

THE ST HELENA



Est. 2005



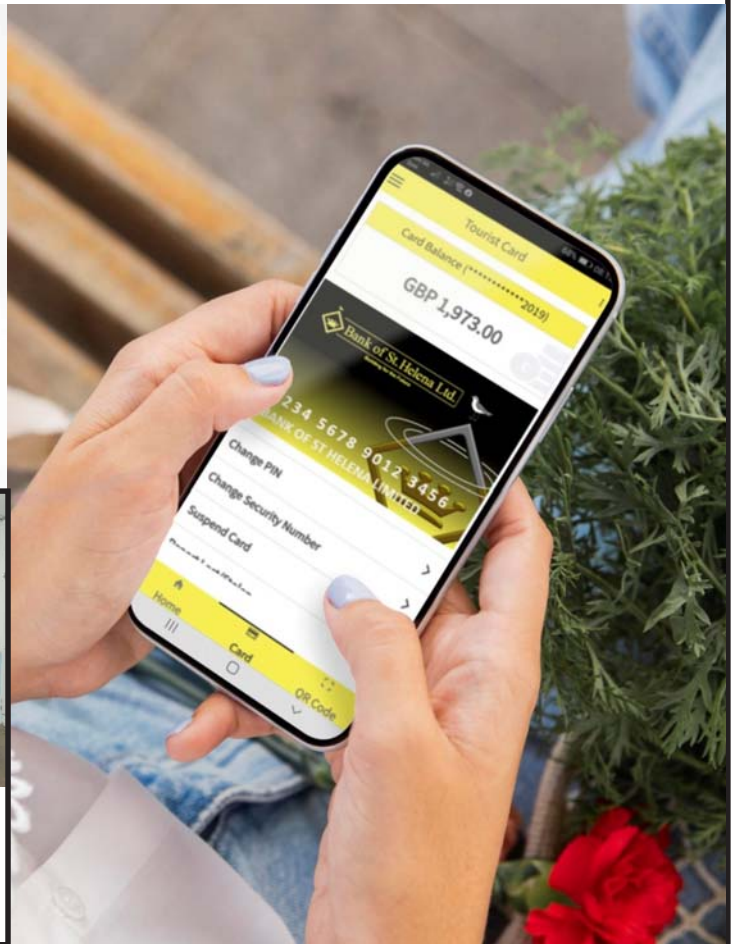
INDEPENDENT

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 20, 28th APRIL 2023, PRICE £1



.....Is Comin'

Maestro Also Comin' Bank of St Helena Tourist Card



Latest News from the Golf Club

The Brakes Released (a bit) On High Speed Broadband

Vince Thompson

Last Friday SHG issued a press statement giving a round-up on the various bits of work required to be completed before we get the fast internet connections eagerly awaited by many of us. There are four areas of work which need to be completed. Three of the four should soon start moving up through the gears but one of them is parked and the engine switched off at the moment.



This is Charlie Ruddy – he will lead the Maestro Project

lives of all the residents of St Helena and I will proudly lead on this whilst we create a legacy we can all be proud of. I look forward to investing myself in the community and no doubt I will meet up with a lot of you in due course in some capacity.” He did mention, “I will be coming to your beautiful island to lead on the telecommunications project.”

With Charlie Ruddy arriving to lead the project we should, at last, see things starting to happen on the ground.

New Regulatory Regime

This part of the work cannot be described as a spectator sport but it is important and it is vital it is got right. As we know, get this bit wrong and many things can go wrong as a result. SHG expect (rather than hope) a new regulator will be in place by the end of this year.

The New Service Provider

The tender process for the new end-user service provider started towards the end of last year. Like everything else associated with the new telecom system, the new service provider should be in place by the end of this year. SHG had decided to stop the tender process for an unspecified period. The reason being that because the review of the design delayed progress, the selection of the services provider for Television and all the rest needs also to be delayed.

The SHG announcement drifts off into coded language at this point, muttering darkly about “potential knock-on impacts this could have on the programme.” SHG, they say, are considering “all options following the delay in the finalisation of the detailed design.” Will there be another ‘drinks break’ when they consider the knock-on effects of holding up progress on tendering for the services provider? It does not make a lot of sense to the innocent bystander. The final sentence, “More information will be made available on this tender in due course” leaves the impression that there is a mix-up to sort out somehow. Does the mix-up involve Sure?

Sure Sign Ground Station Contract with OneWeb at Last After an extended amount of time in negotiations, Sure have agreed and signed a contract with OneWeb for the satellite



The Cable Landing Station

The cable landing station has been connected throughout its entire length to South Africa and to Portugal. All the boxes were ticked when the connections were tested and everything works. Starting next month and finishing in June, Telecom Egypt will commission the cable termination equipment within the cable landing station. Telecom Egypt signed an agreement with SHG in late 2020 to provide connections through the fibre-optic cable to the rest of the world. The cable is, if you like, the ‘road’ but someone has to organise the traffic that runs along the road. Telecom Egypt is a long-established business offering a range of telecom services in many parts of the world. International connection is one of the services it offers.

Maestro Technologies Specialising in IT and Telecom Infrastructure Projects

The contract with Maestro is to design build and hand over to SHG the new Island-wide fibre and wireless high-speed communications network by the end of this year. After expecting Maestro staff to be crawling all over this Island very early in the New Year we have got to the end of April with some of the main equipment arriving and allegedly one Maestro person to check the cargo arrived complete and undamaged.

Why the delay? As SHG explain in the press release issued last Friday; “the design was reviewed by technical experts from SHG’s telecoms advisory consultants and following this, at SHG’s request, the designs were quality assured by the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). This has meant that physical construction works haven’t been able to start as early as planned. The detailed design has now been accepted by SHG, allowing Maestro to begin the build phase.”

It took longer to review the design and draw up the design. SHG say there are more staff arriving in the coming weeks. Now is the time to introduce Charlie Ruddy.

Charley arrives on 6th May. On social media he wrote, “This project is a game-changer and will positively impact on the

The Brakes Released (a bit) On High Speed Broadband

Vince Thompson

ground station at Horse Point. It is a 10-year contract. It is understood OneWeb will build the ground station and Sure will manage it. Sure will also be responsible for the fibre-optic cable connection from the cable landing station in Rupert's to Horse Point.

Work on the ground station is expected to start fairly shortly and be finished by the end of this year.

OneWeb's contract with Sure is entirely separate from the tendering process, which SHG have temporarily halted, for a service provider for the soon to be installed fibre and wireless network; work which is contracted to Maestro Technologies.

The OneWeb contract with Sure is very good news for all of us. The arrangement is for OneWeb to take 10% of the St Helena's share of the Equiano cable capacity. This will help significantly in covering costs and making internet charges in St Helena, cheaper. It is thought a second ground station operator may join OneWeb and use the Horse Point ground station. If this happens it means another big user of the fibre-optic cable's capacity will also pay a significant annual fee for using the cable.

Earlier this week, Mark Brooks hinted during an interview on Saint FM that the long-awaited contract agreement had been finalised when he said, "Sure could be around for many years to come."

PV Panels on Roofs of Homes and Businesses – Another Long Wait Which May be Coming to an End

On 9th August 2022 Connect announced that a temporary halt was being placed on private PV installations by homeowners and businesses. The reason for the halt was to confirm whether or not the private installations were adversely affecting the reliability of the island-wide electricity supply. The temporary halt on installations was originally meant to last until December 2022.

In February this year Connect made a further announcement saying "due to unavoidable delays, the deadline for receipt of the final report has been extended and is due on 31 March 2023." The announcement added, "the temporary freeze on new connections of private PV systems to the grid will remain in place for at least a further 3 months. We now anticipate that final recommendations and updated Guidelines will likely only be concluded in April/May to allow for review by the relevant stakeholders.

The Independent contacted Janet Lawrence, Connect CEO, earlier this week and was told the findings will be presented to the Connect board in a few weeks. This probably means at the May board meeting. Janet added "it's an extremely complex technical matter" As far as is known, the technical expertise on the Connect board is limited.

ST HELENA MEDIA COMMISSION

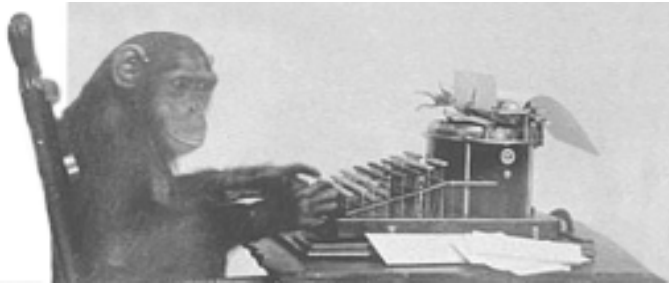
NOTICE UNDER SECTION 6(1) AND (2) OF THE MEDIA STANDARDS ORDINANCE, 2011

The St Helena Media Commission is considering issuing a new Code of Practice for media services. A draft of the Code has been gazetted in Gazette 22 of 2023 issued 18th April 2023.

Anyone wishing to have a copy of the Gazette can request it by email from Miss Yvonne Williams at the email address below or by attending the Judicial Services offices in the Court House, Jamestown

Any comments or objections to the draft Code can be made to the Clerk of the Commission, Miss Yvonne Williams at Judicial Services, The Court House, Jamestown or by email at yvonne.williams@judicialservices.sh.

Comments or objections must be received on or before 29th May 2023



Tel: [+290] 22327
 Email: independent@helanta.co.sh
 http: www.independent.sh

Editorial

An SHG press release/announcement issued last Friday has been on my mind ever since. It said, sharks have been sighted on the western side of the Island. This is not unusual at this time of year say local fishermen. SHG reminded fishermen to return any sharks caught to the ocean, in line with local and international law. The rest of us are asked not to throw fish-waste into the sea because it could encourage the sharks to come closer inshore. What I cannot figure out is exactly how does a fisherman return a very pissed-off shark that just been caught back to the ocean?

Prince Andrew School held their annual awards ceremony yesterday. Congratulations to all the award recipients. It seems I'm surrounded by brainy kids. One award was presented to someone living on one side of me and two awards were carried away by someone else who lives on the other side.

What do mobile phones have in common with door handles, cash machines and lift buttons? Yes, you got it! All of them are hot spots for picking up infectious diseases. A clinical microbiologist who is obviously ultra-hygiene conscious points out that we often eat when using a mobile and put them down on all sorts of surfaces, most of them dirty. We also take mobiles into the toilet, according to one of those thousands of surveys done every day. The result of all this is that mobile phones can be dirtier than a toilet seat. That bit of knowledge must be the result of some diligent research. The infectious diseases include E. coli, Staphylococcus, Actinobacteria, Citrobacter and Enterococcus. There are more of these pathogenic bacteria crawling all over your mobile phone but I think you get the picture. It's a wonder we are not all dead by now from mobile phone poisoning.

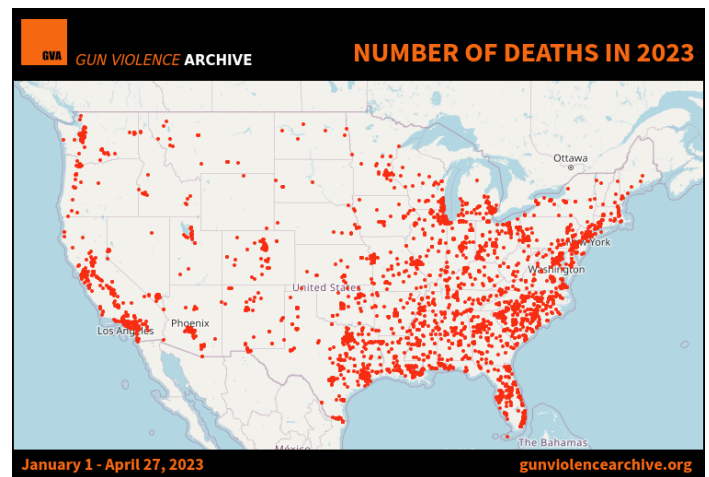
On a related issue, the Health Department are now pleased to be in possession of a handy bit of kit which diagnoses infectious diseases (like the kind you might pick up from a mobile phone) with suitable accuracy as well as quickly. This means your test results are back to you faster than ever before. The new equipment is called Biofire, which could raise concern with some people. Relax, Biofire is just the name of the people who make the equipment. A strange name for equipment which diagnoses infectious diseases, but Biofire are headquartered in Salt Lake City which is 4,225 feet above sea level. The air is thinner up there, that may explain it.

Quickly changing the subject, low-income families in the UK can get bargain broadband deals called social tariffs which cost between £10 and £20 a month. This means around £200 a year is saved. But, only 220,000 of the 4.3 million low-income households are claiming the bargain broadband they can get. The reason for the low uptake is the low-income households are unaware of the social tariff entitlement. The reason being that broadband providers are still not being upfront with millions of customers about how to find and sign

up to these packages. Only nine in every hundred who have the bargain price were told about the social tariff by the broadband provider. Which only goes to show, once more, you have to keep your eyes open and ears twitching to make sure you get what is yours.

From the continual stream of reports that come from the United States anyone can be forgiven for thinking the federal and state leaders of that country include a share which higher than the national average who are as nutty as a fruit cake. One recent report quotes Florida's governor saying crime in New York City is out of control. And the Texas governor claiming attempts at gun control had done nothing to reduce gun violence in Chicago, Los Angeles and New York.

The governors of these two southern states are Republican in their political convictions and New York, Los Angeles and Chicago are Democrat by popular vote. The regular slaughter of innocent people in the United States, often by crazed gunmen, is a subject for political argument and downright lies among the legislators and guardians of US society. Plain old number-crunching shows that gun crime is more prevalent in the US in the Republican deep south. But we know already that some US governors and congressmen will not let facts interfere with their prejudices.



Just four months into 2023, 13,501 people in the US have died as a result of gun violence. 5,779 have either been murdered, been unintentionally killed, or fatally shot because of what is called 'defensive gun use'. 7,722 people ended their own lives by shooting themselves. What can you do about it? Stay put! The quality of life includes not living in fear of gun violence.

Vince



Second Minister's Question Time Doesn't Impress

On Tuesday Mark Brooks was the minister in the hot seat receiving questions from backbenchers on matters relating to tourism. It did not go well. The questions are published in advance of the day Question Time comes around and there must surely be early drafts to look at. Time enough to be briefed by the relevant government officers on each of the questions. It was plainly obvious that no such briefing occurs.

At one point Mark Brooks pleaded that his portfolio was wide and varied and it is a tough job keeping up with it all. A comment which more than a few will find worrying. If ministers are not briefed on the subjects covered by the questions, by the government officers who are doing the work, Minister's Question Time will reduce to lambs being taken for slaughter.

The shakiness started within seconds of the first question being asked. Rosie Bargo wanted to know if funding will be made available to allow businesses on St Helena to engage the expertise of marketing personnel to assist them. Mark Brooks first said they are still working on the details of what the £500,000 allocated to tourism will be spent on. A little later he said the first draft of the spending plan had been circulated, no doubt to a small group within the Castle. In short, he was not in a position to answer the question. Rosie Bargo rose from her seat once more to request that the private sector is more closely involved with these kinds of decisions.

Another question was asked about capital programme, or EDIP, money being spent on some meaningful tourism related improvements. High Knoll Fort and Sandy Bay Beach were mentioned by Andrew Turner. Both sites are unsafe, said Mark Brooks, so we cannot market them. The High Knoll Fort walls will collapse in the fulness of time and the

access road to Sandy Bay Beach is an assault course better suited to training Commandos. Brooks did not really say that but if he had it would have livened up proceedings.

Mark Brooks did, with relief, remember the work done on the Post Box Walks and the wharf landing steps. These are micro-projects costing less than £50,000 each. In spite of all the strategies, talk and travel exhibitions when it comes to spending money on improvements on the ground, tourism qualifies for micro-money.

The first response to all questions was something like, 'it's not been finalised', 'a working group is on to it', 'can't say' and 'I'm not sure what you are getting at'.

Mark Brooks filled the vacuum with improvisation. Consequently, the discussion drifted off the subject of the question. This drifting happened every time with no call for Order! From the Speaker. A question from Robert Midwinter about any plans to attract increased numbers of cruise ships to visit the Island included the need for more hotel accommodation and Jonathan's birthday in the response.

Also included in the response was the bit about a working group is working on it. The working group is constituted of representatives from within government. No private sector contribution is invited. When the working group has finished talking the thoughts of Minister Brooks and his cabinet colleagues will be cast to the private tourism sector – maybe with the hope they will be satisfied with one, or maybe two, further micro-projects.

Six questions were on the Order Paper, only four got an answer. Probably no great loss; why should the last two questions not get the improvisation given to the first four?

RESIDENT TRANSLATORS NEEDED

The Emergency Planning Department would like to hear from residents on St Helena who are able to converse in languages other than English to form part of a resident translator volunteering group, and who would be willing to assist should there be an incident involving overseas visitors who have a limited understanding of English.

If you would be willing to for part of this group, please contact the Deputy Emergency Planning Manager, Anel O'Bey, via email: anel.obey@helanta.co.sh or tel: 25052 with your name, contact details and the languages you speak.

SHG
24 April 2023

www.sainthelena.gov.sh



St Helena
Government

Bank of St Helena Tourist Card: Undoubtedly the Most Advanced Digital Money Transfer Facility by Far

For several weeks now the Bank of St Helena has been promoting the newest development in their range of services – the Tourist Card. While the Tourist Card is a spin-off from the now established St Helena Pay, it has significant added extras. Being a card for tourists, there is little about it which affects us as individuals but the proven technological capabilities for digital money transfers indicate that the potential for further development of these capabilities could mean that banking in St Helena will continue to improve and keep up with changes happening internationally.

International Money Transfers Made Simple

The main added extra with the Tourist Card is the cardholder can transfer money from an account held overseas to the Tourist Card and then spend it at any business which is part of the St Helena Pay debit card scheme. The Tourist Card is a name for a digital money transfer facility, not a piece of plastic you pull out of your purse when the time comes to pay for what you want buy. For this reason, the Tourist Card is really a Tourist App. Download the App from Apple or Google and you are on your way. An overseas tourist can apply for the Tourist App using a smart phone before leaving for St Helena, and receive quick confirmation from the Bank of St Helena that the link is set up. Money can then be transferred immediately from the tourist's overseas bank account to the Tourist App. For the tourist there is no problem with changing Chinese yuan or French francs to St Helena pounds as soon as they step off the plane. If the money runs out that was transferred to the Tourist App before travelling to St Helena, a further digital money transfer can be done while in St Helena. The transfers can be from any country in the world to the Bank of St Helena Tourist App. Any money left on the Tourist App at the end of the visit to St Helena can be transferred back to the overseas bank account when the tourist gets home.

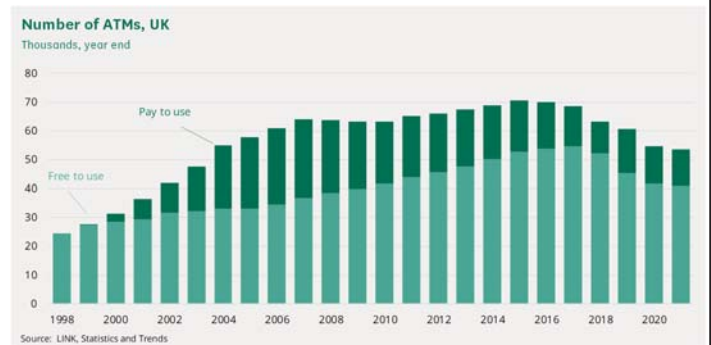
Paying Bills in St Helena

Instead of a plastic card being the way to pay, the Tourist App includes a unique and personal QR Code which does the same job. The service provider receiving payment from the Tourist App scans the QR Code and that does the same job as a plastic St Helena Pay card.



QR Codes – taking over from plastic cards

The whole transaction is immediate and complete information is shown on the smart phone including the amount of money left on the Tourist App after each payment.



Secure Money Transfers

All transactions and other information held for each Tourist App account is encrypted. The encryption is a 256 bit encryption; the highest level of security publicly available. The 256 bit encryption was used only by the military (and intelligence services) when there was nothing more secure when sending data through cyber space. When, eventually, a higher level of security was designed for digital communication, the 256 bit level was released for public use.

It was explained that information is not only converted to code when passed back and forth when Tourist App transactions are made. Information contained in the transaction is separated into various pieces and sent by different routes to the receiver before being put back together again and de-coded at the receiving end. All of this happens in a second or two as payments using the Tourist App are made, and then confirmed by the Bank of St Helena as being paid. The account balance is also immediately adjusted to include the transaction just made.

The Advantages

The whole world is moving to digital money transfers. The Covid pandemic accelerated this trend. Since 2015, more than 5,000 branches of British banks have closed – permanently: with a further 200 branches scheduled to close this year.

While people in St Helena have been asking for years for an ATM (cash machine) at the Bank of St Helena, they are now being taken out by banks in other countries that have had them for years.

This chart shows a distinct downward trend since 2015 in the number of ATMs in use. The upward trend continued until 2007 and then the ATM numbers levelled off.

The trend towards a cashless society is an international trend and it is consistent and relentless. The increasing use of digital money transfers is the reason why ATMs are going out of fashion and the reason why banks are continuing to close branches in a major way.

Bank of St Helena Tourist Card: Undoubtedly the Most Advanced Digital Money Transfer Facility by Far

The Bank of St Helena, the government and most businesses need to follow this trend to stay in existence. The Bank of St Helena is moving quietly, gradually and without fuss in the direction the rest of the world has decided we will all go. It has taken a long time and much hard work for the Bank of St Helena to get where they are now. The massive international financial institutions show no interest in St Helena – too small, too remote, too difficult. Now the Bank of St Helena is showing the difficulties can be overcome and solutions can be found which fit the special circumstances found in small, remote parts of the world.

The People Behind the Technological Change

Terry and Matthew Day are a father and son partnership running a business which employs less than 50 staff. They have been in business for more than 40 years and have customers in about 30 countries. Their business is to author and supply integrated real-time software solutions to banks and other financial institutions worldwide. Their business is called International Finance Systems. The range of services they offer includes internet and mobile phone banking and anti-money laundering.

Terry and Matthew have had a long association with the Bank of St Helena, starting in the 1990s. Matthew told the Independent that in recent years the services offered by BOSH have improved enormously against a background of resistance and non-co-operation from the larger financial institutions. Put briefly, St Helena and its bank are too small to bother about. Terry and Matthew Day teamed up with the Bank of St Helena and found ways around all the

problems that scared off the big international banks. The most recent result, the Tourist App, has been described as 'world class'.



From left – Joey George BOSH Managing Director, Glen Owen, BOSH Chairman, Terry Day and Matthew Day of International Financial Systems at Wednesday's promotional event

At a promotional event on Wednesday evening at Richard's Travel Lodge, Terry Day told the invited guests the Tourist App made international money transactions very much easier, using technology that is equal to any. He said the Tourist App was like the oil that lubricates the engine; the engine in this case is economic development. He also said that during his visit to St Helena he had received some suggestions for other uses of the Tourist App. In response Terry said that what we have is version one of the Tourist App – version two will be on its way.

Coronation Celebrations 7 May 2023

ROAD AND PARKING SPACES CLOSURES

The Highways Authority has given approval for 6 car parking spaces in front of the Court House to be closed from Monday 1 May to Wednesday the 24 May to enable the erection of a stage for use with both the Coronation and St Helena Day celebrations.

The Highways Authority has also given approval for all of the Grand Parade car parking spaces to be closed from 1pm on Saturday 6 May for the celebrations. Vehicle owners are kindly asked to ensure that their vehicles are removed from the area.

On Sunday 7 May, the road from the Canister to the Grand Parade will be closed from 11:30am for an hour to allow Uniformed Contingents to participate in the Commemoration Service in front of the Supreme Court Terrace. On conclusion of the Service, the road from the Canister to the Grand Parade will reopen but access to the lower wharf area will be via the road way in front of St James Church, the Rickmers building and New Horizons.

Appropriate signs will be in place and the public is thanked in advance for their cooperation.

Please also note Pilling School playground will be open for additional car parking spaces on Sunday 7 May.
SHG, 27 May 2023

House of Commons Scrutiny Committee Wants Your Opinions Is the UK's Relationship with Overseas Territories Fit for 21st Century?

Last Thursday the House of Commons Select Committee on Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs issued a Call for Evidence on a subject which stirs the opinions of many in St Helena and undoubtedly in all other British Overseas Territories.

The Call for Evidence is the first stage of an Inquiry set up by House of Commons Select Committees (we call them Scrutiny Committees here – except we are still waiting for some action from them) when they decide to undertake a new investigation. The new investigation announced last Thursday is on the following question

Are the UK's current constitutional arrangements as regards the Overseas Territories satisfactory and appropriate in the 21st Century?

In addition to this general question, a further 8 more specific questions are asked which anyone can respond to by submitting their views; either on all 8 questions or just some of them. It's important when selecting the questions from the list below to offer opinions only on the questions asked. Any views expressed which stray from the point could be ignored. Any additional points expressed are best written in a separate section. The deadline for written submissions is Monday 4th September at 4pm GMT. So, there is plenty of time to send some carefully considered thoughts on how the UK's relationship with St Helena could be improved.

The House of Commons Select Committee on Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs invite opinions on the following points: -

1. Does the UK Civil Service engage effectively with the Overseas Territories?
2. Are Overseas Territories appropriately considered within different departments across Whitehall?
3. What is the UK Parliament's relationship with the Overseas Territories, including:
4. Does the legislative process in the UK currently operate effectively in relation to Overseas Territories, both in theory and in practice?
5. Are the interests of the Overseas Territories effectively represented within the UK Parliament?
6. How is legislation made in the Overseas Territories and what role does the UK Government and UK Parliament have in these processes?
7. Are effective mechanisms in place for the interests of the Overseas Territories to be represented internationally?
8. Are the rights and interests of British Overseas Citizens effectively protected by the current constitutional arrangements?

One point which comes immediately to mind is there are several formal and informal channels of communications between ministers in the UK and ministers in St Helena. Direct communication between St Helena Councillors and House of Commons MPs is less formal and, in many cases, depends

a lot on how successful a councillor in St Helena can be in forming channels of communication with the busy UK Members of Parliament who received hundreds of emails every day. The lack of recognition that Saint students are British citizens when they are asked to apply for higher education funding as overseas students could be included in the discussions for this inquiry. Some may also think the existence of a British Overseas Territories Citizens passport is an unnecessary confusion might also be raised.

It is not an easy task. Developing general thoughts such as these into constructive suggestions can be hard work.

COUNCILLOR BROOKS APPOINTED MINISTER FOR SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

In accordance with section 37H (1) (b) of the Constitution, Councillor Gillian Brooks has been appointed the temporary Minister for the Safety, Security & Home Affairs (SS&HA) Portfolio with immediate effect until 5 June 2023, while the substantive Minister for Safety, Security & Home Affairs Portfolio, Jeffrey Ellick, is off-Island.

The appointment of Minister Martin Henry as the temporary Minister for Safety, Security & Home Affairs Portfolio has therefore been revoked with immediate effect, but he will continue his role as the Minister for the Health & Social Care Portfolio.

Chief Minister, Julie Thomas, said:

"On behalf of my Ministerial team, I wish to extend my congratulations to Councillor Brooks on her appointment as Minister for SS&HA. We are looking forward to working with her and will do all we can in supporting and assisting her in this role. I do hope that Councillor Brooks finds this appointment interesting and fulfilling as we work together in taking steps to achieve our Ministerial goals and objectives."

#StHelena

www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/

www.twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG

24 April 2023



St Helena
Government

The Message on Tourism Recovery – There's a lot of work to do!

On Monday SHG released the Tourism Recovery Strategy 2022-24. The problems obstructing expansion of the tourism services and hospitality sector are not ignored; in fact, they are highlighted. Emphasis is placed on the knock-back Covid-19 caused to tourism services and hospitality businesses across the whole piece – how to recover from that is what the Recovery Strategy is all about.

One of many descriptions of the current situation reads, “A much-weakened accommodation and hospitality sector, coupled with a lack of hospitality training opportunities and a shrinking working age population, is set to make recruitment and retention in the hospitality and tourism sectors very challenging. Poor customer service, leading to poor reviews from disappointed visitors, could negatively impact the destination’s marketability.”



St Helena Government
Tourism Recovery Strategy
2022 - 2024

Apart from recovery there is also transition; movement from the longstanding tourism sector which was in place when only the RMS brought people here to servicing a larger number of new arrivals every week. What situations are required, as tourism starts again to develop, to trigger a transformation is a complex and debatable subject. What is clearer is the present weaknesses, threats and risks. These drawbacks are not ignored. “The availability of serviced accommodation could be a major barrier to tourism recovery, with no significant increase in the number of serviced rooms (hotels and guest houses) since commercial flights started and the Mantis St Helena hotel opened. Availability is inconsistent and offered subjectively. The lack of serviced rooms and varied price points is off-putting to tour operators.”



The way ahead is summarised as: -
“An increase in visitor numbers – particularly Leisure Tourist arrivals delivered through tour operators - requires a trifecta of:
• Regular flights, with an available booking schedule of at least two years
• Assured availability of quality accommodation, with commissionable room rates

- Easy booking of quality, value-for-money services (tours, activities, eating places, transport) with assurances of availability with lead times of more than a year.

In summary: how to get to St Helena, where to stay, and what to do, must align.”

The summary immediately brings to mind the Shelco ‘three-legged stool’ strategy; an airport, an airline and a good quality resort hotel. This is the enduring foundation for tourism but there is much more needed. The recovery strategy gives importance to branding, promotion and tour operators. The recovery document points out, “During peak season 2019/20, around 11 tour operators brought approximately 75% of leisure tourist arrivals to St Helena. Of these 11, four dive tour operators brought groups that contributed approximately half of the tourist revenue during this period. Divers tend to have a higher daily spend than the average tourist.”

The amount of money tourists spend is referred to in several ways. One reference is, “Improved telecommunications and connectivity should be imminent, with the nearing activation of the Equiano fibre optic internet cable (to replace the satel’



Harford Community Centre Easter Multi Raffle

Prizes drawn at a FISH FRY at Harford Community Centre held on 7th April :

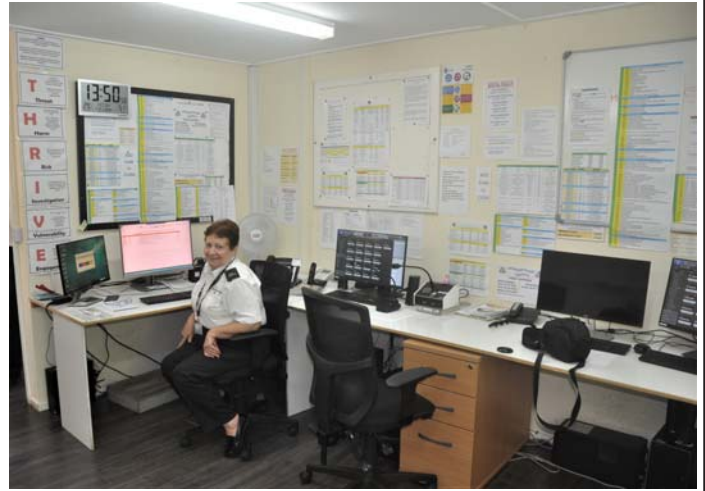
1 st Prize	Easter Cake	Nigel Dollery
2 nd Prize	Easter Hamper	Lisa Green
3 rd Prize	Hot Plate	Clive Bunn
4 th Prize	Sandwich Maker	Sonia Crowie
5 th Prize	Pair of Stools	Pasty Henry
6 th Prize	Solar Lights	Linda Williams

A grand total of £514.00 were realized.

'Lost' Solo Yachtsman Arrives at Destination

A solo yachtsman who left Hout Bay, Cape Town, on 2nd March arrived at his planned destination, Martinique in the Caribbean, 54 days later. His communications equipment consisted of a VHF radio and an AIS which was said to be faulty.

Concerns about the welfare of Emmanuel Dailler, the French solo sailor, were raised 18 days after he left Hout Bay. Thomas Merlier, a fellow Frenchman, contacted St Helena Port Control. Merlier reported that Dailler had not made contact with anybody since his departure and it was known his AIS seems never to have worked properly. Merleir contacted St Helena Port Control on 20th March asking if Dailler had called at St Helena and for the word to be put out to other yacht crews so they could keep a sharp lookout. It was reported he planned to call at St Helena. After no communication or sight of Emmanuel Dailler and his yacht *SV Akela II* after what was now 19 days, there were definite grounds for concern. Dailler had not sailed for several years.



Gillian at the St Helena Joint Emergency Services Control Centre

sightings from other vessels, the NSRI issued another general alert on 19th April. This time the alert was issued in cooperation with the French Authorities as well as the MRCC. The alert also covered the Indian Ocean as well as the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean. It turned out that Dailler announced his intention to sail to Martinique informally, probably by word of mouth only and he may have changed his mind. It was now known he had a sister in Australia and for that reason the search also looked eastwards to the Indian Ocean.

The Chief Executive of NSRI said, "Had he changed his mind and gone East is a mystery that we are hoping our wide appeal can help to determine. We are extremely grateful, on behalf of the family, to all who have responded with their concerns. We are hoping someone comes forward, maybe fellow sailors, maybe fishermen, maybe a commercial motor vessel, who may have seen the plain white yacht at sea. This may help us to put one piece of this puzzle together in our ongoing efforts."

Four days after the 2nd general alert was broadcast, and extended to cover the Indian Ocean, Thomas Merlier contacted St Helena Port Control again. Merlier's message was brief but received with relief. "Emmanuel arrived safely in Martinique after + 50 days solo at sea. This is very good news. Thanks for your concern."

It is assumed Dailler was totally unaware of the great efforts made across two oceans and the Caribbean Sea over a period of 35 days to locate his yacht and himself. Since there had been no communication in any form from Dailler over the entire 54 days he had been at sea he may have received a muted welcome after tying up in Martinique.

St Helena's Joint Emergency Services Control Centre
When you go to the reception at Coleman House Police Headquarters it's possible you may have to wait a little for attention after ringing the bell. One reason for the wait is that the person who comes to attend to your enquiry is also the person who attends to all emergency calls for the police, ambulance, sea rescue and fire services. Emergency or distress



Emmanuel Dailler – the man everyone was looking for St Helena Port Control made contact with Namibia through Walvis Bay Yacht Club. Walvis Bay replied promptly to St Helena Port Control to say that no such yacht had called at any Namibian port.

On 12th April the South African National Sea Rescue Institute (NSRI) together with their colleagues at the Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) issued a general, international alert for the 56-year-old Frenchman. The alert was directed to islands across the Atlantic Ocean as well as West African and Caribbean ports. All shipping was asked to keep a look-out and report any sightings to the MRCC.

The St Helena Joint Emergency Services Control Centre (JESCC) was informed directly by South Africa's MRCC and started immediately to broadcast a BOLO (Be On the Look Out) message every 2 hours. The messages from St Helena's JESCC reach passing vessels over the 200-mile territorial waters and beyond. This frequency of BOLO alerts went on for several days.

After no communication was received from Dailler and no

'Lost' Solo Yachtsman Arrives at Destination

calls from vessels over a wide area are also monitored at the JESCC.

The maritime monitoring goes beyond the island's sea rescue service. The JESCC at Coleman House also covers Ascension Island and monitors the dedicated VHF emergency channel for any maritime distress calls. The JESCC is also the first point of contact for visiting and local vessels.

Equipment at the JESCC continually scans radio frequencies for distress (May Day) calls

The staff are under strict instructions to obtain very specific information from people who call for assistance from an emergency service.

The information required includes the exact location, details of what has happened, the quickest way to get to the location, the general condition of any casualties and which emergency service or services are needed.

Often and understandably, the person reporting the emergency can become impatient with the number of questions asked. "Just send the ambulance!" is a common reaction. But the ambulance driver needs to know exactly where he is going and the quickest way to get there. The ambulance

crew need to be sure they have the right equipment on-board the ambulance to deal with the emergency they are responding to. In St Helena, the crew need to be sure the four-wheel drive ambulance is definitely not required or, is the only vehicle which can make it to the emergency.

The JESCC staff taking emergency calls can be held to account if they have not followed the precise information gathering procedure. There are different or additional information gathering procedures depending on the type of incident being reported. If an important piece of information is missing when emergency incident responders arrive at the location, all eyes turn to the person who took the emergency call.

The JESCC is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every day of the year. It does not matter if it is Christmas Day or the King's Coronation, there is always trained staff at the JESCC to take emergency calls and monitor for distress calls at sea using the modern digital communications equipment. The VHF maritime radio and the Automatic Identification System (AIS) used by all vessels were also recently upgraded. The JESCC is equipped to be the Command Centre if a large-scale emergency requires co-ordinated action between emergency services and other statutory organisations.

EXTENDED DEADLINE

Nominations are now being invited for the following awards: UK STATE AWARDS – 2024 BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Honours are awarded on merit for exceptional achievement or for any service carried out over and above what normally is expected. This can include making a difference to the community or in a specific field of work, innovation and entrepreneurship, improving life for people less able to help themselves and displaying moral courage. Where possible, nominations should place emphasis on voluntary services and the service must be recent. Nominees must not be made aware they are being put forward for an award.

To find out more about the different types of Honours Awards please visit: www.gov.uk/honours

CERTIFICATE AND BADGE OF HONOUR 2024

This award is presented to public servants on behalf of St Helena Government for loyal and valuable service worthy of recognition or, in the case of other persons, for their loyal and meritorious conduct that has provided exceptional benefit to the people of St Helena. Nominees should be residents of St Helena, either being born on the Island or have been residing on St Helena for not less than ten years prior to the date of the award.

ACT OF BRAVERY AWARD 2024

This award is presented to individuals who have shown a clear display of moral courage and bravery in adverse situations.

THE BADGE OF ST HELENA

This award is available to both St Helenians and non-St Helenians. It is of a higher status than the Certificate and Badge of Honour. The Badge of St Helena recognises exceptional service provided by individuals or organisations who make significant contribution to St Helena's development or by supporting and/or enhancing social, cultural, economic, environmental improvement or the understanding of St Helena internationally.

FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF JAMESTOWN

This award is symbolic in nature and is the highest-level of local government award that can be conferred. It is awarded to both St Helenians and non-St Helenians whose achievements are significantly admirable and highly worthy of distinctive recognition. Those who receive this award will have made an outstanding contribution that is of huge national impact to St Helena and its citizens and will have served the best interests of the Island.

Nomination forms for all of the above awards, are available from Central Support Service at the Castle, Jamestown, or can be requested via email: linda.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Completed forms should be returned to the Castle in a sealed envelope marked 'Confidential' addressed to 'The Secretary, Honours and Awards Committee', by the extended deadline of Friday, 12 May 2023.

SHG, 26 April 2023

House of Commons Scrutiny Committee Wants Your Opinions

Is the UK's Relationship with Overseas Territories Fit for the 21st Century?

Vince Thompson

Last Thursday the House of Commons Select Committee on Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs issued a Call for Evidence on a subject which stirs the opinions of many in St Helena and undoubtedly in all other British Overseas Territories.



The Call for Evidence is the first stage of an Inquiry set up by House of Commons Select Committees (we call them Scrutiny Committees here – except we are still waiting for some action from them) when they decide to undertake a new investigation. The new investigation announced last Thursday is on the following question

Are the UK's current constitutional arrangements as regards the Overseas Territories satisfactory and appropriate in the 21st Century?

In addition to this general question, a further 8 more specific questions are asked which anyone can respond to by submitting their views; either on all 8 questions or just some of them. It's important when selecting the questions from the list below to offer opinions only on the questions asked. Any views expressed which stray from the point could be ignored. Any additional points expressed are best written in a separate section. The deadline for written submissions is Monday 4th September at 4pm GMT. So, there is plenty of time to send some carefully considered thoughts on how the UK's relationship with St Helena could be improved.

The House of Commons Select Committee on Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs invite opinions on the following points: -

1. Does the UK Civil Service engage effectively with the Overseas Territories?
2. Are Overseas Territories appropriately considered within different departments across Whitehall?
3. What is the UK Parliament's relationship with the Overseas Territories, including:
4. Does the legislative process in the UK currently operate effectively in relation to Overseas Territories, both in theory and in practice?
5. Are the interests of the Overseas Territories effectively represented within the UK Parliament?
6. How is legislation made in the Overseas Territories

and what role does the UK Government and UK Parliament have in these processes?

7. Are effective mechanisms in place for the interests of the Overseas Territories to be represented internationally?

8. Are the rights and interests of British Overseas Citizens effectively protected by the current constitutional arrangements?

One point which comes immediately to mind is there are several formal and informal channels of communications between ministers in the UK and ministers in St Helena. Direct communication between St Helena Councillors and House of Commons MPs is less formal and, in many cases, depends a lot on how successful a councillor in St Helena can be in forming channels of communication with the busy UK Members of Parliament who received hundreds of emails every day.

The lack of recognition that Saint students are British citizens when they are asked to apply for higher education funding as overseas students could be included in the discussions for this inquiry. Some may also think the existence of a British Overseas Territories Citizens passport is an unnecessary confusion might also be raised.

It is not an easy task. Developing general thoughts such as these into constructive suggestions can be hard work.

Annie's Launderette.

Will temporarily close until further notice from Monday 1st May. Closure is due to a new roof being installed on the laundry building. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

Apologies for any inconvenience & Thank you for all your Continued custom and support. Further announcements will follow in due course.



Green Island Energy Limited

Telephone: 25104

Mobile: 61720

Email: karlthrower@gmail.com



TV's

RCA 24" HD Ready TV with USB Playback	£175
Toshiba 32" HD Ready TV with USB Playback	£215
Toshiba 43" Full HD TV with USB Playback	£299
Toshiba 50" Premium 4K TV with USB Playback & Dolby	£475
Toshiba 58" 4K UHD TV with USB Playback, Dolby & Bluetooth	£599

Laptops, Printers and Tablets

Asus 15.6" Laptop Intel i3, Full HD, 8GB RAM, 256 SSD, Win 11 64 Bit	£445
Lenovo 14" Laptop I7-8550u 530s-14ikb 8/512GB Win 10	£599
Asus 11.6" Laptop Celeron N3350 4 GB RAM 64 GB eMMC	£225

Speakers

JBL Flip 5 Bluetooth Speaker (12hr battery)	£89
JBL Bar Studio 2.0 TV Soundbar (Bluetooth+ Optical + HDMI)	£150

Samsung Galaxy M13 64GB ROM/ RAM 4GB Light Blue (1 ONLY)	£199
Cobra HH150 Floating VHF Handheld Radio	£150

SHG VACANCIES

IT Development Support Officer Central Support Services

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.

Further information about the duties of the post, interested persons should contact: Mr David George, Deputy IT Section Manager on telephone number 22470 or email: david.george@sainthelena.gov.sh.

To access the **Job Profile** and **Application forms** online visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies or alternatively, both are available from Central Human Resources & Organisational Development. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Camilla Thomas, Trainee Human Resources Officer, the Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Tuesday, 09 May 2023**.

Statistics Assistant Central Support Services

The Statistics team is seeking to employ a highly motivated individual to assist with the collection, collation, analysis and dissemination of statistical data. Data will be obtained from administrative sources and surveys to enable evidence based decision making, monitoring and planning on St Helena. The successful candidate will be responsible for a high level of accuracy and confidentiality at all times, appreciating the severity of the impact of errors on the quality of statistical outputs.

Further information about the duties of the post, interested persons should contact: Mr Neil Fantom, Chief Statistician on telephone number 22138 or email: neil.fantom@sainthelena.gov.sh.

To access the **Job Profile** and **Application forms** online visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies or alternatively, both are available from Central Human Resources & Organisational Development. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Camilla Thomas, Trainee Human Resources Officer, the Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Tuesday, 09 May 2023**.

Assistant Tax PAYE Officer Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development

Do you have an interest in working with figures?

If so, this could be an opportunity for you to work with the day to day management of the PAYE system, auditing the Tax data for individual employee tax payers and dealing with tax queries and ensuring all PAYE taxes are collected in line with the Income Tax Ordinance.

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Gillian Knipe, Assistant Commissioner Tax on telephone number 25880 or email: gillian.knipe@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms are available from Central Human Resources or the SHG website at www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Sharina Williams, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Thursday, 11 May 2023**.

SHG VACANCIES

Export, Trade & Investment Manager

Permanent—Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development

Would you like to improve the lives of all within our community and help the island thrive by leading Saint Helena Government's (SHG) work in creating a business friendly economic environment? SHG's Export, Trade, and Investment Manager is responsible for proactively working with colleagues across SHG, its State Owned Entities, and the private sector, to reduce institutional and operational barriers to investment and doing business on the island.

Through managing SHG's single point of contact for businesses, you will ensure that SHG's Sustainable Development team provides high quality advice and customer service to individuals and companies wanting to do business in and with St Helena.

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Daniel Weight, Chief Economist on telephone number 22470 or email: daniel.weight@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms are available from Central Human Resources or the SHG website at www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Sharina Williams, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Friday, 12 May 2023**.

To be considered for these roles, you must complete our application form. Failure to do so will mean that your application will not be considered. Please do not submit your CV.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled

applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance.

SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

Benefits are subject to change and may only apply to certain roles.

SALE OF SHEETS OF REINFORCED MESH

St Helena Government (SHG) has for sale sheets of reinforced mesh.

The sheets of mesh are currently located at Scott's Mill, Francis Plain, and shall be sold without warranty and on an 'as seen' basis.

Viewing of the sheets will be held on Friday, 5 May 2023, at 10am, meeting at the entrance to Scott's Mill.

Offers should be submitted to the Programme Manager (Capital) in a sealed envelope, clearly marked '**OFFER: REINFORCED MESH**', and placed in the Tender Box at Essex House by 12 noon on Friday, 12 May 2023.

SHG
26 April 2023

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST DESIGN & BUILD OF A NEW PRISON

Reference: TISD-1699-SHG

St Helena Government are requesting Expressions of Interest from suitably, qualified contractors to design and build a New Prison on St Helena Island.

The Government of St Helena has received planning permission and is committed to constructing a new prison development on a rural, greenfield site in the north-east of the Island. A concept design has been developed for the new prison to house approximately 60 inmates. It is envisaged that the detailed design of the new prison will be based on the UK Ministry of Justice (MOJ) Category C requirements, incorporating appropriate relaxations/exemptions to suit the particular circumstances of St Helena. The Government of St Helena intends to procure the new prison under design & build arrangements (FIDIC Yellow Book).

The proposed prison will be located within the Longwood Area (Bottom Woods) and will require the provision of a new access road, civil works to form the proposed site, associated service provisions (anticipated to include for a sewerage treatment plant which may be required to service properties in the Longwood locality), full build and subsequent fit out.

The Government of St Helena would therefore now like to hear from firms who have an appropriate track-record of designing and/or building prisons for the MOJ, or other clients, and who would be interested in submitting a design and build tender for the construction of a new prison in St Helena.

Interested firms should register on the St Helena Government eProcurement Portal through <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena/asp/Home>. A number of documents with additional information are available on the site.

Interested firms should submit their name (legal entity), company brochure, registered address and contact details via the e-procurement portal by the deadline. Submissions should also include brief details of prisons constructed for MOJ or other clients (with dates) in the £3 - 10 million range, and particularly highlighting any relevant overseas projects experience.

All communication, clarifications, general questions and submissions of your response must be made via the eProcurement Portal.

Help guides to assist registration can be found on the Supplier Information section.

The deadline for expressions of interest is submissions is Friday, 12 May 2023, at 1pm GMT.

SHG

13 April 2023

www.sainthelena.gov.sh



**St Helena
Government**

SOLOMON & COMPANY (ST HELENA) PLC



WE ARE HIRING GROCERY SALES ASSISTANTS

CONTACT US:

Please contact the HR Department on 22380,
or via email address hradmin@solomons.co.sh to register your interest

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

- Pension Contributions
- Attractive Leave Packages
- Staff Discounts



SHG VACANCIES

Alternative Education Support

(Education, Skills & Employment Portfolio)

Are you a highly motivated individual with excellent interpersonal skills and able to communicate effectively and professionally? Able to work calmly under pressure and manage in challenging situations; If so, the Inclusion Section within Education, Skills & Employment Portfolio has an opportunity for you to join their team in supporting students receiving alternative education programmes.

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: Saheed Oyewo, Inclusion Manager on telephone number 25408 or email: Sheed.oyewo@supportservices.edu.sh

Application forms and Job Profiles are available from: Central Human Resources or the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Anya Richards, Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Thursday, 4th May 2023**. **To be considered for this role, you must complete our application**

To be considered for these roles, you must complete our application form. Failure to do so will mean that your application will not be considered. Please do not submit your CV.

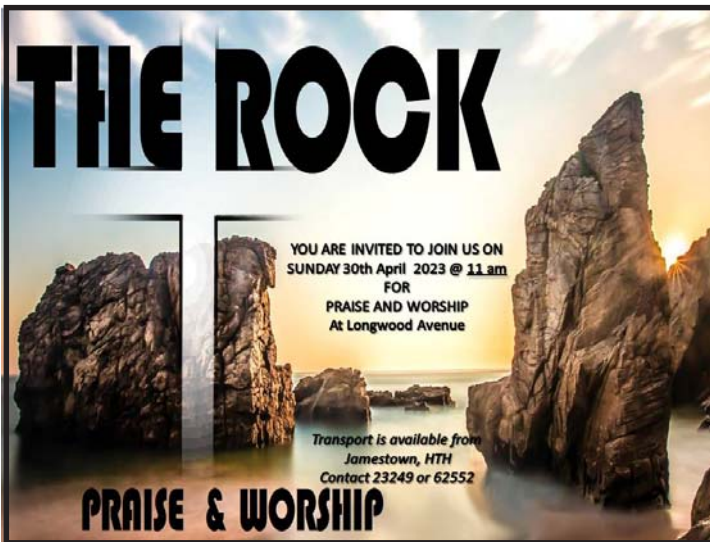
SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled

applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance.

SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

Benefits are subject to change and may only apply to certain roles.



Ageways Charity Supporting the over 65's of St Helena AGM

To select a new committee
In recent years, Ageways charity has supported the community with food vouchers, purchased pendant alarms, provided financial aid to our elderly
In order for the charity to continue to support the over 65's of St Helena, a new committee must be selected.

Please do come along to
Jamestown Community Centre, Wednesday 10th May at
7pm

For more information, please email:
agewayssthelena@gmail.com

ST HELENA MEDIA COMMISSION

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 6(1) AND (2) OF THE MEDIA STANDARDS ORDINANCE, 2011

The St Helena Media Commission is considering issuing a new Code of Practice for media services. A draft of the Code has been gazetted in Gazette 22 of 2023 issued 18th April 2023. Anyone wishing to have a copy of the Gazette can request it by email from Miss Yvonne Williams at the email address below or by attending the Judicial Services offices in the Court House, Jamestown
Any comments or objections to the draft Code can be made to the Clerk of the Commission, Miss Yvonne Williams at Judicial Services, The Court House, Jamestown or by email at
yvonne.williams@judicialservices.sh.
Comments or objections must be received on or before
29th May 2023

***The Annual General Meeting of the
St Helena League of Friends will be
held on
Wednesday May 3rd 2023,
at the Baptist Schoolroom,
Jamestown
at 3pm.***

Members would like to thank all who bought tickets for their Easter Raffle, which consisted of assorted mini hampers. The lucky winners were : Delia Huxtable ,St Paul's ticket 119/ Angela Bevan, HTH tkt. 384/ Audrey Yon, Blue Hill tkt.74/ Cecily Bateman, Longwood tkt. 120/ Shirley Yon, Garden Cottage tkt. 177/ Pat Williams, Cape Villa tkt. 121/ Tina Sim, Cleugh's Plain tkt. 203/ Amy Martin HTH, tkt. 377/ Ronald Young, White Wall tkt. 95 / Zizzy c/o Kedell Worboys tkt. 234.

Proceeds amounted to £375.00

The League of Friends is a registered charity dedicated to raising funds to provide equipment and amenities which cannot be provided from other sources, for the benefit of patients at the General Hospital and other Care Institutions on the island. Can you help? If so, we look forward to welcoming you to our AGM.



MOONSHINES

**The proprietors of Moonshines welcomes you to
enjoy music by DJ KJ, this Saturday 29th April
2023, from 9pm.**

~*~

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR UK STATE (2024 BIRTHDAY HONOURS) AND ST HELENA GOVERNMENT AWARDS EXTENDED DEADLINE

Nominations are now being invited for the following awards:

UK STATE AWARDS – 2024 BIRTHDAY HONOURS

Honours are awarded on merit for exceptional achievement or for any service carried out over and above what normally is expected. This can include making a difference to the community or in a specific field of work, innovation and entrepreneurship, improving life for people less able to help themselves and displaying moral courage. Where possible, nominations should place emphasis on voluntary services and the service must be recent. Nominees must not be made aware they are being put forward for an award.

To find out more about the different types of Honours Awards please visit: www.gov.uk/honours

CERTIFICATE AND BADGE OF HONOUR 2024

This award is presented to public servants on behalf of St Helena Government for loyal and valuable service worthy of recognition or, in the case of other persons, for their loyal and meritorious conduct that has provided exceptional benefit to the people of St Helena. Nominees should be residents of St Helena, either being born on the Island or have been residing on St Helena for not less than ten years prior to the date of the award.

ACT OF BRAVERY AWARD 2024

This award is presented to individuals who have shown a clear display of moral courage and bravery in adverse situations.

THE BADGE OF ST HELENA

This award is available to both St Helenians and non-St Helenians. It is of a higher status than the Certificate and Badge of Honour. The Badge of St Helena recognises exceptional service provided by individuals or organisations who make significant contribution to St Helena's development or by supporting and/or enhancing social, cultural, economic, environmental improvement or the understanding of St Helena internationally.

FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF JAMESTOWN

This award is symbolic in nature and is the highest-level of local government award that can be conferred. It is awarded to both St Helenians and non-St Helenians whose achievements are significantly admirable and highly worthy of distinctive recognition. Those who receive this award will have made an outstanding contribution that is of huge national impact to St Helena and its citizens and will have served the best interests of the Island.

Nomination forms for all of the above awards, are available from Central Support Service at the Castle, Jamestown, or can be requested via email: linda.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Completed forms should be returned to the Castle in a sealed envelope marked 'Confidential' addressed to 'The Secretary, Honours and Awards Committee', by the extended deadline of Friday, 12 May 2023.

SHG

26 April 2023

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

REFURBISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT LANDLORD HOUSE NO.3 BATCHELOR FLAT - HARBOUR VIEW

St Helena Government is seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified contractors to undertake the proposed refurbishment to No.3 Batchelor Flat at Harbour View, Jamestown.

The works will include interior and exterior painting, plumbing and electrical works.

For further information, please contact the Project Manager, Mark Plato, on tel: 22270 or via email:

The closing date for Expressions of Interest to be submitted is 12 noon on Friday, 12 May 2023, and should be addressed to Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, at Essex House, Jamestown.

SHG

25 April 2023

Harford Community Centre

Easter Multi Raffle

were drawn at a FISH FRY at Harford Community Centre held on 7th April 2023

1 st Prize	Easter Cake	Nigel Dollery
2 nd Prize	Easter Hamper	Lisa Green
3 rd Prize	Hot Plate	Clive Bunn
4 th Prize	Sandwich Maker	Sonia Crowie
5 th Prize	Pair of Stools	Pasty Henry
6 th Prize	Solar Lights	Linda Williams

A grand total of £514.00 were realized.

Harford Community Centre Committee would like to convey their thanks and appreciation for your support.

Please forward Invoice to Mrs Dianna Chambers, Hon. Treasurer, Harford Community Centre, Longwood, St Helena Island STHL 1ZZ

INVITATION TO TENDER

REFURBISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT LANDLORD HOUSE NO.3 BRADLEYS, LONGWOOD

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

Proposed Refurbishment of Government Landlord House No.3 Bradleys, Longwood

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, at Essex House, Jamestown, on tel: 22270 or via email:

A site visit to view the works will take place on Friday, 5 May 2023, at 10am, at Bradleys. 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.

Should you require any further details, please contact the Procurement Officer.

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box at Essex House, Jamestown, by 12noon on Friday, 12 May 2023, clearly marked "TISD-1729-SHG".

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

SHG

25 April 2023



NOTIFICATION



MEETING OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AUTHORITY

The Land Development Control Authority will hold its monthly meeting on **Thursday, 4th May 2023, at 10 am at the St Helena Community College Main Hall, Jamestown.**

Meetings of the Authority are open to members of the public, applicants and objectors.

The Agenda and redacted versions of the Handling Reports will be available on the LDCA Web Page on the SHG Web Site. Should you require assistance, please contact the Secretary of the Land Development Control Authority on telephone number 24724.

Applicants and objectors may speak at the meeting providing that a summary of the points to be raised has been submitted to the Secretary at least 24 hours before the meeting.



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

VACANCY NOTICE

Finance Assistant - Flight Bookings

Total package value up to £21,820

(single status including allowances and housing and dependent of qualifications and experience)

We are looking for a person to take on the post of Finance Assistant - Flight Bookings with the AIG Resources Directorate. This is an important role within AIG with the responsibility of booking flights across all government departments and for other organisations. The postholder will be responsible for making flight bookings and carrying out all associated functions in the Ascension Island Flight Booking team.

What you will do

- Update daily flight bookings on database as dictated by demand.
- Maintain records both electronically and hard copies of all flight transactions.
- To be the interface with the travelling public and the employers on island and as such maintain a high profile in customer relations.
- To attend the Passenger Terminal at the Airhead as and when required.
- Manage all flights sales/supplier transactions including invoices, credit notes including posting to Sage.
- Manage credit card transactions using Sage Pay.
- Operate the flight booking system in accordance with AITA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and any other procedures as may from time to time be promulgated by AIG or MOD.
- Maintain good working relations with the MOD Defence Passenger Reservation Centre (DPRC) in the UK and to follow all reasonable instructions from them in relation to flight bookings.
- Maintain good working relations with the Airlink team responsible for the charter flight from St Helena to Ascension.
- Answer customer enquires promptly both verbally and in writing as required.
- Liaise with internal and external bodies as appropriate and in particular with the Finance Department in connection with flight bookings and payments.
- Maintain an adequate filing system
- To undertake the duties of a Customs Officer when necessary
- To carry out any other related duties as requested by the Director and Deputy Director of Resources and the Team Leader Finance.

What you will bring

We're looking for someone with an excellent attitude to customer service and communication skills, both verbal and written. You will need to have good IT skills including good experience of MS Excel (essential) and ideally Sage. Due to the nature of the role, experience of working to and meeting tight deadlines is also essential.

What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of £11,130 per annum (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts a single status contract and the following benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (value approx. £400+ per month)
- A Single status food allowance of £3,600 pa
- An electricity allowance worth £938 pa
- A single status water allowance worth £1,360 pa
- Relocation costs for your personal effects from your home country
- Shipment of a vehicle from the UK or South Africa
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free annual travel insurance

The appointment will be subject to:

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

Closing date: 05 May 2023
Interviews: Week beginning 09 May 2023
Start date: As soon as possible

For information, a job description, and to apply visit: www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/
If you have any queries about the role, please email: recruitment@ascension.gov.ac

Football from from the Couch

Mike & Sharon

PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS -

Friday 21st April

Arsenal 3 Southampton 3
Saturday 22nd April
Fulham 2 Leeds United 1
Brentford 1 Aston Villa 1
Crystal Palace 0 Everton 0
Leicester City 2 Wolverhampton Wanderers 1
Liverpool 3 Nottingham Forest 2

Sunday 23rd April

AFC Bournemouth 0 West Ham United 4
Newcastle United 6 Tottenham Hotspur 1



Newcastle United humiliated Tottenham Hotspur with five goals in 21 stunning first-half minutes as they ran out easy winners in what was billed as a showdown for a top-four spot.

Jacob Murphy and Alexander Isak each scored twice and Joelinton added another as Newcastle scythed through a porous visiting defence that was already under the spotlight from last week's defeat against Bournemouth.

Harry Kane pulled one back in the second half at St James' Park but Callum Wilson added a sixth to complete the rout shortly after coming off the bench.

The embarrassing defeat is a significant blow to Spurs' dwindling hopes of securing Champions League qualification - but in contrast the Magpies are now in a commanding position to finish in the top four as they climb to third.

Jacob Murphy scored twice in the first nine minutes, his second a superb strike from long range

Tuesday 25th April

Wolverhampton Wanderers 2 Crystal Palace 0
Aston Villa 1 Fulham 0
Leeds United 1 Leicester City 1
Wednesday 26th April
Nottingham Forest 3 Brighton & Hove Albion 1
Chelsea 0 Brentford 2
West Ham United 1 Liverpool 2
Manchester City 4 Arsenal 1

Manchester City delivered a masterclass to overwhelm Premier League leaders Arsenal and strike a huge psychological

blow in the title race at Etihad Stadium.

The confrontation billed as a potential title-decider turned into an embarrassingly one-sided affair.

Pep Guardiola's side, now two points behind Arsenal with two games in hand, were inspired by the devastating partnership of Erling Haaland and Kevin de Bruyne.

Haaland sent De Bruyne away for a silky opener after seven minutes, and Arsenal then survived a constant bombardment of attacks before John Stones headed home from a free-kick in first-half stoppage time, the goal given by VAR after originally being ruled offside.

City goal machine Haaland was outstanding throughout and again set up De Bruyne for the third in the 54th minute, the Belgian passing a classy finish between the legs of Gunners defender Rob Holding.

Holding pulled one back for Arsenal late on before Haaland, denied four times by Arsenal goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale earlier in the match, sealed a memorable night with his 49th City goal.

City can go top with victory at Fulham on Sunday while Arsenal must somehow pull out of a slump that has seen them go four league games without a win at a crucial stage of the season.



THE FA CUP SEMI-FINALS RESULTS - Saturday 22nd April
Manchester City 3 Sheffield United 0

Sunday 23rd April

Brighton & Hove Albion 0 Manchester United 0
(AET Manchester United win 7-6 on penalties)
PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES - Thursday 27th April



Football from from the Couch

Mike & Sharon

6.45 PM Everton vs Newcastle United
6.45 PM Southampton vs AFC Bournemouth
7.15 PM Tottenham Hotspur vs Manchester United

Saturday 29th April

11.30 AM Crystal Palace vs West Ham United
2.00 PM Brentford vs Nottingham Forest
2.00 PM Brighton & Hove Albion vs Wolverhampton Wanderers

Sunday 30th April

1.00 PM AFC Bournemouth vs Leeds United
1.00 PM Fulham vs Manchester City
1.00 PM Manchester United vs Aston Villa
1.00 PM Newcastle United vs Southampton
3.30 PM Liverpool vs Tottenham Hotspur

Monday 1st May

7.00 PM Leicester City vs Everton

Tuesday 2nd May

7.00 PM Arsenal vs Chelsea

Wednesday 3rd May

7.00 PM Liverpool vs Fulham



ADDITIONAL AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS INSTALLED AROUND THE ISLAND

The Emergency Planning Department would like to advise the public that two additional Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) have been installed at the following locations following approval of the necessary planning permission.

- Outside of the Royal St Helena Police Post in Longwood
- Outside of the Customs Building in Jamestown (Near the entrance to the Immigration Office)

What is an AED and when and how are they used

Defibrillators are devices that send a safe electric shock to the heart to restore a normal heartbeat when someone is not conscious and not breathing (i.e. they are in cardiac arrest).

A defibrillator may also be referred to as a DEFIB, an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) or a PAD (Public Access Defibrillator). Statistics show that if a defibrillator is used on a patient within the first few minutes of cardiac arrest, they have a 60-70% chance of making a full recovery.

The type of AEDs placed around the Island are designed so that they can be used by anyone, without specialist training. Once turned on they will instruct the user through voice commands on exactly how to use the device safely, for both the patient and the operator.

If you require access to an AED, the code to the cabinet can be requested from the Emergency Control Centre when dialling 999.

A reminder of all locations

AEDs have now been placed in the following locations:

District	Location
Half Tree Hollow	Half Tree Hollow Clinic (Outside of the main entrance)
St Paul's	The Pavilion Area (In the Green Shed) at Francis Plain
Levelwood	Silver Hill Shop (Outside)
Blue Hill	Blue Hill Community Centre (Outside)
Sandy Bay	Bamboo Hedge Shop (Outside)
Rupert's	Sea Rescue Building (Outside the main entrance)
Longwood	Royal St Helena Police Post (Outside)
Jamestown	Customs Building (Near the entrance to the Immigration office)

There are also other AEDs located in Jamestown at the Royal Saint Helena Police HQ reception and at HM Prison.

The AEDs at these locations will be clearly signposted and will be contained in a bright yellow box which looks like to the below image.



T20 Cricket League

Submitted by St Helena Cricket Association



T20 DISTRICT LEAGUE

Saturday 22nd April 2023

1.30pm Levelwood vs Half Tree Hollow

Levelwood won the toss and elected to bat
Levelwood 142/6 after 20 overs

Best batsmen

- Stefan Leo 32(36)
- Greg Coleman 30(12)

Best Bowlers

- Ashton Benjamin 3/48 from 4 overs
 - Barry Stroud 2/24 from 4 overs
- Half Tree Hollow 135/6 after 20 overs

Best Batsmen

- Andrew Yon 62(37)
- Nico Ellick 39(44)

Best Bowlers

- Aiden Leo 2/17 after 4 overs
- Greg Coleman 2/23 after 4 overs

Top performers

1. Andrew Yon
2. Ashton Benjamin
3. Aiden Leo

Levelwood won by 7 runs

Sunday 23rd April 2023

10.00 am Longwood vs Jamestown

Longwood won the toss and elected to Bat
Longwood 160/6 after 19.5 overs

Best Batsmen

- Sean-lee Thomas 58(43)
- David Young 50(35)

Best Bowlers

- Jason Thomas 2/25 after 4 overs
 - Tristan Thomas 2/29 after 4 overs
- Jamestown 163/4 after 19.5 overs



T20 Cricket League

Submitted by St Helena Cricket Association

Best Batsmen

- Scott Crowie 89*(63)
- Robert George 35(30)

Best Bowlers

- Alex Langham 2/35 after 4 overs
- Sean-lee Thomas 1/33 after 3.5 overs

Top performers

1. Scott Crowie
2. Sean-lee Thomas
3. David Young

Jamestown won by 6 wickets

1.30 pm St Paul's vs Sandy Bay

St Paul's won the toss and elected to bat
St Paul's 211/2 after 20 overs

Best Batsmen

- Matthew Benjamin 126*(69)
- Mike-e Williams 65(46)

Best Bowlers

- Brett Isaac 1/22 after 4 overs
- Kieron Williams 1/64 after 4 overs
- Sandy Bay 179/5 after 20 overs

Best batsmen

- Rhys Francis 40(23)
- William Knipe 39*(24)

Best Bowlers

- Jordi Henry 2/21 from 4 overs
- Dennis Leo 2/38 from 4 overs

Top performers

1. Matthew Benjamin
2. Mike-e Williams
3. Rhys Francis

St Paul's won by 32 runs

Next week's fixtures

Saturday 29th April 2023

Levelwood vs Sandy Bay – Umpires – Longwood

Sunday 30th April 2023

10.00am- St Paul's vs Jamestown – Umpires – Sandy Bay
1.30pm – Longwood vs Half Tree Hollow - Umpires- Levelwood
You can follow T20 District 2023 on CricHeroes and view scores LIVE ball to ball.

<https://cricheroes.in/tournament/621863/T20-District-2023>
Via CricHeroes App
<https://crichero.es/apps>

PERSONS BORN BETWEEN 1948 AND 1955 ENCOURAGED TO TEST FOR BOWEL CANCER

The Health Services Directorate is offering free testing for bowel cancer for anyone aged 50-74 years over the next twelve months. The testing is being offered in age order.

From Monday, 1 May 2023, those who were born between **1948** and **1955** who wish to take the test can call Grace Richards or Anna Bowers on tel: 25818 who will arrange for a test sample kit to be made available to you.

Everyone offered a test is strongly encouraged to take one. Early detection through testing helps to ensure you stand the best chance of receiving successful treatment where needed.

If you are not sure whether you wish to take the test, we suggest that you request the home sample kit and read the materials that come with it before deciding if you wish to take it. The sample kit has full instructions on how to use it. Results from your test will be provided within four weeks, and you may be called in to speak to a doctor about these if necessary.

If you have any questions about this campaign please call the Hospital by tel: 25888. Alternatively, please speak to your GP.

The Health Services Directorate will continue to call groups of people for testing in age order, and will publish a public announcement when the test kits for your age group are ready to be distributed.

SHG, 25 April 2023



COUNCILLOR BROOKS APPOINTED MINISTER FOR SAFETY, SECURITY & HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

In accordance with section 37H (1) (b) of the Constitution, Councillor Gillian Brooks has been appointed the temporary Minister for the Safety, Security & Home Affairs (SS&HA) Portfolio with immediate effect until 5 June 2023, while the substantive Minister for Safety, Security & Home Affairs Portfolio, Jeffrey Ellick, is off-Island.

The appointment of Minister Martin Henry as the temporary Minister for Safety, Security & Home Affairs Portfolio has therefore been revoked with immediate effect, but he will continue his role as the Minister for the Health & Social Care Portfolio.

Chief Minister, Julie Thomas, said:

"On behalf of my Ministerial team, I wish to extend my congratulations to Councillor Brooks on her appointment as Minister for SS&HA. We are looking forward to working with her and will do all we can in supporting and assisting her in this role. I do hope that Councillor Brooks finds this appointment interesting and fulfilling as we work together in taking steps to achieve our Ministerial goals and objectives."

SHG;24 April 2023

ST. HELENA



GOLF CLUB

Fish Feast

Visit the Harford Family Farm Fun Day, same day before joining us, Pls!

Join us on Saturday:
29th April, 2023,
and
Feast like Kings & Queens

Food on Sale from
£4- 10

Clubhouse Bar open @ 2pm
Assorted Seafoods on sale from 2pm



Seafood



Fish Fry



CrayFish/ Lobsters

Make your orders before 10am on the day!

SHGC Tel: 24421

Proudly Organised by
Committee of Management

Golf Report for Sunday 23RD April 2023

On Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd April the club hosted the two-day annual Solomon and company sponsored Challenge Cup. A great turn out of 23 players 2 of them juniors, teed off on Saturday afternoon in beautiful weather conditions. Mr Philip Francis who had the best score on Saturday of net 62, scored net 70 on Sunday total 132 to emerge winner for 2023. In second place Mr Jason Hopkins who finished 8th on day 1 with net 74 bounced back with an impressive net 63 on Sunday total 137 to win second prize. In 3rd place junior member Asa Bushuru scored 71 and 67 to win 3rd prize. Two ball pool winners for Saturday Leon Crowie, Martin Joshua, Lawson Henry, and Jason Hopkins all on the 7th and Neil Joshua on the 16th. Day 2 two-ball pool winners Zach Francis on the 5th, Jason Hopkins 5th and 16th and Martin Buckley on the 16th. Below is a summary of all the prize winners.

Winner 2023

Philip Francis (132)

Longest drive (D2) Jason Crowie

2nd Prize winner

Jason Hopkins (137)

Nearest to pin (D1)

Larry Legg (14th)

3rd Prize Winner

Asa Bushuru (138)

Nearest to pin (D2)

Anthony Thomas (18th)

Longest drive (D1)

Bramwell Bushuru (13th Fairway)

The prizes were presented by the chief financial officer of Solomon and Co Ltd Mr Nyasha Chikwati who congratulated the winners and thanked everyone who took part in the event and hoped that everyone had fun. On behalf of our members, the committee of management would like to profoundly thank Solomon and Co Ltd for their continued support to the club. We look forward to this collaboration into the future.

Sunday 30th April is the last competition of the month which



means Monthly Medal Competition. Tee off 12:00. Registration closes Saturday 29th April at 15:00. This round is part of St Helena Golf Club Championship (SHGCC) in which points will be earned.

On Saturday 29th April starting from 2pm until late there will be a fish feast with a difference at the golf club. Prizes will range from £4 to £10. You can just show up or call to reserve a meal by leaving a message on 24421 by Saturday at 10am leaving name, number of guests and the time you will arrive.

Lastly parents and guardians of junior members are informed that there will be a junior member's training/golf session on Monday 1st of May 2023 from 4:00pm to 5:30pm weather permitting. Please ensure your child is registered before taking part. Registration is still free for all junior members up to their 18th birthday.

Happy golfing.....
Contributed by SHGC.





**ALL THE LATEST NEWS INSIDE,
INCLUDING SPORTS...**

