



# NEWSREEL WORLD

## 2020-04-11

### Programmanus

*av Alanna Leslie*

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Hi, I'm Alanna Leslie, and it's time for Newsreel World. Today, we're heading to Uganda, Hong Kong and Botswana. But first, Jamaica...

#### **Jamaica**

**ALANNA LESLIE:** The coronavirus is affecting everyone around the world right now. So we thought we'd give you an insight into how people worldwide are dealing with the social distancing and isolation measures. Firstly we're off to Jamaica to hear from Giovanni Dennis...

MUSIC SFX

**GIOVANNI DENNIS:** A patron singing to a Reggae track at the Fame High Frequency party. But this party is not the usual.... It's an online party... and Dadrian whose voice you just heard... attended the party ...in her living room!

**DADRIAN:** The energy and the vibe is almost just the same. I swear to you the last one I went to, I did not expect to have that much fun all by myself dancing up a storm. But seeing that my friends, they're having a good time too... it's like we're all there anyways.

**GIOVANNI DENNIS:** It didn't take long for party lovers to use social media to entertain themselves under the increasing movement restrictions caused by Covid-19. DJ Probo plays at some of these online parties.

**DJ PROBO:** It's taking more popularity now because, it's really the only way that people can party and since we want to be responsible and take this coronavirus thing serious, everybody's adhering to the social distancing rules which means that people can't go out, they have to use the next best alternative.

**GIOVANNI DENNIS:** For Dadrian, who dressed up for a party in her living room, though physically by herself, the camaraderie online is essential to remain resilient during the pandemic.

**DADRIAN:** One of the things that I think really brings us together is music. It is so powerful, it's a really, really powerful tool that we use to pretty much put a pause on whatever it is that's happening within our personal lives.

**GIOVANNI DENNIS:** For me personally, I now appreciate the privilege of hugging friends and relatives more than I did before. I also appreciate the things we took for granted but that are now restricted. This is Giovanni Dennis reporting for Newsreel World from Kingston in Jamaica.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Thanks Giovanni.



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#### **Around the world**

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Now it's time for a few quick stories from around the world... Most people have been negatively affected financially by the coronavirus. But not everyone... Companies that provide home gym equipment have made far bigger profits than usual since the outbreak of the virus. Many people aren't going to their local gym, because it's either been forced to close or they want to lower their risk of getting infected. And, in a way, the gym has come to them! A lot of fitness instructors have started doing their usual fitness classes online instead of in person.

#### **Somalia**

**ALANNA LESLIE:** The country of Somalia has been in huge debt to other countries for a long time. But two thirds of that debt, around 1.1 billion pounds, has just been cancelled by the organisations it owes money to. One of these organisations is called *The Paris Club* and is made up of 22 countries including the UK, the US, Australia and Sweden. They decided to cancel this massive chunk of Somalia's debt because the country has become more stable both financially and from a security point of view. And it will make a huge difference. Cancelling this debt will help Somalia continue to make the improvements they've seen so far and make it possible for the country to pay for things more easily. For example, 1 billion pounds in the UK would pay the wages of 22,000 teachers for a year.

#### **Uganda**

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Bobi Wine is a big deal in Uganda. He's a musician and actor who has turned to politics in recent years. He's currently a politician in the Ugandan Parliament who is passionate about helping the poor and is opposed to the current President Yoweri Museveni.

(...) This song, *Coronavirus alert*, is about the best things to do to help prevent the spread of coronavirus and is the latest example of how Bobi uses his music to help educate people in Uganda.

#### **Hong Kong**

**ALANNA LESLIE:** We heard earlier how some people in Jamaica are dealing with the ways that coronavirus has changed everyone's lives. Now we're off to Hong Kong, where our reporter Andrea Deng is struggling with the changes that social distancing has brought to her life but is learning a lot about herself in the process...

**ANDREA DENG:** We're in our third month of social distancing since the outbreak of coronavirus. I personally usually spend a lot of time at home anyway, but I've spent so much time indoors for so long.



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And it really challenges my relationship with my partner. As much as we love each other, when you spend so much time with someone so continuously, it's almost guaranteed that there will be tension. Eventually I've learned to cope and I think I've become more understanding, forgiving and loving. It hasn't been so easy for one of my close friends Rachel, who is single and lives by herself. She first experienced 14 days of self-quarantine after she came back to Hong Kong from mainland China. Two weeks later she did another 14 days of self-quarantine after she came back from a business trip from London, because there were two confirmed cases on her flight back.

**RACHEL:** When I felt lonely recently I just sat there, doing nothing. I lost the motivation, the strength to do anything. So I have been trying to cheer myself up. For example, I tried to make myself read the books on my bookshelf and I tried to watch some documentaries, listen to some podcasts. That makes me feel still connected with the world.

**ANDREA DENG:** She also tells me that the virus has taught her something.

**RACHEL:** As a human being, we cannot survive alone. We always need partners, teammates to share our laughter and tears, or at least give us a hug when we feel lonely.

**LYN:** Staying at home gives me so much time to rethink my life goals, my time management and also my current living status.

**ANDREA DENG:** That's Lyn. A 21-year-old lady living and working here in Hong Kong.

**LYN:** So sometimes I feel like coronavirus makes us more peaceful towards life.

**ANDREA DENG:** This is Andrea Deng reporting for Newsreel World in Hong Kong.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Thanks Andrea.

### Botswana

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Now, Botswana...The Republic of Botswana has the world's largest population of elephants in one country, with around 130,000 living there. In 2014 the government introduced a ban on hunting elephants. But this has recently been overturned.

To tell us more about the impact of the ban being removed, Bonni Dintwa has this report:

**BONNI DINTWA:** In 2019, Botswana officially voted Mokgweetsi E K Masisi into power, ending the decade long rule of Lt General Seretse Khama Ian Khama. Khama's regime had gained worldwide acclaim for its wildlife conservation efforts, spearheaded by the protection of Elephants, Rhinos and other species through the Anti-Poaching Unit and establishment of an elephant hunting ban. The hunting ban was put in place in 2014, mainly due to the rise in poaching in the region, and became such a success that the elephant numbers grew in the following years. Unfortunately, as a result farmers and communities in areas where the elephants live, now started to struggle with the increased conflict with



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the elephant population. From crops being destroyed and even attacks on humans by elephants over territory. After Masisi took office, he quickly disbanded the unit and got the ball rolling on lifting a hunting ban of elephants. Now that the ban has been officially lifted, I spoke to Batswana, this is what people from Botswana are called, to find out their views on what has been a touchy subject for Botswana on the international stage.

**MDU:** My name is Mdu, my opinion is this. The hunting ban was lifted but it wasn't open season. The lifting of the hunting ban was to allow a specific culling of elephants in a specific region that had human presence. Remember the ban was imposed in order to conserve the elephants in the first place. But when the elephants pose a threat to the lives of Batswana, something had to happen. So, I'm fine with it, I'm good with it.

**MIMI:** My name is Mimi. Should people be allowed to hunt elephants in Botswana? Absolutely but obviously in a very controlled manner. We love our elephants and we understand that a lot of the tourists that we get are to come see our amazing wildlife. But when it comes to the welfare of our people, our people being Batswana, they will always come first and we need to protect them. But it obviously has to be in a very measurable and carefully thought-out manner.

**BONNI DINTWA:** For Newsreel World, this is Bonni Dintwa reporting from Gaborone in Botswana.

**ALANNA LESLIE:** Thanks Bonni! That's it for today. See you next time!