

EAST LONDON WEATHER

Sunshine, clouds, drizzle in store

MATTHEW FIELD

After Monday's deluge, most of the rain seems to have passed over BCM though some of it will stick around to keep the weekend damp.

In East London, temperatures will max at 22°C with a gentle 18km/h wind from the East bringing some rain in the afternoon.

Expect light drizzle throughout Friday, though the switch in wind to the South will chase it away by the evening.

Temperatures will remain in the low 20s, with a maximum of 23°C predicted.

The wind speed will increase slightly to a more moderate 22km/h on Saturday, which will help clear most of the clouds.

A maximum of 22°C is expected.

The rain makes a brief return on Sunday morning but don't

expect it to last long unfortunately.

The wind will drop to 15km/h, along with the temperature, which will fall to 21°C.

Once can expect mostly similar conditions over the next few days.

Thursday will be on the cooler side with a maximum temperature of 21°C predicted.

A gentle 18km/h wind from the South-East will blow in some rain in the afternoon.

Temperatures will rise to 24°C on Friday, with sun showers expected on and off throughout the day.

The wind will switch to south-west, but otherwise there are no other changes there.

The wind will switch again slightly on Saturday, bringing in heavy cloud cover that will persist throughout the day, with the temperature rising to 24°C.



HONOUR AND GLORY



REMEMBERING THE FALLEN: Members of the East London Caledonian Society Pipe Band paraded in Qonce last week as part of the Qonce Remembrance Day parade in honour of the official. They will be taking part in the East London parade on Sunday November 14. Remembrance Day, also known as Poppy Day, was first introduced in the UK in 1919 to honour soldiers who had fallen in World War 1 as well as the end of the war **Picture: SUPPLIED**

ARENA
HOLDINGS

Talk **Town**
OF THE

POSITION: Reporter
PUBLICATIONS: Talk of the Town
LOCATION: Port Alfred

Position Overview

Talk of the Town require a highly motivated journalist to take up the position of general reporter.

Main Responsibilities/Outcomes

- Initiate and write news which has appeal to the community of Port Alfred and surrounding areas.
- A commitment to high-quality journalism.
- Above average command of the English language.
- A well-developed contact base in the Eastern Cape and Port Alfred and surrounding areas would be an advantage.
- Ability to generate own diary and take direction from the news desk.

Skills, Attributes and Attitudes

- Matric
- A minimum of two years reporting experience on a newspaper
- A Degree or National Diploma in journalism or a related field
- Own transport would be an advantage
- Driver's license
- Basic computer literacy

Core Competencies Required

Knowledge

- A thorough knowledge of journalistic ethics and practices
- Good general knowledge
- Knowledge of digital media will be an advantage

Skills

- Ability to take own photographs
- Excellent interviewing, writing, reporting and story idea generation skills
- Excellent news and feature writing skills
- Strong interpersonal and fact-checking skills
- Time management skills

Please send your CV to: erecruitment@arena.africa

Closing date: Friday, 19 November 2021

Arena Holdings (Pty) Ltd is an Affirmative Action Employer and as such, preference will be given to candidates who will add to the diversity of our organization. Kindly take note that should we do not respond to you in the next 21 days, you may regard your application as unsuccessful.

WSU to test Covid vaccine

R3.5m grant towards jab specifically for Africans

SIVENATHI GOSA

Walter Sisulu University has received a R3.5m grant to conduct preclinical trials to test the efficacy of a candidate Covid-19 vaccine developed specifically for African social, socioeconomic and physical conditions.

The grant, announced on Monday, is funded by the Chemical Industries Education and Training Authority (Chieta), a statutory body established by The Skills Development Act 97 of 1998.

In June, a number of mostly African academic institutions, including WSU and North West University (NWU), collaborated to establish the Sisulu Foundation for African and Pandemic Disease Response, the vehicle within which this trial and others will occur.

WSU vice-chancellor Prof Rushiella Songca confirmed the Chieta grant would assist the university and the Sisulu Foundation to go ahead with research crucial for the development of African ingenuity in solving the problems the continent faces.

The Sisulu Foundation is a pan-African response to a critical skills shortage in vaccinology and the development of African reactions to pandemic disease.

Songca said: "WSU's research values were embedded in the provision of community-based research and strive to solve challenges that face society."

"The value of this project cannot be understated,



IMPORTANT RESEARCH: Walter Sisulu University vice-chancellor Prof Rushiella Songca **Picture: SUPPLIED**

considering the effect of the pandemic on our societies and the inherent inequality which continues to plague health provision and disease response on the continent.

"WSU is a member of an African community of scientists and researchers deliberately taking steps to boost home-grown vaccine development and manufacturing capacity.

"Clinical trials, like all research, can be expensive. The more participants they engage and the longer the trials run, the more expensive they become.

"This grant will surely assist the university," Songca said.

"The second phase of the trials is under way and we are hoping it will be completed before the end of the year."

WSU hopes to include senior students as part of the

project. Prof Markus Depfenhart, who holds extraordinary professorships at WSU and NWU, is the lead researcher and developer of the vaccine.

He said: "When the Covid-19 pandemic spread internationally early in 2020, we predicted that African nations would be at the back of the queue for vaccines and that the leading vaccine platforms would likely not prove highly effective on Africans.

"This called for a broader collaboration with African scientists, some of whom have developed vaccines before, who are experts in this field."

Songca said: "One of the partners in this project is a research unit from Kenya.

"The Kenyan government is excited about this initiative to the extent they have asked us to launch the initiative in Kenya next month.

"We are excited about that because we believe it is going to strengthen the Pan Africanist angle of the project."

She said the project would focus not only on Covid-19 but would look at other viruses challenging Africa, such as malaria.

Academics would work closely with communities because often many community members had little access to medical treatment.

"We are hoping that through our health faculty we will provide avenues to medical team members.

"We are hoping that we will gain more collaborators, especially government stakeholders." – DispatchLIVE