

# THE ST HELENA INDEPENDENT

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## *A War on Wild Life*



## *Carnival 2020*

*All the Information*



## THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

*Deputy Governor  
Claims  
'Diplomatic Immunity'  
and Skips  
Bradley's Camp*



## *Miss St Helena 2020*

*What a Brilliant Show!*





# CARNIVAL 2020

## ROAD CLOSURES AND DISRUPTIONS

Carnival 2020 is scheduled to take place in Jamestown on Saturday, 31 October 2020. Due to the Carnival parade there will be disruption to the flow of traffic as well as parking in Jamestown.

The parade will leave the General Hospital at 3pm. From this time, the China Lane access road into Jamestown will be closed and vehicles will not be able to travel up Market Street towards Ladder Hill Road. There will also be a diversion sign at the top of Constitution Hill Road diverting traffic onto Side Path Road to prevent vehicles approaching the rear of the parade. There will be no access towards the Hospital area from the start of the parade until the parade has progressed past this area, unless in the case of an emergency.

For the duration of the parade from the Hospital towards lower Jamestown, any exit from Seales Corner towards Upper Jamestown will be restricted. Any vehicles wishing to access Ladder Hill Road from Jamestown during the course of the parade shall be diverted at either The Victoria shop for access to Shy Road or The Canister for access via The Brow (after the parade has passed Seales Corner).

Anyone wishing to access Jamestown from the West side of the Island (e.g. Half Tree Hollow and Ladder Hill) must do so before the parade or will have to travel behind the parade. Any persons accessing Jamestown from the East side of the Island (e.g. Longwood and Levelwood) may do so via Side Path Road.

These road closures will be lifted once the parade has reached the Sea Front prior to other activities taking place.

The Sea Front area itself will also be closed from the Arch to the Wharf from 10am on the Saturday morning. This is to allow the organisers to arrange and erect their equipment and marquees for the evening.

These road closures have been put in place for the safety of participants and spectators. St Helena Police asks the public to adhere to the road signage and the directions of marshals and Police Officers during the event.

Have a happy Carnival 2020.

**SHG 21 October 2020**



**The Carnival 2006 was the start of the Cancer Support & Awareness Charity, the brainchild of Malcolm Bowers.**

**Photos from 2006 - Mark Heron**



**The instigator and main organiser of the very first Carnival on St Helena, 29th April 2006, Malcolm Bowers.**

## JOB VACANCY

### THORPE'S JAMESTOWN SHOPS



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Contact: Henry Thorpe or Carol Yon Tel: 22781, email: admin@thorpes.sh or come and see us in our office above Thorpe's grocery shop

# Your Opinion Counts

**Dear Editor,**

I was very surprised to read the press release from Dr Roland Fasol in last week's Independent which appeared to trivialise the new Covid-19 Corona virus infection that is currently sweeping the world.

I don't believe that people on St Helena are "panicking and scared and killing themselves with unnecessary fear" or are reacting irrationally, hysterically or ignorantly. I believe that the great majority of the community are intelligent enough to make reasoned judgments based on the huge amount of science-based evidence that is available from such as the World Health Organisation, BBC Health etc and have valid concerns.

It is a fact that parts of the UK, Europe and other parts of the world are facing a tsunami of new infections and hospital ICU departments are again under severe pressure.

Many aspects of Covid are unique, being very different to any other common viral disease. The newness of Sars-CoV-2 is still a learning process for medics and scientists worldwide and is nothing like an ordinary dose of flu for many.

But there are considerations on the island that must be seriously thought about before abolishing quarantine and moving plane loads of people to unregulated and impossible to supervise self-isolation:

- St Helena has a substantial population of older persons over the age of 60.
- The island has a known high proportion of people with co-morbidities such as heart disease, hypertension and type 2 diabetes for example.
- The immune systems of remote island communities are naïve as they are not regularly exposed to viral infection.
- It is well understood that Covid-19 disproportionately affects those of Asian /African origin.

St Helena has been totally unaffected so far by all the measures that other countries have had in place for at least 6 months, and the community here is not used to social distancing, frequent hand sanitising, mask wearing and self-isolation, and many are understandably naïve about virus transmission. Symptomatic

and completely asymptomatic people can spread the virus and identifying who is infected is problematic.

The comparison with other known causes of worldwide deaths seems bizarre. We don't have Anopheles mosquitos that cause Malaria here, or venomous snakes or Great white sharks. Our Road traffic accident rates are low and very rarely fatal as are murders! But just one person infected with Covid-19 moving around our small community, could force the island into lockdown.

About 40,000 deaths in the UK in the first six months of the coronavirus pandemic is worthy of concern, as is the potential resulting long-term damage caused by cellular inflammation in survivors.

Many countries including the UK are working tirelessly to produce a vaccine to protect against Covid-19, and hopefully will be able to finish necessary trials and get doses into production in the near future.

Until then, would it not be sensible and responsible to keep current protocol as it is, which has so far protected the islanders from this virulent infection?

**Yours Sincerely**  
**T Lucy**

## ***Badge of St Helena and Honorary Citizenship proposed for Non-Saints to recognise exceptional work which has benefitted St Helena***

**Vince Thompson**

Next Tuesday's (3<sup>rd</sup> November) Exco meeting will include discussion on a proposal to establish an award for Non-Saints which is similar to the Badge of Honour awarded to Saints who have contributed exceptional work within the community. The Badge of Honour is specifically for and limited to people who were born on the Island or have been resident for at least 10 years. The proposal for a Badge of St Helena would make recognition of exceptional contributions to the community to people who were not born here and have not lived here for 10 years.

The information paper to Exco members explains, "There is an obvious need to recognise exceptional contributions to the island by people who do not meet the eligibility requirements of the present Badge of Honour. This could potentially recognise contributions to public life, research, philanthropy, literature and the promotion and support provided to the culture, heritage and development of the island. A "Badge of St Helena" would stand beside the Badge of Honour to recognise the part exceptional non-residents play in assisting the island."

honorary citizenship is a symbolic gesture and carries with it no rights of actual citizenship. It is an honour which is normally very rarely used. It is explained to Exco members that, "in Canada and the USA there have been only eight honorary citizens including Winston Churchill." The information paper adds, "There is no history of the creation of honorary citizen status in the UK. Chiefly, due to its well developed State honours system that provides sufficient opportunity to recognise non UK/non-Commonwealth nationals through an honorary decoration."

A similar recognition in the UK is for someone to be made a 'Freeman of the Borough' in recognition of an exceptional deed or service. The title of 'Freeman' goes back to medieval times when people were owned by the feudal Lord of the Manor. To be made a Freeman and released from bondage had great importance a few hundred years ago. Today, being honoured with the title of Freeman is purely symbolic and more than a little quaint.

Also proposed is an Honorary Citizenship of St Helena. The



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# Editorial

SHG, whatever that may be; (the definition of who really governs us remains to be made clear), announced recently that Enterprise St Helena will be no more when 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 comes around. The arrangements being made to carve up the work of ESH between SHG and others reveals much about how little has changed in the mindset of whoever SHG is, or are.

All the ESH activities which involve money or are perceived to be the more important bits are proposed to go the SHG. Business Park management is one thing specifically mentioned. Tourism information services appear destined to be a 'divestment opportunity' which could be 'transferred to the private sector' under a management contract arrangement. This is a misuse of words. The definition of 'divestment' in any dictionary explains it means selling off a subsidiary business or disposing of an asset through sale, exchange or closure. SHG are proposing to keep control of tourism information services by handing over responsibility for the day-to-day operations under a management contract. The contract will specify the boundaries within which the contractor will operate, SHG will retain ownership of the buildings and other tangible and realisable assets and will retain direct control of tourism strategy. Making the former ESH employees involved with tourism information services contractors just means their numbers are not added to the throng of SHG employees.

I have often wondered why SHG are so reluctant to let go of anything. There was a push a little while ago to sell parcels of government land. The adverts for the sales more often described small pockets of land; about 0.2 acres in some remote place of

little use to anyone and no use to SHG. Maybe a few pigs could be put on the land, except the dry sandy soil was one of the 'selling points' which persuaded SHG to try to get rid of such assets. I'm trying very hard to think of a thriving, going concern which SHG has sold simply because the activity or asset was not part of their core business of governing. I'm still trying very hard to think of such an example.

The Tourist Office at the Canister cannot have any prospect of making any money as it is structured at the moment and in the present pandemic circumstances. The management contract will need to include an SHG subsidy to keep it going. Being a contractor instead of an employee in such circumstances is not an enviable position to be in.

I read something recently with the headline, 'What the UK government should learn from behavioural economists'. I have no idea what a behavioural economist is but what was written made sense. To cut a longish story short, the article said that from an employer/employee standpoint, more co-operation, energy, assistance and initiative can be gained from people who are treated fairly compared with those who are not. The suspicion of unfairness or lack of trust leads to anger and lack of co-operation and that leads to all sorts of other problems and inefficiencies which any economist, behavioural or not, will be keen to see resolved. How much work would a behavioural economist have to get through in St Helena, I wonder?

**Enjoy your weekend - Vince**

## **Deputy Governor Claims 'Diplomatic Immunity' and Skips Bradley's Camp**

Rumours appeared yesterday morning that the Deputy Governor, Greg Gibson and Mrs Gibson had left Bradley's quarantine station for home isolation after arriving to St Helena on the flight from UK on Monday.

This would be in clear breach of the quarantine regulations published by St Helena Government last week. Mr and Mrs Gibson, according to Saint FM's information, have no children under 10 years of age and no medical ailments which could deem Bradley's Camp as unsuitable for quarantine purposes.

Later yesterday, informal information confirmed that Mr and Mrs Gibson were indeed self-isolating in their home and that St Helena Executive Council had approved the exemption from the rules for the 'Gibsons'. Apparently, this was not without controversy as His Excellency, Governor Rushbrook had claimed that Mr Gibson had Diplomatic immunity on St Helena based on the Vienna Convention of 1961 and there would be consequences for St Helena if Mr and Mrs Gibson were not

given exemption from the quarantine rules. Further, Governor Rushbrook allegedly attempted to exempt all TCO staff on the Island from the requirement of quarantine but this was denied by Executive Council.

This incident is a slap in the face to all Saints who diligently trying to follow restrictions and recommendation to keep the dreaded Covid-19 virus off the Island.

Saint FM has asked for a confirmation of the accuracy of the rumours and if correct will there be an official statement, but no answer has been forthcoming at this stage.

This incident is most unfortunate at a time when we are discussing a new Constitution for St Helena to improve democracy and transparency within Government. It makes it appear that the ultimate power lies within the Governor's Office no matter what Constitutional arrangements are introduced to cover up the all too apparent colonialism running the Island.

This is not the first time it has have been talk about 'Diplomatic Immunity' for FCO Officials on the Island. I find it very strange that you can claim Diplomatic Immunity in a Country/Territory where you have the Executive Authority. At least they cannot be declared '*persona non grata*' as they can always appeal to themselves..... **Mike**



## ***Will the UK continue financial support as the pandemic persists? Lord Risby asks the question and Baroness Sugg replies***

### **Question**

To ask Her Majesty's Government what support they have provided to British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies during the COVID-19 pandemic; and whether this support will extend to the provision of vaccinations when trials are concluded.

### **Answer**

The UK Government has undertaken a major operation to support the Overseas Territories (OTs) in dealing with COVID-19. Support has been sent to all of the inhabited OTs with the exception of Pitcairn. UK support has enabled seven OTs to start testing for the virus and the others to continue testing when supply routes were cut. Supplies of PPE were sent to ensure no OT ran out. Medical equipment was sent to ensure hospitals could cope when each island was cut off from their usual medical evacuation routes by providing field hospital equipment, medicines, ventilators, CPAPS and other equipment. Expert support was provided in the form of advice from PHE, deployments of medical staff and a remote telemedicine service providing OT clinicians with remote access to clinical advice in the treatment of COVID-19 and other critical conditions. Military teams were deployed to the Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands to support with logistics and border security. Flights were arranged by the FCDO to repatriate British nationals to and from the OTs. Emergency budgetary support has been provided to Montserrat, St Helena and Anguilla to keep essential public services running and ensure these OTs can respond to the impacts of the pandemic.

The UK Government has worked closely with the governments



of the Crown Dependencies throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. While the Crown Dependencies are responsible for their own emergency planning, response and recovery, the UK has engaged at working and political level with these jurisdictions to support their own efforts to combat COVID-19 and mitigate against its spread on the islands. This has included ensuring that the Crown Dependencies can access UK supply chains for key medicines and medical devices, including PPE and ventilators. The UK will maintain this engagement over the coming months to ensure that the UK can continue to offer support to Crown Dependency governments.

Through the Vaccine Task Force, the UK Government is procuring vaccines on behalf of the Crown Dependencies and OTs, and is working with them to ensure the smooth deployment of a COVID-19 vaccine once a safe and effective one is available.

# **GUY FAWKES NIGHT**

## **5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER CELEBRATE THIS YEAR!**

### **FIREWORKS FOR SALE**

**THE QUEEN MARY STORE HAS AN EXCITING SELECTION OF  
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**MAKE YOUR NIGHT ONE TO REMEMBER  
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## ***FUTURE DELIVERY OF SHG'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENDA***

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) was established by St Helena Government (SHG) in 2012 to support Private Sector development, encourage local and foreign investment and promote St Helena as a tourist destination.

ESH has been jointly funded by the UK Government through two Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO - previously DFID) projects, and by SHG.

With project funding coming to an end at the end of March 2021, together with increasing current and future financial pressures on Government's limited resources, SHG cannot continue to support ESH after March 2021 and as a result ESH will no longer operate as an entity from the new Financial Year.

Executive Council has therefore considered options for how Economic Development workstreams will be delivered from April next year. The strategic focus will be sustainable growth of the Island's economy as set out in the Sustainable Economic Development Plan and delivery of the 'Altogether Wealthier' component of the 10-Year Plan.

SHG and ESH are now working on plans for how the delivery of SHG's Economic Development agenda will look going forward. Some of the activities/functions currently carried out by ESH (e.g. Investment Tourism Strategy, Business Park management and so on) will be transferred to SHG, and others (e.g. tourism information services) will become divestment opportunities which could be transferred to the Private Sector under a management contract arrangement with SHG. Future functions/activities will be outcomes driven with a focus on achieving pre-determined results and further information will be made available once finalised.

ESH staff and their Board have done a great deal over the last eight years to develop a strong Private Sector base and we thank them for their valuable contribution to the Island's economic development.

**SHG**  
**23 October 2020**



### ***From Discovery to Discovery:***

**Join us** for this exciting one-day event

12th November 2020

The St Helena Community College,  
Education Learning Centre, Jamestown

From 9 am to 3.30 pm

(Please be seated by 9am)

Open to all, entrance is free

The conference will provide a platform for organisations and researchers to share stories, knowledge and outcomes of the projects and research that they engaged with on the Island. Talks will cover diverse topics from genetics: Jonathan and the honey bee; to endemic invertebrates, agricultural science, landscape and ecological restoration, behind the scenes of historical research, tourism, health promotion and teenage well-being and more. The event will conclude with an open discussion centred on the question "What is the role of Science, Research & Innovation on St Helena?"

The full programme will be published in next week's paper. For further information contact:

[rebecca.cairns-wicks@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:rebecca.cairns-wicks@sainthelena.gov.sh) or call 22607





# *Miss St Helena 2020*

## *What a Brilliant Show!*





# Miss St Helena 2020

## What a Brilliant Show!

A large percentage of the island community witnessed the crowning of Miss STH 2020 on Saturday night at Prince Andrew School and via live televised coverage courtesy of Sure SA.

17 year-old Latisha Fowler of Sandy Bay emerged as the winner from 12 contestants, who over the past 4 weeks have been involved in many activities and working very hard towards presenting a stellar performance on the stage on Saturday night.

There were three rounds to the Contest, and for the first time in Miss STH history a new 'Attention-Seeker' round was included where each contestant wore outstanding outfits sponsored by various business establishments across the island, all bearing a message of island life and community engagement. All 12 contestants are to be congratulated on their performances and portrayal on the stage & catwalk of beauty, intelligence, and personalities – a role they all played with spectacular confidence.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up was Tyanne Williams of Alarm Hill and 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up Marcella Mittens of Deadwood.

Tyanne was also awarded the Saint FM Media Award of a glass trophy and £100 cash prize. All contestants received

grand prizes which included combinations of technical devices, jewellery, cash, cosmetics and sponsored vouchers.

Miss STH will also receive a free return trip to Johannesburg via Airlink or the equivalent in cash of £850. Organisers Darrin & Sharon Henry and their team are to be thanked and congratulated on producing a flawless evening of entertainment, which has no doubt been the product of hard work, determination and many hours dedicated to ensuring there was

attention to detail throughout.

The event was very successfully broadcast live to STH and the outside world via Saint FM and their overseas technicians, with hosts Tammy Williams and Gavin 'Jack' Thomas.

There were rave reviews from those who attended the event and everyone enjoyed the exciting atmosphere at big-screenings and after-parties organised by Rosie's Taste 4 Life and Donny's Place at the Seafront.





# Miss St Helena 2020

## What a Brilliant Show!



### Thank You

On behalf of the organising committee, a huge, sincere thank you to everyone who helped us in any way to deliver the 2020 Miss St Helena pageant. Despite a 6-month postponement due to Covid-19 safety precautions, the event was another wonderful success. To all our generous sponsors, thank you for allowing



*Compere on the evening -  
Sharon Wade*

us to plan a full 4-week programme that offered special experiences and long-term benefits for the contestants. To everyone who hosted our activities, including the 15-stop business tour, thank you for your time, expertise and the valuable insights. To JJ and the sponsors/creators of the Attention Seekers – Wow! Incredible vision and

creativity - thank you for putting in all those hours and hours of hard work, it was amazing to see concept come to life. To our wonderful 12 contestants, thank you for embracing the spirit of the pageant, overcoming your anxieties and putting on a fantastic show – you've brought so much joy to everyone watching. To our four judges for taking on the most difficult task of the night. The list of people who helped and supported the show, is extensive, thank you all. Finally, to Sure South Atlantic, a special mention, for once again going above and beyond with enthusiasm and commitment to make it possible for this very popular event to be enjoyed so clearly by everyone on St Helena via TV, providing the technical link for the Saint FM live radio feed, and also facilitating the Facebook stream for friends & family abroad (in addition to sponsoring prizes and building an Attention Seeker).

You made sure the entire community, from the Falklands to the UK and beyond, all had a front row seat for the show.

**Darrin Henry,**  
**Organising Committee Chairman**



*All Pictures: 'What The Saints Did Next'*

# ***“The Potential of Awarding Another Exclusive Licence is Unpopular, Although a Potential Necessity”***

**Vince Thompson**

The Economic Development Committee (EDC) met last week to work through an agenda which was stuffed with proposals which are highly topical, transformational, contentious, and aimed to shape the future for St Helena into the next century. Probably the headline subject for discussion is the preparations for awarding the next licence for public electronic communications providers when the exclusive licence now held by Sure South Atlantic runs out in December 2022. Other topics included fish catch limits for the new structure being set up for fisheries, fish processing and sales; where the great hope is the Bezuidenhout proposal will mean that St Helena commercial fishing is developed to operate at a profit for the first time since the days of sail. Also on the list for discussion was the Company Registrations Policy which is aimed at attracting government revenue without dipping into Saint's wage packets.

The EDC was considering the feedback received from the public consultation on the draft Policy for Communications Networks and Services. It was explained to EDC members the new policy was being considered “at a good time as it will help to guide the process of allocating public electronic communications network and service licences to one or more providers. Currently the telecommunications licence is an exclusive licence issued to Sure South Atlantic until 31 December 2022.”

It was noted that another licence issued on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to just one provider of phone, email, internet, television and other communication links is not popular and the amendments to the draft policy, following public consultation, make clear that it is possible for more than one licence to be issued but due to the small population here, issuing one licence may be a “potential necessity”.

The re-drafted policy takes a dual approach to several parts of the new policy. The licensing of broadcasting services has been amended to recognise “that broadcasting services may be subject to competition but also there may be a need for exclusive rights to ensure continuity of broadcasting services on St Helena.” The legal and regulatory framework has been changed to “more explicitly provide for more than one licensee for the provision of public electronic communication networks and services.” Also, “Where there is more than one public service supplier in St Helena licence provisions will include ‘anti-competitive safeguards’ to control restrictive business practices.” The re-draft also contains assurances that a decision on whether to issue an exclusive licence would only be taken once a full, comprehensive and transparent assessment has been undertaken as to the impacts of a monopoly on St Helena; with the positive impacts proven to outweigh the negative. To help new communications provider who will need to start with a large investment in new telecom infrastructure there will be greater flexibility in licence length.

To capitalise on the benefits offered by the connection to the Equiano cable new and upgraded equipment will be needed by all network operators. Having a longer licensing period

makes it more attractive for potential operators as they will have more time to make a return on their initial investment. If there is more than one operator the licences will specify there has to be interconnection between the networks so that any customer on one network can communicate with any customer on other network(s).

Other features of the policy include: a **Universal Service Obligation** which means a network licence-holder will be required to serve the entire island, not just selected densely populated areas. How this affects any new network provider is not clear. A new network is unlikely to cover the entire island immediately. If the Obligation does not recognise this it is equally likely we will continue with a monopoly provider in 2023.

The new licence will also include **Consumer Safeguards and Quality of Service** standards within licence agreements. This involves procedures for addressing customer dissatisfaction and complaints which go to the Regulator. Another new feature in the licences is **Price Controls** which will come into effect if there is no competition and we have a monopoly network operator once more.

In the first instance SHG will sell the communications capacity from the connection to the Equiano Cable to island operators at the cable landing station in Rupert's. A Cable Landing Licence will be required by communications networks operators and earth station operators. They will buy the capacity they need for the networks they operate, and in turn, make their money by selling services using the capacity to the public. The re-drafted Communications and Networks Services Policy will now go to Exco for final approval.

## ***Total Allowable Catches in St Helena waters – more details***

Further details were given to members of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) on quotas applied to fish catches in St Helena waters. The species of fish included range from Yellowfin, (300 metric tonne) Bigeye (600 mt) and Wahoo (36 mt) to Brown Spiny lobster and Red Slipper lobster (0.5 mt) and Strigate Parrotfish (0.25 mt). Most of the total allowable catch is allocated to commercial fishing with the rest shared between recreational and sport fishing either with line or spear. Minimum landing sizes are also specified.

For each species the EDC were given the reasons for the catch limits and quotas. Some were based on science based marine surveys while others were on past records of fish landed or other local knowledge. The report to EDC members explains further, “Fishing effort data and in some instances landings are very poorly understood across the industry in general. Biological data about individual species is often limited to global knowledge rather than St Helena specifically. It is the intention of the ENRP Fisheries and Marine teams that in the first 6-12 months following the introduction of the new fisheries licences and log books will form a major data gathering and monitoring exercise, after which a review will be undertaken to continue to inform the TAC's and relevant sector quotas assigned.”



# ***“The Potential of Awarding Another Exclusive Licence is Unpopular, Although a Potential Necessity”***

**Vince Thompson**

## **Company Registry Policy Limps Along**

Very nearly five months ago the *Independent* was privileged to report a new and innovative idea; it was to get on to the company registration bandwagon and attract some money here from overseas, instead of picking more from the pay packets of Saints. Last week a further report went back to the Economic Development Committee (EDC) with the feedback from the public consultation exercise. Feedback was received by email, from an on-line questionnaire, a public meeting, the Chamber of Commerce, the St Helena Financial Services Regulatory Authority, the UK Government and international organisations which provide Company Formation and Administration services.

As a result of all that, the EDC had six documents to read through and endorse. Following on from the endorsement alterations to eight existing pieces of legislation will be needed to include and recognise the legal effect of having a Company Registration Policy which offered a “competitive Company Registry services for globally operating companies to attract international revenues.” The Income Tax Ordinance is reported to be the first piece of re-drafted legislation; the aim is to get the changes on the Statute Book in time for the start of the next financial year. Other legal changes will happen “as resources allow”. The Attorney General has made a stab at what resources are required and pitched it at £45,000 to pay a qualified person to complete the work. Set up costs are estimated at £50,000 with annual running costs thought to be around £80,000. Before attracting new revenue to the SHG cash vault, about 110 new company registrations per year will be needed to cover the annual running costs. After paying the very reasonable registration fee, companies registered in St Helena are then liable to pay St Helena tax.

The aim is to market St Helena as “a clean, responsible and transparent place to do business.” There is awareness that St Helena does not want to be tarred with the same brush that has, rightly or wrongly, singled out some Caribbean Overseas Territories as financial centres where tax avoidance is possible and criminals can launder money. The advice to EDC members explains, “Company registry essentially is an export business as it raises funds from companies operating globally. Attracting those funds is a significant benefit to St Helena Government’s revenues, as these revenues can be used to pay for other Government projects and programmes.” At the meeting five months ago it was explained that a minimum tax rate for international companies registered here of 1% of total turnover would be competitive and give a reasonable chance of attracting some multi-national companies with annual turnovers amounting to \$billions.

## **Who benefits from using the St Helena name?**

### **We still await a reply**

Some years ago a very much aware businessman from India, now permanently residing in London found that the East India Company was not dead; at least not in name anyway. The

name was lying around, apparently lifeless, waiting to be ‘adopted’ and put back to work. The East India Company of today trades in expensive items. St Helena coffee is sold for £170 for a 250g bag. The Coffee Shop price is £20. Apart from fine foods and beverages the East India Company of today regularly issues gold and silver commemorative coins using the St Helena name.

This week the East India Company gives pride of place on their website to another coins issue; this time it is called The Queen’s Virtues and is a reference to the Queen Victoria Memorial outside Buckingham Palace. The Winged Angel of Victory is featured on the memorial together with other figures representing Courage, Constancy, Justice, Truth and Charity. These are the Queen’s Virtues which now appear of commemorative coins with St Helena’s name.



**The gold Victory coin is £2,995, the silver is £99. Coins representing Truth and Charity will be available next year. The last coin in the series will be available in early 2023.**

The East India Company website announces grandly to its customers, “The government and treasury of St. Helena, in partnership with the East India Company Bullion Ltd., have released (19th October) the first of a new six-coin gold and silver Proof series entitled “The Queen’s Virtues” — a beautiful collection of six designs which focuses on the virtues in all our lives that remain as important as ever, especially during unsettled times.”

If none of the coins in that collection interest you, maybe you would like to buy the silver coin commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Napoléon’s arrival at St Helena for £84.



The East India Company states:- “Marking the bicentenary of Napoleon’s exile to the island of St Helena, this silver proof coin, issued by the government of St Helena with the permission of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is minted and presented by The East India Company and is strictly limited to just 1,815 coins.” The *Independent* has asked official sources within SHG on several occasions over the years what revenue St Helena gets for being the issuing authority for some of the commemorative sold by the East India Company to collectors. We still await a reply.

# **PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON DRAFT IMMIGRATION POLICY**

***The Draft Immigration Policy is out for Public Consultation until  
11 December 2020.***

The Immigration Working Group will be conducting a series of public consultation meetings and drop-in sessions to discuss the draft Policy starting on Monday, 2 November 2020.

The Draft Immigration Policy establishes the framework through which St Helena Government (SHG) will provide a high quality, customer oriented Immigration Service that facilitates and supports SHG's principles of economic growth whilst continuing to ensure effective border control.

The draft Policy is the result of efforts by a Working Group with membership representing Elected Members, SHG's Immigration Service, Enterprise St Helena and other SHG officers.

The public consultation meetings are scheduled to take place at 7pm on the following dates:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Monday, 2 November	Longwood Community Centre
Tuesday, 3 November	Kingshurst Community Centre
Wednesday, 4 November	Silver Hill Bar
Monday, 9 November	HTH Community Centre
Tuesday, 10 November	Jamestown Community Centre
Wednesday, 11 November	St Michael's Church, Rupert's
Thursday, 12 November	Sandy Bay Community Centre
Monday, 16 November	Blue Hill Community Centre
Tuesday, 17 November	St Mary's Church, The Briars

The drop-in sessions are scheduled to take place at 2pm on the following dates:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Friday, 13 November	Drop-in Surgery – St Helena Community College
Friday, 20 November	Drop-in Surgery – Jamestown Market
Friday, 27 November	Drop-in Surgery – Jamestown Museum

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the meetings and drop-in sessions to discuss and provide feedback on the Draft Immigration Policy.

Anyone wishing to make any written comment on the draft Policy may do so in writing to Executive Assistant, Nicole Plato, at the Castle, Jamestown, or via email: [nicole.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:nicole.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than **Friday, 11 December 2020**.

The draft Policy is available in hard copy at the Customer Service Centre and the Public Library in Jamestown and is also available on the SHG Website via: <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-consultation/>.

#StHelena #DraftImmigrationPolicy #PublicConsultation  
<https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/>  
<https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt>

**SHG**  
**28 October 2020**







**Are you interested in being an Enumerator for the 2021 Census?**

**Register with the Statistics Office today!**

In early 2021, St Helena is planning to conduct a Population & Housing Census. The Census is a complete count of all dwellings and households on the Island and all the people who are staying in them on Census night.

The Statistics Office, which is developing the Census materials, will need support in delivering the Census and will appoint Enumerators who will be responsible for:

- ***Delivering the Census questionnaire to houses in an agreed area***
- ***Providing support in completing the questionnaire if the household needs it***
- ***Collecting the completed forms***
- ***Completing delivery and collection lists***

We are looking for trustworthy individuals willing to act as Enumerators during the Census period. Interested people must be:

- Friendly, approachable and able to deal with potentially difficult conversations
- Patient and able to communicate clearly and provide support to households requiring help in completing the questionnaire
- Knowledgeable about the area in which you are working
- Reliable and trustworthy when dealing with confidential information

Enumerators will be provided with training and support to ensure they are comfortable and able to carry out their duties effectively.

**Enumerators will be paid at a favourable rate.**

It is hoped to appoint Enumerators in time for training sessions in early January 2021.

**If you are interested in becoming an Enumerator for this important exercise please contact any member of the Statistics team via email:**

**[statistics@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:statistics@sainthelena.gov.sh), telephone 22138, or just pop into The Castle for an informal chat.**

**SHG  
26 October 2020**

# OPEN DAY

## WATER TREATMENT WORKS

## NOVEMBER 2020



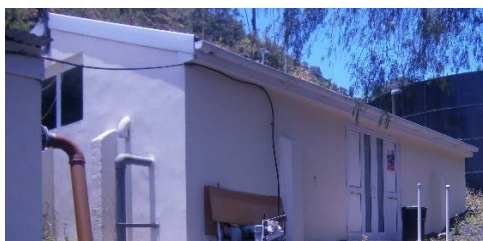
**Red Hill**



**Hutts Gate**



**Levelwood**



**Jamestown**

Connect Saint Helena Ltd will be opening the doors of the Water Treatment Works to the public at Red Hill, Jamestown, Levelwood and Hutts Gate on the following dates from 9am to 1pm:

Red Hill Water Treatment Works	Wednesday, 4th November 2020
Jamestown Water Treatment Works	Wednesday, 11th November 2020
Levelwood Water Treatment Works	Wednesday, 18th November 2020
Hutts Gate Water Treatment Works	Wednesday, 25th November 2020

Here's an opportunity to see first-hand how our island's water is processed and receive an explanation as to how water is transferred from our reservoirs and other raw water sources, to the treatment plants and finally to you as the consumer.

If you're not sure how to get to any of the Water Treatment Works, please give us a call on 22255 and someone will gladly provide you with directions.



# WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE COVID-19 VIRUS

## LEARNING FROM OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

St Helena remains free of the COVID-19 virus. What we have learnt is to be prepared, to stay informed and to stay one step ahead. As we learn more about COVID-19 it is important that we adapt our current policies and procedures to make them as effective as possible for St Helena.

There are lessons that can be learnt by examining how other Overseas Territories impacted by COVID-19 have responded to the Pandemic.

### How other islands are dealing with COVID-19

#### Anguilla

The Caribbean Island Anguilla was hit by COVID-19 on 26 March with two confirmed cases and a third case on 3 April. Anguilla has a population of about 14,000 people and, despite its Princess Alexandra Hospital having no ICU capacity, all three COVID-19 patients have since recovered.

From 30 April onwards restrictions have been in place such as no public gatherings of over 25 people, no sporting events, and everyone must adhere to physical distancing.

Anguilla has had no COVID-19 cases since then and this week reopened to visitors. Anguilla's Hon. Parliamentary Secretary Quincia Gumbs-Marie\*, said:

"There are three main principles that have governed and grounded our efforts as we formulated our reopening protocols – research, risk mitigation, and capacity.

Given our current COVID-19 free status, management of risk is at the center of our strategy." \*Source: *Caribbean Journal*

#### The Falkland Islands

The Falkland Islands has a population of around 2,500 people (source: Falkland Islands Government website).

The first case of COVID-19 was confirmed on the Falkland Islands on 3 April 2020. The number of cases peaked at 13, all of which were at the military base at Mount Pleasant.

On 1 May, an easing of restrictions was announced and schools and businesses were allowed to reopen on 11 May. There were no confirmed cases amongst the general population of the Falkland Islands. All patients have since recovered. Following this, the Falkland Islands have been COVID-19 free.

The important lesson to learn from the Falkland Islands is that such a crisis can be managed and controlled.

#### Ascension Island

Ascension Island has a population of around 800 people (source: Ascension Island Government website).

Since April authorities have been isolating all persons at the point of arrival, ensuring they observe a 14-day quarantine period in order to safeguard the wider community. This robust entry control system has allowed public venues to remain open and life to otherwise continue as normal, despite regular flights arriving from both the UK and the USA throughout this period.

Ascension Island had a recent experience where two low-level positive COVID-19 test results were returned following routine testing of individuals subject to compulsory isolation measures. As a consequence of these two positive test results, the Ascension COVID-19 Response Level was escalated. This was a precautionary measure to alert authorities and the public to an increase in the potential level of COVID-19 risk.

As per the Georgetown Hospital protocols, subsequent tests were conducted on the two individuals. These results indicated significantly reduced levels of COVID-19, to the point of non-infectious amounts, and were therefore deemed to be negative. The two individuals continued their 14-day quarantine period remaining under observation, and were tested along with the rest of their arrival cohort prior to their release from isolation.

Public venues and facilities stayed open during this time as there was no expectation that COVID-19 could have been introduced into the wider community. Members of the public were encouraged to continue to practice good cough and hand hygiene and social distancing.

Arrivals to Ascension continue to quarantine in properties and facilities around the Island and Ascension remains COVID-19 free.



St Helena  
Government

#### Lessons for St Helena:

##### The key lessons for St Helena are:

- We are learning from what is happening around the world, particularly from countries that are similar to us
- We have a firm and effective quarantine strategy in place that needs to be supported by all of us to continue being effective
- Globally, the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve. This means that the situation on St Helena must also evolve. We have to be flexible and consider future changes in an appropriate and phased manner, based on the latest evidence
- Whilst St Helena remains free from COVID-19 at present, it is essential that the Island is also prepared should there be a case. We are working towards this.

More will follow on this topic in our next update.

**Dr Roland Fasol, Chief Medical Officer, SHG**  
**27 October 2020**

### COVID-19 (the disease caused by the novel coronavirus)

#### What you can do



Avoid close contact with people who are sick



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth



Stay home when you are sick



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds



## Invasive Invertebrate Project: The Common wasp

The Darwin Plus funded Invasive invertebrate project (Conserving St Helena's endemic invertebrates through invasive invertebrate control) is researching trial and control methods of three invasive invertebrate species which are: the Common Wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*), Ant species and the Springbok mantis (*Miomantis caffra*).



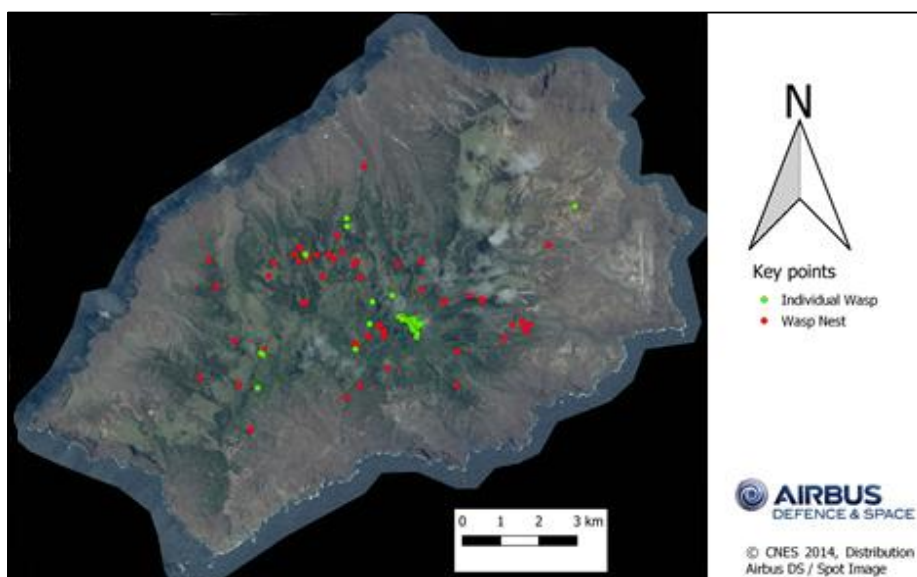
The Common wasp is an introduced, invasive species that has spread island-wide, which was first recorded on St Helena in 2005. It is of particular concern as it is a social (live in colonies) generalist feeding (eat anything) insect and they have a preference for foraging for foods containing protein (invertebrates, meat) and carbohydrates (nectar).

Collated records (SHG, SHNT) are showing that the wasps are nesting and occupying in the lush vegetated inland, and not the coastal areas. Many of our valuable endemic invertebrates live in native habitats such as Diana's Peak cloud forest and Peak Dale Gumwoods.

The Common wasp is also found nesting around residential areas either beneath roof overhangs, in cracks and cavities in trees and walls or concealed in soil, where they pose a risk to human health, if stung, and compete with honeybees for food sources.

St Helena Government, Public Health and Pest Control sections already provides a public callout service to eradicate wasp nests from private and public residences; this is done through targeted poisoning which has made it more effective. However, the wider, more remote and wild areas are not tackled. This project will help to fill this gap.

There are three different control methods: Manual e.g. hand removal, Biocontrol whereby introducing another organism that controls the target problem species; this needs to be vigorously tested before being introduced, therefore it is expensive and time-consuming. Finally the use of poison baits which so far was found to be the most successful and applicable for this 3 year project. This works as the foraging worker wasps will carry the bait back to the nest and feed it to their larva and queen, resulting in the demise of the entire nest.





# REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2020

Remembrance Sunday falls on 8 November 2020. On that day The Right Reverend Lord Bishop of St Helena Dale Bowers will conduct a Divine Service at the Cenotaph. His Excellency the Governor will attend.

All persons wishing to take part in the Divine Service are asked to assemble at the Cenotaph by no later than 10.40am.

It is on this day that we not only remember with gratitude those persons who fought and lost their lives in the violence of War but we also honour and pay tribute to those who served and survived these Wars.

A special place will be reserved at the Cenotaph for serving and ex-servicemen and women and also St Helenians who served on the old RMS St Helena during the 1982 Falklands War and it is hoped that many will attend the Service.

You are also reminded to stay hydrated and drink plenty of water before and during the Service.

Please contact Fiona Duncan at the Castle on telephone number 22470 if further information is required.

**Mrs Gillian Francis**  
**Deputy Chief Secretary**  
**The Castle, Jamestown**  
**27 October 2020**



**St Helena  
Government**



## FOR SALE BY TENDER

The St Helena National Trust has for "sale by tender" a Ford Ranger, formerly registered as 3794. This vehicle needs a new chassis and some extensive body work repairs, and will be sold on a 'as is where is basis'.

Viewing for this vehicle has been set for Friday, 6 November at 10am and persons interested in viewing should, in the first instance, contact Amanda Constantine, Office Manager on telephone number 22190 or email [amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh](mailto:amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh)

Offers should be made in writing to the Director SHNT and handed to the Office Manager at Broadway House by no later than 4pm on 13 November 2020.

## FREE ONLINE BANKING TRIAL FOR NEW PERSONAL PREMIUM CUSTOMERS

From 01 November 2020, Bank of St Helena Ltd is offering all first-time Online Banking customers registering for a **Personal Premium Package** a **Three Month Free Trial**.

*The monthly £2 Premium fee will apply after the trial period.*

Registering for Personal Online Banking, you have the ability to skip the queues and manage your money at any time. Use this convenient and secure banking tool to conduct many of your banking needs. All data is automatically encrypted to ensure your information is secure.

The transactions you will be able to undertake through Online Banking include:

Statements and Balance Checks	Access your statements, view up to two years of account history and check your real time balance at any time.
Local and International Account Transfers	Make both Local and International Account Transfers at your convenience.
Journals	Create, process and re-use journals; ideal for multiple, monthly recurring payments.
i-Mail	Contact us with any queries.

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

T. +290 22390 · F. +290 22553 · email. [info@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:info@sainthelenabank.com) · web [www.sainthelenabank.com](http://www.sainthelenabank.com)

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



@sainthelenabank



Bank of St Helena Ltd

## FREE ONLINE BANKING TRIAL FOR NEW BUSINESS STANDARD CUSTOMERS

From 01 November 2020, Bank of St Helena Ltd is offering all first-time Online Banking customers registering for a **Business Standard Package** a **Three Month Free Trial**.

*The monthly £5 Standard fee will apply after the trial period.*

Registering for Business Online Banking, you have the ability to skip the queues and manage your money at any time. Use this convenient and secure banking tool to conduct many of your banking needs. All data is automatically encrypted to ensure your information is secure.

The transactions you will be able to undertake through Online Banking include:

Statements and Balance Checks	Access your statements, view up to two years of account history and check your real time balance at any time.
Local and International Account Transfers	Undertake <u>20</u> local account transfers* and unlimited international payments at your convenience
Journals	Create, process and re-use <u>1</u> journal*; ideal for multiple, monthly recurring payments.
i-Mail	Contact us with any queries.

*\*Additional Local Account Transfers and Journals will be subject to charges.*

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

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



@sainthelenabank



Bank of St Helena Ltd





## ONLINE TOUR GUIDE TRAINING COURSES

St Helena Tourism is planning to offer training, due to commence in November 2020.

The training will be delivered by UK based Company “LONDON TOUR GUIDES SPECIALISTS”, namely Maureen Moss, Author, Trainer and Tour Guide and Kimberley Turner, Chef Trainer and Marketing Guru.

Courses on offer are as follows:

**TOUR GUIDE COURSE** - Designed to prepare new and existing Tour guides with the necessary skills and confidence to plan and lead safe, memorable tours with responsibility and sustainability in mind.

**MARKETING COURSE** - Designed to educate personnel in the use of contemporary marketing approaches in order to succeed in the development and promotion of sustainable tourism.

**DESTINATION MANAGEMENT COURSE** - Designed to meet the demanding expectations of the international marketplace by elevating the professionalism at Destination Management Companies

**HIKING COURSE** - Designed to prepare Hiking Guides with the skills and confidence to lead successful hikes in a safe, responsible and sustainable manner for years to come.

**Interested in this training? Then register your interest at the Tourist Office by 30 October.**

On successful completion of each course, candidates will receive an International recognised qualification from LONDON TOUR GUIDES SPECIALISTS.

**For further information on each course or to register your interest please contact Jane Roberts, Tourism Officer on Tel 22158 or Email: [enquiries@tourism.co.sh](mailto:enquiries@tourism.co.sh)**

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



# **ST HELENA TWO-WEEKLY POLICE REPORT**

## **5 OCTOBER – 18 OCTOBER 2020**

*by SHG*

During the weeks of Monday, 5 October, to Sunday, 11 October, and Monday, 12 October, to Sunday, 18 October 2020, Police dealt with a total of 71 reports resulting in two arrests.

One person was arrested for a sexual offence following an ongoing investigation.

One person was arrested for breaching a Court Order.

Two reports of sexual offences were made and is being investigated.

A report of a child being assaulted was made and is being investigated.

A report of assault was made, investigated and dealt with.

A report was made for the concern for safety of a juvenile. This was looked into and the juvenile was found at a place of safety. No further Police action was required.

Another report was made of a child's safety, however Police attended and found the child to be safe and well.

A Public Order offence was reported and dealt with.

Police assistance was requested whereby it was ascertained that specialist support was required and was provided by the Health team.

Cannabis plants were found on Crown Waste Land. This matter is being investigated.

The Fire service was requested to assist the medical team. A report of criminal damage was made and is being investigated.

Two reports of theft were made and is under investigation. A report was made of small rocks falling in Jamestown. The Rock Guards were informed and dealt with the incident.

A report of a neighbor dispute was made. This matter is being approached from a multi-agency perspective.

Police assistance was requested to prevent a possible breach of the peace. This matter was dealt with without incident.

A report of harassment was made and is being investigated. A special service (services outside of the Police Service) was requested for the attendance of the medical team.

A request for special service was made after a tree had fallen through the roof of a house. The appropriate services were deployed and the family was rehoused.

A further report of a fallen tree was made due to severe weather conditions, the Agriculture & Natural Resources Division was

called to deal with the incident.

A report was made of a road traffic collision. A roadside breath test was carried out and the driver was found to be under the legal limit. Damage was caused to the driver's vehicle only. No further Police action was therefore taken.

A report of a vehicle being driven without rear lights during the hours of darkness was made. The driver was informed and advised to rectify the defect before the next hour of darkness.

Two persons were found to be driving a motor vehicle on a road without valid insurance. These reports are being investigated.

A report was made of a vehicle causing obstruction in the early hours of the morning. This matter was dealt with.

A report of a civil matter was made. The complainant was advised to contact the Public Solicitor's Office.

In addition to operational requirements, community engagement was carried out, a Protection Order was issued, and seven Summons were served.

**SHG**

**23 October 2020**



### **POLICE AND FIRE SERVICE APPEAL FOR INFORMATION FIRE AT ANNE'S PLACE, JAMESTOWN**

The St Helena Police Service in conjunction with the St Helena Fire & Rescue Service (SHF&RS) have launched an investigation into the circumstances of a fire that occurred at Anne's Place, Castle Gardens, Jamestown, at about 11pm on Saturday, 24 October 2020.

Whilst a number of people who were inside the property at the time were uninjured, Police Officers were examined at the General Hospital as a result of smoke inhalation.

SHF&RS Brigade Manager, Alan Thomas, said:

"It is fortunate that the emergency services and members of the public who assisted reached this property before the fire spread to the main building. The consequences otherwise do not bear thinking about."

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) is leading the investigation into the circumstances of the fire and remain open minded as to the cause, which includes whether it may have been accidental, and is appealing for witnesses or anyone with information, no matter how minor it may seem, to contact the CID office on tel: 22626 or email: [emergencycontrol@helanta.co.sh](mailto:emergencycontrol@helanta.co.sh).

**SHG**

**27 October 2020**





# Golf Report for Sunday 25th October 2020

Contributed by: SHGC

As expected, the SHGC 2020 Open Championship was action packed over the weekend. While some golfers maintained consistency others were rising up the leaderboard and the "unlucky" ones were crashing. If there was something to blame the weather wasn't one of them. See Day 3 ranking for the open in the table below;

OPEN	D1	D2	D3	Total	Ranking
Scott Crowie	75	78	75	228	1
Jeffrey Stevens	80	79	78	237	2
Leon Crowie	79	77	82	238	3
Larry Legg	83	81	77	241	4
Martin Buckley	81	82	79	242	5
Lawson Henry	80	77	86	243	6
Norman Thomas	79	80	89	248	7
Paddo Johnson	84	82	83	249	8
Arthur Francis	80	87	87	254	9
Keith Joshua	82	85	87	254	9
George Thomas	81	87	87	255	11
Dax Richards	89	78	91	258	12

Top on the leaderboard for A flight Mr Martin Joshua with total 254, B Flight Mr Pat Henry with 273 C Flight Mr Ian Johnson with 276 and Ladies Flight Mrs Anita Robbertse with 312.

The two ball pool winners for Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> are Paddo Johnson, Peter Bagley, Dax Richards all on the 5<sup>th</sup> hole George Thomas on the 7<sup>th</sup> and Anthony Thomas on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The two ball winners for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> will be announced in the coming weekend's report. Congratulations to the two ball winners and all the best to the players as they enter the final stretch on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. See below tee off times and groups for the final round.

Happy swinging .....

ST. HELENA



GOLF CLUB



## CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF THE REDISCOVERY OF THE ST HELENA EBONY AND CONSERVATION 1980-2020

The staff of St Helena's Environmental Management Division Endemic Nursery

Cordially invite you to an Open Day at the Endemic Nursery, Scotland, on Wednesday, 11 November 2020, from 11am.

Learn about the Island's globally unique flowering plants and ferns.

Enjoy a full programme of tours, activities and presentations.

Light refreshments will be available.



### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF SHAPE

(St Helena's Active Participation in Enterprise)

Under Section 77 of the Companies Ordinance 2004 ("the Ordinance") and

Articles 77 and 78 of the Articles of Incorporation

NOTICE is hereby given of an Annual General Meeting of Members of SHAPE (St Helena's Active Participation in Enterprise) to be held on 07<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at SHAPE Head Centre, Sandy Bay at 10:00 am

#### Agenda:

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
4. Chair of Directors Report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Appointment of Directors
7. Any Other Current Business

Note: Any member or representative of a corporate member, except an employee member, who wishes to be considered for appointment as a community or corporate member at the annual general meeting must lodge with the company secretary a written notice of his/her willingness to be appointed, signed by him/her, at least seven days before the date of the annual general meeting.

Deacon Ernest Fritz  
[allsixes13@gmail.com](mailto:allsixes13@gmail.com)  
 Company Secretary  
 SHAPE, Head Centre  
 Sandy Bay

Head office: Sandy Bay St Helena Island STHL 122 Tel: +290 4690 Fax: +290 4690 Email: [info@shape.st-helena.sh](mailto:info@shape.st-helena.sh)  
 Registered No 38 under the companies Ordinance - Registered No C00011 under the Companies Ordinance

*There are two flats for rent in the Sapper way area belonging to Mr Donald Arms. One of the flats is a single bedroom, and the other is a two bedroom flat.*

*Interested persons can contact Barbara Osborne*

# Armchair Supporters View

by Nick Stevens

Last Friday I watched Leeds and Villa and was really impressed with how Leeds United played in their 3-0 win against Villa. Patrick Bamford silences his critics as he picked up a brilliant second half hat-trick.

Villa went into this match with a 100% record knowing a win would have put them top of the table.

I didn't manage to see much football on Saturday including Manchester United's 0-0 draw against Chelsea. From the highlights Manchester United dominates the attacking play and had 14 shots at Chelsea's goal. In defence United was better than in recent games as they reduce Chelsea to just one shot on target. Chelsea did have a good shout for a penalty when Maguire seems to have had Azpilicueta in a head lock.



**Jota heading in Liverpool's winner**

Saints went 2-0 up in the first half with goals from Ward-Prowse and Adams. To top of a miserable day for Everton Lucas Digne was shown a straight red card after a bad challenge on Kyle Walker-Peters, the second successive game in which Everton have had a player sent off.

Jimenez gave Wolves a 1 nil lead in the 80<sup>th</sup> minute against Newcastle only for Newcastle's Jacob Murphy to curl in a late free kick to earn his team a point.

The final game on Sunday saw Arsenal dominate the first 60 minutes against Leicester City and was very unlucky to have a perfectly good goal rule out by VAR. In the 60<sup>th</sup> minute Leicester boss Brendan Rogers introduce Jamie Vardy and Leicester started to trouble Arsenal. It was Vardy who came up with the winner scoring from a brilliant cross from Cengiz Under. This was Leicester first win away at Arsenal since 1973.



**Vardy has scored the most goals as an opposition player at the Emirates**

On Monday Brighton drew 1-1 against West Brom and Spurs beat Burnley 1-0.

Burnley played some of their best football of the season and was a threat to the Spurs defence.

In the 76<sup>th</sup> minute the Kane/Son combination was again successful; Kane flick on a cross to Son who headed the winner and earn their team a hard fought 3 points.

EPL fixtures for match week 7 will see Wolves play Crystal Palace on Friday night at 8pm.

On Saturday Sheffield United host Man City at 12.30; Burnley play Chelsea at 3pm and Liverpool host West Ham at 5.30pm. On Sunday Villa will play Southampton at 12 noon; Newcastle play at home against the league leaders Everton at 2pm, Manchester United face Arsenal at Old Trafford at 4.30pm and Tottenham Hotspur face Brighton at 7.15pm.



**Normal looking challenge from the 1980's**

West Ham's Antonio scored a brilliant goal against Man City to give his side a 1 nil lead. Man City substitute Phil Foden equalised early in the second half; City went on to dominate the rest of the match but couldn't find a winner.



**Antonio remains to good scoring form for the 'Hammers'**

In other matches on Saturday, Fulham remains rooted at the bottom as they lost at home to Crystal Palace. Wilfred Zaha was one of the scorers for Palace in a 2-1 win.

Liverpool came from behind to beat Sheffield United 2-1. The Blades took the lead after Fabinho conceded a penalty before Firmino equalised just before half time. New boy Diogo Jota came up with the winner mid-way through the second half. This was a good result for the current Champions Liverpool as they are struggling with a number of injuries to some key players.

On Sunday the League leaders Everton loss their first game of the season as they were beaten 2-0 by Southampton. The



# Armchair Supporters View

by Nick Stevens



**Son Heung-Min EPL's top scorer with 8 goals so far this season.**

On Monday Fulham play West Brom at 5.30pm and Leeds United play Leicester City at 8pm.



In this week's Champions League the English teams all recorded wins.

On Tuesday Liverpool beat Danish side FC Midtjylland 2-0 and Manchester City beat Marseille 3-0.

On Wednesday Chelsea beat Russia side Kransador 4-0 and Manchester United beat last season Semi-finalist RB Leipzig 5 nil.



**Marcus Rashford came off the bench to score a hat trick**

## Junior Football

### Results:

#### Yellow Devils 10 v Blue Arrows 0

G/S Yellow Devils: Ryan Stevens 2; Aden Thomas Stevens 4, Harry Winfield 2, 1 own goal and Ephren Stroud 1.

POM: Aden Thomas-Stevens & Elijah Young

#### Galacticos 0 v Fugees 0

POM: Jamie Peters & Dodi Williams

### Fixtures: Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Oct

9.15am Yellow Devils V Ranglers Ref: Nick Stevens

10am Predators v Blue Arrows Ref: Gareth Johnson

9.15am

Rastabouts v Galacticos Ref: Owen Richards



**NGCPH**



## SHFA Results and Fixtures

### Bellboys 27 v Crystal Rangers 1

G/S Bellboys: Shane Benjamin 1; Alex Langham 2, Sidonio Benjamin 2, Kyle Shoesmith 2, Andrew Yon 11, Rick Joshua 7, Matthias Young 1 & Ryan Benjamin 1

G/S Crystal Rangers: Andy Williams 1

MOM: Andrew Yon

### Wirebirds 14 v Saints 0

G/S Wirebirds: Ricardo Williams 3; 1 own goal, Tyler Benjamin 3, Cody Harris 2, Shane Stroud 3, Dylan Stevens 1, Rick Thomas 1

No man of the match awarded.

### Sun 1st Nov District

1pm Jamestown v HTH

Referee: Longwood

3pm St Paul's v Longwood

Referee: Jamestown

### SHFA 2020 League Table



Place	Games	Wins	Draw	Lost	GF	GA	GD	Points
Rovers	14	10	2	2	115	9	106	32
Bellboys	14	9	4	1	116	12	104	31
Wirebirds	14	10	1	3	108	19	89	31
Harts	14	8	0	6	55	21	34	24
Lakers	14	7	2	5	64	31	33	22*
Axis	14	5	1	8	35	40	-5	16
Saints	14	1	0	13	18	107	-89	3
C Rangers	14	1	0	13	9	281	-272	3

## Hotshots Top 10

Name	Team	Goals
Rico Benjamin	Rovers	51
Shane Stroud	Wirebirds	43
Andrew Yon	Bellboys	36
Tyler Benjamin	Wirebirds	22
Ronan Legg	Rovers	21
Sean lee Thomas	Harts	20
Matthias Young	Bellboys	20
Tyler Brady	Lakers	13
Cody Thomas	Lakers	12
Mnqobi	Bellboys	11



## What's happening at New Horizons?

Today we have decorated the centre as a Haunted House and have invited our members to come dress in Halloween costumes. Prize for the best effort.

New Friday will see the opening ceremony of the 16<sup>th</sup> Bank of St Helena Youth Games take place at New Horizons at 5.30pm. After the ceremony the first event which is Basketball will take place with the District competing for the medals.

Districts are as follows: Half Tree Hollow; Jamestown/Blue Hill/Sandy Bay, Longwood/Levelwood/Alarm Forest and St Paul's. The games will come to a close on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December with the Athletics.


We would like to thank all the businesses and individuals who have sponsored this year's Youth Games.

**Spectators are welcome to all Bank of St Helena Youth Games events.**



## Youth Games 2020

Date	Event	Venue	Time
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Opening Ceremony Basketball	New Horizons	5:30pm
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Shooting	Jamestown Rifle Club	5pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Volleyball	New Horizons	5pm
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Shooting	HTH Rifle Club	5pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Football	New Horizons	5pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Table Tennis Pool	New Horizons	5pm
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Badminton	PAS Hall	5pm
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Swimming	Swimming Pool JT	5pm
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Pool	New Horizons	5pm
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Pool Finals	New Horizons	5pm
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Athletics	Francis Plain	9am



# TIP OF THE WEEK

## Wash your pets outdoors, in an area of your lawn that needs water.



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc wishes to advise the public that approval has been given by the Highway's Authority for the road from

Spring Gut to the junction at Oaklands to be closed to all motorists and pedestrians on Wednesday 4 November 2020 from 9am – 3pm.

This closure is to allow the Forestry Division at ANRD to fell trees which have been identified as being unsafe, along this road.

The Diversion Routes will be via Sunny Side and Guinea Grass.

Appropriate road signage will be in place during this period.

We would like to thank the public for your patience and understanding.



# A War on Wild Life

Vince Thompson

The National Trust is preparing to take aim at mynah birds, rabbits, rats and feral cats with a new project which targets invasive animals which are creating havoc for native species and a cause of concern for humans. A 2009 estimate based on field work put the mynah population at about 9,000. A similar survey in 2008 estimated the rabbit population to be 30,000. Nobody has attempted to count the number of rats, probably because life is not long enough. Feral cats too cause significant problems in some parts of the Island despite their numbers being much lower.

Funded by the UK Government's Darwin Plus Initiative the project will continue to the end of March 2023 and will be led by the National Trust with support from the RSPB and Invasive Bird Management (INBIMA). The project started in June this year and will run to the end of March 2023. The project will have £312,019 at its disposal. The project description refers to the damage caused by invasive vertebrates (creatures with a spine) to agriculture and conservation efforts. One aim of the project is to gain more understanding the populations, habitats and activities of mynahs, rabbits, rats and feral cats to help with future control of the populations of these species. Another aim is to involve the community in the trapping and disposal of these unwelcome species.

Another Darwin Initiative project which is getting underway is aimed at controlling the populations of invasive invertebrates (creatures without a spine) in an effort to protect the endemic spineless creatures threatened by the predatory instincts of the invasives. The spineless creatures targeted with this project are certain types of ant, the *Vespula vulgaris* wasp and the Springbok mantis. The National Trust has Buglife and the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences as partners for this project which is funded to the value of £298,965 and, like its sister project which is zapping invasives which have spines, will run through to the end of March 2023. This project too involves the local community, so you can get involved and be kept busy for the next three years.



***These trapped mynahs are in a back garden in Campbelltown, Scotland***

Involving the community is a regular feature in mynah bird culls.

At the last meeting of the Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Committee a licence was allowed to the National Trust for the humane culling of mynah birds. The aim is to trap and dispose of 3,000 mynah birds every year for the next three years. People in the local community who are considering assisting with this project will want to know what 'disposal' involves. It means using a technique similar killing a tuna or wahoo after being caught. A definite, but not severe, blow to the neck at the back of the head is all that is required. It is the quickest and least painful method of disposal. Trapping and culling is expected to start in April next year.

Mynah birds were introduced to St Helena in 1885 when five were released at the Briars. The bird is included in the worst 100 invasive species, preying on Wirebirds, spreading invasive plants such as wild tomato, lantana and wild mango and damaging crops grown for human consumption. As the project proceeds information will be gathered to inform the science behind the control of invasives in St Helena. Email [james.fantom@trust.org.sh](mailto:james.fantom@trust.org.sh) for more information on community involvement

## RFA Darkdale remembered

The RFA Darkdale was attacked during the night of 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1941 when a massive explosion tore through the hull. Four torpedoes launched from German submarine U-68 struck the Darkdale; she capsized and broke in two, with the stern sinking almost immediately. The bow remained visible above the surface for several days after the attack.

Two of the crew were blown clear of the wreck and seven of the ship's company were on shore leave at the time of the attack. Forty-one men aboard at the time of the attack perished. The wreck was officially declared a war grave in June 1983.

In an article published recently by DIVE magazine, Tourism Director Helena Bennett told the magazine, "Divers treat the *Darkdale* shipwreck with the utmost respect, as you are diving through a memorial. You realise that a piece of history actually happened here and the horrific nature of that history



***Photo: St Helena Museum***

becomes apparent when you encounter the hull of the *Darkdale* – spilt by the torpedo. You begin to lose light due to the depth of the dive and are surrounded by the deep, dark blue as the wreck seems to emerge from the shadows and meet you on your descent – quite a chilling experience."

# ***Organised crime groups have identified St Helena as a potential location to target in order to achieve their criminal objectives***

**Vince Thompson**

Organised crime groups have identified St Helena as a potential location to target in order to achieve their criminal objectives.

Another new government policy has been published this week for public consultation; it is an updated Immigration Policy which is seen to be required against the background of the introduction of air services and an increase the number of arrivals by 30%. The draft policy states a new situation has developed for the Immigration Service where a variety of new issues are likely to arise.

A team from the UK Home Office Immigration Enforcement International visited St Helena in June 2018; their report and recommendations has provided the basis for a transformation of the St Helena Immigration Service. The Introduction to the draft new Immigration Policy states, "Analysis of immigration data indicates there is potential for abuse if the immigration system is not managed effectively. Further, a review by a UK team showed that organised crime groups have identified St Helena as a potential location to target in order to achieve their criminal objectives."

The policy introduction goes on to say. "Over time, there has been an increase in the number of enquiries received from nationals of higher risk countries. Since the e-Visa system was introduced, the Immigration team have been able to successfully identify applicants submitting false documents, using aliases and attempting to mislead the Immigration Service as to their true circumstances. It is essential that the immigration system has the necessary safeguards to protect the interests of St Helena. However, the emphasis should remain on attracting persons who would contribute positively to St Helena."

It is also pointed out that St Helena is "on the brink of a population crisis" due to the low birth rate and net outward migration of about 100 people per year. The aging population is becoming older as years pass and this trend has to be reversed. One of the intentions of the draft Immigration Policy is work in parallel with the Labour Market Strategy to help reverse the aging population trend and at the same time have in place protections for local workers while building the foundations for a stronger St Helena economy in the future.

Some of the main points for consultation, prominently featured in the draft policy are:-

Currently, persons in service of the Crown and their partners/dependants are exempt from entry controls. It is proposed that these individuals be subject to entry controls.

Currently, individuals are allowed to work for up to six months without any permit. It is proposed that all individuals seeking to work on St Helena be required to first acquire a Work Permit, sponsorship by an employer or approval to participate in a temporary employment scheme.

Currently, SHG is exempt from the requirement to get an Immigrant Employment Certificate prior to hiring an immigrant worker. It is proposed that non-exempt foreign nationals seeking work for any employer on St Helena, including SHG, hold a Work Permit or be sponsored by an employer.

It is proposed that individuals living on St Helena for four years be eligible to apply for Permanent Resident Status. This is consistent with the goals of the Labour Market Strategy.

*It is proposed that a path to Fast Track Residency scheme be made available for high net worth individuals making contributions to the SHG treasury. This contribution will help SHG pay for public services.*

SHG is seeking feedback on the introduction and details of this scheme, including whether there should be an upper limit of participants approved each year.

Currently, partners of St Helenians are eligible to apply for St Helenian status after three years residency and all other applicants for grant of St Helenian status are eligible after five years. It is proposed that partners of St Helenians be eligible to apply for St Helenian status after two years residency on-Island and all other applicants for grant of St Helenian status be eligible after six years.

The 37 page draft policy covers a wide range of issues including entry controls, partners of St Helenians, employment, St Helena Status and immigrant landholding controls. The draft Immigration Policy is available on the SHG website at [www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-consultation](http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-consultation)



## ***Richards Seafood Products***

Due to termination of our lease of the premises in Ruperts by the St. Helena Government with effect from 31 October 2020, we regret to advise that production of our secondary fish products will cease.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking our customers for their support over the past number of years.

***Best regards,  
Terry & June***



# ***Further work needed to encourage investment and innovation with Equiano***

***Vince Thompson***

The Economic Development Committee agreed that further work is needed on the Communications Network and Services Policy to develop data protection measures and cyber security. More work is also required to make sure there is genuine encouragement for new investment and innovation in St Helena's high speed, high definition digital communications future when the connection to the Equiano cable is completed.

The changes made to the new Communications Policy include recognition that having just one provider from phone, email, internet and television services is not popular. Words have been changed to make it clear the process for choosing public communications licence holders when Sure's exclusive licence ends in 2022 is willing to accommodate two or more licence holders; but words alone are not enough. Mechanisms need to be put in place to help make it happen.

The new policy will introduce some new features, all are designed to provide a better service and protect paying customers. The Universal Service Obligation is one of them. The purpose of this Obligation is to ensure people living in remote parts of the Island are not left without a phone line or an internet connection because the network provider is not prepared to provide a long link to just a few houses. This is very reasonable, as far as it goes. The first question has to be, will a second network provider be expected to have in place an island-wide network before launching the new service. Or will there be room for a time limited agreement which allows a new operator to develop a new network within an agreed period?

All policies give an indication of the general direction it is intended to go; details come later. The details on how the Universal Service Obligation is intended to work will certainly need to be thrashed out before the tendering process gets underway. Without that we will always get what we have

always got and great opportunities will be ignored.

Another detail begging to be thrashed out is the unnecessary and expensive duplication of infrastructure if there is more than the one exclusive network operator which we have at present. The new policy does not address this issue. Will a second communications network provider be expected to install new cable routes alongside the existing cable network before starting operations? If the answer is 'yes' then the words in the communications policy amount to nothing but an empty gesture. No new communications network provider would ever think of investing in St Helena in such a situation.

The draft policy makes clear the St Helena Government owns the cable connection and the data capacity the cable holds up to and as far as the cable landing station being built at Rupert's. The shore-side cables which will be the new source of the island-wide network are envisaged in the policy as being owned by the communications network provider(s). This will need to change if new investment in communications is genuinely to be encouraged.

SHG officials do not have to look very far to see the better arrangements which are made in many countries around the world. The basic and simple deal is that one distinct and separate business is responsible for providing just one island-wide communications network. The capacity within that network is sold to communications businesses which provide the final service (phone, email, internet, etc) to the paying customers. This is very common practice simply because it makes sense; it avoids unnecessary duplication of communications network infrastructure, it is the cheapest way to do it, it encourages new investment and innovation and maximises the potential for using improved communications to develop St Helena's economy.

## ***Airlink combines with two big international airlines***

Airlink has signed partnership agreements with Qatar Airways and Emirates which will give passengers from and to the long haul flights convenient transfers at OR Tambo or Cape Town International for destinations across southern Africa using Airlink's services as feeders for the long haul. Forty-five connecting Airlink destinations are included in the agreement; twenty-five in South Africa and twenty in neighbouring countries. For Airlink passengers starting their journey in South Africa, through ticketing arrangements are now possible with Emirates and Qatar Airways to the many long haul destinations served by the two airlines.

St Helena does not figure in any "seamless connectivity" via OR Tambo at the moment, through this partnership agreement. Future prospects for more convenient transfers via Jo'burg remain fixed as the departure time from Jo'burg to St Helena means connections from early morning inward flights

are limited. Similarly, the arrival time at Jo'burg from St Helena means connections late in the day for onward travel without an overnight in Jo'burg are few and potentially risky. Airlink continues to add new scheduled services following the lifting of the Covid-19 restriction on international flights to and from South Africa. Jo'burg – Windhoek was one of two new additions this week with two further destinations being added in early November.





**Entertainment at Silver Hill Bar**  
Friday Afternoon mix tunes by  
DJ Wayne Boom Bang

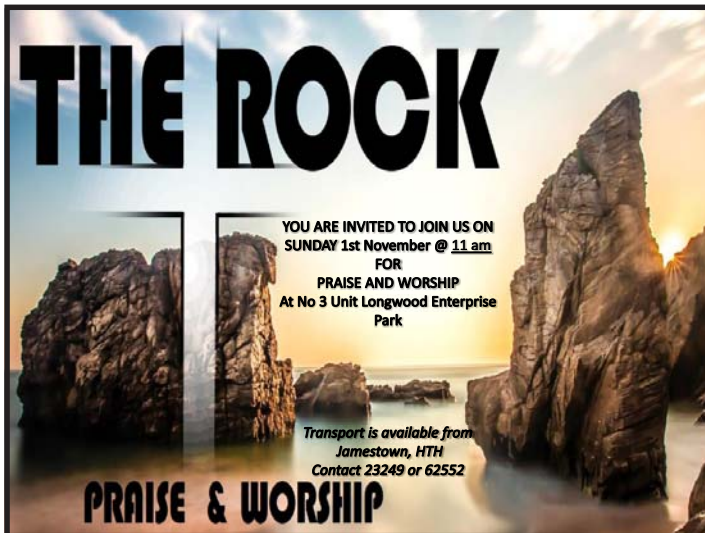
Saturday night Reggie and Disco by  
DJ Kimmy Boom Bang



Join Pilling Primary School for their monthly  
Saturday car boots: 31 October and 28  
November 2020 Time: 10am – 12:30pm  
Venue: Pilling Primary School playground



Book a table for £3  
by calling the school  
on 22540 or just turn  
up on the day.



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US ON  
SUNDAY 1st November @ 11 am  
FOR  
PRAISE AND WORSHIP  
At No 3 Unit Longwood Enterprise  
Park

Transport is available from  
Jamestown, HTH  
Contact 23249 or 62552

**Serena's Gift Shop**  
Phone : 22792



**KEEP St Helena Covid  
FREE**  
Face Mask Disposable £6.85 pk5



Hand Sanitizer  
Sanitizer



Hand Gels £2.95



Visor £4.95



Hand Sanitizer  
Sanitizer



Hand Gels



Hand Sanitizer

**Serena's Gift Shop**  
Phone : 22792

**Just unpacked!!**



Ladies  
Black Formal  
Bootcut Trousers

£12.50

Boys trousers  
12/13 & 13/14yr £11.50  
14/15 & 15/16 yr £13.50



Girls Pull on  
trousers  
£15.20



BLUE SCHOOL  
SHIRTS 2PACK  
£10.50



WHITE SCHOOL  
SHIRTS 2PK  
12/13 13/14 £10.50  
14/15 15/16 £12.50