

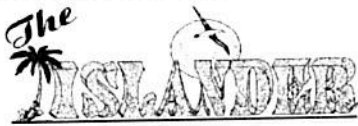
Ascension Island Celebrates...



WHY NOT JOIN THE US BASE FOR A VARIETY SHOWDOWN
TO CELEBRATE AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY...

LOTS TO EAT AND LOTS TO DRINK!!

VISIT THE VOLCANO CLUB ON 9TH JULY AND ENJOY THE MOMENT!



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Georgetown, Ascension Island.

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E-Mail: Islander@atlantis.co.ac

www.the-islander.org.ac

Deadline: 6:00 pm Mondays

The Islander post-box is situated on the
downstairs veranda of the new AIG Offices
(Islander Building).

Deadline for all contributions is
6:00pm on a Monday

Please submit copy on disk/disc
or via e-mail.

Max size for email is 1MB

**Next Edition's Editors: Helen
Printers: Helen**

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THE ISLANDER**

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**IF NO SIZE SPECIFIED- SIZE WILL BE AT
EDITORS DISCRETION**

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

A rather large edition this week!

Today's edition is again
dominated by COVID information
and advice as the island prepares
to open up at the end of July.

Welcome to the newbies, enjoy
your stay on ASI.

And well wishes to those leaving!!

Stay Safe, enjoy the read!

Elaine, Tia and Shelby

MAIL NOTICE

**Mail to St Helena via SA Airlink will close on Wednesday 13th July
at Noon.** Packages to weigh no more than 2kg each.

**Just a reminder that mail to the Falkland Islands will close on
Thursday 7 July at noon.**

Thanks & best Regards
Lisa Young, The Post Office



Met Office Ascension Island Base
The Met Office Weather Report

Met Office

Statistics for the week ending Monday, 04 July 2022

Location	Max (Celsius)	Min (Celsius)	Rainfall (mm)
AIRHEAD	29.5	21.5	3.9
TRAVELLERS HILL	N/A	19.6	12.2
RESIDENCY	N/A	17.9	11.2
GEORGETOWN	N/A	N/A	N/A
ST. HELENA	21.5	14.3	10.8
FALKLANDS	N/A	N/A	N/A
UK (Brize Norton)	20.9	7.4	2.8

Tide Times & Georgetown Pierhead/English Bay Swell Outlook

Day	Swell	High Tide		Low Tide		Sun		Moon		Moon Phase
						Rise	Set	Set	Rise	
Wed, 06 Jul	1.5 m	10:51	23:31	04:20	17:29	07:12	18:52	00:09	12:33	
Thu, 07 Jul	1.3 m	11:50	--:--	05:21	18:30	07:12	18:53	00:56	13:14	
Fri, 08 Jul	1.9 m	00:40	12:55	06:31	19:34	07:12	18:53	01:45	13:58	
Sat, 09 Jul	1.9 m	01:50	14:03	07:46	20:35	07:12	18:53	02:37	14:46	
Sun, 10 Jul	2.7 m	02:54	15:07	08:56	21:32	07:12	18:53	03:34	15:39	
Mon, 11 Jul	2.6 m	03:52	16:07	10:00	22:25	07:12	18:53	04:36	16:39	
Tue, 12 Jul	2.1 m	04:46	17:03	10:58	23:14	07:12	18:54	05:43	17:44	

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



Crown Counsel Begins Role

On 23 March 2022, Matthew James arrived at Ascension to take up the position of Crown Counsel with the AIG. The Crown Counsel is a key position within the government, acting as the main legal representative to AIG on behalf of the St Helena Attorney-General's Chambers, as well as Crown Prosecutor.

Matthew is a barrister, originally from Pembrokeshire in Wales, and has worked in London for the last nine years.



He spent the last four of those working in-house in an advisory role to the Department of Work and Pensions, as part of the Government Legal Department. Matthew led on numerous cases up to Supreme Court level, as well as the design, drafting, and implementation of legislation that socialised funerals for all children in England.

Prior to this he was at the criminal bar, where his practice was mostly defence, but also included undertaking jury trials for the Crown Prosecution Service.

"I'm excited to be on Ascension and am very much looking forward to getting stuck into the job and immersing myself in the community. I've already really enjoyed my time here, as has my wife Emily who arrived in April. In my spare time, I

enjoy trying my hand at most sports and a variety of musical instruments whenever the opportunity presents itself; what I lacks in skill I make up for with enthusiasm (most of the time)."

Matthew was officially sworn in by Administrator Sean Burns on 04 May.

Office of the Administrator
24 June 2022

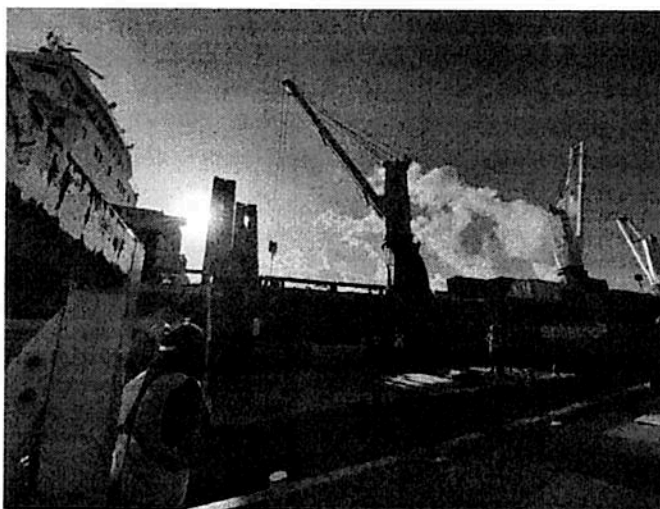


Operations and Facilities Update

June 2022 activity and key projects

This monthly update is designed to help keep the public informed about some of the key tasks currently being delivered by the Operations and Facilities Directorate along with information about critical works and projects that have been, and will be, delivered.

Some of the items mentioned below are done exclusively by the Operations and Facilities Directorate, but many are the product of great team working with our colleagues in the other AIG directorates plus other on island partners.



It took 44 team members three days to unload/backload the Molengracht

Useful things to know

- The next FIRS resupply ship, the **MV Harland Point**, is due to arrive at Ascension from the UK on 09 July.
- The latest aggregate ship, the **SLNC Severn**, has arrived and is likely to be here until early August.

Key activities over the last month

- Creating the Jubilee Beacon.
- Taking part in the Jubilee Tidy Up plan for an island wide clean up ahead of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.
- Setting up the infrastructure for all the major public Jubilee celebrations at the Residency, Georgetown Street Party and Beacon lighting.
- Unloading/loading the Molengracht (the replacement vessel for the normal FIRS ship) and MV Helena. In relation to the Molengracht alone, this process saw 102 items offloaded, including a Fire Engine and 59 containers. 82 containers were loaded onto the vessel.

- Continued working with external contractors regarding the replacement of the Two Boats and Georgetown waste water treatment plants later this year.
- Clearing storm drains in Two Boats.
- Recovering a car that had gone off the road on Hogan's Bypass.
- Investigating possible support for specialist tree maintenance on Green Mountain.
- Installing a pedestrian crossing by the Georgetown Library.
- Supporting 77 Construction's runway work with equipment and an operator.
- Clearing vegetation around the base of the road ramp leading into Chinatown.
- Considering draft recommendations on how to further develop the Sea and Land Rescue service. To find out more about this service's work please see their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/AscensionSeaRescue.
- Continued discussions with officers from the St Helena Government regarding joint working opportunities for recycling across both islands.
- Completing repairs to the Hogan's Bypass and the Marty Wade Track.

Key activities planned for the next few weeks

- Addressing potholes on the road between Georgetown and Two Boats as well as the NASA road and the road adjacent to Travellers.
- Filling in road side gullies.
- Repairing street lights, street light poles and bases in Georgetown.
- Continuing to repair and renewing road markings and signage.
- Unloading and back loading of the FIRS ship in July
- Installing new Cattle Grids at Two Boats in late July.

Longer term plans

- AIG continues to develop plans to carry out major capital projects for 2022/23. These will include:
 - Installing new play equipment at the Two Boats playground.
 - Painting key public buildings in Georgetown.
 - Start a programme of improvement works at the Two Boats School.
 - Refurbishment of the Georgetown swimming pool.
- Installing solar power and new water systems at Hydroponics later this year.

Although normal repair requests and fault reporting should be made to the AIG Help Desk (via 66116 or help.desk@ascension.gov.ac), members of the public who have any general questions about the projects mentioned above, can get in touch with the Director of Operations and Facilities (David Mills) by email through david.mills@ascension.gov.ac.

A further update on these and other activities will be provided next month.

Operations and Facilities Directorate
01 July 2022



Medical and Dental Charging Policy Revised

Workers, dependants and contractors will no longer pay for services accessed

The Employment Ordinance 2022 was introduced into law on Monday 20 June 2022. One of the provisions of the new legislation is that it is the responsibility of the employer to ensure that appropriate medical and dental services are available to their staff and dependants whilst they are in Ascension.

The legislation also requires that any charge for services delivered is not passed on to an employee from their employer. This means that an employer cannot require a worker, accompanying dependent or contractor to contribute financially toward any treatment or care that they receive.

In order to ensure that any charges levied on employers for services provided to their employees are done so fairly, AIG has published the *Policy on Charging for Access to Medical Services*. As the provisions of the new Employment Ordinance were introduced from Monday 20 June, the *Policy on Charging for Access to Medical Services* is applied to any services provided from an AIG medical or dental facility from that date.

The policy introduces the principle of "entitled" and "non-entitled" organisations. An entitled organisation is considered to be any firm that is liable to pay either the Business Levy or Corporation Tax.

Any individual (employee, dependant or contractor) associated with an entitled organisation will receive necessary medical or dental treatment without a fee for that service being charged to their employer. Anyone associated with a non-entitled organisation will still receive necessary medical or dental treatment, following which a fee for that service will be invoiced to their employer.

As noted, where a fee is charged to a non-entitled employer, that employer will not be able to pass this cost back to the individual in question.

Copies of the policy are available online through the AIG website via www.ascension.gov.ac/public-document or through the Administrator's Office in Georgetown.

Office of the Administrator
24 June 2022



Emergency Defibrillators

Several out of service whilst awaiting new batteries

Members of the public will be aware that there are a number of defibrillators positioned in strategic sites around the island. The number of these has recently been increased from seven units to nine, with the two extra new units being positioned at the pier and at the Turtle Ponds BBQ area.

Unfortunately, due to a combination of technical and supply chain challenges, five of the nine sites are currently out of service due to issues with the batteries in the equipment.

The sites currently out of service are as follows:

- Comfortless cove
- Two Boats pool
- North East Bay beach hut
- Exiles Building
- Entrance to the old NASA Site

Sites that remain in service are:

- Pier-head
- Turtle Ponds
- Red Lion / Green Mountain
- English Bay beach BBQ area.

The Sea and Land Rescue Service is addressing this as a priority matter and expect to have it resolved following the arrival of the August FIRS.

As with any emergency, the public are advised to call for assistance by dialling 999 and requesting the service relevant to their emergency by pressing

- 1 for Police and Fire
- 2 for Hospital
- 3 for Sea and Land Rescue

AIG apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Operations and Facilities Directorate
01 July 2022



Armed Forces Day Marked in Ascension

RAF Ensign Flag is flown at Government House

Marked each year on the last Saturday in June to commemorate the service of the UK's armed forces, Saturday 25 June 2022 is Armed Forces Day. In recognition of the special relationship Ascension has with the Armed Forces, the Ascension Island Government is flying the RAF Ensign flag in front of Government House in Georgetown.

AIG is proud to show support for the people that make up the Armed Forces community, both here in Ascension Island and around the world, from currently serving troops to service families, veterans and cadets.



Further information can be found online at www.armedforcesday.org.uk.

Office of the Administrator
25 June 2022



International Pride Month Marked in Ascension

Rainbow flag is flown at Government House

International Pride Month is marked around the world each year during the month of June. To recognise this, the rainbow flag is being flown outside of Government House in Georgetown during the last week of June.

Pride month aims to celebrate the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and others (LGBTQ+) communities, countering the historical social stigma and feelings of shame that was imposed on many and in some cases still are to this day.

The rainbow flag is a symbol of LGBTQ+ social movements. Also known as the gay pride flag or LGBT pride flag, it has been in use in various forms since the 1970s with the colours reflecting the diversity of the LGBTQ+ community and the spectrum of human sexuality and gender.

AIG is proud to show support for the LGBTQ+ community and is committed to ensuring the rights of these individuals are respected. Under the Constitution of Ascension individuals are protected from discrimination based on their sexual orientation and since 01 January 2017 same-sex marriage has been recognised throughout the territory.



Office of the Administrator
29 June 2022



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

VACANCY NOTICE

Endemic Plant Assistant

£8,500 per annum, single status, free accommodation plus other benefits

About the role

Do you have a passion for conservation and the outdoors? We are looking for someone to take on the role of Conservation Assistant with our Plant Team.

What you'll do

We are looking for someone to take on the role of Conservation Assistant with our Plant Team. You will work with the Conservation Team Leader to protect Ascension's endemic plants through nursery work and practical restoration. This will involve the development of innovative techniques and involvement in research and monitoring activity.

What you'll bring

You must be resilient and adaptable in order to thrive in what can be a challenging environment. The successful applicant will need to be capable of working autonomously as well as part of the wider Conservation Team to deliver an ambitious programme of practical plant conservation. In addition, you will need to have good interpersonal skills that allow you to work well as a team, lead groups of volunteers and participate in public engagement events.

What we offer

We are offering a 2-year, single status, contract with a salary of £8,500 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

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 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.

Appointment will be subject to satisfactory:

- Enhanced DBS Check
- Employment References
- Medical Clearance

Closing Date: Monday 25 July 2022, Interviews: Early August 2022 (by Skype/Teams if not on island)

To for more information and to apply for this role, visit: <https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/>



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

VACANCY NOTICE

Endemic Plant Coordinator

Circa £13,000 per annum (subject to experience),
Single status two-year contract, free accommodation plus other benefits

About the role

Would you like to play a crucial role in saving rare plant species from extinction? We are looking for someone to lead our new Darwin Plus-funded project 'Growing Hope' that aims to secure the future of Ascension's critically endangered endemic plants.

What you'll do

This will involve working with our Plant Conservation Team to create a new Endemic Plant Restoration Plan based on the results of monitoring, research and practical restoration trials that you will design and undertake. It will be a rare opportunity to apply knowledge gained through scientific study into innovative restoration techniques that really could make the difference to the survival of a species.

What you'll bring

It will take an exceptional candidate to succeed in this role. You must have excellent knowledge of plant conservation and be able to translate this into practical action. The successful applicant will need to be highly self-motivated and capable of working autonomously as well as part of the wider Conservation Team. You will also need to be resilient and adaptable in order to thrive in what can be a challenging environment.

What we offer

For the successful candidates we will provide a two-year, single status contract with a salary of circa £13,000 per annum – subject to experience (taxable on Ascension) plus:

- Single Status food allowance (£3,350 per annum)
- Free medical and dental care
- Rent free accommodation, with electricity and water allowances
- 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)

This appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory Employment References
- Enhanced Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance

Closing Date: 1 August 2022

Interviews: Week commencing 8 August 2022, by MS Teams if off island

For more information (including detailed job description) and to apply
visit: www.ascension-island.gov.ac/working-here/ or email: recruitment@ascension.gov.ac



Consultation on New Immigration Policy Begins

Responses sought between 24 June and 18 July

Today, Friday 24 June, a public consultation on a draft Policy on Entry Control to Ascension begins.

A robust system of entry control is a core function of government and is necessary for the good governance of the territory. As there is no automatic right to entry to, or right to remain in, Ascension it is important that decisions are made in line with established principles and procedures, and that these are applied openly, fairly and consistently.

By establishing a published policy that details these, including on what grounds permission to enter or remain may be refused, such decisions will be clearly understandable and open to public scrutiny.

In doing so, the new policy seeks to balance the UK government's policy that there is no right of residency in Ascension with the principles of an open, fair and proportionate approach to entry control.

Copies of the draft policy are available online through the AIG website via www.ascension.gov.ac/public-document, or through the Administrator's Office in Georgetown.

Members of the public and interested parties are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the policy and provide written responses no later than Monday 18 July. Responses should be provided by email through aigenquiries@ascension.gov.ac.

Office of the Administrator
24 June 2022

In a landmark case in the St Helena and Ascension Island Supreme Court, Nick Toms has established a common law right to fair treatment in the event of dismissal

In a landmark case in the St Helena and Ascension Island Supreme Court, Nick Toms, a member of the Doughty Street Employment and Discrimination Team has established a common law right to fair treatment in the event of dismissal. This was based on previous authority and the absence of any equivalent statutory rights in Ascension Island currently in force or in force at the time of the employees' dismissals. In the joined claims of *Arms & Avery v Wolf Creek Federal Services Inc*, Chief Justice Judge Rupert Jones implied the following terms into the employees' contracts of employment,

to exercise the power of dismissal in good faith;

- to be honest with the employee and to refrain from untruthful, unfair or irrational conduct when exercising the power of dismissal and/or any of the rights under their contract
- not to discriminate against the employee including on grounds of disability

The claims will now proceed to be determined on their respective factual merits. The government of St Helena & Ascension Island has now introduced an Ordinance providing for employment rights including relating to the fairness of dismissals for those employed on Ascension Island.

A copy of this landmark decision is available from Doughty Street Chambers' clerks team.



Nicholas Toms

Subscribe to News



Contact Information

c.stebbing@doughtystreet.co.uk

RELATED PRACTICE AREAS

Employment, Discrimination and
Equality Law



COVID-19 School Guidelines

**Effective from: 6th September
2022**



As a school, we have developed these guidelines and operating practices in line with the 'living with COVID' guidance set out by the Ascension Island Government. The steps we are taking in school are not designed to stop the spread of COVID, but to slow it down, in order to ensure vital island services and operations can continue. We are committed to playing our role in ensuring the island can continue to operate effectively and will always strive to remain open, providing staffing levels are sufficient to keep your child safe.

We understand these are anxious times and if you have any questions around the measures we are taking, Mrs Maggott and Mr Higgins are more than happy to answer these. You can arrange an appointment or telephone call by contacting the school office.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if my child shows symptoms in school time?

Your child will be directed to isolate in pastoral room under the supervision of a member of staff. We will then contact you to collect your child. You will then need to arrange for your child to be tested. Depending on the result of your child's test, your child can return to school once COVID is excluded (in that the hospital has advised that they can return).

What happens if my child shows symptoms at home?

If your child begins to show symptoms at home, please arrange a test for them. If COVID is excluded, your child can return to school. If the test is positive, please see below.

What happens if my child tests positive?

Follow the guidance provided by the hospital. This is likely to be a minimum of 5 days (This however, may be longer).

What happens if me (parent/carer), or anybody in my household tests positive? Can my child still come to school?

Non-symptomatic children can come to school. Please try to distance at home. If child shows symptoms in school, they will be sent home. Please see above.



What happens if a member of staff starts to show symptoms at school?

The member of staff will be sent home immediately and will be directed to arrange a test. Once COVID is excluded, they will be able to return to work. If the test is positive, we will direct them to follow the hospitals advice around self-isolation.

What happens if a teacher starts to show symptoms at home?

The member of staff will be directed to arrange a test. Once COVID is excluded they will be able to return to work. If the test is positive, we will direct them to follow the hospitals advice around self-isolation.

What happens if my child's class teacher or other child in their class tests positive?
Does my child have to isolate?

Non-symptomatic children and teachers can come to school. Positive children/teachers will need to isolate. Classes may need to be put together to ensure school can remain open.

What happens if somebody in my child's class teacher lives with tests positive? Will they still come to school?

Non-symptomatic teachers can come to school even if they live with somebody who has tested positive for COVID. If teacher begins to show symptoms, they will be sent home and the steps above will be followed.

Will my child have to wear a face mask to school?

No, unless they choose to. However, if a child does choose to wear a face mask, it MUST be worn and stored correctly.

Will the teachers be wearing masks?

The wearing of face coverings is not compulsory. However, if teachers wish, they can wear face masks when in close proximity to children. E.g when giving feedback or marking their books. If a teacher is a known contact of somebody who is either symptomatic or asymptomatic (E.g. somebody they live with), we will encourage them to wear a mask when in school.

Will there be any social distancing measures in school?

Children in KS2 and the senior school will have individual desks and equipment. Children will continue to socialise in separate playgrounds. Social distancing is almost impossible with our younger EYFS and KS1 children. Children will be reminded where possible to keep a social distance when moving through corridors and at break and lunch times.



Will you be taking children's temperatures in school?

No

Will there be any other precautions put in place in school?

Regular hand sanitising and table wiping after lessons will take place along with the other measures mentioned above.

Will school close if there is a positive case of COVID-19?

Our aim is to keep the school open in order to help the island maintain its core operations. However, if staffing falls below safe limits. We may need to collapse classes and also may have to close until we can restore a safe ratio of staff to children.

What will happen if my child's teacher(s) is absent with COVID-19?

If your child's teacher(s) is/are absent, we will endeavor to cover classes with the remaining staff. This may mean that classes will need to be combined. In the event that the majority of staff are absent at the same time, we may need to close the school - However, this will always be a last resort.



Two Boats School

Newsletter

Friday 1st July 2022



Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the month of July! This means that we are always at the end of this academic Year.

Students are busy sitting end of year exams and staff are preparing the end of year reports to be sent out to you all. Please look out for these and the letters for the optional parent meetings that will follow the reports.

Our Year 10 students have all now had their work placements confirmed and are really looking forward to spending their last two weeks of the term in the world of work. Thank You to all the companies who have agreed to have the students. It is greatly appreciated!

House Points

This year we have been keeping a running total of house points awarded. Here is the house totals to date.

Well done to all students, particularly those in Elliots! There is still all to play for, so a final push to all students.

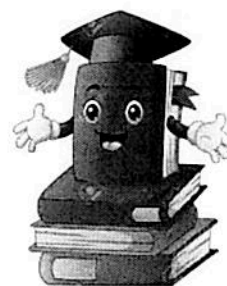
Edexcel Pearson Exam Centre

Another fantastic achievement for Two Boats School, we have been approved as an Edexcel Exam Centre and can now offer Edexcel Academic Qualifications. This gives us scope to offer a lot more subjects and means we are now able to offer examinations with two International Examination Boards, Cambridge and Edexcel. Thank you to Mrs Bright our Examinations Officer who supported me in gaining this status for the school. This is also a fitting time to Thank Mrs Marina Burns and Mrs Jolene Crowie who helped us out with the Examination invigilation this Year.

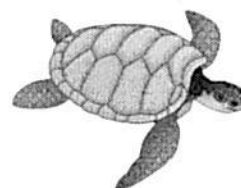
That's it for this week!

Tania Maggott

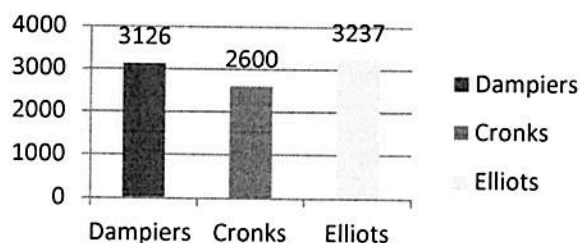
Head Teacher



Learning Together, Success Forever



House Points- Totals to Date 2022





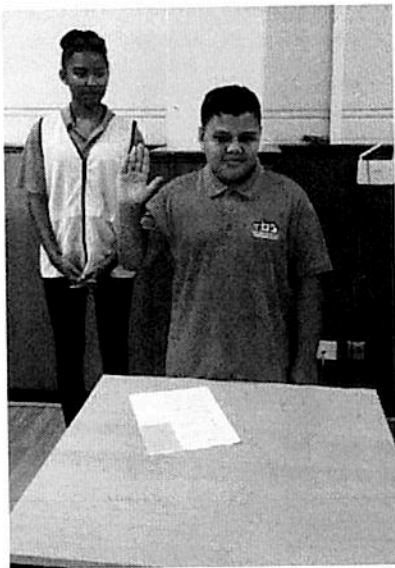
Hello from Year 8. We have been busy revising for exams recently, but we still managed to squeeze in a trip to the Court House with year 9, which was amazing.



Lucas: We went down to the Court House and we played the roles of the people that would be in there. I played the expert finger printer and we got locked in a cell!

Wyatt: It was fun being the prosecutor. I asked questions to try to prove the client guilty.

Leeanna: I was one of the jury and I had to decide if Kylie was guilty or not.



Jaylen: It was fun to go down to the Court House, I was the police officer.

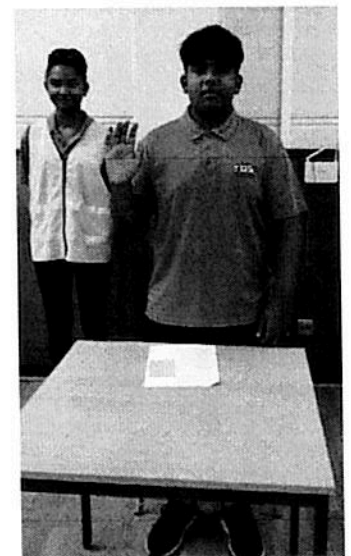
Rhiann: I played the role of Jury member. I found it fun. This was a very high-pressured job and we had to make the decision of whether or not the defendant was guilty, but I stayed cool.

Zayla: We played the roles of an actual Court case. I was part of the jury and had to decide if the defendant was guilty or not guilty.

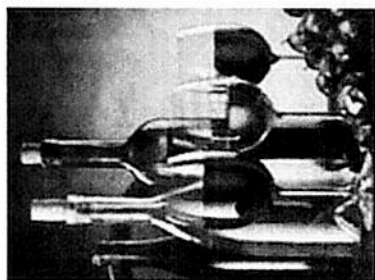
Troy: In the Court House I was the Judge. This was the best job. You get a comfortable chair if you are a judge. The judge can hold people in contempt of court if they don't follow the Court House rules.



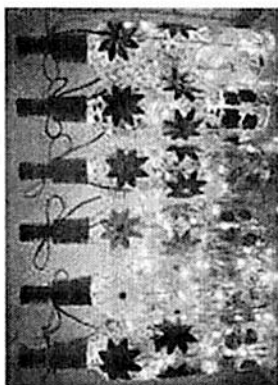
Jada: The trip was fun and we got to see how the Court actually works. I was the clerk; I had to make people state their name and make sure they swear on the Bible so they tell the truth. At the end the defendant was found guilty. Court adjourned!



Thank you to everyone who made our trip possible: Mrs Bright and Ms Yon, Mr Arnold for driving the bus, police officers PC Michael Henning and Sergeant Cyndi Corney, and Lisa Bailey.



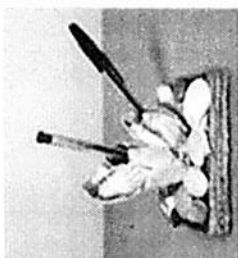
Wine Hamper



Light up Hand Painted bottle
(Design will vary)



Nails by Geita - Voucher



Shell Pan Holder
(Design will vary)



6pk drinks cooler
From Boyz2men

ideas
teachers
events
parents
communication
children
fundraising
PTA school
staff parents
TBS PTA Raffle
£1 a Ticket

See Julie Benjamin for tickets

Draw will take place on the 8th July in the school assembly



Gift Vouchers

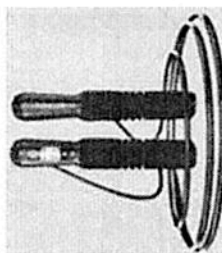
2 x Jams Shop Voucher = £25
Chandlry Shop voucher = £25
Treasure Shop Voucher = £10



NaaFi Meal Deal Voucher



Sure – Smart jump rope



Sure – Wave light Projector



Chocolate Hamper

Temporary homes 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. Lucy is a mature and happy girl and whilst Greyhounds are known for their speed, they are incredibly lazy. Lucy only needs 20-30 min walk per day and will spend the rest of the time sleeping or looking for cuddles.

Unfortunately Milo didn't manage to make the next trip down to Ascension so **Lucy** will be making the trip on her own, arriving at Ascension on 9th July. She will depart for St Helena on 12 September.

Are you willing to care for Lucy for the period 9th July to 12th September?

If so, please contact Mike and Julie on jmormrod2000@gmail.com

Milo is now due to arrive in Ascension on 7 August and will depart for St Helena with Lucy on 12 September.

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.

Are you able to care for Milo for the period 7 August to 12 September?

If you can help please contact Mike and Julie on jmormrod2000@gmail.com

Are you able to assist?



Green Mountain National Park Tree Safety Update

In March this year, AIG welcomed a team of tree surveyors to assess the safety of trees within the Green Mountain National Park. As well as assessing the trees, they were also tasked with producing a five year Tree Management Plan for the National Park.

The growth of large trees in shallow soils and on steep slopes has led to an increasing problem with tree falls in recent years. These have affected power supply and mountain roads, risk damage to buildings and potentially injury to mountain users.



The Tree Management Plan has been produced to develop a proactive and cost-effective strategy to manage and reduce the risk posed by trees to people and infrastructure over the next five years. The plan has formed the basis for future contracts that will bring tree surgeons to the island to address the priority issues identified, and ensure that AIG is fulfilling its duty of care for important island infrastructure and visitors to the National Park. This work will be funded by the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) International Programme Fund, available to all Overseas Territories, and which AIG is accessing to help address the island's critical infrastructure priorities. With this funding secured, AIG is now in the process of putting together a tender for a tree management company to complete the work.

Members of the public may notice trees that have orange spray paint and tags on. These trees have been identified as needing some sort of management in order to make them safe or prevent damage to infrastructure. Actions will vary and could mean felling, removing a limb or just monitoring a tree.

Due to the increased risk of landslides and tree falls after heavy rain and high winds, it is recommended members of the public do not enter the National Park during these severe weather events.

Conservation and Fisheries Directorate
28 June 2022



Ascension Island Magistrates Court

The following cases were heard in the Magistrates' Court on Wednesday, 29th June 2022.

Scott Leo and Corey Scipio pleaded guilty to the theft of bicycles and bicycle parts to the value of £597 contrary to section 9 (1)(b) of the theft Act 1968.

Both defendants received a conditional discharge for a period of two years. If either defendant commits an offence during this time he may be sentenced for this matter as well as for the further offence. The property would be returned to the rightful owner.

Mr Leo and Mr Scipio were both ordered to pay £50.00 in court costs.

Shaun Osborne pleaded guilty to driving whilst over the prescribed limit of alcohol, contrary to section 2(1) Road Safety Ordinance 2010,

Being Mr Osborne's second conviction of the same nature in less than ten years, he was fined £420.00 and disqualified from holding or obtaining a drivers licence for a period of 40 months. This would also apply to St Helena and Tristan da Cunha. He was also ordered to pay £50.00 in court costs.

29th June 2022
Catherine Leo
Asst. Clerk of the Court



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

Required – Part time cover driver for Public Transport Weekend Service

The Ascension Island Government is accepting expressions of interest from anyone who is interested in driving for the weekend Public Transport Service for a period of approximately two months in this instance, and to cover periods of overseas leave for regular drivers. You will be joining our small fleet of drivers to drive on average twice per month. A driver's rota is issued on a monthly basis, but you can assume a rotation of working a Friday or Saturday night every fortnight.

The normal hours of work commences at 6pm for an hour on a Friday when there is one round trip of the normal route, and then commences again at 8pm until around 2.30am. The service on a Saturday starts at 8pm and ends around 2.30am. There will be opportunity for you to take short breaks between journeys and there is a one hour scheduled break from 11.30pm to 12.30am.

This offer of part time work is open to anyone who is already employed on Ascension or dependents/spouses of employees. Persons considering this role should:

- be over 25 years old
- have a clean driving licence
- been driving Class C or D vehicles for at least 3 years
- responsible, friendly and professional with customers
- able to handle cash and be reliable at running the service

Attractive rates of pay offered are:-

Friday night/Saturday morning	£10.00 per hour
Saturday night/Sunday morning	£14.00 per hour

To register your interest, or to find out about what's involved, please contact Catherine Leo in the Finance Office on telephone number 67000, extension 121 (email: catherine.leo@ascension.gov.ac) during normal working hours by Tuesday, 14th September 2021.



TWO BOATS CLUB

Telephone 64621/64610/64439 E-mail: 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.

Thursday 7th July



Starting at 7:30pm. Tickets on sale from 7:15pm

Over 16's only. Cash prizes to be won

Friday 8th July – Lunch Special

Pork tenderloin with honey garlic sauce served with savoury rice & coleslaw - £5.00

Please place your order by 2pm Thursday 7th July 2022

Normal daily menu also available



Saturday 9th July

Due to the Independence Day celebrations at the VC, no lunch will be available.

The bar will close at **6pm**.



Dates for your diary

16th July 2022 – Special request disco – DJ's Sefton & Racy

30th July 2022 – Disco – DJ Sid



Public Health Guidance for Ascension:

Living with COVID-19

Advice to people previously identified as “high risk” for COVID-19

As we move towards the relaxation of our current rigid entry control process over the next few months, it is inevitable that we will see COVID-19 enter our community. It is understandable that some people will feel anxious and scared about what this will mean for them. This fear may be heightened if you feel that you are at increased risk, because of a medical condition that you have, or treatments that you take.

At the beginning of the pandemic you may have received a letter identifying you as someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable or high-risk, and you may have been advised to shield during early stages of the pandemic, back in early 2020.

Whilst you may still be at some increased risk from Covid-19, most people who were previously identified as high-risk are now well protected, having received their primary and booster vaccination doses. This series of vaccines have been so effective in preventing severe disease or death that most people who were identified on Ascension as high-risk in 2020 are no longer at significantly greater risk than the general population. This means that you are advised to follow the same guidance as everyone else on staying safe and preventing the spread of COVID-19, with the following proviso:

As a general principle, anyone with an underlying health condition should take care to avoid routine coughs, colds and other respiratory viruses, as well as COVID-19. Good hand hygiene, masking in public spaces (indoors) and social distancing, where possible, remains important.

Everyone is strongly advised to get vaccinated, including pregnant women. If you have not yet received the COVID-19 vaccine, you should get vaccinated. Evidence indicates that completing a primary course of COVID-19 vaccination provides very effective protection against hospitalisation. To maintain this high level of protection you should also get a booster vaccine for COVID-19 when this is offered to you. During May and June 2022 we will be providing additional booster doses to all persons over 60 years of age, health care workers and others who may be vulnerable because of an underlying medical condition. **Unless you have been contacted by the hospital and directly identified as being in this group, then you should continue to follow the same guidance as the general public on staying safe and preventing the spread of COVID-19.**

It is hoped that we might also be in the position to offer a second booster to all eligible adults before the end of July 2022.

If you remain concerned, or if you have issues or worries about your physical or mental health, please contact Georgetown hospital or the SMO at bill.hardy@ascension.gov.ac

COVID-19 in 2022

As we start to move forward out of the acute “Pandemic” stage of COVID-19, we must begin to plan how we will successfully live with the virus here on Ascension. So far we have been highly successful in keeping the community free of infection. To date we have recorded only around 24 cases on Ascension; all mildly ill or asymptomatic, and all in quarantine. The “game-changers” have been the highly effective vaccines we have received, as well as improvements to the treatment of people with moderate and severe disease...as a result, the dire situation facing us all in March/April 2020 no longer exists, and we must now prepare to accept the inevitable fact of COVID-19 within our community. COVID-19 will be a feature of our lives for the foreseeable future, so we need to learn to live with it and manage the risk to ourselves and others. *For Ascension, the priority over the next 6 months will be to ensure that critical services are fully maintained in the face of COVID-19, that the spread of the virus can be managed so as to avoid high absenteeism, and that individuals are empowered to take the necessary steps to protect and care for themselves, their families and their colleagues.*

The following general principles have been adopted by the health authorities on the Falkland Islands. These are applicable to us on Ascension and we are grateful to them for permission to include them here:

Although you may have been fully vaccinated, it is still possible to catch and spread COVID-19 to others. This may happen even if you have very mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. On Ascension, once we detect COVID-19 within our community, our focus of attention will be on those with symptoms who are most likely to infect others.

If you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or receive a positive test result, then our public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with people.

We all need to play our part in understanding where and when the risks of COVID-19 infection and transmission are likely to be higher, and what we can do to reduce these risks.

The following public health guidance will help you to identify situations where there is a greater risk of catching or spreading COVID-19, and what steps you can take to stay safe and protect others. **Every positive action you take will help to reduce the spread of the virus.**

1. **Understanding the risks of COVID-19**

COVID-19 is a highly infectious disease, and the risk of catching it or passing it on very much depends on how we act when going about our daily lives. The most significant way the virus spreads is through airborne transmission. It is also possible to be infected by someone you have not had close contact with, especially if you're in a crowded and/or poorly ventilated space.

When someone with COVID-19 breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, they release particles containing the virus that causes COVID-19. These particles may then come into contact with the eyes, nose or mouth of another person or can be breathed in by them.

In general, the risk of catching or passing on COVID-19 is higher in crowded and enclosed spaces, where there are more people who might be infectious and limited fresh air. In situations where there is a higher risk of catching or passing on COVID-19, you should be particularly careful to follow the guidance on keeping yourself and others safe.

2. **Keeping yourself and others safe**

Following the planned relaxation of entry quarantine regulations at the end of July we can expect to see COVID-19 cases within our community, which means there is a risk that you could catch or pass on the virus, even if you are fully vaccinated. This means it is important that you understand and consider the risks of catching or spreading COVID-19 in all situations in order to keep yourself and others safe. While no situation is risk-free, there are easy and effective actions you can take to protect yourself and, others around you. You can:

- Wear a mask in public spaces
- Continue to maintain good hygiene practices e.g. washing your hands regularly, sneezing into the crook of your arm etc.

- Keep windows open when in a room with others
- Stay at home if you have flu-like symptoms or test positive for COVID-19
- Consider not attending events where you know there will be a lot of people if you are feeling unwell.

Many people will feel worried about returning to a more 'normal' life, which is completely natural and understandable. You may feel particularly anxious or scared about the fact that border controls are changing and you may fear COVID-19 'getting into the community'. It is ok to feel this way and the Georgetown Hospital team is on hand to help and support you with these feelings. If you are struggling to cope and need to speak to someone, then please contact the GTH on 66252. You might also want to consider looking at some online support, such as Every Mind Matters, <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/coronavirus/mental-wellbeing-while-staying-at-home/>

3. **Get vaccinated**

All eligible groups here on Ascension have now been offered at least two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine and all eligible adults have also been offered a booster. **We have started offering a second booster to all adults, so do be sure to speak with your HR about attending one of these clinics before the end of July. Vaccines are safe and effective, and getting yourself a full course of vaccination is the best way of protecting yourself and others against COVID-19.**

If you have not yet received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, we strongly recommend that you get vaccinated. Evidence indicates that two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine provides good protection against severe illness, including against the Omicron variant of the disease, but this protection declines slowly over time.

While vaccines, particularly booster doses, provide a high level of protection against severe disease, hospitalisation and death, it is still possible to get COVID-19 and to pass it to others. **We all need to do what we can to reduce the spread of COVID-19 to protect others and to reduce the risk of new variants.**

4. **Let fresh air in if you meet indoors - meeting outdoors is safer**

When a person infected with COVID-19 coughs, talks, or breathes, they release droplets and aerosols which can be breathed in by another person. Meeting outdoors vastly reduces the risk of airborne transmission. However, if you are indoors, then you should ensure that you let fresh air inside to reduce the risk of catching or spreading COVID-19. This is particularly important before, during, and after meeting with people you do not live with.

5. **Consider wearing a face covering**

COVID-19 spreads through the air by droplets and aerosols that are exhaled from the nose and mouth of an infected person. While it is not a legal requirement to wear a face covering, public health advice suggests you might want to consider wearing one in crowded and enclosed spaces, especially where you come into contact with people you do not usually meet, particularly when infection rates are high. Masks will be made available either through employers or from our retail outlets on island.

6. **Get tested and stay at home if you have symptoms**

If you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are the recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell. *This is less common with the new variants, so is no longer a reliable sign of COVID.*
- a sore throat
- diarrhoea, vomiting or muscle aches and pains.

If you have any of these symptoms you should contact GTH on 66252 to arrange to take a test - this will not only provide you with peace of mind, but will also help us to track possible spread of the disease.

You are also advised to stay at home, avoid contact with other people, and follow the guidance for people with COVID-19 and their contacts, while you wait for your test result. You may need to be tested again if the first test is negative, so do follow the advice of the hospital. It is imperative that you contact your employer to inform them of your absence and to make arrangements, if necessary, to return to work when you are well enough.

7. If you have COVID-19, stay at home and avoid contact with other people

If you have COVID-19 you can infect other people from 2 days before your symptoms start, and for up to 10 days after. You can pass on the infection to others, even if you have mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. *Wearing a well-fitting good quality mask at home and in public spaces has been shown to significantly reduce this risk.* If you have COVID-19 you should (unless otherwise agreed with your employer) therefore stay at home and avoid contact with other people; you should also follow this advice if you test positive, even if you do not have any symptoms.

You should:

- Not attend work - if you can't work from home, please talk to your employer about your options
 - ask family, friends or neighbours to get food and other essentials for you
 - not invite social visitors into your home, including friends and family

postpone all non-essential services and repairs that require a home visit.

Cancel routine medical and dental appointments - if you are concerned about your health or you have been asked to attend an appointment in person then please discuss this with GTH and let us know about your symptoms.

Many people will no longer be infectious after 5-7 days. If you are asymptomatic (feeling well with no fever or sore throat) after 5 days (following onset of symptoms or a positive test) you may take a Lateral flow test at home. If this is negative we will repeat the test at the hospital after 24 hours, and if still negative, you may return to work. You must however continue to wear a mask, sanitize your hands and practice social distancing for the next 4 days. If the test on day 5 is positive, you should continue to self-isolate and repeat the test in 48 hours (day 7). If still positive, repeat the test daily until this is negative. A confirmatory test will then be taken the following day at the hospital. This test should be booked by calling the hospital on 66252.

If you are unsure what to do then call the hospital on 66252

8. If you have no other option but to leave your home

The most effective way to avoid passing on COVID-19 infection is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. However, we understand that in some cases this is not always possible, but you should still try to follow the guidance as closely as possible. If you have COVID-19 and you really, really need to leave your home while you are still infectious - you should take the following steps to reduce the chance of passing on the infection to others:

- Wear a well-fitting face covering made with multiple layers, or a surgical face mask
- Avoid close contact with anyone you know who is at higher risk of becoming severely unwell, especially those with a severely weakened immune system
- Avoid crowded places and using public transport
- Avoid social gatherings and events, or anywhere poorly ventilated, crowded, or enclosed
- Limit close contact with other people outside your household as much as possible - meet outside and try and stay at least 2 metres apart from them
- Take any exercise outdoors in places where you will not have contact with others
- Be especially careful with your hand and respiratory hygiene.

Ultimately, we are all responsible for doing everything that we can to stop the spread of the disease - the best way to do this is to stay at home and away from other people.

- **Stay at home if you're feeling unwell**

If you feel unwell but do not have COVID-19 symptoms, or your test is negative, you may still have an

illness which could be passed on to other people. Many common illnesses, like the flu, the common cold or diarrhoea and vomiting bugs, can quickly spread from one person to another. This can happen;

- when someone infected with an illness breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, releasing respiratory particles which can cause infection in another person.
- through surfaces and belongings which can become contaminated when people who are infected with an illness cough or sneeze near them or if they touch them, then the next person to touch that surface may become infected.

Staying at home until you feel better reduces the risk that you will pass on an illness to others in our community and will also help reduce the burden on our health services. Employees must contact their employers to arrange to work in isolation if necessary, provided they are well enough to do so.

9. **Wash your hands regularly and cover coughs and sneezes**

During this time, you are advised to wash your hands with soap and water, or use hand sanitiser, regularly throughout the day. Regular hand washing is an effective way to reduce your risk of catching illnesses, including COVID-19. It is particularly important to wash your hands:

- after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose
- before you eat or handle food
- after coming into contact with shared areas such as kitchens and bathrooms
- when you return home.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. If you do need to touch your face, for example, to put on or take off a face covering, wash or sanitise your hands before and after. Coughing and sneezing increases the number of droplets released by a person, the distance they travel and the time they stay in the air. Covering coughs and sneezes will help reduce the spread of particles carrying COVID-19 and other viruses.

10. **Working from home**

People should talk to their employers to discuss what arrangements could be put in place in terms of your employment in the weeks ahead, as you may be advised to work from home if possible. It is also important that you understand your own personal risk in different settings and scenarios

- **If you were previously identified as clinically extremely vulnerable or high risk**

Following scientific clinical advice and the successful rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination programme, most people previously considered to be very high risk, or high risk, are not being advised to shield again. **If you were previously identified as being in a high-risk group, you should continue to follow this guidance in this booklet and take advice from Georgetown Hospital on whether additional precautions are right for you.**

- **If you are pregnant**

Pregnant women who are unvaccinated, or not fully vaccinated, are at higher risk of becoming severely ill and of experiencing a pre-term birth if they contract COVID-19. The UK's Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has advised that pregnant women should be included as a clinical risk group within the vaccination programme. You are strongly recommended to get your COVID-19 vaccinations if you are pregnant or breastfeeding as soon as possible. You should not delay vaccination until after you have given birth.

COVID-19 vaccines available in the UK have been shown to be effective and to have a good safety profile. Over 100,000 pregnant women have been vaccinated to date. It is very important to have your COVID-19 vaccinations to protect you and your baby, so please discuss any concerns with your midwife.

11. **Face coverings**

- **What is a face covering?**

In the context of COVID-19, a face covering is something that safely covers the nose and mouth. Face coverings are primarily worn to protect others *because* they cover your nose and mouth, which are the main sources of emission of the virus that causes coronavirus infection. Equally, they can also provide some protection to the wearer, particularly in situations where they need to mix or interact with others.

- **What makes a good face covering?**

Face coverings work best if they are made with multiple layers (at least two and preferably three) and form a good fit around the nose and mouth. Scarves, bandanas or religious garments are likely to be less effective if they do not fit securely around the mouth and nose, and only have a single layer.

Valved masks or those with vents are **not** recommended as they do not filter exhaled air, so do not provide the required level of protection.

- **What is the difference between face coverings and face masks?**

Face coverings are not classified as personal protective equipment (PPE). Face masks are classified as PPE and are used in a limited number of settings to protect wearers against hazards and risks, such as surgical masks, or respirators used in medical and industrial settings.

- **When to wear a face covering**

There is no legal requirement to wear a face covering. However, public health advice suggests that you may want to consider wearing a face covering in crowded and enclosed spaces, where you may come into contact with people you do not normally meet. For example, customers, visitors or staff may choose to wear face coverings in any setting.

Face masks will continue to be required in health care settings (hospital and clinics) to comply with infection prevention and control (IPC) guidance. For the time being, they must also be worn by everyone accessing or visiting health and care settings; you will be asked to wear a face mask on entering these premises and must keep it on until you leave. In due course, advice will be released as to when this will no longer be necessary.

How to look after yourself at home if you have symptoms of COVID-19

We all know that feeling of extreme fatigue that sets in when we're sick. This is a common symptom and a natural response to help boost your immune system and give your body the time it needs to heal. Feeling unwell with any viral illness is common, and it can take some time to recover.

Most people with COVID-19, or symptoms of COVID-19, feel better within a few days, or sometimes a week or so, and are able to look after themselves at home while they recover. The following pages contain guidance on how best to treat yourself at home and when you should consider seeking help.

While you're ill, ask a friend, family member or neighbour to check up on you. Your employer will also call regularly to check up on your progress. If necessary, you can phone the hospital but you must not come to the hospital unless authorized by the doctor on duty.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, we ask that you try to stay at home. Call the hospital and arrange for a Lateral Flow Test to be done.

Treating a high temperature, sore throat or aches

If you have a high temperature, it can help to:

- get lots of rest
- drink plenty of fluids (water is best) to avoid dehydration - drink enough so that your pee is light yellow and clear
- take paracetamol if you feel uncomfortable or achy.

Treating a cough

If you have a cough, it's best to avoid lying on your back. Lie on your side or sit upright instead. If this does not help, you could try other over-the-counter cough or sore throat remedies. Please ask a friend or neighbour to buy them for you.

Get advice from the GTH on 66252 if:

- you're feeling gradually more unwell or more breathless
- you have difficulty breathing when you stand up or move around
- you feel very weak, achy or tired
- you're shaking or shivering
- you can't care for yourself-for example, washing and dressing or making food are too difficult

Call the Georgetown Hospital immediately on 66252 or call 999 if:

- you're so breathless that you're unable to say short sentences when resting
- your breathing has got suddenly worse
- you cough up blood
- you feel cold and sweaty
- you collapse or faint
- you feel agitated, confused or very drowsy
- you've stopped peeing or are peeing much less than usual.

Remember, you have access to assistance if needed at all times!

COVID-19 – Ten points for self-isolation at home

If you have, or suspect you have, COVID-19, you are advised to self-isolate at home. By doing this you can take good care of yourself, while also protecting others from being exposed to the infection.

Please call the GTH on 66252 if you feel progressively unwell and or want further advice.

1. Stay at home

You, or the person you are caring for, should remain in your home, except for getting medical care (see points 3 and 8). We advise that you do not go to work or school, avoid public areas, and do not use public transport until you have been told that is safe to do so. You will need to ask for help if you require groceries, fuel, other shopping or medications. If you are self-isolating within your family at home and your partner is asymptomatic, he or she may leave the home to buy groceries, but must wear a face mask and sanitize as advised.

2. Separate yourself from other people in your home

You should stay in a well-ventilated room with a window that can be opened to let fresh air in, separate from other people in your home. Keep the door to your room closed. Use a separate bathroom from the rest of the household, if available. If you have to share these facilities, regular cleaning will be required.

If a separate bathroom is not available, consider drawing up a bathroom rota for washing or bathing, with the isolated person using the facilities last, before thoroughly cleaning the bathroom themselves (if able or appropriate). Ensure the isolated person uses separate towels from other household members, both for drying themselves after bathing or showering, and for hand hygiene purposes.

If you live in shared accommodation with a communal kitchen, bathroom(s) and living area, you should stay in your room with the door closed, only coming out when necessary, and wearing a facemask when entering communal areas.

If you share a kitchen with others, try to avoid using it whilst others are present. If this is not possible then wear a facemask. Take your meals back to your room to eat. Use a dishwasher (if available) to clean and dry your used crockery and cutlery. If this is not possible, wash them by hand using detergent

and warm water and dry them thoroughly, using a separate tea towel.

3. Call ahead before visiting the hospital

All medical appointments should be discussed in advance by calling the GTH first on 66252. This is so that the hospital can take steps to minimise your contact with others.

4. Wear a facemask if advised to

If you have COVID-19, or think you might have it, then we advise you to wear a mask when you are in the same room with other people and especially when you visit a healthcare provider.

5. Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when you cough or sneeze. Dispose of tissues in a plastic waste bag (see section 10), and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, then rinse and dry thoroughly. Carers should wash their hands, as well as helping the person they are caring for, following coughing or sneezing.

6. Wash your hands

Wash your hands or assist the person you are caring for in washing their hands. This should be done often and thoroughly with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds; then rinse and dry your hands thoroughly. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

7. Avoid sharing household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, bedding or other items with other people in your home when you have used them (or after your child or the person you are caring for has used them). After using these items, wash them thoroughly with soap and water; dishwashers may be used to clean crockery and cutlery. Dirty laundry, bedding and towels should be placed in a plastic bag and washed separately on a hot cycle.

8. Monitor your symptoms (or the symptoms of the person you are caring for, as appropriate)

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is getting worse, for example, if you have difficulty breathing, or if the person you are caring for has symptoms that are worsening. If it's not an emergency, you should call the hospital on 66252.

If it is an emergency situation, call an ambulance on 66000. Inform the call handler that you have, or think you have, COVID-19.

9. Do not have visitors in your home

Only those who live in your home should be allowed to stay. Do not invite or allow visitors to enter. If you think there is an essential need for someone to visit, then discuss it with the hospital first. If you urgently need to speak to someone who is not a member of your household, please try to do this over the phone rather than face-to-face.

10. Waste

All waste that has been in contact with somebody who has, or who is suspected of having COVID-19, including used tissues, and disposable masks, should be put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full. The plastic bag should then be placed in a second bin bag and tied, i.e. it should be double-bagged.

THANK YOU FOR ACTING RESPONSIBLY AND KEEPING YOURSELF AND OTHERS SAFE



COVID-19 Response Level Remains at Level 2 ORANGE

One positive individual currently in compulsory isolation

Key messages

- One positive individual has been identified during routine testing of persons observing compulsory isolation.
- The three previously positive individuals are now negative and have been released from quarantine.
- The Response Level remains at Level 2 ORANGE.

On Saturday 25 June, an individual observing compulsory isolation measures returned a positive COVID-19 test result during routine testing of persons under quarantine.

As the individual was observing compulsory isolation within a bubble, they have been placed into individual isolation and will have their conditions monitored by medical staff.

The three individuals that previously provided positive test results on Sunday 19 June have since returned successive negative results and have been granted permission to exit compulsory isolation. Although the three individuals have provided negative results, due to the additional positive result identified on Saturday 25 June the Response Level remains at Level 2 ORANGE.

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 individual in question had arrived at Ascension on Thursday 23 June on a flight from the USA. They had previously returned negative COVID-19 test results on arrival at the island. As with all persons under group quarantine, they were subject to testing during their isolation period.

The result of this test was positive. The individual currently has mild symptoms and is otherwise well.

As they were observing compulsory isolation in a bubble, the other persons in that bubble will now also remain under quarantine and observation by medical staff.

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.

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 individual who tested positive has 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
29 June 2022



UN Ocean Conference 2022

Leaders meet to discuss future of the world's oceans

This week the world's second United Nations (UN) Ocean Conference, was held in Portugal to support the "Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development."

Targets include reducing marine pollution, protecting marine and coastal ecosystems, minimising acidification, ending illegal and over-fishing, increasing investment in scientific knowledge and marine technology, and respecting international law that calls for the safe and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources. More information on the UN Ocean Conference 2022 can be found online through www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022.

Although human activity has affected almost all marine ecosystems, Ascension's marine environment is fortunately relatively much less affected by human activity when compared to other areas of the world. Life here is more abundant and ecosystems are much healthier, supporting large biodiverse populations of fish and large predators as well as globally-important populations of breeding turtles and seabirds.

Ascension's Marine Protected Area (MPA) ensures that these ecosystems and their natural processes will remain healthy for the future, safeguarding the ocean against many of the human pressures seen elsewhere.

In September 2021 AIG published a five-year management plan for the MPA, detailing what actions will be taken to help further develop understanding of the MPA and ensure it retains some of the highest levels of protection seen anywhere in the world. The management plan links to many of the targets laid out in the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 14, which formed the basis of discussions at the UN Ocean Conference 2022. Some of these targets include reducing marine pollution, protecting marine and coastal ecosystems, ending illegal and over-fishing and increasing investment in scientific knowledge and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources.

Waters within our MPA are now legally protected from fishing beyond 12 nautical miles of the island, with large-scale commercial fishing banned within the entirety of the MPA. Mineral extraction, including deep-sea mining, is also prohibited. AIG, along with several partnering organisations and universities, continue to grow our scientific understanding of Ascension's marine environment.

Work is underway to develop an Inshore Fisheries Policy, and funding has been awarded to appoint a Marine Plastics Coordinator to analyse single-use plastics usage in Ascension and assess what can be done to help reduce this.

Some of our current research projects focus on zooplankton, plastic pollution, green turtle monitoring and shark behaviour. AIG is also working to support the sustainable development of social and economic activities within the MPA. We want the island community to realise the health, welfare and economic benefits of the MPA in ways that don't compromise the prosperity and enjoyment of future generations.

To find out more detail on what we want to achieve and how, view the five-year management plan online through www.ascensionmpa.ac.

Ascension's MPA is an example to the rest of the world of what all of our oceans should and could look like in the future.

Conservation and Fisheries Directorate
01 July 2022

M&M Cookies

1 cup	Unsalted Butter (softened, 2 sticks)
¾ cup	Brown Sugar (packed)
1 cup	Granulated Sugar
2 s	Eggs (room temperature)
2 teaspoons	Vanilla Extract
3 ½ cups	All Purpose Flour
1 teaspoon	Baking Soda
1 teaspoon	Salt
1 cup	Chocolate Chips
1 cup	M&Ms
add	Additional M&Ms (for garnish if desired)



These M&M Cookies are soft and chewy with crispy edges and loads of chocolate chips and M&Ms! Perfect for any holiday or weekend baking project!

Start by creaming your butter and sugars — make sure your butter is room temperature, as it will make this job a lot easier!

Add the eggs and vanilla and beat until smooth

Add in your dry ingredients, and beat just until combined. If it becomes too tough to do this with an electric mixer, a wooden spoon will do the trick!

Stir in the chocolate chips and M&M's.

Scoop or roll into balls and bake — but not too long! Over baking cookies will result in dry and tough cookies, instead of soft and chewy ones.

When you remove the cookies from the oven, press additional M&M candies into the top of the cookies while they are warm. Let cool slightly before removing from the pan to cool completely.

Enjoy!!

Twenty Questions with Sean Burns

Twenty questions is a light hearted look into the favourite things of people around Ascension. To start off this feature, Administrator Sean Burns has kindly agreed to answer my questions.

Where did you grow up as a child? Answer: Anglesey, North Wales
What languages can you speak? Answer: English and rusty French
How many Countries have you visited? Answer: 35ish
What is the best place you have visited in the world? Answer: Lake Turkana, Kenya
Where in the world would you like to visit? Answer: Antarctica and South Georgia
How long have you been on Ascension? Answer: 2 years 4 months
What is your favourite place on Ascension? Answer: Green Mountain
What is your favourite thing to do in your spare time on Ascension? Answer: Fishing and messing about on boats
What sports team do you support? Answer: Jamestown Heat
What is your favourite movie? Answer: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
What is your favourite TV series? Answer: Currently enjoying Curb Your Enthusiasm
What is your favourite book? Answer: Moby Dick
What is your favourite meal? Answer: Roast chicken and trimmings
What is your favourite drink? Answer: Red wine
What is your favourite piece of music or song? Answer: Eternal Father, Strong to Save
If you could meet one famous person, who would it be? Answer: Ernest Shackleton
What is your favourite car? Answer: Land rover Defender 110 t.d.i.
Have you ever flown a plane, bungee jumped, parachute jumped or scuba dived? Answer: Scuba dived
Can you play any musical instruments? Answer: Guitar – badly
What one thing can you tell us about yourself that may surprise people? Answer: I am colour blind.

If you want to be featured in 20 questions, please drop me a line via the Islander email address at islander@atlantis.co.ac

Lorna Mills