

Bumped Airfreight Causing Widespread Problems Starting Weekly Flights is the Only Real Answer Says Airlink CEO



Some Movement on Getting the BFI Completed



AMD Engineering Settling into Their New Home



St Helena Whale Sharks in a Collision Hotspot



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Legislation that has been Passed but Not Brought into Force

A question from Karl Thrower has a written response included on the Order Paper for today's Legislative Council.

Karl asked what Bills were passed by this House since January 2015 which have not been brought into force?

Response:

The following Ordinances have not yet been brought into force:

1. Protection of Animals (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 (Ord 12/2021) – Enacted 03/08/2021



2. Control of Tobacco and Related Products (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 (Ord 7/2021) – Enacted 24/06/2021

3. Public Access to Government Information Ordinance, 2021 (Ord 6/2021) – Enacted 24/06/2021

4. Environmental Protection (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 (Ord 5/2021) – Enacted 24/06/2021

5. Control of Tobacco and Related Products Ordinance, 2020 (Ord 14/2020) – Enacted 07/07/2020

6. Police and Criminal Evidence (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (Ord 9/2019) – Enacted 13/12/2019

7. Road Traffic Ordinance, 2016 (Ord 16/2016) - Enacted 15/12/2016

Maybe the question now is why have they not been brought into force?

Bumped Airfreight Causing Widespread Problems Starting Weekly Flights is the Only Real Answer Says Airlink CEO Vince Thompson

A press release from St Helena government yesterday stated airfreight demand on Airlink flights has outweighed capacity on all flights from Jo'burg since they restarted in March. The statement refers to a wide range of essential cargo and high priority goods being airfeighted, including medical supplies, and that everyone is doing everything to get all goods flown to St Helena as soon as is possible. There then follows the mandatory thanks to all of us for our understanding and continued support. This assumption is often overly optimistic.

The press release ends with, "In order to assist with service efficiency, Airfreight Agents are reminded that any urgent cargo should be assigned to a separate Airway Bill and marked as such; and, where possible, placing large consignments on a single Airway Bill should be avoided."

On Tuesday John Cranfield issued his own statement on behalf of Richard James International, it reads: - "Richard James International wishes to advise all their customers that all three consignments of airfreight have been bumped. Airlink advised them the reason for the freight being bumped is due to lack of space on the plane. However, Airlink have given assurance that all RJI airfreight will be given priority on the next flight scheduled for 21st May 2022. RJI apologises for any inconvenience caused. "

For the avoidance of doubt, "all three consignments of airfreight have been bumped" means that every item of air cargo sent via Richard James for the planes arriving on 9th April, 23rd April and 7th May have not got any further than Jo'burg. It's impossible to imagine that ALL of Richard James' cargo is sent by



low priority people sending low priority consignments. More likely, the priority system is not working. DHL seem never to have anything bumped and other freight forwarders are receiving cargo as scheduled together with cargo bumped from previous flights while Richard James continues to receive nothing – one big zero.

"The issue is that with high passenger load factors as currently experienced, there is limited payload available for freight"

Enquiries about SHG's 'reminder' about using a separate waybill for each consignment of priority airfreight and marking the waybill 'Priority' has met with people in the trade being completely unaware of this. Neither has any airfreight been received with a 'PRIOR-ITY' label stuck on it. If a priority consignment is not marked 'priority' how are airport staff who load the plane supposed to clearly identify what is a priority and what is not. When a plane is being loaded, the time for looking at waybills has long passed. It seems clear that the priority system is not working. The reasons for it not working also seem clearly to be that consignees and cargo



The St Helena Independent Volume XVII, Issue 23, Friday 13th May 2022

agents are unaware of it and if the system is ever used, the staff loading the plane do not know a priority consignment from other types of consignment. The priority 'system' appears to be ineffective and is one of the causes for the widespread frustration being experienced by people waiting for urgent airfreight.

"additional flight will be needed in the near term"

The Airlink CEO, Rodger Foster, informed the Independent that "Prioritisation of what gets bumped is done in consultation with the airport, Airlink's GSA (?) in St Helena, and representatives from SHG." Mr Foster added, "With the backlog of freight and customer demand, it is likely that an additional flight will be needed in the near term. Unfortunately the next flight set down for 21 May is due to route onwards to ASI and as such will not assist in clearing the backlog." On the question of whether use of Cape Town International as a low altitude airport would help increase the overall payload of Airlink flights to St Helena, he said, "It is not true that the payload would improve if the flight were to depart from Cape Town. The flight needs to stop at Walvis Bay for refuelling purpose and then departs at maximum regulated take-off weight and maximum revenue payload, and this applies regardless of whether the initial departure is from Johannesburg or Cape Town. The issue is that with high passenger load factors as currently experienced, there is limited payload available for freight."



Welcome to a new era in the life of the St Helena Independent. It looks brighter, I hope you think it looks more cheerful and of course has interesting reading. Colour printing does add something extra, and now it is no longer the luxury it used to be.



Something not so cheerful now. First, my car runs on petrol and from what I've been hearing I should be breathing a sigh of relief that it does. I hear that several motorists who use diesel fuelled cars have had problems with their fuel injectors recently. It seems to be a problem which has recently raised its head. The problems all seem to be similar. The seal dries up and cracks, so a repair is required and a new seal replaces the old one. This could be developing in to a mysterious and serious situation. I've been told that owners of two diesel fuelled vehicles have had the same problem with both of them. It's the vehicle version of coronavirus.

Suspicion seems to be spreading that a new delivery of diesel made not be up to the usual standard and may be the cause of the sudden failure of so many fuel injectors. This news came to light not long before the print deadline so there has not been an opportunity to make enquiries with Solomon's on this but the word is that Solomon's have told what seems to be only a few people who have contacted them that they have received very few or no enquiries about any relationship between the diesel being sold at the pumps and fuel injector failure. So, if you have had a problem with your fuel injector I think you should let Solomon's know about it so they are aware of the size of the problem and will then possibly be motivated to make their own enquiries – if they have not already started doing so. What I find worrying is that from the situation as described it appears a routine system of quality control is not in place. Any enquiry with Solomon's on this matter should, ideally, have been met with a response which informed enquirers that every fuel delivery is checked to ensure it is to the required standard and if it is not it is withheld from sale. But I far as I know, nobody has received a response of that sort. I for one would like an assurance that what I'm putting in the engine is a fuel of an adequate standard.



tank at the Jamestown fuel station recently and was asked to pay up front, then the pump would be switched on. Did they think I was going to run off without paying? After that I was asked to wait and take the receipt. I had to give the receipt to the pump attendant. I suppose this was to prevent me lying about the amount of money I had just paid at the cash desk. The pump attendant solemnly inspected the receipt and then handed it back to me before putting the petrol in the tank. I've often wondered why the fuel stations owners in St Helena do not do the same as the rest of the world and have self-service fuel stations. Serving yourself is very much preferable to be treated like a thief and a liar. There is also that bit about opening the petrol intake cover and unscrewing the petrol cap yourself, that's become flavour of the month again. I think the thinking behind that is the valued customer will make an endless fuss if the pump attendant happened to cause some kind of damage if he or she was to do it. I'm quite easy on this point; I can unscrew the cap to the petrol tank, no problem. I have no problem if the pump attendant does it. But, if I'm required to undo the petrol cap, why don't I do the whole job myself - is there a problem with that?

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

Enjoy the weekend Vince



Feedback on the Fire Risk at the Fuel Storage

Alan Thomas is to be commended for an absolutely thorough and clearly stated analysis of the risks. It appears to me however that the basic failing has lain firstly in the background to the BFI itself, seemingly with insufficient regard to fire risk and environmental risk arising from its location and the fact of a single access road. Secondly, it has then been compounded by the decision to move AMD to their new site, again seemingly with insufficient (or indeed no) regard to fire risk and environmental risk. AMD Engineering do what they do as their business which must have been clear before the decision was made to relocate them - presumably there was some form of formal agreement between SHG and AMD which led to the move, and that is when the risk assessments should have been made. It is plainly unreasonable to throw objection at AMD after the event. AMD have not helped themselves by going ahead with their building works in advance of the grant of permission and Building Regs approvals but that does not alter the principle.

I suggest that the appropriate procedure is not now to penalise or stifle AMD but to rescind or stop whatever approval the BFI has, which in the circumstances of its apparently incompetent design and incomplete state should present no hardship, and require that before it can be brought into use for fuel storage a full assessment be made in accordance with Alan Thomas's criteria; and including the prior knowledge of the existence of AMD. That will place the burden of compliance where it more properly belongs.

On a practical level, since the BFI has clearly more fuel capacity than is ever likely to be required, the use of some of its tanks as fire-fighting water tanks would seem appropriate.





This week SHG are advertising for a Fuel Infrastructure Project Manager to lead the completion of the island's new bulk fuel facilities. The person appointed will "develop and effectively manage delivery of the Fuel Infrastructure Project."

Audit St Helena, SHG's independent auditors, put the cost of the BFI at £78.3 million in their report published in September 2020. Basil Read had the original construction contract and their imminent descent into business rescue was one of the reasons the project remains incomplete and in some disarray. Up to May 2020 the BFI had cost £46.9 million more that the original estimate. It is also 7 years past the original completion date and, if complete, would hold 2.5 times the amount of petrol and diesel compared with the old fuel storage installation still in use.

A government spokesman told the *Independent,* "It has always been the intent to commission the new bulk fuel facilities although some questions still remain over the method of fuel delivery." He added, "We are recruiting for this role now to ensure we have a dedicated person in post who can hit the ground running when we are able to resume construction activities."

In response to questions about the size of the much larger fuel storage capacity against a middle to long term trend in

reductions in fossil fuel use the *Independent* was told "whilst the new aviation (Jet A1) storage tanks are unlikely to be used the number and size of the new ground fuel (petrol & diesel) tanks give us flexibility. They are each 750m3 which gives us the option of receiving larger parcels of fuel than is currently possible. The construction of the tanks also allows us to operate them at a much lower capacity safely. This means we are able to receive parcels of fuel of whatever size is optimum at any particular time. The number of tanks also allows us to rotate their use for maintenance, separation of fuel parcels and will allow one tank to receive a delivery whilst another is kept in service."

It appears a higher priority is now being given to the completion of the BFI, no date for possible start of construction to complete has been given.



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Legislative Council Sits Today Not Much legislation but Many Questions



A sitting of Legislative Council is scheduled for today, starting at 10am in the Courthouse. Besides the Budget there are two minor and routines legislative procedures which a followed by twelve questions and one motion from the backbenchers. The questions are good ones which will interest many, if not all of us. The responses will be equally interesting.

1. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Chief Minister:

Will the Honourable Chief Minister tell this Council what action is being taken in response to the Petition submitted to Executive Council on 1st April, 2022?

2. The Hon Ronald Coleman to ask Hon Minister for Safety, Security, and Home Affairs:

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security, and Home Affairs tell this Council, will the St Helena Government consider improving the St Helena Drivers licence to include information so that the licence can be used for identification purposes?

3. The Hon Gillian Brooks to ask the Hon Chief Minister: Will the Honourable Chief Minister tell this House when the Ministerial Code of Conduct will be made public?

4. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Safety, Security, and Home Affairs:

Will the Honourable Minister for Safety, Security, and Home Affairs tell this Council how many individuals have attained Saint Helenian Status over the past twenty years and, of those who have attained such status, how many of these remain resident in Saint Helena?

5. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development:

Will the Honourable Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure and Sustainable Development tell this Council when it is envisaged that review of the current eligibility criteria for receipt of the Basic Island Pension will be concluded and any recommendations implemented?

6. The Hon Ronald Coleman to ask the Hon Minister for Health and Social Care:

Will the Honourable Minister for Health and Social Care tell this Council, has the St Helena Government any plans to assist the retired people of the Island with essential repairs such as leaking roofs to their homes to allow them to live in their homes longer especially those who are living on Social Benefits and small pensions?

7. The Hon Gillian Brooks to ask the Hon Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development:

Will the Honourable Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development provide an update regarding the proposed design changes to the R2 Project?

8. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Health and Social Care:

Will the Honourable Minister for Health and Social Care tell this Council how many individuals have tested positive for Covid-19 in Saint Helena since the outbreak of the pandemic, and of those who have tested positive, how many have required hospital attention as a direct result of having Covid-19?

9. The Hon Ronald Coleman to ask the Hon Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development:

Will the Honourable Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure and Sustainable Development tell this House if the St Helena Government has considered any plans to enable the Bank of St Helena to introduce International Banking for use in St Helena for its people using other international banks overseas and to assist and encourage Inward Investors?

10. The Hon Robert Midwinter to ask the Hon Minister for Environment, Natural Resources, and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Environment, Natural Resources, and Planning tell this Council how much funding has been received by the St Helena Government through the UK Government's Blue Belt Programme for each of the past three financial years, and how much of this funding has been paid to local vessel owners for services rendered in support of this programme?

11. The Hon Dr Corinda Essex to ask the Hon Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development: Will the Honourable Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure and Sustainable Development state precisely what actions are planned to build new units or convert existing properties to address the need for Government Landlord Housing?

12. The Hon Gillian Brooks to ask the Hon Minister for Environment, Natural Resources, and Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister for Environment, Natural Resources, and Planning tell this Council why SHG believe that it is necessary to procure a consultancy to develop a Water Resources Management Plan?

Councillors Rosie Bargo and Karl Thrower will not be present at the Courthouse for today's Legislative Council. Rosie Bargo is in the UK on a private visit and Karl Thrower in St Lucia attending a United Nations meeting of the Special Committee on Decolonisation.

AMD Engineering Settling into Their New Home

Vince Thompson

The long saga of the Workshop, Office, Carpentry Shop and Storeroom in Upper Rupert's near the ill-fated Bulk Fuel Installation finally, hopefully, came to an end this week. AMD engineering has been trying to get a development application resolved for at least six months. Is it really any wonder construction was started before development permission was given? In the private sector time is money and endless delay is money continually wasted. In the public sector the work goes into the process; payment by results happens on another planet.

In a 27 minute interview on Saint FM Environment and Planning Minister, Christine Scipio spent 25 minutes explaining the process leading to the decision on AMD's new work premises and the last 2 minutes telling us what the decision was. It was a good decision; most people will probably think it was fair.

AMD Engineering had to move from their original location to make way for the cargo facilities at Rupert's. They were relocated to a spot not far from the BFI after signing a lease agreement with SHG who own the land. When the development application process eventually got underway there were doubts about whether metalwork (including welding and the inevitable sparks) is completely safe near a fuel storage installation – despite the requirement for a 150 metre buffer zone between AMD Engineering and the BFI which has never stored one drop of flammable liquid in its long existence. Another point which fuelled extensive debate was the only access route to AMD's workshop, office, carpentry shop and storeroom passed close to the BFI so in the event of a conflagration the escape route led escapees towards the fire rather than away from it. After lengthy and details discussions the ministers had a meeting on site to check out the situations for themselves. Further discussions took place and the lease agreement between SHG and AMD was checked out. The recommendation from the Land Development Control Authority came with conditions attached to any development permission which may be given and the lease agreement included further conditions. After the International Fire Safety Officer, Alan Thomas, conducted a Fire Safety Study of the new AMD Engineering location in relation to the BFI some of the conditions from the LDCA were deleted or changed and new ones added.

No Water to Fight Fires

It seems the BFI was designed and built without adequate consideration for fire safety in relation to the restrictions imposed by locating a fuel storage facility in a narrow valley. The Fire Safety Report states, "There is much concern that Upper Rupert's Valley is being allowed to develop without thought or consideration given to any fire precautionary measures. There is currently no firefighting water supplies serving this area, which could potentially have serious consequences. Firefighting water shortage can have a negative impact on the effectiveness of fighting fires and increase the risk of substantial fire losses. If there is no water to appropriately protect the risk and suppress a fire, the burning question is - where will the firefighting water supply be available from? We must ensure that the risk has the right amount of water, distributed to all areas, readily accessible and consistently available as and when required."

The International Fire Safety Officer recommended that "be-

Continued on NEXT PAGE



AUDIT ST HELENA invites applications for the following job vacancy

PRINCIPAL AUDITOR

Salary range £21,737 to £26,690 per annum 12-month fixed term contract commencing June 2022

The Principal Auditor will lead the planning and delivery of financial audit engagements across a range of public entities in accordance with International Auditing Standards.

Candidates must be a qualified accountant with a minimum of three years' experience in financial audit and at least one year in a supervisory capacity in an audit environment, together with knowledge of recognised financial reporting frameworks.

We are looking for a team leader with good communication and people management skills who is able to plan, prioritise and project manage workflow and use their own judgement. Excellent analytical abilities and IT skills are also required. Working knowledge of CaseWare is desirable. Job Profiles and Application Forms are available on request by calling 22111 or emailing <u>helene.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh</u> Applications should be submitted by email or by hand to Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown, by no later than 4pm on **Friday 20 May 2022**.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and police clearance. St Helena Government reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

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

AMD Engineering Settling into Their New Home

Vince Thompson

fore further construction be permitted within this area, that authorities take all reasonable measures to secure an adequate water supply and hydrants to be use in the event of a fire." It was also noted that downwind from the nearest tank at 150m is the Government Incinerator. Under normal circumstances incinerators should not be situated within 100m and fitted with safety devices such as spark arrestors.

Build a Fire Wall for Effective Fire Protection

Insofar as the stipulated 150 metre fire safety separation between AMD and BFI is concerned the Fire Safety Study concluded AMD is situated in excess of the recommended minimum distance for safety zones. Despite this the Fire Safety Study noted, "the current minimum separation distances will not safeguard people and property in the surrounding area in the event of an explosion and/or air blast or ignition on buildup of explosive atmospheres. Because of the close proximity to the main road, this undoubtedly will impede the access and egress (as there is only one road in and out) for emergency response teams and hamper their capabilities to aid with any rescue operations and deal with the core of the incident" and concluded that, "In order to safeguard the BFI it may be prudent to consider the erection of a Fire Wall between AMD's (preferable along his boundary fence line) and the fuel storage tanks which would control and cater for any fire risks. To be effective the wall must be reinforced concrete, have no holes in it, have at least half-hour fire resistance and be sufficiently robust to withstand foreseeable accidental damage."

The Single Access/Egress Route and Poor Practice

Turning attention to how people near the BFI would escape any fire if ever the Bulk Fuel Installation - or the supply lines that would carry the fuel to be stored - contained combustible fossil fuels the Fire Safety Study noted, "There is just a single access and egress road which creates its own unique problems, with a distance of approximately just 10-14 meters from the Bund Wall, running adjacent to the boundary fence line of the New BFI. There are pipelines and cables routed adjacent to the road, with no protection from traffic potentially colliding with it. This is poor practice in Emergency Planning terms and is significantly higher risk when it is in such close proximity to the island's only Bulk Fuel Facility. Hydrocarbons are volatile under certain conditions and their vapours in specific concentrations are flammable." The recommendation in the Fire Safety Study on this potentially hazardous situation is, "an additional access and egress road in the immediate environs of the site be created for the purpose of serving this site and any future sites, and alleviate any potential Health & Safety concerns with just a single access route. This will undoubtedly safeguard the existing New BFI and the entire area in general."

The Decision . . . Finally

In view of Alan Thomas' invaluable report the ministers changed the recommended condition attached to the retrospective development permission given to AMD's application. The landlord, which is SHG, should 'consider' construction of a firewall if ever the BFI becomes operational and similarly SHG should provide an alternative access road designed to provide a safe route for public use in the event of a fire at the BFI.

This can be seen as a good decision and questions should be asked on why the issues and recommendations raised in the Fire Safety Study did not come to light much earlier in the planning process. This means yet more discussion on process and this in turn begs the question on whether the unending discussion on process is due to SHG either not having the right processes or that there is a culture of ignoring processes that are put in place.

What's happening at New Horizons?

With School holidays finished we at New Horizons are fully focus on preparing for St Helena's Day.

St Helena's day is a whole community event and we are grateful for the sponsorship and donations we have received so far in helping us organised our National Day.

St Helena's day is still New Horizons main fund raiser. Fund raising is becoming more difficult therefore all our eggs are in one basket as we strive to make as much money as possible on this day. We need funds to buy replacement equipment for our indoor games/x boxes; sports equipment for the youth games; football equipment for the Junior Football; cardio equipment for the Gym and bootcamp equipment. Monies raised on this day will go back to the whole community.

In keeping with our theme of protecting and celebrating the islands environment we are focusing on re-cycling and would wish to encourage the public to showcase this on St Helena's day; be it in the form of items to sell; items worn in the Float

parade or in creating a float. New Horizons is in the process of making Bottle Lights and selling them for $\pounds 6$ we have already sold 12.

New Horizons will start work on their float from Monday afternoon and if anyone wants to help or be part of it they can turn up at New Horizons at 4pm.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us set up on Friday 20th from 12 noon. We are still looking for help with Marshalling the Float Parade; on the gate and on the side shows. If anyone can spare an hour or two to help us you can contact New Horizons on 22034.

Due to St Helena's Day prep the New Horizons centre will be closed for normal activities on Friday Evening 13th May and Monday afternoon 16th May. Members who wish to help can turn up as normal. Unfortunately we can't provide transport as our bus is in the garage.





Entrance Fee: £1 Adults (16 years and Over) 50p Children (15 years and Under)



Fireworks sponsored by Paul O'Sullivan at 7pm

If you would like a stall on the day you can call New Horizons on 22034 to register your name. Stalls cost £5.

Theme for the day: Celebrating and Protecting St Helena's Environment





Green Fish Company Ambition -

"challenge the status-quo and to offer the UK consumer a new choice... the very first BRITISH branded, premium, canned yellowfin tuna" Vince Thompson

At a recent public meeting Green Fish Company St Helena Ltd gave a presentation of their ambition to make a presence in the St Helena fishing industry. The head office will be in the UK where the overall management including procurement, product branding and marketing, partner relations, the finance department and Customs matters will be handled. The Green Fish Company St Helena Ltd that operates on St Helena will employ between twelve to fifteen people to manage the day to day operations including buying the local yellowfin from local fisherman, fish processing, canning and shipping of the canned product. The local invoices and payments will be handled locally.

The proposed Green Fish Company St Helena Ltd team includes Malcolm Williams as founder, Nicola Kedward as Head of UK Operations and an accountant on a consultancy basis. Other activities such as import and export will be through freight forwarding companies. In St Helena the Green Fish Company will have operations, quality control and canning processing managers. Between eight and ten people will be

The Governor's Office is selling by tender a Land Rover Freelander 2 registration No.2708. Model: 2.2 TD4 S 4WD 5DR, Power: 150PS, Year: 62 REG – 2013, Mileage: 17059 miles.

This vehicle is being sold on an 'as is basis' with no warranty given.

Please contact Kerry Lane, Manager of the Governor's Office for further information on telephone No. 22308 or email Kerry.Lane@fcdo.gov.uk.

Offers of not less than £14,000 should be made in writing and placed in a sealed envelope addressed as 'Governor's Office 2708', and placed in the tender box at the Castle reception by 4:00pm on Tuesday, 24th May 2022.



April 2022



Alan Nicholls led a video meeting with Malcolm Williams in UK on Monday night

employed to do the actual canning. As of the 1st May Green Fish Company St Helena Ltd is a member of the International Pole and Line Foundation (IPNLF). The cannery required is still to be found, a suitable building or location in Rupert's Valley is being sought.

The target is to produce one million cans of yellowfin tuna for export. It is estimated this will mean buying 180 to 200 tonnes of yellowfin, specifically from local inshore fisherman would receive £3 or more per kg for their fish at today's prices. Production would only be increased if catch quotas were increased or yellowfin is available from offshore fishing vessels.

A vehicle will also be used for mobile fish sales around the island and all profits from Green Fish Company St Helena Ltd will be paid into a Foundation which will provide financial support to local fishermen to improve their own operations. An apprenticeship scheme to encourage the next generation of fishermen will also be introduced. The company will also use renewable energy and become carbon neutral.

Green Fish Company St Helena Ltd say fish will be landed and processed the same day and in the can within 24 hours. Other selling points are IPNLF accredited, no bycatch, 100% dolphin friendly and 100% traceability.

Green Fish Company St Helena Ltd is incorporated with 1,000 shares; each share is valued at £4,285. 350 of these shares are on open sale to interested investors. Three UK retailers have expressed interest in selling St Helena canned yellowfin, Waitrose with 332 supermarkets, the Fish Society, an online UK fish monger and Booths who have 27 stores in the northwest of England. The ambition is to finalise investment within the next four months and have fish canned for export within two years. Canned skipjack for the local market is an idea being explored with local retailers. Skipjack has one of the lowest mercury levels of all tuna.



The St Helena Independent Volume XVII, Issue 23, Friday 13th May 2022

St Helena Whale Sharks in a Collision Hotspot

A report on research completed earlier this year points to St Helena and the Gulf of Mexico as danger areas in the Atlantic Ocean for whale sharks being struck by ships. Previously there may have been some complacency because hardly any ships come this way. But the St Helena hotspot identified in the report is much bigger than the St Helena 200 mile territorial limit.

A collision hotspot has to include a busy shipping lane and locations where whale sharks gather for at least part of the year. The two main shipping routes running through the area defined in the report as the St Helena hotspot are between Cape Verde to Cape of Good Hope and between the Cape of Good Hope and Brazilian ports between Fortaleza and Rio de Janeiro. Both routes run wide of St Helena itself but not the area called the St Helena hotspot.

High Levels of Unreported **Ship Strikes**

The report explains, "Global vessel traffic is increasing alongside world economic growth. The potential for rising lethal ship strikes on endangered species of marine megafauna, such as the plankton-feeding whale shark, remains poorly understood since areas of highest overlap are seldom determined across an entire species range. Here we show how satellite tracking whale sharks and large vessel movements globally provide a means to localise highoverlap areas and to determine how collision risk changes in time. Our results point to potential high levels of undetected or unreported ship strikes, which may explain why whale shark populations continue to decline despite protection and low fishing induced mortality."

The report adds, "Nearly a third of whale shark hotspots overlapped with the highest collision-risk areas, with the last known locations of tracked sharks coinciding with busier shipping routes more often than expected. Depth-recording tags provided evidence for sinking, likely dead, whale sharks, suggesting substantial "cryptic" lethal ship strikes are possible, which could explain why whale shark population declines continue despite international protection and low fishing-induced mortality. Mitigation



The illustration on the left shows the typical number and position of shipping in the South Atlantic – St Helena is located by the circle near the centre.

An illustration from the report (right) on the research shows the 'St Helena Hotspot' (the most southerly of the three blue areas) spanning almost half the South Atlantic and stretching about 1,700 miles from north to south.

measures to reduce ship-strike risk should be considered to conserve this species and other ocean giants that are likely experiencing similar impacts from growing global vessel traffic."While recognising the effect of ship-strikes on whale shark and other species such as sea turtles remains "poorly understood" the report urges more action as the volume of inter-continental sea traffic shows every sign of further expansion over the long term.

BOOKING APPOINTMENTS AT ESSEX HOUSE

The public is reminded that all appointments with staff based at Essex House, Jamestown, must be booked in advance directly with the staff member or through the Receptionist, who can be contacted on tel: 22270.

This is to avoid members of the public arriving at Essex House and not being able to meet with staff who maybe occupied with another commitments.

The public is thanked for their understanding and cooperation.

SHG, 11 May 2022



ST HELENA CLOUD FOREST PROJECT UPDATE

St Helena Cloud Forest Project

Year 2 Funding Secured

Project partners are delighted to announce that funding has been secured to continue the St Helena Cloud Forest Project. This exciting partnership project aims to upscale cloud forest restoration activities for biodiversity, water security and socioeconomic benefits on the Island.

The Cloud Forest is situated within the Peaks National Park and holds at least 250 unique species that are found entirely or almost entirely within the Cloud Forest fragments. Habitat loss and pressure from invasive species means this important site, teeming with biodiversity, is under significant threat. The Cloud Forest is also the principal source of our Islands water supply; the majority coming from mist and rainfall recharge within the Peaks. This Project will support our Island to become more drought resistant, mitigating against climate change effects that threaten St Helena's precious water supply.

The Project is being managed by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) with local partners including St Helena Government (EMD - Environmental Management Division, Sustainable Development, Education, and St Helena Research Institute), Saint Helena National Trust, Connect Saint Helena Ltd, Met Office and international partners including Arctium, UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and the University of British Columbia.

In Year 1 of the Project, £900,000 was provided by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). From April 2022 the UK Government has committed £1m for the second year of this long-term restoration project aiming to increase cloud forest habitat by 25% over five years and boost the water supply by a fifth. A further £1.8m for years 3 and 4 has been provisionally agreed.

Peaks National Park logo

The Project partners are also excited to launch a new Peaks National Park logo. In December last year, a competition was held to design a logo that represents the Peaks National Park and supports the efforts and actions of the Peaks Management Plan 2021-2026. With over 20 entries in the competition, Kurt Bowers designed the winning logo, which is already in use on promotional material and will be used to holistically represent the Project and all the partners' involvement.

Jo Gilbert, Conservation Programmes Director for the RSPB, who provide overall project management, commented: "Restoration of the St Helena Cloud Forest is important for



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global biodiversity and is a fantastic example of nature and people living in harmony through the improvements to the water supply that this will bring. The winning submission for the new logo shows clearly the importance of the National Park for its endemic species and also its beauty."

Successes in Year 1 of the Project

There have been some exciting successes in Year 1 of the Project, from the setting up of a world-class micro propagation laboratory at the EMD Nursery at Scotland (St Helena) to the clearance of invasive species for the reintroduction of native habitat. Early success from the Project came with the renowned spiky yellow woodlouse being identified in newly restored areas of Cloud Forest habitat. Through their surveys, the Saint Helena National Trust has found that in a restored four-year-old corridor, cleared of invasive vegetation and replanted with native species by the EMD Habitats Team, this iconic species, along with other invertebrate indicator species, have moved in. The migration of these native invertebrate species shows the success of habitat restoration techniques, giving an indication of habitat health and the distribution of the species.

Funding confirmation for Year 2 of the Project will ensure this vital work restoring Cloud Forest habitat continues and is increased in scale considerably over the next few years. *6 May 2022*



REALIBEMENTS FOR VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-10

REQU	JIKEIVII	ENISFU	RVACCINATION	AGAINST COVID-19
current documen Requirements fo	t providing var r vaccination a prmidable Disc erson - me on - me as	ccination requirem against coronaviru eases), (Coronavir eans a person who eans a person who determined by the	tents for St Helena: is as determined by the Director of us No. 2) Regulations 2020. b is not a vaccinated person. b is fully compliant with the require b Director of Health.	's vaccinations status. Please see below th f Health in accordance with the Public Healt ments for vaccination against coronavirus
Vaccinated pers Unvaccinated pe		 entering St Helena will be required to quarantine for a period of seven days. entering St Helena will be required to quarantine for a period of ten days. 		
days if the group Children under unvaccinated per directed to quara What are the rec Persons are dete	consists of va the age of fiv sons. Therefor ntine for 7 day uirements for ermined to be	accinated and unv re years- Children ore vaccinated per ys. r vaccination again vaccinated perso	accinated persons. under five years are not required t sons who quarantine with unvaccin inst Coronavirus as determined b ns if they have been vaccinated w	a group, will be required to quarantine for te o be vaccinated and are therefore not deeme ated children under the age of 5 years will b y the Director of Health? ith the recommended dosage of an accepte able Proof of Vaccination (Table 2 below)
Table 1: Accepte	d COVID-19 V Vaccines Authorise Food and D		Vaccines Listed for Emer- gency Use (EUL) by the World Health Organization	Certain Clinical Trial Vaccines which Have Confirmed Efficacy
Single dose 2-dose series	• Ja • Pfi		Janssen/J&J • Pfizer-BioNTech Moderna AstraZeneca Covaxin Covishield BIBP/Sinopharm Sinovac Novavax/Covovax	• Medicago
	ls (digital or p	baper) Vaccin		ital pass via Smartphone application with Q

code1 (e.g., United Kingdom National Health Service COVID Pass, European Union Digital COVID Certificate)

Non-verifiable paper records Printout of COVID-19 vaccination record or a COVID-19 vaccination certificate issued at national or subnational level or by an authorised vaccine provider (e.g., the CDC vaccination card)

Digital photos of vaccination card or record, downloaded vaccine record or vaccination certificate Non-verifiable digital records from official source (e.g., public health agency, government agency, or other authorised vaccine provider), or a mobile phone application without QR code1

The QR code in a verifiable vaccination record links to information confirming the credential was generated from an immunization record in an official database and is protected from tampering.

All forms of proof of COVID-19 vaccination must have:

- Personal identifiers (full name plus at least one other identifier such as date of birth or passport number) that match the personal identifiers on the passenger's passport or other travel documents
- Name of official source issuing the record (e.g., public health agency, government agency, or other authorised vaccine
- provider)
- Vaccine manufacturer and date(s) of vaccination.

How are the 14 days from vaccination calculated:

Your last dose must have been given a full 14 days before the day you board your flight to St Helena

You are considered fully vaccinated on the 14th day after the vaccination series was completed. (Completion means both doses of a two dose vaccine or one dose of a single-dose vaccine as per Table 1: Accepted COVID-19 Vaccines). For example, if your last dose of a 2 dose vaccine was any time on 1 October, then 15 October, would be the first day that you meet the 14-day requirement.

Do children need to be vaccinated?

- Children aged 5-17 years need to be double vaccinated to be considered vaccinated persons
- Children aged 5-17 who are partially vaccinated (one dose) are NOT considered vaccinated persons
- Children under the age of five years old are not required to be vaccinated and are therefore not deemed unvaccinated

persons. #StHelena #RequirementsforVaccination https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/ https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt SHG, 9 May 2022









St Helena Community College Training Opportunities

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPENED UNTIL 27 MAY AND

STARTING IN JUNE 2022

Contact Us! We Would Love To Hear From You

shcc@sainthelena.gov.sh | +290 22607 | <u>www.sainthelena.gov.sh/public-</u> <u>services/community-college/</u>

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COST OF THESE COURSES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS A RESULT OF PROVIDER COSTS.

Core Skills—Tutor Led

COURSE TITLE	COST
Functional Skills English: Level 1 & 2	
Functional Skills Maths: Level 1 & 2	
GCSE English: Language	Free
GCSSE English: Literature	
Basic IT Skills (Fundamentals)	

Community Education—Tutor Led

COURSE TITLE	COST
Fire Safety	£30.00
Emergency First Response: Primary & Secondary Care	£80.00
Emergency First Response: Care Of A Child	£80.00
Emergency First Response: Renewals	£60.00
Manual Handling	£40.00
Assertiveness In The Workplace	£20.00
Conflict and Stress Management	£20.00
Delegation	£20.00

GCSES—Distance Learning			
COURSE TITLE	COST		
GCSE History			
GCSE Biology			
GCSE Chemistry	6510.00		
GCSE Physics	£510.00		
GCSE Psychology			
GCSE Combined Science			
IGCSE Accounting			

Professional Qualifications—Distance Learning

COURSE TITLE	COST
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)	£100.00
Foundation & Professional Levels	
Certificate in ILM Leadership & Team Skills	£1080.00
Level 2	
Certificate in ILM Leadership & Management	£1245.00 —
Level 3, 4 & 5	£1570.00
Prince 2 Project Management	£910.00 (Both)
Foundation and Practitioner	
CIPD Foundation Certificate in People Practise	£2010.00
Level 3	

Access To Higher Education — Distance Learning

COURSE TITLE	COST
Access To Higher Education Diploma: Biomedical Science	
Access To Higher Education Diploma: Construction	61260.00
Access To Higher Education Diploma: Health Professions (Health/	£1260.00
Science)	
Access To Higher Education Diploma: Health Professions (Nursing &	
Midwifery)	

Need a space for a meeting? Looking for somewhere to join a conference?

St Helena Community College is also available for venue bookings.

Please contact SHCC Support Officer (Training Coordination) Carley Peters on email

carley.peters@sainthelena.gov.sh or you can call +290 22607

Me Learning—Distance Learning		
COURSE TITLE	COST	
Me Learning Courses: For a full course list, please contact us.	FREE	

A Levels—Distance Learning

COURSE TITLE	COST
A Level Business Studies	
A Level Environmental Science	£410.00
A Level Law	
A Level Politics	

CPD Online College—Distance Learning

COURSE TITLE	COST
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Course	£20.00
Working At Heights	£20.00

Virtual College—Distance Learning

COURSE TITLE	COST
Personal & Profession Development:	£10.00
Dealing with Stressful Situations	
Slips & Trips:	£10.00
Intermediate & Advanced	
Awareness of Health & Safety at work	£22.00
Customer Service In Hospitality	£30.00
Business Development Tools & Techniques	£25.00
Time Management	£30.00

For further information about St Helena Community College training opportunities, registration process and/or to request a registration form please contact us on telephone number 22607 or visit SHCC in person; The St Helena Community College is based in Jamestown, just below Pilling Primary School at the Education Learning Centre.



<u>Celebratory events on St Helena to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty, Queen</u> <u>Elizabeth II</u>

Invitation Event - Unfurling of the Union Jack - Thursday, 2nd June 2022, 3:50pm at Signal House, Ladder Hill

A ceremony will take place at Signal House, Ladder Hill, where the Union Jack will be unfurled for the first time on the newly reinstated flag Pole in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 70 year reign. Whilst this event is by invited participation only due to the limited space at Signal House, the public are invited to observe the raising of the Union Jack from the Jamestown Grand Parade or from surrounding vantage points.

Public Event - Lighting of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon - Thursday, 2nd June 2022, 8:45pm at the Sea front

There is a long and unbroken tradition to celebrate Royal Jubilees in the UK and across the Commonwealth and Overseas Territories by lighting a beacon.

To mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, a short ceremony will take place at the sea front, where 'The Queen's Platinum Jubilee' Beacon will be lit. The event will include speeches from His Excellency the Governor, the Chief Minister, Scouts and Girl Guides and a choir will sing the winning Commonwealth song dedicated to The Queen entitled 'A life Lived with Grace'

Beacons are also being lit in the UK and across the rest of the commonwealth on this evening.

Public Event – March Past Ceremony and Service followed by Fun Day celebrations - Friday, 3rd June 2022, 12:00noon at the Sea Front.

A formal March Past ceremony of the uniformed contingents followed by a Service with all religious denominations, will take place at the sea front.

Following the Service His Excellency The Governor, Dr Philip Rushbrook will present 'The Queen's Platinum Jubilee' medals to qualifying members of the front line emergency response units from the Health, Police, Prison, Fire, and Sea Rescue services.

This event will then lead into an afternoon of fun day celebrations.

Invitation Event – Plantation House Royal Garden Party, Sunday, 5th June

His Excellency The Governor, Dr Philip Rushbrook will host an official garden party celebratory event to honour Her Majesty, The Queen's 70 year reign. This is event is by invited participation only.

Public Event – Platinum Jubilee Tree Planting – Monday, 6th June 2022, 1:00pm – 4:00pm at The Ginger Patch, High Peak, Blue Hill

As part of 'The Queen's Green Canopy' initiative where everyone across the United Kingdom are invited to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, the public on St Helena are also invited to plant a tree at The Ginger Patch, High Peak, Blue Hill. The aim is to plant at least 70 endemic 'She Cabbage' trees which will in time create a green canopy and benefit future generations of our island.

Throughout the year, there will be further opportunities to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee'. Information on other tree planting events will be provided later.

JUBILEE FANCY HAT OR CROWN COMPETITION FRIDAY 3rd JUNE SEA FRONT

Come and parade your ROYALTY-THEMED HAT OR CROWN to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen becoming the first British Monarch to celebrate 70 years of service.

You could create a fabulous hat for Royal Ascot, a Princess Tiara, a Coronation Crown or a top hat and tails fit for a Buckingham Palace garden party... the choice is yours!

All are invited to take part in the Parade. There are three age categories: baby to 5 years, 6 to 16 years, and adults (16+).

£50 cash prize for the winner in each category.

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A MORTGAGE?

Reduced interest rates and deferred payment options are still available from Bank of St Helena for eligible mortgage clients

Bank of St Helena has on offer two opportunities for first-time homeowners / mortgagors applying for mortgage finance:

Offer 1: For applicants who earn \pounds 8,500 per annum or less, interest rates of 5% will apply for a term loan up to 30 years.

OR

Offer 2: For applicants who earn $\pm 15,000$ per annum or less, repayment of the principal loan amount can be deferred for a period of up to 2 years. Interest payments will apply*.

*The interest only repayment period will be at the commencement of the repayment term and the loan will be repaid over the remaining eligible loan term. During this period of interest only repayments, interest will be charged at a rate of 5%, reverting to the prevailing rate (currently 7%) once repayments of both principal and interest commence.

Mortgage requests can be used for new construction, alterations and repairs, house or land purchase and house extensions.

Applicants will not be eligible for both offers and additional terms and conditions apply.

For more information please contact the Lending section on 22390 or personallending@sainthelenabank.com.









+290 22390

Market Street, Jamestown

@sainthelenabank

Bank of St Helena Ltd



VACANCY

FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT MANAGER

3 year Fixed-Term Contract within the Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio

Are you an experienced Project Manager with knowledge of Contract Management? Do you have strong interpersonal, communication & problem solving skills? Are you able to analyse information and use professional judgement to make decisions? The Project Management Office has an opportunity to lead the completion of the island's new bulk fuel facilities. In this role, in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, you will develop and effectively manage delivery of the Fuel Infrastructure Project.

 Applicants should have the following qualifications and/or equivalent level of experience:	We offer the following: Salary: £18,114 - £22,643per annum, depending on experience
Project or Programme Management qualification or equivalent level of de-	and qualifications
monstrable attainment or experience	Leave: 30 days per annum
• Experience of being a programme/project lead within a programme manage-	Pension: 15% pension contribution into approved defined
ment/ project management environment	contribution pension scheme after 3 months' service
Experience of supplier and contract management	Paid Sickness Absence

Paid Sickness Absence

Training Opportunities

depending on experience

For further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: Paul Cherrett, Head of Project Management on telephone number 22721 or email: paul.cherrett@sainthelena.gov.sh

Job Profile and Application forms can be accessed here or alternatively from:

Central Human Resources & Organisational Development or the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Sharina Williams, Human Resources Officer, The Castle, or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 24 May 2022.

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.

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.

Benefits are subject to change and may only apply to certain roles



VACANCY Senior Internal Auditor (1 Year Fixed Term)

(Central Support Services)

Do you have good communication, interpersonal and stakeholder management skills? Are you highly organised and comfortable working autono-

mously, with excellent attention to detail and strong analytical skills? f so, Internal Audit has an opportunity for you to join their team as a Senior Internal Auditor.				
Application ence:	ants should have the following qualifications and/or equivalent level of experi-	We offer the following:		
•	GCSE In Maths and English at grade C or above, or equivalent (If applicants do not have these qualifications they will be required to successfully pass BKSB assessments in Maths and English as part of the selection process).	Salary: £14,845 per annum as per Internal Aud Cadre Leave: 25 days per annum		
•	Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) Part 1 or Diploma in Accounting and Business/ AC- CA Fundamentals Knowledge / FIA Diploma in Accounting & Business Studies or equivalent;	Pension: 15% pension contribution into approved defined contribution pension scheme		
•	3 Years' experience in risk management, governance, and internal control assurance (1 year being at managerial/ supervisory level).			
Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: Mr Blessing Gurure , Acting Head of Internal Audit on telephone number 22692 or email: <u>blessing.gurure@sainthelena.gov.sh</u> Application forms are available from: Corporate Human Resources or the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Anya Richards, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail <u>recruiment@sainthelena.gov.sh</u> by no later than 4pm on Thursday, 26 May 2022.				
	SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gend religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaran All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form inc Benefits are subject to change and may only apply to certain re	person specification. All disabled eed an interview. nedical check and vetting/DBS clearance. ependently verified.		

Chillelene	VACANCY				
St Helena Government	MENTAL HEA	ALTH SUPPORT WORKER			
(Health and Social Care Portfolio)					
The Health Directorate is seeking to recruit a Mental Health Support Worker who will be responsible for contributing to the care and support of patients within the Mental Health Service, as part of an agreed plan of care under the supervision of qualified staff and to undertake duties specific to a defined client group in the community.					
The post holder is required to undertake duties without direct supervision, working in partnership with patients, carers and other professionals/agencies in line with legislative frameworks, agreed standards and clinical policies. This involves working in a variety of home/near to home community environments and at times the hospital when an inpatient admission is needed.					
Applicants should have the following qualifications and/or equivalent level of experience:					
Functional Literacy and Numeracy skills at Level 2			we oner the following.		
Valid Drivers License at Class A			Salary: £8,613 per annum		
NVQ Level 2 in Care, or a willingness to obtain qualification			Leave: 25 days per annum		
	diagnosed with mental illness or those v		Pension: 15% pension contribution		
working with vulnerable adults.	a commitment to ongoing training to gai	in experience in	into an approved defined contribution		
-			pension scheme		
			Paid Sickness Absence		
	Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: Mr Ian Rummery, Community Psychiatric Nurse on telephone number 22500 or email: ian.rummery@sainthelena.gov.sh				
Application forms are available from: Central Human Resources or the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Karen Thomas, Senior Human Resources Assistant, The Castle or e-mail recruiment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Monday 23 May 2022 .					
	pplications from all members of the community regardless ill consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accord				
applica	ants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile v the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearance	vill be guaranteed an inter	rview.		
	erves the right to have information provided on the applic Benefits are subject to change and may only appl	ation form independently			
St Holona	VACA	NCY			
Government	FUEL INFRASTRUCT	URE PROJE			
3 year Fix	ed-Term Contract within the Treasury				
Are you an experienced Project Manager with knowledge of Contract Management? Do you have strong interpersonal, communi- cation & problem solving skills? Are you able to analyse information and use professional judgement to make decisions? The Project Management Office has an opportunity to lead the completion of the island's new bulk fuel facilities. In this role, in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, you will develop and effectively manage delivery of the Fuel Infrastructure Project.					
Applicants should have the following qu	alifications and/or equivalent level of		We offer the following:		
experience:		Salary: £18,114 -	£22,643per annum, depending on experience		
Project or Programme Management qualification or equivalent level of de-		and qualifications			
monstrable attainment or experience Leave: 30 d		Leave: 30 days per			
		Pension: 15% pension contribution into approved defined contribution pension scheme after 3 months' service			
Experience of supplier and contract management		Paid Sickness Absence			
Training Opportunities		ities			
	For further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: Paul Cherrett, Head of Project Management on telephone number 22721 or email: <u>paul.cherrett@sainthelena.gov.sh</u>				
Job Profile and Application forms can be accessed here or alternatively from: Central Human Resources & Organisational Development or the SHG website at: <u>www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies</u> . Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Sharina Williams, Human Resources Officer, The Castle, or e-mail <u>recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh</u> by no later than 4pm on Tuesday , 24 May 2022 .					
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.					

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. Benefits are subject to change and may only apply to certain roles.

	St Helena Government
*	Government

C

VACANCY

US	TOMER	SERVICE	OFFICER	—Post &	Customer	Services C	entre

(Fixed-Term 6– 8 weeks contract within Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio)

Do you have good customer service skills and IT skills? Here is an opportunity for you to join the team at the Post & Customer Services Centre. In this role, you will provide an efficient and effective frontline counter service to customers in Postal and Customers Services delivery

Applic	ants should have the following q	ualifications and/or equivalent level of	
experience:		We offer the following:	
•	GCSE in Maths or Accounting and English at Grade C or above or equivalent		Salary: £6,722 per annum (pro-rata) Leave: 25 days per annum (pro-rata)
•	NVQ Level 2 in Customer Servic	e or equivalent	Paid Sickness Absence
Relevant experience or training in Customer Care/Services		Flexible Working Hours Scheme	
•	At least 1 years' experience in A dling practices and procedures	dministration, accounting and/or cash han-	
	nformation about the duties of the pos n, Customer Services Manager on telephone	st, interested persons should contact: e number 22008 or email: <u>karen.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh</u>	
Central H tors, wher 2022. To be cor	re applicable, to Sharina Williams, Huma	e from: lopment or the SHG website at: <u>www.sainthelena.gov.sh/va</u> n Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail <u>recruitment@sain</u> lete our application form. Failure to do so will mean tha	thelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Monday, 16 May
basis of m	nerit, in accordance with the person specification	the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orie 1. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job arances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG form independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may only apply to certain role	profile will be guaranteed an interview. All appointments are sub- reserves the right to have information provided on the application
220	VACANCIES		
AC ALLER SO	St Helena Government HM Revenue & Customs - Safety, Security & Home Affairs Portfolio		
	Government		
Are y	ou a highly motivated individual		Security & Home Affairs Portfolio stomer service skills and a problem-solving
	ou a highly motivated individual	HM Revenue & Customs - Safety, S looking for a career change? Do you have cu IM Revenue & Customs has an opportunity for	Security & Home Affairs Portfolio stomer service skills and a problem-solving
Applica	ou a highly motivated individual attitude? If so, H nts should have the following qu	HM Revenue & Customs - Safety, S looking for a career change? Do you have cu IM Revenue & Customs has an opportunity for	Security & Home Affairs Portfolio stomer service skills and a problem-solving
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Application	rou a highly motivated individual attitude? If so, H nts should have the following qu GCSE Maths and English at Grade these qualifications they will be requ sessment in English and Maths as p	HM Revenue & Customs - Safety, S looking for a career change? Do you have cu M Revenue & Customs has an opportunity for alifications and/or experience: C or above or equivalent (If applicants do not have uired to successfully pass a Functional Skills as- bart of the selection process)	Security & Home Affairs Portfolio stomer service skills and a problem-solving r you to join their team We offer the following: Salary: £8,613 per annum Grade C Leave: 25 days per annum
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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. Benefits are subject to change and may only apply to certain roles.

Job Vacancy

Business Manager, Ascension Island

Do you have a passion for business leadership and people management? An exciting opportunity has arisen for an experienced strategic Business Manager to lead the Sure Telecommunications Business Unit on Ascension Island. We are looking for a resourceful, driven business leader able to collaborate widely and represent the business on-island. You will need to have a track record of outstanding strategic leadership and managerial experience, covering all areas of business such as but not limited to, Finance, HR, Governance and Customer Service. This role will require strong leadership, delivering the company's objectives and overseeing the day to day operations.

Qualifications and experience: relevant qualification in Business, Management or related field; 5 years experience in a similar senior strategic business management role within a fast paced commercial environment. Driven to deliver; innovative and willing to challenge, proven experience in management of staff. Must be able to adapt to working on a small, relatively isolated sub tropical island.

Join us and you will enjoy some of the many benefits that Sure provides, including but not limited to: competitive salary, Incentive Scheme, Pension, Staff Benefits and opportunities for continued professional development.

Due to the nature of this position, the post holder must hold a Satisfactory Police Disclosure.

Interested persons can contact the HR Department: Shara Robinson on E: shara.robinson@sure.com T:+500 52633 or Chief Executive SHL & ASC, Christine Thomas on E: Christine.Thomas@sure.com or T: +290 22218

Applications and CV should be submitted to Human Resources by 4pm on Wednesday 25 May 2022.





The St Helena Independent Volume XVII, Issue 23, Friday 13th May 2022



Jamestown Swimming Pool Public Opening Times:

Tuesday 10th – Tuesday 31st May 2022

Public Holiday - Friday 20th May 10am – 4pm St Helena's Day - Saturday 21st May - Closed

Monday	7:15am – 10:30am	12pm – 1pm	3pm - 6pm
	Early Morning Swim	Lunch Time Swim	Open to all
Tuesday	8am - 9:15am	12pm – 1pm	3pm - 6pm
	Adults Only	Lunch Time Swim	Open to all
Wednesday	7:15am - 9:15am	12pm – 1pm	3pm - 6pm
	Early Morning Swim	Lunch Time Swim	Open to all
Thursday	8am — 9:15am	12pm – 1pm	3pm - 6pm
	Adults Only	Lunch Time Swim	Open to all
Friday	8am - 9:15am	11am – 1pm	3pm - 6pm
	Adults Only	Open to all	Open to all
Saturday	8am - 10am Adults Only	*10am – 11am Swimming Lessons with Sonê Meij bookings essential	11am - 6pm Open to all
Sunday	8am - 10am Adults Only	10am - 6pm Open to all	

All swimmers are kindly asked to be out of the water <u>15 minutes</u> before session ends to allow time for changing. * Swimming lessons with Sonê Meij can be booked via telephone <u>29065018</u>

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

RENTAL OF JAMESTOWN MARKET BUSINESS UNIT

The Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio is inviting Expressions of Interest for the rental of business unit 6 (upstairs) at the Market, Jamestown.

Persons requiring further information should contact SHG Investment Co-ordinator, Melissa Fowler, via

email: Melissa.Fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh or on tel: (+290) 22470, Ext 209.

The closing date for Expressions of Interest is Thursday, 19 May 2022.

SHG 10 May 2022



FOR SALE BY TENDER

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has for "sale by tender" a Honda CRV SUV, formerly registered as vehicle number 5294.

This vehicle has been damaged as a result of a road traffic accident and will be offered on an "as is, where is basis", with no warrantee given or guarantee implied.

Viewing has been set for Monday 16 May 2022 at 10am and persons interested in viewing should, in the first instance, contact Solomon's Insurance Office on telephone number 22860.

Offers should be made in writing to the Tender Board Secretary, clearly stating the registration number on the envelope and placed in the Company's Tender Box in their Main Office Foyer by no later than 4pm on Wednesday 18 May 2022.

10 May 2022







HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon ceremony

Thursday, 2nd June 2022, 8:45pm at the seafront, Jamestown.

There is a long and unbroken tradition in the United Kingdom of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons. Such beacons were lit in a number of different locations and included on top of mountains, church and cathedral towers, castle battlements, town and village greens, and beaches and clifftops.

St Helena has also celebrated Royal events by lighting a beacon, the last being The Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 2012.

On 2nd June 2022, we will celebrate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 70th year on the Throne and Platinum Jubilee. To mark this unique and historical moment of the first reigning Monarch to ever reach this milestone, a 'Platinum Jubilee' beacon will be lit on the sea front in Jamestown. All are warmly invited to attend this event.

The event will be opened by Right Reverend Lord Bishop of St Helena, Dale Bowers MBE, and will include short speeches by His Excellency The Governor, Dr Philip Rushbrook, the Chief Minister, the Scouts and Girl Guides. As the beacon is being lit at 9:15pm, a choir will sing the winning song of the Commonwealth competition dedicated to Her Majesty entitled 'A Life Lived with Grace'. This song can be heard at: https://www.commonwealthresounds.com/qpjb/

On the same evening, more than 1,500 beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories, and in each of the capital cities of the Commonwealth Countries in recognition of The Queen's long and selfless service. The beacons will enable local communities, individuals, and organisations to pay tribute to Her Majesty The Queen as part of the official Jubilee bank holiday weekend.



UTILITY BILL PAYMENT REMINDER

Connect Saint Helena Ltd would like to remind customers that all bills must be paid by the due date as stated on their utility bill.

Having outstanding, unpaid bills or defaulting on an agreed repayment plan may result in you paying 0.75% interest on your balance, disconnection of services or even prevent you having these services in the future.

Should you experience difficulties meeting the due date, and /or have any billing enquiries, our Billing Coordinator can assist. Please contact on 22341 or e-mail enquiries@connect.co.sh



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

CONSTRUCTION OF ANIMAL HANDLING FACILITY

St Helena Government is seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified contractors to undertake the proposed construction of an Animal Handling Facility at St Helena Airport.

The works will include the construction of a concrete base slab and drainage line, and to assemble a prefabricated metal framed animal handling building.

For further information, please contact the Project Manager, Mark Plato, on tel: 22270 or via email: mark.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh

The closing date for Expressions of Interest to be submitted is 12 noon on Friday, 27 May 2022, and should be addressed to Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, at Essex House, Jamestown.

11 May 2022



PROVISIONAL REGISTER OF ELECTORS PUBLISHED

The Provisional Register of Electors was published on Monday, 9 May 2022.

Members of the public now have up until Tuesday, 24 May 2022, to make any amendments to the Register to ensure that the final version, that will be effective from 1 July 2022, is as up-to-date and accurate as possible.

Eligible persons can:

- Apply to amend any of their personal details which may be out of date. For example, they may have changed their name since they last applied to be included on the Register, or may now live in a different Electoral District and would like to change their address
- Amend the Register to enable voting in a different district from that in which you reside. For example: an eligible person may live in Longwood and work in Jamestown, so when there is an election, it may be more convenient for them to vote in Jamestown during the working day
- Apply to include their name in the Register. Persons eligible to be registered must: (a) Have St Helenian Status as defined in the Immigration Ordinance, 2011; and (b) be 17 years of age or older with St Helena as their ordinary place of residence
- Apply to remove their name, or the name of someone who has died or left the Island or who might be no longer eligible for inclusion in the Register.

The Provisional Register can be found on the SHG Website via: https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/news/ government-gazettes/.

Hard copies will be available at the following locations:

- Post & Customer Service Centre, Jamestown
- Public Library, Jamestown
- ENRPP Offices, Scotland
- Rural sub Post Offices.



Copies are also held by the Registration and Assistant Registration Officers, who are Carol Henry, Gillian Francis, Connie Johnson, and Anita Legg, at the Castle, Jamestown, and the Assistant Registration Officers: Alfreda Yon, Alicia Thomas, Anita Legg, Brenda Thomas, Christina Henry, Connie Johnson, Douglas Bennett, Elizabeth March, Georgina Young, Jane Augustus, Karen Yon, Michelle Yon, Olive Williams, Pamela Joshua, Paula Moyce, Phyllis Coleman, Robert Essex, and Stedson Francis. A copy is also available at the Office of the Administrator, Ascension Island.

Applications to amend the Register using the prescribed form 'A' will need to be submitted to the Registration Officer, at the Castle, by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 24 May 2022.

Any person who wishes to have their name included on the register and who is temporarily absent from the Island for purposes of employment, education, or medical treatment will be required to use the prescribed form 'B'.

Forms 'A' and 'B' are available on the SHG website via: https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/publicinformation/elections/. Copies are also available from the Registration and Assistant Registration Officers and the Castle Reception.

Further information about registering and making amendments may be obtained from the Registration Officer, Carol Henry, at the Castle, on tel: 22470 or via email: carol.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh.

#StHelena #ProvisionalRegisterOfElectors

https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/ https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt SHG, 11 May 2022

From Our Friends in the South Atlantic -Tristan da Cunha



Gough Island Mice Eradication "the conservation equivalent of landing on the Moon"

It is now 20 years since it was first suspected mice were devastating the seabird population on Gough Island, 250 miles south of Tristan da Cunha and the most isolated island of the Tristan archipelago. After exploratory visits, video footage of mice attacking Tristan albatross chicks as a source of food was captured in 2004. Atlantic petrel and shearwater chicks were suffering the same fate. In the following years other avian species were victims of mice; an estimate that 3 million chicks and eggs were lost every year was generally accepted.

Work started to find out if it was a practical proposition to eradicate all the mice on Gough Island. Led by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) with support from at least 14 other leading environmental organisations it was decided in 2013 that a project aimed at making the mouse population on Gough Island a thing of the past was possible.

While possible, it was a tough proposition. Mice are more difficult to eradicate than rats. Bait needed to stick to cliffs to cover every mouse territory. Ways had to be found to get to the mice living in lava tubes, effectively underground. Bait laying had to be done in the unforgiving winter months at 40 degrees south when food for mice was scarce and the mice would be far more likely to take the bait. The land birds, Gough moorhens and Gough buntings had to be captured to protect them from eating the bait distributed for mice. The sea birds feed from the sea and most of the population of eight million breeding birds from at least 24 different species migrate in the winter months. Worldleading experts had to be organised for a further exploratory visit to work out the details of the project which is also a challenging expedition. Getting berths on the annual re-supply ship to Gough Island was just one of the complex problems. Using expert New Zealand helicopter pilots flying South African helicopters over a UK Overseas Territory carries with it layers of



complexity which those of us not involved with the project management can never imagine. For such a large and intricate enterprise there was just one chance to get the ± 10.5 million project right. While different contingencies were anticipated and planned for, no-one new about the coronavirus pandemic as the project planners aimed for a start in 2019.

It was originally intended to start what is called the Gough Island Restoration Project in 2019. However the never ending complexities and complications and the unexpected meant the start had to be deferred to the following winter. In 2020 the pan-



demic struck just as the Restoration project was starting to mobilise. Advance teams were already on Gough Island and others where in Cape Town waiting for a ship. The severity of the pandemic then became fully realised and the possibility of getting New Zealand pilots and South African helicopters all together on a remote UK Overseas Territory with people gathered from across the world suddenly did not exist. All the painstaking planning had to be cancelled and a further £1 million in extra costs was the result. Getting the advance team now marooned on Gough Island back to a mainland somewhere was a project in itself. After that the team members had to be repatriated to eight countries across 4 continents.

Third time lucky? Another attempt to start the Restoration Project was set up for 2021. The first team arrived at Gough Island on 9th February, the second team on 10th March 2021. These teams were tasked to build accommodation, storage, work areas and aviaries to keep the Gough land birds safe during the baiting. The second team focussed on capturing the land



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The St Helena Independent Volume XVII, Issue 23, Friday 13th May 2022

From Our Friends in the South Atlantic -Tristan da Cunha

Continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

birds and taking them to safety. The team from Tristan arrived on 21st March. On the 3rd June the helicopter team arrived. The first calm spell in the weather happened on 13th June 2021 and the helicopters started distributing the first bait. The first distribution of bait was completed on 23rd June. This involved distributing bait on the ground as well as from the air. The ground baiting included 500 bait stations and hand distribution points, about 200 traps and many monitoring devices. A second application of bait for the mice was distributed from 25th June to 1st July 2021.

The remote monitoring devices clearly showed the mice were taking the bait and were hungry enough to travel 100 metres or more to find some to eat. Three days after the first baiting. mice detection rates plummeted. Checks on the ground found the bait in upland areas remained in good condition after heavy rain and that some lowland areas were clear of all bait (eaten by mice) two weeks after the first application. Much of the vegetation on lowland areas is fern bush habitat. Closer inspection raised suspicion that two types on non-native slug were eating the bait as well as the mice. Five days after the second bait application it was clear fewer mice were around to take the bait but in fern bush habitat the bait was disappearing faster than expected. These areas were baited for a third time. Before August passed the baiting operation was complete and the operation was wound down to a team remaining to monitor the results of the project.

No mice were seen on Gough Island since the beginning of July. Albatross chicks were free from mouse wounds in the two most closely monitored bird colonies on Gough. All looked promising until mid-December.

On 14th December 2021 the RSPB released a statement saying a mouse had been clearly identified on a remote monitoring device near the South African Weather Station Base. One month later RSPB reported, "Our team on island has been running a targeted monitoring and response operation to assess the extent of mouse presence across a range of locations and intercept any individuals identified. This work remains ongoing. The team has unfortunately caught a further four mice in two other locations. These records of multiple mice mean that the Gough Island Restoration Programme has not been successful in its primary objective to eradicate every single mouse from Gough, although it will bring some respite from the immense predation pressure experienced by the birds there."

Monitoring on Gough Island continues in order to establish the extent of mouse survival, identify the locations where they have been able to survive and find out the reasons why. Detailed records of the bait laying, by air and on the ground will also be reviewed to see if any indication exists for the cause of very limited mouse survival.

In the meantime the Gough Island birds have had a significantly more successful breeding season than for many years passed. Atlantic petrels appear to have raised twice as many chicks. Other species show similar results. The limited number of mice that remain will be the start of a further population expansion but this will take time. The Gough Island birds have time to build up their populations once more and experts in mice eradication have time to improve technology, techniques and tactics.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all of our funders and supporters, both organisations and individuals alike.



Other organisations funding the Gough Island **Restoration Project**

Information for this article was supplied by



ENVISIONING THE FACES OF THE LIBERATED AFRICANS

Researcher Andree Cunningham is leading a project to reconstruct what some of the 'Liberated Africans' may have looked like. She is looking for community members to participate in a working group!

Meeting Date: May 17, 6 PM, Saint Helena Museum

Who can join? **Group Tasks** The working group will review • Anyone interested in Rupert's historic photographs and Valley, history, and art portraits and collectively • Artists with experience in choose features to include in creating realistic human the reconstructions (e.g., hairstyles, jewelry). Disclaimer: Reconstructions are a historically informed artistic practice. Any resemblance to real persons is purely coincidental. To join, visit and rean acunning ham.com/contact-me or contact Helena Bennett, the Director of the Saint Helena National Trust: Helena.Bennett@trust.org.sh.

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From Our Friends in the South Atlantic -Falkland Islands

Executive Council Gives Go-Ahead for New Port – Overruling Planning and Building Committee

The Falkland Islands is on its way to getting a new port. From August 2020 to September 2021 there have been stakeholder discussions, surveys, studies and design development. In April last year it is reported a design and build contract was awarded for the new port facility. In March this year the Falklands government Executive Council approved the port development planning application. Many will say awarding the contract to build the port before development permission has been given is akin to putting the cart before the horse. The Falklands Planning and Building Committee appeared to be unmoved by the award of the design and build award of contract before they considered the development application; they recommended to Executive Council that the planning application should be refused.

Resignation in Protest

When the Executive Council approved the planning application, one member of the Planning and Building Committee resigned in protest. Jo Turner, a very active and involved member of the Falkland community gave reasons for her resignation. She has serious concerns about the port including the intention to put a road through Stanley Growers (a flourishing greenhouse, nursery, and floriculture producer earning an estimated £110,000 a year), the expensive option chosen to dismantle the FIPASS (Falkland Islands Intermediate Port and Storage System) barges, smell from silt bags, high costs of the port and lack of good quality public engagement. "Not a word any of us has said has been listened to," said Jo, and she felt she had no other option but to resign.

A spokesman for Falklands Conservation, the largest non-governmental conservation organisation on the Falklands said, "The decision to progress the current proposal rubber stamps a process that failed to deliver the political and community mandate for the environment. Disappointingly, poor





A concept design for the new port at Stanley, including the ability for up to five ships to be moored alongside accommodating fishing, general cargo and cruise ships. The central cargo storage area is 400 metres

long. stakeholder engagement combined with a weak EIS (Environment Impact Statement) has led to missed opportunities for Stanley's coastal environment. The integration of environmental policy objectives and commitments into decision making from the start would have avoided these issues. Stronger and more ambitious planning conditions may go some way towards addressing the issues, but are unlikely to be sufficient."

In the absence of information being received from the Falkland Islands government, it appears that outline permission was given at the March Exco meeting. Media reports on progress with the plans for the new port say Falklands Exco are expected to be asked for final approval (or to consider a full planning application) towards the end of this year. It is possible further surveys are required and the concept designs need to be developed into detailed designs. After final approval it is expected construction will take three years.

FIPASS Built in FIVE Months

The port now in use, the Falkland Islands Intermediate Port and Storage System or FIPASS, was built soon after the Falkland War. It is described as probably the most ingenious and revolutionary bit of ship to shore logistics capability that no one has ever heard of and is deceptively simple. The need for a large, efficient port was obvious when a large volume of construction materials and personnel was needed for the construction of the Mount Pleasant Complex and the nearby Mare Harbour. Costs rose as large bottleneck/ as ships were unable to unload and incurring demurrage charges.



Two FLO – FLO ships (float on – float off) were used to bring the barges to the Falklands and float them into position. Warehouses, refrigerated storage and accommodation can also be seen carried on the barges. Also on one of the FLO – FLO ships was a crane barge used during construction.

From Our Friends in the South Atlantic -Falkland Islands

A UK company was awarded the contract to build the port. This company had wide experience in offshore construction, mainly in the North Sea oil industry and committed to completing the port construction in just 5 months. The backbone of the FIPAAS port is 6 North Sea oil rig barges weighing 10,000 tonnes each, deadweight, and measuring 91 metres by 27 metres. The 6 massive barges were configured in two rows of three with a smaller barge used as a linkspan. All of this was linked to the shore by a 180 metre causeway. The configuration of barges was kept in position by groups of mooring points.

When complete and operational the first cargo ship unloaded 500 tonnes of general cargo and 60 containers in 30 hours. With the previous inadequate facilities this would have taken 21 days and larger cargo ships would have taken a month to unload.

A local media report stated, "All this cost $\pounds 23$ million, or about $\pounds 50$ million in today's money but it saved a small fortune in keeping refrigerated vessels offshore and floating cold stores

and speeded/ unloading up immeasurably, in fact, it paid for itself in less than 2 years/ due largely to the excess shipping costs being eliminated." FIPASS is now almost 40 years old and due for renewal. A Spanish fishing vessel collided with it recently causing FIPASS to close temporarily.

In a press statement issued in September last year the Falklands government said, "The new port project is part of the Falkland Islands Government's overarching capital programme, which covers a range of initiatives including the development of a power station and government housing, investment in new sporting facilities and education, as well the government estate, the 1,000km road network and the extensive system of ramps and jetties throughout the Islands that form part of the national transport infrastructure." The press statement added, "Housing construction contract negotiations are also nearing completion and it is anticipated that works will commence on site, in Bennett's Paddock, before the end of the year. This will see the delivery of at least 40 new government properties over a period of 36 to 48 months."

From Our Friends in the South Atlantic -Ascension Island

Black Buck and Green Turtles

There was a time when, for Saints, taking a plane meant spending a night or two on Ascension Island; maybe longer to catch up with friends and family. The Jo'burg experience just isn't the same. Most of us will remember the Turtle Ponds at the Georgetown end of Long Beach – but more on that later.

Operation Black Buck

Memories of the Falklands War during this 40th anniversary year will be vivid for people who were on Ascension at the time. Several small events have been held this year, and more are planned, to commemorate events during the 74 day war. On 30th April a dinner was held at the RAF Ascension Island Base to mark the 40th anniversary of the first Operation Black Buck Vulcan bomber raid. It was the first of several Black Buck operations. The raids involved a return flight of about 7,500 mile from Wideawake to the Falklands; they were launched in advance of the arrival of the naval task force with the aim of damaging the Argentine defences.

The Vulcan Bomber was first delivered to the RAF in 1956; it was designed to carry nuclear weapons and often did so. By the time of the Falklands War the Vulcan was well on the road to retirement but its high altitude and high speed capabilities made this plane the best available for what was required with Operation Black Buck. Six Vulcan bombers had to be converted for re-fuelling in flight so they could fly the longest bomber



raids ever flown at that time. The return flight took 16 hours. Keeping the Vulcan in the air for this length of time required a massive support operation. There were many ocean-going fuel tankers in Clarence Bay for these operations.



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The St Helena Independent Volume XVII, Issue 23, Friday 13th May 2022

From Our Friends in the South Atlantic -Ascension Island

Continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

flight. The tanker planes had a similar range as the Vulcan bombers so tankers were needed to refuel other tankers. There were seven Operation Black Buck raids; five of the seven missions were completed with attacks on the Falklands runway, airport operational facilities and radar equipment. One Vulcan bomber had to make an emergency landing in Brazil because it was low on fuel. The damage caused to the runway was repaired in 24 hours but not to a standard which allowed fast jets to use it. The hits on radar equipment were also quickly repaired.

Military historians say the purpose of the Black Buck raids was to demonstrate Brit capability and military strength as much as cause damage to Argentine defences in the Falklands.

The Black Buck Operation was the result of two weeks of planning and training. Simon Baldwin who commanded No. 44 Squadron at RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire where some Vulcan bombers were based told *Lincolnshire Live* "It was Easter 1982. I was at home in married quarters at RAF Waddington. I lived next door to the station commander who came around to my quarters and said I was to convert our aircraft back into their role as conventional bombers. I also had to reintroduce in-flight refuelling, which we had not done since the 1970s. I needed also to plan an attack on the airfield at Stanley, which the Argentines would use for attacks of the naval taskforce. I thought to start with our raids were never going to happen and that they were never going to send us."

A little more than two weeks after receiving this order Vulcan bomber XM607, flown by Flight Lieutenant Martin Withers, dropped its bombs on Stanley runway during the first Black Buck raid on April 30/May 1, 1982.

Baldwin realised it was all deadly serious when crews for the plane tankers used for re-fuelling arrived at the Lincolnshire RAF Base. "Normally, you'd expect them to have a few beers, and start the next day. We had them in the Vulcan flight simulator then 20 minutes later they were in a Vulcan training our chaps on air refuelling. Normally you'd train in the simulator for six months."

In addition, the fuelling systems of the bombers at RAF Waddington had been sealed off and had to be refitted. The aircraft, by which time were equipped to only carry nuclear bombs, had to be retro-equipped with conventional bomb racks. But the old bomb racks had to be retrieved from dumps around the airfield - and even from a scrapyard 18 miles away. There were other problems, not all of them were resolved. There were ongoing problems with faulty valves in the refuelling probes, so much so that the Vulcan's windscreen wipers could not clear leaked fuel. This meant crews would "sit with it on top of an inflammable flying petrol tanker at 500mph". He said that at one point over the mid South Atlantic, pilot Martin Withers' visibility was so badly obscured that his navigator - who had a small glimpse through the glass from a lower posi-

tion in the aircraft - had to verbally guide him through the refuelling process.

The last flight of Vulcan bomber XH558 in October 2015 XH558 was one of the Vulcans in Operation Black Buck. Fifty years after the first Vulcan was delivered to the RAF a British Airways Concorde flew from London Heathrow to New York JFK in two hours, 52 minutes, and 59 seconds. A distance of 3,461 miles – 400 miles less than Wideawake to Stanley without re-fuelling.

Turtle Ponds Restored

Restoration has recently been completed at the Turtle Ponds. Following gradual erosion of the outer wall in the face of years of heavy sea rollers the turtle ponds fell into a state of disrepair. Rough seas in 2017-18 increased the damage. The first restoration work was undertaken in 2019 but rough seas caused further damage last year. The more recent damage is now repaired and further protection of the sea has been added with a break wall in front of the main outer wall of the ponds.



The Turtle Ponds after the 2019 restoration with funds donated by the Blue Marine Foundation

The Turtle Ponds were first built in 1815 and then expanded to what can be seen today in 1829. With the exception of the 2nd World War, turtles have not been captured for their meat since the early 1900s. The ponds were used to keep the green turtles alive until they were sold to ships or eaten onisland. Today, the ponds are used as a safe place to learn to swim or just to cool off. The green turtle population was decimated in the 100 years when they were exploited for their meat. In 1977 monitoring and conservation of Ascension Island green turtles was ramped up. A research paper published in 2014 found the population had increased by 500% during the intervening 37 years. The 2014 population was estimated to be around 14,800 adult females.

A turtle, lying on its back and roped to a trolley is pulled to the Turtle Ponds to await a buyer. The turtles had a sandy area where they could lay their eggs. The eggs were then collected and used as another source of food.

From the St Helena Golf Club Contributed by: SHGC

Golf Report for Sunday 8th May 2022

Another Sunday another competition. This time it was the Eileen Wallace sponsored stableford competition. A field of twenty players teed off to contest for a chance to win one of the prizes. As usual Eileen was very generous going by the prizes she sponsored. At the end of the competition when all the scores were in Eileen Wallace the sponsor of the event tied on top of the leaderboard with Mr Keith Joshua aka KJ with 38 points. She opted not to pick any of the prizes she sponsored which would have included longest drive for ladies. That left KJ as the official winner of the 1st prize followed in second place by Mr Leon Crowie with 36 points. The ladies captain Helena Stevens won both longest drive and nearest to pin prizes for the ladies. In the gent's category longest drive was won by Bramwell Bushuru on the 4th and Peter Bagley on the 17th while nearest to pin prize on the 5th was won by Leon Crowie and on the 14th Martin Buckley. Leon Crowie birdied the 5th to share the balls in the two-ball pool with Tony Green who birdied the 7th. The prizes were presented by the sponsor Eileen Wallace. Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you to Eileen Wallace for her generous sponsorship.

This coming Sunday 15th May 2022, the club will be hosting a Greensome choose your partner competition sponsored by the club. Tee off time is 12:00 noon. Registration closes on Saturday 14th at 3pm.

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





Happy swinging.....!

Longwood Guiding Raffle

PRIZE	SHEET NO	TICKET NO WINNER
Meat Hamper	43	19 Khloe Rose Williams, Sandy Bay
Dessert Hamper	20	18 Liza Williams, Sandy Bay
Pamper Hamper	44	19 Selene Gough, Thompsons Hill
Booze Hamper	40	1 Joan Yon
Meal @ Rosie's £20.00	25	21 Maureen Stone, Deadwood
Pura Vida £15.00 Voucher	43	2 Linda Richards- Half way
Scipione Racing £15.00 Voucher	2	14 Oscar Constantine-Alarm Forest
Bliss £10.00 Voucher	1	7 David Harding
Cara £5.00 Voucher	43	17 Linda Yon-Kunjie Field
Cara £5.00 Voucher	20	14 'Mervyn Reynolds- Kunji Field
Ruby's Gel nail voucher	44	22 Ivy Williams-Brewery Yard
Ladies Gift set	25	22 Julie Anthony
Bottle of Wine	1	13 Deborah Fowler- Levelwood
Picture Frame	44	18 Jacob Williams- HTH
Picture Frame	9	21 Johnny Carter- HTH
Knife Set	49	2 Jodie Lawrence- Sapper Way

We would like to thank everyone for supporting our fundraising events and look forward for your continued support. Special thanks to all those persons who kindly donated prizes for the Multi-Raffle, it was very much appreciated. Thanks also for parents and Leaders, for the donation towards our Bake Sale. Proceeds raised were as follows. Multi-Raffle- £808.00 Bake Sale - £292.00 TOTAL -£1100.00

Cricket News

Submitted by St Helena Cricket Association

Half Tree Hollow and Jamestown earned wins at the weekend, whilst Levelwood thumped St Pauls to get their campaign underway!

For everyone, St Pauls V Levelwood was absolutely written to be the game of the weekend and fans and neutrals alike turned out to watch what became a disappointing game from St Pauls perspective.

On a bright Sunday afternoon, Levelwood won the toss and opted to bat, and the opening batsmen started at a rate of 10 per over with Dane Leo (15) Clayton Leo (31) and Shavone Leo (46) quickly seeing the score rise to over a hundred. Contributions of 44 from Sanjay Clingham, 17 from Nathan Knipe and 21 from Greg Coleman, saw Levelwood close at 197 for six at 20 overs, this included 21 extras.

Damian Burns was the pick of the bowlers 3/51, Jordi Henry 2/27 and Kyle Bennett took 1/8.

In response AJ Bennet for St Pauls knocked a quick 22 of 12 balls before being caught by Greg Coleman of Clayton Leo. Dax Richards (4) Matthew Benjamin (5) David George (3) and Jordi Henry (7) saw St Pauls 44/5 in 10 overs. Only other notable scores were Mikee Williams 16 and Damian Burns 18 and St Pauls fell on 98/10 in 18 overs.

Man of the Match Clayton Leo, took 4/27 and Greg Coleman 2/20 .

Result, Levelwood 197, beat St Pauls 98, by 99 runs.

Earlier that day, Half Tree Hollow (HTH) faced Longwood.

Longwood had won the toss and opted to field. HTH started brightly with David Price and Ashton Benjamin and quickly got the run rate to 10 per over, before Ashton was dismissed in the 5th over. Chris Owen was next and he scored 14 and was replaced by Andrew Yon, who seemed intent on setting some targets, but some brilliant fielding by Sean Lee Thomas, saw him run out in the 16th over, having scored 36. Cliff Richards made the only other notable score of 24, and ducks from Wayne Crowie and Ben Dillon saw HTH end 134/9.

Matthias Young took 2/35 with all other bowlers took a wicket each.

Longwood's innings started dismally with openers Weston Clingham and Alex Langham both dismissed for a duck. Kenan Baily added a quick 21 as Longwood found themselves 4/34 in 10 overs. 15 from Joey Thomas and 16 from Mathias Young did improve the score line, but not enough to win them the match as they ended 80/10.

Man of the Match Chris Owen took 4/15

Result – HTH 134/9 beat Longwood 80, by 54 runs.

On Saturday, Jamestown and Sandy Bay got their campaigns



Cricket News

Submitted by St Helena Cricket Association

underway in a match which was guite comfortably won by Jamestown.

Sandy Bay, who had won the toss and opted to bat, saw Rhys Francis bat 19 overs, before being run out on 69, with 25 by Ronan Legg. Chadwin lawrence, Ian Williams, Kieron Williams and Brooklyn Fowler all added ducks to their seasons portfolio and Sandy Bay ended 135/10

Callem Ellick took 3/24, Jason George 2/3 and Damien Obey 2/4.

#Jamestown openers Kurt Jonas and Damian Obey got off to a very good start and Kurt offered a guick 21 runs before being caught by Brett Isaac. Damian went on to make 15, with the other notable contribution from Scott Crowie on 45 not out as Jamestown ended '137/4 of 15 overs.

Rhys Francis took 2 wicket and Ronan Legg and William Knipe 1 wicket each.

Man of the Match - Callem Ellick.

Result - Sandy Bay 135, lost to Jamestown 137/4 by 6 wickets.

This week

On Saturday afternoon, St Pauls will looking to get back to winning ways when they meet Half Tree Hollow who started the tournament with a win.



On Sunday morning, Sandy Bay, will try to recover from their defeat by Jamestown as they face Levelwood who will be in high spirits after a convincing win over St Pauls and on Sunday afternoon Jamestown will play Longwood.

Remember if you cannot get to Francis Plain to watch the action, then you can follow on our CricHeroes App.

Until next week... enjoy the cricket

Derek Richards St Helena Cricket Association





ST HELENA COVID-19 STATUS UPDATE

Following routine testing on Saturday, 7 May 2022, positive COVID-19 case(s) were identified in Home Quarantine. Positive results were also received from the re-testing of person(s) testing positive for COVID-19 in Home Quarantine on Saturday, 23 April 2022.

All person(s) who have tested positive, will remain in guarantine in compliance with St Helena's COVID-19 protocols.

All COVID-19 protocols are being followed.

Members of the public should continue to practice good respiratory and hand hygiene and are thanked for your continued cooperation.

The public will be updated when there are no longer positive cases in quarantine.

St Helena's current COVID-19 testing protocol requires testing to be undertaken on arrival to St Helena upon entering the 7 or 10 day guarantine period. The next test is carried out on Day 6 or 9. Currently there is no routine testing undertaken to detect if a person(s) status has changed before Day 6 or 9.

SHG 11 May 2022



All About Football From the First Goal to the Last



Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp cannot see Manchester City slipping up in the Premier League title race after his side dropped precious points at Anfield for the first time since October in a draw with Tottenham on Saturday.

The result takes Liverpool top on goal difference but Pep Guardiola's side can move three points clear with three games remaining if they defeat Newcastle United on Sunday.

Son Heung-min swept the counter-attacking visitors in front after 56 minutes following a link-up between Harry Kane and Ryan Sessegnon and with the Liverpool defence disorganised.

Liverpool naturally flooded forward for an equaliser but it took a heavily deflected shot from Luis Diaz 16 minutes from time to pierce Spurs' packed defence and draw the home side level.

Spurs continued to defend with resolution after the equaliser and were also a threat on the break as they battled to take something from the game and enhance their top-four challenge.

"I can't see it," said Klopp when asked if City might drop points. "I wish I could think differently but I can't see it.

On Sunday Manchester City shrugged off the disappointment of their Champions League semi-final exit at Real Madrid to sweep aside Newcastle United and open a three-point lead at the top of the Premier League.



The reigning champions took advantage of Liverpool's draw with Tottenham Hotspur with an impressive response that not only strengthened their position at the Premier League summit but also markedly improved their goal difference.

Chris Wood wasted a glorious early chance for Newcastle to add to City's nerves and his side paid the price when Raheem Sterling headed Pep Guardiola's team in front after 19 minutes.

Aymeric Laporte added a second before half-time after Newcastle keeper Martin Dubravka fumbled Ilkay Gundogan's volley and Rodri made sure of the victory with a near-post header from Kevin de Bruyne's corner just after the hour mark.

City, with Newcastle deflated and outclassed, improved their goal difference even further when substitute Phil Foden struck in the closing moments, turning in Oleksandr Zinchenko's touch, before Sterling completed the rout with a close-range finish in added time.

On Wednesday, Kevin de Bruyne's stunning four-goal haul helped Manchester City thump Wolves and restored their three-point lead at the top of the Premier League.

Pep Guardiola's side now need only four points from their final two fixtures to ensure they will finish above Liverpool and win their fourth title in five seasons.



Apart from the intense fight between Manchester City and Liverpool, Leeds United boss Jesse Marsch had a feeling of "deja vu" after his side conceded early and had a player sent off in the 3-0 defeat by Chelsea which keeps them in the relegation zone with two games to go.

Chelsea led through Mason Mount's fourth-minute strike before Daniel James was shown a straight red card for a dangerous high tackle on Mateo Kovacic.

Christian Pulisic and Romelu Lukaku added to Chelsea's lead as they close in on sealing a Champions League spot.

On Sunday, Leeds conceded twice in the first 10 minutes against Arsenal and had Luke Ayling sent off in a 2-1 defeat.



All About Football From the First Goal to the Last



Manchester United suffered a humiliating defeat at the hands of a rampant Brighton at the Amex Stadium - a result that confirmed United would not qualify for next season's Champions League.

Ecuador international Moises Caicedo put the hosts ahead with his first Premier League goal in only his sixth game, with a low 25-yard strike after United's Alex Telles had failed to clear.

The visitors, in interim boss Ralf Rangnick's penultimate game in charge before he is replaced by Erik ten Hag, fell apart in the second half, conceding three goals in quick succession.

Marc Cucurella fired into the roof of the net from Leandro Trossard's pull-back for the second, with Trossard setting up Pascal Gross to calmly steer in a third.

Trossard scored Brighton's fourth when he bundled the ball over the line from close range, with the goal eventually given after a video assistant review checked for a handball.

The defeat was United's fifth successive away loss and ensured they cannot finish higher than their current spot of sixth in the Premier League, with only the top four playing in next season's Champions League.



Tottenham turned up the pressure on arch-rivals Arsenal in the race for a place in next season's Champions League with an emphatic north London derby victory yesterday.

Arsenal could have confirmed a place in the Premier League's top four with a win at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium but endured a dismal night to now stand only one point clear of Spurs with two games left.

In a feverish atmosphere, Harry Kane gave Spurs the lead from the spot in the 22nd minute after Son Heung-min was fouled by Cedric Soares, then added a second before the break with a stooping far-post header after Rodrigo Bentancur flicked on a corner.

In between, Arsenal had been reduced to 10 men when Rob Holding was shown a second yellow card for a foul on Son, while the South Korean finished off any hopes the Gunners had when he fired in from 10 yards two minutes after halftime.



Saturday 7th May Brentford 3 Southampton 0 Burnley 1 Aston Villa 3 Chelsea 2 Wolverhampton Wanderers 2 Crystal Palace 1 Watford 0 Brighton & Hove Albion 4 Manchester United 0 Liverpool 1 Tottenham Hotspur 1 Sunday 8th May Arsenal 2 Leeds United 1 Leicester City 1 Everton 2 Norwich City 0 West Ham United 4 Manchester City 5 Newcastle United 0 Tuesday 10th May Aston Villa 1 Liverpool 2 Wednesday 11th May Leeds United 0 Chelsea 3 Leicester City 3 Norwich City 0 Watford 0 Everton 0 Wolverhampton Wanderers 1 Manchester City 5 Thursday 12th May Tottenham Hotspur 3 Arsenal 0

Fixtures

Saturday 14th May THE FA CUP FINAL Chelsea 15:45 Liverpool PREMIER LEAGUE

Sunday 15th May Tottenham Hotspur 11:00 Burnley Aston Villa 13:00 Crystal Palace Leeds United 13:00 Brighton & Hove Albion Watford 13:00 Leicester City West Ham United 13:00 Manchester City Wolverhampton Wanderers 13:00 Norwich City Everton 15:30 Brentford Monday 16th May Newcastle United 19:00 Arsenal Tuesday 17th May Southampton 18:45 Liverpool Thursday 19th May Everton 18:45 Crystal Palace Aston Villa 19:00 Burnley Chelsea 19:00 Leicester City

Monsoon Season on Ascension *Kitty George and Alasdair Bain*

On 7th and 28th April, Ascension suffered two consecutive torrential rainfalls which resulted in parts of the Island's public roads being damaged and buildings being flooded. High rainfall intensity in Two Boats Village forced some residents to relocate in the middle of the night after their homes became flooded with water and mud, and Two Boats School to close on Thursday 28 April. Needles Road was closed for several days after flooding eroded the road, causing surfacing to collapse.





Two weeks on from the flooding and the clean-up operation continues with the AIG teams working in collaboration with other organisations and residents to restore normality on the Island.



As a result of the heavy rains, the grass seeds that usually lie dormant in the ground for many years, have germinated. Ascension's usually brown and stark landscape has transformed into a lush green that is only seen once every three or four years, much to the delight of the local donkeys.

Some areas of the Island such as the Marty Wade off-road track , which grants access to our conservation team to carry out sea bird monitoring and to facilitate land rescue to letter box walkers, sustained severe damages. The sheer force of the water runoff from the hills caused parts of the road to collapse and washed out other areas leading to 10ft by 10ft craters appearing.

