

THE ST HELENA Est. 2005 INDEPENDENT

VOLUME XV ISSUE 11, 21st FEBRUARY 2020, PRICE £1



**Inside St Helena
business conference**

**Bone Shark Festival tonight –
with famous surprise guests**



**Latest on Rockfall
Protection**



**Fisheries - St Helena's
Blame Game**



10 STEPS TO GETTING IT DONE

UK nationality law still discriminates against British citizens born in the Overseas Territories

Under current laws, children born before 2006 cannot inherit citizenship from fathers from the British Overseas Territories, unless their parents were married. Until quite recently, similar rules applied across the board. No child born outside marriage could inherit British citizenship from their father, only from their mothers. But after years of campaigning by activists, the Immigration Act of 2014 was passed, which allowed children born out of wedlock to inherit citizenship if their father is from mainland Britain. However, the law change *excluded* children with fathers from the British Overseas Territories.

The opening paragraph is quoted from an Article in *New Internationalist* dated November 2018. A few months earlier, in May of the same year, the UK Parliament's Joint Committee on Human Rights took written and oral evidence on this issue and published a report called, *Proposal for a draft British Nationality Act 1981 (remedial Order) 2018*. The opening paragraph in this report read; "This proposed Remedial Order concerns the right of a child of a British parent to become a British citizen by descent from their British parent—irrespective of whether it is their mother or their father who is British; and irrespective of whether their parents are married or not."

In a section of the report called, "Discrimination and British Overseas Territories Citizenship"

It is explained the 1981 British Nationality Act gives a child the right to British citizenship if either the mother or the father is British and citizenship by descent applies whether a child's parents are married or not. But, the 1981 Act specifies only either a mother or a father with British citizenship and excludes the six other categories of British nationality including British Overseas Territories Citizenship. The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights also pointed out the European Convention on Human Rights extends to all British Overseas Territories and under the European Convention the British Nationality Act 1981 is discriminatory, illegal and affects British Overseas Territories Citizens in particular.

Now, two years later the same issues are being raised and questions are still being asked about when these issues will be resolved. Baroness Lister of Burtersett asked a question on 27th January which was answered on 10th February. On 12th of this month she asked two more questions.. In January Baroness Lister asked the UK Government, "what discussions they have had with British Overseas Territories about the access to citizenship by children of fathers from such territories who were not married to the children's mothers; and what plans they have to address this issue in any forthcoming immigration bill." The UK Government's response to this question was given by Baroness Williams who has just been appointed Minister of State for Countering Extremism. "We are aware that the provisions regarding the children of unmarried British Overseas Territories Citizen fathers do not match those for British citizens, and have sought the views

of the Overseas Territories on the issue. We will provide details of any suggested resolution to this matter in due course." Baroness Williams' previous role in government was Minister for Equalities.

Going back to 2018 once more, a BBC report on this issue quoted the then Immigration Minister Caroline Noakes who told the UK Parliament's Joint Committee on Human Rights "Any amendments to persons entitled to be registered as British Overseas Territory citizens will require consultation with the Overseas Territories and this is now on our agenda." Two years have passed and the UK Government is still peddling the line they are consulting with the Overseas Territories. Noakes herself is now Chair of the Women and Equalities Parliamentary Committee. Her voting record in the House of Commons includes voting against same-sex marriage.



Baroness Lister, a fighter for British Overseas Territory citizens

Meanwhile Baroness Lister persisted with her questioning. Her next question asked, "further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 10 February, whether they will now answer the question put, namely, what discussions they have had with British Overseas Territories about the access to citizenship by children of fathers from such territories who were not married to the children's mothers; and what plans they have to address this issue in any forthcoming immigration bill." The second question of the same day asked, "On what date they expect to provide details of their resolutions in regard to the access to citizenship of children of unmarried British Overseas Territories citizen fathers." Both questions await a response.



Contributed



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Editorial

This week's *Independent* is a bundle of fun. We've got an update on the coronavirus, and some examples of inertia and inaction from our Lords and Masters, the UK Government. And, of course, there is a bit more about fishing and fish processing.

First of all I have to mention a situation which started when representatives from the St Helena Commercial Fishermen's Association met with members of Executive Council to discuss several points about the transition from St Helena Fisheries Corporation to . . . well, something else. Exactly what, I'm not yet sure. That discussion came and went; to be followed by the Governor also agreeing to a meeting with the commercial fishermen. In his email agreeing to a meeting His Excellency added a suggestion. He asked that the fishermen refrain from disturbing and distracting elected members.

I cannot let this pass. I have to mention it. Having spent some considerable time in recent weeks happily writing about Dr Sarkin and plans for openness, transparency, responsibility and accountability; we now have the governor turning all this on its head. The inference now is that open discussion between the fishermen on the fishing situation with those who are allegedly responsible for the 'plans' which led to the hoped for smooth transfer becoming a bumpy ride is, in fact, nothing but a disturbance and a distraction.

There is a saying which goes, "There is a difference between truly listening and waiting for your turn to talk." Humans have generally always been very bad at *really* listening to what is being said. You know, reading the signs, the expressions and noticing what is not said as much as what is; all that kind of thing. Then there is the body language. That's just as useful to understand as listening carefully. The point is, I don't think there is much real *listening* going on at the moment.

I still cannot get over the fact that someone who is an advocate for white supremacy, breeding humans as if we were race horses and treating women as second rate somehow was employed in a job right beneath the UK prime minister's nose. When this latter day Dr Mengele got found out Boris Johnson kept silent. Silence is always taken as a sign of acceptance and in this case Johnson's silence is completely inexcusable. It can be seen as a sign of weakness but also, especially where people who hold positions of significant power are concerned, it can be a sign of a strong streak of nastiness running right through them. Not too long ago when something went very badly wrong in a government department the political head of that department would resign as a consequence. This happens much less often now as political chancers take over from those who used to have aspirations for leadership in the genuine sense of the word.

I've just finished reading a book about someone called Alexandre Dumas, a general in the French Revolutionary Army who fought alongside Napoleon in Egypt at the pinnacle of his military career. Dumas was the father of a son by the same name who wrote a longstanding bestseller called *The Count of Monte Cristo*; the story of one person's rise and fall. Alex Dumas the general was born on the Caribbean island now called Haiti. His mother was a slave; his father was a minor aristocrat. He was brought to France by his father and proceeded to rise through the ranks after joining the French Army. Part of his rise in fortune was due to racial discrimination and slavery being not only outlawed during the French Revolution but also cast aside at

the social level. Maybe the threat of the guillotine had something to do with. Anyway, as the French Revolution faded away and Napoleon rose to Emperor the freedoms won by blacks were whittled away fairly quickly and slavery was legalised once more. General Dumas, the hero of a string of battles, was thrown in prison when his ship was wrecked on the shores of an unfriendly country when returning from Egypt. While in prison he was almost poisoned to death. When he was released Napoleon was Emperor; he refused to give Dumas another military posting and withheld his pension. Dumas died destitute of stomach cancer at the age of forty. I don't think there is much in that story which will feature as part of next year's bicentenary celebrations. But it does tend to lend weight to my suggestion that people who hold positions of significant power have a strong streak of nastiness running right through them.

And finally, Mike is apologising for not having started his 'Mike's Diary' this week. He has been incapacitated and partly hospitalised this week but will be ready for the next edition.

Vince

DADDY PUTS ON HIS WALKING BOOTS...



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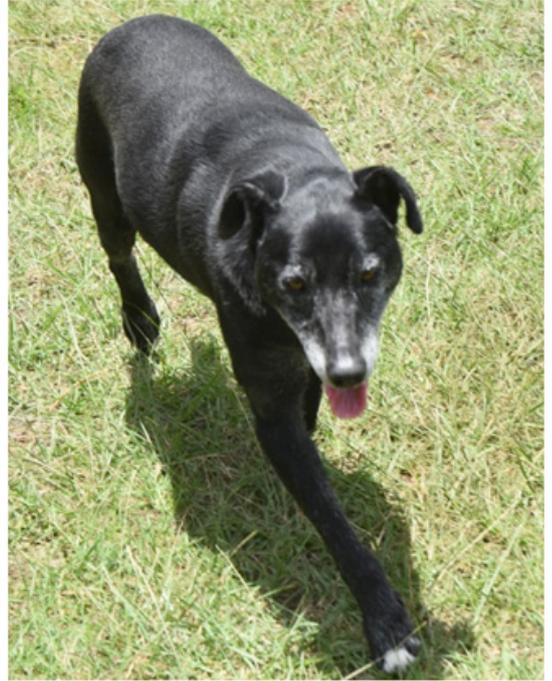
FACEBOOK.COM/OFF THE LEASH DAILY DOG CARTOONS

Inside St Helena business conference

*Created by Darrin and Sharon Henry
With sponsorship by the Bank of St Helena*



Arriving members of the private sector



All creatures are welcome



The awesome Engage 2020 Dream Team



Cliff Huxtable gives a winner's welcome

Inside St Helena business conference



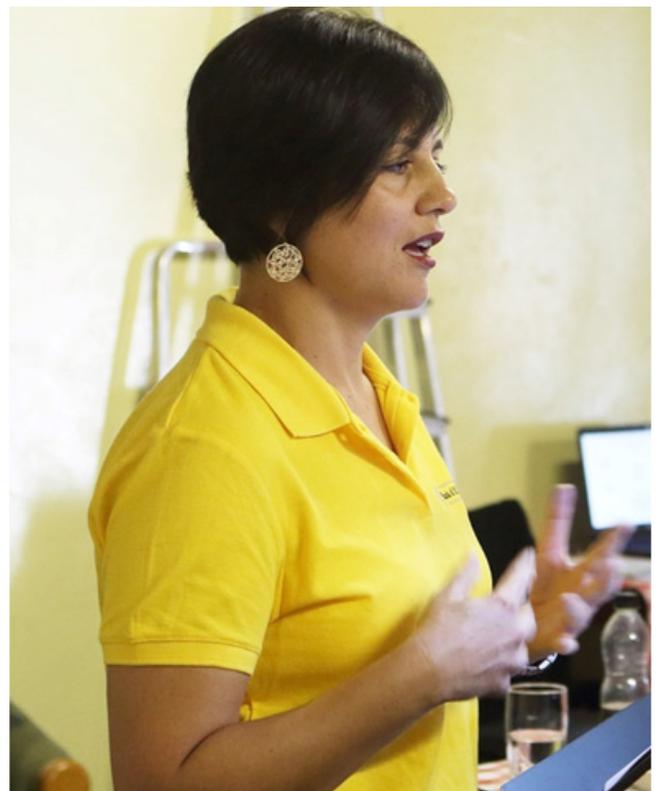
Famous story tellers: Stedson Stroud and Vanessa Thomas-Williams
Biodiversity: Yesterday, Today and Forever



Governor Philip Rushbrook: A Governor's work is never done



Amanda Curry Brown: Predicting the future is hard & other lessons from the messy science of economics



Josephine George: Bank of St Helena

More Pictures & Full Report in Next Week's *Independent*

The post mortem on shutting down the Fisheries Corporation has started

As the fishing industry starts to settle down, just a bit, after the hiatus when the Fisheries Corporation was closed down the inevitable post mortem has started. What went wrong with the transition? Who did what? Who didn't do what? There are many questions and all deserve a considered, thoughtful, detailed and constructive answer. There is a danger the public debate could descend into a blame game. If that happens, nothing will be achieved. Introspection is the word that should be in vogue right now. Everyone involved should ask what I/we could have done better. If the post mortem starts from there, a more constructive position, the ensuing debate and the new thinking that results from it could be fruitful.

The SHFC Management Board

One of the many aspects of what did or did not happen and who was involved with what, centres on the now defunct St Helena Fisheries Corporation (SHFC) Management Board. What this board of management did or didn't do over the course of several years had a bearing on the final disappointing and embarrassing result. It is useful to consider how members of the SHFC Board, and several other boards and committees are appointed and what restrictions and stipulations are enshrined in the Ordinances governing who should be appointed. It is also useful to look at how decision-making processes are muddled and inefficient.

The Governor (whichever one it may have been) appointed the members of the SHFC Board and the Chair of the Board was also nominated by the Governor. Beyond that two members of the Board must be councillors; one must be a government representative and a further two should have a direct interest in the fishing industry. The Governor can fire as well as hire; the SHFC Ordinance states no reason need be given by the Governor for firing any board member.

The SHFC was a state owned entity and oversight of the management's performance by qualified and competent government officials is more than entirely reasonable. It has to be expected that an effective and efficient process for oversight is in place. Executive Council discussed SHFC frequently; more so during the dying days of this particular Corporation and several of the discussions led to detailed management decisions. In November 2017 (yes, SHFC took a long time to die) Exco held a special meeting to discuss SHFC specifically. They decided not to close down SHFC but rather to get an improvement plan formed and set up two or more working groups to forge ahead with plans for improvement and financial stability at SHFC. That is just one example of Exco getting involved with SHFC and setting plans of one sort or another or putting in motion one of the lengthy tendering procedures to find private investment for the fisheries.

Political Oversight, Responsibility and Accountability

Why was Exco getting involved to this extent and what was the SHFC Management Board doing during this time. The SHFC ordinance is thin on detail about the Board's duties

and powers but it does specify the SHFC Board is, "to engage on a commercial basis in the business of fishing and fish marketing in St Helena and overseas". The Fisheries Corporation did not get anywhere near meeting that commercial aspiration set out in the Ordinance and any attempt to do so is not obvious. Why was Exco doing what can be argued to be the job of the Management Board? The majority of the SHFC board members are government placements so the outcome of any and all attempts at commercialisation by the SHFC Board would very probably have followed a similar route to that taken by Exco. Regrettably the Board would very probably also get the same result.

It would also be useful to reflect on why two members of Legislative Council should have been on the SHFC Board and many other boards and committees. It is not necessary to be a member of the board of a state owned entity to have political oversight. In fact, it is probably a waste of time and if councillors are involved in the decisions taken it is more difficult to effectively monitor and question administrative and spending decisions of the state entities. A more effective way to exercise political oversight could be a monitoring committee of councillors holding oversight sessions on a minimum of an annual basis for each of the state owned entities and maybe some or all of the other statutory bodies.

SHG also has a government officer as a placement on most of the Boards. Currently it is the recently appointed Finance Business Manager. It is assumed he regularly reports to councillors on the latest position with state owned entities. The Finance Business Manager is the obvious person to be responsible for administrative oversight of the Boards while a committee of councillors can be responsible for political oversight. Political oversight carries with it a measure of responsibility and accountability. Effective political oversight means the oversight committee would need the support of professional and competent independent advisors. On a small island such as St Helena the External Audit Service is the first organisation to come to mind which could fulfil this role. However, it has to be asked if that organisation has the capacity to take on this extra work. An alternative might be a recognised, direct link with the National Audit Office or a similar independent organisation within the UK Government oversight structure.

Horses for Courses

The members of the SHFC Board at the time of its demise where Cllr Christine Scipio (Chair), Cllr Corinda Essex, Brian Deadman (government representative) and Neil Foster. Nyasha Chikwat was listed as an alternative director, whatever that may mean. While Cllr Scipio was described by some as one of the better chairpersons of the SHFC Board, it is known she accepted the job because no-one else wanted it. This is not an ideal situation when SHFC ideally needed highly skilled and exceptionally knowledgeable leadership if the Corporation was to extricate itself from years of mismanagement. Other names on the SHFC Board appear on other state owned or statutory bodies.

The post mortem on shutting down the Fisheries Corporation has started

Widening the net when attempting to attract new recruits as board members of state owned industries has no doubt been tried before; the reasons why young, dynamic and qualified business people are not attracted to directorships in state owned businesses need to be identified and acted upon. The talented should be encouraged and the grip of traditional SHG representation on Boards and committees (which is becoming more ineffective and irrelevant as change continues) should be loosened.

Who is there either on-island or overseas who has the ability, drive, knowledge, experience and initiative to find a way to expand fishing activity in St Helena's waters and at the same time progressively reduce the number of subsidies, loans and bail-outs that have been paid out in the past and continue to be paid out now? This is not a job for a well-meaning, hard-working familiar face. There are many things about fishing and fisheries in St Helena which need to change and before those important changes can happen other changes are necessary. Only then is a sporting chance of producing the desired result.



10 STEPS TO GETTING IT DONE

GEORGE VUKOTICH, PH.D.

Making it happen is not so unusual – there are even books to tell you how to do it

Bone Shark Festival tonight – with famous surprise guests

Colette Braaf



During the summer months of January to March St Helena plays host to migrating whale sharks. Whale sharks are on the IUCN red list as an endangered species with a declining population. Whale shark products are valuable in some countries, this, together with serious injury and death through vessel strike and victims of bycatch in purse seine nets continues with no significant conservation measures in place. IUCN state the population decline is likely to continue into the future.

Because of the large number of whale sharks that pass through St Helena waters the Environment and Natural Resources Directorate (ENRD) have been setting environment practise guidelines to protect the whale sharks. It is thought that the whale sharks are coming to St Helena to breed. Despite their size whale sharks are docile. There is no record of a whale shark attack. One local fisherman remembers days long ago when these same gentle creatures would come up under his boat scratching their backs.

As the largest living fish on the planet whale sharks can live up to 100 years. In 2019 we recorded the largest mass aggregation of whale sharks in St Helena history. Dr Simon Pierce commented that St Helena hosts the best whale sharks in the world.

St Helena Marine Team (in collaboration with the St Helena Tourism) will be hosting the second Bone Shark Festival this afternoon at the Mule Yard in Jamestown. Locals will have the opportunity to meet and greet Georgia Aquarium conservationist Al Dove, the Animal Planet film crew, and a descendent of the Duke of Wellington Sofia Blunt, also the wife of famous British singer James Blunt. View videos of swimming with the whale sharks and some of the team's research. The Festival is expected to begin at 5pm and promises to be a flavour filled event. Those attending the event are encouraged to wear something blue.

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor

Yesterday was World **Day** of Social Justice observed every year on **20th February** to encourage people to see how social justice affects poverty eradication. The main aim of this **day** includes efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion, gender equality, unemployment, human rights, and social protections.

In contemplation I pause to question whether St Helena is such a place where these issues are always crystal clear. I suspect the lights are out at the Castle and no one knows where the on switch is.

Kind regards

Light Bulb

Dear Editor

I am wondering why the very successful flights to Capetown over the recent few months cannot continue. Indeed if the plane can go to Capetown over the Festive Season why did it have to go to Johannesburg in the first place, where there have already been two attacks on medical referrals in Pretoria :- one on a patient in hospital, the other on a family robbed outside their guest house, causing lasting effects from their experiences for all those people involved

For as long as I can remember, all our offshore medical arrangements were with caring families in Capetown for those accompanying a patient, where they were well looked after and the patients themselves were treated in Vincent Pallotti hospital where again the staff were familiar with the requirements for those referred there. We heard nothing of any violence affecting patients and families in Capetown.

If recent flights advertised for the season can land in Capetown, why are islanders, patients, carers and travellers, being sent to Johannesburg at all? I cannot understand why they are "seasonal". This hub is much preferable to Jo'burg, for medical patients and travellers.

When only 49.5% of islanders voted to lose our own ship, we were never told that all the medical arrangements would be changed and the hub would be Johannesburg. If we had, then the vote would have been a lot less than 49.5% which was accepted although not even a majority, and we would still have our ship. Patients and carers would be safer, and the shops would not be constantly running out of essential supplies.

**Yours sincerely
Barbara B. George**



The travelling public are advised that with immediate effect, travel policies purchased through the St Helena Insurance Agency, Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc will exclude any claims or payments relating to the Coronavirus.

The public will likely be aware that the same stance is being adopted by other insurance providers around the world.

This issue will be continuously monitored and the exclusion will be reviewed, if the situation changes.

LAAC PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

The LAAC (Liberated African Advisory Committee) would like to invite members of the public to attend a public information session that will be held on:

**Tuesday 3rd March – St Michaels Church,
Rupert's Valley at 7:00pm**

or

Friday 6th March – The Museum at 7:00pm

The purpose of these sessions are to brief the community on the progress made by the Liberated African Reburial and Memorial Project so far. The committee will also like to take this opportunity to share the vision and goals for the upcoming year.

Further information can be obtained from:
Annina Van Neel, project Co-ordinator on email:
advanneel@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you all there.



ST HELENA WATER LEVELS

Recent rainfall, combined with consumption rates falling within the targeted rate of below 1,000 cubic metres for six out of seven days in the past week, have seen the Island's water stocks increase by 3%.

Stored water is now at 45,117 cubic metres - or 39% - representing a weekly average of 44 days.

Despite this slight increase, Island water stocks remain dangerously low, meaning we all must spread the word to continue to preserve as much water as possible to ensure that the situation continues to improve.

Connect Saint Helena Ltd (CSH) is continuing to pump water from Hutt's Gate, Chubb's Spring and Warren's Gut. Recent rainfall has directly contributed to the amount of water being pumped with systems now pumping at an optimal rate.

With mostly dry weather, it would still take at least a few weeks of heavy rainfall for surface flows to increase and stocks to replenish.

Members of the public are encouraged to catch and use as much water as possible during bouts of rain. This will contribute to a lower consumption rate, which in turn will help to preserve and improve Island water stocks.

We are currently under an Island-wide hosepipe ban. If you see anyone using water irresponsibly or notice a burst pipe or leak, then please inform CSH immediately.

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

*St Helena Resilience Forum
18 February 2020*

Bone Shark Festival
21st FEBRUARY 2020

**The Trust's Marine Team would like to cordially invite you to
the 2nd annual Bone Shark Festival 2020!**

21st February 2020
The Mule Yard
5 pm

**Come celebrate St Helena's incredible marine environment and
immerse yourself with our unique and amazing Bone sharks!**



Sales Assistant – Ascension Island

Chandlery Mini Market has a vacancy for a **Sales Assistant** to join our small team on Ascension Island. Applicants are expected to be flexible in their tasks and able to work comfortably within a small team, we seek somebody with good customer service skills and ability to act independently. Previous retail experience and at a supervisory level with knowledge of EPOS systems would be an advantage but not essential. Applicants must be physically fit and in possession of a clean driver's license.

This is a single role and benefits includes

- Rent free accommodation
- Electricity and water allowances
- Food Allowance
- Free return flight to your country of residence
- 30 days annual holiday leave
- Medical & Primary dental care

For more information on this post, a job description and an application form please contact Carine Young Tel No. 00247 66320 or email office@chandleryminimarket.co.ac.

All application forms to be submitted no later than Friday 6th March 4pm.



WILLS AID
make a will week in support of
THE ST HELENA JUNIOR GUN CLUB
24-28 February 2020

MAKING A WILL – WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

It's easy to put off making a will. But if you die without one all that you own (your assets) may be distributed according to the law rather than your wishes. This could mean that your partner receives less, or that the money goes to family members who may not need it.

It is important for you to make a will, whether or not you consider you have many possessions or much money, because:-

- if you die without a will, there are certain rules which set out how the money, property or possessions should be allocated. This may not be in accordance with your wishes.
- unmarried partners cannot inherit from each other unless there is a will, so the death of one partner may create serious financial problems for the remaining partner. There is no such thing as a 'common law wife or husband'.
- if you have children, you will need to make a will so that arrangements for the children can be made if either one or both parents die.
- if your circumstances have changed, it is important that you make a will to ensure that your money and possessions are distributed according to your wishes. For example, if you have separated and your ex-partner now lives with someone else, you may want to change your will. If you are married this may make any previous will you have made invalid.

Wills Aid has been running since 1988. Wills Aid is a special partnership between the legal profession and charity. The idea is that, instead of paying a solicitor's fee, clients are invited to make a donation to charity for the cost of the will. **The Public Solicitor Office is supporting Wills Aid and has nominated the St Helena Junior Gun Club as our charity.** If you would like further information about making a will or updating your existing will please contact the Public Solicitor office. Based on current charges, the will be £15 for a simple and straightforward will. For a more complicated will, charges will be between £20 and £50.

For an appointment please contact: papublicsolicitor@helanta.co.sh or by telephone 00 290 23008



JOB VACANCIES

Wolf Creek Federal Services Inc. invites application for the following job positions at the American Base, Ascension Island.

LOGISTICS CLERK

SAFETY TECHNICIAN

SNACK BAR ATTENDANT

REVERSE OSMOSIS (RO) PLANT

WCFSI provides free Accommodation, Food (3 meals per day) and Round trip passage to home of record after completion of a 1 year contract. Laundry and MWR facilities are free of charge. Must have a valid Passport/Visa minimum of 18 months to be able to sign an Offer Letter. Should not have any major offences with any law enforcement agency. For further details or questions please contact Wolf Creek Administration on 247-62225 or e-mail E-ROS.WolfCreek.Jobs@us.af.mil
Any interested persons should send Resume to E-ROS.WolfCreek.Jobs@us.af.mil no later than 28 February 2020



Request for Quotation

St Helena Airport limited is seeking Quotations from suitably qualified contractors to undertake painting and light maintenance work at the St Helena Airport.

The works will include the painting of external ways and minor maintenance of manhole drain inspection covers.

For further information, please contact the CNS & Maintenance Manager, Mr Marten Fourie on telephone 25180 ext 139 or email marten.fourie@sthelenaairport.aero

The closing date by which Quotations are to be submitted is 12noon on Friday, 28th February 2020 and should be addressed to Mrs Audrey Piek-Williams (Procurement and Assets Officer), at St Helena Airport, Combined Building, Prosperous Bay Plain or via email audrey.pwilliams@sthelenaairport.aero .

SAINTS MEMBERS' CLUB, GEORGETOWN, ASCENSION ISLAND, ASCN 1ZZ SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

Email: manager.smc@atlantis.co.ac

Tel: +(247) 66344



Saints Members' Club Ascension Island has a vacancy for a full-time Club Attendant.

The successful applicant must be a trustworthy, dedicated, hardworking and polite individual and at times work outside of normal working hours. The club is an independent organisation that provides bar, catering and special function services to its members and other residents on the island.

Main duties involved are Bar tending, Kitchen assistance, Cleaning and any other duties as required by the manager.

The post will be offered on either a single or household status in the first instance. After successfully completing a six-month probationary period, the post could potentially become accompanied.

The contract is offered for a period of two years renewable with the following benefits package.

- 40 hour working week (Any hours worked outside of normal working hours will be paid as overtime)
- Rent free accommodation (including electricity and water allowances)
- Food Allowance
- Medical and primary dental care
- One return passage to your country of residence during the contract period
- Gratuity payable on completion of two years
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays) each year

This appointment will be subject to:

- Medical Clearance
- Employment References
- Basic Criminal Records Check

Salary will depend on qualifications and experience.

A job description can be provided on enquiry and any further information can be obtained from the Saints Club Manager – Mrs Samantha Arms-Lawrence on email address: manager.smc@atlantis.co.ac or telephone number +247 66344.

Interested persons should submit their application along with your CV and vetting certificate to Mrs Kayla Fowler – Saints Members' Club Chairman on email address – chairman.smc@atlantis.co.ac

Closing date for applications for this post is Friday 28th February 2020.



Wellbeing Day



Millennium Forest, 29th February 2020,

11:30-3:30pm

Tickets: £15 (limited spaces available)

Yoga and Mindfulness with Mark Westmoquette, Nature walk and crafts, talk by Martin Henry and lunch included in ticket price.

Also... Head and shoulders massage (not included in ticket price), plants for sale and be automatically entered into a lucky draw!

Contact Martina Peters on telephone: 22307 or email: martina.peters@trust.org.sh to book a ticket. #MillenniumForest2020

"In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks" - John Muir



PAVEMENT WORKS AT CANISTER AND NAPOLEON STREET

Enterprise St Helena wish to advise the general public that construction works are due to commence from Monday 17th February 2020, on the pavements at the front of the Canister and bottom of Napoleon Street. These works are anticipated to take approximately 6 weeks, and the completion date is currently scheduled for 10th April 2020. During these works, access to the Tourism Office will be maintained through the rear of the building as and when necessary; appropriate signage will be installed.

The works will enhance the overall accessibility of the pavement areas, in particular disabled access between the Bus Stop outside the Malabar and the Canister building, whilst raising the pavements to the same standard as other areas already upgraded in Main Street. The appointed contractor is Ambledale Workshop Ltd, and works will be Project Managed by ProArc Ltd.

Whilst no disruptions to motorists are anticipated, we do ask for your patience and co-operation whilst works are ongoing in this area.

For further information, please contact Robert Midwinter on 22920, or alternatively via email at: robert.midwinter@esh.co.sh



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

Visit us online : www.investinsthelenas.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com





MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE (MSME) BUSINESS GRANTS

Technical and Legal Assistance New businesses and youth entrepreneurship scheme.	Development Projects New businesses and youth entrepreneurship scheme.	Product and Service Enhancement Existing businesses only.	Hire for Reward and Vehicles/Trailers <i>(as per policy)</i> New and existing businesses.	Skills Development All Sectors.
75% to a Max of £2,500	75% to a Max of £5,000	50% to a Max of £10,000	25% to a Max of £5,000	75% to a Max of £7,500

Youth Loan from 16 to 26 yrs	£2,000 1% Interest
Youth Extension Loan up to 30 yrs	£3,000 3% Interest

These grants are subject to eligibility criteria. Policy, terms and conditions apply.

For further information contact a member of the Business Development Team on tel: 22920, or email: delia.dupreez@esh.co.sh & mandy.obey@esh.co.sh



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 Visit us online : www.investinsthelenas.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com

commonwealth

Digital Economy Forum'20

23 - 27 MARCH 2020, ROSIE'S, LADDER HILL, ST HELENA

Shifting Landscapes & Trends

Key Topics

Broadband Infrastructure

Digital Transformation Framework

Trade & Investment

Local Content & Innovation

Universal Access

Spectrum Management

Internet Governance

Data Protection & Privacy

Why attend

- Listen to insights from leaders and innovators
- Gather information about new markets, legislation and policies
- Learn 'best practice' for effective cybersecurity
- Discover new technologies to improve the way you do business
- Gain practical advice from experts in the sector
- Build relationships with clients, partners and suppliers
- Talk to policy makers, officials and experts
- Develop ways to improve your business performance
- Inspire and engage St Helena's digitally focused youth

The CDEF is a globally recognised conference that is taking place on your doorstep. St Helena is on track to becoming globally-connected with digitally driven business, investment and travel opportunities. The CDEF offers presentations and workshops by high calibre local and international speakers. If you work in ICT or are considering a career in this field, this is an opportunity not to be missed.

Organised by



COMMONWEALTH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ORGANISATION



St Helena
Government

Platinum Sponsor



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#CTO_ICT

Tickets priced at **£35 per day**, Includes all-day refreshments and buffet lunch.

For more information contact mattjoshua2780@hotmail.co.uk or call ESH on **+290 22920** during office hours.

For information and to view the full programme: www.cto.int/events/upcoming-events/



Green Island Energy Limited

Telephone: 25104

Mobile: 61720



2 Way HDMI Splitters and cables in stock

Tablet 10" Huawei T3 16GB IPS Screen Android	£145
Mobile Phone Motorola moto g7 Play 5.7-Inch Android 9.0	£175
Mobile Phone Samsung A10 Dual-SIM 32GB 6.2" 13MP Camera	£175
Laptop Lenovo Intel I3 4GB RAM 500GB no-DVD Win 10 (New)	£375

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The Eco Tank Printers from Epson reduce printing costs by an average of 70%.
Comes with full set of inks which can print 4,000 black and 6,500 colour pages.

£245

Sharp 24" HD TV with DVD player & USB playback	£189
Samsung 43" Smart TV with USB Playback	£450
Samsung 50" 4K Series 7 Smart TV with USB playback	£575
Samsung 55" 4K Series 7 Smart TV with USB Playback	£625
JBL Studio Sound Bar 2.0 - Bluetooth Speaker system for TV's	£150



Solar lights from £40



12v Cree Flood light £19



CCTV systems now in stock



SAINT HELENA FISHERIES CORPORATION (SHFC) SHFC CLOSURE NOTICE AND ADMINISTRATION PROCESS

In line with the section 5(b) directive of the St Helena Fisheries Corporation Ordinance (1979) issued by the Governor in Council, SHFC ceased operations on the 31st of January 2020. SHFC is now under administration for the purposes of liquidation.

Creditors and claimants must register their claims against SHFC with the Administrator by providing the following details:

- 1. Name of Creditor/Claimant,*
- 2. Amount owed as at 31 January 2020*
- 3. Goods or services provided to SHFC (please provide proof of the transactions.)*

All claims have to be made to the Administrator by close of business Friday, 21 March 2020.

These claims can be delivered, either by: Post or Hand: SHFC, Stonehouse Building, Rupert's Valley or Email: administrator@shfc.sh

VACANCY HUMAN RESOURCES APPRENTICE (RECRUITMENT)

Would you like to pursue a Career in Human Resources or interested in a Career change?

If you are, then Corporate Human Resources has an exciting opportunity available for an individual who is self-motivated, flexible and willing to learn and develop within their team. This is your opportunity to contribute towards the development of the team in this exciting time of HR change within SHG.

The successful applicant will be responsible to the Human Resources Advisor (Recruitment). The role is key in supporting the recruitment team in delivering an efficient recruitment and selection service to the St Helena Government.

Prospective Candidates should have Functional Skills Level 2 in Maths and English; or equivalent.

Previous work experience in an administrative or customer focused environment is desirable.



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

Salary for this post is at £5,713 per annum.

For further details about these post, interested persons should contact Mrs Meliza Lawrence, Human Resources Advisor on telephone number 22470 or e-mail: meliza.lawrence@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 Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, on telephone number 22470 or e-mail madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Thursday, 5 March 2020.

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.



CHILDREN AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE DIRECTORATE - 'CARE CAMPAIGN'

The Children and Adult Social Care Directorate will once again be hosting a CARE Campaign to recruit Senior Care Assistants and Care Assistants within the care facilities across the directorate.

Date: 2 March 2020

Venues: Community Care Centre and Brick House

Time: 10am to 3pm



Interested persons are invited to go along to either of the two venues and:

- Meet with members of the Children and Adult Social Care team. This is an exciting opportunity to find out more about working within the care facilities and to get answers to practice-related queries that you might have.
- Take advantage of assistance with completing application forms and attend 'on the spot' interviews

Potential appointments will be subject to satisfactory clearances, such as a clean police vetting certificate, completion of a medical declaration form and references.

If you are interested, please contact any of the following:

Section	Name	Telephone No	Email
Community Care Centre	Rosalie Brown	23090	rosalie.brown@sainthelena.gov.sh
	Lauren Jonas	23090	lauren.jonas@sainthelena.gov.sh
Ebony View	Nicole Hercules	25119	Nicole.hurcules@sainthelena.gov.sh
Sheltered Accommodation	Gavin Thomas	22713	gavin.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh
	Gillian Brooks	22713	gillian.brooks@sainthelena.gov.sh





St Helena
Government

Expression of Interest

The Saint Helena Government are seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified contractors to undertake construction of Government Landlord Houses at the Bottom Woods CDA.

The works will include construction of flats and houses from 2 to 5 bedroom homes with the opportunity to tender for single or multiple constructions.

For further information, please contact the Mr Christopher Peters on telephone 22270 or email christopher.peters@sainthelena.gov.sh .

The closing date by which Expressions of Interest are to be submitted is 12noon on Monday, 24th February 2020 and should be addressed to Miss Tiffany Lawrence (Procurement Officer), at Essex House, Jamestown.

Connect
SAINT HELENA LTD

TIP OF THE WEEK

Each cycle of a washing machine uses an average of 100 litres of water.

Use the washing machine for full loads only.

Using the machine half full will waste around 20 litres of water each time.



St Helena
Government

VACANCY TEMPORARY COOK-PLANTATION HOUSE

Do you have an active interest in cooking and catering? If so, why not consider joining the small but busy team at Plantation House as Cook.

Corporate Services has an opportunity for a suitably qualified and experienced individual to provide cover for the post of Cook at Plantation House for a fixed-term period of five months.

The successful applicant will be directly responsible to the Plantation House Residence Manager for all matters relating to the supply and preparation of food at Plantation House.

Applicants should ideally possess the following:

- . GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above (applicants without a Level 2 qualification in Maths and English may still apply and can undertake a functional skills assessment as part of the recruitment process);
- . NVQ in Hospitality and catering, at Level 2 and experience in Silver Service table setting and wine service
- . Food Handling Certificate and Certificate in health and hygiene

However, we will also accept applications from candidates who have a good understanding of food and nutrition and health & safety procedures in the preparation of food and relevant skills and experience in Silver Service table setting and catering. In addition, a valid Driving Licence Class A is required.

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

For further details about the post and a copy of the Job Profile, interested persons should contact Mrs Deborah Yon, Residence Manager on telephone number 24453 or e-mail: ph.resmanager@helanta.co.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 Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Thursday, 27 February 2020.

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.

ST HELENA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PROVIDER EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

St Helena Government (SHG) is seeking Expressions of Interest from International Communications Providers who are capable of providing the following communication services internally and externally to St Helena from 1 January 2023:

1. Residential/Voice & Data Services
2. Local Business Voice & Data Services
3. Government Voice & Data Services
4. Teleport & Data Centre on-Island and International Connectivity
5. Mobile Services
6. Television Service
7. Internet Service, to include: DNS Hosting Services, Managed Firewall Services, Managed Mail Filtering, Domain Hosting Services, Web Hosting, Internet Access and Internet Transit.

Expressions of Interest should be registered on the St Helena Government e-procurement system 'in-tend' which can be accessed via: <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena> following registration on the system.

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

Any assistance required in registering should be addressed to the SHG Procurement Office for the attention of Nicola Young via email: nicola.young@sainthelena.gov.sh or on telephone number (00 290) 22470.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest is 12:00 GMT on Friday, 3 April 2020.

SHG

11 February 2020



TEMPORARY STOCK TAKERS REQUIRED

Audit St Helena requires temporary personnel to assist with year-end stock verification

Audit St Helena is interested to engage suitably competent candidates on St Helena to assist with year-end stock verification at various local entities on the Island. Candidates must be numerate and computer literate and ideally have some working experience in performing stock taking procedures. This position will be paid at a rate of **£35 per day** on an as and when required basis. On the job training will be provided to the successful candidates.

The stock takes will generally take place from 9 March 2020 and through to 13 April 2020, actual dates will be confirmed to successful candidates.

For more information please contact Cassidy Beard on email: cassidy.beard@sainthelena.gov.sh or Tel: 22111. Applicants can submit a copy of their CV to Cassidy Beard on the above email or at the Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown by 4 pm on Friday, 6 March 2020.



Let us provide you with your Survey & Design Requirements SurveyTech Ltd offerQs the following services:

- . Topographical Surveys
- . Measured Building Surveys
- . Mapping of Island Wide features such as utility services, communications, historical structures, roads, etc.
- . Production of Site Plans for Residential & Commercial use
- . Building Design and Plans for Residential & Commercial use (e.g. House Plans, Shops, Workshops, etc.)
- . Setting out works e.g. Drainage Lines, Buildings, Roads, Site Excavations and other services.
- . Define Boundary/Beacons

Contact:	Melvyn Henry	Location:	Unit 11
Tel No:	00290 25441		ESH Business Park
Email:	surveytech@helanta.co.sh		
Opening Hours:	Mon-Fri 8:30am-4pm		

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ST HELENA PREPAREDNESS – UPDATE

St Helena residents are reassured that the Health Directorate is continuing to monitor information from and work closely with Public Health England (PHE) and the World Health Organization on the spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19).

The St Helena Resilience Forum is meeting weekly to ensure a coordinated approach to preparation and response to any threat to the Island from Covid-19.

Currently, a Command Structure is being put in place to ensure that key parties are ready to respond in the event Covid-19 reaches St Helena.

While the threat to the Island is currently low, the threat is being taken seriously by all agencies involved and preventative measures are in place and the situation continuously monitored.

Preventative measures in place on St Helena

. All passengers arriving at St Helena (via air and sea) are asked to complete a questionnaire (see appended), this provides an opportunity to screen those passengers who may have recently travelled to high risk areas

. If there is cause to suspect that a passenger arriving by air needs to be interviewed then the Health Directorate will ensure they leave the plane separately and be interviewed in a designated room at the Airport. Those in close contact with the suspected passenger will also be identified and segregated until the interview is concluded and the risk assessed. Passengers are encouraged to contact the Health Directorate if they feel unwell en-route or during their stay

. Temperature checks are being carried out at St Helena Airport with an automatic temperature reader

. Liaising with the Emergency Planning Department, Port Control is in the process of identifying a secure area within the Wharf facility to accommodate any potential health risk posed by a visiting crew member/passenger. In the event that an individual has been identified as a health threat during the screening process, advice will be sought from the senior medical team before permission is granted for them to come ashore

. Staff at the General Hospital are using appropriate personal protective equipment when dealing with people who present with respiratory symptoms and with a history of recent travel in affected places

. All frontline staff at both air and sea borders are receiving regular briefings and are appropriately primed and protected

. An area in Bradleys Camp has been identified as isolation accommodation and a temporary Hospital. The camp is being equipped to provide treatment if needed, and the Health Directorate is in close contact with Public Health England should additional resources need to be requested.

Staying Safe

The Health Directorate advises anyone intending to travel to a country or an area of a country where Covid-19 has been identified, to take precautions and to be aware that when returning to St Helena they will be screened accordingly.

Everyone should adhere to hand washing (including using anti-bacterial hand gel) and coughing etiquette when having any viral illness. An information campaign is launching this week and various posters and leaflets will be made available at key places.

Members of the public concerned with the Covid-19 virus affecting all passengers on an aircraft, should note that due to cabin air filtration systems equipped with high efficiency particulate air filters (HEPA) the risk of contracting a disease from someone on board a plane is lower than in other confined areas such as on a bus.

HEPA have similar performance to those used to keep the air clean in hospital operating rooms and industrial clean rooms. These filters are very effective at trapping microscopic particles as small as bacteria and viruses (a paper providing further information is attached to this press release).

Keeping up-to-date

There are no cases of Covid-19 reported in South Africa at this time and there have been no passengers identified as suspected cases. The Health Directorate will inform the public of any confirmed case identified.

The public will be kept abreast of the situation and the preventative measures put in place through a weekly news release and regular radio interviews. A 'live' Question & Answer document is being developed to answer any questions the public has on Covid-19 and the measures in place. This document will be made available on the SHG website.

Anyone with concerns on a particular issue relating to Covid-19 should contact: marco.yon@helanta.co.sh or refer to the Q&A document which will be continuously updated.

St Helena – Health Directorate



2019-nCovinfection Screening Questionnaire-Port Health

The World Health Organization has declared the outbreak of novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). Therefore it is expected that further international exportation of cases may appear in any country. Thus, all countries should be prepared for containment, including active surveillance, early detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of 2019-nCoV infection.

The Health Directorate of the Government of St Helena requires all persons entering St Helena to complete the following questionnaire

- 1- Full names and date of birth _____
- 2- In the past 2 weeks, have you or anyone of your household visited china
Yes No
- 3- Please list all the cities and airports you have been to or transited through in the past 3 weeks

- 4- Have you been in contact with or cared for someone who was suspected or confirmed case of corona virus in the last 3 weeks
Yes No I don't know
- 5- If yes please specify

- 6- Please provide details of place of residence and contact number on Saint Helena (Mandatory) _____

- 7- Have you noticed anyone on the flight who looked unwell, sneezing or coughing?
Yes No
- 8- If yes please specify (a crew member, passenger, child....)

- 9- Where were they sitting on the plane?

- 10- Please provide contact details for your country of residence(address, phone number, email address) Optional

You will be provided with an email address and a phone number to contact us

If you feel unwell or have any flu like symptoms after arriving on our island please contact Jamestown general hospital.

If you get diagnosed with 2019-nCov after leaving Saint Helena, please do inform us.

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

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



Visit us: www.sainthelena.gov.sh





Briefing paper Cabin air quality - risk of communicable diseases transmission

The overall risk of contracting a disease from an ill person onboard an airplane is similar to that in other confined areas with high occupant density, such as a bus, a subway, or movie theatre for a similar time of exposure... anywhere where a person is in close contact with others.

That said, the risk on airplanes is probably lower than in many confined spaces because modern airplanes have cabin air filtration systems equipped with HEPA filters.

HEPA or high efficiency particulate air filters have similar performance to those used to keep the air clean in hospital operating rooms and industrial clean rooms. These filters are very effective at trapping microscopic particles as small as bacteria and viruses.

HEPA filters are effective at capturing greater than 99 percent of the airborne microbes in the filtered air. Filtered, recirculated air provides higher cabin humidity levels and lower particulate levels than 100% outside air systems.

The cabin air system is designed to operate most efficiently by delivering approximately 50 percent outside air and 50 percent filtered, recirculated air. This normally provides between 15 to 20 cubic feet of total air supply per minute per person in economy class. The total air supply is essentially sterile and particle-free.

Cabin air circulation is continuous. Air is always flowing into and out of the cabin. Total airflow to the cabin is supplied at a bulk flow rate equivalent to 20 to 30 air changes per hour. This provides temperature control, and minimizes temperature gradients within the cabin.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What is a HEPA filter?

According to the European air filter efficiency classification, a HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter can be any filter element rated between 85% and 99.995% removal efficiency.

For their production of aircraft with cabin air recirculation systems, manufacturers have chosen the higher efficiency filters, which are similar to what you would find in a hospital operating theatre.

Q2: Are all commercial aircraft fitted with HEPA filters?

The majority of modern, large, commercial aircraft, which use a recirculation type of cabin air system, utilise HEPA filters. A small number of older aircraft types have filters with lower efficiencies.

Q3: What is the smallest particle size that the cabin air filter element can remove?

Air filters can remove very small particles such as bacteria and viruses. Virtually all viruses and bacteria are removed; even the most difficult particles in the range of 0.1 to 0.3 micron are filtered out with an efficiency level of 99.995%. Contrary to popular belief, very small particles below 0.1 micron are easily filtered out by the mechanism of diffusional interception.

Q4: How often are filters changed?

The interval varies by aircraft. Most airlines replace cabin air filters at regular "hard time" intervals to fit in with routine scheduled maintenance periods, as long as these intervals do not exceed filter manufacturers' recommendations.

Q5: What happens if the cabin air filter elements are not changed out regularly?

Air flow through the filter might be reduced, but the efficiency of the filter at capturing viruses and bacteria is not affected.

Q6: Is there a danger to the maintenance personnel by removing used cabin air filters?

There is no more risk involved in replacing a cabin air filter than carrying out general maintenance on any aircraft part that has been in service for a number of years. Working with WHO, IATA has published guidance material for maintenance staff which is available at <http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/safety/health/Pages/diseases.aspx>.

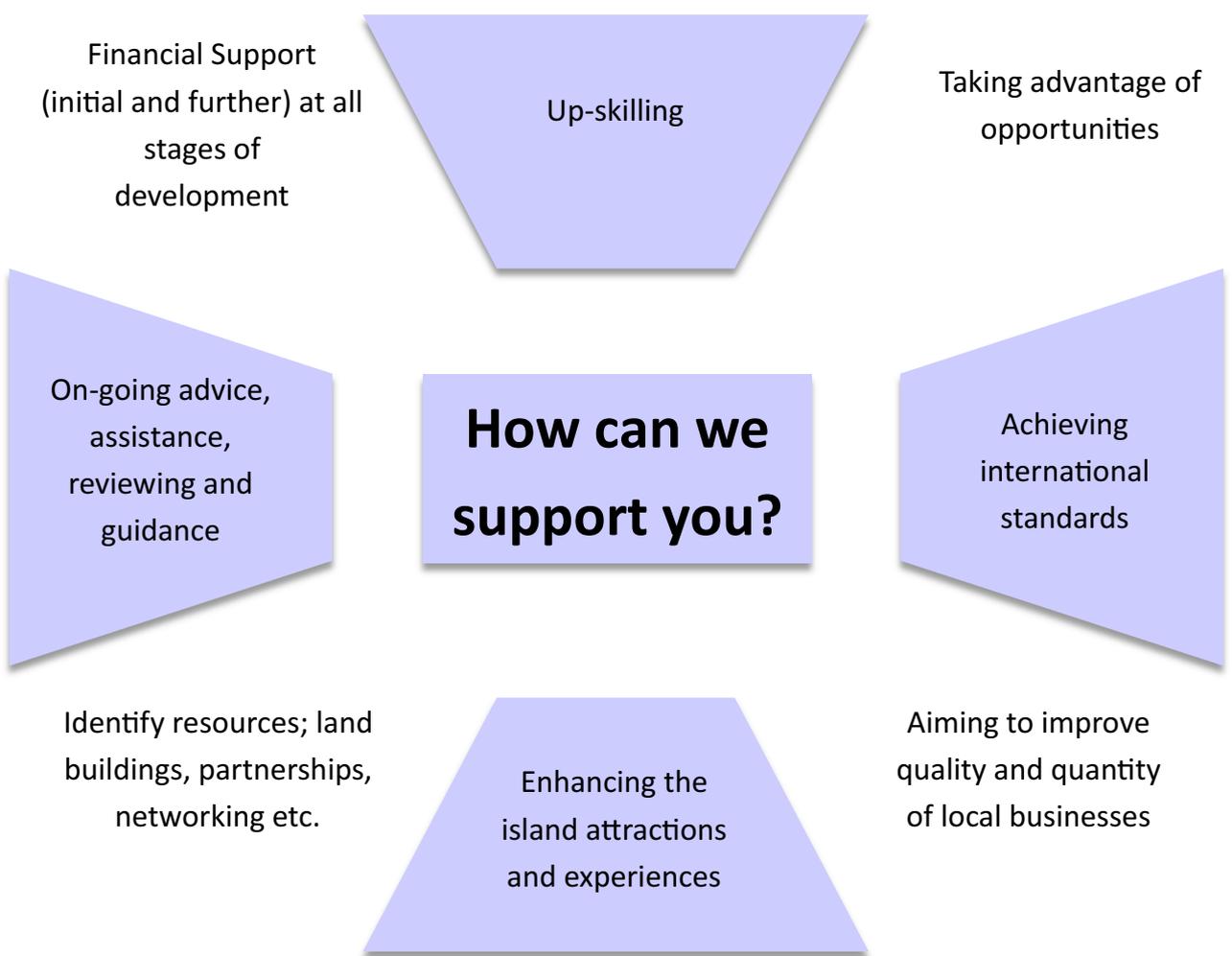
* This briefing paper was assembled from information provided by Airbus, Boeing and Pall Corporate.

**BUSINESS
SUPPORT**



It is widely recognised that entrepreneurs wishing to carry out an approved business development project or activity often need financial and professional assistance not only in their early stages but during the development of the project.

Enterprise St Helena supports the development of potential new business start-ups and existing businesses that target key sectors as defined within the Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP).



If you are considering yourself as a new entrepreneur and would like to venture into the business world, or you are an existing business within a key sector, then please contact the Business Development Team on telephone number 22920 for further information or email delia.dupreez@esh.co.sh & mandy.obey@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.investinsthelenas.com | Tourism: www.sthelenatourism.com



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc
has a vacancy for a

Fuel Stations Manager

Within the Agencies Department

As the Fuel Stations Manager you will:

- Be responsible for the Fuel Station's financial performances
- Be responsible for the management of all staff of the Company's Fuel Station
- Compile regular management reports, highlighting key issues as and when required
- Implement, monitor, and review health and safety standards at the Fuel Stations in alignment with the Company's Health & Safety Policy
- Be responsible for ensuring all operational, administration & financial requirements, and records are kept up to date.

Interested Persons Should:

- Proven managerial and technical skills and applicable Health & Safety Knowledge
- Demonstrate strong interpersonal skills, be self-motivated, organised and innovative and able to lead a team
- Be in possession of a valid driver's license

Salary for the post is £14,220 per annum (£1,185.00 per month)

For further information,
including the Company's
attractive benefits package,
please contact
Jason Thomas,

General Manager (Agencies)
on telephone number: 22523
or via email address:
gm-agencies@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be
collected from Solomons Reception
Desk, in the Main Office Building,
Jamestown or alternatively an
electronic copy can be requested
via e-mail address:

hradmin@solomons.co.sh and
should be completed and returned
to Nicola Essex, Human Resources
Manager,
Solomons Office, Jamestown,
By 25 February 2020.



St Helena
Government

VACANCY – SMALL MACHINERY OPERATOR

The Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Directorate has a vacancy for a Small Machinery Operator within the Forestry Section's Silviculture team.

The role will include all aspects of forest husbandry (felling, thinning, pruning, and tree planting and establishment) as well as a significant level of chemical and mechanised invasive weed clearing throughout the forest estate. It will also be necessary to undertake tree surgery works when required, working at various heights above ground level.

The candidate will require a certificate in Basic numeracy and literacy and have experience in tree surgery operations; safe operation and maintenance of petrol driven small machinery is also required. A Basic First Aid certificate and local certification in the safe transportation, handling and application of herbicide is essential, as is a clean drivers licence.

Salary for the post is at Grade B4 which is £7,226 per annum.

If you are interested in finding out more about this post please speak with the Forestry Services Officer, Mr Larry Stevens or Forestry Assistant, Mr Rickie Thomas; who can be contacted via the following email e-mail larry.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh or rickie.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms and Job Profiles are available from the Receptionist at Scotland Office and Essex House. Completed application forms should be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, Essex House or email karen-thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Wednesday 4th March 2020.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical declaration 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.

The St. Helena Bee Keepers Association

“Plant a Flowering Tree for the Honey Bee.”

The Bee Keepers Association is pleased to announce that the following beekeeping equipment is available for hire.

Items can be hired for 4 to 14 days depending on the item. If you are not a member of the Association, you can easily join to have access to this fantastic offer.

ITEM	Rate
Bee Gloves	£0.50
Bee Gloves (Association)	£1.00
Wiring Board	£2.00
Extractor 12 Frame Manual	£5
Frame Wire	
Frame Nails	£1.80 per pack
Spur Wire Embedder	£0.50
Queen bee & Drone Trap	£2.00
Bee Brushes	£0.50
Swarm Catcher	Free
Bee Hive Tool & Frame Lift	£0.50
Bee Hats	£1.50
Shirt veil	£4.00
Bee Suits XL	£4.00
Wax Mould	£5.00
Bee Gauntlets	£1.00
Fork on Capping	£0.50
Cold/Uncapping knife	£0.50
Bee Smokers (Copper)	£2.50
Bee Smokers (Galvanised)	£2.50
Mini smoker	£1.00
Stainless Steel Smokers	£2.50
Shirt Veil	£4.00
Protective Veil	£1.50
Leather Gloves	£1.00
Stainless Steel Settling Tank 50kg	£8.00
Double Strainer Stainless Steel	£2.00
Silicone Foundation Press	£5.00
Small Steam Wax Extractor & Steam Generator (Electric Kettle)	£10.00

Requests for hire of such equipment should be directed to Chairperson Mr Earl Henry on telephone 24313/61245, email earlyjersey@helanta.co.sh

We require everyone to sign a simple Hire Agreement to allow us to track use of hired equipment.

We thank Enterprise St Helena for support in purchasing this equipment to benefit Beekeeping on St Helena.

The St. Helena Bee Keepers Association

“Plant a Flowering Tree for the Honey Bee.”

Beekeeping Training

The Bee Keepers Association (BKA) would like to hear from existing Beekeepers or persons interested in bee keeping who may have any training needs to help with the management of their hives/apiaries.

The BKA is proposing to organise some training courses, which could result in the BKA engaging the services of an overseas trainer to deliver course(s) to ensure that your beekeeping training needs are met, as well as engaging a trainer on Island to ensure that local knowledge is also captured.

We would therefore be grateful if you could complete the questionnaire below and return to any of the following Beekeepers Association Committee members;

Earl Henry Thompsons Hill
Email earlyjersey@helanta.co.sh

Or
David Clarke, New Ground
Email clarkedavid373@yahoo.com

Personal Details

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Telephone No: _____

Email Address: _____

1. Are you a beekeeper, if so how many hives do you have?

2. What district(s) are your hives located on the Island?

2a. Please give details of the type of training required and specify potential training courses (if already identified).

3. What is your preferred time of the day for the training course, and how much time can you dedicate to each session?

4. Is there any other key information you would like to add?



**Available for
Fixed Term
Rental**



Bertrands Cottage – Available for fixed term rental

Enterprise St Helena (ESH) has Bertrands Cottage available for fixed term rental to the private sector or individuals interested in this Historical Building. The Cottage comes fully furnished and equipped with a Commercial Kitchen.

If interested parties would like to view the premises, they can contact Michielle Yon, Director of Resources, via email Michielle.yon@esh.co.sh or on telephone (00290) 22920.

Expression of interest together with a short overview of the plans for operating should be submitted to Robyn Franconi, Finance Manager, via email Robyn.Franconi@esh.co.sh by no later than 1200 hours (GMT) on Monday 23th March 2020.

Terms and Conditions will apply.



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



NEW STAMP ISSUE

SEVEN WONDERS OF ST HELENA

A new stamp issue – ‘Seven Wonders of St Helena’ – has been released by the Post & Customer Services Centre. The stamp issue depicts the seven places or entities that St Helena is renowned for, such as Jacob’s Ladder and the Whale Sharks, and consists of the following:

- Seven valued stamps (15p, 25p, 30p, 50p, 60p, 80p and £1.00)
- First Day Cover (£5.00)

All new St Helena stamp issues can be found on the St Helena Government website at the following link: <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/st-helena-stamps/>.

Local customers can purchase merchandise from the Post & Customer Services Centre in Jamestown. Overseas customers can place an order using the following email address: GShaw@cascophilatelic.com.

SHG
14 February 2019



**St Helena
Government**



St Helena Cricket Association



SHCA INVITED ICC T20 WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS



The St Helena Cricket Association has been invited to participate in the ICC T20 World Cup - Africa - Sub Regional Qualifier, to be held in Stellenbosch, South Africa from 25 April to 4 May 2020.

International squad training has already begun with 18 players having registered so far. Any cricketers wishing to register to become a part of international squad training can contact the SHCA Executive Committee who are Damien O'Bey, Derek Richards, Damian Burns and Cliff Richards.

LOCAL CRICKET

In other cricket news the RMS T20 Cup continued on Island over the weekend. However, the persistent rainfall we received on Sunday meant that both matches were abandoned after conditions became unsafe for players. See below for Saturdays results.

RMS T20 CUP RESULTS

ALLSTARZ 256/1

Ross Henry 71*

Darrell Leo 16*

MUSTANGS 92

Ben Dillon 21

Luke Bennett 19*

Dane Leo 2/4

Brendon Leo 1/3

PERFORMANCE POINTS: Ross Henry 3, Dane Leo 2, Brendon Leo 1

FIXTURES

Saturday 22 Feb
9.30am
Challengers V Pirates
Umpires: Heat
1.30pm
Lions V Allstarz
Umpires: Pirates

Sunday 23 Feb
9.30am
Mustangs V Challengers
Umpires: Woodpeckers

Sunday 16 Feb
1.30pm
Heat V Pirates
Umpires: Allstarz

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Liverpool just needs 5 more wins to pick up their first Premier League trophy. The latest win for Liverpool in what could be a record breaking season came against the bottom side Norwich City.

Saturday match with Norwich proves one thing about the English Premier League; there are no easy matches. Norwich despite being rock bottom gave Liverpool a good match and could have taken the lead in the first half.

Liverpool steps up the pressure in the second half and substitute Mane was on hand to score the winner with 12 minutes of the match to go.

Liverpool are now unbeaten in 43 league games, closing in on Arsenal's all-time record of 49.

They have collected a remarkable 103 points from the past 105 available.

The Reds have picked up 35 wins from their past 36 games - a 1-1 draw at Manchester United in October the only blemish.

They have won 17 games in a row - one shy of Manchester City's record - and kept 10 clean sheets in their past 11 games.

The result also means 76 points after 26 games is the best record at this juncture in the history of Europe's top five leagues - something even the continent's great sides including La Liga's Barcelona, Juventus of Serie A, Bundesliga's Bayern Munich and Ligue 1's Paris St-Germain were unable to achieve.



Sadio Mane scores the winner for Liverpool against relegation favourites Norwich City.

On Friday evening Leicester City drop more points as they could only draw 0-0 with Wolves.

Wolves would have been the most disappointed not to pick up all 3 points as they had a goal disallowed by VAR and played against 10 men for 14 minutes as Choudhury was sent off for two bookable offences.



Willy Boly's disallowed goal is the 4th goal Wolves have had ruled out by VAR this season

Other matches on the weekend saw Burnley come from behind to beat Southampton 2-1. You got to feel for Southampton as they were, in my opinion the better team for most of the match.

Spurs earned a half fought 3-2 win away at Aston Villa in another match marred by a VAR decision. With the score 1-1 VAR overrule the refs decision of a goal kick and instead awarded a penalty which was scored at the second attempt by Son. Son later scored an injury time winner.

Bad news for Spurs fans after it was discovered that Son Heung-Min was playing with a fractured arm and will be out of action for a while.



Man of the match Son Heung-Min will be out with a fractured arm

Arsenal returns to form as they recorded a 4-0 win against Newcastle. Amazingly this is only the 'Gunners' 7th win of the season.

Arsenal fans will be hoping this confident display will kick start their season as they look to climb up the table.

As for Newcastle scoring goals is a major problem. In Joelinton - the club's record £40m signing from Hoffenheim - they have a striker who has netted just once in the league and is on a run of 22 games and 1,856 minutes without a goal.



Man of the Match Nicholas Pepe had a hand in 3 of Arsenal's 4 goals.

Continued on NEXT PAGE

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

The final game of match week 26 saw Manchester United travel to Stamford Bridge to play Chelsea who currently occupies 4th place. This was a must win match for United and this they managed; beating Chelsea 2-0.

Antony Martial glanced in Wan-Bissaka's cross just before half-time and Manchester United captain Maguire powered in a header from Fernandes' corner after 66 minutes.

Chelsea felt aggrieved as Maguire was lucky to escape a red card for kicking Michy Batshuayi in the groin in the first half as they tangled on the touchline, despite the incident being examined by VAR.

And the review system denied them again when Chelsea thought Kurt Zouma had made it 1-1. The goal was ruled out for a push by Cesar Azpilicueta on Brandon Williams, although replays showed United's Fred put a hand on the back of Chelsea's captain.

Chelsea's frustration was complete when substitute Giroud's 76th-minute header was ruled out because his foot was in an offside position as he moved to meet Mason Mount's free-kick.

Personally I don't think Chelsea did enough in front of goal to merit the victory whereas Manchester United was more clinical. In the dying minutes Manchester United new boy Odion Ighalo almost scored, minutes after coming on as a substitute.



Harry Maguire scoring from a corner..... Was he lucky to be still on the pitch?

Manchester City defeated West Ham 2-0 in their postponed match.

This week we saw the return of Champions League Football to our screens as the knock stage began.

Both Liverpool and Spurs suffered 1-0 defeats.

Liverpool's loss was away at Atletico Madrid and the defending Champions will feel confident that they can turn the tie in their favour when they play the return leg at Anfield.

Spurs on the other hand was outplayed at home by RB Leipzig and is extremely lucky to be just 1 goal down in the two-legged tie.

All teams have now completed their winter break and we will have a full round of Premier League fixtures this weekend.

The first match starts on Saturday at 12.30 when Chelsea play Spurs at Stamford Bridge.

3pm matches will see Burnley host Bournemouth; Crystal Palace face Newcastle, Sheffield United will play Brighton and Southampton host Aston Villa.

The late match will see Leicester play Manchester City at 17.30

On Sunday Manchester United will play Watford at Old Trafford at 2pm and Wolves host Norwich at the same time. Arsenal host Everton at 4.30pm.

Liverpool will play West Ham on Monday at 8pm.

Manchester City have been banned from European club competition for the next two seasons after being found to have committed "serious breaches" of Uefa's club licensing and financial fair play regulations.

The reigning Premier League champions have also been fined 30m euros (£25m).

The decision is subject to appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. It has been reported that City could also face a Premier League points deduction because the league's FFP rules are similar - although not exactly the same - as Uefa's. (From BBC)

What's happening at new Horizons

As from Monday 24th February the New Horizons office will be open up until at least 5pm on most week days for bookings and Gym Membership renewals.

Mondays': 8am- 12 & 3pm-5pm

Tuesdays': 8am-5pm

Wednesdays': 8am-5.30pm

Thursdays': 8am-7pm

Fridays': 8am-12 & 4.30pm-8.30pm

Saturday s': 7.30am-9.30am

On Mondays' there will be athletics/fitness/sports training at Francis Plain from 3.30-5pm. If the weather is unfavourable the training will take place at New Horizons.

Wednesdays' the club will open for members for indoor activities from 3pm- 5.30pm

Friday club nights from 5.30pm-8.30pm; Entrance fee for New Horizons members are 50p per session. Adult activities like Football and Boot Camp is £1 per session.

Park Runs

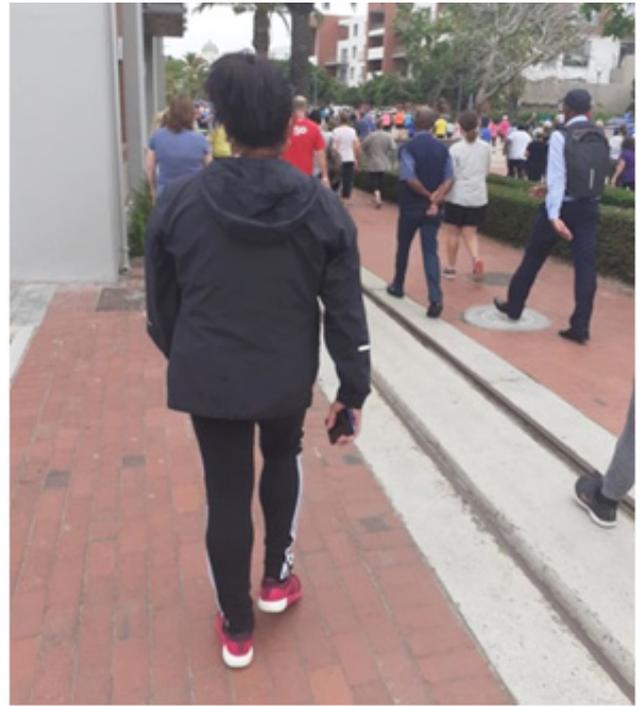
Parkrun is a collection of 5-kilometre running/walking events that take place every Saturday morning at over 1,400 loca-

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

tions in twenty-two countries across five continents.

New Horizons is proposing to start a park run alternative Saturdays morning. We are currently working on a route and are hoping to start on Saturday 29th February at 8am. It is more than likely for the run to start and finish at White Gate. For further information contact Nick or Tina on telephone 22034 or 61545 or email youth@helanta.co.sh

Just like Boot Camp; rain or shine this event will take place. Just dress accordingly



Hundreds take part in the Saturday Mornings Park Run in Century City South Africa

South Georgia readying the wharf to support “Sir David Attenborough”

The island of South Georgia is preparing to support the new British Polar Research Vessel, “Sir David Attenborough” with the construction of a new wharf at King Edward Point, reports the latest editions of the South Georgia Newsletter.

In effect on 16th January, the arrival of the MV Billesborg marked the commencement of the construction stage of the new wharf at King Edward Point which is expected to support scientific research and operations for the next 50 years.

The design of the wharf was completed at the end of 2019 and logistics operations started in Teesport (UK) in November. Following a stringent bio-security process, the team arrived a week prior to the MV Billesborg to install 2 new on-shore mooring points.

Over five days the team worked 14 hour days to offload the vessel which was completed safely and ahead of schedule, making the most of an excellent weather window. Since completion of logistics activities, piling of the wharf has started and to date, there are 14 of 19 piles on the berthing face, a rear ‘anchor’ wall has been installed and quarrying works are in full flow to produce 5.500 tons of material to fill the new wharf and Dolphin.

The team still has a long way to go to the finish line but progress is good and moral on station in high, reports the GSGSSI.

Mercopress



The construction stage of the new wharf at King Edward Point is expected to support scientific research and operations for the next 50 years.

Falklands completes successfully Badminton Cup, despite Argentina; Canada wins both categories

The Falkland Islands female team competing at the Badminton Pan Am Cup in Brazil gallantly completed its participation in the four-day event, despite protests and bullying from Argentina. Meanwhile Canada successfully defended both titles on finals day at the Pan Am Male and Female Cup.

Canada's women brushed aside United States 3-0 in the Brazilian city of Salvador, with the men beating Mexico 3-1.

Both sides were the top seeds at the Centro Pan-Americano de Judô venue as they reclaimed the crowns they won in Trinidad and Tobago in 2018.

Victory means the men have qualified for the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Thomas Cup, while the women will contest the BWF Uber Cup.

Four-time Pan American Games champion Michelle Li got the Canadian women off and running by beating American Natalie Chi 21-12, 21-6.

A doubles rubber followed which was won 21-15, 22-20 by Catherine Choi and Wen Yu Zhang over Kuei-Ya Chen and Chinue De La Merced.

Brittney Tam then wrapped up the final by beating Esther Shi 21-11, 21-16.

In the men's final, Jason Anthony Ho-Shue put Canada in charge by beating Mexico's Lino Munoz 21-7, 22-20.

Brian Yang moved his country to the brink with a 21-14, 21-19 success over Job Castillo but Luis Navarro gave Mexico hope by coming from behind to beat Antonio Li, 16-21, 21-19, 21-17.

Yang returned to settle the final as he teamed with Joshua Hurlburt-Yu to beat Castillo and Munoz 22-20, 21-16 in the doubles.

In the Pan Am female completion, seven teams participated

divided in two zones, one with Canada, Mexico and Guatemala and the second with Brazil, USA, Peru and the Falkland Islands. The Islands lost all matches, with USA, Peru, Brazil and Guatemala, but gained great international experience.

At the beginning of the Cup, Falkland Islands made a formal complaint against Argentina after claiming the country put pressure on them to withdraw from the women's event. Argentina argued that the Falklands, and their flag, was not a state recognized internationally and demanded it changed its name to Malvinas or leave the competition.

This was "in order to highlight that the Falkland Islands are not a state recognized by the international community".

But Falkland Islands officials met with Badminton Pan America President Vishu Tolan and chief operating officer Pilar Carrillo La Fuente to discuss the issue. They said they have the "full backing" of the organization and the Badminton World Federation (BWF) and will not back down to "bullies".

"We have lodged a formal complaint with Badminton PanAm against Argentina which will be taken to the BWF and International Olympic Committee," a statement said.

"The Falkland Islands badminton team has attended the tournament draw where we paid our entry fee to officially enter the tournament and we have insisted on our flag flying proudly alongside the other country's flags.

"The team are very much looking forward to playing and are focusing their energy on that".

An incident of similar conditions occurred last year with cricket and the International Cricket Council, which finally entitled the Falkland Islands to take part in the annual South American cricket championship, and extended to the Falklands Cricket Association its ICC status.

MercoPress



The Falklands flag hangs next to those of the other Badminton Pan Am Cup in Salvador, Brazil



St Helena
Government

• Jamestown and Rupert's Valley Rockfall Protection Project works progressing well

• Rockfall protection works to recommence at Rupert's Wharf following departure of the MV Helena

• Shy Road and Ladder Hill Road to remain closed until 20 March 2020



JAMESTOWN AND RUPERT'S VALLEY ROCKFALL PROTECTION PROJECT

UPDATE ON PLANNED WORKS AND ROAD CLOSURES

The Jamestown and Rupert's Valley Rockfall Protection Project is now entering its sixth week, and work is progressing well. To date, CAN France has installed 402 anchors for rockfall catch fences and has cleared loose rocks from the cliffs above Rupert's Wharf.

This week, CAN France will continue to install anchors for rockfall catch fences above the Bulk Fuel Installation and above Ladder Hill Road. They will also re-commence work at Rupert's Wharf, following the departure of the MV Helena. In the next few weeks, the drill rigs will move further up James valley (above the General Hospital and Maldivia Road) as well as above the Rupert's Valley Power Station.

Rupert's Wharf Closure

The closure of Rupert's Wharf will be reinstated on the departure of the MV Helena. This closure is necessary due to the diverse and complex array of works that are being carried out to ensure the long term safety of wharf users. The rockfall protection will include two types of rockfall netting, two levels of rockfall catch fences and a rock trap.

Road Closures

The following road closures will continue until Friday, 20 March 2020:

- Shy Road closed 24 hours a day, seven days a week (no access)
- Ladder Hill Road closed from 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday. Access to emergency services and funeral processions only during the closure period.

These closures are necessary to enable CAN France to drill and grout catch fence anchors immediately above the junction of Shy Road and Ladder Hill Road.

The public is advised that when travelling to or from Jamestown during the week to commence their journeys before 9am or after 3pm, or alternatively travel via Side Path Road or Constitution Hill Road.

CAN France and Fairhurst would like to thank St Helena residents for their patience during these closures.

#StHelena #RockfallProtection #AltogetherSafer

**SHG/CAN France/Fairhurst
19 February 2020**



Drilling anchors above Rupert's Wharf Access Road



Removing loose rocks above Rupert's Wharf Access Road

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Your Opinion Counts

Dear Elected Members,

At the public meeting facilitated by Unified Saints at the Half Tree Hollow Community Centre on 8 January 2020, Executive Council Member Hon. Russell Yon informed ninety seven members of the public present, that Connect St Helena had submitted a proposed water tariff increase. He stated

that this proposed increase will be subsidised by St Helena Government and **will not** be transferred to the pockets of the community. At no time during this meeting did any other Elected Member object to Hon. Yon's statement.

During week commencing 3 February 2020, the Community was advised by Connect St Helena that they have proposed tariff increases effective from 1 April 2020 for the following:

- Quarterly Water Standing Charge
- Treated and Untreated Water for Domestic, Commercial and Agricultural use
- Drainage Standing Charge
- Connection and Disconnection for Water and Electricity

- Emptying and Unblocking Septic Tank/Sewer Line

Grateful if you could advise:

- Why have you agreed to a tariff increase?
- What has changed since 8 January? and
- Why the Community was not informed of your decision?

In view of the current economic climate and that there are likely to be other increases, grateful if you could reconsider your decision so that there will be no financial impact on the community at this present time.

***Yours faithfully,
Unified Saints
19 February 2020***

Jersey to launch British Isles first ever citizens assembly on assisted dying

Announcement comes amid growing calls for Westminster inquiry into UK's current assisted dying laws, says Dignity in Dying.

The Government of Jersey has announced that it will launch a 'Citizen's Jury' on assisted dying, the first in the British Isles. The randomly selected group of residents will meet in the spring and summer to discuss assisted dying, answer questions from an independent advisory panel and speak to expert witnesses from all sides, before giving recommendations to the States Assembly ahead of a debate at the end of this year.

In 2019, the Government of Jersey committed to conducting detailed research into end-of-life choices, including assisted dying, which would investigate the views of residents, overseas developments and potential legislation. An independent poll of residents published in August 2019 found high public support, with support highest (70%) when the option of assisted dying is limited to mentally competent people with an incurable medical condition which will cause death in the next six months.

The announcement comes amid growing calls in England and Wales for the Ministry of Justice to launch an inquiry into the functioning and impact of current laws on assisted dying. In a Westminster Hall debate on 23 January 2020, a majority of speakers from all parties backed a call for evidence on existing legislation, which constitutes a blanket ban on assisted dying across the UK. In recent months, half of all Police and Crime Commissioners across the country, religious leaders including the former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Carey, hospice leaders, terminally ill people, and families who have been criminalised under the current law have supported Dignity in Dying's calls for the Secretary of State for Justice, Robert Buckland, to launch an inquiry into the wide-ranging impacts of current legislation.

Last month the Parliament of the Isle of Man, another British

Crown Dependency, also debated assisted dying. Wrecking and delaying amendments were defeated, and Dr Alex Allinson MHK, who brought the motion, said the debate on 22 January 2020 had delivered on its aim to promote discussion.

In May 2018, the States of Guernsey debated assisted dying proposals, which were defeated despite high public support. In July 2018, the Legislative Assembly of the Falkland Islands, a British Overseas Territory, voted to support two motions on assisted dying: that terminally ill residents should have the right to die at a time and place of their choosing; and that should legislation be introduced in the UK, the Falkland Islands would consider adopting it.

Sarah Wootton, Chief Executive of Dignity in Dying, which campaigns for a change in the law to allow assisted dying as a choice for terminally ill, mentally competent adults, said:

"The Government of Jersey should be commended for grasping the nettle on assisted dying and engaging its citizens in this important debate, particularly when public support for a change in the law is so demonstrably high. The Ministry of Justice in Westminster also has a duty to listen to calls from across society for an inquiry into current laws on assisted dying, and similarly provide an open and honest platform for all views to be heard.

"Dignity in Dying is prepared to offer its expertise and extensive research into public attitudes on assisted dying, the functioning and impact of current laws across the British Isles, and the growing number of jurisdictions overseas which have enacted safe, compassionate assisted dying legislation. It is also crucial that the most important voices – terminally ill people and their families – remain central in these discussions.

"What is abundantly clear is that the blanket ban on assisted dying does not work. With one Brit travelling to Switzerland for an assisted death every week, 300 terminally ill people ending their own lives in England every year, and many more suffering unbearably against their wishes, the status quo is causing real damage and is in urgent need of review in Jersey and in the rest of the UK."

BoTs and Brexit

Since the December general election in the UK there has been a steady trickle of questions from MPs and Lords asked of ministers in Boris Johnson's government about what negotiations are taking place regarding various British Overseas Territories. Some Overseas Territories are at a real risk of being badly affected by Britain leaving the European Union.

Gibraltar

Lord Jones of Cheltenham has asked a series of questions. One of them concerned Gibraltar and its border with Spain. Free movement across the border between Spain and Gibraltar is of vital importance to 14,000 workers from Spain who cross the border every day to work in Gibraltar. There have been occasions in the past when the Spanish Government has showed its dissatisfaction that Gibraltar is not part of Spain by instructing its Immigration Authority to carry out extensive individual checks on everyone travelling across the border to Gibraltar. This action caused long queues and extensive delays and inconvenience. Now Britain is leaving the European Union it could happen again.

Gibraltar has already told the UK Government that Gibraltarians favour joining the European area where twenty-five European countries allow passage across borders without the usual border checks or requirements for visas. The unrestricted travel zone is the largest in the world and is called the Schengen Area. The UK has never been part of the Schengen Area and because of this Gibraltar has not been part of it either. While the UK was in the EU this did not matter so much but being part of the Schengen Area is now important to Gibraltar; it would prevent the Spanish inspired congestion at the border happening again.

No, they cannot

The response to Lord Jones' question about whether the UK Government intended to stop Gibraltar joining the Schengen Area included "The United Kingdom, including Gibraltar, is not part of the borderless Schengen zone." This response was preceded by some irrelevant waffle about Gibraltar being part of the United Kingdom family.

Falklands and Tristan

Lord Jones also asked Her Majesty's Government what assessment they had made of the impact of Brexit on the Falklands fishing industry. Apparently the UK and Falklands Governments "have worked together to conduct relevant analysis on the impact of Brexit on the Falkland Island economy and fishing industry in particular." The crunch comes at the end of the response to Lord Jones' question, "the UK Government has been clear about its commitment to reflecting OT interests in the negotiations for the future UK-EU relationship." Reflecting is a worryingly weak word to use. What is the UK Government, a mirror?

Turning to Tristan da Cunha, Lloyd Russell Moyle (MP for part of Brighton) wanted to know "what recent steps he has taken to help ensure that Tristan da Cunha's fishing industry is adequately protected from increased restrictions over fishing areas." Here the Blue Belt Programme came into play. The UK Government response included, "Traditional surveillance techniques, including sea and aerial patrols, are also being supplemented with trials of new techniques including satellite surveillance (radar and optical imagery); autonomous underwater vehicles; and unmanned aerial systems, to detect any illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing." However, reading all of the government response to this question carefully, the range of monitoring and surveillance techniques listed may refer to specific areas within the entire 4 million

kilometres of Blue Belt ocean around many of the Overseas Territories and not specifically to Tristan.

Lloyd Russell Moyle also wanted to know what the UK Government was doing to ensure Tristan's successful lobster trade was not damaged by restrictions on trade resulting from the UK no longer being part of the European Union. The government response included some fine aspirational warm words but little else. "We are seeking a bold and ambitious Free Trade Agreement with the EU and want to have the greatest possible tariff- and barrier-free trade with our European neighbours, so that our companies, including those operating in the Tristan da Cunha lobster industry, have the maximum freedom to trade with and operate within European markets."

Other questions were asked about the Falklands and the future for their fishing industry. One of the government responses was very similar to the response for Tristan and its lobster; it was almost just a matter of deleting 'Tristan da Cunha' and replacing it with 'Falklands'.

A more general question about the trading position for Overseas Territories now the UK has decided to go it alone asked, "what assessment they have made of any (1) advantages, and (2) disadvantages, that are likely to be experienced by each of the Overseas Territories after the UK's departure from the EU." The response could well have been written by Boris Johnson's propaganda department, "Brexit represents an opportunity to pursue the OTs' interests in the UK's new, independent trade policy, including seeking improved market access around the world for OT-originating goods and services. Officials are in discussions with OT Representatives about their specific interests in particular markets." This brings to mind a saying which was often used before days, 'all mouth and no trousers'.

One MP wanted to know "which Overseas Territories have introduced legislation to allow civil partnerships." The government response listed nine Territories which included the two military bases in Cyprus, which is cheating a little bit, and then added, "The laws in the uninhabited territories of the British Indian Ocean Territory, British Antarctic Territory and South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands also allow for same-sex marriage." How many people who are looking for an exotic location for their wedding think of taking a trip to the Antarctic? And if the descendants of the Ilois who were chased off Diego Garcia by the Brits are prevented from returning there to live, what chance is there for an adventurous couple looking for somewhere different to tie the knot.

Where does St Helena fit in to all of this? Nobody mentioned a word about fishing or fisheries, and that is probably a blessing. The most recent export figures available show 66,000 kilos of fish with an export value of £290,000 every gram being exported at a loss. Coffee makes a much better subject for conversation but the most recent export figure available is £34,000 for 2017-18. No-one in the UK corridors of power is going to jump up and down about that.

St Helena

One question was asked about the population of St Helena. The answer was; "The population increased during the construction of St Helena Airport (particularly between 2013 and 2016) but there was a slight fall in number before the airport opened for commercial flights in October 2017. In 2018 the resident population increased and subsequently fell in 2019 to around the same level as it was in 2014."

Coronavirus vaccine developed and ready for testing

News broke yesterday that a biotech company in Colorado has finished developing a coronavirus vaccine. The company, Greffex Inc reports that animal testing is due to start in several countries including the United States, China and other countries badly affected by the virus. The Chief Executive of Greffex is quoted in the Houston Business Journal saying the vaccine will be given away free to the hardest-hit countries if the vaccine is given government approvals. The research which resulted in the development of the vaccine was funded by an \$18.9 million (£14.6 million) contract Greffex was awarded by the US National Institute of Health's Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

About 76,000 people have been infected by the coronavirus worldwide with more than 2,100 people dying from the infection. All but eleven of the deaths were in China. The latest figures available show nine coronavirus cases in the UK but



no deaths. No coronavirus infections have been identified so far in any African country.

CHANGES TO CUSTOMS DUTY FOR MOTORCYCLE IMPORTS

Changes to the Customs Duty for motorcycle imports to be charged at a flat rate for four different categories have been approved by Executive Council and will come into effect from today, Friday 14 February 2020.

The four categories based on emissions and engine size are:

- Emissions 1g CO₂/km or less: £200
- Emissions greater than 1g CO₂/km – 250 cc or smaller: £350
- Emissions greater than 1g CO₂/km – 251 cc – 600 cc: £500
- Emissions greater than 1g CO₂/km – larger than 600 cc: £700

These changes have been made in response to feedback received from buyers of smaller, low cost motorcycles following the change in customs duty, on both motorcycles and cars, from a percentage of the value to a fixed rate based on emissions on 1 December 2019.

For motorcycles, the revised duty included two bands: one for motorcycles with emissions 1 g CO₂/km or lower and one for all other motorcycles. SHG evaluated alternative options that would incentivise low-emission motorcycles while addressing concerns about the impacts of having the same flat rate duty applied to all motorcycles.

Emission rates for motorcycles are not well-published. However, in other jurisdictions, engine size is used as a proxy for emissions for the purposes of taxation. In other words, motorcycles with smaller engines also tend to have lower emissions and are charged lower taxes as a result.

This change will make the method for determining Customs Duty for motorcycles more consistent with the method used for cars and address concerns about fairness of the previous system while continuing to promote environmentally friendly alternatives, consistent with the national goal to be 'Altogether Greener'.

SHG
14 February 2020



MOONSHINES

ENTERTAINMENT THIS WEEKEND!

SATURDAY NIGHT: MUSIC BY JOSHUA 2
FROM 9pm

SUNDAY: OPEN FROM 3pm WITH MUSIC
FROM THE BAR.



Entertainment at Silver Hill Bar for this Weekend

Friday open from 4.00pm till late mix tunes by DJ Shavon.

Saturday open from 5.00pm till 8.00pm country tunes from the bar
8.00pm till late mix tunes by DJ Kimmy Boom Bang

Sunday open from 4.00pm till late mix tunes by DJ Ray- C.