

THE ST HELENA



Est. 2005



INDEPENDENT

VOLUME XVIII ISSUE 12, 3rd MARCH 2023, PRICE £1

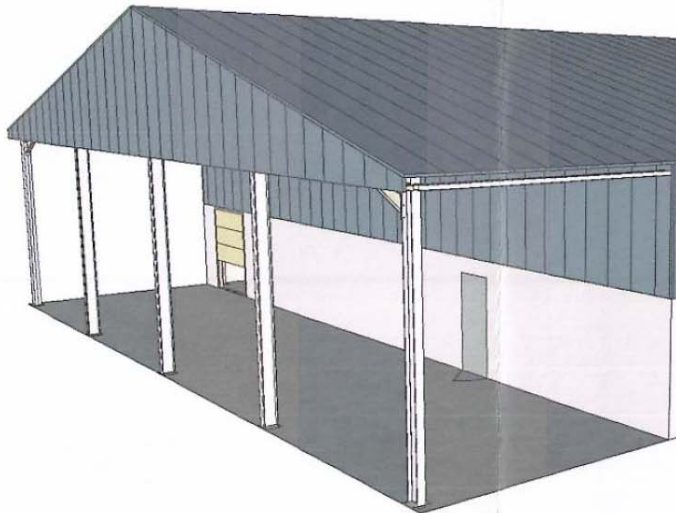


*The Ladder Hill
Mystery*

***Health £2.5
Million Down***

***Can We
Afford It?***

Farewell from Us

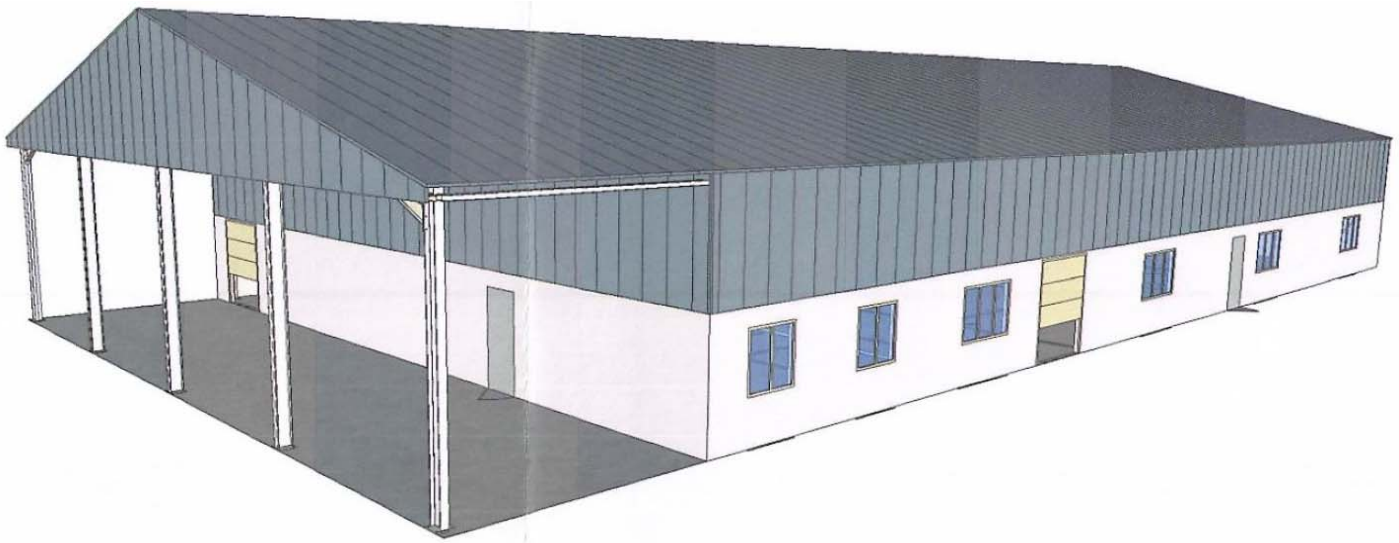


3D View (South East)
(No Scale)

***New Cannery
Gets Go-Ahead***

New Cannery Gets Go-Ahead

Vince Thompson



3D View (South East)
(No Scale)

At yesterday's monthly meeting of the Land Development Control Authority (LDCA) the development application for the new cannery at Rupert's was approved subject to certain conditions. There were some issues raised concerning the development but no formal objections. The development is on the site of the old cannery so there can be no valid objection in planning law to continuing to use the site as a cannery. The issues raised were mainly associated with sewage and fish waste disposal, disturbance of the adjacent burial ground, compliance with fish processing regulations and adequate fire precautions.

The building will cover a ground area about 15% larger than the old cannery which is now a ruin and will be demolished. From the projections set out in the business plan for the cannery one LDCA member estimated there would be 10 times more canning than at any time previously. The development will provide 14 parking spaces.

Another LDCA member said that the main public concerns expressed in person and directly were about fish waste and sewage disposal. All LDCA members were satisfied these concerns had been satisfactorily resolved. All the stakeholders, including Public Health, SHG's Property Division, Connect St Helena and the National Trust had responded stating the actions taken to resolve the issues that had been raised were satisfactory.

The Issues Raised

Connect St Helena had raised some points about the disposal of fish waste, the run-off of fish wash and storm water drainage. Public Health required assurance that fish processing will be compliant with regulations, the Property Division wanted more details about the arrangements for the soak-away and the National Trust raised issues about the extent of disturbance of land close to one of the Rupert's burial grounds, whether consultation with Rupert's residents had been adequate, whether to process for deciding whether an EIA was

needed had been completed and the need for more detail on waste disposal.

The Chief Planning Officer's report addressed the danger of disturbance of the African Burial Grounds, "The impact on the burial grounds had been flagged as a major concern as part of the site to be excavated is within a known (as per historic records) burial ground. However, as the applicant has now revised the plans to avoid the excavation of previously undisturbed ground, this impact has largely been mitigated. However, as a precautionary measure it is recommended that a watching brief is put in place during all excavation works."

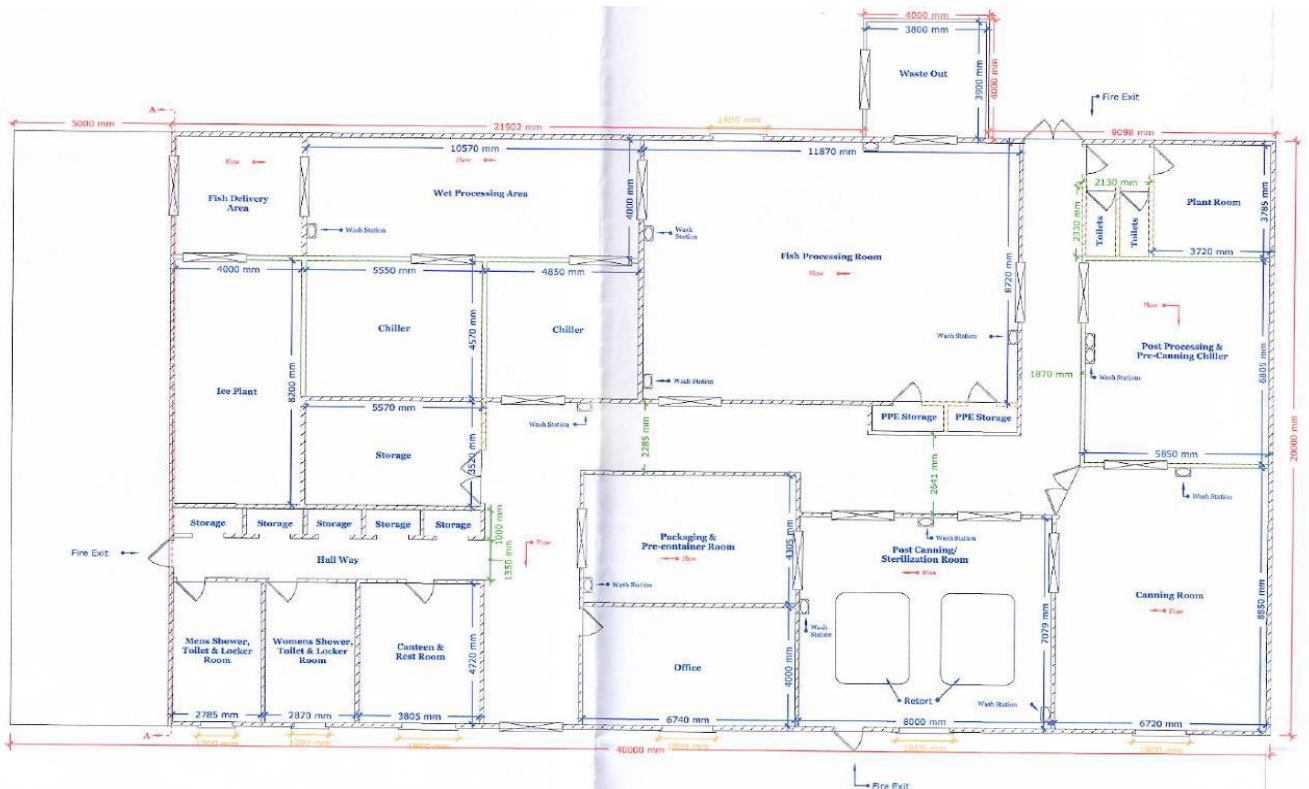
Regarding the disposal of various kinds of waste, the Chief Planning Officer reported, "The development will generate a number of waste streams during both the construction and operation phases. Of most concern is the waste that will be generated as part of the fish processing. A number of options have been proposed and discussed as to how to treat the different waste streams. It is recommended that this be consolidated into a Waste Management Plan to be submitted and approved prior to the work on site commencing."

Malcolm Williams of Greenfish

Malcolm Williams, who leads the cannery project through the Greenfish Company, informed the LDCA that the intention is to produce one million cans of tuna every year. He added that 20 people would be employed at the cannery and that fishermen would be paid a good price for their fish. He pointed out that more fishermen are needed and new, younger fishermen are required so they can eventually take over from today's fishermen. Malcolm Williams said the output from the new cannery would be ten times more than the old cannery and retail customers had been identified in the UK. These include Waitrose, a high-end national supermarket chain and Booth's, another supermarket chain based in the north of England which focusses on quality products.

New Cannery Gets Go-Ahead

Vince Thompson



The plans for the new cannery include a fish delivery area, a wet processing area, the fish processing room, three chillers, a canning room, a post-canning sterilisation room, a packaging room, two plant rooms, storage areas, employee rest areas and an office.

During discussions one LDCA member raised concern about the extent of fish smell during processing. Mr Williams said the entire process would include one fish cooking stage. This was both possible and preferable because the fish can be caught one day and canned the next. Two cooking stages are used in the process when factory ships working for months on the high ocean need to cook the tuna before. This helps to preserve the fish during the months at sea. The second cooking stage happens when the fish from the factory ships is, eventually, canned.

Mr Williams said the product from Rupert's Valley will be solid pack, fresh fish canned within hours of being landed. It will be cooked after canning to retain the taste and nutrients and the fish smell will be minimal. The process used, from the time the fish is caught to being canned, labelled and ready for despatch is designed to produce a high-quality premium product which can command a premium export price.

Mr Williams also said he expected the business venture to bring to the island £1 million in new money. He hopes the new money will help to invigorate the local fishing industry and bring on the next generation of fishermen.

MARCH REMOTE BANKING



Wharf Kiosk

Thursdays	09:00 – 14:30
Friday, 03 March	11:00 – 17:00

Airport Kiosk

Flight days only	10:30 – 14:30
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Remote Banking

HTH Supermarket	Friday, 24 March	09:30 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Monday, 27 March	09:30 – 14:00



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



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Market Street, Jamestown



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Editorial

Next Thursday, 9th March, there is the start to a two day 'event' organised by the Institute of Commonwealth Studies (ICS) which is intended to bend people's minds to consider the present & future relations between the UK Overseas Territories & Britain. Particularly, how both parties can gain more out of the relationship. I recommend that our councillors, the ministerial team in particular, attend this event. It's one of those meetings that takes place on the internet so it's easy to do.



The ICS explained the reason for bringing up this discussion saying, "Since the decision of the UK to leave the EU, the UK Government has established and promoted the idea of 'Global Britain'. Perhaps the clearest, but still largely unrecognised, manifestations of Global Britain are the UK's Overseas Territories. They are scattered across the globe, and include thousands of small islands, vast areas of ocean, but also, in Antarctica, land six times the size of the UK. The territories provide the UK with significant global reach." That's funny, I thought, I wrote something along those lines a week or two back – and the week after that. It's becoming a 'bee in my bonnet' at the moment.

The ICS explanation then asks a couple of questions;

- (1) how can the UKOTs support and enhance Global Britain;
- (2) how can the UK best support and develop the territories; and
- (3) how can the UK mitigate international tensions to effectively secure its global brand.

All good questions but what is this thing called Global Britain? It started when Britain left the European Union and lost £billions in trade. The UK Government said Britain will trade across the whole world and not rely so much on European trade. Anyone can be forgiven for thinking all of this is fanciful stuff dreamt up by a public relations business that charged £millions for the propaganda. The UK Government's own figures show Britain is having a difficult time trying to live up to this 'Global' dream. Being 'Global' is as much a state of mind as it is about which countries you trade with. There are those who think many people in Britain voted to leave the European Union because they preferred just being British and keeping 'Johnny Foreigner' out of any discussions or decisions about Britain. That's another fanciful notion in today's very connected world. The latest fiasco in the Home Office gives a strong indication that if Britain's Ministry of Internal Affairs gets involved with anything that is happening more than 25 miles south of Dover all that follows is doomed. The Home Office deals with immigration and illegal immigrants. There is the biggest back log ever in asylum applications waiting to

be cleared by the Home Office – 166,000 of them. In an attempt to reduce the back log, the Home Office Officials have decided to fast-track 12,000 applications by sending out a questionnaire and making the decision on entry or deportation based on the answers to the questionnaire. The questionnaires will go to asylum seekers from Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen and Libya, where there are armed conflicts, and Eritrea, where all adults are conscripted into prolonged military service in conditions that breach human rights. They are required to return the questionnaire within 20 days otherwise their asylum application could be withdrawn.

Avoiding the usual long drawn-out procedure which involves personal interviews makes sense – on the face of it. But keep in mind 95% of the applications from these five countries have been successful in the past. Another point is the questionnaires are only in English and the answers have to be in English. Now ask yourself how many of the 12,000 asylum seekers who receive this questionnaire will know what it is when they get it. A goat-herder from the Hadhramout Hills in Yemen who has had to flee the country because armed gangs steal everything from her and threaten her life is unlikely to have a good command of English any maybe cannot read or write in her own language. The questionnaire would be meaningless to her and the chance that she can get assistance to find out what has been sent to her is unlikely.



The Yemeni women goat herders of Hadhramout

The questionnaire is difficult for anyone to complete. It asks about experiences before leaving their home country. It asks about their past employment, whether they sought help from the authorities in their home country (*what a naïve question*), whether they tried moving to another part of that country before leaving, as well as the dates, costs and route of their journey to the UK.

Ask yourself why the Home Office chose five countries where the rate of successful asylum applications are as high as 95%. Why only send the questionnaire in English, insist it is completed in English and demand it is returned within 20 days. And why threaten to withdraw the asylum application if the questionnaire is not returned on time. The only reasonable conclusion anyone can surely reach is the so-called fast-track system is designed to be impossible for the majority of people receiving the questionnaire. The existing 95% success rate will surely plummet when the fast-track system leads these asylum seekers to a plane in double quick time which will take them back to where they escaped,

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

Last week the St Helena Independent carried a letter and subsequent news article covered by both Sky news and the Telegraph newspaper in which MP Andrew Mitchell revealed the UK government had sent £50 million to China during 2021 and much of the money had funded scholarships for Chinese students to come to the UK.

The news sparked anger among students and parents of St Helena who were told three years ago that UK fund-

ing would no longer be available for university scholarships.

Vince Thompson, editor of the Independent subsequently forwarded the letter to members of the St Helena All Party Parliamentary Group and the British Overseas Territories APPG. In all, 17 MPs received a copy of the letter.

On Monday Lord Henry Bellingham responded to the letter by saying *"Very many thanks for this. This is really most troubling, and I will endeavour to ask a question in the House of Lords. I will also speak to the Lords FCDO Minister. And.....do please stay in touch"* (The Rt Hon Lord Bellingham, Kt., Congham Manor, PE32 1DS)

Oh behalf of all parents and students both now and future we would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to Vince

and to Lord Bellingham for getting the ball rolling. The Independent and Saint FM have strong ties with UK MPs.

We should take a moment to reflect on the stress created over the past three years for previous students and their parents, adding to the emotional difficulties of leaving from a 'far away' place that is home to travel to the UK for study.

This story has created another unique opportunity for the UK government to re-establish the partnership that was created years ago for the children and students of St Helena Island.

It is hoped that sufficient support for this cause can be rallied by UK Ministers

Sincerely

Tammy Williams

#Save our university scholarships

Thanks and Appreciation

The family of the late Gerald Crowie of Longwood, wish to express our sincere thanks and gratitude, to all who cared for him during his short illness.

To everyone who assisted or contributed in various ways to help make his funeral so special. We sincerely appreciate your sympathy, prayers and support in helping us cope with the unexpected loss of a Dear Husband, Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad.



May God bless you all.



SAVE THE DATE

St. Helena Annual Marine Awareness Week

19th – 24th MARCH

Kicking off with an Ocean Festival on Sunday 19th March at the Seaside

Followed by exhibitions, presentations and much more during the week.
Details to follow...

A Real Debate Needed About What Kind of Health Service We Want

— And Can We Afford It

Martin Henry, Minister for Health and Social Care came into the Saint FM studio on Monday morning to tell us the latest news about the Health Service. Martin started immediately with the main problem. The Health Service budget this the financial year, ending at the end of this month, is £2.5 million over budget. The Treasury at the Castle is wanting cuts in Health Service expenditure for the year starting 1st April 2023 and have told Martin and the senior Health Service officials they will have to make some tough decisions to meet the health budget for 2023-24. Martin said the health budget is clearly not enough and that is why there has been a big overspend this financial year. He insisted there needs to be a budget which will adequately fund preventative and early detection measures to avoid ill health as well as to support the very sick. Preventative measures and early detection will create a strategic reduction to happen over the next few years because the measures will avoid spending huge sums of money on the large number of medical referrals there are now. The budget for the new financial year is an instruction not a negotiation and apparently is not supported by any strategic thinking, continuity or priorities.

Martin Henry pressed his point home, adding, there will be more diseases which will require huge amounts of money (and emotional grief for families) to cure. We already have people who are very sick and we cannot abandon them. If the Health and Social Care budget remains as it stands the tough decisions the Treasury talk about will mean abandonment will inevitably be a possible consideration "if I am not allowed to overspend again – should the level of required care demand it." If the health budget is not enough to cover the cost of these crucial services and another overspend occurs at this time next year other government departments will have to make cuts to cover the overspend on our Health Service. In a nutshell me and my team are made guilty for saving lives.

The SHG Budget Book shows estimated expenditure for Health and Social Care at £8.876 million for 2022-23 and an estimated forecast for the 2023-24 budget at £8.6 million. Both estimates have no doubt changed since the Budget Book was published about a year ago. In more general terms, Health and Social Care is the 3rd largest spending directorate with an allocation of about 20% of all government spending. The Treasury is the largest spending directorate at 26% of total government expenditure. The Treasury is combined with Infrastructure and Sustainable Development. SHG's Central Support Services also have a bigger budget with almost 24% of all spending.

There are two main reasons for the £2.5 million overspend on this year's Health Services budget. The first is medical referrals. Martin said that last week he saw the cost of treatment for one patient; it was more than £50,000. There are more than 20 patients with the same medical condition but if it



were 'only' 20 patients that means £1 million is needed for the required medical treatment.

The other main reason is the 30% increase in the cost of pharmaceuticals. Martin Henry did not give any figures but he indicated the drugs bill is well over £1 million with little prospect of pharmaceutical costs stabilising or reducing in the near future.

Another big problem is that the social care side of the Health and Social Care Directorate are seriously under-staffed despite several recruitment drives to get staff. The shortages are so severe that recruiting from overseas is an option which may have to be considered.

Kidney disease is a big and growing problem which needs a dialysis service. Dialysis does the work which diseased kidneys are unable to do. Martin Henry said. "We are planning to take a paper to both Exco and FAM for the provision of a dialysis service on the Island. However, I can tell you from the outset that the cost of running such a service on the Island in terms of equipment, space and human resources is huge and logistically very challenging. The model used in the UK is an

A Real Debate Needed About What Kind of Health Service We Want

— And Can We Afford It

outsourcing one and the only way it would be possible to do this on St Helena would be to do a similar system but with private care in South Africa.” Martin anticipates finding a satisfactory solution which meets the now more stringent budgetary restraints is unlikely but the Health Directorate will test the market. Martin added, the most common cause of kidney disease is diabetes and that Type 2 Diabetes is preventable and can be both stalled and reversed.

Martin Henry also listed the current projects which are underway or planned. He did not say any of these improvements are threatened by the budget cuts.

1. The mortuary is to be brought up to the recommended standards set out by the coroner. This will mean post-mortems can be performed on-island. The improvements also include larger storage chambers.

2. To improve the Chapel of Rest by increasing its capacity, making it wheelchair friendly and provide seating for family members. This can be seen as providing basic respect and sensitivity at a time when it is most needed.

3. Hot water is not supplied to all parts of the hospital. The plan is to provide hot water to all parts of the hospital.

4. To install a new generator which can provide electricity to all parts of the hospital. New equipment such as the different types of scans machines will increase demand for electricity. The present generator is 20 years old. It needs replacing with a larger generator.

On a final point, the Health Minister pointed out the number of appointments made every week to either see a doctor or another healthcare professional. Martin said doctors are seeing 550 people per month and a further 224 attend A&E. With a population of 4000 – this means there are enough appointments available to enable every man, woman and child to receive medical attention at least 3 or 4 times a year.

In reality, some people do not enter the hospital from one year to the next while others frequently make appointments. One of the tough decisions which may need to be made in the face of Health Service budget cuts is finding a way to deal with the less important requests for appointments in a simpler, more effective way.



PRESS RELEASE

PAYLOAD CAPACITY ISSUES

On Saturday 17 December 2022 the Airlink operated flight from Johannesburg to St Helena (4Z131 JNB-WVB-HLE) was delayed due to payload capacity issues. This in turn led to an incident on board involving passengers who were concerned about the possible removal of their baggage, which then required the police to attend the aircraft.

Aircraft payload is an operational issue, managed on a flight-to-flight basis by Airlink. In all situations, passenger baggage takes priority. However, assuming there is payload capacity to also allow air freight to be carried on a flight, SHG can request that Airlink consider prioritising the types of freight items. It has done so on occasion in the past, such as to accommodate essential medical supplies. It is confirmed however that no request was made by SHG to Airlink regarding the prioritisation of any cargo or air freight on this flight.

Since the event, Airlink have advised that measures have been put in place to reduce the risk of a similar incident occurring in the future.

St Helena Airport Limited, 28th February 2023

The Ladder Hill Mystery

A National Monument Recognising Historical Links with the Zulu Nation



Or Someone Doing Something When There is No Official Interest

In the viewing area near the top of Jacob's Ladder some stones have been erected, held together with cement mortar. A plinth supporting the stones has been laid in the same way. It is, from all accounts, a monument or memorial to Zulu prisoners.

In March 2020 a development application to erect a Zulu Remembrance Monument was approved by the Land Development Control Authority. The report to the LDCA explained, "The application is to install a Zulu Remembrance Monument to remember the number of Zulu prisoners exiled on the Island between 1907 and 1910 and in particular a number of them who actually *[died]* during their captivity on the Island, at the Jacob's Ladder viewing area. This area has been developed over the years with information board and benches to appreciate the grandeur of the Island at the top of the Ladder."

It was proposed as a stone monument 1.5 metres high with a Zulu isihlangu cowhide shield carved into it together with crossed iklwa stabbing spears. There would also be a brass plaque on which there would be words inscribed; the inscription had not been decided at the time of the development application.

The advice to the LDCA members from the Chief Planning Officer at the time was "The proposed erection of the Zulu Remembrance Monument provides a recognition of the Islands historic past. The erection of the monument will provide an additional feature at this viewing platform to understand and appreciate the Island's history and for remembrance. The proposed development will enhance the area and meets with heritage objectives of the policy."

There were no objections from the usual development application consultees and no public representations either for or against the monument. Only the Heritage Society offered a comment; it was thought the plinth was too large and out of scale with the monument itself. The monument, at just under 6 feet high was considered too small for the large plinth –



The officially proposed Zulu Remembrance Monument

may be the monument could have been made bigger so it was to scale with the plinth.

After the development permission had been granted ex-Governor Rushbrook weighed in (as he did with the domestic PV panels some people were happily having installed on their roofs) voicing objections to the scheme. It is recalled he was not in favour of commemorating a people who killed British soldiers. It seems the battles at Rorke's Drift and Isandlwana



LATER OPENING AT MAIN BRANCH

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to advise customers that the Main Branch will open from **9:45am on Wednesday, 08 March**. Normal opening hours will resume on Thursday, 09 March.

The Bank apologises for any inconvenience this may cause.



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The Ladder Hill Mystery

A National Monument Recognising Historical Links with the Zulu Nation



in 1879 was still a sore memory for Governor Rushbrook. A total of 2,000 British troops were killed at the hands of about 25,000 Zulu warriors. The two battles were the start of the Anglo-Zulu war which the Brits eventually won, ending the Zulus dominance of the region. Maybe the Zulus should have the sorest memories.

Another last-minute suggestion from Governor Rushbrook was the monument should include a list of the British soldiers

who died at the hands of the Zulus. Funding for the massive plaque required to list the 2,000 names did not come with Rushbrook's suggestion. The Heritage Society would no doubt have observed the plaque with 2,000 names on it was too large and out of scale with the 5 foot 10 inch monumental stone.

The funding for the monument which was officially approved by the LDCA came from Enterprise St Helena (ESH) in the closing months of their existence. Rushbrook's comments and delaying tactics won the day because ESH was wound up and the funding source disappeared.

Nothing more was heard until recently when the 'cairn' type marker or monument was noticed in the place the originally proposed monument was to go. Enquiries made by the *Independent* have not succeeded in discovering who put it there and why. As the Royal St Helena Police so often say, if anyone has any information which may assist with this investigation, regardless of how minor it may seem, please contact the *Independent*.

The grave of King Goodwill Zwelithini, the Zulu king who died 12 months ago. It's not an extravagantly expensive tomb stone but is to a respectable standard.

Ant survey 2023



WANTED!

Ants—any species



To SHNT Bug team by the 31st March 2023

Reward will be given to participants

The Bug team will be carrying out an ant survey across the island to find their distribution and ecology.

With your help the team can learn more about the ants on island and you may find a new species!



Collect a selection of ants (any kind) from around your house or in the garden



Pop them into a clean jar or container



Drop them off to the Trust office, Broadway House, Jamestown

Get samples to the bug team by 31st March 2023

For more information contact 22224 or email christyjo.scipioodean@trust.org.sh



The Numbers Give Us Hope That Today Will be Busy



MARCH 3

The Costa Deliziosa is expected to arrive at St Helena on Friday 3 March 2023 at 10am and depart at 6pm.

AS IT STANDS:

331	have booked PRE-ARRANGED TOURS with local tour providers	LEAVING	1306	available for FREELANCE TAXI DRIVERS
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The population of this island is expected to increase by almost 40% today when, (or if), 1,650 cruise ship passengers come ashore. Cruise ship captains worry about the safety of their passengers if there is just a ripple on the water in James Bay – but we live in hope. There's a one-way system along the Tomb Road and around 'the loop' to the Dungeon. And be prepared for one of the many tour buses to be coming at you on the many bends along Longwood Road.

The population of Jamestown is expected to be three times the usual number as 1,300 tourists who are not on bus tours wander around – some of them looking for a taxi. Last time there were large numbers of cruise ship passengers in Jamestown a fight broke out between two groups, both claiming the right to use a taxi that eventually turned up.

The number of cruise ship passengers on bus tours is more like 400 when other pre-booked tours such as wirebird tours organised by the National Trust are included. The weather forecast shows little chance of rain and the temperature should not be too hot. We should be all set for a busy and profitable day; will today be that day?

It should be warm enough for tour bus passengers to want a drink of water after walking back to their buses from Napoleon's Tomb. The newly trained tour guides who will ride on the buses for the complete round-the-island tour might think of buying a case of mineral water from the wholesale and sell it on the bus to the people in their care. Customer satisfaction should increase a notch or two and the tour guides will have a few extra coins in the pocket.

Customer satisfaction is one of the reasons for putting tour guides on buses instead of being placed at one of the tour stops to tell the tourists what they can see. The tourists can be told while on the bus where they are going and have a brief introduction to what they can expect to see. Some of the usual panics can be avoided by telling them when there are toilets near one of the stops and what aspects of the tour might not be appropriate for the elderly or infirm – such as the walk back from Napoleon's Tomb.

A familiar sight on cruise ship day is half-a-dozen buses jamming the road at Button-Up Corner, the Tomb Road or Stitches Ridge and several dozen tourists wandering around, showing little knowledge of the Highway Code. With tour guides travelling with the bus passengers, it is hoped things will be more organised. Tour guides want to keep their group together and



they have a schedule they will try to keep to. It is hoped there will not be as much bunching up of buses when one lot of bus passengers moves more slowly than those in the bus behind.

Last week's advert for today's cruise ship visit encouraged people to set up stands at the tour stops to sell refreshments or souvenirs. At Button Up Corner a new 'see through' bus shelter has just been installed which makes an ideal place to set up a table to sell things from. The need for a drink of water after coming back from Napoleon's Tomb has already been mentioned (twice) and Longwood has plenty of spaces for setting up tables near to where the tourists get off the bus and walk to the Longwood House entrance. Space can easily be found at Plantation, near the viewing corridor, when the tourists have a chance to see Jonathan. The longest stops are at the Tomb and Longwood House so there is more time at those places to make a sale.

The round-the-island bus tours will finish outside the Post Office. The passengers will be asked to leave the bus and the tour guides will no doubt do their own wandering off to find somewhere to relax. If any passengers ask the driver to take them to the wharf because they want to get straight back to the ship, the driver cannot refuse to take them. Main Street needs to be decked out with its own attractions to encourage cruise ship passengers to delay their return to the ship. The *Costa Deliziosa* is due to leave at 6pm.

ROAD CLOSURE

The Highways Authority has given approval for the road from Scotland roundabout to Spring Gut to be closed on, Monday 6 to Friday 10 March 2023 from 9am to 3pm to enable the road section to carry out repairs on a retaining wall.

During this closure, only emergency services will be granted access. Residents within the affected area will also be granted access, but are advised that delays can be expected.

Appropriate signage will be in place and a diversion route will be via Sunnyside road, the public is thanked in advance for their patience and cooperation.

SHG, 1 March 2023



THANK YOU FROM ST PAUL'S PARISH

St Paul's Parish Council would like to thank all those who kindly bought and/or sold tickets for their Multi Raffle, raffled at their February Council meeting. This Fund Raiser raised £500 for Parish funds.

1 st	Delray McDaniel	Food Hamper	Sheet 10	Ticket No 6
2 nd	Lee Williams	Miscellaneous Hamper	Sheet 10	Ticket No 1
3 rd	Wanda O'Bey	Food Hamper	Sheet 5	Ticket No 13
4 th	Trish Leo	USB Turntable	Sheet 9	Ticket No 7
5 th	Erin Thomas	£10 Voucher	Sheet 15	Ticket No 19
6 th	Audrey George	Fruit Cake	Sheet 3	Ticket No 16
7 th	Toris John	Tin of Heroes Chocolates	Sheet 15	Ticket No 17
8 th	Annelle John	Peach Tree	Sheet 15	Ticket No 13
9 th	Tanya R Henry	Bottle of Wine	Sheet 15	Ticket No 18
10 th	Yvonne Henry	Patio Set Covers	Sheet 19	Ticket No 13
11 th	Jackie Ellick	Cool Kick Men's Nivea Set	Sheet 10	Ticket No 13
12 th	Mary & George Wickenden	Wax Melt & Oil Warmer Set	Sheet 3	Ticket No 10
13 th	Eileen George	Biscuits	Sheet 3	Ticket No 6

The Council also extends their sincere thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to the successful outcome of their New Year's Fund Raising event, held on Francis Plain, on 2nd January. Although the numbers attending were lower than in previous years, there was a very spirited atmosphere and generous spending with takings on the day amounting to £1,300.76.

Winners of the Children's Raffle drawn on the Day were:

Jessina Abouelghan	Hamper	Ticket No 4
Klay Youde	Tool Set	Ticket No 146
Elliot Anthony	Jacket	Ticket No 110
Skyla McDaniel	Sweets & Bag	Ticket No 72
Marilyn Joshua	One Direction Bag	Ticket No 8

We look forward to your continued support to our Parish fund raising and social activities.

Thank You.



Cape Town Freight Forwarding & Buying Agents

25+ Years serving remote island communities

Notice

Voyage 1: Cape Town to St Helena Island via Walvis Bay

- **Taking Orders NOW**
- **Limited space**
- **Reservations essential**
- **Contact us now for your quotations and orders**
- **Loading - mid February 2023**
- **All enquiries welcome**

We look forward to hearing from you.

Contact: Sales
Phone: +27 21 531 7701
Email: sales@zedcore.co.za

NEW VISITING HOURS FOR THE

GENERAL HOSPITAL

Following request from the public, the Health Services Directorate will be trialing new visiting hours for the General Hospital. These will be in effect from Monday, 27 February 2023.

The new visiting hours will be:

11am – 12 noon
 2pm – 5pm
 6.30pm – 8pm

The new visiting hours are intended to provide more flexibility to visitors by providing more options for those attending hospital to visit family and friends.

This recognises that people have different demands on their times, whether that be work, family or caring commitments. By providing a wider range of visiting times there will be more options for visitors to attend the Hospital throughout the day.

SHG

24 February 2023

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**St Helena
Government**

CODES OF CONDUCT AND STANDING ORDERS APPROVED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

On 16 December 2022, the Ministerial Code of Conduct, Standing Orders of the Legislative Council and the Code of Conduct for Members of Legislative Council were approved by the Legislative Council.

Each of these are crucial in ensuring effective, clear and accountable good governance for St Helena. They establish clear procedures and processes for how the mechanisms of government should work, ensuring that Elected Members and Ministers are well positioned to carry out their constitutional functions effectively, deliver on commitments made and be held to account.

Although the new Ministerial system was introduced in October 2021, significant work was still required in order to develop codes of conduct and standing orders appropriate for the new system. This work was led by Elected Members and Ministers, with support from the Legislative Drafter in the Attorney's Chambers, and further review and recommendations provided by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association on certain elements.

The result is a series of robust rules, procedures and processes that must be followed by Elected Members and Ministers in the course of their constitutional duties and functions.

On the approval of the codes of conduct and standing orders, Speaker of the Legislative Council Cyril Gunnell said: "I am delighted that these have finally got over the line and are now firmly in place. This took time, more time than was envisaged, and much hard work from a great many people. However, the enormity of change needs to be taken into consideration. For the first time in its history St Helena has emerged from a Committee system of governance, to a Ministerial form of government, where it is possible to hold Ministers accountable for decisions taken far more easily."

"The new Standing Orders establish robust processes for holding our Ministers to account and have paved the way for Select Committees to be established and for Minister Question Time to be held on the last Tuesday of each month. Both of these will help to ensure the public can see exactly what is going on within government. I believe there are exciting times ahead and that true accountability, which was not apparent under the previous Committee system, will be possible with these changes under the new Ministerial form of governance."

The Ministerial Code of Conduct, Standing Orders of the Legislative Council and the Code of Conduct for Members of Legislative Council can be found on the SHG website at www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/legislative-council/.

Standing Orders

Standing Orders are the written rules which govern and regulate the proceedings of the Legislative Council. This is extremely important as it concerns everything from establishing the mechanism for Ministers Question Time and the

rules of debates to how legislation is considered.

Standing Orders also provide for Select Committees to be established so as to consider and report on a Bill or any other matter before the Council. Two Select Committees have been already been established, comprising three Elected Members and a Secretary. Each Select Committee has elected one of the committee members to be Chairperson. Select Committee sittings will be held in public and broadcast live, with a report then provided to the Council.

Ministerial Code of Conduct

The Ministerial Code of Conduct applies to all Ministers and sets out the standards of conduct expected of them in their office.

Under the Committee system there were no Ministers and therefore no Ministerial Code of Conduct. This code is a new set of rules, based on a slimmed down version of the UK Ministerial Code, amended and tailored extensively to be relevant to the legislation and procedures in place in St Helena. It details how they should act and how they should discharge their duties. It establishes the personal standards, responsibilities and **conduct** which Ministers are expected to maintain in their duties to Executive Council, Legislative Council, the Public Service administration and their personal business.

Code of Conduct for Members of Legislative Council

The Code of Conduct for Members of Legislative Council provides guidance to Members as to standards of conduct expected of them in the discharge of their duties as members of the Legislative Council.

All Members of the Legislative Council are required to comply with the provisions of the code, and are subject to its disciplinary provisions. This code has been updated from the code that was previously in effect under the Committee system.

The obligations set out in the code are complementary to those which apply to all Elected Members by virtue of the procedural and other rules of the Council and the rulings of the Speaker. These also apply to Ministers in addition to the Ministerial Code of Conduct.

#StHelena #GoodGovernance #LegCo #IslandCouncil

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SHG

02 March 2023



**St Helena
Government**

VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Information Security Manager

Commencing at £18,888 per annum

Bank of St Helena is seeking to recruit a suitable person to fill the position of Information Security Manager.

The Information Security Manager (ISM) will be responsible to the IT Manager for establishing and maintaining the Bank's vision and strategies to ensure information assets and technology are adequately protected. The ISM will be responsible for the ongoing implementation and development of the International standards for Security Management, be responsible for the Bank's cyber security risk management and compliance, ensure information regulatory compliance, and manage all information security assurances required by the Bank.

This position will require the successful candidate to have the ability to lead and deliver change; to be self-motivated, have a keen eye for detail, maintain confidentiality and have good understanding of information security management standards and cyber security risk management. They should have the ability to work independently as well as part of the wider Bank Team.

Skills and experience that candidates should have for this role should include:

- Information Security certifications (desirable), or must be willing to work towards;
- Project Management qualification or experience;
- A good knowledge of international information security standards (i.e. ISO 27000 series, GDPR, PCI DSS);
- Understanding of, and practical experience in applying Data Protection principals and other related legislations, standards and codes of practice.

Interested persons can contact Kim Francis, IT Manager on itmanager@sainthelenabank.com or (+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 Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 17 March 2023.

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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



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+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd



**ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT
VACANCY NOTICE**

Plant Operator

Total package value up to £26,900

Including allowances and housing

Two-year fixed term contract

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). Ascension is part of the wider British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha. It is situated approximately 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and it is 800 miles from its nearest neighbour, the island of St Helena. To thrive here you must be resilient, adaptable and able to live in an incredibly small community

The Ascension Island Government (AIG) is currently looking for a suitably experienced, and qualified, Plant Operator. The role is within the Plant Team and will report to the Plant Team Leader.

You will be required to operate plant such as, but not limited to, wheeled loader (including JCB backhoe), forklift demountable lorry, bulldozer, road roller, cranes, tracked excavators, graders, lifting equipment, Merlo cement mixer and 6 tonne tipper truck. The role is incredibly varied and the job description should be read in order to gain an understanding of the ranges of tasks you will be required to undertake. This role also performs Stevedore duties, which involves working a 12-hour shift and at times, weekends.

In addition to an annual salary of up to £11,750 (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts an accompanied status contract and the following benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (value £400+ per month).
- A food allowance of £6,700 pa accompanied or £3,350 pa single status.
- An electricity allowance worth £938 pa.
- A water allowance worth £2,720 pa accompanied or £1,360 single status.
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including the shipment of a vehicle.
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care and medical referral or medivac provision if required
- Free schooling of dependent children up to 16 years
- Free annual travel insurance.

This appointment will be subject to:

Satisfactory employment references | Satisfactory medical and dental clearance | Criminal Records Check

Closing date: Friday 24 March 2023

Interviews: Week beginning 27 March via Skype if off island

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

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

SHG VACANCIES

HEAD OF NATURE CONSERVATION (Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Portfolio)

ENRP has an exciting opportunity for a driven and passionate individual to fill the new role of Head of Nature Conservation. As a member of the environment team, the role will be central to developing and implementing environment policy and strategy and providing strong leadership across the Government's nature conservation functions and programmes of work. The post holder will also operate strategically as a member of the Portfolio Senior Management and Advisory Board teams and across the Public Service to help influence Public Service and Government policy and practice.

Further information about the duties of the post, a copy of the job profile, or for a discussion on the role of the post, interested persons should contact: Mr Darren Duncan, Portfolio Director on telephone number 24724 or email: darren.duncan@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms are available from: Central Human Resources or the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Camilla Thomas, Trainee Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Monday 20 March 2023**.

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT—INCLUSION (Education, Skills & Employment Portfolio)

Do you have good organisational skills with the ability to plan, prioritise work and can meet deadlines? If so, the Inclusion Section has an opportunity for you to join their small team to provide an efficient and effective administration service.

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: **Saheed (Ed) Oyewo (Inclusion Manager)**, on telephone number 24543 or email: Saheed.Oyewo@supportservices.edu.sh

To access the **Job Profile** and **Application forms** online visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies or alternatively, both are available from: Central Human Resources & Organisational Development. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Anya Richards, Human Resources Officer, the Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Tuesday, 14 March 2023**.

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

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

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

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

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

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



SHG VACANCIES

Emergency Planning Officer (Safety, Security & Home Affairs Portfolio)

The Emergency Planning Officer will work within the Emergency Planning Team to prepare, deliver, implement and test emergency plans and business continuity arrangements to mitigate the effects of a major incident. The person will also fulfill the role of Control Room Operator within the Joint Emergency Services Control Center during periods of staff absence or high demand (this will involve shift work).

The successful individual needs to be reliable, have good planning, communication and organisational skills and have the ability to make effective decisions.

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: **Simon Wade (Emergency Planning Manager — simon.wade@helanta.co.sh), on telephone number 25215 or Anél O'Bey (Deputy Emergency Planning Manager—anel.obey@helanta.co.sh) or Christine Connor (JESCC Manager — christine.connor@sainthelena.gov.sh)**

To access the **Job Profile** and **Application forms** online visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies or alternatively, both are available from: Central Human Resources & Organisational Development. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Anya Richards, Human Resources Officer, the Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Wednesday, 15 March 2023.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

POLICE APPEAL FOR INFORMATION

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO JACOB'S LADDER CONSTRUCTION SITE

The Royal St Helena Police are currently investigating damage that has been caused to the Ambledale construction site at Jacob's Ladder.

Damage has been caused over weekends on at least three separate occasions since the start of 2023, with the most recent incidents resulting in the covered areas at the bottom of Jacob's Ladder being ripped and torn and construction site signs broken. The nature and consistency of the incidents means the police are treating this as intentional, and therefore criminal, in nature.

Further damage has also been caused at the top of the Ladder where person(s) have entered a restricted area. Jacob's Ladder is presently a construction site and in the interest of safety and security is off limits to the public.

The public are reminded that it is a criminal offence to cause damage to public or private property not belonging to themselves.

If anyone has any information which may assist with this investigation, regardless of how minor it may seem, please contact a Police Officer of your choice by telephone 22626 or via email: cid@sainthelena.gov.sh.

#StHelena #StHelenaPolice #AppealForInformation

<https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt>

<https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/>

SHG, 2 March 2023



SHG VACANCIES

RECEPTIONIST (Central Support Service)

The Receptionist will be based at the St Helena Community College and will be the first point of contact for all visitors to the College providing receptionist duties ensuring a positive and professional environment for the reception point. In addition to answering the telephone, directing and screening calls as necessary, you will be required to welcome visitors, direct them to their correct destination, maintain an awareness of staff movements in and out of the site, monitor visitor access and maintain security awareness.

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

Job Profile and **Application forms** are available from: Central Human Resources & Organisational Development or the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Camilla Thomas, Trainee Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Tuesday 07 March 2023**.

HEALTH CARE ASSISTANTS (Health & Social Care Portfolio)

The Health and Social Care Portfolio is looking to recruit highly motivated individuals with a caring and empathetic nature to support our Nursing team in providing direct patient care in a highly pressured working environment. The role involves **assisting** nursing staff with out of hours nurse-led emergency care (evenings, nights and weekends) for patients attending hospital or contacting via telephone, as well as **assisting** nurses as part of the ambulance team when called out of the hospital for emergencies. Good verbal and written communication skills with a keen eye for detail and accuracy is essential for this role.

Further information about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact: **Nova Norrie, Chief Nursing Officer** on telephone number 22500 or email: nova.norrie@sainthelena.gov.sh

Application forms and job profile are available from: Central Human Resources & Organisational Development or the SHG website at: www.sainthelena.gov.sh/vacancies. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Camilla Thomas, Trainee Human Resources Officer, The Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Tuesday, 07 March 2023**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SHG VACANCIES

Press Officer

3 Months Fixed Term Contract

(Central Support Services)

The Press Office has an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic individual to join their team. This could also be a secondment opportunity for employees within SHG. The postholder will be required to develop and implement communication strategies and plans using a variety of communication activities and tactics to build and maintain good relationships between St Helena Government and all its audiences. You will be responsible to the Head of Communications for efficient and effective PR activities, including responding to relevant enquiries on the general e-mail address for SHG.

Further information about the duties of the post, interested persons should contact: Mr Alasdair Bain, Head of Communications on telephone number 22470 or email: alasdair.bain@sainthelena.gov.sh

To access the **Job Profile** and **Application forms** online visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies or alternatively, both are available from Central Human Resources & Organisational Development. Applications should be submitted through Directors, where applicable, to Camilla Thomas, Trainee Human Resources Officer, the Castle or e-mail recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh by no later than **4pm on Tuesday, 14 March 2023**.

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

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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.

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

POST BOX WALKS' INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

The public are advised that infrastructure maintenance works will be carried out on the Heart Shaped Waterfall Post Box Walk over the coming weeks.

The walk will remain open, but persons are asked to be attentive when approaching the construction areas.

These works are not part of the routine maintenance contract but are part of the Infrastructure Trail Repair Works to the Post Box Walks which are being funded from the EDIP Micro Project budget. The works will improve accessibility and safety for walkers.

The public will be informed when these works are completed and are thanked in advance for their understanding and cooperation.

SHG

24 February 2023

www.sainthelena.gov.sh

Photos from the First Ever Ascent of Mount Michel - an Ultra-Remote South Atlantic Volcano



Mt. Michael, an active volcano in the South Sandwich Islands, rises more than 3,000 feet above the southern Atlantic Ocean

A team of National Geographic explorers led by Renan Ozturk and Emma Nicholson was able to reach the summit crater of Mount Michel — a remote stratovolcano — and confirm the existence of one of nature's rarest phenomenon: a lava lake. Nicholson personally stood near the rim of the crater at the top of Mount Michel and flew a drone over the mouth, confirming the lava pool below.

"Suddenly, we could see this small lava lake right deep down inside the crater," Nicholson says in a story on National Geographic.

"It was certainly not maybe the lava lake that you'd naturally conjure to mind ... but it was unmistakably lava close to the surface, feeding the gas plume we were measuring." Lava lakes are large volumes of molten lava that are at all times wholly or partially molten. Basically, a steady state of lava. This phenomenon is rare since lava tends to cool quickly when it reaches the surface and hardens. In order for a lava lake to exist, "the balance between heat coming up from within the vent system of the volcano must be perfectly balanced with the rate of cooling to keep the lava in its molten state," Nicholson explains.

There are only eight volcanoes on Earth that are known to have a persistent pool of liquid lava: Kilauea, Masaya, Villarrica, Mount Nyiragongo, Erta Ale, Mount Erebus, Ambrym, and Mount Michel.

There has been talk about the unusual state of Mount Michel in the scientific community since the late 1900s, but in 2019 the possibility that there might be a lava lake within it was visible from high-resolution satellite imagery, though no one had actually been there to see it in person.

Mount Michel is particularly remote and is part of a chain in the uninhabited South Sandwich Islands about 1,000 miles north of Antarctica.

It took them months of planning and weeks of travel just to get there.

"If you stand on Saunders Island," says Nicholson, "your closest other humans are on the International Space Station. That's the definition of remote."

The National Geographic expedition sailed 1,266 miles from the Falkland Islands to bring scientists and photographers to Mount Michael in order to verify the lava lake

that had been indicated by satellite photos.



The team steals a quick rest 300 feet below the summit during the first ascent of Mount Michael. The combination of humidity and wind caused rime, or bits of granular ice, to quickly form on clothing and equipment, and made hypothermia a constant risk.

No one visits the area as it is incredibly difficult to get to, and once there, the conditions are rough even though the peak is only 2,766 above sea level. The National Geographic team reported between 45 and 60 mile per hour winds and 90% humidity in the form of a thick fog. The conditions left them with just a one or two hours where reduced winds and better visibility presented and allowed the team to operate drones, thermal cameras, a multi-gas sampling system, and other instruments that were used as part of the study.

For more on this story including a full account of the expedition and additional photos, visit: [NatGeo.com](https://www.natgeo.com).



WORLD THINKING DAY 2023 OUR WORLD, OUR PEACEFUL FUTURE *The Environment & Peace*



World Thinking Day was celebrated as usual on 22nd February, and this year Half Tree Hollow Units were responsible for organising the event. This was held at the Half Tree Hollow Community Centre and was very well attended. In total there



were 71 Guides, Brownies and Rainbows across all districts, from St Pauls, Jamestown, Longwood and Half Tree Hollow; with 18 leaders and helpers, 6 Trefoil Guild and 5 Guide Council members.

This is the second year of World Wide Guiding's three-year journey for Girl Guides to become environmentally conscious leaders. Each year we are building on the environmental theme and exploring the links between the environment and other global concerns. This year we are considering how we can learn from and work with nature to create a more peaceful and secure future for girls everywhere.

Activities were designed to enable Girl Guides –

- To connect with the natural world in their own lives
- To recognise the importance of natural harmony and the need for balanced ecosystems
- To explore what we can learn from the natural world in terms of stewardship, peace, and community building
- To act in their own lives, in their community, and beyond to bring peace through nature
- To have fun

The first activity in the morning after the welcome and opening speech from the President and the District Commissioner was to create a garden from the natural resources around - a variety of leaves, ferns, bark, flowers, seed heads, seeds etc. which was provided.

There were four teams which comprised a mix of districts and age groups. The imaginative and artistic interpretation of the remit, was indeed amazing and so different – the Amazon

WORLD THINKING DAY 2023 OUR WORLD, OUR PEACEFUL FUTURE *The Environment & Peace*

Garden featured 3D trees with waterfalls and an alligator, the Veggie Wonder had a rows of vegetables with a garden shed and a scarecrow, the Mystery Garden featured a little of everything with a pond with fish and ducks, bunnies, trees and flowers and Rainbows End featured the sun, butterflies, a wishing well and of course the rainbow.

After lunch the second activity was tackled which was to create a collage using bugs as a template. The bugs are all found on island – wasp, ant, praying mantis and butterfly and again a great deal of creativity was evident. The wasp was made using everlasting flowers, newspaper and empty seed pods from the acacia tree, the ant was made exclusively from acacia seeds, the praying mantis was made from different types and sizes of leaves and paper and the butterfly was made from flowers and leaves.

After tea the final activity “Protect the Planet” asked how each individual choose to protect our planet and these were written on post-its and stuck on a poster. These were most enlightening and showed that the message is being received loud and clear within the Guiding family- see sample below

- Walk and cycle more
- Use public transport
- Stop polluting our oceans
- Stop using single plastic
- Reduce, reuse and recycle



- Grow more trees
- Reduce car journeys

The day ended with prayers from Bishop Dale and a closing word from our Divisional Commissioner and finally the singing of Taps.

It was a most successful and thoroughly enjoyable day. We achieved our objectives and equally importantly, we had fun.

Guiding in St Helena has been part of our local culture for over 100 years. If you or your daughter would like to be a part of our Guiding family – Rainbows start at 4 years old through Brownies, Guides and Rangers until the age of 18, after which there are leadership programmes and we also welcome helpers- please contact:

**Rosie Mittens Divisional Commissioner 24697 or
Pamela Ward Pearce District Commissioner 22445**



CUSTOMER REMINDER - AUTHORISATION FOR CASH WITHDRAWALS

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to remind all customers providing written authorisation for third parties to withdraw cash on their behalf, that they must also call the Bank to confirm the withdrawal prior to the authorisation being presented at the Teller Stations or Remote Banking sites. The Bank will not accept forms if a call has not been received prior to the arrival of the authorised person.

Please contact us using the following telephone numbers:

Main Branch - 22390

Wharf Kiosk - 22032

Half Tree Hollow and Longwood Remote Banking Sites - 66803



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



info@sainthelenabank.com



+290 22390



www.sainthelenabank.com



Market Street, Jamestown



@sainthelenabank



Bank of St Helena Ltd

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

Blue Hill Community Centre



Dance

Saturday, 4 March 2023

8.30pm-1.30am

Music by DJ KJ

Entry fee £1.00

Snacks will be on sale

*Come along, kick your heels up and have an
enjoyable night*

FOUNDERS DAY 2023

On Wednesday 22nd February the 1st Jamestown Scout Group celebrated Founders Day with the SHG Marine Section and partners. Every year, worldwide nearly all Scout associations celebrate Founders' Day to celebrate the birthdays of our founder Lord Robert Baden-Powell (b. 1857), and his wife, Olave (b. 1889), who was the first Chief Girl Guide. It is a day for Scouts to renew their promises together and reflect on how the century old values of Scouting still resonate in this fast-changing modern world.

It was a day of learning and fun with a full programme of activities organised for about 50 young people (Scouts, Cubs & Beavers) and their leaders and some scout council members. All of the Group took part in a variety of activities: Becoming a fisheries enforcement officer for an hour, what it entails and the importance of having laws in place to protect our fish species; dissecting and knowing all the parts of a fish and what they are used for; St Helena's food chain activity told us all about the importance of each tier of the chain and how different species depend on each other to survive and what will happen if one of the tiers were disrupted; plankton collection activities helped us to understand how it is carried out and to identify some of the species that live in our surrounding waters. The highlight of the day has to be the boat trips where our young people enjoyed swimming in the ocean to cool off and the icing on the cake was the sightings of 2 very large green turtles, a sting ray, whale sharks and dolphins along with other smaller fish species that live in our ocean.

The day ended with prayers and the renewal of promises by the Beavers, Cubs & Scouts and well-earned refreshments to round it off in St Helena style.

The 1st Jamestown Scout Group would like to thank everyone who provided, sponsored and supported the activities on the day: The SHG Marine Section, SHG Marine Enforcement Section, St Helena National Trust Marine team, Johnny Herne and crew, and the St Helena Nature Conservation Group.

Contributed.





**ASCENSION ISLAND
GOVERNMENT**

**Cook/Housekeeper to work at The Residency
on Ascension Island**

Total Package value up to £26,450 including allowances and housing

The Ascension Island Government is currently looking for an experienced person to fill the position of Cook and Housekeeper at The Residency, the home of the Administrator.

Ascension is a small volcanic island situated in the sub-tropical South Atlantic with a warm stable climate (26-34°C), excellent beaches and world recognised biodiversity. This is a unique opportunity to contribute to our future success and to be part of a welcoming and friendly island community.

Working with the Administrator and Gardener/Groundskeeper/Driver, you will be responsible for providing a high-quality of cooking, meal and event planning and housekeeping to manage and cater for official functions and visits by senior officials. Full details of the role can be found in the Job Description on the Ascension Island Government website (link below).

This position is available as an accompanied, or unaccompanied post to the right candidate, meaning the successful candidate may be accompanied by a partner and dependent children (under 18 years old).

We are offering a two-year contract with the following benefits (dependent upon single or accompanied status):

- Annual salary of £9,500 to £11,750
- Food allowance of £6,700 pa accompanied or £3,350 single status
- Water allowance worth £2,270 pa accompanied or £1,360 pa single status
- An electricity allowance worth £938 pa
- Rent free accommodation worth £400+ per month
- 37.5 hours working week (overtime will be payable for additional/unsociable hours)

Plus

- Relocation costs for your personal effects including the shipping of a vehicle from the UK or South Africa
- Return flights for you and your family to your home country at mid-contract
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- End of contract gratuity on completion of 2 years
- Free primary dental and medical care and medical referral to the UK or South Africa if required
- Medevac provision in an emergency
- Free schooling for dependent children up to 16 years
- Annual travel insurance

These appointments will be subject to:

- Satisfactory Employment References
- Enhanced Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance

We are looking for the post holders to start in April 2023

Closing Date: Friday 10 March (at 5pm)

Interviews: Mid-March (by Skype if off island)

For more information and to apply visit:

<https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/vacancies>

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

**Cricket Season
Starting**

Saturday 4th Mar 2023 – 1.30pm
– Challengers vs Levelwood Rebels
– Umpires – Western A Mustangs

Sunday 5th Mar 2023 – 10am
– Sandy Bay Pirates Vs Cobras –
Umpires – Challengers

Sunday 5th Mar 2023 – 1.30pm
– Jamestown Heat Vs Western A
Mustangs – Umpires – Levelwood
Rebels



Armchair Supporters View by Nick Stevens

It is quite fitting that my last article for the independent will feature my team Manchester United picking up their first piece of silverware in six years.

Manchester United beat Newcastle United 2-0 in the League Cup final on Sunday with two first half goals by Casemiro and Rashford.

Credit to Newcastle as they put up a battling performance but didn't have a cutting edge in front of goal, instead it was Man U who created further clear cut chances which they failed to score.

Newcastle fans can be pleased with how far there team has progress this season; the fact they went into the final with a fifty/fifty chance of winning the cup is testament to this. Whilst Ted and the rest of the Newcastle fans were disappointed, the Manchester United fans were ecstatic in how their team has performed since the completion of the World Cup. On Thursday United came from behind to beat Barcelona at Old Trafford and then topped this off on Sunday with a great all round performance in the Final. Casemiro; Rashford, Martinez and Varane was immense in both games.



Manchester United Carabao Cup Final Winners 2023

In the Premier League, Arsenal remains top after they beat Leicester City 1-0 in a hard fought match.

Manchester City beat Bournemouth 4-1 to stay second. Spurs made use of Newcastle not playing in the league as they beat Chelsea 2-0. This result is another bad one for Chelsea Manager Graham Potter who days at Stamford Bridge have to be numbered, if results don't improved immediately.



Graham Potter praying for better results for Chelsea

At the bottom of the table, Leeds beat Southampton 1-0 to ease their relegation worries.

West Ham trash Forest 4-0 to relieve some pressure on their manager David Moyes

Liverpool indifferent performances continue as they could only draw 0-0 with Crystal Palace.

EPL Fixtures

The latest round of Premier League fixtures will see Liverpool face Manchester United on Sunday.

I am going to miss this big clash as we will be boarding our flight when this match kicks off.

SATURDAY 4TH MARCH

- **12:30 Manchester City v Newcastle United**
- **15:00 Arsenal v AFC Bournemouth**
- **15:00 Aston Villa v Crystal Palace**
- **15:00 Brighton & Hove Albion v West Ham United**
- **15:00 Chelsea v Leeds United**
- **15:00 Wolverhampton Wanderers v Tottenham Hotspur**
- **17:30 Southampton v Leicester City**

SUNDAY 5TH MARCH

- **14:00 Nottingham Forest v Everton**
- **16:30 Liverpool v Manchester United**

MONDAY 6TH MARCH

- **20:00 Brentford v Fulham**



Big clash of the weekend





Jamestown Swimming Pool Public Opening Times - March 2023

The public are advised the times outside of the sessions 9am – 3pm advertised are dedicated to the schools.

Monday 6th – Friday 10th School Holidays

8am – 10am Adults Only, 10am – 5:45pm Open to all. One hour Lunch Break Swim still available

Night Swim 7pm – 9pm

Every Tuesday Adults Only

Every Friday Open to all

Monday	8am – 9:00am Adults only	50% OFF 12pm – 1pm Lunch break swim	3pm – 5:45pm Open to all	5:45pm – 7pm * Youth club's training session	Closed
Tuesday	8am – 9:00am Adults only	50% OFF 12pm – 1pm Lunch break swim	3pm – 5:45pm Open to all	5:45pm – 7pm * Youth club's training session	7pm - 9pm Adults only
Wednesday	8am – 9:00am Adults only	50% OFF 12pm – 1pm Lunch break swim	3pm – 5:45pm Open to all	5:45pm – 7pm * Youth club's training session	Closed
Thursday	8am – 9:00am Adults only	50% OFF 12pm – 1pm Lunch break swim	3pm – 5:45pm Open to all	5:45pm – 7pm * Youth club's training session	Closed
Friday	8am – 9:00am Adults only	50% OFF 12pm – 1pm Lunch break swim	3pm – 5:45pm Open to all	5:45pm – 7pm * Youth club's training session	7pm - 9pm Open to all
Saturday	* 8am – 11am Youth swim club's training sessions		11am – 5:45pm Open to all	Closed	Closed
Sunday	8am – 10am * Youth club's training session	10am – 5:45pm Open to all		Closed	Closed

All swimmers are kindly asked to be out of the water 15 minutes before session ends to allow time for changing.

* Youth swim training can only be booked via the clubs.



Night Swim

Jamestown Swimming Pool

March 2023

Friday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th,
& 31st

7pm – 9pm
Open to all

Tuesday 7th, 14th,
21st & 28th

7pm – 9pm
Adults only

Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, cold drinks, snacks and ice creams available

Normal entry fees apply, swimmers are kindly asked
to be out of the water 15 mins before closing time

Farewell from Us

Nick, Tina and Aiden

November 2005 Tina and I return to the Island from the UK with our 10 month old son Aiden, wanting to bring him up in the safe environment of St Helena. 17 years later we are returning to the place of his birth to start over fresh.

Arriving back on St Helena I came with the vision of trying to create opportunities for Young People and wanting to serve the community once again.

When the job as Youth Leader at New Horizons came in April 2006 I was presented with the platform to put my vision into action.

One of the first ideas I put into action was to try raise enough funds to take a team of New Horizons members to Ascension for 3 weeks to take part in Sports competitions and Conservation work. From this project came fund raising ideas and the start of our main annual fund raiser on the 21st May 2007; St Helena's Day. We have now been organising our national day celebrations for 17 years.

With the help of St Helena Line we were able to take our first New Horizons team off to Ascension Island with the help of Tina and Nigel Benjamin. Our team excelled in the sports and returned to the Island unbeaten in all the sports (Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Football, Pool, Shooting, Skittles, Swimming, Tennis and Volleyball) with the Inter Island cup.

With the help of St Helena Line, SHG, RMS St Helena and novelty fund raising ideas like; the Five Peak Challenge, Car Washes, The Haunted House on Halloween, Musical Concerts we were able to raise enough funds to take five more teams to Ascension; 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017.



New Horizons team that went to Ascension in 2007

The children of St Helena who were lucky to be part of these trips will have good memories that will last them forever. We have seen so many youngsters gain confidence and become more independent because of these trips.

Credit has to go to Tina who for most of the trips was the only female adult and became mother to the whole team for those 3 weeks.

It was pleasing to say that all six times the New Horizons team returned to the Island with the Inter Island Trophy.

When we leave on Saturday Tina and I can look back and reflect with pride in what we managed to accomplish during our time back on the Island.

We are leaving behind a lot that we have established or re-established.

New Horizons

ns has been part of our lives for 17 years and we will certainly miss being part of this great organisation. But I have great hope in the Staff under the new manager Scott Crowie and Youth Leader Kim Piek along with Youth Worker Owen Richards and part time Youth Workers Gareth Johnson, Jay Scanes and Donna Crowie that they will take New Horizons to another level.

St Helena's Day Celebrations: after re-establishing St Helena day celebrations in the traditional way in 2007 I hope that New Horizons will continue to organise this day for the Community.

Halloween and the Haunted House: Another great annual event that was Tina's project and was very popular with the Community. Hopefully once the New Horizons building is completely back in operation this event will happen again.

Boot Camp: Boot Camp was set up at New Horizons by my good mate Andrew Lawrence in 2014 and we managed to sustain this since. We now hand the reins over to Kim and Owen with the Boot Camp and Boxercise.

Junior Football: After starting the New Horizons Junior Football League in 2006 we have seen so much talent progress from the junior to the senior league. With regular numbers of over 70 players this is a big part of our programme. It is great to see big numbers of parents and family members who turn up to support the youngsters on a Saturday morning.

New Horizons Athletics Club: I formed this club in 2007 to help train young St Helenians for international games. Over the years we have had Athletes compete in Island Games; Commonwealth Young Games and Commonwealth Games. The current bunch of Athletes that is in training is some of the most talented that I have worked with and if they continue to train they will no doubt compete for St Helena in future games. We had one athlete who qualified for this year's games in Guernsey. One Athlete missed out by 0.05 seconds which was extremely disappointing as after years of hard work their dreams were dashed within a blink of an eye (trying timing 0.05 of a second on your stopwatch).

Another young athlete picked up an injury and was given no leniency in regards of time to recover even though entry by names for the Guernsey games is April.

SHFA: served the football association for 28 years with the biggest achievement was fronting the fund raising and managing to get St Helena's first ever international team to compete in an international tournament. The Inter Island games



This was the best international tour that I have ever being on. The boys in this team will remain close to my heart as long as I live. I wish Mike E; Owen and David along with Rico and the team all the best for future tournaments.

St Helena CGA and NSASH: Being part of the Commonwealth and Island Games was great for me who is passionate about sports and has studied most sports. So to rub shoulders with elite athletes both past and present was a dream come through. To meet and have photographs with two of my heroes Daley Thompson and Usain Bolt was brilliant.

I am proud to have been able to build up a great relationship with members of our America's Region and the CGF. No one can accuse me of being at the Commonwealth games looking for the Commonwealth games.

What Tina and I enjoyed a lot during our time back on St Helena was the voluntary stuff we did for the wider community. Fund raisers for the **Family Support Trust** with Jeff Ellick and Emerald Yon managed to help so many medevac families in regards to support whilst they were undergoing treatment abroad.

Fund raisers like the Ladder Challenge for the people of Ukraine

The Annual Christmas Bazaar which helps a lot of people find bargains for Christmas. Hopefully the New Horizons staff will continue to do this. **The Annual Food Parcels** that Tina and I and New Horizons staff and members deliver to families in need over Christmas. We are extremely keen that someone takes up this project.

What we go miss the most as a family is Christmas on the island. No one does Christmas like St Helena. **Christmas Eve** is always our favourite day of the year when we go out to all the people in care homes to give out presents and spread the Christmas cheer. We know this will continue, as Emerald and Denzil Yon and their family and friends are a great team who will make it happen. Hopefully Melvin Benjamin and his Rock Club Crew will continue to provide the entertainment.

We are certainly going to homesick during Christmas

The Radio Show and Newspaper Article: I will certainly miss doing the 'From the Sidelines' sports show on Wednesdays and writing 'Armchair Supporters View' for the independent. The amount of people who tunes into the show

amazes me as it is not only the football fans. I will certainly miss the friendly banter.

The last few weeks have been emotional to say the least. We really appreciate the huge number of people who took time out to say goodbye and thank you for what we have done over the years.

We will certainly miss a lot of people. In particular we will miss our best mates Alan and Sam, our family (Tina's mum and dad and Siblings) all the Aunties, Uncles and Cousins. We will miss Marina and Julie from next door

To my sister in-Law Delrae many thanks for all your support over the years; we appreciate your loyalty to us and New Horizons

The Boot Campers. Many thanks for all your efforts and laughs over the years. Will miss the Christmas Boot Camp party. My fellow presenter and mate Steve Kirk. I will certainly miss doing the show with him.

To the staff of both STFM and Independent many thanks for allowing me to be a part of your organisation. I wish you well for the future

We will miss Brooke as well as the dog and cats.....will hope to see you all very soon

The New Horizons staff Kim, Owen and Gareth who has been a big part of our lives. It has been a real pleasure working with them.

I will certainly miss working with the youngsters. They are the future of our Island and it is important that we nurture and understand them. It is not easy being a teenager. My message to all organisation involve with young people is that with power comes great responsibility. Help to create dreams for young people not destroy them, especially if it is just to maintain your ego.

Tina and I can certainly walk away with knowledge that we made a lot of young people's dreams come through and would like to think we have an impact on their lives.

I would like to pay tribute to my wife Tina and Son Aiden who supported me in everything that I did. I know it hasn't been always easy but you both stuck it out until now. We look forward to our new chapter in our lives together.

***To you the St Helena Community we Love You!
Stay well....Farewell until we meet again...Nick, Tina
and Aiden***

Golf Report for Sunday 26th February 2023



An impressive field of 36 players in 18 pairs turned up to take part in the last competition of February 2023. The Texas scramble competition was played in the stable ford format with a shot gun start at 11:00am. Great golfing weather conditions prevailed throughout the round. Finishing top on the leaderboard to win first prize with 48 points was the pair of Mr. Arthur Francis and Mr. Raymond Henry. Winners of second prize with 46 points was the pair of father and son Bramwell and Asa Bushuru. Shot of the day was by Mr. Jason Hopkins who scored a hole-in-one on the 7th Hole. There were three two's, each pair winning 12 balls. Arthur Francis and Raymond Henry got eagle two on the 2nd, father and son Dax and Hugo Richards birdied the 7th and Gavin Crowie and David Moody the 14th. Congratulations to the winners.

The AGM got underway immediately after prizes presentation. There were two important resolutions. The stroke and distance rule has been scrapped. The AGM resolved to revert back to the previous rule where a player will have to take another shot from where the shot that is out of bounds was taken. A new order of merit tournament has been introduced effective 1st April 2023 with an increase in the competition fees from the current £3 to £4.

Mr. Tony Duncan was awarded Honorary Membership for his outstanding contribution to the club. Congratulation Tony. The AGM elected new committee members as follows:

President	Tony Green
Hon Secretary	Ed Oyewo
Captain	Bramwell Bushuru
Entertainment Manager	Jeremy Clingham
Vice Capt	Martin Buckley
Handicaps Manager	Pat Henry
Ladies Capt	Helena Stevens
Course Manager	Martin Joshua
Hon Treasurer	Philip Francis

Sunday 5th March 2023 the club will host the annual Arnold

Flagg Challenge Cup sponsored by the Flagg family. This will be 18 Holes Strokeplay competition. Tee off 12:00. Registration closes on Saturday 4th March at 15:00. Happy swinging.....!

Contributed by: SHGC



ST. HELENA



GOLF CLUB