not placed loose into bins. Where possible, please sanitise your wheelie bins regularly to prevent infestation of maggots. WMS are not responsible for sanitising commercial or individual domestic wheelie bins.

Horse Point Landfill Site

The site will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The public is encouraged to recycle as much of their waste prior to any disposal into the bulky waste cell. The Public Recycling Facility can receive plastics, glass, aluminium drink cans, scrap metal, wood, cooking & motor oil, tyres, cardboard, vehicle & domestic batteries, white goods, small electrical appliances, furniture, textiles and clothing. The public is advised not to use the Landfill Site during the hours of darkness due to the obvious hazards that exist.

Public Areas

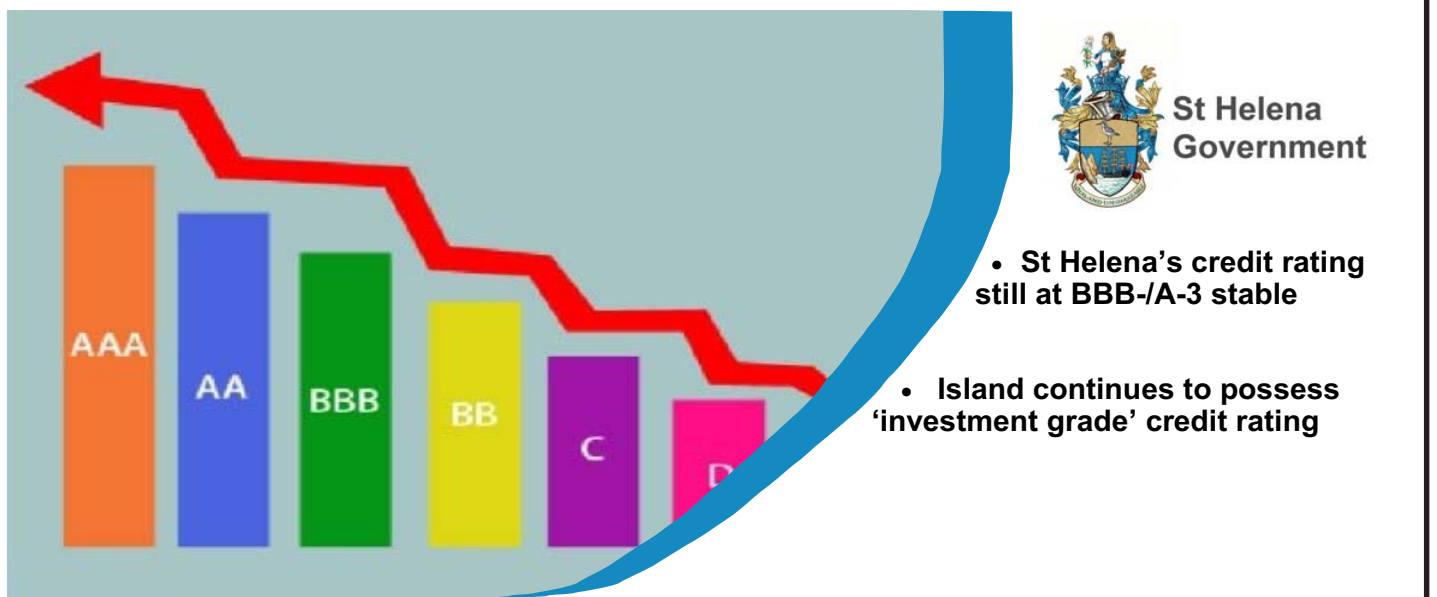
All public areas and toilet cleaning services throughout April will remain unchanged. Please dispose of your litter in the bins provided for the protection of the environment, recycling as much aluminium drink cans, glass bottles and plastic as possible.



Waste Management Services wish their customers a very Happy Easter.

SHG

8 April 2020



ST HELENA MAINTAINS 'INVESTMENT GRADE' CREDIT RATING

In December 2019, St Helena achieved a Credit Rating of BBB-/A-3 stable, from global credit-rating agency Standard & Poors (S&P). This credit rating is 'investment grade' meaning that St Helena is a low risk place to invest relative to other countries.

S&P regularly updates their credit ratings for all countries. Through subsequent research into risks and vulnerabilities to St Helena's economy, particularly considering COVID-19, they have preserved St Helena's credit rating at BBB-/A-3 stable. This means there has been no change, and the Island continues to possess an 'investment grade' credit rating.

St Helena Government's Chief Economist, Nicole Shamier, said:

"The stable outlook is largely thanks to the preventive measures we have put in place to protect the Island from COVID-19 thus far as well as the ongoing support by the UK Government to help us manage the risks and consequences should an outbreak occur on the Island. It is noted that although COVID-19 being prevalent in South Africa and UK and the downturn that both these countries will be experiencing is likely to affect St Helena's economic prospects this year, there is potential for good bounce back in 2021-2022 thanks to the completion of several important infrastructure projects including the landing of the subsea cable. Many countries have had their credit rating downgraded or have been given 'negative outlook' status; so we should not underestimate how positive it is for St Helena to have maintained its rating as is and been granted 'stable' status."

Gaining a Credit Rating is an action outlined in our Sustainable Economic Development Plan. The rating assists the recognition of the St Helena jurisdiction amongst the International Banking and Finance sector. It also helps external investors understand more about the investment environment which includes political, financial, legislative and environmental factors.

S&P also delivers Montserrat's credit rating as well as other British Overseas Territories.

#StHelena #CreditRating #InvestmentGrade #SEDP

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

SHG
8 April 2020

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor

I read with interest the articles in your newspaper from SHG's preferred bidder for taking the islands fishery forward. Is it just me, or are these investors **deliberately** trying to drive a wedge between themselves and the local fishermen? If they had actually been doing their homework and genuinely wanted to work with the fishermen, they surely would have known that these articles stood a very good chance of destroying any chance of building a good relationship with them – it's just a bizarre way of showing that they wish to "join hands and work together".

The investor is very keen to tell us what we have been doing wrong and how they intend to correct this – again, cardinal sin! Saints are fed up with people telling us what a s*** job it is that we've been doing and how they are going to swoop in and save the day.

My advice to these investors is to actually spend some quality time talking to local fishermen instead of just trying to push their own agenda. They might in fact be pleasantly surprised with what these conversations will reveal in terms

of what the local people can contribute.

I note that the SHCFA has been challenged by these investors – well done SHCFA! This means that these people are **threatened** by you, so much so, that they have tried to discredit you publically.

Keep plodding on St Helena fishermen, you deserve partners who you can trust and treat you with respect. You have had considerable disappointments over the years; if this is supposed to be a turning point in the sector then you have every right to want to make sure it is in your best interest.

**Regards,
Fishermen's Friend**

Dear Editor

The St Helena Commercial Fishermen's Association would like to thank their members for their patience, following the publication on the 3rd April, of the letter - and additional responses - from SHG's preferred fisheries investor.

Rather than respond immediately to the false accusations and misleading content of the letter and its additional responses, SHCFA chose first, to reach out to our Elected Members to seek clarity and guidance on some of the published content.

As of the time of writing this article, disappointingly, all attempts to convene a meeting on this topic between the

SHCFA and Elected Members has been rejected, under the reasoning that (due to the Investors Non-Disclosure Agreement), a **'meeting at this time would be inadvisable and unproductive'** and that EM's had concerns that SHCFA had alleged defamatory content within the Investors letter, i.e. this **'is potentially a legal matter'**.

As such, the Association chose to proceed with a SHCFA members meeting on Wednesday 8th April, to:

- a) reassure its members of the actual state of affairs given the misleading, disruptive content published by the Investors and
- b) proactively discuss and decide an appropriate way forward.

As a gesture of collaborative working, we again extended an invitation to this meeting, to all Elected Members.

Finally, for clarity, we are **not** anti-investor, **nor** are we anti-foreign investor – this has never been written or said by any member of the SHCFA committee and we are deeply concerned by the connotation of this statement.

Following Wednesdays SHCFA meeting, we look forward to collating the views and opinions of all of our members and presenting the facts to the community in next week's papers. Watch this space.

- SHCFA -

Coronavirus complicates journeys home from Antarctica

The British Antarctic Survey (BAS) says it can now bring home all of its staff that need to leave the White Continent.

At the end of the Southern Hemisphere summer, everyone except a core team is extracted - but that procedure has been complicated this year by Covid-19.

Some of the usual routes - such as through Chile via ship or aeroplane - have been closed because of lockdowns.

BAS people are being ferried to the Falkland Islands with the intention of flying them on to the UK with the RAF.



This will take some time, however, so the research agency is also now chartering a cruise ship in Port Stanley to act as temporary accommodation.

The vessel, Hebridean Sky, will additionally act as somewhere to isolate the

scientists and other staff as they move up from the Antarctic - for their benefit and that of the Falklanders. The islands had their first confirmed case of Covid-19 last week.

BBC News - April 7 2020

Content Creators take to social media for World Health Day

Mic-kail Harris

April 7 is World Health Day, and it's no surprise that this year's event is based around the global pandemic for the Coronavirus (CoVid-19). To celebrate World Health Day - and to raise awareness of CoVid-19 - entertainers, influencers and content creators across a range of platforms joined together to stream live for the #HopeFromHome event.

During the streaming event, viewers were informed about preventative measures, watch inspiring stories and videos about the heroes on the frontlines of the pandemic, and be invited to donate to relief funds that will address the health, food insecurity, educational and economic challenges resulting from the virus. All funds raised from the #HopeFromHome event will be equally distributed between United Way Worldwide, the United Nations Foundation and Red Nose Day, whose critical work addresses the health, food insecurity and economical challenges resulting from this global pandemic.

Although primarily for April 7, the campaign event will continue to run until May 1.

YouTube Content Creators such as Jacksepticeye, Markiplier and Mini Ladd have already partaken to raising funds for this event.

To promote St Helena and to show that the island's community are doing what we can to prevent CoVid-19 from landing on St Helena, a St Helenian YouTube channel, *MICKY BUGATROSIS3* were among those content creators around the world signed up to stream for World Health Day, and to be a part of the fundraising campaign. Although the inaugural stream wasn't the best quality for *MICKY BUGATROSIS3* (higher than recommended latency and poor internet speed caused a lot of buffering), to support our heroes on the frontlines there will be a series of "morning live streams" during the free megabyte hours until April 11, with a link to donate to the campaign in the description. Streamed content will vary to encourage others with different interests to donate, and all proceeds will be distributed to United Way Worldwide, the United Nations Foundation and Red Nose Day.

For *MICKY BUGATROSIS3*'s first stream, to entertained the isolated or quarantined individuals, it was mainly communicating with two other St Helenians on-island who are at home (because it's past midnight) and sharing what we are doing on-island as around the world people are self-isolating or is suffering from CoVid-19.

For *MICKY BUGATROSIS3*'s second streaming day on the morning of April 8, the content focus was primarily for a certain group on Facebook; the same group that supports the wallpapers for *MICKY BUGATROSIS3*'s website: Halo (the video game), whilst also talking about CoVid-19 and how we on St Helena are helping to prevent CoVid-19. This stream session has gotten more people interacting with the stream than the previous.

To ensure that many support the cause, *MICKY BUGATROSIS3* will be live streaming various other contents, including (if all things go well), a short video/ slideshow looking at various sites on the island for your interest. Even though it's a small YouTube channel on a small island, its main priority since the channel's launch is to be a community channel, reaching out to other countries to show that St Helena is connected to the outside world. To check out *MICKY BUGATROSIS3* live streams and to help support our heroes in white and blue, check them out on YouTube and also check out other content creators who are doing the same.

On an island-wide topic, support each other during this pandemic. Share groceries to those less fortunate if you have more than you need, respect others self-isolating choices, and respect the decisions made by St Helena Government and Public Health.

Thank you all for the support, and remember to do your bit for the community. "We need to help each other to help ourselves" - *MICKY BUGATROSIS3*



Invitation to Tender

The Saint Helena Government wishes to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract-

Fibre-Optic Cable Project Phase 1: Site and Trenching Excavation works

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from

Miss Tiffany Lawrence

Procurement Officer

Essex House

Jamestown

Telephone No: 22270 or email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh



St Helena
Government

A site visit to view the works will take place on Thursday, 16 April 2020, at 10:00am, meeting at the Rupert's Public Toilets.

If you are unable to attend the site visit during this time, please contact the Procurement Officer to arrange another date & time.

Should you require any further details, please contact the Civil Engineer, Mr Christopher Peters, on telephone number 22270 or email christopher.peters@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box at Essex House by 12noon on Monday, 27 April 2020.

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

Coronavirus: Boris Johnson 'responding to treatment' in intensive care

Boris Johnson is "responding to treatment" for coronavirus as he approaches a fourth night in hospital.

The prime minister was being kept in St Thomas' Hospital in London "for close monitoring" and remained clinically stable, his official spokesman said.

Downing Street said he was not working but could contact those he needed to.

No 10 said a review of lockdown rules would go ahead as planned next week, but the public must "stick with" the measures at what was a "critical time".

A ban on public gatherings of more than two people and the closure of shops selling non-essential goods were among the series of restrictions announced by Mr Johnson on 23 March to tackle the spread of coronavirus.

Downing Street said a relaxation of the rules would be considered "on or around" the three-week mark on Monday, as was promised by the PM when he introduced the measures.

But health minister Edward Argar said the peak in cases must pass "before we can think about making changes", adding: "It's too early to say when we will reach that peak."

The lockdown in Wales will be extended and not lifted next week, First Minister Mark Drakeford has confirmed.

BBC assistant political editor Norman Smith said it seemed "likely" the rest of the UK would follow suit.

The prime minister was admitted to St Thomas' on Sunday, on the advice of his doctor, after continuing to have a cough and high temperature 10 days after testing positive for the virus.

Downing Street said Mr Johnson was in "good spirits" as he continued to receive standard oxygen treatment. He was breathing without any assistance, such as mechanical ventilation or non-invasive respiratory support.

Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, who is deputising for Mr Johnson, said on Tuesday he was "confident" the PM would recover from this illness, describing him as a "fighter".

In the latest figures across the UK:

The total number of people who have died with coronavirus in English hospitals is 6,483, a rise of 828 on the previous 24 hours

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said 70 people had died with the virus in Scotland in the last 24 hours, bringing the total to 366. Scotland has changed the way it counts deaths to include deaths where the virus was a probable contributing factor - and people who were not in hospital when they died

In Wales, 33 more people have died after testing positive for



Prime Minister Boris Johnson during his announcement, photo by PA Media

the virus, bringing the Welsh death toll to 245. Public Health Wales said case numbers would be "lower than usual" on Thursday as officials move back the time when they count new cases

Five more deaths in Northern Ireland brings the NI total to 78. The latest UK-wide figures - which use a different timeframe to those of individual nations - said the number of coronavirus hospital deaths rose to 6,159 on Tuesday - a record increase of 786 in a day compared with 439 on Monday.

However, the government's chief scientific adviser Sir Patrick Vallance told Tuesday's Downing Street briefing the number of coronavirus cases in the UK "could be moving in the right direction".

Spikes or dips in recorded cases and deaths may in part reflect bottlenecks in the reporting system, rather than real changes in the trend.

Ahead of a spell of sunny weather forecast in some parts of the UK later this week, Mr Argar urged people to stay at home "however lovely the weather this Easter weekend".

"If we are, as the statistics appear to show, making a little bit of progress, now's the time to hold to it," he told BBC Breakfast.

Regarding a review of lockdown measures, he said: "We need to start seeing the numbers coming down and that's when you're in the negative.

"That's when you have a sense when that's sustained over a period of time, that you can see it coming out of that. We're not there yet and I don't exactly know when we will be."

BBC News - April 8 2020

Falklands confirms second Covid 19 case; patient is in isolation at the MPC

The Falkland Islands government announced on Sunday of a second case of Covid 19, although the patient remains under isolation conditions at the Mount Pleasant Complex, the UK defense outpost of the Islands.

Falklands Chief Medical Officer Dr. Rebecca Edwards and lawmaker Leona Roberts, the current spokesperson for the elected Legislative Assembly made the announcement on Sunday evening.

The official release follows:

"Following the receipt of tests results from the UK on Friday, April 3, which confirmed a case of Covid 19, who was a patient in isolation at the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, KEMH, in Stanley, further results were received on Saturday 4 April which identified a second positive case.

"This individual is at the Mount Pleasant Complex, MPC, and has been resident there for some time. More recently the individual has been in isolation there as part of the ongoing arrangements for dealing with possible cases.

"The Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Rebecca Edwards has liaised with officials at the BFAI to ensure all the necessary isolation precautions remain in place. The confirmed case in the Stanley hospital who is not on ventilation remains in isolation and is in a stable condition..

"Dr. Edwards stated that there is no requirement to change existing guidance to the public, and advised that the published service on hand washing, self isolation and social distancing should continue to be adhered to and she thanked members of the public for their support.

"As of Saturday, 137 samples have been taken and we have received 116 results, 114 have been negative and two have been positive. 1 was not tested as it was one of the patients that we already had a positive result for. The remaining twenty are on transit to the UK on the South Atlantic Airbridge"

It must be added that the Falklands, which so far has no coronavirus testing facilities, and depends on the UK for that, was working and was organized



on the assumption that the virus already was in the Islands, —sanitary emergency—, since many people in the Islands were complying with the 14-day isolation, recently returned from overseas or because they had come in contact with tourists from cruise vessels suspected of having positive cases on board.

This means the cases did not come as

a surprise and KEHM has been provided with the necessary equipment, medicines, beds and staff for such an emergency. The Falklands population, based on projections from the last census are estimated at some 3,500, while personnel at the MPC according to the British media is around 1,300.

MercoPress - April 6th 2020

Covid-19 across the British Overseas Territories

Territory	26 th March		31 st March		5 th April	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Anguilla	0	0	2	0	3	1
Ascension	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bermuda	7	0	27	0	39	2
British Indian Ocean Territory	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known	Not known
British Virgin Islands	2	0	3	0	3	1
Gibraltar	26	0	69	0	103	0
Cayman Islands	8	0	12	0	39	1
Montserrat	2	0	5	0	6	0
Pitcairn	0	0	0	0	0	0
St Helena	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tristan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Falklands	0	0	0	0	2	0
Turks & Caicos	2	0	5	0	5	1
TOTALS	47	0	84	0	159	4

Data Source; International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA)

Bermuda cases added for 5th April by SH Independent and not included in ISISA totals

