

THE ST HELENA INDEPENDENT

Est. 2005

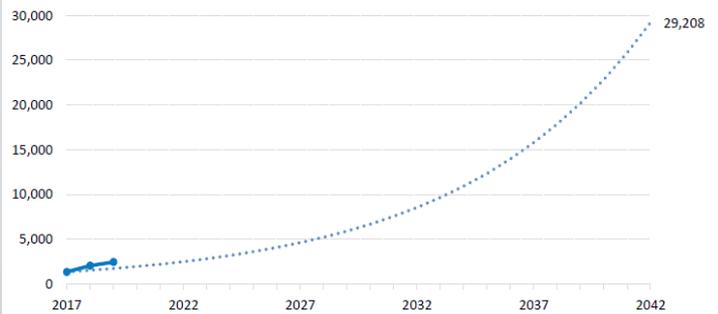
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Inward Investment on Upward Trend

Tourism Figures Suggest the Future is Not as Grim as We Think



Chart 6. Number of leisure arrivals by air in 2017, 2018 and 2019, compared to a constant growth rate trajectory to 29,208 arrivals in 2042



St Helena's Marine Protected Area Changes Focus



PAS Prom 2020



Wreck 2 Wreck



Inward Investment on Upward Trend

When discussion turns to attracting money to St Helena we hear the words 'inward investment' almost as often as the word 'tourism'. The coronavirus has sent tourism down the plughole for the moment but inward investment is not showing the same symptoms. Looking back over the big investment schemes there have been, inward investment is showing signs of accelerating.

The Bahrain Telecom Company (Batelco) was the first in recent years in the big contract league. In April 2013 Cable & Wireless sold telecom systems on various islands to Batelco. The Monaco and Islands Division of Cable and Wireless was sold to Batelco for a total contract price of £785,000.



Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa - Batelco Chairman

Last month Batelco signed up to a joint venture to lay a 1,300 km submarine cable from the United Arab Emirates to Pakistan. Called the Orient Express, when the cable is completed it is claimed the Orient Express cable will offer high-bandwidth capacity, internet services, and transit facilities with low latency for local customers. That is exactly what we want the Equiano cable to do for us; let's hope Batelco play their part in achieving this. Batelco is an international company based in Bahrain.

From St Helena Leisure Corporation to St Helena Corporation to Trade Winds St Helena

Shelco was the first overseas business to show real interest in making a large financial commitment to St Helena. It is also the only UK business to do so. After making serious efforts to get their ideas accepted and off the ground there followed many years of getting nowhere with their investment plan; which originally was to construct an airport, establish an airline and develop a hotel and golf resort. They sold most of their shares in 2018 to the St Helena Corporation led by Paul O'Sullivan. The Broad Bottom Hotel and Golf plan remained on the table and a holiday homes development at Horse Pasture was later added. The development was rebranded Trade Winds and outline development permission was granted. The right economic conditions are now awaited before further progress is made as we enter the post-Covid-19 era. O'Sullivan also speaks about establishing a direct air service to the UK.



Paul O'Sullivan (right) arrives with business partner Anthony Fitzhenry

Paul O'Sullivan bought the Broad Bottom site from Shelco in November 2018. The Horse Pasture development site was acquired from Solomon's in August last year. At the time of purchase the hotel and golf resort at Broad Bottom was estimated to be a £150 million development. No costs are known for the Horse Pasture site, however, as the aim of the business is to sell holiday homes and phase the development in line with demand for the houses the capital outlay, while considerable, is likely to be less. Paul O'Sullivan has several companies registered either in South Africa or the UK; reflecting his Irish/British origins and his later move to South Africa. The Trade Winds Corporation plc is registered in the UK.

Google's Equiano cable with Portugal and one end and South Africa at the other can certainly be called a massive project of global proportions. The Equiano cable is a project fully funded by Google and will be the third submarine cable backed by Google finance. The cost of the Equiano project is not published but it is part of a \$47 billion development programme by Google. The Equiano Cable project was announced almost one year ago. The St Helena connection to it will be part of phase 1 of the project was expected to be completed in 2022 before Covid-19 struck.



Sundar Pichai, Chief Executive of both Google and its parent company Alphabet

St Helena relies on the Google project but is only directly concerned with the connection linking this Island with the main cable. The cable connecting St Helena to the main

Inward Investment on Upward Trend

Equiano cable is supported by European Union funding amounting to €1.5 million, which is currently valued at more than £19 million. The ultra-fast digital connection is on course to attract further large investments. Earth Stations, connecting the cable with satellites being the next stage in setting St Helena in the modern digital age. Sundar Pichai was born in southern India and now lives in the United States.

PASH Global also showed determination and endurance in finalising their plans to invest in St Helena. There was two years between the announcement that PASH was the preferred bidder and signing the contract. The financial arrangements for this contract are different. Called a Power Purchase Agreement, it means PASH pay for the installation of the extra wind turbines, solar panels and battery power storage and recoup the cost over the course of the 25 year contract. During that 25 year period the price of electricity remains fixed.



Kofi-Owusu-Bempah, Founder and Managing Partner of PASH Global. There is a separate article Kofi in this edition of the Independent

PQ Trading is the preferred bidder for the new and yet to be finalised fisheries contract. The level of investment involved will be less than any of the inward investments mentioned but a successful operation of what is at present a controversial initiative could have lasting and beneficial results for St Helena fish customers and local fishermen.



Johann-Marais Bezuidenhout is the public face of the bid from PQ Trading. Johann was a director of PQ Trading for almost nine years up to November 2007. Since then he has been a dive systems technician and an inspection diver.

Falklands Fortune

There is only 3,750 miles of ocean between us but the Annual Address this week by the Falklands Governor to the Falkland Legislative Assembly was something we can only think happens on another planet. Once again the Falklands Government took in more revenue than they spent. Tax receipts came mainly from the fishing industry and other businesses, sale of fishing licences and income from investments. Tourism, agriculture, retail and service sectors also made “valuable contributions” to government revenue. The Falklands Governor was able to say, “Government finances remain in robust shape, fortified by strong reserves”.

He added, “This Budget remains committed to delivering a number of major capital projects, with £29.07 million in new funds allocated in 2020-21, as part of a capital programme valued at £120 million between 2019 and 2024. These investments include new housing developments, the Tussac House long-term care facility, and the King Edward Memorial Hospital expansion. A new port is set to be the largest single development in the five years up to 2024— moving on the commitment set out in the Islands Plan.”

As we all go ever greener with envy there is more. The last

cruise ship season “was a record breaking tourism season in the Falkland Islands with 72,836 cruise passengers arriving, up 16.5 per cent on the previous season. The expedition cruise market grew significantly, up 30 per cent to 16,931 arrivals. Tourists arriving by air also increased, numbering 1,648 between October and March, up 6.7 per cent.”

On the downside Covid-19 has hit the Falkland Islands and with it the Island’s tourist services. The second commercial air service to Brazil was grounded by Covid, along with the air service to Chile. The UK – Falklands airbridge from Brize Norton is still going strong, very strong. The twice weekly flights which usually takes about 18 hours was completed in a record-breaking 15 hours and 9 minutes last Friday. Captain Dave Hall and his crew beat the previous record set in 1987 by 36 minutes.

Falklands oil exploration has suffered from Covid too. The drop in the oil price has made continued exploration uneconomic and work has stopped while investors await developments when Covid fades away. Falklands wool has also seen a severe drop in demand resulting from normal trading arrangements being disrupted by Covid-19.



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Editorial

For the first time for a long time, maybe the first time ever, the greatest number of people arriving here in any one month came by yacht. In April, 38 people arrived by yacht and 19 by plane. Three people came by other means. 'Other Means' sound mysterious at first but they would have been medical transfers from passing ships – something like that. These upside-down figures are yet another signal showing how much the Covid pandemic has changed our world. The changes in the wider world are, of course, very much greater; I suspect we will feel the effects of other countries' changes for some time to come.

The Falklands are feeling the effects too. Tourism is down to nothing, as are wool exports and the bottom has dropped out of oil exploration. Despite this bad Covid related news the Falklands Government still rake in more revenue than they know what to do with. We have covered the Falkland Governor's Annual Address to the Legislative Assembly in this edition. For almost everything you can think of, our numbers are upside-down when compared to Falklands figures.

The Falklands Governor did offer a very quotable quote when making his Address. He said, "Partnerships enable the Falkland Island Government to build upon its resources and capabilities by leveraging those of others and, by working together, achieve so much more."

Compare that with another quote picked up just yesterday from a press release issued from the Castle. "The initiatives delivered with the Blue Belt international project partners have been achieved by working closely with SHG." Should not this statement be saying achievements were made because project partners worked closely together? If something is achieved because others worked closely with SHG, it gives the impression it is SHG at the centre of things and everyone else involved has to listen to what SHG wants. This quote may be just poorly written or I may be reading too much into it. Or, it may not have been written carefully enough and, as a result, reveals the real thoughts and attitudes that exist among some who work behind the Castle walls.

Someone who did choose his words carefully was the Financial Secretary when writing the foreword to the Budget Book for 2020-21. There is another quote coming. "This year an additional significant challenge arose with the Corona Virus pandemic (COVID 19) negatively impacting on virtually all economies across the world, St Helena has been no exception. Against this back drop there is no expectation of growth in local revenue, instead we expect a reduction in revenues which the Government is monitoring closely."

The Financial Secretary then refers to the new Research Institute which is not yet a year old, changes to the Ship Registry Policy and the new Earth Station Policy which is linked to the Equiano cable. Also mentioned is the proposed Company Registry Policy which is going through the public consultation process now. All of these have potential capability to increase revenue, in varying degrees, both to the island generally and the government. Some may succeed, others may not. My money is on the Research Institute and the Earth Stations.

You may remember the rebirth of the Capital Programme, now called the Economic Development Investment Programme. DFID have provided £15 million for projects which support or facilitate further developments which will support an economic benefit. The £15 million is available over a three year period which started in April 2019 and finishes in March 2022. So far, £4.6 million has been spent, mostly on the rockfall protection in Rupert's and extending the existing protection in James Valley. In August last year some 'micro-projects' were the first to dip into the Economic Development Investment Programme funds. They were called micro because projects costs had to be £50,000 or less. Upgrades to public toilets was one of them, LED lights in Jamestown was another. Also on the list was improvements to SHGs Information and Communications Technology. This one was memorable because the reasons given for how better digital kit in the Castle will improve economic development raised a smile. So, there is less than two years left to spend about £10 million. Will SHG manage to do it? If they successfully complete some projects which are convincingly shown to be potentially effective in supporting economic development, DFID might hand over a further £15 million for the same purpose for the following three years.

The Financial Secretary finished the Foreword to the Budget Book with, "In last year's budget we talked about the requirement to turn a corner in St Helena's fortunes. We have made good progress this financial year in enabling the environment to do that, and moving away from putting all of St Helena's prospects in the Tourism basket. Prior to the pandemic, the data showed a flattening of the downturn St Helena was experiencing. We intend to keep working through the adversity including the implications of COVID 19 to ensure that the Island makes the most of its comparative advantages and develop into a prosperous place to live and work now and in the future."

There's no answer to that, is there?

Have a good weekend

Vince



For sale is a White Toyota Celica, registered as 806, 2L 2006 Model in excellent condition with low mileage. Price is £4500 ONO. If interested please call 23992 after 4:30 pm

Love Island's Jack Fowler shows off his Dad

Jack Fowler hit the headlines in 2018 when appearing on the 'reality' TV show Love Island. This week he is in the news again after joining Black Lives Matter demonstrations. Jack is half English and half Saint; he makes no secret about being proud of his Saint Dad.



Love Islands Jack Fowler reveals his ancestors were slaves as he shares racism he has faced for having a black dad

Stephanie Soteriou, The Sun

LOVE Island's Jack Fowler has revealed that his ancestors were slaves as he opened up about the racism he has faced for having a black dad.

The 24-year-old hunk shot to fame on the 2018 series of the ITV2 reality show, and has now spoken out about his experience as the light-skinned son of a black man.

Taking to his Instagram page this evening, Jack posted a photo of himself with his dad, whose grandparents moved to the UK from Saint Helena as part of the Windrush generation.

In the photo, Jack is beaming as he puts his arm around his dad, who is also grinning at the camera.

The star captioned the post: "Here's me and my dad.

"My granddad was one of the first hundred to arrive just after the Windrush on the RMS St Helena from a very small island called Saint Helena in the South Atlantic that has a population of 4,000 people.

"My Nan shortly followed and then they had my dad who was born and raised in London. My dad met my mum, who was a white British East Londoner, when he was 12, and as my dad reached 34, my older brother was born followed by me.

"We were both born and raised in east London. Growing up with a dad who's a man of colour was a powerful insight into what racism is really is. Because my dad is black, I was educated from a young age about the slave trade as my ancestors were slaves on their home island, Saint Helena."

Jack went on to reflect on the racism he had faced because of his dad's skin colour, explaining that he knows he was treated

differently during his football career.

He wrote: "The experiences that my dad had growing up being a man of colour in school and throughout adulthood have been taught to me.

"There have been times where I've been treated different because of the complexion of my dad's skin. An example is during my young footballing life where I was treated differently as soon as people knew that my dad was black.

"I was confused at the time but quickly learnt and became aware of what was happening. It made me feel frustrated but I understood that my dad is a black man who has been through feeling this way all of his life.

"I feel that it's my responsibility to share this story with you because I expect that I'm not the only one who has a white skin complexion but has parents of colour...

"I love the black culture and it hurts to still see that even in 2020, black people are not being treated equally. I feel as a white looking mixed race man, I've experienced many moments of white privilege.

"It's times like these that we should treat people of all colour, religion and walks of life equally."

Jack shot to fame on Love Island in 2018

He concluded the empowering post with: "I'm proud of my roots. Always have been always will be and I will always speak up and stand against racism."

Jack's post was widely praised by his followers, with the star previously attending Black Lives Matter protests in London.

Tourism figures suggest the future is not as grim as we think

New figures from the Statistics Office give tourism numbers to the end of 2019. The Covid-19 effect kicked in soon after; Chart 2 and Table 1 give an early indication of what the 2020 tourism figures will look like. Despite that, the longer term future for tourism may pick up, based on figures projected from the first two years of the air service. See Chart 6. The Covid pandemic may well reduce the number of tourists projected on Chart 6, or mean it will take longer than 2042 to reach the final total projected. The basic message seems to be, it could be ten years before we have enough tourist arriving here to make a usefully beneficial impact on the Island's economy.

The number of passengers arriving at St Helena in 2019 was 5,135, slightly higher than 2018, which was 5,091. The number of arrivals by air was 4,261, some 12% (or 445 passengers) higher than 2018, which was 3,816. The number of arrivals by air in both 2018 and 2019 was higher than the number of arrivals by the RMS St Helena in any previous year.

Chart 1. Passenger arrivals to St Helena, January 2015 to December 2019 (excluding day visitors on cruise ships)

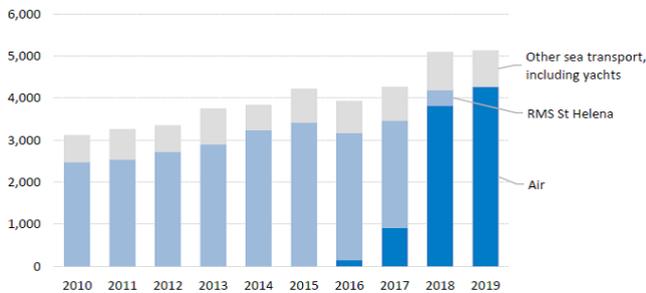


Chart 2 illustrates the highly seasonal nature of passenger arrivals, both for the months just before Christmas (especially December), when St Helenians living abroad often come to visit family and friends, and for the warm period early in the calendar year, which tends to be the most popular season for tourism and arrivals by yacht. The period between June and September/October has consistently recorded the lowest number of passenger arrivals, although it is more pronounced since the start of air operations. The chart also illustrates the reduction in international travel from March 2020, caused by the outbreak of the infectious viral disease known as COVID-19 or Coronavirus.

Chart 2. Monthly passenger arrivals to St Helena, all forms of transport excluding day visitors on cruise ships, January 2015 to April 2020

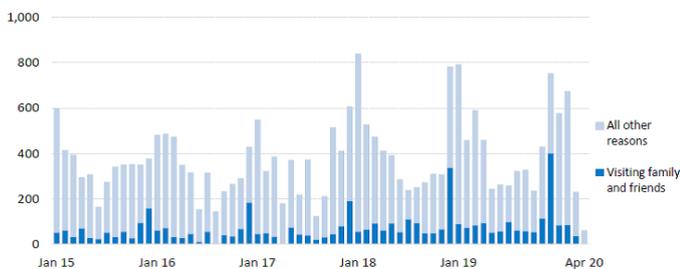


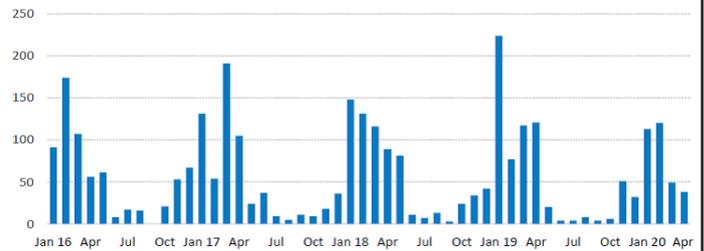
Table 1 further illustrates the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on arrivals, up to April 2020. Passenger arrivals dropped to 231 in March 2020, 259 less than the previous March, and to 60 in April, 399 lower than the previous April.

Table 1. Passenger arrivals for January to April, 2015-2020 (excluding day arrivals from cruise ships)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
January	600	481	548	840	793	577
February	415	486	322	527	458	675
March	394	473	386	474	590	231
April	294	349	180	412	459	60
Total	1,703	1,789	1,436	2,253	2,300	1,543

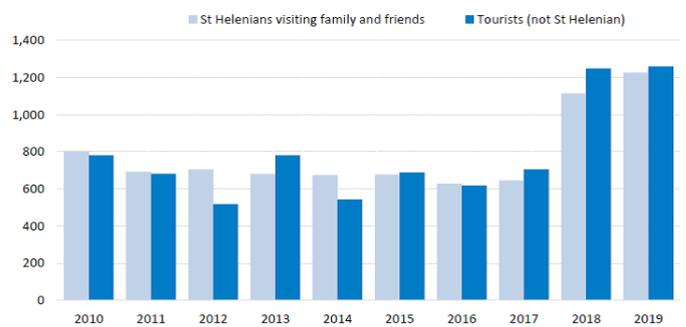
The first few months of the year is the 'yacht season', with an increase in arrivals and departures on their way to various destinations in the Caribbean and elsewhere (Chart 3). COVID-19 has changed the usual pattern, with only 320 arrivals in the first four months of 2020 compared to 539 in the same months of 2019 and 484 in the same months of 2018. Typically, arrivals by yacht stay in St Helena's harbour for around six days on average but, during the COVID-19 crisis, they have stayed much longer on St Helena. The 14 people that departed by yacht in April, for example, stayed for an average 39 days (or more than a month), largely because of restrictions on yacht arrivals imposed by yacht destination countries.

Chart 3. Arrivals by yacht, January 2016 to April 2020



There are two main reasons for leisure arrivals, either tourism, or St Helenians who live abroad who come to visit family and friends. Arrivals for a leisure purpose have increased significantly since the air service began in late 2017, and it is the reason for the majority of arrivals at St Helena (57% in 2019). Chart 5 shows the total number of leisure arrivals by all forms of transport (apart from day visitors on cruise ships) since 2010. Leisure visitors have almost doubled in 2018 and 2019 compared to 2010 to 2017, for both St Helenians visiting family and friends and for tourists.

Chart 5 Arrivals at St Helena for a leisure purpose, 2010 to 2019, excluding day visitors on cruise ships

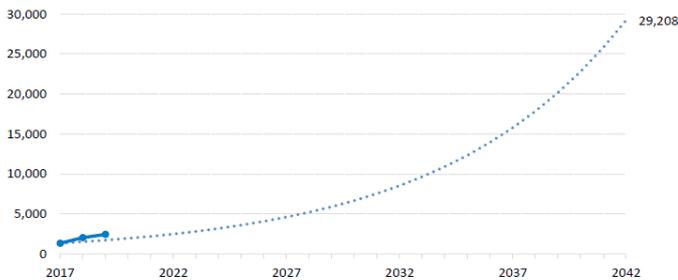


A common question about the new air service is whether St Helena is 'on-track' to meet one of the key assumptions of the Air Access business case, developed prior to construction of the Airport, that the number of leisure arrivals will be 29,208 after 25 years of airport operations (i.e. by 2042). The average number of leisure arrivals from 2010 to 2017 – before scheduled flights started – was around 1,350, which can be used as the baseline. To get to 29,208 in 25 years requires an average annual growth rate of around 13% (Chart 6). In 2018, there were 2,051 leisure arrivals by air (excluding

Tourism figures suggest the future is not as grim as we think

the arrivals on the RMS St Helena in January of that year), an increase of 52% over the 1,350 baseline. In 2019 there were 2,450 leisure arrivals by air (1,224 tourists and 1,226 St Helenians visiting family and friends), an annual increase of 19% compared to the year before. Both annual growth rates are higher than the 13% annual average required; for 2019, the growth rate of the number of tourist arrivals was 24%, higher than the growth in the number of St Helenians visiting family and friends, which was 15%.

Chart 6. Number of leisure arrivals by air in 2017, 2018 and 2019, compared to a constant growth rate trajectory to 29,208 arrivals in 2042



The predominant nationality of tourists was British in both 2018 and 2019 (Chart 9), accounting for 39% of all tourists arrivals in 2019. The number of British tourists increased significantly between the two years, by 116 or 32%. Apart from British, South Africans and Europeans account for a further 41% of tourist arrivals.

Tourist numbers increased in 2019 in all nationality groups, apart from 'other European', which decreased slightly by 24 or 15%. Tourist arrivals from the 'Asia and Pacific' grouping more than doubled, from 39 in 2018 to 84 in 2019. There was also a notable increase in 2019 in tourist arrivals from African countries other than South Africa, although numbers remain quite small and the increase was largely due to the size of the group accompanying the holiday visit by the Vice President of Angola.

Dressed to kill or thrill?

If you've ever watched the rehearsal process of a play, then you know just how powerful clothes are. Like it or not your clothes and presentation communicates volumes about you as a person. The question is not whether you care about fashion, it's more about what you're communicating intentionally or unconsciously. **Your clothes tell a story about you.**

So then does this mean if my clothes are often dirty I am a dirty person? If I wear a t-shirt with cannabis, skulls and heavy metal pictures then I'm most likely a criminal? Shorts and t-shirt simply means I don't care? If my shirts are too tight and definitely in pink I must be gay? If I'm a girl and I never wear a dress it's because I'm a lesbian or there must be something else "wrong" with me? A suit and tie means I'm a gentleman and less likely to commit a crime?

Surely though there should be some sense of responsibility and sensitivity in how I present myself to the world?

Whenever I entered a poverty stricken area to hand out food and clothing I chose not to wear my most expensive clothing. Why not? Well, the last thing I wanted to do was to remind those living in extreme conditions of what they did not have. It was my desire to bring comfort and sustenance, not rub my limited wealth in their faces. I've sat with those who thought nothing of boasting about their material possessions, completely oblivious to the fact that they were in the company of those who were struggling.

Research has shown that proactive clothing affects the brain.

However it's certainly not an excuse to assault or disrespect anyone at anytime.

It is often suggested that anyone who dresses proactively is "begging for it", but what exactly are they asking for? I've been scratching my head for years and I still don't have the answer. If I knew what they were apparently "begging for" maybe I could give it to them? I didn't realise St Helena had beggars. Is this not something that government could help with?

Clearly some of you did not receive the island wide memo

that went out back in (just after the world began) that the Adam and Eve dress code is no longer acceptable. What's up with that? Let's take the ladies for starters why do you believe that wearing your dress so far up your back, showing the outlines of you know what, having breast spilling out from your clothes is attractive to men? Some sure, but most of them don't like it and think you look cheap. Men are often regarded as having very little brains but sit down and have a heart to heart with them, you may be surprised to learn that a lot of fellas out there have some beautiful values. If your value can only be found in wearing as little as possible and as tight as possible then turn around and look at the confident woman next to you. She has learnt that she can still look ravishing and elegant without having to show off her most personal possessions. She is the epitome of beauty.

Earlier I asked the question about whether or not we should practise sensitivity when choosing our dress code? Society is roaring ahead with men wearing three quarter pants (please explain how on earth I am suppose to take a man seriously who can't even find a full length trouser) and shirts with buttons yet they're not buttoning up? Some of them have no qualms about feasting their eyes on these poorly dressed creatures (who must be suffering from the cold) yet turn around after and say "I don't like it".

We say "it doesn't matter how I dress". I think it does. I certainly would not turn up at an interview for a job wearing shorts and t-shirt. Nor would I turn up at a family wedding in clothes I clean my home in and I would be horrified to see my future husband at the end of the aisle in a three quarter pants, socks (up the leg) and dress shoes. Some girls may like it though. How we dress should matter, because we matter as people. Giving off a healthy and positive impression about ourselves matters. However, there is often a fine line as to what is acceptable or not. The line seems to be more blurred these days.

There is immense pressure from society on physical appearance. We ought to be extremely careful how we buy into this fickle industry (or not buy into it at all). **However what story will my clothing tell the world and do I ask this question with an understanding that I am (like everyone else) accountable? - Contributed.**

Kofi Owusu-Bempah's PASH Global - Why should white guys have all the fun?

KOFI Owusu-Bempah became a lawyer because someone told him lawyers made a lot of money. So off he went, to study law, followed by a job at the prestigious global law firm Linklaters LLP. After falling in love with Brazil during a gap year, he tried to put off work a little longer.



KOFI Owusu-Bempah, Founder and Managing Partner – PASH Global

His 'typical' Ghanaian mother would hear none of this, especially as Bempah's starting salary, she discovered, was more than she'd ever earned as a nurse.

But the spirit of the notorious favelas of Brazil, where as a volunteer, Bempah worked with at-risk teenagers, never left him.

His experience (along with his formative years in Ghana) convinced him 'of the power of social infrastructure to transform lives'. That led him to qualify and specialise, in project finance law. Bempah advised governments, public sector entities, sponsors and lenders on major projects, ranging from hospitals and schools in the UK to oil refineries in the Middle East, roads in Nigeria and petrochemical plants in Latin America.

His experience was meant to be a 'springboard into something entrepreneurial'. As he puts it, 'law was never the end game'. But he quickly got caught up in the rat race, typical of high achievers in the global financial markets, and would begin to drift away from his original plan.

What seemed straightforward only a few years earlier had become more complex. He enjoyed the frenetic pace of life advising on energy and infrastructure deals, loved the people he worked with, the nature of the work and its impact. Plus he was making a ton of money, relevant because his personal responsibilities were beginning to increase.

Financial crisis

Bempah was one of the casualties of the 2008 global financial crisis. He was made redundant by Linklaters. Then the US law firm, Orrick Herrington and Sutcliffe offered him a bigger pay check and bigger responsibilities. So off he went, deferring yet again, his entrepreneurial ambitions.

Serendipity was to change that. Thanks to 'Why should white guys have all the fun', a book about how Reginald Lewis, an African-American entrepreneur, built his billion-dollar empire.

While attending a conference on Africa at London Business School, Bempah was carrying Lewis's book when he was approached by his future business partner, Vine Mwense. Like Bempah, Mwense had also been inspired by that book.

What started as a conversation about the book soon became a friendship. It turned out Mwense also worked in project finance and like Bempah believed in using infrastructure to bridge social divides. They subsequently began to explore the possibility of doing something together.

A few months prior, the UK Government had implemented a Renewables Obligation Certification Scheme, to provide subsidies as a way of encouraging investment into the renewables sector and meeting its commitment to the EU to generate 15 per cent of power from renewables by 2020.

As the scheme was new, few people were involved in it. Even fewer people could structure and finance renewable energy projects under the scheme. But Bempah and Mwense, were ahead of the curve, having already advised on a number of projects under the scheme.

PASH Global

So, the two formed PASH Global to develop solar projects in the UK. PASH is an acronym for Pan African Soleil Holdings, Soleil being the French word for sun. When pitching to potential investors, they were often told to focus on African deals given their respective Ghanaian and Zimbabwean heritage.

But they refused to be pigeonholed. And rightly so, given the geographic breath of their experiences. That global ambition paid off. After a fiercely competitive process, PASH won a tender to provide a hybrid power solution to St. Helena Island, the remote British Overseas Territory in the South Atlantic Ocean. The \$10m project, when completed, will provide most of St. Helena's power.

In addition to St Helena, PASH has invested in West Africa's largest solar plant - a 50MW project in Mali. Current projects in development are in Puerto Rico, Ghana, Ukraine, Sierra Leone, Pakistan, Zambia, Ecuador and Argentina. The dream is to raise and invest over \$1 billion in power projects over the next 5 years. This means a lot of time away from home and his three kids.

Background

As a child, Bempah lived with his grandmother before joining his parents in the UK. And until he started a family of his own, his grandmother's home in Mankoadze in the Central Region of Ghana provided him the greatest happiness. 'When I needed a little cheering up, I would fly from wherever I was in the world to play Ludo with her, eat local food and chill. That's my idea of perfect happiness – being around family.'

His late grandmother instilled in Bempah a deep sense of cultural pride and a desire to contribute to Africa's development. He's currently reading Robert Edgerton's 'The fall of the Asante Empire – The hundred-year war for Africa's gold' and books about the great American industrialists – Carnegie, Ford, J.P Morgan.

For Bempah, his success comes with a passion – to lift those less fortunate than him and to invest in future leaders, particularly young men and women of African descent.

And he's having a ton of fun doing so. Further proof that white guys are not the only ones having all the fun.

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Sir,

I would like to respond to the letter written in last week's Independent from Apostle Peter.

For several months now we have heard many gripes and groans about what government is failing to do to help the people of St Helena. Seldom are they praised for any good. Yet government money and resources is perfectly acceptable when we decide we need it. I find myself agreeing whole heartedly with Apostle Peter with regards to the spongers milking the system dry living in government landlord houses. You know who you are.

This letter is not attacking anyone who is simply not able to build or own your own home. There are a number of special cases in our community and we acknowledge their need of help. However, there are those who simply don't give a damn and laughing at the amount of government resources they have already benefitted from.

Not too long ago I needed some sup-

port from government Housing – it was not easy for me to ask for help. However, I am further today than I was back then and I have every intention of making it my business to finally become completely independent. Is it not empowering when you can finally say "Thank you very much for your help but I can now stand on my own two feet". How much of government resources are "wasted" by those who make no effort at all to strive for better. Isn't it lovely when you can look back and say "Look at how far I've come". I am not out of the woods just yet, but I believe there will come a brighter day. I have seen days of dark despair, days when I didn't have a penny in my pocket. Days when I wondered if I would have enough money to last the week to put food on the table. Days when stress and anxiety was at an all high as I worried how to pay the bills. Watching others fill up their baskets with loads of goodies whilst all I could buy were the basics is a terrible feeling. Days when I felt like a failure, utterly alone and crushed by the world; but to say that I wish to remain dependent on government housing is just sad and unacceptable. I could have chosen to lay down and die, simply give up, but there must be a better way.

Speaking of landlord housing, what a breath of fresh air Ms Nikita Crowie is to the department. A woman who clearly understands the importance of integrity and treating everyone alike. We need more of her in the Housing Department

and throughout government. She is an inspiration to us all.

There are many families who are genuinely struggling here on St Helena and receiving government help must be a great relief for them. I am happy this help is available. There will always be those who will need government help and we need to be sympathetic to this.

And what about those who queue every week for their handout of benefits from government. Again, is this not suppose to be for the elderly, poor, those with chronic health challenges and disabled? Why must government keep paying out to those who make choices in their lives that disables them from getting a job and then rush to government for damage control? Why must government keep fixing the problems that you chose to create in your own lives?

The other day they were talking about smoking on the radio. So you're going to keep on with that, then expect government to cover your medical bill when you're sick. Complain bitterly when the medical team don't move fast enough and just keep demanding. To damn with the financial implications of this on the island's resources.

So the next time you are quick to complain about government, think before you speak, because you may be one of those who is living the life you do because of help from government.

A poor country mouse.

St Helena , Tourism and the future.

By Raf Jah



The African & Oriental Travel Company

Tailor Made Safaris and Dive Adventures

The Corona virus crisis that has swept the world has destroyed tourism globally. The people of St Helena have been lucky enough to avoid the inhumane curfews that have confined free human beings under effective house arrest. In that regard, the island of St Helena is lucky. Airlink stopped flying, and in the absence of the RMS, the island is cut off from the world once again.

Since the closing of the air links to St Helena, businesses in St Helena have noticed a difference.

From the Dive centres of Anthony and Craig, to the historic Consulate Hotel, to the tiny café attached to Andy's Shop in Half Tree Hollow, business has been affected. I read today that the Mantis Hotel is temporarily closing its doors. This is the flagship of St Helena's accommodation offering, and without it, the Island will lose tourists.

The airport has brought so many positive benefits to the island. Of course nothing is perfect and the arguments about the location of the airfield will continue,

but the complete shutdown of all air movements during the current crisis shows us quite clearly what we have lost, we the tour operators and you the Saints. No matter what the nay-sayers think, Tourism has always been a part of Saint Helena's life blood. The hotels, cafes, restaurants and flats on the main street have always catered to yachts, cruise ships, and the guests who came to her shores. More recently those hotels, those restaurants, those guest houses and the stunning accommoda-

Continued on NEXT PAGE

St Helena , Tourism and the future.

By Raf Jah



The African & Oriental Travel Company

Tailor Made Safaris and Dive Adventures

tions in Half Tree Hollow and Alarm Forest have prospered by welcoming air passengers. You, the Saints, are extremely lucky; they have ownership of the most magical island on earth. Both above and below the water, the attractions of St Helena are boundless. But you need an airport and a good international standard hotel. Perhaps now the argument about the airport can end.

We made a commitment to the island of Saint Helena. We said we would bring a group of scuba divers to the island *every single year*. And we have done this. Next year we even have two groups scheduled and thereafter two groups are due again. We also send FIT travellers (*free, independent travellers*) to your

shores. We were the first agency to send divers by air and to date, we have brought the largest groups in terms of financial spend to the island.

Some years ago I argued in this paper that the flight to Saint Helena should be from London, at least for touristic purposes. I proposed a flight via Ghana that could continue on to Cape Town. Titan Airways have proved my argument to be workable. Their recent rescue flight utilised an A319 and followed the exact same route. I wonder if this is something that may be developed at some stage?

The future is remarkably bright for St Helena, and while the COVID-19 crisis has destroyed (and I literally mean

destroyed) global tourism, tours will be the first thing to bounce back. I sincerely hope that the value of the airport and the air links to the island will be appreciated by all. We will be shouting about the re-instated flights from the roof tops, and we will try to live up to our commitment to your stunning island.

Raf Jah is the owner of the African and Oriental Travel Company.

Farhat Jah FRGS

Director/Dive Instructor Trainer/ Overland Guide

African and Oriental Ltd

Tours for the adventurous. African Wildlife Safaris. Global dive adventures. Antarctic Expeditions.

Dear St Helena Community and our Guests Worldwide

It's on this day that we announce that at the most recent EXCO, a decision was made.

The decision that was made which was announced to us today was that the Mantis St Helena will close its doors. Whilst we have been informed this is a temporary measure, we have been indicated this measure will last until December 2020.

From Day 1 when the hotel opened its doors on the 01st November 2017 we were here.

We opened to a new airport, we opened as a new tourism destination, we opened the map to the big outside world, MUCH more than St Helena was ever used too. We were committed to ensure that St Helena which was a new discovered place on the map was a success! Did we succeed... Yes we certainly did.

We served the local community be in the restaurant or our rooms, we opened to international travelers welcoming them to this extraordinary place on earth. We served, we cared and we fulfilled every travelers need to St Helena.

We welcomed thousands of travelers through our doors, show casing the best,

attentive and extraordinary service to be seen on St Helena.

Whilst we came under criticism from certain members of the public , which would Be rude to name, WE as hotel staff were here to show great level of service that saints offer and to welcome the unknown to our hotel.

We did not ask for Subsidy, we did not ask for criticism, we did not ask To be foul mouthed on social media. We are known to be the ' white elephant' that's not our fault, Our job was to simply ensure our guests and saints had a memorable time at Mantis St Helena in which we intended and DID do.

Here we are today with COVID-19, it has spoken and it has destroyed.

Every single person in the world who has sadly died from this deadly disease is In our thoughts. We are St Helena, the most compassionate, caring, and thoughtful people in the world. We don't hold this against, we understand.

Could more of been done to save Mantis St Helena? We don't know.

As of today 15 people are uncertain as to what happens next! many with years of hospitality experience. Not forgetting the staff who previously worked for Mantis St Helena especially majority coming from the RMS St Helena, we are highly skilled staff who have sacrificed to ensure Mantis St Helena is the best. On behalf of all the staff here at Mantis St Helena, we hope to serve you again in December 2020 where we will come back strong and reopen our doors to tourists from Right around the world be new or returning.

This has been written with many hearts from us all, we wish you all well from Mantis St Helena to our community and our international travel friends and look forward to welcoming you soon.

Mantis St Helena Team



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



WEEK 4 talks about two of the main reasons patients attend the Dental Clinic — **Dental Emergencies and Dentures**

DENTAL EMERGENCIES

Daily Emergency Clinic

The St Helena Dental Clinic runs a daily emergency dental service (Mon-Fri). You must arrive at the Clinic between 8.30am and 9.30am for one of these emergency appointments. Due to limited time we will only be able to deal with your specific emergency problem during this session — all additional concerns should be reviewed at a check-up. If you wish to see the dentist less urgently or cannot attend at this time, you should call the Clinic to book yourself an appointment for a different time/day.

Dentures

Many of the dental emergencies relate to denture issues such as broken dentures, loose dentures or loose teeth which need to be extracted and then added to existing dentures.

Dentures are 'false teeth' which are used to fill gaps where teeth have previously been extracted. Most dentures are made from acrylic/plastic although some have a metal base for added strength. Dentures take several appointments to make and your mouth must be healthy before the process begins. There is a very high demand for dentures so we have a waiting list of patients requiring new false teeth. If you would like to be added to the denture waiting list please contact the Dental Clinic.

Dental Emergencies

Common causes of mouth pain and toothache are:

- Gum disease
- Sensitivity
- Tooth decay/cavities
- Inflammation of the tooth pulp (nerve)
- Cracked tooth
- Abscess and infection
- Non-dental causes of pain such as sinusitis
- Poorly fitting dentures



In most cases small cavities are quick and easy for the dentist to fill.



On the other hand, very deep holes may lead to infection under the tooth. If this happens you will either need a root canal treatment (where the nerve is removed), or to have the tooth extracted.

Dentures / False Teeth

Poorly fitting dentures are more likely to break than ones that fit the gums well. They can also cause sore spots and make chewing difficult.



If your gums shrink and make your dentures loose it may be possible to **reline** them. To do this a mould is taken of your gums and the Dental Laboratory can then improve the fit of your denture.

Some patients find it helpful to use a small amount of **denture adhesive** to help their denture stay in more securely. The two best known brands are POLIGRIP and FIXODENT.



It is best to take your dentures out at night to reduce your risk of soreness or mouth infections.



Remember to clean your dentures every morning and night using a soft brush and soapy water, or a special denture disinfectant.

To book an appointment, please contact the Dental Reception via the Hospital switchboard on tel: 22500. For an emergency appointment you should arrive at the Dental Clinic between 8.30am and 9.30am Mon-Fri.

For further information contact the Dental Clinic, tel. 22500
Dental Clinic, General Hospital, Jamestown, St Helena, STHL 1ZZ

STRATEGIC ASSETS ROUND 4 CLOSING DATE 26/06/2020

St Helena Government and Enterprise St Helena invites proposals in relation to strategic assets identified within the latest strategic assets document.

Should you wish to download a copy of the document please visit the Enterprise St Helena website - investinsthelena.com

Closing date for applications - 26th of June 2020

For further information please contact Anne Dillon via investment@esh.co.sh



MARINE ENVIRONMENT



HISTORY AND HERITAGE



FOR SALE BY TENDER

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has for "sale by tender" the following vehicle on Ascension Island.

FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK

Formerly registered as A784

Damaged as a result of a road traffic accident and can only be used for spare parts.

For further information, persons can contact Tracey Thomas, Insurance Manager on telephone 00290 22860 or email: traceyt@solomons.co.sh



Offers should be made in writing to the Tender Board Secretary, clearly stating the registration number on the envelope and placed in the Company's Tender Box in their Main Office Foyer by no later than 4pm on Wednesday 10 June 2020.

Tenders from Ascension Island should be emailed direct to the Tender Board Secretary, email address: finance-propertiesadmin@solomons.co.sh copied to the Tender Board Chairman, email address: marilynj@solomons.co.sh.

03 June 2020

Expressions of Interest - Membership ESH Board & Subcommittees



Enterprise St Helena (ESH) invites Expressions of Interest from Private Sector individuals who are interested in serving on its Board of Directors or its three Subcommittees: Tourism, Business Development and Investment, or Finance, Governance and Audit.

The function of the Board is to promote and facilitate economic development on St Helena, in line with the Island’s Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP), with input from and liaison with its Subcommittees.

A copy of the Terms of Reference for Board and individual Subcommittees, together with a form to register an interest can be collected from Reception at the ESH Office, Ladder Hill Business Park or can be requested electronically via email: natasha.bargo@esh.co.sh. Completed forms, accompanied by a current Curriculum Vitae, should be submitted to the Board Secretary, Natasha Bargo by 22 June 2020.

It should be noted that registering an interest does not guarantee an appointment to Board or a Subcommittee.

For further information please contact the Board Secretary on telephone No. 22920 or via email: natasha.bargo@esh.co.sh



Head Office | ESH Business Park | Ladder Hill | Tel: +290 22920 | Email: info@esh.co.sh
 Visit us online Business and Investment: www.investinsthelena.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com



REMOTE BANKING JUNE 2020

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to advise the public that Remote Banking for June will take place as follows:

LOCATION	DATE	TIME
ANRD, Scotland	Monday, 22 June	09:30 - 13:00
HTH Supermarket	Thursday, 25 June	10:00 - 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Tuesday, 30 June	09:30 - 13:00

Visit your nearest Remote Banking location and save yourself the trip to Jamestown.
 Local Debit Cards can be used at all our Remote Banking locations.

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



St Helena
Government

LAND FOR SALE/ LEASE

FOR SALE

Site 1: Parcel Number 424, within the Longwood South registration section, measuring 0.12 acres.

FOR LEASE - QUALIFYING LOCAL RESIDENTS

Site 2: Parcel Number 345, within the Silver Hill registration section, measuring 0.473 acres.

Site 3: Parcel Number 135, within the Deadwood registration section, measuring 0.40 acres.

Closing date for bids are 12 noon, Friday 17th July 2020

Please contact: **Gina Henry, Crown Estates Officer** on email address: gina.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh, or on telephone number: 22270, or you could collect particulars from Essex House, Jamestown.



TIP OF THE WEEK

When replacing your appliances, look for low energy models.

During the life of the appliance, the savings in electricity could be more than the total cost of the appliance.



Invitation to Tender

The Saint Helena Government wishes to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the Refurbishment of Public Toilets near Longwood Avenue.

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from

Miss Shelley Thomas
Executive Assistant
Programme Management Unit
The Castle
Jamestown
Telephone No: 22470 or
Email: shelley.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh



St Helena
Government

A site visit to view the works will take place on Monday 15 June 2020, at 10am, meeting at Public Toilets near Longwood Avenue. Contractors should note that site visits requested after the 15th June will not be entertained unless there is a relevant reason why the contractor could not attend the scheduled site visit on the 15th June.

If you require any further details, please contact Graduate Civil Engineer, Mr Kyle Shoesmith, on telephone number 25805 or email kyle.shoesmith@sainthelena.gov.sh

Completed tenders either electronic or hard copy should be submitted to Miss Shelley Thomas, The Castle, by 12noon on Friday 26 June 2020.

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

SHG
9 June 2020



St Helena
Government



• Ladder Hill works now fully complete

• Construction of fence above Jamestown Wharf recommences

• Spider netting installation progress at Rupert's Jetty

ROCKFALL PROTECTION PROJECT UPDATE

James Valley

Residents of Jamestown will now be able to see the fence posts of the three new rockfall barriers above the **Hospital**. Construction of these fences will take place towards the end of June. At **Ladder Hill**, the final two rockfall barriers are now complete and commissioned into use. There will be no further Ladder Hill Road closures - CAN France appreciates the patience the public has shown during this time.

The seven rockfall barriers of **Maldivia Road** have been set up, and are awaiting the arrival of final fixtures on the MV Helena Voyage 29 before these can be commissioned into use.

Construction of the lightweight catchfence at **Mundens Path** has re-commenced following completion of cargo operations on the Wharf. This fence is designed to catch blocks which may fall from the wall. CAN France will continue to drill and grout anchors, set up fence posts and lift netting (using the helicopter) until the next arrival of the MV Helena. Once cargo operations for Voyage 29 have been completed, CAN France will return to the Wharf once again to complete the fence.

Rupert's Valley

High tensile spider netting now drapes over the crags above **Rupert's Jetty**. A team of Rope Access technicians has been working in tandem with the helicopter to lift the netting and fix it in place. The team will be working hard for the next two weeks to lift the remaining netting panels, before the helicopter leaves the Island on Voyage 29. Passive draped rockfall netting will be installed on the vertical rock face next to the **Jetty Access Road** within the next two weeks.

The remainder of works in the Valley will be completed in July. This includes construction of rockfall catchfences at **Lower Rupert's**, the **Power Station** and the **Bulk Fuel Installation** as well as installation of rockfall netting on the **Access (Haul) Road**. A short term road closure will be required on the Access Road which will be communicated to the public in due course.

#StHelena #RockfallProtection #AltogetherSafer

www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt

www.twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG / CAN France / Fairhurst
9 June 2020



Rope Access technicians on the crags above Rupert's Jetty

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SHG Press Office | 1st Floor, The Castle | Jamestown | Tel: +290 22470

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Visit us: www.sainthelena.gov.sh





St Helena
Government

• Monday, 8 June 2020, is
World Oceans Day

• This year's theme is
'Innovation for a Sustainable
Ocean'

• SHG Marine Section encourages people
to think of local and innovative ideas in
their homes or everyday lives which can
contribute to the health of our oceans

WORLD OCEANS DAY 2020

Monday, 8 June 2020, is World Oceans Day - a day used to celebrate the role of the oceans in our everyday life and inspire action to protect the ocean and sustainably use marine resources. This year's theme is 'Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean'.

In recognition of the day, the SHG Marine Section is encouraging people to think of local and innovative ideas in their homes or everyday lives which can contribute to the health of our oceans. For example: using less single-use plastic items.

Plastic and litter is a huge threat to having a 'Sustainable Ocean'. Our oceans are all connected. Plastics that enter the ocean in any size, shape or form will eventually become small enough to enter the food chain and our food. Plastic absorbs chemicals that are in the ocean and this too enters our food. This can cause health issues for both wildlife and humans over time.

As an Island community that depends on the ocean as a food source and also for leisure purposes, we are encouraging people to think about:

- Not using single-use plastic items such as plastic cups, forks, bags, etc
- Separating your waste and setting it aside to recycle
- Looking at your household cleaning products and thinking of what's in them as they will all eventually end at the sea - think about making a change to being more environmentally friendly
- Picking up litter that you see on the beach or on the roads to stop it getting into the ocean.

If you are already doing these things then encourage others to start making the change.

#StHelena #WorldOceansDay2020 #ProtectOurHome

<https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt>

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

SHG

5 June 2020

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Visit us: www.sainthelena.gov.sh



Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

When this newspaper goes on sale we will be just 5 days away from seeing the resumption of the English Premier League.

The first match back will see Aston Villa play Sheffield United 5pm GMT on Wednesday 17th June. A win for Villa will see them move out of the bottom three. Later that evening Manchester City will play Arsenal at 7.15pm GMT.

Friday 19th June relegation threaten Norwich will play Southampton at 5pm before Tottenham Hotspur play Manchester United at 7.15pm in what should be a truly entertaining match.

Saturday 20th June; Watford who just sits outside of the relegation zone will play 3rd place Leicester City at 11.30. Brighton play Arsenal at 3pm; West Ham play Wolves at 4.30pm and Bournemouth will play Crystal Palace at 6.45pm. Bournemouth is another team threaten with relegation.

On Sunday 21st June Newcastle will play Sheffield United at 1pm; Villa plays Chelsea at 3.15pm and Everton will host Liverpool at 6pm at Goodison Park.

If City loses to Arsenal; Liverpool will just have to beat Everton to pick up the Premier League title.

Liverpool has being the stand out team by far this season and was always going to win the title whether the Covid-19 pandemic happen or not.

On Monday Manchester City will play Burnley at 7pm. On Tuesday 23rd Leicester City will play Brighton at 5pm and Spurs will play West Ham at 7.15pm.

On Wednesday 24th June four matches will kick off at 5pm. Manchester United will play Sheffield United in a game which could decide which of these two remains in contention to qualify for the Champions League. Newcastle will play Aston Villa, Norwich play Everton and Wolves host Bournemouth. All these games will have bearings on who will get relegated this season.

At 7.15pm Liverpool will play Crystal Palace and if they don't pick the title up at Goodison they will surely pick up the title at Anfield. Merseyside Police and Liverpool City Council will no doubt look at this match and its risks and the game may potentially be played at a neutral venue to stop crowds gathering outside the stadium. This would be a great shame for Liverpool fans that have yet to see their team lift a Premier League trophy.

On Thursday 25th June Burnley play Watford and Southampton play Arsenal at 6pm. Later Chelsea will play Manchester City at 8.15pm. Chelsea will be under pressure to pick up all 3 points as they currently occupies the 4th Champions League spot and is under pressure from Manchester United; Sheffield United, Wolves and Spurs.



No doubt Liverpool fans will be celebrating the title soon



St Helena Football Association

Weather permitting the 2020 SHFA League season will kick off on Saturday 13th June at 1pm when last season's Champions the Rovers play the Axis. The 3pm game will see the veteran's team the Saints play the Bellboys.

On Sunday at 1pm the Lakers will play the Wirebirds in what should be the clash of the weekend.

3pm on Sunday Harts host the Crystal Rangers. Harts have lost a lot of first team players this season. Crystal Rangers was going to be mainly made up of youngsters however most young players has opted to play as substitutes for the more prominent teams.

Crystal Rangers is still hoping to recruit some more players prior to Sunday's match.

Beginners and Junior League

We are hoping to start the Beginners and Junior Leagues in July. We will have a meeting for all players and parents of players on Friday 3rd July at New Horizons Leisure Park at 5.30pm.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and plan the up and coming season.



2019 Beginners' League players

For Sale

2 Toyota Rav 4 2014 models
2.0 Diesel colour Red
2.2 Diesel colour White

Interest person can contact tel 24554
or 62895



WRECK 2 WRECK

White Lion RAF Darkdale Papanui Spangereid

On Sunday 7th June, the Yellow Fins Swim Club hosted the first ever Wreck2Wreck open water swim Challenge at the Lower Wharf. It was a very successful event, with favourable weather and sea conditions and there was a good turnout of spectators cheering on participants.

The challenge consisted of swimming 1730 meters in total, to four wrecks resting in James Bay, starting at the Main Landing Steps, to the White Lion, the Darkdale, Papanui and Spangereid and then finishing at Middle Steps. 31 swimmers took part in the individual race, there were 4 relay teams and 9 children entered the Junior race. Vivienne Pondsford, Stefan Thomas and Brooke Yon from the Yellow Fins Swim team took the top three positions in the adults solo race with times under 33 mins. The Yellow Fins team also won first place in the relay with team members Brooke Yon, Vivienne Pondsford, Stefan Thomas and William Caswell, beating the Rescue Service team which consisted of Kyle Yon, Liam Otten, Rhys Hobbs and Angelo Ellick. Congratulations are extended to the winners, who are between the ages of 12 and 14, on their achievements. In the Junior race, Nina McMonegal, Lilli Adams and Joel Peters took the top three positions.

The organisers of the event would like to thank all of the helpers on the day, in particular the Boatsmen, Kayakers and First Aiders who ensured the races went off without a hitch.

It is hoped to make the Wreck2Wreck Swim Challenge an annual fundraiser for the Club, with a possible floating trophy being awarded. Recorded times from Sunday's event are listed on the next page.....



Contact: Christabel Wade 67100
Craig Yon 61400 or Michelle Yon

INDIVIDUAL RACE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Times</u>
VIVENNE PONDSFORD	31.59
STEFAN THOMAS	32.25
BROOKE YON	32.4
STEVE COATS	37.18
JOACHIM NAULAERTS	37.59
DEREK PEDLEY	43.4
DUPOT VINCENT	44.42
BRENDAN HUNT	44.08
AURTHUR BOURRET	45.08
RAYMOND BUFFALO YOUNG	46.19
LOURENS MALAN (Snorkel)	46.29
PAVLA MERMANKOVA	48.38
ALDHELM GARNER	48.37
DAN MARLOW	49.42
DEWI MCMAHON	50.54
JOHANNA BARCLAY	54.3
CHANTELLE BOSCH	54.33
DR FRANCISCO	54.46
TARA WORTLEY	54.55
KATE HENEGHAN	55.24
DR SOTO	55.33
TOM WORTLEY	55.52
GILL BOLTON	56.07
SALLY HICKLING	56.27
DR SERGIO	58.44
ALISON CURRAND	1.01.18
DR RICHARD	1.03.45
DANNI MARLOW	1.05.49
GILL MCLEAN	1.05.54
ALISTAIR MCLEAN	1.05.55
ALEX ADAMS	1.19.01



Raymond 'Buffalo' Young— Forever 'Young' at 70 and keeping up with the young ones.....



Is there a Doctor in the water???

JUNIOR RACE

<u>Name</u>	
NINA MCMONEGAL	1ST
LILLI ADAMS	2ND
JOEL PETERS	3RD
FINLAY MCMONEGAL	
AALAYAH YOUNG	
JASEMINE ADAMS	
CHARLIE HENRY	
LEO WORTLEY	
LAURA WORTLEY	



Sally Hickling:
Where's the wine????

RELAY TEAMS

1st - YELLOW FINS

BROOKE YON
VIVENNE PONDSFORD
STEFAN THOMAS
WILLIAM CASWELL
29.58

2nd - RESCUE SERVICE

KYLE YON
LIAM OTTEN
RHYS HOBBS
ANGELO ELICK
47.29

3rd - TTND

TARA MURPHY
DAMON MILLER
NOLA HENRY
TINA THOMAS
54.33

4th - WICKED WAHOO

KYLE JOSHUA
KEVIN PORTHAULT
FRANCOIS GILLET
RESHARD JOHN
104.44



Golf Report for Sunday 7th June 2020

It was a beautiful day. The weather was amazing. 24 Players turned up to compete in the Furrows Stroke play competition. It posed a different kind of challenge. Normally, hitting your ball wide to an adjacent fairway is not a problem. But for this competition it was costly. Especially for those players who don't hit precise shots. At 4pm the scores started to arrive in the 19th Hole. By the time the fourth group scores were in the lowest score was nett 69 with 8 players still in the field. Two players had 69. A play off was looming when the 5th group scores arrived with a nett 65. One group was still out. In that last group Mr. Leon Crowie playing off 6 handicap tore the field apart and emerged the winner with a whooping nett 64. Second prize went to Mr. Donald Bowers who had the nett 65. Mr. Keith Joshua aka KJ and Bramwell both with nett 69 had to go into a playoff on the 18th hole for third prize. Bramwell scored a birdie against KJ's par to take third prize. Mr. Leon Crowie also won the longest drive on the 17th fairway and Nicky Stevens won the nearest to pin for the gents on the 18th. Two ball pool winners were Neil Joshua, Larry Legg and Bramwell on the 5th and Donald Bowers and Martin Buckley on the 7th.



On Sunday 14th and 21st June 2020 the club will be hosting the Presidents Cup 36-hole stroke play competition. Tee off is 12:00. Registration is ongoing through the usual channels. For more pictures and information like our Facebook page @shgc.org.sh

Happy swinging...!

Contributed by: SHGC

Cape Town Covid gives Jo'burg the Jitters

Accusations of disarray in easing South Africa's lockdown could mean ships and planes to St Helena are affected

As allegations on social media that the South African Covid-19 deaths are somehow manipulated and 66 Covid cases are reported this week at 55 schools in Western Cape Province, a temporary field hospital at Cape Town International Convention Centre is inspected by health officials to make sure it is ready for an expected upsurge in coronavirus cases. The widespread fear in South Africa is that the worst is still to come.

Tuesday this week marked the 80th day since the first Covid-19 case was identified in Western Cape. Since then more than 100 people have died from Covid-19. South African media reports sources claiming the infection rate is doubling every two to three days. The infection rate started this week at about 1,000 new Covid cases every day. It is also reported overcrowded health facilities put non-Covid hospital patients in danger of contracting the disease. In addition, last weekend saw more cases of injuries as a result of intoxication, domestic violence, stabbings and gunshots admitted at hospitals across the Western Cape as alcohol and other restrictions were eased. Widespread flouting of rules concerning wearing face masks and social distancing as the lockdown eases is seen as a contributory factor in the upsurge in the infection rate.

A survey by the University of Johannesburg points to increased psychological distress from feelings of stress, sadness and depression, anger, boredom and loneliness; but the main reason is hunger. Gauteng Province, with the Johannesburg/Pretoria conurbation at its centre, is also seeing a rise in Covid infections. The rate of increase is much smaller according to official figures, but the National Institute for Com-



A long queue outside a liquor shop in Soweto, Johannesburg on the first day of easing lockdown

municable Diseases admits the true number could much higher as the backlog in the Covid test results is 'a concern'. President Cyril Ramaphosa pointed out that more than half of all Covid cases since the start of the outbreak were recorded over the last two weeks.

The Western Cape is at the heart of Covid-19 infections in South Africa, recording 66% of all recorded infections and 76% of all South Africa's Covid deaths. Gauteng province accounts for 12.3% of all South Africa's recorded Covid cases with about half of the Gauteng Covid cases being in Jo'burg. Cape Town and Johannesburg are seen as hotspots for coronavirus infections together with some other urbanised areas. This could mean the easing of restrictions in the hotspot areas, or tightening of them, delays essential services getting back to normal. This in turn may well delay the time when Covid restrictions which affect operations at Cape Town Docks and Johannesburg's airports are lifted.



SHFA Football Fixtures 2020 Round 1

Date	Time	Fixture	Referee
Sat 13 th June	1pm	Rovers v Axis	Lakers
	3pm	Saints v Bellboys	C Rangers
Sun 14 th June	1pm	Wirebirds v Lakers	Rovers
	3pm	Harts v Crystal Rangers	Bellboys
Sat 20 th June	1pm	Lakers v Harts	Wirebirds
	3pm	Axis v Crystal Rangers	Saints
Sun 21 st June	1pm	Bellboys v Wirebirds	Harts
	3pm	Rovers v Saints	Axis
Sat 27 th June	1pm	Harts v Bellboys	Lakers
	3pm	Wirebirds v Rovers	C Rangers
Sun 28 th June	1pm	Saints v Axis	Rovers
	3pm	Crystal Rangers v Lakers	Bellboys
Sat 4 th July	1pm	Saints v Wirebirds	Axis
	3pm	Bellboys v Crystal Rangers	Harts
Sun 5 th July	1pm	Rovers v Harts	Saints
	3pm	Axis v Lakers	Wirebirds
Sat 11 th July	1pm	Wirebirds v Axis	Lakers
	3pm	Harts v Saints	C Rangers
Sun 12 th July	1pm	Crystal Rangers v Rovers	Axis
	3pm	Lakers v Bellboys	Harts
Sat 18 th July	1pm	Axis V Bellboys	Saints
	3pm	Rovers v Lakers	Wirebirds
Sun 19 th July	1pm	Saints v Crystal Rangers	Axis
	3pm	Wirebirds v Harts	Harts
Sat 25 th July	1pm	Lakers v Saints	Rovers
	3pm	Crystal Rangers v Wirebirds	Bellboys
Sun 26 th July	1pm	Harts v Axis	C Rangers
	3pm	Bellboys v Rovers	Lakers



**St Helena
Government**

APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

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

1. **Application 2020/47:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Extensions to Existing House to form a Bedroom and Garage**, Two Gun Saddle on Parcels AF0371, AF0375 and AF0376, adjacent to the property of Mr Mario Gough. Applicant: D Robbertse.

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 Karen.Isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh stating the Application Reference Number they wish to inspect.

Any person who wishes to make Representations on the above Applications should make them in writing within 14 days to the Planning Office, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown or Email karen.isaac@sainthelena.gov.sh

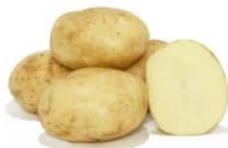
Public Representation Closing Date:

4pm – 26th June 2020

Shane Williams
Planning Officer

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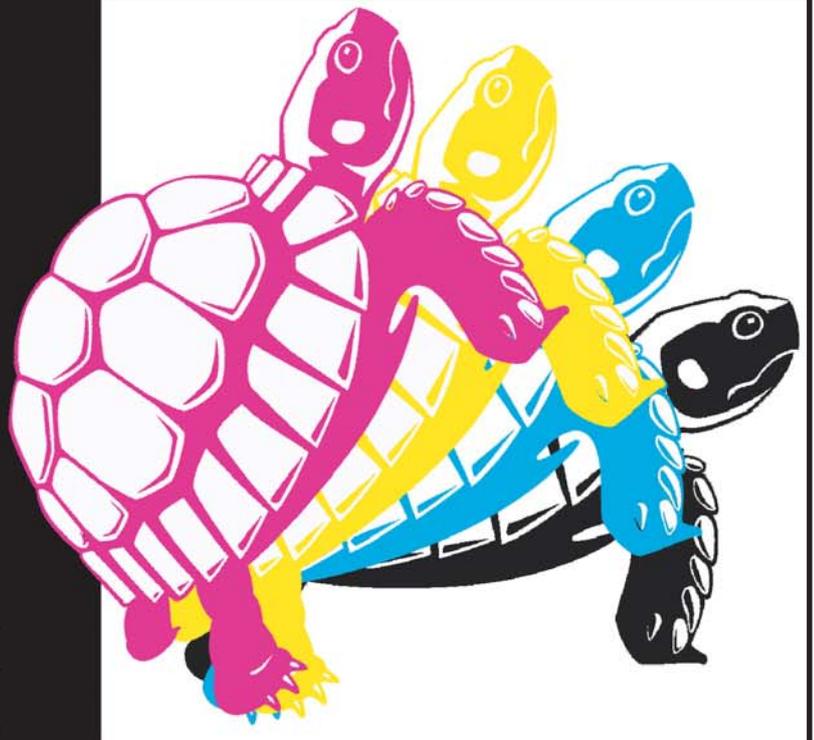
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PAS Prom 2020

Prince Andrew school celebrated another Prom on Saturday 6th June, Head teacher Mrs Penny Bowers said “We had a very enjoyable evening and it did look like everyone enjoyed themselves! The dance floor was very popular as there was no time during the evening when it was empty. The Hall and Foyer was beautifully decorated by the Yr11 Prom team, who worked extremely hard as a lot of the decorations were hand-made as well. The theme for the evening was “A Starry Night in Winter”. Everyone was dressed to shine, and even the gents put lot of effort into their wardrobe – we had some very smartly dressed students. Thanks to the staff who came out to help chaperone, to Mr Mike Brown for taking the photo’s, and to Mr Drabble for being the DJ. Best wishes to all Yr11 and Yr13 students who are now embarking on the next steps!!



St Helena's Marine Protected Area changes focus

On Monday the UK Government website blew its own trumpet to mark World Oceans Day by announcing, "An independent review led by former Fisheries Minister Richard Benyon, and published today on World Ocean Day, is calling for the introduction of Highly Protected Marine Areas in English waters. The review was commissioned on last year's world ocean day by then Environment Secretary Michael Gove as part of the Government's drive to protect our waters."

Here in St Helena waters an entirely different trend appears to be developing. Marine conservationists are concerned that the official description and purpose of ongoing research in the St Helena Marine Protected Area has been revised with the result being the reasons for, and aims of ongoing research and conservation are less specific and have been watered down.

The Blue Belt Programme Annual Review 2019-20, recently published by the UK Government with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) has re-worded some descriptions of the work being undertaken and the status and importance attached to the work. In the opening paragraph in the section of the Annual Review covering St Helena states, "The Blue Belt Programme has worked closely with St Helena Government and the Attorney General's Chambers to provide advice on new fisheries policies. The new policies are closely aligned to the aims of St Helena's Marine Protected Area and will now be used to inform legislation." There is understandable concern that using the phrase, "closely aligned", allows the new and as yet unknown SHG fisheries policy to deviate to an undefined extent from "adhering to" the aims of St Helena's Marine Protected Area.



The rich marine life in St Helena waters

Another apparent change of emphasis is the words used to describe the reasons for the extensive tuna tagging that has progressed for several years. The Blue Belt Programme's own Work Plan for St Helena, published in October 2018, clearly describes one activity as, "Determine sustainable harvests for fisheries (tuna; bait species; inshore species) and advise on sustainable fisheries strategies and management plans". The purpose of this research is to, "ensure St Helena Government have the information required to enable sustainable fisheries management into the future, thereby providing a long term legacy for the St Helena community".

In the recently published Annual Review the Blue Belt Programme refer to this work as, "These ongoing projects monitor local stock levels and help assess how many tunas reside in St Helena's waters as the seasons change." The purpose of the work to "determine sustainable harvests" and the ultimate aim as, "providing a long term legacy for the St Helena community" has been replaced by a description which people involved see as a fish counting exercise with no clearly defined purpose.

The recently published Annual Review refers only to the *laboratory*, which is the SHG part of the project. The other facilities planned for the project which is supposed to be a collaborative, partnership approach to a new development are mysteriously excluded.

Previous Annual Reviews have been proud to describe the involvement of the Blue Belt Programme in the Marine Visitor Centre. Development Permission was given last year for the conversion of what was originally intended to be a freight terminal at Jamestown Wharf to the Marine Centre; including laboratories, marine research facilities and visitor centre. Work was expected to start in December last year, so far, it appears nothing has moved forward. Funding for the Marine Centre is pledged by the Blue Marine Foundation while funding for the lab is coming from the UK Government's Blue Belt Programme. The St Helena National Trust is also involved as it will manage the running of the proposed Marine Centre. While planning permission was given last year, we understand that parties compromised on a lease but yet are still awaiting a Letter of Intent from SHG.

The latest Blue Belt Annual Review refers to the Marine Centre in these terms, "The Blue Belt Programme is also funding a new laboratory development in St Helena to enable safe and effective marine science studies and monitoring on the island. The St Helena Government hopes this new laboratory will be a centre for excellence and Southern Ocean hub for marine science. In the last year, the planning application has been approved and **building work is now underway.**" It would be interesting to ascertain what building work is actually underway, notwithstanding the delays resulting from COVID-19.

Other changes in words and phrases in the Annual Review include lack of any reference for the first time to pole and line fishing in St Helena and not using - again for the first time - the Protected Areas Category specified by the international authority that advises on best conservation practices, (the International Union for Conservation of Nature - IUCN), when referring to St Helena's Marine Protected Area.

The sudden abandonment of the IUCN protected area category, without any explanation or warning has raised suspicions that St Helena waters may become a Marine Protected Area only in name. In the absence of open and direct discussion with SHG officials it is feared that in the future the St Helena Marine Protected Area will only be "closely aligned" to the internationally recognised standards applied by the IUCN.

Continued on NEXT PAGE

St Helena's Marine Protected Area changes focus

When pressed for an explanation of the many changes in this year's Annual Review it is reported a government spokesman said it is only because the report has been dumbed-down to make it more 'accessible' for general readership. Those closely involved with marine matters remain unconvinced as technical terms, jargon and acronyms remain in the reports on the Marine Protected Areas of other Overseas Territories.

The report on St Helena's activities in the Marine Protected Area was also criticised for ignoring the collaborative work throughout the years involving the Commercial Fishermen's Association, the National Trust, the Nature Conservation Group and the Blue Marine Foundation and also the involve-

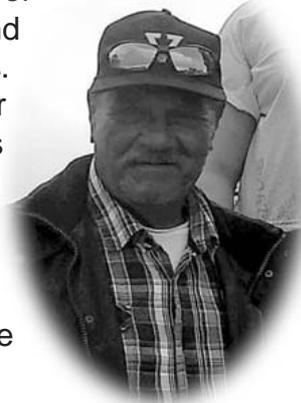
ment of schools and tourism.

Being wary of changes which could signal a change of approach has been shown in the past to be justified. In November last year the *Ecologist* website reported on the South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) Marine Protected Area. The report referred to an IUCN review which concluded that only 2% of the SGSSI Marine Protected Area, which covers over 1 million square kilometres of ocean, was adequately protected. The remaining 98% of the protected area was still open to industrial fishing. It is strongly advocated in the *Ecologist* report that the UK Blue Belt Programme should accommodate an IUCN review of all the Overseas Territories Marine Protected Areas on a regular basis.

Eric Arthur Crowie

06 July 1957 – 08 May 2020

The family here and overseas would like to thank the Doctors, Nurses and all the staff of the General Hospital for their care and attention given to Eric during his illness. To Father Allen and Deacon Bobby for conducting the Funeral Service, Mrs Pat Musk, and Daniel for supporting with the music, Lt Coral Yon for reading the Eulogy and messages. Thanks to all Eric's friends on Ascension Island who organised and attended the



Memorial Service there.

Thanks are also extended to Roy and his team, Davina and family for their contribution towards the making of the wreaths, Solomon and Company for the funeral sheets, and Johnny and Ian for providing the transport.

To all who attended the funeral, paid floral tributes and sent messages of condolences - your help and support was greatly appreciated. May God Bless you all.

ALL RESIDENTS AT BRADLEY'S CAMP HAVE COMPLETED QUARANTINE

All residents of Bradley's Camp who arrived to St Helena on the recent charter flight have fulfilled their 14-day quarantine requirements, and have now all left the camp.

Senior Biomedical Scientist, Geoffrey Benjamin, said: "A total of 50 COVID-19 tests were carried out. Apart from the validation runs – this was the first batch of COVID-19 testing for the Laboratory team at St Helena Hospital. It demanded pure concentration and precision and fully utilised all of the newly acquired skills of the Laboratory team."

Director of Health, Ted Rayment, added: "I would like to thank those who resided at Bradley's Camp for their patience and understanding during their period of quarantine. The combined effort of all involved has ensured that there is still no evidence of COVID-19 on the Island."

SHG
5 June 2020



Son Nicky, daughters Natalie, Danielle, Michelle and Peter would like to say a big thanks to Doctors' Mbaie, Walled, Francisco and Mo including all of the nurses and staff at the general hospital for the wonderful care and support that was given to our mom Mavis Williams, also to sister's Wonda, Ethel and Hazel for their help, special mention to Majors Nhlanhla and Priscilla Ziqubu of the Salvation Army for your prayers.

We treasure your kindness and thoughtfulness and are so grateful that our mom is now back to good health

God bless you all



St Helena
Government

• HMP Jamestown was given 57 recommendations by the SHF&RS following a Fire Safety Inspection in 2018

• Works took place between February 2019 and March 2020, funded by the FCO through the CSSF

• HMP Jamestown now compliant with Fire Safety Regulations following end-of-project Fire Safety Inspection

HM PRISON MEETS FIRE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Works to Her Majesty’s Prison (HMP) Jamestown have recently been completed, and the building is now compliant with Fire Safety Regulations following recommendations by the St Helena Fire and Rescue Service (SHF&RS) after an inspection in November 2018.

The original inspection by the SHF&RS resulted in 57 recommendations in a report condemning the conditions in HMP Jamestown, and setting out the fire and hazard risks in the building.

In 2018, an application was made through and approved by the Conflict, Stability, and Security Fund (CSSF) for around £137,500 to allow essential works to be carried out that would make the building as safe as possible from the risk of fire, and to allow for 30 minutes to evacuate the building, saving lives in the process. An additional £10,000 from CSSF was granted in January 2020 to complete the works.

The works commenced in February 2019 and, with HMP Jamestown being the only place to house prisoners on-Island, was carried out while prisoners remained in- situ, with prison operations running as normally as possible.

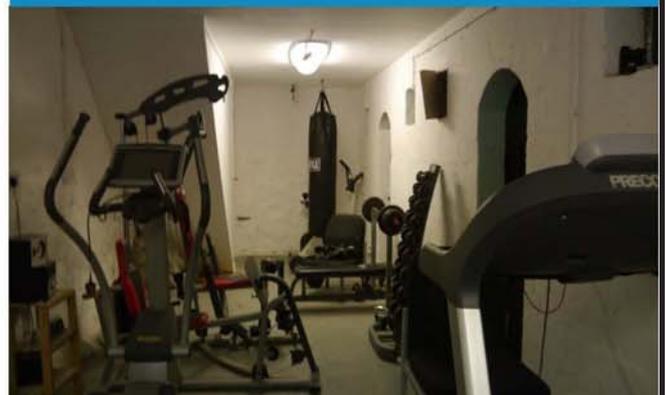
The works were fully completed in March 2020 and an end-of-project fire inspection was carried out. HMP Jamestown passed the inspection with just minor works to add threshold seals to the bottom of the new fire doors needed to be fully compliant - this will be done once the order from the UK arrives.

Despite HMP Jamestown still not being completely

continued on next page...



Basement before works with no fire escape



Basement with new fire escape and additional protection

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kerisha.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh | liam.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh | jodie.s-constantine@sainthelena.gov.sh



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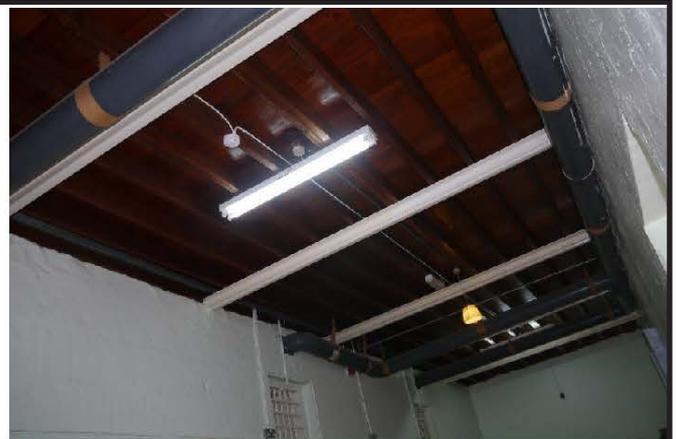
suitable as a prison, being the Island's only current location means that it is a great success for the building to now be compliant with Fire Safety Regulations both for its current and any future use.

Prison Manager, Heidi Murray, said:

"The Police Directorate would like to express our sincere thanks to the UK Government, and in particular FCO and CSSF for their invaluable support, both financially and technically, without whom it would not have been possible to complete such vital work."

**#StHelena #HMPJamestown #FCO #CSSF
#FireSafetyRegulations #AltogetherSafer**

**SHG
11 June 2020**



East wing before fire cladding



East Wing after fire cladding, additional fire protection and additional fire escape



Before (left) and after (right) installation of fire protection

INVITATION TO TENDER MANAGEMENT & LEASE OF THE MULE YARD

St Helena Government is seeking Invitations to Tender for the Management & Lease of the Mule Yard. Full documentation and the specifications can be found on the St Helena Government e-procurement system which can be accessed via: <https://intendhost.co.uk/sainthelena> following registration on the system.

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

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

E-mail: nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh

The deadline for submissions has been extended to 12.00 GMT on Monday, 29 June 2020.

**SHG
11 June 2020**

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TIP OF THE WEEK

Dishwashers use less water, and is especially effective if it is an energy-efficient model.