

THE ST HELENA



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# INDEPENDENT

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**RRS Discovery St Helena  
Scientific Expedition Begins**



**Congratulations and  
Happy Birthday Jonathan**

## Maestro Ready to Roll-Out Fibre Network

*with microwave links to remote areas*



**St Helena Golf Open Champion  
Crowned**

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE ROYAL  
ST HELENA POLICE SERVICE!!!!**



## Congratulations and Happy Birthday Jonathan

Birthday wishes and warm hearted messages are coming in from across the world as a three-day celebration is laid on, starting today, for Jonathan's 190<sup>th</sup> Official Birthday. Like the Late Queen Elizabeth II, Jonathan has an official birthday, unlike the late queen this is because no-one knows exactly when Jonathan was born. He was a full grown tortoise when he arrived here which made him about 50 years old at the time. Jonathan arrived here in 1882 so his year of birth is estimated to be around 1832; that's the closest we can get. He may be a bit older but it seems unlikely he is any younger.

Jonathon is a Seychelles tortoise and was brought here as a gift for the governor at the time, Hudson Ralph Janisch, the only Saint born governor the Island has had. Recently a tortoise was gifted in the opposite direction. The St Helena cricket team played (and beat) the Seychelles national cricket team in Rwanda. As the captains shook hands before the start of the game, Scott Crowie presented his opposite number with a Jonathan look-alike.

Jonathan Hollins, known to all as 'Joe the Vet' has spent several years giving his namesake tortoise 5 Star care. Feeding him regularly with a special diet especially for tortoises of advanced age and even giving him his first thorough wash for more than century.



Joe the Vet told the Washington Post "It's a huge responsibility, but an honour and a privilege for a vet to see to the needs of the oldest known living land animal in the world."

The National Geographic reported Joe saying, "He knows my voice and comes to me like a dog, but I have to accept it is mainly Pavlovian because he associates me with food," said Hollins, noting that Jonathan is now blind and has lost his sense of smell, but still has a healthy appetite."

Jonathan is a two-time Guinness World Record holder - the world's oldest living land animal and the oldest chelonian (turtle, terrapin, or tortoise) that ever lived. You can be part of history this weekend at Plantation House. The programme of celebrations for Jonathon's 'bicentenary minus ten' peaks on Sunday at the Plantation Christmas Market.



### ART COMPETITION WINNERS

#### 3 - 10 years old

1st: Misha Peters

2nd: Zyanna Henry

3rd: Nathaniel Benjamin

Honourable mention:

Grace Venning,  
Hollie Leo

#### 11 - 15 years old

1st: Ana-Lucia Roberts

2nd: Hannah John

3rd: Ziggy Joshua

Honourable mention:

Sadie Herne

#### 16 years and over

1st: SHAPE

2nd: Kirsten Augustus

3rd: Wanda Isaac

Honourable mention:

Sophia Joshua,  
Amber George

Thank you to everyone who entered the competition: The amount and quality of entries showed how talented St Helena is, and how passionate we are about our national treasure.

Winners were chosen by a three-person judging panel with representation from Plantation House, the National Trust and SHG.

Winning entries will be displayed this Sunday, 4 December at the Plantation Christmas Market. Otherwise, if you would like to collect your artwork, entries can be collected from the Tourist Office.



# RRS Discovery St Helena Scientific Expedition Begins

After lots of planning, and several failed attempts since 2020 due to COVID-19, the Royal Research Ship (RRS) Discovery has arrived in St Helena's waters.

Local scientists Elizabeth Clingham, Leeann Henry, Joachim Naulaerts, Kirsty Jones, Cerys Joshua and Kirsten Augustus have boarded the vessel for nine days of exciting scientific expedition on the high seas.

The Blue Belt Programme DY159 expedition has arrived after spending nine days conducting research within the Ascension Island Marine Protected Area (MPA). With local scientist now on board, it has commenced work in St Helena's MPA. Work is taking place 24 hours a day and will include surveys and mapping of seamounts, amongst lots of other activities.

On joining the vessel, SHG Marine Section Marine Apprentice Cerys Joshua said:

"I am grateful to be going on the Discovery, as it is a once in a life time opportunity for me. I'm looking forward to all of the new experiences that I will gain from this exposure trip. And most importantly, I can't wait to learn new and exciting things and to meet new people."

The St Helena National Trust Marine Apprentice Kirsten Augustus, also joining the expedition, said:

"I'm going to make the most of this opportunity by learning as much as I can and by gaining experience in a different environment. I am looking forward to observing the work done on the Discovery and contributing to its progress, as well as



the possibility of discovering new species for St Helena Island!"

Internet permitting, the local team onboard will be updating the St Helena MPA social media accounts and using #DY159 to let everyone know how work is progressing. SHG's Marine Apprentice, Cerys Joshua, will be writing a small blog each day on her experience. This can be viewed on the SHG website, the St Helena MPA social media pages, or found by using #DISCOCerys on social media. Two live call in's from the ship are also scheduled to be aired on local radio, so watch this space.

**SHG**

**28 November 2022**

## PARKING IN JAMESTOWN DURING FESTIVE PERIOD

With the festive period around the corner, it is anticipated that the volume of vehicular traffic and pedestrians will increase in Jamestown, as people get in their Christmas shopping and attend events.

In light of previous experience at this time of year, a number of possible pinch points and obstructions have been identified. In order to alleviate these problem areas, a traffic management system will be put in place in town from Thursday 1 December 2022 until Tuesday 3 January 2023. The system will use barricades, cordon tape and other traffic signage.

Our main aim is always public safety and the management system is designed to ensure, as much as reasonably possible, free flowing traffic and the minimisation of congestion and obstructions in town.

### **What will the system look like?**

The system will aim to ensure drivers adhere to current road restrictions, such as double yellow lines, whilst helping with general traffic flow.

No vehicles should be stopping or be at rest on the roundabout, so barricades will be placed on the side of the roundabout to prevent this from occurring.

With Side Path road opening, more vehicles are likely to be parking on the pavement at Napoleon Street causing pedestrians to walk on the main road, potentially placing them in danger. A traffic management system will be in place in this area. Market Street can also become quite congested, so measures will be put into place there as well.

All areas of Jamestown will be kept under monitor and put in place any necessary traffic management requirements to achieve our aim of public safety.

Police Inspector Jonathan Thomas said:

*"Although the police have enforcement powers, it is hoped that these will not need to be used. Instead, with the cooperation and support of the community, using good judgment and consideration, we expect that motorists will park sensibly and not leave their vehicles in positions which will disrupt the free flow of traffic or cause unnecessary obstructions. As many will know, actions such as these create significant disruption and delay to others. With everyone's cooperation, we will all have a safe and enjoyable festive season."*

**SHG**

**29 November 2022**





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# Editorial

We've all heard of crypto-currency, have you got any idea what it does, how to use it, what advantage it is supposed to have? Me neither. It started after the Banks and other financial institutions across the world lost a mountain range of money through their greed and over-sized opinion of their importance and abilities; opinions which they used to justify paying themselves massive salaries and bonuses. Banks became fervently hated as devils incarnate and provided the motivation for people to find ways of handling money without going anywhere near a Bank. Crypto-currency was born.

Something else was also born; or became more noticeable. Banks were not the only commercial juggernauts who thought they were so big and so powerful they could live by rules they made themselves or ignore any rules which they thought were 'inconvenient'. Tobacco companies always had the money and influence to sponsor all sorts of events and public occasions as a form of advertising and also as a way to build up even more influence among influential 'friends'. Tobacco companies have had their wings clipped but there are several others. Energy and oil companies are very visible right now as international mega-companies who think they are too big to fail. They are amassing what many see as unjustifiably gigantic profits and following the example of the tobacco companies by organising large and intricate campaigns to protect their own interests. The COP27 climate change conference in Egypt was "awash" with oil industry representatives. It was estimated there were 636 oil representatives mingling with the targets they wanted to influence; a much higher number than at the previous year's COP26. The general opinion emerging after COP27 ended was no progress was made on limiting oil, gas and coal production. Was that just a coincidence?

And it goes further than that. Accusations of Russian rulers and other countries' leaders sending assassins to other countries to kill outspoken opponents occur too frequently. Another similar story surfaced this week involving China's ruling clique targeting artists whose paintings give messages opposing Xi Jinping and his ever tightening grip on power.

In this case it was a play not a painting that upset the Chinese authorities. The play was set against the background of an uprising in Tibet – a country that has been subjugated by China for decades. In this case what happened was while rehearsals were taking place at the Royal Court Theatre in London, the person who wrote the play noticed that he was being stalked by individuals he assumed were linked to the Chinese government. Eventually, he agreed to meet with them. He said, "they wanted a Shanghai theatre to buy the rights, and of course, it would mean I would sell it and then they would never stage it." After refusing to accept the bribe, he was beaten and forced to watch a documentary about the Dalai Lama's supposed terrorism.

Other instances where art exhibitions critical of China's rulers are unexpectedly cancelled without a convincing explanation are common. Stories of mysterious Chinese people taking videos of outspoken opponents of Chinese rule are also frequent.

With foreign powers sending their people into other countries with criminal intent and commercial interests hijacking a big and important international conference we all have to wonder where the world will end up if this is allowed to continue. It seems that countries where its people like to think of themselves as democratic are too weak and maybe not as democratic as they like us to think they are. Worrying times indeed.

When SHG announced they will be introducing traffic management measures to "ensure, as much as reasonably possible, free flowing traffic and the minimisation of congestion and obstructions in town" my immediate reaction was great, wonderful! At last we get some traffic management measures to ease the year round problems which become even worse in the weeks before Christmas. Looking more closely at what is proposed I found. "The system will aim to ensure drivers adhere to current road restrictions". There was not much more than that, except the police will be monitoring the situation.

At this point it's timely to bring in an explanation of what traffic management is. One of many definitions readily available describes traffic management as "the combination of measures that serve to preserve traffic capacity and improve the security, safety and reliability of the overall road transport system. These measures make use of ITS systems, services and projects in day-to-day operations that impact on road network performance." 'ITS' stands for Intelligent Transport Systems; other definitions include the word 'design'. Unfortunately all we can look forward to is a difficult parking situation getting worse. Main Street and Market Street will be congested as drivers crawl around looking for vacant parking spaces which will not be there until after 5pm. Traffic management or pure hell.

Traffic management needs a plan, designed and developed by people who are trained in the job, where a system of management introduces measures aimed at reducing the problems identified. We have been through all of this before, many times. Nothing of any lasting value has ever been introduced apart from the additional parking behind the museum and a few extra parking spaces on the Grand Parade by improving the layout of the parking spaces. Both were a few years ago now.

**Have a good weekend  
Vince**



# Cape Town Expands as International Airline Hub

Last week United Airlines launched a three times a week non-stop service from Cape Town International to Dulles International at Washington DC. This is in addition to the existing three times a week non-stop service between Cape Town International and New York – Newark Liberty International airports. The evening departures for the new service from Washington allow for connections from most parts of the United States and Canada. Departures from Cape Town at scheduled for 8:50 pm which also allows for connection across a very wide area. This would include from St Helena if our flights went to Cape Town.

The press release from United Airlines tells us this new service from Cape Town to Washington Dulles is operated with Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner aircraft, featuring 48 all-aisle-access United Polaris business suites, 21 United Premium Plus premium economy, 39 Economy Plus and 149 economy seats. The revolutionary design of the Dreamliner offers customers many features for increased comfort, such as large windows, spacious overhead storage and modern LED lighting to simulate a full day, helping passengers adjust their internal clock on the transatlantic flight. In addition, a lower cabin altitude, cleaner air and smoother ride help customers feel rested on arrival. It's almost 8,000 miles between the two cities and the flight time is 16hours 20 minutes all being well. It's strange how having nothing to do and nowhere to go for all those hours is always exhausting. United Airlines claim they have solved this problem.

Cape Town has been expanding the number of destination it serves for some years. There are now direct non-stop flights to 40 destinations across Europe, the Middle East and North America as well as Africa. Cape Town International now covers most of the busiest and most popular destinations served by OR Tambo Airport, Johannesburg.



## Destinations served from Cape Town International

It is understood that Wideawake will be fully operational in May next year. This should offer an alternative route for people living in the middle of the South Atlantic to get to Europe, North America, the Middle East and even Asia.

It has been noted that half the cost of the extensive repair to



## Launching the Dream Liner from Cape Town

the runway at Wideawake is being paid by the UK Government. It is hoped that this new partnership approach with the United States will extend from paying the bills to offering a much improved service for civilians. Such a partnership would include improved civilians access to the twice-weekly airbridge flights between Brize Norton and the Falklands. Let's hope the governments that represent all of us are negotiating a better deal on our behalf.



**Next May, Cape Verde is expected to go and Wideawake is back**



# Maestro Ready to Roll-Out Fibre Network

*with microwave links to remote areas*

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 the slowest internet speed any home or business will have in St Helena is 100 megabits per second (mbps). What does that mean in plain English? It means 100 computers can use the same connection for general web browsing. If your home has a 100 mbps connection and you have 40 high definition widescreen TVs scattered about the place, all of them could be in use at the same time. 100 mbps is faster than the average internet speed in the UK which is 63 mbps. The table to the right gives a clear idea of what a game changer the new fibre network will be when it is connected and operating from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

The proposal is that Maestro will build an island-wide telecom network which is a fibre connection from the cable landing station in Rupert's Bay right to each home or business for about 80% of all properties. The exact figure will be confirmed when Maestro submit their detailed design for the new Island-wide high speed network in a week or two. The remaining 20% will be to the outlying areas where the final link in the new digital (non-copper wire) network will be a connection using microwave transmitters located on high points and serving specific areas. Every property within range of a microwave transmitter will have a small receiver to make the final connection to the home or business and to the digital equipment used within each property from phones and televisions to all the digital services available using computers, from web browsing, messaging and e-mail to streaming online video.



**Microwave transmitters come in different shapes and sizes – this is one of them**

Activity	Required Download Speed	Usable on 100Mbps Connection?
<b>Web Browsing, Messaging &amp; E-Mail:</b>		
General web browsing	0.1-1Mbps	✓ Yes, on 100 devices
Social media, instant messaging & e-mail	<0.1Mbps	✓ Yes, on 100+ devices
<b>Voice &amp; Video Calling:</b>		
Skype/WhatsApp phone call	0.1Mbps	✓ Yes, on 100+ devices
Skype/Zoom video call	0.5-0.8Mbps	✓ Yes, on 100+ devices
Skype/Zoom video call (HD)	1.5-1.8Mbps	✓ Yes, on 55 devices
Zoom group video call (HD)	2.5-3Mbps	✓ Yes, on 30 devices
<b>Streaming Online Music &amp; Radio:</b>		
Listening to online radio	0.2Mbps	✓ Yes, on 100+ devices
Streaming music (Spotify, Apple Music, etc)	0.4Mbps	✓ Yes, on 100+ devices
<b>Streaming Online Video:</b>		
Watching YouTube videos (basic quality)	0.5Mbps	✓ Yes, on 100+ devices
Watching YouTube videos (720p HD quality)	2.5Mbps	✓ Yes, on 40 devices
Watching YouTube videos (1080p HD quality)	4Mbps	✓ Yes, on 25 devices
Watching iPlayer/Netflix (standard definition)	1.5Mbps	✓ Yes, on 65 devices
Watching iPlayer/Netflix (high definition)	5Mbps	✓ Yes, on 20 devices
Watching iPlayer/Netflix (4K UHD)	25Mbps	✓ Yes, on 4 devices

In the more densely populated areas it will be fibre cable all the way and the internet speed will be faster. But, from what can be gained using 100 mbps, faster speeds will very rarely be tested to capacity by normal domestic demand.

Maestro Technologies, a London based company, was chosen in early September as the preferred bidder to design, build and then transfer to SHG an island-wide high speed network for all digital communication applications from mobile phones to all applications available using a computer. On Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, SHG announced a contract had been signed with Maestro to deliver the network by the end of next year. The new network is scheduled to come into operation on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024. Maestro personnel have visited St Helena at least twice to make surveys and collect data needed to design the network. The detailed design is due to be completed and presented to SHG for approval in a week or two. SHG will be using specialist advisors to assess Maestro's network design and specifications.

Plans are already underway to ship very nearly all the equipment needed for the





# Maestro Ready to Roll-Out Fibre Network

*with microwave links to remote areas*

installation of the network before the last scheduled arrival of the MV Helena on 17<sup>th</sup> January. Remaining equipment required can be air freighted if necessary at a later date. About 50 people will be employed on the project which includes both resident and overseas workers. The work includes installing the 'backbone' of the network across the island and taking connections from the main network to a terminal on the outside of all properties on the Island. This work is estimated to cost £3.2 million.

At the same time as this contract is being awarded to Maestro, another bidding process is progressing for the contract to provide the services which will be transmitted through the new network. The service provider will be responsible for all types of digital services from emailing and messaging to streaming

music, video and radio. The scheduled closing date for bids for this contract is 23<sup>rd</sup> December. SHG have received requests for the closing date for bids to be put back so bidders can have more time to prepare their bids. SHG have not yet decided whether to allow more time. It is anticipated the service provider will follow behind Maestro as it installs the network around the Island to make sure every house is correctly connected so their home technology can use the high speed digital network. The service provider will charge for the final link up to each property, as has always been the case for new connections to services provided by Sure.

There will be more information on this developing project as we go through to the first months of the New Year.

## Contract Awarded in Telecoms Procurement

On Thursday 17 November 2022, St Helena Government (SHG) signed a contract with Maestro St Helena Ltd (Maestro) (a company registered in St Helena) to design and build a fibre network across the Island. This work, and handover to the new service provider, is scheduled to be completed by 31 December 2023.

This award follows an extensive tender process that began in April 2022, and in September Maestro was identified as the preferred bidder. Senior Maestro personnel visited the Island in September and October 2022 and met with Elected Members, SHG officials and key Island stakeholders. Following a meeting of the Executive Council (ExCo) on Friday 28 October, Ministers took the decision to partner with Maestro. Since then work has been underway to finalise relevant details of the agreement.

Maestro was awarded the contract due to its strong bid and extensive experience of delivering comparable projects elsewhere in the world, particularly so in challenging environments.

Maestro's bid included the construction of a future-proofed passive optical network to cover present and future fibre needs, as well as a wireless system to provide connectivity to more remote locations around the island.

Maestro are now mobilising their plans to deliver this project. Personnel and equipment are expected to begin arriving on-Island in the coming months.

As the contract signed with Maestro is to design, build and transfer the network by 31 December 2023, a further tender exercise (Lot 3) has been launched to identify an operator who will be responsible for running the new network once it has been completed.

The current Telecommunications licence with Sure South Atlantic (Sure) expires on 31 December 2023. A new licence for services will then commence from 01 January 2024. Work continues to create the appropriate regulatory environment for telecommunications and it is expected that a new regulator for the sector will be in place next year, well ahead of the

commencement of any new licence.

Minister for Treasury, Infrastructure and Sustainable Development, Mark Brooks, said:

"Today marks a significant milestone for St Helena. It cannot be understated just how significant the opportunity offered by the cable is for the Island. This is one of the largest projects we have had to encounter as a Council which has resulted in one of our biggest decisions to date. We recognise that it is our responsibility to make sure our Island sees the best possible benefit from this opportunity, and we are confident that the contract with Maestro to build the network will help realise that. Lot 3 is still to be awarded, but this is another major step towards ending the Island's digital exclusion and truly joining the information age."

"Whilst several bids were submitted, we chose the best option for St Helena's long term future. Maestro's bid offered the most viable route to realising this Government's ambitions, as set out in St Helena's Digital Strategy and our published Strategy and Vision 2023-2025, of utilising the cable to deliver fast, affordable, reliable and accessible connectivity for the Island. With this contract, a network which SHG owns will be built across the Island."

"It will provide the platform for existing businesses to grow by opening up significant new opportunities to them, whilst creating the base for entirely new industries to operate in St Helena, from satellite ground stations to digital finance. This means that not only will the community and businesses benefit from connection to the cable through higher internet speeds and reduced costs, but SHG and the taxpayer will also reap financial benefits for many years to come through increased tax revenues, licence fees and rental costs. Ultimately, this cable will offer something completely new and revolutionary for St Helena in the form of exports, not through commodities or labour, but through services that can be offered to a global customer base and audience."

**Excerpt from SHG  
28 November 2022**

# Cape Town Petition Starts Showing Results

Vince Thompson

Seven months after the massive petition in favour of Airlink flights using Cape Town International instead of OR Tambo airport at Johannesburg was presented to ministers, SHG have issued a statement indicating there is some movement in providing the kind of air service the petitioners want.

As the months passed after the petition was presented and no news was given on what was happening, many thought the petition had died a slow and silent death. Not so, said last Friday's statement "Meetings between SHG and Airlink have taken place on a number of occasions during this time, culminating in discussions in early October."

The discussions "have focused on using Cape Town as a hub during the summer months of November to April with Johannesburg, Airlink's main operational base, being used from May to October." OR Tambo is Airlink's base, this make operating flights from that airport easier for Airlink and probably cheaper. There are also more international connections from OR Tambo than there are from Cape Town International. Cape Town is more popular as a destination than Johannesburg, not only with Saints but with tourists as well. Cape Town and Western Cape feature more strongly in the list of top twenty tourist attractions in South Africa than Johannesburg or tourist destinations within reach of OR Tambo. It has often been claimed St Helena could be part of a two-centre holiday and can be combined with Cape Town or an attraction in Western Cape for tourists choosing their next holiday destination. Also important is the possibility of a flight out of Cape Town International to Europe without it being necessary to stay overnight - as in Johannesburg.



The SHG statement says that using Cape Town International during St Helena's peak travel period, "would be beneficial to the Island and the air service, and are therefore looking to implement this as soon as is practical". Unfortunately there are several practicalities to be completed. Every civil aviation authority has a wide range of regulations and standards which need to be complied with and satisfied before any kind of scheduled service can start operating. The South African Civil Aviation Authority is no exception. Also, the SHG statement says, flight schedules need to be published and open for reservations 12 months in advance. This means the peak period service is expected to switch to Cape Town from November 2024.

The previous scheduled flights from Cape Town to St Helena were also during the peak period but in mid-week. They were operated from December 2019 to February 2020. In December 2019 nine scheduled arriving planes brought, on average, 80 passengers. In November '19 there was an average of 63

passengers per plane on six scheduled arriving flights. The pandemic closed off any opportunity to use Cape Town International after February 2020.

Referring to the start date for the Cape Town service not being until November 2024 the SHG statement pointed out, "Whilst it is disappointing that the service cannot be implemented sooner, the additional time will provide more opportunity to undertake planning and marketing to ensure that the potential presented by these changes can be maximised."

During a radio discussion on Saint FM, Julie Thomas the Chief Minister, answered a question about why we rely so much on Airlink, could another airline be brought in to provide a service from Cape Town sooner than Airlink are able to manage. Julie Thomas said St Helena is not in a position where airlines are fighting each other to provide an air service for St Helena. The restrictions on runway length, aircraft weight, the remoteness of the Island and low passenger numbers together with problems with cloud and mist at any time of year on a runway which is 1,000 feet up from sea level and the changeable wind conditions mean that in reality airlines can earn their more money more easily by serving any one of a wide choice of other destinations. Airlink have trained pilots so they can fly in these variable conditions and they need to allocate two captains to each flight due to the number of hours in the air. Engineers need to fly with every plane as part of the ETOPS regulations; full engineering facilities are not available on this side of the South Atlantic.

All of these unusual circumstances which require special regulations and standards applied to this specific route are investigated, assessed and discussed in detail by any civil aviation authority which is involved in all decisions about any airline proposing to include St Helena as a destination or adding a new route to the service offered. Minister Mark Brooks spent several minutes describing all of this when explaining why it takes so long to get a new route cleared by the South African Civil Aviation Authority.

Any meaningful comparison on passenger numbers between Cape Town and Johannesburg was not possible when Cape Town only had a mid-week flight compared with the premium Saturday take-off from OR Tambo. When this new service is operational a closer comparison will be possible and the benefits of flying from Cape Town compared with Jo'burg can be more reliably assessed.

## **Christmas is Coming – Jo'burg Gunmen Go for Easy Pickings**

The congregation in a central Jo'burg Seventh Day Adventist church was robbed at gunpoint last Saturday. According to reports, six armed men entered the church as visitors, and when the preacher was at the podium, the men got up, ordered him to lie down, and took all mobile phones, wallets and other valuables from the congregation and left. The church deacon said, "We were just in the middle of the service, and

*Continued on NEXT PAGE*



# Cape Town Petition Starts Showing Results

Vince Thompson

some six guys came in, pointed guns at us, and started asking money for offerings and mobile phones.” The church is in a heavily populated area.

This type of robbery has already recently happened. Crezane Bosch the Democratic Alliance spokesperson for community safety in Gauteng said gang violence continues to torment the Johannesburg communities of Westbury, Riverlea, Eldorado Park and Diepsloot. “The residents of Westbury, Riverlea and Diepsloot are living in fear for their lives due to ongoing gun violence, yet the police are not doing enough to protect them and fight crime due to severe shortages of resources,” Bosch said in a statement on Tuesday. Adding, “In Westbury, pastors are now being targeted by gangsters because they are taking a stand to protect their community. In one of the churches, there are posters in front of the church gate allegedly from the gang members threatening to shoot the church leader.”



**Crezane Bosch**

Bosch gave further discouraging information: “In a recent ministerial briefing on police resources in the National Council of Provinces, the DA requested an update on the letter we wrote to the minister of police regarding the daily gun violence and killings occurring in these three areas. We have since only received a mere acknowledgment and there is no indication as to what resources will be allocated to address the challenges of lack of resources in these communities. The response we received was: ‘The department will try to retrieve the letter and investigate the matter.’ This comes more than a month after the letter was sent.”

Gauteng has the highest number of crimes followed by Western Cape and then KwaZulu Natal. Gauteng is the most populated province with almost 16 million people followed by KwaZulu Natal and then Western Cape with 7 million. Despite the high profile incidents of armed and violent crime, the trend in the crime rate for Johannesburg, and Gauteng generally, is reducing significantly.

## **Announcement Before Christmas on Shipping:**

**“Importers Have Missed Ordering UK Cargo for Delivery in February”**

When the MV Helena sails away on 22<sup>nd</sup> January (if on schedule) we do not know when the next cargo delivery by ship will be. The deadline for cargo from the UK to be loaded on the

February call of the MV Helena has now passed; it was earlier this month.

Chief Minister Julie Thomas said on Saint FM “I just don’t know” what will happen after Voyage 60 of the MV Helena heads for the horizon. It is possible, even likely, that Julie Thomas could not say much, or rather anything at all, because negotiations are underway with AW Ship Management or another shipping company and it’s all very hush-hush at the moment.

However the fact remains we are in severe danger of not having any cargo delivered in February. It is certain no UK cargo can be received in February as the delivery deadline has now passed. Cargo originating from South Africa can be sent by ship for February but there may be no ship to bring this cargo. It will also be an enormous cost for sending just a few containers? The loss in revenue will hit the SHG shipping budget even harder than all the other MV Helena voyages which have carried fewer containers than there used to be.



**The crew on the first call of the MV Helena**

Julie Thomas said she hoped to make an announcement on the future of the shipping service before Christmas. This probably means there will be no UK cargo arriving in March either – and another voyage which will cost an enormous amount of money and pick up peanuts in revenue. Paying out for cargo ships with very little cargo has to be at a cost to the essential services we expect from government. Even if Julie Thomas cannot say anything about when a new service will start we should at least be told what the direct and indirect effects are of the disruption in ship cargo deliveries.



**It all seemed to work a lot better before the ‘improvements’ (Picture: Bruce Salt)**

# Your Opinion Counts

**Dear Editor,**

I am writing in response to a letter that was in your newspaper last week submitted by Craig Yon.

I would like to respond in two parts.

**Firstly as Chairman of the National Sports Association of St Helena I would like to clarify the following:**

We did have an election in 2018 but that Committee was dissolved in November 2019 at an Extraordinary General Meeting which meant that this brought the end to the four-year cycle for that particular Committee members. The current Committee was then elected on that night. Our Constitution states that the Committee can stand for a period of four years.

In October this year I sought advice for our Regional Vice President and Commonwealth Games Vice President during a zoom meeting to ensure that we were entitled to a quadrennial term or whether we should have the election this year. The Vice Presidents confirm that in their opinion this committee is entitled to a Quadrennial term as our Constitution doesn't state otherwise. They emphasized that although they can give me advice the decision would have to be made by our committee.

At our committee meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November I put two options to the Committee. Option one to serve out their four years or option two to have the Election this year.

I then asked the five Committee members present excluding myself to vote and they unanimously voted for option one; reason being this will then bring us in line with the Commonwealth Games Federation and other CGA's who will have their Quadrennial elections in 2023. It was also stated this would make sense as we are well into planning for two international Games with key deadlines scheduled for the end of November and December.

**From a personal point of view I would like to state the following:**

I have no fear of standing for election as it would be a public vote. The community is aware of my commitment to Sports on the island and in particular grassroots sports. How many opportunities have I created for young people over the last 17 years?

My idea of serving as a Committee member on NSASH is that going to any international Games comes second to the developing of Grassroots Sports. However, to work in Sports at a Grassroots level takes a lot of personal time and sacrifice, all of which is voluntary. I am proud to say I remain committed in delivering this for a sustainable amount of time.

The big question I will have to ask myself if I do I want to extend my service to Sport and this Community beyond the next election as what my family have had to endure on a personal level in the last three months is not acceptable and no amount of 'perks' would constitute for the level of stress we have had to undertake.

Both Tina and I attended the Birmingham Commonwealth games as guests of the Commonwealth Games Federation and NOT as St Helena team officials. We did assist with Athletics training at the Pre Games training Camp and step up to help with swimming on a number of occasions when other officials were unable to fulfil their role due to personal issues and sickness. I was also asked to head a disciplinary matter with an Official as Chairman as our Management was reluctant to do so.

I was also asked for advice on another disciplinary matter in regards to an Athlete during the games.

Other than that, the running of the team was left to the St Helena team officials. I gave advice on some matters most of which was ignored which to be fair was the right of the officials as I stressed to them I can give you advice but you don't have to take it. Majority of the advice I gave was given to me by experience Coaches within the St Helena team.

This letter to your paper is just another issue of a number of issues that we have had to endure as my family has had alleged threats of violence of which we had to involve the Police. It seems that on a

weekly basis there is some issue be it verbal or via email.

I have invited Mr Yon on a number of occasions to meet as Adults to discuss any issues he has with Me and my family. So far this has not materialised.

When is it going to STOP?

I have to admire the relentlessness of Mr Yon. As a person who is very forgiving and don't hold grudges it baffles me that an Adult Human can carry on persistently like he can.

In a weird way since the letter was published in your Newspaper the level of support from the community to me and my family has been humbling.

Maybe I have to thank Mr Yon for that as along with the verbal support came donations for the various fundraisers we are currently doing.

No one should ever be jealous of what I do; if I encapsulate the amount of time me and my family put into serving the Community in a voluntary capacity and the fact that our social life is none existent no normal person would want to do it.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays' we get home in the dark. Thursday & Saturday afternoons and Sundays' is the only down time we currently get.

I am sure the parents of the young people in our Athletics Club and Junior Footballers appreciate our efforts. This was made known to us numerous times since this letter was published. In fact some parents were emotional about it. If I don't stand for election or don't be successful in getting elected as Chairman or member of NSASH I am sure that Mr Yon and/or his associates is more than capable of carrying on the work that I do and take Sport to another level.

At the end of the day it will be the Public who will decide the committee for this important organisation. The future of Sports on St Helena is in your hands. You just need to turn up to the next election and vote.

A Committee is only as good as the most knowledgeable, determined and vigorous on it. There must be somebody who provides the flame.



# Your Opinion Counts

I will now wait and see what the next level in this vendetta is.....

**Nick Stevens**

**Dear Editor,**

I would firstly like to thank Craig Yon for his letter in last week's St Helena Independent.

First it would have been nice to see the constitution he is referring to, then I can agree or disagree that an election of a new NASH committee needs to be elected therefore an AGM needs to be called.

I would personally like to say the eight members that Craig referring to, who did got elected did and continue to do a great job with promoting and pushing sport on this island so I think as long as there's

any committee members who has in interest in developing sports for St Helena then why is there a need to change the committee.

I know he mentioned the advert from the current chairperson two weeks ago surprised him that an AGM won't be called until November 2023, please what will another year hurt for this group who's passionate about developing sport, nothing and I know he mentioned that the extraordinary meeting doesn't count as a Quadrennial AGM but I was in attendance and a newly appointed committee was elected or as it was for some re-elected so it will only mean that the current committee have being serving for 3 years and the constitution he referring to I imagine says officers need to served 4 years by an AGM needs to be called every 4 years.....just my speculation as the constitution is still to be seen.

I know he mentioned about 2 members resigning to date which includes the Vice Chairperson Anthony Thomas (yes I was at the last meeting), and the way it is portrayed by Craig they resigned be-

cause of a disputed between the committee which I believe is not the real reasons.....so maybe don't write in riddles but facts instead.

To conclude my response to the letter I'd like to know the real reason by you why the AGM has being postponed until after the International Events you mentioned, please let us the public know?

Just an observation Craig can you tell us, is this agenda mentioned in your letter a personal attack to the committee as a whole, the executive committee or a particular member because that's the impression I'm getting and best you agree a one to one meeting with whom concern and express your beef with them as many of us the public who passionate about sport don't want to be drag into the politics if not I'd be Chairperson but guess you've started Saint gossip which you well just finish in public.

**Thank You,**

**A very keen follower of all local sports on the island.**

## THE ANCHOR SHOP

**SITUATED AT KUNJIE FIELD:**

**OPENING HOURS: MONDAYS – SATURDAYS: 4:30 PM -6:30 PM**

**SITUATED OPPOSITE SEALES CORNER:**

**OPENING HOURS: THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS: 09:00 – 2:00 PM SATURDAYS: 09:00 – 1:00 PM**

**COME AND HAVE A BROWSE AND START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!!**



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**St Helena Heritage Society Ltd  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
Museum of Saint Helena @ 7pm**

### Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Chair's report
3. Financial report
4. Museum report
5. Elections
6. Any other business



## Thank you for your care and kindness

The family of the late Beatrice Stroud would like to thank the Medical, Hospital and Community Nursing Staff, Paramedics and Ambulance Drivers and the Adult Social Care team for caring for her during her period of illness in hospital and at home.

Special thanks are also extended to the many friends, neighbours and extended family who visited, telephoned or sent messages to convey well wishes, messages of support and condolences, and to those who provided assistance to family members during her illness.

Thanks to Roy and Barry Williams and their funeral team, to Colin Lawrence and his team for making the wreaths and to those who so generously donated flowers.

We were grateful to the Police and the Highways Authority for roadside assistance during the funeral procession outside of the church and on the Constitution Hill Road.

To the Pastor, church elders and church family of the Seventh Day Adventist church who visited Beatrice at hospital and at home and helped with the funeral, the Singspirationals, to Gay Marr for playing the keyboard and the band of musicians who played at the graveside, a heartfelt thank you!

May God richly bless you all and may your prayers and kindness be rewarded.

Beatrice is survived by her younger sister Gladys, son and daughter Daniel and Joy, grandchildren Christina and Steven, great grandchildren Jordan and Mia, many nieces, nephews and cousins and her faithful pets Fluffy and Bluebell.



*Monica Yon, of Botanical Gardens, Jamestown, would like to give a special thanks to the Surgeons and all the Theatre Staff for the excellent care and service given to her at the General Hospital.*

*Thanks also to all of the Staff within the General Hospital for caring for her during her recovery.*

*She would also like to extend thanks to all those family and friends who supported her by way of messages, phone calls and visits.*

*Thank you and May God bless you all and keep you safe!*

### Baptist Church Christmas Outreach

Carol Singing

Preached Word

Guest Musicians

Refreshments

When: Sun 04<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Where: Kingshurst Community Centre

Time: 15:00





# HM CUSTOMS EXTENDS OPENING TIMES

Due to the high volume of cargo that arrived on the MV Helena, Customs has extended their opening times to 17:00 hrs on cargo operation days.

This will hopefully maximise the times customers have for collecting their goods.

It is anticipated there will be delays, however HM Customs appreciates your patience and understanding.

The extended opening times are below:

DATE	DAY	SERVICE	OPERATIONAL TIMES
29 November 2022	Tuesday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
30 November 2022	Wednesday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
1 December 2022	Thursday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
2 December 2022	Friday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
5 December 2022	Monday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
6 December 2022	Tuesday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
7 December 2022	Wednesday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
8 December 2022	Thursday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
9 December 2022	Friday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 12:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 12:00
15 December 2022	Thursday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Merchant Cargo V59	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo V59	09:00 - 17:00
16 December 2022	Friday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Merchant Cargo V59	09:00 - 17:00
		Consolidated Cargo V59	09:00 - 17:00
17 December 2022	Saturday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 12:00
		Merchant Cargo V59	09:00 - 12:00
19 December 2022	Monday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 17:00
		Merchant Cargo V59	09:00 - 17:00
20 December 2022	Tuesday	Merchant Cargo	09:00 - 18:00
		Merchant Cargo V59	09:00 - 17:00
21 December 2022	Wednesday	MV Helena Arrive from ASC	07:30 - 18:00
22 December 2022	Thursday	MV Helena in port	06:00 - 18:00
		Issue Ascension Cargo	09:00 - 19:00
23 December 2022	Friday	MV Helena in port	06:00 - 18:00
		Issue Ascension Cargo	09:00 - 19:00

## INVITATION TO TENDER

The St Helena National Trust would like to invite suitable persons or organisations to submit tenders for the following contract:

### **Historic Feature Assessment for the Peaks National Park**

The St Helena Cloud Forest project recognises that there are historic features within the Peaks National Park and as part of the project to ensure these assets are documented and registered within the St Helena Historic Environment Record (HER).

The Tenders should consider the following:

- A desktop study of the historic timeline and known features of the Peaks National Park
- Investigate unknown or unrecorded features and their historical context within the Peaks National Park
- Document and map the significant features, in line with the requirements of the HER
- Compile the information into an HER spreadsheet template for the updating of the HER
- Produce a report outlining the findings of the above assessment

The contractor's price needs to be inclusive of their costs, overheads, equipment and transport to enable the successful completion of the contract.

The contract should be completed by **10 March 2023**.

For further details please contact Shelley Magellan-Wade on 25531 or email [shelley.magellan-wade@trust.org.sh](mailto:shelley.magellan-wade@trust.org.sh)

**Interested persons should submit tenders in a sealed envelope addressed to the Office Manager, Amanda Constantine, by no later than 16:00hrs on Friday 09 December 2022.**

## Application Cut-Off Date

Sure SA Ltd would like to advise that applications for new Telephone, Television and Broadband installations for service dates in December 2022 should be submitted to the Customer Care Centre at Bishops Rooms, Jamestown by no later than **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022**.

Provision of service for applications received after this date cannot be guaranteed until January 2023.

Please visit our Customer Care Centre in Jamestown, call 22900 or email [service@sure.co.sh](mailto:service@sure.co.sh) for further information





# Job Opportunity | Ascension Island



## IP Networks Technician, Ascension Island

Would you like to join our team providing broadband, fixed line and mobile to both business and residential customers? This is an exciting opportunity for anyone looking for a varied and challenging role.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day operation and maintenance of data and IT systems including the ISP, local network, customer IT equipment and company IT hardware and software.

### Requirements:

- Relevant qualification in IT or telecoms, desirable.
- Experience working in telecommunication or IT
- Proficient in MS Office suite
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

We are proud of the way we do things: **We work together as One Team, We strive for Customer Satisfaction, We are Reliable, We have a Passion for Technology & Learning and We are Community & Sustainability Focused.**

Join us and you will enjoy some of the many benefits that Sure provides, including but not limited to:

Bonus Scheme, Pension, Staff Benefits, Cost of Living Allowance, continued professional development, opportunities for work-place flexibility and remote working when possible. Mid-contract flight, Health Insurance and housing provided.

Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience.

Due to the nature of this position, the post holder must hold a Satisfactory Police Disclosure.

To apply send your CV to: [shara.robinson@sure.com](mailto:shara.robinson@sure.com) by **Monday 5 December 2022**.

For further information about the job, please contact [mario.anthony@sure.com](mailto:mario.anthony@sure.com) or [jason.moyce@sure.com](mailto:jason.moyce@sure.com)



# VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

## **Lending Clerk**

**Commencing at £9,000 per annum**

Bank of St Helena Ltd is seeking to recruit a suitable person to fill the vacant position of a Lending Clerk. This position is highly customer service focused. The successful candidate must be flexible to work demands, have excellent customer service skills and be self-motivated. Candidates should also have a keen eye for detail, exhibit high accuracy levels and have the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, whilst working well with others and as part of the wider Bank Team. As the Bank continues to evolve so do job roles, hence a positive attitude to accepting new assignments are an important feature when working within the Bank.

### **The main duties of the post include:**

- Ensuring that all loan applications received are accurately completed, all supporting documentation is included and that loans are processed in line with the Bank's policies and procedures to ensure they meet the Lending criteria;
- To provide information relevant to the loan application process; this includes the various loan products, interest rates, insurances and any other terms and conditions relating to all existing and prospective borrowers;
- Ensure that key principles of professional credit management are maintained and the lending service is administered in an efficient, objective and timely manner;
- Liaising with clients throughout the loan approval process providing a high standard of customer service;
- Liaising with clients to ensure they are compliant with the terms and conditions of their Facility Agreements.

### **Skills and experience that candidates should have include :**

- GCSE's in Mathematics and English at Grade C or above;
- Proficiency in IT skills, including Microsoft and Excel applications;
- Basic understanding of Accounting practices in relation to Banking;
- Experience of working in a customer service environment.

**Interested persons can contact Miss Sherry Vanguard, Lending Supervisor on email [lendingsupervisor@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:lendingsupervisor@sainthelenabank.com) or telephone number (+290) 22390 for more information.**

An Application form and a Job Profile is available upon request from the Bank.

Completed application forms should be addressed to Mrs Michelle Knipe, Human Resources Officer, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to [hrofficer@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:hrofficer@sainthelenabank.com).

**Closing date for applications is Monday, 05 December 2022.**

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



**Bank of St. Helena Ltd.**

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



[info@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:info@sainthelenabank.com)



[www.sainthelenabank.com](http://www.sainthelenabank.com)



[@sainthelenabank](https://www.facebook.com/sainthelenabank)



+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd



Mitie (Defence) Ltd  
Building 27A  
Airhead  
Ascension Island

<https://careers.mitie.com>

## Job Opportunities - Ascension Island

Mitie are currently recruiting additional staff with the return of Voyager the South Atlantic Airbridge to Ascension Island, anticipated start date of Feb 2023, to be confirmed.

We are currently looking to recruit the following positions:

**Ref No. 22610 – Team Leader Visiting Aircraft Handler - 2 Vacancies**

**Ref No. 22613 – Operative, Aircraft Handling - 4 Vacancies**

**Ref No. 22813 – Airfield Security Operative - 4 Vacancies**

**Ref No. 22780 – Airfield Security Manager - 1 Vacancy**

### **We are looking for**

Applicants should have a mature attitude, be flexible, reliable and self-motivated; have an open approach and will pass on their knowledge, experience and show willingness to assist others. Experience of working in Security and Aircraft Handling is desirable but not essential, as full training will be given. Will be capable of obtaining MoD basic level security clearance, evisa from the Ascension Government, be declared medically and dentally fit to work on Ascension Island.

**Mitie** will pay a competitive salary, 5% monthly site allowance, 10% bonus at 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> month of tour.

Hours of work are 47.5 per week, not “9 to 5” but arranged around Aircraft movements and will entail early, late and weekend working.

The contract duration is 27 months with 74 days leave excluding weekends. Flights arranged to and from St Helena Island / Ascension Island for agreed holiday periods.

The positions are unaccompanied. Single accommodation on Travellers Hill, 3 meals at the RAF Combined Mess, all corporate work wear and PPE included.

**Interested persons** should upload a CV online to apply at

<https://careers.mitie.com/jobs/vacancy/find/results/>

**Closing date** for applications is Sat 10 Dec 2022.



# SHG VACANCIES

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

(Central Support Service)

*The Administrative Assistant within Central Support Services is responsible for completing straightforward administrative processes that support the smooth running of Portfolios and delivering a high quality, customer focused service. We are seeking a highly motivated individual who works methodically and has a keen eye for detail that can provide administrative support across the Portfolios*

**Further information** about the duties of the post, interested persons should contact Carol Henry, Head of Administration Support Service on telephone number 22470 or email: [carol.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:carol.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh)

**Job Profile** and **Application forms** are available from Central Human Resources & Organisational Development or the SHG website at: [www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies](http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies). Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Camilla Thomas, Trainee Human Resources Officer, The Castle or email [recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than **4pm on Wednesday 07 December 2022**.

## BUDGET ASSISTANT

(Permanent post within *Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio*)

*Are you a highly motivated individual looking for a career change or to progress career?*

*The Treasury Directorate is seeking to recruit a **Budget Assistant**. In this role you will support Budget Holders and Accounting Officers in the completion of budget reports and variance and trend analysis to support decision making.*

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Joanne Jonas, Budget Officer on telephone number 22470 or email: [joanne.jonas@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:joanne.jonas@sainthelena.gov.sh)

**Application forms** are available from Central Human Resources or the SHG website at: [www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies](http://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](mailto:recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than **4pm on Tuesday, 6 December 2022**.

**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.

# Vacancy

## Aviation Depot Manager



Salary for the post will commence at £17,885 per annum (£1490 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Agencies Department for an Aviation Depot Manager.

As the Aviation Depot Manager, you will be overall responsible for into plane refuelling services on behalf of any contracted Principals.

### Interested Persons Should:

- Have 3 years' experience in a Management role, with strong interpersonal and organisational skills and the ability to lead and develop a team.
- Preferably have proven experience working in an aviation refuelling environment & knowledge of fuel facilities operations and maintenance. Persons with appropriate technical aptitude will also be considered.
- Be knowledgeable of risk management.
- Knowledge of HSSE Health & Safety practises and quality assurance procedures for safe handling of fuels or hazardous products will be preferred.
- Be committed to continuous learning and self-development.
- Be computer literate and confident with all Microsoft applications.
- Hold a valid drivers' licence in classes A & C (J4 desirable).
- Be available to work additional hours to attend unscheduled or emergency aircraft.
- Be comfortable to work in a potentially hazardous environment.

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

Jason Thomas, General Manager (Agencies) ☎ 22523 ✉ [GM-Agencies@solomons.co.sh](mailto:GM-Agencies@solomons.co.sh)

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via [hadmin@solomons.co.sh](mailto:hadmin@solomons.co.sh) and completed forms should be returned to Madonna Henry, Human Resources Manager, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **21 December 2022**. Please note candidates will be contacted in January 2023.

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

- Pension Contributions
- Attractive Leave Packages including annual leave, sickness absence leave, maternity/parental leave
- Staff Discounts



**AUDIT ST HELENA**  
External Auditors

## AUDIT ST HELENA invites applications for the following job vacancy

### PRINCIPAL AUDITOR

Salary range £21,737 to £26,690 per annum

**24-month fixed term contract commencing January 2022**

The Principal Auditor will lead the planning and delivery of financial audit engagements across a range of public entities in accordance with International Auditing Standards.

Candidates must be a qualified accountant with a minimum of three years' recent experience in external audit and at least one year in a supervisory capacity in an audit environment, together with knowledge of recognised financial reporting frameworks.

We are looking for a team leader with good communication and people management skills who is able to plan, prioritise and project manage workflow and use their own judgement. Excellent analytical abilities and IT skills are also required. Working knowledge of CaseWare is desirable.

Job Profiles and Application Forms are available on request by calling 22111 or emailing [helene.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:helene.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh). Application forms should be submitted by email or by hand to Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown, by no later than **4 December 2022**.

All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and police clearance. St Helena Government reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

*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.*



ANRD wishes to advise the public that the following assets are available for licensing from: December 2022

- Arable Land at Ex ADA Fields
- Arable Land at Upper and Lower Mulberry Gut
- Arable Land at Ropery Field
- Arable Land at Scotland
- Arable Land at Hutts Gate
- Pasture Land at Coltsheeds

Application forms can be collected from the Reception at ANRD Office or by contacting the Farmers Support Assistant, Martina Leo or the Farmers Support Officer, Fred Green on telephone 24724 or email [martina.leo@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:martina.leo@sainthelena.gov.sh) or [Frederick.green@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Frederick.green@sainthelena.gov.sh) respectively.

Closing date for application is 1600 hours on 09<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

## *Property for Sale at Hutt's Gate*

*Contact Telephone 23163*







St Helena  
Government

## LAND FOR SALE/LEASE

**The Property Division of the Treasury, Infrastructure and Sustainable Development Portfolio has land for sale and lease:**

For Sale, parcel number 424, within the Longwood South registration section, measuring 0.12 acres, located near Longwood Gate, Longwood.

For lease, parcel number 681, within the Scotland registration section, measuring 0.127 acres, known as the former Radio Station, Pounceys.

For lease, parcel number 1451, within the Half Tree Hollow registration section, measuring 0.69 acres, known as the former Nursery, Half Tree Hollow.

Closing date for bids are 12 noon, Wednesday 11th January 2023.

Please contact: Gina Henry, Crown Estates Officer on email address: [gina.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:gina.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh), or on telephone number: 22270, or you could collect particulars from Essex House, Jamestown.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### Ambledale Workshop Ltd

is looking for reliable

### Labourers

to assist them with the Rehabilitation of Jacob's Ladder project.

Please note these job opportunities will be on a short term basis with the potential for individuals to become permanent employees.

For further information please contact Colin Yon on telephone number 23100 or 61247.

## DISTANCE LEARNING CO-ORDINATOR

(Permanent post within *Education, Skills & Employment Portfolio*)

*Would you like to make a difference in the lives of our future generations by supporting them with their learning? If so, this exciting and important role is the perfect opportunity for you! By leading, managing and implementing a comprehensive distance learning programme, you will be responsible for providing guidance and care to all students undertaking this form of studying. Excellent organisational skills are required with the ability to plan ahead and prioritise workload to meet the varying demand. You will be required to communicate effectively both verbally and written with a wide range of stakeholders including overseas organisations.*

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Isabel Andrews, Deputy Head Teacher on telephone number 24290 or email: [isabel.andrews@princeandrew.edu.sh](mailto:isabel.andrews@princeandrew.edu.sh)

**Job Profile** and **Application forms** are available from: Corporate Human Resources or the SHG website at: [www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies](http://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](mailto:recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than 4pm GMT on Tuesday, 13 December 2022

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.



A festive poster for the New Horizons Christmas Bazaar. The top half features a green pine branch border with red and silver ornaments. A large red bauble is on the left. The text 'New Horizons' is in a simple font, while 'Christmas BAZAAR' is in a large, stylized font with 'BAZAAR' in red block letters. Below this, it says 'This coming FRIDAY' in red. The date and time are '2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022' and 'From 10am - 6pm'. The location is 'Outside New Horizons (car park area)'. It lists 'We have BRAND NEW and QUALITY SECOND goods' and 'Everything going for £1 or LESS'. Handwritten-style labels include 'Household', 'Toys', 'Shoes', 'Books', and 'Clothes'. A small logo for 'NEW HORIZONS FOR YOUTH' is in the top left. At the bottom, it says 'Don't miss it!' in green.

New Horizons  
**Christmas BAZAAR**  
This coming **FRIDAY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022      From 10am - 6pm  
Outside New Horizons (car park area)  
We have **BRAND NEW** and **QUALITY SECOND** goods  
Everything going for **£1 or LESS**  
*Don't miss it!*

## St James Church Raffle Draw- 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022-Results

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Pan Set	Debbie Knipe	Alarm Forest
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Red Wine	Ann Yon	Ladder Hill
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Straighteners	Shirley George	Main Street
4 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Dove for Men	Connie Johnson	Ladder Hill
5 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Bayliss + Harding set	Mavis George	Half Way HTH
6 <sup>TH</sup> Prize	Wooden Tray	Vanessa Henry	Thompsons Hill
7 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Small Blue Bag	Bishop Dale	Bishops Holme
8 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Colored Necklace	Tracy Corker	Main Street
9 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Dove Bag-Men	Jeannette Williams	
10 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Crochet Table Piece	Iva Piek Peters	Hay Squ Upper
11 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Molly Neck lace	Clare Duncan	Jamestown
12 <sup>th</sup> Prize	White Wine	Emerald Newman	Napoleon Str
13 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Large Pink Bag	Cassidy Beard	Mkt Str
14 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Lynx Woman	Shandy Osborne	Napoleon Str
15 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Fairy Lights	Joyce Buckley	Briars
16 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Cake Stand	Michelle Lawrence	Bluemans Field
17 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Diary Set	Dorothy May Knipe	Levelwood
18 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Earrings	Ray Cranfield	Alarm Forest
19 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Espresso Set	Glynnis Maggott	Ruperts
20 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Pink Candle set	Delia Henry	HTH
21 <sup>ST</sup> Prize	Chunky Necklace	Heather Cranfield	Botanical Gardens
22 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Joules Tin set-Cream	Mervin Henry	Thompsons Hill
23 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	£30 Cash	Ryden Stevens	Jamestown
24 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Travel Mug	Iyla Bell	CowPath
25 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Short Tumblers	Leigh Richards	Harns's Flats
26 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Coffee set	Kedall Lawrence	Half way
27 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Tall Glasses	Synthia Phillips	No41 Cottage-HTH
28 <sup>th</sup> Prize	Top Up Card	Rodney Sprong	Thompsons Hill



## Acts of Bravery Awards Bestowed on Cristen Yon and Kyle Joshua

On Thursday 24 November 2022, Act of Bravery Awards were presented to Cristen Yon and Kyle Joshua in a reception at Plantation House. As Kyle Joshua is currently off-Island, his father Keith (KJ) Joshua received the award on his behalf.

The pair were recognised for the outstanding bravery of their behaviour on the evening of Sunday 14 February 2021. Police officers were carrying out patrols in the sea front area and just after 02:15 they noticed a commotion by the sea wall.

The officers quickly made their way to the sea wall and saw that a person had fallen over and was face down on the rocks. Cristen Yon and Kyle Joshua were both already climbing over the wall and down onto the rocks. They managed to get the injured individual up from the rocks and brought them to safety to await an ambulance.

The individual had a broken nose and broken ribs, was very confused, covered in blood and soaking wet from the sea water. Although the injured person was conscious and breathing, there was no doubt that if it weren't for the brave actions of these two young men the result could have been very different.

Both Cristen and Kyle took it upon themselves to act, with no regard to their own safety. This was a life or death situation and Cristen and Kyle's quick thinking and actions saved an individual's life.

On the award, Governor Nigel Phillips said:

"I was honoured to be able to present these awards. Both Cristen and Kyle should be extremely proud of their actions. Their selfless act put themselves in harm's way to provide assistance that was instrumental in ensuring that nobody lost their life that night. They are a true credit to this community."

**SHG**

**30 November 2022**



### PLANTING A TREE FOR THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE CANOPY

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November members of the Girl Guiding family were finally able to honour their commitment in helping to provide a green canopy of trees as part of the late Queen's 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebrations. The original arrangement had to be postponed due to the uncertain covid situation on the island and the inclement weather.

We planted a total of seventy endemic trees, to represent the 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the late Queen Elizabeth in our special Trefoil area, at the Millennium Forest



A big thank you to Chris and Andre at the Millennium Forest for helping to make this learning experience fun and memorable for Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Leaders too.



# Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

I am quite enjoying the World Cup. There have been some really exciting matches in the group stages and I am now looking forward to the crunch of Knock Out Football.

I do feel the lesser Nations have closed the gap on the Football Powerhouses and therefore we are seeing a few upsets. It was pleasing to see the links of Canada and South Korea plays some awesome attacking football. The African teams have also improved; Morocco in particular plays a nice brand of Football. To date Germany and Belgium has been the most disappointing.

Brazil have gotten off to a great start beating Serbia 2-0 and Switzerland 1-0 despite Neymar picking up an injury in the first match



**Casemiro has been the stand out player for Brazil scoring the winner against Switzerland**

Brazil remain favourites to pick up this year's World Cup which would be their 6<sup>th</sup> having won it in 1958; 1962, 1970, 1994 & 2002.

Spain looks good in the first match against Costa Rica and then did ok against Germany as they drew 1-1. In Gavi they have one of the young stars of the tournament so far.

Host Country Qatar went out of the World Cup without picking up a point. I did take note to their number 11 Akram Afif who I think could play in the Premier League.



**Could we see Qatari Akram Afif playing in the Premier League?**

The Netherlands topped group A and Senegal took second place after they beat Ecuador 2-1.

England topped Group B as they defeated Wales 3-0. Wales



**Kalidou Koulibaly's score the winner for Senegal which sends them through to the last 16**

finished bottom and are now going home after experiencing their first World Cup in 64 years.

England will now play Senegal in the last 16 on Sunday at 7pm.



**Marcus Rashford is in great form for England; scoring two goals against Wales and picking up the Man of the Match award**

The USA beat Iran 1-0 in a hard fought match. They will now play the Netherlands in the last 16 on Saturday. In Group C Argentina beat Poland 2-0 despite Messi missing a penalty. Poland also went through on goal difference from Mexico. Mexico beat Saudi Arabia 2-1.

In group D France topped the group but lost their last match 1-0 to Tunisia. Australia shocked Denmark beating them 1-0 and therefore qualifying for the knock out stage.

France will play Poland on Sunday at 3pm and Argentina will play Australia on Saturday at 7pm.

The winners on Saturday and Sunday will play each other in the Quarter Finals.



**Socceroos through to the last 16 of the World Cup**



# Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

## Junior Football

sponsored by Nigel George; Colin's Garage and Merrill Lawrence

### Results by Owen Richards

On Sunday we saw the conclusion of the 9aside league. It was great to see so many female players taking part in this year's 9 aside league

Age 6-11 9 a-side

### Young Rebels 2 – 1 Young Raiders

Goal Scorers: Young Rebels – Dillon George 1, Louie Fowler 1,

Goal Scorers: Young Raiders – Jamal Yon 1

### Player of the match

Young Rebels – Elijah Young

Young Raiders – Kaylen Piek Williams



### Young Bellboys 8 – 1 Hungry Sharks

Goal Scorers: Young Bellboys – Joel Peters 4, Joshua Crowie 3, Leo Crowie 1

Goal Scorers: Hungry Sharks - Kayden Leo 1

### Player of the match

Young Bellboys – Joel Peters

Hungry Sharks – Warren Jenson

## Fixtures

This weekend we will see the Semi Finals of the Futsal take place on Francis Plain.

6-11 years

9am: winners of Predators/Young Rebels v Young Raiders

Ref: Nick Stevens

10am: Young Bellboys v Hungry Sharks

Ref: Owen Richards

11+ years

9am: Natural Diasters v Sentinel Stars

Ref: Gareth Johnson

10am: Young Dare Devils v ?

Ref: Gareth Johnson

## What's happening at New Horizons?

Today we have the first of our Christmas activities in the form of the Annual Christmas Bazaar which is opened from 10 to 6pm and everything will be on Sale for £1 or less. Come along and grab some great bargains for Christmas.

There will be a 50p raffle going on for the day as well.... The draw will be made at 6pm.

We are still collecting for the Christmas Food Parcels. Big thanks to the anonymous donator who bought £200 worth of food that was dropped off to us by Peaks Enterprise. Big thanks to Paul Thomas (Paulie Moogu) in the UK who sent us a load of gifts to use for the public for Christmas. Thanks also to Tanya Benjamin and Delrae Yon who sent boxes of Food from the UK and Richard James who freight it for free. Thanks to all the shops that collected in food items and to all who have donated food items and Money so far.

## Helping New Horizons to help others

New Horizons will open from members from 3pm-6pm today.

We are asking members to sign up for the Christmas party and the Youth Games today as well.

The members Christmas Party is currently scheduled for Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December



## Raffle in Aid of the St Helena international Football Team Guernsey 2023



Star Prize: 125cc Sym Scooter



2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Flat Screen TV



3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Staycation at Mantis



4<sup>th</sup> Prize: A Goat



5<sup>th</sup> Prize: St Helena Football Kit

**Come Support the Boys!!!**

**Tickets just £5**

**Draw to be made on New Year's Eve**

Tickets are on Sale at New Horizons and most shops. Squad members also have tickets to sell

# TotalEnergies Want to Drill for Oil off South Africa's West Coast

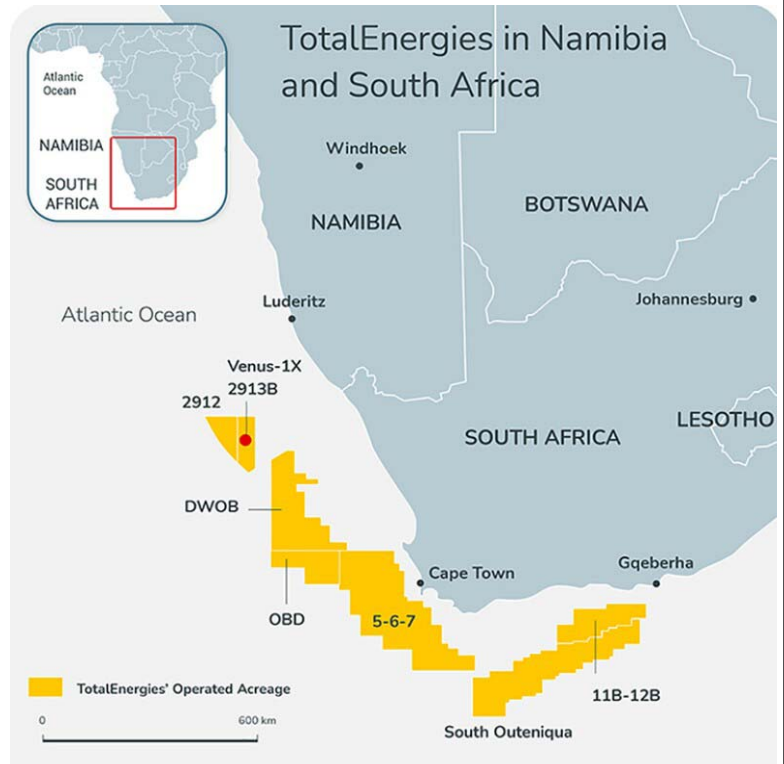
The area of interest in the Deep Water Orange Basin is located offshore between Port Nolloth and Hondeklip Bay, about 188km from the coast



TotalEnergies is planning to explore for oil off South Africa's West Coast, where environmental groups have increasingly opposed such activity.

The French oil company proposes to drill one well, which could result in an additional nine wells depending on the success of the first. SLR Consulting, is doing the environmental assessment. TotalEnergies didn't immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

Community and environmental activists in South Africa have blocked seismic surveys — including one planned by Shell Plc in an area known as the Wild Coast — through lawsuits, citing risks to marine life and criticizing consultation processes. The government regulator in charge of licensing has pledged to improve public outreach processes.



## Oil fields identified so far off the coast of south-west Africa

The area of interest in the Deep Water Orange Basin is located offshore between Port Nolloth and Hondeklip Bay, about 188km from the coast at its closest point, in water depths of as much as 3,000m, SLR said.

Earlier in 2022, both TotalEnergies and Shell made significant offshore oil discoveries north of the block in Namibian waters.

## Back in Time – to the Year England Won the World Cup

Head O' Wain clinic in 1966. Dr Richard Grainger is checking on patients 'out west' and Ambrose Henry is driving the white van and in charge of the medical records and the stock of limited medical supplies.

Everyone was seen on a first come, first served basis. The computer reservation system for appointments was still several years into the future. Bringing an empty and clean beer bottle was usual, so the prescribed potions and lotions could be carried away in them. There were regular urine checks to detect diabetes.

People would arrive by donkey and some of the less mobile would be taken by neighbours who carried them as they sat in a chair. Home visits were normal and just part of the routine. This would often involve a walk through places like Horse Pasture.





## Stamping out invasive species has successful track record on islands, study finds

A recent study published in the journal *Scientific Reports* found that efforts to remove invasive vertebrates from islands were 88% successful between 1872 and 2020.

Invasive species can be particularly devastating to delicate island ecosystems and the unique native species they harbour.

The researchers looked at the methods, locations and target species of 1,550 eradication attempts on nearly 1,000 islands around the world.

The authors say the results of the research provide a guide for conservation groups, scientists and countries to take on eradication projects in an effort to encourage the resurgence of native wildlife and restore ecosystems.

Giant tortoises (*Chelonoidis* spp.) have trundled across the Galápagos Islands for perhaps 3 million years. Over that time, they've evolved to survive with little food or water in the islands' harsh desert environment. But this ability also made the tortoises an excellent source of food for mariners, who often picked up a couple when they passed by the Galápagos. The tortoises survived for months at sea until they were needed to feed ships' crews.

This regular cull left these species ill-equipped to weather another related threat. The descendants of the rats, pigs, goats and other alien species human visitors left behind feasted on tortoise eggs and young, squashed their nests and competed with them for food. This led to the extinction of at least one species, the Pinta Island tortoise.

Today, all of the 13 remaining giant tortoise species in the islands are threatened with extinction, according to the IUCN, the global wildlife conservation authority. Some of the species are down to just a single individual. In 2019, a scientist found what turned out to be a single individual of the Fernandina Island giant tortoise, long thought to be extinct. Many of the others cling to existence only through captive-breeding programs and careful protection of tortoise eggs and young.

Until recently, it seemed these interventions would always be necessary to allow the islands' tortoises to survive. But conservation groups, scientists and the government of Ecuador, which has jurisdiction over the Galápagos, have used methods ranging from targeted hunts to the pinpoint delivery of poison by drones to eradicate invasive pests from the islands. Now, signs are emerging that these moves have opened the door for a tortoise comeback in the Galápagos.

"We can now find hatchling Galápagos tortoises in the wild on these islands that don't have rats," Dena Spatz, a senior conservation scientist said in an interview. "We're able to re-introduce tortoises back to a lot of these islands, [and they] are now breeding and surviving."

The efforts to rid the Galápagos of invasive species represent just one set of projects tracked in a study published in the journal *Scientific Reports*. The analysis includes 1,550 at-

tempts on nearly 1,000 islands, and it reveals that 88% of these projects were successful.

A professor at Germany's University of Göttingen, who was not involved in the research, said it was surprising to see the "high success rate" of eradication efforts. "It's really amazing how well this works," he said.

The work that many scientists have done has brought into focus the outsize role that islands play as repositories for huge numbers of plants, animals and other life forms, especially rare species. As the study's authors point out, islands hold around 40% of all threatened vertebrates on just 5% of the world's land area. Many island species are found nowhere else — part of the reason that more than 60% of the world's extinctions in the past 500 years have occurred on islands.



***A Galapagos Giant Turtle and a horse enjoying the security provided by the Galapagos Conservation Trust***

Once introduced, rats, feral cats, goats, destructive insects and plant species can swiftly knock an island ecosystem's delicate balance off-kilter. Mostly, it's our fault as humans, whether we intentionally introduce errant invaders or unwittingly allowed them to hitch a ride on our shoes, in our ships or in the products we trade. Whatever the conduit, invasive species have triggered the loss of more native island biodiversity than any other cause worldwide.

Now, this study shows attempts to eradicate invasive species from islands tend to work, clearing a path for the resurgence of threatened species like the Galápagos' giant tortoises and ultimately the restoration of island ecosystems.



### COME & SING

Come and enjoy a Christmas Sing-along at the Seventh Day Adventist Church Hall on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you!



# News Around Britain



## Food Prices Record Rise in One Month

The British Retail Consortium (BRC) announced this week that food prices in Britain rose at a record rate in the year to November, with meat, eggs, dairy and coffee climbing particularly sharply. Food inflation hit 12.4%, up from 11.6% in October. The rocketing cost of energy, animal feed and transport were behind the rise. The BRC's index showed that overall shop price annual inflation accelerated to 7.4% in November, up from 6.6% in October. This is the fastest rate since the index began in 2005. It added that surging food prices were largely to blame, with fresh food prices up by 14.3%, compared with 13.3% in October.

The BRC say there are signs that cost pressures, and price rises, might start to ease next year, but "Christmas cheer will be dampened this year as households cut back on seasonal spending in order to prioritise the essentials". The most recent official figures showed food prices rising at their fastest rate for 45 years, with the cost of basics such as milk, cheese and eggs surging. The Office for National Statistics found food price inflation in the year to October hit 16.2%, up from 14.5% in September.

## Fleetwood Mac singer-songwriter Christine McVie dies aged 79

Christine McVie, who played with Fleetwood Mac and wrote some of their most famous songs, has died aged 79. The British singer-songwriter was behind hits including Little Lies, Everywhere, Don't Stop, Say You Love Me, and Songbird. She died peacefully at a hospital in the company of her family. McVie left Fleetwood Mac after 28 years in 1998 but returned in 2014. Born Christine Perfect, McVie married Fleetwood Mac bassist John McVie, and joined the group in 1971. Fleetwood Mac was one of the world's best known rock bands in the 1970s and '80s. Their 1977 album Rumours - inspired by the break-ups of the McVies and the band's other couple, Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks - became one of the biggest selling of all time, with more than 40 million copies sold worldwide. McVie was one of eight members of the band inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame in 1998. In the same year after the success of their live album The Dance, she retired to Kent, saying a fear of flying meant she was leaving the band.

But she rediscovered her love of performing at a one-off appearance with the band at London's O2 in 2013 and returned to them a year later.



Christine McVie RIP

## UK Discovers it has EU Environment Laws it Didn't Know Of

The UK Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) had identified 570 European Union laws within its remit. In a 'spring-clean' of EU legislation Defra said 70 laws had been changed and 63 repealed. That was a month ago. The Environment Minister told a scrutiny committee this week that 'around 1,100' had now been found and 140 of them had been repealed.

Playing 'hunt the lost laws' is causing concern because the UK government plans to drop all EU laws after December 2023, unless they have been specifically kept or amended.

Not knowing what laws there are in the first place is expected to cause major confusion. Environment groups are saying some important environmental protections could fall way from the Statute Book by accident. On the other hand there could be environmental protections which Defra does not know require enforcement. Environmental law charity Climate Earth has said it is "almost inevitable" that some laws - in areas ranging from air quality to protected species - could "inadvertently fall victim" to the deadline.



## ***Christianity is Now a Minority Faith Group in UK***

The UK Government's Office of National Statistics published data from last year's UK census which shows the number of people in England and Wales who call themselves Christian has dropped to 27.5 million. That's 46% of the population. In the previous 2011 census 59% of the population (33.3 million people) called themselves Christian. Data held by the Church of England shows that 423 churches have permanently closed between 2010 and 2019 leaving about 15,500 churches as consecrated places of worship.

The next highest response in this section of last year's census was 'No Religion' from 22.2 million people or 37% of the population. In the 2011 census 25% (14.1 million) of the population responded saying they had 'No Religion'. The census results for Scotland are still to be published.

The 2021 census for England and Wales shows 6.5% of the population describe themselves as Muslim and 1.7% as Hindu.

### **Pubs also Closing at Increasing Rate**

The social foundation of all small towns and villages in England and Wales used to be the Church and the Pub. The traditional Public House and its more impersonal modern equivalent have been disappearing at an even faster rate than the traditional and established C of E church. A briefing pa-

per published by the House of Commons Library shows a total of 63,500 pubs in the United Kingdom in 1990; this total reduced to 47,200 in 2019. During the period when the Church of England closed 423 of its churches, the number of pubs reduced by 8,200 or 15%.

As the number of pubs has reduced the UK population has increased. In 1990 there were 111 pubs per 100,000 people. The number of pubs has reduced to 71 per 100,000 people in 2019. While the UK population has increased by 17% since 1990, the number of pubs has reduced by 26%.

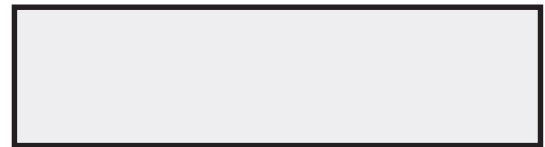
## ***The Changing Face of Britain***



***Disappearing English Country Pubs***



***Disappearing English Parish Churches***



## ***Blue Hill Community Centre***

***Christmas Sing-a-long  
Sunday, 11 December  
From 2.30pm***

***Teas and eat are also on sale  
All are warmly welcome***

***Save the date***

***Social Evening  
Tuesday, 27 December***

# **NOTIFICATION**

## **MEETING OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AUTHORITY**

The Land Development Control Authority will hold a meeting on **Monday 19th December 2022, at 9.30 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.



# Football on Francis' Plain

Louis Barnikel

## Districts Competition

The 2022 District campaign has concluded with Jamestown reclaiming the crown they lost in 2021.

It was a comfortable competition for the Jamestown boys who won all 3 games.

St Pauls took the runners up spot having drawn 3-3 with Half-Tree Hollow whilst defeating Longwood 4-2.

Longwood finish in 3rd place with a solitary 3-2 victory over Half Tree Hollow.

2021 champions Half-Tree Hollow fell way below expectations having finished bottom the league standings without a win.

	Team	PLD	Won	Draw	Lost	GD	PTS
1st	Jamestown	3	3	0	0	11	9
2nd	St Pauls	3	1	1	1	-2	4
3rd	Longwood	3	1	0	2	-5	3
4th	HTH	3	0	1	2	-3	1

## Knockout Cup Quarter Final Results

### Rovers 2-1 Harts

Rovers and Harts met for the fourth and final time this season in the first ¼ final of the SHFA knockout cup competition. It was a compelling match in which both teams had spells of dominance. Rovers took the lead through Ronan Legg before doubling it through Captain Rico Benjamin. Harts had numerous golden opportunities to get back into the game but couldn't find a way through Rovers' Keeper. The best chances fell to striker Tyler Brady who despite his persistence throughout the match, couldn't find the quality in his finishing to claw the Harts back into the match. Captain Mikee Williams did manage to score towards the end of the game but with only 5 minutes remaining it was little more than a consolation.

Rovers will now play Ballers in the Semi Final.

### Rovers:

Ronan Legg  
Rico Benjamin

### Harts:

Mikee Williams

### Lakers 9-2 Axis

In the second ¼ final, FC Lakers brushed aside an Axis side still full of confidence despite their shambolic league season. An entertaining match saw Lakers storm to a 5-0 lead.

Axis, to their credit never gave up and through lax defending, managed to find a route back into the game. Goals from JJ Buckley & Keenen Bargo brought the score back to 5-2.

Inform striker Sean-Lee Thomas who scored 5 goals on the day, was too good for the Axis defence and almost single handedly won the game for the Lakers. Star men Selwyn Stroud, Nico Benjamin and Jordan Yon added extra gloss onto the score line.

Lakers will play Wirebirds in the first ½ Final in what promises to be a feisty affair.

### Lakers:

Sean lee Thomas X5  
Jordan Yon  
Selwyn Stroud  
Nico Benjamin  
OG

### Axis:

JJ Buckley  
Keenan Bargo

Knockout Cup Semi Final Fixtures  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October

1.30pm Lakers Vs Wirebirds  
3.30pm Rovers Vs Ballers



## Public Entertainment

# ART EXHIBITION

by Anna Henry



## 'Imagination & Creativity'

At the Museum of Saint Helena

**1st – 22nd Dec 2022**

Open Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri (10am – 2pm)  
& Sat (10am – 12noon)

Everyone's welcome to come and look at some art

# Cricket Team Welcomed with Hugs and Smiles

1pm on Saturday the plane landed. About 40 minutes later there was a big cheer in the arrivals hall as the cricket team appeared from HM Customs, wheeling a trolleys full of baggage.



*The smiles from the waiting families and supporters were wide and wonderful. The younger children had lovely expressions on their faces when they realised Daddy's Home!*



*Everyone had come well prepared. There were some machine printed banners of welcome*



*But most had spent quality time at home making banners with a special personalised message*



*The Governor and Chief Minister came to welcome the cricket team home. While waiting in the arrivals hall they did some child-minding*



*But not everyone had their banner in place and ready for the moment daddy came into the arrivals hall*



# Golf Report for Day 3 and Final of the Open Championship 2022

Contributed by: SHGC

Day 3 of the St Helena Golf Club Open Championship took place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The first group teed off at 11:00 and by the 4:30pm all the results for the day were in. In the top five 3 players Mr Leon Crowie, Mr Lawson Henry and Mr Larry Legg tied at 251 total for the three days. The Vice Captain Mr Martin Buckley was two shots behind with 253 and day 1 and 2 leader Mr Leroy Caswell at 255. The balls in the two-ball pool for Saturday were shared between Martin Buckley who caught an eagle on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Gerald George birdied the 5<sup>th</sup> and Nicholas Stevens the 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr Nicholas Stevens also had the lowest score of the day with only 3 over par 71.

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November was the grand finale of the championship for 2022. Crystal trophies, neatly arranged and prizes for qualifiers waited on the presentation table. The immediate former Champion and Captain of the cricket Team Mr Scott Crowie was in the house ready to see off the groups and give some encouragement. At the end of 72 holes of golf when all the results were in, the organizers were relieved to note



**Martin Buckley and Larry Legg**

that there was no need for a playoff in any of the categories. The winner for 2022 is Mr Larry Legg who won with a two-shot lead total 330 followed in second place by Mr Martin Buckley with 332. The A Flight was won by Mr Nick Stevens followed in second place by Mr Jason Hopkins. In the B Flights Mr Pat Henry won the trophy for first place and Mr Chedwin Lawrence had to settle for a smaller trophy for second place. There were no two ball pool winners on the final day. Prizes were presented by HE Governor Nigel Phillips who congratulated the winners and thanked the members for creating such a vibrant and warm environment at the club. We wish to thank the Governor for joining us on the day and for presenting the prizes.

After the presentation an afterparty followed with food sponsored by the club and music by our entertainment manager DJ KJ. The committee of management wishes to thank everyone who took their time to assist in making the event a success and all family and friends who turned up to celebrate with us.

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022 will be monthly medal stroke play competition. Tee off 12:00. Registration closes on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm. For more information of our activities visit our Facebook page @shgc.org.sh  
**Happy swinging.....**

