

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

Official Opening of Haul Road Today – Why?



Development application for new prison to be re-run

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Middle Spread

Play St Helena

Monopoly

Big Visitor

Chance would be a fine thing? Tammy Williams Governor Rushbrook -

a man to leave his mark on St Helena St Helena Represented at European Space Agency Conference



St Helena represented at European Space Agency Conference



Last month the *Independent* reported on the newly formed **ACCESS**.SPACE Alliance, a space industry organisation for the small satellite manufactures and operators in Europe and beyond. The fast developing space communications involving small satellite manufacturers and operators are of great interest to St Helena because of the uses which will be made of the South Atlantic fibre-optic cable when it has a connection to St Helena. Ground stations in St Helena will take data from satellites and send them through the fibre-optic cable to world-wide destinations. The satellite and fibre-optic cable combination offers the most efficient and reliable link for fast global communications and St Helena's connection to the South Atlantic cable linking South Africa with South America gives the opportunity to promote St Helena as an important hub in the global communications network. ACCESS.SPACE Alliance have organised an inaugural conference for 4th July. It will be held at the European Space Agency's Centre for Space Applications and Telecommunications (ECSAT) at Harwell, UK. ECSAT is an ideal place for a conference on this subject and two conference delegates will attend to make sure others at the conference know where St Helena fits in to the South Atlantic fibre-optic cable project. There is exceptional potential for significant investment in St Helena through this project as well as a range of job opportunities to boost the local employment market.

Representing St Helena will be UK based Tony Fisk, a telecommunications engineer with long and wide experienced who is also a programme and project manager andis already closely involved with St Helena's part in the project. With him will be Kedell Worboys, SHG's representative in the UK. With 24 speakers organised for the conference and a growing list of delegates, Tony Fisk is the ideal person to spread the word about St Helena's plans to be part of the global telecommunications industry.



Reservoir water level falling fast

Over the past two weeks the water level at Harper's No.3 reservoir, the big one, has been falling rapidly. People using the W Road noticed the water level drop several feet every few days and wondered whether the reservoir lining had developed a leak. Connect CEO, Barry Hubbard, told the *Independent* on Wednesday that Harper's No.3 was down to 20% of its capacity and the decline in stored water is because Harper's No.3 is the reservoir Connect are drawing water from at the moment. Other reservoirs water storage is not reducing at the same fast rate. In this situation Harper's No.3 will soon be empty and other smaller reservoirs will need to be used. Barry Hubbard issued a reminder that stored water is at low levels and if rain does not arrive fairly soon the increasingly difficult situation will become a national emergency.

Official Opening of Haul Road Today – Why?

Today from midday the Haul Road will be officially open to all traffic. Drivers who have found good reason to use the Haul Road have been using it, at will, for many months now. Not many drivers have found good reason to use the Haul Road before now so why should that change just because it is officially opened? It is a road which starts at an unused wharf and ends at an airport which is only open on Saturdays. Apart from the small population at Rupert's it goes from nowhere to nowhere with nothing in between every day except Saturdays – or occasionally Sundays when there is an Ascension flight.

The SHG press release tells us, "The opening of the road brings a number of benefits to the Island including better alternative access between Jamestown, Rupert's and Longwood and will in turn reduce the volume of traffic that currently passes through Longwood to access the Airport and make these areas safer for the public." This is complete rubbish. Who in their right mind will turn off at Briars Junction on to the Field Road and down to Rupert's along a road hanging off the edge of a cliff which should have had major maintenance years ago. The number of people who want to go from Longwood to Rupert's or in the other direction depends mainly on if they work at one of the two locations or on what is happening at Wicked Wahoo. The people who benefit from the Haul Road are already using it – unofficially.

Immediately after trumpeting the opening of Haul Road, the government press release gives police warnings about driving carefully; not just on the Haul Road which has seen road traffic accidents already, including a fatality, but on the cliff hanger down to Rupert's from Side Path as well.



Never, Ever, turn right. After the U-bend never, ever turn left.

The police say they will increase their patrols along this route which must have spending implications to some extent. The increase in traffic is likely to come from police patrol vehicles and ambulance crews attending the scene of road traffic accidents.

The road from Briars Junction to Rupert's can be dangerous. This is due to general neglect and lack of maintenance by SHG. The road from Rupert's to Bottom Woods has only been useful for a few people and there is no foreseeable reason why this should change. The real reason for officially opening the Haul Road right now is not known as the official reason is unconvincing.



Rupert's Road is a death trap with serious accidents bound to happen

Get the wharf at Rupert's fully operational. Upgrade the road from Rupert's to Briars Junction. Upgrade the road from Briars Junction to Jamestown. Encourage light industrial development around the airport. Designate housing and retail areas in specific locations along the Haul Road. Get the Rupert's Development Plan moving forward. When all this is happening, officially open the Haul Road. Does anyone in SHG really know what development planning (and economic development) is all about?

Development application for new prison to be re-run

The long running saga for finalising the site for the new prison continues. In January 2017 it was eventually decided the proposed site at Sundale was not appropriate; the official reason given was that development costs would be too high. Now, two-and-a-half years later, the alternative proposed site at Bottom Woods is back to square one in the development application process.

Public consultation on two proposed alternative sites for the new prison started in October 2017 and continued through to April 2018 – even though a 'final' consultation report was published December 2017. Eventually one of the two Bottom Woods sites was selected and an application for 'Outline' development permission was submitted to SHG's Planning and Building Division.

The development application procedure was expected to be completed very soon but this week the decision was taken to start the process again, from the start. The reason for pulling the development application and starting again has not been fully explained however it is suggested some procedural details of the application were in dispute and a re-run of the entire procedure was thought to be the best way to resolve the situation.

As the unsuccessful Bottom Woods application for a new prison was an Outline application a further Detailed application is also required. It is not known whether the next development application will be the Detailed application in order to save some of the time lost as the Planning and Building Division has not been available to take phone calls.



Every time Trump talks about a US trade deal with the UK I get an image of a crocodile, mouth wide open with its 64 teeth ready to dig into a meaty victim. The so-called "special relationship" between Britain and the United States conjures up similar images. When trade and profit are at stake the US is more than ready to snap up anything and everything which will make a buck or two. As the D-Day commemorations remind us, the United States will help out from time to time; but in the 2nd World War it took the attack on Pearl Harbour to provide the motivation for the US to really get involved. Glassy eyed interpretations of Uncle Sam helping out whenever needed are far too prevalent and can be dangerous. Much has been said about the so-called Special Relationship while Trump was in Britain, but does the UK Government really believe this diplomatic white lie?

Those who are old enough and have long memories will recall the effect on bankrupt Britain at the end of WWII when the US ended the lend-lease agreement and insisted on convertibility in return for a big loan to keep Britain's national finances above water. The effect of all this on Britain was that food rationing after the war was worse than during it, the value of the £ plummeted and Britain's influence across the world shrank. The effect of all this on the US was their country gained in global economic and political power, often at the expense of Britain. The crocodile's jaws snapped shut with Britain between its teeth.



Special Relationship or cultural divide? When the gung-ho Brexit hard-liners think Britain can negotiate trade deals independently and come out with good deals beneficial to Britain and its Overseas Territories they are dreaming. In all cases Britain wants the deal more than the United States or any other country Britain negotiates with. The United States and all the others will know Britain is in a weak bargaining position and will make the most of it. The effects of Brexit on Britain could be immeasurably disastrous; and Trump will love it. We in the Overseas Territories are just spectators but likely to suffer just as much – or more.

It was pleasing to see the current owners of the former RMS

St Helena are aware of the ship's history and also like to keep a link with St Helena. On Twitter on 21st May @ExtremeELive included this photo;



Finally, in the UK it's Rabbit Awareness Week. Rabbits are the UK's 3rd most popular pet and UK pet owners are reminded their 'big-eared buddies' are social animals so pet owners should keep at least two of them, they need vacinations and regular vet checks and have complex needs. If only we could export our rabbits to the UK.

Havea rabbit free weekend Vince

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Big Visitor



During the early hours of Wednesday morning the inballast 289 meter long bulk carrier WINNING CONFIDENCE (IMO: 9325001) anchored 5 cables from shore to await the boarding party at daylight.

The Singaporean registered vessel was on passage from Singapore to Port De Boke in Equatorial Guinea when it diverted to St. Helena to seek medical attention for one of her Asian crew whom was left at the island when the vessel weighed anchor at 08:20 and got underway to continue her voyage to load another cargo. This is a regular voyage for her.

She has a breath of 45m and is draughting just 10.2 meters.



In Memory



The MV Boudicca was chartered by The Royal British Legion for the 75th anniversary of the D-Day Landing this week to transport 300 D-Day Veterans from Portsmouth to Normandy. Here is the MV Boudicca in James' Bay a few years ago. Picture by Paul Blake.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, 23 MAY 2019

The monthly meeting of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) took place on Thursday, 23 May 2019, and the following is a summary of the main items discussed: SHG's new Senior Economist, Amanda Curry Brown, was

introduced to the Committee. Amanda is here for two years and will be working on developing a Labour Market Strategy and assisting in the delivery of the Economic Development Investment Programme.

The draft Sustainable Economic Development Plan End of Year Progress Report was provided. It was suggested that an infographic be developed to publicise progress made in 2018-19 and it was agreed that a final report be made available to the public. More information on this report will follow shortly. Enterprise St Helena (ESH) gave a brief update relating to activity during April, as follows: Works at the Canister appear to be progressing well and are due to be completed in early July. An exhibition on Sir Hudson Lowe, Governor of St Helena during the exile of Napoleon, was launched at Plantation House on 14 April - the aim of the exhibition was also to shed light on his role in bringing an end to slavery on St Helena. There had been a cruise ship visit by the MV Pacific Princess on Thursday, 4 April, carrying 609 passengers and 379 crew. St Helena Tourism had attended the 'We Are Africa' travel show, in Cape Town. Following endorsement of the new Investment Strategy, the Approved Investor Committee had considered its first local investment application, which had been awarded Investor 'B' status. ESH has awarded five Small to Medium Enterprise Grants thus far this financial year, to a total value of £16,000. The Business Development Team was also heavily involved in the Agricultural Day held at Francis Plain on 4 May. This was well received, and consideration is therefore being given towards holding an agricultural related event on a biennial basis.

A proposal was presented by the Deputy Financial Secretary for a change to the Currency Ordinance 1975. It was noted that the current Ordinance provides for the treatment of a surplus made on the Currency Fund in a financial year but did not detail how a deficit should be treated should one occur. This is an anomaly and although the Currency Fund usually makes a surplus it was recognised that suitable provision should be made in the Ordinance in the event of a deficit. It is proposed to include an additional clause to provide that a deficit should be transferred to the General Reserve at the end of the financial year. The Committee recognised that this is an administrative amendment and that there would be no financial or other implications as a result and therefore endorsed the change. The necessary amendment to the legislation will now be drafted.

During the closed session SAMS presented their six-month report. SAMS is working hard to improve its services, and is asking the public what it would like from St Helena's media. These two 10-question surveys will inform upcoming changes in The Sentinel and SAMS Radio 1 – find the respective surveys online at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K86RCNV and https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/57KR228. **SHG, 31 May 2019**

ASCENSION DAY FAIR 2019

What can I say, but Thank you all who attended the ADF2019 making it another successful day in the scorching sunny afternoon on Saturday 1st June. With a population of just over 600 and about half attending, we had a jolly good turnout.

On the day it looks "a piece of cake" with everything in place, stalls beautifully decorated, music entertaining the young and not so young but the before, during and after can take its toll on the body. At 14:45 our vicar Rev Gavin Tyte gave his speech and announced the winners of the Primary School Painting Competition, Prince Blane Bennett and Princess Jordan Reynolds were crowned. Flt Lt Emma Webber escorted Prince Blane and T/Sgt Ralph Ruiz escorted Princess Jordan around the square followed by the Uniformed Parties of the Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. This followed by the crowd joining in with the shy Prince and Princess to "declare the Ascension Day Fair officially open".

Stalls galore were situated around the square..... Julie Buffalo multi-tasked guessing the weight of the Boiled Pudding, raffling a Scooter and "Turtle coming out the nest" cake, Grand Multi-Raffle with Wendy Greentree selling tickets which the star prize was a 43" Freeview TV, SURE's raffle of a mobile phone and a huge food hamper, Bric 'n' Brac stall manned by Christiane and Edric, PTA stall of face painting and tattoo, Dave's Fishing Tackle, RAF hosted a mini Bingo which drew quite a crowd. More face painting could be seen by Ebony Stevens and her mum Deborah manning her lucky dip that she thought up the night before the fair!!! The Scouts manned the Sticky Footie, Interserve with their stalls of toys, card game and darts but most spectacular of all was the raffle for the Garden Furniture of a swing seat made by Gavin Bennett and not forgetting, the bar - thirsty work on this sunny afternoon. Our much loved American Cheese Burgers (something I will miss when I retire from Ascension) and Hot Dogs were still a big hit although assortment of other delicious food was on sale.





New to us this year was Jo-Jo's Jacket Potatoes with 3 delicious different fillings and the much loved Candy Floss, Ann Constantine and Tina Joshua's confectionery/savoury stall of fudge, coconut ice, cheese straws, puffs, coconut fingers even homemade syrup, plus Terry Spud with his "hot seat" Chilli with rice or Nachos, Kayla and Leroy Fowler's dinky doughnuts and Lucy Francis' original doughnuts and cookies. All of these of which did not last long on the tables. Jr and Deborah's return of southern fried chicken and fries and Sam and Elaine with their beef curry, chicken curry, rice and BBQ Chicken and fries selling from their Rock Shop, A&P's stalls included fresh pumpkins, Gary and Gussie manning the Darts Tombola which shouts could be heard from those trying to win the booze instead of tin of spaghetti the Mildons won back that they donated. I found Coconut Milk and tin corn in my bag that Robert won back from what I donated!!!

Iona and Rhonda were in a sticky situation selling homemade ice cream with Winnie and Tammy on the cake stall. We had Lydia Nicholson in her stall with her Treasure Hunt and Roll the Dice, Ruth Halden manning the skittles. "Ooohhs and ahhhs" were heard in the Arts and Crafts room. Amazing work was displayed. This was brought together by the Two Boats School and adults under the keen eye of Carolyn Yon. Cousin Ryan Yon helped me with Myrtle Turtle placing the coins in the appropriate parts on the shell!! There was no tug of war due to the football final on the same afternoon. Sadly the teams left earlier and we ended with just one team but the Zumba ladies and gorgeous little ladies put on their show with Johnny Swain entertaining those left behind with his much loved tunes from back in the day and present.....gr8 job Johnny and always greatly appreciated.

We must not forget Martyn Smith and Al Machetti bringing back the Gunge Tank – I know many was hoped to be gunged but the US Base Fire Truck had to return to base so this left a soaking only for Matt Kingsman. Then there was the Auction!! Rev Gav our Auctioneer did a good job encouraging the bidding to soar which with a quick glance at the sheet we made £650.00. This was quite a great total considering the few who were interested. At one time Paul Bennett even bid against himself!!!

The ADF2019 ended at 19:30 hours in the square but contin-

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ASCENSION DAY FAIR 2019

ued on at the Saints Member's Club Patio with our very own Beatboxing Vicar who had the adults and kiddies well entertained. My favourite was the Scooby-Do!! There was karaoke and disco in which during this time I ventured into the snack bar to sell bacon soup (donated by the Saints Club), US Base burgers, hot dogs and jacket potatoes. I still had time to take a donation box round to the punters giving me a total of £135.00!! My day started at 9 a.m. 1st June and ended at 2 a.m. on 2nd June. Then 5 hrs later back at the square to tidy up with the help of Robert, Peter Williams, Mervyn and Krystal Phillips but still left me nearly paralysed on Sunday afternoon with backache and leg hardly moving!!!

Through all these aches and pains I always enjoy what I set out to do. This is my very, very last organising of the ADF. I'm thinking, helping from age 9 yrs as a Brownie then Girl Guide and then continuing to organise it for over 18 years this is me bowing out. But....I've still got 2 other fundraising events I'd like to add to this ADF. Moonlight walk soon, and Family

Tourette syndrome

Tics

Nearly everyone knows someone with tics: eye blinking, throat clearing, sniffing or head jerking. Tics are movements and sounds that a person makes, without meaning to and often without even noticing. Often the tics don't get in the way of life but sometimes they can and often a child or adult and their family are keen to know what the tics are and how they can be treated.

What are tic disorders?

Tourette syndrome is a tic disorder, the most severe type and least common. It affects about 1% of children and 0.5% of adults. Tourette syndrome is when a child has vocal tics (e.g. sniffing, throat clearing, saying words) and motor tics (e.g. eye blinking, stomach jerks, shoulder shrugs) for a period of longer than a year. It is most severe as a person has two types of tics for a long time. Most often (up to about 80%) of children will have a second area of difficulty, including attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or obsessive compulsive disorder but many children will have 3-4 additional conditions. Tourette syndrome is called a syndrome because it often involves these additional difficulties.

Other tic disorders such as Provisional tic disorder (when a child has tics for less than one year) and chronic motor or vocal tic disorder are more common. Up to about 20% of children will have tics in primary school, mostly these go unnoticed and do not bother anyone else.

What happens to children with tics?

Most children grow out of the tics by the time they are young adults. They may be left with occasional tics which occur when they are anxious or particularly relaxed. This is a good message for people to know. People often ask what the cause of tics is. Scientists don't have a full answer to this question but tics do run in families and are more common in children who have difficulties at birth than those who do not.

For some children the tics can cause pain, social embarrassment and worry whereas for many they are not bothered by the tics. If a child has an additional problem, then it is likely that this additional problem causes them more problems than the tics themselves.

What can be done to help?

There are good treatments for tics of the child or adult if they



Fun Day at the Green Mountain National Park 25th August.....Happy Days!! Cheryl E. Anthony MBE Chairperson/Organiser, Ascension Day Fair 2019



are bothered by them. The first thing is learning about tics, what causes them, understanding that they come and go (wax and wane) and that most people will grow out of most of their tics.

In terms of therapy, the first-line intervention is called behavioural treatment. The two most commonly used treatments with the best evidence are habit reversal training and exposure with response prevention. The treatment is usually delivered by a psychologist or nurse. The child is taught to become aware of the urge before they tic and then to control it. Treatment works for about 60% of children and helps them to reduce the tics by 40-50%. It is not a cure but it can help a great deal. Treatment has been delivered individually, in groups, over Skype and now online. For some other children and adults with tics, medication can be helpful but can cause side-effects.

If you are interested in learning more about Tourette syndrome there is an excellent charity in the UK called Tourette action (www.tourettes-action.org.uk/), they have very helpful information for families and communities and a support group.

Dr Tara Murphy Consultant Psychologist From a parent:

'Being touched by Tourette syndrome is not easy for the person with the condition and also for their family as tics can cause pain and it is a condition that also present challenging behaviours. From supporting someone with Tourette syndrome for the past 6 years I note it is important to understand what tics are and how best to deal with the person's behaviours as they can be highly emotional individuals.

I am eager to raise awareness on Tourette syndrome on island and feel that a group would be beneficial to us as families. If you would like to talk about Tourette syndrome or join a group please contact me on email address tessaterri@helanta.co.sh or mobile number 61515 for more information.

Remember these actions are involuntary and often are frustrating for them, so we need to be supportive to help them be the best person they can be!' - Tessa Roberts

Wellbeing afternoon at Bertrand's Cottage

Those who attended the Wellbeing afternoon at Bertrand's Cottage last Saturday experienced an afternoon of Pilates, mindfulness, yoga and massage, all served with a delicious buffet of healthy food.

Participants arrived in beautiful sunshine and the clouds threatening rain did well to hide on the other side of the peaks. Not a drop of rain interrupted the outdoor Pilates Class where participants learned to stretch, strengthen their core muscles and tone, performing precise and controlled movements on a mat with the help of straps. Within minutes, synchronised movements were delighting everyone and breathing, bending and back rolls stretched spines and minds. Although this was the toughest physical exercise of the afternoon, everyone was enjoying the challenge and left smiling and not limping.

Mindfulness sessions were held sitting comfortably on chairs and in theory, this was the easiest exercise...Mindfulness means that the mind is fully attending to what is happening at the moment. For example inside your body – physical feelings, discomfort, thoughts and outside the body, sounds and temperature, the feeling of sitting on a chair. But it's not that simple to focus on that moment and to forget about your worries, the conversations you had earlier in the day and things you may want to do in the future. And when you manage to do that, even just for a minute, it is surprising how refreshed the mind and body feel for the rest of the day. The simplicity of the method means that you can practice wherever you happen to be and it won't cost you a penny!



AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD OPENING

The 14km Access (Haul) Road from Rupert's Bay to St Helena Airport will open to the public from 12 noon on Friday, 7 June 2019.

HE Governor Rushbrook will officially open the Road at a special 'ribbon cutting' ceremony at Bottom Woods (next to Reggie's Takeaway) in the presence of the Bishop of St Helena, Elected Members and SHG officials including the SHG Roads Team. The public are also invited to attend this event.

Executive Council agreed at their meeting on Tuesday, 28 May, to adopt the Airport Access Road as part of St Helena's road network. The opening of the road brings a number of benefits to the Island including better alternative access between Jamestown, Rupert's and Longwood and will in turn



Many people think that yoga involves sitting cross legged in the lotus position, chanting ancient Indian tunes. If you were expecting this at Bertram's Cottage you would have been sorely disappointed as the class provided participants with a variety of physical, breathing, mental and relaxation exercises intertwined to provide a gentle challenge to body strength, balance and mental focus. This form of exercise helps to resolve tension within the body and mind and will improve tension headaches, backache, indigestion and can be done at all levels of physical fitness. Participants surprised themselves with the flexibility and beautiful forms their bodies were capable of performing.

The Indian head massage session taught participants how to release muscle tension, improve oxygen flow to the brain, and through this it is highly effective in easing many stressrelated conditions. Indian head massage has been handed down through the generations and has only recently become a commercially available treatment. The course involved teaching each other this wonderful and simple technique so we can take it back to our homes to practice on our nearest and dearest – provided they enjoy having beautifully scented oils massaged into their scalps!

Those who attended the Wellbeing afternoon at Bertrand's Cottage last Saturday experienced an afternoon of Pilates, mindfulness, yoga and massage, all served with a delicious buffet of healthy food.

reduce the volume of traffic that currently passes through Longwood to access the Airport and make these areas safer for the public.

The Airport Access Road is divided into seven sections - African Slave Road, Airbay Road, Boer Road, Flagstaff View, Pipe Ridge Pass, Wirebird Way and Wainwright Way. Appropriate signage at each section including speed limits will be in place before the Road is opened to the public.

St Helena Police are also launching a Road Safety Campaign to encourage responsible driving on the Airport Access Road. Further details will be issued shortly.

SHG 3 June 2019



Chance would be a fine thing?

Tammy Williams

"Greetings from Panamá in Central America (Canal Area), I saw a documentary made by the German TV Deutsch Welle, about the most famous citizen in St. Helena, Mía Henry and the Island. Simple, pretty, nice and calm place, much in touch with nature, Wow. Today I found your radio station online and started listening to the Shine Show by Sharon Wade. It was superb, great country music and I could discover a great country rock British group from the 60's. I am retired and would love to visit with my wife someday. Great program, would start listening frequently" (Víctor E. Sowley, Jr.)

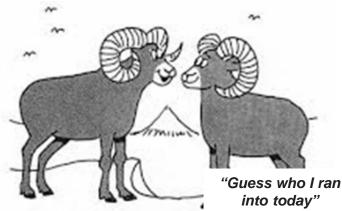
Saint FM Community Radio gets a lot of emails and messages from around the world on a weekly basis, we cherish the contacts we make with the outside world, each chance encounter is one step closer to promoting St Helena but to be perfectly honest most encounters are about people finding us quite by accident! Their discovery of the radio station then kick-starts their research into St Helena, which is all very well but chance encounters are not going to be enough are they? Mysterious destinations may conjure up intrigue but late exposé does not sell plane tickets, fill hotels and Guest houses, we may be a "*new and developing destination*" but it's a tired label and one that will no longer stand up in court, St Helena's air service has been operational for over eighteen months and it's time to re-think the message.

During the construction of the airport, I met many people who were surprised that while all of our resources were being ploughed into the airport very little thought if any had been placed into a massive game changing marketing plan for the island, in this instance they were referring to a *side by side* campaign for both the airport construction and the island's tourism potential with substantial funding from DFID being poured into the marketing aspects, now, we find ourselves racing to catch the bolted horse.

The trouble is, people tend to get terribly sticky when you say that things are not quite where they ought to be, they enter into defence mode without considering the heart of the matter, Governor Rushbrook got it right on the money when he said the airport was not really delivering, certainly not for those who have invested and despite some favourable statistics from SHG's press office, I have not spoken to one SHG official or councillor either professionally or personally who have not matched these thoughts, it is simple, the job is incomplete, quite unsatisfactory and really, rather disappointing. There I've said it, now, "Off with my head?"

We also have the issue of people coming to St Helena wanting to maintain white aprons, stains are avoided at all costs, on St Helena's day I visited Chef Roy at the Mantis and Richard and Jane Sim at Castle's gardens, their aprons were food stained, a fine example of getting the job done, these are the marks of true endeavour.

And so to the rest of the private sector and those who have heavily invested, had it not been for the energy, sweat and determination of these faithful few what stories would we be able to tell? What of our reporting and statistics then? Whose



bed nights do we count? How many meals served in earnest? How many taxis and hire drives? How many fish caught and potatoes grown? Who are the poster men and women of our local private sector? What or whom exists because of the private sector? Whom would be without a job if the private sector did not exist?

An attempt to comfort ourselves with the illusion that the private sector will take care of itself is a mistake because this same private sector is facing impossible situations of increasing freight costs, utilities, internet, insurance and taxes, so you will forgive the reservation about economic growth.

But I digress, a number of actions have been taken over the last few months around marketing and promoting St Helena, it may be a while before we observe a significant and positive impact on the status quo and in particular there has been some revolutionary efforts by the private sector themselves to promote St Helena but there is much more to be done. Currently as it stands the situation is not good enough, there, another nail in my coffin, (You can't chop my head off twice), we will do well to admit it and admit it quickly, there are no strategies that can replace good old fashioned, tangible work and effort, text books rarely provide real life situations and no amount of university degrees will replace common sense and work experience. The business world on St Helena is not investor friendly, whether you are a local or daring to try from abroad, even the tiniest of problems require satellite navigation. This is because the government wants a bigger share of the pie than is due to them, let's face it, a really collaborative approach from the government and associated agencies could make a big difference, for instance why aren't we marketing cheaper air fares? The easy answer is that government will get nothing while the local hospitality industry will benefit from tourists renting rooms, buying souvenirs, eating in our restaurants and hiring our taxis, empty seats on a plane mean a subsidy for SHG but promises nothing for the private sector.

A major step will have been made when the government realises that the toughest decisions will have to be made about themselves, the odds get better when the cards are fairly dealt.

There needs to be an island wide movement with SHG, Enterprise St Helena and the private sector working at an enhanced level of partnership with the government eventually having the modesty to step back and remove the training wheels, chance would be a fine thing?

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

The letter in last week's Independent raised concerns about the impact of reforms on the lives of people on St Helena, one point being about Islanders leaving. Councillor Cyril Leo in his Constituent letter also expressed concerns stating that "Most of the last three years in particular have been unimaginably difficult for many within our community who are struggling to make ends meet."

A raft of reforms and taxation were introduced as part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement in December 2010 between the UK and St Helena governments connected with having an airport for economic growth and "increased tourism." The overall aim was for "sustainable and inclusive economic growth and social development." The Head of DFID and a consultant visiting in September 2011 to make an assessment of the MOU reforms and taxation stated that these should deliver "benefits for Saints"

The business case put up for funding the airport was based on projection of tourist numbers increasing to 30,000 a year with related high income into the economy - projected numbers said by a UK Parliamentary Enquiry into the airport to be unrealistic. Difficulties with weather conditions at the airport mean that the number of tourists are now only a fraction of this as well as low income into the economy: £1.4 million estimated for last financial year with just £52,000 estimated going into SHG revenue.

Yet many, if not all, of the reforms and tax regimes based on the original high level of income are still in place. What assessment has been made of the overall social impact of these demands on the small human resource and tax base of 4,500 inhabitants with an ageing population? An article in the Independent last week discussing the economic situation on St Helena and likely further tax increases, warns that "when

taxes get too high it can lead to low wages, high prices, unemployment and/ or economic recession instead of economic development."

Are the present systems conforming to what was agreed by DFID assessors for "sustainable and inclusive economic and social development" that they should deliver "benefits for Saints"? - "sustainable development" being defined by a world organisation as meeting "the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs". Are the systems "inclusive" as required in the 2010 agreement or are most systems for taxation and reform based on the original high level of income to the Island still in place,

causing social problems and creating a divide in the Island community? Regards, **Basil George**

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Doctor Jules Kause and the staff of the General Hospital also to family and friends for the telephone calls and hospital and home visits during my illness

Many thanks Kind regards Garry Henry

Dear Editor,

What great news about the Fountain in Main Street soon to be replaced after all those years since it was removed sometime - in the 1940's?

Ages ago I alerted Merrill Joshua to the fact that this Fountain, erected in memory of those islanders who died in the terrible Rockfall from Ladder Hill in 1890, had been removed and - incredibly - dumped - when electricity arrived and the pole at the top of the car park outside the Canister must have taken precedence. I had googled as I knew the Company was MacFarlane of Glasgow, and found that they still had the Plans, so I contacted Merrill and he pursued the project to have a replacement. A few months later he informed me that Macfarlane Company had folded! We were dismayed. However we realised that it was probable that the Company which took it over would still have acquired the Plans. Merrill followed it up, they did and now the Memorial for all those who died in that terrible Rockfall in 1890 will be replaced.

Many Thanks to Merrill for listening and acting, and any others who became involved at Tourism. Merrill and his wife have sadly left the island to work overseas, so they will not be here to celebrate the return of this important Monument commemorating the deaths of so many islanders 129 years ago in the terrible Rockfall from Ladder Hill. Yours sincerely

Barbara B. George



ROCKFALL 1890 and the FOUNTAIN

From Governor'Annual Report of that year.

On 17th April 1890 about 1,500 tons of rock fell from a height of 600 feet upon the town, wrecking 14 houses, killing instantly 9 people in their beds, injuring 7 seriously and many others slightly. To alleviate the distress and in some measure to recoup the loss inflicted upon the victims who were nearly all of the poorer class, a subscription was started. The appeal for funds was well responded to in the island and received liberal support from both the steamship companies and from a few gentlemen in England interested in the Island. Many St. Helenians resident in South Africa also came to our assistance.

£290 were collected from island donations nearly all of which was distributed and with the small remainder, a memorial drinking fountain has been erected in the main Street in Jamestown. Messrs. Walter McFarlane and Co. of Glasgow supplied a large canopied fountain for a purely nominal sum; Messrs.Ockenden and Mayper brought it out free of freight and the Government have borne the cost of erection in view of the great advantage the fountain will be to the Town.

ANNUAL REPORT 1891

The fountain which was erected on 12th September is a great improvement to the Main Street in the town.

Governor Rushbrook - a man to leave his mark on St Helena

Even before Governor Rushbrook arrived in St Helena he was pin-pointing problems St Helena needs to overcome and prioritising the worst of them. In his inaugural speech, during a radio interview and more recently at this week's Chamber of Commerce meeting Philip Rushbrook has repeated his main messages and set out very clearly what he thinks needs to happen if St Helena is to rise from the doldrums of economic inactivity.

As guest speaker at Tuesday's Chamber of Commerce meeting Governor Rushbrook spent about an hour-and-a-half sharing his views on the way forward for St Helena. It was a longer session than scheduled and it was an opportunity to learn in much more detail what is likely to preoccupy the mind of the Governor during the next three years. Many of the Governor's comments were about how the St Helena Government could assist private enterprise and local entrepreneurs. One of the advantages of St Helena Government itself becoming more effective and efficient is that in several ways it would be a boost for private enterprise.

Governor Rushbrook has been very open and at times honest to a surprising extent when sharing his thoughts about St Helena's future. His ideas are in some ways almost revolutionary but at the same time are very similar to what many of us (probably most of us) have been thinking for a very long time. His thoughts can be described as revolutionary because in order to implement them it will mean for some people in government a change in the way they think, act, work and - most important - they way they make decisions.

The Governor pointed out to Chamber of Commerce members something he has said on previous occasions during his first few days in office. Despite being called 'Governor' anyone who holds that title is just one link in the chain. A chain that starts over 4,500 miles away in London with ministers and permanent secretaries right through to Legislative Councillors, government officers, business leaders, non-governmental organisations and all who choose to vote at election time or make their voice heard as various local issues arise.

Being just one link in the chain means the governor has to make sure his views are well known and 'sell' them to all the local links in the chain. Making his views known is what the Governor is now doing; it can be called a 'hearts and minds' operation because without the support of the local chain links the governor, or any leader for that matter, can find themselves leading with no-one following. If the Governor is unable to set the foundations for the changes he is promoting it could probably be said he did not win the hearts and minds of St Helenian society. However, when it comes to failure to carry through the Rushbrook Changes the eyes of history will almost certainly turn towards the people of this Island, not the Governor.

Early in the session at the Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday evening Governor Rushbrook agreed with a Chamber of Commerce member that the days when anyone had a job for life are now over. He pointed out that when his three years as Governor of St Helena comes to an end he has a maximum of six months to apply and be accepted for another post in the UK Civil Service. If when the six months is up he is still without a new posting – he is unemployed. He also remarked that deciding to have a report on a particular subject was often an excuse for doing nothing; "just get on and do it" is the Governor's favoured approach. Quicker decision-making in government appears to be one of his top priorities. He did point out that while reports can be time-waters robust policymaking is of fundamental importance. If there is no policy for health or education, for instance, decisions are made without direction and without consistency.

Philip Rushbrook also pointed out that SHG is involved in a range of activities which would normally be in the private sector. In St Helena the share of economic activity is roughly 75% SHG and 25% private sector. In the UK it is the other way around with only direct provision for services such as education and social welfare remaining in the public sector. In St Helena, with an increasing amount of work related to international agreements having to be administered by SHG it would not be unreasonable to see the SHG/private sector split reduced from 75/25 to 50/50.

Continuing with his theme on how governments can be more efficient and less costly the Governor drew attention to the type of assessment which took every government activity, each in its turn, where for each activity the question is asked, "What difference would it make if government did not do this". Where the answer is, "it would make little or no difference" the government should definitely stop doing it.

Pursuing the developing trend where SHG is becoming increasingly involved in administering and fulfilling international agreements, Governor Rushbrook said that if the UK wants St Helena to become fully compliant with new developments such as Marine Protected Areas then the UK should provide the people to draft the required legislation. The restricted resources available in the Attorney General's Chambers mean if there is a heavy case load of work in the Supreme Court or Magistrates Court the drafting of new or updated legislation takes a lower priority and suffers repeated delays.

While the governor concentrated mainly on how changes to the style of government would help the private sector he also mentioned during a discussion on farming that in most countries the farmers associations are strong and more than just a little forceful. They are also keen on protecting their interests and helping each other to reduce costs and increase profits by making bulk purchases of general commodities such as seed at reduced prices and then distributing the one large seed order among the local farmers. In St Helena this was not so, in fact the Farmers Association no longer existed as a voice for Island agriculture.

As Governor Rushbrook's meeting with the Chamber of Commerce progressed it appeared the Chamber members were in general agreement with the Governor on his approach to the changes needed to get St Helena moving ahead. Governor Rushbrook said that councillors and senior government officers also showed initial general support for the changes he is promoting.



Governor Philip Rushbrook and Guests

REGISTRY OF LANDS, ST HELENA

7th June 2019

NOTICE is hereby given of the relisting of the application by The Public Solicitor's Office, Secondary School Building, Ladder Hill (Acting on behalf of Mr Trevor and Mrs Helen Thomas), for registration of an easement over Crown Land namely Parcel 42, Block 1 in the Thompsons Hill Registration Section and over private land registered in the name of Solomon & Company (St. Helena) Plc of Main Street, Jamestown, St Helena namely Parcel 38, Block 1 in the Thompsons Hill Registration is made by virtue of claimed peaceable, open and uninterrupted enjoyment of said land for a period of at least 20 years.

A copy of the application and a plan of the said land are available for inspection at The Land Registry, Essex House, Jamestown, during normal office hours. Any person who wishes to make representations to the Land Registrar as to why this application should not be allowed must do so within 3 calendar months of the date of publication of this notice.

NICHOLAS ALDRIDGE, REGISTRAR OF LANDS

THANK YOU

The Family of the late Mr Hermon Coleman of Longwood would like to take this opportunity to express their sincere thanks to all those who supported us during Hermon's short illness. Special thanks goes to Revd Allan Williams, Deacon Bobby Crowie and Michael Moyce of St Matthews Parish for conducting the Funeral Service. Brian Isaac for reading the Eulogy, Rosie Mittens for reading the messages and Pat Musk for playing the Organ. Roy Williams and Team for all their hard work, Davina & Colin Lawrence and Marnie Duncan for making the wreaths and cross. Solomons for printing the

Funeral sheets. Also Elaine & Anthony Hopkins, Sonia Lawrence and the special ladies of the Rock for hosting the Wake.

To all the Family and Friends who provided flowers, sent cards of condolences or messages of support, both here and overseas, we appreciate the love you all gave to us at this difficult time.

Husband, Brother, Dad, Granddad and Great Granddad has sadly left us but will remain in our hearts forever. May he rest in peace. 03 JUNE 2019

ax <u>Timeline</u>

PLEASE NOTE!

<u>30 JUNE 2019</u> IS THE FINAL DATE FOR SELF-EMPLOYED BUSINESSES AND COMPANIES TO SUBMIT A TAX RETURN AND PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNTS.

A Tax Return can be downloaded from the SHG website: <u>http://</u> <u>www.sainthelena.gov.sh/forms/</u> this must be completed electronically and sent along with your Profit & Loss Account to: tax.returns@sainthelena.gov.sh

Or

Alternatively, you should come into the Tax Office where a computer and help will be available for you to complete your Tax Return. Please bring along your business account.

There is only a limited amount of time left before the 30 June 2019 therefore staff will only be able to help those who need assistance if an appointment is made in advance. Please call telephone number 22287 as soon as possible for your appointment.

Please take note, any Tax Returns and Accounts not submitted to the Tax Office by **30 June 2019** will result in the **£100 penalty** being automatically applied.

Income Tax Office Contacts: NEW CUSTOMS BUILDING, THE WHARF Tel. No. 22287

<u>Gillian Knipe</u> Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax Email: gillian.knipe@sainthelena.gov.sh <u>Noleen Phillips</u> Tax Auditor - Income Tax Email: noleen.phillips@sainthelena.gov.sh



www.sainthelenabank.com

PERSONAL ACCOUNT PACKAGES

With effect from Monday, 01 July 2019, the Bank of St Helena **Personal Premium Account Packages** are being restructured:

Package	Features	Monthly Fee			
Basic	Local Debit Card	£0.00			
Basic	1 Free Monthly Statement				
Standard	Local Debit Card				
	1 Free Monthly Statement	£1.00			
	£25.00 Interest Free Overdraft				
Premium	Local Debit Card				
	Online Banking Statement access, unlimited Local Account Transfer & Journal Payments and International Payments	£2.00			
	£100.00 Interest Free Overdraft				

Register or upgraded to the Premium Personal Account Package, offering customers total banking control:

- The Local Debit Card to make purchases and get cashback from participating business establishments
- Online Banking to:
 - \Rightarrow Monitor your statement
 - ⇒ Make local Account transfers
 - ⇒ Make local Journal Payments
 - ⇒ Make International Payments
- £100.00 interest free Overdraft, for when you need it

Existing Classic and Premium Account Package customers will have their account packages amended automatically.

For full details, to register or to upgrade please contact Customer Services on Telephone 22390 or email <u>customerservices@sainthelenabank.com</u>



ACCOUNT TRANSFER & INTERNATIONAL PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Customers are advised that with effect from Tuesday, 01 October 2019, Bank of St Helena will no longer accept instructions for Account Transfers and International Payments by email.

Customers may submit forms in person or utilise the Bank's Online Banking services to undertake the required transaction.

Head Office: Market Street · Jamestown · St Helena Island · STHL 1ZZ T. +290 22390 · F. +290 22553 · email. <u>info@sainthelenabank.com</u> · web <u>www.sainthelenabank.com</u> Established and regulated under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017 and the Company Ordinance, 2004



www.sainthelenabank.com

PERSONAL ACCOUNT PACKAGES UPGRADED

Customers are advised that with effect from **Monday, 01 July 2019** Bank of St Helena Ltd will implement its **revised Personal Account Package structure**.

- The Basic and Standard Account Packages will remain as is.
- The Classic Package will be **removed**, all Classic Package customers will be **upgraded** to the Premium Package **for no additional charge**
- The Premium Account Package will have the Journal Payments feature added to the Online Banking services and the Monthly Package fee will be reduced to £2.00

Register for, or upgrade to, the new Premium Account Package and take total control of your banking needs. Contact Customer Services on 22390 or email <u>customerservices@sainthelenabank.com</u> for full details.

Head Office: Market Street · Jamestown · St Helena Island · STHL 1ZZ T. +290 22390 · F. +290 22553 · email. <u>info@sainthelenabank.com</u> · web <u>www.sainthelenabank.com</u> Established and regulated under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017 and the Company Ordinance, 2004



Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons with an interest in Human Rights to fill the post of Executive Manager in the Equality and Human Rights Commission's office in Jamestown.

A detailed job description is available on request but the main duties of the post will require the successful candidate to provide support for the CEO and deputise in her absence. Duties of the post include the following:

- Assisting the CEO with the effective execution of the core work of the Commission, namely promotion and protect Equality, Diversity & Human Rights, research and human rights advocacy.
- Deliver, monitor and review the Strategic plan and the annual budget and audit rounds.
- Develop and maintain office policies and procedures, filing and IT systems.
- Assist as appropriate, the public, Commissioners and CEO with information, advice, etc.
- Monitor laws that affect Human Rights.
- Undertake and coordinate inquiries and investigations.
- Develop and maintain accurate data and provide information to CEO and Commissioners as and when required.
- Assisting the CEO in developing and delivering programs for generating training, learning and developmental materials and methodologies to implement human rights approaches.
- Supervise staff.

Applicants must have at least 7 years senior management experience, GCSE English and Maths in grade C or above and computer literate in Word/Excel/Outlook/PowerPoint. Accounting and budget preparation experience would be an advantage.

For further details regarding the position, interested persons should contact Catherine Turner, CEO on telephone number 22133 or email <u>catherine@humanrightssthelena.org</u>

To apply please submit your CV in person or by email to <u>catherine@humanrightssthelena.org</u> by no later than Friday 14th June 2019.

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Don't use running water to thaw frozen food. For water efficiency and food safety, defrost food in the refrigerator overnight.

VACANCY - WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES OPERATORS

The Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Directorate is seeking to recruit two individuals to work with their Waste Management Services team. Candidates should have a valid Class C License, have

relevant experience in customer care service and be able to demonstrate basic numeracy and literacy skills. The salary for the post is at Grade B commencing at £6,722 per annum.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact either Mr Patrick Crowie, Landfill Site Manager on Telephone No 23655 or Mr Anthony Henry, Waste Management Services Supervisor Tel; 63417.

Application forms and Job profiles are available from Scotland Office or Essex House and should be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, at Essex House or e-mail: karen.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Wednesday 12 June 2019.

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

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all

applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.

Darren Duncan, Acting Director of Environment Natural Resources and Planning, 28 May 2019



Retail Supervisor

The FIC is looking to recruit a Supervisor to work within their West Store Foodhall.

The successful applicant must be able to demonstrate great supervisory skills and be able to lead, motivate and coach their team whilst providing a fantastic customer service experience.

The person must be a highly energetic, confident and motivated individual who has a passion for retail.

A willingness to work across any of our retail departments as and when the need arises is essential. We are open seven days a week and open on public holidays and bank holidays, so shift work and weekend work will be included.

Applicants must be of clean sober habits. A clean driving licence will be considered favourable.

For more information or to submit your CV with covering letter please contact : Tara Francis—Retail Director on 00500 27635or Email: <u>tfrancis@fic.co.fk</u>

HEALTH DIRECTORATE VACANCY FOR TRAINEE DENTAL NURSE

The Health Directorate has a vacancy for a Trainee Dental Nurse. The Trainee Dental Nurse will work closely with clinicians to assist in providing care for patients and provide appropriate support and administrative assistance.

Some of the key duties of the post are:

- Assist clinicians with the triage of patients to make optimum use of clinical time and patient treatment, organises day-to-day tasks and activities, including maintaining the appointment book, to make optimum use of clinical time and patient treatment.

- Assist with sets-up/closes down the surgery for treatments planned before the start of, and at the end of each session to high standards and in accordance with set protocols.

- Assists the dental operator with patient care including monitoring, aspiration, mixing materials and passing instrument to the clinician during procedures. This requires the manipulation of fine instruments and materials.

- Carry out reception duties, managing the Appointment system, calculating charges for dental treatments and taking payments from patients, filing, researching patients' notes, and sending and receiving e-mails/faxes

- Assist clinicians through on-the-job training to promote oral health and preventative dental care within the Dental Clinic.

The salary for the post is at the training grade, Grade B8 commencing at £7899 per annum. The successful candidate should GCSE Mathematics, English and one other science related subject at Grade C and above or equivalent

He/she should have experience in administration including customer service and cash handling. Have excellent organisational skills, be Computer literate and be able to maintain patient confidentiality.

Interested persons requiring further details regarding this post can contact Mr Simon Smith, Lead Dentist on telephone no 22500 or email simon.smith@sainthelena.gov.sh Application forms and a job profile, which are available from the Health Directorate should be completed and submitted through Directors where applicable to Miss Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, Health Directorate on telephone no 22500 or email madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by 4pm on Thursday 13 June 2019.

All appointees 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.

Helen Lawrence Acting Director of Health 28 May 2019



Corporate Human Resources Vacancies

Would you like to pursue a Career in Human Resources or interested in a Career change? If you are, then Corporate Human Resources has two exciting opportunities available for individuals who are self-motivated and willing to learn and develop within their team.

Human Resources Support Officer

The purpose of this diverse role is to provide an efficient and effective administrative and financial support to Corporate Human Resources. Some of the key tasks include:

- To conduct research for example in respect of employment history queries and pension queries
- To process of payments and payroll data for our HR functions;
- To provide Secretarial support to Corporate Services Recruitment panels;
- To provide support to the Contracts team with recruitment exercises and data capturing.

Prospective Candidates should have GCSE's in English and Maths at Grade C or above, at least 2 years' experience in working in an office environment, 1 of which should be in an accounting role.

The post requires strong communication and excellent organizational skills with a keen eye for detail. The post holder should be proficient in IT skills including Microsoft applications and Access Dimensions and should have the ability to work under pressure to be able to meet tight timescales.

Salary for the post is at Grade C commencing at £8,613 per annum.

For further details regarding the duties of the post and for a copy of the job profile, interested persons can contact Delma Stevens, Senior HR Officer (I&SM) on Tel No. 22470 or email delma.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Human Resources Officer (Generalist)

This equally diverse role is responsible for providing an effective HR service to colleagues across the group and comprehensive administrative support covering the entire employee lifecycle. Some of the key tasks include:

- To lead and assist managers where necessary with the recruitment process;
- Being responsible for matters relating to employee relations across SHG;
- To provide advice and support to managers and staff in the interpretation and application of the Code of Management and other regulations relating to Terms and Conditions of Service;
- Serving as the main point of contact for allocated Technical Corporation Officers providing them with support on any contractual arrangements.

Prospective Candidates should have GCSE's in English and Maths at Grade C or above, Chartered Institute of Personnel Development (CIPD) Level 3 Certificate in Human Resources Practice, at least 2 years' relevant experience in an HR/ Administrative environment.

The post requires strong communication and excellent organizational skills with attention to detail. The post holder should be proficient in IT skills including Microsoft applications and should have the ability to remain calm whilst working under pressure to meet tight deadlines.

Salary for the post will commence at £9,904 per annum and will be reviewed on the achievement of training goals in line with the Corporate Human Resources Cadre.

For further details regarding the duties of the post and for a copy of the job profile, interested persons can contact Bronwen Yon on Tel No. 22470 or email bronwen.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Application forms are available from Corporate Human Resources and on the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/ vacancies/, and should be submitted (through Directors where applicable) to: Delma Stevens, Senior HR Officer (I&SM), Corporate Human Resources, The Castle by no later than 4pm on Tuesday, 18 June 2019.

Corporate Human Resources 04 June 2019





Units available at the Jamestown Market and ESH Business Park, Ladder Hill

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) have units available for rent to local entrepreneurs for non-industrial / clean business at the Jamestown Market and ESH Business Park, Ladder Hill.

Applications should be submitted to Emma Peters, Receptionist/Administration Support, in the form of an extended business brief detailing your planned business and intended opening hours with a 3 year cash flow via email <u>emma.peters@esh.co.sh</u> or in hard copy to the Enterprise St Helena Office, ESH Business Park by no later than 1200 hours (GMT) on Monday 24th June 2019.

Terms and Conditions apply.



For further information please contact: Robert Midwinter, Director of Enterprise

on 22920 or email: robert.midwinter@esh.co.sh

Head Office | ESH Business Park | Ladder Hill | Tel: +290 22920 | Email: info@esh.co.sh

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



Vacancy – Business Support Administrator (HR)

Connect Saint Helena Ltd has a vacancy for a Business Support Administrator-HR (BSA-HR). Responsible to the Business Support Director, the BSA-HR will be proactive in assisting with all Human Resources related matters, and provide support to Directors, Managers and Staff as required.

Duties include:

Being first point of contact for all HR related queries, assisting with Recruitment & Selection, Training & Development and Disciplinaries; coordinating yearly Staff Appraisals; preparation of consultancy contracts; reviewing of HR Policies; maintaining HR records and annual leave administration, and secretarial duties to various committees.

The ideal candidate will possess good customer service skills, be highly proficient in the use of Microsoft Word and Excel; have excellent organisation skills and be able to multi task and prioritise work to meet deadlines; work independently as well as in a team; communicate effectively both written and orally; and maintain complete confidentiality throughout.

Qualifications and Experience:

Essential: Grade C or above in GCSE English and Maths; 3 year's experience in a busy office environment; Driving Licence

class A or C.

Desirable: CIPD Certificate/Diploma Level 3 in Human Resources Practice.

Connect Saint Helena Ltd offers a competitive salary dependent on qualifications and experience. Other benefits include a 15% of base salary pension contribution and 25 days annual leave. The Company also offers support for relevant training courses to enhance skills and capabilities.

For a full job description and application form, please contact Kerry Lane on 22255 or email <u>kerry.lane@connect.co.sh</u>. Completed application forms should be sent to the above email address or delivered to Seales Corner, Jamestown by 12:00 noon on Friday, 21 June 2019.



For further information. including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Marilyn Joshua, **Grocery Manager** (Country Outlets) on telephone number: 23559 or via email address: hth-manager@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Reception De<mark>sk, in the</mark> Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Nicola Essex, Human Resources Manager, Solomons Office, Jamestown, by 18 June 2019.

has a vacancy for a

Grocery Sales Assistant

Within the Half Tree Hollow Supermarket on temporary basis

Job Outline To provide a high standard of customer service and to assist with the day-to-day running of the shop.

- Interested Persons Should:
- Have excellent Customer Service skills
- Be competent in Maths, English & IT
- Have some knowledge & experience in Food Handling Have some experience in Cash Handling

Salary for the post will be £605.05 per month



For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Marilyn Joshua, **Grocery Manager** (Country Outlets) on telephone number: 23559 or via email address: hth-manager@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Reception De<mark>sk, in the</mark> Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via e-mail address: hradmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Nicola Essex, Human Resources Manager, Solomons Office, Jamestown, by 13 June 2019.

has a vacancy for a

Shop Floor Assistant

Within the Half Tree Hollow Supermarket on temporary basis

Job Outline To provide a high standard of customer service and to assist with the day-to-day running of the shop.

- **Interested Persons Should:**
- Have excellent Customer Service skills
- Be competent in Maths. English
- Have some knowledge & experience in Food Handling

Salary for the post will be £562.45 per month





REMOTE BANKING – WHARF KIOSK

Bank of St Helena would like to advise the public that the Wharf Kiosk will be closed on Friday 21 June 2019 & Friday 28 June 2019. Any inconvenience caused is very much regretted.

Head Office: Market Street · Jamestown · St. Helena · South Atlantic · STHL 1ZZ Tel: +290 22390 · Fax: +290 22553 · e-mail: info@sainthelenabank.com · web: www.sainthelenabank.com Established and regulated in St. Helena under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008 the Company Ordinance, 2004 and the Company Regulations, 2004

RENAMING OF PRINCESS ROYAL COMMUNITY CARE CENTRE RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS

The Children & Adults Social Care Directorate renamed their residential dwellings at the Princess Royal Community Care Centre (CCC) with a short unveiling ceremony at the CCC on Monday, 3 June 2019.

In attendance were Councillor Anthony Green, Director of Children & Adults Social Care, Tracy Poole-Nandy, Quality Assurance & Policy Lead, Gavin (Jack) Thomas, various staff and volunteers of the Children & Adults Social Care Directorate, residents of the CCC and representatives from the media.

During the ceremony, the group of attendees were guided around the CCC and were shown the five new wooden plaques which had been wall mounted outside of each residential dwelling. Five persons from the group were chosen to unveil a plaque and give background information as to why the particular names were chosen. The plaques were made using local wood by a prisoner of HM Prison Jamestown.

Up until the unveiling of the new name plaques, the residential dwellings were referred to as 'blocks'. Recently, staff and residents of the CCC ran a competition and came up with names which they would like the dwellings to be called. The residential dwellings are now called: Sunny Ville (previously known as A-Block), Honey Ville (Blue-Block), Arum Ville (F-Block), Golden Ville (Green-Block) and Rose Ville (Red-Block). In his opening speech, Gavin (Jack) Thomas gave context to the importance of creating a homely environment and how the name changes added to the homeliness of the CCC. Gavin also gave a special mention and thanks to Mr Larry Stevens of the Agriculture & Natural Recourses Division for kindly donating the wood, Prison Manager, Heidi Murray, for her support and to one of the prisoners of HM Prison Jamestown for crafting the wood into the five name plaques. Gavin said that this was a milestone occasion in the directorate's history, which coincided with the renaming of the directorate and lots of other important developments currently underway.

Manager of the CCC, Wendy Henry, explained the reasons behind the name changes for the residential dwellings, the significance of moving away from reference to 'blocks', and the importance of residents feeling proud of where they live – existing and new residents. All of the names submitted related to flowers.

SHG, 4 June 2019



The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 27, Friday 7th June 2019



For Sale

A locally made Iroko storage unit in excellent condition.

Size 54 x 15 x 36 high 3 full length shelves with 3 upper compartments. Suitable for lounge/dining room or hallway. Price: £90.00 Please Contact J. Patsy Flagg "Harlyn" on Tel: 23727



Jamestown Community Centre Skittles League

The season started last week with comfortable league wins for Guys & Dolls and Extractors.

Golf Report - Contributed

Twenty one Members participated in the 18 hole Stableford (full handicap) competition held on Sunday 2nd June 2019. Despite some rain early Sunday morning, the day turned progressively drier to become a sunny afternoon resulting in an enjoyable afternoon of golf. After a count back Norman Thomas emerged as the winner with a net point score of 36 with Raymond Henry claiming 2nd place. Congratulations to Norman and Raymond. There were no two ball winners for the day. We would like to thank Henzil Beard & Donald Bowers for sponsoring the prizes for the competition.

On Sunday 9th June 2019, an 18 Hole Par 3 competition is scheduled and the first group tee off time is 12 noon. You may register your name on the sign-up sheet at the Golf Club or leave a voicemail on telephone number 24421.

Scores:

Z/th. Way:		
GUYS & DOLLS - 481 Bt	RUSTY PISTOLS	- 460
Ladies - H. Sc: Pat Essex 57	Terri Clingham	39
Ladies - H. Sp:		
Gents - H. Sc: Neil Joshua 81	Wayne Yon	61
Gents - H. Sp: Neil Joshua 18	Wayne Yon	16
29th. May:		
EXTRACTORS-519 Bt	STRUGGLERS-4	51
Ladies - H. Sc:	Sally Hickling	59
Ladies - H. Sp:	Sally Hickling	9
Gents - H. Sc: Deon Thomas 74	Fabian Peters	66
Gents - H. Sp. Deon Thomas 15	Fabian Peters	15

- H. Sp: Deon Thomas 15 Fabian Peters Stuart Isaac 15

'MAY FAIR EXPLOSION'

On Saturday 25th May, Harford Primary School held at the school, their main fundraiser for the year, a 'May Fair explosion'. Despite apprehensions about the weather, the day dawned bright and sunny making preparations for the day easier to orchestrate. Fortunately, this weather pattern continued throughout the day, which made a firm contribution to its overall success.

The day kick-started with a welcome speech and a display by the school's cheerleaders. All in attendance were then able to view and buy from, the many stalls and side shows that were set up as well as browse the endless car boot stalls. In our school, there are a diverse range of cultures and some of the food that was on sale, celebrated this. This ranged from African chakalaka to Scottish tablet! As a further celebration of this diversity, some parents and pupils took part in African and Scottish dancing displays. To entertain the very little ones there was the much loved bouncy castle , donkey rides as well as face painting. A tuck shop, popcorn, ice cream, hot food and Tea and Cakes stall kept everyone fed and watered throughout the day. Colin Peters added to the atmosphere by entertaining everyone with some fantastic, mixed music throughout the day. Thank You Colin!

At 3.00 pm there was a May Queen Contest in the following categories:

EYFS – Nursery and Reception KS1 – Years 1 and 2



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KS2 - Years, 3,4, 5 and 6

Everyone who entered had presented and conducted themselves really well and the judges had a difficult time deciding the winners. After much deliberation the following pupils were named 'May Queens' in their category:

EYFS - Irie Ellick – Deadwood

KS1 - Shakira Hercules – Levelwood

KS2 - Erin Thomas - Gordon's Post

The day ended with the announcing of the winners from various raffles etc that formed part of the event. The winners were as follows:

Guess the weight of the chocolate sandwich cake – Miranda March-Alarm Forest

Guess the weight of the Fruit cake – Merle Peters - Jamestown

Guess the weight of the pumpkin - Kaylin Knipe – Levelwood Raffle of Two Bottles of Wine – Cara Joshua - Cleughs Plain Guess the contents of the parcel (Male) - Gary Cameron (Longwood) and Patricia Williams (Gordons Post).

Although not a final count, figures at the moment indicate that over £1000.00 profit was made for PTA funds. Harford Primary School PTA would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to make the day a success. Special thanks to all of those who attended (the turnout out was fantastic).

DISTRICT CRICKET RESULTS

Saturday 25th May 2019

13.30pm Half Tree Hollow 233/5 Andrew Yon 105 Ajay Bennett 49 Jeremy Henry 1/12 Rhys Francis 1/21 Sandy Bay 134/10 Chedwin Lawrence 30 Jeremy Henry 24 Ashton Benjamin 2/11 Barry Stroud 2/24 Performance Points Andrew Yon 3, David Young 2, Ajay Bennett 1

Sunday 26th May 2019

10.00am Jamestown 181/3 Scott Crowie 59 Damien O'bey 53 Alex Langham 1/30 Rex Young 1/39 Longwood 164/4 Darrell Leo 50* Patrick Crowie 38 Damien O'bey 2/28 Gavin George 1/27 Scott Crowie 1/27 Performance Points Damien O'bey 3, Scott Crowie 2, Darrell Leo 1

13.30pm

Levelwood 133/9 Sanjay Clingham 46 Clayton Leo 22 Gareth Johnson 4/16 Jordan Yon 2/37 St Pauls 137/2 Gareth Johnson 52* Ryan Belgrove 37 Stefan Leo 1/12 Ross Henry 1/21 Performance Points Gareth Johnson 3, Sanjay Clingham 2, Ryan Belgrove 1

Saturday 1st June 2019

13.30pm Jamestown 137/7 Gavin George 40 Scott Crowie 36 Clayton Leo 2/20 Stefan Leo 2/35 Levelwood 138/3 Clayton Leo 45 Sanjay Clingham 34 Tristan Thomas 2/26 Luke Bennett 1/35 Performance Points Clayton Leo 3, Sanjay Clingham 2, Tristan Thomas 1

Sunday 2nd June 2019

10.00am St Pauls 163/7 Gareth Johnson 54 Mark Williams 30 Ajay Bennett 2/28 Barry Stroud 1/27 Half Tree Hollow 94/10 Barry Stroud 17 Andrew Yon 13 Martin Henry 13 Mark Williams 3/23 Jordi Henry 2/20 Performance Points Mark Williams 3, Gareth Johnson 2, Jordi Henry 1

13.30pm Longwood 153/6 Darrell Leo 67* Simon Scipio 26* Campbell Buckley 3/32 Darren Isaac 1/19 Matthew Benjamin 1/37 Sandy Bay 155/3 Matthew Benjamin 100* Chedwin Lawrence 18 Sean-Lee Thomas 1/29 Alex Langham 1/31 Ralph Knipe 1/40 Performance Points Matthew Benjamin 3, Darrell Leo 2, Campbell Buckley 1

25 OVER KNOCKOUT CRICKET FIXTURES

Quarter-Finals Saturday 8th June 2019 **13.30am** – Jamestown Heat Vs Lions Umpires: (Woodpeckers/Mustangs) Sunday 9th June 2019 **10.00am** – Levelwood Allstars Vs Western Woodpeckers Umpires: (Pirates) **13.30am** – Royal Challengers Vs Western A Mustangs Umpires: (Jamestown Heat/Lions)



District Table									
	Games Played	Games Won	Games Lost	Points	Runs Scored	Overs Batted	Runs Conceded	Overs Bowled	Net RunRate
St Pauls	5	5	0	10	915	88.67	519	78.3333	3.694
Half Tree Hollow	5	4	1	8	1015	96.833	735	88.1667	2.14544
Levelwood	5	2	3	4	675	88.833	679	91.6667	0.19123
Sandy Bay	5	2	3	4	674	77.167	946	100	-0.72566
Jamestown	5	2	3	4	720	88.833	926	92.3333	-1.92382
Longwood**	5	0	5	-2	666	91.833	858	81.6667	-3.25385

Note: * = 1 point deducted for failure to provide umpire

Girlguiding 'Branches Breakout' Bermuda

2019 is an exciting year for members of Girlguiding here on St Helena. Along with the introduction of a new programme and badgework across all levels of the organisation, due to be rolled out from September of this year, Girlguidng St Helena have been given the opportunity to send a small contingent of young members and leaders to Bermuda in August 2019 to join the first ever Girlguiding Branch Association jamboree camp.

The St Helena Guide Association is part of the Girlguiding UK (formerly known as the Girl Guide Association) and along with the other overseas territories of the UK form the 'Branch Associations' of the organisation. Other member countries include the Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Bermuda and other Caribbean islands.

Branches Breakout is a special jamboree camp hosted by the Bermuda Branch as a celebration of the centenary of Guiding in Bermuda. Branch member organisations have been invited to share this special occasion by joining the Girl Guides of Bermuda for a week of fun, challenges and exciting activities. The camp will include opportunities for adventurous activities and experiences not available at home, will provide opportunities for members to learn new skills and to make new friends. Importantly there will also be chances to share the culture of St Helena with the other participants through displays, skits and dances that the group will perform as part of the evening activities and entertainments.

This trip to the UK and Bermuda is the first opportunity for international travel with Girlguiding that the young members have been able to participate in since a group attended a camp in the UK in 2010. While away the members will wear group colours and be representing Girlguiding St Helena at all times. They will be expected to be highly motivated and in exchange for throwing themselves in to all aspects of the event should have a wonderful three weeks overseas. The group will spend time before and after the camp sightseeing in both Johannesburg and the south of the UK, including a visit to the 'birthplace of Scouting and Guiding', Brownsea Island in Dorset. This is an important place for members of both organisations as it was here that Lord Baden Powell held his first Scout Camp back in 1907. They also hope to be able to attend one day of the Reading Sports weekend.

The contingent representing St Helena in Bermuda this August will consist of Rangers Danni Thomas, Marcella Mittens and Demi George, along with leaders Winifred Thomas and Deborah Knipe. The group will be joined by leader Rosemary Mittens and Commissioner Heather Cowdry, both of whom will be self-funding their trip. Winifred will be completing the 'International Event' Girlguiding qualification during the Jamboree and is currently working hard on making sure all arrangements are in place.

Fundraising efforts are well underway and the group, along with the whole of Girlguiding St Helena, are working hard to fundraise the £13,000 required for the trip. This is an enormous undertaking and there is still a long way to go. Excitingfundraising events coming up include a quiz night at Rosie's Bar and Restaurant on Friday 7th June and a raffle which will take place in July/August with prizes of household items including electrical goods, kitchenware and a handmade chest of drawers.

The group would like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to everyone who has supported this endeavour so far, be that financial support by way of donations and sponsorships, physically by taking part in events, or by their kind donations of raffle prizes and items for the team to take with them – without your generosity and support it would not be possible to make this trip a reality.

APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

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

1. Application 2019/46: FULL Planning Application for Proposed New Cemetery, Nr the Dungeon on Parcel 0435 Alarm Forest, adjacent to the Dungeon Cemetery. Applicant: St Helena Government

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

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

Public Review Commencement Date Public Review Closing Date

: 7 June 2019 : 21 June 2019

Shane Williams Planning Officer



Lose yourself in the Great British Galapagos: Remote St Helena is a unique natural wonder crammed with fascinating wildlife - and a new airport is transforming it into a winter sun hotspot

- Flights are now running to St Helena from Johannesburg – and later in the year from Cape Town
- The lush island is home to everything from black-sand beaches to the world's oldest giant tortoises
- Seafood in St Helena is a big deal tuna and wahoo are go-tos and don't miss the local black pudding

By MIKE MACEACHERAN FOR THE MAIL ON SUNDAY I am bobbing along beside a fish bigger than a school bus, ahead lies a boundless sea of marine life, and I have a shark'seye view of the southern Atlantic Ocean. This is St Helena, the edge-of-the-world British territory adrift off West Africa, and my adrenaline levels soar as I eyeball an absolutely gargantuan whale shark through my mask. It's the first time I've ever felt edible.

With the recent launch of flights to St Helena from Johannesburg – and later in the year from Cape Town – the island's spectacular natural flora and fauna has seen it dubbed the Great British Galapagos and climb the list of must-see destinations.

The lush island is home to everything from black-sand beaches and Jurassic-era cloud forests to rolling plantations and twisty roads. On land you can find the world's oldest giant tortoises (four of them), and at sea you'll find a pod of 800 dolphins.



Jurassic world: Astronomer Edmond Halley set up a marquee observatory on Diana's Peak

Gorgeous year-round temperatures make the volcanic outpost a far-flung alternative to the Canaries or Cape Verde for winter sun, but there is also as much of the unfamiliar as there is of fish and chips and cheap beer.

Geographically, St Helena is about the size of Jersey and is an island with a split personality. It can't make up its mind if it's British or Brazilian, Creole or Caribbean, with a tablespoon of Iceland thrown in.

All of its attributes – tropical, volcanic, mountainous and moonlike – can be found in equal measure. This may explain why Charles Darwin waxed lyrical about St Helena in his memoir The Voyage Of The Beagle, and why astronomer Edmond Halley set up a marquee observatory on Diana's Peak. With zero light pollution, the skies are a feast of huge, twinkling stars.





All roads in St Helena lead to the capital Jamestown, set in a deep gorge

As part of the world's most remotely inhabited archipelago, St Helena takes time to get to. The new airport was controversially built with £285 million of UK Government funding, but the launch of commercial flights was delayed because of dangerous wind conditions.

Previously, visitors had to take a four-day cruise from Cape Town, but you still need to factor in the best part of two days to get here from the UK – including a stopover in South Africa. Expect spectacular views as you fly in – it's like landing in Jurassic Park.

The island observes GMT so you don't have to worry about jet-lag. Scheduled flights land only twice a week, so you'll have to spend a minimum of four days exploring and shifting down a gear to island pace. By the time you leave, you'll be treated like a local.

CASH IS KING

British pounds and pence are accepted, but a word of warning for those used to contactless and credit cards. There is no ATM and international credit cards are not used. Indeed, St Helena is a throwback to the early 1960s when cash was king. If you need to withdraw more money, there is a government-owned bank (with a £5 charge per transaction), but the island is cheaper than you might imagine. Think £2 for a beer and £12 for a two-course dinner.

The island is chain-free with no fast-food outlets. Online shopping is big (shipped in from Cape Town). There are little local shops and the odd souvenir outlet, but don't expect to spend a lot of money.

LOCAL CAR HIRE

The island is decidedly run on first-name terms, so you won't find Avis or Hertz – instead car hire comes from Brendan or Jeff. Set aside about £20 per day for a shoestring rental (**sthelenatourism.com/car-hire**). There's no public trans-

Lose yourself in the Great British Galapagos: Remote St Helena is a unique natural wonder crammed with fascinating wildlife - and a new airport is transforming it into a winter sun hotspot

port, but taxis will take you on a tour of the island for about £25.

MEET THE SAINTS

The Saints, as locals call themselves, are a happy crowd, safe in the knowledge they're 5,000-odd miles removed from Britain's problems, but they are genuinely pleased you've made the effort to come. They'll bend over backwards to help. The new attorney general, Allen Cansick, pulls pints at The Consulate to help out in the evening and everyone knows the chief of police as David.

If you visit Plantation House $(\pounds 10)$, the governor's official residence, you may get to have afternoon tea with the Queen's representative. If she's not at home, befriend Jonathan, the estate's 187-year-old giant tortoise, who shuffles around the front lawn.

WHERE TO STAY

All roads in St Helena lead to the capital Jamestown, set in a deep gorge. Here, Main Street functions as the island's emotional barometer. On Monday morning, it is buttoned-down and business-like, but by Friday afternoon, locals and Brit expats are relaxing with a beer outside The Standard, The White Horse and Mule Yard – the town's three watering holes. Five minutes away you'll find The Consulate, a creaky 18th Century colonial bolthole decorated with sea charts, ship's wheels, portraits of Nelson and enough maritime memorabilia to sink HMS Victory (**consulatehotelsainthelena.com**). Nightly entertainment comes from singalongs by the piano, but if you prefer quieter contemplation, head for a seat on the wrought-iron balcony with a G&T.



Main Street in Jamestown, St Helena. On Monday morning, it is buttoned-down and business-like, but by Friday afternoon, locals and Brit expats are relaxing with a beer

Double rooms have period interiors to match the vibe and cost from $\pounds 200$ a night, including breakfast which is reassuringly familiar – eggs, bacon and pots of tea.

For the ultimate in peace and quiet, Bertrand's Cottage is the former home of Napoleon's right-hand man, Grand Marshal Henri-Gatien Bertrand (**bertrandscottage.com**). The French emperor was exiled on St Helena after the Battle of Waterloo, and Bertrand built a lovely retreat across the road from his



master's mansion, Longwood House, which is now a beacon for French history-lovers chasing Napoleon's ghost (entry £10). The three snug rooms at Bertrand's Cottage have splendid views across the island, including to Diana's Peak, St Helena's highest point. Rooms cost from £130, including breakfast of French omelette and croissant.

FOODIE FUN

Seafood in St Helena is a big deal. Tuna and wahoo are gotos and the island's cuisine is a fusion of trends and recipes from Britain, South East Asia and Africa. The most familiar are sesame-seared tuna or spicy fish cakes, scone-shaped patties of tuna belly and thickly sliced red chilli.

Don't miss the local black pudding (made from rice instead of grain) and 'plo', a one-pot, open-fire cooked curry. Other unusual specialities include tomato paste sandwiches, known as 'bread 'n' dance' for their ubiquitous appearance at carnivals and town hall dances.

For an exceptional experience, eat at the Mantis hotel (mantissthelena.com). Save it for your last night and enjoy delicious smoked tuna pâté and local pork belly.

Over at the world's remotest distillery, prickly pear liquor is produced by Welsh expat Paul and a tour and tasting costs £5. Then there is the unexpected bounty of chocolatey St Helena coffee. It is made with pure, green-tipped bourbon arabica and can be found in only two places on the planet – at the St Helena Coffee Shop, run by Sheffield couple Bill and Jill, or at Harrods (where it is costs £75 per 100g).

DON'T MISS

Settled by the East India Company in 1658, and used as the service station of the shipping world for centuries, St Helena is a tried-and-tested survivor. The fortified walls, cannons and moat of Jamestown make it look like an impregnable, ends-of-the-earth castle.

Huff and puff up the 699 stone steps of Jacob's Ladder, the remains of the company's cargo-carrying cable railway, and you'll be rewarded by an explosive sunset. High Knoll Fort, which dates from 1799, is worth a visit, as is the Museum of St Helena (**museumofsainthelena.org**).

WILDLIFE TOURS AND STARGAZING



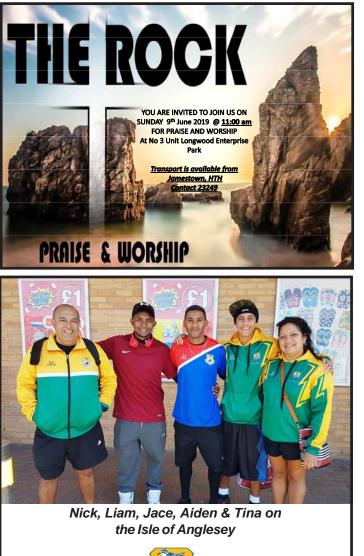
Sea giant: St Helena is the only place in the world where male and female whale sharks are spotted in such huge numbers Continued on NEXT PAGE

Lose yourself in the Great British Galapagos: Remote St Helena is a unique natural wonder crammed with fascinating wildlife - and a new airport is transforming it into a winter sun hotspot



Exotic: Pictured is a St Helena Waxbill, which is a small passerine bird and one of the island's distinctive species

Did you know St Helena is the only place in the world where male and female whale sharks are spotted in such huge num-





Contributed

bers? In season, from January to late March, it's not uncommon to see two dozen cavorting in the water as they migrate through the island's shallow summer waters.

On the way to Flagstaff Bay, you're also likely to spot the island's resident 800-strong pod of pantropical dolphins. The cost of a half-day trip is about $\pounds 20$ per person and in a land of spectacular sightings, this is a standout moment (**divesainthelena.com**).

Skittish wire birds – all silver plumage and cartoon legs – are endemic and nest alongside thronging populations of terns and petrels. Pack your binoculars and be ready to be surprised by a kaleidoscopic bustle of red-billed tropicbirds, noddies, masked boobies and gibbering Indian mynas.

You'll also get a chance to see the island's 455 species of invertebrates, including the fairytale-like blushing snail, golden leafhopper and Janich's fungus weevil.

For anyone wanting to look skywards at night, stargazing tours are available from Derek Richards of Island Images (price on application; **islandimages.co.sh**).



ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL ON SUNDAY 16th June 2019

AT 5PM

PLEASE DO COME ALONG AND JOIN IN WITH SOME GREAT GOSPEL SONGS!

LIVE MUSIC BY

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL GOSPEL GROUP

ALL ARE WELCOME.



The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 27, Friday 7th June 2019



The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 27, Friday 7th June 2019



Entertainment at Silver Hill Bar for this Weekend Friday open from 4.00pm till late mix Tunes by DJ CJ. Saturday open from 5.00pm to till late Disco Sunday open from 3.30pm to 11.00pm.live Tunes by Wilson, Peter and Robbie all are welcome Sandy Bay Community Centre Open Sunday 9th June 2019 From 4.00pm – late With entertainment with Alex and Guest Singers Bar & Refreshments All Are welcome





African Night

2019

An Evening of All African

Cuisine, Music, Dance and Fun

Date: Saturday 15 June 2019 Venue: Kingshurst Time: 18:00-Till Late

Price: £1.50 Adults & 0.75p Children per ticket

Food and desserts will be on sale Contacts: Sibo(22971) & Cilla (23249)

THE ROCK

The St Helena Independent Volume XIV, Issue 27, Friday 7th June 2019

Ladies & Kids Crocs

Ladies Boots

Men's Trainers

£13.95

Boys Trainers

Men's Sandals

Toddlers Trainers

7 95