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SENTINEL

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Removing "controversial ties"

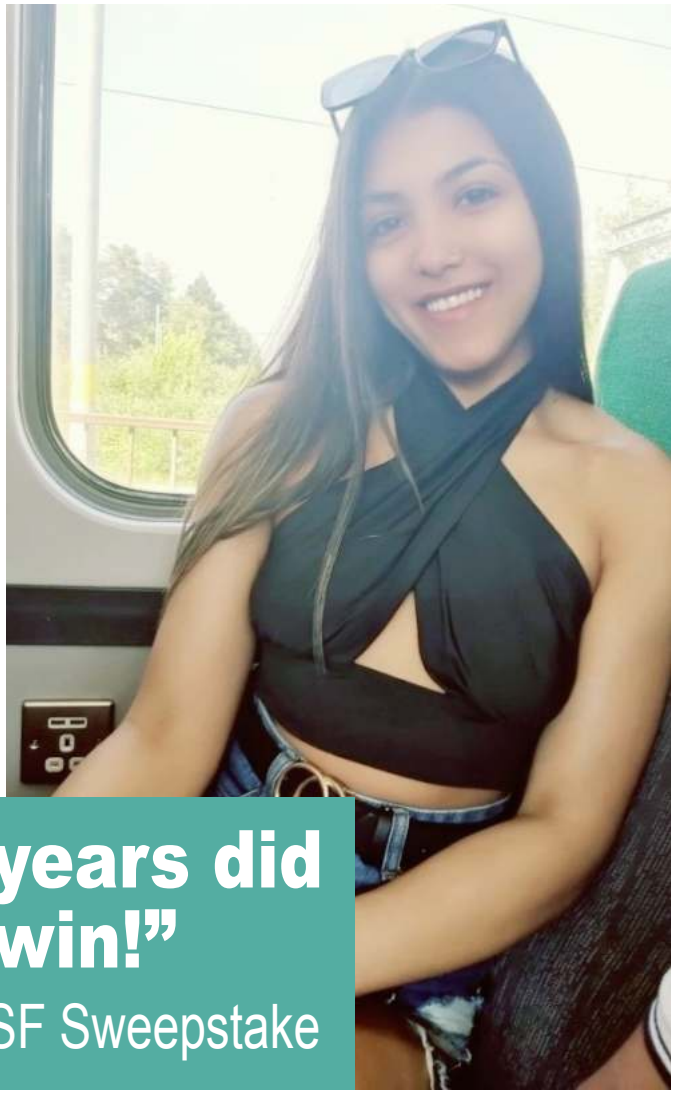
Prince Andrew School to be no more as ES&E confirm imminent name change for Island's only Secondary School



Lifestyle & Culture

Brothers in Uniform





"Never in a million years did I think I would win!"

Evette Bowers wins £5k in SHMSF Sweepstake

OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Anita Robbertse, SAMS

So we have made a quick start to 2025 as we are already in February! When I was in the office on Tuesday, an opportunity for the team presented itself to cover an interesting event here on St Helena. This made me think about opportunities and how we deal with these moments in our lives.

I often feel that I have more regrets about not taking a chance or an opportunity than the regret I have for things that I did do. This reminds me of a song that I recently discovered through our DNA show – 'I Hope You Dance' by Lee Ann Womack. The lyrics resonate with me on so many levels.

In this song she encourages the listener to appreciate the small things and retain a sense of wonder when looking at all the beautiful things in life. She also urges not to allow negative things to make us bitter or resentful. The most profound advice of this song for me though, coming back to opportunities again, is when she says, "and when you get the choice to sit it out or dance, I hope you dance!"

So often we will find excuses not to do something, or go somewhere. We resist exploring new ventures and the unknown. We don't take the time to meet new people who could perhaps enrich our lives. The fact remains that you will not know what the possibilities are unless you take a chance. Grab the opportunity! Sometimes things will not work out and that is also ok. That is part of life; learn from bad experiences, but don't avoid new opportunities because of past failures.

In the end, none of us want to look back over our lives and wonder where the years have gone. To use a quote Deon had on his Wednesday morning show – "Never get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life."

South Atlantic Media Services Ltd.,
The Media Centre, Castle Gardens,
Jamestown, St Helena, South Atlantic
Ocean, STHL 1ZZ. Tel: 22727
E: news@sams.sh, W: www.sams.sh
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ST HELENA NEWS

Call to Cancel

Health issue reminder about cancelling appointments as they bemoan "considerable disruptions for other patients"



Liam Yon, SAMS

The Health and Social Care Portfolio have issued a reminder to the community about the importance of cancelling appointments that are no longer needed, or which cannot be attended, adding that "missed appointments cause considerable disruptions for other patients waiting to be seen."

They are asking anyone who cannot make, or no longer require, a booked appointment, to ensure that they make arrangements to cancel this appointment "preferably at least the day before" the appointment is due.

"Cancelling in advance means we can offer that appointment to someone who may be waiting," they explained. "In December alone, an entire three days of appointments were missed with the physiotherapy service. Amongst GP appointments, as much as one week a month of appointments can be missed by people not cancelling. This contributes to longer waiting times for those waiting for an appointment."

Health also go on to warn that "patients who miss two or more scheduled appointments without providing advance notice may be placed back on the waiting list" adding that "this measure is necessary to ensure timely access to services for all patients."



Removing "controversial ties"

Prince Andrew School to be no more as ESE confirm imminent name change for Island's only Secondary School, with a gradual change in uniform also likely





Liam Yon, SAMS

In big news for the Island's only secondary school, the Education, Skills and Employment Portfolio (ESE) have confirmed that, following "approval from the Portfolio Advisory Board, the Chief Minister, and Buckingham Palace," Prince Andrew School will soon carry a new name – with a change of name imminent in order for the school to move forward and be "free from contentious associations."

"The decision to rename the school stems from several factors, including recent public controversy and negative media coverage," explained St Helena Government.

While not stated outright, it is believed this relates to the long-term and renowned allegations against Prince Andrew - younger brother of King Charles III – and Prince Andrew's association with infamous convicted sex offender, Jeffrey Epstein.

"The school believes a neutral name will foster a positive and forward-thinking learning environment, free from contentious associations," continued SHG. "This renaming also provides an opportunity to select a name that aligns with the school's shared principles and aspirations for students and St Helena."

This news will be welcomed by the community of St Helena with a change of name for Prince Andrew School long being mooted due to the controversy surrounding the disgraced Duke of York.

"While we respect history, we must also be mindful of how past associations impact the present and future," commented Head Teacher for Prince Andrew School, Phil Toal. "Choosing a new name allows us to honour the contributions of our students and community without the burden of controversial ties."

With the decision made to rename the Island's only secondary school, it is now over to the students to take the lead on this name change, with SHG stating that "all students will have the opportunity to submit name suggestions to the Student Council."

After having received suggestions, the Student Council will then shortlist the options with support from the School Leadership Team, with these options then subject to review by the Portfolio Advisory Board. A school-wide student vote will then be held to determine the preferred new name, with the Portfolio Advisory Board then charged with giving the final approval.

ESE gave an estimated timeline for each stage of the name selection process. The initial selection is "expected to be completed" during this school term which runs until 28 February 2025, "with the official launch of the new name planned for the start of the next academic year in September."

Changing the name of Prince Andrew School is not the only change being considered for the school however, with SHG confirming that "the Student Council is also reviewing the school uniform" with a gradual change being suggested in this regard.

"The new uniform will be phased in gradually, beginning with Year 7, over approximately five years," SHG further explained. "This phased approach will minimise the financial burden on parents and allow for the use of existing uniform stocks. Further details about the uniform will be shared as the Student Council's review progresses."

With a number of changes being planned, Prince Andrew School is set to undergo a period of refreshment and reinvigoration in the near future, as a full review of education across the board on St Helena continues.

"No decision" made, options to be "explored"



SHG seek consultancy advice on potential divestment of shares in Solomons, Mantis and Bank

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government have recently announced that they are actively seeking consultancy advice from a firm "specialising in the provision of transaction advisory services" as they explore the option of potential divestment of SHG shareholdings.

According to Government, SHG "is the owner of four state corporations and the majority shareholder of Solomon & Company" and they are now looking to "explore options for the potential divestment of its shareholding either in whole or in part in three of these entities" – namely, Solomon & Company (St Helena) PLC, St Helena Hotel Development Ltd, and Bank of St Helena Ltd.

"Such divestment decisions are best supported by high quality information and option evaluation so that an optimal solution can be selected in the public interest," added Government. "Accordingly, SHG is inviting tenders from consulting firms specialising in the provision of transaction advisory services."

SHG go on to state that "the appointed consultant will identify and evaluate options for consideration in Phase I, during the period April to June 2025, and report the results to SHG," adding that, "should SHG then decide to proceed with divestment in any one of these three entities, the appointed consultant will assist with the disposal process in Phase II during July to September 2025."

With that said, Ministers have made it clear that "SHG has made no decision at this point about whether to divest the public equity interest in any of these entities" adding that "the purpose of the consultancy advice is to inform the future decision making in this regard."

In their Press Release, SHG saw it necessary to include answers to three questions relating to what would happen whether SHG decided to sell its shareholdings in the Bank; in the Mantis Hotel; and in Solomons.

In relation to the Bank of St Helena, Government have advised that any decision to divest some or all these shareholdings or to issue new share capital will be informed by expert advice hence the purpose of this consultancy. They add that "SHG is looking to expand the range of banking services to BOSH customers and a divestment to a strategic partner may be very helpful in achieving that strategic intention."

Onto Mantis, where SHG state that "the decision to build the Mantis Hotel was to increase capacity in high-quality hotel accommodation to enable the tourism economy to expand alongside the opening of St Helena Airport" before adding that it was never their intention to "retain the hotel in the long term" and that they are "planning an exit strategy." Accordingly, the consultancy being sought will assist SHG in informing decisions to transfer ownership of the hotel to the private sector.

Finally, with regards to Solomons, SHG say that "the majority shareholding held by SHG in Solomon & Company has a long history" and that they are "seeking the advice of the consultants to inform any decision on divestment of this shareholding whether in whole or in part" adding that "appropriate account will be taken of the need to protect the longer-term public interest and ensure best value for the public purse in any divestment decision."

SHG concluded their release by directing enquiries to their Communications Hub via *shgpressoffice@gmail.com.*



Wanted: National Honours and Awards Committee Member

SHG invite expressions of interest as they seek "individuals of integrity and high public standing" to become a member of the National Honours and Awards Committee



Liam Yon, SAMS

The National Honours and Awards Committee are seeking Expressions of Interest for a new member.

That is according to a recent press release issued by St Helena Government, where they credit the committee for playing a vital role in recognising individuals who have made significant contributions to the community through national honours and awards.

They add that key responsibilities of a committee member includes reviewing and considering nominations for honours and awards; conducting investigations to determine deserving recipients; preparing a list of recommendations for the Governor; and performing other related duties as assigned.

"The position will become vacant on February 16, 2025, and the appointment will be made by the Governor,£ explained SHG. "Candidates must be individuals of integrity and high public standing. If you are interested in contributing to this important process, please submit your expression of interest to our Information & Research Support Officer by Friday, March 21, 2025."

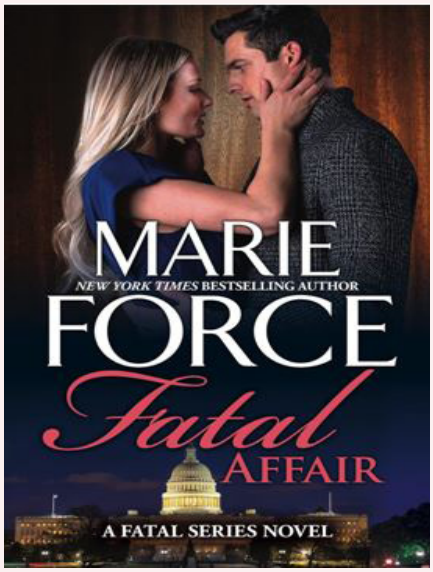
It was back in 2024 when the Governor of St Helena, Nigel Phillips CBE, appointed Scott Crowie, Director and Youth Leader for the New Horizons, as a Member of the National Honours and Awards Committee for a period of three years, where His Excellency expressed confidence in Scott's ability to contribute to the committee, highlighting his commitment to the values and ideals of the National Honours and Awards Ordinance.

If you'd like to follow Scott in taking on this role, express your interest to email *linda.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh.*



Book of the Week

Public Library Service



A Fatal Affair by Marie Force

D.C. Metro Police Detective Sergeant Sam Holland needs a big win to salvage her careerand her confidenceafter a disastrous investigation led to tragedy. What she doesn't need is sparks flying with a former one-night stand, who also happens to be chief of staff to a dead U.S. Senator.

Senator John O'Connor is found brutally murdered in his bed, and Sam is assigned to the case. Things get complicated when Sam has to team up with Nick Cappuano, O'Connor's friend and chief of staffand the man Sam had a memorable one-night stand with years earlier.

Their sexual chemistry still sizzles, and Sam has to fight to stay focused on the case. Sleeping with a material witness is another mistake she can't affordespecially when the bodies keep piling up.

Please reserve by contacting the following:-

Telephone Number: 22580

Email: publiclibrary@helanta.co.sh

"Never in a million years did I think I would win!"

Evette Bowers wins "life-changing" £5,000 grand prize in first St Helena Medical Support Fund Sweepstake as February Sweepstake launches Friday

Liam Yon, SAMS

Evette Bowers, a young Saint based in Swindon, UK, has been named as the lucky winner of the top prize of £5,000 in the January Sweepstake organised and managed by the newly-formed St Helena-registered charity, St Helena Medical Support Fund (SHMSF).

Chaired by Susan Knipe, the SHMSF kicked off their fundraising efforts - in order to raise finances to support families who require overseas medical treatment from St Helena - with a new initiative for the Island, in the form of a Sweepstake.





Inspired by a similar initiative on the Falkland's - where Susan lived and worked for a number of years - the Sweepstake saw 600 tickets (or numbers) made available through a Facebook Group.

Priced at £20 each and sold on a first-come-first-serve basis, the January edition of the SHMSF Sweepstake included a mouth-watering grand prize of £5,000 in cash, with an additional four £1,000 cash prizes also available.

On Friday, 31 January, Susan and members of the SHMSF, along with helper Kai, came into the studio at SAMS Radio 1 to carry out the highly-anticipated January Sweepstake draw - done via a randomised number app - where the lucky winners were officially announced live via radio and video stream on Facebook.

The first prize of £5,000 went to Evette Bowers with ticket number 63, while the remaining four £1,000 prizes went to Kelsey Henry (ticket 341), Michael Gaga-Hale (ticket 11), Austin Fowler (ticket 234) and Alex Henry (ticket 57).

"Never in a million years did I think I would win!" commented Evette, speaking to The Sentinel. "I was unable to watch the live draw at the time, and it wasn't until I had finished my days work that I realised I had won the first prize of the SHMSF January sweepstake."

Evette admits that she "didn't enter to win, but to help make a difference and support the SHMSF" however, after being drawn as the winner of the first prize, she exclaimed how the feeling is "indescribable" and how she is "still processing the news" having "never won anything quite like it."

"This life-changing amount of money has turned dreams into reality," Evette revealed, speaking on how the £5,000 will help her young family. "We have been saving for a while as I have always wanted to bring my two children to St Helena to meet other relatives and to experience Island life, especially at Christmas time, though it's not the cheapest place to get to."

Evette added that she is "beyond grateful" and "can't congratulate and thank Susan Knipe and the rest of her team enough," praising the "time and hard work that has clearly gone into this amazing fund to raise money for such an important cause."

Congratulations are extended to Evette and all of the other winners. However, for those who missed out on the prizes this time around; get ready, because the February Sweepstake will go 'live' on Friday! See advert below from the SHMSF for details.





How it works

the post will go live on Facebook on Friday 7th February at 6pm on the St Helena Medical support Sweepstake page.

Request how many numbers you would like, and a number/s will be allocated to you. DO NOT ask for specific numbers.

If you do not have Facebook then ask a friend or family member to request a number for you.

Connie Johnson will be taking calls on 23840 from 6pm only on Friday evening, once the sweepstake goes live, if you don't have someone else to request a number for you. She will request a number for you on the Facebook page, and she will call you back with your allocated number. We politely ask not to call before this time.

All numbers must be paid for at the bank -
BOSH Account - St Helena Medical Support Fund
02146002

Payments to be made by 26th February. Draw will be done on the 28th February.
Please include your name and sweepstake number/s in the reference on the transfer slip or in the credit narrative if doing online banking.

LIFESTYLE & CULTURE

Brothers in Uniform

Leo brothers, Benjamin and David, share stories on their careers in the military and the rewards gained through hard work and commitment



Demy Herne, SAMS

This week, we're sharing the story of two brothers from Ascension Island, Benjamin and David Leo, who both carved out successful careers in the British Army – along with their other brother, Shaun.

Despite their different paths and experiences, their journeys have been marked by hard work and determination. As we hear from both Ben and David, we gain insight into their military careers, the challenges they've faced, and the rewards they've gained.

Benjamin Leo, currently a Warrant Officer Class 2 in the British Army, never set out with the intention of joining the military. As he explains, his decision to enlist came later in life, largely inspired by his brothers rather than a childhood ambition.

"Well, I didn't really have any sort of desire to join the Army from a young age or anything. I just sort of got inspiration from my brothers really," he explained. "So, up until I was about 15, I didn't really have any interest whatsoever. It was only that sort of last year before I joined, that's when I started to show a bit of interest."

Growing up on Ascension Island, Benjamin didn't feel any particular pressure from the local military presence to pursue a career in the forces. However, he did spend some time doing work experience with the RAF while in school. Though Benjamin is the youngest of three brothers, all of whom joined the forces, he has risen to a senior position. His role as a Warrant Officer Class 2 is a significant achievement, reflecting years of dedication.

"Yes I am a Warrant Officer, so you're progressed up through the ranks and you're essentially given Warrant Officer status by The King, basically as a promotion," he explained. "So I've progressed all the way up from Craftsman, or what would have been a Private, up to Junior Non-commissioned Officer (NCO), Senior NCO, and all the way up to Warrant Officer; so almost at the pinnacle at the minute."

This journey hasn't been without challenges, but Benjamin finds the experience both rewarding and fulfilling. Benjamin has also had the opportunity to travel widely, spending time in countries such as Cyprus, Kenya, and Afghanistan. His service took him to Afghanistan on three separate operational tours, where he was exposed to conflict, but continued to focus on his mechanic duties. "Three times I went to Afghanistan on operational tours," he recalled. "The first one was in 2008, the second in 2012, and the third in 2016."

While his primary trade is as a Mechanic, Benjamin emphasises that soldiers are always expected to be "soldiers first" regardless of their specific role and expertise. "My main trade isn't necessarily what you would expect. When everyone thinks of the Army, they automatically think you're carrying a rifle and all sorts of other things like that," noted Benjamin. "My main trade is mechanics, so I joined as a Mechanic in the Army. However, you're still expected to be a soldier first."

Benjamin has found St Helena to be a great place to recharge, especially with his children, who enjoyed the Island's freedom and outdoor activities during his holiday here over Christmas. "I've enjoyed it, even more so because they (his kids) really had a blast while I was over here," he smiled. "They enjoy the freedom that comes with life on this island, being able to go out and swim every day."

David Leo, Benjamin's older brother, is a Captain in the British Army, with 27 years of service under his belt. David's path to leadership in the Army was built on years of experience, dedication, and continual professional development.

"It's quite an official rank,"

commented David. "Like Ben said, you start from the bottom and work your way through the soldier ranks. Then, at Warrant Officer Class 1 or Warrant Officer Class 2, you have to complete several assessments. If you're selected and good enough, you're awarded a Queen's Commission," adding that "when Ben goes through the same process, he'll get a King's Commission."

David's military career has been full of challenges, but he credits his success to the drive and determination instilled in him from a young age on Ascension Island. "I think with any job, you get your ups and downs. I'd be lying if I say there haven't been challenges," he explained. "You just have to adapt and get on with it! Life doesn't always go the way you expect, but you've got to focus on the positives and not dwell too much on setbacks."

David has held several notable positions throughout his career, including serving as the Officer Commanding (OC) of a workshop, where he led a team of 50 soldiers. His work has taken him across Europe and beyond, supporting operations in places like Ukraine and Africa, among others.

"I'm now in a command job as the OC of my own workshop," he updated. "I've got a team of 50, from young soldiers who have just turned 18 to those my age. They're a really good bunch of people."

As well as leading a team in complex environments, David's military career has provided opportunities for personal and professional growth. He has earned several academic qualifications - having arrived with just GCSE's - including NVQs, an HND, and both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Engineering, most of which were funded by the Army. "The army gives you free education as well," David revealed. "It's a great way of improving yourself while being paid."

David has also taken advantage of the Army's many sports and recreational opportunities. "This year, we've gone away to do skiing, mountain biking in Bavaria, and rock climbing," he detailed. "There are so many opportunities to get involved in things outside of work."

When reflecting on his time in the Army, David is proud of the opportunities it's given him to travel, learn, and lead.

When asked how he has found his holiday here on-Island David described it as "incredible."

"I've not spent too much time here in the past, but I do have some fond memories of the island," he explained. "It's great to come back and see the family and see how the Island has progressed. There's a lot of potential for more visitors to come and experience the uniqueness of St Helena."

Both Benjamin and David Leo's stories showcase the potential of islanders to excel in the British Army, with brother Shaun having also experienced a career in the armed forces.

Their paths have been shaped by determination, hard work, and the drive to succeed. While their experiences differ, both brothers agree on the value of the opportunities the Army has given them, from travelling the world to advancing their education and developing leadership skills. Their journeys are proof of the rewards that come from dedication and perseverance.









Wyatt Arthur Robert Francis-March

On 15 October 2024, at 11:55, Michelle Francis and Adrian March were blessed with the arrival of their baby boy, Wyatt Arthur Robert Francis-March, weighing a healthy 7lb 7oz.

Baby Wyatt is doing fine and has settled nicely into a routine, although Mummy says he just loves to play. "He does not know when to go to sleep as he wants everyone to play with him," she laughed.

Dad Adrian is doing fine and enjoyed spending time with Baby Wyatt when he was off work. Now that he is back working, Adrian looks forward to the afternoon so he can go home and spend time with his son.

Mum Michelle is also enjoying spending time with her baby. "I try and spend as much time as possible with my baby boy," she smiled, adding that she gets help from Wyatt's keen brothers. "Wyatt is one special baby boy with brothers who love him to bits and they are hands on and hate to see him crying!"

Michelle and Adrian would like to thank Dr Franciso as well as Midwife Erica Bowers for the safe delivery of baby Wyatt and the care given before and after Wyatt's birth. Extended thanks also go out to family and friends who sent cards and gifts.

Donna Crowie, SAMS

"A significant step in achieving the Ministerial Vision"

Property Purchase and Disposal Policy 2024 approved by Executive Council as Minister Brooks lauds the policy's "active and radical steps" in addressing the challenge of young people building and owning their first homes





Liam Yon, SAMS

Executive Council have approved the Property Purchase and Disposal Policy 2024 (PPDP) after what SHG describe as "an extensive period of public consultation" with the PPDP now replacing the Land and Buildings Disposal Policy 2016.

The PPDP sets the principles and processes by which SHG disposes and acquires property on behalf of the Crown, aligning with the Government's Vision and Strategy and the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy 2023-2033, with the delivery of the PPDP included as "a key action contained in the SEDS delivery plan."

This newly-approved policy is already being used by the Property Service of SHG's Economic Development Portfolio "to govern all property sales, lettings, and acquisitions."

According to SHG, the Property Purchase and Disposal Policy 2024 provides enhanced transparency and accountability; improved guidelines for property transactions; a focus on sustainability; protection for significant built heritage; incentives for primary home ownership; as well as business development opportunities.

"Implementing the Property Disposal and Purchase Policy is a significant step in achieving the Ministerial Vision," commented Minister for Treasury and Economic Development, Mark Brooks. "This policy complements other policy areas, such as Immigration and the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy, which are designed to encourage population growth and increased revenues for our island. It is designed to improve the business enabling environment."

Minister Brooks went on to describe the PPDP as ensuring "the best and most efficient use of Crown property by promoting sustainable estate management practices, clear, accountable, and transparent disposal processes, and targeted incentives for first-time buyers and businesses whose commercial activities meet the objectives of the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy."

The Minister described these measures as "essential for supporting development and economic growth, and addressing some of our key challenges."

One of the ever-present concerns on St Helena has been the issue of young people being unable to build and own their own homes on the Island, with Minister Brooks stating that this policy will look to assist with this challenge.

"Most importantly for me, through the consultation process, I have listened to the people of St Helena who have told me that it is too much of a challenge for young people to build their first homes," he revealed. "This policy takes active and radical steps to address this problem."

The Minister also sought to extend gratitude to his team for their work and commitment in bringing the PPDP to implementation, as well as to stakeholders and members of the public who contributed during the consultation process, adding that "feedback has been valuable in shaping this policy."

The Property Purchase and Disposal Policy 2024 and the Property Disposal Register are available to view on the St Helena Government website.

Cake Anyone?



From a hobby to a sweet success – introducing 'Isobel's Cakes and Bakes'

Donna Crowie, SAMS

Isobel Fowler, daughter of Cyril Fowler and her late mum Wendy, recently returned to St Helena to settle down with her little family after spending many years abroad, and has recently started her own baking business, "Isobel's Cakes and Bakes".

Isobel has baking in her blood, with her dad Cyril always cooking and baking; Isobel recalls waking up during the early hours to a thumping sound coming from the kitchen, where she would find her dad rolling out pastry, with the rolling pin hitting down on the kitchen counter. With Cyril still doing his share of baking, Isobel hopes he will one day hand-down the rolling pin to her.

It's not just on her dad's side where she picked up a passion for baking however, as Isobel's papa on her mum's side, 'Freddy Blue', also did his fair share of baking, making bread rolls, buns and Isobel's favourite doughnuts.

At the age of 15, Isobel remembers baking her very first chocolate cake using her dad's recipe from the RMS St Helena. "Little did I know that the recipe baked very large cakes," she laughed, revealing how her mum had to take her to Thorpe's Emporium to get bigger pans. "Needless to say, we had chocolate cake for days!"

Isobel completed her NVQ in Hospitality and Catering whilst working on the Falkland's with baking being a part of the training. "I worked alongside a colleague who was a great baker and decorator," she recalled. "I remember thinking 'she made it look so easy and I felt like I had no clue'. If you're reading this, Natalie, you still make it look so easy and someday I can only hope to be as good as you!"

Isobel's interest in baking was boosted to a new level in 2015 when her daughter was turning five years old and requested a 'Frozen' cake. Isobel explained how she couldn't procure one on short-notice and had to think up a Plan B. "There was no time to order a cake, so I decided to bake and decorate one myself," she revealed. "I never bought her a cake ever again."

From then on, Isobel's joy for baking only grew, though she was still only baking a few cakes here and there. However, in 2020, during the 'covid lockdown' in the UK, Isobel recalled how she "baked more and more" and even started posting pictures of her cake designs on her personal Facebook page.

Since then, Isobel says she has "improved over time" however still considers herself "a self taught baker with plenty to learn" adding that there is "always room for improvement."

Isobel always wanted to start up her very own business but had doubts about "how successful such a business would be," so she decided to set up 'Isobel's Cakes and Bakes' just to showcase her creations, and was "overwhelmed" with the response she received. "I never anticipated the amount of support and I am very grateful," she commented.

As with any business, there are always challenges to face, and Isobel's baking business is no different. "There have been a few challenges since being here on-Island," she explained. "I have faced shortages of ingredients, mainly flour, butter, and currently a limited supply of eggs." Isobel also revealed that there is a limited choice of cake decorations on-Island, so she has to order them, even though she would "much prefer to purchase ingredients and supplies locally." Additionally, although cake boards are in good supply, cake boxes are not. "Again, I have to source these in or use cake containers which aren't always appropriate in size," she added.

Isobel also revealed how the "hot climate here on St Helena can be a bakers nightmare" citing her specialty, butter cream, as an example. "Butter plus heat equals melting," she laughed.

Isobel really does enjoy her baking however, and is especially intrigued with the science behind making a cake, including making sure ingredients are measured correctly, though she is the first to admit that "yes, I sometimes have sunken cakes too!"

Isobel loves being creative with her cake designs and is always excited and game to take on the challenge of new creations and trying new flavours. She does however rate the importance of feedback in order to continue improving. "I welcome all feedback, constructive criticism included," she states.

While Isobel is more than satisfied to work from home under her dad's business, she holds a dream of opening her very own cake shop/café smiling as she says, "who knows what the future holds!"

Isobel's wonderful and mouth-watering creations can be seen on 'Isobel's Cakes and Bakes" Facebook page.

Isobel also left us with some sound advice. "If anyone says you can't eat cake for breakfast - don't believe them.. you absolutely can!"







IN SCOPE: RECAPPED



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

Minister Christine Scipio welcomed Darren Duncan (Portfolio Director) as her guest on In Scope this week to give listeners an overview of what was included in the recent budget proposal to the visiting FAM team as well as the motivation behind the additional funds requested for ENRP as part of the Minister's zero-based budget with the added £16m request.

There are nine business units that form part of the portfolio providing a broad range of services that affect many aspects of island life including management and admin functions, planning and development control, forestry, agriculture, bio security, nature conservation as well as environmental risk management. All these functions are covered in the recurrent budget which was £1.651m for 2024/25.

When unforeseen events occur, funding can only be provided by savings brought about through efficiencies within the recurrent budget. Another avenue would be to fund these from other sections within the portfolio that is showing an underspend on their budget. The section in need of funding could also look at a supplementary appropriation through a bid process if expenditures include capital funding. The recurrent budget includes all salaries, excluding the two TC posts. The biggest portion of the budget goes to Agricultural Support followed by Environmental Risk Management and then Forestry. Over the past couple of years, the budget for ENRP has been reduced substantially by more than £200,000. This reduction in funding has affected the level of service that the team is able to provide to the public on St Helena.

In addition to the recurrent budget, there are also some projects within the portfolio that attracts external funding like Blue Belt, Darwin, and the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF). To sustain the work initiated by these donor-funded projects will require funding apart from the recurrent budget as the maintenance of these projects cannot be funded from an ever-shrinking recurrent budget.

When budget priorities have to be taken into consideration it makes sense that areas such as Health and Education take precedence when balancing the available funding. The implication for the ENRP Portfolio is that some expenditures has to be cut affecting some services. This was the main reasoning behind putting together the zero-based budget with the additional £16 million request to the visiting FAM team to enable portfolios to sustain a reasonable level of service provision as well comply with regulatory requirements. Additional funding is also necessary to ensure sustainable service provision as relying on donor-funding can never be guaranteed. With the available recurrent funding it is imperative to focus on the core functions and services that need to be provided by the Portfolio.

The premise for presenting the zero-based budget with the additional funding request to the FAM team was to present an evidence-based and researched funding request that would reflect the critical needs of each Portfolio to ensure its efficient functioning and provision of core services at a reasonable standard. The key needs of each Portfolio had to be identified in order to support this request. Needs were identified in line with the vision and strategic plan of the ENRP Portfolio also aligning these with the Ministerial Government's vision and strategic objectives.

All the business units formed part of the discussions when calculating the cost of needs identified in the ENRP Portfolio. When considering the various needs of each business unit, units had to identify single points of failure or priorities that would need to be addressed to ensure continued service delivery and the associated cost to address the shortages. Prioritising needs was an essential part of the process to ensure realistic and achievable goals. In addition to the recurrent budget, the amount determined by the ENRP Portfolio as part of the £16 million request was £420,000 for non-capital items and £35,000 for capital investment to secure tractor equipment for the Forestry section.

Included in the £420,000 would be a small amount allocated towards uplifting salaries across all business units in line with the increase in minimum wage as well as funding for a change in the organisational structure of the Portfolio. As part of this change, a Head of Nature Conservation has already been appointed and two other posts need to be implemented to create a three-division structure reporting to the Portfolio Director alongside the TC post of Head of Planning and Building Control. The two additional posts requiring additional funding to implement is a Head of Natural Resources and Bio-security and Head of Environmental Protection and Risk Management.

With regards to the Planning and Development Control section, an increase of £22,000 is required to fund a new post for a Planning Assistant who will also be able to move the planning service from mainly paper-based to an electronic planning system. This post will also lean itself towards facilitating succession planning for the Planning Officer role.

The support role provided by

the Portfolio in assisting with the maintenance of public areas as well the cleaning of the public toilets will also require an increase in funding. This increase in cost is mainly due to inflationary increases of utilities and work undertaken by contractors.

The Forestry section requires additional funds of £38,000 across the services to make provision for mechanical upgrading of existing access routes to areas that need to be maintained and harvested. This access will specifically relate to the sourcing of raw materials for the private sector to provide firewood and other lumber products to the public. The control of invasive weeds will also require additional funding.

With regards to the Marine and Fisheries section, one of the compliance officers will have to be brought under the recurrent budget instead of external funding as the Blue Belt project funding will soon come to an end. A Senior Marine and Fisheries Conservation Assistant post is also something that will need to be put in place to support the programs undertaken by this section.

In the Bio-security section there is the need to create a post for a Senior Bio-security Officer aimed at succession planning and to facilitate the implementation of work related to the new Bio-security Policy.

Agricultural support was one of the bigger areas contributing to the additional funds requested by the Portfolio. The amount of £79,000 will facilitate the reinstatement of a Veterinary Officer into a post that had not been filled in the past couple of years. Another area where additional funding is needed in this section relates to maintenance work that needs to be undertaken on several leased building assets used for agricultural production and storage. Poultry support and bringing in stock for poultry production is also an area where funds will be allocated if the bid succeeds. Some funding will be allocated towards updating recreational facilities for which the ENRP Portfolio is responsible, like picnic sites around the island.

The largest amount of £120,000 will be allocated towards Terrestrial Conservation. This will mainly go towards funding of the work undertaken by the team working at the Peaks National Park and the Scotland Nursery. These teams need to be integrated into the recurrent budget as they are currently funded by external funding projects. A lot of the external funding projects are due to come to an end soon which will leave the work currently undertaken without funding. Some funding will also be required for micro-propagation and pathogen research materials. The loss of these projects through lack of funding will detrimentally affect the work on the Cloud Forest Project that has been put into motion over the past five years.

Finally, there are some additional funding requirements in the Risk Management section as well to increase the level of waste management and recycling service provision.

If the bid submitted by the Ministers to the FAM team does not succeed, the senior management team will have to look at reprioritising key needs, whittling these down to the absolute essentials to be funded under the recurrent budget. Most additional projects will have to be put on hold as there will undoubtedly be insufficient funding to accommodate all the needs. This would mean that, in the region of 10 staff members, would lose their positions previously funded externally which, in turn, would lead to a loss of essential skills and capacity for ENRP while also severely impacting projects. Only the financial aid decision will tell what funding will be available and how these issues will be addressed in the future.

St Helena Government

INVITATION TO TENDER

Re-roof and decorate externally – Dental Building, Jamestown

St Helena Government would like to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract:

SSHA11-2024/25–Re-roof and decorate externally - Dental Building, Jamestown

A site visit to view the works will take place on Monday, 10February 2025at 10:00, meeting within the Car Park, outside the Dental Clinic, Jamestown.

Contractors should note that site visits requested after the given datewill not be entertained unless there is a relevant reason why the contractor could not attend the scheduled site visit.

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown on telephone no: 25932 or via email throughtiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on theTop Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Tuesday, 18 February2025, clearly marked with the tender number.

Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas.

SHG, 03 February 2025

SAMS RADIO 1 SCHEDULE

SAMS Radio 1

102.7 (Jamestown) • 90.5 (High Knoll) • 105.1 (Sunberry) • 105.3 (Blue Hill)

Streaming live via www.sams.sh/radio.html

FRI. FEB 07

- 7am -10am: Sunrise show with Luke Bennett
- 11am: American Connections (Repeat)
- 2pm: Our Show (Repeat)
- 5:30-7pm: OUT OUT! with Liam
- 7:30pm: Country Classics (Repeat)

SAT. FEB 08

- 9am-12 Noon: Saturday Show with Demy Herne
- 1pm: Northward Sounds with Tony Leo
- 3-5pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna Crowie (Repeat)
- 5-8pm: DNA Show (repeat)
- 8:30pm: Out Out (repeat)

SUN. FEB 09

- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Donna Crowie
- 1pm : Interview Hour
- 3-4pm: UK Chart Show with Demy Herne
- 5pm: In Scope
- 7pm: Salvation Army Church Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations

MON. FEB 10

- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 5:30pm: Country Classics
- 7:30pm: Sound of the 80's with John Turner

TUE. FEB 11

- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Donna
- 9am-11:am Midmorning show with Demy
- 11am-1pm: Vibes with Anita
- 2pm: In Scope
- 3:30pm: American Connections with Brian Clough
- 5:30-7pm: Uk chart Show with Demy Herne
- 7:30pm: Classical Compilations

WED. FEB 12

- 7am-8:30am : Sunrise with Deon
- 8:30am-10:30am: Our Show
- 11am-1pm: Northward sounds with Tony Leo
- 1pm-3pm: 1548 with Ferdie
- 4-7pm: Afternoon Drive with Luke Bennett
- 7:30pm: Vibes

THU. FEB 13

- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke and Liam
- 1pm: Lunchtime vibes with Demy
- 4pm: Sounds of the 80's
- 5-7pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna Crowie
- 7:30pm: In Scope

sure

Bringing you the

BBC World Service

100.7 (Briars)

88.1 (High Knoll)

102.7 (Blue Hill)

Featured this Week



LOVE IS 'ON' THE AIR!!

as

Demy and Donna bring you another OUR SHOW on SAMS Radio 1

They will be sharing the love On Wednesday 12th Feb.

With Valentine's day a few days away they will be bringing to you a Valentines Competition with a few giveaways up for grabs.

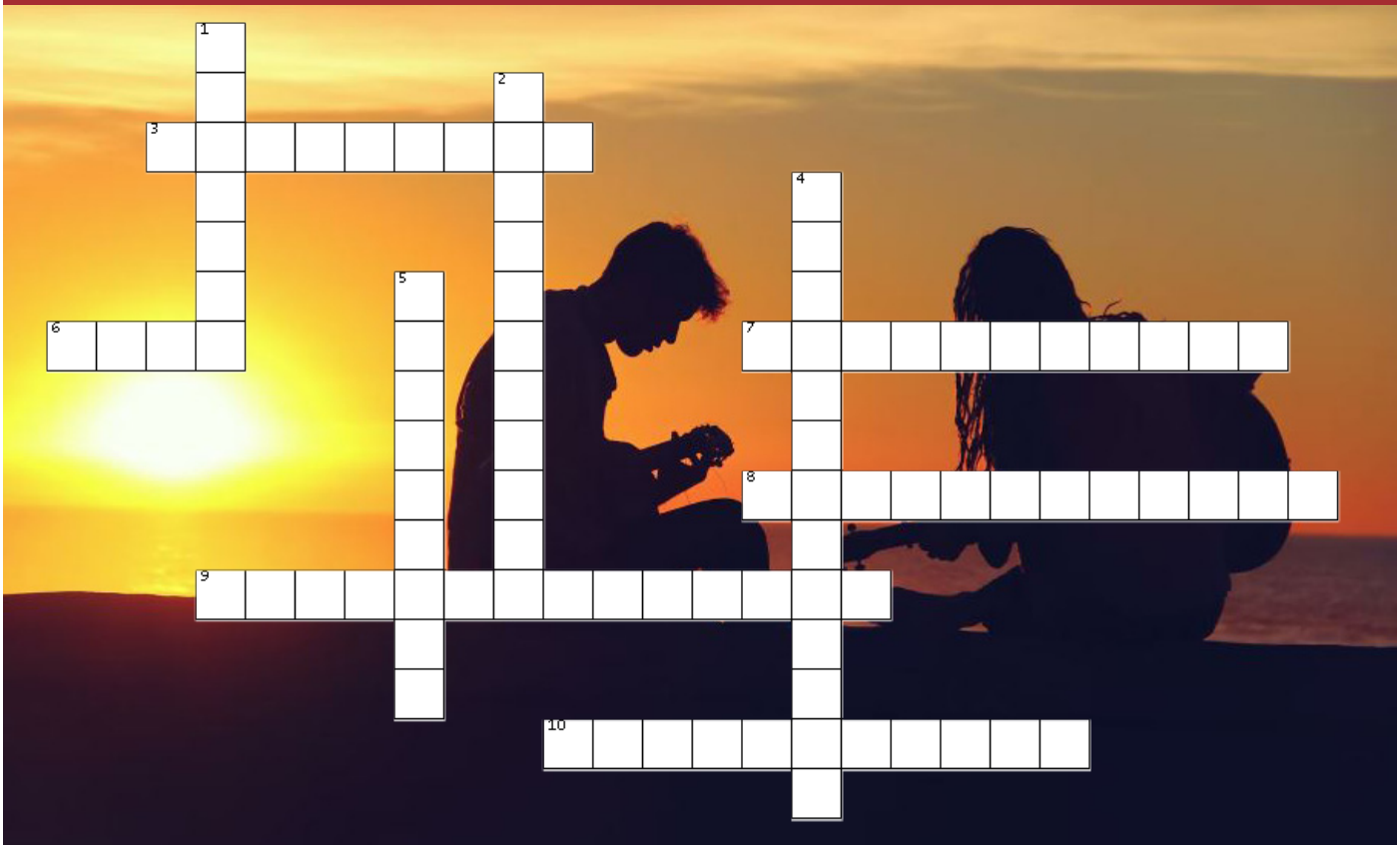
So remember to tune in to SAMS Radio 1 From 8:30am on Wednesday

Local news and notices:
7am, 10am, noon, 5pm, 7pm, 10pm

Reach us on ***22727*** or at ***news@sams.sh***

SAMS South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

Crossword: Love songs



ACROSS

3. Who sang the hit song 'Love is all Around'? (3,3,3)
6. What kind of 'Bites' provided Def Leppard with a number one single hit?
7. Elton John's "Can You Feel The Love Tonight" is from the soundtrack to what movie? (3,4,4)
8. In 1972, who took his "Burning Love" into the charts? (5,7)
9. What superstar had an early 90s hit with "I Will Always Love You"? (7,7)
10. Who made the charts with an old Supremes song, "You Can't Hurry Love"? (4,7)

DOWN

1. In his hit song, what would Bruno Mars catch for you?
2. In the lyrics to Stevie Wonder's love song "I Just Called to Say I Love You", what is the first public holiday and globally celebrated event that he mentions? (3,5,3)
4. Who had a number one hit with "When A Man Loves A Woman"? (7,6)
5. What was the name of the band that sang "I Want to Know What Love Is"?

Famous Birthday on 6 Feb



Bob Marley (1945-1981)

Sentinel Joke of the day

"I came across my wife's Tinder profile and I'm so angry about her lies. She is not "fun to be around!"

Rebus Puzzle:

Figure out the phrase





Last week's Crossword Answers

Nicknames of English Football Teams

ACROSS

3. ManchesterCity
5. Magpies
8. Cherries
9. Devils
10. WestHamUnited

DOWN

1. Cottagers
2. LeicesterCity
4. CrystalPalace
6. StokeCity
7. Chelsea

Rebus Answers:

1. Mess around, 2. Good afternoon

NOTICE BOARD

DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 9th February 2025– 5th Sunday of the Year		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Martin
11.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Andrew
5.00 p.m.	Choral Evensong	Cathedral
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 9th February 2025 – 5h Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St John
	Thursday 13th February	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 9th February 2025 – 5th Sunday of the Year		
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist/Church Parade	St Mark
	Tuesday 11th February	
7.00 p.m.	Reserved Sacrament	St Mark



Church Notices

Prayer Meeting

Saturday 8th February 2025 at 8:30am
@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.
~
We warmly invite you to join us for:

Praise and Worship service

Sunday 9th February 2025 at 11:00am
Longwood Avenue
Kid Zone (Sunday School) at 11:00am
~

Cell Meetings

Tuesday 11th February 2025
At the Jamestown at 7:00pm (Contact: Cathy on 64352)
Wednesday **12th February** 2025
At the Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue at 6:00pm
(Contact: Tav 51727)

~Christian Gift/Bookshop & DVD Rental

The Christian gift/bookshop & DVD rental (as well as second-hand goods shop) will be open this week on Monday - Wednesday from 9.00am to 1.30pm
For further information phone 25324 or 64521

What's On

Mantis St Helena

18 January: CURRIES OF THE WORLD
Savour a selection of curries from all corners of the globe.
£22.50 per person · Kids under 12 half price
From 18:30 onwards

25 January: HOT SUMMER NIGHTS
Immerse yourself in an Arabian Nights experience with live music.
£25.00 per person · Kids under 12 half price
From 18:30 onwards

1 February: LITTLE ITALY
Savour dishes and delights inspired by the Italian Peninsula.
£22.50 per person · Kids under 12 half price
From 18:30 onwards

9 February: HIGH TEA SUNDAY
Indulge in a delightful high tea with bottomless tea and coffee.
£10.00 per person · 14:00 – 17:00

14 February: VALENTINE'S DAY
Celebrate with a curated set menu featuring a romantic sharing dessert. Gifts and bubbles included.
Lunch and dinner service available · Price upon request

15 February: CURRIES OF THE WORLD
Explore a selection of curries from all corners of the globe.
£22.50 per person · Kids under 12 half price
From 18:30 onwards

22 February: HOT SUMMER NIGHTS
Enjoy tropical-inspired dishes paired with live music.
£25.00 per person · Kids under 12 half price
From 18:30 onwards

28 February: ST HELENA AROUND THE WORLD
Experience traditional local cuisine with a unique twist.
£25.00 per person · Kids under 12 half price
From 18:30 onwards

For all enquiries and bookings, please call 25505

NOTICE BOARD

New Horizons Youth Club

AGM

Mon 17th Feb 7pm @ NHYC

Parents and members are encouraged to attend

If we cannot form a new committee, New Horizons will be dissolved.



ST ANDREWS NEWSPAPER BINGO

Games will be played over a five week period – each week a different set of numbers will be published

This week the "red" bingo sheet will be used

Numbers to be read across, from left to right

Claim on earliest number for full house will be the winner

Claims to be made to Karen Henry on 23401 by Saturday 8 February a t12 noon.

Prize - £20 per week

68	10	77	35	12	46	22	38	50	70
16	72	23	18	60	9	32	5	63	52
13	27	41	29	8	53	61	80	47	89
34	25	69	85	19	78	44	56	88	28
37	21	42	15	84	66	81	40	3	71
24	55	36	48	11	2	20	59	31	87



FEBRUARY OPENING HOURS

Main Branch

Monday - Friday	08:45 - 15:00
Saturday	09:00 - 12:00

Airport Kiosk

Flight days only	10:30 - 14:30

Remote Banking

HTH Supermarket	Monday, 24 February	09:30 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Wednesday, 26 February	09:30 – 14:00

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

info@sainthelenabank.com +290 22390

www.sainthelenabank.com Market Street, Jamestown

@sainthelenabank Bank of St Helena Ltd

Established and regulated in St Helena under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008 and 2017, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017, the Company Ordinance, 2004 and the Company Regulations, 2004

BAPTIST CHURCH

Combined Service
Sunday 9th February
Jamestown Chapel 2.30 pm

No services will be held in the
Sandy Bay and Head O'Wain Chapels.

Bible Studies
Tuesday 11th February
Baptist School Hall 7.00 pm
Thursday 13th February
Sandy Bay Chapel 5.30 pm

SPECIAL EVENT
Gospel Outreach Service
Sunday 16th February
Kingshurst 3.00 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

For further information contact:
Tel No 24644

NOTICE BOARD

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND AU

Extracts from the

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

During the year, the Bank continued to work towards the agreed strategic objectives outlined in the Bank's Strategic Plan for 2021-2024. As in previous years, Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) were set in line with these objectives to monitor and review the Bank's performance throughout the year, and whilst most of these were achieved during this reporting period, the economic climate in St Helena and the effect of global issues has played a significant role in creating variances to targets set at the outset of 2023/24.

One of the biggest achievements for the Bank continues to be the ability to remain profitable, whilst maintaining current interest rates and being able to assist customers with an ever-changing economic and financial climate. The Bank, once again, was able to expand upon its product offerings during the year, with innovation being at the heart of the Bank's operations. This included the introduction of the Tourist Card app which will benefit those wishing to visit the Island by alleviating the need to carry physical cash in the absence of international debit and credit cards being readily accepted across the island. Continued networking with other banks and financial institutions outside of St Helena enhances the Bank's ability to tap into support for current services and the introduction of new products and services as well as providing training and development for staff.

The performance of the Bank continues to be influenced by the current economic climate which includes customer deposits, revenue generated and the Lending Portfolio.

The Bank made an operating profit of £631,033 for the year 2023/24 which was an increase of £290,159 from 2022/23; a 23.3% net profit margin and a cost to income ratio of 69%, with the most significant variance to the prior year being the reduction of £392,642 in provisions as a result of the release in provision for a large commercial loan. Ordinary dividends, representing a distribution of prior-year earnings, were paid amounting to £85,219 (2023: £118,086).

The Bank's total income, net of interest payable, increased by £11,136 (0.4%). Interest received increased by £39,542 (1.5%) from £2,595,580 to £2,635,122, with increases in the interest received from the Bank's investment portfolio, housing loans, personal loans, and commercial lending; whilst interest payable increased by £50,614 (15.1%) and is the result of the increase in interest rates on deposit accounts during the year. Fees and commissions increased by £4,669 (1.4%), with the most significant increases being in commissions for Local Debit Card and remittance services, increasing by £16,946 and £12,244 respectively; and the most significant reduction being in fees for online banking packages which decreased by £15,038 with online banking being offered free of charge. Other income increased by £17,539 (15.9%) from 2022/23; and was largely due to the fluctuation in the amount of foreign currency during the year. The Bank is aware of its exposure to foreign exchange risk and whilst payments will always need to be made, the Bank tries to minimise this exposure by reducing foreign cash holdings whilst still maintaining sufficient funds to service customer requests.

Total expenditures decreased by £375,742 (16.7%) and is mainly due to the Bank experiencing investment amortization gains rather than losses during the period with a decrease of £197,918 compared to the prior year with the majority of investments being bought below nominal value; and the release of £286,463 in respect of lending provisions, which is largely due to the sale of collateral related to a large business loan which had previously been provided for. Increases in expenditure was experienced in most of the Bank's other costs, with the most significant increases seen in other expenses and employee costs, which increased by £62,262 (9.7%) and £138,386 (15.5%) respectively, the latter of which included increases in training, Cash Roll Up contributions, director's remuneration and staff salaries.

DITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023 - 24

e Directors' Report 2023 - 24



The Capital Value of the Bank's investments has decreased by £7,847,907 (11.5%) for 2023/24. All funds are invested in fixed income instruments with yields ranging from 0.99% to 5.1%. Investments are initially recorded at cost and subsequently measured at amortised cost with changes recognised in the income statement. The interest income from investments for the year ended 31 March 2024 was £1,607,337. The Bank monitors its cash holdings and operational requirements closely and additional funds will be invested when it is deemed appropriate. During the year the Bank liquidated £6m from the investment portfolio to assist with the Bank's operational cash flow, however an additional £1.52m was also invested during 2023/24. At year end, treasury bills to the value of £3m was included in cash and cash equivalents due to the maturity dates being less than three months from acquisition.

The Lending Portfolio increased by £220,425 (1.5%) and is largely due to the release in provisions for a large commercial loan that was previously fully provided for; with lending balances having otherwise decreased by £167,165, as the current economic climate, like the previous year continues to be heavily influenced by global issues. Whilst housing and personal loans collectively increased by £199,792 (1.8%), the minimal increase of £11,425 (3.3%) for overdraft facilities and the reduction of £378,383 (8.3%) in commercial loans indicates that the economy continues to have a negative impact on business customers and their appetite to borrow.

Customer monies held by the Bank showed a decrease of £6,266,901 (7.5%) at the end of 2023/24. This was largely due to a significant withdrawal from one of the Bank's business customers; however, the Bank's higher earning interest accounts, Child Bond and New Life continue to be popular with a collective growth of £184,885 (4.2%). The largest increases were in the accounts of St Helena Individuals and Corporations, which increased by £1,534,263 (4%) and £731,521 (6.2%) respectively, compared to 2022/23.

The Bank has commenced the development of the Strategic Plan for 2024-29 which will guide its activities for the next year and will build upon the previous plan. The plan encapsulates the expectations articulated through various engagements and includes a comprehensive approach, encompassing various aspects of operations, technology, growth, risk management and customer services.

The Bank is optimistic that over this period much will be achieved with the support of our customers, St Helena Government as shareholder, Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) and various other stakeholders. With the onset of enhanced internet connectivity for the island, customer needs, economic outlook and regulatory requirements, the Bank has devised a transformative strategy to modernise banking operations. This includes prioritising adaptability and agility to respond to market changes, technology advancement and customer preference whilst fostering a culture of innovation, embracing change and continuously improving processes and offerings.

The Bank's priority areas remain securing a continuous service for all who rely on the Bank, providing financial assistance for personal and business customers, safety and security of customer deposits and ensuring that it retains the strength to be able to assist customers in the years to come. Security and compliance are a fundamental priority, with the protection of customer data and compliance with regulatory requirements being paramount.

Automation remains essential to reducing risk, streamlining operations, improving efficiencies and innovating new products and services to reflect modern banking operations whilst supporting Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) which measures our impact on our society. It is also hoped that the Bank's investment portfolio will continue to grow and new revenue streams can be identified which will allow the Bank to continue to invest in new products and services which will benefit customers, the stakeholders, shareholder, the Bank and the Island's economy.

info@sainthelenabank.com
+290 22390
@sainthelenabank
www.sainthelenabank.com
Market Street, Jamestown
Bank of St Helena Ltd

NOTICE BOARD



DIRECTORS' REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2023 - 24

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Income		
Interest Receivable	2,635,122	2,595,580
Interest Payable	(385,322)	(334,708)
Net Interest Income	2,249,800	2,260,872
Fees & Commissions	335,685	331,016
Other Income	127,932	110,393
Total Income	**2,713,417**	**2,702,281**
Expenditure		
Employee Costs	1,028,884	890,498
Premises Costs	79,035	65,258
Investment Management Fees	130,098	155,474
Investment Amortisation	(44,426)	153,492
Depreciation Tangible Fixed Assets	133,465	136,545
Depreciation Intangible Fixed Assets	29,953	41,885
Bad Debt Provision	(286,463)	106,179
Audit Fees	60,705	32,000
Financial Services Authority Fees	35,076	23,000
Other Expenditure	705,713	643,451
Total Expenditure	**1,872,040**	**2,247,782**
Profit on ordinary activities, before taxation	841,377	454,499
Taxation	(139,892)	(126,589)
Deferred Taxation	(70,452)	12,964
Profit on ordinary activities, after tax	**631,033**	**340,874**

The income statement has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Fixed Assets	503,496	485,933
Intangible Fixed Assets	91,505	40,206
	595,001	526,139
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3,952,128	1,158,711
Bank Balances	4,140,641	3,794,163
Investments	21,374,367	22,081,416
Other Assets	2,627,447	3,911,332
Lending	1,454,657	724,902
	33,549,240	31,670,524
Non-Current Assets		
Investments	38,839,074	45,979,932
Lending	13,020,697	13,530,027
	51,859,771	59,509,959
Total Assets	**86,004,012**	**91,706,622**
Liabilities		
Customer Current & Deposit Accounts	77,403,574	83,670,475
Other Liabilities	499,266	480,789
Total Liabilities	**77,902,840**	**84,151,264**
TOTAL NET ASSETS	**8,101,172**	**7,555,358**
REPRESENTED BY:		
Share Capital	3,219,285	3,219,285
Retained Earnings	4,881,887	4,336,073
Total Equity	**8,101,172**	**7,555,358**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on January 30th 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Michael Bird – Chairman

31st January 2025

Date

Bank of St.Helena Ltd.

Established and regulated in St Helena under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008 and 2017, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017, the Company Ordinance, 2004 and the Company Regulations, 2004

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Bank of St Helena Ltd

OUR JOURNEY TO BECOMING A CHARITY

ST HELENA AUTISM AWARENESS AND SUPPORT GROUP

In 2017 a small group of parents/carers of children and young people living with Autism was brought together through a workshop on ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) awareness delivered by Education/Health/Social Care professionals. The group enjoyed learning together,what Autism is, strategies in managing behaviours, identifying support in the community and were ultimately comforted by the fact they were no longer on their own with regards to living with Autism.

To this end, with realisation of the possible benefits that a group could have, those present mutually agreed that they would like to meet on a monthly basis to share their experiences and offer support to each other if necessary and consider how to reach the community in raising awareness.

The Au-some Parent Group was formed, with a vison:

- To bring together families and professionals to foster understanding and support amongst the community of St Helena on living with Autism.

-To promote awareness of what Autism is and to help provide opportunities for members of our community to seek support when needed.

The group has had many successful events raising awareness here on St Helena ranging from dancing, runway dash, walks, sharing their stories through various media platforms, information leaflet/cards and general chats with the public etc. However, with the hope to enhance the lives of those living with Autism , in 2024 the group became a charity named, **St Helena Autism Awareness & Support Group (SHAAS)** continuing their vision but with the additional aims to;

- Assist those living with Autism during transitional times in their lives e.g. school to workplace with the financial aid or career pathway guidance etc.

- Support those living with Autism with opportunities in social, physical and extracurricular activities that will enhance their quality of life .

- Provide further assistance to family members of those living with Autism.

"ST HELENA AUTISM AWARENESS & SUPPORT GROUP"

would love to offer their support to you as well. If you would like to become a member or need further information, please contact Tara or Sara by emailing autismsthelena@gmail.com or 25276/64694

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Cloud Forest Project update: July - December 2024

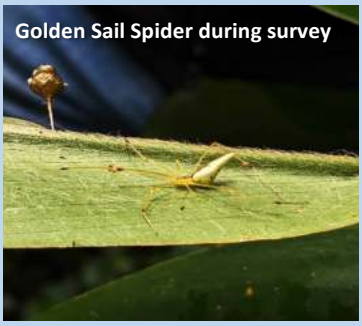
The St Helena Cloud Forest Project is a highly collaborative multi-year project working to implement the Peaks Management Plan for St Helena's 'Peaks National Park'; a globally significant area for biodiversity which is also vital for St Helena's long-term water security. Key actions across the first four years of the project include monitoring and research to inform and secure the island's water security and climate change adaptation efforts; improving, restoring and creating cloud forest habitat to increase areas for mist capture and ensure the conservation of associated species; and supporting the sustainable development of St Helena by developing opportunities through ecotourism, education, sustainable land use and conservation training.

What happened under each pillar?

Biodiversity

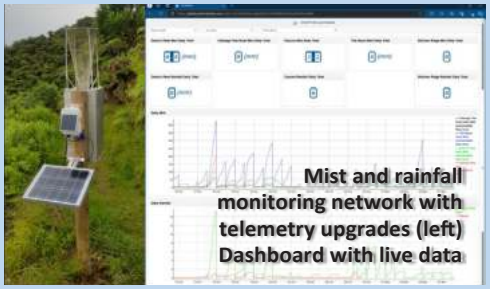

Clifton Yon clearing invasive New Zealand flax

- The teams based at the Peaks continued to be busy with maintenance of restoration sites and paths, in addition to re-starting propagation in the recently refurbished Peaks nursery. The nursery has been upgraded in line with refined phytosanitary protocols;
  - ◊ Al Coffey, Clifton Yon, and Finn Ormrod also joined the team
- At Scotland's endemic nursery:
  - ◊ Seed collection & banking continued;
  - ◊ The larger capacity soil steriliser is now in operation which has allowed larger scale plant propagation of cloud forest species to re-commence;
  - ◊ Planting and maintenance of cloud forest species in living gene banks around the island;
  - ◊ Propagation of cloud forest species, including micro-propagation of ferns in the lab;
  - ◊ Refurbishment of the no.1 shade house was completed to new phytosanitary standards.
- Kew horticulturalist, Marcella Corcoran, also made a visit to the island, supporting the nursery teams with upscaling propagation; completing germination trials and viability testing on seed; and providing capacity-building for newer team members.
- At the St Helena National Trust, important endemic invertebrate monitoring, invasive invertebrate surveys and control, and assessment work continued for the Golden Sail Spider, common wasp & termites. In addition:
  - ◊ Shaun Osborne joined the invertebrate team.
  - ◊ The Y2 Annual Invertebrate Survey Report was finalised, and other survey reports drafted.
  - ◊ Wasp and Big-headed ant larvae were sent to Fera Science for analysis


Golden Sail Spider during survey

Water security and climate change

- Regular water and climate monitoring by Connect Saint Helena and the Bottom Woods Met Office continued throughout this period. Monthly climate data from automatic weather stations and mist and rain gauges was collected, and maintenance carried out on equipment. Water level and flow monitoring continued. Further geophysics surveys were completed.


Mist and rainfall monitoring network with telemetry upgrades (left) Dashboard with live data


Meteorologist Steve Palmer and Met Officer Murray Henry

- ◊ Real-time data from the automatic weather stations can be accessed via: https://wow.metoffice.gov.uk/ (pan to St Helena).
- The mist and rainfall monitoring network was upgraded to a telemetry system, allowing for remote monitoring of the network, and live access to the data. This can be accessed via: https://dashboard.hobolink.com/public/33326/Dashboard%20SHCFP%20Mist%20and%20Rainfall#/
- The Y3 water balance report was circulated for final review before publishing.
- Meteorologist Steve Palmer was on island to facilitate import of met data into relevant databases, and provide capacity-building for Met Station staff.
- Preparation and planning for upgrade of surface water monitoring network, to include telemetry systems.

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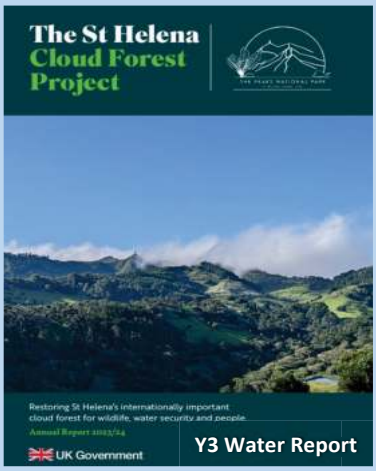
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Socio-economic

- The St Helena Cloud Forest Secondary Education Pack draft was refined and formatted following feedback from teachers.
- A 3D model of St Helena was procured to support cloud forest education and outreach activities.
- Various outreach events including Bug Club and the launch of 5 short films on the project presented by primary school students.
- Training and capacity building included: bryophyte ID training; data analysis workshop with RSPB via DPL00090 project; drone pilot course (GVC) completed by four project pilots.
- Work continued on aerial surveying of priority cloud forest compartments, a vital tool in assessing cloud forest habitat whereby multispectral data on the land surface is collected and collated in order to analyse factors such as tree health, the spread of pathogens, and track habitat expansion.




Drone training



Y3 Water Report

What's coming up January to March 2025?

- Propagation of cloud forest species for living gene banks and restoration work.
- Maintenance of restored habitat, invasive clearance works, and infrastructure repairs will continue on the Peaks, at living gene banks and the Scotland nursery.
- Ongoing water and climate monitoring. Finalisation of reports on island's water resources and water balance, using data collected over a number of years.
- Completion of invertebrate survey reports, and the secondary education pack.
- Completion of aerial mapping of cloud forest habitat to assess tree health, pathogen spread and habitat expansion.
- Completion of Phase 1 (FCDO-funded phase) funding of the cloud forest project, and associated celebrations.

Project Outreach

- The Y4 Q1 update was published on the project's webpage and in local papers; fortnightly short local updates also started in local papers. The Year 3 annual report was published on the project's webpage.
- Two articles (focused on water and pathogen work) were published in the St Helena Connection (Friends of St Helena publication).
- The project was represented at two international conferences: the St Helena Research Institute conference (online), and the CIEEM autumn conference in the UK.
- Five short films to support the Primary Education pack, presented by primary school students and produced by Capricorn Studios, were launched:
  - ◊ Geography: https://youtu.be/IcB-slLzlfM
  - ◊ History: https://youtu.be/2Y-TLBOe6Zg
  - ◊ Micro Habitats: https://youtu.be/cWOll6Puiac
  - ◊ Water Cycle: https://youtu.be/6P8QEmIR2Lg
  - ◊ About The Peaks: https://youtu.be/LCOAIgB511w
- A short film: 'A Day in the Life of a Water Resources Monitoring Technician' was also launched: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8glmfDUHt4
- The water pillar team presented a webinar on their work in September, and presentations were also made to the Connect St Helena team.
- A public talk on Weather Observation on St Helena was held in October, presented by Steve Palmer and Murray Henry.


BTS filming the Cloud Forest Kids Films

- Watch the Cloud Forest project films on YouTube:
  - ◊ Biodiversity, Water Security, Socio-Economic, Partners Involved, Capacity-Building, Biosecurity,

For more information please contact: shayla.ellick@rspb.org.uk

- Follow us online:

Facebook Twitter Website Storymap

NOTICE BOARD

VACANCY

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Bank Teller

Commencing at £8,796 per annum

Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking to recruit a suitable person on a full-time basis to fill the vacant position of Bank Teller.

This position will incur significant contact with the public and other Bank staff. The successful candidate must be flexible, demonstrate courtesy and provide excellent customer service at all times. They must have a keen eye for detail, exhibit high accuracy levels and have the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, whilst working well with others as part of the wider Bank team.

The main duties of the post include:

- Undertaking counter transactions for customers and posting these to the Bank's computer system;
- Cash handling and assisting customers in meeting their banking needs and queries;
- Providing assistance in the delivery of Remote Banking services;
- Any other duties.

Interested persons can contact Miss Danielle Anthony, Teller Services Manager on email tellerservicesmanager@sainthelenabank.com or Mrs Karen Buckley, Customer Service Manager on email csmanager@sainthelenabank.com, or contact them on (+290) 22390 for more information.

An Application form and job profile is available upon request from the Bank and can be viewed on our official website. Completed application forms should be addressed to Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 21 February 2025.

Choose a career with Bank of St Helena and enjoy competitive benefits.

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Established and regulated in St Helena under the Financial Services Ordinance, 2008 and 2017, the Financial Services Regulations, 2017, the Company Ordinance, 2004 and the Company Regulations, 2004

info@sainthelenabank.com
www.sainthelenabank.com
@sainthelenabank
+290 22390
Market Street, Jamestown
Bank of St Helena Ltd

Festival of Walking
Walk of the Week

St Helena Island
A breath of fresh air

Sandy Bay Barn
Date: Saturday, 8 February 2025
Start Time: 08:00
Meeting Point: Green Hill Picnic Area, Levelwood
Duration: approx 4 hrs

Walk grade: Moderate | 5 - 6

This walk will be led by the Tourist Office, starting within a woodland and leading into dry desert-like scenery. It provides views of Sandy Bay including the iconic Lot and Lot's wife features, with the Post Box overlooking the ocean below.
There are some narrow sections (at a height) and cliffside walking. Pathway can become muddy and slippery when wet.

Flagstaff/Sugar Loaf/Banks/Ruperts/Jamestown
Date: Saturday, 15 February 2025
Start Time: 09:00
Meeting Point: Deadwood Plain or Jamestown (for bus pick-up 8.30am)
Duration: approx 4hrs

Walk grade: Fairly Strenuous | 7 - 8

A woodland to coastal walk with fantastic views across the island, linking Post Box walks along the way, led by Adam Sizeland (Museum Director).

Transport will be provided from The Canister, Jamestown at 8.30am to the start of the walk at Deadwood. Park your vehicle in Jamestown, be transported to the start of the walk and collect your vehicle when you arrive back in Jamestown. ***Booking is essential, please book by noon on Thursday, 13 February.*** *Contact the Tourist Office T:22158 or louis.youde@shg.gov.sh.*

This walk is suitable for experienced walkers. There are some narrow sections (at a height) and cliffside walking. Remember to wear sensible walking shoes, sunscreen and bring a minimum of 2L of water.

Date	Upcoming Walks
Saturday, 22 Feb 2025	Lot - Peak Dale - Blue Point
Saturday, 1 Mar 2025	Sharks Valley
Sunday, 8 Mar 2025	The Barn

Receive email updates of the 'Walk of the Week' contact Louis Youde louis.youde@shg.gov.sh or the Tourist Office T: 22158

NOTICE BOARD

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Join us!

We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

Senior Human Resources Assistant
(£9,781 per annum)

Here is a great opportunity to start your career in HR! Central Human Resources is seeking to recruit a motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our HR Transactional team. In this post, under the direction of the Human Resources Officer you will be responsible for undertaking a range of HR transactional processes to ensure the delivery of a high quality HR service. Keys areas include recruitment and selection, processing of leavers, contractual changes and providing advice on employment related policies and procedures.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Sharina Williams on Tel No. 22470 or Email sharina.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **12 February 2025**

School Support Officer – Prince Andrew School
(£9,781 per annum)

This diverse role will give you the opportunity to be a part of a small, but busy team providing administrative support to ensure the smooth running of Prince Andrew School and to deliver a high quality, customer focused service. We are seeking to recruit an individual who is confident in using ICT systems including Management Information Systems and MS Office, has experience of working with budget and finance, demonstrates attention to detail and works methodically, and have excellent organisational skills to meet the busy demands of the service.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Phil Toal on Tel No. 24290 or Email phil.toal@sainthelena.edu.sh**
Closing date: **12 February 2025**

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

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Join us!

We are recruiting...

St Helena Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Programme & Project Coordinator (£12,049 per annum)

A Market Enhancement of £3,500 per annum will apply and be reviewed after a 2 year period

Do you have an understanding of project and programme management aspects – e.g. lifecycle, project proposals, procurement and stakeholder management? If so, this could be an opportunity for you! In this role, you will be required to collaborate with all functions of the Programme Management Office, including elements of project planning and delivery, as well as work to improve overall project and programme capacity.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Paul Cherrett on Tel No 22270 or Email: paul.cherrett@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **7 February 2025**

Support Workers - Children's Residential Home (Available for local interest) (£10,361 per annum)

3 Month Fixed-Term Contracts or Casuals

Children's Residential Home is seeking suitable persons with experience of working with young people with the ability to communicate and interact fully showing commitment and dedication to safeguarding to join their team. You will also be required to maintain a high quality of care and support which meets the physical, emotional, intellectual, social and cultural needs of young people within the care setting.

Why not contact us for further information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Annabel Phillips on Tel No. 24386 or Email: annabel.phillips@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **17 February 2025**

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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St Helena Government

Community Care Officer (Casual)
(£5.37 per hour)

Domiciliary Care is seeking a Community Care Officer on a Casual basis to assist with the provision of one-to-one support to enable vulnerable adults to remain living independently in their own homes. The individual's vulnerability could be due to mental or physical disability, frailty or illness. Support will include assessment of needs and provision of personal-care tasks, such as bathing, toileting and dressing and domestic tasks such as meal preparation, cleaning and laundry. An important part of this role will be developing supportive relationships with those you are supporting in their own homes and in the community so that they can continue to live an independent life whilst being safe.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Frederica Youde on Tel No 22920 or Email: frederica.youde@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **21 February 2025**

Care Assistant/Support Workers (Social Care)
Fixed - Term Contracts or Casuals
(£8,113 per annum)
(Available for local interest)

Are you interested in the well-being of clients within the Learning Disabilities units, providing high quality, holistic care directly to frail older people in full time residential and day care, enabling them to live as full and active life as possible? If so, Social Care is seeking support in all of the areas of care; Ebony View, Cape Villa, Deasons or Piccolo Hill. Why not join our team and help make a difference to the lives of our clients.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Kelly Hopkins on Tel no. 23343 or**
Email: kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.gov.sh
Hannah Herne on Tel nos. Cape Villa- 23230
Deasons Centre-23151
Email: hannah.herne@sainthelena.gov.sh
Nicole Hercules on Tel no. 25936
Email: piccolo.hill@helanta.co.sh
Closing date: **21 February 2025**

Benefits

Leave –30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Carpenter

(£8,266 to £8,725 per annum, based on ability and experience)

If you are physically fit, a good communicator and an effective team player, the Building Maintenance Section has an opportunity for you to join their team.
Working as part of the Building Maintenance Team, you will assist with delivering daily operations and maintenance services within the building maintenance section.
Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Decorator

(£8,266 to £8,725 per annum, based on ability and experience)

Would you like to become a Decorator? If so the Building Maintenance Team have an opportunity for you to improve the lives of all within our community and help the island thrive by delivering painting and decorating related tasks and maintenance services within the building maintenance section.

Contact us for more information and a discussion on the above posts

Enquiries: **Rex Young on Tel No 22054 or Email: rex.young@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: 24 February 2025

Joint Emergency Services Control Centre (JESCC) Operator

(£10,747 per annum)

Do you want to make a difference to your community and be of service when it is needed the most? The St Helena JESCC is looking to recruit a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual to form part of their small, but busy team. This role will require you to have excellent communication skills with the ability to deal with vulnerable and distressed members of the public.
Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Mark Coombe on Tel No 22626 or Email: mark.coombe@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: 18 February 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

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We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

Forestry Services Officer
(£12,049 per annum)

The Forestry Services Officer will help to improve the lives of all within our community and help the island thrive through leadership of the Forestry and Facilities Section's forestry services for the SHG National Forest Estate and building maintenance programme for the Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Portfolio's properties. The Forestry Services Officer will Manage the Forestry and Facilities Management Section's (F&FM Section) tree harvesting and extraction programme to meet public demand for raw material, including firewood, saw logs, fencing material and miscellaneous forest products.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Myra Young on Tel No 24724 or Email myra.young@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **19 February 2025**

Marine & Fisheries Conservation Assistant
(£9,781 per annum)

This interesting role is important to enable ENRP to deliver the work programmes (some seasonally) in order to provide the evidence base used to conserve and protect St. Helena's marine environment. The duties are generally split between marine related field work, administration, data and laboratory based work. Some out of hours working is necessary.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Elizabeth Clingham on 24724 or Email elizabeth.clingham@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **19 February 2025**

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

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We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

Marine & Fisheries Conservation Officer (£18,902 per annum)

The Marine and Fisheries team are seeking to recruit an organised and highly effective communicator with a passion for conserving St Helena's marine environment and fisheries management. The post will lead on all elements of the operation of the Marine and Fisheries Conservation Section and deliver the marine and fisheries conservation programme, this will include setting the strategic direction but also ensuring it remains adaptable to the changing marine environment needs and uses. You will also be responsible for both recurrent and project based work areas, including team management, strategic and financial planning, report writing, communications and outreach activities, and building links between relevant stakeholders that are important to, and associated with, the work of the Section.
Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Elizabeth Clingham on Tel No 24724 or Email: elizabeth.clingham@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **19 February 2025**

Waste Management Services Operator (£7,960 per annum) (Fixed Term)

Waste Management Services is seeking to employ a highly motivated individual to join their dedicated team. Successful candidates will be responsible for delivering high standards of cleaning in public areas and toilets, waste collection from homes and businesses and other waste management tasks in line with Standard Operating Procedures. Normal working hours are 0600 hrs to 1330 hrs Monday to Friday, with weekends and Public Holiday working on a rota system. If you are physically fit and an effective team player then we would be interested in hearing from you. Waste Management Services, working towards a cleaner and greener St Helena.

As this is a fixed term role and due to the time restriction, we are only accepting applications from on island candidates. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Karl Martin on Tel No. 24724 or Email karl.martin@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **19 February 2025**

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

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We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

Veterinary & Livestock Assistant
(£9,781 per annum)

The Veterinary & Livestock Assistant will be responsible for the implementation of the routine veterinary programme across the Island, Including treating and deworming of farm animals, diagnosis and treatment of both farm and domestic and to ensure that client cards and data records are kept up to date. The Veterinary & Livestock Assistant will also need to be prepared to undertake certain basic surgical operations for domestic and farm animals as specified by the Senior Veterinary Officer and other miscellaneous surgical operations to include castrations of pigs, goats and sheep.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Andrea Timm on Tel No 24724 or Email: andy.timm@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing date: **19 February 2025**

Benefits

Leave 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

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DRAW YOUR WASTE MANAGEMENT SUPERHERO!

CAN YOU CREATE ST HELENA'S NEWEST SUPERHERO?



RULES

YOUR HERO MUST BE INSPIRED BY RECYCLING

COMPETITION OPENED TO 4 – 11 YEAR OLDS

CLOSING DATE 14TH FEBRUARY 2025

TOP THREE DESIGNS TO RECEIVE ART AND SUSTAINABILITY PRIZE BUNDLES VALUING BETWEEN £50 – £80

- Designs must be done on A4 paper in any medium, with your name, year group & school written on the back.
- Please submit your design to a teacher or drop it off at the St Helena National Trust building in Jamestown.
- ***Waiver***: On entering this competition we automatically reserve the right to use the picture for promotional materials, purchased profitable merchandise, online and print publication.
- ***Disclaimer***: Your entry might not be used in its entirety, but elements may be used to complement a design.
- Any further questions please contact: info@trust.org.sh or call +290 22569
- Winners announced on 18th March 2025 for World Recycling Day

DARWIN PLUS

EMD "Our Island. Our Environment. Our Responsibility."

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

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Delivered in partnership with the South Atlantic Plastics Project

NOTICE BOARD

Traditional Townhouse in Prime Market Street Location - Rare Opportunity

Compton House,

Asking Price - £120,000.00

A unique chance to own a character-filled townhouse in the heart of Market Street.

This property boasts a prime location, offering convenience and charm with immense potential for renovation or development.

Some original features remain, including a charming open courtyard, adding to its authentic appeal.

Whether you are looking for a family home, an investment opportunity, or a project to restore a classic property, the home is full of possibilities.



Serious enquiries only

Do not miss out – contact us today to arrange a viewing.

Stella Yon – sclingham@hotmail.com, **Dave Yon** – dnyon@hotmail.com, on island until 19th February

Community Development Organisation

Appeal to form a Committee

The Community Development Organisation (CDO) was established in 2013 to support St Helena's civil society through a Community Grant Scheme.

SHG funding for the Grant Scheme was suspended in 2020. Nonetheless, the organisation continued to operate, offering match funding grants up to £1,000 from reserves. These grants acted as a vital source of support for local organisations, many of which are solely reliant on volunteers.

At the last AGM, held Tue 14th January 2025, there was failure in forming a committee. The outgoing Chairperson is taking forward another attempt to form a committee and is appealing to all of the community for support.

Outgoing Committee

Chairperson: Mia Henry
Vice Chairperson: Bramwell Bushuru
Treasurer: Danielle Anthony
Secretary: Tara Wortley
Committee Members: Cynthia Bennett
Shayla Ellick

The Bank Balance at 31 March 2024 was £22,818.44.

If you are passionate about and believe in the value of St Helena's voluntary organisations, charities, Community Centres, clubs and Non-Government Organisations, please do come along and meet as follows:

Date: Tuesday 11 Feb| **Time:** 7:30pm | **Where:** Jamestown Community Centre

For more information please contact Mia Henry on 22699 / mia@helanta.co.sh



Greetings from the JTRC

Pat Henry, Contributed

What a sound attitude shown by our five youth members during the last session, expressing how important these activities are to them, while also being understanding of why we couldn't operate last week due to cargo operations. They also understand how these shooting activities are not designed to drill them into competitiveness, but to help enrich their lives, giving them a fun hobby, while helping to support their growth in areas of confidence, self-esteem, sportsmanship and communication. Hari shot a consistent round and was overjoyed with her 90.1 & 91.1, Daniel shot 94 .2 and dropped three points to 91.2 on his second target. Fergus made much improvement with 76.1; his last card was 64. Josie 53 & 53.1, finishing with Ryley who shot 93.1 & 94.3.

Reflecting on this week's night event, members clearly noticed the change made to the lighting, camera system and paint work that displayed a better sighted picture on the targets and the scoring monitor, this will allow everyone to view their cards on the monitor when finished shooting before scores get calculated. It was good to see Jodie Scipio-Constantine popping in for an early and quick shoot before dashing home, she started off with no problem smashing the 10's and then her naughty trigger finger twitched too early and decided to kill the 9's and finished with 96.6; but again no worries, it happens. Two newbies, Scott and Clara, attended and claimed they hadn't shot in such a long time, Scott with air guns and Clara with high powered guns. Our target rifles are designed to accommodate a smoother precise precision with non-recoil or rebound after impact. After explaining the key points, they both settled in on the firing point with their guns aiming to give it their all. Scott shot 87 & 87, Clara 84 & 91.5, a good display from both. Simon was pleased with his performance with 98.5, nice to have Doug back on holiday, he shot 93, Jordan managed well with 95.3 & 100.8, Jannie shot 93.2 & 92.2, Sharina for her first time to shoot a rifle, giving it a go with confidence on the bench-rest which she enjoyed, shot an 88.2 on her final shoot; this was a good and pleasing start for her. We all received a healthy and an enjoyable night, thanks guys!

Last Thursday's pistol shooting reflected another enjoyable event that, without a doubt, can get you hook, line and sinker - giving you an incredible feeling. So, remember to come on Thursday nights and experience this wonderful art. Who knows, you might be the one who gets hooked? Have a healthy and pleasant weekend.

BillyHead Texas Scramble



SHGC, Contributed

On Sunday, 2 February, a total of 13 teams participated in the "BillyHead Texas Scramble." The event showed a competitive spirit and camaraderie among the golfers.

Out of the 13 teams that competed, an impressive nine scored 40 points or more. The scoring format used was likely based on a Stableford system, which awards points based on the number of strokes taken relative to par.

The winners of the tournament were Annette Dllacourt and Pat Henry, who achieved a score of 43 points. Their performance was strong enough to secure victory after a count back against another team with the same score.

Following closely in second place were Helen Stevens and Jeff Stevens, who also scored 43 points but lost out on the count back criteria. This indicates that their performance in specific holes did not match that of Dllacourt and Henry.

The third prize was awarded to Martin and Richard Joshua, who scored 42 points. They were part of a group of four teams that achieved this score. The other teams with scores of 42 points included Tony Winfield & Peter Johnson and Auggie Augustus & Eddy Bowers

In contrast to the top performers, Paddo Johnson and Henzie Beard received the Booby Prize, which is typically awarded to the team with the lowest score. This adds an element of fun to the competition by recognising all participants.

Two notable achievements during this scramble were recorded as "2's" which are typically birdies made on par-3 holes. Auggie & Eddy along with Neil Joshua & Glen both scored these birdies and shared in the two-ball pool prize for their efforts.

A special thank you was extended to Mr Yon, affectionately known as "Billyhead," for sponsoring all the prizes and contributing to making this event enjoyable for all participants.

Upcoming Events

9th February: A Three Club Strokeplay Competition to celebrate the life of Leon Crowie. Sponsored by Leon Crowie's family

16th February: The rescheduled Charlie Ruddy Stableford competition

21stFebruary: Annual Dinner Dance, see notice board for details.

Happy swinging!

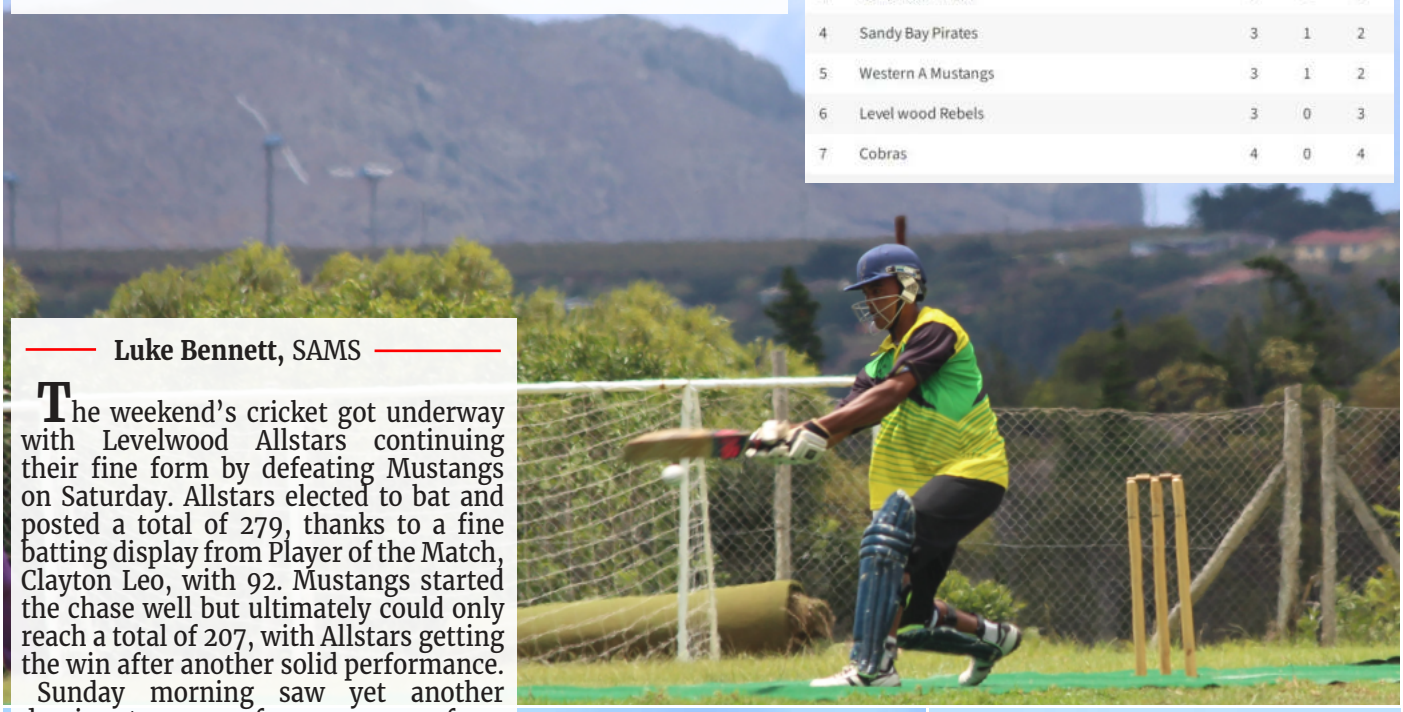
SPORTS ARENA

Hot on their Heels

Allstars level on points with Challengers as the two set to clash this weekend

League Matches (League Matches)

#	Team	M	W	L
1	Challengers 2025	4	4	0
2	Levelwood Allstars	4	4	0
3	Jamestown Heat	3	2	1
4	Sandy Bay Pirates	3	1	2
5	Western A Mustangs	3	1	2
6	Level wood Rebels	3	0	3
7	Cobras	4	0	4



Luke Bennett, SAMS

The weekend's cricket got underway with Levelwood Allstars continuing their fine form by defeating Mustangs on Saturday. Allstars elected to bat and posted a total of 279, thanks to a fine batting display from Player of the Match, Clayton Leo, with 92. Mustangs started the chase well but ultimately could only reach a total of 207, with Allstars getting the win after another solid performance.

Sunday morning saw yet another dominant performance from Challengers, taking the win over Cobras with relative ease. Cobras batted first but was restricted to a total of 80 all out, largely thanks to an outstanding bowling display from Player of the Match, Jordan Yon, who came away with six wickets for 15 runs. Although losing three wickets in the chase, Challengers reached the total within 7 overs.

The final match of the weekend saw Levelwood Rebels take on Jamestown Heat. Rebels batted first and a quality batting innings from Weston Clingham helped Rebels to produce a score of 194. However, it was Player of the Match, 14-year-old Lebron George, who stole the show and demonstrated some impressive bowling when he dismantled Rebels top order and came away with four wickets. A steady opening partnership, and a well played 72 from Makyle Fuller, would see Jamestown Heat reach the total in 30 overs, registering their second win of the season.

This was another brilliant weekend of local cricket which saw Challengers continue their destructive form, with Allstars hot on their heels, making an exciting build up for when they face each other in the next fixture this weekend.

Results

Cobras 80/10
Challengers 81/3
Challengers won by 7 wkts

Levelwood Allstars 279/7
Western A Mustangs 207/9
Levelwood Allstars won by 72 runs

Levelwood Rebels 194/10
Jamestown Heat 195/5
Jamestown Heat won by 5 wkts

Fixtures

Sat 8th Feb
12:15
Western A Mustangs v Jamestown Heat
Cliff Richards & Andrew Yon

Sun 9th Feb
08:30
Levelwood Rebels v Sandy Bay Pirates
Gavin George & David George
13:15
Levelwood Allstars v Challengers
Scott Crowie & Gareth Johnson



