

THE ST HELENA



Est. 2005



# INDEPENDENT

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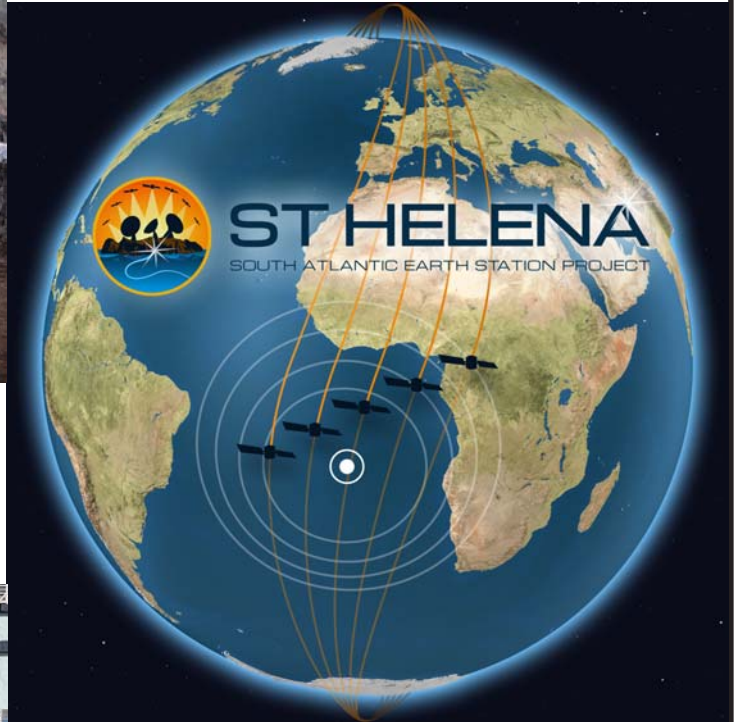
## *What Will be Will Be*



## **SKIPPING FOR CANCER**



## *The South Atlantic Earth Station Project*



## *Our Bread-and-Butter*



## **Fun in the Sun**





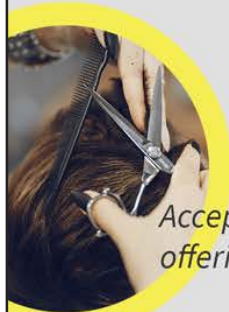


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## ***'There is Much More to St Helena Than Napoleon'***

Joachim Louis Napoléon Murat is the 8<sup>th</sup> Prince Murat. The 1<sup>st</sup> Prince Murat climbed the ladder of success in the French Army. He provided significant support to Napoleon as Napoleon became Emperor. He was cavalry commander in the French Army and an important advisor to Napoleon. He also married Napoleon's sister, Caroline, (full name - Carolina Maria Annunziata Bonaparte Murat Macdonald) and so therefore well-placed to be made King of Naples and have several other titles to his name.

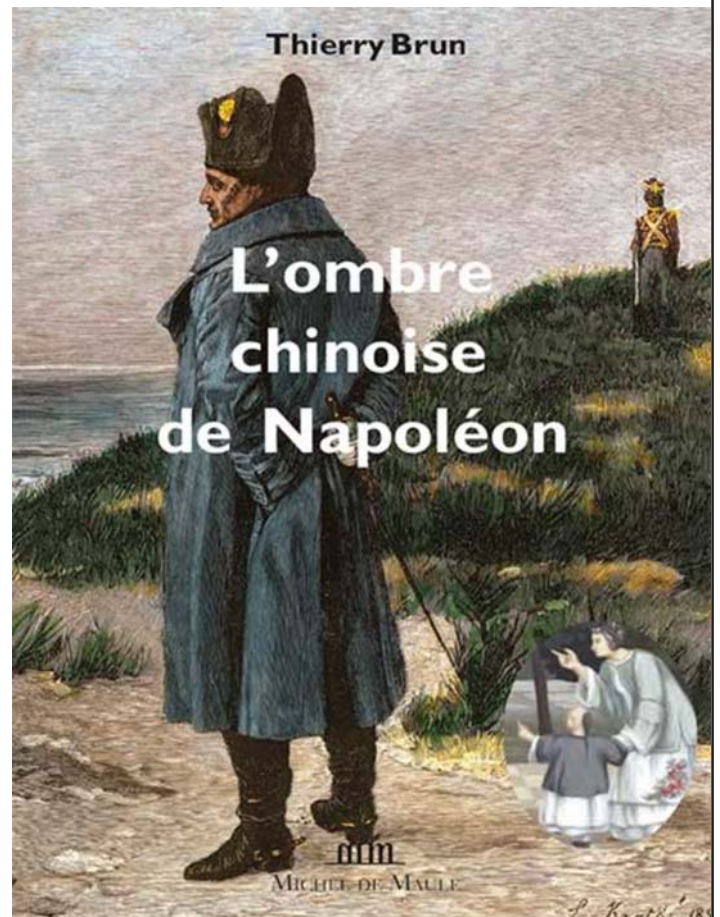
The 8<sup>th</sup> Prince Murat inherits the honorary King of Naples title as well as Grand Duke of Berg and Cleves and Prince of Pontecorvo. The 8<sup>th</sup> Prince has been in St Helena for a week and leaves tomorrow. Prince Murat visited the Saint FM studio on Wednesday to talk about his family history and his visit to St Helena.

The first comment Prince Murat made was, "There is Much More to St Helena Than Napoleon". He followed this by saying it is a beautiful island and is 'magnifique'.



**Prince Murat (right) with Thierry Brun**

With Prince Murat in the studio was Thierry Brun who helped with English-French translation. Monsieur Brun is an author who has recently completed an historical novel based on the



**One of Thierry Brun's new books - 'The Chinese Shadow of Napoleon'**

life and times of Napoleon. His book was launched in Paris on Wednesday.

Thierry Brun explained that Napoleon had always been interested in the Asian world – the Chinese in particular. The first time Napoleon met Chinese people was in St Helena. Thierry referred to Barbara George's book on the Chinese in St Helena as the only publication he has found on the subject. Thierry Brun's own book on Napoleon's Chinese connection was also published this week.

## ***Appreciations***

A big thank you to all our guests who helped us celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> Diamond Wedding Anniversary at Longwood House last Saturday.

Your good wishes and lovely cards were much appreciated. Many thanks also to Gavin Jack for his toast and prayer, Michel for the photos and Heather for her work of art with the cake icing.

Our sincere gratitude to Michel, JJ, Angela and staff for making this very special venue of Longwood house and beautiful gardens available to us and for the wonderful catering and service.

Our very best wishes to you all and God Bless +.

**Jack & Eileen.**

Following on from the article on the St Helena Football Association's Family night out, it has now been confirmed that the takings from the evening's events are as follows:

The main raffle brought in £3,600; The cake and wine raffle - £134; Donations totalled £60 and profits from food sales - £800. **Total raised - £4,594.00.**

The St Helena Football Association would like to thank everyone who helped to make the night a great success.

A further update from the Association over the coming weeks will detail overall total amount raised so far; team selection and upcoming fundraising events, so watch this space and stay tuned to Saint FM.





# Editorial

Easter is coming, and that means chocolate. Same as Christmas, birthdays, anniversaries and diabetes mean chocolate. So, the UK media has picked up a story which is guaranteed to raise the hackles of many Brits. "Sour taste as cost of sugar hits Easter eggs and hot cross buns" is the headline. After that is an explanation by the British Retail Consortium – a trade association that describes itself as not doing very much. The BRC blame the rising cost of butter, eggs and cocoa. The people from 'don't do very much' were slacking because they couldn't find the energy to include milk. Price inflation on UK grocery products is frightening; the latest inflation estimates are around 17%. Dairy products are price rise leaders.

While it's easy to imagine the BRC media spokespeople sobbing rivers of tears into already sodden handkerchiefs as they explain this very regrettable situation, I can't help thinking of other sets of economic indicators. The £ is increasing in value against the \$. This means fewer £ are needed to pay for imported butter, milk, eggs and cocoa when paid for in \$. The price of oil is on a steady downward trend, as is gas. On the stock market the value of most shares are on an upward trend. All of this should help to stabilise prices but there is only ever news about prices going up and causing other prices to rise too. Sometimes, surely, when some prices come down it should cancel out the effect of other prices going up?

Does it eckers like? As the well-grounded people of northern England are likely to tell you. Retail sales in the UK are rising slightly at the moment with brighter prospects expected in the second half of the year. It's not as if the directors of food retail companies are picking up whatever they can find from the food banks because they are too embarrassed to pick up their performance related pay at the end of each month due to the business they run looking like it will hit the rocks and going under at any moment.

There are good reasons why the valiant leaders of British retail trading should up their game instead of upping their prices. This week there was another story about something 'not required' found in pre-packed processed food. This time it was fish eggs found in fish fingers. The fish in the fingers is made from pollack which usually comes from Alaska. Reading between the lines of diplomatically worded descriptions of pollack it is pretty well tasteless and the flesh is coarse. Pollack certainly doesn't appear in Top Ten lists of the healthiest fish to eat. Mackerel and Tuna do - and crab. Anyway, the fish eggs of pollack are certainly not an alternative to caviar. And anyway again, the fish eggs had no business being in Asda's fish fingers.

Other similar stories appear in the cheerful UK media too often. A mouse was found not so long ago in a tin of baked beans. Mice are regularly found in a surprisingly wide range of food. If you miss out on finding a mouse, try looking for mice hairs in your flour or unprocessed grain-based cereal. With processed food all livestock which has been scooped up from the harvest to the super-heated bacteria killing, nutrition destroying so-called cooking process are, well, processed out of all recognition. And we cannot forget the dead frog found in a bag of spinach.

The person who found it certainly hasn't forgotten about it.

In early February I checked, yet again, on the progress being made with setting up the scrutiny committees. Remember them? I received a reply not long afterwards telling me, "In response to your enquiry; the two Committee Chairs have been elected, and the two Committees have been established, however, these have yet to hold formal enquiry sessions, as they were awaiting the finalization of Standing Orders and associated procedures. The Standing Orders were laid on the table in the House on 10 December 2022, and the procedures are almost complete. Informal meetings have been held by both Select Committees in order to consider areas for scrutiny, and it is hoped that evidence sessions will commence shortly." Shortly?

Last Friday there was a press release issued stating "Health Services Directorate trials drug for managing diabetes and obesity". The press release also mentioned "evaluation" of the drug using 15 patients – presumably volunteers. I was puzzled about the "trials" and the "evaluation" because this kind of investigation, research and assessment is completed in a proven satisfactory way before any new drug is made publicly available. "Sorry! Loose use of terms" was the reply to my query.

So, the situation seems to be that the diabetes drugs in general use are the drugs normally used in St Helena but a new drug, called liraglutide is fairly new and now publicly available. Experience so far suggests they can be more effective for some people, not only for controlling diabetes but also for stimulating weight loss.

The trials and evaluation the Health Service refers to is getting first-hand knowledge of how effective they might be and making a judgement on effectiveness versus cost. While the usual diabetes drugs may cost a few pounds for a dose or short course of treatment the new drug costs significantly more. One website gives an indicative price of £79 for a size 2 pre-filled disposable injection pen and £117 for size 3. The website Pharmacy2U offers 3 pre-filled pens with a 6mg/ml solution for a bit less than £50. Even so, it is more than is paid for diabetes doses now.

There is no doubt this new drug has caused a bit of a stir and could be a breakthrough drug for a useful number of people. In terms of cost, a more effective drug can produce savings in the long-run, as and when patients' conditions improve. This is a tricky one which needs to be assessed by healthcare professionals and accountants. My heartfelt best wishes to all concerned.



*Is this the answer to the diabetes dilemma?*

# OneWeb Pass Important Milestone

## **Now Focused on Finalising Ground Stations**

OneWeb reported this week that they do not expect their St Helena ground station at Horse Point to be operational when their satellite constellation is ready in a matter of months to provide a global communications network.

OneWeb passed an important milestone last weekend when the last 36 satellites to complete the low earth orbit constellation were successfully launched. There are now 618 OneWeb satellites in orbit, making a network of satellites which provides communication to every part of Earth. The Executive Chairman of OneWeb, said: "In my work I have seen the power of connectivity to bring benefits to all, wherever they are. Yet half the world's population does not have access to fast, reliable connectivity. Today's launch represents a major step towards closing the digital divide. OneWeb's global constellation will play a pivotal role in realising this dream." There were 18 rocket launches to put all 618 satellites in orbit.



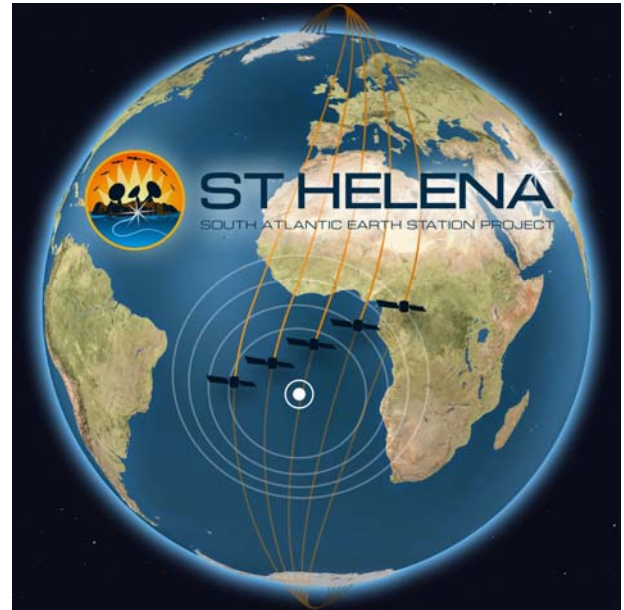
**The 18<sup>th</sup> and last launch of 1<sup>st</sup> generation OneWeb satellites into low earth orbit**

Currently, OneWeb can only provide commercial communication services north of 50 degrees latitude. This means OneWeb is operational in parts of North America, northern Europe, Russia and some neighbouring countries. The OneWeb Chairman said this limited coverage brings in several million dollars of revenue a month. As coverage goes global over the next 12 months OneWeb are on course to generate "hundreds of millions of dollars" from international enterprise and government customers.

## **Ground Stations to be Completed**

Sunil Mittal, OneWeb's chairman said most of the critical ground stations required to launch commercially across all markets have been completed and are ready. He added, during a media briefing this week, "More ground stations are due to come online in the several months it will take OneWeb's latest batch of satellites to enter service after their launch on March 25. I am hopeful that — barring maybe a handful of ground stations in places like St Helena and Seychelles, which have a lot of difficulties in putting up ground stations — everything else will be done."

The difficulties OneWeb refer to are not specified. However, unconfirmed information indicates the SHG Attorney General's Chambers have not yet even completed the legalities for



**St Helena – The South Atlantic Earth Station Project. SHG calls for Expression of Interest from ground station operators in 2018**

signing the lease of the land at Horse Point for OneWeb's ground station. It is known there have been extended negotiations on the tariff Connect will charge for the large amount of electricity OneWeb will use at their Horse Point ground station and nothing official has been publicly stated about the arrangements to be put in place for the connection between Horse Point and the Cable Landing Station near Rupert's beach. SHG is as quiet as usual on the most important developments to affect us all but this week's announcement from OneWeb confirms that agreements and contracts are well behind schedule – as usual. Because of the complete black-out in information we can only hope discussions are proceeding more positively than between SHG and Trade Winds on the sale of SHG's Solomon's shares.

## **The Risk in Delay**

The recently completed launch of the final 36 satellites to complete OneWeb's communications network is not the end of the story; it's just the end of the beginning. A second generation of low earth orbit satellites is already in the advanced stages of planning. Technology moves very fast, with Big Tech breaking new ground almost constantly. OneWeb is in a joint venture with Eutelsat, a French operator, to launch more satellites in a different formation. When this new satellite formation is ready to use, ground stations will not be as important to satellite communications companies as they are now.

Details for building OneWeb's second generation satellites are due to be released before the end of June this year and the launch programme could start as early as 2025. According to the clocks ticking on the walls within the Castle, 2025 is tomorrow. As things stand right now, the Horse Point ground station will provide most of the money needed to pay the annual charges for using the Equiano cable. In just two years' time this opportunity might be dead in the water – leaving an expensive Equiano cable in the deep ocean with a big bill to pay.



# First Ministers Question Time Held Last Friday

Vince Thompson

Last Friday the first sitting for Ministers Question Time was held in the Council Chamber at 10am. These Questions Times are planned as monthly events.

The seven councillors who are not ministers each asked one question. Each question time is restricted to one topic – for the first question time the topic was ‘Progress made in achieving the St Helena Governments Vision & Strategy 2022 – March 2025’.

This drew questions on progress with the Education Ordinance – local food production and food security – the cost of living and the quality of life – retaining the local workforce and encouraging Saints overseas to return – tax reforms to encourage investment and is progressive, fair and equitable – progress with data security protection and renewable energy and water security.

While the Order Paper for Ministers Question Time lists the question in alphabetical order based on the councillors’ surnames, it is not the order in which the questions are asked. The questions are selected in a random order based on a ‘lucky dip’.

It seems the lucky dip is used because the question time is limited to one hour and if the hour runs out before all the questions have been answered Cllr Andrew Turner would always be the first to not have his questions answered if the Order Paper was followed.

On this first occasion all questions were asked and responded to in 57 minutes and 13 seconds. The answer to most, if not all, the questions was that the matter (whatever matter the question referred to) is still under review.

Gillian Brooks asked what policies have been developed to encourage local food production, with a view to sustaining the Island with fresh produce and addressing food security. The Chief Minister said it was a high priority and there is £380,000 in EDIP funding for mending broken fences and clearing self-seeded trees, shrubs and other vegetation the that cattle will not chew on. After that Julie Thomas handed over to the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources & Planning Portfolio, Christine Scipio. Minister Scipio expressed irritation because the subject of Gillian Brooks’ question had been covered in whatever it was Minister Scipio had said at the Legislative Council meeting only a week ago. However, the Minister did eventually say the £380,000 would be spent on routine maintenance of pastures and ‘taking a look’ at the poultry unit – presumably that will be the one at Scotland. There was no mention of flying in one-day-old chicks next Saturday. When asked by Gillian Brooks what was the timeframe for the work Christine Scipio could not be definite about that.

Subsequent discussion was on the £380,000 being spent on Crown Land and none of it on privately owned pasture. The official response on that was the Crown Land was under government ‘control’ and it seemed the ministers were happiest

spending the £380,000 in ‘controlled’ circumstances. The irony is the money is being spent on clearing trees, shrubs and useless vegetation which has been allowed to thrive in an uncontrolled way for many years. It is also interesting that land management or husbandry is very much absent in agriculture. If regular maintenance of pastures did have a stronger presence the £380,000 could be spent on improvements rather than neglected pastures. It is also interesting that government people often use the word ‘control’ instead of ‘having responsibility for’. It was also said the private sector should invest in land management. Another example of ‘do as I say not do as I do’.

Minister Scipio rose from her seat for a second time in connection with another question to express further irritation because she was asked yet another question which had been answered before. This time it was in a letter to all councillors which had been sent only a few days previously. Minister Scipio sat down without answering the question.

Councillor Rosie Bargo then stood on a point of information. In the sweetest way possible, Rosie Bargo reminded the irritated minister that Ministers Question Time was being broadcast live and listeners had not seen the letter the Minister for Irritation referred to. Christine Scipio then rose from her seat once more and this time answered the question without the slightest hint of embarrassment or apology. The Speaker observed that it did no harm to repeat information from time to time. The question, by the way, was about water supply to farmers. Minister Scipio said there were technical issues as well as expertise issues. It all sounded as if nothing much was happening. No control and little responsibility, maybe. The responses to questions all included matters being under review. It was said there is “a huge amount of work” and “its early days” or “a working group is looking at it” and sometimes “the information has not been passed to me”. Whatever happened to ‘management by walking around’. There was a definite whiff of too much time sitting in meetings.

## The Times They Are a’ Changing



*The Buck Stops Here . . .*

*But NOT here*

**President Harry Truman  
1945 – 1953**

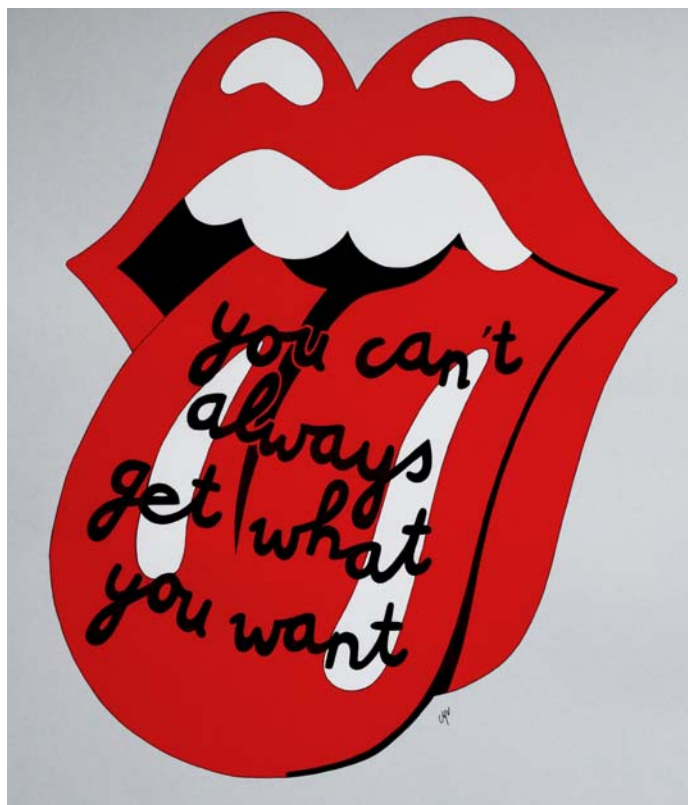
**President Donald  
Trump 2017 - 2021**

# First Ministers Question Time Held Last Friday

Vince Thompson

On a lighter note, Health Minister Martin Henry chipped in with a comment when the budget for the financial year starting tomorrow was discussed. As the UK Grant-in-Aid is late again it's "early days" for any decisions on how much will be spent on what. 'Healthy Henry' (or 'Muscles Martin'?) helpfully contributed that the budget is spent first on what is needed. This is likely to include further big and wide screenings to detect early signs of chronic diseases to improve the chances of a cure. It is known that many people want appointments in just a few days after phoning to arrange one, but need comes before want.

The next time Martin Henry drops into Saint FM for a radio chat the intro music will be the Rolling Stones – You Can't Always Get What You Want.



## Thank You

From the family of the late Stedson Graham Francis of Thompson's Wood, Blue Hill:..

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all family and friends who cared for and assisted Stedson in every possible way during the time of his illness. Special thanks to the Doctors and Nurses of the General Hospital for their care and attention to him. Also to Martin and Doreen Peters of Barren Ground for their dedication and devotion to Stedson during the time he was receiving medical treatment in Pretoria. Martin, you did a wonderful job – your valued support and patience will never go unnoticed.

Thank you also to all who have been loyal and trusted friends to Stedson throughout his life.

To all who assisted and contributed in any way to the funeral arrangements – too many to name –



Words cannot describe how much your help was appreciated.

Thank you all for attending the funeral and for the many cards along with kind words of condolences & support.

Stedson is gone from our lives, but his memory will live on in many hearts.





# The Bread-and-Butter Statistics

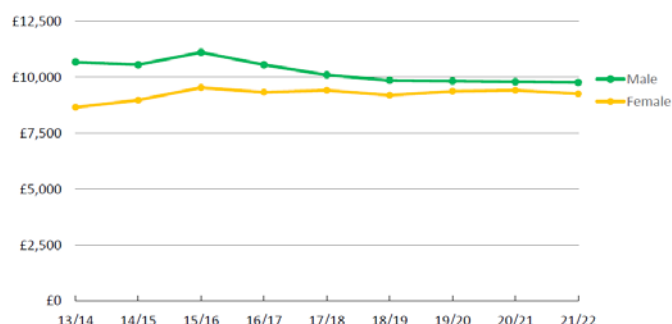
The saying 'he/she knows which side his/her bread is buttered' is fairly common. The Government Statistics Office have just issued the numbers on wages earned in St Helena up to March 2022. The information gives some indication on who has butter on their bread and how many have to make do with margarine.

The statistics show before-tax income data collected from the Pay-As-You-Earn tax collection system. They exclude company and self-employment incomes, incomes of Technical Cooperation (TC) Officers of the St Helena Government, investment income, Income Related Benefits, incomes from pensions (including the Basic Island Pension), and part-time and part-year incomes.

The headline figure is the median wage estimated to be £9,460. This means as many people earn more than £9,460 as earn less. Price inflation always devalues the money earned. When inflation is taken into account, the money earned is devalued. With the cost of living increasing very noticeably, the £9,460 median wage for 2021-22 buys 1.5% less than the £9,430 median wage estimated for 2020-21.

When the numbers are split based on male and female earnings, women still come off second best but the gap has narrowed since four or five years ago. The median wage for men in 2021-21 stands at £9,770 while for women it is £9,260. That almost £10 a week less.

Chart 2. Median real gross annual wages from employment, male and female 2013/14 to 2021/22, in constant 2021/22 prices (i.e. adjusted for inflation)

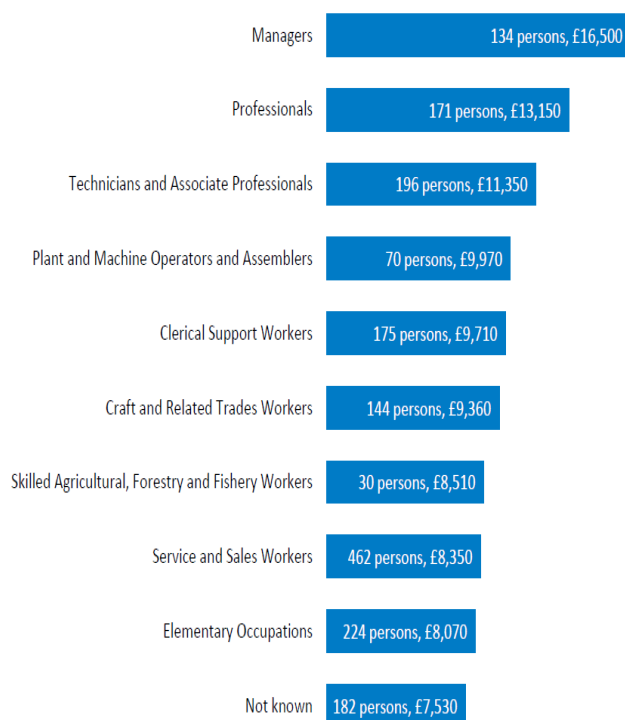


In St Helena many of the higher placed jobs are occupied by women. The wages earned by females in higher placed occupations may well make the gap between male and female median earnings look better than is really is.

A male – female split based on each of the categories shown below would be interesting. It is possible the female representation in the top three categories is quite high, with most of the rest being in the bottom three categories. 'Clerical Support Workers' may be the only category in the middle section with a high female representation.

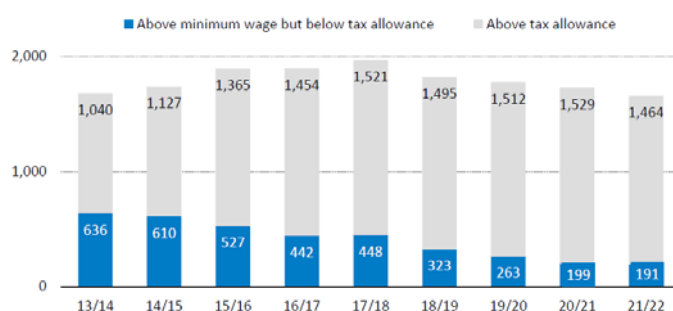
The tax free threshold remaining at £7,000 is still an issue often raised when a review of the tax structure is mentioned. The number of employees who earn more than the minimum wage but less than the £7,000 tax free threshold continues to reduce. The latest decrease is estimated to be eight employees; bringing the total down to 191. However, it is still only a matter of time before people on the minimum wage

Chart 3. Median real gross annual wages from employment by occupational grouping, 2021/22



start paying income tax if tax free threshold is not increased. The top three categories with the highest wages account for 501 or 28% of the workforce included in the Pay-As-You-Earn tax collection system. There are 868 workers in the bottom three categories, making up almost 50% of the total PAYE workforce.

Chart 5. Number of employees above the minimum wage, 2013/14 to 2021/22





# ***Economic Investment Programme Public Information Meeting at Rupert's***

***Vince Thompson***

A public information meeting on the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) was held at Rupert's last night. As the main projects are in Rupert's Valley it could be expected that the discussions at St Michael's Church would be interesting and that is how it was.

Work on Field Road is scheduled to start in April and if it does, the new concrete surfaced road is expected to be completed by December this year. The tenders for the contract are being evaluated. Field Road is 300 metres longer than Side Path at 1,500 metres.

A lively discussion ensued when the question was raised about access into and out of Rupert's Valley when Field Road is closed. As things stand, the only dependable way to get to places west of Rupert's will be the haul road to Deadwood and then via Longwood Gate and Hutt's Gate for either the Dungeon or the Tomb Road. It was said the distance from Rupert's to Jamestown using that route is 10 miles.

So far, a bus service to Jamestown on Thursdays only, mainly for shopping seems to be fairly certain but other issues were raised. It was stated people on shift work who depend on a bus service will have difficulty travelling to work and people working at the power station, Sea Rescue, AMD Engineering and others such as fishermen and fish processors may have difficulty making special arrangements. It seems discussions between employees and their employers are needed to find working solutions.

The early suggestion that a ferry service should connect Rupert's with Jamestown was not followed up because it was felt the idea was not popular with Rupert's residents. It may be that a special ferry service could be the only practical solution for people wanting to get to Jamestown. Problems will inevitably occur when sea conditions make a ferry service unsafe. Alternatively, the shops at Longwood could see some extra business as people using the Haul Road decide to turn left at Longwood Gate instead of right for Hutt's Gate, the Tomb Road, Seaview and all the rest before arriving at

Jamestown to find a park at the seafront – only a few hundred metres from where they started.

The cargo handling construction work at Rupert's is going well and is scheduled for completion at the end of this year. A large consignment of cement arrived with the cargo ship this week. This supply of cement will be used on construction of the cargo handling facilities. A further supply will be needed for Field Road.



***The steel frame for the Container Freight Service nears completion. This is from where orders delivered by Richard James, MS Atlantic and others will be collected***

## ***Side Path and the Highway Code***

There was some discussion at the meeting on the meaning of the broken white lines running along the middle of Side Path. A broken white line in the centre of the road CAN BE CROSSED when it is safe to do so (obviously). If it was a continuous white line it can only be crossed if instructed to do so by a policeman or if there is a stationary obstruction ahead.

These meanings for broken and continuous white lines are confirmed by the Traffic Regulations. It is usually necessary to cross the broken white line at certain 'pinch points' along Side Path.

## ***Side Path and Cracks in the Concrete***

Regular checks have started on the ability of the concrete road surface to withstand the wear and tear of traffic. On the most recent walk-through three hair-line cracks were noted in the main road surface.

The road construction has three main and separate parts. There is the slipper drain next to the hillside and the service strip containing ducting for mains services, when required, next to the stone wall. The third part is the road surface itself.



***The slipper drain (left) and ducting (right) were laid before the main road surface***

***Continued on NEXT PAGE***

# ***Economic Investment Programme Public Information Meeting at Rupert's***

***Vince Thompson***

The service ducting serves two purposes. In addition to being ready for any cables which are needed to be laid along the route without digging up the road, the ducting is designed as a buffer between the roadway and the stone wall. We all know how fragile the stone wall is and it is recognised there is a risk that vibration and pressures from heavy vehicles might destabilise the wall. The service strip is designed to absorb vibration and pressure from road traffic. The service strip will crack if the pressure is too great.

There are also various types of joints which run the length of the road and across the width of the road. The joints are included to absorb the natural changes in concrete as it dries and then cures. The concrete will naturally shrink as it dries but then will continue shrink and expand slightly with changes in air and ground temperature. The joints are placed with the purpose of limiting concrete cracks as this movement occurs. Some cracking is expected and is inevitable over time but is not expected to weaken the structural stability and strength of the road surface.

The strength of the road surface starts with a good formation of the base below the concrete surface; that includes very firm compaction of the aggregates used to form the base of the road. Finding the best concrete mix for the job is also part of it. This meant various mixes were tried and tested before starting work on the concrete surface. Good drainage also is important.



***Compaction of the road base before the concrete surface is laid***

The contract for Side Path is still ongoing. Apart from the Defect Correction Period which lasts for one year from the opening of the road, the drainage is currently 95% complete and work on sealing the joints is 20% complete.

## ***Sewage Treatment Works***

### ***Rupert's Valley***

The construction of the new sewage treatment works at Rupert's should be completed in May this year. This will be followed by cold commissioning and then hot commissioning. Cold commissioning is filling the system with water to check for any leaks. Hot commissioning is using the system for the purpose it is intended.

There was another lively debate about the cost for connecting into the system and the work involved. This sits outside EDIP projects and is an operational and management matter for Connect Saint Helena (CSH). The responsibility put on customers who intend to connect to the sewage system is longstanding and a longstanding issue.

Some residents talked of needing to dig up the road and then replace it afterwards. The usual practice, used elsewhere when possible, is to lay sewage and other mains services alongside road and build in connections for adjacent houses and businesses to link into as the main pipe is laid. The overall cost is much cheaper and certainly quicker and more efficient.

### ***Half Tree Hollow and Jamestown***

After discussing sewage in Rupert's, attention turned to the Half Tree Hollow and Jamestown sewage systems which have needed major works for many years. One member of the Rupert's public commented that "We don't want to know about their shit. We have enough of our own". While there was general agreement on this point, the EDIP team continued in determined fashion with their presentation.

The procurement process for a design consultancy starts this week and the contract for the work is expected to be signed off in May this year. It is expected the design work will take one year and then 18 months to build it. The imaginative scheme to use the force of gravity to send sewage in a pipe alongside Jacob's Ladder is now dead in the water.

The outline development permission granted in 2018 has expired, and any new proposals will be subject to development permission.

### ***Increasing Agricultural Production***

This cover arable, pasture and poultry production. It includes toilet facilities at the ADA fields, rabbit proof fencing, improved access, fence repairs, clearance of trees, shrubs and invasive vegetation from pastures and animal shelters. Also planned is refurbishment of poultry units at Scotland and Farm Buildings. Alongside of these improvements and maintenance

***Continued on NEXT PAGE***



# Economic Investment Programme Public Information Meeting at Rupert's

Vince Thompson

is tenants on government land taking more responsibility for the agricultural land leased by them.

## Water Management

FCDO are reviewing the 2011 Draft Water Plan and we are expecting their feedback next month. Borehole drilling has been suspended on specialist advice, until hydrological and geophysical assessments have been completed.

## The New Prison

Expressions of Interest will be invited this week for a design and build contract for the planned prison at Bottom Woods. The funding for the project is not yet confirmed and the development permission will lapse in 2025 if work on the construction of the prison has not started by then.

Overall, about £12 million of the £15 million allocated for the first stage of the current EDIP programme has either been spent or allocated to projects which are confirmed and proceeding. The unspent £3 million will be rolled over to future years when a further £15 million in funding is hoped to be confirmed by FCDO subject to assessments and negotiations.

## Micro Projects

A number of micro projects were funded this year (projects costing no more than £50,000) and include the installation of sirens, Post Box Walk maintenance, strengthening of Bishop's Bridge, refurbishment of the wharf landing steps and pedestrian walkway and three more bus shelters.

## Whale shark reproductive ultrasound study published

By Mark 'Crowley' Russell

**DIVE**  
magazine



**Dr Rui Mastumoto scanning a female whale shark**  
(Photo: Simon J Pierce)

A new study has been published detailing the successful blood-sampling and ultrasound scanning of wild, free-swimming Galápagos whale sharks in order to observe their reproductive status, the first time such techniques have been applied in the wild.

The paper, 'Underwater ultrasonography and blood sampling provide the first observations of reproductive biology in free-swimming whale sharks' is the collective effort of a global team of scientists from the Okinawa Churashima Foundation, Atlanta's Georgia Aquarium, the Galápagos Whale Shark Project, Galápagos National Park and Marine Megafauna Foundation

It is hoped that the new techniques will help scientists further understand the physiology of wild, endangered marine species.

Although whale sharks are a relatively well-studied species of shark, little is known about their reproductive habits. Most of the animals commonly encountered at coastal reefs by scuba divers are juvenile males, whereas the females remain further offshore, making them difficult to find, and therefore study.

Furthermore, while the South Atlantic Island of St Helena is thought to be a meeting point where adult male and female whale sharks gather in equal numbers to choose a partner, mating behaviour has only rarely been witnessed and, to date, there are no known birthing areas or nurseries for the species.

Only one pregnant female has ever been examined by scientists, caught by a Taiwanese fishery in 1995 and found to be carrying 304 eggs and whale shark pups – some still inside their egg-cases; others free-swimming within the mother's uterus.



**Dear Editor,**

Last week's The Saint, contained a letter from a 'Farmer White' – not dissimilar in motive to a contribution made by a 'Farmer Brown', a few weeks earlier.

Farmer White, has asked a number of questions and we are happy to provide answers.

1. The “*point*” of the SHCFA’s press releases in relation to the ongoing fisheries saga (3 years and counting), can be summed up in one word – accountability. A debacle of this nature, adversely affecting so many people cannot be permitted to be swept under the carpet. We have never deviated from the stance we adopted 3 years ago (in pursuit of accountability) and this we suspect has been a point of concern for some. In recent times however, we have simply reacted to information being placed into the public domain by STC, which we felt could adversely impact our members’ ability to operate. STC has declared to Backbenchers that they have no interest in the local market – it is necessary to remind the company of this from time to time, and to refocus them on what they should be aspiring to.
2. In relation to the SHCFA making “*positive noises about its own future plans for the local market*”. We can inform Farmer White that we are now affiliated with a company which, from the outset has declared a stalwart desire (to match our own) to ensuring that the local market is supported as a priority. Discussions have obviously already ensued and preliminary plans formulated as we seek to provide the best service to the community. In the meantime, whilst The Green Fish Company (TGFC) is working toward its fully operational status, we the SHCFA, are expectant that SHG, will ensure a level playing field prevails. By this we mean that the same measures which were permitted to support PQT/STC/SHG’s transitional period, will be graciously extended to our partnership.
3. Regarding Farmer Whites suggestion that the SHCFA should take action “*on reducing the black market sales...*” is duly noted. We believe that if such illicit activity does exist, that the most efficient way in which to deal with it is to resolve the core issue plaguing the sector – which is its destabilisation through uncertainty and a lack of trust. Resolve the core issue and the satellite problems will diminish. With this said, it is important to also inform Farmer White, that what some are perceiving to be illicit/black market activity is in fact no such thing at all. The ‘grey area’ which currently exists because of the sale of whole fish direct to customers, is being utilised by some of the island’s fishermen. Our members, indeed, even unaffiliated fishermen, feel they are doing nothing wrong.
4. “*...promote buying fish from real regulated fish processing facilities*” – why would we do this at this stage when a number of local fishermen are supporting their businesses and families through the sale of direct, whole fish to the public? And it is through their actions that an Ordinance in much need of review is being considered for said review.

It seems that Farmer White, is adamant that the SHCFA “*is probably the only fishing entity on the island that is not aware that Government, without a doubt, is actually to blame for the delay in the arrival of the long-awaited offshore fish vessel*”. Perhaps the good Farmer is correct... However, what we are aware of is that when we met last with STC and SHG, and the topic of the offshore vessels were discussed, STC was unable to prove then that blame lied solely at the feet of SHG – if there has been developments, Farmer White is invited to provide proof...?

Finally, The Saint, has published a number of good fishing articles over the course of its 42 issues – the best by far being ‘The Tuna Wars’ piece (issue 35), as it all but proves the SHCFA assertions in relation to a highly questionable SHG led investment process starting at some point in 2019. What is disappointing however, is that whilst The Saint, is willing to pull the trigger at every chance they get when SHG is the target, the same enthusiasm is not always exercised with other entities. We know as fact, that The Saint has information in relation to fisheries which could bring stability to the sector, much needed peace and perhaps a fast track way for all to find a way to work together. Let’s hope that if The Saint itself is unable to share this information, that they will be successful in convincing the party involved to fully disclose its position at this juncture.

**SHCFA**



28<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Maybe, maybe not...Addressing two authors, two articles, two papers, the same week.**

With articles mentioning TGFC appearing in both the Independent and The Saint last week, we are again compelled to respond. It is odd though, that we find similarities in the article placed in the Independent authored by Saint Tuna Company (STC) and the one published in The Saint authored by Farmer White...

- Are the authors actually one and the same or very closely connected to STC and therefore biased?
- Is Farmer White the same Farmer Brown from a previous 'fishing' related article?
- Or was it a pure coincidence that two authors, writing two separate articles for two separate newspapers, both decided to use "TIGHT LINES" as their sign-off, and how did our farmer have knowledge of the MFV Iron Maiden before it was publicly announced...Slip-up or deliberate?

We could respond anonymously referring to ourselves as Farmer Green, but instead, we want to remain transparent and take ownership for our views and comments. Perhaps Farmer White would like to stand-up, own-up, not hide behind a pseudonym or a façade and be professional and credible.

**Addressing the article published by the INDEPENDENT:**

Firstly, some good news at last on the pending arrival of STC's offshore boat, the MFV Iron Maiden, a vessel currently registered in Mauritius under the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, MMSI No. 645466000, Call sign 3B2157 and whose last fishing activity was in Mauritius in April 2021 before arriving in Cape Town at the end of May 2021... After being tied-up for almost 2-years, we hope:


- The last 2-years have been productive in transforming the Iron Maiden from its former 'rust-bucket' state into a safe and reliable, fit for purpose vessel.
- That the IOCT registered Iron Maiden gets its approval from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) and MCA, allowing it to fish in St. Helena waters.
- That upon the arrival of the Iron Maiden, STC will be allowed to commence their 600 metric ton Big Eye offshore exploratory, given that the original exploratory license granted by SHG has now expired.

Perhaps at long-last the truth also emerges about what could well be the future of the island's fishery. We now have it in writing from STC, that the £3-million of lost revenue to St. Helena (which is referencing a statement they themselves made in the same paper two weeks ago), equates to:

- 2 x offshore vessels catching 1,750 metric tons of tuna, and
- The export of 1,750 metric ton of tuna for an average sale price of £2 per KG

As far as we are aware, the total allowable tuna catch for the entire St. Helena fishery is:

- 600 metric ton of Big Eye
- 300 metric ton of Yellowfin
- 100 metric ton of Longfin
- 750 metric ton of Skipjack
- Total = **1,750 metric tons**...which coincidentally, is the exact same tonnage that STC are wanting to catch and export using their TWO offshore foreign vessels.



If indeed, it was the intention of STC to catch the island's entire tuna quota with their two offshore vessels, or now with the Iron Maiden, they must surely be obligated to answer the two questions below.

1. What quota would have, or will remain for the local inshore fishermen?
2. What tuna quota (any species) would be available for supplying the local market?

It now seems apparent, the STC plan is to reduce the local commercial fishermen and the local people, to catching and eating ground-fish, so imagine this as life under STC's quota monopoly...

- No more tuna fishcakes, tuna steaks, tuna mince, tuna curry or fish-in-batter. Shoot me now.

Regarding STC's publicly stated sale price at an average of **£2 per KG**, how is it even possible to have a profitable business model, which is another question to be answered in greater detail by STC (because after all, there is £500K of the island's money at stake here), when the lowest value fish (skipjack) represents the largest volume of the TOTAL available quota i.e. 42% of the 1,750 tons? If their statement is to be believed, is it also correct to assume:

- The crew members would be low-paid foreign workers and would not be the local fishermen i.e. those who would be made redundant from fishing because of having ZERO quota remaining.
- That ALL the quoted £3+ million made from the 1,750 metric ton of frozen tuna export sales would be paid into a local bank account and not into any other overseas Parent Company account, never to be seen again, nor taxable on island.

As a supplementary question:

- How is it possible for STC to bear the cost of 2 x offshore fishing vessels + crews + fuel, an onshore factory to process the catch (plus) freight costs to export tuna, all at **£2 per KG** whilst also claiming, they are currently having to subsidise local sales, even when they're selling locally at a far higher price and with NO expensive freight costs to consider? When will the mist and fog finally clear?

STC also questions our unwillingness to enter into any formal commercial discussions with them... We have always advocated to the island's authorities that both businesses should be allowed to operate side-by-side, thus giving the fishermen a choice as to whom they could sell their catch to, and the island some redundancy should either business fail. We are bemused by this, but the answer is very simple... we are not connected, either by way of core business function, association, or targeted market.

- We are a commercially funded private venture whose core business will be canning, with a secondary function to provide locally processed fresh tuna to the island's people, whereas
- STC are a state/government funded business and as now publicly stated, a frozen export business. There is NO correlation or commercial advantages and so, no need to communicate and/or collaborate.

Lastly, at this juncture, we would also like to put it into the public domain (so that we can all make our own decisions on the intentions of STC), that in February this year, the following occurred:

- A well-known member of the public and a known supporter of STC provided us with a monetary figure that we were reliably informed, was the amount that STC would consider accepting to exit the processing factory in Rupert's Valley. A meeting in Johannesburg on the 4<sup>th</sup> March was also offered.
- Is this a display of commitment and transparent behaviour, for a company who claims to be acting in the best interest of the island's long-term fishery?

#### ***Paid Contribution***



### **Addressing the article published by The Saint:**

Firstly, as mentioned earlier, Farmer White, Brown or whatever other colour they might choose next time, would be received in a more positive manner and command a better level of creditability if they were brave enough to expose themselves and 'own' this article...alas not.

*"Targeting the beleaguered STC"* ...we are not privy to the STC boardroom discussions, so to give a broader perspective of our interpretation, we'll attempt to put our answer to this allegation into context using other 'same' word meanings, because the word 'beleaguered' on its own, is ambiguous.

- Troubled: This is a matter for STC to address themselves. But we'll add...be consistent and be honest to those you are seeking to influence and serve. Well, it's worked for TGFC.
- Struggling: As the free money vanishes the cracks are starting to show. Maybe it is time to deposit your matched funding into your local BOSH account and withdraw the outstretched hand.
- Besieged: There is no blockade or barricade. People are free to leave at any time.
- Threatened: Is this physical or financial? We suspect it's not physically because after all, the STC management are self-proclaimed missionaries of God and 'saints' are very respectful of people of the cloth. So, it must be financial, which must only come from STC's lack of self-funding investment and not paying enough to the fishermen to make their proposition attractive enough. Just guessing.

We will not comment formally on the *"SHCFA – what is your point"* question, apart from to add our unbiased view on this, which is:

- There are boats owned by SHCFA members that have the capability to fish offshore, albeit there might be a need for additional licensing etc. to be completed if a creditable opportunity for venturing offshore arises, but the important point here, unless I'm wrongly informed, is that their current quota (not their STC intended quota) includes the island's 200nm zone, so of course they have a say.

*"reducing the black-market sales"* ...Does the 'innocent until proven guilty' concept not apply to anyone on St. Helena Island?

- Is this not the same process that the STC management was OK with whilst they were (1) having fun spending the island's £500K for 2-years becoming operational, and (2) whilst it took away the focus from their progress...or, are the fishermen doing something different today to what they needed to do to survive, and to provide the island with fresh fish, for the last 2-3 years? Just asking.
- Has there been any formal statements from SHG or the Health Authority underpinning Farmer White's allegation or calling for a cessation of current practises? One would've thought that the authorities would've acted swiftly and appropriately if indeed the fishermen are breaking the current rules or if there were any risks to health. Please Farmer White, don't be thinking 'grey areas'. STC have been happily residing in the 'grey' for 3-years. Go and 'dig' them out if you're truly non-biased.

*"promote buying fish from a real regulated fish processing facility"* ...many false dawns, a long-time coming but now that STC is here it's really simple...be fair and reasonable and pay the fishermen more.

- Also pointing out, that whilst on St. Helena for 4-weeks in February, the only available tuna from the STC facility was FROZEN tuna. What's the excuse for this when they have Directors and Members with 100+ ton of quota and who themselves, are choosing to sell on the streets or to not fish at all?

*"Greenfish – again, what is your point... Happy to deal with your comments and allegations one-by-one.*

*"seeing that GFSH has in record time, gained and achieved the unheard of and almost impossible to imagine, full Government support, suitable premises"...most may not know, but the pursuit of this venture has been ongoing for 2-years now and it hasn't always been plain-sailing. We are prepared to say publicly that actually, at times it has been very difficult, very frustrating and fraught with challenges and hurdles, whilst trying to negotiate the halls of SHG and on many occasions we have debated as to whether to continue. Unlike STC, we did not have an 'open-door' to non-elected officials, however, we have received support from elected members (Ministers and Backbenchers), the teams from SHG's Public Health, Properties and Planning departments and the AG's office, without whom, we would not be in the position we're now in. A huge thank you to all who have assisted us throughout.*

*"loads of money"...Money hasn't fallen out of the sky for us, **nor has it fallen out of the local tax payers purse.** We have instead, been very fortunate to have an investment portfolio consultant who despite all of the local challenges we faced throughout our journey, stuck with us. He has been instrumental in TGFC's venture and getting us investor ready. You can only reap what you sow.*

*"quota promises"...perhaps the most deserving group of all. These are the guys who along with their fathers and grandfathers before them, and for generations, have made sure the island is supplied with fresh fish. Good business sense was to recognise very early-on who the key stakeholder groups were...the good old S.W.O.T. analysis, and the fishermen were at the very top of our list, and the very first group we engaged with back in 2020... How could we have a successful business without having the fishermen onboard? For us, this came down to the basics of good business and starting from the inside out and not the outside in. Perhaps STC's biggest mistake to-date was not recognising who had the influence to make or break the inception and the initial success of their business, opting instead to feathering their nests elsewhere and now finding themselves on the back-foot, paddling against the tide.*

*"ready to start building"...well almost. There's still some work to do regarding the legal and contractual obligations with our investors and agreeing the draw-down of funds, and with the recent changes in the shipping schedule we are also having to review the best method for the procurement and shipping of the bulk raw materials, but we have forward momentum, and we will continue progressing with the dismantling of the old cannery and the construction of the new-build over the coming weeks and months.*

*"it is difficult to understand what your motive is"...an easy one to answer. A successful and vibrant fishery, happy fishermen, happy shareholders, profitable business and some of the younger folk believing that whilst it's a tough career choice, there's good money to be made in fishing once again.*

*"is it really you authorising these articles"...In a word, YES.*

- Is the person asking the question really Farmer White or someone else? **maybe, maybe not.**

**"WHEN WILL WE START SUPPORTING AND CELEBRATING OUR FISHERMEN, WHO AFTER 3-YEARS OF UNCERTAINTY AND STRUGGLE, CONTINUE TO DO THEIR VERY BEST TO ENSURE OUR PEOPLE CAN HAVE FRESH TUNA ON THEIR DINNER TABLES" We either back them, or risk losing them...and then what?**

***Paid Contribution***



## The Invasive Invertebrate Project

St Helena National Trust is leading an 'Invasive Invertebrate Project 'Conserving St Helena's endemic invertebrates through invasive invertebrate control', funded by Darwin Plus. This project was written to help endemic invertebrates recover and restore their ecosystem functions, by testing and implementing invasive invertebrate control methods. The three invasive invertebrates the project is focusing on is the Common Wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*), Big-headed Ant (*Pheidole megacephala*) and the Springbok Mantis (*Miomantis caffra*). The project will come to an end on the 31 March and we are pleased to report we have successfully controlled the Common Wasp and Big-headed Ant on chosen sites.

The Common Wasp and Big-headed Ant are both invasive species and can be found island-wide, they are generalist feeders that predates on all invertebrates compete/prey on our endemic and native invertebrate (e.g. Common Wasp predates on Loveridge Hoverfly *Sphaerophoria beattiei*).



The Common Wasp is also a risk to human health. Trials started in April 2022 to control this species. The control method used was a toxin called Fipronil which was mixed with protein (raw chicken - identified as the wasps preferred protein) that was put into stations to protect from other invertebrates. The bait works by the adult wasps carrying the poison (bait) back to the nest and distributes it to the larvae and queen, after digesting the bait, the wasp colony will collapse. The trials were conducted at two sites where high wasp activity was identified, this included

Thompson's Wood and Wranghams. The results from the trials were successful and the wasp population had declined on each site by an average of 80%.



The Big-headed Ant is also a common household pest, they have also been observed to attack the endemic Wirebird chicks whilst hatching. In January 2022, trials were conducted at four sites to suppress the Big-headed Ant, the control used was Maxforce and Antforce. At three endemic sites with high ant activity (Barren Ground and Longwood LEMP sites) the poison Maxforce was deployed to suppress the ants as this poison was most effective, the poison was placed into bait stations made from irrigation pipe and left on sites for one week. Ant activity was monitored before the poison was deployed, two, four and eight weeks after. The results showed that the ant population had declined on the sites.



The Springbok Mantis is considered a farmer's friend as they help control garden pests but can be a nuisance when preying on bugs that help maintain crops. Research still needs to be done on the Springbok Mantis, especially the distribution to find out diet and ecology. Through the project, stomach content samples have been sent to international partners to find out what they feed on as they could be endemic invertebrates.

From the project the team learnt about the targeted species and how they have adapted to the island. In addition, the team have promoted the project through the schools, newspapers, radio, pop-up stalls, workshops etc. The team would like to thank the public for their participation in events and contribution to Citizen Science.



## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

### VACANCY NOTICE

## Incinerator Operator

**Total package value up to £26,915 pa**

**(including salary up of up to £11,250 pa, plus accompanied status food and utilities allowances + housing and other benefits)**

### About the role

We're looking for a new member of staff to join our busy Waste Management and Facilities Support team to run/maintain our waste recycling system and operate our waste incinerator.

### What you'll do

Based at our One Boat site, you will be responsible for the receipt, storage, recycling, incineration, treatment and disposal of waste in line with government and legal requirements. You will also be required to carry out routine maintenance of the Incinerator. On occasions you will also be required to support the general activities of the Waste Management and Facilities Support team and further details can be found in the job description via the link below.

### What you'll bring

We are looking for an experienced person who has great communication skills and is equally at home working in a team or on their own.

You will have a positive approach to learning new skills, an aptitude for operating and maintain equipment, maintaining good Health & Safety standards and the ability to keep records of daily activities.

We also need someone who can safely operate equipment and manage/lift loads associated with this type of work plus you will need a licence to drive class A, B & C vehicles.

Experience in operating an incinerator or similar equipment would be an advantage, although full training will be given.

### What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of up to £11,250 (depending on experience and taxable on Ascension), the role attracts an accompanied status contract and the following allowances and benefits:

- Rent free accommodation (value £400+ per month)
- An accompanied status food allowance of £7,200 pa (£3600 single status)
- An electricity allowance worth £938 pa
- A water allowance of £2,729 accompanied status (£1,360 single status)
- Relocation costs for your personal effects from your home country
- Shipment of a vehicle from the UK or South Africa
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2 year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free annual travel insurance
- Free schooling for dependent children up to 16 years



**The appointment will be subject to:**

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

## What's it like to work on Ascension?

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). We are part of the wider British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, situated approximately 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and 800 miles from our nearest neighbour, the island of St Helena. To thrive here in this important role, you must be resilient, adaptable and able to live and work in an incredibly small community. Please note that dependent children must be under 18 years of age to be able to live on Ascension.

**Closing date:** 19 April 2023

**Interviews:** Week of 24 April 2023, via Skype if off island

**Start date:** As soon as possible.

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

If you have any queries about the role, email [recruitment@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:recruitment@ascension.gov.ac)



## VACANCY FOR PROJECT MANAGER

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join the St Helena National Trust's team in a leadership role. We are looking for a Project Manager to lead a team for the newly awarded Darwin Plus project "Improving St Helena's grasslands to benefit people and wildlife". This project aims to improve pasture management to enhance local livelihoods and grassland biodiversity by testing land management methods through the removal of invasive plants species.

This role will present the successful candidate with the opportunity to join a leading charity organisation doing great things for St Helena and her people. The role will be mainly based at our office in Jamestown, with some fieldwork.

Applicants must be well organized, highly motivated, and have an understanding of project delivery, preferably in a management role. Experience of working with, and knowledge of, St Helena's natural environment will be strongly favored.

The Trust is an independent non-governmental organisation driven by a passion for St Helena and our built, cultural, and natural heritage. We have a strong emphasis on team-work and collaboration and believe that our staff are the greatest asset.

If you feel you could contribute to the Trust's mission, then we want to hear from you. The salary for the post is dependent on experience. A full job description can be obtained from Amanda Constantine at the St Helena National Trust office at Broadway House, Jamestown. Alternatively email [amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh](mailto:amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh) or call 22190. For further information please contact Martina Peters on 22307 or email [martina.peters@trust.org.sh](mailto:martina.peters@trust.org.sh). Applications should be in the form of a CV and cover letter indicating how you meet the requirements of the job description.

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 14 APRIL 2023**

# SHG VACANCIES

## ASSISTANT PAYE OFFICER

(Permanent within Treasury , Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio)

Do you have a interest in working with figures?

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

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Gillian Knipe, Assistant Commissioner Tax on telephone number 25880 or email: [gillan.knipe@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:gillan.knipe@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, 04 April 2023**.

## INVESTMENT CO-ORDINATOR

(Permanent—Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio)

*Do you have an interest in Investment for St Helena?*

*This could be an opportunity for you to ensure that the Investment Strategy is delivered through investment enabling. You will be working with key stakeholders to assist and enable investment in St Helena as per the Investment Policy and Investment Strategy.*

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Daniel Weight, Chief Economist on telephone number 22470 or email: [daniel.weight@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:daniel.weight@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, 04 April 2023**.

## PLUMBER

(Permanent—Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development Portfolio)

*If you are physically fit, a good communicator and an effective team player, the Building Maintenance Section has an opportunity for you to join their team, in which you will deliver tasks in relation to domestic and general plumbing related maintenance services.*

**Further information** about the duties of the post, interested persons should contact Leroy Plato, Foreman (Plumber) on telephone number 22360 or email: [Leroy.Plato@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Leroy.Plato@sainthelena.gov.sh)

**Job Profile** and **Application forms** are available from Central Human Resources & Organisation 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 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, 04 April 2023**.



# SHG VACANCIES

## MASON

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

Do you have experience in building and construction and have sound knowledge of Health and Safety practices in the workplace? If so, why not join our Building Maintenance team to undertake the daily operations and services in the execution of building and concrete works including major and minor maintenance tasks.

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Gibby Young, Superintendent of Works on telephone number 22054 or email: [gibby.young@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:gibby.young@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, 06 April 2023**.

## HOUSING ASSISTANT (3-month fixed term contract)

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

*If you are a highly motivated individual with excellent communication skills, then here is an opportunity for you to join the team at the Property Section, where you will provide an effective and high quality administrative support to the Housing Management Service.*

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Nikita Crowie, Deputy head of Property on telephone number 22270 or email: [Nikita.crowie@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Nikita.crowie@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 Friday, 06 April 2023**.

## GENERAL OPERATIVE

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

Working as part of the Roads Team, the General Operative will assist the Chargehand with general maintenance of machinery, assembly of site huts and assisting building, cleaning and general maintenance of all roads island-wide.

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Darin Francis, Construction & Maintenance Officer on telephone number 23640 or email: [darin.francis@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:darin.francis@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 Friday, 06 April 2023**.

## CARE ASSISTANT—EBONY VIEW

(Permanent within the Health & Social Care Portfolio)

*Are you a highly motivated individual looking for a career change or to progress career? Do you have good leadership skills and a problem-solving attitude? If so, Ebony View has an opportunity for you to join their team.*

*To assist in the provision of care and well-being of our clients within the Learning Disabilities units, enabling them to live as full and active life as possible.*

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Jay Espinosa, Acting Learning & Residential Manager on telephone number 23343 or email [jay.espinosa@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:jay.espinosa@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 Friday, 07 April 2023**.

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.

**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.**

## PHILIP JOHN'S SHOP EASTER SPECIALS STILL CONTINUING.....

Specials are still available on certain items which includes Windhoek Lager Cans (440mls) at only £30 per case, Soaps, Kitchen Rolls, Baby Nappies, Various Grocery items, Clothing/ Shoes and Loads more..

Do come along, and Grab those Last Minute Bargains for Easter, the Specials will continue until Easter Monday.

### OPENING HOURS FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAYS:

MAUNDAY THURSDAY – 6 <sup>th</sup> April	9am to 6pm
GOOD FRIDAY – 7 <sup>th</sup> April	CLOSED
EASTER SATURDAY – 8 <sup>th</sup> April	9am to 5pm
EASTER SUNDAY – 9 <sup>th</sup> April	10am to 12pm
EASTER MONDAY – 10 <sup>th</sup> April	10am to 12pm

*We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our customers a Very Happy Easter.*



# SHG VACANCIES

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

(Central Support Service)

*The Administrative Assistant within the Central Support Service is responsible for completing straightforward administrative processes that support the smooth running of Portfolios, delivering a high quality, customer focused service. We are seeking a highly motivated individual who works methodically and has a keen eye for detail who can provide administrative support within 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 e-mail [recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh) by no later than **4pm on Wednesday 12 April 2023**.

## ASSISTANT BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE MANAGER

(Permanent -Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development )

*Are you a highly motivated individual with good project planning and management skills? The Assistant Buildings Maintenance Manager will be responsible to the Buildings Maintenance Manager (Property Division) for the planning and management of small works and construction projects for SHG*

**Further information** about the duties of the post and a copy of the job profile, interested persons should contact Theron Henry, Acting Buildings Maintenance Manager on telephone number 25722 or email: [theron.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:theron.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh)

**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 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 Thursday, 13 April 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.

# Vacancy

## Grocery Sales Assistant



Salary for the post will commence at £7,751 per annum (£645 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Half Tree Hollow Supermarket for a Grocery Sales Assistant.

As the Grocery Sales Assistant you will assist with the day-to-day running of the Supermarket and to ensure a high standard of customer service.

### Interested Persons Should:

- Possess knowledge and skills of food safety
- Be customer focused and target driven
- Possess experience in working in a customer facing environment and have excellent customer service skills
- Be competent in Maths, English and IT
- Possess experience in Cash Handling
- Be self-motivated and able to work well as part of a team
- Be able to undertake physically demanding and manual handling duties
- Have the ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment
- Be available to work weekends, including Sundays.

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

Marilyn Joshua, Grocery Manager (Country Outlets) via ☎ 25989/23559 ✉ [HTH-manager@solomons.co.sh](mailto:HTH-manager@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 Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **12 April 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

# Vacancy

## Building Works Foreman



Salary for the post will commence at £ 11,677 per annum (£973 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Building Works Department for a Foreman.

As the Building Works Foreman you will supervise and work alongside staff in the delivery of building services in accordance with plans, policies and Health & Safety requirements, and to coordinate operations and oversee workers at construction sites.

### Interested Persons Should:

- Have Grade C or above in GCSE Maths & English or equivalent
- Have a minimum of 3 years' experience as a qualified tradesperson
- Have proven experience as a Construction Foreman and the ability to organise and lead a team
- Be knowledgeable of and able to perform hands on construction and carpentry works
- Be computer literate and knowledgeable in the use of Microsoft Applications
- Have the ability to understand drawings, and plans and ensure job specifications are met accordingly
- Have knowledge of construction procedures, equipment and HSE guidelines
- Be able to motivate and mentor staff members
- Be able to produce estimates, costing and quotation for jobs
- Be aware of quality standards, ensuring completed works meet requirements
- Be in possession of a clean and valid drivers licence in classes A & C

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

Ian Gough, General Manager (Services & Properties) via ☎ 22380 ✉ [GM-Services.Properties@solomons.co.sh](mailto:GM-Services.Properties@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 Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **5 April 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





## Expression of Interest

St Helena Airport Limited is seeking Expressions of Interest from contractors to install Gabions.

The works include:

1. Purchase of Gabions
2. Install and fill gabions in correct location to minimize soil corrosion, which will also include light landscaping

For further information, please contact the RFFS Manager on Telephone 25180 Ext 135 or email [marc.fowler@sthelenaairport.aero](mailto:marc.fowler@sthelenaairport.aero). A site visit will be on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 9am to 3pm. Please make a booking with Audrey Piek-Williams on Telephone number 25180 Ext 103. The closing date by which Quotations are to be submitted is 12 noon on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and should be addressed to Mrs Audrey Piek-Williams (Procurement and Assets Officer), at St Helena Airport, Combined Building, Prosperous Bay Plain or via email [procurement@sthelenaairport.aero](mailto:procurement@sthelenaairport.aero).



### BANK CLOSURE - 01 APRIL 2023

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to advise customers the St Helena and Ascension Branches will be closed on Saturday, 01 April 2023. This closure is necessary to enable the Bank to complete its end of financial year procedures. The Airport Kiosk will open as normal.

Bank of St Helena would like to thank customers for their support and apologise for any inconvenience caused.



**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

### Quality Window Blinds



#### ORDERS CAN BE MADE FOR.

Vertical , Venetian and Roller Blinds, from colour samples ,and to suit your Measurements.  
Single and Double glaze Aluminium Windows and Doors .  
Treated Pine .

#### FOR SALE CONTACT 23163.

230m Diamond Masonary cut disc.  
Aluminium Patio Slide doors.  
1800 Watt Vacuum cleaners.  
1800 mm Fold tables .  
Kids - Swing glider See saw .  
Bosch Fridge /Freezer 1800 high .with Water dispenser .  
Bosch Washing Machine .  
Dettol Soap.  
500 litre Water Tank.  
Ford lazer /Trazer Exhaust and parts.  
48 Volt GO KART with 3 speeds and Disc brake.

**PROPERTY WITH 300 SQUARE METRES OF FLOOR  
SPACE AT HUTTS GATE.  
ESTIMATES FOR HOUSE BUILDING**



Join Solomons' **Easter Egg Hunt** between  
**Friday 31 March and Wednesday 5 April**  
 and stand the chance to win an **Easter Hamper**

**HOW TO ENTER:**  
 Grab an Entry Form  
 from our  
**Special Order Centre**  
 and follow the Clues...  
 Yes, it's that simple!



Entries must be  
 submitted in the  
 Entry Box by 1pm  
 on **Wednesday 5 April**  
 to be entered into the  
 Lucky Draw  
 taking place the  
 following day



# EASTER OPENING HOURS 5-11 APRIL 2023

	THE STAR	DIY STORE	GREENLANDS	HALF TREE HOLLOW COMPLEX (SUPERMARKET, FUEL STATION & HARDWARE) AND SILVER HILL SHOP
WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL	9AM-5PM	8AM-5PM	9AM-5PM	9AM-5PM
MAUNDY THURSDAY, 6 APRIL	9AM-6PM	8AM-6PM	9AM-6PM	9AM-6PM
GOOD FRIDAY, 7 APRIL	CLOSED			
SATURDAY 8 APRIL	9AM-4PM 6:30-8:30PM (BREAD ON SALE)	9AM-1PM 6:30-8:30PM		9AM-5:30PM (BREAD ON SALE)
EASTER SUNDAY, 9 APRIL	CLOSED			10AM-1PM
EASTER MONDAY, 10 APRIL	CLOSED			
TUESDAY 11 APRIL	NORMAL OPENING RESUMES			

**ALL REMAINING OUTLETS, BUSINESSES AND SERVICES WILL OPERATE AS PER THEIR NORMAL OPENING HOURS AND  
 WILL BE CLOSED ON THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS; GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER MONDAY.**

**SOLOMONS WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY EASTER!**





## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

### *Member of the Panel of Investigators*

This is your opportunity to be a part of ensuring the accountability of the Legislative Council.

Expressions of Interest are invited from the public to join the Panel of Investigators.

The Panel of Investigators consists of members of the community who assist in investigations regarding complaints into the conduct of Members of the Legislative Council.

Members of the public interested in pursuing this key role should be non-partisan and possess the knowledge, investigative skills, experience, personal qualities and standing within the community suitable to perform this role.

Remuneration is provided to members of the panel.

Members of the public who have already submitted an expression of interest need not reapply, your name remains noted.

Interested persons should submit a résumé to Connie Johnson, Legislative Council Office, The Castle by 4pm on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

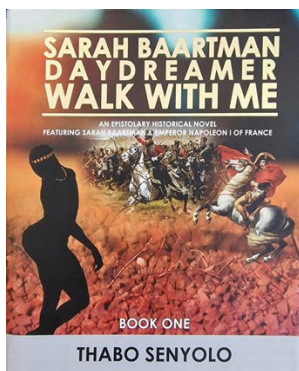
For further information, contact the Legislative Office Team Leader/Clerk of Councils via email: [connie.johnson@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:connie.johnson@sainthelena.gov.sh) or by telephoning number 22590.



"In the final reckoning, I find that all women, like flowers, are beautiful in their uniquely different ways no matter where they originate"

Join us at the Museum to hear author Mr Thabo Matome Senyolo talk about his historical novel:

### "Sarah Baartman – Daydreamer, walk with me"



Mr Senyolo will take us on a journey with young South African indigenous khoi woman - Sarah Baartman who went to Britain in 1810 during the reign of Queen Victoria's grandfather, King George III. Sarah travelled on the British Royal Navy Ship, the HMS Diadem which stopped at **St Helena**.

In 19<sup>th</sup> century Europe, Sarah was exhibited as a freak show attraction and although she was jeered for her body in Europe, shortly after her death, the Victorian high fashion era of the 'bustle and the corset' was ushered in among the upper section of European and American women.

Sponsored by:



**Venue:** Museum of St Helena

**Time:** 6.30pm

**Date:** Tuesday, 04 April 2023



## .....In the Cool, Clear Air of a Sunny Sunday Afternoon.....



Last Sunday, Kingshurst Community Centre was transformed into a lively, colourful local market, which, along with other amenities and facilities, used every space the premises had to offer. There were stalls set up under a marquee outside in the parking area and on the skittle alley inside, with the double door on the alley opening onto the busy, sunny scene outside. Hot Food in the form of many tasty delights was on sale in both front & back kitchen areas as well as the hall; the back yard was a cool spot for admiring all the recent community work that has exposed the historical building works of Kingshurst and the Bar area provided an array of 'quenches' for all the thirsts. Goods on sale ranged from the well-loved 'Car Boot' items to fruit trees and other plants, crafts, cakes, confectionary (including some very tasty peanut brittle) along with home-made baked bread which was made from a 'New Ground' family recipe & methods which has been handed down through generations.

Congratulations are in order for the organisers and all who put on a great show for the few hundred people that passed through during the afternoon. A lot of the 'behind-the-scenes' work can really only be seen when the setting-up, packing-up and cleaning-up takes place, and the people who dedicate their time and huge parts of their lives to execute a successful event such as this, are revealed during these times.

You know who you all are, and it is quite apparent that there are many that appreciate the amount of effort that goes into an event of this magnitude.

Recently there was a friendly Skittles evening at the Centre which was well-received by players from several districts, and the feeling of being involved with such a fun affair could be quite contagious.

Hopefully, the Kingshurst Community Association will benefit richly from continuing functions of this type to enhance bringing the community together and the funds to do so.

**Sharon Wade**  
**Saint FM**





# Football from from the Couch

Mike & Sharon



the edge of the area and curling a superb effort beyond the reach of Anatoliy Trubin and into the top corner.

Saka is part of England's young generation that Southgate hopes will form a key component of their Euro 2024 campaign and the quest to finally claim a major trophy - and what a talent he is. He has been outstanding as Arsenal lead the Premier League table and after a fine World Cup in Qatar he has simply carried on the form he has been showing all season.

England manager Southgate could not have hoped for a better start to these qualifiers as two of arguably their more testing fixtures have resulted in maximum points.

And he will be happy with portions of England's performances in both games, particularly the first half against Italy in Naples and the manner in which they closed this game out with the minimum of fuss.

England are the favourites to qualify at the top of their group and secure a place at the Euros in Germany, where they will be among those touted as potential winners, and these opening two games have certainly justified that status.

They survived a poor second half in Italy and a drab first half-hour here but the end results certainly count as a job well done.

England maintained their winning start to Euro 2024 qualifying with a comfortable victory over Ukraine at Wembley.

Gareth Southgate's side built on the foundation of their first away win against Italy since 1961 with an efficient performance that was more than enough to see off the visitors.

England struggled to build any momentum until record scorer Harry Kane made it 55 international goals when he bundled in Bukayo Saka's cross at the far post eight minutes before half-time.

The second arrived three minutes later and was all Saka's own work, the Arsenal winger turning away from his man on



## PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES

### Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April.....

1130 Manchester City vs Liverpool  
1400 Arsenal vs Leeds United  
1400 AFC Bournemouth vs Fulham  
1400 Brighton & Hove Albion vs Brentford  
1400 Crystal Palace vs Leicester City  
1400 Nottingham Forest vs Wolverhampton Wanderers  
1630 Chelsea vs Aston Villa

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April....

1300 West Ham United vs Southampton  
1530 Newcastle United vs Manchester United

### Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April....

1900 Everton vs Tottenham Hotspur

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April....

1845 AFC Bournemouth vs Brighton & Hove Albion  
1845 Leeds United vs Nottingham Forest  
1845 Leicester City vs Aston Villa  
1900 Chelsea vs Liverpool

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April....

1900 Manchester United vs Brentford  
1900 West Ham United vs Newcastle United

## PREMIER LEAGUE LEADERBOARD

Team	P	GD	Pts
1 Arsenal	28	40	69
2 Man City	27	42	61
3 Man Utd	26	6	50
4 Tottenham	28	12	49
5 Newcastle	26	20	47
6 Liverpool	26	18	42
7 Brighton	25	15	42
8 Brentford	27	9	42
9 Fulham	27	1	39
10 Chelsea	27	1	38
11 Aston Villa	27	-4	38
12 Crystal Palace	28	-16	27
13 Wolves	28	-19	27
14 Leeds	27	-9	26
15 Everton	28	-18	26
16 Nottm Forest	27	-27	26
17 Leicester	27	-9	25
18 West Ham	26	-10	24
19 Bournemouth	27	-29	24
20 Southampton	28	-23	23



## **Vacancy for Communications Engineer – Babcock, Ascension Island**

Babcock has a vacancy for a full-time Communications Engineer to work on a Radio site on Ascension Island.

The primary function of the post is to work within a small team, to carry out maintenance and repairs on Transmitters, Receivers and Control equipment.

The post will be offered either on a single or accompanied contract, depending on personal circumstances, and includes bungalow accommodation. Any offer of employment will be conditional on passing a medical examination and obtaining the required level Security Clearance.

### **Job role:**

- Maintain and repair Transmitters, Receivers and associated Communications and IT systems.
- Promote safe conduct at work, ensuring safe working practices are applied in accordance with company policies, training and instructions.
- Assist with any project work.
- Assist with any other duties to maintain a safe, clean and tidy workplace.

### **Required Qualifications and Experience:**

- BTEC National Certification/Diploma in Communications/Electronics or equivalent.
- Practical experience in Transmitter and Receiver maintenance, fault finding and repairs.
- Good understanding of Communications and IT systems.
- Awareness of Health and Safety regulations, and safe working practices.

### **Skills and Attributes**

- Self-motivation and enthusiastic, performance driven, conscientious and willingness to develop.
- Be willing to work independently or actively as a team member.
- Good communication skills, both verbally and in writing.
- Have a good user level of PC software applications.

You will also require:

- A full driving Licence.
- A willingness to travel within the UK and other overseas sites, if required for training or work experience.
- To be eligible for DV Level (UK) security clearance.
- To carry out call-out/standby duties, and willingness to work flexible hours if required.

Further Qualifications/Experience requirements are detailed in the job description.

### **What we offer**

- Annual leave allowance of 30 days plus 8 bank holidays
- Cost of living allowance
- Electricity and Water allowance
- Gratuity scheme
- Free flights to St. Helena or UK (pending availability of flights) for annual leave.
- Employee assistance programme supporting physical, mental and financial wellbeing
- Autonomy. Trusted and empowered to be at your best

For further information regarding the post and entitlements, and for an application form, please contact Jonathan Stroud on telephone 66254/46720 or email [jonathan.stroud2@babcockinternational.com](mailto:jonathan.stroud2@babcockinternational.com)

Applications and CV's to be sent to:

Jonathan Stroud, Station Manager  
Babcock, Ascension Island  
Email: [jonathan.stroud2@babcockinternational.com](mailto:jonathan.stroud2@babcockinternational.com)

**Closing date for applications is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.**



## Health Thoughts and Concerns

The Health Services Directorate would like to inform all men aged 65 years and over, that screening for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms (AAA) is still being offered.

AAA screening is a way of checking if there's a bulge or swelling in the aorta. The aorta is the main blood vessel that runs from your heart down through your abdomen (stomach). This bulge or swelling is called an abdominal aortic aneurysm, or AAA which can be serious if not spotted early on because it could get bigger and eventually burst (rupture).

Screening for AAA is normally offered to men during the year they turn 65, as men aged 65 or over are most at risk of getting AAAs. Screening can help diagnose AAA early on and catch it at a time when it can usually be treated.

Persons who are not usually offered AAA screening include women, men under 65, and people who have already been treated for an AAA. The reason people in these groups are not offered screening is because the risk of getting an AAA is much smaller.

An AAA will often cause few or no obvious symptoms, but if it's left untreated it could become bigger, ultimately meaning it could burst and cause life-threatening internal bleeding. This is very serious. Of those that suffer an AAA burst, about 8 in every 10 people do not survive either the initial burst or the resulting emergency surgery to try to repair it.

Screening can pick up an AAA before it bursts. If an AAA is found, you can choose to have regular scans to monitor it or planned surgery to stop it bursting. The screening test is a very quick and painless ultrasound scan of your abdomen, similar to the scan carried out on pregnant women.

The whole test usually takes about 10 to 15 minutes. Sometimes the technician might not be able to see your aorta clearly (e.g. due to gas in your bowel). This is not anything to worry about if this happens, you'll be asked to have another scan, usually on a different day.

Persons will be given their result at the end of the test. If anything concerning is found, a letter will be sent to the persons confirming the result and letting them know what would be the next steps for them. Eligible persons are advised that they do not need to contact the Hospital themselves. When it is their turn to be screened, the Health Service Directorate will be in contact to offer or arrange an appointment.

Staff will be starting with those persons who were born in in the year 1957 and then move backwards to those born in 1956, then 1955, etc.

From the end of 2023 the Health Service Directorate will also be offering scans to those who reach their 65th birthday in 2023 (i.e. those born in 1958).

This is all very good, but have the 'authorities' thought about the elephant in the room – the ongoing Covid concerns....and is there future protection against the debilitating fallout from being ill with it??

It seems there is some thought on the horizon, especially for those LEAVING St Helena as laid out in the latest press release on the subject from the Health Services below....

The Health Services Directorate would like to inform the public that a COVID-19 vaccination clinic will be held on Tuesday 04 April 2023. This clinic is only for persons aged 50 years and over, who are travelling on the Airlink flight on Saturday 08 April 2023 and who have not received a COVID-19 Vaccination within the past three months.

All eligible persons who wish to receive a vaccination on this day are asked to contact Grace Richards, COVID-19 Co-Ordinator no later than 12pm on Monday 03 April 2023. Please get in touch by telephone on number 25818 or via email through [Grace.Richards@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Grace.Richards@sainthelena.gov.sh). Grace will inform you of the location and times of the clinic.

You are reminded to please bring along your yellow vaccination card for recording purposes. If you do not bring along your card you will not receive your vaccination.

Please be advised that COVID-19 Vaccination clinics for the wider community are being held in April 2023. An announcement on target vaccination groups, dates and times will be made in due course.

***Let's continue to protect ourselves, to protect St Helena.***



**Baptist Church**  
**Gospel Outreach**



**PALM SUNDAY**

*sing!*

**When: 02 April 2023**

**Where: KINGSHURST COMMUNITY CENTER**

**Time: 15:00**

*sing!*

**Gospel in Song**  
**Refreshments**  
**Preached Word**

# RMS T20 Cricket League

Submitted by St Helena Cricket Association



## Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### 10.00am Cobras vs Levelwood Allstars

Cobras won the toss and elected to bat

Cobras 136/6 after 20 overs

Best batsmen

- Scott Crowie 72\*(61)
- Brian Faas 27(30)

Best Bowlers

- Clayton Leo 3/22 from 4 overs
- Aiden Leo 1/18 from 4 overs

Allstars 137/3 after 16.5 overs

Best Batsmen

- Aiden Leo 48\*(41)
- Clayton Leo 44(23)

Best Bowlers

- Mark Anthony 1/16 after 2 overs
- Kurt Jonas 1/24 after 4 overs

Top performers

1. Clayton Leo
2. Scott Crowie
3. Aiden Leo

Allstars won by 7 wickets

### 1.30 pm Western A Mustangs vs Levelwood Rebels

Mustangs won the toss and elected to put their opponents in to bat.

Two steady initial overs were thrown into disarray when Kyle Bennet tempted Scott O'Bey into going after one, seeing him caught on his way to Cow Corner.

Mustangs then kept it tight as the Rebels looked to stabilise their innings, with 17 runs being taken from the next four overs.

Johnson was brought back into the attack in the eighth over, and to immediate effect, taking the wicket of Weston Clingham, who departed for 11.

Measured bowling from the Mustangs meant the Rebels could only make 12 runs off the next 17 balls, during which time the Rebels crept past the mid innings point with their run rate sitting at 3.8 an over and 38/1 on the board. Some very tidy fielding from Dane Wade in the 11th saw Sanjay Clingham run out at the bowler's end for 5.

The Rebels began to fight back and looked to be taking the game to Mustangs, taking 38 from next four overs, upping their run rate to an impressive 9.5 an over. Kyle Bennet was then brought into the attack in the 17th over and in his first over broke the developing partnership of Leo and Anders

Bowers, sending Bowers back to the pavilion with 13 runs to his name.

This left the Rebels on 88/4 with just three overs left. Matters weren't helped when Knipe fell for 1 on the first ball of the 18th. Delroy Leo, the lynchpin of innings for the Rebels, then fell in the 19th over, being clean bowled by Kyle Bennet. Leo had seen five batting partners come and go and made 49 runs off 47 balls, exactly half of his team's runs at the point his wicket fell. James Duncan Andrews came in for the final 11 balls, but he and his partner were only able to put up another four runs, leaving the Rebels a total of 102/7 to defend.

Mustangs will be pleased with their bowling efforts which ultimately hemmed in the Rebels and limited their ability to put up a bigger score. However, despite some tight fielding that brought a run out, a stumping and two catches, four more catches were dropped. Kyle Bennett will feel particularly aggrieved that three came of his bowling.

Best bowlers:

Gareth Johnson 4/19 (3 wickets)

Kyle Bennett 4/14 (2 wickets)

Best batters:

Delroy Leo 49 (47)

Anders Bowers 13 (23)

Having given themselves a chance to take a first victory of their season, the Mustangs came out to bat cautiously but confidently.

With 4 runs taken from the first over, the Rebels then had an early chance for a wicket in the second but a difficult catch was put down at long on. With Mustangs on 25, going at just below the required run rate of 5.2, Johnson was dropped again at the start of the sixth over.

In a bid to limit the Mustang's scoring, Weston Clingham bowled all four of his allocated overs in the first seven of the match, taking the wicket of Robert George in his last over and finishing up with a tidy economy of just 2 runs an over to boot.

With Barry Stroud now at the opposite end to Johnson, Mustangs ticked along nicely between the fifth and tenth finding themselves on 57/1 at the halfway mark of the innings, ahead of the run rate and looking comfortable.



# RMS T20 Cricket League

*Submitted by St Helena Cricket Association*

They'd passed the 50 mark in the ninth over, and the fact it had taken their opponents three more overs for the loss of an additional two wickets to do the same, gave a clear indication of the momentum in the match.

Another drop in the 9th over was beginning to indicate that it might not be the Rebel's day.

Three boundaries in a row from Johnson in the 11th over brought up the 50 partnership between him and Stroud, leaving just 15 runs required and nine overs remaining.

A smart stumping saw Johnson fall for 54 with Mustangs on 100/2, having made nine boundaries during his innings. With just two required to win, Chrissy Owen made a single to avoid the duck, with a wide ball then bringing up the first win of the 2023 season for the Mustangs.

The Rebels had their chances to change the game throughout the Mustangs innings, but just couldn't take advantage of them on the day. Four catches were dropped, including several off ultimate top scorer Johnson.

Best bowlers:

Weston Clingham 4/9 (1 wicket)

Delroy Leo 2/15 (1 wicket)

Best batters:

Gareth Johnson 54 (46)

Barry Stroud 22 (27)

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## **10.00 am Sandy Bay Pirates vs Challengers**

Challengers won the toss and elected to Bat

Challengers 230/2 after 20 overs

Best Batsmen

- Andrew Yon 102\*(43)

- Jordi Henry 69(41)

Best Bowlers

- Greg Coleman 1/27 after 4 overs

- Ashton Benjamin 1/36 after 4 overs

Sandy Bay Pirates 117/10 after 17.5 overs

Best Batsmen

- Brooklyn Fowler 28(16)

- David Young 20(8)

Best Bowlers

- Jordi Henry 3/20 after 4 overs

- Alex Langham 2/1 after 0.5 overs

Top performers

1. Jordi Henry

2. Andrew Yon

3. Alex Langham

Challengers won by 113 runs

## **1.30 pm Levelwood Allstars vs Jamestown Heat**

Heat won the toss and elected to Bat

Jamestown Heat 179/3 after 20 overs

Best Batsmen

- Dax Richards 96\*(68)

- Jamie Essex 47(40)

Best Bowlers

- Brendan Leo 1/20 after 4 overs

- David Francis 1/36 after 3 overs

Levelwood Allstars 161/7 after 20 overs

Best Batsmen

- Mike-e Williams 41(29)

- Clayton Leo 22(9)

Best Bowlers

- Damien Obey 2/25 after 4 overs

- Jason Thomas 2/31 after 4 overs

Top performers

1. Dax Richards

2. Jamie Essex

3. Mike-e Williams

Jamestown Heat won by 18 runs

## **Next week's fixtures**

### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023**

10am- Challengers vs Jamestown Heat – Umpires – Sandy Bay Pirates

1.30pm- Levelwood Rebels vs Cobras– Umpires – Levelwood Allstars

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023**

10am- Mustangs vs Levelwood Allstars – Umpires – Levelwood Rebels

1.30pm- Jamestown Heat vs Sandy Bay Pirates – Umpires – Cobras

You can follow RMS T20 League 2023 on CricHeroes and view scores LIVE ball to ball. <https://cricheroes.in/tournament/588417/RMS-T20-League-2023>

Via CricHeroes App

<https://crichero.es/apps>





# RIKKI SKIPS FOR CANCER SUPPORT

On Tuesday afternoon in the Castle Gardens, Rikki Young presented a cheque to the Cancer Support and Awareness Charity Group from her recent Skipping Challenge around St Helena. The Cheque was for a whopping £7,156.60 and reportedly funds are still being received in support of the event.

Rikki was diagnosed with Stage 3 Breast Cancer in March 2020 whilst living and working in Bristol, UK. She was working within the aviation industry and eventually had to be made redundant due to the covid-19 pandemic whilst undergoing treatment. She returned home in November 2021 after completing treatment ready to spend some time at home.

During her time battling Cancer, the Cancer Support and Awareness Charity reached out to her and sent her a donation that she appreciated as it helped her to stress less and concentrate on battling with cancer. After her return, the charity invited her to a Cancer Awareness luncheon for people and families that have gone through cancer. It was very overwhelming to see how many people were there having been affected by cancer in one way or the other; and how many individuals and families this charity supports.

Rikki has always wanted to do something to show her appreciation to the charity for their help and to help those currently still battling Cancer. This year she decided to mark her personal diagnosis anniversary with the 24 hour skip from 11th - 12th March in the form of 100 skips every hour on the hour for 24 hours from 2pm on the 11th to 2pm on the 12th.

Dressed in promotion shirts Rikki along with her supporters made their way to her first location Sandy Bay Beach to kick start the challenge. Also highlighting the 7 wonders of St Helena, the team covered a view of the Peaks, Plantation House, Rosemary Plain, High Knoll Fort, Southwest Point, Cason's, Rosie's at Ladder Hill (which attracted a large crowd of supporters); the General Hospital, the Canister, St James Church, Rupert's Beach and Jetty, the Millennium Forest, Horse Point, Napoleon's House, Bellstone, Napoleon's Tomb, Heart Shaped Waterfall Platform at Button-Up Corner, the bottom of Jacobs Ladder, the Castle Gardens, and the Jamestown Swimming Pool before finishing at the landing steps at the Wharf.



Rikki did a total of 2,500 for her official skip, with many more added during the hours with those who came along to support. Sponsor papers were available on St Helena, Ascension and the Falkland Islands. There was also a Just Giving page for anyone donating overseas. She is still receiving love and donations from people she meets and her family on-island so the final amount raised could still be growing.

The Falkland Islands also showed support at 2pm on Tuesday 12th with 24 individuals doing 100 skips.

Rikki's journey in videos and photos can be viewed on the Cancer Support and Awareness Charity Facebook page and this was made possible on the evening courtesy of SURE South Atlantic Limited who sponsored the coverage by donating a Mobile Wifi Device for the duration. Atlantic Outpost supported the event in printing the shirts worn by Rikki and her team.

Congratulations are extended to Rikki and her team and thanks are extended to all who supported her throughout the challenge.

**More on the back page....**





# Golf Report for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023

When there is a big turnout you know it is a big event. At 11:00a.m the sponsor Gwyneth Howell and her team were already in position at the halfway tree, tent was up and drinks were chilled and ready to be served. Weather was warm and sunny. A glorious day. Twenty-eight golfers turned up to take part in the event. A few minutes after 12:00 balls started flying simultaneously from 9 different tee boxes in the cross-country stroke play competition. There was a very positive cheer as the players went around the course. The watering hole under the tree was a very welcome treat to quench the player's thirst.

Overall performance was impressive with 4 players returning scores in the 60s. But before results could be announced the winner for third prize had to be determined through a play-off after a tie of net 66. Mr Jason Hopkins and Mr Peter Bagley who tied in 3<sup>rd</sup> place had to make their way to the 1st Cross country tee box, a par 3. Peter teed off first. His ball landed just below the green. Jason wearing a red cap, red t-shirt and playing a red ball hooked his shot out of bounds and conceded defeat. Back in the club house 2<sup>nd</sup> prize was won by Anita Robbertse with 63. Master Asa Bushuru the only junior member playing in the event scored net 58 to beat the entire field to win the Gwyneth Howell Trophy Challenge 2023 and first prize.

## **Full details of the results were as follows:**

### **Winner 2023**

**Asa Bushuru**      Longest drive (G) **Leon Crowie**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Prize winner**

**Anita Robbertse**      Nearest to pin (L) **Anita Robbertse**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Winner**

**Peter Bagley**      Nearest to pin (G) **Donald Bowers**

### **Longest drive (L)**

**Helena Stevens**      Two-ball pool      **Neil Joshua**

The sponsor Gwyneth thanked everyone for taking part in the event and congratulated the winners. A special thank you was extended to Paul of the Mule Yard for donating drinks. The committee of management together with the members wish to express their profound gratitude to Gwyneth for her generous sponsorship and continued support to the club and to everyone in her team who came out to support the golfers and make the day a great success.

The first competition of April to be played on Sunday 2nd is the Charles Duncan Challenge Cup stroke play competition. Tee off 12:00. Registration closes Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 15:00. Also remember to sign up for the curry and rice meal that will be served after the competition. Just a reminder this will be the first event for St Helena Golf Club Championship (SHGCC) in which points will be earned.

**Happy golfing.....**  
**Contributed by SHGC.**



## **For Sale**

Property for sale at Hutt's Gate  
Contact Telephone 23163.  
Also included is a six metre container with  
building materials.





# RIKKI SKIPS FOR CANCER SUPPORT



***Rikki said "It's been completely overwhelming to see the donations rolling in, I didn't expect it to be this much. It just goes to show in a world where all you hear in the news is negatives there are still beautiful things happening out here!"***

***Thank you to all my loved ones that helped with collecting money, driving us around and supported me in any which way.***

***A special thanks to Zedella for being the backbone and top organiser.***

***To everyone that came out and joined in with the skipping, at all different hours, thank you for bringing the fun!***

***But most importantly of all thank you to everyone who donated, blessing to you all, it is YOU that will help to make a difference, and bring hope to cancer patients and their families.***

***Big love, Rikki"***



# A HOWELL-ING GOLF COMPETITION