

# THE ST HELENA



Est. 2005

# INDEPENDENT

VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 48, 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2024, PRICE £1

## ST HELENA CARNIVAL 2024 - IN PICTURES



**Return Flights from  
Gatwick to Cape Town  
From a Little as £219**



**NORSE**  
BOEING 787-9

NEW  BLUE PARKS  
2024

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to the 2024  
**BLUE PARKS**

- Siete Pecados Marine Park  
Philippines
- Gitdisdzu Lugyek's Marine Protected Area  
Kitasoo Xai'xais Nation
- Tristan da Cunha  
United Kingdom



Photo: National Geographic Society

# ST HELENA CARNIVAL 2024 - IN PICTURES



**ALL PICTURES BY ED THORPE**

*Continued on BACK PAGE*

## Return Flights from Gatwick to Cape Town From a Little as £219

On Monday this week Norse Atlantic Airways launched a summer season, three flights a week service from London Gatwick Airport to Cape Town International. The 11-hour flight landed at Cape Town at around 9 pm. The aircraft was a Boeing 787 Dreamliner.

British Airways once dominated this route but now their fares as more than twice as much. The inaugural flight was full but there is plenty of availability for the rest of the summer schedule which runs through to end of April 2025.

The £219 return fare is exceptional. For Saints returning home for Christmas and New Year the fares increase as the Christmas rush gathers pace. However Norse Atlantic is still cheaper than British Airways, with fares slightly less than Virgin Airways most of the time. If it is possible to fly from London in early December and stay in St Helena until the third week in January or later, the return fare can be around £700.

With three flights a week there may be more than a one-night stay in Cape Town, which is not so bad, except the extra hotel costs and meals have to be brought into any price comparison.

The last Gatwick – Cape Town flight for the Norse Atlantic summer season schedule is 26<sup>th</sup> April with the one-way adult fare at £195. In the northbound direction the fares always seem to be more expensive; the fare for one adult on the last summer season flight to Gatwick in April is £443. See <https://flynorse.com/en-GB/book/flights> for all the details.



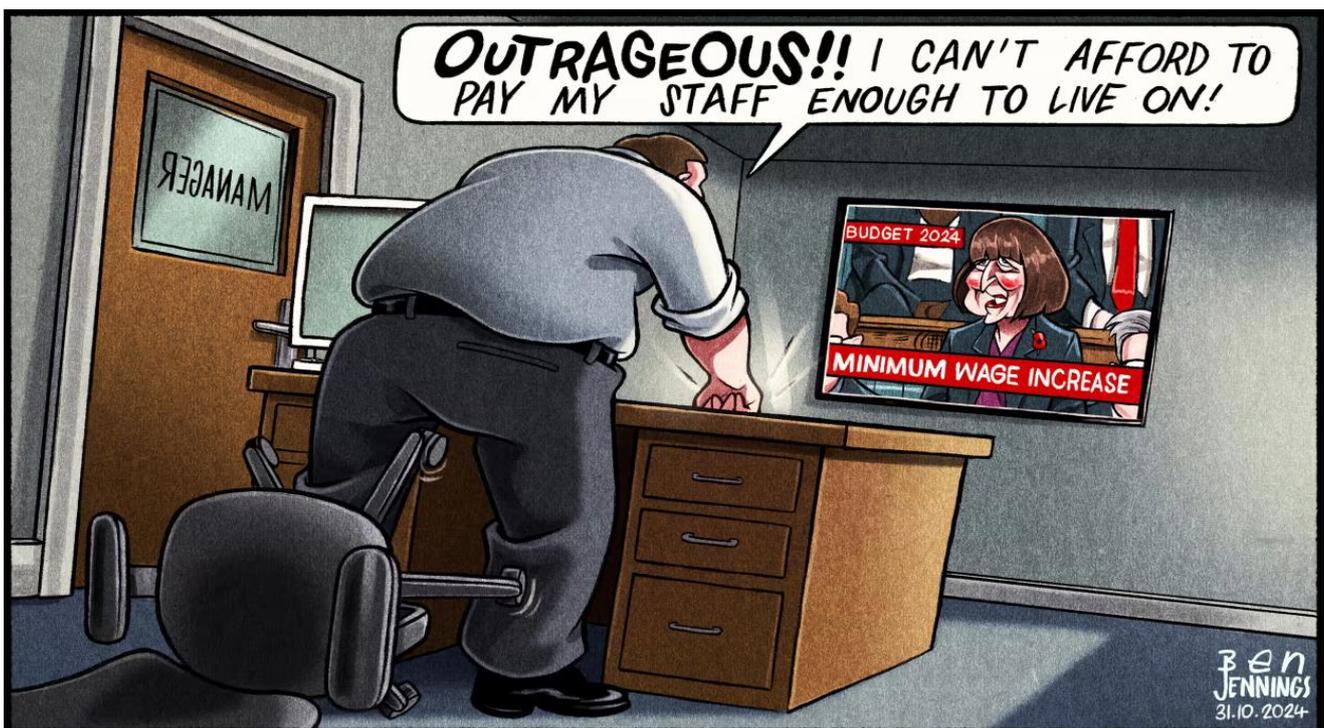
**Premium Class** is available on all flights and there are three types of Economy Class. **Economy Lite** is the cheapest. Luggage limit is 10kg, no meals are served on the plane and holders of this ticket are the last to board. A date change can be made on the ticket but there is a fee. Tickets are non-refundable.

**Economy Classic** has a 10kg carry-on luggage weight limitation and also a 23kg checked baggage allowance. One meal is available on-board, the tickets can be changed but not refundable. Economy Classic costs about £45 more than Economy Lite in the April example used.

**Economy Flextra** has the same luggage restrictions as Economy Classic but you can select your seat. One meal is served, you get priority boarding and tickets can be refunded as well as changed. Economy Flextra costs £116 more than Economy Lite in the sample used.

## The UK Budget This Week

### Minimum Wage Increase





# Editorial

In the United States there is no law against 'hate speech'. The First Amendment to the US Constitution is interpreted as protection for most forms of speech, no matter how objectionable, hurtful or slanderous the words may be and no matter what consequences result from the words.

This is why Trump is able to get away with it after saying outrageous things almost on a daily basis. US law allows him to stir up gullible public opinion against a range of sections in the so-called 'community' because the US constitution protects him, not them. This is yet another reason why the US is dysfunctional in so many ways. The US law on incitement to violence requires several things to be proved because of the simplistic US notion of what Freedom of Speech is all about.

It's not only freedom of speech. The whole idea of 'freedom' relies on everyone voluntarily imposing limitations on themselves to allow all others around them to enjoy their own freedoms as much as possible. I saw one video clip where a British reporter was travelling around Georgia or North Carolina to see for himself what went on during the non-stop mass gatherings both US presidential candidates have. One woman was laughing at the antics of a man dressed in clothes covered with 'I support Trump' slogans. The reporter said to the woman standing beside him, "he's a bit cheeky, isn't he?". The woman's face hardened straightaway as she replied, "nobody can tell me what I can say or what I do". This is the mentality of a spoilt little brat personified. The very idea of conforming to acceptable social behaviour has gone right out of the window for certain sections of the US population. They got no manners, sums it all up quite well.

Most European countries have laws against hate speech; the UK included. Unfortunately, the pendulum can swing the other way all too easily.

Marieha Hussain, 37, attended a pro-Palestine march holding a placard which led her to being charged with being 'racially abusive'. She was found guilty. Hussain appealed the judgement and won her case this week. The whole case rested whether what was on the placard was a racial slur or political satire.

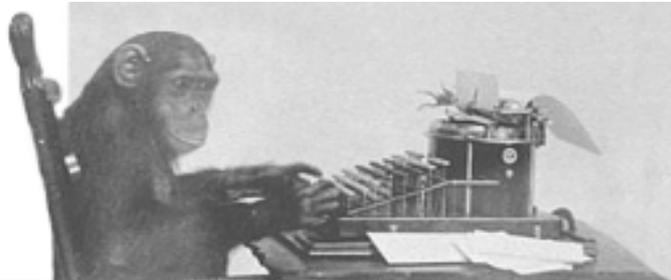
To understand the rest of this I probably have to explain a new meaning for the word coconut. Among some sections of the Asian community in the UK the word 'coconut' is used to describe someone who is from a non-white ethnic minority background, but behaves in ways that are considered to be white – brown on the outside, white on the inside, simple really. The one-time UK prime minister, Rishi Sunak, and the one-time home secretary Suella Braverman fitted, in Marieha Hussain's view, the description coconut.



**Marieha Hussain with her humorous, but misunderstood, poster**

What complicated matters is cultural differences. The popular UK comedian Romesh Ranganathan has frequently joked that his mum calls him a coconut for not speaking Tamil. Under questioning, Marieha Hussain (the accused) told the court, "If I'm truly honest, sometimes, when I was younger, my own dad called me a coconut," prompting laughter from the public gallery. The prosecutor in the case claimed coconut was a well-known racial slur. "[It has] a very clear meaning – you may be brown on the outside, but you are white on the inside." And? You may ask.

It is possible the prosecutor did not count many South Asians or blacks among his close friends and was unaware of the how the word coconut is used in this context. If so, it could be argued the prosecutor was not qualified to take on this case. Two days in court were spent explaining the cultural background to the use of the word coconut in this instance. Expert witnesses were called, literary sources were quoted and a large number of people gathered outside the court to protest Hussain's innocence. "The word 'coconut' didn't fall out of a coconut tree, to quote Kamala Harris's mum," a well-known activist said after the trial's first day, adding that



# Editorial

the word “fell out of our experience as former colonised people. The term emerged as a way of critiquing those who “collaborated with our oppressors”

This was not the first time the term “coconut” has come before the courts: in 2009 Shirley Brown, the first black Liberal Democrat elected to Bristol City Council, used the term to describe Conservative councillor Jay Jethwa during a heated debate about funding for the council’s Legacy Commission. The following year, in 2010, Ms Brown was convicted of racial harassment for the comment. She was given a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £620 in costs.

Marieha Hussain said “I am a teacher of almost 10 years standing with an academic background in psychology,” but despite eventually being cleared on appeal, she lost her job. On to something else now. My brothers and sisters had another spontaneous emailing session a day or two ago. What kicked it off this time was the falling fertility rate and falling populations. Over-population is the cause of all the world’s problems, said elder brother. To one of my emails, elder brother replied, I DARE YOU TO PUBLISH THIS; VERBATIM!! So here goes.

The fall has to be gradual, (I wrote) but across the world the fertility rate is falling – or is it contraception?

*The resident population of St Helena was 3,939 at the last count (end of August this year) and shows a consistent gradual fall. This means fewer residents of working age are paying taxes for an increasing number of old and unproductive codgers who do nothing other than increase healthcare bills. It is a vicious circle as the younger, tax-paying ones say “sod it, I’m off on the next plane”. (a bit excessive there, I admit – read too much about Trump)*

There is also the aspect where more women appear to have

forgotten their biological inheritance. From the same article - “I’m just happy doing what I’m doing as a child-free woman... not having to be tied to anything,” she said. This included being able to go on holidays during term time and having more disposable income.

Experts say the government could introduce some policies to help.

“The government could implement immediate interventions... such as offering longer paid parental leave, more funding for childcare for working parents and more funding for fertility treatments in the NHS.” Doesn’t that just increase costs/taxes and cause ever more stressful chasing after more income? It’s a palliative not a cure. I think people not eating roast beef and Yorkshire pudding (and your greens) also has something to do with it. Eating bloody MacDonalds all the time would hollow out anybody.

Scattered across the world, we are of course in different time zones. Elder brother emails, “Just awaiting our sister(s) waking up to this exchange!” They did. Elder sister pointed out “the power of the Catholic Church has waned and the World does not have to be converted to Catholicism”. Our parents were fervent Catholics. Among other things, she observed, “That is if the Earth hasn’t been blown apart and we are scattered over the Galaxy.” She was not a happy soul on that particular day. Younger sister was in a similar mood, “Just had the two youngest grandchildren here for the day. Catherine is recovering from her op. Absolutely knackered. All I know is the generation producing offsprings now, want it all, everything and NOW. Younger brother kept out of the conversation. He probably thought, ‘moaning old codgers!’. Maybe it was ‘coffin dodgers’.

**See you next week – bright and breezy  
Vince**

## PROPERTIES TO RENT

***The Housing Division has the following properties to rent:***

Blundens, Upper Jamestown - £700.00 per month (3 Bedroom Property) – Furnished

Red Roof, Ladder- £700.00 per month (3 Bedroom Property) – Furnished

No. 6 Piccolo Hill- £300.00 per month (3 Bedroom Property) – Un-furnished.

Please note the rent also covers gardening services.

For further information please contact Melissa Fowler, Chief Housing Officer, on

[Melissa.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Melissa.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh) or alternatively call 22270.

**SHG**

**29 October 2024**



# Budget 2024: Key points in UK Labour's tax-and-spend plan

By Reuters

**LONDON, Oct 30 (Reuters) - British finance minister Rachel Reeves presented her first budget statement to parliament on Wednesday, unveiling the biggest tax rises since 1993 and changes to the government's fiscal rules to increase borrowing for investment.**

Below are the main points from her speech:

## NEW FISCAL RULES

Reeves said she would eliminate the current budget deficit, or the difference between revenues and day-to-day spending, by the 2029/30 tax year after which the government would commit to run a balanced current budget in the third year at every budget.

She also introduced an investment rule to allow more spending on infrastructure while getting debt down as a share of the economy. The Office for Budget Responsibility said the change would create 15.7 billion pounds of fiscal headroom by 2029-30.

## TAX ON BUSINESS

From April, businesses' social security contributions will increase by 1.2 percentage points to 15% - a change that could potentially hurt wages and hiring.

Advertisement · Scroll to continue

Reeves also reduced the threshold at which businesses start paying social contributions on each workers' salary from 9,100 pounds (\$11,797.24) per year to 5,000 pounds.

The combined changes would raise 25 billion pounds per year by the end of the decade.

## TAXES ON THE RICH

Reeves said a freeze on the threshold for paying inheritance tax would be extended until 2030. She announced plans to bring inherited pensions into inheritance tax from 2027 and relief for companies and farms would be limited to 1 million pounds.

She closed exemptions that let wealthy, often foreign residents, avoid tax on overseas income, helping to raise 12.7 billion pounds (\$16.5 billion) over the next five years.

Reeves said capital gains tax will rise on most assets, jumping to 18% from 10% at the lower rate, and to 24% from 20% for higher earners to raise 2.5 billion pounds a year by 2030.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH

The OBR expected the economy to grow by 2.0% in 2025, slightly up from the 1.9% it had forecast in March.

It forecast 1.8% growth in 2026 and 1.5% in both 2027 and 2028, down from previous forecasts of 2.0%, 1.8% and 1.7%. Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Reeves carries the red budget box at Downing Street, in London

Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer leaves 10 Downing Street, on the day of the budget announcement, in London, Britain October 30, 2024. R

## PERSONAL TAX CHANGES

Reeves ruled out prolonging a freeze on the amount of money people can earn tax-free beyond 2028-2029. From financial

year 2028-29, personal tax thresholds will be increased in line with inflation, she said.

## GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Day-to-day spending on the state-run health service will increase by 22.6 billion pounds and its capital budget will increase by 3.1 billion pound over this financial year and 2025/26, Reeves said.

Reeves pledged a total of 100 billion pounds in capital spending over the next five years after changing the government's fiscal rules.

She allocated 6.7 billion pounds for education investment in 2025 of which 1.4 billion pounds will be spent on rebuilding over 500 schools across the country.

Reeves pledged 2.9 billion pounds funding for the 2025/26 financial year for Britain's armed forces and extended a pledge to provide Ukraine with 3 billion pounds a year.

The HS2 high-speed railway line connecting the capital to Birmingham in central England, will run to central London, Reeves said as she committed to funding for tunnelling work.

## OIL AND GAS FIRMS

Reeves said a windfall tax on North Sea oil and gas producers would increase to 38% from 35% from Nov. 1, and she extended the levy until March 2030.

She also scrapped the levy's 29% investment allowance which lets businesses offset tax from capital that is re-invested.

## FUEL TAX FREEZE

A temporary five-pence cut in fuel duty will remain in place for another year because of global uncertainty and the high cost of living, Reeves said.

## STAMP DUTY AND HOUSING

From Thursday, the stamp duty tax paid on second homes will increase by 2 percentage points to 5%. Reeves did not extend a discount for home-buyers that is set to expire next March.

(\$1 = 0.7714 pounds)







# JOB VACANCY

## THORPE'S JAMESTOWN SHOPS

### TILL/SHOP ASSISTANT

#### PART TIME / FULL TIME

This role involves shelf stocking, using an epos till and dealing with customers.

- Free home to duty transport
- Attractive leave and sick leave package
- Salary to increase considerably with proficiency in the job role and further increases with time spent in the company.

Contact: Henry Thorpe or Carol Yon Tel: 22781,  
email: admin@thorpes.sh or come and see us in our office above  
Thorpe's grocery shop

## Thank You

to All the people of St Helena who support the St Helena Association UK.....

Thank You to each and every one of you for all you have done for the Association throughout the past year.

At the end of this week we will be publishing a list of charities which we are donating to this year, in addition we are giving £500 to sponsor a grand Christmas Tea Party for the care homes at the CCC.

I know my team and I have worked so hard over the past year but I would like to say a huge thank you to the general public Saints and friends throughout our Saint community for all their help and generosity, without the generosity of our community we would not be able to support charities on St. Helena.

I am so humbled and also so very proud of my team, and I must also say a very big thank you to our representative on the Island Gillian Brooks who is doing a wonderful job in coordinating everything for me, she is a diamond.

During my visit in a few weeks' time, I hope to be seeing and asking people what else we can do to help make their lives a bit more comfortable.

Once again, Thank You everyone for supporting The St. Helena Association UK and we hope to keep good contacts with you all over the coming years.

**Kind Regards**  
**Patrick Harris**  
**Chairman**  
**St. Helena Association U.K.**

Sandy Bay Community Centre  
are having a Family Night Out for  
Guy Fawkes Night!

**SATURDAY, 02 NOVEMBER**  
**8PM - 1AM**

*Bonfire and Fireworks Display*

Guy Fawkes Competition with prizes for the best  
guy to be won!

Hot Food and Bar Facilities  
Music by DJ Charlie

Entrance Fee: £1 for Adults and 50p for Kids under 12

## Thank You

The Dubbs Family and special friend would like to thank the public who bought raffle tickets and special thanks to those who sold raffle tickets in aid of cancer support for St Helena, please also see list of winners below:

- Sheet 4, ticket 11 1st prize Tv Screen: Diana Roberts
- Sheet 31, ticket 3 2nd prize Toaster: Mercies George
- Sheet 9, ticket 27 3rd prize mini food chooper: Vera Joshua
- Sheet 2, ticket 12 4th prize Garden Hose: Fred Thomas
- Sheet 25, ticket 38 5th prize Electric kettle: Gladys O'Bey
- Sheet 29, ticket 26 6th prize cake container: Jordana Peters
- Sheet 15, ticket 14 7th prize cutlery set: -Lorraine Henry
- Sheet 19, ticket 6 8th prize single electric hob: Joyce Clifford
- Sheet 20, ticket 20 9th prize Garden Chair: Andrea Leo
- Sheet 10, ticket 15 10th prize coasters and mat: Mario Peters
- Sheet 9, ticket 31 11th prize bathroom scale: Pat Williams
- Sheet 24, ticket 19 12th prize wall clock: Mika Yon
- Sheet 3 ticket 5 13th prize blanket: Erin Benjamin
- Sheet 16 ticket 35 14th prize plant pots: Doris Joshua

Once again The Dubbs Family would like to thank all who supported in any way with this special event.

The sum of £830 was donated to The Cancer charity fund today 28th October 2024.

# NEW PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS 2024 IMPLEMENTED

HE the Governor has recently approved revised Procurement Regulations which replace the 2018 Procurement Regulations. The new Procurement Regulations aim to streamline processes and reduce administrative burdens, while ensuring compliance.

The new regulations will come into full effect on Friday 1 November 2024. These changes are designed to reduce administrative burdens for SHG colleagues, and any immediate significant challenges are not anticipated.

Whilst wording has been subtly amended throughout and definitions enhanced, the key changes which bring process benefits are:

- The threshold before the full regulations apply has increased to £30,000. Several other thresholds have also been increased to account for rising global prices since the previous regulations were issued.
- Any procurements above £30,000 must be placed on the Rolling Procurement Plan before any procurement activity can take place.
- There are still regulatory controls for items and services below £30,000, but there is greater flexibility for portfolios to gather quotations independently. Process Maps to demonstrate this are available on the SHG website at <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Process-Maps-2024.pdf>.

[/www.sainthelena.gov.sh/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Process-Maps-2024.pdf](https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Process-Maps-2024.pdf).

· The regulations will focus scarce skills and expertise where they are required and also ensure that Executive Council and other key stakeholders are aware and involved as early as possible in the process when appropriate.

Copies of the Terms of Reference for the Procurement Board and process maps which will hopefully help guide people through the new processes, can be found on the SHG website at <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/>.

To discuss the revised regulations in further detail please contact officers within Treasury and Procurement Services via the Castle Reception on 22470.

**SHG**  
**31 October 2024**



## Vacancies - Ascension Island

We have a vacancy for a Customer Services Assistant and a Supervisor to work within our retail and leisure establishment at Traveller's Hill.

The successful persons will need to undergo medical, dental and security checks prior to the start of employment.

Hours of work are 48 per week over 6 days. Food and accommodation provided.

Travel from home country to Ascension Island will be paid for by the Company.

For further information, terms & conditions please contact Delemarie Hopkins, Operations Manager via email [dhopkins@naafi.co.uk](mailto:dhopkins@naafi.co.uk)

CV's can be submitted to the above email. Closing date for both vacancies will be 10<sup>th</sup> November 24.

## **FCDO Visit to Assess Primary Education Provision**

SHG is in the process of conducting a Primary Education Review. A team from FCDO arrived on Tuesday to assess the physical provision of primary education in the school building now used and assess how future provision can be best served.

The main considerations for change are: -

- Consolidating into a single school
- Creating a primary two-school system

Or keeping the existing schools and structure.

The FCDO team will undertake an options appraisal to help secure an Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) business case. This will contribute to determining the best course of action for primary education on the island.

During their week-long stay, the FCDO team will visit all three primary schools, interacting with pupils, staff, parents, and community members. They will also meet with key stakeholders, including Chief Minister Julie Thomas, Chief Secretary Susan O'Bey, Acting Governor Tasha Harris, recent graduates, Chevening Scholars, the Education Review Stakeholder Group, the Autism Parents Support Group, and the St Helena Youth Parliament.

## **Minister Mark Brooks Represents St Helena at Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference**

Minister mark brooks left St Helena on Tuesday to attend the 67th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC), to take place in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, from 3 to 8 November 2024. The theme of the 67th CPC is Engage, Empower, Sustain: Charting the course for resilient democracy.

Whilst in transit before the conference, Minister Brooks will also be undertaking meetings in relation to his ministerial work. He is scheduled to return to the island on Saturday 9 November and will remain contactable during this period via his usual email or alternatively [Mbrooks.homeimprovement@gmail.com](mailto:Mbrooks.homeimprovement@gmail.com). Minister Christine Scipio can be contacted for any urgent issues related to the Treasury and Economic Development Portfolio, in Minister Brooks' absence and can be contacted via email [christine.scipio@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:christine.scipio@sainthelena.gov.sh).

## **Alterations to The Public Transport Bus Service**

Towards the end of 2023, expressions of interest were invited to operate the SHG subsidised Public Bus Service beyond February 2024. There was no interest from any operators to provide the full service which was in place at that time, therefore interim arrangements were agreed with three separate contractors to ensure continuity of some services from 01 March 2024. This arrangement was for an initial period of six months to enable SHG to consider policy options for the future delivery of a public bus service but was later extended to 30 November 2024.



This interim arrangement has resulted in a higher subsidy payment with fewer timetabled journeys. The interim arrangements are not financially sustainable; additionally, the reduction in the number of journeys have impacted those members of the community who relied on the service for social travel purposes, travel to and from work or late-night travel at weekends.

Various options for continuation of a public transport bus service were developed. The aim being to ensure financial sustainability in a Public Transport Service that required investment to deliver a reliable and accessible service to those who have no other means of travel. These options were considered in June this year by Executive Council who agreed SHG assume responsibility for providing the service for a period of up to five years. During this time the wider public transport needs will be assessed based on data obtained, alongside any developing interest from the Private Sector to operate the service together with good asset management to ensure value for money and financial sustainability.

To enable SHG to provide this service, funding for the procurement of three new 22-seater buses was approved from the FCDO Essential Equipment Fund, with a fourth funded from the Central Support Service Transport Trading Account. Two buses have been delivered to the island, with the others scheduled to arrive before the end of this calendar year.

## **New Bus Service From 1<sup>st</sup> December**

The new SHG operated service will commence on 01 December 2024, utilising the pre-March 2024 timetables and resuming the late-night travel, journeys to the airport at weekends and reinstating other daytime journeys that had ceased at the end of February 2024.

From 01 December, the routes and buses will no longer be identified by letters such as, A, B, C etc. but rather by route numbers, 1, 2, 3 and 4. Buses will have signage to indicate they are Public Transport Service buses, along with LED displays to indicate route number and destination.

To ensure a sustainable public transport bus service into the future, ticket costs for 'hop on, hop off' journeys will be as follows:

Single journeys of up to 3 miles - £2.45

Single journeys of 3 to 6 miles - £3.15

Single journeys of over 6 miles - £3.60

Tickets for children up to and including 10 years of age will be half price.

It is important to note that prices have remained the same since March 2016 and that SHG is continuing to subsidise the service with an annual amount of £87,000.00. If not subsidised the above journeys would have cost:

Single journeys of up to 3 miles - £5.85

Single journeys of 3 to 6 miles - £6.45

Single journeys of over 6 miles - £7.08

More details about routes, timetables, and other relevant information will be released in the coming weeks. SHG extends its sincere thanks to all contractors who have contributed to the continuity of public bus services since March 2024, with special recognition to Colin's Garage and Joshua's Taxis for their longstanding commitment in providing transport services for the community since 2003 and 2012 respectively.

# Your Opinion Counts

## Dear Editor

I write in response to the Partnership Agreement between The United Kingdom Government UKG and St. Helena Government SHG.

First of all I am of the view that the conditions to the Agreement were rushed and not properly thought through in the best interest of St Helena and its people as there appear to be key issues which are unclear or not known'

.Whereas the £6.65 million will be most welcome to St Helena in order to deal with the backlog of medical issues, Education and internal IT, the £6.65 million is very little money to HMG, it is equal to housing 159 Asylum Seekers in the UK for one year, based on £41.000 per person, which is estimated to be the appropriate cost. I do hope

that some of this money be use to deal with the many people who are suffering with knee and hip problems and need the services of an Orthopedic Surgeon. However, is there any written commitment from UKG that this funding will not be clawed back by UKG through reductions in the Capital Programme budget or aid settlements beyond 2025/26? If this was to happen St Helena would really suffer. Is there a limit on Migrant numbers, or will it be open ended? It is not expected that many would arrive, but there is a risk that large numbers show up and St Helena has committed to taking all eligible Migrants arriving in BIOT for the next 18 months. There is also the potential that this Agreement could become a draw factor for Migrants who might attempt to get to St Helena in the hope of getting to the UK, or just because they want to live somewhere safe with everything provided for them. Surely a realistic cap should be placed on the number of Migrants St Helena will accept?

UKG has stated that it will meet direct costs relating to the Migrants, but what about the on-going indirect costs and increased demand on services that are already under resourced and struggling,

such as health and education. For example, is UKG going to pay for additional staff if there is a big influx of Migrants? Will HMG be providing an uplift in annual budgetary aid, since St Helena is already struggling to cope on the current Budgetary Aid allocation.

How will these migrants be properly vetted, since it is likely that the majority will show up in BIOT with no documentation, especially if they have serious criminal background?

**Derek Thomas**



## Community Development Organisation

### Annual General Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday 6 November 2024 | **Time:** 7:00pm | **Where:** Museum of St Helena

**The Community Development Organisation (CDO) was established in 2013 to support St Helena's civil society through a Community Grant Scheme.**

**SHG funding for the Grant Scheme was suspended in 2020. We continue to offer matchfunding grants up to £1,000 from our reserves. These grants act as a vital source of support for local organisations, many of which are solely reliant on volunteers.**

**If you are passionate about and believe in the value of St Helena's voluntary organisations, charities, Community Centres, clubs and Non-Government Organisations, please come along and show your support.**

*Light refreshments provided.*

#### Current Committee

**Chairperson:** Mia Henry  
**Vice Chairperson:** Bramwell Bushuru  
**Treasurer:** Danielle Anthony  
**Secretary:** Tara Wortley  
**Committee Members:** Cynthia Bennett  
Shayla Ellick

**We know many charities struggle to recruit a Committee but if you want to see this organisation continue then please come along and offer your support.**

**Our Bank Balance at 31 March 2024 was £22,818.44.**

**Please help keep the Community Grant Scheme alive.**

If you are interested in joining the Committee or would like more information in advance of the meeting please contact the Committee Secretary or email [community.sthelena@gmail.com](mailto:community.sthelena@gmail.com)



# Green Island Energy Limited

Telephone: 25104

Mobile: 61720

Email: [karlthrower@gmail.com](mailto:karlthrower@gmail.com)

## TV's

Hisense 32A4KTUK A4K 32" LED HD Smart TV	£230
Hisense 40 Inch FHD VIDAA Smart TV	£325
Hisense 55 Inch UHD VIDAA Smart TV	£475
Samsung UE43AU7020KX 43" UHD 4K HDR Smart TV	£399
Samsung UE50CU8000 50" Crystal UHD 4K HDR Smart TV	£499
Samsung UE55CU8000 55" Crystal UHD 4K HDR Smart TV	£599
Various TV brackets from	£20

## Phones, Laptops, PCs etc

Remi 14C Mobile Phone 6GB RAM 128GB ROM 6.88" screen	£150
Lenovo 15.6" N4020 FHD, 4GB RAM, 256GB SSD, Windows 11	£299
Asus 15.6" Laptop Intel i3, HD, 8GB RAM, 256 SSD, Win 11 64 Bit	£399
Asus 15.6" Laptop Intel i3, HD, 8GB RAM, 512 SSD, Win 11 64 Bit	£425
HP 15.6" Laptop Intel i5, HD, 8GB RAM, 256 SSD, Win 11 64 Bit	£445
Epson EcoTank Printer (takes bottles of ink, not cartridges – much cheaper)	£275

**Laptop Hard Drive Up-Grade – 256 to 500GB = £50 / 256 to 1,000GB = £90**

Used Lenovo Micro PC i5 8GB RAM SSD Windows 10 – HDMI to TV (Great for connecting to a TV for access to streaming sites etc.)	£150
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## DVD Player

Small Multi Region DVD player	£50
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***Laptop / PC Repairs and Upgrades from £20***

***Various 12v LED vehicle lights from £19***



## APPLY FOR A CHEVENING SCHOLARSHIP

Chevening scholarship applications will close in less than a week on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 12noon GMT.

Don't miss out on your chance to gain a fully funded masters degree through study in the UK. Chevening is aimed at leaders and changemakers, giving them access to a wide range of exclusive academic and professional opportunities.

With tuition fees, travel and living expenses are all paid for, scholars are free to concentrate on their studies.

To be eligible for a scholarship, you must:

- Be a citizen of a Chevening eligible country
- Have completed an undergraduate degree that will allow entry into postgraduate study at a UK university.
- Have at least two year's work experience.
- Must not have previously studied in the UK through a UK Government funded scholarship.
- Must return home at the end of your study for a minimum period of two years
- Apply to three different and eligible UK university courses.
- Demonstrate outstanding future leadership potential

For more information and how to apply, visit [www.chevening.org](http://www.chevening.org) or contact Kerry Lane at [Kerry.Lane@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:Kerry.Lane@fcdo.gov.uk), tel +290 22308.

[www.chevening.org](http://www.chevening.org)

Contact: [Kerry.Lane@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:Kerry.Lane@fcdo.gov.uk)



## MERCHANT BOOTH BUSINESS BANKING



*Thank you for your feedback!*

**Changes from today, Friday 01 November 2024**

The 'Merchant Booth' opened to our business customers on 02 September and since then, we've asked for feedback from our business community and we have some changes coming to the Main Branch from today:

**Merchant Booth out, Business Banking in:** We've now changed the name of the station to 'Business Banking'. The station is dedicated to businesses, charities and organisations.

**Later opening, no breaks:** The new opening hours for the station is **9:30am to 1:30pm, Monday to Friday**. Those visiting on Saturdays can proceed to any available stations.

**Smaller transactions, more stations:** Deposits and withdrawals **up to a maximum of £3,000** can now be processed at all Teller Stations for business customers. Any deposit or withdrawal over £3,000 can only be processed at the Business Banking station during the set opening hours for business customers.

We'd like to take this opportunity to remind our business customers that personal banking is not permitted at the Business Banking station. You will be required to join the queue for your personal banking.

**If you have any questions, please contact us on 22390.**



**Bank of St. Helena Ltd.**

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



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



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



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



+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

# District Cleanup



## District Cleanup/Beautification Competition

St Helena Tourism is organising a district cleanup competition.

This initiative aims to help improve our community by enhancing and maintaining areas of the Island.

The competition is open to district groups and organisations. Groups will notify which area they are cleaning up and beautifying and will be judged on that area.

The winning district/organisation will be awarded a £500 cash prize plus reimbursement of expenses occurred during the cleanups. With the condition that the prize money be used to further benefit the community.

For more information and to register interest please contact the Tourist Office on telephone 22158 or email [louis.youde@shg.gov.sh](mailto:louis.youde@shg.gov.sh).

Judging will take place on the 1st December 2024.



## BANK CLOSED FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY WEDNESDAY, 06 NOVEMBER 2024

The Main Branch will be closed on Wednesday, 06 November to facilitate staff training and development. Normal opening hours will resume on Thursday, 07 November. This closure will not affect St Helena Pay or Online Banking Services.

Bank of St Helena would like to apologise for any inconvenience this closure may cause, and thank customers for their support and cooperation.



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



info@sainthelenabank.com

+290 22390

www.sainthelenabank.com

Market Street, Jamestown

@sainthelenabank

Bank of St Helena Ltd

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## PROPERTY FOR SALE

2 BEDROOM REFURBISHED  
Semi detached BUNGALOW

Barrack sq , Jamestown

WITH VACANT PROCESSION

£130,000 open to sensible offers.

For details /photos  
e-mail [keithellick@gmail.com](mailto:keithellick@gmail.com)  
or phone 22893

# VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

## Customer Service Officer

**Commencing at £9,456 per annum**

Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking to recruit a suitable person with the right mix of skills and experience to fill the exciting position of Customer Service Officer.

Reporting to the Assistant Customer Service Manager, the Customer Service Officer will be responsible for providing an efficient and effective delivery of customer services and banking products to all customers in a professional and timely manner.

The successful candidate will provide excellent customer service at all times; be able to deal with customers and visitors in a professional manner and have the ability to deal with awkward/irate customers. They must be highly organised and have a keen eye for detail, maintain confidentiality, exhibit high accuracy levels and have the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, whilst working well with others as part of the wider Bank team.

Skills and experience the candidate should have:

- GCSE's in Mathematics and English at Grade C or above;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Proficiency in IT skills, including Microsoft Applications and Database;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- At least 2 years' experience of working in an office environment and/or in a customer service environment.

Interested persons can contact Mrs Maria Thomas, Assistant Customer Services Manager on email [asst.csmanager@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:asst.csmanager@sainthelenabank.com) or Mrs Karen Buckley, Customer Services Manager on email [csmanager@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:csmanager@sainthelenabank.com) for more information. They are also available on telephone number (+290) 22390.

An Application form and job profile is available upon request from the Bank and can be viewed on our official website. Completed application forms should be addressed to Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to [hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com).

**Closing date for applications is Friday, 15 November 2024.**

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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



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+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

# VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

## Bank Teller

**Commencing at £8,796 per annum**

Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking to recruit a suitable person on a full-time basis to fill the vacant position of a Bank Teller.

This position will incur significant contact with the public and other Bank staff. The successful candidate must be flexible, demonstrate courtesy and provide excellent customer service at all times. They must have a keen eye for detail, exhibit high accuracy levels and have the ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, whilst working well with others as part of the wider Bank team.

The main duties of the post include:

- Undertaking counter transactions for customers and posting these to the Bank's computer system;
- Cash handling and assisting customers in meeting their banking needs and queries;
- Providing assistance in the delivery of Remote Banking services;
- Any other duties.

Interested persons can contact Miss Danielle Anthony, Teller Services Manager on email [tellerservicesmanager@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:tellerservicesmanager@sainthelenabank.com) or Mrs Karen Buckley, Customer Service Manager on email [csmanager@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:csmanager@sainthelenabank.com), or contact them on (+290) 22390 for more information.

An Application form and job profile is available upon request from the Bank and can be viewed on our official website. Completed application forms should be addressed to Miss Merle Peters, Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to [hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com).

**Closing date for applications is Friday, 08 November 2024.**

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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



+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd



## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

### Senior Crown Counsel

**Total package value up to £67,542.00 per annum**

**Comprising salary of up to £51,515 plus food and utilities allowances, housing and other benefits – details below.**

#### About the role

We're looking for a Solicitor or Barrister to take a full and active role in ensuring the good governance of Ascension Island.

#### What you'll do

You'll provide a full range of legal services to the Ascension Island Government (AIG) and be an active participant in the government's Senior Management Team. Through the provision of strategic legal advice, you'll support the AIG's Directorates to achieve their objectives, and contribute to the good governance of the island by taking a proactive approach to the identification, mitigation and management of legal risks.

You'll be responsible for managing any litigation brought against or by the Government, including civil and employment litigation, as well as acting as the prosecuting authority in respect of criminal matters. You'll also provide legal support for the government's legislative agenda, in particular providing legal advice on policy development, liaising with external lawyers on legislative drafting, and supporting post-legislative implementation.

#### What you'll bring

As a Solicitor or Barrister with at least five years post-qualification experience, including both litigation and advisory work, you'll be someone who is knowledgeable, adaptable and resilient with a high level of person integrity. You'll bring experience of managing the competing demands of a busy practice, the ability to prioritise effectively and work under minimal supervision, with responsibility for delivering to deadlines on key and often complex legal issues.

#### What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of up to £51,515 (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts an accompanied status contract and the following benefits:

- Rent free furnished accommodation worth £3,000 pa (taxable benefit)
- A food allowance of £7,560 pa accompanied, or single status £3,780 pa (taxable benefit).
- An electricity allowance worth £938 p.a.
- A water allowance worth £2,729 pa accompanied, or £1,360 single status.
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including assistance with the shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- 30 days' annual holiday (with an additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care and off island, with medical referral if required including medivac arrangements in an emergency.
- Free schooling for dependent children from 4 to 16 years.
- Free annual travel insurance
- Death in Service insurance

#### The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Enhanced Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical and Dental Clearance

**Closing date: 29 November 2024**

**Interviews: Early December 2024, by Teams or Skype**

**Required start date: February 2025 or as soon as possible thereafter**

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

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

# Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena  
Government

## Teacher (St Paul's Primary) (£11,520 - £18,902 per annum)

Are you passionate about our young children's education and holistic life? If so, we are seeking to recruit a Teacher to share their expertise and passion in order to teach our pupils to achieve the best possible standard of education. This will mean the ability to cater for all abilities and needs in the classroom. This position requires you to be responsible for the planning, preparation and effective delivering of programmes of study to designated class(es). 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 effectively with students, parents and colleagues.

Enquiries: Patricia Williams Tel No. 24737 or  
Email: [patricia.williams@primary.edu.sh](mailto:patricia.williams@primary.edu.sh)

Closing date: 05 November 2024

## Fire Fighter (£9,711 per annum)

The St Helena Fire & Rescue Service has an opportunity for you to join their team as Fire Fighter. Within this role you will protect and save people and property from fire and other hazards, reduce risk and provide humanitarian services in the most competent and effective manner.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Jason Lawrence on Tel No. 23344 or  
Email: [stno.fire@helanta.co.sh](mailto:stno.fire@helanta.co.sh)

Closing date: 05 November 2024

## Trainee Dental Nurse (£9,781 per annum)

The Dental team has an exciting opportunity for you to join their team as a Trainee Dental Nurse who will be responsible for working closely with clinicians to assist in providing care for patients and provide appropriate support and administrative assistance (manual and computer). Once qualified he/she will work independently under the clinical supervision of the Dentist/Dental Therapist. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Charmaine Buckley-Thomas on Tel No. 25387 or  
Email: [charmaine.buckley@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:charmaine.buckley@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Closing date: 13 November 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](http://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](mailto: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

## Senior Care Assistant (Ebony View) (£10,167 per annum)

Social Care is seeking to recruit a Senior Care Assistant to work under the direction of the Learning Disability & Residential Manager, to deliver care and well-being to service users in accordance with the individuals Care Plan and Unit procedures and guidelines. We are looking for an individual with good interpersonal skills and experience in working with challenging behaviour in a care setting.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

**Enquiries:** Kelly Hopkins on Tel No. 23343 or  
Email: [kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.gov.sh)

**Closing date:** 08 November 2024

## Head of Economic Development Policy (£30,256 - £36,244 per annum based on experience)

The Economic Development Portfolio is seeking to recruit a Head of Economic Development Policy to be responsible for drafting and implementing policies that ensure the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy (SEDS), Digital Strategy, Tourism Recovery Strategy, and Investment Strategy are delivered. The post holder will be key in delivering the vision of the SEDS: creating an enabling environment that allows people and businesses to thrive, preserving what makes St Helena unique, and improving how SHG delivers as a government. Heads of Service are integral to supporting the overall financial resilience of the Public Service and have a responsibility to ensure value for money and return in investment within their Service and across the Public Service as a whole. You will be required to have experience in working within an economic development field and experience in writing and implementing policy and strategy.

Strong leadership is essential as well as experience in managing and leading a high performing team. Contact us for further information and a copy of the full job profile.

**Enquiries:** Damian Burns on Tel No. 22470 or  
Email: [Damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh)

**Closing date:** 08 November 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

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# Join us!

## We are recruiting...



St Helena  
Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

### Casual Workers – Social Care

**Rate of Pay: £4.46 per hour**

**(Available for local interest only)**

Social Care is seeking to recruit Casual Workers to provide quality care and support to those in care. You will be required to communicate and interact fully with both adults and children to ensure their protection and promote their welfare.

Please note that as Casual Workers you will only be entitled to receive payment for the hours worked. Annual leave etc. will not apply. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

**Enquiries:** Rosalie Brown (Head of Social Care – (SD) Tel: 23312  
Martin Greenhalgh (Community Care Centre) Tel: 23090  
Nicole Hercules (Piccolo Hill) Tel: 25936  
Hannah Herne (Sheltered Housing) Tel: 25798  
Kelly Hopkins (Ebony View) Tel: 23343  
Annabel Phillips (Children Residential Home) Tel: 24386

### Handyman/Driver

**(£7,960 per annum) (fixed term – 6 months)**

**(Available for local interest only)**

The Health & Social Care Portfolio is currently seeking to recruit a Handyman Driver who will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the CCC premises and will have a vital role to play in making the environment safe and comfortable. You will also be required to perform driving duties to support the smooth running of the Environment. Contact us for more information and a discussion

**Enquiries:** Martin Greenhalgh on Tel: 23090 or  
**Email:** [martin.greenhalgh@sainthelena.co.sh](mailto:martin.greenhalgh@sainthelena.co.sh)  
**Closing date:** 15 November 2024

### Cook (CCC)

**(£7,960 per annum)**

Do you enjoy cooking? Are you able to cook quality nutritious, appetising and well-presented meals and bakes for large numbers of people? If so, the Community Care Centre is seeking to recruit a Cook to provide these meals for all their residents, including Patients at the Hospital and other services within Health & Social Care in line with assured safe catering practices and ensure the maintenance of an organised, hygienic kitchen.

**Enquiries:** Martin Greenhalgh Tel: 23090  
**Email:** [martin.greenhalgh@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:martin.greenhalgh@sainthelena.gov.sh)  
**Closing Date:** 15 November 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](http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies) Alternatively, these are available in paper format from Central Human Resources and Organisational Development at The Castle, Jamestown.

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

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# Join us!

## We are recruiting...



St Helena  
Government

### Senior Support Worker – Sheltered Housing (£11,713 per annum)

We are seeking to recruit a Senior Support Worker with a good sense of responsibility and commitment, for providing assistance to individuals within Sheltered Accommodation that encourages them to live independently. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Hannah Herne on 23230 or 23151 or  
Email [hannah.herne@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:hannah.herne@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Closing date: 05 November 2024.

### Care Assistant (Ebony View) (£8,113 per annum)

Are you a caring and compassionate person and like to work with elderly frail people? Would you have the ability to provide high quality, holistic care directly to frail older people in full time residential and day care, in the Community Care Centre (CCC) enabling them to live full and active lives whilst being as safe as possible? If so, this could be the job for you!! Contact us for more information and to arrange a discussion.

Enquiries: Kelly Hopkins on Tel: 23343  
Email [kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.co.sh](mailto:kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.co.sh)

Closing date: 11 November 2024.

### Independent Living Support Worker (Piccolo Hill) (6 month Fixed Term - £7,960 per annum pro rata) (Casual Workers - £4.46 per hour) (Available for local interest only)

Are you able to provide one-to-one support to enable an individual with learning difficulties to live independently in their own home in the Longwood area? Would you be able to assist the individual in developing their skills so that they can live a full, active and independent life whilst being safe? If so, this important role could be for you. You will be required to develop a supportive relationship, rather than providing a caring role, with the individual; supporting them to engage in their preferred interests and activities, decision making and independence over their own life.

Contact us for further information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Nicole Hercules on Tel No: 25936 or  
Email: [piccolo.hill@helanta.co.sh](mailto:piccolo.hill@helanta.co.sh)

Closing Date: 08 November 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/governent/vacancies](http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/governent/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**

## **Fixed Term General Teaching Assistant (St Paul’s Primary) (£8,419 - £8,725 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:** Patricia Williams on Tel No 24737 or Email [Patricia.Williams@primary.edu.sh](mailto:Patricia.Williams@primary.edu.sh)

**Closing date:** 12 November 2024

## **Fixed Term 1:1 Teaching Assistants (St Paul’s Primary) (£8,419 - £8,725 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:** Patricia Williams on Tel No 24737 or Email [Patricia.Williams@primary.edu.sh](mailto:Patricia.Williams@primary.edu.sh)

**Closing date:** 12 November 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](http://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](mailto: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.*

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# Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena  
Government

## Support Workers (Children’s Residential Home) (Casual - £5.69 per hour) (Available for local interest only)

Are you able to provide high quality of care and support which meets the physical, emotional, intellectual, social and cultural needs of children and young people within the care setting? Do you have the ability to provide assistance and support on a 1:1 basis to enable young people to address past and present difficulties?

If so, the Children’s Residential Home has a vacancies for fixed term and Casual Support Workers to join their small team.

If you feel this could be the role for you, why not contact us for further information about the duties of the role.

Enquiries: Annabel Phillips on Tel No: 24386  
Email: [Annabel.Phillips@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Annabel.Phillips@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Closing Date: 11 November 2024

## Senior Human Resources Assistant (£9,781 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. Keys 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](mailto:sharina.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Closing date: 13 November 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](http://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](mailto: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.

# Takeaways From CHOGM



Last Friday was the day of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting as a full week of events came to a close.

Like the Commonwealth Games, CHOGM enjoys a measure of informality which is missing at similar international meetings. CHOGM meets once every two years and has a place for everyone. The main events across the week are the Forums. These separately represent Women, Youth, Business and the People's Forum which brings together community groups and NGOs from across the Commonwealth. There were meetings of foreign ministers and, for the first time ever, Children aged from four to 14 have made history by becoming the youngest ever official delegates to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

At the side events, there were several meetings focussing on climate change. As the 2024 CHOGM was held in Samoa this would only be right. The impacts of climate change on the Pacific islands are serious and wide ranging. Rising sea surface temperatures and ocean acidification threaten corals; corals that generate the sediment these islands require to remain stable. Changing climate circulation patterns affect the strength, duration, and paths of storms and precipitation events in the Pacific Ocean.

The CHOGM meeting itself brought together the heads of governments for one 3-hour meeting on Friday afternoon. Events for the day started at 9:30 am with an opening ceremony, followed by another opening ceremony. Just after midday there was the official group photo, followed by two receptions held at the same time. Overlapping that was a programme of events for the wives of heads of governments. Finally, at 2:30 pm there were Executive Sessions, where, presumably, some business was done. At 6pm there was a meeting of the reconstituted Commonwealth Ministers Action Group (CMAG). The 'Action' lasted 30 minutes. The schedule then allowed 60 minutes for everyone to freshen up before another reception for Heads of Government and their wives at 7:30 pm; 240 minutes was allocated for this. Foreign ministers and their wives had a dinner scheduled, also for 7:30 pm but only for 120 minutes. After that, it must have been straight to bed after an exhausting day.

Last Saturday was the final day. The Leaders went into closed session for 6 hours. Foreign ministers met with civil society for 3 hours, and then had a 90-minute lunch. This was followed by a 60-minute Closing Executive Session and then another 60 minutes for a Concluding Press Conference. The grand finale was a 2-hour Secretary-General's Task Force Party, scheduled to finish at 10:30 pm.

The schedule of receptions, ceremonies, dinners and a party does not include the serious talking outside or during events and by the back-up team that accompanies every country's ministers. The communiqué, or end of conference summary, covered a vast number of topics. There were other Declara-

tions, including the Commonwealth Ocean Declaration for One Resilient Common Future, Commonwealth Principles on Freedom of Expression and the Role of the Media in Good Governance, Commonwealth Youth Declaration and others.

The world's media was focused on reparations for the slave trade – with all eyes on the UK. Before CHOGM 2024, the UK prime minister said repeatedly that reparations were not on the agenda. However, at the end of the 6-day get-together a document signed by 56 heads of government, including UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer, acknowledges calls for "discussions on reparatory justice" for the "abhorrent" transatlantic slave trade.

Commonwealth leaders agreed the "time has come" for a conversation about reparations for the slave trade, despite the UK's desire to keep the subject off the agenda at a two-day summit in Samoa. The statement says it is time for a "meaningful, truthful and respectful conversation". Sir Keir said there had been no discussions about money at the meeting, and that the UK is "very clear" in its position that it would not pay reparations. The UK has faced growing calls from Commonwealth leaders to apologise and pay reparations for the country's historical role in the slave trade. Reparations for the benefit of those who suffered as a result of slavery could take many forms, from financial to symbolic.

Speaking at a press conference on Saturday, Sir Keir said Commonwealth leaders had a "positive two days" in Samoa and downplayed the prominence of reparations at the summit.

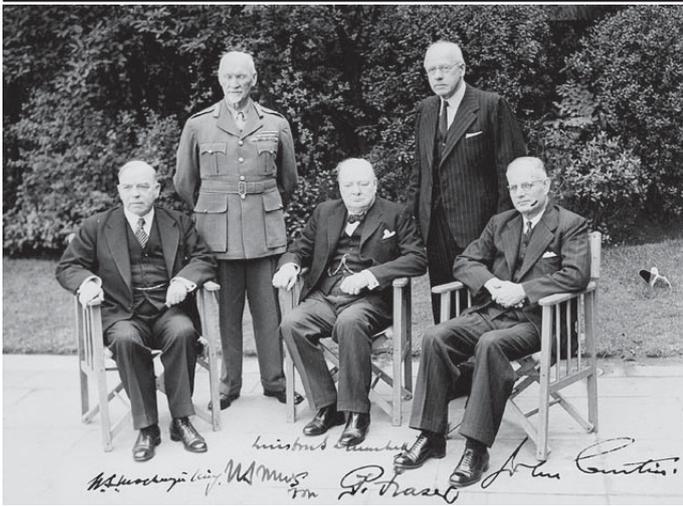


**Children are official delegates for the first time**



**The Head Girl at a Samoan school give the keynote speech at the children's session.**

## The Way Things Were



From left, Canada, South Africa, United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia Prime Ministers. These countries had Dominion status and were not Colonies. The Colonies were not represented.

Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conferences were held every two years from 1944 to 1969. They were small events with just four 'Dominions' joining in talks with the UK. Today, 56 nations get together at CHOGMs.

In this photo of the first Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in 1944 there is Mackenzie King of Canada, Jan Smuts of South Africa, Winston Churchill of UK, Peter Fraser of New Zealand and John Curtin of Australia. No diversity, no smiles – a very different world.

## How The Blue Belt Programme Helps St Helena, Ascension and Tristan - 2023-24



### St Helena

1. The Blue Belt team assisted St Helena Government to complete a protected area management effectiveness assessment, with the results used to determine management priorities for the future. This will ensure that the MPA continues to be well managed, providing benefits for the environment and local community.
2. The St Helena Government worked with Blue Belt team to take forward their new regulations on marine tourism and interaction with marine life, which establishes a licensing system for marine tour operators. The team developed guidance for government officers to use when reviewing licence applications, to help ensure that tourism activities do not disturb St Helena's unique wildlife.
3. The Blue Belt Programme assessed the effects of po-

tential climate change impacts on the abundance and distribution of key species in St Helena. The report indicated that annual sea surface temperatures are expected to remain suitable for most reef fish, though impacts from changes to nutrients are expected to affect population dynamics. This work will now feed into local engagement materials to help build local understanding about climate risk and sensitivity within St Helena waters.

4. In St Helena, the Blue Belt team helped update the St Helena fisheries profile by reviewing current fishing activities, stock and species status, undertaking fisheries research within inshore areas and at seamounts, and developing a software application to record and analyse catch data. Combined with recommendations provided by Blue Belt Programme on local fisheries management options, these measures will help St Helena manage local total allowable catch levels of important fish stocks.

*Continued on NEXT PAGE*

# How The Blue Belt Programme Helps St Helena, Ascension and Tristan - 2023-24

Continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

5. UK marine enforcement officers also travelled to St Helena, where on-the-job training and advice was provided on boarding and landing inspections, helping to improve compliance practices within the local fishing industry.
6. The Blue Belt Programme developed MPA Financial Plans for St Helena and Pitcairn governments. This has helped build understanding of the long-term costs of effectively managing their large-scale MPAs and begin planning for how the long-term funding gap can be closed, including through trialling new funding mechanisms and cost-saving strategies.
7. With Blue Belt support and funding, Ascension and St Helena held awareness raising events for local communities:
8. The latest St Helena marine awareness week event provided an opportunity for every school child on the island to go out to sea to experience marine environment first hand.

## Ascension



1. On Ascension, the second successful marine festival was held, with almost 200 community members attending to celebrate and learn more about Ascension's unique marine environment.
2. The Blue Belt Programme provided funding to assist the Ascension green turtle survey and specific research projects on turtle behaviour. Ascension is home to one of the largest green turtle colonies on earth and this data will help inform future management of this regionally important species.
3. Satellite tags were also funded on Ascension for seabirds as part of a research project aiming to better understand seabird distributions and their interactions with fisheries. Many of Ascension's seabirds range much further than the MPA boundaries and this project will help to fill data gaps to integrate the MPA within the wider seascape and improve protections.
4. The team completed analysis of microplastic pollution from deep-water samples in Ascension, the first study

of its kind, supporting on-island efforts to grow understanding of the impacts of plastic pollution on the MPA.

5. A ground-breaking primary school twinning project was launched between St Margaret's (Lowestoft, UK) and Two Boats (Ascension) schools, with an ambition of working together to find out more about each other's marine environment, the species that live there and what they can do to protect and restore nature. By providing students with an understanding of the importance of our oceans and how to protect them, they will be able to make informed and responsible decisions regarding the ocean and its resources in the future.
  6. The Blue Belt Symposium this year the Blue Belt programme hosted and facilitated a landmark international event, entitled The Blue Belt journey: Celebrating the past, charting the future. Between sessions, delegates were able to find out more via exhibition stands. These included displays of the incredible biological specimens collected during Blue Belt Programme Discovery expeditions, as well as artwork from the Ascension Island youth MPA committee, highlighting work done locally to increase ocean literacy.
- Tristan

Tristan recognised as a Blue Park - The Blue Parks programme utilises science-based criteria to set standards for effective marine conservation

1. With funding from the programme, the new Tristan da Cunha Environmental Data Portal (hosted by the British Antarctic Survey) was launched. This new portal is a resource for Tristan Government to manage and share its environmental data with researchers from around the world.
2. The programme funded the purchase of an inshore patrol and survey vessel in Tristan da Cunha which will support a range of activities, including scientific research and fisheries patrols to support marine management.
3. Tristan da Cunha Government successfully completed an offshore survey around Gough Island aboard the MFV Edinburgh with funding from the Blue Belt Programme. During the survey, research deployments included the use of Baited Remote Underwater Video Systems (BRUVS). The data collected from the survey will inform the ongoing management of the waters around Gough.
4. A micro-recycling pod for Tristan da Cunha was funded by the Blue Belt Programme, alongside recycling bins and training in maintenance and operations. This new infrastructure and island capacity to operate and maintain the system will enable plastic waste collected from the shorelines to be recycled long term.
5. In Tristan da Cunha, the Blue Belt Programme has provided recommendations for fisheries management training, scoped online videography courses to support communications and engagement, and provided funding for Tristan Government staff to complete sea survival training.



## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

### Post Office Assistant (two posts)

**Total package value up to £18,254.00 pa**

(comprising salary up to £10,976 pa, plus food and utilities allowances, free housing and other benefits)

#### About the role

We are looking to recruit two suitably competent, motivated and flexible individuals to fill two Post Office Assistant positions at the Georgetown Post Office.

#### What you'll do

As part of the Post Office Team you will provide over the counter post and philatelic service to customers, process applications for driving licensing documents and other permits. Provide a sales service, process stamp orders, prepare and make up surface and airmails for despatch and maintain stamp stock ledger, cash sales and cash receipt books.

#### What you'll bring

We are looking for individuals with solid experience in an office and administrative environment who have excellent customer service skills and have the ability to give attention to detail and accuracy. You will also need a clean and valid driver's license for Class A vehicles.

#### What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of up to £10,976 (depending on experience and taxable on Ascension), the role attracts a two-year single status contract and the following allowances and benefits:

- Rent free accommodation valued at up to £1,200 pa (taxable benefit)
- A single status food allowance £3,780 pa (taxable benefit)
- An electricity allowance paid in kind worth £938 pa
- A single status water allowance paid in kind worth £1,360 pa
- 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
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of the 2-year contract
- 30 days paid annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free annual travel insurance

#### The appointment will be subject to:

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

Closing date: **13 October 2024**  
Interviews: **from w/c 21 October 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/](http://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/)

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

## Results from the weekend

### Playoff for the Final

Troopers (3) vs (1) Bloopers/Raptors

Goal scorers-

Troopers- Zach Francis 2, Asa 1

Bloopers/Raptors- Dirk Peters Benjamin 1

Fixtures for Presentation Day

9am- Dynamite Devils Vs Rumlbers

10am- Troopers Vs Golden Gladiators

11am- Falcons Vs Young Gunners

Presentation will be held at 12pm on the field

Please note that all players must be in attendance 15 minutes prior to kick off so that all formalities can be sorted.



# JUNIOR FOOTBALL PRESENTATION SAT 2<sup>ND</sup> NOV

9am - Dynamite Devils v Rumlbers

10am - Troopers v Golden Gladiators

11am - Falcons v Young Gunners

12pm - Presentation of Awards

Lunch will be available after the Presentation for those who have placed orders

## Serena's Gift Shop



Phone : 22792  
SGS@helanta.co.sh

**St Helena Calendars  
Now on Sale**



**£7.50**



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### **CUSTOMER NOTICE CHANGES TO LPG REFILLING SERVICE**

Dear Valued Customer

Effective from 1 November 2024, important changes will be made to our LPG refilling service:

**Biweekly Refilling:** The refilling service will now be conducted biweekly, replacing the current weekly schedule. The first refilling day is scheduled for Thursday, 7 November 2024.

**Customer Delivery:** Please note that the delivery and collection service will be discontinued. Customers are now responsible for ensuring their cylinders are delivered to Hutt's Gate for refilling between 11am and 12:30pm or alternatively empty cylinders can be delivered to the ex-Longwood Dairy every Wednesday.

We remain committed to providing the highest quality service and thank customers in advance for their continued understanding and support during this transition.

For further information, please contact either the Jamestown Fuel Station on 22259 or Half Tree Hollow Fuel Station on 23170

*Date Issued: 31 October 2024*

Registered Office: One St Peter's Square, Manchester, M2 3DE, England  
Registered in England and Wales, Reg No. 496276

# Footie Gossip

Ruben Amorim to sell Antony and Casemiro if appointed Manchester United manager, Sporting demand release fee, while Real Madrid eye Tottenham full-back Pedro Porro.

Ruben Amorim has already discussed his transfer plans with the Manchester United hierarchy and does not see winger Antony, midfielders Casemiro and Christian Eriksen or defender Victor Lindelof as part of his plans. United's bid to secure the services of Amorim has hit a snag after Sporting demanded £4m for his staff on top of the £8.3m release fee for the manager. Amorim accepts he may be forced to wait until the international break next month to join United.

Erik ten Hag considered signing former Manchester United striker Danny Welbeck, now 33, from Brighton during his tenure as the Red Devils' manager.

West Ham's decision not to appoint Amorim in the summer was down to his lack of experience in managing a big club, rather than a financial one.

West Ham will struggle to progress their interest in Atalanta forward Ademola Lookman, 27, with Paris St-Germain favourites to sign the Nigeria international if he becomes available

Barcelona are interested in AC Milan winger Rafael Leao, with the 25-year-old Portugal international currently out of favour at the San Siro.

Manchester City have rejected approaches from several clubs

to take 18-year-old attacking midfielder Claudio Echeverri on loan with the Argentine expected to link up with Pep Guardiola's side from River Plate at the start of 2025.

Roma have begun their search for a replacement manager should current boss Ivan Juric fail to win their next match against Torino.

Real Madrid will consider a move for Tottenham's Spanish full-back Pedro Porro, 25, if they cannot complete a move for England and Liverpool defender Trent Alexander-Arnold.

Clubs in the Saudi Pro League remain keen on signing Brazil forward Vinicius Junior, 24, from Real Madrid, hoping the player will be fatigued with European football after his Ballon d'Or snub.

Germany forward Thomas Muller, 35, is interested in a move to Major League Soccer when he leaves Bayern Munich. Napoli are continuing negotiations with Georgia forward Khvicha Kvaratskhelia, 23, over a new contract, which will include an £84m (100m euro) buyout clause.

Sunderland will fight to retain the services of 17-year-old English midfielder Chris Rigg, who is wanted by Manchester United and Chelsea.

## ***Manchester United have sacked their first-team Manager – Dutchman Erik ten Hag.***

Since Manchester United's dismal 3-0 defeat by Tottenham Hotspur at Old Trafford last month, Erik ten Hag's job had been in jeopardy.

After all, the Dutchman had presided over a wretched start to this Premier League campaign, despite the club spending more than half a billion pounds on signing players since Ten Hag's arrival two years ago.

His tactics had not worked, and the players he brought in had mostly underwhelmed. And so the manager's departure came as no surprise.

Three weeks ago, United co-owner Sir Jim Ratcliffe declined to back Ten Hag. Ratcliffe said he liked the coach, but ominously he also admitted there was a need to "take stock", and insisted responsibility lay with the executives that run the club on his behalf.



Ten Hag then survived a meeting of the club's hierarchy a few days later, and the October international break, but the sense was that he was on borrowed time. And so it proved.

Yet while few fans will mourn the decision to sack the manager, his departure also raises awkward questions for those in charge at Old Trafford.

# From the St Helena Golf Club

Report by SHGC

In the recent Turkey & Ham Stableford competition, a total of 21 players participated. The format of the competition was based on the Stableford scoring system, which awards points based on the number of strokes taken at each hole relative to par. This system encourages players to play their best without the pressure of traditional stroke play. Out of the 21 participants, an impressive 14 players achieved scores in the thirties bracket, indicating a competitive field where many players performed well. The scoring in Stableford competitions typically ranges from 0 to 4 points per hole, with additional points awarded for birdies and eagles.

The overall winner of this competition was Leeroy Caswell, who scored 35 points. His performance not only secured him first place but also earned him the top prize, which was a turkey. In second place, Paddo Johnson also scored 35 points; however, due to the countback rules, he received the ham as his prize.

Interestingly, no player managed to score a "two," which refers to achieving a score of two strokes on a par-3 hole (often resulting in additional prizes). As is customary in such competitions when no one scores a two, all balls were returned to the players.

### Upcoming Competition

Looking ahead, next week's competition is titled "Champion of Champions."



This event will feature winners from previous competitions held in 2024 See List of winners below.

Champions of Champions list	
<b>Peter Bagley</b>	<b>Keith Joshua KJ</b>
<b>Eddy Bowers</b>	<b>Peter Johnson</b>
<b>Laura Buckley</b>	<b>Martin Joshua</b>
<b>Martin Buckley</b>	<b>Neil Joshua</b>
<b>Asa Bushuru</b>	<b>Cheddy Lawrence</b>
<b>Bramwell Bushuru</b>	<b>Larry Legg</b>
<b>Jeremy Clingham</b>	<b>Reuben Oliphant</b>
<b>Arthur Francis</b>	<b>Jeff Stevens</b>
<b>Gerald George</b>	<b>George Thomas (Dover)</b>
<b>Anthony Green</b>	<b>Cyril Young</b>
<b>Patrick Henry</b>	<b>Patrick Johnson</b>
<b>Jason Hopkins</b>	<b>Norman Thomas</b>
<b>Helen Stevens</b>	<b>Martin Cranfield</b>



Players who are unable to participate are encouraged to inform the organizers promptly so that arrangements can be made for adjustments in scheduling. Leave a message Tel 24421 or 25848 Happy swinging.....!

# St Helena International Cricket Team – Update

Whilst the international team has been training for the upcoming qualifiers in November, St Helena Crickets 'A Team' of Anthony George and Mark and Stuart Henry has been busily constructing new outdoor cricket nets in the background.

At a cost of around £3000.00 these nets have been built from products all sourced locally and will play an important role in cricketers training.

There are 2 nets and currently in an experiment on a rolled and compacted surface with a couple of second-hand pitch mats for training purposes.



Up until now the only access to nets has been inside the Prince Andrew School hall which is a great option but often restricted by other activities and now bowlers will be free for a full length run up and exposed to an open batting scenario in these new training facilities.



The St Helena Cricket Association is grateful for the work that Anthony and his team has put in to making this project a success.

Cricket practice as normal last Sunday with the team playing a match scenario in two innings. The game offered Coach Nadeem the opportunity to experiment with different batting and bowling combinations.



**Coach Nadeem (right) also child minder Nadeem and Sandwich Bar assistant Nadeem**

As is normal prior to a St Helena team travelling to a tourna-

ment, the squad is briefed on the host country to make them aware of the culture, the safety elements, what is expected in terms of food and the local attractions. We were fortunate to invite a part of the Nigerian diaspora Ed Oyewo who is working on Island who gave a presentation and then opened the floor to questions.



**Sunday cricket practice – new cricket nets can be seen far right**



**Captain Cliff looks on, with a hungry look**

All players and their families enjoyed a BBQ lunch funded by the Cricket Association and cooked by Linda and Carley. An ideal occasion getting the team and their families just 3 weeks to departure.



# ST HELENA CARNIVAL 2024 - IN PICTURES



ALL  
PICTURES  
BY ED  
THORPE