

An independent newspaper in association with Saint FM and St Helena Online

Sterling or St Helena Pounds - The Debate is **On-going**



The St Helena Story of Eggs

Mantis Hotel - Once Again in the Limelight



Leaders vs. 'Bleeders'



Is A Mystery to be Solved in the Magistrates' **Court?**



The St Helena Story of Eggs

This story starts a few years ago and there is an introduction to set the scene.

Back in 2012 you may remember ANRD at Scotland bred thousands of layer hens and supplied them to smallholders who wanted to keep hens and make a little money selling eggs. The breeding programme at Scotland was so successful the need to import eggs no longer existed. St Helena was self-sufficient as far as eggs were concerned.

Another thing that happened in 2011-12 was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between SHG and DFID. This document did not quite stretch to three pages but its effect have been far-reaching and not always to the benefit of St Helena. The words from the MoU which apply to the Story of St Helena Eggs are, "This programme will cover, among other areas: economic and business development, improved management of the land and labour market, sound management of immigration issues, responsible environmental management (including clear procedures and guidelines), social development (including labour standards, voluntary code of conduct for contractors, youth and adult education opportunities), divestment of non-core functions, the removal of untargeted subsidies, and rationalisation of the public sector." Breeding pullets was not a core function for ANRD. Moving the job to someone else was now a requirement. Divesting poultry breeding to the private sector was seen to help business development and at the same time do something to help rationalise the public sector. That's three hits in one. What could go wrong?

On 29th July 2014 SHG announced "ANRD has been seeking private sector interest in taking on the key elements of the existing poultry breeding service - so that their Veterinary and Livestock Section can concentrate on delivery of their core services to livestock producers and the general public. This partnership will also achieve a reduction in subsidy for the poultry breeding service." This was followed up with, "On 18 July 2014, Rodney Yon of White Gate, owner of Roddy's Chicken Farm, entered into a 3 year partnership arrangement with ANRD to manage their current poultry breeding service and establish further egg production housing to increase egg production at Roddy's Farm to meet the needs of the Island. ANRD will continue the importation of chicken parent stock as and when required to ensure bio-security requirements are met, and will provide veterinary support and advice to Rodney to enable chick production to continue".

It was mentioned that, "Enterprise St Helena (ESH) has been instrumental in supporting Rodney to realise this expansion and both ANRD and ESH have provided funding under the SHG/Private Sector Agriculture Partnership Policy to enable Rodney to combine this new service with a larger egg production operation from the ANRD poultry unit premises near Sunnyside." Among the usual quotes from people, expressing how wonderful everything is was this one from the ESH Private Sector Development Manager, "This is indeed a proud step in the right direction. Rodney is one of many individuals that demonstrate enthusiasm in commercial development and is evidence of the success of the public private partnership policy."



Plan how YOU will celebrate it NOW?

Roddy Yon was included in the happy quotes, he said "I am extremely excited to start this new venture. I have signed a lot of contracts in my life and this contract tops them all." This new venture started on 1st August 2014 when "all requests for pullets (young hens) should be made to Rodney Yon on telephone 23633" as the 29th July announcement advised. Fast forward now to 2nd August 2018 The Economic Development Committee is considering an update from ANRD "addressing the shortage of eggs on the Island." There were three options to boost the Island's population of layer hens. As we know, importing day old chicks was the option chosen.

In exactly four years the entire egg self-sustainability project had gone belly-up. In 2012 egg producers supplied all the eggs the Island required. In 2018 urgent measures were necessary to dramatically boost the population of layer hens to solve the egg shortage.

In a conversation this week with Rodney Yon it was clear he is still fuming about the situation he is now in. He maintains he told the Economic Development Committee before the first importation of day old chicks that 1,000 chicks was more than enough; further imports were not needed. He also claims his contract required him to supply 1,700 young layer hens to smallholders; he did supply 1,100 and then had to stop to boost his own flock. He accuses SHG/ESH of not offering any business advice and gave the impression he had been left in the lurch. He now faces a situation where everyone who wants to earn a little money by keeping a small flock of layer hens and selling their eggs are all being supplied with the hens they have requested by ANRD. Because of this Roddy sees no future for his business which was intended to be one where he supplied most of the eggs on the Island.

Attempts to get into conversation with people at ANRD about the scramble for eggs by smallholders have proved unsuccessful. As is almost always the case where SHG is concerned we have one side of the story and are put in the position of guessing the rest.

The St Helena Story of Eggs

So what went wrong? The announcement in July 2014 stated Roddy had entered into an agreement to manage the poultry breeding service previously run by ANRD and "increase egg production at Roddy's Farm to meet the needs of the Island". Despite this, in 2018 there was an egg shortage which resulted in ridiculously high prices being charged for a dozen eggs. Something had to be done. Some people may have been lucky enough to buy eggs but for people on low incomes they became an unobtainable luxury. Eggs are usually considered to be an essential and basic part of a healthy diet. Eggs becoming a luxury food was not a situation which could be allowed to continue.

Roddy says his opinion that 1,000 day old chicks were more than enough went straight over the heads of the Economic Development Committee. He calls them Muppets for not understanding what he was saying. It is more likely the decision was made within government to reverse the arrangement whereby one breeder and egg producer was relied upon to supply most of the Island's needs. Instead, egg production would be switched to the many smallholders who want to make an extra few quid from layer hens. It also appears likely nobody told Roddy about this change of plan. ANRD returned to being the supplier of layer hens and smallholders replaced Roddy as the supplier of eggs.

Another puzzling point is the July 2014 announcement stated "ANRD will continue the importation of chicken parent stock as and when required to ensure biosecurity requirements are met" yet on 2nd August, last Friday, a statement from the St Helena Government claimed, "It was never intended that Government would take on the role of chick supplier, however SHG stepped back into this role in 2018 following a serious deterioration in the supply of what is a staple food product". It is not clear whether "importation" and "supplier" mean the same thing but last Friday's statement appears to contradict the original intention made in 2014. It is also not known what responsibilities went to which side of the public/private sector divide when the 2014 three year partnership agreement had run its course in 2017. What is clear is we are left with an unsatisfactory situation where the private enterprise "chicken king" is turning to sheep production and ANRD have to pull back on their MOU inspired transfer of poultry breeding to the private sector. The reasons for this unsatisfactory situation



are not entirely clear and include a good measure of gossip and guesswork for most us.

A report of the July Economic Development Committee meeting includes, "Roddie's Chicken Farm owners were invited to the meeting to provide members with an overview of the impact they felt a further import of day old chicks in August 2019 could have on their egg production business. The owners answered questions that arose from Committee members." What was the impact on Roddy's chicken farm? What conclusions were there from the questions asked? Why is Roddy suddenly called Roddie?

It can only be hoped there will be a lessons learnt post-mortem on this aborted attempt at privatising a government service. No doubt we will not know if there is one, and if there is what was learnt and what mistakes can be avoided in future.



Dear Editor,

I agree that the island's commercial sector has never been as depressed as it now is.

The whole emphasis to connect the island with South Africa instead of the UK was Atkins' fault in my view.

They also critically failed to understand the composition of St Helena's RMS audience, and failed to plan for how to retain their interest and presence when access switched from sea to air.

We're all suffering now because the island has lost all those older, wealthy, literate walkers and heritage followers who any fool could have guessed would not be remotely interested in struggling through Johannesburg, and being stuck there for an extra day in each direction.

I wouldn't say that the business case for St Helena was totally an illusion -but we had a very specific, delicate market segment which was never perceived or understood as such by the arrogant visiting 'experts' who simply ripped up what we had and expected whale sharks to be an adequate replacement.

Plus we suffered a succession of Tourism Directors who gave us mountain bike trails and the Mantis Hotel, there's no cause for optimism at all, and it's very sad.

Sincerely

Jamestown Correspondent

The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 36, Friday 9th August 2019

Sterling or St Helena Pounds - The Debate is On-going

For many years voices have been heard arguing for the abolishment of the St Helena Pound and the re-introduction of the Pound Stirling as the official currency of St Helena. The St Helena Pound has served St Helena well since its introduction in 1975. At the time when most of the world was living in a high inflation economy with good interest rates on investments it gave St Helena a healthy return on its money.

What happened in 1975 was that we collected all the Sterling on the Island and put the money into UK Bank accounts or bought UK gilts. UK gilts are issued by HMG for them to borrow money offering very low risk and good dividends. In the 70's and 80's interest rates on gilts could be 10-15% which gave St Helena ample money to issue its own currency 100% backed by the money invested in UK.

For many years it was profitable for St Helena to have its own currency. This all changed, especially after the 2008 downfall of the international economy in all markets. The entire western world adopted to a low interest rate economy. Now, UK gilts or cash deposits are hardly giving us any interest on our investments at all. We are happy if we get a percent or one and a half on gilts or cash deposits.

This has led to the St Helena Currency Fund which is there to manage the St Helena Currency and the overseas investments on the funds it holds, to suffer from diminishing incomes and also high costs in keeping the St Helena Pound in circulation. It costs a lot of money to print our own notes and coins and this cost is taken from the Currency Fund.

In the Public Accounts Committee meeting on Monday of this week the Currency Fund accounts for 2017-2018 were scrutinised at some degree. It is clear that the performance of the Fund is dropping year from year and it only gave about £35,000 in profit during the year under scrutiny. It had to write down the value of their overseas investments due to the



failing market and at the same time it paid out over £600.000 to SHG from previous reserves. The reserves in the Currency Fund has been diminished to just over a million pounds.

It is clear that the Currency Fund and the St Helena Pound could be more a liability than an asset for St Helena in the future. Already now Saints are chasing Sterling when they are travelling overseas for holiday or medical referral. The Bank of St Helena is charging an extra 2% for you to get Sterling instead of St Helena Pounds and the entire exchange is complicated and time consuming.

In the Public Accounts Committee session on Monday, the Financial Secretary, Dax Richards said that one of the main obstacles to re-introduce the Sterling was the prohibitive insurance cost to get the actual notes and coins to the Island. Mr Richards estimated this cost to up to 3% of the value of the currency transported.

It is still in many people's mind that re-introducing the Sterling would be beneficial to the Island.

Is A Mystery to be Solved in the Magistrates' Court?

The St Helena Police Directorate said on Wednesday of this week that "Following investigation, by the St Helena Police, of the theft of a silver ford fiesta car, registration number 2969, belonging to Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc which occurred on Thursday, 18 April 2019, in the Rock Rose area, three persons have now been charged." It also said that three people had been charged in connection with the offence.

On Wednesday Mr Adam Growcock appeared in the Magistrate's Court with charges of collusion to unlawfully obtain property and also of perverting the cause of public justice. The prosecution argued that Mr Growcock should be remanded in custody as he allegedly had tried to convince one of the codefendants to making certain statements in regards to this matter. One of the reasons for keeping charged persons remanded in custody is that it suspected that they would interfere with witnesses.

The prosecution did not put forward any evidence to the Bench, Mr Nick Aldridge, the Chief Magistrate, than that the co-defendant, Mr Shageo Andrews, had spoken to his mother about the alleged offence and that he had been approached by Mr Growcock.

The defence, the Public Solicitor, Duncan Cooke, argued that the prosecution had not put forward any witness statements but only two interviews with Mr Andrews and a hearsay interview with Mr Andrews' mother.

The prosecution on Wednesday that they wanted more time to finalise the evidence against the defendants in this case. After consideration, the Chief Magistrate, Mr Aldridge, granted conditional bail for Mr Growcock until the 5th September. This is also the date when the co-defendants, Mr Shageo Andrews and Miss Comella O'Dean will appear in the Magistrates' Court.





The radio news tells us it has been another quiet week but it has been a bit noisy in parts. The weather is certainly making itself heard right now (Thursday night/Friday early hours), both the wind and the rain are hammering around the house. While my dogs put their noses outside the door and try to decide where to go to have their pee in the wind and the rain, I'm sure Barry Hubbard has a broad smile on his face.

I've just had a couple of emails from the St Helena Red Cross about the Tristan Appeal. The first week has gone well and the signs are the next few weeks will be just as good. The Red Cross send heartfelt thanks to all who have got involved with the Appeal and given so generously. By the end of this week the Appeal will be heading close to £2,000. Thursday night was bingo night and many excellent prizes were generously donated. Over £700 was raised from the Bingo. Collection boxes have been distributed to various venues and pledges have been made by several generous people. More fund-raising events are planned and more will be known after the Red Cross fund-raising committee meets tonight.

A radio interview on BBC earlier this week showed clearly how the inhabitants of our sister island know how to look after themselves. Tristan was hit by a category 3 hurricane. Hurricane Irma which hit the Caribbean in 2017 was a category 4; it affected more people and did more damage, there were also people killed. Nevertheless, it is striking to see Tristanians are not wondering why the Royal Navy has not arrived yet, with ships loaded with equipment and Royal Engineers. Tristanians wait out the storm and when it has subsided they reach for the toolbox and look to find who most needs help.

I've written a few words on how the supply of eggs is organised. We have gone full circle in a roundabout way. ANRD used to breed layer hens and supply smallholders who kept a small flock and made a bit of extra cash selling eggs. After being given a poke with a sharp stick by DFID it was decided by SHG to privatise egg production by transferring ANRD breeding to one egg supplier. That one supplier was expected to organise the breeding for just about all the Island's needs and expand to become the main egg supplier for just about all the Island's needs. It does not matter who that supplier is, it seems to me to be a risky strategy. Some would say it's putting all your eggs in one basket. Now the centralisation of egg supply has broken up; smallholders now have all the chickens they want and ANRD staff are working overtime looking after chicks in quarantine. It's definitely a circuitous route getting from where things were to where things are now but they say you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs. When Mark Lowcock was Permanent Secretary at DFID he appeared at a House of Commons Inquiry on the St Helena Airport wind shear problem (as it was perceived at the time). His performance was lack-lustre and the uncharitable might describe it as whimpish. He moved on to be Under-Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Co-ordinator. Not long ago he gave a briefing the United Nations Security Council, the highest forum in that organisation. I think it is fair to say he gave a Good Bollocking to the high and mighty assembled to hear him speak about the desperate situation for civilians in Syria. He told them, "I am not sure I have told you anything today that is different to what you all already know. Many people have told you what is happening in Idleb for many months now. I asked Dr Mohammed, and the children I spoke to yesterday if they have a message for you. They do. "We are afraid. Please help us. Make it stop."

You in this Security Council have ignored all the previous pleas you have heard. You know what is happening and you have done nothing for 90 days as the carnage continues in front of your eyes.

Are you again going to shrug your shoulders, as Michelle Bachelet said? Or are you going to listen to the children of Idleb, and do something about it?" Well done Mr Lowcock. *Vince*



On Her Way to the Castle?

Island Images is first St Helena member of African Tourism Board

The African Tourism Board announced this week that Island Images, owned and operated by Derek and Linda Richards, is welcomed as their first member from St Helena saying the "remote British Island Territory in the Atlantic Ocean adds a unique unexplored component to the African Travel and Tourism Industry."



The announcement went on to say. "With its uniquely rich diversity of heritage-based attractions, both built and natural, St Helena offers many things to see and lots to do — from visiting the Georgian town to the rugged coastline, from the rolling hills to the stark yet striking geology at Sandy Bay. That's the thing about this destination here's so much more to the island than you may think. St Helena is home to the most varied heritage and nature, breathtaking views from the highest peaks, inviting waters, and 100% quaintness. St Helena beckons you to a true discovery."

Island Images is a locally owned and operated Destination Management Company, delivering a number of services, including a Receptive Tour Operator and are professionally qualified by and affiliated to the South African Tourism Services Association.

Director Derek Richards told eTN: Whether you're simply looking for somewhere off the beaten path St Helena offers adventure for everyone. The Island biodiversity has fascinated and influenced scientists and explorers Walking, rambling and hiking are amongst the most popular activities St Helena is home to over 1,000 species, of which over 400 are endemic to the Island."

Marine life is equally outstanding, from a variety of dolphins, whales and the whale sharks.

Alain St. Ange, President of the African Tourism Board (ATB) voiced his excitement to add St. Helena to the organization fast-growing portfolio of countries and regions. African Tourism Board is where Africa Becomes One Tourism Destination of choice in the world.

Last month the African Tourism Board also announced it had made a "giant step into the UK market" by linking with ANTOR (Association of National Tourist Offices and Representatives) the principal lobbying organisation for the world's tourist offices. ANTOR's UK membership is comprised of national and regional tourist offices which are represented in Britain. The African Tourism Board Chief Marketing Officer said: "We are very pleased to have both ANTOR and Representation Plus join us. The UK is one of our most important markets we clearly put a special focus on. With the help of leaders like Alison Cryer, (owner of Representation Plus) and with ANTOR representing tourism boards in the U.K., this is a giant step forward for ATB's outreach in Britain. We're hoping this will encourage many more new members from Britain to join us."

A founding member of the African Tourism Board is Finn Partners (USA) who own the Brighter Group which is St Helena Tourism's PR agency. By joining the African Tourism Board, Island Images now has wide communications network and many alliances within the tourism services sector they can use to further their business and St Helena's tourism generally.



Derek Richards told the Independent, "Basically I saw the opportunity to create a greater awareness for St Helena and our own business. We have been in a dialogue with the African Tourism Board (ATB) for some time. It is a new organization which was founded at the World Travel Market (WTM) in London last year and launched at WTM Africa earlier this year." Part of the reason for joining ATB was, "Members of the ATB are not only countries in Africa, but across the world and I feel that we can only benefit from greater exposure as members include Tourism Agencies and Tour Operators from afar afield as Australia, China, Germany, Hong Kong and the UK. I believe that Africa offers us potential tourists and, as a island, can benefit from tourists to Africa as an added on destination."

Island Images has forges international links with other tourism networks. Derek added, "Island Images is also affiliated to the Southern Africa Tourism Services Association and we have undertaken and passed Tour Operator training with them. During the past 2-3 years Island Images has interacted with a number of agencies and associations around the world connected with the tourism industry, but it is a long process and benefits cannot sometimes be felt until years later.

Having links such as this brings benefits, provides useful contacts in the industry and in some cases business whether it be for ourselves or St Helena as a whole."

News of Tristan Storm Damage Finally Goes International

Two weeks after Tristan was extensively damaged by storms the BBC are the only news organisation to have broadcast anything about Tristan and the many problems the small community now face. Lorraine Repetto, the Acting Administrator, was interviewed by Radio 5 Live. The interview was broadcast at 1:20am and then again at 4:20am on Monday. The number of people tuned in to the radio must have been very few; it cannot be said the news hit the headlines.

In the twelve minute interview it was always clear that Tristanians expect to look after themselves . There were no complaints that a Royal Navy ship was not coming with a Parachute Squadron of Royal Engineers to take over clearing up the mess, repairing and rebuilding. There was no impatience because the MFV Edinburgh had not yet left Cape Town and when it does will take a week to get to Tristan, weather permitting.

Lorraine Repetto said the Tristan Community were getting on with making buildings safe, finding alternative accommodation for the school and other urgent activity. The school itself will not reopen for a few months and it will be a long time before life gets completely back to normal.

News from Tristanians has filtered through to St Helena as telecommunications start to stagger and stutter back into action. A container, originally used to import two Aberdeen Angus bulls and now used as a bull pen was lifted by the 100mph plus wind from the American Fence (field) clear over a drystone wall and returned to earth in the Harbour Road. Another container, usually used for tea and coffee breaks,



Some of the damage to St Mary's School

was also lifted from the ground by the wind and landed some way further down the road. The Vet's Office, an adapted container, had its side ripped off and awaits repair.

It is estimated eight cattle died either by drowning or buried under landslips. One sheep from the wild flock was washed over the 600 metre high cliff face behind the Settlement. The weather drove other wild sheep down the mountain onto the Settlement Plain. There they joined the domestic sheep flock on the Settlement Plain. There were no losses reported among the domestic sheep.

St Helena Red Cross TRISTANAPPEAL Bank of St Helena, Red Cross account no. 00334002 marked 'Tristan Appeal'

Bank of St Helena, Red Cross account no. 00334002 marked "Iristan Appeal"

NEW HEAD OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE APPOINTED

Greg Gibsontook up his new role as Head of the Governor's Office (HOGO) on Monday, 5 August 2019.

The HOGO is a Foreign and Commonwealth Office appointment funded by the UK Government. The HOGO leads the Governor's Office team, advises the Governor on UK Government matters and deputises for HE Governor Dr Philip Rushbrook in his absence.

Greg commented:

"I am delighted to have arrived on St Helena and I look forward to working closely with the St Helena Government and Elected Members. Thank you to everyone for your friendly welcome."

HE Governor Dr Philip Rushbrook added:

"It is a delight to welcome Greg. His arrival brings the Governor's Office up to full strength and I look forward to working with him."

Greg is a career Diplomat who has served in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for 20 years. St Helena is Greg's fifth overseas postings. Prior to this appointment, Greg worked in London within the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Human Resources Department.

While on-Island, Greg hopes to take full advantage of the Island's outdoor pursuits.

SHG/Governor's Office, St Helena 8 August 2019



Leaders vs. 'Bleeders' Addie Thomas

Firstly, may I take a moment to offer my sincere condolences to those families who have lost loved ones this week? My thoughts are with you all (even if I don't know you). I hope that this period of grieving offers you the right support to come to terms with your very sad loss.

I had to snigger this week as rumour has it that I am going to run for council, not yet folks. Not with the current state of affairs. I would suggest a councillor exodus needs to take place before I (or anyone else I suspect) could contribute properly; my sanity still means a lot to me even after all these years.

However, I will do all I can for the people of this island wherever I can. I love writing, so if you have something of public interest that you wish me to write about, feel free to shout.

It did however get me thinking, how are our Councillors chosen? What is the criteria and how does it compare to say first world politics? After all, these people are huge decision-makers for our island (even if they say they aren't). At least they should be.

Can someone please tell me why we have twelve councillors? Does anyone else think that twelve is extravagant and dated for the island?

Someone this week referred to councillors as having '2-clock faces'. One for the public and one reserved for Government walls. I don't often take too much notice about the names I am called but when it comes to work, I do like to think I am seen in a light which inspires confidence.

Without referring to the UK's criteria, I thought I would create my own drop-down list and perhaps you could have a go at yours:

- A level of education which allows sound understanding of Legislation, Politics and Industries on the island?
- Island Resident (minimum 12 months so that persons understand island challenges and values before taking on the job)
- Vetting for a criminal record and especially that which affects the ethics of the job?
- · Abstinence from illegal activities
- Proven previous proficient leadership / decision-making skills
- · Honest
- Well-spoken (so we can hear what's being *vented* in Legco over the radio) with good reading and writing skills
- A role model to our up and coming youngsters
- A Backbone
- Allowed only two terms at most so that decay doesn't set in
- Excellent communication skills

So there's my little list and I am sure you could add much more to it, so give it a go as you have your family gathering this week. See what you come up with and how it compares to our existing Leaders.

I have heard it mention that ministerial positions would be a far better option with support teams. I agree. These positions could

be offered to candidates with the above criteria in mind but also, with sound knowledge of the specific industry and let's keep Islanders in mind for this and not people who have come in and are jumping from industry to industry with no real depth to their experience (local or otherwise).

As part of this exercise, I also started to think about the forthcoming General Elections in two years and I made a list of twelve people (yes I did) who are already on the island bar one or two who I sighted as bringing a refreshed, energetic and ethical approach to politics on this island. I challenge you Reader to make your own list using the existing or new councillors.

What I would suggest to our Councillors is this – if you feel that you are not as effective as many years ago then don't stand this time around and unselfishly step back for the greater good. Only those who are driven by the selfish 'job for life' mentality or money will continue to aggravate the process with your half efforts.

It has been suggested that if a vote were to go out now, some islanders would vote for 'none of the above'. This is very troubling especially as the island continues to go through many challenges. With so little confidence in the system, could this be a contribution to the departure of many islanders?

When families are pulled apart due to the constant rise in the cost of living, isn't it a wonder that our ever decreasing population continues to depreciate? Then there is the upbeat, enthusiastic intellect returning from University or otherwise, how long can these people keep their enthusiasm peaked before the system grinds them to a halt?

To those people who are thinking of standing for council in two-years-time (unless our Governor kindly agrees to transition to ministerial positions as above), may I suggest you start thinking about what you need to know now. Start visiting various industries and getting a feel for the private sector particularly and their challenges. Understand fully what the people of this island are in need of to recapture trust, transparency and truth from the system.

Broaden your shoulders and wet your appetite for disagreements at the very top level but always in the best interest of this island's prosperity for all.

I was fortunate to attend the Primary Schools' rounders and indoor cricket day at Prince Andrew School. The day was filled with recollections of my own school life. Oh how I loved sport much to the detriment of my classroom work at times. As I watched our wonderful youngsters perform, I was filled with gratitude to all those people who put in so much hard work to make the day happen.

Leaders vs. 'Bleeders' Addie Thomas

Great to see St Pauls' girls winning the rounders and Pilling's young chaps winning the indoor cricket.



A special mention to our Education Department on this island and all mentors and teachers who put in so many long hours so that our children may learn and build life skills for wonderful opportunities here and abroad.

In some countries, children and teachers have to walk for many miles to school and have so little resources or work and live in unsafe, war torn surroundings, so let us always remember how precious our education system is here and be grateful for it.

A huge thumbs up to Tracey and the Team at the Coffee Plantations in Sandy Bay (I must go into Harrods next time I am in London so that I can show the people selling the product a photo of Tracey and I – she is a celebrity in my eyes).

Tracey kindly explained to me the entire process and how much work is involved, not only in the purification and preparation of the bean but also the management of the land. With wonderful surroundings, people work in tranquillity, yet the work is no less challenging than a fisherman at sea, or a farmer ploughing the field.



These are the kinds of people that I believe our tourism sector should be promoting. People don't want to see us who sit behind desks; they want to see the experts, the passionate folk, the 'master craftsmen and women'. How more genuine would our pitch be if we had these kinds of people in our camp now and then? Wouldn't it be lovely if our next tourism visit abroad consisted of these people? Just saying.....

As conversations go, I think I have some of the best conver-

sations with people I did not know as a child because they were out of my age group or lived in other parties of the island that I did not often venture.

It was great fun to sit with Martin Williams and Rex 'Doggie' Thomas at Allsorts on a fine Tuesday afternoon and be enchanted with tales of life many years ago where bartering and hard work killed no one. Times were hard, yet the gap between the 'haves' and the 'have nots' wasn't as great as it is today. I wonder why this seems to be the sentiments and is this because some work harder than others or are there other valid explanations?



Have a great weekend folks and don't forget to 'water your thoughts' and let me have some more discussion points for next week.



ST HELENA WATER LEVELS

UPDATE

- Reservoir levels remain dangerously low at just 31 days
- No significant rainfall is forecast for the next week
 This is an Island-wide issue and until the situation improves we must all restrict our water usage to essential use only

Daily consumption levels on St Helena remains at just over one million litres of water, but no substantial rainfall means Island water stocks remain dangerously low, with just 31 days of storage water remaining. This marginal increase results from Connect Saint Helena (CSH) continuing to pump from Chubb's Spring and from Hutt's Gate to Red Hill.

Despite being late into our winter period it is not forecast for St Helena to experience any significant rainfall over the next week, which means that there will be no surface water run-off going into the Island's reservoirs.

To preserve our precious resource it is important that we continue to cut down our water use to essential use only. Remember that we are currently under a hosepipe ban after CSH enforced Island-wide water restrictions on Monday, 24 June 2019.

The relining of the Levelwood Reservoir has been completed. The current capacity of stored water in this reservoir is 1551m3 (40% full).

It is everyone's responsibility to take great care in using our water and consumers are continually urged to reduce consumption wherever possible. St Helena residents, businesses and people who use water for agricultural purposes are also urged to exercise great care and restraint when using water.

As mentioned previously, it will also be worthwhile for consumers to regularly check their water meters and monitor water usage to ensure there are no leaks in their system.

Regular updates on reservoir levels will be issued to the public.

If you see anyone using water irresponsibly or notice a burst pipe or leak then please inform CSH immediately.



H2 Earth Dam and H1



Every drop counts, every action counts - Everyone must save every drop of water possible.

St Helena Resilience Forum 6 August 2019

Thank You

The Committee of "BUBBLES" Group of Sandy Bay would like to extend their sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who gave so generously in the form of donations, gifts and prizes for the Raffle and also to those who made a special effort to attend our Coffee Morning on Saturday 3 August. A special thank you to all those who helped and assist to make the day a great success.

Winners of the raffle were:		
Sylvia Stevens, Jamestown	—	George Foreman Fat Reducing Grill
Alexia O'Connor, HTH	-	Slow Cooker
Valerie Coleman-Williams	-	Portable CD Player with Radio
lan Williams, Sandy Bay	-	Set Bedside Lamps
Stedson Peters, Sandy Bay	-	Steam Iron
Donny Stroud, HTH	-	Kitchen Scale



G-Unique at Reading Sports 2019 UK Collection now open online for pre-orders: www.g-uniquedesigns.com/uk-collection-2019





St Helena 2020 Calendar Available to Pre-order & Collect @ Reading Sports: www.g-uniquedesigns.com/uk-collection-2019 order via email: g-uniquedesigns@hotmail.co.uk

CHILDREN & ADULTS SOCIAL CARE DIRECTORATE OPEN-DOOR RECRUITMENT DAY

FRIDAY, 16 AUGUST 2019

As part of the Children & Adults Social Care Directorate's 'CARE': **C**aring **A**nd **R**especting **E**veryone Campaign, an open-door recruitment will be held at the Princess Royal Community Care Centre (CCC) from 11.30am-3pm on Friday, 16 August 2019.

The event will allow interested persons to talk with directorate staff, learn more about working in Social Care, and explore a typical day in the life of a Carer. Interviews will take place on the same day.

Manager, Sheltered Accommodation & Home Support, Gillian Brooks, said:

"We are committed to promoting the wellbeing and safety of vulnerable children and adults in our community. We can only do this by having people who are committed to caring and helping us to achieve this. Is this you? Why not come along to our open-door recruitment day on Friday, 16 August, and find out more about being a Carer or Support Worker. Sometimes we surprise ourselves at what we can do."

If you are unable to attend the open-door recruitment event but would like to make an appointment to discuss career opportunities in Social Care, please contact Lisa Thomas at Brick House on tel: (00 290) 22713.

The next open-door recruitment day will be held at the CCC on Friday, 20 September 2019.

SHG 6 August 2019







Help them to be themselves... And we'll help you to be you!



"We are committed to promoting the wellbeing and safety of vulnerable children and adults in our community. We can only do this by having people who are committed to caring and helping us to achieve this. Is this you? Why not come along to our Care Campaign Recruitment Day and find out more about being a Carer or Support Worker. Sometimes we surprise ourselves at what we can do."

> ~ Gillian Brooks Manager, Sheltered Accommodation & Home Support



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST Non-Executive Board Director

Bank of St Helena Ltd is seeking Expressions of Interest from persons to serve as a Non-Executive Director on their Board.

Non-Executive Directors are required to act with a degree of independence from the operational activities and have a role in providing strategic vision; monitoring the Bank's performance; the financial reporting process; the review of risk and controls; and governance.

Time commitment is on average 2 days per month and remuneration is provide at £3,000 to £3,500 per annum. Where experience and qualifications allow, there is potential for a non-Executive Director to also serve as Chairperson of the Board.

Interested persons should submit their Expressions of Interest and a CV to Leeanne Henry, Acting Managing Director, by email <u>asst.managingdirector@sainthelenabank.com</u> or in person at Bank of St Helena Office in Market Street, Jamestown.

Closing date for Expressions of Interest is Wednesday, 14 August 2019

 Head Office: Market Street · Jamestown · St Helena Island · STHL 1ZZ

 T. +290 22390 · F. +290 22553 · email. info@sainthelenabank.com · web www.sainthelenabank.com

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



"Get ahead of the Game!" - Register for your Bank of St Helena Online Banking Service today!

Customers are reminded that with effect from the 01 October 2019, Bank of St Helena will no longer accept instructions for Account Transfers and International Payments by email. Customers may continue to submit these payment instructions in person or may utilise the Bank's Online Banking service.

Online Banking is available to Personal Banking Customers on the Premium Account Package at £2.00 per month and for Business Banking Customers, Online Banking services start from the Standard Account Package for £5.00 per month. Online Banking allows you to:

- Monitor your account
- Make your own local account transfers to organisations or individuals on St Helena
- Make your own International Payments;
- And more!

For further details contact Customer Service on telephone 22390 or email customerservices@sainthelenabank.com

POLICE DIRECTORATE VACANCY SEA RESCUE SERVICES CREW

The Sea Rescue Services of the St Helena Police Directorate has an opportunity a self-motivated and enthusiastic individual to join their team as Sea Rescue Services Crew (Coxswain). This post will be a permanent contract.

The purpose of the post is to protect and save life at Sea, Some of the key tasks and responsibilities are:

1. Carry out directions from the Officer in Charge when at sea rescue incidents ensuring work is carried out within the standard operating procedures.

2. Support the wider Police Directorate through deployment when required within limitation of training given, as a Special Police Constable.

3. Under the direction of the Sea Rescue Service Deputy Manager, responsible for ensuring the maintenance and proper use of all Sea Rescue facilities, boats and equipment ensuring it is in a state of readiness at all times.

4. Make safety critical decisions during sea rescue operations and other deployments, ensuring the safety of the public, other agencies and the sea rescue crews.

Applicants should be 18 years of age or over and be a confident swimmer with the ability to pass a fitness test. Prospective candidates should have:

- GCSE Math and English at Grade C or above or equivalent
- First Aid Qualification First Responder
- Valid and clean driving licence in Class A.
- Experience /Qualifications if the Maritime field.

Hours of work will be 35 per week and the successful applicant will be required to be on-call for emergencies and will be required some weekends as per an on-call and Aircraft cover rota. Salary for the post is at Grade C commencing at £9,053 per annum.

For further details regarding the full role and a copy of the job profile, interested persons can contact Mr Simon Wade, Sea Rescue Manager on telephone number 25052 or e-mail simonwade@helanta.co.sh or Mr Craig Scipio, Deputy Sea Rescue Manager Tel 25215, email: craigscipio@helanta.co.sh or Deputy Sea Rescue Manager Leeroy Caswell Tel 25215, Email: leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh

Applications should be completed and submitted, through Directors, where applicable, to Tina Sim, Senior Human Resources Officer, The Castle, or email tina.sim@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 21 August 2019.

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

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

Michael Luke Acting Director of Police 7 August 2019



GENERAL MANAGER ST HELENA FISHERIES CORPORATION FIXED-TERM FOR 1 YEAR ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGE AND DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Responsible to a Board of Management for the effective development and maintenance of SHFC corporate functions, you will have oversight and management of all SHFC initiatives for developing tuna grading quality systems, improving and developing customer relations, staff development and transfer of knowledge and skills, product enhancement and advancing and developing local and international marketing, in pursuit of revolving the current business into a profit-making business operation.

This is a challenging appointment offering the opportunity to shape a key component of an expanding island economy, and to build an international seafood brand that has quality at the forefront, coupled with representing the unique culture and history of the island promoting our sustainable practices.

SHFC is seeking to recruit an experienced dynamic, energetic, enthusiastic individual to fill the role of General Manager to manage and guide the Corporation through a period of huge change. Uppermost in the credentials for this position is the ability to build effective and responsive interpersonal relationships, whereby staff members, colleagues and executives respect you. This is of utmost importance in an ever-changing environment as challenges can occur regularly due to the nature of the business and the logistical issues that may arise. Of equal importance is a proven track record in financial and business planning, leadership, and delivery of performance against targets focused on controlling costs and raising revenues in a demanding fresh food trading business within the timescales allocated.

Having a proven track record of working in the fishing industry, more specifically a tuna fishery at corporate levels with "hands on" experience would be advantageous.

Familiarity or indeed the desire to learn about the fishery is essential, especially in terms of knowing the requirements expected in terms of both quality and technical standards by international buyers when processing fresh and frozen fish and indeed the passion to want to promote our fishery both locally and internationally is key.

VACANCY Requirements

The successful applicant will:

- Demonstrate a proven track record of working as a commercial sector manager with a minimum of 5 years' experience.
- Excellent financial appraisal, modelling and forecasting skills
- Has the ability to build a team and encourages staff collaboration.

Salary for this post will range from £19k - £25k per annum subject to relevant experience. Applicants internal to SHG will be considered for a 1 year secondment and given the option to return to their substantive post at the end of the secondment period.

Please visit the SHFC website to learn more at http://www.sthelenatuna.co.uk/ Application forms and a copy of the Job Profile can be obtained from Corporate Human Resources and should be submitted to Bronwen Yon, HR Manager, Corporate HR, The Castle by no later than **Tuesday, 20 August 2019** or email bronwen.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh

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.

Corporate Services 6 August 2019



Within The Star

<u>Job Outline</u> To ensure that the shop floor is managed efficiently and effectively, and that customers receive the best standard of service possible.

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, by 20 August 2019

Grocery Manager

(The Star & Butchery)

on telephone number: 22683

or via email address:

grocerymanager@h<mark>elanta<mark>.co.sh</mark></mark>

Interested Persons Should:

- Be knowledgeable in Customer Service & Security
 - Be literate in Maths, English & IT
- Be knowledgeable & experienced in Food Handling
- Have-experience in Cash Handling
 Possess good leadership skills and Supervisory experience
- Have experience in Stock Management

Salary for the post will start at £8592.00 per annum (£716.00 per month)

VACANCY FOR A TEACHING ASSISTANT

The Education & Employment Directorate is seeking to employ a suitable person who enjoys working with young people to join a committed team of teachers within the Secondary Sector of the Directorate. Applicants must have GCSEs in English and Maths at Grade C or above or equivalent qualification. Recent and relevant work experience would be desirable. The ideal candidate must be self-motivated, have good interpersonal skills and a sense of humour.

The successful candidate will be expected to provide assistance to the class teacher by supporting teaching and learning in the school/classroom environment. Plan and prepare programmes of work under the direction of the class teacher to cater for the learning needs of groups of pupils and or individuals.

Salary payable will be from Grades TA1- TA2, ranging from £7,226 to £7,562 per annum.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Miss Kerry Lawrence, Deputy Headteacher, Prince Andrew School, on telephone number 24290 or e-mail kerry.lawrence@princeandrew.edu.sh

Application forms which are available from Education & Employment Directorate and Corporate Human Resources should be completed and submitted, through Directors where applicable, to the Acting Administration Officer at the Education Learning Centre or e-mail santana.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm, on Tuesday, 20 August 2019.

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.

Mrs. Wendy Benjamin Director of Education & Employment 6 August 2019



VACANCY FOR TEACHER TRAINEES

The Education & Employment Directorate is seeking to employ Teacher Trainees.

Responsible to the Teacher Training Advisor, the initial Teacher Trainee will undertake a three year period of Initial Teacher Training. During this period teacher trainees will work towards gaining professional teaching qualifications and work as part of a team with other members of the teaching profession. Training involves studying relevant learning theory and how this translates into classroom practice to deliver effective learning and teaching for children and young people.

Applicants must be in possession of four GCSEs graded at C or above, two of which must be in English and Mathematics and an A level/AS qualification or equivalent.

The ideal candidate must be highly self-motivated, an effective team player and have a passion for teaching. The Salary band for Trainee Teachers on the Directorate's Scheme of Service ranges from £7,562 to £10,550 per annum. Opportunities are available for career progression.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Mrs Wendy Benjamin, Director on telephone number 22607 or e-mail wendy.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms which are available from Education & Employment Directorate and Corporate Human Resources should be completed and submitted, through Directors where applicable, to the Acting Administration Officer at the Education Learning Centre or e-mail santana.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm, on Tuesday, 20 August 2019

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.

Mrs. Wendy Benjamin Director of Education & Employment 8 August 2019

CONTRACT FOR SERVICES IN THE EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT DIRECTORATE

The Education and Employment Directorate is seeking interest from persons who are able to offer contractual services as a Temporary Teaching Assistant within the Secondary sector. This contract for services is being advertised locally.

The rate payable will be at £5.16 per hour.

Applicants should ideally have GCSEs in English and Maths at Grade C or above or equaivalent qualification. Recent and relevant work experience would be desirable. The ideal candidate must be self-motivated, have good interpersonal skills and a sense of humor.

For further details and a list of duties, interested persons can contact Miss Vyona Young, Head of Inclusion on telephone no 24543 or email lolly.young@sainthelena.gov.sh

Expressions of interest should be submitted to the Human Resources Officer at the Education Learning Centre or e-mail santana.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 20 August 2019.

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 will be guaranteed an interview.

Mrs. Wendy Benjamin Director of Education & Employment 8 August 2019



VACANCIES FOR SENIOR CARE ASSISTANTS, EBONY VIEW & COMMUNITY CARE CENTRE

The Children & Adult Social Care Directorate is seeking to recruit suitably qualified persons to fill their vacant posts of Senior Care Assistants.

The post holders will be expected to deliver a high quality health and social care service directly to the frail and vulnerable people in full time residential and day care, in the Community Care Complex (CCC) and Ebony View enabling them, as far as possible, to live full and active lives.

- Essential qualifications and experience required for these posts are:
- GCSE English at Grade C or above or equivalent
- First Aid (or a willingness to undertake)
- St Helena Nursing Assistant/Getting Started in Care Training or NVQ level 3 in Health and Social Care
- Completion of an accredited lifting and handling training or equivalent
- Social Care qualification at QCF level 3
- Salary for this post is Pre-entry level, $\pounds 8,402$ per annum.

For further details about the posts and a copy of the Job Profile, interested persons should contact Ms Rosalie Brown, Community Care Centre on telephone number 25331 or e-mail: rosalie.brown@sainthelena.gov.sh or Ms Nicolene Adams on 23343 or email: nicolene.adams@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms can be obtained from Corporate Human Resources and Children & Adults Social Care Directorates and should be submitted through Directors where applicable, to Tina Sim, Senior Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail tina.sim@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Tuesday, 20 August 2019.

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. Corporate Services, St Helena Government, The Castle, Jamestown, Island of St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ Telephone: +(290) 22470 Facsimile: +(290) 22450 E-mail: lindsay.shankland@sainthelena.gov.sh www.sainthelena.gov.sh

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. **Children & Adult Social Care Directorate 06 August 2019**

Invitation to Tender

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

Refurbishment of No.12 Piccolo Hill, Longwood Copies of the tender document can be obtained from

Miss Tiffany Lawrence Procurement Officer Essex House

Jamestown



Telephone No: 22270 or

email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh

A site visit to view the works will take place on Tuesday, 06 August 2019, at 10am, meeting at No. 12 Piccolo Hill.

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

Should you require any further details, please contact the Project Manager, Mr Mark Plato, on telephone number 22270 or

email mark.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box at Essex House by 12noon on Tuesday, 20 August 2019.

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



Fertiliser

Thorpe's Emporium have 50kg granular fertiliser for sale.

Contact Mavis Obey in Thorpe's Emporium on 22673 or henry@thorpes.sh

43-510: Nitrogen Urea (46%N) £45.20 per 50kg / £0.90 per kg

43-508: Phosphate MAP (11%N,22%P)

£53.05 per 50kg / £1.06 per kg

43-509: **Potassium** мор (50%К)

£47.20 per 50kg / £0.94 per kg

Buy three bags for a 17% cash discount. The discount can be over three different bags.





PRESS RELEASE

ST HELENA AIRPORT LIMITED JOINS ACI AFRICA

St Helena Airport Limited (SHAL), a St Helena Government wholly owned company, has recently joined Airports Council International (ACI) which is a global organisation comprised of operators of airports, associations, educational establishments and business partners, all of whom are involved in aviation. SHAL has joined the African region as a regular member and shall be seeking affiliate regular membership with ACI Europe.

Gwyneth Howell, the CEO and Accountable Manager for SHAL said "Our membership provides a unique platform for St Helena Airport whereby we can gain valuable knowledge, skills and training opportunities to help tailor our Strategic Business Plan, showcasing our services and expanding our presence within the African and European regions."

St Helena Airport Limited is pleased to join ACI Africa, gaining further international recognition and establishing new relationships with aviation organisations as a result.

COMPLIANCE MANAGER ACHIEVES IAP DESIGNATION

The Compliance Manager for St Helena Airport, James Kellett (pictured), recently completed his International Airport Professional (IAP) qualification and therefore earns the IAP designation. James is thought to be the first person from St Helena to achieve IAP status.

The qualification is achieved through the completion of the Airport Management Professional Accreditation Programme (AMPAP) which is a strategic initiative jointly accredited by Airport Councils International (ACI) and the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

The programmes seeks to "develop a new generation of airport leaders in all functional areas of the airport business and promote the adherence to the highest professional standards and effective sharing of best managerial practices."

James was tasked with completing four mandatory courses and two elective courses within three years in order to achieve the IAP designation. Further elective courses are available to James to continue his professional development.



James said "To achieve the IAP designation has been a challenging but ultimately rewarding and enjoyable experience. I have met many airport professionals from around the globe and have made long-lasting links with them to the benefit of me as an airport management professional and to St Helena Airport. I look forward to continuing with my studies, growing my

knowledge and forging strong links with other professionals."

St Helena Airport Limited, 02 August 2019

APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Application has been received in respect of the following proposal:

 Application 2019/62: Full Planning Application for Rockfall Mitigation (Installation of rock catch fences of low and medium capacity, up to 4m high in both James Valley and Ruperts Valley; The installation of a small rockfall catch fence above James Wharf and immediately below the existing retaining wall of Mundens Path; The installation of high capacity rock fall netting on the cliffs above Ruperts Wharf; The installation of draped rockfall netting above Ruperts Wharf and on the Airport Link Road and, The construction of a rock trap at the toe of the slope adjacent to Ruperts Wharf on Parcels 170076 and 170093 Jamestown and 0085 and 0025 Rupert's Valley. Applicant: St Helena Government.

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

Any person who wishes to make Representations on the above Application should make them <u>in writing within 14</u> <u>days</u>, to the Planning Office, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown or Email <u>Karen.Isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh</u>

Public Review & Representations Closing Date

: 4pm – 23rdAugust 2019

Shane Williams Planning Officer

PERISHABLE GOODS SENT THROUGH THE POST

The Post & Customer Services Centre notes that it is customary for customers to post iced and fruit cakes to the UK, and would like to remind the public that goods sent through the post to the UK are subject to spot checks by the UK Border Force.

The UK Border Force has confirmed that items, such as fruit cakes, are exempted from seizure. However, there are variables that could result in the seizure of items through the mail, including cross-contamination and uncertainty of provenance (origin) of the item.

Customers can determine which perishable goods are allowed in to the UK, and which goods have a high risk of confiscation, by visiting the following link for guidance: https:/ /www.gov.uk/guidance/personal-food-plant-and-animal-product-imports

Alternatively, customers can contact the Post & Customer Services Centre for assistance or advice.

Should customers become aware that an item, sent through the mail, has been seized in the UK, a complaint can be made to the UK Border Force. The St Helena Post & Customer Services Centre can assist with this process by contacting the Assistant Customer Services Manager, Alan Bennett, on telephone numbers 22629/22008, or by e-mailing alan.bennett@sainthelena.gov.sh. **SHG**



Iced Cake. Be careful so it is not confiscated in UK customs.

6 August 2019

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Tonight will see the start of the 2019/2020 Premier League Season when Liverpool host new boys Norwich at Anfield. This is the time in the season when all fans will have high expectations in regards to where their team will finish in the league. Man City and Liverpool will no doubt start as favourites to pick up the league title next May. Most football pundits predict that Spurs; Chelsea, Arsenal and Manchester United will fight for the remaining 2 Champions League places.

Personally I think Chelsea will miss out due to the fact they couldn't bring in any players except Pulsic who they signed last January and they could lose David Luiz to Arsenal. If Arsenal doesn't sort out their defensive problems they could also miss out on Champions League football again.

Manchester United has potentially sorted out the problems they had last season in defence with the signing of Harry Maguire and Bassaka. They will need to start to convert the chances they create up front if they wish to get back to playing Champions League Football.

If Spurs get some key signing in they could be the team to challenge Liverpool and Man City for the title.

Liverpool had a quiet transfer window, they do have 11 players that could win them their first league title since 1990; however if any key players get injured for a long period of time they might not have the strength in depth and their title challenge could end in disappointment.

Manchester City remains the team to beat - they showed resilience and brilliance to put together a 14-match winning streak to see off Liverpool last season and have strengthened in midfield with the addition of Rodri from Atletico Madrid.

Kompany's presence, so vital in the run-in last season, will be hugely difficult to replace on and off the pitch but class in all parts of the field will make it a Premier League treble for the side who swept the board domestically last season and the perfect sign-off to David Silva's brilliant career in England.



Personally I think Everton and Wolves will have a good season and I predict that West Ham will finish higher up the table this year.

I think that Norwich and Brighton will go down this year and it will be a battle between Newcastle, Burnley and Sheffield United to fill the remaining relegation place.

Liverpool should start their campaign off a comfortable win against Norwich.

The early game on Saturday will see the Champions Man City face a tricky tie away at West Ham. The 2pm games will see Bournemouth host Sheffield United; Burnley will play at home to Southampton, Crystal Palace will play Everton and Watford will host Brighton. In the late match at 4.30pm Spurs will play Aston Villa.

The 3 matches on Sunday will see Leicester play Wolves and Newcastle play Arsenal at 1pm and at 3.30pm Manchester United will play Chelsea at Old Trafford.

Junior Football Results

Sunday 28th July

Jungle Rangers 10 v Yellow Devils 3

G/S Jungle Rangers: Blaze Baldwin 4 & Toure Osborne 4 & 2 own goals

G/S Yellow Devils: Zac Francis 2 & Harry Winfield 1 POM: Ephren Stroud & Blaze Baldwin

Results: Saturday 3rd August

Yellow Devils 17 – Young Rebels 7 Goal scorers Yellow devils – Harry W-10, Aden S-6, Zach F-1 Goal scorers Young Rebels - Taylan F-5, JadeeCaswell-2 POM: Harry W -Yellow Devils & Tyrone R-Young Rebels – young rebels

11-15 yr olds

Rangers 5 – Titans 9

Goal scorers Rangers- Jacob Williams-1, Scott Obey-2, Blake Peters-2

Goal scorers Titans – Colby Richards-1, Ethan Johnson-3, Jeremiah Ellick-3, Annika Lawrence-1, Travis Yon -1 POM: Ethan J - Titans

Galacticos 11 – skyscrapers 0

Goal scorers Galacticos – Aiden yon-Stevens-6, Ethan Harris-2, Calumn Young-1, Evan Constantine-1 Musa-1 POM: Aiden Yon-Stevens

Fixtures

Sunday 11th August

Pitch 1(Primary School) 9am: Jungle Rangers v Rebels 10am: Yellow Devils (friendly)

Pitch 2 (11-15 year olds) 9am: Titans v Skyscrapers 10am: Galacticos v Rangers



GOLF REPORT FOR SUNDAY 4th AUGUST 2019

Round one of the annual Richard James International sponsored golf competition took place on Sunday 4th August 2019. The second and final round will take place on 11th August 2019. This year's event has attracted 24 golfers. This is a stroke play competition where full handicap applies. The top five for round one finished as follows;

Name	Nett Score
Arthur Young	63
Leon Crowie	65
Paddo Johnson	67
Paddo Johnson	67
Pat Henry	68
Pat Henry	68
Tony Green	69
,	

SHFA Football League Week 6

3/8/19

Rovers 2 v 1 Harts Goals for Rovers – Jacob Duncan, Brett Isaac. Goal for Harts – Sean Lee Thomas. MOM – Rico Benjamin of Rovers.

Bellboys 5 v 1 Wirebirds Goals for Bellboys – Matthias Young 3, Tyler Brady, Ryan Benjamin. Goal for Wirebirds – Tyler Benjamin. Yellow Cards – Michael Bedwell, Alex Osborne. MOM – Matthias Young of Bellboys.

4/8/19

Lakers 4 v 2 Axis Goals for Lakers – Cody Thomas, Liam Yon, Jace Williams, Cecil Jonhson. Goals for Axis – Damien Stevens 2.

MOM – Jordon Yon of Lakers.



Saints 1 v 3 Wizards Goal for Saints – Nick Stevens (Pen) Goals for Wizards – Colin Shoe, Mark Beard, Aston Benjamin. Yellow Card – Luke Johnson. MOM – Mark Beard of Wizards.

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE SKITTLES SEASON - 2019

Scores:

29th. July					
	STRUGGLERS - 510		Bt	RUSTY PISTOLS - 472	
Ladies - H. Sc:	Sally Hickling	62			
Gents - H. Sc:	David Thomas	76		Phillip Isaac	66
Ladies - H. Sp:	Sally Hickling	14			
Gents - H. Sp:	Fabian Peters	15		Phillip Isaac	15

31st. July

	PARTTIMERS - 515			GUYS & DOLLS - 457					
Ladies - H. Sc:				Patricia Essex	53				
				Kedall Lawrence	53				
Ladies - H. Sp:				Kedall Lawrence	14				
Gents - H. Sc:	Denny Leo	68		Charlie Young	58				
Gents - H. Sp:	Denny Leo	13							

Upcoming fixtures:

Monday 12th. August - Guys & Dolls v Rusty Pistols Wednesday 14th. August - Extractors v Strugglers



The rest of the players finished with a nett score of 70 and above. Three golfers shared the two ball pool. They are; Leon Crowie, Bramwell Lumukwana and Peter Johnson. Tee off time for the final round is 12:00 and refreshments will be provided in the 19th Hole by Mrs Daphne Francis.

Parents and guardians of our junior members are hereby advised that during the current school holiday there will be a Senior member available for juniors who need some training/ practise on Mondays between 09:00 to 12:30. Parents or guardians of juniors who are interested should contact Mr Keith Benjamin on 61104 or 24849. The usual Junior members training continues on Thursdays at 16:15 weather permitting.

Wish you all a great weekend.....! Contributed by; SHGC



Making Ends Meet Public Announcement

This notice is to inform the public that there have been a number of changes to the committee membership of Making Ends Meet Charity: Tessa Roberts has stood down from the positions of Chairperson and Committee Member, whilst Christine Thomas has also stood down from the positions of Treasurer and Committee Member. Both ladies will be greatly missed and enormous thanks are extended to them both for the invaluable work they have undertaken for the people of St Helena and the commitment shown to the Island.

Unfortunately, because the Charity is missing these two key positions and the Committee is not quorate (according to the Articles of the charity) it has been decided to temporarily suspend M.E.M. activities until September 2019 at the earliest. We will then call a General Meeting to which all members of the public will be warmly invited and at which, it is hoped, the charity can be re-constituted and its important activities resume. In this interim period, and in the absence of a treasurer, all financial activities are suspended.

In the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Vlad-Dorin Cucuiu on the following number 61801 or on the following email address: vlad.cucuiu@yahoo.com

Thanking you for your understanding in this matter.

Making Ends Meet Charity

News Round Up – bits you may have missed



THE SINKING OF THE VIKING

Indonesians solve illegal fishing problem by bombing the boats. A tuna fishery in Indonesia has the gold standard from the Marine Stewardship council for the sustainability of its pole and line fishing operation to catch yellowfin and skipjack. The fishery in West Papua has 35 pole and line vessels and employs 750 local fishermen. Stuff we dream about but don't try hard enough to do.

The Indonesian Government is clearly more serious in its intention to have a successful fishing industry. While the fishery itself is described as a beacon of best practice in the region the government play a supporting role by blowing up illegal fishing vessels. Some vessels have been set alight while at sea and others, less spectacularly, just confiscated.



Lord Ashcroft owns many things; one such thing is an opinion poll company. His latest opinion poll is on whether the Scots want to break away from the United Kingdom and go their own way. The result of Ashcroft's poll indicates the majority of Scots now want independence from the rest of the United Kingdom. The majority of Scots voted in the referendum to stay in the European Union, as did the Northern Irish. The Sassenachs south of the border are forcing the Scots into something most of them see as extremely foolish and very damaging. The movement towards independence and remaining in Europe appears to be gaining strength as the threat of Brexit gets ever closer. The new poll conducted by Lord Ashcroft Polls for PoliticsHome's sister title Holyrood puts support for independence at 46 per cent with 43 per cent against. It comes just days after Boris Johnson visited Scotland in his first visit as Prime Minister. The remaining 11% don't know.



Ocean CleanUp is an organisation committed to clearing plastic from the Oceans. New methods and technology are being tried and tested. Trying something new always attracts critics who say it will never work or the traditional methods are better. Ocean CleanUp have tried their way of cleaning up the ocean plastic twice in the North Sea as dummy runs before starting the first big job in the North Pacific. The first real job in the North Pacific started last September.

Two problems arose. The system used a ring of floating booms which held the whole scooping up equipment together. The booms suffered stress fractures. The whole operation also moved too slowly through the Pacific. Undaunted Ocean CleanUp went back to the drawing board. They say they encountered "unscheduled learning opportunities" during the first attempt at a full scale CleanUp and now they are going back to the Pacific with the modifications in place to get around the problems they had. Let's hope no more unscheduled learning opportunities arise when scooping up the plastic rubbish.



Asarasi bottled water is described as 'organic' water. Pure water contains hydrogen and oxygen but no carbon. Anything organic contains naturally occurring carbon; if it doesn't it is inorganic. All the bottles shown in the Asarasi range are sparkling waters, some with flavouring. All labelled organic. It's made in the United States and, as the headline to this story in Huff Post said, 'Americans have no idea what organic is'. According to one survey 25% of people in the United States want to get their hands on 'organic' water. Australia has already banned any description of water using the word 'organic'. You can buy organic water from Amazon UK if you wish. It costs £10 a bottle but you can get a 20% discount if you have the right voucher. What a con!

News Round Up – bits you may have missed



Which one is Top Cop Trevor Botting? St Helena's former Chief of Police, Trevor Botting was promoted this week to 'Top Cop' in the Turks and Caicos – as the Turks and Caicos Weekly News describes the new post. Mr Botting was previously the Deputy Commissioner of Police in Turks and Caicos. The photo on the right was taken before his promotion, the photo on the left when he was promoted. Is it the same person in both photos?



The UK's new prime minister is touring the kingdom but not to any great effect. In fact, the opposite is a better description. After announcing the National Health Service will receive an extra £1,800,000,000 (£1.8billion) he was quickly reminded he promised £350,000,000 per week during the referendum campaign. That amounts to £18,200,000,000 a year (£18.2billion). That's more than ten times as much he's promised than allocated in one-off funding so far. Johnson went north of the border to try and mend fences with the people of Scotland who are mostly against leaving the European Union. A few days after his visit an opinion poll found that most Scots want to break from England and have a second referendum on Scottish independence. And then, to add to the problems Johnson is making for himself (and us) former US President Bill Clinton's Treasury Secretary is guoted saying, "Britain has no leverage, Britain is desperate ... it needs an agreement very soon. When you have a desperate partner, that's when you strike the hardest bargain." And, "on top of that, the deterioration of the pound is going to further complicate the negotiating picture. We will see it as giving Britain an artificial comparative advantage and make us think about the need to retaliate against Britain, not to welcome Britain with new trade agreements." All this was at a time when the new Foreign & Commonwealth Minister visited Trump to talk about a new trade deal. Johnson is getting a lot of egg on his face.

The Women,s Corona society monthly 200 club Raffle draws as follows;-

March 2019

1st prize Mrs Wendy Plato, sapperway 2nd prize Mrs Elise Hughs, Barren ground, 3rd prize Mr David Constantine, Jamestown

APRIL 2019

1st Prize Mrs Shirley Henry, Botanical Gardens 2nd prize Mrs Pat Crowie, Drummond hay square, 3rd Mrs Faith Nicholls, Jamestown,

MAY 2019

1ST Prize Mrs Rita Williams, Barracks square, 2nd Prize Mrs Sandra Stevens, HTH, 3rd Prize Mrs Pat Crowie, Drummond hay square,

JUNE 2019

1st Prize Mrs Ivy Yon, Longwood Ave, 2nd prize Mrs Patsy Peters, Thompsoms hill 3rd prize Mrs Muriel Henry, Longwood,

JULY 2019

1st Prize Mrs Di Chambers, Deadwood, 2nd Prize Mrs Shirley Francis, Thompsoms Hill, 3rd prize Mr Nigel Dollery, New Ground,



Earlier this year SHG commissioned BDO, International Consultants, to undertake a review of the Mantis Hotel. SHG received the final report from BDO last month, a summary of which can be found below.

Operational review and market demand study for the Mantis Hotel, Jamestown, and St Helena.

BDO July 2019

Highlights

1/ As one of the most remote islands in the world St Helena boasts an impressive history, natural and marine environment which are easily explored by visitors due to its small size. The mild tropical climates makes it an attractive destination to visit year round. Furthermore, the Saint Helenians (Saints) are friendly and welcoming. St Helena is also considered a safe destination with very little crime.

2/ The main driver for the development of the airport on St Helena and subsequent introduction of air access was the need to revive the island's failing economy, reduce its dependency on UK budgetary support and in turn become a selfsustaining

market led economy. The opening of the airport was delayed significantly as further safety and operational work was required to address the impact of difficult wind shear conditions on landing aircraft safety.

3/ At present St Helena finds itself in a period of economic transition with the new airport having been fully operational for just over a year. Arrival numbers have grown significantly, but are many years off the long-term forecast of 30,000 tourists per

annum which in any event was predicated on the airport being able to accommodate larger aircraft.

4/ Due to smaller aircraft capacity and routing via Johannesburg visitors numbers are likely to grow at a more modest pace. The introduction of the second weekly flight is considered critical in enabling more flexible length of stays on the island and also in making two-centre holidays more realistic. The news that the second weekly flight will operate from Cape Town between December 2019 and February 2020 is positive.

5/ As an emerging destination which has only recently become accessible by air, awareness of St Helena as a tourist destination is growing, but it will take time to convert this into actual bookings and for the envisaged tourist numbers to materialise.

6/ Tour operators, in particular, will be concerned about the lengthy delays experienced during the first year of air access and it will take time for St Helena to build a reputation as a tried and tested destination with reliable access. At the latest count 51 tour operators feature St Helena which is encouraging.

7/ To date Enterprise St Helena's (ESH) ability to attract largescale private sector investment to support growth in tourism has been limited primarily due to the factors set out above. Furthermore, according to the Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP), St Helena Government (SHG) needs to gain a credit rating so organisations operating in St Helena can raise international private finance.

8/ Internet access and banking facilities need to improve in order to facilitate better access to online bookings and payment with credit cards which in turn will encourage visitors to spend more whilst on the island.

9/ The location, quality, range of facilities and size of the hotel means that it is in a prime position to capitalise on the anticipated future growth in tourist arrivals to St Helena.

10/ During 2017/18 the Mantis Hotel made a loss of £273k at the EBITDA level, which is to be expected in view of the current trading environment combined with the high-cost structure on St Helena. The performance of the Mantis Hotel is expected to improve in future years.

11/ It is evident that as a new hotel in an emerging tourist destination the market entry period for the Mantis Hotel is taking longer than what would normally be expected. Typically, a hotel reaches a stabilised performance by its third year of operation, but this is more likely to be achieved by year five in the case of the Mantis Hotel.

12/ The future performance of the Mantis Hotel is inextricably linked to the capacity, frequency, reliability and cost of the flights to the island which at the present time are the main barriers to the hotel becoming profitable. However, with gradual growth in tourist arrivals to St Helena combined with a more efficient operation there is significant potential to improve the trading performance and in turn make the Mantis Hotel profitable at the EBITDA level.

13/ Within this context BDO believe that the location and characteristics of the 30- room Mantis Hotel make it the leading quality hotel on St Helena. As such it is well placed to draw a growing number of visitors to stay overnight as well as attract local residents to dine in its restaurant as well as attend special events organised by the hotel such as its sushi tastings and Valentine's dinner.

14/ Considering St Helena's remote location and the fact that the island has only been accessible by air for just over a year, it is not surprising that there is a very limited supply of visitor accommodation on the island. At present the Mantis Hotel is

the only property to offer an international four-star standard product with the remainder of supply being made up of owneroperated small hotels, guesthouses and B&Bs together with a selection of self-catering accommodation.

15 / The development of the airport has thus far failed to attract the scale of investment in quality hotels originally envisEarlier this year SHG commissioned BDO, International Consultants, to undertake a review of the Mantis Hotel. SHG received the final report from BDO last month, a summary of which can be found below.

Operational review and market demand study for the Mantis Hotel, Jamestown, and St Helena.

BDO July 2019

aged. Instead developers and investor have adopted a 'wait and see' approach until such a time when St Helena has proven its ability to attract visitors in sufficient quantity to make further projects financially viable.

16/ Growth in leisure demand is critical to the future success of the tourism sector on St Helena thus destination marketing and collaboration with international tour operators remain key priorities in terms of raising awareness and generating future bookings.

17/ Unlike in a mature established destination, the performance of accommodation establishments on St Helena is inextricably linked to visitor arrivals by air with the flight route, frequency of services and size of aircraft having a critical impact on the demand for visitor accommodation be it serviced or self-catering. It is essential to work towards reducing the number of weather-related flight delays in order to build St Helena's reputation as a destination with frequent and reliable air access.

18/ Demand for serviced accommodation on St Helena is currently highly seasonal with leisure and business demand peaking between December and April. However, given the island's mild climate year round there is considered to be significant potential to grow demand during the current low season by offering promotional packages and special interest products.

19/ Improved access and increased awareness of what St Helena has to offer as a tourist destination should continue to stimulate demand for visitor accommodation. Thus the outlook for visitor accommodation demand is very positive, especially in the medium to long term.

20/ The Mantis Hotel is currently establishing itself as the leading quality hotel on St Helena seeking to draw demand from a range of leisure and business sources. In the early years the performance of the hotel will be highly dependent on growth in tourist arrivals to the island.

21/At present, there are no other international four-star standard boutique hotels on St Helena and thus the Mantis Hotel is likely to remain the leading hotel for the foreseeable future whilst the island establishes itself as a tourist destination.

Addressing the BDO Report, SHG applauded the huge achievement, by all those involved, in bringing the Mantis St Helena Hotel into operation. SHG has taken cognisance of the following points:

A good hotel, of international standard, is essential to the Islands' ambitions for international tourism. The location, quality, facilities and size of our Hotel means that it will be a prime position to capitalise on the growth in international tourists. As an emerging destination which has only recently become accessible by air, awareness of St Helena as a tourist destination is growing, but it will take time to convert this into actual bookings and for the envisaged tourist numbers to materialise.

As a new hotel in an emerging tourist destination, the market entry period for Hotel is taking longer than what would normally be expected. Typically, a hotel reaches a stabilised performance by its third year of operation, but this is more likely to be achieved by year five of operation in the case of our Hotel.

The future performance of our Hotel is inextricably linked to the capacity, frequency reliability and cost of the flights to the island which at the present time are the main barriers to the hotel becoming cost effective. However, with gradual growth in tourist arrivals to St Helena combined with a more efficient operation there is significant potential to improve the trading performance.

SHG have since shared BDO's report with St Helena Hotel Development Ltd, SHG's wholly owned state entity and owner of the Mantis hotel. Live to the challenge of low occupancy due to fewer international tourists, the owner has charged its operator (Mantis) to embark on a cost efficiency plan that better matches costs to revenues. The full year impact of this will be clear in 2020/21.

Meanwhile the owner will be working with the operator to explore alternative models of operation, in response to fewer tourists.

As signalled from the outset, SHG remains committed to releasing the hotel to the private sector at the earliest opportunity.

SHG, 2 August 2019

Editor's note:

This is a heavily redacted version of the original BDO report. The original report included the financial situation of the Hotel which was deemed to be inappropriate to be published for public reading.

ST HELENA HOTEL DEVELOPMENT LTD







Friday 9th August Rosie's is bringing you a Nite to Remember Starting with Classic Pop and Rock music by Colin Robinson aka Halfman at 8pm Then Guys N Gals at 10pm get ready for a Country Nite Colin Peters will be bringing you some great sounds of Country Music Dress the Part and the Best Dressed Country & Western Guy and Gal gets to win a prize

For all you Country Fans out there Come on Down for a Hee-Hawing Good Time at Rosie's





class sessions



With Samir Maggott

Starts Wednesday 14th August

At Half Tree Hollow Community Centre

£2.50 per session. All Welcome – come along and give it a go!

Freestyle is spontaneous and individual. There are no required or structured movements that must be learned. It is an extremely popular form of dancing both for recreational purposes and as a highly competitive sport. This is a dance style enjoyed by boys and girls.

Freestyle Dancing (High Energy Freestyle Dancing) began in the 1970s on street

For further info contact Samir on 61478 or email creativesainthelena@gmail.com

