

THE ST HELENA Est. 2005 INDEPENDENT

VOLUME XIV ISSUE 40, 6th SEPTEMBER 2019, PRICE £1

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



**The Long and Winding Road
for Bulk Fuel Installation at
Rupert's Valley**



Labour Market Strategy: 2020-2035
Government of St Helena

Draft for Public Consultation – September-October 2019

Labour Market Strategy –

**Improving the Market
for Labour**

**Private Eye Magazine Follows
Up on Last Week's
Independent Report on Crown
Agents Bank**

 **PRIVATE EYE**

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**St Helena Public Funds Managed by
Nigerian Interests**



HELIOS Investment
Partners



Is it Time to Sell the Bank?



Good Lord, They are Everywhere!



Is it Time to Sell the Bank?

Opinion by Mike Olsson

Bank of St Helena (BOSH) is one of the few institutions on the Island which does not operate with a loss. It has been a success story after it was created to succeed the old Government Savings Bank. But it might be time to look at our future banking needs and if it is reasonable to believe that the small Bank of St Helena can fulfil those needs.

BOSH is not really a fully fledged bank. Internationally, you can only send money to and from the bank through the BOSH account in Lloyds TSB in London which is acting as an intermediary for BOSH. This often creates problems as forms and internet banking facilities overseas have no provisions for an intermediary bank.

To solve this we need a bank with its own Swift/Bic/Bacs code which makes it a real bank. A real bank can also issue international debit cards and accounts which can receive money and be used for payments world-wide.

We are talking about the possibilities the fibre-optic cable can give us in the near future. Many of these possibilities are seriously hampered due to the lack of proper banking facilities. The cable is said to be landed in two years' time so we definitely need to hurry up and get our banking in order.

To connect the current BOSH to the international payment system will be very expensive and with the Island's limited banking experience maybe even dangerous. Even if it could be done many other problems would remain.

Saints have to pay about 7% interest on a housing loan, in UK you might pay about 3.5%. This makes a huge difference to your cost. The reason for this is that BOSH must set aside a huge percentage of all deposits as reserves. These reserves are held in UK gilts or pound deposit accounts which is giving a very low interest. We want the money in the bank to be absolutely safe so we don't want to change the high level of reserves, but at the same time we have to realise that this drives up the interest for the money BOSH lends out on the Island. The bank needs the interest to pay for its operations. BOSH has about 75% of its money in gilts and deposit accounts. They are giving just over 1% in interest per year and the bank need to compensate for this with high interest rates on the money they lend out on the island.

An international bank does not operate in the same way. They also need to have reserves but not to the same extent. They are involved in many markets and can deal with many different instruments, all giving interest. They have the means to hedge (secure) against losses because they have their 'eggs in different baskets' (excuse the pun).

Only a few years ago, people, including Government officials would have shouted NO if you suggested that BOSH should be sold off to an international bank. This is not the case anymore. There is considerable interest in improving the legislation to create a modern financial market in St Helena.

The question will be which bank be allowed to by BOSH and which bank would be interested in such a small entity. There is only 70-80 million pounds deposited in the bank, which in international terms is hardly anything at all.

There again, there seems to be a change in attitude towards



changing legislation to allow a regulated financial sector. We have heard about SHG talking about international shipping registry, maybe company registry and other business opportunities. To do this we need a proper bank, and at the same time these new ventures would mean more deposits in the bank to make it more viable for a potential buyer.

This is not criticism of BOSH's management or staff, they are doing a good job but the main problem is the way the bank has to operate. An international reputable bank will have the means to drastically improve banking on the Island for the benefit of all.

As I have said, we have not much time if we are to take maximum advantage of the fibre-optic cable.



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Private Eye magazine follows up on last week's Independent report on Crown Agents Bank

Private Eye is a British fortnightly satirical and current affairs news magazine, founded in 1961. It has a circulation of around 250,000 and a reputation for prominent criticism and lampooning public figures. In its most recent edition the magazine turns the spotlight on the chairman of Crown Agents Bank, Jeremy Parrish, and digs down to identify the series of companies that own Crown Agents Bank. Private Eye's digging took them to the Cayman Islands. Jeremy Parrish is currently chairman of four banks, including Crown Agents Bank as well as an advisor or trustee to a further four financial institutions. The text is copied below to make it easier to read.

'A Bank that handles British government aid money abroad is being chaired by a man who, in a previous banking role, resided over money laundering failings so serious that earlier this year the arm of the bank he ran incurred the UK's second largest ever money laundering fine.'

Jeremy Parrish (pictured), who chairs Crown Agents Bank, was between 2005 and 2011 chief executive of Standard Chartered in the United Arab Emirates – during which period the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) found “serious and sustained shortcomings” in its money laundering controls. By June 2011, these controls were so poor that a local consul walked into a branch with 3m dirhams (£500,000) in cash in a suitcase and opened an account. “The customer file contained little evidence that the source of these funds had been investigated,” noted the FCA, “or whether potential financial crime risk had been considered at account opening.” In February this year Standard Chartered was fined £86m for its UAE failings and yet Parrish, who joined Crown Agents Bank in 2017 remains at its helm. Despite its British sounding name, Crown Agents Bank is not quite what it seems. Until 2016 it was part of Crown Agents Ltd, which acts commercially for the UK government abroad and can trace its roots back 270 years. Crown Agents Ltd had itself been sold off in the dog days of John Major's government to a not-for-profit foundation backed by charities, NGOs and business groups, and it kept Crown Agents Bank under its wing until three years ago when the lure of the markets could be resisted no longer.

The lucky buyer for the bank and a sister fund management company, at a price of £32m, was private equity manager Helios Partners, based in Nigeria, Kenya and St James's. London. Or rather it was a special company set up in Jersey, which in turn is owned by a Cayman Island fund registered at the island's infamous Uglund House, in a decidedly tax-efficient stricture. It was Helios that brought Parrish in as chairman.

The bank is now benefiting not just from government but also from a US led clampdown on money laundering (which famously led to huge fines for Standard Chartered and HSBC between 2012 and 2014). The clampdown caused a reluctance among US banks to clear dollar transactions on behalf of smaller Caribbean banks, for which the risk and cost of compliance checks outweighed the profits. Nine such banks

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PRIVATE EYE

had their US ties severed completely – but up stepped Crown Agents Bank as go-between.

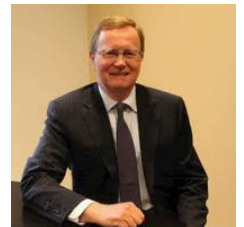
When the *Eye* asked whether this presented any money laundering concerns, the chief executive brought in after the sell-off, Albert Maasland – a veteran of various banks including Deutsche, HSBC and Standard Chartered and accordingly aware of such issues – refused to say which banks his was now serving but added that “while located in jurisdictions that are considered to be high risk, [they] are generally not themselves undertaking high risk activity”. Since 2016 his bank had “invested heavily in its anti-financial crime programme”.

Since its private equity buy-out, Crown Agents Bank has been highly lucrative, trebling its income and transforming a profit of less than £1m in 2015 into £4.9m last year, on the back of expanding foreign exchange and international payments, not to mention retaining the Crown Agents name – which the bank describes as a “competitive advantage”, but it seems Helios got a bargain.

Others, notably those now using the bank see it differently. Guyana's finance minister, Winston Jordan, said last year he was “mortified by the cost for the transaction and the speed” when one of his country's banks used Crown Agents Bank. The bank told the *Eye* it was untrue that its “fees are unreasonably high by reference to the market”.

This may be because there isn't much of a market. In an interview with the *Financial Times* when Helios bought Crown Agents Bank, Helios's founder, Tope Lawani, remarked that “you can develop a nice protective moat around companies that develop significant market share in small countries”. In plain English this sounds like the old monopolistic trick of exploiting a lack of competition to ramp up profits.

New international development secretary Alok Sharma has promised to favour British businesses in his use of the aid budget. He might want to mull whether this particular tax haven-owned firm is the right sort of beneficiary.'





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Editorial

We have an interesting selection of news and comment for you this week. There is a welcome bit of liveliness in what has happened over the last seven days. Merrill Joshua has made the headlines in several newspapers and news websites across Europe and other parts of the world. For some reason St Helena Tourism's press release about needing a Napoleon impersonator to fill Merrill's shoes (and Napoleon uniform) attracted a surprising amount of attention, first in the UK press and then further afield.

There is more on the bankers who have been given the job of caring for £millions on behalf of our government, Solomon's and the Bank of St Helena. And there's something about what the future of the Bank of St Helena might be. You should have a look at the piece on the proposed *Labour Market Strategy*. The draft strategy document itself is in my humble opinion well written with clearly explained proposals backed by uncomplicated and thought through reasons why each proposal is put forward. The strategy is in draft form because it is starting the public consultation process. This particular process starts now and is short-lived, as far as public meetings are concerned. The meetings are next Monday 9th September at Half Tree Hollow Community Centre and then on Wednesday 11th September at Harford Community Centre. Your views on what is proposed can be sent in written form up until 11th October but I recommend you read the report in this edition of the *Independent* today to start with; after that you may well want to read the whole document – it doesn't take long to read. Regrettably but inevitably the long delayed development of Rupert's Valley raises its ugly head once more. The new prison got the go-ahead once more this week. I'm told it is 100 times larger than the present building. Is a crime wave expected?

Whatever happens and however hard we try, we could never achieve a state of liveliness equal to what has happened in the House of Commons this week. Putting the Brexit argument aside for a moment the events amounted to a titanic battle between the executive arm of government (the prime minister and his cabinet) and the legislature (the rest of the MPs in the House of Commons). The nearest thing to it in St Helena would be Executive Council engaging in a 'do or die' battle with the other members of Legislative Council on some issue of great importance. We can live in hope.

After the House of Commons finished fighting, leaving the executive arm of government in a bloody mess on the floor of the debating chamber, the debate was sent to the House of Lords where it started all over again. The big difference is their lordships do not yell at each other across the debating chamber. The tactic in the House of Lords was to put forward endless amendments to the Brexit Bill they were debating in order to 'talk the Bill out'. An account of how this went was emailed to me by one of their lordships. "Well, here we are in

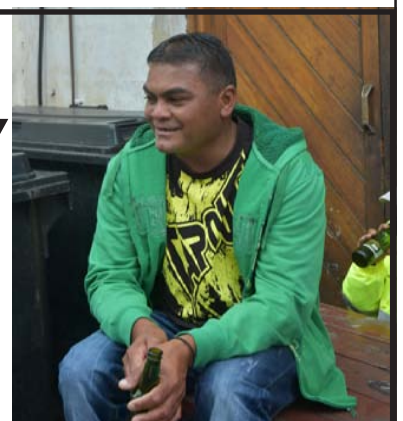
the House of Lords just after midnight on Wednesday/Thursday having spent almost ten hours on a business motion to try and deal with the Bill which the Commons has already passed to rule out a no deal Brexit. We have voted seventeen times on pointless amendments tabled by seemingly bewildered Tory Lords - and a Lady. Once they have waffled on a bit, someone else moves a motion to close the debate on that amendment. We then vote on that. If the vote is won to curtail debate, then the amendment is put and we vote all over again. Each vote takes around a quarter of an hour. There are more than ninety of these gibberish amendments to get through. So far we have done ten." Mercifully the "seemingly bewildered Tory Lords" gave up this delaying tactic about 30 minutes after the description given here was written. By the time you read this their Lordships should have finished the legislative process and the prime minister (who is 110% against the Bill) will be obliged to ask the Queen to give it her Royal Assent.

And finally; congratulations to the St Helena Red Cross for passing the £3,000 mark in the Tristan Appeal. This has been achieved in just over a month. This week the raffle raised over £600 and an afternoon tea on Sunday at Wellington House is sold out. As always, grateful thanks to everyone who has donated and helped in any way.

In email exchanges with Sean Burns, the Tristan Administrator, it has repeatedly been said that St Mary's School is one of the buildings which suffered most damage from the storm. The St Helena Red Cross also say their fund-raising focus has been on the school and the crèche. Some discussion is doubtless required but it may well be the funds raised in St Helena will be put to a specific and very useful purpose and that may be providing the money to replace all the school books which were damaged when the heavy rain flooded the school after the wind ripped the roof off. I think that's a nice touch. Your donations to the Tristan Appeal will help the children in very special way and we can feel good about providing funds for such a useful purpose.

Enjoy the weekend
Vince

Somebody with a Birthday



Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

The revised Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the new prison was unanimously approved at Wednesday's planning meeting.

The application was originally submitted last year. It proposes a huge fifty cell prison which is ten times that which would be required per head of population in Britain. The intention is for it to be sited in Bottom Woods Important Wirebird Area, one of the island's National Conservation Areas which was created to mitigate against the loss of wirebird habitat under the airport project. As it is such an environmentally sensitive area it is one of the very few sites where an EIA is mandatory.

There is a question over the authorship of this EIA and therefore its authority. The revised EIA was prepared by Diane Baum who says she made one site visit in May 2019 and that, "no special survey work was undertaken". She says the "report builds on an initial EIA carried out by SHG Head of Technical Services [David Goodrick] in February 2019".

When the original EIA was presented to the planning authority in April 2019 the document had no stated author. However one authority member declared an interest that his daughter, the Chief Environmental Officer "wrote the thing". This was incorrectly reported in the minutes as having "compiled the screening opinion". Only in this revised EIA is it clear that David Goodrick had direct involvement when in the April meeting he was sitting as Chief Planning Officer. He made no declaration of interest.

The law requires the Chief Planning Officer to obtain an opinion of the quality of the EIA from the Chief Environmental Officer. It now seems that both had been involved in compiling and therefore it lacks the independence required for an EIA.

At the July 2019 planning authority meeting the new CPO announced the Govern-

nor had written to him to state "the application was withdrawn". This meant it was revoked and any further progress would require a new application with a new number. He then went on to say he had gone to see the Governor to suggest that there was no need to withdraw the application and it should somehow be **unwithdrawn** so the EIA could be resubmitted.

Rules about withdrawn applications and other procedures are contained in official guidance which should be publically available. However the planning office has made these conveniently unavailable despite citing them in correspondence.

On Wednesday the Chief Planning Officer presented the EIA of this withdrawn application and unsurprisingly said that it was confusing and further that "the application was not withdrawn". The planning authority approved it.

Is the Governor as Chair of the Prison Project Board content to allow this level of ineptitude?

**Regards,
Andy Pearce**

Dear Editor,

As we are aware, the Police Directorate has been going through some difficult times. This has mainly been through their difficulty in recruitment, which is still ongoing as this article goes to print.

There may be a solution to this problem, this was first being spoken about within the police force before I joined back in 2006, and was an article of discussion off and on for a few years after I inlisted. This possible way forward was to recruit from police force's within the Commonwealth Islands.

The basic law within all British Commonwealth Islands was built around the British Justice System. Although parts of this system have been changed over the decades to fit in with the policies of different Islands, the core remains the same.

Therefore if St. Helena could get police officers to come out for a 3-6 month secondment, the officer would be able to help with certain situations that have started to arise here. This officer would be out on the beat alongside our own officers and would be able to guide them with potential solutions that have worked

on their Island.

If this could be agreed with other Islands, the only stipulation needed would be that the officer designated speak, read and write English.

Once an officer returned to his own police force, another would take his place, whether from the same force, or that from another Island. When this officer reaches St. Helena, an officer from here would go for a 3-6 month secondment to the police force of the first officer's Island. This would enable the Saint officer to gain greater experience and to return here with fresh ideas on how to take our Island forward.

This rotation of officers could carry on for years to come.

Trainers and sergeants would still come from the UK, when required.

I must add, that when I joined the St. Helena Police, I was the only ex-pat officer there, John Reid had not long left the force. Although I had no previous police experience, I had worked over 30 years in high profile security. My bosses included ex SAS, ex DS's from the Flying Squad, and an ex inspector Hong Kong Police SWAT.

Whilst in the employment of various companies, I worked alongside several police forces including Westminster MOD Police, and Special Branch, this was in the capacity of GP and Drug Search dog handler.

During my career in the Police Force here, I was taught a great deal, especially on how to correspond with Saints. I owe a lot to the Saints on the Force, in helping me to become part of Saint culture. This I think is now missing, the communication between Police and the general public is nearly non-existent. This need to be addressed urgently.

The final and probably most important part must be for Police Officers to be seen on the beat a lot more. At present they seem to be bogged down with endless paper work, maybe by adding two administration clerks this burden could be lifted, giving more time for officers to **be out in the community.**

**Yours,
Paul Laban**

The long and winding road for Bulk Fuel Installation at Rupert's Valley

The Bulk Fuel Installation (BFI) in Rupert's Valley was originally scheduled to be completed in November 2015. Now, almost four years later, rumours continue to circulate about defective installations, bad workmanship and the possibility some of the work will need to be done again, from scratch.

Problems with getting the airport certified by ASSI meant planned work on the BFI was delayed while staff and resources were concentrated on getting the airport up and running as soon as possible. This included making contingency arrangements for aviation fuel. In May 2016 the airport was certified and able to function as a Category C airport. At this point Basil Read had a revised completion date for the BFI, the last quarter of 2018. Another reason for delay was the need to incorporate work which met revised fuel industry regulations.

Before completion could be achieved Basil Read's longstanding financial difficulties came to a head and the company entered the business rescue process as it is known in South Africa. In the UK it is called 'going into administration' when the business is handed over to administrators who assess what can be done to save the company from bankruptcy or save at least parts of it from going under. As the business rescue process came to its conclusion the result was SHG took direct responsibility for the BFI when the Basil Read contract was terminated in October 2018. At the time SHG took over the contract the completion date was revised to September 2019.

Many shortcomings and fundamental failures were identified when an assessment of the work done and the organisation of the project were undertaken after the handover to SHG. These included lack of materials, problems with obtaining materials and significant shortcomings in the standard of completed work. In March this year, in response to a question raised by Corinda Essex, Dax Richards reported the assessment was still ongoing. The assessment included the wharf and haul road in addition to the BFI. Also under review is the governance of the project. This would involve Halcrow, who oversaw work completed by Basil Read and the involvement of DFID project managers as well as SHG's own Airport Directorate/Air Access Office.

The latest estimated completion date for the BFI is put at July 2020 but it appears to be little more than a guess. At the time completion was put at July 2020 full information from the technical assessment and independent review were still awaited.

Rumours about shortcomings and failings about the airport project work in Rupert's have frequently circulated the community. The wharf is sinking, fuel storage tanks are leaking, electrical work is well below standard, lighting is not compliant, the new fuel line gantry has significant faults, and so it goes on. Discussion has come to the surface once more because it is believed the assessments and independent review are now completed and councillors have been informed of the information they contain. Little or nothing is being



said, as always, either officially or unofficially but there is a sense that the information which is being kept secret could be no better than the worst feared.

The cost of making good the failures in the BFI project may well be a whole new piece of work in itself. In addition to assessments there are also re-assessments which may be required. With PASH Global due to start on the renewable energy project in the near future and SHG introducing electric cars within the same time frame, do we need the same capacity for fossil fuel storage as was envisaged just a few years ago? Does the power station need all the diesel powered generators that were installed when it was refurbished some years back? Can a generator or two be sold to help pay for the subsidy required by government owned businesses? If the alternative arrangements made in 2016 for aviation fuel storage are working well, is it necessary to change a situation which does not need fixing? Can the Liberated African Burial Grounds and the associated memorials be included in a re-assessment of development requirements in Rupert's instead of being seen as a separate consideration?

As is so often the case there is no free discussion on the many and often complex issues. So it not even possible to know to what extent recent developments might affect a re-assessment – even if a re-assessment is planned. Together with lack of information and no sensible open discussion are the usual unsubstantiated bits of information; some of which will turn out to be rumours fuelled by vivid imaginations. But answers are needed to a whole host of questions. Probably the first one is, with project and programme managers of all kinds at DFID, Basil Read, Halcrow and SHG checking out the situation on the ground as the project progressed, how on earth did a situation develop where a long list of obvious and often avoidable significant failures develop?

One theory is that conscious of the fragility of Basil Read's financial position DFID issued instructions for certain items on the snag list to be allowed to slip through. This would save costs for Basil Read in the short term but eventually and inevitably this approach would be revealed as short-sighted and expensive. After SHG took direct responsibility for the project in October last year, what happened? Once again there are unsubstantiated reports of workers on site with no work to do. While technical assessments were being made of the quality standards by the SmartJet Engineering team

The long and winding road for Bulk Fuel Installation at Rupert's Valley

on site was any work undertaken on the BFI part of the airport project. The site was shut down at the end of May and remained shut until the independent reviewer completed their work. With nothing much to do were project workers paid to do next to nothing or were they redeployed to more meaningful jobs?

When information is not released people instinctively think the worst and fear the consequences. Is it possible, with the help of our elected representatives, we will have a groundbreaking experience where government officials and councillors actually agree to discuss the range of problems that have been identified openly, publicly and in a mature and informative manner?

The United Nations International Day of Democracy comes around next week; can SHG find it in their souls to celebrate the occasion by opening up on this issue of humongous island-wide importance?



SmartJet performing air leak test on aviation fuel pipework at the Bulk Fuel Installation loading bay, March 2019

RMS will be sailing to Greenland to “break the mould”

Extreme E announced this week that Greenland is the location for their Arctic race in Season 1 starting in 2021. Extreme E is an offshoot of Formula E. Both race organisations use electric cars, Formula E uses circuits within cities, Extreme E uses difficult terrain in a range of environments; desert, arctic, rainforest and ocean. The former RMS is destined to take the whole racing organisation to Greenland and the other four extreme off-road racing locations which are still to be decided for the 2021 racing season. Locations are chosen on the basis of the impact climate is having in the



region. Only electric racers are used because they do not emit harmful gases.

The announcement by Extreme E on the decision to hold the Arctic race in Greenland hailed it as “A truly exciting prospect, we’ll make history as the first motorsport series to ever race in the country, when we take to the sandbars by the Russell Glacier in Kangerlussuaq, West Greenland. I can scarcely think of a more fitting arena for us – it really is the front-line of the global climate emergency.”

The Russell Glacier is melting at an accelerating pace. Event advisor for Extreme E, Professor Peter Wadhams of Cambridge University said, “On August 1, which was one of the days that I was in Greenland with the race team, the ice cap lost twelve and a half billion tonnes of ice, a new daily record loss,”

The former RMS St Helena was bought by Extreme E and is now being re-fitted to accommodate all the SUV electric off-road racers, the drivers and the entire race organisation. I will have a communications set-up for both the race and recording it for later TV transmission. Also included in the refit are engineering workshops and deluxe accommodation for VIPs.



From A Traveller

Big fish, cloud forests and spectacular food make the wildly remote St Helena worth the journey, writes Mike MacEacheran.

Something is circling our boat in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean. We are off the coast of Flagstaff Bay, sailing in slow motion on glassy-calm water, and a frenzy of dorsals and dual-lobbed fins have appeared as if in pursuit.

It's quite something to see a whale shark the size of a school bus in the water and quite another to see a dozen of them, then put on a snorkel and plunge straight in as if you are bait. "Don't forget to breathe," says Keith Yon, our boat captain for the day. "They're so much bigger and scarier when you're in the water. In a nice way, of course."

Admittedly, shark-infested waters are not for everyone. But the comings and goings off St Helena's shores make it a Shangri-La for nature lovers. This season, Keith has chalked up a few hundred sightings, including an intense encounter with 27 whoppers. Indeed, when it comes to raw spectacle, the far-flung British territory soundly beats the Galapagos and the Maldives, plus you won't find the vulgar chaos of tourist boats crowding the water here. The dark blue sea is so empty - so vast and infinite - you sense it is cloaked in something almost magical.



Swimming with whale sharks is not for everyone

Unsurprisingly, visitor numbers are on the rise in St Helena, and the island is on the cusp of becoming more popular. New connecting flights to the island from Cape Town launch in December (in addition to those from Johannesburg) making it increasingly accessible for travellers. The island's nearest neighbours are 2400km away to the south in Tristan da Cunha, and beyond that is the Antarctic. Living this far from anywhere makes the inhabitants - or "Saints" - friendly and familiar.

If one place sums up the geographic absurdity of St Helena, it's Jamestown, the island's economic and social nexus. The town is caught in a tight embrace at the bottom of a steep-sided valley, surrounded by layers of volcanic ash and a rugged fringe of sun-seared coastline. There are pastel-toned houses, towering palm trees and colonial relics - stark reminders of imperialist ideals and slavery. All are echoes of the East India Company, which settled the island in 1659.

Go into any of the island's satellite towns and there's plenty more history to discover: from time-stopped 19th-century Longwood House, where Napoleon was exiled after Waterloo, to Plantation House, the residence of the governor and home to Jonathan, the 187-year-old giant tortoise who tootles about on the front lawn. You can also appreciate Edmund Halley, who built an observatory among the wispy flax grass of Diana's Peak, St Helena's sugar loaf mountain, and applaud Charles Darwin, who came to catalogue endemic birds



A view of St Helena's tropical landscape and insects.

I'm staying at the Consulate Hotel, in a scruffily chic room.



Jamestown, the capital of St Helena, is situated in a steep valley on the island's western side

The hotel is ideally placed for exploring the island's easily accessible nooks and crannies. At its southwest tip, there is the black sand curve of Sandy Bay, while a bumpy Land Rover hunt for the endemic wire bird at Cox's Battery reveals a mix of cloud forests and farmland that wouldn't look out of place in Norfolk. Every so often, there is a sense of the familiar, but also fleeting volcanic panoramas that could make it the Congo. If you need any indication of how St Helena is changing, then you can visit Welsh expat Paul Hickling for a £5 (\$NZ9.60) tasting at the world's remotest distillery, discreetly tacked on to the back of his house. After a quick nose around, I'm game to try his White Lion rum, nicknamed "gunpowder in a glass", followed by a shot of prickly pear "tungi" spirit, a teeth-scraping moonshine.

Elsewhere, the food is just as intensely memorable. Inside the former stables of Anne's Place in Jamestown - all shipwreck chic and masthead flags - the specials are wedges of wahoo and tuna, battered golden or grilled, for £8 (\$15.50). On a nearby hilltop house, after a cooking lesson with Derek and Linda Richards at their homestay, I gorge on a lifetime's-best platter of fishcakes made with squidgy tuna belly and thick cuts of red chilli.

The food is a triumphant if curious blend of British, Creole and African, and what accompanies it is a sweet black pudding, stuffed with rice rather than grain, followed by exquisite homegrown coffee made with green-tipped Bourbon arabica. As if to emphasise this wildly remote island of extremes, I take a final boat trip on my last morning and within five minutes the ocean swarms with hundreds of pantropical dolphins. They bask in our wake, then begin popping out one by one like corks.

Along with its stunning wildlife, the allure of St Helena is its scale - you can see all the sights on this island very easily, and still have time to kick back, relax and experience life at a different pace on this wildly remote gem at the end of the world. -

Guardian News and Media

Otago Daily Times, Tuesday, 3 September 2019

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY CELEBRATIONS ON ST HELENA

In recognition of the United Nations International Youth Day, the Children & Adults Social Care Directorate will be celebrating young people on St Helena in a special event at the Mule Yard on Friday, 13 September 2019.

International Youth Day is celebrated each year on 13 August but due to the Island schools being closed on this day, St Helena's celebration is being held a month later. The event will run from 10am - 4pm for Year 9 and 10 students of Prince Andrew School.

The programme for the day will include:

- Jamestown Amazing Race
- Lunch, where students will be issued vouchers for meals, drinks and a treat
- Novelty Sports in the Leisure Park
- Hotdog Eating Competition

Young people not wanting to participate in specific events will be able to take part in other games in the Mule Yard. The presentation of medals and badges and speeches will take place at the Mule Yard at 3pm. Members of the community may join for the closing speeches.

SHG

4 September 2019



St Helena
Government

Connect
SAINT HELENA LTD

TIP OF THE WEEK

Wash only when
the washing
machine is full -
or adjust the
water volume
setting.

CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS OPEN

The UK Government's global Chevening Scholarship Programme for study in the UK in 2020/2021 is now open for applications until Tuesday, 5 November 2019.

To apply, candidates must meet certain criteria including:

- Having completed all components of an undergraduate degree that will enable entry into a postgraduate programme in the UK
- Having at least two years' work experience
- Returning to St Helena for a minimum of two years following the course

Further information and guidance on eligibility can be found at: www.chevening.org/scholarships/who-can-apply/eligibility.

For the 2020/2021 programme, courses will commence in September 2020. The scholarship offers **full financial support** and allows candidates to gain access to a wide range of exclusive academic, professional, and cultural experiences.

Further information about the Programme can be found on the Chevening website: www.chevening.org, through which applications should also be submitted.

Manager of the Governor's Office, Kerry Lane, is able to provide advice and support locally. For more information, please call Kerry on 22308 or email her via: kerry.lane@sainthelena.gov.sh or Kerry.Lane@fco.gov.uk

Chevening Scholarships are the UK Government's global scholarship programme, funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. The Chevening Programme makes awards to outstanding individuals with leadership potential from around the world to study postgraduate courses at UK universities. These are usually one year long master's degree courses.

#StHelena #CheveningScholarships #FCO

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

<https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt>

SHG

3 September 2019



St Helena
Government

Public Consultation on St Helena Fisheries Management

Another public consultation kicked off this week; this time it's another policy publication about St Helena Fisheries. The timing appears strange because selling off St Helena Fisheries Corporation is at some stage within a very long tendering process. Deciding to have another discussion on fisheries policy may appear to be moving the goal posts before any potential investors can take a decent shot.

Some will remember Mark Brumbill, he wrote a St Helena Fisheries Development Report in 2013. His first recommendation was there should be a review of the Fisheries Corporation to decide its future. He pointed to successful small scale pole and line fishing co-operatives existing in other parts of the world and suggested St Helena could learn from them. We very evidently have not.

This week's latest addition to a series of strategies, policies and plans for St Helena fisheries is called Policy Statement for the Management of St Helena Fisheries. The words sustainable and sustainability are used 24 times in the eight pages of text. The policy statement explains "This policy statement outlines the St Helena Government's (SHG) position on, and aspiration for the management and use of the Island's fish resources for the customary commercial and recreational fishing activities, and also for sport fishing activities (together called "fishing"). The statement confirms SHG commitment and aspiration for sustainable management of the Island's fisheries; its support for the right of the St Helena community to go fishing; and its dedication to an effective legislative and regulatory framework to **ensure the fisheries remain sustainable and profitable into the future.**" How fisheries are to become profitable is not explained.

While it is pointed out "Participants in the commercial sub-sector have, and continue to experience, difficulties from a combination of low fish catches, high fuel and labour costs, environmental and biological impacts on fish stocks, and loss of fishing grounds" no direction is given as to how at least some of these problems can be overcome. The Policy Statement states, "Fishing is part of our culture and whilst recognising the valuable contribution of commercial fishing to St Helena, our fisheries resources will be used and managed for the benefit of the community, including for commercial, exploratory, sports and recreational fishing interests."

The proposed new policy demotes commercial fishing to the category of "sub-sector" and this is underlined when it is announced commercial fishing is equal in status to recreational and sports fishing. In fact this point is made twice.

Another section lists the interested parties described as stakeholders in St Helena Fisheries, they include, "commercial, sports and recreational fishers, non-Government fishing entities, our science partners and the fish processing and sales entity". The large annual subsidy paid by taxpayers to keep the fish processing part of it above water does not qualify the rest of us as stakeholders.

One solution proposed is to set up yet another committee. This one will be called the Fisheries Management Advisory Committee and will include representatives of all the named

stakeholders to "provide a united voice to Government for fisheries management." Some may wonder whether this provides instead another opportunity for more talking to cause expensive delay to making difficult decisions.

The Policy Statement tells us:-

Government will continue to work with the fishing industry to *sustainably* maximise the net economic return to the community from the use and management of the fisheries, including any under-utilised species. However, initiatives will be fishing sector-led

Ensuring that fishing activities are environmentally *sustainable* and managed in a way that is consistent with the objectives of achieving economic, social and employment benefits, and of contributing to the availability of food supplies

SUSTAINABILITY: our fisheries will be managed in a manner consistent with the principles of *sustainable* development, with no overfishing and the recovery of overfished stocks/resources (where this has happened).

And so it goes on. As far as the commercial survival of St Helena Fisheries is concerned there is a blend of what might be considered stating the obvious and wishful thinking.

The Policy Statement claims, "St Helena's fisheries directly contributed to the national economy over the last 3 years (annual average) as follows:

£242,000 per year through fish purchases from fishermen, with the highest value of £250,000 achieved in 2018-19;
£187,000 per year of local fish sales, with the highest value of £206,000 achieved in 2018-19;

£300,000 per year of sustainably caught, high-quality seafood exported by sea and air."

While the Policy Statement does not make it clear, the figures quoted must be total revenue and not profits. It is the profit that counts and at the moment there is none. Far from it, subsidy paid to St Helena Fisheries Corporation this year is budgeted at £350,000. The Policy Statement has little to say on how the downward spiral for commercial fishing can be reversed. This question is the most urgent and most important and is what interests many people most.

The most pertinent observation on the future of St Helena Fisheries was made in the other public consultation document published this week, *Labour Market Strategy 2010-2035*. When referring to agriculture and fishing the draft strategy notes, "In consultations, agriculture and fishing were repeatedly identified as sectors where an aging workforce poses a significant threat to future sustainability." It is that word *sustainability* again; this time though it is pointed out what is unsustainable and that is the local fishing fleet and the fishermen within them. Proper recognition of all that is unsustainable about St Helena Fisheries and the contribution it is not making to the Island's economy is overdue as is a full commitment to make decisions which will reverse this enduring trend.

Labour Market Strategy – improving the market for labour

On Monday SHG released a document for public consultation which proposes a series of measures aimed at addressing imbalances in the labour market, improving existing measures designed to encourage overseas Saints to come home to work, continued support and awareness of employees rights, setting up a 'Job Shop Plus', improving existing measures to increase the number of skilled workers and introducing new ways to overcome short-term labour shortages.

Public consultation meetings are scheduled for Monday 9 September at the Half Tree Hollow Community Centre and on Wednesday 11 September at the Harford Community Centre. A public consultation meeting for employers will take place on Tuesday, 24 September, at the Jamestown Community Centre. All three meetings will start at 7pm. Written responses can be sent by email to the Senior Economist and need to arrive by close of business (4pm) on Friday 11th October.



**The Senior Economist's email address is
Amanda.Brown@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Some of the main points from the Draft Strategy Times have changed

The draft labour market strategy (LMS) points out early on that the last similar strategy was published in 2012. It concentrated on construction and the airport project. Now the airport has been built and the fibre-optic cable is expected to be the next big investment project. "St Helena now faces a new generation of challenges and opportunities that this LMS seeks to address." Also mentioned is the new Labour Market Strategy will have a 15 year life and, "Five-year olds entering primary school in 2020 will be 20 in 2035. By that time, they will have completed their secondary education and will have chosen to attend university, undertake an apprenticeship or enter the workforce. They will have a career path in mind, shaped both by their personal interests and the opportunities available to them through their early education. The decisions made today will influence the path they choose and will help determine not only their individual futures but the future of St Helena."

Unemployment

The draft document points out that while the rate of unem-

Labour Market Strategy: 2020-2035

Government of St Helena

Draft for Public Consultation – September-October 2019



ployment in St Helena is low compared with most other labour markets this is not all good news. Without a larger pool of residents who want to be economically active employees it can be difficult for employers to meet current business requirements and may need to postpone plans they might have to expand their business. Labour shortages can also have an inflationary effect as employers compete with each other in recruitment and offer increased wages to attract new staff. Increased wages is also not all good news as increases above the rate of price inflation which do not go hand in hand with increased productivity will only further increase prices.

This is further complicated because labour shortages are not spread evenly across all the various business sectors. Some types of businesses can be continually trying to recruit staff while other businesses have several applicants when a vacancy is advertised. The draft strategy points out "This mismatch between supply and demand is called a market failure and is a situation that requires appropriate policies to address."

Overseas Employment

Despite a significant increase in the price of everything over recent decades St Helena remains a low wage economy. Low wages mean that spare cash in the back pocket is limited and often non-existent. This is of course undesirable and at the same time is another drag on attempts to develop a healthier Island economy. It also means the best and more skilled employees find it entirely possible to find more rewarding jobs overseas. The draft strategy says, "Over 50% of St Helenians – and nearly 60% of men in St Helena – have worked overseas at some point in their life." And that, "The median annual income of full-time employees in St Helena is £8,500 compared to median incomes of £22,500 in the Falkland Islands and £29,400 in the United Kingdom." While Saints will take employment overseas to save for a home in St Helena and a family car the higher wages earned overseas means property prices in St Helena are driven upwards as the ability of overseas Saints to pay more means property sales are often pitched at overseas buyers. This puts house purchase out of reach for Saints on a local wage. The draft strategy points out, "This makes purchasing a home difficult on a local wage, perpetuating the cycle of emigration" as working overseas becomes the only way to save the cash required to

Continued on NEXT PAGE

Labour Market Strategy – improving the market for labour

build a house if long term high interest loans are to be avoided.

The Labour Market Strategy draft puts this into context, “Since the 2016 census, the resident population has decreased by approximately 390 people, which includes a mix of St Helenians and foreign workers departing the Island. This represents a net outward migration of approximately 130 people per year. If this trend continues unabated, there could be fewer than 1,500 residents on St Helena by 2050”.

New Opportunities

After painting this grim picture of mismatches, misfits and misapplications the draft strategy then turns to what can be done to help change things for the better. The proposals state what SHG plan to do to make the labour market work better for employees, employers and the Island generally. It is often stated as the proposals are explained that private sector businesses can take part in the proposed schemes and take advantage of the intended benefits. The first new opportunity mentioned is the increased connectivity which comes with the fibre-optic cable.

Overseas Saints, Local Saints and TC Benefits

Technical Co-operation positions are funded by DFID and offer wages and expenses aimed at attracting specialists to St Helena to fill gaps in training, research or technical jobs which cannot be filled from the local labour market. The draft strategy points out, “St Helenians living abroad are eligible provided they are selected through an open international recruitment process.” The draft document also states, “TC officer based salaries reflect an amount deemed necessary to attract talent from an international market. SHG recognises that highly talented St Helenians are also able to compete for jobs internationally and their skills are not less valuable just because they happen to already be on the Island. In future reviews of the TC funding provision, SHG will engage the UK Department for International Development to explore options for using this programme to retain talent in St Helena in addition to recruiting expertise from overseas.”

Another proposal in the document is called a Welcome Home Relocation Package. It is one of a number of new proposals to actively encourage overseas Saints whose return home would be a benefit to the Island’s economy. The draft document explains, “to assist St Helenians currently residing overseas with the costs of returning to St Helena. Any individual with St Helenian status, or their spouse or life partner, holding an unconditional offer of employment would be eligible provided they have been living overseas for a minimum period prior to commencement of the programme and meet the age requirements defined for the package. The value of incentives offered could be scaled based on age, time away from the Island, number of accompanying dependants and whether or not the position filled was on the shortage occupation list.”

CASH in on access to an Island career

Something called CASH is proposed in the draft strategy. It stands for Career Access St Helena. It is described as a one-stop shop for career services in St Helena and is envisaged as being a partnership between the various relevant government employment and education functions and private sector and non-governmental organisations. The aim is offer

the widest range possible of services required by job-seekers and recruiters in one centralised and co-ordinated organisation. CASH will cater for people seeking their first job right through to the final job application before retiring. It will assist unemployed to find work and will help job-seekers at every level of ability. Another part of the service will be to help fill short-term or casual vacancies. There are many similarities between CASH and employment bureaux operated by the private sector in most other countries. While SHG plans to set up CASH it will keep an open mind on whether or not this employment service could be transferred to the private sector.

Online Registry

Another CASH service will be an online database which “will provide St Helenians living overseas and their spouses or life partners the opportunity to register their interest in returning to the Island for employment. Registered individuals would receive a regular digest of jobs available in St Helena.”

The ‘Tool Kit’ for Making Job Seeking Easier Continues Volunteer Holidays

The draft strategy uses coffee picking as an example of seasonal and temporary jobs which are hard to fill. The National Trust, Blue Marine Foundation and other NGOs may also need a few extra hands for a short period. Such jobs can involve long hours, low pay and unattractive manual labour. The growing demand internationally for volunteer holidays can help overcome recruitment problems for temporary unskilled jobs. The draft strategy explains, “Volunteer holidays, working holidays and cultural exchanges have been employed around the world to meet critical labour needs while providing numerous benefits to both the participants and host countries. For volunteer holidays, participants often pay for their own travel and work part-time or for short periods of time in exchange for food and lodging.”

Launching Graduates into Careers

Saint students returning from universities and colleges in the UK and elsewhere have sometimes felt left alone and forgotten when arriving home. Finding a job which matches their advanced education and qualifications can be difficult. To help returning university graduates and others who have succeeded at a similar level, SHG is introducing a Graduate Development Programme next year. SHG will liaise “with employers across the private sector to develop work placements and rotations to ensure that graduate talent is utilised across the labour market.”

Staying on at school

The intention is “that social policies provide adequate support for families with children and create an environment where it is financially viable for children to remain in school until 18.”

Accommodating Skilled Overseas People

In addition to all the other ‘tools’ in the ‘kit’ more will be required in addition to returning overseas Saints, returning graduates and temporary labour coming here for a working holiday. In common with all developed countries people from other countries need to be recruited to ensure all skilled vacancies right across the range are undertaken by qualified and expe-

Labour Market Strategy – improving the market for labour

rienced personnel. The draft strategy states, “SHG will actively encourage TC officers and non-St Helenian staff on local contracts who have potential to provide long term benefit to St Helena to apply for Saint Status in order to maintain their skills and contributions on the Island. SHG will encourage other businesses on island, including the state owned entities, to do the same.”

‘Digital Nomads’ are also included. With the fibre-optic cable in mind the draft strategy says, “St Helena will become a new and exciting potential destination for remote work. In addition to its natural beauty, the stable currency, low rate of crime and location in a time zone convenient to clients in the UK, Europe and Africa are all factors that make St Helena an attractive place for a digital nomad to set up shop. For St Helena, these workers are beneficial because they create their own job on-Island while contributing substantially to the local economy. To take advantage of this opportunity, SHG will market opportunities for digital nomads as part of its in-

vestor and tourism strategies.”

Some overseas investors who would like to relocate here may also be offered a relocation package to encourage them to bring their investment to St Helena. The draft strategy states, “An individual approved as an investor under SHG’s Investment Strategy and who meets the same criteria (as for the Welcome Home Relocation Package for overseas Saints) would also be eligible for a relocation incentive package in addition to the incentives associated with their approved investor status.”

There are other tools in the kit which attempt to put lubricating oil on all the mismatches and labour market failures putting a drag on the Island’s economy. All of them can be found in the 25 page Labour market Strategy, 2020-2035 which can be found at <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/publications/> or at the Library and Customer Service centre.

ST HELENA WATER CONSUMPTION LEVELS AT ITS LOWEST YET

St Helena’s water consumption levels on 30 and 31 August and 2 September reduced to less than 1000 cubic metres. On 2 September, the water consumption levels were 865 cubic metres. This is the consumption rate that is required to sustain a safe level of stored water on the Island and all residents are commended for their efforts in reducing their water use to reach this target.

To preserve our precious resource it is important that we continue to cut down our water use to essential use only. Despite some recent rainfall, surface water runoff has not increased, meaning there has not been enough rain to runoff into the reservoirs. At least two weeks of continuous meaningful rainfall is needed to make a positive difference in reservoir levels. St Helena’s winter period is between June and September and this is normally the time when the Island experiences the most rainfall.

The total rainfall for August 2019 was 35.4mm compared to August 2018 when there was 106.0mm. The total amount of rain for this August is also below the August monthly average of 59.0mm for the past 19 years.

It is forecast that there will be further showers for the next few days but it will become mainly dry by the end of the week with no heavy or prolonged rain in the coming weeks.

Connect Saint Helena (CSH) continues to pump water from Chubb’s Spring and Hutt’s Gate to Red Hill to replenish stocks in this area.

Remember, 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
4 September 2019**



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc

Main Street, Jamestown, Island of St Helena, STHL 1ZZ
Tel: 290 22380, Fax: 290 22423, Email: generalenquiries@solomons.co.sh
Web: www.solomons-sthelena.com
Prosperity Through Partnership

Customer Notice

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc wishes to advise customers that their Special Order Centre will relocate to Warrens, on Main Street, Jamestown on **Thursday, 12 September 2019.**

Come and visit us at our new location and also have a browse in our D.I.Y Showroom, all on the same premises.

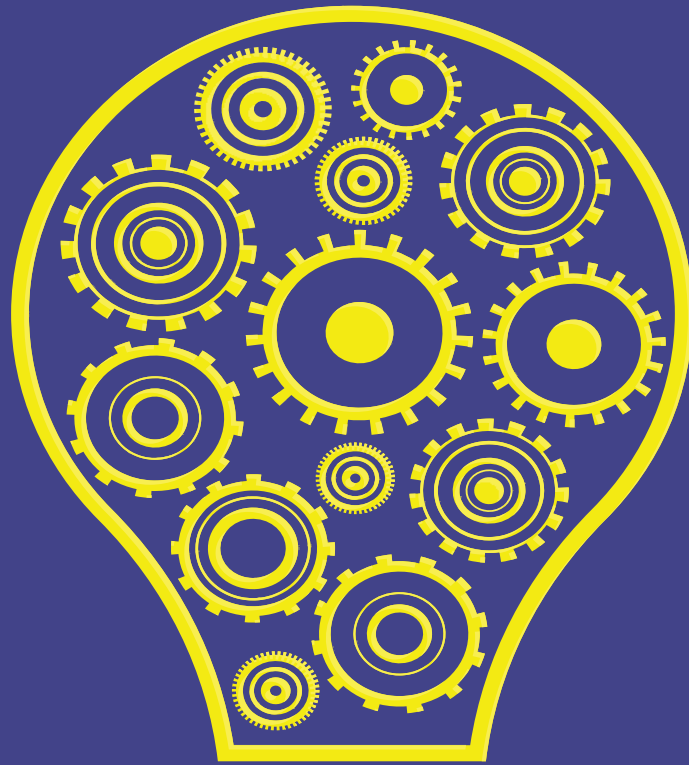
4 September 2019

Clearance Sale

Betty and Raymond Peters are having an ongoing clearance sale at their residence at Kunjie Field.

Items for sale are kitchen, dining and bathroom items and also include a Kingsize Bed with Headboard and built-in cabinets, plus matching bed linen; Ceramic wall and floor tiles for the bathroom and a single kitchen sink with mixer taps.

If you are interested in purchasing any items, please call Mobile No. 64499 for enquiries and to arrange viewing if necessary.



GRAND IDEAS

Do you have an innovative, creative idea?

Enterprise St Helena, in partnership with the Governor's Office and Foreign and Commonwealth Office International Programme Fund, is running a competition for the most creative, innovative and cost-effective community ideas to improve life on the island.

Entries will be judged in two categories:

- Economic benefits for St Helena
- Social benefits for St Helena

Competition is open to all children, adults, community groups and businesses that are permanently resident on St Helena.

Win a 'Grand' (£1000) towards implementing your creative idea.

Application forms can be emailed or collected from Mandy O'Bey at Enterprise St Helena. Closing date for submission of ideas is by Monday 30th of September 2019.

For further information please contact Mandy O'Bey on Tel No: 22920 or e-mail mandy.obey@esh.co.sh



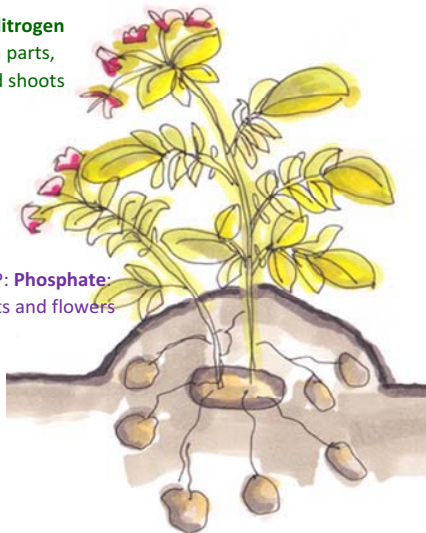
Crop Watch 3

This edition of crop watch touches on efficient use of fertiliser and introduces the technique of using cover crops. As always please feel free to get in touch if you'd like to discuss anything agricultural related.

Fertiliser

I've had a number of queries about using Urea, MAP and MOP fertiliser. These fertilisers need to be used in conjunction with each other. They each provide one of the three "macro-nutrients" necessary for plant growth:

Urea: Nitrogen
for green parts,
leaves and shoots



MOP: Potassium: for transportation within the plant, fruit and tuber growth

They are "stronger" than LAN, Bounce Back and 2-3-2 and so less is needed to get the same result.

Timing of the fertiliser application is important. If applied at the wrong time the plant cannot use it efficiently and the nutrient will be lost; washed out of the soil or up into the air.

Each crop has a different requirement for quantity and timing of nutrients. To cover this complexity Recommendation sheets are available from ANRD for all of the major crops and recommendations can be created for any other crop that are requested.

Cover Crops & Conservation Agriculture

Cover crops are plants that are grown in the field or garden to enhance soil health. They are grown between harvested crops when the ground would otherwise be bare. They have a number of benefits:

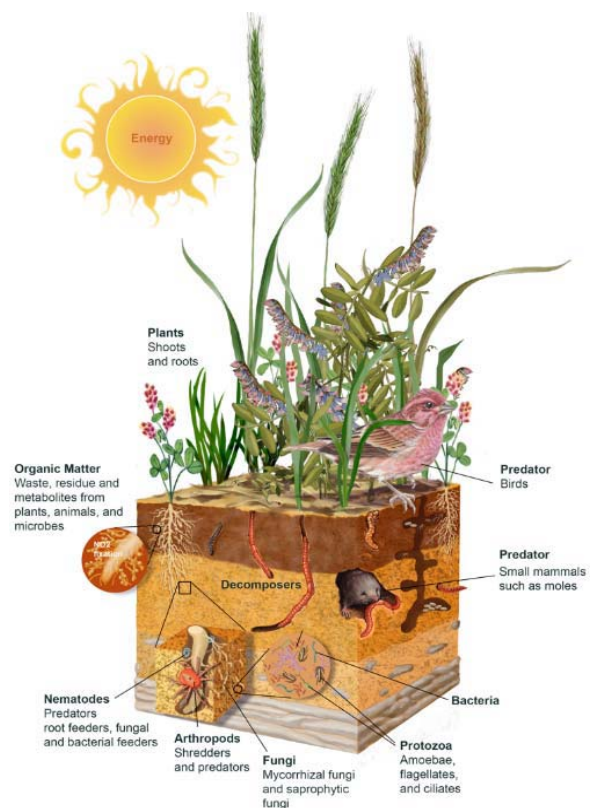
- Reduce soil erosion by covering & binding the soil with roots & foliage
- Increase infiltration of rainfall. The growing plants prevent capping & compaction caused by rain.
- Increase soil organic matter. The plants are not removed from the field & so form a natural compost (green manure)
- Reduce weed infestation (by shading out & competing with weeds)
- Encourage natural enemies of pests & diseases. A mix of crops behaves more like a natural ecosystem, beneficial organisms & pollinators are enhanced
- Increases soil fertility, by stopping nutrients being washed out of the soil & promoting microorganisms that break down unavailable nutrients into plant available nutrients.

- Remove compaction, with deep roots & less requirement for cultivation.
- Increase soil moisture availability, by shading the soil from the sun & wind & reducing evaporation.

"Conservation Agriculture" takes this one step further. The cover crop is left in the ground & the new crop planted through it. In this way the cover crop acts as a mulch to protect the harvest crop from pests, disease & weather.

Sounds too good to be true? It may be the case, so to test the theory a number of trials & demonstrations are being set up. These will be open to all to come & see. Once underway the details will be published here.

Cover Crops increase Biodiversity; fundamental for a healthy soil



Drought

The dry weather continues to affect us all. If anyone requires help or advice on how best to use limited water in their production then do give ANRD a call

For all crop related enquiries please contact ANRD at Scotland on 24724.
 Agronomy: Ted Whitton ext. 216. Email edward.whitton@sainthelena.gov.sh
 Pest Control: Rosie Peters ext. 210. Email rosalie.peters@sainthelena.gov.sh



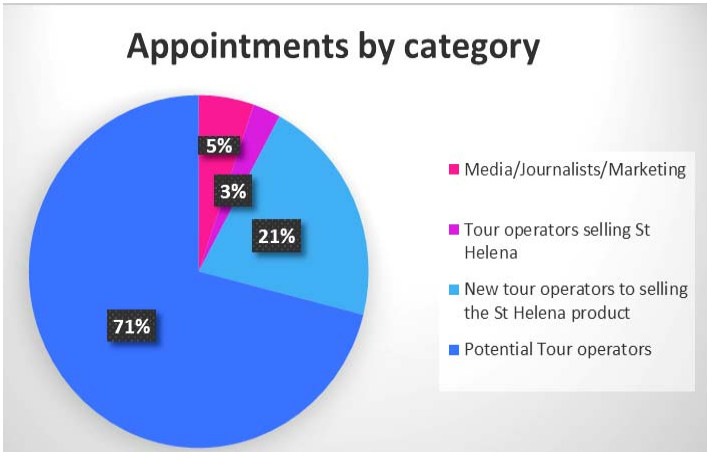
Feedback from the Experience Africa travel trade show



Experience Africa

Experience Africa is the innovative and inclusive business to business travel trade show that provides a dedicated platform to connect key suppliers from across Africa with the most relevant active buyers from the UK and Europe. The event takes place in London each year with a focus to essentially promote travel to Africa and encourage influences from across the industries to make new connections and grow their businesses and products.

In June, St Helena Tourism attended the show as an exhibitor to engage with stakeholders and showcase the islands travel appeal. During the course of the travel show St Helena Tourism, supported by Darrin des Vignes from the Brighter Group (Enterprise St Helena’s PR Agency), met with 38 clients. These appointments opened connections with media and tour operators both current and new to selling St Helena.



Experience Africa engagements were mostly with companies from the UK and European markets. However, the team did also meet with companies from South Africa and Mozambique. These companies either sold packages from international destinations or specialised in packages from Africa.

The clients of these companies are largely in the market for new and unspoilt destinations to visit. St Helena fits this category and operators were particularly keen on the island’s diving/marine life, walking trails, historical and sustainable offerings.

News of the additional mid-week flights from December 2019 to February 2020 was received positively, especially the appeal of an add on holiday to main land South Africa.

Director of Tourism Helena Bennett commented on the trip *“Experience Africa is a fairly new travel show, and as a result of product engagement there, St Helena Tourism has identified 8 new tour operators wanting to progress their sale of St Helena. Their meeting with the team has enthused them and we are likely to see these operators packaging St Helena for their clients soon. A few tour operators have also been earmarked for a familiarisation visit to St Helena due to the specialism of their product. We will continue to foster good relationships with all operators, and monitor bookings that come via these agents.”*

For more information please contact St Helena Tourism on 22158



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

**PRESS
RELEASE**



St Helena Island
Secret of the South Atlantic

St Helena Tourism to attend PURE life experiences and IFTM Top Resa travel trade shows

St Helena will once again be represented at the travel trade shows PURE life experiences in Marrakech, Morocco and IFTM Top Resa in Paris, France.

PURE life experiences

PURE will be hosted in Marrakech from 8 - 12 September.

PURE life experiences is an International event that brings together the world's best suppliers, buyers and press in high-end experimental travel for a 5 day festival of business, networking and ideas that change worlds.

This will be St Helena's third visit to PURE and Helena Bennett Director of St Helena Tourism will represent St Helena at this event. She will attend a series of seminars and pre-arranged business to business appointments, with International Tour operators that will potentially sell St Helena and the press.



Find out more visit www.purelifeexperiences.com

IFTM Top Resa

IFTM Top Resa will be held in Paris from 1- 4 Oct.

One of the leading multi-segment trade shows for the tourism industry, Top Resa brings together suppliers, buyers and press over the 4 day event, with an aim to maximise exposure, increase sales, boost brand/product and also review market trends and changes.

Helena Bennett and Juliet Williams will represent St Helena Tourism at the event and Gwyneth Howell will accompany them in her capacity as Chairperson of the 2021 Bicentenary Steering committee.

Top Resa will be a prime opportunity to promote Napoleonic links and the Bicentenary of Napoleon's death.



Find out more visit www.iftm.fr

St Helena Tourism acts as a direct representative for St Helena Island and it's service providers when presenting at these business to business shows and appointments.

For more information please contact St Helena Tourism on 22158



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



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

Cattle Assistants

Within the Farms Department

Job Outline

To assist with the day-to-day duties involved in the cattle operations for the production of beef by agreed measures of standard delegated by the Supervisor or Charge-hand.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have basic knowledge in cattle husbandry
 - Have Health & Safety Awareness
- Have experience in operating common hand tools

Salary will start at £152.00 per week

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact Arthur Williams, Livestock Manager on telephone number: 24461 or via email address: solomons.livestock@helanta.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: hadmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, By 17 September 2019



St Helena Tourism is seeking a male person willing to act as a Napoleon impersonator to appear at events throughout Bicentenary celebrations.

The suitable candidate will be expected to act as an ambassador for St Helena and most especially Napoleon's bicentenary. The individual must be; available for all up coming events throughout 2019, 2020 and 2021, be well presented and have the ability to engage with individuals at all levels, especially dignitaries.

Interested persons should contact Sophia Joshua, Tourism Officer for a copy of the Terms of Reference and to try on the custom made Napoleon suit by no later than Friday, 27 September 2019.

The first public appearance of Napoleon will be on Tuesday, 15th October 2019.

Contact Sophia Joshua on Sophia.joshua@tourism.co.sh or telephone 22158



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



Would you like to be a part of our team at St Helena Airport?
Solomon & Company has a part time vacancy for a:

Cargo Processing Agent

Working hours will be according to flight operations and applicants should have good interpersonal & communication skills, and be willing to undertake the required training and the necessary background and medical checks.

Rate of pay will be £6.20 per hour

For further information, please contact

Mrs Anel O'Bey, Agencies Administrator, on telephone number: 22523
or via email address: agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh

Application forms & Job Profiles may be collected from Solomons Reception Desk, in the Main Office Building, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via email address: agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer Solomons Office, Jamestown, by **10 September 2019**



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

Cleaner

On a part-time basis, Within the Bakery

Job Outline

To carry out an effective day to day cleaning program of the Bakery equipment and facilities in order to meet the required health and hygiene standards and production targets

Interested Persons Should:

- Be physically fit, as the role requires regular manual handling
 - Have knowledge of Health & Safety and Hygiene
- Be able to work independently, with minimum supervision

Hours of work will be 30 hours per week

Salary will be £6,235.20 per annum (£120.00 per week)

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package, please contact
Dean Okali
General Manager (Production)
on telephone number: 22380
or via email address:
gm-productions@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: hadmin@solomons.co.sh and should be completed and returned to Miss Daryl Legg, Human Resources Officer, Solomons Office, Jamestown, By **10 September 2019**



Job Vacancy

IP NETWORKS SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

Sure has a vacancy for a IP Systems Networks Administrator to join the IP Networks team.

The ideal candidate will be expected to work within a small team and should possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, be self motivated, eager to learn and proactive. An ability to deal effectively, professionally and confidentially with internal and external customers is essential. A high standard of customer services and computer literacy is imperative. Desirable: Cisco CCNA or other Network equivalent certification; a good knowledge and understanding of computer networking.

Due to the nature of this position, the post holder must hold a satisfactory police disclosure.

The starting salary for the new post-holder is dependent on qualifications and experience.

Join us and you will enjoy some of the many benefits that Sure provides, including but not limited to: Incentive Bonus Scheme, Staff Discount, entitlement to join the Retirement Benefits Plan and opportunities for continued professional development.

Further information regarding the responsibilities of the post may be discussed with Adam Yon, Manager Networks on Tel no: +290 22229 or E: Adam.Yon@sure.co.sh

Application forms may be obtained from Bishops Rooms or contact Keirah Wade, HR & Finance Administrator on T: +290 22800 or E: Keirah.Wade@sure.co.sh.

Applications to be submitted to the HR & Finance Administrator, Sure South Atlantic Limited, Bishops Rooms, Jamestown by **4pm on Friday, 13 September 2019.**



Job Vacancy

NETWORKS TECHNICIAN

Sure has a vacancy for a Networks Technician to join the Networks team.

The ideal candidate will be expected to support the operation and maintenance of core network infrastructure and play a key role in the planning and implementation of projects. Interested candidates should demonstrate an interest in current and future technology, be self-motivated, energetic, enthusiastic and proactive, able to keep to deadlines, willing to perform on-call duties as required and be able to work well independently or within a team. Essential: Minimum of 2 years experience in the operation and maintenance of electrical systems, have a high standard of written and oral communication skills, have experience in Customer Services and possess a valid driving license. Desirable: To have previous experience of telecoms systems.

**The starting salary for the new post-holder will be between £13,000 - £15,000 per annum
(subject to successful applicants skills and experience)**

Join us and you will enjoy some of the many benefits that Sure provides, including but not limited to: Incentive Bonus Scheme, Staff Discount, entitlement to join the Retirement Benefits Plan and opportunities for continued professional development.

Further information regarding the responsibilities of the post may be discussed with Dion G Yon, Access Networks Manager on Tel no: +290 22220 or E: DionGYon@sure.co.sh

Application forms may be obtained from Bishops Rooms or contact Keirah Wade, HR & Finance Administrator on T: +290 22800 or E: Keirah.Wade@sure.co.sh.

Applications to be submitted to the HR & Finance Administrator, Sure South Atlantic Limited, Bishops Rooms, Jamestown by **4pm on Friday, 13 September 2019.**



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

www.sainthelenabank.com

DO YOU EMAIL ACCOUNT TRANSFER AND INTERNATIONAL PAYMENT FORMS TO THE BANK?

Please remember, with effect from Tuesday, 01 October 2019, the Bank will no longer accept these instructions by email. You may still present these to the Bank in person or utilise Online Banking services to undertake the transactions yourself.

WHY NOT GET ONLINE BANKING AS A ONE-STOP SOLUTION?

Online Banking is available to Personal Banking Customers on the Premium Account Package at £2.00 per month and for Business Banking Customers, Online Banking services start from the Standard Account Package for £5.00 per month. You can:

- Monitor your account
- Make your own local account transfer or journal payments
- Make your own international payments

Contact our Customer Service section for further information, or to apply, on telephone 22390 or email customerservices@sainthelenabank.com

Expressions of Interest for Casual Workers at Bertrand's Cottage



**BERTRAND'S
COTTAGE**

Bertrand's Cottage has opportunities for casual workers to provide support to meet business requirements. There are opportunities for waitron and kitchen support workers.

Hospitality experience is preferred and good customer service is essential; however training and familiarisation will be provided.

For further information please contact Sharnell Benjamin on telephone 22920 or via email address Sharnell.benjamin@esh.co.sh.

Expressions of interest should be forwarded to Sharnell.benjamin@esh.co.sh by 20th September 2019.



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



HEALTH DIRECTORATE

VACANCY FOR HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT – GENERAL HOSPITAL

The Health Directorate is seeking to recruit a Healthcare Assistant to work at the General Hospital.

The successful applicants will be responsible for assisting in the provision of care in the hospital nursing service. Essential qualifications required for this post are GCSE in English and Maths at Grade C or above.

- **An NVQ level 2 in Care, or a willingness to obtain qualification is also desirable.**



Salary for the post is at Grade B1 commencing at £6,722 per annum. However, staff will qualify for a competency based salary enhancement when they are able to successfully and consistently demonstrate competency in accordance with the competency levels relevant to their post.

The competency based salary enhancement is pensionable and the post of Health Care Assistant has been mapped to competency level 1a, £8,067 per annum.

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

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

Interested persons requiring further details regarding this post can contact Mrs Lisa Niemand, Hospital Nursing Officer on telephone no 22500 or email lisa.niemand@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms and a job profile, which are available from the Health Directorate should be completed and submitted through Directors where applicable to Miss Madonna Henry, Human Resources Officer, Health Directorate or email madonna.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4pm on Thursday, 12 Sept 2019.

Edward Rayment (Mr) 27 August 2019

Interim Director of Health
Health Directorate

VACANCY FOR FIRE FIGHTERS

If you are looking for a job that is challenging but rewarding then this could be the career for you!

The St Helena Fire & Rescue Service has a vacancy for a Fire Fighter to join their dynamic team. Reporting to the Brigade Manager (CFO), the successful applicant will assist in protecting and saving lives and property from fire and other hazards, reduce risk and provide humanitarian services in the most competent and effective manner, to the highest possible standard of care and quality.

Applicants must:

- be 18 years of age or over,
- be in possession of GCSE Maths and English at Grade C or above, or equivalent have a valid, clean driving license in classes A,B,C,D & J4 ,
- be in possession of a firefighter basic recruit qualification
- have at least two years operational experience in firefighting and rescue techniques and the proper use of relevant equipment



Hours of work are on a 35hr per week basis. However it should be noted that the successful applicant will be on call 24 hours a day for emergencies and will be required to participate in an on-call rota.

Salary for this post is in Grade C Entry level starting at £9,474 per annum.

For further details regarding other duties of the post, interested persons can contact Mr. Alan Thomas, the Brigade Manager on telephone number 23344, or e-mail dfc.fire@helanta.co.sh.

Information packs (inclusive of application forms) are available from the Police Directorate, Coleman House, Jamestown or Corporate Human Resources, The Castle and should be submitted to the Senior HR Officer, Jackie Moyce, at Corporate Human Resources, The Castle or e-mail jackie.moyce@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than 4 pm on Monday 16th September 2019.

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

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

David Lynch, Chief of Police

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR TWO DECORATORS

The Property Division under the Infrastructure and Transport Directorate is seeking expressions of interest for two Decorators. The Decorators will be required to decorate Harford School in the first instance and while it is expected that this contract will continue for about three months it could be extended.

Interested persons should have experience in painting and decorating and sound knowledge of health and safety in the workplace.

Salary for the post will be £650.00 per month. This contract will be on a casual basis and does not give entitlements to annual leave or sick pay.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Miss Glynis Fowler, Buildings Manager at Essex House; on telephone number 22270 or e-mail glynis.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh Application forms, available from Essex House Reception, should be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, or email karen-thomas@enrd.gov.sh by no later than Wednesday 18th September 2019 by no later than Wednesday 18th September 2019.

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

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

Derek Henry

Acting Director of Infrastructure and Transport Directorate

3 September 2019

VACANCY – MECHANIC

The Infrastructure and Transport Directorate is seeking to recruit a Mechanic. The Mechanic will be responsible to the Garage Manager and Foreman (Mechanic) for the repairs and maintenance of government vehicles and heavy plant equipment.

The Mechanic should have in possession a Motor Mechanics certificate (or equivalent qualification) plus have at least 2 years practical experience and have a valid driving licence.

The salary for this post is at Grade B commencing at £7,730 per annum.

For further details regarding this post, interested persons should contact Mr Theodore Fowler on telephone number 23065 or e-mail Garage.Manager@helenta.co.sh. Application forms and job profiles, which are available from Essex House, Jamestown, should be completed and submitted to the Human Resources Manager or email karen-thomas@enrd.gov.sh by no later than Wednesday 18th September 2019.

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

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

Derek Henry

Acting Director of Infrastructure and Transport Directorate

3 September 2019



St Helena
Government

HEALTH DIRECTORATE

VACANCY FOR SENIOR STAFF NURSE – GENERAL HOSPITAL

The Health Directorate is looking for dedicated and hardworking Senior Staff Nurse to join their nursing team. Offering excellent levels of nursing care, utilizing evidence based practice, supporting and mentoring junior staff are key requirements of this role.

Shift work is required but we offer some flexibility within our shift allocation. There is ongoing training and support to ensure best practice. We have a large and engaging team, who work together and support each other every day.

The post holder will be responsible to the Nursing Officer and Sister/Charge Nurse for the provision of high quality nursing patient care. A full job description and responsibilities are available on request.

The applicant must have proven recent Senior Staff Nurse Experience or completed competency levels 2a, 2b and started with 2c.

Salary for the post commences at **£12,690** per annum. With the competency framework this role is eligible for enhancement to **Senior Staff Nurse level 2c £14,138**.

Enhancement is applicable when able to successfully and consistently demonstrate competency at the required level. The competency based salary enhancement is pensionable. There is the potential for career progression to Specialist Nurse and or Sister/Charge Nurse.

For further information and a copy of the job profile, contact Mrs Daniella Marlow, Acting Hospital Nursing Officer on telephone No 22500 or email daniella.marlow@sainthelena.gov.sh;

Application forms which are available from the Health Directorate should be completed and submitted through Directors where applicable, to Mrs Brenda Thomas, Human Resources Officer, Health Directorate on telephone no 22500 or email brenda.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by Friday, 20 September 2019.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.

Director of Health
4 September 2019



VACANCY FOR STAFF NURSE – GENERAL HOSPITAL

The Health Directorate has a vacancy for a Staff Nurse to join their dedicated, hardworking nursing team. A preceptorship programme for newly qualified or returning nurses is available. This includes supernumerary shifts, training and education. Competency books are available to guide your return to work which are linked to pay enhancements.

Shift work is required but we offer some flexibility within our shift allocation. There is ongoing training and support to ensure best practice. We have a large and engaging team, who work together and support each other every day.

The post holder will be responsible to the Hospital Nursing Officer for the provision of high quality nursing patient care. A full job description and responsibilities are available on request. Essential qualifications for this post are:

- St Helena Nursing Certificate or equivalent and an Up to date Nurse Registration.

Salary for the post commences at **£11,034** per annum. With the competency framework this role is eligible for enhancement to **Preceptorship Staff Nurse level 2a £11,586** and then **Staff Nurse level 2b £12,690**.

Enhancement is applicable when able to successfully and consistently demonstrate competency at the required level. The competency based salary enhancement is pensionable. There is the potential for career progression to Senior Staff Nurse and or Sister/Charge Nurse.

For further information and a copy of the job profile, contact Mrs Daniella Marlow, Acting Hospital Nursing Officer on telephone No 22500 or email: daniella.marlow@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms which are available from the Health Directorate should be completed and submitted through Directors where applicable, to Mrs Brenda Thomas, Human Resources Officer, Health Directorate on telephone no 22500 or email: brenda.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh by Friday, 20 September 2019.

All appointees are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting or DBS Disclosure and references. 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.

Health Directorate
4 September 2019



HEALTH DIRECTORATE

VACANCIES- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICAL OFFICERS

The Health Directorate has vacancies for two Environmental Health Technical Officers. The successful candidates will be expected to provide support to the Environmental Health Officers, in all environmental health activities which will involve both office and outdoor working on a regular basis as required with the overall aim of protecting and improving the health and well-being of all.

Some of the key tasks include:

- Carrying out inspections and investigations and submitting necessary recommendations and reports;
- Researching, compiling, synthesizing, analyzing and interpreting public health information and data necessary to meet environmental health objectives;
- Providing advice and guidance to the public in response to questions and projects, environmental health programs, applicable ordinances, policies and procedures;
- Participating in presentations to public groups and governmental bodies to explain and clarify environmental health reports and recommendations;
- Conducting complaint investigations of various sites in order to have first-hand knowledge of the location under study;
- Participating in enforcement activities which may include giving evidence in court and other quasi-judicial hearings including acting as the key witness in prosecutions.

Essential qualifications for this post are:

- GCSE qualification or equivalent in Maths and English; and one Science related subject (Biology, Physics or Chemistry) at grade C or above;
- A valid drivers licence
- Good IT skills, proficient in the use of all Microsoft programmes
- Experience in food safety and health and safety related matters are also desirable

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

For further information please contact Mrs Georgina Young, Senior Environmental Health Officer on telephone no. 22500 or email: georgina.young@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms and a Job Profile which are available from the Health Directorate should be completed and submitted through Directors where applicable to Mrs Brenda Thomas, Human Resources Officer, Health Directorate on telephone no. 22500 or email: brenda.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh; by Friday, 20 September 2019.

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

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

Health Directorate
4 September 2019



VACANCIES SEA RESCUE SERVICE- Auxiliary Crew

The Sea Rescue Services of the St Helena Police Directorate has an opportunity for motivated and enthusiastic individual to join their team as Auxiliary Crew Member.

The purpose of the post is to protect and save life at Sea, Some of the key tasks and responsibilities are:

1. Carry out directions from the Officer in Charge when at sea rescue incidents ensuring work is carried out within the standard operating procedures.
2. Make safety critical decisions during sea rescue operations and other deployments, ensuring the safety of the public, other agencies and the sea rescue crews.
3. Ensuring that standards are maintained and that the service is in line with the Police Directorate's Values and Code of Ethics.
4. Must be able to attend Sea Rescue weekly training sessions.
5. Must be able to work some weekends to support flight operations.
6. Must be available for emergencies and will be required to participate in on call rota inclusive of some weekends.
7. Respond immediately and safely to all Sea Search and Rescue emergency incidents in an efficient and professional manner.

Applicants should be 18 years of age or over and be a confident swimmer with the ability to pass a fitness test. Prospective candidates should have:

- GCSE Math and English at Grade C or equivalent. If applicants do not have these qualifications they will be required to successfully pass a Functional Skills assessment in English and/or Maths.
- First Aid Qualification – First Responder.
- Valid and clean driving licence in Class A.
- Experience in Maritime field such as coxswain /crew.
- Must be able to pass swimming physical fitness test.

Rate of pay for the post is £4.11 per hour for hours worked, plus a payment of £70 a month retainer. For further details regarding the full role and a copy of the job profile, interested persons can contact Mr Simon Wade, Sea Rescue Manager on telephone number 25052 or e-mail simonwade@helanta.co.sh or either of the Deputy Sea Rescue Managers, Mr Leeroy Caswell or Mr Craig Scipio on telephone no 25215 or emails: leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh or craigscipio@helanta.co.sh

Applications should be completed and submitted, through Directors, where applicable, to Tina Sim, Senior Human Resources Officer, The Castle, or email tina.sim@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Tuesday, 17 September 2019.

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

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

David Lynch
Director of Police 03 September 2019



Vacancies

The Children & Adult Social Care Directorate has vacancies within their Children's Services for a Permanent Social Care Officer and a Temporary Speech & Language Therapist Associate Practitioner as follows:

SOCIAL CARE OFFICER

As directed by the Team Manager – Children & Families, be responsible for the provision of social work including child protection, family assessment, registration of child-minders and crèche's, assessment and support for disabled people and vulnerable people who are at risk.

Applicants should be in possession of the following:

- GCSE or equivalent in English Language at Grade C or above
- Experience of working with vulnerable people and supporting others.
- Valid Driving Licence

Salary for this post is £11,034 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.

For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Ms Adele McMahon, Team Manager – Children and Families on telephone number 23312 or e-mail: adele.mcmahon@sainthelena.gov.sh

TEMPORARY SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIST ASSOCIATE PRACTITIONER

To work alongside the Speech and Language Therapist assisting with direct work and learning key areas of the role with pre-school, school-aged, and adult caseloads.

Applicants should be in possession of the following:

- GCSE or equivalent in English Language at Grade C or above
- First Aid (or willing to undertake)
- Valid Driving License
- Experience of working with challenging behaviour and willingness to undertake ongoing training

Salary for this post is £8,613 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.

For further details about the post, interested persons should contact Ms Johanna Barclay, Speech & Language Therapist on telephone number 23312 or e-mail: johanna.barclay@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms for both these posts can be obtained from Corporate Human Resources and Children & Adults Social Care Directorates and should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Tina Sim, Senior Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail tina.sim@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than Tuesday, 10 September 2019.

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

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

Children & Adult Social Care Directorate

27 August 2019

Children & Adult Social Care Directorate, St Helena Government, The Castle, Jamestown, Island of St Helena,
South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ Telephone: +(290) 22713 Email: tracy.poole-nandy@sainthelena.gov.sh

www.sainthelena.gov.sh

Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

Life has become increasingly difficult for Manchester United fans as once again they had to endure another disappointing performance; this time against Southampton. It all started so well with a great goal from the inform Daniel James only for United to concede an equaliser after more lacklustre defending.

With Solskjaers clear out, the lack of cover especially up front is become an issue. It look like we United fans have to suffer for another 9 months before they start trying to rebuild yet again. Southampton was reduce to 10 men with 17 minutes to go. United, predictably, laid siege to Southampton's goal in the closing stages but were kept out as keeper Angus Gunn saved superbly from Marcus Rashford and Mason Greenwood, while both Jesse Lingard and Ashley Young were just off target.

It leaves the Old Trafford side with only one win from four league games, the opening-day win against Chelsea being followed by draws here and at Wolves and that home defeat by Crystal Palace.

Too make matters worse for Manchester United fans both Liverpool and Man City is flying high at the top of the table. Liverpool remains the only team with a 100% record as they defeated Burnley 3-0.

Burnley had fought toe-to-toe with last season's runners-up until the 33rd minute when Trent Alexander-Arnold's seemingly intended cross to the far post brushed the back of Chris Wood and sailed over the head of the stranded Nick Pope in goal.

Another piece of misfortune occurred soon after the restart. This time Burnley skipper Ben Mee inadvertently found Reds forward Firmino with a short pass; he then found Mane who fired low past Pope.

There were few chances after the break, but Liverpool converted the clearest of them when Firmino fired in from the edge of the area after he was teed up by Salah.

Klopp said he was surprised the league leaders had extended their winning streak, because none of his front three had a full pre-season.

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp played down striker Sadio Mane's reaction after being substituted and then praised his forward line for helping the club achieve a 13-match winning run in the Premier League.



Mane upset at being substituted or is he unhappy with Sala

With only a blip against Spurs it was business as usual for the Champions Manchester City as they defeated Brighton and Hove Albion 4-0, with Sergio Aguero scoring twice and going top of the goal scoring charts with 6 goals from 4 games. Sergio has now scored 7 goals from 7 shots on target.

City have scored 14 goals in their first four matches.

The North London Derby was a good watch as Arsenal came from 2 goals down to beat Spurs. With a point a piece I think Arsenal will be the most satisfied as they showed great character, to battle back after Eriksen and Kane had put Spurs 2 nil up. A brilliant goal from Lacazette with the last kick of the first half gave the Gunners the initiative to up their game in the second half. Aubameyang equalised with 19 minutes left and it took good goal keeping from Hugo Lloris and a decision from VAR to ensure Spurs took 1 point.



Man of the match - Matteo Guendouz

In other matches a last minute own goal from Zouma saw Chelsea drop points at home against newly promoted Sheffield United. This entertaining game ended in a 2 all draw.

Tammy Abrahams scored twice before halftime only for Chris Wilder's side to fight back in the second half with Robinson scoring a minute after the restart. Chelsea like Man United have 5 points from 4 matches.

Jordan Ayew scored the winner for Crystal Palace in the 73rd minute against Aston Villa who had a player sent off in the 54th minute. Villa thought they equalised late in the match only for the whistle to go controversially just before the ball entered the net as referee Kevin Friend had deem that Jack Grealish had dive in the build up to the goal. VAR might have rule otherwise.

Jamie Vardy scored twice as they defeated Bournemouth 3-1. This result moved the Foxes up to third in the table on 8 points.

Watford earn their first point of the season as they drew 1-1 away at Newcastle but stay bottom of the table.

Hallaer and Yarmonlenko scored for West Ham as they defeated Norwich 2-0. Norwich have now conceded 10 goals in 4 matches and striker Timo Pukki fail to get on the score sheet for the first time this season.

Richarlison scored twice for Everton as they defeated Wolves 3-2 in a very good match. Wolves remains without a win this season picking up 3 draws in previous matches.

Due to the international matches in the up and coming days there is no Premier League matches until the 14th September.



GOLF REPORT FOR SUNDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2019

August came and passed with no scruffiness. Perhaps the Island needs to rename it from scruffy to something else. First day of the new month and the rains were here. It takes a lot of courage to tee off when its pouring. Such was the case when the clock turned 12:00 on Sunday. Showers of rain and reduced visibility delayed the tee off of the 22 players who turned up to take part in round one of the BOSH sponsored 36 hole stroke play competition. With the rains showing no sign of relenting the first group had to brave it and tee off at 12:30. The top 5 finished as follows:

Name	Gross	Handicap	Nett Score
Neil Joshua	81	19	62
Tony Green	82	12	70
Dax Richards	79	09	70
Nicky Stevens	77	07	70
Jeremy Clingham	89	18	71

Mr Neil Joshua returned an impressive score of nett 62. The only score in the 60s. The two ball pool was shared between Peter Johnson who birdied the 7th and Nicky Stevens who scored an eagle in the 9th. Congratulations to Peter Johnson and Nicky Stevens and all the best to the top 5 as we enter the last and final round on 8th September 2019. Tee off time will be 12:00. The players with the best score from round one will tee off last. Players are encouraged to check their individual tee off times on our facebook page @shgc.org.sh Training for Junior members continues on Thursdays at 16:15 weather permitting.

Events for the rest of September 2019 are as follow;

Date Event Sponsor
Sunday 15th Captain Vs. Vice Captain Capt and Vice Capt

Sunday 22nd Texas Scramble TBC

Sunday 29th Monthly Medal Stroke play

Tee off 9 am followed by Half Yearly G

eneral Meeting and Fish Fry SHGC

Wish you all a great month.....!

Contributed by SHGC



SHFA League Results Week 9

Saturday

Rovers 3 v 0 Bellboys

Goals for Rovers – Ronan Legg, 2 Own goals

MOM – Ronan Legg of Rovers

Wirebirds 3 v 0 Axis

Goals for Axis – Chris Owen 2, Alistair Buckley

MOM – Nico Ellick of Wirebirds

Sunday

Lakers 6 v 1 Wizards

Goals for Lakers – Jordan Johnson 2, Craig Clark, Liam

Yon, Jace Williams,

Christopher Herne

Goals for Wizards – Greg Phillips

MOM – Colin Thomas of Wizards

Harts 5 v 0 Saints

Goals for Harts – Shane Stroud 2, Dion Caesar, Brandon

Harris, Sean Lee Thomas

MOM – Shane Stroud of Harts

Teams	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Rovers	9	8	0	1	41	24
Harts	9	8	0	1	28	24
Wirebirds	9	5	1	3	23	16
Bellboys	9	5	0	4	20	15
Axis	9	4	1	4	0	13
Lakers	9	4	0	5	-1	12
Wizards	9	1	0	8	-56	3
Saints	9	0	0	9	-66	0



OPENING HOURS effective Wednesday 4th September 2019

RESTAURANT OPENING HOURS

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	3pm - 9pm
Wednesday	3pm - 9pm
Thursday	3pm - 9pm
Friday	3pm - 9pm
Saturday	12 noon-9pm
Sunday	3pm - 9pm

BAR OPENING HOURS

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	3pm -11pm
Wednesday	3pm -11pm
Thursday	3pm -11pm
Friday	3pm - 1am
Saturday	12 noon-1am
Sunday	3pm - 11pm

If you wish to book a private function on a closed day then please contact Rosie on 23663 or 25507 or email rosie.bargo@gmail.com

Good Lord, they are everywhere!

It was discovered this week that the grounds of Bilton Hall, in Rugby UK, is graced by a willow grown from a slip off a willow tree which Napoleon liked to sit by in Seine Valley. Napoleon's tomb is situated in the same location. The slip was probably planted at Bilton Hall after being brought from St Helena by his surgeon Barry O'Meara. O'Meara was the third husband of Theodosia Boughton, who lived at the hall. Napoleon's surgeon married Theodosia Boughton in February 1823. She died seven years later. O'Meara died in 1836. The Napoleon willow tree at Bilton Hall must be nearing its bicentenary.

This 'discovery' was made from information found on a local history website. It was notable to a few people for two reasons. First, their family home had a view of Bilton Hall which could be glimpsed through the trees across the back garden. Second because one member of that family came to live in St Helena a few decades later. Unfortunately none of the trees at Bilton Hall visible from the back garden of the family home resembled a willow.



Bilton Hall - home to Napoleon's surgeon Barry O'Meara

The willow at Bilton Hall which lays claim to be linked to Napoleon's favourite tree in Seine Valley is one of many which claim the same ancestry. Some slips were taken to Mount Vernon, Virginia; the home of George Washington, the first President of the United States. Slips from these trees were taken 2,800 miles across the country to Seattle in Washington State. The old and respected Pioneer Association of the State of Washington has a Napoleon willow thriving outside its Pioneer Hall headquarters.



A willow tree on the shore of Lake Washington, east of Pioneer Hall is from clippings that were brought to Seattle from George Washington's tomb at Mt. Vernon, where willow cuttings had originally been brought from Napoleon's tomb on St. Helena in the south Atlantic.

The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew has one which stands at least 40 feet high and 44 feet across. The Sydney Botanic Garden in Australia also claims to have successfully nurtured a slip. Another is reported to grow on the reservoir bank of *Babylonstoren* an old Dutch Cape Farm in South Africa. Several places in England profess to have a Napoleon willow as does Scotland. Not only does New Zealand have a Napoleon willow tree, there is also a play written called 'Napoleon's Willow'. When this news reached one member of the family home near Bilton Hall the response was "Good Lord, they are everywhere!"



More descendents of the original Napoleon willow growing at Inverleith, near Edinburgh.

The original favourite willow tree in Seine Valley which gave Napoleon welcome shade from the sun now has many offspring spread far and wide across the entire world. Where is the original tree now? Which of the many trees around Napoleon's Tomb is THE Napoleon willow (*Salix babylonica*)? A passenger on the *Hamadryad* travelling from Bengal to England stepped off the ship at St Helena in August 1840 and did what most visitors do, went to see Napoleon's Tomb. The *Hamadryad* called at St Helena at the time Napoleon's remains were to be exhumed and taken to Paris to be re-interred at *Les Invalides*. This passenger's account of the visit was published in the London and Edinburgh Magazine in March 1941. The eye-witness account of what happened at the Tomb is copied here; the original Napoleon willow met an unhappy end.

We had only been a few minutes there when the ship's crew of *La Favorite*, the French corvette, with four of their officers, were marched up to view the spot, which for nineteen years had been "sacred to the memory" of the greatest man of the present century. As soon as they arrived, they surrounded the tomb, with heads uncovered, and loudly gave vent to their grief. Such a scene of excitement I never witnessed! Some of them shed tears, while others smote their brows and their hearts, and nothing but the iron bars that protected the grave

Good Lord, they are everywhere!

prevented them from throwing themselves on the three large flat stones which covered the mortal remains of their great Emperor!

After a while they, at first singly and separately, and then all together, began to pull up the shrubs, and whatever else they could lay their hands on in the vicinity, to bear away as memorials of the scene and the occasion. Even the favourite willow of Napoleon was not spared,—branch by branch was torn away, and carried off to form trophies—the trunk was cut by innumerable knives, and little was left for the men of *La Belle Poule*, who, next day, were in their turn marched up, under the direction of their officers; and who, after displaying similar manifestations of sorrow, proceeded to the same acts of securing for themselves tokens of remembrance.

What remained of the Willow Tree became their spoil. Trunk and branch it was carried off— not a vestige of it remained—it disappeared, as if by magic, off the face of the earth, and I question if the root remains to tell the tale of where it stood. Probably it too has been removed, to be planted on the “sa-



Copyright – The Wellcome Collection

A pencil drawing of Napoleon's Tomb as it was in 1892. The surviving mature willows are supported by props and the two smaller ones look no healthier than the older ones.

cred soil of France,” near Napoleon's grave at the *Invalides*, to furnish mementoes for generations of Frenchmen yet unborn!

Merrill's 15 minutes of fame

It all started last Friday when the BBC and two UK national newspapers (and websites) picked up the story that St Helena Tourism is looking for someone to take over from Merrill Joshua as the island's Napoleon Impersonator. The news featured on Twitter as well as the *Asia Times* and a rural Welsh newspaper. This globally important news rippled on through to the *Irish Times*, *RFI* as well as other French media and on to the Dutch, Germans and even the Balkans.

Some reports included the one and only, the original Napoleon Impersonator in St Helena, Merrill Joshua. Photos of Merrill posing in the Napoleon uniform which made for him have now spread across the world. On Wednesday the *London Times* reported that, “For Phil Hodges, playing Napoleon on St Helena would be “like a Sunday league footballer having the chance to play at Wembley” The amateur historian, 45, from Margate, Kent, is in the running to be named emperor — but only if he can squeeze into the ceremonial outfit. He is among at least 15 people from around the globe who have applied for the official title of “Napoleon impersonator” on the remote island in the South Atlantic where Bonaparte died in exile in 1821. Mr Hodges is, however, facing stiff competition from a veteran Napoleon re-enactor from Argentina, an airport worker from Paris and an IT manager from Montenegro. The advert for the job does say they want a volunteer but this does not seem to dampen down the demand to fill Merrill's vacancy.



ST HELENA MAGISTRATES' COURT

29th August 2019

David Paul Peters of Bottom Woods, Longwood, pleaded guilty to two charges of harassment and one charge of using threatening or abusive words or behaviour. He entered his pleas at the earliest opportunity for the Harassment and on the day of trial in respect of the threatening words. He was dealt with by way of a Community Service Order of 60 hours on each of the harassment matters, totalling 120 hours, and a fine of £135.00 for the Public Order offence together with costs of £65.00.

Brian Joshua of Bottom Woods, Longwood, pleaded guilty to one charge of using threatening or abusive words or behaviour. He entered his plea at the earliest opportunity and was dealt with by way of a financial penalty in the sum of £120.00 together with costs of £15.00.

Craig Owen Yon of Longwood, pleaded guilty to driving a motor vehicle without a valid certificate of insurance. He entered his plea at the earliest opportunity and was dealt with by way of a fine in the sum of £120.00. He was also disqualified from driving for a period of 6 months and ordered to pay costs of £15.00.



Entertainment at Silver Hill Bar for this Weekend

Friday open from 4.30pm till late mix tunes from the bar.

Saturday open from 5.00pm to 8.00pm Country tunes from the bar 8.00pm till late mix sounds by DJ Kimmy Boom Bang.

Sunday open from 5.00 to 8.00pm.



APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

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

- 1. Application 2019/70:** HYRBID (Part OUTLINE & Part FULL Planning Application) for **Bottom Woods West Comprehensive Development Area (Service Plots, Road Layout and Car Parking, Retail Park Site, Green Space. Government Landlord Housing)** on Parcels 0416, 0446 Longwood North. Applicant: I & T Directorate, St Helena Government
- 2. Application 2019/71:** FULL Planning Application for **Alterations & Extensions to Existing Government Landlord House**, Upper Cow Path on Parcel 0456 Half Tree Hollow, adjacent to the property of Mr David Herne. Applicant: Property Division, St Helena Government
- 3. Application 2019/72:** FULL Planning Application for **Siting of Port Security Office and Installation of Security Fence for a period of Two Years**, Nr Ruperts Jetty on Parcel 0075 Ruperts Valley. Applicant: Port Security, St Helena Government
- 4. Application 2019/73:** FULL Planning Application for **Alterations & Extensions to Existing Government Landlord House**, attached to the Golf Club House on Parcel 0023 Longwood South. Applicant: Property Division, St Helena Government
- 5. Application 2019/74:** FULL Planning Application for **Alterations to Existing Police Station**, Coleman House on Parcel 100040 Jamestown Applicant: Police Directorate, St Helena Government
- 6. Application 2019/75:** FULL Planning Application for **Construction of a 2 Bedroom Dwelling**, Levelwood on Parcel 0406 Silver Hill, adjacent to the property of Ms Iva Moyce. Applicant: Sharilyn Moyce & Alex Thomas

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

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

Public Review & Representations Closing Date: 4pm – 20th September 2019

**Shane Williams
Planning Officer**

City Hopping - Unlimited Internet Access

Addie Thomas, Clapham, South London

By the time this article reaches you, I will be back in sunny (I hope) 'Blighty'. I promised readers that I would write an article after my visit to Jo'Burg and so here it is. Just listening to Mike on Saint FM and it seems the UK is scheduled for stormy weather, so that sunny statement seems to have fallen flat even before I make the return flight back to the UK.

As I write, I am sitting in the reception of Birchwood Hotel (an airport hotel, so not too far for me to go later) and I am blessed with my headphones as I try to drown out the buzzing of business people making conference calls and having open plan meetings. I feel exhausted already ha ha.

I didn't feel as sad as I normally do when I say goodbye to islanders, the island and family this time around. I wonder if that has something to do with the fact that I know home will always be awaiting my return and the journey isn't as brain-numbing as the five-day trip to Cape Town anymore.

I know it was a wonderful, relaxing and social experience for some but for me, I prefer to use time better these days. Whilst I tried to exercise and read as much as possible on the RMS, there is only so much beef tea and food one can consume. No, I don't miss the RMS anymore. I am grateful for the many trips either way on our good ole' lady.

So the Governor's wife departed on the plane with us on Saturday. I believe the Governor is shortly to follow. He desperately needs a holiday I believe. If only our Saints could have a trip abroad every three months when the temperature in the kitchen starts to rise. Wouldn't that be lovely?

No, our Saints must stay to ensure all that we treasure is guarded carefully. This is the thing really, no one will really understand how much the island means to a Saint unless you're a Saint. I've met a few people this time who have become 'adopted islanders'. Over the years, we have had many people truly blend in well with the islanders yet would I be correct in suggesting that for the most part, the majority of visitors don't actually under-

stand how much those forty seven square miles mean to us?

It was lovely to catch a glimpse of the Girl Guides returning home in their aqua (wish colours). I liked standing in the departure lounge and waving to everyone as they came through to the terminal. I wanted to uphold the suggestion that Islanders are friendly, warm and welcoming (if not a little curious).

I bought two badges from Serena's place, I have sewed them onto my backpacks so that I can now promote the island (and I hope curious discussions with random strangers) wherever I may go. We can all do our little bit eh? I think we should always try and travel with promotion of the island and her people in mind. I'm so proud to be a St Helenian.

Thank you to immigration for confirming no restrictions to my entry into the island. I'll cherish that little document as the island continues to undergo change, progress and development.

As the plane engines started, as we started our final taxi out to the run way, I looked over at the viewing deck and there I saw my family waving with every ounce of energy. This meant a lot to me. As the plane lifted off the runway and soared Heavenward, I knew they would be shedding a tear or two for me as I was for them. Departure so smooth and so swift, not like the old RMS, blasting off and then being gracefully and slowly heading seaward.

For me, leaving so quickly did not prolong the disappearance of 'The Rock' that would eventually become a dot on the horizon from the ship. Is this perhaps why my heart does not ache as deeply anymore? Or is it because I have a path ahead of me which requires me to distribute my energy wisely? Is it because I know I WILL return.

In that moment as the plane passed over the islands precipitous cliffs, I believed. I believed in her beauty, her magic, her unique isolation at a time when many islands with this quality and loveliness are being overrun by investors and tourists. Let's keep watching this space very carefully folks.

On arrival into Jo'Burg I walked some way with Martin Henry to 'Passport Control'. A very interesting conversation with a guy who is so clearly informed, upbeat and focused on cost saving and better consumer services. Martin, I wish you all the best in Cape Town my friend and thank you for sparing me your time. I couldn't agree with you more when you spoke of life's balance. So many people are leaving City Life now to find that peaceful place in the sun.

Gwyn and Sybil, you will never know how much it meant to me to see you guys at the airport on arrival into Jo'Burg. I guess in that instant, I realised that whilst Jo'Burg will never replace Cape Town for me, I may never have met you guys and had such a lovely time in Jo'Burg if the airport and all that came with it never happened.

The hotel staff have been excellent. There are free hotel shuttle buses to local malls which is a big relief as I didn't fancy 'uber'ing' it one too many times and I also didn't feel like sitting around in the hotel grounds for 36 hours plus. So this was an excellent facility which I used to get to the East Rand Mall.

On the first evening, I was awoken by loud voices outside of my room (the rooms are all separate dotted around the grounds). The following morning, I was awoken very early by staff voices running about their business. Needless to say, I shall enjoy a lie in when I get to the UK. The second evening I was awoken by these heavy bangs (which I thought were gunshots) but were actually just lads in cars with various exhausts going off all over the place.

Gwyn, Sybil and I had a lovely day in Sandton and ate a very nice greek restaurant overlooking Nelson Mandela Square. I suspect that if I hadn't had company and did venture that way, I would have ended up reading my book all day which isn't a bad thing. Jeffery Archer is all consuming at times ha.

Whilst at the East Rand Mall and awaiting the shuttle on my last day in Jo'Burg I spotted a white chap handing a security officer some 'doe'. A few minutes

Continued on NEXT PAGE

City Hopping - Unlimited Internet Access

Addie Thomas, Clapham, South London

later, the security officer returned with three spliffs. Service with a smile. If the Security Officers are comfortable with helping in this way, what else would they be prepared to assist with? A novice traveller's movements with lots of cash in their bag?

Watching the planes go over from the High Flyerz cafe was awesome, especially the larger planes. In the background, we were able to hear the Controllers speaking to the Tower and Gwyn.

This was also where I met three pilots (two of whom knew Gwyn but didn't realise this until about an hour before we were to leave) who were so kind to talk to me about their experiences, technical elements and fun stories around aircraft parking direction staff. They suggested that different countries have different ways of doing it based on the cultural personalities.

One guy in Tambo OR airport apparently was asked if he was suffering from epilepsy as his waving was just hilarious. They asked the chap if he needed an ambulance.

There's another story of an operator who put the parking blocks in too early, so when he had to put them in during an emergency situation the following week he kept refusing until the nose of the plane went straight into the building.

I asked about emergency situations and they said that simulation and computer equipment in newer planes is just so excellent these days that risk is so minimal but they are prepared for most situations. Most. They don't use a steering wheel anymore but more of a joystick.

In the end, I would still prefer that Jo'Burg was not our first destination enroute. I haven't been to Cape Town for a while but I find it extremely difficult to be in a place where you have to be escorted most places. I like wondering. I like aimlessly finding interesting nooks and crannies. Going off the beaten track as it were. I would not feel safe wondering aimlessly around Jo'Burg. I am sure there are other lovely places here which I have not had the chance to visit, so this little bit is purely based on my own

experience and what I look for when I travel. I am also not a big lover of being stuck in a mall without windows or natural light whilst one sips on that glass of sav blanc.

I don't enjoy aimless shopping so malls have very little interest for me. Once again, thank goodness for Jeffery Archer. ha.

It is an inter-connecting destination for me and I do look forward to the time when I can resume my stop overs in Cape Town.

I had forgotten how terribly laborious the security clearance is in Jo'Burg with crowds being held outside of the scanners and snaked queues everywhere. The chap who checked my passport before duty free Heaven might as well have stuck two fingers up at me. There was no greeting, no smile, no eye contact. I do think South Africa needs to do much more by way of customer care when going through border control. This isn't a cultural thing as Gwyn, Sybil and I received some amazing hospitality at various food and beverage establishments.

Thankfully I was travelling along the GMT line rather than across it. I spare a thought for my nephew who arrived in Heathrow from the West US Coast thirty minutes before me and then had the arduous journey all the way to Warwick arriving at midday after what must have been twenty four hours travelling from the other side of the world. I hope his bed was as comfortable as mine when I arrived in Clapham, South London. I've been made to feel exceptionally welcomed and I'm glad that I am not heading to Medway in Kent as originally planned as my friends and some family is here in London and right now, I need all the friendly faces I can muster up.

The minute I step off the plane and navigate border control and onto the tube, my pace quickens. It always amuses seeing all the 'miserable' commuters heading into town for work. You'll get the odd curious stare (especially with a St Helena badge and a one by one fishing t-shirt) but if you smile too much or try to make too much eye contact you may

get sent to Lambeth Psychiatric Hospital ha ha. My phone also chose this time to stop working on 4G (apparently, I hadn't spent £1 on calls so my internet bundle wasn't readily served up), so I had to beg a stranger for a taxi number at Clapham North Tube and even though he spoke hardly any English, he spent at least five minutes obliging me. Advice - just play the novice, helpless traveller ha ha.

I've already been contacted by one recruitment agency for temporary / contract work. They don't mess about. There is commission to be earned.

Finally, I wanted to say another big thank you to everyone. Thank you to the folks at the airport who took time to wave to me out of their windows as I was leaving, stop by the house, call, speak to me at the airport and give me that unforgettable hug. Your sentiments and compliments will guard against thinking of giving up in the future.

We can all make a difference folks. We don't have to be big personalities. Sometimes the quietest personalities have a way of speaking volumes. I believe we all have a wonderful gift attached to our personality and it should be shared because the world needs your wisdom.

Ok folks, love to you all



St Helena Girl Guides – Branches Breakout Update – The journey home.

What an adventure! After last week's exciting update from our Rangers regarding their time at camp, our team has finally returned home - Full of wonderful stories, new experiences and knowledge. Below our team reflect on their time away and report on their last week of travel.

'The Girl Guide group has reached their final days of their excursion. We arrived in Gatwick on the 25th of August, in time to pay a visit to the St Helena Sports in Reading, we were quite fortunate to see family and friends residing in the UK. Feeling rather exhausted after many air miles and camp, we were happy to meet with everyone, just as they were happy to see us.

One of the highlights of our sightseeing in the UK was the opportunity to visit Brownsea Island, the home of scouting, where Lord Baden Powell first held a scout camp. The Girls realised what a small world we live in as, whilst extending their friendly greetings in conversation, they met the mother of one of their teachers at Prince Andrew School, very much involved in voluntary work on the Island. What a coincidence we thought!

On Tuesday we had the opportunity to watch the changing of the guards at Windsor Castle and, took part in some water sports which was thoroughly enjoyed by the team.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge Thank you to everyone who has supported us, no matter how big or small, to make this eye opening experience happen. We hope to have your continued support in the future for others to share and further their knowledge of what is really involved and avail-

able in Girl Guiding for our young girls.

A special Thank you to our Commissioner Heather Cowdry for her driving force, support and arrangements, including the use of her home to cut a chunk of the expenses.

The girls were respectable ambassadors for our Island and highly commended for rising to the challenges during the three weeks.'

The St Helena Nature Conservation Group



Dedicated to protecting and promoting St Helena's unique natural environment

**SNCG will hold its Annual General Meeting
6pm on Wednesday 18th September,
at the Museum, Jamestown**

Followed by presentations from:
Joachim Naulaerts – *An overview of St Helena's tuna and grouper tagging programme*

Leeann Henry – *What have we learnt about St Helena's Open Ocean Ecosystem*

All interested persons are invited to attend
Refreshments will be provided

JOB VACANCY THORPE'S JAMESTOWN SHOPS



Storeman

PART TIME / FULL TIME

This role involves picking orders.

- Free home to duty transport
- Attractive leave and sick leave package
- Salary to start at £3.20 per hour (£492.80 per month)
- Salary to increase considerably with proficiency in the job role and further increases with time spent in the company.
- Opportunity to progress to higher position at a higher pay rate

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

JOB VACANCY THORPE'S JAMESTOWN SHOPS



TILL/SHOP ASSISTANT

PART TIME / FULL TIME

This role involves shelf stocking, using an epos till and dealing with customers.

- Free home to duty transport
- Attractive leave and sick leave package
- Salary to start at £3.30 per hour (£508.20 per month)
- Salary to increase considerably with proficiency in the job role and further increases with time spent in the company.
- Opportunity to progress to higher position at a higher pay rate

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



It's 'Fishy Friday' with Rosie's Ocean Basket Platters

Friday 13th September

Call 25507, 23663 or email rosie.bargo@gmail.com to book your Platter – Book early to avoid Disappointment

Platters for 1 @ £15 and Platters for 2 @ £28

Mussels
Grilled Prawns
Deep Fried Calamari Rings
Battered Hake
Battered Grouper
Tuna Wellington
Grilled Wahoo or Tuna

Served with Lemon Garlic Butter Sauce and Tartar Sauce, and your choice of Chips or Savoury Rice a portion of Coleslaw or a Side Salad



Kingshurst Community Centre Association

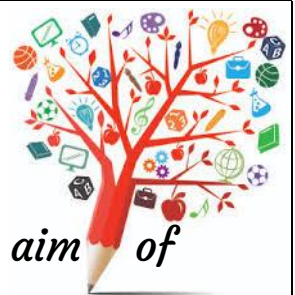
Annual General Meeting

7:30pm Monday
16 September 2019

Please show your support to keep the community centre open



ENJOY WRITING?



Come and join a monthly Writing Workout with the aim of putting together an island publication.

- *First meeting Thursday 12th September 5 - 6.15pm at Mantis hotel.*
- *Improve writing skills using your imagination, experiences and ideas with guidance, support and encouragement.*
- *Writing genres will include Flash Fiction (short, punchy fiction), Poetry, Writing for Children, Non-fiction, Life Writing and Radio Play Writing.*
- *No experience necessary – just a love of language.*

£3 per session. Led by Kath Squires, Teeny Lucy and guest writers.

Further details: creativesainthelena@gmail.com. FB: Creative Saint Helena.



23988

Writer's Workshop