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SENTINEL

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"Cheers to 20 Years"



When it Rains, it Pours!

Books are a Gal's Best Friend



OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Hannah Braaf, SAMS

Ada Lovelace (1815 - 1852) was born in London, UK, a future mathematician and the first ever computer programmer. Ada was the daughter of famous poet Lord Byron, although he was largely absent from her life.

She was both self-educated and taught by tutors, although she found a tutor and mentor in the first professor of mathematics at the University of London, Augustus De Morgan. She was unusually lucky to receive this education as a woman.

When she was twenty years old, she married Baron William King; when he later became an Earl, she became the Countess of Lovelace.

She worked with Charles Babbage, who created a prototype for a digital computer, the Analytical Engine. In 1843, she translated an article on the Analytical Engine by an Italian mathematician and engineer, Luigi Frederico Menabrea. Her work is notably significant, specifically her in-depth explanations of how the machine could be programmed.

An early programming language was named Ada, in honour of her work, and Ada Lovelace Day in October is an occasion remembered for all women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Ada once said, "the more I study, the more insatiable do I feel my genius for it to be."



South Atlantic Media Services Ltd., The Media Centre, Castle Gardens, Jamestown, St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean, STHL 1ZZ. Tel: 22727
E: news@sams.sh, W: www.sams.sh
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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Is our Island moving forward or moving backward?

I was employed by Solomon & Company from Sept 2015 working as a shift worker at the BFI, Ruperts. After 3 years, I was seconded to Penspen to be trained as an Aircraft Refueller/Operator. I was then sent to Athens International Airport in Greece for 2.5 weeks to become certified as a Refueller/Operator. Obviously, money was invested in my training so that I can be a benefit to St Helena and the Airport.

After returning to the island, training continued for another 2 years with Penspen while they ran the Aviation contract at the Airport. I then continued working for the past 3 years as an Aircraft Refueller/Operator for Puma - the current Aviation contractor - only to be told by the management of Solomon's that, due to the complexity of my role, as per the Company's terms & conditions Section 5 Retiring Age, their intention is not to offer me employment after reaching the age of 60.

This seems to be very confusing and unfair to me because there is still a vast number of staff that are over 60/65 still working for the company and there are still people being offered employment by Solomon's that are over the age of 60.

So, if this is the way we are going forward, I can understand why the younger generation is leaving the island!

Yours sincerely,
Brian Peters

A Seaventure Adventure

Successful visit of MS Seaventure to St Helena



Demy Herne, SAMS

Last Friday, St Helena saw the arrival of our latest cruise ship visit when the MS Seaventure arrived to James Bay, travelling from Tristan Da Chuna and bringing with her around 70 passengers and 95 crew.

Visitors had two days to explore and learn more about the history and culture of the Island and, as usual, some passengers could be seen wandering around town while others went on pre-arranged Island tours. Some even stopped into local establishments for a cold one on Friday afternoon.

The purpose-built expedition vessel stayed overnight and, at around 5.30pm on Saturday, tourists could be seen making their way back to the boat with the official departure of the MS Seaventure occurring at around 6.45pm, when she was observed sailing off into the sunset.

The next scheduled cruise ship visit to St Helena is by regular visitor, the MV Hondius, expected to arrive on Thursday, 18 April.



Incy Wincey Pirates

Two Pirate Spider species living on-Island identified decades later as species new to science

Demy Herne, SAMS

During the 1960s, species of spiders were discovered here on St Helena and were identified as part of the Pirate Spider family – named so due to the way in which they raid other spider's webs – many decades later and two of these species have now been found to be completely new to science and have duly been named after two dedicated local conservationists.

This recent unearthing occurred following the arrival of Arachnologist, Danni Sherwood, who visited the island under the St Helena Cloud Forest Project. Whilst here, Danni, supported by Liza Fowler of the St Helena National Trust's Invertebrate Team, identified spider species, including Pirate Spiders, living within the cloud forest.

After returning to the UK, Danni continued to study and examine the Pirate Spiders found on St Helena and this examining lead to the discovery that two of these spiders were actually species completely new to science.

With the identification of species new to science, and noting that they have been living on St Helena for decades, it is hoped that the spiders will provide added propulsion to preserve the island's threatened cloud forest.

"Our work showed the two species new to science existed in the cloud forest for over four decades, but for over four decades they were thought to be a single, common species which can be found in many parts of the world," explained Danni in an article published by the Natural History Museum. "These spiders don't just have interesting morphology, but they are the most unique and threatened habitats in the world. With the discovery of these species only being on St Helena, it highlights why we should make efforts to conserve the cloud forest as a whole!"

The new spider species have been named Ero Lizae, after Liza Fowler, and Ero Natashe, after Natasha Stevens, for their continuous hard work in helping to protect St Helena's unique invertebrates.



When it Rains, it Pours!

Torrential rains cause disruptions on Friday as MET Office issues warning

Liam Yon, SAMS

Following some sustained spells of heavy rains toward the end of last week, especially throughout Thursday night and early on Friday morning, SHG were required to partially activate their Rock Fall Plan in order to deal with disruptions caused by the torrential downpours.

These included a landslide which occurred in the early hours of Friday morning in an area just below Sandy Bay Ridges, when an estimated 60m-80m of hillside and flax slid down the hill on top of the road below causing this access route in and out of Sandy Bay to be closed while the Roads Team cleared the area, which was completed by the afternoon.

In addition, rainy conditions also caused a small rock fall on Ladder Hill Road, with the presence of debris also affecting the condition of both Side Path and the Haul Road. These again were dealt with via swift action from the Roads and Rock Guards Teams with all roads remaining open and drivers asked to drive with caution while the clearing works took place.

In addition to these disruptions on Friday, another phenomenon could be seen around the Island's coast – notably at Rupert's and areas of James Bay – where soil had washed into the ocean during the heavy rains, resulting in muddy and murky water at Rupert's Bay, fading to a more turquoise colour as the current carried the soil towards James Bay – making for some fascinating photographs on Social Media (see photos here by WTSDN).

Despite the weather changing for the better for large periods of the weekend and Monday morning – with short spells of rain in between – Senior Operational Meteorologist, Mathew Davies, did warn that further disruptions could be caused with a risk of further heavy showers potentially returning this week. "This does reintroduce the potential for surface flooding on roads and increased cliff erosion as has been witnessed over the last couple of days," he said on Saturday.

"This is Daylight Robbery"

Clients' frustrations continue to grow with no development at Bunkers Hill CDA, despite having already purchased plots, while there remains a lack of clear communication from contractor and SHG

Liam Yon & Donna Crowie, SAMS





For over a year and more, there has been little to no development on the Bunkers Hill Comprehensive Development Area (CDA).

It was way back on the 1 November 2019 that SHG announced that the then Executive Council had "agreed to transfer Crown Estate land at Bunkers Hill to Nigel George Construction & Plant Hire for the development of approximately 146 serviced plots to be made available for sale to Resident First Time Buyers, Residents and Residents and/or Investors, subject to planning permission being granted."

At the time, SHG listed a "number of positives arising from the transfer of this land to the private sector" which included providing an opportunity to support affordable housing; promoting economic development; making housing plots available to local residents and investors; and providing much needed social housing.

Nearly two and a half years later, in April 2022, SHG further announced that "a Development Agreement was signed between NG Development Company Limited and St Helena Government (SHG) on 22 April 2022 for phase one of a housing development at Bunkers Hill, Alarm Forest." This phase was said to consist of "18 serviced plots."

With the positivity and excitement around the development - including from Minister Mark Brooks who said "I hope that this sends a clear message to all that St Helena is ready to deliver bespoke solutions to address local problems, honouring the expertise and skills of our local people" – it was no surprise that interest began to come forth from local first-time buyers.

One unnamed couple jumped at the opportunity to purchase a service plot and, in 2022, paid for this with an enthusiasm to be able to build their own house, here in their home of St Helena – exactly what the CDA aimed to do.

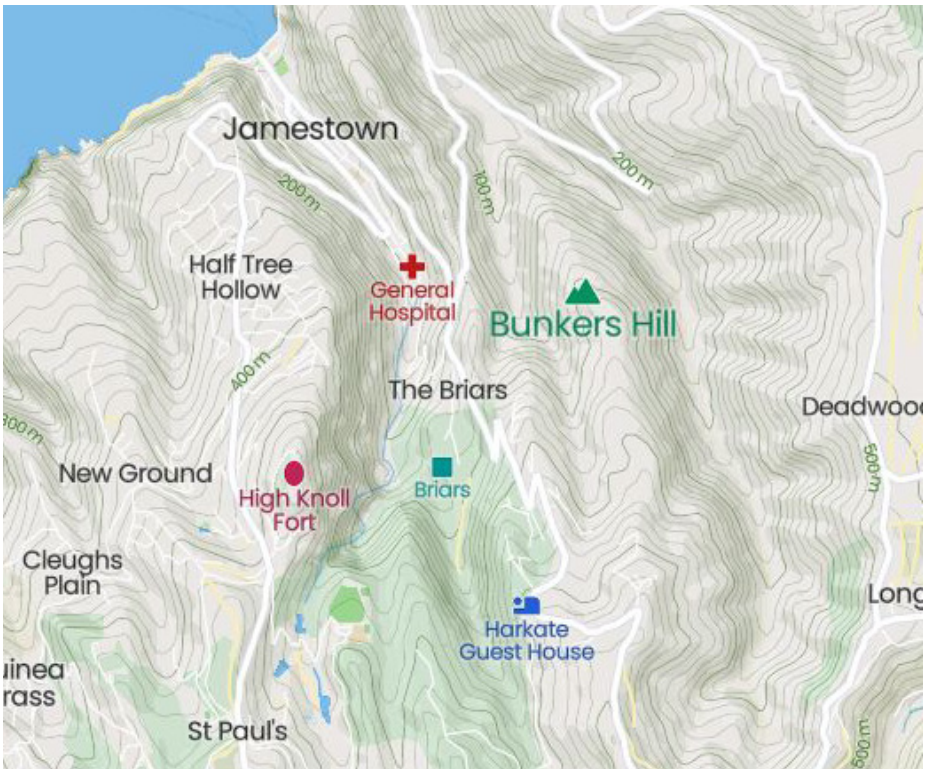
However, coming up on two years since spending their "life's savings" to build their own home on St Helena, the young couple has seen little to no progress made on the CDA and are yet to receive their plot of land – with their frustrations being amplified by the lack of communication from both the contractor, Nigel George, and SHG on the situation in which they have heavily invested in.

Having been speaking to Bunkers Hill CDA clients for quite a while, The Sentinel has been aware for some time that work on the CDA has been at a standstill – though despite numerous attempts for an update, this has not been confirmed by neither SHG nor the contractor, who remain tight-lipped on the project's progress, or lack thereof.

Following up on concerns by frustrated clients in 2023, The Sentinel received a response from SHG stating that "Bunkers Hill will provide approximately an estimated 150 dwellings" - to date, not one dwelling has been built despite land having already been purchased by local residents, due to no plots having been made available.

Once again, earlier this year, The Sentinel attempted to get an update from SHG, stating that clients who have paid for plots are becoming frustrated and that there is no communication forthcoming from the contractor. After receiving a number of holding replies from SHG, we finally received a response, months after sending our enquiry. "It is not for SHG to comment on the arrangements that buyers have entered into with NG Developments," they simply said. "We are aware of some frustrations being reported as to the progress that has been made to date with the Bunkers Hill CDA. To that end St Helena Government and NG Developments are continuing discussions about the options to assist progress on the Bunkers Hill CDA project."

Again, no clear indication was given of how many plots have





been completed, when these will become available, or anything even remotely related to real progress on a project that Minister Brooks was "extremely pleased" about when the Development Agreement was signed back in 2022.

"I am so frustrated," said one individual who has already paid in full for land from contractor, Nigel George. "I have put my life's savings into this. I paid for my land back in 2022 in full, and also spent money on my plans, surveys etc. Between my partner and I, we have spent almost £13,000 (thirteen thousand pounds) on this and to see nothing is taking off is really disheartening to say the least. I would honestly say that this is daylight robbery."

Additionally, a further buyer said that they "have been trying to be very cooperative on the matter, but now it seems like no one cares what or how much this is costing."

Buyers are becoming so frustrated and tired of waiting on an outcome to this saga and one even noted that "if I hadn't bought the land at Bunkers Hill, I could have purchased land that will soon be available in the Half Tree Hollow area."

Some clients have gone as far as to ask for a refund on the money they spent on land that they thought would have long been made available, but to date have not received a response on this request from the contractor.

The Sentinel will continue to push for a real update on the Bunkers Hill CDA.



Friends of Hope Day

You are warmly invited to the Seventh-day Adventist Church for our special Visitors day program on Saturday 20th April 2024

You can join us for the following:-

Sabbath School program- 10:00am- 10:45am

Divine service- 11:00am-12:00pm

Afternoon musical program- 14:00pm-15:00pm

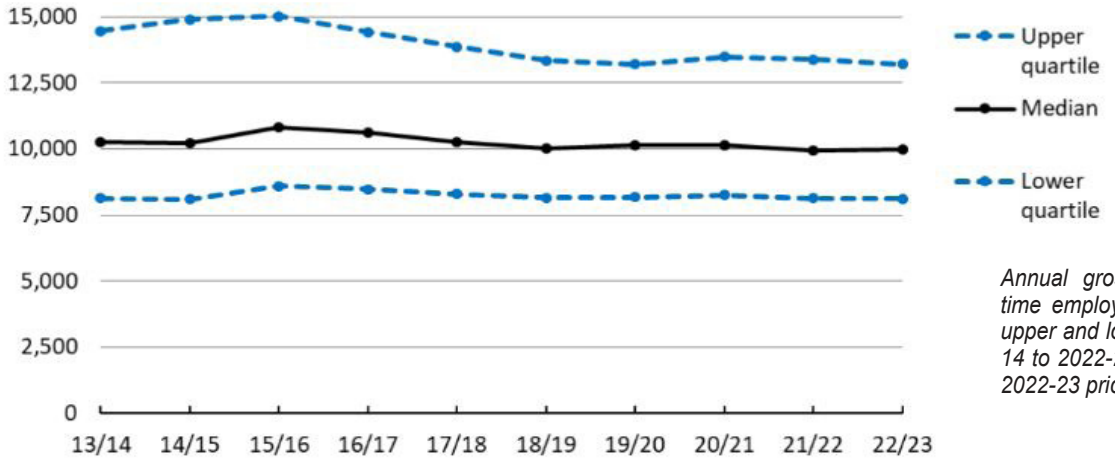
Contact Georgia for further details on tel.25710

ST HELENA NEWS

Median Wages up by just 0.1% from 21/22 to 22/23

Statistics Office release estimates on St Helena wages for full-time employees in 2022/23 compared to previous years

Liam Yon, SAMS



Annual gross wages from full time employment - median and upper and lower quartiles, 2013-14 to 2022-23 (inflation-adjusted 2022-23 prices)

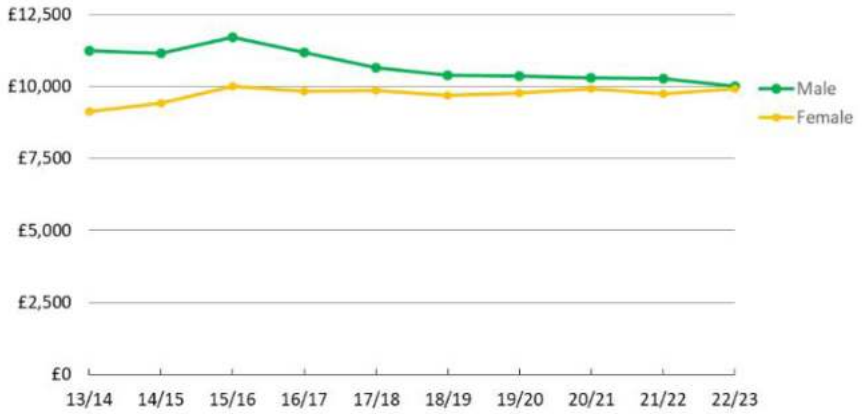
The SHG Statistics Office have released a Statistical Bulletin that details new estimates of gross annual incomes of full-time employees for the 2022/23 financial year.

These estimates measure gross before-tax incomes of persons in regular full-time employment on St Helena, reported through the Pay-As-You-Earn tax collection system. They exclude company and self-employment incomes, incomes of TC Officers, investment income, Income Related Benefits, incomes from pensions, and part-time and part-year incomes.

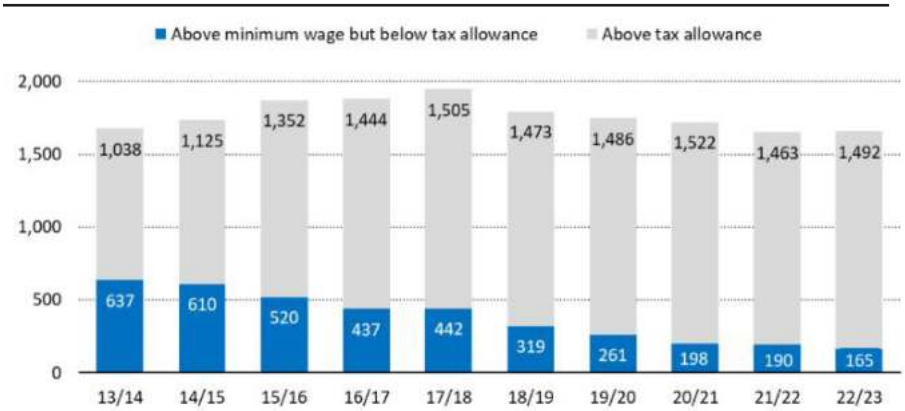
The bulletin covers estimates of median wage levels, adjusted for inflation; wage level range; differences in wage levels between women and men; average wage levels by occupation; average wage levels by industry; and the number of persons in full-time employment.

Stats estimate that the median annual wage on St Helena in 2022/23 was £9,970, which means that, for 2022/23, half the people earning wages from non-TC employment had gross wages that were less than £9,970 and half had gross wages that were higher. When price inflation is taken into account, this is just 0.1%, or a tenth of a per cent, higher than the median wage in 2021/22.

Since 2013/14, the male median wage has been higher than the female median wage. According to Stats, this could partly be "due to the completion of the new Airport; construction workers employed were predominantly male, relatively higher paid, and many of them have since either left St Helena or found alternative lower paid employment." They add that the gap between male



Median real gross annual wages from employment, male and female 2013-14 to 2022-23, in constant 2022-23 prices (i.e. adjusted for inflation)



Number of employees in full time employment, 2013-14 to 2022-23

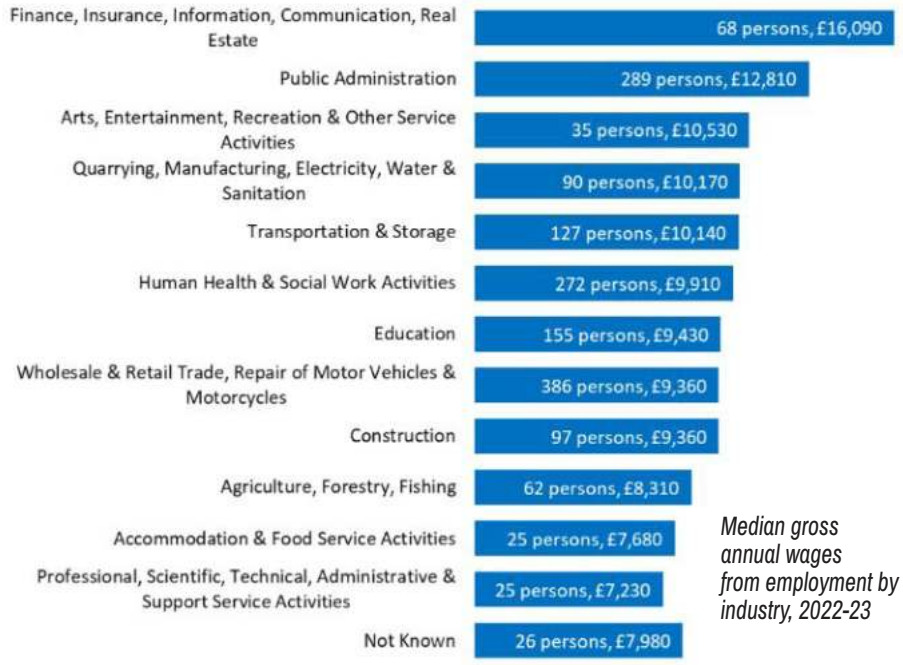
and female wages has narrowed in recent years, and has almost disappeared in 2022/23.

The groups of occupations with the highest wages, on average, on St Helena, were Managers, Professionals, and Technicians and Associate Professionals. The occupations with the lowest wages, on average, were Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Workers, Services and Sales workers, and Elementary Occupations.

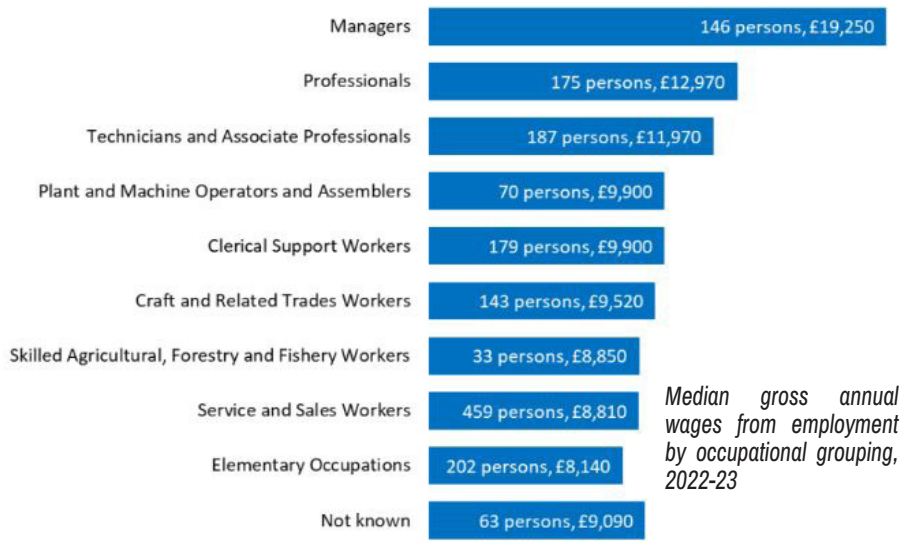
In 2022/23 the groups of industries with the highest wages, on average, were Finance, Insurance, Information, Communication and Real Estate, and Public Administration. The industries with the lowest wages, on average, were Professional, Scientific, Technical, Administrative and Support Service Activities, and Accommodation and Food Service Activities.

The total estimated number of persons with wages from full-time employment rose to 1,947 in 2017/18, the year when the Airport was opened and most construction activities were completed. Since then, the number has gradually fallen. In 2021/22, there were an estimated 1,653 persons with wages from full-time employment, and in 2022/23 there was a very slight increase, to 1,657.

The number of full-time employees above the income tax allowance of £7,000 also increased in 2022/23, to 1,492. This is an increase of 29 people when compared to 2021/22, and only 13 people less than the highest number recorded in 2017/18. The number of people earning more than the minimum wage but not earning enough to pay income tax fell to 165 in 2022/23.



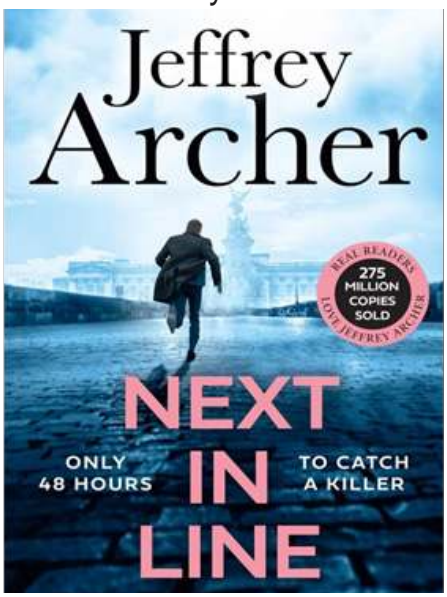
Median gross annual wages from employment by industry, 2022-23



Median gross annual wages from employment by occupational grouping, 2022-23

Book of the Week

Public Library Service



Next In Line by Jeffrey Archer

London, 1988. Royal fever sweeps the nation as Britain falls in love with the 'people's princess'.

Which means for Scotland Yard, the focus is on the elite Royalty Protection Command, and its commanding officer. Entrusted with protecting the most famous family on earth, they quite simply have to be the best. A weak link could spell disaster.

Detective Chief Inspector William Warwick and his Scotland Yard squad are sent in to investigate the team. Maverick ex-undercover operative Ross Hogan is charged with a very sensitive and unique responsibility. But it soon becomes clear the problems in Royalty Protection are just the beginning. A renegade organisation has the security of the country and the Crownin its sights. The only question is which target is next in line.

Please reserve by contacting the following:-

Telephone Number: 22580

Email: publiclibrary@helanta.co.sh

"We have to prioritise with little funds"

Covering the Formal Meeting of Legislative Council

Hannah Braaf, SAMS

The fifteenth Legislative Council (LegCo) meeting was held on 25 March from 10am at the St Helena Community College.

As always, Councillors posed questions to Ministers and this week, The Sentinel covers questions regarding reviews of Procurement Regulations and the Road Traffic Ordinance.



Procurement Regulations review



Hannah Braaf, SAMS

Cllr Dr Corinda Essex questioned "the current situation regarding revision of the Procurement Regulations" and "stakeholder engagement" in this review, posing this to Minister for Treasury and Economic Development, Mark Brooks.

"A review of the Procurement Regulations forms part of a review, currently underway, of SHG's procurement function," Minister Brooks responded. "Procurement is an ever-changing environment and, therefore, it is in SHG's interest for the function and the regulation to be constantly reviewed... This review started in 2023 with the arrival of the new Head of Procurement."

"Phase One has already been completed by the Head of Procurement; this focused on determining the staffing and capacity needed by the function," Minister Brooks explained. "The Phase One review recommended the removal of a Contracts Manager role and to focus the resources to support an effective tendering process."

"The procurement regulations were reviewed by a lawyer with experience operating in St Helena, who performed the initial legal review of the procurement regulations and recommended amendments," Minister Brooks further explained. "These amendments were reviewed by the Head of Procurement and Senior Officers in Treasury to produce a set of proposed changes, which includes amendments to increasing the financial threshold, the development and use of a pre-approved contract template and the process of determining the risk classification assigned to each procurement. Portfolio Directors were consulted towards the end of the last financial year and a further consultation will take place in Quarter One of the 2024/25 financial year."

"Stakeholders, such as the AG's chambers and the wider Elected Members, [will be consulted] before a final set of amendments are recommended to the Governor for approval," Minister Brooks continued. "This is expected to take place in June 2024, in accordance with the financial regulations. As further phases of the review take place, amendments may be required to the procurement regulations to bring those changes into effect. All Elected Members will be kept up-to-date of any further changes."

Cllr Dr Essex inquired as to why there has been "slippage from the original time schedule," provided in the Select Committee 2 Hearing



concerning asset disposal.

"At the previous Select Committee, the Financial Secretary gave an indication that the review of the procurement regulations would be completed by the end of March," Minister Brooks stated. "It is now unlikely."

"Some of the slippage could be contributed to the Head of Procurement," Minister Brooks further stated. "The Head of Procurement was off for a time with COVID-19 and he also had a new addition to his family; I remember there being a period of paternity leave."

"I can confirm the Head of Procurement is currently still working remotely, but unfortunately I'm not able to give an indication of when he will be returning to St Helena," Minister Brooks continued. "I would be happy to collate this information and present it to all members."

"I can confirm that the Head of Procurement is still covering all of his duties at this time," Minister Brooks concluded.

Road Traffic Ordinance

Traffic management and two-hour parking bays



Hannah Braaf, SAMS

Cllr Ronald Coleman inquired as to the Government's intention when it comes to providing "adequate and updated road safety legislation and regulations, especially with regard to appropriate road signs and road safety markings, including safe designed parking areas". This question was directed at Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs, Jeffrey Ellick.

"It is my intention to provide updated road safety legislation and regulations," Minister Ellick confirmed. "The Portfolio will be looking to provide options for a new road traffic policy shortly, which will inform legislation. However, we are limited on policy resource and, once we have completed the new immigration policy and the legislation is revised, the team will then work on a new road traffic policy, which will inform the ordinance, which will reflect the current and future needs of the Island."

"The Road Traffic Ordinance is a priority for the portfolio, but currently not one of the top priorities of Government, therefore I would like to ask for patience in this matter," Minister Ellick explained. "I would also like to say that some policy work has been completed and I expect some changes to be made soon in respect of taxis and public service vehicles."

Cllr Karl Thrower questioned whether or not "any serious concern is given to what happens on Napoleon Street, given the Road Traffic Ordinance clearly won't be in place at the time of the opening of Rupert's port".

"From what I understand in respect of Napoleon Street, it's part of the planning conditions to have a traffic management plan; I expect people to be working on a traffic management plan before the road opens," Minister Ellick stated.

Cllr Robert Midwinter asked about any measures that may "be taken in the interim to address road users parking outside of the designated areas on the Grand Parade".

"I can't tell you if action will be taken; I don't manage the Police," Minister Ellick explained. "There is legislation in place in terms of the summary offences ordinance, causing public obstructions, but I am also mindful that the Police have capacity constraint... I hope that some publicity will be given to remind the public of constraints."

Cllr Gillian Brooks specifically brought up the two-hour parking bays, known as the 'Stand' in Main Street, Jamestown, questioning measures to be put in place to ensure these are properly used.

"The Road Traffic Ordinance... includes parking signs for the two-hour car parks," Minister Ellick responded. "We need to have appropriate legislation in place to ensure that enforcement can happen; we cannot expect the Police to enforce something that have technical issues within the current legislation."

Cllr Brooks also inquired as to consideration for a pay and display scheme for the Stand.

"Pay and display had been on the cards for some time and those are some of the things we will be considering going forward," Minister Ellick stated. "It's all about policy direction and what falls down from there."

"We are also bringing forward to ExCo soon the fixed penalty notices regulation that will come out," Minister Ellick continued. "The Police will be working on the double yellow lines, certain signs which are legal under the Road Traffic Ordinance. Hopefully that will come soon, but they will do a campaign prior to going out and enforcing the legislation."



An "Amazing Success"

Former Dietitian reflects on the success of 12-week 'Better Health' sessions



Liam Yon, SAMS

In January, the Island's Dietitian, Sarah Mattinson, with the support of Lee Burrows, launched a 12-week programme focused on helping people on St Helena set goals to achieve better health and a healthier lifestyle.

The weekly 'Better Health' group sessions took place at the Airport, HM Customs Office, Harford Community Centre, and the Community Care Centre - supporting over 40 people during the time it has been running.

The sessions were designed to help people understand simple changes they could make with diet and exercise that are suitable and achievable here on the Island – with the aim of helping to stop people developing poor health and/or to reduce complications from poor health.

Over 60% of attendees at the first 'Better Health' session reported that they were living with a chronic health condition. Many reported having jobs that meant they spent most of the day sitting or did not undertake any physical exercise. When asked about eating habits, 40% of people reported eating cakes or confectionary 1-2 times a day, while 70% of responders consumed less than two portions of vegetables per day and 80% less than two portions of fruit per day.





The World Health Organisation suggests that being overweight, not being physically active, a low consumption of fruit and vegetables, and high consumption of ultra processed food, like cakes and confectionary, can put people more at risk of developing heart disease, diabetes, stroke and several cancers.

Islanders, enthusiastic to improve their health, learnt about what foods to include to promote health and how to build up physical activity that was suitable for each individual.

Topics included what is a healthy balanced diet; portion sizes for weight management or to promote weight loss; finding suitable exercises that fit specific lifestyles, building up to achieve 150 minutes of exercise a week; learning the difference between physical hunger and food cravings and how filling up on fibre can help keep hunger pains from catching you; where hidden sugars and empty calories are in common on-Island drinks; how to make lifelong changes for better health into small achievable goals to ensure success; calories in common takeaway foods cooked on St Helena, and how these can impact your weight, diabetes control, heart health and blood pressure; and how to spot emotional eating and how to try and distract yourself from using food as comfort or reward.

According to Sarah, the 'Better Health' sessions have been an "amazing success". At the end of 12 weeks, those that weighed-in on the final week had lost, as a group, just over 50kgs - or 50 bags of sugar! This means, the average weight loss was about 3.5%, with weight loss ranging up to an amazing 15kg. Many completers reported increased physical activity levels, trying new activities and finding the online resources very helpful.

"These 12 week sessions have been a great way for me to consolidate my time, knowledge and learning from living here on-Island for the last two years," said Sarah who recently departed the Island. "I have been able to design leaflets, recipe cards and make suggestions of how to start or increase people's physical activity that take into account the Island's unique food supply system and challenging terrain to begin exercising. The feedback has been very positive and I am so proud of each individual and the personal health goals they have achieved - keep up the good work!"



Books are a Gal's Best Friend

The Sentinel features Librarian, Ivy Williams-Newman, to honour Library Workers Day

Demy Herne, SAMS

April 10th is known as Library Workers Day – a day that aims to show appreciation for the expertise, hard work and dedication of librarians around the world.

The Public Library in Jamestown has been in operation since 1813 and is said to be the oldest library in the Southern Hemisphere. It was established by Governor Col. Mark Wilkes for the dissemination of information and mass enlightenment of the people. Today the library plays a key role in the community and one of the friendly faces behind this is Ivy Williams-Newman.

Ivy first got into a career in library whilst working on the Falkland Islands for Sodexo Defence Service. One of the areas which Ivy was responsible for managing was the Ministry of Defence Library at Mount Pleasant, where she worked with a small team to provide services to the Armed Forces and Civilian population.



Being a librarian was not Ivy's first choice for a job but, after working so many years abroad, she wanted to return back to the Island and settle back into the St Helenian lifestyle. This is when she decided that she would love to take on a job that involved working with the community. Ivy then got the opportunity to apply as a Librarian for the Public Library, which she was fortunate enough to attain.

"Working as a librarian is a very fascinating profession, I am an individual who has a very curious and inquisitive mind and I like to explore and delve into the many subjects and topics of interest to enhance and enrich my knowledge and skills," commented Ivy. "I love engaging with people from all walks of life and have had the opportunity to meet many people from all over the world; this I would comment as to say is one of the highlights of being a librarian. Every day is different, you never know what to expect will come through your door."

Whilst working as a librarian, Ivy has become acquainted with computerised library systems to catalogue and process material, digitalising and preserving material and data for future generations to enjoy, as well as researching various topics of interest to improve and enhance customer's satisfaction.

Although Ivy has gained a lot of skills whilst working as a librarian, she has also faced many challenges such as attempting to stock a variety of material to suit customer's needs. What Ivy has found most challenging is when a customer makes a unique request in which the library may not stock a specific item in question. To ensure that all customer's needs are met, the library will offer them an alternative solution by conducting research via the internet to obtain the information required.

Ivy has been working within the library now for approximately eight years.

"Our main focus at the Public Library is to encourage more people to enjoy reading and to become members of the library," said Ivy. "Reading is key to a good education and a powerful tool that can help transform your life in many ways. It can help you escape reality, learn new skills and interest and give your life meaning and purpose. In the famous words of Nelson Mandela: 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world'."

The Sentinel would like to thank Ivy and the library team for their hard work and dedication to keeping the library up and running for the benefit of all on St Helena - we hope you all had a good Library Workers Day 2024.



Select Committee 1: Agriculture

Farming Support

Hannah Braaf, SAMS

The second Select Committee 1 Hearing was held on 6 March in the Council Chambers. Chairperson of Select Committee 1, Cllr Robert Midwinter, and members Cllr Gillian Brooks and Cllr Ronald Coleman scrutinised the agricultural area.

Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Portfolio Director, Darren Duncan, and Agricultural Development Officer, Andrea Timm, were called to provide evidence at this hearing.

Cllr Coleman's specific area of inquiry was farming support; his first question was on the number of active farmers on-Island.

"In terms of our tenants - these would be people who use Crown land - we have 138," Andrea responded. "This doesn't include people who farm on private land."

Andrea also confirmed that farmers - full-time and part-time - with a lease, license and tenancy agreement with ANRD would be registered with them.

Cllr Coleman then inquired as to the areas of farming covered by ENRP grants.

"We have very few grants at the moment," Andrea stated. "We do have a pasture grant [for Crown land only], whereby we make a contribution of £180 per acre to help clean invasive weeds off the land."

"Under the lease or license arrangement, it is the [tenants'] responsibility [to care for pastures] and £180 per acre is only a contribution," Andrea explained. "In terms of fulfilling a stewardship function, there are a number of pastures that are key Wirebird habitats, so we do see it as ENRP's responsibility, in some cases, to help support that."

Andrea confirmed that there is a total of 1,780 acres of pasture land, which is impossible to support all at once.

"We don't offer support for all pastures every year, so we do an assessment and we look at pastures that most need support," Andrea stated. "Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to support all of the land within one year, so we tend to give different tenants turns for different pastures."

"We also have the animal husbandry fund grant and, within this grant, we provide support for breeding stock, for male and female animals," Andrea continued. "However, under the legislation, this only extends to cattle and sheep."

"There is an application process for applying for an animal husbandry grant and, again, we carry out an assessment," Andrea stated. "For a male breeding animal, the animal owner will contact us if they've identified an animal that they wish to purchase to enhance the genetics within their herd or flock. We will do an assessment with the senior veterinary officers involved and, if it is supported, we will make a contribution to the purchase of the animal."

"One of the conditions [of this grant] is that, if there are people wishing to use that animal for breeding, the [owners] should offer that service," Andrea further stated.

"We currently have two subsidies: the herbicide subsidy and the water subsidy," Andrea added. "In [regards to] the herbicide subsidy, ENRP pays for 60% of the cost of the chemical."

Andrea confirmed that there are "a lot" of people on this subsidy, "particularly for pastoral lands", for both Crown and private lands.

"Even though there are only two policies that provide specific subsidies, all of our agricultural service provision and support is heavily subsidised," Darren commented. "But we don't have an overarching policy that provides for all of our subsidy areas."

Cllr Coleman then asked about ANRD's data collection, particularly in relation to produce shortages, giving the examples of potatoes and onions.

"We find data collection challenging, in the sense that farmers are reluctant to provide data," Andrea explained. "However, there are a few farmers who provide data on their production activities. We also collect data from various retail outlets around the Island... however this doesn't include produce that is sold informally, whereby there is quite a large customer base. We collect import data, so we have a very good set of data on all of our fruit and vegetable imports and we also have data from the environmental health section on the number of animals slaughtered."

"I think a lot of it comes down to cooperation and collaboration between producers," Andrea further explained, commenting on the shortages. "One of the things that we have tried on-Island is to encourage farmers to produce cropping plans that they can share amongst themselves... [in order to have] a consistent supply. However, I think a lot of farmers would rather work on an individual basis and plant what they would like to plant."

"On the other hand, I think we have to take into consideration seasonality," Andrea stated. "For some crops, there is a season and some farmers prefer not to pay for water and, therefore, will grow some crops during the winter period whereby they're rain-fed."

"We've set up workshops with the farmers and merchants to try to have communications as to how to get around [shortages] and set up contracts," Andrea continued. "Unfortunately, it hasn't been that successful, but we will keep trying."

Cllr Coleman's final question was in regards to value for money, specifically in terms of SHG's investment versus production.

"In some cases, we wouldn't get value for money," Darren stated. "What we don't have often is the pasture lands being operated on a larger commercial basis... One of the options that has come out of the agricultural policy review, which we're doing at the moment, is whether or not some of the pastures could become larger units, so that they can actually form a [more profitable] business."

Cllr Midwinter ended off the hearing by asking about how ANRD handles their complaints.

"We try and differentiate when it might be a concern and what is a legitimate complaint," Darren responded. "If someone goes to an elected member and that comes on to us as a concern about land, then we either reply to that elected member or we ask that person to come and meet our Agricultural Development Officer or our Farming Support Officer to address that."

"A very important step forward"

Disaster Victim Identification Training delivered on-Island



Liam Yon, SAMS

Over three days at the beginning of March, a multi-agency team including staff from both St Helena Government and St Helena Airport took part in Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) training.

The DVI training was provided by the UK Home Office with funding from the FCDO Conflict, Stability and Security Fund's Overseas Territories Justice Programme. Two DVI Policing Professionals - Detective Superintendent and National DVI Coordinator, Jonathan Marsden, and Civil Contingencies Policy Manager from the College of Policing, Andy Woodward – delivered the training on-Island.

During the course, trainees were guided through DVI processes and principles, and this was said to be followed by practical scenery and mortuary exercises.

According to SHG, "although such incidents are fortunately rare on St Helena, it is crucial that responders train, plan and prepare for disasters that may involve the loss of life." They add that "all of those involved are extremely conscious of the role that they have volunteered to perform, a role that can be extremely challenging and demanding."

"Throughout the course, delegates listened carefully to a variety of lectures and showed true professionalism and enthusiasm," commented trainers, Jonathan and Andy. "They are a credit to the Island. Without question, the course delegates are now trained to deliver an effective response during the initial hours and days of any disaster. They would be supported, incident dependent, by UK teams should that be required and as part of existing plans or arrangements for mutual aid. We are extremely grateful to all involved in the careful planning of this training delivery and to the delegates for their enthusiasm and energy throughout."

As a result of this training, St Helena now has 21 DVI responders available to deploy should the need ever arise. "This is a very important step forward in further developing St Helena's preparedness for dealing with major incidents," commented Chief of Police, David Price. "We are very grateful to the UK and the Disaster Victim Identification training team for their support that has enabled us to deliver this course and to the staff members who volunteered for this role and worked very hard to achieve their qualification."





Don't be Shellfish, Share the Knowledge

Marine and Fisheries Conservation Section to host Lobster Science Workshop

Liam Yon, SAMS



The Marine and Fisheries Conservation Section are inviting all fishers to what they describe as an "educational workshop" where they will focus on lobsters, crayfish and stumps - giving useful information on methods such as biological sampling, how landings are calculated and how fishers can help with the scientific process of data collection.

The event, which is expected to last around one hour, will be held on Thursday, 18 April at 6pm at the Canister in Jamestown, and will include a presentation about lobster quota, information on how fishers can support science and many more important skills and knowledge that attendees can gain.

They are encouraging all fishers to kindly attend this event.

SAMS RADIO 1 SCHEDULE

SAMS Radio 1

102.7 (Jamestown) • 90.5 (High Knoll) • 105.1 (Sunberry) • 105.3 (Blue Hill)
Streaming live via www.sams.sh/radio.html

FRI. Apr 12
- 7am -10am: Sunrise show with Luke Bennett
- 2pm: Our Show
- 5:30-7pm: OUT OUT! with Liam
- 7:30pm: Country Classics (repeat)

SAT. Apr 13
- 9am-12 Noon: Saturday Show with Demy Herne
- 1pm-3pm: The Northward Sounds with Tony Leo (repeat)
- 3-5pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna Crowie (repeat)
- 6-8pm: DNA Show (Repeat)
- 8pm: Mixed Tape Show with Hannah Braaf (Repeat)

SUN. Apr 14
- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Liam Yon
- 1pm: Interveiw Hour
- 3-4pm: UK Chart Show with Demy Herne
- 5pm : In Scope - SS&HA
- 7pm: Anglican Church Service

MON. Apr 15
- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 2pm-4pm:DNA with Deon and Anita
- 5:30pm-7pm: Country Classic's with Donna Crowie
- 7:15pm-8:30pm : Best of Rock and Indie with SimonDykes

TUE. Apr 16
- 7am-9am: Morning Show with Donna
- 9am - 11am: Midday Show with Demy Herne
- 11am-1pm: Folk revival with Anita
- 2pm: In Scope - 5-7pm: UK Chart Show with Demy Herne
- 3:30pm: American Connections with Brian Clough
- 5:30-7pm: Uk chart Show with Demy Herne

WED. Apr 17
- 7am: Midweek Morning Show with Deon
- 8:30-10:30am: Our Show
- 11am-1pm: The Northward sounds with Tony Leo
- 4-7pm: Afternoon Drive with Luke Bennett
- 7:30pm- Mixed Tape Show with Hannah Braaf

THU. Apr 18
- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke and Liam
- 11am: Midday show with Hannah Braaf
- 1pm : Afternoon show with Demy Herne
- 5-7pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna Crowie
- 7:30pm: In Scope

Reach us on ***22727*** or at ***news@sams.sh***

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Featured this Week



If you are looking for a pick me up first thing in the morning, well go no further.

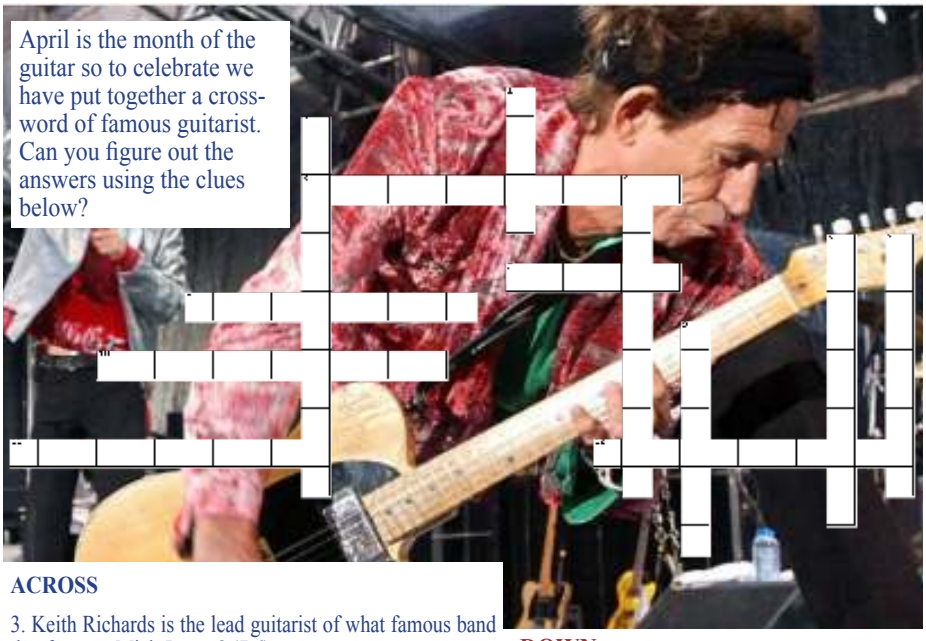
Remember SAMS has you covered with our morning shows starting just after the 7am news.

Spend your mornings listening to SAMS Radio 1

Local news and notices:
7am, 10am, noon, 5pm, 7pm, 10pm

SAMS South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

Crossword: Guitar Heroes



April is the month of the guitar so to celebrate we have put together a cross-word of famous guitarist. Can you figure out the answers using the clues below?

ACROSS

3. Keith Richards is the lead guitarist of what famous band that features Mick Jagger? (7,6)
7. Widely regarded as one of the greatest musicians of his generation, famous for songs such as 'Purple Rain' and 'When Doves Cry'
8. Malcolm Young is the co-founder and rhythm guitarist of ACDC, his brother is the lead guitarist of the band, what's his name? (5,5)
10. A lead guitarst and singer song writer known as one of the most influential guitarist of all time and is famous for songs like 'Hey Joe', 'Voodoo Child' and 'Along the Watch-tower' (5,7)
11. Jimmy Page is the lead guitarist and founder of this band, one of their most popular songs is 'Stairway to Heav-en' (3,8)
12. He is the Creedence Clearwater Revival founder and is also known for his solo albums and songs such as 'Old Man Down the Road' and 'Have You Ever Seen the Rain' (4,7)

DOWN

1. He's the lead guitarist of the Guns and Roses
2. Born and raised in Mexico, he has won 10 Grammy Awards and some of his famous songs include 'Smooth', 'Maria Maria', and 'Put Your Lights On' (6,7)
4. An English rock and blues guitarist and sing-er songwriter who wrote songs such as 'Layla' and 'Tears in Heaven' (4,7)
5. He is famous for the duck walk and songs such as 'My Ding-a-ling' (5,5)
6. David Gilmour is the lead guitarist and sing-er of a famous band that plays 'Comfortably Numb' (4,5)
9. Lead guitarist and backing vocalist of the rock band Queen (5,3)

Famous Birthday on 11 April



Jeremy Clarkson (63)

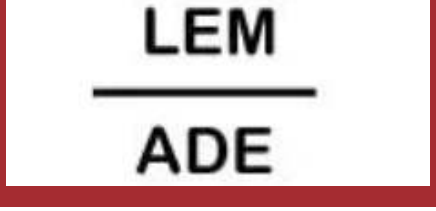
Sentinel Joke of the day

What did one straw-berry say to the other strawberry?

If you weren't so fresh, we wouldn't be in this jam.

Rebus Puzzle: *Figure out the phrase*





Italy: Tiny Sicilian island giving away goats as tensions grow over rapidly expanding animal population



A tiny remote island off the coast of Sic-ily has started donating its 600 goats, with the animals overwhelming the human pop-ulation of just 100.

Local mayor Riccardo Gullo told Sky News the goats were creating "tension" among the local community as they were wreak-ing havoc on the environment, storming people's homes and eating their crops.

Mr Gullo said it all started with a few goats supposedly escaping from their own-er and going on to reproduce themselves to a point where they have now become too hard to manage.

"They represented a problem, you would meet them everywhere," he said.

"Six hundred goats have been counted - the island is really small, so they're really too many."

With pictures showing the goats grazing on what appears to be residents' back gar-dens, the mayor said measures had to be taken to contain them following "massive damage" on the island, the smallest of the volcanic Aeolian archipelago in southern Italy.

"Some goats are nice and robust, so some people are scared, while others fear they will enter their home," said Mr Gullo.

The plan to offer the goats to whoever sought to breed them has so far been successful, the mayor said, with requests coming from as far as the central Italian region of Tuscany and Lombardy, in the north of Italy.

While the offer expires on 10 April, there are no restrictions on who can apply for a goat or any limit on how many of the wild animals one can request.

Last week's Crossword Answers

Post box walks

ACROSS

5. Sugar Loaf
6. The Barn
7. South West Point
9. Sharks Valley
10. Maniti Bay
11. Heart Shaped Waterfall

DOWN

1. Thompson Valley
2. Dianna's Peak
3. Lemon Valley
4. Prosperous Bay
8. Peak Dale

Rebus Answers:

1. For once in my life (four ones in my life), 2. Lemonade

IN SCOPE: RECAPPED



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

BMinister for SS&HA, Jeffrey Ellick, had Derek Henry (Head of Infrastructure and Strategies) as his guest on the latest In Scope to update listeners on the newly released Draft Immigration Policy.

In 2010, SHG agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK government among other issues to revise and reform the immigration policy especially with the view to the opening of an Airport on St Helena. Since then there have not been any official update made in spite of several proposed changes being explored. The ministerial government has decided to make this one of their top priorities as the immigration policy has to provide support and a positive framework to encourage inward migration and economic growth. With the change in the St Helenian demographic to an ever-increasing ageing population on-Island there is a severe shortage of working aged people to fill the many vacancies. This have now reached a critical point and will have a negative effect on economic growth.

It was confirmed that the previous work done on revising the immigration policy had been too focussed on the operational issues surrounding the policy. With the new draft policy a more strategic approach has been taken that will align this policy with the vision of the ministerial government. To this end, the new draft policy seeks to open up the Island to immigrants whilst still maintaining the safety of St Helenian borders. It is imperative for economic growth that more working age people come to St Helena to address the labour and skills shortages experienced in government as well as in the private sector.

In 2023, when tasked with looking at changes to the immigration policy, Ann Muir (Social Policy Coordinator) and Derek Henry had to consider all possible options, but also had to determine whether suggested changes comply to the constitution as well as basic human rights, ensuring that the new draft policy would be ethical. The main focus of the new policy is to support what is best for the Island and its future. This is only the first step in encouraging immigration and investment as other government policies will now have to align with the immigration policy to support this goal.

A working group was formed to analyse and consider all the options consisting of the Head of Export, Trade and Investment, the Investment Coordinator, the Government Economist, a representative from the AGs Chambers and all staff from the Immigration Section. Key documents taken into consideration included: the SHG Vision and strategy, the Labour Market strategy, the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy, Immigration Enforcement International (a report produced by the Home Office Immigration Intelligence Network, following a visit to the Island in 2018, to advise on improving border security) and feedback from the public consultation exercises carried out previously. There were several workshops to discuss and develop the options which were then sent for consultation with Minister Ellick followed by a peer review group and then discussion with Ministers and the Elected Members. The options presented were endorsed by ExCo in February of this year. The team then formulated a draft policy based on the chosen options during another three workshops while simultaneously working on changes to the current legislation and immigration ordinance. The draft policy will go out for public comment, which commenced on Monday, 8 April, and will then be presented to ExCo for final endorsement on 7 May.

Minister Ellick said that there were some tough choices that had to be made, but the new draft policy is in line with the direction given by the ministerial vision while also upholding constitutional and ethical values. The aim is to welcome people to St Helena on an equal basis without any discrimination and attracting people who qualify to apply through the right channels, all in a bid to increase the working age population to prevent the looming existential crises on-Island. Eligibility to apply for St Helenian status will remain the same.

The minister also explained that the legacy of St Helena is in no way being threatened by the new draft policy, as the Island has always been a melting pot of different cultures that came together to form the St Helenian heritage, incorporating many different cultures into one. He therefore urged everyone to put their reluctance aside and embrace the immigration of new people to bring much needed skills and additional workforce.

The Marlow report of 2018 showed the need for a population of 8,000 people on-Island to ensure an economically thriving Island and this (although ambitious) is the vision to achieve by 2050. This implies an immigration rate of 180 people per year, exploring dynamic international marketing and reciprocation initiatives with the UK as possible avenues to be explored.

The current infrastructure on-Island will be sufficient to accommodate the additional people for the foreseeable future and will develop over time as more people immigrate to the Island. One of the other advantages of more people on-Island will be a larger customer base which will work in the favour of private businesses and new business initiatives, growing the economy to the benefit of all living here.

In closing, Minister Ellick urged the public to attend the information sessions that will take place and encouraged everyone to embrace the new draft immigration policy as he said: "This is what St Helena needs for a sustainable future and economic growth."

"It is what St Helena needs"

New Draft Immigration Policy



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

During a press conference held on Thursday, 4 April, SHG announced that a new draft Immigration Policy has now been finalised and is open to final public comment. On the panel at the conference were Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs, Jeffrey Ellick, Alex Mitham, (SS&HA Portfolio Director), Derek Henry (Head of Infrastructure and Strategies) and Ann Muir (Social Policy Coordinator).

St Helena has an aging population with a declining working age population, resulting in a slowing economy as well as labour shortages. Immigration policy and legislation reforms are necessary to support the vision and strategy of the ministerial government to enable economic growth through making St Helena more accessible to visitors, residents and investors alike. The draft policy makes reference to the need for encouraging people to 'stay, live, work and return to St Helena' while still maintaining the identity and heritage of the island. Various options will be explored to incentivise and facilitate immigration.

The draft policy will focus equally on opening up the island and maintaining border security. There will be three categories of people when entering St Helena under the new policy: People with automatic right of entry (St Helenian status); people exempt from entry control and people required to obtain a permit. An online portal will be used to register intention to enter the Island. When applying for any permit via the portal, the necessary document requirements will be listed on the portal ensuring transparency and clarity. In the future, non-visa nationals (people from low risk countries like SA and European countries) will now have to register on the portal as well. Required documentation will aim to identify fraudulent documentation and invalid applications.

To simplify the immigration process, the new draft policy reduced required permits to only two permits - a holiday permit and a permission to stay and work permit (PSW). The other two entry allowances will be St Helenian status and a 72 hour landing permit for cruise ships or other vessels. A holiday permit will allow the holder to stay on St Helena for 183 days but without a work allowance, to be extended to a maximum of 365 days while the holder applies for a stay and work permit. This permit will also cover voluntary work where there is no remuneration limited to one month. The PSW will be valid for five years and can be extended or the permit holder can apply for St Helenian status after this period. This permit will include employment, business or investment and all family members will have to comply with the requirements when applying. This will automatically ensure that any family members can work on St Helena. If a person arrives on St Helena without the necessary entry requirements, the vessel or airline they travelled on will be responsible to repatriate the person.

Use of the online portal will support faster and more efficient handling of the allocation of entry permits. The upgrade of the online system will require a budget allocation during 2025/26. With the implementation of the online portal there will no longer be a need for a paper-based entry form. Consideration will be given to update biometric information systems to increase security measures for e.g. uploading fingerprints and a digital photo for facial recognition on the portal to enable screening at the border. This system will increase security as well as efficiency. The complete draft policy can be viewed online on SHG's webpage with hard copies also available at the Public Library and Post and Customer Services Centre in Jamestown. A number of public meetings to discuss the final draft Immigration Policy will be held having commenced on Monday, 8 April, in Jamestown Community Centre.

It was revealed during the press conference that a new Head of Customs and Immigration coming from Border Force in the UK is expected to arrive on the Island in July and he will have a strong organisational development and training remit to assist in implementing the required changes.

"These changes can facilitate entry and welcome immigrants, whilst also maintaining border security," commented Minister Ellick. "This government is committed to making the changes needed to attract people to come to St Helena to work, invest and positively contribute to life on our Island. Other policies across SHG will also be amended in line with the immigration policy to help deliver this." In a comment to The Sentinel, Minister Ellick also stated that "this might not be what everyone wants, but it is what St Helena needs."



"Cheers to 20 Years"

Bank of St Helena celebrates 20 years of serving St Helena



Liam Yon, SAMS

It has been a time of celebration at the Bank of St Helena, with the organisation commemorating the 20 Year Anniversary since the opening of the Bank back in April 2004. "We are very proud to be celebrating this milestone in St Helena's history - 20 years in banking as Bank of St Helena," commented Managing Director, Joey George.

The slogan for the 20 years is 'Progress and Innovation' which was selected by staff during a vote held in March. "It represents how we see our development these past years and moving into the future," commented the Bank.

"When operations commenced on 1 April 2004, the offering was limited to basic teller services of cash pay-ins, withdrawals and transfers between accounts, then introducing outwards and inwards remittance services, lending products i.e personal, housing and then commercial loans," reminisced Joey. "Over the years the Bank has developed and introduced a wide array of products and services to meet the ever growing demand and expectations of our customers in line with affordability, skills and experience and technological advances."

With this said, Joey added that "in addition to celebrating 20 years of banking, we are also celebrating 20 years of progress and innovation by the management and staff of the Bank who are committed to serving our customers within set parameters."

To commemorate the 20 year anniversary, it was the aim of the Bank to have a "staff-focused celebration, to showcase our appreciation to those that make up Bank of St Helena today and over these 20 years."

These celebrations kicked off with the ten day countdown by different staff members which was showcased on social media, while past and present staff from over the two decades were recognised as the focus of the Bank's window display and inside the main branch. In addition, local business, Moonbeams, also printed personalised staff badges as keepsakes for being a part of the Bank for the 20 year anniversary.

The actual 20 year celebration comprised of a small event held at The Sandwich Bar in The Market on Tuesday, 2 April, with all staff members and invited guests present. This event also presented an opportunity for Bank employees Jackie Thomas, Diana Benjamin and Rosemary Benjamin, to receive a gift presented to them by HE Governor Phillips for reaching their 20 year milestone.

In addition, when the Branch opened at 10am, the first batch of Bank customers were welcomed with an anniversary bag, with the intention of recognising the first 20 customers entering for the new bank year. Local baker, Olive Bagley, also catered for customers with a celebration cake and an array of baked goods to enjoy whilst in the queuing area. "This was a token of our appreciation to customers and to also bring them into our celebration," said the Bank.

Similarly, at the Ascension Island Branch, on Wednesday, 3 April, staff were able to gift 20 anniversary bags to the first 20 customers to celebrate the milestone on Ascension.

The Bank is not done yet however, and are planning to continue recognising the anniversary with a social media campaign which is already ongoing to map the years and the products and services that the Bank has offered.

"As we have now celebrated 20 years, we will continue to work towards further development by enhancing the Banking experience on-Island," they said. "The Bank would like to thank everyone involved in marking their special anniversary and look forward to serving our St





Helena community in the future."

Joey also recognised the role that customers have played in the Bank's development over the years, including being internationally acclaimed. "The hard work and commitment to you, our customers, has not gone unnoticed by the rest of the world either, the Bank is overjoyed to be the recipients of two awards from the World Commerce Review for the 'Best Bank for Financial Inclusion 2024' and the 'Best Bank Start-up in the 21st Century'."

"Whilst this time has allowed us to reflect back on significant achievements, it also encourages us to look forward to the possibilities that lie ahead with the skills and dedication of our staff supported by technological and financial advancements in the industry," concluded Joey. "Cheers to 20 years everyone, thank you for your custom and we look forward to continue serving you well into the future."

The Sentinel wishes the Bank of St Helena a happy 20 year anniversary!

Check out the Bank's video commemorating the 20th Anniversary celebrations here: https://www.facebook.com/reel/1673917406747221





"The future of guiding looks sufficiently secure"

UK Girlguiding to be continued for all Overseas Territories, including St Helena

Demy Herne, SAMS

Girlguiding on St Helena is enjoyed by all who attend and it exists to help young women find their voice and build skills and confidence which will inspire them to discover the best within themselves and will empower them to make a positive impact in their community.

During last year, it was sadly announced that on St Helena and other UK Overseas Territories, British Girlguiding would be discontinued. This would have come as disappointing news to Girl Guides and their commissioners here on the Island.

However, it has now been confirmed by the Girlguiding St Helena Dependencies Branch that St Helena and other Overseas British Territories will remain a part of UK Girlguiding, with St Helena Girlguiding now being integrated into the structure of Girlguiding of the North West England region.

"We would like to thank our many supporters who have helped to sustain us throughout this very difficult period of uncertainty, especially the Overseas Territory representatives and Sir Lindsay Hoyle," commented Division Commissioner for Girlguiding St Helena and Dependencies, Pamela Ward-Pearce. "Three years ago, St Helena celebrated 100 years of continuous guiding on the Island and now, with this news, the future of guiding looks sufficiently secure so we may indeed plan to be celebrating another 100 years in the future."



This will come as welcome and positive news for both the St Helena and the Ascension Girlguiding communities.



Meet Harper

When you meet Harper for the first time, she will probably seem like a typical 7-year-old girl. For a lot of the time, she is. However, there is often a lot going on under what she portrays.

As a family, we always knew something was a bit different with Harper. Like most young children, Harper would have tantrums, but we grew concerned about the intensity of the frustrations and it was difficult to understand what triggered them. As she got older, communication became an increasing concern. Harper's speech was delayed, so she couldn't tell us what she wanted or needed. This must have been very frustrating for her. At age two and a half, when most children her age were at least saying one or two phrases, Harper was barely communicating with one or two 'words'. We followed our instincts and started taking her to speech and language therapy (SALT) on the island.

Although communication was an issue, we also noticed how she often lined up her toys, walked on tippy toes, had a concentration facial tick and used vocal stimming (through repetitive noises) to regulate. There was also bedtime procrastination, lack of social boundaries (like hugging strangers) and her preference for parallel play. These were not always problematic, but it was a combination of these traits along with the delayed speech and language development that made it more noticeable for us.

During her SALT sessions the focus was on regulation, which in turn helped her to communicate her needs. We did our sessions religiously and so did her carers in the crèche. Over time, Harper was picking up more words and phrases and the timing of the meltdowns were a bit more predictable. A visit to another SALT in Cape Town and a Consultant Psychologist on the island revealed Harper had significant speech and language difficulties and confirmed that she needed more ongoing support. We continued her SALT sessions on the island, and later sought advice from the Special Educational Needs Advisor, who was a qualified tester for autistic assessments.



We attended interviews, completed various forms and Harper was observed and assessed. On 15th March 2022 we received Harper's formal diagnosis of autism. It confirmed our suspicions, but it was certainly a day of mixed emotions. We immediately started worrying about the future, but we had to remind ourselves that Harper hadn't changed. She was still Harper. It was down to us to educate ourselves and to accommodate her needs as best we could. Being autistic doesn't define Harper, but knowing she is autistic helps us to understand her thoughts, actions and anxieties.

Harper is doing well with her communication today. She still has some of her earlier autistic traits and we've noticed a few new ones. Routine is important for her but communicating change lessons her anxiety. She can be very adaptable, and it helps when people understand her needs and accommodate them, with patience and understanding.

It is amazing to witness Harper's verbal progress. Her vocabulary has grown tremendously, and it is so satisfying to actually have a two-way conversation with her. The small things others may take for granted are milestones to us.

Autism shows differently for everyone and the positives of Harper's autistic traits are many. She says things as she sees them. She is creative - loves music, baking, the water and has developed quite a sense of humour! She has a good memory, vivid imagination and genuinely loves and cares about her friends…and to her, anyone can be her friend, including all cats and dogs.



As Harper is getting older, we have noticed that she 'masks' a lot. Masking is a coping mechanism where individuals cover up (or suppress) their true self to fit in – in this case, Harper's autistic self. We've noticed she does this by copying expressions, body language and interests. This is something we'd rather she didn't need to do, but that level of observance and self-image from her is admirable.

As a family, we are still learning and the best lessons are coming from Harper herself. There is no clearcut answer for autism, as "If you've met one person with autism, you've met one person with autism." – Autism Advocate, Dr. Stephen Shore.

We appreciate all the support we receive from everyone who has a positive influence on Harper's life, directly or indirectly.

If anyone needs a support network, the Au-Some Parents Support Group is there if you need us. We share our experiences, invite guest speakers to share their knowledge and expertise and advocate for acceptance and inclusion – all in a welcoming environment.

Contributed by Laura & Barry Stroud

NOTICE BOARD

DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 14th April 2024 – 2nd Sunday after Easter		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Martin
11.00	Eucharist	St Andrew
5.00 p.m.	Choral Evensong	Cathedral
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 14th April 2024 – 2nd Sunday after Easter		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
	Thursday 18th April	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 14th April – 2nd Sunday after Easter		
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 16th April	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist	St Mark



Harford Primary School would like to thank everyone who supported their Easter Chocolate Raffle. Special thanks to our Parents who donated the chocolaty prizes. The amount raised for PTA funds was **£1,283.00**

Winners were as follows:

	Name	Prize
1st Prize	Daniel Weight	Chocolate Hamper
2nd Prize	Kaylin Knipe	Chocolate Hamper
3rd Prize	Justine Thomas	Chocolate Easter Cake
4th Prize	Terri Leo	Tin of chocolate sweets
5th Prize	Barbara Joshua	Chocolate cake
6th Prize	Nigel Peters	Easter Egg
7th Prize	Charlie-Paige Thomas	Easter Cupcakes
8th Prize	Anna Bowers	Chocolate treat box
9th Prize	Kunashe Shangwa	Easter Egg
10th Prize	Harry Winfield	Easter Egg
11th Prize	Belinda Rummery	Chocolate cake
12th Prize	Peter Maggott	Easter Haribo sweets
13th Prize	Anya Richards	Easter treat box
14th Prize	Kimberlene Leo	Chocolate treat box
15th Prize	Fredrick Crowie	Easter Egg

March Scout Jackpot Draw

The winners of the March Scout Jackpot draw are as follows:

1st Prize: £100
Barry Williams - Ticket No. 581

2nd Prize: £50
Joan G Phillips – Ticket No. 149

3rd Prize: £25
Tara O'Bey – Ticket No. 241

4th Prize: £25
Eric Thomas – Ticket No. 358

The April jackpot will be drawn live at the Standard Bar on 3 May.

Remember to be able to win, you must participate.

NOTICE BOARD

LANDROVER DISCOVERY 2003 - AUTOMATIC FOR SALE





PRICE

£7,000 ONO

- Reluctant sale - need smaller car
- Will sell with new MOT
- Runs beautifully
- New head and associated parts
- Lots of spare parts
- 124K miles (only 10K miles on Island)

CALL MIKE ON 51918 OR 25258

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services
14th April
Sandy Bay Chapel 08.45 am
Head O'Wain Chapel 10.45 am
Jamestown Chapel 6.00 pm

Bible Studies
Tuesday 16th April
Baptist School Hall 7.00 pm
Thursday 18th April
Sandy Bay Chapel 5.30 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS
Ladies Meeting
Wednesday 17th April
Baptist School Hall J/Town 10.30 am

ALL ARE WLCOME

For further information contact:
Tel No 24644



Church Notices

Prayer Meeting
Saturday 13April2024 at 8:30am

Ladies Fellowship
Saturday 13 April 2024 at 3pm
@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

~

We warmly invite you to join us for:

Praise and Worship Service
Sunday 14April2024 at 11:00am
Longwood Avenue
Kid Zone (Sunday School) at 11:00am

~

Cell Meetings

1. **Tuesday16April 2024**

At Cape Villa at 5pm (Contact: Priscilla on 65543 for details) **and Jamestown at 7pm**
(Contact: Catherine on64352 for details)

2. **Wednesday17April 2024**

At The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre at 6pm
(Contact: Tav on 51727 for details) **and at the residence of Vincent & Busi Ramaru at 7pm**

~

Christian Gift/Bookshop & DVD Rental
Open on Saturday 8:30-10am
For further information phone 25324



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - CLEANING SERVICES

Bank of St Helena Ltd is seeking expressions of interested for cleaning services within the Bank premises in Jamestown, including the Ark Building.

For further information on requirements, please contact Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager on telephone number 22390 or email hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for Expressions of Interest is Friday, 19 April 2024 and should be submitted to Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Bank of St.Helena Ltd.

info@sainthelenabank.com
+290 22390
www.sainthelenabank.com
Market Street, Jamestown
@sainthelenabank
Bank of St Helena Ltd

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

NOTICE BOARD



APRIL OPENING HOURS



Main Branch

Monday - Friday	08:45 - 15:00
Saturday	09:00 - 12:00

Airport Kiosk

Flight days only	10:30 - 14:30

Remote Banking

HTH Supermarket	Friday, 26 April	09:30 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Monday, 29 April	09:30 – 14:00

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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The Annual General Meeting of the St Helena Football Association will take place on 24th April at 7pm.

Venue of the meeting is to be confirmed and will be relayed soon.

There are a few items on the agenda with the main one being the election of a new committee.

The SHFA are urging all Captains, footballers or interested persons of any gender who has an interest in the future of the St Helena Football Association to attend.

St Andrews Easter Raffle

The Chapel Warden of St Andrews Church would like to express appreciation to all those who supported the Easter raffle – £480 raised will assist with maintenance costs.

The winners of the raffle are as follows:

Easter Hamper: Ms Linda Glanville
Easter Cake: Mrs Dorothy Lawrence
Basket of Chocolates: Mr Derek Henry
Easter Cake: Mr Larry Francis
Floral Arrangement: Mr Roman Maggott
Assortment of Chocolates:
Miss Jody Thomas
Easter Cake: Mr Aubrey Peters



WHARF KIOSK CLOSURE

Bank of St Helena wishes to inform their customers that banking services will no longer be offered from the Wharf Kiosk, at the Seafront, Jamestown with immediate effect. The Bank apologises for any inconvenience this may cause but continues to encourage customers to use the alternative services such as Online Banking and their Local Debit Cards, or visit our Main Branch in Market Street.

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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NOTICE BOARD



Wife Olive and Sons Steve & Ryan of the late Edward Bagley of Nr High Knoll,
who passed away on the 14th February 2024.

Would like to thank the Doctors, Nurses, Ambulance Staff and all who helped in any way during and after Edwards passing. Special thanks to Father Clarence Roberts for conducting the funeral. Thank you to Roy Williams and team, Douglas's bus service and to everyone who supplied flowers and wreaths.

Thank you to those who attended the funeral, sent cards and condolences via telephone calls, emails and Facebook messages.

Thank you for the continued love and support as we try to accept our loss.



Someone we love has gone far away

We miss your presence, your voice, your laugh, your smile

Days has gone by and life will never be the same

We lost a loving husband and dear father, the day God came

We promise to continue to speak your name

And share your stories of the days gone by

Rest in the arms of Jesus my darling

Until we meet again

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,
love leaves a memory no one can steal

Rest In Peace

Forever in hearts



NOTICE BOARD

Vacancy

Part-Time Security Officers

Rate of pay will be £6.20 per hour

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for Part-Time Security Officers to join the team at St Helena Airport.

Working hours will be according to flight operations and training requirements, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
- Possess a high standard of English & ICT skills
- Be customer focused and able to deliver an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be available to undertake the required training and the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake Manual Handling & physically demanding duties
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment
- Be able to work with a high degree of attention to detail
- Have the ability to remain calm under pressure

For further information contact:

Tegan Turner, Agencies Business Co-Ordinator via 22523 agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **16 April 2024.**

PILLING PRIMARY SCHOOL
Together As One

Piling Primary School would like to thank all those who supported their Christmas activities again last year, which were a huge success!

Street Collection for The Festival of Lights amounted to £1271.33; following expenditure (including cost of fireworks), this left a profit of £740.79
Our Bonanza night (including the raffle) brought in a profit of £2371.61 after expenditure
Caroling in front of The Canister - £123.36
Advent Service at St James' Church - £170.00 (£40 donation made to St James' Church)

Pilling Primary would like to sincerely thank everybody who contributed in any way toward these activities; your help and support is truly appreciated.

For businesses who are still contemplating making a donation to the school from their profits on the Festival of lights, our Bank of St Helena account name/number is:
Pilling Primary PTA – 21973002. We thank you in advance for your support.

Piling Primary School PTA

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Island
A breath of fresh air

Festival of Walking

Walk of the Week

Date: Sunday, 14 April 2024
Start Time: 9am

Meeting point: Bellstone, Levelwood

Led by Tom Wortley of Rock Mount walking tours, this walk takes in the geological contrasting colours with a climb at the end to the Great Stone Top. You are rewarded with a spectacular view of the St Helena Airport. Great Stone Top is also a prime location to spot the Red Billed Tropic bird. Remember to bring a minimum of 2L of water, suitable walking shoes and sunscreen.

Walk grade: suitable for fit walkers with some experience

7-8 Fairly strenuous

The final two walks of the festival, see you there!

To register your interest and receive email updates of the 'Walk of the Week' contact Dianne via dianne.venning@sainthelena.gov.sh or call the Tourist Office T:22158 or M:67245

Next Week

Join us for the final walk of the festival!

Date: Saturday, 20 April 2024
Start Time: 9am

Meeting point: Rosemary Plain/bus pick up at the Canister

Led by Adam Sizeland, Director of the Museum of St Helena, who will give insight into the historic landscape of Lemon Valley and its significance to the islands history. The walk descends into the valley, past historic farmhouses, graveyards and fortifications. Discover how Lemon Valley played a role in St Helena's early East India Company history, it's importance as a quarantine station for the sick and how it became the first depot for receiving the Liberated African's.

For those that do not wish to walk back to Rosemary Plain, a boat will be provided to transport you to Jamestown. Leave your vehicle in Jamestown before the walk – a bus will leave the Canister at 8.30am and transport you to Rosemary Plain (the start of the walk) - collect your vehicle when you arrive back in Jamestown by boat. Booking is essential. Please book your seat by noon on **Wednesday, 17 April 2024**. Call the Tourist Office on 22158 or email dianne.venning@sainthelena.gov.sh. If sea conditions are unfavourable then we will walk back to the start point (Rosemary Plain)

Walk grade: Post Box Walk

5-6 Moderate

The final two walks of the festival, see you there!

To register your interest and receive email updates of the 'Walk of the Week' contact Dianne via dianne.venning@sainthelena.gov.sh or call the Tourist Office T:22158 or M:67245

St Helena Government

UPDATE ON DRAFT IMMIGRATION POLICY

In our last update, we advised that a new draft Immigration Policy was being prepared.

The Minister for Safety, Security and Home Affairs, Jeffrey Ellick, felt that work done previously on developing a new immigration policy was overly focused on border protection and operational issues. It did not go far enough to support growing the population, particularly the working age population, and theywanted to consider all options for opening up the island to encourage inward migration.

In late 2023, MinisterEllick instructed officialsto take a strategic approach and develop options for addressing the immigration situation.

St Helena has an aging population with a declining working age population, resulting in economic decline. Labour shortages exist for a wide range of positions. There is a strong belief that immigration policy and legislation reforms are necessary to help to address the issue.

Increasing the population, in particular the working age population, is critical to growing the economy and sustainable prosperity for the island.

Minister Ellick commented:

"Changes to immigration legislation and practice alone will not be the magic bullet that makes the necessary difference to the population challenges that we face. These changes can however facilitate entry and welcome immigrants, whilst also maintaining border security.This government is committed to making the changes needed to attract people to come to St Helena to work, invest and positively contribute to life on our island. Other policies across SHG will also be amended in line with the immigration policy to help deliver this."

The draft Immigration Policy has been finalised and is now open to final public comment. It can viewed online at www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/from 12:00 on Thursday 04 April. Hard copies will also be available in the Public Library and Post and Customer Services Centre in Jamestown.

A number of public meetings to discuss the final draft Immigration Policy will be held in the coming weeks.

These will take place from 19:30 to 21:00 on the following dates, and at the venues listed:

Date and time	Location
Monday 08 April 2024	Jamestown Community Centre
Wednesday 10 April 2024	Kingshurst Community Centre
Thursday 11 April 2024	Harford Community Centre
Tuesday 16 April 2024	HTH Community Centre
Wednesday 17 April 2024	Blue Hill Community Centre
Thursday 18 April 2024	Sandy Bay Community Centre

If you have any questions or views on the draft policy in the meantime, please submit these to Head of Infrastructure and Strategies, Derek Henry, by email through Derek.Henry@sainthelena.gov.sh.

#StHelena #Immigration www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/ www.twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG, 4April 2024

NOTICE BOARD

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

CULTURE MONTH

MAY 2024

ST HELENA'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

FLOAT THEME: IDENTITY- WHAT MAKES ST HELENA, ST HELENA?

SUNDAY 19TH MAY

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A STALL OR VOLUNTEER ON THE DAY PLEASE CONTACT RADKA HENRY:

RADKA.HENRY@TRUST.ORG.SH

25571

SCHEDULE OF THE DAY TO FOLLOW

St Helena Island
A breath of fresh air

MUSEUM

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Join us!

We are recruiting...

St Helena Government

Blue Belt Project and Communications Administrator (1- year Fixed Term) (£11,542 per annum)

An exciting opportunity has arisen within the Marine & Fisheries Conservation Section of ENRP, this role will be primarily responsible for the communication requirements and project administration in relation to the UK Governments Blue Belt Programme. The aim of the role is to raise awareness of St Helena's category 6 Marine Protected area within the local and global communities and to ensure SHG has sound governance and timely action of the programme requirements in terms of resources, financial and administrative management. We are seeking a motivated individual who has a keen eye for detail, has the ability to apply sound judgement and who possesses excellent communications and project planning skills.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Kirsty Jones on Tel no. 25966 or Email Kirsty.jones@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing date: **17 April 2024**

Economic Development Officer (£9,197 - £11,239 per annum)

SHG's Economic Development Portfolio is seeking a dynamic individual to help deliver the island's economic development strategy. You will work flexibly across the services and functions of the Portfolio - assisting with research, analysis, policy writing, project coordination, and operational delivery of policies and projects. These areas of work will include tourism, trade and investment, civil aviation, property, and financial services development.

You will work directly with stakeholders from a variety of growing economic sectors, including those set to be enabled by improved digital connectivity.

This is a varied role with the opportunity for significant training, development, and career growth in one or more of the Portfolio's services and functions. The successful applicant will display a commitment to making St Helena an attractive place to live, learn, work, and invest. You will be expected to display a genuine desire to work with a diverse team to deliver positive outcomes for the community.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Damian Burns on Tel no. 22470 or Email Damian.Burns@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing Date: **16 April 2024**

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role.

NOTICE BOARD

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Join us!

We are recruiting...

St Helena Government

Fixed Term 1:1 Teaching Assistants (Harford Primary)

(£7,823 - £8,114 per annum)

Do you have a passion for Education? We are looking to recruit a Teaching Assistant to provide assistance to the class teacher by supporting teaching and learning in the school/classroom environment. The individual needs to be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and have good communication skills to be able to communicate between students, parents and colleagues.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Carlean Crowie on Tel no. 24719 or Email Carlean.Crowie@primary.edu.sh**

Closing date: **23 April 2024**

Human Resources Support Officer

(£7,341 per annum)

We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to fill the role of Human Resources Support Officer, responsible for undertaking a range of important financial and administration duties. This includes setting up and maintaining spreadsheets for expenditure accounting of our budgets, producing documents to support reporting and decision-making, and HR payroll administration, Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Delma Stevens on Tel no. 22470 or Email delma.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing date: **17 April 2024**

Senior Human Resources Assistant

(£9,197 per annum)

Here is a great opportunity to start your career in HR! Central Human Resources is seeking to recruit a motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our HR Transactional team. In this post, you will be responsible for undertaking a range of HR transactional processes to ensure the delivery of a high quality HR service. Keys areas include recruitment and selection, processing of leavers, contractual changes and providing advice on employment related policies and procedures. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Sharina Williams on Tel No 22470 or Email sharina.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing date: **23 April 2024**

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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Join us!

We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Programme & Project Coordinator (£11,542-£14,215 per annum)

A Market Enhancement of £3,500 per annum will apply and be reviewed after a 2 year period

In this role, the Programme & Project Coordinator will be required to collaborate with all functions of the PMO, including elements of project planning and delivery, as well as work to improve overall project and programme capacity.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Paul Cherrett on Tel No 22270 or Email Paul.Cherrett@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing date: 23 April 2024

Support Workers x 2 - 6 months Fixed Term Contract (£7,341 - £8,946 per annum)

Are you interested in providing assistance and direction to persons living within Sheltered Housing which will enable them to live relatively independent but, with an oversight of support for their wellbeing?

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Hannah Herne on Tel No 23230 or Email Hannah.Herne@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing date: 24 April 2024

Accounts Assistant (1 x Permanent and 1 x Fixed-Term up to November 2024) (£7,341 per annum)

Are you a highly motivated individual with good teamwork and a problem-solving skills? If so, Central Finance has an opportunity for you to join their team. You will ensure efficient and accurate entry of financial data through the government accounting system and the effective monitoring of St Helena Government's transactions.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Charmaine Murawu on Tel No or Email Charmaine.Murawu@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 April 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

4 BUSINESS UNITS FOR LEASE

Known as units 8, 14 and 15 situated within the Ladder Hill Business Park, Ladder Hill, and unit 7 situated within the Longwood Enterprise Park, Longwood. These units offer a great space; preference is for first time businesses for a two year lease but established businesses can also apply for a five year lease. The units will be advertised via an open market tender, the terms of which will be subject to negotiation between SHG and the preferred bidder.

Main conditions of the units are:

Minimum operating of 20 hours per week, which shall include a least one peak interval for example: 07:00-09:00, 12:00-14:00 and 16:00-18:00 per day.

First time business - rent per month to be paid on the first of every month are:

Unit 7	Units 8, 14 and 15
Year one - £172 Year two - reviewed + RPI	Year one - £221.70 Year two - £245.10 + RPI

Lease term: two years for first time businesses. If the decision is made by the existing tenants to continue their lease, this will be considered from year three rates as below:

Commercial rates from year three to year five		Five year lease rates for established businesses at commercial rates	
Unit 7	Units 8, 14 and 15	Unit 7	Units 8, 14 & 15
To be reviewed	Year three - £268.49 + RPI Year four - £291.89 + RPI Year five - £315.29 + RPI	To be reviewed	Year one - £221.70 Year two - £245.10 + RPI Year three - £268.49 + RPI

The closing date for the **Business Units** is 12:00 on Friday 19 April 2024.

For more information, please contact the Head of Trade and Investment or the Investment Coordinator on tel: 22470 or via emails: Michael.ormrod@sainthelena.gov.sh or kyle.snow@sainthelena.gov.sh. Alternatively, you collect the forms from the Castle, Jamestown.

St Helena Government

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

PURCHASE OR LEASE OF PROPERTY

The Economic Development Portfolio is inviting Expressions of Interest for the purchase or lease of property known as the former playground, near the Quarry, Jamestown, and the property known as the former pig pens near the Longwood Enterprise Park, Longwood.

For further information, please contact Crown Estates Officer, Gina Henry, via email: gina.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh or on telephone: (+290) 22270, Ext 224.

The closing date for Expressions of Interest is Friday 19 April 2024.

SHG
27 March 2024

Vacancies

Part-Time Aircraft Cleaners

Since 1790

Rate of pay will be £5.60 per hour

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc have vacancies for Part-Time Aircraft Cleaners to join the team at St Helena Airport.

The Aircraft Cleaners will be responsible for the cleaning of the Airport Terminal during operational days and also cleaning of aircraft cabins of arriving and departing Aircraft.

Working hours will be according to flight operations and training requirements, including both weekdays and weekends.

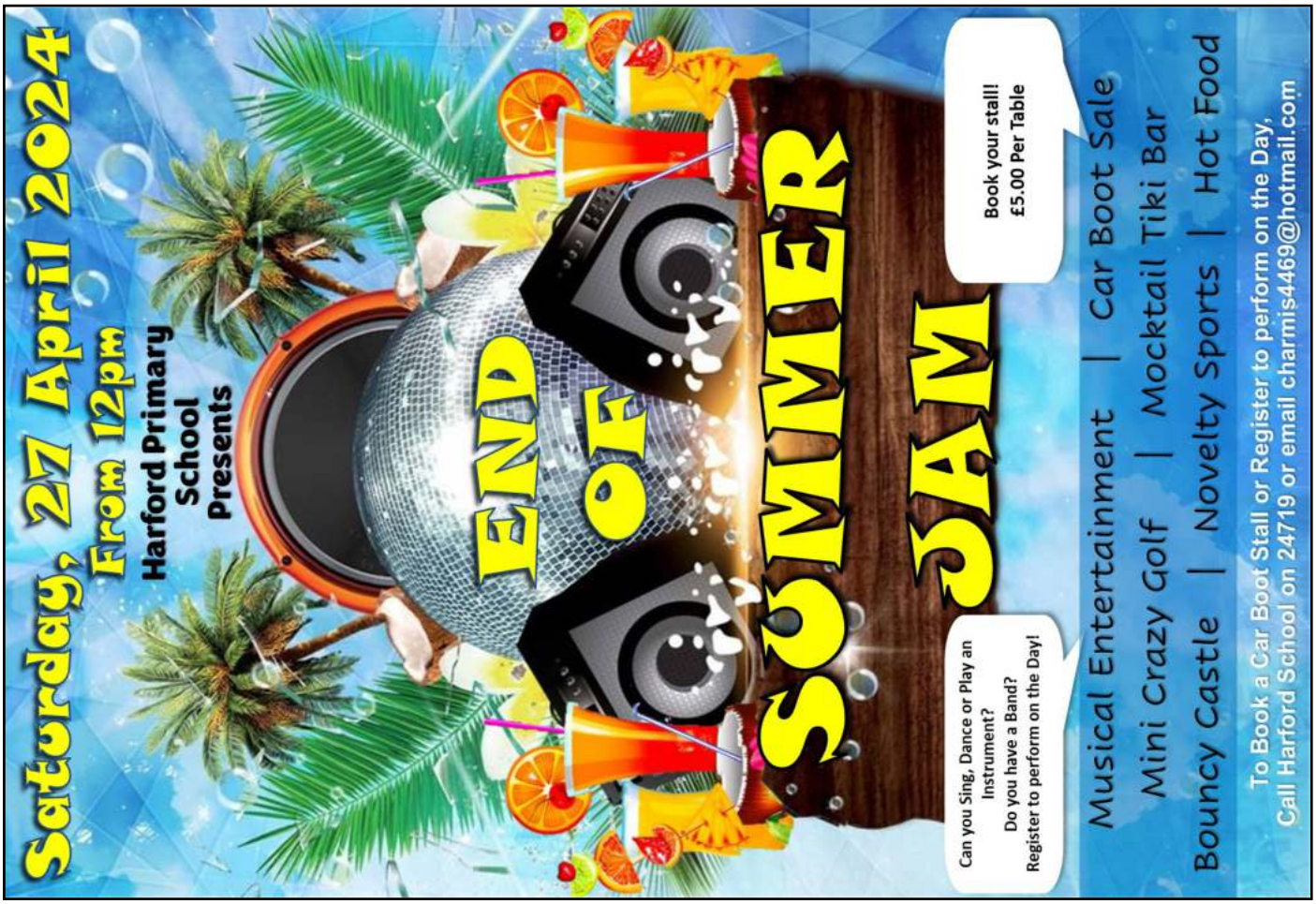
Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
- Possess a good standard of English & ICT
- Be customer focused and able to deliver an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be available to undertake the required training including both classroom and online-based training.
- Be available to undergo the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake manual handling & physically demanding duties
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment
- Be able to work with a high degree of attention to detail
- Have the ability to remain calm under pressure

For further information contact:

Tegan Turner, Agencies Business Co-Ordinator via 22523 agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **16 April 2024.**



NOTICE BOARD

Part-time Water Caretaker, Thompsons Hill

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is seeking the services of a Part-time Water Caretaker to monitor the water systems in the Thompsons Hill, Spring Gut, Mackintosh, Gold Mine and Iron Pot areas. The successful applicant will be engaged on a services contract for four hours per day, seven days per week.

Duties of the role include:

Checking all pipework and reporting any leaks; Dipping and recording the borehole levels on a daily basis and reporting any abnormalities; Checking all tank levels twice a day; Documenting bulk meter readings and reporting any abnormal readings on a daily basis; Turning water supplies on/off as required; and providing the Water Maintenance Co-ordinator with copies of their readings.

Candidates should possess good time keeping skills and the ability to prepare weekly worksheets. They must be able to correctly read meters and recognise if there is a fault on the system. As the role involves unaccompanied work in isolated areas, they must also be safety conscious and abide by Connect's procedures. Training will be provided.

For further information on this post, please contact Paul Duncan, Water Operations Manager, on (+290) 22255 or email paul.duncan@connect.co.sh

Completed application forms should be addressed to Annalisa Young, Business Support Administrator - HR, Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: annalisa.young@connect.co.sh by 9:00am on Tuesday, 23 April 2024.

To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.

MASTERS & PHD
INFORMATION SESSION

SAERI, SHRI and MAERI are jointly hosting a Doctorate and Masters information event to share information about what it is like to apply for and undertake Masters and Doctorate Studies, and to talk through environmental science Masters and Doctorate opportunities that are available.



The Event Will Be Held On:

THURSDAY
16th April, 2024

STARTING AT
9am Anguilla
10am Falklands
1pm St Helena
2pm UK

REGISTER ONLINE VIA TEAMS
https://tinyurl.com/2fb5fmbd

For More Information Email Amy Constantine
AConstantine@saeri.ac.fk

Topic	Speakers
Short Introduction	Tara Pelembe
What is it like to think about, apply for and undertake a Masters or Doctorate? Round table discussion chaired by Tara Pelembe	
What was it like to do your Masters or Doctorate? Past students – round table discussion	Falklands Islands • Jane Clarke – Masters in Marketing and Business Communication St Helena • Zedella Young Masters in Strategic Tourism Management and Marketing. • Rebecca Lawrence: Animal Welfare Science, Ethics & Law • Dr Cilla McDaniel
An overview of UKOT Masters/PhD funding opportunities:	
Darwin Plus People and Skills	Jasmine Parkinson Biodiversity in the Overseas Territories, UK Government Department of Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
Jersey International Centre of Advanced Studies (JICAS). Masters courses with UKOT bursaries	Dr Sean Dettman– Director, JICAS
UK Overseas Territories Government funding	Emma Brook - College Development Manager, Falkland College
Chevening Scholarships	Tegan Francis and Kerry Lane Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.
Commonwealth Scholarship	Maggie Goncalves, Programme Officer - Commonwealth Scholarship Commission
PhD opportunities – Doctoral Training Programmes	Dr Zoë Thomas - Lecturer in Physical Geography School of Geography and Environmental Science University of Southampton - presented by Tara Pelembe
Masters and PhD opportunities at SAERI	Dr Paul Brickle – Chief Executive Officer, South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute
What Universities are looking for in PhD students – from an internal perspective.	Prof Mike Gottfried – Michigan state University and SAERI Senior Research Fellow
Question and Answer session	
Wrap up	Dr Paul Brickle - Chief Executive Officer, South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute

Golf Report for 7 April



SHGC, Contributed

Conditions and Competition Overview: On Sunday, 7 April, a Stableford competition took place in favorable weather conditions at the golf course. The day was characterised by dry weather with occasional sunshine, providing ideal conditions for the golfers to showcase their skills.

Winners of the Competition: Jeffrey Stevens emerged as the top performer in the competition, securing the leading position on the leaderboard with an impressive score of 33 points. Following closely behind was Helena Stevens, who claimed the second spot with a commendable score of 31 points. The Stevens couple showcased their prowess on the course and conquered the field with their exceptional performances.

Noteworthy Achievement: Neil Joshua stood out during the competition by achieving a remarkable feat on the 16th hole. He managed to score the only two of the day, showcasing his skill and precision in a challenging situation. As a result, Neil Joshua collected all the balls in the two-ball pool, highlighting his exceptional performance during the round.

In conclusion, Sunday's golf competition witnessed competitive game play under favourable weather conditions. The standout performances of Jeffrey and Helena Stevens, and Neil Joshua added excitement and intrigue to the event, making it a memorable day for all participants.

Coming up: On Sunday, 14 April, the club will host a Gruesome choose your partner stableford competition sponsored by Mr Douglas Augustus. A card with information on the format will be provided before teeing off. Tee off is 12noon and registration closes on Saturday, 13 April, at 3pm.

Lastly, members are advised that the St Helena Golf Club Championship (SHGCC) 2024 is starting this month of April. Members are encouraged to play official competitions regularly to earn points and stand a chance to win big prizes at the end of the season. The event will conclude on the final day of the SHGC Players Championship on 10 November 2024.

We wish you all a happy weekend and happy swinging!

Greetings from the Jamestown Rifle Club



Pat Henry, Contributed

We are happy to submit a report to The Sentinel newspaper this week after we were forced to close the Club for the last two weeks to fix a damaged floor area. We can confirm it's now safe to continue our activities. Tonight we hosted a two-person team competition in aid of Pat's Archery training programme to purchase new archery equipment, trophies for this event were kindly sponsored by Solomon's & Co (St Helena) Ltd.

Eight teams entered including four teams from Solomon's, but unfortionly only six teams were able to patriciate on the night. Everyone displayed good enthusiasm with eagerness to perform well. Considering most of them are not regular shooters, they shot pretty good scores with everyone trying hard to shoot the best score to win a trophy.

Results for team positions: In 5th place were Kylie & Julianna with 163.6, 4th place Nicole & Elizabeth with 183.5, in 3rd place were Florence & Simon with 184.5, in 2nd place were Dan & Michael with 192.5 and in 1st place were none other than Solomon's top marksmen, Jason & Carlos, with a whopping 198.3 points, declaring them the winners.

Congratulations and well done to everyone with thanks for supporting this event. A huge thanks to Solomons for sponsoring the trophies for this event. Prizes were presented by our Hon Treasurer, Deirdre Maggott.

Other mentioning's, well done to Vee, a very healthy 69, and well done to Dad, Lovemore for having a go, not forgetting Solomon's Eric Tinny Thomas, nice one for having a go. Also entered the competition shooting in full kit was Jodie-Scipio Constantine with 98.6 & Patrick Young with 95.3 = total 193.9 - they did not want to be in favour to receive a prize.

Good wishes to everyone and have a pleasant weekend!

SPORTS ARENA

An Allstar Challenge



On Saturday 6 April, the SHCA RMS T20 tournament continued after a break over the Easter weekend with Levelwood Rebels defeating the Lions. Rebels batted first and posted an impressive score of 222 runs. Although showing improvement in their overall performance, this total proved too much for the Lions who could only finish at the 50% mark on 111 runs, falling to defeat.

Three matches were played on Sunday, 7 April, the first of which saw Jamestown Heat defeat the Cobras by 38 runs. A solid 50 from Jamie Essex helped Heat to a total of 154 runs. Impressive bowling from Heat during Cobras chase, in particular from youngster Hugo Richards and his more senior teammate, Damien O'Bey, restricted Cobras to 116 runs.

The second game on Sunday was one of the most anticipated matches of the season, with Levelwood Allstars facing up against Challengers – the two most decorated teams in recent history, with Challengers having been the team to beat for a number of years now. Allstars took to the crease first and thanks to a hard fought 49 runs from Kristian Leo, they produced a score of 142 runs overall. They then impressed with both their bowing and fielding, restricting Challengers to just 112 runs before the last wicket fell and dishing out a rare defeat to the reigning champions.

The final game of the weekend saw Sandy Bay Pirates defeat the Mustangs. Sandy Bay batted first and produced an impressive score of 199 runs thanks to a brilliant innings from AJ Bennett with 82 runs. Although Mustangs put up an admirable chase, the total was just too far out of reach, with Pirates finishing as winners by 38 runs.

As it stands, only Allstars and Pirates are yet to taste defeat in this year's tournament, both with three wins from three matches.





RMS T20 FIXTURES

10:00
Jamestown Heat v Levelwood Allstars
Umpires: Scott Crowie
and Ashton Benjamin

13:30
Lions v Mustangs
Umpires: Matthew Benjamin
and David Young

10:00
Sandy Bay Pirates v Challengers
Umpires: Damien O'Bey
and Jamie Essex

13:30
Levelwood Rebels v Cobras
Umpires: Barry Stroud
and David George