

THE ST HELENA

INDEPENDENT

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**UK Financial Aid
Drops 3% This Year**

**Trump Slams St Helena
With 10% Charge**



Women's Sports Association Presentation



**National Day of Walking for
SHAPE**

**St Helena Chagos
Agreement ending soon**

**Ted's Forklift to Come
Off the Bridge**



**New Lights for
Jacobs Ladder**

Final Figures for Government Spending 2023-24

As the 2024-25 financial year closed, SHG issued the final, completed set of accounts for 2023-24. Called Financial Statements 2023-2024, the document gives some interesting figures on spending as well as who got more money and who got less and loads of other information. Grant in aid funding for 2023-24 was £31,036,000, £1,127,000 more than the previous year. Other funding from FCDO brought the overall total of UK Government funding to £37,205,000, an increase of £283 million on the previous year. Compared with the previous year, aid for essential infrastructure was 69% down on 2022-23. A further £642,000 in government funding came from other sources.

FCDO Financial Aid	2023-24	2022-23	More or Less
	number of £thousands		
FCDO Grant in Aid	£30,036	£28,909	£1,127
FCDO Development Aid-Air Access	£220	£668	£-448
FCDO Development Aid-Airport Operations	£2,995	£2,881	£114
FCDO Development Aid-EDIP Funding Received	£3,430	£2,759	£671
FCDO Development Aid-Essential Infrastructure	£524	£1,705	£-1,181
FCDO Aid Total	37,205	36,922	283

Government revenue collection on-island shows increases and decreases in some areas, reflecting a struggling economy and belt-tightening as price inflation remains significant.

Government spending shows there were some 'haves' and 'have nots' as money was allocated between departments. Benefit payments increased by 6% but government pensions hardly at all. Infrastructure and Development was the biggest winner, followed by expenditure on trading activities. These activities include Government IT, transport, housing services, the airport, internal audit, external audit and the Bulk Fuel Installation. Trading Activities competes with Health & Social Services on spend, with the BFI continuing to be the big number in that category.

INCOME RAISED ON-ISLAND - not complete list	2023-24	2022-23	More or Less
Revenue Raised is MORE than 2022-23	number of £thousands		
Operating Revenue	£6,850	£6,651	£199
Income Tax (PAYE)	£4,764	£4,679	£85
Fines, Fees and Licences	£1,197	£1,189	£8
Customs Duty - Tobacco	£1,147	£1,057	£90
Customs Duty - Alcohol	£1,127	£1,036	£91
Share of Profit of Subsidiaries	£728	£601	£127
Profit on Disposal of Unrequired Assets	£86	£22	£64
Immigration Fees	£61	£44	£17
Withholding Tax	£29	£25	£4
Total Revenue	£15,988	£15,304	£684
INCOME RAISED ON-ISLAND - not complete list	2023-24	2022-23	More or Less
Revenue Raised is LESS than 2022-23	number of £thousands		
Other Customs Duties	£2,222	£2,249	£-27
Corporation Tax	£1,099	£1,154	£-55
Customs Duties - Petrol and Diesel	£755	£784	£-29
Service Tax	£455	£480	£-25
Dividends Received	£98	£131	£-33
Stamp Duty	£34	£57	£-23
Charter Flight Income	£0	£11	£-11
			£0
			£0
Total Revenue	£4,663	£4,866	£-203

The big losers in 2023-24 were the people services. Health, education and environmental services all suffered a big squeeze. Health and Environment both has spending cuts in excess of 10%, while Education was squeezed by almost 3% in 2023-24. Fast forward to 2025 and the Education Review advocates significantly increased expenditure over five years to raise St Helena's education standards from the pits to something more acceptable.

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UK Financial Aid – 3% Less Than Last Year

FCDO Need to Step Up the Plate and Face Responsibility

The recent announcement that UK financial aid for St Helena has been increased by £1,700,000 is described as a 5% increase. That is 3.1% less than the current rate of price inflation. The St Helena government, like all the rest of us, will be buying less with the same money. Put another way, SHG will join us in paying more for less. The treasury minister has said, not as directly, that the financial year just started will be tougher than the financial year just ended.

The actual increase is important when the shrinking pound continues to shrink. £1,700,000 is a 5% increase on what? The core FCDO aid last year was £31,065,000. The total FCDO aid was £34,060,000. This compares unfavourably with £37,205,000 shown as total FCDO aid in the recently published financial statement for 2023-24.

The £1,700,000 increase for the financial year just started would not cover half last year's education budget. The recently published Education Review stated £5 million is needed every year for the next five years to fund a permanent improvement in the standard of children's education; an improvement that is needed to give children a fair chance in life when they need to work to live. Clearly, that chance is not coming in the next 12 months. Will it ever come?

This year the ministers put in their own bid for FCDO aid. Usually, after all the presentations and pleading to the financial aid mission SHG await the judgement of FCDO on what the financial misfortunes for St Helena will be in store for the year ahead. The bottom-up budget calculated with care by the ministers shows St Helena needs around £16 million more than FCDO is prepared to provide. Apart from education, the health budget is in desperate need of adequate funding. And the roads continue to fall apart. Inadequate investment in energy, cargo handling, telecommunications and St Helena children does not bode well for the future. We can see only more of the same – and the same means it will get worse.

Compare all of this with the UK – Mauritius agreement on the Chagos Islands. It is generally accepted the agreement will include the UK paying the Mauritian government around £90 million a year for Chagos 'expenses'. Allegedly this is a commitment for the next few decades – or so. This is almost three times more than St Helena receives.

The Chagos islands are uninhabited, apart from Diego Garcia where there is a US-UK military base. It was confirmed in the House of Commons recently that US military bases on British islands are paid for by the US military. The US does not pay rent but they pay for the base, which is shared with MOD. MOD gets it free. So, what will the Mauritian government do with the £90 million a year.

Probably, the money is compensation for nothing being done on the previously inhabited islands since the resident population was thrown off the islands in the 1960s and 70s. Maybe the money is to clear land for agriculture, rebuild roads and community facilities and make decent provision for energy, water supplies and sewage disposal. All that needs to be done if the Chagossians are to return to their homeland.

All that also needs to be done in St Helena. One way to look at the situation in St Helena is that the younger generation in particular are being forced from their homeland because there is no future. Why is there no future? Because the UK government has never given this Island a chance to stand on its own feet. Never has the UK government committed to funding the foundations for a viable existence here. £1,700,000 is an insult.



Thorpe's Plan to Move Unloading Operations off the Bridge

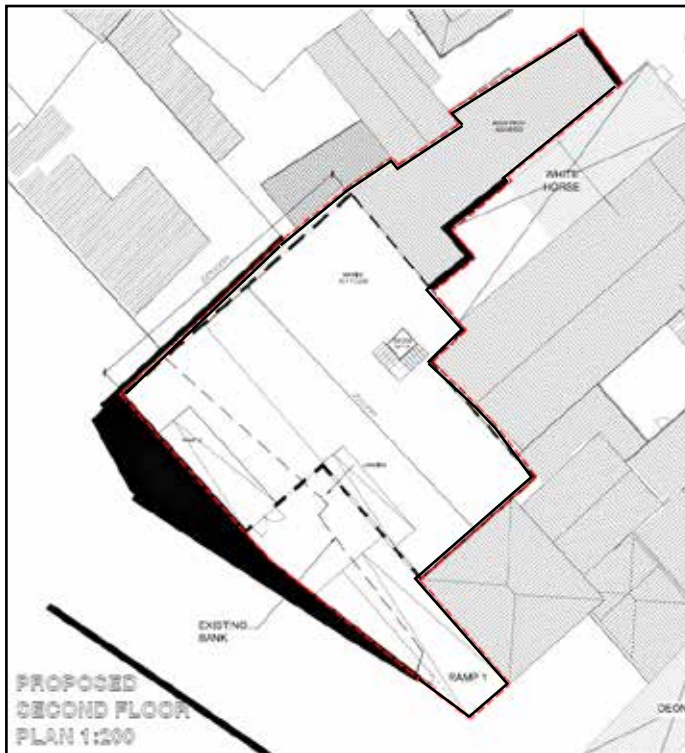
WA Thorpe has development permission to create an access for unloading stock for warehouse storage at the rear of their Grocery Shop, from Shy Road. Creating the access will require extensive alterations to various buildings in what is a complex of separate buildings on different levels, dimensions and layouts.

The main change will be to demolish two residential properties. Both are of recent, concrete block construction with no architectural importance. They are currently used as properties for rent. The two houses are known as Sea View House and Rosalie's. Their demolition will make space for a warehouse of useful size.

The development area for the new warehouse layout extends from Shy Road through to an existing storage building next to the White



Seaview House and Rosalie's (both marked) to make way for additional warehouse storage



The extent of the warehouse development area.

Horse and behind the Clock. The planning officer's report to the Land Development Control Authority (LDCA) points out that planning policy allows for storage and distribution in Rupert's Valley for major importers in addition to the cargo operations area now being completed. So far, no interest has been shown in this type of development in Rupert's or elsewhere. The Planning Officer also stated Thorpe's prefer to have storage for their stock as an integral part of their wider wholesale and retail operations and within their own properties. The old cinema may also be vacated for an alternative use together with the end of on-street forklift truck manoeuvres in that area.

It is recognised the new warehouse will provide a safer environment for unloading cargo than the current situation on the Bridge. It was also indicated in terms of the economic benefits of this development, the construction works to be carried out would result in an investment of approximately £500,000 with labour costs of £200,000, providing jobs for 15 construction workers and the purchasing of locally sourced building materials.

There was concern that Ladder Hill Corner, in particular, will become more congested if the development went ahead. The plan submitted allows for unloading and forklift truck movements within the warehouse area only – not on the road. Access for deliveries to the warehouse will be via Grand Parade and Shy Road. No access will be via Ladder Hill Corner. In the report, the planning officer said this could be made a condition of development permission.

Another aspect of this development is the vehicles that are parked in the area - normally as a last resort. The planning officer's report notes, 'some vehicles currently park close to the existing vehicle access on Shy Road; however, the owners of such vehicles will need to consider whether they should continue to park here once the warehouse vehicle access is widened and in operation.'

The St Helena Independent
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To ensure inclusion, please submit adverts and copy by 1pm on Wednesdays. Later requests subject to available space.

Finding Katie – Again

The award winning 'Come and Find Me' tourism promotion video by filmmaker Darren Peens and featuring Katie Williams is up for another award. This time it's the International Tourism Film Festival Africa to be held in Sandton, South Africa from 3th to 6th June. Come Find Me has made the final cut and sits with six other videos competing for awards.

The International Tourism Film Festival Africa festival director explained that Video is really one of the important tools to promote a destination. This resulted in Caroline Ungersbock and James Byrne starting their own film festival in Africa in 2019. The purpose of the festival is to honour and promote works with exceptional and innovative content created today on all continents and seen and used on various platforms.

TV ads, promotional films, video campaigns, videos for social media, video blogs, documentaries, reports and TV magazines related to the promotion of tourism destinations, products and services are invited to participate from Africa and internationally.

Just two weeks ago Darren Peens and Katie Williams won a special award at the Japan World Tourism Film Festival in Maniwa. The three minutes, forty-three seconds St Helena tourism promotion video was commissioned by St Helena Tourism. The success of the video is helping enormously to increase the visibility of St Helena as a highly individual, very memorable and 'must visit' tourist destination across just about every online platform.



The Welcoming Sight for Travellers to the United States



The words on the base of the Statue of Liberty

**"Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"**

All Things Must Pass



Trumps Slaps 10% Tariff on St Helena Exports to US

On Wednesday the Leader of the Free World, the President of the United States, Donald Trump, announced the well-publicised and much anticipated import tariffs he says he is imposing on all countries everywhere. This includes uninhabited islands populated only by penguins, seals and ice.

St Helena's 10% Knock-Back

St Helena has not escaped the wrath of Trump. The reason for the Trump import tariffs is because he thinks St Helena gives the United States a raw deal. How so? St Helena, Trump says, imposes tariffs on US imports which are much greater than the US charges for St Helena's exports to the US. In a few days from now, all St Helena exports to the United States will have an additional 10% tariff imposed. Will this be a crippling blow to our island's vibrant economy? The reason for the additional 10% is because St Helena has, according to the US government's information, a 15% tariff on all goods imported from the United States. Who decided US goods should only have 15% import duty imposed? The rest of us pay 20% extra for most things imported here? Trump could be accused of acting unreasonably.



Donald Trump signing his Executive Order which lists the countries and territories facing tariffs - include some of the remotest places in the world

Other British Islands Hit

Ascension and Tristan have escaped the world-wide onslaught of US tariffs but not the Falkland Islands. A whopping 41% tariff has hit the Falklands. This is because, allegedly, the Falklands impose an 82% tariff on goods they import from the United States. As with most things the US government do, it is probably safe to assume they have got that wrong.

Other British Overseas Territories on the receiving end of Trump's profound petulance with a 10% additional charge on all exported to the US are: -

Anguilla

British Virgin Islands

Caymans Islands

Trumps Slaps 10% Tariff on St Helena Exports to US

Bermuda
Turks and Caicos Islands
Montserrat
Gibraltar
British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)

BIOT is better known as the Chagos Islands and should soon be transferred by the UK to Mauritius. When the transfer is complete the US tariff will increase from 10% now to the 40% tariff which Trump has slapped on Mauritius.

Along with Ascension and Tristan, Pitcairn and the British Antarctic Territory have escaped tariff free. South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI) also escaped. Any reasonable person will naturally think it's silly to impose a tariff on SGSSI, there are only penguins, seals, birds and fish as permanent residents in that territory. That's so true; there's millions of them admittedly, but none of them have set up a business which includes exporting to the United States.

The same can be said for the Heard and McDonald Islands; another place with a 10% tariff. Midway between Africa and Australia, these islands sit at the extreme south of the Indian Ocean with the Antarctic as the nearest neighbour. The seals, seabirds and penguins were free from introduced predators until Trump came along. The ten percent tariff on the Heard and McDonald Islands give the full flavour of government through ignorance which Trump and his cronies clearly believe is so wonderful. Many books will be written about the ship of fools now governing in the United States and the Heard and McDonald Islands will follow the Trump era to its grave.



The peaceful inhabitants of Heard and McDonald Islands

The heartless roboticism of Trump's actions includes imposing tariffs on Burma (Myanmar), South Sudan, Haiti and other countries urgently needing assistance.



Wednesday 2nd April is celebrated worldwide as National day of Walking. SHAPE Staff, Clients and many Volunteers celebrated this national day in a fundraising effort to support SHAPE on the challenge to walk at different points of the distance of 7.5km, they felt they were capable of achieving.

Gonny Hubbard, Organiser of the event and SHAPE Finance & Business Officer said that this day was chosen as their aim was to show that walking is a step towards better health for people of all ages and abilities.



Despite the drizzling of raindrops on the morning, this didn't hinder the brave trainees Coban Scott- John, Eugene Peters, Kristian Green and Leon Miller who joined three SHAPE staff members and many volunteers to brave completing the full distance of the walk which was 7.5km,



where they leisurely walk to Heart-Shaped Waterfall before joining the next group at the General Hospital. The next group of trainees joining the four were David O'Connor, Paula Fowler, Mike Youde and Perry Vanguard along with a further four staff members at the General Hospital. Chatter and Laughter from the group could be heard coming through the streets of Jamestown which attracted residents to come outside and encouraged the group along, shouting, waving, clapping and even drivers hooting and slowing down as they passed the group to give them further encouragement.

These eight trainees, seven Staff Members and the many Volunteers were met by Clients Donny Vanguard, Hayley Henry, Luke Vanguard, Russell Moyce and Venetia Youde along with a further staff member and more volunteers all patiently waiting to take off for the journey to the Swimming Pool. These clients added more excitement and laughter to the group and gave the bottom of Jamestown a buzz, with workers all taking time to look on and encourage the group who was doing extremely well.

At around 3pm, the group met up with the final three trainees Alroy Joshua, Annagail Isaac and Cedric Williams and a further two staff members patiently waiting at the Arch to complete the last 120m to the swimming pool where they had a small presentation to each candidate who completed the walk, free home-made ice cream, tea and cakes (for those who missed it) followed by a nice refreshing dip in the Jamestown Swimming Pool.

Gonny confirmed in her speech before the presentation of certificates, that a total of £1212.30 was raised from sponsorship and the nine trainees who collected the most money would all receive a prize which was kindly donated by Farm Lodge, Enchanted Isle, Consulate Tea Shop, Aarons Adventure Tours, Blue Lantern, Wellness Therapies, Anne's Place, Bliss and Mantis St Helena. She announced that two Business, Derek & Linda Richards of Richards Travel Lodge donated an Afternoon Tea at their accommodation and Adrian & Shanna John of PEAKS Enterprises a free cut/style or manicure for all on dates still to be arranged..

To conclude the presentation and let the eagerly Clients get into the swimming pool, she thanked her family and friends in Holland and United Kingdom who raised a £183.00 and then went onto announcing the top nine clients who collected the most money and awarded them their prizes.



The winning candidate and the amount of sponsored money raised are as follows Russell Moyce with £171, followed by Leon Miller with £126, Coban Scott-John with £115, Kristian Green with £113, Hayley Henry with £50, Venetia Youde with £48, Perry Vanguard with £47, Alroy Joshua with £46 and Eugene Peters with £46.

After the event, Gonny summed it up by saying it was a real challenge for some of them but she must congratulate them as they all did so well giving 110% despite being very nervous leading up to the event and she commented on the good response they received from the public, leading up to the event and most definitely on the day.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL

New Lights on the Ladder

The existing lights on Jacob's Ladder were a 'special effort' to mark the New Millennium. 25 years have gone by since then. Compared with lighting technology available today, they are costly to run. There are lights available now which will spread the light better, giving better coverage and direct it more precisely down to the steps. As the years have gone by, light failures continue to increase and so do maintenance costs. They need replacing and the opportunity can be taken to provide improved lighting that doesn't consume so much electricity.

At the March meeting of the Land Development Control Authority (LDCA) an application to replace the existing lights with a new, improved lighting system was on the agenda. Safety, through better lighting of all the steps was considered together with the provision of Dark skies Compliant lighting and using small, unobtrusive lighting bollards that should be difficult to see in daylight.

The Planning Officer's report states 'The existing light spacing and light readings that were taken, indicate the spread of light from the existing arrangement is inadequate, where some steps are receiving no light at all.' There are 70 existing lights, 35 on each side.

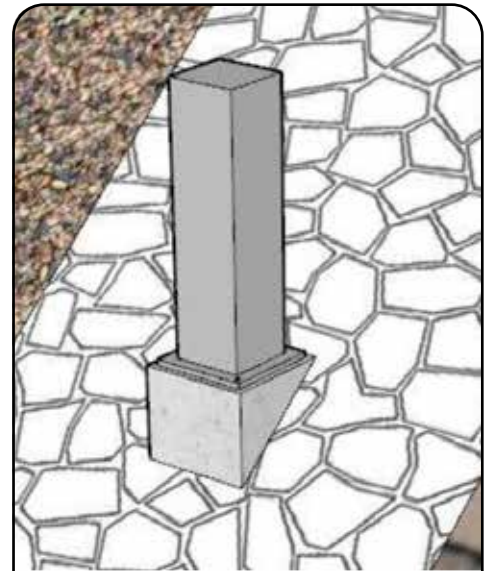
The new lighting system will have 92 lighting bollards, 46 on each side at 6.1 metre spacings. The internally lit bollard lights are 48 cm high (one foot seven inches) and will be positioned 500 mm (one foot eight inches) from the side of the steps.

The new spacings, at 6.1m, matches the spacing of the wooden rollers that carried the haulage chain of the inclined plane. Those rollers can be seen in early photographs of the Ladder as seen from Main Street and the Grand Parade, this synchronised arrangement makes for a subtle, sentimental nod to the historic relevance of The Ladder, utilizing this modern feature.

The bollards will be coloured grey to provide minimal impact on the aesthetic of Jacob's Ladder in daylight. Each bollard will be bolted down through a small cast concrete plinth 200 x 200mm and angled to compensate for the slope, so that the bollards are vertical.

The installation work includes: -

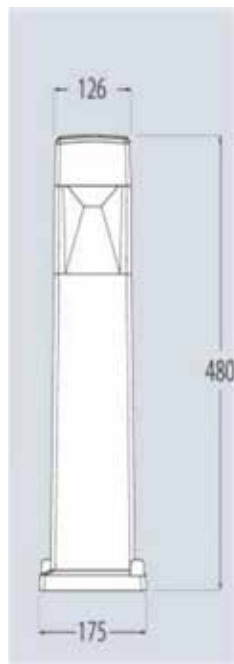
- Construction of 92 new concrete bases (200mm x 200mm) with 46 on each side to facilitate the vertical installation of new lights. (See schematic drawings below)
- Replacement of the existing electricity supply cables and junction boxes.
- Removal of existing old lights and cables.



A representation of what the new lighting bollards will look like.



The proposed bollard light



and its dimensions – millimetres

Included in the Planning Officer's report is: -

'In addressing the representations of concerned members of the public, as this light fitting design is confirmed as 'Dark Skies Compliant' within its manufacturer's specification, albeit Dark Skies Legislation has yet to be enacted, this meets with Saint Helena Government's (SHG) aspiration in the event legislation becomes enacted.

Concern was also raised with regards to the concrete bases and the excavation entailed, a condition has been added to ensure details are submitted to show how the bases will be constructed to ensure the works are carried out sensitively to the inclined plane.'

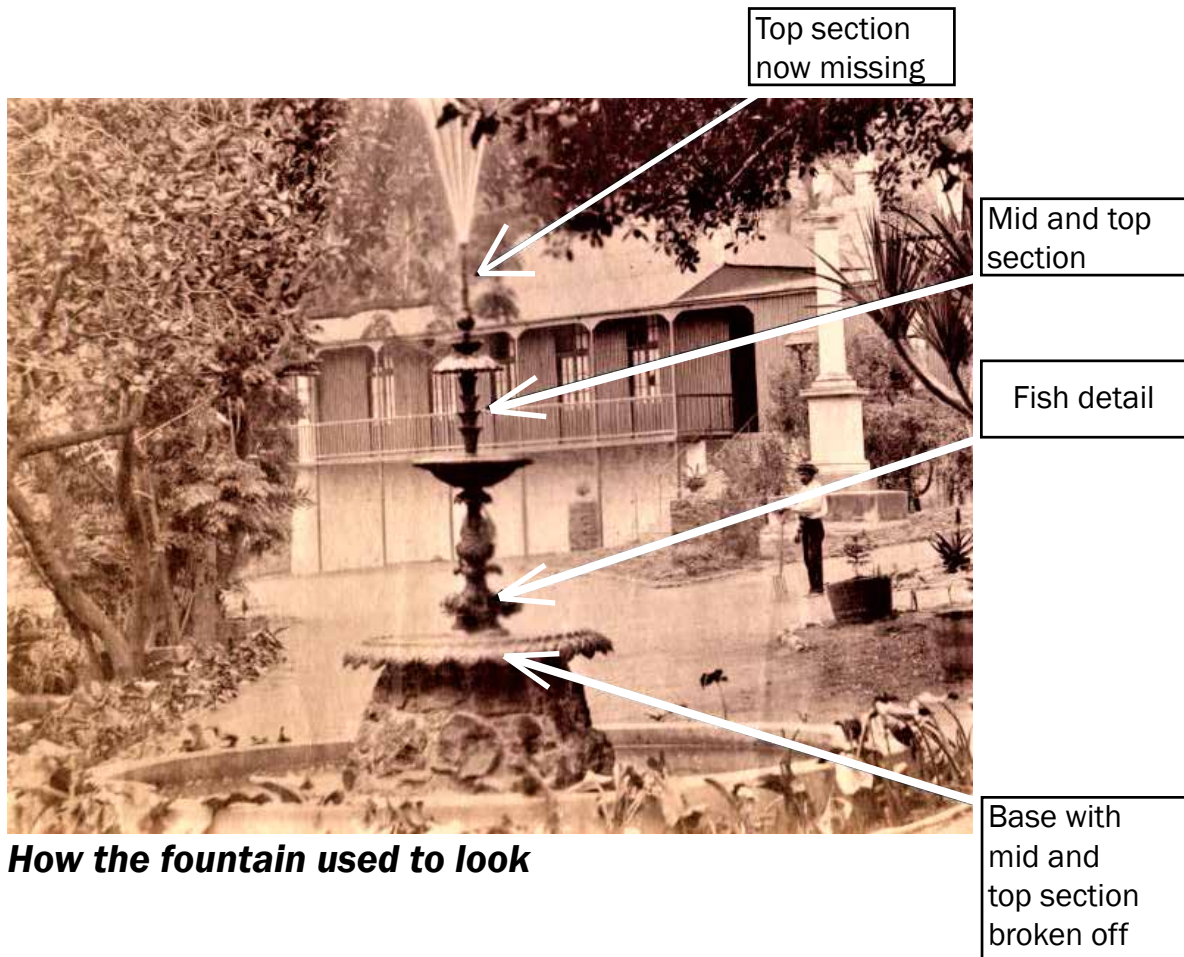
'The 92 bollards would replace the 70 existing lights, they are of a relatively small stature and finished in a grey that complements the inclined plane's 276m, and will not appear visually intrusive within the landscape. It is not considered that this design will dominate nor affect the integrity of the listed monument. The LDCA approved the development application. The Independent has so far been unable to gain information on whether this replacement lighting project already has the necessary funding.

Application for New Castle Garden Fountain Deferred

A development application to replace the fountain in the Castle Gardens was deferred at the March meeting of the Land Development Control Authority; more information is needed before a decision can be made.

The application proposes a 3-tiered fountain with circular bowls and a water spout with an overall height of 1.94m and width of 1.47m. This is similar to the existing fountain (albeit that the spout and top dish section is missing). The fountain could be painted to match the existing fountain. The applicant indicated that it has been difficult to source a direct replacement but that the proposed fountain would either be a combination of old and new or a new fountain entirely. The Planning Officer's report stated, 'It is reasonable that they do attempt first to see if the new fountain's pieces can be integrated into the existing fountain but if not, that the proposal is for its whole replacement. The impact of either will be that a functional fountain will be provided in the Castle Gardens which has not been possible for some time due to it being unrepairable.' Advice sought from an engineer indicated the existing fountain is not repairable having been on site for approximately 128 years. While well-maintained fountains could last longer, this is located in a water environment not far from the sea and in a high dust environment of lower Jamestown; all of which have taken their toll on the fountain. It is hoped that the bottom section of the original fountain can be retained and new sections added but in the event that the pieces received cannot be fitted into the original base, that the whole new fountain feature will be erected to replace the current fountain.

The Planning Officer's report commented, 'the proposal would be acceptable as it would not result in any harmful impact on the locality of the Castle Gardens nor on the character and setting of the Jamestown Historic Conservation Area in line with Built Heritage Policy BH1 and therefore can be supported.'



Chagos Agreement with Mauritius Close to Completion

No Chagos Refugees for St Helena

News broke on Tuesday /early Wednesday that the UK and Mauritius are close to completing the agreement on the transfer of Chagos islands sovereignty from the UK to Mauritius. When the agreement is signed-off, the related agreement between the UK and St Helena will no longer be in force. This agreement, signed last October, where St Helena accepts refugees from the Chagos Islands, will automatically fall when Chagos sovereignty is transferred to Mauritius.



As far as is known, no refugees from the Chagos islands have been brought to St Helena in the last six months. However, the St Helena Government has benefitted from additional funding of £6.6 million as part of the agreement.

Agreement was close between the UK and Mauritius until a general election was called in Mauritius on 10th November. A new government was elected who wanted to review the agreement before proceeding further. Agreement was once again close but the United States decided Donald Trump would be their next president. It was not possible to finalise the agreement before Trump was sworn in on 20th January so another delay ensued while Trump decided if the agreement was OK with him – or not.

The BBC reported that UK government sources have indicated they are not waiting for further sign-off from Donald Trump. Other media reports are that Trump has OK'd the agreement. Apart from Trump wanting to impose himself on anything, anywhere, the US military involvement in Diego Garcia, the largest of the Chagos Islands means it is only polite to obtain his opinion on this matter.

What the United States Pays for the Military Bases on Ascension and Diego Garcia

A few days ago, the Ministry of Defence confirmed that the United States does not pay traditional rent for access to British military facilities, but instead covers the full operational costs under a long-standing cost-sharing agreement. In response to an MPs question, Defence Minister Luke Pollard said, *'the US is responsible for bearing the cost for the operational running of the bases it occupies such as utilities, as well as any development in support of its forces at those locations.'* He added, *'there are some exceptions to that, where development is a requirement of UK legislation or Ministry of Defence policy and there is no equivalent United States legal or policy requirement.'*



RAF Ascension – Wideawake. US Space Force pays operational costs



Dear Editor,

With the next General Election approaching, I am being asked “WHAT IS IT REALLY LIKE TO BE A COUNCILLOR?” This is not an easy question to answer as everyone has their own view, but I will attempt to do so, based on my own 14 years’ experience.

Being a Councillor (non- Minister) is demanding and frustrating at times, but is never dull or boring. One has to tackle different issues and interact with different people all the time. Although there are routine meetings, the items discussed at them are very varied and relate to key issues already affecting St Helena, or likely to do so in the future.

Two very important responsibilities of Councillors are to appropriate St Helena Government’s Budget and to pass Legislation. All changes to existing Ordinances, or new ones, have to be passed by Legislative Council before they can be enacted and brought into force. Fulfilling these duties not only involves attendance at meetings, but detailed consideration of the relevant documents which frequently leads to one-to-one discussions with relevant officers for clarification purposes. Councillors can bring Private Members Bills to the House to address gaps in legislation and also propose amendments to Bills presented by Government, so a lot of careful preparation is required.

The third big responsibility is that of scrutiny, which is both challenging and demanding as it is essential for accountability, openness and transparency, so one has to ask difficult questions and probe deeply. Three Councillors are elected to the Public Accounts Committee, which examines how public money is spent and recommends where improvements need to be made. All Councillors are Members of one or other of the two Select Committees established to scrutinise aspects of St Helena Government. Serving on these Committees involves regular meetings, live hearings at which evidence is gathered, analysis of this evidence, and formulation of conclusions and associated recommendations. The conclusions and recommendations are then included in a Report, and progress in implementation is monitored.

In order to be able to contribute to meetings effectively, it is necessary to read background papers and to carry out additional consultation and research so that one can be confident that one knows enough about the agenda items to make informed comments, and – very importantly -that what one says reflects constituents’ views. There are times when one may not agree with one’s constituents, but provided there is nothing unlawful involved, it is one’s duty to make their feelings known, unless the difference in opinion was caused by a misunderstanding or lack of information which one could resolve successfully without taking it further. Councillors should remember that what may not seem important to them, may be of huge significance to a constituent.

As well as attending meetings, Councillors also have to undertake site visits in relation to project progress, investigation of matters of concern to constituents -such as deteriorating roadside walls-, and to carry out fact checking. Such visits also form a key part of the scrutiny process.

Constituency work is unpredictable, as the range of topics upon which constituents seek advice and guidance is huge. Issues relating to social housing, social benefits, roads, health services, the rising cost of living and progress of current projects are among those raised most frequently. Following up on these queries/concerns, checking the responses received and providing feedback is very time consuming, particularly when there are delays in obtaining answers and “chasing” becomes necessary. A considerable amount of time is involved in sending and responding to e-mails. I usually receive at least 20 messages a day, and more than half of these need a response. In addition, I send around another 10 e-mails daily.

However, constituency work is very interesting and enjoyable. Great satisfaction can be obtained from knowing that one has helped someone to solve a problem, or that what one did will contribute towards taking St Helena forward and making life better for everyone.

Councillors do not have to work set hours each day. Apart from attending meetings, there is flexibility. They can decide when they choose to undertake background reading and research; prepare Questions and Motions, study draft legislation, write interventions and reports, etc. Many constituents prefer interacting with the Councillor of their choice after working hours - or even at weekends - as these are the times that they find most convenient, so Councillors need to be prepared and willing to plan for this. Although the volume of work varies

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from week to week, being a Councillor is definitely not a part-time job, as the total hours worked average well over 38.5 per week.

One of the biggest advantages of being a Councillor is that it gives one an opportunity to work/interact with a very wide range of people, which is extremely enjoyable and fulfilling. Lasting bonds of mutual understanding, trust and collaboration develop that stand the test of time and are both motivating and rewarding, but Councillors also have to face criticism, which may even be unfair, as whatever one does will not please everyone.

Being a Councillor is definitely not easy, but it enables one to try to help the community and make a constructive difference. One does not always succeed and will encounter many disappointments as well as positive outcomes, but one gets the satisfaction of knowing that one has tried one's best and taken forward constituents' concerns, wishes and interests on their behalf, as well as holding SHG to account and getting Budgets and necessary legislation in place.

Even if you do not wish to become a Councillor or Minister yourself, it is really important that you register to vote if you have not already done so. On Polling Day, the public has a chance to choose who they think will represent them best for the next four years. Please don't miss this opportunity!

Corinda Essex

Dear Editor

In changing the name of Prince Andrew School, it should be noted that the official name for the school is Prince Andrew Community School. The community school was the third tier of a middle school community model system. It was the result of a revision and upgrade of the Education Service in the 1980s, building on past standards and achievements as an evolving, developing educational process. The community school system was adapted and designed to meet local circumstances and draw on strengths within the island community, as well as maximising available resources. In addition, the community school reinforced the culture of the island. This is an opportunity for the school to carry the name of an islander.

I would like to propose the school be named after the late **Lieutenant Commander William Rofe RN**, an islander and former pupil of the Secondary Selective School who represents a core aspect of island culture of being resourceful. He left the island in his teens for the UK and joined the Royal Navy at the lower ranks in 1955. After a distinguished career he retired in 1984 as a Lieutenant Commander having taught himself several different languages. He died in 1999 and his ashes are interred at the military section of St Paul's Cathedral in St Helena. Lieutenant Commander Rofe represents an important part of our maritime history which also includes islanders serving in the British Armed Forces, and experiencing active service.

It is recommended that Prince Andrew Community School should be named **Rofe Community School (RCS)**. "R" in 'Rofe' links with Royalty and William Rofe's career in the Royal Navy.

Basil George
Islander



Lieutenant Commander William Rofe RN

The Seventh Day Adventist Church
will be having nature sabbath at the
Guinea Grass Community Centre,
Saturday 5th April, 9:30am-3:30pm.
All are welcome to attend!



*Please note the Jamestown SDA
church will be closed during this time

Enjoy a

Spit Roast Pig Meal
At Harford Community Centre
On Friday 25th April at 7pm

£15 per person

Bookings for the meal must be made by Friday
18th April

At 9pm Harford Community centre will be open to
everyone

Music will be provided by KJ

Entrance Fee - £2

To book a meal, please call

Jenny - 24727 or

Cavell - 25756 or

Dulcie - 24341

This event is organised by St Matthews Parish



Diocese of St Helena

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 6th April 2025– 5th Sunday after Lent

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist/Licensing of Fr Ernest, Fr Clarence and Fr Tsepo	Cathedral
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Peter

The Parish of St James

Sunday 6th April 2025 – 5th Sunday after Lent

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Michael

7th April -Monday

7.00 p.m.	Eucharist	St Mary
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Thursday 10th April

7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
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The Parish of St Matthew

Sunday 6th April 2025 – 5th Sunday after Lent

11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
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Tuesday 8th April

7.00 p.m.	Alpha	St Mark
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Baha'i Faith

*'I loved thy creation, hence I created thee.
Wherefore, do thou love Me, that I may
name thy name and fill thy soul with the
spirit of life.'*

Baha'u'llah

7pm on Thursdays
at the St. Helena Gumwoods
Baha'i Centre.

You are invited to consider the
Revelation of Baha'u'llah
in the 19th Century
and its application today.

Light Refreshment



MV Bolette and MV Amadea to call at St Helena



Wednesday 9 April

The MV Bolette is expected to arrive at 6:30am and depart at 4:30pm

SHE IS CARRYING:

990 PASSENGERS **AND** **617** CREW



Tuesday 15 - Wednesday 16 April

The MV Amadea is expected to arrive at 2pm (15th) and depart at 5pm (16th)

SHE IS CARRYING:

600 PASSENGERS **AND** **315** CREW

**SCHEDULED STOPS FOR
PRE-ARRANGED ISLAND
SCENIC TOURS ARE:**

- Two Gun Saddle
- Napoleon's Tomb
- Napoleon's House
(Longwood Green)
- Stitches Ridge
- Plantation House
- Ladder Hill

These scheduled stops,
along with prime spots in Jamestown
(for those walking around),
provide open opportunities for sales and promotions

Set up a Refreshment Stand

Bring along your Locally Made Souvenirs

Contribute to the Visitor Experience!

**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

For as little as* £11 a month you can purchase Hire & Reward Insurance – the 'Taxi Cover'.

**Premiums calculated on Engine Size and range from <1400cc at £11 to 6000cc at £26*

A Fee of £26.50 will also be payable to SHG, to upgrade your current Private Road License to a Public Service License and will run the length of your current license until your next MOT



Be Friendly



Be Organised



Be Prepared



Be Flexible

(show off your Local Knowledge)

(changes may be required due to sea conditions)

Festival of Walking Walk of the Week



Date: Saturday, 5 April 2025

Start Time: 08:00

Meeting Point: Longwood Avenue

Duration: approx 4 hrs



Walk grade: Fairly Strenuous | 7 - 8

French Consul, Michel Martineau, will guide you along the Longwood boundaries within which Napoleon was authorised to walk or go on horseback without being accompanied by a British Officer. From Longwood House to Fishers Valley, along the outskirts of the Millennium Forest and Mulberry Gut, returning to Longwood House; this walk is suitable for experienced walkers only.

Please wear sensible walking shoes, wear sun protection and bring at least 2L of water.

This will be the last walk of the Festival of Walking 2024/25. Thank you all for joining this season.

Receive email updates of the 'Walk of the Week' contact Louis Youde louis.youde@shg.gov.sh or the Tourist Office T: 22158

April Cruise Ship Visits



St Helena will welcome the arrival of the following cruise ships for the month of April.

MV Bolette - Wednesday, 9 April 2025

990 passengers plus crew

MV Hondius - Sunday, 13 April – Tuesday, 15 April 2025

176 passengers plus crew

MV Amadea - Tuesday, 15 April – Wednesday, 16 April 2025

600 passengers plus crew

These cruise ships present fantastic opportunities for local businesses and service providers to showcase their work through tours, pop-up stalls, extending shop opening hours.

St Helena Tourism encourages local businesses to take advantage of this opportunity. For further information on cruise ship visits, please contact the Tourist Office on T: 22158



St Helena Island
A Breath of Fresh Air



Vacancy

Part-Time Security Officers



Rate of pay will be £6.20 per hour

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for Part-Time Security Officers to join the team at St Helena Airport.

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 high standard of English & ICT skills
- Be customer focused and able to deliver an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be available to undertake the required training and the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake Manual Handling & physically demanding duties
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment
- Have the ability to multitask and work with a high degree of accuracy in a high pressure environment
- Have the ability to remain calm in stressful situations

For further information contact:

Jason Thomas, General Manager (Agencies) via ☎ 22523 ✉ gm-agencies@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hadmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **10 April 2025**.



Lay Advocates Recruitment Two Positions Open

Judge Brian Barker KC during a 2023 review of legal services on St Helena praised the role of the lay advocate:

"The Lay Advocate System is a tradition in the islands where highly regarded members of the community have rights of advocacy and can be asked to advise and sometimes represent St Helenians in both criminal and civil matters Their community knowledge often allows them to resolve issues without the need to come to court"

If you think you could be a lay advocate or would like some more information please contact the Public Solicitor's Office on 23008 or the Public Solicitor on walter.scott@publicsolicitor.com and you will be supplied with more information.

As self-employed advisors, lay advocates are supported in their important role by the Public Solicitor's Office but are independent of the PSO and enjoy the freedom of setting their own hours and working at their own pace.

The role is challenging and can be very busy. Lay advocates need to be available to attend the police station (often out of hours) and court for criminal matters.

The role is financially rewarded through the Legal Assistance Fund depending on experience and hours worked per month. Full details can be made available on request.

If you are interested in the role please send a Letter of Interest outlining why you think you would make a good lay advocate to walter.scott@publicsolicitor.com by no later than the 14 April 2025.

VACANCY



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 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 Mrs Karen Buckley, Customer Service Manager on email csmanager@sainthelenabank.com or contact her 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.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 18 April 2025.

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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



info@sainthelenabank.com



www.sainthelenabank.com



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



+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

Vacancy

Carpenter / Plumber



Salary for the post will commence at £12,780 per annum (£1065 per month), depending on qualifications and experience

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

As the Carpenter / Plumber you will ensure that in-house and private jobs are undertaken competently and in a timely manner whilst ensuring high standards of work are delivered at all times in accordance with Company requirement and local regulations.

Interested Persons Should:

- Be competent in Maths & English
- Ideally have NVQ Level 2 or equivalent in Carpentry & Plumbing
- Have at least 3 years experience working in the Carpentry & Plumbing trade
- Have a Safety Awareness Certificate, or have undertaken Health & Safety on the worksite training and have the ability to carry out risk assessments
- Be knowledgeable of tools, equipment and materials common to the Carpentry and Plumbing trade
- Have the ability to operate power & hand tools
- Have skills in construction, repair, restoration & installation of wood or related materials, including cabinet-making techniques
- Be able to make assessments of job requirements, estimate material requirements and provide method statements
- Be able to follow technical drawing plans
- Have a clean & valid Driver's License in classes A & C

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

Mr Michael Gutuza, Building Services Manager via ☎ 22739 📧 bsm@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 Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **17 April 2025**.

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

- ★ Pension Contributions
- ★ Staff Discounts

Vacancy

Electrician, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic



Salary for the post will commence at £12,792 per annum (£1066 per month), depending on qualifications and experience

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Electrical Works Department for an Electrician, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic.

As the Electrician, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic you will ensure that in-house and private jobs are undertaken competently and in a timely manner whilst ensuring high standards of work are delivered at all times in accordance with Company requirement and local regulations.

Interested Persons Should:

- Possess grade C in GCSE Maths or English, or equivalent
- Have at least 3 years proven experience in Electrical Engineering
- Be in possession of a current Wiremen's license
- Have experience of maintaining air-conditioning and refrigeration systems
- Possess Level 3 City & Guilds Diploma in Electrical Installations Course, or equivalent
- Be flexible to work out of normal working hours and be available to work as part of an on-call rota as and when required
- Have a customer focused approach with excellent customer service skills
- Have a valid drivers' licence
- Be aware of Health & Safety practises as well as be able to perform manual handling duties
- Be able to work as part of a team as well as independently
- Be willing to undertake any further training

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

Mr Jason George, Electrical Supervisor via ☎ 22739 📧 jason.george@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 Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **17 April 2025**.

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- ★ Pension Contributions
- ★ Staff Discounts

Join us!

We are recruiting...



**St Helena
Government**

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Administration Support (Inclusion) (£7,960 per annum)

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

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Sharon Peters on Tel No. 25408 or Email:
Sharon.Peters@sainthelenaedu.sh

Closing date: 18th April 2025

Housing Officer (2 month Fixed-Term Contract) to commence 9th June 2025 (£9,781 per annum) (Available for local interest)

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

Enquiries: Melissa Fowler on Tel No. 22270 or Email:
Melissa.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 17 April 2025

Joint Emergency Services Control Centre (JESCC) Operator (£10,747 per annum)

Do you want to make a difference to your community and be of service when it is needed the most? The St Helena JESCC is looking to recruit a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual to form part of their small, but busy team. This role will require you to have excellent communication skills with the ability to deal with vulnerable and distressed members of the public.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Cheyenne Furniss on Tel No 22626 or Email:
cheyenne.furniss@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 18th April 2025

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

General Operative - Permanent (£7,960 per annum)

Working as part of the Roads Team, the General Operative will assist the Chargehand with general maintenance of machinery, assembly of site huts and assist with building, cleaning and general maintenance of all roads island-wide. If you are physically fit, a good communicator and an effective team player this is an opportunity for you to join the Roads team!

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Darin Francis on Tel No. 23765 or Email:
roads.supervisor2@helanta.co.sh

Closing date: 03 April 2025

Immigration/Customs Officer (18 years +) (£9,781 per annum) (Permanent)

We are looking to fill these important roles in our busy immigration/customs team, to undertake the duties and responsibilities to reduce threats to the border integrity of St Helena. These are critical roles which requires experience of front line/customer facing responsibilities, an inquisitive mind-set and the ability to work well as part of a team.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Juliette O'Dean on Tele no. 22287 or Emerald Newman-Yon on 22236 or email: Juliette.odean@sainthelena.gov.sh or emerald.newman-yon@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 15 April 2025

Administration Assistant (£7,960 per annum)

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Central Support team? If so we are looking to recruit an Administration Assistant. The Administration Assistant is responsible for completing straightforward administrative processes that support the smooth running of Portfolios and delivering a high quality, customer focused service. We are seeking a highly motivated individual who works methodically and has a keen eye for detail that can provide administrative support across the Portfolios. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Belinda Piek on Tele No: 22470 or Email:
Belinda.piek@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 16 April 2025

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

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. 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: **03 April 2025**

Environmental Risk Officer (£18,902 per annum)

The Environment and Natural Resources Portfolio is currently seeking to recruit a highly motivated individual with broad experience in one or more areas of environmental risk management to join their team as Head of Section for environmental risk management. You will be an integral part of providing the strategic agenda and direction for the core functions of climate change, waste management and environmental pollution management in order to protect St Helena's natural environments and you will play a key role in driving environmental sustainability initiatives. The role will require you to work collaboratively with a small group of Heads of Section in our core environmental protection and nature conservation subjects for effective environmental risk programme delivery.

Experienced in project management and staff management, you will also have excellent written, verbal communication and interpersonal skills to communicate with a range of audiences, including colleagues, senior managers, elected members, donor agencies and the public.

Contact us for more information and a discussion about the role.

Enquiries: **Darren Duncan on Tel No 24724 or Email**
darren.duncan@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: **03 April 2025**

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

GIS Surveyor

(£9,781 per annum)

The GIS Topographical Surveyor will help the island thrive through the collection and organisation of topographic surveys for the development of geospatial data of physical infrastructure, utility services and topography. Support development of the St Helena Environmental Information System (SHEIS), including providing support to GIS Users and promoting the use of GIS throughout SHG.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquires: **Devlin Yon** on Tel No. 22270 or Email
Devlin.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 09 April 2025

Receptionist

(£7,280 per annum)

Based at the Jamestown General Hospital, the Receptionist will work on a shift basis and be the first point of contact for all visitors providing receptionist duties ensuring a positive and professional environment for the reception point. In addition to answering the telephone, directing and screening calls as necessary, you will be required to welcome visitors, direct them to their correct destination, maintain an awareness of staff movements in and out of the site, monitor visitor access and maintain security awareness.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Helen Lawrence** on Tel No 22500 or Email
Helen.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 16 April 2025

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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Golf Report: Monthly Medal

Report by the St Helena Golf Club

Monthly Medal competition on the 30th March, a total of thirteen players participated

Results :

- Winner: Anthony Green emerged as the outright winner with a net score of 69
- Runner-Up: Peter Bagley demonstrated consistent play over the past few months, securing the runner-up position with a net score of 72.
- Third Place Tie: Three players tied for third place, each finishing with a net score of 73: Keith Buckley, Bramwell Bushru and Eddy Bowers
Eddy Bowers claimed third place after a countback procedure was applied.
- Jeffrey Stevens achieved the only “2” during the competition and consequently won all the balls in the Two Ball Pool.

Looking ahead, to next week’s competition scheduled for April 6th. The event will be an AGM Texas Scramble with an 11:30 AM shotgun start. This promises to be a fun day for all participants.

Following the Texas Scramble, there will be an AGM meeting aimed at selecting a new committee.

Happy swinging.....!



Cricket Results & Fixtures

St Helena Cricket Association

Saturday 29/3/25

Levelwood Rebels 136/9(20 overs)

Delroy Leo - 74*(56)
James Andrews - 10(14)
David Francis - 4/15(4 overs)
Clayton Leo - 2/24(4 overs)

Levelwood Allstars 139/4 (16.3 overs)

Stefan Leo - 38*(30)
Kristian Leo - 28(28)
Weston Clingham - 2/38(4 overs)
Delroy Leo - 1/23(3.3 overs)

Player of the Match - David Francis (Levelwood Allstars)

Cricket Fixtures for the Weekend:

Saturday 5/4/25

08:00

Challengers v Levelwood Rebels

(Umpires: Damian Burns and Brett Isaac)

11:00

Jamestown Heat v Levelwood Allstars

(Umpires: Delroy Leo and Ralph Knipe)

14:00

Cobras v Western A Mustangs

(Umpires: David Young and Rhys Francis)

Sunday 6/4/25

08:00

Levelwood Allstars v Cobras

(Umpires: William Knipe and Jamie Essex)

11:00

Jamestown Heat v Levelwood Rebels

(Umpires: Dane Leo and Perry Leo)

14:00

Sandy Bay Pirates v Western A Mustangs

(Umpires: Andrew Yon and Gavin Ellick)

Sunday 30/3/25

Challengers 145/10(19.5 overs)

Jordi Henry - 60(34)
Ashton Benjamin - 13(12)
Ajay Bennett - 3/9(3.5 overs)
Brett Isaac - 3/45(4 overs)

Sandy Bay Pirates 132/8(20 overs)

Ronan Legg - 29(43)
David Young - 24(12)
Trystan Thomas - 3/17(3 overs)
Jordi Henry - 3/24(4 overs)

Player of the Match - Jordi Henry (Challengers)

Western A Mustangs 195/2(20 overs)

Scott Crowie - 69*(59)
Gareth Johnson - 64(33)
Ellis Day - 1/41(4 overs)
Hugo Richards - 1/48(3 overs)

Jamestown Heat 192/6(20 overs)

Jamie Essex - 54(37)
Zach Francis - 34(27)
Kyle Bennett - 2/24(3 overs)
Scott Crowie - 1/23(4 overs)

Player of the Match - Scott Crowie (Western A Mustangs)



St. Helena Cricket Association



Kerrylyn Leo of Pink Flamingos awarded the Marie Jonas Floating Cup by the Late Marie Jonas's sister

Women's Sports Association

On Saturday 22nd March, the Women's Sports Association (WSA) held their 2024 Rounder's Season presentation at Donnyz Place.

It was reported to be a successful season with competitive spirit, teamwork, progression and fun, with over 100 ladies participating to form 7 teams. The WSA reported that in such a tight timeframe, they managed to play a league of 42 matches and a Knockout tournament.



Cups, Shield & Trophies ready for Presentation

On the night awards were made, Sally Hickling sponsored the Ann Sim League Floating Cup and Knockout Floating Shield. Sally presented awards to all teams and individuals for the League & Knockout.



Fusion awarded Knockout Runners Up



Dani Thomas of Ballzy Ladies awarded Player with most Rounder's in a Single Game in the League which was 18.5 and she achieved Player with the most Rounder's in the League which was 63.5.

April Stevens of Incredibles awarded Player with the most catches in the League which was 15.



Renae Coleman of Power Pitches awarded Young Player of the Season.

A special award in honour of fellow keen sportswoman the Late Marie Jonas was introduced this year to commemorate her known as the Marie Jonas Floating Cup. This award was based on the following criteria Good sportsmanship & Team Player, Commitment, Personal Progress & Improvement and Positive Attitude and Kelly Jonas presented the Marie Jonas Floating Cup in special honour of her late sister.



Incredibles awarded League Runners Up

Chloe Thomas of Incredibles awarded Player of the Season



Ballzy Ladies awarded League Champions and received the title of Knockout Champions



Charlotte Williams of Ballzy Ladies awarded most Rounder's in the knockout which was 11.5

The WSA wanted to recognise and encourage all 16s and under who participated, some even took on the responsibility of Ref, 2nd Ref and Scorers. As a result, 10 young ladies were presented with a personalised Mug featuring the WSA logo on one side and a Rounder's player silhouette with their name on the other side.

Congratulations are extended to all winners.



April Stevens of Incredibles, Pamela Constantine of Pink Flamingos and Shara Williams of Fusion jointly awarded most catches in a single game in the League which was 5.



Alfreda Yon of Pink Flamingos awarded most catches in the Knockout which was 5.

ROUNDERS PRESENTATION

Final Figures for Government Spending 2023-24

Continues from INSIDE FRONT PAGE...

The General Reserve, money kept to one side for emergencies, stood at £4,560,000 in March 2024. This is below the minimum £5,000,000 which has been established as a wise precaution. The total reserved for expected litigation costs, when the time comes, is £4,309,000.

The government bank overdraft on 31st March 2024 was £3,671,000.

SHG holds current accounts and cash deposits with the Bank of Saint Helena Ltd for which no interest is payable or receivable; no interest is received on funds deposited or payable on bank overdrafts. SHG received a dividend of £85k from the bank during 2023/24.

EXPENDITURE	2023-24	2022-23	More or Less
number of £thousands			
Benefit Payments	£4,029	£3,809	£220
Central Support Service	£3,898	£3,689	£209
Education, Skills & Employment	£3,960	£4,076	-£116
Environment, Natural Resources & Planning	£2,110	£2,357	-£247
Health & Social Care	£14,760	£16,442	-£1,682
Public Sector Pensions	£3,387	£3,360	£27
Safety, Security & Home Affairs	£3,763	£3,668	£95
Trading Activities	£14,205	£13,114	£1,091
Treasury, Infrastructure & Sustainable Development	£13,564	£12,071	£1,493
Total Expenditure	£63,676	£62,586	£1,090
Total Revenue	£60,249	£61,607	-£1,358
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	-£3,427	-£979	-£2,448

What are the Government Owned Businesses Worth?

SHG's share of profits from state-owned entities in 2023-24 was £728,000.

SHG's share of losses from state-owned entities in 2023-24 was £929,000.

SHG provided Connect St Helena Ltd with a subsidy of £1.9m in 2023/24 (2022/23 £1.8m). This

SHG's Value of Assets in State-Owned Entities	2024	2023	More or Less
number of £thousands			
Connect St Helena Ltd	£14,677	£14,757	-£80
Bank of St Helena Ltd	£8,101	£7,555	£546
Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc	£5,261	£5,472	-£211
Currency Fund	£1,339	£1,619	-£280
Enterprise St Helena	£875	£875	£0
St Helena Airport Limited	£662	£480	£182
St Helena Hotel Development Ltd	£588	£945	-£357
Balance at 31 March	£31,503	£31,704	-£201

was to support their running operations. In addition, Connect St Helena Ltd received £842,000 rebate of customs duties paid on fuel (2022/23 £839k), of which £81,000 was still to be paid at 31 March 2024 (£75k as 31 March 2023).

SHG provided St Helena Hotel Development Ltd (SHHDL) with a subsidy of £200k in 2023/24 (2022/23 £150k).

SHG is the grantor of an agreement for SHAL to be the operator of St Helena Airport. SHG provided SHAL with an annual subsidy of £3.7m in 2023/24 (2022/23 £2.8m) to provide services. The subsidy was not a fixed amount, but was given to SHAL based on expenditure and claims provided to SHG.

SHG through Great Peter Nominees Limited, holds 124,100 shares, being 62.947% of paid-up share capital in Solomon & Company (St Helena) PLC. SHG owns 94.1% of shares in St Helena Hotel Development Ltd with Enterprise St Helena owning the remaining 5.87%. During 2023/24 SHG received £12,000 in dividends from Solomon & Company.

Premier League Fixtures

Saturday 5th April

12:30pm

Everton v Arsenal

3pm

Crystal Palace v Brighton & Hove Albion
Ipswich Town v Wolverhampton Wanderers
West Ham v AFC Bournemouth

5:30pm

Aston Villa v Nottingham Forest

Sunday 6th April

2pm

Brentford v Chelsea
Fulham v Liverpool
Tottenham Hotspurs v Southampton

4:30pm

Man Utd v Man City

Monday 7th April

8pm

Leicester City v Newcastle United



INVITATION TO TENDER

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION CONSULTANT

St Helena Government has issued an invitation to tender for the Procurement of a Digital Transformation Consultant.

Full documentation and the specifications can be found on the Saint Helena Government e-procurement system which can be accessed via <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/sainthelena> following registration on the system.

User guides are available via the "Supplier Information" tab to assist prospective suppliers registering on the e-Procurement system.

All communication, clarifications, general questions and submissions of your responses must be made via the e-Procurement Portal.

Please refer to the e-Procurement System for the key dates, including the tender submission date.

MACS SHIPPING SCHEDULE UPDATE



	BRIGHT SKY 251205	GREEN MOUNTAIN 251207	LILAC ROLLER 251209
Immingham	08-Feb	08-Mar	12-Apr
	KAROLINE 251703	KAROLINE 251704	KAROLINE 251705
Cape Town	16-Mar	16-Apr	18-May
Rupert's Bay	24-Mar	24-Apr	26-May
Ascension Island	29-Mar	-	-
	KAROLINE 251803	KAROLINE 251804	KAROLINE 251805
Cape Town	12-Apr	07-May	08-Jun

*schedule may change without prior notice. For the latest updates, please visit our website.



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**WHATEVER
YOU NEED
TO SHIP**

