

INDEPENDENT

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With the 'Best Ever Business-to-Business Promotion' Other Gatherings Are Organised in St Helena



More About Shipping



Open-Air Gospel



Session of the Synod of the Diocese

Big Boost from St Helena's Best Ever Business-to-Business Promotion for Travel & Tourism

Called the St Helena Showcase, St Helena Tourism organised a week-long event where representatives of 26 travel and tourism businesses and organisations travelled to St Helena to find out what St Helena has to offer their customers. While here, they have met people from more than 50 local tourism and hospitality related businesses.

The schedule of events for the visiting tourism reps included an 'all welcome' gathering at the Mantis Hotel on Monday when local businesses had the opportunity to meet with the invited tourism reps to explain what their businesses can offer. Local businesses which set up their stall at the event included. Aaron's Adventure Tours, Abiwans, Banana Tree Lodge, the Bank of St Helena, Bertrands Cottage, Colemans Farm, Corkers Tourist Services, The Consulate Hotel, Dan's Bakery, E-Connect Tours, Extreme Adventures, Gift Cottage, G Unique, Island Images, Love to Camp, Plantation House, Rock Mount Walking Tours, Solomon and Company, Wranghams, Williams Taxi, the St Helena National Trust, The Coffee Shop, SURE, Williams Estate, the Rose & Crown, GK Crafts and SHAPE.

Over the course of this week the representatives from 26 invited tourism and travel businesses were given tours and site visits. They explored the island and experienced St Helena firsthand. They had a busy week with full island tours, terrestrial conservation and marine tours, diving, hiking, e-mountain



biking, ladder climbs, 4x4 off roading and ocean swims organised for them.

Questions about 'where to eat' were answered when Dan the Baker set up a 'pop up' restaurant in the Market and a traditional Saint fish fry was organised. Other dining experiences included Chef Roy and Donny's al fresco event at the Coffee Shop, Island Images' sushi and a traditional Saint spread at Anne's Place.

A range of country accommodation venues were visited, including Bertrands, Harkate, Richards Lodge and Farm Lodge.

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Training at the Swimming Pool

Once again, I have visited this tiny island with my wife, to visit and stay with our son and daughter-in-law.

As in previous visits, I have always made contact with the Manager of the Jamestown Pool (Elaine BENNETT) and offered to give further training to the Lifeguards. Elaine is not a Lifeguard Trainer and there is no-one on the island suitably qualified. Each of the Lifeguards now has their own copy of the Gen 10 NPLQ Manual so that they can further their education, under their staff training programme set by the manager.

On this occasion I was able to take them through an assessment of CPR combined with the use of the AED (having taken my own Trainer AED). Also basic water safety & rescue skills as indicated in their manuals.

Save a Life Certificates and an RLSS Whistle and Lanyard were presented to all.

Pictured in the photo from left to right.
Alan LAWRENCE : Katie-Rose THOMAS :
Chris DURNFORD Trainer : Elaine BENNETT (Manager) : Raymond YOUNG
A further three candidates were in the training session. Scott Crowie, Kimberley Piek, Owen Richards all from New Horizons

I shall be on the island until Saturday 20th should you want any further information
Chris Durnford



With the 'Best Ever Business-to-Business Promotion' Other Gatherings Are Organised in St Helena

At the same time the Mantis Hotel were hosts to 26 tour operators, organisations and investors, across the road the Consulate Hotel was fully booked as they welcomed a delegation led by St Helena's former chief secretary Andrew Wells.

Mr Wells is now established as the secretary-general of the Commonwealth Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong. He was appointed secretary-general in January 2021; prior to that Andrew had several appointments in Hong Kong. Before his appointment as secretary-general, he was and remains, the chairman of the China Golden Bridge Group. This Group is a large investment business located in Asia's International Financial Centre and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area, with a network of 65 affiliated offices and partners in the mainland of China and worldwide.

Mr Wells visited St Helena last year; accompanying two Hong Kong potential investors who wanted to take a closer look at what St Helena has to offer.

This week, Andrew Wells is back in St Helena. It is reported he is accompanying one of the two potential investors from last year together with a supporting group or other additional businessmen who have shown an interest in St Helena. It was noticed the number of suitcases brought from the airport last Saturday filled the Consulate's Toyota pick-up; suggesting the arriving group was quite large – by St Helena's standards.

Attempts by the *Independent* to make direct contact with Andrew Wells in order to obtain reliable, first-hand information have proved unsuccessful.

Next month, from 18th to 25th May, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) – British Islands and Mediterranean Branch (BIMR) – will be hosting their regional conference in St Helena. Their website informs us the theme of the conference is 'Addressing Challenges to Sustainable Development in Times of Global Uncertainty'. This is a current and popular theme; there must be several webinars every week on this and related topics.

The website also points out that attendance at this regional conference is by invitation only. A parliamentary association is, after all, for parliamentarians only. It is, after all, also usual for most parliamentarians to let their electorate know what they are doing. There are regularly updated websites created for this very purpose, each devoted to parliamentarian responsible for it. At this point it is worth pausing to note that 'doing' should not be confused with only expressing a view.

To find out more, the *Independent* contacted the UK Office for the CPA – BIMR and asked about numbers attending. Main points for discussion and the venues on the Island they plan to use. The reply came quick enough but by a circular route. Whoever received the email in London sent it back to someone in government in St Helena. That someone in St Helena



In his capacity as Secretary General, Andrew Wells (right) poses for a photo at a prize-giving

emailed the *Independent* to inform us the information will be issued shortly.

We may get to know eventually, probably when those who think they know better think we should know. Often that is the time it's too late.

From St Helena Airport



**Tuesday 16th,
First Citation X to tech stop before heading off to Brazil
with the legendary F1 driver Nelson Piquet onboard**



**Thursday 18th,
Today on the 8th Anniversary of the Comair Landing at
St Helena Airport Limited we welcomed the Legacy 500
by Embraer landing in beautiful weather... in contrast to
the weather experienced by Comair 8 years ago.**



Editorial

CABI is an international organisation that helps to improve agriculture and the environment mainly by passing on information and helping development in the developing world. I'm aware of CABI because the National Trust is involved with them on some projects. What caught my eye is that CABI "joined the international community of entomopathogenic nematode experts from science and the biocontrol industry to celebrate the 100 years since the discovery of these important biological control agents." Entomopathogenic nematodes? what the heck! Go into Google to find out what on earth all this about; that's the only thing to do. What I can say, with any degree of confidence, is they are roundworms, parasites and devote their sweet short lives to infecting insects – and only insects. They sound like horrible little critters, so why is CABI celebrating 100 years since they were discovered? It seems there are many different species and strains of these roundworms; if the right kind is pitched against the right insect pest – the insects lose. After 100 years these roundworms have risen in status to become important biocontrol agents. I wonder if any of these roundworms are being used here?

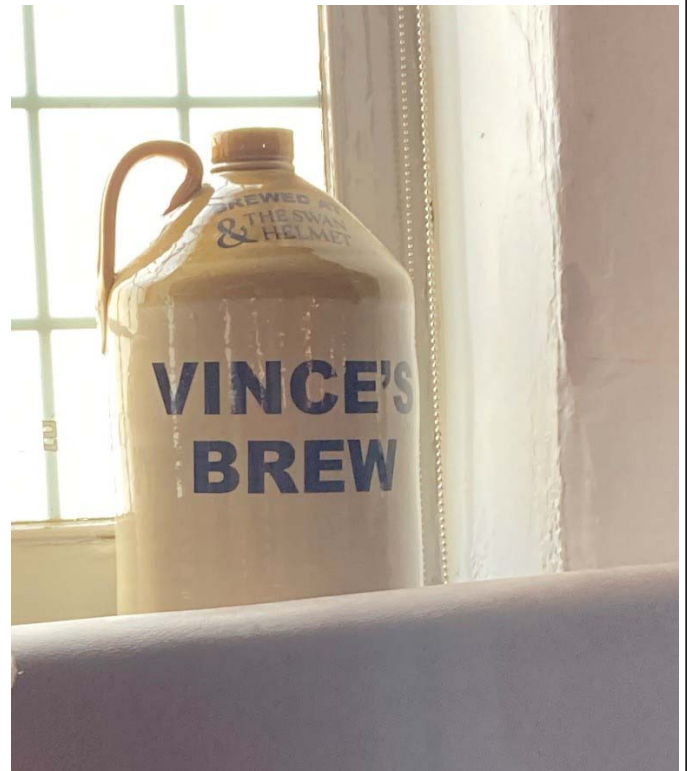
The shortage of drugs at UK pharmacies has been reported on at regular intervals. First of all, the disruption in supplies of just about everything during the COVID pandemic took the biggest slice of blame. Now the aftershocks of COVID have settled down but the UK still gets drugs shortages and they are getting worse. 648 pharmaceutical products had supply problems in 2020. In 2023 the number increased to 1,634. Brexit is now blamed for disruptions in supply. Our supplies come mainly from the UK, although pharmaceutical suppliers in South Africa are also used. One respected analysis of the UK supply situation includes drugs for type 2 diabetes as one of those where major shortages have occurred. Drugs for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder are still hard to obtain despite being supposedly back in normal circulation.

Apart from COVID, inflation, the war in Ukraine and global instability have helped cause the UK's unprecedented inability to ensure patients can access drugs. But Britain's departure from the EU in 2020 has significantly aggravated the problem, laid bare the "fragility" of the country's medicines supply networks and could lead to the situation worsening, a report said.

This next one is a bit strange – like the roundworms. The bit that caught my eye, again, was "Psychologists still don't fully understand why people hoard. It was only as recently as 2013 that hoarding disorder was added to the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, a guide used by clinicians in the US."

Hoarding can mean not throwing something out because it might be useful in the future. Yes, I know, there can be a

mountain of 'might be useful in the future' stuff stashed somewhere. Just because you and I keep this stuff does not mean we have a mental disorder. It seems not, but the hoarding disorder for those that have it, can be identified at an early age. Hoarding as a disorder gradually develops over a long time. One of the signs of the disorder can be "One of the hallmarks of hoarding disorder is an accumulation of possessions which clutter and congest the active living areas of a person's home, such as their kitchen or bathroom rather than their attic or garage." So, people who are not naturally tidy in the home can now start fretting about a hoarding disorder. My view? To keep the stress levels down, hoard anywhere and anyhow if you want. The only thing to remember is having the Waste Management Services 4x4 come to collect your bulk waste could cost you £50 or more.



Announcement

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there will not be a bus or boat service for the Lemon Valley walk on Saturday 20 April 2024.

The walk will commence from Rosemary Plain at 09:00 and proceed to Lemon Valley. There will not be a boat service to return walkers to Jamestown, therefore the walk will continue back to Rosemary Plain.

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Big Boost from St Helena's Best Ever Business-to-Business Promotion for Travel & Tourism

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Also organised were visits to properties which are for sale or lease. Other opportunities for investment were also covered.

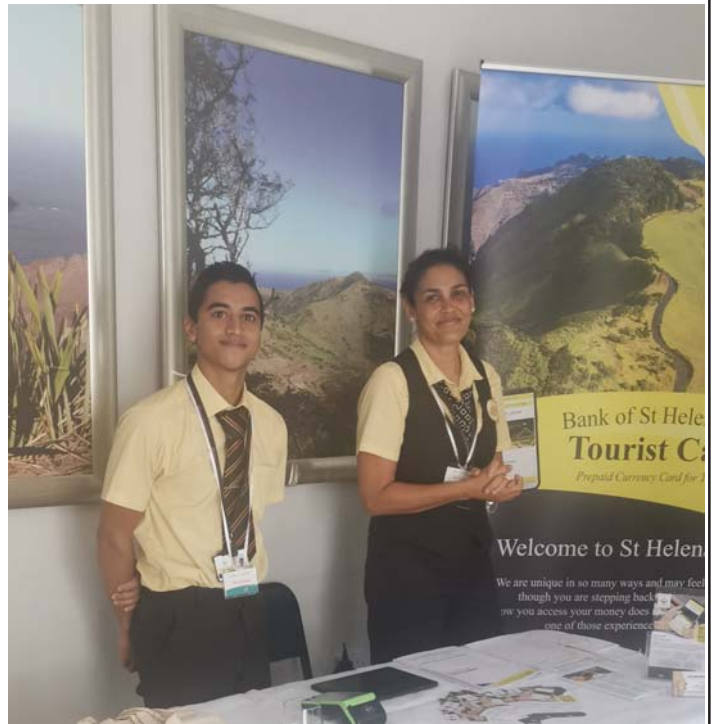
not in the guidebooks

The event highlighted St Helena as one of the most remote islands in the world that attracts discerning travellers looking for bucket-list travel experiences in adventure, marine life, sustainable tourism, history and unique culture.

The week-long event started last Saturday and finishes tomorrow. Leaving, after the closest ever look at St Helena by travel trade reps will be national organisations; the South African Tourism Services Association (SATSA) and WESGRO (tourism, trade and investment promotion) as well as a charter flight/ air lift specialist. Tourism related business specialists (coffee, honey, property development for tourism accommodation) were included among the guests together with tour operators such as Wexas Travel, Steppes Travel, Travel Designer, Ultramarina (dive operator), New World Travel, Not In the Guidebooks, Live The Journey, Inspiration Africa, Naturetrek, East Cape Tours, Cookson Adventures, Dive Worldwide and Cape Adventure Brands.



Another Dive tour operator who must surely include St Helena as one of their travel destinations



MV Karoline Left Yesterday

The Karoline left Rupert's Jetty at about half past six after completing cargo operations in time. Cargo on board included 37 containers and an unknown tonnage of break bulk.

The cargo carried is still affected by the Maria Da Paz Christmas cargo arriving too late to get the goods in the shops for Christmas. While shops are trying to reduce the late Christmas stocks by selling at half-price or less, they will not be ordering new stocks of the same thing. There is also the 'pirate' cargo service operated by Uniatlantico and Meihuizen. Their intervention unnecessarily messes up cargo operations and the already fragile financial viability of supplying St Helena cargo by ship – or by any other means of transport.



The Karoline arrived early on Wednesday. By early Wednesday afternoon most of the containers had been unloaded and the breakbulk was being craned over to the quayside.



Cranes switch between port (breakbulk) and starboard when containers are lowered on to barges and taken to Jamestown wharf. Manoeuvring one container over the side makes the small and almost empty Karoline tilt a bit.



Some of the stevedores smile for the camera and seem to have everything under control



The stern of the Karoline, with the bridge and accommodation section.



The Karoline flies the flag Antigua & Barbuda. The Caribbean island of Antigua and Barbuda is Category 1 for ship registrations. All types of vessels can be registered but for larger ships the registration procedure is more complicated and expensive. St Helena's own shipping registry is Category 2 which means registrations are limited to vessels up to 150 gross tonnes. Registrations are also made on behalf of Ascension and Tristan da Cunha.

Nerys Johnson Dies in Car Crash Returning Home from Ascension

Nerys Johnson, aged 57, flew from Ascension to Brize Norton where she was met by her husband. Mrs Johnson had just finished working on Ascension. Both dies in a car crash before arriving home in Wrexham. Their daughter was also in the car at the time of the accident and suffered serious injuries.

The Johnson's car collided with a police van. The driver of the van attended the coroner's inquiry in a wheelchair. A likely cause of the accident is that Mt Johnson fell asleep at the wheel, causing a head-on collision with the police van.

Note: The accident took place on 9th December last year and the coroner's verdict was handed down on Wednesday 17th April 2024.

AMENDMENTS TO CUSTOMS, EXCISE AND LIQUOR DUTY TARIFFS – EFFECTIVE FROM 01 APRIL 2024

After a review of customs and excise duty tariffs as part of the 2024/25 Budget, new regulations were approved by Executive Council on Wednesday 27 March 2024.

The Customs and Excise (Tariffs and Exemptions) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 came into effect on 01 April 2024, and can be found online at www.sainthelena.gov.sh/news/government-gazettes/.

The new regulations made a number of changes to the levels of duty applied to certain goods.

As in prior years, the government has increased the rate of import duty on alcohol and tobacco duty. The following increases to duty on tobacco and alcohol have been applied, effective from 1 April 2024:

- Tobacco taxes have risen by a total of 2.1%.
- Alcohol taxes have risen by a total of 1.1%.

These increases are designed to discourage people from smoking and drinking, which can be harmful to their health. This aligns with the government's overall policy objective and plan to improve public health.

A specific import duty has also been introduced on beers and ciders that contain no more than 0.5% alcohol. This is to avoid taxing drinks that are branded as "alcohol-free", but which may contain a tiny amount of alcohol, as though they were regular strength alcoholic drinks. These "alcohol-free" drinks will still be subject to import duty at 20% of their value.

On 29 September 2023, in an effort to address problem drinking and promote tax neutrality, the Executive Council increased duty rates on locally produced alcohol. This resulted in higher taxes on local spirits containing more than 22% alcohol (up to £10.30 per litre) and duty being imposed on all other locally manufactured alcoholic beverages for the first time (at a rate of £3.66 per litre). The government remains committed to better aligning the tax status of locally produced alcohol with that of imported alcohol, and is committed to applying duty to local liquor at half the rate that applies to imported alcohol by the end of 2026.

In response to feedback from local businesses, however, these increases will now be implemented gradually. From 1 April 2024, the old duty rate for locally produced spirits with an alcohol content above 22% was reinstated and duty on all locally produced alcohol was removed. Duty to locally produced alcohol will now be progressively applied, with the first increase anticipated for 1 October 2024. The rates will then increase each year in October until a rate equivalent of half the duty applying to imported alcohol products has been reached.

The rate of import duty on buses with 10 or more seats, and certain heavy vehicles and equipment, has been reduced to 5%. Under the Customs and Excise Ordinance 1999, the headline rate of import duty is 20%, which is a basic rate of

inflation before influencing factors have been removed.

Prior to this change, heavy vehicles and equipment such as buses, lorries, fire trucks, cranes and concrete mixers were subject to import duty at a rate of 35%, with a 45% rate applied to certain other vehicles.

We recognised that the high cost of importing capital equipment was hampering economic development. This resulted in the decision to reduce the duty rate to 5% on all vehicles and heavy machinery that are not currently otherwise covered by the carbon emissions based vehicle import charge scheme.

This change aims to make it easier for businesses to get the equipment they need to help them grow and succeed.

SHG
12 April 2024



109 year old ex Dutch Herring sailing vessel TECLA arrived from Cape Town on Tuesday near sunset after a 13 day voyage from Cape Town.

Her present owners, use her to sail worldwide as a sail training vessel.

She is 28m long with a beam of 6.6m and a draught of 2.7m
see website: tecla-sailing.com

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

I have significant reservations about the Draft Immigration Policy, which is currently out for public consultation.

The draft immigration policy, while commendable in its attempt to address past concerns, also introduces several new issues that demand immediate attention and potential revision.

In hindsight, I think that the new problems are down to what presents itself as a poor understanding of the real-world situation regarding immigration. The current version of the draft policy seems to assume that immigrants will mostly be middle-class and healthy, which doesn't match the types of workers we need. Displaced people, for example, have often been through life traumas beyond what most people can imagine, and they often have mental health issues which go with those experiences. Poorer people willing to work for relatively low wages, like we have in St Helena, seldom have access to high-quality healthcare in their place of origin.

One of the most pressing concerns lies within the provisions granting individuals granted work permits and their dependant's access to healthcare at local rates after 30 days. While the idea of providing health services to all residents is understandable, I don't believe that the financial implications of this policy have adequately been assessed or addressed.

While healthcare is a crucial part of our island's social fabric, it also poses a significant financial burden. The draft policy's provision to extend healthcare access to individuals on work permits could potentially strain our already overburdened healthcare system, especially if the immigration policy is successful. The draft document and other information provided by the policy team fail to adequately assess or address these potential costs, potentially leaving the

island with an unsustainable financial burden. This is a matter of utmost urgency and importance. This year, we used monies saved due to SHG not being able to fill its staff shortages to help offset the overspend in health; if the immigration policy works, then these funds won't be available to help cover the overspending on health in the future, and the cost of health provision will increase due to providing for more people.

Moreover, the draft policy lacks a comprehensive exploration of alternative solutions. For instance, has the government considered implementing an immigration health surcharge for individuals on work permits, like in the UK? Such a surcharge could help offset the costs of providing healthcare to non-citizens, ensuring the sustainability of our healthcare system for future generations.

There is also a glaring lack of evidence to support the assumption that immigrants can or will be willing to live on local wages for the occupations we are short of. It is always important not to look at salaries but at the total employment cost. If a local person earns £10,000 p.a. and you pay an immigrant £10,000 p.a. plus a flight, accommodation supplement, etc, then the staff member costs you £10,000 +++. If the total is, say, £15,000, then the immigrant isn't working for a local salary, and you may as well pay a local person or a Saint from overseas £15,000. In a community where many residents struggle to make ends meet on local wages, it is essential to critically assess whether newcomers can thrive economically without putting undue strain on our fragile budget.

I firmly believe that the Draft Immigration Policy must be thoroughly scrutinised from a financial angle to identify and, if necessary, revise these critical issues. I also question why the potential financial impact on the health budget isn't listed under section 8.

8 POLICY RISKS: *The biggest risk is that the island fails to attract sufficient labour to grow the economy and to increase locally generated revenue. There is also a risk in the immigration process that individual officers apply their own discretion which would discredit the intended objectivity, but more prescriptive and streamlined processes will mitigate this, supported by a final independent appeal*

to the Chief Magistrate.

Many people have raised concerns that the policy demonstrates a prioritization of immigrant interests over those of local people. Personally, I consider the Immigration policy and the need for the government to support its people better two separate issues; however, I do think that the two issues are linked and that the sentiment behind the statement is correct.

I have always supported the need to urgently address cheaper, 100% renewable energy, affordable housing, and improved better-priced telecommunications, among other essentials. Sadly, these seem further from reach now than when I was elected.

Regards

Councillor Karl Thrower

Dear Editor,

There is currently no work underway by any individual(s) or department(s) within SHG, to study or obtain factual data, for the purpose of understanding and addressing the current crisis of population decline, as it applies to reasons why Saints are leaving the island.

Under repeated questioning, this was the reluctant admission by the panel presenting the draft immigration policy at the Longwood community centre, last week. None of the other ministers or back benchers assembled at the back of the room offered a contrary standpoint to this revelation or attempted to assuage the disappointment this caused amongst their gathered constituents.

Just let that sink in for a moment.

Five years ago, during the various rounds of public consultation meetings on the Labour Market Strategy, before the ministerial system ever came about, the issue of Saints leaving the island was already a very serious concern. I recall at least four of the current five ministers being in the audience at those meetings that I attended and all were supportive of my pleas to the 2019 panels to allocate equal research and consideration to Saints, alongside any attempt to increase the working age population through attracting immigrant labour. In particular, to try understand and mitigate the increasing trend of Saints choosing to leave the island, which appeared due in large part to disillusion-

Your Opinion Counts

ment and people generally feeling undervalued.

Last week's revelation at the Longwood meeting only serves to re-affirm the long and widely-held belief that consultation meetings are little more than box-ticking exercises, and those members of the public taking the time to attend and feed into the process are routinely ignored if their input fails to align with the government's pre-determined objectives.

At Longwood the point was also put to the panel that a policy for attracting immigrants to St Helena should ideally be designed to complement the Saint population, not to replace it. Imposing immigrants onto an already unhappy St Helenian population did not appear to be the most sensible way forward.

It's worth noting, those attending the meeting raised no real objections to the general principle of the proposed policy, rather, expressed familiar frustrations of Saints being undervalued and ignored by their government.

Sincerely,
Darrin Henry

Dear Editor,
Immigration Policy

I write expressing concerns over some proposed changes to the Immigration Policy. Minister Ellick has indicated that the previous proposals did not go far enough in addressing increasing the population. We all would like to see an increase in the population, but not at any cost.

The idea of reciprocity with the UK, in other words holders of British Passports will have free entry into St. Helena, could have serious consequences. You cannot compare St. Helena with the UK. Here in the UK there are thousands and thousands of job opportunities, persons can move from one County to the next. Whereas in St. Helena there are barely a handful of jobs.

If St. Helena is serious in trying to retain Saints or encourage them to return there needs to be a Saints First Policy, like what was campaigned for in 2017, similar to what is in place in the Falklands to protect their islanders on the Job Market. That has worked well on the Falklands for years so why can't St. Helena have the same, even if a small change to the Constitution would be needed? The key issue is that measures to retain and regain services of Saints must be put in place in parallel with the new Policy, or you could find Immigrants blocking Saints on the Job Market.

This would be unfair and damaging.

With the state of the World today nobody knows what will happen, if St. Helena decided to open the Flood Gates. Not all migrants or even holders of British Passports will have the means to provide for themselves long-term, so then there will be problems to consider which SHG will have to fund, such as housing, benefits and medical, which will be a real tragedy for St. Helena, who barely have sufficient budgetary Aid to provide for themselves.

Derek Thomas



DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 21st April 2024 – 3rd Sunday after Easter

8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist/Church Parade	Cathedral
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Peter

The Parish of St James

Sunday 21st April 2024 – 3rd Sunday after Easter

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist/Church Parade	St James
	Thursday 25th April	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John

The Parish of St Matthew

Sunday 21st April – 3rd Sunday after Easter

11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Luke
	Tuesday 23rd April	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist	St Mark

Baptist Church Gospel Outreach



MAKE A JOYFUL Noise TO THE LORD

sing!

When: Sunday:
21st April 2024

Where: Kingshurst Community Centre

Time: 3.00 pm

sing!



Gospel in Song
Refreshments
Preached Word

18th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of St Helena 5th April 2024 to 7th April 2024



The opening of the 18th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of St Helena took place at St Paul's Cathedral on Friday 5th April 2024 at 6.30pm and started with a Sung Eucharist. Members of the Synod comprised of the clergy from the Parishes of St Paul, St James, St Matthew - Fr Clarence, Fr Griffith Moses, Fr Ronnie Allwright and Deacon Bobby Crowie; There were lay representatives from each Parish - St Paul's were Mrs Joy George, Mr Jeremy Roberts and Miss Karen Henry, St James' Mrs Olive Brown, Mrs Jeanette Williams and Mrs Pamela Ward Pearce, St Matthew's - Mrs Janet Williams, Mrs Gwen Crowie and Mrs Greta Pat Musk and St Mary's Ascension Island was represented by Mr Alan Nicholls who joined virtually. Also in attendance was the Diocesan Registrar Mrs Ivy Ellick, Mrs Rosalie Lawrence Secretary to Diocesan Advisory Committee, Mrs Joycelyn Constantine Diocesan Secretary and Treasurer and Mrs Helene Williams and Mrs Nanette Anthony acted as the Synod Secretaries. Also in attendance were alternate representatives from all parishes, Mr Cyril Leo, Mr Gilbert Stevens, Mrs Patsy Flagg, Mrs Dulcie Thomas. Clergy from the Salvation Army, Envoy Coral Yon and Seventh Day Adventist Pastor Ruben Oliphant. Members of the Legislative Council- Chief Minister Julie Thomas, Minister Christine Scipio, Minister Jeffrey Ellick, Minister Martin Henry, Honourable Gillian Brooks and Honourable Rosie Bargo were also present and parishioners from all parishes.

The Synod was presided by Bishop Dale Bowers, who in delivering his Charge thanked the Diocesan Advisory Committee for their work. He Remembered those who had been called to glory, -Fr Fred George, Canon Clive Duncan, Fr Ronnie Alexander, Mr Larry Johnson, Mrs Janice Young, Mrs Hazel Stevens, Mr Brian Isaac, Mr John Cranfield and Mr Arthur Bizaare. He then explained that a synod is where God's people: Bishop, Clergy and Laity gather to listen to what God is calling his church to do at this moment in time and to guide his Church for the next three years through the power of the Holy Spirit. Bishop Dale highlighted the current situation that was facing the Anglican Church at this moment in time. He mentioned having had attended a Zoom meeting with the Archbishop of Jerusalem and heard the challenges that his province is facing; although we are not facing that situation, we are not immune from the works of the devil, which is to destroy God's mission among his people. He then reminded those present of God's great commission to go and baptise all people in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which is still the Church's mission today given by Jesus Christ. He then pointed out that which is affecting God's Church and its people. People are no longer worshipping and participating in the life of the Church. Most of them only use the church for funerals. The average age of congregants is 70 plus years old. There are no children

in Sunday Schools/Junior Church. Parents are no longer on the journey of faith themselves so how can they guide their children in faith living out the promises they made at the baptism of their children. Secularisation of our community, where God is removed from the daily life of our community. He gave a brief talk about his speech to the ordinands and staff at our Anglican Province College of the Transfiguration in Grahamstown, he mentioned C.S Lewis' Screwtape letters where Satan wanted to get humanity to be more disobedient and asked his demons to come up with suggestions. The third one said 'convince them that you Satan don't exist' to which Satan replied that yes that is the way. If they don't know I exist then they won't need a Saviour Jesus Christ. In secularisation of our community this is happening where many no longer see the need for Jesus Christ our Saviour because they no longer see the devious works of Satan tempting them to do wrong. He gave the statistics of the last census 2021 which revealed that currently 2765 registered as Anglicans, so on the surface the Anglican Church looks healthy but in reality, the Church is deeply wounded with only an average of 30 people are worshipping in our Churches each Sunday. He then mentioned that one of the parishes was unable to elect churchwardens which is most unfortunate. This demonstrates that going forward in the future the parishes will have the model of chapelries thus enabling more people to take responsibility in their churches.

Bishop Dale then pointed out that the answer to all of these issues is Jesus Christ. He then went on to speak about the urgency to pass resolutions and implement the Five Marks of Mission: to tell – Proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ love, repentance and forgiveness for all people. To Teach – to nurture and teach the Good News of Jesus Christ. To Transform – the unjust structures of society with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To Tend – to tend to the needs of the poor and vulnerable members of our society and to Treasure – to care for the creation as good stewards.

18th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of St Helena 5th April 2024 to 7th April 2024

The synod was duly constituted with the election of clergy and laity secretaries and scrutineers of minutes, voting and the appointment of Mr Alan Nichols as Chairman of committee of Synod. The service concluded at around 8.00 pm. This was followed with a Diocesan fellowship at the Kingshurst Community Centre with a pig roast and other delights, to which all members of the Diocese and those in attendance were invited.

Synod resumed with Morning Prayer on Saturday 6th at 8 pm and Sunday 7th at 9 pm. Bishop Dale gave a report on the resolutions passed at the last synod. All had been implemented but not all components of the resolutions were implemented. Members then looked at the Diocesan Audited Accounts for 2023 and the Diocesan Budget for 2024, which was accepted.

There were also amendments to Diocesan Rules which was chaired by Mr Alan Nicholls. All amendments passed unanimously.

Resolutions passed at Synod were: resolution on Mission and Evangelism, resolution on Growing the Church Family, resolution on Intentional Discipleship, where people intentionally live a Jesus Shaped life, resolution on Integrating People into the Life of the Parish, resolution on Environment and Sustainable Development, resolution on British Citizenship, canvassing our leaders to pursue the mandate of the Citizenship Commission to enable a constitution that allows Saint Helenians to live and enjoy their British Citizenship on St Helena in the same way they would do living in the United Kingdom; and the resolution on the Formation of Young People in Their Relationship with Jesus and His Church. All resolutions were passed unanimously.

Members also passed motions of appreciation and thanks to all who contributed to

the life of God's Church, mentioning people and organisations -here on St Helena, the Province of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa and the United Kingdom. Bishop Dale thanked Patrick and Pam Young who provided catering for members of Synod and Sure St Helena for their sponsorship of providing the link with St Mary's Ascension. Members also passed a motion of prayer and blessings on the speedy recovery of His Royal Highness King Charles and Princess of Wales.

Synod closed with a service of Sung Eucharist. The Bishop signed the Records of Proceedings of Synod upon the altar, and then promulgated the Enactments of the Synod He then gave the blessing and dissolved Synod.

Parishes will now take ownership of the resolutions passed and in the power of the Holy Spirit implement in their parishes. Thus, continuing God's mission for the salvation of God's people.



Festival of Walking Walk of the Week



Date: Saturday, 20 April 2024

Start Time: 9am

Meeting point: Rosemary Plain

Led by Adam Sizeland, Director of the Museum of St Helena, who will give insight into the historic landscape of Lemon Valley and its significance to the island's history. The walk descends into the valley, past historic farmhouses, burial sites and fortifications. Discover how Lemon Valley played a role in St Helena's early East India Company history, its importance as a quarantine station for the sick and how it became a depot for the liberated Africans.

If sea conditions are unfavourable, we will walk back to the start point (Rosemary Plain).

Remember to bring a minimum of 2L of water, suitable walking shoes and sunscreen.

Walk grade: Post Box Walk, suitable for families (children 8 years +), gravel underfoot

5-6 Moderate

Join us for the final walk of the festival!

Contact Dianne via dianne.venning@sainthelena.gov.sh or call the Tourist Office T:22158 or M:67245 for more information

Title: **The Parent Teacher Association at Prince Andrew School: What Does it Do and How Can Parents Help?**

The Parent Teacher Association (**PTA**) at Prince Andrew School plays a crucial role in cultivating a vibrant sense of community and support within the school. This article will delve into the diverse functions and significant impact of the PTA, outlining its responsibilities and collaborative efforts with the school administration. Parents are strongly encouraged to explore the various opportunities for involvement and discover how they can actively contribute to their child's educational journey. Join me as we delve into the dynamic role of the PTA at Prince Andrew School and learn how parents can truly make a difference in shaping the school experience for their children.



Introduction to the Parent Teacher Association at Prince Andrew School

Hey there, future PTA superheroes! So, you've probably heard about this magical thing called the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) at Prince Andrew School, but what exactly does it do, and how can you, as a parent, get involved? Let's unravel this mystery together!

Our Goals:

1. To promote among the parents/guardians of Prince Andrew School students a greater awareness of and involvement in the education of their children.
2. To encourage families of students at Prince Andrew School to become involved in the affairs of the school.
3. To promote mutual understanding in staff and parents/guardians for their respective roles in the educational process.
4. To welcome new families to the school and provide information and support for them.
5. To endeavour to provide funds to enable the PTA to meet forward planning objectives.
6. To organise fundraising events as approved by the PTA (where appropriate) and encourage full participation in any fundraising events.
7. To improve the educational and social provision for students of Prince Andrew School.

Overview of the PTA's Purpose and Mission

The PTA at Prince Andrew School isn't just a fancy acronym—it's a group of passionate parents and teachers working together like a dream team to support the school community.

Our mission: *To foster communication, collaboration, and cooperation between parents, teachers and school administrators in order to enhance the educational experience and overall development of students at Prince Andrew School.*

1. Roles and Responsibilities of the PTA

Now, let's dive into the nitty-gritty of what the PTA actually does. Hint: it's a whole lot more than just bake sales and coffee mornings!

1.1 Organizing School Events and Programs

From fun-filled fairs to educational workshops, the PTA is the driving force behind the exciting events and programs that make school life a whole lot more colorful. They're the masterminds behind the scenes, making sure everything runs smoothly and everyone has a blast.

1.2 Advocacy for Educational Policies and Programs

Ever wonder who's advocating for your child's best interests at the wider-island educational meetings? Look no further than the proactive members of the PTA! They're not afraid to roll up their sleeves and fight for better educational policies and programs that benefit every student.

2. Impact of the PTA on School Community

So, what's the real magic behind the PTA's work? Let's take a closer look at the ripple effect of their efforts on the school community.

2.1 Enhancing School Climate and Culture

The PTA isn't just about the bells and whistles—it's about creating a warm and welcoming school environment where everyone feels like they belong. By fostering a positive climate and culture,

they set the stage for meaningful connections and shared experiences.

2.2 Supporting Student Achievement and Well-being

At the heart of it all, the PTA's ultimate goal is to support student success and well-being. Whether it's through funding for educational resources, organizing mental health workshops, or creating opportunities for growth, they're dedicated to ensuring every student thrives.

3. Opportunities for Parental Involvement

Alright, it's your time to shine, parents! Here are some ways you can jump on board the PTA train and be a superhero in your child's school journey.

3.1 Volunteering at School Events and Activities

Got some spare time and a heart full of enthusiasm? Why not lend a hand at school events and activities organized by the PTA? Whether it's helping set up for a fundraiser or chaperoning a field trip, your involvement can make a world of difference.

3.2 Joining PTA Committees and Leadership Positions

Ready to take your involvement to the next level? Consider joining PTA committees or even stepping into a leadership position. Your unique skills and perspectives could be just what the PTA needs to continue making a positive impact on the school community.

By actively engaging in PTA initiatives and programs, parents have the power to enhance the success and well-being of the school community. Let us unite and collaborate to cultivate a supportive and enriching educational environment for all students at Prince Andrew School.

So, there you have it - a brief introduction to the PTA at Prince Andrew School and how you can play a role in this remarkable journey. Remember, even the smallest contribution can have a significant impact, and your participation can truly make a difference. Let's join forces and work together to create something truly magical!

By Ed Oyewo- PAS PTA Chairperson



4. Collaborative Initiatives between PTA and School Administration

The PTA at Prince Andrew School doesn't just bring together parents for a round of bingo (although that can be fun too).

4.1 Communication and Partnership with School Leadership

The PTA work hand in hand with the school leadership to ensure effective communication and partnership.

4.2 Working Together to Address School Needs and Priorities

From organizing school events to tackling important issues, the PTA and school administration join forces to address the needs and priorities of the school. Together, they make sure that Prince Andrew School is a place where students can thrive.

4.3 Fundraising and Support Programs

Forget bake sales and car boot sales (though those can be great too)! The PTA at Prince Andrew School goes above and beyond with their fundraising activities, ensuring that they can support various programs and initiatives. The funds raised by the PTA don't just disappear into the school's Bermuda Triangle. Instead, they have a real impact on school resources and programs, enhancing the educational experience for all students.

LOVE•HOPE•ACCEPT

AUTISM
Awareness



COLOUR



SPLASH

Walk

& FUN DAY



SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 2024

**WALK ROUTE: SANDY BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE
TO BATES BRANCH AND RETURN**

Those up for a challenge ...

**WALK ROUTE: SANDY BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE
TO WHITE GATE AND RETURN**

starting at 9.30am

Music, Joshua's Family Fun, Food, Cakes, Stalls,
Ice Cream, Sensory Activities and lots more ...

~ WEAR WHITE ~

Unapologetically Refreshing!! ***(Contributed: Anonymous)***

"So why don't you like being around people?" The Psychiatrist asks having exhausted weeks of therapy sessions suggesting methods of getting my child to socialise... 'Because I find them annoying' was her unapologetic blunt reply. I squirmed in my chair not expecting this answer from my normally painfully quiet child. "That's Interesting!!" the therapist says nodding in understanding. I held back wanting to make a million excuses for such a crude answer, having been raised to always be polite and I thought my daughters reply was going to be because I'm scared of them" or "I feel claustrophobic in crowds" surely that's what shy little girls suffering from social anxiety should say!?

Fast forward three weeks later and after detailed testing not to mention doubt on my part of even wanting a diagnosis... "I can confirm that your child has been diagnosed with a mild to moderate form of Asperger autism" I felt my stomach twist, but my face remained untelling. Inside my head was a sad mum saying "Aww my poor baby" The therapist goes on to explain how Asperger is a developmental disorder, they have a hard time relating to others, some develop repetitive behaviour patterns or have a narrow range of interests. This woman was singing my tune – finally the cloud cleared I had an answer! No more wondering if she was being bullied or if there was something environmental in her life causing her behaviour.

To give a small background I didn't have a small toddler who was 'backward' or didn't meet her developmental milestones. She was a happy baby who succeeded in School and got on well with her friends. She was never loud but there was nothing unusual that stood out to me until about 5 or 6 years old. Eye contact was hard, or on the School run as we approached the School her demeanour would become quiet & unresponsive. After performing in a School play a friend of the family approached me and asked if she was o.k. it looked like she would faint! I couldn't disagree, I was confused watching my daughter on stage twisting at her clothing rocking back & forth whilst staring at the ground.

Together with the School, multiple testing's got carried out; dyslexia, dyspraxia, friend groups, but I knew nothing was quite ringing true! "You just wait" Mum's would say, when she hits Prince Andrew School you won't get her to Shut up, I'd giggle but knew that was never going to be my daughter's story.

The years went on & she never complained, I would observe her making trips to the bathroom every morning, I later found out that she was feeling nauseous, she retreated within herself hardly coming out of the house, she suffered from debilitating cramps brought on by anxiety and still she didn't complain! At home she would struggle with her sibling's sarcasm or the ability to follow multiple instructions but still she got on with it.

She occasionally feels the pressure of not being 'normal' and asks to be placed on treatment but right now this is not an option.

Asperger also bought out a beautiful side to my daughter. She is unapologetically refreshing. She never means to be rude but if you are not looking for the truth when you ask her a question, my advice is don't ask!

After baking a cake I proudly invited my family to sample it. Of course my husband was faithfully complimentary and my other daughter followed suit. My daughter frowned, looked at them both confused and announced "hmm I think mum wants the truth she turns to me and truthfully says "it's very dry, maybe ask grandma for some advice"

Another moment whereby an aunty asked if she could have a sleep over at our house and use her bedroom she replied "don't you have your own bed to go to?"

There are many moments in which I can recall and I hope many more to come. It is a constant journey for my daughter learning to cope in a world that doesn't understand her, 80% of the time it is an uphill struggle dealing with a disorder that is invisible to the world.

I have struggled for years of summing her personality up when people asked me what was wrong with her – which box to put her in - but why should she be put in a box - with autism there is no one size fits all!!

For people with Asperger autism, there is nothing wrong with them, there's something wrong with you! Who are we to argue!



Open-air Gospel Show in Blue Hill

SHARON L. WADE

Last Saturday 13th April saw the Blue Hill Community Centre and Field Centre areas transformed into a summery English 'Village Fair' scene with a fresh country feel and an atmosphere that was charged with excitement. A good number of people turned out for an open-air Gospel Show organised to raise funds for St Helena & The Cross church. Cars were parked facing the entrance to the Community Centre and people on front-line seats had the best view of a very artfully-constructed stage over the lower section of steps to the Centre's entrance, which extended out to the middle of the road that runs past the Centre. The stars of the show were waiting backstage (the Centre's verandah area) and nervous laughs and coughs could be heard over friendly chatter and light tuning of instruments, before a very prompt start at 3 pm. The stage was beautifully decorated and instruments (stringed, electronic, wind & keyboard), microphones, sound equipment, music & mic stands and seats were all strategically and perfectly-placed to allow just enough room for the well-practised flow of performers- an impressive feat. KJ said "the practise sessions for the show's set-up on the verandah, just made it within a small margin when everything was placed down onto the stage" – good judgement!



Bishop Dale Bowers made the opening speech and blessing, and as you will hear from the recording tomorrow, everyone did a superb job of entertaining the audience with well-known gospel songs & hymns, polished voices and expert instrument-playing with Mr Johnny Carter linking together each act in smooth transition. The organisers Beattie Peters and Edna Richards along with their team from the St Helena & The Cross church, did a stellar job of planning, preparing and presenting a show that at the first strum of a guitar, instantly took you back to the 1970's when 'The Ramblers' were in full swing.

A group performance of the Cast opened the show, which included the Blue Hill songbirds and guests.



In no particular order, performers on the day were Barry & Leatrice Vanguard, Cyril 'Smiley' Stevens, KJ, Colin Peters, Jackie Stevens, Cheryl Anthony, Vince & Vilma March, Edna Richards, Cecily Williams, Frederica Youde, Diana Williams, Florence & George March, Beattie & Francie Peters, and Stedson Stroud. Interestingly, that day there were seven performers from the days of the Ramblers – Edna, Beattie, Vince & Vilma, Jackie Stevens, Georgie March and Johnny Carter. Mention was made by the Bishop in his opening speech of those that are no longer here, and who were

almost sure to be in Saturday's line-up if they were still with us. They are the late Ralph Peters, Larry Stevens, Stedson Francis and Ray C. Conversation back-stage turned to these late gentlemen and others from the 'Ramblers' days, which gave a nostalgic air to the happy and relaxed characters that were thoroughly enjoying themselves and supporting each other at such a well-executed, open-air event.

For those who might not be aware, the 'Ramblers' was best-described as a touring country concert group that was spear-headed by the late Mr Arthur 'Billy' Peters and was mostly based in the district of Blue Hill. It is believed that the group made their first public appearance in 1971 and continued performing until the early 1980's. Ex-Ramblers last Saturday were quick to re-visit the early 70's with their great memories of practising for shows in the old Pavilion building at the Toby's Ledge cricket pitch. The parents of some of Saturday's performers were in the Ramblers, which shows just how much music has travelled through the generations within Blue Hill. Many of the Ramblers had stage names and there were happy stories and laughter about the likes of 'Distant Traveller', 'Devil Eyes', 'Western Blue-bird' and 'Janie Dale'. Listening to their chats about various performances and funny stories, one is almost in awe at how much music has played a huge part in the homes and lives of people and their families within the district.....





They have an unseen bond that keeps them together like another family, connected under the radar by accordions, wind & stringed-instruments, voices and energy...a bond that today can be construed as very fragile, as there is some concern that old music arts are not being taken on by younger generations. Many of the instruments we saw on Saturday could fade out over time, but not if the young people of today seize the moment (or rather an instrument) and carry on what the elders are so willing to teach – the actual playing of many instruments is being very well-taught to most in schools, but it is the passing on of old tunes, old styles and old traditions amongst friends that could be at risk of being lost. Being amongst such a brilliantly-chosen group – seeing and hearing what they have to offer, is only testament to how well-remembered they are and will be for many years to come.

It is believed that Saturday afternoon saw the first event of its kind since the days of the Ramblers and congratulations are extended to everyone who went on stage to do the best at what they are best at, whether it was singing, playing an instrument,

telling a story or just running a cable or switching on a mic. Delicious hot pea soup made by Mr Gilbert Peters was on sale at the Field Centre during the interval, and he had many customers lining up for a 'full-to-the-brim' cup, that reached the soul....An afternoon in Blue Hill that was steadily being tinged with a Western breeze, good music, wonderful people, relaxation & remembrance....and hot soup – what more could one ask for?? Of course, the tomato paste sandwiches, cheese straws, sausage rolls, jam tarts, coconut fingers, chocolate cake, quiche, scones and pizza with hot drinks all did their bit to make it a very tasty afternoon too! Thanks also to Bartenders Geoff Francis and Billy Bagley who kept the cold refreshments flowing for the thirsty spectators.

Florence March opened the second half of the show with 'Count Your Blessings' – a performance that belied her 88 years. God-willing, 'Florrie' will be 89 in August and we hope she will continue her stage acts for many more years yet.

Twenty-six different acts made up the show and the audience were invited to join in with the well-known 'Family Bible'. They also joined Cyril on the very much-liked 'Sure To Fall'. The Finale of 'Calling You' with the Cast wrapped the show, to hearty applause showing everyone's pleasure at having the privilege to attend such a wonderful, heart-warming afternoon. The 'wrap-party' featured a steaming-hot pot of Plo, (that came with its own custom-made warming bag), made by KJ & Alison – silence whilst eating, said it all – delish! The lively, excited atmosphere didn't waver as everyone enjoyed their success and each other's company for a little while longer.

The organisers would like to extend heart-felt thanks and much gratitude to all who helped with the show, 'in whichever way – no matter how small'. Thanks to all of the performers – 'we couldn't have done it without you!' Thanks also to Ronald & Earl Williams, Wilson Peters, George Richards, Francie Peters, Georgie Thomas and their team for erecting the custom-built stage, that is now hopefully going to storage in sections in case there is a need to bring it out for a similar performance. 'Many thanks also to all of you who attended and supported our worthy cause – we have high hopes for a very profitable afternoon'. 'It was hard work putting together a show of that magnitude, but we will do it again and are now busy making plans for a similar event.' We congratulate all involved with Saturday's show and wish them well in continuing Blue Hill traditions.





ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

Electrician

Total package value up to £28,176.00 pa

(comprising salary up of up to £14,549.00 pa, plus food and utilities allowances, free housing and other benefits)

About the role

We're looking for an experienced electrician to join our Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Department within the Facilities Team of our busy Facilities and Operations Directorate.

What you'll do

As part of the MEP team you will work on a range of different electrical installation and repair work as well as larger projects including building renovations and new build projects.

You will also need to be willing and able to assist the marine team with ship work and stevedore duties when we have cargo ships in port (this will often involve 12-hour days and weekend work for which overtime is payable).

What you'll bring

We are looking for a qualified electrician or one holding a certificate of competence in electrical installation and maintenance of electrical appliances. Knowledge of AC repairs and maintenance would also be an advantage. You should have good communication skills and be equally at home working in a team or on your 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. You will also need a licence to drive up to a large truck (code A and B in St Helena and Ascension)

What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of up to £14,549.00 (depending on experience and taxable on Ascension), the role attracts an **accompanied** status contract and the following allowances and benefits:

- Rent free accommodation valued at up to £2,400.00 pa (taxable benefit)
- An accompanied status food allowance of £7,560.00 pa or £3,780.00 pa if single (taxable benefit)
- An electricity allowance worth £938.00 pa
- An accompanied status water allowance worth £2,729.00 pa or £1,360.00 pa if single
- Relocation costs for your personal effects from your home country and assistance with shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment for you and any dependants
- 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 and Dental Clearance

Closing date: 03 May 2024

Interviews: Week beginning 6 May 2024 (via video call if off island)

Start date: As soon as possible.

For more information, a full job description, and to apply, visit:

www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/

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



VACANCY FOR CLOUD FOREST INVERTEBRATE FIELD ASSISTANT

We are seeking an individual with an enthusiasm for St Helena's natural environment with a particular interest in invertebrates, who is willing to learn, enthusiastic and a reliable team member. This exciting opportunity exists to join the Trust's Invertebrate team whom has led invertebrate conservation and science on island for over a decade. Work includes ecological monitoring and research, managing threats to endemic species and conservation planning.

The Cloud Forest Invertebrate Field Assistant will support the St Helena Cloud Forest Invertebrate team in delivering the Trust's outputs for the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) funded project "Restoring St Helena's Internationally Important Cloud Forest for Wildlife, Water Security and People". This project delivers the Peak's National Park Management Plan to rehabilitate the Cloud Forest, safeguard an internationally important wildlife hotspot, increasing water security and supporting the sustainable development of the island through eco-tourism. The Trust aims to deliver these objectives, through habitat and invertebrate species identification and monitoring, and trial invasive control methods.

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 or call 22190. For further information please contact Martina Peters on 22307 or email 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.

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.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 3 May 2024

Vacancies

Part-Time Aircraft Cleaners



Rate of pay will be £5.60 per hour

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc have vacancies for Part-Time Aircraft Cleaners to join the team at St Helena Airport.

The Aircraft Cleaners will be responsible for the cleaning of the Airport Terminal during operational days and also cleaning of aircraft cabins of arriving and departing Aircraft.

Working hours will be according to flight operations and training requirements, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
- Possess a good standard of English & ICT
- Be customer focused and able to deliver an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be available to undertake the required training including both classroom and online-based training.
- Be available to undergo the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake manual handling & physically demanding duties
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment
- Be able to work with a high degree of attention to detail
- Have the ability to remain calm under pressure

For further information contact:

Tegan Turner, Agencies Business Co-Ordinator via  22523  agencies.admin@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **01 May 2024**.

Vacancy

Deputy DIY Manager



Salary for the post will commence at £12,828 per annum (£1,069 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the DIY Store for a Deputy DIY Manager.

As the Deputy DIY Manager, you will assist the DIY Manager with the day-to-day running of the DIY Store. You will provide support for the strategic planning and forecasting, ensuring maximum sales opportunities are captured and take responsibility of the BOU when the DIY Manager is away from the business. Assist with compiling, reviewing and updating shop operating procedures and give support, direction, advice and training to Supervisors as well as assist with managing resourcing, workplace inductions and staff development & performance.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have 3 years' experience in a Supervisory position and/or relevant staff management position, with strong leadership skills and the ability to lead and develop others
- Demonstrate proven experience of working in retail or a similar environment, with the ability to multitask and problem solve in a fast paced environment
- Possess Grade C or above in GCSE Maths & English, or equivalent
- Be computer literate namely in the use of Microsoft applications and ideally Access Dimensions & Point of Sales software
- Have a customer focused approach with excellent frontline customer service skills
- Possess experience with administration and be able to analyse and identify sales trends and facilitate sales recommendations
- Be knowledgeable of Stock Management
- Have excellent interpersonal, communication and organisational skills
- Be knowledgeable of health & safety within the workplace including manual handling procedures

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

Colin Bargo, DIY Manager ☎ 22104 ✉ diy@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 and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Office, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **30 April 2024**.

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

SOLOMON & COMPANY (ST HELENA) PLC



JOB VACANCY

SHIP-SIDE LABOURER

AS PART OF THE STEVEDORE OPERATION ON A PART TIME BASIS

Interested Persons Should:

- Be able to undertake physically demanding duties
- Have a general understanding of safe manual handling practises
- Be able to work in a fast-paced environment while remaining safety-conscious
- Be prepared to work out of hours

Hours of Work

Hours of Work whilst the Ship is in Port are usually
06:00 - 18:00

Rate of Pay

Wages will be paid by the hour at the rate of
£4.50
Premium Time & Overtime is paid when applicable

Contact Us

For further information or to register your interest, please contact:
- Kerry Yon, Telephone: 22523 Email: shipping-travelmanager@solomons.co.sh or
- Anthea Joshua, Telephone: 22523 Email: asstshipping-travelmanager@solomons.co.sh
By Tuesday, 30 April 2024

Join us!
We are recruiting...



**St Helena
Government**

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Senior Human Resources Assistant (£9,197 per annum)

Here is a great opportunity to start your career in HR! Central Human Resources is seeking to recruit a motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our HR Transactional team. In this post, you will be responsible for undertaking a range of HR transactional processes to ensure the delivery of a high quality HR service. Key areas include recruitment and selection, processing of leavers, contractual changes and providing advice on employment related policies and procedures.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Sharina Williams on Tel No 22470 or Email
sharina.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 23 April 2024

1:1 Teaching Assistant (Prince Andrew School) (£7,823 per annum)

Do you have a passion for Education? We are seeking to recruit a Teaching Assistant to provide assistance to the class teacher by supporting teaching and learning in the school/classroom environment. The individual needs to be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and have good communication skills to be able to communicate between students, parents and colleagues.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Carolyn Yon on Tel No or Email
Carolyn.Yon@princeandrew.edu.sh

Closing date: 30 April 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

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

Join us!

We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Sea Rescue Crew (Auxiliary) (£5.00 per hour) 18 years +

Are you keen to improve the lives of all within our community and help the island thrive by protecting and saving lives at sea? If you are a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual with the ability to remain calm under extreme physical and mental pressure, then the St Helena Sea Rescue Service has an opportunity for you to join their team. The successful applicant will receive a monthly retainer of £70 on completion of basic training.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Leeroy Caswell or Mark Caswell on Tel No 25215 or
Email: leeroy.caswell@healnta.co.sh or mark.caswell@helanta.co.sh
Closing date: 30 April 2024

Fixed Term 1:1 Teaching Assistants (Harford Primary) = (£7,823 - £8,114 per annum)

Do you have a passion for Education? We are looking to recruit a Teaching Assistant to provide assistance to the class teacher by supporting teaching and learning in the school/classroom environment. The individual needs to be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and have good communication skills to be able to communicate between students, parents and colleagues.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Carlean Crowie on Tel no. 24719 or Email
Carlean.Crowie@primary.edu.sh
Closing date: 23 April 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/governments/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

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Join us!
We are recruiting...



**St Helena
Government**

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Programme & Project Coordinator

(£11,542 - £14,215 per annum)

A Market Enhancement of £3,500 per annum will apply and be reviewed after a 2 year period

In this role, the Programme & Project Coordinator will be required to collaborate with all functions of the PMO, including elements of project planning and delivery, as well as work to improve overall project and programme capacity. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Paul Cherrett on Tel No 22270 or Email
Paul.Cherrett@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 23 April 2024

Accounts Assistant (1 x Permanent and 1 x Fixed-Term up to November 2024)

(£7,341 per annum)

Are you a highly motivated individual with good teamwork and a problem-solving skills? If so, Central Finance has an opportunity for you to join their team. You will ensure efficient and accurate entry of financial data through the government accounting system and the effective monitoring of St Helena Government's transactions. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Charmaine Murawu on Tel No or Email
Charmaine.Murawu@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 April 2024

Support Workers x 2 - 6 months Fixed Term Contract

(£7,502 per annum)

Are you interested in providing assistance and direction to persons living within Sheltered Housing which will enable them to live relatively independent but, with an oversight of support for their wellbeing?

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Hannah Herne on Tel No 23230 or Email
Hannah.Herne@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 April 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

Pension – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

For further information, please contact the recruitment team on telephone number **22470** or via the email address below.

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

To be considered for our vacancies, you must complete our application form. Please do not submit your CV.

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

LITTERING, COMMUNAL RECYCLE HUBS AND HOUSEHOLD WASTE

An increase in littering incidents have been reported to, and observed by, Waste Management Services. These have a significant detrimental impact on our environment. We are issuing an urgent call to action to raise awareness and encourage responsible waste disposal behaviour among individuals and communities.

Littering has become a pressing environmental issue as it not only spoils the beauty of our surroundings but also poses serious threats to wildlife, human health, and our overall quality of life.

It is imperative for each one of us to take responsibility for our actions and make a conscious effort to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Doing so minimises the amount of waste that ends up as litter in our environment.

As Earth Day approaches on 22 April 2024, let us remember the importance of environmental stewardship and the role we all play in protecting our local environment, as well as the planet. Simple actions such as properly disposing of your waste at the designated recycling hubs across the island, using reusable products, and participating in local clean-up efforts, can make a significant difference in preserving our environment and natural resources for future generations.





We urge everyone to educate themselves and others about the consequences of littering and to actively participate in efforts to keep our island clean and green. By working together, we can create a cleaner, healthier, and more beautiful environment for all to enjoy.

Recycling

There are a total of 12 Communal Recycling Hubs in addition to the Public Recycling Facility at Horse Point Landfill Site (HPLS). Recyclable waste can be disposed of at the following locations for collection and processing:

- Half Tree Hollow – Near Leon Plato's residence
- Half Tree Hollow – Andy's Shop
- Half Tree Hollow – Solomons Supermarket
- St Paul's – New Ground Bus Shelter
- St Paul's – Cleughs Plain Bus Shelter
- St Paul's – Kingshurst Community Centre
- Sandy Bay – Bagley's Point
- Briars – Near St Mary's Church
- Alarm Forest – Bus Shelter
- Longwood – Piccolo Hill
- Deadwood – Bus Shelter
- Blue Hill – Near Moonshines Bar Car Park

There are four bins at each location which are colour coded for each type of waste:

Red		Glass
Grey		Plastics
Blue		Cans/Tins
Brown		Card/Paper

Once collected, the waste will then be recycled or reused. Baled aluminium drink cans are exported to South Africa.

Plastic and card bales are used as infrastructure within the HPLS as gabions to support earthworks. We are currently seeking funding to procure a glass crusher which will produce an end product suitable for construction aggregate.

Household waste

We are aware that the recyclable bins also sometimes contain household waste, such as fish and kitchen scraps. It is crucial that these bins are used strictly for the type of waste they are designated for based on their colour-coding. When recyclable waste is contaminated with household waste, it becomes unprocessable and ends up in the landfill, hindering efforts to maximise the remaining lifespan of HPLS.

Certain types of waste should not be disposed of in domestic or commercial black waste bins. This includes garden waste, construction debris, electrical appliances, scrap metal, vehicle batteries, motor oil, lubricants, paints, solvents, and agricultural chemicals. These waste materials must be kept separate, and can be properly disposed of at HPLS. The HPLS facility is accessible 24 hours a day, but if there is uncertainty about waste disposal procedures at this site and guidance is required, we recommend that you visit the facility between Monday and Friday, 08:30 to 16:00.

Residents who have been allocated a black 240L domestic bin are reminded to use it appropriately and are discouraged from using the communal skips. Communal skips have been located across the island for residents in areas that are not accessible by the Refuse Collection Vehicle. The number of skips at each location is determined by the number of users. Unfortunately there are currently no black 240L domestic bins available for distribution to the community, although residents are encouraged to source these privately if needed.

Litter picking

Waste Management Services provides a complimentary litter picker loan service for individuals interested in volunteering for litter picking activities. For more details on this service or any WMS operations, such as landfill and recycling, please contact Environmental Officer Risk Management, Terri Clingham, on telephone 24724 or via email through terri.clingham@sainthelena.gov.sh.

#StHelena #WMS #Recycle #AltogetherGreener

www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/

www.twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG

18 April 2024



**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**

400 Ltr Concrete mixer with 5.5 HP Honda engine .
230mm Diamond Masonary cutting disc.
Aluminium Patio Slide doors.
1800 Watt Vacuum cleaners.
1800 mm Fold tables .
Kids - Swing glider See saw .
Dettol Soap.
Fold Multi function Exercise press up boards
16mm Stainless Steel Treaded Rod .
Safety Specs
Ford lazer /Trazer Exhaust and parts.
48 Volt GO KART with 3 speeds and Disc brake.
400 x 200 x 200mm Moulded Concrete Blocks
PROPERTY WITH 300 SQUARE METRES OF FLOOR SPACE AT HUTTS GATE.
ESTIMATES FOR HOUSE BUILDING - See Below.



For Sale

Property for Sale at Hutt's Gate
375 Metre's from Napoleon's Tomb.
Approved plans

A six Metre container with building
Materials included.
Contact 23163.

15 April 2024

Tax Timeline

**ARE YOU AN
EMPLOYER OR AN
EMPLOYEE?**

Dates for your Diary

30 April 2024

Final date for **EMPLOYERS** to submit your P7 form (Employer End of Year Return, [2023/2024]) to Pamela Joshua, PAYE Officer. See below for contact details.

30 April 2024

Final date for **EMPLOYERS** to issue a **P5** or **P60** form (Employee Certificate of Earnings and tax deducted for the year 2023/2024) to every employee.

**31 July 2024 - FINAL DATE TO SUBMIT A
TAX RETURN**

By 30 April 2024 all **EMPLOYEES** should have received a certificate of earnings for the year 2023/2024 from their employer.
If you feel you have paid too much tax or you have additional income to declare then you must submit a Tax Return by 31 July 2024 as after this date you will have no further right to file.

If you are unsure whether you should complete a Tax Return or not, please contact us at the details below. Should you require a Tax Return form please visit the SHG website at www.sainthelena.gov.sh/public-services/

Income Tax Office Contacts

**1st Floor Post Office Building
Phone No. 25880**

**Email:
gillian.knipe@sainthelena.gov.sh
pamela.joshua@sainthelena.gov.sh**



Part-time Water Caretaker, Thompsons Hill

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is seeking the services of a Part-time Water Caretaker to monitor the water systems in the Thompsons Hill, Spring Gut, Mackintosh, Gold Mine and Iron Pot areas. The successful applicant will be engaged on a services contract for four hours per day, seven days per week.

Duties of the role include:

Checking all pipework and reporting any leaks; Dipping and recording the borehole levels on a daily basis and reporting any abnormalities; Checking all tank levels twice a day; Documenting bulk meter readings and reporting any abnormal readings on a daily basis; Turning water supplies on/off as required; and providing the Water Maintenance Co-ordinator with copies of their readings.

Candidates should possess good time keeping skills and the ability to prepare weekly worksheets.

They must be able to correctly read meters and recognise if there is a fault on the system.

As the role involves unaccompanied work in isolated areas, they must also be safety conscious and abide by Connect's procedures. Training will be provided.

For further information on this post, please contact Paul Duncan, Water Operations Manager, on (+290) 22255 or email paul.duncan@connect.co.sh

Completed application forms should be addressed to Annalisa Young, Business Support Administrator - HR, Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: annalisa.young@connect.co.sh by 9:00am on Tuesday, 23 April 2024.

To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT PROGRAMME PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

The Programme Management Office will be holding a series of public information meetings during April 2024.

These meetings are held quarterly to update the public on the various projects undertaken by the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP).

The public are also encouraged to put forward any questions or queries they might have to the EDIP team.

The meetings in April will include updates on the following projects:

- Rupert's Cargo Handling Facility Development
- Side Path Road
- Field Road Rehabilitation

All meetings will commence at 19:00 and will take place as follows:

Monday 22 April	Museum of Saint Helena, Jamestown
Tuesday 23 April	St Michael's Church, Rupert's
Wednesday 24 April	Harford Community Centre
Thursday 25 April	Kingshurst Community Centre

Members of the public are encouraged to attend.

SHG
12 April 2024
www.sainthelena.gov.sh



THORPE'S EMPORIUM

Calling all farmers



Thorpes

Thorpe's Emporium will shortly be placing their order for hazardous products.

If you require any agrochemicals please contact Henry Thorpe on henry@thorpes.sh, 22781



We can supply Insecticides, herbicides and fungicides

Falklands War medal sells for £6k at auction

A Huddersfield photojournalist's Falklands War medal has sold for more than double its valuation at auction.

Paul Haley's South Atlantic medal, which was auctioned alongside other items relating to the conflict, fetched £6,500 on Thursday. Mr Haley worked for Soldier magazine during the conflict and was attached to the 5th Infantry Brigade.

He decided to sell the items after he was diagnosed with terminal cancer in his liver and lungs. The money from their sale will go to his family. "I think we will have a few meals out," added the 73-year-old.

Mr Haley, from Linthwaite, captured one of the most famous images of the conflict when he snapped 7 Platoon, G Company on Mount Tumbledown after they found out the war had been won on 14 June 1982.

Mr Haley, who now lives in Morley, said it had been "lovely" to have seen so much interest in what the auctioneer described as an "absolutely superb" item. The medal was sold with his Falklands-stamped passport, an Argentine bayonet and bullet from the conflict, two stones from Mount Tumbledown and 200 original hand-printed images.

"I was a 31-year-old press photographer doing my job, you don't think there's anything special happening," said Mr Haley,



Mr Haley's South Atlantic medal, similar to one pictured here, sold for more than double its valuation



Paul Haley captured this image of soldiers celebrating news of the Argentine surrender on Mount Tumbledown

who is still in touch with the surviving members of 7 Platoon, G Company.

"You just concentrate on the work and getting the best pictures you can in difficult circumstances."

Saturday, 27 April 2024
From 12pm
Harford Primary School Presents

LIVE BANDS!
MINI CRAZY GOLF

On the School Field

END OF SUMMER JAM

Hot food menu:
Plo, Fish n Batter,
Tuna Steak on
Roll & Hot Dogs

Entrance Fee:
Adults £1
Children 50p

Mocktail Tiki Bar | Car Boot Sale | Bouncy Castle
Novelty Sports | Hot Food | Games Stalls | Raffle
Miscellaneous Stalls | Face Painting
Tea & Cake | Tuck Shop - Popcorn & Ice Cream
Performances - Singing/Dancing/Ukuleles

For more info or to book a Car Boot Stall
Call Harford School on 24719 or email charmis4469@hotmail.com

There Cannot be a Much Better Write-Up for St Helena Than This One

Let's Hope it Brings in a Few Bookings for Next Season

THERE IS FAR MORE TO SEE AND DO ON THE ISLAND THAN I EVER ENVISIONED

Not Just Travel's **Jenifer Compton** was blown away by her discoveries on St Helena, visiting the remote British Overseas Territory with the tourist board after she won a fam trip place in a TTG competition.



Jenifer Compton (far left) and the rest of the fam trip group go hiking on St Helena

St Helena hadn't been a place I had previously considered for my clients, largely because I wasn't aware of what it could offer as a tourist destination. I knew the island was known for its rich marine life but knew little else. I love off the beaten track, unusual destinations and St Helena certainly ticks those boxes! One of the world's most remote inhabited islands (1,200 miles from south-west Africa) and home to just over 4,000 people, it is a stunning subtropical volcanic island that I wanted to explore.

Since the airport opened in 2017, travelling to St Helena is so much easier. The flight departed from Johannesburg (a five-to-six hour flight), and from this November you can fly during the peak season from Cape Town twice-weekly. This gives a great opportunity to combine St Helena with a city break, safari or self-drive tour in South Africa.

Flying into St Helena, you are met with dramatic barren clifftops, which quickly change to lush subtropical terrain, rolling green hills and majestic cloud forest – the island is full of spectacular contrasting environments.

There were so many highlights it's hard to know where to start. Snorkelling with whale sharks, watching a pod of over 100 dolphins swim alongside the boat and meeting Jonathan the Tortoise (the world's oldest living land animal who's just celebrated his 192nd birthday), were standouts. Others included sunset drinks at the pop-up bars along the quayside in Jamestown, soaking up stunning views from 21 Post Box Walks dotted throughout the island, and meeting many in-

credible "Saints" (as the islanders are known) who are all so passionate about their island home.



St Helena sits in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean
© Jethro Kiernan

There is far more to see and do on the island than I had ever envisioned, plus the Saints are incredibly welcoming – do not be surprised when everyone smiles and waves at you as you drive by! I also hadn't anticipated how beautiful and varied the scenery would be, or how fascinating and rich the island history is.

I stayed at the four-star Mantis Hotel in the heart of Jamestown, a beautiful boutique hotel. The island food is a real melting pot of cultural influences, from a traditional Sunday roast with curry, to freshly caught fish and the local dish Plo (rice, meat and veg), all washed down with locally produced coffee.

St Helena is ideal for clients that enjoy an active outdoor life – hiking, cycling, bird-watching and diving. However, it also has great general appeal and is perfect for those looking for a tranquil and unique destination which is full of surprises.

Expect hot, humid weather in the peak season (December to March), although temperatures drop slightly up in the hills. Light rain showers can happen anytime, so pack a rain jacket. Oh... and a good pair of walking shoes. Nowhere on this island is flat!

I had such an amazing time on St Helena that since returning home I've been busy sharing this hidden gem of an island with my clients. I currently have clients looking at a scuba diving holiday with Dive Worldwide, and a couple exploring a similar trip to the one I had the privilege to experience.



Overseas Territories Speakers at Turks and Caicos Conference

The third Commons and Overseas Territories Speakers' Conference (COTSC) was held in the Caribbean islands of Turks and Caicos Islands during the first week of April.

The Speakers, alongside Parliamentary Clerks and technical experts, examined different aspects of building strong Legislatures and effective parliamentary democracy focusing on AI, Cyber and Physical Security of Parliaments and on Parliamentary Education and Outreach.

The Conference was hosted by the Speaker of the Turks and Caicos House of Assembly, Hon. Gordon Burton. Speakers and Clerks attended from Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Island, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Montserrat, St Helena and Turks and Caicos as well as the United Kingdom.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, CPA, Headquarters' Head of Programs, Matthew Salik provided expertise on protocol and precedent as it relates to Commonwealth Speakers as well as using the Conference as valuable opportunity to promote the CPA's recent publication 'Parliamentary Handbook on Disinformation, AI and Synthetic Media'. A communiqué issued at the conclusion of the conference highlighted the importance of continuing to work together to create a unique and modern partnership to strengthen parliamentary democracy.

The decisions made included: -

1. To consider the relationship between legislatures and the role of the Governor within Overseas Territories to explore what we feel is the best modern relationship between these two roles to take forward our democracies.
2. We will work towards producing best practice for the protocol and the precedence of the Office of Speaker within the British Overseas Territories.
3. We welcome the decision by Girlguiding Northwest Region in England to step in to ensure that this vital service can carry on within the British Overseas Territories.
4. As many of us do not have an independent digital service from our governments, as Speakers we need to influence how this service ensures it can still be delivered when confronted with cyber-attacks and allows democracy to still function. We will explore how we can work collectively together in this area.
5. It is important that the public's trust in our Parliaments isn't undermined by AI. We recognise that it also places a burden on Speakers and Clerks who are often asked to adjudicate on the veracity of contributions in the Chamber especially in relation to privilege and applying Standing Orders.
6. As Parliaments, we will look at what best communication strategies there are to reach the audiences that we want to engage.



Speakers at the COTSC conference at the Turks and Caicos Islands – Ferdie is 5th from left

7. We are committed to working together to create a unique and modern partnership to strengthen parliamentary democracy. By working together there is much we can achieve.

The next Commons and Overseas Territories Speakers Conference will be held in London in 2025

Friends of Hope Day

You are warmly invited to the Seventh-day Adventist Church for our special Visitors day program on Saturday 20th April 2024

You can join us for the following:-

- Sabbath School program - 10:00am - 10:45am
- Divine service - 11:00am - 12:00pm
- Afternoon musical program - 14:00pm - 15:00pm

Contact Georgia for further details on tel:25710



From the Cricket Pitch

This weekends results were as follows:

Saturday

Jamestown Heat 120/6 (20 overs)
 Jamie Essex 50
 Clayton Leo 2/12 (4 overs)
 Levelwood Allstars 124/1 (11.4 overs)
 Clayton Leo 57
 Aiden Leo 51 not out
 Hugo Richards 1/28 (3 overs)
 Man of the Match Clayton Leo

Western A Mustangs 146/10 (20 overs)
 Chris Owen 28
 Anthony George 24
 Chadwin Lawrence 4/20 (4 overs)

Lions 97/8 (16.1 overs)
 Scott O'Bey 54
 Kyle Bennett 2/20 (4 overs)
 Man of the Match Chris Owen

Sunday

Challengers 119/10 (19.5 overs)
 Andrew Yon 33
 Ashton Benjamin 20
 Rhys Francis 3/23 (4 overs)

Sandy Bay Pirates 119/10 (17.4 overs)
 Rhys Francis 36
 Brett Isaac 18
 Jordan Yon 3/15(4 overs)

Super Over Sandy Bay Pirates 1/2(0.3 overs)
 Brett Isaac 1
 Joey Thomas 2/ 1 (0.3 overs)

Super Over Challengers 2/0 (0.1 overs)
 Andrew Yon 1 not out
 Ajay Bennett 0/2 (0.1 overs)
 Man of the Match Jordan Yon

FIXTURES - Week 6

Saturday 20th April

10:00 Mustangs v Cobras
 Umpires: Gavin George and Gavin Ellick
 13:30 Sandy Bay Pirates v Lions
 Umpires: Dane Leo and David Francis

Sunday 21st April

10:00 Levelwood Rebels v Levelwood Allstars
 Umpires: Rhys Francis and David Price
 13:30 Challengers v Jamestown Heat
 Umpires: Alasdair Bain and Gareth Johnson



Premier League Football

Manchester City moved top of the Premier League for at least a day with a predictably dominant victory over struggling Luton Town.

City led after only 65 seconds at Etihad Stadium when Erling Haaland's wayward volley hit Luton's Daiki Hashioka before flying into the net.

It took City more than an hour to double their lead through Mateo Kovacic's sweet, rising strike from near the edge of the area.

Haaland put the game beyond any doubt with a penalty after Jeremy Doku was fouled by Fred Onyedinma.

Just after City made a double change, Ross Barkley took advantage of a Matheus Nunes mistake to pull one back for the Hatters.

But Doku cut in from the left to slot a fine solo goal into the bottom corner.

PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS

Saturday 13th April 2024

Newcastle United 4 v Tottenham Hotspur 0
 Brentford 2 v Sheffield United 0
 Burnley 1 v Brighton & Hove Albion 1
 Manchester City 5 v Luton Town 1
 Nottingham Forest 2 v Wolverhampton Wanderers 2
 AFC Bournemouth 2 v Manchester United 2

Sunday 14th April 2024

Liverpool 0 v Crystal Palace 1
 West Ham United 0 v Fulham 2
 Arsenal 0 v Aston Villa 2

Monday 15th April 2024

Chelsea 6 v Everton 0

The impressive Doku set up City's fifth as he picked out Josko Gvardiol, who slammed a beauty into the top corner - the defender's second goal in a week having not scored for City before that.

Premier League Football



City have done something they have not managed yet this season, winning a league game without Rodri.

The influential midfielder has missed three league games this season through suspension, the only three defeats City have experienced in the league.

He said he needed a rest after Tuesday's 3-3 Champions League quarter-final thriller with Real Madrid and manager Pep Guardiola obliged. Rodri was on the bench but City did not need him.

Ederson was back in goal after a month out and he had a comfortable afternoon to ease back into the action.

It was a comfortable afternoon for everyone in a light blue shirt. Haaland should have scored in the first minute when he was sent one-on-one by Kevin de Bruyne. His shot was saved by Thomas Kaminski and his follow-up was going wide before being deflected in by Hashioka, who was almost knocked out by the effort.

It was non-stop pressure and dominance from City, who lived in Luton's defensive third, but it took them until their 27th shot to double their lead through Kovacic's half-volley from Julian Alvarez's cross.

Haaland looked set for another frustrating afternoon in front of goal until Doku was chopped down by Onyedima, and the Norwegian converted a penalty for his 20th Premier League goal of the season.

After Luton pulled one back, Doku again took on Onyedima - who this time dared not lunge in - before finding the bottom corner.

Gvardiol netted a fine goal in Madrid on Tuesday and got another in stoppage time from Doku's pass.

Andy Robertson insisted Liverpool will "keep fighting" despite their Premier League title hopes suffering a huge blow as they fell to a 1-0 defeat by Crystal Palace at Anfield.

Eberechi Eze converted from Tyrick Mitchell's cut-back to finish off a flowing Palace move early on and the visitors were deservedly in front at the break.

Jurgen Klopp's Reds ramped up the pressure in the second half but, just as in recent games against Manchester United and Atalanta, their finishing let them down as they lost at home in the league for the first time since October 2022.

Defeat leaves Liverpool two points behind leaders Manchester City and level on points with Arsenal, who were beaten 2-0 by Aston Villa in Sunday's late kick-off.

"I think we are always still in it. We are still there," Liverpool full-back Robertson told Sky Sports. "We will keep fighting, keep going to the end, and let's see where it gets us."

"With six games to go we will give it everything we have got. The problem is there's two world-class teams doing it as well and that's the difficult part.

Aston Villa produced an outstanding performance to stun Arsenal at Emirates Stadium and leave Manchester City in pole position in the Premier League title race.

The game started with high anticipation for the Gunners after Liverpool's shock home defeat by Crystal Palace, but Arsenal were desperately disappointing and well beaten as Villa boss Unai Emery made a winning return to his former club. Arsenal were fortunate to remain on level terms for so long against the impressive visitors, who secured a deserved win to move three points ahead of Tottenham in fourth having played a game more.

The only surprise was that it took Villa until six minutes from the end of normal time to open the scoring - Ollie Watkins and Yuri Tielemans hit the woodwork in each half before Leon Bailey finally broke the deadlock with a low finish at the far post.

Arsenal were kept out in the first half when Villa goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez made a stunning save from Leandro Trossard, but the visitors wrapped up the win when Watkins raced clear in the 87th minute to loft a composed finish over David Raya.

It completed a perfect weekend for reigning champions City, with Pep Guardiola's side now two points clear of Arsenal who are ahead of third-placed Liverpool on goal difference.

Fixtures

THE FACUP SEMI-FINALS

Saturday 20th April 2024

Manchester City v Chelsea at 16.15pm

PREMIER LEAGUE

Saturday 20th April 2024

Luton Town v Brentford at 14.00pm

Sheffield United v Burnley at 14.00pm

Wolverhampton Wanderers v Arsenal at 18.30 pm

THE FACUP SEMI-FINALS

Sunday 21st April 2024

Coventry City v Manchester United at 14.30pm

PREMIER LEAGUE

Sunday 21st April 2024

Everton v Nottingham Forest at 12.30pm

Aston Villa v AFC Bournemouth at 14.00pm

Crystal Palace v West Ham United at 14.00pm

Fulham v Liverpool at 15.30pm

PREMIER LEAGUE

Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Arsenal v Chelsea at 19.00pm

Golf Report for Sunday, 14th April 2024

Report by SHGC

On Sunday, the 14th of April 2024, St Helena Golf Club hosted an 18-hole Gruesome Stableford competition under warm and sunny weather conditions. A total of 18 players participated in the event, making it a competitive and enjoyable afternoon of golf. This event was sponsored by Mr Douglas Augustus.

Competition Details: The format of the competition was Gruesome Stableford, where each team's score is determined by the best stableford score among its members on each hole. The teams that emerged tied at the top of the leaderboard with 37 points each were Team Arthur Young and Keith Joshua, as well as Team Asa Bushuru and Captain Bramwell Bushuru.

Results: After a countback to break the tie, it was determined that Team Asa Bushuru and Captain Bramwell Bushuru were the winners of the competition. Their consistent performance throughout the round secured them victory in this closely contested event. Unfortunately, there was no winner for the two-ball pool on this occasion. Congratulations to the winners and a big thank you to the sponsor Mr Douglas Augustus who presented the prizes.

Upcoming Event: Looking ahead to Sunday, the 21st of April 2024, St Helena Golf Club will be hosting a stroke play competition sponsored by Mr. Keith Joshua. The competition will feature a strokeplay format, adding a new challenge for participants. Tee-off time is set for 12:00 PM, and registration closes promptly on Saturday, the 20th of April at 3:00 PM.

Conclusion: The Gruesome Stableford competition on Sunday, 14th April showcased some impressive golfing skills and sportsmanship among the participants at St Helena Golf Club. The upcoming strokeplay event promises to be an-



other exciting opportunity for golfers to test their abilities on the course.

We wish to inform parents and guardians that junior golfers will resume in due course. Wednesday evening is still a ladies golfing evening and we look forward to having more ladies.

Happy swinging and a great weekend to you all.....!



The Annual General Meeting of the St Helena Football Association will take place on 24th April at 7pm at the New Horizons Youth Centre.

There are a few items on the agenda including the Chairman's and Treasurer's report for the 2023 season with the main one being the election of a new committee, so we urge all captains, footballers or interested persons of any gender who has an interest in the future of the St Helena Football Association to attend.

Saints Motocross Club

General Meeting

Tuesday 30 April 2024

7.30pm

The Canister (Upstairs), Jamestown

Agenda:

Chairman's Update

2023/24 Finances

Election of Committee

Upcoming Events

AOB

