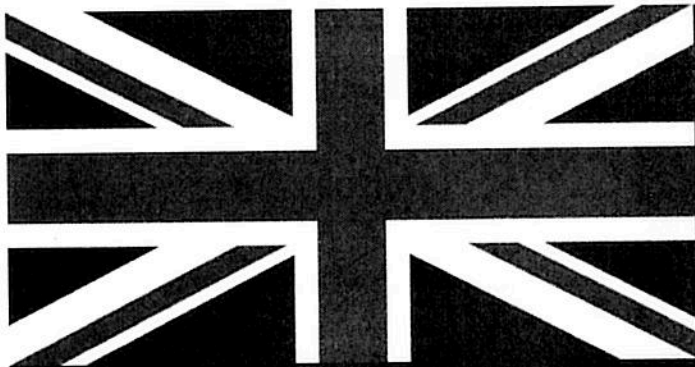


# **A PROUD AND MONUMENTAL MOMENT IN ASCENSION'S HISTORY**



**ASCENSION'S NEW  
EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION**  
Introducing significant changes,  
including new safeguards for  
employees

Inside this week: Ascension's New Employment Legislation/Preparing for Covid 19 and lots more



**Editor & Printer: Kitty**

The Islander Office, Fort Hayes

Georgetown, Ascension Island

**Telephone + 247 66327**

E-Mail: [Islander@atlantis.co.ac](mailto:Islander@atlantis.co.ac)

Website: [www.the-islander.org.ac](http://www.the-islander.org.ac)

Islander post-boxes both at the AIG Building &  
Outside the Islander Office

**Deadline for all contributions: Monday's 6pm**

**Max size for email is 1MB**

**Next week's Editors: Dr Bill & Clare**

**Printers: Clare & Celia**

**Technicians: Joopy, Kerry, Mario & Alex**

**CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS**

**FULL PAGE £10.00**

**HALF PAGE £ 5.00**

**COLOURED PAGES: £50 PER PAGE**

**IF NO SIZE SPECIFIED - SIZE WILL BE AT  
THE EDITOR'S DISCRETION.**

Hello Readers,

Winter arrived yesterday with an attitude..... bringing with her lashings of rain, heavy wind warnings and rough seas! Although it has started to get a little chilly in the evenings, fingers crossed our winter will not be too cold and wet this year!

Ascension reached a proud and monumental milestone on Monday, when the new and long-awaited Employment Law came into effect. We proudly and confidently step out from 1926 into 2022 with a modern fit-for-purpose law that will better protect employees! It was a long time coming but it is well worth the wait.

This week as we all receive our 2<sup>nd</sup> booster; we prepare ourselves for the reopening of our borders and living with Covid 19 with effect from 31 July.

Yesterday, St Helena announced that with effect from early August, they too will also be lifting all quarantine requirements.

Understandably some of us are a little nervous but we have recognized a world without Covid no longer exists – Covid is now here to stay. But, we are nothing if not resilient and just like everything else, as a community, we will stand together and face this head on.

Enjoy the rest of the week. Kitty

### **A WORD OF ADVICE....**

If you think you're beaten, you are.....

If you think you dare not, you don't

If you like to win, but think you can't....

It's almost a cinch.... **YOU WON'T!!**

If you think you'll lose, you're lost...

For out in the world you'll find -

Success begins with a fellow's will.....

It's all a state of mind.

If you think you're outclassed, you are....

You've got to think high to rise..

You've got to be sure of yourself before...

You can ever win the prize.

Life's battles don't always go.....

To the faster or stronger man...

But sooner or later the one who wins

**IS THE ONE WHO THINKS HE CAN!**





# **COVID-19 Response Level Escalated to Level 2 ORANGE**

## **Three positive test results identified in individuals in compulsory isolation**

### **Key messages**

- Three recent arrivals, currently in compulsory isolation, have tested positive for COVID-19.
- One of the individuals currently has notable symptoms but is otherwise well.
- There is minimal risk of community spread, with no known or suspected cases in the community.
- The Response Level has been escalated to Level 2 ORANGE as a precautionary measure.
- Members of the public should remain alert and continue to practise good cough and hand hygiene.
- Anybody who develops a new persistent dry cough, a fever or experiences unexpected shortness of breath should go home, self-isolate and telephone Georgetown Hospital on 66252 for further advice.

On Sunday 19 June, three positive COVID-19 test results were returned following routine testing of new arrivals currently under compulsory isolation measures. As a consequence of the positive test results, the Ascension COVID-19 Response Level has been escalated to Level 2 ORANGE. This escalation is in line with the Response Level Protocol.

Under Level 2 ORANGE measures, public venues and facilities remain open. As it is expected that the introduction of COVID-19 into the wider community has not occurred, this escalation is a precautionary measure and serves to ensure that a higher level of alertness is observed by authorities on the island and the general public.

Members of the public should continue to practise good cough and hand hygiene, and be alert to the development of any potential COVID-19 symptoms.

When additional testing confirms negative results and the Senior Medical Officer is satisfied that there is no longer a COVID-19 presence on the island, the Response Level will return to Level 1 AMBER.

Further information regarding this matter will be made available to the public in the coming days.

As ever, anyone who develops a new persistent dry cough, a fever or experiences unexpected shortness of breath should go home, self-isolate and telephone Georgetown Hospital on 66252 for further advice.

## **Background**

The individuals in question arrived at Ascension on Sunday 19 June 2022 on the Airlink operated inter-island air service. All three had boarded the flight in Johannesburg.

The individuals are currently otherwise well, although one person returned a strongly positive result and reported being symptomatic during the flight.

Given the number of cases, and the fact that one was highly positive and symptomatic during the flight, all passengers have been placed into isolation and will be required to observe a period of quarantine in line with the *Policy on the Isolation on Arrival of Persons Travelling from Affected Areas*. This includes passengers that boarded the flight in St Helena.

During this time, those under isolation are encouraged to report any signs of illness to medical authorities so that a test can be arranged. As the strongly positive person was known to be symptomatic on the flight, hospital staff will be monitoring this cohort of arrivals and if it becomes clear that further positives are identified during the isolation period the length of isolation may be reviewed for others. This would be based on the fact that infection spread was clearly identified from the flight and as such it may be appropriate to extend isolation for several days, as has previously been applied to arrivals to Ascension that shared a flight with symptomatically positive persons.

The staff at Georgetown Hospital remain in constant liaison with experts in the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) to ensure that the individuals who tested positive receive appropriate support. Further testing will take place over the coming days to monitor their levels of infection, and to confirm whether any further transmission has taken place on board.

This is a scenario that AIG had planned and prepared for. Robust measures for effectively managing arrivals to Ascension have been in place throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. These protocols have been developed in liaison with experts from the UKHSA and are designed to ensure that any person arriving at the island is kept separate from the general public until the Senior Medical Officer can be assured that they do not pose a risk of introducing COVID-19 into the community.

As a result, the individuals who tested positive have not had any contact with the wider public. Authorities are therefore confident that the virus has been effectively contained and so has not been spread to others in the community.

Office of the Administrator  
20 June 2022

## **Further Information**

### **Are members of the public at risk?**

AIG has planned and prepared for this scenario, and robust protocols are in place to manage all arrivals to Ascension. These have been designed in liaison with experts in the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) to ensure that the risk posed to the island by those arriving from affected areas is reduced to the lowest level possible.

However, members of the public are encouraged to be on a heightened state of alert until the Response Level returns to Level 1 AMBER and to continue to practise good hand and cough hygiene.

### **When will the Response Level return to Level 1 AMBER?**

The Response Level will be de-escalated once testing has determined that the individuals no longer pose a threat to the wider community. Further testing will be conducted over the coming days, and the Response Level may be reduced as a result of these tests.

### **Where and when were the cases identified?**

The cases were identified on Sunday 19 June in three individuals who arrived on the Airlink service from Johannesburg. This followed routine COVID-19 testing that all arrivals are subject to.

### **Why are the St Helena passengers also being made to quarantine?**

Under the air corridor policy, whenever a positive is identified on the same flight as passengers from St Helena authorities review the situation and make a decision as to whether or not the St Helena passengers should quarantine. Whilst in flight separation protocols were reported to have been good, one person returned a strongly positive result and reported having been symptomatic throughout the flight.

Although quarantine is planned to end from 31 July, authorities are keen to ensure that COVID-19 is not inadvertently introduced into the community ahead of this time before all parties are prepared for the managed transition, and in doing so cause the air corridor between Ascension and St Helena to be closed during the time at which there will be a significant number of persons due to depart the island for St Helena. Taking a precautionary approach and applying quarantine to the St Helena passengers in this instance will give authorities more confidence that whilst they are still needed, the COVID-19 protocols in place remain robust.

## End of Pierhead Temporarily Closed Last Week Due to Swell



On Wednesday 15 June, the end of the Pierhead was closed to the members of the public, due to high swells washing onto the Pierhead. The crane had to be moved away from its original site, further up the Pierhead and the SLNC platform had to be raised above the breaking waves to prevent any damage being caused to them.

It was not surprising therefore to hear the Met Office had issued a marine warning for swell and significant wave height with them predicting a 2-metre swell and wave height of up to 3.2m.

Earlier in the week a series of earthquakes had occurred around 70 km East/Northeast of Ascension. Although these quakes were relatively minor (up to 5) and deep (around 10km) in the ocean floor, some people speculated that they could in part have caused the significant swell that impacted on the Pierhead.

Fortunately, by the weekend the swell had eased and the end of the Pierhead reopened.

Kindly contributed by The islander roving Journalist - Lorna Mills



## **New Employment Legislation Introduced**

### **Significant changes introduced, including new safeguards for employees**

Following a recommendation from the Island Council on 09 June 2022, on Friday 17 June, the Governor signed into law the Employment Ordinance 2022, along with a number of subsidiary Regulations. The provision of these will come into effect from Monday 20 June.

The new legislation is the culmination of over two years work from the island Council and AIG officials, and introduces a number of new safeguards for employees and requirements on employers. It can be found online at [www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/legislation/laws-of-ascension/](http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/legislation/laws-of-ascension/).

#### **Why are these changes happening?**

The Employment Ordinance 2022 replaces the Workman's Protection Ordinance 1926 and introduces modern, fit-for-purpose employment regulations.

These new rules aim to ensure that employees are treated fairly and consistently by their employer, with new powers to enforce these rules where necessary.

The changes are intended to modernise the regulation of employment, and safeguard employees against bad practice by their employer.

These adaptations are just the first step in an ongoing program of reform to employment regulation in Ascension. Using this as a base to start from, AIG and the Island Council will monitor what is happening within the employment market and will bring in further changes as and when necessary.

#### **What has changed?**

New rules are being introduced regarding:

- Mandatory welfare obligations of employers to employees
- Offering of new contracts
- Capability and performance management
- Conduct and disciplinary proceedings
- Fitness to work
- Grievances
- Dismissal
- Safeguarding and payment of gratuities

These changes will help to protect employees against poor employer practices, whilst also ensuring employers have the tools at their disposal to effectively and confidently manage their workforce in line with modern workplace expectations.

## **What can I expect from my employer?**

- No charges for any necessary medical or dental care, either here or overseas
- 30 days annual leave
- A two month notice period
- A guaranteed and protected gratuity or pension at the end of your contract
- Fair and open procedures for the management of employees

A number of new obligations have been placed on employers, what they must provide their staff and how they must manage their employees.

Employers must have policies in place concerning each of these if they don't have so already, and must make these policies readily available to their staff.

They must adhere to these policies when dealing with their employees.

If they do not, an employee can challenge decisions taken, and may even be entitled to claim damages against their employer.

## **What if my employer isn't adhering to the new rules?**

If you are concerned that your employer is not following the new rules, you should first raise this with them directly.

Where possible, try to familiarise yourself with their policies and procedures and get an understanding of your own rights under the new legislation.

If after this you still have concerns, you may want to consider taking further action.

If so, you should consider contacting a Lay Advocate or one of the elected members of the Island Council. Alternatively, you may want to get in touch with the Public Solicitor's Office in St Helena by email through [publicsolicitor@helanta.co.sh](mailto:publicsolicitor@helanta.co.sh) or by telephone on (00 290) 23008.

Whilst the introduction of this legislation is a significant step in modernising Ascension's employment law, it is intended as the beginning of an ongoing process of reform.

If members of the public have concerns about how they are being treated by their employer, and think that this may fall outside of the scope of the new legislation, they should consider contacting an elected member of the Island Council. They can then consider whether or not further regulatory intervention might be required.

Office of the Administrator  
17 June 2022





## **Preparing for COVID-19**

### **What can you start doing now ahead of the end of quarantine in July?**

On Friday 20 May it was announced that, assuming certain criteria are met, the quarantining of arrivals to Ascension will end on Sunday 31 July. In doing so the island will transition from a state of working to keep COVID-19 out of the community, to managing it as a community infection much like other common viruses.

Ahead of this time the public are being encouraged to consider what actions they can begin taking now to prepare for when the rules change.

#### **Vaccination**

For those eligible, particularly adults and older persons, vaccination provides the greatest defence available against COVID-19. A vaccinated adult has significant protection against developing a severe COVID-19 illness when compared to an unvaccinated adult.

Although children are fortunately less likely to develop a severe COVID-19 illness, vaccination is offered to those aged five to 11 years old and also provides significant additional protection against the most severe effects of infection. Children aged under five years old are much less vulnerable to a severe COVID-19 infection, so as yet have not been offered the vaccine. However, clinical trials are continuing and this may change in the future.

Unvaccinated adults are still at risk of developing a more serious COVID-19 illness, as are those with weakened immune systems and those with certain types of cancer. Whilst vaccination provides older people with a very high-level of protection, as they are at a higher risk due to their age and associated conditions, people over the age of 65 are currently being offered a fourth booster vaccine.

Further doses of vaccine have now arrived at Ascension and as such all eligible persons will be offered an additional booster ahead of quarantine requirements ending in July.

Adults of any age that remain unvaccinated are strongly urged to contact Georgetown Hospital and arrange to receive a course of vaccine ahead of 31 July.

#### **Personal prevention measures**

Whilst each person will need to consider how they change behaviour, or don't as the case may be, when the rules change in July, there are steps that individuals may want to consider now to ensure that they are prepared.

When combined with other measures such as social distancing and hand washing, wearing a mask can help to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This means that you are better protected against catching it and that if you have COVID-19 but aren't yet aware, are less likely to transmit it to others.

Ahead of 31 July you may want to consider ordering masks for you and your family. Nonsurgical N95 masks provide some of the highest levels of protection, but most kinds of masks will offer some form of protection.

Regular hand washing is also advisable. Whilst washing for 30 seconds with soapy water is extremely effective, you may want to consider ordering portable hand sanitiser that you can carry with you or leave in your vehicle.

### **Workplace prevention measures**

Although the risk of COVID-19 to vaccinated adults is now low, employers will be eager to ensure that large numbers of their employees do not catch COVID-19 at once and need to isolate, less it significantly disrupts each organisation's ability to continue operating.

Employers are therefore likely to implement their own adaptations to your working environment when quarantine requirements are removed. You may want to speak to your employer now to understand what these are likely to look like, and how your daily activities are likely to change.

### **Isolating after a positive result**

Although there will be no legal requirement, anyone that tests positive will be expected to isolate for at least five days, or until they test negative. This will help to slow the spread of the virus through the community and ensure that critical services can continue to operate.

Everyone is therefore encouraged to consider what they can do now to make sure they are ready in case this happens to them. You should consider whether you have some basic store cupboard supplies at home and some simple but effective medicines such as paracetamol and ibuprofen in case you feel unwell.

Individuals are also encouraged to speak to family and friends about providing some basic support whilst people are in isolation, either for you or them. Alternatively, discuss with your employer what measures they might have in place to help support you through isolation as needed.

Given Ascension's extremely high-levels of vaccination, the removal of quarantine is likely to be initially disruptive at a community level rather than pose a significant risk to most individuals. However, taking the above steps now will help to ensure that each person is as prepared as they can be to manage this change.

Further information on each of these issues, and guidance on other issues related to the changes, will be made available in the coming weeks.

Georgetown Hospital  
16 June 2022



Two Boats School

# Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022



Hello Everyone,

We have reached the end of term 3A and the end of this academic year is in sight.

Today our Year 11 students sat their final exam and had their Leavers assembly where they shared with the staff and students some of their best memories of their time here at TBS.

All of us here at TBS wish Owen and Pyper the very best of luck with their next chapter and look forward to celebrating with them at the Prom.



In our assembly we presented the winners and runners up with their certificates for the Spelling Bee competition. Congratulations to you all!



Thank You to Rob and Samara who were in this week for the Routine Dental checks. It is always a pleasure to have you both in.

Happy holidays to all the staff and students.

Tania Maggott  
Head Teacher

## It's Electrifying!

What fun! In Year 5 and 6 our science topic this term was Electricity. We have undergone a project to create an electronic model based on vehicles, including emergency vehicles. We used our science skills to make functioning electronic circuits. The models were carefully designed to hold the electronics inside with just motors, buzzers, bulbs and switches visible on the exterior. Finally, after the build of the model, the colours, livery and those all-important finishing touches were applied. Didn't we do well!



As part of our electricity topic we also went on a trip to Encompass to learn about how electricity can be generated through renewable sources. We enjoyed seeing inside one of the wind turbines and learning about how it works. Thanks to Steve and Rick for sharing their knowledge with us.



Our humanities topic was about life since 1948 which we have found really interesting and have managed to pack a lot in! The highlight was definitely a trip to the Museum where we each chose our

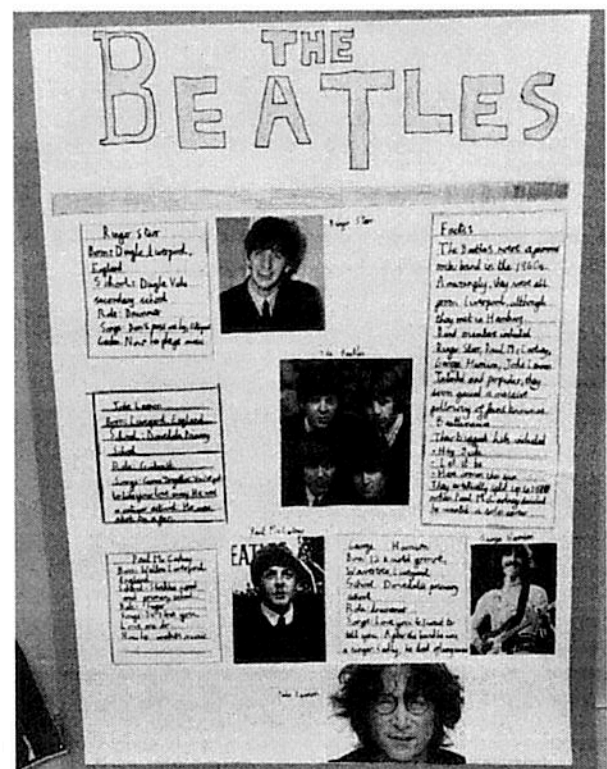
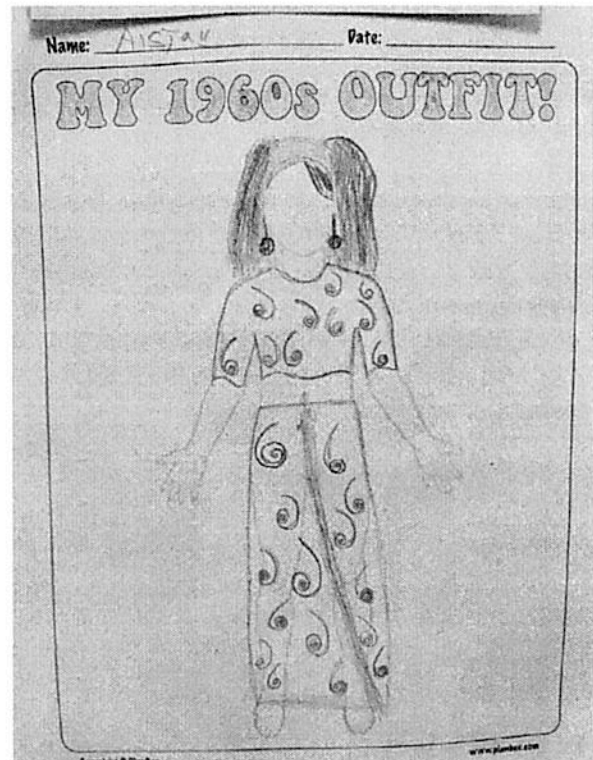


favourite object which we thought told us something important about life since 1948. We did a detailed sketch of our chosen artefact and gave a presentation



to the rest of the class about it. Miss Marina also dug out some interesting photographs from the archive which showed us how fashions have changed over the last few decades. We even recognized some of the local people in the photos and could have spent all day looking at them! Thanks to Miss Marina for making our trip to the museum really fun and interesting.

In English we researched The Beatles, a famous 1960s band and wrote fact-files about them. We loved learning about and listening to their music. We also learned about the Windrush generation and wrote diary entries from the perspective of an immigrant coming to Britain to help rebuild the country after the war, and the challenges they would have faced. Another thing we really enjoyed about this topic was researching fashion from the 1960s and designing our own 1960s outfits!





## Jubilee Celebrations

It was wonderful to see so many of our pupils participating in, and enjoying, the Jubilee celebrations last week.



The main celebrations began on Thursday evening with the lighting of the beacon. Primary children opened the celebrations with an Capella performance of "Here's to the Queen", which was followed by an instrumental piece by Georgia Meth and Liana Brogdon-Sim. A trio of Secondary Girls Rhiann Young-Benjamin, Jordan Reynolds and Adele Thomas sang a beautiful version of "Count on Me". The final secondary recital of the evening came from Liana who performed an outstanding solo violin piece. The performances were closed by the primary children who sang "The Jubilee Song".

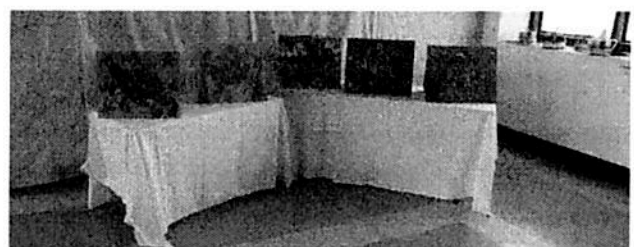
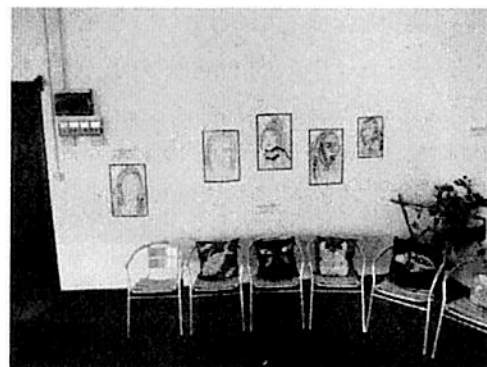
The children had spent a lot of time perfecting their acts for the evening and performed beautifully for a large audience – well done!



On Friday, some children along with their families and teachers formed a "walking talking float" to lead the vehicle floats out on their tour of the island. Wearing the bright Union Jack colours of red, white and blue, as well as being equipped with whistles, banners and flags, the group was quite a spectacle and the perfect complement to the main floats.



Our Art and Craft Exhibition were opened to the public from Friday morning and was visited by many during Sunday's street party. Masterpieces from all children were on display, showcasing the work of our many talented young artists. In some cases it was so difficult for our judges to decide on the best piece that second places were also awarded. Well done to all of our children for taking part. The winners and runners up for each category can be found on the next page.





---

**Art and Craft Exhibition Winners and Runners Up**

**Class Entries:**

**Nursery/Reception – Theo Francis**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place – Kenzie Ellis-Thomas**

**Key Stage 1 – Caleb Lawrence**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place – Carla Phillips**

**Key Stage 2 – Madisyn Young**

**Year 7 -Kaelyn Hudson**

**Joint with Kaia Reynolds-Lawrence**

**Year 8 – Rhiann Benjamin**

**Year 9 – Liana Brogdon-Sim**

**Home Entries:**

**Nursery/Reception – Meeah Ellick**

**Key Stage 1 – Breckin Constantine**

**Key Stage 2 – Tanzi Beard**

**Key Stage 3 – Jordan Reynolds**

**My Kind of Art (primary) – Aisja Beard-Joshua**

**My Kind of Art (secondary) - Nathan Hudson**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place: Jordan Reynolds**

**Writing Competition - Kiara Fowler**

**Public Vote for best artwork – Kylie Yon-Henry**

## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

Clerk of Council's Office  
Ascension Island  
South Atlantic Ocean  
ASCN 1ZZ



[pa.admin@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:pa.admin@ascension.gov.ac)

+ (247) 67000 ext 100

[www.ascension.gov.ac](http://www.ascension.gov.ac)

### Informal meeting of the Ascension Island Council

10:00 on Thursday 19 May 2022 at the Courthouse

#### MEETING SUMMARY

Present: HH Sean Burns, Administrator  
Catherine Leo, Acting Director of Resources  
Matthew James, Crown Counsel

Councillor Alan Nicholls  
Councillor Nicholas John  
Councillor Andrew Ellick  
Councillor Kitty George  
Councillor Douglas Miller

In attendance: Francesca Bennett, Clerk to Council  
Alasdair Bain, Policy, Projects and Communications Officer  
Carl Mackerras, Head of the Administrator's Office [Remotely]  
Dr Bill Hardy, Senior Medical Officer

Apologies:

The Administrator welcomed all parties. The Administrator welcomed the Crown Counsel, Matthew James who has recently arrived on Island.

**COVID-19 Emergence Strategy:** The Administrator explained that there has been ongoing work on a Covid-19 Emergence Strategy that will enable Ascension to adapt to move from the position it is currently in, whereby quarantine protocols are in place to keep Covid-19 from entering the community, to a position whereby the territory adjusts to living with Covid-19 as a community illness. The Administrator informed that there have been extensive consultations on this with employers and off Island partners (such as SHG and the UK Health Security Agency). A number of criteria have been identified that need to be met before quarantine requirements are removed. However, it was confirmed that assuming these are met, it is anticipated that the Island will no longer require quarantine on arrival from 01 August 2022. The Administrator confirmed that it is not known whether St Helena will also remove quarantine requirements along the same timelines, which could result in people from Ascension having to quarantine on arrival in St Helena. The Policy, Projects and Communications Officer explained that there have been ongoing discussions to find the best possible options for removing quarantine and introducing Covid-19 in a managed way, and dealing appropriately with the consequences of doing so. The Policy, Projects and Communications Officer confirmed that Ascension Island is already in a very good position from the perspective of the individual, with the majority of the public having been vaccinated. It is also in a good position at a community level whereby Island organisations are making preparations for the change to ensure that critical business functions can continue during the transition. The Policy, Projects and Communications Officer reported that officials have been in contact with the Falkland Islands who had confirmed that they have had 1500 confirmed cases thus far out of a population of 3600 and no hospitalisations due to severe Covid-19 illness. This follows the removal of quarantine restrictions on 04 May, although it was noted that their outbreak began on 15 April following the virus escaping quarantine protocols. It was noted that there have been temporary interruptions to the operations of some smaller businesses that did not have the kind of resilience that larger organisations would have due to the high numbers of infections in such a short period of time. Given that with vaccination the risk to an individual from Covid-19 is now far lower than it once was, the primary aim for Ascension is to slow the spread of infections following the removal of quarantine so that there will not be a large number of people with Covid-19 at the same time.

The Policy, Projects and Communications Officer explained that the Covid-19 testing will change once quarantine is removed. Testing will only be done on those that are symptomatic and have arranged a test with Health Care workers. If a positive test is returned that person would be expected to isolate. They will be provided with a

number of lateral flow tests (LFTs) and if otherwise well (i.e. they no longer have symptoms) will be directed to begin retesting after five days. If they return two successive negative results (one conducted by a healthcare worker) they will be advised they no longer need to isolate, but if they provide ongoing positive results they will be expected to isolate for up to 10 days. The clinics at both military bases have generously offered to help with Covid-19 testing to increase the testing team's resilience. The public will not be required to isolate under law but it is expected this will be relatively self-policing among the community. There could be critical workers who test positive but could still go to work if they are otherwise healthy (i.e. they are positive but feel fine and don't have any symptoms), but this would need to be done in a risk assessed way to try and avoid them passing on the infection to others. Outside of work they would still be expected to isolate in line with guidance. The Policy, Projects and Communications Officer stated that there will be no mandate for public health measures, such as social distancing and wearing a mask, and that it would be left to individuals and companies to consider whether or not they wanted to observe these.

The Senior Medical Officer explained that the majority of the public have been vaccinated and have received their booster therefore it would not be practical to wait any longer than 01 August 2022 to stop quarantine, as to do so later in the year would be when immunity in individuals may be lower. They confirmed that there will be a second booster offered to persons over the age of 60, and AIG had requested through the FCDO that the UK government provide additional vaccines to enable everyone to have a second booster to optimise the Island community's vaccination status ahead of the changes coming into effect. The Senior Medical Officer clarified that it would not be effective if the quarantine time is reduced as opposed to no longer requiring to quarantine, as reducing quarantine times would mean that Covid-19 would quickly become established in the community anyway and then authorities would be requiring people to quarantine on arrival despite Covid-19 already circulating. The Senior Medical Officer confirmed that there have been full vaccinations for children aged five to 11, with excellent uptake across this cohort. In terms of what vaccinated people should expect from Covid-19, he explained that initially most people are likely to feel otherwise well or experience a mild illness. From observing the experiences of other territories that have removed quarantine, it is expected that a high number of infections will be observed within a three to six week period. As this could see a high level of absenteeism from work, the primary function of the proposed measures are to maintain critical services and functions while the island transitions from having no Covid-19 to living with Covid-19 as a community illness. The Senior Medical Officer explained that the idea around self-isolation is those that test positive are likely to be contagious, although it doesn't mean that others aren't. Therefore it makes sense to expect those people to isolate to prevent them infecting too many others, which could otherwise lead to many people being absent from work at once. The Senior Medical Officer informed that the hospital will continue its function and staff will use high level masks and virus control measures. If the hospital saw a large number of staff becoming unwell then as a contingency the implementation of staffing measures used over festive periods may be considered, whereby services are temporarily limited to mainly emergencies.

Councillor Nicholls asked what would happen if a considerable amount of people became seriously ill, how would the hospital cope. The Senior Medical Officer confirmed that although unlikely, if we do have people that are seriously ill the hospital has additional facilities and supplies to cope. The majority of people would have cold like symptoms for about a week which can be safely and effectively managed at home without the need for intervention from healthcare workers; although the hospital could offer homebased care if needed and medication packs will also be available. The Senior Medical Officer confirmed that the hospital will not be divided between Covid-19 and non-Covid-19 care as are the current protocols. Councillor George queried if the specific Covid-19 therapeutic medicines had a long shelf life and if the stock will increase. The Senior Medical officer confirmed that the medicine does have a long shelf life and there are enough in stock for 20 courses of treatment. The therapeutic medicines are not a first line treatment; these medicines will only be used in cases where individuals are at high risk for developing severe illness. Despite the significant number of infections in the Falkland's, colleagues there have advised that as yet none of their therapeutic treatments have been deployed, despite a number of highly vulnerable persons having tested positive for Covid-19 (such as transplant patients).

Discussions continued around additional facilities, supplies, vaccinations and possible ways of communicating information to the public. Councillor George raised concern about the December inter-island flights, stating that if St Helena does not change their quarantine protocols before that time, then people travelling to St Helena on the 18 December 2022 will then be in quarantine for Christmas Day. Councillor George asked if it was possible to change the flight dates to avoid quarantine over the festive period. The Policy, Project and Communications Officer confirmed that AIG would have a discussion with SHG. Councillor Ellick questioned the anticipated cost of the Covid-19 emergence strategy. The Acting Director of Resources confirmed that the Senior Medical Officer has submitted a bid for facilitating this, such as enabling the testing protocols proposed, which will be taken to the



Finance Committee. A discussion was had around the supply of PPE for organisations, where it was noted that all organisations had already made provision previously for PPE and had been advised to reconsider this ahead of the removal of quarantine requirements. Councillor John raised concern about who would be covering the cost of quarantine in St Helena if they do not change their quarantine policy. Councillor John queried whether one oxygen machine would be adequate. The Senior Medical Officer confirmed that the oxygen machine is industrial and produces unlimited amount of oxygen which can be stored in oxygen tanks, and that the hospital had procured a number of smaller portable oxygen generating machines for use on patients if needed.

The matters arising were addressed via the **actions tracker** and current topics discussed were as follows:

**Employment Ordinance Implementation:** The Administrator confirmed that further advice had been received from the Attorney-General's Chambers on 05 May 2022. The advice received had raised some further questions regarding the format of the legislation. The Administrator explained that the Policy Projects and Communications Officer had been in discussions with the Attorney-General's Chambers over the past few months regarding a number of issues that they had highlighted, which had now been addressed. The Administrator then explained that following his arrival the Crown Counsel had raised some further minor concerns around the presentation of the legislation in its current form. Following this, the Attorney-General's Chambers had then flagged additional concerns on how the overall Ordinance is currently structured and suggested this be reviewed in light of the other work underway on the legislation. The Crown Counsel confirmed that the reason for these amendments was to provide scope for future edits to be made to the legislation in the most appropriate way possible, and therefore provide suitable flexibility for the legislation to remain relevant and effective for the long term. The Crown Counsel confirmed that there are no changes at all to with the content of the agreed policy but explained the implications with the layout, confirming that none of the provisions currently included would be undermined or adapted, and that the amendments would still ensure that the legislation reflected the Policy on the Regulation of Employment in Ascension. The Administrator confirmed that a new timeline had been agreed with the Attorney-General's Chambers for these amendments, and agreed that an update would be provided for councillors by end May 2022. It was proposed that the upcoming formal meeting of the Ascension Island Council be postponed to 10 June 2022 and that consideration could be given to the amendments by councillors ahead of the meeting. If all were agreeable, a recommendation could then be sought at the 10 June meeting and if recommended the legislation could be signed into law by the Governor thereafter. Councillors expressed their disappointment that the Employment Ordinance implementation remains outstanding. The Crown Counsel and the Administrator reassured Councillors that the Employment Ordinance is a priority and once the draft is circulated, encouraged councillors to study the legislation carefully and take up the offer of a meeting before 10 June if they needed any further advice. A further discussion was had around the contents of the policy and the changes that would be made to the layout.

The Policy, Projects and Communications Officer stated that the **air travel corridor** protocols has been amended. The SHG recently introduced changes to the Covid-19 entry, quarantine and testing protocols for all arrivals to St Helena whereby the requirement for pre-departure testing was removed and PCR testing was only applied on the sixth day of a seven day quarantine protocol. Going forward there will be Covid-19 testing applied to all arrivals from St Helena. The Policy, Projects and Communications Officer explained that doing so will ensure that authorities can remain confident in the quarantine free air travel corridor that is currently in place. This will remain in place until Ascension no longer requires quarantine on arrival from 01 August 2022.

**ITT Process for the buildings previously known as the Obsidian Hotel:** The Administrator reported that following the appointment of the new Crown Counsel a meeting had taken place with SMT colleagues to discuss this matter. However this will be brought back to Councillors to seek a recommendation for further action and to find a clear indication of what will be required of the consultant. Councillor Ellick expressed his disappointment that the visit from UK Government officials has still not gone ahead and the future of Ascension is still unknown. A further discussion was had about progress on the future of Ascension.

Councillor Ellick asked if there had been an accident at the pier and questioned if it had been investigated. The Administrator confirmed there was an accident, not related to any AIG activities, and that it had been investigated.

The Administrator gave an update on the **runway project** reporting that there are just two further delivery ships due, one with aggregate and the other with sand. The asphalt mix for the runway surface had now been approved. It is still currently anticipated that the completion of the runway itself will be mid May 2023 with regular flights

resuming shortly after. Councillor Nicholls questioned if once the runway project has been completed, will the roads be resurfaced. The Administrator confirmed that a quote has been requested from the runway contractors and once received this will need to be considered.

The Acting Director of Resources provided an update on the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** Celebrations. On Friday 27 May 2022, the weekend prior to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee a live Music Gala featuring music throughout the decades for which the Queen has been in reign will be held at Two Boats Club. Saturday 28 May 2022 will be tree planting at Green Mountain National Park, organised by the Conservation and Fisheries Directorate. A Dew Pond (Dewbilee) Run will take place on 29 May 2022. On the evening of Thursday 02 June 2022 there will be the lighting of a beacon at Jubilee View at 21:15. There will be performances by students, the Administrator will give a speech and a reception will follow. Mario Anthony will be the official photographer for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee events. Friday 03 June 2022 will see a service of thanksgiving at St Marys Church as well as the opening of the Arts and Crafts exhibition at the Saints Club, and in the evening there will be a light-up float parade. On Saturday 04 June 2022 the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Garden Party will be held at The Residency. Sunday 05 June 2022 will be the Street Party at Georgetown Square. The final sport for the Platinum Cup is the Tug of war; there will also be various novelty games taking place and stalls. The prizes for the Arts and Crafts and Photography competition will be awarded. At 20:00 there will be a live band followed by a disco. A further discussion was had regarding the criteria for medals for serving frontline members of the Police, Fire, Emergency Services and Armed Forces with five years' service that would be awarded at the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Garden Party at The Residency.

The Administrator proposed a change of date to the 10 June 2022 for the upcoming formal meeting of the Ascension Island Council.

There were six items of **other business**:

- i. **Fixed Penalty Notices:** Councillor George questioned whether it was possible to have Fixed Penalty Notices for minor offences. The Crown Counsel confirmed that this is something that could be looked into, although this would not be a straightforward matter to address and would need careful consideration and policy work to underpin it.
- ii. **Road repairs:** Councillor Ellick raised concern that the roads are in need of repair after the heavy Easter rains. Councillor Ellick informed that he had contacted the Director of Operations and Facilities regarding the cones that were at the Hogan's Bypass / Gannet Road junction and expressed his disappointment that this road did not take priority over the Marty-Wade track. The Administrator asked that this concern be submitted through a Councillor Enquiry Form or through the Public Works Committee.
- iii. **Hospital Clinic Appointments:** Councillor John inquired whether the hospital appointments could return to the past system where the public do not have to book an appointment in advance. Councillor John was encouraged to submit a Councillor Enquiry Form.
- iv. **Visa for those turning 18:** Councillor John queried visa options available for those turning 18. A discussion was had about the various options. The Acting Director of Resources confirmed that it is possible to apply for jobs at the age of 17. The Administrator also confirmed that those that are in post 16 education can apply for a visa extension until the completion of their exams subject to the rules that were agreed and circulated to all in 2020.
- v. **Fire Service update:** Councillor Nicholls questioned if there has been an update regarding the Fire Service. The Administrator confirmed that he has been in discussion with the RAF Commander of Ascension Island Base (CAIB) regarding the contract.
- vi. **Hospital refurbishment:** Councillor Ellick asked if there was an update on the refurbishment of the hospital. The Administrator confirmed that the refurbishment will probably depend on the future of Ascension but noted that the current global difficult financial situation, including in the UK, would make securing funding for large projects very challenging.

The meeting closed at 11:55

Francesca Bennett  
Clerk of Council



## **“Jubilee Ascension Tidy Up” Review**

### **Community and Island partners thanked for “Jubilee Tidy Up” effort**

Last week saw Ascension's community and partners join together in the “Jubilee Ascension Tidy Up” project.

As part of the Government's 2022/2023 work programme, a number of projects and activities are scheduled to take place with a view to improving public facilities around the island.

However, in the run up to the forthcoming Platinum Jubilee celebrations, AIG, members of the public and key organisations came together to help improve the general look of the island via the “Jubilee Ascension Tidy Up” project.

Many individuals tidied up in and around their accommodation as part of the project, which was significantly boosted with the involvement of island partners such as the RAF detachment, Encompass, DIO team, Mitie, CSO and Sure. This partner activity was spread across the island's settlements and at the Airhead as can be seen in the pictures below. In the run up to the Jubilee Tidy Up, the US Space Force introduced an impressive new signage package at the base entrances, had new curbs installed along the main roads and new clinker spread over many open areas and parking lots on base.

In addition to this substantial activity by these partners, there was also an array of different clean-up activities including a community litter pick, a Post Office clean up plus team members from the Administrators office, AIG Resources and Stores took part in activities in and around Georgetown.

The team effort across AIG was underlined by the Conservation and Fisheries Directorate team cutting or treating an amazing 331 trees or bushes in Georgetown, whilst the Operations and Facilities Directorate did a significant amount of work in both Georgetown and Two Boats.

AIG would like to thank everyone and all the organisations that took part in this community event, especially members of the public, Encompass, the RAF detachment, US Space Force, DIO team, Mitie, CSO, Sure and AIG colleagues.

Here are a few pictures of some of the great activity that took place.



*The RAF detachment and DIO team collected an amazing 12 bags of rubbish on their litter and rubbish pick between the Air Head Base HQ and the USAF Site,*



*Before and after pictures of some of the great work by the Encompass team*



*CSO and AIG team members after picking up litter and clearing plants around Two Boats*

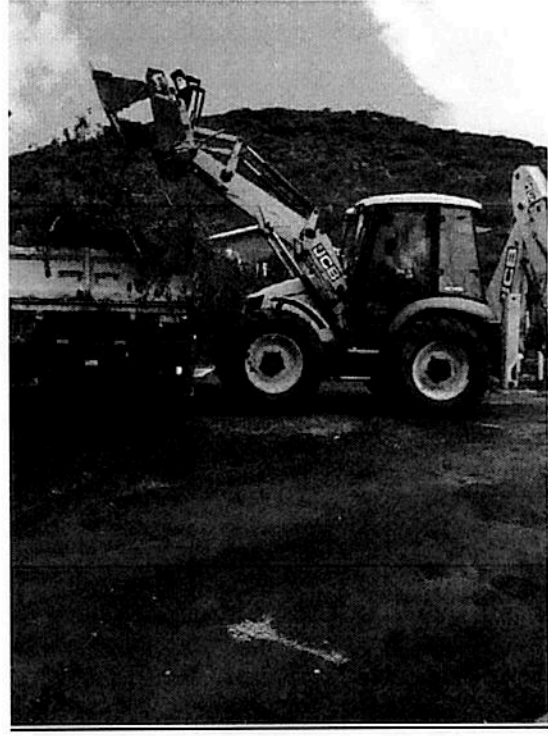


*The Sure team spruced up the area outside their offices by tidying up bushes at the front of the office and painting curbs*



*AIG cut or treated 331 trees and bushes in Georgetown.*





*AIG team members teamed up with colleagues from Encompass to clear large areas of Two Boats.*



*Some of the impressive new signage at the US Base.*

Operations and Facilities Directorate  
02 June 2022



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

VACANCY NOTICE

## **SCHOOL BUS & PLAYGROUND ATTENDANT**

**£4.95 per hour, 3 hours each day Monday to Friday  
Casual contract for 4 weeks**

**Immediate start**

### **About the role**

We're looking for someone to be the school bus and playground attendant for a period of 4 weeks, to cover a period of leave.

### **What you'll do**

You'll provide supervision on the daily school bus run, between approximately 7.50am and 8.10am and 3pm and 3.30pm (from Two Boats to Georgetown and return) and for one hour playground supervision for primary students between 12.30 and 1.30pm. The role is Monday to Friday, and you will be reimbursed for 3 hours per day, 5 days per week.

### **What you'll bring**

You'll bring a positive and welcoming manner to the school students as they arrive for and end the school day, and ensure their safety boarding and disembarking the school bus. You'll also supervise the primary section over their lunch breaks and will ensure their safety and welfare.

### **What we offer**

This is a short-term casual contract to cover a period of leave. The hourly rate of pay is therefore £4.95 per hour. A criminal records check within the past 6 months would be required, or a new one if the existing check is older than 6 months.

**For more information, please contact**

**Tania Maggott, School Head Teacher on 66155 or call the HR Department on 67000 x150.**

## **MAIL NOTICE**

**Airmail and Surface Airlift (SAL) to Great Britain  
will close on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 12 Noon.**



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT  
~ TWO BOATS SCHOOL ~



## VACANCY NOTICE

### Secondary Teacher (Science)

September 2022 start – 2-year fixed term contract

#### About the role

Two Boats School is a delightful primary and secondary school on the beautiful and tiny island of Ascension in the South Atlantic. We have approximately 70 students between the ages of 3-16 (Primary 40, Secondary 30) and we offer a range of subjects up to IGCSE level. The school has just recently being through a COBIS audit and has been granted Compliance status with 5 commendations. Two Boats School is a happy school, with a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. Students are well behaved; keen to learn and achieve. Staff are committed to the pastoral wellbeing of their students, as well as their academic success. There is a friendly and family like atmosphere in the school. Parents appreciate the work of the school and feel that their children are cared for in all aspects of their school life.

#### What you'll do

We have a vacancy for a Secondary Teacher to teach Science (Primarily KS3 Science with some GCSE lessons) with effect from the start of the new academic year September 2022 term. Due to the size of the school, teachers are required to teach other subjects. The ability and willingness to teach Music, Drama or PSHE would be an advantage. Travel to Ascension would be during the last week of August 2022.

#### What you'll bring

With ideally 2-3 years' experience, you'll hold qualified teacher status, ideally to St Helenian, UK or IB standards. You'll have strong interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written) and you'll be excited and passionate about working as part of a small team of professionals making a big difference to the education and development of children on Ascension Island.

#### What we offer

**In addition to an annual salary of between £20,750 and £22,300 – dependent on qualifications and experience (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts accompanied status contracts and the following benefits:**

- Rent free accommodation (with Accompanied or Single status electricity and water allowances)
- An Accompanied status food allowance of £6,700 per annum (or if Single status £3,350)
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including the shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2 year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care

#### The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Enhanced Criminal Records Check and Teacher Status checks
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance (employee and any accompanying dependents)

#### What's it like to work on Ascension?

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). We are part of the wider British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, situated approximately 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and 800 miles from our nearest neighbour, the island of St Helena. Ascension Island has no right of abode, so all people living on the island are employees or dependents of one of the organisations here. Children accompanying parents up to the age of 18 are dependents, following which they are either required to take up their own employment on the island, or move away.

Travel to and from the island is a challenge, even more so with current travel restrictions worldwide. A charter flight travels to Ascension via St Helena from South Africa, and returns, approximately every 4 weeks. To thrive here on this unique, challenging and beautiful island, you must be resilient, adaptable and able to live and work in an incredibly small community.

**Closing date: Friday 8 July 2022**

**First stage interviews: w/c 11 July by Skype**

**Required start date: Requirement to fly to Ascension from the UK or St Helena w/c 22 August 2022 to board flight from South Africa / St Helena on 27 August 2022**

**For more information, a full job description, and to apply visit: [www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/](http://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/) If you have any queries about the role, email [recruitment@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:recruitment@ascension.gov.ac)**





## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

### VACANCY NOTICE

# Team Leader – Minor Works and Projects

£16,100, Single or Accompanied status, free accommodation plus other benefits

#### About the role

We're recruiting an experienced construction projects team leader to join us as Minor Works and Projects Team Leader, to manage a multi-skilled workforce responsible for undertaking all building and civils, non-routine maintenance work.

#### What you'll do

You'll be planning, estimating, allocating resources, supervising and organising all works requests relating to Minor Works / Projects, maintaining high quality delivery and health & safety standard, in accordance with programme schedules, performance specification and budgets. You'll be managing and motivating a team of multi-skilled trades employees, ensuring high working standards are maintained.

#### What you'll bring

You'll have a qualification in the construction trade or be an experienced tradesperson with a sound practical knowledge of building works & equipment and within the construction industry generally. Strong leadership and management and communication skills are essential, and you'll also have minimum basic project management skills and / or knowledge and experience of working and leading projects in the construction sector.

#### What's it like to live and work on Ascension?

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). We are part of the wider British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, situated approximately 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and 800 miles from our nearest neighbour, the island of St Helena. Ascension Island has no right of abode, so all people living on the island are employees or dependents of one of the organisations here. Children accompanying parents up to the age of 18 are dependents, following which they are either required to take up their own employment on the island, or move away. Travel to and from the island is a challenge, even more so with recent travel restrictions worldwide. A charter flight travels to Ascension via St Helena from South Africa, and returns, approximately every 4 weeks. To thrive here on this unique, challenging and beautiful island, you must be resilient, adaptable and able to live and work in an incredibly small community.

#### The role attracts Single or Accompanied status contracts and the following benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (with Single or Accompanied status electricity and water allowances)
- Single or Accompanied status food allowance of either £3,350 or £6,700 per annum
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including the shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2 year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care

#### The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance

**Closing Date: Friday 8 July 2022 Interviews: mid July 2022 (by Skype if off island)**

**For more information, job descriptions, and to apply visit:** <https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/>



## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

# VACANCY NOTICE

## Facilities Manager

£25,000 per annum, Single or Accompanied status, free accommodation plus other benefits

### About the role

We're looking to recruit an experienced site / construction / property maintenance leader to join us as Facilities Manager to plan, develop and maintain the island's infrastructure.

### What you'll do

This role is responsible for the range of AIG properties and our estate portfolio, ensuring on-going fitness for purpose through the development and maintenance of a rolling plan. With leadership responsibility for in-house teams, you'll oversee staff, financial and physical resources in line with budget and project cycles, and support and motivate our staff.

### What you'll bring

We welcome applications from an experienced senior manager with a background in site management, construction or property maintenance, with demonstrable experience of estimating, costing, planning and negotiating projects and contracts. With responsibility for leading and motivating a team of technical and operational staff, you'll have experience of successfully managing and motivating teams within a multi-disciplinary environment. Practical experience of using CAD, as well as the full Microsoft suite, is also essential.

### What's it like to live and work on Ascension?

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). We are part of the wider British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, situated approximately 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and 800 miles from our nearest neighbour, the island of St Helena. Ascension Island has no right of abode, so all people living on the island are employees or dependents of one of the organisations here. Children accompanying parents up to the age of 18 are dependents, following which they are either required to take up their own employment on the island, or move away. Travel to and from the island is a challenge, even more so with recent travel restrictions worldwide. A charter flight travels to Ascension via St Helena from South Africa, and returns, approximately every 4 weeks. To thrive here on this unique, challenging and beautiful island, you must be resilient, adaptable and able to live and work in an incredibly small community.

### The role attracts Single or Accompanied status contracts and the following benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (with Single or Accompanied status electricity and water allowances)
- Single or Accompanied status food allowance of either £3,350 or £6,700 per annum
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including the shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2 year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care

### The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance

**Closing Date: Friday 8 July 2022 Interviews: mid July 2022 (by Skype if off island)**

**For more information, job descriptions, and to apply visit:** <https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/>



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

## VACANCY NOTICE

### PAINTER / GLAZIER

£10,100 per annum, single status, free accommodation plus other benefits

#### About the role

We're looking for a skilled painter / glazier to work on the interior and exterior decoration of our buildings.

#### What you'll do

You'll carry out interior and exterior decoration, including preparations, reporting defects and painting/decorating. You'll also carry out window glazing / reglazing duties, jointing of plasterboard and assist with erecting scaffolding and staging for works.

#### What you'll bring

You'll have previous experience of painting / decorating duties and may also have gained a qualification in this area. You'll have a good level of fitness, which will include the ability to lift reasonable weights, work at heights and in varying temperature and work conditions. You'll also have a high level of attention to detail and will be able to work both independently and as part of a team.

#### What we offer

We are offering a 24 month, single status, contract with a salary of £10,100 per year (taxable in Ascension). You will also receive the following benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (with electricity and water allowances)
- A food allowance of £3,350 per year
- Relocation costs for your personal effects
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care

---

**Closing Date:** Thursday 30 June 2022

**Interviews:** Early July 2022 (by Skype if not on island)

#### Appointment will be subject to satisfactory:

- DBS Check
- Employment References
- Medical Clearance

**For more information, job descriptions, and to apply visit:** <https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/>

**If you have questions about either of the roles, please email** [recruitment@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:recruitment@ascension.gov.ac)



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

## VACANCY NOTICE

# DNA Biomonitoring Project Officer

£14,625 per annum, single status, free accommodation plus other benefits

### About the role

Do you have a passion for marine conservation? We are looking for a *DNA Biomonitoring Project Officer* to join our Conservation Team. This is an exciting opportunity to deliver a Darwin Plus-funded collaborative project between the Ascension Island Government (AIG) Marine Conservation Team, University of Edinburgh and the Natural History Museum, London, to develop and conduct molecular genetic testing to support ongoing conservation efforts on Ascension Island.

Ascension Island supports a very unique ecosystem including an unknown diversity of marine and terrestrial invertebrates. Accurate identification of these species is essential to determine their distribution, habitat associations and ecological interactions. Distinguishing native from non-native species and identifying the most high risk non-natives is also vital for effective biosecurity responses. Modern molecular techniques will enable this through the development of reference sequence barcodes, analysis tools and provision of training in DNA metabarcoding techniques.

### What you'll do

You'll join our small team on Ascension Island and help develop capacity in molecular biomonitoring at our newly-established laboratory. The project officer will work closely with project partners to develop and conduct molecular genetic testing and provide training to support conservation efforts on Ascension Island. Ascension Island is a challenging environment to live and work in, so you will need to be resilient and adaptable in order to thrive.

### What you'll bring

We are looking for someone with a background in conservation and well developed molecular skills who holds MSC in Biology, Environmental Science or equivalent vocational experience. You'll have a sound knowledge of molecular techniques, including conducting DNA extraction and PCR. Experience of conducting eDNA metabarcoding workflow and bioinformatics and analysis is also desirable.

### What we offer

We are offering a 24 month, single status, contract with a salary of £14,625.00 per year (taxable in Ascension). You will also receive the following benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (with electricity and water allowances)
- A food allowance of £3,350 per year
- Relocation costs for your personal effects
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care

**Closing Date: 1 July 2022, Interviews: Early July 2022 (by Skype if not on island)**

### Appointment will be subject to satisfactory:

- Enhanced DBS Check
- Employment References
- Medical Clearance

**To for more information and to apply for this role, visit:** <https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/> **For more information about the Ascension Island Government Conservation and Fisheries Directorate, or about living and working on Ascension Island, please visit the official website at** [www.ascension.gov.ac/conservation](http://www.ascension.gov.ac/conservation) **or find us on Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/AscensionIslandConservation](https://www.facebook.com/AscensionIslandConservation) **or email:** [recruitment@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:recruitment@ascension.gov.ac)



**Temporary Administrative Assistant**  
**Atlantic Relay Station**

**£5.46 per hour, with Flexible or Part-Time arrangements available**

Encompass Digital Media Services has a vacancy for a Temporary Administrative Assistant at the BBC Atlantic Relay Station on Ascension Island for maternity leave cover from July until October 2022.

The post holder will form part of the Stores Team and will be based at the Power Station. Duties will include Stores and Procurement, planned maintenance reporting and the coordination of station vehicle usage and maintenance.

**This post is being offered on Household Status basis and can be flexible/part time. Interested parties are requested to get in touch for further discussion around practical working arrangements.**

***Essential Qualifications & Experience***

- Proven ability and experience of general office routines and duties
- GCSE Math and English at Grade C and above
- Good organisational and time management skills
- IT literate – competent in all Microsoft office and email applications
- The ability to use one's own initiative
- Excellent communications skills
- Full driving licence - Class A
- Be physically fit

***Desirable Qualifications/Experience***

- Full driving licence - Class B
- Experience working in a procurement/Stores related environment
- Manual Handling Training

Further Qualifications/Experience requirements are detailed in the job description.

A copy of the **Job Description** can be obtained from the Admin Office on the contact details given below.

Please contact Anna Cox on 66800 (Ext 102) or email [Anna.Cox@encompass.co.ac](mailto:Anna.Cox@encompass.co.ac) for an Application Form, Job Description or for further information regarding the post.

Applications to be sent to:

Anna Cox  
BBC Atlantic Relay Station  
English Bay  
Ascension Island (or email [Anna.Cox@encompass.co.ac](mailto:Anna.Cox@encompass.co.ac))

Applications should be submitted on an Encompass job application form, and must be received by **4.30pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**



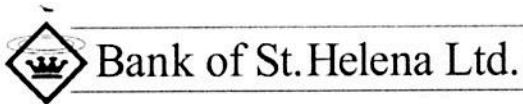
# DEPARTING ASCENSION ISLAND?




If you are departing Ascension on completion of contract and do not hold St-Helenian Status or meet our eligibility criteria, please ensure your account with the Bank is closed before departure as required in our Terms and Conditions.


To close your account, please complete a 'Close Account Form' with the Branch or complete the form online through the Bank's official website [www.sainthelenabank.com/close-account-request/](http://www.sainthelenabank.com/close-account-request/).

For more information please contact the Ascension Branch on 66123 or email [sthelenabank@atlantis.co.ac](mailto:sthelenabank@atlantis.co.ac).



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


 [info@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:info@sainthelenabank.com)

 +290 22390

 [www.sainthelenabank.com](http://www.sainthelenabank.com)

 Market Street, Jamestown

 @sainthelenabank

 Bank of St Helena Ltd



## GBP STERLING

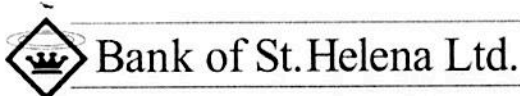
### RECALL DATE FOR PAPER NOTES

Customers are reminded the cut-off date for the £20 and £50 Paper Sterling (shown below) at the Ascension Branch is Thursday, 30th June 2022.


£20 Paper Note



£50 Paper Note



 [info@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:info@sainthelenabank.com)

 +290 22390

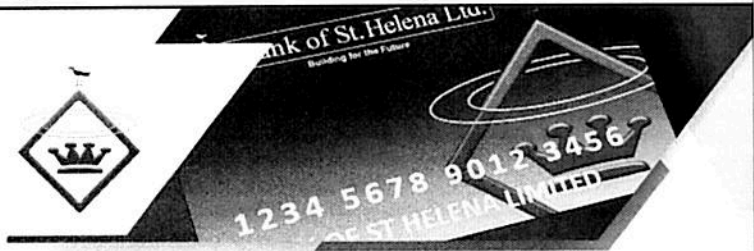
 [www.sainthelenabank.com](http://www.sainthelenabank.com)

 Market Street, Jamestown

 @sainthelenabank

 Bank of St Helena Ltd

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



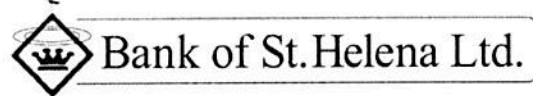
## APPLY FOR YOUR FREE LOCAL DEBIT CARD

*Local Debit Cards can be used in the Bank for Cash Withdrawals and Pay-in transactions.*


*Have you registered for your Card yet?*

Apply online at [www.sainthelenabank.com/local-debit-card](http://www.sainthelenabank.com/local-debit-card) or visit the Ascension Branch in Georgetown.

**Local Debit Cards - Making Banking Better**





 [info@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:info@sainthelenabank.com)

 +290 22390

 [www.sainthelenabank.com](http://www.sainthelenabank.com)

 Market Street, Jamestown

 @sainthelenabank

 Bank of St Helena Ltd

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



# Met Office Ascension Island Base

## The Met Office Weather Report

### Met Office





#### Statistics for the week ending Monday, 13 June 2022

Location	Max (Celsius)	Min (Celsius)	Rainfall (mm)
AIRHEAD	30.7	22.7	7.7
TRAVELLERS HILL	N/A	20.3	14.9
RESIDENCY	N/A	18.0	17.2
GEORGETOWN	N/A	N/A	N/A
ST. HELENA	22.5	15.0	15.2
FALKLANDS	11.3	-6.8	12.1
UK (Brize Norton)	31.1	8.0	10.6

#### Tide Times & Georgetown Pierhead/English Bay Swell Outlook

Day	Swell	High Tide		Low Tide		Sun		Moon		Moon Phase
						Rise	Set	Set	Rise	
Wed, 22 Jun	1.8 m	01:08	13:19	06:53	20:02	07:09	18:49	14:04	01:47	
Thu, 23 Jun	1.9 m	02:14	14:20	08:02	20:55	07:09	18:49	14:44	02:33	
Fri, 24 Jun	1.8 m	03:10	15:13	09:03	21:39	07:10	18:50	15:24	03:20	
Sat, 25 Jun	1.8 m	03:56	15:59	09:56	22:18	07:10	18:50	16:06	04:07	
Sun, 26 Jun	1.6 m	04:37	16:40	10:41	22:53	07:10	18:50	16:51	04:55	
Mon, 27 Jun	1.4 m	05:14	17:17	11:22	23:26	07:10	18:50	17:38	05:45	
Tue, 28 Jun	1.3 m	05:49	17:53	12:00	23:59	07:10	18:50	18:28	06:36	

#### Moon Phase Key

 New Moon	 First Quarter	 Full Moon	 Last Quarter
--	---	---	--

For more detailed information, including swimming and swell warnings, please contact the Met Office on Ext: 3317



## News from Tristan da Cunha

On Whit Monday the whole community enjoyed the day off work as it was a public holiday. It was a delightful day as the island celebrated the 5th baby, a little boy, born at the Camogli Healthcare Centre.

We had a really stormy week of thunder, heavy seas, rain and hail. There is also snow on top of the mountain. I'm sure winter is finally here.

A presentation was held on Friday at Prince Philip Hall to talk about the MPZ & Atlantic Guardians and how it is so important to protect our oceans. Our island has the world's 4th biggest Marine Protection Zone in the Atlantic. Refreshments were served afterwards. A lovely cake iced with the Atlantic Guardians logo was made especially for the occasion.

After 13 days the weather was calm enough on Sunday to enable the MV Lance to discharge cargo. There were showers of rain and everyone had to wrap up warm to get the cargo offloaded. We only received one bag of mail with this ship but will be sending out four bags filled with stamp & souvenir orders and gift packages to friends & family. Today is such a beautiful day to finish offloading the ship. Although the sun is out there is still a chill in the air. Hopefully passengers will board later today and MV Lance will be on her way to CT.

### Population Update 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Following the departure of the MFV Lance

**There are 241 Tristan da Cunha Islanders.**

**Presently, 24 Resident Islanders are overseas.**

**There are an additional 25 people living on the island, including expatriate workers and their families and visitors.**

**So there are 242 people currently living on Tristan da Cunha or visiting the surrounding islands.**

**Occasionally there are changes to the resident islander total as people re-gain or lose residency status.**

#### Tristan Resident Family Totals

Surname	Male	Female	Total
Collins	0	1	1
Glass	14	17	31
Green	32	31	63
Hagan	2	5	7
Lavarello	5	7	12
Repetto	18	22	40
Rogers	13	13	26
Squibb	2	2	4
Swain	25	32	57
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>241</b>



## TEMPORARY HOME WANTED FOR LILY



Lily who has just turned 8 years old is a lovely family dog who is moving from St Helena to the Falkland Islands.

She is from Saint Helena and is roughly the size of a Labrador.

Lily is very affectionate and loves belly rubs. She is house trained and obedient and is very good on the lead. Lily loves going for walks and is used to children as she lives in a household with a 10 yr old and 12 yr old.

She is no trouble at all and is a very good companion.

Marc and Sarah Lockley are looking for someone to look after her on Ascension from 12th September until 27th October

If you are happy to help, please contact Sarah on [jimmy\\_lockley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jimmy_lockley@yahoo.co.uk)

## Temporary home for Greyhound Lucy and Staghound Milo



Julie Bowers, husband Michael and son Finn have returned to St Helena after St Helenian Julie has been living overseas for over 30 years.

Their beloved pets Lucy (an 8 year old retired racing Greyhound) and Milo (a 3 year old goofy staghound cross) are also making the journey from Melbourne Australia to St Helena. However the dogs move is a much longer one as they had to travel to the UK first to complete the approval process for import to the Islands. Lucy and Milo are due to arrive in Ascension on 9<sup>th</sup> July and will remain on the Island until 12 September when they board the MV Helena to St Helena.

Whilst a long and difficult trip for them, Julie and Michael know the dogs will love their new Island home and are now looking for some fostering help on Ascension for the period 9<sup>th</sup> July to 12<sup>th</sup> September.

The dogs are a bonded pair and Mike & Julie are ideally looking for a person or family to take them both for their Ascension stay. That said, it may be possible to split them as long as they get to see each other often. Lucy is a mature and happy girl and whilst Greyhounds are known for their speed, they are incredibly lazy and Lucy only needs a 20-30 min walk per day. They spend the rest of the time sleeping or looking for cuddles. Milo is a big silly boy who adores Lucy and is extremely friendly. Like Lucy he gets a 20-30 min walk per day but has the stamina to go longer if need be. The home we are looking for would need to be able to give them some secure outdoor access and not have cats. Would also suit a home that has older children as they are bigger dogs (+35kg) and may knock little ones over.

They are awesome dogs and anyone who fosters them will not regret it and will miss them when they do make the final connection to St Helena. If you can help please contact Mike and Julie on [jmormrod2000@gmail.com](mailto:jmormrod2000@gmail.com)

**Are you able to assist?**



## TWO BOATS CLUB

Telephone 64621/64610/64439 E-mail: [twoboatsclub@atlantis.co.ac](mailto:twoboatsclub@atlantis.co.ac)

Lunch is served Monday-Friday 12-2pm. Menu consists of burgers, toasties, chicken, sausages and more. Please call the club or email for a copy of our menu.

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June – Lunch Special

Grouper Bites & Fries - £4.50

Please place your order by 2pm Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Normal daily menu also available

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June

No lunch will be available.

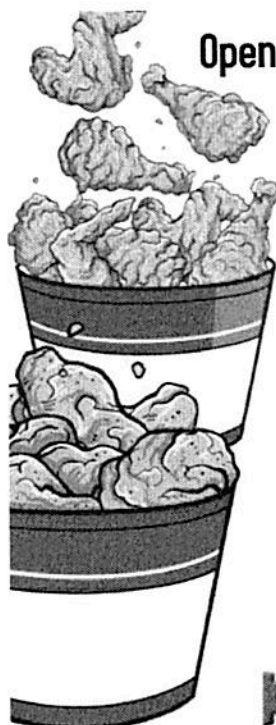
DJ's Smudge & Sid will be entertaining you

Happy hour 7-8pm

Hot food will be on sale from 5-8pm

(pre-order only)

Orders to be placed by 12pm Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June by telephone or email. Please be advised that we will not accept orders after this time.



### Open Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 5pm - 8pm

<b>Meal for 2 Chicken Bucket</b>	<b>£14.00</b>
8pc (2 thighs, 2 legs, 4 wings) crumb chicken, 2 fries & baked beans	
<b>Meal for 1 Chicken Bucket</b>	<b>£7.00</b>
4pc (1 thigh, 1 leg, 2 wings) crumb chicken, fries & baked beans	
<b>6pc Chicken Strips</b>	<b>£5.50</b>
6 pieces southern style chicken strips & fries	
<b>Chicken Wrap &amp; Fries</b>	<b>£5.50</b>
<b>Cheese Burger</b>	<b>£3.80</b>
<b>Bacon &amp; Cheese Burger</b>	<b>£4.20</b>
<b>Mexican Burger</b>	<b>£4.20</b>
<b>Hawaiian Burger</b>	<b>£4.20</b>

### KIDS MEALS

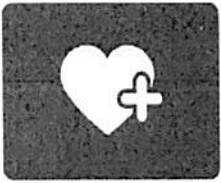


<b>3pc Chicken Strips</b>	<b>£3.50</b>
3 pieces southern style chicken strips & fries	
<b>8pc Chicken Pops</b>	<b>£4.00</b>
8 pieces southern style chicken pops & fries	
<b>Sausage &amp; Fries</b>	<b>£4.00</b>

## What **your dietitian** thinks about...

Dietitians are experts in nutrition. They apply science and evidence to your personal circumstances to prevent or treat disease and improve health and wellbeing. They will consider a range of factors about you to work towards helping you make the right food choices.

AGE AND GENDER



BODY IMAGE



ACTIVITY LEVEL



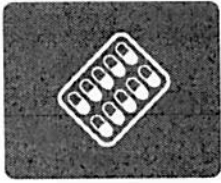
WORK PATTERN



FOOD/NUTRIENTS



EXISTING  
MEDICATION



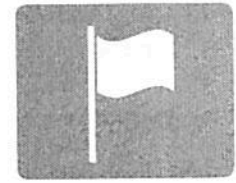
FAMILY &  
LIFESTYLE



ABILITY



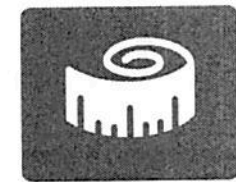
CULTURE



RELIGION & BELIEFS



YOUR BODY SIZE



TASTE &  
EATING HABITS



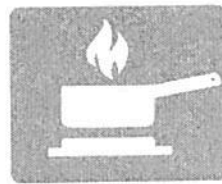
SYMPTOMS &  
CONDITIONS



YOUR  
ENVIRONMENT



COOKING  
SKILLS



YOUR MENTAL  
WELLBEING



Find out more at [bda.uk.com/whatdietitiansdo](http://bda.uk.com/whatdietitiansdo)