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SENTINEL

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"Our breakthrough"

STC welcomes arrival of MFV 'St Albatros'



Two Ships, No Offloading

Ready, Set, GO in Brussels





OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Luke Bennett, SAMS

If you look back to last week's issue of The Sentinel, you'll see that I did a snippet called the 'Beautiful Mission' after having a very interesting interview with Hugh de Kerdrel.

Long story short, he made a promise to a sick little boy that he would swim with the whale sharks for him and, after arriving on St Helena, he managed to keep his promise and even named a whale shark after the boy. From this, he came up with a plan to help the whale sharks by tracking them to help protect the waters they travel in.

I have worked in the Marine Section before and I know how difficult it was when scientists came here and tried to tag and track these gentle giants - many have tried and failed and, to be honest, I'm not sure if there is any information on where they go from here or where they come from!

This makes me wonder, with all the technology and some of the best scientists in the world, how is it that we still don't know enough about the ocean and what is really out there?

People laugh when you talk about the Megalodon, the Kraken, Mermaids etc. But why? A quick Google search will tell you that only around five percent of the world's ocean has been explored. There are new species being found all the time as the years go on. I know of a few unknown species that have been found here. So, it makes you think, could the stories be true?

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

About nine years ago, my son Benjamin brought his young son out to Ascension, and we marked Louis' visit by planting two mango trees in front of the bungalow. Two of our friends now live in that bungalow, and from time to time they let us know how the trees are progressing. Afew months ago, we were informed that the company who owns the bungalow was insisting that the two trees be cut down due to possible risks to the foundation of the bungalow. Fortunately, our friends involved the Ascension Island Conservation and both trees were given protection.

Last week our friends sent us a photo of a bowl of mangoes from the trees.



In reply, I sent them a story of the senseless destruction of a mature avocado tree on St Helena sometime between 2016 and 2017. I would like to share a copy of the story with you:

In 2016 Delphia and I came home on holiday. During our few weeks, we went to see Longwood House or 'Napoleon's house' for the first time. It was all very interesting, but one of the things that interested me most was all the avocados on a huge tree just a short distance from the house. Look closely at the photo of the tree and you will see the abundance of this very special fruit. I say very special, because research has confirmed just how super beneficial the avocado is to the human body. I was truly amazed at the quantity and the quality of the fruit on the tree; bearing in mind, the ship had just left St Helena and the imported avocados on sale in the shops were blackish, very soft and very expensive. I just couldn't believe St Helena had been showing the people for years that we can, and we need to, produce our own local avocados.

We returned to Ascension, and I showed my work colleagues the photo; they too were very intrigued.

In June 2017 we returned to St Helena permanently, and soon after I went to visit an old friend of mine in Longwood. On my way back home, I decided to drive by Napoleon's House to check if the avocado tree was blooming or bearing. I was perplexed to see that the tree was missing.

After being elected to serve on the Legislative Council, I served as a rep. on the National Trust. The French Consul, Michel Dancoisne-Martineau, also served on the National Trust. One day, in a private conversation, I voiced my concerns relating to the missing avocado tree at Longwood House. Michel told me that, "the tree was obscuring the house...".Now, clearly that is not the case according to this photo with Delphia in it.

Conservation protected your mango trees on Ascension. The French Consul is protected by legal immunity on St Helena.

God only knows how long that avocado tree had been growing near Napoleon's House to reach that size, but Mother Nature has showed us how avocado trees, in particular, can thrive and produce in Longwood.

There is nothing one can do now to



YOUR LETTERS



reverse the senseless destruction of one of St Helena's most precious fruit trees. However, the least we can do is plant more avocado trees in Longwood and then take comfort in knowing that some years into the future our future generations will one day reap the benefits.

Four years ago, I gave a friend of mine, who lives quite near to Napoleon's House, a young avocado tree to plant near his house. Yesterday, I went to see the tree's progress for the first time and took a photo. It was so lovely to see the tree happily growing. It will be many years yet before the young tree reaches the size and maturity of that ill-fated avocado tree; but it gave me a blissful glimpse into the future.

Take good care,

Cyril Leo





Dear Editor,

Last week's Independent included text from Councillor Midwinter's Adjournment Debate in the Legislative Council meeting, 13 February 2025. It said "over our first two years in office, we put in place the building blocks of a new Ministerial System, such as the revised Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, and Ministerial Code of Conduct, and we set up the two Scrutiny Committees."

It reminded me that I'd heard similar comments over the past three years along the lines that the first part of this Council's term of office had to be taken up with working out roles and responsibilities and developing codes of conduct. Why was this necessary? Did it delay other productive work?

During the last two years of the last Council (2020/21) as a Member of Council, I was part of a Governance Reform Implementation Group specifically set up to prepare for the transition from a Committee System to a Ministerial form of Government. Membership included the Governor, other representatives from his office, the Attorney General and other support from his Chambers, the Deputy Speaker and a senior official from Central Administration. A lot of preparatory work was carried out including draft documentation for a code of conduct for LegCo members, the Roles of the Public Accounts Committee, the Scrutiny Committees, revised Standing Orders, Ministerial Code of Conduct, Roles and Responsibilities plus the allocation of all laws to new Portfolios, draft changes to the constitution which were discussed with London, guidance on the law making process, induction packs for new councillors and plans for training sessions by the Civil Service College for the new councillors when elected. It also included plans for the upcoming General Election.

The ongoing impression to anyone not aware that this work had been done could be that the introduction and implementation of the new form of Ministerial Government had been rushed and nothing or very little had been prepared.

That's exactly what a contributed article said in the Independent of 20 December 2024. The article headed CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW: MINISTERIAL GOVERNMENT said in its fourth paragraph "Perhaps the most surprising aspect of the introduction of the Ministerial system here is the lack of preparation for it. There was for example, no Ministerial Code of Conduct in place for over a year after the Chief Minister and other Ministers came into office, even though it is a requirement of section 71 of the Constitution that there be one. The recommendation that a Ministerial system be introduced should have been accompanied by the preparation of all things necessary for its introduction, including a draft Code of Conduct. Some thought should also have been given to what assistance the new Ministers would need in their roles, which nobody on the Island has any experience of."

I'd be quite interested in a response and perhaps SHG can also clarify as they have the actual records. I'm also happy to chat with the author of that article published on 20 December 2024.

Tony Green
Knollcombes

Up Da Arch!



Iconic landmark to undergo "essential repairs" to structure

Liam Yon, SAMS

The structural integrity of a popular spot in lower Jamestown will soon be addressed, with The Arch to undergo "essential repairs" by SHG's building works section.

The Arch in Jamestown is an iconic landmark for St Helena; linking Main Street, Jamestown, with the Sea Front and the Jamestown Wharf, while visitors arriving by sea - either via Yacht or Cruise Ship - will walk through The Arch as an introduction to Jamestown and the Island.

Last year, The Arch received a freshen up by the New Horizons with new paint and finishing. However, there remain issues with the structural integrity of The Arch. These issues are also concerning when you consider that The Arch is a popular location for people both during the day and night; especially so on weekends and during Island events such as Carnival and St Helena's Day, where it is often used as a viewing point for street parades and other activities on the Grand Parade or Sea Front below.

Soon though, the structure of the Arch will be addressed, with the Highways Authority having approved necessary road closures during the first two Wednesdays of March, to allow the team at SHG's building works section to carry out "essential repairs."

"The Highways Authority has approved the road going through The Arch in Jamestown (leading to the sea front) to be closed to all vehicular traffic and pedestrians on Wednesday 5 March and also on 12 March from 1pm to 3.30pm," announced SHG in a recent public notice. "This closure is necessary for essential repairs to the arch structure by the Building Works Section. Pedestrian access to the wharf and lower Jamestown will be via the Terrace and Harbour View steps."

As always, during this road closure, emergency services only will be granted access.







A Swell Time

MV Karoline cargo operations delayed as SHG extend island weather warning

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena continues to experience a strong north-westerly swell, with SHG indicating that this is likely to be the case up until Monday, 3 March. As so often happens, this swell has resulted in "unsettled sea conditions in both James and Rupert's Bay" which is having a negative effect on cargo operations in relation to the island's sea freight service.

The MV Karoline arrived to James Bay on Monday ahead of schedule due to efficiencies experienced during transhipment operations in Cape Town as reported. This earlier arrival however has been offset by the fact that, due to poor sea conditions, cargo operations have been unable to get underway as expected.

Since her arrival, cargo operations for the Karoline planned for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday have all had to be cancelled, with the latest plan (at the time of writing) being for cargo operations to commence on Thursday, with a revised labour take-on time of 7am on Thursday morning, though this was again "pending assessment of sea conditions" as informed by Solomons.

With SHG advising that the current north-westerly swell could run up until Monday, it is unknown how long it will take for cargo operations to be completed during this voyage of the MV Karoline.

Additionally, SHG have issued the usual advice to the community during these times of rough seas. "Boat owners are advised to ensure their vessels are securely moored during this period," they said. "Swimmers should exercise extreme caution when entering the water in James and Rupert's Bay and refrain from using life rings and other lifesaving equipment for recreational swimming."

In addition, SHG are advising motorists "to avoid parking near the rails on the seafront and individuals are asked to use caution when in close proximity to the railings due to the potential risk of wave overspray and associated hazards."

As always, the Emergency Planning Department will "continue to monitor the situation closely."



BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services
2nd March
Sandy Bay Chapel 08.45 am
Head O'Wain Chapel 10.45 am
Jamestown Chapel 6.00 pm

Bible Studies
Tuesday 4th March
Baptist School Hall 7.00 pm
Thursday 6th March
Sandy Bay Chapel 5.30 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

For further information contact:
Tel No 24644

"I believe we have received our breakthrough"

STC welcomes arrival of 'St Albatros' offshore fishing vessel from Cape Town with the hope that SHG will now issue them with a "license to fish"



Liam Yon, SAMS

In the late hours of Saturday evening, 22 February, a new vessel arrived to James Bay with the Saints Tuna Corporation (STC) welcoming offshore fishing vessel 'MFV St Albatros'; something described as a "breakthrough" by STC Director, Johann Bezuidenhout.

"There are still challenges, but I believe we have received our breakthrough and that SHG will issue us with our license to fish," commented Johann to The Sentinel on Sunday, following the vessel's arrival.

The St Alabatros arrived to St Helena having begun its journey all the way from Cape Town following the completion of relevant surveys that side. STC are positive and hopeful that the arrival of the St Albatros will be a step in the right direction for the operations of the factory and their aim to carry out offshore fishing via their own dedicated vessel.

On the flipside, a member of the local fishing community also made contact with The Sentinel, describing the arrival of the unlicensed St Albatros as "a brazen, in your face, direct confrontation with the legal requirements," where they opinionated that sailing with no MCA registration is STC simply "gambling on the ability to bulldoze through the regulatory requirements and obtain a local licence without registration."

The Sentinel is awaiting a more comprehensive update from STC on what will happen next following the arrival of their offshore fishing vessel.





Ready, Set, GO in Brussels



Minister Scipio attending GO workshop on Climate Change Resilience in Belgium

Liam Yon, SAMS

Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Planning (ENRP), Christine Scipio, is currently in Brussels, Belgium, to attend the "Climate Change Resilience" Community (GOCCR) in-person workshop from 25-28 February.

According to information provided by SHG, this workshop, organised under the Green Overseas (GO) programme, "focuses on mainstreaming climate change resilience into policies for Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs)" with the GO programme covering all costs associated with the workshop.

"The GO programme, designed to build capacity and foster collaboration among OCTs, addresses key areas such as climate finance, energy transition, and climate change resilience," further explained SHG. "The Brussels workshop, implemented by Ramboll, ODI, and BRL ingénierie, aims to promote the integration of climate change resilience into OCT public policies and regulations, and facilitate the practical implementation of adaptation strategies."

The four-day workshop in Brussels comprises a range of topics, described as "critical" by SHG. These include building a shared knowledge-base on climate risks, with participants set to explore methods for understanding and assessing climate change impacts; overcoming institutional barriers, looking at strategies for promoting leadership and coordination in climate change adaptation; a field visit to the Flemish SIGMA plan and the Polders of Kruibeke to provide practical insights into flood management and resilience; and climate finance, where participants will learn about unlocking climate finance access for climate change resilience projects.

"Despite differences in size, systems of government, economic and social development, the overseas territories faces similar challenges," commented Minister Scipio.

Despite being off-Island to attend this conference, Minister Scipio remains contactable on christine.scipio@helanta.co.sh and christine.scipio@sainthelena.gov.sh. The Minister for ENRP will return to the island on Saturday, 8 March, with Minister Jeffrey Ellick currently being the contact for any urgent matters related to ENRP, via email at jeffrey.ellick@sainthelena.gov.sh.





Now You See Me



Improved Optometry and Ophthalmology service for St Helena

Anita Robbertse

Last year in December, St Helena was visited by an optometry team from South Africa. The team consisted of Ophthalmologist, Dr. Freddie van der Colff, Technician,Jean-Luc Neefs, and Optometrist, Stephanie van Dyk.

Dr van der Colff is an eye specialist based in Cape Town at the Cape-Eye practice together with his partner. They perform ophthalmologic surgeries at Panorama Hospital, a hospital Saint Helenians will be very familiar with as this is where medical referrals from the island used to go for treatment in the past. Dr van der Colff came to St Helena in December to catch up on ophthalmology treatments and cataract surgeries that were due to be undertaken. During his time on island he managed to do in the region of ten surgeries, while also seeing many more patients with ophthalmological issues. His colleague, Dr. Thomas, will visit the island during June/July 2025 to undertake some more necessary ophthalmological surgeries.

Jean-Luc, a Technician from Invision Africa,specialising in ophthalmological equipment, accompanied the group to undertake the installation of a PHACO machine that was used to perform the cataract surgeries and also to assist with the technical side during these surgeries. This equipment was purchased by the Health Section last year from the FCDO Essential Equipment Funding to facilitate (amongst other things) cataract operations to be performed on island.

Stephanie works for a big group in South Africa called Spectacle Warehouse whogot involved with the Health Portfolio here on St Helena with the aim to provide a high standard of affordable optometric care to the island, while also ensuring more regular visits and shorter delivery times on spectacles. During her seven days of consultations, she managed to see around 90 to 100 patients for eye tests and assessments.

On both the ophthalmology and optometry side, there is quite a backlog of patients waiting on treatments, consultations and surgeries. The reasoning behind bringing in the team to do the surgeries on island is to enable more patients to be treated locally instead of only a couple being sent for treatment in South Africa per annum as medical referrals, making the limited budget go further. Cataract surgery is probably one of the biggest areas of treatment in ophthalmology. Cataracts occur more often in older people, but diabetes can cause cataracts to form at an earlier age. Diabetes is also an underlying cause for a lot of retinal problems.

On the optometry side, the backlog was caused by the service only being accessible on an infrequent basis. Stephanie said that the condition of eyes change frequently and as such needs to be assessed on a regular basis to make the necessary adjustments. This is one of the reasons the decision was made to come for shorter periods of time but on a more frequent basis.

Stephanie said that during her consultations she identified a variety of pathologies as is always the case when working with the human body. Where more complex cases presented, it was quite helpful to have Dr van der Colff present to consult with and work in collaboration to find solutions.

When the opportunity to work with the Health Portfolio on St Helena arose, the team at Spectacle Warehouse had to do some out-of-the-box thinking to come up with creative solutions with regards to the equipment and stock they had to bring to the island. Stephanie said they were quite pleased with how well the clinic was already set up, but they did have to bring some equipment along as they were determined not to compromise on the quality of service they would be offering here on island. One of the pieces of equipment they brought with them was an auto-refractor which is invaluable to establish a baseline. Anauto-refractoris a machine that opticians use to measure how light changes as it comes into the eye, giving an accurate estimate of the prescription required.

A phoropter is another instrument that was used during their consultations.Comprised of cylinders, prisms, and lenses that measure the eye's refractive error to help determine an eye prescription. Phoroptors can also be used to measure the eye's natural resting position, near-distance focal ability, binocular vision and eye movements. The phoropter provides a more compact and user-friendly option as opposed to the use of individual lenses. It is also less time consuming and not as bulky to travel with. A phoropter needs a special stand to position it for testing. As this stand is heavy, bulky and difficult to travel with, the director of Spectacle

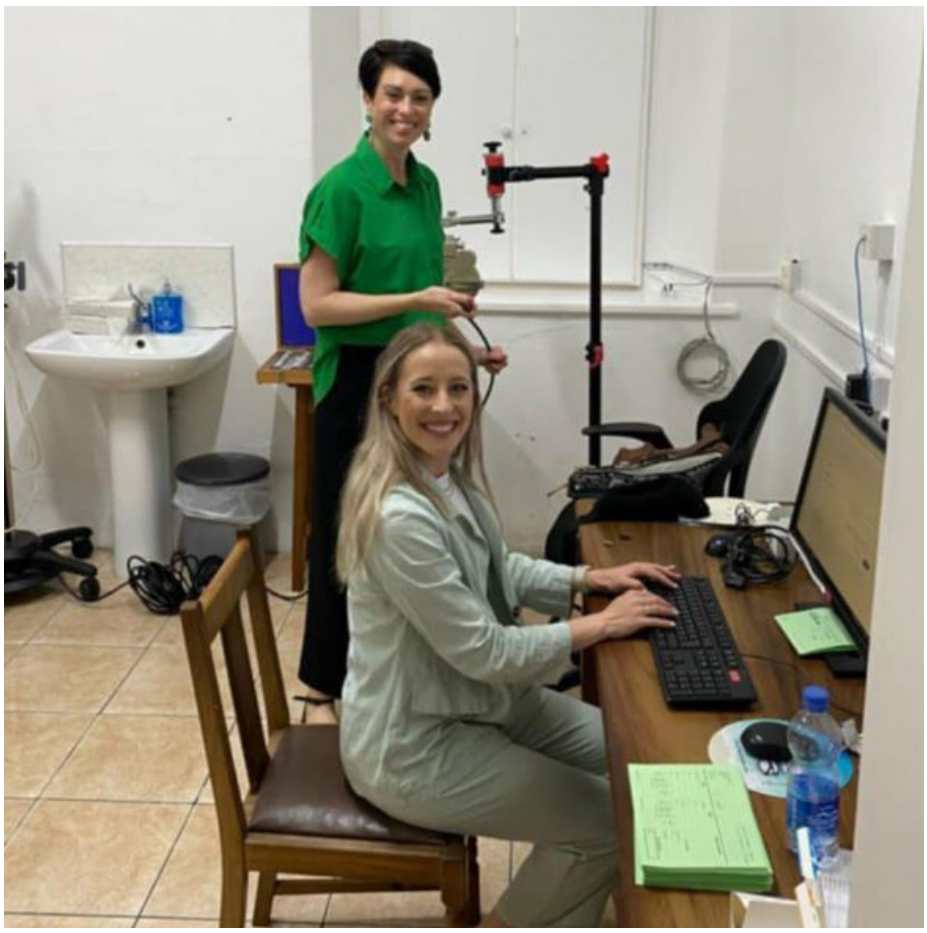
Warehouse built an alternative compact stand that would be more practical to travel with and could be set up in the clinic here on St Helena without compromising the results of the measurements.Another piece of equipment brought in with the team and utilised during consultations is an electronic VA chart (or wall chart).

The partnership with Spectacle Warehouse should be very advantageous to St Helena as they are a big optometry company in South Africa and one of the few companies that have in-house labs that can manufacture their own lenses, including bi-focal and multifocal lenses. This will ensure a quicker turn-around time when providing spectacles. It also ensures that a more affordable product can be provided. This is also reflected in the mission statement of Spectacle Warehouse to offer a wide range of products to meet the client on their level of affordability from entry-level to designer products. The longest turn-around time for manufacturing lenses would be three weeks for a really complex pair of spectacles. Shipping will have to be factored in when calculating delivery time to St Helena, but the team is determined to provide prescriptions as quickly as possible.

Within the organisation, there are four groups of six optometrists which make it more feasible for them to send an optometrist or two to the island for consultations without impacting any one of their practices in South Africaspecifically. Stephanie also reaffirmed their commitment to establishing a long-term relationship with St Helena Island's healthcare service.

Stephanie is planning to return to St Helena for the next visit with another optometrist on 15 March. On this visit, they plan to see more people with the two optometrists increasing the capacity for consultations. As there is such a big backlog on the optometry side, they are planning to do four visits per year. Continuous treatment is essential in managing certain conditions and these more frequent visits will enable the team to monitor patients more effectively as well as support preventative measures.

This is all very positive news for eye care on the island and if things work out the way it is planned, it could turn out to be a very positive collaboration between the Health Portfolio and Spectacle Warehouse, moving towards a future of clearer vision on St Helena.









Don't be in doubt – Keep the cyber criminals out!

SHG launch follow-up survey on Cyber Security Awareness and Training Campaign



Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government are looking to determine the success of their Cyber Security Awareness and Training Campaign that has been ongoing over the past two years since it was launched in February 2023,"in light of the Equiano internet cable project enabling faster and less restricted internet access to the community," as put by SHG; with a follow-up survey having been launched.

"Led by Cyber Security Awareness and Training Officer, Gareth Drabble, this campaign included the distribution of educational posters, radio jingles and videos," commented SHG about their campaign. "In-person presentations and workshops were also completed with a number of SHG staff as well as the general public, in community centres and schools around the Island."

Though currently largely underutilised, the landing of a subsea cable bringing the island high-speed fibre connectivity, has improved the island's digital presence through more easily accessed, cheaper connectivity. SHG explained how "the goal of this campaign is to raise St Helena's overall awareness of common cyber security threats and provide the knowledge and training necessary to safeguard against these threats."

Now, two years on since this work began, SHG are seeking to identify whether this goal of increasing cyber security awareness is being achieved or not.

To this end they are appealing to the community to complete a Cyber Security Awareness Campaign Follow-Up Survey questionnaire, with the hope that as many people as possible participate in order "to drive a more accurate understanding of public levels of cyber awareness."

The survey, setup via popular survey creator 'Survey Monkey' is available both online; with a QR Code located at the Post and Customer Services Centre, various places within the General Hospital, the Castle Reception, the Public Library, and also the Customs Building; while hard copies are also available from the Post and Customer Service Centre in Jamestown, or by contacting Gareth directly on telephone number 22816 or via email: gareth.drabble@sainthelena.gov.sh. For ease, the QR Code is also available here. Completed questionnaires are asked to be returned as soon as possible, but by no later than Monday, 31 March.

Two Ships, No Offloading

Sea conditions delay operations for Fuel Tanker MT Ardberg



Liam Yon, SAMS

Early on Wednesday, Fuel Tanker MT Ardberg arrived to James Bay to unfavourable sea conditions, with the aim of replenishing island fuel stocks.

"Once clearance is complete, the vessel will dock at Rupert's Jetty, however, due to the current sea conditions, it is not known when bunkering will take place," said SHG ahead of her arrival.

Therefore, as it stands (at the time of writing) there are two vessels sat in James Bay waiting to be offloaded. Though, with SHG indicating that sea conditions could remain unsettled until Monday of next week, it is unknown when these vessels can begin with their unloading process and which vessel will be given priority to dock alongside Rupert's Jetty when conditions become favourable.

As put by former Councillor, Russel Yon, in a social media post on Wednesday, "Mother nature plays a very big part on this little Island of ours."

Be Right Back

Minister Brooks departs on overseas leave

Liam Yon, SAMS

Minister Mark Brooks of the Treasury and Economic Development Portfolio departed the island on Saturday, 22 February, for a period of overseas leave in Cape Town, South Africa.

SHG was keen to stress that "all expenses for this trip is being covered by Minister Brooks," however they did add that during his two-weeks away, the Minister plans to "utilise the opportunity to undertake meetings in relation to his ministerial work."

Minister Brooks is scheduled to return to the island next Saturday, 8 March, however is still contactable during his period away via mark.brooks@sainthelena.gov.sh.In the meantime, Chief Minister, Julie Thomas, will be the contact for any urgent issues in relation to the Treasury and Economic Development Portfolio, until Minister Brooks' return.

The current Legislative Council are nearing the final months of their current tenure as Elected Members, with dissolution set for June. The twelve serving members, bar Cllr Knipe, were elected to serve by the people of St Helena back in October 2021 as the island's first Ministerial Government during that year's General Election.

Despite the end of his current term being near, Minister Brooks has committed to following up on a number of enquiries with The Sentinel upon his return; one of which relates to steps being taken, via the recently endorsed Property Purchase and Disposal Policy, to address housing affordability for first time homeowners on St Helena.

Onwards and Upwards

New Horizons successfully elect a new committee



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

During Monday evening of last week, the New Horizons youth club held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and this time - after the previous attempt at having an AGM, where there were too few people in attendance to elect a committee -a successful AGM was held with 22 attendees.

The Chairperson, Manager and Treasurers reports were presented to all present, after which the current committee was dissolved.

The new committee was elected with Mrs Leeanne Henry and Mr William Knipe being re-elected as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson respectively. Miss Danielle Anthony also agreed to another termas Treasurer. Mrs Tara Wortley was elected as the new Secretary and the last member of the executive committee.

The Youth Members elected in the 11-15 years age groupwere Tyler Anthony and Lukas Robbertse, and in the 16-17 years age group, Katelyn Benjamin.

"We are pleased to advise that we have formed a new committee," commented Scott Crowie, Manager of New Horizons."We would like to thank everyone who attended and we look forward to working with you all."

After successfully electing the new committee, some revisions to the constitution were discussed and approved, after which the AGM came to an end.

Scott indicated also that New Horizons would continue working towards improving their service offering to the young people of St Helena as they look forward to encouraging more feedback and input from the youth members elected to the committee during their term.

Book of the Week

Public Library Service



Queen Consort – The Life of Queen Camilla by Penny Junor

A gripping story of human frailty, love, loss, sadness, and tragedy' Daily Mail

She is the most public and least understood woman in Britain. Diana called her a Rottweiler. Prince Harry said she was a villain. But spend two minutes with Camilla and you understand why Charles fell for her. The relationship between King Charles III and Camilla, Queen Consort, is one of the most extraordinary, star-crossed love stories of the past fifty years. It has endured against all the odds, and in the process nearly destroyed the British monarchy.

In this compelling biography, Britain's top royal author paints an intimate portrait of the Queen Consort, revealing for the first time why the King went against his mother and risked everything to have Camilla by his side.

Please reserve by contacting the following:-
Telephone Number: 22580
Email: publiclibrary@helanta.co.sh

LIFESTYLE & CULTURE

Spending "quality time" on St Helena



Paul Blake - Train Enthusiast, Fishing Lover, and Radio Presenter

Demy Herne, SAMS

Paul Blake recently spent four weeks on the island and, during his stay, SAMS presenter, Tony Leo, had the opportunity to interview him; their conversation revealing Paul's deep passion for trains, fishing, and his involvement in radio.

When asked how many times he had visited St Helena, Paul said he thinks it was his sixth trip here. "I mean it took me 38 years to get here in the first instance because I had to retire first before I could spend sufficient time away to be able to do it," he revealed.

Before retiring, Paul had an impressive career. He started his working life as a commis chef and later transitioned into motor vehicle mechanics. From there, he worked as a prototype mechanic and eventually became a test engineer, quality manager, and later, a program manager at a global IT company called Visteon. As Paul recalled, "I knew nothing about IT, but I was good at program management. So that's what I ended up doing."

When asked if his visits were linked to family, he answered, "Yes, and that's why I come to see family, to see friends and spend quality time with them."

A lifelong train enthusiast, Paul's love for railways began in his childhood. "I lived in Wiltshire very close to a railway line, the Bristol to Salisbury line, and I was fascinated by the steam trains," he explained. This early fascination grew into a deep appreciation for the mechanical engineering behind them. "People say they're big, ugly, noisy, steamy horrible things, but you actually look at them and they are superb examples of mechanical engineering."

His love for trains goes beyond just admiration; participating in rail tours and travelling on freight lines to places not typically accessible by passenger trains. His travels have taken him far, including a railway holiday from London to Switzerland. He shared a memorable moment from the trip. "We were going up the mountain on a rack and pinion and it was steam... anyway going up in the tunnel and in this tunnel you're in a sort of semi-open carriage... when we came out the tunnel the whole train was absolutely plastered in soot!"

Paul is also a fisherman. Although his usual fishing spots are in the UK and France, he recently tried fishing on island. He recalled a thrilling fishing experience with local fisherman Julian Bob. "We had a mad three quarters of an hour. I met up with Julian and we got on the Barracuda game, got up on the pontoon and got the tuna going and they were really biting hard and then the whale sharks came along." The sight of three different whale sharks alongside the boat left Paul awestruck. "They came right up to the stern of the boat and just sort of looked up at us with all the pilot fish on it."

Paul appreciates the local fish living within our waters, particularly the Rainbow Runners, which he says, "always put up a good fight."

Paul's involvement in radio is another key aspect of his life. He has kept busy recording radio programs for the island, and thanks to modern technology, he can now do live shows from his home in the UK. "I can now sit in my spare room in the UK, look at the window and just wander off 5,000 miles in my mind," he explained.

In addition to his regular programs, Paul played a crucial role in bringing Saint FM back on air after it went down in November. Reflecting on this effort, he said, "Johnny phoned me and he said we can't let it die can we?" He was determined to help, and together with Johnny, they worked on getting the station back up and running.

Paul's passion for radio extends beyond Saint FM. If the station were ever to close, he already had a backup plan in mind. "I was going to go off and do some work at a hospital radio," he shared. "I thought I would give something back to my local hospital as they looked after me during Covid. I mean without them I wouldn't be here for sure, because we didn't have any vaccines, we didn't have any drugs or anything then."

Paul's experience with Covid-19 was a tough one. He shared, "I didn't realize how bad I had Covid until the doctor, when we were doing the sort of check up showed me my SATS, and they were 72%, so my blood oxygen level was 72%." He also explained how he contracted the virus while in hospital for a different condition. "I caught Covid in the hospital because I was in there for 12 nights with Sialadenitis and I came back home and I gave it to Anne."

Paul's radio studio in the UK is set up in a spare room, which he has transformed into a functional workspace. "It's got a lot of sound absorbing stuff around it, so it doesn't echo," he explained. Using a Rode Mic on a trapeze arm and Mixpad software, Paul is able to record and broadcast from home with ease; though he admits that live shows can sometimes present challenges. "When you're doing something live, it's a little more difficult because you can end up pressing the wrong button."

Reflecting on his work while on island, he said, "I'm about seven-eighths of the way of the to-do list that I have, I still have lots to do, a lot of sorting out and a lot of paperwork."

As he continues to balance his passions for trains, fishing, radio, and family, Paul's time on island has been about making the most of every moment, and leaving a lasting impact. With more work to do before he leaves, Paul looks forward to accomplishing as much as he can during his remaining time on the island.



NOTICE BOARD

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

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

National Genealogy Day 2025

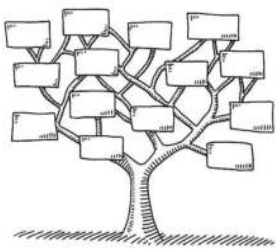
Saturday 8th March

10:00am – 2:00pm – Museum of St Helena

Genealogy is the study of your heritage; it is creating your family tree by researching important dates in your ancestor's histories. Genealogy Day started in 2013 by the Christ Church in Limerick Ireland. Tracing one's genealogy, can uncover fascinating stories and people get to learn more about their ancestors. It has become a passion project for many people worldwide and more so noticeable for Saints and their widespread families.

Join the St Helena National Trust and Guests to mark this day on St Helena!

Programme of Day



10:00	Welcome
10:05	Key Note Speaker – Dr Chris Hillman
10:35	Archive research - Researching ancient ancestry of St Helena
11:05	Genetic ancient testing
11:15	View Family Tree Research Stations
12:00	Film: One Hundred Men

St Helena Island A breath of fresh air

Refreshments will be available.

MUSEUM of St. Helena



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 28
- 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. MAR 01
- 9am-12 Noon: Saturday Show with Demy Herne
- 1pm-3pm: Northward Sounds (repeat)
- 3-5pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna Crowie (Repeat)
- 8:30pm: Out Out (repeat)

SUN. MAR 02
- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Donna Crowie
- 12 noon: Ministers Question Time
- 1pm : Interview Hour
- 3-4:30pm: UK Chart Show with Demy Herne
- 5pm: In Scope
- 7pm: Baptist Church Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations

MON. MAR 03
- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 5:30pm: Country Classics
- 7:30pm: Sound of the 80's with John Turner

TUE. MAR 04
- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Donna
- 9am - 11am : mid morning 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. MAR 05
- 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. MAR 06
- 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

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

sure

Bringing you the

BBC World Service

100.7 (Briars)
88.1 (High Knoll)
102.7 (Blue Hill)

Featured this Week



Did you know that 'The Bar Song' by Shaboozey has been at No.1 for 35 weeks?

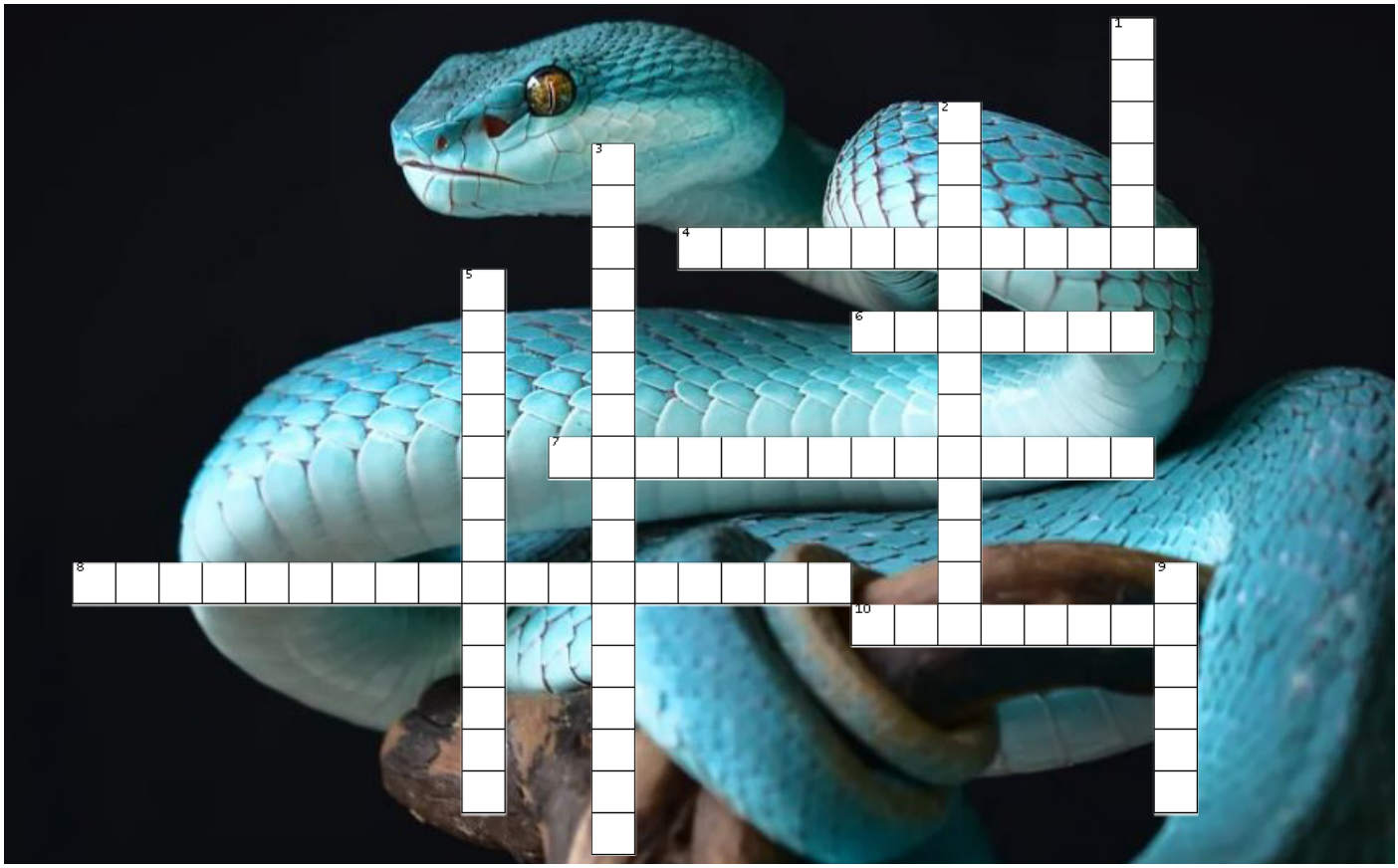
Tune into the Country chart show every Thursday afternoons at 5:30pm, where Donna will keep you updated with the hot country charts and, if you miss it then, tune in for the repeat on Saturdays at 3pm!

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

SAMS South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

TIME OUT

Crossword: Snakes



ACROSS

4. Found in the Australian Outback, what is the most venomous snake in the world? (6,6)
6. What is the description of how a snake moves?
7. Who was the leading Actor on the movie 'Snakes on a Plane'? (6,1,7)
8. What species of snake was recently identified on St Helena and is known as some of the smallest snakes in the world? (8,5,5)
10. Jennifer Lopez, Ice Cube and Owen Wilson star in this movie about a group of people being hunted by a snake in the Amazon.

DOWN

1. In Greek mythology, what character has snakes on her head that could turn you to stone if you look at them?
2. What type of snake is known for its ability to spit venom? (8,5)
3. Which is world's longest snake? (11,6)
5. Kaa is an enormous snake with a large appetite, specifically for a young 'man cub'. What film is he from? (3,6,4)
9. What is name of Voldermort's snake in Harry Potter?

Rebus Puzzle:
Figure out the phrase





Famous Birthday on 27 Feb



Peter Andre (52)

Sentinel Joke of the day

A man asks his wife, "What would you do if I won the lottery?" His wife says, "Take half and leave your!" The man replies, "Great! I won 12 bucks, here is six, now get out!"

Last week's Crossword Answers
Women in Sports

ACROSS
3. America
4. RondaRousey
5. MuhammadAli
6. Gymnastics
7. VenusWilliams
9. TheBellaTwins

DOWN
1. Basketball
2. SerenaWilliams
4. ReeceJames
8. Football

Rebus Answers:

1. Four Wheel Drive, 2. Wise Guy

IN SCOPE: RECAPPED



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

Chief Minister, Julie Thomas, had Gillian Francis (Deputy Chief Secretary), Anne Dillon (Head of Communications) and Carolyn Nutkins (Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development) as her guests 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 Central Support Services (CSS) as part of the Minister's modified zero-based budget with the added £16 million request.

As stated in previous In Scopes on this topic, the reasoning behind the additional money requested was to accurately indicate to the UK government the level of financial support needed for St Helena Government to operate sustainably at a reasonable level of service provision, creating a realistic baseline.

CSS is responsible for providing support to the five Portfolios within SHG as well as to Treasury, Executive and Legislative Council and The Governor's Office. In addition, they also provide services to the general public encompassing eight service areas: Communications Hub; Transport Service; Statistics Office; Human Resources and Organisational Development (HR&OR); Information Technology; Programme Management Office; National Geographic Information Service and the Admin and Information Support Service. CSS is also responsible for the upkeep of Plantation House and its gardens.

Collectively, these eight areas work towards delivering SHG's vision and strategy. Priorities include driving SHG's digital transformation agenda; ensuring effective corporate governance arrangements are in place to achieve St Helena's overarching goals and objectives; encouraging and facilitating openness and transparency across the public service and government; enabling and supporting policy makers, portfolios and the public to make better decisions; supporting the development of the public service through the delivery of an effective people strategy; ensuring the provision of an effective and efficient vehicle hire service; supporting and enabling the government's high-level national objectives through marketing activities; and enabling and supporting the delivery of their vision and strategy through ensuring successful delivery of transformational change.

The allocated 2024/25 budget for CSS was £10.4 million, of which £7.7 million is allocated to Technical Co-operation (TC) funded posts, leaving around £2.7 million to fund the provision of all the other services under the CSS remit.

The marketing function is a relatively new area added to the responsibilities of the Communications Hub. For 2024/25, the budget for marketing was just over £222,000. In addition to this amount, the team is requesting a further £83,000 as part of the modified zero-based budget. As St Helena is a new destination, the largest portion of this amount will go towards increasing publicity for the island in a highly competitive market. The destination promotion of the island will be done making use of various channels amongst other clips on social media like the 'Come find me' campaign. A portion of funding will also be allocated towards developing the Celebrate St Helena brand internationally. In addition, funds will also be allocated to market opportunities for investment and recruitment. This will involve working with PR agencies abroad. An invitation to express interest will go out soon to contract suitable PR agencies to support this initiative.

The current budget for the Communications Hub itself is just over £119,000 with an additional £17,500 being requested. The team makes use of photos and video footage. This type of media takes up a lot of storage space. £15,000 will be used to fund a dedicated archive system for information storage. This will be paid to the IT section which is wholly dependent on recharge fees for funding their service provision. To effectively upload the media used, the team will also require a dedicated broadband package requiring additional funding of £900 for subscription.

The IT section as well as the Transport section operates on a recharge system to fund their services. This means that these two sections' budget is not provided directly through external funding, but is obtained through recharges or invoicing to the portfolio and sections they provide the service to.

The HR&OR section received an amount of around £242,000 and they are looking at additional funding in the region of £43,500. This will be divided between four key areas, but the largest portion of £34,000 will go towards rolling out the rewards and recognition scheme and policy, celebrating staff members for achievements like long service, retirement, qualifications or other special contributions. Although these funds will be allocated to the CSS section, it will be dispersed throughout all portfolios as needed. £4,000 will go towards purchasing an online recruitment system for SHG, bringing about savings in time and money while also avoiding human error whilst managing a more efficient recruitment process. The remaining funds will be used to build up a fund similar to other international recruitment funds within SHG, specifically aimed at assisting and incentivising the return of Saints to the island as employees of SHG. If funding is received for this, policies and procedures to ensure fair allocation and assessment criteria will be developed and put in place.

An additional amount of £1.7 million is also requested to increase Technical Co-operation funding to be spread throughout the public service, with a focus on Health and Social Care as well as Education to fill vacancies and address staff needs in these Portfolios.

Learning and development is another area that will be looking at an increase in budget if the modified zero-based budget is approved. Currently an amount of £191,000 is allocated to this section and an additional £40,000 has been requested to specifically fund long-term training requests abroad.

For the administrative services within CSS, an additional amount of £50,500 was included in the requested funds. With these funds, they are looking to include a new post for a records manager. There is also provision in the funds to replace the current flagpole on the terrace which is deteriorating rapidly. An additional

amount of £25,000 is also needed to provide for a secure storage area at the public swimming pool as well as the replacement of the fencing around the pool area which has been damaged by vandalism over the years. The upkeep of Plantation House and its surroundings will also require an additional amount of £1,500 for the replacement of small equipment.

The next area where funding is needed relates to the UK representative office for St Helena in the UK. Here an increase of around £25,500 is required to support the UK representative office. Included in this is an amount of £4,000 for travel costs to support UK representatives when travelling to accompany Ministers and Officials to conferences abroad as this is an essential requirement. Also included in this amount is £5,000 to fund political receptions to be hosted by the UK representatives on behalf of SHG. Another cost that was included in the requested amount is the increase in office rent. In the UK, the renting of office space is very expensive and this is set to increase even more later this year.

Executive Council, the support secretary, and funding for exposure visits and conferences, was the next area under discussion. The current budget for these expenditure lines are £262,468 and an additional amount of almost £23,000 is requested. This will make provision for an additional staff member dedicated to supporting the Chief Minister in a capacity similar to a private secretary. Similarly, an additional amount of £15,500 will be needed for Legislative council to provide for subsistence payments when the Speaker and members of the PAC attend conferences and meetings abroad. An extra £5,000 will be put towards the CPA branch account that makes provision for expenses incurred by Councillors attending conferences abroad.

For the Project Management Office, £20,000 is needed to reinstate a post that had to be discontinued due to a lack of funding. This will enable the PMO to deliver on their aim to support other portfolios with projects and programmes. There are a lot of bigger projects (for example the changes that is in the pipeline for the Education Portfolio) that the team is looking at doing and a full complement of staff will be needed to support all of these projects effectively.

Technical services added an amount of £6,500 to the amount requested to replace software in compliance with cyber security requirements as access improved with the installation of the fibre optic cable. GIS will also need an amount of £4,500 to improve the technology necessary to deliver services in this section.

The final section discussed with regards to the modified zero-based budget presented to the FAM team was statutory boards, for example the Land Planning and Development Control board and the Immigration Control board. The budget currently allocated to this area is £21,000 and an additional amount of £7,500 is requested to enable SHG to increase the remuneration of the individuals that serve on these boards. It is becoming increasingly difficult to attract interest of people to serve on boards and committees with the small amounts of remuneration that is paid. An amount of £48,000 to fund the roll out of requirements in relation to the data protection project across the department was also included in the request. This funding will mainly be used to create two posts for staff to implement the plan as well as the establishment of a Data Protection Regulatory Authority.

All of the additional amounts requested across CSS add up to an increase of £2.159 million, of which £1.8 million will go towards increasing the TC budget. So across all of the other sections, an amount of £359,000 was requested by CSS as part of the additional £16 million on top of the zero-based budget proposal to the FAM team. It was again stressed that the additional funds is essential in maintaining a reasonable standard of service provision and operations throughout SHG.

Vacancy

Special Orders Clerk

Since 1790

Salary for the post will be £10,184 per annum (£848 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Procurement Department for a Special Orders Clerk.

As the Special Orders Clerk you provide primary support to the Special Orders and Procurement Department whilst ensuring a high level of customer service at all times.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have grade C or above in GCSE English & Maths, or equivalent
- Be computer literate namely in Microsoft Outlook, Excel & Word and able to undertake online research
- Possess experience in basic administration
- Possess experience in Cash Handling
- Possess experience of working in a customer facing environment and have excellent customer service skills
- Have excellent communication skills and ability to use own initiative
- Be well-organised with a keen eye for detail
- Have the ability to multi-task and work to deadlines whilst demonstrating a high degree of accuracy
- Be highly motivated with a can-do attitude
- Be available to work Saturdays

For further information, including the Company's attractive benefits package contact:

Julie Lawrence, Procurement Manager via 22207 procurementmanager@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation &Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **13 March 2025.**

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc offers an attractive benefits package to Employees which includes but are not limited to:

- Pension Contributions
- Staff Discounts

NOTICE BOARD

VACANCY

Connect SAINT HELENA LTD

BILLING ADMINISTRATOR

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is seeking to employ a Billing Administrator.

As an essential member of the Finance team at Connect Saint Helena Ltd, the Billing Administrator plays a key role in ensuring the accurate and timely delivery of customer invoices. This position requires close collaboration with team members and covers a range of responsibilities that includes: Generating invoices based on actual readings or estimates, Establishing, maintaining, and updating customer accounts and Monitoring customer account balances.

EXPERIENCE & QUALITIES

- Computer literate in Microsoft Word, Excel & Email
- Previous experience In Utilities
- Experience of Access Dimensions or similar software
- Have experience in Accounting, using billing software and in a customer focus environment.

QUALIFICATIONS

- GCSEs including English, Maths/Accounts or equivalent

BENEFITS

- A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.
- 15% pension contributions of the base salary and 25 days annual leave.

For further information contact Phanual Shangwa on +290 22255 or email Phanual.Shangwa@connect.co.sh Completed application forms can be handed into the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: Annalisa.Young@connect.co.sh by **9:00am on Monday, 3 March 2025.** To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.

www.connect.co.sh/vacancies.html | connectsainthelenaltd | https://www.linkedin.com/company/connect-saint-helena-ltd/

VACANCY

Connect SAINT HELENA LTD

ELECTRICAL NETWORK SUPPORT WORKER

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is seeking to employ an Electrical Network Support Worker to provide assistance and support to Linesworkers as part of ongoing programmes for preventative maintenance and infrastructure refurbishment of the electricity distribution network.

The role will involve general labourer duties, as well as the requirement to clear and maintain undergrowth and trees from the High Voltage (HV) and Low Voltage (LV) distribution network.

EXPERIENCE & QUALITIES

- General Labourer experience and be Physically Fit
- Commitment to Health and Safety in the work place.
- First Aid Experience
- Driving Licence
- Able to fell trees with precision
- Small machinery experience, Chain Saw & Strimmer's.
- Hand Tool experience, Lopping Shears and Pruners.

BENEFITS

- A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.
- 15% pension contributions of the base salary and 25 days annual leave.

For further information contact Jayamangala Wijesuriya on +290 22255 or email Jayamangala.Wijesuriya@connect.co.sh. Completed application forms can be handed into the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: Annalisa.Young@connect.co.sh by **9:00am on Monday, 3 March 2025.** To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.

www.connect.co.sh/vacancies.html | connectsainthelenaltd | https://www.linkedin.com/company/connect-saint-helena-ltd/

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

INVITATION TO TENDER

RUPERT'S CARGO HANDLING FACILITY – STAFF CAR PARK

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

CS-1922-SHG–Rupert's Cargo Handling Facility – Staff Car Park

A site visit to view the works will take place on Thursday, 27 February 2025, at 09:00, meeting at the Car Park, Sea Rescue Building, Rupert's.

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

Copies of the tender documentand 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 Friday, 07March2025, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

SHG, 17 February 2025

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

SECURITY SERVICES



Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking expressions of interest for a professional dedicated Security Service Provider to join the Bank. You will be responsible for maintaining a safe and secured environment for our staff and our Remote Banking locations.

For further information on requirements, please contact Mrs Karen Buckley, Customer Services Manager on telephone number 22390 or email csmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for Expressions of Interest is **Friday, 07 March 2025** and should be submitted to Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

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

NOTICE BOARD

Festival of Walking
Walk of the Week

St Helena Island

Date: Sunday, 2 March 2025
Start Time: 08:00
Meeting Point: Silver Hill Bar and car share to the Flag Playground, Levelwood
Duration: approx 4 hours

Walk grade: Fairly Strenuous | 7 - 8

Join the St Helena Research Institute on the Sharks Valley Post Box Walk. Explore the valley's natural history whilst learning about wildlife recording and how iRecord St Helena empowers conservation.
Download the iRecord St Helena app before the walk, to record flora and fauna you spot along the way.
There are narrow sections (at a height) and cliffside walking. Pathway can become muddy and slippery when wet. Remember to wear sensible walking shoes, sunscreen and bring a minimum of 2L of water.

Date	Upcoming Walks
Sunday, 9th March 2025	The Barn
Saturday, 15th March 2025	Manati Bay
Saturday, 22nd March 2025	Great Stone Top

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

St Helena Government

MULE YARD







For Lease by the Property Division is the Mule Yard. This is a great business opportunity in a popular recreational area, located near James Bay and with a prominent view of the ocean.

Registered as JT020006 and measured at 0.31 acres. The lease term is 1 year in the first instance with an option for a further 2 years pending the performance of the business.

Closing date for applications is **Friday 21st February 2025**

CONTACT:

Gina Henry - Crown Estates Officer

Essex House, Jamestown

+290 22270

gina.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh

https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/portfolios/treasury-infrastructure-and-sustainable-development/property/

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

CAREERS FAIR 2025

The Education, Skills and Employment Portfolio (ESE) will be hostingCareers Fair 2025 on Thursday, 20 March 2025 at New Horizons and the Leisure Park. The fair will open at 11:00 and close at 19:00. Emergency Services will be located in the Mule Yard.

The aim of the fair is to provide attendees with essential career advice, explore employment opportunities, and promote career development.

This event brings together employers, business owners and representatives from a wide range of organisations to showcase various career paths.

Whether you are looking for career advice to help guide your professional journey, seeking hands-on experience and potential employment opportunities with business representatives, or eager to explore a diverse career path, Careers Fair 2025 has something for you.

There are still stalls available for registration, however, spaces are limited. To secure a spot, please contact the Career Access Office by telephone on 25832 or email Career Access Manager, Glen Yon, at Glen.Yon@sainthelena.gov.shorSupport Officer and Placement Co-ordinator, Sherrilee Phillips, atSherrilee.Phillips@sainthelena.gov.sh.

ESE encouragesinterested parties to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

SHG, 20 February 2025 www.sainthelena.gov.sh

St Helena Government

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

NON–EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

St Helena Government invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from interested persons to undertake the role of **Non-Executive Director** on the Boards of State-Owned Entities (SOEs) and entities in which the St Helena Government has an equity interest.

Representing the St Helena Government as a Non-Executive Director on the boards of its State-OwnedEntities, you will strengthen links between entity strategy and government policy and provide financial leadership equivalent to that of Finance Director. You will be required to collaborate to facilitate an environment conducive to delivering growth, economic development and reform, maintaining effective lines of communication and monitoring arrangements. Helping to manage relationships with key stakeholders, you will work closely with Ministers and Senior Government Officials to articulate the direction of travel for the portfolio in delivering SHG policy.

In this role you will help drive improved performance and collaboration across the economic group, scrutinise and challenge spending and planning initiatives, manage externally commissioned consulting inputs,and implement recommendations designed to strengthen corporate governance and accountability between SHG and its SOEs.

As the SHG appointed Non-Executive Director, you would be expected to represent SHG on the following Boards: Bank of St Helena Ltd; Connect St Helena Ltd; St Helena Hotel Development Ltd; St Helena Airport Ltd and Solomon & Company (St Helena) PLC.

To provide the capacity required to help drive improvements in governance and performance across the SOEs this will be a full-time role although consideration may also be given to part-time and remote working options. However, the post holder will be required to be flexible and be able to respond to demand and work requirements. The role will include contribution to the SOE transformation agenda in addition to routine attendance at Board meetings, preparation time and reporting to Ministers and Officials.

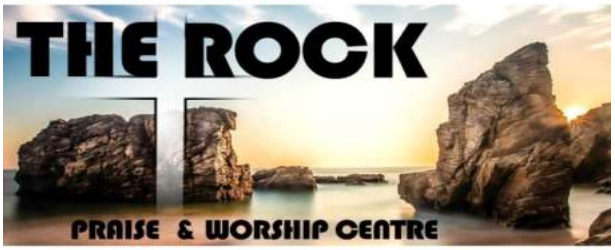
You will have had to have held a similar role for a number of years and be a CIMA/ACCA or CCAB qualified accountant or equivalent with current membership and up to date CPD record. Experienced at board level in key industries such as utilities, banking, hospitality, insurance or retail would be an advantage. With a background in Public Sector organisations and being politically astute, your excellent interpersonal skills include listeningand negotiating and an ability to present detailed information in an informative and influential manner.

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the terms of reference, interested persons should contact:
Phil Sharman, SOE Non-Executive Director by email: phil.sharman@shg.gov.sh or by visiting the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies.
Applications by CV and covering letter should be submitted by e-mail to recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Friday, 21st March 2025**

NOTICE BOARD

DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 2nd March 2025– 8th Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Peter
	5th March – Ash Wednesday	
9.00 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Service	PAS
10.30 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Service SPPS	Cathedral
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Ashes	Cathedral
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 2nd March 2025 – 8th Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
3.30 p.m.	**Eucharist**	St Michael
	3rd March -Monday	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist	St Mary
	5th March – Ash Wednesday	
10.00 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Service PPS	St James
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Ashes	St James
	Thursday 6th March	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 2nd March 2025 – 8th Sunday of the Year		
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 4th March	
7.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer/Alpha	St Mark
	5th March – Ash Wednesday	
10.00 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Service HPS	St Mark
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Ashes	St Mark



Church Notices

We warmly invite you to join us for:

Prayer Meeting

Saturday 1st March 2025 at 8:30am
@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

~

Praise and Worship Service

Sunday 02nd March 2025 at 11:00am
Kid Zone (Sunday School) at 11:00am
@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

~

Cell Meetings

Tuesday 04th March 2025
Cape Villa at 5.00 pm
Jamestown at 7:00 pm (Contact: Catherine on 64352 for details)
Wednesday 05th March 2025
The Rock Christian Fellowship, Longwood Avenue at 6:00pm
(Contact: Priscilla 51919 for details)

~

Christian Gift/bookshop & DVD rental

The Christian gift/bookshop & DVD rental
(as well as second-hand goods shop) is available.

For further information contact Priscilla: 51919.



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 "Pink" 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 1 March at 12 noon.

Prize - £20 per week

No claims were made last week.

87	53	72	20	10	42	3	56	17	36
44	81	59	30	4	58	76	49	65	31
19	52	82	11	85	21	7	40	35	74
9	25	61	33	12	84	70	55	15	46
50	24	38	64	8	86	22	14	78	51
2	41	89	45	69	27	57	28	6	34
71	23	67	90	47	39	13	18	83	43

Thorpes

Notice

Thorpes Grocery Shop
will be closed for stock take on **Tuesday 4th March**

Any inconvenience caused is very much regretted.

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

ROAD CLOSURE - THE ARCH, JAMESTOWN (SEA FRONT ACCESS)

The Highways Authority has approved the road going through The Arch in Jamestown (leading to the sea front) to be closed to all vehicular traffic and pedestrians on Wednesday 5 March and also on 12 March from 13:00 to 15:30.

This closure is necessary for essential repairs to the arch structure by the Building Works Section. Pedestrian access to the wharf and lower Jamestown will be via the Terrace and Harbour View steps.

Emergency services will have access as needed. The Roads Section apologises for any inconvenience caused and thanks the public for their understanding and co-operation.

SHG, 19 February 2025
http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh

St Helena Government

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

CHANGE TO THE ROUTE 1 PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE TIMETABLE

Please be advised that following requests from the public,there will be changes made to Route 1 of the Public Transport Service (PTS) timetable effective from Saturday, 01 March 2025.

Journeys from Bottom Woods into Jamestown will depart 5 minutes earlier. Instead of travelling via Longwood Avenue and Longwood Gate, these journeys will now travel to the lower Deadwood area, via the Colt Sheds Road. Please note that pick-up points into Jamestown from Longwood Gate will remain the same.

Journeys starting from Cape Villa to Bottom Woods will continue as per the published timetables. However, upon arriving at Longwood Gate, the bus will travel to lower Deadwood Haul Road, then on to Longwood Green, and finally to Bottom Woods via Colt Sheds. This will result in an arrival time approximately 5 minutes later than in the published timetables.

The PTS timetables will be updated to reflect these changes and posted on the SHG website at https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/public-services/publictransportservice/.

SHG, 24 February 2025 www.sainthelena.gov.sh

Connect SAINT HELENA LTD

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Connect Saint Helena Ltd will hold their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, 25 March 2025 at 14:00. Members of the public are welcome to observe the AGM. Following the meeting, there will be a brief Question and Answer session where attendees can actively engage with the Board of Directors.

To ensure that the venue can comfortably accommodate all guests, anyone wishing to attend are asked to please advise Callie Leo, Business Support Administration Leader on telephone 22255 or email: callie.leo@connect.co.sh by 18 March 2025.

JTCC Skittles League

The Jamestown Community Centre is organising a Nine a Side Skittles League.

Team entries should be entered with Mrs Emerald Newman-Yon on Mobile number 61984

Information required is Team name and Captain's name by Monday, 10 March.

NOTICE BOARD

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Join us!

We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

Claims Officer
(£12,049 per annum)

Do you have strong interpersonal skills and the ability to apply objective judgement? Here is an opportunity for you to join the team at the Claims Office. In this role you will carry out the duties of the Adjudication Officer, as provided for in the Social Security Ordinance, through the interview and assessment of Income Related Benefit and Basic Island Pension applicants.

Contact us for more information.

Enquiries: **Gail Beard on Tel No 22605 or Email gail.beard@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **07 March 2025**

IT Development & Support Officer
(£14,120 Per Annum)

An exciting and rewarding opportunity is available within Central Support Services for an IT Development Support Officer to provide day to day technical support to Portfolios across the Public Service. If you have an interest in designing, installing and maintaining IT Networks and systems and have the ability to analyse network related problems then our IT section has an opportunity for you to join their team. Successful candidates might be required to commence at the training grade if all prerequisites aren't met.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: **David George on Tel No 22819 or Email david.george@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **12 March 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.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, betting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role.

JOB VACANCIES

Yang Enterprises, Inc. invites interested candidates to apply for the following positionson Ascension Island:

Plant/Mechanic Monitor – Power House: Operate utility plant equipment in automatic or manual (off normal) operations. Record and analyze operating parameters making changes and repairs as needed and notifying the Supervisor of abnormal conditions. Assist mechanic with the repair and rebuild of equipment. Provide for servicing of engines, change oil, filters, repair leaks and other minor repairs and perform required testing and adjustment of equipment to meet required standards.

Master Mechanic/Heavy Equipment Operator: Operate hand and power tools of all types: air hammers, earth tampers, cement mixers. Clean and prepare work sites, dig trenches, clean up rubble and debris. Support ship offload/backload operations. Use and operate heavy equipment such as trucks and tractors.

Storekeeper: Responsible for daily inventory of items being issued to the kitchen. Issue product to departments. Daily reporting. Conduct inventory and regular spot checks. Lift heavy boxes when off loading. Ensure items are in date compliance and rotate inventory through the FIFO system. Effectively communicate with personnel for food requirements. Forklift operator preferred.

Inventory & Supply Technician: High level of customer service interaction. Required to receive, inspect and distribute material to warehouse location. Conduct inventory, update supply data base. Stock room duties of stocking and issue of material. Complying with shelf life report/codes. Property Custodian and Inventory Accountability.

Carpenter: Constructs, erects, installs and repairs structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms, building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding and rafters. Build doors, windows, door frames and install cabinets, siding and drywall.Maintain in good repair building woodwork and equipment such as counters, benches, doors, floors, casings and trim made of wood.

Electrician: Performs a variety of electrical trade functions such as respond to emergencies or critical work, installation, maintenance, or repair of equipment for the generation, distribution, or utilization of electric energy. Installing or repairing any of a variety of electrical equipment such as generators, transformers, switchboards, controllers, circuit breakers, motors, heating units, conduit systems, or other transmission equipment; working from blueprints, drawings, layouts, or other specifications.

Painter: Paint all U.S. Base Facilities interior and exterior and assist with coating applications including chemical removal corrosion control. Use abrasive blasting equipment to remove paint, grease, tar, rust, and dirt and other imperfections from the surface so that it can be painted and refinished.

Plumber: Assembles, installs and repairs pipes, fittings and fixtures of heating, water, and drainage systems, according to specifications and plumbing codes. Installs and repairs plumbing fixtures, such as sinks, commodes, water heaters, hot water tanks, garbage disposal units, dishwashers, and water softeners. Repairs and maintains leaky faucets, mending burst pipes, and opening clogged drains.

Welder: Welds metal components together to fabricate or repair products, such as machine parts and plant equipment, using both gas welding or brazing and any combination of arc welding processes. Performs related tasks such as themal cutting and grinding. Repair cracks in industrial engine cylinder heads, using inspection equipment and gas torch.

Fire Dispatcher:Receives incoming telephone or alarm system calls regarding emergencies and non-emgencies. Dispatch emergency responders, medical and security personnel.Relays information to law enforcement and emergency response personnel.Record details of calls, dispatches, and messages. (Certified as a Public Safety Telecommunicator I, II, Hazmat awareness.)

YEI provides its employees meals (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner) and accommodations. Upon completion of a one-year contract, YEI will provide a round trip passage to the home of record. Laundry and MWR facilities are available free of charge. A valid Passport/Visa with a minimum of 18 months is required for an offer letter to be extended. To be considered, there should not be any major offences recorded with law enforcement.

Any interested person **currently residing on Saint Helena**can send their CV to AscensionIslandJobs@gmail.com and call 25971 for an appointment to complete the application.

Any interested person currently **not residing on Saint Helena** may apply online at https://www.yangenterprises.com/getapplication.aspx and attach their CV.

NOTICE BOARD

VACANCY ADVERT

The St Helena Airport is looking to recruit person for the following post: **Human Resources Officer (6-months Fixed-Term)**.

We are seeking a detail-oriented, thorough, and organized individual to provide first line support to a range of HR activities at St Helena Airport Limited (SHAL), including recruitment, learning and development, and performance monitoring and management..

Applicants must be in possession of the following:

- 5 GCSE grade A*-C (or equivalent), including English and Mathematics (NVQ-2) or demonstrated relevant experience.
- Relevant qualification in People Management (NVQ-3) or demonstrated relevant experience.
- At least two years previous experience in a similar role.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, and the ability to lead difficult conversations.
- Familiarity with HR and Payroll software.

Applicants must be of a professional manner and also be able to provide the following:

- A full medical assessment
- A 5-year verifiable employment history check and be able to show proof for periods of unemployment in accordance with the Overseas Territories Aviation Requirement (OTAR) 178.
- Pass a Narcotic and Alcohol test
- A Criminal Background Check.

The salary for this post is **£14,098.43** per annum (pro-rata), plus a transport allowance of **£1,020** per annum (pro-rata).

For more information and if you would like to receive an application form, please contact Wendy Roberts, on email recruitment@sthelenaairport.aero or on Telephone number 25180 ext 175.

The closing date for this position is **Friday 21 March 2025.**

FIREFIGHTER ADVERT

JOB VACANCY WITHIN THE ST HELENA AIRPORT

The St Helena Airport is looking to recruit an experienced professional in firefighting/aircraft ground handling.

The successful applicant will be a member of the Rescue and Fire Fighting Service and will be trained in the use of Aircraft Ground Service Equipment to support aircraft turnarounds at St Helena Airport. Applicants will be expected to work at height and achieve a rope rescue certification of Level 2 or higher within the first year of employment.

Other duties will include Environmental Officer support tasks such as:

- Wildlife monitoring
- Maintenance of the Airport precinct gardens
- Inspections of Airport buildings and surrounding areas
- Inspection and maintenance of the Sewage Treatment Plant.

Other duties will include maintenance tasks such as:

- Corrosion control of various machinery and buildings

Applicants must be of a professional manner and achieve the following:

- A full medical assessment
- Pass a narcotic and Alcohol test
- Pass a fitness assessment and agility test
- A clean driving license (J4)
- Able to pass a Criminal Background Check and Employment verification Check in accordance with the Overseas Territories Aviation Requirement (OTAR) 178.

All applicants will be viewed with preferred experiences and certifications in the following:

- Experience within a firefighting service
- Experience within an airport environment
- Fire fighter 1 and 2 or equivalent
- Driver/pump operator.

The aviation environment is primarily driven by safety; as such, applicants must be:

- Safety conscious
- Willing to undergo and actively participate in continual training
- Able to work as part of a team and support their colleagues
- Have a professional and level-headed demeanour.

The starting salary for this post is between **£15,160,36** and **£15,726.48** per annum, depending on qualifications and experience plus a transport allowance of £1,020 per annum and a 12.5% company pension contribution.

If you think you have the relevant qualifications and skills to suit this role, or you would like more information, you can contact Marc Fowler, RFFS Manager on email marc.fowler@sthelenaairport.aero or Telephone number 25180 Ext 135 or to receive the job description and application form please contact Wendy Roberts at the St Helena Airport on Telephone number 25180 Ext 175 or email address recruitment@sthelenaairport.aero

The closing date for this position is **Friday 21 March 2025.**

NOTICE BOARD

Provision of IT Support

Equality & Human Rights Commission,
Coles House, Jamestown

Overview:

The Equality & Human Rights Commission is seeking an experienced IT Support Specialist or an organization that can provide on-call IT support services during office hours. The successful candidate or organization will be responsible for addressing and resolving various technical issues efficiently and effectively, ensuring the smooth operation of our systems and technology infrastructure.

Key Support Required:

- **Technical Support:** Provide on-call IT support to staff by troubleshooting and resolving hardware, software, and network issues as they arise.
- **System Maintenance:** Conduct regular maintenance activities such as system cleaning, defragmentation, and software updates to ensure optimal performance.
- **Program Installation:** Install new software programs and ensure they are properly configured to meet the needs of the Commission.
- **Printer Management:** Address and resolve printer-related problems, including maintenance and troubleshooting.
- **IT Infrastructure:** Assist with the setup, maintenance, and monitoring of the Commission's IT infrastructure, including servers, networks, and security systems.
- **Documentation:** Maintain accurate records of IT support requests, resolutions, and maintenance activities.
- **User Training:** Provide basic training and support to staff on the use of IT systems and software.
- **Compliance:** Ensure that all IT activities comply with agreed policies, procedures, and standards.

Skills:

- Proven experience in IT support.
- Strong knowledge of hardware, software, and network troubleshooting.
- Proficiency in installing and configuring software programs.
- Familiarity with printer maintenance and troubleshooting.

For further details and a specification, interested persons may contact Catherine Turner on telephone 22133 or email catherine@humanrightssthelena.org

Bids, including a detailed proposal may be sent in a sealed envelope to Carol Thompson, Executive Manager, Equality and Human Rights Office, Coles House, Jamestown, or by email carol@humanrightssthelena.org by no later than 17th March 2025.

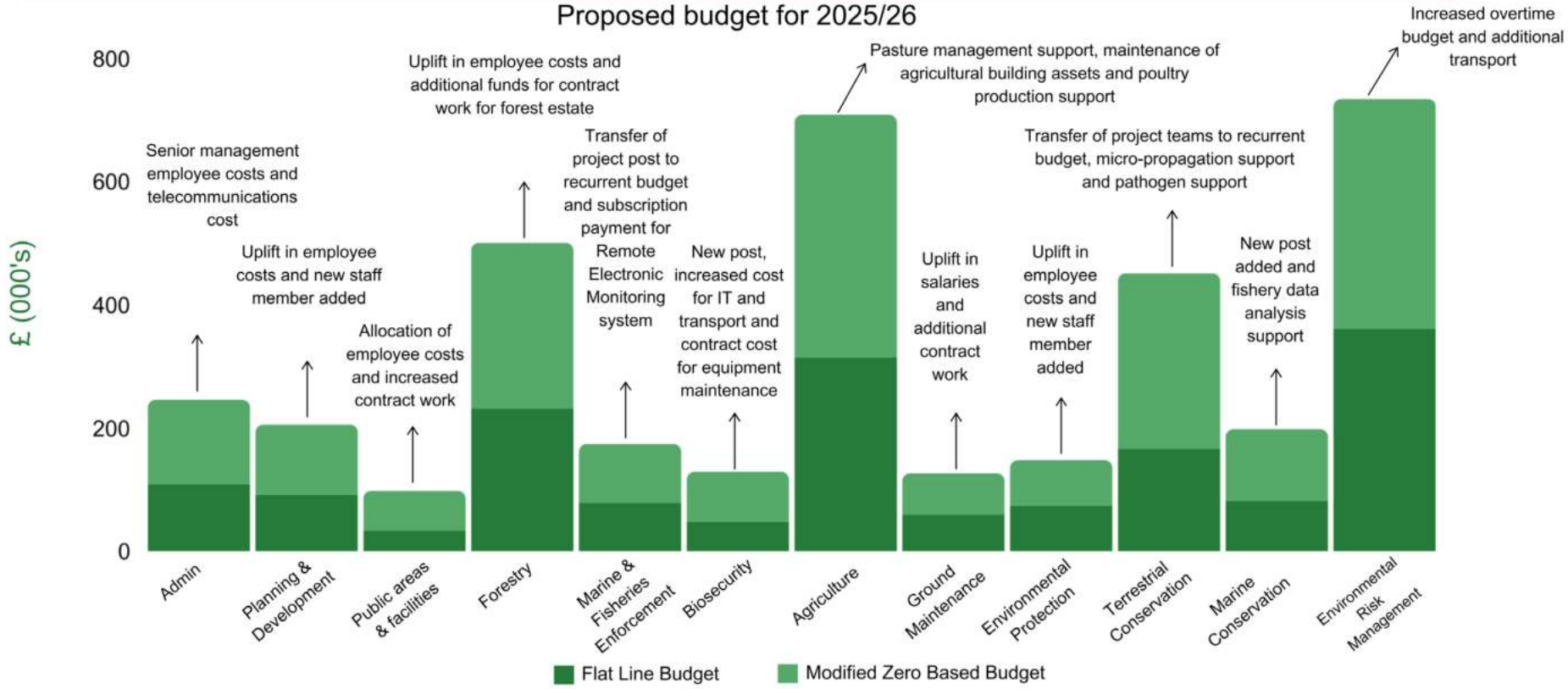
The Equality and Human Rights Commission positively accepts bids from all members of the community, regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all proposals on the basis of merit and in accordance with the specification.

Environment, Natural Resources & Planning

PROPOSED 2025/26 BUDGETS

ENRP has enabling, stewardship and protection, regulatory and service delivery roles across across Natural Resources (Agriculture and Forestry) and Biosecurity; Nature Conservation (Marine and Terrestrial Conservation and Marine Compliance and Enforcement); Environmental Protection and Risk Management; Planning and Building Control and Water Resources and Energy.

The graph below highlights the flat line budget and the modified zero based budget proposed for 2025-26 with increases to enable work programmes in nature conservation to continue recurrently without donor funding and to deliver on SHG's vision and strategy.



Agriculture

26K for new veterinary x-ray machine requested from 24/25 supplementary budget

Forestry

35K for replacement of tractor winch

Maintenance

6.5K for cost of materials for maintenance

NOTICE BOARD

ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

VACANCY NOTICE

Team Leader – Minor Works and Projects

Total package value up to £31,427 per annum

Comprising salary of up to £17,200 plus food and utilities allowances, housing and other benefits – details below.

About the role

We're recruiting an experienced construction projects team leader to join us as Minor Works and Projects Team Leader, to manage a multi-skilled workforce responsible for undertaking all building and civils, non-routine maintenance work.

What you'll do

You'll be planning, estimating, allocating resources, supervising and organising all works requests relating to Minor Works / Projects, maintaining high quality delivery and health & safety standard, in accordance with programme schedules, performance specification and budgets. You'll be managing and motivating a team of multi-skilled trades employees, ensuring high working standards are maintained.

What you'll bring

You'll have a qualification in the construction trade or be an experienced tradesperson with a sound practical knowledge of building works & equipment and within the construction industry generally. Strong leadership and management and communication skills are essential, and you'll also have minimum basic project management skills and / or knowledge and experience of working and leading projects in the construction sector.

What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of up to £17,200 (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts an accompanied status contract and the following benefits:

- Rent free furnished accommodation worth £3,000 pa (taxable benefit)
- An Accompanied status food allowance of £7,560 pa accompanied, or Single status £3,780 pa
- An electricity allowance worth £938 p.a.
- A water allowance worth £2,729 pa accompanied, or £1,360 single status
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including assistance with the shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- 30 days' annual holiday (with an additional 9 days public holidays)
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- Free primary dental and medical care and off island, with medical referral if required including medivac arrangements in an emergency.
- Free schooling for dependent children from 4 to 16 years.
- Free annual travel insurance
- Death in Service insurance

The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Basic Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical and Dental Clearance (employee and any accompanying dependants)

Closing date: **Friday 21 March 2025**
Interviews: **Late March 2025 (via video call if off island)**
Start date: **As soon as possible.**

For more information, a full job description, and to apply, visit:
www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/

If you have any questions about the role, email: recruitment@ascension.gov.ac

ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

Temporary Painters

Total Package value up to £17,711.00 per annum

(comprising salary up to £10,433.00 pa plus food and utilities allowances, free housing and other benefits)

About the role

We're looking for 6 Painters to work on the exterior decoration of AIG properties in Two Boats. The maximum duration of employment is 6 months.

What you'll do

You'll carry out exterior decoration of bungalows and other buildings, including preparation works.

What you'll bring

You'll have previous experience of painting / decorating duties and may also have gained a qualification in this area. You'll have a good level of fitness, which will include the ability to lift reasonable weights, work at heights and in varying temperature and work conditions. You'll also have a high level of attention to detail and will be able to work both independently and as part of a team. You will need a clean and valid driver's license for Classes A & B in St Helena and Ascension.

What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of up to £10,433 pa (depending on experience and taxable on Ascension), the role attracts a six-month single status contract and the following allowances and benefits:

- Rent free accommodation valued at up to £1,200 pa (taxable benefit)
- A single status food allowance £3,780 pa (taxable benefit)
- An electricity allowance paid in kind worth £938 pa
- A single status water allowance paid in kind worth £1,360 pa
- 30 days paid annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free annual travel insurance

Additional Information

- There are 6 posts available in total.
- It is anticipated that the 6 posts will be split into 2 teams of 3.
- AIG will nominate 1 person in each team of 3 to be a working Chargehand. The Chargehand will receive an additional £100 per month.

The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Basic Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical and Dental Clearance

Closing date: **16 March 2025**
Interviews: **from w/c 17 March 2025**
Start date: **As soon as possible**.

For more information, a full job description, and to apply, visit:
www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/

If you have any questions about the role, email: recruitment@ascension.gov.ac

NOTICE BOARD

Wirebird Census 2025



The Wirebird census for 2025 was conducted in the month of January by the St Helena National Trust Grasslands team and supported by volunteers. This annual census that has been led by the Trust since 2005/6 and takes place at 31 Wirebird sites across the island.

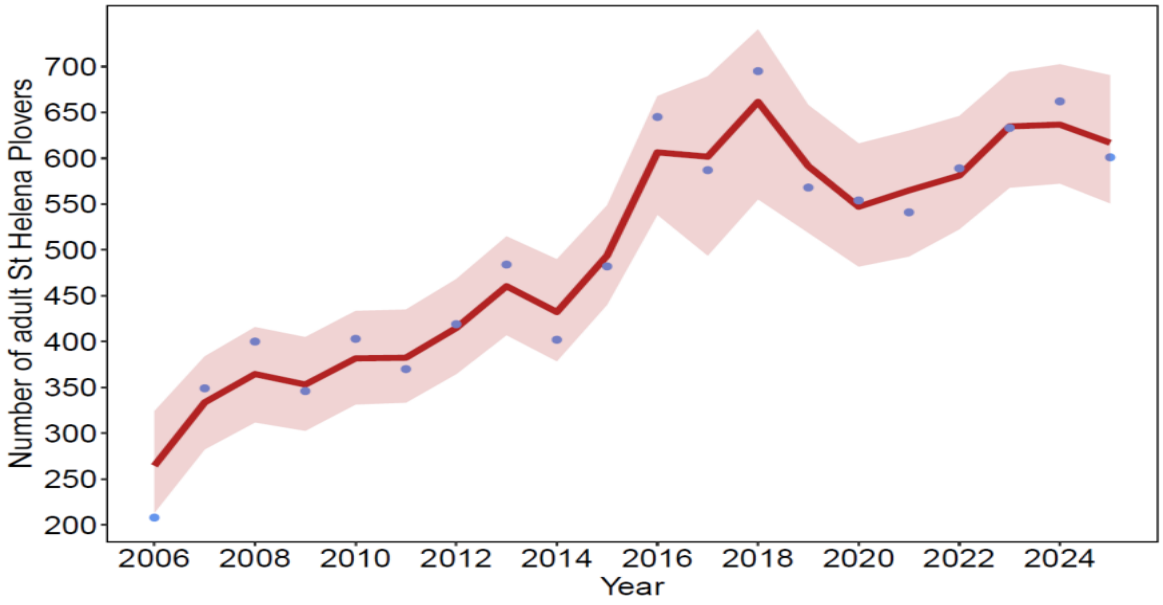
Photo1: Wirebird and chick

While the Wirebird population has fluctuated year to year, it has remained stable since 2016, between 550 and 660 adult bird as can be seen on the graph below that shows the population trend since 2006 to current.

The 2024 census saw the highest ever adult count. This year's census we have seen a drop in adult numbers, but an increase in juveniles, chicks and nesting which were up from last year.

The census takes place at the key sites established in 1988/9, which are indicators of the most probable population. The data below was analysed by the RSPB, and returned that the most likely population is 619 adults, with a 95% confidence interval.

Year	Adults	Juveniles	Nests	Chicks
2024	639	23	46	13
2025	569	32	56	20



Graph: Wirebird population 2007 – 2025

Various factors contribute negatively to the wirebird population, including habitat loss, predation and road mortality.

Predators continue to put Wirebirds under pressure. There is an ongoing predator control programme in the Trust, but nests and chicks still fail to survive.

Photo 2: Wirebird egg predation by myna bird seen during the census.





Work continues under the DPLUS190 project to find sustainable solutions to controlling invasive plants on pastureland. Through this project, we have also gathered more data on invertebrates in key Wirebird sites, which serve as an important food source for the species. This data will support habitat management plans.

Photo 3: Habitat management at Man and Horse

We still continue to work with our local and International partners in protecting and conserving our endemic bird.

The Trust would like to thank the following volunteers for their assistance with this year's surveys: Liz Harrison, David Steer, Clara Pysh, Alayah Pidgley, Jean-Claude George, Matthew Owen, Jolan Henry, Casey Henry, Isaac's Contractors Staff, Rico Yon and Carlos Fowler, Connect Saint Helena.

Photo: Grassland team member and volunteer



NOTICE BOARD



Golf Report



SHGC, Contributed

On Sunday, 23 February, the weather was perfect for a round of golf, with the sun shining and a slight breeze; providing ideal conditions for play. A total of 12 players participated in the challenging Monthly Medal Stroke Play competition.

Peter Bagley emerged as the standout player of the day, finishing with an impressive net score of 67. His performance showcased his consistency throughout the round.

Bramwell secured second place with a net score of 70. His solid play kept him competitive in this closely contested event.

Paddo Johnson rounded out the top three with a net score of 72. His efforts were commendable, contributing to a strong showing in the tournament.

In this competition, there were no "2's" scored by any players, which led to a novelty "Chip Off" to determine who would claim the balls from the two-ball pool. The winner of this challenge was Keith Joshua (KJ).

The overall atmosphere during this event at the 19th hole was one of good sportsmanship, highlighting both competitive spirit and enjoyment among participants.

Looking ahead, the next event on the calendar is scheduled for 2 March, featuring the "Medalford" format. Players are encouraged to prepare for another exciting day on the course.







Greetings from the Jamestown Rifle Club



Pat Henry, Contributed

Due to the aggressive high sea swells, cargo operations discharging from the MV Karoline were unfavourable to commence therefore we were able to close the bridge gates for our youth group shooting to go ahead; this was delightful news for the group as they look forward to their Tuesday shooting activities.

Before we started shooting, we reflected on last week's competition and what we had learnt and how we can improve as we continue to train. They were pleased with their performances and recognised the room for improvement. They are now working towards their Easter competition that will have a wee bit more competitiveness to it within the next four weeks.

Today's results, Josie Du-Plessis shot one card, scoring 84, Daniel D improved this week 93.2 +92.1= 185.3, Josie Thwaites 86.2 + 80=166.2, Pippa Thwaites 76.1+ 82=158.1, a new member joining the group today we welcomed Giley who gave it a go and shot 78, Hari is away on holiday, well wishes to them.

Arriving back from her holiday was Elli who popped in to say hello, lovely to see her, she's hoping to join us for pistol shooting on Thursday. It was fantastic to have Elizabeth Piek back with us after having been absent for a few years. Full of smiles and happiness, she had a go and shot 90.1. She also introduced a new person, her friend Myla Thomas, to the club; she also had a shoot and shot 90.1, hoping they'll be back soon for more. Jodie Scipio-Constantine sighted her rifle with a few adjustments and shot 96.4, Dan was in attendance all geared to have a go andshot 98.2 + 98.6=196.8. Lovely to see Trudi back on holiday with us again, she shot 82.2+85=167.2. Well done everyone as we look forward to another practice next week in readiness for our upcoming competition. Until then, stay well and safe, have a Blessed weekend.

SPORTS ARENA

Challenge Completed

Challengers crowned SHCA League Champions 2025



Luke Bennett, SAMS

Challengers regained their League Title on Sunday when they defeated the Levelwood Rebels to win the first piece of silverware up for grabs this season.

Challengers have gone undefeated for the season and looked to do a clean sweep when electing to bat first. It wasn't a straight forward innings though, the with Rebels collecting a few wickets late on in the innings. However, the reigning champs managed to produce a healthy total of 287 thanks to the help of inform batsmen, Andrew Yon, leading from the front with a score of 102 accompanied by Player of the Match, Joey Thomas, with 70. Although Rebels put up a brave performance with the bat, Challengers bowling attack proved too strong, leaving Challengers to win by 178 runs and be named SHCA League Champions 2025.

In the other action, Sandy Bay Pirates took on Jamestown Heat in the first match of the weekend. Pirates batted first with Ronan Legg and Rhys Francis coming to the rescue for Pirates after the loss of their openers, seeing them to a total of 201 runs. An impressive innings from Jamestown Heat's veteran cricketer, Gavin George, with 77, took them close to the total, but ultimately it wasn't enough to see the Heat to the finish line after falling short by 17 runs.

The final game of the weekend saw Mustangs rack up their second win against the Cobras. Mustangs elected to bat first and a brilliant batting display from Player of the Match, Scott Crowie, who scored 155, would help Mustangs produce a total of 297. A brave batting innings from Jamie Peters with 62 would keep Cobras in the game but the total proved too much, leaving Mustangs to win by 116 runs.

With all games completed, this brings to an end another fantastic SHCA league tournament, with Challengers once again crowned champions after a dominant tournament performance. The next tournament in this year's season will be the T20 District Competition, starting this weekend.









Fixtures:

Sat 1st March
8:00
Longwood v Jamestown
Umpires: Andrew Yon and Barry Stroud

11:00
HTH v St Pauls
Umpires: Scott Crowie and Damien O'Bey

14:00
Levelwood v Sandy Bay
Gareth Johnson and Cliff Richards

Sun 2nd March

08:00
Jamestown v HTH
Rhys Francis and Brett Isaac

11:00
Sandy Bay v St Pauls
Gavin George and Trystan Thomas

14:00
Longwood v Levelwood
Jamie Essex and David Price