

OCTOBER 2022

# THE ST HELENA AMBASSADOR



## Editorial

Hi, welcome to the St Helena Ambassador!

In this edition you can find out about a new method that the St Helena Research Institute have introduced to record butterflies, and we also cover a reception that HE Governor Nigel Phillips CBE held for World Teachers' Day.

If you'd like to contribute a story to the St Helena Ambassador or have any suggestions on what you'd like to see included, please feel free to contact me on tel: 22470 or via email: [jodie.s-constantine@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:jodie.s-constantine@sainthelena.gov.sh).

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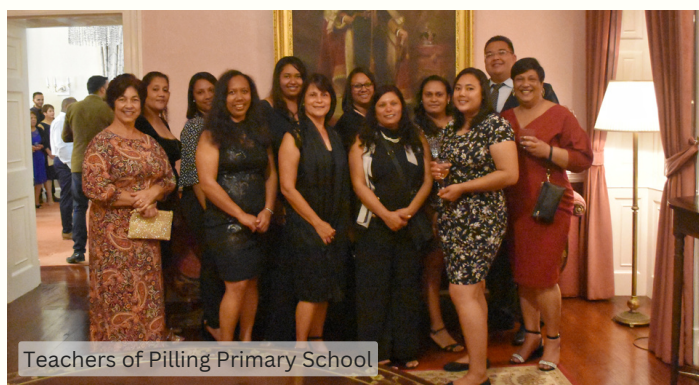
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# Governor hosts reception for World Teachers' Day

World Teachers' Day (locally known as Teacher Appreciation Day) is held annually on 5 October to celebrate all teachers around the world. The theme for World Teachers' Day 2022 was *'The transformation of education begins with teachers'*.

In recognition of World Teachers' Day, HE Governor Nigel Phillips CBE held a reception at Plantation House on the evening of Wednesday, 5 October 2022, for Teaching staff from the three Island Primary Schools - St Pauls, Pilling and Harford - and Secondary school - Prince Andrew as well as staff from the Education, Skills & Employment Portfolio.

In his remarks, Governor Phillips paid tribute to the tireless work and the extraordinary efforts of teachers and staff on St Helena, all of whom play a uniquely vital role in our community. Nelson Mandela famously said that "education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". World Teachers' Day gives communities the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the work that teachers do across the world to transform education and the potential of their students.



Teachers of Pilling Primary School



Teachers of St Pauls Primary School

The Governor said he was pleased to be able to mark the day at Plantation House alongside everyone who works hard to deliver education on St Helena.

Chief Minister and Minister for Education, Skills & Employment Portfolio, Julie Thomas, commented:

*"I am extremely grateful to Governor Phillips and his wife Emma for hosting our teachers at Plantation to recognise and celebrate the integral role they play in our children's lives. In principle, the function of teachers is to help students learn by imparting knowledge to them and creating an environment in which students can and will learn effectively. We all know however from our own experiences and through those of our children that they are more than educators, and are councillors, external parents and of course role models. Teachers provide children with education and knowledge and are important in a child's life. They become an encouraging factor, confident booster and moral supporter. For all these reasons, the role of a teacher cannot and should not be ignored. Teachers can make such a profound impact on our lives and should be honoured as heroes for their devotion and determination in providing students with the fundamental skills and attributes to aid us in leading fulfilling and successful lives. I am truly appreciative for the role they play in providing the building blocks we need to become the best versions of ourselves."*



Teachers of Harford Primary School



Teachers of Prince Andrew School

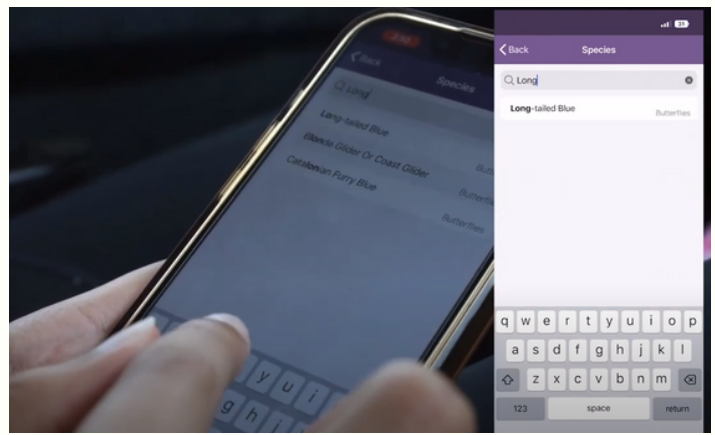
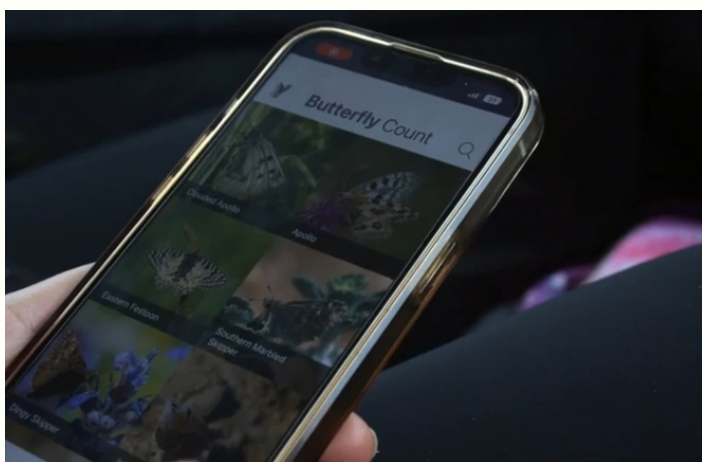


# St Helena Research Institute Introduces new way to record butterflies on St Helena

The St Helena Research Institute recently launched St Helena's Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (BMS), and with thanks to the UK Centre of Ecology and Hydrology, St Helena is the very first UK Overseas Territory to introduce the European Butterfly Monitoring Scheme.

*"The BMS gives everyone the opportunity to record butterflies, at anytime and anywhere, using simple yet scientific methods, that will increase our knowledge about the islands butterfly populations",* BEST Project Officer, Selene Gough, said. This can be done using the free app 'Butterfly Count' which can be downloaded at the Google Play Store or Apple Store.

Butterfly Count is an easy-to-use, specially developed app that records your track while you count butterflies for 15 minutes. As the time counts down you can take pictures and identify species. For each species, you can record the number of individuals seen, their life stage, and any comments.



One of St Helena's endemic butterflies, the Long-tailed Blue

Each time you add a new record, the app will save the coordinates of every individual.

*"The more records, the more we can learn about St Helena's butterflies, like where and when different species are commonly seen and follow any patterns, for example in presence, that might appear over time",* Selene added.

If you would like further information about how to use the app, download it, or would like a demonstration, please contact Selene via email: [selene.gough@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:selene.gough@sainthelena.gov.sh).

For those who do not have access to a phone, don't worry, there are paper-based recording forms and guidance notes. These are available at the Visitor Information Centre, the Saint Helena National Trust, the Public Library, and the Museum.

A video on the BMS can also be watched here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-weZP2Qq7ak&t=14s>