THE ST HELENA Est. 2005



INDEPENDENT

VOLUME XVII ISSUE 26, 2nd JUNE 2022, PRICE £1

All Very Quiet on Equiano



Marine Centre Officially
Opens Next Week



Schedule of all the Jubilee Events



The Museum - 20 Years Old This Year



This year on St Helena's Day the Museum of St Helena celebrated its 20th year since opening!

The Museum opened on the day and celebrated with a cake, generously donated by Solomons, while we also had a few temporary displays showing St Helena through the years – Charles Frater's 1962 film, photographs from 1982 from the exhibition Lives of the Saints, and a selection of 2002 newspapers to take a look back at the island when the Museum of St Helena first opened.

It was often commented at how much the island has changed but also how much has stayed the same "plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose"!

The Museum would like to thank everyone for the support over the past 20 years, here's looking forward to the next 20!

In November 1979 with the establishment of the St Helena Heritage Society a proper Museum of St Helena began to form, on the 23rd May 1980 the Heritage Society opened a museum at Broadway House. Over the next 20 years the Museum collection grew and eventually outgrew Broadway House, becoming rather, cluttered and unmanageable.

This led to the establishment of a new Museum appeal and eventual acquisition of the Old Power House building in Lower Jamestown next to Jacob's Ladder. In the Museum we provide vital curation and stewardship of sensitive historic items on behalf of the community with limited financial resources. The Museum also has an extensive physical and digital ar-



The Deputy Governor Greg Gibson and Janice Gibson celebrate 20 years of the Museum of St Helena



The Heritage Society is responsible for and operates the Museum of St Helena

chive of images, video and documents all relating to the island's heritage.

There are plans to incorporate the adjacent building, the former PWD Store, into a greater Museum, Library, and Archives and form a 'Cultural Centre' for the Island of St Helena.

Story of Bones on Local TV?

A few days ago the film made by Dom de Vere and Ed Curran about the liberated African burial grounds in Rupert's Valley, 'The Story of Bones', featured on the New York ABC television channel - WABC.

It was the story behind the film, not the film itself. WABC described their TV programme as "the story behind the discovery of the single largest remaining trace of the trans-Atlantic slave trade." The description goes on, "The documentary, 'A Story of Bones,' tells the story of a previously unknown burial ground on Britain's St. Helena Island, where in 2012, the remains of 10,000 African men, women and children were discovered." Not the best researched bit of journalism but, as the man said, any publicity is good publicity.

The Story of Bones will feature at a big New York film festival

which starts on 8th June. The TV preview is good exposure for the film which will compete with eleven other films for the 'Best Documentary' prize.

Dom de Vere and Ed Curran hope to bring the film to show in St Helena when quarantine regulations are relaxed and flights more frequent. The *Independent* contacted Dominic de Vere to ask whether showing the film on the local TV channel has been considered. This would get around the obstructions to travelling here personally and it's possible there could be several viewings of the film. Dominic de Vere said it was "a super-interesting option" and will find out if a local viewing can be arranged.

Celebrate the Mystical Bond Between Queen and People

From the weekly Catholic publication 'The Tablet'

The forthcoming Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II can be seen as a celebration of the good fortune of the British nation to have such a remarkable person as Head of State. Even at 96 after 70 years on the throne, her personal charm, good cheer and smiling face can still break through the clouds of gloom that otherwise overshadow the nation's public affairs. Her Government is in crisis and her Prime Minister in disgrace; millions of her people are having to choose between eating and heating as the cost of living soars ever upwards; a vicious war in Europe brings a threat of global starvation ... This is as exceptional a time of trial as any she has faced in her reign.

Monarchy supplies continuity, and therefore, hope. Her flag flying over Buckingham Palace seems to say - however depressingly dark things are - they will ultimately brighten. Perhaps the bond between Crown and people needs a metaphysical imagination to understand it fully, but also to address the challenges it faces. Can a diverse post-Christian society still make sense of kingship? Can it be reinvented for the secular world, to last another 70 years, or another 700? With a Coro-cism. The bond between Crown and people is a natural one nation of King Charles III almost certain in the next five years, strengthened by the grace of God. these questions ought not to be avoided. What kind of service could it be? Can it be according to the ancient quasi-sacra- As Shakespeare put it in Richard II: "Not all the water in the established Church?

she set a tone that still leaves its mark. Such things cannot be ous. What a model of Christian fortitude she is! analysed pragmatically; they belong in the realm of mysti-





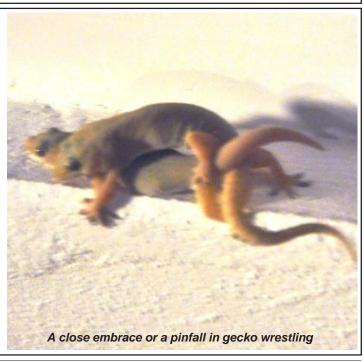
mental rite last used in 1953, administered exclusively by the rough rude sea can wash the balm from an anointed king." In other words the anointing and crowning brings about an ontological change in the person on whom they are bestowed, akin That the Queen takes her religious duties seriously can never to baptism or ordination. In the medieval world, and in line with be doubted. She works her deep and sincere Christian faith ancient biblical ideas of kingship, a Coronation was treated into every Christmas broadcast and many in between, in a like an eighth sacrament. "God save the king, long live the way that avoids offending those who do not share it. She re-king" comes from chapter one of the First Book of Kings, demembers her Coronation in 1953 and the vows she took there. scribing the anointing of Solomon. This fits well with how Queen In the name of politicians, judges, civil servants, the police and Elizabeth sees her duty. Despite problems in her own immediarmed forces, and all who serve in her name, she swore before ate family, and the recent loss of her lifelong friend and com-God to uphold justice and mercy, and defend the poor. In this panion, the Duke of Edinburgh, she is indeed happy and glori-

The Curious Case of the Two Geckos

A family of geckos that spend most of every night on the verandah ceiling usually work with each other in some way of just ignore each other as they look for moths and other insects to trap in their mouths.

On Tuesday/Wednesday night there was the sight of one gecko on top of another and they did not appear to be contributing to the continued existence of their species. A few photo flashes distracted the pair and the gecko underneath 'escaped' and ran to hide behind the wall light.

The escaping gecko was juvenile, maybe half the length of the bigger than usual adult that seems trapping it under its own body and against the wall. The adult gecko watched where the juvenile went and followed it. What went on behind the wall light isn't known.



I'm sure it will be irritating for the people who have had to arrange a COVID-19 test at the flu pod this morning. If they are not irritated they should be. It is unreasonable for the South African government to announce last Friday that with immediate effect only QR codes will be accepted as proof of COVID-19 vaccinations for entry into South Africa. How unreasonable can anyone be? The South African government would never be able to react instantly to such an instruction. This is borne out by our own government's advice to passengers to get a COVID-19 test because despite sending a request for passengers from St Helena to be exempt from this QR code requirement they do not expect to receive a response or that an exemption will be given. SHG's last announcement on this change was on Tuesday so it can be safely assumed the 'immediate effect' bureaucrats are still asleep at their desks.

One thing it has done is motivate me to find out more about QR codes. I know one when I see one and understand they can be scanned, like a bar code, to get information from them. With other things to think about I have not thought further about QR codes, until know.

First, the QR in QR codes stands for Quick Response. What are they used for? These days, you can find QR codes on everything from chocolate wrappers to advertisements. Scanning these modern-day barcodes with your smartphone lets you quickly open a web page, download an app, send a text message, and much more. Many restaurants and bars are even replacing their menus with QR codes, while some stores allow you to pay with a QR code, so you don't have to touch anything.

All the scanning seems to be done with a smartphone or iphone but cash (or non-cash) tills in shops and a hundred other places must have them too. And, I've just found out, a Google Screen Search allows people to scan QR codes without an app and instantly by using the webcam in the computer.

Anyone can create a QR code; you just need the right app. They are called QR generators it seems. The Google mobile app store is the place to go for this. I hope I'm not the only one who doesn't know all this stuff. What you do with the QR generator is something I will leave to find out another day.

QR codes have been in existence since 1994. They were invented by an original thinker and very bright chap called Masahiro Hara who worked for Denso Wave, a Japanese car maker. Denso Wave decided not to take out a patent on this invention and they continued to improve and refine how the QR code worked. It was not until 2002 the first mobile phones contained built-in QR readers; they were marketed in Japan. The introduction of smartphones and iphones increased the use of QR codes. In 2020 Denso Wave continued to improve on their original design. Their new QR codes include traceability, brand protection and anti-forgery measures. There are many new uses for the QR code, including transferring payments.

If anybody can create a QR code and everybody can scan it (except me – owning a smartphone is against my religion) it should

be possible for SHG to set up a QR code system for proof of COVID-19 vaccinations. Apart from that immediate benefit it is certain that QR codes have become a necessity and frequent daily use of QR codes is probably inevitable so we may as well get used to it. It also seems inevitable that if we do not get into our stride with QR codes we will fall behind again on yet another techno-communication advance which is taken for granted by the rest of the world. That too will be another drag on any economic development opportunity which may come along.

We must all know by now that our ministerial team have given the go-ahead to explore the possibilities for growing cannabis for medicinal use and export only. I have to say why export only because that discriminates against us here who need it for our aches and pains. But that's not my point at the moment. It's a well known fact that up to 30% of people with depression don't respond to anti-depressants. That's why scientific attention has turned to psilocybin which is the active ingredient in magic mushrooms. Work done with MRI brain scanning shows psilocybin temporarily changes some connections in the brain making the person under the influence more relaxed, less self-conscious and more outward looking. A couple of psychedelic sessions have been shown to improve the mental outlook of some depressed people.

If you lived almost anywhere else than St Helena you would now look back over the last two years and wonder why it was that one or two people you know never caught COVID-19. Scientists are checking out how this can be but, as usual, there is no simple answer. Not having been infected is ofcourse different from being asymptomatic but since both appear to be unaffected by the pandemic the asymptomatic have to be sorted from those who have not been infected. There are hospital workers and family members in houses full of infected parents, brothers and sisters who have never tested positive for COVID-19. Some theories being tested at the moment are lack of receptors needed for the virus to gain access to cells. The immune system might react so quickly against the invading virus, the virus cannot take hold and finally the genetic makeup of person may be the reason for immunity. It is known that a genetic cause has been identified in nearly 20% of critical cases so a genetic cause may also be a reason for natural immunity to COVID-19. The answers will be known one day for sure.

The price of platinum is around £756 per ounce or £24,325 per kilo.

Make sure you enjoy your platinum weekend; The Queen's birthday is next Friday but she was born on 21st April.

By the way, I have some Kenco Tassimo coffee pods I can't use because I don't have a Tassimo machine and have no intention of getting one. If you have a Tassimo machine and want some pods. Get in touch.

Vince

All Very Quiet on Equiano

Vince Thompson

The new SHG Strategy tells us the government will ensure the Island's community benefits from enhanced and affordable internet connectivity. It is the only official mention of the Equiano cable for several weeks. While Google have two or three cable laying ships busy on the final stages of laying the Equiano cable on the seabed the preparations at the St Helena end for the big switch-on are hidden behind a curtain of silence. The strategy uses the word 'ensure' when saying there will be faster and cheaper internet across the Island. We can read into this they will make certain it happens. But this certainty seems to have more than a touch of bravado when, as far as is known, there are still some important pieces of the jigsaw to put in place.

First, we still do not have a telecom provider to take over from Sure when their contract runs out at the end of this year. Time is fast running out to get a new contract signed with an alternative telecom provider. It will surely take more than 4 or 5 months to get a new telecom service in place, hopefully with a comprehensive fibre optic network. A bit of breathing space opened up because the laying of the main cable from Portugal to South Africa has slipped behind schedule; a popular guess is that it will not be operational until early next year. Even so, the deadline for a new telecom provider remains the end of this year.

Being left without internet, a phone service, TV, the BBC World Service and satellite phone connections from the 1st January 2023 is a possibility but unlikely. Sure is unlikely to pull the plug just as New Year revellers say hello to 2023. This has nothing to do with the revellers being left in the dark, unable to find a bottle opener or cork screw. It is all to do with Sure and their parent company Bahrain Telecom Co. getting a bad business reputation by leaving the entire island in an impossible position. An extension to Sure's contract, probably 12 months, is the most likely outcome. This will mean another year of satellite signals, copper wire connections and emails from Sure telling us to please be advised that your inclusive data allowance has dropped to 100Mb or lower and your balance is currently at minus 154.929 Mb or something worse.



Enthusiasm at the cable landing in August last year



Not having a new telecom provider in place puts all of us in a weak position and we have to be satisfied if Sure agree to stay on an extra year.

Another thing about wrapping up the Sure contract is the clause in the telecom legislation which says the outgoing telecom provider will be paid a fair value for their telecom assets in St Helena. This clause is unbelievably outrageous and if it goes through on face value is likely to cost taxpayers a few £million which could be so usefully spent on our cashstrapped government services. There has been no word on how this will be resolved and we are not likely hear anything about it until way past the event. This clearly fits into the category of 'delicate business matter' and lips will be sealed. But it is still an obstacle in the path towards 21st century telecommunications.

Another big bill which needs paying is the several hundred thousand pounds that Google charge for the use of their cable. That's fair enough; they did not lay it from Europe to South Africa as a charitable gesture. A sobering thought is that while we continue to pay Sure for satellite signals sent across the Island through copper wire we are also paying Google for a superfast 21st century fibre connection which we cannot use. This is definitely not a good position to be in. Part of the payment to Google is planned to come from OneWeb for all the terabytes they will use at Horse Point Space Park. This is another vital building block in the 21st century telecom infrastructure but, again, there is no official word on how the plans for the space park are developing.

The SHG strategy tells us about increasing exports through developing honey production, coffee and premium tuna. All of that is fine, if it ever happens but all of that is more of the same. The two things which will change the economic land-scape for St Helena are fast & cheap internet and stabilised energy prices through more efficient renewable energy production. These two very achievable possibilities will change the foundations of any future economy and make economic growth easier for all types of businesses. Success with these two ventures will mean the future for the next generations of Saints could be bright and very promising. Why it is SHG have lowered a curtain of silence over all of this? It is of vital importance to all of us but as has always been the case the government excludes us from every little bit of information.

INFLATION ON ST HELENA

Solomon & Company (St Helena) PLC on 26 May 2022, announced a significant increase to the price of fuel.

The fuel increase will likely come alongside increased inflation over the next few months. This means that not just fuel, but also basic goods and services, may increase in cost. This is due to external factors that are affecting countries across the globe and are outside of the control of St Helena.

Factors driving the increase

In the 2022 Budget Speech delivered 13 May 2022, Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Mark Brooks noted that a multitude of external factors, which are outside of the control of St Helena, would soon have significant impact on our remote island:

- 1) The war in Ukraine: This conflict has disrupted the global supply chain for fuel and other goods: For example, petrol and diesel producers across the globe are facing an increase in logistics and refining costs. The Bunker Adjustment Factor (BAF) on the *MV Helena* had already been impacted, with the cost of a container jumping up around £600 within two voyages, and on-island fuel has now also been impacted.
- 2) UK and South Africa inflation rates: St Helena is heavily reliant on imports from the UK and South Africa. Therefore, the climbing inflation rates in those countries are set to result in higher inflation in St Helena.
- 3) COVID-19: The pandemic has continued to disrupt supply chains, making it difficult for our isolated South Atlan-

Dear Editor,

I am a 76 year old Australian who is descended from a Captain Francis Spittal who was buried on the Victorian Goldfields two years after his wife had died in childbirth in 1862 at the age of 47 years.

I am descended from his eldest child, the only one to survive and have children, he was left an orphan at 8 years of age on the goldfields in Australia.

I found reference to a Captain Francis Spittal sailing to and from Australia in 1851 aboard the Garland Grove an old convict ship that had a contract to deliver mail between London and Adelaide.

On the 3rd of June 1851 the Garland Grove sank near Mauritius and the crew and mail were picked up and taken to St. Helena 11 July 1851 on board the Magdalena from Batavia. *From http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article207069793*

I have the next record of him and his deceased wife getting married - Marriage of Francis Charles Spittal and Margaret Wilson at ST JAMES Church MELBOURNE, Australia in 1852. I do not know where or how the crew and mail left St Helena except I assume it was the Captain's responsibility to see the mail was delivered to Adelaide. Is there in St Helena records of this era of ship movements and such type records? Doug Grey , Chewton, 3451 , Victoria , Australia dnp.grey@bigpond.com

tic Island to source essential goods and services.

St Helena is not alone in experiencing increased prices this year; due to these global factors, countries across the world are experiencing similar pressures.

SHG's response

SHG is currently developing a suite of support measures, aimed at cushioning the impact of increased costs on the local community. These measures should be announced within the next few weeks.

SHG's economics function is also working on publishing updated inflation forecasts for St Helena, in order to help individuals and businesses prepare for the times ahead.

Minister Brooks commented:

"It is important in times like this for the government to be honest and transparent: We know this increase is going to be hard, and that it is likely to get worse. While we cannot control the external factors driving up prices on-island, we can do our best to mitigate the impacts locally. We are actively working on support measures to help individuals and businesses. This suite of support measures should be announced in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, we know that the community will come together to help each other in the way we do so well on St Helena, as every small action will make a difference over the next few months."

SHG 27 May 2022



For Sale



Nissan Terrano II
4x4 in very good condition, dark blue in colour, with new battery and some spare parts.

Call 24708

Marine Centre Officially Opens on 8th June – A Quick Peep Now

Vince Thompson

The Marine Centre on the wharf is now accommodating the SHG Marine Section. The staff have moved out of Essex House, taking with them all their equipment, records, specimens and all else which was housed in various parts of the building. They are both pleased and relieved it is now all collected together in a building which is designed for the work they do.

The biggest improvement of many is the laboratory. At the moment there are boxes filled with the apparatus, tools, tackle, utensils and paraphernalia scooped up from Essex House scattered around the laboratory. There are loads of things which need sorting and homes found for them; the 8th June is just six days away and four of those are non-working days for most people.



A welcome new piece of laboratory equipment is the fume cupboard. On the left is a work surface enclosed with a transparent material apart from the space left open for the person working there to get their hands and arms inside. Working with fish specimens often means using chemicals which give off a nasty smell, some of them not being the best thing for your health if breathed in. The person working at the fume cupboard will have the face separated from the fumes by the screen while the powerful fan above the fume cupboard extracts the fumes from the laboratory almost instantly. On the right, arranged on the table are a dozen trays waiting to be found a home.



Unpacked from one box is a collection of laboratory specimens waiting to be tidied away. Behind is a chest freezer and alongside, out of photo, are two refrigerators.



The underwater camera is carefully laid to one side. On the left is the waterproof chamber which houses the camera; there are large handles either side to hold the camera while swimming. In front is the camera sealed into the lid of the chamber. On the right at the back is a powerful waterproof light for use in dark corners.



A view of the Marine Centre from the public entrance; the laboratory can be viewed through the window. The passage-way leads to the Marine Section office and a fully accessible toilet for people using the building is on the left. Stairs leading to an upper floor is on the right. At present the upper floor is not in use but is ready to accommodate an expansion of activities. It has always been envisaged a visitor centre will be needed.

Marine Centre staff are required to work at all times of the day or night. Apart from a small but well equipped kitchen there is also a locker room. Like the power station where staff work a three shift system covering 24 hours of every day, the Marine Centre also has shower facilities for the staff.

On days when someone from the Marine Centre goes out with the crew of a fishing boat to see first-hand the size and number of fish caught, they need to be at the Marine Centre at about 2am to prepare. On other days an underwater survey may be scheduled to record the marine life and seabed cover in a segment of coastal waters.

Andree Cunningham has a Life's Work Ahead

Vince Thompson

Andree Cunningham arrived in St Helena on the 23rd April to conduct research on the remains of the liberated Africans exhumed from Rupert's Valley. Andree's research of the Rupert's remains is part of her wider area of research that collects 3D co-ordinates from scans of the crania (the bones that surround and protect the brain) of enslaved Africans/Afro-descendants as cranial shape patterns closely relate to genetic data, they are a non-invasive means of identifying biological connections across sites of the slave trade.

Andree is also scanning many of the artefacts found with the remains when exhumed from one of the Rupert's burial grounds; ranging from an identification tag and a bracelet through to heavily rusted nails. The artefacts will be made available for public viewing on a website however the scans of human remains will not be made widely available. If the data collected by Andree proves useful in some future specific research work the researcher concerned can apply for a research licence in order to use data.

Over the last few days Andree has been wrapping up her project in St Helena; she leaves this weekend for South Africa. She is heading for the Iziko Museum in Cape Town where she will undertake further, similar work on the remains of victims of a wrecked slave ship. The records show the ship sailed from Mozambique and the victims are assumed to be enslaved Mozambicans. Further research of the kind Andree Cunningham is working on will help to prove or disprove this assumption.

The history of the Transatlantic slave trade has little information about those who were enslaved. Andree has a lifetime of work just to close a few of the gaps in our knowledge.

Before coming to St Helena, Andree Cunningham undertook similar research at the Newton Plantation in Barbados. Now better known as the Newton Slave Burial Ground where 570 slaves are buried in a 4,500 square metre burial ground. It is the biggest slave burial ground in Barbados. Andree has been working on this area of research since 2018 when she chose a thesis on Biological Anthropology for her doctorate at the University of Florida. Before that she gained a Master's degree



Andree showing the results of a succession of scans resulting in a 3D image which can be rotated 360 degrees. The data producing the image can also provide many analyses giving characteristics of the cranium; some of which can be linked to genetic data in order to gain an insight into the origins of the person when living

at the same university studying the same subject. In 2012 she embarked upon four year course at the University of Miami gaining a Bachelor's degree, Double Major, in Anthropology and Criminology. It seems that now criminology is taking a backseat to research of human biological and sociological characteristics and how they can be used to develop the very limited information now available on the people who were the victims of the Transatlantic and Indian Ocean slave trades.



An extremely rusted nail-head from one of the burials revolving on a plate while being scanned

Each skull that Andree scans can generate up to 70 separate electronic files each containing scans of various parts of the skull. The software combines all the various data in the files holding data for one specific skull to produce a three dimensional image which can be turned 360 degrees. The cranium image will often show what are called sutures; they look like fractures but are in fact lines of fibrous tissue which exists to allow the brain to grow and the cranium to grow with it. The sutures are most flexible in an infant which is the main reason a baby's head needs to be always protected. The fibrous tissue eventually becomes bone as the separate parts of the cranium fuse together. The cranium images scanned by Andree Cunningham which show sutures can be used to estimate the age of the person at death.

On Wednesday Andree Cunningham made a presentation at the Museum explaining her work.

The New Government Strategy – How to be Wealthier



The first SHG Strategy to be published under a ministerial government was issued last week. The Independent will be looking at the different sections of the strategy in the coming weeks in search of new approaches and new thinking. This week we focus on the section called "Altogether Wealthier" which sets out how SHG aims to get some economic activity underway, closely followed by extra money in the back pocket.

The strategy is a series of ambitions, hopes and wishes. Most strategies are the same. The 'Wealthier' section opens with six short statements; the first three cover encouraging investment and private sector growth, ensuring we have reliable air and sea freight services and increasing exports.

The strategy covers the next three years. That is no time at all to attract investment, achieve affordable freight and increase exports. Even pointing in the direction with these aims must be difficult. Against a background of rising prices, dislocation of trading routes & supply chains and widespread shortages which are likely to continue for most of the three years the strategic aims look unrealistic.

The next three statements cover reliable food supplies by using modern techniques and introducing polices and legislation to help it happen. The aim is to expand the agricultural and fishing sectors. Making sure the Island benefits from enhanced and affordable internet and attracting people to live and work here are the final two statements.

Trying to expand both agriculture and fishing has been an ambition for decades, with success only in limited and very specific areas. At one point it did seem we could rely on locally produced eggs but that only lasted as long as the imported chicks remained laying hens – that's about two years active service. Improvements in agriculture mean we can buy tomatoes through most of the year, some herbs and maybe cucumbers and sweet potatoes now and again. Serious shortages in fresh produce continue to exist despite the now defunct ESH putting a significant amount of money into it. Do we need modern techniques or do we need better planning where planning really matters along with effective co-ordination between food producers?

The strategy follows the six short statements by telling us a little more about what they have in mind. SHG will be reforming polices and legislation – especially those relating to land disposal, immigration, land development and control planning, investment and the labour market. Once again, the strategy lasts for three years and recent productivity in the Attorney

General's Chambers shows it can often take longer than three years to get a proposal onto the statute book.

On air access, for passengers this time, not freight, SHG will prepare for the resumption in global tourism. This will include promoting St Helena as a venue for international conferences and making the most of the Cape to St Helena yacht race.

The strategy closes with a mention of "Brand St Helena". Whether this is just a marketing ploy or an attempt to get new and existing businesses to organise for the ultimate benefit of the Island in general is not clear. Whatever it means niche products such as premium tuna, coffee and honey are mentioned again together with more recent prospects including medical cannabis, company registry, satellite ground stations, research & development and digital transactions using distributed ledger technology.

The closing sentence talks of going forward into a new digital era; SHG wants to create the platform which enables "existing businesses to grow and new businesses to commence." No matter what the strategy says, enabling and facilitating is as much as SHG can do. If they do really do that it will at least make the job a little easier for those who want to create wealth from more economic activity on this Island.

Wealth in the World – it's getting tougher

"When 22 men have more wealth than all the women in Africa combined, it's clear that our economy is just plain sexist." Chief Executive at **Oxfam Great Britain**.

"The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) says that since the mid-1990s more than half of all job creation in its member states has been in non-standard work (includes temporary contracts and self-employment). It says that households dependent on such work have higher poverty rates than other households and that this has led to greater inequality. The OECD warns that such inequality is a threat to economic growth." **BBC News**

"The richest 10% of the global population currently take home 52% of the income. The poorest half of the global population earns just 8%. When it comes to wealth (valuable assets and items over and above income), the gap is even wider. The poorest half of the global population owns just 2% of the global total, while the richest 10% own 76% of all wealth. *World Economic Forum*

Continued on PAGE 19

The June Days for Health, Fathers and Thank You

World Hunger Day came and went on 28th May without a murmur from the many who put Food Security as a top priority now. Climate Change, the Coronavirus Pandemic and Russia's War with Ukraine make hunger a real possibility for millions who thought it happened to someone else.



An estimated 2.4 billion people—almost one-third of our planet—don't have access to adequate nutrition, 811 million people don't have enough food, and one-third of the world's food is wasted annually. Saving and repurposing just half of this waste could feed almost all of the undernourished people in the world. While the better off throw food away, the poorest starve.

Let's have a look at the commemorative days lined up for June; we don't want to miss a good one do we?



Diabetes is given a week not a day and it is already being promoted in St Helena. Quite right too. Diabetes is a growing problem in most countries across the world. The World Health Organisation has recently announced the first-ever global targets for diabetes. They tell us, "For the first time ever, WHO Member States have supported the creation of global targets for diabetes, as part of recommendations to strengthen and monitor diabetes responses within national non-communicable disease (NCD) programmes.

The five new targets set the standard that, by 2030:

80% of people living with diabetes are diagnosed

80% have good control of glycaemia

80% of people with diagnosed diabetes have good control of blood pressure

60% of people with diabetes of 40 years or older receive statins 100% of people with type 1 diabetes have access to affordable insulin and blood glucose self-monitoring.

The aim is to reduce the risk of diabetes, and move towards

a world where all people who are diagnosed with diabetes have access to equitable, comprehensive, affordable and quality treatment and care."



In the UK there is another commemorative week with a nice touch; it's a time when people should stop and say 'thank you' to people who give a lot of their spare time to helping others. Volunteers' Week started yesterday and it happens every year. The promoters say, "It's a chance to recognise the fantastic contribution volunteers make to our communities and say thank you. Volunteers' Week is supported and celebrated by small grassroots organisations as well as larger charities who together run hundreds of activities across the UK. These activities showcase and celebrate volunteers and the contribution volunteering makes in our communities."

This is something we could import from the UK which fits well with the St Helena way of life. There are many people who help in all sorts of ways to make life a little better for someone somewhere or do something to make the life of animals happier. It's a good idea to stop and say thank you for your help, for your effort, for giving up your spare time. A thank you and a smile goes a long way.

11th June is the Queen's birthday, 16th June is Clean Air Day and something we can happily take for granted. Sunday 19th June is Father's Day and Saturday 25th June is Armed Forces Day. Wednesday 22nd June is Windrush Day in the UK. On 22nd June 1948 the Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks, bringing with it more than 1,000 passengers from the West Indies who would transform British culture for the better.

The call for an official Windrush Day began with author Patrick Vernon, who wrote in the Guardian in 2010 that the date represents 'a powerful and iconic symbol of the rise of modernday multicultural Britain'. Vernon began a petition to have June 22nd recognised as a national holiday in 2013 but it wasn't until 2019 that June 22nd was officially observed as "Windrush Day", giving us a chance to honour and commemorate the Windrush Generation and their legacy.



Things that make you go hmmn...

What a weekend that was! The wind and rain was something else up country, don't know what it was like where you was but I was thinking we was going to be swept out to sea if it carried on much longer.

No good for farming either. I know farmers and fishermen are always grumbling about the weather and we all need a bit of rain but 'enough' for now please. Even if you have potatoes to dig out you can't get out to them in the muck out there and as for getting any seeds in the ground is going to take a good few days sun to dry out the ground enough to cultivate it.

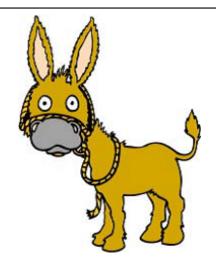
I am worried about the state of farming here though, even when the weather is kind. The average age of farmers all over the world is getting older and are struggling to get youngsters interested. I can understand the attraction of a warm, dry, office job with evenings and weekends off but it won't put dinner on the table no matter how much you earn if noone is growing the food. Here we are struggling to find labour to help on the farms, partly because people need full time work to keep the wolf from the door and the farm work offered is part time or seasonal. Add to that many of the people who were willing to do the heavy work are getting past it (including the farmers too) even if the mind is willing the body isn't.

I don't know what the answer to this is and any suggestion will probably not go down well with some people but looking at what is being tried elsewhere here are one or two ideas that might work but they would need proper funding and buy-in from the farmers to make them work.

One would be to set up an agency to bring in seasonal farm labour from South Africa or Zimbabwe (or somewhere else that is used to our type of farming). They could be given a time limited work permit and accommodation at Bradleys or somewhere similar with penalties if they leave early or are not suitable when they get here. Farmers would need to register to be part of the scheme and then they could hire the workers they need by the day (obviously it would need close monitoring to make sure best use is made of the workers and that they are fairly allocated). There are lots of things that would need to be worked out including who would manage the agency and what would be a fair wage for the workers and reasonable for the farmers to pay and it there may well be a cost to ANRD in supporting this but it could mean that the farm land improved and fenced properly and imported food reduced.

Another idea that works well in Ghana at least is for farmers to grow



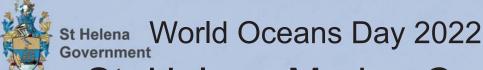


corn for animal feed then take it to a local mill for stripping the dried cobs and grinding the kernels. This meal is then mixed with imported minerals, protein and grit to make chicken feed according to premix recipes for chicks, growers and layers. Importing only the premix reduces the cost of imported feed by around 90% and could make all the difference in making egg production profitable. The mill itself is not much bigger than a fridge and can run on either petrol or electricity and cost a few hundred pounds.

With the demise of the Farmers Association and other sectors struggling to restart after the lockdown and end of ESH perhaps it could be a good time to start running regular quarterly sector specific breakfast meetings (or lunch, dinner or whenever it suits people to meet) that are a chance to share ideas, make plans and provide a voice that can be heard above the usual noise coming from government both here and in London. This has to have an agenda and not just be a talking shop although getting together is good and can give new ideas a chance to grow.

My last idea is more a plea to whoever can make things happen is for traditional skills and crafts to be given proper recognition and support before it is too late. When the trade school closed the skills they taught started to decline and now there are only a few people able to pass them on. Some things are not seen as relevant to life today but who knows what will be needed down the line and others are skills that really make a difference to life on our small island. Who will mend the sails of the passing yachts or restore the furniture in Plantation House in the future if we let those trades qo?

Something to get the little grey cells working before the long weekend even if you think it is all nonsense but if the last two years of pandemic has taught us anything then it should be that we need to find ways to be less dependent on the rest of the world for our basic needs because they won't always be ready to come to our aid if they are suffering too.



St. Helena Marine Centre Official Opening

SHG's Marine Section requests the pleasure of your company to join them to mark this occasion.

Date: Wednesday, 8th June 2022

Time: 4-7pm

Venue: The Marine Centre, The Wharf, Jamestown







END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS AND INSURANCE RENEWALS



End of Year Accounts

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to remind all Commercial Lending Clients who have not yet done so, that you are required to submit a copy of your End of Year Accounts for the financial year 2021 - 2022, by no later than 30 June 2022. This should

- Income and Expenditure Accounts / Trading, Profit and Loss Accounts
- **Balance Sheet**
- **Depreciation Schedule**

Insurance Renewals

Commercial and Personal Lending Clients who have loans secured on assets such as property, vehicles, plant or machinery are reminded to submit a copy of your updated insurance receipts.

Please submit all necessary documentation to the Lending Section via the Customer Service Terminal (Station 5) in the Main Bank Hall or by post to Lending Section, Bank of St Helena Ltd, Market Street, Jamestown.

> For further assistance or information, contact the Lending Section on (+290) 22390 or email commerciallending@sainthelenabank.com or personallending@sainthelenabank.com.



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



info@sainthelenabank.com



+290 22390



www.sainthelenabank.com



Market Street, Jamestown



@sainthelenabank



Bank of St Helena Ltd



Bank Teller

Fixed-Term Contract: 1st July 2022 - 31st March 2023

Commencing at £8,208 per annum

Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking to recruit a suitable person to fill the vacant position of Bank Teller. This position will be offered as a Fixed-Term Contract from 1st July 2022 until 31st March 2023.

This position will incur significant contact with the public and other Bank staff. The successful candidate must be flexible, demonstrate courtesy and provide excellent customer service at all times. They must have a keen eye for detail, exhibit high accuracy levels and have the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, whilst working well with others as part of the wider Bank team.

The main duties of the post include:

- Undertaking counter transactions for customers and posting these to the Bank's computer system;
- Cash handling and assisting customers in meeting their banking needs and queries;
- Providing assistance in the delivery of Remote Banking services;
- Any other duties.

Interested persons can contact Auriel Williams, Teller Supervisor or Diana Benjamin, Operations Manager on 22390 for more information.

An Application form and a job profile is available upon request from the Bank.

Completed application forms should be addressed to Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 10 June 2022.

Choose a career with Bank of St Helena and enjoy competitive benefits.



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



info@sainthelenabank.com

www.sainthelenabank.com



+290 22390



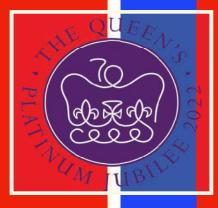
Market Street, Jamestown



@sainthelenabank



Bank of St Helena Ltd



Friday 3rd June (Public Holiday)
Queen's Platinum Jubilee Event
At the Sea Front

12.00 SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
WITH DENOMINATIONS AND
UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS
FOLLOWED BY PRESENTATION OF
QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE MEDALS

Immediately after the service commemorative aerial drone photo all are welcome to join in

13:30 Fete Opens

stalls, games and sideshows

14:30 African Vance

15:00 Fancy Hat & Crown Parade, followed by prize giving for best Hat & Crown, Poetry and Pesign Competitions

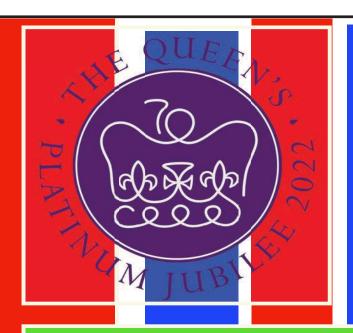
16:30 Cutting and sharing of Jubilee Cake

17:00 Quiz & Bingo

18:00 Live Music

20:00 FIREWORKS DISPLAY

From 20:30 - Musical
Entertainment
Sea Front Bars open late





"PLANT A TREE FOR THE JUBILEE"

Goal: To plant over 70 endemic She Cabbage Trees to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of service

When: Monday 6th June, 1pm-4pm Where: High Peak

The Queen's Green Canopy is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee."

Everyone from individuals to groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates across the Commonwealth will be encouraged to play their part to enhance the environment by planting trees.

With a focus on planting sustainably, the Queen's Green Canopy encourages the planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership which will benefit future generations.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME



(Star & Butchery) on telephone number: 22683 or via email address: charlotte.williams@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Reception De<mark>sk, in the</mark> Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic c<mark>opy can</mark> be requested via e-mail address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh an<mark>d should</mark> be completed and returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, by 14 June 2022

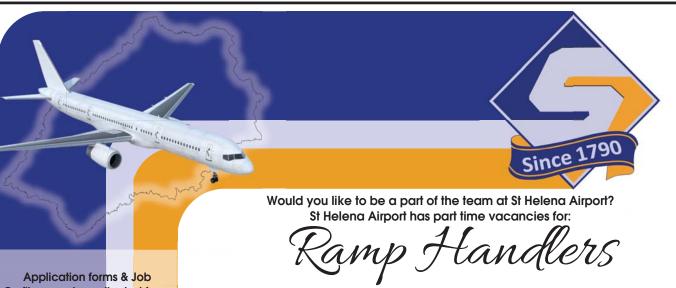
Job Outline

To assist the Grocery Manager with the day-to-day finances and stock control matters, ensuring an efficient and effective business, with a view to increasing annual turnover and net contribution.

Interested Persons Should:

- Be customer focused and possess excellent customer service skills
 - Have Grade C or above in Maths & English, or equivalent
- Be computer literate, namely in the use of Microsoft Applications and ideally in Access Dimensions
 - Have experience with performing administrative duties
 - Ideally be knowledgeable of Stock Control
 - Have the ability to multitask, prioritise and work to tight deadlines
 - Have excellent organisation, communication and interpersonal skills
 - Be analytical and have a high degree of accuracy and attention to detail

Salary for the post will be £8,713.68 per annum (£726.14 per month)



Profiles may be collected from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via email address:

agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Anya Thomas, **Human Resources** Development Officer Solomons Office, Jamestown, by 07 June 2022.

Working hours will be according to flight operations, including both weekdays and weekends.

Applicants should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
 - Possess a good standard of English & ICT
 - Be in possession of a clean & valid Drivers' Licence
 - Be committed to delivering an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be available to undertake the required training and the necessary background and medical checks
 - Be able to undertake Manual Handling & physically demanding duties

Rate of pay will be £6.20 per hour

For further information, please contact Miss Tegan Knott, Agencies Administrator, on telephone number: 22523 or via email address: agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh



VACANCY

SUPPORT WORKERS (PICCOLO HILL)

Fixed Term & Casual Contract basis—Health & Social Care Portfolio

Do you have a genuine interest in providing one-to-one support to enable individuals with learning difficulties to live independently? The Social Care Directorate is seeking to recruit Support Workers to assist individuals in developing their skills, so that they can live full, active and independent lives safely.

Applicants should have the following qualifications and/or equivalent level of experience:

- GCSE English at Grade C or equivalent (or willing to undertake training)
- First Aid (or willing to undertake)
- Completion of Care Certificate or equivalent, if not a willingness to complete this
- Previous experience of working in a care environment

For fixed term contracts, we offer the following:

Salary: Grade B, commencing at £6,722 per annum

Leave: 25 days per annum, pro- rata

Paid Sickness Absence, Flexible Working Hours Scheme,

Training opportunities,

For Casual contracts:

Payment will be at the rate of £3.68 per hour

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: Nicole Hercules on telephone number 25936 or email: piccolohill@helanta.co.sh

Job Profile and Application forms are available 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 Wednesday, 8 June 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 básis 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

Carpenter

(Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio)

If you are physically fit, a good communicator and an effective team player, the Building Maintenance Section has an opportunity for you to join their team.

Working as part of the Building Maintenance Team, you will deliver daily operations and maintenance services within the building maintenance section.

Applicants must have the following qualifications and/or equivalent level of experience:

- GCSE Maths and English at Grace C or above
- NVQ Level 2 in carpentry
- Valid driver's license in classes A,B and C
- Carpentry experience

We offer the following:

Salary: Grade B £6,722 per annum

Leave: 25 days per annum

Pension: 15% pension contribution into ap-

proved defined contribution pension scheme

Paid Sickness Absence

Flexible Working Hours Scheme

Further information about the duties of the post, interested persons should contact: Gilbert Young, Superintendent (Works) on telephone number 22054 or email: Gibby. Young@sainthelena.gov.sh

Job Profile and Application forms are available from:

Central Human Resources & Organisation 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 Wednesday, 8 June 2022.

To be considered for this role, you must complete our application form. Failure to do so will mean that your application will not be considered. Please do not submit your CV.

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

TRAINEE IMMIGRATION OFFICER

Safety, Security & Home Affairs Portfolio

Are you interested in reducing the threat to and protecting the Borders of St Helena? Do you have excellent customer service and interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate effectively and professionally with a wide range of audiences?

If so, there is an opportunity for you to be part of a small team providing a range of essential Immigration services including, but not limited to,
Border Security, Immigration Casework, Investigating Immigration Offences and Maintaining Statistical Data. You will be required to have
excellent time management, planning and organisational skills.

You will be given the essential job specific training which will include legislation and law enforcement.

Applicants should have the following qualifications and/or equivalent level of experience:

- Level 2 or 3 qualification in Maths, English and ICT or equivalent level of demonstrable attainment or experience

 (applicants without a Level 2 qualification in Maths and English may still apply and can undertake a functional skills assessment as part of the recruitment process)
- Customer Service qualification or significant experience
- Experience in a public facing role providing customer service and interacting with members of the public
- Driving Licence

We offer the following:

Salary: Training Grade C £8,613—£10,765 per annum increasing to Grade D £11,034—£13,793 on successful completion of Immigration Training

Leave: 25 days per annum

Pension: 15% pension contribution into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Paid Sickness Absence Flexible working hours scheme

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: Emerald Newman-Yon, Senior Immigration Officer, on telephone number 22626 or email: emerald.newman-yon@sainthelena.gov.sh

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 recruiment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Monday, 13th June 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.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE SERVICE

The Education, Skills & Employment Portfolio is seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably experienced persons to provide a grounds maintenance service for Harford and Pilling Primary Schools.

Interested persons must have some experience in maintaining grounds, including hedges, lawns, gardens, etc and are expected to have their own equipment to provide the service.

For further details, interested persons should contact Assistant Director Schools, Kerry Lawrence, on tel: 22607 or via email:

Interested persons may submit their proposal to Kerry Lawrence at the Education Learning Centre, Jamestown, by no later than Thursday, 9 June 2022.

Contractors must produce a clean vetting certificate with their proposal.

SHG

26 May 2022



St Helena Government

The New Government Strategy – How to be Wealthier



Famous Brands reports triple-digit profit surge



Steers, opening in London in July

Famous Brands is a fast food franchise company which started out as Steers, well known to many for their hamburgers. From just one branch in a family run business the fast food operator kept on growing and still grows. Now owning a string of successful fast food brands, Famous Brands reported a rise in revenue almost six times more than last year with profits more than four times more than last year. After the tough trading conditions in 2020 and 2021 Famous Brands say the improvement is less than expected.

Visions, Strategies and What Comes Next

Famous Brands has a one-line Vision "To be the leading innovative branded franchised and food services business in SA and selected markets". They also have a one-line strategy "Grow capability and capacity to deliver unique customer experiences in the branded franchised and food services space." This is followed by something called 'strategic intent' which is equally short and sharp but ends with figures showing what their revenue and profit is hoped to be when 2023 comes around. The strategy is measurable and time defined. In among it all they show the well tried and tested approach to 'key strategic matters' - Indentify - Prioritise - Respond - Report - Monitor. More important, after expressing disappointment at a profit increase of only 428% they said, "Our next steps are to relocate our KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) Distribution Centre, move our Gauteng cold storage centre and secure a cross-docking facility near Mthatha." It sounds like they know what they need to do and when to do it.

MALDIVIA CAR PARK PROJECT COMPLETED

The public is advised that the Maldivia Car Park is now open for use. A total of 20 parks; 11 angled and 9 parallel, have been constructed.

In the first instance, 11 angled parks only were to be constructed under the EDIP Micro-Project given the £50,000 Micro-Project budget cap, however following a further £20,000 funding allocation, an additional 9 parallel parks were also constructed. This increased scope of work along with delays from adverse weather has resulted in the project being completed at a later date than originally anticipated, however this will allow for an additional 20 parks to be utilised in upper Jamestown which we hope will help to alleviate parking congestion in this area.

A blessing ceremony, and reinterment of the bone that was extracted for archaeological purposes, will be undertaken in due course by Bishop Dale Bowers.

There will also be some additional measures undertaken to mitigate against erosion of the exposed bank face including installation of netting and planting of vegetation. These activities will not cause any obstruction to those using the parks. We would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding during these works and thanks are also extended to Clint Stevens' Contractors for a job well done.

SHG, 26 May 2022

The St Helena Diabetes Association

will be hosting their **Annual Tea Party**

On

Saturday 18th June 2022

@ 2.30pm

At the Jamestown Community Centre as part of the Diabetes Week
Transport will be provided

If you are attending and also require a

seat - Please contact:

Ronald Coleman tel. 24250

Phyllis Coleman tel. 24656,

Cheryl Anthony tel. 23971

Maggie Peters tel. 23041,

Jackie Henry tel. 24077 Ruth Young tel. 22344 or

Sylvia Johnson tel. 22141

By Saturday 11th June 2022



On Thursday, 19th May 2022, St Pauls Primary School celebrated St Helena Culture Day. We believe that St Helena's greatest attraction is its unique culture. the friendliness of the people, the feeling that one has stepped back in time to an era where greeting passers-by and chatting on the side of the road is a way of life; a great sense of community and pride in traditions and customs.

The day started with an Assembly where Councillor Robert Midwinter opened up the day by talking about the culture of St Helena and why St Helena is unique. Some past and retired teachers who had taught at our school, were invited to spend some time with us, interacting with each class. They joined in with the activities' and this was an opportunity for the children to ask questions about their experience as a teacher and how life has changed. This was an eye opener for some of the children.

The school then enjoyed a St Helenian dish of chicken pilau and those who did not eat pilau, had fishcakes and chips, courtesy of our PTA, thanks so much and to the PTA cooks who prepared this!. Country music played in the background creating a lovely atmosphere.

Each year group was involved in learning about the discovery of St Helena and its culture and also some activities were based around the recycling theme.

Nursery enjoyed having different past teachers visiting their classroom. Their class made St Helena flags using different media. They were also treated to a taste of coconut fingers and yummy fish cakes.

Reception began the day with making St Helena flags. After break the children collaged templates of Jonathan the tortoise. Reception concluded with children decorating square cut homemade biscuits using red, white and blue icing to form the union jack.

Year 1 had a fun filled day starting off with what is a saint. What makes St Helena unique? The children enjoyed collaging a wire bird, Jonathan the tortoise and creating a table mat from plastic bags. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!

Year 2 discussed the significant individual who discovered St Helena Island, Juan Da Nova Castella and learned about the ship he travelled on and its important cargo. Pupils also made yummy sandwiches for break with a filling of their choice and had the opportunity to show their understanding of fractions through cutting. To link to the theme for St Helena day, pupils did a carousel of activities which involved recycling wood, t-shirts and boxes.

Year 3 started the day by looking in depth at the discovery of











St Helena and the 7 wonders. We were joined by Mrs Gloria Leo who told the children about her memories of being 8 years old. The children had fun learning the Boston dance, thanks to Mrs Pat Henry. After break the children were placed in groups and made a wire bird, Jonathan the tortoise, ebony flowers and picture frames using different recycled materials. We ended the day by creating a 'why St Helena is unique tree'.

Year 4 kicked of the morning with the designing of an 'I am grateful tree'. Children decorated leaves that told 'what they are grateful for', living on St. Helena. After break, children designed a fresh new look for the St. Helena postcards, from Blushing snails and Whale sharks to the Atlantic Blue Marlin and Wirebirds, these would make great sales! We ended the morning with a small essay on 'why we love living on St. Helena?'

Year 5/6 went back in time as a start of their culture day. Pictures of different places from around the island, from the olden days were viewed and to test observation skills, children had to decide where these places were. We were privileged to have present Mrs. Emma Croft and Councilor Midwinter, who helped engaged children to identify different places.

Students from Years 4, 5 and 6 had a brilliant opportunity to



work with The Chief Minister Thomas, Ministers Henry, Scipio and Brooks and Councillors Turner and Coleman. How could we be a Super hero and identify what are the problems our community are facing? What super powers would be needed to help solve them? Everyone had an engaging discussion presenting their ideas to each other.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who visited our school on this very important day! Happy birthday St Helena!

Au-some Parents Support Group

The parents and families of the Au- some parents support group extend heartfelt thanks and gratitude to everyone who contributed in any way to the Autism awareness month 2022. Your monetary donations and other assistance allows us to keep awareness on Autism and those living with autism supported through their experiences.

The Au-some parents support groups aims are to support parents of Autistic children/young people especially around understanding autism and acknowledging what it was like for those living with Autism, which included the children/young people with autism and for parents and carers as well. Parents and families meet once per month to learn more about what autism is from professionals and share their own knowledge and experiences with others. We welcome all parents and/or carers to attend our monthly meetings.

For more information you can contact;

Tara Thomas Tel. 23312 - tara.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh, Elaine Bennett – Tel.25188 - elainelorimar@gmail.com or David John – Tel 25193 - david.sharon@helanta.co.sh ' Chery Bedwell – tel 22500 – Cheryl.bedwell@sainthelena.gov.sh



From the St Helena Golf Club

Contributed by: SHGC

Golf Report for Sunday 28th May 2022

Day 1 of the St Helena Golf Players Championship which is exclusive to members got underway on Saturday at 9:50am after a group photoshoot courtesy of Darrin and Sharron of What The Saints Did Next. There seems to be a member on that group photo who just showed up for the photo and was not interested in playing in the competition. See if you can spot him. During play there were on and off showers. Greens became slow and the bunkers muddy. But that didn't deter the players from their game. At the end of the 18 holes the top 10 on the leaderboard were as follows:

Bramwell Bushuru	68	Larry Legg 71			
Jeffrey Stevens	69	Martin Buckley	71		
Anthony Thomas	70	Nick Stevens	72		
Philip Francis	70	Leon Crowie	73		
Gerald George	71	Peter Bagley	74		
There were no two ball pool winners.					

Sunday 29th a significant number of players teed off for day 2 of the 3-day event. Unfortunately, due to consistent poor weather conditions occasioned by low clouds, fog and rain play was called off. The second and final round will now be completed on **Saturday 4th June tee off 11:00**. The sponsors and committee wish to apologize to members taking part in the event for the inconvenience caused by reducing the event to a 2 day as opposed to the originally planned 3-day event.

Members who did not take part in the first round but wish to play in the final round can get in touch with the games manager Mr Jeffrey Stevens before Friday 3rd June or simply leave a message on 24421.

On Sunday 5th June 2022 the club will host an easy Sunday Par 3 Strokeplay competition. Tee off 12:00 noon. Registration closes on Saturday 4th at 5pm.

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

Happy swinging.....!

SHGC PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP 2022

Saturday 4th June 2022 Final Round

Group 1 Tee Off 11:00

Douglas Augustus

Helena Stevens

Donald Bowers

Group 2 Tee Off 11:10

Keith Joshua

Leroy Caswell

Henzil Beard

Group 3 Tee Off 11:20

Arthur Young

Jeremy Clingham



Peter Johnson

Group 4 Tee Off 11:30

Jason Hopkins Eddy Bowers

Arthur Francis

Group 5 Tee Off 11:40

Thomas Hickling Martin Joshua

Tony Green
Group 6 Tee Off 11:50

Lawson Henry Dax Richards Peter Bagley

Group 7 Tee Off 12:00

Leon Crowie Nick Stevens Martin Buckley

Group 8 Tee Off 12:10

Larry Legg Gerald George Philip Francis

Group 9 Tee Off 12:20

Anthony Thomas
Jeffrey Stevens
Bramwell Bushuru



In the event of a tie for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd there will be a playoff on the 18th Hole.

ST.HELENA



All About Football

From the First Goal to the Last

Champions League Final -Disappointment for Liverpool

Liverpool 0 Real Madrid 1



Vinicius Jr scores for Real Madrid against Liverpool in the 2022 Champions League final

Real Madrid are champions of Europe for a record 14th time Liverpool's bid to claim the Champions League trophy for the seventh time ended in bitter disappointment on Saturday as Vinicius Jr's second-half winner gave Real Madrid victory in Paris.

Jurgen Klopp's side ran into a one-man wall of defiance as Real goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois produced one of the great individual performances to thwart Liverpool time and again.

Mohamed Salah, seeking revenge for his early departure through injury in the 2018 final against Real, was denied six times by Courtois who was simply unbeatable.

The victory also sees Carlo Ancelotti make history by becoming the first coach to win a fourth Champions League title.

Real were always a threat and the decisive moment came after 59 minutes when Vinicius stole in unmarked at the far post to score.

This was also a final marred by chaotic scenes outside Stade de France with thousands of Liverpool fans, some targeted with pepper spray by French police, unable to get into the stadium, forcing the kick-off to be delayed by more than 30 minutes.

Liverpool's bid for a quadruple set of trophies ended up in disappointment after failing to take home both the Premier League and the Champions League. What looked like a great opportunity two weeks' ago simmered away and Liverpool only ended up the season with an FA Cup and a League Cup trophy. It was surely a great disappointment for the fans.

In premier League we welcome Nottingham Forest who beat Huddersfield in the play-off match on Wembley Stadium on Sunday. They join Bournemouth and Fulham to the highest echelons of English football next season.

The English top class football starts again on 31st July with



Nottingham Forest players celebrate after Levi Colwill's own goal in the first half

the Charity Shield match between Liverpool and Manchester City.

Over the coming days and weeks we have the UEFA Nations League matches and also World Cup Qualifiers for Scotland and Wales.

Cricket News

Last weekend's games were postponed due to heavy rains the Cricket Association will try to fit in the postponed games in as follows

Saturday

8:30 – HTH vs Jamestown – Umpires – Derek & Eddie 11:30 – Levelwood vs Longwood – Umpires – HTH/JT 2:30 – St Pauls vs Sandy Bay – Umpires – HTH/JT

Sunday

10:00 – Jamestown vs St Pauls – Umpires – Longwood 1:30 – HTH vs Levelwood – Umpires – Sandy Bay





South Africa's Finance Chief Describes Financial Failure

South Africa has 257 municipalities where local government organise and deliver local services. 170 of them are in financial stress and require assistance from the National Treasury. 43 municipalities should be placed under mandatory government intervention.

This is the depressing picture painted by Dondo Mogajane, the Director-General of the National Treasury, the government department which manages national economic policy, the government's finances and prepares the South African government's annual budget. The Director-General continued his stark assessment of municipal service delivery. "Only a handful of municipalities are performing," Mogajane said. "If it's about improvement in financial management and oversight ... we can do that but if the system of oversight and governance is not functioning in the whole of South Africa then the National Treasury cannot do it." The extent of local governments' failure to deliver basic services is compounded by national government's inability to deal with the crisis that has seen many towns and municipalities rendered dysfunctional. Ratepayers bear the brunt of the financial malaise with numerous complaints of raw sewage in potholed streets and a lack of water and electricity. Residents in several municipalities have resorted to fixing the neglected infrastructure themselves.

Remote Working in South Africa also Works the Other Way Around

A report on remote working in South Africa does not cover the usual arrangement where people from overseas are encouraged to come to South to live while working for an employer whose business is outside South Africa. This version of remote working is a South African obtaining employment overseas but remaining in South Africa. It seems there are many South Africans doing this. In the report, one person describes how this type of remote working will work for him. "In July I will join the hordes of South Africans working overseas, earning foreign currency. I have agreed to join Woxsen University in India as an adjunct professor, teaching MBA students the practical business applications of artificial intelligence and digital technologies.

The university, with its impressive 200-acre campus in Hyderabad, has grown into one of the leading educational institutions in the world. It is a pity that I may not see this campus soon, or ever, as I will be working remotely from my home in Centurion. I will compliment the 60 hours of monthly lectures with work for other universities and a few consulting engagements." Is it possible some of the people leaving St Helena for better pay could stay on-island but still work overseas?

BoJo Says he Takes Responsibility but Rejects Accountability

The Sue Gray report on the UK prime minister has been prominent in TV news. On Wednesday it was reported BoJo "received criticism from all sides of the House" when the report was debated. The most hard-hitting question was reported to come from Ed Davey, The Liberal Democrat leader, He said, "The Prime Minister says he is sorry, but he is only sorry he

From Our Friends and Neighbours



got caught. He did not care then, as he partied during lockdown, when people could not see their dying loved ones. He did not care last year when he insisted that no rules had been broken. And he does not care now, when families across our country are struggling to heat their homes, fill their cars, and put food on the table, with a cost of living crisis that has only deepened while the Prime Minister has been scrambling to save his own skin. Can the Prime Minister look the British people in the eye and name one person, just one person, he cares about more than himself?"

Hard-hitting in a different way was a contribution from the Member for Slough, Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi. He told the prime minister, "I feel as if I have completely let down those who showered me with so much love. Why wasn't I by the bedside of my lovely grandmother during her final few days? Why did I let her die alone in that hospital? Why did I not attend the funeral of my uncle? It was because of worries about Government restrictions on numbers. And why did I not go to comfort my brother- in-law's father as he was dying in a Slough care home? With all of this context, it is utterly hypocritical for those very individuals who were preaching to us ad nauseam about patriotism, the flag and the Queen to be having late-night parties, including two on the night before the Queen had to sit all alone during her husband's funeral when the country was in a state of national mourning. Absolutely shameless. Given that the Prime Minister is not going to do the right and honourable thing, does he agree that it is not the support and sympathy of the British people that are keeping him in power, the majority of whom want him to resign, but the support and sympathy of those—" At this point the Speaker intervened. "Order. I am sorry, but this is meant to be a question. Also we do not normally bring the monarchy into proceedings. I am sure that the Prime Minister will have got the gist. I understand the emotions behind this, but questions have to be shorter." The prime minister replied, "I am very sorry for the hon. Gentleman's loss. He has a perfect right to speak with the passion that he does. All I can say is that I take full responsibility for what happened, and we have made extensive changes." This means BoJo sacrificed people around him to save himself.

ST HELENA'S PROOF OF VACCINATION ACCEPTED BY SOUTH AFRICAN AUTHORITIES

On Friday, 27 May 2022, it was announced that South Africa will only accept verifiable QR codes, either paper based or electronic, as proof of COVID-19 vaccinations for entry to South Africa. However, St Helena Government (SHG) has today, Wednesday 1 June 2022, received confirmation from the South African Department of Health that written proof of vaccination cards or letters, without QR codes, issued by the Health Services Directorate, are acceptable as proof of COVID-19 vaccinations from St Helena. The South African Authorities have also communicated this information to all South African ports.

At this time, it has not been clarified by the South African Authorities whether the letter or vaccination card is the document required as proof of COVID-19 vaccinations. All vaccinated persons are therefore advised to take their yellow vaccination card as well as the proof of vaccination letter from the Health Services Directorate.

If you are booked to travel on Saturday, 4 June 2022, and are: **Fully vaccinated**, you will:

No longer be required to take a PCR test prior to departure

Be asked for a proof of COVID-19 vaccination upon arrival in Johannesburg. Proof of vaccination letters must be arranged with the COVID-19 Coordinator, Grace Richards, before your departure, if you have not al ready done so.

Not fully vaccinated, you will:

- Still be required to take a PCR test at the scheduled clinic tomorrow, Thursday 2 June, at the Flu Pod, General Hospital, between 9am and 10.30am.
- A pre-departure COVID-19 test will cost £75.00.
 Children aged 5 to 16 years will not be required to pay for their PCR test.
- PCR test results will be available at check-in at St Helena Airport on Saturday, 4 June 2022.

It is mandatory that you contact the COVID-19 Coordinator, Grace Richards, as soon as possible as it is essential to provide your passport details and date of birth for the documentation required. Grace can be contacted via email: grace.richards@sainthelena.gov.sh or on tel: 22500.

SHG

1 June 2022



SOLAR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND NATURAL LIGHTING RETROFITTING INTO BUILDING AT SCOTLAND

A Project to retrofit solar renewable energy and natural lighting into the Environment, Natural Resources & Planning (ENRP) Building at Scotland, St Paul's, has recently been completed.

The Project was announced by His Excellency the Governor at the Queen's Birthday Garden Party at Plantation House in June 2021 and was designed by Environmental Risk Manager, Mike Durnford.

Mike commented:

"Solar renewable energy systems with battery storage are well known but solar tubes technology less so. Solar tubes (also known as tubular skylights or sun tunnels) give an unobtrusive way to brighten the darker areas of buildings with soft, natural light. On a sunny day, one 10-inch solar tube provides around the same amount of light as three 100-watt bulbs. That's enough to illuminate a 200 sq. ft. room well enough for office work. The ENRP building's poor design results in limited natural light, with obtrusive and costly strip lighting (49 in total) throughout all offices and the reception area. Natural light is known to have positive health benefits and can stimulate a workforce resulting in greater productivity and outputs."

The overall Project aimed to reduce the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions created on-Island by making better use of natural light, ensuring that the protection and enhancement



of the Island's natural heritage is at the heart of economic development, in order to maintain a good quality of life for residents now and in the future.

The Project, which was funded through the Climate Change strand of the FCDO's Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) Overseas Territories Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Program has been wholly completed within time, scope and budget. Whilst delay was experienced in the receipt and subsequent installation and connection of the solar renewable energy system, due to unavoidable shipping delay to the Island, the building was already expending less energy through timely installation of the sun tunnels and a change in behaviour by building users, who were used to having to switch on lights in poorly lit areas.

SHG 25 May 2022

Can we save the spiky yellow woodlouse, one of the most endangered isopods?

by Nick D'Onofrio

Saint Helena Island's spiky yellow woodlouse is a striking, critically endangered isopod that lives on tree ferns and black cabbage trees, high up in the peaks of Saint Helena's cloud forests.

- The flax industry destroyed and fragmented most of the forests that the woodlouse depends on. Invasive species and climate change continue to affect them.
- The population of spiky yellow woodlouse is estimated to be at 980 individuals, so the Saint Helena National Trust is working to restore the forests on the island by clearing away the flax plants that were left behind and replanting more native flora.

"St Helena holds over 30% (502 known native/endemics) of the total endemic diversity of the UK and its overseas territories. There are 45 native plant species and more than 400 native invertebrates," Martina Peters, head of conservation at the Saint Helena National Trust, explains.

The Saint Helena National Trust was founded in 2002 with the purpose of preserving Saint Helena's environment, wildlife, and cultural heritage. It is only here on this island that one of the most peculiar bugs resides, the spiky yellow woodlouse. They are a species of isopod which are commonly referred to as roly-polies or woodlice, they are not insects but in fact crustaceans. They are more closely related to lobsters and crabs than insects.

The spiky yellow woodlouse is one of the rarest and most endangered isopods and their appearance lives up to the name: a spiky yellow woodlouse is bright yellow with various spikes protruding from the exoskeleton. The spikes are believed to be a form of defence against predators; however, this has not been proven. The spiky yellow woodlouse lives on black cabbage trees high up in the peaks of St. Helena's cloud forest.

To understand why the spiky yellow woodlouse is critically endangered we must first look at history of the island. From 1907 to 1966, the flax industry was the driving force of Saint Helena's economy, but today it no longer exists. The New Zealand flax (*Phorium tenax*), was introduced to the island for the purpose of growing, processing, and exporting flax. Flax was used to make rope and string both locally and for exporting. The demand for rope during World War I fuelled the flax industry. Many flax mills were constructed on the island. When World War 2 occurred, Saint Helena's economy also profited from the increased demand for rope.

Flax prices continued to climb even after the world wars. At the industry's peak, 3,000 acres of the island was covered in flax and 300 to 400 were working directly in the flax industry, usually working 50 hours per week. However, the flax industry eventually declined due to competition from synthetic fibres and expensive shipping costs. The flax industry on the island collapsed, when the British Post Office switched to synthetic fibres in 1965. A year later, all of Saint Helena's flax mills were closed down, with the last one closing in 1966.

As a result, the island was left covered with neglected flax plants that have no purpose. Unfortunately, the New Zealand flax is not an easy plant to get rid of. They can survive droughts,





and their roots may extend as wide and deep as the height of the plant itself, which can grow 6 to 10 feet tall (2 to 3 metres).

However, flax clearing projects have been undertaken to grow back the forests, since many of the island's plants and animals are endangered due to the habitat destruction by the flax industry. Some species have even gone extinct, such as the Saint Helena giant earwig. It was the largest earwig species with a body length ranging from 1.42 to 2.13 (36 to 55 mm). It has been called "Dodo of the earwigs," because it was only native to the island and went extinct from habitat loss and predation by invasive species. The Saint Helena giant earwig was last seen alive in 1967. "The remnants of the native biodiversity are now struggling to survive in tiny fragments. Sadly, this has led to extinction for some invertebrates such as the giant earwig, giant ground beetle, and St Helena darter which have become globally extinct within the memory spans of long-term residents living on the island," Peters explains.

Many of the forests that spiky yellow woodlouse inhabited were cleared to make timber, space for livestock, and for invasive flax farming. Climate change is also reducing the size of their habitats as droughts become more frequent. There were water shortages in 2013, 2016 and 2019.

It was once thought that were only 100 spiky yellow woodlouse left, in a small area of black cabbage trees. However, more surveys were conducted and more populations were found. The Spiky yellow woodlouse population is now believed to be closer to 1,000.

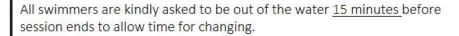
"The population estimate for spiky yellow woodlouse is 980 individuals. If habitats continue to disappear due to invasive species and wider effect of climate change then populations will continue to decline," Peters says. Spiky yellow woodlouse also glow under UV light which makes it easier for researchers to find them at night.

The spiky yellow woodlouse is unique because it is only found on Saint Helena, and it deserves more attention than it gets. More work is being done to ensure that these little yellow critters don't disappear and become a distant memory.

Jamestown Swimming Pool Public Opening Times

June 2022

£	¥2		<u>V</u>
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 – 10:30am	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	



^{*} Swimming lessons with Sonê Meij can be booked via telephone 29065018



Public Holidays Opening Times

Friday 3rd June 10am – 4pm *Inflatable Day*

Monday 6th June 10am – 4pm

Monday 13th June 10am – 4pm

School Mid Term Holidays

Monday 20th – Friday 24th June 8am – 10am Adults only 10am – 6pm Open to all

For all enquiries please contact Elaine on 61363 between 8am – 5pm







Bernice stroking her "pussy" in the Standard Contributed



- ✓ Are you living with type 2 diabetes?
- ✓ Is someone you love living with type 2 diabetes?
- ✓ Are you unsure what you or your loved ones diagnoses means?
- ✓ Would you like to learn how to live healthily with type 2 diabetes?
- ✓ Do you have questions you would like to ask a panel of expert healthcare professionals?

If you answered YES to any of the above
You and a loved one can attend a FREE workshop

Wednesday 15 June 2022

9am – 3pm

Jamestown Community Centre

Reserve your places by:

Telephone: 22321 (Medical Records)

Email: sarah.mattinson@sainthelena.gov.sh

Tea, coffee and water will be available during the sessions please bring a packed lunch





