

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity



Issue 72 January 2019

MV SEVEN SEAS EXPLORER CRUISE SHIP VISIT

The cruise ship, MV Seven Seas Explorer, arrived at St Helena at 8.30am on Sunday, 13 January. The MV Seven Seas Explorer was the first cruise ship visit for 2019.

At the time of her visit, the MV Seven Seas Explorer carried 586 passengers and 549 crew on board. Visitors enjoyed Island tours and visited key attractions, including the Napoleonic sites.

The vessel departed St Helena at 7pm the same day bound for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Photo © St Helena Tourism



CAPE TO ST HELENA YACHT RACE PRIZE PRESENTATION

HE Governor Lisa Honan hosted a prize presentation for the Cape to St Helena Yacht Race (CTSH) participants at Plantation House on Friday, 11 January 2019.

The following prizes were presented to participants of the CTSH: Line Honours were awarded to team Banjo. The Waterman Cup, Royal Cape Yacht Club (RCYC) Platter and Governor's Cup was awarded to team Indaba (1st position on Handicap Monohull). RCYC platters were awarded to team Naledi (2nd Monohull), team Felix (3rd Monohull), team Yolo (4th Monohull) and team Rocket (5th Monohull). The Patrick Taylor Cup and RCYC Platter was awarded to team Compromise (winner of the Multihull).

Certificates were presented to the skippers and crew of sailing vessels - Indaba, Felix, Naledi, Caribbean Soul, Banjo, Compromise, Ronin, Carpe Diem, Avocet, Asante, Yolo and Rocket.

Race Chairman, John Levin, also presented RCYC Platters to various individuals and institutions in appreciation of their assistance in making the CTSH event possible and, in closing, announced that the RCYC had been chosen to organise the next CTSH scheduled for 2020.





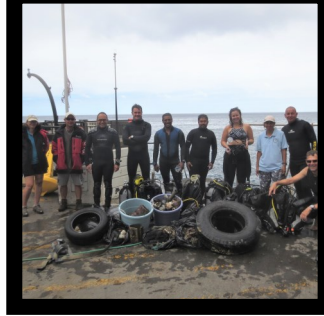
JANUARY

St Helena's first international conference - 'Diverse Island Environments' - was Launched at Mantis St Helena on Sunday, 28 January.



FEBRUARY

The RMS St Helena made an emotional departure from the Island on Saturday, 10 February, following 27 years of dedicated service to St Helena.



MARCH

Marine Awareness Week, used to raise the profile of St Helena's marine environment, was celebrated between 12 and 18 March with the theme 'Our Invisible Ocean'.



APRIL

The RRS James Clark Ross, a British Antarctic Survey (BAS) vessel, arrived at St Helena on Friday, 6 April, and spent a number of days surveying the waters around the Island.



MAY

The three Island Primary Schools held their annual Athletics Day at Francis Plain on Wednesday, 30 May. Pilling Primary School came first with 192 Points.



JUNE

Creative St Helena held an art exhibition at the Museum of St Helena from 18 June to 7 July. On display were acrylic canvas, photographic art and mixed media art pieces.



JULY

SHG officials, students and members of the public attended an 'Open Day' to celebrate 38 years of conservation on St Helena at the Endemic Nursery, Scotland on Friday 20 July.



AUGUST

St Helena Sports Day took place in Reading, UK, between 25 and 26 August. The highlight of the event was the raffle prize - two return flights from Joburg to St Helena.



SEPTEMBER

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc held a ceremony to mark the reopening of the once dormant property of Greenlands on Friday, 29 September.



OCTOBER

A number of events, in aid of the Cancer Support & Awareness Charity, took place during the month of October, including the ever popular biennial Carnival themed 'Spirit of the Sea'.



NOVEMBER

The Festival of Running, an annual event hosted by St Helena Tourism, the National Amateur Sports Association and New Horizons, was held from 4 to 10 November.



DECEMBER

The Saint Helena National Trust officially opened their new Shade House and standing out area, (BEST 2.0 small grant funded project) at the Millennium Forest on 8 December.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHILDREN OF SLAVES BORN FREE EXHIBITION

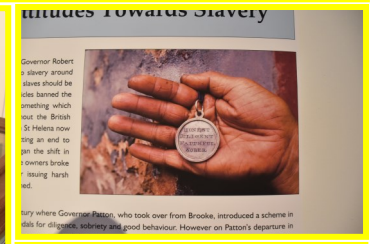
The '200th Anniversary of Children of Slaves Born Free Exhibition' was officially launched at the Museum of St Helena on Thursday, 10 January, with around 30 invited guests in attendance.

During the launch, speeches were delivered by Curator of the Museum of St Helena, Adam Sizeland, and Michel Dancoisne-Martineau, MBE. Guests were also able to view the information displays that were dotted around the room, including a display cabinet which contained artefacts, from the view of the enslaver, like 'For Sale' posters and medals awarded by the Governors to slaves for good behaviour.

In speaking about the exhibition, Adam said:

"The exhibition 'Slavery & St Helena' was launched to coincide with the 200th anniversary that legislation was developed making children born to slave mothers born free, this was brought into law on Christmas day 1818. It was a significant step introduced by Governor Hudson Lowe and his council in the process of gradually abolishing slavery on St Helena. The exhibition itself takes a holistic look at St Helena's slavery history; from the start of the English colony in 1658 when the first slaves were brought here up to the abolishment of slavery in 1839. The exhibition also takes a look at the life and death of a slave on St Helena, the kind of punishments and treatment they were subject to as well as stories of rebellions and mutinies by slaves in an attempt to make a better life for themselves and gain freedom. It is anticipated the exhibition will become a permanent fixture among our exhibitions as slavery formed such a huge part of the Island's culture and history."

Another exhibition dedicated to Sir Hudson Lowe will be held at Plantation House in April 2019.



PUBLIC LIBRARY HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

The ever popular children's holiday activities was hosted at the Public Library in Jamestown on Tuesday, 8 January 2019.

The activities were organised by staff of Pilling Primary School and consisted of making door hangers, dragonflies and animal bookmarks, friendship bracelets and stone painting.

A total of 15 children took part in the activities. The day was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Assistant Librarian, Ivy Williams-Newman, said:

"It was a successful morning with lots of creative spirit and good cheer!"



CAVENDISH HOUSE DASHED AND DARED TO VICTORY AT PAS ATHLETICS DAY

Prince Andrew School (PAS) held their Athletics Day at Francis Plain on Friday, 14 December 2018.

The day kicked off with the school's cheerleaders performing their dance presentations.

A full programme of events followed with athletes from both lower school and upper school. Events throughout the day included: 1500m, 800m, 200m, triple jump, discus, long jump, shot putt, javelin, 400m, 100m races and concluded with relay races.

At the end of the day the points were totalled and the winners were announced. Jenkins House came 4th place with 106 points, Munden's House came 3rd with 109 points, Dutton House came 2nd with 159 points and the overall winners were Cavendish House with 167 points.

There were a number of records broken on the day. They were: lower school boys 200m: Aiden Yon Stevens with a time of 25.49 seconds, lower school boys 800m: Aiden Yon Stevens with a time of 2:12:42 mins and upper school boys discus: Blaine Joshua with a distance of 32.40 metres.

PAS Head Teacher, Penny Bowers, said:

"I would like to congratulate all the athletes who showed fantastic team work on the day. It is not always easy to run Athletics Days these days, as our school numbers are very low, but our students showed good cooperation skills filling in for one another if someone else got injured. It was very pleasing to see. I would also like to thank those parents who were able to come out on the day and support their children – that was also great to see and it provided extra motivation for our students to do well. Thanks are also extended to the staff who ran the day and who helped with all the jobs that needed to be done on the field."

"We want to encourage all students to continue working hard in this area, as opportunities to participate overseas for St Helena arise more frequently now than in the past; and it would be a great honour for any one of our students to represent St Helena in the global sports arena!"



ST HELENA WELCOMES VISIT FROM THE SØRLANDET

The Norwegian sailing vessel - Sørlandet - visited St Helena between 15 and 17 January 2019.

At the time of her visit, the vessel, captained by Steffen Munk Jensen, carried 12 crew and 69 passengers – all of whom are being trained to sail.

The vessel arrived from Walvis Bay and continued her onward journey to Ascension Island.



PRINCE ANDREW SCHOOL CERTIFICATE & AWARDS CEREMONY 2018

Prince Andrew School's (PAS) annual Certificate & Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday, 12 December 2018.

The ceremony commenced with a welcome speech by PAS Head Teacher, Penny Bowers.

Presentations began with the Year 11 and 13 students of 2017/18 receiving their certificates for their GCSE and A-Level passes, respectively.

Individual awards were then presented as follows:

Jean Beadon Art Award: Alaina Crowie

HE Governor's Award: Nesta Yon and Ronaldo Johnson

PTA Award: Demi George (Year 11 Student of the Year) and Tiffany Herne (Year 13 Student of the Year)

Top Performing Male/Female in Year 11 (Sponsored by SURE): Demi George and Isaac Greentree

Jeanette Williams Maths Award: Demi George (Year 11) and Jacob Bowers (Year 13)

Bishop Houghton Award: Joshua Herne

Joy George Award: Katie Williams, Kyla Joshua and Hugo Francis

A vote of thanks was given by Student President, Isaac Greentree, to all in attendance.

Acting Director of Education & Employment, Wendy Benjamin, closed the ceremony by reading an inspirational story about the achievements of Xia Boyu – a 69 year old, double amputee man, that made it to the top of Mount Everest.

Wendy concluded:

“All of us have our own mountains to climb. Studying hard to achieve positive results and pass exams might just feel like climbing a mountain but if we draw inspiration from the story of Xia this might help us reach the top. His persistence and unflinching determination is something that we can copy to achieve ultimate success.”

The ceremony concluded with all in attendance singing the Prince Andrew School song.

