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Five Days Late But They Still Manage to Smile Specialist Lighting Engineer on Visit to Train and Explain



Medical Referrals Changed in Answer to Complaints



The St Helena Association UK Proudly Present

St Helena Sports Day

Date: Saturday 25th August - Sunday 26th August Venue: Reading Abbey Rugby Football Club, Peppard Rd, Reading RG4 8XA Weekend Pass (Sat-Mon): £12.50 Sunday Camp-Over Pass (Sun-Mon): £10 UNDER 16'S FREE Mr Eric Benjamin, Speaker of Legislative Council and Lay Advocate has been Charged With Sexual Assault and Attempted Rape

Mr Benjamin has been charged with the historic offences of sexual assault and attempted rape. He has been released on bail and is scheduled to appear before St Helena Magistrates Court on 6th September.



Five Days Late but they still manage to smile

Saturday's weekly airport arrival finally touched down on Thursday afternoon. The usual 1:15pm arrival time was put back to 1:45pm and the plane finally burnt some rubber off the wheels of the undercarriage at 2pm after climbing back into the sky after the first attempt at landing. At 1:15pm visibility was good. At 1:45pm cloud was starting to thicken as people in the viewing gallery started murmuring things about the plane needed to land right now. At 1:55pm a thick cloud rolled in from the sea and quickly obscured King and Queen Rocks and nature laid a cloud carpet on the runway.

The sound of the arriving plane was heard clearly but could not be seen. The noise of the engines came ever closer and suddenly the noise passed overhead and faded away to the south. People asked, is the plane on its way to Ascension because it cannot land here due to low cloud, again? After a long and tense five minutes the plane was plainly seen this time, approaching from the north once more. The cloud had lifted clear away, blue sky was all around and the Sun even bathed the airport with an unfamiliar warmth. Heartfelt applause rang out from the viewing gallery as the plane touched down in much the same way the first Comair flight was applauded before the discovery of wind shear. This time, the applause expressed the release of tension from those watching. With the Comair flight it was in appreciation of the completion of an historic event. It was reported from a passenger there were less than thirty passengers on the flight, several had given up on completing the journey to St Helena after the flight was cancelled in Johannesburg last Saturday and then again the following day.

One passenger, speaking with obvious authority, said it takes five hours to check-in at OR Tambo airport, complete the security, immigration and customs checks and then wait for the boarding gate to open to get to the plane - and then repeat the whole process in reverse. These five hours of futility was repeated again on Sunday when the passengers got as far as the steps to the aircraft before the flight was cancelled. Passengers spent more time going through OR Tambo airport and back again than they did flying to Johannesburg on long haul flights from Europe. Other horror stories such as lost hold baggage and leaky pipes in hotel rooms rippled through the airport arrivals hall as friends and relatives waited for passengers to walk through the exit from immigration. The small number of passengers cleared the arrival formalities more quickly than is usual and happily left airports and aeroplanes behind them. Unfortunately, passengers who scheduled a one week visit to St Helena will be back in the main hall at the airport just 44 hours after leaving it for their return journey home.

After four years, the promised planes have not landed at Swaziland airport

The King Mswati III airport in Swaziland has been labelled a vanity project for the King as well as a big and expensive white elephant. Opened in March 2014 it was not until October of the same year before the first commercial flight landed at the airport. The airline was Swaziland Airlink and they remain the only airline to use the King Mswati III airport. Swaziland Airlink operates on one route between Swaziland and Johannesburg with three daily flights.

Despite intense efforts to attract international airlines to use the new airport no other airline has used King Mswati III air-



port during the entire time it has been open. Swaziland Airlink was forced to transfer it operations to King Mswati III airport and the airport it used to operate from was forced to close to commercial flights and is now used for aircraft of the royal family and army leaders. It takes three hours to drive from the now closed airport to Johannesburg, the only destination served by the new airport. The total time taken using the new King Mswati airport is calculated at four hours and twenty minutes.

A report from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said the airport was widely perceived as a 'vanity project' because of its scale and opulence compared with the size and nature of the market it sought to serve.



Basil Read: mining could be sold to save construction

Rescue plan tabled

A rescue plan has been tabled for the construction business of listed group Basil Read. The plan relies heavily on the group's successful mining business and could even see that asset being sold to save the construction side.

The group voluntarily applied to have its construction business put in business rescue in June, after funders refused further assistance outside of a formal business rescue process.

The conclusion of the rescue plan was delayed until postcommencement financing agreements were signed. This was done on August 8, enabling business rescue practitioners John Lightfoot and Siviwe Dongwana, both of Matuson & Associates, to table the plan on Monday.

Stakeholders will meet on September 8 to consider the plan. If approved, the plan could deliver an initial business rescue dividend of 8c in the rand to concurrent creditors in the next 12 months, compared to 5.4c had the business gone straight into liquidation in June, according to the practitioners. (Concurrent creditors are those who don't have any preferential right to be first in line for payment.)

The business rescue practitioners have further proposed that concurrent creditors be converted into preference shareholders to whom further business rescue dividends could be paid from distributions received from the retained businesses.

Mining operations profitable

They say they will consider any offer to purchase Basil Read Mining, a profitable surface mining business, which could result in a further business rescue dividend being paid to preference shareholders.

The sale of the mining business would be dependent on approval of the funders who provided post-commencement finance, since a bond is being registered over Basil Read Mining in favour of them and as security for such finance.

According to information contained in the business rescue plan, Basil Read has 43 active construction sites spread across South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho and St Helena island.

At the time of going into business rescue the company had 4 730 employees and supported a further 2 500 jobs indirectly through its sub-contractors.

The practitioners state that the local construction industry is under pressure, with no prospect of improvement in the short term.

Against this backdrop, Basil Read had been doing work at low margins with no buffer for unexpected obstacles. When major projects became distressed, the company incurred significant penalties, losses and delays, which resulted in a R733 million loss before tax in the 2017 financial year, compared to a budgeted profit of R218 million.

The management put a turnaround plan in motion. They negotiated an 18-month debt standstill and did a successful R300 million rights issue. The proceeds of the rights issue were used to repay R150 million in bridging finance to the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), with the balance utilised as working capital.

The company was still unable to meet its financial obligations in the short term, and after failing to secure further financing, turned to business rescue.

Retrenchments on the horizon

The business rescue practitioners will continue with a staff restructuring process that Basil Read management had initiated in an effort to reduce costs, but have not indicated how many staff might need to be retrenched.

Most of the company's construction contracts are with government clients. These include projects at Eskom's Kusile and Medupi power stations (one and three projects respectively), and four roads projects for the South African National Roads Agency (Sanral).

The construction operations seem to have slowed down due to the delay in securing post-commencement finance, but the business rescue practitioners have engaged with clients in an effort to see the continuation of work. Most clients have responded positively and engagements are ongoing, they say. The business rescue practitioners have proposed that the St Helena government provide post-commencement finance with regard to Basil Read's contract to develop and operate the new airport on the island.

That government did not accept the proposal due to constitutional and regulatory restrictions and is currently considering a proposal for Lombards Insurance Company and Standard Chartered Bank to provide such finance. A project review is being done to determine the amount of work that is outstanding with regards to the first phase of the airport's construction. The review – which is expected to be finalised within two months – will also look at the unresolved issues between Basil Read and the St Helena government, and will endeavour to identify a new party to take over the operations of the airport.

The business rescue practitioners have engaged with 11 of Basil Read's clients about outstanding contract claims totalling about R218 million, including two relating to Eskom's Medupi Power Station project, two against the department of public works, one against the Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) and one against Transnet.

The company's total assets at June 30 amounted to R2.3 billion, and claims totalling almost R1.5 billion have been received from creditors.

Trading in Basil Read shares on the JSE remains suspended.





At the Health Committee meeting on Tuesday the chairman, Derek Thomas, mentioned almost in passing that the government are investigating whether it will be possible to switch flights to South Africa from Johannesburg to Cape Town. This was mentioned when it was explained the reason for changing the arrangements for overseas medical referrals from Cape Town to near Johannesburg was because the direct flights went to Johannesburg and the switch meant the travel would be easier for people requiring medical attention. If the destination for direct flights was ever changed to Cape Town then overseas medical referrals would once more receive treatment from specialist in Cape Town.

This is probably easier than it may appear. The new agreement with the Netcare healthcare organisation for medical treatment at their Unitas Hospital in Centurion, Pretoria could also mean the new agreement can be switched to other Netcare hospitals. There are five Netcare hospitals in Cape Town.

What I found refreshing about the whole thing is a government department putting customer convenience and care as the first priority. Too often it is the established process and procedure that rules everything, "We have never done it that way so why should we change now" has a familiar ring to it. In an almost revolutionary way The Health Committee and the Health Directorate are saying the situation has changed and we need to change with it. If it changes again then so will we. This can really be described as ground-breaking stuff.

The regular complaints from patients and their family members who accompany them were listed in the report to the Health Committee. The new arrangements are aimed at resolving all the complaints listed and in doing so making the long journey to South Africa for medical treatment as stress free as possible. If the plan works and the benefits identified materialise the difficulties experienced by medical referrals will reduce significantly. From the figures presented in the report there is also improvement in value for money. If the result is additional medical referrals can be sent overseas for specialist medical treatment that too is very welcome.

Some comments on social media about the new arrangements are asinine. I suspect some of the comments criticising the arrangements come from people overseas who get a perverse pleasure in rudely, bluntly and inexplicably condemning anything and everything. That is the definition of a troll. It is certainly the case that people such as this find themselves completely incapable of explaining themselves. I suppose that does not bother them unduly, so long as they have rudely criticised someone else that is as good as it gets, for them. Too often the people with no manners live thousands of miles away and are out of touch with what is really happening anyway.



The family of the late Derek Arthur Benjamin of the Colt Sheds, Longwood, wish to thank everyone for their kind messages and heartfelt tributes and kind words of Condolences at such a stressful time in our lives, following the passing our Father, Grandfather and Great- Grandfather who touch the hearts of so many who knew him.

Our thanks to all our neighbours and family who assisted following the sudden death of this wonderful person and to the Medical service, Roy and his Team, Ivan Gough for the live coverage of the funeral service which we will always cherish, Fr David and Members of the Clergy, Mrs Musk for playing the organ and Davina for the beautiful floral arrangements.

Our thanks to everyone who supported the family and made everything possible. The ladies at Harford Community Centre for the wonderful food at the wake and Gerald for serving the drinks. Our thanks to all who attended and showed their love, devotion and friendship to us all.

This wonderful person has gone from our lives but not from our hearts. May God Bless everyone who have been touch by his love and his passing.



Medical referrals changed in answer to complaints

Why change?

The report to the Public Health Committee on Overseas Referral Patients listed regular complaints from patients about having to go the Cape Town for medical treatment. The difficulties and physical strains of the various transfers, especially for the less physically able patients was one. The lack of food on the night of arrival in Johannesburg was another. The stress of going through immigration and airport security several times and the additional cost to accompanying relatives were two more. There have also been complaints about the formal and non-personal nature of services available at transfer hotels and the point was made that all these inconveniences were magnified for patients who were travelling overseas for the first time.

Dr Akeem Ali, Director of Health Services, explained that Cape Town was historically the closest city on the African continent where the required specialist healthcare treatment is available. Through all the years the RMS served St Helena this was the case and before that when ships of the Union Castle Line called here. About a year before the air service started new arrangements to strengthen access to good quality healthcare in Cape Town were established with the medical agency Medical Services Organisation International. The introduction of the air service changed the well established arrangements by making Johannesburg the first calling point for Saints travelling overseas. The advertised schedule for the air service before it started included what should have been an easy transfer at Windhoek into a connecting flight for Cape Town. For this reason the established arrangements in Cape Town for medical referrals were retained. However, the connection for Cape Town was short-lived and the less than adequate air service for Cape Town which replaced it has been a consistent cause of complaint among patients referred overseas, and others.

The committee report explained that after assessing what medical and accommodation facilities are available in or near Johannesburg the Director of Health visited four medical facilities within easy reach of OR Tambo airport while returning from overseas leave in April this year. He reported on the information he had gathered to the Public Health Committee in May. A further assessment was made in June by Health Committee Chairman, Derek Thomas and Dr Akeem Ali, Director of Health Services, when travelling on overseas business.

The assessments resulted in the Netcare Unitas Hospital in Pretoria and the Natanja Guest House, close to the hospital being chosen from the short list for more detailed discussion on quality of care, convenience for patients and cost.

Convenience for Patients

The hospital and the guesthouse are on the Johannesburg side of Pretoria, 28 miles from OR Tambo Airport and a 30 minute drive. The Natanja Guest House is a two minute walk from the entrance to the hospital. The new travel arrangements cut out the need for a further flight to Cape Town and overnight stays in Johannesburg. The Natanja Guest House will have meals ready for patients and accompanying relatives for when they arrive late on Saturday night. All the 14 rooms in the guest house have kitchen facilities and the meals will just need re-heating in the microwave. To further ease the late night arrival, all patients will be pre-registered, avoiding the form-filling after a long journey. For accompanying family members the standard rate to be charged is lower than at the Cape Town accommodation.

The Natanja Guest House is in an attractive neighbourhood with is described as safe. Additional security is provided by the guest house being in a secure compound and the entrance is controlled by electrically operated gates. Shops



and restaurants are a fifteen minute walk away. The most recent customer review of the Natanja Guest House on Tripadvisor reads:- "It's wintertime in South Africa, so quite cold. But the welcome was warm! Because we landed early in the morning, we arrived at 9 o'clock. We got a free breakfast and our rooms where ready at 10, so we were able to sleep for a few hours. That's real hospitality!"

The committee report also notes the headquarters of MSO International is about 20 miles from the guest house and it is expected the support offered to patients will improve as contact will be easier and closer.

The Hospital

Netcare is the largest healthcare provider in South Africa and responsible for 59 owned and managed hospitals. Netcare also owns a similar number of hospitals and clinics in the UK trading as BMI Healthcare. The Netcare Unitas Hospital in Centurion, Pretoria is the largest hospital in South Africa. The Unitas Hospital offers a wider range of specialists and specialist treatments than are currently available in Cape Town. They range from Anaesthesiology and Audiology through Medical Oncology to Urology and Vascular Surgery. The Health Committee report states that medical referrals from St Helena will be offered a private ward if they are hospital in-patients. In South Africa about 16% of the population have access (the ability to pay) for private healthcare. For Saints referred overseas for medical treatment, a private ward in a private hospital will put them well within the 16%.

Netcare have indicated they will work with the St Helena Health Directorate to develop the quality of healthcare in St Helena. This is likely to include Netcare sending specialists to St Helena to treat a group of patients with similar medical conditions instead of the group of patients gong to South Africa for treatment.

The Costs

The additional costs for an overseas medical referral travelling Continued on NEXT PAGE

Medical referrals changed in answer to complaints Continued...

from Johannesburg to Cape Town are set at £870 in the Health Committee report on Overseas Referral Patients. This includes the flights, accommodation, transport within Cape Town and escorts / assistance. The main expense is the air fare which is set at £480 return. It has been pointed out there are airfares which are much cheaper however the health Directorate maintain it is cheaper in the long run to pay a higher fare which is more flexible and offers better refund conditions. As overseas referrals are subject to changing circumstances and travel arrangements may need to be changed it is pointed out that the ability change travel dates or claim a refund are important. The cheapest airfares do not offer refunds and any changes to the ticket, if allowed, can come with a high charge.

It is expected that up to 120 patients will be sent this year to South Africa for treatment. If the Netcare Unitas Hospital is used the extra cost of travelling to Cape Town will be saved in each case. The saving amounts to more than £100,000 and the money saved can be used to send an extra eight or ten patients to Pretoria. This is important as the overseas medical referral budget, funded by DFID, is usually under pressure in most years.

The price negotiated for the various types of hospital treatment is also slightly cheaper with Netcare (Pretoria) when compared to Mediclinic (Cape Town) rates. The committee report used one example of all costs for a cardiac patient travelling to South Africa and receiving specialist attention from



the cardiologist, anaesthetist, radiographer and clinical technologist. The estimated savings if Pretoria was used rather than Cape Town was put at 61,603 Rand (\pounds 3,324). The Decision

At Tuesday's Health Committee meeting at Half Tree Hollow Community Centre the decision was taken to go ahead with transferring overseas medical referrals to the Netcare Unitas Hospital. The medical agency in South Africa (MSO International) will finalise operational arrangements for the transfer and the Health Directorate will finalise arrangements at the St Helena end. It is intended to complete the transfer before 31st October this year.

Another St Helena first – which is different from a first for St Helena

This week James Herne completed the entry requirements for the Cape to St Helena Yacht Race which starts from Cape Town on 26th December. James is entering his own yacht, the Carpe Diem and is taking an all St Helenian crew. This is the first time a St Helena yacht has been entered for the race and the first time there has been an all Saint crew.

There has been a tradition for young aspiring Saint sailors to join the crews of other yachts, mostly South African entries, to give the trainees experience in blue water sailing under race conditions. James himself was a young Saint who joined the crew of the Group 4 Security sponsored yacht in the first race in 1998 which included young Saints in the yacht crews. Twenty years later James is continuing this tradition and taking it further. The young crew will start training for the yacht race today.

Always on the lookout for sponsorship and thinking up news ways to attract it so the St Helena crew have the best possible chance of finishing the race in a good position, James told the St Helena Independent yesterday he is thinking of asking for volunteers who will provide provisions, such as fish cakes, for the crew to take on board before they set sail for Cape Town. Provisions such as fish cakes will help satisfy the appetites of energetic young sailors as they head southeast on the 1,700 mile course for Cape Town. The race is due to finish on 10th January.

On the 23rd January the MV Helena will have space to take six or maybe eights yachts back to Cape Town for the South African crews. Similar arrangements can be made for the following voyage on 23rd February. Of the twelve South Afri-



can entries so far registered eight yachts are booked to return on the MV Helena. The Royal Cape Yacht Club have contracted James Herne of St Helena Yacht Services to "keep and eye" on the yachts waiting to be returned to South Africa and to prepare the for loading on to the MV Helena.

The recently issued 2nd edition of the race newsletter informs South African yacht crews, "The St Helena authorities wish to send a journalist from the United Kingdom to cover the race from on-board a participating yacht. To that end they have enquired whether anyone can offer the journalist a berth. Anyone able to do so is requested to contact the race secretary, advising the basis for doing so." The newsletter also urges yacht skippers and owners who intend to enter their yacht for the Cape the St Helena Race to do so with some urgency so passenger numbers can be finalised for chartering a plane to take crews back to Cape Town. St Helena Yacht Club, together with St Helena Tourism, will host a series of events for the visiting yachts crews from the time the yachts start to cross the finish line to the date the chartered plane returns them to South Africa.

Companion airfares to Johannesburg

We have all heard by now that Airlink are offering a reduced rate ticket for one person when two people travel together. If a group of four adults travel together and book as two pairs then two of the four in the group will get the reduced fare. There are details which need to be known before a booking is made.

- The offer applies only to adults; there are no concessions for child tickets.
- Also, you have to have an un-ticketed, confirmed, return reservation for flights between St Helena and Johannesburg.

This is the tricky bit. Having a confirmed reservation means Airlink have the seats you requested reserved for you. Unticketed means they have not yet processed the e-ticket for your flight. How this really works in practice is not explained. To get some idea it's necessary to find information from elsewhere. One website explains, "When a reservation is purchased, the confirmed reservation goes into the ticketing queue, with most airlines, the reservation gets ticketed a few minutes after you purchase and confirm it. Some airlines take longer to ticket a reservation." Which does not make it any clearer except to strengthen any misgivings you may have about whether you are going to get the discount on the second fare or not.

- Bookings can only be made either direct with Airlink's Head Office in Johannesburg or with Solomon's at the Malabar. You cannot get a discounted Companion Fare if you book on-line. The answer to the confirmed but unticketed reservation bit needs to be checked with Solomon's. - The Companion Fare is being offered until the 4th December. It is not clearly stated that the return journey has to be completed by 4th December but that is probably what is meant. The wording is open to the interpretation that a return ticket bought before the 4th December for return after that date might be included in the Companion Fare offer but that is unlikely.

- If the adult whose name is on the full fare ticket cancels the trip for any reason the person with the Companion Fare attached to cancelled ticket will need to rebook and pay the full fare if the journey is to go ahead. A cancellation fee applies.

Companion fares are offered using the W ticket code. This is jargon airlines use when they refer to Premium Economy Fares. The cancellation charges or the rebooking flexibility available is not easy find, in fact it's difficult. Again, you have to search everywhere to find information. One website states, "To see the complete rules, including how much you have to pay for itinerary changes, you often have to go deep in the flight search process, almost to the payment page." The cancellation details need to be checked with Solomon's before committing to paying the fare.

- The number of Companion Fares accepted on each flight will vary according to underlying demand. This can probably be interpreted as meaning if there are a good number of full fare paying passengers on a particular flight there will be fewer Companion Fares offered, maybe none at all.

- There is no commitment yet to offering a discount fare next winter or for any other promotional period.

One airlines' arrangements for cancellations, alterations and re-bookings.

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Your Opinion Counts

Esteemed Editor,

The St.Helena government (SHG) says (17th August edition) that the shipping service is no longer subsidized. This being so why is there a shipping contract between SHG and AWS : what does it cover ? Surely this means that any interested carrier can open up and operate a competitive service. Someone might use a newer ship, offer stable freight rates and restore a limited (12 persons) passenger service, All this could be from a port more reliable and cheaper than Cape Town.

Yours sincerely, Andrew Bell Porthleven Cornwall

Dear Sir / Madam,

I read from time to time the Independent via the online links. With what is going on in South Africa, do you expect the "Airlink" to survive? While in the past I've had friends visit friends in SA but with the new rules of law where property rights are going to be completely trampled on and the white farmers ousted from South Africa, I know I wouldn't want to transition on a flight via Cape Town to St Helena. Does that make sense?

I now have extremely serious doubts of how one might visit St Helena SAO and (while I'm not sure if you've already addressed this issue previously,) I'm surprised your paper isn't more concerned about the developments in SA?

l wish you all the best John Mc

Fr David Hall, who taught at the Selective Secondary School. Ladder Hill, as one of the first VSOs in 1963, would be glad to meet with any one he taught or who remembers him from then at St Marks Hall (behind Longwood Supermarket) on Sunday 26 at 4.00 pm. A number of people have already introduced themselves but he is keen to meet as many as possible to help him identify faces in some photos he took in 1963.

Many thanks in advance for you cooperation. David Hall

Dear Editor,

On the St Helena Tourism website there is the following:

Journey to Saint Helena in Napoleon's Footsteps

The journey was about five days from the port of Cape Town, and it was a huge relief to get to this Island at last. I must say I dread the sea, but St. Helena has no other entry point until 2016 when its airport is proposed to be ready.

Anyway, we still had to use a tender to ferry us from the Bay to the Wharf steps, from where we entered the Island's Capital, Jamestown. The city is built on igneous rock in a small enclave sandwiched between steep cliffs. Looking at the 1832 stone archway leading to the main square with the coat of arms of the British East India Company embossed on it and an image of the wirebird, an indigenous and endangered species, as well as the Georgian and Regency buildings, one can easily learn why the city is proposed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

It would be of interest to the public to learn what government directorate has been tasked to see this through and what progress has been made. It is not only this visitor who recognises the importance of our built heritage as one of the main tourist attractions but it is a view held by many other visitors to the Island. Having UNESCO World Heritage status would be a huge tourist attraction for St Helena.

Yours faithfully Basil George



SAFEGUARDING DIRECTORATE TO LAUNCH CARE CAMPAIGN

The Safeguarding Directorate is soon to launch a campaign entitled 'CARE': Caring And Respecting Everyone.

There are a number of vacancies within the Safeguarding Directorate, including: Carers, Senior Carers and Heads of Care across all residential services supporting older people and adults with additional needs. This campaign aims to recruit local carers for those who need the extra support to maintain a degree of independence.

Quality Assurance & Policy Consultant, Gavin (Jack) Thomas, said:

"All of our residents and tenants are special individuals and deserve the best quality care and support. We are keen to prepare and develop the right people with the right attitude to join our existing teams of staff. Together we can make a difference."

The launch event is scheduled to take place at the Princess Royal Community Care Complex in September 2018.

As part of the 'CARE' campaign, members of the Safeguarding Directorate will also be conducting a Roadshow in early September, whereby Safeguarding staff will be out and about in the community to meet with anyone wanting to know more about the Directorate and/or considering a career in social care.

Confirmed dates and times for the Roadshow will be published at a later date.

For more information, please contact:

Gavin (Jack) Thomas at Brick House on tel: 22713 or via email: gavin.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh

Sherrilee Phillips at Brick House on tel: 22713 or via email: sherrilee.phillips@sainthelena.gov.sh

Wendy Henry at Princess Royal Community Care Complex on tel: 23090 or via email: Wendy.Henry@sainthelena.gov.sh SHG

22 August 2018



Got Patience?

Tammy Williams

The truest form of journalism captures the human element, it's the stories that matter, the experiences that count and contribute to the bigger picture. Someone said over the weekend that the island is not ready for tourism simply because we are *not* ready, lightweights trying to fight in a heavyweight championship.

Once again we find ourselves in this wretched position of another plane delay, and once again the same response, which is, we can do nothing about the weather, safety is paramount, cruel fate dealing us an all too familiar hand.

A family member and our business has been stung by both delays each within five weeks of each other, so you'll forgive me for appearing grouchy, in fact grouchy is too kind a word, at the moment I feel as prickly as a hedgehog and I know others feel the same, my only hope is that people feel enamoured enough to start speaking up, write to the local newspaper and lobby government. I do not believe that because a situation appears hopeless we should accept it as being okay, if so, we may as well close up shop now.

There seems to be a notion that people who are affected by the delays should just work through the system as best they can and weather on but the bigger issue of how individuals are affected cannot be underestimated, the stress and unnecessary hassles placed on people during these delays must be emphasized. There are the added burdens of having to find extra money for re-booking of flights, in some cases thousands of pounds, excuses to make to employers, missed meetings, loss of income and a whole barrel of complications which has just made travel to St Helena a nightmare. Better to admit it now, instead of whispering to each other in the corridors hoping that tour operators around the world don't get to hear us, too late, they already know and each time it happens we are one step closer to being kicked of their bucket list.

The people of the island should no longer accept this unforgiveable situation which is tarnishing our reputation by the minute, we do not accept that we can do nothing about it, there are people who can orchestrate change at the highest level.

We have spoken to so many people affected by the delay, they were tense and upset to the point of weariness, not knowing what to do, and a protocol for what should happen during these delays was clearly missing although I am told by Councillor Lawson Henry that something is being planned for establishing a better communication system in going forward. Several irate emails sent to Rodger Foster, CEO of Airlink and a few heated calls to Dax Richards the Financial Secretary were handled with professional calm, they too knowing the conundrum all too well.

Insurance claims are not so easily navigated we can testify other family and friends who have made claims through their insurance companies and have received no re-fund months later, in fact, another family had to transfer to Thomas Cook as their usual insurance company were not covering any "*Travel to St Helena*" This is very bad news for the island if flight delays continue, travel insurance companies will either



'up' the premiums or simply ignore us altogether. And we cannot keep blaming the winter months either, wind shear will appear as the wicked witch on the hottest and most sunniest of days, the problem exists all year round.

So you see, this is not about a few testy individuals, it's about the potential disrepair to a fledgling community trying to build a sustainable future but are being hoodwinked every step of the way, the early months are what will easily make or break us, social media has no mercy, we will be chewed up and spat out by other destinations who are after the same tourists, no amount of marketing in the world will save us from eternal damnation.

Since the delay of the opening of the airport in 2016, there has been several significant downhill moves which I now believe has led to a discernible 'depression' within the community and when a community flat-lines in the way we have it's bad news, "*Where there is no vision, the people perish*" Sure, we try to carry on with life as normal, we work, we eat, we feed the cat and walk the dog, we read to our children and try to support community life but there is this delicate structure called hope that is fast crumbling.

The short story is that the airport was built for Saints, it was meant to give us a new start, prospects of a better future and a chance to become a little more independent but it's all gone badly wrong as eloquently described in this paper a few weeks ago.

The call on this island and our very small government to pick up the slack by the UK government is the greatest betrayal and a complete degradation of the community's rights, despite being condemned by the UK PAC as being completely and utterly 100% responsible for the airport's deficiencies they continue to dodge the bullet and leave St Helena to fend for itself. If the UK government is not forced to step in immediately we will suffer consequences so catastrophic that we will not recover, the economy will not grow, tourists will not come, the opportunities that would create a better life for our children will never materialise and St Helena will remain in the blackest hole of dependency.

Of course, those who have the power to make the change and come up with a solution are dragging their feet, St Helena needs real, tangible help, we grow weary of making appeals only to have them fall on deaf ears, what do other great nations think of the UK government's treatment of her own citizens? Do they observe a government so distracted by the needs of foreign countries they cannot be bothered to clean up their own backyards? Where is Lord Bates and his supposed official visit to the island? The time for excuses is long past, patience has worn thin and the so called partnership between us and Britain is at best laughable and even now non-existent. Executive Council met today with three items on the Open Agenda. For the first item, Council sat as the Planning Authority and considered an application from Connect Saint Helena Ltd to install Phase 2 of the Solar Farm situated at the Ex-Rifle Range Site in Half Tree Hollow.

The Acting Chief Planning Officer was in attendance for this item and took Members through the key points in the Planning Officer's Report. It was noted that outline planning permission had already been given by Executive Council in October 2016 and that the application for full development permission was made in October 2017.

It was pointed out that there were new Members sitting on Executive Council who would not have been privy to previous discussions on this development. Council agreed therefore to defer a decision until a site visit could take place to view the area under consideration.

The next item on the agenda related to the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) which guides SHG's planning and budgeting process. The MTEF process requires the determining of priorities for the forthcoming planning period and Council was asked to advise whether the prioritised list of strategic objectives should be approved as a part of this process. There was a late request by Members for additional information and it was agreed that the item should be deferred.

The final item was a presentation of the St Helena Tourism Marketing Implementation Plan 2018/19 by the Director of Tourism. The marketing plan underpins Tourism's marketing strategy and Members were pleased to note that the plan includes specific actions to support Enterprise St Helena's efforts to market St Helena to both independent travellers as well as to specific niche markets.

The meeting closed at 1.10pm.

ExCo

21 August 2018

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING

The following is a public announcement from the St Helena Public Accounts Committee:

A formal session of the St Helena Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will take place at 9am in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, 28 August, and Wednesday, 29 August 2018.

The programme of business on 28 August will include the 2016/17 Financial Statements of Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc and the St Helena Fisheries Corporation.

The programme of business on 29 August will include the Corporate Governance of SHG Group Entities Performance Audit Report and the 2016/17 Financial Statements of the Bulk Fuel Installation, St Helena Currency Fund and Saint Helena National Trust.

Members of the public and interested persons are invited to attend.

The meeting will be broadcast live via SAMS Radio 1. SHG 21 August 2018

THEFT OF LAND ROVER REWARD OFFERED FOR INFORMATION

A reward of £500 is being offered for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person/s responsible for the theft of a white Land Rover, registration number 1397.

This vehicle was stolen from the taxi bay next to Greenlands, Jamestown, on the night of Saturday, 30 September 2017, and was recovered from a lane behind the Kingdom Hall, Longwood, on Sunday, 1 October 2017. This vehicle is very distinctive. It is white in colour, but the driver and passenger doors are painted black. It has a white hard top with a full metal roof-rack. The wheels are white, metal rim, with five retaining wheel nuts.

The spare wheel to this vehicle was taken when it was left abandoned. It had been fitted with a brand new INVOVIC tyre, sized 245 x 70 x 16. This is of immense interest to the police and, despite the theft taking place last year, police ask that if any member of the public has been offered for sale a Land Rover wheel of this description, or knows of anyone coming into possession of such a wheel since the theft took place, to contact the police on tel: 22626 or email: cid@sainthelena.gov.sh. Your call will be taken in confidence. St Helena Police Detective Constable, Joe Phippard, said:

"It is unfortunate that a few individuals feel the need to take other's property, which in this case has a real financial loss to the owner. Not only is the vehicle now out of service but there is the additional cost of repair. The public have proven before that by working together, we can make a real difference. Let's find those who are responsible for this theft. Someone out there will have knowledge of this theft and the whereabouts of the spare wheel. Remember, there is a reward of £500 being offered for the information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible."

#StHelena #StHelenaPolice #Theft #Appeal #Reward https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt / https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt SHG 22 August 2018



APPLY FOR A CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIP TODAY



Applications for Chevening Scholarships to study in the UK are now open until Tuesday, 6 November 2018, with applications to be submitted via: <u>www.chevening.org/apply</u>

Chevening Scholarships are awarded to individuals with demonstrable leadership potential who also have strong academic backgrounds.

Please visit:

www.chevening.org/apply/guidance for detailed information on the eligibility criteria and scholarship specifications or contact Manager of the Governor's Office, Sandra Sim, via tel: 22308 or email: sandra.sim@sainthelena.gov.sh

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The St Helena Independent Volume XIII, Issue 38, Friday 24th August 2018



The scope of works will include assessing the quality of the Post Box Walks post maintenance, in accordance with the maintenance contract. This opportunity would suit a candidate who is a keen walker with a high level of fitness. Duties would involve reporting on various aspects of the walks, post maintenance. Persons interested are expected to provide a copy of their public liability insurance.

Expressions of Interest should be submitted by no later than Monday, 03 September 2018



For further information and the scope of works, please contact Melissa Fowler, Tourism Manager on 22158 or alternatively email melissa.fowler@tourism.co.sh

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Visit us online Business and Investment: www.investinsthelena.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com



Grant Funding for Civil Society Organisations

Charities, Clubs, Community Centres, Associations...

Max £4,000 per Application per Grant Round

Only **2** Grant Rounds this financial year as limited funding available!

<u>Closing date for applications is 21st September 2018.</u>

Round 2 - Closing date 25th January 2019

Eligibility

- Based on St Helena and have a constitution that complies with the Charities Ordinance 2005. However, consideration will be given to applications from organisations that are neither a charity or constituted group. Such organisations will be expected to take steps towards becoming a charity or association.
- Hold a bank account that requires at least two signatures •
- Verifiable Statement of Accounts for the previous financial year
- Has vetted Committee Members (if applicable)
- Has a Safeguarding Policy (if applicable) •
- Compliant with any current Grant Agreements held with the CDO

Projects:

- Equipment for day to day activitiesSpecial one-off events and activities
- Community and organisational development
- Capital works

For an application form or further information e-mail community.sthelena@gmail.com or alternatively call Kirsty Joshua on Tel: 23999 after 5:00pm.

community Development Organisation 🗠 <u>community.sthelena@gmail.com</u>



Calling all farmers! Supply Local, Buy Local!

The 2018 Agriculture Programme was launched in April at an event held at Kingshurst which was followed with a Farmer's Market and Social at Harford Community Centre early this month.

The final event will be held on **27 October** on **Francis Plain** in the form of a **Country Fair** with an agriculture competition, categories for which are detailed below:

Judged prior to Country Fair						
Livestock	1st	2nd	3rd			
1. Cattle						
1. Best bull	£150.00	£75.00	£50.00			
2. Best cow and calf (under 12 months)	£150.00	£75.00	£50.00			
3. Best heifer (10-18 months)	£150.00	£75.00	£50.00			
2. Pigs						
1. Best boar	£70.00	£35.00	£20.00			
2. Best sow and weaners (under 6 weeks)	£70.00	£35.00	£20.00			
3. Sheep						
1. Best ram	£50.00	£25.00	£15.00			
2. Best ewe and lamb (under 3 months)	£50.00	£25.00	£15.00			
4. Goats						
1. Best billy	£50.00	£25.00	£15.00			
2. Best ewe and kids (under 3 months)	£50.00	£25.00	£15.00			
5. Poultry						
1. Best cockerel	£25.00	£20.00	£15.00			
2. Best laying hen	£25.00	£20.00	£15.00			
3. Best pullet	£25.00	£20.00	£15.00			
4. Best pair of ducks	£25.00	£20.00	£15.00			
5. Best pair of geese	£25.00	£20.00	£15.00			
Youth (Under the age of 26)	1st					
1. Top youth farmer (Livestock)	£150.00					
2. Top youth farmer (Arable - open or covered)	£150.00					

Flower Garden	1st	2nd	3rd
1. Best flower garden	£50.00	£25.00	£15.00
Arable Land	1st	2nd	3rd
1. Open Fields			
1. Best food garden over 1 acre	£150.00	£75.00	£40.00
2. Best food garden under 1 acre	£100.00	£50.00	£25.00
2. Covered Production Units			
1. Best covered production unit – soil planting	£150.00	£75.00	n/a
2. Best covered production unit- hydroponics	£150.00	£75.00	n/a
De et une l'en d			
Pasture Land	1st		
Pasture Land 1. Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres	1st £100.00		
	£100.00		
1. Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres	£100.00		
 Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres Best managed pastureland between 10 & 49.99 acres 	£100.00 £200.00		
 Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres Best managed pastureland between 10 & 49.99 acres 	£100.00 £200.00 £300.00		
 Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres Best managed pastureland between 10 & 49.99 acres Best managed pastureland over 50 acres Judged at Country Fair 	£100.00 £200.00 £300.00	2nd	3rd
 Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres Best managed pastureland between 10 & 49.99 acres Best managed pastureland over 50 acres Judged at Country Fair Children (Between the ages of 8 & 16 years) 	£100.00 £200.00 £300.00 1st	2nd	3rd
 Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres Best managed pastureland between 10 & 49.99 acres Best managed pastureland over 50 acres Judged at Country Fair Children (Between the ages of 8 & 16 years) Best rabbit 	£100.00 £200.00 £300.00 1st £20.00	£15.00	£10.00
 Best managed pastureland between 5 & 9.99 acres Best managed pastureland between 10 & 49.99 acres Best managed pastureland over 50 acres Judged at Country Fair Children (Between the ages of 8 & 16 years) 	£100.00 £200.00 £300.00 1st		

Stalls	1st	2nd	3rd
1. Individual Stalls			
1. Fresh flower arrangement	£15.00	n/a	n/a
2. Largest half dozen of chicken eggs	£15.00	n/a	n/a
3. Jams	£20.00	n/a	n/a
4. Preserves	£20.00	n/a	n/a
5. Confectionery	£20.00	n/a	n/a
6. Largest carrot	£20.00	n/a	n/a
7. Largest pumpkin	£20.00	n/a	n/a
8. Largest sweet potato	£20.00	n/a	n/a
9. Largest tomato	£20.00	n/a	n/a
10. Best broccolli	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
11. Best cauliflower	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
12. Best cabbage	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
13. Best carrot	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
14. Best pumpkin	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
15. Best sweet potato	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
16. Best potato	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
17. Best onion	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
18. Best tomato	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
19. Best cucumber	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
20. Best hand of bananas	£25.00	£15.00	Certificate
21. Best display for 5 a day of vegetables/fruit	£25.00	n/a	n/a
22. Honey	£30.00	n/a	n/a
23. Needle craft	£30.00	£20.00	£10.00
2. Best District Stalls – judged on the day	£300.00	£200.00	£100.00

ENTRY CLOSING DATE EXTENDED TO 31 AUGUST 2018 FOR LIVESTOCK, YOUTH FARMERS, FLOWER GARDENS, ARABLE & PASTURE LAND CATEGORIES



To enter categories please register with Delia Du Preez, Business Development Co-ordinator on telephone 22920 or on email delia.dupreez@esh.co.sh

Lucky draw winners from the Farmer's Market & Social on 14 July 2018: £50.00 Farmers Draw—won by Andrew Constantine, Sandy Bay / £10.00 Family Draw—won by Angela Peters, Guinea Grass

ENABLING TOURISM & ECONOMIC GROWTH



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Visit us online Business and Investment: www.investinsthelena.com

Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com

Audit Manager – Public Sector St Helena, South Atlantic

Local inclusive package in range £32,600 to £40,900 dependent upon qualifications and experience. A non-taxable rental contribution may also be available.

The Saint Helena Audit Service is seeking to recruit an Audit Manager to join their external audit team. The Audit Manager's primary role is to manage and undertake the planning and delivery of financial audit engagements across government and other public entities in accordance with auditing standards.

Potential candidates will be CCAB (ACCA, ACA, CPFA etc) qualified accountants or equivalent (CA (SA), CA(Z) etc).

Potential candidates should have a minimum of three years' recent experience in external audit conforming to International Standards on Auditing, and at least two years in a supervisory/managerial capacity, together with knowledge of recognised financial reporting frameworks.

We are looking for a team player with good communication and people management skills who is able to plan, prioritise and project manage workflow and use their own judgement. Excellent analytical abilities and IT skills are also required. Working knowledge of Caseware is a strong advantage.

A copy of the job profile and application form can be obtained from the Saint Helena Audit Service, Post Office Building, Jamestown or email asita.obey@sainthelena.gov.sh Completed applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Anesu Makamure, Head of Audit Services or by email anesu.makamure@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on 7 September 2018.

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

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

VACANCY FOR TEAM MANAGER (DESIGNATE), ADULTS AND COMMUNITY

The Safeguarding Directorate is working hard to ensure that it delivers efficient and high quality social care services to the St Helena Community.

If you are passionate about providing care and support to the community then this job should be of interest to you.

The Team Manager (Designate), Adults and Community will be a key member of the Directorate's Leadership team and will be responsible for social work practice around work with vulnerable adults living in the community with disability or other vulnerabilities which impact on their wellbeing and safety.

This is an exciting opportunity for someone who wants to progress their career working alongside an experienced manager. This will be an opportunity to learn and develop core leadership and technical skills, and knowledge in order to successfully take the role forward.

In addition, the purpose of the designate role is to offer support and developmental opportunities, so that the individual feels empowered and prepared to take the service forward in a full management capacity.

As the Team Manager (Designate) you will possess the following qualifications and attributes:

- GCSE Maths and English Grade C or above, or equivalent
- NVQ Level 3 in Social care or equivalent
- · Valid Driver's Licence Class A
- A minimum of 5 years practice experience within the field of social work with a significant element involving safeguarding Adults

The salary for this post commences at Grade E, £14, 138 per annum.

If you wish to be a part of the team working together to progress and provide excellent social care services, then please contact Stephanie Jones at Brick House on Telephone No. 22713 or email: stephanie.jones@sainthelena.gov.sh for an informal discussion and further details.

For a copy of the job profiles and application forms please contact Sasha Osborne on 22713 or email sasha.osborne@sainthelena.gov.sh Application forms should be completed and submitted (through Directors where applicable) to Sherrilee Phillips, HR and Admin Officer, Safeguarding Directorate, Brick House, Jamestown, or email to Sherrilee.phillips@sainthelena.gov.sh by Friday 31st August 2018.

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

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

Stephanie Jones, Director, 15th August 2018





www.babcockinternational.com

Vacancy for Communications Technician or Trainee Communications Technician

Babcock has a vacancy for a full-time **Communications Technician or Trainee Communications Technician** at the BBC Atlantic Relay Station, Ascension Island.

The post holder will form part of the Transmitting Station's engineering team, which is responsible for the maintenance of the transmitters and associated systems, to ensure that all scheduled programmes are transmitted to the agreed service level.

This post is being offered as a Single or Householded status, fixed-term contract. Any offer of employment will be conditional on passing a medical examination and will be subject to a three month probationary period.

Essential Qualifications/Experience:

- GCSE Maths, English and Science Grade C or above.
- Ability to communicate well, both verbally and in writing, with both internal and external customers.
- Ability to maintain accurate technical and administrative records.
- Strong self motivation and the ability to work with minimum supervision.
- IT Competent.
- Ability and willingness to carry out call-out/standby duties and to work flexible hours if required.

Desirable Qualifications / Experience

- Good knowledge of safe working practices and safety procedures.
- Qualified to BTEC National Certificate Level or equivalent credential in a relevant subject (Electrical, Electronics, Communications and/or Radio Frequency).
- Experience in Electrical, Electronics, Communications and/or Radio Frequency.
- Standard knowledge of HF propogation and Data Communications.
- Ability to analyse technical problems and undertake standard fault finding.
- Consistent and developed practical experience of a transmitting station's operation and maintenance work.
- Workshop skills including hand and power tools.
- High Voltage Authorisation or related experience.
- Class A driving licence.

Further Qualifications/Experience requirements are detailed in the Job Description.

Please contact the Administration Officer on +247 66800 (Extn 102) or email <u>glen.yon@babcock.co.ac</u> for a **Job Application Form**, **Job Description** and for further information regarding the post.

Applications to be sent to:

Admin Officer BBC Atlantic Relay Station, English Bay Ascension Island (or email <u>glen.yon@babcock.co.ac</u>)

Applications should be submitted on a Babcock job application form, and must be received by the <u>21st September 2018.</u>

Babcock Communications Limited Registered in England and Wales No. 3196204 Registered Office: 33 Wigmore Street London W1U1QX Interserve Defence Ltd Ascension Island South Atlantic Ocean Tel 00 247 66339



www.interserve.com

Job Opportunities - Ascension Island

Interserve are recruiting staff to work on the Ascension Island Base.

Stores Chargehand

Responsibilities would include processing purchase orders through the requisition system. Identify by incorporating new line items or upgrading existing line items to a suitable quality to process a requisition and purchase order. Process the goods receiving methods within the stores department. Process the monthly stores reports in the absence of the supervisor. Support the supervisor in all fields within the department.

Fuel & Lubricants (F&L) Chargehand

Responsible for providing POL/Fuels infrastructure support, carrying out pre-planned and response maintenance, floating pipeline operations, will fabricate and examine pipe work etc. Must have the ability to undertake Authorised Persons Petroleum duties and have Mechanical experience.

Air Conditioning & Plumber trades person

If you are a skilled Plumber <u>or</u> Air Con engineer we would provide training to develop the second skill.

Job responsibilities would include installation and maintenance of plumbing and air-conditioning: Install, maintain, service and recover refrigerant from air conditioning systems, freezer and chiller systems and appliances. Install and maintain domestic hot and cold water services including appliances such as dishwashers and water heaters; fixtures such as sinks, toilets, baths, water pumps, solar panels etc.

We are looking for persons mature in attitude, flexible, reliable and self-motivated; have an open approach and will pass on knowledge, their experience and show a willingness to assist others. They will be capable of obtaining MoD basic level security clearance, a work permit from the Ascension Government and must be declared medically and dentally fit to work on Ascension Island through Interserve's Company Doctor.

We will provide free accommodation, meals at the mess and work clothing. All jobs are unaccompanied, 27 month contracts with 4 leave periods. A competitive salary, monthly site allowance and a bonus will be paid at 13^{th} and 27^{th} month of tour.

Further details are available on request. To apply submit a CV. Contact by email <u>Theresa.Corker-Coleman@interserve.mod.uk</u> or telephone 00 247 63450.

Closing date for applications is Friday 31 August 2018.

Interserve is one of the world's foremost support services and construction companies. Our vision is to redefine the future for people and places. Everything we do is shaped by our core values. We are a successful, growing, international business: a leader in innovative and sustainable outcomes for our clients and a great place to work for our people. We offer advice, design, construction, equipment, facilities management and frontline public services. Headquartered in the UK and FTSE listed, we have gross revenues of £3.6 billion and a workforce of circa 80,000 people worldwide.



VACANCY FOR HEAD OF FINANCE & HUMAN RESOURCES

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join the Trust's dedicated and skilled team in a leadership role. As our Head of Finance and HR, you will play a central role in guiding the Trust's progress with a particular focus on developing our Human Resource procedures and guiding our financial operations.

This job will present the successful candidate with the opportunity to join a growing organisation doing great things for St Helena and the people. Work will be office based but the successful candidate will be strongly encouraged to spend time with our teams out in the field so as to gain a full understanding and appreciation of the Trust and our work. You will need to be exceptionally organized, highly motivated and have a proven track-record of leadership in a finance role. Applicants must also have significant experience working with SAGE Accounting Software and preparing accounts for annual audit.

The Trust is an independent non-governmental organisation driven by a passion for St Helena and our built, cultural and natural heritage. We have a strong emphasis on team-work and collaboration and believe that our staff are the greatest asset that we have.

If you feel you could contribute to the Trust and would like to join a team passionate about seeing good things happen on St Helena then we want to hear from you. The starting salary for the post is $\pounds 13,793$ per annum and the initial term will be 2 years.

A full job description can be obtained from Jeremy Harris at the St Helena National Trust office at Broadway House, Jamestown. Please feel free to call in to the main office, or contact Jeremy on 22197. Alternatively email jeremy.harris@trust.org.sh. Applications should be in the form of a CV and Cover letter.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: Friday, 14 September 2018 @ 16:00



The St Helena Independent Volume XIII, Issue 38, Friday 24th August 2018

PROPERTY SALE 2-bedroom detached bungalow

St Pauls area known as Luffkins

1.066 acres (4.314 sq.m)

Closeness to amenities

The property enjoys average proximity to amenities, the nearest shop being by the Cathedral, with the Community Centre close by. St.Pauls is



ephone/internet networks; reception of TV and radio are problem-free and mobile phone coverage is excellent. Future development The plot is eminently suitable for future development with space to the rear offering multiple options.

well served (by St.Helena standards) by public trans- Privacy port options.

Access

The house can be accessed by vehicle from the main Price road via the public adopted track to its own prepared £150000 driveway.

Services

The house is connected to electricity, water and tel-

Neighbouring plots and buildings are not in close proximity, privacy is not an issue.

For further details contact John Reid Telephone + 290 23913 email: reidj@helanta.co.sh



Enabling Tourism and Economic Growth St Helena St Helena Island

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The St Helena Independent Volume XIII, Issue 38, Friday 24th August 2018



DISPOSAL OF SHG VEHICLES

The Transport Section of the Environment & Natural Resources Directorate wishes to dispose of the following vehicles by public tender:

VEHICLE TYPE	FORMERLY REGISTERED	VEHICLE TYPE	FORMERLY REGISTERED
Land Rover Defender 110 Pick-up	179	Land Rover Freelander	54
Land Rover Defender 110 Hard Top	180	Vauxhall Brava Van	286
Land Rover Defender 110 Hard Top	32	LDV Convoy Bus	47
Land Rover Defender 110 Hard Top	99	Ford Focus Estate	31
Land Rover Defender 110 Hard Top	186	Ford Focus Estate	33
Land Rover Defender 110 Pick-up	62	Ford Focus Estate	111
Land Rover Freelander	49	Toyota Hilux D/Cab Pick-up	214
Land Rover Freelander	50	Dual Axle Trailer	217

These vehicles/items will be sold on an "as is" basis; viewing will be at the Garage Complex, Donkey Plain on Saturday 1st September 2018, between the hours of 11am and 2pm and also on Wednesday 5th September 2018 between 1.30 pm to 3.30pm. Tender forms will be available on the days of viewing.

All tenders must be submitted in a plain sealed envelope marked Tender Reference SHG Vehicles and placed in the Tender Box, at Essex House by no later than 4pm on Friday 7th September 2018.

Nicholas George Senior Transport Manager 20th August 2018

Specialist Lighting Engineer on visit to train and explain

Jim Paterson was been working away quietly on the details which support the Bill for the Control of Artificial Light at Night which is now ready to be presented to Legislative Council. Jim arrived here on Thursday after an enforced five days of rest and relaxation which must have been a new experience for a man who always likes to be busy. Today he will be having informal discussions with members of Legislative Council, meeting with electrical contractors in the afternoon and his evening will be spent at St Michael's Church in Rupert's Valley explaining what Control of Artificial Light at Night means at a public consultation. Next week there will be a series of public consultations which precede the Bill being introduced at Legislative Council.

Jim has many years experience as a specialist lighting engineer who has developed and then further refined the ideas and technicalities aimed at improving the design and specification of external lighting so it shines only on the area it is supposed to and uses no more energy than is necessary to do the job intended. Over the years he has developed many lighting management plans for environmentally sensitive areas in remote places as well as for over-lit streets in towns. He is recognised internationally as a leading authority on his subject.

A further day of rest is in store for Jim on Monday because of the Bank Holiday. On Tuesday he will be meeting first with wholesalers and the Chamber of Commerce followed by the Land Planning and Development Control Authority. In the evening there will be another public consultation at Half Tree Hollow Community Centre. Wednesday will be spent at new development sites in Rupert's and the airport as well as one or two locations in Jamestown. In the evening it will be another public consultation at Blue Hill Community Centre. Thursday and Friday are taken up with training sessions and a visit to Sure South Atlantic at the Briars. Thursday evening in taken up with another public consultation at Harford Community Centre and the final public consultation will be on Friday evening at Jamestown Community Centre.

In September last year Jim Paterson made a presentation to the first European Dark Sky Places Conference held not far from where he lives in Scotland. Jim's presentation included describing what is involved in developing an External Lighting Management Plan for St Helena.

In February this year St Helena's development towards protecting the quality of the night sky was featured in a speech at the first international conference to be held in St Helena. The Diverse Island Environments Conference was held at Ann's Place from 29th January to 8th February.

Dark Skies Presentation – Monday 5th February – Diverse Islands Conference

First I want to thank the organisers for squeezing me into the conference schedule at short notice.

I will be describing how a small remote island started on the road to protecting the quality of its night sky and giving a very general summary of what is involved.

The dark sky journey started when a member of the St Helena Tourism Association came across a press release announc-

ing that the Isle of Sark had been accredited with Dark Sky Status by the International Dark Sky Association which is headquartered in Tucson, Arizona. This was in 2011.



Jim Paterson looking very pleased at finally having arrived at last in St Helena

Commercial motivation aroused the interest; St Helena's excellent night sky is an unexploited tourist attraction; gaining status and publicity through IDA accreditation was an attractive possibility. It was decided to investigate further.

In addition, it seemed a good time to promote the control of artificial light as the airport project was edging forward and the consequences of future built development could ruin the character of the Island's nightscape forever.

All we had to go on was the contact details on the press release; for the IDA and for Steve Owens, a Scottish astronomer who had provided the technical expertise for the Isle of Sark's application to the IDA for accreditation.

Steve Owens visited St Helena to audit the night sky. He visited in May 2012 sponsored by ESH for travel expenses and fees and a local hotelier for accommodation. In a report of his visit he is quoted, "The skies above St Helena have been judged to be dark enough for the island to become one of the world's most attractive star-gazing destinations." and "its connections with famous astronomers could give it an edge over other destinations with less cloud, such as Hawaii, Tenerife and the deserts of Chile and Namibia. Edmund Halley spent a year on the island making a map of the entire night sky, and remains of his observatory at Halley's Mount can still be seen. St Helena's position near the Equator, and height above sea level, means that nearly every star in both the northern and southern hemispheres can be seen at some point in the year."

Armed with this accolade from an official source we contacted the IDA to ask what was involved, how we apply for dark sky accreditation, what do we have to do? The answer was contained in the guidelines sent by the IDA on how to apply for accreditation as a Dark Sky Community. It involves:-

Having dark sky legislation in place

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- A track record of improving exterior lighting in public places
- Firm plans for future similar improvements
- Proven activity in promoting public awareness of the benefits
- Ability to show support from the community, government and other organisations

Specialist Lighting Engineer on visit to train and explain

The IDA offers a prospective applicant for Dark Sky Status a single point of contact and requires a single point of contact from the applicant's side; a requirement which should help to avoid possible confusion. My IDA point of contact, John Barentine, was immediately helpful and was able to put me in touch with a lighting engineer with a proven record in dark sky compliant lighting as well as a professor in law who was a specialist in the legal side of Control of Artificial Light. Both are based in the UK and as such fit well with St Helena's legal and cultural tradition.

The main effort came from Jim Paterson, the lighting engineer, and the Lighting Management Plan (LMP) he produced. The LMP contains all the technical and practical details and provides essential support to the administration of the law. It required a series of surveys on-Island, Drop-boxed to Jim in Scotland together with a range of other details. I managed two face-to-face meetings with Jim during this time which proved extremely useful. Jim Paterson has produced more LMPs than just about anyone else and is considered the leader in his field, certainly in the UK and probably Europe too, every LMP has to relate specifically and in detail to the location to which it refers.

A Bill to Control Artificial Light is now ready to be introduced to St Helena's Legislative Council – this is an important milestone which also signals the beginning of the end of this journey. Enshrined in the Bill are the aims and principles of this legislation; they include:-

- Conserving and enhancing natural beauty and geological and physiological features
- Minimising energy waste and carbon emissions
- Protecting and conserving biodiversity and the habitats, ecosystems and ecological systems that support biodiversity;
- Reducing nuisance caused by artificial light at night

The original motivation – exploiting the commercial possibilities presented by a quality night sky are not mentioned.

Six years is a long time to get from the idea of dark sky protection to where we are now. Progress was in fits and starts but accelerated after the arrival, in the higher echelons of St Helena Government, of an ideal person to help get the administrative side of things moving in St Helena.

Paul McGinnety (Assistant Chief Secretary) is a man who will pick up the ball and run with it, instinctively, and is behind some of the Island's major projects. With Paul's help we moved ahead on the lengthy preparatory process for legislation; this helped Jim Paterson, the Scottish lighting engineer and Martin Morgan-Taylor the legal expert from de Montfort University move ahead with their work. The main elements of the preparatory process are gaining the official support from councillors and sponsorship for the Bill from a government committee.

Gaining the required community support from local businesses, the education department and head teachers, the governor at the time and bodies such as the chamber of commerce was also no problem. Government officers readily provided information on numbers and types of public exterior lighting – and so on and so forth.

Other aspects where plans are in place include provision of training for the people in St Helena who will be most closely involved with Control of Artificial Light and compliance with it. An agreement had been made with the Institute of Lighting Professionals in the UK who will to act as advisors on matters of general technical principal. This relationship with the ILP should help to provide a little continuity as all remote islands suffer from the lack of it. The experts and leading administrators are usually on 2 or 3 year contracts and the resident staff are frequently departing for better paid jobs overseas. This lack of continuity and its adverse impact on remote islands deserves particular detailed study all of its own.

Authority for enforcement of this particular law rests with the Chief Planning Officer. Planning applications will be checked for compliant exterior lighting arrangement and the building inspectors will check for correct installation. It is anticipated that enforcement of standards regarding compliant light fittings will otherwise be covered by prohibiting the importation of non-compliant lighting. The government will have 5 years to comply fully with the required standards for exterior lighting, the private sector 7 years and residential buildings 10.

To finish I would like to quote some questions raised by a discussion group on the last day of the First European Dark Skies Conference, organised by the IDA and held in Dumfries, Scotland in September last year

I was struck by the commonality of some of the questions raised whether it is in the UK, St Helena or some other remote island:-

- How to encourage the development and marketing of dark sky friendly lighting?
- Ways to improve understanding of dark sky friendly lighting among electricians, politicians and the public?
- How to make new kinds of lighting design accessible to all.

These questions confirm I am not alone in the difficulty I have searching for compliant lighting even though I rely solely on Google for all of it.

The next question, however, is particularly interesting from a remote island perspective.

- Is it advantageous to form some kind of UK Dark Sky Places Association

In St Helena, in recent months, links have been nurtured with other remote islands which have or plan to have Dark Sky Status. Tristan da Cunha is exploring what this involves and Pitcairn is in the process of making its application. Through the usual networking, Great Barrier Island and Rapanui are also on our radar. The eventual intention is to form an association of some sort which offers small remote islands a chance to share experience and knowledge.

In closing I urge all here to ponder upon the strong interdependencies of the terrestrial and celestial dimensions and the similar links with the aquatic and human environments.

INVITATION TO TENDER CONCESSION OPPORTUNITY AT ST HELENA AIRPORT – LUGGAGE WRAPPING SERVICE Reference AIR-0154-SHG

St Helena Government is seeking Invitations to Tender for Concession Opportunity at St Helena Airport – Luggage Wrapping Service.

Full documentation and the specifications can be found on the Saint 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 Christy Joshua.

E-mail: christy.joshua@sainthelena.gov.sh

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

The deadline for submisisons is 12.00 GMT on Monday, 17 September 2018.

SHG 20 August 2018



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- Communicating with the backend provider on any domain names with issues
- Monitor all postal mail and voicemail on St. Helena for .GO

Prior domain name or internet experience not required. Must be comfortable surfing the web. Training will be provided. The job is part-time and will require approximately 5-10 hours per week. Pay is £20/hour, equivalent to £400-£800 per month. GCSE with a C or above in both English and Math required. Interviews will be conducted the week of August 27th. Please send all resumes to Zim@ZimmermanConsulting.net

RE-SCHEDULED DARK SKIES PUBLIC CONSULTATION SESSIONS

The following is a Public Announcement on the Dark Skies public consultation sessions: Due to the recent flight delay, the Dark Skies public consultation sessions with Dark Skies Lighting Consultant, James Paterson, has been rescheduled for the following dates:

All meetings will start at 7pm.

Date

Friday, 24 August Tuesday, 28 August Wednesday, 29 August Thursday, 30 August Friday, 31 August Venue St Michael's Church, Rupert's Half Tree Hollow Community Centre Blue Hill Community Centre Harford Community Centre, Longwood Jamestown Community Centre

Electrical contractors are invited to meet with James outside of the public consultation sessions. This meeting has been rescheduled to take place on Friday, 24 August, from 1pm - 4pm in the Conference Room at the Canister.

The separate meeting for wholesalers will remain as previously scheduled for Tuesday, 28 August, from 9.30am - 12.30pm in the Conference Room at the Attorney General's Chambers in the Castle.

As James will be on-Island for a shorter period, it is regretted that it will not be possible to hold a meeting in each of the districts as was originally planned. However, people are encouraged to attend one of the public consultation meetings.

The Dark Skies legislation and Lighting Management Plan will mitigate light pollution in order to preserve and sustain the natural environment of St Helena. Introducing Dark Skies legislation will enable St Helena to apply for International Dark Sky Status with the International Dark Sky Association (IDA). **SHG**

23 August 2018





GOLF REPORT

Contributed by Deon Robbertse

On Sunday 19th of August 2018, ten players participated in the club's monthly medal competition for august 2018 over 18 holes. The weather was not the best when play started, but the rain subsided after a while and it stayed dry for most of the competition. First place went to Jeffrey Foxy Stevens with a Nett score of 67, one below par. Runner up place went to Lawson Henry with a Nett score of 70. The following players shared the two ball competition, Jeffrey Stevens with two holes, Peter Bagley and Larry Legg. Well done to all the winners.

This coming weekend the club is hosting a Texas scramble "pick your own partner" format competition. Play to start at 12h00 with a "shotgun" (all players start at the same time on different holes) type start. This start will mean all players would also finish at more or less the same time. Players who wish to participate needs to make sure to submit their names by phoning the golf club and leave their details on the answering machine. Please be at the golf club by latest 11h45.

The members are also advised of the half-yearly golf club meeting that will be held on completion of Sunday's competition. Refreshments will be provided after the meeting.

Members are also reminded to return the raffle forms and donations, as the draw for the raffle will happen after the meeting. Any persons who would like to join the Golf Club are welcome to contact the club at 24421 or visit our Facebook page St Helena Golf Club.



Entertainment at Silver Hill Bar for this Weekend

Friday open from 5.00pm till late mix tunes from the bar.

Saturday open from 5.00pm to 8.00pm Country tunes from the bar 8.00pm till late Disco & Reggie sounds by DJ Rat.

Sunday open from 5.00 to 8.00pm.

Monday open from 3.30pm till late Karaoke with DJ Jeremy Johns

District Stall

Residents of the St Paul's District who are interested in the forthcoming Country Fair and would like further information or to join in with a district stall, are invited to attend a meeting at Kingshurst Community Centre on Wednesday 29 August at 7:00pm.

Soup and Rolls will be available. See you all there!!

REPORT ON SERVICES TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND ADULTS ON ST HELENA

Anthony Douglas CBE, from the Children & Family Court and Advisory & Support Service (Cafcass) has submitted his report on Services to Vulnerable Children and Adults on St Helena. This follows his visit to the Island in June to review how services across all parts of St Helena support the welfare and safety of vulnerable children and adults living on the Island. This visit was also used to determine how the UK Government can support the Overseas Territories in their commitment to ensuring the highest possible standards of protection for children. Below is a summary of the report.

Services to Vulnerable Children

The report says that Services to vulnerable children have improved greatly since the time of adverse media coverage about care standards and practices on St Helena in 2014, which was one of the factors which led to the Wass Inquiry. The Inquiry report was published in December 2015. Following investment prior to and after the report's publication, and stronger local leadership, over the last year especially, children are now being properly protected. Social work practice, police practice and support from other agencies have reached a good safe standard. The Governor; the Administration through the Chief Secretary, and Elected Members on St Helena have each prioritised child safeguarding and are showing collegiate leadership and long-term commitment. This is commendable considering the numerous other priorities which Island leaders are grappling with.

Services to Vulnerable Adults

Services to those individual vulnerable adults, whose desperate living situations were highlighted in the Wass report, have also improved considerably. A model of person-centred care

is being developed. However, further work is needed to bring adult social care services up to an acceptable standard. A similar level of investment and leadership to that in children's services is needed over the next few years to improve services and to provide a safety net for vulnerable people. The ageing population on St Helena is an added demographic reason for Island leaders to take adult safeguarding as seriously as child safeguarding. The report contains a number of recommendations which Anthony has discussed with SHG and the FCO as to how these might be most constructively taken forward over the next three to five years.

One of the main recommendations arising from the report is combining the functions of the Safeguarding Children's Board, Adult Safeguarding Board, multi-agency risk assessment conferences and multi-agency public protection arrangements into a single St Helena Safeguarding Board to encourage more shared working.

SHG will discuss with relevant stakeholders how to take forward these recommendations. The UK Government will continue to support St Helena's work in this area.

Anthony and Michael Cotterall, from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) spent a week on-Island between 23 and 30 June 2018 and met with all Elected Members, the Chief Secretary, SHG's Core Leadership Group, and a range of professionals from the Health, Police, Education, and Safeguarding Directorates as well as the Attorney General's Chambers. Most importantly, Anthony met with children who have experienced services for additional needs and parents who have worked with Children's Services.

SHG, 17 August 2018







Sets of Pens £1.95 & £2.25 PK20 lead Pencil £2.50 Scientific Calculators £17.85 Calculator £7.95 Pocket Calculator £5.50 A4 Exam Pad £1.40 A4 Note Book £2.30, Note Book £1.25, Spiral N.Book £1.60 **Backpacks** Toddlers £6.50 Infants £5.95 Juniors £10.50 Book bags £4.95 Portfolio Conference Folder £10.50

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Gate Admission (.50p kids / £1 adults) Musical Entertainment Bar / Tuck Shop / Tea & Cake Stall / Food To Go Candy Floss, Popcorn, etc Multi-Raffle Sideshows & Stalls



Give the family a treat and support the Jamestown Scout Group



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