

# THE ST HELENA INDEPENDENT

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# Mantis cuts down on staff

The pressure on SHG to make cuts in expenditure as the cost of coronavirus bites has resulted in nine staff being made redundant by the SHG owned St Helena Hotel Development Ltd (SHHD). All the staff chosen to go are frontline staff. The administrative staff, working in the background are still holding on to their jobs, for the moment. Cllr Derek Thomas said on Saint FM this week that an announcement on the SHHD owned Mantis Hotel will be made shortly. So far, there has, typically, been no official announcement on the hotel staff redundancies.

It is widely expected that the Mantis Hotel will be closed for an indefinite period as there will be no tourism for the foreseeable future and government revenue is falling on all sides. Against this background the huge level of subsidy required to keep the Mantis Hotel open is expected to be one of a series of cost-saving measures. At the same time, unexpected expenditure caused by the coronavirus pandemic is already substantial with costs continuing for an unknown period at levels which cannot be predicted. It was also stated during a Saint FM radio discussion on Tuesday with the Governor, The Health Director and Cllr Derek Thomas that the additional £2.5 million granted by the UK Government for the extra costs associated with the coronavirus pandemic is already spent. Despite that, the cost of keeping Bradley's Camp available as quarantine accommodation together with payments to businesses losing revenue due to the adverse impacts of Covid-19 will continue to be a strain on SHG expenditure.

One of the nine Mantis Staff to be made redundant is the highly prized chef, Roy Richards. Saints know Roy from his years in the galley of the RMS, producing excellent, high quality menus for every passenger's pleasure. Many were relieved his professional skill and experience was not lost



when to us when to took the job of chef at the Mantis Hotel. For any business involved with hospitality catering a good chef is without question the first and main requirement. Once a good chef is recruited the next main job is to keep that person on the payroll for a long as possible. The fact that Roy Richards is among the staff to be made redundant is another indication the days of the Mantis Hotel are numbered. The regular revenue for Mantis was from people willing to pay for his exceptional cuisine. If the hotel is to close, keeping Roy employed will not be as important to government accountants.

At Tuesday's Saint FM radio discussion Cllr Derek Thomas also mentioned SHG is reviewing its budget for next year and re-prioritising the main areas of government expenditure. It was clear that government expenditure on tourism will be cut – probably dramatically. However, any savings made are expected to be used to pay for some of the additional and unexpected expenditure rather than spent on further improvements to health or education services or roads.

## SHG eyes the multi-nationals

The St Helena Government claim there is a gap in the market for company registrations where multi-national companies have a choice where to locate their registered head office. For companies operating in several countries the choice they make can save them many £millions in tax. The gap described arises because several low tax countries are also regimes considered to have too much financial secrecy and are blacklisted because of it.

The latest European Union black list, called The EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes, includes the Cayman Islands, a British Overseas Territory as well as Commonwealth members, Fiji, Trinidad & Tobago, Seychelles, Samoa and Vanuatu. These off-shore tax havens have acquired a bad reputation for financial secrecy and being tax havens where it is possible to 'launder' dirty money, often the profits from the drugs trade and other criminal activities.

Multi-nationals which are led by businessmen who are keen to protect their reputation for good governance will want to stay away from blacklisted tax havens but remain on the look-out for low tax countries where multi-national companies can register their head office and in doing so will be

legally liable to pay less tax. The presentation to councillors at yesterday's Economic Development Committee pointed out that Singapore and Mauritius have already exploited this gap in the market and increase government revenue by doing so. However Mauritius is now on the 'Grey List' which means they are under increasing surveillance by international organisations such as the European Union for the tax evasion they facilitate.

The proposal presented to councillors was that St Helena should put in place a company registration system which is both competitive as a low tax location for multi-nationals to register their head office and at the same time has regulations and conditions in place which are open and transparent, non-discriminatory, anti-tax avoidance and based on sound business practice.

It was pointed out that a company registry of this sort is able to tax global companies on their global income. To remain competitive it was indicated that the tax regime would or could assess 20% of a multi-nationals global profit for tax and levy a 5% tax rate on that 20% of total profit. In order to protect St Helena Government revenue attracted through this initiative

# ***SHG eyes the multi-nationals***

the minimum tax payment would be 1% of a multi-national company's global turnover. It is recognised that new tax loopholes are found every year and every time efforts are made to close loopholes. Setting the 1% minimum payment is designed to reduce the adverse effect on tax revenue when the loopholes found are exploited.

The proposed company registration scheme will require agreements to be made with other countries, called Double Taxation Agreements, which avoid the possibility of a multi-national registered in St Helena be taxed a second time on the same money in other countries where it operates. Common Reporting Standards will also need to be agreed internationally to reinforce the intention to remain a low tax location with a good reputation. Financial secrecy practices, such as the anonymously owned 'bearer shares' will be outlawed.

It was said at the Economic Development Committee meeting that it is likely to cost about £250,000 to set up this specialist company registry facility however another government source put the estimate at £150,000. Registrars and accountants with specialist skills and experience would be required and monitoring and checking the multi-nationals will require a team of specialists. It is estimated that 140 to 200 registrations would be required to cover the administrative costs of the registry which would leave the government revenue from tax revenue raised through this initiative as clear (and untaxable) profit.

**The Economic Development Committee agreed to take the proposal a step further by adopting the policy and giving the go-ahead for the legislation required for this scheme to be drafted.**

## ***Johnny Isaac wins appeal against Planning Authority Decision***

Johnny Isaac's appeal against the decision of the Land Development Control Authority's decision to refuse his development application was upheld by the Land Development Appeals Tribunal at a hearing on Wednesday. The development application proposed developing the site of ruined buildings opposite Pilling School into nine accommodation units. The SHG Head of Property, Derek Pedley, supported Isaac's appeal stating the nine apartments can be used by the Housing Office to reduce the waiting list for government housing. He also pointed out the ground floor apartments will be 'mobility friendly', enabling physically disabled people to live more independently.

The reason the Land Development Control Authority refused the development application was the increase in traffic that could be generated by the development at a location where children cross the road to get to school and where there are no pavements. The Head of Property claimed that many of the tenants in the new apartment will not own a vehicle. The Roads Manager, Deon Robbertse, raised no objection to the development proposal so long as the parking arrangements for the development do not interfere with the current arrangements in relation to safety of the children.

The Heritage Society and the National Trust made submissions in support of the refusal on the basis that the 200 year old building was Grade II Listed with Group Value and was in the Jamestown Conservation Area. They maintained the Built Heritage policies in the Land Control Development Plan gave protection from demolition and the cottage fronting onto Market Street should be renovated and the appearance of the frontage preserved. The Heritage Society's submission objected to the Development Authority not including Built Heritage policies as reasons for refusal of the development application.

The Ruling by the Land Development Appeals Tribunal pointed out that the Chief Planning Officer had recommended to the Authority that the Governor-in-Council be asked to grant per-

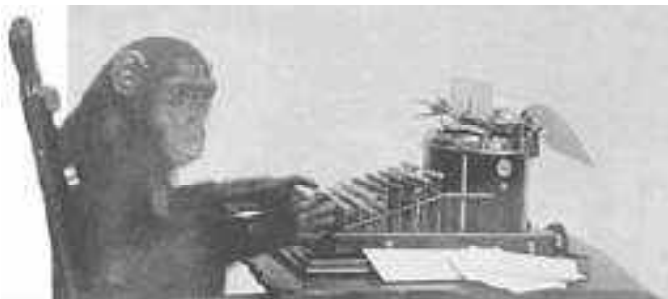
mission for full development subject to a Developer Agreement and eleven conditions being attached to the permission. It was also mentioned in the Ruling that Mr Isaac had voluntarily agreed to enter into a Developer Agreement but no agreement was drafted or outlined to the Authority for members' observations. There was also concern that work on the outstanding agreement will further delay the application which was submitted in May last year.

The Ruling by the Appeals Tribunal, with Chief Magistrate Duncan Cooke as President and Tara Wortley, Mark Yon and Debbie Fantom, included, "As has been indicated previously what currently fronts onto the street will remain and will have the addition of an extra storey above it. That storey will have small balconies overlooking the street which are in keeping with similar housing stock in that vicinity." It was also mentioned in the Ruling, "the addition of a further storey that is in keeping with the frontage and the street scene generally. We do not find that the addition of another storey is inappropriate to the setting, especially having regard to similar housing nearby."

The Ruling also pointed out the development site is in the Intermediate Zone which the Land Development Control Plan identifies as the zone where the majority of housing should be developed. Also, while the boundaries for a Jamestown Conservation Area are defined, there is no Conservation Plan for the area and no guidance for the determination of development applications for specific areas within the Conservation Area.

The Appeals Tribunal did add one further condition to the eleven proposed by the Chief Planning Officer. The condition was added to comply with one of the Built Heritage policies. The idea of a Developer Agreement was abandoned.





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

# Editorial

You may think I am neglecting my duties as a writer of information on all kinds of St Helena issues when I tell you I do not often attend council committee meetings to hear what is being said. The information papers for the items to be discussed, in the open session at least, are normally available on the SHG website. Reading them is the best way to understand the topics for discussion on any particular day. Regrettably, attending a council committee meeting and listening to what is being said does not add much more to what is already known from reading the website downloads.

It is clear the government officers are in charge. They set the agenda for discussions and proposals and make the important decisions. Government officers have all the information the councillors only have bits and pieces. Councillors seem to be continually playing catch-up and for the most part not succeeding. It is a dismal spectacle. Councillors playing catch-up means they are continually asking questions of the officers; often they are the wrong questions and sometimes even irrelevant. Very rarely does a councillor express an informed opinion with conviction and persuasion. In between meetings the officers tell the councillors what information they can have, what information they cannot have and in some cases no one informative word will be uttered by an officer until they have finished with it themselves, drawn their own conclusions and after that, given councillors their version of the information they possess.

The whole business is an ugly spectacle. Councillors are called upon to make decisions but appear to be constantly uncertain because they have continually at the front of their

mind that all the information they need to make that decision is not available to them. This uncertainty breeds distrust, causes repeated delays, is time consuming and inefficient.

Watching this House of Horrors makes me realise our elected representatives have little opportunity or proficiency to do this job effectively. It also makes me wonder if any elected representative has had any training at all to do the job they were elected to do. It seems the system has been designed to fail. The system is so bad you can expect the wrong decisions to be expensively made far too often. The system is called the committee system and it should have been ditched long ago. Whoever it was who proposed this committee system be adopted should be tied to a post and pelted with rotten eggs – if any can be found. St Helena will continue going nowhere while this so-called system is used to govern us.



"Whew! That was close!  
We almost decided something!"

**Dear Editor,**

## **St Helena's Tourism Industry**

When the RMS used to go into dry dock for major engine repairs, the ship's managers always took advantage of the down-time to do a hundred other little jobs, everything from changing carpets and curtains to rewiring electrics to fitting new navigation radars. It was a massive team effort and the ship was always a hive of relentless activity.

Well over two months ago, on 17 March, the island's airport was closed to non-essential travellers, ie tourists, to keep Covid-19 out. Everyone seems to agree this is a long-term situation.

The loss of income for businesses linked to tourism is painful. However, the enforced isolation offers a unique opportunity for government to review and address many of the strategic and operational issues affecting an industry that has failed to deliver on its promised potential.

I urge the government to take an energetic, inspiring, can-do approach to in-house maintenance, team-building across the industry and problem-solving of their tourism model. Seek out the views of the people, be honest about what's not worked

and be open to changing course. Acknowledge and enlist local expertise without prejudice. Shake up and rethink the entire approach to consultation. Be bold and be effective.

When international travel returns, the island could be in a position to 'bounce' rather than 'crawl' back. If the time is used wisely.

Everyone talks about the 'new normal,' but our numbers weren't that great before isolation, so let's aim for a BETTER new normal.

It can be done. But there is no time to waste. Our ship has been in dry dock for more than two months already.

**Sincerely**  
**Darrin Henry**

# Your Opinion Counts



# Professional Tennis Player On Island

## Mic-kail Harris & Colette Braaf



St Helena is a safe haven during this time as the Coronavirus (CoVid-19) hits many countries. Some were even lucky to arrive either via air or sea to the island before the pandemic forced lockdowns around the world.

St Helena has been fortunate enough to welcome Carlos Cuadrado, a Former Professional Tennis Player originating from Spain. Born on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1983, Carlos won the French Open Juniors Singles in 2001, defeating Brian Dabul in the finals. His best performance at a professional tournament was at Vin'a del Mar in 2006 when he progressed to the quarter finals. There he defeated Tomas Behrend and Daniel Gimeno-Traver.

Carlos continued to play tennis professionally until the age of 25. He spoke candidly in an interview earlier this week on Saint FM about the devastation that he felt when he made the painful choice to retire due to a number of operations and hip injury, having tasted fame and celebrity status.

He transitioned to coaching in 2006 after achieving a career high ranking of 222. He went on to coach Russian professional tennis player Svetlana Kuznetsova who appeared in four grand slam single finals, winning two and has also appeared in seven doubles finals winning twice.

From 2012-2017 he became an Academy coach at Tennis Australia. A place he chose as home to escape and recover

as he saw his tennis career slipping through his fingers. Carlos is now the Lead in the Rafa Nadal Tour (Off court mentor) responsible for teaching values such as commitment, Effort, Sportsmanship and fellowship to children in Australia. Carlos first met Spanish professional tennis player Rafal Nadal at the tender age of 11 at tennis tournaments. Nadal is currently ranked No.2 in men's singles in tennis by the Association of tennis.

Carlos speaks fondly of his father and his early coaching days with his dad. A firm man but one that taught values that enabled Carlos to rise above his circumstances on retiring and take up an interest in boating, travel and adventure. Missing the adrenaline that came out of tennis, Carlos bought a yacht called Peaceful Ocean and began travelling around the world.

During his sailing adventure, he documents his travels on his YouTube Channel "22 South". His first video on his channel was edited by himself, but later videos were then edited by his girlfriend.

He arrived to the Island in March this year and after his 2 week quarantine, has spent the last 6 weeks exploring the island.

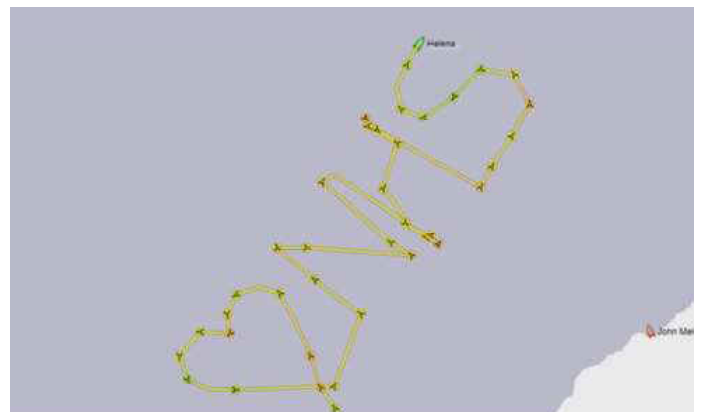
Carlos could remain on island as late as October before he takes to the high seas again and is looking forward to getting to know the locals a bit better during his walk about.



Carlos On His Yacht (From 22 South Video)

## The Crew Of The MV Helena's Tribute To The NHS

The crew of the MV Helena have been busy creating their own tribute to the NHS and frontline staff in social care. From about 3 miles off the coast of James Bay, the MV Helena performed the nautical equivalent of a plane writing a message in the sky. Last Friday the ship manoeuvred backwards and forwards 'writing' NHS as it went. The result of their tribute was picked up by marine radar tracking websites. The message is 6 nm x 2 nm, and took three hours to complete as the MV Helena arrived here on Thursday morning. Total distance travelled while making the manoeuvre, which included a heart shape, was 27 nm at an average speed of 8.7kt.



## St Helena Day Radio fair 2020

In light of the difficult decision to cancel the traditional ST Helena celebrations we at Saint FM decided to take the celebrations from the street to the studio! We would like to thank all of our producers for their wonderful contributions, we also

extend thanks to Bishop Dale and Governor Rushbrook for their messages on our national day and our congratulations to the St Helena yacht club for adding to the festivities.



**Nick Stevens on the Main street party bash**



**Carrying on regardless: Ian, Suzanne and Aamon**



**The picture that made Johnny & Paul jealous**

**Black puddings, coconut fingers & pumpkin pudding  
Made by Island Images**



**Sandra Crowie who made and donated the top prize of the day**

**A chocolate and raspberry layer cake, iced to perfection  
Won by Sophie Young on Ascension who kindly donated her win to the Community Care Centre**





## **Saint sounds**

### **Compiled by Johnny and Paul**



Saint Sounds, the live show from the homes of Johnny Clingham and Paul Blake kicked off shortly after 15:00 on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May. Johnny gave an overview of what was planned in the jammed packed 3-hour show. Despite the challenges to get a show like this of the ground with so many unknowns,

Johnny is always keen to give it a go to bring something different to the airwaves of Saint FM and this time around was no different. As the audio faders went up to route the show audio over 4000 miles back to St Helena at the same time a live video streaming of the show started on the Saint FM Community Radio Facebook page. This novel feature was introduced for the very first time as listeners and viewers in large numbers from around the World joined in and collaborated on the Facebook stream. The stream displayed stunning island views, St Helena Day photos from over the years and video of trips around St Helena's roads and some of the most amazing footage of St Helena's Marine scenery. This was supplemented by overlaid live cameras feeds of Johnny and Paul's home studio's on occasions. One of the highlights of the stream was the collection of photos that was collected showing images of St Helena's flags been displayed around the World. This was later published as an album of the Saint FM Facebook Page, this also received phenomenal interaction from Saints around the World as well as on Island. Kirk Stevens from Cheltenham UK kindly organized the collation of these fantastic photographs & videos.

The show also included live guests chatting to Johnny and Paul. Arnold Beard a Saint now living in London was Johnny's first show 'phone a friend' challenge guest chosen from his phones' contact list to join the show. Other guests joined in throughout the show. Dale Kushner from the Royal Cape Yacht chatted about the upcoming Cape to St Helena Race at the end of the year. Vilma Clingham from the St Helena Association (UK) spoke about the online fundraiser for the Associa-

tion in lieu of cancelled UK Saints Sports Day. Katie Brookes a Saint living in Nebraska shared her experience living in the Midwest of the USA. David Peters who now lives in Worcestershire UK also shared his story on the lockdown creation of his fantastic family music videos.

### **Saint FM St Helena Day Stats**

Online listenership via the live stream was comparable to a Sunday which traditionally has the most listeners off island. This may have been higher, but we did experience some internet streaming issues from the island throughout the day, however we were able to maintain continuous online listenership via Facebook during the show.



### **Thanks To the ATI Air service for flying the flag over Greenland**

The Facebook Video stream of the show received 3082 views, the UK being the biggest viewers with 76% of the views, notably St Helena viewers were 9% of the total. The 'Fly The Flag' Photo Album reached 2325 people and had 1420 Reactions comments & shares.



**The St Helena Yacht Club host a fishing competition: It was a 'Wahoo' of a day**



# Your Opinion Counts

## Dear Editor

The MV Helena has arrived once again with supplies. As with every arrival, the island stocks up with supplies but this time it's arrival couldn't be more anticipated as stocks on everything are low, the main items being milk, rice, marg. Today, Monday 25 May, I wandered into a grocery shop to purchase a food item; there was an extra buzz in the shop, more people, longer queues and then I heard "have you got your milk?" being shouted across the shop. I looked around and yes there were customers all purchasing the same item - milk. Of course I walked to the milk aisle but now it was empty. People were queuing at the milk aisle waiting for the shelves to be filled again. A shop assistant put a sign on the shelf asking to be considerate to others but here's the thing....people were purchasing milk in packs NOT cartons. There was no limit on the milk that could be purchased. So I'm confused now, most merchants had a limit of 1 or 2 cartons of milk but today this was not being adhered to. Why were people ignoring the sign? Needless to say I didn't wait very long - the situation annoyed me so much that I walked out of the shop. I know it is a natural instinct to want to buy extra because we panic but what about having consideration for others? I know there are merchants that still have limitations in place but it seems the larger merchants don't - not from what I saw today. I also heard that an assistant in another large merchants shop was standing in the queue with 12 cartons of milk and a pallet of milk was delivered to the Bank! And marg has been sold out already?! Our Government sent out a notice upon arrival of the MV Helena asking everyone to be considerate and purchase only what is needed...why are people ignoring this advice - that's the merchants AND the people. People here are so easily critical of the government but they have given out sound advice and it's being ignored. When stocks run low again who will be blamed? The people,

the merchants or the government?

I always thought saints looked out for each other but maybe that's not the case anymore. So for those of you who are feeling chuffed that you've stocked up on your supplies, enjoy your cup of tea with milk....but think about the pensioners and those on social benefits waiting to be paid on Thursday who will go to the shop only with the hope that there's some milk on the shelf for them to purchase. The world seems like a crazy place at the moment and we should count our blessings for how lucky we are on St Helena so please do what we saints are renowned for - being kind and considerate - surely that's not too much to ask?

## Anonymous



## Dear Constituents

"Democracy" was introduced on Ascension in November 2002. Following the general election in 2005, seven elected representatives were required to cite the Oath of Confidentiality before we were allowed to serve the people of Ascension Island as councillors. At the time, the wording of the oath was not familiar to me. And I became more and more concerned as I listened to my colleagues, one after the other, Bible in hand, declaring the following: ***'I..... do swear that I will be a true and faithful Councillor and that I will not directly or indirectly, except with the authority of the Governor, reveal the business or proceedings of the Government of Ascension or the nature or contents of any document communicated to me, or any matter coming to my knowledge, in my capacity as a Councillor. So help me God.'***

I thought: "I can't say those words; I have just been elected by the people, but will be unable to freely decide what I can and cannot communicate to them." The proceedings of our inauguration were solemn and dignified and not an official ceremony one could dare interrupt. "The wording has been accepted over many years by many others," I thought, "so just accept it." I was the last in the line to be inaugurated, and it was agony for me to have to listen to the words of the oath

being said over and over by each of my colleagues. When it came to my turn, I was handed a Bible and a card with the words of the Oath written on it. There was a lengthy hesitation of silence, before I turned to Governor Clancy and said: "I can't say these words". Governor Clancy asked, "Why not?" I said, "I understand that there will be confidential and sensitive matters to consider, but these words stop me from freely communicating with the very people who just elected me to represent them on the Ascension Island Council." The Governor replied, "If you refuse to take the Oath, then you cannot become a councillor." I felt better for having made my feelings known, apologised for the interruption and continued with the swearing in.

Since that first inauguration, I now choose not to swear on the Holy Bible and omit the words 'So help me God' when compelled to officially cite the colonial wording of the constitutional Oath of Confidentiality. Accordingly, in serving the best interests of the people of St Helena, I decide, in good conscience, what I can and cannot communicate with constituents.

The constitutional Oath of Confidentiality is a hindrance to St Helena's weak democracy; and the wording is in direct contradiction to the UK's Nolan Principles: 'Holders of public office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for doing so.'

Recently there was a government official reaction to a broadcast on local radio informing the people of St Helena on an ExCo agenda item concerning a Memorandum of Understanding between SHG and PQ Trading Ltd - the preferred investor (Fisheries). As a result of the apparent 'leak' of information contained in confidential ExCo closed agenda documents to the media, the decision was taken to no longer share any closed agenda documents to any person outside of ExCo membership for an indefinite period. Constituents are thereby informed that as an elected representative, I am not able to fully represent your interests in Council accordingly.

**C Leo (LegCo)**

During 'Smile Month' the Dental Department would like to remind the public of the importance of a healthy mouth.

WEEK 2 offers advice related to the dental health of children.



## PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM DENTAL PROBLEMS

### Dental Caries

Dental caries (tooth decay) is a big problem, with over half of our local children suffering with one or more cavities by the end of primary school. Decay is caused by **sugar** and is completely avoidable if care is taken with the child's diet and they clean their teeth well, twice a day, to remove sugars from the mouth and help reverse any early damage caused. It is still ok to have a few 'sweet treats' as long as they are infrequent. How often sugars are consumed is as important for teeth as how much sugar is eaten. Snacking and grazing on sweets and fizzy drinks is particularly harmful to teeth.

### Crooked Teeth

Wonky teeth are unfortunately very common among children and are often unavoidable. However, thumb-sucking in older children (after adult teeth start to grow at about six years old) and prolonged use of a dummy can worsen the problem. Having to extract (remove) baby teeth early due to tooth decay or infection can also cause adjacent teeth to move and cause problems with the position of these other teeth.

### Gums

Good tooth brushing is important for preventing bleeding and damaged gums. Learning good mouth hygiene from a young age is vital if the child is to grow up with strong healthy gums.

### Parental Supervision

Children need to be taught how to brush their teeth properly from a young age and need ongoing help until they can consistently brush their teeth well, at which point supervision may be enough.

## GUIDANCE & TIPS FOR PARENTS

### Careful Cleaning



Toothpaste contains fluoride, which help to prevent tooth decay. Children should always be taught to '**spit don't rinse**' and not to swallow the toothpaste. Excessive rinsing removes the benefit of fluoride.

Do not permit children to eat or lick toothpaste from the tube.

Preferably only give your toddler milk and water to drink. If you give them fruit juice always dilute it because they are both sweet and acidic and can damage teeth.



Other drinks that cause tooth decay include fizzy (carbonated) drinks, squashes, cartons of sugared fruit drinks and cordials for milk drinks.

From the age of about 12 months only water should be offered if your child wakes during the night. Prolonged or frequent exposure to milk or juices at night causes significant levels of tooth decay in toddlers and children.

### Tooth Friendly Diet

Try to limit foods and drinks containing sugar to no more than four times a day, e.g. at the three meals and one snack. The other snacks should all be savoury snacks with no sweet foods or drinks.

Remember, your child needs to brush their teeth after any pre-bed snack or drink.

***You can protect your child's teeth and prevent tooth decay by supervising their brushing twice a day, reducing the sugars they eat and ensuring that they are seen by the dentist regularly.***

For further information contact the Dental Clinic, tel. 22500  
Dental Clinic, General Hospital, Jamestown, St Helena, STHL 12Z





Has an exciting opportunity for a  
**Full Time Technical Trainer -  
Gardening**

**Purpose of Role:**

- To inspire, enthuse and train disabled and vulnerable adults in gardening techniques, providing meaningful work experience through direction and high supervision.
- To support the conservation, maintenance, development and enjoyment of the SHAPE Garden areas as a significant horticultural attraction, providing garden therapy as well as production of organic fresh produce for sale to the public with a view towards achieving a steady flow of income.

Responsible to SHAPE Manager  
Hours of work – Monday to Friday  
(8:00am – 4:00pm)



For a full job description and requirements of the role please contact

Mrs Marianne Young-Crowie  
(SHAPE Manager) on 24690 or  
email [SHAPE@helanta.co.sh](mailto:SHAPE@helanta.co.sh)

Please submit your application  
form to

Miss Danielle Anthony  
(Finance & Administration  
Manager) via email

[Finance\\_AdminManagerSHAPE@helanta.co.sh](mailto:Finance_AdminManagerSHAPE@helanta.co.sh)  
no later than 4pm on Friday 29<sup>th</sup>  
May 2020

We look forward to hearing from  
you!



## APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST 2020/21

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is currently updating  
their Approved Suppliers List.

If you are interested in providing goods or  
contractual services to us, your submitted  
expressions of interest should include company  
name, name of responsible person, a list of  
goods or services that you provide, address,  
telephone number and email address (if  
applicable).

Expressions of interests can be emailed to Nigel  
Benjamin, Procurement Coordinator on  
[nigel.benjamin@connect.co.sh](mailto:nigel.benjamin@connect.co.sh) or hand  
delivered to Nigel Benjamin at the Connect  
Saint Helena Ltd main office, Seales Corner,  
Jamestown by the 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

26 May 2020



St Helena  
Government

## VACANCY – ELECTRICIAN

The Infrastructure and Transport Directorate has a vacancy for an Electrician who will be responsible for carrying out daily maintenance on electrical installations and associated equipment and assisting with testing and inspections of electrical installation within SHG buildings in accordance with the BS7671 17th Edition IEE Electrical Regulations.

The candidate should have qualifications in Functional Skills Level 1 in Literacy and Numeracy, City and Guilds in Electrical Installations or St Helena Wireman's License and a Valid Driver's License at Class C. At least two years' experience working as a qualified electrician is also required.

The salary for the Electrician is at Grade C1 commencing at £8,613 per annum.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Mr Anders Bowers, Electrical Engineer on telephone number 22054 (e-mail [anders.bowers@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:anders.bowers@sainthelena.gov.sh))

Application forms and Job profiles for both posts are available from Essex House and should be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, ENRD, Essex House or e-mail [karen.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:karen.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than Wednesday 3rd June 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.*





# Properties to Let

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc  
has the following Properties available to let  
on a commercial lease arrangement as Accommodation

## Prospect House

Available Now

## Eastbridge

Available Soon

## Springdale

Available Now



Situated in Alarm Forest, the property consists of the following fully furnished rooms:  
Four Bedrooms (Inc. ensuite Master and Studio Flat), Bathroom & Toilet, separate downstairs Toilet, Kitchen with Pantry, Dining Room, Office/Craft Room, Lounge/Library with Large Bay Window and Utility Room

There is also a double Garage and the property is surrounded by beautiful Lawns/Grounds  
*(grounds maintenance inclusive)*

Situated in Jamestown, the property consists of the following fully furnished rooms:  
Two Bedrooms, Bathroom & Toilet, Kitchen/Dining Room, Lounge and ground floor Disabled Toilet and Utility Room

There is also an open Balcony overlooking Napoleon Street

Situated in Guinea Grass, the property consists of the following fully furnished rooms:  
Two Bedrooms, Bathroom & Toilet, Kitchen and Open-plan Dining Room and Lounge

There is also a store room and a sizable Front Lawn  
*(grounds maintenance inclusive)*

Ian Gough  
General Manager (Services & Properties)  
Telephone: 22380  
Email: GM-Services.Properties@solomons.co.sh

For Further Information Contact:



## VACANCY FOR AUDITOR

**Salary range £10,550 to £13,793 per annum**

Fixed Term Contract (9 months June 2020 – February 2021)

Audit St Helena is seeking to recruit an auditor to join their audit team.

The auditor will undertake financial audits under supervision across the public sector.

Prospective candidates are required to have GCSE grade C or above in English and Mathematics with further studies in a quantitative discipline (Economics/ Business Management/ Accounting/ Finance or similar) to diploma level 2 or academic equivalent.

Key skills for this position include good oral and written communication, an aptitude for figures and an analytical and enquiring mind. IT skills in Excel, Word and Outlook are also essential.

The job profile and application forms are available by calling 22111 or e-mailing [paul.gasteen@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:paul.gasteen@sainthelena.gov.sh). Applications should be submitted by hand or by e-mail to the Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown no later than 4pm on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.



## STATISTICS OFFICE RELEASES DATA ON POTENTIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON ST HELENA COMMUNITY

The St Helena Statistics Office has today released a Bulletin which outlines what is known about the expected impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the event there is an outbreak on the Island.

This Bulletin provides estimates of the rates of infection and fatalities (deaths) and the statistical models available. It also discusses some of the measurement difficulties and the quality of the data available internationally. The effects of mitigation measures have been described, including those that are in place on St Helena, to prevent the virus from spreading in a community and minimising the impact on a community if transmission was to occur.

Measures such as regular hand washing, social distancing to decrease human contact, testing and isolation of confirmed cases, tracking and tracing of contacts, and quarantine of new arrivals, are all designed to reduce how the virus can spread and therefore reduce the spread of the disease or even to prevent it completely.

While data is being collected by many countries and organisations worldwide, it should be noted that due to COVID-19 being a new illness there are many potential sources of error. Additionally, because St Helena's population is small models and estimates developed for larger countries may be less accurate when applied to smaller populations. Other factors such as demographic structure, level of pre-existing health conditions in the population and how much a country has been exposed to similar illnesses will have an effect on projected figures.

The full Statistical Bulletin can be found on the St Helena Government website here: <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/st-helena/statistics/statistics-reports-and-publications/>.





**WATER ORDINANCE  
WATER REGULATIONS**

**NOTICE**

**LIFTING LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF WATER**

NOTICE is hereby given by Connect Saint Helena Ltd, the Utility Provider under the Water Ordinance, that the limitations on the use of water imposed by Notice dated the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019, (as far as they still apply) and affecting both treated water supplies and untreated water supplies across the island are lifted with immediate effect in accordance with Regulation 15(2)(b) of the Water Regulations.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020

Barry Hubbard  
Chief Executive Officer



**INTERNATIONAL CHEQUES**

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to advise the public that with immediate effect, both the St Helena and Ascension Branches will not be accepting International GBP Cheques until further notice.

This is due to the uncertainty of a regular air service at this time and processing of cheques overseas.

For further information, please contact us on [customerservices@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:customerservices@sainthelenabank.com) or 22390.



**Bank of St. Helena Ltd.**

Head Office: Market Street - Jamestown - St Helena Island - STHL 122

T. 4290 22390 - F. 4290 22553 - email: [info@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:info@sainthelenabank.com)

web: [www.sainthelenabank.com](http://www.sainthelenabank.com)

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

***Friday and Saturday  
only, 9am - 5pm***

Sale at Newpences, Sapperway. Tel  
24259

Great prices on all items,

We have cement mixers, cement breakers, angle grinders, table saws, chain saws, Sanders, and much more.

We also have a good selection of hand tools, plus wheelbarrows, plantpots, and garden furniture, citronella candles, moisture absorbers plus refills, chrome curtain poles.

Don't miss out on these great buys.  
See you there!



## **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST** **PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM**

The St Helena Police Directorate invites Expressions of Interest to provide a Project Management Team (PMT) to support the design implementation and construction of the proposed new prison in the Bottom Woods area. The PMT will have appropriate and complementary professional, technical and specialist skills in secure facilities and, under the direction of the Client, the team will be responsible for carrying out the work detailed in the Project Plan.

The team will need to be able to demonstrate a proven track record in the following areas:

- . Large Construction Projects
- . Stakeholder engagement (Local & Overseas e.g. the UK Ministry of Justice)
- . Project Management including management of subcontractors
- . International Supplier & Customer Relationship Management
- . Contract, Procurement & Logistics Management in remote locations
- . Risk Management & Problem Solving
- . Project Assurance & Document Control
- . Access to relevant technical support as required
- . Able to work within a national security framework
- . Management of Health and Safety across all disciplines.



For further information, please contact the Prison Manager, Ms Heidi Murray, on tel:22541 or email: [heidi.murray@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:heidi.murray@sainthelena.gov.sh).

Completed Expressions of Interest should be deposited at the HM Prison Reception Jamestown, by 12 noon on Friday, 12 June 2020.

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



### **ROAD CLOSURE**

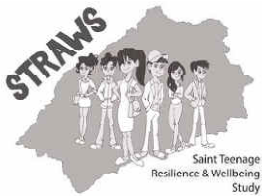
#### **LADDER HILL AND SHY ROAD**

The Highways Authority has given approval for Ladder Hill Road and Shy Road to be closed from Monday, 1 June, to Friday, 12 June 2020, from 9am to 3pm (week-days only) to allow final rockfall protection measures to be installed above Ladder Hill Road. This closure also includes the Public Holidays on 1 June and 8 June 2020.

As normal, only Emergency Service vehicles will be granted access. Other drivers needing to travel in and out of Jamestown during this time must travel across country via Side Path Road or Constitution Hill Road.

CAN France would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank the public in advance for their continued understanding and cooperation.





University of  
Nottingham  
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

## **NEW RESEARCH ON ST HELENA SAINT TEENAGE RESILIENCE AND WELL-BEING STUDY (STRAWS)**

We have designed a study to investigate what helps young people cope with the stresses of life here on St Helena. The study focuses on young people between 11-18 years, their parents and professionals who work with them (teachers, health staff etc). To date, no research has looked at teenagers' well-being on St Helena and this study will hopefully help to understand and develop support for young people. These are particularly important questions given that the world is changing quickly and St Helena Island is changing with it.

Research has helped improve the lives of young people living on other remote islands. One example of this is a study that was carried out in Iceland in the 1990s (Icelandic Model of Adolescent Substance Use Prevention). The researchers found out that by local services investing more in young people's talents and interests, they helped to improve their lives, such as reducing alcohol consumption. These benefits continue today in Iceland. Involving the young people's families and communities was key in understanding the problems that young people had and as a result make changes. It is essential for teenagers to feel that their opinion is heard and valued. Their identity is forming at this stage in their lives and if we can hear their thoughts and opinions we can work out how to make them strong and resilient to life's stresses.

The type of research we're doing is called a mixed-methods design. This means that it involves two types of information gathering - questionnaires and interviews. We need to have about 90 young people and their parents complete questionnaires in the study to understand the results and then



L to R: Valerie Coleman-Williams and Dr Tara Murphy

about 15 young people and their parents to do interviews. This means that we can get brief information from a large group of people through the questionnaires and detailed information from a small number of participants with the interviews. The interviews can be in focus groups or individual interviews – whatever suits best. We plan to interview young people, their families and the professionals who work with them here on-Island. In the research team, there is me, Dr Tara Murphy, I also work on the Mental Health Team as a Clinical Psychologist, here on-Island, my supervisor at the University of Nottingham, Dr Elena Nixon, and Research Assistant, Mrs Valerie Coleman-Williams.

The research is part of a PhD and has been supported by the Education and Health Directorates. The study has been approved by an ethics committee at the University of Nottingham in the UK and the St Helena Research Committee. The study is now running and we would like to share information sheets. Once people have had a look at the information sheets then we need to consent them, which means that people understand that they don't have to take part and can withdraw if they need to. We can meet people to do interviews at school, their home or workplace.

It's important that people understand that their information will only be looked at by the research team and that their answers are not connected to their names. We hope to share the results with the St Helena community via the newspapers and radio. Any reports that are shared will ensure that no names are associated with opinions or information. This is a very strict rule in academic research and means that people can be confident that the information and opinions that they share are not directly traceable back to them. The only exception to this is if a young person in the study said that they had plans to harm themselves then the research team would need to discuss with the appropriate health professionals to keep them safe, which again is a standard practice in any research.

If you have any questions or are interested in being in the study, we'd really like to hear from you. Young people's parents have to say that it is OK to be in the study before we can meet with them.

If you are interested in being involved you can telephone Dr Murphy on tel: 22593 or email: [Tara.Murphy@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Tara.Murphy@nottingham.ac.uk).



St Helena  
Government

## NEW ST HELENA MAP

The following is a public announcement from the Infrastructure & Transport Directorate:

The new St Helena map, to replace the Ordnance Survey map previously produced in 1990, will be displayed in the window of the St Helena Tourist Office, at the Canister, Jamestown, from Monday, 18 May 2020.

Watermarked (low resolution) versions of the map can also be found on the SHG website via: <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/>.

It is anticipated that high resolution printed versions, available for purchase, will arrive on-Island within the next three to four months.



St Helena  
Government

## INVITATION TO TENDER MANAGEMENT & LEASE OF THE MULE YARD

St Helena Government is seeking Invitations to Tender for the Management & Lease of the Mule Yard.

Full documentation and the specifications can be found on the St Helena Government e-procurement system which can be accessed via: <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena> following registration on the system.

User guides are available via the 'Supplier Information' tab to assist prospective suppliers registering on the e-Procurement system.

Any questions in the interim should be addressed to the Procurement Office for the attention of Nicola Young, Procurement Officer.

E-mail: [nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh)

The deadline for submissions is 12.00 GMT on Friday, 12 June 2020.



St Helena  
Government

## INVITATION TO TENDER MANAGEMENT OF JAMESTOWN SWIM- MING POOL

St Helena Government is seeking Invitations to Tender for the Management of the Jamestown Swimming Pool.

Full documentation and the specifications can be found on the St Helena Government e-procurement system which can be accessed via: <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena> following registration on the system.

User guides are available via the 'Supplier Information' tab to assist prospective suppliers registering on the e-Procurement system.

Any questions in the interim should be addressed to the Procurement Office for the attention of Nicola Young, Procurement Officer.

E-mail: [nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh)

The deadline for submissions is 12.00 GMT on Friday, 12 June 2020.



St Helena  
Government

## Invitation to Tender

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

### Bottom Woods Site Excavation (Phase 1)

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](mailto:tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh)**

A site visit to view the works will take place on Monday, 25 May 2020, at 10am, meeting Bottom Woods.

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](mailto:christopher.peters@sainthelena.gov.sh).

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box at Essex House by 12noon on Wednesday, 03 June 2020.

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





# CRICKET PRESENTATION DAY

●●●●●● 2020

## Order Of Events:

9.30am KNOCKOUT PLATE FINAL  
Woodpeckers V Heat

12.30pm KNOCKOUT FINAL  
Challengers V Allstarz

4-5pm Presentation

**AMPHIBIANS**

**MOBILE BAR & GRILL**

**HOG ROAST**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**SSS BAND**

**MIXED MUSIC**

**BY DJ KJ**

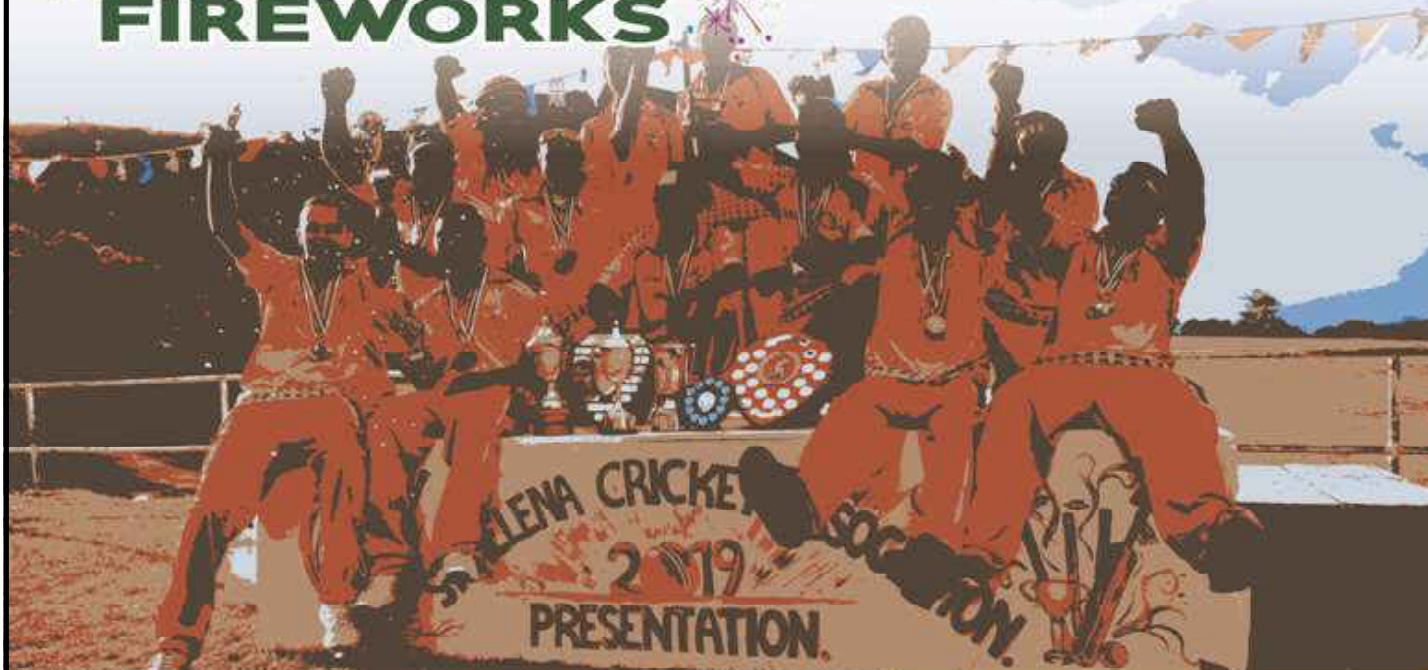
**COMMENTARY**

**OVER BY OVER UPDATES**

**LUKE BENNETT, & HIS**

**LOCAL COMICS**

**FIREWORKS**



## Golf Report for Sunday 24th May 2020

A few hours prior to this major event there was only one major concern. Weather. Were we going to get wet or stay dry? Luckily it was the later. 29 Players turned up to tee off for the Gwyneth Howell Trophy Cross Country competition. A very impressive turn out. This format required a lot of thinking from the players. It was a completely different course with unique challenges. A very welcome and highly appreciated treat

awaited the members under the halfway tree "Half Tree Hollow". The Half Tree Hollow was manned by our sponsor Gwyneth, Sybil and Anne who also happened to be our spectators and assisted nearby golfers in searching for golf balls in the rough. The final results were as follows;

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Philip Francis
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Scott Crowie
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Leeroy Caswell
Longest drive ladies	Helena Stevens
Nearest to pin ladies	Christine Scipio
Longest drive gents	Martin Joshua
Nearest to pin gents	Bramwell Lumukwana
Two ball pool winners	Nicky Stevens 1 <sup>st</sup> , Lawson Henry 3 <sup>rd</sup> , Scott Crowie 9 <sup>th</sup> and John Colclough 14th
Most golf played	Christine Scipio

The prizes were presented by the sponsor Gwyneth Howell who indicated that she will continue to support the club into the foreseeable future and possibly introduce another challenge with its own trophy. The club members would like to express their gratitude to Gwyneth for her generous sponsorship.

medal Strokeplay competition. Tee off is 12:00 Registration is ongoing through the usual channels. For more pictures and information like our Facebook page @shgc.org.sh

Happy swinging folks...!

**SHGC**



Sunday 31st May 2020 the club will be hosting the monthly





## Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

According to reports made by BBC Sport on Wednesday all Premier League clubs voted unanimously to begin contact training. This is a huge step made by the Premier League towards the seasons resuming. The EPL came to a stop on the 13 March with 92 matches left to play.

A total of 1,008 players and staff were tested in the third round of testing.

Phase two of 'Project Restart' will see players "train as a group and engage in tackling while minimising unnecessary close contact", the league said.

Discussions continue on plans to resume the season when "conditions allow", it added.

So far 12 people have tested positive after 2,752 tests across the league.

Premier League players and staff will continue to be tested twice a week for coronavirus, with the capacity increased from 50 to 60 tests available per club for the fourth round of testing.

Any players or staff to test positive must self-isolate for a period of seven days.

Yesterday former Manchester United defender Gary Neville said he can't see why the season can't recommence on the 19<sup>th</sup> June.



### Disinfecting the Footballs prior to training

Although we will welcome the return of live football to our TV Screens it will be strange to see Football being played in an empty stadium. It will be equally strange for teams winning trophies to lift them without the fans there to celebrate.

Playing at Anfield and lifting the Premier League trophy without any fans will be "pretty strange", says Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson.

The Reds were top of the table when the season was stopped and require just two wins from the last nine games for their first top-flight title since 1990.



Liverpool celebrated winning the Champions league with an open top bus parade in Liverpool. This won't be allowed to happen when they lift this season's Premier League trophy.

### Premier League remaining fixtures 2019/20

#### Gameweek 28

- Aston Villa vs Sheffield United
- Manchester City vs Arsenal

#### Gameweek 30

- Aston Villa vs Chelsea
- Bournemouth vs Crystal Palace
- Brighton and Hove Albion vs Arsenal
- Everton vs Liverpool
- Manchester City vs Burnley
- Newcastle United vs Sheffield United
- Norwich City vs Southampton
- Tottenham Hotspur vs Manchester United
- Watford vs Leicester City
- West Ham United vs Wolverhampton Wanderers

#### Gameweek 31

- Burnley vs Watford
- Chelsea vs Manchester City
- Leicester City vs Brighton and Hove Albion
- Liverpool vs Crystal Palace
- Manchester United vs Sheffield United
- Newcastle United vs Aston Villa
- Norwich City vs Everton
- Southampton vs Arsenal
- Tottenham Hotspur vs West Ham United
- Wolverhampton Wanderers vs Bournemouth

#### Gameweek 32

- Arsenal vs Norwich City
- Aston Villa vs Wolverhampton Wanderers
- Bournemouth vs Newcastle United
- Brighton and Hove Albion vs Manchester United
- Crystal Palace vs Burnley
- Everton vs Leicester City
- Manchester City vs Liverpool
- Sheffield United vs Tottenham Hotspur
- Watford vs Southampton
- West Ham United vs Chelsea

#### Gameweek 33

- Burnley vs Sheffield United
- Chelsea vs Watford
- Leicester City vs Crystal Palace
- Liverpool vs Aston Villa
- Manchester United vs Bournemouth

*Continued on NEXT PAGE*

## **Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens**

- Newcastle United vs West Ham United
- Norwich City vs Brighton and Hove Albion
- Southampton vs Manchester City
- Tottenham Hotspur vs Everton
- Wolverhampton Wanderers vs Arsenal

### **Gameweek 34**

- Arsenal vs Leicester City
- Aston Villa vs Manchester United
- Bournemouth vs Tottenham Hotspur
- Brighton and Hove Albion vs Liverpool
- Crystal Palace vs Chelsea
- Everton vs Southampton
- Manchester City vs Newcastle United
- Sheffield United vs Wolverhampton Wanderers
- Watford vs Norwich City
- West Ham United vs Burnley

### **Gameweek 35**

- Aston Villa vs Crystal Palace
- Bournemouth vs Leicester City
- Brighton and Hove Albion vs Manchester City
- Liverpool vs Burnley
- Manchester United vs Southampton
- Norwich City vs West Ham United
- Sheffield United vs Chelsea
- Tottenham Hotspur vs Arsenal
- Watford vs Newcastle United
- Wolverhampton Wanderers vs Everton

### **Gameweek 36**

- Arsenal vs Liverpool
- Burnley vs Wolverhampton Wanderers
- Chelsea vs Norwich City
- Crystal Palace vs Manchester United
- Everton vs Aston Villa
- Leicester City vs Sheffield United
- Manchester City vs Bournemouth
- Newcastle United vs Tottenham Hotspur
- Southampton vs Brighton and Hove Albion
- West Ham United vs Watford

### **Gameweek 37**

- Aston Villa vs Arsenal
- Bournemouth vs Southampton
- Brighton and Hove Albion vs Newcastle United
- Liverpool vs Chelsea
- Manchester United vs West Ham United
- Norwich City vs Burnley
- Sheffield United vs Everton
- Tottenham Hotspur vs Leicester City
- Watford vs Manchester City
- Wolverhampton Wanderers vs Crystal Palace

### **Gameweek 38**

- Arsenal vs Watford
- Burnley vs Brighton and Hove Albion
- Chelsea vs Wolverhampton Wanderers
- Crystal Palace vs Tottenham Hotspur
- Everton vs Bournemouth
- Leicester City vs Manchester United
- Manchester City vs Norwich City
- Newcastle United vs Liverpool
- Southampton vs Sheffield United
- West Ham United vs Aston Villa



## **St Helena Football Association**

With no current confirm cases of Covid-19 on St Helena the St Helena Football Association felt it was safe to be able to kick start the 2020 Football season as scheduled.

At a SHFA meeting on Wednesday evening 8 teams entered for the up and coming season.

Rovers: Captain Rico Benjamin; Saints: Captain Nick Stevens, Wirebirds, Captain Alex Osborne, Harts Captain Mike E Williams, Crystal Rangers Captain Declan Clifford, Lakers, Captain Liam Yon, Bellboys Captain Wayne Crowie and Axis Captain Luke Bennett.

The season will kick off on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 1pm with a match between the Rovers and Axis followed by a match between Saints and Bellboys at 3pm.

On Sunday Wirebirds will play Lakers at 1pm and Harts play Crystal Rangers at 3pm.

Entrance fees need to be paid into the bank by Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June and receipts presented to the Committee at the next SHFA meeting which will be held at New Horizons on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm.

Anyone who likes to volunteer their services as a referee can contact Mike E Williams on mobile 51350

The St Helena Football Association would like to take the opportunity to thank Pete Yon former Chairman of the SHFA for kindly donating the contents of St Helena Fustal Account which amounts to £1161.40 towards our fund raising campaign to get our International Team to the Island Games in Guernsey July 2021.



# One Meeting – Two Versions of the Truth

The Economic Development Committee started at 9am sharp yesterday with fishing quotas as the first item on the agenda. There was a good number of 'members of the public', as SHG like to describe us, in attendance. Most, of course, were from the fishing and marine management fraternity/sorority. All listened very attentively to what, in the end, amounted to nothing at all.

While information papers on the other items on the Economic Development Committee's open agenda were available for all to see, there was nothing at all on fishing quotas. Committee discussion regularly referred to an incomplete table of quotas which puts a limit on the number of tonnes that can be caught for each type of fish. From what was said, quotas had not been entered for some species because further information was required before this could be done. Councillors were asked to approve the quota table as it stood so that officers could get on with the job of introducing the new fishing licences.

## Version One

The officers explained that fishing quotas can change as new information is gathered and the existing, established process is for government officers to adjust quotas in the light of new evidence and then get the change approved at an Exco meeting. The argument being the Economic Development Committee can approve the table and when the blanks are filled in the completed table will be run past Exco.

Committee members were not keen on this. They wanted to see all the quotas in the completed table before they approved it. They did not say why they were not keen on letting government officers finish the work and then let Exco finish the approval process.

At the end of a discussion which went around in circles, Committee Chairman, Lawson Henry, said he was using his power as chairman to take this unresolved item from the committee and hand it over to Exco for a decision. During the discussion it was pointed out by someone of the officer's side that this discussion had been going on since January. The frus-

tration was evident when Lawson Henry announced he was passing the decision to Exco. In addition, the quotas under discussion were for sports fishing only.

At this point an observer might recall the Sarkin Report and the urgent need for a different system of government which, apart from being more open and accountable, is capable of making decisions, quickly. But there is more.

## Version Two

This version has two sources of tension running through it. One is the tender process and the choice of a preferred bidder for the fisheries contract. The second is a report from Cefas based on the research they have completed in St Helena waters and the repeated refusals from government officers to release this report to either stakeholders or councillors. The feeling among some disenchanted 'members of the public' who attended for that item on the Economic Development Committee agenda was that SHG has put the cart before the horse. They have committed themselves to a preferred bidder and, in turn, presumably committed themselves to certain contract principles. The perception is that SHG should have had some basic but important work in place before starting the tendering procedure. Fish quotas are seen as one of those basic but important pieces of work. It is considered that SHG are trying to fit decisions made now into the framework of the contract yet to be confirmed with PQ Trading as the preferred bidder.

Whatever the situation really is, which of the rest of us knows? It is certainly a messy situation riddled with discord and distrust. The parties involved are not pulling together as they should; this reduces the likelihood of a satisfactory outcome. It reveals unelected and unaccountable officers calling the shots and councillors badly briefed. Badly informed councillors making decisions under terms specified by government officers is neither the best way to make decisions nor the best way to run a government that aspires to call itself democratic. Whichever way you wish to look at it, the committee system of government definitely does not work.

## Councillor Campaigns Against Colonialism Constitutional Confidentiality Clause Causes Conflict

Councillor Cyril Leo spoke out this week about being under investigation by the police because some information classified by the government as confidential was put in the public domain. Police are making enquiries with several councillors about the information leak at the request of the Governor. Local media has also been questioned. The leaked information is connected to the Government's negotiations with the preferred bidder for the fisheries, PQ Trading.

As far as is known, there is no clear indication the leak came any of the councillors. In private discussions, some are suggesting a government officer may be responsible.

Councillor Leo's regularly writes letters which are sent to local media for publication. The purpose of the letters is to inform the public on what is happening, or not happening,

behind the walls of the Castle.





## **PRESS RELEASE 28**

### **May 2020**

Yesterday, we attended the open Economic Development Committee (EDC) Meeting whereby the EDC was being asked to endorse the catch limits for those fish species where limits were included on the Catch Limits Annex.

The Director of ENRP, Darren Duncan led on the discussions and was supported by SHG Marine Conservation Officer, Rhys Hobbs, with questions also from Nicole Shamier, Senior Economist.

The subject – last raised in open EDC in January – remained contentious due to the fact that EDC members still felt that the Annex remained similar to what they had been presented over 5 months ago, with gaps remaining in terms of catch limits for the primary species, tuna.

Hence, members vocalised that the document seemed to remain incomplete, so how could they endorse it?

Members also struggled to understand why this information was being presented yet again without having sight of the much awaited Tuna stock assessment that they have requested and hence they were not happy to endorse a catch limit that had categories that simply read “to be confirmed based on the outcome of the Cefas fishery status report” or “likely to be revised following receipt of the Cefas fishery status report”.

.....Director of ENRP made it clear that it is not the remit of Cefas to advise on setting catch limits, that is for SHG to decide based on Cefas science. Furthermore, even if members endorsed the table today, if the Senior Fisheries Officer felt it necessary to change catch limits at a later date, the SFO can do so without having to come back to EDC for approval.

This statement – along with members not being shown the Cefas report, nor even just being shown excerpts pertaining to the species in question to enable the process to be concluded - begs us to ask, what was the purpose of conducting the stock assessments in the first place, if decisions on quotas are going to be made regardless of the results?

When pressed as to why the Cefas report has still not been shared with members, the COVID-19 virus was once again referred to. While the Association appreciates the unprecedented circumstances surrounding this global pandemic and we welcome the Islands preparedness against the virus, the logic remains simple – if the Cefas report isn't ready for 'wider consumption' and staff are still busy at Bradleys, then why keep bringing this topic to EDC for endorsement? Why not

simply wait, until the information that members have been requesting for over 5 months, is ready?

We also understand that for the Enforcement Officer to be able to do his job, endorsement of the other species in the table needs to be made. But again our logic is simple, if members have been requesting to see the table in its complete state – without missing data – then why bring it to EDC incomplete?

After a 30 minute heated discussion, the Chair of EDC, Cllr. Lawson Henry, put the agenda item to a vote, before which he firmly declared that this topic had been ongoing for long enough and he encouraged that a decision be taken. Adding that “if EDC members were not prepared to endorse this agenda item today he would make an executive decision as Chair, to take it forward to Executive Council”.

A vote was then undertaken whereby Councillors Clint Beard and Christine Scipio voted against the endorsement whilst the Chair, Councillor Lawson Henry abstained from voting.

It should be noted that Councillor Cruyff Buckley was not in attendance due to another meeting and Councillor Gavin Ellick was disallowed to vote by the Chair, Lawson Henry, on account that he owns a fish monger's business. This ruling was, in itself, a contentious one – as although Councillor Ellick sells fish via his retail business, he made it very clear at the start of the meeting that he does not partake in commercial fishing therefore the endorsement of catch limits would be outside of the remit of his business – something clarified to Cllr. Ellick by the Speaker. However, even with this additional information, Cllr. Lawson Henry remained firm with the decision that Cllr Ellick would not have a vote and noted that he would not entertain this discussion any further.

In closing, Cllr. Lawson Henry advised all present that this document would now progress to Executive Council who will meet next Tuesday; therefore the SHCFA can only hope that ExCo members will show the same professional determination as members of EDC and refuse to endorse an incomplete document.

On departure from the meeting, members of the SHCFA applauded the EDC members who had stood firm in declining the endorsement of the incomplete catch limits.

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# St Paul's Primary School

St Paul's Primary School celebrated the birth of St Helena as a theme day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020. Miss Sherell Thomas, Deputy Head along with the Social Group coordinated the event with the support of all staff.

The school environment was decorated with flags and almost everyone came dressed in red, white and blue colours.

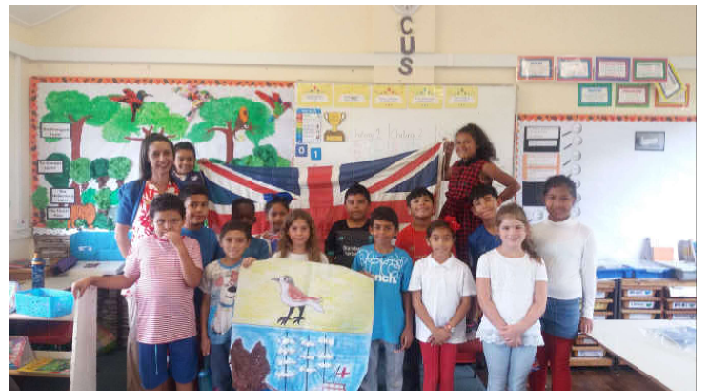
The day began with his Excellency the Governor giving an inspiring speech to our pupils about the special birthday and then opened the event. This was then followed by the cheerleaders performing an excellent dance display in our playground. Throughout the morning the children learnt about St Helena through a range of activities and Governor Rushbrook had the privilege of listening in on lessons and seeing what was going to be the expected outcomes of the day.

Some children listened to and created poems which were inspired from various past St Helena Poetry Competition Books dated back as far as 1979!. Various St Helena films were shown in classrooms to give the children a feel of what life was like in the past and also memories of our dear RMS St Helena. From these clips, came a lot of discussion and questions looking at dress code, buildings, recreation, animals and jobs etc. Pupils enjoyed admiring the elder folk from the 100 men and could recognize some family members. Creative writing arose from these clips as well.

Year 4, 5, 6 did a Math's Treasure Hunt later which was one of the highlights of the day. This was organized by Yr 6 teacher Mrs Drozdowskij, who carefully hid math's calculation cards around the top school in amongst trees, boxes and various hideouts. Groups were mixed and depicted island places. They were timed to collect 20 answers and the winners were the group having the least time. The children had so much fun learning and of course using up their energy.

In EYFS the children learnt about Jonathan the Tortoise and had the opportunity to visit him at Plantation House plus creating models. Replicas of Napoleons hat, collages of the island and other artifacts were produced. A St Helena information room was also set up where the children could read books about the island, watch videos on St Helena and take away leaflets.

The RMS was not forgotten, as at lunch and break times the famous dinner dong song was played and My St Helena Island which brought back memories of a ship that was so dear to our hearts.



During the lunch hour, the teachers planned Novelty Sports games such as egg and spoon, book race and dressing up games. A St Helena Photo booth and Craft Area were set up where the children had an opportunity to make salt dough tortoises, seed bracelets, flags and a collage of the St Helena coat of arms. Some of the children enjoyed dancing to old time St Helena music.

The weather was not favorable on this day which did not allow time for some of the activities to happen outside, however, this did not stop the children from having fun and learning at the same time.

Generous donations for prizes were received and the school would like to take this opportunity to thank the Tourist Office and Miss Giselle Richards for this kind gesture.

Thanks go to Governor Rushbrook for visiting our school and to all staff and members of the community who supported us in any way.

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